

Unofficial translation

CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY

(based on mass media reports)

25-31.03.2019

№ 13

CARICC MEMBER STATES

REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

19.03.2019 As a result of the operation carried out by customs officers, **110.4 kg** of heroin was smuggled. The Department of Operation and Investigation of the Main Territorial Customs Department received information that a large amount of Afghan heroin is expected to be delivered from Iran through the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan. A VOLVO truck transporting products from Iran to Sweden through the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan under the control of an Iranian citizen was detained at the Bilasuvar customs post in the Bilasuvar region and subjected to customs inspection. In the 3 axes of the truck wheels, in the technical cavities provided by the factory construction, caches were discovered, of which 110.4 kg of heroin were extracted. The cost of the party on the European "black market" is about 20 million manat.

<http://customs.gov.az/az/faydali/xeberler/3346/>

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X-jGIV4PNWo>

22.03.2019 The State Border Service of Azerbaijan prevented the illegal importation of drugs into the country. On the official territory of the "Horadiz" border detachment of the SBS border guards there were signs of violation made by two violators from Azerbaijani-Iranian border. In the course of further activities, suspected violators were detained in a car of the Opel brand on a part of the Horadiz-Baku highway passing through the territory of the Ashagi Yaglivend village, Fizuli region, a 26-year-old Iranian citizen, 2 Azerbaijani citizens aged 30 and 27 years. On examination, **1.995 kg of cocaine, 2 kg of marijuana and 1510 methadone tablets** were found and seized. <https://minval.az/news/123874833>

28.03.2019 Employees of the Nasiminsky RUP anti-narcotics department detained a resident of the Bilasuvar district engaged in the illicit sale of narcotic drugs. In total, were seized over **3 kg of heroin** and more than **15.5 kg of marijuana**, during a personal search and search at the place of residence of the detainee, prepared for sale. A criminal proceeding has been initiated against the detainees.

<https://www.trend.az/azerbaijan/incident/3038119.html>

KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

16.03.2019 A 25-year-old citizen of Uzbekistan was arrested by police officers in Osh for illegal possession and purchase of drugs. The suspect acquired hashish in the Batken region and brought it to Osh for further shipment to Andijan (Uzbekistan). During a search of a man found **550 g of hashish**.

https://24.kg/proisshestvija/112031_vgorodeosh_zanezakonnoe_hranenie_narkotikov_zaderjan_grajdanin_uzbekistana/

30.03.2019 Employees of the anti-corruption service of the State Committee for Kyrgyz Republic National Security detained three foreign citizens in the course of operational search activities aimed at identifying and preventing the smuggling channel of drug trafficking at Osh International Airport. This criminal group carried out the movement of drugs through the territory of the Kyrgyz Republic with the aim of further transportation to Russia. On examination of the passenger's baggage, a cache was discovered, from which 57 briquettes with narcotic **heroin with a total weight of more than 3 kg** were extracted. A criminal proceeding has been initiated against the detainees. The detainees were convicted in the temporary detention facility of the Department of Internal Affairs of Osh. Currently, the State Committee for National Security continues activities aimed at identifying, tracing and arresting accomplices, organizers and other persons involved in this crime.

<https://gknb.gov.kg/press/post/420>

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

25.03.2019 The criminal activity of a group of people suspected of selling narcotic drugs was documented by employees of the UNK Directorate of the MIA of Russia in the Voronezh Region together with colleagues from the UFSB of Russia in the Voronezh Region. Two residents of Voronezh at the age of 33 and 36 years from autumn 2018 to March 2019 were engaged in the sale of synthetic drugs in a contactless way by means of equipment caches-bookmarks in the region. Two suspects detained on the territory of Voronezh. During a personal search, **1,008.59 g of heroin** was found and seized from detainees. A criminal proceeding has been initiated on this fact. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16296169>

26.03.2019 Employees of the Russian Federation Ministry of Internal Affairs UNK Department for the Novosibirsk Region suppressed the activity of a group of persons selling drugs in the territory of the Novosibirsk and Omsk regions. The group consisted of three residents of Tomsk at the age of 21 and 22 years. The suspects were detained in the village Mochishche Novosibirsk region. During the inspection of the car on which the suspects moved, **1.2 kg of hashish, 840 g of various psychotropic substances, as well as 20 g of cocaine** intended for illegal sale were found and seized. A criminal proceeding has been initiated against the detainees. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16308648>

