

NEWS RELEASE ON ANTI-DRUG PAST EVENTS (from the media)

20.07-26.07.2020**№ 30**

ON CARICC MEMBER STATES

REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

22.07.2020 Employees of the Central Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Azerbaijan on suspicion of illegal circulation of drugs detained 5 citizens of Azerbaijan, including residents of Baku and Jabrail district, who illegally stored, on residence and transported for sale **drugs and psychotropic substances, total weight 14.990 kg, including 10.430 kg of heroin, 4.112 kg of methamphetamine, 425 g of marijuana and 23 g of opium.** Detained persons received in Baku a large batch of drugs delivered to Azerbaijan on behalf of citizens of Iran, the identity of which has not yet been established. The detainees were to sell the drugs and send part of the money to a supplier in Iran. A criminal case has been initiated, the said persons have been detained and handed over to the investigation. <https://haqqin.az/news/184437>

REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

22.07.2020 Two men were detained on suspicion of selling the narcotic drug hashish by the officers of the Drug Crime Counteraction Department of the Police Department of the city of Temirtau, Karaganda region. **496 g of hashish** were found in the garage of one of them. Later, a wholesale seller of drugs, a 54-year-old resident of Akmola region, was identified and detained in Temirtau. Seized **361 kg of marijuana and 1.196 kg of hashish.** <https://24.kz/ru/news/incidents/item/411248-361-kg-narkotikov-iz-yato-v-khode-spetsoperatsii-v-temirtau>

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

20.07.2020 Employees of the police patrol service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia "Lyuberetskoye" of the Moscow region detained three natives of one of the republics of the near abroad aged from 19 to 23 years, who prepared for the illegal sale of 800 parcels of heroin, with a total weight of **990 g.** A criminal case was initiated. The court in respect of the suspects has chosen a preventive measure in the form of detention. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/20658397>

20.07.2020 Employees of the drug control department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia for the city of Novokuznetsk, Kemerovo Region, detained two local residents aged 23 and 26, who organized a laboratory for the production of mephedrone in a garage on the territory of the Zavodskoy district of Novokuznetsk for its subsequent sale. In the garage, police found parcels of **mephedrone** prepared for sale (**weight not specified**), laboratory equipment that provides the entire production cycle, precursors and plastic cans of

chemicals used to make the prohibited substance. A criminal case has been initiated against the suspects. One of the defendants was taken into custody for the duration of the investigation, the second was taken as a preventive measure in the form of a recognizance not to leave. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/20656618>

22.07.2020 Employees of the POC UMVD of Russia for the city of Novorossiysk, Krasnodar Territory, detained a 36-year-old resident of the Primorsko-Akhtarsk region, who was engaged in the contactless sale of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in Novorossiysk. Upon examination of the suspect's apartment, **30 g of amphetamine** were found and seized. In the car, the detainee kept **3 kg of mephedrone**, which he acquired and packaged for further sale through bookmark caches. A criminal case has been initiated against the suspect. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/20680108>

23.07.2020 A 48-year-old woman suspected of attempting to sell heroin was detained in a forest belt in the Central District of Chelyabinsk by officers of the UNC GU MVD for the Chelyabinsk Region. During a personal search and a subsequent search at the place of residence of the detainee, **1.76 kg of heroin** was seized, packaged in 300 packages, which the woman planned to sell on the territory of Chelyabinsk by organizing cache-stashes. On this fact, criminal cases were initiated. With regard to the detainee, a preventive measure was taken in the form of detention. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/20685415>

23.07.2020 At the entrance to Tyumen, officers of the road patrol service stopped a car driven by a native of the near abroad, born in 1989, to check the documents. As a result of the inspection of the vehicle, about **500 g of the synthetic narcotic drug MDPV (salt)** were found and seized. The man arrived in Tyumen to sell drugs, which he acquired together with unidentified persons in Moscow. A criminal case has been initiated on this fact. In the course of the investigation, the employees of the Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia for the Tyumen Region established that the suspect hid part of the brought in a forest belt at the entrance to Tyumen. Employees of the UNK UMVD of Russia in the Tyumen region seized another **2.5 kg of MDPV (salt)** from the cache. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/20690272>

