



INFORMATION RELEASE

ABOUT PAST EVENTS
IN THE ANTI-DRUG SPHERE
(according to the media)

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INFORMATION RELEASE CARICC

Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination
Centre for combating the illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs,
psychotropic substances and their precursors

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In the period from 1 to 15 October 2023, 18 counter-narcotic measures were covered by mass media in CARICC Member States and other countries of the world (*Azerbaijan - 1, Kazakhstan - 6, Kyrgyzstan - 1, Russia - 6, Tajikistan - 1, Turkmenistan - 1, Uzbekistan - 1. Other countries: Moldova - 1*).

Published articles reflect information about regular meeting of the Council of Heads of CIS security and intelligence agencies (*Azerbaijan*), monitoring of implementation of the Comprehensive Plan to Combat Drug Addiction and Drug Trafficking in regions, the international scientific-practical conference «Prevention of Offenses in the Sphere of Illegal Sale of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances», meeting of the Council of National Coordinators of CARICC Member States, participation of Turkistan police officers in a meeting on drug prevention, participation of school soccer players of Akmola region in soccer tournament, discussion of combating drug trafficking in the Central Asian region, and discussion of measures to counter drug trafficking in the Central Asian region at UN (*Kazakhstan*), performance of police officers speaking to schoolchildren about the dangers of drugs (*Kyrgyzstan*), about schoolchildren from six schools in Kabardino-Balkaria attending a lecture as part of the second stage of the campaign «For the Health and Safety of Our Children», about an inspector from the Department of Internal Affairs speaking to high school students on the topic «Make the Right Choice», about a lecture in Stavropol by employees of the regional department for college students, about the opening of the Youth Forum of the Volunteer Anti-Drug Movement in the Pskov region, about the exchange of experience in combating drug-related crime between specialists from the SibYUI of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia and their Pakistani colleagues about the story told by Magadan police officers and community leaders to high school students about the social consequences of drug use (*Russia*), allocation of funds from the Russian Federation for an UN counternarcotics project in Central Asia (*Tajikistan*), launch of a new UNODC project on drug prevention and control in Turkmenistan (*Turkmenistan*), on the authorities' decision to toughen penalties for drug crimes (*Uzbekistan*), and drug testing of drivers (*Moldova*).

REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN



AZERBAIJAN HOSTS MEETING OF COUNCIL OF HEADS OF SECURITY AGENCIES AND SPECIAL SERVICES OF CIS COUNTRIES



Baku hosted the 53rd meeting of the Council of the Heads of Security Agencies and Intelligence Services of the CIS Member-States, State Security Service of Azerbaijan told Trend. Colonel General Ali Nagiyev, head of Azerbaijan's State Security Service, Colonel General Orkhan Sultanov, head of the Foreign Intelligence Service of Azerbaijan, and heads of relevant bodies of CIS countries attended the meeting.

The participants of the event first visited the Alley of Honor, where they respectfully honored the memory of the national leader of the Azerbaijani people, architect and builder of the modern

independent Azerbaijani state Heydar Aliyev and laid flowers at his tomb.

Then the official opening of the event took place and discussion of the agenda items began. Colonel General Ali Nagiyev, Head of the State Security Service (SSS) of Azerbaijan, who opened the meeting with an introductory speech, noted that in the short time since the last SORB meeting in the Belarusian capital Minsk, a number of radical changes have taken place in the world in terms of security and geopolitics, new conflict hotbeds have emerged in some countries, cases of international terrorism, transnational organized crime, religious extremism, drug trafficking have increased, which significantly complicated the operational conditions in the countries. He expressed hope that the event will create additional opportunities for exchange of opinions and

experience in the above-mentioned directions, for improvement of methods of joint struggle and mechanism of coordinated work of the CIS countries against negative manifestations, create additional opportunities for outlining the contours of future activities, as a result of which the existing bilateral and multilateral cooperation relations will rise to a new stage.

Ali Nagiyev stated that there were important issues to be solved on the agenda of the meeting and expressed hope that important decisions would be made within the framework of the event from the point of view of security of the states and the meeting would be productive in general.

