

IDUTRAIN'26

Special Session on Drug Trafficking and Regional Stability in the Americas

Study Guide

Under-Secretary-General: Masal Bozkurt

With special thanks to Ata Karakaya and Yiğit Karabiyik for their contributions

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II. Letter from the Secretary General

Dear Delegates and Members of the Academic Team,

When we first started discussing the idea for IDUTRAIN'26 back in October, we had a very specific goal in mind. We felt that İzmir's university scene needed a more professional and dedicated platform for high-level debate—a place where students could truly challenge themselves. Today, seeing that idea turn into our first annual session is an incredibly proud moment for all of us.

Building a conference from the ground up is a long and demanding journey. It requires more than just planning; it takes a team that truly cares about the outcome. While every member of our team has given their best, I want to personally acknowledge one of our Directors-General, Umutcan Altunok. I have seen firsthand the immense effort and the countless hours he has put into this project since day one. His dedication has been the driving force behind making this vision a reality.

Our mission for this session is simple: we want to provide you with a space for real personal growth and innovative thinking. This is not just about following a procedure; it is about finding creative solutions to global challenges and engaging in debates that actually matter. I encourage you to push your boundaries, share your unique perspectives, and make the most of this experience.

I am genuinely looking forward to seeing the results of your hard work and meeting you all in person. Let's make this inaugural session of IDUTRAIN'26 a meaningful start for everyone involved.

See you all there, and I hope to continue this journey with you at IDUMUN'26.

Sincerely,

Yusuf Say

Secretary-General, IDUTRAIN'26

III. Letter from the Under-Secretary-General

Lovely Participants,

I would first like to introduce myself. I am Masal Bozkurt, a freshman at Cihat Kora Anatolian High School. I've been participating in these conferences for over a year, and it is such an honor for me to welcome you to IDUTRAIN'26, a conference that I believe will be unforgettable for all, and to serve as the Under-Secretary-General responsible for this committee.

I sincerely hope that this guide answers all your possible questions and is a helpful resource for your preparation process. As I kindly ask you to prepare well for the committee, I would like to remind you that if you have any questions about the committee or the conference, please don't hesitate to reach out to the academic team of our committee. Furthermore, this committee gives you – the amazing participants – a chance to dive deep into the issue of drug trafficking in the Americas. Anything you do not like in the current world can be discussed and changed within this committee. Also, there's my contact information below if you'd like to reach out!

I sincerely hope that you are as excited as me for IDUTRAIN'26 and that you will work hard for the overall well-being of our committee regardless of your level of experience.

I wish all of you an unforgettable, productive, and truly great experience. I can't wait to see you at the conference and to meet you all.

With best wishes,

Masal Bozkurt

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1. Introduction to the Committee

1.1. About the Committee

Special Session on Drug Trafficking and Regional Stability in the Americas (SS-DTRA) is a fictional session created to address one of the most persistent crises in the Americas. Exclusive to representatives only from the Americas, SS-DTRA serves as a forum that enables discussions regarding national security, public health and international law and legislation for representatives all around from the Americas.

1.2. Procedure of the Committee

Differing from General Assembly committees, the delegates of SS-DTRA have numerous different action choices. While discussing in moderated caucuses about general problems or solutions are also possible, delegates can propose new documents, laws or amendments. Having a different procedure creates a better debating experience for the participants. With rules that require things like each motion and the setting of agenda items should at least have 2 in favor speakers that express the importance of the proposed agenda or motion. Further details regarding the procedure will be shared within an official "Rules of Procedure" document for the delegates.

2. Introduction to the Agenda Item

2.1. Narcotrafficking in Americas

Narcotrafficking, also known as illicit drug trade or drug trafficking, is a term that is used to describe the development and manufacturing processes of all prohibited drugs and of course their illegal trade. In today's world, there are lots of jurisdictions and restrictions against the illicit drug trafficking that prohibits the manufacturing and trade process of the drugs. Even though those laws are strict in some regions, it is possible to come across with exceptions that allow narco trades if the producer has license or if the purpose of use includes medical purposes. Unfortunately, the traffickers often tend to violate the jurisdictions or find loopholes in the restrictions.

