# MALAYSIA'S EXPERIENCE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING

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**Annotation.** The subject was an analysis of the state policy on combating drugs in Malaysia. The main achievements of the practical implementation of the state policy of Malaysia in the field of combating drug crime are considered. Features of international cooperation in the field of combating drug crime.

**Key words.** Malaysia, crime prevention, drug trafficking, prevention, drug trafficking, international cooperation, coordination.

### MALAYZIYANING GIYOHVANDLIK VOSITALARNI NOQONUNIY AYLANISHIGA QARSHI KURASHISH TAJRIBASI

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Annotatsiya. Maqolada Malayziyaning giyohvandlik vositalarni noqonuniy aylanishiga qarshi kurashish boʻyicha davlat siyosati tahlil qilingan. Malayziyaning giyohvandlik jinoyatlariga qarshi kurashish sohasidagi davlat siyosatini amaliy amalga oshirishning asosiy yutuqlari koʻrib chiqildi. Giyohvandlik bilan bogʻliq jinoyatlarga qarshi kurashish sohasidagi xalqaro hamkorlikning xususiyatlari muhokama qilingan.

**Kalit soʻzlar.** Malayziya, jinoyatchilikni oldini olish, giyohvandlik vositalari savdosi, oldini olish, xalqaro hamkorlik, muvofiqlashtirish.

## ОПЫТ МАЛАЙЗИИ В БОРЬБЕ С НЕЗАКОННЫМ ОБОРОТОМ НАРКОТИЧЕСКИХ СРЕДСТВ

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**Аннотация.** Предметом послужил анализ государственной политики по борьбе с наркотиками Малайзии. Рассмотрены основные достижения

практического осуществления государственной политики Малайзии, в сфере борьбы с наркопреступностью. Особенности международного сотрудничества в сфере борьбы с наркопреступностью.

**Ключевые слова.** Малайзия, предупреждение преступности, незаконный оборот наркотиков, профилактика, торговля наркотиками, международное сотрудничество, координация.

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In March 2021, a large batch of captagon tablets containing amphetamine was seized in Malaysia, which were hidden in cargo containers that arrived from the Middle East. The cost of this batch is estimated to be US\$ 1.26 billion.

In 1975, Malaysia passed a law providing for execution by hanging for drug smuggling and possession. In 1983, the scope of the law was significantly expanded. For the possession of more than 15 grams of heroin or 200 grams of marijuana, as well as for the importation of strong narcotic substances into the country, an exceptional measure of punishment is the death penalty, regardless of the nationality of the offender.

As part of the nationwide campaign against drug addiction, the practice of Malaysian students passing a drug use test has been introduced since September 2005. A decision has been made to equip nightclubs and discos in central Malaysia with the latest detection devices capable of detecting drug addicts among visitors to institutions [2].

The method of operation of the detector equipment is based on scanning the retina of the eyes of visitors, in respect of whom there are suspicions of a tendency to drug use. This initiative of the Malaysian authorities has no analogues in Asia.

Bioscaners that read information from the retinas of schoolchildren have been installed in many secondary schools in Malaysia to identify drug addicts among students. The bioscanner is able not only to record the fact of drug use, but also to recognize its type.

The relevant information is displayed on the screen and can be printed. Schoolchildren who have received a positive conclusion from the device are sent to take urine tests in laboratory conditions. Identified drug addicts are not transferred to

representatives of law enforcement agencies, but are sent to special courses for the treatment and rehabilitation of schoolchildren suffering from drug addiction [3].

The authorities of the northwestern Malaysian state of Kedah have introduced and successfully put into practice their own unique system for combating drug trafficking. According to the current customs legislation, any citizen who reports the fact of illegal drug transportation across the border, which has become known to him, receives 50% of the "market" value of the confiscated drugs as compensation.

Remuneration also awaits persons who contribute to the suppression of the smuggling of other goods, in particular, those who do not have a quality certificate and are capable of harming the health of their consumers. In this case, the amount of cash payments is lower.

The growing number of drug addicts in the country forces the Government to allocate more and more funds both for the prevention and detection of crimes related to drug trafficking, and for the rehabilitation of identified drug addicts.

As the most effective preventive measure, one of the anti-drug programs involves assigning the responsibility for monitoring adolescents and young people to village elders who enjoy unquestioning authority in rural areas with a traditional patriarchal way of life.

