

Eastern Partnership Risk Analysis Network 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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List of abbreviations used

BCP	border crossing point
CIS	Community of Independent States
EaP	Eastern Partnership
EaP-RAN	Eastern Partnership Risk Analysis Network
EB-RAN	Eastern European Borders Risk Analysis Network
EDF	European Union Document-Fraud
EU	European Union
FMS	Russian Federation's Federal Migration Service
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
FSB	Russian Federation's Federal Security Service
ICJ	International Court of Justice
ID	identification document
n.a.	not available
Q/Qtr	quarter of the year
RAU	Frontex Risk Analysis Unit
SAC	Schengen Associated Countries
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution

Introduction

As of January 2016, three new countries joined the Eastern Borders Risk Analysis Network (EB-RAN) operating under the EU-funded Eastern Partnership Integrated Border Management Capacity Building Project: Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia. Upon this extension, the network has been renamed as the Eastern Partnership Risk Analysis Network (EaP-RAN).

Concept

The Eastern Partnership Risk Analysis Network (EaP-RAN) performs monthly exchanges of statistical data and information on the most recent irregular migration trends. This information is compiled at the level of the Frontex Risk Analysis Unit (RAU) and analysed in cooperation with the regional partners on a quarterly and annual basis. The annual reports offer a more in-depth analysis of the occurring developments and phenomena which

impact the regional and common borders while the quarterly reports are meant to provide regular updates and identify emerging trends in order to maintain situational awareness. Both types of reports are aimed at offering support for strategic and operational decision making.

Methodology

The Eastern Partnership Quarterly statistical overview is focused on quarterly developments for the seven key indicators of irregular migration: (1) detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs; (2) detections of illegal border-crossing at BCPs; (3) refusals of entry; (4) detections of illegal stay; (5) asylum applications; (6) detections of facilitators; and (7) detections of fraudulent documents.¹

The backbone of this overview are monthly statistics provided within the framework

of the EaP-RAN (Armenia², Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine) and reference period statistics from common border sections of the neighbouring EU Member States and Schengen Associated Countries (Norway, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania). The data are processed, checked for errors and merged into an Excel database for further analysis.

Structure

The general **Situational overview** is broken down by main areas of work of border-control authorities and police activities related to irregular migration. The current issue of the *Eastern Partnership Risk Analysis Network Quarterly* is the first following the extension of the network with new members.

¹ Please note that the analysis of this indicator is now limited to EaP countries only given that EU Member States have transitioned to the European Union Document-Fraud (EDF) reporting scheme;

² Data for Armenia not available for Q1 2016

I. SITUATIONAL OVERVIEW

Figure 1. **Geographical scope of the Eastern Partnership Risk Analysis Network**

Note on definitions: 'common borders' refers both to borders between EU Member States and Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine (covered by both sides) and borders of EU Member States/Schengen Associated Countries with the Russian Federation (covered only by the EU/Schengen Associated Country side of the border)



Summary of EaP-RAN indicators

Table 1. Summary of FRAN, EaP-RAN and selected EU Member State indicators for Q1 2016

Indicator	EU total	EU Member States (eastern land borders only)**	% of EU total	only EaP-RAN countries*
Illegal border-crossing between BCPs	284 525	213	0.1%	627
Clandestine entries	590	14	2.4%	3 254
Facilitators	2 972	197	6.6%	12
Illegal stay	127 215	3 148	2.5%	6 256
Refusals of entry	30 031	10 550	35%	8 743
Applications for asylum	271 935	13 294	5%	386
False travel documents	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	93
Return decision issued	69 392	11 936***	17%	n.a.
Effective returns	46 996	7 467***	16%	n.a.

* Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine

** Norway, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania

*** Total numbers reported in FRAN by Norway, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania

Source: FRAN data as of 15 June 2016

Situation at the border

Border surveillance

Illegal border-crossing

In the first quarter of 2016, 840 cases of illegal border-crossing between BCPs were reported by the Eastern Partnership Risk Analysis Network (EaP-RAN) member countries.¹ Over 55% were regional nationals (from EaP and CIS countries), mostly Ukrainians, Moldovans and Russians. The remaining 45% were non-regional nationals mainly Afghan and Vietnamese citizens.

Irregular migration was the main reason for crossing the border illegally both for Afghans and Vietnamese.

