

# Western Balkans Quarterly

QUARTER 4 • OCTOBER–DECEMBER 2016

Q1

Q2

Q3

Q4





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Warsaw, June 2017  
Risk Analysis Unit  
Frontex reference number: 7547/2017

OPOCE Catalogue number TT-AI-16-004-EN-N  
ISSN 2443-8367

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

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The *Western Balkans Quarterly* has been prepared by the Frontex Risk Analysis Unit. During the course of developing this product, many colleagues at Frontex and from the WB-RAN contributed to it and their assistance is hereby acknowledged with gratitude.

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## List of abbreviations used

<b>BCP</b>	border-crossing point
<b>CIA</b>	Central Investigation Agency
<b>EDF</b>	European Union Document-Fraud
<b>EDF-RAN</b>	European Union Document-Fraud Risk Analysis Network
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>EUR</b>	euro
<b>FRAN</b>	Frontex Risk Analysis Network
<b>Frontex</b>	European Border and Coast Guard Agency (formerly European Agency for the Management of Operational Co-operation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union)
<b>ICJ</b>	International Court of Justice
<b>ID</b>	identification document
<b>JORA</b>	Joint Operations Reporting Application
<b>n.a.</b>	not available
<b>Q/Qtr</b>	quarter of the year
<b>RAU</b>	Frontex Risk Analysis Unit
<b>UK</b>	United Kingdom
<b>UNHCR</b>	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
<b>UNSCR</b>	United Nations Security Council Resolution
<b>WB-RAN</b>	Western Balkans Risk Analysis Network

# Introduction

## Concept

The Western Balkans Risk Analysis Network (WB-RAN) performs monthly exchanges of statistical data and information on the most recent irregular migration developments affecting the region. This information is compiled at Frontex Risk Analysis Unit (RAU) level and analysed in cooperation with the regional partners on a quarterly and annual basis. The annual reports offer a more in-depth analysis of the developments and phenomena which impact the regional and common borders, while the quarterly reports are meant to provide regular updates and identify emerging trends in order to maintain situational awareness. Both types of reports are aimed at offering support for strategic and operational decision making.

## Methodology

The Western Balkans Quarterly is focused on quarterly developments as reflected by the seven key indicators of irregular migration: (1) detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs, (2) detections of illegal border-crossing at BCPs, (3) refusals of entry, (4) detections of illegal stay, (5) asylum applications, (6) detections of facilitators, and (7) detections of fraudulent documents.<sup>1</sup>

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

## Structure

The 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 structure of the report may still be subject to some readjustments in the future.

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

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

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

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

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

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

# I. SITUATIONAL OVERVIEW

Figure 1. General map of the Western Balkans region



Source: The CIA World Factbook (July 2016 estimates), ESRI geodata

# Summary of WB-RAN indicators

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

WB-RAN Indicator	Q4 2015	Q3 2016	Q4 2016	% change on same quarter last year	% change on previous quarter
Illegal border-crossing between BCPs	1 336 010	18 376	13 838	<i>n.a.</i>	-25%
Illegal border-crossing at BCPs	152	476	398	162%	-16%
Facilitators	273	321	266	-2.6%	-17%
Illegal stay	1 901	1 674	1 514	-20%	-9.6%
Refusals of entry	9 626	12 857	13 733	43%	6.8%
Asylum applications*	13 248	25 536	30 469	130%	19%
False travel-document users	220	193	237	7.7%	23%

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

Source: WB-RAN and EDF-RAN data as of 25 January 2017

## Key findings

- **Detections of non-regional transiting migrants continue to decrease following the closure of the transit corridor in March 2016**
- **Due to enhanced border-control measures, the pressure on the borders persists and some migrants still manage to make their way through the Western Balkans albeit in lower numbers**
- **The irregular flow of citizens of Western Balkan countries remains low and mostly affects the southern regional borders with Greece**

# Situation at the border

## Border surveillance

### Illegal border-crossings

In the last quarter of 2016, there were more than 11 500 illegal border-crossings by non-regional migrants en route from Turkey, Greece and Bulgaria reported at the common and regional borders (see Fig. 2). This is the third quarter in a row showing a significant decrease (i.e. 30% drop from Q3 2016). Moreover, the to-

tal number of detections reported in Q4 was even lower (i.e. 50%) compared with Q1 2015 (before the intensification of the migration crisis).

This low number of detections registered in Q4 2016 results from a steady month-on-month decline from roughly 5 000 in October to 3 500 in November and just over 3 000 in December. The gradual eas-

ing pressure during the fourth quarter was mostly associated with fewer detections reported at the border between the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Greece, and between Serbia and Hungary.

