

# BORDER SECURITY REPORT

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

## COVER STORY SMARTER BORDERS IN SPAIN



### SPECIAL REPORT



Addressing Threats and  
Challenges of Border  
Security in Ukraine p.9

### AGENCY NEWS



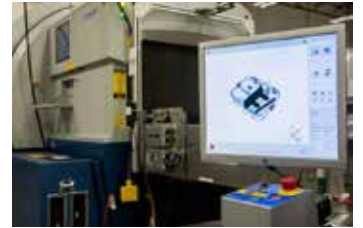
A global review of the  
latest news and challenges  
from border agencies and  
agencies at the border. p.22

### SHORT REPORT



Progress on ICAO  
compliance p.17

### INDUSTRY NEWS



Latest news, views and  
innovations from the  
industry. p.29

## ‘Do these times not justify special measures’

As military pressure on Islamic State (ISIS) in the Iraq and Syria continues to squeeze their so-called caliphate, the number of Jihadists returning from the war zones of the Middle East is only set to rise and Western nations are not prepared. Like the UK many countries, nearly 10 years on from the global crisis, are spending less in real terms on border security, policing and the security services than they were, not more.

It has been widely reported that the UK currently has about 400 people who are believed to have returned from Syria to the UK after fighting with ISIS. All over Europe the situation is much the same.

It would be inconceivable to our parent's generation that lived through WWII, that soldiers fighting for the Nazi's with the Division Nordland, Freiwilligen Legion Niederlande, Französisch Freiwilligen-Sturmbrigade or the British Free Corps could wander back home whilst the war was still going on and simply melt back into society. No, at the very least they would have been interned, faced charges of treason or even summary justice.

So why do we allow those whose stated aim is to destroy our way of life by killing innocents walk our streets protected by the liberal democratic laws they so despise instead of facing internment and mandatory deradicalization.

One reason is that it is that the burden of proof lies with the state, and under the normal standards of law, proving what these people having been doing whilst they have been out of the country is difficult. Many may also have gone to great lengths to hide their involvement with ISIS.

But do the times not justify special measures?

Perhaps the onus should be put on the traveller or suspect individual to prove their whereabouts over the period in question and not for the authorities to prove they have been involved with ISIS. After all, it's not difficult to track legitimate traveller's movements these days with credit and debit card transactions, plane and train tickets, geolocation on mobile phones and credible witnesses. In fact, you would have to go to extreme efforts to avoid leaving some trace, which is the point.

Another big issue is picking them up as they try to re-enter their country of origin. And this problem is largely a question of

resources at border control, and that applies to technology, systems, manpower and co-operation.

Time and again at our conference World Border Security Congress, the issue of information sharing of watch lists and databases is raised. Much important information and intelligence is sitting on legacy databases which can't even be shared with national partners, let alone international partners.

Is it not time for an existing intergovernmental body such as Interpol to act as a trusted third party or perhaps a new border specific body be formed. After all the World Customs Organisation has been in existence since 1947 and whilst its remit is more to do with revenue than security it could be the basis, model or even host for a new border security organisation. Whatever form or structure the organisation takes it would have to be fully funded to develop an open architecture web based system for the sharing of information and watch lists across platforms and across borders.

Trust would be the next issue but that's not something you can impose, that's something that would have to be developed over time. But the sooner we start, the sooner we get there.

The current global security situation means that there is no doubt that more resources must be spent on security and border control. New technology should not be used as a way of reducing staff at border control. There is no substitute for trained staff asking probing question, using their powers of observation, training and intuition to spot those individuals that justify further investigation and if necessary to be held in detention until they are either cleared or face charges for supporting terrorism.

Tony Kingham  
Editor

# CONTENTS



## 4 SMARTER BORDER IN SPAIN

Delivering Effective Border Security Through a Strategic Integration Project.

## 9 ADDRESSING THREATS AND CHALLENGES OF BORDER SECURITY IN UKRAINE

Every country defines itself the tasks on facilitation of the national borders.

## 13 AFRIPOL FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The First General Assembly of the African Union Mechanism for Police Cooperation (AFRIPOL) was held in Algiers, Algeria

## 14 AGENCY REPORTS

Latest news and reports reports from key agencies INTERPOL, OSCE and EUROPOL.

## 17 PROGRESS ON ICAO COMPLIANCE

Continued progress on ICAO compliance crucial to unlocking socio-economic development in Africa.

## 18 BREXIT, BORDERS AND CYBER SECURITY

Brexit is a multifaceted issue which will continue to dominate the news headlines for years to come.

## 22 AGENCY NEWS

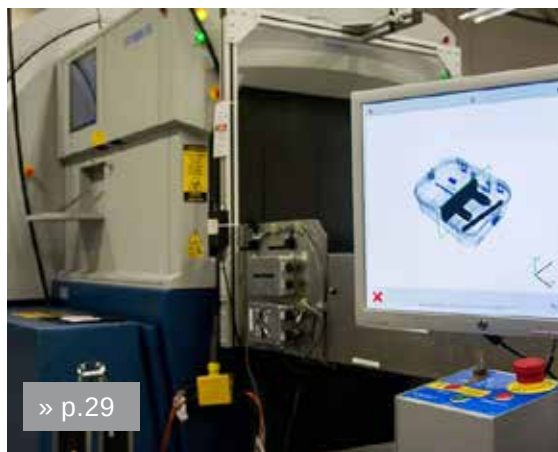
A global review of the latest news, views, stories, challenges and issues from border agencies and agencies at the border.

## 26 WORLD BORDER SECURITY CONGRESS

Review of the gathering of the international border security community in Morocco, 21st-23rd March.

## 29 INDUSTRY NEWS

Latest news, views and innovations from the industry.



# SMARTER BORDERS IN SPAIN: DELIVERING EFFECTIVE BORDER SECURITY THROUGH A STRATEGIC INTEGRATION PROJECT



Dr. Enrique Belda Esplugues, Deputy Director General of Communications and Information Systems for Security Spanish Ministry of Interior.

Security is one of the top priorities for the European Union citizens.

The main risks and threats to security facing Europe today, such as terrorism, cross-border organized crime, drug trafficking, cybercrime and trafficking in human beings are rapidly adapting to scientific and technological developments.

Therefore, a “global security”





approach is required, capable of adapting both to the needs of citizens and to the challenges of the dynamic and global 21st century. In this sense, the Deputy Directorate General of Communications and Information Systems for Security of the Spanish Ministry of Interior plays a fundamental role in reaching these objectives, being one of its strategic lines of work and the impetus for the creation of the Security Technology Center (CETSE).

The CETSE based in Madrid, was inaugurated in April 2016 and is a concept led by the Deputy Directorate General of Communications and Information Systems for Security (SGSICS).

The CETSE also houses the National Center For Critical Infrastructure Protection (CNPIC), as an end user of the CETSE systems and technology, along with other diverse staff of the Ministry of the Interior.

Our position within the Spanish Ministry of Interior gives us a global vision, which allow us from the beginning to integrate: plans, projects, programs, advising, control, coordination, standardization and harmonisation, promotion, research-development and innovation, assessment, and international relationships in the technological security field.

The current complexity of the Information and Communication Systems – in terms of budget,

sophistication and sensibility has led to the establishment of a New Technological Architecture in this field, the CETSE Concept.

We are working for the main Security Forces in Spain: Policia Nacional, Guardia Civil, Mossos d'Esquadra, Ertzaintza and Policia Foral de Navarra. We are also working for other end users like: Spanish Army and Navy, Security of Royal House, Security of the President of Government, Intelligence Centre against Terrorism and Organized Crime, National Centre for Critical Infrastructure Protection, Europol, euLISA...

Therefore, we offer the European Union our experience in this "Engineering Reduced Model" to help find a global solution which allows us to build a real European Technological Architecture in the field of Security, a sustainable solution in terms of economics and evolution.

The Deputy Directorate General of

Communications and Information Systems for Security mission is the procurement of communication and information systems for the Spanish Security Forces.

The primary purpose of these systems is to enable the Spanish Security Corps to exercise its role in safeguarding the rights, freedoms and security of citizens more efficiently and effectively.

The project areas we work in are Communication systems (such as the Spanish Emergency Digital Radiocommunication System), Schengen and Smart Borders, Security Databases, Lawful Interception and Data Retention, Operation Coordination Systems and other projects for the Ministry of Interior

And as a part of their functions, the DEPUTY DIRECTORATE GENERAL has developed the **Smarter Borders project** in Spain.

Our smarter borders project aims at managing the Spanish border through a comprehensive vision, in which we have Border Crossing Points (BCPs) at airports, seaports and land borders. At these control points, we can have both automatic control systems (ABC Systems) and manual control systems, and different physical equipment such as passport readers, fingerprint readers, ID card readers, etc.





