

BORDER SECURITY REPORT

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

COVER STORY

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Drones, borders and drugs

US Homeland Security Secretary, Kirstjen Nielsen recently took a trip to the U.S.-Canada border to learn about the threat drones pose to border security, especially how drones are used to smuggle drugs across the border.

It's not surprising that the threat is being taken seriously at the highest level because drones are a real game changer in the world of cross border smuggling and drug trafficking in particular.

A quick search on google and you can find a long-range cargo drone for less than \$3,000, that is capable of carrying two kilograms of drugs up to 20 miles. With a street price of heroin at approximately \$100,000 per kilo, it makes the drone a disposable item.

So just taking the capabilities of that one drone, it means that you would have to extend the control or patrol zone around the border, up to 20 miles on either side. That means for the US Canada border 5,525 miles, a control zone of 110,500 square miles. And of course, that's just for that one drone, there are plenty of others out there with ever increasing capability.

To police a control zone that big simply isn't possible which makes the only feasible option some sort of technical solution to stop drones as they attempt to cross the border.

The last few years have seen a proliferation of anti-drone systems using a variety of technologies but to date they are mostly for localised deployments, not extended borders. This issue needs a solution and quick!

Tony Kingham
Editor

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Ghana Immigration Service Unveils Strategic Action Plans

The Ghana Immigration Service (GIS) has launched a five-year Strategic Plan (2018- 2022) to position the Service to deliver effectively on its mandate in migration management in the country.

The development of the Plan had financial assistance from the EU and ECOWAS and facilitated by International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD).

The Plan operates around six thematic areas including; human resource development; strengthening laws and policies for effective migration management; enhancing both internal and external stakeholder engagements.

Other areas are making ICT services compliant in all its work processes by developing ICT Infrastructure and acquiring information security management certifications (ISO 9001 & ISO 27001); providing state-of-the-art equipment and infrastructure, including staff accommodation, training centres and new Headquarters to enhance the services of the GIS.

Mr Kwame Asuah Takyi, Comptroller-General of GIS, said the plan identified key challenges from the implementation of the previous plan (2011-2015), conducted a SWOT analysis of the Service, factors in emerging issues and the changing dynamics within the GIS work environment.

'It also proposes interventions that will position the GIS to deliver effectively on its mandate in migration management,' he said, adding that the plan is aligned to the National Migration Policy for Ghana and the Medium-Term National Development Policy Framework (MTNDPF) - An Agenda for Jobs; creating prosperity and equal opportunity for all (2018-2021).

The Strategic Plan, he said, was estimated to cost the Service 473.5 million of which equipment and infrastructure accounted for about 83 per cent of the total cost.

Mr Takyi said the success of the Plan would depend largely on the timely availability of funds to implement it and called on all stakeholders to come on board to ensure its successful implementation.

He expressed his gratitude to the partners for their support and the planning committee, GIS Council and

Management for their dedication.

In a speech read on his behalf by Mr Henry Quartey, Deputy Minister of the Interior, Mr Ambrose Dery, Minister of the Interior said: 'Historically, Ghana has played host to many non-nationals mainly from other African countries to facilitate their development efforts during the early post-colonial era'.

He said: 'The trend continued as Ghana, in addition to the promotion of pan-Africanism, enjoyed relative economic prosperity soon after independence. Over the years, immigrants into this country, particularly those from the West African sub-region, easily merge with the nationals and join the internal mobility of workers.

'The nation cannot therefore sit aloof with no proactive measures instituted to ensure orderly and safe migration that will be of benefit to the country of origin and the country of destination,' he added.

Mr Dery said the GIS, as the first line of defence to the country, had over the period not relented on its efforts in ensuring safe and orderly migration for national development though with inadequate resources.

'I know and certainly appreciate the personal sacrifices that you and your families have made to protect Ghana's frontiers and for that we remain extremely grateful. We will therefore ensure as a government that the Service gets its fair share of the national cake in terms of resources to make you more effective and efficient as the guardians of the Nation's borders.

'I can attest to the fact that this is a Plan of wide stakeholder consultation with meaningful inputs from all stakeholders, thereby ensuring the buy-in of all for effective coordination and implementation of all the activities outlined in the Plan. I know there is no limit to what an organisation can achieve, where there is unity of purpose,' he added.

He said a Strategic Plan presented a change and modernisation agenda for an organisation in all its functional areas and that called for attitudinal and cultural change and a persistent focus on delivering priorities from the rank and file of the Service to ensure success in the implementation of the Plan.

RETURNING JIHADISTS AND EUROPE'S FRONTIERS

Tony Kingham looks at the challenges and problems of foreign fighters returning from the Middle East to Europe.

Manuel Navarrete, head of Europol's Counter Terrorism Centre, estimates that of the 5,000 Europeans (mostly from Britain, France, Germany and Belgium) who joined the Islamic State, 1,500 have now returned to their home nations.

Hundreds of these returning jihadists from the so-called 'Caliphate' are

believed to already be behind bars across Europe.

But behind bars or not these individuals still pose a huge security threat.

Of course, it is better to have them behind bars but that does not solve the problem. Prisons that are short of space and resources are notorious as



radicalisation hubs for new recruits and training grounds for would-be terrorists.

Look at the recent case of Benjamin Herman a white, middle class, Catholic teenager who became an avowed Moslem and jihadist whilst mixing with jihadist whilst in prison for petty crime. In Liege, only a few months after leaving prison went on to kill three people and wounded more whilst shouting “Allah Akbar”.

But, at least in prison we know where they are, and have the opportunity to address the problem directly, whether that’s through de-radicalisation or permanent incarceration.

However, if Mr Navarrete calculations are correct, that leaves around 3,500 European jihadists unaccounted for.

Now hopefully, many these will have fulfilled their wish to die fighting for the Caliphate, but we can’t be sure how many.

Some are, as we know in jail in Kurdish controlled Syria and Iraq and elsewhere in the region and thankfully their chances of release are slim. Some may have travelled to places like Malaysia or the Philippines and some are said to be laying low in places like Turkey.

But whichever way you look at it, there are likely to be hundreds of former fighters unaccounted for looking to make their way back home to Europe, whether that is to try to resume some sort of normal life or to carry on the fight. Even the ones that have headed elsewhere pose a potential threat for years to come, not just for their host

country but for Europe as well.

Then of course you have to add to this calculation those fighters who are not Europe citizens that are and will try to infiltrate Europe posing as refugees with the express aim of carrying out terrorist atrocities.

So, what can be done to stop them. Well toughening up the borders is really the only answer and despite a reluctance at the European Commission level to impose stricter controls for political and ideological reasons, circumstances have overtaken the EU with individual member states putting up fences and imposing stricter border control unilaterally.

Now the EC is really in a game of catch up. Which means instead of leaving those European states that are neighbouring failing states, to deal with the problem themselves, but instead starting to take on the responsibility of Europe’s external borders centrally and provide the funds, personnel and equipment necessary to do the job properly.

