

Eastern Partnership

Risk Analysis Network Quarterly

QUARTER 2 • APRIL–JUNE 2016

Q1

Q2

Q3

Q4





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Warsaw, October 2016
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Frontex reference number: 18237/2016

OPOCE Catalogue number TT-AK-16-002-EN-N
ISSN 2467-3684

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The *Eastern Partnership Risk Analysis Network Quarterly* has been prepared by the Frontex Risk Analysis Unit. During the course of developing this product, many colleagues at Frontex and from the EaP-RAN contributed to it and their assistance is hereby acknowledged with gratitude.

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List of abbreviations used

BCP	border-crossing point
CIS	Community of Independent States
EaP	Eastern Partnership
EaP-RAN	Eastern Partnership Risk Analysis Network
EB-RAN	Eastern European Borders Risk Analysis Network (now defunct)
EDF	European Union Document-Fraud
EU	European Union
EUR	euro
FRAN	Frontex Risk Analysis Network
Frontex	European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union
ICJ	International Court of Justice
ID	identification document
n.a.	not available
Q/Qtr	quarter of the year
RAU	Frontex Risk Analysis Unit
RUB	Russian rouble
SAC	Schengen Associated Countries
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution

Introduction

As of January 2016, three new countries joined the Eastern Borders Risk Analysis Network (EB-RAN) operating under the EU-funded Eastern Partnership Integrated Border Management Capacity Building Project: Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia. Upon this extension, the network has been renamed as the Eastern Partnership Risk Analysis Network (EaP-RAN).

Concept

The Eastern Partnership Risk Analysis Network (EaP-RAN) performs monthly exchanges of statistical data and information on the most recent irregular migration trends. This information is compiled at the level of the Frontex Risk Analysis Unit (RAU) and analysed in cooperation with the regional partners on a quarterly and annual basis. The annual reports offer a more in-depth analysis of the occurring developments and phenomena which

impact the regional and common borders while the quarterly reports are meant to provide regular updates and identify emerging trends in order to maintain situational awareness. Both types of reports are aimed at offering support for strategic and operational decision making.

Methodology

The Eastern Partnership Quarterly statistical overview is focused on quarterly developments for the seven key indicators of irregular migration: (1) detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs; (2) detections of illegal border-crossing at BCPs; (3) refusals of entry; (4) detections of illegal stay; (5) asylum applications; (6) detections of facilitators; and (7) detections of fraudulent documents.¹

The backbone of this overview are monthly statistics provided within the framework

of the EaP-RAN (Armenia, Azerbaijan², Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine) and reference period statistics from common border sections of the neighbouring EU Member States and Schengen Associated Countries (Norway, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania). The data are processed, checked for errors and merged into an Excel database for further analysis.

Structure

The general **Situational overview** broken down by main areas of work of border-control authorities and police activities related to irregular migration. The current issue of the *Eastern Partnership Risk Analysis Network Quarterly* is the second following the extension of the network with new members.

¹ Please note that the analysis of this indicator is now limited to EaP countries only given that EU Member States have transitioned to the European Union Document-Fraud (EDF) reporting scheme;

² Data for Armenia and Azerbaijan not available for Q2 2016 for technical reasons

I. SITUATIONAL OVERVIEW

Figure 1. **Geographical scope of the Eastern Partnership Risk Analysis Network**

Note on definitions: 'common borders' refers both to borders between EU Member States and Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine (covered by both sides) and borders of EU Member States/Schengen Associated Countries with the Russian Federation (covered only by the EU/Schengen Associated Country side of the border)



Summary of EaP-RAN indicators

Table 1. Summary of FRAN, EaP-RAN and selected EU Member State indicators for Q2 2016

Indicator	EU total	EU Member States (eastern land borders only)**	% of EU total	only EaP-RAN countries*
Illegal border-crossing between BCPs	75 044	11 348	15.1%	555
Clandestine entries	403	36	8.9%	3 971
Facilitators	3 522	208	5.9%	16
Illegal stay	111 874	12 869	12%	6 667
Refusals of entry	33 792	15 744	47%	12 483
Applications for asylum	290 153	21 840	8%	180
False travel documents	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	125
Return decision issued	73 037	19 671***	27%	n.a.
Effective returns	46 365	8 263***	18%	n.a.

* Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine

** Norway, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania

*** Total numbers reported in FRAN by Norway, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania

Source: FRAN and EaP-RAN data as of 10 August 2016

Situation at the border

Border surveillance

Illegal border-crossing

During the second quarter of 2016, 874 persons were detected for illegal border-crossing between BCPs by the Eastern Partnership Risk Analysis Network (EaP-RAN) member countries.¹ Ukraine reported the highest number of detections, followed by Latvia and Hungary. The most significant growth in detections was reported by Latvia at the Latvian-Russian border section.

Almost 57% detections involved regional nationals (citizens of EaP and CIS countries), mostly Ukrainians, Russians and Moldovans. The vast majority of these cases (82%) were reported as being linked

18 PVC inflatable boats detected in Belarus

On 5 May 2016 Belarusian border guards of the Gomel region, together with police officers and representatives of the Tax Inspection, uncovered 18 PVC boats transported in a car by a Belarusian citizen.



© State Border Committee of the Republic of Belarus

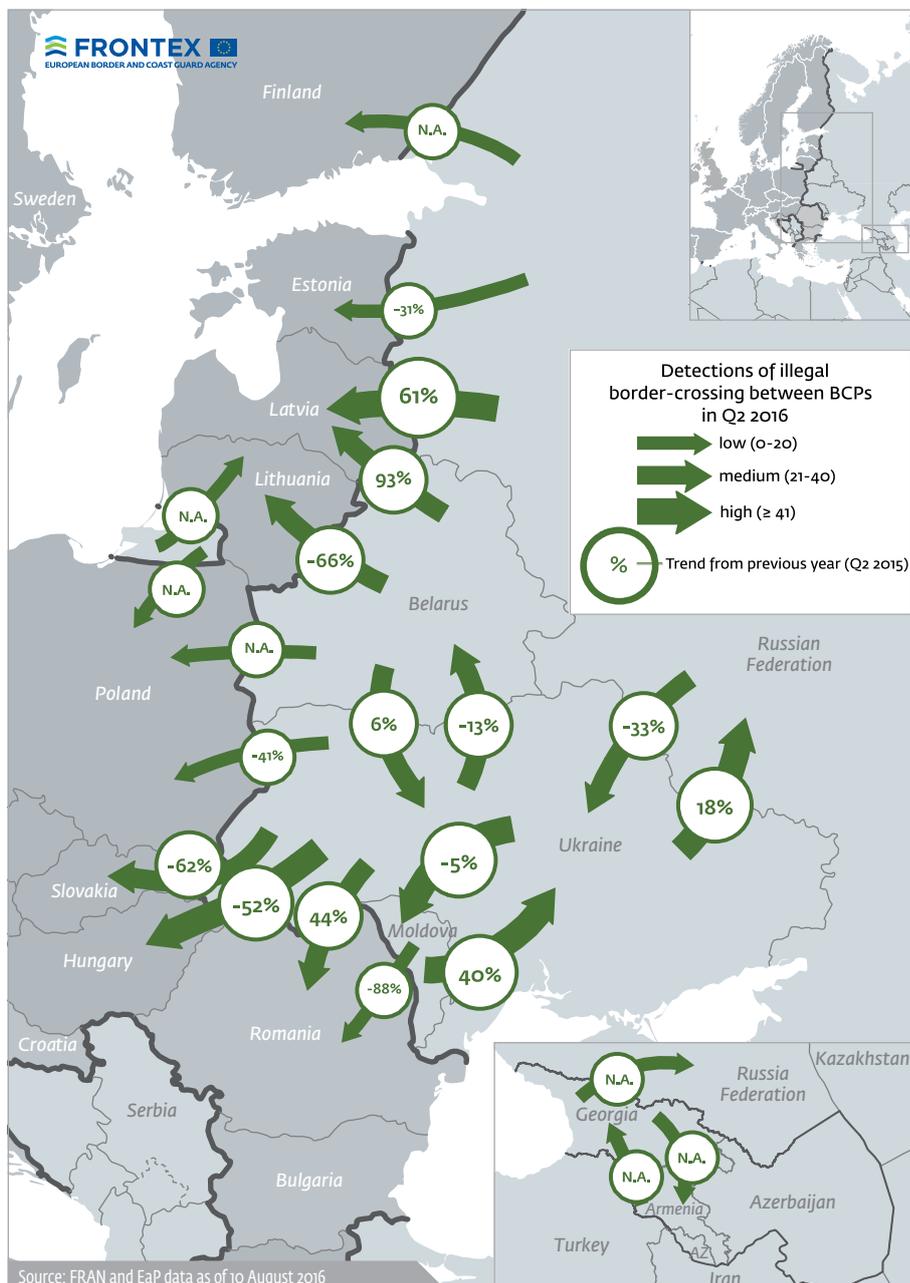
It cannot be excluded that the boats might have been designated for illegal border-crossing into the EU via border rivers.

