



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 7 August 2018  
(OR. en)

6354/02  
DCL 1

LIMITE

CIREFI 16  
COMIX 117

### DECLASSIFICATION

---

of document: 6354/02 RESTREINT UE/EU RESTRICTED

dated: 26 April 2002

new status: LIMITE

---

Subject: Situation report on current knowledge on illegal immigration and facilitation  
- Situation as at 25 February 2002

---

Delegations will find attached the declassified version of the above document.

The text of this document is identical to the previous version.

---

# RESTREINT UE



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 26 April 2002**

**6354/02**

**RESTREINT UE**

**CIREFI 16  
COMIX 117**

## **NOTE**

---

**from:** General Secretariat  
**to:** CIREFI

---

**Subject:** **Situation report on current knowledge on illegal immigration and facilitation  
- Situation as at 25 February 2002**

---

Delegations will find in annex a situation report based on information exchanged by delegations at the CIREFI/ Mixed Committee (Iceland and Norway) meeting held on 25 February 2002.

This report is directly submitted for information to the working parties as well as the Strategic Committee on Immigration, Frontiers and Asylum.

\_\_\_\_\_

# RESTREINT UE

## AUSTRIA

Period under consideration : January 2002

### 1. Statistical data and general trends (stability, increase, decrease)

#### 1.1. Refusal of entry at all borders

January	1 707
---------	-------

##### 5 top nationalities:

Romanians (599), Bulgarians (199), Poles (196), Slovaks (118) and Croatians (85).

#### 1.1.1. Land

January	1 635
---------	-------

#### 1.1.2. Air

January	72
---------	----

#### 1.1.3. Sea: —

#### 1.2. Illegal aliens apprehended

January	1 506
---------	-------

##### 5 top nationalities:

Ukrainians (238), Yugoslavs (179), Romanians (141), Poles (118) and Bulgarians (75)

#### 1.3. Applications for asylum at the border: —

# RESTREINT UE

1.4. Applications for asylum within the country: —

Asylum applications:

As at January	3 111
---------------	-------

5 top nationalities:

Afghans, Armenians, Georgians, Iraqis and Turks.

1.5. Expulsions carried out

January	549
---------	-----

Top nationalities:

Romanians (82), Yugoslavs (76), Poles (61), Turks (48) and Bulgarians (41).

1.6. Comments

In total, 3 374 persons (illegal entry/unlawful presence, facilitators and their customers) were apprehended in January. This is 0,1% down on the same month of the previous year and approx. 39% down on December 2001.

The numbers apprehended also fell in January last year. This is primarily because many people who have spent a long time in an EU Member State and whose residence has become illegal return home in December and are found to have illegal visas on leaving the country.

For the first time, the number of people smuggled in (1 732) topped the figure for illegal entry/unlawful presence (1 506).

# RESTREINT UE

## 2. Salient facts

### 2.4. Exceptional occurrences

#### 2.4.4. Large-scale influxes of illegal aliens

Several large groups of illegal immigrants were caught trying to enter the country in January.

On 22 January a total of 42 persons were caught in a dinghy on the March river, trying to cross into Austria from Slovakia. There were 22 Iraqis, 8 Algerians and 12 Bangladeshis in the group.

Also on 22 January, a total of 46 undocumented persons (30 Georgians, 12 Armenians and 4 Azerbaijanis) were caught trying to cross the "green border" from the Czech Republic, and on 23 January a total of 52 undocumented persons were apprehended (27 Armenians, 11 Georgians, 8 Russians, 4 Azerbaijanis, 1 Moldovan and 1 Slovak).

On several occasions at the end of January a total of 70 undocumented persons from the successor States to the Soviet Union were picked up on the green border with the Czech Republic. They were being smuggled in groups of 10.

### 2.5. Bilateral or multilateral cooperation arrangements introduced during the period under examination

In February 2002, two declarations were agreed with Hungary. One concerns cooperation on police training and the other increased cooperation in combating corruption.

Austria and Hungary also agreed to establish three border posts with a common Customs office.

=====

# RESTREINT UE

## BELGIUM

Period under consideration : January 2002

### 1. Statistical data and general trends(stability, increase, decrease)

#### 1.1. Refusal of entry at all frontiers :

298 (+13,3 %)

COD (Democratic Republic of the Congo), AFG (Afghanistan), ROU (Romania), YUG(Kosovo), MKD (FYROM).

1.1.1. Land : 141 (+4,4 %).

AFG (Afghanistan), MKD (FYROM), YUG (Kosovo), DZA (Algeria), IRN (Iran).

1.1.2. Air : 103 (+35,5 %).

COD (Democratic Republic of the Congo), ROU (Romania), BGR (Bulgaria), POL (Poland), IND (India).

1.1.3. Sea : 12 (-42,8 %).

COD (Democratic Republic of the Congo), CIV (Côte d'Ivoire), MAR (Morocco), TUR (Turkey), POL (Poland).

#### 1.2. Illegal aliens apprehended :

1 943 (-7,3 %)

AFG (Afghanistan), IRK (Iraq), YUG (Federal Republic of Yugoslavia), MAR (Morocco), DZA (Algeria).

#### 1.3. Applications for asylum at the frontier :

23 (- 60,3 %)

COD (Democratic Republic of the Congo), IRK (Iraq), CMR (Cameroon), AFG (Afghanistan), BIH (Bosnia-Herzegovina).

# RESTREINT UE

## 1.4. Applications for asylum within the national territory :

1 835 (+12,6 %)

DZA (Algeria), COD (Democratic Republic of the Congo), TUR (Turkey), SVK (Slovakia),  
RUS (Russia).

## 1.5. Expulsions carried out :

554 (-26,5 %)

BGR (Bulgaria), POL (Poland), ROM (Romania), ALB (Albania), TUR (Turkey).

## 1.6. Comments :

Interceptions of illegal transports with GBR as destinations :

495 (+9,2 %)

AFG (Afghanistan), IRK (Iraq), IRN (Iran), LKA (Sri Lanka), MKD (FYROM).

## 2. Salient facts

### 2.3. New operating methods and causes identified

#### 2.3.1. New itineraries detected

Reception centres for victims of trafficking have recently found that large numbers of men are claiming to have been brought to Belgium to play football and then "dropped" by the team. On closer investigation, however, these would appear to be people taking advantage of Belgium's recent problems with foreign footballers to make false claims.

The Maritime Police in Zeebrugge reported the following modus operandi used to smuggle Turks via the Netherlands. Four or five people board a ferry to Dover in a vehicle with a Netherlands numberplate, producing Netherlands passports at the ticket office. On arrival in Dover, the driver alone disembarks. Some time later, three or four people present themselves to the British immigration authorities as Turkish nationals and apply for asylum; they have no identity papers.

# RESTREINT UE

Closer investigation has revealed that in most cases lookalikes are used, and in the rest passports which are on the SIS stolen list. The illegal aliens are smuggled into the Netherlands in lorries, where the organisation provides them with Netherlands passports and transfers them to cars to take them through the Zeebrugge frontier post. Once in Britain they apply for asylum.

## 2.3.2. Use of fraudulent methods to obtain visas

Last week the visa service detected five forged visas – two Brazilian, two Maltese and one Indian - in Russian passports. The liaison officer had already warned the service of the risk of false visas some time previously. Our visa staff's foreign colleagues had also already mentioned the matter at their meetings. Most cases involved the use of visas to cover up "entry refused" stamps in passports. That was not, however, the case here. The visas were found in five different passports and were clearly meant to give an unsuspecting visa service the impression of frequent travel. In all five cases the aim was to obtain a type B transit visa to stop over in Belgium en route to Morocco. All five passports contained a valid (genuine) visa for Morocco. It is of course extremely unlikely that there was ever any intention of travelling on to Morocco. The five persons concerned, plus four underage children, are in fact from Dagestan and in all probability intend to apply for refugee status in Belgium.

