

International cooperation in the fight against drug trafficking

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Globalization is a very rapid process. Countries everywhere are trying to “erase” their borders for an unimpeded trade flow of goods, services, and capital. Integration associations are being created, agreements are being signed to simplify trade procedures, to increase trade and facilitate international trade. Like everything, this has both positive and negative aspects. For instance, this creates real preconditions for the illegal movement of goods, for smuggling, including drugs. Drug trafficking poses a real threat to the world and society, along with many crimes against society. It is worth noting that drug trafficking took on amazing proportions in the 20th century. According to the UN, the economic and political power of the drug cartels continues to grow. With the “globalization” of drug abuse at the international level, ties between all participants in this process are only expanding and it is becoming more difficult for countries to deal with these, since stakeholders control all processes from growing to selling products. Sometimes even the links between drug traffickers are even better than the international cooperation of states in this area. Considering the obvious influence of these substances, the fight against drug trafficking is one of the priority tasks for states.

Traditionally, drug production has been concentrated in three regions: the Golden Crescent - Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran; Golden Triangle - Myanmar, Thailand and Laos; the countries of the Andean triangle - Colombia, Peru and Bolivia.

At the international level, drug control policy is defined by the UN drug control conventions: the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs (as amended by the 1972 Protocol), the 1971 UN Convention on Psychotropic Substances, the UN Convention against illegal traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in 1988 [1], other UN documents, agreements between states on cooperation in this area.

Consequently, an analysis of international legal norms shows that in modern realities, the fight against drug trafficking is getting tougher.

At present, the world community has developed and is actively applying a large arsenal of joint methods of suppressing the illegal distribution of drugs. On the world stage, two legal mechanisms are used:

- contractual-legal, or convention mechanism (providing for the conclusion of special agreements regulating relations in this area);
- institutional mechanism (including cooperation within international bodies and organizations).

There are more than a dozen bilateral agreements in the world to exchange experience and jointly fight drug trafficking.

These include:

1. Agreement between the Ministries of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Belarus and the Italian Republic on the exchange of computerized information on the illegal transportation of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances along the “Balkan Route” (1993).
2. Bilateral agreement on cooperation in the fight against illicit trafficking in drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors between Russia and Kyrgyzstan (2011).
3. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Belarus and the Government of the Republic of Turkey on cooperation in the fight against international organized crime, international illegal drug trade and international terrorism (1996).

The problem of combating drug trafficking is very urgent for the Russian Federation. Russia has acceded to all major multilateral international treaties related to narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as well as the fight against them. Also, Russia is signing bilateral agreements. The spread of drug addiction and drug trafficking on its frightening scale in our country requires continuous study and monitoring of the situation in order to further optimize effective measures to combat this phenomenon. It should be added that it is necessary to bring real statistics to the attention of the population in order to understand the scale of the problem and the need to combat it.

Summing up, it can be argued that the world community has accumulated significant data in the field of combating drug trafficking, but still the drug dealer is one step ahead, as is seen from statistics and news, an important role in this fight belongs to the international legal system, which is developing precisely thanks to active cooperation.

Список литературы:

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2. Federal Law of the Russian Federation "On Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances" dated January 8, 1998 (new edition of December 08, 2020).
3. Grinenko I. International cooperation in the field of drug control is a promising direction for the implementation of the policy of European integration / Grinenko I. // News of medicine and pharmacy 6 (312). - 2010