

CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY

(based on mass media reports)

01.01-05.01.2020**№ 1****CARICC MEMBER STATES****REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN**

05.01.2020 Employees of the GUBN of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Azerbaijan conducted an operation against persons involved in illegal trafficking of narcotic substances. Two residents of Lankaran city were detained in Baku. **47.691 g of heroin** and **40.063 g of methamphetamine** were found and seized during the search. Suspects purchased drugs from a drug dealer from Iran and sold them through social networks on the Internet in a contactless way. A criminal investigation has been initiated against the detainees. <https://www.trend.az/azerbaijan/society/3173140.html>

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

03.01.2020 Employees of UNK of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia on the Kaluga area together with the GUNK of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia have detained two residents of Kaluga - a man and a woman of 1998 and 1996 years of birth, suspected in illegal sale of drugs. During a personal search of the detainees and at their place of residence, **2.187 kg of synthetic drugs (mephedrone and amphetamine)** were found and seized. The traffickers received the drugs in large quantities, then packed them and sold them contactlessly to drug addicts in Kaluga. A criminal case has been initiated. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/19252761>

OTHER COUNTRIES**VIETNAM**

03.01.2020 The Moc Bai International Border Gate Guards, located on the Cambodian border in the village of Thuan Tay, Ben Cau district, arrested a 25-year-old woman, a Vietnamese citizen, for smuggling **3,000 methamphetamine tablets** from Cambodia into Vietnam. The pills were hidden inside a teddy bear toy. <https://vietnamnews.vn/society/570658/woman-arrested-for-smuggling-3000-meth-pills.html>

GEORGIA

26.12.2019 The Central Department of Criminal Police of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia has detained seven members of an international organized criminal group engaged in manufacturing and selling synthetic drugs in the country and abroad. The detainees included one Georgian national and six citizens of Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Ukraine and Russia. Police officers in Tbilisi, Kutaisi and Batumi seized about **21 kg of synthetic drugs** and **10 litres of liquid drugs** worth GEL 6 million (US \$2.1 million). The OCG was led by a

Ukrainian citizen. Drug traffickers illegally produced and sold drugs in Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Georgia.

<https://interfax.az/view/787809>

COLOMBIA

31.12.2019 Santa Marta's Coast Guard units seized about **80 kg of high-purity cocaine** in two counter-narcotics operations. In the Pelicano sector, approximately **48 kg of cocaine** were found hidden in caches located on the island's hill. Also in the port sector of the capital Magdalena, Colombian naval units, in coordination with the national police, took part in the arrest of a crew member of a Danish motorboat called LICA MAERSK, who concealed a bag of more than **30 kg of cocaine** in the ship's warehouse. The ship was on its way to Belgium.

<http://www.radiosantafe.com/2019/12/31/incautaron-80-kilos-de-cocaina-en-aguas-de-santa-marta/>

<https://www.hoydiariodelmagdalena.com.co/archivos/315552>

02.01.2020 During an underwater inspection of the Taiwanese merchant vessel "YM UNANIMITY" at the facilities of the Buenaventura Public Port, a team of highly qualified divers from the Colombian Navy found about **169.8 kg of marijuana**. The vessel sailed from the Port of Buenaventura from Valle del Cauca to El Callao in Peru. The drugs were in 3 bags on the right side of the boat.

<https://www.cgfm.mil.co/en/blog/colombian-navy-finds-marijuana-shipment-which-was-hidden-taiwanese-ship>

<https://www.armada.mil.co/es/content/armada-colombia-incauta-cargamento-marihuana-oculto-en-un-buque-bandera-taiwanesa>

PERU

03.01.2020 The Public Ministry, through the Third Specialized Supraprovincial Attorney's Office against Organized Crime (FECOR), participated in a seizure of **540 kg of cocaine**. The cocaine was disguised as marachuaia, with the Netherlands as its destination. Six suspects were detained in the cities of Piura and Chimbote - four Peruvian nationals aged 41 to 56 and two foreign nationals aged 42 and 55.

<https://www.agenciafiscal.pe/index.php?K=60&id=12018>

<https://twitter.com/FiscaliaPeru/status/1213156686237753344>

USA

01.01.2020 Border Patrol Agents in Van Horn, Texas, spotted a suspicious group of six people using night vision technology. Further action on the scene revealed six backpacks containing approximately **181 kg of marijuana**. Van Horn's agents are continuing their efforts to locate fugitive smugglers. The drugs found have been handed over to the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA).

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/border-patrol-seizes-approximately-400-pounds-marijuana-new-year-s-day>

02.01.2020 A search of the home of a 41-year-old resident of Lake Elsinore, Riverside County, California, found **4.5 kg of methamphetamine tablets** worth more than \$180,000 and about **453 g of heroin** worth \$33,000.

<https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/lake-elsinore-man-arrested-found-with-10-pounds-of-meth/2285336/>

TURKEY

02.01.2020 Turkish security forces seized **647 kg of marijuana** during national operations:

- 1) **515 kg of marijuana** were seized in the south-eastern province of Diyarbakir. Security forces confiscated weapons and ammunition and destroyed winter bunkers used by YPG/PKK terrorists in south-eastern Turkey;
- 2) In an operation in eastern Bingol province, security forces seized **132 kg of marijuana**;
- 3) During raids on various houses in central Eskisehir province, police confiscated small quantities of marijuana and arrested three people. In addition, five drug smugglers have been arrested in the southeastern province of Adiyaman. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/more-than-647-kg-of-marijuana-seized-in-se-turkey/1690341>

03.01.2020 Turkish security forces seized **330 kg of drugs** during national operations:

- 1) Anti-narcotics police units conducted an operation against drug trafficking in the eastern province of Van that resulted in the seizure of about **86.4 kg of heroin**, with one suspect arrested for drug smuggling;
- 2) In the south-eastern province of Gaziantep, police seized a small stockpile of drugs and weapons, arresting 24 suspected drug smugglers;
- 3) In south-eastern Mardin province, security forces seized **250 kg of marijuana** during an operation. Police have arrested a suspected drug smuggler;
- 4) In southern Hatai province, counter-narcotics units conducted an operation to combat illegal drug smuggling. Police seized **170kg of marijuana** and **115,000 pills**, arresting 33 suspected drug smugglers. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/over-330-kg-of-drugs-seized-in-turkey/1691235#>

03.01.2020 Turkish security forces in the eastern province of Van, on the highway between Van and the southeastern provinces of Hakkari, after inspecting a van, found three bags of 150 packs of **heroin weighing 77.5 kg** in the trunk of a car. A suspected drug smuggler was detained during the anti-drug police operation. <https://menafn.com/1099506638/Turkish-forces-confiscate-more-than-77-kg-of-heroin-in-Van>