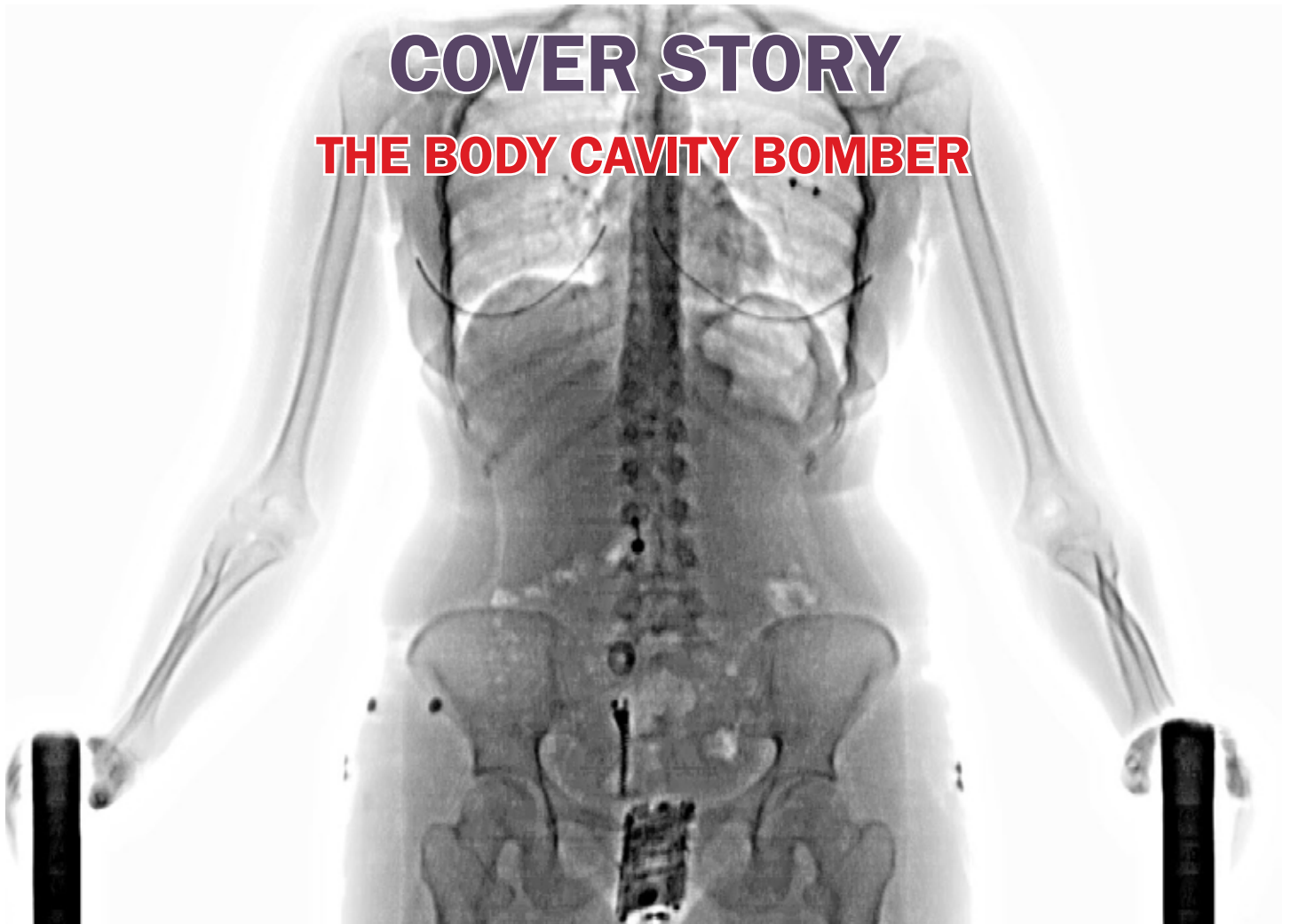


BORDER SECURITY REPORT

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

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Brexit and the Irish Border

As the United Kingdom and European Union finally reached what looks like a fudged agreement to move on to the next phase of the Brexit talks, Britain seems to have agreed that there will be no hard border between the Republic of Ireland and (EU) and Northern Ireland (UK). The UK is proposing a technological solution to the issue, which, in essence means some sort of digital self-declaration of goods passing between Ireland and Northern Ireland.

Experts say that this will be very difficult to achieve without harmonization of customs controls and regulation i.e. N. Ireland (NI) stays in the Customs Union. But this is an anathema to Unionists in NI believing as they do that this will be a major step towards unification. As the Unionists hold the balance of power that keeps Theresa May in Downing Street, that is something that is simply not going to happen.

So, will the digital option work?

Well of course it could in some regards but not in others. Allowing companies to do some sort of digital self-declaration and pre-pay duties is entirely doable. But it's not the bigger firms with accounts and IT departments that are the real problem. It is the small firms constantly coming and going across the border with bread for a local corner shop or a spare part for a car or vacuum cleaner. Are they really going to go online and declare ten sticky buns and muffin or a head gasket for Yaris, no, of course not? But like their income tax return for small businesses an annual self-declaration is more feasible. Most people are honest and if asked to declare how many sticky buns they have exported over the course of the year will declare something plausible at least

Keeping regulation and safety standards as harmonised as possible, particularly around agricultural produce and foodstuffs will also go a long way to making it workable.

This approach of course breaks down when it comes to those criminals that will exploit the border for their nefarious activities. For this we will have to rely on CCTV, NPR, face recognition, big data and good old-fashioned intelligence to

spot the patterns and arrest the bad guys.

It will be difficult, expensive and will require a good deal of flexibility but overall, I'm optimistic that it can be made to work. Who knows, if they get it right, it may become the blueprint for border management.

Tony Kingham
Editor

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The digital version of Border Security Report contains all the additional articles and news listed in the contents page below. The full digital version is available for download at

www.world-border-congress.com/BSR

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New Study Concludes Europe's Mediterranean Border Remains 'World's Deadliest'



IOM, the UN Migration Agency's Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC), has released a new report reviewing the evidence of Four Decades of Cross-Mediterranean Undocumented Migration to Europe and concludes that Europe's Mediterranean border is "by far the world's deadliest."

Relying on analysis of IOM estimates from the Missing Migrants Project, the report states that at least 33,761 migrants were reported to have died or gone missing in the Mediterranean between 2000 and 2017 (as of 30 June). Professor Philippe Fargues of the European University Institute, the report's author, notes that this number likely under-reports the actual scale of the human tragedy, even as the record number of migrant deaths may have begun to subside in 2017 due in part to cooperation between the EU and Turkey, and now Libya, to stem migrant flows.

"Stopping migration and eradicating deaths at sea may [be] conflicting objectives. Shutting the shorter and less dangerous routes can open longer and more dangerous routes, thus increasing the likelihood of dying at sea," Prof. Fargues states in the report.

The report analyzes irregular migration across the Mediterranean since the 1970s. It highlights that irregular arrivals to Europe have increased in response to more restrictive migration policies by some European countries.

Prime examples from the report are the irregular migration from North Africa and Turkey to Europe in the 1970s, after visa requirements were introduced for temporary labour migrants from these regions. These

policies encouraged those who were already in Europe to stay, increased irregular migration of family members to join their relatives in Europe and gave way to the smuggling business.

Absence of legal pathways for asylum-seekers and refugees to travel to Europe and seek asylum also increased arrivals by sea along the Eastern, Central and Western Mediterranean routes since 2009.

The study also highlights differences between the modern pattern of migration from Africa to Italy, mostly via Libya, and that from the Middle East to Greece via Turkey. For example, Professor Fargues concludes that since 2009, "arrivals to Greece from Turkey are primarily of nationals from origin states affected by conflict and political instability (Iraq, Afghanistan, and Syria), who would be likely to receive refugee status in the EU." These asylum-seekers had no options for humanitarian visas or regular migration in their countries of origin, the report states.

