

Field Deployment Unit (FDU)

Operational Plan

ONLY FOR TRAINING PURPOSE

LBS Joint Operation EUROPIA 2019

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The non-disclosed part contains personal data, in particular the names of individuals. The disclosure would undermine the protection of privacy and the integrity of the individual, in particular in accordance with European Union legislation regarding the protection of personal data and therefore has to be precluded pursuant to Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.

Attention

This Operational Plan is drafted only for training purposes. It indicates an invented Joint Operation as part of the training methodology of the EBCGT Land Border Surveillance Officer Training. It is a supporting document and should be regarded as training material. Therefore this document is leant on an original Operational Plan, but the content is for supporting the training course. The invented country EUROPIA is [REDACTED]

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Operational Plan has been agreed with the authorities of the host Member State¹, in consultation with the authorities of the home Member States participating in the joint operation coordinated by Frontex. It covers all necessary elements for a proper and timely organization of the joint operation coordinated by Frontex.

The Operational Plan contain detailed and specific information related to the particular joint operation, while the Annexes enclose operational information applicable to all joint land borders operations. Annexes complement the Main part of the Operational Plan by providing complete and comprehensive description of the implementation of the joint operation. *(This training document has no Annexes)*

The Main part and Specific Annexes of Operational Plan are marked as “Limited” without prejudice to the public right of access to documents as laid down in Regulation (EC) 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001, regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents, while the General Annexes to the Operational Plan have no classification mark indicated.

Operational Plan shall only be made available to the authorities referred in each MS as “Law Enforcement”. This document shall be made available to other interested parties only on a need-to-know basis and in accordance with European and national rules on the protection of sensitive/classified information. Such dissemination of this document shall be done only on a case-by-case basis.

This Operational Plan may be revised at any time in order to correspond with the new operational developments. A copy of the amended Operational Plan shall be immediately distributed by Frontex to the participating MS via FOSS.

2. DESCRIPTION AND ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION

EUROPIA is a country, which has joined the European Union in 2014 and has fully implemented the Schengen Acquis.

During the last months a significant increase of irregular migration has been detected from neighbouring country USANSKI, which is used as transit. Irregular migrants were crossing the green border mainly in the south-east. Due to political crises in North African countries, further increase of irregular migration is expected in near future.

EUROPIA has therefore reinforced border control measures at the border to USANSKI and detected in coherence to these measures criminal activities an increased number of trafficking of human beings and smuggling as well.

In order to tackle the current situation, EUROPIA has requested human support for border control from the European Union.

¹ For the purposes of the present document, the term “Member State” includes also the States participating in the relevant development of the Schengen acquis in the meaning of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and its Protocol (No 19) on the Schengen acquis integrated into the framework of the European Union.

3. OPERATIONAL AIM AND OBJECTIVES

3.1. Operational aim

The operational aim of the joint operation is to implement coordinated operational activities at the EU external land borders in order to control irregular migration flows towards the territory of the MS of the European Union (EU) and to tackle cross border crime.

The operational aims will be implemented in full compliance with the relevant EU law, including the Charter of Fundamental Rights, the relevant international law, including the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees from 1951, the respect for fundamental rights in particular the access to international protection and the compliance with the principle of non-refoulement and taking into account the recommendations of the Frontex Consultative Forum.

3.2. Operational objectives

- Enhance border security
- Enhance operational cooperation
- Enhance exchange of information
- Identify possible risks and threats
- Establish and exchange best practices

4. OPERATIONAL CONCEPT

- Provide support to local authorities in border surveillance activities at land borders;
- Share experiences and exchange expertise as well as to constantly update knowledge on the irregular migration trends in order to adopt countermeasures to tackle the phenomena;
- Collect and assess information in order to improve the detection of human smuggling and trafficking in human beings facilitation by individuals and/or criminal networks and assist wherever possible identification and detention of facilitators;
- Provide a clear and updated situational picture concerning the operational areas, modus operandi, main trends and possible rapid changes in this respect;

5. IMPLEMENTATION

5.1. Period of implementation²

Commencement	26 May 2019	18:00
Termination	31 May 2019	24:00

² Foreseeable duration of the joint operation as indicated in the Article 3a (1) (b)- of the Frontex Regulation.

5.2. Additional information

A detailed duty schedule will be provided before the activity and updated on daily base.

5.3. Operational Briefings / Debriefings

All participants taking part in joint operation will receive the operational briefing and debriefing delivered by representatives of Frontex and national authorities of host MS.

The operational briefing will take place on Tuesday morning in the operational area; the debriefing will take place on Friday at HQ conference room.

6. COORDINATION STRUCTURE

6.1. Partnership

Frontex is the EU coordinator, initiating, promoting and facilitating the EU MS synchronized efforts to control the external borders.

The local authorities are the direct partners of Frontex and responsible for all border related activities within the joint operation.

The home MSs will support the achievement of operational objectives and implementation of activities by deploying their resources to the defined locations in particular periods of time.