Source: State Border Committee of the Republic of Belarus (gpk.gov.by), 6 May 2016

¹ Data for Armenia and Azerbaijan not available

Figure 2. Detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs reported by EaP-RAN members at all borders show that the highest pressure in Q2 2016 was recorded at the Latvian-Russian border section, which showed the highest increase when compared with Q2 2015

Detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs at all borders covered by the EaP-RAN in Q2 2016



either to smuggling or to other reasons not related to migration.

Non-regional migrants, mostly Afghans and Vietnamese, constituted 43% of the detected cases. Irregular migration was the main reason for crossing the border illegally for both nationalities.

At the common borders, detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs increased by almost 17% compared with the first quarter 2016 and dropped by 46% in relation to the same quarter of 2015.

At the Eastern Partnership and external borders¹, 324 cases of illegal border-crossing were detected. More than three-quarters of detections took place at Ukrainian borders, involving mostly regional migrants, i.e. Ukrainians and Moldovans. Non-regional migrants (mostly citizens of Vietnam, Turkey and Iran) were detected in very low numbers.

Facilitators

When compared with the first quarter of 2016, the number of detected facilitators at the common borders significantly decreased (from 205 in Q1 2016 to 45 in Q2 2016). The drop can be explained by the definite closure of the so-called Arctic route.

As regards nationality, the facilitators were mostly citizens of the Russian Federation (of Caucasus origin), Belarus and Estonia.

¹ Data for Armenia and Azerbaijan not available

Border checks

Clandestine entries

In the second quarter of 2016, there were 15 cases of clandestine entry attempts reported by Romania, Poland, Georgia and Slovakia, and were related to Ukrainians, Russians, Moldovans and Georgians.

Refusals of entry

There were 25 604 refusals of entry reported during the second quarter 2016 by members of the Eastern Partnership Risk Analysis Network. Nearly 90% of refusals were issued at land borders, mostly by Poland and Belarus. The top three refused entry were citizens of Ukraine, the Russian Federation and Moldova.

At the common borders, refusals of entry issued by the EU Member States and Schengen Associated Countries increased by over 24% in relation to Q1 2016, and by 41% in relation to the same period of 2015.

The vast majority were reported by Poland with Ukrainian and Russian citizens representing the top two nationalities.

Over 12 480 refusals were reported by Eastern Partnership countries. 78% and 15%, respectively, were issued at land and air borders. Belarus issued the majority of refusals, followed by Ukraine and Georgia.

Document fraud

During the second quarter of 2016, there were 125 detections of persons using fraudulent documents reported by four Eastern Partnership countries (Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine). A growing number of detections was registered by all the reporting countries apart from Belarus. Most detections were made by Ukraine.

As regards nationalities, Ukrainians, Moldovans and Georgians were the most frequently detected among fraudulent document users.

