

CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY

(based on mass media reports)

26.08-01.09.2019**№ 35****CARICC MEMBER STATES****RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

23.08.2019 A car with a registration number of the Moscow region was detained in Tambov by officers of the Russian UMVD UNK in the Tambov region, where drug couriers - two foreign citizens from neighboring countries - were travelling. In the course of personal search, **336 g of heroin** were found and seized. Foreign nationals purchased heroin in Moscow via the Internet for further sale in the Tambov region. A criminal case has been opened. A detention order has been issued in respect of the defendants. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/18090251>

27.08.2019 Officers of the Main Administration on Transport of the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs, together with officers of CSN BDD MVD of the Russian Federation, stopped a vehicle carrying two members of an organized group who were involved in organization of a supply channel for heroin to the Russian Federation in the Sergiev Posad district of Moscow region. During a search, **3 kg of heroin** were seized from them. The drugs were transported to Moscow by rail and air and then distributed in various regions of Russia. Investigation was under way to establish all circumstances surrounding illegal activities. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/18084726>

27.08.2019 Officers of ONK OMVD of Russia for the Mostovsky district of Krasnodar region detained three local residents aged 20 and 21 who were suspected of illegal drug trafficking at the moment of equipping a cache with drugs. During inspection of homes of the detainees as well as in a specified hiding place in a forest belt, more than **1.5 kg of drug - a derivative of N-methylephedrone** - were found. Involvement of the detainees in several facts of illegal sale of N-methylephedrone on the territory of the district was established. This fact is under investigation. A preventive measure in the form of remand in custody has been applied in respect of the defendants. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/18083269>

27.08.2019 In a city district of Podolsk, young men and women were detained by officers of UNK GU UMVD of the Russian Federation in the Moscow region, who illegally kept at their place of residence more than **340 g of the drug derivative N-methylephedrone** prepared for small retail sale. A criminal case has been initiated. A preventive measure in the form of detention has been taken against the defendants. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/18083409>

27.08.2019 Officers of the Russian UMVD in the Omsk region detained a 30-year-old local resident suspected of illegal distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances of synthetic origin on the territory of the region through caches. In the course of search, **30.8 g of MDMA** were seized from the perpetrator and from his car. In addition, 6 drug caches were found, from which **255.51 g of N-methylephedrone** were extracted in total.

The drug courier purchased drugs through the Internet and sold them through caches to small-scale wholesale couriers for distribution among drug users. This fact is under investigation. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/18077455>

28.08.2019 Officers of the Altai Krai Department UNK GU MVD of Russia together with colleagues from the Russian Federal Security Service for Altai Krai stopped actions of an organized group (OCG), whose members are suspected of organizing illicit production and sale of synthetic drugs. Five members of the organized crime group purchased large amounts of drugs, which were then sold through an online store via caches. All OCG members were detained in three cities in Altai Krai: Barnaul, Biysk and Rubtsovsk. The court chose a preventive measure in the form of detention. Police found more than 30 caches with drugs. A total of about **6 kg of synthetic drugs** as well as substances for production of smoking mixtures were seized from. Items used in criminal activities, bank cards and computers were also seized. Criminal investigation is underway. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/18092386>

29.08.2019 In Stavropol, a criminal case is being investigated against a 43-year-old local resident who had organized manufacture of a synthetic drug intended for subsequent sale in a non-contact way at home. A drug laboratory has been identified and dismantled by officers of UNK GU MVD of the Russian Federation in Stavropol Krai together with colleagues from GUNK MVD of the Russian Federation and UFSB in the region. In a converted boiler house, the man mixed components purchased via the Internet, necessary for production of synthetic drugs. About **13 kg of the drug - derivative of N-methylephedrone, 30 g of marijuana**, several dozen containers with different components, equipment and other devices used for production of drugs - were seized. A criminal case has been initiated. The court chose a preventive measure in the form of imprisonment. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/18102603>

29.08.2019 Officers of UNK MVD for the Karachay-Cherkessia Republic, together with colleagues from GUNK MVD of the Russian Federation, stopped actions of three organized groups engaged in the sale of narcotic drugs in the republic and other regions of Russia. Ten active members of the groups have been detained and are in custody. A total of more than **4 kg of heroin** were seized in Moscow and Karachay-Cherkessia. Criminal proceedings have been instituted in connection with the sale of narcotic drugs. Investigators have established signs of organization and participation of the defendants in criminal community. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/18113575>

