

BORDER SECURITY REPORT

VOLUME 13
MARCH / APRIL 2019

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

COVER STORY FRONTEX RISK ANALYSIS REPORT



SPECIAL REPORT



India Pakistan Borders:
Cartography without
Geographical Frontiers p.12

AGENCY NEWS



A global review of the
latest news and challenges
from border agencies and
agencies at the border. p.18

SHORT REPORT



Automated technology for
passport checks double p.24

INDUSTRY NEWS



Latest news, views and
innovations from the
industry. p.33

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Border Security Report is a bi-monthly electronic magazine and is the border management industry magazine delivering agency and industry news and developments, as well as more in-depth features and analysis to over 20,000 border agencies, agencies at the borders and industry professionals, policymakers and practitioners, worldwide.



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An opportunity lost to be regretted another day!

As the final ISIL enclaves in Syria are militarily reduced, governments around the world are facing a moral, political, legal and security dilemma.

What to do about the estimated up to four thousand ISIL fighters and their families that are expected to flee the caliphate and try to return home.

Decisions have to be made whether to leave them to their own devices or bring them back and deal with them through appropriate legal and de-radicalisation systems. And it is not an easy decision.

Despite the fact that it is illegal to make an individual stateless, there is strong public opinion in most countries that supports the idea of leaving them to fend for themselves, and it easy to understand why. Whatever prison sentences they receive and de-radicalisation they undergo, they will have to be regarded as a potential threat for the remainder of their lives. And of course, it is certain that at least some of them will go on to attempt to commit an atrocity sometime in the future.

So, for most people, stopping their return seems like plain common sense.

But would it be the wisest choice?

If you leave them stateless, what will happen to them and where will they go? It is fairly certain that the Kurds won't want to be responsible for them for any prolonged period. And the Turkish authorities certainly won't want to inherit the problem.

The most likely outcome is that they will gradually be quietly released or abscond and use

underground trafficking routes, new documents and new identities to either return to Europe or go elsewhere to carry on the fight.

In which case instead of being a known threat they will become an unknown threat.

US pressure on European states to repatriate their citizens is growing and however distasteful it may seem, controlled repatriation, with each individual being processed through the legal system and rehabilitation programmes and placed under long term surveillance, is the most sensible approach. It is also the legal one.

Of course, that won't be at all popular with the voting public, but we should see it as an opportunity. For a short period of time, we will have within our grasp the largest group of the worlds' active jihadi's. Those that are deemed a long-term threat should be brought back and placed in jail for as long as they remain a threat and those that can be de-radicalised should be.

To wash our hands of them and let them slip from our grasp, would be an opportunity lost to be regretted another day!

Tony Kingham
Editor

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

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CONTENTS

BORDER SECURITY REPORT



4 **CBP LAUNCHES COAC NORTHERN TRIANGLE WORKING GROUP**

Looking at nontariff trade barriers and improving customs processes in the Northern Triangle region.

5 **FRONTEX RISK ANALYSIS REPORT**

A Summary of the 2019 Frontex Risk Analysis Report .

8 **AGENCY REPORTS**

Latest news and reports reports from key agencies INTERPOL, OSCE, EUROPOL and the IOM.



12 **INDIA PAKISTAN BORDERS: CARTOGRAPHY WITHOUT GEOGRAPHICAL FRONTIERS**

The challenges on border security with division between India and Pakistan.

15 **AN INTERVIEW WITH MARK ALEXANDER**

Tony Kingham speaks to Mark Alexander of HO Security Solutions.

18 **AGENCY NEWS**

A global review of the latest news, views, stories, challenges and issues from border agencies and agencies at the border.



25 **DEVELOPING AND DELIVERING SOLUTIONS FOR MODERNIZED BORDER MANAGEMENT**

Managing the pressures of increased passenger growth without compromising security screening and border control.

26 **WORLD BORDER SECURITY CONGRESS**

A look at the annual international border security gathering being hosted in Casablanca, Morocco on 19th-21st March 2019.

33 **INDUSTRY NEWS**

Latest news, views and innovations from the industry.

CBP Launches COAC Northern Triangle Working Group

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Commissioner Kevin K. McAleenan called on members of the Commercial Customs Operations Advisory Committee (COAC) to participate in the newly formed Northern Triangle Working Group. The primary goal of the Northern Triangle Working Group will be the development of recommendations on reducing the nontariff trade barriers and improving customs processes in the Northern Triangle region of Central America, comprising the countries of Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras.

“It’s very clear that the key push factors for illicit migration right now in the region are driven by economics,” said CBP Commissioner McAleenan. “Trade flows in the region are beset by poor and slow information exchange, limited coordination among border agencies, weak infrastructure and border control operations, customs delays and the lack

of a risk management or true trusted supply chain partnership approach among the authorities in the region.”

The Commissioner added that the agency has relied on private sector expertise to tackle difficult issues in the past and is again seeking assistance in developing ways to help close the opportunity gap that exists in the region.

The purpose of the COAC is to advise the Secretaries of the Department of the Treasury and the Department of Homeland Security on the commercial operations of CBP and related treasury and homeland security functions. The COAC has always been a body of expertise and innovation, adept at identifying challenges and then creating best practices. The agency needs those skills now to aid the Northern Triangle region.

Multi-agency Partnership Launches \$1.55M Challenge for New Solutions to Detect Opioids

The Opioid Detection Challenge, a \$1.55 million USD global prize competition, was launched by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science and Technology Directorate (S&T), in collaboration with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service (USPIS). The Challenge calls upon innovators to submit novel plans for rapid, nonintrusive detection tools that will help find illicit opioids being trafficked into the United States through international mail.

The abuse of opioids such as fentanyl has created an unprecedented public health crisis across the United States. In 2017, approximately 50,000 Americans died from opioid overdoses. Large-scale drug trafficking of fentanyl can occur via small packages sent in the mail as well as through other avenues like ports of entry, making detection a significant challenge.

“Stopping the flow of illicit drugs from coming into the United States is a crucial part of addressing the addiction crisis. This competition will bring together innovators, experts, and technology leaders to help meet the challenges we face head on and accomplish our ultimate goal – saving lives,” ONDCP Director Jim Carroll said.

“This competition is part of the comprehensive government effort to address the opioid crisis that is devastating too many American communities,” said DHS Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Under Secretary for Science and Technology William N. Bryan. “New tools and technologies offer a critical opportunity to more quickly and accurately detect opioids before they enter the United States.”

“Postal Inspectors have always made it their mission to protect the public and the U.S. Postal Service from the dangers of illegal narcotics,” said Chief Postal Inspector, Gary R. Barksdale. “This challenge and the partnerships involved will provide better mechanisms and technologies to identify and stop the flow of opioids into the country.”

The Challenge calls on innovators in a wide range of fields, from forensic science to industrial quality assurance to artificial intelligence, to help disrupt the flow of opioids into the United States. Submissions should be well-developed plans for automated, user-friendly tools and technologies that have the potential to quickly and accurately detect opioids in parcels, without disrupting the flow of mail. The Challenge is open to international and domestic participants.

FRONTEX RISK ANALYSIS REPORT

[A Summary of the 2019 Frontex Risk Analysis Report](#)

Member States reported 150 114 illegal border-crossings in 2018, 27 % fewer than in 2017. The most decisive development for the overall level of migratory pressure in 2018 in fact dates back to July 2017, when the sudden reversal in the number of irregular migrants detected in the Central Mediterranean took place. This reversal continues to stand as the most significant development at the EU's external borders since the implementation of the EU-Turkey statement. The decreasing trend in migrant arrivals on the Central

Mediterranean route, which lasted throughout 2018, was the primary reason for the decrease in the number of illegal border-crossings vis-a-vis 2017. On this route, the other third countries of departure – Tunisia, Algeria and Turkey – equally had fewer successful departures. Egypt in 2018 did not see any departures of migrants to Europe on the sea route.

With the number of illegal border crossings plummeting on the Central Mediterranean route, the spotlight moved onto the Western Mediterranean route, where in



effect during the second half of the year, Moroccans were the second most common, before Afghans and Iraqis. Turkish nationals, as mentioned above, increased in number and were the fifth most common nationality in 2018.

In 2018, Member States reported an increase in the detection of clandestine entries. Nevertheless, the number of detected attempts of clandestine entry continued to be arguably below that to be expected in times of tightened border surveillance at the green and blue borders.

Secondary movements continued on a large scale during 2018. Countries without external land and sea borders reported thousands of inland detections of illegal stay. These could however be overstays after having entered via the air borders. Yet Eurodac hits of both categories, combined having registered a total higher than illegal border-crossings in 2018, are evidence of the scale of secondary movements. In this context, the increase in the inland detection of people smugglers (+13 %) is also an indication of the reliance on organised crime networks to smuggle migrants to their countries of destination. In addition, a significant increase in document fraud detections on secondary movements was recorded in 2018. In fact, the number of document fraud detections on secondary movements inside the EU/Schengen area reached its highest level since 2013.

The year 2018 once again signified a year of heavy workload for border guards in Member States, who were

2018 in particular Moroccan and sub-Saharan migrants crossed the Strait of Gibraltar or the Alboran Sea in record numbers, making the Western Mediterranean route the most frequently used route into Europe in 2018. Morocco was also the country of departure for a little more than half of the migrants that targeted the Canary Islands on the Western African route.

On the Eastern Mediterranean route, the most significant development of 2018 was arguably the implementation of a relocation and return programme in Turkey for irregular Syrian migrants, which shifted the nationality makeup on the Eastern Mediterranean Sea route in the second half of the year.

