

*Unofficial translation***CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY**

(based on mass media reports)

22-28.04.2019**№ 17****CARICC MEMBER STATES****KYRGYZ REPUBLIC**

23.04.2019 Officers of the State Committee for National Security of the Kyrgyz Republic in the course of operational search activities stopped criminal activities of a transboundary drug group, which created a sustainable channel used for transportation and sale of psychotropic substances in Central Asian countries. Two suspects in illegal distribution of drugs were detained. One of the suspects was a student of the Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic. **1,075 kg of "spice"** were found and seized from him during a personal search.

https://news.rambler.ru/other/42081391/?utm_content=rnews&utm_medium=read_more&utm_source=copylink

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

22.04.2019 Officers of UNK of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Kaluga region detained two residents of Kaluga, a 24-year-old man and a 34-year-old woman - both immigrants from a neighboring country, who were a part of an organized group selling drugs in Kaluga by placing it in caches. **290 g of heroin** were seized in total. A criminal case was instituted. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16635156>

22.04.2019 Officers of UNK MIA in the Republic of Mordovia suppressed activities of a criminal community, whose participants were engaged in illegal sale of narcotic drugs on a large and very large scale in a contactless manner on the territory of Mordovia using the Internet and electronic payment systems, as well as laundering criminal proceeds. Between November 2017 and March 2018, 14 members of the structured organized group were detained. In total, more than **10.5 kg of synthetic narcotic drugs** were collected. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16633277>

23.04.2019 Officers of UNK of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Trans-Baikal region in Chita suppressed activity of a group of persons whose members are suspected of collecting, manufacturing and transporting narcotic drugs of the cannabis group for further sale. Criminals collected wild cannabis on the territory of the region, delivered it to Chita for further sale. On this fact a criminal case was initiated. Detained were five local residents. **15 kg of cannabis**, hashish oil, various precursors and devices used in production of the drug as well as cash in the amount of more than 250 thousand rubles were confiscated. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16653877>

22.04.2019 Police officers at the Adler station in the Krasnodar region detained a 29-year-old resident of Rostov-on-Don, who was suspected of selling large quantities of drugs in Sochi in a contactless way through caches. He received drugs for further sale in Adler, ordering in advance from an online store, and later engaged in packaging them into smaller

doses. A total of **24 grams of cocaine, 100 grams of hashish, about 500 grams of mephedrone, 600 grams of alpha-PVP, 200 grams of marijuana, and 50 grams of psilocybin mushrooms** were seized. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16641743>

23.04.2019 UNK officers of the Ministry of Interior in the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) detained a 39-year-old local resident who illegally kept more than **300 g of amphetamine** in car's cabin and at place of residence for further sale. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16653891>

25.04.2019 UNK officers in the Udmurt Republic detained two suspects - a 36-year-old local resident and a 49-year-old citizen of a neighboring country for attempted illegal sale of **800 g of hashish** in Izhevsk. During a search at the place of residence, more than **1 kg of hashish** prepared for illegal sale was seized. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16682183>

25.04.2019 Officers of the UNK GU of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Krasnodar region detained a 46-year-old citizen of Kazakhstan, who supplied synthetic drugs from the Krasnodar region to the Far Eastern region. Male criminal was detained in a forest belt of the Mostovsky district near a cache with narcotic drug. Officers confiscated about **1.8 kg of N-methylephedrone**. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16681553>

25.04.2019 Officers of ONK of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the city of Astrakhan detained a 45-year-old local resident who was suspected of selling drugs through caches. Woman run her own online store for the sale of drugs. More than **1.2 kg of drugs of synthetic origin "salt" and "spice"** were found and seized at the place of residence of the detainee and in a garage belonging to her. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16685494>

26.04.2019 Officers of UNK of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Kaluga region detained two immigrants from countries of Central Asia who lived in Kaluga and are suspected of selling illegal drugs in a contactless manner. The specified persons are detained not far from the cache of drugs equipped by them. Total of **500 g of heroin** were seized. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16695630>

