



# INFORMATION RELEASE

ABOUT PAST EVENTS  
IN THE ANTI-DRUG SPHERE  
(according to the media)  
16-30.09.2024

#15

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# INFORMATION RELEASE CARICC

Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination  
Centre for combating the illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs,  
psychotropic substances and their precursors

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In the period from 16 to 30 September 2024, 14 counter-narcotics activities were covered by mass media in CARICC Member States (*Azerbaijan - 1, Kazakhstan - 6, Russia - 5, Tajikistan - 1, Uzbekistan - 1*).

Published articles reflect information on prevention activities carried out in the regions (*Azerbaijan*), on preventive measures carried out by police officers (*Kazakhstan*), on anti-drug events held in the regions of the Russian Federation (*Russia*), on participation of the head of the DCA RT in an international conference in Athens (*Tajikistan*), on appointment of the Head of the National Center of Drug Control (*Uzbekistan*).



## АЗЕРБАЙДЖАНСКАЯ РЕСПУБЛИКА



### REGULAR TRAININGS OF MOBILE YOUTH SERVICE PROJECT WERE ORGANIZED IN LANKARAN



Regular trainings were held as part of the mobile youth service project. Training sessions on “Youth policy and statehood”, “Let’s say NO to bad habits”, “Choice of profession and career” and “Healthy and safe lifestyle” were held for 6 days in 15 villages of Lankaran with the participation of 600 schoolchildren.

Trainings, conducted with a presentation by the responsible officer of the permanent working group of the State Commission on raising awareness of young people about the problem of drug addiction, provided extensive information on risk factors for the use of narcotic drugs, properties of psychoactive substances and their harmful effects on health, stages of drug addiction formation, the

importance of anti-drug propaganda, methods of combating drug addiction and gave answers to questions of interest to participants were discussed. In addition, young people studied the exhibition dedicated to the “Year of Solidarity for a Green World”, drawings and paintings created with the help of artificial intelligence tools, and then practically learned how to write a “resume”.

In conclusion, the young people were provided with essential promotional materials “know the truth about drugs”, “the truth about marijuana” and “the truth about psychotropic substances”, prepared by the standing working group of the State Commission.

<https://nmdk.gov.az/page/post/3276/Lenkeran-seherinde-Seyyar-Gencler-Xidmeti-layihesinin-novbeti-telimleri-teskil-edilib?lang=ru>

REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN



**MORE THAN A THOUSAND PEOPLE PARTICIPATED  
IN ANTI-DRUG FORUM IN TURKESTAN**



An anti-drug forum was held in Turkestan on the theme “No to drug addiction! We choose life!”. The event was organized on the initiative of the Turkestan Region Police together with the Akimat. Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs Aidar Saytbekov specially arrived at the forum. The event was also attended by the Akim of Turkestan region Darhan Satybaldy, the Prosecutor of the region Murat Tleuberdiev, the Head of the Police Department Murat Kabdenov, as well as heads and staff of other state institutions, previously convicted citizens and local residents.

During the meeting well-known personalities who acted as speakers shared their views on drug abuse prevention and suppression of drug offenses. They gave explanatory talks and told instructive life stories. The forum participants called for a healthy lifestyle and the abandonment of bad habits, noting that drug prevention is an urgent problem in society.

Among the speakers were deputy head of the Department for Combating Drug Crime of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan Bakhytzhan Amirkhanov, Majilis deputy Ardak Nazarov, psychiatrist-narcologist Nabi Yesimov, public figure Orazkul Asangazy, actor Adil Akhmetov and singer Kuandyk Rahim.

The forum also featured a theatrical performance that illustrated various cases of synthetic drug use by young people, their negative impact on the human body and the consequences of criminal liability for the sale, possession and transportation of drugs. In addition, a video was shown to demonstrate the work and measures taken to combat drug-related crime.

Speaking at the event, guests of honor focused public attention on the issues of building immunity against the “disease of the century” - drugs and drug addiction, emphasizing the importance of this forum.

At the end of the event under the slogan “No to drug addiction! We choose life!” representatives of specialized institutions agreed on further joint work. They also gave recommendations and set specific tasks on drug abuse prevention.