23.07.2020 Officers of the police patrol service of the Nizhny Novgorod Linear Directorate of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia on transport in the forest at Dubravnyaya station detained young men - 18-year-old and 21-year-old residents of Dzerzhinsk, suspected of selling drugs in a contactless way through bookmark caches. During the inspection of the scene of the incident, 35 caches-tabs were found in the forest. More than **500 g of mephedrone** were seized. The detainees purchased prohibited substances via the Internet. A criminal case was initiated. In relation to the defendants, a preventive measure was chosen in the form of detention. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/20687723>

ON OTHER COUNTRIES

ARMENIA

21.07.2020 The Armenian police stopped the smuggling of a large consignment of drugs from Iran to Armenia. In early July, the relevant police department received information about the impending illegal crossing of the Iranian-Armenian state border and the import of

a large consignment of drugs into the republic. On July 10, in the Syunik region of Armenia, at the site where, according to the information received, an illegal border crossing should be made, a man in camouflage with a backpack was seen walking from the forest towards the village of Srashen. The violator was detained, it was a 24-year-old citizen of Iran. With him, **4.865 kg of heroin** and a gun were found. While examining the scene in the forest, another backpack with clothes, drinking water and a mobile phone was found. A criminal case has been initiated on this fact. https://arminfo.info/full_news.php?id=53795

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

26.07.2020 Border police officers at the Gradiska border crossing at the exit from Bosnia and Herzegovina stopped the smuggling of **55.4 kg of marijuana**. The drug was found during an inspection using special equipment in a Fiat Ducato truck with Montenegrin license plates. The truck driver is a citizen of Montenegro, arrested. <http://www.sarajevotimes.com/bosnian-border-police-seizes-over-55-kilograms-of-marijuana/>

BRAZIL

21.07.2020 The Federal Tax Service (FTS) Customs in the Port of Santos, São Paulo, seized **632 kg of cocaine**. The cocaine packages were in a container with an export cargo - sacks of building mix of cement, sand and additives used for laying floors, coverings and flat surfaces. The cargo was destined for the port of Antwerp (Belgium) and was selected for verification using an instrumental inspection by a scanner according to objective risk analysis criteria. The seized cocaine has been handed over to the Federal Police, which is investigating. <http://receita.economia.gov.br/sobre/acoes-e-programas/acoes-da-receita-federal/noticias/2020/julho/8a-regiao-fiscal/receita-federal-intercepta-632-kg-de-cocaina-no-porto-de-santos>

23.07.2020 The Federal Tax Service (FTS) Customs at the port of Itapoa, Santa Catarina, seized **523.5 kg of cocaine**. The drug was concealed in a container loaded with wood pellets destined for the port of Gioia Tauro in Italy. The seized consignment of cocaine has been sent to the Federal Police, which will continue to investigate. <http://receita.economia.gov.br/sobre/acoes-e-programas/acoes-da-receita-federal/noticias/2020/julho/9a-regiao-fiscal/receita-federal-apreende-523-quilos-de-cocaina-no-porto-de-itapoa>
 Video: <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1bWX80jpcIGMZ0ghcemuZDIghDmIC5wOc>

VIETNAM

23.07.2020 Police in the central highlands of Dak Lak province stopped a car heading in the direction of Ho Chi Minh City for inspection, in which two drug traffickers, citizens of Vietnam and Laos, smuggled **200 kg of methamphetamine** from Laos through the Savannahet border gate from Laos. <https://e.vnexpress.net/news/news/shots-fired-as-police-fight-traffickers-seize-200-kg-of-meth-4134953.html>

UNITED KINGDOM

13.07.2020 Border guards at the Port of London (DP World London Gateway) seized **380 kg of cocaine**, worth £ 15.2 million. The drug was hidden in the floor of a container from Costa Rica with a batch of bananas. The container was destined for Germany. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/15-million-of-cocaine-seized-by-border-force-at-london-gateway>

INDIA

25.07.2020 A special task force (STF) in Sikandar Bagh hijacked a truck carrying **445 kg of marijuana**. Six people responsible for the drug supply have been arrested. The case has been registered and further investigation is underway.

