

*Unofficial translation*

**NEWS BULLETIN ON PAST EVENTS  
IN THE COUNTER-NARCOTICS SPHERE**  
(based on mass media reports)

**27.08 – 02.09.2018**

**№ 35**

**ON CARICC MEMBER STATES**

**THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN**

**Minval.az BAKU AND TBILISI WILL FIGHT ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING FROM IRAN**

Georgia and Azerbaijan intend to jointly counter drug trafficking from Iran, Georgian Interior Minister Georgy Gakharia said at a meeting in Baku with his Azerbaijani counterpart Ramil Usubov.

"We plan to jointly fight the traffic of heroin from Iran. This is a very serious challenge and I think that only cross-border cooperation is a way out. In another way, it will be quite difficult for individual states to effectively combat such a transit," the press service of the Georgian Interior Ministry quotes G. Gakharia. <https://minval.az/news/123819450>

**THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN**

**ДРОЖЖЫЙ ПАТРУЛЬ NEW EQUIPMENT FOR KYZYLORDA POLICE**

Special equipment has been handed over to increase the effectiveness of the fight against illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs.

In order to improve the effectiveness of the fight against the drug business, two fully equipped modular trailers were transferred to the balance of the Department on Combating Drug Trafficking and the Canine Service Center of the Department of Internal Affairs of Kyzylorda region.

Over the past few years, a solid foundation has been laid for the development of constructive cooperation between the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the US Embassy in the fight against illicit drug trafficking.

The event was attended by representatives of the US Embassy, the leadership and staff of the Department.

In his speech, the first deputy head of the Department of Internal Affairs of the region, Colonel of Police G.Tulebaev expressed confidence that the handed over modern and newest special equipment was acquired in the framework of international cooperation in the fight against drug trafficking and will be used only for the purpose of conducting operational activities in the detection of crimes related to illegal drug trafficking, which will allow employees of special units of Department on Combating Drug Trafficking (UBN) to carry out assigned tasks. <https://patrul.kz/novost/kyzylordinskim-policejskim-vruchena-novaya-spectehnika-foto>

**kazinform YOUNG ALMATY RESIDENTS VISITED MUSEUM ACCOMPANIED BY POLICE**

On August 27, policemen in Almaty, as part of a anti-drug campaign, took children to museums of the city. Officers of the Department on Combating Drug Trafficking

conducted an excursion to the Akhmet Baytursynov house museum. Children were introduced to his life and activities, family photos, books and personal belongings.

"After watching the house-museum named after Ahmet Baytursynov, the teenagers visited the Museum of Folk Musical Instruments named after I. Ikhlas. We consider this form of education of the younger generation the most optimal and effective in an era when many children are brought up by the Internet. No wonder that cultural values as a heritage must pass from generation to generation, and to ensure that this chain does not stop, it is decided to activate this form of prevention. We are obliged to bring up a healthy, literate, law-abiding future," said N.Moshkalov, acting head of the Department on Combating Drug Trafficking of the Department of Internal Affairs of the city. [https://www.inform.kz/ru/v-soprovozhdenii-policeyskih-poseschali-muzei-yunye-almatincy\\_a3370799](https://www.inform.kz/ru/v-soprovozhdenii-policeyskih-poseschali-muzei-yunye-almatincy_a3370799)

## ON OTHER COUNTRIES

### GEORGIA

#### OPIUM OF LOCAL PRODUCTION APPEARED IN GEROGIA

In Georgia, opium began to be produced, which was the reason for the appearance on the black market of the country of a new type of heroin, notes the Head of the Narcological Examination Department of the National Bureau of Forensic Examination named after Samkharauli and Deputy Director of the Center for Drug Abuse Prevention Guri Menabdishvili.

The Constitutional Court of Georgia in July abolished the only remaining punishment for consumption of marijuana - a fine of 500 lari (about 195 dollars), in fact, legalizing the smoking of this type of drug. Thus, in Georgia the consumption of marijuana is legalized.

"According to my information, opium began to be produced in Georgia, and Georgian heroin has already appeared on the market, it is produced clandestinely, and it is impossible that it is pure", said Menabdishvili.

Menabdishvili also discussed the decision on the actual legalization of marijuana in his interview. He is sure that this will have a bad effect on Georgian society, for people will then start consuming heavy drugs.

"Those who started with marijuana have switched to a strong drug." The decriminalization of marijuana will very soon increase the number of intravenous drug addicts, very soon consumers will switch to potent narcotic drugs, and nation must be ready for it! "We first had to carry out prevention, then equip rehabilitation institutions, and then think about decriminalization. We started from the opposite, and we will soon get a very bad result," he added.

An employee of the National Bureau of Expertise is also sure that a new version of heroin mixed with a poisonous substance, arsenic started being sold recently in Georgia.

"The motive of mixing heroin with arsenic is that when it is administered intravenously, it will intoxicate, and person becomes addicted to it after the first use. Toxicologists and chemists of Criminal Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs who conduct chemical analyses of drugs seized from illicit trafficking must acknowledge this!", thinks Menabdishvili.

According to Menabdishvili, drug dealers intentionally mix heroin with arsenic, so that consumers have a desire to use it.

"Resellers mix heroin not only with arsenic, but also with different substances, including

various psychotropic medications. Arsenic has the advantage of being similar to heroin, and at the same time increases the desire for consumption - the consumer becomes ill, and is forced to resort to injection again. This causes a breakdown, because of which a person will do everything to obtain a sufficient dose," he concluded.

As for the problem of opium, Jemal Janashia, Doctor of Juridical Science, believes that plants containing this type of potent drug can be grown in Georgia in the highlands.

"Opium poppy grows on mountainous territory, it loves warmth, Georgia has several favorable territories for this plant, but it is impossible to grow large plantations, since it is impossible that it would be out of sight of law enforcement. I can not confirm that there are opium plantations in Georgia, but I can say with confidence that cannabis is already being produced in the regions of Georgia, and it is used by young people," said Janashia. Janashia is sure that in Georgia, in addition to men, marijuana is also consumed by women.

Despite the fears of specialists, the statistics of the Ministry of Internal Affairs say the opposite. Number of crimes related to drugs in the country for 7 months of this year decreased significantly. From January to July of this year there were recorded more than 2500 drug-related crimes in the country, which is 18.8% less than in the previous year.

<https://sputnik-georgia.ru/society/20180827/241858475/V-Gruzii-pojavilsja-opium-mestnogo-proizvodstva.html>

**This information has been extracted from open sources and is intended only for the competent authorities of the CARICC member states, observer states and other partners of the Center**