

## DRUG AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCE CRIMES AND THE ROLE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IN CONFRONTING THEM

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### **Abstract:**

Interest in combating drug crimes and psychotropic substances and their forms has become a priority for countries around the world in general because of their danger on the social, political and economic levels, which led the international community to agree to combat them by issuing laws related to combating drug and psychotropic substance crimes, which includes criminalization and punishment in addition to various preventive and remedial measures.

Hence, our study of the subject of drug crimes aims, first, to clarify the nature and concept of drug crimes, the reason for their criminalization, their forms, elements, and the penalties prescribed for them, and second, to address the methods and means of confronting drug and psychotropic substance crimes, which are represented by the rules and procedures of traditional investigation and proof and the methods developed by society. International, and finally, an explanation of the preventive and remedial measures taken by the international community in confronting crimes of drugs and psychotropic substances.

**Keywords:** psychotropic substances, drug crimes, international community, international agreements.

### **1- Introduction:**

The problem of drug crimes is no longer a local phenomenon, specific to or unique to a particular country alone, but rather a global scourge in its dimensions and effects, and the globality of this phenomenon has increased with the great expansion that today's world is witnessing in all fields, especially after the use of information networks and media. This increased the ability of production, smuggling and promotion gangs to exchange information and expertise that would help them develop their criminal activities and complete deals quickly, and even enabled them to flood various global markets with various types of drugs, the spread of which led to devastating effects on all humanitarian and socio-economic levels [1].

Drugs were known, or as some call them, illegal medicines, but later they became a substance that threatens human heritage because they harm the individual, society, and human rights together, and are obtained through illegal means and without a medical prescription, as it is considered the most dangerous disaster parallel to the crimes of terrorism to which humanity has been exposed. Especially young people, from ancient times until now, after it became cross-border crimes [2]. Countries differ in what drugs are, based on the difference in the philosophy that countries follow with regard to criminalising or permitting this substance. Drugs are a scourge, as they have a social dimension that threatens the entity of families and the stability of societies, in addition to their impact on the individual consumer, which is confirmed by scientific analytical studies that have proven the impact. It is dangerous for the nervous, psychological and physiological systems of the user, thus pushing him to commit crimes. Therefore, it has a legal nature as it is considered a stand-alone crime, which countries, whether internally or internationally, seek to combat and criminalize by issuing legislation and concluding international agreements that will implement it and work to confront it.

Drug crimes are considered one of the most widespread crimes in the countries of the world due to their seniority and special nature as a cross-border organised crime and given the seriousness of the situation as well as the inability of every country to limit the scope of this crime on its own, especially with the emergence of networks with a high level of precise planning to organise and manage the movement. Drugs: The idea of international cooperation emerged to unify national and international efforts to combat drugs through agreements aimed at confronting the phenomenon. Which requires exposure [3].

This happens sometimes, and in some countries, it is considered a narcotic substance, but it is not considered at another time or in another country, this depends on the extent of its effect on the human body and psyche because there are some substances that, although they are narcotic substances, are used as a treatment for a specific condition and for a specific period of time and in accordance with the law. However the narcotic substance is considered one of the substances that reach a high degree of danger, and the state must reduce it by all means and methods prescribed by law and in accordance with the procedures specified for this purpose based on the relevant international agreements and charters [4].

This requires research into the problem related to the extent of the role of the international community and international legal mechanisms in confronting and combating crimes of drugs and psychotropic substances.

To answer this main problem and the sub-problems, reliance was placed on the analytical approach, which is concerned with analyzing various international legal texts that address the issue of combating crimes of drugs and psychotropic substances. This is what we reach through the following points: the concept of drug criminality (first), legal mechanisms for coordination in taking preventive and remedial measures (second), and the role of the international community in combating drug crimes (third).

## **2- The importance of the topic:**

The importance of studying this topic is that the phenomenon of drug crimes is a global scourge that manifests itself in the manifestations of its danger to all countries and societies and has become a threat to all categories of individual and family societies. It has also affected several aspects, including the economic, social and political aspects, and this is due to the technological development in the field of information and communications as one of the aspects. Which helped criminal organizations to cross national borders and gave their activities an international dimension.

