

Drug Trafficking

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ABSTRACT

The illegal drug trade, drug trafficking or narcotrafficking, has to do with trafficking in drugs i. e. the trading, selling, and the buying of drugs (illicit or illegal drugs) that are banned by the government of a country. It is a global black market dedicated to the cultivation, manufacture, distribution, and sale of prohibited drugs. These drugs are banned due to their physical and psychoactive effects on humans. Most often than not, those involved in drug trafficking form a cartel; they have a chain of connections in many countries, highly secretive in nature, have a powerful chain of command, and very rich to the extent that they can even overthrow the government and get rid of any person or group of persons that wants to stand on their way. The money made from such deals is often referred to as illicit or money laundered and punishable by law. The paper looks at the dangers or harms of drug trafficking to individuals and societal health, harms to the economies of nations, the exacerbation of crime and violence, and the possible solution to curb this menace of drug trafficking.

KEYWORDS: *Drug, drug trafficking, crime and violence, drug cartel, money laundering, societal health or wellbeing, drug trafficking routes, drug smuggling, opium wars of China, drug barons*

INTRODUCTION

Drug trafficking is a global illicit trade that involves the cultivation, manufacture, distribution, and sale of substances which are subject to drug prohibition laws, as shown in Figures 1 and 2. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is continuously monitoring and researching global illicit drug markets so as to gain a more comprehensive understanding of their dynamics. Currently, the world heroin consumption (340 tons) and seizures represent an annual flow of 430-450 tons of heroin into the global heroin market. Opium from Myanmar and the Lao People's Democratic Republic yields some 50 tons, while the rest of about 380 tons of heroin and morphine is produced exclusively from Afghan opium. With this, approximately 5 tons are consumed and seized in Afghanistan, and while the remaining bulk of 375 tons is trafficked worldwide via routes flowing into and through the neighboring countries to Afghanistan, as shown in Figure 3. The Balkan and northern routes are the main heroin trafficking corridors linking Afghanistan to the huge markets of the Russian Federation and Western Europe. The Balkan route traverses the Islamic Republic of Iran

(often via Pakistan), Turkey, Greece and Bulgaria across South-East Europe to the Western Europe market, with an annual market value of some \$20 billion. The northern route runs mainly through Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan (or Uzbekistan or Turkmenistan) to Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation. The size of that market is estimated to total \$13 billion per year [1].

Most jurisdictions prohibit trade, except under license, of many types of drugs through the use of drug prohibition laws. The think tank Global Financial Integrity's *Transnational Crime and the Developing World* report estimates the size of the global illicit drug market between US\$426 and US\$652 billion in 2014 alone [2]. The consumption of illegal drugs is widespread globally, and it remains very difficult for local authorities to reduce the rates of its consumption [3].

HISTORY

In 1730, 1796, and 1800, the government of the Qing dynasty (which was primarily located in what is now China and Mongolia, along with parts of Russia)

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issued edicts against opium smoking. The first Opium War was fought between China and Great Britain from 1839 to 1842, and the second Opium War was from 1856 to 1860 when weakened China fought both Great Britain and France. China lost both wars, which made it to cede the territory of Hong Kong to British control, open treaty ports to trade with foreigners, as well as grant special rights to foreigners operating within the treaty ports. Furthermore, the Chinese government had to stand by as the British increased their opium sales to people in China. The British did in the name of free trade and without regard to the consequences for the Chinese government and Chinese people [4]. The Chinese learnt the lesson from the Opium Wars that they should never again become weak, “backward,” and vulnerable to other countries. The West prohibited addictive drugs throughout the 19th and early 20th centuries [5, 6].

Drug trafficking was invented by one state: the United Kingdom. It was in the 19th century that the British Crown flooded China with opium to replenish its coffers. From the outset, opium, heroin, and cocaine became political instruments in the hands of states. Major powers, pharmaceutical industries, banks, secret services: all played a role in the spread of drugs and the emergence of the largest criminal organizations. From the opium wars to the birth of the French Connection, from the hippy years to the rise of the great drug barons, from Escobar to El Chapo, from the mountains of Afghanistan to Wall Street, a political history of drugs takes shape. The historical and worldwide investigations are as revealed in the three episodes below [7]:

Episode 1 – The Age of the Empires: Drug trafficking was not invented by the mafia but by the European colonial powers in the 19th century. While they were spreading opium throughout Asia, the pharmaceutical industry was discovering miraculous products such as morphine, cocaine and heroin. Addiction became a worldwide scourge. The prohibition came into force in the early 20th century, then sprang up the first drug networks in Mexico, France and China. These networks experienced unprecedented growth during the Cold War: in the hands of the secret services, drugs became a geopolitical tool. The United States paid the price: in 1970, a third of the American soldiers in Vietnam were addicted to heroin. A year later, President Richard Nixon launched the war on drugs.

