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NOTE

From:	Polish and Romanian Co-Chairs of the Dublin Group
To:	Delegations
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Subject:	Regional Report on Eastern Europe and Caucasus ¹

1. Armenia

1.1 General drug situation

1.1.1 Analysis in the 12 months of 2012, compared to 2011:

- 2011 – 1525 offenses;
- 2012 - 1139 offenses (386 cases less); decrease of approximately 25.31% over the previous year;

¹ Poland is monitoring the illicit drug problem in Belarus, Russian Federation and Ukraine. This report was elaborated based on data kindly presented by the anti-drug authorities from the countries referred to in this report, through the diplomatic missions of Romania (Azerbaijan did not submit any kind of data).

1.1.2 Legal classification of the actions in the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Armenia and the number of offenses:

- art. 266 - illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, for marketing purposes, paragraphs 1 and 2:
 - 2011 – 590 offences;
 - 2012 - 448 crimes (142 cases less); decrease of 24.06% over the previous year;
- art. 266, paragraph 3:
 - 128 offences in 2011;
 - 45 offences in 2012 (83 cases less); decrease of 64,8%, compared to 2011;
- art. 266, paragraph 4:
 - 36 offences in 2011;
 - 22 offences in 2012 (14 cases less); decrease of 38,88%;
- art. 268 - illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic for marketing purposes:
 - 758 offences in 2011;
 - 597 offences in 2012 (161 cases less); decrease of 26,96% over the previous year;
- art. 269 - purchase, use, and illegally printing prescriptions for the reception of drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors:
 - 3 offences in 2011;
 - 4 offences in 2012 (1 case less); increase by 50% over the previous year;
- art. 272 - conviction or involvement of third parties to use drugs and psychotropic substances:
 - 2 offences in 2011;
 - 0 offences in 2012 (2 cases less); decrease by 100% over the previous year;
- art.273 - illegal cultivation of plants prohibited by law, containing substances narcotics, psychotropic powerful poisons:
 - 8 offences in 2011;
 - 19 offences in 2012 (11 more cases); increase by 237% over the previous year;
- Art. 274 - arrangement and layout of places for eating narcotics and psychotropic substances:
 - 0 offences in 2011;
 - 4 offences in 2012 (increase by 400%, compared to 2011).

1.1.3 The results of the Armenian drug structures, according to data from the end of December 2012, have resulted in the arrest and indictment of 686 people (among them: 26 women, 5 children, 681 adults and 18 foreign nationals) for committing the offense of drug trafficking, psychotropic substances and precursors. In this context, there has been a decrease by 25 persons (3,51%) over the previous year (711 cases).

Those arrested and prosecuted (out of which there were 26 women and 655 men) fall into the following age categories:

- 5 minors in 2012 (7 minors in 2011) - down 28,5%;
- 18 to 24 years - 37 people (33 in 2011) - up 7.5%; - 25 to 29 years - 56 people (59 in 2011) - down 5,35%;
- 30-49 years - 439 people (425 in 2011) - up 3.29%; - Over 50 - 123 people (130 in 2011) – down 5,69%.

In terms of occupations of drug traffickers the following findings were made:

- 89% are unemployed;
- 4% - no permanent means of subsistence;
- 4% - seasonal agricultural workers;
- 1,6% - employed in private and public companies;
- 1,4% students.

Among those presented by the Armenian Police to the Narcologic Clinic of Ministry of Health to undergo detoxification treatments and medical tests, 1009 had drug traces in their body, as follows:

- 660 (65.5%) consumed cannabis;
- 302 (30.09%) - opiates;
- 36 (3.6%) - synthetic narcotics.

Categorized by age, they fall within the following limits:

- 664 drug users (65,8%) - over 35 years;
- 179 drug users (24.77%) - 26-35 years;
- 91 drug users (9%) - 18-24 years old;
- 4 drug users (approximately 0.39%) - under 18.

1.2. Drugs strategy

1.2.1 Organizing domestic drug action and participation in integrated operations in the Commonwealth of Independent States

– no data;

1.2.2 Armenia signed international conventions on combating drug trafficking and drug use:

- 1992 - Kiev, the Convention on cooperation between the interior ministries of the CIS countries in the fight against illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;
- 1993 - International Convention UNO the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic (1961), psychotropic Substances Convention (1988), Convention on the fight against illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;
- 1998 - signed with representatives of States participating in the initiative of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation understanding on "Cooperation in the fight against organized crime;
- 1999 - between the Governments of Armenia, Georgia and Iran signed a memorandum on "cooperation and mutual support in the fight against organized crime and its various manifestations";
- 2000 - Minsk, "CIS cooperation in the fight against illicit drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals";
- 2000 - Chisinau, at the level of heads of CIS countries' cooperation in the fight against illicit drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals ";
- 2002 - at the level of Heads of Government of the CIS - "CIS cooperation in combating illegal trafficking of drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals";
- 2005 - signing between "Federal Service of Russia for control of drug trafficking" and the Police of the Republic of Armenia "Understanding collaboration on issues of drug trafficking, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals";
- 2008 - "CIS intergovernmental program to combat illegal trafficking in drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals for 2008-2010".