OTHER COUNTRIES

AUSTRALIA

24.04.2019 Australian Border Force (ABF) and the New South Wales Police Force (NSWPF) at the Sydney ABF Container Examination Center inspected a consignment of furniture using X-ray inside transport boxes and found 61 packages containing **68 kg of cocaine**. NSWPF Organised Crime Squad and ABF with assistance of the Australian federal police carried out a controlled delivery to a storage at Campbeltown. A 45-year-old South African citizen, who was a cargo receiver, was arrested. <https://newsroom.abf.gov.au/releases/man-charged-over-alleged-importation-of-34-million-of-cocaine-from-south-africa>

AUSTRIA

26.04.2019 Austrian police arrested two men and confiscated **19 kg of high-purity heroin** worth about \$ 8.9 million. Salzburg police was given intelligence by a foreign police

agency that two men from Western Germany brought drugs to Austria during business trips. Two Turkish citizens were detained as a result of police purchase of drugs south of Vienna.
http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-04/26/c_138013345.htm

AFGHANISTAN

28.04.2019 Special forces of the National Army of Afghanistan conducted a large-scale operation with coalition forces in the area of Bakwah, Farah Province, which resulted in destruction of over **100 tons of opium**. The Afghan Ministry of Defense reports that Taliban militants were involved in preparation, distribution and smuggling of these drugs.
<https://tass.ru/mezhdunarodnaya-panorama/6386312>

BELARUS

28.04.2019 Officers of operational unit of the Border Service and the KGB of the Republic of Belarus together with the FSB of Russia in the Minsk region dismantled an underground drug lab that specialized in production of highly dangerous psychotropic substances alpha-PVP and alpha-PHP. Three Russian citizens were detained in the villages of Khatezhino and Malinovka. Industrial laboratory equipment, **30 kg of alpha-PVP and alpha-PHP, as well as 750 l of the precursor 4-methylpropiophenone** were found and seized in the laboratory. Precursors for the manufacture of psychotropic substances and laboratory equipment were imported into Belarus from the territory of Russia. Criminal proceedings were initiated against detained Russian citizens and unidentified persons. No laboratories of a similar level of equipment and production volumes were detected in Belarus before.
<https://belaruspartisan.by/life/462257/>

BULGARIA

17.04.2019 Customs officers and border guards in the area of the Danube Bridge-2 “Vidin-Calafat”, after scanning with X-ray equipment of a vehicle with Bulgarian registration leaving Bulgaria, detected **13,665 kg of methamphetamine** behind the rear bumper. The driver of the car was arrested. Pre-trial arrangements were initiated.
<https://customs.bg/wps/portal/agency-en/media-center/news-details/17-04-DB-2>

SPAIN

23.04.2019 Agents of the National Police in the region of Carmona, province of Seville, stopped a truck with a trailer transporting a container with unmarked goods. After careful inspection, a hidden hole was found in the original sheet metal wall at the bottom of the container. After cache was opened, agents found 280 packages containing **1.5 tons of hashish**. The container was loaded in the port of Algeciras (Morocco). The truck driver was arrested and prosecuted by the Carmona court as a perpetrator of the crime. Investigations are ongoing with the remaining members of the organization being identified.
https://www.policia.es/prensa/20190423_1.html

IRAN

26.04.2019 In the provinces of Sistan and Baluchistan in southeastern Iran, was seized the largest quantity of synthetic drug narcotic methamphetamine (shisheh) in the history of the

country. After a series of complex operations and information gathering, department managed to seize **1300 kg of drugs**, of which more than **850 kg is crystal methamphetamine**. The consignment was confiscated after a clash between intelligence forces and border guards with an armed group of smugglers who entered Iranian territory through Afghanistan. Two armed smugglers were killed, several injured or captured along with a significant amount of weapons and ammunition. <https://en.radiofarda.com/a/iran-seizes-2-900-pounds-of-crystal-methamphetamine-drug/29905193.html>

CHINA

26.04.2019 As a result of a series of raids in a 4-star hotel and two apartments, law enforcement officers in Hong Kong seized **250 kg of cocaine** and arrested two foreign nationals from Eastern Europe and Australia. Market value of the seized consignment is estimated at 240 million Hong Kong dollars (30.5 million US dollars). <https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3007890/hong-kong-customs-officers-seize-us30-million-worth>

