

*Unofficial translation***CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY**

(based on mass media reports)

**07-13.10.2019****№ 41****CARICC MEMBER STATES****REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN**

**09.10.2019** Over the course of the week, the Ministry of Internal Affairs' units responsible for combating drug-related crime in Kazakhstan identified and registered 37 crimes in illicit drug trafficking, including 23 cases of drug trafficking, 6 cases of large-scale storage, 4 cases of smuggling and 3 cases of cultivation of drug-containing plants. One drug den has been shut down. **138.5 kg of drugs, including 137 kg of marijuana and 920 g of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances of synthetic origin**, were seized by police officers. A resident of Ust-Kamenogorsk was found to possess **417.78 g of alpha-pyrrolidinovalerophenone**. [https://www.inform.kz/ru/pochti-kilogramm-sinticheskikh-narkotikov-iz-yali-za-nedelyu-v-kazahstane\\_a3573616](https://www.inform.kz/ru/pochti-kilogramm-sinticheskikh-narkotikov-iz-yali-za-nedelyu-v-kazahstane_a3573616)

**10.10.2019** As a result of long-term operative work by staff of the Drug Crime Prevention Directorate of the Akmola Region Police Department, a channel for sale of heroin on a particularly large scale was stopped. Three residents of Atbasar were detained. A total of **465.79 grams of heroin** were seized as a result of a special operation. A pre-trial investigation is under way into the sale of heroin. [https://www.inform.kz/ru/polkilo-geroina-hranilos-v-dome-72-letney-akmolinki\\_a3574433](https://www.inform.kz/ru/polkilo-geroina-hranilos-v-dome-72-letney-akmolinki_a3574433)

**RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**08.10.2019** Officers of UNK UMVD of Russia in the Penza region stopped criminal actions of a group of persons suspected of transportation, storage and sale of banned substances in a large scale by non-contact method. In the village of Mokshan, Penza region, four residents of Penza aged 21 to 25 travelling by car were detained. During inspection of the vehicle in a backpack, which was in the trunk, police found and seized about **1.5 kg of amphetamine**. Another **1.5 kg of amphetamine** were recovered from caches, the coordinates of which remained in mobile devices of the detainees. The suspects were stash operators. Large amounts of drugs were taken from caches in another region and delivered to Penza. Investigation is currently under way. The article provides for a maximum penalty of up to life imprisonment. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/18538109>

**09.10.2019** Officers of GUNK of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation together with their colleagues from the Transbaikal region in cooperation with the Border Guard of the Regional Department of the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation stopped illegal activities of an online store selling potent substances under the guise of biologically active additives for weight loss. An illegal scheme for the sale of sibutramine via the Internet has been identified. A Moscow resident in her apartment set up a mini-laboratory to pack powder into capsules and cardboard boxes with labels to reduce weight. The abuser herself and with the help of two accomplices from Krasnokamensk, Zabaikalsk

region, sold drugs by mail. Suspects were looking for customers on social networks. A criminal case has been initiated on this fact. In the course of searches of places of residence of the defendants in Moscow and Zabaikalsky Krai about **10 thousand capsules and pills** were seized. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/18555759>

**10.10.2019** Officers of UNK GU MVD of Russia for the Voronezh region stopped illicit trafficking of drugs in the territory of Voronezh through caches. Two natives of a Central Asian state at the age of 35 and 29 were distributing heroin in a contactless way. Suspects were detained while equipping a stash. In the course of personal search of the detainees, about **300 grams of heroin** were found and seized, which, according to police, were meant not for consumers, but for other operators working with smaller supplies. More than **1 kg of heroin**, electronic scales, bank cards and packaging materials were seized during a search of the defendants' homes. The defendants used the Internet to find out addresses of caches, and then took necessary amount of drugs and equipped other stashes. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/18568572>

## OTHER COUNTRIES

### BELGIUM

**10.10.2019** At the end of September, two major seizures of drugs were made by customs at the port of Antwerp in consignments originating in South America. On September 23, a shipment of cocaine weighing **801.3 kg** was discovered, and on September 27, it was **1,190.1 kg**. The drugs were in consignments arriving from Ecuador. During 2019, large quantities of cocaine were found in 86 consignments originating in Brazil, Colombia and Ecuador. In addition, during the same period, 22 tons of cocaine were seized in South America, the destination of which was the port of Antwerp. Antwerp is a central point of distribution of cocaine throughout Europe. In 2019, about 41 tons of cocaine, valued at more than two billion euros, were seized by customs in the port of Antwerp.