To be fair that has already started with Frontex staff being deployed in Southern Europe and Mediterranean and the purchase of additional assets such as patrol boats, aircraft and even drones that are likely to be purchased.

But in every crisis, there is an opportunity.

There has been an historic reluctance for some member states to sanction any sort of European agency or force that could be conceived as federal.

Well, with the imminent departure of the United Kingdom from the EU, the biggest stumbling block to that has been removed.

It has long been the ambition of the EU to develop a European Army or defence force. But for lots of good reasons, not just the British but other European nations, with their own unique histories and international perspectives have been reluctant to hand defence of the state to an outside body. After all, is not the defence of the state every governments first duty.

But, I would say that in the case of the EU’s external borders, the argument for a fully functioning European border agency with all the necessary structure, legal powers, personnel and equipment to take on the job is not only desirable, but necessary.

The logic is simple. With free movement of people within the EU being one of the principle rights and freedoms, it is in every member States interest for the external borders of the EU to be properly managed and policed.

It is also therefore logical that all member States contribute financially and materially to that border management.

This became evident at the beginning of the migrant crisis in 2015 when countries like Italy and Greece in particular, faced a huge wave of migration at a time when they themselves were still in the middle of their own financial crisis.

The rest of Europe and Britain in most vocally, maintained that responsibility for borders was a national issue and that “under the Dublin regulation”, refugees should seek asylum in the country that was their first point of entry into the EU. So, despite appeals for help from the Southern European States, very little help was forthcoming.

As the crisis escalated, the authorities in Balkan States

too were overwhelmed and as a result millions of refugees (and terrorists) made their way into and across Europe.

The handling of this crisis was Europe’s biggest failure since its formation. The consequences of which Europeans will live with us for generations.

To be fair, at the time the only organisations capable of handling the crisis were the national armed forces of individual member States, over which the EU had no jurisdiction.

Therein is the problem and the solution. The EU should grasp this issue and instead of playing catch up, take the lead in this issue.

Europe needs Frontex to be effective and Frontex needs it to have the tools and systems to do the job of protecting the EU’s external borders. It’s too late to stop hundreds jihadis that are already here and the many that are probably already on their way.

But it is not too late to start preparing for the next crisis, whatever and whenever that is!

Frontex strengthens surveillance in Croatia



Frontex surveillance airplane has started monitoring the EU’s external borders in the Western Balkans area as part of Frontex Multipurpose Aerial Surveillance (MAS). This is a swift and tailored response to the request made by Croatian authorities to monitor the migration flows and help Croatia, as well as the neighbouring Western Balkan countries, address the challenges on the ground.

MAS uses surveillance planes that stream video and other data directly to the Frontex Situation Centre (FSC) at the agency’s headquarters in Warsaw where a team

of experts analyses the data to provide quick feedback to relevant national authorities. It is an example of a new service that Frontex can offer with its autonomous technical equipment. Experts from Croatian authorities are present on board of the airplane, ensuring compliance with national procedures.

The airplane will perform up to 100 hours of aerial surveillance per month.

Overall, the number of illegal border-crossings on the Western Balkan route in the first half of 2018 amounted to 2100, which is about 60% lower than last year.

However, Frontex data indicates continued pressure along the Greece-Albania-Montenegro-Bosnia and Herzegovina-Croatia sub-route, which is indicative of migrants trying to bypass existing security measures along the main route via Serbia. The agency already supports Croatia with 10 officers who assist the national authorities with detecting document fraud and stolen vehicles.

7 Arrested in Spain for Smuggling Migrants to France



With the support of Europol's European Migrant Smuggling Centre (EMSC), the Spanish National Police has dismantled an organised crime group suspected of facilitating large-scale migrant smuggling between French-speaking African countries and France. It is estimated that this criminal network has facilitated the entry into Spain of almost 300 irregular migrants, before arranging for their subsequent smuggling to France.

During an action day end of July, six suspects were

arrested in Guipuzcoa (Northern Spain) and one in Madrid. Eight migrants awaiting to be smuggled to France were also rescued from a safe house in Guipuzcoa. Europol supported the investigation with analytical capabilities in-house and the deployment of an expert to San Sebastian (Spain) with a mobile office and UFED (Universal Forensic Extraction Device).

The organised crime group, made up of individuals of Sub-Saharan origin, arranged for migrants to be smuggled from French-speaking African countries (Guinea, Cote d'Ivoire, Mali and Senegal) to Spain by boat, usually providing them with fake documents. Upon their arrival at the Spanish coast, the migrants were contacted by members of the criminal organisation who would arrange for their transfer to safe houses in Northern Spain, and from there on to France.

Criminal Network Smuggling Cigarettes and Alcohol Thwarted in Poland



The Gdańsk Bureau of the Polish Central Bureau of Investigation (Centralne Biuro Śledcze, CBŚP), together with

the Regional Prosecutor's Office in Gdańsk and with the support of Europol arrested five suspects and seized over 39 million cigarettes.

Police officers from the CBŚP conducted since 2015 an investigation supervised by the Regional Prosecutor's Office in Gdańsk. The case concerns an international criminal group dealing with the illegal trade in cigarettes. The arrestees were charged for being members of an organised criminal group by the Regional Prosecutor's Office in Gdańsk.

Drug Dealer Gang Modified Vehicles to Smuggle Narcotics Across Europe

During the summer of 2017, the suspects trafficked to Wuppertal significant amounts of cocaine and amphetamine from several locations in the Netherlands (Rotterdam and Venlo, among others). Once in Germany, they stored the substances in apartments waiting to deliver it to other European countries, such as Denmark, Sweden, Switzerland, Austria, and Italy, hidden into professionally modified compartments of rental cars.

This operation resulted in the arrest of two individuals in Denmark last May and identification of two additional suspects, alongside two in Sweden in the beginning of June and has culminated with the execution of six arrest warrants. More recently, three individuals were arrested

in Wuppertal on 21 June on the occasion of which of a large contingent of 200 police officers from the German and Dutch authorities carried out 18 house searches. Six high-value cars, a motorcycle, EUR 110 000 in cash and two watches worth EUR 500 000 each were seized.

A marijuana plantation, with hundreds of plants, was also dismantled, and three shipments of drugs, containing 50 kg, 41 kg and 14 kg of amphetamine respectively, heading to Denmark and Sweden were confiscated.



INTERPOL border security training supports female ASEAN officers



In response to the growing security threats posed by transnational crimes such as human trafficking and migrant smuggling in Southeast Asia, INTERPOL conducted a

training course to enhance border security in the region.

The 10-day integrated border management course brought together 20 female police and immigration officers from nine Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries to review best border management practices, including counterfeit document analysis, identifying human trafficking victims and the use of INTERPOL's policing capabilities.

With more and more people travelling across international borders every day, police and immigration officers face the growing challenge of identifying criminals attempting to conceal themselves among legitimate cross-border travellers.

Enhancing the fight against the illicit traffic of cultural property



In cooperation with the Italian Carabinieri's Headquarters for the Protection of Cultural Heritage, INTERPOL has launched an enhanced version of its Stolen Works of Art database, called P.SY.C.HE. (Protection System for Cultural Heritage).