### VISAS:

All the visas are printed on plain paper and reaction to ultraviolet light is therefore an initial – simple – pointer:

- \* the security markings which should appear under ultraviolet light on the Maltese and Brazilian visas (e.g. the Brazilian coat of arms or the words "VISA MALTA") are not visible and no attempt has been made to achieve any such effect;
- \* the visas are printed on glazed paper and thus feel smoother than genuine visas;
- \* offset printing has not been used and the overall effect is blurred and indistinct;
- \* in colour, however, the visas are very close to the genuine article;
- \* the serial numbers change. In all probability several series with different serial numbers were printed;

# RESTREINT UE

- \* great care has been taken in reproducing the stamps and the consular seal (Brazil);
- \* the forgers have omitted (forgotten?) to affix immigration service stamps to make the visas more realistic;
- \* in size, the visas are virtually identical to the originals and the corners of the stickers have been rounded off where appropriate.

## 2.3.3. Use of false documents

The National Airport Security Unit discovered new types of forgery in Belgian passports: A very professional job of photo substitution was detected in the Belgian passports of two Congolese arriving from Kinshasa on an LAC flight. These forgeries are also characterised by perforations at each corner of the photo.

In all likelihood, the perforations served to position the new photo accurately.

Belgian passports with perforations at the corners of the photo should be checked with extra care.

## 2.3.5. Other

- In January 2002 seven vessels brought a total of eighteen illegal immigrants into Antwerp.

- Use of an already well-known modus operandi is on the increase: illegal immigrants gather at a Brussels railway station, probably Brussels South, where they buy a ticket to Gent St Pieters (costing around EUR 7) or Wetteren (EUR 5).

- Last month Belgium reported that since the end of December 2001 the Organised Crime Section had found that a network previously detected bringing Iranian nationals (Kurds) into Belgium via Athens was back in operation. This time, the use of forged Polish passports was a feature of the operation. The situation was brought to the attention of the Aliens Office, which acted by introducing gate checks on incoming flights from Athens from 4 to 10 February 2002.

The checks were meant to give a clear signal to the Greek authorities and stem the illegal immigration. The action was discontinued on 11 February 2002 by order of the Private Office at the Ministry of the Interior. As a result of the gate controls, six people were detained and held in the INAD Centre by order of the Aliens Office, pending a readmission agreement with the Greek authorities.

# RESTREINT UE

## DENMARK

Period under consideration: January 2002

### 1. Statistical data and general trends (stability, increase, decrease)

#### 1.1 Refusal of entry at all frontiers

53 (103%)

POL (Poland), TUR (Turkey), PHL (Philippines), IND (India), PAK (Pakistan)

1.1.1. Land: no recording.

1.1.2. Air: 40 (135%)

TUR (Turkey), PHL (Philippines), IND (India), PAK (Pakistan), NGA (Nigeria)

1.1.3. Sea: 13 (44%)

POL (Poland)

#### 1.2 Illegal aliens apprehended:

no statistical information

#### 1.3 Applications for asylum at the frontier:

159 (4,5%)

IRQ (Iraq), AGF (Afghanistan), YUG (Kosovo), SOM (Somalia), DZA (Algeria)

#### 1.4 Applications for asylum within the national territory:

308 (-27%)

IRQ (Iraq), YUG (Yugoslavia), YUG (Kosovo), SOM (Somalia), RUS (Russian Fed.)

#### 1.5 Expulsions carried out:

465 (107%)

IRQ (Iraq), YUG (Kosovo), BOS (Bosnia and Herzegovina), AFG (Afghanistan), ARM (Armenia)

# RESTREINT UE

## 1.6 Remarks:

The number of persons refused entry at frontiers in the last three months of 2001 showed a downward trend. In January 2002 the number of refusals rose by 103% so that they have now reached the same level as in November 2001.

The number of asylum applications showed a downward trend in the last three months of 2001. This trend continued in January 2002.

## 2. Salient facts:

At the beginning of February 2002, five Georgian nationals were stopped by the police in Denmark. They established their identities using travel documents issued by the Georgian Consulate in Brussels, Belgium.

The travel documents were valid for one month, and the Consulate had endorsed the documents with a transit authorisation for Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, Austria, France, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Sweden and Denmark.

The Georgians, who were destitute, maintained that they had entered the Schengen area using genuine passports containing visas.

They also said that the travel documents had been issued at a cost of EUR 70 per document.

### 2.1. Reminder of the particulars communicated via the early warning system and measures taken:

Possibly in connection with the aforementioned issuing of travel documents by the Georgian Consulate in Belgium, Belgium issued an early warning alert in mid-February concerning a large group of persons posing as Georgian nationals, who were apparently Russian/Chechen nationals wishing to travel to Belgium.

The Police Service, which e-mails a daily analysis of threats to the country's police districts and cooperation partners, has incorporated the relevant facts into its analysis.

## RESTREINT UE

### 2.2. Principal investigations leading to the dismantling of illegal networks or workshops:

In a joint venture between the Greek and Danish police authorities, a network of Polish facilitators was uncovered on the Athens-Copenhagen air route, as mentioned in the November 2001 report. In January, two Polish nationals were sentenced to terms of imprisonment of three months and thirty days respectively and banned from Denmark for three years for smuggling a total of seven persons into the country.

—

DECLASSIFIED

# RESTREINT UE

## GERMANY

Period under consideration: January 2002

### **1. Statistical data and general trends (stability, increase, decrease)**

#### 1.1. Refusal of entry at all external frontiers

January	4.377
---------	-------

##### 1.1.1. Land

January	4.048
---------	-------

##### 1.1.2. Air

January	294
---------	-----

##### 1.1.3. Sea

January	35
---------	----

#### 1.2. Illegal aliens apprehended (only external borders)

	illegal entry	illegal stay
January	429	1.393

#### 1.3. Applications for asylum at the frontiers

	Total	Intra Schengen Borders	External Borders
January	466	240	226

#### 1.4. Applications for asylum within the national territory

	including applications for asylum at the borders
January	7.762

# RESTREINT UE

## 1.5. Expulsions carried out

January	2.504
---------	-------

## 1.6 Comments

Except for the figures under points 1.3 and 1.4 the statistics refer to persons apprehended at the external borders.

In January 2002 the number of persons refused entry at frontiers is clearly 11.5% above the level at the same period last year (01/2001: 3 876).

### Trend at all borders

Compared with January 2001 the number of those found entering illegally was about 20% lower in January 2002 (1 881).

In January 2002 the number of illegal entrants from Romania, Afghanistan, Turkey and Moldova showed a clear downward trend compared with the same period last year.

In addition, there was a fall in the number of illegal entrants from Russia, Ukraine and Yugoslavia in January 2002 compared with the same period last year.

The greatest increase was in the number of recorded illegal entrants from China (55; + 588%) and Bulgaria (97; + 246%).

In January 2002, 204 facilitators were apprehended. Compared with January 2001 this represents a fall of about 37%.

## 2. Salient facts

### 2.1. Reminder of the particulars communicated via the early warning system and measures taken

In January 2002 two CIREFI alerts were issued by Germany.

# RESTREINT UE

In January 2002 the Border Guard Directorate (*Grenzschutzdirektion*) received 19 CIREFI alerts. Many of these alerts involved information on immigrant smuggling by ship in the Mediterranean area and did not initially require any action on the part of Germany.