The Western Balkan route in 2018 saw shifts between the Greek-Albanian corridor and the Serbian-centred corridor. Throughout the year, most of the migratory pressure on the route materialised at the Bosnian and Herzegovinian-Croatian border, and also, to a

lesser extent, on Serbia's border with Hungary, Croatia and Romania. At the Eastern Land Border in 2018, another third country, Russia, created with a temporary change in its visa policy an opportunity to reach the EU's external borders. For the 2018 FIFA World Cup™, Russia allowed travellers visa-free entry to the Russian Federation for those in possession of match tickets. This enabled migrants to reach the EU's external borders via Russia, but also via Belarus and Ukraine, with migrants attempting to enter the EU illegally. This contributed to an increase in detections compared with 2017, however remaining at much lower level than on other routes.

Corresponding to the changes in the flows of the main migration routes, the migrant population in 2018 changed its nationality makeup – while Syrians remained the most common nationality due to the effects of the Turkish relocation and return programme only taking

faced with another increase in entry and exit checks to be performed at border crossing points with a further rise in passenger flows and the 2017 expansion of systematic checks on those passengers enjoying the right of free movement under EU law. This meant at times delays for passengers at certain border-crossing points. The second line, too, was in many Member

States kept busy by for instance an increase in refusals of entry along the external borders, but also by the aforementioned increase in document fraud detections on secondary movements.

In particular, at the borders with Ukraine, the increase in issued refusals of entry to Ukrainians was significant. The categories of refusals reported imply that visa

liberalisation wrongly suggests to travellers that they no longer need to justify the purpose and conditions of stay and present sufficient means of subsistence on request. As regards exit checks, illegal stay detections on exit at air, land and sea borders increased slightly. This too then meant an increase in workload in particular for the second line of border checks.

The number of effective returns in 2018 once again fell short of the decisions issued by Member States to return migrants: Around 148 000 migrants who were not granted asylum or subsidiary protection were returned to their countries of origin, little more than half the total number of return decisions issued. In particular, no measurable progress was made as regards returns to West Africa – while the number of return decisions issued increased by roughly 80 % compared with 2017, effective returns remained unchanged, reflecting deficits in cooperation and administrative capacity in countries of origin.

Looking ahead, there is no indication that the workload for border guards will decrease anytime soon, with systematic checks in an environment of increasing passenger flows on the one hand and persistent migratory pressure on the green and blue borders on the other. European border management will continue to be tested by unforeseeable events and factors – beyond irregular migration and into cross-border crime.

For the full report download:
https://frontex.europa.eu/assets/Publications/Risk_Analysis/Risk_Analysis/Risk_Analysis_for_2019.pdf



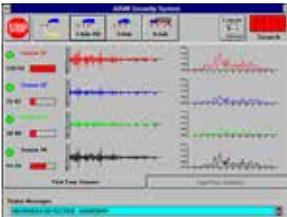
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The AVIAN Heartbeat Detector is a **cost effective** method to accurately and quickly search large or small vehicles, regardless of contents, for hidden persons. The **one-screen operation** with icons makes training a simple matter that can be accomplished in less than one hour. The computer system requires little maintenance. **British Immigration, US Homeland Security, Spain's Guardia Civil, FRANCE MOJ and numerous others, are currently using the Heartbeat Detector** for their security purposes for 20 years.



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Combating Migrant Smuggling through Cross-Border Cooperation



Migrant smuggling remains one of the most profitable and widespread criminal activities for organised criminal networks worldwide. The migrant smuggling business is a large, lucrative and sophisticated criminal market, with document fraud being one of the main activities of the groups. To tackle the challenges ahead, cooperation frameworks have been established with partner countries along key migration routes.

Europol's European Migrant Smuggling Centre (EMSC) in cooperation with the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) brought together representatives from law enforcement authorities of EU Member States and non-EU countries; the Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union; the European Commission; partner agencies and academia to collaborate and discuss cross-border crimes within the migratory context under Mobility Partnerships (MPs) and Common Agendas on Migration and Mobility (CAMMs).

As Head of Europol's European Serious and Organised Crime Centre, Jari Liukku said the meeting presented "a unique opportunity to share experiences on best practices and to discuss current and future challenges, but also the way we jointly define effective strategies to better face challenges associated to migrant smuggling."

Albanian-Belgian Drug Traffickers Busted in Belgium & Switzerland

Europol has supported an investigation coordinated by the



Federal Judicial Police of Leuven (Belgium) into an Albanian-Belgian drug trafficking gang. The coordinated action days took place between 4 and 6 February when police services

intervened to bring down the organised criminal network at various locations in Belgium and Switzerland.

In total, 22 suspects were arrested and six were sent to prison by the authorities in Leuven. Police searched 24 houses in Belgium and various actions were carried out in Switzerland at the same time.

The investigation led to the discovery of six cannabis plantations with a total of 4 500 cannabis plants. During the operation, an active cannabis plantation with 1 000 cannabis plants was found in a former strip club. This particular plantation was guarded by two suspects of Albanian origin. Similar set-ups were found where Albanians were illegally staying in the country to maintain and guard the plants. In addition, large quantities of cannabis, firearms, bulletproof vests and €10 000 in cash were seized..

19 Arrested in France & Italy in Multi-Million Gold Laundering Operation

Some 300 hundred officers from the Gendarmerie Nationale (French Gendarmerie) and the Guardia di Finanza (Italian Finance Corps) targeted suspects across both countries believed to be part of an organised crime group behind a large-scale international money-laundering scheme. The criminal cash flows are estimated at €5 to €7 million per month.

19 suspects were arrested and some €550 000 in cash seized, alongside several luxury watches and vehicles. Authorities in Algeria seized gold with a value of almost €1 million.



Strengthening the capacity of National Central Bureaus in Africa to enhance global security



The first I-ONE training course in Africa to enhance global security has been held, as part of INTERPOL's efforts to boost the capacity of National Central Bureaus (NCB) on the continent.

The I-ONE project aims to strengthen the capacity of NCBs in 31 African countries through IT equipment renewal and training, paving the way for future I-24/7 extensions to

borders for systematic and automatic traveler screening.

INTERPOL's NCB in Harare was the first to benefit from the project, having received new IT equipment in December 2018.

This was followed by a four-day workshop providing 23 participants from NCB Harare with the knowledge and skills to make full use of INTERPOL's global policing capabilities as well as raising awareness within national law enforcement agencies.

The event was inaugurated by Assistant Commissioner Tinei Nyazema, Deputy Director Administration of Zimbabwe's Criminal Investigation Department (CID). In his opening remarks, he stressed the importance of personal and organizational learning. Chrispen Charumbira, Director CID and Commissioner of Police then recognized how the enhanced capacity to exploit INTERPOL's databases contributes to strengthening security in Zimbabwe.

Tackling foreign terrorist fighter movement in Southeast Asia



Police, immigration and counter-terrorism officers from Southeast Asia came together to evaluate the successes of an INTERPOL border security project to counter foreign terrorist fighter movement in the region and prepare for future border operations under the next phase of the project.

A debriefing meeting of Project Riptide, an INTERPOL Integrated Border Management Task Force project on Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs) in Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines, gathered 26 participants from the three countries to review the evolving challenges of FTF movement and INTERPOL's counter-terrorism support to the region.

The two-day meeting provided an overview of the

outcomes of the activities conducted since the project began in April 2017, including training courses and on-the-ground operations at border points to identify and interdict suspected criminals and terrorists. Each of the participating countries shared the challenges faced and successes achieved during the first phase of the project.

The use of drones in supporting maritime border security was also discussed during the meeting.

A total of 15 operations were conducted during the first phase of the project, with 6.1 million queries of INTERPOL's criminal databases resulting in 66 'hits' and 61 arrests. Training on the use of INTERPOL's policing capabilities was provided to more than 820 officers, and as a result details of 448 wanted persons – including 105 FTFs – were added to the Organization's databases.



OSCE and UN Office on Drugs and Crime deliver training course in Tajikistan on improving analytical tools and skills to effectively counter terrorist financing

A three-day training course for fifteen Tajik experts and practitioners aimed at strengthening the capacity of Tajikistan to counter terrorist financing was organized by the OSCE's Transnational Threats Department and the OSCE Programme in Dushanbe, in co-operation with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)'s Global Programme against Money Laundering.

The training course was led by international experts from the OSCE and UNODC. The training participants work in the headquarters of the General Prosecutor's Office, the Financial Monitoring Department of the National Bank of Tajikistan, the Ministry of the Interior, and the State Committee for National Security of the Republic of Tajikistan.

The participants learned how improving inter-agency co-operation can help to disrupt terrorist financing. Based on country- and region-specific scenarios, the course included sessions on tackling financial intelligence and strategic analysis. The participants were familiarized with specific instruments and techniques that will help to significantly improve their effectiveness in countering terrorist financing.

The course aims to assist Tajikistan in countering terrorist financing in line with international standards, in particular UN Security Council Resolutions, the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF)'s standards and OSCE commitments.

OSCE supports training for judges on combating human trafficking in Kazakhstan

A one-day OSCE-supported training seminar on good legislative and judicial practices to combat trafficking in persons concluded on 21 February 2019 in Astana.

The seminar brought together some 25 judges dealing with criminal cases from 14 regions of Kazakhstan. It was organized by the OSCE Programme Office in Astana, in co-operation with the Justice Academy, the Supreme Court and the United States Embassy in Kazakhstan.

National experts presented the best ways to apply

current national legislation and international legal tools to enhance the judicial protection of human trafficking victims.

Participants addressed challenges in proving crimes related to trafficking in court, trends and practices used by courts to identify trafficking victims and international good practices regarding compensation mechanisms for victims of trafficking.

Holistic approaches to countering human trafficking for labour exploitation explored at OSCE regional workshop in Kyiv

The workshop was organized by the Strategic Police Matters Unit of the OSCE Transnational Threats Department and Ukraine's Ministry of Social Policy, with the support of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine and INTERPOL.

Representatives of Ukraine's Ministry of Social Policy, the Prosecutor General's Office, the Labour Inspectorate, the National Police, the State Border Guard Service and the State Migration Service shared and exchanged information and good practices with their counterparts from the other

countries with the aim of improving international co-operation and facilitating joint investigations.



