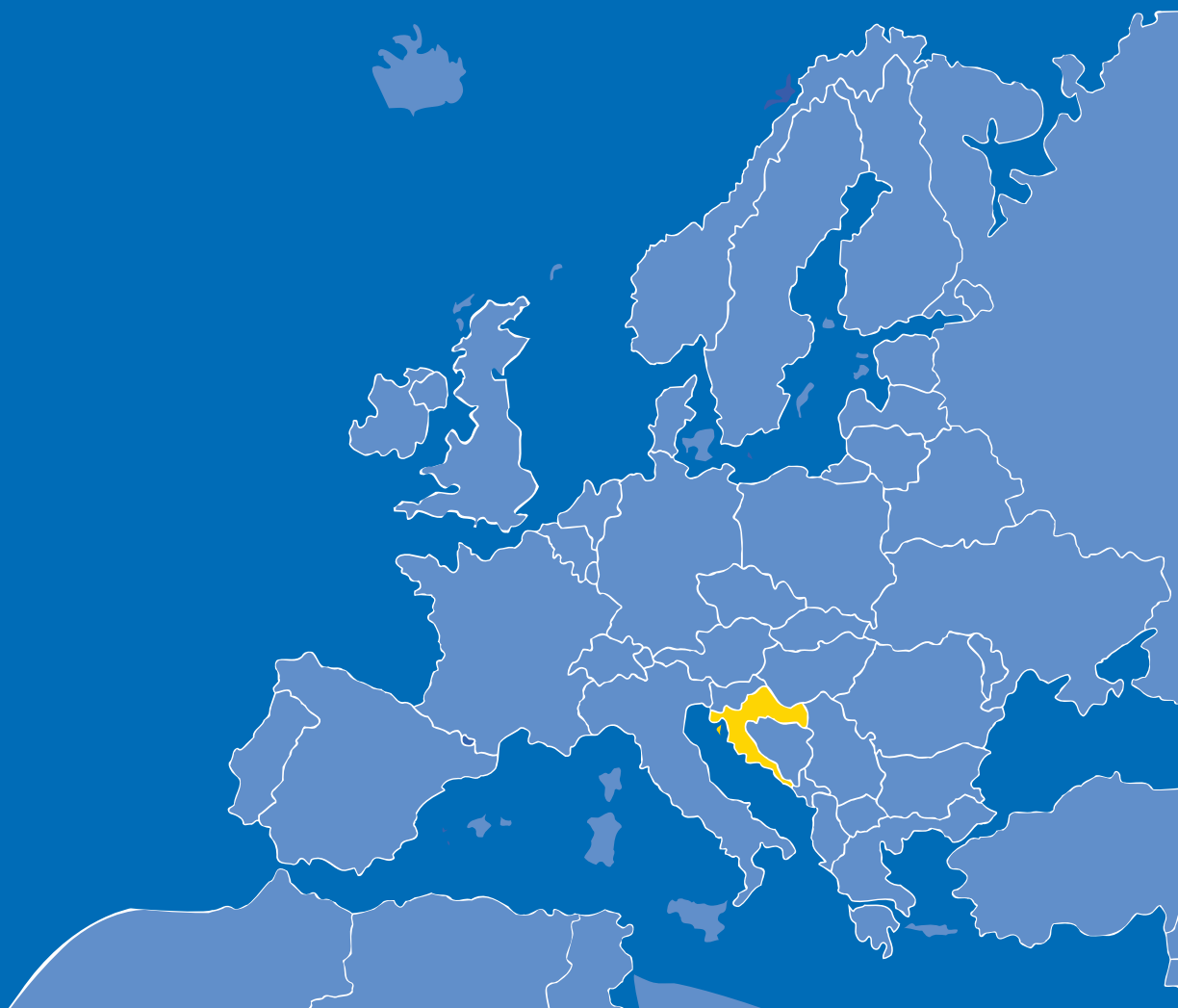


# THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA MIGRATION PROFILE



IOM International Organization for Migration



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA  
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR

October 2007



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IOM International Organization for Migration  
OIM Organisation Internationale pour les Migrations  
OIM Organización Internacional para las Migraciones

# **The Republic of Croatia**

## **Migration Profile**

September 2007

**Prepared by:** International Organization for migration (IOM)  
**Publisher:** Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Slovenia  
**Front Cover Design:** Boris Teodorović  
**Text Design:** Branka Derenčin  
**First Edition, first printing:** 120 copies  
**Printed by:** Mond grafika, d. o. o.

Text Unedited

Ljubljana, September 2007

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## **Acknowledgements**

This set of publications is the result of the cooperation of many individuals from within IOM and outside. A special thanks to Christine Aghazarm, Saskia Buschman-Petit, Sanja Celebic Lukovac, Veronica Escudero, Teuta Grazhdani, Jacqueline Koster, Balazs Lehel, Biljana Nastovska, Miriam Neziri, Anna Eva Radicetti, Sarah Schwarz, Jovana Skrnjug, Suna Skupnjak-Kapic, Mariko Tomiyama, Dusica Zivkovic, Kasia Zarembo, Branka Zulj, and all other IOM staff involved. Although they remain unnamed, thanks are also due to each government official within the respective administrations who provided valuable information.

The support of the Government of Slovenia in financing the production of this study is thankfully acknowledged.



## Foreword

Migration patterns and trends have profound consequences for demographic, social and economic conditions. Studying these trends and patterns is required for national accounting and planning.

Recognizing the above, in view of its upcoming EU Presidency during the first half of 2008 and its migration agenda therein, the Slovenian government has taken the initiative to request IOM to draft “migration profiles” (as defined by the European Commission) for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Republic of Montenegro, the Republic of Serbia and Turkey.

This undertaking strengthens the EC’s efforts to address migration in its broadest sense, in partnerships with third countries. It follows the lines of the EU’s Global Approach to Migration<sup>1</sup> and more particularly sets the ground for concrete action along the lines of the EC Communication on Applying the Global Approach to the Eastern and South-Eastern Regions Neighbouring the European Union of May 2007.<sup>2</sup>

This document was prepared by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in July and August 2007 on the basis of publicly available information and data, analysis and comment, and on IOM’s own knowledge.

The “migration profiles” documents represent ad-hoc compilation of existing data drawn from various sources including the governments of the countries; international organisations and bodies; independent academic research reports; as well as IOM’s internal sources and information. As such, it does not purport to be either exhaustive or conclusive.

All sources are cited. For clarifications on the definitions, the reader must refer to the original source of the data, where more than one source may be given. The variety of sources might result in inconsistencies due to differences in data collection, definitions, and reference dates used.

National contexts differ from one country to another with regard to the existing institutional settings, legislative and strategic frameworks, as well as methodological approaches.

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<sup>1</sup> Presidency Conclusions on the Global Approach to Migration: Priority actions focusing on Africa and the Mediterranean, European Council, Brussels, 15-16 December 2005.

<sup>2</sup> EC Communication (“COM(2006) 735 final) The Global Approach to Migration one year on: Towards a comprehensive European migration policy”

In general, fragmented national institutional frameworks can be noted in all the countries with several institutions and offices recording and compiling migration-related information; along with various international organisations and bodies present in most of the countries.

The results of this exercise point out to the imminent need for agreement on uniform definitions and methodology to record information on emigration and immigration. A general problem is the actual lack of or availability of data per se. Where data exists, the low level of standardization in terms and methodology results in varying degrees of comparability of data.

Despite such shortfalls on information available and comparability, it is our hope that this publication raises awareness on migration issues in these countries and provides useful background for policy development.