In six cases (EWS 1/SLMV/02; EWS/N0/02/02; EWS/ESP/01/02; EWS/PRT/01/02; EWS/SWE/02/01; EWS/MALTA/02/02) the Federal Border Guard (BGS), the Federal Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BKA) and the Bureaux of Criminal Investigation of the Länder were notified via the weekly reports.

## **2.2. Principal investigations leading to the dismantling of illegal networks or workshops**

## **2.3. New operating methods and causes identified**

### **2.3.1 Stamps and stamp plates of the Spanish authorities discovered**

When German customs examined some luggage at Düsseldorf Airport on 9 January 2002, customs officers found several stamps and stamp plates of Spanish authorities and several Pakistani identity documents. Investigations to date have shown that these were counterfeit official seals of the Barcelona aliens authorities and counterfeit border control stamps. The identity documents had been made out to different people. The luggage had reached Düsseldorf from Pakistan via London Heathrow on 8 January 2002. The owner was identified as a Pakistani living in Barcelona who on 8 January 2002 had flown to Barcelona from Pakistan via London Heathrow. An investigation was initiated on suspicion that preparations were being made to forge official identity papers. It has not yet been established whether the luggage in question was deliberately sent to Düsseldorf for the illegal use of the seals and stamps or whether it had simply been misdirected by the airline.

### **2.3.2 Measures against facilitators**

On 8 January 2002 the Passau District Court sentenced a Romanian facilitator to three years imprisonment on a charge of smuggling aliens into Germany. The court also withdrew his driving licence for a period of two years.

# RESTREINT UE

## 2.3.3 Prevention of illegal travel by air

Since 6 January 2002 staff of the Swiss Customer Ground Service (CGS) have denied boarding seven Albanians. They all produced Albanian passports that had been forged by means of photo substitution. The blue double-headed eagles over the photograph were screen-printed. The original laminate was covered by a second one. The misalignment of the simulated eagle motifs and the various UV features were hardly discernible on the photo page. Some of the passports contained exit stamps from Tirana – Rinas Airport but no entry stamps for re-entry there. In one case the entry visa bore a control stamp from the Dominican Republic but there was no exit stamp in this case either. The intended route was: Tirana (Albania) – Zürich (Switzerland) – Madrid (Spain) – Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic) – Madrid (Spain) – Zürich (Switzerland) – Tirana (Albania).

The Canadian embassy in Rome and the United States embassy in Tirana have reported that Albanian nationals could – without problem – obtain an entry visa in Santo Domingo on payment of a fee. The journey would then continue to Mexico. As the Albanian nationals had a valid visa from Santo Domingo they also obtained an entry visa on payment when they entered Mexico. In Mexico the Albanian passports would be taken from them and sent back to Albania. The Albanian nationals in question would then be smuggled on to the United States of America or South America.

## 2.5. Bilateral or multilateral cooperation arrangements introduced during the period under examination

### 2.5.1 Ongoing or scheduled deployment of documentation advisers

City/State	Period	No. of Officials	Location
Accra/Ghana	15.12.01 - 30.06.02	1 - 2	Airport & Embassy
Pristina/Yugoslavia	21.08.01 - 25.05.02	1	UNMIK Contingent
Tirana/Albania	10.12.01 - 30.06.02	1 - 2	Airport & Embassy
Lagos/Nigeria	16.10.01 - 31.05.02	1 - 2	Airport & Embassy
Pretoria/South Africa	18.02.02 - 13.03.02	1	Airport & Embassy
Ankara/Turkey	26.02.02 - 02.03.02	2	Airport & Embassy

# RESTREINT UE

## **Overall results from the deployment of documentation advisers in January 2002**

In January 2002, 106 aliens who produced false/forged documents were denied boarding by airlines on the basis of advice from pre-frontier documentation advisers. 47 aliens were denied visas by the visa sections of German embassies for the same reasons. In January 2002 a total of 154 aliens did not turn up for their booked flights at Tirana Airport in Albania, presumably after they had noticed the presence of documentation advisers.

### 2.5.2 Ongoing or scheduled bilateral cooperation arrangements

Police officers from the Federal Border Guard have been stationed since 18 February 2002 at the airports in Rome, Milan, Madrid and Barcelona.

DECLASSIFIED

# RESTREINT UE

## GREECE

Period under consideration : January 2002

### **1. Statistical data and general trends (stability, increase, decrease)**

1.1. Refusal of entry at all frontiers :  
data are currently not available

1.2. Illegal aliens apprehended :  
3 100 (-81,52%)  
ALB, IRQ, IRN, ROM, BGR

1.3. Applications for asylum at the frontier  
1 428 (December 2001)  
IRQ, TUR, AFG, SLE, PAK  
No data are available for January 2002.

1.4. Applications for asylum within the territory :  
195 (December 2001)  
IRQ, TUR, AFG, SLE, PAK  
No data are available for January 2002.

1.5. Expulsions carried out :  
2 240 (-84,91%)  
ALB, BGR, ROM, YUG, FYROM

1.6. Comments :

### **2. Salient facts**

1. In January 2002 forty-seven persons were arrested for facilitating illegal immigration.

## RESTREINT UE

2. A total of 63 groups of Afghans were recorded as arriving on various Greek islands by boat (inflatables and other small boats) from the Turkish coast and Turkish ports.

A further 105 illegal immigrants were prevented from leaving Greece illegally on scheduled shipping lines bound for Italy.

- ◆ On the maritime borders, the most typical cases of group arrivals of illegal immigrants were the following:

- On 1 January 2002, at Ierapetra on the island of Crete, the vessel *AYDIN CAPTAN*, flying the Turkish flag, was detected carrying 246 illegal immigrants of various nationalities, the majority being Turks and Iraqis of Kurdish origin. The immigrants had been transported by road from Istanbul to an unidentified Turkish port where they were put on board the vessel in question.

2 Turkish facilitators were arrested.

- On 5 January 2002, the vessel *HILMI DEDE*, flying the Turkish flag, was intercepted by coastguard vessels off the island of Evia. It was carrying 282 illegal immigrants, the majority of whom were Iraqis of Kurdish origin.

3 Turkish facilitators were arrested.

- On 18 January 2002, the vessel *HAKI BABA-1*, flying the Turkish flag, was intercepted by coastguard vessels off the island of Limnos. It was carrying 127 illegal immigrants of various nationalities.

3 Turkish facilitators were arrested.

- ◆ On the land borders, close to the Greek-Turkish border at Alexandroupolis, the border guard discovered 25 illegal immigrants of Iranian origin concealed in a private lorry.

1 Turkish and 3 Greek facilitators were arrested.

# RESTREINT UE

## SPAIN

Period under consideration: January 2002

### 1. Statistical data and general trends (stability, increase, decrease)

#### 1.1. Refusal of entry at all frontiers

1.1.1. Land: 99 384

1.1.2. Air: 661

1.1.3. Sea: 129

Total: 100 174

Main nationalities: Moroccan (MAR), Ecuadorian (ECU), Bolivian (BOL), Colombian (COL)

Comparison: **-1,3%** as compared with December 2001

#### 1.2. Illegal aliens apprehended

Total: 2 696 (provisional figure)

Main nationalities: Moroccan (MAR), Algerian (DZA), Colombian (COL), Ecuadorian (ECU) and Romanian (ROM)

Comparison: **+1%** as compared with December 2001

#### 1.3. Applications for asylum at the frontier

Total: 404

Main nationalities: Cuban (CUB) 367 and Colombian (COL) 16

Comparison: **-14%** as compared with December 2001

#### 1.4. Applications for asylum within the national territory

Total: 555

Main nationalities: Colombian (COL) 293, Nigerian (NGA) 62 and Cuban (CUB) 12

Comparison: **+23,8%** as compared with December 2001

# RESTREINT UE

## 1.5. Expulsions carried out

Total: 1 674 (provisional figure)

Main nationalities: Moroccan (MAR), Senegalese (SEN), Nigerian (NGA), Romanian (ROM) and Colombian (COL)

Comparison: **+16%** as compared with December 2001

## 1.6 Comments

Altogether, 81 small craft with 1,733 passengers aboard, mainly from Morocco and Sierra Leone, reached the coasts of Spain and the Canary Islands in January. Most arrivals were returned to their respective country of origin.

