

Crack cocaine in Brazil open scenes and public responses



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In the 2000s, Brazil was confronted with the expansion of crack cocaine use, particularly among disadvantaged groups in its main urban centres. Being the subject of high political and media visibility, the issue of crack cocaine has overwhelmed the country's social and political agenda.

This issue of *Drugs, International Challenges* provides an overview of the Brazilian context, in its territorial and socio-historical context. It presents the evolution of crack cocaine use and trafficking in terms of their emergence as a social problem and as an issue for local and a national public action. It then shows how the spectrum of public responses in this area has fuelled intense public debate, marked by contrasting political and therapeutic proposals.

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