

CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY

(based on mass media reports)

02.11-08.11.2020

№ 45

CARICC MEMBER STATES

REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

04.11.2020 An attempt to smuggle almost **14 kg of drugs and 1334 tablets of psychotropic substances** across the state border was prevented by SBS AR:

1) Near Alasha village of Astara district, in the zone of responsibility of the border post of Lankaran border guard detachment, in a convolution thrown by the violator, when attempting to violate the state border of Azerbaijan by the Islamic Republic of Iran, were found and seized **3.853 kg of heroin and 762 tablets of "Methadon-40"**. As a result of investigation a car "Mercedes" with two inhabitants of Astara region born in 1986 and 1987 was stopped. A criminal case was opened on this fact. One of the detainees was brought to justice as a defendant and arrested by court decision;

2) Three convolutions with **10 kg of drugs and 572 tablets of psychotropic substance (no name indicated)** were found near the villages of Sarkhanly, Jalilabad district, and Aruz, Yardymlynsky district, in the zone of responsibility of the border detachment "Goradiz". <https://1news.az/news/predotvraschena-kontrabanda-krupnoy-partii-narkotikov-v-azerbaydzhane-foto>

REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

31.10.2020 As part of the Karasora measure, the Nur-Sultan Police Department officers seized **hallucinogenic mushrooms containing more than 900 g of psilocin**. A 23-year-old resident of the capital of Kazakhstan was detained. During a search of his house, they found **mushrooms, spores of mushrooms**, and special mineral fertilizers. In addition, police officers seized light bulbs, thermometers, electronic scales and plastic containers used for growing spores of hallucinogenic mushrooms, which were already ready to be used and sold as drug products. The young man was engaged in cultivation of mushrooms for his own use as well as for distribution purposes. A criminal case has been launched against the detainee; investigation is under way.

https://www.inform.kz/ru/narkolaboratoriyu-likvidirovali-v-stolice-iz-yaty-gallyucinogennye-griby_a3713165

KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

04.11.2020 Officers of SBNON MVD KR detained a man in Osh and seized **1.139 kg of heroin**. It costs 1.139 million soms. This fact was registered in the ERPP. A pre-trial investigation is under way. The suspect is in custody.

https://24.kg/proisshestviya/171970_vgorodeosh_umujchinyi_izyyali_geroin_stoimostyu_bole_1milliona_somo_v/

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

05.11.2020 Officers of GIBDD MVD for the Republic of Tatarstan, together with colleagues from UNK MVD for the Republic of Tatarstan, stopped a Mercedes Benz car driven by a 34-year-old resident of Perm at a stationary police station in Verkhneuslonsky district. During search of the vehicle, **2 kg of alpha-PVP** were found and seized in the trunk in the spare tire compartment. The man was transporting a synthetic drug from Moscow to Perm. A criminal case was initiated and the man was detained.

<https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21720508>

05.11.2020 Employees of UNK MVD of the Republic of Tatarstan with participation of regional Department of FSB of Russia stopped a criminal group suspected of illegal manufacture of synthetic drugs. Three perpetrators organized a drug laboratory for production of mephedrone in a private house in Kazan. In addition, they set up two stores on the Internet to sell drugs in Tatarstan and Mari El republics. Criminal cases have been initiated and a preventive punishment measure in the form of detention has been taken against the suspects. **8 kg of mephedrone** were found and seized during house searches. **Marijuana, hashish and amphetamine** were also seized at the residence of one of the detained persons.

<https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21718731>

06.11.2020 Employees of UNK GU MVD of Russia in Moscow region together with colleagues from MU MVD of Russia "Shchelkovskoye", in the urban district of Fryazino detained foreign nationals aged 24 and 25 suspected of selling drugs. During a personal search of the detainees, as well as in their apartment, about 900 **heroin** bundles with a total weight of more than **1.5 kg** were seized. A criminal case was opened on this fact. The court selected a preventive measure in the form of detention. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21732461>

REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN

06.11.2020 Employees of GKNB of Tajikistan conducted special operation on stopping a transnational drug group. In the Shokhin district of Kulyab city, near the state border with the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, a resident of Khatlon province was detained and **86 kg of narcotics (type is not specified)** were seized from him. It was found that the drugs were smuggled into Tajikistan from the IRA. The detainee received the shipment from an Afghan citizen, a resident of Kunduz province, Hoja Sameh. The consignment was intended for sale abroad. A criminal case has been launched and investigation is under way.