COLOMBIA

22.04.2019 Anti-Narcotic Police Department of the port of Buenaventura as a result of a search of a suspicious container with traces breaches and falsification of seals loaded with bags of organic brown sugar, detected **194 kg of cocaine hydrochloride**. The container was travelling to Europe. <https://buenaventuraenlinea.com/noticias-de-buenaventura/panela-organica-con-cocaina-y-tulas-de-marihuana-en-barco-ultimos-hallazgos-en-en-buenaventura/>

MOLDOVA

25.04.2019 As a result of a joint operation, law enforcement agencies of Moldova and Italy stopped activity of a criminal group engaged in smuggling of synthetic drugs from Europe to Moldova for further distribution in nightclubs. The General Inspectorate of the Police of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Moldova identified several ecstasy distributors. Suspects smuggled drugs from Italy by minibuses. Four suspects were arrested in Moldova, another suspect is a Moldovan citizen detained in Italy. The criminals smuggled a batch of ecstasy tablets, hiding them in a box with detergent and in other containers under the guise of household chemicals. In total, about **4 thousand ecstasy tablets** were seized in Moldova, and another **2 thousand tablets** - in Italy. <https://ru.sputnik.md/incidents/20190425/25664541/v-reysovykh-mikroavtobusakh-iz-italii-vozili-v-moldovu-narkotiki-video.html>

THE NETHERLANDS

26.04.2019 Customs agents in the port of Rotterdam found 1600 kg of cocaine in a container loaded with bananas. Surveillance of the shipment was organized after the discovery of the consignment of cocaine. Banana boxes were loaded onto a truck that went to a warehouse in Dordrecht. A 40-year-old Bulgarian citizen, a truck driver, was arrested on charges of involvement in smuggling. Initially the container arrived from Costa Rica. Drugs were seized, case was transferred to the Police. <https://www.politie.nl/nieuws/2019/april/27/08-1600-kilo-cocaine-tussen-bananen-in-rotterdamse-haven.html>

PAKISTAN

23.04.2019 Airport Security Forces (ASF) stopped smuggling of about **924 grams of "ice" heroin** to Saudi Arabia at new international airport of Islamabad. Heroin was discovered during screening baggage of a passenger from Mardan, departing a flight to Saudi Arabia, inside three tin cans that were in the passenger's bag. Drug trafficker was arrested and transferred to the Anti-Narcotics Forces of Pakistan (ANF) together with the seized drug for further investigation. <https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2019/04/23/bid-to-smuggle-ice-foiled/>

25.04.2019 The Anti-Narcotics Forces of Pakistan (ANF) seized **3.148 tons of drugs, including 3056 kg of hashish, 67.7 kg of heroin, 11.8 kg of opium, 5.25 kg of methamphetamine (ice), 4.314 kg of amphetamine (ice) and 17818 tablets of Xanax (weighing 3.02 kg)** on the international market, apprehended 31 criminals and arrested 8 cars based on results of 32 anti-drug operations. <https://www.urdupoint.com/en/pakistan/anf-seizes-3148-tons-drugs-in-32-operations-605653.html>

26.04.2019 Officers of the Customs Department at the Central Post Office of Karachi-II during a survey of an international postal item containing two ceramic flower pots found **700 g of heroin** inside the pots. Package was shipped from Peshawar Mehmudabad to Spain. <https://www.samaa.tv/news/2019/04/heroin-seized-from-a-parcel-at-post-office/>

PANAMA

21.04.2019 Officers of the National Service SENAN found 41 bags with 1025 packs of **cocaine with a total weight of about 1 ton** inside a container in Puerto Balboa. Container arrived from Chile and was bound for Belgium. <https://metrolibre.com/actualidad-y-pol%C3%ADtica/nacionales/165954-decomisan-1,025-paquetes-de-droga-en-un-contenedor-en-el-puerto-de-balboa.html>

