

**CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY
 ON SEIZURES OF NARCOTIC DRUGS,
 PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES AND THEIR PRECURSORS**
 (based on mass media reports)

23.08. to 31.08.2023

№21

In the period from 23 to 31 August 2023, based on information from the media law enforcement agencies and security agencies of CARICC Member States seized **13 tons 229 kg 452 g of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including: heroin - 307 kg 765 g, opium - 10 kg, cannabis group drugs - 12 tons 846 kg 524 g, cocaine - 50 g, synthetic drugs - 65 kg 113 g.**

Drug seizures in CARICC Member States from 23 to 31 August 2023 based on media reports in grams

Type of drug (in grams)	Azerbaijan	Kazakhstan	Kyrgyzstan	Russia	Tajikistan	Turkmenistan	Uzbekistan
Heroin	33415			274350			
Opium	10000						
Cannabis group	1460300	10519012	6712	860500			
Synthetic drugs	7032	6365	8866	42850			
Potent substances							
Cocaine				50			
Other types of drugs							
Total	1510747	10525377	15578	1177750			

AZERBAIJAN

23.08.2023 Binagadi District Police Department officers detained a resident of the capital, Kyanan Safarov, during operational measures. At the address of his residence they found **20 kilograms of heroin, 2 kilograms of psychotropic substance methamphetamine, 127 tablets containing psychotropic substances,** and electronic scales. <https://report.az/ru/proisshestviya/v-baku-zaderzhany-lica-kotoryh-grazhdane-irana-privlekli-k-narkokurerstvu/>

23.08.2023 In the course of the operation carried out by the Bilasuvar District Police Department on the section of the Alyat-Astara road running through the district, residents of the Astara district Elchin Abilov, Orkhan Gambarov and Elshan Babayev were detained for organizing trafficking in narcotic drugs. A total of 17 kg of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including **4 kg of heroin, 3 kg of methamphetamine and 10 kg of opium,** were found and seized. <https://ru.oxu.az/society/768204>

23.08.2023 During an operation conducted by officers of the Binagadi District Police Department, Rafiq Mammadov, previously convicted of organizing drug trafficking, was detained. He was found in possession of more than **4 kilograms of heroin** purchased for the purpose of sale. <https://report.az/ru/proisshestviya/v-baku-zaderzhany-lica-kotoryh-grazhdane-irana-privlekli-k-narkokurerstvu/>

23.08.2023 As a result of another operative action carried out by ROP officers, previously convicted Baku resident Kyanan Alizade was detained. About **2 kilograms of methamphetamine** were found and seized. During investigation it was found that the detainees were engaged in courier transportation of drugs through drug traffickers residing in Iran. <https://ru.oxu.az/society/768204>

24.08.2023 As a result of complex investigative and preventive measures "Hash-Hash 2023", conducted jointly by officers of the Gakh District Police Department and servicemen of the State Border Service (SBS), wild drug plants were discovered. In the course of measures in the territory of Almaly village of Gakh district, 6230 **cannabis** bushes with a total weight of **1417 kg** were destroyed through burning. <https://ru.oxu.az/criminal/768824>

30.08.2023 As a result of another joint operation of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the State Border Service (SBS), illegal trafficking of smuggled narcotic drugs in large quantities was prevented. Iranian citizen Farhadi Hossein Gulamehmed oglu (born in 1980) was detained on suspicion of organizing illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs. He was found in possession of **35 kilograms of dry marijuana** enriched with psychotropic substances, methamphetamine and **360 methadone tablets**. <https://report.az/ru/proisshestiya/zaderzhan-grazhdanin-irana-perepravlyavshij-narkotiki-v-azerbajdzhan-na-letatelnom-apparate/>

31.08.2023 As a result of operative measures carried out by officers of Jalilabad district police department, resident of Salyan district Bahruz Huseynov and resident of Sabirabad district Javid Bayramov, previously convicted, were detained suspected of illegal trafficking of narcotic substances. **5 kg 300 g of heroin, 8 kg 300 g of marijuana, as well as methamphetamine and 100 methadone tablets** were found and seized. <https://media.az/society/1067925193/u-zaderzhannyh-v-dzhalilabade-narkokurerov-izyato-bolee-13-kilogrammov-narkotikov-foto/>

