

BORDER SECURITY REPORT

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FOR THE WORLD'S BORDER PROTECTION, MANAGEMENT AND SECURITY INDUSTRY
POLICY-MAKERS AND PRACTITIONERS



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Militarisation of borders



It's a sad fact that the current global security crisis and the associated migration crisis is leading to the militarisation of our borders, as national governments look to their first priority, which is the safety and security of their own citizens.

The fences are going up, ground sensors going in, airborne surveillance systems taking to the air and navies patrolling the seas. Border officials like their national law enforcement counterparts are up-arming.

It was interesting to note that French authorities are placing armed police on the cross channel ferries for the first time, at least on the French side. This is good news because security of the ferries has always been of concern. After all, if a gunman or knife attacker/s were to strike on a crowded ferry, they would be able to run amok amongst the passengers, who have nowhere to go, and

police would be unlikely to be able intervene for at least half an hour, if not more. If the attackers gained access to the ship's bridge, there's no saying what havoc they may be able to cause in one of the world's busiest shipping lanes.

The ferries are incredibly vulnerable. There is nothing stopping you bringing a whole caravan full of kitchen knives, garden tools or any other low tech weaponry you can think of on-board, it happens every day of the week.

Unfortunately, as yet there is no agreement for these armed patrols to extend into British waters or British flagged vessels, but talks are underway. So for now French Gendarmes are being helicoptered out to ferries as they enter French waters.

AFP news agency reported, French marine police spokesman Lieutenant Pierre-Joachim Antona said a "permanent unit" had been deployed since Monday (1st August) to carry out high-visibility patrols on passenger ferries.

"The marine gendarmes will carry out patrols, which will be random but regular, with the aim of securing these vessels against the terrorist threat," he said.

However, a word of caution about deploying high-visibility armed police patrols on vessels.

What better way to get automatic weapons and ammunition onto ferries than allowing the gendarmes to airlift them on-board and seizing them in a surprise knife attack.

If the next time I cross the channel I see just two officers patrolling side by side on my ferry, I will be more concerned than reassured.

Perhaps better to have well publicised but covert officers on-board, like sky marshals. Same deterrent value but without the associated risk.

Whilst this is all very necessary we should always keep in mind that unlike the military whose job it is to defend us through the application of violence, border agencies remain a public facing service, their primary function is to facilitate the safe but free movement of legitimate people and goods between national jurisdictions, not just keeping bad guys and bad things out. For many of us when we go through border control these days, it's not difficult to imagine that some border officials believe their only function is to keep people out.

Safety and security of course comes first, but border officials and security personnel at border crossings and airports must never lose the ethos of being public servants. That means being polite, friendly and approachable as well as diligent, observant and professional

Tony Kingham
Editor

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MIGRATION: A MORAL OPPORTUNITY

BY PETER D. SUTHERLAND



Refugees seeking safe haven from violent conflict – the first victims of terrorism – are particularly vulnerable.

Our collective efforts to manage large migration flows have largely failed, says Peter Sutherland, the United Nations Secretary General's Special Representative for International Migration. Ahead of the United Nations Summit on Refugees and Migrants in September, the international system has the opportunity to recognize what has gone wrong and how it must be fixed.

Every so often a macabre headline captures our attention and awakens our conscience. Consider the devastating image of Aylan Kurdi, the Syrian toddler who washed up dead on a Turkish beach last summer, or the eight hundred souls who perished on a single weekend last April when their boat sunk tragically in the Mediterranean. As these headlines fade in a toxic haze of resurgent



nationalism and tribal instinct, it is our duty to hold strong on the moral responsibility of the world's leaders. The consequences of a renewed and aggressive nationalism are damaging for all.

Refugees seeking safe haven from violent conflict – the first victims of terrorism – are particularly vulnerable. They arrive often to face razor wire fences and can remain stranded in terrible conditions for prolonged periods. Those who find themselves detained are thus faced with two options: either recoil back into the hands of their smugglers in a desperate attempt to find safe passage around borders or continue existing in a state of limbo. “Existing” entails surviving in evergrowing and often unsanitary camps. This situation is morally unfathomable and unacceptable in a civilized world. Behind all of this is a fear spreading across Europe and over the Atlantic that outsiders might in some way compromise traditions and values.

In fact, in some countries, fuelled by the tropes of nationalism, citizens and their leaders are doing this themselves. Far-right parties are making de facto political gains and nationalist protesters are putting European values to the test – values that were given expression so nobly following World War II: tolerance, plurality and non-discrimination. Such an attack on the European project will abet authoritarian governments and usher in a culture characteristic of Huntington's dystopian clash of civilizations wherein xenophobia prevails and the innocent are persecuted. All this while Europe again becomes divided (and not just through the manifestation of

re-imposed physical borders). Similar forces of nationalism and nativism appear to be influencing the debate in the United States with Donald Trump, as a forerunner in the presidential race, proposing a ban on Muslims entering the country.

Between the outright hostility towards taking refugees in some countries, and a much more welcoming stance in others, collective efforts to manage large migration flows have largely failed. A global crisis demands an urgent global response with strong leadership. Over the course of this year the international system has an opportunity to recognize what has gone wrong and how it must be fixed. World leaders must accept their responsibility by the time they convene at the United Nations Summit on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants in September.

First it must be accepted that this is not a problem that will dissipate or a crisis that can be averted to

other shores, as some leaders would appear to prefer to assume. We must look to the future with tenacious realism. Migration is a global reality that will continue unabated. Almost 60 million people currently live displaced, 20 million as refugees needing sanctuary, according to the United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees (UNHCR) Global Trends Report¹ released in June last year; countless more risk displacement with more conflict and disasters on the horizon.

Our capacity to protect must grow also to embrace not only those strictly defined as refugees. Consider children exploited for labour, or communities at risk from the unevenly distributed burdens of climate change. In Bangladesh alone, a typhoon in the Bay of Bengal could forcibly displace millions who reside in low-lying coastal areas. This demands a global response capacity and a long-term approach.

Secondly, we need specific



improvements to the international protection system so that the international community is not responding merely on an ad hoc basis. This requires, inter alia, an acceptance that proximity does not define responsibility. Rhetorical responses need to be translated into concrete deliverables that uphold international law. These have to be both transparent and verifiable. This means assessing and defining what it costs to support forced migrants and the front-line states who host them. This will only work as part of a long-term humanitarian plan requiring an expansion in both financial aid and resettlement capacities at each respective national level, globally. It is not an either-or scenario.

