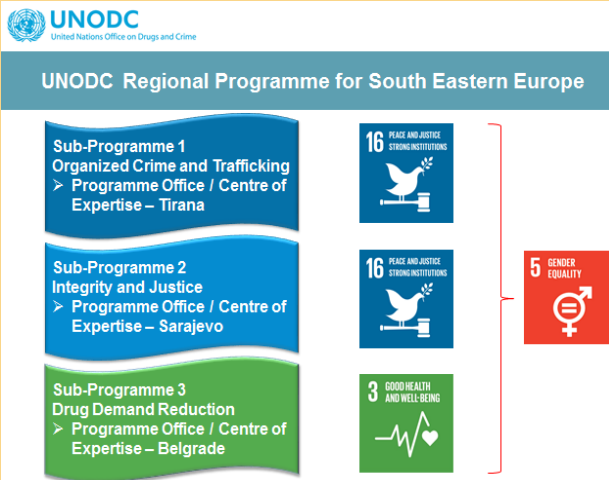


This newsletter provides information about key news and events related to UNODC's action and partnerships in the region. The UNODC Regional Programme for South Eastern Europe (2016-2019) is structured along three main pillars: (I) Illicit Drug Trafficking and Organized Crime, (II) Enhancement of Integrity and Justice, (III) Prevention, Treatment and Care. The Programme focuses on priority actions identified in cooperation with the Governments in the region and through a dialogue with national, regional and international partners. For feedback, queries or comments regarding this newsletter, please contact Ms. Ekaterina Kolykhalova (e-mail: ekaterina.kolykhalova@unodc.org) and Mr. Sinisa Durkulic (sinisa.durkulic@unodc.org).

## NEWS AND EVENTS



### Governing body of the UNODC Regional Programme for South Eastern Europe (RP SEE) approves 2016 results and endorses 2017 workplan

**25 November 2016, Vienna, Austria:** The 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Steering Committee of the RP SEE gathered its members, Ambassadors and senior representatives of the countries of the region, donor and partner countries, partner organizations, UN Resident Coordinators from the region and other counterparts. UNODC Executive Director noted that RP SEE is a central instrument for the UNODC's work and priorities in this strategically important region and stated that the Programme is bearing promising results. An update on the RP's policy setting was provided, including with regard to the UNODC consultations with the EU DG NEAR. The 2017 workplan was unanimously endorsed. In his closing remarks, Deputy Executive Director of UNODC pointed out that RP SEE is an integral part of the 'One UNODC Concerted Approach to Europe, West and Central Asia', and contributes to its success, especially when it comes to the practical cooperation in the field of anti-money laundering / counter-terrorism financing and the building of networks. UNODC has also underscored that the approach applied in SEE is fully in line with the UNGASS on the world drug problem and the Goals of the 2030 Agenda, and corresponds to gender equality principle.



### Coordination efforts are ongoing to streamline assistance in South Eastern Europe under the EU umbrella

**30 November 2016, Vienna, Austria:** The first informal meeting of the implementing partners of the Initiative Support to the Western Balkan Integrative Internal Security Governance (WBIISG) was hosted by UNODC in Vienna. The meeting was chaired by the EU DG NEAR and attended by the representatives of the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC), the Secretariat of the Police Cooperation Convention for South Eastern Europe (PCC SEE), the representatives of the Governments of Slovenia, Germany, Italy, the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL), the Council of Europe, the OSCE, and other partners, including heads of IPA projects operating the region, among them the UNODC project on measuring and assessing organized crime. The parameters of the future work were discussed in this informal meeting, including the need for close coordination and non-duplication. The IISG will attentively consider the lessons learned from the previous donor coordination mechanisms in the Balkans as well as setting up sufficient promotion and monitoring strategy in the course of 2017. (For info on all of the above: Ekaterina Kolykhalova)

## TERRORISM PREVENTION

### UNODC participates in the Cooperation Networks in the Area of Counter-Terrorism and Counter-Violent Extremism under the Auspices of the EU Western Balkan CT Initiative

