FRONTEX

Western Balkans Quarterly

Quarter 1 • January–March 2016

Q1 Q2

Q3 Q4



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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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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

BCP	border-crossing point
CIA	Central Investigation Agency
EDF	European Union Document-Fraud
EDF-RAN	European Union Document-Fraud Risk Analysis Network
EU	European Union
FRAN	Frontex Risk Analysis Network
Frontex	European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union
FYR Macedonia	former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
ICJ	International Court of Justice
ID	identification document
IOM	International Organization for Migration
n.a.	not available
Q/Qtr	quarter of the year
RAU	Frontex Risk Analysis Unit
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution
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 documents.[1]

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 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 presents more in-depth featured risk analyses of particular phenomena. As the current issue of the Western Balkans Quarterly is the fifth following a new approach adopted for risk analysis quarterlies, the structure of the report may still be subject to some readjustments.

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

Important changes in the collection and use of data for Western Balkans Quarterlies 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 so they are no longer covered by this report.

Thirdly, after joining the EU, Croatian data on illegal stay data 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.

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.

Figure 1. **General map of the Western Balkans region**



Source: *The CIA World Factbook* (July 2014 estimates), ESRI geodata

Summary of WB-RAN indicators

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

WB-RAN Indicator	Q1 2015	Q4 2015	Q1 2016	% change on same quarter last year	% change on previous quarter
Illegal border-crossing between BCPs	48 753	1 336 010	217 815	347%	-84%
Illegal border-crossing at BCPs	394	152	410	4%	170%
Facilitators	517	273	261	-50%	-4%
Illegal stay	2 209	1 901	2 099	-5%	10%
Refusals of entry	8 391	9 626	8 807	5%	-9%
Asylum applications*	42 480	13 248	18 294	-57%	38%
False travel-document users	260	220	236	-9%	7%

* 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 data as of 6 May 2016

Key findings

- **Decrease of non-regional flow as more restrictions are gradually introduced and the transit corridor is closed**
- **As the message about the unavailability of the Western Balkan transit corridor spreads, arrivals via the Eastern Aegean also decrease**
- **Increased number of migrants trying to transit via BCPs**
- **Regional flow still low, broadly consistent with seasonal trends**

Situation at the border

Border surveillance

Illegal border-crossings

During the analysed period, 215 000 illegal border-crossings by **non-regional migrants** en route from Turkey, Greece and Bulgaria were reported at the common and regional borders (see Fig. 2). This represents an 84% decrease compared with the previous quarter, which was an all-time record.

The decrease could be observed during all the three months of the quarter but was more visible in February and March, when coordinated restriction measures were introduced at regional level and, ultimately, the transit corridor was closed. After the closure in March 2016, the number of detections dropped to the level close to that of the same month in 2015, i.e. before the migratory crisis significantly worsened in the Western Balkans. At the same time, only fewer than 2 500 of the illegal border-crossings in the Western Balkans in Q1 2016 were associated with regional migrants.

Following the overall drop, Syrians and Afghans remained the two main nationalities, accounting for 21% and 14%, respectively, of the total non-regional migration flow. A high number of migrants was still reported as 'unknown' (despite being 79% lower compared to the last quarter of 2015, the number of such cases in the analysed period accounted for 51% of the non-regional total).

Iraqi migrants continued to be the third most detected nationality, followed by Pakistanis, Iranians and Moroccans. All of these nationalities registered significant drops in relation to the previous quarter.

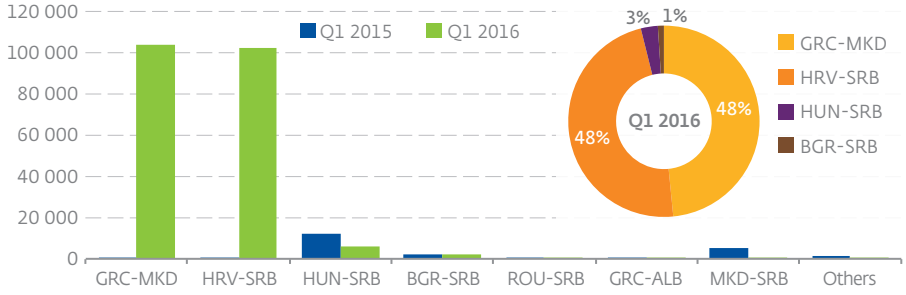
Together, these top six nationalities accounted for 48% of the non-regional migration flow between BCPs, while the nationality of 51% of detected persons was reported as 'unknown'.

The detections of Western Balkan **regional migrants** was 34% lower than in the previous quarter and only represented less than 1% of the overall flow affecting the region. When analysing information available since 2009, a decrease in regional migrants between Q4 and Q1 appears to be a natural development. During the analysed period the drop was mainly linked to lower numbers of Albanian migrants reported at the Greek-Albanian border. This is in line with the lower number of available jobs in Greece during the first quarter of the year, a situation which usually changes during the warm season.

Despite the overall decrease, the majority (67%) of Western Balkan country nationals detected for illegal border-crossing continued to be reported at the Greek-Albanian border. The second busiest section was the Hungarian-Serbian border, which took 18% of the regional flow.