6.2. Main operational structures / actors and their tasks

7.2.1. Member States

- Members of the teams
- Local staff of the hosting MS

7.2.3. Frontex

- Frontex Operational Coordinator (FOC)

7. COMMAND, CONTROL, COMMUNICATION AND REPORTING

7.1. Command and control

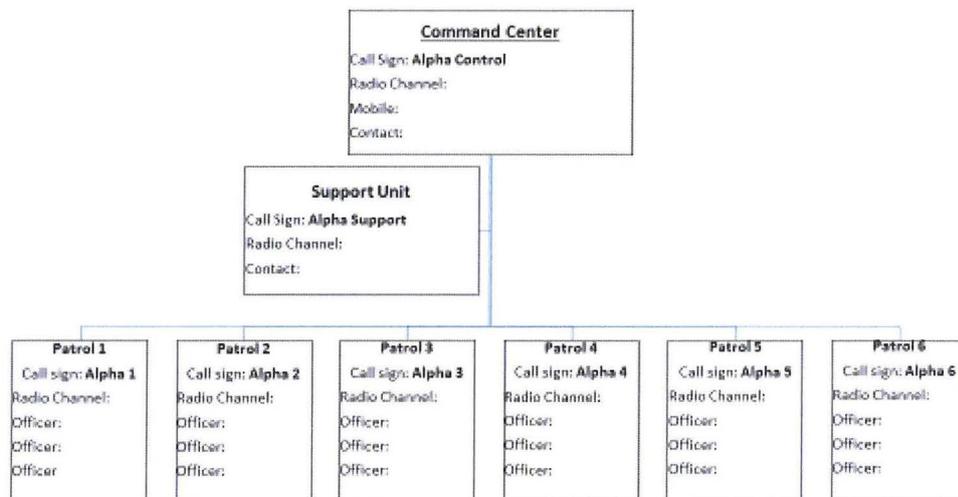
Command and control of members of the team remain with the competent national authority of the host MS.

7.2. Operational communication

Communication plan Joint Operation Europaia:



Communication Plan Europaia



7.3. Communication with Press

Frontex is strongly committed to the principle of transparency, therefore, as a general rule, media should be granted access to operational areas.

Members of the teams are allowed to talk to the media only within the limits set by specific guidelines for the participating officers below. Each team member taking part in the operation shall receive a laminated card with the specific guidelines.

The communication strategy on the Border Control Operational Actions is common for Frontex and the Host Members States.

7.4. Reporting

7.4.1 Reports from participants

During Joint Operation Europaia all patrols are requested to prepare and submit following reports according to Annex 1 and 2 of the EBCGT Land Border Surveillance Officer Handbook of best practice:

- Incident reports
- Shift report

Deadline for submission will be daily announced by Command Centre.

7.4.2 Serious incident reporting

A Serious Incident Report (SIR) is an alert message aimed at informing Frontex, and other relevant stakeholders, as soon as possible (within 2 hours after recognition), about the occurrence of a SI as defined in the “Frontex Serious Incident Catalogue”³. The production and timely dissemination of a SIR contribute to improve situational awareness and increase the reaction capabilities of Frontex related to incidents occurred in the frame of activities coordinated or led by Frontex.

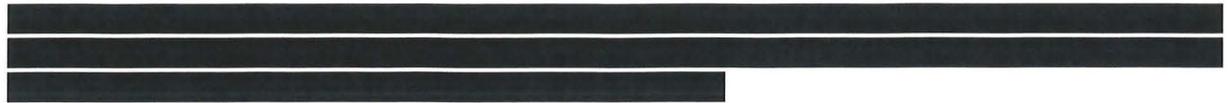
Type of report	Description	Responsibility
Serious Incident Report		All participants of the JO

The non-disclosed part contains detailed information regarding the modus operandi of law enforcement officials performing border control. Disclosing such information would expose the working methods applied in ongoing and future operations, thus obstructing their effectiveness in prevention of cross-border crime and unauthorized border crossings. In consequence, it would undermine the protection of the public interest as regards public security and thus, cannot be disclosed pursuant to Article 4(1)(a) first indent of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001.

8. ORGANISATIONAL ARRANGMENTS AND LOGISTICS

8.1. Composition of the teams

³ Serious Incident Catalogue is available in the General Annexes



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8.2. Transport and lodging

All transportation will be provided by the host MS Europaia. All deployed staff will be accommodated at HQ in Europaia.

8.3. Safety and Security Rules

- All communication will be in English language
- All participants will follow strictly the Frontex Code of Conduct
- Trainers will be visible by vests "Frontex Trainer"; all orders by trainers shall be strictly followed
- Participants will wear their proper national uniform; personal equipment is allowed after consulting trainers; NO WEAPONS

8.4 Legal aspects of EUROPIA

International Protection:

People who are in need of International Protection will be referred to the reception centre of the national office for asylum seekers. As a first measure the border authority establish identity and takes evidence before referring to reception centre.

Trafficking in Human Beings:

EUROPIA has recently launched its national program in preventing and combating trafficking in human beings, which is based on the EU Directive 36/2011. Victims of trafficking receive, after establishing identity, legal status for staying in EUROPIA till the case is closed by court. The border authority takes all measures for proper investigation against traffickers.

9. EVALUATION

Evaluation of the Joint Operation will be done with all participants during the debriefing on Thursday.