**10-11 November 2016, Tirana, Albania:** Regional and international officials from SEE met to coordinate activities on counter-terrorism, foreign terrorism fighters (FTF) and counter-violent extremism in a conference which was organized by RCC and hosted by the Albanian Foreign Ministry at a conference which is part of the EU Western Balkans Counter-Terrorism Initiative (WBCTI). The objectives of the event were to: raise awareness about CT, PVE and WBCTI activities; be a platform for exchange of information, views and good practices among all principal stakeholders active in counterterrorism, and the prevention and countering of P-CVE in SEE; promote coordination among the members of the WBCTI. UNODC briefed the event on the FTF Training Module Project in SEE and the Global Project on Strengthening the Legal Regime Against FTF which includes the SEE region. UNODC will continue to cooperate with the EU and its partners under WBCTI and coordinate the work with the above mentioned WBIISG.

### UNODC briefs Slovenian students on the anti-terrorism work of the UN

**28-29 November 2016, Ljubljana, Slovenia:** A UNODC expert gave a presentation to law students of the University of Ljubljana on the role of the UN and UNODC, in particular in the international terrorism prevention, the international legal framework dealing with terrorism, FTF and the illicit trade of cultural artefacts. A meeting was held with the University to discuss possibilities to develop a proposal to build an annotated database of FTF cases. Also, consultations with the Secretariat of the Police Cooperation Convention for SEE took place to discuss the above mentioned WBCTI and possible further cooperation. (For info on all of the above: Joaquin Zuckerberg)

**MONEY-LAUNDERING, FINANCING OF TERRORISM AND ASSET FORFEITURE****UNODC Co-Sponsors the National Risk Assessment of Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing (ML/TF) in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

**11-13 October, 2016, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina:** Representatives from 49 national institutions involved in countering ML/TF gathered for the first training and group workshop for the national ML/TF risk assessment of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Conducting this national risk assessment is in line with the principles of FATF. The task is challenging due to the multi-dimensional nature of these crimes and lack of data/information in many jurisdictions. The Bosnian practitioners were trained on the World Bank Group's methodology for conducting national ML/TF risk assessments developed to overcome these challenges. In line with the decision of the country's Council of Ministers, this project will be delivered through eight operational sub-working groups which report to a national risk ML/TF risk assessment coordinator. At this workshop, the eight sub-working groups conducted an initial assessment of the risks of ML/TF for Bosnia and Herzegovina. The event was organized by UNODC, the British Embassy in Sarajevo, the World Bank Group and the OSCE, with support of the Government of Turkey.

**How to investigate bitcoins: UNODC and OSCE train officers from South Eastern and Eastern Europe and Central Asia**

**19-23 December 2017, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova:** UNODC and OSCE trained 34 officers from law enforcement, anti-ML and bank supervision agencies from South Eastern Europe, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Central Asia on how to investigate ML with bitcoins, combat banking fraud and disrupt illicit financial flows. Banking fraud generates significant illicit financial flows and poses a serious threat to national economies. In the "Laundromat" case, the National Anticorruption Center of Moldova investigated laundering of more than USD 22 bln. Bitcoin is the world largest cryptocurrency enabling payments in the Internet. Capitalization of bitcoin is more than USD 13 bln. According to the 2016 UNODC World Drug Report, 25% of drug users purchased drugs via the Internet. UNODC Global Programme against Money Laundering and Global Programme on Cybercrime have developed a practical training on investigating ML with bitcoins and delivered it in Chisinau. Participants got a practical experience with the simulated investigation of the serious banking fraud, and real-time tracing of bitcoins with the use of computers and disrupting the illicit financial flows. The training was organized with the financial support of USA Department of State, UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Government of Norway.

