

# INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKING

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**Abstract:** the issue of international cooperation of states in the sphere of illegal trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances is covered. The main conventions concerning this problem are indicated, examples of illegal movement of narcotic drugs across the border are given. A description of drug crime, methods of their introduction into power structures, with the aim of expanding influence and increasing income, are also given.

**Keywords:** drug crime, drug trafficking, smuggling of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, laundering (legalization) of criminal proceeds, corruption.

## МЕЖДУНАРОДНОЕ СОТРУДНИЧЕСТВО В БОРЬБЕ С НЕЗАКОННЫМ ОБОРОТОМ НАРКОТИКОВ

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**Аннотация:** освещается вопрос международного сотрудничества государств в сфере незаконного оборота наркотических средств и психотропных веществ. Указаны основные конвенции, касающиеся данной проблемы, приводятся примеры незаконного перемещения наркотических средств через границу. Также приводится описание наркопреступности, способы их внедрения во властные структуры, с целью расширения влияния и увеличения доходов.

**Ключевые слова:** наркопреступность, незаконный оборот наркотиков, контрабанда наркотических средств и психотропных веществ, отмывание (легализация) преступных доходов, коррупция.

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The Russian Federation has traditionally played a key role in solving the global drug problem, and is a party to three specialized anti-drug conventions in the field of drug control - the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, and the Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988.

The Russian Federation is a member of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs. Our country also actively cooperates with the International Narcotics Control Board, the main supervisory body for the implementation by states of their obligations arising from the three UN anti-drug conventions.

But the mere presence of international documents regulating the fight against drug smuggling does not solve the problem of illegal import of drugs, therefore it is important to promptly and effectively carry out activities for interaction between states through the development of unified mechanisms for combating drug crime.

The main features inherent in drug-related crime include: high level of latency; creation of organized criminal associations (groups, communities); combination of individual types of general criminal and economic crimes; hierarchical, multi-link structure of criminal groups; corrupt connections; close connection with professional crime; legalization of illegal income; maximum increase in illegal profits; presence of counteraction systems, etc.

Drug crime includes the entire chain of criminal activities: production, acquisition, storage, theft, transportation (transfer), sale of drugs and organization of drug dens.

In recent years, there has been a merger between terrorist groups and drug suppliers. Drugs provide an opportunity to finance the activities of terrorist groups around the world.

Criminal groups seek to introduce their people into government bodies in order to establish control over individual spheres of activity (economic, financial, banking, political, social, etc.), as well as to counteract law enforcement agencies.

Various methods of concealing drugs are used to store, transport, ship and deliver them.

For example, Argentine drug dealers used “fake” World Cup trophies to smuggle cocaine, since the 2018 FIFA World Cup kept them out of the spotlight.

In 2018, during the World Cup, several drug dealers came to Russia under the guise of fans to negotiate and arrange cocaine supplies from Latin America. The drug dealers saw Russia as a sales market with further sales to Asia.

Law enforcement agencies were unable to obtain any information about drug dealers through the Fan ID system, since, at FIFA's request, the data obtained when applying for a Fan ID "were not transferred to third parties, including law enforcement officers."

The illegal movement of narcotic drugs, as well as psychotropic substances and their precursors, poses a threat to the state on many levels: it undermines economic security, negatively affects the fiscal and law enforcement functions of the state, and negatively impacts the healthcare sector and the health of the country's population.

Cooperation in the field of combating drug smuggling can also be significantly improved through scientific, technical, analytical and informational interaction between countries and government agencies of different countries in the implementation of such cooperation.

The controlled drug supply method is effective for solving crimes. The method is the interaction of law enforcement and other competent authorities, which allows the import (export, transportation) of illegal or suspicious consignments of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances to the territory of one or several countries, with the knowledge and under the supervision of competent services, in order to identify persons involved in the commission of drug crimes.

An accompanying crime in the drug trade is corruption among officials of law enforcement, management and government agencies, especially in places where drugs are produced and along their transportation routes.

Corrupt officials of law enforcement agencies and administration, employees of banks and other financial structures may join criminal drug gangs. Criminal groups have been interested in the housing and communal services, road construction, and banking sectors for many years.

Russia's goal is to significantly reduce the production and consumption of opiates, cocaine, cannabis, and other drugs and psychoactive substances with the prospect of creating a drug-free society. The solution to these problems should be based on the principles of common and joint responsibility of all states in solving the global drug problem, and also to promote the reduction of drug supply and demand, including the inadmissibility of legalizing the use of any type of drug for non-medical purposes.

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