

CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY

(based on mass media reports)

04.11-10.11.2019

№ 45

CARICC MEMBER STATES

REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

03.11.2019 Officers of the State Border Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan at the "Astara" border post stopped an attempt to smuggle a large shipment of drugs from Iran to the Republic of Azerbaijan. During the pursuit of an unidentified border intruder who failed to comply with legitimate demands of the border guards, the smuggler threw a bag and fled in the direction of Iran. During inspection of the scene, a bag containing **12.73 kg of cocaine, 7945 methadone tablets and 40 tablets of unidentified psychotropic substances** was found. <http://dsx.gov.az/xeber/908>

03.11.2019 An unidentified perpetrator was killed at the border crossing near the village of Bilasuvar in the Bilasuvar district at an illegal crossing of the state border. The border post was raised on alarm and the service area was completely closed. They used weapons against the intruder and as a result, he died on the spot from a bullet wound. During inspection of the scene in the backpack, which the man carried with him **12.34 kg of drugs**, a Pietro Beretta pistol and 8 bullets were found. The intruder was a 25-year-old resident of Jalilabad district, who crossed the Bilasuvar border crossing towards Iran on October 31. <http://dsx.gov.az/xeber/906>

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

05.11.2019 Officers of UNK GU MVD of the Russian Federation for the Novosibirsk region together with their colleagues from the Omsk region with participation of the regional FSB of Russia and MRU Rosfinmonitoring for the Siberian Federal District stopped activities of an interregional organized group, whose members are suspected of distributing heroin through an online store. The online shop was a major resource for distribution of drugs in Novosibirsk, organized by a resident of Omsk. Every day the organized group sold more than 2 thousand single doses of drugs. Monthly income exceeded 12 million rubles. In Omsk, the leader of the organized group and three of his accomplices, who were responsible for storage of wholesale consignments of drugs, their packing, equipment of stashes and cash withdrawal, were detained. Also in the Novosibirsk region two drug couriers were detained during transportation of a wholesale consignment of heroin, who concealed about 5 kg of heroin in luggage compartment of a car under the lining. In addition, a stash of more than 990 grams of heroin was found in Omsk. The total weight of the seized **heroin exceeded 7 kg**. A criminal case has been initiated on this fact. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/18821056>

06.11.2019 In Ugra, a car carrying a 21-year-old woman and a 20-year-old young man was detained by police in the Surgut district in the woods. As a result of inspection of the vehicle, 22 packages of synthetic drugs weighing 9.74 g were found in the right front

passenger door. **400 g of hashish, 160 g of amphetamine, 20 g of mephedrone and MDMA tablets weighing more than 20 g** were found and seized during search of the place of residence of a couple of suspects. The detainees sold drugs through the Internet in the Surgut district and Surgut in a contactless manner. Criminal proceedings have been instituted against the defendants. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/18827043>

06.11.2019 A 25-year-old man was detained by the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs in Tver who illegally kept **406.7 g of amphetamine, 13.61 g of N-methylephedrone, 47.42 g of mephedrone, 1.23 g of MDMA and 0.5 g of cannabis** for further sale. The defendant intended to distribute drugs in a non-contact manner through "caches". A criminal case was initiated. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/18830541>

07.11.2019 A 32-year-old local resident was detained by officers of ONK UMVD of Russia in the Odintsovo city district of Moscow region, from whom about **400 grams of heroin** were found and seized during a personal search. A criminal case has been initiated on this fact. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/18837755>

09.11.2019 Officers of UNK GU MVD of the Russian Federation in Novosibirsk jointly with GUNK MVD of the Russian Federation stopped activities of a group that organized sale of narcotic drugs in the Novosibirsk region. The group consisted of two residents of Tomsk aged 25 and 30 who were detained during a special operation in the workers' settlement of Kochenevo in the Novosibirsk Region. A total of **3 kg of a narcotic drug of synthetic origin** were seized. The suspects purchased wholesale consignments of drugs, packed them in smaller doses and then sold them through caches in the Novosibirsk region. A criminal case has been initiated on this fact. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/18858988>

REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

06.11.2019 In the course of a joint operation conducted by the Kagan city branch of the Department for Combating Tax and Currency Crimes, the Kagan city internal affairs department, the Bukhara regional internal affairs department and the regional department of the State Security Service, a 34-year-old resident of the Kiziltepinsky district of Navoi region was arrested while selling **20 tablets of the psychotropic substance "Tramadol"** to a resident of Kagan. In addition, criminal investigation officers of the Kagan District Internal Affairs Department detained a 34-year-old resident of Kukon, Fergana region, who sent **200 "Nalbufin" tablets** to Kagan with an accomplice. The substances were seized. Cases have been instituted under article 273 of the Criminal Code. <https://uz.sputniknews.ru/incidents/20191106/12739069/V-Bukhare-presechena-prodazha-psikhotropnykh-preparatov.html>

OTHER COUNTRIES

BELGIUM

06.11.2019 Two dockers of the port of Antwerp were arrested by the police on suspicion of involvement in smuggling of **750 kg of cocaine** found in a container carrying a cargo of quinoa on September 17. One docker was taken into custody in Borgerhaute. The man worked for the port company DP World as a transporter driver who transports containers to and from moored vessels. The second suspect lives in Antwerp and is an inspector who

checks whether the containers have been moved correctly and whether empty containers have been collected. The shipment is worth 37.5 million euros with a retail price of 50 euros per 1 gram of cocaine. <https://www.hln.be/in-de-buurt/antwerpen/twee-dokwerkers-opgepakt-voor-smokkel-van-750-kg-cocaine~a94db018/>

BRAZIL

05.11.2019 Federal Customs Service at the port of Guarulhos intercepted a cargo to be exported to Africa. The cargo was inspected and **91,438 kg of cocaine** hidden in 367 packs of coffee were found. The entire shipment was referred to the Federal Police for further investigation. <http://receita.economia.gov.br/sobre/acoes-e-programas/acoes-da-receita-federal/noticias/2019/novembro/8a-regiao-fiscal/alfandega-de-guarulhos-localiza-91-4-kg-de-cocaina-em-carga-de-exportacao-para-a-africa>

08.11.2019 Internal Revenue Service (IRS) found **345 kg of cocaine** concealed in a shipment of sugar destined for Europe at the port of Santos. The destination of the export shipment is the port of Tema (Ghana, Africa). However, it is believed that cocaine should have been seized from a container in the port of Santa Cruz de Tenerife in the Canary Islands (Spain). The consignment was detected by the IRS as a result of objective risk analysis criteria using a scanner. Seized drugs have been handed over to the Federal Police, which is conducting an investigation to identify those involved in the smuggling. <https://www.time24.news/2019/11/revenue-finds-345-kg-of-cocaine-hidden-in-sugar-cargo-in-santos-port.html>

09.11.2019 In a joint operation between the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Federal Police in Portonawa, a port of Navigantes, **181.6 kg of cocaine** were discovered. The shipment was concealed in a container loaded with frozen chicken to be exported to Malta for export to Europe. During inspection, after damage to seals on the container had been detected, it was scanned and cocaine packages were hidden in the middle of the cargo. This drug was handed over to the Federal Police for further investigation. <https://www.nsctotal.com.br/colunistas/dagmara-spautz/operacao-encontra-cocaina-em-carga-de-frango-congelado-no-porto-de>

VIETNAM

10.11.2019 Anti-drug police in the Diene Bien mountain province arrested two men with **72.6 kg of heroin**. Drug traffickers from Dien Bien and Yen Bai provinces were transporting a shipment of heroin in a car. Two cars, a motorcycle, four mobile phones and other evidence were seized. The defendants were buying drugs in Laos for sale in other provinces of Vietnam. <https://e.vnexpress.net/news/news/police-catch-two-men-with-72-kg-of-heroin-in-northern-vietnam-4010101.html>

GERMANY

04.11.2019 Bremerhaven detention centre and customs investigators from Hamburg arrested four dockers on suspicion of smuggling large quantities of drugs through the port of Bremerhaven. The drugs could have been intended for sale throughout Germany. During investigation, searches of apartments in Bremerhaven, Bremen and Wurster were carried out. Additional information on smugglers is not disclosed. <https://www.butenunbinnen.de/nachrichten/gesellschaft/drogenhandel-im-hafen-bremerhaven-100.html>

THE NETHERLANDS

31.10.2019 During an inspection at the port of Rotterdam, customs intercepted a container of bananas from Ecuador carrying **750 kg of cocaine**. Cocaine was detected by dogs and then scanned. The container was destined for a company in Vlissingen that was not involved in the smuggling. The drug consignment was destroyed. Investigations are being carried out by the NARC team - customs, FIOD, seaport police and the Rotterdam prosecutor's office. <https://www.om.nl/actueel/nieuwsberichten/@107033/douane-vindt-750/>

