

Written Evidence – Donald Prentice

From a FCO Alumnus

Before I look at specific examples of challenges and the existing INSTRUMENTS of maintaining justice systems, I wish to highlight the massive economic and growing private military power of the European narcotics cartel, which has close links with Turkish, Dagestan and Central Asian cartels. In Afghanistan alone, the Narco-Terrorist Nexus has maintained and perpetuated a war with the west and successfully resisted any attempts at close down.

Collateral reporting from journalists, academic researchers and others not only highlight violent and ruthless resistance to any scrutiny, but also the recruitment of former executive managers from National security services including Mossad, CIA and SIS. ("Every man has his price". Robert Walpole 1734) The loss of lives and limbs combined with the costs in lifelong medical care of the injured indicate a massively expensive strategic failure in Afghanistan.

The challenge of the Narco cartel inside Europe is huge and currently outperforms all security and policing strategies. Attempts to scale up the integration of police with security services has inherent blocks and "could do better". Joint Police - military tactical units are a more effective instrument. However the security services need to focus more on the real and present dangers that have infiltrated the fabric and institutions of European member states and provide effective strategies to remove them.

A new and carefully selected joint security and External Action service must be properly resourced and quickly. My prediction is that whenever such an instrument does become effective, the personal security of both police and intelligence operatives may have to become protected in "gated communities", ideally of a high quality to compensate for family disruption. Such was the case for the RUC in N. Ireland during the 25 year terrorist period. I predict a 50 year battle with the narco cartels.