

# Western Balkans Quarterly

QUARTER 2 • APRIL-JUNE 2016

Q1

Q2

Q3

Q4





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Throughout the report, references to Kosovo\* are marked with an asterisk to indicate that this designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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## Abbreviations and terminology used

<b>BCP</b>	border-crossing point
<b>CIA</b>	Central Investigation Agency
<b>EDF</b>	European Union Document-Fraud
<b>EDF-RAN</b>	European Union Document-Fraud Risk Analysis Network
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>FRAN</b>	Frontex Risk Analysis Network
<b>Frontex</b>	European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union
<b>FYR Macedonia</b>	former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
<b>ICJ</b>	International Court of Justice
<b>ID</b>	identification document
<b>n.a.</b>	not available
<b>Q/Qtr</b>	quarter of the year
<b>RAU</b>	Frontex Risk Analysis Unit
<b>UK</b>	United Kingdom
<b>UNHCR</b>	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
<b>UNSCR</b>	United Nations Security Council Resolution
<b>WB-RAN</b>	Western Balkans Risk Analysis Network
<b>Non-regional migrants</b>	Migrants of nationalities other than those of Serbia, Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro or Kosovo*
<b>Regional migrants</b>	Migrants who are nationals of Serbia, Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro or Kosovo*

# Introduction

## Concept

The Western Balkans Risk Analysis Network (WB-RAN) performs monthly exchanges of statistical data and information on the most recent irregular migration developments affecting the region. This information is compiled at Frontex Risk Analysis Unit (RAU) level 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 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 Western Balkans Quarterly is focused on quarterly developments as reflected by 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.<sup>1</sup>

The data presented in the overview are derived from monthly statistics provided within the framework of the WB-RAN and reference-period statistics from common border sections of neighbouring EU Member States (Croatia, Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary and Romania). In addition, the Western Balkans Quarterly is drawing from FRAN Quarterly reports and also from data analysed in the framework of other risk analysis networks (FRAN, EDF-RAN).

## Structure

The first part offers a general situational overview broken down by main areas of work of border-control authorities and police activities related to irregular migration. The second part presents more in-depth featured risk analyses of particular phenomena.

### Changes in data scope after Croatia's entry to the EU

Important changes in the collection and use of data for Western Balkans Quarterly were introduced upon Croatia's joining the EU in July 2013. Firstly, data for Slovenia, which now has no external borders with non-EU Western Balkan countries, have not been included in the report since the third quarter of 2013. Slovenian histor-

ical data were also excluded from the tables in order to make the comparison with previous quarters analytically meaningful.

Secondly, as the Croatian-Hungarian and Croatian-Slovenian border sections are now internal EU-borders and so they are no longer covered by this report.

Thirdly, after joining the EU, Croatian data on illegal stay data are limited to detections at the border. More precisely, Croatia's illegal stay data only include cases detected on exit, while inland detections are not included. The analysis of the illegal stay indicator takes this fact into consideration.

### Changes in data scope after Kosovo's entry to the WB-RAN

Starting from the first quarter of 2014, data from Kosovo\* on key indicators of irregular migration have been included in the reporting, making it possible to get a more comprehensive picture of the irregular movements in the region. However, as there are no historical data available for Kosovo\*, the new data have some impact on the comparison of the examined period with previous quarters. When necessary for analytical purposes, some comparison can be made also excluding data from Kosovo\*, which is noted in the text.

<sup>1</sup> Please note that the analysis of this indicator is now limited to WB-RAN countries only, given that EU Member States have transitioned to the European Union Document-Fraud (EDF) reporting scheme.

# I. SITUATIONAL OVERVIEW

Figure 1. General map of the Western Balkans region



# Summary of WB-RAN indicators

Table 1. Overview of indicators as reported by WB-RAN members

WB-RAN Indicator	Q2 2015	Q1 2016	Q2 2016	% change on same quarter last year	% change on previous quarter
Illegal border-crossing between BCPs	81 656	217 815	28 789	-65	-87
Illegal border-crossing at BCPs	347	410	304	-12	-26
Facilitators	572	261	307	-46	18
Illegal stay	2 483	2 099	1 786	-28	-15
Refusals of entry	9 827	8 807	9 997	1.7	14
Asylum applications*	43 433	18 294	32 171	-26	76
False travel-document users	235	236	170	-28	-28

\* Applications for asylum in EU Member States include all applications received in the territory of the countries, not limited to those made at the Western Balkan borders.

Source: WB-RAN data as of 10 August 2016

## Key findings

- Significant decrease in detections of non-regional transiting migrants after the closure of the transit corridor in March 2016
- Small but constant number of non-regional migrants still manage to find their way through the region
- The increased difficulty of transiting the Western Balkans region and the enhanced border security measures in the Aegean Sea keep the Eastern Mediterranean flow at low levels
- Regional flow remains low, mainly contained to the southern part of the region

# Situation at the border

## Border surveillance

### Illegal border-crossings

During the analysed period, 26 488 illegal border-crossings by **non-regional migrants** on route from Turkey, Greece and Bulgaria were reported at the common and regional borders (see Fig. 2). This represents an 88% drop over the previous quarter and a return to a level slightly above that of Q1 2015, i.e. before the migratory crisis started to affect the Western Balkans.

The month of May was marked by a slight increase in detections, mainly at the border

between the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Greece. This rise largely corresponded with the Greek authorities' efforts to transfer migrants gathered in the border area to official reception centres. It also coincided with enhanced control measures implemented in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.<sup>2</sup> Regardless of the increase, May 2016 fell short of any of the monthly levels observed be-

<sup>2</sup> 'Special Measure Supporting the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to Manage its Southern Border in the Context of the European Migration Crisis' rolled-out in April

tween April 2015 and March 2016 and the decreasing trend observed in Q1 continued.

