



Slovak Republic EMN National Contact Point Summer Educational Seminar

EU and Member States approaches to reducing irregular migration

***- Findings of the EMN Study on practical
measures to reduce irregular migration -***

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Objectives of the Session

- Highlight the **work of the EMN** on irregular migration;
- Provide an **overview of the recent EU policy** on the topic of reducing irregular migration;
- Present the **key findings of the EMN Study on Practical Measures to Reduce Irregular Migration**, including Member State experiences of irregular migration, statistical trends, Member State practices and their effectiveness and the impact of EU on Member State measures.



The work of the EMN



EMN outputs on irregular migration

The EMN provides up-to-date, objective, reliable and comparable information on Member State policy and practice.

Currently available:

- National Reports on the 2011 EMN Study
- Ad-Hoc Query compilations (7 currently available)
- Findings of the 2011 EMN Annual Conference
- Annual Policy Reports

Coming soon:

- Synthesis Report on the 2011 EMN Study
- EMN Informs (the 2011 EMN Study and the APR 2011)



EU approach to irregular migration



EU approach to irregular migration

- **Overall approach:** Art. 77 - 80 TFEU, European Pact on Immigration and Asylum, Stockholm Programme;
- **EU legislation:** Return Directive and Employer Sanctions Directive;
- The work of **EU Agencies:** Frontex, EASO;
- **EU Funding instruments:** External Borders Fund and Return Fund;
- **Other tools:** EU Immigration Portal;
- More recently: the **Global Approach to Migration and Mobility**;
- Responses to the '**Arab Spring**';
- **EU Action on Migratory Pressures – a Strategic Response.**



EU Action on Migratory Pressures – a Strategic Response

- Outlines six non-exhaustive Strategic Priority Areas:
 - Strengthening cooperation with third countries of transit and origin on migration management,
 - Enhanced border management at the external borders,
 - Preventing illegal immigration via the Greek-Turkish border,
 - Better tackling of abuse of legal migration channels,
 - Safeguarding free movement by preventing abuse by third-country nationals,
 - Enhancing migration management including return.
- For each priority area, outlines: (i) key challenges, (ii) future goals and (iii) potential and planned measures – or actions.
- Proposes that future EU Presidencies will update the list of actions on a biannual basis.
- Implementation overseen by the Strategic Committee on Immigration, Frontiers and Asylum (SCIFA) Committee.





EMN Study on Practical Measures to reduce irregular migration



Background to the Study

- Study launched 2011
- National Reports available on the EMN website
- Study structured so as to illustrate Member State practical measures to reduce irregular migration:
 - Prior to entry (pre-entry measures);
 - To prevent irregular entry at the borders (entry measures);
 - To prevent overstay and irregular stay through work (measures during stay); and
 - To provide a pathway out of irregularity.



Practical Measures taken to reduce irregular migration in EU Member States

- **Pre-entry:** information portals, visa issuance, cooperation with carriers, risk analysis;
- **Entry:** API, 'green-border' surveillance, resource-sharing and cooperation (e.g. joint patrols) at the borders, action on false documents;
- **Stay:** preventing irregular work, tackling misuse of legal migration channels;
- **Providing pathways out of irregularity:** ensuring swift and sustainable return, promoting voluntary return, providing opportunities to legalise stay (regularisation).



The role of the EU and the impact of EU policy and instruments

- **Schengen** – major impact on influxes of irregular migration, as well as on MS practices.
- **EU funding** – EBF used to increase surveillance of external borders; ERF used to support e.g. assisted return to third countries.
- **The role of Frontex** – important coordinating role, source of information and training.
- **MS cooperation** – key to practical measures at entry and for implementing and ensuring return.
- **Readmission agreements** – well-valued instruments, but bilateral agreements currently employed more than EU ones.

