

Eastern Partnership

Risk Analysis Network Quarterly

QUARTER 2 • APRIL–JUNE 2017

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.



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 2017
Risk Analysis Unit
Frontex reference number: 28466/2017

OPOCE Catalogue number TT-AK-17-002-EN-N
ISSN 2467-3684

© Frontex, 2017
All rights reserved. Reproduction is authorised provided the source is acknowledged.

DISCLAIMERS

This is a Frontex staff working document. 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 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 from the EaP-RAN 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

Situation at the border #6

Border surveillance #6

Border checks #8

Situation in the Eastern Partnership region #9

Illegal stay in EaP-RAN countries #9

II. Statistical annex #10

List of abbreviations used

BCP	border-crossing point
EaP	Eastern Partnership
EaP-RAN	Eastern Partnership Risk Analysis Network
EU	European Union
Q/Qtr	quarter of the year

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 was 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.³

The backbone of this overview are monthly statistics provided within the framework of the EaP-RAN (Armenia⁴, 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 in-depth featured risk analysis of particular phenomena associated with the analysed period.

³ 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.

⁴ 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 Russia (covered only by the EU/Schengen Associated Country side of the border)



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*
1A. Illegal border-crossing between BCPs	75 953	179	0.2%	656
1B. Clandestine entries***	528	21	4.0%	28
2. Facilitators	2 576	22	0.9%	12
3. Illegal stay	105 462	5 048	4.8%	8 604
4. Refusals of entry	47 203	20 510	43%	13 630
5. Applications for asylum	117 489	5 858	5.0%	207
6. False travel documents	4 941	870	17%	126
7A. Return decision issued	69 674	12 550	18%	n.a.
7B. Effective returns	34 467	8 778	25%	n.a.

* 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 FRAN indicators.

*** Persons hiding in means of transport

Source: FRAN and EAP-RAN data as of 7 August 2017

Border surveillance

Illegal border-crossing

In the second quarter of 2017, 835 persons were detected for crossing the border illegally between border-crossing points (BCPs) by the Eastern Partnership risk analysis network (EaP-RAN) member countries.¹ Ukraine reported the highest number of detections (53% in total), followed by Belarus (15%) and Poland (6%).

Almost 58% of detections involved regional nationals (citizens of Eastern Partnership – EaP – and Commonwealth of Independent States countries), mostly Ukrainians, followed by Moldovans and Russians. The vast majority of the reported cases (76%) were linked either to smuggling or to other reasons not related to migration.

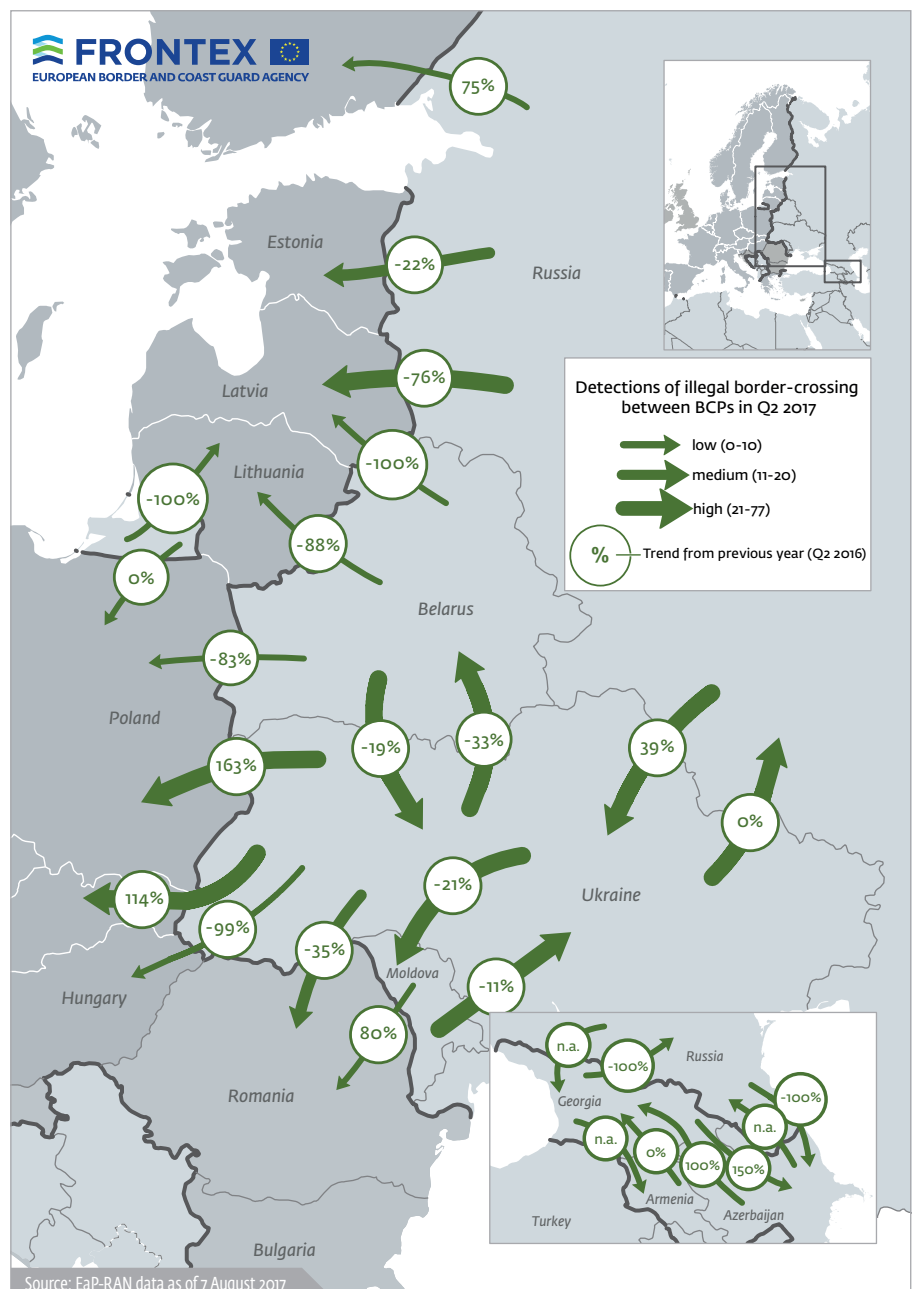
Non-regional migrants accounted for over 42% of the detected cases, with the majority reported to be Vietnamese, Bangladeshis, Turks and Syrians. Irregular migration was the main reason for these non-regional nationals to cross the border illegally. A significant increase in the irregular migration flow of Vietnamese was reported by both Slovakia and Ukraine at their common border section.