In addition, we have a set of current or future information systems and external databases such as SIS (Schengen Information System), VIS (Visa Information System), APIS (Advanced Passenger Information System), EES (Entry/Exit System), etc.

All resulting data is collected at the different Police Border Control Centres where the information is visualized and analysed, giving support to decision making.

System Requirements and elements include:

The ABC (Automated Border Control) System, which aims to ease the crossing of the outer border of the Schengen area for European citizens, over 18 years old who carry an electronic passport or Spanish electronic ID without prior enrolment.

There are three key components of the ABC system which are the Identification Modules, in which the traveller performs, in an unattended way, the process of document validation and identification through facial and finger biometry. The Access Modules, that automatically allow the border crossing if the previous process was successful. And System Control Posts, from where to monitor the system and attend to those cases in which the border crossing was not

possible in an automated way.

Use of biometrics systems have been employed in a number of different ways. Mantrap configuration where the identification module is located inside a mantrap. Two-Steps configuration, in which the identification is made first and then the traveller goes to an exit door, holding the fingerprint as a token and mixed configuration, where the identification module is integrated in the access module.

For Automated Verification so far, two types of access module have been installed, the main components of which are cameras, electronic mirrors, touch screen, smart card readers and passport verifiers.

In the first instance, the physical validation and verification of the document is carried out.

This consists of reading the Machine-Readable Zone (MRZ) and the Visual Inspection Zone (VIZ) of the passport in visible light, Ultra Violet (U/V) and Infra-Red (IR) and then, the security elements are compared through a passport security pattern database. Second, the verification of the chip is performed. Once the algorithms for secure access and authentication of the passport chip have been executed, the system must verify the data read from the chip and verify its authenticity by executing all parts of Passive Authentication following the ICA09303 standard, as well as some additional controls available in 2nd generation passports.

Third, facial biometric verification is performed [3D face recognition]

The system extracts the electronic pattern image stored in the document and compares it with the photograph taken live to the traveller and with the one captured from the biographical page of the document.

Finally, the biometric fingerprint verification is carried out [alive fingerprint recognition]

The system captures the traveller's fingerprint and compares it with the pattern stored in the document.

Then, the system's Business logic



decides if the traveller can cross the border, depending on the result of the previous verifications.

The following checks are also carried out in police databases. Verification of traveller's personal data against police databases in search of hits and verification of the document number in the stolen and lost documents databases.

With the Spanish electronic ID, the process is analogous. The main difference is that for finger verification a Match-on-Card algorithm is used. The ABC in Spain began in 2010 with a pilot project in the airports of Madrid and Barcelona, with a total of 24 Identification Modules installed. In 2014 the Malaga airport is incorporated. And in June of 2015, the airports of Madrid and Barcelona are extended and the ones of Girona, Alicante, Palma de Mallorca, Tenerife, the port of Algeciras and the police control of La Linea de la Concepción were added, with a total of 127 Identification Modules at a national level.

Regarding the manual controls, the Spanish smarter borders project



includes two different configurations. Stand-alone police control posts, in which there are different devices available for biometric control such as fingerprint reader, document verifier and smartcard reader. And Police Control Posts associated to ABC Systems, that have the same elements, together with the ABC management and control equipment.

In this sense, and as part of the global Smart Border project, we have developed and implemented a set of Border Control Centres that "Provide the National Border Police with a technological infrastructure to display, monitor and manage the border control activity at the airports,

seaports and land borders".

In summary, there is a set of means and systems, both manual and automatic, whose information can be merged and analysed (always in a respectful way with the individual rights and the data privacy and protection), to allow intelligent border management from police control centres.

In addition, the European border Countries would need to think about the possibility of establishing a similar solution on the other side of the European external border, with third Countries, following the European Neighbourhood Policy.

## Yuma Sector's Border Safety Initiative Event Continues Educating U.S., Mexico Media

Yuma and El Centro Border Patrol sectors held their annual Border Safety Initiative (BSI) event on June 1 to educate reporters on the dangers immigrants face when attempting to enter the United States illegally.

Since 1998, when the BSI initiative was created, the Border Patrol invites media to see how the Border Patrol trains and uses multiple resources to rescue illegal immigrants who fall victim to Yuma's harsh desert. This year's event was also attended by individuals from Mexico's Centro de Comunicaciones, Computo, Control Y Comando (C4). In translation...Center for Communications, Calculations, Control and Command.

The event kicked off with a call for help through

Yuma Sector's dispatch concerning an individual in distress. BORSTAR then deployed with a canine team, ATVs and UTVs.

Even C4 members and reporters pitched in to help BORSTAR track down the caller. It was 'only' 90 degrees when the event kicked off but everyone was reminded that temperatures can climb as high as 125, and averages 110 during the summer.





## €9.2 million in EU funds for police modernisation, border security projects

€9.2 million in EU funds are being spent on modernising the Malta Police Force and on border surveillance, Home Affairs Minister Carmelo Abela and PS for EU Funds Ian Borg announced.

Mr Abela said five projects on border security, which is a priority, have been completed so far.

These included the acquisition of radios and biometric devices for border guards and modern equipment that can analyse a person's unique physical characteristics, like fingerprints.

Two other projects are related to

the ICT section. This includes the strengthening of the Police force's National Schengen Unit. The project complements the existing border system in use at the airport and the seaport.

The new equipment will allow fingerprints to be compared with the European Visa System.

The fifth project saw the introduction of the Advance Passenger Information System.

The system is capable of gathering early information from airlines and passenger ships. It also compares

cross references this information with international lists, seeking out people using fake documents.

Mr Abela said the Malta Police Force is also benefitting from other projects falling under the EU Internal Security Fund 2014-2020.

These include the purchase of bullet-proof vests, riot kits and surveillance equipment; access to the Europol and Interpol databases; the Smart Policing project, which will see the Cyber Crime unit strengthened, the purchase of new forensic equipment; and the strengthening of the automated case management system.

## AMERIPOL Offensive Against Micro-Traffic Surrounding Educational Institutions

The Metropolitan Police of the Valley of Aburrá, in coordination with the Attorney General of Colombia, through research and intelligence activities and through operatives developed in several parts of the metropolitan area, caught 15 people dedicated to the storage, dosage and sale of narcotic substances.

The official actions were carried out in the Tuscan and Trinidad neighborhoods of the city of Medellín and El Triánón and San José neighborhoods in the municipality of Envigado, where units attached to the SIJIN Criminal Investigation Section in conjunction with the SIPOI Police Intelligence Branch and the Prosecutor's Office General of Colombia, by executing seven search warrants, captured 15 people, including two women, and seized the following items:

- 35 Grams of bazuco.
- 19,571 grams of marijuana.
- 16 Popper units.
- A 32-gauge Revolver with six cartridges for it.
- 21 Caliber 38 cartridges.
- \$ 7,522,000 in cash.

It is noteworthy that organized criminal gangs that

received these blows were "Barrio Antioquia", "la paralela" and "trianón" dedicated among other crimes, to the storage, dosage and sale of hallucinogenic substances, in small amounts (doses), in the Educational institutions near their places of interference.

It is highlighted that among those captured is a man who has been a fugitive from justice since January of this year and who currently possesses a warrant for the crime of trafficking, manufacturing or possession of narcotic drugs.

Those captured were left at the disposal of the competent authority for the crimes of trafficking in the manufacture or possession of narcotic drugs.





# ADDRESSING THREATS AND CHALLENGES OF BORDER SECURITY IN UKRAINE

by Lieutenant-Colonel Olga Derkach Ph.D., Senior Officer, International cooperation and Eurointegration Department at the Administration of the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine

Today border security becomes a significant challenge on a global scale because of constant growth of emerging border security threats all over the world. It is obvious that every country defines itself the tasks on facilitation of the national borders, taking into account the threats to their national interests.

Ukraine is not an exception in this regard – under the current

military-political situation ensuring the territorial integrity of Ukraine, non-violation of its state borders and renewal of peace, as well as guarantying sovereignty and independence are the main tasks of the country's state policy in order to provide for national security and protection of its borders.

The State Border Guard Service of Ukraine (SBGSU) is a



law-enforcement agency with a special assignment and is one of the main institutions of the security and defence sector of Ukraine, responsible for the national security focussed on ensuring state border protection and border security.

#### ITS MAIN TASKS ARE:

- Protection of the land and marine borders;
- Provision of the security of sovereign rights of Ukraine within its exclusive marine time economic zone;
- Control of admission of persons, vehicles and cargos via the state borders;
- Participation in combating organized crime, counteracting illegal migration and fighting terrorism;
- Coordination of activities of the military formations, law-enforcement and other bodies while fulfilling their tasks along the state border.