Episode 2 – Time for Barons: As the world’s leading power was waging war on drugs: the United States struck hard. However, drug trafficking never dies, because it moves, changes and adapts. As the war on drugs progressed around the world, a new generation

of drug traffickers emerged at the end of the 1970s, more powerful than ever. These criminals were not only greedy for money, but also for power. Pablo Escobar being the most emblematic of them all, Toto Riina in Sicily, Khun Sa in the Golden Triangle, as shown in Figure 4, and Felix Gallardo in Mexico had turned their countries’ destiny upside down and caused drug trafficking to explode on a global scale. They defied governments and threatened the powers that be. It would take almost 20 years for governments to organize and develop strategies to bring down the drug barons.

Episode 3 – Lost Territories: Today’s traffickers have mutated and invisibility is their weapon too. Drug trafficking is taking root in areas that are out of control in war zones like Afghanistan and Colombia. In Mexico, the cartels have plunged the entire country into an unspeakable spiral of violence, and everywhere, the toll of the war on drugs is a macabre tally. Synthetic drugs, which are easy to manufacture and conceal, herald the fourth generation to come: traffickers in white coats.

Drug trafficking involves the illegal transportation and distribution of narcotics, often using airports, seaports, and commercial aircrafts as conduits for smuggling drugs across borders. It exploits the access and positions of individuals within the aviation industry to facilitate the movement of illicit substances. Some of the root causes of drug trafficking include greed, unemployment, insecurity, toxic self-esteem, corruption, poverty, and lack of enlightenment [8].

Drug trafficking is a major source of revenue for organized crime groups, many of whom are also involved in other forms of serious crime such as firearms, modern slavery, and immigration crime. Action against drug trafficking has a much wider disruptive impact on organized criminal activity. Drug trafficking, a dangerous and illegal trade is causing immense harm worldwide, in which criminals smuggle huge amounts of drugs. Sources from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has estimated that \$32 billion worth of drugs are smuggled across countries and affecting millions of lives globally. Drug trafficking and money laundering form a sophisticated web of criminal activity. The vast profits generated from drug trafficking are often tainted and need to be legitimized through money laundering techniques. Money laundering is the process of camouflaging illegal proceeds as legal funds, enabling criminals to utilize their ill-gotten gains without raising suspicion. In order to conceal their illegal acts, they use different tactics such as investing in real businesses, and use

financial institutions to move money secretly. They also make use of intricate networks of shell companies, off-shore accounts, and intermediaries to obfuscate the origins of their money, to make it difficult or challenging for authorities to trace. Hence, the need for stringent laws and regulations by governments, and while financial institutions are to ensure thorough customer due diligence, constant transaction monitoring, and reporting suspicious activities to law enforcement agencies, as shown in Figure 5 [7, 9, 10].

International organizations are dedicated to combating drug trafficking, prompting the cooperation between nations, and the implementation of strategies to eradicate this global menace. These organizations are very crucial. They help to share intelligence, encourage collaboration, and support nations in their efforts to combat crimes related to drugs. Such organizations are [10]:

- The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC): UNODC provides technical assistance to Member States in the areas of health, criminal justice and public security, including drug use control and prevention, tackling transnational organized crime, illicit trafficking in drugs, human beings and arms, prison reform, corruption and money laundering, asset management and recovery, and HIV prevention among drug users and people in detention.
- INTERPOL: INTERPOL or the International Criminal Police Organization's range of services include training and operational support to help law enforcement agencies around the world increase their capacity to detect and investigate drug trafficking. They provide expertise in drug analysis and intelligence, drug operations, and drug projects.
- World Customs Organization (WCO): The WCO develops international standards, fosters cooperation and builds capacity to facilitate legitimate trade, to secure a fair revenue collection and to protect society, providing leadership, guidance and support to customs administrations.
- Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA): The DEA museum collects, preserves, and shares the stories of America's connection to drugs, including public policy, federal drug law enforcement, and the work Drug Enforcement Administration employees around the world. It engages all guest in science and history of drug misuse prevention and as well as to inspire

visitors to become Agents of Change in their communities.

- Organization of American States (OAS): The Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) was established by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) in 1986 as the Western Hemisphere's policy forum on all aspects of the drug problem. CICAD promotes regional cooperation and coordination among the thirty-four OAS member states through action programs, carried out by CICAD's permanent Secretariat, to:
 1. Prevent and treat substance abuse;
 2. Reduce the supply and availability of illicit drugs;
 3. Strengthen national drug control institutions and machinery;
 4. Improve firearms and money laundering control laws and practice;
 5. Develop alternate sources of income for growers of cocoa, poppy, and marijuana;
 6. Assist member governments to improve their data gathering and analysis on all aspects of the drug issue, and
 7. Help member states and the hemisphere as a whole measure their progress over time in addressing the drug problem.

Also at the forefront at combating financial crimes like money laundering are agencies such as:

- The Internal Revenue Service (IRS): The IRS has two types of efforts to combat drug traffickers. It initiates some criminal and civil tax investigations as a result of leads provided by the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and it self-initiates others.
- Federal Reserve and Treasury: The U. S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) help to sanction individuals and entities across countries that are involved or linked to the global illicit drug trade, in pursuant to Executive Order (E.O.) 14059, in combating the synthetic drug threat at home and abroad. It also leverages on strong domestic and international partnerships to disrupt the financial networks that enable the illicit drug trade. There is also strong collaboration with the Drug Enforcement Administration and a range of international law enforcement partners, including in Colombia, Lithuania, and New Zealand. This action was also enabled with support from Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network and reporting from financial institutions

under the Bank Secrecy Act, and was coordinated closely with various foreign Financial Intelligence Units.