26.03.2019 The employees of the Main Directorate of the Russian Federation Ministry of Internal Affairs together with their colleagues from the Ryazan Region eliminated an underground laboratory for the production of various types of synthetic drugs. The attackers bought part of the former shipyard, located on a peninsula in the waters of the Oka River, the entrance to which could be carried out only by one impassable road. In the abandoned premises they installed modern chemical equipment for the production of narcotic drugs. According to preliminary estimates, the productivity of the laboratory ranged from 10 to 20 kg of **amphetamine and mephedrone** per week. The weekly income of the organizers was at least 3 million rubles. The produced drugs were distributed in large quantities through the shadow segment of the Internet by means of caches-bookmarks on the territory of various regions of Russia. As a result of the special operation, three residents of the capital were detained. In the laboratory, over **30 kg of ready-to-sell narcotic drugs, as well as equipment for their manufacture, 65 kg of drug-containing liquid,**

precursors, and chemical reagents were found and seized. A criminal proceeding has been initiated on this fact. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16307914>

26.03.2019 Two local residents suspected of illegal production and sale of narcotic drugs in the region were detained by employees of the UNK UMVD of Russia in the Penza Region. In the village of Mokshan, the police stopped a car in which there were two students. On inspection of the vehicle, **30 kg of precursors** were found and seized. Young people planned to make **15 kg of mephedrone** out of them for illegal distribution in the Penza region. In the garage belonging to a relative of one of the detainees, an underground drug lab was found, which contained equipment for the manufacture of prohibited substances. In addition, about **34 g of mephedrone** was seized in an apartment rented by attackers. SU UMVD of Russia in the Penza region initiated a criminal case. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16309489>

27.03.2019 A suspect in the illegal distribution of narcotic drugs was detained by employees of the UNK GU of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia for the Novosibirsk Region. Police on the highway "Baikal" stopped the car running by 28-year-old resident of Novosibirsk. During the inspection of the vehicle, there were caches between the trunk and the rear seat of the car, where there were more than 100 packages with prohibited substances. In total, more than **29 kg of a-PVP drug** and about **4 kg of hashish** were seized. The detainee acquired large quantities of narcotic drugs in various cities of the European part of Russia, after which he delivered them to Novosibirsk for subsequent sale. A criminal proceeding has been initiated on this fact. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16315633>

27.03.2019 Employees of the UNK UMVD of Russia in the Novgorod region detained suspects in the illegal sale of prohibited substances on a large scale. The illegal business was organized by four residents of Novgorod. Through a system of bookmarks, drug dealers sold drugs on the territory of the Novgorod region. To implement the criminal scheme, they used a well-known messenger and an electronic payment system. On the territory of Veliky Novgorod and several districts of the region, several dozen caches of drugs were discovered. During a search at the place of residence of the suspects, **3 kg of hashish**, more than **1.5 kg of synthetic drugs and hallucinogenic substances, including LSD, as well as more than 500 g of marijuana**, packaging materials and electronic scales were found. This case under investigation. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16325121>

27.03.2019 Police officers of the Russia Ministry of Internal Affairs "Balashikhinskoe" of the Moscow Region stopped a car driven by a 32-year-old native of Central Asia in the Balashikha urban district. During the inspection of the vehicle in the cabin found more than **4 kg of heroin**. A criminal proceeding has been initiated on this fact. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16321773>

29.03.2019 Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs for the Udmurt Republic ended the investigation of a criminal case on charges of 10 members of the criminal community in drug trafficking. In the period from September 2017 to May 2018, through a specially created online store, the defendants carried out contactless sales of synthetic narcotic drugs in the territories of settlements - Izhevsk, Votkinsk, Mozhga, Sarapul and Glazov. During the personal search and searches conducted at the places of residence of the suspects, as well

as in the hiding places equipped by them, more than **5 kg of drugs of synthetic origin** were found. The involvement of one of the participants in the criminal community to the legalization of funds received from the sale of drugs, in the amount of 2 million 700 thousand rubles. Criminal case sent to court. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16353208>

