

NATIONAL  
PLAN  
ON  
DRUGS

# 1

## THE NATIONAL PLAN ON DRUGS: OBJECTIVES AND STRUCTURE

The National Plan on Drugs (PNSD) is a government initiative designed to coordinate and strengthen the policies which are carried out by the different Public Administrations and social entities in Spain with regard to drugs. In accordance with the present situation of drug addiction, the Plan contains the following lines of action:

- Promoting a policy of prevention which will make it possible to decrease the supply and demand of drugs.
- Strengthening a network of centres to attend and rehabilitate people with problems derived from the consumption of drugs, promoting their incorporation in social life.
- Developing the necessary legal reform to successfully face the problems in relation with drug consumption and drug traffic.
- Coordinating joint and efficient action of all State organizations dealing with supply control.
- Promoting the programmes and activities carried out by different regional and local institutions and NGOs in this area.
- Promoting the responsibility and participation of all citizens.

The organizational structure of the Programme is the following:

- An **Inter-ministerial Group**, presided by the Ministry of the Interior and consisting of representatives of the Ministries of Justice, of Education and Culture, of Health and Consumer Affairs, of Labour and Social Affairs as well as the Secretary of State of the Treasury,

the Secretary of State of Economy and the Secretary of State of Relations with the Parliament. The Secretariat of this Interdepartmental Group will be in the hands of the Government Delegate for the PNSD.

- The relationship between the Central Administration and the Autonomons Governments will take place via two organisations:
  - a) The **Sectorial Conference**, presided by the Minister of the Interior, the policy decision making organism, consisting of the members of the Inter-ministerial Group and the Councillors responsible for the drug dependency policy in the Autonomons Governments, and
  - b) The **Inter-autonomic Commission**, presided by the Government Delegate for the PNSD, including those directly responsible for the Autonomons Government Plans on Drugs in the 17 Autonomons Communities and the Autonomous Cities of Ceuta and Melilla, which submits proposals of a technical nature to the Sectorial Conference and executes the guidelines issued by the latter.

The participation of the civil society – NGOs, private initiatives, foundations, companies, etc. – is organized using different cooperation formulae.

### Functions of the Government Delegation for the PNSD.

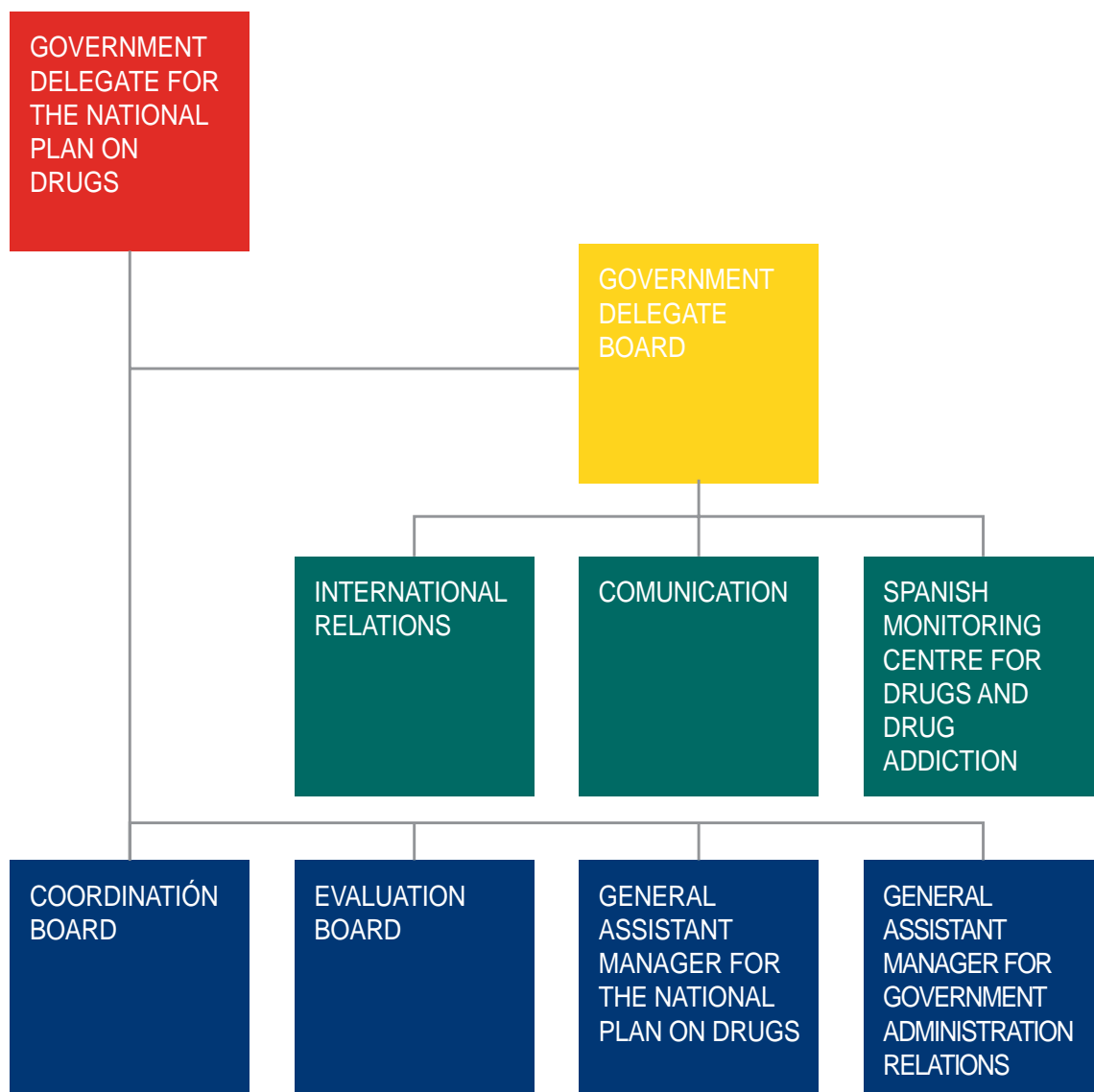
The Royal Decrees 1885/1996 and 783/1998 regulate in detail the functions corresponding to the Government Delegation, among them especially:

- Preparing and informing on the matters that are to be submitted to the Interdepartmental Group for the National Plan on Drugs.
- Developing the actions and proposals derived from the agreements of this Interdepartmental Group and supervising their execution.
- When necessary, executing the coordination in this area between the Services or Units of the different Departments of the Ministries.
- Maintaining relations with the different Public Administrations and Non-Governmental Organizations as well as with other private and expert Institutions, both national and foreign.
- Directing the Information System on Drugs.
- Coordinating the allocation of budget resources of the National Plan on Drugs.
- Participating in the meetings of the corresponding International Organisms and intervening in the application of the agreements derived from the latter.
- Keeping the General Records of Catalogued Chemical Substance Operators and executing the remaining competences attributed to the Ministry of the Interior by the Law 3/1996, of 10 January, on control measures of catalogued chemical substances susceptible to be deviated for illegal drug production.

- Information reception, analysis and study of drug traffic and money laundering in relation to such traffic.
- Proposing action programmes to fight drug trafficking and drug consumption.
- Managing the Fund from goods confiscated as a result of drug trafficking and other related offences, to be used for the prevention, health service and rehabilitation of drug addicts, as well as for the support of the repression of the drug offer.
- Serving as a state organ of communication with the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) as the latter exercises its competences recognized by the regulations of the community as well as for internal purposes on Spanish territory, carrying out and coordinating activities of data collection and analysis and of information diffusion on drugs and drug addiction, defining indicators and criteria as such, and acting as the Spanish Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction.

- With regard to the coordination of the State Security Forces and Bodies, the Government Delegate for the National Plan on Drugs, by delegation of the Secretary of State for Security, may take over the competence for:
  - Drug traffic offences and money laundering in connection with such traffic, committed by criminal organizations.
  - Drug traffic offences and money laundering in connection with such traffic, to be tried by the “Audiencia Nacional” (a specialised Court of Justice) for territorial reasons.
  - Offences connected with those above or related to them, for reasons of using the economic benefits produced by them.

## Structure of the Government Delegation for the National Plan on Drugs (PNSD)



# 2

## SPANISH MONITORING CENTRE FOR DRUGS AND DRUG ADDICTION

**A**mong the measures which the Government Delegation for the PNSD has put into operation in the last few years to improve the information and analysis of drug addiction in this country, especially outstanding is the setting up of the **Spanish Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (SMCDDA)**.

The Royal Decree 783/1998, of 30 April, establishes this Monitoring Centre in the Ministry of the Interior, and through the Government Delegation for the PNSD this Ministry is given the competence with regard to the state-wide development of the activities of data collection and analysis and of the diffusion of information on drugs and drug addiction in the internal area corresponding to those entrusted to the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drugs Addiction (EMCDDA) on a European level.

The SMCDDA is structured in the way of a cooperative, integrated by different sources of information coming from public and private, national and foreign, specialist and scientific institutions, on the basis of respecting the respective responsibilities and competences.

Its basic function is the evaluation of the drug addiction situation in Spain, on the basis of collecting and analysing information, and putting professionals at the disposal of the institution who manage and/or work in this field and a public interested in the results of its activity. The SMCDDA also means the existence of an efficient instrument in decision-making for those responsible of the PNSD for appropriate planning and launching actions in this matter.

