

Report to the European Parliament on Frontex cooperation with third countries in 2017

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Foreword



The current global challenges require authorities responsible for border management, coast guarding and law enforcement to enhance cooperation at the national, regional and international level. Such cooperation is also a very important element of the European Integrated Border Management (IBM) concept. This is why in 2017 the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, Frontex, invested a lot of efforts into increasing its international cooperation.

To give our work a clear direction, in 2017 we developed a Frontex International Cooperation Strategy for the period 2018–2020. It outlines our approach to international cooperation in terms of strategic objectives, core principles, as well as tools and avenues for cooperation. It forms an important pillar of the technical and operational strategy for the European IBM.

I am pleased to present to the European Parliament the report on Frontex activities in cooperation with the competent authorities of third countries in 2017. The report fulfils the obligation set out by the Article 54(11) of the European Border and Coast Guard Regulation¹ to inform the Parliament of such activities.

This Regulation provides for new opportunities for our cooperation with third countries, significantly increasing the Agency's external footprint. Further development of the network of Frontex Liaison Officers in third countries, the increased capacity to develop technical assistance in priority countries and, last but not least, the possibility to carry out operational activities with executive powers on the territory of neighbouring third countries are important examples of the Agency's growing international engagement.

Our operational cooperation with third countries is also an important part of the external action of the EU. In our activities we strive to complement the work of EU institutions and Member States, but also rely on the success of their broader outreach of the EU's external policies and multi-lateral cooperation frameworks. In this regard, I remain thankful to the European Commission and the European External Action Service, including the Common Security and Defence Policy missions and EU Delegations, for their continuous support to Frontex activities with third countries.

Fabrice Leggeri
Executive Director

¹ Regulation (EU) 2016/1624 of 14 September 2016 on the European Border and Coast Guard (OJ L 251, 16.09. 2016, p. 1).

2017: priorities and developments

Despite the decreasing trend of arrivals of irregular migrants to Europe, the migratory pressure did not cease to exist. Smuggling and trafficking of human beings continued to pose a challenge to EU's security, with perpetrators finding ever new ways to take advantage of the most vulnerable. The political leaders of the EU have expressed on numerous occasions their commitment to tackle the subject in a collective and coordinated manner, and called for a stronger supportive role of Frontex at the EU's external borders as well as in the external dimension.

In order to give strategic direction to the Agency's international cooperation, in December 2017, Frontex Management Board adopted the Agency's International Cooperation Strategy 2018–2020, as an integral part of our multi-annual programme. The Strategy guides the Agency's interaction with third countries and international organisations and outlines its approach to cooperation through concrete objectives, principles and tools. The Strategy identified the following priority regions with which Frontex strives for closer cooperation: the Western Balkans, Turkey, North and West Africa, Sub-Saharan countries and the Horn of Africa. These priorities are set and regularly reviewed based on the developments in the international environment, EU policy priorities and the outcomes of Frontex risk analysis. Eastern Partnership countries as well as strategic partners, such as the United States or Canada, remain important interlocutors for Frontex work.

In line with the above priorities, in 2017 cooperation with the **Western Balkan** countries continued in all areas of Frontex mandate and was enhanced by the deployment of a Frontex Liaison Officer to

the region. Our overall aim was to support the Western Balkan countries in getting closer to the EU best practices and developing interoperability with Frontex activities, with the ultimate goal of fostering their preparations for EU accession.

Cooperation with Turkey was also close and multi-dimensional. Frontex contributed to the implementation of the EU-Turkey Statement of 2016, facilitated information exchange and close dialogue through the Agency's Liaison Officer in Ankara and engaged in operational cooperation in various areas, including return.

By the end of 2017 Frontex has in place working arrangements with the border management authorities of 18 countries in Eastern Europe, the South Caucasus, the Western Balkans, Turkey, Africa and North America. These documents express the highest level of commitment for long-term technical and operational cooperation across various areas within our mandate.

