# nternational Centre for Vligration Policy Development

## "Irregular Migration and Human Smuggling in Central and Eastern Europe"

Presentation at the 9<sup>th</sup> International Metropolis Conference; Geneva, 29.9.2004

Workshop on Irregular Migration, Human Smuggling and Trafficking in an Enlarged European Union



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## International Centre for Migration Policy Development

Return & Readmission

THB & People Smuggling

Asylum & Protection

It is ICMPD's aim to promote comprehensive and sustainable migration policies and function as an information exchange mechanism for governments and organisations primarily on European migration issues

Visa

Border Management

Labour Migration

Integration



#### **Outline of Presentation**

- 1. Overview of Illegal Migration in Europe
  - Distinction Smuggling Trafficking
- 2. Recent Trends in Illegal Migration in Western Europe and in Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe
- 3. Research on Human Smuggling
- 4. Discussion



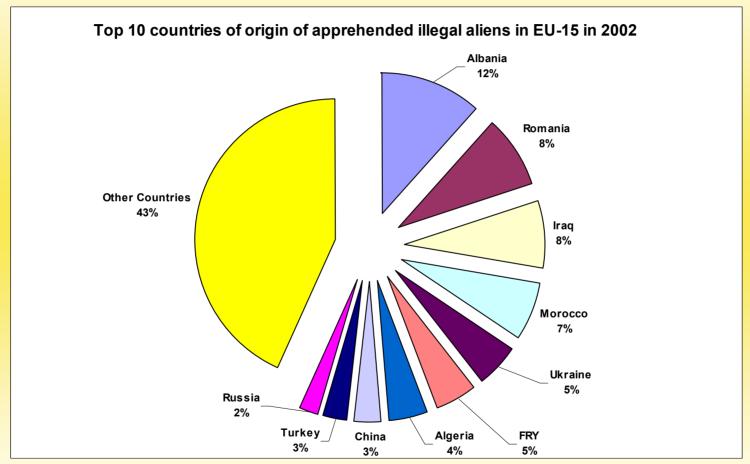
## Trends in border apprehensions by country of apprehension

Country of apprehension	2000	2001	2002	2003
Austria	22.999	28,059	26,362	19,114
Germany	31.485	28,560	22,638	19,974
Italy (1)	26.817	20,143	23,719	14,331
Italy (2)	9.592	4,902	3,838	1,675*
Spain (3)	15.195	18.517	16.670	19,176
Switzerland (4)	5.668	4,967	7,405	8,181
TOTAL 5	111.756	105.148	100.632	82,451

- (1) Italy: includes only Apulia, Calabria and Sicily
- (2) Italy: includes only the Northeastern Border to Slovenia, \* 2003: only 1 HJ
- (3) Spain: includes only migrants intercepted while arriving per boat
- (4) Switzerland: excluding international airports



## Countries of Origin of Illegal Migrants in EU-15





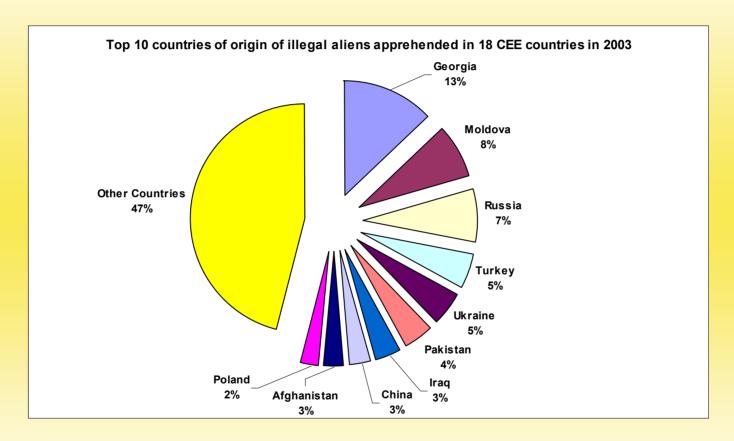
### Trends in border apprehensions by place of apprehension in CEE and SEE

Place of apprehension	2001	2002	2003
Croatia	17.416	5.861	4.214
Czech Republic	23.834	14.741	13.206
Hungary	16.637	15.976	13.533
Poland	5.219	4.269	5.063
Romania	31.992	3.084	2.133
Slovakia	15.548	15.235	12.493
Slovenia	20.883	6.896	5.018
Turkey	92.364	82.825	56.219
TOTAL 17 (*)	260.706	201.474	164.357

<sup>(\*)</sup> Includes: Armenia, Azerbaij., Bosnia-H., Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech R., Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Serbia-M., Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey, Ukraine.



