

**Reestablishing a Multilateral Regime and
Searching for Unilateral Interest—US Ratifying the
UN 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs
(1948-1967)**

Zhang Yongan

Abstract

Initiated by the United States, the United Nations 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs is the bedrock of the global drug control regime. However, there are two major changes from initiation to the opposition to its eventual ratification during 20 years. The American position is viewed as not only the product of intergovernmental conflict and political compromise, but also the result of the US Administration's "unilateralism" in the international drug control system, and its attempts to try and build an "Americanized" drug control system, or a drug control system formed from the United States "internationalization." The United States has been a part of the international drug control system since 1967, which has given a chance to carry out its "Americanized" drug prohibition model. Ultimately, the United States has used the UN as an agency to establish hegemony in the global drug control regime.

Key Words: The United States, United Nations, The 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, Global Drug Control Regime