Walls, development or both?

In the world of border management much time, effort, money, intellectual and political capital is invested in how to protect borders and not nearly enough on how we can prevent the problem of mass migration, the evils of terrorism, human and drug trafficking and the whole range of other cross border crimes in the first place.

Fences are going up in the US and all over Europe and indeed it was that promise of a border wall that probably put President Trump in the White House.

Some would say that when the have’s live next door to the have not’s the ‘draw’ of a better life will inevitably lead the have not’s trying to join the world of the have’s legally or otherwise. And so, the logic goes, inevitably the have’s will be overwhelmed by the have nots leading the have’s to ultimately become have nots themselves.

So, we need walls!

Personally, I’m all for tightening up our borders, but I can’t help thinking that more needs to be done to address the issue of ‘the draw’.

The EU is doing some good work in this area with its EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa. It was set up to address the root causes of trans-Saharan migration, and its purpose is to finance projects that create employment opportunities, support basic services for local populations and support improvements in overall governance, as well as projects that improve migration management.

But some would say that the investment is not enough and too much focus is put on improving border security issues and not enough on development.

It is in this context that this year’s World Border Security Congress in Madrid, the African Union and ECOSOCC will be hosting of Side Event with the theme of “Migration - Creating Opportunities for Young People in Africa”.

No doubt, it should generate plenty of discussion for the next issue!

Tony Kingham
Editor

READ THE FULL VERSION

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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Details of the next gathering of the international border security community in Madrid, Spain on 20th-22nd March 2018.
Joint Statement from INTERPORTPOLICE and AIRPOL Announcing Continued International Airport Law Enforcement Cooperation

Commissioner Peter Nilsson, Project Manager and Head of the European Union’s AIRPOL and Secretary General Jay Grant, of the INTERPORTPOLICE announced continued cooperation in airport security and law enforcement initiatives. In 2017 two meetings were held, the first in April hosted by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Port Authority Police at the World Trade Towers, and in September at London Heathrow International Airport, hosted by the Metropolitan Police. Eight countries with police authorities from Canada, France, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Denmark, United Kingdom, and the United States participated along with several experts from intelligence to counterterrorism and cyber reviewed current global incidents and risk mitigation requirements to address today’s global security risks.

Peter Nilsson stated, “Europe’s airports are working cooperatively to ensure the safety of the traveling public. Preventative measures are a primary aspect of our security. All of us are aware of how common air travel is, internationally and regionally. At any one time there are millions of people at airports all over the world, passing as travellers or working there. The Airpol work is to ensure that the critical infrastructure, connected to the Airport Community, is protected in the best manner possible at all times. This is what our police strive for each and every day.”

Jay Grant stated, “Although we look at the whole security picture of prevention, protection and preparedness, our primary focus has too been prevention. This is the first line of defence in security and recent incidents have shown us we needed to rethink our methods. Discussions will include the best practice Project Griffin International (https://projectgriffin.net) and operational aspects including critical communication management as we endeavour to strengthen community intelligence, operational interactivity, interoperability, and public safety connected collaborative communications for environment protection and communication efficiently.”

Both police leaders expressed efforts on a joint basis are not only practical they are imperative. We learn from each other; although we may address things differently in our many countries the efforts of protection are mutual and common. Although this was assumed, our meetings have proved this out. These next meetings will move towards a broader discussion on operational practices and we expect to include other responder organizations, as when there is a crisis it takes everyone’s experience and cooperation within the Airport Community.

AIRPOL

The AIRPOL Network, financed and appointed by The European Union (EU) strives to enhance the cooperation between Police and Border Guard Units at EU Airports. Airpol's scope are three aviation and airport related themes: Airport Policing, comprising all first-line police functions in and around airports, such as airport crime, contingency management, counterterrorism strategies, VIP-protection, protection of critical infrastructure, Aviation Security, which consists of all necessary actions and regulations to secure civil aviation. Examples of relevant issues are: engagement of air marshals, dealing with unruly passengers, access and security checks, airport badges management, and Air border Security in all of its aspects: immigration issues, return operations and document fraud. Airpol has four expert groups working: Behaviour Detection, Insider/radicalization, Intelligence/Information sharing and an expert group taking a holistic perspective on Security issues in the Airport Community.

INTERPORTPOLICE

An International Organization of Airport and Seaport Police that was established in 1969 by police authorities from Canada, Netherlands, United Kingdom, and the United States to facilitate global authority cooperation addressing terrorism and transnational crime within the transportation security and border sector. Today we collectively work as a global force to protect our local communities, our nations, and the world. The INTERPORTPOLICE holds consultative status with the United Nations International Maritime Organization; and MOU and partnerships with the Organization of American States, AIRPOL, European Association of Airport and Seaport Police, BorderPol, and the United Kingdom’s Project Griffin. Also, annually support the International Police and Public Safety 9/11 Medal, given to police and public safety offices who have distinguished themselves in the fight against terrorist activities. (https://911center.org)
Following the successful introduction of MRTDs in the eighties, which has dramatically enhanced the security features used in passports, ICAO has started implementing an ambitious initiative aimed at improving both the overall integrity of travel documents and the processes involved in their issuance as well as security at border control.

Context: The Importance of Reliable and Secure Traveller Identification

The ability of terrorists and criminals to operate with anonymity—beyond the knowledge or even suspicion on the part of relevant State and international authorities about their true identity and movements—is a powerful tool and weapon in enabling those with ill intents to further their unlawful and illegitimate activities.

Conversely, the ability of authorities to confirm the true identity and to monitor certain movements of travellers—and to do so speedily, cost-effectively, securely and
responsibly—is vital for a wide range of purposes:

- maintenance of effective national and global security
- facilitation of personal and business travel and trade
- determination and discharge of treaty and other obligations and rights related to the cross-border movement and admission of people
- cost-effective deployment of security and border admission and clearance personnel and resources on a risk-management basis
- detection and prevention of crime, including money laundering, smuggling, illegal drug trade, child abduction and human trafficking

Drivers for Enhanced Traveller Identification

The following are factors and trends that encourage and support the sharing of knowledge, insights and technologies amongst diverse States and international authorities with mandates and interests in the issuance and/or use of traveller identification.

There is strong consumer and business pressure for expedited travel, trade and tourism, and corresponding public resistance to security, border control and other processing activities that add avoidable costs, delays, and restrictions to movement. Conversely, security threats in many sectors—including, but not limited to, the aviation sector—are real, significant and continually evolving.

In the meantime, innovative technologies and protocols offer new opportunities for cost-effective deployment of security resources where they are most needed, based on risk-management principles, thereby enhancing both security and facilitation objectives.

In that context, the ICAO Traveller Identification Programme (ICAO TRIP) Strategy was approved by the ICAO Council and endorsed by the 38th Session of the ICAO Assembly in 2013. The TRIP Strategy aims to enhance the integrity of the passport-issuance process and to ensure robust identification-management processes in order to prevent exploitation by terrorists and maximize the effectiveness of border security and the benefits of enhanced facilitation of travel across borders.

The efforts of ICAO to ensure the legitimacy of secure travel documents depends on a holistic, and integrated approach to the traveller identification-management and issuance process. The integrity of travel-document issuance is severely compromised if appropriate safeguards are not incorporated into the traveller-identity management process in order to ensure confirmation of the identity of the individual to whom the passport is issued.

Nature of a robust Identification Management

For purposes of this Strategy, a comprehensive and cohesive approach to traveller identification entails five closely linked and mutually-complementary identification management activities (Graph 1).

i) Evidence of Identity: ensure authenticity of the identity of an applicant seeking issuance of a travel document, confirming for that individual a unique identity linked to the applicant, the identified individual's status as still living and the applicant's status as an active user of that unique identity.

ii) Machine-Readable Travel Documents (MRTDs): ensure that the design and manufacture of standardized machine-readable passports (MRPs), visas, and identification (ID) cards for travel that meet internationally-accepted standards and practices with respect to global interoperability and effective biometrics as well as high integrity against counterfeiting and forgery.

Graph 1: The 5 elements of the ICAO TRIP strategy
iii) **Document Issuance and Control**: Implement effective processes and protocols for the issuance of MRTDs to authorized holders only, including emergency issuance where warranted while ensuring the security against theft, tampering and loss.

iv) **Inspection Systems and Tools**: Implement technologies, supporting infrastructure, information-sharing and related protocols and procedures to support timely, efficient, secure and reliable reading of MRTDs at borders and verification of the validity of the MRTD for the holder, including by the use of the ICAO Public Key Directory (PKD) to confirm that e-passports presented to authorities remain legitimately-issued and active (i.e., not lost, stolen, compromised or revoked).

v) **Interoperable Applications**: Implement systems, technologies and protocols that provide for the ready, secure and reliable linkage of MRTDs and their legitimate holders to relevant intelligence and information about the holder and/or his/her background, movements and actions of interest, in support of security and travel facilitation. Interoperable applications include such functions and linkages Passenger Name Record data (PNR), Advance Passenger Information (API), State-managed security “watch lists” and State-recognized “known,” “trusted” and/or “expedited” travellers and shippers (or equivalent).

**Main challenge: Involvement of different stakeholders**

As shown in Graph 2 wide array of Contracting State authorities/ministries and other entities have mandates and interests in traveller identification. These include State-level agencies, regional and international organizations concerned with these issues and services such as civil registries, passport issuance, visa issuance, security, trade and tourism, immigration/migration, border controls, law enforcement, treaties—human rights, refugees, stateless persons, special events (Olympics, international meetings e.g., G7/G20) and emergencies (identification of victims and survivors).

Graph 2: Different stakeholders involved in the ICAO TRIP strategy

All Contracting States have mandates for, and interests in, the efficient and effective operation of their immigration/migration, trade and travel (including tourism) and border control functions, all of which have requirements for secure, reliable and efficient traveller identification.

In addition to the organizations concerned with the above issues and applications, there are the individual travel document applicants and holders who use formal travel documents (most notably passports) for a wide range of purposes well beyond border crossing and international travel. These include a wide range of routine transactions where credible sources of identification are either required or expeditious, such as banking, currency exchange, vehicle and equipment rental, domestic travel, and application processes for access to civil programs, services and benefits.

As noted above, the interests in, and needs for, secure travel documents and related technologies, tools and processes, extend well beyond the world of international civil aviation. A diverse array of travel document issuers and users require and/or can benefit from the leadership, engagement, support and/or collaboration and cooperation of ICAO.