## **3- Objectives of the study:**

The aim of studying this topic, which is the crimes of drugs and psychotropic substances and the role of the international community in confronting them, is evident in considering them among the most serious crimes at the international and national levels, especially since this type of crime has a very close relationship and connections to the emergence of other forms of crimes with precise organization, such as crimes Money laundering, corruption crimes and terrorist crimes. This study also aims to determine the extent to which positive results have been achieved in the role of the international community in confronting these crimes related to drugs and psychotropic substances, through preventive and remedial measures to achieve the desired goal in confronting and combating crimes of drugs and psychotropic substances.

## **4- Reasons for choosing the topic:**

There are several objective and subjective considerations that were the reason we chose this topic,

which lie in: Objective reasons, including preventive and therapeutic measures as a mechanism to combat drug and psychotropic substance crimes, at the level of the international community, and its contribution to achieving criminal policy and criminal justice, as one of the mechanisms proposed as solutions. In the international community, while identifying the most important obstacles and difficulties facing the implementation of these measures.

As for the internal reasons, considering that drugs have begun to spread terror and anxiety in every family in society, and this is after the markets have become flooded by drug dealers with different types of these toxins, and the security and moral aspect of our country has become under the threat of this scourge and dilemma.

Another personal reason is our desire to know the practical side of the methods developed in international agreements and cooperation in general, and the extent of their effectiveness, and the effectiveness of these methods in confronting crimes of drugs and psychotropic substances.

### **The problem of the study:**

What is the conceptual and legal framework for drug and psychotropic substance crimes? What are the mechanisms and measures used in the laws of the international community to address it?

### **The concept of drug and psychotropic substance crimes:**

In order to know what the crimes of drugs and psychotropic substances are, it is necessary to define the concept of drugs and psychotropic substances linguistically, scientifically and legally.

#### **Drugs definition:**

**A - Linguistic definition:** Narcotic is an active participle of someone who has become numb to something, meaning he has become numb. An anaesthetic is also defined linguistically as any substance whose consumption results in exhaustion of the body and a bad effect on the mind to the point of almost dulling it [5].

**B - Scientific definition:** Doctor Vogt defined it as the release of a substance that, through its chemical nature, works to change the structure and functions of the living organism, into whose body these substances were introduced. The changes include, in particular and significantly, the state of the senses, awareness, and perception, in addition to the psychological and behavioural aspects [6].

**C - Legal definition:** Drugs are a group of substances that cause addiction and poison the nervous system. Their circulation, cultivation, or manufacture are prohibited for purposes determined by law, and they are only used by persons licensed to do so. Drugs are also defined in the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, approved in Vienna on 12/20/1988:

**“Narcotic drugs”** means any substance, whether natural or synthetic, listed in Schedules I and II of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 and of that Convention as amended by the Protocol of 1972.

The term **“psychotropic substances”** means any substance, whether natural or synthetic or any natural products listed in Tables I, II, III and IV of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971. The term Schedule I and Schedule II means the lists of substances bearing these numbers which are attached to this Convention as amended from time to time. For another [7].

### **Causes and effects of drug crimes:**

After we discussed the definition of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and the position of criminal legislation with regard to the definition of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, we come in this topic to explain the most important reasons leading to drug crimes and their

effects, as drugs have many causes, which is considered a major motivation for starting to use narcotics and psychotropic substances and these reasons. It may be related to the psychological aspect of individuals, or it may be linked to the family environment in which they live. Economic, social, and political reasons also play a prominent role in the increase in cases of drug use by people. The role of the law, the legislative vacuum, and the failure to implement laws according to what is required may be a reason leading to the commission of The individual to organized crimes, as we show the most important effects that drugs have on the individual and society from economic, social, and legal aspects. Accordingly, we will divide this study based on what we have explained into two requirements. In the first requirement, we will explain the causes of drug crimes, while in the second requirement, we will explain the most important effects that result. On drug crime and the reason for criminalizing drugs.

### **1- Causes of drug crimes:**

Drugs have been known since ancient times, and in the past they were used to treat patients and benefit from their fibers in different ways, but with the development of time and the increase in the necessities of life in various societies, whether this society was capitalist or socialist, drugs became an obstacle to the economic development of some countries, in addition to the technological development and openness Countries are in front of each other, the high cost of providing daily necessities, the high prices for individuals' daily life requirements, the increasing unemployment rate in many countries of the world, family disintegration, and the high rate of domestic violence and crimes. All of this has led to an increase in the rate of drug abuse by individuals, and national laws and legislations do not cover all aspects. existing in relation to drug crimes, and this also helped increase the number of drug users and drug trafficking, although the main cause of drug addiction has not yet been identified. Therefore, we will divide the causes leading to drug crimes into three branches, which are economic reasons, as economic openness plays an important role in expanding the circle. Drugs because individuals trade and smuggle drugs through it illegally, because this brings them large profits with minimal effort instead of importing necessary goods for citizens [8].