South Sudan's First Migration Policy Takes Another Step Forward



The Republic of South Sudan, also Africa's newest state, is working to finalize a migration policy that it hopes will enhance the country's capacity to manage its borders while also protecting the rights of migrants.

The Government has been collaborating with the IOM to develop the country's first ever such policy with funding

from the Government of Japan, the European Union (EU) and Germany.

In 2017, South Sudan was believed to be hosting some 845,000 migrants, the majority were from the East and Horn of Africa, according to the United Nations International Migration Report.

Not only is South Sudan a country of destination for many migrants, it also is a transit country on the route to North Africa. Migrants' movements in South Sudan are mixed – both in terms of root causes and duration – and include refugees, migrant workers with or without families, as well as unaccompanied migrant children and victims of trafficking. A number of those migrants travelling to, or through, the country enlists the services of smugglers to facilitate their journeys.

Raising Awareness about Irregular Migration in Burkina Faso

"I have suffered a lot during my journey and I do not wish



that on anyone else. That's why I joined a theatre group to raise awareness among my brothers and sisters about the dangers of irregular migration. And to help them make informed decisions," says Abdoul Balima.

Abdoul is a member of the Wati Nooma theatre group ("life

is good here" in the Mooré language) which has joined with 24 other community actors from the Central-Eastern Region of Burkina Faso trained by the IOM in community mobilization techniques. The goal is to empower these voices to effectively raise awareness among young people about the dangers of irregular migration.

The two-day training brought together returning migrants, mothers of young migrants, traditional leaders, young entrepreneurs and government representatives. Together, they brainstormed over best strategies for community mobilization to raise awareness on the dangers of irregular migration among young people in the region.

The Central-East region is the most affected community by irregular migration in Burkina Faso. In 2018, 56 per cent of migrants assisted to voluntary return to Burkina Faso by IOM came from this region.

Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 8,950 in 2019; Deaths Reach 223

The IOM reports that 8,950 migrants and refugees have entered Europe by sea through 24 February, a 10 per cent decrease from the 10,016 arriving during the same period last year. Deaths on the three main Mediterranean Sea routes through almost seven weeks of the new year are at 223 individuals – or about one half the 437 deaths that occurred during the same period in 2018.



INDIA PAKISTAN BORDERS: CARTOGRAPHY WITHOUT GEOGRAPHICAL FRONTIERS

By Manoj Kumar,
Indian Border Force,
Second in Command,
STC Chakur

The first comprehensive frontier concept was explicitly expressed by Lord Curzon in his Romanes lectures at Oxford in 1907. The deciding factor in carving geographical boundaries in Indian subcontinent was the outcome of rivalry between Great Britain and Russia, the boundaries of North Western frontiers in South Asia is British creation. The boundary line between India and

erstwhile Pakistan were based of concentration of ethnic population and not marked prominently by geographical features. The western border of India though was divided on ethnic basis but in states like Punjab the division was actually of culturally similar population. Almost all the rivers are flowing from North East to South West i.e., from India to Pakistan. The Thar Desert is also extended into Pakistan territory and



even in case of creeks in Gujrat the disputes on territories are not due to any prominent geographical feature. The case of western border of India is an interesting case study not only in terms of geographical similarity but also the security challenges that it has created for India, as far as border security is concerned.

The border of Punjab state where rivers like Ravi are flowing from India to Pakistan not once but several times the rivers is criss-crossing into the two countries, the gaps that are being created by rivers and their tributaries are being exploited by terrorists and smugglers. During the monsoon season the when the rivers are flooded smugglers use methods like snorkeling, hiding narcotics in hyacinths bunches, and even use of animal carcasses for hiding consignments through water channels. The homogeneity of terrain has helped Punjab to become part of 'Golden Crescent' of narcotics trade in South Asia. The shifting sand dunes of Rajasthan extends to both India and Pakistan and sometimes even the boundary

pillars are lost under these sand dunes, even though India has constructed border fencing in the desert, but maintenance of this fencing is very difficult. Coming to state of Gujarat, the India and Pakistan border merge with creeks and the area is marshy, where even deployment of guarding forces is very difficult. Large part of border of Rann of Kutch remains inundated making navigation very difficult. All these instances are quoted in context to assert that the demarcation of the two countries has not made based on any geographical features and to date it is posing challenges for security but also inconveniences to local population.

For securing borders India must deploy its border guarding force in a comparatively large number supplemented by physical security infrastructure like border fencing. The over-securitization invariably causes inconveniences to local population but due to the security conditions India has been left with no choice but to continue with

present system. Various studies have been conducted by Indian Universities like in Amritsar, about the social and economic impact and have produced interesting data such as loss of man hours due to security procedures to be followed by farmers whose land is ahead of security fence and loss in terms of capital value of land. On the Indian side, border villages due to night curfew notification, which is done concerned District Magistrates/ Commissioners, severely impacts the freedom of movement during night time. Even the physical infrastructure is also less developed in comparison to hinterland due to neglect and strategic reasons, which at times means these areas are sometimes called degradingly as 'border areas' by locals.

The main reason for these border areas to remain stigmatized, is due to division of India and Pakistan, which is not strictly based on geographical frontiers, very similar to "Westphalian model" of Europe in year 1648, that arrangement was made by local rulers as per their conveniences. But in case of these two South Asian states that arrangement was made by a colonial power, though Cyril Radcliffe, assisted by Jurists of different Princely states. The process is impossible to undo and there is no denial of the fact that it caused misery to population not only at the time of partition but is continues to this day, though the nature of suffering has changed. The amicability of statesman and politicians of these countries may appreciate the peril of such border and can try to ameliorate the status of life at border population centers.

Migration, counter-terrorism, corruption and more debated at OSCE PA's Winter Meeting in Vienna

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's 18th Winter Meeting concluded today in Vienna with lively debates on migration, counter-terrorism, gender issues, and combating corruption. With nearly 300 OSCE parliamentarians in attendance, Chairs of OSCE PA ad hoc committees, Special Representatives, and leaders of recent election observation missions presented reports at today's closing plenary session.

PA President George Tsereteli (MP, Georgia) and Secretary General Roberto Montella held a series of bilateral meetings while in Vienna, including with the U.S. and Russian delegations, as well as the delegations of Albania and Armenia, and the Chairman of the Kazakh Mazhilis Nurlan Nigmatulin. They also met with the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Slovak Foreign Minister Miroslav Lajcak, and Secretary General Thomas Greminger.

Chaired by Filippo Lombardi (MP, Switzerland), Artur Gerasymov (MP, Ukraine) and Margareta Kiener Nellen (MP, Switzerland), the general committees of the OSCE PA have met over the past two days for discussions on issues such as restrictions on human rights during emergencies; fighting corruption, money laundering and the financing of terrorism; and how to best leverage the tools and mechanisms of the OSCE to resolve protracted conflicts.

Rapporteurs of the general committees presented their ideas and intentions for the reports and draft resolutions they will be preparing for this summer's Annual Session in Luxembourg. Alan Farrell (MP, Ireland), Rapporteur of the Assembly's Committee on Political Affairs and Security, stressed the role of parliaments in promoting sustainable development, democratic institutions and security.

"Parliaments have a fundamental role in ensuring governments remain accountable to their citizens, that their actions are transparent, and that all actions which work towards building and developing sustainable peace are both inclusive and people-centered," Farrell said.

Elona Gjebrea Hoxha (MP, Albania), Rapporteur of the Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment, focused her remarks on economic good governance, the fight against corruption and financing terrorism, connectivity, migration management, food and

water security, and climate change.

"Climate change is now affecting every country on every continent," she said. "It is disrupting national economies and affecting lives, costing people, communities, and countries dearly today and even more tomorrow." She urged action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and curb the worst effects of global warming.

Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions Rapporteur Kyriakos Hadjiyianni (MP, Cyprus) noted that 71 years after the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and 44 years after the adoption of the Helsinki Final Act, there is a need to reaffirm and update these international commitments.

He focused on growing trends of neo-Nazism and anti-Semitism, the use of states of emergencies to suspend democratic commitments, and the needs of children in areas of military conflict. "Children living in conflict zones around the world continued to suffer extreme violence and serious human rights violations in 2018," Hadjiyianni regretted. "Schools, students and teachers often become targets. Displacement of children all too often results in separation from their parents."

He noted that 2019 marks the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and on this occasion, stressed that protection of children should become a top priority.

In a report to the plenary session today, OSCE PA Ad Hoc Committee on Migration Chair Nahima Lanjri (MP, Belgium) described the committee's work conducting field visits, promoting discussion on the topic of migration in the OSCE PA, and strengthening co-operation with the OSCE Secretariat, Institutions and relevant international actors.

She focused her remarks on migration-related challenges such as unaccompanied and separated children, access to education for children, and integration of refugees. For a successful international response to migration, she said it is essential to promote a multi-stakeholder approach that includes the engagement of public and private sectors and local governments, as well as implementing the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and the Global Compact on Refugees on the international level.

An Interview with Mark Alexander, HO Security Solutions

What is Airbus's offering in the field of land-based border security, now that many of the systems originally developed by Airbus have been transferred to new company Hensoldt?

Globally, Airbus is well-known as a leader in the design and production of commercial aircraft, and this is indeed true. However, Airbus is also a leading provider of tanker, combat, transport and mission aircraft, and not only that: it is also one of the most important companies in the security industry, in terms of both land and maritime solutions. Through its security solutions business, Airbus secures nations, borders, companies and critical national infrastructures, and makes our oceans safer.