- FinCEN: The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) is a bureau within the United States Department of the Treasury that collects and analyzes information about financial transactions to combat domestic and international money laundering, terrorist financing, and other financial crimes.

Anti-Money Laundering (AML) methods are used to fight against drug trafficking. By using sophisticated analytics, AI and ML, authorities can spot patterns and trace illegal money movements – to help break up criminal networks. Some of the ways to combat drug trafficking with AML methods and technologies are [10]:

- Enhanced surveillance
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML)
- AML Screening
- Customer Due Diligence
- Risk Assessment Methods
- Behavioral Analytics.

THREAT DUE TO DRUG TRAFFICKING

Drug related deaths via misuse reported in the UK rose from 4,517 in 2020 to 4,564 in 2021, while Scotland continues to have the highest number due to misuse, 245 deaths per million. In England and Wales, the North East continues to have the highest rates of deaths at 104.1 deaths per million people. Newer synthetic opioids, such as fentanyl, have contributed to this rise [10].

Opium production in Afghanistan and cocaine production in Colombia are at record levels, which has led to a high level of drug purity at street level as the criminals have less need to use cutting agents, with its attendant dangers. The chemicals necessary for amphetamine production continue to enter the country in volume, while street prices drop, again indicating rising availability. Evidence suggests crack cocaine use – a particular driver of violence – is rising in England and Wales, while the demand for all common drug types remain high, as shown in Figure 6.

There is significant, and often deadly competition between rival organized crime groups at all stages of class A drugs production and supply. Coupled with this also is corruption at every stage of the drug supply chain, including the use of corrupt port and airport officials, as shown in Figure 7. Organized crime groups involved in drug trafficking are also involved in a range of criminal activity, and the

profits from illegal drugs are used to fund other forms of criminal operations, including buying illegal firearms and financing terrorism. Crime associated with drug trafficking is often very violent, with the direct use of firearms and gang feud knife attacks, and traffickers frequently exploit young and vulnerable people. Cannabis gangs are notorious for the exploitation and trafficking of Vietnamese children and other vulnerable people to carry out live-in work in dangerous cannabis factories [10].

County Lines: The urban street gangs play a key and rising role in the distribution of class A drugs, particularly heroin and crack cocaine. By their nature, County Line drug networks, as shown in Figure 8, tend to operate across police and local authority boundaries, although not exclusively. They are defined by the mechanism through which the method of supply is supported: mainly the use of a mobile telephone line and the use of vulnerable adults and children to facilitate the distribution. Importing areas are reporting increased levels of violence and weapons-related crimes due to this trend [10].

THE ROUTES OF DRUGS

Routes into the UK: Illicit supply chain structure of cannabis resin or hashish which is produced in Morocco is exported to Europe by organized networks, with price formation along the different stages of the supply chain [9]. Most forms of illegal drugs originate overseas and are trafficked into the UK via various routes that include [10]:

- Container shipping
- Yachts and small boats
- Light aircrafts
- Vehicle traffic from continental Europe
- Airline passengers
- The post and fast parcels.

Trafficking methods frequently rely on the recruitment of vulnerable people as mules, as shown in Figure 9, which is often at great risk to their lives and welfare. They can also rely on enlisting the help of employees at ports and borders: this corruption weakens the integrity of border security and increases the risk of other forms of trafficking, including firearms and organized immigration crime. Profits are high at all stages of drug trafficking, particularly for those who can access the drugs in their source country. The criminals from the Balkans dominate the cocaine market [10], but the British traffickers remain a significant threat.

The enforcement action against drug trafficking has a wider disruptive impact on organized crime. Crime groups involved in drug trafficking are typically involved in a range of criminal activities, such that

actions against drug trafficking can simultaneously impact [11]:

- Money laundering and illicit finance
- Illegal firearms
- Organized immigration crime
- Production of false documentation
- Modern slavery and human trafficking

Since illegal drugs are a global threat, the combat against it cannot be carried out with the UK in isolation – work must be done with partners around the world to coordinate action and prevent illegal drugs from reaching the UK in the first instance i. e. via international networking. This can be done by working closely with authorities in source countries such as Colombia, Pakistan and Afghanistan to tackle the production upstream, in providing intelligence, training, tactical guidance, equipment and other forms of logistics support to help build capability and sharpen developing nations' response to the threat.

Work must also be done with partners in transit countries from the Caribbean to West Africa, Turkey, Belgium, and the Netherlands to intercept shipments and prevent them from reaching UK shores. The disruption and dismantling of the networks at every stage of the drug trafficking process must be carried out (i. e. the tackling of the entire drug smuggling supply chain from source to street sale), as shown in Figure 10. There is the need to also work and collaborate with partners such as Border Force, the Royal Navy, European and American authorities to conduct maritime operations to seize drugs at seas.