As the high-level UNHCR conference on pathways for admission for Syrian refugees in Geneva on 30 March showed – with few states announcing any new plans to take in refugees –, there is a markedly uneven effort to host the displaced. Many wealthy countries fall short on resettlement pledges. It is unfathomable that 86 percent of refugees reside in developing countries, as documented in the above-mentioned UNHCR report. Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey host almost 4.5 million refugees from Syria alone, according to research by Human Rights First.² In the absence of adequate responsibility-sharing, this has led to deteriorating conditions in, and access to, frontline countries. We live in a world interconnected and ineluctably integrated, and this must be reflected through a collaborative and shared policy on migration.

At the same time, the international community must work collaboratively to generate safe and legal pathways for refugees, creating

a balance against our absolute objection to irregular and illegal movements of migrants. With criminal smuggling enterprises in Europe estimated by Europol in its February report “Migrant Smuggling in the EU” to have reaped between three and six billion Euros in 2015 alone, we need to provide alternative channels, so that desperate people are not forced to make the perilous journey across the Mediterranean and through hazardous terrain. Regular channels should be created to integrate migrants and refugees in society as active members. Humanitarian visa schemes should be implemented, private sponsorship should be coordinated and scholarships should be granted.

Brazil’s humanitarian visa programme for Haitians, as facilitated by the International Organization for Migration, can be seen as a model for how legal pathways can be operationalized. Canada’s 38-year-old “Private Sponsorship of Refugees” programme is another model for good practice. This programme co-ordinates organizations and groups of regular Canadians to privately sponsor refugees during their first year of settlement, and now takes charge of resettling about 40 per cent of the country’s displaced arrivals. This private sponsorship process has become a global model, with some refugee advocates in the United States wanting to replicate it, which should be encouraged.

We must also remember that, according to UN figures, more than 41 per cent of the world’s refugees are children, 3 and about 36 per cent of those risking the treacherous journey between Greece and Turkey are also children, as reported by UNICEF. Often these

children spend undefined periods of time held in detention without recourse to judicial review. As well as guaranteeing family reunification, we must ensure that a child’s mental and physical well-being is regarded as a top priority with an absolute ban on the detention of children. This must be set as protocol for the future, by which the world is legally bound.

Finally, we must also help the world rethink the very idea of what our duties to refugees and vulnerable migrants actually are. The international community is in need of a reformed narrative, which can respond to the changing nature of migration. Rather than seeing refugees as a security threat to be averted, we must demonstrate that they can be positive contributing members of society, and integrated into communities, markets and schools. The international community must not succumb to the barbaric fears of far-right nationalists, but must use this moment as an opportunity to improve the conditions of countless lives today, and many more yet to come.

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Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

More than 2,700 human trafficking victims rescued in INTERPOL-coordinated operation



Results mark INTERPOL support for World Day against Trafficking in Persons

An operation targeting human trafficking in South and Central America has resulted in the rescue of more than 2,700 victims, 134 arrests and the dismantling of at least seven organized crime networks.

Coordinated by INTERPOL's Regional Bureau for South America, Operation Intercops - Spartacus III was conducted in two parts, initially concentrating on three of South America's busiest international airports thought to be hubs for human trafficking networks: Ministro Pistarini (Buenos Aires, Argentina), Guarulhos (São Paulo, Brazil) and El Dorado (Bogotá, Colombia).

Through access to INTERPOL's global databases, frontline police at these key locations were able to check travellers' names and documents to help identify potential traffickers and their victims.

Based on the arrests made and intelligence gathered during this first phase (1 – 10 June), police across the 25 involved countries conducted follow-up investigations to identify and dismantle the networks involved.

The results, published ahead of the World Day against Trafficking in Persons on 30 July, underline INTERPOL's ongoing commitment in supporting national law enforcement address this modern-day form of human slavery.

INTERPOL team in Brazil to support security measures during Rio Olympics

An INTERPOL Major Events Support Team (IMEST), including counter-terrorism experts, has been deployed to Brazil to assist with security measures during the Rio Olympic and Paralympic Games.

In addition to the nearly 11,000 athletes, some 500,000 tourists will be among the six million ticket holders attending events in Rio de Janeiro as Brazil rolls out the largest international police cooperation event in its history.

Based in the International Police Cooperation Centre (IPCC) in Brasilia, the IMEST not only has instant, direct access to INTERPOL's full array of databases but will also be able to exchange urgent messages and vital police data from all 190 member countries such as fingerprints, images and wanted persons notices.

Working alongside some 255 police officers from 55 countries, the IMEST will facilitate checks on individuals against INTERPOL's global databases including fingerprints, internationally wanted persons and DNA in addition to data on more than 7,700 foreign terrorist fighters.

With the potential for criminals attempting to enter Brazil using falsified, stolen or lost passports to conceal their identity, officials at land, sea and airports throughout the country have access to some 60 million documents in INTERPOL's Stolen and Lost Travel Documents (SLTD) database to perform instant checks of visitors' passports.

As part of the ongoing security network put in place for the games, Brazil is conducting an average of one million checks against INTERPOL's databases for SLTD and wanted persons every day, making it one of the highest users in the world.

211 terrorist attacks carried out in EU member states in 2015, new Europol report reveals



In 2015, 151 people died and over 360 were injured as a result of terrorist attacks in the EU. Six EU Member States[1] faced 211 failed, foiled and completed terrorist attacks. 1 077 individuals were arrested in the EU for terrorism-related offences, of which 424 in France only.

94% of the individuals trialled for jihadist terrorism were found guilty and prosecuted.

This general overview is an important part of the EU Terrorism Situation and Trend Report (TE-SAT) 2016, which Europol releases today.

In addition, Europol releases a brief assessment of recent terrorist incidents that highlights the operational difficulties in the detection and disruption of lone actor attacks. In the TE-SAT 2016, Europol stresses that such attacks remained a favoured tactic by the Islamic State and al-Qaeda, and both groups have repeatedly called on Muslims living in Western countries to perpetrate lone actor attacks in their countries of residence.

Rob Wainwright, Director of Europol: "In 2015 the European Union experienced a massive number of casualties caused by terrorist attacks. In this context, Europol made use of its unique capabilities to focus on supporting operational investigations to prevent terrorist attacks and identify and disrupt terrorists. The increased cooperation resulted in a much richer strategic intelligence picture, strengthening the 2016 TE-SAT report and Europol's ability to advise political leaders and legislators and inform national authorities in the setting of threat levels."

The TE-SAT 2016 outlines two worrying developments: the overall threat is reinforced by the substantial numbers of returned foreign terrorist fighters that many Member States now have on their soil, and the significant rise in nationalist (xenophobic), racist and anti-Semitic sentiments across the EU, each resulting in acts of right-wing extremism.