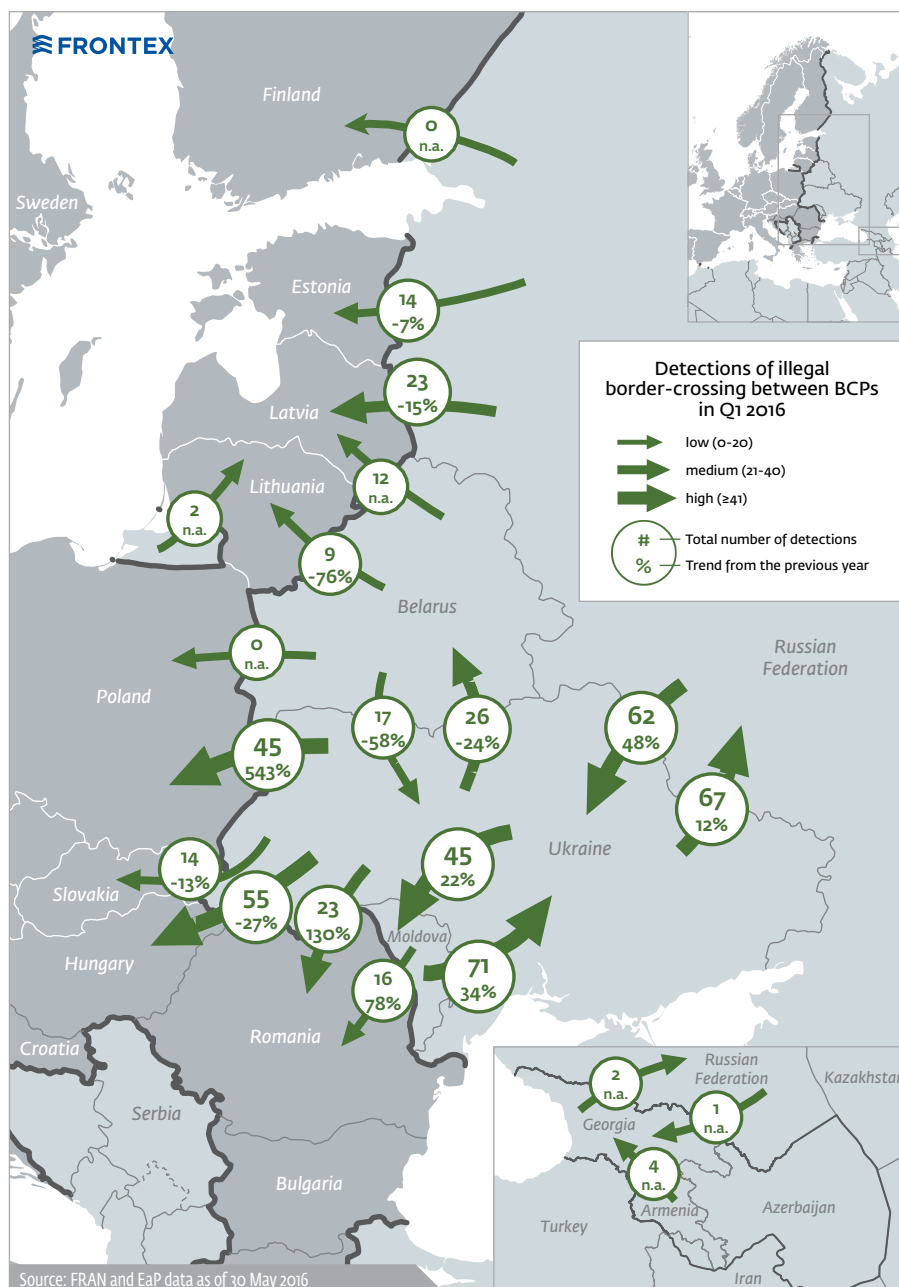
Among the Ukrainians, Moldovans and Russian detected illegally crossing the border in Q1 2016, over 82% of the cases were linked either to smuggling or to other reasons unrelated to migration.

At the common borders, detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs decreased by 38% compared with the last quarter of 2015 and increased by 4% in relation to the same quarter of 2015. The most significant drop was related to Afghans, Vietnamese and Iraqis. The growth was observed for Turkish nationals.