09.11.2019 According to information received by the Criminal Investigation Unit (TCI), the Regional Investigation Service in a car on Maasvlakt discovered **300 kg of cocaine**. Three vehicle passengers, men aged 22 to 28, were arrested. The suspects took the drugs from a container that had arrived from Brazil at the port of Rotterdam. <https://www.politie.nl/nieuws/2019/november/9/07-300-kilo-coke-gevonden-op-de-maasvlakte.html>

ITALY

05.11.2019 As part of efforts to combat international drug trafficking, the Customs and Monopoly Agency (ADM) of the port of Gioia Tauro, in cooperation with Guardia di Finanza in Reggio Calabria, coordinated by the District Attorney General's Office, detected and seized **61 kg of pure cocaine**. Two bags of cocaine were found in a container arriving from Brazil, with its final destination in South-East Asia, behind a shipment of frozen meat. The shipment is estimated at 12 million euros. <https://www.adm.gov.it/portale/documents/20182/5290166/Cre-s-20191105-Gioiataurococaina.pdf/53dc72dd-2a83-49d1-857f-9a998a0226f4?version=1.0>

08.11.2019 A mobile unit in the port of Livorno, the Customs and Monopoly Agency (ADM), together with the maritime border police, seized **300 kg of cocaine**. A total of 266 packages were found, each weighing about 1.1 kg, which were concealed in a container with lumber. The container arrived from South America at the port of Algeciras (Spain), which was then transported aboard a Liberian-flagged ship. The drug packages were hidden inside hollow wooden panels. The shipment is estimated to be worth more than 25 million euros. <https://livornopress.it/sequestrati-300-chili-di-cocaina-nel-porto-di-livorno>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vetmsfw2IKI>

ISRAEL

07.11.2019 Police searched the villa in Caesarea and seized at least **180 kg of marijuana**. Two suspects, residents of Bnei-Brak, aged 30 and 31, were detained. The suspects were illicitly cultivating marijuana at the villa. <https://www.theyeshivaworld.com/news/israel-news/1798205/bnei-brak-resident-arrested-for-growing-marijuana-in-caesarea.html>

IRAN

04.11.2019 Hormozgan Counternarcotics Police have disrupted activities of two criminal groups in two separate operations. Approximately **1 tonne and 200 kg of opium**, as well as seven vehicles, were seized. Six smugglers were arrested and handed over to judicial officials. <https://en.mehrnews.com/news/151929/Two-drug-trafficking-band-dismantled-in-S-Iran>

IRELAND

06.11.2019 Police in the city of Cork arrested a man from whom **2.5 kg of heroin** worth approximately 350,000 euros had been found and seized.
<https://www.newstalk.com/news/man-arrested-e350000-worth-drugs-seized-cork-922132>

CANADA

08.11.2019 Ontario Provincial Police officers stopped a car driven by a 62-year-old driver, a resident of Etobicoke, while monitoring traffic regulations on Highway 17 in the town of Bailloquet, Ontario. A search of the vehicle resulted in seizure of **1.8 kg of cocaine, a small amount of crystalline methamphetamine**, and \$3,000 in cash.
<http://www.netnewsledger.com/2019/11/08/wawa-opp-seize-1-8-kilos-of-cocaine/>

COLOMBIA

06.11.2019 During anti-drug operations throughout the country, the Drug Enforcement Administration seized **2,928 tons of cocaine**, which was to be exported from the country through the ports of Santa Marta. The Second International Congress against Drugs, held in Barranquilla, launched an unprecedented offensive against the drug trade involving 29 countries, resulting in identification of strategic routes in various Caribbean ports. Of the seized 2.928 tons of cocaine, 1.06 tons of cocaine were seized at facilities of the Port Society of Santa Marta. The consignment was concealed in 22 fruit pallets destined for Belgium. Authorities were able to arrest five people in various cities on the Atlantic coast - Santa Marta, Barranquilla, Cartagena and Bogota - who smuggled cocaine into Central America and Europe. The operations were conducted jointly with the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Attorney General's Office of Colombia. In the port of Cartagena, authorities were able to seize **804 kg of cocaine** concealed in 170 boxes of motor oil destined for export to Central America. In another operation in Cartagena, the Anti-Narcotics Police discovered **344 kg of cocaine** that had been concealed in 46 bronze bushings destined for Guatemala during an inspection. Authorities claim to have been able to prevent drug shipments to countries such as Germany, Spain, the United States, Slovenia, the Netherlands and Belgium.
<http://www.elinformador.com.co/index.php/judiciales/71-judiciales-local/217005-direccion-antinarcoticos-incauto-2-9-toneladas-de-cocaina-en-santa-marta-y-el-uraba>
<https://mundonoticias.com.co/incautan-2-9-toneladas-de-cocaina-en-puertos-de-cartagena-santa-marta-y-uraba/>