A fantasy 'diplomatic passport' in hands of Russian citizen

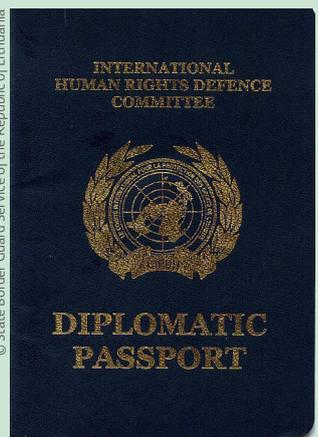
In May 2016, a 50-year-old Russian citizen, driving a Porsche 911 Carrera, presented a non-existing diplomatic passport at the BCP Panemunė while travelling from the Kaliningrad Oblast to Lithuania. The fantasy document carried the name of the 'International Human Rights Defence Committee Diplomatic Passport' did not entitle him to enter the EU.

Source: State Border Guard Service of the Republic of Lithuania (www.pasienis.lt), 23 May 2016

© State Border Guard Service of the Republic of Lithuania



© State Border Guard Service of the Republic of Lithuania



THB from Nigeria on Russian student visas

According to some Moscow-based NGOs focusing on preventing human trafficking, around 2 000-3 000 Nigerian girls are brought to the Russian Federation each year for prostitution. Criminal groups appear to be taking advantage of Russian student visas, which are not easy to obtain, as universities must provide supporting documents for the applications. Nigerians come to the Russian Federation officially to study and then disappear for years into the sex trade and the authorities are unable to track them.

Girls in Nigeria are lured by promises of a well-paid job in the Russian Federation allowing them to reimburse the costs of the visa and the journey (estimated at the level of USD 40 000). Surprisingly, even illiterate teenagers were being trafficked to the Russian Federation on the basis of student visas officially to study at a university.

The Head of Mission at the Nigerian Embassy in Moscow is aware of Nigerians being trafficked for sex to Russia and indicated that this phenomenon has been growing, as it was not such a huge problem ten years ago.

Source: www.dw.com, 21 April 2016

The vast majority of detected fraudulent documents were passports (90%). False entry/exit stamps, visas and ID cards, accounted for 6% of all fraudulent documents reported.

Similar to the previous quarter, visa abuse remained one of the main *modi operandi* used by non-regional migrants in an attempt to enter the EU. Moreover, fraudulently obtained visas are likely to be used by OCGs as an effective tool in their THB activities. Open sources indicate that a growing number of Russian student visas are used for trafficking people from Nigeria to the Russian Federation (see box).

Situation in the Eastern Partnership region

Illegal stay in EaP-RAN countries

In the second quarter of 2016 there were over 6 660 detections of illegal stay reported by Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. The top five detected nationalities included Russians, Ukrainians, Moldovans, Georgians and Azerbaijanis. Citizens of the Russian Federation and Azerbaijan were mostly detected by Ukraine, while Ukrainians, Georgians and Moldovans tended to be reported by Belarus.

99% of detections of illegal stay were reported on exit. Ukrainian borders were the most affected ones, followed by Belarusian airports.

In the case of Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine only (reporting countries in Q1 2016 and Q2 2016), detections of illegal stay in Q2 2016 show a 6% increase when compared with the first quarter of 2016. The growth was mostly related to an increased number of Ukrainians and Moldovans detected for illegal stay on exit at Eastern Partnership land borders.

Operation 'Frontier-2016' ongoing in Ukraine

Following the operation 'Frontier-2015', which led to the detection of over 1 970 irregular migrants, the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine launched the operation 'Frontier-2016' as of 20 April 2016. This national-scale operation includes close cooperation of the majority of Ukrainian ministries and departments, as well as representatives of law-enforcement authorities of the neighbouring countries.

The operation aims at combating irregular migration, human trafficking, illegal movement of excise goods and smuggling of drugs and weapons across the state border of Ukraine.

The main objectives of the operation are to perform regular checks of the most frequent places of stay of irregular migrants as well as comprehensive inspections of roads, airports, sea and river harbours and vessels to identify routes and channels of irregular migration flows across the territory of Ukraine. Moreover, the operation involves strengthened controls in border areas and cooperation with neighbouring EU Member States.