1.2.3 Internal strategies to combat drug trafficking

– ongoing implementation of the National Anti-drug Strategy;

1.3 Drug programs, multi-and bilateral, involving Armenia

- no data;

Measures aimed at rehabilitation and healing of drug addicts

In the Armenian capital works "narcologic Clinic" of the Ministry of Health, specialized in treatment provided to drug addicts.

1.4 Date and place of meetings with the Armenian authorities on the issue of Mini-Dublin Group

In 2012, the leadership of Armenia Police refused to have meetings with representatives of the Romanian Embassy in Yerevan, stating that in future, all materials required on the issue of "Mini-Dublin Group" will be sent only through the Armenian MFA.

1.5 Priorities on obtaining external support and assistance

1.5.1 Necessary equipment and training for specialized personnel in combating drug use and trafficking:

- - computerized systems to analyze the necessary data;
- - individual devices to reveal drugs;
- - organizing trainings in EU, in order to develop practical and theoretical knowledge of the Armenian police forces.

1.5.2 Armenian law, concerning the criminalization of offenses related to illegal drug trafficking:

A. Articles of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia:

- 266 - illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, for marketing purposes;
- 267 - violation of laws on the production, storage, recording, packaging, transport and transfer of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;
- 268 - illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, without their marketing purposes;
- 269 - Theft or extortion of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;
- 269, Section I - buying, using and illegally printing of prescriptions that allow receiving drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors;

- 270 - purchase illegal narcotics and psychotropic substances or prescriptions based on false documents authorizing their acquisition and use;
- 272 - conviction or involvement of third parties to use drugs and psychotropic substances;
- 273 - illegal cultivation of plants prohibited by law, containing narcotic, psychotropic or powerful poisons;
- 274 - arrangement and layout of places for consumption of narcotic and psychotropic substances;

B. Administrative Code articles:

- 44.1 - illegal transportation of drugs and psychotropic substances, without any intention of marketing them;
- 44.2 - Use of drugs and psychotropic substances without a prescription;
- 110, paragraph 1 - actions aimed at exercising control cultures containing drugs;
- 110, paragraph 2 - illegal cultivation and performing specific works to ensure the development poppy and cannabis.

1.5.3 Data on illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs in Armenia

In 2012, representatives of the Directorate General of Fight Against Drug Trafficking within the Armenian Police organized various actions to raise awareness among the general public with respect to the dangerous effects of drug use. A particular attention was given to schools and higher education institutions, where various educational brochures were distributed, focusing on the elements of preventive character. The population was educated to negatively react to the actions of drug traffickers, requesting them to inform the law enforcement structures as soon as possible, if case they see an illegal marketing of various types of drugs. In 2012, approximately 4,000 people were sent to "the clinic for drug users" of the Ministry of Health of Armenia to carry out targeted treatments that remove drug addiction.

2. Georgia

Institutional framework

Short update on the country's anti-drug strategy

An Inter-Agency Coordinating Council on Combating Drug Abuse was established by force of the presidential order on November 22, 2011. The establishment of the Council was triggered by the will to intensify struggle against drug abuse and cope with all problems connected thereto.

Coordinating Council comprises members from all the significant governmental institutions. The main objectives of the Coordinating Council are to elaborate state strategy on combating drug abuse in line with the human rights and considering the situation analysis of the country, as well as to draft, periodically revise and monitor the implementation of the strategy and action plan, and to coordinate intergovernmental activities.

Within the scope of the inter-agency coordinating Council four working groups were established in order to effectively execute all the objectives of the council. These working groups are: Demand reduction and harm reduction working group, Supply reduction working group, International cooperation and internal coordination working group and Information, research, assessment working group. They are concentrated on particular issues and comprise members from qualified institutions working on drug issues as well as representatives from governmental bodies.