Throughout the year, Frontex continued dialogue with a number of priority countries of origin and transit for irregular migration, which may at some point result in formal working arrangements.

- Negotiations with the competent authorities of **Senegal** continued in 2017, including a technical visit of a Frontex delegation to Dakar in June. Cooperation in the area of return remains an open issue in this regard.
- Negotiations with the authorities of **Niger** started in April 2017. Two missions to Niamey took place over the year, including a visit of the Executive Director of Frontex in July.
- In December, on the occasion of a visit to Conakry, Frontex initiated

dialogue on a working arrangement with the authorities of **Guinea**. In order to facilitate cooperation in the area of return, Frontex and the Guinean authorities agreed to develop a document on "Good Practices for the Implementation of Return-Related Activities".

- 2017 signified a renewed impetus for dialogue with the authorities of **Egypt**. A high-level Egyptian delegation visit to Frontex took place in March and a technical visit of Frontex to Egypt on information exchange, situational awareness, training and technical assistance followed in May.
- The signature of a working arrangement with **Morocco** remained dependent on developments on the political level. The Agency explored the possibilities of re-initiating discussions on cooperation. In the margins of the International Border Police Conference, Frontex Executive Director met with the Director of Immigration and Border Surveillance Department of the Moroccan Ministry of Interior, who signalled a positive attitude of Morocco towards working with Frontex.

Additionally, we maintained open and constructive dialogue and collaboration with the broader international border security community, including through capacity building projects, e.g. the IBM flagship initiative in the Eastern Partnership region, and exchange of information. Frontex also sought strategic partnerships with countries that face similar challenges and see mutual benefit in good practice exchange. In this regard, we continued close dialogue and good practice exchange with authorities in the U.S., Canada, Australia and a number of other countries.

Frontex Liaison Officers to third countries

In 2017 Frontex continued to increase the Agency's presence in third countries through Frontex Liaison Officers (FLOs). In addition to the FLO to Turkey posted in Ankara in 2016, the Agency recruited and deployed two new FLOs. In the second half of 2017, a FLO took up duties in Niger, Niamey and another FLO was deployed to Belgrade, Serbia, with a regional mandate for the Western Balkans. The FLOs are co-located at the EU Delegations in their respective countries and work closely with other EU and international counterparts, among them CSDP missions, immigration liaison officers of EU Member States, as well as international organisations.

Considering future deployments, the Western Balkans, North Africa, West Africa, the Horn of Africa and the Silk Route region remain priority regions for the FLOs, as adopted by the Frontex Management Board. These priorities are reviewed on a yearly basis.

In mid-2017, the mandate of the European Union Border Assistance Mission in Libya (EUBAM Libya) was prolonged and included among its tasks a progressive engagement in mapping the role and capacities of different Libyan actors dealing with border management, customs, irregular migration and human trafficking. As the EU's centre of knowledge on integrated border management, Frontex was asked to support EUBAM Libya with expertise on the ground. Two experts were successfully deployed for three-month periods in 2017.



Figure 1: **International Border Police Conference 2017**

Bringing together the international border management community

Frontex facilitates dialogue and cooperation at operational level through international events bringing together border and coast guard community.

In November 2017, Frontex hosted the **International Border Police Conference**. The event was designed as a platform for networking and enhancing cooperation among border management institutions. Under the overall heading "Ensuring Global Security through Integrated Border Management", the event discussed evolving security challenges, situation monitoring for border management, interoperability of information systems and strengthening of border guards' capacities. Border police representatives of 67 countries, of which 40 – non-EU, participated. The conference

was also an excellent opportunity to introduce the new mandate of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency to our counterparts in third countries and discuss bilateral cooperation on the margins of the event.

In June, Frontex organised the **European Day for Border Guards** – its annual flagship event. On that occasion, discussions were held on the implications of the European Border and Coast Guard Regulation (achievements, challenges and way forward), the European IBM, the new role of Frontex in the coast guard functions and border security as part of internal and external security. Representatives of nine third countries² took part in the event.