Socially, some see that the emptiness in life is another reason that leads to drug abuse and addiction. Likewise, unemployment and homelessness, especially in poor and working circles, are a factor leading to addiction, and travelling to places that are not subject to state control and where drugs are taken is another reason for Reasons for abuse [9]. Legal reasons, where the law is required in a way that leads to an increase in cases of impunity on the one hand, and on the other hand, failure to implement the laws increases the cycle of drug crime. The matter is not limited to the laws only, but also the lack of clarity of the future vision and national strategy and the lack of a national plan to combat drug crimes. It is one of the reasons for the increase in trafficking and drug abuse in the country [10].

### **2- The direct relationship between drugs and the crimes of their users:**

Drugs directly affect the criminality of those who use them, especially if the person reaches the point of addiction. Drug use affects the person's will and weakens it, so the person loses the ability to control his urges and deviates from the flow of crime. The most important crimes that occur under the direct influence of drugs are crimes of assault on persons and crimes. Childbirth, fires, thefts and traffic accidents [11].

As for drug abuse, there is a direct relationship between it and the increase in the number of crimes. This relationship arises due to the process of drug abuse itself, as well as drug trafficking.

This relationship also arises from the dangerous effects of drugs on the organic and nervous structure of the addicted person, which may push him to commit serious crimes such as murder and wounding. And beating.

The drugs and psychotropic substances that their sellers must manufacture and extract from narcotic plants and carry out chemical reactions to create more effective narcotic substances have led their users to fall prey to their control over their nervous system, as they are a stimulant for them and motivate them to feel energetic and active and that they have supernatural abilities. The addicted person runs after it to obtain it by any means possible, and in the event of its absence, he turns into a criminal, unaware of what he is doing or saying, as his primary goal is to secure the narcotic substance, and if a person uses a highly effective and highly influential drug in large quantities, he loses his sanity and thinking as a human being.

### **3- The effects of drugs on the crime rate:**

Drugs are associated with other crimes in society, and the phenomenon of crimes occurring under the influence of drugs was a prominent phenomenon and continues to this day, such as abuse, forgery, theft, forming gangs, customs and tax smuggling crimes, trafficking, sexual assaults and physical abuse, traffic accidents, murder, money laundering, and others of crimes.

The study conducted by the American National Institute for the Study of Addiction showed that 70% of prisoners in the United States of America used drugs regularly before their imprisonment and that 1 out of 4 prisoners are violent crime perpetrators. They committed their crimes under the influence of narcotic substances and addiction to them, and this is due to two reasons: Two main ones:

- 1- Drugs affect a person's central nervous system, as we mentioned previously, leading him to a state of delusion, indifference, and imagination associated with a loss of consciousness and perception, which allows them to commit deviant behaviour without awareness or awareness, which makes him one of the perpetrators of the most heinous and dangerous crimes.
- 2- The user always aims to obtain the dose, regardless of the means or price, which makes him ready to commit any crime to obtain the money necessary to buy it, especially if he has a limited income. Thus, he does not hesitate to commit any crime to obtain the money first and the drug second. Committing simple crimes and ending with committing heinous and severe crimes. As for the crimes committed by the addict, they are:

#### **First - Crimes committed against persons:**

Addiction to drug use leads to an increase in the chances of committing a crime, because the person who is addicted is characterized by his weak religious and moral motives, and thus his willingness to commit an act that is forbidden by the legal and social reality increases, and among these crimes are the crimes of adultery, marital infidelity, rape, sodomy, and indecent assault without that consent, because In the event of an inability to control oneself and control his actions, the victim or victim may not be the addicted person himself. It may be one of his relatives. If he does not obtain the narcotic substance, this happens at the expense of one of his mahrams, whether it be his wife, daughter, or sister, whether this happened. This is based on his desire or otherwise [12].