Notably, travel documents and related technologies and processes that meet the needs and standards of international civil aviation security and facilitation will typically also readily meet diverse other
identification needs and standards, for example, with respect to security, functionality, credibility, interoperability and efficiency. In some cases ICAO-compliant travel documents can be directly used for such other applications. In other cases, ICAO’s knowledge, technologies, insights and experiences in the production, management and use of secure identification documents, tools and processes can be shared and efficiently adapted and applied to the needs of other travel document issues and users.

The need for a TRIP roadmap to assist States in their implementation efforts

The 39th Session of the Assembly endorsed the priorities for the ICAO TRIP Strategy and expected outcomes for the 2017-2019 triennium. Assembly Resolution A39-20, Consolidated statement of continuing ICAO policies related to facilitation, identified national and international action in ensuring the security and integrity of traveller identification and border controls. Specifically, the Assembly urged Member States, through their travel document and border control programmes, to uniquely identify individuals to maximize security and facilitation benefits, including preventing acts of unlawful interference and other threats to civil aviation. Furthermore, the Assembly endorsed the development of a roadmap for the implementation of the ICAO TRIP Strategy.

The ICAO TRIP roadmap has been developed in the context of the No Country Left Behind initiative but also in light of the two UN Security Council Resolutions 2178 and 2309 that were approved in 2014 and 2016 respectively. The two resolutions address notably the acute and growing threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters (FTF). The relevant parts of the resolution are: “Reaffirms that all States shall prevent the movement of terrorists or terrorist groups by effective border controls and controls on issuance of identity papers and travel documents, and through measures for preventing counterfeiting, forgery or fraudulent use of identity papers and travel documents…” and “calls upon all States to require that airlines operating in their territories provide advance passenger information to the appropriate national authorities in order to detect the departure from their territories, or attempted entry into or transit through their territories, by means of civil aircraft, of individuals designated by the Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015).”

The UN Security Council has thus mandated States to request, in fact “require” as the resolution states, advance passenger information from airlines in order to match passenger data against the UN Security Council’s travel ban lists for terrorists.

Following the resolution 2178, the UN counter-terrorism bodies also included a non-binding recommendation on the use Passenger Name Records (PNR), namely encouraging airlines to provide, where appropriate, to the appropriate national authorities. Since most FTFs use legitimate travel documents the use of PNR will allow States to better understand travel patterns of terrorist fighters, and to share practices in evidence-based traveler risk assessment and border screening. It is likely that more countries will begin to demand PNR data as well. Clearly resolutions 2178 and 2309 have increased the political and legal impetus for States and airlines to implement passenger data exchange programs, while it is noteworthy that under Annex 9 – Facilitation, API/PNR aim to provide target milestones for the implementation by States of the ICAO TRIP Strategy.

The ICAO TRIP roadmap is primarily based on the global analysis of the Universal Security Audit Programme Continuous Monitoring Approach (USAP-CMA) results for Annex 9 security-related Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) from 178 second-cycle audit results. In implementing the TRIP roadmap, Member States will first need to continue focussing on
implementing the TRIP-related SARPs in Annex 9 and the associated technical specifications for machine readable travel documents contained in Doc 9303. The Secretariat has identified 48 SARPs in the fourteenth edition of Annex 9 that relate to the elements of the TRIP Strategy. These are listed in the ICAO TRIP roadmap.

At the national level, implementation of the roadmap will require coordinated action between many government and industry entities, such as passport issuing offices, aviation security authorities, civil registries, border control and law enforcement agencies, airlines, airport authorities, the travel document industry, immigration authorities and other interested parties. The mechanism and requirement for such coordination on matters relating to facilitation already exist in Annex 9 through national air transport facilitation programmes and their related committees as shown in the graph 3.

Governments, in pursuance with their laws, regulations and national programmes on aviation security, and according to the relevant ICAO SARPs, will seek to develop appropriate legislation enabling them to implement effectively the ICAO TRIP Strategy. In the international context, the aim is to systematically collaborate with all interested stakeholders to implement each element of the TRIP Strategy. Importantly, ICAO’s leadership is essential to the success of the achievement of this roadmap, focusing on enhancing aviation security and improving facilitation with the objective to provide States with a blueprint that sets out the elements that must be in place in order to move, for example, from Machine Readable Passports (MRPs) to ePassports, and possess excellent breeder documents and sufficient financial resources.

To this end, there is a need to ensure both national coordination and international cooperation (as shown in Graph 4) for each action linked to the effective implementation with a view to achieving the effective implementation of the ICAO TRIP roadmap.

By definition, this is a constantly-changing and evolving work effort which is supported by the guidance published at https://www.icao.int/Security/FAL/TRIP/Pages/Publications.aspx.

There are a number of broader cross-cutting initiatives that are being pursued, including most notably those dealing with outreach to all the involved stakeholders, promotion of the integrity and benefits of secure traveller identification, expansion of assistance and capacity building efforts for States in need, and enhancement of assessment missions and assistance from the Regional Offices.

Dr Narjes Abdennebi
Chief Facilitation Section (C/FAL), Aviation Security and Facilitation (ASF), Air Transport Bureau (ATB), ICAO
Spanish National Police and Guardia Civil Join Forces with EUROPOL in Hit Against Iraqi Illegal Immigration to EU

Europol supported seven mixed teams of Spanish National Police (Policía Nacional) and Guardia Civil in a successful strike against Iraqi illegal immigration in which six individuals were arrested in Spain. The criminal organisation transferred Iraqi illegal immigrants from their country into the Schengen Zone.

The investigation began last February when Spanish police officers found six individuals from Iraq inside a refrigerated truck in Teruel (Spain). On the same day and later on in March they located two people concealed in the same conditions in Valencia, alongside eight illegal immigrants in Teruel, who called the emergency services as they feared they were dying from the cold inside the truck.

The network transferred the Iraqi illegal immigrants from Spain to the UK inside refrigerated trucks. The criminals took advantage when the drivers were sleeping to introduce the people inside the vehicles. They were a group composed of six to eight individuals or families with children and they had to stay in the truck for 30 or 40 hours under temperatures that were not higher than 4ºC.

Spanish police officers carried out six house searches in Spain. As a result, a large amount of documents, several electronic devices and EUR 15,000 plus USD 8,000 were confiscated. Five individuals were arrested in Valencia, alongside one in Bilbao. Currently, the suspects are being interrogated while the forensic teams are performing the extractions of the mobile devices.

Eighth Arrests in Hit Against Criminal Network

Operation YEHYA was carried out by the Aliens Division of Attica, Greece with the support of Europol’s European Migrant Smuggling Centre (EMSC). Eight persons were arrested, of which seven were members of the organised crime group. Travel documents, computers and money were confiscated. The participating countries worked together in the framework of the EMPACT project targeting Facilitation of illegal immigration in the EU.

Members of an organised crime group, involved in producing and circulating false/falsified travel documents, which facilitated the illegal movement of migrants from Greece to other countries, was arrested today in Greece.

For the successful outcome of Operation YEHYA, specialized analytical support was provided by Europol’s European Migrant Smuggling Centre (EMSC) and the EMSC experts in the office of Europol in Piraeus, Greece. Europol also provided on-the-spot support through the deployment of a mobile office, enabling real-time access to Europol’s databases.

Big Hit Against Sexual Exploitation

Spanish National Police and the Romanian Police have joined forces, supported by Europol and Eurojust, to dismantle an organised crime group involved in trafficking women for sexual exploitation in different EU Member States. In total, 11 individuals were arrested and 13 victims were safeguarded.

The investigation began in November 2015. The members of the criminal network recruited their victims in their country of origin using the Loverboy method, by a man who purported to be the victim’s boyfriend and promised her a better life. Once in Spain, the victims were forced into prostitution in Madrid, Ibiza and Asturias. During the course of the investigation, police officers unveiled that some of the victims were forced to undergo plastic surgery. Furthermore, the women had to pay a tax in return of being protected on the street. The organised group extended their activity to Germany, the Czech Republic and the Netherlands.
Nigerian police getting increased access to INTERPOL information

Nigeria’s work to ensure agencies at key border control points, including the immigration service and customs, can access INTERPOL’s global databases was a key part of discussions during INTERPOL Secretary General Jürgen Stock’s first mission to the country.

The INTERPOL Chief met with Minister of the Interior Lt Gen Abdulrahman Bello Dambazau and the Comptroller General of the Nigerian Immigration Services (NIS), Muhammed Babandede.

Connectivity between the INTERPOL National Central Bureau (NCB) in Abuja with other agencies such as the NIS, the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) and the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) were highlighted as good practice in ensuring a seamless transfer of policing information.

INTERPOL facial recognition nets most wanted murder fugitive

Police in Buenos Aires have arrested an internationally wanted murder suspect after his image was identified as a likely match by INTERPOL’s facial recognition unit.

Kristian Danev, a Slovak national aged 33, is wanted internationally by Czech authorities under an INTERPOL Red Notice following a murder ten years ago.

As part of an investigation by police in Argentina, INTERPOL’s National Central Bureau in Buenos Aires submitted images of the suspect to INTERPOL’s General Secretariat headquarters for comparison against records in its facial recognition database.

After the search result came up as a potential match, police in Argentina detained the suspect for further questioning, resulting in the suspect confirming his identity.

INTERPOL Chief and Kuwait Interior Minister discuss terrorism at Global Coalition meeting

INTERPOL Secretary General Jürgen Stock met with Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior of Kuwait to address terrorism and organized crime.

The discussions took place on the sidelines of the Ministerial Meeting of the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS/Daesh.

Attended by Ministers of Foreign Affairs from the 70 coalition countries, as well as from the European Union, NATO and the Arab League, Secretary General Stock underlined INTERPOL’s continued commitment as the key law enforcement partner.
Work of international actors in preventing proliferation of nuclear weapons

“The work of international actors, including the OSCE’s contribution, in supporting the implementation of the 2004 United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 on preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons was explored at the OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) meeting in Vienna, held under Slovakia’s Chairmanship.

“Recognizing the threat to international peace and security posed by nuclear weapons, UNSCR 1540 represents a landmark decision and marks an important step towards limiting this threat by outlining provisions and measures and providing a framework for preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons,” said Ambassador Radomír Boháč, Chairperson of the Forum and Permanent Representative of Slovakia to the OSCE.

“Sadly, the importance and necessity of this resolution is particularly relevant in the light of today’s volatile and unpredictable nuclear environment.”

He added OSCE fully supports the implementation of UNSCR 1540, as the Organization’s vision to promote peace and ensure security across the OSCE region is inextricably linked to the resolution’s aim of maintaining a system that regulates the spread and use of nuclear weapons.