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<b>Croatia – Basic facts</b>	
Population (2005)	4,551.000
Total Area	56.542 sq km
GDP per Capita PPP	USD 12.191
Human Development Index (HDI) Rank	44 of 177
Net Migration Rate	4 migrants/1.000 population
Sources: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division's World Population Prospects: the 2006 Revision Population Database; UN Development Programme Human Development Report, 2006	





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## 1. IMMIGRANTS

### 1.1. Number of immigrants

----- 661.417 (2005, UNPD)<sup>1</sup>  
 As percentage of total population----- 14,5 % (2005, UNPD)<sup>2</sup>  
 Gender ratio----- -52,9 % female (2005, UNPD)<sup>3</sup>

### 1.2. Status of immigrants

#### *Permanent residence status*

**Table 1:** Number of immigrants with permanent residence status<sup>4</sup>

Year	Approved permanent residence permits
1995	2.553
1996	2.495
1997	1.918
1998	2.875
1999	1.803
2000	2.306
2001	2.196
2002	2.214
2003	2.073
2004	1.512
2005	966
2006.	947
Total:	23.858

Source: Government of Croatia, 2007.

<sup>1</sup> United Nations Secretariat, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division [2005]: *Trends in Total Migrant Stock: The 2005 Revision*. The number of international migrants generally represents the number of persons born in a country other than that in which they live. Figure based on the 2001 Census in Croatia. Many of the foreign born today were born in other states of the former Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Therefore, this figure may reflect the country's changed geopolitical status rather than its immigration trends.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> The Government of Croatia [2007]: *Migration Policy Strategy of the Republic of Croatia for 2007/08*.

**Temporary residence status**

----- 113.158 (1995 – 2005)<sup>5</sup>  
 ----- 4.802 (2006)<sup>6</sup>

**Refugees/asylum-seekers:**

----- 2003 (UNHCR, June 2007)<sup>7</sup>  
 As percentage of total *migrant* population ----- -0,5% (2005, UNPD)<sup>8</sup>

**Table 2:** Asylum applications in Croatia 2004-2007<sup>9</sup>

2004	2005	2006	2007 (June)	Total
162	186	94	66	508

Source: UNHCR, 2007.

**Labour migrants:****Table 3:** Work and Business Permits issued to Foreigners in Croatia 2000-2006<sup>10</sup>

Year	Work Permits	Business Permits	Total
2000	4.695	-	4.695
2001	5.710	-	5.710
2002	6.674	-	6.674
2003	8.356	-	8.356
2004	2.979	3.356	6.335
2005	3.814	3.875	7.689
2006	3.950	5.678	9.628

Source: Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Croatia 2004-2006, Croatian Employment Service (CES) 2000-2003

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> UNHCR Croatia [2007]: *Statistical Summary 20/06/2007*. The figure refers to “Persons recognized as refugees under the 1951 UN Convention/1967 Protocol, the 1969 OAU Convention, in accordance with the UNHCR Statute, persons granted a complementary form of protection and those granted temporary protection”.

<sup>8</sup> United Nations Secretariat, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division [2005]: *Trends in Total Migrant Stock: The 2005 Revision*

<sup>9</sup> UNHCR Croatia [2007]: Statistics based on Ministry of Interior of Republic of Croatia data.

<sup>10</sup> Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Croatia for data 2004-2006, Croatian Employment Service (CES) for data 2000-2003.

The decline in the number of work permits issued between 2003 and 2004 can be explained by the introduction of exemptions from the work permit requirement for 23 categories of migrants by the 2003 Aliens Act (permanent foreign residents, foreign spouses of Croatian nationals, key staff of companies, university professors, scientists/researchers, athletes, artists, etc). Besides, the Act introduced the business permits category, which resulted in the decrease of applications for work permits.

**Table 4:** Foreign Workers by Sex and Education (as of Dec 2006)<sup>11</sup>

Educational level	Men	Women	Total
PhD	10	-	10
Masters degree	12	3	15
University degree	1.171	382	1.553
College degree	150	67	217
High school degree	4.317	788	5.105
Highly skilled	113	2	115
Skilled	821	12	833
Semi-skilled	70	10	80
Low skilled	1.419	99	1.518
No education	41	6	47
Unknown	410	64	474
Total	8.534	1.433	9.967

Source: *Migration Policy Strategy of the Republic of Croatia, 2007.*

The level of education of foreign workers has changed over the past 10-year period. While at the beginning of 1990s the prevailing groups were skilled and low skilled workers, as of mid 90s the share of highly educated workers has been gradually on the rise. In 2005, the most represented group of foreigners are those with high school degrees, followed by University degree and low-skilled workers. Men constitute 85.6% and women 14.4% of the foreign workers. The most represented age group is 46-60, followed by 31-35 age group. Age structure of female workers differs significantly – with largest share of the age group 26-35.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Croatia [2007]: *Migration Policy Strategy of the Republic of Croatia for 2007/2008.*

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.



### 1.3. Main countries of origin of immigrants

Australia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Germany, Italy, Serbia and Montenegro<sup>13</sup>, Slovenia, Switzerland, USA.<sup>14</sup>

## 2. EMIGRANTS

### 2.1. Total number of emigrants

----- -726.031 (2005, World Bank)<sup>15</sup>  
As percentage of total population----- 16% (2005, World Bank)<sup>16</sup>

**Table 5:** Main Countries of Destination for Croatian Emigrants:

Country	Number	Year	Source
United States	374.241	2000	US Census 2000 <sup>17</sup>
Germany	228.900	2005	OECD <sup>18</sup>
Austria	58.520	2004	Eurostat <sup>19</sup>
Australia	50.941	2006	Australia Census 2006 <sup>20</sup>
Switzerland	40.600	2004	OECD <sup>21</sup>
Canada	39.635	2001	Canada Census 2001 <sup>22</sup>
France	4.060	1999	France Census 1999 <sup>23</sup>

<sup>13</sup> As data refers to 2005, it is not disaggregated between Serbia and Montenegro.

<sup>14</sup> World Bank, Development Prospects Group [2005]: *Migration and Remittances Factbook*.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid.

<sup>16</sup> World Bank, Development Prospects Group [2005]: *Migration and Remittances Factbook*.

<sup>17</sup> US Census Bureau [2000]: [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

<sup>18</sup> OECD [2007]: *International Migration Outlook*.

<sup>19</sup> European Commission [2003]: *Annual Report on Statistics on Migration, Asylum and Return*

<sup>20</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics [2006]: <http://www.abs.gov.au>

<sup>21</sup> Ibid.

<sup>22</sup> Statistics Canada [2001]: <http://www.statcan.ca>

<sup>23</sup> National Institute for Statistics and Economic Studies [1999]: *Population Census 1999*. <http://www.insee.fr>

## 2.2. Status of emigrants

Refugees - - - - - 93.767 (2006, UNHCR)<sup>24</sup>  
 Asylum-seekers - - - - - 211 (2006, UNHCR)<sup>25</sup>

### *Labour migrants*

**Table 6:** Number of Croatian workers employed abroad<sup>26</sup> through the mediation of Croatian Employment Service (CES)<sup>27</sup>

Year	Total	Seasonal workers	Guest workers	Students	Medical technicians	Seamen on foreign ships
2000	7.233	5.954	-	-	147	1.132
2001	7.862	6.211	-	-	317	1.334
2002	7.669	6.035	57	37	390	1.150
2003	6.161	5.238	319	24	98	482
2004	5.108	4.778	168	16	31	115
2005	4.883	4.615	111	32	11	114
2006	5.273	5.013	103	31	12	114

Source: CES, 2006.