The committed act may also result in the loss of a person's life, i.e. an intentional or unintentional murder, and it sometimes happens that the victim or victim may be exposed to permanent disability, and this often happens with people who have the dose and narcotic

substances available, especially among the user, dealer, or promoter of the subject. Drugs or sometimes with a pharmacist as a result of a dispute between them, and this often happens intending to obtain those substances.

### **Second - Crimes that occur against money:**

As we have shown, there are crimes committed by drug users that occur against people. In addition to this, there are other crimes that occur against money, and this may be at the individual level, or this may occur at the collective level, to save money in order to obtain these substances [13]:

#### **A- Crimes committed by individuals:**

It sometimes happens that the individual who is a drug user or addict becomes convinced that crime is the legitimate means by which he can obtain the drug, and among these crimes committed by individuals are theft, fraud, breach of trust, forgery, embezzlement, and other crimes to avoid the pain that he experiences from not using drugs and obtaining on her. The value of stolen items is not considered by the user. The items he steals may be of trivial or moderate value than the movables, and sometimes he begins by stealing the money of his family and friends and items that do not cost an effort to steal, in order to sell them and obtain the required money. This process is typical of drug addiction. The longer he is addicted to drugs, the more the crime expands. He may be exploited with other gangs because he has committed this crime, embezzlement of state funds, and bribery. If the perpetrator is a government employee or assigned to public service, he commits illegal acts and exploits his job position. Through illegal acts in exchange for money from the other party. He may also resort to embezzling state funds and disposing of them, or the crime of money laundering, all of which the individual aims to obtain money through illegal means, which is considered a crime according to the laws, to obtain the narcotic substance.

#### **B- At the level of groups or organizations:**

Drug crimes may not be committed by one person or a specific number of people. It may require forming groups in the form of gangs or organizations and committing international crimes for the sake of drug trafficking and obtaining the largest possible number of drug users in order to obtain the largest percentage of financial profits. In which it is impossible for the state to arrest them except after great financial and human efforts and the waste of huge sums of money in order to arrest them and hold them legally accountable. These groups may resort to paying bribes to public officials at border posts, ports, customs, and airports, to facilitate the process of smuggling or promoting materials, or even with the aim of not paying financial obligations from taxes and customs, or ignoring the inspection of shipments or people during their entry into the country, or as may happen. These actions by groups are the result of deception and deception of these employees and other innocent people as a result of their deception without having criminal intent in this regard, and in some cases the drug smuggling process from one country to another will not take place without bribing employees, workers, and even officials at the border crossings [14].

According to the report issued by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, drug trafficking organizations spend millions of dollars every year, which has a clear impact on international and local economies, as these amounts are spent on purchasing and disposing of real estate, or smuggling this money out of the country, And hiding its financial profits in foreign financial centres, and the consequences of this are the manipulation of property prices,

the spread of corruption and the exclusion of international commercial enterprises, which ultimately leads to undermining the rule of law and destabilizing economic stability in the country.

In addition, these gangs may resort to committing other non-physical crimes, namely the crimes of plagiarism, forgery, and fraud, by impersonating certain personalities and forgery using fictitious names, by forging official documents and personal proofs such as passports, identities, and other documents, to mislead Justice and impunity or facilitating the process of smuggling materials and funds through border crossings.

The drug problem is considered one of the main problems in the third millennium that threatens international peace and security, in addition to two serious problems, namely terrorism and environmental pollution, and since the crime of terrorism has become more common in our time and entire countries of the world have been exposed to terrorist operations by terrorist groups and organizations under different names. Which led to the death of thousands of people, and the phenomenon of terrorism as an international criminal phenomenon that causes many problems at the local and international levels, which led the United Nations General Assembly to establish an office to combat terrorism in 2002, which is headed by the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations. The reason for this is in addition to the availability of enhanced leadership, to strengthen the process of capacity-building in the field of drug control at the same time by member states of the General Assembly.

#### **Reason for criminalizing drugs:**

In the face of the increasing dangers of drugs due to their abuse and addiction, they pose harm to people as individuals, causing them to weaken their mental strength, accompanied by a decline in their moral level, which results in a lack of sense of responsibility, and many cases it causes insanity and makes them commit the most heinous crimes without their awareness. Even more than that, it pushes him to commit crimes to obtain money to silence his desire to obtain a dose of the required drug due to the addict's loss of his source of livelihood [15].

Not only that, but the addict goes beyond these phenomena by committing private crimes, especially money crimes, and being used by others. Rather, the matter has spread to society as a whole and has become a danger to it and hurts a large number of addicts, with the emergence of pests and crimes, including damaging the state economically, negatively, morally, and even socially.