The constitution of the Spanish Monitoring Centre has meant performing the following actions:

- Creation of an Advisory Council acting as a consultative element, integrated by members of social, professional, technical and scientific groups in relation to fighting drugs in this country. Other functioning SMCDDA organs which have also been set up are: The Scientific Committee, the Committee of the NGOs and the Technical Committee of Professionals Intervening in Drug Addiction.
- Elaboration of an “SMCDDA Information System” which after integrating the indicators of previous systems incorporates new sources of information and new indicators: Rapid Information Probes and Telephone Information and Immediate Alert Services.
- Elaborating periodical reports in which the different aspects of the drug addiction situation in Spain is analysed.
- Carrying out annual surveys covering the population in general and the school population.
- Development of an Information and Documentation Centre which puts the most up-dated documents and publications on the development of the phenomenon at the disposal of public organizations and private institutions, researchers and the public in general.

Among the services provided by the Centre, there is that of carrying out bibliographical searches in its data bases, and in other documentation centres, with which it cooperates; consultation of documentary collections and access to them in terms of the existing possibilities, and information on the drug addiction situation in Spain, and the activities developed within the framework of the National Plan on Drugs.

Among the future objectives of the SMCDDA is in-depth coordination with the Monitoring Centres which exist in the Autonomous Plans on Drugs and with the European Monitoring Centre, the headquarters of which are in Lisbon, and boosting the constitution of Monitoring Centres in those Autonomous Communities where they have not yet been established.

On the other hand, and as part of applying the new information technologies, especially with regard to the phenomenon of Internet, the Government Delegation for the PNSD has designed its own web page. It is meant to be useful for a wide range of users (Autonomous and Municipal Plans on Drugs, NGOs, university research teams, health and social service professionals, etc.), thus reducing the distance between these and a public organism of a national nature.

The web site is structured and has different access points with a very varied content, where information is found about resources and health services, prevention programmes, publications, activities in an international environment, useful addresses, etc.

**Web page of the Government Delegation for the PNSD:**  
<http://www.mir.es/pnd>

## Spanish Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (SMCDDA)





# 3

## DRUG CONSUMPTION IN SPAIN

In the 90s the drugs consumed and the consumption patterns underwent a series of transformations which point to a different situation with regard to that in the 80s.

Thus, while in the 80s and in the first years of the 90s the emblematic “drug” was heroin, today there are clear signs of stabilization and even decrease of its consumption. This does not mean that we are not going to suffer its serious consequences for years. In fact, the length of consumption time of many drug addicts and the presence of aids and other associated illnesses generate a great number of individual and family problems in the health and social environment.

As opposed to this situation, the decade of the 90s is marked by the use of new drugs (basically those called “synthetic drugs”) and the use of new consumption patterns of substances used before (alcohol). These new styles of consumption, especially in the case of the young, in general do not imply anti-cultural positions or marginal behaviour, as it used to be before. We encounter new ways, new forms of being in society, which affect important groups of the young reasonably integrated in their family and social surroundings.

In this moment the main tendencies of drug consumption are:

### **Heroin**

All data point to a decrease of its consumption in all forms (experimental as well as occasional or habitual consumption). An important aspect of the consumption of this substance, from a public health perspective, is the

change in the manner of administration: The injection practice is decreasing further, while that of smoking or inhaling this drug is on the increase.

### **Synthetic drugs (ecstasy and similar drugs)**

These are synthetic psycho-active drugs in general, variants of amphetamine, a stimulant of the central nervous system. The best known, ecstasy or MDMA, has been included in List I of the Treaty on Psychotropic Substances of the United Nations, which is where the substances considered most dangerous are grouped and are therefore more subject to international control.

These substances appeared in Spain in places with a strong predominance of tourism (Ibiza and the Spanish east coast) and, at the beginning, among foreigners. Its consumption spread with great rapidity in a very short time at the beginning of the 90s.

### **Cocaine**

There do not appear to be great changes in the consumption of this substance in the population in general, although a slight increase has been detected among the young population in the last few years. The most relevant fact in relation to cocaine is the significant increase of the number of people with problems caused by its consumption as they have applied for health and social services in the last two years.

### **Cannabis**

Its derivatives, basically hashish, are still the most widely consumed illegal drugs in Spain. Approximately one out of every five Spaniards has tried this substance at some time.

Its consumption has grown among the young and adolescent population in the last few years.

### **Alcohol**

Alcohol is the toxic substance most widely consumed among the Spaniards, although in accordance with the latest data available its consumption does not seem to have increased. Among the young the consumption of alcohol has peculiar characteristics: it is mainly found in a public environment or places of leisure activities, it principally takes place at weekends and the focus is on beer and combinations as the drinks that are preferred. A high percentage of the population of between 15 and 28 keep to the pattern of weekend consumption. Daily and, therefore, the most problematic consumption focuses above all on those older than 49.