Arrivals to Italy from North Africa largely originate across sub-Saharan Africa in response to deep migratory pressures – population growth coupled with limited livelihood opportunities, high unemployment and poor governance and political and economic instability.

People from major refugee-source countries were a minority of migrants arriving in Italy, except for a short period in 2013–14. However, the number of first residence permits issued in Europe in 2009–2016 to African nationals – an indicator of regular migration – was higher than that of African migrants arriving irregularly by sea. The report also notes that most migrants in Libya come from countries that are not among the top countries of origin of migrants smuggled to Italy.

The report concludes by acknowledging the limitations of available data on irregular migration and identifying further research and data needs.

Download full report at:

<https://publications.iom.int/books/four-decades-cross-mediterranean-undocumented-migration-europe-review-evidence>

THE BODY CAVITY BOMBER

The threat posed by the cavity bomber is nothing new. In fact, I have been writing on the subject regularly since 2009. But just because it is an old problem, it doesn't mean that in all that time we have done anything meaningful to mitigate that threat.

So, what's the background?

Back in August 2009 the attempted assassination Prince Mohammed bin Nayef, the Saudi Interior Minister, was the first time that this method of attack was reported. On this occasion, with the element of surprise on their side, the terrorist was able to pass through two airport security screenings and the Prince's own security before detonating a device that used a mobile phone card and a half kilo of explosives that had been inserted in his rectum.



Abdullah Hassan Tali al-Asiri

Fortunately, the Prince was unhurt but the perpetrator, a Saudi citizen, Abdullah Hassan Tali al-Asiri, was blown in two.

There has been a lot of talk about why the attempt failed, many commentators saying that the body absorbed the blast and therefore it would not work on an aircraft. Not so, my sources tell me that the blast, though directed downwards, blew a 6" hole in the concrete floor, which is enough to be devastating virtually anywhere in the pressurized cabin of a soft skinned aircraft but especially if the perpetrator position themselves on a door.

In 2012 we had the attempted assassination of Afghanistan's intelligence chief, Asadullah Khalid, again perpetrated using an IED carried concealed inside the suicide bombers body cavity.



Asadullah Khalid,
Afghanistan's intelligence
chief

Following a previous assassination attempt by a terrorist with a bomb hidden in his turban, this individual was asked to strip in an armoured room and observed by CCTV.

The bomb was obviously not picked up using this method, and so the unnamed assailant was allowed to see Mr Khalid, where the bomb was detonated.

Mr Khalid was not killed but suffered serious injuries that required ongoing treatment in here the US.

This is not a threat that will go away. It will have been noted by terrorist organisations around the world that twice, VIP security screening has been penetrated and they have successfully detonated a device.

With no shortage of young men and women willing to die for their cause and the small amounts of explosive needed for these high-profile attacks, it will no doubt be used again.

Now, there is probably a limit to the size of a device that can be carried in the rectum, limiting the explosive power,



but there are some well known and well known and well used ways of increasing the amount that can be carried in the body.

Every week at airports around the world, drugs mules are caught carrying swallowed illegal drugs inside their stomach. They have been known to carry over two kilos, in up to 150 capsules (usually condoms).

In prisons, a wide variety of objects are routinely smuggled into prison hidden inside prisoners or visitors body cavities. Typically, these will be high value prison contraband such as mobile phones, drugs, cigarettes etc.

According to an msnbc report in 2012, a working 0.38 calibre revolver with a six-inch barrel was smuggled into a jail cell by a criminal suspect, Michael Leon Ward. The suspect had been strip searched and asked to perform what's called a "squat and cough" but the weapon was not discovered. It was only discovered when officers were alerted by other inmates.

In September of this year, Illinois police arrested 20-year-old Amika Witt. During a cavity search of her vagina, they found a Kimber.380-calibre handgun, fully loaded and with a bullet in the chamber.



Kimber.380-calibre handgun

These may seem like extreme cases and it's true that a standard pistol is almost certainly going to be picked up by metal detector, even carried internally, but it illustrates what a determined individual can do.

The routine use of these methods of smuggling materials through some of the world's most secure correctional facilities makes for worrying reading.

Other methods such as surgically inserting drugs into

mules in breast implants have also been widely reported and terrorists have also experimented with surgically inserting IED's in animals.

Now if a terrorist were to combine these methods of carrying explosives, conceivably they could conceal significantly more explosives inside the body. More than enough to down an aircraft, attempt assassinations or cause considerable damage to other critical national infrastructure targets such as power stations, chemical plants of nuclear facilities.

Nor does the use of body cavities as means of smuggling, mean that the explosive has to be detonated in the body. The components can be recovered, assembled and used in more conventional sabotage methods.

The nightmare for security officers is that most of the usual methods of detection currently used in security screening will not pick up explosives carried internally.

So what technology do we have and what are their limitations?

Metal detectors, even on the highest sensitivity setting are not likely to pick up the very small amounts of metal required for a modern IED using sim cards and detonators. And on higher sensitivity settings are likely to give off too many false alarms, making them unreliable.

Millimetre wave scanners are now widely used in airport screening and are very effective in detecting objects beneath clothes but cannot see objects carried internally.

Another technology tried in the US by the Transport Security Agency (TSA) is the Explosive Trace Portals (ETPs), commonly known as as puffer machines. These use a mass spectrometer to detect trace compounds in air circulated around a person in a booth. Some of these machines were deployed in airports but were later withdrawn because of reliability issues. It is also not clear whether these machines would detect explosives carried internally in any case.

Trace detection technology such as Ion Mobility Spectrometry is a commonly used method for individuals or belongings to detect either vapours or particles, which

No 10 defends closer EU co-operation on cross-border crime

Downing Street has defended a decision to work more closely with the EU on cross-border crime as it prepares for Brexit.

The UK is joining forces with the remaining member states to strengthen action against the criminal movement of money across national boundaries.

Prime Minister Theresa May's spokesman said: "The PM has been clear that when it comes to security and criminality we want to co-operate closely with the European Union.

"This is a decision based on the fact that we are still an active member and the decision was taken in that light.

"As to what we do going forward that's all a matter to be discussed."

Financial Secretary to the Treasury Mel Stride said the move would "enhance border security without imposing disproportionate burdens on business".

He added: "The proposed new regulation will reinforce the existing controls of cash moving across EU borders, bringing these controls in line with international norms and best practices for addressing evolving forms of

criminality.

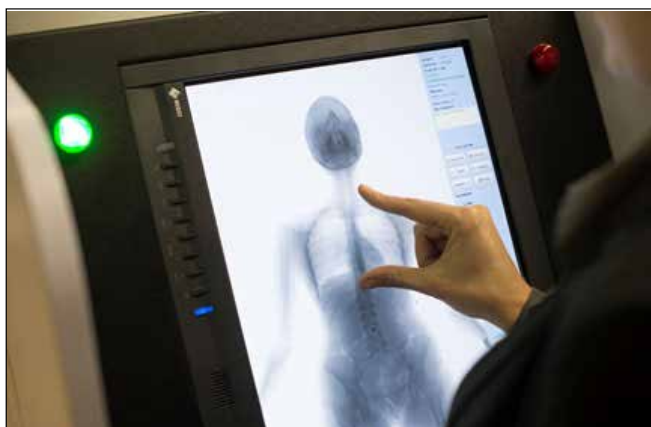
"Until the UK leaves the EU it remains a full and participating member. We will continue to work with the EU institutions, with the aim of ensuring that UK objectives are preserved as the negotiations progress on any compromise text."





is then analyzed by the machine. It is quick and reliable but it relies on the carrier having handled the explosives at some stage during preparation for the operation. But given the fact that its use well known and the intended location of the hidden device, the perpetrator may well rely on a close friend or colleague to help with the insertion!