30.08.2019 Officers of the Russian UNK UMVD detained a 46-year-old resident of Omsk on suspicion of producing mephedrone. The man rented a warehouse where he was engaged in drug production for the purpose of its further sale. During inspection of the drug laboratory, more than **850 g of mephedrone** as well as equipment and chemicals were seized. As part of ongoing investigation, steps are being taken to identify accomplices who were involved in distribution of the drug, supplying precursors, equipment and money to carry out criminal activities. The defendant is in custody as a preventive measure. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/18123187>

REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

20.08.2019 In Akkurgan district of Tashkent province, internal affairs officers detained a 41-year-old resident of the Mustaqillik makhalla, and in his home **2.6 kg of cannabis and 7 bushes of a drug-containing cannabis plant** were found and seized. A criminal case has been initiated and investigation is under way. <https://www.mvd.uz/ru/lists/view/7425>

OTHER COUNTRIES

AUSTRALIA

29.08.2019 In Melbourne, **755 kg of methamphetamine** were seized as a result of a joint investigation by the Federal Police and the Australian Border Force. Drugs arrived in Sydney from Mexico on 10 August together with a shipment of frozen cow skins. A 42-year-old Mexican national involved in drug smuggling was arrested in a suburb of Saint Kilda. <https://www.smh.com.au/national/victoria/755kg-of-mexican-meth-found-stashed-in-frozen-cow-hides-20190828-p52ls8.html>
<https://www.news.com.au/news/national/drugs-found-stashed-in-frozen-cowhides-from-mexico/news-story/7d763d7377f64ef8a6e48fdc4f3329d5>

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

26.08.2019 Trebinje border police officers at the Klobuk International Border Crossing prevented smuggling of **31.7 kg of marijuana**. Drugs were discovered during inspection of a Citroen van registered in Montenegro at the entrance to Bosnia and Herzegovina. Thirty packages of marijuana were concealed in a specially equipped cache in the floor of the van. A 50-year-old driver, a Montenegrin national, was detained and handed over to the Prosecutor's Office of Bosnia and Herzegovina. During a search of the vehicle, border guards were supported by officers of the Trebin Police Directorate and the Republika Srpska Interior Ministry. <http://www.granpol.gov.ba/Publication/Read/937635?title=sluzbenici-granicne-policije-bih-sprijecili-krijumcarenje-31,7-kq-marihuane&pageId=22>

BRAZIL

26.08.2019 Customs team (IRS) at the port of Santos found **581 kg of cocaine** in a container with polypropylene for export to Europe. The consignment was detected by risk profile analysis and non-intrusive X-ray inspection of one of the containers bound for the port of Antwerp, Belgium. During inspection of the container, 23 bags containing packages of cocaine were found. The illicit consignment was placed in an export shipment without the knowledge of exporters and importers. The entire shipment has been transferred to the federal police station in Santos, which will continue investigation. <http://receita.economia.gov.br/noticias/ascom/2019/agosto/receita-federal-localiza-581-kg-de-cocaina-em-carga-de-exportacao-no-porto-de-santos>

UNITED KINGDOM

28.08.2019 National Crime Agency (NCA) intelligence identified a ship called Sy Atrevido, which was carrying a large consignment of drugs from South America to the United Kingdom. As a result of information received, HMC Protector border patrol officers intercepted a sailing yacht about half a mile off the coast of Wales. During a search of the

yacht at Port Fishguard, more than **250 kg of cocaine** were found and seized aboard. Street value of the seized cocaine is estimated at £8 million. Two men, 53 years old and 41 years old on board the ship, were arrested. Four others - three men aged 23, 31 and 47 years and a woman aged 30 years - were arrested in Liverpool and Loughborough.

<https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/huge-cocaine-haul-recovered-from-yacht-in-wales>

GERMANY

25.08.2019 Main Customs Administration of Bielefeld on the highway 44, located in the recreation area Helveg South, during inspection of a car coming from Ukraine found **400 g of ecstasy and 330 g of cocaine**. Three packs of drugs were inside fire extinguisher with visible signs of a breach, which was found in the trunk of the vehicle. The driver, who claimed to have visited his girlfriend in the Netherlands and was returning to Ukraine, was arrested. A criminal case has been initiated against the driver, who is suspected of being a drug smuggler.

https://www.zoll.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/Rauschgift/2019/y89_heisse_bi.html

27.08.2019 As a result of a long investigation carried out by the Joint Drug Investigation Group (GER) of Hamburg in close cooperation with Special Unit for Combating Organized Drug Crime of the Hamburg Prosecutor's Office, actions of an international criminal group related to smuggling of large amounts of cocaine in cargoes carrying bananas in refrigerated containers through the port of Hamburg were stopped. In course of the investigation, on 21 August 2019, Macedonian law enforcement authorities arrested the last person identified as a suspected importer of drugs. A total of about **700 kg of cocaine** have been seized as part of the investigation since April 2019. Nine persons have been prosecuted, including citizens of Turkey, Albania, Kosovo and Germany.

