

**Press conference, February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2016**  
**National Institute of Public Health Slovenia**  
**Trubarjeva cesta 2, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia**

**List of speakers**  
(in order of appearance)



Elisabetta Bertol, full Professor of Forensic Toxicology – University of Florence. President of Scientific Association of Italian Forensic Toxicologists (GTFI) from 2007 to 2015, now Past President. Responsible of the Laboratory (a 12 people staff), coordinator for technical and scientific aspects for research projects funded by public authorities (Regional, Ministerial, European) or by private institutions (Banks, Foundations) and for the analytical service. She organizes and supports the analytical toxicological controls for the Local Commission of Drive Licences, since 1997. She coordinated the Technical Working Group of the Italian Government for the preparation of procedures in workplace drug-testing for workers involved in particular risks concerning the safety and health of other persons, appointed by the Health Department of the Region of Tuscany. Scientific collaboration with the Italian Early Warning System (NEWS) on drugs, and, in the last years, for the identification of the NPS. According to the provisions of Italian Law on drugs, she organizes and controls the analytical procedures for the definition of administrative or criminal illicit in cases of seizures of scheduled substances. Coordinator of the Official Guidelines for the analysis of drugs of abuse in biological and non biological specimens. Official Consultant of the Court of Florence, and other Courts in Italy. Collaboration with International Institutions as EMCDDA, UNICRI, UNODC and NIDA. Member of National Scientific Associations: GTFI (as Past President), SIMLA, SIBIOC. Member of International Scientific Associations : IALM, AAFS, TIAFT. She organized about 15 Conferences and National Meeting of GTFI at the University of Florence. Organizer of the 53rd TIAFT Meeting held in Florence August 30th - September 4th 2015. The Meeting was attended by more than 650 delegates from 63 Nations around the world.



Ada Hočevar Grom began her professional career in 1984 as a general practitioner at the Vrhnika Health Center in Slovenia. She has been employed at the National Institute of Public Health (NIPH) since 1993, first as an independent researcher and from 1998 onwards as the Head of Department of Communicable Disease. From 2006 to 2008 she was appointed Acting Director of the NIPH and from 2009, she was appointed Deputy Director of NIPH, a post she still holds. She is also head of the Center for Health Survey and Health Promotion, responsible for EMCDDA

REITOX National Focal Point. She has participated in various international projects: EVENT – Enteric Virus Emergence, New Tools, DIVINE – NET - Prevention of emerging (food-borne) enteric viral infections: diagnosis, viability testing, networking and epidemiology and EPAAC – European Partnership for Action Against Cancer. She was also a member of the Council of Europe Pompidou Expert Group on drug policy implementation in times of economic crisis, preparing the Athens Declaration.



Simona Šabić is working at Association DrogArt as a coordinator of harm reduction activities regarding NPS use, including drug checking service for users, informing users, trainings for professional staff, gathering information on NPS emergence and drug use patterns changes and preparing rapid responses / harm reduction activities, based on gathered information.



Marija Definis-Gojanović, MD, PhD, is a specialist of forensic medicine at University Hospital Split and full professor of forensic medicine, medical humanities and medical ethics at University of Split, Croatia, and at University of Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina. She is the head of the Department of Forensic Medicine at Split and Mostar University School of Medicine. She has been a member of the working group of the National Drugs Information Unit, Office for Combating Drugs Abuse of the Government of the Republic of Croatia, since 2009. She had been trained in forensic medicine, forensic anthropology and forensic toxicology at the Office of Chief Medical Examiner, Connecticut, USA, and at School of Medicine, Montpellier, France. She has been leading several professional and scientific project, and has published number of professional, scientific and scholarly articles in domestic and international publications. She is a permanent expert testimony for forensic medicine at District Courts in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. She is a member of UN Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment and Punishment.