2.1.2. Illegal Drug Trafficking in Latin and South America

The illicit narcotrafficking in Latin and South America is particularly based on the manufacturing and smuggling processes of cocaine and cannabis and their illegal export to the United States and Europe. The harvest of the coca, the staple of cocaine, is made in South Africa since the Andes region is the only place that is convenient to grow the coca especially in Bolivia, Colombia, and Peru.

2.1.3. United States and Latin American Drug Control

Along with the Nixon Administration, The United States war on drugs in Latin America was begun. The war on drugs led to huge amounts of United States' manpower and funding being dedicated to help to stop the drug manufacturing in Latin America and to slow the flow of drugs smuggling to North America from Latin America.

The most important milestone in the efforts for both Latin American countries and the United States was the signing of the extradition treaties for drug traffickers, leading significant traffickers and cartel members to be arrested and imprisoned in the United States.

2.2. The Effect of Trafficking on Institutional Instability

Drug trafficking poses a direct and multifaceted threat to institutional stability. First and foremost, by fuelling the growth of the illicit economy, it erodes government tax revenues and hinders the effective use of public resources. This situation disrupts the financing of essential public services such as education, health care, and security. Also the high incomes made by the narco trafficking overshadows the legitimate economic activities, encouraging the informal economy and undermining the transparency of the economic system.

Moreover, drug trafficking targets the integrity of state institutions. Criminal organizations resort to methods such as bribery and threats to exert influence over law enforcement, the judiciary, and politics. Such corrupt practices weaken the rule of law and severely undermine public's trust in government institutions. This erosion of institutional structures calls into question the legitimacy of the state's decision-making processes and may even lead to a governance crisis in the long term.

Drug trafficking also has devastating effects on social security and stability. The strengthening of organized crime networks can lead to an increase in violent incidents and the emergence of power vacuums at the local level, causing the state's capacity of control to reduce.

3. Historical Background

3.1. Evolution of the “War on Drugs”

Until the early 20th century drugs were largely unregulated in the US. Opioid was a well known/used medicine since “Revolutionary War” but usage of Opioid began getting abused especially in the late 1800s and cocaine usage became prevalent. As the usage of Opioid grew, alcohol consumption steadily grew in the middle class, promoting moderation or abstinence. In the early 1900s practice of smoking cannabis began to get noticed which caused state and local governments to begin enacting drug laws Under the US Constitution as the authority to control dangerous drugs exists separately at both the federal and state level. Federal drug legislation arrived after the turn of the century.

3.1.2 America’s “first opioid crisis”

The 1880s saw opiate addiction populate upon people like housewives, doctors and Civil War veterans which causes the so called America’s “first opioid crisis”

3.1.3. The Existence Of the term “War On Drugs”

The term “War on Drugs” which sometimes gets referred as “War on Cartels” as well this term was officially popularized by media after a press conference given on June,17 1971 during which the president at that time Richard Nixon declared drug abuse as their “public enemy number one.”

With the special message Richard Nixon has given before the conference to the US Congress on Drug Abuse Prevention and Control", which included text about devoting more federal resources to the "prevention of new addicts, and the rehabilitation of those who are addicted" US officially declared “War On Drugs.”

In the years since, presidential administrations and Congress have generally maintained or expanded Nixon's original initiatives, with the emphasis on law enforcement and interdiction over public health and treatment. Especially Cannabis presents a high potential for abuse with no medical value because of that it has a special case under federal restrictions in the 1930s, and has been classified since 1970 with the same level of prohibition as heroin. Multiple mainstream studies and findings since the 1930s have recommended against such a severe

3.2. Regional Agreements & Failed Policies

3.2.1 The “Plan Colombia”

Plan Colombia was developed by former President Pastrana (1998-2002) aiming to end Colombia's long armed conflict and eliminate drug trafficking in order to promote economic and social development. The Andean Counterdrug Initiative (ACI) was the primary U.S. program that deeply supported this plan. In addition to ACI Colombia received assistance from the Foreign Military Financing (FMF) program and the Department of Defense's central counternarcotics account as well. From FY2000 through FY2005 ACI funded approximately 2.8 billion dollars towards “Plan Colombia” This funds with the addition of FMF and DOD assistance reaches the total level of U.S. support to Colombia up to 4.5 billion dollars The Administration has requested Congress to continue support for Plan Colombia beyond FY2005 with an additional \$463 million in ACI funding, and \$90 million in FMF requested for FY2006.

