

Western Balkans Quarterly

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Q1

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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.

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List of abbreviations used

BCP	border-crossing point
CIA	Central Investigation Agency
EDF	European Union Document-Fraud
EU	European Union
FRAN	Frontex Risk Analysis Network
Frontex	European Border and Coast Guard Agency
ICJ	International Court of Justice
ID	identification document
JORA	Joint Operations Reporting Application
n.a.	not available
Q/Qtr	quarter of the year
RAU	Frontex Risk Analysis Unit
UK	United Kingdom
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution
WB	Western Balkans
WB-RAN	Western Balkans Risk Analysis Network

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 documents¹.

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).

Structure

The report 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 consists of a statistical annex.

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, have not been included in the datasets used for the report since the third quarter of 2013. Slovenian historical 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 they are no longer covered by the regular datasets used for this report.

Thirdly, after joining the EU, Croatian data on illegal stay are limited to detections at its border. More precisely, Croatia's illegal stay data only include cases detected on exit at its external borders, 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.

¹ 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 2017	Q1 2018	Q2 2018	% change on year ago	%change on prev. Qtr
Asylum applications	14 393	16 436	21 702	51	32
Facilitators	173	199	200	16	0.5
False travel document users	293	534	373	27	-30
Illegal border-crossing at BCPs	863	754	560	-35	-26
Illegal border-crossing between BCPs	5 384	6 659	10 087	87	51
Illegal stay	2 255	3 374	8 932	296	165
Refusals of entry	12 523	11 257	12 543	0.2	11

² Applications for asylum for EU Member States include all applications received in the territory of the countries, not limited to those made at the Eastern Balkan borders.

Key findings

Overall, the number of illegal border-crossings by non-regional² migrants recorded at the green borders rose in Q2 2018.

The main Serbia-centred route appears to have regained attractiveness, with more migrants attempting to enter the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and move towards Serbia.

After reaching Serbia migrants prefer moving towards Bosnia and Herzegovina–Croatia and further north, while the pressure at Hungary, Romania and Croatia's borders with Serbia remained stable, and even decreased compared to the previous quarter.

The migratory pressure along the sub-route stemming from the Greek–Albanian border section continued, with the trend appearing to stabilise at higher levels towards the end of Q2.

Migrants travelling both via the Serbia-centred route and along the sub-route stemming from the Greek–Albanian border accumulate on Bosnia and Herzegovina's territory.

The irregular flow of citizens of Western Balkan countries slightly increased but remained largely contained at the southern common borders with Greece.

² Migrants who are not nationals of Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo², the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro or Serbia

Situation at the border

Border surveillance

Illegal border-crossings

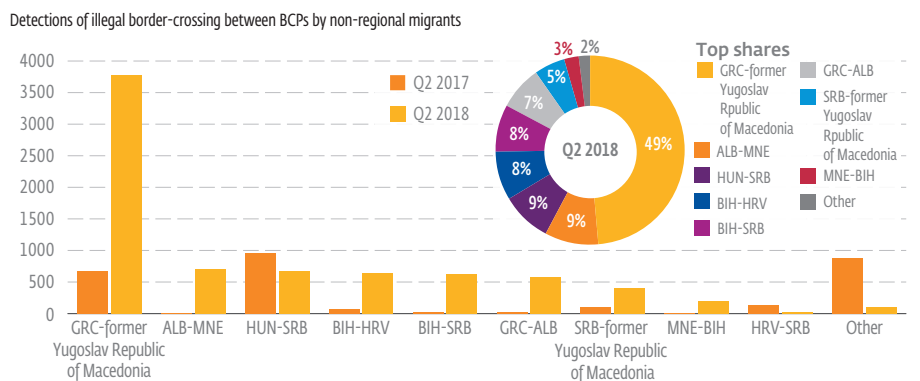
In the second quarter of 2018, WB-RAN data shows 7 758 illegal border-crossings between BCPs by **non-regional migrants**³ at the common and regional borders (Figure 2). Migrants continued to be largely detected while en-route from Turkey, Greece and, to a lesser extent Bulgaria through the Western Balkans. Some nationalities also reach the region legally by airplane before engaging in illegal border-crossing (e.g. Iranian or Turkish). Overall, the 7 758 reported detections represent a 73% increase compared with the previous quarter. The largest part of this increase was linked to the higher pressure reported at the Greece – former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia – Serbia borders which registered over three and fourfold ups over Q1, respectively. Other sections along or adjacent to the Albania – Montenegro – Bosnia and Herzegovina – Croatia sub-route also contributed to the observed increase albeit to a lesser extent.

