

National Report for the European Migration Network

**Annual Report on Asylum and Migration
Statistics in the Slovak Republic
Reference Year: 2006**

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Abbreviations

BBAP MoI SR	stands for the Bureau of Border and Alien Police of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic
EEA	stands for the European Economic Area
EU	stands for the European Union
MO MoI SR	stands for the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic
MoI SR	stands for the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic
NCP EMN	stands for National Contact Point of the European Migration Network
SR	stands for the Slovak Republic
SO SR	stands for the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic

Annual Report on Asylum and Migration Statistics

the Slovak Republic

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INTRODUCTION

This is the first annual report elaborated by the Slovak National Contact Point of the European Migration Network. The requirements for this report were formulated by the European Commission in cooperation with the National Contact Point of the European Migration Network. The report was elaborated by the members of the National Contact Point - the Bureau of Border and Alien Police of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic and the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic.

The report explains, clarifies and compares the statistical trends and strategic development in regard to migration in Slovakia in year 2006 against the previous period. The content is divided into parts that examine asylum issues, legal migration, and refusals, apprehensions and removals. The aim of this report is to improve the accessibility, topicality and comparability of statistical data in the field of asylum and migration within the European Union member states and to provide comparative analyses in the area of migration.

1. METHODOLOGY

General statistical data for this report were rendered by the Eurostat, while they were verified by the respective subjects.

There are several subjects engaged in collection and elaboration of the asylum and migration data in the Slovak Republic. The principal sources of statistical data were information systems of the Bureau of Border and Alien Police of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic, Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic and data from the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic.

As far as the analysis of migration trends is concerned, the research publication by the Research Centre of the Slovak Society for Foreign Policy for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic was used¹.

2. ASYLUM ISSUES

The asylum policy in the Slovak Republic is in the competence of the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic - MO MoI SR. The MO MoI SR activity is focused especially on the tasks fulfilment concerning migration of persons in the territory of the Slovak Republic and the decision-making procedure related to first instance decision granting the refugee status to a foreigner. The MO MoI SR further provides realization of tasks in connection with integration of refugees as well as the other tasks connected with the coordination, analytics, legislation and economic-technical provision.

The MO MoI SR also registers the asylum seekers and the persons who were granted the asylum in Slovakia. The MO MoI SR provides various statistical data about them. Theses contain the data for the selected period (inflow for the given month/year) and also cumulative data towards the end of the selected period (from the start of its tracing that is since 1992) – e.g. number of asylum seekers, numbers of granted and refused asylums, cases of the terminated asylum procedure, numbers of procedure in processing, numbers of the rejected applications, numbers of persons granted the asylum or subsidiary protection and those persons who were among them granted the Slovak citizenship, numbers of unaccompanied minors in asylum proceedings etc. The structural data are also very contributively – age and sex structure of asylum seekers and unaccompanied minors, nationality and country of origin of asylum seekers, country of origin of persons granted the asylum and naturalized persons granted the asylum etc.

The statistical data are based on information system “Refugee” which contains all the data related to the asylum seeker from the submission of application up to the termination of the asylum procedure.

¹ Divinský, 2007.

2.1 Analysis and interpretation of the asylum statistics

2.1.1 Asylum seekers

The development of the number of asylum seekers in Slovakia at the beginning of the 21st century to a large extent copied the development in the area of illegal migration, and at the same time reflected the liberalization of the Asylum Act. Introduction of the possibility to seek the asylum after being detained by the police led the illegal migrants to its greater utilization (or abuse), although the original intention of these people was not to stay in the territory of Slovakia. However, the staying in the country at the time of asylum proceedings , on the one hand gave them security of not being returned or expelled, and on the other hand, enabled them to get prepared and realize the illicit crossing of the Slovak border in the direction of the originally planned destination. In spite of this fact, it is necessary to admit that certain – however small – part of migrants sought/seek asylum in the Slovak Republic with the intention to settle down and to get integrated into the society.