Emigration rate of tertiary educated: 29.4%<sup>28</sup>

## 2.3. Main countries of destination

Australia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Slovenia, Switzerland, the United States.<sup>29</sup>

<sup>24</sup> UNCHR [2006]: *Statistical Yearbook 2006. Global Trends: Refugees, Asylum-seekers, Returnees, Internally Displaced and Stateless Persons*. Figures represent end-2006 statistics. Data are provisional and subject to change. Status as at 15 June 2007. The figure refers to "Persons recognized as refugees under the 1951 UN Convention/1967 Protocol, the 1969 OAU Convention, in accordance with the UNHCR Statute, persons granted a complementary form of protection and those granted temporary protection".

<sup>25</sup> Ibid

<sup>26</sup> All categories employed in Germany except seamen.

<sup>27</sup> Croatian Employment Service [2006].

<sup>28</sup> World Bank, Development Prospects Group [2005]: *Migration and Remittances Factbook*, after Docquier and Marfouk [2004] and Docquier and Bhargava [2006]

<sup>29</sup> World Bank, Development Prospects Group [2005]: *Migration and Remittances Factbook*.

### 3. REMITTANCES

#### 3.1. Quantitative aspects of remittances

**Table 7:** Amount of incoming migrant remittances<sup>30</sup>

Year	Remittances (Million USD)
2003	1.085
2004	1.222
2005	1.222
2006	1.234

Source: World Bank.

Remittances as % of GDP (2005): 3.3%<sup>31</sup>

Remittances per capita (2005), in Euro: 210<sup>32</sup>

Remittances as a share of exports (2003): 7.9<sup>33</sup>

#### 3.2. Qualitative aspects of remittances

Croatia is a country with relatively large diasporas and a high level of remittance flows. Remittances have doubled between 1997 -2005 and have been the most stable source of foreign exchange into the country. The flows were lower than foreign direct investment (FDI), but far more significant than Official Development Assistance (ODA).<sup>34</sup>

Remittances constituted 2.3% of an average household income in 2005 and constituted a moderate contribution towards improved household consumption. However, most of remittances to Croatia have been invested (mainly in real estate and land) and were not directed towards consumption.

Single households without children and single households of persons aged 65 and more were the main recipients of transfers in 2005. Rich households were the largest recipients of remittances and average income households represented the opposite end of the spectrum with the least amount of remittances received.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid.

<sup>31</sup> Ibid.

<sup>32</sup> Schrooten, M. [2003]: Bringing Home the Money - What Determines Worker's Remittances to Transition Countries. Tokyo Institute of Economic Research.

<sup>33</sup> Ibid.

<sup>34</sup> Ibid.

Formal transfer channels in Croatia are through banks and post offices, but a large proportion of remittances are carried by hand. Some estimates suggest that around 50% of the remittances are brought in cash by the migrants themselves.<sup>35</sup>

## 4. MIGRANT COMMUNITIES/DIASPORAS

### 4.1. Description of relationship between diasporas and country of origin

*Emigration Department of the Croatian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration*<sup>36</sup> works on preservation of the national identity of Croatian emigrants and facilitates their return. In particular it:

- encourages Croatian emigrants to engage economically in their home country and provides necessary information to Croatian emigrant entrepreneurs to invest in the Croatian economy
- makes efforts to inform the diasporas about the political, economic and cultural events in the home country
- gives proposals for establishing the ways for voting of Croatian emigrants at the parliamentary and presidential elections and gives opinion on the Bill on Emigration
- encourages organization of Croatian language education in host countries
- systematically monitors and updates data on the Croatian emigration
- monitors situation of Croatian emigrants in the receiving countries.<sup>37</sup>

### 4.2. Migrant communities/diasporas organizations by country of destination

(Please note the lists below do not purport to be exhaustive or representative. IOM does not take responsibility for the accuracy of the contact details).

#### *Worldwide*

*Croatian Heritage Foundation*<sup>38</sup>: provides comprehensive information about Croatian communities around the world; provides a database of relevant organizations and publishes a monthly journal.

*CROWN Croatia World Network*<sup>39</sup>: publishes news articles and information about related to Croatians around the world.

<sup>35</sup> Poprzenovic, A. [2007]: *Remittances and Income Inequality in Croatia*.

<sup>36</sup> E-mail: [croatian.emigration@mvpai.hr](mailto:croatian.emigration@mvpai.hr)

<sup>37</sup> MARRI [2006]: *MARRI Questionnaire on Diaspora, Response of the Government of Croatia*

<sup>38</sup> <http://www.matis.hr/eng/>

<sup>39</sup> <http://www.croatia.org>

## *Europe*

- *Austria - Burgenland Croatian Center*<sup>40</sup>: intercultural education and minority community support.
- *Bosnia & Herzegovina - Croats of Bosnia and Herzegovina*<sup>41</sup>: provides extensive information and support to the Croatian community in BiH.
- *France - Association France Croatie*<sup>42</sup>: promotes Croatian solidarity and provides information.
- *Italy - Croat in Italia*<sup>43</sup>: provides information on working, studying and living in Italy, as well as the legal rights of Croatian immigrants.

## *Latin America*

- *Croacia Viva*<sup>44</sup>: organization for the Croatian community in Latin America.

## *North America*

- *Croatian Fraternal Union of America*<sup>45</sup>
- *Croatoan Ottawa*<sup>46</sup>: non-profit Croatian heritage organization.

## **5. IRREGULAR MIGRATION**

### **5.1. Numbers/estimates of irregular movements**

#### *Irregular immigration into Croatia*

According to the Croatian Ministry of Interior (MOI) statistics, irregular migration is on rise since 2004. The vast majority (over 90%) of apprehended migrants in irregular status originate from South-eastern Europe, with main source countries being Serbia (Kosovo), Albania and Bosnia & Herzegovina.

Increase of detected irregular migration activities could be attributed also to improved effectiveness of the border police as a result of received training; more sophisticated equipment used and improved inter-state and regional police co-operation.

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<sup>40</sup> <http://www.hrvatskicentar.at/>

<sup>41</sup> <http://www.hercegbosna.org/eng.index.html>

<sup>42</sup> <http://www.francecroatie.free.fr/>

<sup>43</sup> <http://www.croatinitalia.com/>

<sup>44</sup> <http://www.croaciaviva.com/>

<sup>45</sup> <http://www.croatianfraternalunion.org/>

<sup>46</sup> <http://www.croatoan.ca/index.php>

**Table 8:** Number of irregular migrants apprehended in Croatia by type of misdemeanour<sup>47</sup>

Type of misdemeanour	2004	2005	2006
Irregular crossing of the state border	4.438	5.169	5.665
Irregular stay	1.164	1.561	1.983
Non-possession of travel documents	1.234	1.414	1.733
Irregular employment	1.632	1.936	2.281

Source: Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Croatia, 2006.

**Table 9:** Number of persons forcibly removed from Croatia<sup>48</sup>

Year	Number
2004	1.897
2005	2.073
2006	2.348

Source: Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Croatia, 2006.

Irregular employment of foreigners is on the rise at an average annual rate of 18% and relates predominantly (over 80%) to Bosnian nationals, who are found mostly in the construction sector.<sup>49</sup>

### *Irregular migration out of Croatia*

**Table 10:** Irregular Migration of Croatian nationals to the EU<sup>50</sup>

Action Taken	Italy	Austria	Hungary	Slovenia	Total
Refused Aliens	1.172	778	500	11.664	14.114
Removed Aliens	-	-	-	305	-
Apprehended aliens illegally present	-	-	-	309	-

Source: EC, EC, Directorate General Justice and Home Affairs, 2003.

