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**ILLEGAL CIRCULATION OF DRUGS USING THE INTERNET OR OTHER
INFORMATION AND TELECOMMUNICATION NETWORKS**

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ABSTRACT

Reveals topical problems in our days associated with drug trafficking using the telecommunications network of the Internet and various mobile applications that allow criminals to increase the turnover several times and at the same time remain out of sight of law enforcement agencies. Modern criminal trends show that the global Internet is increasingly being used as a way to distribute drugs. The article deals with typical investigative situations in cases of crimes related to drug trafficking committed via the global Internet. The features of drug trafficking committed through the global Internet are analyzed. Recommendations are given to improve the efficiency of investigating crimes related to drug trafficking through the global Internet.

Keywords: investigation of crimes, UN recommendations INCB, drug trafficking, global Internet networks, drug trafficking, drug business, law enforcement agencies, Internet, telecommunications networks, contactless sale of drugs, cyber patrol.

Introduction

The investigation of the distribution of drugs through the global Internet has its own characteristics, due to the subject, method and personality of the offender.

When investigating such crimes, it should be taken into account that crimes related to drug trafficking carried out via the Internet are mostly committed by young people in relation to narcotic drugs, psychotropic and potent substances, as well as smoking mixtures. There are frequent cases of distribution of narcotic drugs and potent substances through the Internet, for a sharp increase in muscle mass and improve athletic performance.

When detaining persons of the appropriate age category and “profile” with “typical types of drugs”, the investigator is recommended to take all necessary measures to identify ways and means of acquiring drugs through the global Internet.

A feature of drug trafficking committed through the global Internet is the use of satellite networks of telecommunications and communications, in connection with which such crimes are committed at a considerable distance, covering various countries. At the same time, the investigation of these crimes can take many months, which gives the perpetrator the opportunity to prevent the measures taken against him.

It should be noted that in practice, the effective disclosure of such crimes is often hindered by both subjective factors (lack of special computer knowledge among law enforcement officers) and objective factors (sluggishness of the international legal assistance system, imperfection of legislation) government of the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as the inconsistency of the



legislative approach to assessing the crime of distribution of certain substances in different countries).

When investigating crimes related to illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances distributed via the Internet, the object of the search will be information reflecting the intent to acquire or sell narcotic drugs, psychotropic or potent substances, such as direct correspondence between the purchaser and the distributor, telephone numbers, passport and other data for making money transfers, other information disseminated via the Internet, characterizing the orientation of intentions to distribute or purchase narcotic drugs.

There are many features that should be taken into account in the course of investigative actions, when seizing computer equipment through which drugs were distributed. So upon arrival at the place of the investigative action, it is recommended to immediately take measures to ensure the safety of computer equipment and the data and valuable information contained in it.

At the UN level, INCB has developed general guidelines for the successful investigation of crimes. Thus, in particular, the success of the investigation is made dependent on the existence of legal prerequisites for granting authority to use methods of intervention (such as interception of communications, including e-mail)[9].

In accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan, providers and server owners are not required to store electronic information, the nature, volume and terms of its storage. As a result, any interested person through remote access from any personal computer from anywhere has the opportunity to delete evidence or otherwise interfere in the course of a criminal investigation.

Despite the active fight against illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, which is carried out both in the Republic of Uzbekistan and in other foreign countries, this problem is becoming more and more serious, gaining momentum every year, changing and acquiring various forms, adapting to modern trends, trends and realities.

All this has a devastating effect on the socio-economic condition of our country, on the spiritual life of society, contributes to an increase in the spread of deadly diseases and more terrible and serious consequences, such as death, an increase in the number of crimes related to drug addiction and drug trafficking, which can lead to serious threats to the national security of our entire country.

Due to the fact that scientific and technological progress is constantly developing and does not stand still, its impact on the daily life of the whole society is increasing every year, this is especially evident in the development of information and telecommunication technologies and networks, various mobile applications, the emergence of new software and more open access to a wide variety of information.

Scientific and technological progress undoubtedly improves the quality of life of society, but also increases the effectiveness of criminal activities related to narcotic drugs, therefore, at present, the global Internet is increasingly used for the distribution and acquisition of narcotic drugs [6].

Thanks to it, access to drugs has become much easier, any person who knows how to use a computer and modern gadgets with Internet access can acquire a wide variety of drugs and substances without special knowledge and connections in a criminal environment.



Currently, the illegal circulation of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances through the Internet is carried out according to well-thought-out schemes of criminal activity. The level of professionalism of the participants in the crime is growing every day. Modern technologies make it possible to provide a contactless way of drug distribution, that is, to completely exclude a meeting with the organizer and other persons involved in the transaction [1].

Of particular danger is the possibility of anonymous acquisition and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances using the Internet, which is also freely available to adolescents and children. Many of them do not use drugs, but only look for a way to make money on the Internet, acting as distributors.

Easy access to illegal drugs and a way to earn money attracts the younger generation. According to the latest statistics presented by sociologists, it is clear that the age at which drug crimes are committed has decreased significantly. If earlier they were mostly people with an average age of 25-35 years, now they are mostly teenagers and young people from 16-25 years old [7].