According to open sources, from the beginning of the operation 'Frontier-2016' until mid-July, 705 persons were detected breaching the state border, over 1 600 persons abusing border regime detained and 102 irregular migrants apprehended. In addition, more than 28 tonnes of contraband alcohol, nearly 1 million packs of cigarettes, 150 kg of amber, 38 kg of drugs and 120 weapons were seized.

Source: [State Border Guard Service of Ukraine](#)

II. STATISTICAL ANNEX

LEGEND

Symbols and abbreviations: **n.a.** not applicable
: data not available

Source: EaP-RAN and FRAN data as of 10 August 2016,
unless otherwise indicated

Annex Table 1. **Illegal border-crossing between BCPs**

Detections reported by EaP-RAN countries and neighbouring EU Member States, by purpose of illegal border-crossing and top ten nationalities

	2015				2016		2016 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Purpose of Illegal Border-Crossing									
Irregular migration	373	762	944	607	377	400	-48	6.1	44
Other	235	322	560	239	274	289	-10	5.5	32
Smuggling	86	169	133	93	97	139	-18	43	15
Not specified	75	161	250	166	55	80	-50	45	8.8
Top Ten Nationalities									
Ukraine	201	335	483	236	246	277	-17	13	31
Vietnam	100	283	254	122	66	158	-44	139	17
Moldova	56	88	107	70	93	92	4.5	-1.1	10
Russian Federation	52	82	111	61	65	82	0	26	9.0
Afghanistan	66	212	277	241	99	59	-72	-40	6.5
Sri Lanka	3	12	17	40	41	31	158	-24	3.4
Belarus	28	24	38	23	21	30	25	43	3.3
Georgia	68	107	145	25	23	30	-72	30	3.3
India	0	17	11	2	16	21	24	31	2.3
Bangladesh	5	12	13	7	4	18	50	350	2.0
Others	190	242	431	278	129	110	-55	-15	12
Total	769	1 414	1 887	1 105	803	908	-36	13	100

Annex Table 2. **Illegal border-crossing at BCPs**

Detections reported by EaP-RAN countries and neighbouring EU Member States, by purpose of illegal border-crossing and top ten nationalities

	2015				2016		2016 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Purpose of Illegal Border-Crossing									
Other	3 049	6 035	4 574	4 001	3 101	3 800	-37	23	96
Smuggling	91	98	93	96	118	128	31	8.5	3.2
Irregular migration	35	44	32	26	26	20	-55	-23	0.5
Not specified	1	1	0	1	14	10	900	-29	0.3
Top Ten Nationalities									
Ukraine	2 948	5 893	4 423	3 832	2 992	3 706	-37	24	94
Moldova	158	207	129	141	181	181	-13	0	4.6
Romania	16	13	28	26	18	33	154	83	0.8
Russian Federation	9	19	47	37	23	14	-26	-39	0.4
Belarus	7	6	6	18	3	3	-50	0	0.1
Poland	1	2	1	2	3	3	50	0	0.1
Bulgaria	1	1	3	7	2	2	100	0	0.1
Not specified	3	5	5	2	5	2	-60	-60	0.1
Uzbekistan	2	2	2	8	2	2	0	0	0.1
United States	0	0	1	0	0	2	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	0.1
Others	31	30	54	51	30	10	-67	-67	0.3
Total	3 176	6 178	4 699	4 124	3 259	3 958	-36	21	100

Annex Table 3. **Facilitators**

Detections reported by EaP-RAN countries and neighbouring EU Member States, by place of detection and top ten nationalities

