CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY
(based on mass media reports)

24-30.08.2020

REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

26.08.2020 Officers of the Transport Police Department at Lugovaya station in Ryskulovsky district of Zhambyl region detained a 46-year-old resident of Zhambyl region and seized over 17 kg of marijuana. [https://24.kz/ru/news/incidents/item/418539-17-kg-narkotikov-iz-yaty-u-zhitelya-zhambylskoj-oblasti]

KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

26.08.2020 Two local residents were detained in Chui region by officers of SBNON of the Kyrgyz Ministry of Internal Affairs, they were growing drugs in large amounts. Officers also discovered and seized cultivated bushes of cannabis plants, raw materials for making hashish oil and marijuana, and equipment for drug use in a house in Alamedinsky district. A total of 110.45 kg of cannabis were seized. Detainees are kept in custody. Investigation is under way. [https://24.kg/proishestvija/163375_ujiteley_chuyskoy_oblasti_izyyali_110_kilogrammov_narkotikov/]

28.08.2020 Kyrgyz Interior Ministry SBNON offices detained a man suspected of illegal drug possession in Bishkek. Pre-trial investigations and searches were conducted, resulting in the discovery and seizure of cannabis, marijuana and heroin weighing 4.686 kg in a house in Bishkek. A resident of Bishkek was detained on suspicion of this crime. [https://24.kg/proishestvija/163480_vbishkeke_mujchina_nezakonno_hranil_doma_pochti_pyat_kilogrammov_narkotikov/]

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

24.08.2020 Officers of GUNK of the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs, in cooperation with colleagues from Moscow region and the Belarusian Ministry of Internal Affairs, have stopped a criminal group whose members are suspected of selling synthetic drugs. Drugs were sold through an online store created by cybercriminals in the shadow segment of the Internet. To transport drugs, the suspects used a car owned by one of them with a special cache in its luggage compartment. In addition, the men rented a private house in a garden association in Odintsovo district, Moscow region, where they stored and packed particularly large amounts of drugs and from there administered the Internet store. Two members of the drug group were detained. Seizures amounted to over 20 thousand tablets with the drug MDMA totaling more than 8 kg, as well as 98 g of cocaine. A criminal case was initiated. Detained persons were subjected to a preventive measure in the form of detention. [https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/20945762]

25.08.2020 Police in Kursk detained a 34-year-old man and his 29-year-old cohabitant red-handedly during an attempt to sell a wholesale shipment of heroin, who were distributing
drugs contactlessly through caches. The man distributed illegal substance on the territory of Kursk, after which he received a payment on his bank card. Drug was brought from another region and was supposed to be distributed in Kursk region and neighboring regions. More than **500 g of heroin** were seized. Investigation is under way. Detainees were taken into custody as a precautionary measure. [https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/20954521](https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/20954521)

**26.08.2020** Employees of UMVD of Russia in the Murmansk region intercepted illegal actions of Internet store on illegal distribution of prohibited substances. A 30-year old man was detained in a forest area of the Pervomaisky district of Murmansk during equipment of drug caches. He illegally kept synthetic drugs with him and at his place of residence for the purpose of distribution. In total, **450 g of amphetamine and methylephedron** were seized. A criminal case has been initiated against the suspect. [https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/20967499](https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/20967499)

**27.08.2020** Officers of the Drug Control Department of the Russian UMVD for Kaluga region detained a resident of Moscow region born in 1991 suspected of distributing narcotic drugs. During a personal search of the young man, **144.66 g of heroin** were found. The detainee, acting as part of a criminal group, was engaged in contactless drug trafficking in Kaluga. The transfer of the illegal substance to third parties was carried out through caches. A criminal case was initiated. A measure of restraint in the form of detention was chosen in respect of the suspect. [https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/20976825](https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/20976825)

**27.08.2020** As part of interagency complex operational and preventive operation "Mak-2020" aimed at curbing the spread of narcotic drugs of herbal origin, employees of the inter-municipal department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia "Dalnerechensky" of Primorsky krai in the yard of the house of a 55-year-old resident of the village of Roshchino, Krasnoarmeysky district found and seized more than **1700 cultivated cannabis bushes containing tetrahydrocannabinol, with a total mass of over 14 kg**. A criminal case was initiated. [https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/20973121](https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/20973121)