<https://tj.sputniknews.ru/incidents/20201106/1032225620/tajikistan-izyatie-narkotikov.html>

REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

04.11.2020 Employees of the railway customs post "Sariasia" of Surkhandarya Regional Customs Administration in cooperation with the State Security Service and Border Troops carried out customs control with the use of inspection complex of cargo train arriving from a neighboring state and passing through Uzbekistan. As a result of inspection, suspicious visual images of the scanner of one of the carriages were detected. In the course of thorough customs control with the help of service dogs it was found out that at the bottom of the car with the help of metal sheets there were special caches with 23 plastic containers

of 5 liters each. The containers held **11.987 kg of heroin and 2.592 kg of hashish and 81.348 kg of hashish oil**. In cooperation with representatives of other law enforcement agencies, the customs officers at the Derbend railway station in Boysunsky district performed additional customs control of train cars. As a result, an identical cache of 21 containers was discovered at the bottom of another wagon. The containers had **30.648 kg of hashish and 45.906 kg of hashish oil** in them. The total weight of **narcotic drugs** amounted to **172.5 kg**. A criminal case was opened on the drugs smuggling.

<http://www.customs.uz/ru/news/view/4800>

OTHER COUNTRIES

AFGHANISTAN

10.11.2020 From November 2 to 9, the Counter Narcotics Police conducted 60 operations in 20 provinces. As a result of investigations 76 people were detained and **232.135 kg of narcotic and psychotropic substances were seized, including 34.422 kg of heroin, 151.176 kg of hashish, 21.757 kg of methamphetamine, 23.665 kg of opium and 117 MDMA tablets. Also seized were 13 liters or 8.8 kg of alcohol. They confiscated the currency of 1,018 USD, 17 cell phones, and 10 vehicles¹.**

BELGIUM

05.11.2020 One of the world's largest cocaine shipments was seized in the port of Antwerp. Investigators found **11.5 tons of cocaine** in the port of Antwerp, hidden in five containers of scrap metal, which came from Guyana, South America. The seizure was related to a gang of corrupt police chief Willy Van Mechelen, who was detained in September 2020. During the investigation, investigators found that another ship belonging to the gang was coming from Guyana. This ship arrived at the port of Zeebrugge in late October. Containers were transhipped and delivered to a vessel of internal navigation to the port of Antwerp. The final destination of the cargo was to be a company from the Netherlands. Investigators traced the cargo and started to take action in Antwerp. To hide the shipment of drugs, a steel container was loaded into a shipping container in South America. Eventually, the Antwerp and Limburg Federal Investigators and customs authorities collaborated to find 11.5 tons of cocaine in this structure. A larger seizure was made in the summer of 2019, when almost 16 tons of cocaine were confiscated in the port of Philadelphia on the U.S. east coast. Belgian investigators conducted house searches in Belgium (Antwerp and Thames) and the Netherlands (Landgraaf and Beake). Two people were detained. In the Netherlands one person was arrested for extradition to Belgium, three other suspects in the Netherlands are waiting for their transfer. The international criminal organization that regularly ships large amounts of cocaine from South America to Belgium, of which Van Mechelen was a key figure, has thus been dismantled. He and 21 other members of that organization are in detention. The gang had criminal ties to a drug cartel in Mexico as well as other criminal organizations. https://www.gva.be/cnt/dmf20201105_94659516

Video: https://www.nieuwsblad.be/cnt/dmf20201105_94621703

<https://www.euractiv.com/section/justice-home-affairs/news/belgium-seizes-record-11-5-tonnes-of-cocaine/>

¹ Data provided by liaison officer of the Ministry of Interior Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan under CARICC.

BRAZIL

03.11.2020 Federal Police (PF) officers in a joint operation with the Federal Revenue Service (IRS) detained two drug couriers - nationals of Brazil and Sierra Leone - at Sao Paulo International Airport in an attempt to smuggle **12 kg of cocaine**. The Sierra Leonean, who intended to travel to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, had 107 bottles of perfume with cocaine in suitcase. In the case of the Brazilian, IRS found drugs inside metal rods of the handles of two suitcases. The man intended to move drugs to London, England.

<https://www.gov.br/pf/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2020/11-noticias-de-novembro-de-2020/pf-apreende-cerca-de-12-kg-de-cocaina-no-aeroporto-internacional-de-sao-paulo>

04.11.2020 324 kg of cocaine were seized in the Port of Paranagua in a joint operation by the Federal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Federal Police (PF). Drug was concealed in a shipment of plywood and was intended for shipment to Antwerp, Belgium. It was found during routine procedures The drug was found during routine inspection with a scanner.