Airbus is a very dynamic company, which is continuously looking for new opportunities, always in evolution, trying to adapt its products and services in order to provide a better and more customised solution to its customers. In February 2017, Airbus completed the divestment of its Defence Electronics unit to KKR, which represented another major step forward in the strategic rationalisation of Airbus. The Defence Electronics activity was renamed and became Hensoldt. Today, Airbus remains a key player not only in the field of border security, but also in critical national infrastructure, as well as land and maritime security, among others. After streamlining our portfolio we were well positioned with a clear focus on smarter products, more service-based offerings and accelerating digital innovation. This is a direct response to evolving market demands, as customers from all over the world have told us about their need to enhance their situational awareness picture with actionable intelligence. Therefore, industry is required to focus on providing holistic solutions rather than installing and maintaining sensor networks. Airbus offers a clear competitive advantage to the market here, as it can leverage existing capabilities in a multitude of domains, ranging from aerial assets such as the Zephyr high-altitude pseudo satellite and maritime patrol aircraft such as the C295, to satellite imagery linked to command and control capabilities via a secured means of connectivity. In addition, Airbus invests heavily in its machine-learning capabilities to analyse available real-time and non-real-time data, with the aim of creating actionable intelligence, which offers customer benefits other than the mere fusion of sensors.

That said, Airbus continues to evolve in a business environment where partnerships with other companies are necessary to continue our growth in a highly competitive world. Airbus seeks to partner with other players in the security industry, focusing primarily on data-driven services and intelligence capabilities. Partnering with other companies, Airbus is better positioned than ever before to offer smarter solutions for

protecting borders and critical national infrastructures, for example. In short, we are now better positioned to protect people's ways of life.

What experience does Airbus have in this arena and what do you think Airbus can offer that makes it a primary partner for border security agencies?

Airbus has many years of experience in the security industry. The company contributes to the defence and security of nations, including both land and maritime borders, through its strong capabilities in military aircraft, intelligence, security solutions and growing capabilities in cyber security. With several projects delivered and ongoing to provide border security capabilities in Europe and the Middle East, covering more than 10,000 km of land and sea border, Airbus can rely on extensive experience in providing complex systems in different environments. In addition, in the maritime security segment, Airbus has been supporting maritime missions for almost 50 years. Airbus's real-time systems are already monitoring the main hot spots of maritime traffic around the Earth, such as the Panama and Suez Canals, Gibraltar, the Strait of Hormuz or the Strait of Malacca.

Based upon proprietary commercial access to the most comprehensive range of Earth observation satellites, Airbus's surveillance capacities extend from coastal areas to open seas, providing key information to optimise operations at sea. Airbus's space technologies also have an increasing impact on people's daily lives – from deep-space exploration and scientific missions to today's most reliable secure telecommunications and Earth observation satellites.

Can you provide some real examples?

Spatonav in France is one of our major contracts in the maritime field. Through this contract, we provide real-time decision-making tools to help authorities monitor coastal maritime areas and respond quickly and appropriately to threats and incidents. Nineteen of the Spationav system's semaphores fully cover the French Mediterranean coast, and a further 40 the French Atlantic coast and English Channel, as well as some French offshore territories (Mayotte, Antilles and French Guyana). Merging data from different sensors and using analytics based on two decades of maritime experience, the system delivers maritime situation awareness of French coasts to several governmental agencies for various maritime surveillance purposes – including search and rescue, environmental protection, and the fight against illegal fishing, in addition to normal coast-guard and customs needs. Spationav is already a key contributor to EUROSUR, and with version 2, it is possible to exchange tracks as needed with neighboring coastal systems in both directions. For more

than two years, Airbus has also been successfully handling an MRO contract on behalf of the French Navy, which operates the system around the clock. This contract covers 6,000 km of coastline, the tracking of 5,000 ships per minute and the integration of 70 radar systems, 40 AIS, 60 RDF, MPA and mobile stations.

Another good maritime example can be found in Morocco. At Tanger Med port, Airbus provides an advanced, fully integrated system encompassing radars and long-range cameras, perimeter intruder detection for the port, video surveillance, access control and vessel tracking through our VTS solutions. We also provide secure communication networks and control rooms from where the whole system is monitored and operated – and bear in mind that Tanger Med is likely the largest sea port in Africa and the Mediterranean Sea.

Malaysia, Germany, China, Ecuador, Portugal and Estonia are also counted among our customers. Our figures speak for themselves: 45,000 kilometres of coast are secured by our coastal surveillance systems, with 210 maritime surveillance systems delivered in 55 countries.

Our experience with border agencies is not limited to the maritime environment. In Romania, for example, Airbus protects the longest European Union land border against illegal migration, smuggling, trafficking and terrorism, while providing increased national security for Romanian citizens. This is all achieved through an integrated border system comprising surveillance, command and control, and communication capabilities, allowing us to secure 1,807 kilometres of external land border.

Airbus's experience and know-how have without a doubt helped the company become a leader in this sector.

Airbus has considerable experience in maritime security solutions, but what specific systems and experience can Airbus bring to coastal security in particular, but also to the wider maritime domain?

As already mentioned, Airbus is a key player in the maritime sector with 50 years of experience supporting maritime missions. It provides a complete range of solutions, services and products which are able to address all the customers' needs in the field of maritime security. No competitors offer the same comprehensive range in their maritime portfolio, encompassing maritime patrol aircraft, helicopters, drones, coastal surveillance systems, smart intelligence centres, satellite imagery, big data, and much more. In short, Airbus has the ability to respond to multiple scenarios, and is committed to going above and beyond in the maritime field.

At the beginning of 2018 Signalis, which was founded in 2011 had previously been a joint venture between Airbus and Atlas Elektronik, was fully integrated into Airbus; this was an important step forward for us in the maritime business. This



move was in response to Airbus's growing interest in serving the maritime surveillance market as a whole. Airbus decided to integrate the subsidiary in line with its 'one brand' strategy to ensure customer satisfaction and grow the Maritime Security business. Styris is the maritime security product family within the former Signalis aimed at the maritime safety and security business. Styris comprises Vessel Traffic Services, Coastal Surveillance Systems for border security enforcement on behalf of governments, detection of illicit activities, such as smuggling, trafficking, piracy and terrorism and critical infrastructure protection, protecting onshore and offshore maritime critical infrastructures such as liquefied natural gas terminals, offshore oil and gas platforms or offshore wind farms.

Critical infrastructure protection has a lot in common with border security in terms of sensors and surveillance; what is Airbus offering in this market?

Of course, these areas have a lot in common and Airbus has the expertise and in-depth know-how to address global solutions for global scenarios comprising different systems. Airbus designs, develops and implements integrated systems including platforms and services across national, regional and local levels, aimed at the full range of critical national infrastructure sites and facilities. We protect government installations, airbases and military sites, ports and airports and sensitive industrial sites.

We offer a full range of options to our customers, from the design and installation of an integrated system, through to the provision of a fully managed security system, where we not only design and install the security system, but also maintain and operate it for the client, over long periods, sometimes as long as 20 years. We believe that early engagement with clients in order to fully understand their operating environment is critical, so as to provide a security solution whilst allowing the widest freedom of movement for operations – be that passenger flow in an airport or facilitating straightforward access/exit to staff and other authorised personnel to and from a secure facility.

The focus of all of our systems is to provide the operators of the

protected facility with the very best situational awareness of that site, and to provide them with actionable intelligence and command and control systems that enable them to respond to threats to the site and manage incidents when they do occur. The main challenge is to guarantee not only the protection of people and property, but also the continuity of activities of vital importance for the nation, including in degraded mode and during crisis management. Airbus's aim is to maximise the use of the smart tools that we have developed to alert facility operators to potential problems and threats, almost before they harden into real incidents and events.

What new security technologies and capabilities is Airbus working on that will make a real difference to the security market and make the world a safer place?

Innovation is part of Airbus's DNA, which means that the company is constantly integrating new technologies into its current portfolio. Airbus already works in many areas of cyber technology, applying artificial intelligence to our solutions in order to holistically exploit all security-relevant information available. Airbus is able to offer a full security solution, i.e. we can support customers' end-to-end security concepts and solve their challenges, both in the cyber and physical domains.

It is also worth mentioning our Airbus High Altitude Pseudo-Satellite (HAPS), Zephyr. Running exclusively on solar power and flying above the weather and above conventional air traffic, Zephyr systems fill a capability gap and are complementary to satellites, UAVs and fuel-powered aircraft providing affordable, persistent, local satellite-like services. Truly environmentally friendly, Zephyr uses sunlight to fly and

recharge its batteries, using no fuel and producing no carbon dioxide. The Airbus Zephyr is so efficient it only needs 150W to fly – that is the power of one light bulb to fly an aircraft. Ideally suited for 'local persistence' (ISR – Intelligence, Surveillance & Reconnaissance), HAPS have the ability to stay focused on a specific area of interest (which can be hundreds of miles wide) while providing it with satellite-like communications and Earth observation services (with greater imagery granularity) over long periods of time without interruption.

Today, borders no longer exist when it comes to threatening people's way of life, especially in the digital domain. When talking about critical national infrastructure, we are actually facing a security continuum, because attacking individual facilities for energy, production or transportation will have an increasing number of multiple disruptive effects on public order. In the domain of border security, the intentions and whereabouts of suspicious individuals are as important as the authenticity of their identification – whether it's shown at land borders, seaports or airports. In the near future, the transport of people and goods in all three domains will increase dramatically, which will create two dilemmas for operations: infrastructure usually cannot expand in physical terms as required, and enhancing security while smoothing out operations are actually conflicting demands. We believe that end-to-end awareness and smart flow management is the answer to this. This is why we are investing in machine-learning and artificial-intelligence capabilities for anomaly detection and suspect identification to be applied in the aforementioned domains locally, regionally and globally, making use of all of the assets Airbus can deploy and integrate.

New ABF patrol vessel for New South Wales



The Australian Border Force (ABF) has today launched a new Port, Harbour and Coastal (PHC) vessel to strengthen its maritime capabilities across New South Wales.