**28.08.2020** Employees of GUNK MVD of Russia together with colleagues from GU MVD of Russia in Moscow detained a suspect in possession and attempted sale of drugs on a large scale, a resident of a Central Asian country. The man purchased large consignments of drugs, and then packed into smaller ones and sold in the Moscow region through caches. In Mozhaisk district, traffic police inspectors stopped a car with the suspect in its cabin. During inspection of the vehicle under the driver's seat were found more than **260 g of heroin**. During search of the detainee's residence, more than **7 kg of heroin** were seized, as well as scales and packaging material. Criminal cases were opened. A preventive measure in the form of detention was chosen with respect to the suspect. [https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/20989947](https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/20989947)

**28.08.2020** GSU GU MVD of Russia in the Chelyabinsk region completed an investigation of a criminal case against a citizen of a neighboring country, accused of illegal production and sale of drugs. The man organized production of synthetic drugs in an underground laboratory, located in the city of Kopeysk. "Mini Factory" was equipped with a modern security and video control complex, motion sensors, a special ventilation and air filtration system, autonomous heating, water supply and lighting, and expensive industrial laboratory equipment and dishes were used. More than **54 kg of synthetic drugs and more than**
700 kg of precursors used in production of illicit substances were seized. [https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/20988903](https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/20988903)

31.08.2020 Employees of GU MVD of Russia in Voronezh region together with colleagues from the regional UFSB of Russia detained a drug courier - 26-year-old resident of Saratov region, who was transporting from Moscow region for further sale in the Rostov region more than 1.2 kg of mephedrone. The drug courier was detained by police at the 596th kilometer of the M-4 "Don" highway in Bobrovsky district after a taxi stop. A criminal case was opened against the suspect and the court selected a preventive measure in the form of detention. [https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21006287](https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21006287)

31.08.2020 Employees of GUNK MVD of Russia in cooperation with MVD of the Republic of Latvia on the territory of two countries conducted a large-scale operation to stop actions of a transnational ethnic group, members of which are suspected in production of synthetic opioids and their smuggling into Russia, CIS countries and the European Union. In urban-type settlement Shahovskaya, Moscow region, the driver of a heavy-duty truck - a citizen of Latvia and a citizen (female) of Russia - were detained on suspicion of involvement in smuggling of drugs from the territory of the Republic of Latvia. The woman was seized 6.5 kg of methadone. At the same time, five more suspects were detained on the territory of the Republic of Latvia. Among them are four Latvian citizens and a citizen of Russia. More than 21 kg of methadone, as well as laboratory equipment were seized on the territory of Latvia. Investigation is under way. A preventive measure in the form of detention has been taken against the suspects. [https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21004531](https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/21004531)

OTHER COUNTRIES

BULGARIA

27.08.2020 A cache with 162 bags of marijuana weighing 81.165 kg was found at the Kulata (Bulgaria) border crossing point on the border with Greece, in a truck with a semi-trailer registered in Bulgaria, which was stopped for inspection. The driver of the vehicle, who was 50 years old, was detained and charged with drug smuggling. [https://www.dnes.bg/crime/2020/08/29/zaloviha-myj-s-marihuana-za-nad-300-000-lv-na-kulata.461316](https://www.dnes.bg/crime/2020/08/29/zaloviha-myj-s-marihuana-za-nad-300-000-lv-na-kulata.461316) [https://twitter.com/IvanGeshevPG/status/1299602017162276864](https://twitter.com/IvanGeshevPG/status/1299602017162276864)

BRAZIL

21.08.2020 Customs of the Federal Revenue Service (IRS) in the port of Santos, Sao Paulo, seized 57 kg of cocaine concealed in a container with a shipment of lemons destined for export to Rotterdam (Netherlands). The drug packs were placed in a refrigerated container structure, replacing part of insulation of the lower wall of the container. Seized cocaine was handed over to the Federal Police, which is investigating based on information provided by the Federal Revenue Service. [http://receita.economia.gov.br/sobre/acoes-e-programas/acoes-da-receita-federal/noticias/2020/agosto/8a-regiao-fiscal/receita-federal-apreende-57-kg-de-cocaina-no-porto-de-santos](http://receita.economia.gov.br/sobre/acoes-e-programas/acoes-da-receita-federal/noticias/2020/agosto/8a-regiao-fiscal/receita-federal-apreende-57-kg-de-cocaina-no-porto-de-santos) Video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fu5kAriqBI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fu5kAriqBI)

26.08.2020 Federal Revenue Service (IRS) Customs in the port of Paranagua in two refrigerated containers, which were going to the port of Gioia Tauro in Italy, found and seized 66 kg of cocaine. Consignments of 33 kg of cocaine each were hidden in engine
compartments of cooling systems of two containers with frozen chicken meat. This is the 14th cocaine seizure made by IRS at the port of Paranagua in 2020, totaling 4360.5 kg. Seized drug has been sent to the Federal Police, which will continue investigation.