At the common borders and at the borders covered by EU/Schengen area data only², detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs (reported by both sides) increased by 44% compared with the first quarter of 2017.

1 Data for Armenia not available.
2 I.e. the external border of the EU Member States/Schengen Associated Countries with Russia.

Figure 2. Detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs reported by EaP-RAN members at all borders show that the highest pressure in Q2 2017 was recorded at the Ukrainian-Russian border section

Detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs at all borders covered by the EaP-RAN in Q2 2017



At the Eastern Partnership and external borders, 332 cases of illegal border-crossing were detected, representing a 6% increase compared with the previous quarter (311 in Q1 2017). The majority of detections involved regional migrants, predominantly Ukrainians (144) and Moldovans (65). Non-regional migrants from a variety of countries were detected in low numbers.

Facilitators

The number of detected facilitators at the common borders and at the borders covered by EU/Schengen area data only³, increased by 342% in the second quarter of 2017 compared with the first quarter of the year (31 in Q2 from 7 in Q1 2017), but was 31% lower than in the same period of 2016 (45 in Q2 2016).

As regards nationalities, the detected facilitators were predominantly citizens of Ukraine, Russia and Turkey.

³ I.e. the external border of EU Member States/Schengen Associated Countries with Russia.

Border checks

Clandestine entries

In the second quarter of 2017, there were 37 cases of clandestine entry attempts reported by Azerbaijan, Georgia, Poland, Belarus and Finland.

Refusals of entry

There were 34 140 refusals of entry issued in the second quarter of 2017 within the EaP-RAN at the common, EaP and external regional borders.³ The vast majority of refusals (91%) was reported at land borders.

At the common borders and at the borders covered by EU/Schengen area data only⁴, refusals of entry issued by EU Member States and Schengen Associated Countries increased by 3% compared to Q1 2017, and fell by 36% in relation to the same period of 2016. As in the previous quarter, the vast majority were reported by Poland (81%), with Ukrainian and Russian citizens ranking top.

Document fraud

In the second quarter of 2017, there was a decrease of 38% in the number of detections of persons using fraudulent documents reported by the five Eastern Partnership countries (Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine)⁵ compared with the first quarter of 2017. The decrease was observed in all EaP countries. Most detections were made by Ukraine (46%), Azerbaijan (28%) and Georgia (19%).

The top six nationalities of fraudulent document users were: Turks, Georgians, Ukrainians, Egyptians, Moldovans and Uzbeks. As regards document type, the most detected fraudulent documents were passports (59%). Visas and stamps accounted for 17% and 15%, respectively, of the reported cases.