Figure 2. **The non-regional flow continued to enter the Western Balkans region through the southern common borders and then exit in its northern part, mostly across the Croatian-Serbian border; an increase at the Hungarian-Serbian border could be noticed after the closure of the transit corridor in March**

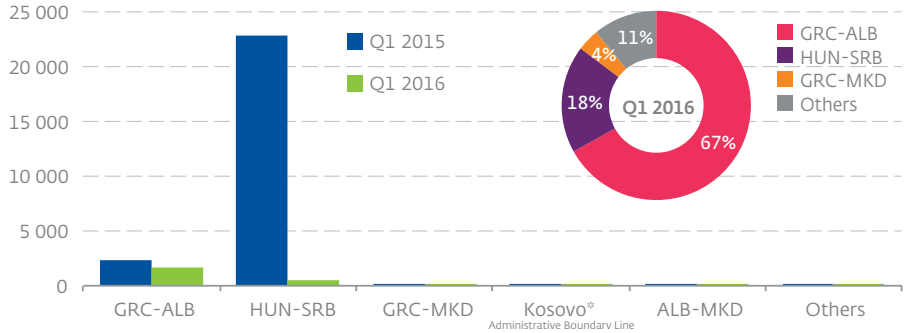
Detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs by non-regional migrants



Source: WB-RAN data as of 6 May 2016

Figure 3. **Detections of the regional flow continued to concentrate at the southern common borders (with only a seasonal decrease of the Albanian circular migration); in this context the share of the Hungarian-Serbian border increased**

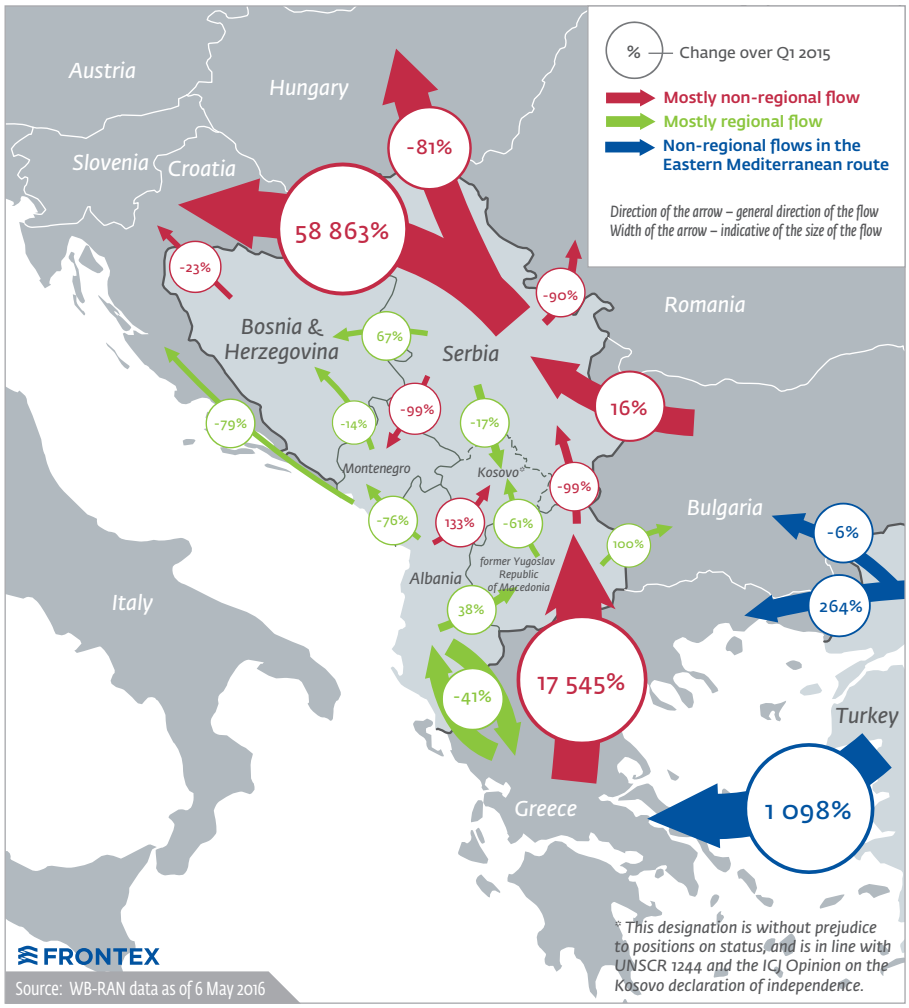
Detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs by regional migrants



Source: WB-RAN data as of 6 May 2016

Figure 4. **In the southern part of the region, the border between the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Greece remained the main entry point for the non-regional transiting flow, followed by the Bulgarian-Serbian border. In the northern part, the Croatian-Serbian border remained the main point of exit from the region, but after the closure of the corridor, the Hungarian-Serbian section gained importance; the regional flow was still mainly restricted to the Greek-Albanian border**

Changes in detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs between Q1 2015 and Q1 2016 at particular border sections and main directions of the flow



Facilitators

During the first quarter of 2016, the number of detected facilitators was 261, showing a decrease for the second consecutive quarter. The number of detections during the analysed period was 4% lower than that registered in the previous quarter, reaching the lowest such total since Q3 2014.

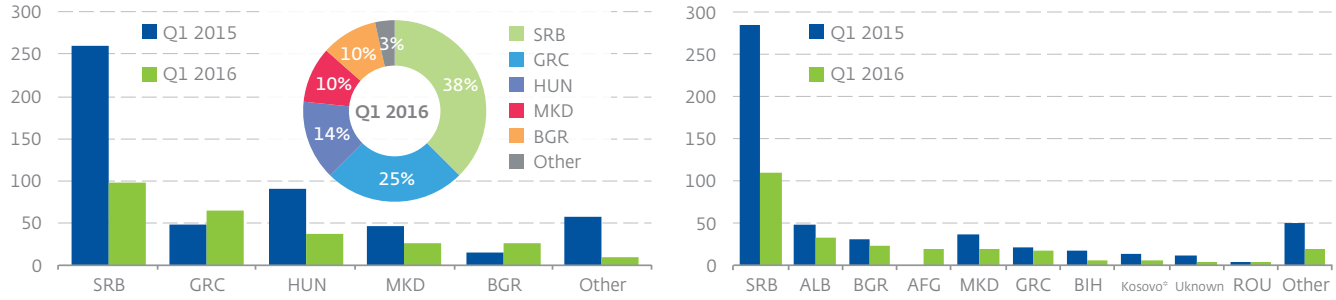
Considering that there were more than 215 000 illegal border-crossings associated with non-regional nationals, this very low total of detected facilitators indicates that migrants were increasingly able to self-organise and/or relied on authorities when it came to travel arrangements for transiting the region before the corridor was closed at the beginning of March.

