



# News release

from the EU drugs agency in Lisbon

## 2016 EU DRUG MARKETS REPORT FROM THE EMCDDA AND EUROPOL

### Upcoming strategic analysis of the European drug market

(1.3.2016, LISBON) Illicit drugs are big business. They are one of the main profit-generating activities of organised crime and are estimated to represent around one-fifth of global crime proceeds. The negative impacts of illicit drug markets are multifaceted and far-reaching, which is why they remain a key threat to the security of the European Union and the safety of its citizens.

Next month, ahead of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Drugs (UNGASS)<sup>(1)</sup>, two EU agencies — the **European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)** and **Europol** — will release their latest state-of-the-art report on the EU drug market, providing a detailed analysis of this important policy-relevant field.

The **2016 EU Drug Markets Report — In-depth Analysis** will be launched at a press conference in Brussels on 5 April by **Dimitris Avramopoulos, European Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship**. The Commissioner will be joined by **EMCDDA Director Alexis Goosdeel** and **Europol Director Rob Wainwright**.

The report — with its companion **Strategic Overview** summarising key findings — combines the analytical power of the **EMCDDA's** drug monitoring system with **Europol's** operational intelligence on trends in organised crime.

The first part of the report explores the wide-ranging ramifications of the illicit drug market, including: its impact on the licit economy; links to other forms of criminal activity; corruption and the strain on governments. The drivers of change are also examined, providing a unique strategic and action-orientated analysis to inform policy development at EU and national level.

Individual chapters then focus on markets for: cannabis; heroin and other opioids; cocaine; amphetamine, methamphetamine and MDMA; and new psychoactive substances. The report ends with an overview of the main structures, policies and strategies in the EU for addressing drug supply reduction and highlights some of the operational actions undertaken by the EU, its Member States and international partners.

**Launch date:** Tuesday 5 April 2016

**Time:** 13:00 (Central European Time)

**Press conference:** European Commission, press room, Berlaymont, Brussels.

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For the **Report** and **Overview** (English) and **news release** (EU languages), see:

[http://europa.eu/newsroom/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/newsroom/index_en.htm) (embargo 5.4.2016 at 13.00)

See also [www.emcdda.europa.eu/start/2016/drug-markets](http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/start/2016/drug-markets) • [www.europol.europa.eu](http://www.europol.europa.eu)

Experts at the EMCDDA and Europol will be available for interviews (see contacts below).

The first **EU Drug Markets Report** was published by the agencies in 2013.

<sup>(1)</sup> [www.unodc.org/ungass2016](http://www.unodc.org/ungass2016)