By radically transforming the process of recording information, the new version of the database allows for

faster dissemination of information on stolen works of art worldwide.

Specialized officers will now be able to directly insert, modify and delete data related to cases in their respective countries. Previously, this was carried out by INTERPOL officials at its General Secretariat headquarters, based on information sent by member countries. This simplified process will invariably lead to a richer pool of information in INTERPOL's database, which will assist specialists and investigators worldwide.

Both INTERPOL National Central Bureaus and officers from the INTERPOL Works of Art Unit will continue to ensure that photos and descriptions of stolen items meet INTERPOL's quality control standards.

P.SY.C.HE now allows users to enhance their key word searches with image comparison features by simply uploading a photo of the work of art.

INTERPOL-led Mediterranean operation closes ranks on foreign terrorist fighters

INTERPOL has deployed officers to eight Mediterranean seaports to assist local authorities screen travelers and detect potential terrorists during the summer tourist season.

Codenamed Operation Neptune, the counter-terrorism sea border operation addresses the threats posed by the travel of foreign terrorist fighters using Mediterranean

maritime routes between North Africa and Southern Europe, as well as by people, drugs, or firearms traffickers.

In the first week of Operation Neptune, more than 350,000 searches of INTERPOL databases resulted in the detection of four suspected foreign terrorist fighters and the localization of a missing person.

Trade and customs officials discuss trade facilitation in Central Asia at OSCE-supported workshop in Tajikistan



Senior trade and customs officials from five Central Asian countries, Afghanistan, and their main trading partners – Russia and Turkey, received practical guidance on trade facilitation at a three-day annual training workshop in Dushanbe. The event was jointly organized by the OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe and the United Nations

Economic Commission for Europe. The OSCE Border Management Staff College in Dushanbe hosted the workshop.

This interactive and practice-oriented workshop aimed at equipping participants with knowledge on various tools and approaches for trade facilitation implementation in the region and engaging them in discussions on policy instruments for enhancing efforts to achieve trade facilitation in Central Asia.

The workshop was attended by 26 participants from Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Turkey, and Uzbekistan. It covered current activities in the implementation of the World Trade Organization's Trade Facilitation Agreement and the practical steps towards facilitating procedures on borders with Uzbekistan.

OSCE celebrates World Day against Trafficking in Persons in Kyrgyzstan

A scientific conference titled Current challenges of human trafficking, attended by representatives of scientific and education organizations of Kyrgyzstan, was held in Bishkek on 30 July 2018, on the occasion of World Day against Trafficking in Person.



The conference was organized by the Kyrgyz Ministry of Education and Science, the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek, the International Labour Organization and the association El Agartuu.

Various research findings on human trafficking in Kyrgyzstan showing that the country serves as the origin, transit or destination for victims were presented at the conference.

"Labour and sexual exploitation of people is an invisible but serious issue across the world, including in Kyrgyzstan,"

said Head of the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek Pierre von Arx. "As a counteraction, OSCE supported the development of the National Action Plan on anti-trafficking, which addresses four main areas of combating human trafficking: prevention, prosecution, victims protection, and partnership between state bodies, civil society and international organizations."

Nurzhan Tulegabylova, the head of El Agartuu, said that international reports suggest that over 80 per cent of victims of transnational trafficking are women and children, 70 per cent of which are sold to another country for the purpose of sexual exploitation. "However, precise statistics of trafficked victims in Kyrgyzstan are not yet available, because trafficking is still unfortunately treated as a latent problem."



Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 59,271 in 2018; Deaths Reach 1,504



IOM reports that 59,271 migrants and refugees entered Europe by sea through 5 August 2018. That total compares to 117,102 at this time last year, and over 263,436 at this time in 2016.

Arrivals to Spain (see chart below) lead all countries with 23,741, or just over 40 per cent of all Mediterranean irregular migrants, who this year have surpassed those coming on competing routes. Their migration volume has

nearly tripled the number of those registered at this time last year, when some 8,677 had arrived through 31 July.

Arrivals to Italy trail Spain by almost 5,000. Two weeks ago, the gap between those two destination points was just under 200 individuals – an indicator of how quickly the Spanish route has surged. Italy now reports receiving less than a third of all irregular sea arrivals (around 32 per

cent), while Greece continues to receive about 28 per cent, an amount that has remained steady throughout the year.

Significantly, Greece's arrivals thus far in 2018 are running nearly 5,000 ahead of last year's totals on this date, an increase of almost 50 per cent. Arrivals to Italy, on the other hand, are down over 80 per cent compared to 2017 data.

USD 45 Million Needed for 2018-2020 Migrant Response in Horn of Africa, Yemen



IOM and its partners launched a Regional Migrant Response Plan (RMRP) for the Horn of Africa and Yemen through which they are appealing to the international community for USD 45 million. The plan details support to migrants on the move in the Horn of Africa and Yemen from 2018 to 2020.

The response plan, developed in coordination with regional and country level non-governmental and intergovernmental partners, is a migrant-focused humanitarian and development strategy for vulnerable migrants from the Horn of Africa, specifically those from Somalia, Djibouti and Ethiopia, moving to and from Yemen. The plan targets some 81,000 people.

Irregular migration from the Horn of Africa to the Gulf

countries has been steadily increasing over the past few years, with approximately 100,000 people entering Yemen, a major transit point on this route, in 2017. Often, migrants and refugees cross the Gulf of Aden from Djibouti or Somalia, arriving in Yemen with the support of smugglers.

The countries on this route are beset with humanitarian challenges. In Yemen, partners estimate that more than 20 million people need humanitarian assistance, while Somalia and Ethiopia are also in the grip of complex emergencies because of conflict and recurrent disasters.

The plan estimates that, like in 2017, up to 100,000 new arrivals from the Horn of Africa will reach Yemen in 2018, while 200,000 migrants and refugees will return from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Yemen to the Horn of Africa countries in the same period. Of these, 150,000 and 50,000 will return to Ethiopia and Somalia, respectively.



GLOBAL REVIEW OF MIGRANT SMUGGLING DATA AND RESEARCH

At the 2018 International Migration, Integration and Social Cohesion (IMISCOE) Conference in Barcelona last month the IOM launched its newest publication *Migrant Smuggling Data and Research: A Global Review of the Emerging Evidence Base – Volume 2*.

The UN Migration Agency notes that this report picks up where the first volume left off, building on a review of current migrant smuggling data and research by covering additional geographic areas that could not be included in the first volume. Volume 2 also delves into migrant smuggling in specific countries seriously affected by this transnational phenomenon, such

as Ecuador and Mexico.

Marie McAuliffe, IOM's Head of Migration Policy Research, organized and co-edited the report.

Volume 2 highlights several aspects that are common to migrant smuggling in various locations, namely its clandestine and hidden character; the agility and dynamism of



smugglers, facilitators, networks and migrants; and the variable impacts on people, most apparent when things go wrong and people are harmed or die en route.