According to the 2005 data, the intensive growth trend has radically changed due to several reasons. Talking about the EU or the entire continent, the number of asylum seekers is significantly decreasing since the year 2002². Simultaneously, especially the number of transit illegal migrants, out of whom most of the applicants are, recruited rapidly decreases in Slovakia also due to more severe controls and increased pressure upon human trafficant. Another factor that probably contributes to decreasing numbers of asylum seekers in the Slovak Republic is the application of the Dublin Regulation in praxis. That means that the person who was registered as an asylum seeker in the Slovak Republic has, in compliance with the enactment of the Regulation, only a minimal chance to obtain the asylum in another EU country. Therefore, potential asylum seekers, being self-evidently aware of this fact, do not seek for asylum in the country. As a result of all these circumstances, the number of asylum seekers in the Slovak Republic decreased in 2006 compared to 2004 – that is only in the course of two years – as many as 4-times and according to preliminary data from 2007 the trend still continues.

² See Salt, 2006 and UNHCR, 2007.

Table 1 Basic characteristic of asylum proceedings in the Slovak Republic in 2000-2006

Year	Asylum seekers	Granted asylum	Rejected asylum	Terminated procedure	In process
2000	1 556	11	123	1 366	400
2001	8 151	18	130	6 154	2 248
2002	9 743	20	309	8 053	3 609
2003	10 358	11	531	10 656	2 769
2004	11 395	15	1 592	11 782	775
2005	3 549	25	827	2 930	542
2006	2 871	8	861	1 940	604

Source: MO MoI SR

Men constituted – without significant fluctuations - about 80-85 % of asylum seekers in the Slovak Republic and women constituted only approx. 15-20 %.

As far as the age structure of asylum seekers in the Slovak Republic is concerned, the majority of the applicants was aged between 18 and 25; their share in 2004-2006 varied between 40 to 45 %.

Table 2 New asylum applications by age group and sex – 2006

Country of origin	0-14		15-17		18-25		26-39		40-49		50- 59		Total	
	men	women	men	women	men	women	men	women	men	women	men	women	men	women
January	3	0	1	0	103	7	58	6	9	4	0	1	174	18
February	4	3	2	0	28	3	36	2	4	1	0	0	74	9
March	5	1	3	0	33	2	35	4	14	0	1	0	91	7
April	6	16	3	0	34	2	29	9	6	2	0	0	78	29
May	6	6	19	0	129	11	79	8	10	5	0	2	243	32
June	15	12	11	1	98	10	82	18	13	5	2	0	221	46
July	16	13	10	3	130	13	102	30	15	4	1	2	274	65
August	11	10	10	2	122	23	89	32	17	11	0	4	249	82
September	12	14	14	3	80	6	69	14	11	1	1	1	187	39
October	10	9	13	6	123	14	79	6	6	5	0	3	231	43
November	11	12	14	4	136	4	104	15	18	4	5	3	288	42
December	16	9	45	5	167	6	70	13	6	2	3	0	307	35
TOTAL	115	105	145	24	1183	101	832	157	129	44	13	16	2417	447

Source: MO MoI SR

The alarming growth of the number of unaccompanied minors, in the territory of the Slovak Republic affiliated among asylum seekers, was the unfavourable trend few years ago. Only in the period of 2002-2004 more than two thousand of them appeared in the country; fortunately, in the following years their number significantly decreased (in 2006 only 138).

The majority of unaccompanied minors in the Slovak Republic come from Bangladesh, India, Afghanistan, Pakistan, China, Vietnam, Moldova, Russia, Georgia eventually from Somalia. The consequent particularity of this migrants` subgroup is the increased vulnerability, and therefore, the requirement of exceptional attention and care from the competent authorities in praxis that would be simultaneously underpinned by their above standard legal status. These were also the reasons why a new legal regulation³ has been adopted in the Slovak Republic in 2005, solving, apart from other, protection of unaccompanied minors.

Table 3 Asylum applications by unaccompanied minors - 2006

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	0-14	15-17
January	0	6
February	0	4
March	0	4
April	0	3
May	1	11
June	0	15
July	5	7
August	1	10
September	1	17
October	1	11
November	0	17
December	2	22
TOTAL	11	127

Source: MO MoI SR

2.1.2 Asylum applications and decisions by the country of origin

Up to the very recent time, in the structure of asylum seekers in the Slovak Republic from the point of view of a continent, the principal leader has been Asia, although, the share of persons from this region gradually decreases in the entire number of asylum seekers in the country – from almost 94 % (in 2000) through 83 % (in 2002) to 50-60 % in 2003 – 2006. However, the asylum seekers in the Slovak Republic from this continent still constitute the majority. In the same period the share of asylum seekers from Europe significantly increased

³ Act of the National Council of the SR No. 305/2005 Coll. on Social Legal Protection of Children and Social Curatorship and on Amending and Supplementing of Certain Acts, effective from 1 September 2005.

