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Режим доступу: <https://www.americanprogress.org/wpcontent/uploads/kf/TerrorinShadows-Stohl.pdf>

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## **EXPERIENCE IN COMBATING DRUG TRAFFICKING IN EUROPE**

The illegal drug trade or drug trafficking is a global black market dedicated to the cultivation, manufacture, distribution and sale of drugs that are subject to drug prohibition laws.

Most jurisdictions prohibit trade, except under license, of many types of drugs through the use of drug prohibition laws.

In most countries, problem drug use is characterized by chronic opiate use. National estimates of problem drug use vary from 2 to 10 cases per 1 000 adults: some 1 to 1.5 million Europeans. The highest rates are reported in Italy, Luxembourg, Portugal and the UK (6 to 10 cases per 1 000 adults). Rates are lowest in Germany, the Netherlands and Austria (3 cases per 1 000 adults).

About 60% of the estimated problem drug users are active injectors (some 600 000 to 900 000). Disease prevention is still critically important. HIV prevalence among injecting drug users (IDUs) varies considerably EU-wide: from around 1% in the UK to over 30% in Spain. In a number of countries, local rates of over 25% are found in a variety of settings.

Although national HIV prevalence data remain mostly stable, they can mask considerable variations locally and among certain groups. HIV increases among IDUs have been reported in the last few years from some regions or cities in Spain, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Finland and the UK.

The long-term costs of hepatitis C infection, both in terms of health-care spending and personal suffering, are likely to be considerable. Prevalence rates among current and former injectors are extremely high in all countries, at 40 to 90%.

How drugs are used and are trafficked is constantly changing and the ways they are trafficked are growing in technical and organizational complexity. What is not changing is the profitability of the drugs trade. Every year EU citizens spend tens of billions of euros on illicit drugs.

The organized crime groups (OCGs) involved are becoming more specialized and more fully interconnected. And the overall rate of change is accelerating, partly as a result of globalization. Activities related to trafficking are becoming concentrated in particular geographic areas, while instability in regions neighboring the EU could have profound effects on the drug market in Europe.

Significant domestic demand already exists along all trafficking routes and may be growing, with drug trafficking acting as an additional destabilizing factor in countries that are already faced with other serious political, social, health and economic problems.

Developments on the Southern route “Southern route”—from Afghanistan through Pakistan or Iran, via the Persian Gulf and East Africa—are of special concern, given the potentially larger role of this route in the supply of heroin and other drugs to Europe and its negative impact on countries in Africa.

About 60% of all enquiries coming to Interpol relate to drugs and about 80% of the one million or so messages transmitted by this organization involve Europe. Interpol is necessary because it operates in an international capacity and has members from across the world.

Europol, on the other hand, is destined to operate as a EU body hopefully to obtain information about drugs and drug trafficking and with the ability to analyze it and to initiate, if not carry out, investigations resultant upon this analysis. Both bodies, in this context, have separate and complimentary roles.

Europol can only operate effectively and indeed be worth its creation if it is given legitimacy through the signing and ratification of a Convention. It is most unfortunate that national governments have so far held up the signing of this Convention on the count of information disclosure or competence. If information exchange is to be the only use to which Europol is to be put then it would have been better to locate customs and police officers in a separate part or an adjacent building to Interpol in Lyon. The French Presidency has stated that it will ensure that a Convention for Europol is signed by July 1995.

Illicit drug markets are always changing and the methods for producing and trafficking drugs also evolve as criminals seek to maximize profits and evade detection. The EU and its international partners keep pace with these changes and take action on a number of fronts against those involved in the illicit drugs trade simultaneously. This involves adopting a range of measures within and outside European borders.

It requires refining the EU law enforcement, criminal justice and regulatory measures in place. It also involves assisting partner countries to

build their own capacity in these areas and to develop their economies and participation in international trade by strengthening their engagement with both the EU and the global economy. This provides a responsive and ongoing basis for targeting the production and trafficking of drugs on an international scale.

The range of security challenges within and outside the EU presented by the production and trafficking of drugs requires a multifaceted policy response. To produce drugs and move the finished products to consumers organized crime groups target and compromise commercial cargo supply networks. The movement of illicit drugs within a country and from one country to another causes damage to communities and can contribute to the destabilization of states, undermining the rule of law.

Laundering the profits from illicit drugs and moving them between jurisdictions compromises the integrity of national economies and the international financial system. The EU has set out its response to these interconnected problems arising from different stages of the production and trafficking of drugs.

These issues are, for example, addressed in the EU's illicit drug, security, and organized crime, maritime and regional cooperation strategies. This comprehensive approach involves the full range of EU institutions, bodies and agencies with a part to play working in collaboration with international organizations and countries around the world.

Together the actions being taken by the EU and its MS within their borders and the measures in place in source and transit countries at the center of drug production and trafficking aim to tackle organized crime groups.

This includes developing effective law enforcement structures and operations underpinned by strategic intelligence information. Similarly, enhanced border monitoring and control strengthen global supply chains, while at the same time closing down active and potential smuggling routes. Denying organized criminals access to drug markets is also complemented by blocking their use of the legal economy and financial system through legislative tools.

Providing support to the countries impacted by the drugs trade is critical if they are to strengthen their legal economies and fend off the corruption and destabilization that this trade brings. Alternative development is a critical component of this approach and the EU is actively involved in supporting countries around the world.

In doing so, it helps them to enhance their own law enforcement and monitoring resources to target the drugs trade. In order to continue disrupting the production and trafficking of illicit drugs the EU and its partners are

adapting responses to keep pace with changes in the way organized crime groups operate.

### ***Список використаних джерел***

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## **EXTORTION AS A FORM OF ORGANIZED CRIME**

Extortion is a criminal offense of obtaining money, property, or services from an individual or institution, through coercion. Organized crime groups commonly practice extortion. The actual obtainment of money or property is not required to commit the offense, and making a threat of violence, which refers to a requirement of a payment of money or property to halt future violence, is sufficient to commit the offense.

Exaction refers not only to extortion or the demanding and obtaining of something through force, but additionally, in its formal definition, means the infliction of something such as pain and suffering or making somebody endure something unpleasant.

Most states define extortion as the gaining of property or money by almost any kind of force or threat of violence, property damage, and harm to reputation, or unfavorable government action.

Cyber extortion is when an individual or group uses the Internet as an offensive force. The group or individual usually sends a company a threatening email stating that they have received confidential information about their company and will exploit a security leak or launch an attack that will harm the company's network. The message sent through the email usually demands money in exchange for the prevention of the attack.

Extortion can take place over the telephone, via mail, text, email or other computer or wireless communication. If any method of interstate commerce is used in the extortion, it can be a federal crime.