

# STATEMENT OF DRUG POLICY PRIORITIES

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY





## **TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S DRUG POLICY PRIORITIES**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Trump Administration recognizes the urgent need for decisive action to address the scourge of illicit drug use that plagues our Nation and continues to account for the loss of thousands of American lives. The opioid crisis, fueled by the proliferation of illicit fentanyl and other synthetic drugs, remains at epidemic proportions and is responsible for most of those deaths. Other synthetic substances like methamphetamines, adulterants like xylazine, and cultivated drugs like cocaine and heroin likewise contribute to widespread addiction and overdose deaths.

The staggering loss of life caused by illicit drugs underscores the severity of the challenge, but the Trump Administration has already taken critical steps to confront this crisis through a series of Executive Orders that secure our borders, combat drug trafficking organizations (DTOs), and demand reform by source countries from which illicit drugs and precursor chemicals flow into the United States. We have designated as foreign terrorist organizations (FTOs) eight international cartels and gangs that traffic drugs and endanger the security of the United States, providing us new authorities and additional tools to go after these networks, and target the suppliers, brokers, distributors, and financiers that keep them in business. These executive actions, together with a commitment to educate the American public on the dangers of drug use, prevent drug use before it starts, and provide treatment and recovery support for Americans in need, form the basis of our national drug policy.

The Trump Administration will identify and hold accountable those responsible for exacerbating the flow of drugs within our borders. We will develop bold policy choices, employ innovative and sophisticated technology, and create a skilled, recovery-ready workforce to combat this crisis and ensure the safety of all Americans.

Together, we will build a safer, healthier future for America.

### **POLICY VISION**

The President's drug control policy will evolve to keep pace with the changing landscape of illicit drug trafficking and ensure that our borders, communities, and schools are secure from the destructive influence of illicit drugs.

To achieve our vision of a safer, healthier future for Americans, we will disrupt the supply chain from tooth to tail. We will partner with or otherwise hold accountable countries that are sources of precursor chemicals and finished drugs that enter the United States. We will use new authorities to target the finances of DTOs and the global distribution networks they use to move illicit drugs into our country, secure our borders against the entry of illicit drugs, and fortify domestic law enforcement working to prevent their subsequent distribution.

Domestically, we must acknowledge the complexity of substance use disorder and addiction. The statistics surrounding drug use and overdose deaths mandate a comprehensive approach that emphasizes drug use prevention and increases access to recovery and overdose prevention and



reversal services. We will implement messaging and educational campaigns to inform the American people of the dangers of illicit drug use, the hope of a life in recovery, and the ways to prevent an overdose death. We will equip law enforcement and first responders with the training and tools needed to intervene and prevent overdose deaths.

Recognizing that a sustainable solution requires coordination across all levels of government, we will collaborate with law enforcement, first responders, healthcare providers, community-based organizations, and individuals to ensure the health and well-being of all Americans.

## **DRUG CONTROL POLICY PRIORITIES**

The following policy priorities will guide the development of our drug control strategy to achieve our vision.

### **1. Reduce the Number of Overdose Fatalities, with a Focus on Fentanyl**

*Objective:* Decrease the number of drug overdose deaths nationwide.

To combat the drug crisis and the opioid epidemic, largely driven by fentanyl, the Administration will expand access to overdose prevention education and life-saving opioid overdose reversal medications like naloxone. We will raise awareness about overdose prevention through public health and educational campaigns. We will also ensure that all individuals have access to emergency medical services. We will encourage state and local efforts facilitating law-enforcement-assisted diversion to connect people who use drugs with supportive services that divert them from incarceration and reduce recidivism. We will encourage state and local jurisdictions to increase the availability of drug test strips and naloxone to mitigate the impact of deadly drugs on communities across the country. We will identify, locate, and bring to justice individuals responsible for overdose deaths and pursue the harshest available penalties for those who, at the expense of an unwitting drug-user's life, seek to enhance their illicit gains by relying on lethally potent opioids to expand their illicit drug sales.

