FRONTEX
EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD AGENCY

Eastern Partnership

Risk Analysis Network Quarterly

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Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4

Frontex official publications fall into four main categories: risk analysis, training, operations and research, each marked with a distinct graphic identifier. Risk analysis publications bear a triangular symbol formed by an arrow drawing a triangle, with a dot at the centre. Metaphorically, the arrow represents the cyclical nature of risk analysis processes and its orientation towards an appropriate operational response. The triangle is a symbol of ideal proportions and knowledge, reflecting the pursuit of factual exactness, truth and exhaustive analysis. The dot at the centre represents the intelligence factor and the focal point where information from diverse sources converges to be processed, systematised and shared as analytical products. Thus, Frontex risk analysis is meant to be at the centre and to form a reliable basis for its operational activities.

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Table of contents

List of abbreviations used

BCP   border-crossing point
CIS   Commonwealth of Independent States
EaP   Eastern Partnership
EaP-RAN   Eastern Partnership Risk Analysis Network
EB-RAN   Eastern European Borders Risk Analysis Network
EDF   European Union Document-Fraud
EU   European Union
Q/Qtr   quarter of the year
RAU   Frontex Risk Analysis Unit

Introduction

In 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[2], Azerbaijan, Be-

larus, 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 is broken down by main areas of work of border-control authorities and police activities related to irregular migration.

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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   Statistical data provided from Armenia are not consistent with the definitions and format of the EaP-RAN and so could not be taken into account in the current report.

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)

Source: Frontex RAU Analytics Team

Summary of EaP-RAN indicators

Table 1. **Overview of indicators**

Indicator	EU TOTALS	EU MS (eastern land borders only)°°	% of EU total	only EaP countries°
Illegal border-crossing between BCPs	39 713	143	0.4%	517
Clandestine entries°°°°	455	3	0.7%	24
Facilitators	2 849	2	0.1%	11
Illegal stay	106 237	4 671	4%	8 105
Refusals of entry	44 854	19 874	44%	10 020
Applications for asylum	147 331	5 956	4.0%	233
False travel documents	n.a.	n.a.	*n.a.*	205
Return decision issued	64 312	15 879°°°	25%	n.a.
Effective returns	39 586	7 754°°°	20%	n.a.

°   Azerbaijan, 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.

°°°°   Persons hiding in means of transport

Source: FRAN data as of 28 April 2017 and EaP data as of 10 May 2017

Border surveillance

Illegal border-crossing

In the first quarter of 2017, 660 persons were detected for illegal border-crossing between border crossing points (BCPs) by the Eastern Partnership Risk Analysis Network (EaP-RAN)[3] member countries. Ukraine reported the highest number of detections (54% of the total), followed by Belarus and Latvia.

Almost 68% of detections involved regional nationals (citizens of EaP-RAN and Commonwealth of Independent States coun- tries), in majority Ukrainians, Moldovans and Russians. The vast majority of the re- ported cases (77%) was linked either to smuggling or to other reasons not related to migration.

Non-regional migrants constituted over 32% of detected cases, mostly involving Vietnamese, Turks, Bangladeshis and In- dians. Irregular migration was the main reason for crossing the border illegally.

At the common borders, detections of il- legal border-crossing between BCPs (re- ported by both sides) decreased by 46% compared with the fourth quarter of 2016 and by 32% in relation to the same quar- ter of 2016.

At the Eastern Partnership (EaP) and ex- ternal borders[4], 311 cases of illegal bor- der-crossing were detected. More than 70% of detections were made at the Ukrainian borders. The majority of detec- tions involved regional nationals, namely Ukrainians, Moldovans and Russians. Non- regional migrants from a variety of coun- tries were reported in low numbers.

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3   Data from Armenia not available.

4   Data from Armenia not available.

Facilitators

The number of detected facilitators at the common borders decreased by 83% in the first quarter of 2017 compared with the fourth quarter of 2016 and was 97% lower than in the same period of 2016.

As regards nationalities of facilitators detected on common borders, they were citizens of Belarus, Turkey, Georgia, Armenia and Tajikistan.