At the same time, 2 300 of the illegal border-crossings reported in the Western Balkans in Q2 2016 were associated with **regional migrants**.

In 2016 Q2, Afghans became the top reported nationality, accounting for a 36% share of the total non-regional migration flow, while Syrians dropped to the second place with a shrinking 16% contribution. A number of migrants continued being reported as 'unknown' but their overall share of the non-regional total dropped from 51% in Q1 to 20% in Q2.

Pakistanis were the third most reported nationality, followed by Iraqis, Iranians and Turks, who replaced Moroccans on the sixth place. With the exception of Pakistanis and Turks, all of these top seven nationalities registered significant drops from the previous quarter.

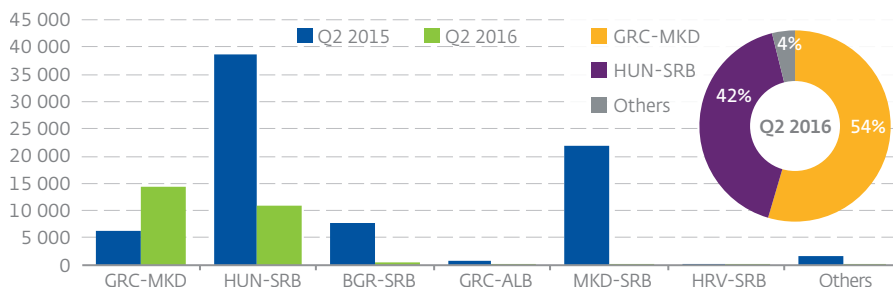
The number of detections of **Western Balkan regional migrants** was 7% lower compared with the previous quarter but due to the decline in non-regional migrants it represented 8% of the overall flow affecting the region (compared with less than 1% in Q1).

Interestingly, Q2 2016 represented the lowest second quarter in terms of regional migrants detected while illegally crossing between BCPs since Q2 2011.

Despite the overall decrease, the majority of Western Balkan country nationals detected for illegal border-crossing continued being reported at the Greek-Albanian border (almost exclusively Albanians). The second busiest border was the Hungarian-Serbian section, which accounted for 8% of the regional flow, mostly consisting of Kosovo\* citizens.

Figure 2. **The non-regional flow continued to enter the Western Balkans region through the southern common borders and then exit in its northern part, mostly across the Hungarian-Serbian border; there was a noticeable decrease at the Croatian-Serbian border after the closure of the transit corridor**

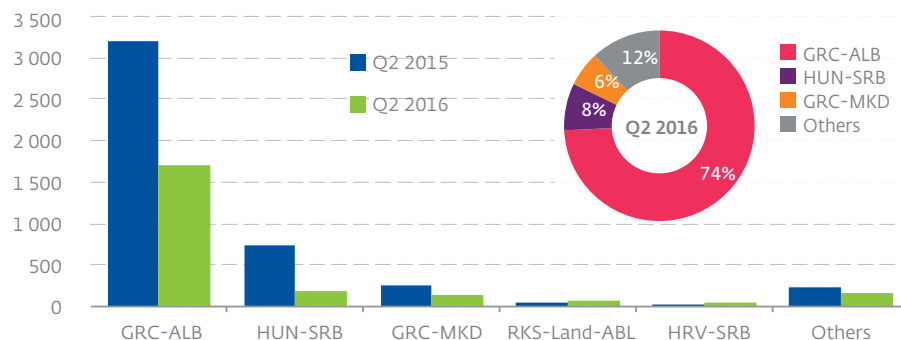
Detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs by non-regional migrants



Source: WB-RAN data as of 10 August 2016

Figure 3. **Detections of the regional flow continued to concentrate at the southern common borders yet there was a seasonal decrease of the Albanian circular migration**

Detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs by regional migrants

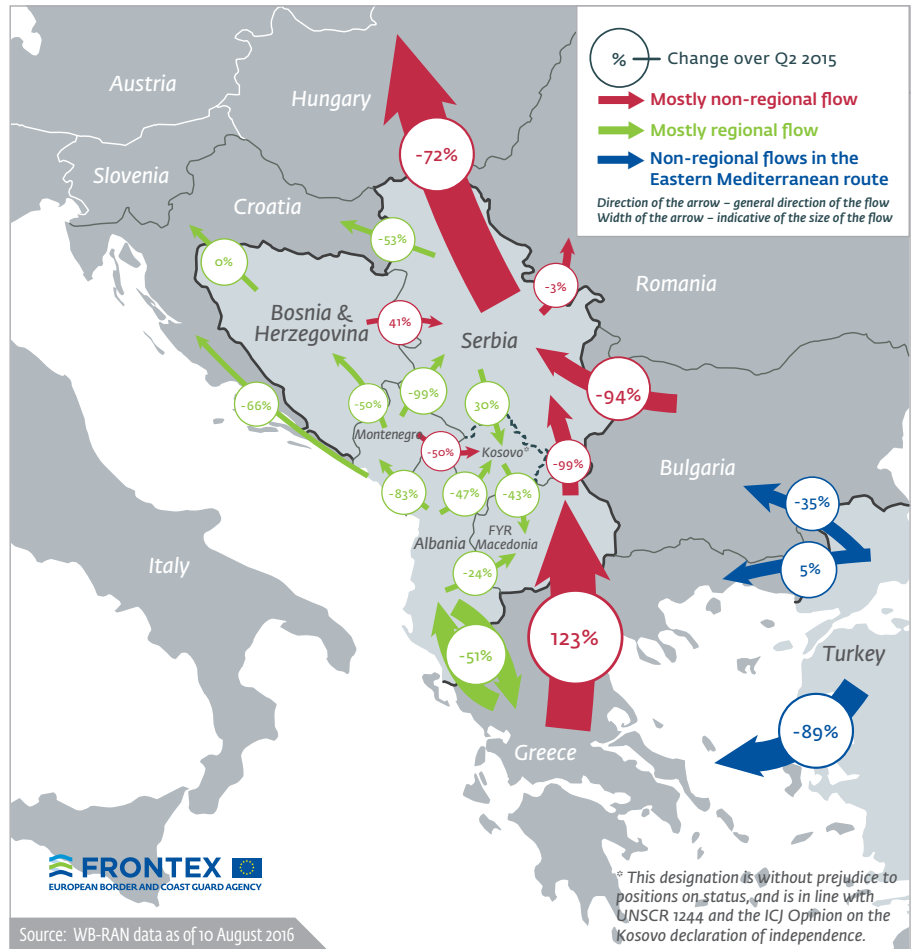


Source: WB-RAN data as of 10 August 2016



Figure 4. In the southern part of the region, the border between the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Greece registered the highest number of non-regional migrants trying to enter the Western Balkans, followed by the Bulgarian-Serbian border. In the northern part, the Hungarian-Serbian border became the main exit point from the region, outranking the Croatian-Serbian section, where the numbers dropped significantly after the closure of the transit corridor. The regional flow was still mainly concentrated at the Greek-Albanian border

Changes in detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs between Q2 2015 and Q2 2016 at particular border sections and main directions of the flow



### Facilitators

During the second quarter of 2016, there were 307 detected facilitators, representing an 18% increase over the previous three month period.

The reported rise in detected facilitators is not surprising and can be expected to continue, especially after the closure of the transit corridor in March and the implementation of additional border-control measures. Specifically, as migrants can no longer rely on the transportation services provided by the authorities and need to bypass additional preventive measures, their demand for facilitation services will likely increase. The rising demand will make the human smuggling

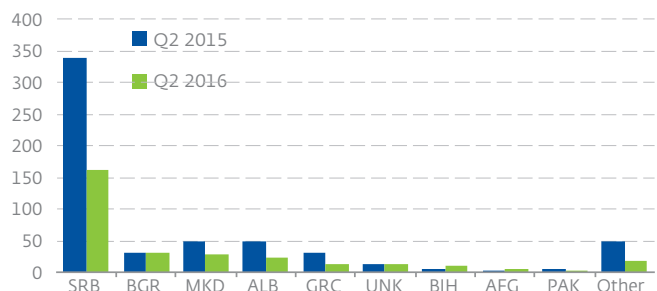
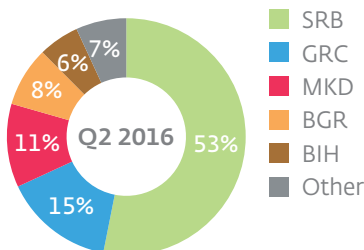
more profitable, probably increasing the number of persons engaging in this type of criminal activity.

Nevertheless, the fact that in Q2 the number of illegal border-crossings involving non-regional nationals was more than 26 400 with only 307 facilitators detected indicates that migrants still possess a certain ability to self-organise, even after the transit corridor became unavailable.

As regards nationalities, 73% of all facilitators detected in the analysed quarter were nationals of Western Balkan countries, 17% were citizens of EU Member States (especially those neighbouring the region), and 10% were nationals of third countries from outside the region or 'unknown'. The highest share of detections was still reported by Serbia, followed by Greece.

Figure 5. Despite an increase, the number of facilitators remained relatively low compared to the overall flow of transiting migrants

Detections of facilitators (at BCPs, between BCPs and inland), by top shares (left) and nationalities (right)



Source: WB-RAN data as of 10 August 2016

# Border checks

## Clandestine entries

In Q2 2016, a total of 244 non-regional migrants were detected while attempting to illegally cross the border hiding in vehicles. This represents a 37% decrease compared to the previous quarter and a 24% decrease compared to Q2 2015. Most clandestine non-regionals were reported by the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Hungary, mostly at their respective southern borders. Additionally, 60 nationals of Western Balkan countries were reported at BCPs, especially at the Greek-Albanian border.

## Document fraud

During the second quarter, there were 170 cases of false document use reported by the six Western Balkan countries, a number 28% lower than that of the previous quarter.

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia ranked first in terms of detections of fraudulent documents, followed by Serbia and Albania. As regards nationalities,

in Q2 2016 Albanian and Kosovo\* citizens continued to rank first amongst false document users, accounting for 54% and 16% of all detections, respectively.

Passports, ID cards and residence permits were the most commonly used false documents. Unsurprisingly, the large majority of ID cards were EU Member States' documents, as they can be used to move freely within the Schengen area and the EU.

As far as detections of false passports are concerned, the majority were reportedly issued by countries from the region. The majority of these documents were Albanian, by and large used by Albanian nationals most likely in an attempt to avoid entry bans imposed for prior misuse of visa liberalisation.

## Refusals of entry

In the analysed period, the number of refusals of entry increased by 14% compared with the previous quarter: from roughly 8 800 to 10 000. This rise appears to be largely consistent with usual seasonal

trends related to higher tourist mobility in the spring months: the number of issued refusals was comparable with that of the corresponding quarter of 2015. Turkish nationals ranked fourth among the refused nationalities thus occupying a top position for the fourth consecutive quarter despite a 40% reduction compared to Q1.