The number of detections reported at Serbia's northern common borders with Croatia, Hungary and Romania during Q2 decreased compared with the previous three-month period and even more so when compared with Q2 2017. All this, in spite of more arrivals to Serbia via the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia during the analysed period. A possible explanation for this development is that, after reaching Serbia, migrants preferred moving towards Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Overall, the number of detections at the Bulgarian-Serbian border remained

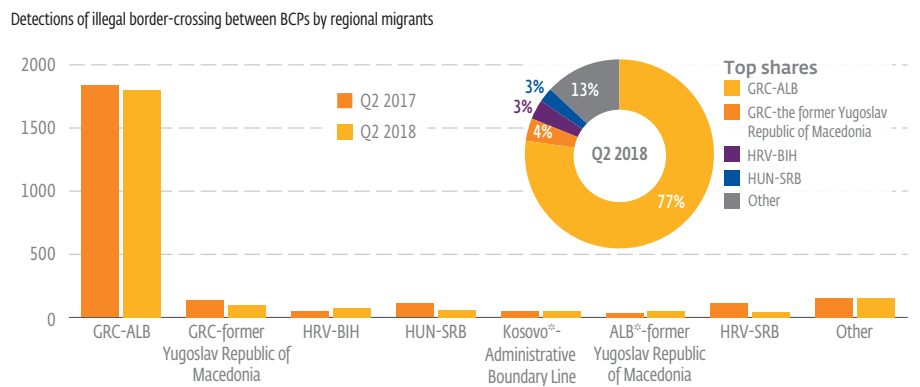
³ Migrants who are not nationals of Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo*, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro or Serbia

Figure 2. **Increased pressure recorded along the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia–Serbia–Bosnia and Herzegovina route; continued detections along the Albania–Montenegro–Bosnia and Herzegovina sub-route**



Source: WB-RAN data as of 6 August 2018

Figure 3. **The overall pressure exerted by the regional migrants was similar to the same quarter of 2017; detections continued being reported at the southern common borders (Albanian circular migration) and to a lesser extent at the northern common borders (mainly Kosovo* nationals) with EU MSs**



Source: WB-RAN data as of 6 August 2018

generally low, likely as a result of continued robust border-controls on both sides of this section. However, constant vigilance is required, given the fact that routing via Serbia appears to be more popular during Q2.

Migrants continued being reported along the Greece-Albania-Montenegro-Bosnia and Herzegovina-Croatia sub-route and adjacent sections during Q2. Generally the pressure appeared to level-off along the Greece – Albania – Montenegro – Bosnia

and Herzegovina segment, while more detections were reported at the Bosnia and Herzegovina's border with Serbia and Croatia.

Similar to previous quarters, the size of the flow detected en route throughout the region may actually be lower than the reporting indicates, given that the same migrant may have been detected at the same border multiple times (i.e. preventions of