At the Eastern Partnership and external borders³, 325 cases of illegal border-crossing were reported. Over 75% of detections took place at Ukrainian borders, mostly involving regional nationals, i.e. Ukrainians and Moldovans. Most of the non-regional migrants detected came from Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

Figure 1. Detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs reported by EaP-RAN members at all borders show that the highest pressure in Q1 2016 was recorded at the Ukrainian borders with Moldova and the Russian Federation. The Hungarian-Ukrainian and Polish-Belarusian border sections were the most affected common borders.

Detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs at all borders covered by the EaP-RAN in Q1 2016



1 Data for Armenia not available for Q1 2016

Facilitators

The number of facilitators detected at the common borders almost quadrupled in the first quarter of 2016 compared with the final quarter of 2015 (from 47 in Q4 2015 to 206 in Q1 2016) and was 289% higher than in the same period of 2015 (53 in Q1 2015).

The peak in detections can be explained by high number of detections reported by Finland that were linked with irregular migration on the Arctic route from the Russian Federation to Finland. Top five nationalities reported by Finland were Afghans, Indians, Cameroonians, Pakistanis and Bangladeshi, while facilitators reported within the EaP-RAN were mostly citizens of the countries of the region, led by Russians followed by Ukrainians and Belarusians.

Pakistani organising smuggling of irregular migrants detained in Odessa

The staff of Operational Search Sub-departments of Mukachevo and Odessa Border Detachments of the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine, in cooperation with the representatives of the Interior Security Department of National Police, apprehended a citizen of Pakistan organising smuggling of migrants through the state border of Ukraine in the Zakarpattia region. He was involved in at least three illegal transportations of the migrants to Hungary and Romania.

Source: www.ua-reporter.com, 16 January 2016

Border checks

Clandestine entries

In the first quarter of 2016 there were 14 cases of clandestine entry attempts reported by the EaP-RAN Members Romania, Poland and Lithuania and were related to Ukrainians, Russians and Belarusians.

Refusals of entry

There were 19 293 of refusals of entry reported during the first 2016 within the Eastern Partnership Risk Analysis Network Members.¹ The vast majority of refusals (89%) was reported at land borders, mostly issued by Poland and Belarus. Citizens of Ukraine, the Russian Federation, Moldova, Belarus and Azerbaijan accounted for the most refused entries.

At the common borders, refusals of entry issued by the EU Member States and Schengen Associated Countries dropped by almost 5% when compared with Q4 2015 and increased by 30% in relation to the same period of 2015. A significant number was reported by Poland with Ukrainian citizens as prevailing nationals refused entry to Poland.

At the Eastern Partnership and external borders, in turn, 8 743 refusals were reported, with respectively 68% and 20% issued at land and air borders. Belarus, Ukraine and Georgia issued the majority of refusals.

¹ Data for Armenia not available

Alleged diplomat with false diplomatic passport of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

In January 2016, border guards of Boryspil airport in Kiev detected the citizen of Afghanistan, who intended to cross the border using forged diplomatic passport of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The man, transiting Ukraine, arrived from Istanbul and planned to get to Frankfurt.

Source: State Border Guard Service of Ukraine's official website, 5 January 2016

Five Indians posing as sailors

Five citizens of India were apprehended at Kiev airport after arriving from Bangkok. While transiting Ukraine on their way to Casablanca via Milan all of them presented false sailors' passports. They were also in possession of one more set of false passports of the Republic of Palau. All of them were sent back to Bangkok.

Source: State Border Guard Service of Ukraine's official website, 27 January 2016



Document fraud

In the first quarter 2016, there were 88 detections of persons using fraudulent documents reported by the five Eastern Partnership countries (Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine). Higher figures were observed mostly in Ukraine, which reported 19% more docu-

ment fraud cases. Most detections were made by Ukraine.

In terms of nationalities, Ukrainians and Moldovans were the most frequently detected among fraudulent document users. The vast majority of commonly used fraudulent documents were passports.

Situation in the Eastern Partnership region

Illegal stay in EaP-RAN countries

In the first quarter of 2016 there were 5 318 detections of illegal stay reported by Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. The top five detected nationalities included Russians, Ukrainians, Moldovans, Azerbaijanis and Georgians. Citizens of the Russian Federation, and Azerbaijan were mostly detected by Ukraine, while Ukrain-

ians, Georgians and Moldovans tended to be reported by Belarus.

Almost 99% of detections of illegal stay were reported on exit. The Ukrainian borders with Belarus and the Russian Federation were the most affected ones, followed by Belarusian, Ukrainian and Georgian airports.

In Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine only (reporting countries in previous quarters) detections of illegal stay in Q1 2016 shows a decrease of 25% compared to the final quarter of 2015 and by 10% versus the corresponding quarter of 2015. The drop was related mostly to a decreasing number of Russians detected for illegal stay on exit.

14 Vietnamese staying illegally in Ukraine were detected in an underground workshops in Odessa region

In March 2016, the staff of the State Border Guard Service together with the officials of the Public Prosecutor's Office disclosed an underground workshop in the Odessa region, where migrants from Vietnam sewed clothes. The migrants had to work in the workshop to pay off the facilitation fees before the organisers of irregular migration would take them to EU Member States. 14 citizens of Vietnam with no documents were detected during the search.



Source: State Border Guard Service of Ukraine's official website, 16 March 2016

Intensified patrols in Moscow aimed at a growing number of migrants illegally staying in the Russian Federation

In the first quarter of 2016, the Federal Migration Service (FMS) began patrolling the transportation hubs near the busiest subway stations in the Moscow region. The purpose of these actions was the identification of migrants illegally staying in the Russian Federation. The patrolling was supported with specially equipped vehicles that enabled quick access to FMS databases to verify the legality of stay and fingerprint registration of a foreign citizen. According to the FMS's press service, these measures were undertaken in order to put the current migration legislation in practice. Nevertheless, it cannot be excluded that the strengthening of the measures is connected with a growing number of foreigners illegally staying and working in the Russian Federation without a stay or work permit. According to FMS statistics, the number of permits for migrant workers in the Russian Federation (stay and work permits) decreased significantly by 44% in 2015 in relation to 2014 and in the first two months of 2016 it was five times lower than in the same period in 2015.

Source: www.interfax-russia.ru, March 2016

II. STATISTICAL ANNEX

LEGEND

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

Source: EaP-RAN and FRAN data as of 30 May 2016,
unless otherwise indicated

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

Detections reported by EaP-RAN countries and neighbouring EU Member States, by purpose of illegal border crossing and top ten nationalities

	2014 Q4	2015 Q4				2016 Q1 Q1	2016 Q1 % change on		per cent of total
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		year ago	previous Qtr	
Purpose of Illegal Border-Crossing									
Irregular migration	613	373	762	944	607	377	1.1	-38	47
Other	238	235	322	560	239	274	17	15	34
Smuggling	113	86	169	133	93	97	13	4.3	12
Not specified	54	75	161	250	166	55	-27	-67	6.8
Top Ten Nationalities									
Ukraine	215	201	335	483	236	246	22	4.2	31
Afghanistan	196	66	212	277	241	99	50	-59	12
Moldova	67	56	88	107	70	93	66	33	12
Vietnam	96	100	283	254	122	66	-34	-46	8.2
Russian Federation	68	52	82	111	61	65	25	6.6	8.1
Turkey	11	15	5	18	17	45	200	165	5.6
Sri Lanka	9	3	12	17	40	41	n.a.	2.5	5.1
Georgia	149	68	107	145	25	23	-66	-8	2.9
Belarus	22	28	24	38	23	21	-25	-8.7	2.6
India	4	0	17	11	2	16	n.a.	700	2
Others	181	180	249	426	268	88	-51	-67	11
Total	1 018	769	1 414	1 887	1 105	803	4.4	-27	100

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

Detections reported by EaP-RAN countries and neighbouring EU Member States, by purpose of illegal border-crossing and top ten nationalities

	2014 Q4	2015 Q4				2016 Q1 Q1	2016 Q1 % change on		per cent of total
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		year ago	previous Qtr	
Purpose of Illegal Border-Crossing									
Other	205	3 049	6 035	4 574	4 001	3 101	1.7	-22	95
Smuggling	65	91	98	93	96	118	30	23	3.6
Irregular migration	39	35	44	32	26	26	-26	0	0.8
Not specified	1	1	1	0	1	14	n.a.	n.a.	0.4
Top Ten Nationalities									
Ukraine	117	2 948	5 893	4 423	3 832	2 992	1.5	-22	92
Moldova	126	158	207	129	141	181	15	28	5.6
Russian Federation	20	9	19	47	37	23	156	-38	0.7
Romania	9	16	13	28	26	18	13	-31	0.6
Azerbaijan	0	6	4	8	12	5	-17	-58	0.2
Not specified	3	3	5	5	2	5	67	150	0.2
Georgia	0	2	1	0	0	3	50	n.a.	0.1
Poland	0	1	2	1	2	3	200	50	0.1
Armenia	0	1	8	7	11	3	200	-73	0.1
Belarus	4	7	6	6	18	3	-57	-83	0.1
Others	31	25	20	45	43	23	-8	-47	0.7
Total	310	3 176	6 178	4 699	4 124	3 259	2.6	-21	100