The report brings to light the fact that a significant percentage of all foreign terrorist travellers in Syria/Iraq are now female.

On the other hand, there is no concrete evidence to date that terrorist travellers systematically use the flow of refugees to enter Europe unnoticed. The investigations into the 13 November Paris attacks revealed however that two of the attackers had entered the EU through Greece as part of the large influx of refugees from Syria.

Europol took immediate action to help the Member States tackle these challenges e.g. by establishing the European Counter Terrorism Centre (ECTC), adapting its databases and secure information exchange networks to the new needs of law enforcement agencies and setting up 24/7 response teams.

2015 was a year of legislative change for EU Member States. In order to strengthen the fight against terrorism, 12 Member States either adopted new laws or amended the existing legislation.

The report, which Europol has produced on an annual basis since 2006, provides an overview of the failed, foiled and completed terrorist attacks that took place in the EU during 2015, and of arrests, convictions and penalties issued.

The TE-SAT also categorises terrorist organisations by their source of motivation. However, many groups have a mixture of motivating ideologies, although usually one ideology or motivation dominates. It is worth noting that a categorisation of individuals and terrorist groups based on the ideology or goals they espouse should not be confused with motivating factors and the paths to radicalisation.

This TE-SAT has been produced by Europol analysts and experts, drawing on contributions from EU Member States and external partners like Iceland, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey.

BEEFING UP EUROPEAN BORDERS

BY TONY KINGHAM



The development of Frontex into an operational European Border and Coastguard Agency to secure the external borders of the EU makes perfect sense. Why? Because the existing system of relying on member states to control the external borders of the EU has failed.

It shouldn't really be a surprise that the old system failed, given the extraordinary and unfortunate circumstances that confronted it.

So why did it fail?

The 2008 global financial crisis

sent the global economy into recession and in Europe the Euro was in turmoil. The effects of the global economic crisis in Europe was hardest felt in the poorer countries of southern Europe. Greece after years of economic mismanagement was left impoverished by a debt crisis made harder by harsh repayment terms imposed on it by the European Central Bank. Greece, Italy and the Balkan states were destined to be in the front line of the impending migrant crisis.

In December 2010, a man in Tunisia burned himself to death in

protest at his treatment by police and the Arab spring had begun.

In February 2011 protests broke out against Muammar Gaddafi's regime and by August the regime was finished but the war continued and Libya descended into chaos.

In March 2011 hundreds of activists staged protests in Damascus and Aleppo, calling for democratic reforms, demanding greater civil liberties and freedom for political prisoners of rule by the Assad family. By 2012 the Syrian war had begun in earnest and with it the beginnings of the greatest migration crisis since World War II.

Throughout this same period starting in 2007 the drawdown of US troops in Iraq was continuing and was finally completed in 2011. al Qaeda in Iraq (AQI), an offshoot of al Qaeda founded by Abu Musab al Zarqawi in 2004 had faded into obscurity for a number of years, but began to re-emerge from 2011 onwards after the withdrawal of US troops. Misgovernment by the al-Maliki Presidency enabled the



AQI to take advantage of growing instability in Iraq and Syria to carry out attacks, seize territory and grow its ranks. It changed its name to Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) in 2013 and announced the formation of a caliphate stretching across large areas of Iraq and Syria.

In May 2013 ISIS carries out its first act of international terrorism when two car bombs exploded in Turkey. At least 51 are killed and 140 injured. Since that date ISIS are thought to have carried out over 144 attacks in 29 countries, have killed 2,044 and the tally is rising almost daily.

Obviously this is a hugely over simplified version of what are an incredibly complex series of events, but what they added up to, was a perfect storm.

The worst migration crisis since World War II emanating largely from the Middle East, combined with a global Islamic terrorism campaign and in the front line for Europe were those countries least able to cope with the crisis.

Little practical help was given to the front line states from the EU

itself or other member states.

Europe's response for too long was the insistence that the old policy, the so-called "Dublin system" i.e. that the first country of entry into the EU should be responsible for their care or repatriation.

But the sudden spike in migration numbers and rising terror threat in 2015 caused a deepening sense of crisis and saw individual EU countries arbitrarily closing

their borders putting the whole Schengen agreement in jeopardy and threatening to derail many of the ideals that form the basis of EU project.

It was never a practical, sensible or fair idea to leave the external borders of the EU in the hands of individual countries. Each country will prioritize its resources to what it sees fit and allocate those resources accordingly. And like any system, it is only as strong as its weakest link.

The first priority of any state is the security of its citizens. But the Schengen system, by its very nature undermines national security by taking away the ability of each nation state to control the movement of people across its border.

The security of the external borders of the EU Schengen area is in the interest of all and therefore the responsibility of all.



It therefore logically falls to the EU to assume that responsibility and it should assume its place as first priority. Frontex needs the people, vehicles, helicopters, UAV's, coast guard cutters, systems and the mandate to do the job.

In June 2016 "The Permanent Representatives Committee (Coreper) of the European Union confirmed the compromise text agreed with the European Parliament on the proposed regulation for a European border and coast guard. The European border and coast guard will consist of a European agency (the current Frontex agency with expanded tasks) and national authorities of the Schengen countries responsible for border management."

This is a good first step but EU will need to move uncharacteristically quickly if the crisis in security and migration does not become a crisis of faith in the whole EU project.



ASEANAPOL Secretariat receive visit from The Hanns Seidel Foundation

ASEANAPOL Secretariat received a visit from officers of The Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF), led by Hanns Bühler, Head of South and Southeast Asia Division HSF, accompanied by Police Chief Superintendent Bernhard Egger, Officer of Criminal Investigation, Bavarian State Police, Germany and other representative of HSF. They were welcomed by the Director for Police Service of ASEANAPOL Secretariat, PSSUPT Ferdinand R. P. Bartolome, and Staff.

The Hanns Seidel Foundation(HSF) is a German State sponsored non-government organization with projects and offices in more than fifty countries world-wide that

describes the work and mission with the motto 'In the service of democracy, peace and development'. This maxim not only applies to its commitment in Germany especially in Bavaria but also abroad especially in Southeast Asia. New generation people need to have political issues and interrelations clearly explained and to be motivated to commit themselves to take on responsibility. In addition to work on behalf of our democracy, freedom, the rule of law and a just social order, the fundamental principles and norms of our community also have to be ensured and firmly anchored in the conscience of all citizens.