OSCE parliamentarians discuss Belgium’s migration experience with focus on sustainable solutions for unaccompanied minors

Senior members of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly were in Brussels to learn more about Belgian migration and asylum policies as well as measures to promote the integration of refugees.

Extensive discussions addressed the different reception options available to unaccompanied foreign minors in particular, from dedicated units within federal reception centres to small care facilities managed by NGOs, foster care and independent living. Committee members noted that, as the estimated numbers of unaccompanied children arriving in Belgium had dropped significantly to about 2,000 each year compared to a peak of over 5,000 in 2015 at the height of the migration crisis, it was now possible to implement this needs-based approach which seeks to provide adapted care suited to the needs of the individual.

Members said however that a number of challenges remain with regard to procedures for determining the best interests of the child and for correctly assessing age due to the lack of a common European approach in these areas. One main obstacle to family reunification remains the high cost of the DNA tests, they observed.

Increasing expertise in combating illicit drugs

Afghan law enforcement officers completed an OSCE-organized two-week train-the-trainer course on combating illicit drug trafficking and drug-related crime, at the Russian training facility in Domodedovo, near Moscow.

The training course for 13 trainees, organized jointly with the All-Russian Advanced Training Institute, increased the participants’ capacity to deliver training courses in search operations, including in the use of modern techniques for identifying illicit drugs, their precursors and countering drug-related crimes. The course included practice in searching residential areas and vehicles and in effectively using special equipment.
Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 8,154 in 2018; Deaths Reach 401

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<tr>
<th>Arrivals by sea in Italy</th>
<th>January - December 2018/2017/2016</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Source: Italian Ministry of Interior</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>4,182</td>
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<tr>
<td>February (as of 11/01)</td>
<td>549</td>
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<td>March</td>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
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IOM reports that 8,154 migrants and refugees entered Europe by sea through the first six weeks of 2018. This compares with 12,358 arrivals across the region through the same period last year.

IOM Rome reported Italy’s official Ministry of Interior figures indicate some 4,731 migrants arrived by sea to Italy this year, which represents a steep decline compared to the 9,448 arrivals recorded during the same period last year.

After tracking January arrivals similar to those of 2017 and 2016 through the first week of February, Italian authorities have recorded just 549 arrivals in February 2018.

Since the start of December, the Western Mediterranean has recorded over 100 deaths at sea. Total deaths in the Mediterranean in 2018 now stand at 401 migrants since the start of 2018, compared with 261 at this time last year. The Western Mediterranean already has recorded 86 deaths in just 42 days this year—nearly three times the total at this time on that route last year.

Worldwide, IOM’s Missing Migrants Project (MMP) has recorded 589 migrant fatalities in 2018.

In the Horn of Africa, 25 Ethiopian migrants are missing and presumed dead, after being forced into the water off the coast of Yemen on 8 February. They were travelling on one of four boats that brought over 600 Ethiopian men and women to the coast of Yemen’s Shabwa governorate.

On the Myanmar/Bangladesh border, three Rohingya children drowned as they were trying to cross from Mangdaw in Myanmar to Teknaf in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh.

On the US/Mexico border, one young man drowned crossing the Rio Bravo near Reynosa in Tamaulipas, Mexico – bringing to eight the known drownings on the river so far, this year.

Launch of $96.2 Million Appeal to Support Yemenis and Migrants Impacted by Conflict

The IOM has launched an appeal for USD 96.2 million to fund its 2018 response for what is being called ‘one of the worst humanitarian crises in the world’ in Yemen.

Due to a protracted economic crisis, intermittent conflict, and weak rule of law, Yemen was already facing chronic vulnerabilities even prior to the escalation of conflict. The conflict has also displaced some 2 million Yemenis within their own country, according to the Task Force on Population Movement.

Facilitates Release of Refugees from Indonesian Detention Centres

The IOM has facilitated the release of over 500 refugees from immigration detention centres in North Sumatra, Riau, and Riau Island provinces to community housing.

The release of the Afghan, Somali and Sudanese migrants took place recently and was organized in close cooperation with Indonesia’s Immigration Department, local government officials and police.

All of the released migrants had been intercepted and detained by the Indonesian authorities while trying to reach Australia. While in detention they were identified as refugees by UNHCR. This made them eligible for release and housing in the community, where they will await third country resettlement or voluntary return to their home countries when it is deemed safe to do so.

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**INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION**

**THE UNITED NATIONS MIGRATION AGENCY**
CBP Announces First Automated Passport Control System On Board a Ferry Vessel

Ferry transports passengers and cargo between the ports of San Juan, Puerto Rico and Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

Travelers use self-service kiosks to respond to CBP inspection related questions and submit biographic information. APC is a free service, does not require pre-registration or membership, and maintains the highest levels of protection when it comes to the handling of personal data or information.

People scan their passport and submit answers to the customer's declaration in the kiosk. This Information is collected and compiled by the site server and transferred to a secure server on the CBP network for a quick response. A receipt is then printed from the kiosk which the traveller takes to a CBP Officer upon arrival who verifies the document and makes the final approval to allow a traveller into the country.

CBP maintains a strict security protocol for any system that collects or contains personally identifiable information (PII) including meeting all privacy requirements. No information is stored on or shared by the site server/kiosk.

APC kiosks onboard the M/V Kydon are developed by Innovative Travel Solutions, an independent business unit within Vancouver International Airport (YVR). These particular BorderXpress kiosks were configured to meet the immigration needs of CBP for Ferries del Caribe. The ferry navigates between the ports of San Juan, Puerto Rico and Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, transporting passengers, vehicles and cargo, three times a week.

During the announcement, America Cruise Ferries, shared that two of its strategic business units, Marine Express and Priority Ro Ro, became part of the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT) a voluntary public-private sector partnership program which recognizes that CBP can provide the highest level of cargo security only through close cooperation with the principle stakeholders of the international supply chain such as importers, carriers, consolidators, licensed customs brokers, and manufacturers.

When an entity joins CTPAT, an agreement is made to work with CBP to protect the supply chain, identify security gaps, and implement specific security measures and best practices. Applicants must address a broad range of security topics and present security profiles that list action plans to align security throughout the supply chain.
FRONTEX Launching New Operation in Central Med

Frontex, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, is launching a new operation in the Central Mediterranean to assist Italy in border control activities. The new Joint Operation Themis will replace operation Triton, which was launched in 2014. Operation Themis will continue to include search and rescue as a crucial component. At the same time, the new operation will have an enhanced law enforcement focus. Its operational area will span the Central Mediterranean Sea from waters covering flows from Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, Turkey and Albania.

“Operation Themis will better reflect the changing patterns of migration, as well as cross border crime. Frontex will also assist Italy in tracking down criminal activities, such as drug smuggling across the Adriatic,” said Frontex Executive Director Fabrice Leggeri.

The security component of Operation Themis will include collection of intelligence and other steps aimed at detecting foreign fighters and other terrorist threats at the external borders.

Spanish National Police and Guardia Civil join forces with Europol in a hit against Iraqi illegal immigration to the EU

Europol supported seven mixed teams of Spanish National Police (Policía Nacional) and Guardia Civil in a successful strike against Iraqi illegal immigration in which six individuals were arrested in Spain. The criminal organisation transferred Iraqi illegal immigrants from their country into the Schengen Zone.

The investigation began last February when Spanish police officers found six individuals from Iraq inside a refrigerated truck in Teruel (Spain). On the same day and later on in March they located two people concealed in the same conditions in Valencia, alongside eight illegal immigrants in Teruel, who called the emergency services as they feared they were dying from the cold inside the truck.

The network transferred the Iraqi illegal immigrants from Spain to the UK inside refrigerated trucks. The criminals took advantage when the drivers were sleeping to introduce the people inside the vehicles. They were a group composed of six to eight individuals or families with children and they had to stay in the truck for 30 or 40 hours under temperatures that were not higher than 4ºC.

Spanish police officers carried out six house searches in Spain. As a result, a large amount of documents, several electronic devices and EUR 15,000 plus USD 8,000 were confiscated. Five individuals were arrested in Valencia, alongside one in Bilbao. Currently, the suspects are being interrogated while the forensic teams are performing the extractions of the mobile devices.
ILLEGAL MIGRATION IN EASTERN EUROPE AND UKRAINE

Ukraine with more than 1,400 km of border with the European Union, taking into account its geographical location, is traditionally defined as one of the transit migration countries. At the same time with recall on agency statistics and FRONTEX data (annual analysis of threats on the eastern borders of the EU) it is worth to emphasize:

- The migration situation in Ukraine is not threatful. Illegal migration has not become a significant problem (issue) for the Ukrainian state.
- Ukraine is not the main transit route for migrants, who are going to Europe, because of its geographical position.

Across the common Ukrainian–EU border and borders with other Eastern Partnership states, not a big number of migrants reach the European Union.

It means that the so called “eastern” route of illegal migration flaw, which crosses the territory of Ukraine, is not dangerous for Ukraine.

In 2017, Ukraine faced the tendency of a decreasing of number of illegal migrants detained for trying to enter European Union illegally (10 months of 2017 – 553, 9 months of 2016 – 783). Most of the illegal migrants were

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detained on the border with Hungary – in 3.2 times (9 months 2017 – 104, 9 months 2016 – 337), which can be explained by the changes of migration policy – more severe than I was before 2015.

At the same time, there was an increasing of the number of migrants, detained on the border with the Republic of Poland (on 42%, 9 months 2017 – 111, 9 months 2016 – 78), Slovakia (on 39%, 9 months 2017 – 237, 9 months 2016 – 171), and Romania (on 15%, 9 months 2017 – 47, 9 months 2016 – 41).

This was due not only to the changes of migration flaws but also as the consequences of effective enhancement of the border and the fulfillment of joint coordination measures.

Because of the capacity enhancement on the eastern borders the number of apprehended illegal migrants on the border with the Russian Federation, i.e. on the main channels of migrants’ arrival to Ukraine (in 2.5 times, 9 months 2017 – 58, 9 months 2016 – 25).

The main category of illegal migrants, detained at the trial to enter the EU via the territory of Ukraine, were citizens of Vietnam (135), India (89), Turkey (53) and Bangladesh (44).

It should be mentioned that under the certain circumstances the illegal migration flows changed not only in figures, but also in quality.

In 2016, the main category of illegal migrants were citizens of Afghanistan, in 2017 – only 8 Afghans were detained (increasing in 20 times)

Mainly this was the result of effective and efficient counteraction of Ukraine law-enforcement bodies against an organized “Afghan” channel.