The major changes in 2012 in the area of combating drug abuse and drug prevention is the adoption new Law on Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, Precursors and Narcotic Assistance. The main purpose of enacting new law is to bring it in compliance with the Convention on Narcotic Substances of 1961, convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 and Convention on Combating illegal circulation of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988. The law entered into force in June 20, 2012. The amended law provides accurate lists of substances subjected to special control that are arranged according to the level of the harm they may cause, as well as by considering the high risk of being used wrongfully and effects of the influence triggered by their usage. The new lists stipulated in the Law correspond to those established in relevant international conventions.

Moreover, law determines concrete amounts of each substance which may be withdrawn from illegal possession or illegal circulation. These amounts are divided into 3 categories: small amount, big amount and exceptionally big amount. Such distinction is significant for determining the exact sentence upon withdrawal of particular substance. For instance, prior to this amendment there were no definite categories for “Heroin”, hence any amount of this substance was considered as a big amount and caused a most severe sentence. However, pursuant to current amendments, the Annex 2 to the Law on Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, Precursors and Narcotic Assistance represents a table containing names of all substances and precise amounts in grams falling under column of each category.

Law also incorporates some rules and procedures in order to track the level of drug usage among public servants. Specifically, law prescribes obligatory periodic analysis for public servants once a year. Consuming such substances at workplace may result in dismissal, unless a person holds medical prescription and is using those substances for medical purposes.

In addition, law foresees some principles for drug treatment and regulations for assisting drug addicts. These provisions are stipulated in special chapter of the Law named “Narcotic Assistance”. According to this chapter narcotic assistance may be provided in specially designated establishments and it may be conducted on voluntary basis. However, law also prescribes cases of compulsory drug treatment. Types of compulsory treatment are as follows: Coping with addiction in cases of deprivation of liberty or imprisonment; Drug treatment in the establishments of deprivation of liberty and imprisonment. As stated by the law, rules and procedures for drug treatment and rehabilitation are defined by the Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Affairs.

The law on amendments to the Code on Administrative Offences entered into force on June 6, 2012. Code on Administrative Offences has been amended in line with the Law on Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, Precursors and Narcotic Assistance. Namely, articles 44(11)- 44(15) were added to the Code, which prescribe fines for nonfulfillment of terms for export and import of substances subjected to special control and breach of rules for legal circulation thereof, as well as fines for the breach of regulations for issuance, creation, storing, and registration of special blank for the prescription of psychoactive substances. Fines are also introduced for nonfulfillment of obligation to provide accurate accounts in course of legal circulation of such substances. Legislative amendments introduced by the Code contain stricter sanctions for those driving vehicle under influence of psychoactive substances, as well as for transmitting vehicle to person under influence of psychoactive substances. In particular, the fines intended for such offences increased by 50 GEL. According to amendment of article 3 of the law, in case of court decision and/or in cases prescribed by the Code on Administrative Offences person may be subjected to seizure of driving license or restriction of particular rights, such as right to conduct medical service, right to teach in educational institution, right to work at public service institutions, right to be elected, right to produce, purchase, keep or carry weapon, and right to advocacy.

Money laundering is a criminal offence regulated in Criminal Code of Georgia and there is not any amendment in this field.

International Assessment

Due to the effective policies undertaken by MIA and the successful work conducted by the Georgian law enforcers, positive tendencies have been identified in this regard, recently:

- There have been no serious corruption allegations against the narcotics law enforcement units at the MoIA. The Government of Georgia does not, as a matter of policy, encourage or facilitate trafficking in narcotics.²
- The Government of Georgia has signed counternarcotics agreements with the United States, with the Black Sea basin countries, the GUAM organization (Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, and Moldova), Turkey, Iran, Egypt, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and several European countries.³

International Police Cooperation

- **Bilateral Treaty Cooperation** – in the period of 2006-2012 years Georgia concluded a number of international agreements with neighbouring and European countries on the fight against organized crime, including drug trafficking; **only in 2012** – 3 agreements were signed/entered into force with Turkey, Hungary, Kazakhstan. And this process is ongoing.
- **Cooperation with Neighbouring Countries** – working groups with Azerbaijan, Armenia and Turkey meet systematically to exchange information, contact points and establish joint action plans. **In 2012** the Third Joint Commission Meeting between the representatives of the MIA and Turkish National Police was held in Ankara, Turkey.

² U.S. Department of States, *2013 International Narcotics Control Strategy Report (INCSR)*, March 5, 2013, section B.4, available at: <http://www.state.gov/j/inl/rls/nrcrpt/2013/vol1/204049.htm#Georgia>.

³ Ibid., section B.1.

