

FRAN Quarterly Issue 2, April - June 2010

European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union



Risk Analysis Unit
Warsaw, September 2010
Reference number: 13792
Public version



European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the
External Borders of the Member States of the European Union
(FRONTEX)
Rondo 1
00-124 Warsaw
Poland

Executive summary


Illegal migration pressure in the EU underwent a foreseeable seasonal increase during the second quarter of 2010, but is still clearly in a period of decline. Evidently, only one FRAN indicator is on the rise – the use of false documents, but detections and increases thereof remain negligible relative to flows of regular passengers and the number of entry points.

The widespread decline in illegal migration pressure is probably due to two key factors. The first is decreased employment opportunities in the EU (especially for migrants) compounded by a weaker Euro, which together render the EU a much less attractive place to work and gather remittances. Despite several states enjoying some signs of economic recovery, there has been little revival in employment sectors typified by migrants. The second is stricter migration and asylum policies in Member States, supported by much more effective collaboration with key third countries. For example, stricter migration and asylum policies in Norway and the UK have reduced the number of applications in these Member States, although there may be some evidence of displacement of asylum seekers to neighbouring Member States. Similarly, bilateral agreements between Italy and Libya, and between Spain and both Senegal and Mauritania, continue to control, for the time being at least, most illegal migration via the Central Mediterranean and West African routes, respectively.

Most illegal migration takes place by overstaying legal methods of entry, such as student or touristic visas. Detections of illegal stay are concentrated among countries with more developed economies and those that border third countries of transit or origin. In contrast, the nationalities of detected illegal stayers are much more evenly distributed, mostly reflecting third countries which are either contiguous to the EU or have established diasporas within the EU and nationalities seeking international protection.

In this and recent quarters the most common method for illegally entering the EU was to cross the external border between border crossing points (BCPs). The Greek land border accounted for around 90% of detections of the illegal border-crossing, half of which were Albanian workers who routinely cross the border back and forth each year to exploit seasonal employment opportunities in Greece.

Nevertheless, the Greek land border was still the hotspot for illegal migration into the EU because the remaining half of the detections of illegal border-crossing (9,500) was of migrants intent on transiting Greece to settle in other Member States.



Notwithstanding the general decline in detections, there were two emerging trends in the second quarter (Q2) of 2010: a continued and intensified shift from the Greek sea border to the Greek land border with Turkey, and an increase in the number and proportion of migrants claiming to be from Afghanistan, and to a lesser extent Somalia.

In the beginning of 2009 illegal crossings of the EU external border between Greece and Turkey were divided roughly equally between the land and sea borders. However, there has been a gradual and recently intensified shift to the land border. Reasons for this shift from sea to land borders are linked to the effectiveness of the Frontex activities in the Aegean Sea, combining surveillance activities with identification of illegal migrants, and opening the possibility of return to origin countries for detected migrants. Other possible factors include cheaper facilitation costs, lower risks of injury, and lower detection rates (which render our estimation of the extent of the shift rather conservative).

Nationals from Afghanistan were increasingly important across most illegal-migration indicators, particularly at the EU land border into Greece where in Q2 of 2010 detections of illegal border-crossing increased six-fold. In addition, they were also the nationality most frequently detected at BCPs, increasingly at German airports on flights from Istanbul, and despite recent decreases they still submitted more asylum claims than any other nationality. Likewise, the number of Afghans detected overstaying has halved over the last year but they are still the third most commonly encountered nationality.

As well as a reduction in the number of asylum applications over the last year or so, there is also some evidence for a recent redistribution of applications among Member States, possibly in response to 1) stricter laws passed in Norway on granting asylum and family reunification, 2) a ruling in the UK stating that the level of 'indiscriminate violence' was insufficient to permit Afghans to claim general humanitarian protection in the UK, and 3) the dismantling of makeshift asylum-seeker camps in northern France. These measures may have resulted in some weak displacement effects, measureable in terms of slightly increased applications, particularly of Afghans, in other Member States such as Germany.



Table of Contents

Executive summary	3
1. Introduction	7
2. Summary of FRAN indicators	8
3. Analysis	9
3.1. Detections of illegal border-crossing	10
3.2. Routes	10
3.3. Clandestine entry	18
3.4. Detections of facilitators	18
3.5. Detections of illegal stay	20
3.6. Refusals of entry	21
3.7. Forged documents	22
Annex	23

(Page left intentionally blank for double-sided print)

1. Introduction

Frontex Risk Analysis Unit (RAU) provides a regular overview of illegal migration at the EU external borders based on the illegal migration data provided by Member States border-control authorities in the context of the Frontex Risk Analysis Network (FRAN).

The eight issue of the FRAN Quarterly, focusing on the situation between April and June 2010, is based on data and information provided by 30 FRAN Member States' border-control authorities within the framework of the FRAN. The report is mostly based on a statistical analysis of monthly data on six indicators of illegal migration and one on asylum. In selected cases, bi-monthly analytical reports were used as well. In addition, where possible, other information collected by RAU, for instance during joint operations, was used.

The monthly data was collected for the following seven main indicators: (1A) detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs; (1B) detections of illegal border-crossing at BCPs; (2) detections of suspected facilitators; (3) detections of illegal stay; (4) refusals of entry; (5) asylum applications; (6) detections of false documents.

A distinction was made between (i) EU external borders (including Iceland, Norway and Switzerland), i.e. borders between all Member States and Schengen Associated Countries with the rest of the world, and (ii) Schengen land borders within the EU.

The latter concerns only a small number of borders between Member States of which some are not (yet) part of the Schengen area. Such Schengen borders within the EU exist for example between Belgium/France and the UK (Eurostar train stations), as well as between Bulgaria/Romania and other Member States. This distinction is possible and necessary as data is in principle (only) collected at Schengen borders. However, the distinction was not possible for the air and sea borders because Member States do not differentiate between extra-EU and intra-EU air and sea connections but collect data only on a lump-sum basis for all arrivals.

When data are broken down by nationalities, a large percentage usually falls under the category 'Other (not specified)' or 'Unknown'. It is expected that the percentage reported under these categories will decrease with time as Member States improve their data collection and reporting practices. Some nationality data in illegal migration data collection appear as 'unknown' if the nationality of a person cannot be established in time.

