

Crime prevention policy	
EU- priority	Drugs
Country	Spain
Year	2018

## 1. Overview of the field

### Definition of drugs

Drugs are all substances that alter the normal functioning of the central nervous system. Spanish penal code regulates it as an open system.

### Assessment of trends and developments

As a result of the peace process in Colombia, there has been an increase in cocaine in the Spanish market. Other substances have remained in similar levels than in previous years

The mother vessels and containers are the systems used by criminal organizations.

### Recent overview of statistics and research

In 2018 Spanish Authorities seized 40 tons of cocaine, which represents an increase in the amount of drug seizure, more than 50% of the seizures, involved National Police.

The fight at ports and an effective control of the coasts are the two main targets.

Within the National Police, the Community Policing Central Unit is responsible for the implementation of the Prevention Plans intended for every group of population. Regarding Director Plan, during the 2017-2018 school year, 2548 talks have been given in several school centres on "Drugs and Alcohol".

## 2. Crime strategy and coordination

### Objectives of the crime strategy

- Prevention: National Education Policy on Drugs. It is needed to educate the future generations to decrease the use of drugs.

- Strengthen law enforcement to combat drug-related violence, disrupt criminal organizations, and arrest and prosecute the leaders of illegal drug syndicates.

- Focus the effort of the law enforcement on disrupt money laundering and seize and forfeit criminal assets.

-Shield the borders: In terms of air, land and sea frontiers from the drug threat.

- Encourage International and bilateral Cooperation to provide valid information to dismantle major international drug trafficking organizations.

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

- Promote zero tolerance policies regarding the use of illegal drugs: high fines.
- Control minor drug trafficking to prevent depressed areas and communities.
- Prevent the diversion of drug precursors for illicit manufacture while maintaining a competitive internal market for legitimate trade.
- Support and highlight research and technology – including the development of scientific information and data – to detect, disrupt, deter, and seize illegal drugs in transit at the borders.
- Set aside economic resources for drug trafficking to support operative programs with the newest technology and systems.

Countrywide, the 7/2013 Instruction of the Homeland Security State Secretary on the “Director Plan for the Coexistence and Improvement of the Security in School Centres and their Environment” unites two plans:

- The “Director Plan for the Coexistence and Improvement of the School Security”
- The “Strategic Plan for the Police Response to Drug Use and Drug Dealing in School Centres and their Environment”

This way, a coordinated and comprehensive treatment of all security problems related to young people is ensured, notwithstanding the maintenance of preventive and specific response actions aimed at avoiding the problems caused by drugs; as well as the coordination in all those aspects of operational interest directly related to the drug use and drug dealing in educational environments.

Some of the main objectives of the Director Plan are the following:

- Giving a coordinated and efficient answer to issues related to the security of minors and teenagers in the school and its environment.
- Fostering the awareness of the minors and young people about police resources for crime prevention and victims’ protection, by promoting activities, lectures and talks in schools taught by police experts.
- Participating in the education of students, as well as raising awareness about the risks associated to drug use.
- Increasing police presence around the schools in order to prevent and fight drug dealing, drug use and possession of narcotic substances.
- Designing permanent coordination instruments and mechanisms throughout the national territory, between police experts and educational authorities and community, parent teacher associations and other organisations.
- Collaborating with other public institutions with responsibilities in this area.

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

#### Responsibility of the Coordination:

At regional level, it has been designated a responsible for the Coordination of the Plan, non-belonging to the Law Enforcement Agencies, who is in charge of the coordination –in their

area– of all authorities (education, police, etc.) involved in the implementation of the aforementioned Plan.

#### **Plan Development Coordinators:**

1. The General Direction of National Police has named this Unit (**Central Unit for Community Policing**) responsible for the implementation, development and coordination of the *Prevention Plans* in National Police countrywide.
2. In every province, a police expert responsible for the *Prevention Plans* coordination in their area has been also designated.

These experts are the permanent point of contact who provide the Spanish society with technical advice or specialised police support when it comes to prevention and security.

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

- 1- Awareness campaigns within the family, school, workplace, and community: to educate parents and , teachers, coaches, clergy, health professionals, and business and community leaders.
- 2- Create partnerships between government and police with media, entertainment industry, and professional sports organizations.
- 3- Work as a single force with prosecutors, magistrates and police authorities.

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

- Spain has a main role in the international fight against drug trafficking leading the Europol EMPACT Program.
- Conferences of OSCE in 2018 on the “fight against the threat of illegal drugs and chemical precursors”.
- Conferences on the “Director Plan for the Coexistence and Improvement of the Security in School Centres and their Environment”, and educational measures aimed at the prevention of drug use and the decrease of the demand in the educational environment.

### **3. Good practices**

#### **Overview of recent good practices, prevention programs, etc.**

National awareness campaigns:

- 2018- “ Your best picture, should not be the last one: It is not worthy. Drug consume and Drug Trafficking in a foreign country involves prison penalties, life imprisonment, or even death penalty.
- 2007- Cocaine Camping: “ Cocaine : Are you willing to give it all?”

Good Practices:

- 1- Creation and reinforcement of specialized groups of National Police Forces to control the most problematic areas in Spain.
- 2- Prohibition of the fast boats to control the Drug Trafficking of hashish.
- 3- Increase of the amount of drugs seizure by the Police Forces with 477 tons in 2017

Preventive Measures:

1. Conferences and activities in school centres aimed at the Educational Community. During the 2017-2018 school year, 2548 prevention talks have been given in several school centres on “Drugs and Alcohol”.
2. Methods of communication and collaboration with the Educational Community. During the 2017-2018 school year, 4325 meetings have been held in order to discuss different issues related to the security in educational centres or the planning of activities.
3. Surveillance. Aimed not only at the detection of situations of drug use and drug dealing, but also of all kinds of violent or antisocial episodes related to minors and young people, seeking to improve global security in the school environment. During the 2017-2018 school year, a total of 51,171 surveillances were carried out in educational centres and their environments throughout the country.