<https://polisia.kz/ru/bole-tysyachi-chelovek-prinyali-uchastie-v-antinarkoticheskom-forume-v-turkeстане/>

**MORE THAN 500 ANTI-DRUG LECTURES  
CONDUCTED BY AKMOLA POLICE OFFICERS  
SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR**



Akmola police officers are conducting information and awareness-raising work on drug addiction and legal consequences of teenagers' involvement in drug trafficking in secondary schools and colleges in the region. With the start of the new school year, law enforcement officers have launched a broad information campaign and are holding meetings with pupils and students. During 20 days of September, drug police officers have already delivered more than 500 lectures, met not only with young people, but also with teaching staff and parents.

As part of the events, police officers talk about the drug situation in the region, paying special attention to new types of drug addiction that are popular among adolescents and young people, as well as signs of poisoning by narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

Law enforcers emphasize the legal consequences of minors' involvement in the drug business: in pursuit of easy money, teenagers agree to "moonlight" as drug couriers. However, often after the first day of work, drug dealers are detained by police officers, and the punishment for distribution of narcotic drugs can be imprisonment.

- Many parents and teachers admitted that they had heard about such concepts as pharmacy drug addiction, sniffing, spiking and others for the first time and were very grateful for the information provided. Such meetings will help to increase the competence of teachers and parents in preventing the use of modern drugs by minors," said the organizers of the events.

Police officers plan to cover all secondary schools and colleges in the region with preventive work.

<https://polisia.kz/ru/bolee-500-antinarkoticheskikh-lektsij-proveli-akmolinskie-politsejskie-s-nachala-goda/>

## MIA STRENGTHENS PREVENTION OF DRUG CRIMES AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR



With the start of the new school year, police officers have stepped up drug crime prevention. The main goal is to prevent the spread of drugs and reduce the number of drug addicts.

Awareness of the harms of drugs and their consequences helps build anti-drug immunity. Since September, 850 prevention activities have already been carried out in educational institutions and public organizations. 35 thousand people have been covered.

Young people are actively involved in these activities. Schoolchildren and students become advocates of healthy lifestyles and give drug offenses a negative status.

- Drug crime prevention is a joint task that requires the attention and efforts of everyone: educational institutions, parents, public organizations and young people. The beginning of the school year is a good time to think about the future and weigh the pros and cons. Together we can create a safe and healthy drug-free society,” the agency said.

<https://polisia.kz/ru/mvd-usililo-profilaktiku-narkoprestuplenij-sredi-molodezhi-v-novom-uchebnom-godu/>

## LIFE OF DRUG COURIERS “BEHIND BARS” WAS SHOWN TO STUDENTS IN THE NORTH KAZAKHSTAN REGION



An excursion to a women’s colony for students of Petropavlovsk colleges was organized by officers of the Department for Combating Drug Crime of the Department of Police of the North Kazakhstan Region together with the regional department of correctional system.

Inspection, strict instruction, every step accompanied by the colony staff - the atmosphere of life behind barbed wire was an eye-opener for 30 students.

As part of the event, future hairdressers, welders, and workers in other professions met with girls convicted of drug trafficking - almost their peers.

Two 20-year-old female residents of Kostanay, who were sentenced to 10 years’ imprisonment for drug dealing, are serving their sentences in institution No. 50 of the Penal Correctional Institution of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, located in Petropavlovsk. At the time of their arrest, they were also college students. Only after 7.5 years they can expect to be released on parole.

The girls told about how easy it seemed to get a “part-time job”, how in an instant freedom ended with arrival of operatives.

- Appreciate what you have now. If there are any conflicts at home, make a step forward, make peace with your family. No one knows what will happen tomorrow,” advised one of the prisoners.

- It is important not only to talk about the harm of drugs, but also to show those who have strayed. We plan to organize show trials, excursions to colonies and drug dispensaries as part of drug abuse and drug trafficking prevention on a regular basis,” says Ruslan Saparov, Head of the Drug Control Department of the Department of Police of the North Kazakhstan region.

<https://polisia.kz/ru/zhizn-narkokur-erov-za-reshetkoj-pokazali-studentam-v-sko/>

## 2.5 THOUSAND PEOPLE TOOK PART IN ERADICATION OF DRUG ADVERTISING IN SHYMKENT



A large-scale campaign called “Shymkent - a city without drugs” was held in Shymkent. The event was attended by about 2,500 people, including police officers, prosecutors, young people of the city, employees of public utilities, drug addiction doctors, athletes and volunteers.