2. Summary of FRAN indicators

Table 1 :
SUMMARY OF FRAN INDICATORS

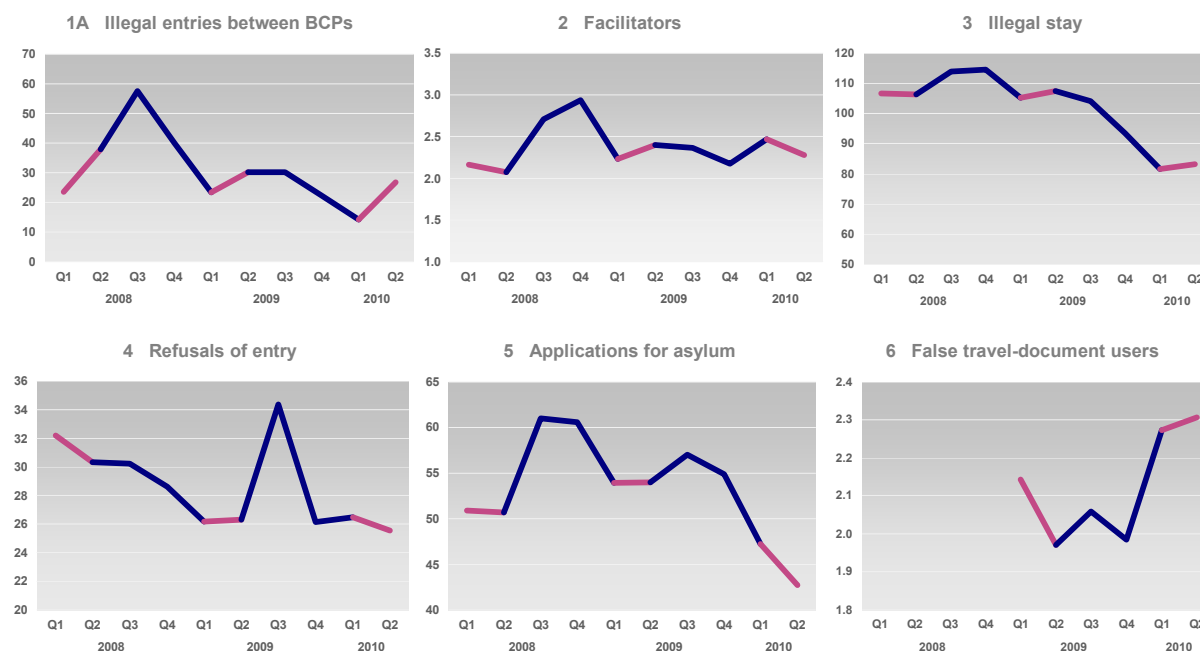
As reported by Member States

FRAN Indicator	2009		2010		2010 Q2	
	Q1	Q2	Q1	Q2	percentage change on year ago	percentage change on previous Qtr
1A Illegal entries between BCPs	23,453	30,221	14,266	26,711	-12	87
1B Illegal entries at BCPs	391	310	259	262	-15	1.2
2 Facilitators	2,235	2,397	2,467	2,278	-5	-7.7
3 Illegal stay	105,260	107,519	81,726	83,215	-23	1.8
4 Refusals of entry	26,176	26,329	26,505	25,537	-3	-3.7
5 Applications for asylum	53,920	53,974	47,249	42,724	-21	-9.6
6 False travel-document users	2,088	1,921	2,115	2,306	20.0	9

Figure 1: Evolution of six FRAN indicators (lines in red illustrate the change between Q1 and Q2 in each year since 2008)

Evolution of FRAN Indicators

Detections reported by Member States, thousands of persons



3. Analysis

Main trends

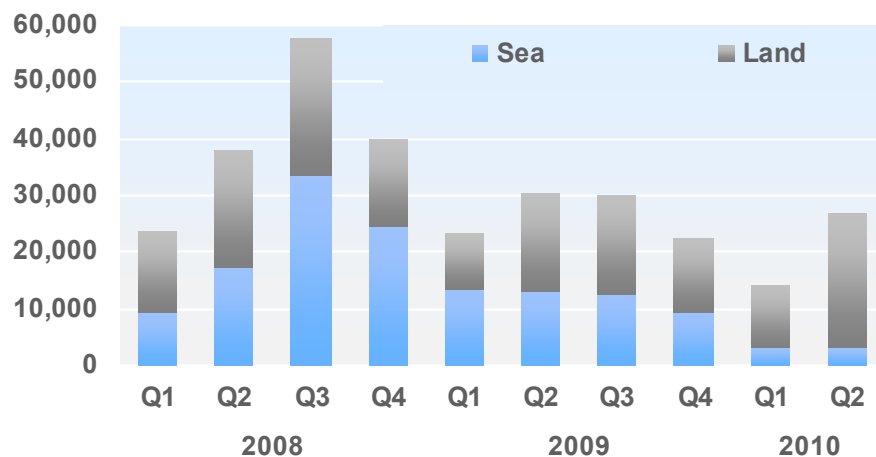
- There is a general decline in illegal migration to the EU compared to a year ago.
- For the time being, Turkey is the main transit country for illegal migration to the EU, particularly for nationals from Afghanistan who were increasingly important across most illegal-migration indicators.
- In the **Eastern Mediterranean route**, there has been a gradual and recently intensified shift from the Greek-Turkish sea border to the land border, where 90% of detections were made and nationality swapping is widespread: Asian and Maghreb migrants often claim to be from Somalia and Afghanistan, respectively. At the Greek-Turkish land border around 60% of detections were made at the Border Control Unit (BCU) Orestiada which is under the biggest pressure. Air connections to Turkey are increasingly used by migrants from North Africa, who then illegally cross the EU external border with Turkey. As well as effective Frontex-coordinated joint operations at the sea border, potential explanations for this shift include cheaper facilitation costs, a lower risk crossing, lower detection rates,.
- There were increased detections on the **Central Mediterranean route**, probably due to the recent re-organisation of criminal groups in response to effective bilateral agreements in the area. In June 2010 Libya expelled the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), with whom 9,000 refugees and 4,000 asylum-seekers were registered and who, in the absence of protection, may now attempt entry to the EU.
- Facilitated Paraguay nationals, claiming to be on pilgrimages to Lourdes, are travelling to various EU airports from São Paulo to join established diasporas in Spain.

3.1. Detections of illegal border-crossing

In Q2 of 2010 there were some 26,500 detections of illegal border-crossing between Border Crossing Points (BCPs). This might be an increase compared to the previous quarter, but it is roughly consistent with previously observed increases at this time of year (Figure 1), given very low figures reported in the previous quarter. However, total detections are now composed of differential proportions between land and sea borders (Figure 2).