### **Tobacco**

Together with alcohol, tobacco is the toxic substance most widely consumed by the Spaniards. A large part of the population has smoked on some occasion, while the average contact age for tobacco is 16.6 years.

Today's youth begins the habit of smoking earlier, with a noticeable percentage at an age of under 14. Women of between 15 and 18 begin smoking before the males of the same age, and with regard to the sector of the young of that age who smoke every day, the percentage of females who do so is higher than that of males.

# 4

## THE PREVENTION OF CONSUMPTION

The prevention of the improper use of drugs is the prime objective established by the National Plan on Drugs. The prevention advocated via the National Plan is based on some fundamental principles, among which the following stand out:

- Prevention conceived as an education in social values, competences and skills.
- Prevention requiring evaluation and methodological precision.
- Prevention based on the design of coordinated global strategies.
- Prevention supported by the objective knowledge of reality.
- Universal prevention in an attempt to become compatible with giving priority to high-risk groups.
- Prevention which can only take place by fomenting the participation of society as a whole.

It is the responsibility of the Government Delegation for the National Plan on Drugs as the maximum organ in charge of executing the Plan to define a global strategic policy which, based on consensus, enables the stability of preventive programmes and actions, their constant evaluation and progressive improvement.

The Autonomous Communities, in collaboration with the Local Administrations, have the function of planning and executing appropriate autonomous and local policies in this matter, as well as the corresponding financial and technical support.

Of the different sectors of the population and lines of action where the preventive programmes are developed, the following are to be emphasized:

### **Social communication**

This environment includes both the campaigns of informing society and raise public awareness and specific actions of cooperation with the media.

### **Community**

There is no doubt that this is the proper action environment of the Administrations closest to the citizen – on the autonomous and local level -, of the social organizations and groups and of the family as the basis of our social organization. This is the level on which the “social mediators” are found as the formal and energy-giving representation of the community.

### **School**

The prevention programmes in the school are developed in coordination with the Ministry of Education and Culture and the corresponding Autonomous Department responsible in the matter. The school programmes are fundamentally based on the following activities:

- Training of the teaching staff
- Participation and training the pupils’ parents
- Application of educational projects in the centres

At present preventive programmes are generally applied to the school population as a whole, especially promoting those which have proved their validity after being evaluated.

### **Labour**

The prevention of wrongful drug use at the work place by means of establishing collaboration agreements between the Autonomous Plans on Drugs and the union and employers’ organizations. The agreements give priority to production sectors and groups of workers in a situation of risk and also those with a labour activity which may be a risk to third parties – drivers of public transport, security professionals, etc.

In order to promote this type of action, there is a National Commission for the Prevention and Treatment of Drug Addiction in the Work Place, where the Government Delegation for the PNSD, the Union Confederation of CC.OO., U.G.T. and the Spanish Confederation of Employers’ Organizations participate.

### **Others**

Other sectors where programmes of a preventive nature are developed are the military sector (training courses for officers, and informative activities for professional soldiers and replacements), and in the prison sector (with various programmes which are developed in the penitentiary centres, performed in collaboration by professionals of these centres and the community resources of the autonomous and local administrations).

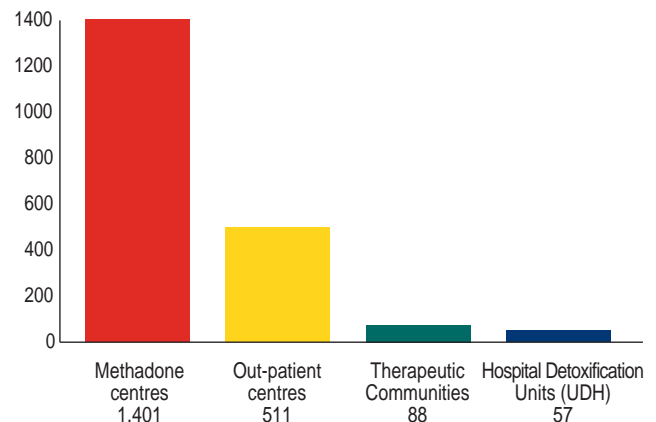
# 5

## ATTENTION TO CONSUMERS: TREATMENT AND SOCIAL REHABILITATION SERVICES AND REINTEGRATION

At present Spain has a consolidated and diversified network of programmes and resources which attend the population of drug addicts with a varied offer of actions in terms of the different needs of the consumers and their families. This network depends on the Communities and Autonomous Cities, the local Entities and the Non-Governmental Organizations which intervene in drug addiction.

As these people have different problems, and in every case there is a most appropriate way of dealing with them, the network of treatment services for drug addiction has a variety of resources the number and typology of which can be observed in the attached table.

### Specific assistance resources for drug users (public and publicly-funded private centres). Spain.



Source: Government Delegation for the National Plan on Drugs. Based on data provided by Autonomous Communities.

The majority of people are attended in outpatients' treatment services, with methadone prescription and/or dispensation services being the second type of resource most frequently used.

In this sense the very important increase of the latter type of programme (that of maintenance with methadone), and in general all those directed towards reducing the harm associated with drug consumption (vaccination programmes, syringe dispensation and exchange programmes and sanitary kits, etc.) in the last few years must be emphasized.

The objective of other programmes is that of incorporating into society the people who are affected by drug addiction and are under treatment. The programmes include both activities of academic and professional training and labour integration programmes (work in handcraft workshops, placement reserve in companies, specific employment programmes, promotion of self-help cooperatives, etc.) or of residential support (by means of protected flats or not, temporary acceptance in families, etc.).

In relation to the promotion of work incorporation programmes, it has to be pointed out that on May 28, 1997, a **Collaboration Agreement was signed between the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs**, implemented by means of a Protocol between the Government Delegation for the National Plan on Drugs and the National Institute of Employment. In accordance with this Agreement, the NIE offered five thousand places to promote work integration of drug addicts via the National Training and Professional Integration Programme and the subsidy of projects of Workshop Schools and Trade Training Houses.

In addition, the design of a global intervention programme of drug addict problems with legal-penal problems through the development of the following strategies: a) fomenting alternative ways of serving a sentence instead of a custodial sentence; b) promoting the programmes in police stations and courts; and c) consolidation of intervention programmes in penitentiary institutions, especially treatments with methadone.

In Spain all resources and attention services of a public nature or subsidized by the public sector with private initiative are free of charge for the user.

# 6

## SUPPLY CONTROL

The functions of the Government Delegation for the PNSD regarding the supply control contemplated in the R.D. 1885/1996, have been listed in section one of this publication.

These functions basically refer to the analysis and study of the information on drug traffic and related capital laundering, to the proposal of action programmes to fight these offences and to the coordination of the State Security Forces and Bodies in those actions possibly connected with the offences mentioned, i.e. drug traffic, money laundering and others related to them.

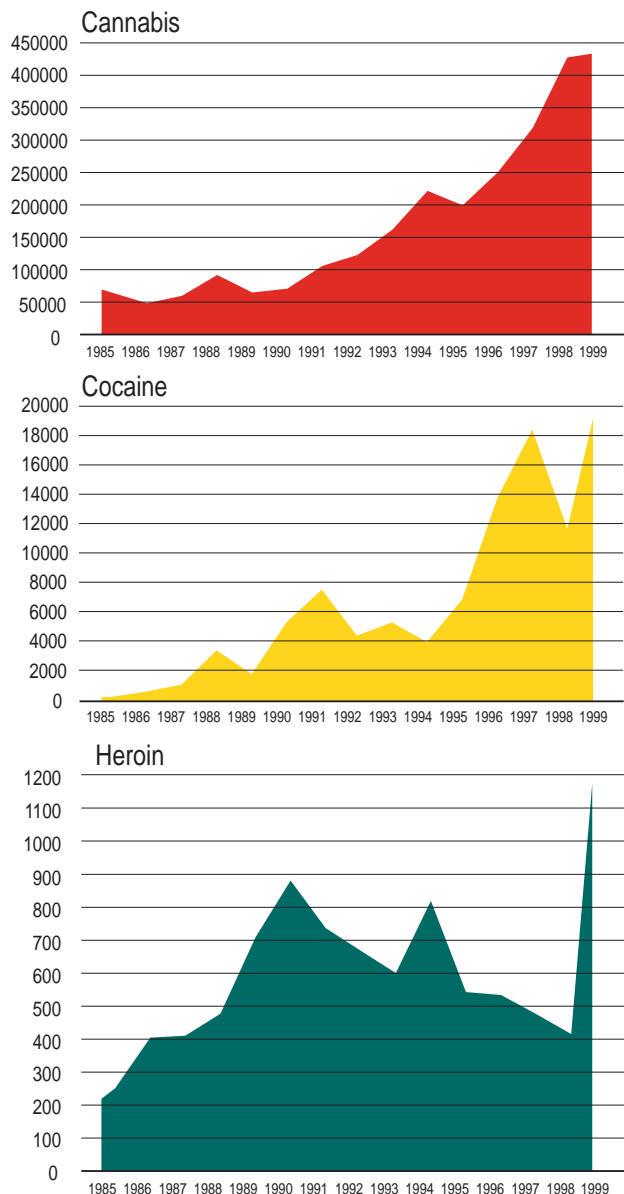
For the execution of these functions it is of great importance that since 1994 there are two specialized departments directed by and consisting of members of the Security Forces and Bodies and depending directly on the Government Delegate for the PNSD. Among others, the functions of these departments of Evaluation and Coordination are:

- Reception and analysis of all information related to the environment of competence of the Government Delegation on drug traffic and money laundering in relation to this traffic, as well as the evaluation of concrete situations and of reports and news items which may be received on these subjects and the preparation of the corresponding reports.
- The follow-up of the actions of the Bodies and Services which are of special importance to the action of the Government Delegation and the coordination of the investigations that are carried out within the range of competence mentioned before.