	2015				2016		2016 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Place of Detection									
Land	50	33	59	47	205	49	48	-76	92
Air	3	1	0	0	1	4	300	300	7.5
Top Ten Nationalities									
Russian Federation	16	14	24	12	11	22	57	100	42
Belarus	12	2	0	7	5	11	450	120	21
Estonia	2	1	0	2	0	6	500	n.a.	11
Ukraine	0	2	11	6	5	3	50	-40	5.7
Slovakia	0	0	1	2	0	2	n.a.	n.a.	3.8
Turkey	0	1	0	0	2	2	100	0	3.8
Latvia	0	4	8	2	0	2	-50	n.a.	3.8
Poland	2	0	0	0	2	2	n.a.	0	3.8
Finland	0	0	0	0	0	1	n.a.	n.a.	1.9
Ecuador	0	0	0	0	0	1	n.a.	n.a.	1.9
Others	21	10	15	15	181	1	-90	-99	1.9
Total	53	34	59	47	206	53	56	-74	100

Annex Table 4. **Illegal stay**

Detections reported by EaP-RAN countries and neighbouring EU Member States, by place of detection and top ten nationalities

	2015				2016		2016 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Place of Detection									
Land	5 996	7 426	9 904	9 890	7 160	8 438	14	18	84
Air	1 558	1 640	1 703	1 341	1 267	1 492	-9	18	15
Sea	55	101	101	60	46	76	-25	65	0.8
Between BCPs	109	60	155	57	22	41	-32	86	0.4
Inland	37	25	24	30	12	25	0	108	0.2
Top Ten Nationalities									
Ukraine	2 135	3 060	4 625	4 981	3 019	4 137	35	37	41
Russian Federation	1 962	1 829	2 202	1 748	1 505	1 349	-26	-10	13
Moldova	549	775	852	1 019	840	1 098	42	31	11
Georgia	627	792	743	448	381	498	-37	31	4.9
Belarus	288	318	455	346	315	341	7.2	8.3	3.4
Azerbaijan	286	330	402	466	338	303	-8.2	-10	3.0
Turkey	150	153	169	189	281	236	54	-16	2.3
Hungary	159	157	154	165	185	173	10	-6.5	1.7
Romania	94	84	83	180	77	157	87	104	1.6
Poland	132	177	230	168	143	148	-16	3.5	1.5
Others	1 373	1 577	1 972	1 668	1 423	1 632	3.5	15	16
Total	7 755	9 252	11 887	11 378	8 507	10 072	8.9	18	100

Annex Table 5. Refusals of entry

Refusals reported by EaP-RAN countries and neighbouring EU Member States, by border type and top ten nationalities

	2015				2016		2016 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Border Type									
Land	18 410	21 952	22 644	20 477	16 311	21 938	-0.1	34	92
Air	1 204	2 190	1 198	1 405	1 017	1 276	-42	25	5.3
Sea	811	933	817	1 222	692	729	-22	5.3	3.0
Top Ten Nationalities									
Ukraine	6 095	7 606	8 909	8 989	8 178	8 902	17	8.9	37
Russian Federation	3 832	6 009	6 061	5 341	3 272	6 645	11	103	28
Moldova	1 521	1 589	1 391	1 264	1 361	1 676	5.5	23	7.0
Belarus	890	1 106	1 384	1 399	1 099	1 218	10	11	5.1
Lithuania	702	696	657	707	496	594	-15	20	2.5
Tajikistan	1 428	1 291	570	504	401	575	-55	43	2.4
Azerbaijan	628	832	753	667	367	435	-48	19	1.8
Uzbekistan	1 969	1 340	573	343	204	333	-75	63	1.4
Armenia	353	464	402	406	217	296	-36	36	1.2
Georgia	346	756	562	477	266	289	-62	8.6	1.2
Others	2 661	3 386	3 397	3 007	2 159	2 980	-12	38	1.2
Total	20 425	25 075	24 659	23 104	18 020	23 943	-4.5	33	100

Annex Table 6. Applications for asylum

Applications for international protection reported by EaP-RAN countries and neighbouring EU Member States, by top ten nationalities