07.11.2019 Drug police in Bogota confiscated a suspicious cargo that was to be shipped from El Dorado International Airport to Hong Kong, China. The shipment contained 32 packages of dried fruit, each containing concealed plastic containers of cocaine. A total of 46 plastic containers containing **598 g of cocaine** were found and seized. The cocaine shipment was seized. <https://extra.com.co/noticias/bogota/policia-frustro-envio-de-cocaina-camuflada-en-frutas-deshidr-572599>

LAOS

08.11.2019 Lao officials (ONCB) arrested a Bolivian national at Wattai International Airport in Vientiane while attempting to smuggle **3.52 kg of cocaine**. The woman travelled from

Addis Ababa airport (Ethiopia) to the capital city of Laos, Vientiane, via Suvarnabhumi airport (Bangkok, Thailand). The female drug courier has been arrested. The seizure of the smuggling was made possible through cooperation between Thai agencies, including the Customs Department, the Narcotics Bureau, the Immigration Police Bureau and the Armed Forces Security Centre, and their counterparts in ASEAN countries as part of a drug interdiction project at airports. <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/1791374/bolivian-woman-nabbed-in-laos-with-3-5kg-cocaine-on-thai-tip>

MALAYSIA

07.11.2019 Police Directorate of Southern Klang County arrested seven people in three raids, including a leader of a criminal organization and a Vietnamese woman belonging to a drug syndicate. Seizures included **5.2 kg of methamphetamine (siabu), 20,000 ecstasy tablets weighing 8.08 kg, 10,000 ecstasy tablets weighing 4.04 kg**. The value of the drugs was 1.76 million yuan. In addition to drugs, the police seized two cars belonging to the suspects, worth 210,000 yuan, cash in the amount of 1,671 yuan and gold jewelry worth 15,000 yuan. The syndicate sold drugs in nightclubs. All suspects are aged between 24 and 50. <https://www.thesundaily.my/local/seven-nabbed-17kg-of-drugs-seized-in-major-drug-bust-XJ1586635>

MALTA

07.11.2019 Customs officials at Malta International Airport arrested a drug courier while processing passengers arriving from Brussels-Charleroi International Airport while attempting to smuggle **2 kg of cocaine**. The shipment costs 200 thousand euros. The Drug Enforcement Police Department has been informed of the fact of drug smuggling, and drug courier has been taken to police headquarters for further investigation. <https://www.independent.com.mt/articles/2019-11-07/local-news/Customs-seize-2-kg-of-cocaine-at-the-airport-street-value-exceeds-200-000-6736215845>

MOROCCO

05.11.2019 An attempt to smuggle **13.2 tons of cannabis** near the city of Fez was stopped in Morocco. The drug was concealed inside large blocks of marble. The smugglers used high-precision electrical equipment to puncture marble blocks and hide drugs. The operation took place on a farm 10 km from Fez. Two people suspected of involvement in the smuggling of drug consignment were arrested. An investigation has been launched to verify the version of involvement of a national or international criminal network in the cannabis consignment. Despite efforts to curb cannabis cultivation over the past decade, according to UNODC, Morocco remains one of the world's largest cannabis producers.

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-11/06/c_138533378.htm

https://twitter.com/DGSN_MAROC/status/1191831023493042176

https://twitter.com/DGSN_MAROC/status/1192004584228753409

MEXICO

08.11.2019 National Police units, together with officials of the Drug Prosecutor's Office in the port of Veracruz, inspected a container with a damaged seal. As a result, 22 bags were found inside which there were 660 packages marked "RM35" with **cocaine, weighing**

approximately **660 kg**. <https://www.critica.com.pa/sucesos/descubren-660-paquetes-de-droga-en-contenedor-564755>