**Regional workshop addresses the topic of money laundering risks related to new technologies in South Eastern Europe**

**12-13 December 2016, Bucharest, Romania:** UNODC took part in the Council of Europe (CoE) Regional workshop on Money Laundering Risks related to New Technologies. The innovative use of new technologies, including decentralised virtual currencies such as bitcoin, for business purposes, but also for the criminal use continues to gain momentum. The objectives of the workshop were: to facilitate understanding and address the ML/FT risks associated with NPM, such as prepaid cards, mobile payments, Internet-based payment services, as well as virtual currencies and stimulate discussion on implementing the risk-based AML/CFT regulations in this area; to discuss how virtual currencies operate and enable government officials and law enforcement to analyse and detect the potential ML/FT threats and vulnerabilities; to consider specific types of virtual currencies such as bitcoin, identify potential ML/FT risks and typologies involving the use of such currency on the Darknet; to discuss some recent investigations and law enforcement efforts related to search, seizure and confiscation of online crime proceeds involving NPM and virtual currencies. UNODC and



CoE discussed possibilities for cooperation, in particular in the field of financial investigations, virtual currencies and training. *(For info on above: Ekaterina Kolykhalova)*

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING****UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons (TF) supports Serbian NGO ATINA in helping victims of human trafficking**

**14-15 November 2016, Belgrade, Serbia:** UNODC visited NGO ATINA, currently funded via the TF, to evaluate its performance. The visit provided an opportunity to meet with project staff and assess the project implementation by visiting multiple facilities, i.e. the reception centre and bagel shop which is operated by project beneficiaries as part of the reintegration program. The NGO shared achievements, challenges and lessons learned under the project aimed towards assisting project beneficiaries (survivors of sexual and labour exploitation). The mission concluded that the NGO is providing high quality services for the beneficiaries.

**First Expert Consultation on the Smuggling of Migrants in SEE: focus on joint investigations and illicit financial flows**

**16-18 November 2016, Belgrade, Serbia:** As a first in a series of Regional Expert Group Meetings on the Smuggling of Migrants with a focus on SEE, UNODC conducted a regional expert consultation on joint criminal investigations and prosecutions and disruption of illicit financial flows deriving from the smuggling of migrants. In the meeting, which was supported by France, the experts exchanged and discussed recent trends and modus operandi concerning the smuggling of migrants through the so-called Eastern Mediterranean route. After a review of the trends and patterns of the smuggling of migrants through the Western Balkans route by regional and international organizations and the academia, experts discussed concrete cases of cooperation in investigation and prosecution of smuggling in SEE. Given the centrality of the principle "follow the money" for effectively combating the smuggling of migrants as a form of organized crime, a session was dedicated to financial investigations and anti-money laundering of the proceeds of the smuggling of migrants crime. *(For info on all above: Davor Raus)*



## DRUG PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND CARE

### Paris Pact A Partnership to Combat Illicit Traffic in Opiates Originating in Afghanistan

INITIATIVE

#### Paris Pact Expert Working Group (EWG) Discusses the Integration of Drug Dependence Treatment in the Public Health System

**10-11 October 2016, Belgrade, Serbia:** The Paris Pact Initiative held its first EWG in SEE in which over 60 experts discussed the ways of integrating drug dependence treatment in the public health system. Besides the experts from national institutions and international organizations, civil society organizations also actively contributed to the meeting. UNODC highlighted the UNODC-WHO International Standards for the Treatment of Drug Use Disorders and the outcomes

and implications of UNGASS outcome document 2016 in relation to Public Health System. The meeting confirmed the importance of having evidence based drug treatment interventions and acknowledged gaps and challenges in national substance use treatment and prevention systems, and formulated draft recommendations. The EWG was hosted by the Ministry of Health of Serbia jointly with the OSCE Mission to Serbia. *(For info: Marie-Anne Menier)*

#### UNODC joins a comprehensive dialog on prevention and treatment of addiction in Croatia

**10-12 October, Trogir, Croatia:** UNODC participated in the conference "Challenges in the field of addiction - do we have the right answers" organized by the Ministry of Social Policy and Youth and Ministry of Health of Croatia in cooperation with the Euro-TC and the Office for Combating Drug Abuse of the Government of Croatia. The participating representatives of government bodies, local and regional governments, experts, NGOs, professionals from the health and social welfare system, the police and the judiciary discussed: developing access to prevention and treatment of drug addiction, prevention and treatment of addictive behaviour, coherent policies in the field of addiction, etc. UNODC presented the topic of treatment and psychosocial rehabilitation of women with addiction problems and the International Standards for Treatment of Drug Use Disorders, as well as on trauma informed interventions and guidance related to pregnancy.