<sup>47</sup> Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Croatia, Police Headquarters, Border Directorate, Illegal Migration Department [2006, 2007]: *Annual Reports for year 2005 and 2006*.

<sup>48</sup> Ibid.

<sup>49</sup> Ibid.

<sup>50</sup> EC [2003]: *Annual Report on Asylum and Migration*

[http://ec.europa.eu/justice\\_home/doc\\_centre/asylum/statistics/doc\\_annual\\_report\\_2003\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/doc_centre/asylum/statistics/doc_annual_report_2003_en.htm) Even though In 2003, Hungary and Slovenia were not EU Member States, but as they were in the process of preparation for accession, they were included in the report.

## 5.2. Figures and information on return migration flows

### *Forced Return:*

In 2006 1,838 persons were re-admitted to Croatia within the framework of the readmission agreements with neighbouring countries. 1.783 were non-Croatian nationals and came originally from Serbia (Kosovo), Albania, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Bosnia & Herzegovina.<sup>51</sup> They were returned from: Slovenia (1,834); Bosnia and Herzegovina (3); and Hungary (1).<sup>52</sup>

**Table 11:** Forced returns from Croatia by nationality 2005-2006

Nationality	2006	2005
Serbia and Montenegro	951	607
Albania	560	543
Bosnia and Herzegovina	352	250
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	182	186
Turkey	125	131
Romania	45	116
Moldova	31	140
Bulgaria	21	22
Ukraine	13	7
Slovenia	8	20
Russia	7	3
Hungary	5	4
Slovakia	4	2
Poland	3	1
Sri Lanka	3	0
Palestine	0	0
Other	38	36
Total	2.348	2.068

*Source: Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Croatia, Illegal Migration Department.*

<sup>51</sup> Ibid.

<sup>52</sup> Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Croatia, Police Headquarters, Border Directorate, Illegal Migration Department [2007]: *Annual Report for year 2006*.

**Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR):** According to IOM data<sup>53</sup>, 508 persons returned to Croatia through Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) during 2002-2006. The table below provides the details:

**Table 12:** Assisted Voluntary Returns to Croatia 2002-2006

Country:	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Total
Austria			2	4	9	15
Belgium	1		2	4	3	10
Finland		1	21			22
Germany		1		31	38	70
Ireland		11	20	19	7	57
Italy	3					3
Netherlands	14	18	25	7	8	72
Portugal			3	1		4
Slovakia			1			1
United Kingdom		11	28	15	22	76
Norway	114	49	7	2	5	177
Switzerland			1			1
Total	132	91	110	83	92	508

Source: IOM, 2007.

## 6. ASSESSMENT AND ANALYSIS OF MIGRATION ISSUES

### 6.1. Summary assessment of migration issues

During the twentieth century Croatia was predominantly a country of emigration with traditional destinations of North America, Europe, Australia and South America. After World War, II European countries became the main destination for Croatian migrants (Germany, Switzerland, Austria). The war period during the first half of the 1990s was characterized by refugee and IDP flows. An estimated 500,000 Croats and other non-Serbs fled Serb-controlled areas of Croatia during the 1991 war of independence. Approximately 400,000 refugees from Bosnia & Herzegovina sought refuge in Croatia in 1992, and many ethnic Serbs from Croatia sought refuge in Serbia. To this day estimated 16% of the country's population live abroad.

<sup>53</sup> IOM [2007]: *AVR database*



Croatia continues to deal with the effects of the wars of the 1990s, notably in terms of the return of refugees and reconstruction of property. Obstacles to the sustainable return of refugees continue to be in place, such as hostilities in certain localities, and housing concerns. The total number of Croatian Serbs registered as returnees to Croatia is about one third of the 370,000 who left the country during the war.<sup>54</sup>

With political stabilization and socio-economic recovery at the beginning of 21<sup>st</sup> century Croatia is gradually becoming a country of destination. As unemployment rates continue to decline, a growing economy with prosperous tourism and SME sector requires a skilled and motivated labour force and creates demand for workers, which cannot be fully met on the domestic labour market.

According to the Croatian Government, in 2006 there were approximately 24,000 migrants with a permanent residence permit present in Croatia, mostly from neighbouring countries, and approximately 9,700 new work and business permits were granted in 2006.<sup>55</sup> Certain areas such as shipbuilding, construction and tourism are faced with shortage of workers<sup>56</sup>, which the Croatian government aims to fulfil with the recruitment of foreign workers through a quota system (2007 quota for all sectors is 4,613). In view of demographic decline and ageing population, more sustained immigration flows will increasingly be required to meet the needs of the Croatian labour market.

Irregular migration in Croatia is of mainly transit character; however the number of irregular migrants, for whom Croatia is a destination country, is on the rise. The majority of irregular migrants originate in the countries of the former Yugoslavia and in many cases attempt to cross the Croatian-Slovenian border illegally to enter the European Union.

## 6.2. Government institutions responsible for migration policy

**Ministry of Interior (MOI) ([www.mup.hr](http://www.mup.hr))** is the lead ministry responsible for migration issues. According to the current Aliens Act it covers all issues related to entry, admission, stay, residence and employment of aliens.

Aliens and Asylum Department of the Inspection and Administrative Affairs Directorate is responsible for the issues related to regular migration. It deals with residence and employment of aliens as well as asylum and visa issues.

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<sup>54</sup> EC [2006]: *Progress Report for Croatia, COM (2006) 649 final*

<sup>55</sup> See section 1.

<sup>56</sup> Skupnjak-Kapic, S., Milas, G, Mustapic, M., Karajic, N. [2005]: *Cross-Border Labour Migration Flows Croatia-Italy: Focus on Shipbuilding*, IOM-Zagreb.

Since 2004 police administration at regional level and police stations (administrative departments) at local level are responsible for processing and issuing work permits.

*Illegal Migration Department of the Border Directorate* deals with irregular migration, oversees the Reception Centre for Aliens and the Mobile Unit for implementation of state border surveillance.

*State Border Protection Department of the Border Directorate* deals with state border protection and irregular migration issues.

*Organized Crime Department of the Criminal Police Directorate* is responsible for migration-related organized crime, such as trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants.

Within the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration ([www.mfa.hr](http://www.mfa.hr))** there are several Directorates responsible for migration policy and contacts with expatriate community:

- Directorate for Consular Affairs: Department for Citizenship and Travel Documents, Department for Visas and Department for Foreigners
- Directorate for international Organizations and Security: Department for Human Rights
- Directorate for Croatian Minorities, Emigration and Immigration is responsible for the Croatian diasporas, immigration to Croatia and Croatian national minorities.

*Croatian Immigration Department*<sup>57</sup> informs the immigrants about the conditions of life in the Republic of Croatia, provides help to young returnees with their integration in the educational system and with the validation of foreign degrees they acquired in foreign countries. It also provides aid to elderly immigrants to find accommodation in homes for retired persons and helps them acquire rights to health and pension insurance, encourages young returnees and immigrants to learn Croatian and facilitates process of return (legislation, citizenship, licenses, education of returnees – language, regulations, laws, political situation).