While there has been a measurable progress in Colombia's internal security as decreases in violence and in the eradication of drug crops no effects have been seen with regard to price, purity and availability of cocaine and heroin in the United States. Military operations against illegally armed groups have intensified but the main leftist guerilla group seemed no closer to agreeing on a cease-fire

The results of Plan Colombia have been a mixed situation. From the perspective of the United States and Colombian governments the results of the “Plan Colombia” have been positive! The United States showed that a significant reduction in leftover coca has been observed from peak 2001 levels of 1,698 square kilometers to an estimated 1,140 square kilometers in 2004.

U.S. government officials admitted in late 2005 that the market price of cocaine has risen significantly as would be expected from the above reductions in supply. They pointed out possible hidden stashes and other methods of hiding and circumventing the immediate effect of eradication efforts which allows constant flow of drugs that are able to enter into the market because of the delayed actions The United States has taken. U.S. Drug Czar John Walters stated that “the reason for[reductions in supply not immediately driving prices up] is that you are not seizing and consuming coca leaves that were grown in 2004 in 2004. You are seizing and consuming coca leaves that were probably grown and processed in 2003 and 2002.”

The Colombian government announced their success that compared to 2006 the coca hectares has been decreased by 23000 hectares at 2007 “The Weekly Standart” hailed Colombia as “the most successful nation-building exercise by the United States in this century” noting:

Colombia used to be the world capital of kidnappings but with the help of U.S. and “Plan Colombia” this number has been down from 2882 in 2002 to 376 in 2008 and at the same period terrorist acts have also fallen dramatically from 1645 to 308. Between 2002 and 2008 the total hectares of cocaine eradicated rose from 133127 to 229227 tons of cocaine seized rose from 105.1 to 245.5 and the amount of drug labs that had been seized rose from 1448 to 3667.

Therefore “Plan Colombia” succeeded in making Colombia a safer and more drug free habitat with the help of the United States but even though this success The United States still struggled upon the rising numbers of cocaine usage.

3.2.2 What is “Controlled Substances Act” (CSA)

The “Controlled Substances Act (CSA) “ is the statute establishing federal U.S. drug policy under regulating usage and distribution of certain substances. It was passed by the 91st United States Congress as the second title of the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act Of 1970 and signed into a regulating law by President Richard Nixon. This act also served as the national implementation legislation for the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs.

The CSA consisted of two subchapters. Subchapter I defines Schedules I-V lists chemicals used in the manufacture of controlled substances and differentiates lawful and unlawful manufactures and possession of controlled substances which includes possession of Schedule I drugs for personal use. This chapter is very detailed as it specifies the dollar amounts of fines and durations of imprisoning. Subchapter II describes the laws for exportation and importation of controlled substances specifying once again the fines and prison terms for these violations.

3.2.3. Amendments of "Controlled Substances Act" (CSA) (1970-2018)

1. The 1976 Medical Device Regulation Act:

Classification of Medical Devices

There are three classifications for medical devices:

- *Class I - General Controls* for devices considered as low risks for human use.

Medical devices have sufficient information to provide reasonable assurance of the safety and effectiveness of the device. Medical devices are not to be for a use in supporting or sustaining human life, for a use which is of substantial importance in preventing impairment of human health, and does not present a potential unreasonable risk of illness or injury.

- *Class II - Performance Standards* for devices considered as moderate risks for human use.

Medical devices have insufficient information to provide reasonable assurance of the safety and effectiveness of the device. Medical devices cannot be classified as a class I device because the controls authorized are insufficient to provide reasonable assurance of the safety and effectiveness of the device. A medical device has sufficient information to establish a performance standard and it is necessary to establish a performance standard for the device.

