

IV PYATIGORSK JUNIOR MODEL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

UNODC

**“THE EFFORTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IN
THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKING”**

EXPERT REPORT





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Part 1. Historical information

Item 1. Introduction



The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC; French: *Office des Nations unies contre la drogue et le crime*) is a United Nations office that was established in 1997 as the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention by combining the United Nations International Drug Control Program (UNDCP) and the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division in the United Nations Office at Vienna. It is a member of the United Nations Development Group and was renamed the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in 2002.



Item 2.Actions of UNODC.

UNODC was established to assist the UN in better addressing a coordinated, comprehensive response to the interrelated issues of illicit trafficking in and abuse of drugs, crime prevention and criminal justice, international terrorism, and political corruption. These goals are pursued through three primary functions: research, guidance and support to governments in the adoption and implementation of various crime-, drug-, terrorism-, and corruption-related conventions, treaties and protocols, as well as technical/financial assistance to said governments to face their respective situations and challenges in these fields.

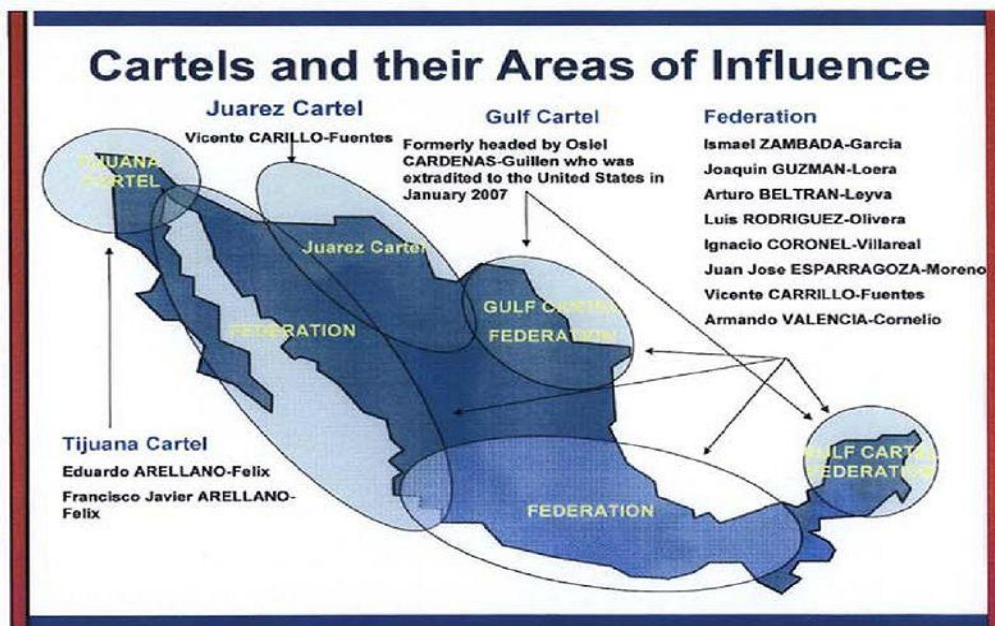
These are the main themes that UNODC deals with: Alternative Development, Corruption, Criminal Justice, Prison Reform and Crime Prevention, Drug Prevention, -Treatment and Care, HIV and AIDS, Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling, Money Laundering, Organized Crime, Piracy, Terrorism Prevention.



Part 2.

Item 1. Overview of drug trafficking.

Drug Trafficking is a global illicit trade involving the cultivation, manufacture, distribution and sale of substances which are subject to drug prohibition laws. International drug trafficking is a often discussed global issues, and is a major problem in international relations. Drug trafficking operates throughout the world, and involves many actors, including transnational criminal organizations. There are many drugs that are trafficked throughout the world. When people speak about the drug trade, they usually talk about drugs such as cocaine, heroin, marijuana, along with prescription drugs, among other drugs. There are a lot of countries in the world where level of drug trafficking is very high. There have also been high levels of violence in Mexico due to drug trafficking and competing criminal enterprises vying for the drug market; more and more organized criminal groups are trying to control not only territory, but also drug trafficking routes (Robles, Calderon, & Magaloni, 2013). But not only is there violence, but this violence in the forms of murders have increased drastically in recent year; drops in the murder rate in Mexico from 2000-2007 (with a per capita rate of 25 percent) have doubled to 50 percent in the years 2007-2009. The vast majority of these deaths were caused by confrontations between drug cartels competing for control of routes and locations strategic for trafficking drugs to the world's largest market of the United States. Thus, it is important to understand the actions taking place domestically in Mexico in order to know the effect of the drug trade in the country, as well as the effects of drug trafficking on other countries such as the United States.