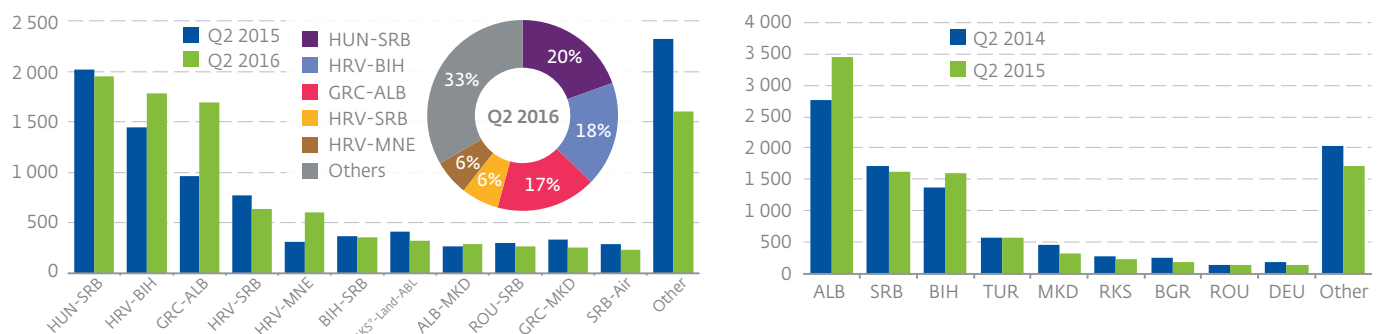
As usual, a large majority of refusals of entry were issued at land borders (94%), while the remaining 6% were mainly reported at air borders.

Most of the refusals reported by the neighbouring EU Member States were issued to nationals of Western Balkan countries (94%). In turn, among those refused entry by the six countries of the region, 38% were local residents, 28% were nationals of EU Member States/Schengen Associated Countries and 12% were Turkish nationals.

The overall number of refusals issued to the non-regional nationalities associated with the migratory flow originating from Turkey/Greece continued to represent a low share of the total.

Figure 6. **Despite consecutive reductions, Turkish nationals continue to rank high among the top refused nationalities, indicating that many of them are still attempting to reach the EU joining the transiting migration flow**

Persons refused entry, by top border sections, top shares (left) and nationalities (right)



Source: WB-RAN data as of 10 August 2016

# Situation in the Western Balkans

## Illegal stay in Western Balkan countries

In Q2 2016, there were 862 detections of illegal stay reported by the six Western Balkan countries. This is 3% higher than in the previous quarter, yet still low considering the overall size of the flow transiting the region in the recent period. In relation to the corresponding quarter of 2015, the detections of illegally staying persons registered a minor decrease (-3%).

During the analysed quarter, Serbian and Albanian nationals continued to rank first and second, respectively, among detected illegal stayers. Citizens of Serbia were mainly reported by Montenegro and, to a lesser extent, by Bosnia and Herzegovina, while Albanians tended to illegally

stay in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

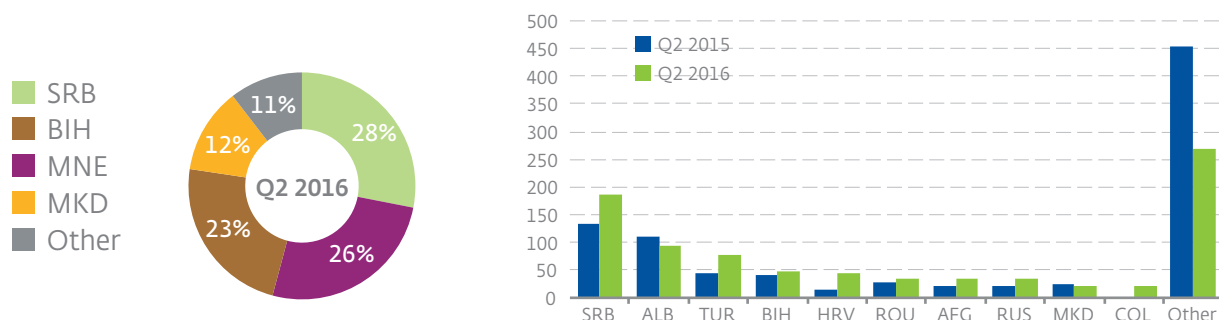
Turkish nationals ranked third among the detected illegal stayers and were mostly reported by Bosnia-Herzegovina and, to a lesser extent, by Albania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Nationals of Bosnia and Herzegovina ranked fourth during the second quarter and were mainly reported by Montenegro and Serbia.

As in the previous quarters, very few of those who have transited Turkey/Greece before reaching the Western Balkans were later detected illegally staying in the six countries of the region.

The large discrepancy over the past few quarters between the number of detected illegal border-crossings by non-regional migrants coming via Greece/Turkey reported by the six Western Balkan countries and the discovered illegal stayers of corresponding nationalities indicates that the region is mainly regarded as a transit area. Nevertheless, as new restriction measures (described in the Featured Analysis overleaf) will make leaving the Western Balkans more difficult it can be expected that the number of either illegal stayers or protection applicants associated with the transiting flow will increase in the future.