The report is part of a broader project to counter migrant smuggling, of which research is one key pillar. In her speech to launch the publication, McAuliffe noted that “Just as responding to migrant smuggling is challenging for all these reasons, researching migrant smuggling is also challenging. It can be demanding and at times dangerous, but it is also important.”

She went on to stress that research and critical enquiry can help us learn from migrants by documenting their experiences, recognizing their circumstances and better understanding their decisions so as to help amplify the voices of those who are exploited by smugglers.

Florian G. Forster, who leads IOM's Immigration and Border Management (IBM) Division, said the report was financially supported by the Republic of Turkey.

Forster, who is coordinating IOM's efforts in the field of counter migrant smuggling, underlined the importance of partnerships and close cooperation among the relevant agencies within the United Nations system: “IOM notably cooperates very closely with UNODC, the recently launched initiative by the two UN bodies for a Joint Platform on Counter Migrant Smuggling being another important element of this coordinated UN system-wide effort.”

Three research-specific recommendations for countering smuggling were issued based on the two volumes of the report: partnerships between policymakers and researchers on aspects of migrant smuggling should be strengthened; research capacity and institutions within regions should be built up in regions and countries where smuggling is prevalent; and emerging and priority topics for research and data collection should be points of focus in the development of global, regional, and national policies that are better able to respond to migrant smuggling effectively.

In his forward the Director General, William Lacy Swing said:

The smuggling of migrants across international borders on routes crossing land, sea and air continues to pose a challenge to migration governance and impedes safe and orderly migration. Migrant smugglers

are increasingly becoming a central part of the irregular migration journey, resulting in enormous profits for criminal smuggling networks while reducing the ability of States to manage their borders. Given that it is often a clandestine undertaking, migrant smuggling may only become visible when tragedies occur or emergency humanitarian responses are required, such as we have seen intensify in recent months in Libya. In 2017, for example, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) arranged for the return home of more than 19,000 migrants who had become stranded or detained in Libya, many at the hands of smugglers and traffickers.

Events involving people drowning or perishing inside trucks or caught up in modern-day slavery networks regularly capture the media's attention, but the headline-grabbing stories are likely to be just the tip of the iceberg. The recorded number of migrant deaths or missing in four years (between 2014, when IOM started the Missing Migrants Project, and 2017) is more than 25,000 – 2016 being the deadliest year with 8,067.

Reliance on smugglers makes migrants particularly vulnerable to abuse and exploitation and heightens the possibility that they could become trafficked. Migrants who have experienced abuse by smugglers have little effective recourse to justice. In this ever more pressing situation, States are being severely tested in the fulfilment of their responsibilities to protect migrants' rights and manage their borders.

Against this backdrop and building on



the contribution of the initial volume published in late 2016, it is timely that we complete a review of current data and research on migrant smuggling. The report builds on the first volume by covering geographic areas that could not be included in volume 1, while also delving into migrant smuggling in specific countries seriously affected by this transnational phenomenon.

Volume 2 is again the result of a collaboration between IOM and researchers from a range of backgrounds and academic disciplines and was supported by the Government of Turkey. As a host country of some 3.5 million

Syrian refugees and a transit country of significance, Turkey – along with many other countries – experiences first-hand the considerable challenges in combating migrant smuggling while at the same time supporting

refugees in need.

This report is part of a broader project to counter migrant smuggling, of which research is one key pillar. As we respond to Member States and Organizational priorities, including in the context of the current negotiations on the draft global compact for migration, we hope that readers will find this second volume as useful as volume 1. Both reports are aimed at policymakers, researchers, analysts, students and practitioners working on the complex topic of migrant smuggling. The work undertaken and presented here provides a solid base to build upon and reassess in the years ahead in order to gauge progress on the increasingly important collection, analysis and reporting of data and research on migrant smuggling globally.

The full report is available at

http://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/migrant_smuggling_data_vol2_0.pdf.

Cross-border e-Commerce Police action leads to 95 arrests

Police forces across Europe have arrested 95 professional fraudsters and members of internet-based criminal networks in a successful cross-border e-Commerce Action (eComm 2018).

The joint law enforcement operation, coordinated by the European Cybercrime Centre (EC3) from Europol's headquarters in The Hague, was supported by 28 countries and ran from 4 to 15 June 2018. It received the direct assistance from merchants, logistic companies, and banks and payment card schemes. Europol also supported national authorities on-the-spot by providing analytical services in their investigations.

The main goal was to target online fraud through a coordinated law enforcement action within the European Union (EU) and beyond, followed by an awareness-raising

campaign. This action also marks the start of several investigations with more arrests expected in the next few months. The activity was inspired by a similar UK pilot conducted in collaboration with Visa.

The suspects arrested during the operation were responsible for more than 20 000 fraudulent transactions with compromised credit cards, with an estimated value exceeding EUR 8 million.

The e-commerce action focused on combating card-not-present (CNP) fraud, to help create a safer online environment for customers worldwide by sharing information and developing best practices between law enforcement and the private sector. It promotes the hashtag #BuySafePaySafe: tips to avoid becoming a fraud victim.

Experts from Sudan, Libya, Niger, Chad discuss border security

Experts from Sudan, Libya, Niger and Chad held meetings in Sudan's capital Khartoum to discuss border security and combating cross-border crimes and human trafficking.

The meetings seek to reach consensus agenda for the third ministerial meeting of the four countries, which will begin in Khartoum Thursday on joint borders with the participation of foreign, defense and interior ministers as well as chiefs of security.

Sudanese State Minister for Foreign Affairs Mohamed Abdalla Idris praised the efforts of the four countries to

reach common understandings and cooperation to face the threats against their joint borders, a statement said.

He also praised the framework agreement they reached last June in the Chadian capital Ndjamen, reiterating Sudan's support and readiness to implement the agreement and establish the mechanism agreed upon.

The deal stipulated steering joint patrols on the borders, exchanging information, establishing a center for joint operations, and implementing development projects along the joint borders.

Pakistan Will Add 60,000 Troops to Patrol Afghan Border

Pakistan will add as many as 60,000 troops to boost its patrols along its disputed border with Afghanistan in an effort to curb the flow of insurgents passing between the two nations.

The move will consolidate Pakistan's border operations, which have been beefed-up in recent years after widespread insecurity wracked the country following the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan. Domestic terror-related violence is now at its lowest in more than a decade. The

army, which has 661,000 regular and paramilitary troops, have previously been more focused on the country's eastern border with arch-rival neighbor India, with which it's fought three wars against since British India's partition in 1947.

Pakistan has come under increasing pressure to act against the Afghan Taliban and the affiliated Haqqani network.

Efforts to combat trafficking, including of children, must focus on both effects and roots of this crime, OSCE officials say on world anti-trafficking day



Effective policies to combat trafficking in human beings, including the trafficking of children, must focus on both the effects and the roots of this terrible crime, OSCE senior officials said today, on the occasion of the World Day against Trafficking in Persons.