However, there is a technology that is already in daily use that will detect any object carried internally, and that is the low dosage X-Ray body scanner.



They are in use in correctional facilities around the world especially here in the US. These machines are also already widely in use by custom officials at airports around the world for detecting drugs and contraband smugglers.

But in arrivals, not departures.

So why not use the X-Ray body scanners to scan everyone getting on an aircraft?

Speed is one thing; an X-Ray scan takes too long for mass screening.



Then there are also the ethical and privacy concerns still to be addressed by the authorities and although the X-Rays scans are in very low safe doses, there will inevitably be some reservations to be addressed on behalf of the travelling public.

But, as the manufacturers themselves will tell you, X-Ray body scanners are best used for targeted individuals, identified by other means.

As yet, the only machines of this type that I know of, being used for screening boarding passengers are in Nigeria and maybe one other country. The machines in Nigeria were paid for by the US government, but are being used exclusively for drug interdiction and only for passengers flying directly to the USA. All the other machines in airports around the world are being used in arrivals for catching drugs mules.

Another technology that could be of real value is behavioural-analysis software. This software is designed to work in conjunction with CCTV systems to screen travellers for unusual behaviour patterns and the involuntary physical and physiological reactions that people exhibit in response to a fear of being discovered. However, these systems are currently a work in progress, but as CCTV systems and control rooms are already in place, could be another





relatively easily deployable, non-intrusive layer to airport security.

The essential fact remains though, that right now the global airport security community has no mass screening detection technology currently deployed to counter the threat of the IED carried internally. Nor is there any likelihood of developing one in the short to medium term.

So, what's to be done?

Advanced Passenger Information is a key component but will only be truly effective when it is applied universally and we have found a way of sharing intelligence and watch lists, through trusted third parties like Interpol. But that only really works for the people we know.

For the individuals that we don't know, we need properly trained security staff applying effective questioning and risk assessment techniques (I constantly told not to use the term 'profiling').

Some stop gap measures would be more use of explosive dogs to check the passenger queues. Dogs are still the most effective explosive detection but also provide some deterrent and reassurance for the public. Dogs will also add to the general discomfort of would-be suicide bombers, making them easier to spot.

We should make sure that effective technologies, already available elsewhere in the system, such as through body-scanners, are made available to officers for pre-flight screening.

Finally, we should keep a random and unpredictable element to our security screening and use of technology. The terrorist will watch for patterns and seek out the inevitable flaws in the system.

Maybe they will use an insider or send a woman with a baby. Maybe the terrorist will be home-grown like Richard Reid.

The terrorist has the luxury of time and surprise, target switch is part of their stock-in-trade as we struggle to plug one gap, our enemies are already looking for the next one!

Tony Kingham, Editor

Senators Say They're Closing In on a DACA and Border Deal

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell vowed to bring a vote on immigration legislation if a bipartisan group of lawmakers can come up with a deal next month that includes border security as well as protections for undocumented immigrants brought to the U.S. as children.

There is support from lawmakers in both parties for the deportation shield in the Senate, but it likely would hit opposition from a group of conservative Republicans in the House that has stymied action on the issue in the past.

"I encourage those working on such legislation to develop a compromise that can be widely supported by both political parties and actually become law," McConnell said in a statement.

McConnell said that would include improving border

security and immigration enforcement in the U.S. and dealing with the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, program established through executive action by former President Barack Obama.

The Republican and Democratic senators working on an immigration agreement were meeting Wednesday afternoon. They said earlier in the day that they are closing in on a deal, though a final resolution isn't likely to come until January.

Democrats dropped their insistence on including the deportation protections for the group known as "dreamers" in the stopgap government funding that Congress must pass by Friday to avert a government shutdown.

Spanish Guardia Civil Supported By EUROPOL Breaks Up Illegal Tobacco Factory



On 5 December 2017 the Spanish Guardia Civil, with support from the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine, the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova, the Bulgarian Police of the Ministry of Interior, the Romanian Guard Police, the Greek Police, and

Europol, arrested 18 members of a criminal organisation for manufacturing more than two million cigarettes per day.

The organised crime group had invested almost EUR 3 million to start up their illegal tobacco factory in Granada and had even created their own cigarette brand. The workers, mainly from Ukraine and Bulgaria, were living in safe houses and forced to work more than 12 hours each day in a very unhealthy working environment.

As a result of the investigation, the factory in Granada has been dismantled and eight searches were carried out in Granada and Malaga. During the searches, 10 tonnes of tobacco leaves, 4 tonnes of fine-cut tobacco, 4.5 million cigarettes, machinery, filters, paper and glue, were seized. Seven Ukrainian workers were arrested in the factory, while they were illegally producing cigarettes.

Operation DRAGON Delivers Major Blow To Organised Crime

Law enforcement authorities from more than 60 countries, coordinated and supported by Europol and Frontex, have joined forces to target organised crime groups and their infrastructures across the EU in a series of actions in hundreds of locations, with the cooperation of Eurojust, INTERPOL, AMERIPOL, CLACIP, NCFTA, CCWP, UNODC and IATA.

Operation Dragon has been the fourth cooperative international law enforcement operation under the EU Policy Cycle targeting serious and organised crime in the EU and globally, and involved actions in hundreds of locations between 5 June and 20 October 2017.

EU Member States and their international partners came

together to disrupt the activities of criminal groups involved in the following crime areas: payment card fraud, facilitation of illegal immigration, cybercrime, synthetic drugs/cocaine/heroin trafficking, firearms trafficking, euro counterfeiting, organised property crime, excise fraud and trafficking in human beings.

As part of Operation Dragon, law enforcement authorities assigned thousands of police, border and coast guard as well as customs officers to actions that focused on key hot spots in the EU, with the aim of having a lasting and significant impact on serious and organised crime, disrupting criminal groups and their activities for months or even years to come.

Electronics Payments Organised Criminals Disrupted

Four key members of an international criminal network responsible for compromising payment card data and illegal transactions against European citizens were arrested during a joint law enforcement operation called "Neptune".

The operation run by the Italian Carabinieri, in cooperation with the Bulgarian General Directorate of Combating Organised Crime, and the National Police of Czech Republic, supported by Europol's European Cybercrime Centre (EC3) culminated today with the arrest of four Bulgarian

citizens. The leaders of the transnational criminal group actively supervised all stages of criminal activities, including placing technical equipment on ATMs in the central areas of European cities, producing counterfeit credit cards and subsequently cashing out money from ATMs in non-European countries, for example Belize, Indonesia and Jamaica.



Enhancing border security by detecting illicit travel documents



Developing the knowledge and skills of specialized officials to identify fraudulent documents was the focus of an INTERPOL workshop in Nassau.

Involving 16 border control officers and law enforcement

officials from four countries – Bahamas, Colombia, Jamaica and Mexico – the three-day security document examination training sought to enhance border security by developing the capacity of participants to detect fake and counterfeit travel documents often used by criminals and terrorists.

“It has become very easy for people and goods to cross international borders. Hence, international cooperation must be strengthened to guard against the increase of fraudulent documents which threatens national security,” said the Head of the INTERPOL National Central Bureau in Nassau, Telinda Missick.

During the training course, the second to be jointly delivered by INTERPOL’s Counterfeit and Security Documents Branch (CSDB) and international digital security company Gemalto, participants also took part in practical exercises which examined printing methods, document security features, document verification technologies and examination techniques.

Biometric data plays key role in fighting crime and terrorism

Responding to the threats posed by foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs), INTERPOL is working to increase the use of its biometrics databases and capabilities to better track their movements globally.

Launched earlier this year, Project First is among INTERPOL’s initiatives to assist law enforcement in member countries in enhancing their border security through the use of biometric data – such as fingerprints and facial recognition

– on FTFs and other individuals linked to terrorist activities.

