

## CARICC WEEKLY BULLETIN

(from the media)

**20.01-26.01.2020**

**№ 4**

### ON CARICC MEMBER STATES

#### REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

**23.01.2020** Officers of Bilasuvar district police department (DPD) detained two Iranian citizens who tried to smuggle **5.5 kg of heroin, 5.3 kg of opium, 5.6 kg of methamphetamine**, a Makarov pistol, 6 cartridges to it, 1 gas can and 1 hunting knife on the territory of Arazbary village. Iranians have delivered drugs to the territory of Azerbaijan under the instruction of the unidentified compatriot, should hide them in the agreed place and return back. <https://vesti.az/kriminal/v-bilyasuvare-u-grazhdan-irana-iz-yaty-16-kg-narkotikov-i-ruzhie-394191>

**23.01.2020** Police officers detained a resident of Shirvan suspected of drug trafficking. During the search, **80.184 g of methamphetamine and 104.718 g of heroin** were found. A criminal case has been initiated and an investigation is under way. <https://www.azerbaycan24.com/ru/u-zhitelya-shirvana-izayali-krupnyu-partiyu-narkotikov/>

**27.01.2020** Officers of Sheki city police department detained a 53-year-old resident of Sheki on suspicion of possession of narcotic drugs. During the search in his house more than **164 g of opium, 28 g of heroin, as well as 110 tablets of tramadol** and more than **1 kg of marijuana** were found and seized. A criminal case has been initiated and an investigation is under way.

<https://media.az/society/1067762751/v-sheki-izyata-iz-oborota-krupnaya-partiya-narkotikov-foto/>

#### KYRGYS REPUBLIC

**21.01.2020** During the implementation of operational information and special investigative actions in the framework of pre-trial proceedings, criminal police officers and investigators from the investigation service of the Bishkek City Internal Affairs Department found a drug lab in a private house in Bishkek for cultivation of **drug-containing cannabis plants and hallucinogenic fungi**. The weight of seized substances and plants was **438.07 kg**. Investigations and search operations are continuing as part of pre-trial production. <https://www.tuz.kg/news/2545-v-bishkeke-obnaryjena-narkolaboratoriia-po-vyrashivaniu-kanabisa-i-gribov.html>

#### RUSSIAN FEDERATION

**20.01.2020** Police officers at the Rubezh checkpoint, located in Togliatti, Samara region, detained a 31-year-old driver of a Ford Focus, who was carrying **1.16 kg of mephedrone** in his vehicle. A preventive measure in the form of detention was taken against the detainee. The man lived in Sochi and since summer 2019 has been working as a drug courier in an online store. The batch of mephedrone was intended for sale through bookmarks on caches in various cities of Russia. A criminal case has been initiated on this fact. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/19344033>

**20.01.2020** Russian police officers in the city of Tver detained a 42-year-old man, from whom **46.19 g of cocaine** were found and seized during a personal search. A criminal case was initiated against the defendant. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/19343639>

**21.01.2020** Employees of UNK UMVD of Russia in the Orenburg region detained a 23-year-old foreign citizen from neighboring countries, who arrived in Orenburg from Moscow to distribute narcotic substances. The drug dealer illegally stored **369.6 g of heroin**, prepared for further sale, with him and at his place of temporary residence in a hotel. An investigation is under way on this fact. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/19352776>

**23.01.2020** Staff of the traffic police of the Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Kushchevsky District of the Krasnodar Territory stopped a car "Lada Granta", with 44-year-old driver - a resident of St. Petersburg and a 35-year-old passenger - a resident of the Leningrad region. When the car was inspected in the rear seat and the luggage compartment niche under the spare wheel, **300 g of methadone, 970 g of hashish and 300 g of cocaine** were found. The intruders illegally purchased the prohibited substances for sale in Krasnodar Region. A criminal case was initiated against the detainees. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/19377493>

**23.01.2020** Employees of the Department of Internal Affairs of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Sakhalin Region liquidated the network of sales of synthetic drugs in the region. Distributors with mortgagers were detained, as well as a 19-year-old resident of Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk who was supplying illegal substances to the island. A young man bought drugs through the Internet and carried them to Sakhalin Oblast. Later on, the drugs were distributed contactlessly through bookmark caches. All illegal activities were coordinated through messengers in an anonymous manner. About **500 g of concentrated drugs of synthetic origin** were seized from the illegal trade. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/19384476>