*Croatian Emigration Department*<sup>58</sup> works on preservation of the national identity of Croatian emigrants and facilitates their return. In particular it:

- encourages Croatian emigrants to engage economically in their home country and provides necessary information to Croatian emigrant entrepreneurs to invest in the Croatian economy
- makes efforts to inform the diasporas about the political, economic and cultural events in the home country

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<sup>57</sup> E-mail: [croatian.immigration@mvpei.hr](mailto:croatian.immigration@mvpei.hr)

<sup>58</sup> E-mail: [croatian.emigration@mvpei.hr](mailto:croatian.emigration@mvpei.hr)

- gives proposals for establishing the ways for voting of Croatian emigrants at the parliamentary and presidential elections and gives opinion on the Bill on Emigration
- encourages organization of Croatian language education in host countries
- systematically monitors and updates data on the Croatian emigration
- monitors situation of Croatian emigrants in the receiving countries.<sup>59</sup>

**Ministry of Economy, Labour and Entrepreneurship**, based on the advice of the Croatian Employment Service (CES), proposes the annual quota of work permits per sectors, regions and professions for the Government Decision.

*The Directorate of Labour of the Ministry* deals with the legal status of Croatian citizens employed in foreign countries and their subsequent return and employment in Croatia as well as the legal status of aliens employed in Croatia.

*Croatian Employment Service (CES)* provides advice on the labour market situation and labour market needs for the foreign workers in order to determine work permits quotas. The Service also mediates in the employment of Croatian workers abroad. This mediation is carried out in line with international agreements, which have been concluded only with Germany and Slovenia until today. The German labour agreement allows for recruitment of seasonal workers from Croatia in agriculture and catering industry, 500 guest workers for 18-months period and 30 student summer jobs.

*The State Inspectorate* is responsible for supervision of aliens' employment.

**The Government Office for Human Rights** deals with human rights and fundamental freedoms in Croatia in accordance with the Constitution and the Constitutional Act on Minority Rights. The Office hosts the secretariats of the Committee of Human Rights, Expert Work Group for Suppression of All Types of Discrimination, National Committee for Suppression of Trafficking in Persons and Expert Work Group for Suppression of Trafficking in Children. The National Committee for Suppression of Trafficking in Persons supervises the preparation of the National Programme 2005 – 2008 and annual action plans for suppression of trafficking in persons. The Office for Human Rights also publishes the data related to identified victims of trafficking. <http://www.ljudskaprava-vladarh.hr>

**Ministry of Health and Social Welfare** is responsible for protection and assistance of victims of trafficking in human beings as regards accommodation, health and social care in accordance with the Aliens Act.

**Central Bureau of Statistics**<sup>60</sup> processes and publish the data on international migration of Croatian nationals based on data collected by the Ministry of Interior (police

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<sup>59</sup> MARRI [2006]: *MARRI Questionnaire on Diaspora, Response of the Government of Croatia*, September 2006.

<sup>60</sup> [www.dzs.hr](http://www.dzs.hr)

administration/stations) according to the Law on Permanent and Temporary Residence of Citizens<sup>61</sup> and the Aliens Act. According to the Migration Policy Strategy it has been tasked with the establishment of a Population Registry, to bring current population evidence in line with international standards.

### 6.3. Migration policies in place

A long awaited Migration Policy Strategy for 2007/08 was adopted at the Parliament session held on 13 July 2007.<sup>62</sup> New Aliens and Asylum Acts were adopted at the same day which formed a new migration package that is to a greater extent aligned to the EU *acquis* and will be implemented as of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2008. New acts will replace the acts adopted in year 2003, while the Migration Policy Strategy is the first document of that kind.

The Migration Policy is expected to provide the Croatian Government with a more comprehensive and sustainable policy framework in the area of migration. It is primarily focused on immigration side and presents a first step in establishment of an immigration system. The main objective is to establish a systematic and comprehensive approach to migration issues through:

- a transparent and effective system of administration of regular migration
- a fair and contemporary system of compensation claims which derive from forced migration
- a clear, transparent and effective system of control and prevention of illegal migration.

Specific measures foreseen by the Strategy include:

- enhancement of the capacity of administrative structures responsible for entry and residence of aliens,
- legal regulation of residence and asylum claims;
- revision of Croatian immigration requirements in line with the needs of the Croatian labour market and the EU policy;
- establishment of Population Registry;
- introducing an obligation to the Croatian nationals to de-register their residence when leaving the country for a period longer than one year;
- awareness raising of general public on migration issues to prevent xenophobia and prejudice towards migrants;
- introduction of equality legislation and measures that ensure equal status of immigrants and nationals;

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<sup>61</sup> Official Gazette no. 53/91, 26/93 and 11/00

<sup>62</sup> Official Gazette No 79/2007

- introducing an obligation for applicants for permanent residence to learn Croatian language and basics of the Croatian history and culture;
- effective control and protection of the state borders and border crossings;
- protection and detection of victims of trafficking, prosecuting the traffickers in accordance with the National Programme for the Suppression of Trafficking;
- establishment and improvement of bilateral and multilateral cooperation with the countries of origin, transit and destination;
- signing of readmission agreements with the states where they do not exist;
- harmonization of the existing readmission agreements with the European standardized template.

The Law on Asylum, which has been adopted on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2007, lays down the principles, conditions and procedures for the recognition of asylum claims and the granting of temporary protection status. It outlines rights and obligations of asylum seekers, refugees and temporary protection status holders, as well as the conditions and procedures for the revocation of refugee status and termination of temporary protection of aliens in Croatia.

In accordance with the Alien's Act, the Croatian Government, following the proposal of the Ministry of Labour and based on the opinion of the Croatian Employment Service, determines each year the annual quota of work permits for foreigners per sectors, regions and professions. The quotas should reflect the labour market needs and be in accordance with the migration policy. Quotas are determined for new employment permits, renewal of already issued work permits and seasonal employment.

The 2007 total annual work permit quota is 4,613, of which new work permits are 2,613<sup>63</sup>:

1. Tourism – 257 work permits
2. Shipbuilding – 622 work permits
3. Construction – 1,580 work permits
4. Science and Education – 34 work permits
5. Healthcare – 5 work permits
6. Culture – 71 work permits
7. Transport – 44 work permits

Besides quotas, the Aliens Act stipulates 23 categories of persons who are exempt from the work permit requirement: permanent foreign residents, foreign spouses of Croatian nationals, key staff of companies as defined in the Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) – company founders, procurators, members of company management

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<sup>63</sup> Ministry of Interior of Croatia <http://www.mup.hr/1266.aspx>

and supervisory boards; university professors, scientists/researchers in scientific or professional training, athletes and artists.

Besides, some categories of foreigners can be granted work permits that are not included in the quota (out of quota work permits). These work permits are granted for foreign workers – workers who commute daily from the neighbouring countries (under the condition of reciprocity), EU nationals and their family members, foreigners performing indispensable tasks in companies and foreign company agencies, intra-corporate transferees, school teachers teaching in the national minorities language, professional athletes or sports workers, foreigner's spouses and children with authorised permanent residence in the Republic of Croatia etc. Number of issued out of quota work permits in the period 2004-2006 is close to or exceeds number of work permits.

The current Aliens Act introduced the business permit, which replaced the former business visa, with the intention to eliminate administrative barriers and promote entrepreneurship and foreign investment. The Police Administration of the Ministry of Interior is responsible for issuing work and business permits to foreign nationals.

A National Action Plan was devised within the framework of the Stability Pact, to define the shortcomings and areas of concern in border control and protection. Within this action plan time period, 2004-2009, Croatia is expected to completely protect its borders according to EU standards as well as apply the Schengen legal system on the EU external border.<sup>64</sup> In line with the Border Police Strategy and Integrated Border Management Strategy Schengen Action Plan has been recently adopted.