USA

23.04.2019 Officers of the US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) in the port of Nogales, Arizona, as a result of inspection activities on a truck with a trailer entering Mexico, which was carrying large-sized cargo of rolled sheet metal, found 600 packages of **marijuana weighing 1860 kg** hidden inside metal rolls. A 45-year-old Mexican truck driver was detained. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/nogales-cbp-officers-seize-significant-marijuana-load>

24.04.2019 The Air and Maritime Operations (AMO) Unit of the US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) near Maunabo, on the southeastern coast of the USA, intercepted **1,709 kg of cocaine**. A 30-foot long center console vessel with two Dominican Republic citizens on board was heading towards Puerto Rico without navigation lights. During interception of the vessel and its further inspection, 74 bales of cocaine were found. CBP forwards seized drugs and Dominican detainees to the US Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) for investigation and prosecution. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/amo-seizes-over-3768-pounds-cocaine-near-puerto-rico-s-southeastern>

26.04.2019 A 53-year-old man and a 46-year-old woman were arrested by police in Fresno, California on charges of conspiring to distribute methamphetamine, cocaine and

heroin. Executing a search warrant, **13.61 kg of methamphetamine, 450 g of cocaine and 820 g of heroin** packaged and prepared for sale as well as scales and other items used in criminal activities were found in the couple's apartment.

<https://www.turnto23.com/news/local-news/fresno-couple-indicted-for-drug-possession-and-conspiracy>

TURKEY

26.04.2019 During an anti-smuggling operation in the southern part of the Turkish province of Mersin, Turkish security forces seized **15.5 kg of heroin**. A consignment of heroin was carried on a truck with a rig down the highway. The staff of the Drug Enforcement Division of the Provincial Security Directorate acting on intelligence, stopped and inspected the vehicle using a service dog. 15 packs of heroin were found as a result. The driver of the vehicle and another suspect were detained during the raid and subsequently arrested by the court.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/investigations/2019/04/26/police-seize-155-kilograms-of-heroin-in-southern-turkeys-mersin-province>

UKRAINE

22.04.2019 Odessa customs officers found **12 kg of cocaine** in structural cavities of a container with fruit, which was exported from South America to Europe through Ukraine, as a result of joint actions with USBU in the Odessa region in the seaport "Yuzhny". The operation to block drug trafficking was carried out by officers of the Anti-Smuggling Department, which operates in the Odessa Customs Fiscal Service Department under the Expert Control and Border Security Program (EXBS) and the Container Traffic Control Program of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, State Border Service.

<http://sfs.gov.ua/media-tsentr/mitni-novini/376144.html>

<https://ssu.gov.ua/ua/news/1/category/21/view/5988#.oxiewsx.dpbs>

24.04.2019 Officers of the Department on Combating Drug Crime during a special operation to curtail activities of a transnational criminal group, detained five of its members and seized **300 kg of heroin**. Street value of the consignment of heroin is USD\$ 25 million.

<https://zn.ua/UKRAINE/podozrevaemogo-v-kontrabande-rekordnoy-partii-narkotikov-osvobodili-v-zale-suda-316102.html>

SRI LANKA

22.04.2019 The Sri Lanka Navy, based on information received from the Police Narcotic Bureau on smuggling of large quantities of heroin, conducted a comprehensive operation to monitor and arrest a fishing trawler off the northeast coast sailing for many days. On board the trawler were five citizens of Sri Lanka. **275 kg of heroin** were found and seized during inspection of the ship.

http://www.colombopage.com/archive_19A/Apr22_1555949343CH.php

ECUADOR

21.04.2019 The National Counternarcotics Directorate of the National Police of Ecuador, in coordination with the Regional Dog Training Center (CRAC) in the Simon Bolivar seaport in Guayaquil, seized **43.5 kg of cocaine**. During the inspection, law enforcement officers established a risk profile in a container to be shipped to Hamburg (Germany). The container



contained bananas as export product. As a result of inspection activities in cooling panels of two containers, 87 packages with the "187" logo were found, containing 43.5 kg of cocaine. <https://www.policiaecuador.gob.ec/43-kilos-de-cocaina-que-tenian-como-destino-alemania-fueron-detectados-por-los-canes-niki-y-kaos/>