The reported decline in detected illegal border-crossings throughout Q4 appears to be largely consistent with the overall downward migration trend in the region. What is more, the decrease in the size of the flow may be even more pronounced than the reporting indicates.

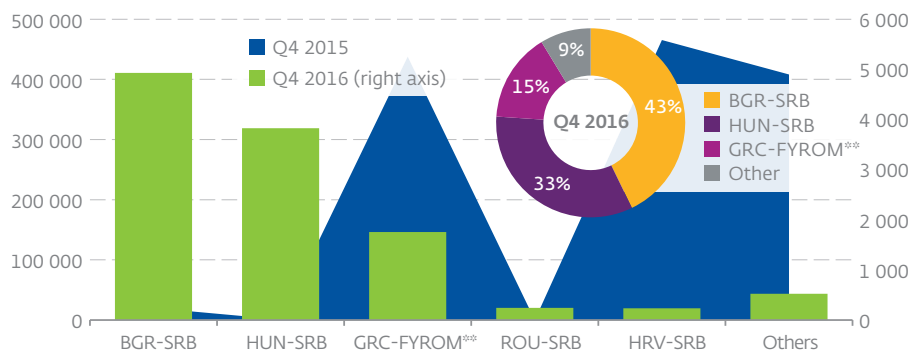
Specifically, the actual number of migrants at some border sections may be lower than the observed pressure might suggest, due to the fact that the same person may make multiple attempts at crossing the border. Moreover, the same migrant may be detected at several border sections on his/her way through the region.

With this in mind, it is important to mention that the detections reported along the Western Balkan route are not necessarily reflected in an equal number of individual migrants and that the reported pressure, especially after the closure of the corridor, may be greater than the actual size of the flow.

As in previous quarters, Afghans were the top reported nationality in Q4 2016, accounting for 50% of the total non-regional migration flow. Pakistanis and Iraqis ranked second and third, respectively, both outnumbering Syrians, who became the fourth most detected nationality in Q4 2016. The nationality of some non-regional

Figure 2. Non-regional migrants continued to enter/attempt<sup>2</sup> to enter the Western Balkans region through the southern common borders and then exited/attempted to exit in its northern part, mostly across the Hungarian-Serbian border

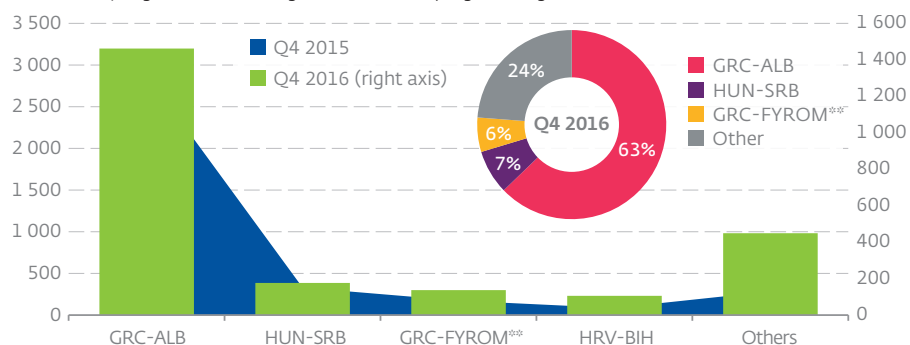
Detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs by non-regional migrants



Source: WB-RAN data as of 25 January 2017

Figure 3. Detections of regional migrants were mostly reported from the southern common borders (Albanian circular migration); detections at the northern common borders mainly involved Kosovo\* nationals and, to a lesser extent, Albanians

Detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs by regional migrants



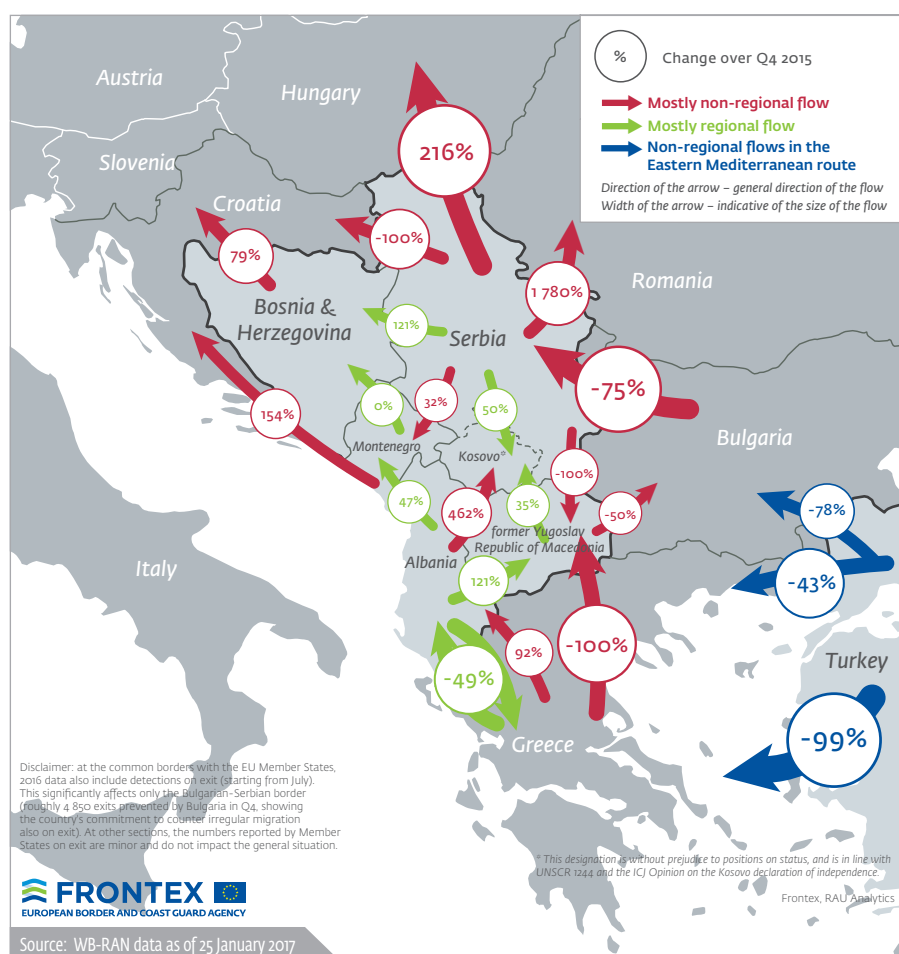
Source: WB-RAN data as of 25 January 2017

<sup>2</sup> After the closure of the corridor and the introduction of enhanced controls not all migrants managed to cross the borders.



Figure 4. In the southern part of the region, the border between the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Greece followed by the Bulgarian-Serbian one registered the highest pressure from the non-regional migrants trying to enter the Western Balkans. A slight rise can also be observed at the Greek-Albanian border section, likely resulting from migrants looking for alternative routes. Most exit attempts still occur at the northern common. The regional flow remained mainly localised at the Greek-Albanian border

Changes in detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs between Q4 2015 and Q4 2016 at particular border sections and main directions of the flow



migrants was still reported as 'unknown'<sup>3</sup> but the share of this group had been constantly dropping: 51% in Q1, 20% in Q2, 9% in Q3 and below 3% in Q4. This shrinking proportion of people of 'unknown nationality' crossing the border illegally indicates that the flow was gradually returning to levels manageable by the authorities' capacities of screening and identification.

3 The number of persons reported as 'unknown' is analysed as part of the non-regional migration flow.

All the top nationalities registered significant drops compared with the previous quarter, ranging from -14% for Pakistanis to -58% for Syrians. The number of 'unknown nationals' dropped by 80% compared with Q3.

The number of detected Western Balkan regional migrants was 23% higher than in the previous quarter but still low overall.

The majority of Western Balkan 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). Detections at the common borders with EU Member States in the north of the region accounted for 19% of the regional flow, mainly involving Kosovo\* nationals and, to a lesser extent, Albanians.

# I. SITUATIONAL OVERVIEW

## Facilitators

In the fourth quarter of 2016, the number of detected facilitators totalled 266, which represents a 17% decrease over the previous three-month period.

This decrease in Q4 may appear somewhat puzzling since it would be logical to expect that the demand for facilitation services would increase following the closure of the transit corridor.

Specifically, as migrants can no longer rely on the transportation services provided by the authorities and need to bypass additional prevention measures, the

demand for facilitation services should be increasing. With the growing demand, the migrant smuggling becomes more profitable, possibly attracting more people to engage in this type of illegal activity.

Despite the 17% decrease in the number of detections in Q4, the ratio between the number of facilitators and that of illegal border-crossings by non-regional migrants remained relatively stable, even increasing in relation to Q3 (i.e. from 1:51 to 1:43 in Q4).