All drug traffickers must be convicted, while those suspected (or most wanted fugitives) of involvement in drug trafficking should be tracked (located) and arrested by the international law enforcement partners and return them to the UK to face justice, as shown in Figure 11.

Most of the world's drugs (narcotic superhighways) flow through these five routes, which are [12, 13]:

1. "The Southern Route": Afghanistan -> Pakistan -> SE Asia (Heroin, 150 metric tons):-
Afghanistan supplies 80% of the world's opium, and thus, 80% of its heroin. About half of the opium cultivated in Afghanistan is trafficked through Pakistan, while Pakistan itself has few heroin users but funnels the drug through its territory, reaping the cash rewards of that trade. Pakistani traffickers operate a number of direct air (and sea) trafficking routes to Europe, according to the UNODC, mostly to the UK and the Netherlands.
2. Andean region: USA (Cocaine, 140 metric tons):-
North America accounted for more than 40% of global cocaine consumption in 2007 and 2008,

while the countries in the EU and European Free Trade Association accounted for over 25% of consumption.

3. The Balkan Route: Afghanistan -> Iran -> Turkey -> Southeast Europe -> Western Europe (Heroin, 105 metric tons):-
Only about 37% of the 105 metric tons of heroin on this route ends up in Europe, while the rest is diverted to Iran to the Caucauses, or towards Africa. Heroin use indicated that the flow along this route is declining, as more of the supply flows toward the coastal markets of Africa. The number of heroin users in Africa increased by 54% between 2004 and 2008, according to the UNODC, fearing that the rise in IV drug use there could worsen an already severe HIV/AIDS epidemic.
4. "The Northern Route": Afghanistan -> Central Asia -> Russia -> Western Europe (Heroin, 95 metric tons):-
The Russian Federation is the largest market for Afghan heroin, which has rapidly expanded since the dissolution of the Soviet Union. Reports have indicated that Russia is where heroin is now doing its worst damage, including through the spread of HIV.
5. Andean region: Europe (Cocaine, 60 metric tons):-
Cocaine use appears to be growing in developing countries, but the vast bulk of the production is destined for two major overseas markets: North America (6.2 million users in 2008) and Europe (4 to 5 million users).

Furthermore, Ecuador is not a cocaine producer – that work is performed almost in three South American nations, which are Colombia, Peru and Bolivia. Since about five years ago, Ecuador's bustling Pacific ports have become a crucial shipment point for cocaine-filled containers being smuggled to the US and Europe, and hence turning Ecuador into what Insight Crime has called a "cocaine superhighway."

In a sign of mounting European concern over the impact of organized crime, the mayors of Antwerp, Hamburg and Rotterdam recently travelled together to Ecuador's capital, Quito, to discuss the fight against drug-related crime. "Your problem is also our problem," Bart De Wever, the nationalist mayor of Belgium's second largest city, told Noboa, admitting European drug use was "at the root of criminality in Ecuador. The European drug users have been urged to think about the impact of their habit, the need to understand the damage their consumption is causing and the damage they are doing to our country, as stated by Jorge Alexander Masache Novillo.

According to Ivo Silva, a Brazilian federal police detective, he said that, “when we talk about large-scale shipments to supply the European continent, the only group that’s hegemonic is the Balkans.” There are also more than 50 major trafficking cells from the Western Balkans working across Latin America, with hundreds of gangsters scattered around the region [14].

Drug smuggling: Drug smuggling, also called “drug importation,” is the federal offense of transporting illegal controlled substances from one country into another. This can be any type of illegal drug, but typically includes methamphetamine, cocaine, heroin, and marijuana. Anyone convicted of drug smuggling, would face mandatory federal prison time (term) under the sentencing guidelines, depending on the details of the offense, along with the specific type and the amount of the drugs involved [15].

CONCLUSION

Cocaine has garnered most of the international attention, but the transnational organized crime problems affecting West Africa are manifold. Fraudulent medicines are likely to pose a greater threat to public safety than illicit drugs. Others like firearms too, could make violent uprisings possible and while petro-piracy can blossom to become greater problems than the present situation portends or reflects. The weakness to the rule of law is an enabler to the flourishing business in drug trafficking generally. To help stem this, the interventions required must occur at least on least two levels vis-a-vis:

1. Commodity-specific program to reduce contraband flows and the damage they inflict, and
2. More general efforts to enhance the rule of law and reduce corruption in the region.

There is also need for international cooperation efforts, as most contrabands flows are transcontinental, hence the need for global exchange of information, coordinated strategies and operations, mutual legal assistance, and extradition. The rule of law issues too must be addressed, technical assistance and anti-corruption programmes are needed to be upheld as in the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its protocols, as well as the Convention against Corruption and the drug control Conventions. The international community should support the interdiction of containerized shipments, under the Global Container Control Program to identify and inspect suspect containers and seizures of illegal illicit drugs.

More information on International Organizations combating drug trafficking can be found in [16 - 25].