Figure 3. **Detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs reported by EaP-RAN members at all borders show that the highest pressure in Q1 2017 was recorded at the Ukrainian-Moldovan border section with the majority of cases not related to migration**

Detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs at all borders covered by the EaP-RAN in Q1 2017
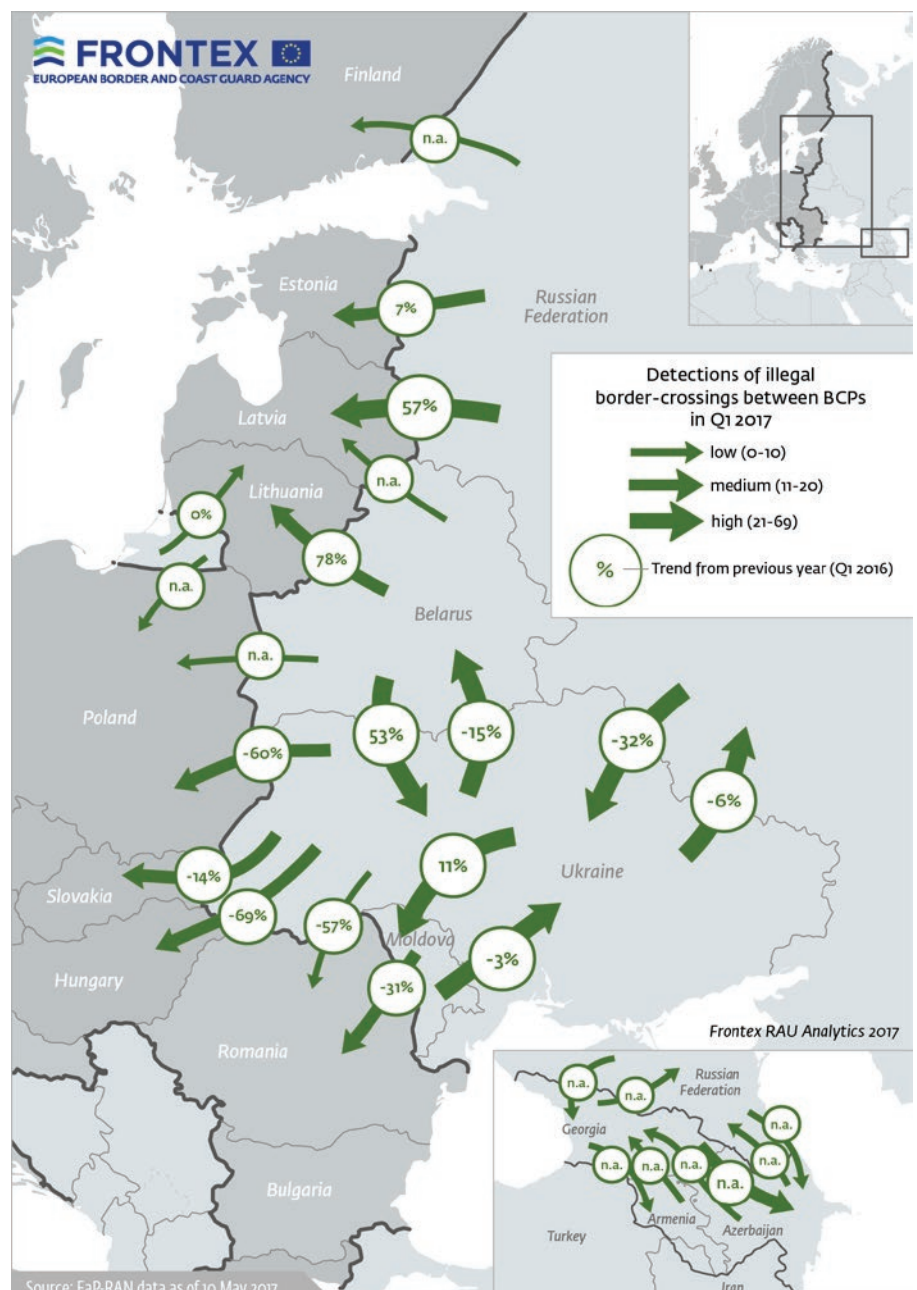
Border checks

Clandestine entries

In the first quarter of 2017, there were three cases of clandestine entry attempts at the common border reported by Poland and were related to Russian and Ukrainian citizens.

