



**The Global
Drug Policy
Index**

THE GLOBAL DRUG POLICY INDEX: METHODOLOGY



Marie Nougier
Head of Research and Communications
International Drug Policy Consortium
mnougier@idpc.net

WHO IS BEHIND THE GLOBAL DRUG POLICY INDEX?



**The Global
Drug Policy
Index**

**ROBERT
CARR
FUND** For civil
society
networks

Harm Reduction Consortium



WHAT IS THE GLOBAL DRUG POLICY INDEX?



- First-ever Index that ranks and compares national drug policies
- Meaningful data can be used to achieve policy change
- **Caution before use:** first iteration is a proof of concept – focus on producing a solid methodology, rather than on the number of countries

www.GlobalDrugPolicyIndex.net

WHY IS IT NECESSARY?



Problem

- For decades, drug policies have been driven by the goal of achieving a 'drug-free society' – and evaluated through indicators that do not reflect the realities of affected communities
- Existing evaluation tools are incomplete, and focus on policies on paper, not on their implementation

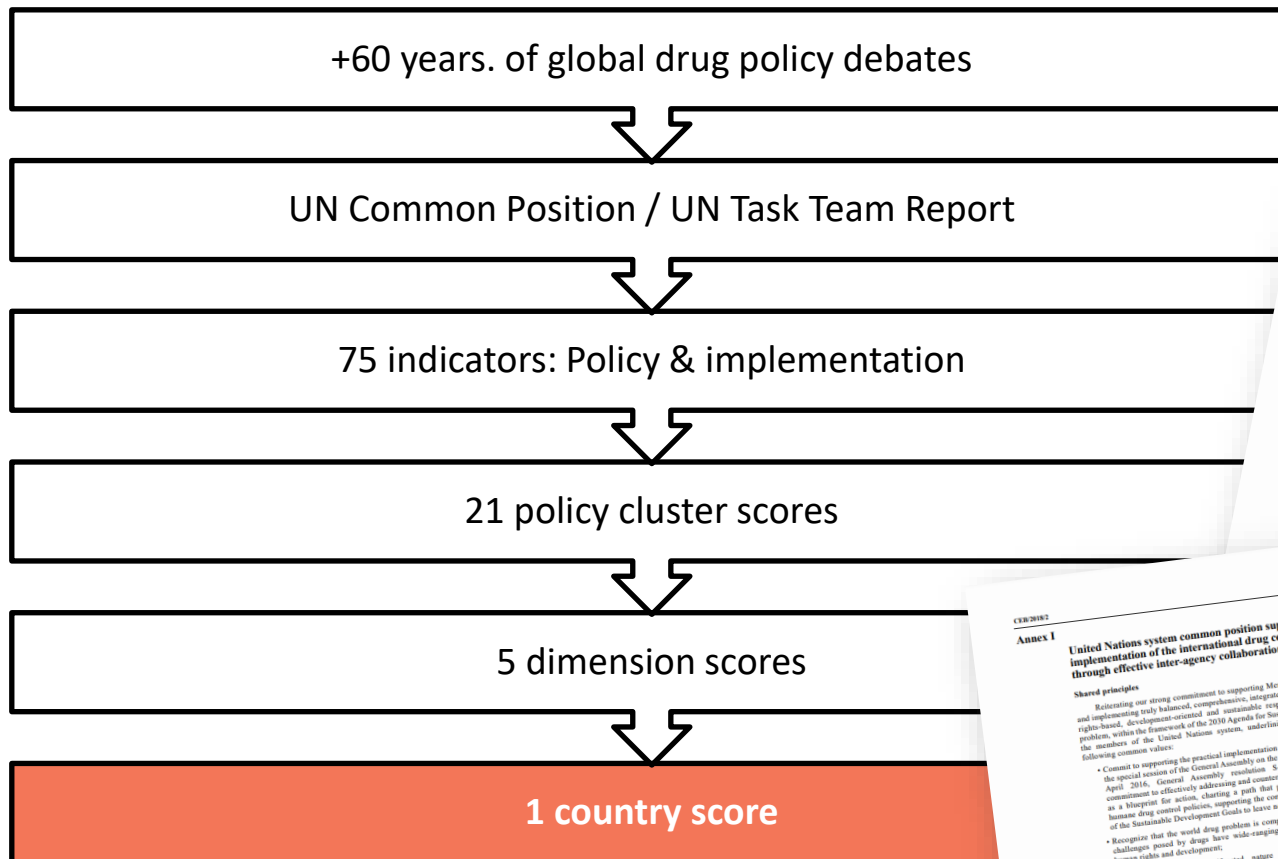
Solution

- New indicators based on UN evidence and recommendations on human rights, health and development
- Data collected on policies on paper, and their implementation via a civil society survey.