What should be taken into consideration is that before 2014

the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine had been developing as a border agency of the European model with law-enforcement functions.

However, three years ago the VECTORS OF THREATS in the sphere of the national security of Ukraine changed dramatically:

- Aggression of the Russian Federation caused temporary occupation of the Crimea, and deployment of real military actions in the East of Ukraine, which provoked great changes to the border security of Ukraine.
- This coincided in time with the migration crisis in the EU and a dramatically increasing terrorist threat on the continent.



All above mentioned forced the SBGSU to change its approaches to the provision of effective border security drastically.

In terms of the Russian aggression, the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine continues to conduct comprehensive reforms as a law enforcement agency, not only for PROTECTION, but also for DEFENSE of the state border.

As a result, the Service got several new additional and specific tasks:

- within zone of conducting Antiterrorist operation (along the contact line with the separated areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine);
- along the administrative line with the temporary occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea;
- readiness for the renewal of control over the temporary uncontrolled sectors of the Ukrainian border (with the help of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine);
- reinforcement of land borders with the Russian Federation and the marine coast.

Describing the new emerging threats and challenges to border security of Ukraine it is important to pay ATTENTION AT:

#### 1) The AGGRESSIVE RUSSIAN





#### SITUATION IN CRIMEA



POLICY AGAINST UKRAINE, which is the MAIN DESTABILIZING FACTOR that influences much the strategy of the SBGSU and must be taken into account by Ukrainian partners.

For the last two years the Russian Federation:

- militarized the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and changed it into a powerful military base;
- increased its military presence in the BLACK SEA basin dramatically;
- continues to support militants in Donbas (in the east of Ukraine) in spite of the international attempts to normalize the situation.

*We monitor the regular shelling at Ukrainian positions, including shootings in the direction of control points of entry-exit along the contact line, where peaceful civilians live.*

In addition, we monitor the demonstrative concentration of Russian troops NEAR Ukrainian BORDERS.

2) Alongside with the Russian aggression such TRADITIONAL THREATS as illegal migration, smuggling of goods, illicit trafficking of weapons, drugs trafficking etc. continue to influence on the situation of the state border of Ukraine



#### DESTROYED BORDER EQUIPMENT



- concerning ILLEGAL MIGRATION – in 2016 over 2,5 thousands of illegal migrants were detained and 3,3 thousands of potential migrants were not allowed to enter Ukraine.

*Due to the efforts of our Turkish, Bulgarian and Rumanian colleagues, the channels of ILLEGAL MIGRATION were not redirected via Ukraine.*

*There are no mass flows of illegal migrants from Russia, as well as refugees from Syria. The potential risks exist, but the situation remains under control.*

- concerning SMUGGLING ACTIVITY - the most characteristic feature is illegal transfer of goods – smuggling of cigarettes, luxury cars, perfumes, meat, cultural values and other. Alongside with smuggling of goods, there also exists a threat of trafficking in human beings.

*The State Border Guard Service has more and more cases of detention of a small aviation aircrafts, which are used with criminal purpose. Alone in 2016 22 small airplanes, which were*



#### COMBATING ILLICIT TRAFFICKING IN WEAPONS



There were DETAINED:  
 \*904 pieces of weapons  
 491 pc. – from Ukraine (+13%)  
 413 pc. – into Ukraine(-12%)  
 \*42,1 thsd of ammunition  
 36,2 thsd – from Ukraine (+14%)  
 5,9 thsd – into Ukraine (-25 p.)  
 \*19,5 kilos of explosives  
 12,5 kg – from Ukraine (the same)  
 7 kg – into Ukraine (-24 times)  
 93% of weapons – at BCPs and check-points

*transferring migrants and cigarettes via the state border, were detained by the Ukrainian border agency.*

*The bright result of the cooperation with Moldovan colleagues was the performance of a special operation on detention of an international criminal group and the returning of 17 paintings of Renaissance epoch to Italy, which were stolen from Verona museum. The total value of those paintings is about 16 Mio.euro.*

- The tendency of usage of the marine channel for DRUGS TRAFFICKING still remains. In parallel there are also cases of drugs trafficking, carried by land transport.

*In 2016, the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine confiscated 175 kilos of drugs and precursors.*

*In addition, the border security checks in marine ports were significantly enhanced. According to our information our colleagues from Poland, Holland, Germany and other countries liquidated several trans-border channels of drug trafficking, confiscated more than 325 kg of drugs and detained drugs couriers in Brazil, Turkey and Armenia.*

- Countering illicit cross border trafficking in weapons, ammunition and explosives is still actual.

The Commandment of the SBGSU is convinced that only COMMON SECURITY ENVIRONMENT can



#### DRUGS DETENTION



174,9 kilos of drugs and precursors WERE CONFISCATED  
 52% – at BCPs, trying to exit country  
 44% – on the border with Moldova  
 Based on the information of the SBGSU there were detained abroad:  
 \* 157 kg of cocaine – on board of the vessel in Netherlands  
 \* Drugs couriers – in Brazil, Turkey and Armenia



ensure an adequate counteraction to MODERN CHALLENGES to border security of Ukraine.

The SBGSU, being the main subject of the realization of the Integrated Border Management in Ukraine, considers the international (regional) cooperation to be one of the most effective and efficient means to address modern threats and challenges to its border security trough:

- Implementation and concluding of international agreements governing the security of the state border;
- realization of programs and plans on measures to ensure international cooperation; implementation of joint projects in the sphere of border security and organization of joint operative security measures on the common border;
- Monitoring and addressing the status of cross border and transnational organized crimes;
- Improving the cooperation with neighbouring- and EU countries that do not have a common border with Ukraine;
- Increasing the cooperation with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE);
- Improving the cooperation with FRONTEX, INTERPOL and EUROPOL;
- Intensifying cooperation with partner countries under the umbrella of NATO;
- Ensuring and enhancing cooperation with the states of the Black Sea region;
- Further developing the cooperation with the European Union Advisory Mission on civil security sector reform for Ukraine (EUAM) and the Mission of the European Commission's assistance on border issues to Ukraine and Moldova (EUBAM),
- And others.

Taking into consideration all above mentioned, Ukraine in the face of the SBGSU has very ambitions plans to tackle the current and potential border related threats and challenges. That's why it has defined the following priorities for the 2017, which are successfully executed, but at the same time require international support:

1) Integrated border management development in the view of the best international practice by means of:

- enhancing protection of the eastern border and increasing the level of efficiency at the border with EU;
- integration of EU standards into the border checks procedures;
- (joint control, biometric checks, INTERPOL databases);
- IT-technologies implementation and info-system modernization, database integration;
- risk assessment and management system improvement, development of situational centres and contact points;
- TWINNING-initiatives implementation.

2) Increase of combat effectiveness level and readiness to perform tasks on border protection through:

- increasing of defence capacities at the border with the Russian Federation;
- creation of a technological-intellectual system of border protection ("Intellectual border");
- creation of "DOZOR" mobile units system, their re-equipment and related training;
- development of an Aviation and Maritime Guard, Ukraine sovereign rights protection enhancement in the exclusive economic zone;
- maritime surveillance system modernization.

3) Ensuring readiness to protect temporary uncontrolled segments of the border after Ukraine's territorial integrity restoration by:

- creation of units for re-establishment of border protection at uncontrolled segments;
- increasing capacities of rapid reaction units, their equipment and training;
- creation of resources deposits for the re-establishment of border protection and relevant infrastructure;
- Improvement of personnel training systems, including for rare specialties.

4) Systematic fight against corruption, increasing the level of public confidence to SBGSU through:

- Anticorruption program implementation;
- Implementation of a road map for internal security units reform;
- "New face of the border" project extension;
- Further enhancement of integrity, strategic communication, openness and transparency for the society.

It is important to stress that UKRAINE REMAINS a RELIABLE PARTNER AND SECURITY FORPOST on the eastern border of Europe and is ENTIRELY READY FOR ENHANCED COOPERATION.

The State Border Guard Service of Ukraine is strongly committed and capable to implement the best international practice and to significantly enhance trust among the security subjects of the region and the international organizations.

## AFRIPOL First General Assembly held in Algiers, Algeria, May 2017



The First General Assembly of the African Union Mechanism for Police Cooperation (AFRIPOL) was held in Algiers, Algeria, from 14 to 16 May 2017. Tan Sri Dato' Sri Khalid Bin Abu Bakar, Inspector-General of Police, Royal Malaysia Police and also the Current Chairman of ASEANAPOL attended the General Assembly. The General Assembly is

the supreme technical and deliberative organ of AFRIPOL, with the responsibility to provide leadership and direction regarding police cooperation in Africa. It is composed of the Chiefs of Police from all AU Member States.

