

European Update

EMCDDA

National reports 2009

Produced by the national focal points of the EU Reitox network, the 29 National reports draw an overall picture of the drug phenomenon at national level in each EU Member state.

http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/publications/searchresults?action=list&type=PUBLICATIONS&SERIES_PUB=w203&YEAR_PUB=2010

EMCDDA

DrugNet issue 71. Newsletter that includes articles on drug supply indicators, European Neighbourhood policy seminar, and new products and services.

http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/attachements.cfm/att_112641_EN_TDAA10003ENC.pdf

EMCDDA (Statistical bulletin 2010)

The Statistical bulletin is published yearly by the EMCDDA and provides access to the most recent statistical data relating to the drugs situation in Europe. Statistics are organised by category. In addition to the statistical tables and graphs, an overview of the data is provided for each category. <http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/stats10>

Czech Republic

The Czech police inspection and the rapid reaction unit arrested a policeman suspected of selling cocaine on in Prague.

<http://www.praguemonitor.com/2010/07/19/czech-policeman-accused-selling-cocaine>

Ireland

GARDAÍ uncovered a "sophisticated cocaine factory" where cocaine and dental anaesthetic with a combined street value of €2 million was seized.

<http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/ireland/2010/0626/1224273368394.html>

Malta

49 year old Turk, goes on trial accused of importing the biggest haul of heroin ever found by the Maltese authority. He allegedly had 11.5 kilos in a false compartment of his luggage when he was arrested at the airport. He had flown in from Turkey. The drug was worth more than €524,000.

<http://www.timesofmalta.com/articles/view/20100621/local/turk-on-trial-for-biggest-heroin-haul>

Portugal

This country's move to decriminalize illicit substances—Europe's most liberal drug legislation—turns 10 years old this month amid new scrutiny and plaudits. Portugal's decriminalization regime has caught the eye of regulators in Europe and beyond since it was implemented in 2001.

Proponents credit the program for stanching one of Europe's worst drug epidemics.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702303411604575168231982388308.html>

Russia

The head of Russia's Federal Drug Control Service, announced that Russia has been hit by an epidemic of synthetic drugs, particularly desomorphine. It is second only to heroin in popularity, and it could become a much more dangerous problem than all the opiates combined.

<http://en.rian.ru/analysis/20100628/159612984.html>

Spain

Spanish police intercepted 2,666 kilos of cocaine from Colombia. It is one of the biggest drug consignments confiscated in recent years in Spain. The drugs were destined for Europe, but were intercepted in the Canary Islands coastal area. (video)

http://english.ntdtv.com/ntdtv_en/ns_europe/2010-07-05/078337943512.html

The Netherlands

The Netherlands can ban over-the-counter sales of marijuana in Dutch "coffee shops" to non-residents to end drugs tourism from Ireland, Belgium, France, Germany and other countries, a senior adviser to the European Union high court said.

<http://www.irishexaminer.com/world/dutch-told-they-can-ban-sale-of-drugs-to-tourists-125198.html>

United Kingdom

Naphyrone – often advertised as 'NRG1' – and its related compounds are to be banned and made Class B.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/media-centre/press-releases/naphyrone-class-b-drug>

see also Naphyrone - what is it?

<http://www.drugscope.org.uk/resources/drugsearch/drugsearchpages/Naphyrone.htm>

United Kingdom

In 2001 the Joseph Rowntree Foundation embarked upon a programme of research that explored the problem of illicit drugs in the UK. The research addressed many questions that were often too sensitive for the government to tackle. In many cases, these studies represented the first research on these issues. This study gives an overview of the projects in the programme [Joseph Rowntree Foundation, UK]

<http://www.jrf.org.uk/sites/files/jrf/drugs-research-overview-full.pdf>

World Update

UNODC

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has announced the appointment of Yuri Fedotov (Russian Federation) as the new Executive Director of UNODC.

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2010/July/secretary-general-appoints-yuri-fedotov-of-russian-federation-executive-director-of-unodc.html?ref=fs4>

UNODC

Cambodia and the United Nations collaborate on community-based drug dependence treatment. Treatnet, which is now in its second phase, is a UNODC initiative that promotes diversified and accessible quality drug dependence treatment and care services, including HIV/AIDS prevention and care.

http://www.unodc.org/eastasiaandpacific/en/2010/07/treatnet-meeting/story.html?utm_source=twitterfeed&utm_medium=twitter

UNODC

A regional strategy has been developed to halt and reverse the HIV epidemic among people who inject drugs in Asia and the Pacific 2010-2015, is a roadmap for Member States, Civil Society and Development Agencies on how to successfully address the HIV epidemic among people who inject drugs in Asia and the Pacific.

http://www.unodc.org/documents/eastasiaandpacific//2010/07/hiv-strategy/Harm_Reduction_Strategy_Asia_Pacific.pdf

Afghanistan

A patrol of Afghan and NATO forces have seized and destroyed a three-ton consignment of heroin and opium in Helmand Province in the south of Afghanistan. The drugs' value was estimated at 38 million dollars.