## 2. Salient facts

### 2.1. Particulars communicated via the early warning system and measures taken

### 2.2. Principal investigations leading to the dismantling of illegal networks or workshops

17 police operations were carried out in January, resulting in the arrest of 63 people, mainly Moroccans, Colombians and Ecuadorians, leaders of organisations specialising in document forgery and trafficking in human beings for sexual exploitation.

### 2.3. New operating methods and causes identified

### 2.4.3. Restoration of Article 2(2) of the Convention implementing the Schengen Agreement

Under Article 2(2) of the Convention implementing the Schengen Agreement, frontier controls with France were reinstated between 30 January and 3 February in the context of action planned over the six-month period of Spain's Presidency of the European Union.

During that time some 1,000 persons were stopped at Port Bou and La Junquera frontier posts. Most were refused entry because they had no frontier stamp, failed to state their reasons for travel or had insufficient funds. Mainly Romanians, Bulgarians and Moroccans were involved. Spain is very appreciative of the cooperation provided at all times by the French authorities.

# RESTREINT UE

## FRANCE

Period under consideration: November 2001

### 1. Statistical data and general trends (stability, increase, decrease)

#### 1.1. Refusal of entry at all frontiers:

3 781 in November 2001 (10,49% increase on November 2000)

Main nationalities: 930 Spaniards, 263 Chinese, 225 Guineans, 203 Afghans, 158 Moroccans, 156 Iraqis

1.1.1. Land: 2319 (-04,09%)

1.1.2. Air: 1400 (+46,44%)

1.1.3. Sea: 63 (+28,57%)

#### 1.2. Illegal aliens apprehended:

3 108 in November 2001 (23,06% decrease on November 2000)

(main nationalities: 319 Algerians, 273 Afghans, 265 Iraqis, 247 Moroccans, 192 Romanians)

#### 1.3. Applications for asylum at the frontier:

1 047 in November 2001 (60,09% increase on November 2000)

Mainly from: 191 Sierra Leone, 109 Guinea, 101 Iraq, 72 India, 52 Congo

#### 1.4. Applications for asylum within the national territory

#### 1.5. Expulsions carried out:

788 in November 2001

(183 Algerians, 157 Moroccans, 137 Romanians, 41 Turks, 25 Tunisians)

# RESTREINT UE

The major migratory movement from Italy towards the United Kingdom which has been crossing France for over a year continues. This situation, which has led to public order disturbances in the Calais region, has resulted in reinforced controls at both the Franco-Italian and Franco-British borders. As a result of these arrangements, **82 317 illegal aliens** (63% Iraqis and 25.80% Afghans) were apprehended during 2001 (compared with 25 327 in 2000) in the department of Pas de Calais by the border police. This number included 283 facilitators. The Sangatte centre houses between 1 000 and 1 700 refugees, mainly Afghans and Iraqi Kurds. Since the beginning of 2002, 3 migrants were found dead in the Eurotunnel.

## 2. Salient facts

### 2.1. Reminder of the particulars communicated via the early warning system and measures taken

France recalled the alert which was issued on a vessel which had left Lebanon.

### 2.2. Principal investigations leading to the dismantling of illegal networks or workshops:

OCRIEST (the French judicial service responsible for combating illegal immigration networks) dismantled a clothes-manufacturing operation which was employing workers illegally under the cover of a legal structure.

12 Chinese subjects (10 illegal) were apprehended. 11 were taken into police custody.

11 workstations and 1468 items of clothing were seized and sealed.

At the end of November 2000, information was received by the investigating department about a clothes manufacturer in the Paris region possibly employing foreigners without residence permits and accommodating them on its premises.

## RESTREINT UE

Initial enquiries led to two clothes manufacturing companies operating in what had formerly been a garage. These two business structures, both limited companies (SARLs) run by Chinese nationals, had each filed three preliminary employment declarations.

Surveillance revealed a disproportionate volume of output for the number of workers declared.

On 22 January 2002, OCRIEST investigators, acting on instructions from the public prosecutor's office, inspected the company and during the operation apprehended 10 illegal Chinese nationals.

DECLASSIFIED

# RESTREINT UE

## ICELAND

Period under consideration: January 2002

### 1. Statistical data and general trends (stability, increase, decrease)

#### 1.1. Refusal of entry at all frontiers

1.1.1.	Land	n/appl.
1.1.2.	Air	8
1.1.3.	Sea	0

1.2. Illegal aliens apprehended \_\_\_\_\_ 7

1.3. Applications for asylum at the frontier \_\_\_\_\_ 1

1.4. Applications for asylum within the national territory \_\_\_\_\_ 6

1.5. Expulsions carried out \_\_\_\_\_ 1

#### 1.6. Comments

One stowaway, an American national, was found. He entered an asylum application.

2. Salient facts) N/a

---

# RESTREINT UE

## IRELAND

Period under consideration: January 2002

### 1. Statistical data and general trends (stability, increase, decrease)

#### 1.1. Refusal of entry at all frontiers

1.1.1.	Land -	59
1.1.2.	Air -	420
1.1.3.	Sea-	40
	Total -	520

Total number of persons refused entry during December 2001: 421. The figures for January 2002 shows an increase of 19% in the number of persons detected attempting to enter illegally compared to December 2001.

Top 7 nationalities refused entry during January 2001.

1. Zimbabwe
2. Nigeria
3. Moldavia
4. Lithuania
5. Latvia
6. Poland
7. Romania

1.2. Illegal aliens apprehended - 0

1.3. Applications for asylum at the frontier - 128

# RESTREINT UE

1.4. Applications for asylum within the national territory - 710

Total - 838

Total number of asylum applications in December 2001: 960

When the figures for the month of January 2002 are compared with the previous month they show an overall decrease of 12% in the number of persons seeking asylum.

Top 5 nationalities applying for asylum in January 2002.

1. Nigeria
2. Moldova
3. Romania
4. Zimbabwe
5. Poland

1.5. Expulsions carried out - 29

Total number of persons expelled in December 2001-39

## 2. Salient facts

### 2.2. Principal investigations leading to the dismantling of illegal networks or workshops

One Nigerian female has recently been charged with trafficking offences relating to a minor .

#### 2.3.2. Role of participants in the organisation of networks (travel agencies etc.)

Three groups of Georgian nationals have tried to obtain visas by fraudulent means.

Group 1. Claimed to be botanists and wished to undertake a short English language course before travelling on to New Zealand to continue with their botanical studies. Following check with the N.Z Authorities it was established the college they intended to study at did not exist.

# RESTREINT UE

Group 2. Consisted of medical personnel who wished to study English to enable them provide medical service through English to the expatriate community in Georgia.

Group 3. Consisted of computer operators supposedly working as agents for an Airline company and wanted to improve their language (English) skills.