Participants of the event were informed about the purpose and significance of the event, as well as instructed on the Astana Square.

During the campaign, work was organized to identify and eliminate drug advertisements, and the legal responsibility for drug crimes was explained. Residents were urged to lead a healthy lifestyle.

As a result of the event, 2332 drug graffiti were destroyed. In addition, two cases of illegal possession of narcotic substances were detected and suppressed in Karatau and Turan districts.

The campaign also included handing out leaflets with warnings about Internet fraud. Work was carried out to strengthen feedback from the population, to form the principle of “zero tolerance” to any offenses and to establish a negative attitude towards drugs in society. Police officers noted that anti-drug activities in the city will be carried out on a permanent basis

<https://polisia.kz/ru/2-5-tysyach-chelovek-prinyali-uchastie-v-likvidatsii-reklamy-narkotikov-v-shymkente/>

## STUDENTS WARNED ABOUT RESPONSIBILITY FOR DRUG SALES BY POLICE OFFICERS OF THE NORTH KAZAKHSTAN REGION



Deputy Head of the Department of Police of the North Kazakhstan region warned SKU students about responsibility for drug sales.

What terms drug traffickers get, whether drugs are produced in SKO - these and other questions were asked by students of the North Kazakhstan University during the meeting with the deputy head of the regional police department Askar Mukhametkaliev.

The meeting was also attended by Ruslan Umbetov, deputy head of the Department for Combating Drug Crime of the Department of Police of SKO, Galina Andreeva, head of the narcology department of the Center for Mental Health

of SKO, and Zakirzhan Mamlyutov, a deputy of the maslikhat of the city of Petropavlovsk and a journalist.

Their audience was about 250 freshmen. One of the first questions they asked was, “Is it true that you get a longer sentence for dead dropping than for murder?”

Police officers noted that many young people do not realize the harm drug addiction causes to the health of the nation and the responsibility for drug sales. Indeed, while murder, according to the Criminal Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, is punishable by 8 to 15 years of imprisonment, drug trafficking is punishable by 10 to 20 years of imprisonment.

In the SKO the longest sentence so far has been given to the organizer of the production and sale of synthetic drugs, detained in 2021 in Zhambyl district. The equipment of a clandestine drug laboratory and 2.5 kg of drugs were seized from his rural house. He is now serving 16 years in prison. Five members of the organized criminal group he created, who helped to manufacture, store and distribute illegal substances, were sentenced to 15, 12 and 11 years’ imprisonment.

A Petropavlovsk resident who was detained by police last year for organizing an online drug store has been sentenced to 12 years. By the way, the very first case of dismantling a “drug store” in Kazakhstan took place in SKO: in 2020, two Petropavlovsk residents, an administrator and a dead dropper, were detained and are now serving 11 years in prison.

- Preventing involvement of young people in drug trafficking is one of the most important tasks of our time. It requires the consolidation of all the forces of society. That is why today we invited people to the meeting who spoke about the destructive effect of drugs, the fight against their spread and the role that every person with an active civil position can play in this fight,” Mukhametkaliev said.

<https://polisia.kz/ru/studentov-predupredili-ob-otvetstvennosti-za-sbyt-narkotikov-politsejskie-sko/>

**RUSSIAN FEDERATION**



**IN SMOLENSK REGION POLICE OFFICERS CONDUCT CAREER GUIDANCE AND PREVENTIVE TALKS WITH SCHOOLCHILDREN**



Officers of the Department for Work with Personnel of UMVD of Russia for Smolensk region and their colleagues from the OMVD of Russia for Smolensk district visited Stabenskaya secondary school, where they held several talks with high school students.

Police officers told the children about how not to become victims of fraudsters when communicating on the Internet and by phone with unknown persons. In addition, police officers reminded the children about road safety rules, including the use of modern means of personal mobility, bicycles and scooters.

The question of the use and distribution of illicit substances was raised during the interviews. Police officers warned children about the illegality of proposing work related to the organization of drug caches and informed them of the criminal liability and penalties for such acts.