Item 2. Drug routes of entry.

For the domestic market, the main flow of drugs comes from the Central Asian direction - Afghanistan, Pakistan and the former republics of the Soviet Union - Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and, to a very small extent, Turkmenistan. It is, first of all, heroin and opium.

As you know, the first wave of drugs from Afghanistan to the territory of the Soviet Union collapsed during the Afghan war. Currently, there is a powerful, well-established network of drug supply from Afghanistan, where the production of drugs employs several tens of thousands of people. According to the UN, Afghanistan supplies in the year on the black market are about 300 tons of opium.

In addition, cases of transportation to Russia of pure heroin produced in laboratories in Pakistan have become more frequent.

The main flow goes through Tajikistan, the border with which cannot be completely closed. The Russian border guards in Tajikistan, for many reasons, are unable to counter the flow of drugs in any way, although they do their best to do so.

The main distribution channel of ecstasy is youth discos and higher education institutions. In particular, in Moscow, in almost 90 percent of discos you can buy this drug, and almost openly (for example, in the UK for the spread of MDMA you can get a life sentence), although it should be noted that in recent months, the law enforcement agencies of the capital have significantly increased attention to the main centers of distribution of "ecstasy".

Netherlands, Poland and Germany. All three countries have established a powerful illegal production of MDMA, largely focused on Russia (in particular, given the fact that, as in other countries, "ecstasy" has become an integral part of the "rave culture", actively developed by Russian youth). Ecstasy delivery is carried out primarily by couriers-both Russian citizens and foreigners - by road, rail and air transport from the above countries. Particular attention to this drug is shown by criminal structures, taking into account the fact that the profit on operations with "ecstasy" reaches 2000 percent. According to all available data, we should expect a new surge in the spread of this drug in Russia in the near future, taking into account the fact that over the past five to six months there has been a clear trend towards expanding the geography of its spread.



Item 3. Quantifying the flow of drugs coming through the Northern route and the Balkan.

The size of the drug market was estimated based on the volume of demand. The following initial data were used to quantify possible heroin traffic coming through the Northern route through the Russian Federation:

(a) indicators were used to

characterize the volumes of

drug seizures at known routes. So, when the evaluation was used an indicator of drugs seized in the CIS, including the Russian Federation, is 13%; for comparison, the rate of drug seizures in the Balkan putia was 74% .

(b) a standard conversion rate of opium to heroin of 10:1 was used to calculate the total potential heroin produced in Afghanistan in 2003.

An analysis of the actual volumes of heroin seizures in 2003 in transit through the Central Asian States estimated that the amount of heroin crossing the border of the Russian Federation could be about 40 MT in 2003.

This amount, 40 MT of heroin, is considered a conservative estimate, as a number of sources indicate an increase in the participation of the Central Asian republics in this process, as well as an increase in the supply of opium to the Russian Federation from Afghanistan through the Central Asian republics, estimated at more than 65%.

While the number of opium seizures in previous years had never fallen below 10 per cent of total seizures, in 2003 there had been a clear increase in the gap between heroin and opium seizures in the ratio of 5.5:1. This confirms a trend that indicates that more opium is now being converted to heroin in the country of origin, it is not being transported in a cheaper form, in the form of opium.



Item 4.Examples of cost growth in connection with drugs.

Contrary to earlier research, the cause of the "epidemic of death" among white people is not alcohol but drugs.

Scientists from the University of Colorado (USA) used data from official American statistics to find out the causes of mortality among white middle-aged Americans (from 35 to 54 years) in 1980-2014. The very fact of the increase in mortality was recorded earlier, but it was explained by alcohol abuse and the increase in the frequency of suicides associated with both drinking and the negative state of the economy. A new analysis shows that in fact it was caused by drug use. The corresponding article was published in the International Journal of Epidemiology.

