

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

13
Feb
2013



SPECIALISTS ON AFGHAN OPIATES MEET IN THE HAGUE

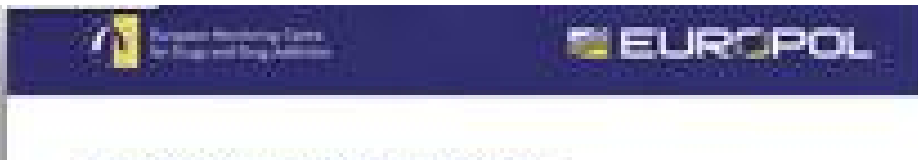
NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

31
Jan
2013

EU DRUG MARKETS REPORT 2013: A STRATEGIC ANALYSIS

PUBLICATION/DOCUMENT

31
Jan
2013



EU DRUG MARKETS REPORT - CASE STUDIES

PUBLICATION/DOCUMENT

09
Jul
2012



INTERNATIONAL OPERATION TARGETED LARGE ALBANIAN DRUG TRAFFICKING NETWORK

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

25
Jun
2012



INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF COCAINE SMUGGLERS DISMANTLED

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

08
Jun
2012



COCAINE FROM COLOMBIA SEIZED IN SPAIN

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

20
Jan
2012



INTERNATIONAL COCAINE SMUGGLING RING DISMANTLED

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

15
Dec
2011



EMCDDA AND EUROPOL LAUNCH IN-DEPTH REVIEW OF AMPHETAMINE MARKET

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

31
May
2011



NEARLY ONE TONNE OF COCAINE SEIZED IN INTERNATIONAL POLICE OPERATION

NEWS/PRESS RELEASE

27
Apr
2011



EUROPOL SUPPORTS THE SEIZURE OF 6.5 TONNES OF HEROIN PRECURSOR



OPERATIONAL AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO ESTONIA

OPERATION

01
May
2010



COCAINE: A EUROPEAN UNION PERSPECTIVE IN THE GLOBAL CONTEXT

PUBLICATION/DOCUMENT

◀ FIRST

◀ PREVIOUS

1

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4

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