Such policies need to include a focus on a survivor-centred approach, tailored to the needs of both adults and children, as well as on measures to eliminate the ability of traffickers to profit from their crime, the officials said.

"A survivor-centred approach that is gender and culturally sensitive can be achieved by strengthening national referral mechanisms to include survivors' voices and a focus on their needs in all aspects of policy development and implementation. This is important to guarantee that rehabilitation of, and assistance to human trafficking survivors is rooted in international human rights standards," said Ingibjörg Sólrún Gísladóttir, Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR). "At the same time, disruption strategies should be in place to ensure that this crime becomes unprofitable, by curbing demand, inhibiting financial flows to organized criminal networks and empowering survivors to prevent re-trafficking and re-victimization."

According to the 2016 UNODC Global Report on Trafficking in Persons, 27 per cent of reported global trafficking cases

occur within the OSCE region. More than half of those trafficked worldwide are women, and one in five is a child.

OSCE Secretary General Thomas Greminger noted that UNODC had chosen responding to the trafficking of children and young people as the focus for this year's World Day and stressed that in recent years, there has been an increased focus within the OSCE on combatting the trafficking of children in particular.

"With the adoption of a comprehensive Ministerial Council decision against child trafficking as well as other forms of sexual exploitation, the OSCE unequivocally reiterated that there is no place in our region for the abuse of children," Greminger said. "While maintaining close attention to persistent forms of child exploitation, both transnational and internal, our Organization is committed to helping countries engage partners, including civil society, the business community, the travel and tourism industry, the technology industry, and international organizations across the full spectrum of anti-trafficking efforts to prevent harm, protect victims and hold traffickers accountable."

Valiant Richey, the OSCE Acting Co-ordinator for Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings, stressed that the Organization's efforts to address trafficking in children directly benefit from such engagement.

"Mindful that the best interest of the child is a primary consideration, and that a trauma-informed approach should take into account the respective gender-specific concerns of girls and boys, the OSCE is aiding in the promotion of innovative, partnership-oriented and informed responses from policy to practice," said Richey. "Through our research on technology, our ground-breaking training programmes and our workshops on migration, we are working to enhance the protection, safety and health of all children, while building more effective and efficient criminal justice systems to investigate and prosecute traffickers."

Agreement against organized crime in Latin America



The European Union supports the signing of a police cooperation agreement between 5 countries through the AMERIPOL support project.

Authorities from five Latin American countries met in Buenos Aires to sign the Police Cooperation Agreement in the fight against transnational organized crime. An agreement sponsored by the European Union through the project EL PACCTO: Apoyo a AMERIPOL, managed by the FIIAPP.

The Minister of Security of Argentina, Patricia Bullrich, the Minister of Government of Bolivia, Carlos Romero, the Minister of Security of Brazil, Raul Jungmann, the Minister of the Interior of Ecuador, Lino Mauro Toscanini, and the Deputy Minister of Security of Panama, Jonattan del Rosario have attended this signature under the AMERIPOL Summit: "Road to institucionalización".

This Agreement constitutes a fundamental advance in the fight against organized crime at the regional level, integrating operational information for joint

investigations and contributing to a safer world.

The ambassador of the European Union, Aude Maio-Coliche, has highlighted its importance for the establishment of a coordinated police cooperation between the Latin American region and EUROPOL, and has shown the commitment that the EU has with the region through its Action Outside in the fight against organized crime. For its part, the Minister of Security of Argentina has put in value the importance of this agreement, because it is the first of these characteristics signed in the region.

The leader of the AMERIPOL support project, Marcos Alvar, has reviewed the background of this agreement, such as the support provided by the European Union and the Spanish National Police in the first phases of the project. Through this work, the SIPA I (AMERIPOL police information system) has been developed, which already manages more than 30,000 drug trafficking records.

Regarding its future, the system is expected to evolve towards SIPA II and expand to crimes related to transnational organized crime beyond drug trafficking: trafficking in human beings, cybercrime, illegal immigration, gender violence and others.

These data can be stored and exchanged in a secure manner between the parties to combat organized transnational crime in a practical, effective and proactive manner. And the implication of these five countries responds to the need to equip themselves with an instrument that allows this controlled exchange of information. As of its signature, the Agreement is open to the adhesion of other countries belonging to AMERIPOL.

AMERIPOL presents its activities and goals

In spite of its socio-economic progress, the region continues to face significant challenges in the area of public safety. The project Support for AMERIPOL, financed by the European Union and managed by FIIAPP, organised an event at its headquarters in Bogotá, at which the audience was presented with the work done in the previous phase of the project and the activities planned for the three years of the second phase.

In addition, a special emphasis was laid on the importance of completing the signing of the Quito Agreement, and developing an AMERIPOL Police Information System, which is to include both strategic and operational information in order to contribute to fighting organized crime. The event was attended by the military and interior attachés to Colombia.

AGENCY NEWS AND UPDATES

Camels join police in new border patrol unit



A new police unit has been unveiled to patrol remote sections of the Kenya-Somali border in efforts to combat banditry.

The pioneer camel patrol unit under the Border Patrol Unit of the Administration Police Service will be based in Isiolo County and will involve 50 camels that are currently being trained.

The creation of the unit was informed by rising cases of terror attacks targeting security personnel on patrol in far-flung areas.

Police statistics show up to 70 police officers have been killed in the last two years in separate attacks by terrorists using Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs). The officers are usually targeted while driving through harsh terrain that

makes their vehicles vulnerable to attacks by bandits and terrorists.

The camels will be used to patrol parts of North Eastern region as well as areas prone to cattle rustling.

Smart fence to guard border in Punjab soon

In a major move to prevent cross-border smuggling and infiltration, the central government is going to replace the existing border fence with a smart one all along the international border with Pakistan in Punjab. Inspector general of the BSF Punjab Frontier, Mukul Goel said this was likely to be done in near future.

While denying to elaborate further on the subject, he said a pilot project was going on outside Punjab and once it achieves success, the existing border fence would be replaced with the smart fence. In past, Union minister of state for home affairs Kiren Rijju had announced that the smart fence would be installed by end of 2018 or early 2019 but the government has not even started the work. The smart fence will be erected all along the nearly 553km

stretch of the Indo-Pak international border in Punjab.

Comprehensive border security measures to be completed in 100 days

The Turkish government has not let up on its fight against terrorism and illegal crossings across its borders. In the next 100 days, as per Ankara's action plan announced by President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, the construction of border walls and the establishment of state-of-the-art security systems will be completed.

In order to combat terrorism, smuggling and irregular migration, the Interior Ministry has been working non-stop to increase the security of the country's southern, eastern and western borders. The speeding up of the work on the border walls was announced Saturday in a written statement by the Interior Ministry.

The 100-day action plan states that the lighting of the 18-kilometer-long Iranian border with eastern Ağrı and Iğdır provinces will be

completed in the next 100 days.

ICA trials eye scans to boost border security



Eye scans for Singaporeans and permanent residents are being trialled at Woodlands and Tuas checkpoints, and Tanah Merah Ferry Terminal, as part of plans by Singapore's border agency to better secure the borders.