Therefore, it can be said that the reason for criminalizing drugs is the dangers resulting from them, as it has prompted many legislations, whether at the international level, the Arab level, or the national level in Algeria, to deviate from the rule that a person is free to dispose of himself as he wishes. The majority of these legislations worked to combat Drugs as a crime requires punishment and sometimes treatment.

#### **The reason for criminalizing drugs in international agreements:**

The conventions are considered among the sublime tools for trying to eliminate and reduce the crimes of drugs and psychotropic substances. They are a collective responsibility of all countries, especially since it has become worrying about the steady penetration of these crimes into various segments of society. It has become necessary to advance and cooperate between the parties. To be able to address more effectively the various aspects of the problem of crimes of drugs and psychotropic substances that have an international dimension [16],

provided that they enact legislative and administrative measures following the basic provisions of their internal legislative systems, and these agreements are represented in the following:

**International attempts to confront crimes of drugs and psychotropic substances:**

By international attempts, we mean the international agreements, treaties, and protocols that were concluded at the international level and the international conferences that were held to confront drug crimes since the beginning of the last century until now, and which are characterized by special importance with regard to the criminalization of drugs that were not characterized by a criminal nature before their conclusion and are punishable by law, and which were legislated. Legally, until these agreements were concluded, the signing and ratification of which entails an international obligation, whether the international document that criminalized this phenomenon was the agreements, and after that their content was reflected in the national constitutions and laws of all countries. What we want to look for in this area are the international efforts that the international community has sought to confront and combat drug crimes and the legal foundations that have been established by international organizations and which are within the framework of agreements, protocols and resolutions, which is considered a constitution for international work in the field of combating drugs and psychotropic substances. We will discuss it here. To the role of the modern international community to confront crimes of drugs and psychotropic substances.

**conventions International:**

By international conventions, we mean “the document written by international bodies, in the form of conventions between two or more countries, according to which each country’s commitment is determined and its rights are stated in a specific subject, which may be a cultural, social, economic, military, or commercial convention. The convention may be public or secret. Joining the agreement requires an international commitment after ratifying and accepting its content. The conventions may be bilateral between countries, and this is called a bilateral agreement, or it may be between three countries, which is called a tripartite agreement, and so on. In all cases, the content of the agreement must not violate the jurisprudential rules, which are the provisions and rules of international law. Because these rules are binding on all state parties without signature and ratification procedures.

In the field of combating drugs and psychotropic substances, there are many agreements and protocols that have a historical dimension in the field of confronting this phenomenon internationally. It is necessary to shed light on the provisions and principles of what is stated in the content of these agreements. Accordingly, we will divide this requirement into two branches. In the first section, we will search for the related agreements, charters, and protocols. Concerning drugs, and in the second section we will discuss the provisions of these agreements through the International Convention on Narcotic Drugs in 1961 and others.

**First: The 1961 Convention on Narcotic Drugs**

This agreement was signed at the United Nations headquarters in New York on December 13, 1961, and entered into force on December 13, 1964. It included several objectives, the most important of which was collecting the various international agreements and protocols that were concluded before the year 1961 into one document. It also aimed to promote cooperation between Parties to be able to address the various aspects of the problem of illicit



trade in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, by taking necessary measures that include internal legislation in each State Party and focused on criminalization, punishment and treatment of addicts [17].

**Second: The 1972 Protocol amending the 1961 Convention:**

This protocol, which was adopted to amend an agreement on March 25, 1972, at the European headquarters of the United Nations in Geneva, came due to the emergence of some loopholes in the first agreement.

**Third: The 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances**

It was adopted on February 21, 1971, in Vienna, and was aimed at combating the abuse of chemically manufactured psychological substances, namely psychotropic substances, and the illicit trade in them, which were not covered by the 1961 Convention, in addition to that it was aimed at imposing control on these substances.

**Fourth: The United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988:**

The problem of drugs and psychotropic substances has taken on large and different dimensions, as it has become linked to crimes such as money laundering, weapons sales, terrorist crimes, exploitation and use of children in the sale and trafficking of drugs in order to achieve enormous wealth, so the international community decided to conclude other agreements that would be effective and comprehensive to accommodate the various developments. That affected the problem, especially with regard to eliminating illicit demand and the incentive that drives smugglers, promoters and traffickers to do what they do and preventing them from making money from their criminal activities, and it was adopted on December 19, 1988 [18].