Last year the main efforts were concentrated on combating the organizers of a transit “Vietnamese channel”, first of all to Slovakia.

In close cooperation with Slovak colleagues, the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine detained 143 citizens of Vietnam.

On legal channels migrants use:

- a) valid passports and visas, issued on faked invitation of educational establishments and touristic vouchers of not existing firms and offices;
- b) forged and false passports, passports which do not belong to the holders and temporarily residence permissions;
- c) scheme of “transit via the territory of Ukraine” using aviation direction, which foresees change within the transit zone one of Ukrainian place of destination for the flights towards the EU states and usage of new passports (more often forged).

In 2017 the number of cases with usage of forged documents on the border with European Union increased, first of all on the border with Romania, Poland and on the marine sector of border.

More often, the citizens of Turkey (35) and India (14) used forged and false documents.

Besides that also 207 citizens of Ukraine.

The efficient system of advanced warning about potential illegal migrants entering into Ukraine decreases the migration pressure on the EU border (10 months 2017 – 3 648, 10 months 2016 – 2 754)
Improving Border Security

At the same time, we define activation of the usage of legal channels to enter Ukraine by the potential migrants from India (297), Alger (176), Morocco (111), Livia (85), Pakistan (73), and Turkey (71).

Ukraine as a country of migration origin is estimated frequently within the context of searching of illegal opportunities to enter the EU states and very rarely in the context of illegal migration.

In its resume for the last year, FRONTEX counts only 57 cases connected with illegal migration of citizens of Ukraine.

Under the conditions of the visa liberalization regime for Ukraine, the significant incensement of declining entrance to Europe for the citizens of Ukraine did not happen.

True, illegal migration remains the challenge to Ukraine, but to tackle it the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine:

- Implements the operational border protection ROAD MAP with EU-neighboring countries,
- Conducts JOINT CONTROL on the border with Poland (4 BCPs) and Moldova (6 BCPs)
- Enhances a COMPLEX SYSTEM OF STATE BORDER PROTECTION AND CONTROL and reaction capacity
- Organizes JOINT PATROLING with Slovakia, Poland, Hungary, Romania and Moldova
- Opens CONTACT POINTS at the border with Poland (2 CPs), Romania, Hungary and Belarus.

Border Security Report | March/April 2018
CBP & Cayman Islands Partner for Airport Fast Track Pilot Program

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the Government of the Cayman Islands reached an agreement Tuesday to implement a pilot program that will permit screening of passengers traveling from the Miami International Airport (MIA) to the Owen Roberts International Airport (GCM).

“This pilot is an important element to address our international engagements particularly with partners in the Caribbean” stated Todd C. Owen, Executive Assistant Commissioner for the CBP Office of Field Operations.

“With this agreement we can enhance aviation security, detect fraudulent documents and facilitate air travel between the two countries without inhibiting legitimate lawful travelers.”

The program, called the Airport Fast Track (AFT) Pilot, will allow for Grand Cayman immigration and custom officers to screen passengers at the Miami airport, without any law enforcement or other executive authority in the United States. Upon arrival in Grand Cayman, passengers who volunteer to be pre-screened in Miami will be expedited through the arrival process, saving time and making the Cayman entry process simpler.

“It is the first time that the US has entered into such an arrangement with another country and will be the first time that our Customs and Immigration officers will be deployed overseas in such a role. It will introduce a new fast track procedure at the airport and help to improve customer experience at peak weekend times,” stated Premier Hon. Alden McLaughlin.

The AFT is similar to CBP’s Immigration Advisory Program (IAP) implemented at various international airports. The IAP is designed to protect air travel and improve security by sharing techniques and information with partnering host governments.

In screening both foreign visitors and returning U.S. citizens, CBP uses a variety of techniques to intercept narcotics, unreported currency, weapons, prohibited agriculture, and other illicit products, and to assure that global tourism remains safe and strong.

Working Visit by Malaysia Marine Police Force to ASEANAPOL

The ASEANAPOL Secretariat received a working visit by SAC Dato’ Abdul Rahim bin Abdullah, Malaysia Marine Police Force and his entourage. They were warmly welcomed by Executive Director, Police Colonel Keneanch Phommachack, Director for Plans and Programmes, ACP Aidah Othman, Director for Police Services, Supt. Jim WEE and officers of the Secretariat.

During the meeting, Malaysia Marine Police Force (MMPF) shared on their first Trilateral cooperation among MMPF, Singapore Police Coast Guard (SPCG) - Indonesia Marine Police (IMP) towards the maritime security along the South Malacca Straits. The meeting had been fruitful and both parties have agreed on the importance of having mutual collaboration and cooperation amongst members country and future capacity building needs. ASEANAPOL Secretariat also encouraged the sharing of this successful project via e-ADS.

Executive Director further expressed his sincere thanks for the cooperation and continued support given by Malaysia Marine Police Force.
The increasing number of passengers poses particular challenges, primarily meaning having less time for the entire process of person identity verification, document authentication, and efficiently detecting those passengers which should undergo a more thorough check.

Great efforts have been undertaken to facilitate the travel of bona-fide passengers whilst simultaneously maintaining a high level of security; making the border control processes more efficient and secure.

The security issues we are facing in terms of immigration, come in an almost endless variety of forms, from document fraud (fake documents, document swapping, undocumented passengers), impostors, transit abuse, increasing numbers of asylum seekers, smuggling and trafficking in human beings.
To ensure we are in a position to face these security issues we have implemented a range of security developments including:

- **Smart Borders**: Because of the increasing efficiency of these machines the number of Automated Border Control gates or e-gates has steadily been increased. There is an ongoing project to increase the number of e-gates in many Spanish airports, both to enter and to exit the Schengen territory.

- **Technological renewal**: New verifiers, with the latest software, have been put in place in every control booth.

- **The use of the API system (Advanced Passenger Information)** is vital to control all passengers coming from a 3rd country airport entering the Schengen State.

- **The Passenger Name Record (PNR)** is a tool we are also using to identify how many passengers can be sensitive to be victims of smuggling or THB.

- **Visa Information System (VIS)**: A database containing information, including biometrics, on visa applications by Third Country Nationals requiring a visa to enter the Schengen area.

- **Gate checks as a countermeasure**: To prevent cases of transit abuse and also to prevent the destruction of documents in order to arrive undocumented at the border control.

- **Cooperation with airlines companies** to control, in a 3rd country airport, passengers with a certain profile that may want to destroy their passports upon arrival, so nobody arrives undocumented.

- **Cooperation with liaison officers** is also a key factor in terms of document fraud.

New security technologies we are planning to implement for the future are based and in line with EU projects:

- **ABC4EU**: This programme is complimentary to Smart Borders, to develop a database with frequent passengers, and these passengers...
Madrid Barajas Airport operator AENA, has been steadily investing in new security measures at the airport over a number of years.

The CGA (Centro de Gestión Aeroportuario - Airport Coordination and Management Center), located in T4, is the coordination centre for the entire airport.

When it came to selecting a video surveillance system, AENA needed a flexible solution that was capable of integrating all the existing systems while offering sufficient capacity to manage the huge increase in traffic anticipated in the new and existing terminals.

This project therefore represented an enormous challenge considering the huge surface area, the number of buildings to monitor and the amount of programmed equipment involved.

Bosch systems were the chosen solution for the airport, thanks to the large capacity of the 8 Allegiant Matrix Switcher, providing a flexible solution that was capable of integrating all the existing systems while offering sufficient capacity to manage the huge increase in traffic anticipated in the new and existing terminals.

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Spanish information technology company, Indra was awarded the contract to install multi-biometric electronic access kiosks. Indra selected VeriFinger, VeriLook and MegaMatcher from Neurotechnology to be the multi-biometric engines for the airport access-control kiosks.

The solution developed by Indra allows passengers, after being identified in a kiosk, to perform a quick and simple procedure that includes the automatic reading of the electronic document and validation of its authenticity. The passenger is at the same time identified and matched to their document through biometric recognition and verification. Upon completion of this process the traveller is issued an entry permit. Each individual process is supervised by officials of the National Police.

While similar systems have been established in other countries using a single biometric feature, such as the iris, fingerprint or face to verify the passenger identity, the Spanish system performs a more secure dual-biometric test using facial and fingerprint recognition. It is for this multi-biometric verification that Indra chose the Neurotechnology product line.

No prior passenger registration is required to use this system, the biometric information present in the document is sufficient. This is enables the use of the national electronic ID card to enter the Schengen area.

Smith’s Detection won the contract to supply 10 Spanish airports, including Madrid, with more than 120 high-speed X-ray scanners to check hold baggage for explosives and other threat items. The HI-SCAN 10080 EDX-2 which accepts baggage sizes of up to 100 x 80 cm, can screen as many as 1,800 bags per hour. Its dual view feature allows the operator to ‘look around’ objects for rapid and accurate evaluation, sharply cutting re-inspection rates and saving on time and labour costs.
Mexican Federal Police foil 11,500 illegal cargo of diamonds

As part of the surveillance and verification work against different types of contraband at the International Airport of Mexico City, the Federal Police arrested a subject of Spanish nationality, who was carrying an estimated shipment of 11,500 diamonds, of which he could prove his legal provenance.

Staff from the Regional Security Division, attached to the air terminal, when conducting an analysis of the behavior of passengers who were about to board a flight to Colombia, identified some nervousness in the Spanish citizen who was asked to perform a check on his carry-on baggage.

The federal agents detected a double bottom in his backpack where he hid several plastic bags with hundreds of small crystals, and in a body check it was also discovered that he had attached to his body, other bags with more of these precious stones.

Since he did not document the shipment, in addition to not proving his legal provenance, this person was presented before the Public Ministry of the Federation and the immigration authorities, where an estimated 11,500 pieces of what is considered the hardest mineral was counted.

Hundreds of drug seizures made in joint Australian-Dutch operation

Over 270 attempts to import illicit drugs into Australia were foiled after the Australian Border Force (ABF) and the Netherlands Tax and Customs Administration (Dutch Customs) joined forces to target international mail items between the two countries.

During a week of action from 5-11 February, the two agencies coordinated their intervention activities in mail centres to stop attempted importations of illicit drugs and precursors such as MDMA, methamphetamine, cannabis, cocaine and ephedrine.

The ABF devoted additional resources at the International Mail Gateway Facilities in Sydney, Melbourne, Perth and Brisbane to support the activity and together with Dutch Customs carried out over 1000 detailed physical examinations.

The officers detected a range of illicit drugs including methamphetamine, GBL, cocaine and MDMA.

