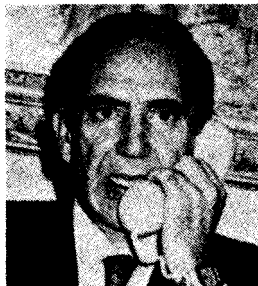

**Interview: Interior Minister
Juan José Rosón**



'Drugs are spread by a conspiracy'

Spain's Interior Minister, Juan José Rosón spoke to EIR in Madrid on June 17.

EIR: We think that drugs are not a sociological phenomenon, but something very well organized. What is your viewpoint?

Rosón: There is no doubt whatsoever that there is a nexus of economic interests manifesting the existence of an organization which we confront on many different levels. There is a macro-organization, which directs movements in the drug economy on a worldwide level, and after that come the micro-organizations, which may be national in character. Consequently, one must speak of a powerful, structured network, a network that includes economic interests of incalculable influence.

From a different standpoint, the drug phenomenon is essentially one with deep social roots, where there are cultural, medical, standard-of-living, and other considerations. There is no doubt that drugs respond to a society. Drugs peak in a society in which the scale of spiritual values is undergoing a profound process of change. There is also no doubt that drugs are the recourse of human beings who wish to escape a world which is at times hostile to them, or an environment which is negative.

Lastly, one should not exclude the possibility that drugs may have been used or have in fact been used as part of a political design or project conducted by circles who rule over society.

EIR: One way drugs were sold to the U.S.A. was by pushing the line that there is a difference between "soft" and "hard" drugs. In our opinion there is no such

distinction. What do you think?

Rosón: I think it is very hard to make that distinction, although, in fact, on a medical level as well as on the level of the cultural analysis I referred to before, these distinctions have been made. I think that the drugs in themselves, whatever their more profound effect may be, and whatever the drug and its physical origin may be, must in the final analysis be given a single, coherent treatment.

I think that society has been harmed in recent years by this imposition of distinctions between drugs. They are drugs, and thus produce stimuli or generate sensations which are not natural in human beings; they are artificial. Faced with the entire array of drugs, one must take a rational stand, including consideration of certain drugs that have already been introduced into society or certain stimulants that are habitually accepted socially, such as alcohol, for example.

EIR: Our editorial board has been working for years on the question of international networks. We are convinced that at a very high level, there is a financial and political organization very closely linked to the Opium Wars of the 19th century. What is your conception of these networks?

Rosón: In the final analysis, in human society human beings carry out actions, and when these actions are cunningly worked out and have a coherent form of organization—and this is precisely what we find in the cultivation, traffic, sale, and organization of the consumption of drugs—you cannot help but think that we are confronting enormously powerful organizations.

I cannot back this up with concrete facts. But from our perspective of what Spain represents—a country where drug consumption is unfortunately taking off, and which, due to its situation on the globe is bound to be a point of passage for international drug routes—the most we can hope for is an effort—a sizeable effort, naturally—to collaborate with other countries to attempt to really get behind the image which is presented for show [by the drug lobby—ed.] for behind this image must necessarily stand a cunningly planned and very powerful organization.

EIR: The French press published information on protection rackets in the Basque country and on drug traffic by ETA (the terrorist Basque separatist group). Many people think ETA is dealing in drugs to finance its activities. What do you think?

Rosón: There does exist information which leads one to think this is the case. Members of the ETA terrorist group have undoubtedly participated in drug traffic, and, especially, in pushing people to take drugs in the Basque country. But though we do have data on specific individuals, we are insufficiently well-informed on the way the whole complex is organized.