² Albania, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine.

The Agency also facilitated the dialogue at operational level through initiatives such as the **Operational Heads of Airports Conference**. The event was organised by Frontex in March 2017 in Portugal and focused on air border operations and other activities already implemented and those planned. Among the 165 officials, there were senior representatives of 19 third-country airports.

In September, Frontex held a Conference and Exhibition on **'Biometrics on the Move'** in Warsaw, as a platform for international dialogue in the area of research and innovation, specifically on feasibility and potential impact of 'biometrics on the move' technology for border control with a view to enhancing security and facilitating travel at the

borders. The focus of the event was on the required legislation and technologies which could enable a wider use of 'biometrics on the move' bringing a change to the border checks approach with the potential to change day-to-day operations at the border. In total 176 delegates from 37 countries were participating, amongst others government representatives of the United States, Australia or Singapore (contributing as speakers) as well as industry, academia and airport representatives from all over the world.

In the field of training, Frontex held the **Annual Training Conference** in October. This event aims at bringing together the National Training Coordinators, representatives of Frontex Partnership Academies, international organisations, and

training practitioners to address the current relevant topics in European border and coast guard education and training. Representatives from eleven third countries participated in the *2017 edition which was devoted to Educational Technology*.

In a more general context, the first anniversary of the entry into force of our enhanced mandate, as foreseen in the European Border and Coast Guard Regulation, provided an excellent opportunity to assess the work already achieved and to look ahead at the upcoming developments. To mark the occasion a number of ambassadors representing partner countries in Warsaw visited the Agency for the International Day in December.

Situational awareness and monitoring

The agency is also actively engaged in cooperation with the competent authorities of third countries in the area of situational awareness and monitoring. Key components of the cooperation in this area, aiming at improving the common pre-frontier intelligence picture, are the regional risk analysis networks with third countries: Turkey-Frontex Risk Analysis Network (TU-RAN), Western Balkans Risk Analysis Network (WB-RAN), Eastern Partnership Risk Analysis Network (EaP-RAN) and Africa-Frontex Intelligence Community (AFIC). The networks are expert groups bringing together analysts from border control authorities in third countries, in some cases also from EU Member States. Within these networks regular meetings were held in 2017 in order to discuss the main trends in the field of illegal immigration and other threats affecting the regions. As a result of these meetings, Frontex produced periodical analytical products such as annual risk assessment reports, analytical reviews, quarterly and monthly reports. Additionally, Frontex performed monitoring activities of specific developments in most relevant third countries affecting the migration situation at the external borders. These activities resulted in a series of short analytical documents of different types (e.g. early warning, key development, facilitation analysis) which enhanced situational awareness on important developments.

Moreover, we continued our work on the operationalisation of Common Risk Indicators for travelling foreign terrorist fighters by organising a joint workshop for Eastern Partnership and Western Balkan counterparts. This resulted in producing tailored language versions of the

