

Crime prevention policy	
EU- priority	Illegal migrant smuggling
Country	HUNGARY
Year	2020

1. Overview of the field

Definition of Illegal migrant smuggling

As it is described under Article no. 353 of the Hungarian Penal Code:

(1) Any person who provides aid to another person for crossing state borders in violation of the relevant statutory provisions is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment not exceeding three years.

(2) The penalty shall be imprisonment between one to five years if illegal immigrant smuggling:

- a) is carried out for financial gain or advantage; or
- b) involves several persons for crossing state borders.

(3) The penalty shall be imprisonment between two to eight years if illegal immigrant smuggling is carried out:

- a) by tormenting the smuggled person;
- b) by displaying a deadly weapon;
- c) by carrying a deadly weapon;
- d) on a commercial scale; or
- e) in criminal association with accomplices.

(4) Any person who engages in preparations for illegal immigrant smuggling is guilty of misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment not exceeding two years.

Assessment of trends and developments

The modus operandi (concealments in lorries, minivans) is common both along the RS-HU border and the RO-HU border. The number of apprehensions significantly increasing once again, due to worse weather conditions.

Concealments in freight / cargo trains departing from RS via Kelebia BCP is still common, prevailing trend. Modus operandi: cutting hole into the wooden floor of containers than reattach the cut part in order to mislead border checks. Place of boarding: Serbia, most of the time at Subotica rail station.

Additional trends, elements:

- slightly decreasing nr. of detected AFG illegal migrants
- heavily increasing nr. of detected SYR illegal migrants – TOP 1 nationality amongst detected migrants in November 2019.

Recent overview of statistics and research

- *number of investigations initiated because of smuggling of people in 2019: 214 cases*
- *number of persons charged with smuggling of people in 2019: 183 people*

- **TOP nationalities apprehended in 2019: Afghan, Syrian, Iraqi, Iranian, Pakistanian**

2. Crime strategy and coordination

Objectives of the crime strategy

The National Crime Prevention Strategy does not contain objectives related to illegal migrant smuggling.

Role of prevention in the crime strategy on state/regional/local level

Implementation of the policy (which level is responsible for the implementation and how is the implementation coordinated?)

Stakeholders (working groups, specialised agencies, partners, etc)

- **National Police of Hungary**
- **Counter Terrorism Centre of Hungary**
- **National Security Services**
- **Tax and Customs Administration**

Participation in European/ international networks, working groups, etc.

- **EUROPOL**
- **FRONTEX**
- **INTERPOL**
- **SELEC**
- **OSCE**
- **working groups active in the field of fighting against illegal migration on EU level;**
- **partner law enforcement agencies on international level, mainly in the neighbouring countries**
- **bilateral liaison officers network**

3. Good practices

Overview of recent good practices, prevention programs, etc.

No information available.