KAZAKHSTAN

23.08.2023 Zhetisu police officers conducted a special operation in the town of Ushtobe as part of the Karasora and Karu operations, during which a 38-year-old local resident was detained. The man, previously convicted several times, is suspected of drug trafficking, as well as illegal possession and use of firearms. In the suspect's car, the police seized a Viking pistol with nine live cartridges, caliber 9x19 mm, as well as **586 g of hashish**. <https://polisia.kz/ru/oruzhie-i-krupnyu-partiyu-gashisha-iz-yali-u-narkotorgovtsa-v-zhetisu/>

23.08.2023 Pursuant to the comprehensive plan for 2023-2025 years, within the framework of the OPM "Karaasora-2023", a 37-year-old resident of Moyinkum district was detained in the places of growing wild hemp in Shu district, at the time of preparation of narcotic drugs. During inspection of the area was found dried **marijuana** with a total weight of **378 kg**. <https://polisia.kz/ru/bolee-300-kg-dikorastushhej-konopli-iz-yali-u-zhitelya-zhambylskoj-oblasti/>

23.08.2023 In the course of operative and investigative measures, officers of the Department for Combating Drug Crime of the Police Department of the Ulytau region detained residents of Zhezkazgan on suspicion of distributing narcotic substances. More than **330 g** of illicit substances were seized from the detainees, who were involved in the

supply of synthetic drugs to the Ulytau region. According to the expert opinion, the substance found is a **synthetic drug**. <https://polisia.kz/ru/kanal-postavki-sintetiki-likvidirovali-politsejskie-ulytau/>

24.08.2023 Officers of the Department for Combating Extremism of the Police Department of Atyrau region together with officers of the Department for Combating Drug Crime in the course of the OPM "Kaarasora" revealed a resident of Zhambyl region, born in 1985, suspected of selling synthetic drugs on a large scale. When checking the address of residence of the suspect they seized 15 polymer zip bags, a bag of white powdery narcotic substance with a total weight of 35.34 g, electronic scales, two cell phones, 144 thousand tenge and 701 U.S. dollars. According to the conclusion of the expertise it was established that the substance obtained is a **synthetic drug** weighing **35.34 g**. <https://polisia.kz/ru/sintetiku-na-1-5-mln-tenge-iz-yali-politsejskie-atyrau/>

25.08.2023 Officers of UPN DP of Aktobe region, within the framework of OPM "karasora" on Ryskulov street in the city of Aktobe detained a 27-year-old man. In the course of personal search and search at his place of residence three bags with crystal-like substances, zip-packs and electronic scales were seized. According to the conclusion of the expertise, the seized substances are **synthetic narcotic substance** with a total weight of over **1 kg**. <https://polisia.kz/ru/1-kg-sintetiki-iz-yali-politsejskie-aktobe/>

25.08.2023 Officers of UPN DP of Aktobe region during operational-search activities in the framework of OPM "Karasora" in Aktobe detained a 30-year-old resident of Almaty region. During a personal search, the detainee voluntarily provided a large bag from a travel suitcase, which contained a substance of plant origin of green color with a specific odor. According to the conclusion of the expertise, the seized substance is dried **marijuana**, with a total weight of over **3 kg**. <https://polisia.kz/ru/narkokur-era-zaderzhali-politsejskie-aktyubinskoj-oblasti/>

28.08.2023 In Balkhash district of Almaty region law enforcers using drones revealed a plantation with a crop of drug-containing cannabis. It was found that an entrepreneurial resident of Almaty planted cultivated "Indica" cannabis on one hectare of land in a remote area. Immediately after revealing the plantation, police officers eradicated more than five tons of drug-containing cannabis. The eradication of the drug plantation continued for several days. As a result, the total weight of the crops amounted to more than **10 tons of cannabis**. <https://polisia.kz/ru/poluchila-prodolzhenie-sovmestnaya-operatsiya-mvd-i-knb-po-likvidatsii-narkoposevov-v-almatinskoj-oblasti/>