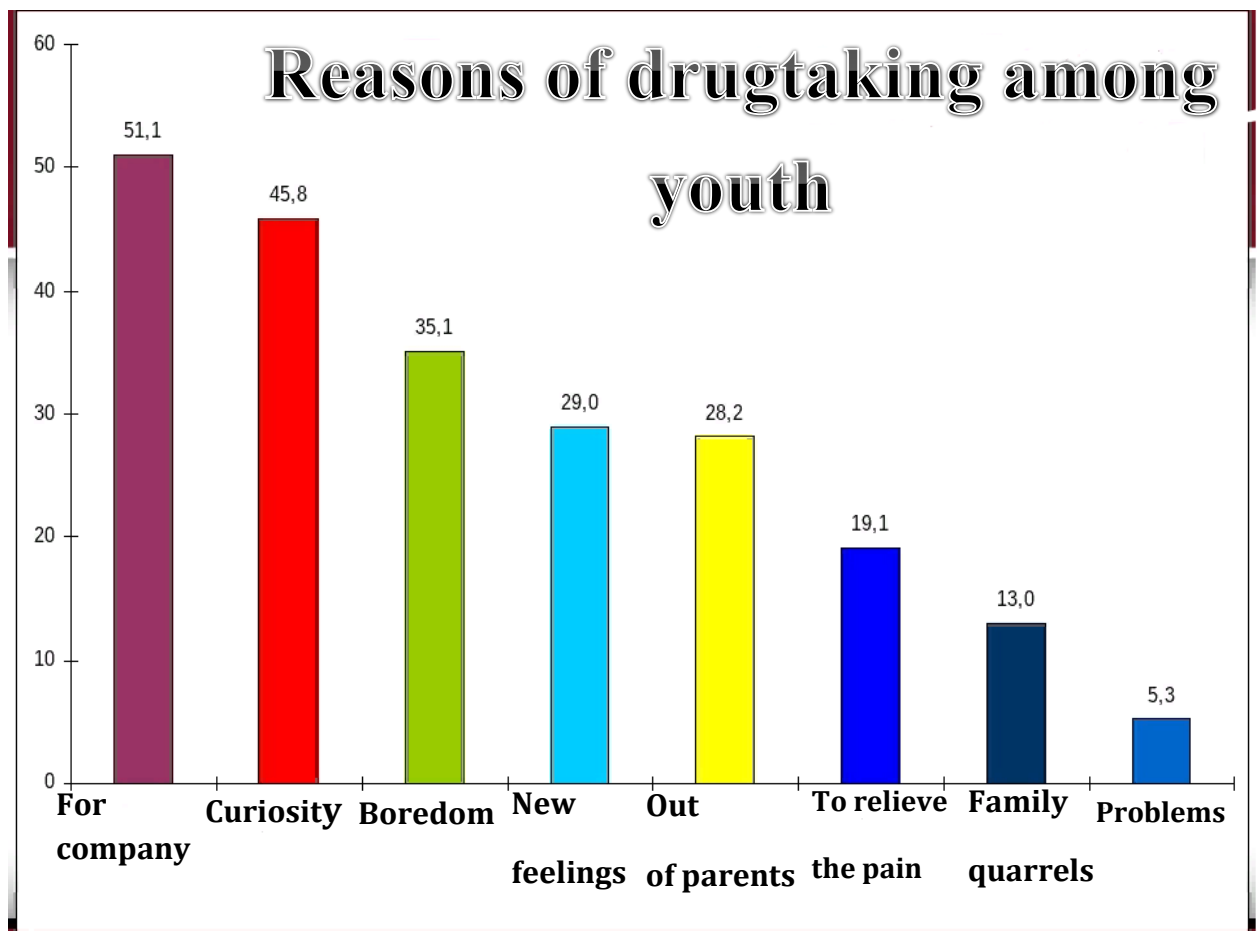
The authors of the study note that in 1980-1998, mortality among middle-aged Americans for both sexes fell markedly. However, from 1998 to 2014, it began to grow again and now again above 100 people per 100 000 population per year for men 35-44 years, above 220 per 100 000 for men 44-54 years, above 45 for women 35-44 years and above 100 for women from 44 to 54 years. At the same time, the researchers were surprised to find that among all the causes of death in these age groups, only one cause showed an increase throughout this time. This is caused by the death associated with the abuse of drugs or medicines, its effects are similar to drugs. This includes so-called legal drugs, which are sometimes prescribed by American doctors as strong painkillers and antidepressants.