**Modern international penal policy to address drug crimes:**

Modern penal policy in international drug control law is directed towards preventive and remedial measures. These measures develop in countries with developments in international agreements. These measures are based on a system of assessments. That is, based on the needs of countries for drugs and narcotic substances and submitting them to the International Narcotics Commission for approval, as this committee monitors all types of legal dealings with narcotic substances and natural and synthetic drugs in countries, and there must be a balance between the needs of countries through the production of substances and their consumption, In addition, States Parties must take measures to monitor drug and psychotropic substance crimes and detect them following internationally and nationally established rules. Establishing international centres and bodies for this purpose, and also allowing these modern rules to extradite criminals and confiscate their money and property that they acquired through dealing and trafficking in drugs, as well as taking preventive measures that allow inspection. And the establishment of international centers and bodies for this purpose, and also allowing these modern rules to extradite criminals and confiscate their money and property that they acquired through dealing and trafficking in drugs, as well as carrying out preventive measures that allow national inspection of shipments that do not cross the country's borders and after their crossing by international specialists in this field, and in terms of measures Social Security, under which countries prepare and train employees and workers based on modern techniques for treatment, rehabilitation and social integration into society, and work for international cooperation and coordination to limit the spread of the drug phenomenon at the

global level by not allowing the crossing of narcotic substances and psychotropic substances from border crossings into countries. other without a legal license [19], Following the legal system established for international control, combating the crime of money laundering acquired from drug crimes, establishing imperative rules to criminalize illegal drugs, destroying these materials after confiscating them under the laws, ending the manufacture and production of these materials by states, and monitoring laboratories and factories in the state, these policies also Requires States Parties to develop strategies and programmes. Comprehensive at the national level to combat this crime and limit its spread.

It is clear from this that the provisions of modern international agreements are not limited to the criminalization and punishment of drug crimes only, but rather their provisions are directed towards treatment for addicts and abusers, and state parties should adhere to these provisions in implementing their local policies to address drug crimes at the national level.

Under these modern policies, the crime of smuggling drugs and psychotropic substances or participating in them through dealing in them, as well as dealing with money acquired through them, are considered criminal crimes that require punishment. The punishment must also be severe if the crime of drug smuggling is linked to other international crimes, which as the crime of terrorism. Arms trafficking and the use of violence against persons involved in crime. The recent Convention on Combating Drugs, which focused on imposing criminal penalties for drug crimes, stipulates the necessity of confiscating the narcotic substance and the money gained from trafficking and dealing in these substances, spending them in institutions and organizations working in the field of combating them and extraditing criminals who commit drug crimes without their extradition being related to other matters outside the cases Drugs.

#### **The role of international and regional organizations to address drug crimes:**

The United Nations Organization considers the international field to combat narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and implement the relevant conventions in this regard, through its various agencies in some countries of the world, and this organization has established various international agencies that have several tasks and all of its agencies work to achieve one goal, which is combating narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. mentality at the global level. Among these devices are:

##### **1- Narcotics Committee:**

It was established by a decision of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (D-34) in 1991, based on the powers granted to it under the Charter of the United Nations, provided that all expenses and expenditures of the committee fall on the organization.

This committee consists of thirty members who are nominated at the request of the Economic and Social Council. The term of membership is for two years, and priority goes to countries that produce and consume narcotic substances. This committee, according to its powers, makes amendments to the attached tables of international agreements [20], whenever the World Health Organization or the state parties request that.

The Committee also assists the International Narcotics Control Board and the Economic and Social Council based on what is required by the Convention, in addition to other tasks that the Committee is committed to in accordance with the Council's requirements.

##### **2- Drug laboratory:**

This laboratory, which consists of scientists specialized in analyzing drugs and psychotropic substances, coordinates with scientists from all countries of the world in this speciality to find

possible ways and means to combat drugs. This laboratory was established by a decision of the United Nations General Assembly in 1954, and its structure is affiliated with the Secretary-General. The organization's body is located in the Swiss city of Geneva.

### **3- Anti-Drug Abuse Fund:**

This fund finances United Nations programs and through it for countries that grow narcotic substances and replace them with other substances, to reduce these substances and save the international community from this scourge, through the assistance that the organization provides to countries and organizations working in this field to combat drugs. This fund is also affiliated with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, which was established in Vienna by Resolution 2719 in 1970.