However, the decision to close the organised transit corridor is likely to increase migrants' demand for people smuggling services in the future making facilitation activities more profitable.

In terms of nationalities, 66% of all facilitators detected in the analysed quarter were nationals of Western Balkan countries, 21% were citizens of EU Member States, especially those neighbouring the region, and 13% were nationals of third countries from outside the region or 'unknown'. The highest share of detections was still reported by Serbia, mostly involving Serbian nationals, followed by Greece, which mostly reported Albanians, Afghans and Greeks.

Figure 5. **The number of facilitators remained low, indicating the ability of migrants to self-organise or rely on transportation organised by authorities**

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 May 2016

Border checks

Clandestine entries

In Q1 2016, a total of 385 non-regional migrants were detected while attempting to illegally cross the borders hiding in vehicles. This represents a more than tenfold increase compared to Q4 2015 and the highest number of such detections in the past four quarters. This overall increase is mostly linked to higher numbers of Moroccan and Algerian migrants reported especially at the Hungarian-Serbian and Croatian-Serbian borders. Afghans and Iranians also contributed to this rise, being mostly reported at the Serbia-former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Croatian-Serbian border.

Document fraud

During the first quarter, there were 236 cases of false document use reported by the six Western Balkan countries, a number 7% higher than that of the previous quarter.

Serbia continued to rank first in terms of detections, followed by the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Albania. As regards nationalities detected in Q1 2016, Albanian and Kosovo* citizens continued to rank top amongst false document users, accounting for 33% and 28% of all detections, respectively.

Passports, ID cards and residence permits were the most commonly detected false documents. Unsurprisingly, a large majority of ID cards were EU Member States' documents, as they can be used to move freely within the Schengen area and the EU.

As far as detections of false passports are concerned, the majority were reportedly issued by countries of the region. The majority of these documents were Albanian, mostly 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 decreased by 9% compared with the previous quarter: from roughly 9 600 to 8 800. This decline appears to be broadly consistent with seasonal trends caused by lower tourist mobility as the number of refusals issued was relatively stable compared with the corresponding quarter of 2015. Turkish nationals ranked fourth among the refused nationalities, thus occupying a top position for the third consecutive quarter, despite a 32% reduction in relation to Q4 2015.

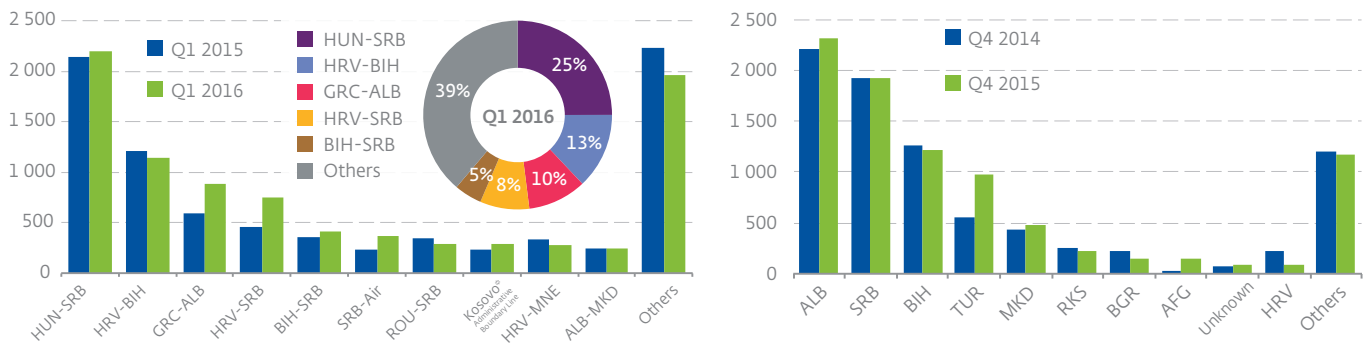
As usual, a large majority of refusals of entry were issued at land borders (89%), while the remaining 11% were mainly reported at air borders.

Most of the refusals reported by the neighbouring EU Member States were issued to nationals of Western Balkan countries (91%). In turn, among those refused entry by the six countries of the region, 39% were local residents, 26% were Turkish nationals and 24% were nationals of EU Member States/Schengen Associated Countries.

The overall number of refusals issued to the non-regional nationalities associated with the migratory flow originating from Turkey/Greece continued to represent a low share of the total (i.e. Syrians, Afghans and Iraqis accounted for 45% of the reported illegal border-crossings between BCPs, but were only issued 3% of the refusals of entry at regional level).