As Figure 2 illustrates, at the sea border the number of detections between BCPs remained stable between quarters. Similarly there was little change between Q1 and Q2 in 2009, but detections have been generally decreasing at the sea border since Q3 of 2008.

Figure 2: Bar chart showing total quarterly detections between BCPs, split between detections at the land (grey) and sea (blue) borders



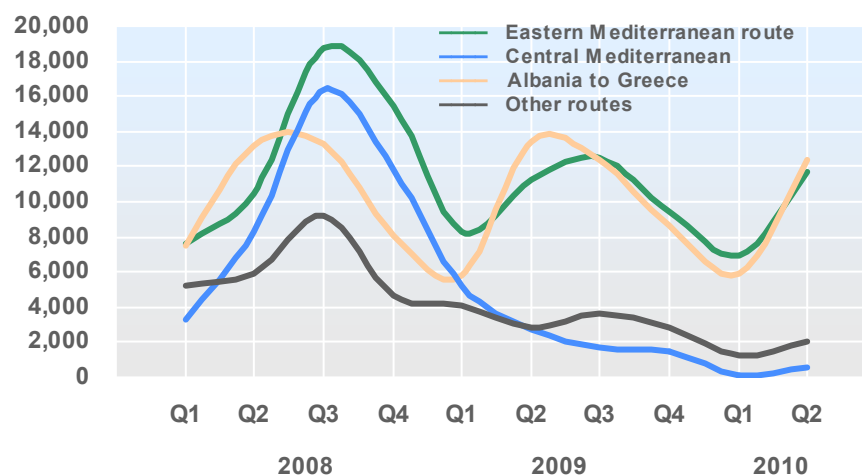
In contrast, detections of illegal border-crossing between BCPs more than doubled between quarters. Some of this unprecedented increase is due to very low detections in the previous quarter, but nevertheless detections at the land border are still some 35% higher than a year ago in Q2 of 2009, and much higher than might have been expected based on previous relationships between detections in Q1 and Q2 (Figure 1).

3.2. Routes

Detections of illegal border-crossing remained stable across all major border sections. In 2008 and 2009, detections at the land borders between Albania and Greece, and the Eastern Mediterranean route (mostly between Turkey and Greece), both peaked in Q2 and Q3 of each year, respectively (Figure 3).

The former is explained by seasonal circular migration of Albanians to Greece. According to information gathered during the Frontex Joint Operation Poseidon, few Albanians intend to transit Greece to other Member States; instead they seek low-paid agricultural work in Greece, often close to the border and with prior contracts with employers from previous years. Cooperation at this border between the Greek and Albanian authorities is excellent, such that detected Albanians are immediately returnable on the basis of a police cooperation agreement. This quarter coincides with the peak of Albanian migration to Greece, and so Albanians accounted for around half of all detections between BCPs. The remaining detections between BCPs were at the Greek border with Turkey where the majority of detections were of Afghan nationals.

Figure 3: The number of detections between BCPs, by major migration route



Eastern Mediterranean route

In Q2 2010, there was a total of 9,500 detections of illegal border-crossing at the Greek external border with Turkey. Although an increase compared to the historical low of the previous quarter, the total number of detections is still consistent with the seasonal fluctuations illustrated, previously observed at this time of year (Figure 1). In Q2 of 2010, detections on this route constituted roughly 90% of the total number of illegal border-crossing between BCPs and the most significant single entry point to the EU.

The shift in the number of detections at the EU level from the sea to the land borders is due entirely to a shift in the Eastern Mediterranean route which has continued and intensified from 65-35 (land-sea) in Q1 of 2010 to a present ratio of 90-10.

Figure 4: Detections of illegal border-crossing of Afghans at the Greek land and sea borders



Around two thirds of apprehended illegal migrants were reported from the BCU Orestiada (Police Directorate Orestiada) where migratory pressure is highest.

According to Frontex operational reports, in May 2010 about 30 (ten per month) additional Greek officers were redeployed from the land border with FYROM to the border area near Orestiada in an attempt to control this influx of illegal migration. However, given that in July 2010, 150-200 illegal migrants were detected each day at Orestiada and that very few are currently to be returned to Turkey, it is likely that the Greek authorities will continue to be overwhelmed by the sheer number of arrivals. Operational information suggests that, if not countered effectively, the trend of arrivals from Turkey to Greece in the area of Orestiada is likely to continue and intensify into 2011.

The main reason for the shift from sea borders to land borders is the effectiveness of Frontex activities at the sea borders that combined surveillance activities with migrant interviews (Joint Operation Poseidon) and returns (Joint Operation Attica). The following is an excerpt from a Poseidon Analytical Report dated 21 July 2010:

“(…) Frontex activities at the sea borders have added significant value to the reduction of migration flows in the Aegean and have contributed to the displacement of these flows to the Greek – Turkish land borders (…). Most migrants were detected while crossing the green border and were invariably undocumented. Thus it can be assumed that the phenomenon of nationality swapping of the irregular migrants is widespread in this area. Moreover, Turkey continues to accept very few returns of illegal migrants back from Greece.”

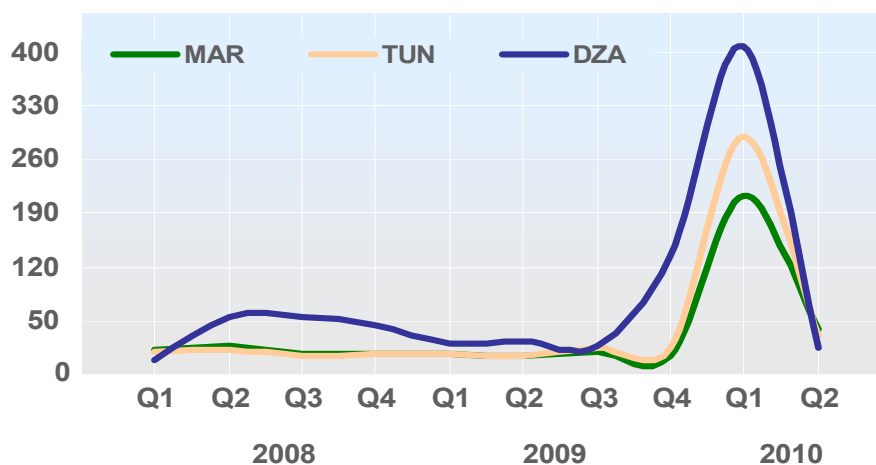
Nationality swapping is common, since the beginning of 2010 and, especially, in the last 3 months, where migrants from the Maghreb countries increasingly claim to be Palestinians and Somalis, while migrants of Asian origin claim to be Afghans.

