

**CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY**

(based on mass media reports)

**25.11-01.12.2019****№ 48****CARICC MEMBER STATES****REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN**

**28.11.2019** The State Customs Committee of Azerbaijan has stopped an attempt to smuggle a particularly large consignment of heroin from Iran into Ukraine. At the customs post Bilasuvar located in Bilasuvar region, employees of the Department of Operation and Investigation of the Main Customs Department of the Southern Customs Department of the State Customs Committee in the presence of soldiers of the State Border Service (SBS) as a result of inspection activities of a truck Renault found **304,154 kg of heroin**. The cargo consisted of 560 rolls of artificial leather. The shipment was delivered by Hadyeh Golbaf Jahan Co. The heroin was in polyethylene bags placed in cardboard cylinders (288 in total).

<https://customs.gov.az/en/faydali/xeberler/3949/>

Video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ktCfKRr7wM&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ktCfKRr7wM&feature=emb_logo)

**30.11.2019** Employees of the Department of Operations and Investigations of the Southern Customs Department of the State Customs Committee of Azerbaijan on the basis of operational information that a large amount of drugs will be smuggled in a truck from Iran to Ukraine, held at the customs post Astara, located in the Astara region, a complex of inspection activities of a truck Volvo. The truck was transporting a shipment of fruit (kiwi, grenades) through Azerbaijan. Fruit was delivered from Iran by Ensyye Izadkhah By Order Navid Khan Mohammadi Commercial to Bayramlar LTD in Ukraine. In addition to fruit, 26 pallets contained 1884 packages of **heroin weighing a total of 933.115 kg** in boxes.

<https://customs.gov.az/az/faydali/xeberler/3954/>

Video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=INL2z\\_YHRDU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=INL2z_YHRDU)

**REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN**

**06.11.2019** Officers of the DKNB RK in Akmola region stopped activities of a drug gang, which organized a regional channel for the supply of synthetic drugs from Nur-Sultan. Four residents of Akmola region involved in the sale of synthetic drugs through social networks and Internet resources in Akmola region were detained. More than **300 g of alpha-PVP (pyroldinoverophenone)**, containers with residual illegal substances, polyethylene bags for their packaging, devices for drug use and electronic scales were seized at the scene. A pre-trial investigation is under way. <https://24.kz/ru/news/incidents/item/359241-za-sbyt-narkotikov-zaderzhany-chetvero-zhitelej-akmolinskoj-oblasti>

**RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**26.11.2019** Officers of UNK UMVD in the Amur region in the village of Bezimyannoye, Bureysky district, seized more than **200 kg of marijuana**, prepared by a local resident for further sale. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/18979501>

**26.11.2019** Employees of ONK UMVD of Russia in Kazan detained three residents of Kazan aged 18 to 21 years, engaged in contactless drug trafficking. The detainees had **476 g of alpha-PVP** and items used for their packaging seized from them. The suspects set up a group in a messenger to search for clients. A criminal case has been initiated in this case. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/18983885>

**27.11.2019** Employees of UNK UMVD of Russia in Kaliningrad region stopped activities of an online store on a trading platform in the shadow sector of the Internet, through which a prohibited substances were distributed. More than 7,000 non-contact drug sales transactions have been made since the online shop was established. Monthly profit of the shop was not less than 1 million rubles. Group members carefully observed secrecy measures and all financial transactions were carried out with the use of cryptocurrency. Drugs were sold both through online transactions and by pre-order. Two active participants involved in the online store were detained and imprisoned. More than **200 g of amphetamine** and more than **100 MDMA tablets** were seized. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/18988025>

**27.11.2019** The North Ossetian drug police, together with the Russian Federal Security Service (FSS) for RNO-Alania, detained a 29-year-old native of a Central Asian country, who was registered in Russia's Moscow region. The intruder was detained on the territory of a bus stop while he was meeting a parcel - a metal staircase, at the base of which was concealed a package of heroin. A total of **116.8 g of heroin** was seized. The man came to Vladikavkaz to distribute drugs in a non-contact way. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/18986834>

**28.11.2019** In the Republic of Karelia, transport police officers stopped a car driven by a 25-year-old man. During a vehicle inspection, a package of **490 g of methylephedrone** was found in the backseat of the vehicle, intended for contactless sale in Karelia through caches. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/18996307>

