What happened in Albuquerque, will not stay in Albuquerque!

From the 12th and through the 24th of November, Espolea participated in the main meeting venue of actors across the globe that believe war on drugs is doing more harm than good: The International Drug Policy Reform Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

There, relevant and strategic stakeholders gathered with around a thousand people from different parts of the world to share opinions, experiences and ideas on drug policy and its impacts in different regions and countries, societies and individuals.

Latin America, and particularly Mexico, was certainly highly relevant throughout the Conference. The various sessions that addressed the lost war, the problem of migration and the impact of economic crisis in the most affected communities by drug policy, caught the attention of much of the attendees and occupied an important part of the agenda.

On Saturday morning, room Santo Domingo was venue for a get together of all Latin Americans in the conference. Youth representation included Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia and Mexico; something new to the conference. The meeting provided space for exchange of state of the art policies and harm reduction initiatives throughout the region and exposition of major concerns to be addressed.

Without doubt, there is no better place than the conference to learn about drug policy, develop strategies and mobilize action for reform. It has provided a forum for discussion and has developed a platform for bringing action to different countries. In that sense, this edition provided groundwork for discussion about future priorities and ways of cooperation, in particular for 2010.

All of this to say that, what happened in Albuquerque, will not stay in Albuquerque! Various organizations that met there will continue calling to action, exchanging information and continuously link initiatives to change current tendencies of drug policy around the world and diminish the damage its disastrous effects have produced.

Aram Barra
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