Other possible factors that would have contributed to a shift from maritime to land illegal border crossing include cheaper facilitation costs, lower risks of injury, lower detection rates (which render our estimation of the extent of the shift rather conservative). There was an agreement in May 2010, between the Prime Ministers of Greece and Turkey on the readmission of 1 000 third-country nationals and the activation of a sea port to administer the readmissions. Word of this agreement, which has not yet been implemented, may have focused network activity from southwest Turkey to Istanbul and northern Turkey.

Between the first and second quarters of 2010, there was a sudden eight-fold increase in the number of detections of nationals from the Maghreb countries (particularly Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco) between Greek land BCPs (Figure 5). This increase was thought to indicate a new route for these nationals, who were previously typical of West African, and Western and Central Mediterranean routes, following Frontex Joint Operations and national bilateral agreements in these areas. Nationals from these countries were thought to travel to Istanbul by air. However, in Q2 2010, the peak in the number of Maghreb nationals detected crossing the land border between Greek BCPs fell to previously recorded levels (Figure 5). This fall in the number of detections is difficult to explain. It may simply be due to fewer nationals of these countries attempting to cross the border.

Alternatively these nationals may still be crossing the border but with a novel and widespread modus operandi to 1) head for the land border and 2) claim Somalian nationality once detected. Thus, some of the observed shift to the land border and some of the observed increase in the number of Somalian nationals, may in fact be due to the continued migration of Maghreb nationals into the EU between Greek land BCPs.

Figure 5: Illegal border-crossing between Greek land BCPs, by nationality



Central Mediterranean route Detections of illegal border-crossing increased from 150 in the previous quarter to nearly 600 in this quarter (Figure 3). This increase could be interpreted as a small and foreseen seasonal deviation from an otherwise steady decrease in the number of detections following the bilateral agreement between the Italian and Libyan authorities and strengthening of law-enforcement measures. However, according to Italian reports this recent increase is important as it could be due to the ongoing restructuring of criminal organisations, and also to a sharp increase in the number of boats arriving from Turkey on the Apulia coasts containing migrants claiming to be from Afghanistan. The number of boats, which tend to contain Tunisians, arriving in Sicily has also increased but to a lesser extent.

Clearly this situation warrants close monitoring, especially as in June 2010 Libya expelled the UNHCR, with whom 8,951 refugees and 3,689 asylum-seekers were registered as of January 2010.

The Libyan authorities have reported the presence of these stranded and henceforth unprotected migrants who are waiting for a slackening of the measures enforced by the Libyan authorities before continuing their journey onwards to the EU.

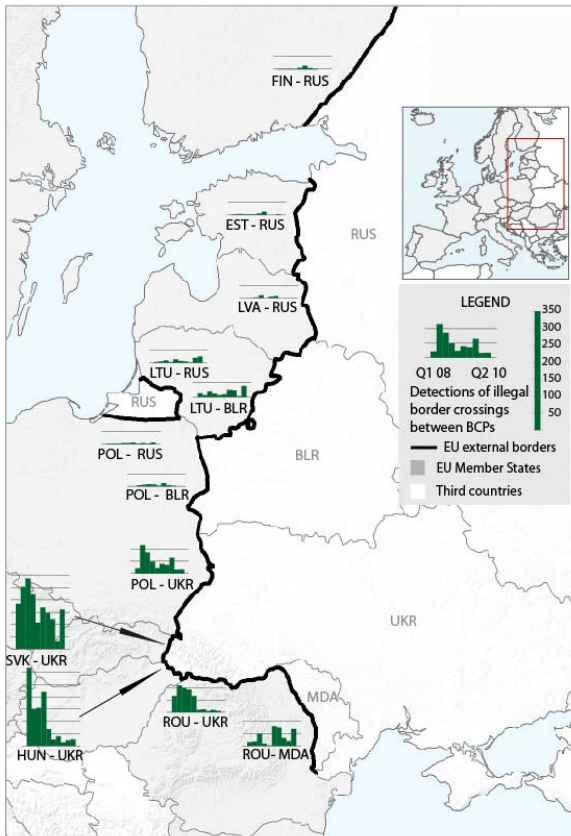
Western Mediterranean route Between the first and second quarters of 2010, the number of detections between southern Spanish sea BCPs (Almeria, Malaga, Cadiz, etc) doubled from around 500 to nearly 1,000 illegal migrants, commensurate with improved weather conditions. Despite this increase, detections are still half of the number reported at the same time last year in Q2 of 2009. According to Spanish reports, the Moroccan coastal village of Saïdia, five kilometres from the Algerian border, is a new point for migrant settlements and the departure of boats, especially for Sub-Saharanans who have no possibility to enter Melilla via the land border.

Many different nationalities were detected along the southern Spanish coastline and there were also many migrants of unknown nationality. However, Algerians formed the largest cohort and for the first time Algerian women were detected on board. Information gathered during the interviews under Joint Operation Indalo suggests that they were linked to prostitution and that a facilitator was waiting for them in the EU (Paris) to engage them in the sex industry to finance their journey. There was an increase in the number of detected Bangladeshi nationals, who are thought to have travelled by low-cost airlines to Libya with the intention of entering the EU via the Central Mediterranean route. However, confronted with strengthened Libyan police surveillance inland and the Italian-Libyan patrols along the Libyan coast that inhibit sea crossing to Italy, they instead attempted entry via the Mediterranean coasts of Algeria or Morocco.

Detections of illegal border-crossing between the Ceuta and Melilla BCPs remained consistent with long-term trends at around 200 detections this quarter. Since 2009 around half of the detections at these land borders have been Algerian nationals, but recently this proportion has declined to around one quarter. Given recent increases in the number of Algerians refused entry for using forged documents at this border section, these figures may be indicative of a switch of modus operandi. Recent (July/August 2010) disputes between the Spanish authorities in Melilla and Moroccan demonstrators in Beni Enzar resulted in a blockade of the land border and illustrate the extent of tensions in this area. According to Spanish reports, rioters in Morocco were blocking the border point in defiance of control, surveillance and migrant searches at the Spanish BCPs.

Western Africa route

In Q2 of 2010 the number of arrivals of illegal migrants in the Canary Islands remained extremely low, with only 16 detections over the whole quarter. This decline, which has been apparent since Q4 of 2009, is attributed to the presence of Frontex-coordinated Joint Operations in the area, and to the collaboration established by Spain with the Senegalese and the Mauritanian police. According to the Spanish reports, only a few wooden fishing boats (pateras) containing Moroccan migrants have left from Western Saharan beaches in recent months. It suffices to say that illegal migration and tragic loss of life have both been dramatically reduced in this region.