The trial, conducted at selected counters at the three checkpoints, involves officers scanning travellers' iris images in addition to fingerprint verification, an Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA) spokesman said.

Intensive traffic at the Bulgarian-Romanian border

The traffic of the entrance and exit for passenger cars at Kalotina border checkpoint, Kulata border checkpoint and Makaza border checkpoint is intense. At Kapitan Andreevo Border Crossing, traffic is intense for outbound trucks. At the Bulgarian-Romanian border traffic is intense at all border checkpoints for passenger cars at the entrance. This was reported by the Border Police press center. Traffic information on border crossings is at 16.00. At the Bulgarian-Macedonian border traffic is normal at all border checkpoints.

Operation Stonegarden Supports Border Security in Rio Grande Valley



The U.S. Border Patrol's Rio Grande Valley Sector continues to coordinate border security efforts with state and local law enforcement agencies through Operation Stonegarden. Operation Stonegarden provides funding to state and local law enforcement agencies to enhance border security and keep communities safe.

In July, under Operation Stonegarden, state and local law enforcement agencies arrested a total of 43 illegal aliens during four significant smuggling attempts. Some illegal aliens were discovered in the trunks of vehicles and others were found in local stash houses. One of the individuals being smuggled was identified as having a prior conviction for Statutory Rape-2nd Degree and had served one year confinement for that crime.

All the individuals were turned over to the U.S. Border Patrol for appropriate processing.

American teenager arrested at border with 11,500 fentanyl pills

A teenager was arrested at the U.S.-Mexico border with what official said was 11,500 fentanyl pills.



It is the largest fentanyl pill bust at the border ever, according to the Los Angeles Times.

Cristian Araujo Aguirre, 19, was also transporting 61 pounds of meth and 14 pounds of heroin.

Police night-time swoop on boat heading for Kent beach find 'illegal migrants'



Police smashed an alleged people-smuggling ring as they waited under cover of dark to intercept a speedboat packed with illegal immigrants.

Officers swooped on the boat, carrying illegal migrants from Vietnam, as it landed on a Kent beach under the cover of darkness.

The group were caught in the early hours of the morning as their speedboat landed on the beach in Walmer.

The eight arrests were part of a joint operation involving Kent Police, the Eastern Region Special Operations Unit (ERSOU) and Border Force.

A 35-year-old man from Eyeworth, Bedfordshire, and a 34-year-old from Oxford were also arrested at the scene on suspicion of conspiring to assist unlawful immigration to the UK.

Three other men were then arrested later that day in connection with the investigation and have been taken into police custody for questioning.

MZP push for tight border security

Mizo Zirlawi Pawl (MZP), an apex student body in state had asked the government to make strict laws and tighten security along the Mizoram border to prevent the influx of illegal immigrants from Assam.

MZP has also threatened to set up infiltration gates along the Assam-Mizoram border if the government fails to take steps by August 15.

President of MZP, L. Ramdinliana Renthlei expressed apprehension that Mizoram might face an influx of foreigners from Assam after publication of the draft NRC in which about 40 lakh people have been left out.

He said many neighbouring states of Assam have sounded the alert in view of the possible entry of the foreigners from Assam.

Renthlei slammed the state government for being silent and for not taking any security measures in view of the possible entry of foreigners from the neighbouring state. He said many foreigners, who have been left out in the draft NRC might try to enter Mizoram as well.

He also said that after there were reports about the possible entry of foreigners

from Assam, the students' body had approached the state government to tighten security along the Mizoram border.

Serbia, Montenegro sign cross-border agreements



Deputy PM and Interior Minister Nebojsa Stefanovic spoke on Wednesday in Belgrade with Montenegrin Minister of the Interior Mevludin Nuhodzic.

According to the Serbian government, they discussed cooperation between the police of two countries in the fight against organized crime.

After the meeting, the ministers signed seven agreements and two protocols on cross-border transportation and border control.

The interlocutors pointed out that the police of the two countries, with even more intense cooperation, want to send a clear message to criminals - that they will fight against them even stronger and that they will stand in the way of organized criminal groups.

Border between Kosovo and Albania to be opened

Albanian Diaspora Minister Pandeli Majko is announcing the opening of "the border" between Albania and

Kosovo.

"We want to open the border between Albania and Kosovo. The prime minister told me that a decision has been made. Starting on January 1, free movement between Albania and Kosovo began," Majko said.

Bavaria Reconstitutes Its Border Police



Bavaria, Germany's second most populous state, recently re-formed its previously dissolved border police. The Bavarian Grenzpolizei (German for "Border Police") has been reconstituted in order to address crimes and immigration violations committed by the migrants currently flooding the Federal Republic of Germany.

Heathrow Airport border staff 'seize missile parts that were being sent to Iran'

A suspected attempt to fly missile warhead components to Iran via Heathrow has been thwarted by the UK Border Force.

At least two "O rings" — which can be used to form seals in rockets — were detected during an inspection of freight being flown out from the airport.

They were supposedly being sent

for use in the Iranian oil industry. But Border Force staff halted the shipment after becoming suspicious that the real intention was to use them in missiles.

An investigation is now under way which could lead to criminal action against those responsible for sending the parts.

\$150m sanctioned by US is for Pak-Afghan border security

The \$150 million in the United States (US) Department of Defence (DOD) funding authorised for the financial year 2019 is dedicated to Pakistan's border security operations, a US embassy spokesperson said.

Border Guard Service of Ukraine seeks to modernize ships, boats for maritime border guard



Head of the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine Petro Tsyhykal during his working visit to Lithuania studied experience of the Lithuanian border guard service and told about the plans of the Ukrainian authority.

The press service of the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine said that Tsyhykal met Commander of the State Border Guard Service of Lithuania Renatas Požėla and studied the

details of their state border guard system.

Tsyhykal said that the State Border Guard Service is improving the system of control over the maritime surface picture and intensively uses maritime border guard, which includes about 70 ships and boats of various projects. According to him, the State Development Program provides for the reform of maritime border guard in accordance with the standards of NATO and the European Union.

Drug seizures drop nearly 90 percent at Border Patrol checkpoint



Drug seizures at the Falfurrias checkpoint dropped nearly 90 percent from 2014 to 2017, according to the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Drug seizures at the Falfurrias checkpoint dropped 87.77 percent, according to the meeting minutes. Drug seizures at the Sarita checkpoint plummeted too, falling 78.69 percent during the four-year period.

Hidalgo County Sheriff Eddie Guerra said the numbers reflected a major shift by smugglers.

"These organizations are making more money smuggling humans than smuggling narcotics," Guerra said.

Big drug busts became less common when Colorado and other states

legalized marijuana, Guerra said. Measured by weight, marijuana made up the majority of drug seizures..

Laredo PD and Border Patrol disrupt narcotic smuggling attempt



Border Patrol Agents assisted the Laredo Police Department in disrupting a narcotics smuggling attempt.

LPD notified the Laredo Sector Border Patrol that they were in pursuit of a 2006 red Dodge Durango suspected of being loaded with narcotics.