28.08.2023 In pursuance of the comprehensive plan for 2023-2025 years in the framework of OPM "Karasora" in the implementation of operational information at 14 km of the highway Merke-Shu-Burylbaital stopped Volkswagen car. During inspection in the rear luggage compartment was found a polyethylene bag with a narcotic drug, which belongs to a 31-year-old passenger - a resident of Merken district. According to the conclusion of the expertise, the seized substance is dried **marijuana** with a total weight of **6 kg**. <https://polisia.kz/ru/meshok-marihuany-iz-yali-u-passazhira-taksi-v-zhambylskoj-oblasti/>

29.08.2023 Pursuant to the comprehensive plan for 2023-2025 years within the framework of the OPM "Karaasora" during the implementation of operational information in Shu district in the vegetable garden of a 53-year-old local resident were found cultivated narcocusts and

plant substances with a specific odor. According to the conclusion of the expertise, the seized substances are **31 kg of cannabis**. <https://polisia.kz/ru/okolo-30-kg-narkotikov-iz-yali-u-sel-chanina-zhambylskie-politsejskie/>

31.08.2023 In the course of operational and preventive measure "Karasora 2023", officers of the Department of Combating Drug Crime of the DP of Kyzylorda region revealed two drug crops grown on the bank of the Yeltai canal in the village named after A. Tokmaganbetov in Syrdarya district. Two residents of Turkestan had grown 106 and 35 cannabis bushes. The total weight of the bushes, according to the conclusion of the expert examination, amounted to **60.6 kg of cannabis**. <https://polisia.kz/ru/dva-narkoposeva-na-beregu-kanala-eltaj-obnaruzhili-kyzylordinskie-politsejskie/>

31.08.2023 A large shipment of synthetic "alpha" was seized by Almaty police. A 40-year-old resident of Turksib district was involved in criminal activity on manufacturing and distribution of synthetic drugs. He was detained as a result of a special operation as part of the work-up of "Karasora" under the coordination of the city prosecutor's office. During the court-sanctioned search in the house of the suspect they found two plastic bags with a substance of grayish-beige color in the form of powder and lumps with a specific smell, as well as electronic scales, packaging bags, canisters with liquid. Based on the results of the forensic chemical examination, the seized substances are narcotic substance "**alpha-pvp**", total weight of more than **5 kg**.

https://total.kz/ru/news/zhizn/krupnuu_partiu_sintetiki_izyali_v_almati_date_2023_09_01_13_15_13

31.08.2023 Officers of the Department for Combating Drug Crime of the DP of Kyzylorda region in the course of operational and preventive measure "Karasora" in the yard of a 47-year-old resident of the city found 255 bushes of drug-containing plants. Police officers in addition to large crops at the scene found dried plants with a specific odor, which according to results of examination are marijuana weighing **2 kg 906 g**. In addition, according to the results of the examination, the weight of 255 bushes of drug-containing plants was **36 kg 920 g**. <https://polisia.kz/ru/krupnyj-narkoposev-likvidirovan-v-kyzylorde-2/>

KYRGYZSTAN

23.08.2023 A man with 2 kilograms of drugs was detained in Kara-Suu district of Osh region. According to data, the substance wrapped in a black cellophane bag was found under the front passenger seat of the car of the 44-year-old Osh resident. Forensic chemical examination showed that the found and seized substance weighing **1936 grams** is the narcotic drug **hashish**.

https://24.kg/proisshestviya/273209_vjetylya_gorodaosh_vmashine_nashli_2kilogramma_gashisha/

28.08.2023 As part of the jointly conducted counter-narcotics program to interdict supply channels of large consignments of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, the officers of the SBNON of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic, the SS of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic together with the GKNB of the Kyrgyz Republic detained active members of an international drug group.

In the course of a multi-stage special operation, law enforcement officers and special services seized more than **4.7 kg** of the psychotropic substance "**mephedrone**".