The General Assembly also offered opportunity for Chiefs of Police and their representatives from 45 AU Member States to exchange views and share experiences in combating transnational organized crime and terrorism. The General Assembly, under its 2017-2019 Work Plans, adopted strategic outcomes to deal with the various crime areas. In this regard, the Chiefs of Police committed to enhanced cooperation, including in sharing information and intelligence, in order to defeat criminals and terrorists operating on the continent.

## Visit by UNODC and USAID to ASEANAPOL Secretariat

ASEANAPOL Secretariat received a visit from officers of the United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC), Mr. Giovanni Broussard, Regional Coordinator Global Programme for combating Wildlife / Forest Crime and USAID Wildlife Asia Law Enforcement Specialist, Mr. Salvatore Amato. They welcomed by the Executive Director of ASEANAPOL Secretariat, Insp. Gen. Yohanes Agus Mulyono, Director for Police Services PSSUPT Ferdinand R. P. Bartolome and Director for Plan & Programme ACP Aidah Othman and Staff.

On the visit, the Secretariat discussed the role and experiences of the ASEANAPOL in responding to the challenges faced in enforcing wildlife and forest law across the region as a cooperation mechanism for ASEAN Member States. The visiting officers, on one hand, introduced the USAID Wildlife Asia activity including plans of

supporting ASEANAPOL's participation and engagement on countering wildlife trafficking efforts in the region. UNODC and USAID see ASEANAPOL as a significant player in ensuring the enhancement of our enforcement networks, particularly in capacity building of personal in wildlife trafficking law enforcement.



## Suspected terrorist among 17 arrested during INTERPOL operation in Southeast Asia



Enhancing cooperation between law enforcement agencies against terror suspects and criminals travelling across Southeast Asia was the focus of a border operation conducted as part of INTERPOL's Project Sunbird.

Operation Sunbird III (28 March to 5 April) involved police, immigration and maritime authorities from all 10 Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

countries screening passports at 35 land, air and sea border points against INTERPOL's global databases.

Some eight million searches were conducted during the operation, resulting in 17 arrests and 110 'hits' on passports recorded in INTERPOL's Stolen and Lost Travel Documents (SLTD) database.

Among the arrests were a suspected foreign terrorist fighter of Malaysian nationality who was deported to Kuala Lumpur from Turkey, and a Sri Lankan national intercepted by Indonesian immigration in Bali travelling on a stolen blank Italian passport registered in the SLTD database who is suspected of purchasing the passport in Kuala Lumpur from a criminal organization.

In this respect, the Deputy Director of the Criminal Investigations Department, Royal Malaysian Police, Azham Othman, underlined 'the role of the operation in tracking the movement of terror suspects'.

## Fake document detection training by INTERPOL enhances security in Americas

Identifying fake documents to enhance border security was the focus of an INTERPOL training course in Costa Rica.

With terrorists and other criminals increasingly using fraudulent travel documents to avoid detection as they cross borders, the three-day (24 – 26 May) course included practical exercises to develop the technical skills

needed to spot fake passports and other IDs.

Some 18 Police, immigration and border control officers as well as forensic document examiners were updated on the latest document security features and printing techniques and methods used by criminals to alter travel and identify documents..

## INTERPOL assisting UK coordinate international response after Manchester terrorist attack

INTERPOL is assisting UK authorities coordinate their international response following the terrorist attack in Manchester in which at least 22 people lost their lives.

The world police body is in close liaison with its National Central Bureau (NCB) in Manchester and has contacted the NCBs in all of its 190 member countries to advise them that any information or requests for updates can be channelled through its Command and Coordination Centre, where a crisis cell has been established.

With many countries checking if any of their nationals were killed or injured in the attack, the support provided by INTERPOL is aimed at streamlining exchanges with

the UK and relieving pressure on the authorities currently investigating the incident.

Secretary General Jürgen Stock said INTERPOL would continue to provide every support necessary to the UK authorities following the attack.

"In a fast moving investigation such as this, the clear flow of information is vital, both for police focusing on their enquiries and for the families and friends trying to establish if their loved ones have been involved.

"INTERPOL will provide whatever support is required by the UK both now and as their enquiries progress."



## First deployment of OSCE Mobile Training Team to address cross-border challenges in identifying foreign terrorist fighters



The newly established OSCE Mobile Training Team for the identification of foreign terrorist fighters delivered its first on-site interactive training course from 23 to 25 May in Sarajevo. During the three-day event, 22 border

officers from airports in Bosnia and Herzegovina learned how to identify potential foreign terrorist fighters at the border crossing points in compliance with international human rights standards.

The programme included discussions on international, regional and national legal frameworks, effective use of databases, detection of forged travel documents, risk analysis and management, understanding of behavioural indicators and table top exercises. The training seminar was delivered by members of the OSCE Mobile Training Team, from Austria, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Malta and Spain. Expert speakers from OSCE, INTERPOL and UNHCR supported the event by sharing their knowledge and expertise.

## Training of trainers for border officers of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan



Ten Kyrgyz Border Service and ten Tajik Border Troops Officers completed today a three-week training-of-trainers (ToT) course organized by the OSCE Office in Tajikistan. The advanced training course for a limited

number of border officers who had already attended basic patrol leadership course served to develop their skills and abilities to teach and transfer knowledge further within their respective services and training institutions.

During the course Tajik and Kyrgyz Officers learned about developing curricula, programmes and lessons plans, conducting training sessions and managing ToT. Other topics covered by the course included public speaking, programme planning and the principles of active learning. The participants were also introduced to pathfinding methodologies, military topography and first-aid training as well as the preparation and delivery of practical training activities using technical equipment.

## OSCE concludes workshop on use of social media to counter violent extremism and radicalization

The two day workshop in Pristina, Kosovo, aimed at providing the participants with guidance on different Internet platforms and social media, how they work and how to find them. It looked into enhancing their capacity to identify extremist narratives, and to counter them by creating positive narratives and alternatives, and disseminating them. John Gustavsson, Senior Organized Crime Advisor of the OSCE Mission's Department for Security and Public Safety said, "It is extremely important for officials working on preventing or fighting extremism."



## Successful Police Operation Results in 24 Detained and 5.5 tonnes of Cocaine Seized



Spanish National Police, Spanish Customs and Ecuadorian Police have conducted an operation resulting in the seizure of 5.5 tonnes of cocaine onboard a cargo vessel in Ecuador. Supported by the UK's National Crime Agency (NCA) and Europol, the investigation saw one of the largest seizures of cocaine to date.

Operation Moccus, which started in 2016, has managed to disrupt a large drug maritime trafficking organisation operating between South America and Spain. The criminal network settled in the north-west of Spain (Galicia) to coordinate its cocaine shipments. One of the criminal group members was travelling in the intercepted vessel, as 'guarantor' of the illegal load and contact person with the Spanish criminal network. On several occasions, members of the Spanish criminal branch had travelled to Colombia and Panama to plan the cocaine shipment.

The South American criminal organisation had hidden the cocaine load in a merchant vessel named "Kraken I", flying Panama's flag, which departed from Ecuador to Spain via Panama. Intelligence indicated that crew members had received and concealed the drugs in a hidden compartment located between the hull and one of the holds of the vessel.

## EUROPOL Supports the Dismantling of Labour Exploitation Gang

As a result of joint operational activities, authorities from Belgium and Spain, supported by Europol, have dismantled an organised criminal group involved in trafficking Moroccan and Spanish victims for the purpose of labour exploitation.

23 searches of premises were performed in Belgium by the federal and local police services. A further 5 premises were searched in Spain by officers of the Guardia Civil. The searches in Belgium included building sites in Roeselare, Zwevezele, Antwerp, Sint-Martens-Lierde and

Borsbeek. In Spain, 5 searches took place at the company offices (Valencia and Sagunto) and the homes of the suspects.

Europol specialists were deployed on the spot to support both the national authorities. As a result, 9 suspects were arrested in Belgium and 6 suspects were arrested in Spain. In total 23 potential victims of human trafficking and labour exploitation were identified. The victims were from Spain and Morocco. All were offered care and assistance by a specialist NGO.

## Criminal Network Involved in Migrant Smuggling and Document Fraud Dismantled

The criminal gang is accused of facilitating the illegal entry of migrants - mainly Syrians, Afghans and Iraqis - to and within Europe and the Schengen area, through the production and supply of false documents. It is estimated that the irregular migrants paid EUR 2 000 – 3 000 for each false document. Investigations revealed that the gang had been criminally operating for 10 years.