Providing information on the anti-terrorist activities undertaken against the illegal Armenian armed formations operating in Azerbaijan's Karabakh region, which were the main threat to security and stability in Azerbaijan, Nagiyev noted that the lack of intention of these criminal groups to leave Azerbaijani territories despite the trilateral statement of November 10, 2020, their constant mining of residential areas and communications, their continuous shelling of Azerbaijani Army's positions, committing terrorist acts, which resulted in the death of civilians and police officers, made short-term anti-terrorist activities necessary and urgent, and thus Azerbaijan restored its sovereignty.

The meeting continued with speeches and discussions on security issues of the Commonwealth countries, including such issues as destructive activities aimed at destabilization in the CIS space and joint efforts against new challenges.

The meeting concluded with the signing of the final documents.

<https://www.trend.az/azerbaijan/politics/3810209.html>

REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

**MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS BEGINS MONITORING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO COMBAT DRUG ADDICTION AND DRUG TRAFFICKING ACROSS REGIONS**

Heads of departments of the akimat and the Inter-Regional Center of Forensic Expertise involved in the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan to Combat Drug Addiction and Drug Trafficking were heard at a meeting of the regional Anti-Drug Headquarters of Aktobe region chaired by the Department for Combating Drug Crime of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, reports Polisia.kz.

It was mentioned that the Comprehensive Plan pays great attention to drug abuse prevention among the main risk group - adolescents and young people. These measures have a practical, targeted impact on those who are not yet involved in drug addiction.

– We must openly say that drug prevention efforts of government agencies are ineffective and extremely fragmented,» Interior Ministry spokesman Bakhytzhan Amirkhanov said.

In organizing this work, it is very important to use potential of the entire civil society of the region. For this purpose, it is planned to create a model of countering drug addiction, taking into account characteristics of the region and involving NGOs, local authorities, active citizens, and mass media. This practice has been tested in a number of regions and has proven itself well.

The speaker pointed out the need to solve a number of organizational issues already this year: the allocation of targeted funding for drug abuse prevention, inclusion in the Regional Development Program of activities related to awareness-raising work in educational institutions with the participation of narrow specialists, expansion of social advertising, installation of additional video surveillance systems in potentially dangerous parts of settlements and so on.

A topic of separate discussion was the situation with the involvement of minors in drug trafficking. If in 2020 they committed 15 drug offenses, including five sales, in 2021 this figure increased to 26 facts and the number of sales to 10. In 2022, minors have already committed 25 drug offenses, half of them (12 cases) - participation in the sale of drugs.

Since the beginning of this year, 29 minors have been involved in criminal proceedings, including 13 college students, three university students and six schoolchildren.

This situation is indicative of problems in coordinated outreach by the police, local government and the administration of educational institutions.

Participants of the meeting agreed that teaching staff of schools and colleges in conjunction with the staff of police counternarcotics units is a ready-made structure for organizing substance abuse prevention. In addition to informing adolescents about the legal consequences and harms of drug use, teachers and staff need to pay close attention to the possible distribution and use of drugs within the walls of educational institutions.

The practice of working with the regions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs will be continued. This will make it possible to solve the existing problems of specific regions, provide them with methodological assistance with the involvement of specialists at the republican level and share positive experience in drug abuse prevention.

<https://polisia.kz/ru/mvd-nachinaet-monitoring-hoda-realizatsii-kompleksnogo-plana-po-bor-be-s-narkomaniej-i-narkobiznesom-v-regionah/>



**INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC-PRACTICAL CONFERENCE
«PREVENTION OF OFFENSES IN THE AREA OF ILLEGAL SALE
OF NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES»**



Aktobe Law Institute of the Ministry of Internal Affairs together with specialized department of the Ministry held an international scientific-practical conference «Prevention of offenses in the sphere of illegal sale of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances», Polisia.kz reports.

The conference was attended by Bakhytzhan Amirkhanov, deputy head of the Department for Combating Drug Crime of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Murat Seitalin, deputy head of the Department of Internal Affairs of Aktobe region, heads of anti-drug units of the police in the western regions

of the country, prosecutors, as well as representatives of domestic and international universities.

The representative of the Ministry of Internal Affairs spoke about the main areas of work in countering drug-related crime: the Comprehensive Plan to Combat Drug Addiction and Drug Trafficking, legislative initiatives to stabilize the drug situation in the country, and preventive measures as the basis for work to reduce the demand for drugs.