## **6.4. International legal framework in place relevant to migration**

### *Selected international instruments:*

- UN Convention relating to the Status of Refugees 1951, ratified 12/10/1992
- International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination 1965, ratified 12/10/1992
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 1966, ratified 08/10/1991
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 1966, ratified 08/10/1991
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women 1979, ratified 09/10/1992
- Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment 1984, ratified 08/10/1991

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<sup>64</sup> Western Balkans and the European Institute [2004] *Regional Review of Justice and Home Affairs Policy in the Western Balkan Countries: Croatia*.

<http://www.western-balkans.info/htmls/page.php?category=339&id=560&page=22>

- Convention on the Rights of the Child 1989, ratified 08/10/1991
- Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, urw
- Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime 2000, ratified 24/01/2003

*Council of Europe selected instruments:*

- European Convention on Human Rights, 5/11/1997
- Council of Europe Convention on Trafficking in Human Beings, 2005, signed 16/05/2006, not ratified

*Bilateral Labour Agreements:*

- Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Croatia and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany on employment in companies registered in the Republic of Croatia for the purposes of executing contracts for the completion of works: Date of effect, 18 December, 2002.<sup>65</sup>
- Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Croatia and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany on the employment of workers with reference to the Treaty on employment for the purposes of advancing professional and linguistic knowledge (Treaty on temporary employment): Date of effect, 18 December 2002.<sup>66</sup>
- Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Croatia and the Government of the Republic of Slovenia on employment: Date of effect, 24 Sept 1994.<sup>67</sup>

*Readmission Agreements:*

- Germany 22/10/1997
- Austria, 01/11/1998
- Belgium 01/02/2005
- Bulgaria 04/07/2002
- Estonia 28/04/2001
- France 17/02/1996
- Greece 15/03/1996
- Hungary 15/11/2001
- Italy 01/06/1998
- Latvia 21/09/1998
- Lithuania 01/01/2000
- Luxembourg 01/02/2005
- The Netherlands 01/02/2005

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<sup>65</sup> Croatian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, <http://www.mfa.hr/MVP.asp?pcpid=1622>

<sup>66</sup> Croatian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, <http://www.mfa.hr/MVP.asp?pcpid=1622>

<sup>67</sup> Croatian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, <http://www.mfa.hr/MVP.asp?pcpid=1622>

- Poland 27/05/1995
- Romania 06/10/2002
- The Czech Republic 01/05/2004
- Slovenia 10/06/2005
- Sweden 06/04/2003
- Iceland 31/05/2001
- Norway 01/08/2005
- Switzerland 11/03/1993
- Albania 15/06/2005
- Bosnia & Herzegovina 24/03/1995;
- The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia 01/02/2003
- Serbia & Montenegro 17/06/2004

#### *Pending Readmission Agreements*

- Spain, Ukraine and Cyprus

## **6.5. Identified skill shortages and policies to address brain drain**

There has been no systematic research – in general or by sector – completed on labour migration in Croatia.<sup>68</sup> Specific studies and anecdotal evidence can provide, however, a glimpse into skill shortages in the country and the current state of labour migration.

The main features of the Croatian labour market are low activity (48%) and mobility rate and high (but decreasing) unemployment rate, accompanied by shortages in certain sectors which point to structural imbalances of demand and supply side. At the end of 2006, the unemployment rate in Croatia, according to CROSTAT, was 10.5%.<sup>69</sup> This is a decrease from the 13.8% reported in early 2004 and Croatia has the lowest rate in the West Balkan region.<sup>70</sup> Youth unemployment, however, is still particularly high, at 27%. Despite the relatively high unemployment rate, labour shortages remain in certain sectors like shipbuilding, tourism and construction.<sup>71</sup>

Since 2004, the Croatian Government determines each year the annual quota of work permits per sectors, professions and regions.

By sectors the annual quotas for new employment in the period 2004 - 2006 were allocated and used as follows:

<sup>68</sup> Skupnjak-Kapic, S., Milas, G, Mustapic, M., Karajic, N. [2005]: *Cross-Border Labour Migration Flows Croatia-Italy: Focus on Shipbuilding*, IOM-Zagreb

<sup>69</sup> CROSTAT [2007]: *Croatia Statistical yearbook 2007*, page 30.

<sup>70</sup> Central Bureau of Statistics [2007]: *First Release: Labour Force Survey No.9.2.7/1*. <http://www.dzs.hr>

<sup>71</sup> Ibid.



**Table 13:** Allocation and utilization of annual quotas of work permits for new employment per sectors 2004-2006<sup>72</sup>

Sectors	2004		2005		2006	
	Allocated	Used	Allocated	Used	Allocated	Used*
Shipbuilding	1.099	340	270	222	110	
Construction	1.000	616	610	537	336	
Tourism	310	120	370	148	516	
Culture			68	11	45	
Science and education	150	9	60	12	10	
Transport					4	
Health care	30	1	22	10	16	
Total	2.589	1.086	1.400	940	1.037	625

Source: Government Decisions on Determination of Quotas for Work Permits for years 2004, 2005 and 2006; Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Croatia.

\* only total number is available

As shown in the above table, the quota numbers are not being fully utilised (in 2004, only 42 % was used, in 2005 67% and in 2006 60% was utilised). Low utilization of quotas shows that improvements could be made in the quota system which should be more flexible and able to promptly respond to actual labour market needs. The annual quota of work permits for seasonal employment was determined only for year 2005, mainly for the construction sector. Out of a quota of 400, only 248 work permits (62%) was used. On the other hand growing numbers of illegally employed foreigners are found in seasonal jobs in catering, tourism, trade and building sector, which shows that the need for seasonal workers exists, but it is satisfied outside of the quota system.

Brain drain from Croatia has not been sufficiently researched. The recent research has focused on emigration potential, but no reliable data on actual numbers of emigrants are available. It is estimated that 24.1% of young scientists have serious emigration potential.<sup>73</sup> Croatia's total emigration potential is estimated at 12.5%, i.e. 460.000 persons older than 14.<sup>74</sup>

<sup>72</sup> Skupnjak-Kapić, S. [2006]: *Mobility of Workers in the SMEs and the issue of work permits*.

<sup>73</sup> Adamović, Mirjana [2003]: *Migration of Young Scientists: Actual and Potential Brain Drain from Croatia in 90s*, Master Thesis, Zagreb University, Faculty of Philosophy, Department of Sociology.

<sup>74</sup> Božić, S., Burić, I.[2005]: Croatia's Migration Potential - Micro-Analytic Aspects, Migration and Ethnic Themes No. 1-2, June 2005, Zagreb.

In order to encourage the return of scientists and professionals living abroad, the Ministry of Science, Education and Sport (MSES) recently introduced a **Unity through Knowledge Fund (UKF)**, supported through the World Bank loan<sup>75</sup>. The UKF Fund is a facility to attract Croatian diasporas, specifically scientists and researchers living abroad. This program is aimed at: (i) encouraging Croatian scientists and professionals working abroad to return and work in Croatia and/or connect with the local scientific community; (ii) encouraging Croatian institutions and researchers to use the potential of Croatian scientific and professional diasporas. Under the motto *Connectivity – Co-operation – Creativity*, UKF's mission is to unify the scientific and professional potentials in Croatia and diasporas for the development of Croatia's knowledge society.