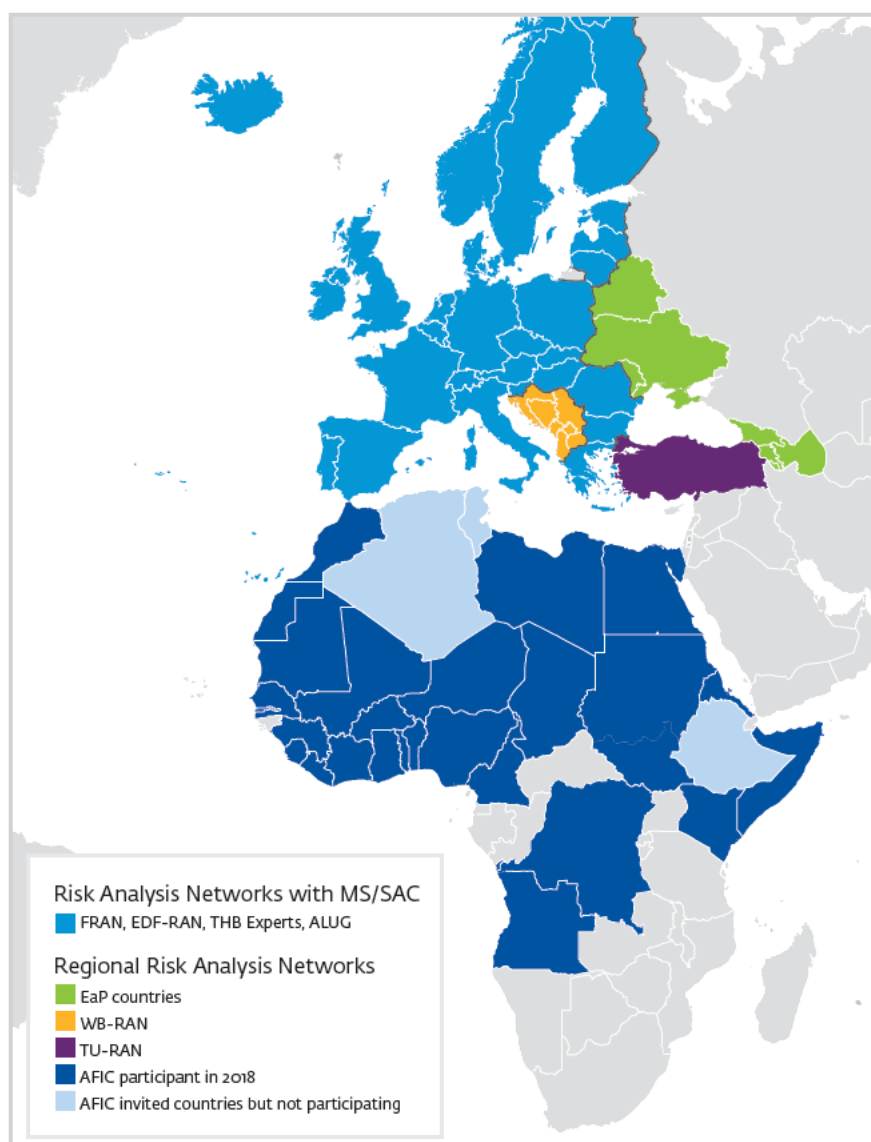


Figure 2 **Risk Analysis Networks with Member States and Schengen Associated Countries**

Common Risk Indicators in Serbian, Croatian, Albanian and Macedonian for the Western Balkan partners and in Russian, which is widely used in the Eastern Partnership region.

Operational response



From the perspective of operational response, cooperation with third countries takes place at four different levels:

- 1 Frontex implements operational activities on the territory of third countries without executive powers by means of so called Coordination Points;
- 2 third-country partners deploy observers to Frontex operational activities at EU external borders;
- 3 provided a Status Agreement between the EU and a third country is in place, Frontex has the possibility to implement fully-fledged operation on the territory of third country;
- 4 the Agency cooperates with some third countries in the framework of the EU Policy Cycle/European multidisciplinary platform against criminal threats (EMPACT).

In 2017, we supported the establishment of 12 **Coordination Points** at the land border crossing points in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia,

Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Ukraine and Kosovo³. EU experts with observer status from the European Border and Coast Guard Teams were deployed to facilitate the exchange of information, good practices, and early detection of illegal immigration trends towards the EU external borders through the territories of these third countries.

In the framework of the Joint Operation Coordination Points 2017 Air, 12 Coordination Points were activated, hosting EU experts with observer status at Belgrade (BEG), Chisinau (KIV), Tbilisi (TBS), Kiev Boryspil (KBP), Kiev Zhuliany (IEV), Lviv (LWO), Odessa (ODS), Montreal (YUL), Pristina (PRN), Skopje (SKP), Tirana (TIA) and Toronto (YYZ) airports.