Refusals of entry

There were 29 894 refusals of entry reported in the first quarter of 2017 within the EaP-RAN at the common, EaP and external regional borders.[5] The vast majority of refusals (90%) was reported at the land borders.

At the common borders, refusals of entry issued by EU Member States and Schengen Associated Countries decreased by 27% in relation to Q4 2016 and increased by 23% in relation to the same period of 2016. The vast majority was reported by Poland (84%) with Ukrainian and Russian citizens representing the top-ranking nationalities.

EaP countries reported over 7 430 refusals issued at their external borders; 60% and 33% were issued at the land and air borders, respectively. The majority of refusals was issued by Belarus and Ukraine, followed by Georgia.

5   Data from Armenia not available.

Document fraud

In the first quarter of this year, there was a 14% increase in detections of persons using fraudulent documents reported by the five EaP countries (Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine) in relation to the fourth quarter of last year. Most detections were made by Azerbaijan, Ukraine and Georgia. Lower figures were observed by Georgia and Belarus.

Citizens of Nigeria, Ukraine, Tajikistan, Moldova and Uzbekistan were the top five among detected fraudulent document users.

The majority of commonly used fraudulent documents were passports (47%). Visas and stamps accounted for 26% and 18%, respectively.

Illegal stay in EaP-RAN countries

A decrease of 3.4% in detections of illegal stay was reported by Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine in the first quarter of 2017. The top five detected nationalities included Russians, Ukrainians, Moldovans, Azerbaijanis and Georgians. Citizens of the Russian Federation, Azerbaijan and Georgia were mostly detected by Ukraine, while Ukrainians were mostly detected by Belarusians. Moldovans, in turn, tended to be reported both by Ukraine and Belarus.

99% of detections of illegal stay were reported on exit with Ukraine as the top reporting country (65% of total detections). Ukrainian airports and Ukrainian land border sections were the most affected ones.

II. Statistical annex

LEGEND

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

Source: FRAN and EaP-RAN data as of 10 May 2017,
               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 | | | | 2017 | 2017 Q1 | | per cent of total |
| | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | % change on | | |
							year ago	previous Qtr	
Purpose of Illegal Border-Crossing									
Irregular migration	607	403	424	656	576	**286**	-29	-50	43
Others	239	285	298	461	294	**301**	5.6	2.4	46
Smuggling of goods	93	97	141	144	73	**73**	-25	0	11
Drug smuggling	0	0	0	0	1	**0**	n.a.	n.a.	
Not specified	166	55	80	0	0	**0**	n.a.	n.a.	
Top Ten Nationalities									
Ukraine	236	246	277	421	221	**217**	-12	-1.8	33
Moldova	70	93	92	87	62	**84**	-9.7	35	13
Russian Federation	61	69	84	76	65	**59**	-14	-9.2	8.9
Vietnam	122	66	158	187	172	**46**	-30	-73	7.0
Georgia	25	24	40	45	46	**32**	33	-30	4.8
Belarus	23	21	30	26	21	**27**	29	29	4.1
Turkey	17	49	12	19	30	**23**	-53	-23	3.5
Bangladesh	7	26	26	46	29	**22**	-15	-24	3.3
India	2	17	21	51	25	**20**	18	-20	3.0
Not specified	24	16	14	28	16	**17**	6.3	6.3	2.6
All Other	518	213	189	275	257	**113**	-47	-56	17
Total	**1 105**	**840**	**943**	**1 261**	**944**	**660**	**-21**	**-30**	**100**