- *Class III - Premarket Approval* for devices considered as high risks for human use.

A medical device cannot be classified as a class I device because insufficient information exists to determine that the controls authorized are sufficient to provide reasonable assurance of the safety and effectiveness of the device. Medical device cannot be classified as a class II device because insufficient information exists for the establishment of a performance standard to provide reasonable assurance of its safety and effectiveness of the device. Medical device is to be for use in supporting or sustaining human life, of substantial importance in preventing impairment of human health, or presents a potential unreasonable risk of illness or injury, is to be subject, premarket approval to provide reasonable assurance of its safety and effectiveness.

Classification Panels for Medical Devices

- Classification panels are to determine which devices intended for human use should be subject to the requirements of *class I - general controls*, *class II - performance standards*, or *class III - premarket approval*.
- Classification panels are to provide notice to the manufacturers and importers of medical devices intended for human use.
- Manufacturers and importers are to prepare for the application of such requirements and to report medical devices intended for human use manufactured or imported by them.
- Panel appointments shall consist of members with adequately diversified expertise in such fields as biological and physical sciences, clinical and administrative medicine, engineering, and other related professions. Persons who are qualified by training and experience to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of medical devices or possess skills in the use of, experience in the development, manufacture, or utilization of such medical devices.
- No individual who is in the regular full-time employment of the United States and engaged in the administration of this Act may be a member of any medical device classification panel.

2. The Psychotropic Substances Act of 1978: An Act to amend the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1970 and other laws to meet obligations under the Convention on Psychotropic Substances

relating to regulatory controls on the manufacture, distribution, importation, and exportation of psychotropic substances, and for other purposes.

3. The Controlled Substances Penalties Amendments Act of 1984:

Part A — Controlled Substances Penalties

This chapter is cited as the Controlled Substances Penalties Amendments Act of 1984

(1) Controlled Substances Act is amended and redesignated —

(A) In the case of a violation of this section involving —

(i) 100 grams (3.5 oz) or more of a controlled substance in schedule I or schedule II which is a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of a narcotic drug other than a narcotic drug consisting of —

(I) coca leaves

(II) a compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, or preparation of coca leaves

(III) a chemical substance or substance chemically identical thereto

(ii) 1 kilogram (2.2 lb) or more of any other controlled substance in schedule I or II which is a narcotic drug

(iii) 500 grams (18 oz) or more of phencyclidine (PCP)

(iv) 5 grams (0.18 oz) or more of lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD); such person shall be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not more than 20 years, a fine of not more than \$250,000, or both. If any person commits such a violation after one or more prior convictions of him for an offense punishable under this paragraph, or for a felony under any other provision of this title or title III or other law of a State, the United States, or a foreign country relating to narcotic drugs,

marihuana, or depressant or stimulant substances, have become final, such person shall be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not more than 40 years, a fine of not more than \$500,000, or both.

(B) Controlled Substances Act is amended and redesignated —

(i) striking out "which is a narcotic drug" in the first sentence and inserting in lieu thereof "except as provided in subparagraphs (A) and (C)

(ii) striking out "\$25,000" and "\$50,000" and inserting in lieu thereof "\$125,000" and "\$250,000", respectively

(iii) striking out "of the United States" in the second sentence and inserting in lieu thereof "of a State, the United States, or a foreign country"

(C) Subparagraph (C), as redesignated above, by —

(i) striking out "a controlled substance in schedule I or II which is not a narcotic drug" and inserting in lieu thereof "less than 50 kilograms (110 lb) of marihuana, 10 kilograms (22 lb) of hashish, or 1 kilogram (2.2 lb) of hashish oil" and respectively

(ii) striking out "\$15,000" and "\$30,000" and inserting in lieu thereof "\$50,000" and "\$100,000", respectively

(iii) striking out "of the United States" in the second sentence and inserting in lieu thereof "of a State, the United States, or a foreign country"

(2) Paragraph (2) as redesignated by —

(A) striking out "\$10,000" and "\$20,000" and inserting in lieu thereof "\$25,000" and "\$50,000", respectively