09.11.2019 Mexican Armed Forces units in the north-eastern state of Tamaulipas inspected a tent truck at the La Coma checkpoint in Reynosa, Tamaulipas, resulting in the seizure of **153 kilograms of cocaine**, valued at approximately \$2 million, inside a cache equipped in the double bottom of the vehicle. In October, soldiers using gamma-scanning devices discovered and seized a shipment of **cocaine weighing 226 kg**. In early November, the military said they had destroyed almost 15.5 tons of drugs in operations in 10 states of Mexico. <https://sputniknews.com/latam/201911091077262329-mexican-military-seizes-2mln-worth-of-cocaine-close-to-us-border/>

USA

29.10.2019 U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials at the port of Savannah, Georgia, found **967 kilograms of cocaine** on board a South American vessel moored in Savannah during a non-intrusive inspection of the cargo container. The shipment was distributed in 818 packages, placed in 21 bags. The container came from South America with a declared shipment of scrap metal (aluminium and copper waste) and was destined for Europe. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/savannah-cbp-seizes-record-cocaine-load>

05.11.2019 Officers from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the Office of Field Operations have arrested two Mexican nationals and four U.S. nationals for individual attempts to smuggle drugs through ports of entry into Arizona:

1) a 60-year-old U.S. citizen from Mojave, Arizona, was detained in the port of Lukeville while attempting to bring in a Chevy SUV, hiding 8 firearms, 2,000 rounds of ammunition and about **450 grams of marijuana** in a cache;

2) a 29-year-old man and his 22-year-old passenger, U.S. citizens from Phoenix, were detained in the port of Lukeville while attempting to smuggle in a Dodge car, hiding about 50 packages of **methamphetamine weighing 29.5 kg** in gas tank. The value of the consignment is 58 thousand dollars;

3) a 21-year-old Mexican national was detained in the port of Douglas while attempting to smuggle 90 packages of **56.25 kg of marijuana** in a Ford truck, concealed under the hood and in the back of the truck's cab. The cost of the consignment is 37 thousand dollars;

4) a 33-year-old Mexican woman was detained at the Dennis deConcini Crossing while attempting to smuggle about **60 kg of methamphetamine** in caches equipped in a Nissan SUV. The cost of the shipment is 118 thousand dollars.

Drugs and vehicles have been confiscated, and drug couriers have been arrested and handed over to U.S. Homeland Security Investigations. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-officers-seize-drugs-weapons>

05.11.2019 U.S. Border Patrol agents arrested a 29-year-old U.S. citizen at a checkpoint in Pine Valley, California, while trying to smuggle in a Nissan Altima car, concealing a 32-pack of **17.4 kilograms of methamphetamine** inside gas tank. The cost of the consignment is 73 thousand dollars. Drugs have been transferred to the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA). The vehicle was confiscated. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/agents-seize-meth-i-8-checkpoint-hidden-gas-tank>

08.11.2019 U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the Office of Field Operations (OFO) on the Hidalgo International Bridge, Texas, discovered heroin and cocaine valued at \$2,363,000 in two commercial passenger buses arriving from Mexico.

1) Non-intrusive imaging (NII) inspection allowed CBP staff to detect 36 packages of **cocaine weighing 39.26 kg**, at a cost of \$668,000.

2) At the same border crossing point, CBP officers discovered **18.32 kg of heroin and 4.64 kg of cocaine** valued at \$1,616,000 and \$79,000, respectively, after a thorough secondary inspection using all available tools and resources.

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-field-operations-hidalgo-international-bridge-intercepts-23-million>

09.11.2019 U.S. Border Patrol agents in Garceno, Texas, seized a Ford vehicle carrying **208 kilograms of marijuana**. <https://valleycentral.com/news/local/starr-county-officials-seize-458-pounds-of-marijuana>

THAILAND

06.11.2019 Narcotics Suppression Bureau (NSB), together with the ONCB and customs officials at Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi International Airport, arrested a Kenyan national when she attempted to smuggle **1.2 kg of cocaine** in her digestive tract, intracavitarily. Female drug courier flew in from Angola. Shortly before that, customs officials had detained a 19-year-old Thai national for attempting to smuggle **3 kg of cocaine** into the country through the Nong Khai border checkpoint. <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/1788239/kenyan-held-in-cocaine-bust-at-airport>

07.11.2019 Narcotics Suppression Bureau (NSB) has seized large amounts of drugs worth more than 112 million baht in four separate cases.