Underscoring the growing recognition of biometrics as a critical tool against transnational crime, speakers at the 1st INTERPOL Fingerprint and Face Symposium, organized by INTERPOL’s Fingerprints unit, included the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, the UK ACRO Criminal Records Office and the Biometrics Institute.

Safeguarding victims of human trafficking and smuggling priority for international experts

International experts in human trafficking and migrant smuggling are calling for expanded cross-sector involvement in order to protect the world’s most vulnerable from the exploitation of organized crime groups.

With such groups constantly innovating in their pursuit for low-risk, high profit margins, discussions during the 5th edition of the INTERPOL Global Trafficking in Human Beings and Smuggling of Migrants Conference will focus on the essential role both the public and private sector

play in preventing, detecting, reporting, disrupting and ultimately prosecuting those responsible for crimes which have no borders, and no limits.

Participants will explore emerging trends such as trafficking for forced criminality including drug cultivation or pickpocketing. They will also focus on how the private sector is developing tools to help law enforcement in the disruption of trafficking and smuggling activities.

OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe holds training course on raising awareness of human trafficking



A three-day training course organized by the OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe on raising awareness of human trafficking and identifying and assisting victims concluded on 13 December 2017 in Dushanbe.

During the course 20 representatives from civil society and NGOs that work with trafficking victims discussed the most common types of human trafficking and ways to assist the victims.

“Using an interactive approach, we focused on gender roles in a patriarchal society and how they, in combination with poverty, create a favorable environment for trafficking in human beings. We worked on case studies in order to better understand and identify potential and presumed victims, including children, and practiced interviewing skills with victims through role plays,” said Vesna Ivanovikj-Castarede, Gender and Anti-Trafficking Officer at the OSCE Programme Office.

Raising awareness among the general public and working with professionals and civil society is part of the comprehensive approach of the OSCE Programme Office in combatting trafficking in human beings. Co-operation with all relevant actors will continue to prevent trafficking in human beings and to support state institutions in their efforts to provide assistance to identified victims.

OSCE and UNODC train Kyrgyz officials to disrupt terrorist financing and to use sanctions pursuant to relevant UNSC Resolutions

A six-day training course aimed at strengthening the capacity of government officials from the Kyrgyz Republic to disrupt the financing of terrorist networks, including practical sessions on how to use sanctions pursuant to UN Security Council Resolutions (UNSCR) 1267,1988,1989,2253,2255, 2368 was held in Bishkek.

The training course was organized by the OSCE's Transnational Threats Department and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)'s Global Programme against Money Laundering, with the support of the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek and with the participation of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team established pursuant to UNSCR Resolutions 1526 (2004) and 2253 (2015) concerning ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities. Attended by 16 government officials, the course was led by OSCE and UN experts, supported by four national experts.

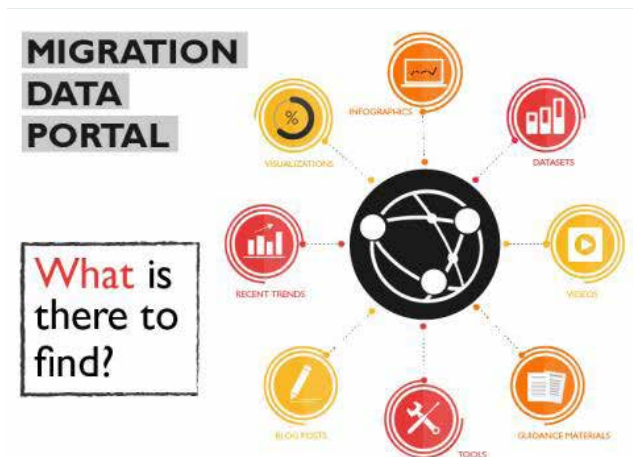
This course was part of a series of progressively advanced training courses on countering the financing of terrorism

for Kyrgyz officials from the Financial Intelligence Unit, the Ministry of Interior, the intelligence services and the Prosecutor's Office. From June to October, the OSCE and UNODC organized two training sessions and two train-the-trainer courses for Kyrgyz officials focused on analysis and investigation. A three-day train-the-trainer course in November provided national experts with the chance to familiarize themselves with more complex analytical and operational planning methods, including preparing UN sanctions listing cases. The training process focuses on localized scenarios based on real-life cases.

The training programme helped the participants to understand how inter-agency co-operation can contribute to disrupting terrorist financial networks and to strengthen their skills.



UN Migration Agency Launch First Global Migration Data Portal



Germany's Federal Foreign Office and IOM, the UN Migration Agency's Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC) will launch today (15/12) the Migration Data Portal in Berlin. The Migration Data Portal brings together the key facts and figures about global migration trends in one place for the first time.

"Especially in critical times, such as those we are facing today, it is our task to ensure that responses to migration are based on sound facts and accurate analysis," said IOM Director General William Lacy Swing.

The idea to develop such a portal was first discussed and agreed upon on 12 July 2016, at the 2nd Berlin Roundtable on Refugees and Migration, where the former German Foreign Minister met with heads of international organizations working on migration, including IOM, UNHCR, the IFRC, the EC and the World Bank. The Portal was developed by IOM and with the support of the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU).

The Migration Data Portal was developed with financial support from the US Department of State and Germany's Federal Foreign Office.

The portal communicates global data on migration through visualizations, infographics and videos. It simplifies the navigation through complex international migration data for policy makers, journalists, statisticians and anyone interested in migration.

The portal also covers a wide range of topics including

data on immigration and emigration trends; the linkages between migration and development; data on irregular migration; students and children; and data on migration policies as defined by the United Nations development goals and background on a global compact on migration expected to be adopted by the UN in 2018.

At its initial stage, the portal features 70 indicators from 15 international data providers (UNDESA, UNHCR and World Bank among others) and aggregates data at the national, regional and global levels. This range offers ample opportunities to explore and compare data while, understanding the context behind it.

"At a time when migration is high on the global agenda, it is essential that everyone has access to the key facts and figures about migration, and that we better understand the strengths and weaknesses of data on migration," said Frank Laczko, Director of IOM's Global Migration Data Analysis Centre.

German foreign policy employs a coherent strategy to manage migratory movements more efficiently and to address the root causes of forced migration. For fact-based policies and responses, reliable data are vital to ensure efficient, needs-based humanitarian aid, to counter harmful assumptions and to fight populism.

The development of the Migration Data Portal is a big step forward towards making the multitude of data on migration better and more available to policy makers.

The Migration Data Portal will scale up in coming months, making more data available at the regional and national levels. Visit the Migration Data Portal at: www.migrationdataportal.org.



Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 167,724 in 2017; Deaths Reach 3,095

IOM, the UN Migration Agency, reports that 167,724 migrants and refugees entered Europe by sea in 2017 through 13 December, with just over 70 per cent arriving in Italy and the remainder divided between Greece, Cyprus and Spain. This compares with 358,018 arrivals across the region through the same period last year.

IOM Rome reported Thursday (14 December) that according to Ministry of Interior figures, 118,010 men, women and children have arrived in Italy this year. With just over two weeks remaining in 2017, these totals indicate total arrivals this year are expected to be well short of the 181,436 who arrived in 2016, by an estimated 35 per cent, given current December arrival rates. This month new arrivals are averaging fewer than 80 migrants per day; that compares with 260 per day in December 2016 and 310 per day in December 2015.

IOM Spain reported that total arrivals at sea in 2017 are now at 20,473 men, women and children being rescued in Western Mediterranean waters. IOM's Missing Migrants Project (MMP) reported this week confirmation of four more deaths in the Western Mediterranean: the Spanish Coastguard reported two missing and one dead in the Alboran Sea on 13 December, plus MMP added one case from 27 November, of a migrant who died in a ferry bound for mainland Spain in Port of Melilla.