Based in Sydney, the 12.4 metre Lord Howe Island is

one of a suite of vessels launched across the country to provide the ABF with a greater range and maritime operational capability.

ABF Regional Commander for New South Wales, Danielle Yannopoulos, said the vessel Lord Howe Island will help ABF officers maintain a strong and continuous presence along the New South Wales coast.

The ABF maritime unit engages in vessel boardings and patrols to monitor and combat border threats such as illicit drugs, firearm importations and wildlife smuggling.

The vessel is one of 13 new PHC vessels deployed across Australia.

AGENCY NEWS AND UPDATES

Strawberry truck caught with \$12.7 million in methamphetamine at the border



A truck driver who claimed to be hauling strawberries aboard his tractor trailer from Mexico into the U.S. was arrested Saturday after customs officers stationed at a border crossing found nearly \$13 million worth of methamphetamine on board.

The driver, a 42-year-old Mexican man, was flagged down and inspected by a Customs and Border Protection officer working at the Pharr International Bridge.

The truck was directed to the cargo processing center's massive, noninvasive X-ray machine, which CBP uses to scan a vehicle for illegal items without having to open it up. The truck was moved to the cargo processing center's docks

where drug-sniffing dogs alerted law enforcement to narcotics.

When the truck was unloaded, CBP officers found 350 packages of methamphetamine that weighed 906 pounds. The meth was worth \$12.7 million in street value.

F enough fentanyl to wipe out 3 million people confiscated by border patrol agents



Border Control were able to confiscate more than 17 pounds of suspected fentanyl. U.S. Customs and Border Protection said that a Border Patrol canine assigned to the primary inspection lane alerted to an odor it was trained to detect from a vehicle.

Agents then referred the vehicle to a secondary inspection area where they found seven packages of suspected fentanyl in the rear floor factory compartment. The suspected fentanyl weighed about 17.48 pounds, which would be enough to wipe out about 3.2 million people. Fentanyl only needs to be about two to three milligrams to be lethal.

The driver, a 29-year-old United States citizen from Arizona, with a previous conviction for transporting 22 pounds of cocaine and a female passenger, a 32-year-old United States citizen, were arrested..

Minibus donated to BiH's Border Police



The European Union has allocated more than 7.2 million euros through

the project “EU Support to Migration and Border Management in Bosnia and Herzegovina” to support Bosnia and Herzegovina’s efforts in helping migrants and refugees and improving the country’s border management capacities.

Within the project, International Organization for Migration (IOM) handed over a minibus to the Border police of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

This donation will improve the efforts and everyday work of the Border Police, which has augmented due to the increased presence of migrants in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

EU border guard chief says ‘no burning crisis’ over migrants

The head of the European Union’s border agency says there is “no burning crisis” right now in Europe due to migrant arrivals, but that more and more Africans are trying to enter Spain from Morocco.

Frontex chief Fabrice Leggeri said Wednesday that “right now we are not in the middle of a migration crisis at the external borders, but of course we do see that there is still a pressure.”

Leggeri says unauthorized migrant crossings of the Mediterranean Sea dropped more than a quarter last year compared to 2017, to 150,000 arrivals.

He says the number of people leaving Libya and Tunisia on the central Mediterranean route for Europe plunged by 80 per cent last year, to around 23,500 arrivals.

Rio Grande Valley Border Patrol Checkpoints Stop Cocaine Smuggling Attempts

U.S. Border Patrol agents seized nearly \$3M worth of cocaine at the immigration checkpoints recently.

Kingsville agents working at the Sarita Checkpoint arrested a United States citizen after locating 33 bundles of cocaine concealed inside of a tractor trailer. The cocaine weighed over 80 pounds is worth an estimated \$2.7M.

Similarly, Falfurrias agents working at the checkpoint referred a vehicle to the secondary inspection area and located two bundles of cocaine concealed inside. The narcotics weighed over five pounds, worth an estimated \$178K. Agents arrested the driver..

Russia working on AI-operated border security system



The Roselectronics holding company (part of Rostec) is developing AI-operated decision-making systems to guard Russia’s land borders, head of Rostec Sergey Chemezov told TASS.

“The Rostec associated Roselectronics is in the process of creating decision-making intelligent systems for protecting Russia’s land borders,” he said.

He revealed that these systems collect ground, maritime and air data, estimate the situation in guarded zones and help to plan the functions of border control agencies and address operation tasks.

In March 2016, TASS reported that Rostec was working on an AI-operated system for guarding zones of critical importance. The system includes a group of air and ground robots, which can operate independently, constantly monitor large swathes of land, and promptly inform security agencies of any situation changes.

Tanzanian PM orders defense, security organs to reinforce border security

Tanzanian Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa has ordered the east African nation’s defense and security organs to reinforce border security and patrols following a tidal wave of killings and armed robberies in border regions.

A statement released by the Prime Minister’s office added that the Prime Minister has directed that all refugees who escaped from their camps in the western region of Kigoma should be prosecuted according to the laws of the country.

Majaliwa made the order when addressing a public rally in Kibondo district at the end of his official tour of Kigoma region, said the statement.

He mentioned areas most affected by brutal killings of people and armed robberies as Kibondo, Buhigwe, Kasulu, Ngara, Biharamulo, Uvinza, Kakonko and Kigoma rural..

Assam Border Police to Introduce Device to detect 'foreigners'



The database comes after the ongoing process of updating the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in Assam faced problems in obtaining real-time information of suspected foreigners due to the absence of a centralised database.

The Border wing of Assam Police, tasked with detecting suspected illegal foreigners and referring their cases to the 100 Foreigners' Tribunals in the state, is set to boost accountability by introducing an electronic device to be used by its personnel while registering details of a suspected individual.

The rectangular device is fitted with a camera for photos, a biometric device to store fingerprints, and registers latitude and longitude coordinates of the location from where the data about a suspected foreigner is entered into the device.

The scope to record geographical coordinates of the place of registering data comes at a time when the border police face allegations that they are not visiting the residence or workplace of a suspected foreigner to investigate but whimsically making a reference against him or her.

"Such a machine will leave no room for subjectivity," said Additional DGP (Border), Bhaskar Jyoti Mahanta.

Telangana, Maharashtra police plan strategy to man State borders



Superintendent of Police Vishnu S Warriar on Friday said that the border police have decided to chart out an information strategy on the border line to manage Parliament elections.

Addressing a review meeting with Telangana and Maharashtra police officials at Zilla Parishad conference hall in Adilabad, Vishnu said that the two States' police decided to start special training for border police personnel.

The police have planned to hand over responsibilities to officers in three steps to monitor the situation in the field without giving the possibility of illegal activities across the border.

Though there is no information on threats for the Maoists, a strong comprehensive information system in the border districts has called for a multi-pronged strategy to put an end to the Maoists action teams, he said..

Border guards at Ambassador Bridge find cocaine



A Waterloo man faces charges after

border guards at the Ambassador Bridge found cocaine in a tractor-trailer.

The truck coming back into Canada was sent to secondary inspection. Officers with the Canada Border Services Agency found six bricks weighing 8.2 kg of what they believe to be cocaine in the sleeper cab.

"This seizure demonstrates the hard work and perseverance of our officers who are committed to stopping illegal activity at our borders and to protecting our communities," said Tamara Allard, the district director of Ambassador Bridge Operations in a release..

Israeli Border Police Thwart Jordanian-Palestinian Arms Smuggling Ring

Israeli security forces foiled an apparent plot to smuggle 37 handguns into Israel from Jordan earlier this month, in an operation that was kept under a gag order until Sunday, police said.

On February 7, Border Police officers spotted the primary suspect, a Palestinian man from the Nablus area, as he attempted to cross the border fence into northern Israel from Jordan wearing a large backpack.

The border guards, assisted by the Israel Defense Forces, arrested the man shortly after he crossed into the northern Jordan Valley and found inside his bag the 37 pistols of various types, police said.

The police arrested three other Palestinian suspects — all from the Nablus area — whom they believe were planning to pick up the suspect after he crossed the border..

Montenegro Government implement Integrated Border Management Strategy

The Montenegro government adopted the action plan for implementing the Integrated Border Management Strategy 2014-2018, for 2019, and adopted the report on the Implementing Measures and Activities from the Action Plan for 2018.

Last year, the improvement of the integrated border management system continued in line with recommendations and best practices of the European Union.

Also, cross border police co-operation and activities on the suppression of cross-border organised crime were enhanced, activities were undertaken to resolve bilateral issues with neighbouring countries, as well as activities on the implementation of signed international treaties on the state border, border crossings and border traffic.

95Kg Of Hashish And Opium Seized In Nangarhar Province



Afghan Counter-Narcotics Special Operation Police seized 81kg of hashish and 14kg of opium during two separate operations conducted in Surkhrod and Rodat districts, eastern Nangarhar province.

Two suspected drug traffickers were also arrested and the drugs were recovered from two vehicles hidden in its compartments.

newest way to board at Miami International Airport



MIA and U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials unveiled a new biometric boarding process for a Lufthansa flight heading to Munich, Germany. Instead of showing their passports and boarding passes, passengers simply stopped in front of a camera, had their photo taken by an iPad-shaped, automated camera, and were cleared to board by a computer.

The roll-out allows airlines to better comply with a federal requirement that the U.S. government know who has left the country. Biometric systems have already been put in place at 13 other airports including Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta, Boston-Logan, and Los Angeles international airports.

For travelers, it should mean faster boarding times and eliminate the need to show one's passport at the gate. Lufthansa said that at a trial in Los Angeles this week, 300 passengers were able to board a flight in 23 minutes..

Sudan, Libya, Chad and Niger to launch border protection centre



Sudan, Libya, Chad and Niger have signed the executive regulation of the Joint Operations Centre to secure the border among the four countries.

The fourth ministerial meeting to secure the border among the four nations has been held recently in the Niger's capital, Niamey.

According to the final communiqué, the meeting discussed actual implementation of the protocol signed in May 2018 in N'Djamena.