The conference participants noted that drug prevention should be conducted in a coordinated manner, with the participation of all government agencies and civil society. It is extremely important to involve young people in this work, who, on the one hand, will be involved in public activities and, on the other hand, will become an authority for their peers.

<https://polisia.kz/ru/provedena-mezhdunarodnaya-nauchno-prakticheskaya-konferentsiya-profilaktika-pravonarushenij-v-sfere-nezakonnogo-sbyta-narkoticheskikh-sredstv-i-psihotropnyh-veshhestv/>



**MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF NATIONAL COORDINATORS OF
CARICC MEMBER STATES**



Regular meeting of the Council of National Coordinators of CARICC Member States was convened in hybrid format in Almaty on 4 October 2023.

The Council members reviewed CARICC functional organization aspects. In particular, they discussed:

- suggestions to draft CARICC Budget Rules,
- competitive recruitment for vacant CARICC positions,
- initiative of the Kingdom of Belgium to obtain observer state status at CARICC,

- progress on draft CARICC Development Strategy for 2023-2027 and other items.

During the meeting parties developed relevant decisions on agenda items of the CNC.

An agreement was reached to conduct next meeting of the CNC of CARICC Member States in the first half of 2024.

<https://caricc.org/index.php/novosti/item/2260-o-zasedanii-soveta-natsionalnykh-koordinatov-gosudarstv-uchastnikov-tsariks>

TURKESTAN POLICE OFFICERS TOOK PART IN A MEETING ON DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION



A meeting of the regional interdepartmental headquarters on coordination of activities aimed at combating drug addiction and drug trafficking was held in Turkestan region, which was attended by Deputy Akim of the region Beisen Tazhibayev, Deputy Head of the Department of Internal Affairs of Turkestan region Kurmanbek Sakhov, employees of the Department for Combating Narcocrime and other interested government agencies.

The meeting discussed topical problems and issues of the ongoing work on combating drug crime and drug addiction, as well as the work of law enforcement

agencies, local executive bodies and government agencies in this direction and considered plans for further activities.

In his report, Deputy Head of the Police Department K. Sakhov reported on the work done to combat drug addiction and illicit trafficking of drugs and psychotropic substances, including in the course of operational and preventive measures «Karasora», «Doping».

As a result of investigative measures in the territory of Turkestan province, police officers registered more than 400 drug-related facts, including 205 crimes and 196 criminal offenses in the first 8 months of 2023. More than 90 preventive activities among young people were carried out with the participation of police officers, health and education departments, youth resource centers, and non-governmental organizations.

The meeting also heard reports from specialized agencies on the implementation of the media plan for drug abuse prevention outreach for 2022-2023, on measures to curb drug-related offenses among minors and blocking sites engaged in propaganda and advertising of narcotic drugs.

Based on results of the meeting, in order to create immunity to drug addiction in the population, by the decision of the regional interdepartmental headquarters for coordination of activities under the akim of the region, it was instructed to intensify consortial work among students and schoolchildren on the prevention of drug addiction, including countering the spread of synthetic drugs.

<https://polisia.kz/ru/uchastie-v-zasedanii-po-profilaktike-narkomanii-prinyali-turkestanskie-politsejskie/>

SCHOOL SOCCER PLAYERS OF AKMOLA REGION «HIT» DRUGS



Start of the second school month was marked by a school soccer league among boys of 9-11 grades as one of the alternatives to drugs. The main goal of the event is to unite and familiarize teenagers with sports, and thus to form an active anti-drug position.

Organizing of the soccer game were the center of tourism, physical culture, primary and military training of the

Department of Education and the Department on counteraction to drug crime of DP Akmoyln region.

The soccer league was held in four stages. The first stage - intra-school competitions, where more than 320 teams took part, about 3 thousand rural and urban youth. The second stage - city and district competitions, where more than 160 schools took part and only 20 teams passed to the third stage, where selection was carried out by bush (zonal) competitions. As a result of a serious struggle, 8 teams made it to the fourth stage.

The game was exciting and emotional. Team of secondary school No. 1 of Astrakhanka village of Astrakhanka district took the deserved third place, the team of secondary school No. 1 of Stepnoye village of Shortanda district took the second place and the team of secondary school No. 19 of Kokshetau city took the first place.

