Methodological proposals for technical studies on drug trafficking and related crimes

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Complexity of the subject

- Scarce measurability
- Scarce scientific approach
- Interdisciplinary knowledge
- Methodological adjustment needs
Current approaches

- Statistical information
  - Reliability
  - Compatibility
  - Interpretation
  - Annual cuts

- Police and intelligence information

- Non-systematic knowledge
Approaches proposed

- Interdisciplinary work teams
- Exploratory and descriptive research
- Design of theoretical and methodological tools.
- Explicative-aimed research
- Comparative studies
- Feedback to those who design and implement public policies
Drug trafficking in Argentina: a study on structural and junctural constraints based on the perception of main agents involved in control activities.

Analysis of judicial cases related to Drug Law infractions.
Constraints and perceptions study

Purpose

To know IDT problem in Argentina from the point of view of the main agents involved in control activities

Research time  Last five years
Constraints and perceptions study

Place: All the country

A. Actors
   i. Grade
   ii. Speciality

B. Involvement
   a. Security and police agents
   b. Judicial authorities
   c. Executive authorities
   d. Experts
Constraints and perceptions study

Sample

- Representativeness
- Saturation

Method

- Qualitative strategy
- Information crossing
- Qualitative and quantitative data analysis
Constraint and perceptions study

Techniques

- Focus-interviews (confidentiality / semi-structured questions)
- Speech and content analysis
- Statistical information interpretation
Current state of the research

- 36 interviews to key-agents
- Information processing

- Explanatory patterns of drug trafficking routes and methods
- Profiles of trafficking groups
- Structural constraints
- Junctural constraints
- Quantitative data interpretation
- Control task needs
Judicial cases analysis

Purpose

To elaborate a diagnosis on Drug Law enforcement in Argentina in the legal and factual aspects.

Illicit possesion of drugs

Trafficking
Judicial cases analysis

Place
- Capital Federal
- Gran Buenos Aires
- Northern border

Method
- Quantitative strategy
- Qualitative strategy
- Quantitative treatment of qualitative data
Judicial cases analysis

Techniques

- Quantitative data collection
- Legal analysis
- Factual analysis
- Focused-interviews
Judicial cases analysis

Current state of the research

Pilot Program 2000 (1º phase)

Process of the information

- 2000 census
- Title of the cases
- Actual status of the cases
- Information needs for cases identification
- Contacts in each one of the overviewed courts
Judicial cases analysis

Pilot Program 2000 (2º phase)

Records analysis

- Dismissals, prosecutions, charges, discharges and convictions
- Criminalization (illicit possession of drugs, illicit drug trafficking)
- Nullities
- Time of convictions
- Time of criminal processes
- Law enforcement
Judicial cases analysis

Pilot Program year 2000 (2° phase)

Records analysis

- Modus Operandi
- Profiles of offenders
- Origin and type of drugs seized
- Traffic and distribution routes
General outcomes

- Accomplishment of the research purposes
- Tools for public policies design and implementation
- Bases for legal reform
- Key agents training
- New research needs detection
- Analytical crossing with demand reduction studies
Contact information

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