## 2.3.5. Others

Groups of Egyptian nationals have been applying for asylum over the past few months.. All of them claim to be fishermen/seamen and come from the coastal region near Alexandria. All were promised employment on arrival in Ireland.

On 22 February 2002 a group of persons applied for visas at the Irish embassy in Nairobi claiming to participate in sports events.

The registration of applications has been computerised and special attention has been given to English language students, in particular Chinese nationals. One college was targeted. It appeared that this college wrote letters stating that students had attended courses although no courses were organised.

DECLASSIFIED

# RESTREINT UE

## ITALY

Period under consideration: January 2002

### 1. Statistical data and general trends (stability, increase, decrease)

#### 1.1. Refusal of entry at all frontiers

JANUARY 2002: 3 261

Top 5 nationalities: ALBANIAN (ALB), ROMANIAN (ROM), BULGARIAN (BUL), YUGOSLAV (YUG) and CROATIAN (HRV)

1.1.1. Land: 1 682

Top 3 nationalities: ROMANIAN (ROM), BULGARIAN (BUL) and CROATIAN (HRV)

1.1.2. Air: 468

Top 3 nationalities: ROMANIAN (ROM), ALBANIAN (ALB) and SRI LANKAN (LKA)

1.1.3. Sea: 1 111

Top 3 nationalities: ALBANIAN (ALB), YUGOSLAV (YUG) and TURKISH (TUR).

#### 1.2. Illegal aliens apprehended

**JANUARY 2002: 6 598**

Top 5 nationalities: ALBANIAN (ALB), MOROCCAN (MAR), ROMANIAN (ROM), ALGERIAN (DZA) and UKRAINIAN (UKR).

- Aliens illegally landed on the coasts of southern Italy:

APULIA: 1 048 Top 3 nationalities: IRAQI (IRQ), ALBANIAN (ALB) and TURKISH (TUR)

CALABRIA: 212 Top 3 nationalities: SRI LANKAN (LKA)

SICILY: 940 Top 3 nationalities: SRI LANKAN (LKA), MOROCCAN (MAR) and ALGERIAN (DZA).

# RESTREINT UE

1.3.–1.4. Applications for asylum submitted: Data unavailable

1.5 Expulsions carried out

**JANUARY 2002: 2 744**

Top 5 nationalities: ALBANIAN (ALB), MOROCCAN (MAR), ALGERIAN (DZA),  
SRI LANKAN (LKA) and ROMANIAN (ROM)

1.6. Comments

Trends for January 2002 in comparison with DECEMBER 2001

- refusal of entry + 31,7%
- illegal aliens apprehended – 5,3%
- asylum applications submitted: not available
- expulsions carried out + 8,0%
- aliens landing illegally on the coasts of southern Italy:
  - APULIA + 247,0%
  - CALABRIA no instances recorded for December
  - SICILY + 58,5%

January 2002 saw a considerable rise in the number of expulsions, and an especially sharp rise in refusals of entry, and a slight drop in the number of illegal aliens apprehended, compared with December 2001.

The number of aliens landing on the southern coasts in January 2002 showed a drastic increase, particularly in Apulia, where one arriving vessel alone had 477 illegal aliens aboard.

# RESTREINT UE

## 2. Salient facts

### 2.1. Particulars communicated via the early-warning system and measures taken

- It was reported on 4 February 2002 that a vessel with some 400 illegal aliens aboard would possibly be arriving in Italy or another Mediterranean country from Port Said (Egypt). There could be a connection here with the United Kingdom EWS advice on the vessel "Magnum Star".

#### 2.1.1. Principal investigations leading to the dismantling of illegal networks or workshops

#### 2.1.2. New operating methods and causes identified

#### 2.3.1. New itineraries detected

The incidence of vessels with Sri Lankan nationals aboard arriving on the coasts of southern Italy, in particular south eastern Sicily and the Ionian coast of Calabria, which happened sporadically over the three-year period 1998 to 2000, rose markedly in 2001 and, in particular, 2002 in terms of both frequency and number of illegal aliens landed.

In 2001, 23 such landings, involving a total of 1 470 illegal aliens, were recorded at the following provinces of Sicily and Calabria:

Catania	6 landings	357 Sri Lankan nationals
Siracusa	12 landings	758 Sri Lankan nationals
Catanzaro	2 landings	97 Sri Lankan nationals
Crotone	1 landing	92 Sri Lankan nationals
Reggio Calabria	2 landings	166 Sri Lankan nationals
<b>Total</b>	<b>23 landings</b>	<b>1 470 Sri Lankan nationals</b>

# RESTREINT UE

The figures for 2002 (from 1 January to 19 February) have soared, as can be seen from the following data:

Catania	3 landings	255 Sri Lankan nationals
Siracusa	6 landings	414 Sri Lankan nationals
Catanzaro	1 landing	97 Sri Lankan nationals
Crotone	2 landings	212 Sri Lankan nationals
Reggio Calabria	2 landings	174 Sri Lankan nationals
<b>Total</b>	<b>14 landings</b>	<b>1 152 Sri Lankan nationals</b>

Two more landings of vessels with Sri Lankan nationals were recorded after 19 February 2002.

Statements by the illegal aliens and certain hard evidence found during investigations have enabled us to reconstruct the route taken by vessels to reach the coasts of Italy. The vessels leave Sri Lanka (in some cases the illegal immigrants are taken on board offshore from smaller boats able to avoid controls at Sri Lankan ports or along the coast) and, having circumnavigated part of the Arabian Peninsula, possibly with stops in Yemen, they sail up the Red Sea into the Mediterranean through the Suez Canal before landing on the south-eastern coast of Sicily or the Ionian coast of Calabria.

Investigations carried out at the time of the most recent landings revealed, moreover, that a number of vessels were about to sail for Italy from Port Said (Egypt) and that others were in the Suez Canal waiting to resume their journey to our country.

## 2.4 Exceptional occurrences

- 2.4.1. Impact of legislative and regulatory changes in the area of legal and illegal immigration
- 2.4.2. Alien legalisation process
- 2.4.3. Restoration of Article 2(2) of the Convention implementing the Schengen Agreement

## RESTREINT UE

### 2.4.4. Large-scale influxes of illegal aliens

- ↓ The "ENGIN", a motor vessel flying the Turkish flag and with 477 illegal aliens aboard from the following countries, was intercepted off Gallipoli (Lecce) on 31 January 2002:

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	NUMBER OF ALIENS INTERCEPTED	MEN	WOMEN	MINORS
TURKEY	197	100	26	71
IRAQ	155	115	12	28
PALESTINE	39	38	1	0
PAKISTAN	35	35	0	0
AFGHANISTAN	14	14	0	0
IRAN	14	12	1	1
BANGLADESH	11	11	0	0
SRI LANKA	10	5	3	2
ALGERIA	1	1	0	0
MOROCCO	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	477	332	43	102

3 Turkish nationals, presumed to be crew members, were arrested for facilitating illegal immigration.

- ↓ On 17 February 2002 on a ferry arriving in the port of Ancona from Patras (Greece), 84 Iranian Kurds were discovered inside a heavy goods vehicle carrying a consignment of oranges, whose final destination was a firm in Zurich.
- Some of the aliens who had left the vehicle during the crossing were spotted by the ship's crew. The illegal aliens were concealed in the front of the load area, which they had entered through a 1 metre square trapdoor in the underbody. The crates of oranges had been stacked at the back of the load area to make room for the human cargo.

## RESTREINT UE

The Greek lorry driver was arrested for facilitating illegal immigration. The Iraqi citizens, all of them men, were readmitted to Greece.