It pointed out that the four countries agreed to name their members at the Joint Operations Centre, calling on the coordination and follow-up committee to meet in N'Djamena as soon as possible.

\$6 million in drugs seized by Border Patrol at Arizona ports of entry

An estimated \$6 million worth of illegal drugs, totaling 349 pounds, were seized by U.S. Border Patrol agents in Arizona at ports of entry in Nogales in separate incidents, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection said. The drugs included heroin, methamphetamine, cocaine, and what is suspected to be fentanyl, officials said.

Over 8,000 Smuggled Cigarette's Seized



Gendarmeria Nacional, under the Ministry of Security, seized 8,320 bundles of foreign cigarettes that did not have the legal documentation, as a result of two

procedures carried out in the provinces of Formosa and Santa Fe.

Members of Escuadrón 16 "Clorindai", while they were in the control of the route "Teachers Argentinosi", intercepted a cargo transport with final destination in the province of Santiago del Estero.

At the time of the search, inside the cabin, the gendarmes verified that hidden under the bed were 582 cartons of foreign cigarettes (5,820 packages) smuggled without any documentation of legal tenure.

The Federal Court and the Federal Prosecutor of Formosa directed the seizure of the merchandise and the truck, as well as the driver's arrest.

100 Kilos of Metamyphetamine Seized at Guadalajara Airport



The Secretariat of Security and Citizen Protection announced that elements of the Regional Security Division of the Federal Police, highlighted at the Guadalajara International Airport, Jalisco, secured a box containing 100 kilos of methamphetamines.

The operation was carried out when the staff of the corporation received a complaint that reported a box with unusual content, in an area of the airport.

The package was moved to a secure place, where when opening the package, they located four boxes inside that contained a green powder that simulated being ginger. However, when using a portable substance identifier in the contents of the boxes, it was positive for methamphetamine.

In the event of a possible criminal act, the boxes, with a total weight of approximately 100 kilograms, were placed at the disposal of the Federal Public Ministry Agent in Guadalajara, Jalisco, where the investigations will be monitored and the weight and type of substance found.

76 kilos of Cocaine Seized by Natal/RN

Natal/RN apprehended six people, aged between 21 and 39, accused of drug trafficking.

The inmates are five potiguarens and a brasiliense, among them, a law student. With them, police found 76,111 kg of cocaine. The drug was camouflaged in the back seat of a car and inside a house.

The action began when the Federal Police received information on a suspicious move in a residence located in Emais. In addition to 73 drug tablets, were seized, three radio communications (HT's), two pistols lime. 380, four vehicles, two luxury, cell phones and a small amount of money.



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Automated technology for passport checks double



Airline passengers are using automated technology for passport checks at double the rate recorded in 2017 and are more satisfied when doing so too. This is according to the SITA 2019 Passenger IT Insights, co-sponsored by Air Transport World, which shows that in 2018, 44% of passengers sailed through automated passport control, a jump from 21% in 2017.

The report released today, explores how technology is contributing to a smoother passenger experience at every step of the journey. At passport control, a traditional pain point of the journey, passengers were 3.85% more satisfied when they used self-scanning gates to verify their ID, compared to those using agent-assisted controls. These technology users had a satisfaction rate of 8.36 out of 10.

Matthys Serfontein, SITA President, Air Travel Solutions, said: "One of the standout findings of our report this year is that at every point in the journey, where passengers use technology, the rate of satisfaction is higher. Airlines and airports can see the benefit of their technology investments in making it easy for passengers, every step of the way. Over the years, booking, check-in and bag drop have increasingly become automated and passengers like it. Interestingly, this year the report shows how introducing automated passport controls, in

collaboration with government and border agencies, also increases passenger satisfaction."

Automated gates used at boarding are another success for the industry and its passengers. Not only do they speed up the processing of passengers but they support more efficient operations and faster turnarounds. Again, SITA's Insights show that satisfaction is 2.2% higher when passengers scan their own documents to board.

Serfontein added: "Today, we have our Smart Path™ solution at airports around the world, from Australia to the Americas, which uses biometrics to automate the journey. Across the board we have found that passengers are keen to use the biometric self-service process, when given a choice, over 90% of travelers typically opt in. Actions speak louder than words and it's becoming very clear from our Smart Path™ implementations that people like using biometrics for easy travel."

It seems that when it comes to verifying their identity, passengers are ready to use technology even more and in a variety of ways. SITA reports that 59% are 'very willing' to use their mobiles for ID verification along the journey, with a further 33% open to the idea.

While proving your identity using your mobile device is not an option widely available today, with nine out of ten passengers potentially welcoming this service, airlines and airports can be confident when moving to mobile services for ID identification. Passengers are looking to make their journey as easy as possible and mobile is top of the technologies they want to use.

The key findings of SITA's report are based on a survey of passengers from 20 countries across the Americas, Asia, Europe, Middle East and Africa, representing over 70% of global passenger traffic.

Developing and delivering solutions for modernized border management

Managing the pressures of increased passenger growth without compromising security screening and border control.

The safety and security of our borders continues to be top-of-mind for industry professionals and can be impacted by two important factors – increasing passenger traffic and changing government regulations.

According to the International Air Transport Association (IATA), the number of passengers transported by airlines will reach 8.2 billion in 2037, an increase from 7.8 billion in 2036. In Europe, the impending European Union Entry/Exit System requirements are scheduled to launch in 2020. The region has heightened its emphasis on modernizing border management as it seeks to help member states plan for increased traffic flow and reinforce security infrastructure.

In order to keep pace, border agencies, governments and industry decision-makers must evolve and innovate. Now is the time to embrace technology and to consider an automated border control solution such as border kiosks that unites security, efficiency and innovation.

Industry-Leading Border Management Technology

Vancouver International Airport (YVR), voted the Best Airport in North America for nine consecutive years, understands the value of technology in ensuring that passengers clear the border safely and securely. Innovative Travel Solutions (ITS) is an independent business unit of YVR that specializes in delivering industry-leading travel technology to transform the traveller's experience, while keeping safety at the forefront.

Developed by ITS, BORDERXPRESS is a biometric-enabled kiosk solution that uses an efficient two-step process to expedite the border clearance process, reducing passenger wait times by more than 60 per cent. The kiosks accept all passports, require no pre-registration or fees, and have been designed with high levels of safety, security, documentation authentication and data protection in mind. BORDERXPRESS also provides better exception handling, is fully accessible to persons with disabilities, and can be configured with up to 35 different languages. It can process any passenger, including families travelling as a group.

Biometrics, including fingerprints and photographs of the face, significantly increase the security of the border by collecting physical characteristics of an individual

which when captured in a database, can be used to verify the identity or check against other entities in the database. More than 70 countries around the world use the collection of biometrics as part of their immigration program.

The implementation of BORDERXPRESS kiosks result in overall operating efficiency and space savings because the kiosks allow airports to expand passenger traffic without having to add additional terminal space or staffing resources – a challenge facing airports around the world.

The kiosks also allow border officers to focus on maintaining the safety of the border and intelligence efforts – key priority areas when governments are looking to automation.

Since 2009, ITS has sold over 1,600 kiosks at 42 airport and seaport locations around the world, helping more than 250 million passengers clear the border safely and securely.

A Collaborative Approach Leads to Success in Europe

ITS recently expanded into Europe with the installation of 74 BORDERXPRESS kiosks at Pafos International Airport and Larnaka International Airport in Cyprus. This represented the first implementation of permanent kiosks for entry and exit border control in the European Union, and thus is a major milestone for ITS, as well as Cyprus and Europe as a whole.

The collaboration between Hermes Airports, which operates both Pafos and Larnaka airports, its partners in the Cyprus government, and ITS, has been integral throughout the process. Initial feedback from both airports shows that lines have essentially been eliminated and there are positive results across several key customer satisfaction metrics. By working together, partners in the global airport and border security industries can achieve a solution that balances the need for secure and efficient border control solutions.

Innovative technology like BORDERXPRESS can make passenger processing more efficient – not only for air travel, but also sea and rail travel, where border management is also critical. It can also be configured to meet the immigration needs of any government in the world. This is especially important when you consider the complexities associated with the new European Union Entry/Exit System.

BORDER MANAGEMENTS ANNUAL GATHERING

EVENT PREVIEW



19th-21st March 2019
Casablanca, Morocco
www.world-border-congress.com

The annual gathering of the international border management and protection community will take place in Casablanca, Morocco on 19th-21st March 2019.

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

The 2019 World Border Security Congress will see the largest international gathering of border security and management policymakers and practitioners from more than 50 countries gather for the 3 day meeting for some great discussions, meetings, workshops and networking with colleagues and peers from the global border security community.

Borders in the Maghreb are increasingly dangerous. Armed with tools designed for the pre-Arab Spring



environment, Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia face a complex new world of transnational actors that leverage borders for profit and for sanctuary. Rather than protecting states, a Moroccan Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) official noted, the borders themselves are now the “challenge and threat.” Radical change is needed in national and regional approaches to border security to combat today’s threats. Going it alone is no longer an option in North Africa.

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

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

Closed Agency Only Workshops

FOR BORDER AGENCIES AND AGENCIES AT THE BORDER ONLY – If you are interested in participating in the Closed Agency Only Workshops, in order to obtain clearance to attend the Closed Workshops, please register via the [Online Agency Registration](#) complete the [Agency Registration Form](#) and return, to begin the approval process. For details view www.world-border-congress.com.

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

Border agencies and agencies at the border can benefit from the ‘Closed Agency Only Workshops’, **hosted by the Moroccan Directorate for Migration and Border Surveillance, Directeur de la Migration et de la Surveillance des Frontiers**, Organization for Security & Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and International Organization for Migration (IOM) with a series of behind closed door discussion and working group opportunities.