- Finally, it is the Evaluation Department's responsibility to be in charge of the Secretariat of the High Council of the Fight against the Drug Traffic and Money Laundering, while the Coordination Department is in charge of the Secretariat of the Advisory Council regarding the same matters.

At the same time, the High Council of the Fight against Drug Trafficking and Money Laundering and the Advisory Council for the same matters function dependent on the Ministry of the Interior, via the Government Delegation for the PNSD, their mission being that of designing the general policy lines and the strategies of these subjects, particularly with regard to data collection and data analysis and the diffusion of information on drugs and drug addiction; as well as advising the Delegate in the execution of the competences which he develops through the Departments mentioned.

### Quantities of cannabis, cocaine and heroin seized in Spain (kg.) 1985-1999



Source: Ministry of the Interior. Head Police Department (DGP). Central Office of Narcotics.

# 7

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The Government Delegation for the National Plan on Drugs analyses the drug problem from a global and integrated perspective, affecting multiple environments of society. With such a viewpoint it is necessary to act in a coordinated

and joint manner in the different fields of action.

In this scheme of work within the Government Delegation for the National Plan on Drugs, **international cooperation** becomes an area of special importance enabling the active participation of Spain in all multilateral fora where the phenomenon of drugs is dealt with, as well as the development of bilateral collaboration relationships with countries with which we have this problem in common.

The **principles** on which this participation is based are the following:

1. An active commitment of Spain in the international drug debate.
2. Global focus of the drug problem, balancing the control and demand policies.
3. Assumption of the principle of shared responsibility.
4. Improvement of the prevention systems in the face of new consumption patterns and new phenomena, such as that of synthetic drugs.
5. Defence of a common policy in drug matters in the heart of the European Community.
6. Development of regional collaboration mechanisms and cooperation with Latin America and the Mediterranean area.
7. Increment of training, information and collaboration systems in the fight against drug traffic and organized crime related to this traffic, and other connected offences.

8. Strengthening international cooperation in the fight against money laundering.
9. Improvement of information exchange against the illegal commerce of precursors.

Following the priority of deepening its relationship with Latin America, within the sphere of the **European Union**, the constitution of the Cooperation and Coordination Mechanism has been especially noteworthy between the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean in 1988, which ended with the preparation of an Action Programme.

Spain also participates actively in the work developed by the **EMCDDA and the Europol Drug Unit (EDU/ Euro-pol)**, specializing in the analysis and research of the drug problem.

Spain is also a member of the **Dublin Group**, dedicated to consultation and coordination of information about the world, regional and specific problems of every country in relation to the drug problem. Spain occupies the Presidency of the Dublin Regional Group (Central America and Mexico).

Within the framework of the **United Nations**, Spain has incorporated the Conventions undersigned in the fight against drugs in its law code. In view of its significance, the work of Spain must be stressed with regard to the application of the measures contained in the Policy Declaration approved in New York between the 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of June, 1998, the guiding Principles of the reduction of drug demand and the measures fomenting international cooperation in the fight against the world drug problem.

In Latin America the relationship with the **Inter-American Commission for the Control of Drug Abuse (ICDDA) of the OAS** has been strengthened through several cooperation projects. Several training seminars in drug matters were also given with the collaboration of the Spanish International Cooperation Agency. Among them, the 1<sup>st</sup> Latin American Seminar on drug addiction cooperation deserves special mention. It was held in Cartagena de Indias (Colombia) in April 1998 and was a forum for the creation of the Latin American network of NGOs Working in Drug Addiction (RIOD, in its Spanish acronym). Spain also participates in the work of the **Pompidou Group of the Council of Europe**. It is an interdisciplinary group which deals with matters concerned with the reduction of the offer and demand of illegal drugs.

As part of the action of the **Financial Group of International Action**, the evaluation of the Spanish prevention and repression system of capital laundering was very positive. Spain has strengthened its commitment in the fight against this practice through being elected a member of the Director Committee of this Financial Group in June 1998 and for the next Presidency in the period 2000-2001.

With regard to **bilateral relations**, Spain has concluded bilateral Agreements and developed a fluid collaboration relationship with most of the Latin American and European countries, with the United States and Morocco.

# 8

## LEGAL ASPECTS

Spain has subscribed and ratified the most important International Treaties in force in relation to the control and repression of illegal traffic of drugs, narcotics and psychotropic substances: the Single Convention of 1961, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, all of them in agreement within the framework of the United Nations.