**29.11.2019** At 111 km of the M-4 Don highway, a 25-year-old citizen of a Central Asian republic, who was found to have 143 packages of **heroin weighing about 300 g**, was detained by officers of the Yuzhny State Traffic Police Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation in the Moscow region. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/19007282>

**REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN**

**22.11.2019** The State Security Service (SSG) in Asaka district of Andijan province detained a resident of Kokand who was transporting 12.9 kg of hashish to Ferghana province. He purchased hashish for sale from a drug courier living in Kyrgyzstan. Similar facts were recorded in Fergana province. A resident of Khojaabad district of Andijan province and a resident of Kuva district of Fergana province received 1.9 kg of hashish in Andijan province, which was transported from Kyrgyzstan through the Shakhrikhonsoi channel. Drug couriers were detained in Kuva district while transporting a consignment of hashish to Ferghana region. In another case, a resident of Margilan purchased at least 836 grams of hashish from Tajik citizens who transported it to Kokand. A total of **15,636 kg of hashish** were confiscated. <https://knews.kg/2019/11/22/v-uzbekistane-zaderzhali-chetyreh-narkotorgovtsev-gashish-oni-poluchali-v-kyrgyzstane/>

## OTHER COUNTRIES

### AUSTRALIA

**27.11.2019** During a thorough X-ray inspection of a cargo arriving at the Sydney (Australia) cargo base from the Azerbaijan Republic, which is an iron boiler, ABF officers noted inconsistencies. During the subsequent dismantling of the boiler, 20 packages of **opium weighing a total of 21.4 kg**, were found.

<https://newsroom.abf.gov.au/releases/fa1e8a3f-8674-4a6f-8988-0d7b4916d10f>

### ARGENTINA

**27.11.2019** The National Gendarmerie, in the context of its efforts to combat drug trafficking carried out by the Ministry of National Security, intercepted a Ford F-100 truck driven by an Argentine national in the direction of Tucumán Province in Salta province. During inspection of the vehicle, a stash was found concealing **6.7 kg of cocaine** and **3.1 kg of marijuana**.

<https://prensagendarmeria.gob.ar/prensa/Viajaba-con-76-kilos-de-cocaina-y-3-kilos-de-marihuana-en-un-doble-fondo-de-su-vehiculo/1342>

<https://twitter.com/gendarmeria/status/1199701239325503489>

### AFGHANISTAN

**26.11.2019** Afghan security forces in the Kasham district of north-eastern Badakhshan province arrested a smuggler from whom **15 kg of heroin** had been seized. The investigation revealed that the man was involved in dozens of drug smuggling cases in Badakhshan province.

<http://www.bakhtarnews.com.af/eng/security/item/41144-narcotic-drug-smuggler-with-15-kgs-heroin-detain-in-badakhshan.html>

### BRAZIL

**26.11.2019** Customs authorities at the port of Santos, on the coast of São Paulo, inspected two containers, each containing 120 bags of sugar, and seized **1347 kg of cocaine**. The sugar shipment was destined for export to Europe via the port of Tangier-Med (Morocco).

<https://www.moroccoworldnews.com/2019/11/287678/brazils-customs-cocaine-morocco/>

**28.11.2019** Between November 12 and 22, the Federal Customs Service of Sao Paulo (Serpe) found **cocaine weighing 26.09 kg** in 13 mail items destined for Australia, New Zealand, Cape Verde, China, Ireland, Pakistan, South Africa, Spain and the United Kingdom.

<http://receita.economia.gov.br/sobre/acoes-e-programas/acoes-da-receita-federal/noticias/2019/novembro/8a-regiao-fiscal/receita-federal-apreende-mais-de-26-kg-de-cocaina-em-remessas-postais>

**02.12.2019** The Federal Highway Police (PRF) stopped a truck driven by a 34-year-old driver during an operation in Sao Paulo. During inspection of the vehicle in a false bottom of the truck, 150 packages of cocaine were found hidden, weighing more than **157 kg of cocaine**. The packages bore the mark "007". The driver was travelling from Curitiba to São Paulo. The shipment was estimated at \$3.1 million.