The talks were not only preventive, but also vocational guidance. The children were told in detail about what specialties there are in the internal affairs agencies, in which educational organizations police officers are trained, what requirements are imposed on candidates for training, what social guarantees law enforcement officers have.

Police officers gave the schoolchildren preventive and informational leaflets on the subject of the conversation and answered their questions.

<https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/55155766>



**LEADERSHIP OF MIA IN THE REPUBLIC OF KHAKASSIA CONDUCTS PREVENTION OF NEGATIVE SOCIAL PHENOMENA AMONG SCHOOLCHILDREN**



Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Khakassia Sergey Makarov visited school No. 20 in Abakan. Abakan. He talked to 9th graders on different topics, but all of them are united by the negative consequences of the wrong choices that teenagers make, breaking a successful future with their own hands.

The police colonel told senior students about how to behave in order not to make a mistake. And first of all, it is about the “cleanliness” of using the Internet. Sergei Makarov warned them against thoughtless likes of content that may contain propaganda of extremist and terrorist ideology, and also told

them about responsibility for committing illegal acts in this area.

He also discussed with teenagers the topic of crimes committed remotely. And it is not only fraud, but also crimes related to drug trafficking. The relevance of these issues is simply explained: teenagers, without going into details, may respond to the offer of easy money offered by unknown persons.

Even if it is later realized that the activity is illegal, the trap into which minors fall is closed. In these situations, we are talking about “working” as a courier for cyberfraudsters or as a drug pawner. Sergei Makarov emphasized that there have been such cases in the republic: teenagers in pursuit of money ended up in the dock as defendants in criminal cases. Meanwhile, such “work” is a serious crime, which is severely punished by law, and one should not think that the criminal will not be caught, as a rule, he falls into the hands of police officers after the first illegal act committed.

As part of the meeting the schoolchildren watched several thematic videos, and summarizing the results, the Deputy Minister expressed hope that the children would be conscientious and share with their friends the information they had received, which would help them make the right choice in life.

<https://xn--b1aew.xn--plai/news/item/55195619>



### POLICE OFFICERS AND PUBLIC ACTIVISTS HELD AN ANTI-DRUG EVENT FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN IN SARATOV



In order to prevent drug addiction among young people, a thematic lecture was held for students of School No. 41 of Leninsky District as part of the “Healthy Generation” operational and preventive event. The speakers were officers of the Juvenile Affairs Unit of the Saratov City Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia, a member of the Public Council of the Saratov City Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia, First Deputy Ataman of the District (Separate) Cossack Society of the Saratov Region of the Volga Troops Cossack Society Ivan Tretyakov, as well as the Deputy Head of the Diocesan Department for Cooperation with the Main

Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Saratov Region and the spiritual care of its subdivisions, Priest Dionysius Stepanov.

Police officers reminded the audience that drug addiction is a terrible disease characterized by craving for the use of narcotic substances and, as a consequence, irreversible changes in the body, and in case of overdose can lead to death. Police officers also informed about responsibility for administrative offenses and crimes in the sphere of illicit trafficking of illegal substances.

Ivan Tretyakov, a representative of the Cossacks, told the teenagers about the health hazards of e-cigarettes. He noted that the main danger lies in the composition of the liquid for their refueling, which contains not only different flavorings that form addiction to smoking, but also poisonous highly toxic compounds that destroy the human immune system. The public activist urged the children not to give in to new fashion trends and lead a healthy lifestyle.

During the meeting, police officers and community members reminded schoolchildren about fraud prevention measures. Minors were urged to be wary of offers of easy money: criminals often involve teenagers as couriers in their criminal schemes. Despite this, the accomplices of swindlers are held criminally liable on a par with the organizers of criminal schemes.

<https://xn--b1aew.xn--plai/news/item/55248283>



**WITH THE BEGINNING OF THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR, CLASSES ALSO BEGAN IN THE SCHOOL OF VOLUNTEERS OF THE ANTI-DRUG MOVEMENT IN THE REGION, CREATED UNDER UKON UMVD OF RUSSIA IN PSKOV REGION**



With the start of the new school year, classes also began in the school of volunteers of the region's anti-drug movement, established under the Drug Control Department of the Pskov region's UMVD.