### **4- Narcotics Division:**

This Division is considered the liaison, cooperation and coordination device between all United Nations agencies on drugs and drug control, because under its jurisdiction it provides assistance and cooperation to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as well as providing facilities to both the International Narcotics Control Board and the Drug Abuse Control Fund, and is a mechanism for cooperation and coordination between international scientists to research Drugs, displaying and disseminating them through the monthly media letter. It also publishes the Drugs Bulletin once every three months. This division is also affiliated with the Secretary-General of the organization.

### **5- United Nations Drug Control Programme:**

This program works to unify the structure of the United Nations to combat the abuse of narcotic substances. It also works to approve the international program through which all agreements, treaties and protocols regarding drug control at the international level are implemented, which was established by a decision of the United Nations General Assembly in 1990.

### **6- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime:**

The aim of this office, which was established in 1997, is to assist the United Nations in improving the issues of illicit drug trafficking, crime prevention and criminal justice, terrorism and political corruption, by implementing treaties and protocols on these topics and providing financial funding, research and consultation to governments to work on Implementing them and combating the challenges and difficulties facing them through implementing their national programs in combating drugs, terrorism, and political corruption [21].

The United Nations has also worked in the field of international cooperation and full coordination between countries in the field of drug control, and has provided countries that cannot establish electronic communications with the establishment of electronic networks in order to close escape routes for criminals involved in drug crimes. In this cooperation, it focused on the police and judicial services for this purpose. Facilitating the procedures for extraditing criminals, confiscating funds acquired by committing organized crimes, protecting witnesses, exchanging information regarding this crime, and holding training courses and other technical assistance. In addition to international organizations, there are several international institutions and organizations whose mission is to combat drugs, in addition to other tasks for which they work. Among these institutions and agencies are:

**First: The International Criminal Police (Interpol) is an international law enforcement**

**organization.**

This organization consists of the police forces of (194) countries, and its main headquarters is in the city of Lyon, France. It was established in 1914. This organization works to exchange information between countries to search for international criminals and cooperate and coordinate in order to combat crimes that have an international nature, such as drug crimes and smuggling. It also works The organization supports security services in countries to control the arrest of criminals who have committed drug crimes through international cooperation or diplomatic means, collects data and information related to the subject of drugs from member states and their security agencies, and disseminates information about narcotic substances on a global level with the aim of Reviewed by national law enforcement agencies concerned with drug control.

The International Police Organization also prepares analytical studies and their relationship to criminal connections and holds regional and global conferences on the subject of drugs to find out the problems related to this crime and to know the developments that have occurred in techniques related to criminal investigation between countries, through the working relationship between the organization and United Nations agencies and other international organizations such as the World Organization. For customs.

**Secondly - other international organizations are:**

**A- World Health Organization**

This organization, which was founded in 1946, supervises and is responsible for the international health field and has a leadership role in this field, as it works in setting health programmes, rules and standards, providing technical support to countries, monitoring health violations, preparing medical research, proposing the conclusion of agreements in health affairs and working to combat communicable diseases and providing the required health protection, and working to find appropriate mechanisms between countries to develop health programs and train workers in this field [22].

In addition to these tasks and specialization in the medical and health fields, the organization has a prominent and important role in combating narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances by setting rules to eliminate the danger of trading in the international trade of pharmaceutical products.

**B- International Labor Organization**

This organization works in coordination and cooperation with the World Health Organization to work in workplaces for drug users, rehabilitating them, and provide training courses in the field of their profession.

**C - Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**

Through its educational and cultural program, it works to combat drugs among different segments of society.

**D- Customs Cooperation Council**

This council coordinates and cooperates between the various customs agencies in the countries to eliminate materials that can be smuggled, including (drugs), exchange information among them in this regard, and publish materials related to the illicit trade in narcotic substances.