Statistics: Estimates

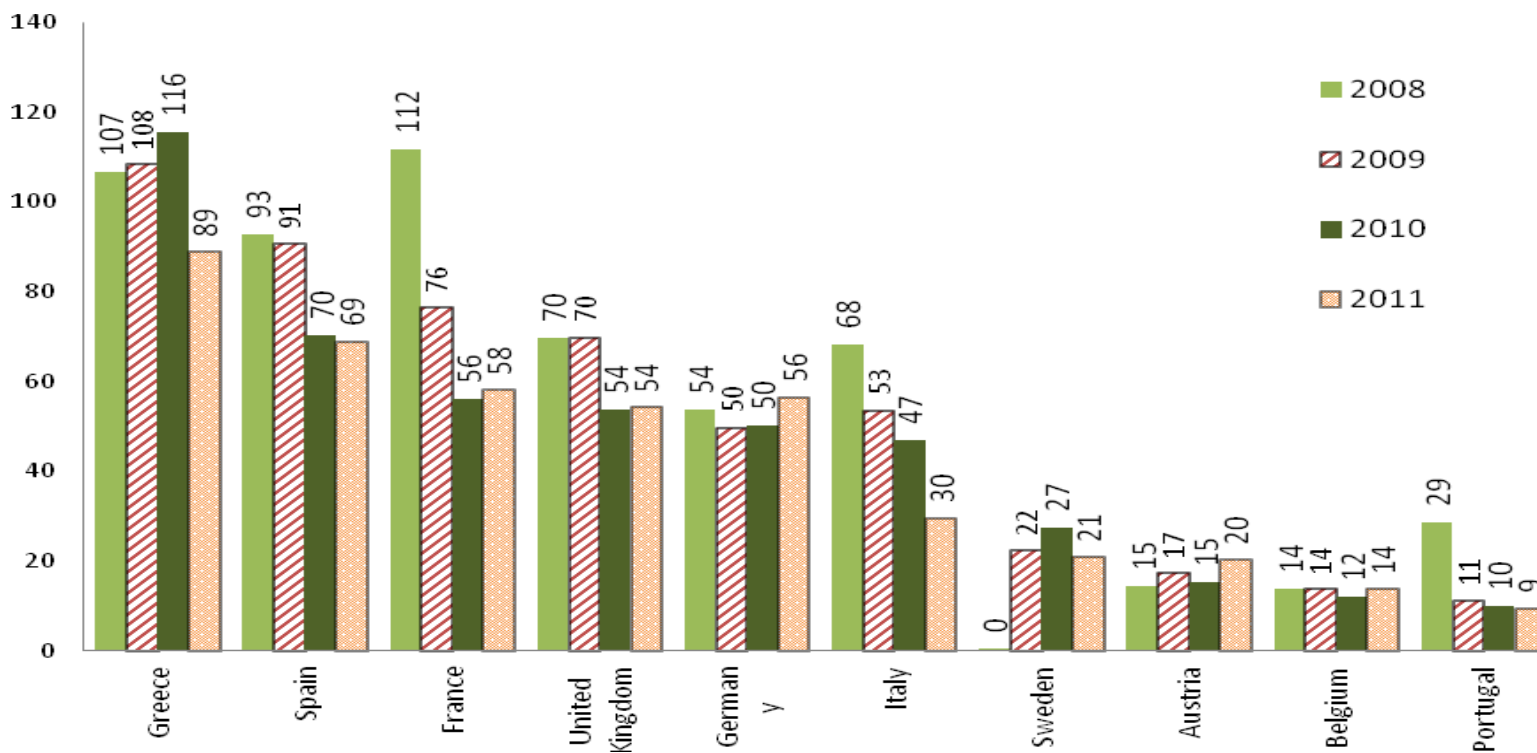
Estimates of stock of irregular migrants in (Member) States

(Member) State	Year of estimate	Source of estimate	Estimate (range, where given)	Estimate (single / central figure, where given)
Austria	2008	Clandestino	25 174 - 73 838	49 506
Finland	2008	Clandestino	8 000 - 12 000	
Germany	2008	EMN National Report (based on Clandestino method)	190 000 - 420 000	
	2009		140 000 - 340 000	
Greece	2008	EMN National Report		249 108
	2010			443 800
Ireland	2008	Clandestino	30 000 - 62 000	
Italy,	2009	Initiatives and Studies on Multi-ethnicity (ISMU) Foundation		560 000
	2010			544 000
	2011			< 500 000
Netherlands	2009	Research and Documentation Centre (WODC)		97 145
Norway		Statistics Norway	10 000 - 32 000	18 000
Slovak Republic	2008	Clandestino	15 000 - 20 000	
Spain,	2011	EMN National Report		93 000
Sweden	2010	Swedish Migration Board		8 000
	2011	Swedish Police		16 000
United Kingdom	Late 2007		417 000 to 863 000	618 000

