

Drug trafficking is one of the **EMPACT** priorities, Europol's priority crime areas, under the 2018–2021 EU Policy Cycle.

With a retail market estimated to be worth at least EUR 5.7 billion annually, cocaine is Europe's most commonly used stimulant. Use of the drug may be declining slightly, but availability may be increasing.

PRODUCTION

Coca-bush cultivation appears to be on the rise in the only countries it is produced in: Colombia, Peru and Bolivia. Exactly how much cocaine is produced is not clear, with varying and sometimes mutually contradictory estimates being produced.

TRAFFICKING ROUTES AND METHODS

Cocaine is trafficked to Europe by both sea and air, primarily via Colombia, Brazil and Venezuela. The Caribbean and West Africa are important transit areas, while Central America appears to be becoming more important. Cocaine is also trafficked via routes for other drugs, such as cannabis via North Africa and heroin through East Africa. Cocaine is smuggled into Europe in many ways, from air couriers and express packages to private yachts and jets. The use of maritime containers is of increasing concern. A huge array of concealment methods is used, including those that require chemical extraction.

ORGANISED CRIME

The range of criminal organisations involved in cocaine trafficking is wider than ever. Within Europe, there is significant cooperation among OGCs. Outside Europe, West African groups are particularly active in transporting cocaine to Europe with air couriers. Other trafficking groups, such as those from the Balkans, are reportedly emerging as an additional significant threat.

NUMBER OF ITEMS FOUND: 84

SEARCH



TYPE

Article/Story, Event, How-To Guide, Landing Page, Multimedia, News/Press Release, Operation, Page, Publication/Document



TARGET GROUP



SEARCH

CLEAR ALL

24
Jan
2020

16 MEMBERS OF THE UNITED TRIBUNS NOMADS STREET GANG ARRESTED IN SPAIN

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

23
Jan
2020

COCAINE CARAVANS IMMOBILISED: 12 ARRESTS IN BIG BUST AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKERS IN THE CANARY ISLANDS

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

16
Dec
2019

DISMANTLING AN INTERNATIONAL COCAINE TRAFFICKING NETWORK

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

11
Dec
2019

ILLICIT DRUGS IN THE EU: THE SITUATION IS EXPANDING IN SCALE AND COMPLEXITY

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

26
Nov
2019



European Monitoring Centre
for Drugs and Drug Addiction

EUROPOL

2019 EU DRUG MARKETS REPORT FROM THE EMCDDA AND EUROPOL

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

22
Nov
2019

COMING SOON: 2019 EU DRUG MARKETS REPORT FROM EUROPOL AND THE EMCDDA

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

15
Nov
2019



1 176 KG OF COCAINE HIDDEN IN BANANAS SEIZED IN ITALY

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

06
Nov
2019



OVER 5 TONNES OF SMUGGLED GLASS EELS SEIZED IN EUROPE THIS YEAR

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

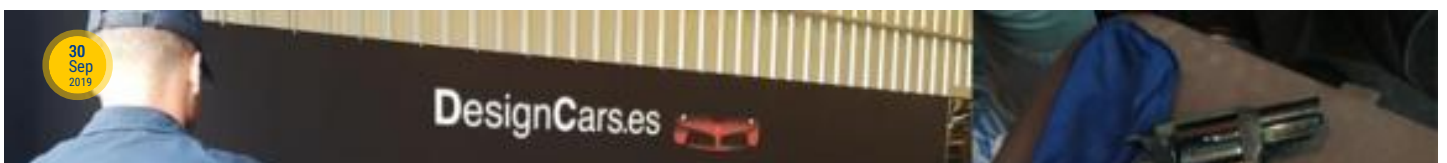
11
Oct
2019



BOAT RAIDED FROM BRAZIL TO EUROPE HIDING OVER HALF A TONNE OF COCAINE AND NARCOTIC SUBSTANCES

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

30
Sep
2019



4 TONNES OF COCAINE AND €2 MILLION IN CASH SEIZED BY SPANISH AUTHORITIES

23
Sep
2019

LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPLAINED IN 120 SECONDS

25
Jul
2019



BALKAN CARTEL TRAFFICKING COCAINE AROUND THE GLOBE IN PRIVATE PLANES BUSTED

« FIRST

« PREVIOUS

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NEXT »

LAST »

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