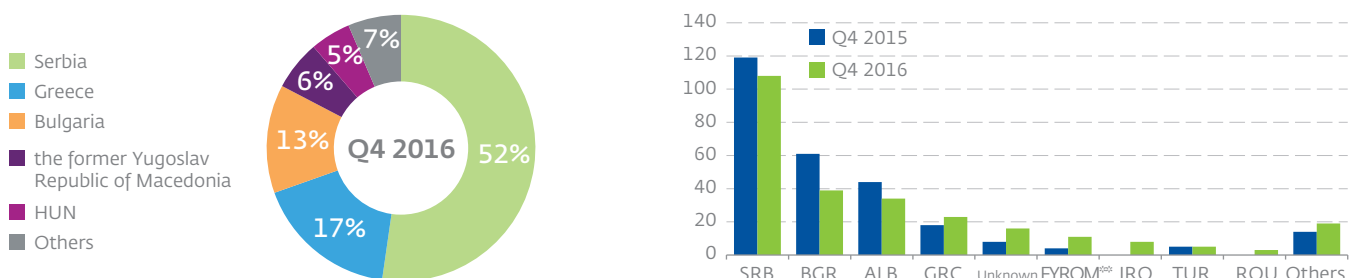
Nevertheless, the fact that only 266 facilitators were detected in Q4 2016 (compared with over 11 500 illegal bor-

der-crossings by non-regional nationals) indicates that migrants are still able to organise their own movement, even if the convenient transit options are no longer available.

As regards nationalities, 59% of all facilitators detected in the fourth quarter were nationals of Western Balkan countries, 26% were citizens of EU Member States (primarily those neighbouring the region), while the remaining 15% were nationals of third countries from outside the region or persons of 'unknown nationality'. The highest share of detected facilitators was still reported by Serbia, followed by Greece.

Figure 5. **The number of people smugglers remained relatively low considering the overall pressure exerted by non-regional migrants**

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



Source: WB-RAN data as of 25 January 2017

# Border checks

## Clandestine entries

In Q4 2016, a total of 345 non-regional migrants were detected while attempting to illegally cross the border hiding in vehicles. This represents a 15% decrease compared with the previous quarter but more than a ninefold increase in relation to Q4 2015. The increase compared with one year before can be seen as a consequence of migrants trying to avoid being detected while transiting the region with no transit corridor available any more. Nevertheless, this *modus operandi* carries associated risks to the migrants' safety and wellbeing (e.g. some were detected hiding in cargo compartments containing hazardous materials).

Most clandestine non-regional migrants were reported by Serbia, followed by Croatia and Bulgaria. Additionally, 53 nationals of Western Balkan countries were detected attempting clandestine entry at BCPs, most of them at the Greek-Albanian border.

## Document fraud

In the fourth quarter, there were 237 cases of false document use reported by the six Western Balkan countries, a number

23% higher compared with the previous quarter.

Serbia reported most detections, followed by the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Albania. As regards nationalities, in Q4 2016 Albania and Kosovo\* citizens remained the top ranking false document users.

Passports, ID cards and residence permits remained the most commonly used fraudulent documents. Moreover, 16 forged visas were detected. The large majority of ID cards, residence permits and visas were EU Member States' documents, as they allow the holder free-movement within the EU/Schengen area.

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

## Refusals of entry

In the analysed period, the number of refusals of entry increased by 7% compared with the previous quarter: from roughly

13 000 to 14 000. This increase appears to go against the usual seasonal trend (i.e. a slight decrease observed between Q3 and Q4 resulting from lower tourist mobility). The rise in Q4 2016 was mainly associated with a high number of refusals issued by Greece at its border with Albania. Overall, Turkish nationals continued to be the fourth most refused nationality, despite registering a significant drop in relation to Q3.

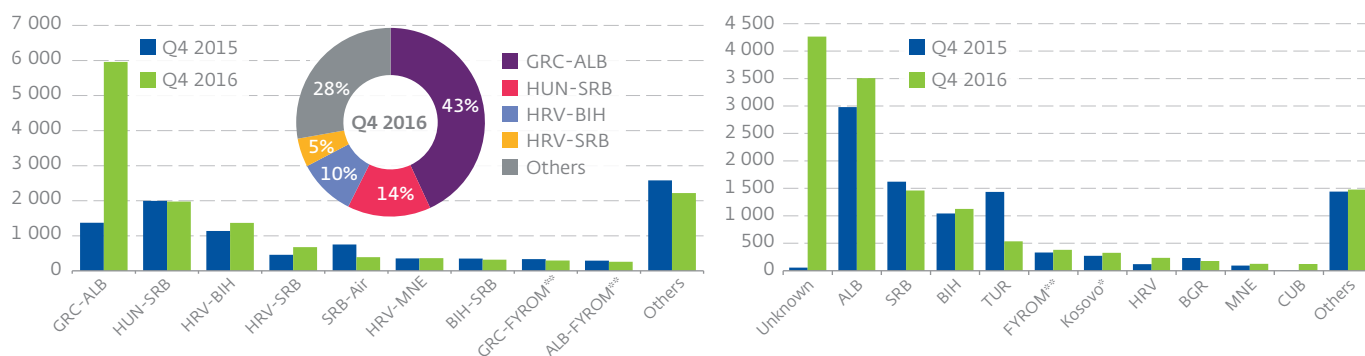
As usual, a vast majority of refusals of entry was issued at the land borders (94%), while most of the remaining 6% was reported at the air borders.

