Policy History

- The International Opium Convention 1912
- United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs 1961
- UN General Assembly Special Session on Drugs 10-year drug strategy 1988
- UNGASS 2016
Local Policy and Enforcement

- Prohibition
- Abstinence based
- Emerging reform strategies in Africa: 
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Why drug policy reform

Failures of prohibition

- Challenges in enforcement
- Highly contested evidence for effectiveness
Why drug policy reform

Failures of prohibition
- Challenges in enforcement
- Highly contested evidence for effectiveness

Inherent negative consequences
- Criminalization
- Excessive levels of imprisonment
- Punitive sentencing practices
- Human rights abuse maybe gross
- Fuelling spread of communicable diseases
Critical Drug Policy Reform focus

- Human Rights
- Harm reduction
- Public health
- Evidence based policies
Progressive drug policy reform

- Decriminalization/ Depenalisation
- Multi disciplinary approach
Drug Policy Reform in Africa

Continental level

‘Plan of Action on Drug Control for 2013-2017’
(comprehensive package on HIV prevention, treatment and care among injecting and non-injecting drug users)

‘Continental Minimum Quality Standards for Treatment of Drug Dependence’

Developments in Sub-Saharan Africa
Developments in North Africa