ABF Assistant Commissioner, Strategic Border Command, Kaylene Zakharoff said the operation provided a great opportunity to build on the already strong relationship with the ABF’s Dutch counterparts.

“We work closely with customs and law enforcement agencies around the world, and operations like this allow officers from both nations to share information, resources and expertise,” Assistant Commissioner Zakharoff said.

“Together we have stopped a significant amount of illicit drugs from reaching the Australian community and we thank our Dutch friends for their assistance. We look forward to continuing our longstanding partnership with this key international partner.

“This operation demonstrates the ABF’s commitment to disrupt the international supply of methamphetamine (‘ice’) and chemical precursors to Australia by strengthening international engagement. These substances pose a significant security and health threat to Australia and our region.”

Bert Wiersema, Acting General Director Dutch Customs stressed the importance of international Customs cooperation to combat drug trafficking from and to Europe.

“This cooperation with Australian Border Force is a splendid example of joining forces and intelligence to disrupt this kind of illegal activity,” Wiersema said.

Both ABF and Dutch Customs are committed to undertaking further joint initiatives in the future.
Niger, a country still in the initial phases of development (187/188 UNDP HDI 2016), is located on the southern edge of the Sahara at the center of the West African Sahel region spanning 1,267,000 km², three quarters of which are occupied by the Sahara desert. Niger is affected by surrounding conflicts, periodic episodes of drought and floods, and has faced a massive influx of migrants coming mainly from other ECOWAS countries.

With 5,697 kilometers of borders with Burkina Faso, Mali, Algeria, Libya, Chad, Nigeria and Benin, Niger is the main crossroads for migration and exchange in West and Central Africa, and faces multiple persistent challenges. The main challenge remains the security threat of regular incursions by armed groups, notably along the borders with Nigeria and Mali. These recurring incidents weaken the state and negatively impact the security of populations living at the border. The adverse socio-economic consequences of these incursions make the resilience of these communities uncertain. Instability in neighboring countries also assists in the development of trafficking and smuggling at Nigerien borders.

Thus, the surveillance and security of Niger’s borders are essential in reducing the risk of incursions which can threaten the stability of the State of Niger. Effective border management requires both an optimization of strategies to streamline socio-economic exchanges and the transportation of goods and persons, as well as the development of border zones to combat issues of desertification. In total, supporting communities on both sides of the border is essential for combating the desertification of these zones, which can enable the
mobility of transnational criminal activity.

Over the course of the past few decades, the movement of goods and persons has considerably increased, requiring improved structures for immigration and border management in order to more effectively manage cross-border flows. As a result, States are faced with a common objective: to better facilitate the legitimate movement of persons and goods while maintaining secure borders.

Thus, the Immigration and Border Management unit supports IOM’s global strategy, and implements activities which aim to assist States in reinforcing their structures and procedures in the management of borders and migration; to reduce irregular migration and trafficking of migrants; to reinforce the protection of migrants’ rights; to reinforce international cooperation; and to harmonize national policies and practices both internally and in a regional context.

In Niger, the IOM Immigration and Border Management Unit has been active since 2015 and implementing projects with the aim of reinforcing border management in Niger and the Sahel. Thus, border management projects notably aim to assist the Government of Niger in developing the human, infrastructural, material, and institutional capacities of the National Police and all of the border security forces. Additionally, border communities are regularly assimilated into border management activities in order to facilitate dialogue with the administrative and cultural authorities in Niger, thus increasing their resilience when faced with criminal activities.

Research and Studies

In order to allow for a better understanding of the context, security challenges, economic issues, and movement of communities living near the borders in Niger, IOM engages in research and publishes studies.

Since 2015, the IOM Niger Immigration and Border Management unit has published four studies, first ‘Cartographie et présentation de la gestion des frontières au Niger’, which gave an overview of the security and migration context, with the aim of illuminating the political, regulatory, and institutional framework.

The second study published, ‘Communautés transfrontalières au Sahel – Enjeux économiques et défis sécuritaires’, explored communities’ understanding of and relationships to the border, as its sometimes superficial and occasionally restrictive nature affects their everyday lives, yet provides enriching cultural exchanges and business opportunities.

The third publication, the ‘Etude des flux sur les frontières Niger-Nigéria et Niger-Tchad dans la région de Diffa’, had the goal of observing the nature and the ins and outs of migration flows through Diffa, the crossroads region of the Lake Chad Basin.

Finally, the last study, ‘Border security: Communities’ integration and perception – Diffa and Zinder regions’, has illuminated the perceptions of communities in Diffa and Zinder on border security management, and the security risks
and terrorist threats which affect this part of the Niger basin.

**Trainings**

IOM supports the Government of Niger in developing technical knowledge and reinforcing institutional capacities in a sustainable manner. In addition, the Immigration and Border Management unit promotes and organizes the training of police officers in Niger through the development of training modules, training of trainers, and the organization of trainings for police agents. In Niger a variety of themes are addressed, including migration, border security, infractions at the borders, documentary fraud, smuggling and trafficking of migrants, information technology (including the MIDAS system – see the 'MIDAS System' section below), and the use of topographic maps and GPS.

Since 2015, the IOM Immigration and Border Management has supported the development of five training modules which have been incorporated into the initial training of police officers at the National Police Academy in Niamey. Four agents from the Nigerien border police were trained as trainers by international experts in February 2016, allowing for the subsequent training of other police agents. By the end of 2016, over 130 agents had been trained.

In addition, the work of the border police has been supported through the development of a practical guide on border control procedures, which contains instructional tools to train agents on topics pertaining to national security and respecting the rights of migrants and travelers.

**Construction**

Faced with the challenge of managing Niger’s long and porous borders, IOM also supports the Government of Niger in the sustainable reinforcement of infrastructural capacities. This component aims to reinforce crucial infrastructure in Niger due to its strategic importance in maintaining security at sensitive points along the border. Thus, buildings which are rehabilitated or constructed (such as Police Border Posts) are identified and architectural plans are drawn up jointly with the National Police, with the aim of reinforcing the capacities of the Directorate of Territorial Surveillance (DST) in exercising their mandate.

In 2016, the IOM Immigration and Border Management unit constructed its first Police Border Post in Niger at Kongokiré (Tillabéry region), followed by a second construction at Gaidam (Diffa region), which was inaugurated in May 2017. In order to be entirely and immediately operational, each post was constructed with an administrative building, booths, solar panels, drilling, a generator, and exterior bathrooms.

**Equipment**

IOM supports the Government of Niger in reinforcing material capacities, with a view towards quality and efficacy. IOM thus supports the National Police in performing their functions through the provision of materials such as office and computer equipment, as well as equipment for mobility, communication, and detecting and combating documentary fraud.

Since 2015, the IOM Immigration and Border Management unit has donated six vehicles to the National Police for border patrols in Diffa region, UV lamps (some of which were given to the National Police Academy for training), night vision goggles, metal detectors, GPS units, and satellite phones (allowing for better communication with the populations, and the administrative and customary authorities who also received satellite phones), as well as office and computer supplies to equip the two Police Border Posts which were constructed.

**MIDAS System**

IOM supports the Government of Niger in collecting data and information on migration. Well-designed information management systems can considerably improve the capacity of the State in managing its borders and in forming evidence-based migration policies.

IOM has developed its own information system for border management, called the Migration Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS), which allows for the collection and analysis of information on travelers/migrants. Already used in more than 23 countries around the world, MIDAS collects, processes, stores and analyzes data on travelers in real time, thanks to an extensive network at borders. It permits States to more effectively control
persons entering and exiting their territory, all while providing a solid statistical basis for migration policies. IOM guarantees to Governments complete and exclusive ownership of all data registered with MIDAS.

The MIDAS system was installed by IOM in Niger in 2016 at the central level, within the Directorate of Territorial Surveillance (DST), and at the Kongokiré Police Border Post (Tillabéry region). In 2018, IOM plans to equip 3 other posts with this system. The installation of the system at police posts is accompanied by a MIDAS training for the police agents who will be maintaining and/or using the system on a daily basis.

Regional Cooperation

Regional cooperation promotes and supports the harmonization of policies and strategies on border management in order to support the development and implementation of joint border management strategies in the Sahel. As they are faced with numerous security threats in the Sahel, States must exchange information, coordinate their actions, and share best practices with the objective of improving security in the region. Thus, the governments of the Sahel have on numerous occasions insisted on the creation of a more concrete operational framework for coordination between the directors of border security forces.

Since 2015, the IOM Immigration and Border Management unit has organized regional meetings between Niger and the other countries of West and Central Africa. The central level meetings include regional workshops on border management, meetings of directors in charge of border security, and one meeting focusing on border management coordination in the Lake Chad region. Additionally, meetings have taken place at the local level, notably bilateral meetings between the police of Niger and neighboring countries.

Integrated Border Management

In order to assure free movement of goods and persons, as well as safe migration within the Sahel region, IOM supports the Government of Niger in the necessary establishment of integrated and inclusive border management. Integrated border management requires all relevant authorities to work together in an efficient manner. Thus, IOM assists the Government of Niger in reinforcing operational capacities at key crossing points on the borders, and in improving concerted cooperation on border management between various actors (inter-service, interagency, and international cooperation).

In 2017, the IOM Immigration and Border Management unit supported integrated border management in Niger through the organization of a study visit to Tanzania for the DST and the General Directorate of National Customs in order to exchange best practices, constraints to be respected, criteria to observe and objectives to be attained within the domain of interoperability between services in charge of border management. This study visit allowed the Nigerien delegation to benefit from the example already implemented at the Holili border post in Tanzania.

Humanitarian Border Management

Humanitarian Border Management (HBM) is a notion conceptualized and elaborated by IOM, concerning operations at the border before, during, and after humanitarian crises which precipitate mass migration movements. The objective...
of this concept is to guarantee the protection of vulnerable persons affected by the crisis and the respect of their interests and human rights, all while respecting national sovereignty and security. Humanitarian Border Management takes note of the need to bring appropriate responses in border management during humanitarian crises resulting from a natural or man-made disaster. The objective is to improve preparation and responses in order to protect those who cross borders in emergency situations and guarantee border security.

In 2016 and 2017, the IOM Immigration and Border Management unit organized two regional workshops on Humanitarian Border Management, bringing together for the first time institutional partners from Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Mauritania, and Côte d’Ivoire from the Ministries of Interior, Foreign Affairs, Health, and Humanitarian Action, and for a second time the institutional partners from Niger and Nigeria from the Ministries of the Interior and Humanitarian Action. These workshops provided a forum for international and inter-ministerial exchanges on legal frameworks and current national mechanisms for crisis response. They allowed participants to engage in dialogue on the sustainability of regional emergency coordination structures, and to formulate recommendations for the governments of participating States.