Map 1: The EU eastern land border. Bar charts display detections of illegal border-crossing per quarter

Eastern land borders

Detections of illegal border-crossing remained low along the EU eastern external land border, with 349 detections reported during Q2 of 2010. This is an increase compared to the last quarter but it is consistent with detections during the last year.

The northern part of the Slovakian-Ukrainian border was most targeted by irregular migrants, with 161 detected cases of illegal border-crossing of mostly Moldovans, Georgians and nationals from Afghanistan. This is quite an increase from the previous quarter when detections were very low perhaps due to the exceptionally bad winter weather (Map 1). According to the Slovakian report most of these individuals, who travel on foot in small groups of two to five people, were undocumented and were facilitated in reaching the border, but not accompanied across it. The exception was a single large group, which consisted of 11 Afghan nationals and two Ukrainian facilitators. The overall trend at this location is a gradual decline in the number of illegal border-crossing in response to Frontex-coordinated Joint Operation Jupiter

and the implementation of a 2.6 km perimeter fence at Ubl'a in the middle of the northern border.

The border in this region with the second highest number of detections was the Romanian-Moldovan border with 68 detections of nearly all Moldovans – a figure roughly comparable to this time last year. At this border the smuggling of cigarettes is of major concern. For example, BCP Albita reported a single case detecting a lorry packed with 69,830 cartons cigarettes.

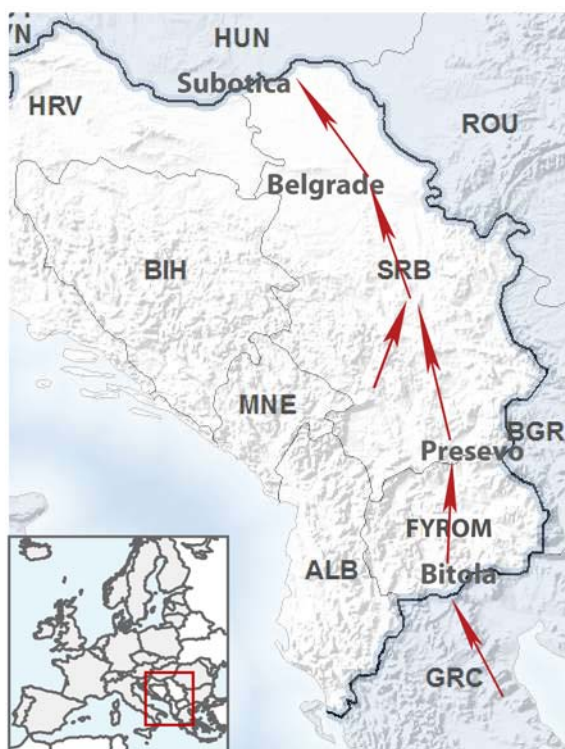
Further north detections are much lower than elsewhere at the eastern land borders (Map 1). Nevertheless both Estonian and Latvian reports detailed locally significant numbers of Afghan nationals detected at their land borders with Russia and Belarus, respectively. These migrants are thought to be heading for Finland or other destinations.

In many cases these third country nationals are staying in Russia legally (studies or work) but economical crisis has limited their perspectives for further employment that in most of cases means expiration of residence or work permit and becoming an illegal. In situation where the return to home country seems to be no option these groups trying to merge and find a facilitator(s) who could provide them safe passage to the European Union.

In the summer of 2009, there was a brief but massive influx of Georgian nationals refused entry to the EU at the Polish-Belarusian border and a concurrent peak in asylum applications of Georgian nationals, in particular at the Terespol land BCP.

However, the number of Georgians refused entry to the EU at the Polish-Belarusian border has not deviated during the first half of 2010; refusals have averaged around 200 per month .

Along most of the eastern land border, the smuggling of cigarettes or stolen vehicles is detected much more frequently than illegal migration events. For example, under the framework of Joint Operation Jupiter, in four months of 2010 (March - June), 582 persons were detected smuggling more than 231,000 cartons of cigarettes, and a total of 84 stolen vehicles. According to British reports, cigarettes are destined for Western Europe from Greece to Hungary, via Bulgaria and Romania.



Map 2: Migration route between Greece and Hungary via the Western Balkans

Western Balkans

The border most affected by illegal migration on this route was between Hungary and Serbia, where over 500 detections of illegal border-crossing were made between BCPs, of which the most common nationality was Serbian. The previous FRAN Quarterly raised the issue of the 200 or so Afghan nationals detected crossing this border. During the second quarter of 2010 this figure halved to around 100, but the number of claimed Palestinians doubled to 126.

According to interviews carried out under the Frontex-coordinated Joint Operation Neptune, the FYROM city of Bitola is one of the main gathering points for migrants before travelling either by bus, train, taxi or hidden in trucks or lorries towards Bujanovac (Presevo Valley) in Serbia (Map 2).

From Bujanovac the migrants travel further to Belgrade and Novi Sad to reach Subotica. Nationals from Afghanistan stated that they paid up to 12,000 USD to facilitators in order to reach a final destination in one of the Member States.

During the second quarter of 2010, there were 139 detections of illegal border-crossing at the border between Slovenia and Croatia, mostly of Bosnians and Croatians.

3.3. Clandestine entry

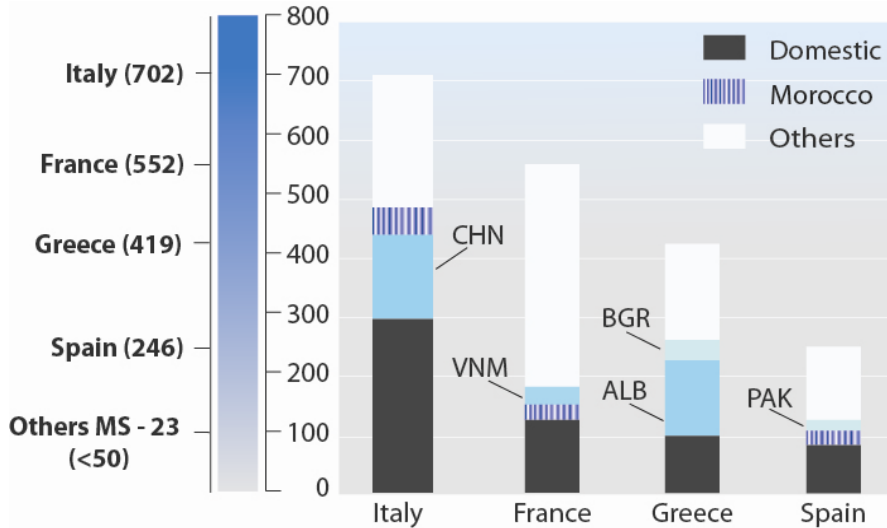
The detections of illegal border-crossing at BCPs, mostly clandestine, remained very low with just over 250 detections in the second quarter of 2010 - very similar to the previous quarter (Figure 1). However, this is likely due to an underestimation of illegal migration pressure at BCPs because data for two Member States, both of which could have potentially high clandestine entry, Greece and Spain, are not included.