- **Communication Platforms** to exchange information: **INTERPOL** (special secure network is available); **GUAM** (protected channels are available; participation in joint operation “**Narcostop 2012**”, on annual basis); **BSEC** (a network of liaison officers is available); **SELEC** (Georgia holds an observer state status); **EU Drug Dialogue** (participation into meetings **in 2011 and 2012**); **Police Attaché Cooperation** (France, Austria police attachés are represented in Georgia; Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium are covering Georgia from abroad; Georgia has Liaison Police Officers in Austria covering all EU member states, in Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Armenia); Cooperation Agreement between **CEPOL** and the MIA Academy was signed in 2011, largely contributing to experience sharing on drug-related thematic; Strategic Partnership Agreement with **Europol** is envisaged to be conducted in the near future, which will strengthen combating trans-national organized crime, including drug trafficking.
- **Best Practice Sharing** - MIA provides its best practices to other countries, among them: **Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Egypt, Honduras, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Romania, Turkey, Ukraine, Uruguay and Uzbekistan**. This process is ongoing.

MIA Personnel Trainings in 2012

Since 2006 basic training and re-training courses on drug-related thematic have been delivered at the MIA Academy.

Furthermore, **in 2012** Georgian police officers participated in *ad hoc* trainings held at the MIA Academy as well as abroad, organized by UN, EU, US State Department Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) - to further enhance capacity building in the fight against drug-related crimes. Among them:

- **On 6-7 February 2012** - UNODC and CARICC organized a workshop in Alma-Ata, Kazakhstan on drug combating issues, attended by USA, EU and CIS member states along with Georgian law enforcers;
- **On 16 February 2012** – EUBAM organized a target group meeting in Odessa, Ukraine on combating illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors by maritime means, attended by Georgian law enforcers;

- **On 2-6 April 2012** – Georgian police officers attended the study course on drug combating and investigation procedures, organized at the MIA Academy with the support of INL and DEA;
- **On 29-30 November 2012** - UNODC organized a regional expert meeting at the MIA Academy regarding the UNODC F23 project, focusing on developing crime analysis and enhancing cooperation among Georgian, Azerbaijani, Armenian, Afghanistan and Central Asian law enforcement agencies in the field of combating drug-related crimes. The MIA representatives attended the meeting.

Prevention and Other Programs Implemented by MIA in 2012

- **Legal Socialization Program** – implemented in public schools of Georgia through teaching a special subject of Legal Culture for selected ninth grade classes by law enforcement representatives and school teachers’ joint activities. Classes are interactive and are targeted at raising schoolchildren’s awareness on Georgian legal system, including drug-related issues.
- **Global Container Control Program** – implemented within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Revenue Service of the Ministry of Finance of Georgia, MIA Special Operative Department and Patrol Police Department and UNODC, signed **in 2012**. The project aims at assisting Georgia to establish effective container controls that will prevent drug trafficking and other illicit container crime, and also to facilitate trade and raise state revenues; the executing agencies of the project are UNODC and the World Customs Organization.
- **Canine (K9) Project in the Framework of Fighting Illicit Drug Traffic in Georgia** – covered by the Memorandum of Understanding between the Revenue Service of the Ministry of Finance of Georgia, MIA Central Criminal Police Department and Patrol Police Department and INL, signed **in 2012**. MOU also envisages the establishment of a Common Inter-agency Group, which will operate at the Customs Crossing Point “Tbilisi Airport” and at Customs Clearance Zone ”Tbilisi Airport” for the purposes of combating illegal trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors.

General situation overview

Fight against organized crime and, *inter alia*, drug trafficking is among the top priorities of the Georgian government, especially taking into consideration that the Georgian territories of Abkhazia and South Ossetia, occupied by the Russian Federation, still remain beyond the control of law enforcement agencies of Georgia and this situation *per se* creates the profitable environment for drug smugglers.

Due to the above-mentioned effective measures, the general positive tendency has been identified: the control over drug trafficking has increased, the fight against drug-related crimes has strengthened in the country, therefore, the amount of illicit drugs entering Georgia has reduced, and the decline in consumption of traditional drugs has been identified, due to their high prices on the illicit drug market and the successful work of law enforcers. In this regard, the statistical data on heroin seizures represent a clear illustration of the mentioned success: in 2011 the amount of seized heroin was 0.4513 grams; while this figure was significantly decreased to 0.2615 grams in 2012.

Instead, however, consumers are using substances, which are freely sold in pharmacies, are cheaper and available, and as a result of undertaking some chemical process, they receive home-made drugs (Desomorphine, Amphetamine, Metamphetamine).

Furthermore, it is noteworthy that the reforms aimed at enhancing the abilities of the Georgian law enforcement agencies in combating drug trafficking are continuing, with the support of international partners and donor organizations.⁴

⁴ See: *Ibid.*, section C.