The subject attempted to abscond on foot, but after a brief chase, the LPD officer and a Patrol Agent apprehended him.

A search of the vehicle yielded five bundles of marijuana weighing 360 lbs. with an estimated street value of \$288,000.

Voiceprint Reporting – New Authentication Method for Border Control

Biometric voiceprint technology will be applied in border security in Canada. In an effort to keep fewer people in immigration detention while upholding public safety and national security, the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) is rolling out a voice reporting system that uses biometric

voiceprint technology as one of the new elements to its “Alternatives to Detention” program. Other elements to the program include in-community tailored case management services and electronic monitoring.

The voice reporting system will use the voiceprint technology to enable as many as 10,000 individuals to report to the CBSA at agreed-upon intervals, using either cellphones or landlines.

Serbian Police Seize 590 kg of Marijuana at Bulgarian Border



Serbian police seized two large shipments of marijuana at the border crossing with Bulgaria, Serbian interior ministry said.

“Members of the border police directorate of the interior ministry confiscated 590 kilograms of marijuana and arrested two people,” it confirmed.

The police operation took place at the Dimitrovgrad border crossing in southeast Serbia.

The press release added that 292 packages of the narcotic weighing around 316 kilograms were discovered in a truck with Croatian registration plates, while the 56-year-old driver is a citizen of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Moreover, in a truck registered in

Serbia, driven by a 51-year old Serbian truck driver, police found another 253 packages of marijuana, weighing 274 kilograms in total.

Border Security Force (BSF), Assam Rifles sensitised to prevent entry of Rohingyas



Border Security Force (BSF) and Assam Rifles have been sensitized to ensure that members of the Rohingyas minority do not enter the country and states have been asked to enumerate and confine those who have immigrated illegally.

Home Minister Rajnath Singh told the Lok Sabha during Question Hour that his Ministry had issued an advisory to the states in February concerning the Rohingya.

“The BSF and Assam Rifles have been fully sensitized to ensure that Rohingyas are not able to enter,” Rajnath Singh replied to a query posed by a Shiv Sena member. He said Rohingyas have, however, entered the country in “large numbers”.

“It should not happen that the Rohingyas spread out and stay wherever they want,” he said, adding that the states have been advised to prepare their “biography” (profiles) and take biometrics. “The advisory also says that their movement should also

be monitored and the states should be fully alert,” the Minister added.

Border Police & VAT Inspectors Nab Cigarette Smugglers from the PA



Israeli Border Police officers foiled attempts to smuggle 770 boxes of cigarettes, 40,000 rolled cigarettes rolled and tobacco from the territories into Israel in the Barta'a area.

Border Police operate in areas adjacent to Yehuda and Shomron in order to provide protection in addition to thwart and seize the smugglers of goods in order to protect the safety and security of the public.

In a joint activity of Border Police officers together with VAT inspectors of the Israel Tax Authority, a vehicle was stopped for inspection which came from the territories, which raised the suspicions of the police near Nachal Iron, which is more commonly known by the Arab name, Wadi Ara, an Israeli Arab municipality in the north.

In the vehicle, police found large amounts of cigarettes and tobacco smuggled from the PA (Palestine Authority) village of Barta'a. They found 770 boxes of cigarettes of various kinds in the vehicle in addition to an unspecified quantity of tobacco.

TECHNOLOGY AND BORDER SECURITY IN EUROPE



Border security has always been complicated when it concerns the 28 countries that comprise the European Union (EU). The conflict between vision and need is at the center of the ongoing debate.

The vision of the EU for the free movement of people, goods, services and capital between countries, is unhappily married to the need of these same countries to manage migration and maintain internal security. The European refugee and migration crisis has compounded matters "... with tens of thousands of people

arriving by land and boat to Europe fleeing conflict, poverty and disasters in the Middle East and Africa." (<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/eu-border-control-spending-refugee-crisis-austria-coast-guard-mediterranean-a8397176.html>).

With the amount of people crossing borders in Europe expected to reach 887 million by 2025 (European Commission 2016 Report), threats such as unauthorized overstays, terrorism and organized crime will only compound border challenges. Criminals have taken notice and

regularly exploit this scenario by taking advantage of borders too bogged down with issues of processing overloads, and administrative inefficiencies to protect effectively.

The result is that transnational terrorists and members of organized crime illegally cross borders to engage in human and drug trafficking, money laundering, and the import of counterfeit or unsafe goods. Often, these crimes are facilitated by technologies such as mobile devices, the Internet, social media, and even encrypted apps.

Border control authorities have had to rethink their strategies in order to stay ahead of criminal digital tactics. "...border control has evolved from "narrow" protection of territory by the border guard to a complex high-technology process...and a wider concept of border security with large-scale data management in cyberspace." (<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09662839.2016.1276057>)

With this new perspective comes a digital horizon that demands large-scale data management and analysis to react to the dangers of a connected criminal underworld.

On the perimeters of this wild technological arena, border agencies are tasked with needing to quickly sort out and identify criminals from the rest. To accomplish this task, especially when peak activity has a negative impact on success, digital solutions have been introduced to scale, automate and speed up border procedures.

Some European countries have



embraced innovative border security initiatives such as "Smart Borders" with automated border control (ABC) systems, biometrics for identity verification and satellite-assisted surveillance. While tools such as ABC may be useful, unfortunately until adoption improves these solutions will not have an impact on present day scenarios such as the influx of "irregular" migrants flowing in from neighboring regions of the European Union.

Lastly, but perhaps most importantly, effective emergent border security technologies tend to receive a "knee-jerk" reaction from societies. The controversy lives at the intersection of effective border security technology and the growing gaps between the technology, citizens, and politics. Border agencies leveraging cutting-edge digital security must factor-in the need to safeguard individual privacy rights while protecting the common good. In addition, these agencies

face other challenges such as strict limitations of data usage that restrict certain access to border control databases.

The conclusion many seem resigned to accept is that the EU and border security will continue to be a challenging dynamic. The diverse approach to migration in Europe from open border advocacy to illegal immigration restrictions in whatever way the law will allow has become – as it has in many countries around the globe - an unavoidable reality needing to be addressed. And as these border crimes continue to advance in the level of sophistication, technology will continue to be at the center of all discussion related to border security, for years to come.

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BORDER MANAGEMENTS ANNUAL GATHERING

■ EVENT PREVIEW



**World Border
Security Congress**

**19th-21st March 2019
Casablanca, Morocco**

www.world-border-congress.com

The annual gathering of the international border management and protection community moves to Casablanca, Morocco on 19th-21st March 2019.

Co-hosted by the Ministry of Interior and General Secretariat for Migration and Border Surveillance of Morocco (Directeur de la Migration at de la Surveillance des Frontieres), the World Border Security Congress is delighted to be welcomed to the North African country and economic hub of the region.

The 2019 World Border Security Congress will see over 230 delegates from more than 50 countries gather for the 3 day meeting for some great discussions, meetings, workshops and networking with colleagues and peers from the global border security community.