3.4. Detections of facilitators

Despite the general decline for most indicators of illegal migration since the beginning of 2009, the total number of detected facilitators has remained extremely stable over the last six quarters, ranging between 2,000 and 2,500 per quarter.

Please note that figures for detected facilitators in Italy also include facilitators of illegal work.

Figure 6: Distribution of detections of facilitators in the four Member States with highest detections. Coloured bars represent the nationalities of facilitators. Thermometer (left) shows the level of detections in Member States



Moreover, the distribution of detections among Member States is also static between years; each year the vast majority of facilitators are detected in Italy, France, Greece and Spain, which together report more than 85% of the EU total (thermometer in Figure 6). In most cases around a third of detected facilitators were domestic nationals; the remainder was comprised of a few detections of many different nationalities (Fig 6).

Italy reported the highest (42%), and France and Greece the lowest (22%), proportion of domestic facilitators. Indeed, Greece was the only Member State in which the number of foreign, in this case Albanian facilitators outnumbered local facilitators. Moroccan facilitators were the only nationality occurring in high numbers in more than one Member State.

In May and June 2010, some 30 facilitated persons were apprehended at the Vienna airport. Most common routings were from Istanbul, Moscow and Minsk.

Spain reported the detection of a Nigerian network involved in smuggling of African women, and in some cases children, to the EU for exploitation in the sex industry. Some victims were accompanied by facilitators who also used false documents to pose as family members.

3.5. Detections of illegal stay

In Q2 of 2010 there were 83,000 detections of illegal stayers in the EU, half of which were reported from just four Member States: Spain (20%), France (15%), Italy (10%) and Greece (10%).

The steepest reductions were noted in Spain and France, although most of the declines took place in 2009. In Spain, most detections and the biggest reductions were in numbers of Bolivian, Moroccan and Brazilian nationals. Increasingly, nationals from Paraguay are also detected in Spain (for more information see the section on Refusals). In France, where most detections were of nationals from Afghanistan, Sudan and the Maghreb countries, the decline mostly reflects a massive reduction in the number of detections of Afghan nationals at the sea border with the UK, following the dismantling of makeshift camps where Afghan nationals gathered in northern France. Although detected in much smaller numbers there were also proportionally large decreases in the number of Iraqi and Eritrean nationals detected in France.

In the previous FRAN Quarterly, were reported significant declines in the numbers of illegal stayers detected in Greece and Portugal. Despite increases in the number of detections in this quarter, detections in these Member States are still much reduced compared to this time last year. Finland generally reports low numbers of illegal stayers but nevertheless detections have still dropped by two thirds over the last year.

The last FRAN Quarterly, also reported an unprecedented 45% drop in inland detections of illegal stayers in Greece to around 6,000 detections. This was mostly attributed to a massive drop in the number of Albanians but also to smaller reductions in Afghan and Iraqi nationals. With the benefit of Q2 of 2010 data we see that numbers of detections of Afghan and Iraqi overstayers continued to decline at a steady rate, in stark contrast to the increased detections at the border, while the number of detected Albanians suddenly increased by 66% - probably due to a seasonal influx of this nationality for seasonally available employment opportunities (see Eastern Mediterranean route).

3.6. Refusals of entry

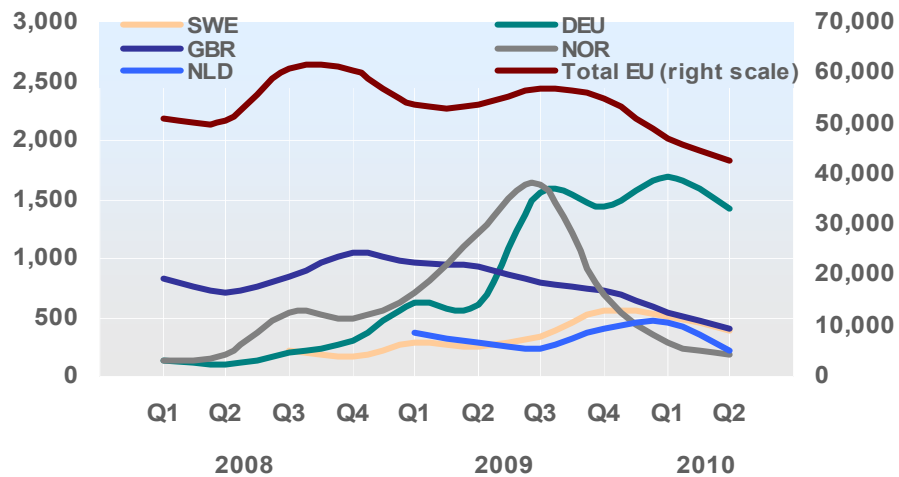
Notwithstanding the brief influx of refused Georgians at the Polish land border with Ukraine in the summer of 2009, refusals of entry at the EU external borders have remained stable at around 25,000 refusals per quarter for the last 18 months. Some 50% of all refusals are reported by just four Member States, roughly split between land and sea borders: Polish and Spanish land borders, and UK and French airports. Nearly 20% of all refusals were of Ukrainian nationals (4,640). Ranked equal second were nationals from Russia (1,728) and Brazil (1,628).

Each nationality tended to be refused entry most often from a single land border or section. For example, Ukrainian nationals were mostly (65%) refused at the Polish land borders for lack of appropriate documentation justifying the purpose and conditions of stay (60%) and also no valid visa or residence permit (20%). Ukrainian nationals were also refused in high numbers at their border with Hungary, although increased detections reported in Q1 of 2010 did not continue into this quarter.

The distribution of refused Russian nationals was also concentrated at a single border section, with nearly half being refused entry at the land border with Poland due to lack of visa. In contrast, Brazilian refusals which were recorded mainly at airports were distributed much more evenly among locations – they were refused in high numbers from British, Spanish, Portuguese and to a lesser extent French airports. Correspondingly, Brazilians also showed the most variation in reasons for refusal, no justification and lack of visa.