Figure 7. **Only a small share of non-regional nationalities reported for illegal border-crossing are detected as illegal stayers (indicating that the Western Balkans remains a transit area)**

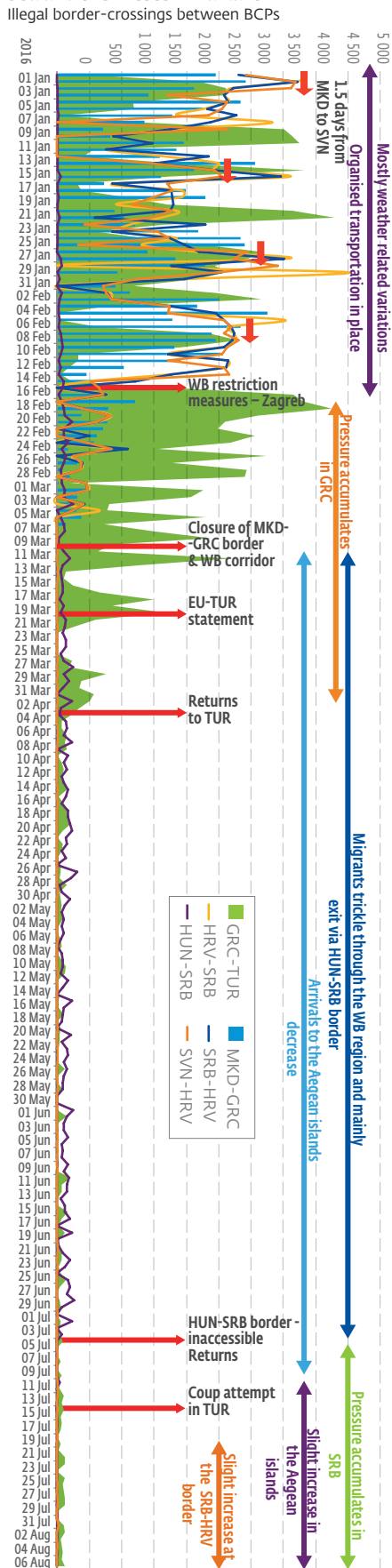
Illegal stayers, by top shares (left) and nationalities (right)



Source: WB-RAN data as of 10 August 2016

## II. FEATURED RISK ANALYSIS

Figure 8. Impact of implemented measures on the flow transiting the Eastern Aegean Sea and the Western Balkans



# Closure of the corridor and enhanced controls lead to further decrease in the non-regional migration flow

## Greater coordination of border-control measures reduced the flow transiting the Western Balkans

The need for a coordinated approach to the migration crisis affecting the Western Balkans brought about several high-level meetings of regional and EU Member States' officials at the beginning of 2016.

Each meeting resulted in gradual transit restrictions at regional level culminating on 9 March with the complete closure of the Western Balkan transit corridor and the return to the full application of the Schengen Borders Code and legislation governing international travel.

The coordinated restriction measures and the ultimate return to the normal application of border legislation in the Western Balkans and in neighbouring EU Member States greatly reduced the migratory flow transiting the region.

Specifically, the number of detected illegal border-crossings at regional level decreased almost every month from 128 000 in January to less than 7 000 in June 2016.

This drop brought the total number of detections reported during the second quarter close to the level registered back in Q1 2015, before the crisis started seriously affecting the region.

## Developments which impacted and could further impact the migratory flow in Q2 and afterwards

### Tightened control and prevention measures in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Given its geographical position, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia was a key player in all the coordinated measures agreed and implemented at regional level for the reduction of the unprecedented migratory flow. These measures began back in November 2015 with activities meant to filter the flow (i.e. only Syrians, Iraqis and Afghans were allowed passage), continued throughout February 2016 and culminated in March, when the transit corridor was effectively closed.

In order to cope with high numbers of refused persons trying to force their way from Greece, the authorities in Skopje increased the presence of police forces on their southern border while also erecting a two-layer fence planned to cover the most sensitive areas. As the success of any coordinated restrictions greatly depended on the capacity to properly prevent entries across the border between the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Greece, more regional and EU Member States sent reinforcements to this area (based on bilateral agreements).

As part of the reinforcement, Project 'Special Measure Supporting the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to Manage its Southern Border in the Context of the European Migration Crisis' was rolled out in April with the support of the European Commission and IOM. Under this project, additional police officers and equipment from several regional countries and EU Member States started patrolling the border alongside local personnel.

Available information indicates that this measure helped prevent a significant number of migrants from entering the region since the moment it was put in place.

Specifically, although the migratory pressure on the border between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia remains high with migrants trying to cross every day the great majority of such attempts are actually prevented with the help of enhanced police presence.

Although a number of migrants may be allowed to enter on humanitarian grounds and others still manage to pass undetected, the flow is greatly reduced by the effective measures in place.

### Legislation amendments in Hungary

During the second quarter, despite the preventive measures at the southern common borders with Greece and Bulgaria, a number of migrants still managed to trickle through the region undetected. These persons were afterwards largely reported at Hungary's border with Serbia, while the Croatian-Serbian border section only registered very low numbers after the closure of the transit corridor in March.

In reaction to this situation, on 5 July 2016, Hungary implemented a new law permitting the authorities to escort all migrants detected in its territory within 8 kilometres from the Serbian border to dedicated transit zones. This approach led to a quick decrease in the number of migrants who were able to move on towards their des-

tinations after entering Hungary. Thus, even though operational information indicates that some migrants still attempt the crossing on a daily basis, only few actually manage to continue their journey.

This new measure could have a number of outcomes, ranging from a deterrence effect further discouraging arrivals in the region, to a slow accumulation of pressure within Serbia. It may also produce certain flow deflections towards other border sections.

Similar deflections occurred towards Croatia in September 2015, when Hungary erected a physical obstacle on its border with Serbia and amended its legislation, but the scale of this phenomenon mainly resulted from factors which are no longer present today (extremely high flow in the Greek islands and organised transportation being provided to the migrants).