2.5. Bilateral or multilateral cooperation arrangements introduced during the period under examination

From February 2002 for 6 months, an Italo-German border police exchange programme will be in operation involving the German posts of Chemnitz, Schwandorf and Frankfurt a.d. Oder (borders with the Czech Republic and Poland), the Italian posts at Gorizia (border with Slovenia) and the ports of Ancona and Bari.

A meeting was held with the Egyptian authorities to explore possibilities for cooperation. Italy has very good contacts with the Sri Lankan authorities.

2.6. Significant difficulties or information regarding readmission or expulsion to countries of origin and the issue of consular laissez-passer

2.7. Illegal immigration flows from the Balkans

Data on illegal immigrants intercepted along the Italo-Slovenian border in January 2002 are not yet available.

# RESTREINT UE

## LUXEMBOURG

Period under consideration: December 2001

### 1. Statistical data and general trends (stability, increase, decrease)

#### 1.1. Refusal of entry at all frontiers:

3 (at Luxembourg airport)

#### 1.2. Illegal aliens apprehended:

12

#### 1.3. Applications for asylum at the frontier:

0

#### 1.4. Applications for asylum within the national territory:

62

The main nationalities came from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, FYROM, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Turkey and the Democratic Republic of the Congo

#### 1.5. Expulsions carried out:

10

### 2. Salient facts

#### 2.2. Principal investigations leading to the dismantling of illegal networks or workshops:

- migration from Bosnia-Herzegovina:

Investigations are ongoing with regard to a transport company organising shuttle services between Bosnia - Herzegovina (Sarajevo) and Luxembourg (the price for this trip is about DM 300). Every Tuesday a coach arrives in Luxembourg via the border crossing point at Remich. Every Thursday at 7.30 a.m., a coach leaves for Bosnia-Herzegovina, with stops in Germany and Austria. One of the coaches is registered under a Bosnian license plate "337-E-186".

## RESTREINT UE

The Bosnian passengers have a passport and a tourist visa and legally enter. Some passengers enter an asylum application. In some cases Schengen visas issued by the German Embassy in Sarajevo were found. These coaches could serve as a shuttle service for asylum applicants in the border regions between Germany, Belgium, France and Luxembourg.

- Fabrication and sale of falsified Portuguese passports

In January 2002, the customs officials at Luxembourg airport apprehended a Brazilian national with a falsified Portuguese identity card. He had travelled from Rio, via Frankfurt to Luxembourg. Two other persons who were waiting for him in the airport, were apprehended. They also had falsified Portuguese passports. During a house search a fourth person was arrested with a falsified Portuguese identity card.

Following investigations by the *Service de Police Judiciaire*, in close cooperation with the Portuguese authorities, 10 persons were arrested in Luxembourg and 2 in Portugal in June 2000. They were involved in document falsifications. 80 searches were carried out in order to confiscate the falsified documents, often Portuguese identity cards made in Portugal. The purchasers of these cards came mainly from Brazil, via Brussels, to Luxembourg. They paid between € 620 and € 1 983 for these documents. The procedure was the following: an intermediary sent the authentic travel documents to the interested purchaser in Portugal by post. After falsification, the identity cards were sent to Luxembourg where the purchasers signed the documents and digital fingerprints were taken. The intermediary then sent the documents by post back to Portugal for possible corrections and plastification.

Once the Brazilians received their falsified identity cards, they went to various towns in Luxembourg where they applied for and received identity cards for foreigners residing in an EU country.

The investigations resulted in the arrest of more than 170 migrants, mainly Brazilians. Nationals from Mozambique, Angola, Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde and Cameroon were also involved.

- arrests at Luxembourg airport

Two Iraqis were arrested at Luxembourg airport upon arrival of a flight coming from London Heathrow. One of them was found in possession of a falsified Dutch passport.

# RESTREINT UE

## NORWAY

Period under consideration: January 2002

### **1. Statistical data and general trends (All statistics are provisional)**

#### 1.1. Refusal of entry at all frontiers (asylum applicants not included)

Total 01.02.2001:	108	
Total 01.02.2002:	118	Increase of 9 %
Total for December 2001:	107	
Total for January 2002:	118	Increase of 10 %

#### Top five nationalities:

<u>01.02.2001</u>	<u>01.02.2002</u>
POL (20)	UKR (18)
ROM (15)	POL (17)
RUS (11)	LTU (13)
AFG (9)	RUS (7)
LTU (8)	ALB/IRQ (6)

#### 1.2. Illegal aliens apprehended

Statistical information not available

#### 1.3. Applications for asylum at the frontier and/or within the national territory

<u>By 01.02.2001</u>	<u>By 01.02.2002</u>	
483	1465	Increase of 203 %
<u>December 2001</u>	<u>January 2002</u>	
1497	1465	Decrease of. 2 %

The major nationality in January 2002 were from IRQ, 149 persons.

#### Top five nationalities 01.02.2002:

IRQ:	149
UKR:	125
SOM:	119
RUS:	114
BGR:	100

# RESTREINT UE

## 1.4. Expulsions carried out (asylum applicants not included)

Total 01.02.2001: 38  
Total 01.02.2002: 19 Decrease of 19

Total for December 2001: 22  
Total for January 2002: 19 Decrease of 3 %

### Reason for expulsion:

	<u>01.02.2001</u>	<u>01.02.2002</u>
Criminal case:	58 %	63 %
Immigration Act:	39 %	26 %
Other:	1 %	11 %

### Top five nationalities:

<u>01.02.2001</u>	<u>01.02.2002</u>
POL (6)	IRN (3)
PAK (5)	MAK (3)
LTU (4)	RUS (2)
YUG (3)	OTHER (1)
MAR/BIH/CHL (2)	

## 2. Salient facts

### 2.1. Reminder of the particulars communicated via the early warning system and measures taken.

At the end of January 2002, Norwegian authorities received intelligence information about two busses with Slovakian nationals from the town Humenne near Kosice in Slovakia. The destination was Norway where they intended to apply for asylum.

(EWS)

At the end of the week two groups of asylum seekers from Slovakia arrived Oslo by bus. One of the groups had travelled by bus from Bratislava to Denmark, changed bus company and went forward to Oslo.

The other group travelled by "Bohemian Busslines" from Praag to Gothenborg, and from Gothenborg to Oslo by E-6 Expressen.

Two days later another group (14 persons) from Slovakia arrived Oslo by bus (Säffle-bus) from Sweden. They had applied for asylum in Sweden before they went forward to Oslo.

# RESTREINT UE

## THE NETHERLANDS

Period under consideration: January 2002

### 1. Statistical data and general trends (stability, increase, decrease)

#### 1.1. Refusal of entry

In January 2002 about 700 persons were denied entry to the Netherlands. This figure refers solely to Schiphol Airport. About 200 of those persons applied for asylum. The main reason for denied entry was having no documents or possessing false documents.

#### 1.3. Applications for asylum at the frontier:

197 asylum applications were lodged at the border.

#### 1.4. Applications for asylum within the national territory:

A total of 2 377 asylum applications were lodged in January 2002. This is a 36% fall compared with January 2001 although it represents a 10% increase over December 2001.

In January Angola (PAN) was the most frequent country of origin. 295 asylum applications were lodged by Angolans. In second place was Sierra Leone (WAL) with 232 applications. Then came Afghanistan (AFG) with 196, Iran (IR) with 94 and Turkey (TR) with 91 asylum applications.

#### 1.6. Comments

482 unaccompanied minors applied for asylum in January. This represents 20% of the total. The main countries of origin were Angola, Sierra Leone and Guinea.

