

**TRANSMILLIY GIYOHVAND MODDALAR JINOYATI VA UNING
MILLIY XAVFSIZLIKKA TA'SIRI: KRIMINOLOGIK XUSUSIYATLAR**

Sardor Alisherovich Isayev

*Chief Researcher at the Research Institute of
Criminology of the Republic of Uzbekistan,
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Law
E-mail: Cool.Sanny@mail.ru*

Annotatsiya. Maqolada global giyohvand moddalar bozorining zamonaviy rivojlanish tendensiyalari va narkotik moddalarni noqonuniy aylanmasida tashkilotlangan jinoyatchi guruhlarining roli o'rganiladi. Tadqiqotda giyohvand moddalar ishlab chiqarish, iste'mol va tarqatish hajmlari, shuningdek, giyohvand moddalar bilan bog'liq jinoyatchilikning o'sishiga hissa qo'shuvchi omillar, jumladan, giyohvand moddalar bozorining raqamlashtirilishi, kriptoalyutalardan foydalanish va "soya" internet platformalarining rivojlanishi tahlil qilinadi. Maxsus e'tibor transmilliy giyohvand moddalar jinoyati tabiatiga va uning xalqaro xavfsizlik, davlatlarning iqtisodiy barqarorligi hamda jamoat salomatligiga ta'siriga qaratilgan. Maqolada tashkilotlangan jinoyatchi guruhlarining faoliyatining o'ziga xos xususiyatlari, tuzilishi va ishlash usullari ham ko'rib chiqiladi. O'zbekiston Respublikasidagi giyohvand moddalar bilan bog'liq jinoyatchilikning amaldagi holati tahlil qilinib, davlatning antinarkotik siyosatining asosiy yo'nalishlari aniqlanadi va noqonuniy narkotik aylanmasiga qarshi kurash samaradorligini oshirish choralarini taklif etadi. Ushbu choralar xalqaro hamkorlikni rivojlantirish, operativ-qidiruv faoliyatini takomillashtirish, korrupsiyaga qarshi kurash va oldini olish dasturlarini amalga oshirishni o'z ichiga oladi.

Kalit so'zlar: transmilliy jinoyatchilik, tashkilotlangan jinoyatchilik, noqonuniy narkotik aylanmasi, narkobiznes, giyohvand moddalar bozori, giyohvand moddalar bilan bog'liq jinoyatchilik, antinarkotik siyosat, narkomaniyani oldini olish.

**КРИМИНОЛОГИЧЕСКИЕ ХАРАКТЕРИСТИКИ
ТРАНСНАЦИОНАЛЬНОЙ НАРКОПРЕСТУПНОСТИ И ЕЁ
ВЛИЯНИЕ НА НАЦИОНАЛЬНУЮ БЕЗОПАСНОСТЬ**

Аннотация. В статье рассматриваются современные тенденции развития мирового рынка наркотиков и роль организованных преступных групп в незаконном обороте наркотических средств. Исследование анализирует масштабы производства, потребления и распределения наркотиков, а также факторы, способствующие росту преступлений, связанных с наркотиками, включая цифровизацию рынка наркотиков, использование криптовалют и

развитие теневого интернет-платформ. Особое внимание уделяется транснациональному характеру наркопреступности и её влиянию на международную безопасность, экономическую стабильность государств и общественное здоровье. В статье также рассматриваются особенности функционирования организованных преступных групп, их структура и методы работы. На основе анализа современного состояния наркопреступности в Республике Узбекистан определены основные направления государственной антинаркотической политики и предложены меры по повышению эффективности противодействия незаконному обороту наркотиков. Эти меры включают развитие международного сотрудничества, совершенствование оперативно-розыскной деятельности, борьбу с коррупцией и реализацию профилактических программ.

Ключевые слова: транснациональная преступность, организованная преступность, незаконный оборот наркотиков, наркобизнес, рынок наркотиков, наркопреступность, антинаркотическая политика, профилактика наркомании.

CRIMINOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF TRANSNATIONAL DRUG CRIME AND ITS IMPACT ON NATIONAL SECURITY

Abstract. The article examines modern trends in the development of the global drug market and the role of organized criminal groups in the illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs. The study analyzes the scale of drug production, consumption, and distribution, as well as factors contributing to the growth of drug-related crime, including the digitalization of the drug market, the use of cryptocurrencies, and the development of shadow Internet platforms. Particular attention is paid to the transnational nature of drug crime and its impact on international security, the economic stability of states, and public health. The article also considers the specific features of the functioning of organized criminal groups, their structure, and methods of operation. Based on the analysis of the current state of drug-related crime in the Republic of Uzbekistan, the main directions of the state anti-drug policy are identified, and measures are proposed to improve the effectiveness of counteracting illicit drug trafficking. These measures include the development of international cooperation, the improvement of operational-search activities, the fight against corruption, and the implementation of preventive programs.

Keywords: transnational crime, organized crime, illicit drug trafficking, drug business, drug market, drug-related crime, anti-drug policy, drug abuse prevention.

Introduction. In recent years, the global drug market has demonstrated a steady upward trend. This is evidenced by the growing volumes of production, seizures, consumption, requests for medical assistance, as well as mortality rates. According to

international studies, in **2023** the illegal production of cocaine alone reached a record level of approximately **3,708 tons** worldwide, which is **34%** higher than the previous year [1]. Moreover, this growth was observed on all continents. The amount of confiscated cocaine increased by **68%** between **2019** and **2023**, while the number of users in **2023** reached approximately **25 million people**. The main group of users consists of individuals **aged 15–64 years** [2].

In addition, in recent years several new trends have emerged in the development of the global drug market: an increase in the production of synthetic drugs such as amphetamine, methamphetamine, fentanyl and others; the active digitalization of the drug market; the use of cryptocurrencies for financial transactions; the expansion of drug distribution markets into new regions; and the strengthening of the transnational nature of criminal networks. These factors require the development of new strategies to combat illicit drug trafficking.

At the same time, the volume of drug seizures by law enforcement agencies is also increasing. In **2025**, almost **3.5 tons** of narcotic drugs were seized from illegal circulation in Uzbekistan. In addition, **15.4** thousand drug-related crimes and **1,956** administrative offenses related to drugs were registered. Fourteen clandestine drug laboratories were uncovered. More than **11,000** individuals were held accountable for drug-related crimes, including **124 university students** and **59 school students**. The highest number of cases of drug addiction among young people was recorded in the city of Tashkent [3].

Various factors may contribute to drug use among young people, such as the desire to experience new sensations or the influence of social surroundings, which undoubtedly affects a person's character, habits, and overall moral values. For some individuals, drug use is also perceived as a way to escape difficulties or cope with emotional pain. However, in reality this approach only aggravates the situation and leads to the formation of drug dependence.

Illicit drug trafficking is one of the largest forms of transnational crime. It has a significant impact on international security, the economic stability of states, and the gene pool of the nation. Drug trafficking represents a key source of income for organized criminal groups. The high profitability of this type of criminal activity contributes to the expansion of criminal networks and the development of transnational criminal structures.

Organized criminal groups control various stages of illicit drug trafficking—from the production and processing of narcotic substances to their transportation, distribution, and the laundering of criminal proceeds.

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An important aspect in this context is the intensification of violence associated with the illicit drug trade, particularly on the part of criminal groups. Under conditions of globalization, the drug market is becoming increasingly

integrated and complex, which significantly complicates the activities of law-enforcement agencies.

Literature Review. In criminology, organized crime is viewed as a negative socio-legal phenomenon representing a set of crimes committed by organized groups and criminal communities, as well as the totality of individuals involved in these groups and communities [4]. According to A.I. Dolgova, organized crime is a complex system of organized criminal formations engaged in large-scale criminal activity and creating the most favorable conditions for such activity. It employs both its own structures, which perform managerial and other functions to support these formations, their activities, and external interactions, as well as state structures and civil-society institutions [5, p. 20]. The high level of income generated by the drug trade serves as a linking factor between organized crime and the illicit trafficking of narcotics, which is facilitated by the lack of serious competition in this market segment. The primary objective of the drug trade is the unlawful acquisition of profit and enrichment through criminal activity. Illegal drug trafficking, the distribution of its proceeds, and related operations constitute part of the criminal economy, which inflicts substantial harm on the state.