³ Data for Armenia not available.

⁴ I.e. the external border of EU Member States/Schengen Associated Countries with Russia.

⁵ Data for Armenia not available.

Situation in the Eastern Partnership region

Illegal stay in EaP-RAN countries

The second quarter of 2017 saw an increase of 6% in detections of illegal stay reported by Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.⁶ The top five detected nationalities included Russians, Moldovans, Ukrainians, Georgians and Azerbaijanis. Citizens

of Russia, Georgia and Azerbaijan were mostly detected by Ukraine, while Ukrainians were detected mainly by Belarus. Moldovans, in turn, tended to be reported by both Ukraine and Belarus.

As much as 99% of detections of illegal stay were reported on exit. As Ukraine was the top reporting country (62% of total detections), with most detections reported at Ukrainian airports.

⁶ Data for Armenia and Azerbaijan not available.

II. STATISTICAL ANNEX

LEGEND

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

Source: EaP-RAN and FRAN data as of 7 August 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

	2016				2017		2017 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Purpose of Illegal Border-Crossing									
Irregular migration	403	424	656	576	286	398	-6.1	39	48
Others	340	378	461	294	301	350	-7.4	16	42
Smuggling of goods	97	141	144	74	73	87	-38	19	10
Top Ten Nationalities									
Ukraine	246	277	421	221	217	248	-10	14	30
Moldova	93	92	87	62	84	84	-8.7	0	10
Vietnam	66	158	187	172	46	81	-49	76	9.7
Russia	69	84	76	65	59	62	-26	5.1	7.4
Bangladesh	26	26	46	29	22	53	104	141	6.3
Turkey	49	12	19	30	23	43	258	87	5.1
Georgia	24	40	45	46	32	21	-48	-34	2.5
Belarus	21	30	26	21	27	20	-33	-26	2.4
Syria	4	9	11	23	5	19	111	280	2.3
India	17	21	51	25	20	18	-14	-10	2.2
All other	225	194	292	250	125	186	-4.1	49	22
Total	840	943	1261	944	660	835	-11	27	100

Annex Table 2. **Clandestine entries**

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

	2016				2017		2017 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Top Ten Nationalities									
Yemen	0	0	0	0	0	17	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	61
Russia	4	1	1	2	7	4	<i>n.a.</i>	-43	14
Ukraine	9	8	2	3	1	2	-75	100	7.1
Iran	0	0	5	5	10	2	<i>n.a.</i>	-80	7.1
Indonesia	0	0	0	0	0	1	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	3.6
Belarus	1	0	0	1	0	1	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	3.6
Afghanistan	0	0	0	0	0	1	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	3.6
Turkey	0	0	0	2	3	0	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>
Moldova	0	1	0	0	0	0	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>
Georgia	0	4	0	4	3	0	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>
All Other	0	1	1	0	0	0	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>
Total	14	14	8	17	24	28	100	17	100

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		2017 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Place of Detection									
Land	208	49	36	42	10	34	-31	240	100
Air	1	4	0	0	3	0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Top Ten Nationalities									
Ukraine	5	3	5	1	0	6	100	n.a.	18
Turkey	4	2	0	1	2	5	150	150	15
Russia	11	22	14	23	0	5	-77	n.a.	15
Poland	2	2	0	0	0	3	50	n.a.	8.8
Slovakia	0	2	2	6	0	2	0	n.a.	5.9
Latvia	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	n.a.	5.9
Georgia	0	1	2	1	1	2	100	100	5.9
Belarus	5	11	7	4	7	2	-82	-71	5.9
Tajikistan	0	0	0	0	1	1	n.a.	0	2.9
Syria	9	0	0	0	0	1	n.a.	n.a.	2.9
All Other	173	8	6	6	2	5	-38	150	15
Total	209	53	36	42	13	34	-36	162	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

	2016				2017		2017 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Place of Detection									
Land	7 534	8 771	11 857	11 793	9 022	9 713	11	7.7	71
Air	1 766	1 767	2 413	2 746	3 617	3 803	115	5.1	28
Sea	48	78	109	102	62	75	-3.8	21	0.5
Inland	34	34	67	55	55	61	79	11	0.4
Between BCPs	22	41	77	108	20	:	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Top Ten Nationalities									
Ukraine	3 054	4 178	5 522	6 099	3 979	4 686	12	18	34
Russia	1 581	1 463	2 334	2 004	1 760	1 500	2.5	-15	11
Moldova	840	1 098	1 355	1 536	1 144	1 407	28	23	10
Georgia	381	498	737	882	675	686	38	1.6	5
Azerbaijan	390	341	515	571	697	637	87	-8.6	4.7
Belarus	316	343	462	470	512	452	32	-12	3.3
Turkey	324	270	305	317	370	348	29	-5.9	2.5
Armenia	185	217	340	295	303	340	57	12	2.5
United States	93	107	149	170	235	258	141	9.8	1.9
Uzbekistan	139	120	158	262	246	253	111	2.8	1.9
All Other	2 101	2 056	2 646	2 198	2 855	3 085	50	8.1	23
Total	9 404	10 691	14 523	14 804	12 776	13 652	28	6.9	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