<https://g1.globo.com/sp/santos-regiao/noticia/2019/12/02/prf-apreende-150-kg-de-cocaina-do-007-escondida-em-caminhao-em-sp.ghtml>

## GERMANY

**27.11.2019 100 kg of cocaine** were found in the Zollfahndungsamt Essen supermarkets in Emsland and Westphalia in boxes of bananas. The bananas were part of a Colombian shipment delivered by container from South America on a refrigerated vessel to Antwerp. The consignment was then transferred to a fruit importer in Ruhr. A portion of the banana shipment had already been delivered to a supermarket chain. A total of 100 packages were found, each containing 1 kg of cocaine. Consignment value is estimated at 7 million euros.  
[https://www.zoll.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/Rauschgift/2019/y49\\_kokain\\_in\\_bananenkisten.html](https://www.zoll.de/SharedDocs/Pressemitteilungen/DE/Rauschgift/2019/y49_kokain_in_bananenkisten.html)

## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

**25.11.2019** The National Police, through the National Anti-Drug Police Directorate (DNPA) (Dominican Republic), conducted a search of a Lebanese oil cargo ship called Champion Tide Monrovia. The ship departed Barranquilla, Colombia. Bundles of **cocaine** bales weighing approximately **60 kg were** found in the underwater part of the ship at the stern.  
<https://www.policianacional.gob.hn/noticias/4885>  
<https://twitter.com/PoliciaHonduras/status/1198810461069856773>

## IRAN

**30.11.2019** Anti-Narcotics police officers in Yazd province confiscated **147 kg of opium** and **29.6 kg of hashish** during a special operation. Two smugglers were arrested and handed over to judicial officials. <https://en.mehrnews.com/news/152859/176kg-illicit-drugs-seized-in-Yazd>

**30.11.2019** Safari police in Isfahan province detained two vehicles used by smugglers to transport about **300 kg of opium** to central Iran during an operation at a checkpoint. The smugglers managed to escape.  
<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/152844/Police-bust-300-kg-of-illicit-drugs-in-Isfahan>

## SPAIN

**25.11.2019** National Police (Udyco and Greco), Guardia Civil (ECO) and Customs officials through the Lisbon-based Maritime Analysis and Operations Centre (MAOC-N) and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) in the waters of Cangas County, Galicia, Spain, have intercepted a submarine that smuggled **3.5 tons of cocaine** from Ecuador via Cape Verde to Europe in a special operation. The cargo was destined for Portugal. There were three crew members on board, of whom two Ecuadorian nationals were arrested, and a third, a Spanish national, is wanted. The boat crossed a transoceanic route from Cangas de Morrazo (Colombia) to Galicia (Spain) at least 7,790 km (4,778 nautical miles).  
<https://www.lavozdeg Galicia.es/noticia/galicia/2019/11/24/interceptan-cangas-narcosubmarino-3000-kilos-cocaina/00031574598761722703185.htm>

**30.11.2019 631 kg of methamphetamine** were discovered and seized by national police in July in an industrial zone in Barcelona, where a criminal group had stored it for distribution in Europe. This is the largest seizure of methamphetamine in Spanish history. During the operation, two people were arrested in Spain and four others were arrested abroad. Investigations are ongoing.



<https://www.elperiodico.com/es/sucesos-y-tribunales/20191130/la-policia-nacional-incauta-631-kilos-de-metanfetamina-en-badalon-a-7756954>

## CANADA

**29.11.2019** RCMP police in Surrey, British Columbia, discovered more than **30 kg of cocaine** and more than \$125,000 in cash in three incidents over a three-week period and arrested six people in connection with drug trafficking. In each of the three cases, drugs were found in vehicles. Drivers and passengers in each vehicle were initially arrested, but were later released from custody. Police investigations are ongoing.

<https://bc.ctvnews.ca/surrey-rcmp-seize-30-kilograms-of-cocaine-over-125-000-in-november-traffic-stops-1.4709045>

## COLOMBIA

**28.11.2019** A coordinated operation carried out by the Colombian Navy, the National Police and the Attorney General's Office, through the Judicial Police Unit of the Specialized Directorate for Combating Drug Trafficking, developed a campaign against transnational criminal organizations. As a result, **215 kg of high-purity cocaine hydrochloride** were found in several containers at the port of Cartagena. Cocaine was destined for Honduras and belonged to a criminal group associated with the Clan del Golfo, which has criminal connections in ports and maritime terminals in Central America and Europe. The shipment is estimated at \$7 million. <https://www.armada.mil.co/es/content/armada-colombia-policia-nacional-y-fiscalia-general-nacion-incautan-215-kilogramos>

## THE NETHERLANDS

**25.11.2019** Customs officers in a container with melons destined for a fruit company in Eisselmonde discovered about **100 kg of cocaine**. The container came from Brazil. Fruit company employees found drugs among fruits and reported it to authorities. The HARC team, together with customs, FIOD, seaport police and the prosecutor's office in Rotterdam, are investigating this fact. Confiscated cocaine has been destroyed.

