After more than 40 years and a trillion dollars, it is time to recognize the U.S. War on Drugs as a failure. At home, punitive policies have failed to address the problems directly related to drugs and drug use, such as abuse, addiction, and adolescent use. Instead, they have led to human rights abuses, racist enforcement patterns, and landed an unprecedented number of nonviolent drug offenders in prison. In Latin America, a militarized drug interdiction and source-eradication strategy has not curbed production or trafficking. It has instead lead to increased displacement, migration, mass human rights violations and the loss of tens of thousands of lives.

We are offering a four-part webinar series to explore the impacts of the U.S. War on Drugs on civil society both internationally and domestically. The first three webinars cover different sides of the Drug War from an international perspective, drawing from the experiences and knowledge of a diverse group of speakers of different backgrounds and from different countries such as Colombia, Mexico, and Honduras. The final webinar focuses on the domestic side of U.S. drug policies, which are sometimes referred to as the New Jim Crow due to the disproportionate effects they have on communities of color.