An excellent example of successful operational cooperation is Ukraine, where in

- 3 This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence

2017 we established Coordination Points at airports and land border crossing points, but also hosted Ukrainian observers at EU airports and land border crossing points. Following the visa liberalisation for Ukrainian citizens (since June 2017), the Ukrainian authorities requested support in increasing their operational capacity by hosting additional Frontex officers.

The Joint Action with Albania in the air border domain is another example of close cooperation with third countries. Frontex established a joint activity with Albanian authorities in order to mitigate the flow of Albanian irregular migrants traveling by air towards EU Member States and Schengen Associated Countries. Specific common measures aimed at increasing awareness of potentially irregular Albanian citizens of the risk of being refused at EU/Schengen Area airports on arrival, and dissuading most of them from proceeding to travel. Within this Joint Action, a total of 23 EU advisers and observers were deployed in September-December 2017 at the Tirana Airport and eight Albanian were deployed as observers at the most affected EU/Schengen Area airports.

Based on identified needs, Frontex invited **third-country observers** to participate in our operational activities. This offered not only a unique opportunity for the non-EU partners to become acquainted with Frontex, but it also contributed to capacity building efforts in third countries, promoted European border guard standards, including fundamental rights aspects, facilitated exchange of good practices and improved overall cooperation.

In total, 41 third country observers were deployed in land border joint operations (Joint Operation Focal Points Land and Flexible Operational Activities 2017 on Border Surveillance) implemented on the territory of Member States.

At air borders, 11 third countries took part in joint operations in 2017 by deploying 32 observers. Third country officers were involved in the implementation of the Joint Operation Focal Points Air 2017 for intermediate managers and regular officers, which fostered operational cooperation among EU and non-EU airport border guards. It also increased the knowledge of third country officers regarding operational activities of Frontex and its values.

In maritime joint operations Albania, Georgia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo*, Moldova and Ukraine were involved. They deployed 13 officers altogether for short field visits in the framework of the Joint Operations Poseidon, Triton, Minerva and Focal Points Sea. The purpose of these field visits was to familiarise third country officers with the operational structures and working practices of Frontex joint operations. In addition, the observers

from third countries affected by illegal migration and cross-border crime targeting Italy, in particular Albania in relation to the drugs smuggling and Ukraine with regard to the people smuggling, facilitated information exchange, in order to better understand the situational picture in their countries of origin.

In 2017 the European Commission invited Frontex to contribute with the operational expertise to the negotiations of **Status Agreements** of the EU with Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Albania. When in force, these agreements will provide the legal basis to implement fully-fledged operational activity at external borders with executive powers on the territory of third countries.

Finally, Frontex worked together with a number of third countries as part of operational activities within the framework of the **EU Policy Cycle / EMPACT** platform. In 2017 two Joint Action Days (JAD) were led by Frontex and involved third countries:

- JAD Aeolos (September; co-led with Germany) sought to identify organised criminal involvement in irregular migration at participating airports,

including in Albania, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. The action delivered 18 arrests for offences relating to facilitation of illegal entry, trafficking in human beings and document fraud. Furthermore, Interpol reported the successful apprehension of three fugitives and two criminal suspects during their deployment at Amsterdam Schiphol Airport.

- JAD Dual (October; co-led by Austria and Germany) involved partners from Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (in addition to EU Member States, Interpol and Europol) and aimed at combatting facilitated illegal immigration and excise goods smuggling with the focus on the use of cargo trains, containers, trucks and other means of transportation. In terms of operational results, 761 irregular migrants and 247 over-stayers were detected, 24 facilitators were arrested, 119 persons were refused entry, 17 stolen vehicles were identified and 47 cases of smuggled cigarettes, alcohol and drugs along with weapons and ammunition were seized.

