



A ceasefire in the war on drugs?



A growing number of people in public life are saying the unsayable and calling for the decriminalisation or even legalisation of drugs.

The University of Bedfordshire invites you to join prominent figures in the field in two **FREE** debates about this controversial political and social issue. The events will:

- Ask whether the coalition government's recently unveiled drugs strategy is a significant step forward – or a missed opportunity
- Examine the role of evidence in drugs policy
- Consider radical moves in a number of other countries which could influence thinking in the UK



Drugs – breaking the taboo

Wednesday 30 March 2011

Key speakers:

David Blunkett – Former Home Secretary

Peter Hitchens – Author and *Mail on Sunday* commentator

Sir Ian Gilmore – Former President of the Royal College of Physicians

How the world's view of the drugs 'war' is changing

Wednesday 6 April 2011

Key speakers:

HE Mauricio Rodriguez Munera – Colombian Ambassador to the UK

Tom Lloyd – Former Chief Constable of Cambridgeshire and consultant for the International Drug Policy Consortium

Steve Rolles – Senior Policy Officer for Transform, which campaigns for the legalisation and regulation of drugs

Chair: Jon Silverman – Professor of Media and Criminal Justice and former BBC Home Affairs correspondent

Location: King's College London, Franklin Wilkins Building, 150 Stamford Street, SE1 9NH. Nearest station – Waterloo

Time: 6pm – 7.30pm, followed by drinks reception (an opportunity to network with presenters, academics and other attendees)

Places are limited. For more information and to book a place, contact Kerry Lapworth: kerry.lapworth@beds.uk or **01582 743427**