



RESOLUTION ON

COUNTERING THE PROLIFERATION OF DRUGS, PARTICULARLY FENTANYL AND OTHER SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS, AS WELL AS MAFIAS AND CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED IN TRAFFICKING THEM¹

1. Mindful of the mounting global threat to human health posed by the proliferation of drugs and especially fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, which are responsible for a major health emergency in the United States of America as a result of the devastating consequences of the abuse of these substances; namely, instant and insidious addiction, the deaths of thousands of people, and the destabilization of entire communities,
2. Given the huge profits generated by the criminal activities associated with the ever-increasing proliferation of these new substances that have attracted additional interest on the part of transnational criminal organizations, which also exploit the dark web and other digital platforms to expand their illegal trafficking,
3. Reaffirming the importance of co-operation and international efforts to clamp down on illicit production and trafficking and on the criminal networks running the illegal trade in fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, on top of the already existing criminal activities involved in drug trafficking,
4. Welcoming the international measures designed to counter the proliferation of drugs, including the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, soon to become the European Union Drugs Agency, as well as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Synthetic Drug Strategy 2021–2025, as well as the United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971, the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1988, Decision 5/05 of the OSCE Ministerial Council on Combating the Threat of Illicit Drugs, adopted on 6 December 2005, Decision 1048 on the OSCE Concept for Combating the Threat of Illicit Drugs and the Diversion of Chemical Precursors, adopted by the OSCE Permanent Council on 26 July 2012, and the conclusions of the OSCE conferences to counter illicit drug trafficking and related organized crime, in order to stop the proliferation of illicit drugs and diversion of the chemical precursors,

¹ This resolution was adopted by the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly at the 31st Annual Session (Bucharest, 29 June to 3 July 2024) as a part of the [Bucharest Declaration and Resolutions](#).

5. Also considering the importance of national actions, supported by the international framework of reference, including the national prevention plan against the abuse of fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, recently adopted by the Italian Government to prevent the proliferation of these substances in Italy and to raise the awareness of the general public, especially the younger generations, of the danger of consuming them,
6. Emphasizing the urgent need to counter the mafias and criminal organizations that profit from the illicit trade in fentanyl and other synthetic opioids by adopting a systemic approach, such as the one promoted by the Global Coalition to Address Synthetic Drug Threats initiative led by the United States of America, and the study and analyses carried out by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, soon to become the European Union Drugs Agency,
7. Noting the G7 Leaders' Statement on synthetic drugs threats of 29 April 2024, with particular reference to fentanyl,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

8. Urges OSCE participating States to enhance cross-border co-operation and the exchange of experiences within the OSCE in order to counter and dismantle the criminal organizations engaged in drug trafficking, and in particular in the illicit production and distribution of fentanyl and synthetic opioids, including the chemical precursors used to produce them;
9. Calls upon OSCE participating States to strengthen their legislation and law enforcement measures to target all the parties responsible for illicitly producing, trafficking, and distributing these new substances, and the corresponding laundering of their proceeds, in addition to the already known illicit practices related to drug trafficking;
10. Encourages OSCE participating States to invest in public health schemes and national plans to prevent and combat drug use, in particular the illicit use of fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, by raising public awareness of the dangers of drug use and by providing effective medical treatments, and health care and support services for people who have succumbed to addiction;
11. Recommends the establishment or reinforcement of national and international task forces dedicated to combating criminal activities linked to trafficking, including online trafficking, particularly of fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, while simultaneously raising training standards of law enforcement officers on these substances and their risks, such as those posed by unintentional contact;
12. Calls on OSCE participating States to strengthen their border surveillance measures to intercept illicit drug shipments and trafficking, especially those organized via the dark web and other digital platforms, in particular of fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, by using innovative technological solutions and adopting forensic techniques to improve the detection of these substances;
13. Welcomes the initiatives taken by several countries, such as those of the Italian

Government, and encourages OSCE participating States to exchange best practices, expertise and intelligence in order to step up international co-operation;

14. Supports the efforts of the OSCE PA Special Representative on Combating Organized Crime aimed at raising the visibility of issues relating to drug use and trafficking and related criminal activities, by promoting multilateral information exchange including through meetings and visits aimed at increasing co-operation between OSCE participating States, international organizations and relevant actors, in order to protect public health, promote the rule of law, combat crime and any mafia, and safeguard the security of citizens;
15. Calls on the OSCE Secretariat to expand its international co-operation network in order to strengthen its systems for monitoring and analysing the proliferation of drugs, especially the illicit use of fentanyl and the related activities of mafias and criminal organizations, and to encourage the sharing of relevant experiences between the participating States and the development of joint training projects to counter these criminal phenomena and activities;
16. Resolves to remain actively involved in analysing and combating criminal phenomena and activities related to drug trafficking, particularly fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, and to explore the most appropriate regulatory actions to prevent their further proliferation, while safeguarding public health and security in OSCE participating States.