(B) striking out "of the United States" and inserting in lieu thereof "of a State, the United States, or a foreign country"

(3) Paragraph (3) as redesignated by —

(A) striking out "\$5,000" and "\$10,000" and inserting in lieu thereof "\$10,000" and "\$20,000", respectively

(B) striking out "of the United States" and inserting in lieu thereof "of a State, the United States, or a foreign country"

(4) Paragraph (4), by striking out "(1)(B)" and inserting in lieu thereof "(1)(C)"

(5) By striking out paragraphs (5) and (6)

(6) By adding at the end thereof the following:

Any person who violates by cultivating a controlled substance on Federal property shall be fined not more than —

(A) \$500,000 if such person is an individual

(B) \$1,000,000 if such person is not an individual

4. The 1986 Federal Analog Act for chemicals "substantially similar" in Schedule I and II to be listed:

- (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (C), the term *controlled substance analogue* means a substance -
 - (i) the chemical structure of which is substantially similar to the chemical structure of a controlled substance in schedule I or II;
 - (ii) which has a stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous system that is substantially similar to or greater than

- the stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous system of a controlled substance in schedule I or II; or
- (iii) with respect to a particular person, which such person represents or intends to have a stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous system that is substantially similar to or greater than the stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous system of a controlled substance in schedule I or II.
- (B) The designation of gamma butyrolactone or any other chemical as a listed chemical pursuant to paragraph (34) or (35) does not preclude a finding pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this paragraph that the chemical is a controlled substance analogue.
 - (C) Such term does not include -
 - (i) a controlled substance;
 - (ii) any substance for which there is an approved new drug application;
 - (iii) with respect to a particular person any substance, if an exemption is in effect for investigational use, for that person, under section 355 of this title to the extent conduct with respect to such substance is pursuant to such exemption; or
 - (iv) any substance to the extent not intended for human consumption before such an exemption takes effect with respect to that substance.

5. The 1988 Chemical Diversion and Trafficking Act:

Regulation of Listed Chemicals and Certain Machines

Controlled Substances Act is amended —

(a) (1) Each regulated person who engages in a regulated transaction involving a listed chemical, a tableting machine, or an encapsulating machine shall keep a record of the transaction —

(A) For 4 years after the date of the transaction, if the listed chemical is a precursor chemical or if the transaction involves a tableting machine or an encapsulating machine.

(B) For 2 years after the date of the transaction, if the listed chemical is an essential chemical.

(2) A record shall be retrievable and shall include the date of the regulated transaction, the identity of each party to the regulated transaction, a statement of the quantity and form of the listed chemical, a description of the tableting machine or encapsulating machine, and a description of the method of transfer. Such records shall be available for inspection and copying by the Attorney General.

(3) It is the duty of each regulated person who engages in a regulated transaction to identify each other party to the transaction. It is the duty of such other party to present proof of identity to the regulated person. The Attorney General shall specify by regulation the types of documents and other evidence that constitute proof of identity for purposes of this Act.

(b) Each regulated person shall report to the Attorney General, in such form and manner as the Attorney General shall prescribe by regulation —

(1) any regulated transaction involving an extraordinary quantity of a listed chemical, an uncommon method of payment or delivery, or any other circumstance that the regulated person believes may indicate that the listed chemical will be used in violation of this title

(2) any proposed regulated transaction with a person whose description or other identifying characteristic the Attorney General furnishes in advance to the regulated person

(3) any unusual or excessive loss or disappearance of a listed chemical under the control of the regulated person

(4) any regulated transaction in a tableting machine or an encapsulating machine

Each report shall be made at the earliest practicable opportunity after the regulated person becomes aware of the circumstance involved. A regulated person may not complete a transaction with a person whose description or identifying characteristic is furnished to the regulated person unless the transaction is approved by the Attorney General. The Attorney General shall make available to regulated persons guidance documents describing transactions and circumstances for which reports are required by this Act.

(c) (1) Except as provided, any information obtained by the Attorney General under this section which is exempt from disclosure under Title 5, United States Code, by reason of such title, is confidential and may not be disclosed to any person.