<https://www.politie.nl/nieuws/2019/november/25/07-douane-vindt-bijna-100-kilo-cocaine-tussen-fruit.html>

**29.11.2019** Customs discovered **750 kg of cocaine** in boxes of bananas during a container check at the port of Vlissingen originating in Ecuador. The cargo was destined for a company in Romania. Rugs were seized and destroyed by order of the prosecutor.

<https://www.belastingdienst.nl/wps/wcm/connect/bldcontentnl/berichten/nieuws/douane/douane-onderschept-750-kilo-cocaine>

## PAKISTAN

**30.11.2019** Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) arrested three drug couriers from Punjab, including two women, while attempting to smuggle **4.4 kg of heroin**, during an inspection at Multan International Airport. Drug couriers were on a PA-870 flight to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, owned by a private airline. Heroin was concealed in luggage. <https://www.urdupoint.com/en/pakistan/anf-seizes-over-4-kilogram-heroin-from-passen-775285.html>



**POLAND**

**26.11.2019** Border Guard Service (KAS) officials at Chopin Warsaw Airport stopped an attempt to smuggle large amount of cocaine. A bag of hermetically sealed candy was found during a luggage search involving a Brazilian national travelling to Poland. Inside 53 candies were **cocaine totalling more than 1 kg**.

<https://www.gov.pl/web/kas/kas-ujawnila-przemyt-kokainy-w-cukierkach>  
 Video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9BbJTH\\_s16Y&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9BbJTH_s16Y&feature=youtu.be)

**PORTUGAL**

**25.11.2019** Police (Policia Judiciária) seized **1.5 tons of high-purity** cocaine hidden in pallets of banana crates in a fruit warehouse on the outskirts of Lisbon. The drug was destined for other European countries, had arrived from Latin America and had been transported to Portugal by sea on a ship that regularly transports fruit.

<https://www.theportugalnews.com/news/police-seize-1500kg-of-cocaine-in-lisbon/52109>

**SERBIA**

**26.11.2019** Serbian police at an organic food farm near the town of Stara Pazova detained nine people and confiscated **649.4 kg of marijuana and 65,581 cannabis bushes, weighing 3 tons and 954 kg** in total. <https://in.reuters.com/article/serbia-police/serbia-seizes-four-tonnes-of-marijuana-in-organic-food-farm-idINKBN1Y01TP?rpc=401&>

**USA**

**26.11.2019** Border patrol agents in La Rosita, Texas, in the Rio Grande Valley sector seized more than **860 kg of marijuana** in several separate operations. The drug was smuggled out of Mexico by car. Smugglers managed to escape into Mexico.

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/rio-grande-valley-border-patrol-agents-seize-more-15m-worth-drugs-over>

**30.11.2019** U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers at the port of entry to Laredo, Texas, seized large amounts of drugs worth more than \$2.3 million in two enforcement actions:

- 1) **2,336 kg (5,150 lbs) of marijuana** were seized on the World Trade Bridge, and a 34-year-old Mexican national was detained trying to smuggle the shipment on a trailer;
- 2) **41.28 kg of crystalline methamphetamine** were seized on the Juarez-Lincoln International Bridge, and a 71-year-old U.S. citizen was detained in an attempt to smuggle the consignment in a Mazda CX-5 car.

**02.12.2019** Border patrol of El Centro Sector, California, at the checkpoint on Highway 86 arrested a 27-year-old U.S. citizen suspected of drug trafficking. During inspection of the truck, agents found 23 packages containing **13.15 kg of methamphetamine, 910 g of heroin and 10.43 kg of cocaine**. The drugs and vehicle were transferred to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/border-patrol-discovers-mixed-load-narcotics>

**02.12.2019** Officers from the Polk County Sheriff's Office, Florida, arrested seven people for drug trafficking and seized **62.14 kg of methamphetamine and 5 kg of heroin**.