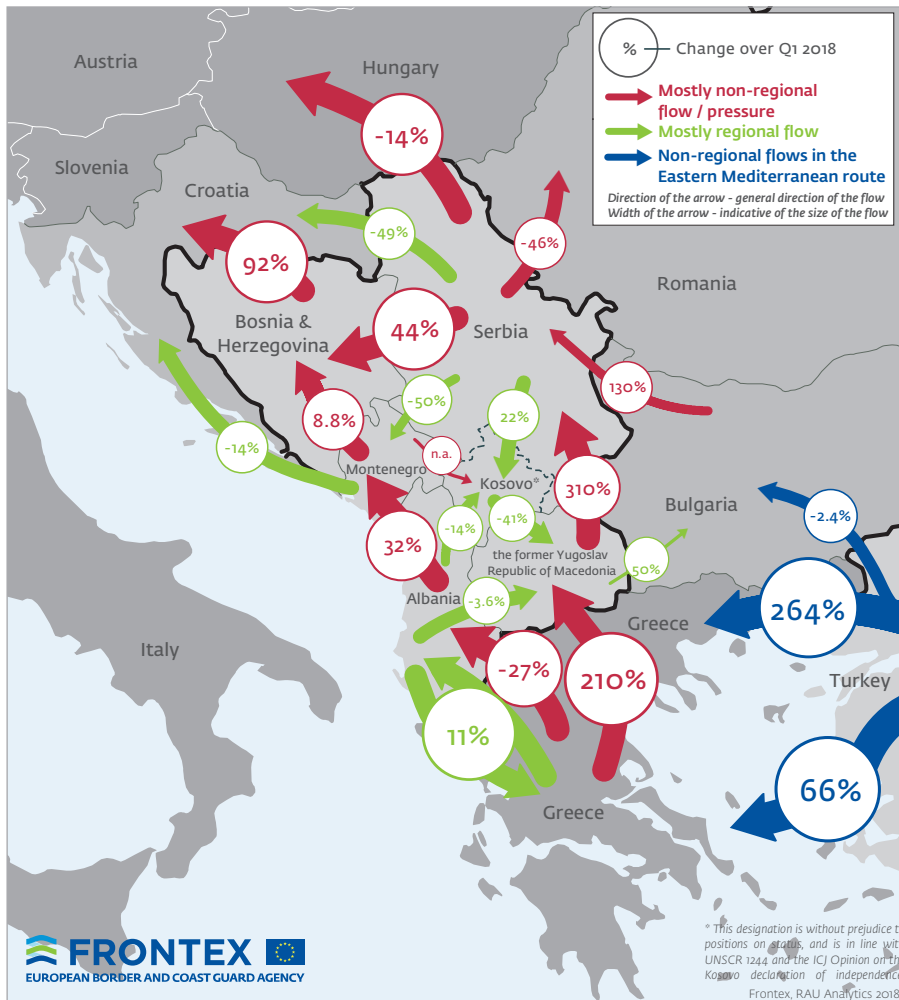


Figure 4. Increased pressure exerted by non-regional migrants along the Greece – former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia – Serbia – Bosnia and Herzegovina route during Q2 2018. Decrease in pressure at Serbia's northern common borders with Croatia, Hungary and Romania (traditional exit points). Detections along the Albania – Montenegro - Bosnia and Herzegovina - sub-route continued in Q2 amid signs of stabilisation at higher levels.

The regional flow slightly rose but continued to mainly affect the Greek-Albanian border.

Changes in detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs between Q1 and Q2 2018 at particular border sections; main directions and composition of the flow

The main detection areas can suggest that Iranians reach Serbia by air and move illegally towards Hungary, Croatia (via Bosnia and Herzegovina) or Greece (via former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia). Iranians appear less attracted to the sub-route stemming from the Greek-Albanian border section, as indicated by low numbers of detections especially on the southernmost segment of this sub-route.

With a total of roughly 680 detections Iraqis were the fifth most detected nationality in Q2, registering a 159% rise over the previous three month period. The number of detections involving Iraqis increased both along the route stemming from the Greek-Albanian border section, and also on the Greece-former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia – Serbia – Bosnia and Herzegovina one.

Overall, the number of detected **Western Balkan regional migrants**⁴ (2 329) registered a 7% rise over the previous quarter. The increase in detections was largely related to the number of reported Albanians (11% increase, largely at the Albanian-Greek border section). Detections of Serbs rose

4 Migrants who are nationals of Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo*, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro or Serbia

crossings) but also at several different border sections while transiting the region.

Pakistanis (2 304), Syrians (1 285), and Afghans (1 233), in this order were the top detected nationalities in Q2, all registering increases over the previous three-month period (+139%, +14% and +46%, respectively). The largest part of the observed rise in detections of Pakistanis and Afghans was largely associated with attempts by these nationals to cross the border between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Subsequent rises in detections were then observed at the Serbia-former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia-Bosnia and Herzegovina border sections as they transited through the region. They were also observed along the sub-route stemming from the Greece-Albania border section but in

lower numbers compared to the one via the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia.

Meanwhile, Syrians were mainly reported along the route via Greece-Albania – Montenegro-Bosnia and Herzegovina. They were also detected trying to travel along the Greece-former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia – Serbia route, but in lower numbers compared with the previous quarter.

Iranians (1 029) were the fourth most detected nationality in the WB, registering a fourfold rise over Q1. They were detected in higher numbers trying to move out of Serbia towards Bosnia-Herzegovina (and further to Croatia), towards Hungary and also while trying to reach the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia from Serbia.

I. SITUATIONAL OVERVIEW

44%, but only reached 75 while the rest of the regional nationals all decreased.

The majority (81%) of Western Balkan countries nationals detected for illegal border-crossing were still reported at Greece's borders with Albania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (by and large, Albanians). Migrants detected at the common borders with EU Member States in the north of the region accounted for 10% of the regional flow and involved mainly Kosovo*

citizens and, to a lesser extent, Albanians and Serbs.