This years Closed Agency Only Workshop topics are:

Wednesday 20th March 2019 - 11.15am - 12.30pm

International Border Security Challenges - Operational Planning and Rapid Reaction

Chair: Senior Representative, International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Preparing for unforeseen operational spikes in border activity is essential, from the development of rapid reaction teams to sharing operational intelligence on the ground. This session aims to discuss and share experience and operational techniques.

Wednesday 20th March 2019 - 4.15pm - 5.30pm

Biometrics – The way forward

Chair: Simon Deignan, Counter Terrorism Officer, OSCE

Biometrics technology has come of age and is now in widespread use in border control applications around the world. However, there are still practical issues around privacy, data protection, information sharing and best practice. This workshop will discuss these challenges and issues surrounding implementation.

Thursday 21st March 2019 - 11.15am - 12.30pm

Information Exchange and Cooperation

Chair: Moroccan Ministry of Interior, General Directorate for Border Surveillance & Migration

Everyone agrees that the sharing information is essential for secure borders. How can we manage data to insure its security and integrity, whilst implementing a system of data exchange based on trust to make this a viable and enhance border management?

Congress Agenda

TUESDAY 19TH MARCH

8:30am - 12:00pm Casablanca Port Site Tour

1:30pm - 2:00pm MINISTERIAL OPENING AND WELCOME

2:15pm - 3:30pm OPENING KEYNOTE

Khalid Zerouali, Wali, Director General of Migration and Border Surveillance, Morocco

Captain Junaid Abdullahi, Executive Secretary, Border Communities Development Agency (BCDA)

Senior Representative, African Union ECOSOCC

4:00pm - 5:30pm PLENARY SESSION - IDENTIFYING AND UNDERSTANDING THE LATEST AND EVOLVING THREATS AND CHALLENGES FOR BORDER AGENCIES

As border management techniques and technologies evolve, so too will the threats as criminal gangs, terrorists, traffickers and smugglers develop new ways to evade detection. Identifying and understanding new threats and disseminating information to frontline agencies and partners is key to future success.

Combatting Illicit Trafficking in Cultural Property

Gorancho Stojkowski, Border Security and Management Unit, Transnational Threats Department (TNTD), Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)

Illicit Goods and Narcotics Trafficking Challenges in Morocco and the Mediterranean

Ahmed Adnane Dahmani, Head of Division of Prevention, Customs Administration and Indirect Taxes, Morocco

Wayne Salzgeber, Director, INTERPOL Washington

Migration Challenges - Bangladesh Perspective

Major General Md. Shafeenul Islam ndc, psc, Director General of Border Guard Bangladesh

Small Arms and Light Weapons and its link to border security

Gabor Kemeny, Project Co-ordinator (ExB), Public Safety and Community Outreach Department, OSCE – Mission to Skopje

Ronny Sompie, Directorate General of Immigration, Indonesia

7:00pm - 9:00pm WELCOME RECEPTION (INVITATION ONLY)

WEDNESDAY 20TH MARCH

9:00am - 10:30am PLENARY SESSION - BORDER MANAGEMENT - FROM RISK MANAGEMENT TO FOREIGN FIGHTER AND CT STRATEGIES

US intelligence estimates in excess of 40,000 total foreign fighters have gone to the conflict. These men and women present a massive threat to the international security and a huge challenge to the global border management community. Identifying these individuals at border crossing points still presents the best opportunity to apprehend these individuals. Developing strategies and technologies to do must be a priority.

Risk Management through risk based decision making processes

Dr Renée L. Yengibaryan, Deputy Director – IPD, Operations Support, U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Dr Nasser Segayer, Libyan National Team for Border Security and Management

The Dutch Approach on Irregular Migration

Neda Katalina MS, Strategic Advisor People Smuggling & Human Trafficking & Nella Kadic MSc, Acting Coordinator International Relations and Crime Investigation Expert, Royal Netherlands Marechaussee

The Management and Situation on the Tunisian border - Salah Sakli, Central Director, Tunisian National Guard

Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System (CIBMS) - Rajni Kant Mishra, Director General, Border Security Force, India*

11:15AM - 12:30PM BREAKOUT SESSION - IMPLEMENTING BIOMETRICS AND ADVANCED PASSENGER INFORMATION

Biometrics is playing a key role in traveller identification, but how can it be used in a holistic approach, with API and PNR, to enhance traveller facilitation and improve border management.

Simon Deignan, Counter Terrorism Officer, Organization for Security & Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)

Juan Jesús Rodríguez Olmos, Project Manager, General of Information Systems and Communications for Security, Ministry of Interior, Spain

Ademola Oladele, Regional Officer, Aviation Security and Facilitation ICAO WACAF

The African Capacity Building Centre Solutions on Border Management - Nelson Goncalves, IBM Training Specialist, African Capacity Building Centre (ACBC)

* invited

Congress Agenda

WEDNESDAY 20TH MARCH

2:00pm - 3:30pm PLENARY SESSION - MIGRATION AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING CHALLENGES ON GLOBAL BORDER MANAGEMENT

Borders are the 'frontlines' for anti-trafficking interventions, but still very few victims are picked up at the border. What strategies, policies, training and technology should be implemented to stamp out this oldest of human scourges.

Securing and protecting EU external borders

Alvaro Rodriguez-Gaya, Senior Specialist, European Migrant Smuggling Center (EMSC), EUROPOL

Border Security in Ghana and its impact on World Migration issues

Justice Cornelius Amevor, Aflao Sector Commander, Ghana Immigration Service

Desert Border Management Challenges

Sophie Hoffmann, Deputy Programme Manager and Project Manager, IOM Niger & Sadou Soloke, Governor of Agadez Region, Northern Niger

Challenges through the Balkans

State Secretary of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MoIA), North Macedonia

The Smuggling of Migrants in Africa: Questions of (Missing?) Protection

Cristiano d'Orsi, Research Fellow/Lecturer, South African Research Chair in International Law (SARCIL)/University of Johannesburg

4:15PM - 5:30PM BREAKOUT SESSION - DATA, CYBERBORDERS AND THE CHALLENGES OF DEVELOPING THEM

Cyber crime has no borders, whether data sharing/flow of information between countries, airlines or agencies, or criminal gangs and the darkweb. What place and function do border agencies have and what strategies do they need to develop to protect cyber borders.

The cyber border and the EU

Bartel Meersman, Head of Unit, Transport & Border Security, European Commission Joint Research Centre

How can AI technology help borders?

Chris Brown, VP International, Basis Tech, UK

5 Digital Intelligence Challenges all Border Agencies are Facing Today

Amazia Keidar, VP of International Marketing, Cellebrite

THURSDAY 21ST MARCH

9:00am - 10:30am PLENARY SESSION - BORDER SECURITY INFORMATION AND COORDINATION

Whether it is returning foreign fighter, human training, cross border organised crime, protecting cyberborders interagency co-operation and information sharing is the key to success. What else needs to be done to make the aspiration a reality, and is there a business transformation approach beyond technology that tackles processes, regulations and security?

Establishment of a Caribbean Border Security Information and Coordination Center

Max Antoine, Executive Secretary, Commission for Border Management of Haiti

Role of intelligence in border security

Babatunde Olomu, Deputy Comptroller of customs and Tasiu Sanusi Saulawa, Deputy Superintendent, Nigeria customs service

Building Cooperation on Discussion and Dialogue

Peter Nilsson IPMc, Police Commissioner and Head of AIRPOL

Moises Vos Martinez, Spanish National Coordination Center Eurosur, Guardia Civil, Spain

Cargo Risk Assessment Demystified - Implementing ACI and PLACI Systems

Emad Muhanna, VP Government Sector, SITA

11:15AM - 12:30PM BREAKOUT SESSION - SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGIES ON THE BORDER

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

Morocco's National Border Control System

Senior representative, General Directorate for National Security (DGSN), Morocco & Senior Representative, Veridos

FOLDOUT - Protecting Green Borders - Through-foliage detection, including in the outermost regions of the EU

BG Lt. col. dr Urszula Młodziejowska-Seredyn, Expert, Border Management Department
Polish Border Guards

Integrated Coastal Surveillance System

An Essential Toolbox for Aiding Maritime Security

Olivier Yvon, SIE Maritime Program Manager, Airbus Defence & Space

THURSDAY 21ST MARCH

2:00pm - 4:00pm PLENARY SESSION - FUTURE TRENDS IN INTERNATIONAL BORDER MANAGEMENT

As the global economy continues to develop at unprecedented rates, with ever increasing interdependencies and complexities. The global economy depends increasingly dependent on the free movement of people and goods. Understanding future trends in international trade, people movement and crime will drive the development of international and integrated border management in the future.

Florian Forster, Head, Immigration and Border Management (IBM), Dept of Migration Management (DMM), International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Project Hunter Programme - Jane Woolley, Assistant Director, UK Border Force, UK Border Force

IATA Open Borders Strategy and Future Initiatives (1ID -API/PNR initiatives)

Kashif Khalid, Regional Director – Africa & Middle East, Airports, Passenger, Cargo, Security & Facilitation, IATA

A Foundational Approach to Border Security of the Future - Paul Hollingshead, AS&E Rapiscan

Capacity Building and ID Developments for Africa - Dr Benoy Berry, Chairman, Contec Global Foundation, Nigeria

4:00PM CONGRESS ROUND UP AND CLOSE

smuggling of arms and illegal goods across North Africa also adds pressure on the governments and border security forces of the region.

Advancements in technology are assisting in the battle to maintain safe and secure international travel and detect illigit goods and smuggling. The border security professional still remains the front line against these threats.

The World Border Security Congress is a high level 3 day event that will discuss and debate current and future policies, implementation issues and challenges as well as new and developing technologies that contribute towards safe and secure border and migration management.

