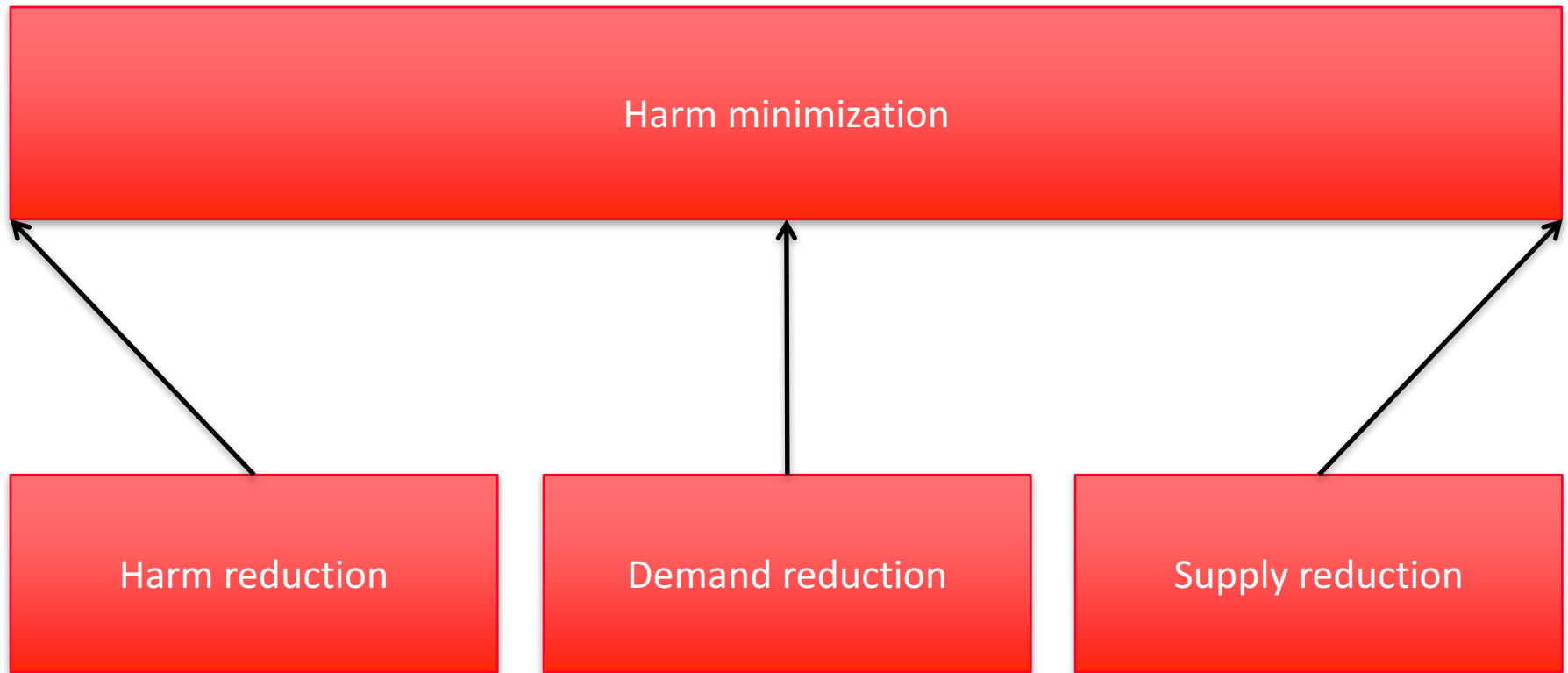


Reimagining Harm Reduction for International Drug Enforcement

Dr Jarrett Blaustein
Ms Miki Mclay

Is international police cooperation that seeks to reduce supply compatible with ideas like 'harm reduction' and 'harm minimization'?

E.g. Australian National Drug Strategy (2016-2025)



- Focus on reducing ‘the adverse health, social and economic consequences’ of drug use ‘without necessarily reducing drug consumption’ (HRI *n.d.*)
- Seven principles identified by HRI.
 - *Utilitarian*
 - *Humanitarian*
- BUT, what about ‘secondary harms’ (Nadelmann 1993)?

Eg. Vulnerability of 'traffickers'

- Vulnerability of drug users increasingly recognized; what about vulnerability of individuals who participate in cultivation, production, distribution, sale of illicit substances?
 - E.g. Sentencing Council (2011), Fleetwood (2014), Le and Guilding (2016) indicate structural vulnerabilities of women who participate in drug trafficking



Questions arising:

Are coercive sanctions really necessary for achieving the same 'outcomes' when it comes to international supply reduction efforts?

- ie. diversion as secondary harm reduction in this context

Are these outcomes even desirable?

Further considerations:

Opportunities/constraints associated with incorporating broadened notions of harm reduction in an organization like the AFP

Dangers associated with broadening the notion of harm reduction



Thank you

jarrett.blaustein@monash.edu