

| Crime prevention policy | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| EU- priority | Drugs |
| Country: | Slovakia filled by Police Department |
| Year: | 2018 |

1. Overview of the field

Definition of drugs

Pursuant to § 2 of Act no. 139/1998 Z.z. Drugs, psychotropic substances and preparations are defined as narcotics, psychotropic substances and preparations (hereinafter referred to as OPL), legal ways of acquiring and handling them. This statutory measure defines:

- (1) Drugs - substances that cause habit and psychological and physical dependence of people characterized by changes.
- (2) Psychotropic substances are substances affecting the condition of the human psyche by acting on the central nervous system with less serious health and psychosocial consequences, covered by the international convention to which the Slovak Republic is bound.
- (3) The substance is also considered a narcotic substance and a psychotropic substance in pure form or in the preparation:
 - (a) which is not covered by international conventions such as the Slovak Republic bound,
 - (b) which may present a comparable health or social risk as a substance covered by the international conventions to which the Slovak Republic is bound,
 - (c) to be subject to control measures pursuant to a specific regulation.
- (4) Compositions are mixtures containing one or more:
 - (a) narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances, irrespective of their physical state, in addition to naturally occurring mixtures of substances and solutions of substances,
 - (b) potentially hazardous substances whose chemical structure and predicted effects are similar to narcotics or psychotropic substances (hereinafter referred to as "risk substance"),

(c) substances not covered by international conventions such as the Slovak Republic and which may present a comparable health risk, or social risk as substances covered by international conventions which, the Slovak Republic is bound.

In the other provisions of § 2 par. 5-8 Act 139/1998 Coll. on human substances, psychotropic substances and preparations are defined terms production, distribution, large-scale production and processing.

Act No. 300/2005 Coll. - Criminal Law (hereinafter referred to as the "Criminal Code") in its provisions determines illicit ways of handling narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and preparations.

Article 135 of that law defines the concept of drug possession for own need section 171 of the Criminal Code determines the penalty rate for the unauthorized possession of the OPL for my own needs. In connection with the illicit manufacture, import, transport, export, transport, retention, purchase, exchange, determine the penalty rate provision of section 172 of the CC.

Illegal handling of items intended for illicit manufacturing of OPLs is regulated in section 173 of the CC. Also, the third act of spreading drug addiction is defined in § 174 of the Criminal Code. In connection with by abusing substances with anabolic or other hormonal effects, the provisions apply § 176 CC.

In addition to the abovementioned provisions of the CC on the direct use of drug offenses activities, it is necessary to mention also the provisions of the CC concerning the non-granting of the assistance under § 177(e.g. overdose of OPL), health threats with counterfeit medicines, medicines and medical aids under Section 170, etc.

From the point of view of secondary drug crime, it can be property crimes (eg: theft, unauthorized use of a foreign motor vehicle, etc.), offenses against freedom and human dignity (eg: robbery, extortion, etc.) as well as crimes against life and health (eg spreading of dangerous contagious disease, etc.). Other crimes it is also possible to include motor vehicle driving, riot, etc. under the influence of OPL.

Assessment of trends and developments

In the context of increasing consumer interest, more can be expected increasing production of marijuana and methamphetamine as well as enhancing cooperation between groups of perpetrators operating in the Slovak Republic and organized groups operating in the Czech Republic not only in the field of cultivation and production but also in trade. The use of methamphetamine and marihuana is extended throughout the territory of the Slovak

Republic. There were also reports of exports of methamphetamine to Austria as well as export information to the UK. Together with methamphetamine, perpetrators often deal with the distribution of marijuana, which is also rarely provided during house searches. In the period under review the trend of cocaine smuggling from the Netherlands or other European ports, couriers who are representatives of an organized group as well as a group of consumers has strengthened. In the past, cocaine imports have been provided by organized groups of ethnic Albanians, currently importing groups of perpetrators originating from the Slovak Republic with contacts with groups of cocaine importers into the EU. It is possible to envisage strengthening co-operation between organized groups of perpetrators operating in the SR and organized groups involved in the import of cocaine into Europe, especially in connection with the import and distribution of cocaine. The trend of use of fentanyl-containing patches and opiates and opioids in a pharmaceutical form, obtained by offenders with contacts to medical staff, has also been strengthened. Consumers' interest in heroin will continue to decline due to its low quality and the prioritization of stimulants among users. However, they are interested in opiates and opiates in pharmaceutical form, fentanyl patches and new psychoactive substances. This is mainly due to simple accessibility and non-invasive use, which reduces the risk of spreading infectious diseases among consumers. Trade in substances with anabolic and other hormonal effects takes place in a similar way to other drugs imported into Slovakia. They are produced in India, Mexico or China, and are subsequently imported into Europe. Most often they are purchased via the Internet, as they are offered by many internet pharmacies, sites promoting healthy lifestyle, bodybuilding, and so on. These are products containing substances prohibited by WADA or available on prescription. In connection with the increase of users' interest in substances with anabolic and other hormonal effects, it is possible to expect the emergence of new contacts and the strengthening of contacts between groups of perpetrators operating in Slovakia and abroad on import and distribution.