Statistical data

Data on annual quantity of drugs seized in Georgia in 2012:

Drugs	2012
Heroin	261,5002 gr.
Buprenorphine (Subutex)	5,40246 gr. (approx. 675 tablets)
Methadone	36,8502 gr.
Tramadol	8.8 gr.
Opium	6,1134 gr.
Codeine	6,62772 gr.
Morphine	3,33 gr.
Marijuana	1 kg. 270,435 gr.
Cannabis resin	2,083 gr.
Amfetamine	0,11926 gr.
Metamfetamine	0,714565 gr.
Diphenoxylate	
Cannabis	3 kg. 654,64 gr.
Cocaine	7,6344 gr.
Poppy	
Tianeptine	167,426 gr.
Lysergic acid	0,00188 gr.
Ephedrone	0,55457 gr.
Desomorphine	0,366716 gr.
Ecstasy	1,7598 gr.

Drug prices for the period of 2012:

Types of Drugs	Average PRICES
Heroin	550-650 USD per gram
Opium	40-60 USD per gram
Marijuana	2-4 USD per gram
Subutex	400-450 USD per tablet
Morphine	600-650 USD per gram
Methadone	800-900 USD per gram

Number of crimes registered under Articles 260-274 of the Criminal Code of Georgia:

Articles of Criminal Code of Georgia	2012
Art. 260 ⁵	1175
Art. 261 ⁶	42
Art. 262 ⁷	78
Art. 263 ⁸	25
Art. 264 ⁹	4
Art. 265 ¹⁰	52
Art. 266 ¹¹	-
Art. 267 ¹²	1
Art. 268 ¹³	-
Art. 269 ¹⁴	1

⁵ Article 260. Illicit manufacture, production, purchase, store, transport, dispatch or sale of narcotic drug, its analogy or precursor.

⁶ Article 261. Illicit manufacture, production, purchase, store, transport, dispatch or sale of psychotropic substance, its analogy or powerful substance.

⁷ Article 262. Illicit import of narcotic drug, its analogy or precursor into Georgia, illicit export from Georgia or international transport in transit.

⁸ Article 263. Illicit import of big amount of psychotropic substance, its analogy or powerful substance into Georgia, illicit export from Georgia or international transport in transit.

⁹ Article 264. Misappropriation or extortion of narcotic drug, its analogy or precursor, psychotropic substance, its analogy or powerful substance.

¹⁰ Article 265. Illicit sowing, growth or cultivation of plant containing narcotic drugs.

¹¹ Article 266. Setting up or maintaining a clandestine laboratory for illicit production of narcotic drug, its analogy or precursor, psychotropic substance or its analogy.

¹² Article 267. In order to purchase narcotic drugs, making a fake prescription or other documents with the purpose of selling or sale thereof.

¹³ Article 268. In order to purchase psychotropic or powerful substance, making a fake prescription or other documents with the purpose of selling or sale thereof.

¹⁴ Article 269. Violation of the rules on manufacture, production, obtain, register, dispense, store, transport, dispatch or import of narcotic drug or precursor.

Articles of Criminal Code of Georgia	2012
Art. 270 ¹⁵	-
Art. 271 ¹⁶	3
Art. 272 ¹⁷	-
Art. 273 ¹⁸	1792
Art. 274 ¹⁹	-
TOTAL	3173

Number of persons subjected to administrative penalty under Articles 45 and 116.5 of the Code of Georgia on Administrative Offences:

Articles of Code of Georgia on Administrative Offences	2012
Art. 45 ²⁰	7925
Art. 116.5 ²¹	13

It is noteworthy that the provided data equals to that on administrative offences registered under the Code of Georgia on Administrative Offences.

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- ¹⁵ Article 270. Violation of the rules on manufacture, production, obtain, register, dispense, store, transport, dispatch or import of psychotropic or powerful substance.
- ¹⁶ Article 271. Allocation of flat or other place for illicit use of narcotic drug, its analogy, psychotropic substance, its analogy.
- ¹⁷ Article 272. Persuade into use of narcotic drug, its analogy, psychotropic substance, its analogy.
- ¹⁸ Article 273. Illicit manufacture, purchase, store of small amount of narcotic drug, its analogy or precursor for personal use or illicit use thereof without a doctor's prescription.
- ¹⁹ Article 274. Avoiding coercive treatment.
- ²⁰ Article 45. Illicit purchase or store of small amount of narcotic drugs without the purpose of selling, or use of narcotic drugs without a doctor's prescription.
- ²¹ Article 116.5. Driving a vehicle under the condition of narcotic or psychotropic intoxication, or with prior knowledge handing over a vehicle to a person under such condition for driving.