Winners and distinguished participants were awarded with valuable gifts from organizers of the event.

<https://polisia.kz/ru/shkol-nye-futbolisty-akmolinskoj-oblasti-udarili-po-narkotikam/>



COMBATING DRUG TRAFFICKING IN CENTRAL ASIA DISCUSSED AT UN



Mr. Mukhtar Tileuberdi, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan to International Organizations in Vienna, met with Ms. Ashita Mittal, Regional Representative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) for Central Asia.

The Regional Representative expressed her gratitude to the Government of Kazakhstan for its continued support of UNODC efforts in the Central Asian region, including through voluntary contributions, El.kz news agency reported with reference to press

service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan.

The Kazakh diplomat, in turn, thanked the head of the Regional Office for active support of Kazakhstan's initiatives, including promotion and effective functioning of the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre (CARICC).

During the meeting, sides discussed current status and priorities of cooperation in such areas as law enforcement reform, combating drug trafficking and organized crime, countering cybercrime, and plans for new projects and joint events.

https://el.kz/ru/borbu-s-narkotrafikom-v-tsentralnoy-azii-obsudili-v-upravlenii-oon_93236/

KYRGYZ REPUBLIC



POLICE OFFICERS TOLD SCHOOLCHILDREN ABOUT THE HARM OF DRUGS



«Prevention of drug use among young people», for students in grades 9-10.

Officers of the CNS, together with representatives of health authorities, gave a lecture to schoolchildren on combating drug trafficking at School-Gymnasium No. 62. The aim of the event was to inform young people about the problems of drug addiction and the measures taken to prevent it.

Such events contribute to formation of a healthy lifestyle and instill a responsible attitude towards health.

Taalai Suvanaliev, an officer of the CNS of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic, emphasized the importance of following healthy lifestyle laws. Such a dialog helps to broaden young people’s understanding of the negative impact of drugs.

«In order to satisfy their cravings, drug addicts are forced to first skip and then completely abandon their studies, instead seeking illegal ways to acquire addictive substances, most often through theft and robbery,» Taalai Suvanaliev added.

Criminal punishment in Kyrgyzstan begins at the age of 16, but in some cases 14-year-olds can also be held criminally liable. However, it should be understood that even a small amount of drugs found by a law enforcement officer is grounds for detention.

About 150 schoolchildren attended the lecture.

<https://mvd.gov.kg/rus/news/2426>

RUSSIAN FEDERATION



STUDENTS FROM SIX SCHOOLS IN KABARDINO-BALKARIA ATTENDED LECTURES DURING THE SECOND STAGE OF THE CAMPAIGN «FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF OUR CHILDREN»



Officers of Drug Control Department and a juvenile affairs inspector of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kabardino-Balkar Republic visited MCOE SOS Nos. 10, 12, 16, 17, 28 and the Success Center in Nalchik and gave a lecture to students on healthy lifestyles, negative attitudes towards narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and the harms of alcoholism and tobacco smoking.

Representatives of the Ministries of Education and Science and Health of the KBR also participated in the events.

Police Lieutenant Colonel Irina Davydova, senior operative of the Department of Internal Affairs of the Drug Control Directorate of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kabardino-Balkar Republic, told school students about

criminal and administrative liability provided for by the current legislation for illegal trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

Farizat Temmoyeva, Chief Specialist of the Department of Education of the local administration of the city of Nalchik, reminded the children of the inadmissibility of committing offenses and involving them in illegal actions.

A psychiatrist-narcologist of the Narcological Dispensary informed the audience in detail about the impact of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances on the body.

In conclusion of the event, children asked questions and noted the need for systematic organization of such meetings. School students supported the anti-drug action and took pictures with the hashtag «No to Drugs».

<https://xn--b1aew.xn--plai/news/item/42260752>



IN SMOLENSK REGION, AN INSPECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS HELD A PREVENTIVE TALK «MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE» WITH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS



The inspector for juvenile affairs of the department of the Department of the UUPiPDN of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia for Smolensk held a preventive talk for the 11th grade students of secondary school No. 31 in Smolensk. The purpose of the event was to inform the younger generation about administrative and criminal responsibility for unlawful actions and thus protect young people from committing misdemeanors.

