

Eastern Partnership Risk Analysis Network Quarterly

QUARTER 1 • JANUARY–MARCH 2018

Q1

Q2

Q3

Q4



Plac Europejski 6
00-844 Warsaw, Poland
T +48 22 205 95 00
F +48 22 205 95 01
frontex@frontex.europa.eu
www.frontex.europa.eu

Warsaw, December 2018
Risk Analysis Unit
Reference number: 17798/2018

DISCLAIMERS

This is a Frontex staff working document. This publication or its contents do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of Frontex concerning the legal status of any country, territory or city or its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. All maps and charts included in this report are the sole property of Frontex and any unauthorised use is prohibited.

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 outside contributed to it and their assistance is hereby acknowledged with gratitude.

Table of contents

Introduction #3

I. Situational overview #4

Summary of Eap-RAN indicators #5

Border surveillance #6

Border checks #8

II. Statistical annex #12

List of abbreviations used

BCP	border-crossing point
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
CSTO	Collective Security Treaty Organization
EaP	Eastern Partnership
EaP-RAN	Eastern Partnership Risk Analysis Network
EB-RAN	Eastern European Borders Risk Analysis Network
EU	European Union
Q/Qtr	quarter of the year
SBCRB	State Border Committee of the Republic of Belarus

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 (Armenia², Azerbaijan, 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 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 contains statistical annex.

-
- 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 is not consistent with the definitions and format of the EaP-RAN.

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. Overview of indicators

Indicator name	EU TOTALS	EU MS (eastern land borders only)**	% of EU total	only EAP countries*
Facilitators	2 542	5	0.2%	17
Clandestine entries***	970	15	1.5%	8 005
Illegal border-crossing between BCPs	20 422	112	0.5%	387
Persons using fraudulent documents	4 755	719	15%	187
Applications for asylum	103 621	2 705	2.6%	234
Illegal stay	87 402	4 848	5.5%	11 771
Effective returns	36 450	8 355	23%	:
Returns decision issued	61 678	10 747	17%	:
Refusals of entry	45 367	22 104	49%	13 821

* Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.

** Norway, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania, total numbers reported as RET-7A and RET-7B from FRAN.

*** Persons hiding in means of transport.

Border surveillance

Illegal border-crossing

In the first quarter of 2018, 499 persons were detected for illegal border crossing between border-crossing points (BCPs) by the Eastern Partnership risk analysis network (EaP-RAN) member countries.¹ This represents a 32% decrease when compared with the fourth quarter of 2017 and a decrease of 24% in comparison with the same quarter of the previous year. Ukraine reported the highest number of detections, followed by Poland and Georgia. In comparison with Q4 2017, in absolute terms, the most significant drop in detections was reported by Ukraine the most significant increase was reported by Azerbaijan.

Over 61% of detections involved regional nationals (citizens of Eastern Partnership – EaP – and Commonwealth of Inde-

pendent States countries), mostly Ukrainians, followed by Moldovans and Russians.

The vast majority of the reported cases (78%) were reported as being linked either to smuggling of goods or to other reasons not related to migration.

Non-regional migrants constituted over 38% of the detected cases, with the majority reported to be Vietnamese, Turks, Iranians, and Moroccans. Irregular migration was the main reason for these non-regional nationals to cross the border illegally.

At the common borders and at the borders covered by EU/Schengen area data only,² detections of illegal border crossing between BCPs (reported by both sides) decreased by 46% compared with the fourth quarter of 2017, and decreased by 33% in relation to the same quarter of 2017.

Facilitators

The number of detected facilitators at the common borders and at the borders covered by EU/Schengen area data only³ decreased by 65% in the first quarter of 2018 compared with the fourth quarter of 2017, but increased by 57% compared with the same period of 2017.

As regards nationalities, the facilitators were mostly citizens of Ukraine.

¹ Data for Armenia not available.

² i.e. the external border of the EU/SAC with Russia.