## 6.6. Irregular migration routes and policies to address irregular migration

Croatia is a transit country on the so-called "Balkans route" used by organized crime groups to smuggle people into Western Europe. The route, which led through Hungary until the mid 1990s, has been replaced by routes through Serbia or Bosnia and Herzegovina to Croatia and through Croatia to Slovenia. Two corridors in Croatia have been identified: in the South, the route from Montenegro to the Dalmatia region, and in the North, from Serbia or Bosnia through the continental part of Croatia. The use of the sea route from the Croatian coast to Italy has decreased significantly in recent years.<sup>76</sup> Smuggled migrants mainly come from Turkey, Montenegro, Serbia, Romania, Bosnia & Herzegovina and are frequently set for the Croatian-Slovenian border to enter the European Union.<sup>77</sup>

There has been a significant decrease in the number of those apprehended for illegal border crossings into Croatia since the year 2000 (from 24,180 in 2000 to 5,169 in 2005). Croatia is mainly a transit country for irregular migrants, but increasing numbers are also choosing to stay. The majority of irregular migrants come from Southern European countries. In 2005 the most significant countries of origin were Montenegro and Albania.<sup>78</sup>

Irregular migration is regulated by the Aliens Act, Penal Act, State Border Surveillance Act and bylaws. Croatia signed 24 Readmission Agreements with 26 countries, of which 17 with the EU Member States.

In accordance with the Programme of the Government of the Republic of Croatia for the period 2003-2007, and the operative Implementation Plan for 2004, the Ministry of

<sup>75</sup> [www.ukf.hr](http://www.ukf.hr)

<sup>76</sup> IOM [2007]: *Response to the DG JLS request for "information and analyses of the main migratory flows that can be detected in the eastern and south-eastern regions neighbouring the European Union with a view to identifying the main routes used to enter the EU illegally and the main countries of origin"*, 15<sup>th</sup> February 2007.

<sup>77</sup> ICMPD [2005]: *Yearbook on Illegal Migration, Human Smuggling and Trafficking in Central and Eastern Europe*, Vienna.

<sup>78</sup> Central Bureau of Statistics [2007]: *First Release: Labour Force Survey No.9.2.7/1*. <http://www.dzs.hr>.

the Interior of the Republic of Croatia is the institution in charge of creating the Border Police Development Strategy. The Strategy will provide a guideline to reorganization of the Croatian border police in line with the EU standards in order to guarantee the country's capacity to protect the state border after the EU accession.<sup>79</sup>

## 6.7. Trafficking in human beings and policies to address it

Croatia is primarily a transit country, and increasingly a source and destination country, for women and children trafficked from Romania, Bulgaria, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and other parts of Eastern Europe for the purpose of sexual exploitation. Victims transiting Croatia are trafficked into Western Europe for commercial sexual exploitation, given Croatia's borders with three EU countries.<sup>80</sup>

Out of 55 trafficking victims (VoTs) identified in Croatia from 2000 to 2006, 40 were foreign nationals and 15 were Croatian nationals. Both foreign and national victims were trafficked mainly for sexual exploitation and the vast majority were female. Thirteen (24%) out of total number of identified victims were minors and 4 (7.2%) were men. Top five countries of origin for foreign VoTs were: Ukraine (7), Moldova (6), Romania (6), Serbia (6) and Bosnia and Herzegovina (5). Croatian victims were identified in: the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2), Serbia (2), Italy (2), Bosnia and Herzegovina (2), Sweden (1) and Spain (1).<sup>81</sup> Among assisted Croatian victims a number of IDPs/refugees were represented.<sup>82</sup>

There is anecdotal evidence on the movement of victims for sexual exploitation by traffickers in and out of Bosnia and Herzegovina to Croatia, in order to evade police detection. International sex tourism and international marriages arranged by agencies are also on the rise.

The National Committee for the Suppression of Trafficking in Persons was established by the Croatian Government in July of 2002. This governmental body is responsible for coordinating all activities in the fight against trafficking and includes not only the relevant government ministries, but also local NGOs, international organizations and media organizations.<sup>83</sup> In December 2004 the Government of the Republic of Croatia adopted

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<sup>79</sup> Western Balkans and the European Institute [2004] *Regional Review of Justice and Home Affairs Policy in the Western Balkan Countries: Croatia*

<http://www.western-balkans.info/htmls/page.php?category=339&id=560&page=22>

<sup>80</sup> US Department of State [2007]: *Trafficking in Persons Report*.

<sup>81</sup> IOM Zagreb [2007]: *Statistics on Victims of Trafficking (VoTs) in Croatia 2002-2006*.

<sup>82</sup> Surtees, R., [2005]: *Second Annual Report on Victims of Trafficking in South-Eastern Europe*. Regional Clearing Point.

<sup>83</sup> Croatian National Committee for Suppression of Trafficking in Persons [2002]: *Country Report on Suppression of Trafficking in Persons*

the National Programme for the Suppression of Trafficking in Persons for the period 2005-2008 as a strategic document which sets the objectives of the efforts to combat trafficking in persons during this four-year period. One of the tasks provided for in the Programme is the adoption of Action Plans for the suppression of trafficking in persons for each year encompassed by the Programme. In 2006, the Committee has adopted the most recent 2007 Action Plan for the Suppression of Trafficking in Persons. Within the National Committee, a Subgroup for Suppression of Trafficking in Children has been established and a two year National Plan for Suppression of Trafficking in Children was adopted in October 2005.

In October 2004, the Government of Croatia enacted legislation that specifically prohibits and punishes trafficking in persons' offences, providing for penalties from one to ten years' imprisonment and a minimum period of imprisonment five years in case of child trafficking.<sup>84</sup> In July 2007 new Aliens' Act with specific legal provisions related to trafficking (temporary residence permits, assistance and protection of victims) was adopted by the Croatian Parliament.

## **6.8. Refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons in the country and relevant policies in place**

A total of 2,003 refugees and 3,516 internally displaced people (IDPs) were registered by the UNHCR by the end of June, 2007. A total of 384,601 returnees to Croatia were registered by UNHCR to date.<sup>85</sup> Between 2004 and 2007 a total of 508 persons applied for asylum in Croatia, of whom only one person was granted refugee status.<sup>86</sup> More than 80,000 registered Croatian refugees remain residing in Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro.<sup>87</sup>

The main constraints to finding a durable solution for both Croatian IDPs and refugees continue to be the issues of tenancy rights, the validation of social rights, and the lack of employment opportunities.<sup>88</sup>

In 1998 the Croatian Parliament adopted the "Return Programme" which first recognized the rights of Croatian Serb refugees to return to Croatia and reclaim their properties.<sup>89</sup> Croatia's aspiration to join the EU has developed further momentum for advancing legal and socio-economic conditions for return and local integration, but there is still great

<sup>84</sup> US Department of State [2004]: *Trafficking in Persons Report*.

<sup>85</sup> UNHCR Croatia [2007]: *Statistical Summary 20/06/2007*.

<sup>86</sup> UNHCR Croatia [2007]: Statistics based on Ministry of Interior of Republic of Croatia data.

<sup>87</sup> Council of Europe [2007]: *Situation of Longstanding Refugees and Displaced Persons in South East Europe*, Report from the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population, Parliamentary Assembly

<sup>88</sup> UNHCR [2006]: *Global Report 2006 – South-Eastern Europe Sub-Regional Overview*

<sup>89</sup> EC [2006]: *Progress Report 2006, Croatia*.

progress to be made. The 2006 EC Progress report acknowledges that there are several remaining obstacles to achieving the sustainable return of Serb refugees. Among these obstacles is an “enduring hostility in certain localities,” housing concerns, access to employment and discrimination, especially in employment in the public sector.<sup>90</sup>

The Law on Asylum, which has been adopted on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2007, lays down the principles, conditions and procedures for the recognition of asylum claims and the granting of temporary protection status. It outlines rights and obligations of asylum seekers, refugees and temporary protection status holders, as well as the conditions and procedures for the revocation of refugee status and termination of temporary protection of aliens in Croatia.