<https://www.jblitoral.com.br/acao-conjunta-apreende-324-quilos-de-cocaina-no-porto-de-paranagua/>

Видео: <https://www.facebook.com/jblitoral/videos/829373591157012/>

07.11.2020 During a routine inspection by the Federal Revenue Service (IRS), more than **631 kg of cocaine** was found in the port of Santos, hidden in an electronic scrap shipment. The shipment was destined for the port of Hamburg (Germany). Cocaine briquettes were packed in large bags. All drugs have been handed over to the Federal Police, which will continue investigation.

<https://costanorte.com.br/seguranca/mais-de-600kg-de-coca%C3%ADna-s%C3%A3o-encontrados-em-carregamento-de-sucata-1.246949https://g1.globo.com/sp/santos-regiao/porto-mar/noticia/2020/11/06/receita-localiza-631-kg-de-cocaina-escondidos-em-carregamento-de-sucata-no-porto-de-santos-sp.ghtml>

GEORGIA

06.11.2020 Georgian Interior Ministry officials in Signakhi municipality in the Kakheti region detained a person on suspicion of illegal acquisition and possession of drugs in especially large amounts, and seized **6.5 kg of heroin**. An investigation has been launched into the case. <https://civil.ge/ka/archives/380851>

ISRAEL

03.11.2020 Police officers in an industrial area near the town of Kiryat Malakhi, located in southern Israel, intercepted a truck that was carrying a container with a hidden shipment of **cocaine** in it weighing **750 kg**. The shipment is estimated to cost 250 million shekels. Cocaine consignment was found accidentally, without prior intelligence. Lahish district police launched an investigation into the origin of the smuggling.

<https://www.ynetnews.com/article/r18mp111FD>

IRAN

07.11.2020 Between 31 October and 6 November, the Iranian Anti-Narcotics Police seized **20.675 tons of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including 87 kg of**

heroin, 17.689 tons of opium, 57 kg of methamphetamine, 1.865 kg of morphine, 861 kg of hashish, 116 kg of other narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances².

ITALY

05.11.2020 Italian police in the port of Gioia Tauro in Calabria seized **932 kg of cocaine**. Drugs were concealed in a container that arrived from Chile with a shipment of frozen mussels. Cocaine is worth 186 million euros. The consignment was confiscated after risk analysis of more than 2.2 thousand containers using special scanners.

https://www.nieuwsblad.be/cnt/dmf20201105_94065718

<https://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/world/2020/11/05/italy-seizes-cocaine-worth-e186-mil-in-cargo-of-chilean-mussels/>

COLOMBIA

03.11.2020 Colombian Navy captured a **2.045 ton cocaine** smuggling submarine 35 miles from Cartagena port. Drug cartels often invent new ways to deliver drugs and use planes, speedboats, tunnels and submarines. Navy officers have discovered three smugglers inside the submarine. During search 119 bags of drugs were found as well as communication and geolocation equipment. The detained smugglers included citizens of Ecuador, Colombia and Mexico. The shipment was valued at 67 million U.S. dollars. Colombian intelligence suggests the cocaine consignment belonged to the Residual Organized Armed Group or United Guerillas of the Pacific, and was destined for Mexico. Semi-submersible ships have become one of the drug cartel's favorite tools because of the ship's low profile. Some of these semi-submersible boats are capable of crossing the Atlantic Ocean. New drug submarines are almost entirely submersible, making them difficult to detect visually or by radar, sonar and infrared systems. Colombian forces operating in the Pacific have seized 132 tons of cocaine and 35 tons of marijuana, worth more than \$4.5 billion. <https://www.fleetmon.com/maritime-news/2020/31477/submarine-smuggling-2-tons-cocaine-seized-colombia/>

08.11.2020 During customs control, which is carried out in the jurisdiction of the Northern Zone Drug Enforcement Company, **784 kg of cocaine** were seized in the ports of Santa Marta and Barranquilla. The first action was held in the port of Santa Marta, where a container with a cargo of fruit destined for Antwerp (Belgium) was located at a container terminal. The container held **319 kg of cocaine**. The second seizure was made at the port of Barranquilla, where **465 kg of cocaine** concealed in an export cargo was seized. During profiling, container inspection and pre-shipment control procedure on seagoing vessels of a company that intended to export coffee in containers to Syria, it was found that the cargo seals on a container were damaged. <https://www.elinformador.com.co/index.php/judiciales/71-judiciales-local/243918-decomisan-319-kilos-de-cocaina-en-un-contenedor-en-el-puerto-de-santa-marta>