### 2. Salient facts

# RESTREINT UE

## PORTUGAL

Period under consideration: January 2002

### 1. Statistical data and general trends (stability, increase, decrease)

#### 1.1. Refusal of entry at all frontiers

1.1.1. Land – nothing to report

1.1.2. Air – data unavailable

1.1.3. Sea – nothing to report

#### 1.2. Illegal aliens apprehended

Total: 115 (-46%)

Nationalities: Brazilian (BRA), Russian (RUS), Moldovan (MDA), Angolan (AGO) and Ukrainian (UKR)

#### 1.3.-1.4 Applications for asylum at the frontier and/or in the territory of the Member State

Total: 28 (+75%)

Nationalities: Sierra Leonean (SLE), Afghan (AFG), Angolan (AGO), Yugoslav (YUG) and Senegalese (SEN)

Applications at the frontier: 21 (+600%)

#### 1.5. Expulsions carried out

Total: 59 (-12%)

Nationalities: Indian (IND), Ukrainian (UKR), Angolan (AGO), Brazilian (BRA) and Cape Verdean (CPV)

# RESTREINT UE

## 2. Salient facts

### 2.1. Particulars communicated via the early warning system and measures taken

See point 2.3.1. – EWS/02/02 Portugal

### 2.2. Principal investigations leading to the dismantling of illegal networks and workshops

During the period, 17 prosecutions were brought for aiding and abetting illegal immigration. The breakdown of the origins of those involved and/or of the migrants was as follows:

- Eastern Europe – 2
- Latin America/Brazil – 7
- Africa – 6
- Asia – 2

### 2.3. New operating methods and causes identified

Aiding and abetting illegal immigration and sale of forged/fictitious work contracts to **Indian nationals** to enable them to legalise their employment and residence situation in Portugal.

Use of Portugal as a transit country in seeking illegal entry into the United Kingdom and the USA, through the use of false documents, for nationals of:

- Brazil: 5 (destination Newark in the USA – four Spanish passports and 1 forged Italian passport)
- Angola: 3 (destination London – one forged Portuguese passport and two forged Portuguese identity cards)

# RESTREINT UE

- Ecuador: 3 (destination London – two forged Spanish passports and 1 forged Italian identity card)
- Cuba: 2 (destination New York and London – using forged Spanish passports and identity cards)
- Colombia: 1 (destination London – using a forged Spanish passport)
- Nigeria: 1 (destination United Kingdom and/or USA – using a forged Portuguese residence permit in an attempt to obtain visas for those countries).

## 2.3.1. New itineraries detected

Use of Senegal by Asian citizens (9) allegedly from Myanmar (Burma), wishing to enter Portugal en route to Paris using Japanese passports with counterfeit biographical details page.

## 2.3.2. Role of participants in the organisation of networks (travel agencies, etc.)

## 2.3.3. Use of fraudulent methods to obtain visas

The last few months have witnessed the issue of tourist visas to Algerian nationals wishing to visit the central zone of Portugal who subsequently cancelled their hotel reservations or failed to turn up at the places where they had booked. The bookings in question were made from Algiers, allegedly from a hotel there, and individual confirmation of booking was requested for each visa applicant.

This led to the refusal by the hotels in question to accept bookings for nationals of countries such as Algeria, Morocco and Sri Lanka, among others.

## 2.3.4. Use of false documents

The highest number of detected cases in the EU was recorded by Spain, followed by Portugal and Italy.

## RESTREINT UE

Senegal was the country with the highest number of detected cases – 13 – , followed by Guinea Conakry with 11 and Japan with 9.

Dakar, with 47 recorded instances of false documents, was the place of origin which caused most problems.

2.5. Bilateral or multilateral cooperation arrangements introduced during the period under examination

Under the Odysseus programme Portugal would organise a "European seminar for Basic Examiners of Security Documents". This seminar would be held in the period 25 February - 8 March 2002. Representatives from Member States and the United States would participate in this seminar.

DECLASSIFIED

# RESTREINT UE

## FINLAND

Period under consideration: January 2002

### 1. Statistical data and general trends (stability, increase, decrease)

#### 1.1. Refusal of entry at all frontiers

1.1.1.	Land	148
1.1.2.	Air	26
1.1.3.	Sea	57

Main nationalities (5) : RUS, EST, POL, LTU, LVA

#### 1.2. Illegal aliens apprehended 238 (10)

Main nationalities: RUS, EST

#### 1.3. Applications for asylum at the frontier

Total 68 ; land 7, sea 3, air 58.

Main nationalities (5) : RUS, BGD, UKR, YUG/AGO/AFG

#### 1.4. Applications for asylum within the national territory 103

Main nationalities (5): RUS, YUG, BGD, UKR, TUR

#### 1.5. Expulsions carried out 135

Main nationalities (5): RUS, EST, UKR, LVA, POL / CHN

#### 1.6. Comments

### 2. Salient facts

#### 2.3. New operating methods and causes identified

# RESTREINT UE

## 2.3.1. New itineraries detected

According to crime intelligence, there is a new « modus operandi » of illegal immigration from South-East Asia. The method is that

- usually a British or a Portuguese passport holder buys flight tickets Singapore – Bangkok – Helsinki – Lahore – Helsinki – Bangkok – Singapore and travels the first leg from Singapore to Bangkok with legal identity and legal travel documents
- at Bangkok the person gives his flight tickets to another person, usually Afghans or Pakistani, who has counterfeited passport with the same information as the original passenger
- the illegal immigrant departures BKK and the original passenger returns to Singapore.

Finnish airline company Finnair is informed, and the company has denied boarding of several illegal immigrants using this modus operandi at BKK airport.

A network involved in smuggling people via Talinn was dismantled. This network smuggled migrants via an Ukrainian travel agency and guaranteed the smuggled people a job upon arrival.

DECLASSIFIED

# RESTREINT UE

## SWEDEN

Period under consideration: January 2002

### 1. 1. Statistical data and general trends (stability, increase, decrease)

#### 1.1. Refusal of entry at all frontiers

367 (compared to 463 in January 2001)

Main nationalities involved were: Yugoslavs (84), Iraqis (68), nationals from Bosnia-Herzegovina (36), Czechs (34) and Poles (23).

#### 1.2. Illegal aliens apprehended

1 939 (compared to 894 in January 2001)

Main nationalities involved were: Iraqis (430), Yugoslavs (319), nationals from Bosnia-Herzegovina (263), Uzbeks (106) and Somalis (78).

#### 1.3. Applications for asylum at the frontier

188 (compared to 558 in January 2001)

The main nationalities involved were: Iraqis (69) and Yugoslavs (18)

#### 1.4. Applications for asylum within the national territory

2 232 (compared to 1 132 asylum applications in January 2001)

The main nationalities involved were: Iraqis (443), Yugoslavs (343), nationals from Bosnia-Herzegovina (311), Uzbeks (114) and Russians (92)

Total number of asylum applications in January 2002 was 2 520, compared to 1 690 in the corresponding period in the previous year.

#### 1.5. Expulsions carried out

309 (compared to 122 in January 2001)

The main nationalities were: El Salvadorians (57), Bulgarians (40), Lithuanians (37), Yugoslavs (20) and nationals from Bosnia-Herzegovina (18).

# RESTREINT UE

## 1.6. Comments

In January 2002 nearly 2600 persons applied for asylum which was the same as in December 2001. Top nationalities were Iraq, Yugoslavia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Uzbekistan, Russia and Bulgaria.

The number of Russian asylum seekers increased compared to the last four months in 2001 and the number of Bulgarian asylum seekers remained on the same high level as in December 2001.