– from the easily overlooked 5 % in 2000 up to 40-50 % in 2003-2006. Therefore, they gradually approach the previously mentioned group. It is necessary to differentiate here among asylum seekers from the former Soviet Union countries and other European, predominantly Balkan, countries. The share of asylum seekers from the European post-communist countries proves enormous growth trend and, in fact, comprises almost all asylum seekers from the Europe in the SR; the share of the asylum seekers in the Slovak Republic from other European countries is imperceptible (1 % from the entire number of asylum seekers in the long term). The share of asylum seekers from Africa – was at the beginning bigger (e.g. in 2001-2 it counted values of 4-6 %) – decreased in 2003 and stabilized on the recent level of 1-2 % (0,9 % in 2006). Only few individuals from America (especially from Cuba) or non-nationals seek asylum in Slovakia.

Table 4 shows the countries where the greatest number of asylum seekers in the Slovak Republic comes from in the recent period.

Table 4 Ten most significant countries according nationality to the number of asylum seekers in the Slovak Republic in 2002-2007

2002		2003		2004	
State	Number of applicants	State	Number of applicants	State	Number of applicants
China	1764	Russia	2653	India	2969
Afghanistan	1669	India	1653	Russia	2413
India	1611	China	1080	China	1271
Iraq	1245	Armenia	758	Georgia	989
Bangladesh	1032	Afghanistan	627	Moldova	826
Russia	618	Moldova	587	Pakistan	799
Moldova	266	Georgia	582	Bangladesh	544
Vietnam	220	Bangladesh	558	Afghanistan	393
Somalia	199	Iraq	475	Vietnam	155
Pakistan	168	Pakistan	307	Armenia	144
2005		2006		2007	
State	Number of applicants	State	Number of applicants	State	Number of applicants
Russia	1037	India	727	Pakistan	650
India	561	Russia	463	India	619
Moldova	309	Moldova	385	Russia	307
China	280	Georgia	209	Moldova	208
Bangladesh	277	Iraq	206	Georgia	134
Georgia	258	Bangladesh	183	Iraq	131
Pakistan	196	Pakistan	182	Bangladesh	108
Afghanistan	109	China	164	China	96
Palestine	79	Vietnam	63	Afghanistan	67
Iraq	35	Palestine	56	Vietnam	58

Source: MO MoI SR

Only a small number of applicants were granted the asylum in the SR in previous period, despite the high number of asylum seekers in the SR. However, it is necessary to mention that, as the Table 1 shows, many persons voluntarily left the asylum proceeding in its course (i. e. the proceeding was terminated).

Table 5 Number of granted asylums in Slovakia in the period 2000-2006

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of granted asylums	11	18	20	11	15	25	8

Source: MO MoI SR

2.1.3 New forms of international protection in 2006

The Slovak Republic as a member of the EU had to transpose the so called qualification directive into the Slovak legislation. The amendment to the Asylum Act was adopted as the Act No 692 of 6 December 2006 and entered into force on 1 January 2007. Since that time, the Slovak Republic committed itself to grant the subsidiary protection as another form of international protection besides the asylum.

Within the proceeding of granting the asylum the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic decides about providing the subsidiary protection, which in comparison with asylum, has the temporary character.

Before the amendment was adopted, the subsidiary protection was partially covered by the institute of a tolerated stay established by the Act No 48/2002 Coll. on Stay of Aliens and on Amending and Supplementing of Certain Acts as amended (hereinafter referred to as “Act on Stay of Aliens”) which, however, contained neither all the reasons for providing such a protection, nor the entire ambit of competences that pertained to foreigners in compliance with the so-called qualification regulation.