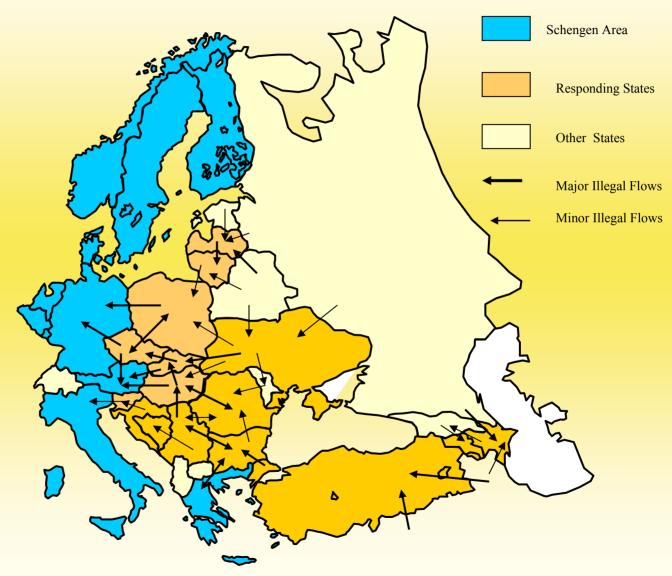
## Countries of Origin of Illegal Migrants in CEE-17\*



<sup>\*</sup> Includes: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia-H., Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech R., Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Serbia-M., Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey, Ukraine.

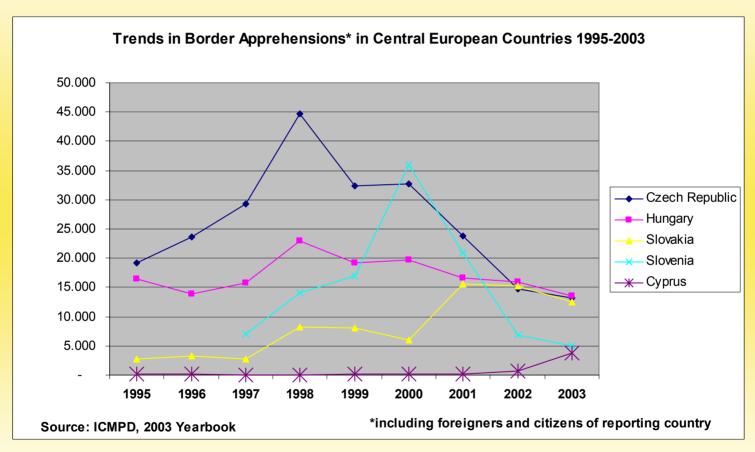


#### **Illegal Migration Flows in CEE in 2003**





#### Long term trends in CEE





## The Role of Human Smuggling in Illegal Migration Processes Today

- Human Smuggling accounts for a large and growing share of illegal migration
- Police authorities estimate the share of "facilitated entries" at 30%-80%
- Example: the Hungarian Border Guard estimates that the share has grown from 20-25% in mid-1990s to more than 70% today



## Long and Short Distance Illegal Migration and Human Smuggling

- There is evidence that smuggling operations differ according to the complexity of the tasks and the distances to be bridged:
- Long-distance migration (Iraq, Afghanistan, China,...)
  → sometimes large complex smuggling operations within hierarchical structures
- Medium-distance migration (Ukraine, Turkey, Georgia,...) → often migration "in stages" through smuggling networks
- Short-distance/network migration (e.g. FRY) → often self-organized trips; "opportunistic smuggling"
- Visa-free migration (e.g. Romania, Poland) → less involvement of organized smuggling organizations



## Human Smuggling Networks and Division of Tasks

The division of work of smuggling organizations can be characterised as follows:

- Recruiters → in countries of origin
- Organisers → create contacts and coordinate tasks
- Consigners → control the movement of money
- Transporters → provide transport to and from border and within country
- Guides → lead migrants through the border
- Falsifiers → provide false or falsified documents
- Hosts → offer accommodation and hiding places

#### A Schematic Model of Human Smuggling **En route: Transit Origin: Recruitment Destination: Insertion** Horizontal Services: Money transfers, coordination, enforcement, etc. **Recruitment Services: Social Reality** -Advertising - Contact & Trust Income Opportunities: -- Information & Guidance **Transit Services:** Black & Grev Economy **Border** -- Credit & Enforcement -Transport Asylum System -- Documents Crossina -Shelter/Assembly Places - green border -- Re-grouping Migrant - blue border -- Routing **Networks** - Air -Documents (faked, forged, - stowaway genuine, arranged) **SMUGGLERS** - documents **Migrant** - bribery - Recruitment **SMUGGLERS** - Transport/Guidance - Intelligence - Enforcement, etc... **SMUGGLERS** - Transport - Management - Insertion - Finance - Documents, etc., - Transport/Guidance Migrant - Networking, etc. **Border** Family Crossina Friends - green border Acquaintances \ **Insertion Services:** - blue border - Shelter & Link-up **Migrant** Social background - Air -- Work (black & grey market, - stowaway Migrant Networks Seasonal work, illicit activities Income opportunities - documents Illegal activities) Subsistence Strategies: - bribery -Documents (visa, Black & Grey Economy Residence permits) **Social Reality** Asylum System etc. Metropolis Conference Geneva; 29th September 2004 13



#### **Recruitment/Mobilization**

#### **Information about destination countries:**

- main source: ethnic and family networks
- to a lesser extent: Smuggling organisations

#### **Quality of information:**

- excellent information: on legal aspects
- mixed information: possibilities to work, income...
- Poor information: overall living conditions ("distorted picture"), all aspects of the journey
- Problem of Trust: "Guaranteed Smuggling"

#### **Recruitment:**

- Advertising by smuggling organisations in countries of origin
- Newspapers
- Travel agencies (China, Pakistan, Africa)
- websites



#### Transit/en route

#### Routes, focal points, hubs

- Hubs shape the routes (Moscow, Kiev, Belgrade, Budapest, ..)
- Main hubs: "friendly environment", work opportunities, contact with further smugglers, document providers,...

#### **Stages**

 Number of stages and duration of journey depends on the type of journey and the resources available

#### **Accommodation**

- Migrants on their own or provided by smugglers
- Standards: normally very poor

#### **Modalities of border crossing**

- Great variety: green border/blue border/concealed/airport
- On the increase/innovations: concealed in trucks and using false documents



#### **Insertion/Destination**

Mostly <u>pre-arranged</u> through family, friends or migrant networks

If <u>spontaneous</u> arrivals – contacts through ethnic networks, social clubs, train stations,...

#### **Work Legally:**

- Selling newspapers, Leaflet deliverers, Harvesters, Seasonal workers, Street cleaning, Baby sitters, dog sitters, restaurants

#### **Work Illegally:**

 Restaurants, peddlers, nurses, Domestic helpers, Prostitution, crime



#### Smuggling fees

- <u>Typical smuggling fees</u> from the country of origin to a Schengen country are:
- From China to Europe from 10,000 to 15,000 USD
- From Pakistan and India up to 8,000 €
- From Afghanistan between 4,000-6,000 USD,
- From Iran between 3,000-5,000 USD,
- From Ukraine, depending on the type, 5,000-10,000 €,
- From Moldova to a West European country 1,500-2,000 €,
- From Serbia and Montenegro through Slovenia up to 3,000 €,
- On the other hand, short distance crossings can be much cheaper:
- From the Czech Republic to Germany on foot: 30-40 €
- From Budapest to Austria by passenger car: 50-100 €



#### Human Smuggling: Countermeasures

- Harmonization and sharpening of penal law
- Effective readmission programs linked to economic aid
- Technical improvements concerning Document security, Visa information, etc.
- International Cooperation I: cross-border cooperation and intelligence sharing of destination and transit countries
- International Cooperation II: Cooperation with Source Countries (ex. Albania, Tunisia)
- "Economic strategy": raising costs