There are also a large number of sites on the Internet, various pages on social networks that are engaged in advertising, selling and distributing various types of drugs, for example, such as: spices smoking mixtures, synthetic drugs, the so-called. "Salt", "Chocolate", various reagents and much more, the circulation of which is prohibited on the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

On the Internet, special sites present a huge number of types of drugs offered, with a complete description of them, which can be easily purchased by paying for the goods through electronic wallets or transferring money to the card account specified for the purchase and receipt of goods.

Law enforcement agencies are struggling with this form of sale, but many difficulties often arise here, such as control of all Internet resources involved in the distribution of drugs. There are a huge number of them, and if some sites or pages on social networks stop working, many others immediately appear with a large selection of goods and offers, increased conspiracy and anonymity [2].

Many criminals in the field of drug trafficking commit crimes in non-contact ways using the Internet, various websites, telecommunications networks, mobile applications, programs, electronic payment systems, which significantly reduces the risk of being arrested at the time of buying and selling drugs.

In various mobile telecommunication applications, there is protection of transmitted information, confidentiality and the impossibility of getting information into public access. For example, the WhatsApp application uses a so-called end-to-end encryption feature, with which no one else can read sent messages, including WhatsApp.

Even more powerful information protection is used in the Telegram application. This application has a "secret chat" function, messages in it are deleted automatically depending on the time set by the user of the program, correspondence is also not saved on Telegram servers [5]. Thus, information transmitted between accomplices in the drug business is reliably protected and is not available to law enforcement agencies.



For example, let's take the classic way of selling drugs, which today is increasingly carried out by leaving them in hiding places, the so-called "bookmarks", which implies the organization of contactless sales, while the coordination and exchange of information between the participants, as well as the customer, is carried out through telecommunication networks and mobile applications such as Telegram, Viber, WhatsApp, Jabber, etc.

All these actions significantly complicate the process of carrying out operational-search activities and investigative actions aimed at investigating and preventing crimes related to drug trafficking.

As a rule, according to these schemes, it is possible to catch and prosecute only ordinary members of criminal groups (couriers, pawnshops), and it becomes almost impossible to identify the organizers, thanks to the use of modern telecommunication technologies by participants that have the ability to access the Internet, while observing conspiracy and anonymity measures. , when using encrypted network resources, aliases and code words [3].

The reasons for such a high interest of drug crime and the drug business in using the Internet are quite understandable, it is in this environment that there are special conditions not only for ensuring anonymous communication of participants in criminal activity (suppliers, consumers, resellers, etc.), but also for the systematic solution of the most ambitious criminal tasks, such as, for example, coordinating the activities of transnational criminal groups and implementing more effective money laundering schemes [4].

In connection with the current situation, certain measures are required to counter and prevent criminal acts related to the illegal circulation of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their analogues, carried out using telecommunication networks. Among them is the work to close sites and accounts involved in the distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and the inclusion of these sites in the register of prohibited Internet resources.

Taking measures to control the activities of Internet applications in the field of telecommunications (Viber, WhatsApp, Telegram, Jabber, etc.). It is also necessary to change the procedure for creating Internet resources, that is, to exclude the possibility of registration without reliable personal data, which will allow law enforcement agencies to identify the identity of the offender, exclude the possibility of creating anonymous sites, communications, chats, etc., which can be used for the purposes of drug trafficking [8].

A good solution would be to create a cyber patrol unit within the Ministry of Internal Affairs, which should include various high-level specialists, to detect and suppress crimes related to drug trafficking using the Internet.

It is also necessary to optimize legislation, taking into account modern methods of carrying out criminal activities in the field of illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. It is necessary not only to improve the legislation, but also to strengthen control over its observance directly in the field of telecommunications networks and mobile applications.

In addition, at the international level, it is necessary to simplify the procedures for interstate interaction between law enforcement agencies, since Internet resources located on the territory of other states are often used in crimes related to drug trafficking.



For the most part, these crimes will be of a transnational nature, as a result of which problems arise in the territorial jurisdiction of states represented by law enforcement agencies to investigate crimes of this category. An effective measure could be the creation of interstate commissions for the exchange of significant information and further investigation of each newly identified criminal organization involved in drug trafficking on the territory of these states.

Thus, we can conclude that the development of technological progress and the emergence of more and more advanced technologies, technical means and programs that undoubtedly improve the life of society can also lead to serious problems.

They can endanger the life and health of many people, their moral qualities, the morality of not only those who constantly and systematically use drugs, but also those who acquire them via the Internet, which include children and adolescents who decide to try drugs for the first time. or make money from it.

These discovered problems related to the detection of telecommunications networks and the detection of cases of detection of cases of drug trafficking will increase every year more and more without clear control.

Based on the foregoing, in our opinion, it seems necessary to legislate the obligation of providers and server owners to ensure the technical possibility of storing the necessary information, and the investigator - the ability to request the preservation of all the necessary information. which can be used as the basis of evidence in the case, and be of an operational nature, for a certain period of time, until a court decision is received on the withdrawal of this information.

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