(2) Information referred to a regulated transaction involving a listed chemical, a tableting machine, or an encapsulating machine may be disclosed only —

(A) To an officer or employee of the United States engaged in carrying out this title, Title III, or the customs laws

(B) When relevant in any investigation or proceeding for the enforcement of this title, Title III, or the customs laws

(C) when necessary to comply with an obligation of the United States under a treaty or other international agreement

(D) to a State or local official or employee in conjunction with the enforcement of controlled substances laws or precursor chemical laws.

(3) The Attorney General shall —

(A) take such action as may be necessary to prevent unauthorized disclosure of information by any person to whom such information is disclosed under this Act

(B) issue guidelines that limit, to the maximum extent feasible, the disclosure of proprietary business information, including the names or identities of United States exporters of listed chemicals, to any person to whom such information is disclosed under this Act

(4) Any person who is aggrieved by a disclosure of information in violation of this section may bring a civil action against the violator for appropriate relief.

(5) Notwithstanding, a civil action may not be brought against investigative or law enforcement personnel of the Drug Enforcement Administration

6. The 1990 Anabolic Steroids Control Act: is a United States federal law that placed anabolic steroids under Schedule III of the Controlled Substances Act (CSA) The legislation also amended the Controlled Substances Act by defining anabolic steroids as "any drug or hormonal substance, chemically and pharmacologically related to testosterone (other than estrogens, progestins, and corticosteroids) that promotes muscle growth", regulated human growth hormone, and established criminal penalties for their non-medical use and distribution of the substances

7. The 1993 Domestic Chemical Diversion and Control Act

8. The Hillary J. Farias and Samantha Reid Date-Rape Prevention Act of 2000

9. The 2008 Ryan Haight Online Pharmacy Consumer Protection Act

10. The 2010 Electronic Prescriptions for Controlled Substances

11. The 2012 Synthetic Drug Abuse Prevention Act

12. The 2010 Secure and Responsible Drug Disposal Act

13. The 2017 Protecting Patient Access to Emergency Medications Act

3.2.4. Plan Mexico (Mérida Initiative)

The Merida Initiative, also called Plan Mexico, was a security cooperation agreement between the United States, Mexico and the countries of Central America. This operation ran from 2007 to 2021 with the aim of clearing the threats of drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and money laundering, assistance between the countries that includes training, equipment and intelligence.

In seeking partnership with the US, Mexican officials pointed out that the illicit drug trade is a problem of both countries so they needed a shared solution and they reminded that most of the financing for the Mexican traffickers comes from American drug consumers. U.S. law enforcement officials estimate that 12 to 15 billion US dollars per year flows from US to Mexican traffickers and that excludes the money sent by wire transfer. Other agencies like Government Accountability Office and The

The National Drug Intelligence Center has estimated that Mexico's cartels earn upwards of 23 billion US dollars per year in illicit drug revenue from the US.

On July 10, 2008 the Mexican government announced their plans to nearly double the size of its Federal Preventive Police force in order to reduce the role of military services in combating drug trafficking. The plan known as the Comprehensive Strategy Against Drug Trafficking also involves purging local police forces of corrupt officers. Most of the plan have already been set in motion that includes a massive police recruiting and training effort with the intentions of reducing the countries military dependence for their war on drugs. As part of the plan Mexico was already receiving information upon suspicious departing ships from ports in Colombia and Ecuador.

Early December 2008, The US released 197 million dollars of aid to Mexico. This donation was in order to grant Mexico equipment in order to fight violent drug cartels. By early 2009 the U.S. government had released another 99 million dollars which will go towards buying



aircraft and inspection equipment for the Mexican forces. The US has thus far released 300 million dollars of the 400 million appropriated for Mexico.