ON OTHER COUNTRIES

BELARUS

25.03.2019 Employees of the State Customs Committee during a joint operation with the Ministry of Internal Affairs at the checkpoint "Grigorovshchina" on the Belarusian-Latvian border as a result of an inspection of a Volvo truck driven by a 52-year-old Lithuanian citizen seized **130 kg of hashish and 10 kg of ecstasy**. The cost of the party is about 2.5 million US dollars. In the final part of the operation, information was received that a large consignment of drugs comes from the European Union. The cache was discovered during customs control - in the carrier beam along the platform on which the railway container was transported. For its dismantling, the customs officers had to use power tools and spend about five hours. About 140 briquettes with hashish were seized from the cache. Four packs of 20 thousand ecstasy tablets were also seized. Drugs followed from the territory of Latvia in transit through Belarus to Moscow. The accompanying documents indicated that the consignment was a pharmacological drug. The customs authorities opened a criminal case. The driver is detained. <http://www.customs.gov.by/ru/news1-ru/view/tajnik-s-130-kg-gashisha-i-10-kg-ekstazi-obnaruzhili-v-fure-na-belorussko-latvijskoj-granitse-10398-2019/>
 Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=11&v=ac_na4aojKq

BRAZILIA

24.03.2019 Customs agents, mediated by federal tax analysts (RFB) at Guarulhos International Airport in São Paulo, discovered and confiscated large quantities of cocaine. The drug was found in the luggage of two passengers who took a flight to Lagos (Nigeria). During the inspection of Brazilian luggage in 16 pairs of sneakers found hidden **3.4 kg of cocaine**. Another **10.09 kg of cocaine** were found in the four frames of the paintings transported by a Nigerian passenger. <http://sindireceita.org.br/blog/analistas-tributarios-apreendem-134-kg-de-cocaina-e-retem-us-16-mil-no-aeroporto-internacional-de-guarulhos/>

27.03.2019 The agents of the Federal Tax Service customs in the port of Paranagua as a result of the inspection of a container intended for shipment onboard to the port of Antwerp (Belgium) revealed **274.5 kg of cocaine hydrochloride**. A batch of cocaine has been sent to the federal police, which is conducting an investigation. <http://receita.economia.gov.br/noticias/ascom/2019/marco/receita-federal-apreende-274-kg-de-cocaina-no-porto-de-paranagua>

27.03.2019 Federal police agents in the port of Santos detained 16 people while trying to transfer **360 kg of cocaine** to Europe in their luggage on a cruise ship. Among those arrested were 10 Brazilians, 3 Frenchmen and 3 Belgians. Smugglers are detained as a result of a routine inspection. The circumstances of the arrest give reason to believe that drug couriers acted together. This is indicated by the similarity of the package of substances and the amount of the substance in each suitcase (from 16 kg to 19 kg), as well as the

amounts withdrawn in foreign currency that were in each of them. The detainees are charged with international drug trafficking.

<http://www.pf.gov.br/imprensa/noticias/2019/03/policia-federal-prende-16-pessoas-com-360-kg-cocaina-no-porto-de-santos>

GUATEMALA

28.03.2019 Agents of the General Directorate of Drug Analysis and Information (SGAIA) of the National Civil Police (PNC) of Puerto Barrios, department of Isabal, inside the container in the port of Puerto Barrios, found more than **73 kg of cocaine**. The consignment was hidden in a container that arrived on the ship “Santa Lucía”.

<http://mingob.gob.gt/localizan-droga-dentro-de-contenedor-en-puerto-barrios-izabal/>

SPAIN

28.03.2019 400 kg of cocaine were seized by agents of the Fuerteventura (Canary Islands) at the airport of Fuerteventura. Cargo found in a small plane, which arrived at the airport Maggiorero, located on the island. Despite the existing rules, after the landing and placing on the platform, the crew did not provide the relevant documents to the airport services. As a result of the aircraft inspection, a cache was found with 400 kg of cocaine. The crew and passengers were absent. Civil Guard measures are being taken to locate passengers in Lanzarote.

<http://www.rtv.es/noticias/aparecen-400-kilos-de-cocaina-en-una-avioneta-en-fuerteventura-196314.aspx>

CANADA

28.03.2019 Hamilton police officers in the province of Ontario detained a 34-year-old suspect in drug trafficking, from whom large amounts of cocaine, methamphetamine, heroin, fentanyl, and more than 3000 tablets of narcotic drugs were seized. During the execution of the search warrant, **1,559 g of methamphetamine, 1.85 kg of cocaine, 655 g of heroin, 1.37 kg of violet heroin, 2.125 g of fentanyl, fentanyl tablets 1,416, blue tablets of fentanyl 1,200, and a large number of tablets were found in the defendant’s apartment. Percocet (active substances oxycodone and paracetamol)**. The cost of seized drugs is about 1 million 358 thousand US dollars.