## 6.9. Projects and programmes on migration and development

Please refer to section 6.5 for the Ministry of Science, Education and Sport (MSES) Unity through Knowledge Fund (UKF), supported by the World Bank.

The Croatian Institute for Migration and Ethnicity carried out a research on the Croatian diasporas in 1996-2002. Special attention was paid to the life and work of Croatian migrants in Germany and South Africa to find out more about the issues facing Croatian diasporas in these countries and to estimate their willingness to connect with their home country and/or return.<sup>91</sup>

IOM in Croatia carried out a research on cross-border labour migration flows from Croatia to Italy with focus on shipbuilding, which looked into the issue of brain drain of skilled and high-skilled workers, published in 2005.<sup>92</sup>

## 6.10. Other important migration actors within the country

### International actors

**Croatian Red Cross** is a national, humanitarian and voluntary non-governmental organization comprising county, city and municipality Red Cross branches, acting in compliance with the fundamental principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. CRC's migration department implements programmes for asylum seekers as well as in the field of anti-trafficking, population movements and community development.

<http://www.hck.hr> Ulica Crvenog kriza 14/1, 10001 Zagreb

Tel: +385 1 4655814

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<sup>90</sup> Council of Europe [2007]: *Situation of longstanding refugees and displaced persons in South East Europe*, Report from the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population, Parliamentary Assembly.

<sup>91</sup> [http://www.imin.hr/\\_str.aspx?id=31&tip=2&projekt\\_id=11#projekt](http://www.imin.hr/_str.aspx?id=31&tip=2&projekt_id=11#projekt)

<sup>92</sup> Skupnjak-Kapic, S., Milas, G., Mustapic, M., Karajic, N. [2005]: *Cross-Border Labour Migration Flows Croatia-Italy: Focus on Shipbuilding*, IOM-Zagreb. Available for download from [www.iom.hr](http://www.iom.hr)

*International Organization for Migration (IOM)* Mission to Croatia was established in 1992 and while initially its focus was on the provision of resettlement and health assistance to refugees and internally displaced populations, now its broader mandate concentrates on building up Croatia's migration management standards and capacity to align its migration policies and practises with the EU migration-related *acquis*. At present, IOM office in Zagreb and sub-offices in Split and Osijek implement some fifteen projects ranging from assisting and protecting trafficked victims, training law enforcement and judicial officials on counter-trafficking best practices, researching the incidence of HIV/AIDS amongst Croatian migrant workers, to supporting separated defence personnel in re-entering mainstream society through employment-generation activities.

**<http://www.iom.hr>** Amruševa 10, 1st floor, 10000 Zagreb, P.O. Box 299,  
Tel: +385 1 4816-774, Fax: +385 1 4816-879, E-mail: **[iomzagreb@iom.int](mailto:iomzagreb@iom.int)**

*Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)* Mission to Croatia was established in April 1996. The field presence is concentrated in those areas of Croatia that were most immediately affected by the war and are now considered the main areas of return of refugees and displaced persons. The Mission mandate includes monitoring the implementation of Government programmes for the return of refugees and displaced persons, ensuring respect for human rights and minority rights, improving the functioning of the judiciary, monitoring the repossession of private property, assisting in the establishment of a more community-oriented police service and improving the relationship between local authorities, NGOs and individual citizens.

**<http://www.osce.org/croatia>** Florijana Andraseca 14, 10000 Zagreb  
Tel: +385-1 3096 620, Fax: +385-1 3096 621

*UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)* is present in Croatia since 1991, when its primary task was to provide protection and humanitarian aid to refugees and returnees. Today UNHCR in Croatia promotes and facilitates durable solutions for post-war refugees in Croatia and neighbouring countries and has a counselling role to the Croatian authorities as regards preparation and implementation of asylum acts in accordance with international standards.

**<http://www.unhcr.hr>**, Slovenska 24, 10000 Zagreb  
Tel: +385-1-3713 555, Fax: +385-1-3713 591

*UN Development Programme (UNDP)* - Office of the Resident Representative. UNDP Liaison Office was first established in Croatia in 1996, becoming a fully-fledged Resident Representative Office in 2001. Today the UNDP work in Croatia is focused on five areas: local development, social inclusion, environmental governance, business partnerships and justice and human security.

**<http://www.undp.hr>**, Kesternecekova 1, 10000 Zagreb  
Tel: +385-1-2361 666, Fax: +385-1-2361 660

*World Bank Croatia Country Office* is supporting Croatia's European integration through various institutional and policy reform projects as well as with infrastructure projects. Projects cover areas including the strengthening of market institutions, judicial reform, improving the business climate, improving public administration, and supporting infrastructure and environment. Since the inception of the World Bank's program in Croatia, 31 projects for a total amount of \$1.7 billion have been approved by the World Bank's Board of Directors.

**<http://www.worldbank.hr>**, Radnicka cesta 80/IX, Zagreb  
Tel: +385-1-2357222

USAID in Croatia has two strategic objectives: first to encourage the growth of a dynamic and competitive private sector and secondly, more effective citizen participation and improved governance.

**<http://croatia.usaid.gov>**, 2 Thomas Jefferson Street, 10010 Zagreb  
Tel: +385 (1) 661-2175, Fax: +385 (1) 661-200, **[usaid-zg@zg.htnet.hr](mailto:usaid-zg@zg.htnet.hr)**

### **Local Actors**

*Centre for Peace Studies* is a non-governmental, non-profit organization founded in 1996. It promotes non-violence and social change by linking education, research and activism. CPS is engaged also in the field of asylum. It designed a campaign aimed at affirmation and protection of the right to asylum. Within the campaign a conference „Asylum and Integration policies“ was organized and two publications: „Asylum in Croatia“ and a multi-lingual „Institutional Guide for Asylum Seekers“ were issued.

**<http://www.cms.hr>**\_Nazorova 1, 10000 Zagreb  
Tel: +385 1 4820094

Croatian Helsinki Committee for Human Rights (CHC): Founded in Zagreb in 1993, the CHC is an independent association of Croatian citizens, founded in order to protect and promote human rights.

**<http://www.hho.hr>** Ilica 15/3, 10 000 Zagreb  
Tel. +385 1 4812 322, Fax. +385 1 4812 324, E-mail **[hho@hho.hr](mailto:hho@hho.hr)**

*Croatian Law Centre (CLC)* aims to promote a rule of law in Croatia and focuses its activities in four main areas: protection of human rights, judiciary, public administration and education. Working within the field of human rights protection CLC has kept its focus on the needs of vulnerable and marginalised groups: Roma people and other national minorities, asylum seekers, victims of trafficking, etc. CLC implements several projects on providing free legal aid to asylum seekers, education of actors involved in asylum issues, border monitoring, and raising awareness among media and youth about asylum issues. Recently CLC has been involved in projects tackling the issue of trafficking in persons, in cooperation with IOM.

**<http://www.hpc.hr>** Andrije Hebranga 21, 10000 Zagreb  
Tel: +385-1-4854 934

*PETRA Network* is a non-governmental network that promotes women's human rights, active in Croatia through 9 separate organizations, and internationally active in the field of combating women and child trafficking.

**<http://www.petra-nvo.net>** Email: **[info@petra-nvo.net](mailto:info@petra-nvo.net)** Tel: 0800 77 99