CREATING THE COUNTRY SCORES



The Global
Drug Policy
Index



UN system coordination Task Team
on the Implementation of the UN System Common Position
on drug-related matters

What we have learned over the last ten years:
A summary of knowledge acquired and produced by the
UN system on drug-related matters

CEB/2016/1
Annex I

United Nations system common position supporting the
implementation of the international drug control policy
through effective inter-agency collaboration

- Shared principles
- Reiterating our strong commitment to supporting Member States in developing and implementing truly balanced, comprehensive, integrated, evidence-based, human rights-based, development-oriented and sustainable responses to the world drug problem, within the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, we, the members of the United Nations system, underscoring the importance of the following common values:
 - Commit to supporting the practical implementation of the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem, held in April 2016, General Assembly resolution S-30/1, entitled "Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem"; as a blueprint for action, charting a path that promotes more effective and humane drug control policies, supporting the commitment made in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals to leave no one behind;
 - Recognize that the world drug problem is complex and multifaceted and that challenges posed by drugs have wide-ranging adverse impacts on security, human rights and development;
 - Understand that the multifaceted nature of the problem requires a comprehensive approach that includes law enforcement efforts ensuring people's security and efforts promoting health, human rights, including equality and non-discrimination, and sustainable development;
 - Commit to promoting a truly evidence-based and balanced approach, whereby sufficient attention is given to measures that address the root causes of drug abuse and cultivation and other involvement in the drug trade;
 - Acknowledge that we have a common and shared responsibility to work together, in particular through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, to pursue a coordinated, balanced and comprehensive approach leading to evidence-based and sustainable solutions;
- and sustainable solutions for the health and welfare of humankind underpins coordinated, balanced and comprehensive approach leading to evidence-based and sustainable solutions;