With the support of Europol and Eurojust, the Spanish National Police, in cooperation with the Hellenic Police and the Belgian Federal Police, have dismantled an organised

crime group accused of facilitating the illegal entry of migrants to and within Europe and the Schengen area, as well as producing and facilitating false travel documents for use by irregular migrants..

Eight members of the criminal organisation were arrested, seven in Spain and one in Greece.



## Continued progress on ICAO compliance crucial to unlocking socio-economic development in Africa

ICAO Secretary General Dr. Fang Liu highlighted this week that African States, with ICAO's assistance and support, are achieving significant progress in complying with international civil aviation standards, but that much more can and should be achieved to help them better optimize the significant socio-economic benefits of safe and efficient global air transport connectivity.

Her message was delivered to the hundreds of government and air transport participants from 36 states and 21 international and regional organizations to the Fourth ICAO Africa and Indian-Ocean (AFI) Aviation Week, which was held from 22 to 25 May. The series of meetings was jointly organized this year by the Government of Botswana and ICAO under the theme "Strengthening aviation as a driver to economic and social development."

The 2017 AFI Aviation Week provided an opportunity to jointly assess AFI Region's challenges, and to harness applicable opportunities to pursue the global and regional goals. The participants recognized the improved level of compliance with ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) by several States as well as the commitments and actions taken by a number of them to resolve Significant Safety and Security Concerns (SSCs and SSeCs) identified through ICAO's Safety And Security Oversight Audits.

"Since the last AFI Aviation Week, an increasing number of States have accepted ICAO Plans of Action, the implementation of which has resulted in an increase in the number of States that have attained and improved upon the 60% minimum EI target in ICAO's Global Aviation Safety Plan," Dr. Liu remarked. Pointing out the challenges ahead, Dr. Liu highlighted the importance of ICAO's No Country Left Behind initiative, and the support of its Regional Offices

in realizing its assistance and capacity building objectives, while recognizing the contributions of Botswana's regional leadership on aviation developmental issues. "I would like to recall that the attainment of this target by at least 80% of States, and the resolution of all outstanding SSCs, are the key safety Goals for the AFI Region in 2017," she highlighted.

The Secretary General then took the occasion to present Botswana with an ICAO Council President Certificate of Recognition for its recent efforts and the results achieved during the 2016 ICAO Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme cycle.

Looking forward, the Secretary General stressed the associated need for greater allocation of resources, particularly towards the Human Resources Development Fund for Africa (HRDF).

"Under the HRDF, voluntary contributions are being used today to assure the skilled personnel required for future operational efficiency and continuous implementation of ICAO SARPs, and other programme activities in the civil aviation sector," Dr. Liu remarked. "This is a very important capacity-building initiative for Africa's civil aviation sector, and I would like to encourage support from States, industry partners and other interested parties."

Dr. Liu further extended a special acknowledgement to ASECNA Member States (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Guinea Bissau, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, and Togo), as well as China, Kenya, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Sudan, Turkey, and United Republic of Tanzania, for having already made significant contributions in support of the HRDF."



*Left: The Secretary General of ICAO, Dr. Fang Liu, at the occasion of her opening address of the Fourth Aviation Week for the Africa and Indian-Ocean (AFI) Region. Right: The Secretary General of ICAO, Dr. Fang Liu, presenting Botswana's President and Head of State, H. E. Ian Khama, with an ICAO Council President Certificate of Recognition for its recent efforts.*



# BREXIT, BORDERS AND CYBER SECURITY



Andrew Fitzmaurice is CEO of Templar Executives, an award winning international Cyber Security advisory services and solutions company operating at the highest levels across the public and private sectors

Brexit is a multifaceted issue which will continue to dominate the news headlines for years to come. The consequences of this historic decision by the UK is subject of much partisan debate, and the economic uncertainties ahead, a matter of surmise until new agreements are forged between the UK, EU and other nation states. In addition to electronic trade, one of the biggest logistical elements to be considered by governments, will be the re-instatement of substantial border controls between the UK and the rest of Europe. Border controls do exist now at both ports and airports of course, but with free movement within the EU and the advent of e-passports, biometrics, and intelligence-led



targeting, they are mainly an automated affair with minimal need for physical interaction. However, the current situation is far from ideal, with waiting time at airport border controls for non-EEA citizens regularly failing to meet the UK government's '45 minute target'. There has also been criticism that technology has been introduced solely to replace staff rather than for genuine innovation. In terms of the scale of challenge a post-Brexit world presents, how can Cyber Security benefit us to make our borders controls better, without further increasing security exposures, inconvenience and waiting times?

### **The Challenge**

In a post-Brexit world, whilst trade may be reduced, there will be an increased requirement for vehicle/ luggage searches and a greater need to establish identities of travellers more quickly than can currently be achieved.

Many companies run a 'just-in-time' concept for the delivery of perishable goods and livestock. Anything that would increase delays from current levels could have a disastrous effect on trade and the timely conveyance of goods. Air travel too would suffer.

Resources for airport border staff have not matched the increase in passenger numbers in recent years. In the UK whilst passenger numbers increased from 220.6 million in 2012 to 251.5 million in 2015, the Border Force budget dropped from £617 million in 2012/13 to £558.1 million in 2016/17. With reducing resources, increasing passenger numbers and travel time being so important, designing new effective Brexit border controls will certainly present a significant challenge. To add to this complexity, Europe-wide partnerships, such as Europol and the Schengen Information System, will also have to be redefined and agreed.

### **What does Holistic Cyber Security have to offer?**

Holistic Cyber Security comprises information and intelligence flows around people, processes and Information Communication Systems. In organisations that have successfully deployed such an approach, information from all three areas are fused to arrive at a point where risk-based decisions around business issues can be made. Some of these decisions may be aided through artificial intelligence or heuristic machine learning, whilst

others with greater risk attached, will undoubtedly be left to human decision makers. The latest iterations of Cyber Security Operating Centres (CSOCs) look to integrate information from a myriad of sources including 'humint' (human intelligence) and from across the magnetic spectrum from where suitable data can be derived. The diagram below shows graphically an indicative range of information feeds that a modern CSOC would expect to utilise in creating 'real-time' situational awareness.

However, in terms of border controls, it is not just Cyber Security principles that that will make the difference – it is the application of tools, techniques and processes used in holistic Cyber Security to gain and maintain exceptional situational awareness, which will enable an acceptable level of integrity around border controls. That all sounds relatively simple, but of course it isn't. Companies that employ such CSOCs may have many thousands of personnel over a number of different geographical locations, but the challenges this represents pale to insignificance when faced with securing the UK's 11,000 kilometres of coastline and the sixty-five million people who live here.

So where else can the principles of Cyber Security help? The successful employment of holistic Cyber Security is also dependent on taking that risk-based approach; to ensure that you are taking the right amount of risk, there needs to be a 'feedback loop' which is forever challenging the risk-based decision making. This is 'assurance'. In pure information assurance, there are a number of defining assurance characteristics that are designed to be scaled but really address the provenance and quality of the data used for decision making derived from individual systems. In terms of border control, data is

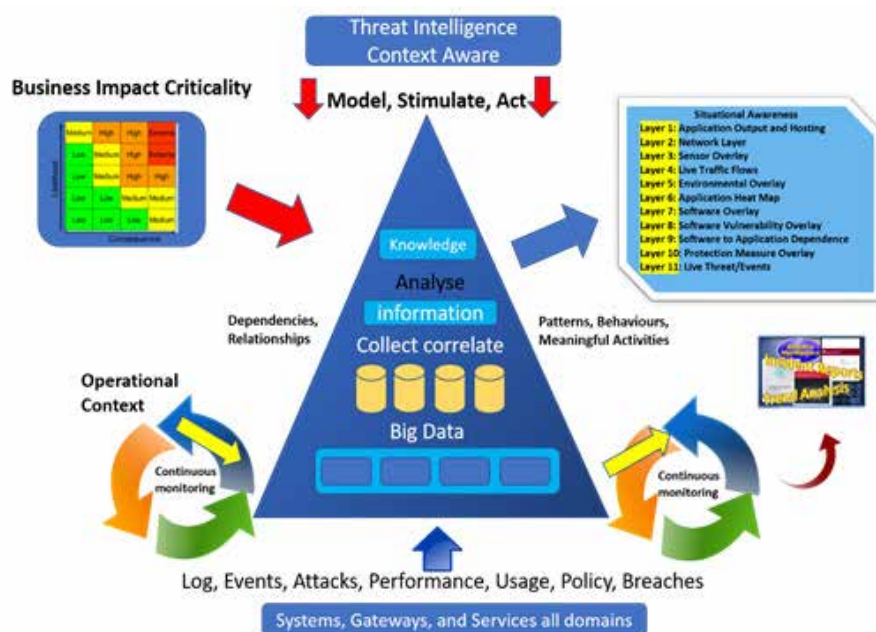


Diagram: Threat Intelligence Context Aware

derived from multiple sources, so in effect you would have a 'System of Systems'. For this, it is advocated that the following assurance sequence of lenses is applied: integrity, value, and risk appetite setting. The first two lenses can certainly lend themselves to certain amounts of automation, indeed so can risk appetite, however, ultimately this will be a human function based upon a number of factors, not least intelligence.

