

Kazakhstan country overview 2014

EMCDDA, Lisbon, September 2019

Summary

This summary of the national drug situation in Kazakhstan was prepared within the framework of the Central Asia Drug Action Programme – Phase 5 (CADAP 5) in the Component DAMOS (Drug Epidemiology Database Collection and Development). The content of this summary does not necessarily reflect the official opinion of the European Union, nor the official opinion of the Republic of Kazakhstan, and should be seen as the product of CADAP 5.

Note that this publication is [available online only](#).

Main subject:

[drug situation](#)

Vice-President Šefčovič speech at the launch of the EU Battery Alliance Business Investment Platform by InnoEnergy

Dear participants,

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a pleasure to address you again today.

I am delighted to see that the European Battery Alliance ecosystem is more active than ever. Mobilized for our leadership in this strategic sector.

What we have accomplished together since the end of 2017 – only 2 years – is impressive.

As this Commission mandate is coming to a close, let me rapidly recap some of the key initiatives launched together:

- The building of a European Battery ecosystem from scratch, putting

together the main stakeholders from the whole value chain, and supporting flagship innovative manufacturing projects spring up.

- A Strategic Action Plan on Batteries compiling the key measures to make the EU catch up in the global race for the next generation of batteries, that we are now implementing.
- The smart use of the IPCEI to boost our capacities in disruptive R&I and first industrial deployment. Very soon, I hope we will be able to announce the first initiatives that will be launched (pending final notification from the MS concerned).
- The marching order of the European R&I Community, driven by the ETIP platform BatterIes Europe, formally launched in June 2019 – and the massive grant support on R&I provided by the H2020 programme. Soon, a Public Private Partnership on Batteries should be created to nurture the cooperation between the innovation ecosystem, the Member States and the European Commission.
- The very fruitful bilateral partnership with the European Investment Bank, now ready to invest into all segments of the value chain.
- The involvement of regions in EBA, through the Smart Specialisation Partnership to support regional projects and innovation ecosystem across European regions.
- And finally, the official launch today of the Business Investment Platform by InnoEnergy, aiming at facilitating the matchmaking between projects owners and financial stakeholders. This I am sure will contribute decisively to accelerating the deployment of commercially successful solutions (going from lab to market), in record-time.

We can be proud of the very positive and dynamic atmosphere and results of the EBA. I would like to dearly thank InnoEnergy team for helping us act as facilitator or system integrator here.

We can and should be even prouder of the impact that EBA has already had on the ground. Some of the cases you have worked on this morning – for match-making purposes – are impressive:

- Northvolt has been a front runner – a start-up 3 years ago, it has been able to raise a \$1 billion equity and started building a Gigafactory to produce already 8 GWh by 2020. I understand a significant share of the production volumes from Northvolt has been sold to key customers, amounting to a combined order value of over \$13 billion up until 2030. A joint venture between the Volkswagen Group and Northvolt will also be set up to establish a 16 GWh battery cell Gigafactory in Germany.
- Northvolt is of course a success story for the EU, but it is not the only one. Others are well on track. We are surely proving that in Europe, we can be fast and efficient when supporting huge and ambitious industrial projects.
- This morning, you have also heard about Freyr AS, announcing its

intention to build a combined 32 GWh battery facility in Norway combined with the development of up to a 600 MW onshore wind-park.

- Infinity Lithium is in advanced talks with four European companies regarding an offtake agreement for the San Jose lithium project's production capacity of 15,000 metric tons per year of lithium hydroxide, in Spain (Extremadura).
- I could add the investments announced by UMICORE and BASF, in active materials, respectively in Poland and Finland, and the tremendous efforts made by EU car manufacturers in terms of EV production. According to a recent report from Transport & Environment, they jointly plan to invest around EUR 145 billion on electric cars, and the production of electric vehicles in Europe is expected to multiply six-fold between 2019 and 2025, reaching more than 4 million cars and vans. These ambitions will be an incredible driving force behind the whole battery value chain.
- I also very much welcome the upcoming IPCEI with France and Germany in the lead, with many other Member States to set up Battery Pilot Plants and Gigafactories with thousands jobs to be created as a result.
- I am convinced that from IPCEIs will emerge multiple industrial projects that will be welcome by public and private investors, through the Business Investment Platform and other channels, depending on their characteristics and their financial needs.

I am strongly convinced this is only the tip of the Iceberg. Many other projects could be mentioned. Some of which you are already or will soon be familiar with.

The EIB receives more and more loans demands for batteries-related projects, InnoEnergy estimates that massive investments – about EUR 100 billion – happens throughout the batteries value chain and that today, the Business Investment Platform itself would channel the equivalent of EUR 20 billion of investments.

Today, any mature solution can find a way to get a funding for first industrial deployment, industrialization and commercialization.

I am also glad that in the frame of Smart Specialisation and the Interregional partnership on Advanced Materials for Batteries, several industrial projects are brought to life and will benefit from financial support. We still have EUR 9 billion that can be allocated to these projects from the regional funds, in addition to already selected ones.