AGENCY NEWS AND UPDATES

Special Arab border guard force mooted

The 13th meeting of the Arab border security chiefs for airports, ports and customs departments has called for the formation of a special force to guard the border crossings of the countries in order to counter potential terrorist attacks.

In a statement issued by the General Secretariat of the Council of Arab Interior Ministers from its headquarters in Tunis, the chiefs called for improving counter-terrorism measures at borders, seaports and airports, as well as for the provision of essential equipment along with the identification of the current relationships between terrorist organizations and organized crime gangs.

The conference stressed the importance of exchanging information and maintaining direct communication between the security agencies across all Arab countries, especially neighboring countries, which will allow authorities to

exchange information quickly and efficiently on the movement of fighters to and from conflict zones and areas of tension.

The council also stressed the need to increase cooperation among all security departments to fight terrorism, as well as the importance of exchanging field visits and successful experiences to benefit from the experience of the General Secretariat of the Cooperation Council for the Arab Gulf States.

India to allow Bangladeshi forces access to its border roads for patrolling



Extradition treaty was also signed between the countries that will now facilitate handing

over the wanted by just issuance of arrest warrant by the other country.

Home Minister of Bangladesh Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal said that India will provide all kinds of support to Bangladesh for curbing militancy including, allowing Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) to use its border roads for patrolling purposes in remote bordering areas.

The disclosure was made to brief media about his three-day visit to India recently. He led a 14-member high power delegation to the country comprising Home Ministry's Senior Secretary Mozammel Haque Khan and Inspector General of Police AKM Sahidul Haque.

Director Generals of BGB, Coast Guard and representatives from different ministries and agencies were also incorporated to the delegation. The delegation returned to Bangladesh on Saturday after completing the scheduled visit to India.

Kamal held a bilateral meet with his Indian counterpart Rajnath Singh and met the Indian President Shri Pranab Mukherjee and Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

He said the visit was held with the invitation of Indian Home Minister. During which, the delegation of the two countries discussed various issues, including stopping border killing, illegal trafficking of human, drugs and goods, illegal cattle trading, border patrolling and other pending issues.

Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia to meet on border security

Top officials of the Philippine National Police (PNP) will be meeting with their counterparts from Malaysia and Indonesia to strengthen security operations that could prevent kidnappings being perpetrated by the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG).

PNP Chief Director General Ronald Dela Rosa, PNP said he expected the representatives of the police forces of Malaysia and Indonesia to come to the Philippines and formalize an agreement on the security at the borders of the three countries.

Kidnappings of Malaysian and Indonesians, particularly crew of cargo vessels, have been a problem in the past months with the abduction being perpetrated by the ASG.

The bandits would then bring the hostages in Sulu or Basilan

and release them only after ransom is paid.

Dela Rosa admitted that the kidnapping issue in the southern part of the country was one of the major issues he discussed with Indonesia and Malaysia counterparts, aside from the illegal drugs problems, during the annual meeting of chiefs of police of Southeast Asia in Kuala Lumpur.

Malaysian army steps up border security



The Malaysian Army is tightening security control at the country's borders to curb firearm smuggling.

Its chief, Tan Sri Raja Mohamed Affandi Raja Mohamed Noor, said he had directed the Field Commander to ensure that all personnel based at the borders be required to conduct periodic exercises to gauge security level.

"Personnel working there will continuously monitor security and we will make every effort to prevent firearm smuggling.

Attack at Yemen border kills 7 Saudi border

guards

The Saudi-led military coalition says seven Saudi border guards, including an officer, have been killed in a cross-border clash with militants from Yemen.

In a statement early Sunday, the coalition fighting Yemen's rebels said Saudi border guards on Saturday repelled a rebel attempt to cross the kingdom's southern borders in the Najran area.

Ukrainian border guards detain foreigner wanted by Interpol



Border guards of the Bilhorod-Dnistrovsky detachment of the State Border Service of Ukraine have detained a Moldovan citizen who was on Interpol's wanted list, according to the Border Service's Southern Regional Department.

"The Interpol database identified a person at the Kuchurhan-auto checkpoint during the passport control of a Moldovan citizen heading for Ukraine," the department said.

According to preliminary information, the detainee is wanted by Moldovan police for having committed a crime.

Chinese police seize baby Siamese crocodiles



Border police seized nearly 400 baby Siamese crocodiles, a protected endangered species, in southern China, state-owned Xinhua news agency reported.

The roughly 25-cm long crocodiles were about 15 days old and were likely trafficked from Vietnam, the report said.

Police in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region said they saw three nervous-looking men moving goods in front of the house where the crocodiles were found and approached them for questioning. One man was caught, while the two others escaped.

Siamese crocodile skin is used to produce handbags and other luxury leather goods, but the reptiles can only be raised in China with a license and trafficking in them is illegal, according to Xinhua.

China is a major destination market for many products made using exotic, and often endangered, species. The government has held high-profile events to destroy large caches of illicit animal products in attempt to discourage trafficking in them.

India and Bangladesh discuss solutions to border issues



Recently, border forces of India and Bangladesh met in Tripura capital Agartala to discuss strategy for the handling of border-related issues.

To control infiltration and smuggling with better border management remained the core issue during the talks between Border Security Force (BSF) and Border Guards Bangladesh (BGB) in Agartala.

The four day meet was attended by a 20-member BGB delegation at BSF Frontier Headquarters.

Issues like trans-border crimes, cattle smuggling, growing fundamentalist activities with ISI support, militancy were also discussed.

Both sides have greater concern to stop cross border crimes by completing fencing at the porous border.

North Korea mandating strip searches at China border

Security checks are being enhanced at North Korea

immigration and strip searches are taking place at the border.

The measures are being enforced at the China-North Korea border, according to sources who spoke to Radio Free Asia on the condition of anonymity.

The restrictive measures have not deterred North Koreans from leaving the country for economic reasons and the number of North Korean defectors resettling in the South has increased since 2015.

Pakistan completes construction of 'Bab-e-Pakistan' gate at Torkham border



The gate named Bab-e-Pakistan has two doors which will be used for entrance and exit to and from Pakistan.

Security checkpoints have been established at both ends of the gate. The gate will prevent the unchecked movement of people across the border, security forces said.

Officials claim that this gate will prove beneficial for peace not just in Pakistan but also Afghanistan.

India steps up intelligence, security on Indo-Pak border

Amid reports that Hafiz Sayeed headed Jamat-Ud-Dawa (JuD) had increased its activities near the Indo-Pak border, India has stepped up its intelligence and security in these areas. Director General, Border Security Force (BSF) K K Sharma said the Force was ready to counter any kind of infiltration from any terrorist outfit.