At the UK air border, the most commonly refused nationalities in this and previous quarters were from Brazil and the United States.

Figure 8: Numbers of Afghan asylum claims in five Member States



3.7. Forged documents

This quarter a total of 2,300 false documents were detected, which is the highest figure reported since data collection began at the beginning of 2009 (Figure 1). This increase is in spite of a 10% decline in tourism at the EU level, and therefore also a decline in genuine visa use, compared to Q2 2009(*). Around 75% of detections were made at the air border mostly in Spain, the UK, Germany and France, which together accounted for 50% of detections. Spain detected the most forged documents at its air border, where detections increased by 50% compared to Q2 of 2009.

(*) Note: Prior to this quarter, data from Belgium also contained detections of forged documents between intra-EU and intra-Schengen flights. Following recent data harmonisation, Belgium now ranks ninth rather than fourth among Member States in terms of the number of detections of forged documents. For example, detections are now 58 for Q1 of 2010 rather than the previously estimated figure of 216.

Annex

Legend:

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

Source: FRAN data received as of 15 August

Table A1 :
ILLEGAL BORDER-CROSSING BETWEEN BCPs

Detections reported by Member State and by border type at the EU external borders

	2009				2010	2010 Q2			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	prev. Qtr	per cent of total
Border Type									
Land	9,947	17,329	17,463	12,701	10,988	23,432	35	113	88
Sea	13,506	12,892	12,686	9,637	3,278	3,279	-75	0	12
Total	23,453	30,221	30,149	22,338	14,266	26,711	-12	87	100

Table A2 :
FACILITATORS

Detections reported by Member State, place of detection and top ten nationalities

	2009				2010		2010 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	prev. Qtr	
Member State									
Italy *	826	775	656	607	1,044	702	-9.4	-33	31
France	100	335	383	316	464	552	65	19	24
Greece	374	570	552	464	384	419	-26	9.1	18
Spain	470	373	279	362	224	246	-34	9.8	11
Romania	66	68	48	78	70	77	13	10	3.4
Slovenia	68	14	36	36	57	74	429	30	3.2
Hungary	64	46	66	60	43	53	15	23	2.3
Bulgaria	9	7	151	35	47	39	457	-17	1.7
Poland	20	51	52	37	45	23	-55	-49	1.0
Belgium	43	21	20	46	11	22	4.8	100	1.0
Sweden	52	53	33	51	35	20	-62	-43	0.9
Finland	0	13	10	13	5	11	-15	120	0.5
Switzerland	1	12	15	0	2	11	-8.3	450	0.5
Germany	10	8	3	16	5	8	0	60	0.4
Norway	7	5	14	10	13	6	20	-54	0.3
Slovakia	29	0	7	3	2	4	n.a.	100	0.2
Latvia	6	9	3	3	0	3	-67	n.a.	0.1
Lithuania	2	10	6	21	3	3	-70	0	0.1
Netherlands	18	12	11	8	11	3	-75	-73	0.1
Cyprus	1	10	9	6	0	2	-80	n.a.	0.1
Austria	68	2	2	0	0	0	-100	n.a.	0
Denmark	0	1	0	0	0	0	-100	n.a.	0
Estonia	0	2	5	5	2	0	-100	-100	0
Malta	1	0	0	0	0	0	n.a.	n.a.	0
Portugal	0	0	1	0	0	0	n.a.	n.a.	0
Czech Republic	0	0	0	0	0	0	n.a.	n.a.	0
Iceland	0	0	0	0	0	0	n.a.	n.a.	0
Luxembourg	0	0	0	0	0	0	n.a.	n.a.	0
Ireland	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
United Kingdom	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Place of Detection									
Inland	672	825	764	776	692	874	5.9	26	38
Not specified	905	828	691	658	1,079	722	-13	-33	32
Land	214	264	417	269	259	278	5.3	7.3	12
Land Intra EU	129	136	178	171	170	189	39	11	8.3
Sea	246	281	259	211	216	146	-48	-32	6.4
Air	69	63	53	92	51	69	9.5	35	3.0
Top Ten Nationalities									
Italy *	210	224	214	227	505	301	34	-40	13
China	246	232	121	132	183	167	-28	-8.7	7.3
Albania	149	195	180	146	131	139	-29	6.1	6.1
France	17	47	93	73	92	127	170	38	5.6
Greece	89	136	133	103	75	99	-27	32	4.3
Morocco	137	136	115	87	134	98	-28	-27	4.3
Bulgaria	85	70	104	85	97	94	34	-3.1	4.1
Romania	73	76	68	75	88	94	24	6.8	4.1
Spain	63	70	50	103	60	86	23	43	3.8
Iraq	37	76	101	60	54	68	-11	26	3.0
Others	1129	1,135	1,183	1,086	1,048	1,005	-11	-4.1	44
Total	2,235	2,397	2,362	2,177	2,467	2,278	-5.0	-7.7	100

* Data for Italy include facilitators of both illegal stay and illegal work

Table A3 :
ILLEGAL STAY

Detections reported by Member State, border type and top ten nationalities

	2009				2010		2010 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago prev. Qtr		
Top Ten Nationalities									
Albania	5,175	7,506	7,558	7,009	3,770	5,586	-26	48	6.7
Morocco	7,379	6,988	5,439	6,010	5,789	5,806	-17	0.3	7.0
Afghanistan	10,740	10,325	10,472	7,100	4,677	4,671	-55	-0.1	5.6
Brazil	2,366	4,479	5,283	4,939	2,491	4,258	-4.9	71	5.1
Algeria	3,406	3,306	2,199	3,375	3,533	3,412	3.2	-3.4	4.1
China	3,512	3,296	2,936	2,680	2,947	2,832	-14	-3.9	3.4
Iraq	6,296	4,497	4,470	3,355	2,876	2,568	-43	-11	3.1
Somalia	2,422	2,818	3,255	3,242	2,942	2,411	-14	-18	2.9
Serbia	2,171	2,127	2,832	2,231	3,581	2,344	10	-35	2.8
India	2,574	3,165	2,622	2,268	2,076	2,279	-28	9.8	2.7
Others	59,219	59,012	57,089	51,420	47,044	47,048	-20	0	57
Total	105,260	107,519	104,155	93,629	81,726	83,215	-23	1.8	100