## Brexit

The 'WannaCry' attack demonstrated the level of global interconnectivity, with over 150 countries being affected. It also brought into sharp focus the fact that end-to-end encryption and the internet make it is an almost impossible task to keep all under effective surveillance. Implementing the principles of holistic Cyber Security are essential to our security; including effective training and understanding

for situational awareness, better nuanced risk appetites, and secure intelligence sharing on an international basis. It is paramount that whilst Brexit may mean changes to the physical border of the United Kingdom, it does not disrupt the ability to share critical information in a secure and dynamic manner, particularly in light of the evolving international component of malicious threats.

## Summary

The UK will probably not be able to cope with a 'hard' border, if it wishes to keep movement through our borders at current levels. Investment in Border controls has reduced in real terms with people being replaced by technology, not just in the UK, but worldwide, and with no real step-change in innovation. Holistic Cyber Security employs tools and procedures that may help increase real-time situational awareness and utilises assurance

to help with risk-based decisions. Whilst the debate and uncertainties around Brexit will continue unabated, one thing that is certain is that an 'enhanced situational awareness' is essential for effective border control; and this can only be maintained if governments and the intelligence communities both here and abroad continue to exchange information in a timely manner.



## TSA to Evaluate New Personal Electronic Device Screening Technology as Potential Alternative to the Electronics Ban



The new electronics scanner is a compact, affordable solution that could be immediately deployed to airports for detecting explosives concealed in electronic devices.

One Resonance Sensors, has announced that the U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) will evaluate ORS' personal electronics scanner. MobiLab® ES is the only state-of-the-art inspection system that effectively screens devices such as tablets and notebooks, which are currently banned from being carried onboard by passengers on a number of flights to the United States. In contrast to CT and other X-ray technologies, MobiLab ES is an affordable solution that may be deployed for at-gate or checkpoint electronics inspection.

On March 21, 2017, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security imposed new restrictions on electronics in aircraft cabins on direct flights to the United States from a number of North African and Middle Eastern airports. Recent reports indicate that an expansion of the ban may be extended to flights from European airports and other regions potentially impacting thousands of flights a week.

"We are pleased to have ORS' MobiLab ES assessed by the TSA as a potential solution for screening of electronics and to deliver a new, more compact, and less costly security capability to airports and air carriers to address threats to transportation security," said ORS Chief Executive Officer Pablo Prado. "MobiLab ES was designed specifically to address the threat of explosives concealed in portable electronic devices. We are confident that the scanner will demonstrate its effective and rapid detection capabilities and its mission-critical utility in security checkpoints."

ORS' MobiLab ES uses harmless radio-frequency electromagnetic waves to inspect electronic devices for concealed threats. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the U.K. Department for Transportation have evaluated the performance of the scanner, and trials have been performed at two airports in the Middle East.

## 24-hour patrols after news of KL busting ISIS cell which smuggled weapons from Thailand

Thai soldiers have been deployed to patrol full time a long stretch of the Thai-Malaysian border in two provinces to stop illegal border crossings and smuggling.

The patrols came about following recent news that the authorities in Malaysia had captured

several militants from the country who support the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) and had been smuggling weapons from Thailand. This led to fears of possible cooperation between the Muslim insurgents in South Thailand and the ISIS terror group.

# AGENCY NEWS AND UPDATES

**Two Bulgarian Border Police among six arrested in bust of people-trafficking operation at Sofia Airport**



Six people, including two Border Police, have been detained in an operation against an organised crime group that was trafficking refugees through Sofia Airport, Bulgarian Prosecutor-General Sotir Tsatsarov said.

This is the first time that Bulgaria's security services have bust such an operation at the airport in the capital city.

Two of the others arrested were foreign citizens, from Bangladesh, who had been living in Bulgaria for about more than a decade, Tsatsarov said. The other two were refugees who had entered the country illegally.

The operation led by the Special Prosecutor's Office was continuing.

**Automated border control to enhance movement, trade with Iran**



Authorities in the Kurdistan Region have announced that the main border gate of Parwez Khan to the neighbouring Iran will be fully automatised before June this year to facilitate the growing movement of travellers and goods between the two countries.

The office of Kurdistan Region customs service said last week the electronic system will be installed in all Kurdish border crossings this year to cope with the increasing number of visitors and cross border trade.

Abdulqadir Abdulla said both border crossings of Haji Omran and Bashmakh on the Iranian border have been connected to the electronic system and work to cover other gates is expected to be complete before end of this year.

**U.S. Diplomat Says China Has Tightened Border Controls with North Korea**



Chinese officials have told the U.S. that they've tightened inspections and policing along the border with North Korea as part of U.N. sanctions aimed at halting Pyongyang's nuclear and missile activities, the top U.S. diplomat for East Asia said Friday.

Beijing's action reflects a growing awareness about the urgent need for China to pressure North Korea

into halting its testing of missiles and nuclear bombs, Acting Assistant Secretary of State Susan Thornton told reporters in Beijing. President Donald Trump's administration has made a renewed push to enlist Beijing's help in those efforts following a meeting between Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping last month.

Touching on other areas of the relationship, Thornton said the new administration has not changed its commitment to greater engagement with countries in the Asia-Pacific region or its approach to naval operations in the disputed South China Sea.

## **T**ump's \$1.6 Billion Budget for Border Walls — Mostly for South Texas



The plan is for the Rio Grande Valley Sector to receive 32 miles of a new border wall, and 28 miles of a new levee wall. The levee in Hidalgo County is designed to address flooding. The budget refers to the new border wall as "a physical wall."

Budget Director Mick Mulvaney said, "We are absolutely dead serious about the wall." He called it one of President Trump's "top three" budget priorities, reported Breitbart News on Tuesday. Mulvaney denied that the administration was scaling back funding for border walls by saying the Trump administration's budget was a striking hike from the 2017 budget.

The 2018 budget increases allocations for border security by \$1.1 billion, and \$1.5 billion for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

The director of the Office of Management and Budget also urged Trump voters to be patient and said this proposed action was a beginning for a project that will be protracted. "Keep in mind; you can't just ... you don't automatically magically build a wall in the middle of nowhere," the director stated.

The budget for the U.S. Department of Justice also asks for \$1.8 million to "meet litigation, acquisition, and appraisal demands during the construction along the border between Mexico and the United States."

## **M**alaysia Steps Up Border Security after Bangkok, Jakarta, Mindanao Attacks



Malaysia has stepped up its border security in the wake of attacks in Bangkok, Jakarta and Mindanao, Malaysian defence minister Hishammuddin Hussein said on Saturday.

In a statement, Mr Hishammuddin said he had been "closely monitoring" the recent attacks and bombings in neighbouring countries.

"I have instructed the armed forces to improve border control across

the country," he said, noting that the incidents took place in three countries that Malaysia shares borders with.

Two additional ships will be deployed to patrol the waters off Sabah, Mr Hishammuddin said. Quick Reaction Force (QRF) personnel will be placed with troops on islands in Sabah waters, and patrols will be increased in areas that have been identified as entry points into the southern Philippines.

## **B**order clashes have seen forcing Pakistan to boost defence spending

Pakistan's powerful military will probably push for an increase in defence spending ahead of the national budget as border clashes with neighbouring India and Afghanistan mount.

Pakistan's relations with its neighbours have drastically deteriorated this year. On Tuesday, India's military said it hit army posts in the Pakistan-controlled part of Kashmir that it said were providing cover for insurgents planning attacks, a claim that Pakistan's forces denied.

## **F**our Australian men arrested after border security makes major methamphetamine bust

Four men have been arrested after the Australian Border Force (ABF) took down a large methamphetamine syndicate.

The four men, three of whom are from Victoria, were arrested after a six-month investigation by the ABF found they were smuggling chemicals used



to manufacture methamphetamine, also known as ice, into Australia.

