How the use of the Internet is affecting drug trafficking practices – Dr Anita Lavorgna

The use of the Internet to sell drugs is a topic that has received increasing attention over the last decade, with an increasing number of studies on crypto-markets in the deep web and on the role of the surface web for the sale of new psychoactive substances. This class will focus especially on how the Internet is changing criminal modus operandi and social organisations in drug trafficking and on the challenges for researchers and law enforcement to better understand/counter this criminal activity.

# Task

Please write a short advisory document on how new technologies are affecting drug trafficking and how the policing of Internet-facilitated drug trade should evolve to better address this issue.

## Some readings

Barratt MJ (2012) Silk Road. eBay for drugs. *Addiction* 107: 683

Buxton J and Bingham T (2015) *The Rise and Challenge of Dark Net Drug Markets.* Global Drug Policy Observatory. Policy Brief, Swansea University. Available at https://www.swansea.ac.uk/media/The%20Rise%20and%20Challenge%20of%20Dark%20Net%20Drug%20Markets.pdf

Decary-Hetu D and Aldridge J (2015) Sifting through the Net: Monitoring of Online Offenders by Researchers. The European Review of Organised Crime 2(2): 122-141

Dolliver DS (2015) Evaluating drug trafficking on the Tor Network: Silk Road 2.0, the sequel. *International Journal of Drug Policy*. Available at http://www.sciencedirect.com/

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EMCDDA (2016) *The Internet and drug markets.* Lisbon: European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction.

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Lavorgna A (2014) Internet-mediated drug trafficking: Towards a better understanding of new criminal dynamics. *Trends in Organized Crime* 17(4): 250-270

Lavorgna A (2015) The online trade in counterfeit pharmaceuticals: new criminal opportunities, trends, and challenges. *The European Journal of* Criminology 12:226-241

Martin J (2014) Lost on the Silk Road: online drug distribution and the “cryptomarket”. *Criminology and Criminal Justice* 14(3), pp. 351–367

Treadwell J (2012) From the car boot to booting it up? eBay, online counterfeit crime and the transformation of the criminal marketplace. *Criminology and Criminal Justice* 12(2): 175-191

Van Hout MC and Bingham T (2014) Responsible vendors, intelligent consumers: Silk Road, the online revolution in drug trading. *International Journal of Drug Policy* 25(2), pp. 183–189