Three of the seven arrested are in the United States illegally. Methamphetamine is estimated at \$4.6 million and heroin at \$4.9 million.

<https://www.wtsp.com/article/news/local/polkcounty/polk-county-meth-heroin-seizure-largest-ever/67-20c1a7db-f432-4322-b7ba-7a7c6c912336>

## UKRAINE

**26.11.2019** A large-scale special operation was carried out in six regions of Ukraine to combat activities of a drug trafficking syndicate and to detain its leaders and active participants. The operation involved 1,500 law enforcement officers: operatives of the Strategic Investigation Division in the Lviv region, the Department of Strategic Investigations, the Department of Internal Security, police investigators of the Lviv region, employees of the Lviv region prosecutor's office and members of special forces of different regions of Ukraine. Two organizers and 18 members of the criminal group were detained. In total, about 50 people - residents of Lviv, Kyiv, Cherkasy, Kharkiv, Chernigiv and Dnipropetrovsk regions aged 18 to 39 - have been prosecuted for drug-related crimes. There was a clear hierarchy and distribution of roles in the drug syndicate: control over laboratories, their security, chemists, financiers, online store services, delivery of products to storage warehouses, couriers and others. In addition, law enforcement agencies of Belarus arrested two more members of the criminal organization. Drug business was organized by two residents of Lviv region. Five drug laboratories in Lviv and Cherkassy regions, whose capacity allowed to produce drugs on an industrial scale, were dismantled. Drug trafficking leaders also arranged cultivation of drug-containing plants. Narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances were sold through an Internet shop in regional and large district centres of Ukraine (more than 100 settlements), as well as in Moldova and Belarus in a contactless way through caches. Payment was made through a digital payment platform, electronic wallets or cryptocurrency. Almost 100 simultaneous searches were carried out, as a result of which more than **46 kg of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, 170 liters of precursors** worth 25 million hryvnias, as well as 24 thousand dollars, 1,100 euros and 38.6 thousand hryvnias were seized. Six premium class cars were seized. The seized property and assets of the drug syndicate members were arrested. <https://tsn.ua/ru/ukrayina/nacpoliciya-razoblachila-mezhdunarodnyy-sindikata-zaderzhany-20-chlenov-bandy-i-izyaty-narkotiki-na-25-mln-griven-1449609.html>

**30.11.2019** Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) officers at the Uzhhorod checkpoint in the Transcarpathian region on the Ukrainian-Slovakian border stopped an attempt to smuggle heroin into a EU country. Law enforcers stopped a car with construction materials. During an in-depth inspection of the vehicle, bags of **heroin weighing about 374 kg** were found hidden in glued plywood sheets. Sources of origin of drugs, senders and customers of goods were identified as part of criminal proceedings. <https://tsn.ua/ru/ukrayina/sbu-predotvratila-kontrabandu-pochti-400-kilogrammova-geroina-v-evropu-1451985.html>

## ECUADOR

**25.11.2019** Anti-Narcotics Division of the National Police at facilities of the seaport of Guayaquil, Ecuador, in Duran and South Guasmo, discovered 200 synthetic pineapple-like packages inside a container in which a total of **209 kg of cocaine** had been concealed. The final destination of cocaine was Spain. <https://www.expreso.ec/guayaquil/trafico-drogas-guasmo-sur-alcaldia-policia-nacional-XB3300660>



CENTRAL ASIAN REGIONAL INFORMATION AND COORDINATION CENTRE FOR COMBATING THE ILLICIT TRAFFICKING OF NARCOTIC DRUGS, PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES AND THEIR PRECURSORS

ЦЕНТРАЛЬНОАЗИАТСКИЙ РЕГИОНАЛЬНЫЙ ИНФОРМАЦИОННЫЙ КООРДИНАЦИОННЫЙ ЦЕНТР ПО БОРЬБЕ С НЕЗАКОННЫМ ОБОРОТОМ НАРКОТИЧЕСКИХ СРЕДСТВ, ПСИХОТРОПНЫХ ВЕЩЕСТВ И ИХ ПРЕКУРСОРОВ

<https://twitter.com/PoliciaEcuador/status/1199138431126949888>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZkMlfs8Gti4&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZkMlfs8Gti4&feature=emb_logo)