In conversation with older students, the emphasis was placed on prohibition of the use of illegal substances and responsibility for the possession and sale of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. The PDN

inspector also warned the children against accepting offers of easy money from unknown people. Organizing drug stashes at the behest of an invisible interlocutor from a messenger is nothing but an attempt to sell drugs by a group of persons, or even as part of an organized group. The Criminal Code of the Russian Federation provides for severe punishment for such crimes.

The police officer urged children not to participate in unauthorized political actions, not to join dubious groups on social networks and to think carefully before posting any information, the content of which may attract the attention of law enforcement agencies and their immediate reaction.

The inspector also told about administrative fines for foul language in public places and disobedience to the lawful request of a police officer, warned against participation in various street teenage groups and clarification of relations through fighting, reminding that everyone involved in a fight is responsible, not only its instigator.

At the end of the conversation, the police officer urged the teenagers to focus on their studies, not to break the law and to follow a healthy lifestyle.

<https://xn--b1aew.xn--plai/news/item/42340666>



OFFICERS OF THE REGIONAL HEAD OFFICE HELD A LECTURE FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS IN STAVROPOL



An anti-drug lecture for college students was held in Stavropol on the basis of the North Caucasus Federal University.

The meeting was organized by the teachers of the educational institution, employees of the Drug Control Department and the Department of Public Order Protection of the regional head office, as well as representatives of the Stavropol Krai Anti-Drug Commission staff.

During the event, students were informed about criminal and administrative responsibility for offenses related to drug trafficking.

Police officers informed about the work carried out by internal affairs agencies to counter drug crime on the Internet.

During the discussion, specialized specialists and police officers spoke about the consequences of the use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and urged students to lead a healthy lifestyle.

At the end of the event, children were informed of the telephone numbers to which they could call for help, including in case of detection of illegal drug use or sale of drugs.

<https://xn--b1aew.xn--plai/news/item/42384039>



YOUTH FORUM OF VOLUNTEER ANTI-DRUG MOVEMENT OPENED IN THE PSKOV REGION



A solemn opening ceremony of the IX Youth Forum of the volunteer anti-drug movement of the Pskov region «Dobrovoye.60» took place today in the Pushkin Mountains.

The forum has traditionally played a fundamental role in establishing traditions and continuity of anti-drug volunteering in the Pskov region. Only this time «Dobrovolye.60» increased its borders - volunteers from St. Petersburg, Leningrad, Novgorod and Vologda regions, Republic of Karelia joined the activists of Pskov region. The current meeting united more than 100 volunteers.

For three days, the brightest representatives of

the volunteer anti-drug movement will share their experience in preventing drug abuse among young people, improve their knowledge, come up with new projects that will help to involve more participants in the volunteer movement in the regions.

At the opening ceremony, Deputy Head of the Department of Drug Trafficking Control of the Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia for the Pskov Region, Police Lieutenant Colonel Olga Mitrofanova, the Commissioner for Children's Rights in the Pskov Region Natalia Sokolova, and Christina Luneva, acting head of the Department of Public Projects and Youth Policy of the Government of the Pskov Region, addressed the audience with a welcoming speech. They noted that for modern youth volunteering is a good opportunity for self-realization and formation of an active life position, and the speakers promised that the forum days will give each participant useful experience, which they will be able to apply in their own activities.

The forum has a rich program. Organizers have planned round tables, lectures, trainings, anti-drug quests, and networking events. Experts will be able to conduct master classes with activists and share their experience of work at the forum.

Forum organizers are the Drug Control Department of the Department of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Pskov Oblast, the Department of Public Projects and Youth Policy of the Government of the Pskov Oblast, the Education Committee of the Pskov Oblast, and the ANPO PO «Center for Youth and Public Initiatives».

<https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/42488260>



SPECIALISTS FROM THE SIBERIAN LAW INSTITUTE OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF RUSSIA SHARED THEIR EXPERIENCE IN COMBATING DRUG CRIME WITH THEIR PAKISTANI COLLEAGUES



In the period from 25 September to 6 October 2023, within the framework of the project «UNODC-Russia Partnership on Counter-Narcotics Training for Central Asia, Afghanistan and Pakistan», a training course was held for 14 officers of the Anti-Narcotics Force of Pakistan. Within two weeks during theoretical and practical classes with the faculty of the institute foreign students studied positive experience in combating drug crime, examined features of the application of Russian legislation and foreign countries in the field of criminalistics

and investigative actions.