He said additional force had been deployed in Punjab and Jammu region and several ultra high tech gadgets were being used for surveillance in the border area.

Border Rescues and Migrant Deaths Skyrocket in FY2016



The number of illegal aliens rescued by border security has continued to skyrocket over the past year, US border patrol reported recently – and unfortunately, more than a few of these stories have ended in tragedy.

Border rescues in the Rio Grande Valley Sector of the U.S.-Mexico border so far this fiscal year are nearly double

what they were during the same time frame in FY2015, Customs and Border Patrol reported.

Cross Border Security Meeting An Eye Opener



Maryland County Superintendent has described the just ended two-day cross border security meeting as an eye opener for the collaboration in the security sectors of Liberia and neighboring Ivory Coast.

Superintendent Betsy Kouh Toe in an interview with FrontPageAfrica in Harper said, the meeting has enabled both countries to design a work plan in dealing with security issues along the border lines.

The Cross Border Security meeting organized by the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) brought together Chiefs, elders, commissioners, the joint security, protection committee members and Superintendents from River Gee and Maryland counties along with their Ivorian counterparts.

The two-day meeting was intended to strengthen resilience protection and conflict prevention capacity in the border regions of Ivory Coast and Liberia.

The meeting was held under the theme “Together we can build a peaceful cross border community”.

Superintendent Toe however said since DRC is closing her program on security the county will do all to place the security committee set up in the county developmental agenda.

Danish Refugee Council is an International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO) working with community members in both countries in the areas of security and capacity building.

Brazil tightens border security amid fears of attack on Rio Olympics



Brazil has tightened its borders ahead of the Summer Olympics to reduce opportunities for terrorism during the Games’ first trip to South America.

Reuters reported that with recent terrorist attacks in Europe, Brazilian officials have added emphasis on monitoring and controlling its borders with Paraguay and Argentina. The news agencies pointed out that

the Olympic Games will bring some 500,000 foreigners to Rio de Janeiro and surrounding venues for the worldwide competition.

Officials have increased checks at the border post in Foz do Iguaçu, Brazil, one of the busiest in the country, where thousands of people pass back and forth daily to both Paraguay and Argentina. The area is a popular tourist spot and a major smuggling route.

Border Security Force To Replace Physical Training Drills With Yoga



Border Security Force (BSF), the country's largest border guarding force, has decided to replace the routine physical training drills for its jawans and officers with yoga.

The decision to replace the daily 45-minute physical training drills with yoga at all its units was taken by BSF Director General KK Sharma after 1,900 personnel of the force recently completed a special training under the tutelage of Baba Ramdev at his facility in Uttarakhand's Haridwar.

"Yoga has been made mandatory in the force and the

jawans and officers will now undergo regular training in this skill. The routine PT exercises will be replaced by yoga," the DG said.

EUBAM Libya: mission extended, budget approved



On 4 August 2016, the Council extended the mandate of the planning mission EUBAM Libya until 21 August 2017. It also approved a budget of €17 million for the period from 22 August 2016 to 21 August 2017.

As part of the EU's comprehensive approach to support the transition to a democratic, stable and prosperous Libya, EUBAM Libya is mandated to plan for a possible future EU mission providing advice and capacity-building in the area of criminal justice, migration, border security and counter-terrorism.

Any future civilian mission in Libya would seek in particular to address law enforcement aspects of irregular migration, smuggling of migrants and trafficking of human beings while promoting longer term efforts on security sector reform, including governance. It would be conducted at the request of the legitimate Libyan authorities, with their full ownership.

The civilian planning capacity co-operates closely with, and contributes to, the efforts of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya.

The mission is currently located in Tunis and has established contact with the relevant Libyan authorities. The mission's budget approved by the decision provides for the activities and staff in Tunis as well as for the possibility to deploy to Libya as soon as the security situation allows.

Cross-border crime, counter-terrorism among key issues in Zahid's Thailand visit



Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi's two-day working visit to Thailand will focus on five security issues set to be tackled by both Malaysian and Thai authorities.

Speaking to Malaysian media after a pre-council meeting here, Zahid, who is also Home Minister, said the five issues were cross-border crime, counter-terrorism, border security, trafficking in persons and drug-smuggling.

"There are criminals from Malaysia that go to Thailand to seek protection. "(And)

since we have laws such as the Prevention of Crime Act, Prevention of Terrorism Act 2015 and the revamped Op Cantas 2.0, we will track down these criminals, especially those involved in organised crime.

“We also know that there are those involved in terrorism, especially the Daesh (Islamic State), who use Thailand as an avenue to enter Malaysia. There are also those from Malaysia who go through Thailand to enter a third country.” He said such issues could be tackled through increased cooperation between the two nations.

Colombia and Venezuela to Review Border Security Issues



The 1,400 mile shared border has been closed in gradual stages by the Venezuelan government since August 2015.

Venezuelan Foreign Minister Delcy Rodríguez met with her Colombian counterpart María Ángela Holguín in order to discuss a range of issues, including border security, education and infrastructure projects.

During the high-level meeting, held in the Venezuelan capital city of Caracas, the two

leaders primarily addressed border issues stemming from the August 2015 decision by Venezuelan authorities to close the border in efforts to prevent illegal smuggling in and out of the country.

However, in recent weeks, Colombian and Venezuelan authorities have been negotiating security measures that would allow the permanent reopening of the border.

Leading up to the meeting, the Colombian Foreign Ministry issued a communique expressing optimism with regard to the possibility of reopening the border between the two countries.

Estonia Considers New 5km Buffer Zone Along Russian Border



Estonia could introduce a five kilometer security buffer along its border with Russia, the TASS news agency reported.

The bill outlining the new border zone has already been approved and will now be presented to Estonia's parliament.

“A border zone is being created to strengthen border control and

the security and defense of the state border,” a government statement said.

Estonian Foreign Minister Hanno Pevkur earlier said that Estonia plans to make its border with Russia the “most modern in the European Union,” equipping border guards with tracking cameras and drones to monitor events in real time.

Police in the buffer zone will also have the power to deny people entry to the area, and any activity seen to be compromising border security will have to be agreed with authorities beforehand.

Huge car queues at Ukrainian-Polish border

More than 800 drivers are waiting at Ukrainian-Polish border crossing points, Ukrainian State Border Service says

Hundreds of people wait until they will be allowed to cross the border. The biggest queue is at the “Rava-Ruska” checkpoint. Approximately 250 drivers stay there.