A regular meeting was held at the Center for Youth and Community Initiatives, where a psychologist conducted a training session for volunteers on developing critical thinking skills under the motto "We think independently. The children had to distinguish the truth from lies in different situations. They practiced persuasion skills and also saw how the opinion of others can make a person make a wrong decision, even against common sense.

In today's rapidly changing world, critical thinking skills are becoming increasingly important and in demand. This is due to the large amount of information coming from different sources, which may be unreliable, contradictory or incomplete.

It is difficult to overestimate the importance of such skills for young people, because by critically evaluating information, it is possible to avoid mistakes, various biases and manipulations that are used by abusers to involve young people in illegal actions.

During the event, volunteers received a lot of useful information, which will certainly be useful to them not only in carrying out preventive actions, but will also help them to make the right decisions in various spheres of life - from professional growth to personal relationships.

<https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/55274881>



## DRUG POLICE OFFICERS AND STAFF OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERAL PENITENTIARY SERVICE HELD A JOINT ANTI-DRUG CAMPAIGN FOR STUDENTS OF POLICE COLLEGE IN KALUGA REGION



In order to prevent drug addiction among adolescents and young people and to foster healthy lifestyle habits among them, officers UNK UMVD of Russia in Kaluga region together with representatives of the UFSIN of Russia in Kaluga region held a preventive action “For a Healthy Future”, which was attended by students of the Kaluga Legal Police College.

Ksenia Khrenova, senior operative of the Drug Control Department of the Kaluga region UMVD of Russia, familiarized students with statistics of drug addiction in the Kaluga region, spoke about the negative impact of alcohol, smoking mixtures on the human body and

psyche, paying special attention to the problem of drug addiction. In addition, the question of administrative and criminal liability for committing unlawful acts in the sphere of illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs, which arises from complicity in the distribution of narcotic drugs, their storage and consumption, the ways of involving teenagers in criminal activities on the Internet and the terrible consequences of such “easy money” was touched upon.

Yulia Shitova, a psychologist from UFSIN, conducted a psychological training for the children aimed at developing their decision-making skills, ability to find a way out of a difficult situation, motivation to stay healthy and ability to say a motivated “no” to drugs.

For clarity, students were shown a thematic video about the harmful effects of drugs on human life.

Also during the meeting children saw how the service dog Bianca works to search for and detect drug imitator in luggage and personal belongings of a person.

At the end of the event, organizers called on students to be law-abiding citizens, to lead a healthy lifestyle and reminded them of the phone numbers to report any known facts of distribution of illegal substances.

<https://xn--b1aew.xn--plai/news/item/55442860>

## REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN

**REPRESENTATIVE OF TAJIKISTAN PARTICIPATES IN THE 38TH INTERNATIONAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT CONFERENCE IN ATHENS**

Today in Athens, Greece, Director of the Drug Control Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan Zafar Samad takes part in the 38th International Drug Enforcement Conference (IDEC XXXVIII). This was reported to NIAT “Khovar” by the Drug Control Agency under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan.

On the sidelines of the conference, the Agency Director met with Megan Oates, Program Manager for the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), and Bureau Counselor Kevin Scully.

During the meeting parties discussed directions of the Agency’s activities and drug situation in the Republic of Tajikistan, as well as mutually beneficial cooperation in the field of combating and controlling synthetic substances.

The conference will last until September 26 and will be attended by representatives of more than 100 countries and authoritative international and regional organizations and agencies.

<https://akn.tj/ru/2024/09/24/holding-of-the-international-conference-on-the-fight-against-drugs/>

## REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

podrobno.uz

RAVSHAN MAMATOV APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF  
THE NATIONAL CENTER OF DRUG CONTROL

Ravshan Mamatov has been appointed Director of the National Center of Drug Control by a decree of the President of Uzbekistan, Podrobno.uz reports.

Previously, Ravshan Mamatov held the position of Head of Sector of the Presidential Office, as well as various positions in the Foreign Ministry.

It should be noted that by presidential decree, the National Information and Analytical Center of Drug Control of the Republic of Uzbekistan was reorganized into the National Center of Drug Control under the Presidential Administration.

Director of the current Center is equal in status to the Deputy Counselor to the President.

<https://podrobno.uz/cat/politic/ravshan-mamatov-naznachen-direktorom-natsionalnogo-tsentra-po-kontrolyu-za-narkotikami/>



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