It is alleged that the men worked with an international gang of organized criminals to import enough ephedrine to produce 45 million U.S. dollars of ice.

ABF officers in Victoria and New South Wales (NSW) carried out raids on a series of properties in the two states on Friday morning where the four men were arrested and 65 kilograms of ephedrine seized.

"Seizing this ephedrine is an important step in helping decrease the domestic manufacture and supply of ice," Wayne Buchhorn, ABF assistant commissioner, told reporters.

## **G**reeting on Border Guards Day

Vladimir Putin congratulated military and civilian personnel and veterans of the FSB Border Guards Service on their professional holiday, Border Guards Day.

## **P**akistan reopens Afghanistan border crossing



Pakistan has reopened a major border crossing with Afghanistan more than three weeks after several people were killed when troops from both sides

exchanged fire for several hours.

The Pakistani military said in a recent statement that the Chaman crossing into Afghanistan's Kandahar province had been reopened on "humanitarian grounds" after Afghan officials submitted a request.

"It has been agreed upon by Pakistan authorities that ceasefire shall continue to be maintained and no border violation will be acceptable," the statement said.

It, however, noted that Pakistani troops would maintain positions along the border.

## **P**unjab border on alert: Top cops take stock of situation, security increased



Punjab Police have increased its strength in these border villages under which four customised armoured personal carriers (APC) have been requisitioned from PAP Jalandhar whereas an additional 300 police personnel have been deployed in different parts of the border villages of Pathankot and Gurdaspur districts.

Seeing the regular seizures and alerts issued by the intelligence agencies, Punjab Police have increased its strength in these border villages under which four customised armoured personal carriers (APC) have been

requisitioned from PAP Jalandhar whereas an additional 300 police personnel have been deployed in different parts of the border villages of Pathankot and Gurdaspur districts.

According to information, police is investigating the seizure of the bag containing army combat dresses which bears the mark of Jammu while the dresses are made in the army authorised units of Shahjahanpur and Kanpur. The "planned" hiding of these uniforms in the bushes near the army area is worrying security agencies.

IG (border) Naunihal Singh, DIG AK Mittal, Pathankot SSP Vivek Sheel Soni, Gurdaspur SSP BS Virk and Batala SSP Deepak Hilori led Punjab police force who made visits to the frontier posts of Border Security Force (BSF) to take stock of the situation..

## **K**elantan Aksem To Tighten Kelantan-Thailand Border Security



The Malaysian Border Control Agency (Aksem) in Kelantan will mount integrated operations to beef up security at the Kelantan-Thailand border to curb cross-border criminal activities.

Its commander, Mohd Asri Yahya said the operations would be in collaboration with other enforcement agencies including the Customs Department, Royal Malaysia Police, Immigration Department, Malaysian

Maritime Enforcement Agency and the Malaysian Armed Forces.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said security control at all entry points in the country, including 'rat trails' would be enhanced to prevent infiltration of terrorists now being hunted by the authorities.

He had reportedly said the measure was taken following the recent series of terrorist attacks involving militants in Marawi, southern Philippines, Indonesia and Bangkok.

## **Italian Police Search for Terrorism Suspect Who Slipped Through Border**

The Italian police are looking for a Tunisian man suspected of having terrorist ties who entered the country on Wednesday, traveling in a car with German license plates, according to a police statement and Italian officials.

The suspect, Fouad Khaskhoussi, 36, was born in Tunisia and has German residency papers. The statement from the police released said he was traveling in the car with Wassim Ben Hassem, 31, who was also born in Tunisia and lived in the Italian town of Reggio Emilia. They passed through the border security post in the Italian city of Como, which is on the border with Switzerland.

The Florence highway division of the state police circulated mug shots of the two men and said in a statement that they were traveling in a white Citroën with the German license plate.

An internal police document showed that Mr. Khaskhoussi appeared in Italy's database of terrorism suspects..

## **11 migrants detained near Romania-Hungary border**

Romanian border police say they have detained 11 Syrian and Iraqi migrants who are suspected of trying to illegally cross the border and reach the Schengen zone.

Police said in a statement that a man with both Romanian and Hungarian citizenship is also being investigated for migrant smuggling.

The statement said that police noticed a car with Hungarian plates which stopped 500 meters (550 yards) from the border with Hungary.

There were five Syrian and Iraqi citizens, aged 23 to 32, and six minors aged 1 to 10 in the car, traveling with temporary asylum-seeker documents.

## **Bulgarian Border Police Officer Detained for Alleged Smuggling of Migrants**



A Bulgarian border police officer was detained in an operation targeting illegal trafficking of migrants, which took place in the center of Sofia in the evening on 25th of May. The investigation is on-going under the leadership of the specialized prosecutor's office. More employees of the Interior Ministry may be detained in the course of the operation, Mladen

Marinov, the chief secretary of the Interior Ministry, said for BNT on 26th of May.

Unfortunately, such a migrant trafficking ring through the airport can not exist without the involvement of such employees, Marinov said.

The organizer who is a foreign citizen and two undocumented foreigners have been detained. They are part of the people who assisted for the illegal entry of migrants into the country.

## **No new customs points planned for Irish border after Brexit, says Revenue chief**



Ireland's tax chief is "almost 100% certain" there will be no new customs posts along the Irish border after Brexit.

Niall Cody, chairman of Revenue Commissioners, categorically rejected reports that it was actively looking for locations to establish new checkpoints.

The speculation, which he blamed on an early contingency paper from a "medium ranking" official, has led to landowners along the Irish border directly offering him sites for sale.

But Mr Cody told a parliamentary committee in Dublin: "We are not planning customs posts."

# GATHERING OF THE INTERNATIONAL BORDER COMMUNITY

## EVENT REVIEW



The international border security and management community gathered in Casablanca, Morocco in March to discuss the global border issues and how international collaboration and cooperation can contribute towards enhancing border security challenges.

The 2017 World Border Security Congress held in Casablanca, March 2017 was a considered a great success by all participants.

Under the patronage of the Ministry of Interior of Morocco and supported

by the Directeur de la Migration at de la Surveillance des Frontieres, the Congress was described by a senior member of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) on day one, as, “a timely and important event at a special moment in time”

The opening session set the scene for this 3 day congress articulating both the importance of Border Management activity internationally and the significant challenges, which Governments, Policy Makers and Law Enforcement Agencies face with increasing pressures in a difficult



economic climate.

The task for the event was to explore the major issues that were common to so many nations and seek to continue to develop border management resolutions and solutions.

With a global audience from over 40 nations and nearly 250 participants the conference saw some excellent presentations from a broad range of distinguished and experienced border related experts. Alongside this, and importantly, there were some exceptional discussions and debates teasing out some of the more demanding areas of concern and addressing them from a range of perspectives, both from government and commercial positions.

The congress was very fortunate to have had a fantastic level of support

from the Kingdom of Morocco and in particular the Ministry of Interior with the opening welcome being delivered by, His Excellency, Khalid Zerouali, Wali, Director of Migration and Border Surveillance, in Morocco. His Excellency also gave the keynote address where he articulated his clear view on the connections between transnational organised crime leading to terrorism in the Maghreb region. He went onto empathise the importance of inter-agency cooperation both nationally and internationally and this continued to be a general theme throughout whole conference.

The event was also fortunate to have the support of, and speakers from, a wide range of international security organisations who have a focus on and around border management operations. Organisations such as:

- Organisation for Security and

Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)

- International Organisation for Migration (IOM)
- United Nations
- European Association of Airport and Seaport Police (EAASP)
- Pompidou Group
- Airpol
- EU Border Assistance Mission in Libya (EUBAM-Libya)
- EUROPOL

It was a truly global conference seeking to address global border issues and one which continually highlighted the need for continued efforts in developing, national, regional and international; Coordination, Cooperation and Communication. There were also some clear messages from some developing nations of the significant need for international support, expertise and training to assist them in addressing



the challenges they face.

Hot topics discussed at the Congress included:

- Building Coherent Global Border Management Response Against Illegal Migration and International Terrorism
- Maritime, Port and Coastal Border Security Challenges
- Standardization of Systems and Making Advanced Passenger Information (API) Work
- External and Internal Land Border Challenges
- Identity and Biometrics at the Border – Compliance, Application and Implementation
- The Global Fight Against International Terrorism and Cross Border Organised Crime and How We Make Interagency Co-operation and Information Sharing a Reality
- IBM and Technology Challenges and Security in the Face of Mass Migration
- Pushing Out the Border and the Future of Successful Border Management

Whilst the Closed Agency Only Workshops gave the agencies the opportunity to discuss highlighted issues behind closed doors, and looked at the topics of:

- International Border Security

Challenges - from THB and Document Fraud to Inter-Agency Co-operation and Information Sharing

- Health Issues in Border Security
- Soft Surveillance at Borders - Human Development Initiatives

Organisations such as EUROPOL spoke about the very positive developments being made in terms of information sharing across Europe and with other international partners and organisations and also through their operational agreements with countries such as the United States and Columbia. They believed that there were a number of factors which have contributed to their growing success in this area which included demonstrating the ability to store data on a truly secure platform and ensuring the integrity of data that is shared.