In addition, the IOM Immigration and Border Management unit organized two crisis simulation exercises in 2017. These exercises, based on fictitious scenarios of mass population displacement, aimed to observe the reaction of regional and local authorities in order to identify the capacities of the current crisis management system as well as the areas in need of additional technical and material support. Additionally, the exercises aimed to put the representatives from the Nigerien authorities and state services present in the field in direct contact with the local population, all engaged in the same response to a major crisis. Based on the results of the first exercise, an inter-ministerial group drafted a national contingency plan to be applied in cases of sudden changes at the border in Niger, which was then implemented and tested at the second simulation exercise.

Community Engagement

With the goal of ensuring the free movement of goods and persons, as well as safe migration within the Sahel region, IOM assists the Government of Niger in the establishment of integrated border management, which is crucially supported by community development activities. IOM assists communities living at the borders in Niger in order to encourage the population to collaborate with Nigerien defense and security forces, as well as to improve resilience to violent extremism and prevent desertification. To do this, IOM organizes sensitization campaigns, supports socioeconomic activities in communities with material donations, and provides communication equipment to administrative and traditional authorities.

Since 2015, the IOM Immigration and Border Management unit has organized sensitization campaigns on life at the border and the role of local populations in border security. The unit has also encouraged the resilience of border communities through the provision of economic materials (carts, motorcycle tricycles, grain mills, motorcycle pumps, etc.) and through the implementation of community works (stabilization of dunes). Finally, the Immigration and Border Management unit has put in place community prevention committees in border villages in Diffa and Zinder regions, which relay pertinent information concerning border security, including health and humanitarian concerns, to communal, departmental, and regional authorities.
Primary amongst these is “Border Security”. IMPACS inclusive of its two (2) sub-agencies - the Joint Regional Communications Centre (JRCC) and the Regional Fusion Centre (RIFC) - plays a vital role in providing support to the national security entities and by extension, protecting the security of Region.

The JRCC manages the only multilateral Advanced Passenger Information System (APIS) in the world. Currently the JRCC receives the submission of APIs for eleven CARICOM Member States and by the end of 2018, the Agency will receive and analyse the APIs for the remaining four full CARICOM Member States thanks to the support from the Government of the United States of America and the European Union under the 10th EDF, bringing the total to fifteen states. This is a critical achievement because the analysis which takes place is supported by regional and international watchlists and Third State partners. The result is that the analysis not only supports the receiving countries but it allows macro-level trends to be identified in a timely manner supporting early warning systems for the Region.

For 2017, the Agency received and processed in excess of 64 million crew and passenger movements; resulting in 4,363 Nominal & SLTD...
Hits being identified against the CARICOM Watch List Databases with a number of subsequent arrests and refusals.

Under its mandate to develop the Region’s human resource capacity and to support the current regional mechanisms, the Agency over the period December 2016 to present has conducted training for border security official (immigration and customs) under the theme - “Strengthening CARICOM Capacity to prevent and detect illegal activity at its borders and to enable increased prosecution and higher conviction rates.” Under the aegis of the 10th European Development Fund (10th EDF) and with technical support from the US Customs and Border Protection (CBP), approximately three hundred and sixty (360) officials have received training in areas such as Targeting Air & Sea Passengers and Cargo; Travel Documents Analysis; Imposter Detection and Behavioural Analysis; Human Smuggling & Human Trafficking and Integrity: Ethics and Corruption, to name a few. This training included a train-the-trainer component which supported the Region’s mandate to develop a cadre of border security trainers and, as a result, the Agency utilises this body of trainers to continue some of its border security training. However, it has been recognized that there is a need to take this training a step further, therefore IMPACS is currently negotiating with regional tertiary institutions to not only certify the trainers but to accredit future training courses being offered in the Region. The intent is to ensure that training for CARICOM Border Security is harmonized and that approaches, where possible can be harmonized as the Region is moving towards the seamless free movement of persons, goods and services under the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME).

Under this programme, along with others under the CARICOM Crime and Security Strategy; the CARICOM Counter Terrorism Strategy and the CARICOM Counter Illicit Trafficking Strategy, IMPACS will continue to seek to address the threats of transnational organized crime with respect to illicit activities such as human trafficking, migrant smuggling and trafficking of other commodities such as illegal drugs, guns and ammunition. This will be achieved through better management of our borders and enhancement to existing systems that manage and analyze information to ensure the timely and efficient dissemination of same to all stakeholders and Member States alike.
Border Pass Management System Facilitates Cambodian-Thai Border Crossing

The new system can also register minors (in Cambodia, this is any person under the age of 12) travelling with a legal parent or guardian. Photos and birth certificates are captured and stored in a database, which allows immigration officers at the border to verify the identity of both the adults and the children travelling with them. This offers protection against child trafficking and identity fraud when issuing border passes.

“The system, which was installed in November and now processes on average 1,000 crossings a day, is already demonstrating significant potential to provide Cambodian immigration and provincial authorities with an overview of border pass movements,” said IOM project manager Brett Dickson. “Feedback from frontline immigration officers is also positive, showing that it makes identity checks and processing of border pass travellers easier and faster.”

“We hope MIDAS will help to optimize Cambodian border control posts and border operations for effective border management, and promote orderly cross-border migration,” added IOM Cambodia Chief of Mission Dr. Leul Mekonnen. “It should also help to reduce irregular migration by facilitating and expediting regular movements, ultimately helping to ensure the safer movement of migrant workers and border residents.”

Currently, MIDAS is only installed in Battambang Province on a pilot basis. The Cambodian Government and General Department of Immigration have asked for the system to be scaled up and extended to five other border control posts along the Cambodian-Thai border.
**AGENCY NEWS AND UPDATES**

**Mongolian border force team being trained by BSF**

The Border Security Force (BSF) is giving sniper weapon training to the Mongolian border protection agency GABP.

“A ten-member team, comprising officers from the rank of sergeant to that of lieutenant colonel of Mongolia’s General Authority for Border Protection (GABP), is being trained in the use of sniper weapons,” said inspector general B K Mehta of the BSF’s Central School of Weapons and Tactics here.

**Indian police arrest most-wanted terrorist from Nepal border**

Indian police claimed to have arrested one of its most-wanted terrorists who carried a reward of 20,000 U.S. dollars on his head.

Officials said that Aariz Khan, alias Junaid, a member of home-grown terror outfit Indian Mujahideen, was nabbed by a special team of Delhi Police from the India-Nepal border.

“It’s a big catch as Khan had been absconding since 2008,” P.S. Kushwaha, deputy commissioner of Delhi Police, told the media.

The program was carried out under the nationwide campaign dubbed “A nation without violators.”

According to an announcement from the Public Security Division in the Kingdom, those arrested included 382,921 who did not have valid residence permits (Iqama), 127,566 without valid work permits, and 52,204 people who had violated the border security system.

**62,961 expats arrested for violating Saudi labor, residency and border security laws**

A total of 562,691 expatriates have been arrested since November last year for violating the labor, residency and border security regulations of the country.

**UAE border police catch 22 people hiding inside concrete mixer**

Border authorities have captured 22 people who tried to enter the United
Arab Emirates hiding inside a concrete mixer loaded on a truck, the country’s WAM news agency reported.

The agency said that the Federal Customs Authority in the Emirate of Sharjah were able to stop the people smugglers at the customs center of the border shipping.

Capturing the illegal migrants reportedly took place in February, after the truck was inspected by the thermal and X-ray images as part of routine inspections at the border.

The border protection fence is the guarantee of Hungary’s security, and a symbol of the fight against illegal immigration, the Parliamentary State Secretary at the Cabinet Office of the Prime Minister said at a press conference held on Monday at the Tompa border crossing station.

Csaba Dömötör stressed that the fence is also a symbol of the fact that it is possible to defend our communities and our culture.

He highlighted that the Hungarian people had stated their opinion on immigration on several occasions in the past few years. Their will points in a single direction: they want strong border protection.

The “Qushtegirmon” border crossing point reopened in the Spitamen district (Sughd province) several days ago but official media outlets have not reported about that.

Recall, the “Patar” border crossing point reopened in the Konibodom district (Sughd province) on February 10.

The MEPs are to visit the region of the Kapitan Andreevo border checkpoint, where Frontex supports national authorities in carrying out border checks and gathering intelligence, the European Parliament said.

During the visit the committee members will meet, among others, Interior Minister Valentin Radev, representatives of the Border Police, international organisations as well as NGOs.

Addressing the meeting, Bulgarian Interior Minister Radev said: “We rely on the agency to strengthen the capacities for protecting the EU’s external borders.

“Border security is one of the most important issues for the Union and for European citizens.”

Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship Dimitris Avramopoulos and Fatmir Xhafaj, Minister of Interior of the Republic of Albania, initialled the draft status agreement for operational cooperation between the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and Albania.

Once in force, the agreement will allow the Agency to provide assistance in the field of external border management and will enable European Border and Coast Guard Agency teams to be swiftly deployed on Albanian territory in case of a sudden shift in migratory flows.
Canada to launch new border security app that could go global

The federal government is embarking on a new pilot program that will allow people to cross borders faster if they create a digital profile filled with their personal information on their mobile devices.

The Known Traveller Digital Identity is a joint venture between the governments of Canada and the Netherlands, and will be tested first on travellers going between those countries. The plan is to have it ready for a wider global rollout by 2020.

According to the World Economic Forum document outlining the program, international traveller arrivals are expected to jump from 1.2 billion in 2016 to 1.8 billion by 2030. This will increase risk and security requirements for the aviation and travel and tourism sectors.

Much like other trusted-traveller programs, the Known Traveller Digital Identity program will ask travellers for detailed personal information for pre-screening, including university education, bank statements and vaccination records.

Sudan, S. Sudan resume cross-border trade after 7 years

Sudanese Trade Minister Hatem al-Sar on Wednesday announced the resumption of cross-border commercial traffic with South Sudan following a seven-year hiatus.

According to local media reports, the two countries have now resumed full border services in Sudan’s White Nile Province and South Sudan’s Upper Nile region.

Al-Sar told reporters in Khartoum that the decision to reopen the border to commercial traffic had been ordered directly by President Omar al-Bashir.

“The resumption of legal cross-border commerce will strike a blow against smuggling,” the trade minister said, adding that Sudan was “open to dialogue with all its neighbors”.

