



# **The UN General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) on Drugs: How to Get Involved, and Why?**

## **Interactive Q&A Session International Drug Users Networking Zone AIDS 2014 Global Village**

**Thursday 24th July 2014, 14:30 – 15:20**

### **Panel:**

- **Ann Fordham, International Drug Policy Consortium**
- **Gloria Lai, International Drug Policy Consortium**
- **Maria Phelan, Harm Reduction International**
- **Eliot Albers, International Network of People who Use Drugs**

In 2016, the UN General Assembly will hold a Special Session (or 'UNGASS') on the issue of illicit drugs. Drug policy is an important issue for those working on the HIV response – we cannot hope to end AIDS until we end the global war on drug users. In order to do this, the voice of civil society around the world must be strong and united.

In this session, three of the leading international drug policy organisations will present and discuss their 'asks' and expectations from the UNGASS meeting, and will answer questions on how and why civil society can engage in this process.