To conclude: I am really humbled to be able to continue leading this project in the next Commission.

There is a lot that we can achieve together in the next five years, provided we sustain the momentum.

Tomorrow, I will inform the Member States in the Competition Council on the progress made in the Alliance and the steps ahead.

The Alliance should serve as a test-case to build our long-term vision for Europe's industrial policy centred on strategic value chains (in this and other key sectors) and joined-up investment. This is why it also partakes in the foresight portfolio assigned to me by the President-elect.

Tomorrow I will pass some of the key messages you have come up with today to the Ministers.

Press release – 2019 European elections: Record turnout driven by young people

The results of the post-electoral Eurobarometer survey, one of the most comprehensive quantitative surveys on the last European elections publicly available, show that the turnout increase was powered mostly by the younger generation across the EU. Specifically young citizens under 25 years (+14 percentage points) as well as the 25–39 year-olds (+12 percentage points) turned out in greater numbers than before.

Overall turnout at European elections was 50.6% – the highest since 1994. 19 Member States registered increases in voter turnout since 2014, especially Poland, Romania, Spain, Austria, Hungary and Germany as well as Slovakia and Czechia, where turnout is traditionally very low. Meanwhile turnout fell in only eight countries, though by less than 3 percentage points. Voting is compulsory in five countries – Belgium, Bulgaria, Luxembourg, Cyprus and Greece.

"The very significant boost in voter turn-out in May's European elections shows that people, especially the younger generation, value their democratic rights and believe that the European Union is stronger when acting in unison to address their concerns," commented [David Sassoli \(S&D, IT\)](#) , President of the newly elected Parliament.

Brexit played a role too, with 22% of respondents citing it as influencing their decision to vote, at least 'to some extent'

Results show that voters in the 2019 European elections were also motivated by an increased sense of civic duty, a rising sentiment that voting can make things change, as well as voters' strengthened support for the EU. Observed on average at EU level, the study finds economy and growth (44%) as well as climate change (37%) as top drivers for voting. Significant motivators were also human rights and democracy (37%), the way the EU should be working in the future (36%) and immigration (34%). While the economy was the biggest issue for voters in 16 Member States, climate change led the list in eight countries overall.

“These elections saw a younger, more pro-European and engaged group voting in increased numbers. This translates into greater legitimacy for the European Parliament and empowers MEPs when approving the new European Commission and holding it to account over the next five years”, said Sassoli.

More than two-thirds of respondents (68%) across EU28 think their country has benefited from EU membership, the joint highest level recorded since 1983. More than half of Europeans (56%) also agree that their voice counts in the EU, a seven-point increase from February–March 2019, and the most positive result for this indicator since 2002.

In terms of voter awareness of this year’s elections, 44% of respondents recalled seeing or hearing messages from the European Parliament encouraging citizens to vote. This recall is highest among respondents who actually voted in the elections (50%), but also 39% of non-voters recall having seen or heard elements of Parliament’s go-to-vote message. An important finding of the survey is that turnout in the 2019 European elections was driven increasingly by citizens who would not always or traditionally vote, as the relative proportion of respondents stating that ‘they always vote’ fell by 6 points compared to 2014.

The survey results demonstrate the link between citizens’ conviction that their voice counts in the EU and their participation in the European elections matters.

Note to the editors:

The post-electoral survey of the European Parliament was conducted as Eurobarometer survey 91.5. 27,464 respondents were interviewed face-to-face by Kantar for the European Parliament in all 28 EU Member States, drawn from the general population aged 15 or more. Post-election questions were filtered on respondents in the age of voting 18+ (except 16+ in Austria and Malta, 17+ in Greece). The fieldwork took place from 7 – 26 June 2019.

A full report as well as all results and data tables will be published by the European Parliament and can be found by clicking [here](#).

ESMA RESPONDS TO EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON ANNUAL REVIEW OF RTS 2

The letter outlines that ESMA and the EC agree that it is not advisable to perform the annual review of RTS 2 in the course of 2019 due to the remaining uncertainties around a potential no-deal Brexit. ESMA reiterates however its intention to perform the annual review of RTS 2 by 30 July 2020.

The letter follows on from earlier correspondence on [17 June 2019](#) in which

ESMA raised concerns that including or excluding UK data from the assessment would have a fundamental impact on the results and given the remaining uncertainties regarding the timing and conditions of Brexit, ESMA does not consider that this is a suitable time for performing the assessment.

ESMA AGREES POSITION LIMITS UNDER MIFID II

ESMA's opinions agree with the proposed position limits regarding:

[EEX Italian Power Base contracts](#)

[EEX Italian Power Peak contracts](#)

ESMA found that the proposed position limits are consistent with the objectives established in MiFID II and with the methodology developed for setting those limits. ESMA will continue to assess the notifications received and issue opinions in order to ensure that the position limits are set in accordance with the MiFID II framework.