Facilitators

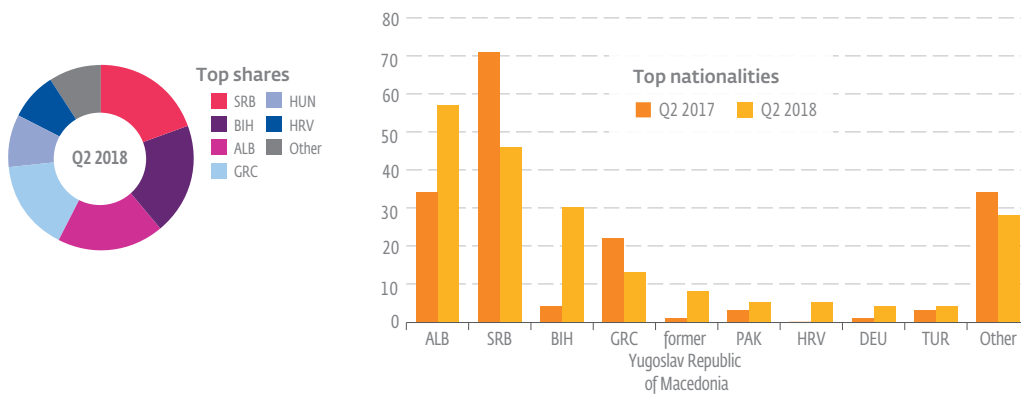
A total of 200 facilitators were detected at the regional level in the first quarter of 2018, a number similar to that of the previous three-month period.

Roughly 73% of all facilitators detected in the period under review were nationals of

Western Balkan countries, 17% were citizens of EU Member States (primarily those neighbouring the region), while the remaining 10% were nationals of third countries from outside the region or persons of 'unknown nationality'. Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania and Greece reported the highest shares of facilitators detected in Q2, followed by Hungary, Croatia and Romania, respectively.

Figure 5. **The number of people smugglers rose 16% compared to the same quarter of 2017 and the main locations of detections slightly changed between different parts of the region**

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



Source: WB-RAN data as of 6 August 2018

Border checks

Clandestine entries

In Q2 2018, a total of 527 **non-regional migrants** were detected while attempting to illegally cross the borders via BCPs, largely by hiding in vehicles, a number roughly 22% and 36% below that of Q1 2018 and Q2 2017 respectively. The largest part of the decrease over Q1 was due fewer detections reported at the Croatian-Serbian border and to a lesser extent at the Hungarian-Serbian one. Meanwhile, Croatia's borders with Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro registered more pressure compared to Q1 while the Serbia – Bosnia and Herzegovina section also continued to report more detections compared with the situation in 2017. These developments are in line with the observed preference of migrants for moving via Bosnia and Herzegovina both from Serbia and from the sub-route.

Additionally, 33 nationals of Western Balkan countries were reported for clandestine travels at BCPs.

Document fraud

In the second quarter of 2018, there were 373 cases of false document use reported by the six Western Balkan partners, a 30% reduction compared to the previous three-month period which recorded the second highest number of such cases since data collection began in 2009.

The largest part of the overall 30% decrease in detections over Q1 is due to less cases recorded by Serbia, especially at its land borders with Croatia, Hungary and also at its airports. Albania also reported fewer detections of document fraud cases, especially at its sea border and also at its airports, contributing to the observed decrease at regional level.

Overall, at regional level Albanians were the most detected document fraudsters, ahead of Turkish, Kosovo* and Iranian citizens. The numbers of detected Albanian and Turkish nationals remained relatively stable compared with Q1. Meanwhile, Kosovo* and Iranian document fraudsters recorded 47% and 54% drops respectively.

Serbia remained the top reporting country, in the region, followed by the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Albania respectively.

Passports, ID cards border stamps and residence permits were the most commonly used fraudulent documents. Moreover, 22 forged residence permits and 28 visas were detected. The large majority of ID cards, residence permits and visas continued to be EU Member States' documents.

As regards false passports, 94 out of the detected 203 were reportedly issued by countries from the region, with Albania ranking first (largely used by Albanians in an attempt to avoid entry bans imposed due to previous visa liberalisation misuse). The most detected EU MSs false passports were French, German and Austrian.

Refusals of entry

In the period under review, the number of refusals of entry increased by 11% compared with the previous quarter but was roughly on a par with the corresponding quarter of 2017 standing at around 12 500.

Albanians remained the most refused nationality, receiving roughly 43% of all issued decisions as their numbers rose by 25% compared with Q1. Serbs were the second most numerous recipients of refusals of entry, with a 14% share of the total, in spite of a 15% decrease over Q1. The nationals of Bosnia and Herzegovina ranked

third, accounting for an 11% share of the total decisions at regional level, after their numbers rose by 11% compared with Q1.

Turkish nationals continued to rank high among refused travelers, occupying the fourth place despite registering a 14% decrease in relation to Q1.

Chinese citizens were the eighth most refused nationality in Q2, being targeted by 165% more refusals of entry compared with Q1.