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Figure 1. Illegal drug trade

Source:https://www.google.com/search?q=IMAGES+OF+DRUG+TRAFFICKING+BY+WIKIPEDIA&sca_esv=3d18bd8085d4d716&udm=2&biw=1036&bih=539&sxsrf=ADLYWIKYmq3W3YW8bvSgQxZeKmu cwmCeA%3A1736164634085&ei=Gsv7Z8rvBMnYhbIPqfOUcA&ved=0ahUKEwjK5KSiheGKAxVJbEE AHak5BQ4Q4dUDCBE&oq=IMAGES+OF+DRUG+TRAFFICKING+BY+WIKIPEDIA&gs_lp=EgNpbWciJ0lNQudFUyBPRiBEUIVHIFRSQUZGSUNLSU5HIEJZIFdJS0lQRURJQUjSqqJQ8CZYvIgCcAJ4AJA BAJgBxwWgAeNBqgEOMC41LjIxLjMuMi4wLjG4AQZiAQD4AQGYAgKgAhXCAgQQIxnmmAMaAiAYBkgcBMqAHoAs&scient=img#vhid=maxxTf3LYtA2_M&vssid=mosaic

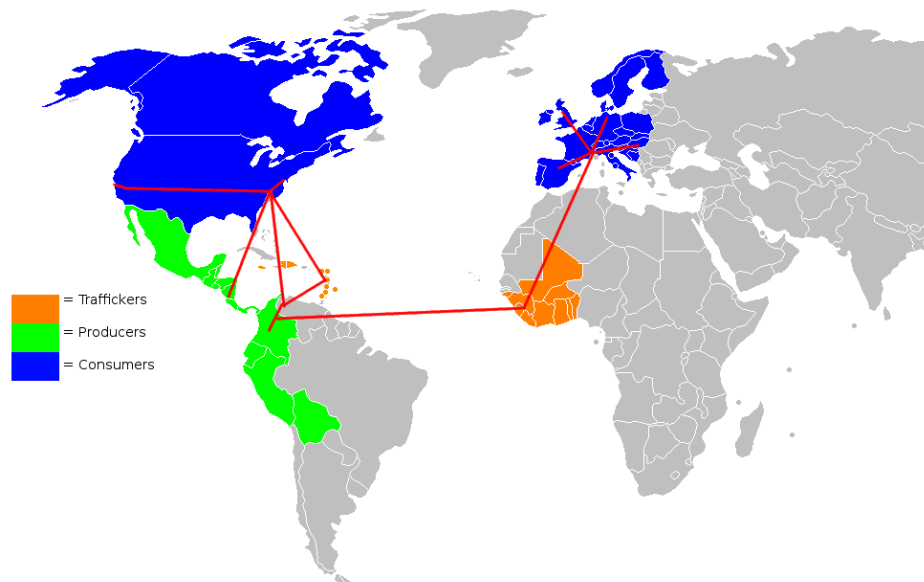


Figure 2. Drug trade.

Source: https://www.google.com/search?q=IMAGES+OF+DRUG+TRAFFICKING+BY+WIKIPEDIA&sca_esv=3d18bd8085d4d716&udm=2&biw=1036&bih=539&sxsrf=ADLYWIKYmq3W3YW8bvSgQxZeKmu cwmCeA%3A1736164634085&ei=Gsv7Z8rvBMnYhbIPqfOUcA&ved=0ahUKEwjK5KSiheGKAxVJbEE AHak5BQ4Q4dUDCBE&oq=IMAGES+OF+DRUG+TRAFFICKING+BY+WIKIPEDIA&gs_l=EpNpbW ciJ0lNQudFUyBPRiBEUIVHIFRSQUZGSUNLSU5HIEJZIFdJS0lQRURJQUjSjQJQ8CZYvIgCcAJ4AJA BAJgBxwWgAeNBqgEOMC41LjIxLjMuMi4wLjG4AQzIAQD4AQGYAgKgAhXCAgQQIxgnmAMaAiA YBkgcBMqAHoAs&scient=img#vhid=2Ht-tKpQku-fcM&vssid=mosaic