### Strengthened control activities in Serbia

As it lays on the path between Greece/Bulgaria and Western Europe, Serbia remained the top transit country for non-regional migrants moving on the Western Balkan route in the second quarter.

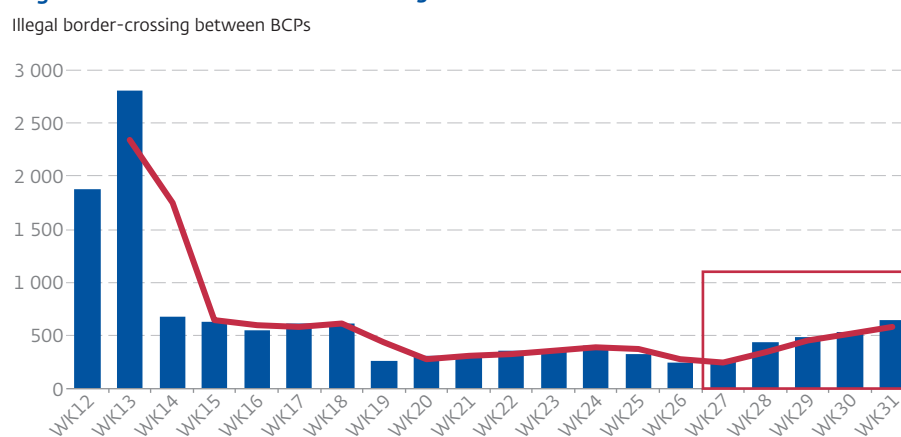
Specifically, as it happened in the past, migrants who decided to travel overland from Turkey/Greece towards their Western European destinations almost invariably entered Serbia across its southern borders with the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia or Bulgaria before moving north to attempt an exit, mostly towards Hungary and currently, to a lesser extent, also towards Croatia.

Trying to cope with this situation, the Serbian authorities have implemented a series of measures designed to tackle human smuggling, enhance detection capacities and deter illegal entries.

At the end of May, mixed police check points (local, national and border police) were set up on the main intersections of the roads leading from the borders. This was envisioned as an additional layer of control to detect those migrants who managed to cross the border and were moving within the territory.

Moreover, towards the end of July the authorities in Belgrade decided to further strengthen their border-control activities in the south. In this regard, a special operation was launched in which mixed military and police patrols were deployed at

Figure 9. **General decreasing trend of arrivals on the Aegean Islands since March; Slight increase between weeks 28 and 31**



Source: JORA data as of 11 August 2016

## II. FEATURED RISK ANALYSIS

the borders with Bulgaria and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

### **Developments at the EU external borders with Turkey**

The flow of migrants reaching the Aegean Islands has significantly decreased after the Western Balkans transit corridor was closed and the EU-Turkey statement on limiting irregular migration entered into force in March. Similarly, the number of crossings at Turkey's land borders with

Greece and Bulgaria continued at relatively low levels.

Even after the attempted military coup of 15 July and subsequent investigations in the state apparatus of Turkey no dramatic developments have been observed in terms of the authorities' capacity to cooperate with the EU, or in terms of swift increase of migratory pressure on the external borders.

It may be worth noticing that operational data indicate a slight increase in the number of arrivals on the Greek islands between weeks 28 and 31.

No links can yet be established between this slight rise and Turkey's ability to prevent departures; however, precaution dictates that enhanced border-control measures in the Eastern Aegean and the Western Balkans be maintained as a means of pre-empting any negative developments.

## III. Statistical annex

### LEGEND

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

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

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

Detections reported by Western Balkan and neighbouring countries, by purpose of illegal border-crossing, top five border sections and top ten nationalities

	2015				2016		2016 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
<b>Purpose of Illegal Border-Crossing</b>									
Irregular migration	15 739	46 797	476 179	1074 117	109 126	<b>17 300</b>	-63	-84	60
Not specified	32 802	34 439	138 596	1 169	5 930	<b>10 947</b>	-68	85	38
Smuggling	143	328	84	53	363	<b>450</b>	37	24	1.6
Other	69	92	88	260 671	102 396	<b>92</b>	0	-100	0.3
<b>Top Five Sections</b>									
FYR Macedonia – Greece	591	6 547	259 986	437 741	104 279	<b>14 587</b>	123	-86	51
Hungary – Serbia	35 274	39 459	142 918	1 267	6 629	<b>11 194</b>	-72	69	39
Albania – Greece	2 890	3 959	2 506	2 960	1 713	<b>1 949</b>	-51	14	6.8
Bulgaria – Serbia	1 886	7 828	18 673	20 108	2 182	<b>495</b>	-94	-77	1.7
FYR Macedonia – Serbia	5 381	21 881	98 209	408 021	60	<b>183</b>	-99	205	0.6
Others	2 731	1 982	92 655	465 913	102 952	<b>381</b>	-81	-100	1.3
<b>Top Ten Nationalities</b>									
Afghanistan	7 986	24 293	67 428	214 699	30 433	<b>9 662</b>	-60	-68	34
Not specified	137	214	247 991	530 893	109 974	<b>5 376</b>	2412	-95	19
Syria	8 446	33 182	236 445	431 847	46 033	<b>4 290</b>	-87	-91	15
Pakistan	897	3 891	19 757	8 004	3 351	<b>3 204</b>	-18	-4.4	11
Albania	2 760	3 749	2 972	3 301	1 926	<b>1 964</b>	-48	2	6.8
Iraq	1 618	6 258	21 198	112 462	20 644	<b>1 710</b>	-73	-92	5.9
Iran	236	643	2 332	16 985	1 213	<b>659</b>	2.5	-46	2.3
Turkey	132	115	87	258	178	<b>329</b>	186	85	1.1
Kosovo*	22 661	551	409	298	435	<b>211</b>	-62	-51	0.7
Morocco	27	133	125	5 034	1 080	<b>206</b>	55	-81	0.7
Others	3 853	8 627	16 203	12 229	2 548	<b>1 178</b>	-86	-54	4.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>48 753</b>	<b>81 656</b>	<b>614 947</b>	<b>1 336 010</b>	<b>217 815</b>	<b>28 789</b>	<b>-65</b>	<b>-87</b>	<b>100</b>

\* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence



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

Detections reported by Western Balkan and neighbouring countries, by type of entry, purpose of illegal border-crossing, top five border sections and top ten nationalities

	2015				2016		2016 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
<b>Clandestine/Other</b>									
Others	61	133	170	47	15	153	15	920	50
Clandestine	315	178	78	101	384	147	-17	-62	48
Not specified	18	36	1	4	11	4	-89	-64	1.3
<b>Purpose of Illegal Border-Crossing</b>									
Irregular migration	332	268	212	127	164	229	-15	40	75
Not specified	42	31	25	14	234	50	61	-79	16
Other	19	12	12	9	12	22	83	83	7.2
Smuggling	1	36	0	2	0	3	-92	<i>n.a.</i>	1.0
<b>Top Five Sections</b>									
FYR Macedonia – Greece	0	0	0	0	0	126	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	41
FYR Macedonia – Serbia	195	49	0	0	92	66	35	-28	22
Albania – Greece	2	0	0	81	0	24	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	7.9
Hungary – Serbia	78	63	72	0	209	22	-65	-89	7.2
Croatia – Serbia	11	19	6	14	78	17	-11	-78	5.6
Others	108	216	171	57	31	49	-77	58	16
<b>Top Ten Nationalities</b>									
Syria	86	115	126	4	9	112	-2.6	1144	37
Afghanistan	197	142	72	14	51	68	-52	33	22
Albania	29	18	9	91	16	44	144	175	14
Pakistan	4	4	2	0	13	25	525	92	8.2
Iraq	9	34	16	14	22	11	-68	-50	3.6
Iran	2	2	2	0	44	10	400	-77	3.3
Kosovo*	7	1	7	18	1	7	600	600	2.3
Algeria	7	4	0	0	81	6	50	-93	2.0
Serbia	8	2	10	2	6	5	150	-17	1.6
Colombia	0	0	0	0	0	4	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	1.3
Others	45	25	5	9	167	12	-52	-93	3.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>-12</b>	<b>-26</b>	<b>100</b>

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Table 3. **Facilitators**

Detections reported by Western Balkan and neighbouring countries, 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	
<b>Place of Detection</b>									
Land	448	551	542	240	219	<b>291</b>	-47	33	95
Inland	66	21	76	25	42	<b>16</b>	-24	-62	5.2
Air	0	0	0	6	0	<b>0</b>	n.a.	n.a.	
Sea	3	0	0	2	0	<b>0</b>	n.a.	n.a.	
<b>Top Ten Nationalities</b>									
Serbia	285	338	348	119	110	<b>162</b>	-52	47	53
Bulgaria	30	32	51	61	24	<b>32</b>	0	33	10
FYR Macedonia	36	49	6	4	20	<b>28</b>	-43	40	9.1
Albania	49	48	38	44	33	<b>22</b>	-54	-33	7.2
Greece	21	31	28	18	17	<b>14</b>	-55	-18	4.6
Not specified	27	13	22	9	4	<b>12</b>	-7.7	200	3.9
Bosnia and Herzegovina	18	6	4	3	6	<b>10</b>	67	67	3.3
Afghanistan	0	3	0	1	20	<b>5</b>	67	-75	1.6
Pakistan	0	4	20	1	2	<b>3</b>	-25	50	1.0
Kosovo*	13	6	4	5	5	<b>2</b>	-67	-60	0.7
Others	38	42	97	8	20	<b>17</b>	-60	-15	5.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>618</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>-46</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>100</b>

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Table 4. **Illegal stay**

Detections reported by Western Balkan and neighbouring countries, 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	
<b>Place of Detection</b>									
Land	925	1 595	966	1 115	1 265	<b>924</b>	-42	-27	52
Inland	1 185	778	562	645	668	<b>660</b>	-15	-1.2	37
Not specified	99	110	87	141	166	<b>202</b>	84	22	11
<b>Top Ten Nationalities</b>									
Serbia	700	791	599	842	858	<b>750</b>	-5.2	-13	42
Albania	167	149	127	188	154	<b>186</b>	25	21	10
Turkey	74	63	92	42	54	<b>93</b>	48	72	5.2
FYR Macedonia	74	100	107	147	137	<b>88</b>	-12	-36	4.9
Bosnia and Herzegovina	62	56	74	79	83	<b>69</b>	23	-17	3.9
Afghanistan	44	127	42	15	46	<b>53</b>	-58	15	3.0
Croatia	27	15	12	22	32	<b>46</b>	207	44	2.6
Russian Federation	21	26	24	29	43	<b>40</b>	54	-7	2.2
Syria	391	547	125	46	63	<b>36</b>	-93	-43	2.0
Romania	20	27	17	33	18	<b>34</b>	26	89	1.9
Others	629	582	396	458	611	<b>391</b>	-33	-36	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 209</b>	<b>2 483</b>	<b>1 615</b>	<b>1 901</b>	<b>2 099</b>	<b>1 786</b>	<b>-28</b>	<b>-15</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 5. Refusals of entry

