The Medicrime Convention is the only international legal instrument that has made it a criminal offence to produce and distribute fake medical products or commit similar crimes. Developed by the Council of Europe to protect public health, the Convention was adopted on 8 December 2010. It provides for the enforcement of effective, fitting and dissuasive sanctions to punish the production and trafficking of fake medical products, at both the national and international level.

The Medicrime Convention came into force on 1 January 2016. The threshold of 5 ratifications has been reached.

Signatures and ratifications

Since the Convention was open for signature in Moscow on 28 October 2011, 27 States have already signed it. Austria, Cyprus, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Portugal, Russia, Switzerland, Ukraine, and Israel (non-member State of the Council of Europe) upon the Convention’s opening for signatures on October 28, 2011.

• Liechtenstein …… Nov. 4, 2011
• Luxembourg ………Dec. 22, 2011
• Denmark …………..Jan. 12, 2012
• Turkey……………..June 29, 2012
• Belgium……………July 24, 2012
• Armenia and Moldova… Sept. 20, 2012
• Spain……………… Oct. 8, 2012
• Ukraine…………….Aug. 24, 2012
• Spain……………… Aug. 5, 2013
• Hungary…………… Jan. 2014
• Moldova…………… Aug. 14, 2014
• Guinea…………….. Sept. 24, 2015
• Armenia…………… Feb. 5, 2016
• Albania…………… June 4, 2016
• Belgium……………. Aug. 1, 2016
• France…………….. Sept. 21, 2016

9 countries have ratified the Convention

• Ukraine…………….Aug. 24, 2012
• Spain……………… Aug. 5, 2013
• Hungary…………… Jan. 2014
• Moldova…………… Aug. 14, 2014
• Guinea…………….. Sept. 24, 2015
• Armenia…………… Feb. 5, 2016
• Albania…………… June 4, 2016
• Belgium……………. Aug. 1, 2016
• France…………….. Sept. 21, 2016

The Convention serves to prevent and combat offences against public health by:

- Criminalising the actions listed by the Convention, including aiding and abetting and attempt
- Protecting the rights of victims (through access to information and assistance)
- Promoting national and international cooperation
- Produce counterfeit medical products or falsify them
- Commit similar offenses, i.e. the unauthorised production or supply of medicines and the sale of medical devices that do not meet the compliance standards
- Falsify documents
- Aid and abet or attempt to produce a counterfeit product

The Convention makes it a criminal offence to:

- Signatures of member States of the Council of Europe
- Signatures of non-member States of the Council of Europe
- Member States of the Council of Europe which have ratified the Convention
- Non-member States of the Council of Europe which have ratified the Convention

As of the 17th of February 2017

Medicrime Convention

Medicines for human and veterinary use
Medical devices (intended for both diagnosis and treatment) and their accessories
Various active ingredients, excipients, elements or equipment

International Institute of Research Against Counterfeit Medicines

As of the 17th of February 2017

Signatures of member States of the Council of Europe
Signatures of non-member States of the Council of Europe
Member States of the Council of Europe which have ratified the Convention
Non-member States of the Council of Europe which have ratified the Convention

The Convention concerns all medical products

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