<https://www.hln.be/in-de-buurt/antwerpen/opnieuw-twee-ton-cocaine-onderschept-in-antwerpse-haven-a6a4b93a/>

### BRAZIL

**08.10.2019** The Brazilian Internal Revenue Service (IRS), in a joint operation with the Federal Police at the port of Itapoa, Santa Catarina, seized **200 kg of cocaine**. The drug was found inside a container with damaged seals on board. It is believed that the consignment was destined for Malta and departed from another port, as the vessel was collecting containers at scheduled stops and the container in which the illicit cargo was found had not been shipped to the port of Itapoa. <http://receita.economia.gov.br/sobre/acoes-e-programas/acoes-da-receita-federal/noticias/2019/outubro/9a-regiao-fiscal/receita-federal-e-policia-federal-apreendem-200-quilos-de-cocaina-no-porto-de-itapoa>

**09.10.2019** The Civilian Police prevented transport of **51.8 kg of cocaine** on a ship bound for Belgium as a result of a special operation in Guarantes. The investigation revealed a pattern of criminals still unknown to the police. Santos' Chief Investigative Officer (DIG) arrived at the scene after receiving information from a truck driver about drug deal. A 33-year-old computer technician involved in the smuggling operation was detained, based on the truck driver's information. The man broke his leg while trying to escape the police. Other

members of the criminal group managed to escape. The driver explained that he was transporting 27.5 tons of sugar in a truck to the terminal on the left bank of the port of Santos in Guarantes. However, at the request of drug traffickers, under the threat of violence against his family, he was forced to deviate from the route in order to pick up and transport a shipment of highly purified cocaine, in total 47 packages, from his designated location, along with a shipment of sugar. The sugar shipment was destined for export from the port of Santos to the Belgian port of Antwerp.

<https://www.tribuna.com.br/noticias/policia/pol%C3%ADcia-civil-evita-embarque-de-quase-52-kg-de-coca%C3%ADna-para-b%C3%A9lgica-um-homem-foi-pres-1.70849>

**11.10.2019** Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and Federal Police officers seized **1.3 tons of cocaine** in a joint operation in the port of Paranagua. The cocaine was in a sugar shipment destined for the port of Rotterdam in the Netherlands.

<http://receita.economia.gov.br/noticias/ascom/2019/outubro/receita-federal-e-policia-federal-apreendem-1-3-tonelada-de-cocaina-no-porto-de-paranagua>

Video: <https://globoplay.globo.com/v/7994638/>

**11.10.2019** Internal Revenue Service (IRS) officers seized **1462 kg of cocaine** during an inspection at the port of Vila do Conde, located in the municipality of Barcaren, Para State. The drug was concealed inside one of the four containers to be shipped to Amsterdam, Netherlands. The cocaine shipment was delivered to the Federal Police for follow-up measures. <http://receita.economia.gov.br/noticias/ascom/2019/outubro/receita-federal-apreende-droga-em-barcarena-pa>

## UNITED KINGDOM

**09.10.2019** Border Force officers at the international port of Portsmouth found 20 packs of **cocaine weighing 22 kg** during a container check on board a cargo ship behind a panel. The container was delivered by ship to the port of Portsmouth, among other containers from Ecuador, Panama and Colombia. An investigation by the National Crime Agency is under way. <https://www.portsmouth.co.uk/news/crime/cocaine-worth-1-3m-seized-from-vessel-at-portsmouth-international-port-1-9100692>