Return

Pre-return activities

Within the framework of the return intervention 'Flexible Operations in Return 2017', Frontex coordinated identification missions to address the challenges and obstacles that EU Member States and Schengen Associated Countries are facing in identification and documentation of third-country nationals. During such missions the authorities of third countries visit one or more EU Member States and/or Schengen Associated Countries to conduct individual interviews of their nationals who are illegally residing and/or have illegally entered the EU, with the primary purpose of issuing travel documents on the spot or shortly after the mission. Identification missions support and facilitate the work of diplomatic missions in order to overcome possible challenges that EU Member States face with these diplomatic missions.

Frontex is the associated partner in the European Return Liaison Officers Network (EURLO) Programme. The Agency, the European Commission, the EURLO Steering Group Committee and the EURLO Secretariat decided at the end of 2016 to proceed with a gradual phase-in of the EURLO Programme into Frontex. For the purpose of testing the feasibility of such integration, in 2017 Frontex developed a "Pilot Project on the deployment of EURLO implemented by Norway, under the legal and financing scheme of Frontex". Negotiations held with the Norwegian National Police Immigration Service in 2017 resulted in an agreement to deploy an EURLO to Ghana in 2018.

In 2017, Frontex contributed to the activities of the European Integrated Return Management Initiative (Eurint)

Network, including in the framework of the hand-over of Eurint activities, and to the inception of the European Return and Reintegration Network (ERRIN).

We also supported the European Commission in the implementation of international agreements concluded by the EU with third countries in the field of identification and return. For instance, we contributed to the development of the Standard Operating Procedures with Bangladesh and the "Good Practices for the Implementation of Return-Related Activities with the Republic of Guinea", all forming important elements of the EU return policy that was being developed and consolidated throughout 2017.

Return activities

In 2017, Frontex registered a constant growth in the number of return activities. The implementation of 341 Frontex coordinated and co-financed return operations by charter flights and returning 14 189 third-country nationals meant an increase in the number of return operations by 47% and increase of third-country nationals returned by 33% compared to 2016. Frontex continued to provide tailor-made support to Member States, extended by putting in place a mechanism to charter aircrafts via Frontex for return operations coordinated by the

Agency. The framework contract was signed in 2017.

Out of 14189 third country nationals, 7587 were returned in Joint Return Operations (53%), 5172 in National Return Operations (36%) and 1430 in Collecting Return Operations (10%; see the table above).

In 2017, 18 Member States have organised return operations by charter flights. The top three organising Member States are Germany, Italy and France. They handed over 12 500 third country nationals (88% of the total).

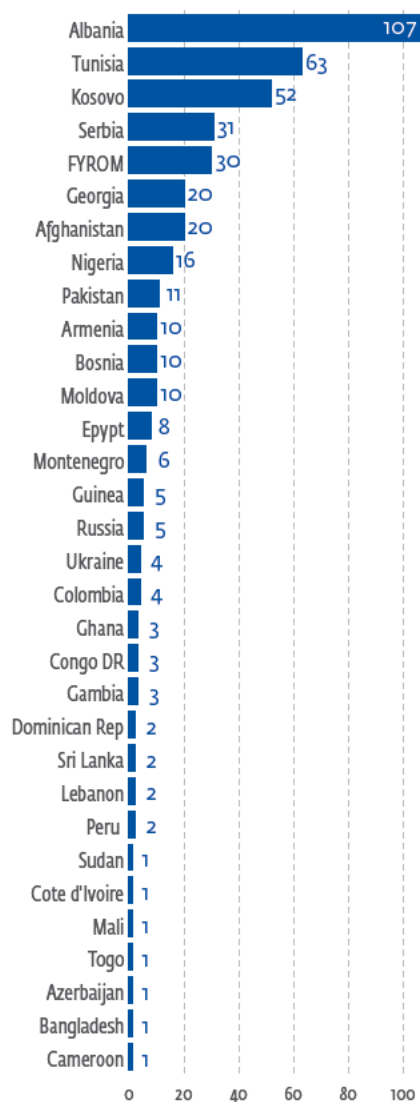
The Western Balkans remained the most popular destination region for return operations. In 2017, 236 return operations were carried out to this region, which constitutes 69% of total return operations organised. 63% of all returnees in 2017 were nationals of one of the Western Balkan countries.