The United Nations annually publishes its report on drugs. The report includes statistics and achievements made by the States Parties in the field of combating drugs, whether from a

legislative, executive or judicial perspective, and the cooperation and assistance provided by the Organization and its agencies to countries in order to prevent the spread of the phenomenon of drugs and psychotropic substances. It is also mentioned in the report. The most important obstacles and main challenges facing countries and the organization in order to eliminate drugs and psychotropic substances. According to the latest report issued by the United Nations on June 26, 2019, out of the 269 million people who use drugs around the world, about 35 million people suffer from health and psychological disorders at the global level, and these people are in urgent need of health treatment and therapeutic services, and several drug users Opiates reached 53 million in 2017, and the percentage rose by 56% over previous years, and the narcotic substance opium led to the death of two-thirds of 585,000 people. According to this report, drug use by injection rose to 11 million people, and 1.4 of them were infected. AIDS and 5.6 people are infected with hepatitis globally. The United Nations explained in this report that prevention and treatment have decreased in most countries, to the point that one person out of seven people receives treatment, while the rest have been sentenced by a judicial ruling and remain in correctional facilities without treatment [23].

#### Conclusion:

This study, which addressed the nature of drug crimes and the reason for their criminalization after drugs were defined in the scientific aspect and the United Nations Convention on Drug Control, and then touched on the forms of drug crimes, their elements, and the penalties prescribed for them, it became clear that drug crimes have several forms and this is because its connection to other crimes such as organized crime and corruption crimes. This is all due to the development of drug crimes linked to scientific and technological development. Therefore, severe and light penalties were imposed for them after highlighting the elements of each picture and according to its description.

After we completed this study on the role of the international community in confronting crimes of drugs and psychotropic substances in society, and focusing on the international aspect in its role to confront these crimes and the mechanisms included in international agreements and laws, and through this study we reached several results and through this study, we conclude that:

- 1- International legislation and the international community have not given and defined a concept for drugs and their crimes, and this is due to their diversity and spread, and as previously mentioned, to the development of technology.
- 2- Despite the spread of the phenomenon of digital drugs and the ease of their spread in society in our time, international law does not include texts and provisions to limit the spread of this phenomenon, which requires it to be included in laws and regulated to serve the interests of members of society.
- 3- International legislation attempted to define forms and elements of drug crimes, but it did not achieve that due to the large number of phenomena and diversity of narcotic substances, especially since their types are classified in the Single International Convention against Narcotic Drugs 1961, that is, by way of definition, most international legislation takes into account what this agreement stated.
- 4- The methods and methods by which international legislation was adopted were not sufficient, especially on the part of those charged with these tasks, and the matter concerns

judicial police officers and engineers. Based on violations while carrying out their duties, which reflects positively on criminals while they are brought to justice and impunity due to the invalidation of follow-up procedures.

- 5- International preventive and remedial measures were also enacted as alternatives to deterrent punishments and treatment of addicts - and as alternatives to imprisonment, but this was not sufficient due to the large number and spread of drug trafficking crimes.

**Through this conclusion and study, the following recommendations can be made:**

- 1- Unifying the penalties prescribed for drug crimes through comparative legislation and laws. This is because in some countries, the penalty for the crime of drug trafficking, for example, may be severe, and in other countries, it may be light, and this does not help or contribute to building an international criminal policy.
- 2- Strengthening the ports and borders with the latest technological devices in the field of drug detection increasing inspection crews through the various ports and keeping them continuously informed of the latest smuggling methods, while giving employees more benefits and incentives to perform their duties to the fullest.
- 3- Periodically review the tables and laws related to the classification of narcotic substances and psychotropic substances, and include new types in these tables as soon as possible, and review the penal laws related to abuse, possession and promotion.
- 4- Encouraging reporting drug users and dealers by rewarding them with encouraging financial incentives while ensuring complete confidentiality for informants.
- 5- The ineffectiveness of in-kind preventive measures, such as confiscation, in achieving positive results in reducing the problems of drugs and psychotropic substances due to their lack of some main pillars, the most important of which is the inability to determine a practical mechanism for separating legitimate funds from illicit funds.
- 6- The defects that limit the effectiveness of preventive policy are the same that attach to all preventive measures established - internationally and nationally. For example, implementing controlled delivery imposes on countries the necessity of working to avoid the difficulties facing these measures, and examples of this include the huge financial cost that it requires. This measure, the need for people with a high degree of competence and discretion, and the fear of the drug shipment leaking or being lost, which leads to negative consequences that cannot be avoided unless the drug shipment is replaced with another that is not feared to be misused.
- 7- Unifying the penalties prescribed for drug crimes in comparative laws, which made the delivery of a narcotic shipment undesirable in a country that adopts a different penal policy in a country that adopts a strict penal policy.

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