



PRESS RELEASE

Regional drug threats and challenges are being discussed in Astana

EU-funded Central Asia Drug Action Programme (CADAP), which is currently in its 7th phase, hosted a regional dialogue on drug policy - a meeting attended by representatives of Central Asia drug control agencies, European institutions and expert organizations such as Spanish Government delegation for the National Plan on Drugs, European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), Intelligence Centre against Terrorism and Organised Crime (CITCO). Spanish Ministry of Interior; European Union delegations in Central Asian countries, representatives of the civil society sector, international experts, international organisations and other regional partner programmes.

The objective of the dialogue was to foster a dynamic discussion among key stakeholders in Central Asia; to provide an overview of the drug situation in Central Asia; to discuss current situation in the field of drug policy, threats and challenges of drug policies in supply control to present the results of country assessments held recently and provide key recommendations. As it was emphasized by Cosimo Lamberti, EU representative, "The regional component is very important for the European Union as it brings best possible drug harm reduction practices".

Participants were overviewing the current situation and key issues, identifying and learning from European experience and country level good practice, and resetting the drug control system to focus on health and human rights. A separate session was dedicated to education of stakeholders as an effective tool for successful drug policy design and implementation.

The Regional Dialogue on Drug Policy is another important step forward to facilitate the broader consultation and cooperation between European institutions and Central Asian authorities.

According to Ernest Robello, CADAP 7 Director, this kind of cooperation is essential: "A balanced approach to the issue of drugs and drug policy can only be achieved if there is stronger cooperation. Strengthening the dialogue is imperative in order to formulate consistent and effective global responses to drug-related challenges".

More information about CADAP, publications and researches are available at: <http://www.eu-cadap.org>



CADAP 7 is

implemented by FIIAPP – International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies. FIIAPP is a foundation of the Spanish Public Sector that aims the participation of public administrations in international cooperation programmes, mobilizing the knowledge and experiences of the public systems of the European Union and third countries within the framework of the 2030 Agenda.



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