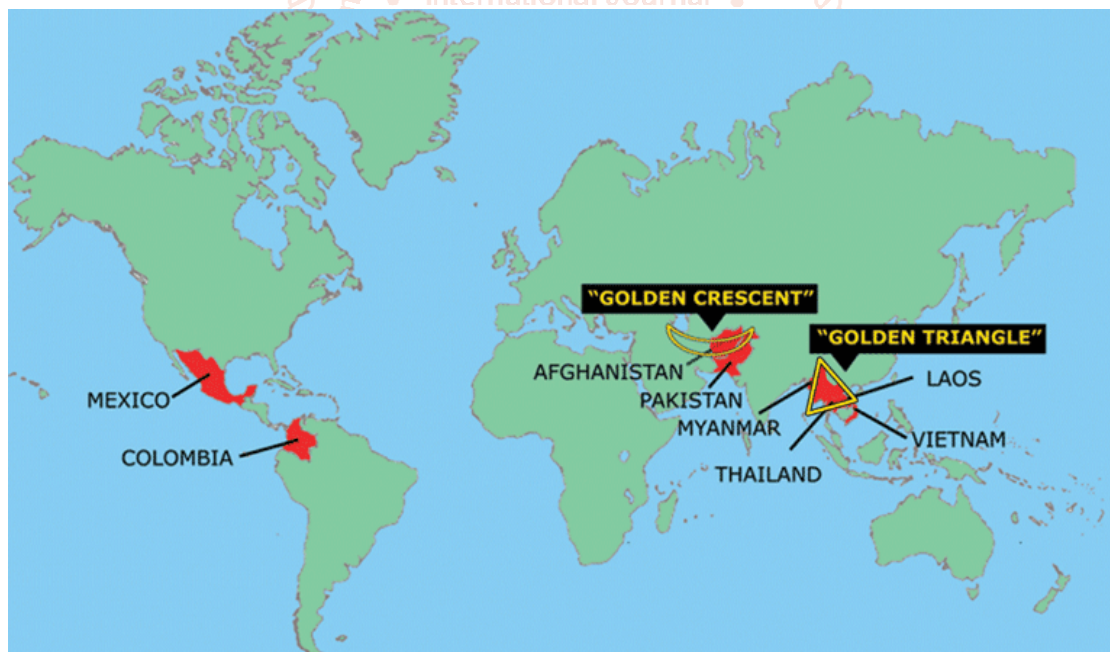


Figure 3. Illegal drug trade.

Source: https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=567053787dee1642&sxsrf=ADLYWILiM_s6IFB9YSy0j_ MQBbQyy6QsrQ:1736166814119&q=IMAGES+OF+DRUG+TRAFFICKING+BY+WIKIPEDIA&udm=2 &fbs=AEQNm0Aa4sjWe7Rqy32pFwRj0UkWd8nbOJfsBGGb5IQQO6L3JzWreY9LW7LdGrLDAFqYDH 32tgeNhtZOxnGezgnEGc8k4dQgIn4td5_IKOVJAVYNMpbG_vzv09_z3ozdsV1574v_l4gmjMdaDFLpg9E LpUCM3lLnYw1mpVTsmqh03mtH24pA&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwid0uexjeGKAxXkVqQEHe9WoeQQtK gLegQIEhAB&biw=1036&bih=539&dpr=1#vhid=yZG46v4cdQr7bM&vssid=mosaic



Figure 4. Illegal drug trade in the United States

Source:https://www.google.com/search?q=IMAGES+OF+DRUG+TRAFFICKING+BY+WIKIPEDIA&sca_esv=3d18bd8085d4d716&udm=2&biw=1036&bih=539&sxsrf=ADLYWIKYmq3W3YW8bvSgQxZeKmu cwmCeA%3A1736164634085&ei=Gsv7Z8rvBMnYhbIPqfOUcA&ved=0ahUKEwjK5KSiheGKAxVJbEE AHak5BQ4Q4dUDCBE&oq=IMAGES+OF+DRUG+TRAFFICKING+BY+WIKIPEDIA&gs_lp=EgNpbW ciJ0lNQudFUyBPRiBEUIVHIFRSQUZGSUNLSU5HIEJZIFdJS0lQRURJQUjSqqJQ8CZYvIgCcAJ4AJA BAJgBxwWgAeNBqgEOMC41LjIxLjMuMi4wLjG4AQzIAQD4AQGYAgKgAhXCAgQQIxgnmAMaAiA YBkgcBMqAHoAs&scient=img#vhid=PaoUCX8kFWFC5M&vssid=mosaic

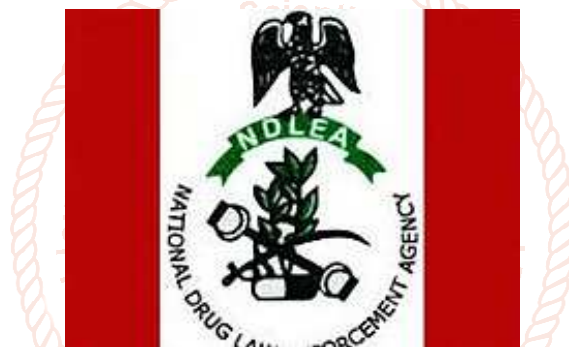


Figure 5. National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA)

Source:https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=567053787dee1642&sxsrf=ADLYWILiM_s6IFB9YSy0j_ MQBbQyy6QsrQ:1736166814119&q=IMAGES+OF+DRUG+TRAFFICKING+BY+WIKIPEDIA&udm=2 &fbs=AEQNm0Aa4sjWe7Rqy32pFwRj0UkWd8nbOJfsBGGb5IQQO6L3JzWreY9LW7LdGrLDAFqYDH 32tgeNhtZOxnGezgnEGc8k4dQgIn4td5_IKOVJAVYNMpbG_vzv09_z3ozdsV1574v_l4gmjMdaDFLpg9E LpUCM3lLnYw1mpVTSmqh03mtH24pA&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwid0uexjeGKAxXkVqQEHe9WoeQQtK gLegQIEhAB&biw=1036&bih=539&dpr=1#vhid=ENeRWsbxpiHgXM&vssid=mosaic



Figure 6. How to sell drugs online (fast)

