

ESSD

European Society for Social Drug Research
35th Annual Conference
18th – 20th September 2024
in Manchester / UK

CALL FOR PAPERS (Final call / Extended deadline)

The ESSD was founded in 1990 to promote social science approaches to drugs research, with special reference to the situation in Europe (www.essd-research.eu/). The society holds an annual conference providing scope for collaboration and co-operation among researchers working in the drugs field. After 2 years of virtual meetings due to COVID-19, we successfully returned to our traditional in-person conference format in Vienna 2022 and Copenhagen 2023 and look forward to another in-person event in Manchester in 2024.

➤ ABSTRACTS

ESSD members and other researchers who wish to attend the 35th Annual Conference are invited to **submit abstracts** of their conference papers **no later than 21st May 2024**. Abstracts (see themes and details below) should be sent as a word file to ESSD2024mcr@gmail.com. If you wish to attend the conference without giving a presentation, please inform us. For any correspondence, please, use the above e-mail-address.

➤ CONFERENCE FEE AND REGISTRATION

The standard fee is 100 euro. ESSD Board members and students (bachelor, master and PhD students) pay a **reduced rate of 50 euro**. This fee is used only to support and ensure the output of the annual conference, and you can find more information on the financial policy of the ESSD here: <http://www.essd-research.eu/about.html>. All conference participants will receive a free copy of the latest ESSD publication. Further **details on conference registration will follow later** – after we have reviewed abstracts.

➤ CONFERENCE VENUE

The annual ESSD conferences always take place in close collaboration with **local organisers**; this year's local organisers will be **Robert Ralphs, Rebecca Askew, Liviu Alexandrescu and Mike Salinas** (Manchester Metropolitan University), **Lisa Williams, Meropi Tzanetakis, Felipe Neis Araujo and Julia Buxton** (University of Manchester).

The **venue** is located at Manchester Metropolitan Universities All Saints Campus, on Oxford Road, near Manchester city centre. Further information regarding the conference venue, accommodation etc. will be announced shortly via e-mail and at <http://www.essd-research.eu>

➤ DATE, START and END TIME

Wednesday, 18th September 2024 at 9:00am BST – Friday, 20th September 2024 at 14:00 pm BST. (**Please note** that we have moved from the traditional Thursday-Saturday format to Wednesday-Friday for the 2024 conference.)

CONFERENCE THEMES

Presentations should preferably include a European dimension (such as reporting on research or issues from more than one European country and comparisons between data from European studies), and/or theoretical analysis that draws inferences from the local to the global. Presentations restricted to the description of interventions or (local) policies will not be accepted. **Qualitative** studies are particularly welcome. Each presentation will last for 10-15 minutes, followed by ample time for jointly discussing the presentations of each session. The conference language is English.

The accepted abstracts need to conform to one or more of the following **themes**:

1. TRENDS IN DRUG USE

Preferably qualitative research on new trends in drug use • Shifting boundaries of legality/regulation and the impact on use • The illicit use of legal drugs • Trends in new psychoactive substances and image and performance enhancement drugs • Novel ways of using traditional drugs • Cycles and trajectories of drug use across the life course

2. DRUG MARKETS, PRODUCTION, AND SUPPLY

Dynamics of demand and supply • Online drug markets and dark web fora • Impacts of crime control and policing • Echoes of global conflicts on local supply • The role of digital technologies and the rise of AI • Social media advertising and sales • Trends in cannabis and other drug production • Drug smuggling and transnational networks • The role of organised crime networks

3. DRUG POLICY: LOCAL AND NATIONAL APPROACHES, RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Interplays between national and regional approaches • Evaluation of drug policy approaches • Comparative drug policy analysis • Legislative/policy changes affecting availability and/or use • Critical reflections on drug demand and supply interventions • Marginalised voices in drug use, drug markets and drug research

4. HARM REDUCTION

Innovations in harm-reduction interventions • Local responses to emerging risk environments • Peer-led interventions • Creative approaches to drug education and public awareness campaigns • Integrating research into practice • Accounting for pleasure in safer use strategies • Critical approaches to harm-reduction

5. CULTURE AND MORALITIES

(De)Stigmatisation of drug cultures • Values, moralities, and discourse in drug policy and practice • Drugs in popular culture • Negotiating ethics in drug research • Media and political narratives in framing drug problems • Cultural contexts of use, markets, and controls

ABSTRACT LAYOUT

1. Max. 1,5 A4 page
2. Theme (from the list on the previous page)
3. Title of the paper
4. Author(s): name(s), qualification(s), job title(s), portrait photo [*Where there are multiple authors, please make clear who will be the presenter(s)]
5. Contact details: full postal address, telephone, email address(es)
6. Abstract (**not more than 300 words**), including objectives, methodology, significant results, and conclusions
7. Technical equipment required for the presentation
8. Word format using a template. This template should be applied to allow the book of abstracts to be assembled without complicated reformatting and communication needs such as requests for additional information!
9. A photo of the presenter(s) to be included in the book of abstracts is appreciated but is not mandatory
10. Short bio (**maximum 100 words**)

ABSTRACT REVIEW

Abstracts will be reviewed using the following criteria:

- Overall quality
- Relevance to the conference themes
- European dimension
- Theoretical reflections
- Added value with respect to earlier contributions at ESSD conferences

In general, not more than two presentations from members of the same institute or affiliation will be accepted.

Acceptance of papers will be communicated by 21st June 2024.