CHINA

02.11.2020 Employees of the Drug Investigation Unit of the Hong Kong Customs and Excise Department of Customs found and seized **501 kg of crystalline**

² Data provided by liaison officer of the Anti-Narcotics Police of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

methamphetamine in a transport container transiting from Mexico to Australia. The shipment was valued at HK\$300 million (US\$39 million). Authorities were suspicious about the route followed by the container from Mexico in transit through South Korea, Vietnam, Hong Kong and Singapore until its arrival at the final destination in Australia. The substance was found in 251 of 1168 bags of cement. <https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3108067/hong-kong-authorities-seize-record-haul-crystal-meth>

THE NETHERLANDS

30.10.2020 A joint customs and police operation in the port of Rotterdam found and seized **410 kg of cocaine**. Drugs were hidden in a container that a 50-year-old Belgian tried to move out of the port without permission. The man, suspected of involvement in drug smuggling, was arrested. The container was delivered from Brazil and carried large bags of ferrosilite, a raw material for metals industry. The cargo was destined for a company in France. Cocaine was worth over 30 million euros. Investigation is carried out by HARC team - customs, FIOD, seaport police and public prosecutor's office in Rotterdam. Seized drugs have been destroyed. <https://www.om.nl/actueel/nieuws/2020/11/03/douane-en-politie-vinden-410-kilo-cocaine-in-rotterdamse-haven>

UAE

05.11.2020 Customs officers at Dubai International Airport detained a 24-year-old passenger from Asia attempting to smuggle 72 capsules with **1.079 kg of heroin** intracavitarily. <https://www.gulfoday.ae/news/2020/11/05/asian-arrested-with-1079kg-of-heroin-at-dubai-airport>

PAKISTAN

02.11.2020 Customs officials at the port of Qasim in Karachi prevented an attempt to smuggle **36 kg of heroin** hidden in soccer balls made in the city of Sialcot, located in the northeast of Punjab province. The shipment is valued at 360 billion rupees. Heroin was inside 9.6 thousand soccer balls to be sent to Canada. Four suspects involved in drug smuggling have been detained by customs officials and legal proceedings have been initiated against them. <https://arynews.tv/en/historic-port-qasim-customs-thwart-36kg-heroin/>

04.11.2020 In a police operation in Karachi, a drug trafficking suspect was arrested and about **5.264 kg of heroin** were seized. <https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/738256-36-2kg-of-heroin-seized-at-port-qasim>

05.11.2020 Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Excise Administration officials seized **45 kg of crystalline methamphetamine and 24 kg of heroin** during an operation on the Daraband Road in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Dera Ismail Khan district. One suspect, against whom a case was registered, was detained. In addition, the ANF prevented a Peshawar resident from attempting to smuggle **1.5 kg of crystalline methamphetamine** into Sharjah (UAE). In another operation, ANF at the Torkham border prevented an attempt to smuggle **700 ecstasy tablets** from Afghanistan into Pakistan. The operation resulted in the arrest of three suspects. <https://dunyanews.tv/en/Crime/571988-Anti-Narcotics-dept-recovers-45kg-ice-24kg-heroin-in-Dera-Ismail-Khan>

PANAMA

04.11.2020 Units of the National Aviation Service in one of Panama's ports discovered and seized **294 kg of cocaine** during an inspection of a container from Guayaquil, Ecuador, which was destined for Mexico. The seizure was reported to the Drug Prosecutor's Office, which has begun an investigation. <https://www.critica.com.pa/sucesos/incautan-droga-en-contenedor-procedente-de-ecuador-591554>
<https://twitter.com/MinSegPma/status/1323787415165771776>

07.11.2020 A team of National Aviation Service (Senan) tactical divers at the seaport of Cristobal, Colon province, found **8 kg of cocaine**, a package with which was attached below waterline to the hull of the ship. The seizure operation was coordinated with Kolon and Gun Yal's drug prosecutors. Drug was in an area known as the starboard sea box, anchored on the outside of the ship and held with a metal hook. The Cypriot-flagged ship at the port of Cristobal arrived from the Dominican Republic and was bound for Puerto Rico. <https://www.panamaamerica.com.pa/provincias/senan-logra-detectar-cocaina-en-un-buque-con-bandera-chipre-en-colon-1175562>
<http://www.aeronaval.gob.pa/default.asp?aid=noticias&n=articulos-noticias-2020-20201106b.html>
<https://twitter.com/MinSegPma/status/1324828502584078337>