Iranian nationals like Chinese also enjoy a visa-free regime in Serbia received 14% more refusals of entry compared with Q1 and ranked ninth among the most refused nationalities.

As usual, the vast majority of refusals of entry was issued at land borders (92%), while all of the remaining 8% were recorded at air borders, which reported a relatively stable number when compared with Q1.

Most of the refusals reported by the neighbouring EU Member States were issued to nationals of Western Balkan countries (92%), Turkish (3%) and Afghan (2%) nationals. In turn, among those refused entry by the authorities of the six regional partners, 29% were nationals of Western Balkan countries, 29% nationals of EU Member States/Schengen Associated Countries, 11% Turkish, 5% Iranian, 4% Chinese and 3% Indian nationals.

Only 19 Georgians were refused entry by the six Western Balkans partners during Q2, the lowest number since these nationals became visa-free travellers to the EU. This decrease appears related to the fact that Serbia granted visa-free access to Georgians after March and Montenegro after June 2018. Previously, Serbia

I. SITUATIONAL OVERVIEW

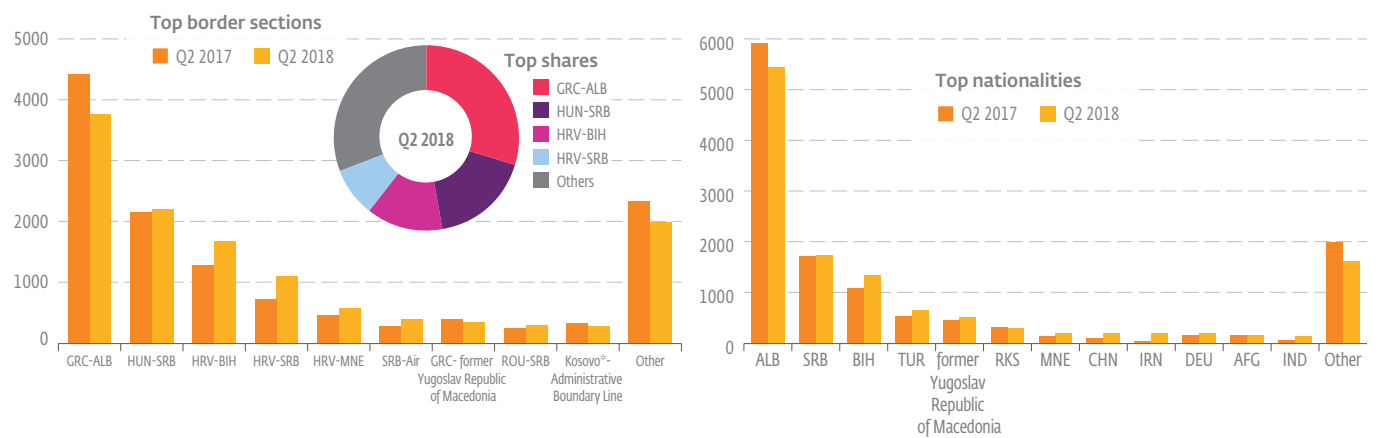
was refusing high numbers of Georgians as these nationals were unaware that a visa-free regime to the EU did not automatically give them access to the Western Balkans.

The top nationalities associated with the non-regional transiting flow (Pakistanis, Afghans, Syrians, Iraqis) received less than 2% of all refusals of entry issued at regional level. Nonetheless, it remains

possible that as transiting migrants look for alternative travel options, some will try to travel via BCPs without fulfilling the legal requirements.

Figure 6. **Turkish nationals still ranked high among the top refused nationalities; Chinese, Iranians and Indians all rank among the top twelve recipients of refusal decisions;**

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



Source: WB-RAN data as of 6 August 2018

Situation in the Western Balkans

Illegal stay on the territories of the six Western Balkan partners

In Q2 2018, roughly 7 100 detections of illegal stay were reported by the six Western Balkan partners, a number five times higher compared with the previous quarter and more than thirteen times that of the corresponding three-month period of 2017. This increase was largely due to a sharp rise in detections of non-regional migrants by Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Similar to Q1 and opposite to previous periods, when they accounted for the largest share of detections at regional level, during Q2 2018 the citizens from the six regional partners were outranked by non-regional nationalities associated with the migration flow moving from Turkey. Specifically only 6% of the total illegal stayers reported in Q2 2018 were represented by citizens from the region, 1% were nationals of EU MSs while the remaining 93% were third country nationals from outside the region.