Cross-border trade had remained suspended since South Sudan declared independence from its northern neighbor following a popular referendum in 2011.

Department of Homeland Security

The $2.2 billion request also includes $182 million for surveillance technology, such as towers, radars, cameras and sensors to give the Border Patrol situational awareness in high-risk areas, as well as $149 million for critical equipment and facility needs, such as Border Patrol stations, vehicles and radios.

HS budget includes funds for wall, cyber and border tech

President Donald Trump’s fiscal year 2019 budget would give the Department of Homeland Security significant money for technology to support a border wall, maintain the ongoing Einstein and Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation cybersecurity programs and support a key online immigration data portal.

In addition to the almost $18 billion to construct a border wall, the president wants $2.2 billion for high-priority investments in border security technology, infrastructure and equipment to help Customs and Border Protection prevent, detect and interdict illegal border crossings.

CLU Wins Suit Over Individuals’ Right to Protest and Monitor Border Patrol Checkpoint Operations

the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals issued an opinion siding with ACLU clients in a case involving the First Amendment right to protest and monitor law enforcement activities in public. After plaintiffs Peter Ragan and Leesa Jacobson encountered harassment and retaliation from Border Patrol agents while attempting to monitor a checkpoint in rural Arizona, the ACLU of Arizona, ACLU of San Diego & Imperial Counties, and Covington & Burling, LLC filed suit.
November 2017: Estonian and Finnish intelligence services have received information that illegal transport of radioactive materials is underway via the Baltic countries. The final destination of these sources is unknown but there are reasons to believe that Finland may be the intended target for further illicit trafficking. The information alerts hint that international terrorist group has declared its malicious intentions to use these materials in an attack against the EU Member States.

This scenario – fortunately just an exercise – possess a real challenge across the country borders to fight against nuclear terrorism.

**Cross Border Reachback Demonstration**

Estonian and Finnish authorities decided to cooperate and stop the attempted illicit trafficking in Tallinn. It was agreed that Finland sends to Estonia a multi-disciplinary expert support team consisting of authorities and radiation detection experts from the private sector. As known, there is a consensus at the European and international level that one of the most efficient ways to enhance the national capability is to collaborate with others. This demonstration shows that two EU Member States can carry out a joint field operation in nuclear security with advanced expert support across the country borders. This kind of demonstration between two States, with the given scope, technology and expert support, has not been undertaken before. This was a unique opportunity to learn.
Aims and Objectives

This action was aimed at enhancing the awareness and understanding on the level of operative and technological readiness we have at hand to address the contemporary nuclear security threats efficiently at local, national, regional and international levels. Information sharing during a nuclear security event or emergency is of vital importance to ensure an appropriate and timely response by the authorities.

The demonstration was focused on a search operation of radioactive material with emphasis on timely alarm adjudication. The motivation to organize this demonstration was three-fold:

1. Awareness raising on the importance of real time expert support
2. Promotion of the development of regional cooperation
3. Demonstration how the existing technology can meet the above demands

Roles and Responsibilities

The Societal Security Solutions Ltd, contracted by the Ministry of the Interior of Finland, organized this demonstration in collaboration with the Estonian Rescue Board. The operation took place simultaneously at two reachback centers. The Finnish Radiation and Safety Authority (STUK) was on duty at their facilities in Helsinki, Finland. While HT Nuclear Ltd provided the scientific support to the local reachback centre in Tallinn which was established in the premises of the Estonian Rescue Board, who hosted the demonstration and lead the search operation of radioactive material out of regulatory control.

Environics Ltd built the reachback infrastructure locally and provided the radiation monitoring equipment to the field team.

The Estonian and Finnish observers of the demonstration included persons from security, law enforcement and rescue operations.

Operative Concept

This demonstration provides a firm enough basis for the development of a new operative concept for the provision of assistance and for receiving assistance in a given threat situation.

Further relevance and timeliness are underlined in the new national Finnish CBRNE Strategy as well as in EC Action Plan that has recently been published on CBRNE security risks. Also, one of the three focus areas of the European Commission Joint Research Centre ERNCIP RN Thematic group is the expert support of field teams.

The Finnish-Estonian demonstration contributes to the implementation of these action plans by enlightening the importance of bilateral, regional and international cooperation across the borders to fight nuclear terrorism.

For the demonstration, an illicit trafficking scenario involving radioactive substances was developed. Both countries, Estonia and Finland were engaged to address the given situation. According to the scenario, the Estonian authorities launched a search operation to detect the substances in Tallinn with assistance and support from Finland. A local reachback centre was established in the premises of the Estonian Rescue Board, where also
the command center was located. The Finnish Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority (STUK) was in readiness to provide assistance in the form of expert support should there arise a need for that during the search operation.

**Action**

As per scenario, an information alert was received that radioactive materials are stored in a warehouse in Tallinn and there were reasons to believe that the sources would be transferred to Finland.

A large-scale search operation was launched. All traffic in the Tallinn harbor was monitored by relocatable portal monitors and several search teams were formed to work under the Estonian Command Center (CC).

The demonstration itself followed in detail the operation from the point of view of one search team. The CC/reachback center could follow the movement of the patrol in real time and discuss the relevance of its findings.

At the early stages of the demonstration the search team was involved with the radioactive threat situation. The first alarm was quickly confirmed by the operator and reachback centre as Co-60. In addition, the experts concluded from the spectral data that only trace amounts of Co-60 is present and it causes no threat to the population, nor to the environment. The patrol was instructed to mark the site for a rescue team which was tasked to take control of the source and transport it to a safe and secure place.

After further instructions from the command center the team moved forward in the predefined direction and soon got new indication of radioactive material nearby. This time it seemed to be a situation with multiple radiation sources.

The automated software of the backback identified immediately the radionuclides Co-60 and Am-241 near the vehicle parked at site. The alarm was also confirmed by the local reachback center in Tallinn. However, the spectra seemed to contain signatures from other materials which looks like Cs-137. Without clear identification of this complex situation, the Estonian command center decided to ask a second opinion from STUK in Helsinki.

After consultation, the experts from Estonia and Finland both confirmed that Cs-137 material is also involved in this situation. Additionally, STUK concluded that Co-60 is an unshielded small source and so is Cs-137. Furthermore, STUK informed that Am-241 cannot be a very large source. In brief, STUK summarized that the sources are no threat to the population, nor to the environment.

Command center at RB EOD Centre concluded that the information received from STUK is vital and contributes to the balanced response.

At this stage, the demonstration process came to an end, and the field team was asked to come to the operations centre for immediate wrap-up.

The local reachback centre was successful in its analysis of the given radiation situation. The sources were detected and correctly identified and located. Source characterization is not a simple task, requires much experience, and advanced analysis tools. In this work, the scientific help from the experts was of vital importance for correct response which shall be in balance – not
underestimating the threat, nor an overreaction with unjustified countermeasures.

An opportunity was taken to offer to the participants a demonstration of some additional capabilities that are essential in responding to evolving security events. As the demonstration was carried out with very small gamma emitters that cannot cause any hazard in any circumstances, some of the features were not possible to demonstrate in the field. The RanidPro200 backpacks from Environics used for the demonstration had an integrated spectrometric radiation source locator (RanidSOLO) installed and ready to use. A decision was made to demonstrate the source localization capability inside the Rescue Board facilities. 370 kBq Cs-137 source was used to demonstrate this capability by simply placing the source one meter away from the detector. The user interface of the backpack quickly pointed the correct direction of the source.

Conclusion

After the demonstrations there were active joint discussion with the participants. Questions, such as the legal and procedural actions including data security were elaborated. The demonstration included sending security related information to another country, which is not a simple matter. Technical, scientific and operational cross-border cooperation, involving sharing sensitive information, is only possible if this is agreed in advance at high political level in both States, and secure means for information transfer have been adopted.

As a concluding remark, the capabilities were demonstrated to assist another State in a nuclear security event. The Finnish-Estonian joint action represents the first fully real-time demonstration of the centralized alarm adjudication and reachback concept at the European and international level. It was demonstrated in an operative environment, how real-time cross-border collaboration between two countries of European Union can be efficiently facilitated by the use of existing technology.

The management activities associated with the radiation incident, looking from the technological and expert service point of view, were well carried out. However, the demonstration understandably did not cover all aspects relevant to administering a complex task in a given evolving situation, due to limited scope and allocated time.

Further point to discuss would be the radiation source localization, which has been a missing functionality in the field operations. This demonstration also proves that locating the source accurately and timely is already possible. When the source is located and its activity is calculated, it is possible to decide upon the next operational steps, which are in balance relative to the threat.
THE MOST ENGAGING DISCUSSIONS IN BORDER MANAGEMENT

World Border Security Congress
Congress Programme opens in Madrid, Spain on 20th March for 3 days of great discussions, meetings, workshops and networking for the global border security experts.

As the international border security community gathers from 20th-22nd March the opportunity to discuss the latest issues, challenges and solutions facing the industry will see over 50 countries, currently pre-registered, meet to share knowledge and experiences to enhance collaboration and co-operation in international border management.

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 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!

Supported by the Spanish Ministry of Interior, National Police and Guardia Civil, support is also delivered by the Organisation for Security & Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the European Association of Airport and Seaport Police (EAASP), the African Union Economic, Social and Cultural Council (AU-ECOSOCC), 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.

ENHANCING BORDER SECURITY THROUGH CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE

2018 Congress Topics include:

- Identifying and understanding the latest and evolving threats and challenges for border agencies
- Coordinating Coastal and Maritime Border Surveillance
- Counter-Strategies for Human and Drug Trafficking
- Implementation of Advance Passenger Information
- Big Data and how to use it at the border
- Surveillance Systems and Technologies on the Border
- Future trends in International Border Management
Site Visit

Courtesy of the Spanish Police Nacional, the World Border Security Congress 2018 site visit will be to the Madrid Barajas International Airport, offering the opportunity to view Spain's Smarter Borders Project with the latest technologies and systems installed at the country's busiest airport.

The site visit will take place on Tuesday 20th March and with high demand and limited places, early booking is recommended.

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.

With conference presentations will be conducted in English with Spanish and French simultaneous translation services, this year's Congress is set to be the biggest gathering of border agencies and agencies at the border.