The increase of car queues was rather predictable. The majority of drivers stuck in the lines are residents of border areas. They were barred from crossing the border by fast track proceeding during a month.

Poland cancelled small border traffic to tighten security due to NATO summit and World Youth Day.

Promoting Cross Border Cooperation Through Effective Management of Tajikistan's Border With Afghanistan

The recently formed JICA funded UNDP Border Management Project is working to improve facilities and staff preparedness on the border between Tajikistan and Afghanistan.

Responsibilities include a requirement to train members of Tajikistan's Interagency Secretariats.

As the Project Document explains: 'To increase capacity of Border Security Agencies for legal flow of people and goods across the Tajik and Afghan border, the existing National Strategies on Border Management and Counter-Narcotics will be reviewed and adjusted to better meet the current development context. ... Furthermore, the capacity of the Interagency Secretariats will be strengthened for more coordinated approach towards strategy implementation and monitoring, including resource mobilization from state and non-state actors. UNDP's support in this regard will be of facilitating nature,

while the actual work will be carried out by the Interagency Secretariats and strictly in line with established rules and procedures for revising and adjusting high level documents such as National Strategies on Border Management and Counter-Narcotics.'

The training will focus on leadership skills including:

- Effective negotiations,
- Fundraising,
- Donor coordination,
- Communication,
- Monitoring of strategy implementation.

The project is seeking experts in these skills to help us deliver a training course in Dushanbe, Tajikistan from 15-19 Aug 2016.

Please contact michael.holman@undp.org.

IOM, EU Donate Border Management Equipment to Mauritania

The IOM has donated equipment and materials to enhance Mauritania's immigration and border management capacity. The handover ceremony in Nouakchott was part of a European Union-funded IOM project: "Strengthening migration management in Mauritania through a better border management strategy and assistance to irregular migrants".

The donation – including textbooks, document verification kits, passport readers, high frequency radios and first aid kits – was presented to the Mauritanian gendarmerie and police in the presence of representatives of the Delegation of the European Union, the Central Bureau of Investigation of the Gendarmerie, the General Directorate of National Security (DGSN), the Directorate for Territorial Surveillance (DST), and services of the Ministry of Interior and Decentralization (MIDEC).

Since the beginning of the project in January 2014, IOM has constructed six border posts and trained over 250 police officers and gendarmes. "As part of our activities, police officers and gendarmes were trained in the field of border management, human rights and migrants' rights, first aid, document fraud and IT," said IOM project manager Laura Palatini.

"Border management is not only based on human skills, but also requires technical support. That is why we are happy today, thanks to funding from the European Union, to contribute to the strengthening of Mauritania's services in this area by providing essential equipment to meet this objective," added IOM Mauritania Chief of Mission Anke Strauss.

IOM has been involved in border management in Mauritania since 2006. It has constructed over 20 border posts, equipped around 30 and trained over 320 officials.

AFRIPOL, an “added value” to new global security architecture report reveals



The African Mechanism for Police Cooperation (AFRIPOL) will be an “added value” to the new global security architecture, said Wednesday in Algiers Police Chief, Major General Abdelghani Hamel.

“The tragic events that occur every day around the world, sparing no continent, show that the threat is global and widespread, leaving

perplexed the most efficient and better organized police services,” said Hamel in his opening address at a consultation meeting on the starting up of AFRIPOL.

The Police Chief underlined that the major challenges resulting from the new forms of terrorism, radicalization, foreign terrorist fighters, cybercrime, illicit trafficking in drugs and weapons, in addition to the migration and humanitarian crises and other criminal scourges “constitute threat factors to national, regional and international peace and security.”

“This situation requires joint and integrated response through genuine cooperation to address the common challenges,” he said.

In this regard, he added that “AFRIPOL will constitute an added value to the new global security architecture.”

More than 1 Ton of Drugs Seized after Operation SIFCO 3

The Police Community of Latin-AMERIPOL, made last week on the continent Operation Without Borders against organized crime (SIFCO) in which 14 police institutions from 13 countries in America were articulated, in order to counter transnational crime, specifically drug trafficking in the region.

The police deployed Operation SIFCO 3 in the different ports Airports and borders of Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and the Dominican Republic, making the seizure of 1,309 kilos of cocaine, 622 grams of heroin, 58.4 kilos of marijuana, 1,800 doses of synthetic drugs, the capture of 59 people of different nationalities for the crime of drug trafficking and the seizure of firearms, cars and cash.

The operation SIFCO 3 becomes the third multilateral operation of the hemisphere, in which the continent police join forces against

drug trafficking and was implemented in 42 international airports, 26 ports and 15 border and serves to collect information that helps identify the main shipping routes and methods used by organized crime to drug trafficking on the continent.

This action is part of the offense with which the Executive Secretariat of AMERIPOL, which aims to unite efforts among law enforcement agencies to combat drug trafficking through “Regional Safety Plans”.



GROWTH IN ALL TYPES OF DRUGS

AUSTRALIAN CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE COMMISSION



The report presents illicit drug data from a variety of sources including law enforcement, health and academia. The IDDR is the only report of its type in Australia and is designed to provide an important evidence base to assist decision makers in the development of strategies to combat the threat posed by illicit drugs.

There were numerous instances of

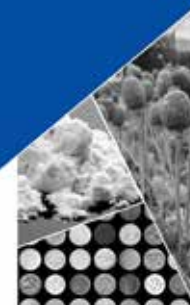
record detections at the Australian border in 2014–15.

The number of amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS, excluding MDMA), cannabis, LSD, psilocybin, GHB, GBL, ketamine, benzodiazepines and opioid detections are the highest on record. The weight of ATS (excluding MDMA) detected this reporting period is also at a record high.

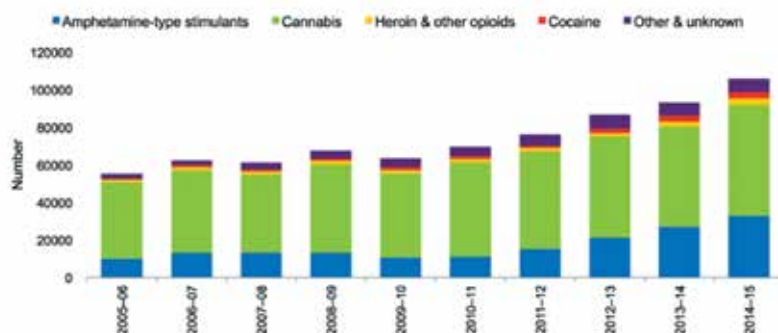
A recent report by the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission (ACIC) Illicit Drug Data Report 2014–15 (IDDR) provides a snapshot of the Australian illicit drug market and by reflection the world's.