Pakistanis, Syrians, Afghans, Iraqis, Libyans, and Algerians, generally do not regard the region as a destination but rather an area to cross on the way towards Western Europe, and are nationalities directly linked to the non-regional transiting flow. Similarly, Iranians generally reach the Balkans

legally by air before trying to move towards the EU illegally. Thus a look at these nationalities' performance against the illegal stay indicator on the territories of the six Western Balkan partners could give some indication as to the general situation in the region.

A total of around 6 150 of the abovementioned nationals were detected staying illegally by the six regional partners in Q2, a number almost nine times higher than the one registered by the same nationalities during the previous three-month period (i.e. 705).

Bosnia and Herzegovina reported the highest increase (twelffold rise over Q1), reporting over 5000 out of the total 6 150 detections of the mentioned nationals in the region. Albania also registered more than a six fold increase reaching a total of more than 700. Meanwhile the numbers reported by the other regional partners remained largely on a par with those in Q1 2017.

A high number of illegal stayers of same nationalities as migrants associated with the non-regional transiting flow might indicate that the region is more difficult to

transit. Also, discrepancy between the reported illegal stayers and the illegal border-crossings at certain countries' borders can also indicate undetected crossings.

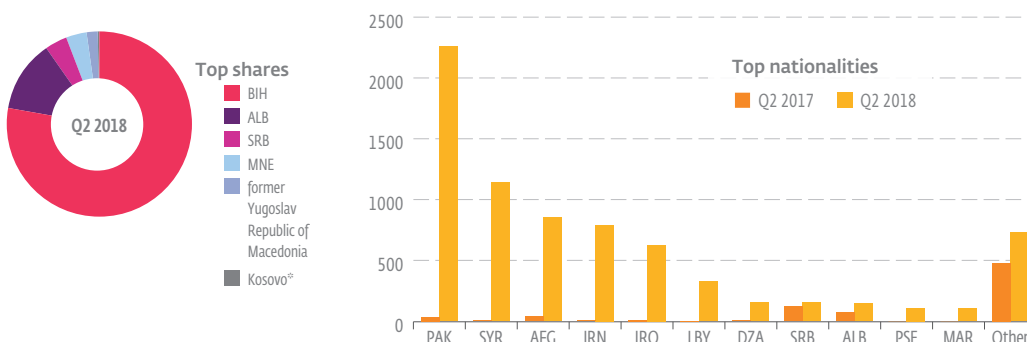
second, reporting five complete firearms, 4 complete gas weapons and 3 119 pieces of ammunition, followed by Bosnia and Herzegovina which detected three firearms (one incomplete), and 31 ammunition pieces.

At the regional level, 9 of the detected firearms were complete handguns, three were complete long rifles/shotguns and one was an incomplete fully automatic weapon. All 10 detected gas weapons were complete handguns. Additionally 4 handgun frames of undetermined nature were reported.

The number of persons detected transporting/possessing the reported prohibited goods totalled 31, while in one case the author remained unknown as the goods were abandoned. Most detections were linked to the citizens of the Western Balkan countries (21), followed by EU nationals (7) and other third country nationals (1 Russian and 2 Ukrainians).

Figure 7. **More non-regional persons detected as illegal stayers, especially by Bosnia and Herzegovina and to a lesser extent by Albania. Bosnia and Herzegovina receives pressure from both the Serbia-centred route and the sub-route stemming from the Greek-Albanian border section.**

Source: WB-RAN data as of 6 August 2018



Source: WB-RAN data as of 6 August 2018

II. Statistical annex

LEGEND

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

Source: WB-RAN and FRAN data as of 6 August 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

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

Detections reported by Western Balkan and neighbouring countries by top five border sections and top ten nationalities

	2017				2018		2018 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Top Five Sections									
Greece-Land-the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	1 056	809	656	1 265	1 249	3 874	379	210	38
Albania-Land-Greece	1 939	1 867	1 924	2 424	2 404	2 371	27	-1.4	24
Hungary-Land-Serbia	2 900	1 074	2 971	1 883	851	736	-31	-14	7.3
Albania-Land-Montenegro	38	10	81	53	544	719	7 090	32	7.1
Bosnia and Herzegovina-Land-Croatia	67	127	259	394	373	718	465	92	7.1
All Other	1 048	1 497	1 480	1 158	1 238	1 669	11	35	17
Top Ten Nationalities									
Pakistan	1 157	921	1 991	1 459	966	2 304	150	139	23
Albania	1 994	2 138	1 997	2 423	1 853	2 056	-3.8	11	20
Syria	705	246	197	322	1 127	1 285	422	14	13
Afghanistan	1 529	594	1 478	993	842	1 233	108	46	12
Iran	58	93	79	243	262	1 029	1 006	293	10
Iraq	421	487	94	279	262	679	39	159	6.7
Libya	54	48	98	179	266	527	998	98	5.2
Kosovo*	335	224	432	283	211	169	-25	-20	1.7
Turkey	50	85	154	219	130	147	73	13	1.5
Algeria	303	125	245	248	192	110	-12	-43	1.1
All Other	442	423	606	529	548	548	30	0	5.4
Total	7 048	5 384	7 371	7 177	6 659	10 087	87	51	100