³ i.e. the external border of the EU/SAC with Russia.

Border checks

Clandestine entries

In the first quarter of 2018, there were 15 cases of clandestine entry attempts reported. Fourteen individuals were reported at the border between Lithuania and Belarus and another one at the border between Romania and Moldova. As regards the fourteen individuals detected at the Lithuanian-Belarusian border, all were Sri Lankan nationals.

Refusals of entry

There were 35 925 refusals of entry reported in the first quarter of 2018 within the EaP-RAN at the common, EaP and external regional borders⁴. The vast majority of refusals (87%) was reported at the land borders.

At the common borders and at the borders covered by EU/Schengen area data only,⁵ refusals of entry issued by EU Member States and Schengen Associated Coun-

⁴ Data for Armenia not available.

⁵ i.e. the external border of the EU/SAC with Russia.

tries decreased by almost 3% in relation to Q4 2017, and increased by over 11% in relation to the same period of 2017. Similarly to the previous quarter, the vast majority were reported by Poland (83%) with Ukrainian and Russian citizens representing the top-ranking nationalities.

Eastern Partnership countries reported 13 821 refusals; 67% and 31% were issued at the land and air borders, respectively. The majority of refusals (over 39%) were issued by Belarus, followed by Ukraine (30%) and Georgia (over 26%).

Document fraud

In the first quarter of 2018, there was a decrease of 23% in the number of detections of persons using fraudulent documents reported by the five Eastern Partnership countries (Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine),⁶ compared with the fourth quarter of 2017. The decrease was observed in all EaP countries, except Moldova.

⁶ Data for Armenia not available.

The most detected fraudulent documents were passports (55%). Visas and ID cards accounted for 19% and 13%, respectively, of the reported cases.

Illegal stay

A decrease of over 23% in detections of illegal stay was reported by Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine⁷ in the first quarter of 2018. The top five detected nationalities included Moldovans, Hungarians, Russians, Azerbaijanis, and Turks. Moldovans tended to be reported mainly by Ukraine and, to a lesser extent, by Belarus. The vast majority of citizens of Hungary, Russia, Azerbaijan, and Turkey were detected by Ukraine.

Over 99% of detections of illegal stay were reported on exit. Ukraine being the top reporting country (79% of total detections), the Ukrainian land borders, followed by the Ukrainian airports were most affected.

⁷ Data for Armenia and Azerbaijan not available.

III. STATISTICAL ANNEX

LEGEND

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

Source: EaP-RAN and FRAN data as of 16 May 2018 ,
unless otherwise indicated

Note: 'Member States' in the tables refer to
FRAN Member States, including both 28 EU Member
States and three Schengen Associated Countries

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

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

	2016		2017			2018 Q1	2018 Q1		per cent of total
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		% change on		
							year ago	previous Qtr	
Top Ten Nationalities									
Ukraine	221	217	248	295	174	132	-39	-24	26
Moldova	62	84	84	102	76	66	-21	-13	13
Vietnam	172	46	81	141	198	47	2.2	-76	9.4
Turkey	30	23	43	54	25	38	65	52	7.6
Russia	65	59	62	100	37	33	-44	-11	6.6
Georgia	46	32	21	14	11	24	-25	118	4.8
Other and stateless	13	16	15	22	6	18	13	200	3.6
Iran	9	4	3	22	8	17	325	113	3.4
Uzbekistan	6	3	3	2	5	16	433	220	3.2
Belarus	21	27	20	29	26	14	-48	-46	2.8
All Other	299	149	255	286	170	94	-37	-45	19