Special interest was shown in classes on combating drug crime on the Internet. At the closing ceremony of the course, Mr. Dmitry Kim, Head of the SibYI of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia, thanked Mr. Fakhruallah Azamov, UNODC Project Coordinator, the leadership of the Anti-Narcotic Force of Pakistan and foreign students for their active cooperation. The Police Major General expressed confidence in further strengthening and development of police cooperation between the countries in the field of countering the drug threat, including through UNODC.

In turn, Fakhruallah Azamov, who attended the event via video link, noted: «I am very pleased to have the opportunity to speak at the conclusion of the training course for law enforcement officers of Pakistan, which is organized within the framework of the UNODC-Russia Partnership on Counter-Narcotics Training for Central Asia, Afghanistan and Pakistan. First of all, I would like to express my deep gratitude to the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation and the staff of the Siberian Law Institute of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia for supporting this important initiative and conducting this training. To thank all those present for their active participation in the training course. We look forward to further achievements from the participants in suppressing illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors and hope for further improvement of cooperation between law enforcement agencies of the states.

Successful completion of the training resulted in awarding certificates to foreign specialists (in Russian and English).

In addition to educational process during the period of admission of foreign specialists from Pakistan to the Institute, an extensive cultural and leisure program was organized for them at the sights of Krasnoyarsk and its surroundings. An important moment was the desire of Pakistani officers to plant a tree on the territory of the Institute to leave a good memory of their visit to Russia for future generations of law enforcement officers as a sign of gratitude and friendship between the police officers of the two countries.

<https://xn--b1aew.xn--plai/news/item/42502986>



POLICE OFFICERS AND PUBLIC ACTIVISTS IN MAGADAN TOLD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ABOUT SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES OF DRUG USE



Police officers together with Vadim Kuznetsov, a member of the Public Council at the regional Department of Internal Affairs, held an anti-drug session for high school students at School No. 14 in Magadan today. Tatyana Chernikova, an operative of the Drug Control Department, spoke about the medical and social consequences of consuming illegal substances.

Police Captain elaborated on the criminal liability, which comes from the age of 16 for the consumption, purchase, possession and sale of drugs.

Children were shown video clips describing the dangers awaiting those who decide to try to «earn easy money». They talked about the involvement of minors in the criminal activity of drug distribution.

In an accessible way, Tatyana Vladimirovna explained to the schoolchildren how to act in cases when hidden advertising is detected and what to do if you accidentally found a so-called dead drop.

Police captain gave examples from her work. She told how the appearance of a person who starts using illegal substances changes, as well as his/her environment, lifestyle, relationships with loved ones and, as a result, there are devastating consequences for health.

Schoolchildren were given thematic leaflets during the event.

<https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/42572515>

REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN

**RUSSIA ALLOCATES \$500,000 FOR UN PROJECT TO COUNTER DRUGS IN CENTRAL ASIA**

Russia has allocated \$500,000 for implementation of the second phase of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) project «Regional Network of Youth Organizations and Youth Leaders for change in Central Asia for a drug free, healthy, safe and secure societies». This was reported by the Russian Embassy in Tajikistan.

«Russia has allocated \$500,000 for implementation of the second phase of the project,» the statement said.

As noted in the embassy, a round table dedicated to the launch of the second phase of the project was held in Dushanbe, which was attended by Diplomatic Mission Envoy Counselor Vera Khutorskaya. «We support the work of UNODC in the Central Asian region and are determined to continue providing political and financial assistance in this direction,» the diplomat's words were quoted in the report.

According to the Embassy, the round table discussed the results of the first phase of the project, during which a Central Asian youth organization was created to counter drug use. It consisted of 25 members, including representatives of Tajikistan.

The second phase of the project runs from 2023 to 2024 and covers all Central Asian countries. The aim of the programme is to link the organization with the authorities and promote internationally recognized and evidence-based approaches to drug use prevention.