<https://www.presseportal.de/blaulicht/pm/6337/4357666>

IRAN

27.08.2019 Police forces seized **273 kg of opium** as a result of two separate operations on the Kum-Garmsar road. Three smugglers were arrested and handed over to judicial authorities. <https://en.mehrnews.com/news/149378/Police-seize-273-kg-of-drugs-in-E-Tehran>

COLOMBIA

27.08.2019 Police officers found more than **300 kg of marijuana** at the Santander police checkpoint on a road that connects the Municipality of Pamplona and the city of Cucuta during roadside checks. The drugs were transported in a mourning hearse inside a coffin. One person was arrested. <https://globalnews.ca/video/5821964/more-than-600-pounds-of-marijuana-found-inside-coffin-in-colombia>

28.08.2019 Drug Enforcement Directorate of the National Police of Colombia seized **300 kg of cocaine** in a container on board a vessel destined to sail from Turbo, Antioquia, to the seaport of Barcelona, Spain. The shipment was inside a container in 11 black bags. According to police, the cocaine consignment belonged to the "Gulf clan" drug cartel and was destined for an international criminal organization known in Europe as the Balkans.

<https://www.minuto30.com/incautaron-300-kilos-de-cocaina-que-el-clan-del-golfo-pretendia-enviar-a-espana-desde-el-uraba-antioqueno/881253/>

NICARAGUA

29.08.2019 An operation carried out by National Police at the Rivas municipal landfill resulted in discovery and seizure of **109,344 kg of cocaine**. A consignment of 94 packages was found during an inspection inside hidden compartments in the trunk of a Nissan van. The owner of the car is under investigation. The entire consignment will be destroyed in accordance with requirements of the law.

<https://www.tn8.tv/sucesos/483623-rivas-policia-incauta-100-kilos-cocaina/>
<https://www.policia.gob.ni/?p=37413>

PAKISTAN

28.08.2019 Police officers in Nasir Bagh, Peshawar, inspected a vehicle and seized **7 kg of heroin**. The drug was smuggled out of a tribal area in Khyber Agency on the border with Peshawar. One suspected drug smuggler was arrested.

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/518991-bid-to-smuggle-7kg-heroin-foiled>

USA

30.08.2019 Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agents in the Bronx in New York City found about **70 kg of cocaine** worth more than \$10 million in a truck carrying a tractor-trailer carrying papaya bags, pallets of oregano and coconut boxes. One person was arrested.

<https://nypost.com/2019/08/30/dea-agents-find-cocaine-worth-over-10m-in-bronx-fruit-truck/>

Video: <https://abc7ny.com/truck-in-bronx-hauling-fruit---and-millions-in-cocaine/5502895/>

THAILAND

27.08.2019 Police at a checkpoint in the northern Chi Rai Rai Rai Mae Fa Luang province have arrested four teenagers on charges of smuggling **120,000 methamphetamine tablets**. A group of Thai teenagers (two men aged 17 and 19 and two girls aged 15 and 16) were carrying drugs on two motorcycles from the border towards Muang Chiang Rai. The drugs were concealed under the headlights of motorcycles, footplates and storage openings under the seats. The detainees were hired as drug couriers by a tribal man from mountainous area to transport to Muang Chiang Rai.

<https://www.nationthailand.com/news/30375419>

TURKEY

29.08.2019 A vehicle carrying more than **71 kg of heroin** was stopped by security forces at the Gyurpinar district checkpoint in eastern Van province as part of the fight against drug trafficking, transportation and storage. The shipment of heroin was concealed in car seats. Three suspected drug smugglers, Turkish nationals, in the vehicle were arrested.

<https://www.yenisafak.com/en/news/over-71-kg-of-heroin-seized-in-eastern-turkey-3499386>

SOUTH KOREA

28.08.2019 Police, jointly with the Korean Coast Guard, discovered and seized a smuggled consignment of **100.764 kg of cocaine** on board a vessel in the port of Taean. The ship loaded with coal left Colombia on 7 July and stopped in Singapore en route to Korea. Police tracked the ship after receiving information from the U.S. Coast Guard about illegal cargo. Police is currently interrogating 20 Philippine crew members.

http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2019/08/251_274739.html

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nqOmFkd7De4>