There were no new reports of deaths in the Central Mediterranean Sea route.

On Thursday (14 December) IOM Athens' Kelly Namia reported at least five incidents off the island of Lesbos, Samos and Leros that required search and rescue operations. The Hellenic Coast Guard managed to rescue some 200 migrants and transferred them to the respective islands.

Since 1 August, Namia reports 16,769 men, women and children have entered Greece by sea via the Eastern Mediterranean or almost 50 per cent more migrants than entered (11,405) during all of 2017's first seven months. Namia further reported that 576 migrants or refugees entered Greece by sea during the dates 11-13 December, or nearly 200 per day.

Through 13 December, the total number of sea arrivals to Greek territory is 27,598. If that average holds through the month's 18 remaining days, 2017 is likely to see the lowest total of sea migrants arriving irregularly to Greece in the last four years.

IOM's Missing Migrants Project (MMP) reported worldwide

deaths have reached 5,323 men, women and children during migration in 2017.

In the Western Mediterranean, MMP reported the Spanish Salvamento Marítimo has recorded testimonies of 32 migrants rescued from a sinking boat on 13 December, reporting that two people went missing in the Alboran Sea between Spain and Morocco during their voyage. In another rescue operation on the same day (13 December), the body of a migrant was found in a boat, five nautical miles west of Alboran Island. The Spanish Coastguard rescued 68 survivors from this boat.

Additionally, reports emerged of the death of a young man inside a container in a ship bound for mainland Spain in Port of Melilla on 27 November. Since 1 January 2017, IOM has recorded the deaths of 210 people in the Western Mediterranean route to Spain – a number that surpasses the total number of deaths recorded in the Western Mediterranean for all of 2016, which totalled 128.

In the Middle East, three migrants died in a vehicle accident on 4 December 15 km from Murchehkhort, in Isfahan (Iran). Additionally, the MMP team recorded cumulative data of deaths confirmed between 1 January and 4 December 2017 on the Iran-Afghanistan border: 97 Afghan migrants reportedly died in vehicle accidents at various locations this year.

On the US/Mexico border, 14 migrants died of hypothermia due to extremely low temperatures in the past two weeks. On 7 December, a Mexican man was found dead in a ranch near Eagle Pass, Texas, while remains of another man of unknown nationality were discovered on a ranch near Norias, in Kenedy County (Texas).

On 8 December, a Guatemalan national suffering from hypothermia passed away in the Big Bend area, near Marfa, Texas. On 9 December, the remains of one migrant were found on the Mexican side of the border, in Nogales, Sonora (Mexico).

The Webb County Medical Examiner reported that an additional 10 migrants have died from hypothermia in various locations in Texas between 1 and 13 December. During this period, Missing Migrants Project also recorded the death of a migrant due to unknown causes in a ranch near Falfurrias, Texas, on 7 December.

MMP data are compiled by IOM staff but come from a variety of sources, some of which are unofficial.

8th ASEANAPOL Training Cooperation Meeting (APTCM) Singapore



The Executive Director of ASEANAPOL Secretariat, Police Inspector General Yohanes Agus Mulyono together with the Director for Plans and Programmes, ACP Aidah Othman and ASP for Plans and Programmes attended the 8th APTCM hosted by the Singapore Police Force.

The two days meeting were attended by all 10

ASEANAPOL Member Countries, 4 Dialogue Partners, 3 Observers and the Secretariat itself. This year's meeting also witnesses the representative from the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) Bangkok giving a presentation. At the meeting, delegates presented their annual training progress, challenges encountered and future plans to enhance training cooperation. The Dialogue Partners and Observers also reiterate their commitment and willingness to cooperate with Member Countries in the field of training and capacity building.

Next, all delegates were brought to visit the Home Team Academy and the Home Team Tactical Centre for briefing and demonstration by the Home Team members.

The two days fruitful meeting were conducted in a friendly and mutual atmosphere amongst all Member Countries, Dialogue Partners and Observers.

ICAO traveller identification event highlights key aviation role in combatting terrorism and cross-border crime

The fight against international terrorist and criminal movements took another step forward recently, as experts and senior officials gathered for ICAO's 13th Traveller Identification Programme (TRIP) Strategy Symposium.

"The ICAO TRIP strategy reinforces the global line of defence against international terrorist movements, cross border crime, and the many other threats to the safety and security of civil society and international aviation," stressed ICAO Secretary General Dr. Fang Liu in her opening address to the event.

"The main part of our work in this area is conducted under Annex 9 to the Chicago Convention, on Facilitation. Facilitation activities are strongly supportive of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the ICAO TRIP Strategy also significantly contributes to UN Security Council Resolutions 2178 and 2309."

The world's foremost travel document and identity management event, this latest edition of the TRIP Symposium is seen as an important step in maintaining

the global momentum on anti-terrorism priorities recently achieved through the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

Dr. Liu presented an aviation security brief to the UN Security Council this September, having also been invited to its Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) meeting in July of 2017. Along with enhanced screening and security checks, the CTC has highlighted the important role of airlines in tracking the global movement of higher risk passengers.



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Editor of Border Security Report, Tony Kingham, interviews the Co-founder of iOmniscient, Dr Rustom Kanga, on his latest thought around the advent and use of Artificial Intelligence.



Q: You have been in the artificial intelligence business for a long time. I believe you implemented your first commercial AI system back in 1982

Dr Kanga: That is right. Relative to what we do now that was rather primitive though I would say it is very similar to much of what is sold today by a number of companies under the label of Artificial Intelligence.

Q: So your video analytics today is very different to what you get from others?

Dr Kanga: Of course. We set ourselves the goal of maintaining a 5 to 10 year lead on our competitors. We have managed to maintain that in virtually all areas. Of course for those of our technologies that are patented we maintain a 20-year lead.

Q: Everyone is talking about Deep Learning Systems. Is this something you use?

Dr Kanga: Systems that can improve themselves through continuous learning have been around for a very long time. As computing power becomes less expensive it is possible to implement more sophisticated learning systems. Deep learning essentially involves studying many more characteristics of an object or of an environment and hence developing a more accurate understanding of it.

From the beginning all our systems have had a self-learning component. For instance, our systems will understand the environment and self-adjust when the light begins to fade as day changes to night.

While we use Deep Learning when we need to, our philosophy is to do more with less. So if we can use cleverer algorithms that require less computing power then we favour that

approach. For instance, if one wanted to recognize a dog, you could study every characteristic that different dogs have – they have 4 legs, they have their tongue sticking out when they pant, some have fur, some don't and so on. This involves deep learning. On the other hand we could see a dog's wagging tail and know it is a dog from that single characteristic. This requires much less computing power – there is no need for expensive GPUs and we can achieve an accuracy that is within 1% of the results you might get using deep learning. It does not mean we don't use deep learning. But we use it selectively where we see it gives most benefit.

Q: So why do others suggest Deep Learning is the future of Artificial Intelligence.

Dr Kanga: When you say "others" you are presumably referring to purveyors of GPUs who actively promote it because they sell more GPUs. Our goal is to provide our customers with the most cost effective technology that can do the job for them. This is not necessarily the most computer intensive.

Q: So you do not use GPUs at all? What about GPUs for Face Recognition

Dr Kanga: Today we don't see the need to use GPUs. Over time there may be a reason for us to do so.

For Face Recognition we have developed algorithms that can recognize faces with 22 pixels between the eyes with high accuracy and we can recognize down to 12 pixels with a slightly reduced accuracy. Compare that with the 60 to 300 pixels that other suppliers require. On a standard 2-megapixel camera we could



recognize a person 30 meters away while others may do it at a couple of meters' distance. More importantly we can use a standard PC even in a dense crowd while they require GPUs because they need to process more pixels and hence do more computing.