Table 6 Overview of granted tolerated stays 1.1.2006 - 31.12.2006

Nationality	Number of persons
Ukraine	53
Moldova	23
Serbia and Montenegro	20
Russian Federation	18
Vietnam	17
India	13
Angola	13
Lebanon	12
Libya	11
Macedonia	10
TOTAL	152

Source: MO MoI SR

2.2 Contextual interpretations (legal, political and international factors)

2.2.1 Legislative changes in 2006

The amendment of the Act on Asylum⁴, in relation to transposition of the so-called qualification directive, especially:

- defined the new terms such as “international protection”, “subsidiary protection”, “serious harm”, “actor of persecution”, “country of origin”,
- established granting of subsidiary protection due to serious harm and the reasons for its rejection, denial withdrawal and revocation,
- enabled to provide subsidiary protection for the purposes of family reunification,
- anchored the acquaintance of person, granted the asylum and alien who was provided with the subsidiary protection, with his/her rights and duties that are related to the provided protection,

⁴ Act of the National Council of the SR No. 480/2002 Coll. Act on Asylum, effective from 1 January 2003

2.2.2 Procedural changes in 2006

Taking into consideration the effectiveness of the Asylum Act amendment, since December 2006, new procedural acts related to providing the so-called subsidiary protection has been realized in the full extent only since January 2007.

3. LEGAL MIGRATION

Enlargement of the European Union and the dynamic changes in the society provide the new dimension to the migration phenomenon. The exploration of this phenomenon always poses greater demands upon the ambit of statistical information. The interest and the need to examine the migration phenomenon are being reflected in the cooperation of the state institutions and the SO SR.

The essentials of migration policy of the Slovak Republic were laid by the decree of the Government of the Slovak Republic No 846 of 16 November 1993. The principles of migration policy responded to objective reality from which the content forms and methods of realization of the migration policy were derived. By means of a decree No 11 of 12 January 2005, the Government of the Slovak Republic adopted the conception of migration policy that is in accordance with the obligations of the SR established by the international conventions.

3.1 Analysis and interpretation of migration statistics

The statistics of the foreign movement belongs to the scope of the SO SR. The statistics is based on the immigrants` registration and declaration on change of residence for the purpose of the permanent address within the Slovak Republic. Therefore, the foreign movement means the change of country of permanent address regardless to citizenship. The collection of data on international migration is recently governed by recommendations of the United Nations.

As of the reference year 2004, the SO SR intensively cooperates with the BBAP MoI with the intention to fulfil the requirements of the Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 July 2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection. Since the reference year 2004, data for foreign migration include numbers of immigrated and emigrated persons who fulfil the criteria of “usual residence” that means 12 months concept or intention of permanent or temporary residence.

3.1.1 Migration flows in the Slovak Republic

Table 7 Overview of number of citizens, emigrated and immigrated persons in 2002-2006

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of Slovak citizens	5378951	5379161	5380053	5384822	5389180
Immigrated from abroad	2312	6551	10390	9410	12611
Emigrated abroad	1411	4777	6525	2784	3084

Source: SO SR, BBAP MoI SR

* As of the year 2004, the structure of data has changed, whereas the number of resident persons includes also foreigners with the usual residence on the territory of the Slovak Republic.

The number of citizens living in the territory of the Slovak Republic is increasing every year as Table 7 shows.

The number of immigrants in year 2006 was 12611, whereas the number of Slovak citizens was 1302 (10, 32%), an alien citizen was 11309 (89, 68%), out of which the number of the EU citizens (EU 25) was 6926 (61, 24%). The largest share on immigration have citizens from the Czech Republic – 1294 (11, 44%), Poland – 1132 (10%) and Ukraine – 1007 (8,9%). More than 64% of immigrants are aged between 20 to 44; 7,8% (885) were children under 15 years old. Males immigrant constituted the major group of 63,66% (8028).

Within the immigration into the territory of the Slovak Republic, the largest group was constituted by immigrants from European countries - 9970 (79,6%). Another significant group was represented by immigrants from Asia – 2017 (15,99%). With regard to the nationality of the immigrants from Asian continent – the largest proportion represents the citizens of China (593), Korea (503) and Vietnam (466). Compared to 2005, these citizens constituted 100% increase.