The **Penal Code**, approved by the Organic Law 17/1995, of 23 November, punishes as an offence the growth, production and traffic of toxic drugs, narcotics or psychoactive substances, as well as in general any other activity which tends to promote, favour or facilitate their illegal consumption. As grounds for acquittal, it contemplates full intoxication through the consumption of these substances, as well as committing an offence under the influence of withdrawal syndrome and, as a mitigating circumstance, the action of someone responsible as a result of serious addiction to these substances.

This Code contemplates the possibility of suspending the execution of prison sentences of a duration of not more than three years, imposed for offences committed due to the addictions to the substances mentioned, as long as those sentenced have got out of the habit or are subjected to treatment, or are prepared to submit to it, and they are not habitual offenders.

The purchase, conversion or transmission of goods are also punished as offences if it is known that their origin is that of an offence of drug traffic or precursor traffic (laundering of goods). The production, transport,

distribution and commerce of so-called “precursors” (chemical substances susceptible to being used in the production of illegal drugs) is also punished by the penal code, if it is known that they will be used in the growth, production or traffic of these substances.

**The Law of the Protection of Citizen Security** of 1992 establishes that the consumption in public places and the illicit possession of illegal drugs are subject to administrative sanction, even when used for personal consumption, as well as abandoning paraphernalia used for the consumption of these drugs in such public places. The same Law, however, envisages the possibility of suspending the execution of such sanctions in the cases in which the offender subjects himself to a treatment of getting out of the habit in a duly accredited centre or service.

The Law 36/1995, of 11 December, for the creation of a **Fund from goods confiscated through drug traffic and related offences**, regulates the destiny of the goods mentioned, establishing that they will be applied to the prevention of drug addiction and to the treatment services as well as social and work insertion of drug addicts, apart

from the improvement of the activities of prevention, research and repression of the offences mentioned, and to international cooperation in these matters.

The Law 3/1996, of 10 January, on **control measures of catalogued chemical substances susceptible to be diverted to the illicit production of drugs** (“precursors”) establishes an administrative control over the activities subject to the substances referred to, through the imposition of several obligations.

**The Organic Law 5/1999**, modifying the Criminal Trial Law, extends the application of “supervised delivery” to the precursors and the benefits obtained with drug traffic. This Organic Law also regulates the figure of the “undercover agents” (agents operating under a fictitious identity inside a criminal organization with the aim of obtaining proof to arrest its members and those responsible for it).

With the range of application reduced to the corresponding territories, the approval of several Laws on drugs by several Autonomous Communities must be pointed out. These mainly refer to aspects related to prevention, services treatment and social reinsertion of drug addicts.

### SENTENCES FOR THE OFFENCES OF DRUG TRAFFIC, DRUG CULTIVATION OR PRODUCTION

	Drugs which cause serious damage to health	Other drugs
<b>Minor offence</b>	3 years to 9 years in prison Fine of as much as threefold*	1 year to 3 years in prison Fine of as much as twofold
<b>Serious offence</b>	9 years to 13 years and 6 months in prison Fine of as much as fourfold	4 years and 6 months to 6 years and 9 months in prison Fine of as much as fourfold
<b>Specially serious offence</b>	13 years and 6 months to 20 years and 3 months in prison. Fine of as much as sixfold	4 years and 6 months to 6 years and 9 months in prison Fine of as much as sixfold

(\*) With regard to fines, the corresponding amounts will be imposed taking into account the end value of the drug.

# 9

## NATIONAL DRUG STRATEGY: A NEW NATIONAL PLAN ON DRUGS

**A**fter fifteen years of being in force, the National Plan on Drugs had to be adjusted to the always changing reality of drug-addiction, above all in view of the important transformations this phenomenon has undergone in the last few years.

On the other hand, the international commitments accepted by Spain also made this necessary. Thus, the 20<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, held in June, 1998, approved a declaration in which all States were asked to prepare national strategies to achieve a series of objectives centring on two dates: the years 2003 and 2008.

In accordance with the above, the Government Delegation for the PNSD decided to prepare a document which would clearly and with precision include the aims and objectives to be reached in those dates in the different intervention areas of the Plan. In the preparation of that document, called National Drug Strategy, all Autonomous Plans on Drugs have participated as well as several organs of the Central Administration and Non-Governmental Organizations. The National Drug Strategy was approved by the Council of Ministers via a Royal Decree in December, 1999.

The characteristics of the National Drug Strategy which is really an up-date of the National Plan on Drugs approved in 1985 can be summarized in ten points:

### **1. A plan of participation and integration**

It is a plan open to the participation of the Public Administrations, institutions and sectors of society as a

whole interested in drug problems and integrating all necessary strategies to face this phenomenon: from prevention, rehabilitation and insertion of those affected to the control of the drug offer.

## **2. A global plan**

The National Drug Strategy approaches the drug phenomenon from a global perspective, which means incorporating all substances that may be the object of use or abuse, with special attention the alcohol and tobacco.