For white men, in 45-54 years, the increase in mortality only from the "drug" factor was 22.8 per 100 000 population only in 1999-2013. Between 1980 and 2014, this factor gave this age group an increase of 36.5 deaths per 100,000 population. But alcohol and suicide, which have traditionally been attributed a leading role in the growth of mortality of middle-aged people in the United States, did not show any growth during this period. In this regard, the most effective way to combat "middle-aged mortality" would be to limit access to drugs, including those that can be legally obtained.



5. Drug propaganda among the younger generation.

The use of illegal drugs among teenagers is rampantly increasing. Drugs are going from the undergrounds to the hallways of schools. They are corrupting youth. Drug addiction among young people has reached a critical level. Nowadays the average age of the first drug sample has decreased to 12 and half years. According to the conducted sociological surveys, about 40% of students know where and how to get drugs. Some children consider their consumption as a "prestigious" form of behavior. The drug situation in the whole world remains tense. The reason is the general expansion of drug export, as well as the convenient situation of the Republic and its relatively stable socio-economic situation for drug traffic from Asia to Europe. One of the signs of tension of the drug situation is the increase in mortality from drug poisoning. Over the year, it increased by 8.5%.





6. Drug-related crime and corruption increase

Significant changes in the dynamics of drug-related crime, it was confirmed in 2005 by the increase in drug-related crimes committed by organized groups (30%), as well as the growth of the number of serious crimes (35%). It should be noted that the structural and organizational specialization of criminal groups involved in drug trafficking in the world is constantly improving, especially this for criminal gangs created along ethnic lines. Level of the technical equipment and potential of such groups is growing. Increasingly, the Internet and other modern means are used for communication and carrying out financial operations. There have been several cases of drug payments and precursors are Bank transfers over the Internet. Corruption is the great enabler of organized crime, and opportunities for corruption exist at every stage of the drug supply chain. However, too little is known about how different types of corruption interact with drug markets. Drugs continue to represent a major source of revenue for organized crime networks, but business models are changing, with criminals exploiting new technologies, such as the darknet, that are altering the nature of the illicit drug trade and the types of players involved, with looser, horizontal networks and smaller groups becoming more significant. New ways of delivering drugs further point to the need to involve other sectors such as postal services in the fight against drug trafficking.

At current levels, world heroin consumption (340 tons) and seizures represent an annual flow of 430-450 tons of heroin into the global heroin market. Of that total, opium from Myanmar and the Lao People's Democratic Republic yields some 50 tons, while the rest, some 380 tons of heroin and morphine, is produced exclusively from Afghan opium. While approximately 5 tons are consumed and seized in Afghanistan, the remaining bulk of 375 tons is trafficked worldwide via routes flowing into and through the countries neighboring Afghanistan. In 2008, global heroin seizures reached a record level of 73.7 metric tons. Most of the heroin was seized in the Near and Middle East and South-West Asia (39 per cent of the global total), South-East Europe (24 per cent) and Western and Central Europe (10 per cent). The global increase in heroin seizures over the period 2006-2008 was driven mainly by continued burgeoning seizures in the Islamic Republic of Iran and Turkey. In 2008, those two countries accounted for more than half of global heroin seizures and registered, for the third consecutive year, the highest and second highest seizures worldwide, respectively.



Part 3. Conclusion.

The analysis of world drug markets presented in this report highlighted some positive elements. Affecting less than 5% of the age group 15 to 64, the prevalence of illicit drug use at the global level remains much lower than for tobacco, which affects close to 30%. As far as the two main problem drugs - heroin and cocaine - are concerned, the prevalence only amounted to about 0.5% of the same age group in 2002. Global production of opium is now some 80% less than at the beginning of the 20th century, prior to the introduction of an international drug control system. Though considerable progress has been recorded, there is no room for complacency. Drug use remains at an unacceptable bring misery to mankind. It also finances criminal and, to some extent, terrorist activities. Too many young people across the globe still die every year because of drugs, either as a direct result of drug abuse, or indirectly from exposure to infectious diseases, primarily HIV, transmitted by contaminated injection paraphernalia. Conceptual developments in recent years offer prospects of reinvigorated drug control strategies. They reflect, for instance, the need to address the drug problem in a broader sustainable development context. A more integrated response to the twin sectors of drugs and crime is also emerging. The new paradigm of human security encapsulates this broader view of the problem. Finally, efforts are also under way to improve the understanding of drug epidemics, as well as the structure and functioning of drug markets, with a view to design more synergetic, dynamic and cost-effective interventions.



Part 4. .Useful literature and web-sites.

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