Annex Table 3. **Facilitators**

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

	2014 Q4	2015 Q4				2016 Q1 Q1	2016 Q1 % change on		per cent of total
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		year ago	previous Qtr	
Place of Detection									
Land	32	50	33	59	47	205	310	336	100
Air	0	3	1	0	0	1	-67	n.a.	0.5
Top Ten Nationalities									
Afghanistan	0	0	0	0	0	42	n.a.	n.a.	20
India	0	0	1	0	0	32	n.a.	n.a.	16
Bangladesh	0	0	0	0	0	15	n.a.	n.a.	7.3
Pakistan	0	0	0	0	0	13	n.a.	n.a.	6.3
Cameroon	0	0	0	0	0	12	n.a.	n.a.	5.8
Morocco	0	2	0	0	0	11	n.a.	n.a.	5.3
Russian Federation	3	16	14	24	12	11	-31	-8.3	5.3
Syria	1	1	0	0	0	9	n.a.	n.a.	4.4
Palestine	1	0	0	0	0	5	n.a.	n.a.	2.4
Belarus	1	12	2	0	7	5	-58	-29	2.4
Others	26	22	17	35	28	51	132	82	25
Total	32	53	34	59	47	206	289	338	100

Annex Table 4. **Illegal stay**

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

	2014 Q4	2015 Q4				2016 Q1 Q1	2016 Q1 % change on		per cent of total
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		year ago	previous Qtr	
Place of Detection									
Land	7 395	5 996	7 426	9 904	9 890	7 160	19	-28	84
Air	1 616	1 558	1 640	1 703	1 341	1 267	-19	-5.5	15
Sea	76	55	101	101	60	46	-16	-23	0.5
Between BCPS	54	109	60	155	57	22	-80	-61	0.3
Inland	15	37	25	24	30	12	-68	-60	0.1
Top Ten Nationalities									
Ukraine	3 413	2 135	3 060	4 625	4 981	3 019	41	-39	35
Russian Federation	1 781	1 962	1 829	2 202	1 748	1 505	-23	-14	18
Moldova	718	549	775	852	1 019	840	53	-18	9.9
Georgia	840	627	792	743	448	381	-39	-15	4.5
Azerbaijan	188	286	330	402	466	338	18	-27	4.0
Belarus	296	288	318	455	346	315	9.4	-9	3.7
Turkey	102	150	153	169	189	281	87	49	3.3
Hungary	109	159	157	154	165	185	16	12	2.2
Poland	143	132	177	230	168	143	8.3	-15	1.7
Uzbekistan	109	105	105	125	165	131	25	-21	1.5
Others	1 457	1 362	1 556	1 930	1 683	1 369	0.5	-19	16
Total	9 156	7 755	9 252	11 887	11 378	8 507	9.7	-25	100

Annex Table 5. Refusals of entry

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

	2014 Q4	2015 Q4				2016 Q1			per cent of total
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Border type									
Land	20 192	18 410	21 952	22 644	20 477	16 311	-11	-20	91
Air	1 093	1 204	2 190	1 198	1 405	1 017	-16	-28	5.6
Sea	1 095	811	933	817	1 222	692	-15	-43	3.8
Top Ten Nationalities									
Ukraine	5 384	6 095	7 606	8 909	8 989	8 178	34	-9	45
Russian Federation	5 048	3 832	6 009	6 061	5 341	3 272	-15	-39	18
Moldova	1 699	1 521	1 589	1 391	1 264	1 361	-11	7.7	7.6
Belarus	1 393	890	1 106	1 384	1 399	1 099	23	-21	6.1
Lithuania	898	702	696	657	707	496	-29	-30	2.8
Tajikistan	737	1 428	1 291	570	504	401	-72	-20	2.2
Azerbaijan	352	628	832	753	667	367	-42	-45	2
Myanmar	372	328	289	149	176	291	-11	65	1.6
Georgia	2 202	346	756	562	477	266	-23	-44	1.5
Armenia	596	353	464	402	406	217	-39	-47	1.2
Others	3 699	4 302	4 437	3 821	3 174	2 072	-52	-35	11
Total	22 380	20 425	25 075	24 659	23 104	18 020	-12	-22	100