Most of the refusals reported by the neighbouring EU Member States were issued to nationals of Western Balkan countries (56%). In turn, among those refused entry by the six countries of the region, 38% nationals of Western Balkan states, 28% nationals of EU Member States/Schengen Associated Countries, and 12% Turkish nationals.

The overall number of refusals issued to the non-regional nationalities associated with the migratory flow originating from Turkey/Greece still represented only a small share of the total.

Figure 6. Turkish nationals still ranked high among the top refused nationalities

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



Source: WB-RAN data as of 25 January 2017

## Situation in the Western Balkans

# Illegal stay in Western Balkan countries

There were 749 detections of illegal stay reported by the six Western Balkan countries in Q4 2016, a number 4% lower than in the previous quarter and 5% lower compared with the corresponding three-month period of 2015. The number can still be regarded as low considering the overall volume of the flow transiting the region in Q4 2016.

As regards the top nationalities of illegal stayers detected in the analysed quarter, Albanians ranked first, ahead of Serbian and Turkish nationals.

As expected, following the introduction of the restriction measures (i.e. amendment to the Hungarian legislation allowing the returns of migrants detected

within 8 km from the borders, enhanced controls at Serbia's southern and eastern borders) which made it more difficult to transit the region, the number of illegal stayers associated with the non-regional transiting flow edged up during the third quarter. This situation almost completely reversed in Q4, when all the top non-regional nationalities detected for illegal border-crossing were less frequently detected as illegal stayers.

Specifically, the total number of Afghans, Pakistanis, Syrians, Iraqis and Iranians detected staying illegally in the six Western Balkan countries dropped by 50% compared with Q3. This is most likely due to the fact that migrants decide to legalise their stay by registering in reception fa-

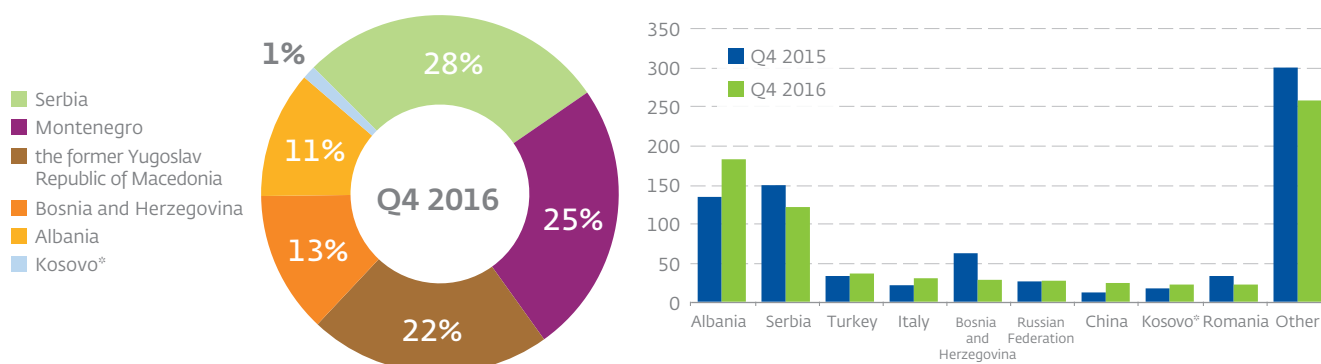
cilities to take shelter from harsh winter conditions.

Given the enhanced border-control measures in the region, the number of illegal stayers or applicants for international protection associated with the transiting flow may be expected to keep on growing in the future.

Over the past one-and-a-half years, there has been a large discrepancy between the number of illegal border-crossings by non-regional migrants originating from Greece/Turkey reported by the six Western Balkan countries and the detected illegal stayers of corresponding nationalities. This was also true for Q4 2016.