**24.01.2020** Russian Interior Ministry officers detained a foreign citizen in the city of Ivanovo. **134 g of heroin**, intended for sale in the territory of Ivanovo, was found and seized during a search of his residence. Criminal proceedings have been initiated against the suspect. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/19385948>

**24.01.2020** A 41-year-old Moscow resident is detained in Balashikha on suspicion of drug trafficking by police officers of the Russian Interior Ministry's Moscow Region Directorate. More than **3.8 kg of methylephedrone** were found and seized during a personal search of the suspect, as well as during an inspection of his car. A criminal case has been initiated on this fact. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/19389817>

## REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN

**23.01.2020** Tajik Interior Ministry officials in Dushanbe detained four people on suspicion of drug trafficking. The suspects were detained in an attempt to sell 9kg of hashish. Dushanbe residents were also detained on suspicion of drug trafficking and brought over **11 kg of opium** and hashish to the capital for further sale. Criminal proceedings have been initiated against the suspects. More than **23 kg of narcotics** were seized in Dushanbe in

the first 20 days of 2020, according to the Interior Ministry's Dushanbe city administration. <http://avesta.tj/2020/01/23/v-dushanbe-izyato-svyshe-20-kg-narkotikov-zaderzhany-chetvero-podozrevaemyh/>

## ON OTHER COUNTRIES

### BRAZIL

**06.01.2020** Federal Tax Service (FTS) officers found **382 kg of cocaine** in a container terminal located in the port of Santos. The shipment was concealed in an export cargo of scrap metal destined for the port of Hamburg, Germany. The container was selected for inspection using objective risk analysis criteria, including for non-intrusive scanning. The offenders used the "Rip-on/Rip-off" method, whereby the drug was placed in a legal cargo without the knowledge of exporters and importers. The cocaine shipment has been transferred to the Federal Police, which will continue the investigation based on information provided by Customs. <http://www.segurancaportuariaemfoco.com.br/2020/01/receita-federal-localiza-em-santos-o.html>

**20.01.2020** Members of the Federal Tax Service (FTS) found **540 kg of cocaine** hidden in an export cargo of refined sugar, packed in bags, destined for the port of Antwerp, Belgium, inside the container terminal located at the port of Santos. The container was selected for inspection using objective risk analysis criteria, including for non-intrusive scanning. Packages of cocaine were concealed in several sugar bags. The cocaine shipment was handed over to the Federal Police, which will continue the investigation based on information provided by Customs. <http://receita.economia.gov.br/sobre/acoes-e-programas/acoes-da-receita-federal/noticias/2020/janeiro/8a-regiao-fiscal/receita-federal-localiza-540-kg-de-cocaina-em-carga-de-acucar-no-porto-de-santos>  
 Видео: <https://globoplay.globo.com/v/8251855/>

**20.01.2020** During an operation carried out by the Federal Revenue Service (IRS) in the port of San Francisco do Sul, South Carolina, together with the Brazilian Federal Tax Service, **600.5 kg of cocaine hydrochloride** were seized in Joinville with the support of the Federal Police, hidden in a container with a cargo of wood. The cargo was destined for the port of Antwerp, Belgium. The criminals used the "Rip-on/Rip-off" method, whereby the drug was placed in a legal cargo without the knowledge of exporters and importers. IRS believes that the container was loaded with wood, left the warehouse and, prior to arrival at Itapoa port, bags of cocaine were placed in an export cargo. The cocaine shipment was handed over to the Federal Police, which will continue the investigation based on information provided by Customs. <http://glbnews.com/url.html?p=https://ndmais.com.br/noticias/receita-federal-apreende-600-kg-de-cocaina-escondida-em-conteiner-no-porto-de-itapoa/>

### HUNGARY

**23.01.2020** Representatives of the Hungarian Revenue Service (NAV) reported that border patrol services detained a British citizen who tried to smuggle **22 kg of heroin** across the Hungarian-Serb border in Reszke, located in southern Hungary. The heroin was concealed under the front seats of the vehicle. The cost of the party is estimated at 264 million forints (787 thousand euros). <https://hungarytoday.hu/record-heroin-rozске-hungary/>