Figure 6. **Turkish nationals continue to rank high among the top refused nationalities, indicating that many of them attempt to reach the EU by taking advantage of the high migration pressure**

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



Source: WB-RAN data as of 6 May 2016

Illegal stay in Western Balkan countries

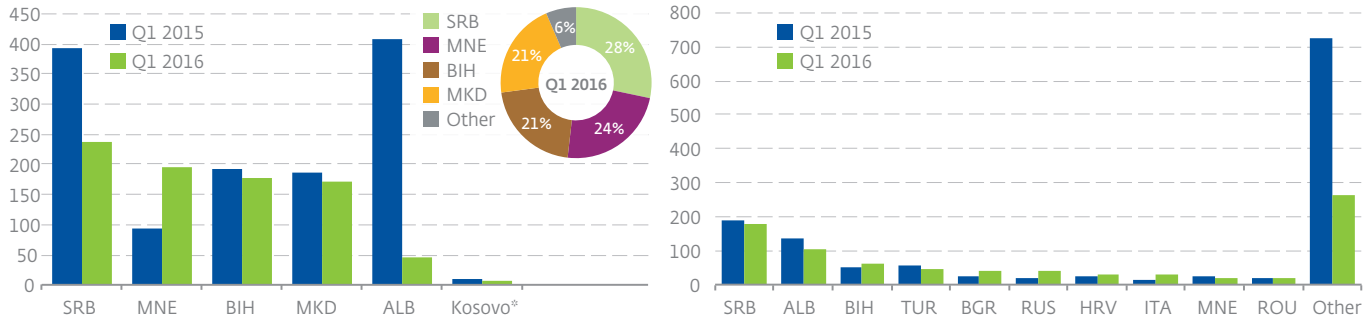
There were 834 detections of illegal stay reported by the six Western Balkan countries during Q1 2016, a number that is 6% higher than that in the previous quarter, but very low considering the overall volume of the flow transiting the region over the recent period. The number was also significantly lower than in the corresponding quarter of 2015 (-33%). This development can be attributed to the fact that until the beginning of March migrants tried to cross the Western Balkans as fast as possible using organised transportation services before border closures or other restrictions were put into effect.

During the analysed quarter, Serbian and Albanian nationals continued to rank first and second, respectively, among detected illegal stayers. Citizens of Serbia were mainly reported by Montenegro and, to a lesser extent, by Bosnia and Herzegovina, while the Albanians seem to have preferred staying in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Nationals of Bosnia and Herzegovina ranked third in detections of illegal stayers and were mainly reported by Montenegro and Serbia.

The large discrepancy between the number of detected illegal border-crossings by the non-regional migrants originating from Greece/Turkey (over 107 000 reported by the six Western Balkan countries) and that of detected illegal stayers of corresponding nationalities (e.g. only 17 Iraqis, 12 Afghans, 7 Iranians and 6 Syrians) indicates that the Western Balkans region continued to be mainly regarded as a transit area.

Figure 7. **Only a small share of non-regional nationalities reported for illegal border-crossing are detected as illegal stayers (indicating that they perceive the Western Balkans as a transit area)**

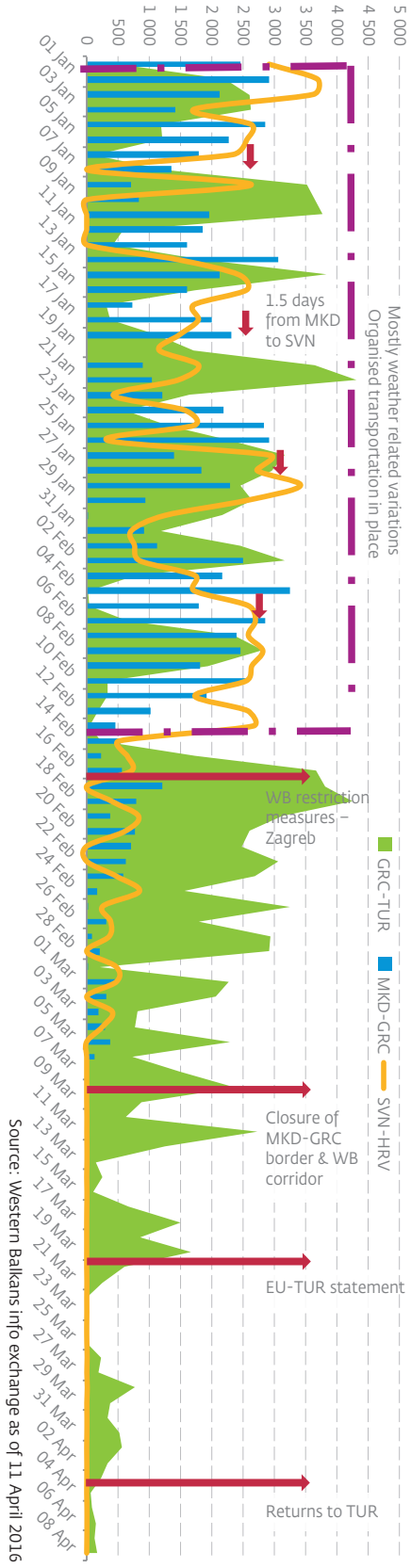
Illegal stayers, by reporting Western Balkan country, top shares (left) and nationalities (right)



Source: WB-RAN data as of 6 May 2016

Figure 8. **Impact of various implemented measures on the flow transiting the Eastern Aegean Sea and the Western Balkans**

Illegal border-crossings between BCPs



Source: Western Balkans info exchange as of 11 April 2016

Detections of non-regional migrants stabilise at lower levels after the EU-Turkey statement

The number of detected illegal border-crossings associated with the non-regional transiting flow registered a significant decrease in the first quarter. Specifically, the 215 000 illegal border-crossings between BCPs reported in the analysed period represent an 84% reduction in relation to the last quarter of 2015.

Detections at the common and regional borders have fallen substantially each consecutive month in Q1 2016, from 128 000 in January to 74 000 in February and finally to just 13 000 in March.

Starting at the end of 2015 and through the first quarter of 2016, the countries most affected by the non-regional flow transiting the Western Balkans started to increase their coordination in order to better tackle the high migration pressure.

The first common restriction measure was agreed at the end of November when only Syrian, Afghan and Iraqi migrants were allowed transit while all others started being filtered out from the flow. Despite being difficult to implement due to insufficient screeners and interpreters and the fact that many migrants resorted to nationality swapping in order to slip through, this decision set the stage for further trans-regional actions.