Annex Table 6. Applications for asylum

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

	2014 Q4	2015 Q4				2016 Q1			per cent of total
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Top Ten Nationalities									
Afghanistan	5 098	4 394	14 403	30 239	9 690	2 090	-52	-78	16
Russian Federation	953	760	1 397	2 971	2 887	1 764	132	-39	13
Pakistan	291	602	2 757	11 881	557	1 566	160	181	12
Iraq	778	1 219	3 068	18 241	10 834	1 543	27	-86	12
Syria	4 451	3 027	9 206	57 870	7 056	912	-70	-87	6.8
Morocco	76	77	225	139	105	747	870	611	5.6
Iran	194	254	518	1 420	1 619	692	172	-57	5.2
Algeria	81	133	376	210	89	374	181	320	2.8
Ukraine	817	916	698	658	481	370	-60	-23	2.8
Tajikistan	67	60	48	209	256	358	497	40	2.7
Others	22 631	28 330	8 262	14 110	4 780	2 944	-90	-38	22
Total	35 437	39 772	40 958	137 948	38 354	13 360	-66	-65	100

Annex Table 7. Document fraud

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

	2014		2015 Q4			2016 Q1			per cent of total
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	% change on year ago	previous Qtr	
Border Type									
Air	35	37	53	54	50	45	22	-10	57
Land	31	31	72	37	31	25	-19	-19	32
Sea	4	7	6	10	11	9	29	-18	11
Not specified	2	3	0	6	4	0	-100	-100	
Document Type									
Passports	58	61	113	95	81	66	8.2	-19	84
Visas	2	3	13	8	2	6	100	200	7.6
Stamps	2	2	0	0	2	3	50	50	3.8
ID cards	3	3	2	1	6	3	0	-50	3.8
Not specified	6	9	3	2	5	1	-89	-80	1.3
Residence permits	1	0	0	1	0	0	n.a.	n.a.	
Top Ten Nationalities									
Ukraine	10	9	13	12	13	28	211	115	35
Moldova	19	16	60	25	20	19	19	-5	24
Russian Federation	4	2	5	6	5	4	100	-20	5.1
Turkey	1	2	2	4	5	3	50	-40	3.8
Not specified	0	6	3	0	1	3	-50	200	3.8
Montenegro	0	0	0	0	0	2	n.a.	n.a.	2.5
India	2	1	1	4	5	2	100	-60	2.5
Egypt	0	0	3	2	3	2	n.a.	-33	2.5
Syria	8	10	5	8	4	2	-80	-50	2.5
Indonesia	1	2	1	2	3	2	0	-33	2.5
Others	27	30	38	44	37	12	-60	-68	15
Top Ten Countries of Issuance of Documents									
Hungary	2	0	0	2	1	16	n.a.	1500	20
Moldova	11	11	54	23	12	12	9.1	0	15
Ukraine	9	9	15	16	10	11	22	10	14
Romania	5	2	4	3	18	6	200	-67	7.6
Turkey	2	2	1	5	2	4	100	100	5.1
Israel	3	2	4	9	1	4	100	300	5.1
Not specified	0	2	0	0	0	3	50	n.a.	3.8
India	2	1	1	4	5	2	100	-60	2.5
Latvia	0	2	2	1	0	2	0	n.a.	2.5
Indonesia	1	2	1	2	3	2	0	-33	2.5
Others	37	45	49	42	44	17	-62	-61	22
Total	72	78	131	107	96	79	1.3	-18	100

Explanatory note

Detections reported for Member States for indicators Illegal border-crossing between BCPs, Illegal border-crossing at BCPs, Refusals of entry and Document fraud are detections at the common land borders on entry only. For Facilitators, detections at the common land borders on entry and exit are included. For Illegal stay, detections at the common land borders on exit only are included. For Asylum, all applications (land, sea, air and inland) are included.

For EaP-RAN countries, all indicators – save for Refusals of entry – include detections (applications) on exit and entry at the land, sea and air borders.

Each section in the table (Border type, Place of detection, Top five border section and Top ten nationalities) refers to total detections reported by EaP-RAN countries and to land border detections reported by neighbouring Member States.



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