5 DIMENSIONS



The Global Drug Policy Index



Map

Ranking

Country profiles

Stories

Resources

About

Methodology

Contact

Now displaying

Overall index

Search for a country



INDEX DIMENSIONS AND SUBDIMENSIONS

Overall index

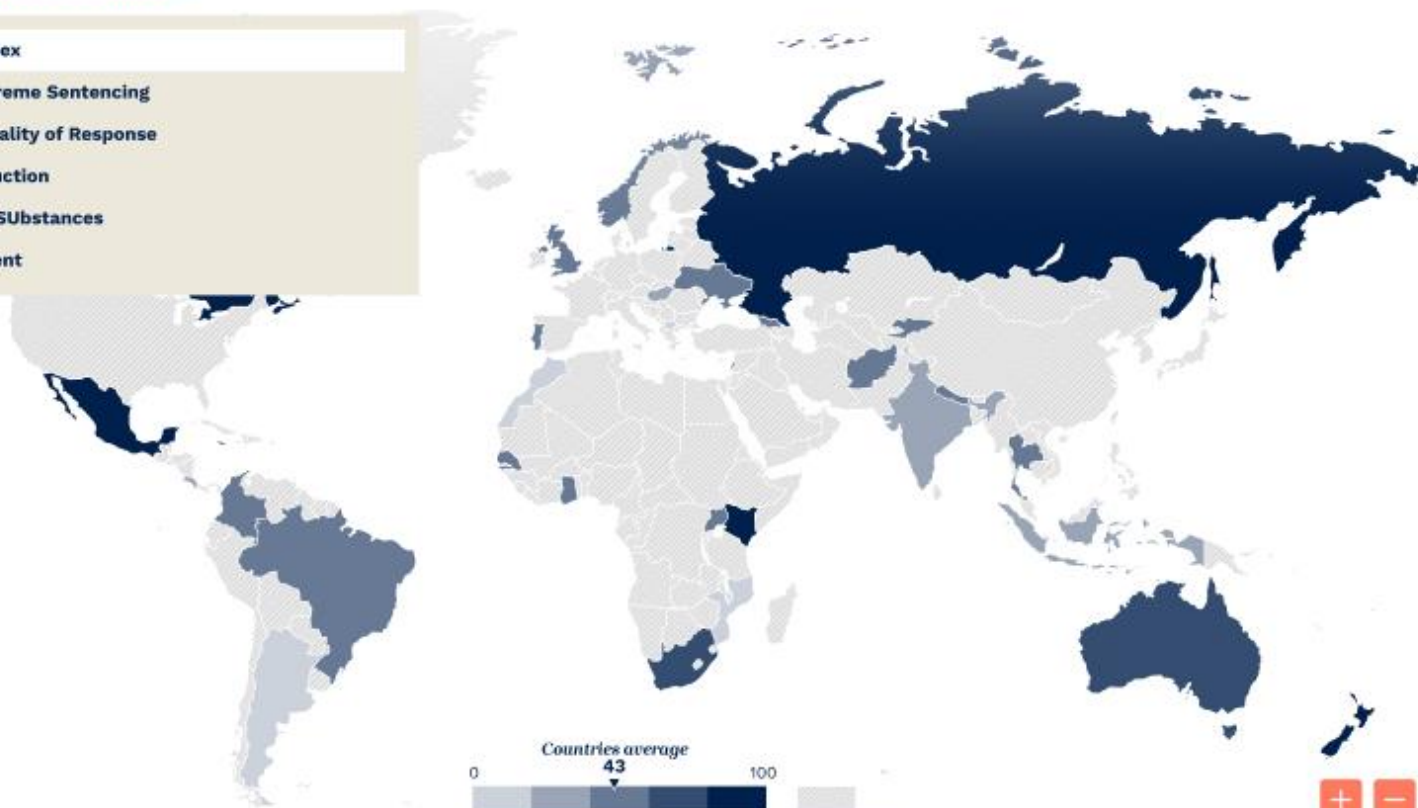
Use of Extreme Sentencing

Proportionality of Response

Harm Reduction

Access to Substances

Development



METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW



1.

**Expert
Consultations**

METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW



1.

**Expert
Consultations**

2.

Interim Report,
creation of SAG,
agreement on
work programme

METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW



**The Global
Drug Policy
Index**

1.

**Expert
Consultations**

2.

Interim Report,
creation of SAG,
agreement on
work programme

3.

**Methodology
consolidation:**
analysis of UN
recommendations,
creation of coding
approach,
generation of
aggregation rules
and weights

METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW



**The Global
Drug Policy
Index**

1.

**Expert
Consultations**

2.

Interim Report,
creation of SAG,
agreement on
work programme

3.

**Methodology
consolidation:**
analysis of UN
recommendations,
creation of coding
approach,
generation of
aggregation rules
and weights

4.

Data collection via
coding team, civil
society survey,
international
experts survey &
'Delphi' process
for weighting



Civil Society Survey of Experts in Drug Policy: Global Drug Policy Index

* Required Information

Welcome to the Global Drug Policy Index's Survey of Civil Society Experts in Drug Policy. We would like to thank you for taking the time to engage with this survey. Before we begin, we need to obtain your informed consent to take part in this research, this requires you to read the project information below.

About the project

Human Stories

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Etiam in pretium nisl, ut lobortis felis. Sed vel pellentesque nisl. Suspendisse potenti. Fusce dignissim justo sed elit varius mattis.



- All dimensions**
- Harm Reduction
- Proportionality of Response
- Access to substances
- Development

Search for a country or keywords

Selected stories



United Kingdom of the Great Britain and Northern Ireland

"Voices for Drug Policy Reform from Asia"

Single column paragraph Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Turpis leo viverra enim praesent. Quam tortor mollis eu integer malesuada. Mauris proin non...

HARM REDUCTION



United Kingdom of the Great Britain and Northern Ireland

"Accumsan ultricies non at mattis. Lectus ultrices egestas."

Single column paragraph Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Turpis leo viverra enim praesent. Quam tortor mollis eu integer malesuada. Mauris proin non...

