

International - Spain

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1.

"It is not a crime in Spain to possess drugs for personal use but is a serious administrative offence. It is unlikely to be punished unless committed in public."

Source:

Johnston, Philip, The Daily Telegraph, "International Conventions: UK Regime Among the Most Severe in Europe" (London, England: The Daily Telegraph, March 31, 2000.).

2.

In Spain since 1992, "possession for personal use of all drugs has not been subject to criminal prosecution. Nevertheless, when a person is caught in possession of a modest quantity of drugs and police have no further suspicions or evidence that more serious offences are involved, such as sale or traffic, the drug will be seized. The case will then be transmitted to the administrative authorities, so the person will receive a notification to attend a meeting with them. If found guilty of possession of drugs for person use, they will be charged with a fine ... especially if presenting signs of addiction, the person is invited to follow counseling or treatment."

Source:

"Decriminalisation in Europe? Recent Developments in Legal Approaches to Drug use" (Lisbon, Portugal: European Monitoring Centre on Drugs and Drug Addiction, November 2001), p. 3, available on the web at http://wldd.emcdda.org/databases/eldd_comparative_analyses.cfm .

3.

According to "Spain Drug Situation 2000," a report prepared for the European Union's European Monitoring Centre on Drugs and Drug Addiction, "Cannabis is the most frequently used illegal drug in Spain. According to the Door-to-door Survey on Drug Abuse in 1999, 19.5% of the Spanish population aged between 15-64 had tried cannabis at some time in their lives (21.7% in 1997), 6.8% in the last year (7.5% in 1997) and 4.2% in the last month (4% in 1997). These figures give the impression that the number of sporadic users of this drug had fallen slightly, but not the number of frequent consumers (monthly or daily)."

Source:

Report to the European Monitoring Center on Drugs and Drug Addiction by the Reitox National Focal Point of Spain, Plan nacional sobre drogas, "Spain Drug Situation 2000" (Ministerio del Interior and EMCDDA, Madrid, Spain: November 2000), p. 40.

4.

According to "Spain Drug Situation 2000," a report prepared for the European Union's European Monitoring Centre on Drugs and Drug Addiction, "Annual use prevalence of ecstasy among the Spanish population aged between 15-64 decreased from 1.3% in 1995 to 0.9% in 1997 and 0.8% in 1999, and that of amphetamines or speed dropped from 1.1% in 1995 to 0.9% in 1997 and 0.7% in 1999, LSD other hallucinogens falling from 0.9% in 1997 to 0.6% in 1999."

Source:

Report to the European Monitoring Center on Drugs and Drug Addiction by the Reitox National Focal Point of Spain, Plan nacional sobre drogas, "Spain Drug Situation 2000" (Ministerio del Interior and EMCDDA, Madrid, Spain: November 2000), p. 41.

5.

According to "Spain Drug Situation 2000," a report prepared for the European Union's European Monitoring Centre on Drugs and Drug Addiction, "Data regarding use of heroin or opiates in Spain, provided by the National Door-to-door Survey on Drug Abuse, situate their prevalence levels in 1999, at 0.6% and 0.1% respectively, for the indicators 'at some time during their lives' and 'last month' among those members of the Spanish population who are aged over 15."

Source:

Report to the European Monitoring Center on Drugs and Drug Addiction by the Reitox National Focal Point of Spain, Plan nacional sobre drogas, "Spain Drug Situation 2000" (Ministerio del Interior and EMCDDA, Madrid, Spain: November 2000), p. 18.

6.

According to "Spain Drug Situation 2000," a report prepared for the European Union's European Monitoring Centre on Drugs

and Drug Addiction, "In 1999, 3.1% of those members of the Spanish population aged between 15 and 64 had tried cocaine at some time during their lives and 1.5% in the last year (DGPNSD 2000a). Consumption levels are appreciably higher among younger people, the 15 to 29 age interval having prevalence levels of 4.5% and 2.8% respectively for the same periods of time. The early ages at which cocaine use begins is confirmed by the fact that in 1998, 4.8% of Spanish students aged between 14-18 had consumed it at some time during their lives and 4.1% in the last year (DGPNSD 2000d)." (DGPNSD 2000a: Delegacion del Gobierno para el Plan Nacional Sobre Drogas, Encuesta Domiciliaria Sobre Use do Drogas 1999, Ministerio del Interior. 2000d: DGPNSD, Encuesta Sobre Drogas a Poblacion Escolar, Minsterio del Interior.)

Source:

Report to the European Monitoring Center on Drugs and Drug Addiction by the Reitox National Focal Point of Spain, Plan nacional sobre drogras, "Spain Drug Situation 2000" (Ministerio del Interior and EMCDDA, Madrid, Spain: November 2000), pp. 18-19.

7.

According to "Spain Drug Situation 2000," a report prepared for the European Union's European Monitoring Centre on Drugs and Drug Addiction, "There is still a high proportion (prevalence) of intravenous drug users infected by the AIDS virus (HIV). According to the Survey on Heroin Users in Treatment, in 1996, of those heroin users admitted for treatment 77.4% had taken the VIH antibody detection test, and of these 22.7% were found to be seropositive, regardless of the pathways used to administrate the drugs. The prevalence of seropositivity to HIV was the highest (32%) among those heroin addicts who had injected drugs at some time during their lives."

Source:

Report to the European Monitoring Center on Drugs and Drug Addiction by the Reitox National Focal Point of Spain, Plan nacional sobre drogras, "Spain Drug Situation 2000" (Ministerio del Interior and EMCDDA, Madrid, Spain: November 2000), p. 26.

8.

According to "Spain Drug Situation 2000," a report prepared for the European Union's European Monitoring Centre on Drugs and Drug Addiction, "Syringe exchange programmes and sanitary kits have also increased and covered a greater number of users. A total of 408 programmes have been operating in 1999, where 12 social emergency centres, 23 mobile units, 385 chemist's shops, and 92 other centres have participated. The total number of syringes and/or sanitary kits delivered is approximately 3,783,361."

Source:

Report to the European Monitoring Center on Drugs and Drug Addiction by the Reitox National Focal Point of Spain, Plan nacional sobre drogras, "Spain Drug Situation 2000" (Ministerio del Interior and EMCDDA, Madrid, Spain: November 2000), p. 55.

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