3. Republic of Moldova

Overview of drug situation

In Moldova, according to statistics provided by medical institutions approximately 9400 people are drug users. Most people use drugs of plant origin and only a very small percentage use synthetic drugs.

Under favorable weather conditions in the country (soil and high temperatures) financial investments for people who practice this unlawful activity of growth and manufacturing of herbal drugs are not necessary, and drug preparation from raw materials (hemp plant and poppy) is very simple, this aspect leading to the use of vegetal drugs.

The unfavorable economic situation in the country together with the intention of achieving a large financial return in a short time, help some people to perform the illegal activity of growing plants containing narcotic substances, and to smuggle raw material especially in Eastern European countries.

Also, in the investigation of several drug-related crimes, and during the information exchange with counterparts in other countries, it appears that many Moldovans, which currently hold dual citizenship or citizenship of other countries, are actually involved in these shady business, fact demonstrated by their deductions performed by law enforcement agencies of the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine, Russia, and other countries.

This contributes to boosting cooperation with states and international organizations concerned, by signing bilateral cooperation agreements with the European Union Member States and European and international organizations with attributions in the field of drugs, by adhering to various international treaties and by actually cooperating in investigations concerning gang members involved in drug trafficking.

Thus, by the Parliament Decision of the Republic of Moldova no. 252 of 1994, Moldova joined the United Nations Conventions on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, the UN Convention against Psychotropic Substances of 1971 and the UN Convention on Combating Illicit Drug Trafficking in 1988, which contributed to perfecting the legal framework in the field of drugs in the country.

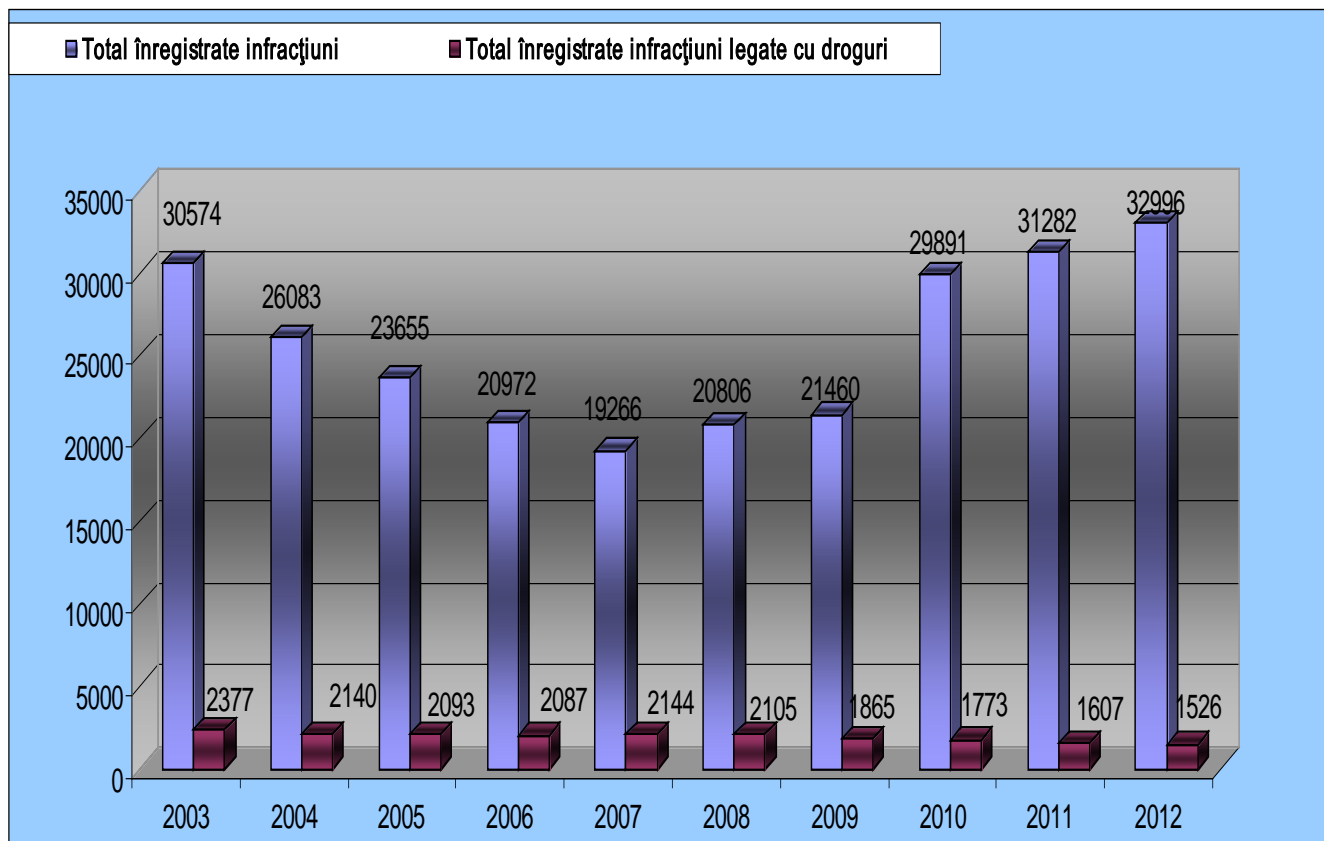
New structures responsible for coordinating and monitoring the flow of legal and illegal drugs have been created, such as:

- **Standing Committee on Drug Control** within the Ministry of Health, which coordinates the activity of pharmaceutical institutions, businesses and issues permits to import / export / transit, narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors in the country;
- **National Observatory on Drugs** within the Ministry of Health, which collects information on drugs from all institutions in the country, develops the country's official annual report on drugs containing information on: perfecting the legal framework, statistics in the field of combating drug trafficking, studies conducted on drugs, other relevant information.

At the beginning of 2013, the structural reorganization of the Ministry of Internal Affairs led to a similar reorganization of the Anti-drug Unit. Thus, the Department No.4 (Anti-drug) was created, together with the regional units "North" and "South", within the National Inspectorate of Investigations of the Police Inspectorate General of Police, by increasing the number of employees in the anti-drug field. The unit is designed to combat drug trafficking, mainly focused on investigating and prosecuting individuals and gang members directly involved in crimes related to drug trafficking.

Statistics on criminal cases related to drug offences

2003 – the first 3 months of 2013



Statistics on no of cases on drug related offenses and the amount of drug seized 2009 – the first 3 months of 2013

Type of Drugs	No of recorded cases					Quantity of drugs seized				
	2009	2010	2011	2012	3 luni 2013	2009	2010	2011	2012	3 months 2013
Marijuana	899	905	765	689	97	658 kg 607 gr	538 kg 178 gr	213 kg 241 gr	224 kg 442 gr	44 kg 459 gr
Hemp	293	414	306	440	4	197229 plants	146467 plants	87961 plants	152961 plants	121 Plants
Poppy	272	377	192	85	0	47749 plants	64993 plants	32413 plants	11255 plants	0 plants
Poppy Straws	134	61	40	22	0	73 kg 600 gr	73kg 884 gr	21 kg 465 gr	11 kg 959,5 gr	0 gr
Hemp seeds		6	4	3	0		317,4 gr	817,4 gr	9000 gr	0 gr
Opium	230	119	73	55	10	27 litri 142 ml	3 lit 033 ml	6860 ml	2452 ml	128 ml
Methamphetamines	8	3	13	24	3	618,51 gr	25 gr	871 gr	77,49 gr	8,2 gr
Amphetamines	6	12	11	9	1	26 gr	2 kg 411 gr	285,9 gr	135 gr	3 gr
Heroin	101	113	110	123	9	1 kg 642 gr	4 kg 157 gr	1 kg 486,41 gr	1 kg 445 gr	175 gr
Liquid Heroin	3	57	23	20	1	49,9 ml	192,8 ml	64,18 ml	23 ml	5 ml
Cocaine	12	1	1	3	0	5 kg 958 gr	4 gr	51,5 gr	115 gr	0 gr
Ecstasy	34	7	10	7	1	1854 pills	1172 pills	1097 pills	3221 pills	11 pills
Hashish	30	15	6	26	7	25 kg 130 gr	35 kg 367 gr	15 kg 36 gr	89 kg 720,4 gr	3 kg 643 gr
Other drugs	209	134	63	126	18					
Total	2123	2224	1617	1623	151	800 kg 174 gr	659 kg 739 gr	258 kg 553 gr	339 kg 995 gr	51 kg

National Anti-drug Strategy 2011-2018 and National Action Plan 2011-2013

The national body that coordinates all activities in the field of drugs is the National Anti-Drug Commission led by Deputy Prime - Minister Mihai Moldovan.

The Commission is composed of the leadership of a number of ministries, central state institutions and non-profit organizations that meet quarterly in work sessions in which are discussed and reported a wide range of activities aimed at preventing and combating drug trafficking and use, the necessity of reorganizing subdivisions in combating this scourge, national and international cooperation, adherence to various international institutions that are directly involved in monitoring international drug trafficking, etc.