**ILLICIT DRUG
DATA REPORT**



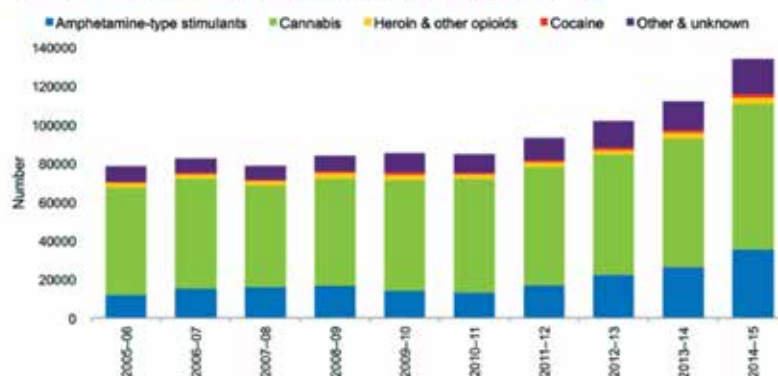
NUMBER OF NATIONAL ILLICIT DRUG SEIZURES, 2005–06 TO 2014–15



The number of national illicit drug seizures has increased 91.7 per cent over the last decade, from 55 219 in 2005–06 to a record 105 862 in 2014–15. The weight of illicit drugs seized nationally has increased 263.1 per cent over the last decade, with 23.5 tonnes of illicit drugs seized nationally in 2014–15, the third highest weight on record.

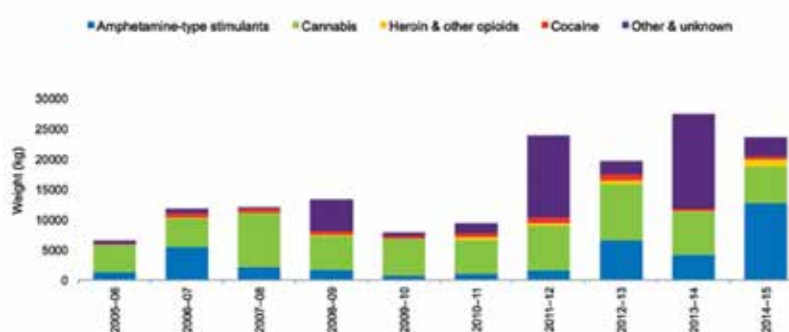
Of the three highest annual weights on record, this is the first reporting period where no single notable seizure contributed to the significant weight seized; in 2013–14 the weight of illicit drugs seized nationally included a single 10 tonne seizure of benzaldehyde,¹ while in 2011–12 it included a single 11 tonne seizure of hypophosphorous acid.

NATIONAL ILLICIT DRUG ARRESTS, 2005–06 TO 2014–15⁴



The number of national illicit drug arrests has increased 70.5 per cent over the last decade, from 78 533 in 2005–06 to a record 133 926 in 2014–15. This reporting period cannabis continued to account for the greatest proportion of national illicit drug arrests, followed by ATS, other and unknown drugs, heroin and other opioids and cocaine.

WEIGHT OF NATIONAL ILLICIT DRUG SEIZURES, 2005–06 TO 2014–15



The number of clandestine laboratories detected nationally continued to decrease this reporting period, from 744 in 2013–14 to 667 in 2014–15. The majority of clandestine laboratories continue to be addict-based and detected in residential areas, with increased detections in public places, rural and commercial/industrial locations this reporting period.

Despite Afghanistan remaining the world's largest producer of illicit opium, profiling of heroin seizures made at the Australian border and national heroin samples analysed as part of the Enhanced National Intelligence Picture on Illicit Drugs (ENIPID) project identify South-East Asia as the predominant source of heroin entering Australia.

Whilst this detailed and worrying report is based on purely Australian statistics, it is no doubt a fair reflection of the global problem.

Source: The Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission (ACIC) Illicit Drug Data Report 2014–15.

DEVELOPING STRATEGIC BORDER MANAGEMENT RESOLUTIONS AND SOLUTIONS

EVENT UPDATE



21st-23rd March 2017
Casablanca, Morocco
www.world-border-congress.com

2015 saw unprecedented crisis on a global scale, from the Middle East warring factions creating mass refugee movements across Europe, illegal economic migrants from Africa and Asia have created increasing challenges for the international border management and security community.

2016 is expected to see a continuation of the migration challenges for the border management and security community, as little sign of peace and security in the Middle East is apparent.

International organised criminal gangs and human and drug trafficking groups exploit

opportunities and increasingly use the internet and technology to enhance their activities.

Controlling and managing international borders in the 21st Century continues to challenge the border control and immigration agencies around the world. It is generally agreed that in a globalised world borders should be as open as possible, but threats continue to remain in ever evolving circumstances and situations.

Advancements in technology are assisting in the battle to maintain safe and secure international travel. The border security professional still remains the front line against these threats.

The World Border Security Congress is a high level 3 day event that will discuss and debate current and future policies, implementation issues and challenges as well as new

and developing technologies that contribute towards safe and secure border and migration management.

We need to continue the discussion, collaboration and intelligence sharing.

The World Border Security Congress is the only multi-jurisdictional transnational platform where the border protection, management and security industry policy-makers and practitioners convene annually to discuss the international challenges faced in protecting borders.

You are invited to join the world border management and security community in Casablanca, Morocco on 21st-23rd March 2017 to develop strategic border management resolutions and solutions - **Collaboration and Interaction for Action.**

2015/16 Border Security Challenges:

- Migration Crisis Tests European Consensus and Governance
- Migrants and refugees streaming into Europe from Africa, the Middle East, and South Asia
- Big Business of Smuggling Enables Mass Movement of People for Enormous Profits
- Climate Change and Natural Disasters Displace Millions, Affect Migration Flows
- Europe and the United States Confront Significant Flows of Unaccompanied Child Migrants
- Tackling Southeast Asia's Migration Challenge
- ISIS threatens to send 500,000 migrants to Europe
- Border Skirmishes Resonate in National Domestic Politics
- Women's Labour Migration from Asia and the Pacific

Interested in Participating

Are interested in participating at the next World Border Security Congress and sharing your experiences and challenges with the world border management community?

For information on registration and your participation at the 2017 World Border Security Congress, visit the website at www.world-border-congress.com or contact the organising committee directly, details below.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Congress in Morocco on 21st-23rd March 2017 for the next exciting discussion on international border security and management.

