

NGO Committee on Drugs and Crime

The Vienna NGO Committee has more than 200 members from all around the globe. They all are observers to the United Nations Organisation on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). Meetings usually take place during the big International Conferences on Drugs and Crime.

UNODC operates in more than 80 countries around the world through its network of 115 field offices. UNODC works closely with Governments and civil society towards building security and justice for all.

The field of activities is vast:

- Anti-Corruption
- Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
- Health and Social Development
- Container Control
- Maritime Crime
- Wildlife and Forest Crime
- Terrorism Prevention
- <u>Transnational Organized Crime</u>

Prevention is better than Cure!

We all are mothers, grandmothers, sisters, aunts, let us protect our youth. Please read the International Standards and choose what is helpful for your family, your school, your government. Does your government pay enough attention to prevention?

https://www.unodc.org/documents/prevention/standards_180412.pdf https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/prevention/familyskillstraining.html International Standards were worked out by UNODC together with WHO and 100 experts (from 47 countries).

The earlier the better (but it is never too late): Prevention should start during pregnancy with programs which help parents to be better parents and to learn how to monitor the lives of their children: get involved in their activities, know their friends, check their learning and education and practise positive, developmentally appropriate, and effective discipline. Make sure there is a quality school environment, too often parents think that school will handle the problem.

Parents are responsible to teach their children the use of internet. Look carefully what your children do online. In times of COVID19 substance abuse (among children aged 12-18years) increased from 12% Pre pandemic to 24% Post Pandemic. (research by projectvenda.org)

Our children need strong families, safe neighbourhoods, physical safety, and social inclusion!

Ulrike Nemling IIW UN Representative Vienna, March 2021