	2016				2017		2017 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Border Type									
Land	22 649	40 865	66 116	35 159	26 897	31 096	-24	16	91
Air	1 399	1 832	1 766	2 381	2 442	2 834	55	16	8.3
Sea	821	867	862	826	555	210	-76	-62	0.6
Top Ten Nationalities									
Russia	6 264	20 707	43 970	16 139	9 016	10 737	-48	19	31
Ukraine	7 810	8 943	10 434	8 777	10 023	10 563	18	5.4	31
Belarus	1 399	1 240	1 510	1 856	1 604	3 206	159	100	9.4
Moldova	1 475	1 769	1 635	1 589	1 505	1 616	-8.6	7.4	4.7
Lithuania	496	594	642	731	669	866	46	29	2.5
Azerbaijan	908	852	764	747	826	827	-2.9	0.1	2.4
Turkey	237	337	435	338	368	630	87	71	1.8
Tajikistan	1 753	2 688	2 744	1 681	824	598	-78	-27	1.8
India	176	298	221	173	307	540	81	76	1.6
Armenia	785	1 292	1 031	1 551	1 030	426	-67	-59	1.2
All Other	3 566	4 844	5 358	4 784	3 722	4 131	-15	11	12
Total	24 869	43 564	68 744	38 366	29 894	34 140	-22	14	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

	2016				2017		2017 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Top Ten Nationalities									
Syria	7 056	917	3 168	1 750	1 258	1 044	14	-17	17
Russia	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, top ten nationalities and top ten countries of issuance

	2016				2017		2017 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Border Type									
Air	52	78	75	94	128	63	-19	-51	50
Land	31	72	56	74	54	45	-38	-17	36
Sea	10	13	7	10	20	18	38	-10	14
Not specified	0	0	1	2	3	0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Document Type									
Passports	69	113	91	100	97	74	-35	-24	59
Visas	13	13	20	31	54	21	62	-61	17
Stamps	4	12	16	27	37	19	58	-49	15
ID cards	3	3	6	19	11	8	167	-27	6.3
Residence permits	0	1	5	3	6	3	200	-50	2.4
n.a.	4	21	1	0	0	1	-95	n.a.	0.8
Top Ten Nationalities									
Turkey	4	7	4	10	8	16	129	100	13
Georgia	3	16	16	23	14	14	-13	0	11
Ukraine	28	41	28	18	19	13	-68	-32	10
Egypt	2	1	5	4	6	12	n.a.	100	9.5
Uzbekistan	0	12	11	16	15	10	-17	-33	7.9
Moldova	19	27	21	32	15	10	-63	-33	7.9
Russia	4	2	7	5	3	5	150	67	4
Iraq	1	0	0	1	2	5	n.a.	150	4
India	2	4	5	4	14	5	25	-64	4
Pakistan	3	0	0	1	4	4	n.a.	0	3.2
All Other	27	53	42	66	105	32	-40	-70	25
Top Ten Countries of Issuance of Documents									
Russia	1	2	5	19	23	19	n.a.	-17	15
Turkey	8	4	5	14	47	12	200	-74	9.5
Ukraine	11	30	17	15	15	11	-63	-27	8.7
Georgia	3	16	10	22	12	10	-38	-17	7.9
Moldova	12	23	20	30	9	7	-70	-22	5.6
Egypt	2	1	1	3	6	6	n.a.	0	4.8
United Arab Emirates	0	0	0	8	3	5	n.a.	67	4
Iraq	1	0	0	1	0	5	n.a.	n.a.	4
India	2	4	4	4	11	5	25	-55	4
Germany	0	1	1	7	2	4	n.a.	100	3.2
All Other	53	82	76	57	77	42	-49	-45	33
Total	93	163	139	180	205	126	-23	-39	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.



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



For Public Release

Risk Analysis Unit

Reference number: 28466/2017

TT-AK-17-007-EN-N
ISSN 2467-3684

Warsaw, December 2017