During the 5th Summit of the Americas that took place in April 2009, several Caribbean nations stated that they have desire to join Merida Initiative

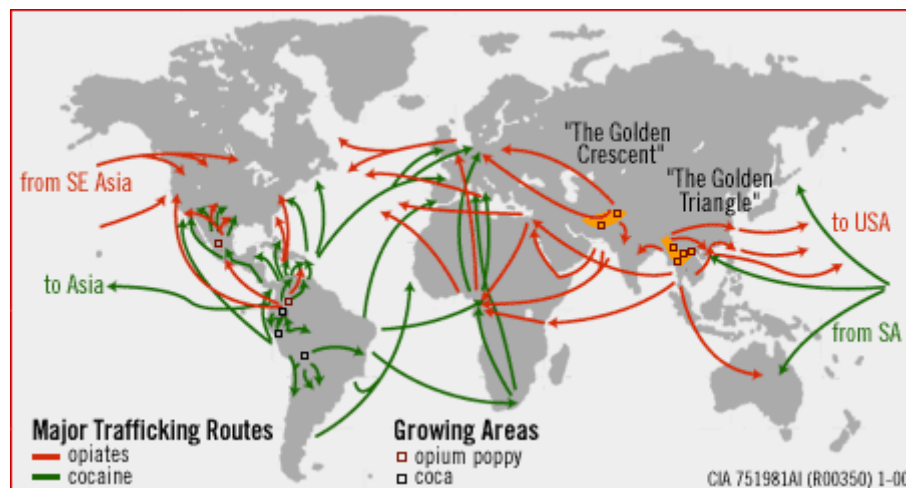
Security cooperation between Mexico and the US steadily declined from 2018. The Mexican federal government stopped approving most Mérida Initiative programs, and the arrangement was considered dead in 2021.

4. Current Situation

4.1. Major Trafficking Routes

4.1.1. Drug Trafficking Routes in Africa

Through the route called “Southern Route” or “Smart Track”, significant amounts of heroin is continuously being trafficked from Afghanistan to Europe and America. Repercussions of this trade include burgeoning heroin use and political corruption in intermediary African nations. Most of the cocaine trafficked to South America is being produced in Africa, particularly in countries such as Nigeria, Ghana and Senegal.



Most Popular Drug Trafficking Routes in the World

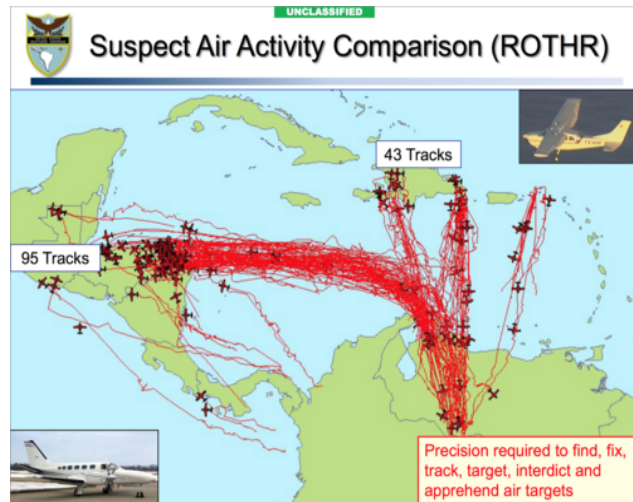
4.1.2. Drug Trafficking Routes in Asia

Until the Cold War, drug trafficking in Asia used to be based on the routes that are located in Southern Asia, more specifically, in South Eastern Asian countries and Southern China. Moreover, those old routes used to include Thailand, Iran, and Pakistan. Right after the Cold War (1991), some contracts regarding commerce and customs were signed, causing these routes to extend to Russia besides China and Middle Asia. Due to those aforementioned reasons, there are various routes in Asia to smuggle narcotics that still continue to extend and develop with the evolving black market.

In addition, the drugs trafficked to Europe from Asia is being considerably increased. Most of those drugs are being trafficked from Golden Crescent and Afghanistan and they might even get trafficked to Northern American Countries besides Europe.