* 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, top five border sections and top ten nationalities

	2017				2018		2018 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Clandestine/Other									
Clandestine	833	791	424	447	649	443	-44	-32	79
Other	64	72	91	54	105	117	n.a.	11	21
Not available	9	0	0	0	0	0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Top Five Sections									
Croatia-Land-Serbia	746	653	71	104	506	301	-54	-41	54
Bosnia and Herzegovina-Land-Croatia	10	1	10	12	26	96	9 500	269	17
Bosnia and Herzegovina-Land-Serbia	45	32	21	20	66	56	75	-15	10
Hungary-Land-Serbia	21	21	7	16	76	33	57	-57	5.9
Montenegro - Air	3	20	21	5	5	27	35	440	4.8
All Other	72	136	385	344	75	47	-65	-37	8.4
Top Ten Nationalities									
Afghanistan	674	667	73	122	365	224	-66	-39	40
Pakistan	112	45	12	6	140	100	122	-29	18
Iran	8	1	0	9	49	55	5 400	12	9.8
Iraq	7	14	23	24	18	38	171	111	6.8
Syria	11	27	37	50	9	24	-11	167	4.3
Bangladesh	0	0	0	0	15	24	n.a.	60	4.3
Albania	22	21	176	182	19	15	-29	-21	2.7
France	2	7	9	1	1	12	71	1 100	2.1
Kosovo*	19	5	14	19	53	8	60	-85	1.4
Yemen	0	0	0	0	0	6	n.a.	n.a.	1.1
All Other	42	76	171	88	85	54	-29	-36	9.6
Total	897	863	515	501	754	560	-35	-26	100

* 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 3. **Facilitators**

Detections reported by Western Balkan and neighbouring countries, by place of detection and top ten nationalities

	2017				2018		2018 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	% change on previous Qtr	
Place of Detection									
Land	149	122	132	184	161	145	19	-9.9	73
Inland	39	49	24	51	35	54	10	54	27
Sea	0	2	5	5	3	1	-50	-67	0.5
Air	0	0	0	4	0	0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Top Ten Nationalities									
Albania	32	34	29	43	57	57	68	0	29
Serbia	68	71	58	81	51	46	-35	-9.8	23
Bosnia and Herzegovina	9	4	19	10	10	30	650	200	15
Greece	20	22	16	18	9	13	-41	44	6.5
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	5	1	7	6	12	8	700	-33	4
Pakistan	1	3	2	5	5	5	67	0	2.5
Croatia	6	0	4	3	6	5	n.a.	-17	2.5
Turkey	7	3	4	7	4	4	33	0	2
Germany	1	1	1	1	3	4	300	33	2
Unknown	4	5	1	9	4	3	-40	-25	1.5
All Other	35	29	20	61	38	25	-14	-34	13
Total	188	173	161	244	199	200	16	0.5	100

* 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 4. **Illegal stay**

Detections reported by Western Balkan and neighbouring countries, by place of detection and top ten nationalities

	2017				2018		2018 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	% change on previous Qtr	
Place of Detection									
Inland	721	776	752	1 177	1 528	7 381	851	383	83
Land	576	1 479	2 534	2 484	1 845	1 551	4.9	-16	17
Not specified	30	0	0	0	0	0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Sea	0	0	0	0	1	0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Top Ten Nationalities									
Pakistan	18	43	17	49	117	2 258	5 151	1 830	25
Syria	15	12	19	26	296	1 140	9 400	285	13
Serbia	514	1 061	1 612	1 682	1 150	1 102	3.9	-4.2	12
Afghanistan	21	40	56	13	76	854	2 035	1 024	9.6
Iran	10	8	7	47	72	793	9 813	1 001	8.9
Iraq	26	24	4	22	54	630	2 525	1 067	7.1
Libya	5	1	13	25	112	324	32 300	189	3.6
Albania	114	173	287	450	296	309	79	4.4	3.5
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	88	289	654	486	329	221	-24	-33	2.5
Algeria	8	6	16	29	62	155	2 483	150	1.7
All Other	508	598	601	832	810	1 146	92	41	13
Total	1 327	2 255	3 286	3 661	3 374	8 932	296	165	100