<https://mvd.gov.kg/rus/news/2326>

29.08.2023 Counter Narcotics Service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic foiled activities of a transnational criminal drug group engaged in transportation and sale of narcotic drugs "hashish" from the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan through the Republic of Tajikistan further to the Kyrgyz Republic for further sale.. In the course of special investigative actions operatives of SBNON in Kadamjai district of Batken region detained a citizen H.I.R., born in 1978, during a search found and seized a narcotic drug **hashish** weighing **4 kg 776 grams**. <https://mvd.gov.kg/rus/news/2335>

29.08.2023 3 foreign citizens were detained on the highway Airport "Manas" - Bishkek near the village of Stepnoye, Chui region. Narcotic drugs of synthetic origin "mephedrone" with a total weight of **4.166 kg** were found in their car. https://24.kg/proisshestvija/273672_vchuyskoy_oblasti_uinostrantsev_izyvali_narkotiki_pochti_na25millionov_s_omov/

RUSSIA

23.08.2023 The police of Karelia foiled a drug trafficking channel to the republic from South Asia via an Internet store. In spring this year, operatives detained a 30-year-old resident of Petrozavodsk who was selling illegal substances through dead drops. In the course of further development, the police found out that the Petrozavodsk resident was working in the interests of an illegal online store, and its organizer and operator were outside the Russian Federation - in South Asia. As a result of a special operation, more than **1.5 kg of synthetic drugs** were seized, and the online store stopped its functioning. <https://www.interfax-russia.ru/northwest/news/policiya-karelii-perekryla-kanal-postavki-narkotikov-iz-yuzhnoy-azii>

24.08.2023 Ryazan police detained citizens of a Central Asian country suspected of distributing large amounts of heroin and methadone in the Ryazan, Moscow and Nizhny Novgorod regions. As a result, two foreigners were detained in Ryazan and homemade containers of heroin and methadone prepared for retail distribution were seized. It was found that drugs were coming to the region from the Moscow region. During operational measures, containers with heroin were found during inspection of a car. In total, more than **2 kg of heroin** were seized. <https://www.interfax-russia.ru/center/news/shestero-inostrancev-arestovany-po-delu-o-narkotorgovle-na-territorii-3-regionov>

24.08.2023 Regional department of the Federal Security Service seized more than 30 kg of cannabis and cannabis parts from a 32-year-old unemployed resident of Dzhankoysky district of Crimea for the amount of more than 40 million rubles. It was established that the suspect himself grew the illicit plant on the territory of abandoned farmland in the region. For drying and storage of harvested crops, the citizen decided to use abandoned house in the neighborhood near his place of residence. There, FSB officers found and seized (in terms of dry matter) **11.3 kg** of the narcotic drug **cannabis** and **20.2 kg of cannabis plant** parts containing the narcotic drug tetrahydrocannabinol. <http://www.yalta-24.ru/za-predelami-yalty/34675-pravookhraniteli-iz-yali-u-krymchanina-narkotiki-na-40-mln-rublej>

24.08.2023 A criminal case has been opened against a 37-year-old resident of the Krasnoyarsk regional center under the article of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation "Attempted illegal sale of narcotic drugs". Police officers detained the man in Lesosibirsk,

where he was trying to sell several dozen drug parcels through a system of dead drops. During the arrest, 183 packages containing **heroin** and methadone were seized. In his apartment in the regional center, the police found another 59 packages with the drug hashish. The total weight of the seized illegal substances amounted to **150 grams**, and the value of such a shipment on the black market was over 600,000 rubles. <https://qngk.ru/news/krasnoyarec-khotel-sbyt-v-lesosibirsk/>

24.08.2023 In the Leningrad region, FSB officers detained three citizens of Lithuania, who were delivering a large shipment of drugs from Estonia, the Federal Customs Service reports in Telegram. In total, they found more than **800 kilograms of hashish** packed in 265 plastic bags. <https://news.ru/society/troih-litovcev-zaderzhany-v-lenoblasti-s-bolee-800-kg-gashisha-iz-estonii/>