Source:https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=567053787dee1642&sxsrf=ADLYWILiM_s6IFB9YSy0j_ MQBbQyy6QsrQ:1736166814119&q=IMAGES+OF+DRUG+TRAFFICKING+BY+WIKIPEDIA&udm=2 &fbs=AEQNm0Aa4sjWe7Rqy32pFwRj0UkWd8nbOJfsBGGb5IQQO6L3JzWreY9LW7LdGrLDAFqYDH 32tgeNhtZOxnGezgnEGc8k4dQgIn4td5_IKOVJAVYNMpbG_vzv09_z3ozdsV1574v_l4gmjMdaDFLpg9E LpUCM3lLnYw1mpVTSmqh03mtH24pA&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwid0uexjeGKAxXkVqQEHe9WoeQQtK gLegQIEhAB&biw=1036&bih=539&dpr=1#vhid=D8hxZCV-2FCCgM&vssid=mosaic

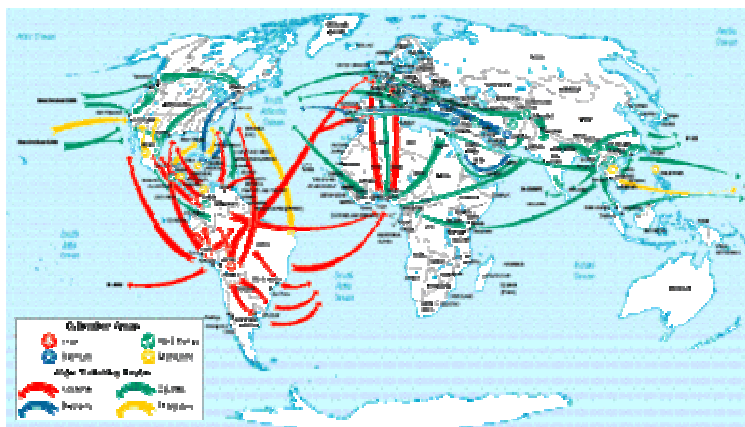


Figure 7. Maritime drug trafficking in Latin America
Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Illegal_drug_trade



Figure 8. County Lines drug trafficking

Source: https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=567053787dee1642&sxsrf=ADLYWILiM_s6IFB9YSy0j_MQBbQyy6QsrQ:1736166814119&q=IMAGES+OF+DRUG+TRAFFICKING+BY+WIKIPEDIA&udm=2&fbs=AEQNm0Aa4sjWe7Rqy32pFwRj0UkWd8nbOJfsBGGB5IQQO6L3JzWreY9LW7LdGrLDAFqYDH32tgeNhtZOxnGezgnEGc8k4dQgIn4td5_IKOvJAVYNMpbG_vzv09_z3ozdsV1574v_l4gmjMdaDFLpg9ELpUCM3lLnYw1mpVTSmqh03mtH24pA&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwid0uexjeGKAxXkVqQEHe9WoeQQtKgLegQIEhAB&biw=1036&bih=539&dpr=1#vhid=PTo6bodwncQc4M&vssid=mosaic

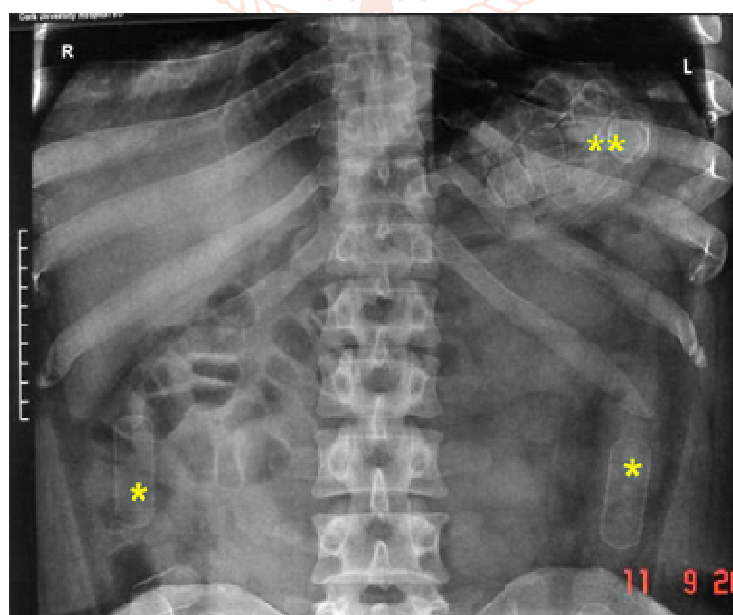


Figure 9. Mule (smuggling)

Source: https://www.google.com/search?q=IMAGES+OF+DRUG+TRAFFICKING+BY+WIKIPEDIA&sca_esv=3d18bd8085d4d716&udm=2&biw=1036&bih=539&sxsrf=ADLYWIKYmq3W3YW8bvSgQxZeKmu

