

Drug trafficking is one of the **IMPACT** 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



LARGE-SCALE JOINT ACTION DAY (LS-JAD)

OPERATION



CYBER-PATROLLING WEEK

OPERATION

01
Dec
2017



OPERATION DRAGON DELIVERS MAJOR BLOW TO ORGANISED CRIME

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

01
Dec
2017



JOINT ACTION DAYS 2017

PUBLICATION/DOCUMENT

28
Nov
2017

Drugs and



DRUGS AND THE DARKNET: A GROWING THREAT TO HEALTH AND SECURITY

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

28
Nov
2017

Drugs and



DRUGS AND THE DARKNET: PERSPECTIVES FOR ENFORCEMENT, RESEARCH AND POLICY

PUBLICATION/DOCUMENT

17
Nov
2017



INTERNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFICKING AND MONEY LAUNDERING NETWORK DISMANTLED

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

14
Sep
2017



LAW ENFORCEMENT DEALS A SERIOUS BLOW TO INTERNATIONAL DRUGS TRAFFICKING GROUP: 6 ARRESTED

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

14
Apr
2010



European Monitoring Centre

EUROPEAN UNION

ISSN

COCAINE: A EUROPEAN UNION PERSPECTIVE IN THE GLOBAL CONTEXT

PUBLICATION/DOCUMENT

18
May
2017



SUCCESSFUL POLICE OPERATION RESULTS IN 24 DETAINED AND 5.5 TONNES OF COCAINE SEIZED



170 KILOS OF COCAINE SEIZED IN A CONTAINER IN THE PORT OF ANTWERP



EUROPOL IN BRIEF (ANNUAL REVIEW)

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