Trafficking in synthetic drugs and new psychoactive substances takes place in a similar way to other drugs imported into Slovakia. Most often, they are imported from the Netherlands, Poland or purchased via the Internet. Synthetic drugs such as MDMA and the like. are imported to Slovakia and the Czech Republic, although the source country can be, for example, Netherlands. New psychoactive substances are often sold by consumers under the generic name as ecstasy or a legal alternative to cocaine, methamphetamine, etc. The factor that complicates market analysis and the possibility of effectively combating the phenomenon of OPL as well as new psychoactive substances is the Internet. Providers of web hosting services, payment processing services, they have their headquarters in different countries, which greatly complicates the control of Internet as well as detections,

manufacturers, carriers and other articles in the chain of illegal dissemination and consumption of new psychoactive substances, for example through anonymous networks so-called darknet.

Recent overview of statistics and research

Marijuana:

2016: number of seizures:

marihuana - 1303,

hemp plants - 17,

hashish - 15

amount of drug-safe:

marihuana - 40.40 kg,

hemp plants - 346 pcs,

hashish - 0.46 kg.

2017: number of seizures:

marihuana - 1122,

hemp plants - 31,

hashish - 26.

amount of drug-safe:

marihuana - 143.36 kg,

hemp plants - 2.299 pcs,

hashish - 0.60 kg

methamphetamine:

2016: number of seizures - 754,

the amount of the drug - 4.86 kg

2017: number of seizures - 638,

amount of drug-safe - 4.2 kg

cocaine:

2016: number of seizures - 36,

amount of drug-safe - 0.86 kg

2017: number of seizures - 42,

the amount of the drug - 2.62 kg

heroin:

2016: number of seizures - 48,

amount of drug-seize - 0.056 kg
2017: number of seizures - 29,
amount of the drug - 0.367 kg

Due to the diversity of different types of new psychoactive substances as well as substances with anabolic and other hormonal effects, they can not be mentioned individually as in the case of the above mentioned OPL.

2. Crime strategy and coordination

Objectives of the crime strategy

The Strategy for Drug Abuse in the Slovak Republic for 2013-2017 is the basic starting document for the fight against OPL in our country. Based on the EU Drugs Strategy 2012-2013. It is implemented through action plans. Currently, the tasks of the Action Plan on Drugs in the Slovak Republic for the years 2017-2020, based on the EU Drugs Action Plan 2017-2020, are fulfilled.

The Action Plan for Combating Drugs of the Slovak Republic for the years 2017-2020 includes the following areas:

- reduction of supply,
- reduction of demand,
- coordination, research and monitoring,
- international cooperation.

The main objectives are:

- protect and enhance the welfare of society and individuals,
- protection of public health,
- providing a high level of security for the general public,
- ensuring multidisciplinary, integrated, balanced and fact-based access to drug policy,
- reduction in demand for OPL,

- reduction of supply of OPL,
- reduction of health and social risks and damage caused by OPLs.

Role of prevention in the crime strategy on state/regional/local level

See above - the basic objectives.

Implementation of the policy (which level is responsible for the implementation and how is the implementation coordinated?)

Prevention of the fight against drugs is carried out in the work of all ministries at the state level and its implementation is therefore the responsibility of individual ministries. The main body responsible for the implementation of drug policy is the Council of the Slovak Government for Drug Policy. The main guideline of the drug policy of the SR is the Ministry of Health SR.

In the department of the Ministry of the Interior, drug policies are implemented in the PZ activities as well as in the activities of individual branches of public administration, eg: district horities.

In compliance with the Strategy of the Slovak Republic Against Drugs 2013-2020, all types of prevention will be implemented, i. prevention of primary, secondary and tertiary. Primary prevention is a priority form of prevention implemented by all ministries within their competencies.

The department of the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Republic carries out primary prevention:

- PZ in the form of preventive programs, especially in schools (eg: Managing normally, etc.), lectures and similar activities,
- public authorities through interest-based activities, exhibitions, competitions, lectures, etc.

The area of secondary prevention is mainly implemented in schools, the Ministry of Education of the Slovak Republic in particular in connection with the occurrence of sociopathological phenomena in the school environment (eg truancy, petty theft, etc.).

The area of secondary and tertiary prevention is also implemented by the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs of the Slovak Republic in the case of persons, especially children and young people from the socially disadvantaged environment or minority groups as well as persons returning from the punishment for drug offenses or drug treatment eg: probation supervision, and so on.

Stakeholders (working groups, specialised agencies, partners, etc)

Participation in European/ international networks, working groups, etc.

CAs participate in drug-related activities in the framework of Europol's activities through operational action plans, working groups meetings at the EU Council, the Horizontal Working Party on Drugs (HDG), the Precursors Expert Group.

3. Good practices

Overview of recent good practices, prevention programs, etc.

The preventive drugs activities are most often carried out in the activities of health care facilities in the form of lectures at elementary and secondary schools or within organized leisure activities. Popular activities include demonstrations of OPL search for police dogs and other demonstrations from the activities of the police officers.