Annex Table 2. **Clandestine entries**

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

	2016		2017			2018 Q1	2018 Q1		per cent of total
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		% change on		
							year ago	previous Qtr	
Top Ten Nationalities									
Sri Lanka	0	0	0	0	0	14	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	93
Moldova	0	0	0	2	0	1	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	6.7
Yemen	0	0	17	0	0	0	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	
Ukraine	3	1	2	2	2	0	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	
Turkmenistan	0	0	0	1	0	0	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	
Turkey	2	3	0	0	2	0	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	
Russia	2	7	4	2	0	0	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	
Kyrgyzstan	0	0	0	1	0	0	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	
Iran	5	10	2	3	0	0	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	
Indonesia	0	0	1	0	0	0	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	
All Other	5	3	2	2	1	0	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	

Annex Table 3. **Facilitators**

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

	2016		2017			2018	2018 Q1		per cent of total
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	% change on		
							year ago	previous Qtr	
Place of Detection									
Land	42	10	37	42	46	18	80	-61	82
Air	0	3	0	3	0	4	33	n.a.	18
Inland	0	0	0	0	2	0	n.a.	n.a.	
Top Ten Nationalities									
Georgia	1	1	2	6	5	4	300	-20	18
Ukraine	1	0	6	4	3	3	n.a.	0.0	14
Russia	23	0	8	8	16	3	n.a.	-81	14
Belarus	4	7	2	8	2	3	-57	50	14
Turkey	1	2	5	3	7	2	0.0	-71	9.1
Azerbaijan	0	0	1	0	3	2	n.a.	-33	9.1
United Kingdom	0	0	0	0	0	1	n.a.	n.a.	4.5
Romania	0	0	0	0	0	1	n.a.	n.a.	4.5
Mongolia	0	0	0	0	2	1	n.a.	-50	4.5
Iran	0	0	0	0	0	1	n.a.	n.a.	4.5
All Other	12	3	13	16	10	1	-67	-90	4.5

Annex Table 4. **Illegal stay**

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

	2016		2017			2018	2018 Q1		per cent of total
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	% change on		
							year ago	previous Qtr	
Place of Detection									
Land	11 793	8 588	9 714	17 899	16 911	12 028	40	-29	72
Air	2 746	3 617	3 803	5 657	5 528	4 469	24	-19	27
Sea	102	62	75	82	77	74	19	-4	0
Inland	55	55	61	74	39	48	-13	23	0
Between BCP	108	20	:	:	:	:	n.a.	n.a.	
Top Ten Nationalities									
Ukraine	6 099	3 897	4 686	5 102	6 634	4 093	5	-38	25
Moldova	1 536	1 134	1 408	4 050	2 992	1 837	62	-39	11
Russia	2 004	1 560	1 500	2 325	1 811	1 520	-3	-16	9
Hungary	145	295	157	2 144	1 381	1 451	392	5	9
Azerbaijan	571	696	637	823	948	853	23	-10	5
Belarus	470	423	452	943	893	680	61	-24	4
Georgia	882	672	686	652	818	558	-17	-32	3
Turkey	317	369	348	509	458	549	49	20	3
Romania	129	96	97	564	529	427	345	-19	3
China	187	231	225	316	367	417	81	14	3
All Other	2 464	2 969	3 457	6 284	5 724	4 234	43	-26	25

Annex Table 5. **Refusals of entry**

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

	2016 Q4	2017				2018 Q1	2018 Q1		per cent of total
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Border Type									
Land	35 159	26 897	31 102	35 803	34 671	31 340	17	-10	87
Air	2 381	2 442	2 834	3 232	4 875	4 274	75	-12	12
Sea	826	555	210	436	417	311	-44	-25	1
Top Ten Nationalities									
Ukraine	8 777	10 023	10 563	11 622	11 702	16 262	62	39	45
Russia	16 139	9 016	10 737	12 915	11 332	5 788	-36	-49	16
Moldova	1 589	1 505	1 622	2 826	3 530	2 391	59	-32	7
Belarus	1 856	1 604	3 206	2 026	2 440	2 217	38	-9	6
Lithuania	731	669	866	999	794	628	-6	-21	2
India	173	307	540	732	855	566	84	-34	2
Poland	309	294	382	720	719	498	69	-31	1
Tajikistan	1 681	824	598	356	350	492	-40	41	1
Georgia	784	623	343	262	635	476	-24	-25	1
Azerbaijan	747	826	827	586	568	457	-45	-20	1
All Other	5 580	4 203	4 462	6 427	7 038	6 150	46	-13	17