Borders in the Maghreb are increasingly dangerous. Armed with tools designed for the pre-Arab Spring environment, Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia face a complex new world of transnational actors that leverage



borders for profit and for sanctuary.

The Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) was designed to deepen cooperation among the Maghreb states, buttress the region's economy through greater interregional trade, enable the free movement of people, and lay the groundwork for future political integration. However, the promise of an integrated Maghreb has not materialized, though the union still exists.

The region is also a main thoroughfare for the West African human trafficking and migration route to Southern Europe, with access to Spanish soil and the EU border in the North African enclaves of Melilla and Ceuta, just a short journey from mainland Europe across the Mediterranean, whilst smuggling of arms and illegal goods across North Africa also adds

pressure on the governments and border security forces of the region.

Advancements in technology are assisting in the battle to maintain safe and secure international travel and detect illicit goods and smuggling. 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.

Supported 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-ECOSOC), National Security & Resilience Consortium, International Security Industry Organisation and International Association of CIP Professionals, demonstrating the World Border Security Congress remains the premier multi-jurisdictional global platform where new ways through new challenges and treating those challenges as opportunities to do things better in the future.

REGISTRATION OPEN

Governments around the world need to continue to invest in their border security, as a wide range of threats, such as combating terrorism, controlling the movement of goods and monitoring personnel across international borders, continue to pose challenges requiring round the clock monitoring.

Registration for the 2019 World Border Security Congress is now open and if you are interested in attending, register your place at www.world-border-congress.com/registration.

Further details and the agenda will shortly be announced and can be viewed at www.world-border-congress.com.



European Association
of Airport and Seaport Police



UK Border Force Deploys Agilent Resolve Handheld Raman Systems for Hazardous Material Detection

Agilent Technologies Inc. today announced that UK Border Force is now using Resolve, the company's handheld Raman system, to detect bulk chemicals—whether benign, hazardous, or illegal—through opaque packages and containers.



This system is the latest addition to a suite of advanced technologies deployed to detect illegal shipments. The deployment is part of

a multi-million-pound framework agreement between the UK Home Office and Agilent Technologies.

Rigaku Analytical Devices Chosen for Project Global Shield, a World Customs Organization Program

Rigaku Analytical Devices has been chosen to provide its Progeny ResQ system to be used in Project Global Shield, a World Customs Organization (WCO) Program. A minimum of 38 Progeny ResQ analyzers will be used in global customs operations to identify and analyze chemical products, including explosives, toxic industrial substances, and precursor chemicals

Lead by the WCO and in partnership with the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Project Global Shield initiated in 2010. The program commenced as a six-month joint operation to combat increasing illicit use of precursor chemicals used to manufacture improvised explosive devices (IEDs) by monitoring cross-border movements. Following initial success of the project, in March 2011 the WCO project transitioned to an expanded long-term program with customs administrations in 85 countries committed to participate in this global collaborative initiative. "We are extremely proud to participate in this important global mission," said Bree Allen, President of Rigaku Analytical Devices. "We are committed to providing the highest performing handheld Raman for explosive and



chemical detection and identification technology to support counter terror and border security operations around the world. Its rapid response time, easy operation, and ability to identify colored materials and through packaging demonstrate how the Progeny ResQ 1064nm Raman analyzer is the instrument of choice for the safety & security industry."

Veridos Wins €340 Million Contract in Bangladesh

Veridos has announced today the conclusion of a major contract. The Ministry of Home Affairs of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, acting through the Department of Immigration and Passport (DIP), has commissioned Veridos with the supply, installation, and implementation of next generation electronic

passports and border control systems in Bangladesh. The contract, with a volume of around €340 million, will run for 12 years.



Bangladesh will move from machine readable to advanced electronic travel documents that meet the highest security standards. This includes high-tech color personalization technology to ensure the ultimate color brilliance of each ePassport holder's image, improving visual verification. With more than 160 million inhabitants, Bangladesh is the world's eighth most populous country and will provide the highest output of passports with color photos worldwide. Major General Md Masud Rezwan, director

general of the DIP, said: "Our citizens will get benefits from the ICAO*-compliant ePassports with convenient and secure travel. With Veridos's unique solution portfolio for the entire value chain for passports and their ID production expertise, we have found the perfect company to implement this turnkey project. With their support, we can enhance the technology by which we can assemble the ePassport booklets in Bangladesh. This creates highly skilled jobs and know-how transfer with Germany."

Harris Corporation to Upgrade US Customs and Border Protection Communications

Harris Corporation has been awarded two contracts totaling \$26 million to upgrade the U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) mission-critical communications to safeguard the nation's borders.



Harris will supply its XL-200P advanced digital handheld radios that have an intuitive and customizable user interface. The radios are packed with features ideal for mission-critical users: built-in active noise cancellation, Bluetooth® and GPS. They also meet and exceed the stringent MIL-SPEC standards for explosive atmospheres, fluid contamination and immersion.

Additional benefits of the XL-200P to the CBP include: software defined

architecture that enables new capabilities far into the future; multiple bands that solve interoperability issues; and a more simplistic and cost-effective way to deploy and maintain its fleet. Harris' commitment to standards-based systems also means CBP is not locked into proprietary solutions.

"Harris' advanced technology will help CBP's 60,000-plus employees stay better connected as they protect our nation's borders," said Nino DiCosmo, president, Harris Public Safety and Professional Communications. "These contracts are a major step forward in bringing reliable communications to our border patrol customers, who often operate in extremely challenging coverage areas."

Sas R & D Services have introduced the world's first full High Definition Videoscope

Sas R & D Services have introduced the world's first full High Definition Videoscope -Built on the same platform as their respected Ultimate Fiberscope®, The Readyscope offers toughness and dependability with field reparability.

The Readyscope® gives the brightest, clearest,

sharpest HD image of inspections. With

Smiths Detection technology chosen for Standard 3 upgrade at Helsinki airport

Smiths Detection's local partner, Oy Machine Tool Co, has been selected by Finnish operator, Finavia, to support the transition to Standard 3 at Helsinki Airport with approved hold baggage screening systems.



interchangeable monitors, the videoscope offers 10X zoom, a sunshield, damage resistant probe tip and field repairable to save time and money, inspections are conducted without compromising operator's situational awareness. The software is capable of filtering out colors to zero off tints in gasoline or diesel fuels. The full 180 degree articulation offers the best-in-class viewing

capability. Tungsten braid or Nonconductive probes available in either the standard 2.0m/80" length or made to order for specific operational requirements..

Since its introduction the Readyscope has been purchased by US Customs (CBP) - DEA – US State Department and is being supplied to many countries in Europe, Asia and South America.

Included in the contract are eight high-speed, HI-SCAN 10080 XCT scanners, which combine high resolution X-ray technology, computed tomography (CT) and advanced detection algorithms to increase both security and operational efficiency significantly.

Security, speed and efficiency are critical to the extensive development programme underway at the airport, which will allow the airport to serve 30 million passengers annually and increase baggage handling capacity by 50%.

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