Annex Table 2. **Clandestine entries**

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

| | 2015 | 2016 | | | | 2017 | 2017 Q1 | | per cent of total |
| | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | % change on | | |
							year ago	previous Qtr	
Top Ten Nationalities									
Iran	0	0	0	5	5	**10**	n.a.	100%	42%
Russia	0	4	1	1	2	**7**	75%	250%	29%
Georgia	0	0	4	0	4	**3**	n.a.	-25%	13%
Turkey	0	0	0	0	2	**3**	n.a.	50%	13%
Ukraine	0	9	8	2	3	**1**	-89%	-67%	4.2%
Congo (D.R.)	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	n.a.	n.a.	0%
Pakistan	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	n.a.	n.a.	0%
Moldova	1	0	1	0	0	**0**	n.a.	n.a.	0%
Cuba	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	n.a.	n.a.	0%
Poland	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	n.a.	n.a.	0%
All Other	0	1	1	1	1	**0**	n.a.	n.a.	0%
Total	**1**	**14**	**15**	**9**	**17**	**24**	**71%**	**41%**	**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 | | | | 2017 | 2017 Q1 | | per cent of total |
| | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | % change on | | |
							year ago	previous Qtr	
Place of Detection									
Land	47	208	49	36	42	**10**	-95	-76	77
Air	0	1	4	0	0	**3**	200	*n.a*	23
Top Ten Nationalities									
Belarus	7	5	11	7	4	**7**	40	75	54
Turkey	0	4	2	0	1	**2**	-50	100	15
Armenia	0	0	0	0	0	**1**	n.a	n.a	7.7
Georgia	1	0	1	2	1	**1**	n.a	0	7.7
India	0	32	0	0	0	**1**	-97	n.a	7.7
Tajikistan	0	0	0	0	0	**1**	n.a	n.a	7.7
Sudan	0	2	0	0	0	**0**	n.a	n.a	
Syria	0	9	0	0	0	**0**	n.a	n.a	
Ukraine	6	5	3	5	1	**0**	n.a	n.a	
Yemen	0	2	0	0	0	**0**	n.a	n.a	
All Other	33	150	36	22	35	**0**	n.a	n.a	
Total	**47**	**209**	**53**	**36**	**42**	**13**	**-94**	**-69**	**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 | | | | 2017 | 2017 Q1 | | per cent of total |
| | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | % change on | | |
							year ago	previous Qtr	
Place of Detection									
Land	9 890	7 534	8 771	11 857	11 793	**9 022**	20	-23	71
Air	1 341	1 766	1 767	2 413	2 746	**3 617**	105	32	28
Sea	60	48	78	109	102	**62**	29	-39	0.5
Inland	30	34	34	67	55	**55**	62	0	0.4
Between BCPs	57	22	41	77	108	**20**	-9.1	-81	0.2
Top Ten Nationalities									
Ukraine	4 981	3 054	4 178	5 522	6 099	**3 979**	30	-35	31
Russian Federation	1 748	1 581	1 463	2 334	2 004	**1 760**	11	-12	14
Moldova	1 019	840	1 098	1 355	1 536	**1 144**	36	-26	9.0
Azerbaijan	466	390	341	515	571	**697**	79	22	5.5
Georgia	448	381	498	737	882	**675**	77	-23	5.3
Belarus	346	316	343	462	470	**512**	62	8.9	4.0
Turkey	189	324	270	305	317	**370**	14	17	2.9
Armenia	201	185	217	340	295	**303**	64	2.7	2.4
Hungary	165	185	173	159	145	**295**	59	103	2.3
Uzbekistan	165	139	120	158	262	**246**	77	-6.1	1.9
All Other	1 650	2 009	1 990	2 636	2 223	**2 795**	39	26	22
Total	**11 378**	**9 404**	**10 691**	**14 523**	**14 804**	**12 776**	**36**	**-14**	**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				2017	2017 Q1		
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	% change on		per cent of total
							year ago	previous Qtr	
Border Type									
Land	28 602	22 649	40 865	66 116	35 159	**26 897**	19	-23	90
Air	1 405	1 399	1 832	1 766	2 381	**2 442**	75	2.6	8.2
Sea	1 222	821	867	862	826	**555**	-32	-33	1.9
Top Ten Nationalities									
Ukraine	7 186	7 810	8 943	10 434	8 777	**10 023**	28	14	34
Russian Federation	7 655	6 264	20 707	43 970	16 139	**9 016**	44	-44	30
Belarus	2 035	1 399	1 240	1 510	1 856	**1 604**	15	-14	5.4
Moldova	1 777	1 475	1 769	1 635	1 589	**1 505**	2.0	-5.3	5.0
Armenia	1 870	785	1 292	1 031	1 551	**1 030**	31	-34	3.4
Azerbaijan	1 275	908	852	764	747	**826**	-9.0	11	2.8
Tajikistan	1 512	1 753	2 688	2 744	1 681	**824**	-53	-51	2.8
Lithuania	707	496	594	642	731	**669**	35	-8.5	2.2
Georgia	1 748	531	599	709	784	**623**	17	-21	2.1
Turkey	263	237	337	435	338	**368**	55	8.9	1.2
All Other	5 201	3 211	4 543	4 870	4 173	**3 406**	6.1	-18	11
Total	**31 229**	**24 869**	**43 564**	**68 744**	**38 366**	**29 894**	**20**	**-22**	**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				2017	2017 Q1		
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	% change on		per cent of total
							year ago	previous Qtr	
Top Ten Nationalities									
Syria	7 056	917	3 168	1 750	1 258	**1 044**	14	-17	17
Russian Federation	2 887	1 769	3 505	2 096	1 159	**1 032**	-42	-11	17
Iraq	10 834	1 644	1 913	1 068	1 096	**842**	-49	-23	14
Afghanistan	9 690	2 090	7 184	1 903	1 179	**756**	-64	-36	12
Eritrea	785	163	128	261	410	**595**	265	45	9.6
Ukraine	481	386	445	329	258	**274**	-29	6.2	4.4
Pakistan	557	1 573	1 979	417	200	**208**	-87	4.0	3.4
Turkey	155	158	350	124	129	**160**	1.3	24	2.6
Iran	1 619	706	568	256	143	**139**	-80	-2.8	2.2
Not specified	772	124	81	139	96	**104**	-16	8.3	1.7
All Other	3 518	4 150	2 701	1 797	1 453	**1 035**	-75	-29	17
Total	**38 354**	**13 680**	**22 022**	**10 140**	**7 381**	**6 189**	**-55**	**-16**	**100**