PARAGUAY

02.11.2020 Agents of the National Anti-Drug Secretariat (Senad) intercepted three packages from a shipping company destined for Thailand and the Maldives. The parcels contained **ecstasy tablets and 483 g of cocaine**. Drug seizures cost \$71,000. <https://oviedopress.com/interceptan-paquetes-de-drogas-que-tenian-como-destino-asia/>

PERU

04.11.2020 Agents from the Drug Control Directorate of the Peruvian National Police (Dirandro) seized **1098 kg of cocaine** during a raid in the port of Paita with customs officials on Peru's northern coast. Illegal cargo was found on the ship among a shipment of cocoa beans destined for Belgium. Packages of cocaine were marked with a clover leaf logo. The consignment's value on the European market is 100 million US dollars. The vessel "MSC VAISHANAI.R", on which the shipment was found, arrived from Guayaquil (Ecuador). The consignment may belong to international drug cartels operating in Peru. The seizure occurred two days after the discovery of **500 kg of cocaine** in the Andean central city of Junín. http://spanish.xinhuanet.com/2020-11/05/c_139493204.htm
<https://larepublica.pe/sociedad/2020/11/04/paita-incautan-mas-de-una-tonelada-de-coca-camuflada-en-cacao-lrnd/>
<https://www.apnoticias.pe/peru/larepublica-pe/paita-incautan-mas-de-una-tonelada-de-coca-camuflada-en-cacao-187040>

USA

04.11.2020 U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Office of Field Operations (OFO) agents at Hidalgo International Bridge, Texas, interdicted drug smuggling attempts in two separate incidents:

1) On October 30, 2020, when attempting to smuggle **76.10 kg of methamphetamine** in a Toyota Sequoia car, a 23-year-old man, a lawful permanent

resident of the United States (LPR) from Edinburg, Texas, was detained. Packages of methamphetamine were inside the tires of the SUV and were found as a result of an inspection. The shipment was valued at \$3.3 million;

2) On October 31 while attempting to smuggle **3.24 kg of cocaine** from Mexico in "Hyundai Elantra" automobile a 62-year-old American citizen living in Rio Grande, Texas was detained. The shipment was estimated to cost 55 thousand dollars. In both cases CBP used all available tools and resources, including imaging equipment (NII) and canine groups. Drugs and both vehicles have been seized and drivers have been handed over to the Homeland Security Investigations (HSI). <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-field-operations-hidalgo-international-bridge-snatches-over-3>

02.11.2020 U.S. Border Patrol agents at the Interstate Highway 35 checkpoint north of Laredo, Texas, stopped a **20.72 kg of opium** smuggling attempt. Drug was found during an inspection of a pickup truck with the driver and a passenger in it. Opium was held in 20 crates and was hidden inside two drive shafts of the car, which were transported in the body of the pickup. It was worth 3.92 million dollars. The driver and passenger, US citizens, were arrested. The case was handed over to special agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/nearly-4-million-black-tar-heroin-seized-checkpoint>

03.11.2020 Border patrol agents at a checkpoint located on Highway 277 at Eagle Pass Station, Texas, confiscated more than **9.53 kg of methamphetamine** as a result of a car search. The shipment was worth 103 thousand dollars. Two U.S. citizens - 25-year-old driver and 20-year-old passenger, the car and drugs were transferred to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) for further investigation. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/border-patrol-agents-seize-over-103k-worth-meth-checkpoint>

04.11.2020 Border Patrol agents from the Yuma Sector at immigration checkpoint on Highway 95 at Blight Station, Arizona, detained two U.S. citizens attempting to smuggle **18.6 kg of methamphetamine** in a Nissan Versa. The consignment of methamphetamine was found as a result of inspection of the car in the trunk inside the spare tire. Its worth is 100 thousand dollars. The man and woman were arrested, drugs and the car were seized. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/agents-foil-smuggling-attempt-after-finding-41-pounds-meth-spares-tire#>