https://receita.economia.gov.br/noticias/ascom/2020/agosto/receita-federal-realiza-a-apreensao-de-33-kg-de-cocaina-no-porto-de-paranagua
https://folhadolitoral.com.br/editorias/policia/receita-federal-apreende-cerca-de-33-kg-de-cocaina-em-terminal-no-porto-de-paranagua/
https://www.jbtlitoral.com.br/receita-federal-realiza-a-apreensao-de-33-kg-de-cocaina-no-porto-de-paranagua/
https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=yYQzpOODunw&feature=emb_logo

28.08.2020 Customs of the Federal Revenue Service (IRS) in the port of Santos, Sao Paulo, on August 27 and 28 during inspection of refrigerated containers found and seized cocaine consignments weighing **124 kg and 126.5 kg**. In each case, cocaine packages were placed in the structure of refrigerated containers, replacing part of thermal insulation of container doors.


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### UNITED KINGDOM

25.08.2020 Border troops found drug parcels on flights from Kingston, Jamaica, during a series of seizures of international cargo in August:
1) On August 11, about **22 kg of cocaine** worth 1.8 million pounds were seized;
2) On August 18, another **30 kg of cocaine** worth 2.4 million pounds was seized.
Drugs in these cases were concealed within vegetables.
3) On August 25, **3 kg of cocaine** in liquid form in suspension were seized. The shipment was worth 250 thousand pounds sterling. Investigations are under way.


### GREECE

28.08.2020 Coast Guard officers in the western Greek port of Patras, using a search dog in a truck that was trying to reach Italy by ferry found **105 kg of cocaine**. Drugs cost 3 million euros (3.6 million dollars).


### GEORGIA

27.08.2020 Officers from Marneuli District Police Station of Kvemo Kartli of the Georgian Interior Ministry stopped a minibus on the Marneuli-Tbilisi road in the Tetritskaro municipality, where a man born in 1964 was carrying a large shipment of heroin. Searches of the van and the suspect's house found and seized about **2 kg of heroin**. The man was detained. Investigation is under way into illegal acquisition and possession of narcotics on a particularly large scale.

https://civil.ge/ru/archives/363937
**INDIA**


**IRAN**

**04.09.2020** Between 22 August and 4 September, the Iranian Anti-Narcotics Police seized **29.7 tons of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances**, including **150 kg of heroin**, **24.630 tons of opium**, **622 kg of methamphetamine**, **3,703 kg of hashish**, **2065 kg of other narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances**.  

**SPAIN**


**MALAYSIA**


**MEXICO**

**31.08.2020** Military aircraft of the Mexican Ministry of National Defense intercepted a twin-engine Dassault Falcon aircraft carrying **1356 kg of cocaine** in Mexican airspace near the border with Guatemala. The aircraft had to land at Palenque International Airport in Chiapas. Cocaine was divided into 1205 packs, packed in 41 large bags. Two men, including the pilot, were detained after trying to escape. Their identities and nationalities were not disclosed. The aircraft used to smuggle drugs was confiscated. Also on August 26, Colombian military and police seized a submarine carrying **1055 kg of cocaine** off the Colombian coast. The drugs purchased by the Jalisco New Generation Cartel were supposed to be smuggled into Mexico. [https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8682291/Mexican-military-fighter-jets-intercepted-twin-engine-plane-65-million-worth-cocaine.html](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8682291/Mexican-military-fighter-jets-intercepted-twin-engine-plane-65-million-worth-cocaine.html)

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1 Data provided by liaison officer of the Anti-Narcotics Police of the Islamic Republic of Iran.
30.08.2020 According to the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control (CCDAC), **8.8 kg of heroin** were seized by combined police forces in the village of Pyin Oo Lwin in the Mandalay region. Heroin worth 616 million kyat (over $456,000) was found in a truck with a trailer. The police have opened a case against 11 suspects, and investigations are currently under way. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2020-08/30/c_139329231.htm

**NEPAL**

27.08.2020 A police team from the Udayapur district police station detained two Talpi residents aged 29 and 43. **84 kg of marijuana** were confiscated that was intended to be smuggled into India. https://english.khabarhub.com/2020/27/123047/

**PAKISTAN**

26.08.2020 Dera police intercepted drug smuggling at a checkpoint on Dera Daraban Road, intercepting a car that contained **27 kg of hashish and 9 kg of opium**. Drugs were found in a secret compartment in the car. The passengers of the car were detained on the spot. A case has been registered and investigation is under way. [Source](https://www.urdupoint.com/en/pakistan/hashish-opium-recovered-smugglers-arrested-1011951.html)

