

# THE PARIS PACT INITIATIVE – WHAT IS IT?

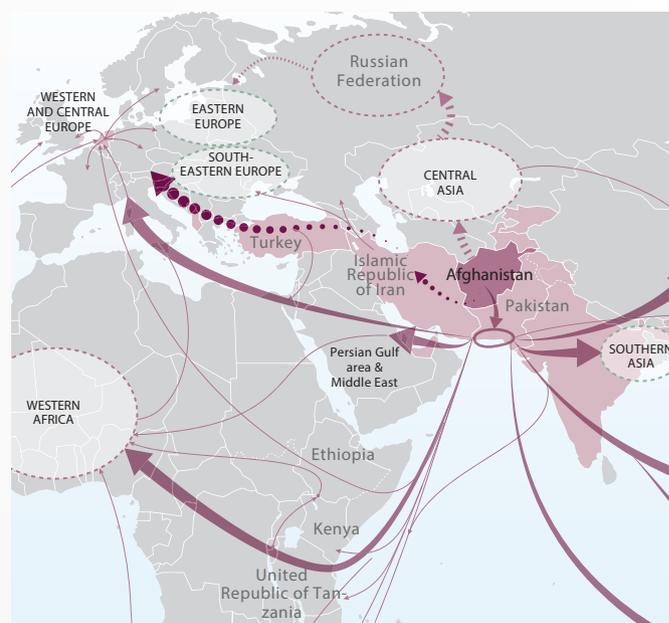
Since its inception in 2003, the broad international coalition known as the Paris Pact Initiative (PPI), made up today of 58 partner countries and 22 organizations, including UNODC, has evolved into one of the most important frameworks for combatting illicit traffic in opiates originating in Afghanistan.

As a well-established platform for consensus building, the Paris Pact functions as an essential bridge between political commitment at the highest international levels and the prioritization of technical assistance interventions on the ground. It is a multi-layered initiative that defines and strengthens linkages between various counter-narcotics actors at the global level. The partnership aims to define policy and provide stronger evidence for coordinated action by all Paris Pact partners.

A particularly challenging period lies ahead in light of evolving international political agendas coupled with the Transformation Decade for Afghanistan. Numerous drug and crime related resolutions and political declarations of the UN General Assembly and Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) emphasize the important ongoing contribution of the Initiative in the fight against opiates.

## The Paris Pact's priorities and actions are in full conformity and synchronized with the:

- Three international drug control conventions;
- 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by the High-level Segment of the CND and the Joint Ministerial Statement of 2014;
- Integrated preparations for the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on the world drug problem (2016); and the
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Flows of heroin from/to countries or regions: (not actual trafficking routes)

■ Opiate trafficking generated by production in Afghanistan

.....▶ Balkan route    - - - - -▶ Northern route    ———▶ Southern route

Sources: UNODC annual report questionnaire and individual drug seizure database. UNODC Afghan Opiate Trade Programme.

The concept of the Paris Pact centers around developments along major opiate trafficking routes. For this reason, the “priority countries” identified by Paris Pact partners are primarily located in West and Central Asia and South Eastern Europe to shed light on how countries situated along the northern and Balkan routes are affected by the menace of opiates. In response to shifts in opiate trafficking, more recently focus is also placed on certain trajectories of the southern route.