Research Methodology. The study of this form of criminal activity remains relevant. As noted by I.N. Seliverstov, the expansion of organized crime is driven by objective factors that draw individuals into interaction with the criminal environment, thereby naturally contributing to its further development. Contemporary criminologists identify the following key spheres of organized criminal activity, in particular: – illicit drug trafficking;

- illicit arms trafficking;
- organization of illegal migration;
- human trafficking, including trafficking in human organs and tissues;
- theft and smuggling of motor vehicles;
- theft and smuggling of cultural and historical valuables;
- crimes in the field of computer information;
- money laundering and legalization of assets obtained through criminal means;
- crimes involving violations of copyright;
- corruption-related offenses.

Analysis and Results. Organized criminal groups play a pivotal role in the functioning of the global drug market. They establish complex logistical networks that ensure the production, transportation, and distribution of narcotic substances.

Organized crime is characterized by a significant level of latent activity, which can reach up to **80%** [6]. This is determined by both natural and artificial factors. Natural factors contributing to latency include the high level of training and professionalism of criminals, which significantly complicates the detection of offenses (particularly in the areas of illegal drug trafficking, fraud, and economic

crimes), as well as the fear among victims and witnesses of potential retaliation by members of criminal organizations who remain at large.

Moreover, the global Internet has facilitated the development of drug trafficking networks, with distribution occurring not only within individual states but also across international borders. A particularly important role is played by the Darknet—a hidden segment of the Internet accessible only through specialized browsers. Through this platform, drug traffickers are able to sell narcotic substances anonymously without fear of detection by law enforcement agencies.

The emergence of cryptocurrencies has further complicated the traceability of financial transactions. This development contributes to the expansion of international drug operations and exacerbates the problem of illicit drug trafficking.

The illegal circulation of narcotic substances at the transnational level is classified as transnational crime. Estimates indicate that in **2009**, its turnover amounted to **USD 870 billion**, equivalent to **1.5%** of global GDP. This figure is more than six times the volume of official development assistance in the same year and represents nearly seven percent of global merchandise exports [7].

The primary functions of transnational criminal organizations include:

1. Control over drug production;
2. Organization of international transportation channels;
3. Distribution of drugs in national markets;
4. Legalization of proceeds from criminal activities.

Discussion. Modern criminal networks exhibit a high degree of flexibility. They employ decentralized structures, enabling them to adapt effectively to law enforcement measures. Transnational drug-related crime represents a form of organized criminal activity carried out across multiple states and aimed at generating significant financial profit from the illicit drug trade. It is characterized by scale and complexity, making it one of the most serious global challenges [8, p. 110]. Such levels of criminal activity necessitate the establishment of complex, multi-tiered organized structures.

Analyzing the adverse trends in the development of transnational crime, N.N. Dyachenko and S.P. Vaile note that in contemporary conditions, it has reached a scale that imparts it with a systemic character. According to these scholars, transnational crime has effectively penetrated all key spheres of public life—political, economic, and social. Among the most notable trends, researchers highlight the intensification of processes for legalizing criminal proceeds, an increase in encroachments on lawful business activities, the enlargement and consolidation of organized criminal groups, as well as the complication of their internal structures and the rise in the professional level of criminal activity [9, p. 76].

Transnational crime is characterized by the following features:

1. Structured criminal organizations and a high level of organization;

2. Availability of a material base;
3. Legitimate forms of activity;
4. Corrupt connections with authorities, among others.

Transnational drug-related crime poses a serious threat to society for several reasons. One of the primary dangers is its destructive impact on the national gene pool due to the widespread distribution of narcotics. Organizations engaged in drug trafficking are often involved in violence, endangering the safety of ordinary citizens.

Moreover, this form of crime fosters the development of corruption within the state, undermines legality and order, ultimately leading to societal destabilization. According to L.V. Glazkova, modern organized crime possesses a complex systemic nature. Professional, economic, and corruption-based criminality, which constitute the core of organized crime, could not operate and develop without the involvement of numerous specialists—accountants, financiers, lawyers, and bankers. Their assistance is manifested not only in facilitating individual criminal acts but also in the legalization of illicitly obtained proceeds, the execution of financial transactions, and the conclusion of deals aimed at legitimizing the ownership, use, and disposal of money and property of criminal origin.

As a result of the close interweaving of criminal and para-criminal interests, shadow systems are formed that serve organized criminal groups and criminal communities. Within such systems, drug-related crime interacts with society, influencing public consciousness and promoting the dissemination of criminal ideology and models of criminal behavior [10, p. 84]. It should also be noted that funds generated from illicit drug trafficking may finance other forms of criminal activity, including terrorism.