Annex Table 6. **Applications for asylum**

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

	2016 Q4	2017				2018 Q1	2018 Q1		per cent of total
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Top Ten Nationalities									
Iraq	1 096	842	1 127	1 911	1 380	838	-1	-39	29
Afghanistan	1 179	756	539	615	473	463	-39	-2	16
Syria	1 258	1 044	1 254	893	414	323	-69	-22	11
Russia	1 159	1 032	990	902	747	160	-84	-79	5
Iran	143	139	109	187	174	154	11	-11	5
Somalia	79	57	47	58	85	120	111	41	4
Turkey	129	160	126	120	103	78	-51	-24	3
Pakistan	200	208	197	74	72	62	-70	-14	2
Eritrea	410	595	539	155	113	58	-90	-49	2
Yemen	35	18	30	18	67	45	150	-33	2
All Other	1 693	1 338	1 107	1 228	1 046	638	-52	-39	22

Annex Table 7. Persons using false documents

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

	2016		2017			2018	2018 Q1		per cent of total
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Border Type									
Air	94	128	63	67	150	109	-15	-27	58
Land	74	54	45	70	77	70	30	-9.1	37
Sea	10	20	18	13	17	8	-60	-53	4.3
Not specified	2	0	0	0	0	0	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	
Document Type									
Passports	100	94	74	77	122	102	8.5	-16	55
Visas	31	54	21	18	55	35	-35	-36	19
ID cards	19	11	8	18	22	25	127	14	13
Stamps	27	37	19	32	34	13	-65	-62	7.0
Residence permit	3	6	3	1	10	10	67	0.0	5.3
Not specified	0	0	1	4	1	2	<i>n.a.</i>	100	1.1
Top Ten Nationalities									
Turkey	10	8	16	8	24	36	350	50	19
Ukraine	18	19	13	22	38	24	26	-37	13
Moldova	32	15	10	28	18	22	47	22	12
Uzbekistan	16	15	10	22	21	21	40	0.0	11
Iran	18	12	1	12	27	19	58	-30	10
Georgia	23	14	14	7	14	10	-29	-29	5.3
Sri Lanka	0	1	0	0	11	8	700	-27	4.3
Russia	5	3	5	9	6	7	133	17	3.7
Iraq	1	2	5	2	6	6	200	0.0	3.2
Syria	2	1	1	0	1	4	300	300	2.1
All Other	55	112	51	40	78	30	-73	-62	16
Top Ten Countries of Issuance of Documents									
Ukraine	15	15	11	19	33	23	53	-30	12
Romania	2	6	3	10	16	19	217	19	10
Turkey	14	47	12	12	16	17	-64	6.3	9.1
Russia	19	23	19	34	40	16	-30	-60	8.6
Iran	2	2	1	8	0	11	450	<i>n.a.</i>	5.9
Germany	7	2	4	2	11	11	450	0.0	5.9
Greece	5	8	3	3	4	10	25	150	5.3
Canada	0	0	0	4	9	10	<i>n.a.</i>	11	5.3
France	2	1	1	1	7	9	800	29	4.8
Iraq	1	0	5	1	0	6	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	3.2
All Other	113	98	67	56	108	55	-44	-49	29

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 bor-

ders 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 refers to total detections reported by EaP-RAN countries and to land border detections reported by neighbouring Member States.

LIMITED
RELEASABLE TO EAP-RAN



Plac Europejski 6
00-844 Warsaw, Poland

T +48 22 205 95 00
F +48 22 205 95 01

frontex@frontex.europa.eu
www.frontex.europa.eu

Risk Analysis Unit

Reference number: 17798/2018

Warsaw, December 2018