Figure 7. Only a small share of non-regional nationalities reported for illegal border-crossing were detected as illegal stayers

Illegal stayers, by reporting Western Balkan country, top shares (left) and nationalities (right)



Source: WB-RAN data as of 25 January 2017

## II. Statistical annex

### LEGEND

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

**Source:** WB-RAN and FRAN data as of 25 January 2017,  
unless otherwise indicated

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

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

	2015			2016			2016 Q4		per cent of total
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
<b>Purpose of illegal border-crossing</b>									
Irregular migration	476 179	1334 731	211 659	17 560	17 831	<b>13 638</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	-24	99
Other	88	57	67	92	112	<b>128</b>	125	14	0.9
Smuggling of goods	84	53	363	450	416	<b>72</b>	36	-83	0.5
Not specified	138 596	1 169	5 930	10 947	17	<b>0</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	
<b>Top Five Sections</b>									
Bulgaria - Serbia	18 673	20 108	2 182	495	4 162	<b>4 928</b>	-75	18	36
Hungary - Serbia	142 918	1 267	6 629	11 194	5 007	<b>4 002</b>	216	-20	29
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia - Greece	259 986	437 741	104 279	14 587	6 093	<b>1 891</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	-69	14
Albania - Greece	2 506	2 960	1 914	2 209	1 439	<b>1 604</b>	-46	11	12
Croatia - Serbia	91 698	465 506	102 596	81	731	<b>309</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	-58	2.2
Others	99 166	408 428	419	483	944	<b>1 104</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	17	8.0
<b>Top Ten Nationalities</b>									
Afghanistan	67 428	214 699	30 433	9 662	7 107	<b>5 763</b>	-97	-19	42
Pakistan	19 757	8 004	3 351	3 204	2 525	<b>2 172</b>	-73	-14	16
Albania	2 972	3 301	2 073	2 224	1 425	<b>1 878</b>	-43	32	14
Iraq	21 198	112 462	20 645	1 710	1 614	<b>1 270</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	-21	9.2
Syria	236 445	431 847	46 036	4 290	2 381	<b>990</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	-58	7.2
Not specified	247 991	530 893	109 974	5 376	1 502	<b>301</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	-80	2.2
Kosovo*	409	298	435	211	357	<b>251</b>	-16	-30	1.8
Algeria	204	962	384	150	226	<b>220</b>	-77	-2.7	1.6
Iran	2 332	16 985	1 215	659	230	<b>206</b>	-99	-10	1.5
Bangladesh	4 765	1 681	150	137	134	<b>168</b>	-90	25	1.2
Others	11 446	14 878	3 323	1 426	875	<b>619</b>	-96	-29	4.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>614 947</b>	<b>1336 010</b>	<b>218 019</b>	<b>29 049</b>	<b>18 376</b>	<b>13 838</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	<b>-25</b>	<b>100</b>

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

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

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

	2015			2016			2016 Q4		per cent of total
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
<b>Clandestine/Other</b>									
Clandestine	78	101	390	146	405	<b>339</b>	236	-16	85
Others	170	47	15	153	71	<b>38</b>	-19	-46	9.5
Not specified	1	4	11	6	0	<b>21</b>	425	<i>n.a.</i>	5.3
<b>Purpose of Illegal Border-Crossing</b>									
Irregular migration	212	127	170	228	306	<b>225</b>	77	-26	57
Not specified	25	14	234	52	121	<b>146</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	21	37
Other	12	9	12	22	46	<b>27</b>	200	-41	6.8
Smuggling of goods	0	2	0	3	3	<b>0</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	
<b>Top Five Sections</b>									
Croatia - Serbia	6	14	78	17	337	<b>211</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	-37	53
Hungary - Serbia	72	0	209	22	20	<b>78</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	290	20
Bulgaria - Serbia	147	30	0	0	2	<b>37</b>	23	<i>n.a.</i>	9.3
Albania - Greece	0	81	0	24	27	<b>22</b>	-73	-19	5.5
Bosnia and Herzegovina - Croatia	0	1	3	8	6	<b>11</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	83	2.8
Others	24	26	126	234	84	<b>39</b>	50	-54	9.8
<b>Top Ten Nationalities</b>									
Afghanistan	72	14	51	68	263	<b>210</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	-20	53
Pakistan	2	0	13	25	20	<b>56</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	180	14
Albania	9	91	22	43	45	<b>30</b>	-67	-33	7.5
Iraq	16	14	22	11	1	<b>23</b>	64	<i>n.a.</i>	5.8
Syria	126	4	9	112	48	<b>20</b>	400	-58	5.0
Kosovo <sup>a</sup>	7	18	1	7	10	<b>13</b>	-28	30	3.3
Algeria	0	0	81	6	8	<b>7</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	-13	1.8
Turkey	1	1	5	0	9	<b>6</b>	500	-33	1.5
Iran	2	0	44	10	2	<b>5</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	150	1.3
Serbia	10	2	6	5	8	<b>4</b>	100	-50	1.0
Others	4	8	162	18	62	<b>24</b>	200	-61	6.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>-16</b>	<b>100</b>