#### TREATNET Volume D Regional training on management of drug dependence treatment services held for health care professionals from SEE

**21-24 November 2016, Belgrade, Serbia:** Regional TREATNET training of trainers (ToT) on 'Volume D: Management of drug dependence treatment services' was held with active participation of professionals from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia. TREATNET is the UNODC educational package on comprehensive drug dependence treatment and includes four volumes representing crucial segments of multidisciplinary approach to treatment. Following the successful finalization of the Regional ToT course, it is expected that the trainees will proceed with the local cascade trainings in their institutions and local communities, as well as make use of the acquired knowledge to strengthen their primary work as clinical managers.



#### The UNODC - Lions Quest "Skills for Adolescence" programme starts work in Bosnia and Herzegovina

**5-7 December 2016, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina:** UNODC and the Lions Club International Foundation commenced the Lions Quest "Skills for Adolescence" programme in SEE in 2014 and following the successful implementation in the region, it will expand in 2017 to Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The inception meeting was arranged with the Ministry of the Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina with the representatives of relevant institutions from the Republic of Srpska and Federation to agree on the programme implementation. *(For info on the above: Milos Stojanovic)*

## GLOBAL CONTAINER CONTROL PROGRAMME (CCP)

#### Global Container Control Programme (CCP) Annual Meeting organized in Albania

**10-14 October 2016, Durres, Albania:** The CCP staff from over 30 countries where the Programme is operational met in Durres to look into best practices and share experiences. The annual meeting reviewed the Programme's progress in the current year and defined the most important activity areas in 2017. The Government of Albania supported the meeting, emphasized the importance of its implementation and the usefulness of the new standards that CCP has set in the implementation of the Integrated Border Management Strategy. *(For info: Ela Banaj)*

## WILDLIFE AND FOREST CRIME

#### UNODC Supports Implementation of the Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytical Toolkit (WLFCAT) in Bosnia and Herzegovina

**17-27 October 2016, Bosnia and Herzegovina:** Assessment Mission aiming to facilitate implementation of the WLFCAT of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) was conducted. The Toolkit is a technical resource that assists States to conduct a comprehensive analysis of preventive and criminal justice responses related to WLFC and helps to evaluate the matters relevant to it. The mission was carried out through a series of meetings in Sarajevo and Banja Luka with relevant national institutions, law enforcement agencies and other actors with jurisdiction in the field of organized crime and/or protection of nature, endangered flora and fauna, forest related crime and similar. The mission results in a comprehensive report by UNODC. The Toolkit is available to all Governments that want to complete an assessment of WLFC. Bosnia and Herzegovina is the first country in Europe to have conducted this assessment. *(For info: Alen Gagula)*

## ORGANIZED CRIME

### UNODC contributed to the RACVIAC event on cyber security in South Eastern Europe

**17-18 October 2016, Rakitje, Croatia:** UNODC took part in the "Building a Cyber Resilient Society in South-Eastern Europe - Advanced Training Course" organized by the Centre for Security Cooperation for South Eastern Europe (RACVIAC). The event was attended by some 50 participants and it provided the military and civilian personnel from RACVIAC Members with high-level knowledge, skills and experience required for describing and evaluating the risks and threats of cyber space, improving cyber defence measures and providing advice to decision makers. A number of specialized core topics, mainly on the cyber security, cyber threats and cyber warfare, were tackled during the course. The Course was supported by the NATO Science for Peace and Security Programme and by Germany. UNODC made a presentation on the misuse of cyber space for inciting terrorism and violent extremism and contributed to discussions.