In 2012, representatives of the Commission met in five working sessions /2013 - one working session.

The issues being discussed are very diverse, as follows:

- The issue of "new drugs" recently emerged on the domestic market;
- Educational and informational programs implemented among pupils and students from educational institutions, activities to attract youth in various cultural and sports events in summer camps;
- Presenting information on the check alcohol use at the workplace in the transport services;
- Assessment report following trainings of teachers concerning drugs; - The results of the study on alcohol, drugs and tobacco among students; - NGO involvement in activities aimed at the implementing the provisions of the National Anti-drug Strategy for 2011-2018, etc.

At the last meeting of the Commission, each ministry reported on its activities, primarily on the implementation stage of National Action Plan for 2011-2013 and the need for submission of proposals to develop a new National Action Plan for 2014-2016, as well as on other information such as: Annual information on the results of the National Anti-Drug Commission is collected by the Secretariat of the National Anti-Drug Commission and reported to the Government of the Rep of Moldova.

Drug demand reduction programs

In this chapter, specialized national programs are developed and implemented, in order to assist drug users, involving also NGOs these activities.

The implemented programs cover the following sections:

- Methadone substitution treatment for drug users;
- Needle exchange for drug users in specialized medical institutions and penitentiaries;
- Psychological assistance for drug users;
- Dissemination of drug prevention materials in educational institutions;
- Coverage by media sources of the risks and harms associated to drug use;

The National Anti-Drug Commission is also disseminating information on the implementation of these programs, which involve also ministries like the Ministry of Health, Education, Youth and Sports, Ministry of Justice etc

Bilateral cooperation agreements signed by the Republic of Moldova

In 2012, the Rep of Moldova has acceded to several international organizations specialized in the field of drug demand reduction such as:

- 17.07.2012, a MoU was signed between the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Moldova and the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA); the cooperation implies the exchange of information, statistics, participation in trainings organized on topics related to drug trafficking, etc. - Law no. 75 of 12.04.2012 on Moldova's accession to the Cooperation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Drugs (Pompidou Group) of the Council of Europe, was approved by the Moldovan Parliament;
- In 2012, together with the GP, a commercial spot on drug effects was conducted, and this year, with the assistance of representatives of the GP, a training on "Prevention of drug use. Treatment and harm reduction for persons who are in police custody" was organized for police partners. For 2013, strengthening of cooperation activities with international organizations in combating drug trafficking is targeted.

External support

During 2012 and the first three months of 2013, subdivision employees participated in various trainings and workshops on topics aimed at combating drug trafficking, practice and experience in this field of other states, as well as prevention measures that need to be carried out. The activities mentioned were possible because of the direct support of the European Union Mission for assistance at the border between Ukraine and Moldova (EUBAM), TAIEX Program, SELEC Center, etc.

Threats

As mentioned in the previous report, the emergence on the shadow market of new types of drugs pose a real threat not only to the Republic of Moldova but also for other countries of the European Union since practically, annually in the illegal circuit are identified new drugs and the procedure to adjust legislation to introduce them on the list of drugs under state control takes a long time.

Currently, the possibility of adjusting the legal framework to introduce the word “analog”, which allows to classify as a drug any new substance identified in the illegal circuit, whose basic chemical formula is identical to the list of drugs that are currently under state control is under discussion.

Initiatives

- Various prevention measures to educate a rising generation which does not tolerate drug use are carried out;
- Extensive coverage in the media sources of drug damage and negative effects that cause this phenomenon;
- Accession to international organizations specialized in global monitoring the drug situation;
- Exchange of experience with other states, statistical data, information on Moldovan citizens arrested for drug trafficking in other countries, etc.

Recommendations

- need for permanent exchange of information and studies among Member States of Mini Dublin group on new types of illicit drugs identified in the illicit circuit and the actions taken to place them on the list of drugs under state control,

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS:

As in the previous years, we recommend that at the level of the reporting country is necessary to appoint a single structure to collect, analyze and submit the data required for the report, using the format Country reports and terminology disseminated in the mini-Dublin groups. Data reported so far do not allow an assessment of progress, because they don't refer to any recommendation made in the previous report. Moreover, data on drug use estimates are different, and there is no unified position on this matter. However, it is noted the failure in sending national contributions, respecting the deadlines, to the Romanian authorities in charge, using the official channels established. In this regard, a strict compliance with the procedures established in the DG is recommended, both on the structure of the national report (complying with Annex 3) and the deadline set by the Secretariat, taking into account the time required for each integrator state in achieving the final report (by optimum coordination of national contributions).