### **2. Secure Global Supply Chain Against Drug Trafficking**

*Objective:* Decrease the global movement of illicit drugs, including precursor and related chemicals, through all shipping modalities.

FTOs and DTOs have hijacked global supply chains to traffic illicit drugs cheaply and quickly. This is a global problem that requires a global solution. The Administration will combat these organizations and their activities by engaging in multilateral efforts with source countries to take law enforcement and regulatory actions that identify and attack vulnerabilities in the illicit drugs supply chain. Where a source country fails to take action, the Administration will exercise its economic powers to demand change. We will leverage information and intelligence from global and domestic law enforcement agencies and the private sector to fortify and strengthen our capabilities to detect, interdict, and disrupt illicit drugs distribution activities. We will work collaboratively to develop new mechanisms for collecting and disseminating target information that will enable global, domestic, and private partners to locate, seize and investigate illicit drug movements across land, sea, and air.



**3. Stop the Flow of Drugs Across our Borders and into Our Communities**

*Objective:* Decrease the domestic availability of illicit drugs.

FTOs and DTOs continue to exploit vulnerabilities along America’s borders, and their ability to adapt to an evolving landscape presents emerging threats. To address the border crisis and eliminate these organizations’ presence in the United States, the Administration is enhancing border security, and utilizing advanced technology and increased personnel to prevent the smuggling of illicit drugs into the country. We will continue to take decisive action and exploit all existing authorities, both punitive and economic, to eliminate the production and distribution networks that allow these drugs to reach the United States. In addition, we will leverage force-multiplying efforts, such as the Homeland Security Task Forces (HSTFs), to secure communities against drug trafficking and its attendant violence, and we will hold states and localities accountable for committing appropriate resources to address illicit drugs in their regions. Finally, we will prosecute those individuals responsible for disseminating drugs within our communities and pursue severe penalties against the most culpable actors.

**4. Prevent Drug Use Before It Starts**

*Objective:* Reduce the initiation of drug use, particularly among young people.

Preventing drug use before it starts is vital to protect future generations of Americans from the devastating impact of addiction. The Administration will encourage educational campaigns and evidence-based prevention programs, particularly in schools and communities. We will collaborate with state and local organizations to focus on building resilience in youth and promoting healthy behaviors. We will use all forms of media, with an emphasis on social media, to connect directly with Americans to raise awareness and educate them about the dangers of illicit drug use and how to avoid it, how to prevent overdoses and save lives, and how to access treatment and recovery services.

**5. Provide Treatment That Leads to Long-Term Recovery**

*Objective:* Increase the number of individuals receiving evidence-based treatment and achieving long-term recovery from addiction and substance use disorders.

Effective treatment and robust community-based recovery support services are key to ensuring that individuals struggling with addiction and substance use disorders can find recovery and lead productive, healthy lives. The Administration will ensure effective, timely, and evidence-based treatment is available to all Americans who need it. This will include expanding access to medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) and improving integration of mental health treatment with clinical and recovery support services. The Administration will strengthen the Nation’s peer recovery support services workforce and the organizational infrastructure that supports and deploys it, including recovery community organizations.

**6. Innovate in Research and Data to Support Drug Control Strategies**

*Objective:* Obtain and apply high-integrity data to address the crisis.



The Administration will prioritize the continuous collection and analysis of accurate, timely, and relevant data to inform policy. By leveraging cutting-edge technologies to include artificial intelligence and machine learning, collaborating with experts, enhancing information sharing, and employing rigorous methodologies, we will modernize Federal, state, and local technologies and systems for data collection and sharing. Through public and private partnerships, the Administration will closely monitor trends and available data to identify and rapidly address emerging threats.

This statement reflects a comprehensive and coordinated blueprint to reduce the devastating impact of illicit drugs on American society. Through these policy priorities, the Administration will continue to take bold and necessary actions to address the drug crisis, and protect the health and safety of all Americans.