### UNODC takes part in the OSCE-led regional round table on new psychoactive substances

**1-2 November 2016, Bucharest, Romania:** UNODC took part in a regional round table on "Law Enforcement Co-operation in Combating New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) in Eastern Europe, Joint Investigations and Advantages of a Common Data Collection System" organized by OSCE. During the meeting, UNODC led discussion on the latest trends in the emergence of NPS and the international response to this emergence, including information on scheduling, as well as presented UNODC's Early Warning Advisory on NPS.

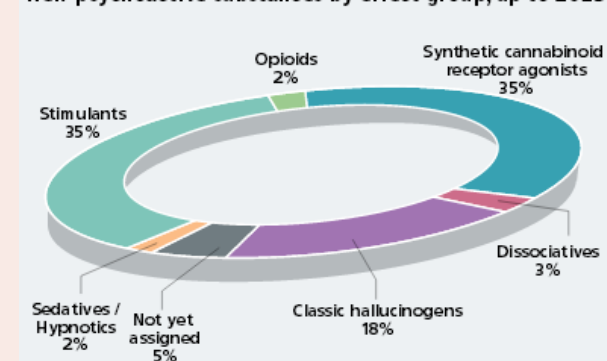
### Practical work under the new initiative on measuring and assessing organized crime in the Western Balkans begins

**1-2 December 2016, Vienna, Austria:** The First Advisory Committee Meeting of the UNODC initiative "Measuring and assessing organized crime in the Western Balkans: supporting evidence based policy making" was held in the UNODC HQ in Vienna. The event was opened by the representative of the EU DG NEAR - the donor of the project - as well as the UNODC representatives. The opening session proceeded with the presentation of the project and its foreseen goals, objectives and actions. Furthermore, the roles of the Advisory Committee and the National Technical Groups were reviewed and agreed upon. The mechanisms and modalities of the data collection under the project were discussed during the second day of the meeting, along with the foreseen way forward in the next 12 months. The overall objective of the project is to contribute to the strengthening of the rule of law through the fight against organised crime in the beneficiary countries and territories. This Project will help address the aforementioned challenges with respect to enhancing the understanding of the nature and evolution of organised crime. The specific objective of the project is to develop and implement a statistical framework for quantifying and analyzing organised crime in the Western Balkans, to establish mechanisms to monitor it and to produce an evidence-based analytical report on organized crime.

### Experts discuss challenges related to Small Arms and Light Weapons in South Eastern Europe

**5-7 December 2016, Budva, Montenegro:** UNODC took part in the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of National Commissions on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) of the members of the South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SEESAC). UNODC presented its data collection efforts in this regard, including the 2015 UNODC Study on Firearms and the ongoing review of the data collection methodology taking into account target 16.4 of the Agenda for Sustainable Development. *(For info on all above: Ekaterina Kolykhalova)*

New psychoactive substances by effect group, up to 2015



## CORRUPTION

### UNODC's Anti-Corruption Academic Initiative (ACAD) gathers professors from South Eastern Europe

**23-26 November 2016, Tirana, Albania:** ACAD workshop provided an opportunity for over 30 SEE academics to exchange good practices and discuss challenges related to anti-corruption research and education, recommend ways to enhance their capacity to deliver high-quality anti-corruption education in their respective institutions, and strengthen the SEE ACAD Network. In the workshop, which took place at the University of Tirana, Faculty of Law, the academics discussed approaches to teaching and research as well as substantive anti-corruption issues, presented practical anti-corruption clinical legal education from the students' perspective, discussed current trends in corruption, and the importance of teaching about them, challenges and opportunities. The participants discussed the need for integrity and ethics education in their different institutions as an approach to prevent and fight corruption and unethical practices in public administration. The workshop was facilitated by UNODC with funding from the Rule of Law and Corruption Centre (ROLACC) in Doha and by the Washington and Lee University School of Law, the University of Tirana School of Law, and the Embassy of the United States in Albania. *(For info: Sigall Horovitz)*