In fact, several GPU manufacturers provide open source Face Recognition algorithms and hence many people can now offer Face Recognition systems based on the same open source algorithms. They are all very similar and they all require heavy computing and hence a GPU.

Q: What other types of Artificial Intelligence are there

Dr Kanga: I would categorize Artificial Intelligence systems into two main types – heuristic systems and neural network systems. Deep Learning is a more sophisticated and more computing intensive form of neural networks.

Heuristic systems are rule based

systems. They have the advantage that they can be implemented very quickly and adapted to new requirements within minutes unlike neural networks which require a long learning period sometimes extending to weeks or months.

Humans use many types of reasoning simultaneously and we do the same in our systems. We use a hybrid approach using all the different types of artificial intelligence in combination taking advantage of the strengths of each one while mitigating their weaknesses.

Q: Computers are supposed to be good for deductive reasoning. What about intuition.

Dr Kanga: Computers are indeed very good at deductive reasoning. However, we also use a form of fuzzy logic which enables the system to use the limited information it receives to intuitively make judgements. Ultimately artificial intelligence is about emulating human intelligence and we use the various

technologies available to us to do this effectively.

Q: There are some very large companies in this field such as Oracle, Microsoft, CISCO and Huawei. How do you compete against them?

Dr Kanga: We don't compete against them. Such companies tend to be our partners. They use our technologies for many of the solutions they sell.

Q: In the field of video intelligence most people are focussed on one of three areas – Behaviour Analysis, Face Recognition and Licence Plate recognition. You do all of them.

Dr Kanga: Yes – we are not selling these technologies just as technologies. We help our customers to solve their problems. This often requires different technologies working together in different combinations. So what we have put together is a platform with a number of building blocks which can be put together in infinite permutations to actually address each particular problem.

We are therefore able to put together solutions to meet the specific requirements of about 30 different industries and we can achieve this without expensive customization.

Q: I understand you go beyond video in your analytics

Dr Kanga: Humans don't just use their eyes. They use their nose and ears as well to understand their environment. We do the same – so in addition to video analysis we do sound analytics and smell analytics. So for instance if we see a person falling down we can send someone to help him as it may be a simple accident. But if we

hear a gunshot at the same time we may recommend caution as someone obviously had been shot.

Q: Video Analytics requires cameras. How do you do Smell Analytics?

Dr Kanga: A camera is a sensor for light. A microphone is a sensor for sound. For Smell we have sensors that can determine the chemical composition of air that passes over it and we can then analyse the mix. When people talk of IOT – the internet of things, most IOT devices are simple analogue devices with limited outputs – often it's a device which is either on or off or it provides information on a known scale such as a thermometer. Video, sound and smell analytics is IOT at the most sophisticated end of the spectrum as it involves understanding the very complex output of these devices.

Q: Different companies are good at different things. You do many things. Which ones are you good at.

Dr Kanga: We have a philosophy of being Best in Class in everything we do. If we are not good at it then we leave it to someone else. So for instance we have stayed out of the field of Autonomous Vehicles. We felt we did not have a sufficient differentiator or the necessary resources to become leaders in that field so we have exited that. However, in everything we do offer, you would be hard pressed to find anyone who could do it better.

Q: If your systems are so good they must also be more expensive.

Dr Kanga: One of our value propositions is that we can implement an intelligent system at a lower cost than a recording system. This is

because one of our design principles is that our technologies must reduce the infrastructure costs. So our systems require fewer cameras, less computing power, less storage and less network bandwidth than any other system on the market.

Q: Has everything been discovered or is there a lot of improvement possible in the technology.

Dr Kanga: 10 years after the Wright brothers managed to get the first powered plane off the ground, airplanes were already being used during the first world war. These were primitive planes but they flew and were useful. Today we can land a man on the moon.

Artificial Intelligence is a young technology. I would say it is at the same stage in its evolution as the planes in world war 1. In fifty years the technology will be considerably more advanced. But today the technology works and is already useful and it is certainly better than implementing systems with no intelligence.

Q: So what is next in AI. You already have many Firsts. How do you come up with the next big thing.

Dr Kanga: My partner Ivy or I might see a great idea in a movie like Star Wars or in a show like CSI. We ask our Engineering team to build that. The normal reaction is "that is impossible. The idea was developed in a Hollywood studio". Nevertheless, after much hair tearing and table thumping six months later we might have a prototype built. This is how many of our new products get created.

Thanks for your time and all the best.

AGENCY NEWS AND UPDATES

TBP unveils mechanised column for deployment on China border



The ITBP today showcased its maiden mechanised column of power vehicles and machines, along with its agile PARA commandos, aimed at speedy mobilisation of troops along the Sino-India border.

The mountain warfare-trained force unveiled a fleet of its newly-acquired military trucks, sports utility vehicles (SUVs), all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), snow scooters, bikes, mobile communication wing, excavators and a few other medium- lift four-wheeled vehicles during its 56th Raising Day celebrations at its base here.

A contingent of special PARA commandos, sporting maroon berets, also marched down the track for the first time.

Iraq 'takes over' Turkey border crossing from Kurds



Iraqi government forces took control of the key border crossing with Turkey in the Iraqi Kurdistan region on Tuesday after weeks of tensions between Baghdad and Erbil.

The border crossing "has been handed over to the central government" of Iraq, Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim told his ruling party at a televised meeting in Ankara.

He said all controls at the border will now be carried out by Iraqi and Turkish officials on their respective sides.

Greek police block migrants' march to

border with Macedonia



Police blocked some 200 migrants and asylum-seekers Wednesday from leaving a city in northern Greece for the Macedonian border in hopes of traveling on to other European Union countries.

Dozens of officers in riot gear used shields to push back the migrants near the center of Thessaloniki and blocked the road with police buses. The marchers, who included families with young children, refused to leave and sat down in the street. No one was hurt in the brief confrontation.

The migrants, most of them from Syria, Iraq and Somalia, had gathered throughout the day in Thessaloniki. Many said they were responding to a campaign on social media for a march to the Greece-Macedonia border to

protest their inability to relocate to other European countries.

Police seize counterfeits worth millions



Hundreds of thousands of counterfeit goods valued at PLN 52 million (EUR 12 million) have been seized and 11 foreigners suspected of smuggling have been detained by police in Poland.

In a joint operation by the tax office, border guards and police targeting illegal migration and illegal trade, more than 200 buses filled with counterfeit goods were found near Warsaw.

Among the goods were fake brand-name clothes, shoes, accessories and cosmetics.

Police say the goods were to be sold to wholesalers and retailers and distributed throughout Poland and in other Central and Eastern European countries.

Ukraine Border guards stop international channel of trafficking in human beings

Representatives of the operative-search Unit of the Eastern Regional



Directorate of the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine found a criminal group.

5 people during 2016-2017 recruited and transported to the Russian Federation residents of the Dniprovsk and Zaporizhzhia regions who were in a difficult financial situation in order to exploit in the sphere of intimate services.

Recently, at the "Goptovka" international checkpoint, border guards during passport control detained two women from Dniprovskiy region, who tried to smuggle Ukrainian women for sexual slavery to Russia Federation.

By operational means, law enforcement officers found another 9 Ukrainian women who could become potential victims of the criminal group. Offenders found all these women of job search announcements via the Internet, and promised them employment in the field of providing household services, such as waiters, dishwashers, etc.

During the investigation, law enforcement officers established the involvement of one of the offenders in the illicit trafficking of weapons. In the personal car of the offender, border guards found an arsenal of weapons, that consisted of grenades F-1, smoke checkers, signal missiles and almost 300 ammunition to the Kalashnikov rifle.

Police to step up patrol at Malaysia-Thai border

The Royal Malaysia Police (PDRM) has stepped up patrol in areas bordering Thailand to prevent the illegal entry of the Uighur people who had escaped from an Immigration detention centre in southern Thailand into Malaysia.

Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Mohamad Fuzi Harun said security measures were also taken by the army in the border areas of Kedah, Kelantan and Perak.

"We do not rule out the possibility of them (Uighur people) trying to sneak into the country and we have taken action by stepping up border patrol, especially along the Thai border," he said when contacted by Bernama here today.

Mohamad Fuzi said PDRM would extend its full cooperation to the Thai authorities in sending back the Uighurs.

Singapore, Malaysia bust Internet love scam syndicate in cross-border ops

A total of 14 suspects were arrested in Malaysia and Singapore in a cross-border operation against an Internet love scam syndicate, the police said.

Ten Africans were among 11 people picked up in Kuala Lumpur by the Commercial Crime Investigation Department (CCID) of the Royal Malaysia Police in an operation recently held.

Simultaneously, Singapore Police's Commercial Affairs Department (CAD) arrested three Singaporean men for assisting to transfer the syndicate's

benefits from the criminal conduct.

According to the statement, the suspects are believed to be responsible for at least 7 cases reported in Singapore and 25 cases reported in Malaysia. Victims lost approximately S\$245,000 in these cases.

Indonesia tightens border security following Marawi liberation declaration



Indonesian authorities have tightened security in some areas bordering the Philippines and at the Philippine mission in Jakarta following Manila's declaration that its southern city of Marawi has been liberated from pro-Islamic State militants.

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte made the declaration Tuesday after two commanders of the rebel alliance were killed. Marawi had been partly held by fighters linked to Islamic State since an attack in May.

Indonesia's National Police Chief Gen. Tito Karnavian told a press conference Thursday that the deaths of Isnilon Hapilon and Omarkhayam Maute, as well as the liberation of Syria's northern city of Raqqa from Islamic State militants by U.S.-backed Syrian forces have taken a toll on the IS terrorist network.

He warned, however, that the militants

who have not been killed may still try to escape, with as many as 100 militants still at large in the southern Philippines. He added that some Indonesians are among the jihadists in Syria and Marawi.

Illegal work organisers targeted in WA and QLD operations

The Australian Border Force (ABF) has executed a series of Taskforce Cadena-related warrants on properties in Queensland and Western Australia, targeting labour hire intermediaries (LHI) providing illegal farm workers.

Taskforce Cadena is a joint agency initiative between the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP), led by its operational arm the ABF, and the Fair Work Ombudsman (FWO).

An additional 13 people of interest were also located at the property, comprising a mix of non-citizens from PNG and the Solomon Islands, most suspected of working in breach of their visa conditions and likely to have their visas cancelled, and one residing and working illegally in Australia who has been detained ahead of his removal.

Canberra man arrested following 356kg ecstasy importation

A joint Australian Federal Police (AFP), ACT Policing and Australian Border Force (ABF) operation yesterday (5 December 2017) resulted in the arrest of a 23-year-old Canberra man, following the detection of 356kg of MDMA at a Sydney air cargo facility.

The investigation began in May 2017 when ABF officers intercepted an airfreight consignment from Germany, destined for an address in Fyshwick, Canberra. The consignment contained 144 buckets labelled as chlorine, concealing bags of a white crystalline substance. A presumptive test indicated a positive reaction to methylenedioxy-methamphetamine (MDMA).

AFP officers seized the consignment and forensic testing confirmed the total weight of MDMA concealed in the consignment was 356kg. This has the potential to produce over 1.2 million tablets with an estimated street value up to \$40.5 million dollars.

Spain migrant crisis: Calls for Ceuta border fence to be reinforced



Spanish police have called for a border fence to be reinforced as they coming under huge pressure to protect an enclave in North Africa.

The Civil Guard Command in Ceuta say they have been overwhelmed by the rising numbers of migrants trying to jump the border fence into the region.

And some officers have even been attacked as they try to prevent illegal border crossings.

Data reveals there has been a huge increase in new arrivals in Ceuta - with agents intercepting 2,661 migrants since October 2016, a rise of 71 per cent over the previous 12 months.

THE MOST ENGAGING DISCUSSIONS IN BORDER MANAGEMENT

EVENT UPDATE



20th-22nd March 2018
Madrid, Spain
www.world-border-congress.com

World Border Security Congress Congress Programme recently announced the preliminary congress programme for the 2018 event.

The international border security community gathers in Madrid, Spain on 20th-22nd March 2018 to discuss the latest issues, challenges and solutions facing the industry.

The past few years has seen 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.

As the global migration crisis continues, the challenges faced by the global border management community show little sign of abating. As the war against IS in Iraq, Syria and Libya approaches



ENHANCING BORDER SECURITY THROUGH CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE

Topics of discussion at the 2018 World Border Security Congress will cover:

Identifying and understanding the latest and evolving threats and challenges for border agencies

What are the latest developing threats and challenge of keeping people and trade moving whilst enhancing security in the terrorist age -Safety-Security and Speed

Foreign fighters and counter-terrorism strategies at the border

As more and more foreign fighters return from the conflict zones of the Middle East, what are the current and future strategies to identify and impede the flow of foreign terrorists, such as the adoption of API and PNR. What are the profiling and behavioural indicators for identifying foreign terrorist fighters and how do we stay ahead of the game?

Implementation of Advance Passenger Information

Advancing the use of API and PNR, bridging the gaps that prevent full exploitation of the significant advantages these systems offer for improved border management.

its conclusion, returning IS fighters will continue to exploit the crisis to infiltrate fighters into Europe, the USA and elsewhere. Borders in the Middle East and Africa remain porous and will continue to provide challenges.

Human traffickers especially use the crisis and the opportunities it affords to maximise their trade in human misery.

International organised criminal gangs continue to thrive with both drug and human traffickers utilising the dark web and new technology to assist their activities.

It must be the aim of every border management agency to continuously improve and evolve to meet the challenges of future by fully embracing technology and taking every opportunity to meet, share and co-operate!

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

Supported by the Organisation

for Security & Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the European Association of Airport and Seaport Police (EAASP), National Security & Resilience Consortium, International Security Industry Organisation and International Association of CIP Professionals, the World Border Security Congress is the premier multi-jurisdictional global platform where the border protection policy-makers, management and practitioners together with security industry professionals, convene to discuss the international challenges faced in protecting borders.

The Congress programme will deliver high level discussions and a series of Closed Agency Only Workshops for promoting greater collaboration on the international challenges.

On behalf of the Organising Committee, you are cordially invited to **Madrid, Spain on 20th-22nd March 2018** for World Border Security Congress, the premier annual gathering of border and migration management professionals.



European Association
of Airport and Seaport Police



2017/18 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
- Rohingya refugee crisis grows in Asia
- Tackling Southeast Asia's Migration Challenge
- ISIS threat grows in Asia, threatening to send 500,000 migrants to Europe
- Border Skirmishes Resonate in National Domestic Politics
- Women's Labour Migration from Asia and the Pacific

Coordinating Coastal and Maritime Border Surveillance

Proper and efficient co-ordination of maritime, coastal, port and land border surveillance systems is essential in securing national borders. How is this best achieved across multiple agencies and what systems are needed to do the job?

Big Data and how to use it at the border

With massive amounts of data from legacy systems, sharing info from others. How do you get info out of silos and used in collaboration. How can social media be best used to identify and detect threats.

Counter-Strategies for Human and Drug Trafficking

What are the most effective strategies and what other strategies and technologies need to be employed for disrupting the global trade in drugs and human beings that flow towards the developed world

Surveillance Systems and Technologies on the Border

How far are we from the development and implementation of future technologies for really smart border control? What are the technology gaps and how do we close them?

Future trends in International Border Management

The border community are facing extraordinary set of challenges in the increasingly globalised world of the early 21st century. What are the changes and trends in border management that will equip us to meet the challenges of today and the challenges of the future?