<https://news.rambler.ru/politics/51548534-rf-vydelila-500-tys-na-proekt-oon-po-borbe-s-narkotikami-v-tsentralnoy-azii/>

TURKMENISTAN

SNG.TODAY

UNODC TO LAUNCH NEW PROJECT ON DRUG PREVENTION AND CONTROL IN TURKMENISTAN



The project is designed to support further development of the Regional Youth Network established in 2021 in the first phase of the initiative.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime held a roundtable in Ashgabat to launch a new project «Regional Network of Youth Organizations and Youth Champions of Change in Central Asia for drug-free, healthy, safe, and secure societies - Phase-II». The project aims to support the further development of the Regional Youth Network. This was reported to SNG.Today by the UN Press

Service in Turkmenistan

The project will be implemented under the UNODC Programme for the Central Asia for 2022-2025 with the financial support of the Russian government.

Participants of the event were informed about the goals, objectives and expected results of the project. They also exchanged views on partnership opportunities for successful implementation of the planned activities under the initiative.

The UNODC roundtable will help to establish cooperation between young people and state community organizations that specialize in the field of drug prevention and are responsible for the well-being and happy future of young generations.

<https://sng.today/ashkhabad/32110-v-turkmenistane-unp-oon-zapustit-novyj-proekt-po-profilaktike-i-borbe-s-narkotikami.html>

REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

NOVA24 **UZ**

AUTHORITIES DECIDED TO TOUGHEN PENALTIES FOR DRUG CRIMES



There are also plans to ban leniency for dangerous repeat offenders.

Draft of tougher penalties for drug offenses has been published on the portal for discussion of normative legal documents.

The law was drafted in the Supreme Court in connection with the improvement of the procedure for preventing violations and combating crime.

Article 57 of the Criminal Code on the imposition of more lenient punishment is amended to state that leniency measures shall not apply to particularly dangerous repeat offenders.

In Article 270 (cultivation of prohibited crops), the minimum penalty was raised from 25 to 35 BRV and the maximum from 50 to 60 BRV. In the second part of the article, the minimum penalty was raised from 50 to 60 BRV and the maximum penalty was left at 100 BRV.

In Article 273, Part Two (illegal manufacture, purchase, storage, transportation or forwarding for the purpose of sale, as well as sale of narcotic drugs, their analogs or psychotropic substances in amounts exceeding a small amount), the minimum imprisonment was raised from 5 to 8 years, and the maximum term from 7 to 10 years.

In Part Five (illegal sale of narcotic drugs, their analogs or psychotropic substances in large amounts), the minimum term was raised from 10 to 12 years, the maximum was left at 20 years of imprisonment.

In Article 276 (illegal manufacture, storage, purchase, transportation or forwarding of narcotic drugs, their analogues or psychotropic substances without the purpose of sale), the maximum fine was raised from 50 BRV to 60 BRV.

If approved, the bill will go into effect immediately upon official publication.

<https://nova24.uz/uzbekistan/vlasti-reshili-uzhestochit-nakazanie-za-narkoprestupleniya/>

MOLDOVA

ziarul de gardă русский перевод DRIVERS IN MOLDOVA WILL BE TESTED FOR DRUGS USING A PROCEDURE SIMILAR TO ALCOHOL TESTING

Police officers will be able to conduct drug testing using calibrated technical equipment following a procedure similar to breathalyzer testing. A report on the relevant bill was approved at a meeting of the Legal, Appointments and Immunity Commission on Wednesday, 4 October.

Thus, drivers will be able to be tested for drug use using calibrated technical means, such as the Drager Drug Test 5000. With its help, police officers will be able to identify persons who have used narcotic, psychotropic or toxic substances. The procedure is similar to alcohol testing.

Meanwhile, drivers subject to misdemeanor proceedings will be required to unconditionally consent to drug testing when requested by the appointing authority.

According to a parliamentary press release, the bill was drafted by the Ministry of Internal Affairs to prevent and suppress the use of illicit substances, reduce the number of incidents and ensure the safety of citizens.

The legislative initiative will be proposed for first reading at a plenary session of Parliament.

The Inspectorate General of Police currently has 10 drug testing devices. The authorities plan to obtain more such equipment through development partners.

<https://www.zdg.md/ru/?p=131543>



Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination
Centre for combating the illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs,
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