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

Further details on AU-ECOSOCC can be found at Further details can also be found at http://auecosocc-ng.org/world-border-congress.html
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? Chair: Spanish Ministry of Interior

Leading Line Up of International Expert include:
• Mike Stepney, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Border Force UK
• Jesus Gomez, Chief Commissioner, Madrid Barajas Airport and Police HQ, Spanish National Police
• Abdulnasser Segayer, Head of Libyan Border Guards
• Ian Waterfield, Director of Operations, UK Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority
• Nuria Fermoso, Regional Manager Passenger Experience & Facilitation Europe, IATA
• Dr. Tunji Asaolu, Chairperson, Social Affairs and Health Cluster Committee of the African Union-Economic, Social and Cultural Council
• Major Michael Jones, Chief Operations Officer and Acting Executive Director, IMPACS Joint Regional Communications Centre (JRCC)
• Antonio Doblas Jimenez, Lieutenant Colonel Head of the National Coordination Centre-EUROSUR Spain
• Gregor Pelzl, Head of Co-ordination Office for Migration and PNR, German Federal Police
• Bjorn Clarberg, Team Leader, Border Management & Migration Team, EUBAM Libya
• Rasa Ostrauskaite, Director, Transnational Threats Department, OSCE
• Myria Vassiliadou, EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator, European Commission
• Florian Forster, Head, Immigration and Border Management (IBM), Department of Migration Management (DMM), International Organization for Migration
• BG Col. Sławomir Markowski, Head of Unit for Border Infrastructure and Information, Border Management Department, Polish Border Guard HQ
• Babatunde Olomu, Assistant Comptroller of customs, Nigeria Customs Service
• James Shaw, Senior Legal Officer, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI)
• Justice Amevor, Assistant Commissioner Immigration, Ghana Immigration
• Jim Nye, Alliance Operations Commander, Devon & Cornwall Police, UK
• Lasma Stabina, National Anti-Trafficking Coordinator, Ministry of the Interior, Latvia
• James Douglass IPM, Ports Protective Security Lead, National Counter Terrorism Policing HQ, UK & Chairman European Association of Airport & Seaport Police
everis presents new ABC (Automated Border Control) solution as part of its Smart Borders service catalogue

This product was designed to simultaneously gather biometric and documentary data in order to ensure their veracity. It comprises a password and national eID reader, as well as a system for live facial image collection, which captures the passenger’s face and introduces it in the biometric verification system right away. Depending on the requirements, the gates also allow to integrate a fingerprint reader. All these features make it possible to quickly and safely verify the identity of individuals and the authenticity of their documents in areas with high public traffic.

everis’ new ABC solution is based on the use of compact gates that require little space, thus increasing the amount of units that can be deployed in the same area, and reducing installation times. Their modular and stackable configuration allows rapid expansion, and their transparent design makes it easier to visually monitor both the passenger’s and the officer’s premises at all times.

This product has already been approved by the National Police Forces of Spain within a framework contract with AENA. This way they acknowledge the compliance of the gates with all necessary security requirements and endorse their suitability for border control purposes.

The new ABC gates are included in the catalogue of the Identity area, which is part of the Security department. The Identity area at everis Aerospace, Defense and Security designs and implements projects for clients in the public and private sectors by integrating technological capabilities in biometric identity systems, document issuance and verification, identity fraud control, or digital signature.

SITA presents new ABC (Automated Border Control) solution as part of its Smart Borders service catalogue

Rapid Deployment for Secure Borders

With the PNR Directive coming into effect this year, the demands on governments and carriers to provide and process passenger data is increasing dramatically. SITA, a global provider of border security and IT solutions to governments, airlines and airports, has designed some robust solutions to fulfil these demands and deliver a secure border experience for all.

SITA’s iBorders® FastStart is the world’s first all-in-one passenger screening system, capable of being implemented to protect any country in just 12 weeks. It provides a single view of all intelligence in real-time and beyond borders; seamless access to air transport industry carrier feeds; a customisable solution for government’s changing needs and compliancy with international legislation (including EU) and all government agency requirements.

FastStart’s advanced design automatically identifies persons of interest, whether known or unknown, in real-time and facilitates vital information sharing between agencies, allowing for faster clearance of low-risk travellers.

With airlines processing passenger data in many ways, and different governments requiring API and PNR data in different formats and with different timings, the
complexity of sending and receiving passenger data is increasing dramatically. SITA’s iBorders® GovernmentGateway resolves this complexity for both carriers and governments and improves and monitors the quality of the data transmitted.

High quality data feeds automate risk assessments beyond borders, allows real-time vetting for every passenger and crew member and accesses a single window view for all data; plus generates reports on carrier data quality.

This real-time access to all intelligence turns unreadable multiple data formats into one uniform readable format, normalises, correlates and stores all data and identifies unknown linkages between passengers.

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Horowitz, president and chief executive officer of Elbit Systems of America. “America’s Border Patrol agents rely on our operationally proven solutions for greater situational awareness and enhanced safety.”

As the system integrator, Elbit Systems of America furnishes the sensor towers with radar, day/night cameras, and command and control software that combines data into a single operating picture. Information from all the towers is networked into Border Patrol Station command and control centers, which increases situational awareness for Border Patrol Agents. IFT has proven to be a reliable system and provides CBP with 24/7 surveillance coverage. The system also provides CBP with a platform to integrate existing and future sensors to further improve border protection and agent safety.

On the path to system acceptance, significant milestones must occur. Several months of construction, integration, test activity, and system verification ensure each IFT meets performance requirements. Each system must detect, track, identify, and classify border activity. Elbit Systems of America continues to meet customer performance and schedule requirements, as well as adhering to cost goals for this program.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection Accepted Elbit Systems of America’s Third Successfully Deployed Border Security System

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) accepted the latest Integrated Fixed Tower (IFT) border security system deployed by Elbit Systems of America, LLC. This IFT system, located in the Sonora, Arizona, Area of Responsibility (AoR), marks the company’s third successful deployment of the system. Other previous deployments of IFT accepted by CBP were for the Douglas and Nogales, Arizona AoRs.

“U.S. Customs and Border Protection with trusted border security capabilities,” said Raanan Horowitz, president and chief executive officer of Elbit Systems of America. “America’s Border Patrol agents rely on our operationally proven solutions for greater situational awareness and enhanced safety.”

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Meteksan Defence to deliver Retinar PTR Perimeter Surveillance Radar for border protection application to a foreign customer

Turkish manufacturer Meteksan Defence won the contract with an undisclosed foreign customer after a competitive tender process and the system will be delivered between March and May this year.

Retinar PTR is a high resolution advanced technology ground and perimeter surveillance radar system optimized for human detection and recognition.

With its small size and light weight, Retinar PTR is the man-portable model of Meteksan Defence’s Retinar Perimeter Surveillance Radar Family. The high-technology radar system is developed for surveillance operations.
such as perimeter security of critical facilities, border security, and agile surveillance carried by patrolling mobile personnel.

Retinar PTR can be carried by two personnel in its special backpacks and can be used mobile on tripod with its batteries. It also generates the doppler signature of the target and provides classification information whether it’s vehicle, human or animal with micro-doppler spectrogram analysis.

Retinar PTR has been made ready for operation after extensive tests made in the field. It had been also tested by the customer in different areas and weather conditions during the tender process which the radar performed fully successful during all tests.

“Princeton Identity and the Dubai International Airport share a goal of simplifying and speeding access to keep people and business moving, and the Access500e deployment at the DXB marks a new standard in passenger security,” said Mark Clifton, chief executive officer at Princeton Identity. “Iris recognition is most reliable form of biometric identification, and the Access500e turns what used to be a slow process for travelers into a convenient, quick and more secure experience.”

Access500e is a fast, high quality face and iris biometric capture device designed for integration into a variety of application solutions. At DBX, it is integrated into a new Smart Gate, commonly referred to as the “Eyen” gate system, which captures biometric signatures—eliminating the need for visitors to check in with a customs agent, and saving time for passengers as well as airport staff. This helps ensure verification of all travelers entering and leaving the country, seamlessly and efficiently. Princeton Identity partnered with the tech company Emaratech in fostering the implementation of Access500e into the terminals at DBX.

“DXB has always set a high bar in terms of innovative and future-forward experiences and we applaud the leadership team’s decision to tap the power of iris recognition to further enhance both traveler satisfaction and security,” added Clifton.

Princeton Identity has announced the deployment of its Access500e™ identity management kiosk module within the Dubai International Airport (DXB)

The Princeton Identity solution identifies DXB travelers within one to two seconds, reducing time spent in security lines and enhancing the overall travel experience.

The Emirates Airlines terminals are the largest terminals within one of the world’s busiest passenger airports. Dubai saw nearly 14.9 million international visitors in 2016, and is expected to surpass 20 million visitors by 2020. There are currently about 100 Access500e products in operation across DXB’s Emirates Airlines terminals, with plans to deploy about 40 more in the near future in order to support the influx of new international tourists.
Border Security and Digital Intelligence

Border control officials share two basic goals: secure their borders and protect their citizens.

An increasingly imposing obstacle to these goals has been criminals exploiting the Internet and mobile devices to commit terrorist activities, facilitate human and drug trafficking, import counterfeit or unsafe goods, etc.

According to a recent report by PWC, the techno-ingenious of these criminals has transformed border crime into something much more sophisticated with border security adopting technology solutions such as “surveillance drones and data-led predictive patrolling.”

It is clear that border security teams need innovative digital solutions to enable them to collect data from multiple and traditional sources, screen against watchlists as well as verifying identities, monitoring and surveillance. However, the path is covered with digital challenges including encrypted devices and language translation impede data review; identity fraud requires deeper examination and analysis at points of entry, field offices or HQ and the need to store and share actionable information between entry points, field offices, HQ and other agencies to improve situational awareness.

To help border security teams answer these challenges, Cellebrite provides end-to-end digital solutions to action information retrieved from mobile devices and open source data at the point of engagement; enable agents to immediately extract mobile and public domain cloud data and analyze both together; conduct deeper examinations to substantiate threats or concerns, when further vetting is required and correlate device data with intel information already available to improve screening and profiling.
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.

ONLINE REGISTRATION OPEN
For further details and to register online: www.world-border-congress.com/registration

Join us in Madrid, Spain on 20th-22nd March 2018 for the next gathering of border and migration management professionals.

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...for the international border management and security industry

Speakers include:
• Mike Stepney, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Border Force UK
• Jesus Gomez, Chief Commissioner, Madrid Barajas Airport and Police HQ, Spanish National Police
• Abdulnasser Segayer, Head of Libyan Border Guards
• Ian Waterfield, Director of Operations, UK Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority
• Nuria Fermoso, Regional Manager Passenger Experience & Facilitation Europe, IATA
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• Gregor Pelzl, Head of Coordination Office for Migration and PNR, German Federal Police

For full speaker list visit www.world-border-congress.com

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