26.08.2023 In the Vsevolzhsky district of the Leningrad region, police officers discovered a stash of drugs. The portion was packed in garbage bags. Police officers in the course of checking operational information in the forest near the village of Vaskelovo found a cache of narcotics. It contained two construction waste bags full of plastic bags with pressed briquettes. Expert examination determined that briquettes were **hashish**. Mass of the seizures amounted to more than **11 kg**. <https://spbformat.ru/news/vo-vsevolzhskom-rajone-nashil-tajnik-s-11-kg-narkotikov/>

28.08.2023 A large shipment of narcotics and psychotropic drugs was seized from a resident of Ufa suspected of drug trafficking. The man was detained on Salavat Yulaev Avenue in Ufa. A package was found in the car driven by the detainee, which according to expert analysis, contained about 150 g of amphetamine. His place of residence and stashes in several districts of the republic were also searched. A total of **18 kg of hashish, 150 g of amphetamine, 8 kg of "ecstasy", 3.2 kg of mephedrone and about 50 g of cocaine** were seized. <https://www.interfax-russia.ru/volga/news/okolo-30-kg-narkotikov-izyali-u-zhitelya-ufy>

29.08.2023 Officers of the General Directorate of Drug Control of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia, together with their colleagues from the Omsk region, detained an alleged drug courier who had almost 10 kg of mephedrone in his car. As a result of further operational and investigative measures, locations of dead drops set up by the defendant in the Saratov region and Udmurtia were identified. Trafficking in about **30 kg of mephedrone** was foiled. <https://www.interfax-russia.ru/siberia/news/predpolagaemogo-narkokurera-s-10-kg-mefedrona-zaderzhali-v-omske>

30.08.2023 According to information of GU of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in Krasnoyarsk Krai, in the yard of a house in Solnechny district, police officers with support of officers of the special forces "Grom" of UNK of detained a man born in 1978. He arrived in Krasnoyarsk to sell heroin in bulk through dead drops. During a personal search, drug control officers found a bottle wrapped in duct tape, inside which there was almost **2 kg of heroin**. <https://krsk.sibnovosti.ru/news/425463/>

31.08.2023 FSB officers in the Sakhalin region foiled an interregional drug distribution channel. Three foreigners aged 25 to 29 were detained. They were detained at their place of residence while preparing to sell a shipment of drugs. More than **200 grams of heroin** were seized. Additionally, during a search of the apartment, items for preparing drugs for

sale were found: electronic scales, packaging equipment, cell phones and other items. <https://astv.ru/news/criminal/2023-08-31-treh-inostrancev-s-krupnoj-partiej-narkotikov-zaderzhali-na-sahaline>

31.08.2023 Police detained a native of Tajikistan in Naro-Fominsk near Moscow who was transporting drugs in his car, Telegram channel Mash reported. Allegedly, law enforcers found a total of **270 kg of heroin** worth 2.7 billion rubles. <https://news.ru/moskva/v-podmoskove-zaderzhali-geroinovogo-korolya-s-nabitoj-poroshkom-mashinoj>

OTHER COUNTRIES

ARMENIA

28.08.2023 Officers of Department for Combating Smuggling of the State Revenue Committee (SRC) of Armenia uncovered a new case of drug smuggling. During inspection in the customs control zone of Apaven Terminal CJSC, four boxes with tea were found in an international courier parcel from the United States, in addition to items of personal use, each of which contained **hashish** with a total weight of **1170 grams** mixed with tea. <https://newsarmenia.am/news/armenia/v-armenii-raskryt-sluchay-kontrabandy-bolee-1-kg-gashisha-iz-ssha-video/>

BELARUS

31.08.2023 Law enforcement officers of the capital's drug control office detained a 23-year-old Minsk resident red-handed. The man bought drugs from an online store, packed into small doses and sold by hand, BelTA was informed by the Minsk City Executive Committee's Department of Internal Affairs. In the cache, which the defendant equipped in a fire box in the entrance of the house where he lives, operatives found and seized about **19 g of hashish** and scales. <https://www.belta.by/regions/view/minchanin-pokupal-narkotiki-v-internet-magazine-fasoval-na-melkie-dozy-i-prodaval-s-ruk-585468-2023/>

SPAIN

25.08.2023 Spanish National Police reported that almost 9.5 tons of cocaine had been seized in an operation carried out in cooperation with tax and customs authorities. That was the largest seizure in the country's history.