* 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 5. Refusals of entry

Refusals of entry reported by Western Balkan and neighbouring countries, by border type and top ten nationalities

	2017				2018		2018 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Border Type									
Land	9 749	11 797	14 808	12 662	10 309	11 601	-1.7	13	92
Air	548	694	1 347	1 447	948	916	32	-3.4	7.3
Sea	4	32	35	16	0	26	-19	n.a.	0.2
Top Ten Nationalities									
Albania	4 589	5 909	5 715	7 224	4 328	5 431	-8.1	25	43
Serbia	1 717	1 715	2 271	1 787	2 015	1 722	0.4	-15	14
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1 107	1 068	1 135	1 036	1 200	1 334	25	11	11
Turkey	417	524	873	831	746	643	23	-14	5.1
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	483	436	691	476	596	507	16	-15	4
Kosovo ^a	254	303	941	268	307	286	-6	-6.8	2.3
Montenegro	110	125	155	141	112	189	51	69	1.5
China	44	91	137	99	69	183	101	165	1.5
Iran	6	20	167	319	159	181	805	14	1.4
Germany	74	146	374	84	71	180	23	154	1.4
All Other	1 500	2 186	3 731	1 860	1 654	1 887	-14	14	15
Total	10 301	12 523	16 190	14 125	11 257	12 543	0.2	11	100

^a 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 6. Applications for asylum

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

	2017				2018		2018 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Top Ten Nationalities									
Syria	6 126	3 093	5 053	5 155	4 626	5 468	77	18	25
Pakistan	2 549	2 355	2 674	2 384	2 063	2 481	5.4	20	11
Iraq	2 876	2 089	3 781	3 869	3 236	2 404	15	-26	11
Afghanistan	3 781	2 193	2 657	2 492	1 723	1 899	-13	10	8.8
Ukraine	27	36	31	33	34	1 759	4 786	5 074	8.1
Turkey	236	350	786	760	443	1 142	226	158	5.3
Albania	336	688	741	696	751	1 005	46	34	4.6
Russia	13	31	20	15	24	938	2 926	3 808	4.3
Iran	538	432	441	444	436	487	13	12	2.2
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	1	2	13	4	4	335	16 650	8 275	1.5
All Other	4 226	3 124	3 393	3 512	3 096	3 784	21	22	17
Total	20 709	14 393	19 590	19 364	16 436	21 702	51	32	100

^a 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 7. **Persons using false documents**

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

	2017				2018		2018 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Border Type									
Land	212	184	199	387	326	214	16	-34	57
Air	40	88	152	255	168	135	53	-20	36
Sea	12	21	37	34	40	24	14	-40	6.4
Not available	0	0	2	13	0	0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Document Type									
Passports	135	159	228	426	304	203	28	-33	54
ID cards	65	82	93	134	104	69	-16	-34	18
Stamps	10	0	8	11	45	37	n.a.	-18	9.9
Visas	20	19	34	48	30	28	47	-6.7	7.5
Residence permit	25	18	25	56	48	22	22	-54	5.9
Not specified	9	15	2	14	3	14	-6.7	367	3.8
Top Ten Nationalities									
Albania	91	104	126	169	100	97	-7	-3	26
Turkey	24	17	35	74	86	85	400	-1.2	23
Kosovo*	75	68	90	118	129	68	0	-47	18
Iran	2	7	24	190	68	31	343	-54	8.3
Serbia	27	36	19	40	27	23	-36	-15	6.2
China	1	20	3	15	13	10	-50	-23	2.7
Unknown	0	3	0	2	4	9	200	125	2.4
Tunisia	0	1	2	3	6	5	400	-17	1.3
Russia	0	3	0	2	10	5	67	-50	1.3
Mongolia	0	0	4	5	3	5	n.a.	67	1.3
All Other	44	34	87	71	88	35	2.9	-60	9.4
Top Ten Countries of Issuance of Documents									
Albania	47	56	69	81	73	65	16	-11	17
Turkey	3	3	13	32	47	53	1 667	13	14
Serbia	27	29	31	55	43	33	14	-23	8.8
Italy	42	63	47	85	50	27	-57	-46	7.2
Germany	8	11	13	41	16	26	136	63	7
France	8	12	19	64	21	23	92	9.5	6.2
Greece	24	18	35	36	26	18	0	-31	4.8
Bulgaria	13	7	21	29	23	14	100	-39	3.8
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	16	11	13	33	43	12	9.1	-72	3.2
United Kingdom	0	1	3	21	14	8	700	-43	2.1
All Other	76	82	126	212	178	94	15	-47	25
Total	264	293	390	689	534	373	27	-30	100

* 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.

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



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