1) In the Fayuh Khiri Nahon Sawan area, a 31-year-old man who was carrying **300,000 methamphetamine tablets** to Nakhon Sawan from the northern border in a secret compartment of a pickup truck was arrested. Police confiscated drugs and a vehicle used to escort illegal cargo that had been found abandoned near a school in the district;

2) Two 38-year-old citizens of Thailand were detained in Chiang Rai and Paiao. Police intercepted one of them in the centre of Chiang Rai and searched his van and found **680,000 methamphetamine tablets** produced and smuggled from a neighbouring country;

3) In Chiang Rai, a 55-year-old man was detained while carrying **30 kg of crystalline methamphetamine (ice)** in a car. The shipment was destined to be delivered to a client in nearby Chiang Mai;

4) Customs officials at Suvarnabhumi International Airport in Bangkok detained a British national when attempting to smuggle, intracavitarily and concealed **1 kg of cocaine** in her underwear and socks. Female drug courier arrived in Bangkok from Luanda, Angola. <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/1788824/four-busts-net-b112m-drug-haul>

TURKEY

04.11.2019 Police seized **115.4 kg of heroin** during a counter-narcotics operation in central Konya province. 156 packages of heroin were concealed in a truck, the driver of which was arrested. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/turkey-seizes-more-than-100-kg-of-heroin/1635599>

06.11.2019 In an operation to combat smuggling, gendarmerie units carried out an operation in the Beylikdüzü area on the European side of Istanbul, resulting in the seizure of **102 kg of heroin** smuggled from Iran. Two suspects who attempted to transit drugs from Iran through Turkey to special clients in Europe were arrested. Shipment of heroin was concealed in caches inside a vehicle and found with the help of dogs. A total of 199 packages were found marked with various symbols, drawings and seals. In addition, officers of anti-smuggling unit of the Adana Security Directorate seized a vehicle carrying a couple with a child in the Seyhan district of Adana province. During a search of the car, **15 kg of heroin and almost 3 kg of synthetic drugs** were found. The man was arrested by the court and the woman was released on bail.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/investigations/2019/11/06/turkish-police-confiscate-102-kg-heroin-headed-to-eu-from-iran>

07.11.2019 Police in Ipekyulu District, Van Province, arrested a suspect who was carrying **269.1kg of heroin** in a van. During a search of the vehicle with the help of a dog, 517 packages of heroin were found hidden in a cache. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/nearly-270-kilograms-of-heroin-seized-in-eastern-turkey/1638104>

08.11.2019 In a special operation conducted in Ashagytulgaly, Ozalp district, in the eastern part of Van province, along the Turkish-Iranian border, **51 kg of heroin** were seized by provincial gendarmerie units based on smuggling intelligence. The drug was found in two bags on the back of a horse left behind at the border.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/investigations/2019/11/07/turkish-security-forces-seize-51-kg-of-heroin-found-on-horses-back-along-iranian-border>

CROATIA

23.10.2019 Customs officers of the Mobile Units Service of Vukovar on the A3 highway in Dragalić municipality found 25 packs of **28.11 kg of marijuana** in specially equipped hiding places under the driver's and passenger's seats during the inspection of the vehicle with Serbian license plates. The driver, the car and drugs were handed over to the police of the Posavin Police Department. <https://carina.gov.hr/vijesti/pronasli-marihuanu-skrivenu-u-osobnom-vozilu/8097>

FRANCE

10.11.2019 Police of the Central Office for the Fight against Drug Trafficking (OCRTIS), thanks to cooperation with Brazil, confiscated **680 kg of cocaine** transiting the port of Seine-Maritime. With the help of colleagues from the Judicial Police (PJ) of Le Havre and the Regional Service of PJ (SRPJ) of Rouen, counter-narcotics officers established a surveillance system in the port area, where two suspicious containers were located. During the operation, three suspects were arrested who intended to unload a shipment of cocaine from the containers. Police found **380 kg of cocaine** in a container at the port. Another **300 kg of cocaine**, a Kalashnikov assault rifle, pistols and ammunition were seized by the police during a search of an apartment in Le Havre. Three suspects are held in police custody.

<https://www.laprovence.com/actu/en-direct/5755460/680-kilos-de-cocaine-saisis-au-havre.html>

JAPAN

08.11.2019 Authorities in the port of Kobe seized **400 kg of cocaine** worth US\$73 million. The source of the cocaine shipment is unknown. According to investigation, drugs could have been sent to Kobe by mistake.

<https://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/world/2019/11/08/japan-seizes-400kg-of-cocaine-at-port-highest-in-its-history/>