ACCESS TO SUBSTANCES

METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW



**The Global
Drug Policy
Index**

1.

**Expert
Consultations**

2.

Interim Report,
creation of SAG,
agreement on
work programme

3.

**Methodology
consolidation:**
analysis of UN
recommendations,
creation of coding
approach,
generation of
aggregation rules
and weights

4.

Data collection via
coding team, civil
society survey,
international
experts survey &
'Delphi' process
for weighting

5.

**Data Analysis
& finalisation**

METHODOLOGY PRINCIPLES

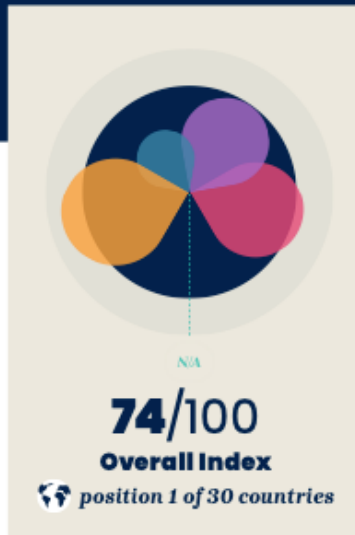


- **Approach: ‘Simple, but not simplistic’.** Aims to facilitate comparative analysis without a ‘black box’ of statistical data
- **Values: Transparency, replicability, credibility.** Full dataset plus detailed methodology published on project website.
- **Future development: Iterative, longitudinal, responsive.** We want to encourage debate about what to measure and how to measure in global drug policy – future iterations should respond to what we learn during this debate, while maintaining continuity for possible for over-time analysis.

Country factsheet



Norway



- **91/100** USE OF EXTREME SENTENCING AND RESPONSES
- **49/100** PROPORTIONALITY OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESPONSE
- **74/100** HEALTH AND HARM REDUCTION
- **81/100** AVAILABILITY OF AND ACCESS TO INTERNATIONALLY CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES FOR THE RELIEF OF PAIN AND SUFFERING
- ▨ N/A DEVELOPMENT

ABSENCE OF EXTREME SENTENCING AND RESPONSES

Category	Score	Median from the 30 countries
Death penalty	100	~95
Extrajudicial killings	100	~95
Militarised policing	100	~95
Life sentencing	100	~95
Non-consensual confinement	50	~45

PROPORTIONALITY OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESPONSE

Category	Score	Median from the 30 countries
Human rights violations	75	~70
Equity of impact of criminal justice response	42	~40
Mandatory minimum sentencing and pre-trial detention	100	~95
Alternatives to arrest, prosecution, conviction and punishment	58	~55
Extent of imprisonment of individuals involved in non-violent drug-related offences	25	~20
Decriminalisation	0	~5

HEALTH AND HARM REDUCTION

Category	Score	Median from the 30 countries
Extent to which state policy prioritises harm reduction for people who use drugs	74	~70
Harm reduction funding	91	~85
Harm reduction intervention availability and coverage	65	~60
Equity of access to harm reduction services	66	~60

WHAT NEXT?



- Limitations in geographic scope: need for more resources to include more countries going forward
- Limitations in thematic scope: exclusive focus on the Common Position and Task Team report, so some themes were excluded (e.g., legal regulation, broader development considerations)
- Limitations in data collection: how to get more civil society respondents? How to address the differences in perceptions?

Methodology

The Global Drug Policy Index was developed via a complex process including consultations, identification of indicators, thematic policy clusters and dimensions, data collection and analysis. The data was compiled through desk-based research and a comprehensive civil society survey. Each indicator, policy cluster and dimension were then weighted against one another to achieve a final country score ranging from 1 to 100. Click on the link below to read the full methodology.

[DOWNLOAD METHODOLOGY](#) 





**The Global
Drug Policy
Index**

Thank you very much!

www.GlobalDrugPolicyIndex.net

**Marie Nougier
International Drug Policy Consortium
mnougier@idpc.net**

KEY TAKEAWAYS



1. Drug policies based on punishment lead to overall low scores
2. Standards by civil society experts vary from country to country (perceptions)
3. Drug policies always impact disproportionately marginalized groups
4. There is a wide gap between policy and implementation