

**THESE STATEMENTS OF HISTORICAL REASONS THAT HAVE  
STRENGTHENED IN MODERN DRUG CRIME****Yuriy Sayfievich Pulatov,**Professor of the Department University public  
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**Abstract :** The article is devoted to the historically developing reasons for the spread of narcotic drugs, which have become entrenched in modern drug crime.

**Key words:** history, developing causes, distribution, narcotics, modern drug crime.

Drugs have been known to mankind for several centuries. Reliably preserved archaeological sources confirm that mankind first became acquainted with drugs 5 thousand years BC. They were used by people of different cultures and for different purposes: to change consciousness, during religious rites, to relieve pain and restore strength, to obtain unforgettable joy (the Sumerian civilization) [1].

Since ancient times, man has felt the need for some kind of miracle, and often for escape from reality. Faith in supernatural powers could be supported by knowledge of plants that could open up another reality to man for a while. There is an assumption that 25 thousand years ago people learned about the mysterious effect of drugs.

The few sources that have reached us indicate that the discoverers of psychotropic drugs were the ancient Greeks, Chinese and Aztecs. Manuscripts, rock paintings and cult objects have been preserved. Thus, it is known that in Mexico and on the island of Crete people erected statues of the poppy goddess, worshiped and made sacrifices to her. Written and oral sources, myths and legends also indicate this. However, some scientists claim that in Ancient Rome and Ancient Greece drugs were used only for medical purposes, although in rare cases their sole use was encountered. Opium was more popular.

Experts express the opinion that drugs were widely used by the ancients in shamanic (religious) rituals of many peoples. Later, in the 3rd century BC, hashish was used as a medicine for coughs and diarrhea (the medical book of the Chinese emperor Shennong ).

In other countries, such as India, the Inca Empire, and, beginning in the first millennium AD in China, opium was quite widespread and was used by all strata of the population as a “home remedy.” In addition, the Incas used coca leaves in religious rituals, considering them a gift from the Sun God. In India, opium mixtures were also given to soldiers before battle “to maintain their courage and bravery.” But in both cases, drug use was very limited.

Chronicles report that the Scythians used hemp seeds and opium, South American Indians chewed coca leaves, etc. The word "opium" was first used by the Greeks to describe a preparation made from the milky juice of dried poppy heads, which means "juice" in translation. In Rome in the 1st century AD, doctors widely used opium to treat many diseases.

The next mention of drugs is related to the "opium wars"

Britain in China in the 19th century, when the English imported opium en masse not only to obtain huge profits, but also to disintegrate the enemy army. It was during this period that the Qing Empire organized the first attempts to combat drug crime.

Coca leaves were brought to Europe in 1500 by travelers along with cocoa and tobacco. But unlike tobacco, they were not as popular, perhaps because during a long journey most of the leaves lost their characteristic effects. Later, in 1550, interest in opium and cocaine increased. Opium appeared in Europe in connection with the prohibition of alcohol in England, when resourceful entrepreneurs distributed opium tablets among workers. It should be said that starting in 1700, the use of opium had already spread to England. It is also interesting that in Europe its active propaganda was carried out by doctors [2].

In France at this time, hashish and absinthe became widespread. In America, the spread of drugs is associated with the civil war, when the wounded were offered morphine to relieve pain. The subsequent use of drugs to relieve pain among the wounded during the wars in Europe turned drug addiction into a soldier's disease and contributed to the spread of drugs throughout the world. Paradoxically, many nations had their own traditional drug that they used when religious rituals and for various diseases [3].

But, starting around the 18th century, people found themselves face to face with problems associated with drug addiction, from that time on resistance to their distribution began to appear. Already in the Middle Ages, many rulers in various countries, in order to eradicate or at least limit the limits of the deadly influence of drugs on their subjects, legislatively prohibited their use. Strict punishments were also introduced for those who produced and sold them [4]. However, prohibitive measures often caused resistance. On the basis of such confrontation, things sometimes reached wars.

History knows of cases when a threat to the financial interests of drug producers and sellers led to wars between countries. So, for centuries, on almost all continents, in all states and societies, there was a struggle between opponents of drugs and their

Manufacturers [5] .

the Global Commission on Drug Policy stated that the “war on drugs” had failed. According to the UN, about 226 million people in the modern world use drugs (including 150 million cannabis, 30 million amphetamine, 8 million ecstasy, 13 million cocaine, 15 million opium, and 10 million heroin) [6]. However, it seems that the real figures are much higher and the number of drugs used is also much wider.

Indeed, another vice of humanity – drug addiction, as well as prostitution, has turned out to be practically invincible. At the same time, it should be noted that in many Arab countries, a certain part of the population traditionally uses soft drugs practically all their lives within reasonable limits, without causing a threat to health.

Maybe the problem is in the culture of consumption? The question is complicated. History knows examples of open sale of drugs in pharmacies as a cure for all sorts of diseases, but nevertheless, at present one of the most difficult problems of humanity does not find its rational solution.

The main problem is the widespread use of drugs in society, the involvement of the younger generation in their use, and the difficulty of treating drug addicts, especially women, due to their psychophysiological structure.

Unfortunately, society is unable to develop methods of combating drug addiction, and existing measures, as practice shows, are not only ineffective, but, on the contrary, provoke its further spread. Nevertheless, in many countries of the world the number of people using drugs is at the same level [7]. The exception is the countries of Europe, where the number of people using drugs annually

funds are increasing.

Criminal policy in the area of combating illegal drug trafficking is quite ambiguous and, according to the degree of severity of legislation, states can be divided into several groups:

*The first group* are countries with moderate control. These include Germany, Italy, France, and Russia. They actively oppose drug trafficking and provide for long prison terms. At the same time, drug users who have committed a crime may be given treatment as an alternative to criminal punishment by a court decision.

*The second group* is countries with a tough policy, which includes the USA, Japan, and China. Serious penalties, including the death penalty, are established for drug-related crimes.

*The third* is the liberal group, such as the Netherlands (Holland). In this country, drugs are divided into "hard" and "soft". The fight is waged against strong narcotics and psychotropic substances, and the latter, based on cannabis, were legalized, and there was no liability for their use and storage. All this led to the establishment of Holland as the drug capital of Europe. And lenient court sentences - to the preferred workplace for drug dealers.

At the same time, in the modern world there are several views on drug use:

1. A complete ban, widespread in many countries around the world, however, does not produce a positive result due to the existence of a black market;
2. Legalization of drugs led to the disappearance of the black market and reducing drug use (Netherlands).

An analysis of all possible measures to combat drug crime allows us to take a different look at the most terrible problem of humanity. As the popular wisdom says, if evil cannot be defeated, then it must be led.

Perhaps, indeed, the most rational measure is the legalization of drugs and the result will exceed expectations and humanity will finally be able to free itself from drug addiction.

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3. It should be noted that in India opium was once the main source of government income, but it was still consumed in small quantities.
4. Tom de Castella . [100 years of fighting drug trafficking: how it happened and why?](#) [BBC Russian Service](#) (January 27, 2012). [Archived](#) February 1, 2012.
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6. <https://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/%>.

7. See:, for example: Seventy-fifth session of the World Health Assembly (April 25, 2022)  
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