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security to be free

**AU-ECOSOCC Workshop:
Migration – Creating Opportunities for Young People In Africa**



Workshop Part One

Tuesday 19th March 2019 : 9am – 12:30pm

Workshop Part Two

Wednesday 20th March 2019 : 9am – 12:30pm

The World Border Security Congress provides a powerful platform for heads of government, technocrats and other key stakeholders to review the development process to secure borders, which is affecting migration around the world, particularly in Africa.

We celebrate the progress made and cooperation attained, to share knowledge and explore new avenues for building a better continent for all, and efforts for achieving SDG of the United Nations, and Agenda 2063 of the African Union.

The Congress aptly underscores our collective desire to address developmental challenges in Africa.

In this sense, the AU Summit resonates with the commitment of African Union Economic, Social and Cultural Council to provide advisory role that will engender necessary actions that will address development challenges in Africa.

To this extent, the Social Affairs and Health Cluster Committee in conjunction with Committee on Political Affairs of the AU-ECOSOCC, will be hosting a Workshop on the margins of the Congress to understudy the situation and proffer necessary solutions that will address the issues of Migration in Africa.

Africa is continuously losing its young, vibrant human resources and future through irregular migration, leading through the path of death to Europe and other developed Nations. This has continued to lead to loss of thousands of lives, brain drain and depletion of Africa’s human resources.

The situation has become a global topical issue with Africa at the receiving end. We believe that the time has come for us to look inwards. The Workshop therefore is expected to identify the root causes, share experience with local and international development partners and civil society organizations with a view to curbing irregular migration of African youths and even families to Europe.

The Side Event with the theme “Migration – Creating Opportunities for Young People In Africa” will be highly interactive with Keynote presentations, Panel discussions centered on a meaningful dialogue among participants and stakeholders.



For more details visit www.world-border-congress.com

Site Visit to Port of Casablanca

Tuesday 19th March 2019 : 8:30am – 12:00pm



The Port of Casablanca is one of the largest artificial ports in Morocco and in the world.

Casablanca's port handles more than 21,3 million tons of traffic annually, 38% of Moroccan traffic, and carries out a sales turnover of more than 894 Million Moroccan Dirhams.

The port covers 605 hectares and extends more than 8 kilometers in length. It can accommodate and treat more than 35 ships at the same time.

The Port of Casablanca is also a major cruise ship stopping point for tourists to visit some of the wonders of Casablanca, such as the Medina, Hassan II Mosque and world famous Rick's Bar.

Processing over 800 thousand TEUs, 21.3 million tons of containerized cargo and more than 200,000 cruise passengers annually, the Port of Casablanca has a number of challenges.

The Site Tour of the Port of Casablanca will offer an insight into these challenges and how the relevant authorities tackle these through traditional and technological solutions.

Spaces are limited so register your place on the Site Tour early. For further details and to register visit www.world-border-congress.com.

Supported by the Organisation for Security & Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the European Association of Airport and Seaport Police (EAASP), the African Union Economic, Social and Cultural Council (AU-ECOSOCC), National Security & Resilience Consortium, International Security Industry Organisation and International Association of CIP Professionals, demonstrating the World Border Security Congress remains the premier multi-jurisdictional global platform where new ways through new challenges and treating those challenges as opportunities to do things better in the future.

REGISTER TODAY

WWW.WORLD-BORDER-CONGRESS.COM

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

The World Border Security Congress is open for members of federal government, border management agencies, law enforcement or inter-governmental agencies, the European Union, INTERPOL, EUROPOL, AFRIPOL, ASEANAPOL, AMERIPOL, OSCE and associated Agencies and members (public and official) involved in border security, management and protection. Applications will be reviewed and considered on an individual basis. Delegates are requested to register sufficiently early to ensure participation. For all above mentioned communities the World Border Security Congress early registration is "Free of Charge".

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

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



European Association
of Airport and Seaport Police



Veridos leads new EU research project on border control

Veridos will head a new EU-funded research project, which focuses on enhancing the quality and efficiency of verification at border crossings. The goal is to reduce the process duration to enable a non-stop border-crossing experience for travelers and to significantly decrease fraud.



Veridos will act as a consortium leader and will work together with 18 partners on the project, which gets its funding through the EU Research and Innovation program Horizon 2020.

The Veridos-led project, called D4FLY, focuses on the authentication of travelers on the move and document verification with the primary goal of making border control faster and more secure. Research topics will include 3D face recognition, the use of smartphones as a means of identification, document forgery detection, and anti-spoofing. The potential benefit of blockchain technology in identity verification will also be investigated. The project is funded by the EU Horizon 2020 program "Secure societies - Protecting

freedom and security of Europe and its citizens".

Dr. Silke Bargstädt-Franke, Senior Vice President and Head of Product Management at Veridos explains why the project is needed: "The use of biometrics for identification at border crossings has significantly improved security and efficiency. However, we need to continuously advance the technology in order to tackle abuse and manipulation. D4Fly will, for example, evaluate techniques to detect so called spoofing, which is the use of face masks or other artificial replicas to fool the biometric authentication".

Four different border control points and one document fraud expertise center will form the project's testing and demonstration ground including locations in Greece, Lithuania, and the Netherlands. D4Fly is the fourth EU research project for Veridos in recent years. These projects have included the PROTECT project on biometric border technology, which the European Commission has described as an EU research success story.

Airborne Technologies has been awarded a contract to upgrade one of the Bulgarian Border Guard's helicopters

Airborne Technologies has been awarded a FRONTEX funded contract to upgrade one of the Bulgarian Border Guard's AW109 helicopters with the Airborne LINX system. Besides the integration of Airborne LINX, the platform will be high-end equipped with a FLIR Star Safire 380 HD, an ECS Line of Sight Downlink and a payload friendly carbon fibre tactical workstation.



The report released today, explores how technology is contributing to a smoother passenger experience at every step of the journey. At passport control, a traditional pain point of the journey, passengers were 3.85% more satisfied when they used self-scanning gates to verify their ID, compared to those using agent-assisted controls. These technology users had a satisfaction rate of 8.36 out of 10.

Matthys Serfontein, SITA President, Air Travel Solutions, said: "One of the standout findings of our report this year is that at every point in the journey, where passengers use technology, the rate

of satisfaction is higher. Airlines and airports can see the benefit of their technology investments in making it easy for passengers, every step of the way. Over the years, booking, check-in and bag drop have increasingly become automated and passengers like it. Interestingly, this year the report shows how introducing automated passport controls, in collaboration with government and border agencies, also increases passenger satisfaction." Automated gates used at boarding are another success for the industry and its passengers. Not only do they speed up the

processing of passengers but they support more efficient operations and faster turnarounds. Again, SITA's Insights show that satisfaction is 2.2% higher when passengers scan their own documents to board.

Serfontein added: "Today, we have our Smart Path™ solution at airports around the world, from Australia to the Americas, which uses biometrics to automate the journey. Across the board we have found that passengers are keen to use the biometric self-service process, when given a choice, over 90% of travelers typically opt in. Actions speak louder than words and it's becoming very clear from our Smart Path™ implementations that people like using biometrics for easy travel."

It seems that when it comes to verifying their identity, passengers are ready to use technology

even more and in a variety of ways. SITA reports that 59% are 'very willing' to use their mobiles for ID verification along the journey, with a further 33% open to the idea.

While proving your identity using your mobile device is not an option widely available today, with nine out of ten passengers potentially welcoming this service, airlines and airports can be confident when moving to mobile services for ID identification. Passengers are looking to make their journey as easy as possible and mobile is top of the technologies they want to use.

The key findings of SITA's report are based on a survey of passengers from 20 countries across the Americas, Asia, Europe, Middle East and Africa, representing over 70% of global passenger traffic.

output data types support everything from track-based camera cueing to deep sensor fusion or

machine learning using the radar's raw range-velocity data-cubes.

Latest release for MDS III pro v 8.0 human presence detector system

Belgian company Science For Humanity (s4h), recently released the latest version of its MDS III pro v 8.0 human presence detector system. Due to the development of new, custom made, easier to use seismic sensors, it detects up to 30% faster intruders, and brings more stability in the system and performance.



The MDS collects the movements with seismic sensors and analyses the data using an advanced signal processing algorithm.

The control is carried out by special sensors, which are placed on the vehicle and which transmit the measured data to the MDS main unit. The collection and evaluation of the

data requires about 30 seconds. For a complete check, it usually takes less than 2 minutes - including handling (placing and removing) of the sensors.

This technology is used in more than 25 European countries to detect illegal immigrants hiding in truckloads and other vehicles at border crossings.

Breakthrough radar performance for modern security needs

Based on MESA technology, EchoGuard brings next-generation 3D sensor performance and software-defined customization to the security market.



Ruggedized hardware supports long-range detection, and the onboard Acuity software optimizes radar performance for specific installations and threats. A hierarchy of

ICOR's CALIBER® MK4 Robot is the newest member of the CALIBER® family

The MK4 is equipped with a total of 7 cameras, including a dedicated, telescoping Pan-Tilt-Zoom camera arm that can reach a height of 9 ft. The superior sight capabilities is not this robot's only unique feature. polycarbonate identity documents: POLYCORE® technology and a new solution.



With two independently operated arms (one for the claw and one for disruptors), the robot can easily pick up large items and disrupt them in a safe area. ICOR designed the robot for Large Vehicle Borne Improvised

Explosive Devices (LVBIED) based on recommendations from bomb technicians and security personnel. The MK4 is the ideal solution for keeping security personnel safe when dealing with large unknown threats.

WidePoint has secured a new Task Order award from U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) valued at more than \$1.6 million

The new award is an expansion of a previously announced contract with CBP that falls under the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Cellular Wireless Managed Services (CWMS) the number of devices that WidePoint manages for CBP will increase 50% from 30,000 to 45,000 devices.

"We are honoured to be expanding our contract with U.S. Customs and Border Protection, which has a reputation for maintaining high standards for its

wireless managed services," said Todd Dzyak, President and CEO of WidePoint Integrated Solutions Corporation.

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