



EUSDR Week

A more secure Danube Region

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A more secure Danube Region

- In 2022, around 330.000 irregular border crossings were detected at the EU's external border;
- The highest number since 2016;
- Increase with 64% from the previous year;
- The Western Balkans route was the most used in 2022, accounting for 45% of all irregular entries (145.600).



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Strategic and operational cooperation in the region, with EU Member States and EU agencies (mechanisms for cooperation)

Support for institutional framework and capacities

Alignment with the European integrated border management strategic objectives and capacities

Alignment with evolving EU migration acquis and international standards

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- Interreg IPA programmes aim at preparing the candidate countries for their EU membership, including by helping setting up mechanisms, systems and procedures in preparing the perspective of future internal borders.
- Progress towards EU integration ensures political stability and economic growth, leading to increased flows of migration for labour purposes
- Connectivity and demography, insecurity and instability are shaping a new and rapidly evolving world and these dynamics will affect Europe quite significantly in the coming years.



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- Capacities for border management, including infrastructure, technical equipment, ICT are not aligned with EU standards;
- Obsolete equipment;
- The 2022 EC report on Serbia indicates that “*significant investment is needed in human, financial and technical resources for border control and in infrastructure at border crossing points*”.



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- With over 4 million persons and 1.5 million freight transport means crossing the border each year, it can be easily argued that the Programme needs to set up priorities and measures dedicated to border crossing management and mobility;
- Specificities of our border area, where the length of the border in the territory covered by the programme is 548 km, out of which 235 km (42,8%) on the Danube River;
- Along this common border there are 8 road border crossings, 2 railroad crossings and 1 fluvial crossing.



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- Our border area benefits of integrated border management public services. In this sense, the border area has common patrols of Romanian and Serbian Border Police officers, both on land and on water and the cooperation between the two countries of the border is rather strong and constant.
- In close coordination with IPA special national envelopes, Interreg programmes support the upscaling of border crossing point's infrastructure that can help the setting-up the Integrated Border Management (IBM) on EU's external borders.



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- Address capability gaps relating to EU external borders identified by the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and by EU customs.
- Special attention is given to the quality of cross-border access infrastructure and to the need of ensuring state-of-the-art technologies and up-to-date IT systems to improve interoperability, security and border protection activities.
- The use of modern solutions and equipment will reduce the vulnerability of the external borders, guarantee safe, secure and well-functioning EU borders and effective border control and migration management.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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