In November 2017, Frontex organised its first joint return operation to Afghanistan. The operation was organised by Hungary, with Belgium and Slovenia as participating Member States, and returned a total of 22 third country nationals to Afghanistan. In order to make this operation a success, the participating Member States and Frontex needed a coordinated support of the European

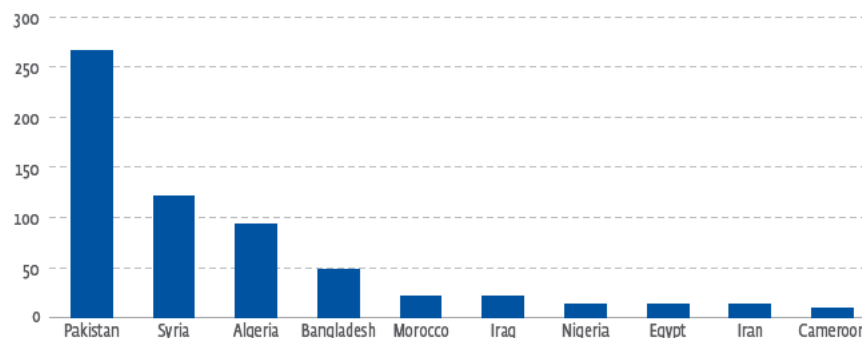
Numbers of returnees and numbers of return operations by type

Type of return operations	Number of returnees	Number of operations
Joint return operations (>1 MS)	7 587 (54%)	153 (45%)
National return operations (1 MS)	5 172 (36%)	150 (44%)
Collecting return operations	1 430 (10%)	38 (11%)
Total	14 189	341

Return operations by destination



Readmission operations by nationality of returnees - Top ten nationalities



Commission as well as the EU Delegation and the European Return Liaison Officers Network in Afghanistan.

The number of **collecting return operations** (CRO) increased from 15 in 2016 to 38 in 2017. Such operations, in which means of transport and forced-return escort officers are provided by the third country of return, were organised to Albania, Serbia, Georgia and Ukraine. The number of returnees within this type of operations increased by 70% compared to 2016. The first CRO to Ukraine was successfully accomplished in December 2017, returning 15 Ukrainian nationals, adding one more third country to the CRO concept, which is strongly encouraged by Frontex.

Having regard to the specific activities addressed to Frontex in the renewed "Action Plan on a More Effective Return Policy in the EU"⁴, Frontex has developed a mechanism aimed at assisting Member States in carrying out returns by scheduled flights, according to standard

procedures. Since the end of 2017, Member States can organise not only return operations by charter flights, but also **return operations by scheduled flights**.

The Pilot Project on returns by scheduled flights was officially launched in December. In December 2017, eight return operations by scheduled flights were successfully carried out to Morocco by Germany and Sweden, returning eight Moroccan nationals.

In total, 85 **readmission operations** were carried out between the start of operations in April 2016 (59 by sea and 26 by air) and the end of 2017. 1595 third-country nationals were readmitted (1 353 by sea and 242 by air) from Greece to Turkey. Out of the total, 242 Syrian nationals were readmitted by charter flights to Adana, Turkey. Within the total of 85 readmission operations, 50 were conducted in 2017 (37 by sea and 13 by air). In 2017 a total of 576 escort officers were deployed to Greece to support the readmission operations by air and by sea. The top three nationalities readmitted to Turkey by air and sea were Pakistanis, Syrians and Algerians (see the chart on the right).