<https://hamiltonpolice.on.ca/news/hamilton-police-make-million-dollar-drug-bust/>

COLOMBIA

29.03.2019 Police in the airport of Cartagena, while trying to smuggle **18.5 kg of cocaine hydrochloride** in their luggage, detained a passenger departing a flight to Amsterdam (Netherlands). The man arrived at the airport from Bogota. A consignment of the drug was found after checking the baggage using x-ray equipment.

<http://diariodelcauca.com.co/noticias/judicial/capturan-hombre-en-aeropuerto-de-cartagena-que-pretendia-lle-513154>

MALTA

26.03.2019 Agents of customs in the Free Port found **51.6 kg of cocaine** in two containers, worth about 5.8 million euros. During a routine inspection of containers arriving in and passing through Malta, the container observation team selected seven containers

with a high-risk route for scanning. As a result of inspections using scanning in two refrigerated containers, signs of drug concealment were found. In both cases, the drugs were found hidden behind the refrigerator compressor panels. Both reefer containers transported fruit and shipped through Malta from South America on their way to Albania. The case has been referred to the Drug Enforcement Police, which is conducting an investigation.

<http://www.independent.com.mt/articles/2019-03-26/local-news/Over-50-kilos-of-cocaine-worth-around-5-6m-found-hidden-in-shipping-containers-6736205720>

NETHERLANDS

26.03.2019 During a check in the port of Vlissingen, Customs seized a consignment of **cocaine weighing 386 kg**. The drug was in a tray with boxes of bananas that arrived from Ecuador. The entire cocaine consignment has been destroyed. There were no arrests.

<https://www.belastingdienst.nl/wps/wcm/connect/bldcontentnl/berichten/nieuws/douane/douane-vindt-386-kilo-cocaine>

PAKISTAN

25.03.2019 Anti-drug forces (ANF) at the international airport of Islamabad arrested two drug couriers trying to smuggle in baggage to Jeddah (Saudi Arabia) via Muscat (Oman), **crystal methamphetamine (ice) weighing 890 g**. Earlier, on March 24, ANF in international Islamabad airport in baggage belonging to a citizen of the UK, found 3 kg of heroin. The woman was taken into custody, and a case was registered against her.

<https://arynews.tv/en/couple-smuggling-ice-islamabad-airport/>

PERU

24.03.2019 During the operation to curb illegal drug trafficking, police from the Anti-drug region of Arequipa stopped and inspected a car with two passengers on 711 km of Panamericana Sur Highway - Atiko-Karaveli Height - Arekipa Tall seized **28 kg of cocaine**.

<http://policia peru.tumblr.com/>

Video: <http://www.atv.pe/actualidad/arequipa-sujetos-camouflaban-28-kilos-de-cocaina-en-un-vehiculo-376884>

29.03.2019 A consignment of **cocaine, weighing 41,091 kg**, intended for delivery by mail to Holland and deposited at DHL EXPRESS, was discovered by employees of the DIRANDRO PNP Drug Enforcement Administration in three cardboard boxes with ceramic decorations. The confiscated drug was transferred to the forensic department of the Office for Combating Drugs to continue the investigation of the case. <http://policia peru.tumblr.com/>

01.03.2019 In the course of the joint operation of the Peru Navy, through the Captains and Coast Guard Directorate, Captaincy Puerto del Callao, to combat illicit drug trafficking, **15 kg of cocaine hydrochloride** was found on the Portuguese vessel MSC Shuba B. The ship arrived from the port of Buenaventura (Colombia). The seized drug was placed at the disposal of the Office on Drugs of the National Police and the Special Prosecutor's Office for Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking to conduct an investigation.

<https://www.marina.mil.pe/en/noticia/operativo-conjunto-contras-el-trafico-ilicito-de-drogas-a-embarcacion-portuguesa/>

ROMANIA

22.03.2019 Employees of the Office for the Investigation of Organized Crime and Terrorism seized over **1 ton of high-quality cocaine** hidden in a boat overturned in the eastern city of Sfintu Gheorghe in the Danube Delta. The cost of the party is estimated at 300 million euros (338 million US dollars). Two Serbian citizens are detained.
<https://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2019/03/26/world/europe/ap-eu-romania-cocaine-haul.html>

USA

25.03.2019 Employees of the Santa Rosa County, Florida Sheriff's Office found **837 tablets of oxycodone, 493 tablets of xanax, and marijuana** as a result of stopping and searching a vehicle in Navarra. Two major drug traffickers arrested in Navarre.
<https://www.wkrg.com/news/northwest-florida/two-large-drug-bust-in-santa-rosa-county-over-the-weekend/1875509463>