<https://www.newkerala.com/news/2020/132612.htm>

IRAN

24.07.2020 The Iranian anti-drug police seized **17.478 tons of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including 250 kg of heroin, 14.031 tons of opium, 42 kg of methamphetamine, 950 kg of morphine, 2.023 tons of hashish, 182 kg of other narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances** from illicit circulation from July 18 to July 24¹.

COLUMBIA

23.07.2020 Traffic police during an operation in the municipality of Aguachica, Cesar department, stopped a Kia car driven by a 35-year-old man carrying **70 kg of cocaine**. The cocaine packages were hidden in a cache located at the front of the vehicle in the roof. The value of the seized cocaine was about 350 million pesos.

<https://diarioliberal.com/sitio/2020/07/23/descubren-70-kilos-de-clorhidrato-de-cocaina-en-el-techo-de-una-camioneta-kia-en-aguachica/>

Video: <https://twitter.com/i/status/1286432063957106694>

<https://www.facebook.com/UstedLamusicayAlgoMas/posts/1221930728137957/>

THE NETHERLANDS

23.07.2020 Customs in the port of Rotterdam, during an inspection of the container, found and seized **500 kg of cocaine**. The container arrived by sea vessel from Brazil with a cargo of low-carbon ferrochrome, 500 packages of the drug were in 20 sports bags. The cargo was intended for a company in Rotterdam. The investigation is being conducted by the HARC team - by customs, FIOD, seaport police and the State Attorney's Office in Rotterdam. The drugs have since been destroyed. <https://www.om.nl/actueel/nieuws/2020/07/23/douane-vindt-500-kilo-cocaine>

<https://www.ad.nl/rotterdam/sporttassen-vol-cocaine-per-toeval-ontdekt-in-rotterdamse-haven~a8193c42/173740623/>

26.07.2020 Customs in the port of Rotterdam found two different consignments of **cocaine**, with total weight **242 kg**. The cost of cocaine exceeded 18 million euros. Both shipments were found in containers that arrived from Brazil. The first batch of **cocaine, weighing 30 kg**, was found in a container with a shipment of orange pulp from the port of Santos (Brazil). The citrus product was targeted for a company in Rotterdam. Cocaine packages were found behind a fake wall inside a container. The second consignment of cocaine, **weighing 212 kg**, was found in 11 duffel bags in a container with a consignment of printer ink. The cargo was destined for a company in Germany after arriving in Rotterdam from the port of Paranagua (Brazil). Both companies in Germany and the Netherlands, the

¹ Data provided by liaison officer of the Anti-Narcotics Police of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

recipients of the legal shipments, were not suspected of being involved in drug smuggling. All **242 kg of cocaine** have been destroyed. <https://nltimes.nl/2020/07/26/eu18m-cocaine-found-brazilian-orange-printer-ink-shipments>

MOROCCO

21.07.2020 The police of Morocco have seized more than **4.8 tons of cannabis** and **6 kg of cocaine** in separate anti-drug operations recently carried out in various cities in the Kingdom. Police in Agadir, at the entrance to the city of Ait Mellul, intercepted two trucks carrying two consignments of **cannabis, weighing 2.34 tons and 1.74 tons**. Authorities seized drugs, cash and mobile phones used by smugglers. The drivers were arrested. In addition, the police in Marrakech, Rabat and Tangier seized **6 kg of cocaine** during operations against drug trafficking, 4 people were arrested, including one French citizen of Moroccan origin. <https://northafricapost.com/42562-moroccos-police-seize-over-4-8-tons-of-cannabis-6-kg-of-cocaine.html>

MEXICO

22.07.2020 Mexican Navy teams in coordination with the National Intelligence Center (NIC) seized **102.6 kg of cocaine**. During the inspection of the Danish-flagged vessel SVENDBORG MAERSK en route from Panama and Ecuador to the port of Manzanillo, 90 packages of cocaine were found. The drug was to be seized by organized crime members in the port of Manzanillo. <https://www.riviera-maya-news.com/feds-seize-over-100-kilos-of-cocaine-at-port-of-manzanillo/2020.html>