Table 8 Immigrated from abroad in 2006

	Number	%
EUROPE	9970	79,06
Slovaks	1302	10,32
Czechs	1294	10,26
Rest of EU 25	4330	34,34
Rest of Europe	3044	24,14
ASIA	2017	15,99
AMERICA	425	3,37
AFRICA	157	1,24
AUSTRALIA AND OCEANIA	26	0,21
Other	16	0,13
TOTAL	12611	100

Source: SO SR, BBAP MoI SR

According to accessible statistical data 3084 emigrants were registered in year 2006. However, the mentioned statistical data do not include all the emigrants, since not all persons who emigrate from the Slovak Republic submit a declaration on change of residence with the respective institutions. Out of the entire number of emigrants, the Slovak citizens constituted 50,6% (1560). Emigrated aliens were mostly from Ukraine – 237 (15,55%), America – 151 (9,9%) and Germany –142 (9,32%). Within the process of emigration there are not any significant differences in gender. Male proxy was 1614, which constitutes 52,34% of the entire number, whereas women proxy was 1470, which constitutes 47,44%.

3.1.2 Population in the Slovak Republic by citizenship in 2006

Table 9 Share of Slovak and foreign citizens on population of the Slovak Republic

	2006	%
Entire population status to 31.12.2006	5 393 637	100%
Slovak citizens	5 361 507	99,40%
foreign citizens	32 130	0,60%
<i>Third-country nationals</i>	<i>13944</i>	<i>0,26%</i>

Source: SO SR, BBAP MoI SR

* Citizenship data are from the alien register and data on Slovak citizens are from the census of the SO SR.

Table 9 includes data on citizens with the usual residence in the Slovak Republic. Citizens of Ukraine (3925), Russian Federation (1311), Vietnam (1060), China (887) and

Korea (836) constitute the biggest group of third-country nationals living in the Slovak Republic. The increase of cca. 100% has been recorded in respect to mentioned third-country nationals from China and Korea against previous year.

3.1.3 Residence Permits – first-time applicants in 2006

Table 10 Primal applicants for the resident permit by nationality

Nationality	2006	2005
Ukraine	240	111
Vietnam	215	57
Russian Federation	183	39
Korea	105	11
China	99	24
United States	70	18
Croatia	57	13
Serbia and Monte Negro	51	28
Macedonia	35	27
Bulgaria	27	17
Other	263	167
Total	1345	512

Source: BBAP MoI SR 2006

There were granted 2009 residence permits to foreign citizens in year 2006. Out of this number, 1345 were the first-time applicants. Within the group of first-time applicants, the majority consisted of Ukraine nationals – 240 (17,85%), Vietnam nationals – 215 (15,99%) and nationals from the Russian Federation – 183 (13,6%). Above-mentioned nationals constitute 47,43% of the first-time applicants.

In 2005, 512 residences were permitted to first-time applicants in comparison with 2006 that means an increase of 833 (262%). Comparison of nationalities in TOP-5 shows that the highest increase was noted by Korean nationals (954%) due to the economic investments in the Slovak Republic.

3.2 Contextual interpretations (legal, political and international factors)

3.2.1 Developments and trends of migration policy in 2006

Amendment of the Act on Stay of Aliens in 2006 was needed in course of harmonization of entry conditions for the third-country nationals in the territory of the SR with the valid EU regulations. The European community directives were transposed by amending the Act on Stay of Aliens

1. Council Directive 2004/81/EC of 29 April 2004 on the residence permit issued to third-country nationals who are victims of trafficking in human beings or who have been the subject of an action to facilitate illegal immigration, who cooperated with the competent authorities,
2. Council Directive 2005/71/EC of 12 October 2005 on a specific procedure for admitting third-country nationals for the purposes of scientific research,
3. Council Directive 2004/114/EC of 13 December 2004 on the conditions of admission of third-country nationals for the purposes of studies, pupil exchange, unremunerated training or voluntary service.

3.2.2 Reasons for granting residence in 2006

Table 11 Residences in 2006

	Number
Citizens of EEA	5047
Slovaks living abroad	941
Third-country nationals	2995
TOTAL	8983

Source: BBAP MoI SR

Table 12 Reasons of granted residence permits in 2006

Reasons for granting residence permits	Number
Family reunification	1121
Employment	1650
Study	214
International agreement	22
Lectorship	12
Government or EEA program	12
Experimentalist	1
Artistic work	1
Other	2548
TOTAL	5581

Source: BBAP MoI SR

From the total number of residence permits (8983), a significant amount was constituted by the EEA citizens (5047) and Slovaks living abroad (941) that can be considered an independent category with respect to their status. In 2006, the most common reasons for granting a resident permit were family reunification, employment and studies. The reasons for resident permit rejections were not traced in reference year 2006. These statistical data started to be collected since the year 2007.