## GREECE

**09.10.2019** Police at the port of Piraeus, in conjunction with port officials, discovered a refrigerated container carrying at least **700 kg of cocaine** from Ecuador in a banana shipment at the container terminal. The cocaine consignment was concealed inside the container in specially designed caches in cooling system. The port of destination of the shipment, according to the police, may have been the port of Piraeus, either Thessaloniki or Durres, Albania. <https://www.ant1news.gr/eidiseis/article/548551/entopistikan-700-kila-kokace90nis-se-fortio-me-mpananes-binteo->

Video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=2&v=Or9cQBesoUU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=2&v=Or9cQBesoUU)

## INDIA

**07.10.2019** Athurugiriya police stopped a suspicious vehicle on the southern expressway from Kaduvela, where two 38-year-old drug traffickers were transporting **50 kg of heroin**. Police are looking for another suspect in connection with the incident who rented a house in the Athurugiriya area. The drug was intended to be sold in the regions of Nugegoda,

Aturugeria, Kaduvelle, Kottawa, Homagama and some other areas. Police Narcotic Bureau and the Athurugiriya Police are investigating the case.

<http://www.dailynews.lk/2019/10/07/local/199159/suspects-nabbed-while-transporting-50kg-heroin>

## IRAN

**12.10.2019** Following large-scale reconnaissance operations, police confiscated **500 kg of opium** from Omidia, which was destined for Ahwaz. Two smugglers were arrested and handed over to judicial officials.

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/151091/Police-seized-500-kg-drugs-in-SW-Iran>

## SPAIN

**09.10.2019** Five members of an international criminal organisation were arrested as a result of an international special operation carried out by agents of the Guardia Civil, the National Police Corps and the Directorate of Customs Supervision of the Tax Agency, in cooperation with the Criminal Investigation Division of the Netherlands Police, the Estonian Police and the Judicial Police of Portugal, coordinated by the Maritime Analysis and Operations Centre for Combating Drug Trafficking (MAOC-N) and Europol. Members of the organization have tried to smuggle more than **500 kg of cocaine** and other drugs from Brazil into Spain by sea in caches set up in the boat "IMAGINE". The vessel belonged to a Dutch company registered in the name of a team member. The investigation in Spain was launched as part of an international judicial assistance initiative by other European Union countries. Investigation affected the cities of Barcelona, Valencia, Huelva, Granada and Las Palmas de Gran Canaria in Spain, where members of the criminal organization had made contact and met with each other. The investigation established and identified all members of the criminal organization, as well as logistics infrastructure and international links with other EU countries: the Netherlands, Estonia, the United Kingdom, Portugal and Brazil. In May 2018, the criminal organization trained the vessel IMAGINE for maritime navigation on the route Valencia-Las Palmas-Gran Canaria (Spain), Fortaleza-Natal-El Salvador de Bahia-Rio de Janeiro-Italy (Brazil) and back to the Azores (Portugal) from the port of Valencia, Spain. Since then, at the initiative of Spain, police authorities of Portugal and the Netherlands have been involved in police investigation. On 10 July 2019, after a long investigation using various instruments of international judicial and police cooperation between the countries involved and following the discovery of ship's movement to Europe, a coordinated police operation was carried out to intercept the ship and its crew. Five members of criminal organization from Estonia, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands were arrested. In addition to 500 kg of cocaine, **520 g of methamphetamine**, electronic and digital evidence, a 9 mm firearm with erased serial number and cash and navigation material (documents, navigation charts, GPS and satellite phones) were seized.