<sup>a</sup> 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

	2015		2016				2016 Q4		per cent of total
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
<b>Place of Detection</b>									
Land	542	240	219	291	265	<b>226</b>	-5.8	-15	85
Inland	76	25	42	16	55	<b>40</b>	60	-27	15
Air	0	6	0	0	1	<b>0</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	
Sea	0	2	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	
<b>Top Ten Nationalities</b>									
Serbia	348	119	110	162	167	<b>108</b>	-9.2	-35	41
Bulgaria	51	61	24	32	36	<b>39</b>	-36	8.3	15
Albania	38	44	33	22	30	<b>34</b>	-23	13	13
Greece	28	18	17	14	20	<b>23</b>	28	15	8.6
Not specified	22	9	4	12	17	<b>16</b>	78	-5.9	6.0
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	6	4	20	28	10	<b>11</b>	175	10	4.1
Iraq	14	0	0	1	0	<b>8</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	3.0
Turkey	0	5	2	0	5	<b>5</b>	0.0	0.0	1.9
Pakistan	20	1	2	3	5	<b>3</b>	200	-40	1.1
Romania	14	0	3	1	2	<b>3</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	50	1.1
Others	77	12	46	32	29	<b>16</b>	33	-45	6.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>618</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	<b>-17</b>	<b>100</b>

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



Table 4. **Illegal stay**

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

	2015			2016			2016 Q4		per cent of total
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	% change on year ago	% change on previous Qtr	
<b>Place of Detection</b>									
Land	966	1 115	1 265	924	896	<b>765</b>	-31	-15	51
Inland	562	645	690	660	576	<b>566</b>	-12	-1.7	37
Not specified	87	141	176	202	202	<b>183</b>	30	-9.4	12
<b>Top Ten Nationalities</b>									
Serbia	599	842	858	750	617	<b>589</b>	-30	-4.5	39
Albania	127	188	154	186	209	<b>240</b>	28	15	16
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	107	147	137	88	83	<b>89</b>	-39	7.2	5.9
Iraq	20	18	53	19	14	<b>64</b>	256	357	4.2
Turkey	92	42	56	93	69	<b>45</b>	7.1	-35	3.0
Bosnia and Herzegovina	74	79	83	69	56	<b>45</b>	-43	-20	3.0
Kosovo*	37	51	42	21	38	<b>41</b>	-20	7.9	2.7
Italy	11	21	31	18	25	<b>30</b>	43	20	2.0
Russia	24	29	43	40	22	<b>29</b>	0.0	32	1.9
Pakistan	20	16	45	22	36	<b>26</b>	63	-28	1.7
Others	504	468	629	480	505	<b>316</b>	-32	-37	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 615</b>	<b>1 901</b>	<b>2 131</b>	<b>1 786</b>	<b>1 674</b>	<b>1 514</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>-9.6</b>	<b>100</b>

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

Table 5. **Refusals of entry**

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

	2015			2016			2016 Q4		per cent of total
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
<b>Border Type</b>									
Land	12 581	7 835	7 837	9 365	12 026	<b>12 939</b>	65	7.6	94
Air	1 335	1 775	1 009	618	794	<b>772</b>	-57	-2.8	5.6
Sea	40	16	4	14	37	<b>22</b>	38	-41	0.2
<b>Top Ten Nationalities</b>									
Not specified	587	158	94	133	424	<b>4 365</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	<i>n.a.</i>	32
Albania	2 736	2 980	2 317	3 451	3 653	<b>3 507</b>	18	-4.0	26
Serbia	1 852	1 621	1 924	1 635	1 738	<b>1 460</b>	-9.9	-16	11
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1 391	1 042	1 217	1 610	1 019	<b>1 126</b>	8.1	11	8.2
Turkey	1 332	1 434	1 015	586	938	<b>534</b>	-63	-43	3.9
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	578	331	481	330	507	<b>381</b>	15	-25	2.8
Kosovo*	708	271	221	225	617	<b>326</b>	20	-47	2.4
Croatia	260	119	92	118	223	<b>233</b>	96	4.5	1.7
Bulgaria	372	231	153	179	307	<b>176</b>	-24	-43	1.3
Montenegro	96	94	78	125	134	<b>126</b>	34	-6.0	0.9
Others	4 044	1 345	1 258	1 605	3 297	<b>1 499</b>	11	-55	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>13 956</b>	<b>9 626</b>	<b>8 850</b>	<b>9 997</b>	<b>12 857</b>	<b>13 733</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>100</b>