4. REFUSALS, APPREHENSIONS AND REMOVALS

Data in this chapter are provided by the BBAP MoI SR statistical acquisition and records that by means of its subordinated organizational branches fulfils tasks in the area of state border protection, fight against illegal migration and smuggling, border control, authorization of permits for foreigners, controls of foreigners' residence, expulsion of foreigners, visa praxis and in a restricted scope in the field of asylum proceedings and realization of the Dublin Regulation.

4.1 Analysis and interpretation of statistics

4.1.1 Refusal of the entry

Data regarding the entry refusal in the territory of the SR come from BBAP MoI SR. Data include entry refusals to foreigners in all sections of the state border and airports.

Table 13 Refusal of the entry in the territory of the Slovak Republic in period 2001 - 2006

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of refused aliens	32 159	21 628	18 201	19 896	7 428	2 955

Source: BBAP MoI SR

Note: Data up to the end of 2004 include also nationals of EU member countries.

Table 14 Rejection of the entry in 2005 and 2006 by nationality

YEAR 2006		YEAR 2005	
Ukraine	1 273	Ukraine	4 301
Serbia & Montenegro	232	Romania	576
Romania	208	Bulgaria	466
Turkey	161	Serbia & Montenegro	345
China	121	Russia	227
Moldova	111	Moldova	207
Viet Nam	86	South Africa	171
Russia	83	China	137
India	59	Stateless	78
South Africa	59	Croatia	67
Others	562	Others	853
TOTAL:	2 955	TOTAL:	7 428

Source: BBAP MoI SR

Significant decrease in number of rejected entries in 2006 compared to 2005 is caused by the admission of the Slovak Republic into the European Union (May 2005) and the exercitation of provisions of the Common Manual⁵.

Table 14 shows that the most significant change occurred with the Ukraine nationals. By the Decree of the Slovak Government No 310/2005, the Ukraine nationals were liberated from fees related to Slovak visa administration from 1 May 2005 to 31 August 2005. By means of another Decree of the Slovak Government No 626/2005 the exemption was prolonged until 30 June 2006 and by the Decree of the Slovak Government No 439/2006 the liberation from fees was stipulated up to the admission of the Slovak Republic into the Schengen area. Based on these legislative changes the number of granted visa was increased and the number of rejected entries of Ukraine nationals was decreased due to failure to meet conditions for entry into the territory.

Ukraine nationals in a long term constitute the largest group 43% (1273) out of persons who were rejected the entry whereas the most frequent reasons for rejection were travelling without valid visa (830) and the lack of financial means (143).

4.1.2 Detained aliens

As of 2004 the system of statistical data collection has been changed, whereas the detained aliens started to be divided into two groups. First group comprises foreigners who were detained in respect to the illicit crossing of the state border. Second group comprises aliens who were detained during their illegal stay.

Table 15 Number of detained aliens in the territory of SR in the period 2001 – 2006

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of detained aliens	15 548	15 235	12 493	10 778	7 970	7 620
Number of detained aliens – illegal crossings	15 548	15 235	12 493	8 239	5 104	4 129
Number of detained aliens – illegal stay	not available			2 539	2 866	3 491

Source: BBAP MoI SR

⁵ Official Journal C 313, 16/12/2002 P. 0097 – 0335.

We may trace the decreasing trend in number of detained aliens by comparing the particular reference years.

In the reference year 2006 the entire number of detained aliens was 7620, which presents a decrease of 350 persons compared to previous year.

In relation to illegal crossing of the border a total number of 4129 persons were detained, which constitutes a 20% decrease. Decreasing trend of detained people (especially at Slovak-Ukraine state border) is connected with the change of migration streams, which occurred due to increased protection of the state border and preparation of the SR admission into the Schengen area.