Conclusion. Transnational drug-related crime is a global phenomenon that crosses national borders and complicates the tasks of law enforcement agencies in combating it. The activities of transnational criminal groups and organizations associated with the illicit trafficking of narcotics and their precursors are officially recognized as a threat to the national security of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The drug trade undermines public order, economic security, and governance. Accordingly, a primary responsibility of the state and its agencies is to identify and dismantle criminal groups specializing in drug trafficking, bring producers and distributors of narcotics and their precursors to justice, and implement timely and effective state anti-drug policies.

The foregoing allows us to conclude that the phenomenon of organized crime requires further in-depth criminological study. The main objective of such research is to identify and develop more effective mechanisms for preventive influence on the activities of organized criminal groups and communities. Only through the improvement of scientific approaches and practical preventive measures can it be

ensured that the system for countering organized crime adequately corresponds to its contemporary scale and nature.

In order to define comprehensive measures for achieving the priority objectives of the **National Strategy for Combating Drug Addiction and Drug-Related Crimes** in the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2024–2028, and to ensure effective protection of the population—particularly the health of youth and the **nation’s gene pool**—by elevating the level of anti-drug and organized drug-crime efforts, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan issued Decree No. 207 on November 3, 2025, “On Comprehensive Measures for the Effective Protection of Public Health and the Nation’s Gene Pool from Drug Addiction and Drug-Related Crimes” [11]. This decree approved the National Program of Comprehensive Practical Measures for Early Prevention and Combating of Drug Addiction and Drug-Related Crimes for 2025–2026.

The National Program serves as a strategic planning document in the field of national security and is aimed at implementing the state’s anti-drug policy.

The key provisions of the Presidential Decree and the National Program include:

- Improving anti-drug policy and strengthening state control over the circulation of narcotics, including the development of legislation, technology, and monitoring systems;
- Prevention and early detection of illicit drug use through educational programs, media engagement, and volunteer participation;
- Reducing the number of individuals with drug dependence through enhanced treatment, rehabilitation, and early diagnostics;
- Decreasing drug-related crime by strengthening border control and combating organized criminal groups;
- Developing international cooperation in the fight against illicit drug trafficking.

Uzbekistan consistently fulfills its international obligations in combating the proliferation of narcotics and strengthening control over narcotic substances. In February 1995, the Republic acceded to the UN Conventions on Narcotic Drugs Control. In August 1999, the Law “On Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances” was adopted [12], and in January 2021, the Law “On the Prevention and Treatment of Drug Addiction” came into force [13].

Currently, in cooperation with the UNODC, the following regional projects are being implemented in Uzbekistan:

1. Regional Project: Establishment of the Central Asian Regional Information Coordination Centre (CARICC) for Combating the Illicit Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, and Their Precursors (total budget USD 15.4 million). The project has held several meetings of the Council of National Coordinators of the member states of the CARICC Agreement, during which the main

directions of activity for the next two years and the most urgent operational issues were defined.

2. Regional Project: Treatment II – Treatment of Drug Addiction and Its Health Consequences (USD 1.49 million). Within this project, specialists from the Ministries of Health, Labor, and Social Protection participate in regional training programs.

3. Regional Project: Prevention of Psychoactive Substance Abuse, HIV/AIDS, and Youth Crime through Life Skills Training Programs in Families. Currently, under this project, the program “Family and School Together” is being implemented for primary school children in Tashkent city and three regions of the Republic.

4. Regional Project: Combating the Illicit Trafficking of Afghan Opioids via the Northern Route through Strengthening the Capacity of Key Border Points and Establishing Border Liaison Units (total budget USD 1.3 million) [14].

Implementing state anti-drug policy under the threat of transnational drug crime is critically important for ensuring the national security of the Republic of Uzbekistan. For the successful fight against the drug trade and effective counteraction to transnational criminal groups, we consider the following measures necessary:

1. Improving methods and technologies of investigative and operational activities to detect and suppress the activities of drug cartels and criminal organizations involved in the illicit trafficking of narcotics.

2. Strengthening control and eliminating corruption schemes within law enforcement and state institutions that may undermine the effectiveness of anti-drug efforts.

3. Cooperating with other countries through information exchange, joint operations, and the development of international strategies to combat transnational drug-related crime.

4. Establishing effective programs for drug addiction prevention and rehabilitation of individuals with substance dependence to prevent the spread of narcotics and provide support to drug users.

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