

NEWSLETTER ABOUT PAST EVENTS IN THE ANTI-DRUG SPHERE

(according to the media)

21-27.11.2022

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In the period from November 21 to November 27, 2022, based on information from the media in the space of the CARICC member states and other countries of the world, 5 events in the anti-drug sphere were covered (*Azerbaijan - 1, Kazakhstan - 1, Russia - 1, Tajikistan - 1. According to other countries: Portugal - 1*).

The published articles contain information on the number of detained foreign citizens (*AR*), some problems of drug trafficking (*RK*), on the initiative of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation to create a consolidated list of Internet resources (*RF*), participation in a meeting in the CSTO format (*RT*), as well as new data on the drug market in Eastern Partnership countries (*Portugal*).

ON CARICC MEMBER-STATES

REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN



80 FOREIGNERS DETAINED IN AZERBAIJAN FOR ILLEGAL DRUG TRAFFIC THIS YEAR



Report informs, this is stated in the report of the State Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and Illicit Drug Trafficking for January-October 2022.

Of the 80 foreign nationals prosecuted, 37 were Iranian, 9 Georgian, 11 Turkish, 2 Turkmenistan, 1 Kyrgyzstan, 1 Pakistani, 2 Ukrainian, 1 Maldivian and 16 Russian.

In total, 1 ton 039 kg 711.593 g and 4178 tablets of various narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as well as 16759 pieces of cannabis were seized from foreign citizens.

<https://report.az/ru/proisshestviya/v-etom-godu-v-azerbajdzhane-za-nezakonnyj-oborot-narkotikov-zaderzhany-80-inostrancev/>

REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN



STOP - DRUGS!



Over the past years, the problem of illicit drug trafficking has been relevant for our country, Delovoy Kazakhstan reports.

In September of this year, under the chairmanship of the prosecutor of the region, Maylybaev A.S. a collegium was held with the participation of law enforcement and special agencies on combating drug crime, as a result of which the regional

prosecutor instructed law enforcement agencies to take a number of measures to improve methods for detecting crimes.

Particular attention is paid to the identification and blocking of drug sites in social networks and counteracting "pharmacy" drug addiction.

On the territory of the Akmola region, cases of the sale of codeine-containing drugs without a corresponding doctor's leave have become more frequent. In order to increase control and reduce their illegal sale, the prosecutor's office of the region instructed the Departments of Police and Pharmaceutical Control to conduct joint raids on an ongoing basis to suppress such facts.

In addition, law enforcement and special bodies were instructed to intensify work to raise the level of awareness of citizens about the dangers of using narcotic drugs and the envisaged liability for their trafficking.

<https://dknews.kz/ru/v-strane/261568-stop-narkotiki>

RUSSIAN FEDERATION



ON THE INITIATIVE OF THE MIA OF RUSSIA, A CONSOLIDATED LIST OF INTERNET RESOURCES BLOCKED IN THE CIS COUNTRIES FOR DRUG DISTRIBUTION IS CREATED



«In pursuance of the Decision of the Council of Ministers of Internal Affairs of the CIS Member States dated September 8, 2022, a List of Internet resources blocked in accordance with national legislation in the territories of the CIS Member States in connection with the illegal distribution of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, their analogues with their help and precursors.

At the Council meeting e, the Minister of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation, Police General of the Russian Federation Vladimir Kolokoltsev, initiated the creation of the list. This idea received the unanimous support of foreign colleagues.

At present, a single center has been organized, to which partners from the Commonwealth countries send information about sites that facilitate drug trafficking, and for this reason are blocked. This information is posted in a special section of the official website of the Bureau for the Coordination of Combating Organized Crime and Other Dangerous Types of Crime in the Territory of the Member States of the Commonwealth of Independent States (BCCOC). Service address – <https://bkbopcis.ru/dokumenty/blocking/>, a link to it is available on the main page of the BCCOC website.

To obtain information about an Internet resource, you must specify its fully qualified domain name and enter the security code. If there is a site in the list, the screen will display information about the country of the Commonwealth, for access from the territory of which the specified resource was blocked.

The list is regularly updated», – said the official representative of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia Irina Volk. <https://мвд.рф/news/item/34016724/>

REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN



PARTICIPATION OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE AGENCY IN THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COORDINATION BOARD



On November 18, 2022, a regular meeting of the Coordinating Council of the Heads of the Competent Authorities for Combating Drug Trafficking of the Collective Security Treaty Organization`s Member States was held in Yerevan, the Republic of Armenia (CSTO).

This meeting attended .the heads of the competent authorities of the CSTO member states: Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and

representatives of the CSTO Secretariat.

The delegation of Tajikistan was headed by the Director of the Drug Control Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, Major General of Justice Khabibullo Vohidzoda.

The delegation of Tajikistan took an active part in the discussion of the agenda items, the Director of the Agency made a separate report on the topic "Main trends in the drug situation in the Republic of Tajikistan in 2022, taking into account the turbulent situation in the world, and forecasts for its development."

In connection with the circumstances reflected in the speech of the Director of the Agency, relevant items were included in the Minutes of the meeting of the Council.

Within the framework of this meeting, the Director of the Agency, Major General of Justice Khabibullo Vohidzoda, met with the Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of Russia, Police Colonel General Khrapov A.I. The parties discussed issues of cooperation and exchanged views on the implementation of joint work plans.

The process of signing a draft Agreement between the DCA under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation on cooperation and assistance to the Agency in the field of combating illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors for 2022-2024 was also considered, and it was considered necessary to sign it in soon.

At the end of the meeting, the parties expressed their readiness to further strengthen cooperation between the Agency and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia.

<https://akn.tj/ru/2022/11/18/participation-of-the-director-of-the-agency-in-the-next-meeting-of-the-coordination-council/>

ON OTHER COUNTRIES

PORTUGAL

EU NEIGHBOURSEAST EU AGENCY PUBLISHED NEW DATA ON THE DRUG MARKET IN THE EASTERN PARTNERSHIP COUNTRIES



The emergence of new drug trafficking routes, the expansion of online markets and the range of available substances are among the main findings of a new report by the EU Drug Agency (European Monitoring Center for Drugs and Drug Addiction /EMCDDA).

According to the agency, the Eastern Partnership region is an important transit area through which several drug trafficking routes pass at once.

For example, Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine border the EU and are on the northern heroin smuggling route to Europe.

Meanwhile, the countries of the South Caucasus - Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia - are located next to Afghanistan, the global center of opium and heroin production and a newly emerging methamphetamine production area. The two main heroin trafficking routes from Afghanistan (the Balkan and Northern routes) affect these three countries.

The EMCDDA report shows a decline in heroin use in the Eastern Partnership region and an increase in the use of synthetic opioids (e.g. street methadone), especially in Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine. In addition, the agency concludes that cocaine use and seizures by law enforcement appear to be low in the area.

“The key change in the region appears to be the expansion of online drug markets. These markets now play a very important role in the sale and purchase of drugs in Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, and until recently, the same was true for Ukraine,” the agency notes in the report.

Another conclusion of the report is that organized crime networks are also involved in the production of synthetic drugs in some countries of the region. This includes Azerbaijan, where methamphetamine production, according to the agency, has increased since 2018.

Findings are based on EMCDDA-funded research conducted from 2019 to 2022, including more than a hundred interviews with customs and security officials, healthcare providers, researchers, local activists, government representatives and international organizations.

<https://euneighbourseast.eu/ru/news/latest-news/agentstvo-es-opublikovalo-novye-dannye-o-rynke-narkotikov-v-stranah-vostochnogo-partnerstva/>