Neil Walker
Event Director
World Border Security Congress
Email: neilw@world-border-congress.com





Collaboration and Interaction for Action

Developing strategic border management resolutions and solutions

SAVE THE DATES

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We look forward to welcoming you to Casablanca, Morocco on 21st-23rd March 2017 for the premier gathering of border and migration management professionals.

www.world-border-congress.com

for the international border management and security industry

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BORDER SECURITY
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Vision-Box and SEF expand Automated Border Control to Third Country Nationals at Lisbon International Airport

Vision-Box and SEF – the Portuguese Immigration and Borders Service – are pleased to announce the expansion of RAPID, a solution designed for Automated Identification of Passengers Holding Electronic Travel Documents.



Already in use by EU, EEA (European Economic Area) and Swiss citizens at Lisbon International Airport, the pioneering self-service face recognition border clearance system, rebranded RAPID4ALL, is now available for citizens of nine additional countries outside of the European Union: Australia, Brazil, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea, United States, and

Venezuela.

"This does not mean less security", said Lisbon Borders Director Luis Quelhas. "On the contrary, it means an augmented level of security. SEF controls the Entry and Exit of passengers in our airports in the same manner, with the same rigor, and with the same high level of security. We modernized, we simplified, while maintaining the same level of security".

secunet and Vítkovice IT Solutions win two tenders with the Czech border police

secunet and partner Vítkovice IT Solutions have won two tenders with the Czech border police. One of the tenders is for installing additional automatic border control gates – or eGates – at Prague's Václav Havel airport. As part of a second project, a secunet DVCA (Document Verifying Certification Authority) will be added to the background system used to process electronic identity documents in Czech Republic.

The ten eGates at Prague Airport are highly popular, with around 85,000 passengers using them to cross the border every month. In response to the high number of passengers using the gates and the positive experience with the EasyGO border control solution, the Czech border police is expanding its border control systems at Prague airport to include seven secunet easygates. In collaboration with partner Vítkovice IT Solutions a.s., secunet will install three turnkey eGates in the arrival area, a further four gates will be installed in the departure area. They will enter into operation in the coming weeks.

secunet – as the prime contractor – has also won another tender of the Czech police covering the addition of a DVCA component to the background system used to process electronic identity documents. This project which is officially called National Control Authority (NCA) will also be implemented with valuable support of Vítkovice IT Solutions a.s.

The Document Verifying Certification Authority is needed to read data from electronic ID documents protected by the EAC security protocol. The expansion of the background system will allow Czech border control authorities to examine electronic identity

documents in full at all national border inspection posts in future. The project is scheduled to complete by the end of the year. "The expansion of the EasyGO eGate project and the implementation of a DVCA component represent a substantial contribution in terms of the sustainable approach being pursued by the Czech border police. We are delighted to be working with our reliable partners secunet and Vítkovice IT Solutions a.s. once more, and are sure that the projects we have commissioned will be implemented in a timely manner and to the usual high standards", says Petr Malovec, Head

of the Czech border police's National Centre for Border Situations.

Norway is helping to fund both projects through the Norway Grants programme. Through this programme, Norway funds projects in 16 EU member states that are aimed at balancing out disparities between individual member states. The programme helps support projects by NGOs, scientific institutions, private companies and public bodies

Eurotunnel in Folkestone and with a reputation for delivering key locations within the site which has a 41.8km perimeter.

Elbit Systems of America's Integrated Fixed Tower Program Named Most Notable Border Security Program

Elbit Systems of America, LLC, was recently named the winner of the Most Notable Border Security Program Award by Government Security News (GSN) for the Integrated Fixed Tower deployment to the United States Border Patrol..

The Border Security award is one of the awards GSN presents annually to recognize

"top leaders in new technologies and innovative security strategies" for Airport,

Seaport, and Border Security.

"Elbit Systems of America appreciates the recognition received by Government Security News for the Integrated Fixed Towers (IFT) program," commented Elbit Systems of America President and CEO Raanan Horowitz. "The GSN award is further evidence acknowledging the impact of our border security solutions and our commitment to being a key partner to the Department of Homeland Security Customs and Border Protection and the United States Border Patrol," continued Horowitz. "We have a proven history of delivering effective solutions and have made border security a long-term strategic focus, leveraging the latest technologies to solve the most difficult problems for the safety and security of the nation."

Elbit Systems of America's initial deployment of the IFT in the Nogales Arizona Area of Responsibility (AoR), was certified earlier this year by the then Acting Chief of the U.S. Border Patrol,

based on a review of "test results and agent feedback, confirming that the IFT system adds surveillance capability, increasing situational awareness and officer safety." The second system is now being deployed in the Douglas Arizona AoR.

As the prime contractor, Elbit Systems of America integrates state-of-the-art sensors with a robust and flexible command and control system and human-machine interface specifically adapted to the Border Patrol's operational needs. The system ensures a high degree of reliability in the demanding desert environment of the southwest border. The IFT system deployed in the Nogales AoR has been in 24/7 operation since August 2015 and provides Border Patrol Agents a high level of operational availability for increased awareness.



Use of Force Simulators Contract Awarded to VirTra by the Australian Border Force

VirTra Systems a leading provider of use of force simulators and firearms training simulators, announced in June the award of a contract of approximately \$1.0 million (USD) from the Australian Border Force, the operational arm of the Australian Federal Government's Department of Immigration and Border Protection.

VirTra will supply, install and maintain multiple units of its industry leading simulator systems, including its multiple screen V-300TM judgmental use-of-force simulator and its portable V-ST PROTM firearms training simulator. The V-300 system employs realistic video training content and an electric impulse return fire system to simulate the stress of real-world situations. The portable V-ST PRO system is a ballistically accurate and scalable marksmanship simulator that offers a wide variety of simulated training environments. Using VirTra's highly-advanced systems, officers are better prepared for hostile situations with skills honed and refined in realistic scenarios before lives are on the line.

"It is an honor to add the Australian Border Force to our expanding list of large international customers

who have selected VirTra's industry leading training simulators," said Bob Ferris, Chairman and CEO of VirTra. "Since 2009, we have established a successful track record in Australia, serving four prominent and highly regarded law enforcement agencies in the country, including the Australian Defense Force, the Victoria Police, the New South Wales Police Force, and now the Australian Border Force. Our work with these highly valued customers supports our key strategic objective of providing the most effective and realistic use of force and ballistically accurate marksmanship simulator solutions to law enforcement and other government agencies throughout the world. We appreciate the opportunity to serve the Australian Border Force and look forward to exceeding their expectations and working with them for years to come."

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