Other references were made to developing networking platforms to enable the development of inter-agency cooperation such as the OSCE, who referenced their Points of Contact Network.

Coordination was a recurring theme throughout the conference The World Border Security Congress wanted

to assist in developing coordination platforms and announced on the final day that they would be launching a 'World Border Security – Password Protected Platform' for invited agency and government delegates, the intention being to enable the continuation of the great dialogue and communication which has taken place throughout the event. It will also provide access to the conference presentations, provide a platform to share news and case studies and allow opportunities to identify new technology trends.

The launch of the platform will hopefully encourage active participation from all delegates, speakers and others and will lay the foundations for the next event in March 2018 in Madrid.

The 2017 World Border Security Congress wished to thank the Ministry of Interior of Morocco and the Directeur de la Migration at de la Surveillance des Frontieres for their excellent support.

The next gathering of the international border security community will take place on 20th-22nd March 2018 in Madrid, Spain.

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## Cochin International Airport Selects Smiths Detection's CTX 9800 for Next-Generation Hold Baggage Screening

Smiths Detection has announced that India's Cochin International Airport has deployed four high-speed CTX 9800 DSi™ hold baggage explosives detection systems (EDS) to screen all passenger checked baggage..



With the inauguration of its international Terminal 3, Cochin is the first airport in India to screen all checked baggage, referred to as Level 1 screening, with computed tomography (CT)-based EDS. Commonly referred to as European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC) Standard 3 capabilities, CT EDS produce high-resolution, 3-D images that facilitate more accurate detection, lower false alarm rates, and reduce the need for manual inspections. In addition to CTX 9800 EDS, Smiths Detection has supplied 13 HRX™ dual

view X-ray systems to screen arriving baggage at customs checkpoints.

To ensure maximum uptime and performance, Smiths Detection's onsite network of expert engineers and technicians will provide preventative and rapid-response services for a minimum of ten years.

Commenting on the new terminal and growth, Mr. A.C.K. Nair, Airport Director at Cochin International said: "Cochin's goal is to offer our passengers and airlines a world-class airport experience. Working with Smiths Detection to automate

and enhance hold baggage screening capabilities is an important part of our infrastructure plan to meet the demands of anticipated domestic and long-haul growth over the next 20 years."

"Congratulations to Cochin International Airport on the inauguration of Terminal 3 and being the first airport in India to screen all checked

baggage with leading-edge CT technology," said Pravin Surana, Director, Smiths Detection India. "As airports in India and throughout the region continue to upgrade explosives detection capabilities, Smiths Detection's customized EDS solutions and services are ready to meet the unique challenges and growth plan of any airport."

## The Imprimerie Nationale Group and Lyon Saint-Exupéry Airport unveil the first automatic e-gates for border control, after the announcement of Thales Identity and Biometrics integration in the Imprimerie Nationale Group

The Imprimerie Nationale Group, launches the first e-gates deployed for border control at Lyon Saint-Exupéry Airport, within the national PARAFE (Passage Rapide aux Frontières Extérieures – Fast Pass through the External Borders) framework experimentation. Developed by engineers from Thales Identity & Biometrics, recently acquired by Imprimerie Nationale Group, this equipment, compliant with the PARAFE system, allows to significantly speed up border identity controls.

This experimentation is based on a unique architecture that includes a series of five gates

with fingerprint-based biometric recognition in the border control area. The installed system is





innovative as it already supports fingerprint recognition and it is ready for the addition of face recognition capability in the near future. It is open to passengers equipped with a French or German biometric passport and it will gradually be extended to other European Union passengers.

The test configuration installed in Lyon allows controlling 5 passengers at once by a single police officer while, in a traditional setting, an officer is needed to control one passenger.

This installation allows passengers to go through border controls in a simplified, fluid and fast manner. It consists in:

- Presenting one's passport on the document reader at the gate entrance,
- Going through the gate after the entrance door opens,
- Presenting a finger on the fingerprint reader,
- Exiting the gate through the exit door after the fingerprint has been authenticated by the

system.

Commenting on the occasion, Didier Trutt, the Imprimerie Nationale Group CEO, declares: "We are very happy to be here today for the launch of these e-gates that will allow to reinforce border security and to provide better services to Saint-Exupéry Airport passengers. We thank the Airport authorities for their confidence in the technologies and expertise of our new Biometric Identity Solutions branch (formerly Thales Identity & Biometrics), for their choice of these user-friendly and secure systems for automated identity control."

The teams belonging to Imprimerie Nationale Group's Biometric Identity Solutions branch (formerly Thales Identity & Biometrics) benefit from more than 30 years of experience in the field of integrated identity management throughout the world. They rank first in civil biometric market in France.

## Airborne Industries' Aerostat System Successful in Border Surveillance Trials

Airborne Industries' Aerostat Surveillance system has proved successful in an exercise within Saudi Arabia to monitor border security. Airborne Industries was selected as the Aerostat provider for the trial by the Saudi Research Institute PSATRI.



The trial was a proof of concept exercise for an Aerostat to carry a combined payload for border surveillance and force protection applications. The exercise was organised by PSATRI in order for them to trial their integration software for multiple payloads.

The system used in the trial comprised Airborne Industries' 850 Aerostat carrying a Wescam MX15 camera with laser illumination and target

designation, a Bligher radar system and a CRFS - RF eye electronic surveillance system.

For this trial the Aerostat was flown at an altitude of 1000 ft and the visual, motion and electronic signatures of the payloads carried were shown to be capable of picking up data at 30 kms. The system, can, however, be configured to be flown at 4000 ft, giving greater range. All the systems can loiter for about one week.

Airborne Industries is currently developing a strategic range of rapidly deployable systems able to carry military cameras for a range of applications such as Force Protection, Border Surveillance, Critical National Infrastructure and Large Event Surveillance. The company's capabilities will be demonstrated at CIPRE in The Hague in May.



## Face Recognition Technology from Cognitec Supports Automated Border Control at Venice Airport

Cognitec's automated passport control product FaceVACS-Entry features in eight ABC gates (eGates) at Venice Marco Polo Airport, following the airport's decision to facilitate expedited border control checks at the international terminal. The eGate implementation project was delivered by N-Aitec, an airport IT provider and system integrator.



As the traveler enters the eGate, FaceVACS-Entry detects the person's face, adjusts the position of the cameras according to the person's height and then captures best-quality images that guarantee high verification accuracy. The software instantly verifies the live images against biometric photos stored in passports

or other ID documents, and a confident comparison result opens the gate door.

Since the initial rollout

in July 2015, more than 600,000 passengers have used the self-service eGates for immigration processes, with four gates serving arrivals, and four gates the departure area. Venice airport sees a growing number of travelers favoring the speed and usability of the automated procedure.

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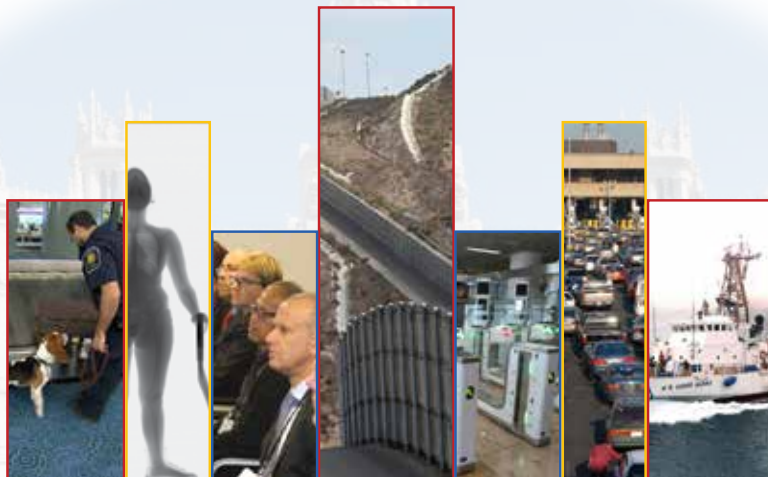


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The world is experiencing the largest migration movement in history, with challenges for the border management and security community, as little sign of peace and security in the Middle East is apparent and porous borders in Africa and Asia continue to provide challenges.

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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.

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