27.08.2020 Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) seized **211.03 kg of drugs** worth $9.179 million and arrested 14 people, including an Afghan national involved in drug smuggling for drug trafficking crimes. Seven vehicles were seized in 13 counter-narcotics operations across the country. Seizures included **106.53 kg of hashish**, **84 kg of opium** and **20.5 kg of heroin**. [Source](https://www.urdupoint.com/en/pakistan/anf-seizes-211-kg-drugs-in-13-operations-arr-1013151.html)

**PANAMA**

29.08.2020 Counter Narcotics Police (DNIP) officers, together with the Drug Prosecutor's Office in a Pacific port container whose final destination was supposed to be Belgium, found approximately **455 kg of cocaine** in 11 bags. Some of the bags were marked with the "P&P" logo. To date, there are no detainees, but the Prosecutor's Office is continuing its investigation. Security forces managed to seize **2 tons and 817 kg of illicit substances** in the Pacific and Caribbean waters, which were on board fast boats, fishing boats and containers. [Source](https://theworldnews.net/pa-news/la-droga-no-llego-a-belgica-video)

Video: [Twitter](https://twitter.com/ProtegeryServir/status/1299453756657020928)
Video: [Twitter](https://twitter.com/ProtegeryServir/status/1299453794808463361)
Video: [Twitter](https://twitter.com/MinSegPma/status/1299467014034075655)
[Another Twitter](https://twitter.com/MinSegPma/status/1299549142155431938)

**PUERTO RICO**

27.08.2020 The U.S. Border Patrol, together with the Puerto Rico Police Department's Joint Rapid Response Force (FURA), seized **591 kg of cocaine** and arrested four illegal foreigners trying to break through Rincon. Four Dominican nationals were on a yola ship and were attempting to smuggle into Puerto Rico. Cocaine seized was worth 14.8 million dollars. [Source](https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/us-border-patrol-fura-seize-1303-pounds-cocaine-and-arrest-4-illegal)
USA

25.08.2020 U.S. Border Patrol agents at immigration post 85 in Tucson Sector, Arizona, arrested a 39-year-old driver from Phoenix while attempting to smuggle in a Ford Explorer SUV concealing more than 31.75 kg of methamphetamine, fentanyl, cocaine and heroin in a spare tire. Drugs total value was more than 600 thousand dollars. The driver and drugs were handed over to the Homeland Security Investigations (ICE) for prosecution. https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/spare-tire-loaded-hard-drugs-seized-border-patrol-checkpoint

26.08.2020 From August 17-20, 2020, drug control teams from the Sheriff's Department of Humboldt County, Nevada, with assistance from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), conducted actions to detect and eradicate illicit cannabis crops in the Trinity and Klamath River basins of the northeast Humboldt County. About 28,400 cannabis plants were eradicated and about 2.9 tons of cannabis were confiscated and destroyed. Officers also found and seized 8 firearms. https://kymkemp.com/2020/08/26/last-week-met-eradicated-28399-plants-and-seized-over-1408-pounds-of-cannabis-bud-and-approximately-5007-pounds-of-drying-cannabis/

28.08.2020 Officers from the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the Office of Field Operations (OFO) at border crossing points with Mexico, Texas, seized $828,000 worth of drugs and arrested two people in connection with two separate drug smuggling attempts:
1) On August 26, a 44-year-old Mexican citizen was detained at the cargo facility of Farr-Reynosa International Bridge when attempting to smuggle 34.5 kg of cocaine and 0.5 kg of methamphetamine in a truck with a trailer that arrived from Mexico with commercial import of goods;
2) On August 27, a 24-year-old female U.S. citizen from Farrah, Texas was detained at the Anzalduas International Bridge when she attempted to smuggle 4.98 kg of methamphetamine in a Jeep Grand Cherokee hidden in an ice box in the back of the SUV. https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-officers-discover-800k-narcotics-mid-valley-international-bridges

THAILAND

29.08.2020 Police at a checkpoint in Mae Phrik Lampang District found and seized 5 million methamphetamine tablets during a search of two pickup trucks. Both pickup trucks were loaded with boxes of tangerines. Prohibited substances were found using X-ray equipment. Drivers aged 22 and 31 explained that they were transporting tangerines from Wiang Haeng District in Chiang Mai to Talad Thai Market in Khlong Luang District, Pathum Thani and knew nothing about illegal substances. Police arrested a 28-year-old man and two women, aged 19 and 52, on suspicion of committing this crime. https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/1978115/

TAIWAN

28.08.2020 The Pingtung District Prosecutor's Office reported results of an investigation into a case involving an international network of drug dealers smuggling drugs into Taiwan. As early as April 12, the Manshengtsai, a vessel registered in Ryukyu Islands in Japan, was
stopped in Donggang Harbor, where more than **395 kg of heroin and 645 kg of amphetamine**, valued at NT$10 billion (US$338.74 million), were found and confiscated. Narcotics were imported from Southeast Asia.  