UAE

24.07.2020 Customs officers at Dubai International Airport attempted to smuggle **1.3 kg of crystalline methamphetamine** in a suitcase under the inner lining, detaining a passenger from Asia. <https://gulfnews.com/uae/dubai-customs-outsmarts-man-who-tries-to-smuggle-in-13kg-crystal-meth-amid-pandemic-1.72771374>

PAKISTAN

26.07.2020 Police in Peshawar thwarted a drug smuggling attempt during vehicle checks near Sardar Garhi Chamkani. In a secret compartment in a car, **4 kg of heroin and 2 kg of opium** were found and seized. The driver of the vehicle was arrested and the police launched an investigation into this fact. <https://www.urdupoint.com/en/pakistan/heroin-opium-recovered-one-arrested-984820.html>

PUERTO RICO

16.07.2020 The crew of the USCG Heriberto Hernandez, in coordination with Joint Task Force Vostok, spotted a suspicious fast vessel while on patrol in the Caribbean. While attempting to take over, the smugglers dropped several bales in sight and left the area at high speed. The crew of Heriberto Hernandez carried out a thorough inspection of the area where the dump occurred, with the result that 55 bales of **cocaine** were collected, weighing **1.375 tons**. The wholesale value of cocaine is more than \$ 38.5 million. <https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/u-s-coast-guard-seizes-38-5-million-in-cocaine-in-the-caribbean>

USA

22.07.2020 US Border Patrol agents near La Rosita, Texas, detained two men who loaded a suspicious cargo into a car parked near the Rio Grande. On examination, more than **68.04 kg of methamphetamine** were found and seized in the car. The seized and seized substance has been transferred to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) for prosecution. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/border-patrol-seizes-nearly-5m-worth-methamphetamine>

23.07.2020 Officers from the St. Louis, Missouri Police Department stopped a car driven by a 27-year-old man. During the inspection of the car, more than **470 g of fentanyl** and a pistol were found and seized. The driver was taken into custody. <https://www.ksdk.com/article/news/crime/fentanyl-gun-found-during-traffic-stop-st-louis/63-389125a2-35f1-4d27-aa93-33c061b6e5e3>

23.07.2020 US Border Patrol agents at Interstate 8 checkpoint in Pine Valley, California:

- 1) When trying to smuggle **33.78 kg of methamphetamine** in a Honda Accord in the side panels and gas tank of the car, a 22-year-old woman, a US citizen, was detained. The cost of the batch is more than 186 thousand dollars. The female driver and drugs are transferred to the San Diego County Sheriff's Department for further investigation.
- 2) When trying to smuggle **14.9 kg of methamphetamine** into the gas tank of a Ford Mustang, a 19-year-old US citizen was detained. The cost of the batch is more than 82 thousand dollars. The man and the drugs were transferred to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) for further investigation. In both cases, the vehicles were confiscated. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/107-pounds-meth-seized-two-smuggling-attempts>

24.07.2020 US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers at the cargo port of entry in Otai Mesa, San Diego, California, while examining a tractor unit with a trailer, found and seized **129.73 kg of methamphetamine** and **11.79 kg of fentanyl** in a sleeping cabin. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-officers-seize-more-300-pounds-drugs-hidden-cargo-truck-sleeper>

24.07.2020 El Centro Border Patrol agents at a checkpoint located on Highway 111, California, arrested a 51-year-old man, a lawful permanent US resident from Mexico, driving a GMC Sierra pickup truck while attempting to smuggle vehicle 2 into the engine compartment, **25 kg of heroin**. The driver, drugs and vehicle have been transferred to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/border-patrol-agents-seize-heroin-hidden-inside-engine-0>

TURKEY

24.07.2020 Gendarmerie forces seized **806,346 cannabis plants** and **83.2 kg of marijuana** during anti-drug raids in eastern Bingol province and Elbeyli district in southern Kilis province. During the operation in Kilis, one person was arrested. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/turkey-more-than-800-000-cannabis-roots-seized/1921610>