An increase was recorded in the number of persons from Uzbekistan. It almost doubled compared with December 2001.

The influx from El Salvador seems to be stopped: only 5 arrivals were recorded in January 2002 to compare with 193 in December 2001.

More than 90% of the total number of asylum applications were entered inside the country.

More than 80% of those that applies for asylum were undocumented.

## 2. Salient facts

### 2.3 New operating methods and causes identified

#### Other:

Once again a company in Sweden received a lot of job applicants. As last time, they all came from Iran. All the applications looked the same. It seems that they has used a standards form whereby they had only add their name, age, occupation and signature.

\_\_\_\_\_

# RESTREINT UE

## UNITED KINGDOM

Period under consideration: January 2002

### 1. Statistical data and general trends (stability, increase, decrease)

No information available

### 2. Salient facts

#### 2.1 Early Warning System

- One notice was issued during January 2002 under the early warning system regarding a vessel suspected of carrying 480 illegals of Sri Lankan and Afghan nationality.

#### 2.2 Principal investigations leading to the dismantling of illegal networks or workshops

- During December 2001, Specialist teams at Heathrow and Dover arrested 38 persons and 13 were charged with facilitation offences. During the month, verdicts were reached on 6 cases all of which were found guilty.
- 66 returns were made via the 'Voluntary Assisted Return Programme' (VARP) during January 2002, slightly short of the target for the month (80). 525 returns have now been made since the new 2001 programme commenced on 1st September 2001. Despite falling slightly short of the January 2002 target, the overall total remains 25 returns above the anticipated figure for this point in the programme.
- Operation Trident is an ongoing exercise dealing with Jamaican organised crime in the Metropolitan area. The operation is staffed by 200 police officers and 3 immigration officers. In 2001, there were 160 Trident related incidents including 21 murders, 67 attempted murders and a total of 441 arrests.

# RESTREINT UE

## 2.3.1. New itineraries detected

- During 2001, 19,203 inadequately documented arrivals (IDAs) were identified at UK ports of entry. Of this total, 66% held no document on arrival, 15% held a false document, and 13% held no visa. The top nationalities encountered were from Sri Lanka (14%), Turkey (13%) China (8%) and Afghanistan (7%). 10, 640 (55%) of these IDAs arrived by air, and the last point of embarkation was not identified in 32% of these cases. 3,292 IDAs (18%) were encountered at seaports in 2001 and Dover East accounted for 83% of seaports' total. IDA arrivals by train at Waterloo numbered 5,271 (27% of total for all ports).
- The principle last points of embarkation during 2001 were: Amsterdam by air, (4% of total arrivals at UK airports), Calais (75%) by sea and Paris (87%) by rail.

## Cross Channel routes to the UK

- During January 2002, Waterloo encountered 140 IDAs arriving from France and 30 arriving from Belgium. During the same period last year, the totals were 724 from France and 30 from Belgium, highlighting the effectiveness of the juxtaposed control and closure of the 'Calais loophole' following legislation.
- Following the cancellation of many freight services, Dollands Moor Rail Freight yard saw a 70% reduction in the number of illegals encountered in December 2001. As a result, the south east district saw an increase in port clandestines and inland illegal entrants. Dover East encountered a 63% increase in undocumented arrivals, and an increase in asylum applications from nationals of Afghanistan, Iraq and Turkey during the same period.
- Concerns have been raised regarding the possible large-scale facilitation of Chinese nationals through Dover East following the facilitation of 27 Chinese through Dover in November 2001. Subsequent intelligence would suggest that significant numbers of Chinese nationals are presently in northern and north west France, presumably awaiting the next stage of their journey.

# RESTREINT UE

## Other Routes to the UK

- Intelligence suggests that Indian nationals whose intention it is to arrive in the UK and claim to be Sri Lankan Tamils are seemingly originating in Chennai (Madras). Having undergone training in how to pass as a Sri Lankan, the passengers travel to Colombo on forged Sri Lankan repatriation documents. On arrival in Colombo they do not clear immigration but instead switch to an Indian passport containing a counterfeit Sri Lankan residence permit, and then proceed to the airside transfer desk for onward flights to Europe, disposing of the Indian document en route.
- The use of Schengen visas to gain entry to Western Europe, as a springboard to the UK, continues with Waterloo reporting encounters with Sri Lankan nationals issued with Schengen visas in Colombo, and Indian nationals obtaining similar visas in Chennai. Their routing thus far appears to be Colombo-Dusseldorf-Paris.
- Chinese nationals continue to target East Africa. They are reported to be arriving with genuine passports and visas and then attempting travel with documents containing counterfeit bio-data pages (Japanese, Hong Kong, Malaysian and Singaporean being the favoured documents used). Emirate Airlines in Bangkok estimate that they have carried about 1,500 Chinese nationals to Nairobi over the last few months with few if any using the return segment of their ticket.

### 2.3.2 Role of participants in the organisation of networks

- Intelligence would suggest that networks operating on the cross channel routes are increasingly employing third parties to execute the facilitation, thus distancing the organisers even further from their 'clients'. It is suspected that these third parties are recruited in bars and are mainly unemployed European passport holders, often drug addicts, who will ask few questions and perform their role for a small amount of money.
- A recent investigation showed that British nationals in Spain are selling their passports to Romanian nationals and then acquiring emergency passports to travel. A sample of five such documents presented by young British nationals returning to the UK from Malaga established that four of the holders had previous criminal convictions whilst one had an outstanding warrant against him.

# RESTREINT UE

## 2.3.3 Use of fraudulent methods to obtain visas

- The abuse of ‘DETR Note Issued’ visa endorsements (issued in Bucharest) have again been identified at Heathrow Airport. Such a visa is issued to passengers seeking to enter the UK in the capacity as a lorry driver and should not therefore be encountered being used to gain entry at an airport.

## 2.3.4 Use of false documents

- During December 2001, 884 fraudulent documents were detected at UK ports compared to 697 seen in November. Of the fraudulent documents detected, 52% were sub-photos, 22% were used by persons impersonating the rightful holders of the documents, and 11% were counterfeit. December 2001 saw a drop in the abuse of Nigerian passports, from 99 in November 2001 to 88 in December 2001, yet Nigerian documents remain the most abused overall and Nigerian nationals headed the list of perpetrators of document abuse, with 128 encountered in December.
- Jamaican nationals are increasingly using document abuse, and were the second highest nationality encountered abusing documents in December 2001 with 64 instances, 52 involving their own passport.
- Concerns have been raised over the growing black market in recycled valid UK multiple-visit visas, in Central Europe. Nationalities involved include persons from Albania, Nepal and China.
- Bangladeshi nationals have been identified arriving in the UK holding Bangladeshi passports, recently issued in the UK, and to which they are not entitled. The passports, which contain Home Office endorsements, are issued in respect of children who were previously included on their parent’s passport. However, the photographs in the passports are not recent images of the children concerned but actually relate to individuals in Bangladesh who then use the documents to travel.

# RESTREINT UE

## Conclusions

The Presidency referred to some phenomena which were recorded in January 2002:

- the ongoing use of false documents,
- visa applications fraudulently entered by persons claiming participation in sporting events and by presenting false invitations,
- the ongoing high number of unaccompanied minors arriving in the Netherlands,
- illegal landings of vessels at the coasts of Italy and Greece.

It underlined that, in order to combat illegal migration, more thorough controls should be carried out at the borders. Cooperation between Member States and Member States and third countries proved to be extremely important in combating illegal immigration as it contributed to the dismantling of networks involved in illegal immigration.

DECLASSIFIED