Table 16 Detained aliens by nationality in 2006 – illegal crossing

NATIONALITY	NUMBER
Moldova	1 251
Russia	544
India	464
China	317
Ukraine	264
Pakistan	233
Georgia	221
Iraq	198
Bangladesh	188
Palestinian Territory, Occupied	114
Others	335
TOTAL	4 129

Source: BBAP MoI SR

The majority of detained nationals of the illegal border crossing were from Moldova (1 251), Russia (544) and India (464). When compared with 2005, the number of Moldova nationals increased by 10% and the number of Russian Federation nationals decreased, on the other hand, by 58%.

The entire number of 3 491 aliens were detained for the unauthorized residence, which constitutes an increase of 628 persons compared with 2005. Out of the mentioned number Ukraine nationals comprise 30% (1062), India nationals 20,65% (721) and Moldova nationals 17,30 % (604).

4.1.3 Expelled aliens

Table 17 Number of expelled aliens in the period 2001 – 2006

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of expelled aliens	2 011	1 069	1 293	2 528	2 569	2 712

Source: BBAP MoI SR

Number of expelled aliens was 2712 that is a slight increase compared with 2005. From the entire number of expelled aliens Ukraine nationals were – 1501 (55,35%), Moldova nationals were – 705 (26%) and nationals of Romania were – 210 (7,74%).

Table 18 Expelled aliens by nationality in 2006

NATIONALITY	NUMBER
Ukraine	1 501
Moldova	705
Romania	210
Turkey	40
Russia	31
Serbia and Monte Negro	25
Georgia	23
China	22
India	16
Bangladesh	12
Others	127
TOTAL	2 712

Source: BBAP MoI SR

4.1.4 Most frequent countries of origin of illegal migrants

From the comparison of individual categories – rejection of entry, detention and expulsion of migrant – is obvious that the significant share is constituted by Ukraine and Moldova nationals.

Illegal migration of Ukraine nationals was motivated especially by the economical factor.

Significant proportion of illegal migration of Ukraine nationals was constituted by cases of illicit entry into the Slovak territory (in 2006 Slovak visa were administrated to Ukraine nationals without fees), whereas they abused the visa in a way that they overstayed the residence period stipulated by the visa. Big share of these illegal migrants was detected during their return to home country.

Illegal migration of Moldova nationals was influenced by the bad economic situation in their home country. Moldova migrants did not consider the Slovak Republic the destination, their aim was predominantly West European countries.

4.2 Contextual interpretations (legal, political and international factors)

4.2.1 Legislation influencing the illegal migration in 2006

Within the process of two amendments which changed the Act on Stay of Aliens in the traced period (December 2005 and December 2006), legislative changes were performed, which in a detailed way delimited reasons for rejecting the entry of EEA nationals.

Other significant changes in rejecting the entry of Ukraine nationals occurred in relation to the adoption of Decree of the Slovak Government, by means of which the Ukraine nationals were set free of paying fees with granting the Slovak visa (from 1. May 2005 to 21 December 2007). As a result of these legislative changes, a significant decrease in rejected entries for Ukraine nationals occurred due to the failure to meet conditions for entry into the territory of the Slovak Republic.

4.2.2 Procedural changes influencing the illegal immigration in 2006

None of the principal process changes related to illicit migration in 2006 were realized.

5. OTHER DATA AND INFORMATION AVAILABLE

Citizenship

In 2006 1125 Slovak citizenships were granted which constitutes a decrease of 268 (19,24%) compared with 2005. The biggest number of Slovak citizenships was granted to Ukraine nationals who constitute 33,5% of granted Slovak citizenships in 2006 whereas compared with 2005 the number of Slovak citizenships granted to Ukraine nationals decreased of 73. Significantly increased number of granted Slovak citizenships in 2006 concerned only US nationals whereas there were 113 in 2006 which constitutes an increase of 49 citizenships.

Table 19 Granting the citizenship by nationality in 2005 and 2006

NATIONALITY	2005	2006
Ukraine	450	377
Romania	220	147
Czech Republic	167	121
United States	64	113
Serbia and Monte Negro	183	73
Vietnam	40	40
Bulgaria	24	35
Russia	37	35
Poland	14	20
Kazakhstan	8	19
Other	186	145
TOTAL	1393	1125

Source: SO SR

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