Annex Table 7. **Document fraud**

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

	2015	2016				2017	2017 Q1		
							% change on		per cent of total
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	year ago	previous Qtr	
Border Type									
Air	50	52	78	75	94	**128**	146	36	62
Land	31	31	72	56	74	**54**	74	-27	26
Sea	11	10	13	7	10	**20**	100	100	9.8
Not specified	4	0	0	1	2	**3**	n.a	50	1.5
Document Type									
Passports	81	69	113	91	100	**97**	41	-3.0	47
Visas	2	13	13	20	31	**54**	315	74	26
Stamps	2	4	12	16	27	**37**	n.a.	37	18
Identity cards	6	3	3	6	19	**11**	267	-42	5.4
Residence permits	0	0	1	5	3	**6**	n.a.	100	2.9
Not specified	5	4	21	1	0	**0**	n.a.	n.a.	
Top Ten Nationalities									
Nigeria	0	0	15	5	1	**38**	n.a	n.a	19
Ukraine	13	28	41	28	18	**19**	-32	5.6	9.3
Tajikistan	3	0	3	6	6	**16**	n.a	167	7.8
Moldova	20	19	27	21	32	**15**	-21	-53	7.3
Uzbekistan	3	0	12	11	16	**15**	n.a	-6.3	7.3
Georgia	7	3	16	16	23	**14**	367	-39	6.8
India	5	2	4	5	4	**14**	n.a.	250	6.8
Iran	2	2	6	1	18	**12**	n.a.	-33	5.9
Turkey	5	4	7	4	10	**8**	100	-20	3.9
Ghana	0	5	0	7	8	**6**	20	-25	2.9
All Other	38	30	32	35	44	**48**	60	9.1	23
Top Ten Countries of Issuance of Documents									
Turkey	2	8	4	5	14	**47**	n.a.	236	23
Russian Federation	0	1	2	5	19	**23**	n.a.	21	11
Ukraine	10	11	30	17	15	**15**	36	0	7.3
Georgia	5	3	16	10	22	**12**	300	-45	5.9
Tajikistan	4	1	2	6	4	**12**	n.a.	200	5.9
India	5	2	4	4	4	**11**	n.a.	175	5.4
Moldova	12	12	23	20	30	**9**	-25	-70	4.4
Greece	1	0	0	1	5	**8**	n.a	60	3.9
Egypt	3	2	1	1	3	**6**	200	100	2.9
Romania	18	6	4	1	2	**6**	0	200	2.9
All Other	36	47	77	69	62	**56**	19	-10	27
Total	**96**	**93**	**163**	**139**	**180**	**205**	**120**	**14**	**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 and Top ten nationalities) refers to total detections reported by EaP-RAN countries and to land border detections reported by neighbouring Member States.