## GREECE

**23.01.2020** Staff of the Financial Crimes Division (SDOE) in the port of Piraeus found and confiscated **1,257 tons of marijuana** inside the container. The container arrived with the Malta flagged cargo ship Cartagena Trader, which departed from Beirut, Lebanon, on 21 December 2019 and was bound for Misrata, Libya. An inspection of the cargo identified 520 boxes containing 6,304 packages of marijuana. The white fabric packages were marked in Arabic with blue ink. The information was obtained through the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). <http://www.ekathimerini.com/248749/article/ekathimerini/news/authorities-seize-12-tonnes-of-cannabis-in-piraeus>  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DuHdf6J2FtI&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DuHdf6J2FtI&feature=emb_logo)

**25.01.2020** Police officers seized almost **1.18 tons of cocaine** during a raid on a house located in the port of Astakos. Eight members of the international drug trafficking criminal group have been arrested. The drugs were carefully packed in 1,040 nylon bags. In four other raids in the Athens area, small quantities of cocaine, hemp, an AK-47 assault rifle and three pistols were found and seized. The police seized more than 233,000 euros and five vehicles belonging to the criminal group. Cocaine originated in the Caribbean and was destined for Europe and North-West Africa. The investigation was carried out in cooperation with the law enforcement agencies of Albania and Spain, as well as with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) office at the United States Embassy in Athens. The international criminal group was led by two Spanish nationals and consisted of Albanian nationals. <https://apnews.com/a84a9cef49d63ee828b652f80104686b>

## IRAN

**25.01.2020** In the provinces of Sistan and Baluchestan, after intelligence activities, the anti-drug police stopped a large consignment of drugs being smuggled. During a clash between police and smugglers on the Iranshahr-Nikshahr road, one of the smugglers was killed and the rest managed to escape using the dark time. During the operation, several weapons and ammunition were seized, 813 kg of opium, 181 kg of crystal methamphetamine, **41 kg of hashish, 40 kg of heroin and 12 kg of other illicit drugs** were seized. <https://en.mehrnews.com/news/154930/Police-seize-1-090-kg-of-narcotics-in-S-Iran>

## CHINA

**17.01.2020** At Hong Kong International Airport, customs officials confiscated about **70 kg of cannabis** hidden in boxes inside 32 speakers that had arrived in Hong Kong from Canada. After further investigation, a 50-year-old man was detained on suspicion of drug smuggling. [https://www.customs.gov.hk/en/publication\\_press/press/index\\_id\\_2836.html](https://www.customs.gov.hk/en/publication_press/press/index_id_2836.html)

## THE NETHERLAND

**24.01.2020** Customs discovered about **150 kg of cocaine** during a cargo inspection by a shipping company in Botlek. The drugs were found in plastic buckets with road salt intended for the United Kingdom. A shipment of drugs was seized and destroyed. The investigation is being carried out by the NARC team, a joint venture between Customs, FIOD, the Seaport Police and the Public Prosecution Service in Rotterdam. <https://www.om.nl/actueel/nieuwsberichten/@107606/douane-vindt-150/>

**PANAMA**

**19.01.2020** Members of the Secretariat of the Mexican Navy (SEMAR) and members of the Office of the Attorney General (FGR), in coordination with customs authorities, confiscated **124.45 kg of cocaine** as a result of an inspection of a container at the port of Manzanillo, Colima. The container on board the KOTA CEPAT from Guayaquil port, Ecuador, was on its way to its destination in Busan, South Korea. <https://www.24-horas.mx/2020/01/19/semar-y-fgr-aseguran-124-kilos-de-cocaina-en-manzanillo-colima/>

**USA**

**22.01.2020** A border patrol from El Centro Sector, California, at the checkpoint on Highway 86 arrested a 35-year-old man while attempting to smuggle **9.91 kg of methamphetamine** into the United States in a Volvo V50. Border patrol agents found several packages hidden in the vehicle's spare tire. The cost of the shipment is estimated at \$41.5 thousand. The drug courier, the drugs and the vehicle have been transferred to the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA). <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/border-patrol-seizes-methamphetamine-checkpoint>

