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Cooperation in the Triple Frontier: Practical Aspects

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Cooperation in the Triple Frontier: Practical Aspects



There are three key sectors driving the dynamics of the Triple Frontier. Firstly, tourism, represented by the Iguassu Falls, shared by Argentina and Brazil, is a major point of attraction at both national and international levels. Secondly, energy, generated by the Itaipu Dam, the world's largest hydroelectric power plant in terms of electrical production capacity. Lastly, trade, encompassing both legal and illegal activities, which defines the current dynamics of the area.

Cooperation in the Triple Frontier: Practical Aspects



Migration is a crucial factor in this region, especially for Argentina and Paraguay, although it is affected by events such as the pandemic and border closures. The most common crimes currently in the Triple Frontier include smuggling, drug trafficking, money laundering, arms trafficking, and human trafficking. These activities are interconnected, as the goods used in smuggling are often related to money laundering and originate from drug trafficking.

Cooperation in the Triple Frontier: Practical Aspects



It's important to highlight that this region is a significant illicit market in Latin America, which means criminal activities are a significant part of its economy. Illegal goods and illicit activities are often transported across the Paraná River, and there are numerous unofficial river crossings between the three countries, which are used by smugglers and drug traffickers.

Additionally, it is estimated that there are around 100 clandestine airstrips in the area, used by both smugglers and drug traffickers. Goods enter Ciudad del Este from different points of origin, such as Asia and Miami, through various Brazilian and Uruguayan ports.

Cooperation in the Triple Frontier: Practical Aspects



Drug trafficking is one of the most prominent crimes in the region, with a significant increase in drug seizures in Argentina in recent years. The northwest region of Argentina has become a major entry point for both marijuana and cocaine. Changes in drug trafficking patterns have been identified, with established routes for both substances.

Cooperation in the Triple Frontier: Practical Aspects



As for the international criminal groups operating in the region, two of Brazil's main ones stand out: the Primeiro Comando da Capital (PCC) and the Comando Vermelho. Additionally, Venezuelan, Colombian, and Bolivian groups involved in criminal activities in the area are also mentioned.

The possible presence of criminal groups with terrorist ties in the Triple Frontier is related to the high concentration of citizens of Arab and Middle Eastern origin in the region. Although the majority of these citizens are engaged in trade, there have been concerns about potential links to terrorism.

Cooperation in the Triple Frontier: Practical Aspects



It's important to note that these criminal dynamics have a significant impact on the region and require ongoing attention from authorities and international cooperation.



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