



TRIP REPORT

HUSRB/1203/214/025

Workshop

August 28 2014, Szeged.

Trip summary:

Workshops on new psychoactive substances were organized by the Hungarian Institute for Forensic Sciences along with the National Forensic Center, Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia in the frame of Hungary – Serbia IPA Cross-border Co-operation Programme (HUSRB/1203) on 22nd of August in Novi Sad and on 28th of August in Szeged. The goal of workshops was to train police officers involved in crime scene investigation from the Hungary-Serbia cross-border regions on using spot tests for preliminary detection of drugs.

Lectures in workshops focused on spot tests, their applications and the problems with designer drugs' manipulation, identifications. Also in order to contribute to police officers' works, after the event, spot tests for different drugs appeared in streets were provided.

Workshop held on 28th of August was opened by Tamás Csesztregi Head of Central Drug Laboratory, project team-member. The first lecture on the trends in illicit markets pointed out that in Hungary, increasing tendency in designer drugs versus classical ones are unequivocally manifested. Several webportals provide possibility to procure these substances in different forms. As a trend in Hungary, mainly synthetic cannabinoids on herbal materials and cathinone derivatives as powder forms are present. In case of several designer drugs, numerous deaths, intoxications and unusual behaviours among the users were detected. Mr. Péter Rass, representative from Biomedica Hungária Kft. Introduced the M.M.C. International B.V. as manufacturer of narcotics identification tests. For spot-test analysis, the new design of the ampoule field tests contain ampoule opener, catalyst grain holder and



closing gap in one which provide safe, fast and simple manipulation with these tests. The representative suggested also different courses on smuggling methods, side effects of controlled substances may useful for police officers, experts.

Mr. Balázs Tolnai provided his experiences on application of both synthetic cannabinoids and cathinones spot tests in his lecture. Steps for analysis of powders, tablets and herbs were presented. As a conclusion, he told that with the spot-tests procured, the palette of materials investigable significantly increased. However, it must be note, that the spot-tests provide exclusively preliminary information on type of compounds and for exact identification of a questioned compound, further detailed analytical investigations are required.

The last Hungarian presenter was Mr. Tibor Varga spoke about the purposes of professional investigations, methods and process on identifications of active substances. He explicated qualitative analysis steps for a seized compound and presented examples for investigation of pure substance, mixture of different components in powder forms by FT-IR spectroscopy. Experimental results for fluids and herbs obtained by FT-IR technique were also demonstrated. A few examples on GC-MS – the gold-standard method for qualitative analysis of illicit drugs – were also presented. Several techniques e.g. GC, HPLC, NMR exist for quantitative analysis of questioned compounds. HPLC technique for marihuana's quantitation was served as example. Difficulties and challenges in identification of new psychoactive substances were also mentioned in his lecture. Finally, the Serbian Project Partner kept presentation on spot tests application for different substances.

During the coffee break and lunch there was open discussion forum to initiate personal information-exchanges among the participants.

Audience consists of police officers from the cross-border area who during theirs daily works may have contacts with drugs and drug-related compounds. During the workshop, interpreter ensured the understanding of lectures for both Hungarian and Serbian colleagues.



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