During February 2016, several high-level meetings of regional police chiefs and ministers were organised, each resulting in the application of more coordinated and gradual transit restrictions. The restrictions ranged from requiring migrants to document their nationality, origin from war-torn areas, a previous registration in Greece all the way to imposing daily transit quotas, refusing entry to migrants who had resided in other safe countries for a longer period or who did not fully cooperate with the authorities.

All of these increased filtering activities led to a decrease in the number of persons allowed transit based on the regional arrangements, while also resulting in a certain accumulation of migratory pressure inside Greece, and especially on its border with the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

In order to cope with the high numbers of refused persons trying to force their passage, the authorities in Skopje increased the number of police forces on their southern border while also erecting a two-layer fence planned to cover the most sensitive areas. As the success of all planned restriction measures greatly depended on the capacity to properly prevent entries across the border between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, other regional countries also sent reinforcements to this area.

On 9 March, the Slovenian and Croatian authorities announced a complete closure of the facilitated transit corridor and the return to the normal application of the Schengen Borders Code and legislation governing international travel.

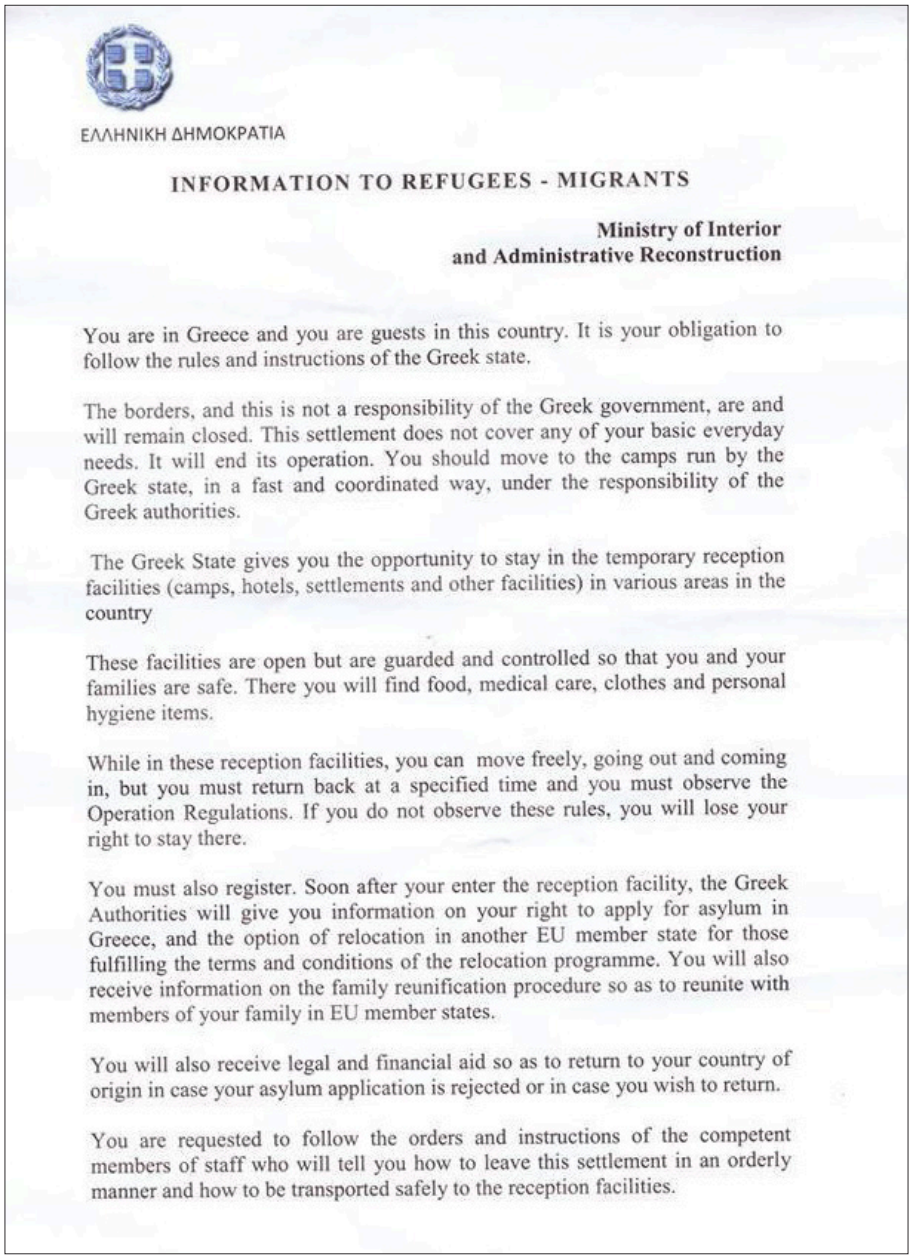
As a result, pressure continued to accumulate in Greece fuelled by migrants who continued to make their journey from Turkey across the Aegean Sea and to the border with the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. They set on their journey hoping that the authorities would give in to pressure and reopen the corridor. More than 12 000 migrants quickly accumulated in the Idomeni area in northern Greece, irregularly camping there and constantly trying to force their way across

the border to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Despite the massive pressure, the authorities managed to maintain the transit corridor closed, putting a halt to the momentum gained by the migratory flow in previous months and sending an important message to others who were still contemplating making the journey via Greece and the Balkans.

The perception that the transit corridor via the Western Balkans was no longer available contributed to a contraction in the number of arrivals on the Eastern Aegean Islands (see Fig. 8), as many migrants appear to be attracted by the prospect of easy, cheap and well organised travel (see box on page 12).