Further details on the full programme and registration to attend the Congress in Madrid in March 2018 can be found at www.world-border-congress.com.

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 premier multi-jurisdictional transnational platform where the border protection, management and security industry policy-makers and practitioners convene to discuss the international challenges faced in protecting borders.

The Full Preliminary Congress Programme guide (pdf version) can be downloaded direct from the World Border Security Congress website www.world-border-congress.com/PSG

Silver Sponsor:



CLOSED AGENCY ONLY WORKSHOPS

FOR BORDER AGENCIES AND AGENCIES AT THE BORDER ONLY – If you are interested in participating in the Closed Agency Only Workshops, in order to obtain clearance to attend the Closed Workshops, please register via the Online Agency Registration complete the Agency Registration Form to begin the approval process.

If you have any queries please contact Neil Walker, Event Director, World Border Security Congress at neilw@world-border-congress.com.

The World Border Security Congress aims to promote collaboration, inter-agency cooperation and information/intelligence sharing amongst border agencies and agencies at the border to better engage and tackle the increasing threats and cross border security challenges that pertain to today's global environment.

Border agencies and agencies at the border can benefit from the 'Closed Agency Only Workshops', hosted by the Organization for Security & Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), with a series of behind closed door discussion and working group opportunities.

This years Closed Agency Only Workshop topics are:

Challenges in the Mediterranean

"How are the multiple challenges faced by authorities in the Mediterranean being tackled? As high levels of economic migration, THB and trafficking in cultural property continue or grow, can the enhanced use of 'risk analysis capacities' help us meet the challenges?"

Chair: OSCE

Ensuring international funding/support reaches the hotspots

Poor border management in one country has immediate impact on its neighbours especially in parts of Africa and Central Asia. Helping poorer countries struggling with border management issues is therefore an act of enlightened self-interest. Ensuring the funds available reach the border hotspots is essential.

Chair: IOM

Information Exchange - the way forward

Everyone agrees that the sharing information, such as national/international databases, and intelligence is essential for secure borders. How do we implement the systems and build the trust to make this a viable?

Madrid Marriott Auditorium Hotel & Conference Center



Avenida de Aragon No 400
Madrid 28022, Spain
www.marriott.com

Accommodation online booking:
www.world-border-congress.com/hotelonline

Part of the Principe Felipe Conference Centre, the 4-star Madrid Marriott Auditorium Hotel & Conference Center is within 10 minutes of the Madrid-Barajas Airport and lies 10 km from downtown and 4 km from the shopping malls.

All the rooms are equipped with mini bar, safe, telephone, air conditioning, satellite TV and internet access.

The Madrid Marriott Auditorium Hotel & Conference Center is an ideal venue for the World Border Security Congress with excellent conference facilities, as well as additional services and functions rooms.

Special Accommodation Rates for Attendees to the World Border Security Congress

The World Border Security Congress has negotiated special discounted rates for delegates to stay at the hotel.

eGates from secunet for faster border control at Vienna International Airport

The airport in Vienna is one of the key hubs to Eastern Europe, and it now relies on automated border control systems (eGates) from secunet. A total of 25 eGates were installed in December and have now been put into operation, ensuring convenient and efficient border control.



The implementation of biometrics-based eGates means that passengers can now expect shorter transfer times as well as faster arrivals and departures at Vienna airport. This is because passengers pass through the control gates autonomously, so checks can be performed in parallel. The entire process takes just a few seconds - from placing the electronic passport on the ID reader for an optical and electronic check of security features, to exiting the gate.

While the experience of crossing the border is more pleasant and quicker for passengers, border control officers are comprehensively

supported in their sovereign responsibilities by means of intuitive monitoring. Integrated, sophisticated document verification, high-performance biometric procedures, and smart sensors ensure the same high level of security which is achieved with stationary border control. The secunet easygate is based on open standards, meaning that it can be flexibly adapted to future changes and expansions. The overall system for border control initially consists of 25 control gates, of which 16 are available for departures and nine for arrivals. In addition to training, support, and maintenance, the company is also

delivering software for monitoring, evaluation and administration workstations, and a

centralised server system for connecting peripheral systems and controlling the eGates.

Vision-Box implement paperless biometric self-boarding solution to expedite passenger flow and improve traveler experience

Los Angeles Airport is trialing an advanced biometric self-boarding solution by Vision-Box to clear travelers flying out of the USA in a contactless, quick and secure way.



The new passenger flow solution allows travelers to board their aircraft in just a few seconds simply by looking into a high-resolution face capture system at the traveler-friendly flow-control gateway. No need to present their travel document or boarding pass anymore. The system deployed by Vision-Box captures a live, high quality image of the traveler's unique biometric facial traits, for US Customs and Border Protection to match it against the

passenger's file containing the digital facial token captured at the initial immigration process. This process permits as well to virtualize the process of sending the boarding-pass details to the Airline Departure Control System, using face as a token to reconcile the passenger and his flight. After assuring the identity and eligibility of the passenger on that specific flight, the gateway then opens and the traveler can swiftly board the aircraft.

WCC Joins the Secure Identity Alliance as an Advisory Observer

The Secure Identity Alliance, the global identity and secure eServices advisory body, today announces that WCC, a world leading developer of advanced search and match technology and solutions, has joined the Association as an Advisory Observer.

With over two decades of experience in the industry, Sanjay Dharwadker is an expert voice on identity, biographic data and digital identity topics at a variety of global bodies and organizations, including the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

He is also involved in enabling new generation identity solutions that address the United Nations' (UN) ambitious Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which include a target of zero statelessness for all global citizens by 2024 and legal identity for all by 2030.

"Identity is a complex matter that involves multiple stakeholders and requires adherence to national and international laws – especially privacy laws," comments Sanjay Dharwadker. "Our goal is to provide insights that will help enable the Secure Identity Alliance and its members address the challenges of enabling civil registration and legal ID for citizens around the globe. By transforming diverse ideas into concrete solutions, the ID industry will then be able to help ensure that people everywhere in the world can benefit from the empowerment and prosperity that comes with having a legal and verifiable civil identity."

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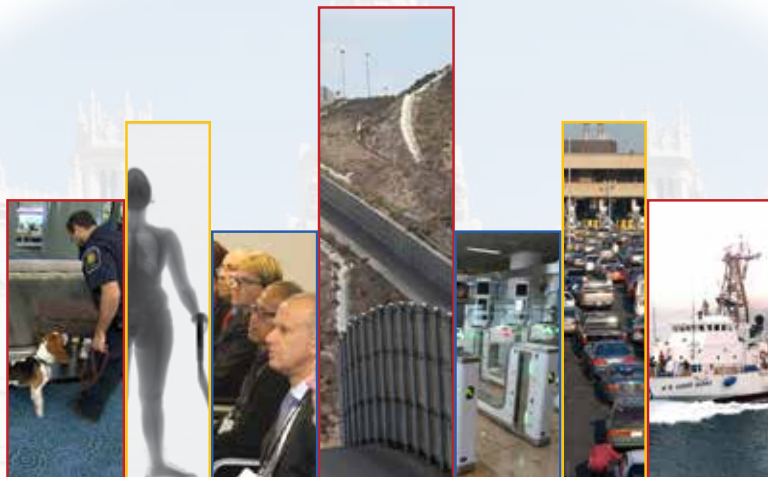


World Border Security Congress

20th-22nd March 2018

Madrid, Spain

www.world-border-congress.com



The World's most engaging event and discussion...

Enhancing Border Security Through Constructive Dialogue

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.

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.

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- Rasa Ostrauskaite, Director, Transnational Threats Department, OSCE
- James Douglass, President, European Association of Airport & Seaport Police
- Alvaro Rodríguez Gaya, Head of Strategy of Europol's European Migrant Smuggling Centre (EMSC), EUROPOL
- Paul Broadbent, Chief Executive, UK Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority
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