## **3. Generalizing prevention at school**

The National Drug Strategy gives priority to the prevention as the most important strategy to confront the drug problem and very especially takes into account weekend leisure consumption.

It proposes prevention fundamentally based on education and the healthy use of leisure by the young. In this sense it advocates generalizing preventive programmes for the school population as a whole, surmounting isolated and individual activities and giving priority to high-risk groups.

## **4. Prevention in the work place**

The establishment of collaboration agreements is promoted between Autonomous Plans on Drugs and Unions as well as employers' associations, similar to that already in existence in the national level and directed to promoting the prevention of drug addiction in the work place.

The programmes will give priority to production sectors and groups of workers in risk situations as well as to those with a work activity entailing a risk for third parties – drivers of public transport vehicles, security professionals, etc.–

## **5. Standardized health service for drug addicts**

A fundamental objective of the National Drug Strategy consists of standardizing the health service network for drug addicts, integrating them in a coordinated manner in the Public Health Systems and Social Services.

The different resources (both public and non-public) which belong to the so-called Health Service and Social Integration Systems of Drug Addicts must be duly authorized and/or accredited and they must be characterized by their professionalism, interdisciplinary nature and easy accessibility.

This system will continue to emphasize the harm reduction programmes and incorporate strategies to approach the treatment of problems related to alcohol, new drugs and new consumption patterns.

## **6. Full health coverage**

In accordance with this new Plan, the National Health System guarantees full ambulatory health service to drug addicts in the territory of their Community or Autonomous City and within the health area of their place of residence. It also contemplates that after fulfilling the needs of universal health service coverage, special attention be given to the lack of equality and very especially to those groups of drug addicts who do not get in touch with the health service network.

## **7. Work integration of drug addicts**

Concrete measures are propose to make it easier for people with problems caused by the use of drugs – be they under treatment or not – to rejoin society as active members.

To this end, the Autonomous Plans on Drugs and the towns with more than 20,000 inhabitants will have standardized or specific training and employment programmes for drug addicts. These programmes will be carried out in collaboration with the Public Employment Agencies.

### **8. Research and training**

The National Drug Research and Training Institute is to be created dependent on the Government Delegation for the National Plan on Drugs.

This Institute will promote the putting into operation and consolidation of stable research teams and the action areas to be given preference will be defined.

In a similar way, the suitability and appropriateness of the training content for professionals and volunteers will be ensured. Training is planned to be organized on three levels: on a pre-graduate and post-graduate university level and for up-dating and recycling.

### **9. The Spanish Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction**

The National Drug Strategy develops the possibilities of the Spanish Monitoring Centre by promoting new information and evaluation systems.

Monitoring Centres for Drugs and Drug Addiction will also be set up in all Autonomous Communities.

### **10. Supply control**

The control of the illicit drug supply will be strengthened in three basic ways:

- ✦ Adjustment of the legal framework to the activities of drug traffic and the laundering of goods produced thereby.
- ✦ Coordination and strengthening of specialized research units of the State Security Forces and Bodies.
- ✦ Increase of the drug traffic control in certain places and times of the year with a special increase of this activity.

## Autonomous Plans on Drugs

**Andalucía**  
900 20 05 14  
900 84 50 40

**Aragón**  
976 75 40 00

**Asturias**  
98 510 65 64

**Baleares**  
971 71 17 83

**Canarias**  
922 47 43 65

**Cantabria**  
942 20 77 00

**Castilla-La Mancha**  
925 26 72 67

**Castilla y León**  
983 41 36 74

**Cataluña**  
93 412 04 12

**Extremadura**  
924 38 13 50

**Galicia**  
981 54 18 59

**Madrid**  
91 580 99 35

**Murcia**  
68 36 22 55 / 20 73

**Navarra**  
948 42 14 40

**País Vasco**  
945 01 81 04

**La Rioja**  
941 29 11 60

**Valencia**  
900 16 15 15

**Ceuta**  
956 50 33 59

**Melilla**  
952 67 00 20

## Other useful phones

**FAD**  
(Fundación de Ayuda contra  
la Drogadicción)  
900 16 15 15

**IPSS**  
(Institut per la Promoció  
Social i de la Salut)  
93 412 04 12

**SITADE**  
(Madrid)  
900 10 03 33

## Useful information

**Government Delegation for  
the National Plan on Drugs**  
c/ Recoletos, 22  
28001 Madrid

**Documentation Centre of  
the National Plan on Drugs**  
c/ Recoletos, 22  
28001 Madrid  
Telf.: 91 537 26 91 / 27 00  
Fax 91 537 27 88  
E-mail: cendocu@pnd.mir.es  
Internet: <http://www.mir.es/pnd>

**Information phone of the  
Ministry of the Interior:**  
900 15 00 00

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el Plan Nacional sobre Drogas