



LISBON ADDICTIONS 2019

23–25 October 2019
Lisbon Congress Centre, Portugal
www.lisbonaddictions.eu
#LxAddictions19  

PRESS RELEASE

THIRD EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON ADDICTIVE BEHAVIOURS AND DEPENDENCIES World experts to review the future of addictions at pioneering European conference

(15.10.2019, Lisbon) ‘**The future of addictions: new frontiers for policy, practice and science**’ is the theme of the **Third European conference on addictive behaviours and dependencies** (#LxAddictions19) taking place in Lisbon from 23–25 October. ‘Lisbon Addictions’ is the largest European conference in the area of addictions, exploring the topics of illicit drugs, alcohol, tobacco, gambling and other addictive behaviours.

A record **1 300 participants** from **80 countries** are registered for ‘**Lisbon Addictions 2019**’, which will showcase cutting-edge research to help characterise, understand and respond to addiction and addictive behaviours. The event is jointly organised by: the Portuguese General-Directorate for Intervention on Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies (SICAD); the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA); the journal *Addiction*/Society for the Study of Addiction (Addiction/SSA); and the International Society of Addiction Journal Editors (ISAJE). **SICAD Director-General João Goulão** and **EMCDDA Director Alexis Goosdeel** will deliver the welcoming remarks.

Over the three days, some **850 presentations** will be given across **150 sessions**, ranging from plenaries, ‘big debates’, workshops and guided e-poster tours. Over 20 internationally renowned researchers and professionals will be contributing with their expertise in keynote speeches and on panels. Cannabis, opioids, alcohol, screen addiction, tobacco and new psychoactive substances, will be among the topics explored from a variety of angles — ranging from international policies and interventions, to human rights and the presentation of scientific data.

Plenary sessions will set the scene at the start of each day:

- Plenary I: **New frontiers for addiction science**
- Plenary II: **Learning from the past to meet the challenges of the future**
- Plenary III: **Horizons in addiction science**

Each day will include a ‘big debate’, a new feature this year addressing hot topics:

- **Will changes in cannabis policy result in greater costs or greater benefits?**
- **Industry friend or foe? Can industry contribute to better addiction science, policy and actions?**
- **How do we get greater involvement of civil society and affected communities in shaping addiction research, policies and practice?**

This year, a new ‘**co-production**’ approach was used to shape the conference programme, aiming to develop a rich, diverse and innovative event. The six ‘co-producers’ are the: European Federation of Addiction Societies (EUFAS); International Network on Hepatitis in Substance Users (INHSU); International Society for the Study of Drug Policy (ISSDP); International Society for the Study of Behavioural Addictions (ISSBA); Society for the Study of Addiction (SSA)

and an EU-funded project FuturiZe. Each of these will be running a programme of activities built around selected topics (thematic ‘tracks’).

The **FuturiZe** ‘track’ activities will be hosted in the **Futures Zone**, where sessions will focus on forward-looking trends and topics, including digitalisation, future drug policy, innovative monitoring and new therapeutic horizons. This will be home to hands-on technology demonstrations, participatory ‘brain-writing’ and interactive workshops. This project offered bursaries to 120 professionals who would otherwise not have been able to attend the event.

Four side events will take place ahead of the conference:

- **International symposium on drug checking** (22 October):
www.emcdda.europa.eu/event/2019/10/international-symposium-drug-checking_en
- **9th Symposium of the Alcohol Policy Network Europe (APN)** (22 October):
www.alcoholpolicynetwork.eu
- **‘Health without barriers’ — 2nd European Conference on Prison Health** (21–22 October):
www.healthwithoutbarriers.org
- **International Cannabis Toolkit Workshop** (22 October):
<https://canntoolkit.com>

The conference provides a unique networking opportunity for researchers, practitioners and policy experts across countries and disciplines to address new challenges and developing fields. At the event, the scientific journal **The Lancet** will release a new, specially-commissioned set of papers by leading researchers, critically reviewing the global evidence base on drug-related problems (*The Lancet Series on Drug Use*).

The full programme and conference app can be downloaded from the website: www.lisbonaddictions.eu

Venue — Lisbon Congress Centre: <https://lisbonvenues.pt/en/lisbon-congress-center>

Press contact (Portuguese media): Sonia.Ferreira@sicad.min-saude.pt

Press contact (International media): Kathryn.Robertson@emcdda.europa.eu — press@emcdda.europa.eu

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