Refusals reported by Western Balkan and neighbouring countries, 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	
<b>Border Type</b>									
Land	7 684	9 046	12 581	7 835	7 830	<b>9 365</b>	3.5	20	94
Air	704	757	1 335	1 775	973	<b>618</b>	-18	-36	6.2
Sea	3	24	40	16	4	<b>14</b>	-42	250	0.1
<b>Top Ten Nationalities</b>									
Albania	2 206	2 763	2 736	2 980	2 317	<b>3 451</b>	25	49	35
Serbia	1 925	1 715	1 852	1 621	1 924	<b>1 635</b>	-4.7	-15	16
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1 257	1 379	1 391	1 042	1 217	<b>1 610</b>	17	32	16
Turkey	554	578	1 332	1 434	982	<b>586</b>	1.4	-40	5.9
FYR Macedonia	433	463	578	331	480	<b>330</b>	-29	-31	3.3
Kosovo*	252	291	708	271	221	<b>225</b>	-23	1.8	2.3
Bulgaria	223	265	372	231	153	<b>179</b>	-32	17	1.8
Romania	98	150	372	67	65	<b>138</b>	-8	112	1.4
Germany	79	197	567	119	70	<b>136</b>	-31	94	1.4
Not specified	80	157	587	158	94	<b>133</b>	-15	41	1.3
Others	1 284	1 869	3 461	1 372	1 284	<b>1 574</b>	-16	23	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>8 391</b>	<b>9 827</b>	<b>13 956</b>	<b>9 626</b>	<b>8 807</b>	<b>9 997</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>100</b>

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Table 6. Applications for asylum

Applications for international protection reported by Western Balkan and neighbouring countries, by top ten nationalities

	2015				2016		2016 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
<b>Top Ten Nationalities</b>									
Syria	5 561	13 018	56 443	2 160	3 061	<b>11 608</b>	-11	279	36
Afghanistan	5 772	15 262	30 111	3 581	3 172	<b>9 918</b>	-35	213	31
Iraq	1 423	3 856	7 929	4 150	3 838	<b>3 244</b>	-16	-15	10
Pakistan	1 180	3 329	12 418	826	2 395	<b>3 007</b>	-9.7	26	9.3
Iran	318	563	1 288	121	998	<b>922</b>	64	-7.6	2.9
Palestine	361	501	316	26	134	<b>364</b>	-27	172	1.1
Turkey	113	83	110	123	116	<b>352</b>	324	203	1.1
Bangladesh	528	918	3 209	267	373	<b>306</b>	-67	-18	1.0
Albania	223	217	382	499	357	<b>292</b>	35	-18	0.9
Morocco	56	189	104	84	952	<b>289</b>	53	-70	0.9
Others	27 305	5 497	6 728	1 411	2 898	<b>1 869</b>	-66	-36	5.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>42 840</b>	<b>43 433</b>	<b>119 038</b>	<b>13 248</b>	<b>18 294</b>	<b>32 171</b>	<b>-26</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 7. Document fraud

Detections reported by Western Balkan countries, by border type, document type, fraud type, top ten nationalities and top countries of issuance of documents

	2015				2016		2016 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
<b>Border Type</b>									
Land	161	139	136	120	176	119	-14	-32	70
Air	76	88	60	83	48	47	-47	-2.1	28
Sea	23	8	15	17	12	4	-50	-67	2.4
Not specified	0	0	5	0	0	0	n.a.	n.a.	
<b>Document type</b>									
Passports	161	119	133	132	154	109	-8.4	-29	64
ID cards	54	49	43	37	49	29	-41	-41	17
Unknown	2	0	5	2	4	14	n.a.	250	8.2
Residence permits	17	13	11	10	15	8	-38	-47	4.7
Stamps	13	49	17	28	3	6	-88	100	3.5
Visas	13	5	7	11	11	4	-20	-64	2.4
<b>Top Ten Nationalities</b>									
Albania	102	85	74	109	77	92	8.2	19	54
Kosovo*	43	34	41	26	67	28	-18	-58	16
Serbia	20	34	30	19	20	15	-56	-25	8.8
Bulgaria	2	0	1	4	4	6	n.a.	50	3.5
Pakistan	1	7	8	1	1	5	-29	400	2.9
Turkey	10	21	11	18	19	5	-76	-74	2.9
FYR Macedonia	3	4	1	3	9	4	0	-56	2.4
Syria	27	25	18	5	0	4	-84	n.a.	2.4
Bosnia and Herzegovina	5	7	1	3	4	2	-71	-50	1.2
Greece	0	0	0	0	0	2	n.a.	n.a.	1.2
Others	47	18	31	32	35	7	-61	-80	4.1
<b>Top Ten Countries of Issuance of Documents</b>									
Albania	72	56	63	75	70	68	21	-2.9	40
Serbia	30	42	22	16	18	15	-64	-17	8.8
Greece	27	27	15	19	8	12	-56	50	7.1
Italy	26	18	11	19	21	12	-33	-43	7.1
Bulgaria	12	10	10	8	18	12	20	-33	7.1
FYR Macedonia	8	4	4	9	16	8	100	-50	4.7
Bosnia and Herzegovina	3	8	0	1	3	6	-25	100	3.5
Germany	8	4	4	2	6	5	25	-17	2.9
Kosovo*	5	7	3	8	4	4	-43	0	2.4
Belgium	2	4	3	4	3	3	-25	0	1.8
Others	67	55	81	59	69	25	-55	-64	1.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>-28</b>	<b>-28</b>	<b>100</b>

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## Explanatory note

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

For Western Balkan 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 WB-RAN countries and to neighbouring land border detections reported by EU Member States.



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