4 COM (2017)200 final.

Capacity building

Technical assistance projects in third countries

Frontex is substantively increasing its support related to capacity building of border management services in third countries, including with funding of the European Commission. In 2017, we continued the implementation of two technical assistance projects (in the Western Balkans and in the Eastern Partnership region), launched the implementation of a new project in Africa and started dialogue with the Commission on a new project in the Southern neighbourhood.

In the Western Balkans, Frontex continued the implementation of the project '**Regional Support to Protection-Sensitive Migration Management in the Western Balkans and Turkey**'. The project is implemented in cooperation with the European Asylum Support Office (EASO), International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR). It aims at providing a comprehensive and holistic regional approach to effective and protection-sensitive migration management systems in the framework of the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA II) and as part of the EU accession processes of the programme's seven beneficiary countries⁵. Throughout the year, altogether 312 beneficiaries (in the role of participants, trainees and observers) took part in Frontex-led activities.

In the Eastern Partnership region Frontex continued the implementation of the **Eastern Partnership IBM Capacity Building Project** – a component of the EaP IBM Flagship Initiative, carried out in cooperation with the World Customs Organization (WCO), the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) and IOM. The projects focuses on capacity building initiatives and improving training capacity according to the specific needs of border police and customs in the six Eastern Partnership countries⁶. Over the course of the year, 371 officials (127 border guards and 244 customs) were trained.

On 1 September 2017, the Africa-Frontex Intelligence Community (AFIC) entered a new phase with the EU-funded project '**Strengthening of AFIC as an Instrument to fight serious cross-border crimes affecting Africa and the EU**'. Through this project, Frontex aims to develop the capacity of AFIC countries⁷ to work on joint intelligence analysis of crime by training their analysts and by providing them with technical equipment, i. e. setting up AFIC Risk Analysis Cells (RACs). Within the framework of the project, five scoping visits were conducted in 2017: to The Gambia, Senegal as well as to Ghana, Benin and Guinea.

In cooperation with the European Commission Frontex also started the development of a new technical assistance

project – the **EU4Border Security**, with the objective to increase integrated border management capacities in the EU's Southern neighbourhood. This three-year project will be launched in 2018 and financed from the European Neighbourhood Instrument.

Training

Frontex training activities aimed at promoting excellence in border management to its partners in third countries, thereby facilitating the development and upgrading of professional standards for those carrying out their duties at external borders.

We continued our contribution to the **capacity building and training of the Libyan Coast Guard and Navy** in the framework of additional tasks for EU-NAVFOR MED Operation Sophia. An *ad-hoc* one-week training course was conducted with the objective to strengthen the security of Libyan territorial waters and build capacities of the Libyan Coast Guard to perform their duties. The training programme included topics such as preparing an operation plan, communication skills, establishing identities of persons and vessels, search and rescue and crime scene investigation.

Frontex regularly invites third-country observers to attend **training programmes**. In 2017, 11 participants from

⁵ Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo*, Serbia, Montenegro and Turkey.

⁶ Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine.

⁷ Countries concerned by the project are Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Sudan and Togo. Frontex also sought active participation of Algeria, Ethiopia, Somalia and Tunisia.

third countries⁸ took part in the on-line Introduction to Educational Technology Course designed for border and coast guard teaching staff; one participant from Canada took part in the Advanced level document officer course designed for experienced document examiners; two experts from Ukraine took part in

Sectoral Qualification Framework (SQF) Course Design designed for experienced trainers and professionals involved in designing and reviewing training programmes for border and coast guards. Experts from 13 non-EU countries⁹ took part in the updating process of the **Common Core Curriculum for Border and**

Coast Guards Basic Training in the EU (CCC) which harmonises the basic training for the border and coast guards. Some of the mentioned countries have already started the implementation process of the CCC at the national level and completed the translation of the curriculum.

⁸ From Canada, Montenegro, Ukraine, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo* and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

⁹ Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Georgia, Kosovo*, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Ukraine and Nigeria.



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