**23.01.2020** Members of the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) Task Force, together with the Arizona Phoenix State Police Department, confiscated about **165,000 M-30 fentanyl** tablets. The total value of the seized drugs is about \$3 million. DEA officials arrested two drug couriers - a 24-year-old male passenger in a vehicle and a female driver. During the investigation, DEA officers visited four other places in Phoenix and Peoria, where the agents found another **4,000 pills of fentanyl**. The Mexican cartels began producing fentanyl in the form of pills as the main opioid substance. [https://www.azfamily.com/news/investigations/opioid\\_crisis/fentanyl/major-fentanyl-bust-takes-pills-off-phoenix-streets/article\\_2388e326-3e43-11ea-9420-1b59ba772d37.html](https://www.azfamily.com/news/investigations/opioid_crisis/fentanyl/major-fentanyl-bust-takes-pills-off-phoenix-streets/article_2388e326-3e43-11ea-9420-1b59ba772d37.html)

**24.01.2020** U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers detained a 36-year-old man while attempting to smuggle more than **100.7 kilograms of liquid methamphetamine** into the United States through the port of entry at Calexico, California. The cost of the detected substance is 266 thousand dollars. The man was arrested, the drugs and the vehicle were seized. <https://www.10news.com/news/local-news/cbp-finds-over-200-pounds-of-liquid-meth-inside-mans-gas-tank>

**THAILAND**

**24.01.2020** Chiang Mai police officers seized **94,000 methamphetamine tablets** that were found hidden behind the rear bumper of a Honda HRV. The vehicle was auctioned for sale on 15 January, after which the new owner brought it to the bumper painting shop. As a result of the repair work, a cache of 11 packets of pills was discovered, which the new owner and the police were notified about. The previous owner of the car was arrested on 10 April 2019 for possession of 100,000 methamphetamine tablets, while his property and car were confiscated. [https://www.nationthailand.com/news/30381024?utm\\_source=category&utm\\_medium=internal\\_referral](https://www.nationthailand.com/news/30381024?utm_source=category&utm_medium=internal_referral)

**TURKEY**

**20.01.2020** During the operation, counter-narcotics police in eastern Agra province seized **183 kg of heroin**. The drugs were hidden in a semi-trailer coming from Iran. The driver of the semitrailer has been taken into custody and will be brought to justice.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/investigations/2020/01/20/turkish-police-seize-183-kg-of-heroin-in-eastern-agri>

**21.01.2020** During a car search on the highway in the north-western province of Bolu, the drug police found and seized more than **10.15 kg of heroin** in the trunk of a car. Two suspects have been arrested on charges of drug smuggling.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/over-10-kg-heroin-seized-in-northwestern-turkey-/1709477>

**23.01.2020** Security forces seized more than **3.6 tons of marijuana** as part of counter-narcotics and counter-terrorism operations in south-eastern and eastern Turkey, in particular in the mountainous and rural areas of Diyarbakir province and Bingol province. The drugs were hidden in caches and vaults under dry grass and tents, and disguised in shrubs and stony areas. In addition to drugs, security forces discovered and destroyed three winter shelters, three observation posts and an underground warehouse probably used by terrorists of the Kurdistan Workers Party, which is listed as a terrorist organization by Turkey, the United States and the EU.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/over-36-tons-of-marijuana-seized-in-se-turkey/1711407>

## UKRAINE

**23.01.2020** The Ternopil Region Prosecutor's Office, in cooperation with law enforcement agencies, has exposed a group of people who distributed narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in Ternopil. During searches carried out in Ternopil and Khmelnytskyi regions, more than **1 kg of drugs and psychotropic substances**, weapons, ammunition, cash in national and foreign currency and means of communication were seized. At present, law enforcement officers have detained 9 people. The issue of informing them of their suspicion and choosing a preventive measure in the form of detention is being resolved. Pre-trial investigation is ongoing.

<https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=ru&sl=uk&u=https://tern.gp.gov.ua/&prev=search>

## FRANCE

**24.01.2020** At the Runga National Market, located in the department of Val de Marne, a wholesaler specializing in citrus and tropical fruits, about **500 kg of cocaine** were found in banana crates and handed over to the police services. The drug was hidden in the middle of a tray with bananas coming from Colombia. Magistrates of the Paris Interregional Specialized Jurisdiction have instituted proceedings for the international drug trade. The value of the cocaine shipment is estimated at 35 million euros.

<http://www.leparisien.fr/val-de-marne-94/val-de-marne-pres-de-500-kilos-de-cocaine-dans-un-chargeement-de-bananes-24-01-2020-8243526.php>