Furthermore, the EU-Turkey statement aimed at stemming the migration flow entered into force on 20 March, bringing about enhanced patrolling by the Turkish authorities and other activities aimed at preventing departures in the Eastern Aegean Sea. The statement also envisioned effective returns of migrants from Greece. Moreover, migrants arriving in Greece after March 20 have been accommodated in closed reception facilities for almost one month pending processing and a final decision regarding their return to Turkey or eventual relocation to the EU should they qualify for this option. The prospect of being kept in a closed facility and facing a possible return to Turkey (despite spending money on facilitation) played an important role in decreasing arrivals on the Aegean Islands.



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ

INFORMATION TO REFUGEES - MIGRANTS

Ministry of Interior
and Administrative Reconstruction

You are in Greece and you are guests in this country. It is your obligation to follow the rules and instructions of the Greek state.

The borders, and this is not a responsibility of the Greek government, are and will remain closed. This settlement does not cover any of your basic everyday needs. It will end its operation. You should move to the camps run by the Greek state, in a fast and coordinated way, under the responsibility of the Greek authorities.

The Greek State gives you the opportunity to stay in the temporary reception facilities (camps, hotels, settlements and other facilities) in various areas in the country

These facilities are open but are guarded and controlled so that you and your families are safe. There you will find food, medical care, clothes and personal hygiene items.

While in these reception facilities, you can move freely, going out and coming in, but you must return back at a specified time and you must observe the Operation Regulations. If you do not observe these rules, you will lose your right to stay there.

You must also register. Soon after your enter the reception facility, the Greek Authorities will give you information on your right to apply for asylum in Greece, and the option of relocation in another EU member state for those fulfilling the terms and conditions of the relocation programme. You will also receive information on the family reunification procedure so as to reunite with members of your family in EU member states.

You will also receive legal and financial aid so as to return to your country of origin in case your asylum application is rejected or in case you wish to return.

You are requested to follow the orders and instructions of the competent members of staff who will tell you how to leave this settlement in an orderly manner and how to be transported safely to the reception facilities.

© Frontex

Figure 9. **Letter distributed to migrants in Idomeni informing them of the options to move to reception facilities and possibilities for relocation**

IOM survey suggests that most migrants consider the availability and costs of travel options as most important factors before starting their journey

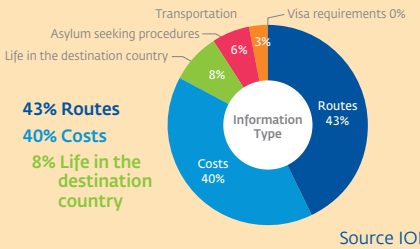
In November and December 2015 (the peak period of Iraqi arrivals in the EU), the IOM conducted a survey on 473 Iraqi migrants who had left their country over the previous year and were residing in Europe.

The survey produced several important findings. Firstly, when deciding whether to go or to stay, most respondents were mainly searching information on routes and costs. This indicates the high importance of these two factors in the decision-making process. Information on life in their preferred destination country was largely a very secondary concern.

Secondly, respondents were asked about the information they collected to plan their journey and about the sources they relied upon. Unsurprisingly, the most important sources were word of mouth, followed by social media and the Internet. All other sources, including local TV or other media are dwarfed in comparison.

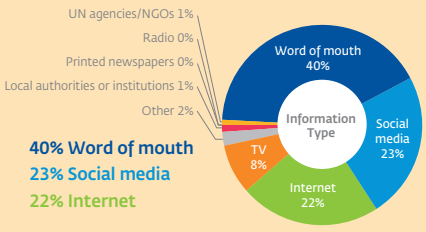
While the survey's sample is not statistically representative of the overall Iraqi migrant population that arrived in the EU in 2015, the results are still quite telling. Importantly, they indicate that most of information campaign efforts that aim at reaching would-be migrants should be tailored and delivered through informal channels, social media and relevant Internet information hubs. Furthermore, if the appeal of the Eastern Mediterranean / Western Balkans were reduced, many would-be migrants could postpone their decision to move to the EU for the future, possibly leading to a contraction of the flow.

Top most important information gathered to plan the journey



Source IOM

Most important source of information for planning the journey



Source IOM

III. Statistical annex

LEGEND

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

Source: WB-RAN and FRAN data as of 6 May 2016, 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

	2014	2015				2016 Q1			
							% change on		per cent of total
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	year ago	previous Qtr	
Purpose of Illegal Border-Crossing									
Irregular migration	9 326	15 739	46 797	476 179	1074 117	**109 125**	593	-90	50
Other	85	69	92	88	260 671	**102 396**	148 300	-61	47
Not specified	27 715	32 802	34 439	138 596	1 169	**5 931**	-82	407	2.7
Smuggling	67	143	328	84	53	**363**	154	585	0.2
Top Five Sections									
FYR Macedonia - Greece	499	591	6 547	259 986	437 741	**104 279**	17 545	-76	48
Croatia - Serbia	108	174	173	91 698	465 506	**102 596**	58 863	-78	47
Hungary - Serbia	29 579	35 274	39 459	142 918	1 267	**6 629**	-81	423	3
Bulgaria - Serbia	557	1 886	7 828	18 673	20 108	**2 182**	16	-89	1
Albania - Greece	4 666	2 890	3 959	2 506	2 960	**1 713**	-41	-42	0.8
Others	1 784	7 938	23 690	99 166	408 428	**416**	-95	-100	0.2
Top Ten Nationalities									
Not specified	138	137	214	247 991	530 893	**109 974**	80 173	-79	50
Syria	6 476	8 446	33 182	236 445	431 847	**46 033**	445	-89	21
Afghanistan	5 445	7 986	24 293	67 428	214 699	**30 433**	281	-86	14
Iraq	383	1 618	6 258	21 198	112 462	**20 644**	1 176	-82	9.5
Pakistan	241	897	3 891	19 757	8 004	**3 351**	274	-58	1.5
Albania	4 018	2 760	3 749	2 972	3 301	**1 926**	-30	-42	0.9
Iran	113	236	643	2 332	16 985	**1 213**	414	-93	0.6
Morocco	8	27	133	125	5 034	**1 080**	3 900	-79	0.5
Somalia	66	1 113	1 511	1 634	2 004	**526**	-53	-74	0.2
Kosovo*	18 488	22 661	551	409	298	**435**	-98	46	0.2
Others	1 817	2 872	7 231	14 656	10 483	**2 200**	-23	-79	1
Total	**37 193**	**48 753**	**81 656**	**614 947**	**1336 010**	**217 815**	**347**	**-84**	**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, purpose of illegal border-crossing, top five border sections and top ten nationalities