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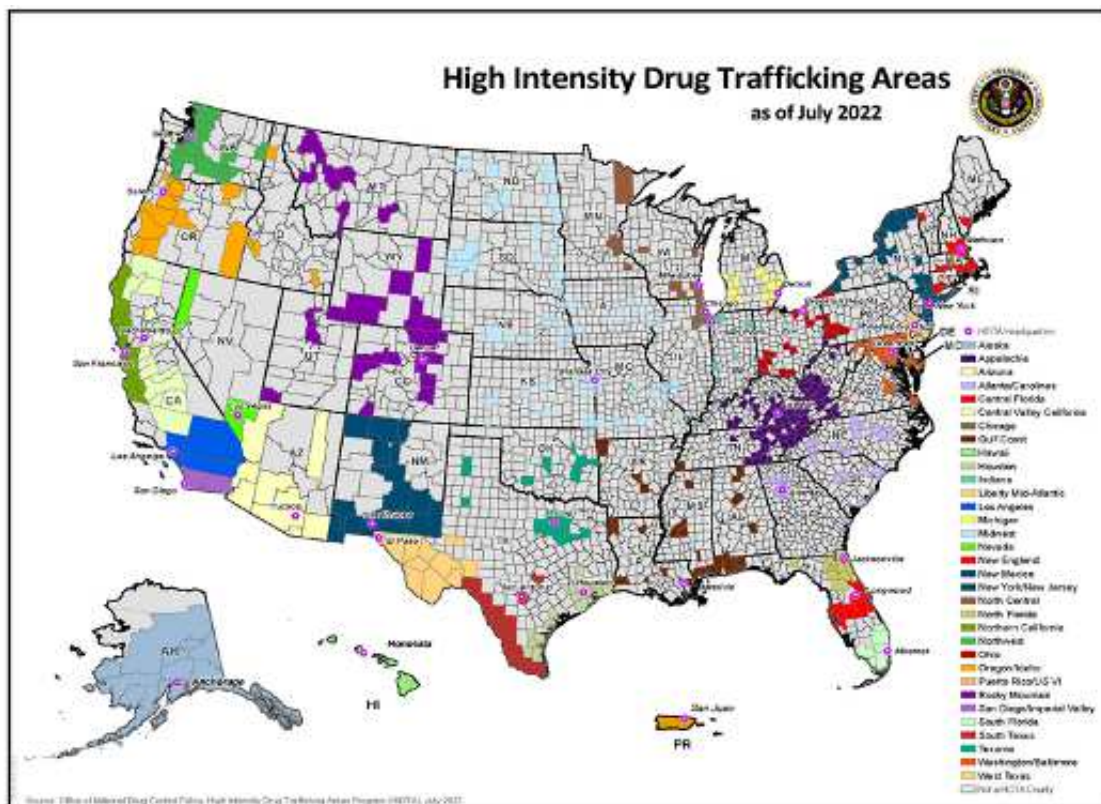


Figure 10. High intensity drug trafficking areas

Source:https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/High_Intensity_Drug_Trafficking_Area#/media/File:HIDTA-map-July-2022.png

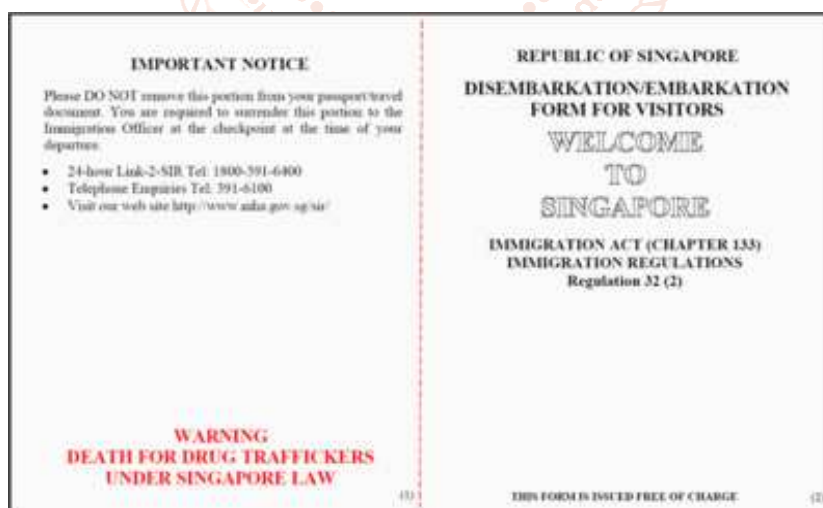


Figure 11. Capital punishment for drug trafficking

Source:https://www.google.com/search?scas_esv=567053787dee1642&sxsrf=ADLYWILiM_s6IFB9YSy0j_MQBbQyy6QsrQ:1736166814119&q=IMAGES+OF+DRUG+TRAFFICKING+BY+WIKIPEDIA&udm=2&fbs=AEQNm0Aa4sjWe7Rqy32pFwRj0UkWd8nbOJfsBGBB5IQQO6L3JzWreY9LW7LdGrLDAFqYDH32tgeNhtZOxnGezgnEGc8k4dQgIn4td5_IKOVJAVYNMpbG_vzv09_z3ozdsV1574v_14gmjMdaDFLpg9ELpUCM3lLnYw1mpVTsmqh03mtH24pA&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwid0uexjeGKAxXkVqQEHe9WoeQQtKgLgQIEhAB&biw=1036&bih=539&dpr=1#vhid=AxgvhT_dahB4UM&vssid=mosaic