Table A4 :
REFUSALS OF ENTRY

Refusals reported by Member State and by border type at the EU external borders

	2009				2010		2010 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	prev. Qtr	
Border Type									
Land	11,256	10,632	18,489	12,362	12,927	12,672	19	-2.0	50
Air	13,967	14,387	14,436	12,818	12,792	11,816	-18	-7.6	46
Sea	953	1,310	1,441	982	786	1,049	-20	33	4.1
Total	26,176	26,329	34,366	26,162	26,505	25,537	-3.0	-3.7	100

Table A5 :

REFUSALS OF ENTRY

Refusals at the EU external borders by top ten nationalities

	2009				2010		2010 Q2		per cent of total
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	prev. Qtr	
Total									
Ukraine	4,600	4,124	5,578	4,662	5,034	4,640	13	-7.8	18
Russia	1,520	1,535	2,480	2,073	1,569	1,728	13	10	6.8
Brazil	2,208	2,255	1,847	1,752	1,863	1,628	-28	-13	6.4
Serbia	882	831	1,144	1,089	1,838	1,509	82	-18	5.9
Belarus	1,431	1,135	1,112	1,287	1,188	1,430	26	20	5.6
Croatia	1,327	1,300	1,183	1,134	1,151	1,163	-11	1.0	4.6
FYROM	321	323	945	495	1,249	1,021	216	-18	4.0
Turkey	770	850	1,312	927	795	777	-8.6	-2.3	3.0
Georgia	87	528	4,519	911	653	681	29	4.3	2.7
United States	748	765	831	602	620	578	-24	-6.8	2.3
Others	12,282	12,683	13,415	11,230	10,545	10,382	-18	-1.5	41
Total	26,176	26,329	34,366	26,162	26,505	25,537	-3.0	-3.7	100
Land Border									
Ukraine	4,438	3,815	5,273	4,437	4,823	4,391	15	-9.0	35
Belarus	1,403	1,093	1,068	1,264	1,166	1,405	29	20	11
Russia	1,193	1,140	1,972	1,743	1,157	1,377	21	19	11.0
Serbia	780	699	1,019	888	1,416	1,241	78	-12	9.8
Croatia	1,271	1,242	1,108	1,063	1,098	1,102	-11	0.4	8.7
FYROM	294	299	895	438	1,035	808	170	-22	6.4
Georgia	31	481	4,463	866	609	640	33	5.1	5.1
Turkey	308	446	739	392	293	346	-22	18	2.7
Moldova	497	336	389	360	381	339	0.9	-11	2.7
Morocco	348	288	205	205	300	259	-10	-14	2.0
Others	693	793	1,358	706	649	764	-3.7	18	6.0
Total	11,256	10,632	18,489	12,362	12,927	12,672	19	-2.0	100
Air Border									
Brazil	2,179	2,232	1,820	1,725	1,842	1,607	-28	-13	14.0
United States	729	719	800	586	600	548	-24	-8.7	4.6
China	909	832	591	409	345	432	-48	25	3.7
Paraguay	482	454	396	331	553	393	-13	-29	3.3
Turkey	410	336	471	478	453	381	13	-16	3.2
Nigeria	567	504	543	527	390	362	-28	-7.2	3.1
Argentina	298	501	437	221	241	349	-30	45	3.0
Not specified	598	399	447	410	428	334	-16	-22	2.8
Venezuela	327	476	643	392	271	309	-35	14	2.6
India	396	315	371	361	463	284	-9.8	-39	2.4
Others	7,072	7,619	7,917	7,378	7,206	6,817	-11	-5.4	58
Total	13,967	14,387	14,436	12,818	12,792	11,816	-18	-7.6	100
Sea Border									
Philippines	66	92	85	160	94	174	89	85	17
Ukraine	14	82	37	11	20	71	-13	255	6.8
Russia	47	65	106	32	79	71	9.2	-10	6.8
India	30	68	75	50	64	62	-8.8	-3.1	5.9
Morocco	286	313	399	251	77	60	-81	-22	5.7
Turkey	52	68	102	57	49	50	-26	2.0	4.8
Albania	60	210	63	44	45	49	-77	8.9	4.7
Tunisia	29	8	22	15	19	39	388	105	3.7
FYROM	6	2	13	0	28	34	1600	21	3.2
Serbia	20	26	20	11	49	31	19	-37	3.0
Others	343	376	519	351	262	408	8.5	56	39
Total	953	1,310	1,441	982	786	1,049	-20	33	100

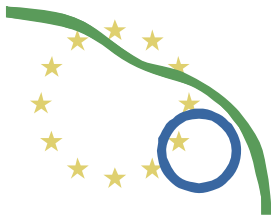
Table A6 :

PERSONS USING FALSE DOCUMENTS

Detections on entry at the EU external borders by Member State and by border type

	2009				2010		2010 Q2		
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	% change on year ago	prev. Qtr	per cent of total
Top Ten Nationalities of Persons									
Not specified	286	201	134	117	179	306	52	71	13
Ukraine	166	83	142	130	222	241	190	8.6	10
Algeria	19	18	14	13	67	130	622	94	5.6
China	93	109	78	74	81	117	7.3	44	5.1
Turkey	80	87	92	97	70	108	24	54	4.7
Nigeria	146	155	151	129	130	102	-34	-22	4.4
Iran, Islamic Republic of	84	44	95	75	94	101	130	7.4	4.4
Morocco	45	82	41	45	126	99	21	-21	4.3
Bangladesh	10	18	22	23	36	63	250	75	2.7
Afghanistan	12	21	66	57	27	58	176	115	2.5
Others	1,147	1,103	1,134	1,133	1,083	981	-11	-9.4	43
Top Ten Nationalities of Documents									
Not specified	446	643	508	296	562	564	-12	0.4	24
Poland	64	55	84	102	157	184	235	17	8.0
France	120	89	108	141	120	151	70	26	6.5
Italy	105	93	98	124	99	110	18	11	4.8
Greece	46	35	39	44	67	92	163	37	4.0
Germany	43	59	38	67	70	75	27	7.1	3.3
China	34	30	11	10	26	54	80	108	2.3
United Kingdom	42	34	64	38	38	50	47	32	2.2
Spain	36	46	27	78	41	48	4.3	17	2.1
Nigeria	64	59	60	49	69	48	-19	-30	2.1
Others	1,088	778	932	944	866	930	20	7.4	40
Total	2,088	1,921	1,969	1,893	2,115	2,306	20	9.0	100





FRONTEX

LIBERTAS SECURITAS JUSTITIA

European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation
at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union

Rondo ONZ 1 00-124 Warsaw
Poland