A large drug shipment was discovered in the port of Algeciras, concealed in boxes of bananas in a sea container arriving from Ecuador. The operation was the result of an investigation into a criminal network in Ecuador that was found to be trafficking cocaine from South America to Europe. When agents searched the containers, they found **9436 kg of cocaine**. According to police, numerous packages of cocaine were labeled with more than 30 different logos corresponding to European criminal groups that were supposed to be recipients. <https://ru.euronews.com/2023/08/25/cocain-spain-biggest-siezure>

30.08.2023 Near the Canary Islands, police stopped a ship carrying more than six tons of hashish. The leader of an international criminal network on the run was also apprehended. As a result of an operation by National Police and the Customs Supervision Service of the Tax Agency, an international criminal group from the Netherlands was stopped and more than **6 tons of hashish** were seized. Five people were also detained, including the head of

a transnational criminal organization who had been hiding from police for several months. <https://www.sb.by/articles/politsiya-ispanii-zaderzhala-korabl-s-bolee-chem-shestyu-tonnami-narkotikov.html>

POLAND

24.08.2023 Polish border police seized about **440 kilograms of cocaine** worth about 180 million zlotys at the Baltic port of Gdynia. Cocaine was concealed in containers carrying timber from Bolivia, Reuters reported. <https://www.politika.rs/scc/clanak/567835/Poljska-policija-zaplenila-440-kilograma-kokaina-u-vrednosti-do-43-6-mil-dolara>

SERBIA

31.08.2023 In an international action led by Serbian Interior Ministry officers in cooperation with the Prosecutor's Office for Organized Crime and the BIA, as well as in coordination with Europol and agencies of several European countries, **2.7 tons of cocaine** were seized on a sailboat in the Atlantic Ocean. Drug cartel organizer was arrested in Serbia along with three suspects. <https://ruserbia.com/korotkoj-strokoj/v-serbii-arestovan-organizator-mezhdunarodnogo-kartelja/>

UKRAINE

24.08.2023 The State Bureau of Investigation announced that a criminal group that produced and distributed drugs worth hundreds of thousands of hryvnias was exposed in Lviv region. Criminals masqueraded as a veteran public organization and offered psychotropics even to wounded military personnel. Law enforcement officers detained the organizer and an accomplice in an attempt to sell a shipment of **amphetamine** weighing **115 grams**. Bags containing a psychotropic substance ready for further sale were found during a search at the premises of the public organization. <https://hromadske.ua/ru/posts/vo-lvovskoj-oblasti-razoblachili-gruppirovku-kotoraya-pytalas-prodavat-narkotiki-ranenym-voennym-gbr>

ESTONIA

30.08.2023 Jaan Aas, head of the investigation team of the Central Estonia Police Department, said that a suspicious package found near an abandoned shed on the Tallinn-Viljandi highway in Raplamaa led to a man who was selling drugs. "Smoke was rising from a shed which was visible on the road. This got a reaction and while checking the surrounding area, police found a suspicious bag containing an unknown substance, which according to a rapid test was cocaine," Aas said.

"Because the amount of the substance indicated that the bag was there for a reason, police stayed in the area to see if anyone would come to collect it. On 26 August, we arrested a 43-year-old man nearby, whom we now suspect of trafficking cocaine. He is a Latvian citizen and it is still being investigated whether the confiscated almost **1 kilogram of cocaine** was intended for the Estonian market, Latvia or somewhere else," Aas added. <https://rus.err.ee/1609082615/policija-zaderzhala-podozrevaemogo-v-torgovle-kokainom-43-letnego-muzhchinu>