<http://english.ruvr.ru/2010/07/17/12636063.html>

Colombia

A replica of the FIFA World Cup trophy, made of 11 kg cocaine, was seized at the international airport in the Colombian capital, Bogota. <http://sify.com/news/cocaine-made-fifa-world-cup-replica-seized-news-international-kfhkfbheje.html>

Dubai

Dubai Customs recently thwarted a bid to smuggle in 8kg of heroin. The contraband seized at Dubai Cargo Village was concealed in a consignment of auto spare parts imported from an Asian country.

<http://www.istockanalyst.com/article/viewiStockNews/articleid/4305431>

Ecuador

Police in Ecuador seized a 100-foot submarine being built by suspected drug traffickers capable of carrying a crew of six and 10 tons of cocaine on underwater voyages lasting up to 10 days.

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/la-fg-ecuador-narco-sub-20100706.0.162212.story>

Indonesia

Three Indonesians were sentenced to death by the High Court for drug trafficking involving 1,858.6gm of cannabis in Sungai Petani five years ago.

<http://thestar.com.my/news/story.asp?file=/2010/7/19/nation/6689836&sec=nation>

Israel

Special patrol unit police arrested three people (1 Egyptian and 2 Israeli) suspected of attempting to smuggle 72 kilograms of heroin into Israel from Jordan.

<http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0.7340.L-3914356.00.html>

Kyrgyzstan

A Latvian student arrested in the Bishkek airport Manas with 5.3kg of heroin, Kyrgyz customs officers held a 19-year-old pregnant Zhistin Yanuskayte while she was checking in for a flight.

<http://eng.24.kg/investigation/2010/07/05/12476.html>

Mozambique

Mozambique is increasingly becoming a hub for trafficking drugs from Latin America to Europe, Interpol warns.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/10629329>

Nigeria

The discovery of 132 acres of cannabis plantation at Igoba forest reserve, less than 30 minutes drive from the state capital, has been condemned by the Ondo State government and the European Commission experts who were on drug assessment tour in the nation.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201007130243.html>

Pakistan

Pakistan and UNODC join forces to respond to the threats of drugs and crime. It is estimated that Pakistan is now the destination and transit country for 40 per cent of opiates produced in Afghanistan.

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2010/July/pakistan-and-unodc-join-forces-to-respond-to-the-threats-of-drugs-and-crime.html>

Tajikistan

A court has sentenced a Kulyab man to ten years in prison for trying to smuggle 482g of heroin aboard a Moscow-bound airliner.

http://centralasiaonline.com/cocoon/caii/xhtml/en_GB/newsbriefs/caii/newsbriefs/2010/07/17/newsbrief-06

USA

President Obama 's chief adviser on national drug policy said that the administration has made a shift change on dealing with the problem of drug addiction, arguing that it is a health issue not one for the criminal justice system.

http://www.washingtoninformer.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=4085:obama-drug-czar-says-drug-addiction-is-a-health-problem&catid=50:local&Itemid=113

Drug Update

Reports.

World Drug Report 2010

The Report shows that drug use is shifting towards new drugs and new markets. Drug crop cultivation is declining in Afghanistan (for opium) and the Andean countries (coca), and drug use has stabilized in the developed world. However, there are signs of an increase in drug use in developing countries and growing abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants and prescription drugs around the world. <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/WDR-2010.html>

UNODC Colombia Coca cultivation survey 2009.

<http://www.unodc.org/documents/crop-monitoring/Colombia/Colombia-Coca-Survey-2010-ENGLISH-web.pdf>

The Australian Needle and Syringe Program Survey

This report presents national, state and territory data for the period 2005 to 2009

[http://www.nchechr.unsw.edu.au/NCHECRweb.nsf/resources/NSP_Complete2/\\$file/ANSP.NDR.2005_2009.pdf](http://www.nchechr.unsw.edu.au/NCHECRweb.nsf/resources/NSP_Complete2/$file/ANSP.NDR.2005_2009.pdf)

Understanding illicit drug markets, supply reduction efforts, and drug-related crime in the European Union

This document will be of interest to policymakers from the European Commission, as well as other governmental bodies which are concerned with measuring the effectiveness of their drug supply-reduction strategies [RAND]

http://www.rand.org/pubs/technical_reports/2010/RAND_TR755.pdf

Trends in injecting drug use in Europe (EMCDDA)

This volume brings together data from a wide variety of sources as it describes Europe's current drug injecting problem and plots its trends in recent years <http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/publications/selected-issues/injecting>

Web Watch

Southern Caucasus Office on Drugs and Crime

(SCODC) is a non profit, non governmental organization covering Armenia, Georgia and Azerbaijan and working the fields of: Drug Prevention; Treatment and Care; HIV and AIDS; Organized Crime; Terrorism Prevention; Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling; Money Laundering; Criminal Justice, Prison Reform and Crime Prevention; Corruption. SCODC has a network of international experts available.

Visit <http://www.scodc.org>

Future Issues

I would like to express thanks to those persons around the world who have contributed to this issue in particular to **Jim Young and Roger van de Sompel**

Items for inclusion in future issues should be forwarded to paul@paul-cook.net

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Paul Cook

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