	2014	2015				2016 Q1			
							% change on		per cent of total
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	year ago	previous Qtr	
Clandestine/Other									
Clandestine	455	315	178	78	101	**384**	*22*	*280*	*94*
Others	90	61	133	170	47	**15**	*-75*	*-68*	*3.7*
Not specified	0	18	36	1	4	**11**	*-39*	*175*	*2.7*
Purpose of Illegal Border-Crossing									
Not specified	154	42	31	25	14	**234**	*457*	*1571*	*57*
Irregular migration	378	332	268	212	127	**164**	*-51*	*29*	*40*
Other	13	19	12	12	9	**12**	*-37*	*33*	*2.9*
Smuggling	0	1	36	0	2	**0**	*n.a.*	*n.a.*	
Top Five Sections									
Hungary - Serbia	130	78	63	72	0	**209**	*168*	*n.a.*	*51*
FYR Macedonia - Serbia	116	195	49	0	0	**92**	*-53*	*n.a.*	*22*
Croatia - Serbia	113	11	19	6	14	**78**	*609*	*457*	*19*
Albania - Sea	4	6	3	1	2	**7**	*17*	*250*	*1.7*
Montenegro - Serbia	3	0	0	0	1	**6**	*n.a.*	*500*	*1.5*
Others	179	104	213	170	135	**18**	*-83*	*-87*	*4.4*
Top Ten Nationalities									
Morocco	0	0	1	0	0	**126**	*n.a.*	*n.a.*	*31*
Algeria	1	7	4	0	0	**81**	*1057*	*n.a.*	*20*
Afghanistan	293	197	142	72	14	**51**	*-74*	*264*	*12*
Iran	0	2	2	2	0	**44**	*2100*	*n.a.*	*11*
Iraq	6	9	34	16	14	**22**	*144*	*57*	*5.4*
Albania	42	29	18	9	91	**16**	*-45*	*-82*	*3.9*
Palestine	0	0	2	0	0	**16**	*n.a.*	*n.a.*	*3.9*
Pakistan	8	4	4	2	0	**13**	*225*	*n.a.*	*3.2*
Libya	0	0	0	0	0	**9**	*n.a.*	*n.a.*	*2.2*
Syria	110	86	115	126	4	**9**	*-90*	*125*	*2.2*
Others	85	60	25	22	29	**23**	*-62*	*-21*	*5.6*
Total	**545**	**394**	**347**	**249**	**152**	**410**	***4.1***	***170***	***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

	2014	2015				2016 Q1			
							% change on		per cent of total
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	year ago	previous Qtr	
Place of Detection									
Land	418	448	551	542	240	**219**	-51	-8.8	84
Inland	65	66	21	76	25	**42**	-36	68	16
Air	1	0	0	0	6	**0**	n.a.	n.a.	
Sea	2	3	0	0	2	**0**	n.a.	n.a.	
Top Ten Nationalities									
Serbia	254	285	338	348	119	**110**	-61	-7.6	42
Albania	60	49	48	38	44	**33**	-33	-25	13
Bulgaria	22	30	32	51	61	**24**	-20	-61	9.2
FYR Macedonia	40	36	49	6	4	**20**	-44	400	7.7
Afghanistan	2	0	3	0	1	**20**	n.a.	1900	7.7
Greece	28	21	31	28	18	**17**	-19	-5.6	6.5
Bosnia and Herzegovina	15	18	6	4	3	**6**	-67	100	2.3
Kosovo*	2	13	6	4	5	**5**	-62	0	1.9
Not specified	18	27	13	22	9	**4**	-85	-56	1.5
Romania	5	3	5	14	0	**3**	0	n.a.	1.1
Others	40	35	41	103	9	**19**	-46	111	7.3
Total	**486**	**517**	**572**	**618**	**273**	**261**	**-50**	**-4.4**	**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

	2014	2015				2016 Q1			
							% change on		per cent of total
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	year ago	previous Qtr	
Place of Detection									
Land	1 232	925	1 595	966	1 115	**1 265**	37	13	60
Inland	2 096	1 185	778	562	645	**668**	-44	3.6	32
Not specified	158	99	110	87	141	**166**	68	18	7.9
Top Ten Nationalities									
Serbia	684	700	791	599	842	**858**	23	1.9	41
Albania	245	167	149	127	188	**154**	-7.8	-18	7.3
FYR Macedonia	130	74	100	107	147	**137**	85	-6.8	6.5
Bosnia and Herzegovina	73	62	56	74	79	**83**	34	5.1	4
Syria	1 439	391	547	125	46	**63**	-84	37	3
Morocco	3	7	6	6	37	**60**	757	62	2.9
Turkey	90	74	63	92	42	**54**	-27	29	2.6
Iraq	60	31	71	20	18	**52**	68	189	2.5
Montenegro	16	35	25	36	44	**50**	43	14	2.4
Afghanistan	62	44	127	42	15	**46**	4.5	207	2.2
Others	684	624	548	387	443	**542**	-13	22	26
Total	**3 486**	**2 209**	**2 483**	**1 615**	**1 901**	**2 099**	**-5**	**10**	**100**