Source: EMN National Reports

Statistics: Specific groups

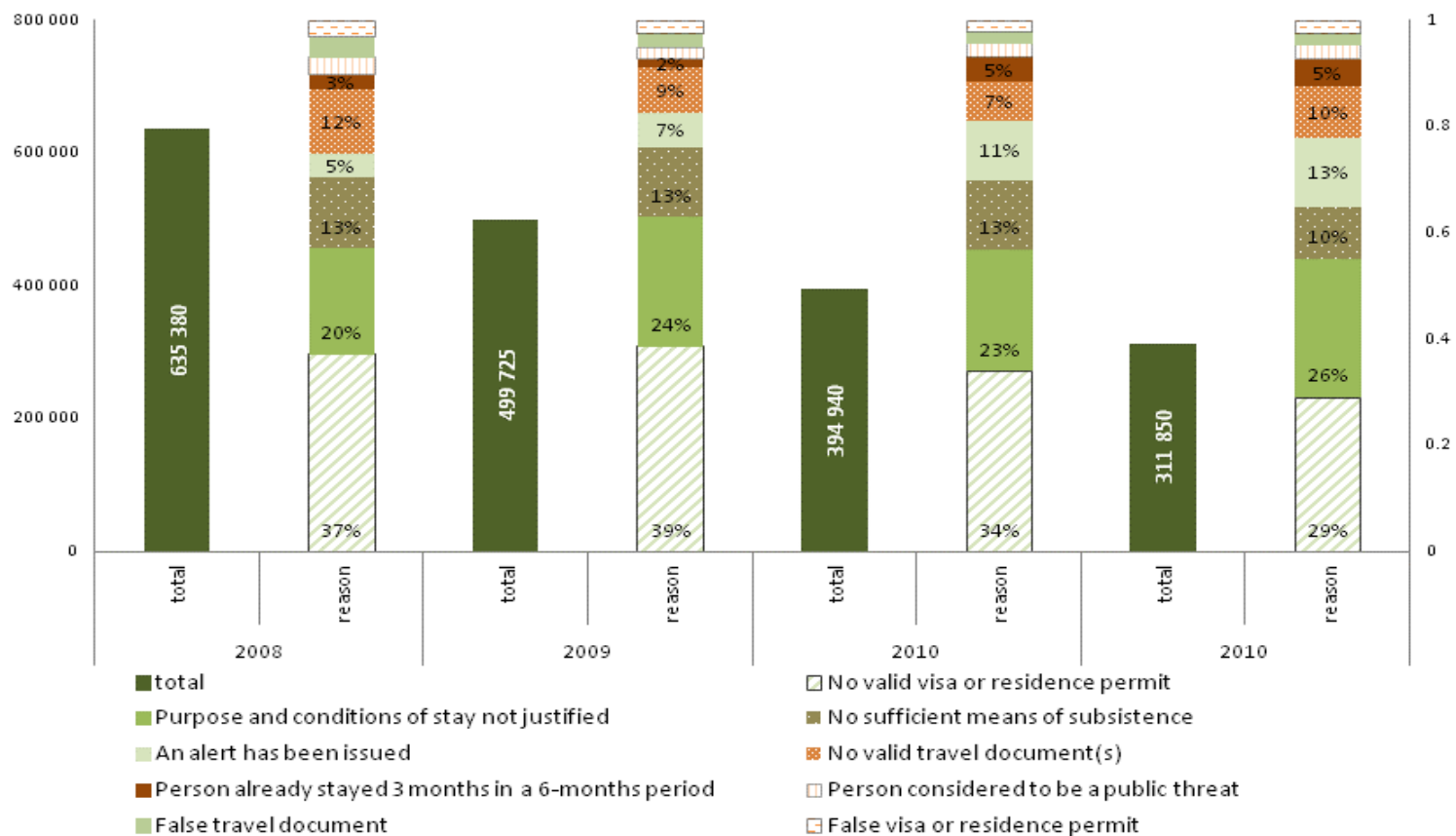
Third-country nationals found to be irregularly present, ten main (Member) States, in 1 000s, 2008-2011



Source: Eurostat

Statistics: Indicators

Third-country nationals refused entry at the external borders, all (Member) States, total and by reason, 2008-2011





Reducing irregular migration in the EU: statistical evidence

- TCNs found to be irregularly present in the EU (*Eurostat*) has overall declined – this is also the case in S. Mediterranean countries. There is however some fluctuation.
- TCNs refused entry at the border (*Eurostat*) has overall declined 2008 to 2011 (by 21% per year and 51% overall between 2008 and 2011). However, number of refusals have increased in Greece, Hungary and Italy. Unusually high number in Spain demonstrate the migratory pressures at the external borders of Ceuta and Melilla.
- Reasons for the decline: EU enlargement, country-specific situations, external factors, **effective policies** (EL, ES, PL, SK)
- However, caveats of using statistics!!



Key findings

- 1) Effective practical measures are key factors in reducing irregular migration.
- 2) There is an evident need for joint EU action and Member State cooperation as well as cooperation with third countries in order to reduce irregular migration.
- 3) The EU is a major influence driving the implementation of Member State measures to reduce irregular migration.
- 4) Indicators suggest that irregular migration is in decline in many EU (Member) States; although in some it has risen or stayed the same – however, statistics need to be considered with caveats.
- 5) Statistics are more indicative of policy action (both in terms of effectiveness and intensity) than actual numbers of irregular migrants in the EU.



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Thank you for your attention!

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