<http://www.guardiacivil.es/es/prensa/noticias/7136.html>

## PAKISTAN

**09.10.2019** Airport Security Force (ASF) at Bacha Khan International Airport in Peshawar stopped smuggling of **3kg of heroin** into Dubai (UAE) and arrested a suspect from the Pakistani city of Mardan. The drug was found in luggage of the passenger who was to fly on a private airline flight to Dubai from where he would fly to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

<https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2019/10/09/bid-to-smuggle-heroin-foiled-suspect-arrested/>

## POLAND

**10.10.2019** Masovian Customs and Tax Control Office at Chopin Airport in Warsaw stopped smuggling of more than **8.5 kg of heroin**. Heroin in luggage was carried by two Dutch and British women who flew to Warsaw from Johannesburg (South Africa) on two separate flights. The drug was concealed in both cases in double bottom of suitcases. More than 5 kg of heroin were found in the Dutch woman's suitcase and 3.5 kg in the British woman's suitcase. Both women were arrested. <https://www.tvn24.pl/tvn24-news-in-english,157,m/polish-customs-intercept-8-5-kilo-of-heroin-at-warsaw-chopin-airport,976416.html>

## PUERTO RICO

**07.10.2019** Customs and border guards assigned to air and sea operations (AMO) in Fajardo discovered and seized **20 kg of cocaine**. Estimated value of the shipment is \$500,000. Marine Interdiction Agents (MIAs) effectively intercept drug and currency smuggling between Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, organized by transnational criminal organizations. After receiving information about a suspicious vessel heading south of Culebra to Villa Marina in Fajardo, and then inspecting the vessel, agents found 20 packages of cocaine inside a stash on board. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/amo-seizes-20-bricks-cocaine-inside-vessel-fajardo-puerto-rico-0>

## USA

**08.10.2019** Officers from the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office in Wisconsin arrested two Rockford residents, a man and a woman aged 41 and 38, on charges of drug trafficking. The traffickers were transporting and storing about **7 kilograms of cocaine** in a car and at their place of residence. In addition to drugs, seized were three guns and more than \$119,000 in cash. <https://wrex.com/category/2019/10/08/two-arrested-authorities-seize-more-than-7-kilos-of-cocaine/>

**09.10.2019** U.S. Border Patrol agents near Temecula, California, stopped a Ford Escape that had been inspected in two metal boxes attached to the seat head restraints and seized **9.98 kg of fentanyl and 1.2 kg of cocaine** in the cabin. This amount of fentanyl is enough to kill more than 5 million people. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/border-patrol-seizes-deadly-combination-narcotics>

**09.10.2019** Some **4,100 cannabis plants** and more than **454 kg of marijuana** were found and seized in illicit drug crop cultivation sites in the Anza area south-east of Hemet in rural Southern California. Two suspected men may be charged. Searches were carried out by the sheriff's office in cooperation with staff of the State Fish and Game and Regional Water Quality Control Board. <https://ktla.com/2019/10/09/10-tons-of-marijuana-plants-processed-pot-seized-during-raids-on-illegal-cultivation-sites-near-hemet-sheriffs-dept/>

**09.10.2019** Police in north-eastern Wisconsin found and seized **27.22 kg of methamphetamine** in a hotel room in Grand Shuta, occupied by one of nine members of a criminal group. A pistol was seized upon arrest. <https://wkow.com/news/2019/10/09/officials-seize-meth-in-major-drug-bust/>

**12.10.2019** Deputies of the SCSO, California, sheriff's office on interstate Highway 5, near Lake Shasta, detained a woman from Arizona who was carrying **2.63 kg of heroin** in a bag on the rear passenger seat. <https://krctv.com/news/shasta-county/scso-arizona-woman-arrested-after-k9-thor-finds-over-5-pounds-of-heroin>

## TURKEY

**11.10.2019** An operation conducted by provincial gendarmerie command against a terrorist group of the Kurdistan Workers' Party in south-eastern Turkey in Lice district, Diyarbakir province, resulted in the seizure of **5 tons 312 kg of marijuana and more than 1.34 million cannabis bushes**. Ten people were arrested during anti-terrorist and anti-drug operation that began in the district on 9 October. Weapons caches have also been found. Kalashnikovs, pistols and 17 cartridges were seized. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/turkey-over-5-000-kg-marijuana-seized-from-pkk/1609791>