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Table 6. Applications for asylum

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

	2015		2016				2016 Q4		per cent of total
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
<b>Top Ten Nationalities</b>									
Syria	56 443	2 160	3 061	11 608	9 648	<b>11 573</b>	436	20	38
Afghanistan	30 111	3 581	3 172	9 918	6 093	<b>6 520</b>	82	7.0	21
Iraq	7 929	4 150	3 839	3 244	2 931	<b>4 683</b>	13	60	15
Pakistan	12 418	826	2 395	3 007	2 779	<b>2 701</b>	227	-2.8	8.9
Iran	1 288	121	998	922	571	<b>692</b>	472	21	2.3
Algeria	194	56	428	264	542	<b>591</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	9.0	1.9
Albania	382	499	357	292	321	<b>499</b>	0.0	55	1.6
Bangladesh	3 209	267	373	306	469	<b>417</b>	56	-11	1.4
Palestine	316	26	134	364	283	<b>359</b>	<i>n.a.</i>	27	1.2
Eritrea	414	91	126	90	83	<b>237</b>	160	186	0.8
Others	6 334	1 471	3 413	2 156	1 816	<b>2 197</b>	49	21	7.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>119 038</b>	<b>13 248</b>	<b>18 296</b>	<b>32 171</b>	<b>25 536</b>	<b>30 469</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>100</b>

<sup>a</sup> 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. Document fraud

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

	2015		Q1	Q2	2016		2016 Q4		per cent of total
	Q3	Q4			Q3	Q4	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
<b>Border Type</b>									
Land	136	120	186	123	149	179	49	20	76
Air	60	83	51	47	36	53	-36	47	22
Sea	15	17	14	4	8	5	-71	-38	2.1
<b>Document Type</b>									
Passports	133	132	160	110	118	121	-8.3	2.5	51
ID cards	43	37	52	28	40	69	86	73	29
Residence permits	11	10	15	8	14	21	110	50	8.9
Visas	7	11	13	4	4	16	45	300	6.8
Unknown	5	2	4	14	8	7	250	-13	3.0
Stamp	17	28	7	10	9	3	-89	-67	1.3
<b>Top Ten Nationalities</b>									
Albania	74	109	92	97	83	87	-20	4.8	37
Kosovo*	41	26	67	28	47	58	123	23	24
Pakistan	8	1	1	5	2	12	1100	500	5.1
Serbia	30	19	20	15	15	12	-37	-20	5.1
Turkey	11	18	19	5	6	10	-44	67	4.2
Bulgaria	1	4	4	6	5	9	125	80	3.8
Cuba			1		3	7	n.a.	133	3
Iran	6	1	2	1	4	5	400	25	2.1
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	1	3	9	4	3	4	33	33	1.7
Italy			1		1	4	n.a.	300	1.7
Others	44	39	35	13	24	29	-26	21	1.2
<b>Top Ten Countries of Issuance of Documents</b>									
Albania	63	75	80	70	65	51	-32	-22	22
Italy	11	19	22	13	14	32	68	129	14
Bulgaria	10	8	18	12	4	23	188	475	9.7
Serbia	22	16	18	15	21	14	-13	-33	5.9
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	4	9	16	8	10	13	44	30	5.5
Greece	15	19	8	13	10	13	-32	30	5.5
Romania	1	3	8	2	5	13	333	160	5.5
Sweden	4	2	1		4	10	400	150	4.2
Germany	4	2	6	5	5	9	350	80	3.8
France	7	3	6	1	3	7	133	133	3.0
Others	75	64	68	35	52	52	-19	0	2.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>100</b>

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## Explanatory note

Detections reported by 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 (Reporting country, Border type, Place of detection, Top five border section and Top ten nationalities) refers to total detections reported by WB-RAN countries and to neighbouring land border detections reported by EU Member States.



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**For Public Release**

Risk Analysis Unit

Reference number: 7547/2017

TT-AI-16-004-EN-N  
ISSN 2443-8367

Warsaw, June 2017