### TURKEY

**24.08.2020** Police Narcotics Division in Zonguldak, in the Black Sea, as in another similar case with the ship "FRONTIER FALCON" in İcadas, on the dry cargo ship "SHANDONG DE RUI" under the flag of the Marshall Islands with a cargo of coal, found a large cocaine shipment. The dry cargo ship arrived from Colombia to the port of Eren, Zonguldak. A box containing **30 kg of cocaine** was attached to the hull of the ship. Three crew members, including the captain, were detained. [http://www.maritimebulletin.net/2020/08/24/one-more-capsize-bulk-carrier-cocaine-bust-captain-detained-turkey/](http://www.maritimebulletin.net/2020/08/24/one-more-capsize-bulk-carrier-cocaine-bust-captain-detained-turkey/)  
Video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qsWacZ5IE3o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qsWacZ5IE3o)

**24.08.2020** In separate counter-narcotics operations conducted by gendarmerie brigades throughout the country:  
1) In the eastern Bingol province, **2135 kg of marijuana and more than 1 million cannabis plants** were seized. Three suspects have been arrested and drugs seized have been destroyed.  
2) In Agri, during a search of a truck registered in Iran, police seized **19.532 kg of methamphetamine**. The truck driver, an Iranian citizen, was arrested.  
3) In the eastern province of Erzincan, police seized **55 kilograms of methamphetamine**, which were cast in the forms of paintings and game boards. Drug was found with the help of service dogs in the luggage compartment of a bus. One passenger of the bus suspected in this crime was detained by police. [https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/turkey-over-2-000-kg-of-marijuana-seized/1951616](https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/turkey-over-2-000-kg-of-marijuana-seized/1951616)

**25.08.2020** During a large-scale counter-narcotics operation conducted by gendarmerie brigades in rural areas of Diyarbakir province to stop drug trafficking by the Kurdistan Workers Party recognized as a terrorist organization in Turkey, officers seized **800 kg of marijuana and 4.62 million cannabis plants.**  
[https://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/more-than-4-6-mln-cannabis-roots-seized-157674](https://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/more-than-4-6-mln-cannabis-roots-seized-157674)

**26.08.2020** Customs officers at the port of Kocaeli found **540 kg of cocaine** inside a container that had arrived from Brazil. Drugs are estimated to cost 216 million Turkish liras ($29 million). Drugs were stored in sports bags, placed in ferrochrome-alloy bags.  
Video: [https://y.internethaber.com/storage/files/videos/2020/08/26/f907ec78-1e66-428c-b80e-e292f0a545-r9kx.mp4](https://y.internethaber.com/storage/files/videos/2020/08/26/f907ec78-1e66-428c-b80e-e292f0a545-r9kx.mp4)

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2 See CARICC weekly summary № 34 in 2020
30.08.2020 The National Narcotics Investigation Directorate located in the seaport of Contecom, Guasmo sector, Guayaquil (Ecuador), has detected anomalies in a Tropical Fruit container prepared for loading on board the MSC JULIA, indicating damage to the seal. During inspection of the opened container, 31 bags with 2250 kg of cocaine were found. 

https://www.eltelegrafo.com.ec/noticias/judicial/12/policia-contenedor-tonelada-cocaina?__cf_chl_jschl_tk__=81ae20048db97d69e13d1adbb66f7bf572008ab7-1598825256-0-AR5Kl63aDQ0pmhr6WB2H8mj5HBsZ-J5ogKOoPMpk88aiE-Pujh--wAYUV9kUG_PnapcTp5EasdCSHLw2rpP2Dh3Edck6sykfDnwwlss7flElf5xf_SZlgdnCo0rlcp7xndKngeAmjIzgNFPFrMCzxiuje8n1kUy1ZF4u15s5M2x_Bv-3_W17tAY9urH-klB5flTm3kejNS5h5RU8u04dk1vGB_o_C2rnndWN_7LIVAwww.xh569L9ML2i-ysfTtpPhZtcluyCAF9MHmBhpYD3TN8omUml6YCh1gcoziAGy31vA2nxXhHziHHyeVDnKV4VvSzeA3GWiggruAlkowaP Eulw5jf_L8MvNvkBKzstMnp03x1aF0DYI0YGj6it18f0IA2G006X69f3uiFmWEHa7gse2FEWIB5NhMBYd_Diw