	2015				2016		2016 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Top Ten Nationalities									
Afghanistan	4 394	14 403	30 239	9 690	2 090	7 184	-50	244	33
Russian Federation	760	1 397	2 971	2 887	1 764	3 501	151	98	16
Syria	3 027	9 206	57 870	7 056	912	3 166	-66	247	14
Pakistan	602	2 757	11 881	557	1 566	1 972	-28	26	9
Iraq	1 219	3 068	18 241	10 834	1 543	1 886	-39	22	8.6
Iran	254	518	1 420	1 619	692	563	8,7	-19	2.6
Ukraine	916	698	658	481	370	435	-38	18	2
Somalia	361	684	1 485	392	337	353	-48	4,7	1.6
Turkey	141	112	133	155	152	344	207	1,26	1.6
Tajikistan	60	48	209	256	358	314	554	-1,2	1.4
Others	28 038	8 067	12 841	4 427	3 576	2 156	-73	-40	9.9
Total	39 772	40 958	137 948	38 354	13 360	21 874	-47	64	100

Annex Table 7. Document fraud

Detections reported by EaP-RAN countries, by border type, document type, top ten nationalities and top ten countries of issuance of documents

	2015 Q4				2016		2016 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Border Type									
Land	31	72	37	31	25	58	-19	132	56
Air	37	53	54	50	45	33	-38	-27	32
Sea	7	6	10	11	9	12	100	33	12
Not specified	3	0	6	4	0	0	n.a.	n.a.	
Document Type									
Passports	61	113	95	81	66	99	-12	50	96
ID cards	3	2	1	6	3	3	50	0	2.9
Stamps	2	0	0	2	3	1	n.a.	-67	1
Residence permits	0	0	1	0	0	0	n.a.	n.a.	
Not specified	9	3	2	5	1	0	n.a.	n.a.	
Visa	3	13	8	2	6	0	n.a.	n.a.	
Top Ten Nationalities									
Ukraine	9	13	12	13	28	39	200	39	38
Moldova	16	60	25	20	19	24	-60	26	23
Cuba	0	0	0	0	0	6	n.a.	n.a.	5.8
Turkey	2	2	4	5	3	5	150	67	4.9
India	1	1	4	5	2	4	300	100	3.9
Nigeria	1	0	0	0	0	3	n.a.	n.a.	2.9
Syria	10	5	8	4	2	3	-40	50	2.9
Romania	0	0	1	1	0	2	n.a.	n.a.	1.9
Tunisia	2	1	0	0	0	2	100	n.a.	1.9
Georgia	5	1	6	7	0	2	100	n.a.	1.9
Others	32	48	47	41	25	13	-73	-48	13
Top Ten Countries of Issuance of Documents									
Ukraine	9	15	16	10	11	30	100	173	29
Moldova	11	54	23	12	12	23	-57	92	22
Hungary	0	0	2	1	16	7	n.a.	-56	6.8
Cuba	0	0	0	0	0	5	n.a.	n.a.	4.9
India	1	1	4	5	2	4	300	100	3.9
Romania	2	4	3	18	6	4	0	-33	3.9
Bulgaria	6	0	2	5	0	4	n.a.	n.a.	3.9
Syria	4	0	1	3	0	3	n.a.	n.a.	2.9
Turkey	2	1	5	2	4	3	200	-25	2.9
Italy	0	2	0	0	1	3	50	200	2.9
Others	43	54	51	40	27	17	-69	-37	17
Total	78	131	107	96	79	103	-21	30	100

Explanatory note

Detections reported for Member States for indicators Illegal border-crossing between BCPs, Illegal border-crossing at BCPs, Refusals of entry and Document fraud are detections at the common land borders on entry only. For Facilitators, detections at the common land borders on entry and exit are included. For Illegal

stay, detections at the common land borders on exit only are included. For Asylum, all applications (land, sea, air and inland) are included.

For EaP-RAN countries, all indicators – save for Refusals of entry – include detections (applications) on exit and entry at the land, sea and air borders.

Each section in the table (Border type, Place of detection, Top five border section and Top ten nationalities) refers to total detections reported by EaP-RAN countries and to land border detections reported by neighbouring Member States.



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For Public Release

Risk Analysis Unit

Reference number: 18237/2016

TT-AK-16-002-EN-N
ISSN 2467-3684

Warsaw, October 2016