Table 5. **Refusals of entry**

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

	2014	2015				2016 Q1			
							% change on		per cent of total
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	year ago	previous Qtr	
Border Type									
Land	9 354	7 684	9 046	12 581	7 835	**7 830**	1.9	-0.1	89
Air	853	704	757	1 335	1 775	**973**	38	-45	11
Sea	2	3	24	40	16	**4**	33	-75	0
Top Ten Nationalities									
Albania	2 770	2 206	2 763	2 736	2 980	**2 317**	5	-22	26
Serbia	2 426	1 925	1 715	1 852	1 621	**1 924**	-0.1	19	22
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1 359	1 257	1 379	1 391	1 042	**1 217**	-3.2	17	14
Turkey	693	554	578	1 332	1 434	**982**	77	-32	11
FYR Macedonia	506	433	463	578	331	**480**	11	45	5.5
Kosovo*	289	252	291	708	271	**221**	-12	-18	2.5
Bulgaria	239	223	265	372	231	**153**	-31	-34	1.7
Afghanistan	13	26	7	13	18	**152**	485	744	1.7
Not specified	121	80	157	587	158	**94**	18	-41	1.1
Croatia	130	227	168	260	119	**92**	-59	-23	1
Others	1 663	1 208	2 041	4 127	1 421	**1 175**	-2.7	-17	13
Total	**10 209**	**8 391**	**9 827**	**13 956**	**9 626**	8 807	**5**	**-8.5**	**100**

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Table 6. **Applications for asylum**

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

	2014	2015				2016 Q1			
							% change on		per cent of total
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	year ago	previous Qtr	
Top Ten Nationalities									
Iraq	845	1 423	3 856	7 929	4 150	**3 838**	170	-7.5	21
Afghanistan	6 889	5 772	15 262	30 111	3 581	**3 172**	-45	-11	17
Syria	7 952	5 561	13 018	56 443	2 160	**3 061**	-45	42	17
Pakistan	753	1 180	3 329	12 418	826	**2 395**	103	190	13
Iran	285	318	563	1 288	121	**998**	214	725	5.5
Morocco	40	56	189	104	84	**952**	1600	1033	5.2
Algeria	97	156	377	194	56	**428**	174	664	2.3
Bangladesh	371	528	918	3 209	267	**373**	-29	40	2
Albania	137	223	217	382	499	**357**	60	-28	2
Egypt	80	50	89	115	194	**277**	454	43	1.5
Others	20 963	27 573	5 615	6 845	1 310	**2 443**	-91	86	13
Total	**38 412**	**42 840**	**43 433**	**119 038**	**13 248**	**18 294**	**-57**	**38**	**100**

Table 7. **Document fraud**

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

	2014	2015				2016 Q1			
							% change on		per cent of total
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	year ago	previous Qtr	
Border Type									
Land	171	161	139	136	120	**176**	*9.3*	*47*	*75*
Air	59	76	88	60	83	**48**	*-37*	*-42*	*20*
Sea	18	23	8	15	17	**12**	*-48*	*-29*	*5.1*
Not specified	0	0	0	5	0	**0**	*n.a.*	*n.a.*	
Document type									
Passport	117	161	119	133	132	**154**	*-4.3*	*17*	*65*
ID cards	87	54	49	43	37	**49**	*-9.3*	*32*	*21*
Residence permit	12	17	13	11	10	**15**	*-12*	*50*	*6.4*
Visas	7	13	5	7	11	**11**	*-15*	*0*	*4.7*
Unknown	10	2	0	5	2	**4**	*100*	*100*	*1.7*
Stamp	15	13	49	17	28	**3**	*-77*	*-89*	*1.3*
Top Ten Nationalities									
Albania	81	102	85	74	109	**77**	*-25*	*-29*	*33*
Kosovo*	32	43	34	41	26	**67**	*56*	*158*	*28*
Serbia	23	20	34	30	19	**20**	*0*	*5.3*	*8.5*
Turkey	14	10	21	11	18	**19**	*90*	*5.6*	*8.1*
FYR Macedonia	7	3	4	1	3	**9**	*200*	*200*	*3.8*
Sri Lanka	0	0	0	0	0	**7**	*n.a.*	*n.a.*	*3*
Morocco	0	0	0	0	2	**6**	*n.a.*	*200*	*2.5*
Bulgaria	0	2	0	1	4	**4**	*100*	*0*	*1.7*
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0	5	7	1	3	**4**	*-20*	*33*	*1.7*
Nigeria	4	2	1	0	2	**3**	*50*	*50*	*1.3*
Others	87	73	49	57	34	**20**	*-73*	*-41*	*8.5*
Top Ten Countries of Issuance of Documents									
Albania	55	72	56	63	75	**70**	*-2.8*	*-6.7*	*30*
Italy	29	26	18	11	19	**21**	*-19*	*11*	*8.9*
Bulgaria	14	12	10	10	8	**18**	*50*	*125*	*7.6*
Serbia	25	30	42	22	16	**18**	*-40*	*13*	*7.6*
FYR Macedonia	7	8	4	4	9	**16**	*100*	*78*	*6.8*
Greece	22	27	27	15	19	**8**	*-70*	*-58*	*3.4*
Slovenia	3	5	4	6	6	**8**	*60*	*33*	*3.4*
Kosovo*	4	5	0	3	5	**7**	*40*	*40*	*3*
Switzerland	2	6	4	8	1	**7**	*17*	*600*	*3*
Turkey	4	6	13	6	13	**6**	*0*	*-54*	*2.5*
Others	83	63	57	68	49	**57**	*-9.5*	*16*	*24*
Total	**248**	**260**	**235**	**216**	**220**	**236**	**-9.2**	**7.3**	**100**

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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 (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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