



PRESS RELEASE

Experts from EU and CA exchanging views regarding drug situation

Brussels, 16 April 2025

Today in Brussels, Belgium, the EU-Central Asia Drug Dialogue has been conducted under the chairmanship of Poland - regular annual dialogue aiming to strengthen international cooperation, exchange views and support the proper development of drug policies. EU-funded Central Asia Drug Action Programme (CADAP) supported the participation in the Dialogue of delegations from all 5 Central Asian countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan) among the representatives of relevant state institutions, whose activities include countering drug smuggling and developing state policy in the field of drugs.

EU side was represented by EU Member States and representatives of the EU institutions and agencies such as the European Commission, the European Union Drug Agency, EUROPOL, the European External Action Service and General Secretariat of the Council of Europe.

The European Union provided an update on drugs policy and drugs situation in the EU, including on the evaluation of the implementation of the EU Drugs Strategy and Action Plan. It was followed by an update on drugs policy development and drugs situation in Central Asia countries, with recent developments and trends addressing drug demand reduction and drug supply. Finally, such emerging challenges as trafficking of **opiates and amphetamine-type stimulants** through Afghanistan and Central Asia and new psychoactive substances and synthetic drugs in Central Asia were discussed in terms of legislation, best practices and action to be taken.

“We need to continue to invest in monitoring especially because the market is changing so fast” said Danilo Ballota from European Drug Agency.

Expert dialogues on drugs are the fundamental part of the EU Drugs Strategy 2021-2025 that strongly supports information sharing on the strategies, aims and relevant initiatives through the dialogues on drugs with international partners, both at regional and bilateral level. Dialogues are typically based on multilateral partnership and cooperation with representatives of various regions or EU long-term partners. The goal is to address the experts from the countries outside of the EU and exchange views concerning the drug situation, both at regional and international level.



CADAP 7 is implemented by FIAP – *Fundación para la Internacionalización de las Administraciones Públicas*, 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 developing countries within the framework of the 2030 Agenda.



The Programme is funded by the European Union

Delegation of the European Union to the Kyrgyz Republic
21 Erkindik Boulevard, Business Centre Orion,
5th floor; Bishkek, 720040, Kyrgyz Republic
Telephone: +996 312 26 10 00
E-mail: delegation-kyrgyzstan@eeas.europa.eu
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/eudelkg>

The European Union is made up of 27 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 60 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders.