

Unofficial translation

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

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CARICC MEMBER STATES

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

**Коммерсантъ THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS WILL PROHIBIT
EXCITEMENT OF CASES ON THE SALE OF DRUGS WITHOUT
DATA ON THE TRANSFER TO OTHER PERSONS**

The Ministry of Internal Affairs has developed a bill that prohibits the initiation of criminal proceedings under the article on the sale of drugs, if there is no evidence of the transfer of prohibited substances to other people. The corresponding document was published on the federal portal of draft regulatory legal acts.

In order to initiate a criminal case, if amendments are adopted, it will first be necessary to get an expert opinion, which should determine the type, size and name of the narcotic substance.

“In most regions of the Russian Federation, the practice of unconditional initiation of criminal cases of this category is taking shape. At the same time, the practice of initiating such criminal cases ... leads to ineffective application of procedural measures to establish the circumstances of the commission of these crimes and distort statistics on the results of the fight against crime, ”the explanatory note to the document says.

As reported in 2017 by the Institute for Law Enforcement Problems in its report “Drug-related crimes in Russia: analysis of judicial and criminal statistics”, about a quarter of prisoners in correctional colonies were convicted of drug trafficking. At the same time, consumers are pursued more often than distributors.

<https://www.kommersant.ru/doc/3921982>

IN OTHER COUNTRIES

REPUBLIC OF BELARUS

**~~Reformation~~ IN SK BELARUS MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF AGENCY
AGAINST DRUG US**

On March 21, officers from the Office of the Counter Narcotic Agency of the US Department of Justice in Moscow visited the Investigation Committee of the Republic of Belarus, the UK press service told.

The head of the office got acquainted with the principles of the work of the IC in investigating crimes in the sphere of illicit drug trafficking and the powers of the

department, he learned how the interaction between various law enforcement agencies of the Republic of Belarus occurs at the stage of pre-trial investigation. The parties agreed on future contacts and discussed the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation.

<https://reform.by/v-sk-belarusi-vstretilis-s-predstaviteljami-agentstva-po-borbe-s-narkotikami-ssha/>

GERMANY

BIRD IN FLIGHT

GERMANY BECAME THE NARCOTIC CAPITAL OF EUROPE - SUCH RESULTS SHOWED WASTEWATER ANALYSIS

German cities are recognized as leaders in the use of amphetamine and methamphetamine.

European Monitoring Center for Drugs and Alcohol Addiction analyzed wastewater and sewage in 73 cities in 20 countries to obtain statistics on the use of four drugs in Europe - MDMA (ecstasy), amphetamine, methamphetamine and cocaine.

As it turned out, the most popular drugs in Germany: German cities Erfurt, Chemnitz and Dresden occupy the first three places in the ranking of methamphetamine use. Another German city, Saarbrücken, became the "amphetamine capital" of Europe. They consume almost twice as much amphetamine as in Reykjavik, which ranks second in the ranking for this drug.

According to the study, Ecstasy is most popular in the "rave" cities of Europe: for example, Amsterdam took the first place in MDMA, and Berlin is in fourth place. Cocaine became the absolute leader in terms of use among the four drugs. In Bristol, an average of almost 1 gram of the drug per thousand people is consumed per day. Scientists have also found that cocaine and ecstasy are rising sharply over the weekend, and methamphetamine is consumed about equally all days of the week.

Such studies have been conducted more than once, and every year scientists find more and more residues of psychotropic substances in wastewater. Joao Matias, research analyst at the European Monitoring Center for Drugs and Alcohol Addiction, in a commentary on The Local, noted that this is not necessarily due to a direct increase in drug use — it may just be that their quality is improving.

"When we see a large increase from year to year in the same city, there may be three reasons for this. More and more people are consuming it, the drug has become "cleaner" - so it has become easier to find in wastewater, or the same number of people use it, just more often. Sometimes it is a combination of all three factors," said the scientist. Researchers analyzed the decay products of drugs in wastewater throughout the week. According to their data, samples belonging to 46 million people were studied.

<https://birdinflight.com/ru/novosti/20190321-germany-drug-capital.html>

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