4.1.3. Drug Trafficking Routes in South America

For the illegal narcotics originating in Colombia, Venezuela has been a path to the United States and Europe through Central America, Mexico and Caribbean countries such as Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and Puerto Rico. According to the United Nations (UN), drug trafficking that is happening through Venezuela has increased from 2002 to 2008 significantly. In 2005, the government of Hugo Chaves served ties with the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), accusing its representatives of spying. Following the departure of the DEA from Venezuela and the expansion of the DEA's partnership with Colombia in 2005, Venezuela became more attractive to drug traffickers. Between 2008 and 2012, Venezuela's cocaine seizure ranking among other countries declined, going from being fourth in the world for cocaine seizures in 2008 to sixth in the world in 2012.



4.2. Social and Economic Impacts of Trafficking

The economic impacts of drug trafficking creates a new economic model called "Shadow Economy" that operates entirely outside the regulated financial system, often leading to market distortions and the weakening of legitimate export sectors governments are frequently forced to divert substantial resources which causes governments to decrease their funding for education, healthcare or infrastructure resulting of US needing more funds upon these topics. Furthermore, the loss of labor productivity and the escalating costs associated with addiction related public health crises constitute some of the most significant fiscal challenges facing modern economies.

The social impacts of drug trafficking in the US is defined by the profound destabilization of community structures and the erosion of public safety that mostly includes rural and urban areas. This environment of insecurity often results in the displacement of families and the decline of local businesses as they are influenced by the illicit market.

5. Legal Frameworks

In today's world, there are lots of organizations, treaties, bodies, and societies that are focusing on the illicit trade of narcotic drugs and ways to prevent the illegal drug trafficking.

5.2. Treaties and Efforts Under the UNODC (United Nations Organization for Drug and Crime)

5.2.1 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (1961)

The Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961 was adopted in 1961, entered into force on December 13, 1964 and, as amended by the 1972 Protocol; has been joined by 186 countries as of 2022. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Single Convention aims to "combat drug abuse" by limiting "the possession, use, trade in, distribution, import, export, manufacture and production of drugs exclusively to medical and scientific purposes" and through "international cooperation to deter and discourage drug traffickers" The Single Convention classifies drugs in four schedules; Schedules I and IV are the most prohibitive and included opium, heroin, cocaine and cannabis

5.2.2 The Convention on Psychotropic Substances (1971)

The Convention on Psychotropic Substances was adopted in 1971, entered into force on August 16, 1976, and has been joined by 184 countries. It addresses a number of synthetic psychotropic substances, such as amphetamines, barbiturates, and LSD, that had become widely used since World War II, and especially in the 1960s, and were generally not regulated internationally. According to the UNODC, the convention "responded to the diversification and expansion of the spectrum of drugs of abuse and introduced controls over a number of synthetic drugs according to their abuse potential on the one hand and their therapeutic value on the other". The convention classifies the drugs it concerns in a four-schedule system different in the details from the Single Convention schedules.

5.2.3 The United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988)

The United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances was adopted in 1988, entered into force on November 11, 1990, and has been joined by 191 countries. The convention addressed concern over the rapid growth in international drug trafficking. According to the UNODC, it provides comprehensive measures against drug trafficking, including provisions against money laundering and the diversion of precursor chemicals. The treaty essentially criminalized the entire drug market chain, from cultivation/production to shipment, sale, and possession.

5.3. European Commission

According to the European Commission, Drug trafficking is a global criminal business that is undermining health and security in Europe. Criminal networks that sell illicit drugs such as cocaine and synthetic drugs drive violence and corruption in our streets. Drug abuse, particularly among the young, poses an increasing problem. The European Commission has responded to this challenge with a new drugs strategy and action plan to stop the traffic of narcotics into the EU.

Drug traffickers change their trafficking routes frequently and increasingly operate online.

The strategy will tackle this behaviour by focusing on 5 key areas:

- Enhancing preparedness and response to drug related threats
- Protecting public health, by strengthening prevention, treatment and reintegration measures
- Strengthening security, with stricter rules against organised crime
- Measures to prevent drug-related harm focused on protecting young people from recruitment into organised crime
- Stronger partnerships with non-EU countries

The European Commission has also proposed new rules to make the monitoring and controlling of drug precursors and designer precursors clearer and simpler. Proposed new measures include real-time reporting of significant seizures of drug precursors and a ban on designer precursors.

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