25.03.2019 The US Customs and Border Protection (CBP), together with the Field Operations Office at the Nogales, Arizona, port, on three separate occasions, attempted to smuggle drugs from Mexico into the US, detained 5 people and seized large quantities of drugs. In the first case, the drugs were cached in the floor of the vehicle. **41.28 kg of heroin, 1.36 kg of fentanyl, 7.71 kg of cocaine, and more than 7.26 kg of methamphetamine** were seized. In the second case, **113 g of heroin and 225 g of methamphetamine** were seized, which the drug courier - the driver of the car had hidden under his clothes. In the third case, during the inspection of the Mazda off-road vehicle under the control of a 22-year-old Mexican citizen, packages containing **methamphetamine weighing 26.76 kg** were found inside the spare wheel and fuel tank.
<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-officers-seize-31m-worth-hard-drugs>

28.03.2019 US border patrol agents at a US Immigration checkpoint on Highway 57 (Eagle Pass, Texas) arrested a 30-year-old Mexican citizen who hid **6.95 kg of methamphetamine** in his car. The woman and the drugs were transferred to the Drug Enforcement Administration.
<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/eagle-pass-south-border-patrol-agents-seize-72k-worth-methamphetamine>

UKRAINE

31.03.2019 National police officers during a special operation in Kiev, which was coordinated by colleagues from the United States and Britain, seized **500 kg of heroin**. The cost of the party is 50 million US dollars. The drugs were kept in a rented garage along with hundreds of pounds of fruit. Three members of the international criminal gang, which includes citizens of Moldova, Romania, Macedonia and Turkey, are detained. For a long time, the group smuggled drugs from Central Asia into the European Union through the territory of Ukraine. The seized heroin shipment is the largest in the history of Ukraine. On the night of March 31, Ukrainian police detained another suspected drug smuggler. In his premium car in a specially equipped cache there was **100 kg of heroin**. The drug was packaged in two hundred 500-gram packages. Total seized **600 kg of heroin**. The 39-year-old detainee is a citizen of two neighboring European states.

<https://zn.ua/UKRAINE/policiya-izyala-v-kieve-poltonny-geroina-313457.html>

Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=6&v=wHPfMZ0yMgw

CHILE

31.03.2019 A large amount of coca paste was seized by inspectors of the National Customs Service at the Chacalluta border complex. The drug was hidden in the walls of 19 barrels with olives, which were intended for delivery to Santiago. Using the profiling method, customs officers selected for a special inspection a batch of olives that arrived from Tacna (Peru). As a result of scanning the cargo, it was found that there were density anomalies in the 19 barrels that were inside the truck. A total of 255 packages, containing **99.39 kg of coca paste**, were seized.

<https://www.soychile.cl/Arica/Sociedad/2019/03/31/588582/Incautan-99-kilos-de-pasta-base-de-cocaina-en-bidones-de-aceituna.aspx>

SRI LANKA

31.03.2019 Sri Lanka's Suranimala warship, which is a fast patrol vessel, monitored a suspicious fishing vessel in international waters off the south-west coast of Hikkaduwa. On board was a team of special forces (STF), officers of the Police Bureau against Drugs (PNB) and naval personnel. After the detention of a fishing vessel in four bags hidden in the engine room, **107 kg of heroin** were discovered. A team of nine Iranian citizens detained. The ship arrived from the fishing port of Konarak (Iran).

<http://www.sundaytimes.lk/190331/news/another-haul-of-heroin-this-time-on-a-fishing-vessel-from-a-port-in-iran-343334.html>

ECUADOR

26.03.2019 1 ton of drugs was confiscated by agents of the anti-drug unit in El Oro. The drug was hidden inside a container of bananas from one of the docks of the Yilport sea terminal in Puerto Bolivar and was intended for export to Holland and Belgium. The cocaine consignment was of Colombian origin. The cost of cocaine on the international market is estimated at \$ 50 million. As a result of a police operation, one person was detained.

<https://www.extra.ec/actualidad/droga-banano-puertobolivar-policia-BX2725470>

27.03.2019 A 10.923 kg of cocaine was found in the Kontekon terminal of the Guayaquil port inside the cold stores of cargo containers loaded with export bananas to be shipped to the Russian Federation. <https://twitter.com/PoliciaEcuador/status/1110697963867770886>