Several elders in each of the districts of the state monitor the behavior of residents from the "risk group", talk to their relatives and inform the authorized persons on combating drug addiction about the suspicions that have arisen.

Malaysian legislation, considered one of the toughest in the world in relation to drug couriers, as a rule, does not take into account exculpatory or mitigating circumstances. For example, in early November 2006, a retired military man, the father of 11 children, was sentenced to an exceptional measure of punishment.

From January to June 2011, almost 80 thousand people were arrested in Malaysia for various drug-related offenses. Almost 5,700 of them were illegal traders. Approximately 70% of this number were charged in court, the rest were detained in accordance with the 1985 Law on Special Preventive Measures.

Between January and June 2011, Malaysian police arrested 22 drug couriers at the country's international airports and conducted raids against 11 clandestine laboratories and three drug depots.

On average, one convict is sentenced to death every month in the country, mainly for crimes related to drug smuggling and trafficking.

The law gives the police the right to arrest persons suspected of trafficking dangerous drugs without a court warrant and hold them in custody for up to 60 days, after which the term of imprisonment can be extended up to two years by the decision of the Minister of Internal Affairs.

Malaysia is also involved in massive anti-drug operations together with Singapore, Thailand, Brunei and Australia. Despite the strict criminal legislation and the dominant role of Islam, the number of drug addicts in the country is constantly growing.

The vast majority of drug addicts are young people from 17 to 29 years old, who make up almost 70% of the country's population.

Some lawyers and former judges of Malaysia advocate the immediate introduction of a moratorium on the execution of capital punishment sentences for drug trafficking, expressing the opinion that drug trafficking does not belong to the category of the most serious crimes and should not be punished with capital punishment. Despite this, statistics show that more than 70% of Malaysian citizens are opposed to the abolition of the death penalty by hanging.

According to the results of the survey, the overwhelming majority of supporters of the preservation of the death penalty – the traditional Muslim religion for Malaysia, while among its opponents are followers of Buddhism and Christianity.

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"Taking into account the danger posed by drug trafficking, it was decided to introduce a system of remuneration payments as part of the fight against drug trafficking. The share that a citizen receives who has reported reliable information about an impending crime is half the cost of the seized potion.

At the same time, persons who contribute to the suppression of the smuggling of other goods, in particular, those who do not have a quality certificate and are capable of harming the health of their consumers, are also rewarded. In this case, however, the amount of cash payments is somewhat lower". The innovation, initially perceived rather skeptically, has already met the expectations of customs officers.

The day before, customs officers handed over \$42 thousand to a local resident who informed our employees about an attempt to import drugs with a total value of \$84 thousand.

In May 2006, as a result of a joint raid with law enforcement agencies, the largest batch of fireworks and firecrackers illegally imported into Malaysia and not certified was confiscated.

Customs officers seized 1,170 boxes with explosive toys with a total value of more than \$285 thousand. A citizen who showed conscientiousness and informed us about the offense in time was also rewarded.

Despite the strict criminal legislation providing for the death penalty by hanging for the importation of strong narcotic substances into the country, as well as the dominant role of Islam, which prohibits not only drug addiction, but also the use of alcoholic beverages, in recent years the country's authorities have faced the problem of an increase in the number of registered young people who regularly use drugs.

So, in 2005, 290 thousand drug addicts were registered in Malaysia, while the year before last this figure was slightly less than 255 thousand people. The age of the vast majority of drug addicts is from 17 to 29 years, that is, they are representatives of the age group that makes up almost 70% of the country's population. Considering that for every detained drug addict there are three undetected, this figure is at least three times more [4].

Summing up the results of the analysis of the national strategy for combating drugs of Malaysia, we note that the main directions of this activity are to promote preventive policies aimed at reducing the supply and demand of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, the development of various centers for the care and rehabilitation of drug addicts, stimulating their return to public life.

Today, Malaysia has a unified and diversified network of programs and various resources prepared and presented for drug users. Both public and private organizations with state funding are involved in the programs. Drug addicts undergo both outpatient treatment and substitution treatment.

The State regards countering illicit drug trafficking as one of the most important tasks of law enforcement agencies and provides great support to effective institutions aimed at combating drug crime.

Today Malaysia combines rational legislation with offensive, intensive and dynamic preventive, educational and educational work in the field of countering drug addiction, having the desire and determination to maintain a shaky parity between individual freedom and the health of the nation.

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