04.11.2020 U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials in Cincinnati, Ohio, found and seized a total of **60.78 kg of methamphetamine** worth \$1.2 million in nine separate shipments. Nine bags were addressed to residents of the United States and Australia. CBP seized drugs during Operation Overdose after officers checked shipments from Mexico and Canada using X-ray equipment and noticed some anomalies in images. Officers found methamphetamine disguised as pastes, powders and liquids mixed with various food additives, oils and smuggled in coconut water jars. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/134-pounds-meth-worth-12-million-seized-cincinnati-cbp>

09.11.2020 Border Patrol agents from the Yuma Sector discovered a small unmanned drone near San Luis, Arizona, that had made several flights to the United States from Mexico. Agents observed the drone drop several bags that were later found to contain methamphetamine and detained two suspects near the residence where the bags fell. The Yuma County Drug Enforcement Task Force issued a search warrant for the house, which

resulted in the discovery and seizure of **11.29 kg of methamphetamine** and a .357 Magnum revolver. The cost of methamphetamine was estimated at \$225,000. The task force took into custody a man and a woman, drugs and weapons were seized.

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/yuma-agents-detect-cross-border-drone-smuggling-narcotics>

THAILAND

09.11.2020 Police east of Ban Nakhu in Tambon Nong Kung district detained a major drug dealer, a 25-year-old resident of Mukdahane, and seized **192 000 methamphetamine tablets and 3 kg of crystalline methamphetamine**.

<https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/2016667/major-drug-dealer-caught-in-khon-kaen>

TURKEY

02.11.2020 Drug Control Police in the district of Kozluk in the southeastern province of Batman, during a search of a car that came from the province of Hakkari, bordering Iran and Iraq, found under car seats and seized about **55 kg of methamphetamine**. Two people suspected of being associated with seized drugs were detained.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/over-57-kg-of-meth-seized-in-turkey/2028331>

04.11.2020 As a result of an operation carried out by police groups from the Van City Police Department, a truck was searched in the Edremit district, where **154.165 kg of heroin** were found and seized in its fuel tank. The driver was taken into custody.

<https://www.haberler.com/van-da-154-kilo-165-gram-eroin-ele-gecirildi-13712371-haber/>

Video: <https://www.msn.com/tr-tr/video/finans/kamyonun-yak%C4%B1t-deposunda-154-kilo-165-gram-eroin-ele-ge%C3%A7irildi/vp-BB1aFWzm>

04.11.2020 During separate operations of gendarmerie conducted in Kutahya, Diyarbakir, Hakkari, Hatai and Van provinces, about **309 kg of marijuana, 10 kg of unnamed synthetic drugs and 2000 tablets** were seized. Three people were arrested in the course of these operations.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/turkey-over-450-kg-of-heroin-marijuana-seized/2031565>

UKRAINE

06.11.2020 Employees of the Department of Combating Drug Crime of the National Police of Ukraine have stopped a high-tech laboratory manufacturing methadone equipped on the territory of a private house in Kiev region. Officers of the DNB NPU, together with Kiev police investigators, exposed an organized criminal group, which established production and sale of methadone in large amounts as part of criminal proceedings. The drug trafficking business was organized by a 59-year-old female native of the Russian Federation, who involved three people from her entourage - two men, born in 1972 and 1986 - who acted as laboratory chemists and produced methadone, and a 50-year-old Russian resident who acted as a "guard" of the house where the drug laboratory was set up. The organizer of the group established sales channels for methadone in Ukraine, Russia and Belarus. Wholesale shipments of the drug (1 kg or more) were sold during personal meetings and through international mailings. To set up drug laboratory, the leader purchased a private house in Kiev region. Capacity of the laboratory allowed to produce more than 100 kg of methadone per month. During searches about **35 kg of methadone in dry form and 25 liters - in**



liquid form, more than 1 ton of precursors and components for manufacture of methadone, laboratory equipment was seized. More than 35 thousand US dollars, firearms, ammunition and a car were also seized. Seized drugs cost about 50 million hryvnia.

https://mvs.gov.ua/ua/news/35957_Operativniki_pidrozdilu_borotbi_z_narkozlochinnistyu_zatrimali_etnichne_narkougrupovannya_z_mizhnarodnimi_zvyazkami.htm

ECUADOR

03.11.2020 During Operation Cobra, anti-drug agents found 11 jute bags containing **715.405 kg of cocaine** in a container loaded with ceramic boxes at a storage site at Guayaquil seaport. The container was to be loaded on a ship to Guatemala.

<https://www.policia.gob.ec/en-el-puerto-maritimo-de-guayaquil-agentes-antinarcoticos-detectan-y-aprehenden-715-405-gramos-de-cocaina/>