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Item 2

## Smuggling of migrants

### Report of the Secretary-General

#### *Summary*

Smuggling of Migrants is a crime that involves the illegal entry of a person into a state, of which the person is not a national or resident, for financial or material benefits. It is a matter of grave global concern, with almost every country in the world, small or big, getting adversely affected by it as either origin, transit or destination points.

The phenomena jeopardises the integrity of communities, and exposes the smuggled migrants to abuse and exploitation. Owing to the clandestine nature of the crime and the predicament in determining the period of irregular migration, accurate global figures gauging the real size of the crime is a complex matter. Pursuant to General Assembly Resolution 61/252, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice is mandated to function as the governing body of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), which acts as guardian of the Organized Crime Convention and the associated protocols, and assists States in their efforts to implement the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol.

## I. Introduction

1. Smuggling of migrants is a crime defined under international law as “the procurement, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit, of the illegal entry of a person into a State of which the person is not a national or a permanent resident”, according to article 3 (1) of the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air—commonly referred to as the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol—supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.<sup>1</sup>
2. Article 6 of the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol, requires States to criminalize both smuggling of migrants and enabling a person to remain in a country illegally in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit, as well as to establish as aggravating circumstances acts that endanger the lives or safety or entail inhuman or degrading treatment of migrants. By virtue of article 5, migrants are not liable to criminal prosecution for the fact of having been smuggled. It is therefore understood that the Protocol aims to target smugglers, not the people being smuggled.<sup>2</sup>
3. The smugglers’ profits stem from the fees they charge migrants for their services. The fees are largely determined by the distance of the smuggling trajectory, number of border crossings, geographic conditions, means of transport, the use of fraudulent travel or identity documents, risk of detection and others. The fees are not fixed, and may change according to the migrants’ profiles and their perceived wealth. For example, Syrian citizens are often charged more than many other migrants for smuggling along the Mediterranean routes (an extra charge that may or may not lead to a safer or more comfortable journey).<sup>3</sup>
4. According to UNODC, there are three basic differences between smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, as summarized below:<sup>4</sup>
  - a. Source of profit. The primary source of profit and thus also the primary purpose of trafficking in persons is exploitation. In contrast, smugglers generate their profit through facilitating illegal entry or stay. After a migrant has been enabled to illegally enter or stay in a country, the relationship between migrant and smuggler usually ends.
  - b. Transnationality. Smuggling of migrants always has a transnational dimension involving at least two countries. The objective of smuggling of migrants is always to facilitate the illegal entry or stay of a person from country A in(to) country B. Trafficking in persons may also involve the illegal entry or stay of a person, but it does not always. The transportation and stay of a victim of trafficking in persons can also

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 2241, No. 39574.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, “A short introduction to migrant smuggling”, Issue Paper, 2010; see also Matthias Neske, “Human smuggling to and through Germany”, *International Migration*, vol. 44, No. 4 (2006).

<sup>3</sup> UNODC, *Global Study on Smuggling of Migrants 2018* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.18.IV.9).

<sup>4</sup> United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, “A short introduction to migrant smuggling”, Issue Paper, 2010.

occur in a legal way. That is, victims of trafficking are not limited to the group of people who do not have legal opportunities to migrate. Moreover, trafficking in persons may occur within the home country of the victim without involving any border crossings.

c. **Victimization.** Smuggling of migrants does not necessarily involve the victimization of the migrant. Smuggled migrants generally consent to be smuggled. However, other crimes are often committed against smuggled migrants during the smuggling process, involving violence or endangerment. It is also possible that smuggled migrants might retract their consent during a smuggling operation.<sup>5</sup> In contrast to smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons is always a crime against a person. Victims of trafficking have either never consented—e.g. if they have been abducted or sold—or, if they have given initial consent, their consent became meaningless because of the means the traffickers used to gain control over them, such as deception or violence.

5. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes that migration is a powerful driver of sustainable development, for migrants themselves and their communities. It brings significant benefits in the form of skills, strengthening the labour force, investment and cultural diversity, and contributes to improving the lives of communities in their countries of origin through the transfer of skills and financial resources.<sup>6</sup>

6. According to Salt and Stein, smuggling of migrants is an established branch of a well-organized “international gangster syndicate”. The concept of “organized criminal group” is defined by article 2 (a) of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime as a structured group composed of at least three persons, acting in concert with the aim of committing one or more serious crimes to obtain financial or material benefit.<sup>7</sup> According to Bhabha, there is a widely held view that smuggling of migrants consists of a “transnational highly structured and tightly controlled multi-million dollar, mafia-like criminal network, transporting in addition to humans, weapons, organs and drugs”.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>55</sup> According to the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, the issue of migrants’ consent to be smuggled is very complex. Once an irregular migrant is intercepted, it is up to the States to determine the migrant’s level of complicity in the mode of irregular entry. Much latitude is then left for the assignment of culpability or, by contrast, of victimization, which is a factor in determining the level of protection that the migrants may receive (see A/HRC/7/12).

<sup>6</sup> IOM, “Migrant and Development”, Available at <https://www.iom.int/migration-and-development> (accessed on 4 December 2019).

<sup>7</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

<sup>8</sup> Jacqueline Bhabha, “Human smuggling, migration and human rights”, working paper prepared for the International Council on Human Rights Policy Review Meeting, “Migration: Human Rights Protection of Smuggled Persons”, Geneva, 25-26 July 2006.

7. The network theory shows that, from places of origin to countries of destination, migrants are connected through ties of kinship, friendship and ethnicity.<sup>9</sup>
8. The demand for smuggling services is particularly high among refugees who, for lack of other means, may need to use smugglers to reach a safe destination fleeing their origin countries. Data suggests that many smuggling flows include unaccompanied or separated children, who might be particularly vulnerable to deception and abuse by smugglers and others. In 2016, nearly 34,000 unaccompanied and separated children arrived in Europe (in Greece, Italy, Bulgaria and Spain).<sup>10</sup>
9. According to the International Organization for Migration, there are thousands of deaths due to migrant smuggling activities each year. Many smuggled migrants die from drowning, whereas others perish due to accidents or extreme terrain and weather conditions. According to records, the Mediterranean appears to be the deadliest route, with around 50 per cent of the total number of deaths.<sup>11</sup>
10. Smuggling routes can be affected by long detours and last-minute changes in the itinerary to take advantage of certain border policies or weaknesses in border control. The routes may originate and end on the same continent, be transcontinental or involve transiting through a third continent. More than thirty main smuggling routes have been identified. Along these routes, UNODC found that a minimum of 2.5 million migrants were smuggled in 2016, generating a minimum annual income for smugglers of about US\$5.5 to 7 billion.<sup>12</sup>
11. There are many different ways of smuggling migrants; they range from simple to complex, from safe to dangerous and from cheap to very costly. The level of safety and ease of reaching the destination are dependent on the amount of money paid. Migrants with little financial means may opt for a "pay-as-you-go" package in which they pay bit by bit for different parts of the journey to smugglers who may not be linked with one another. These migrants are more likely to become stranded and be exposed to abuse. The more comprehensive "package deals" may be quicker, safer and have a higher guarantee of success, but they can also be considerably more expensive.<sup>13</sup>
12. Smugglers advertise their business where migrants can be easily reached. This includes neighbourhoods that are home to diaspora communities, refugee camps or various

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<sup>9</sup> Emma Herman, "Migration as a family business: the role of personal networks in the mobility phase of migration", *International Migration*, vol. 44, No. 4 (2006), p. 198.

<sup>10</sup> UNODC, *Global Study on Smuggling of Migrants 2018* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.18.IV.9).

<sup>11</sup> IOM, Migration Data Portal. Available at <https://migrationdataportal.org/themen/menschenschmuggel> (accessed on 4 December 2019).

<sup>12</sup> UNODC, *Global Study on Smuggling of Migrants 2018* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.18.IV.9).

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*

social networks online. To make a decision, migrants then rely on the opinion of their communities, relatives and friends, and more recently, of social media.<sup>14</sup>

13. The profiles of smugglers vary. In some cases, smuggling involves unconnected or loosely connected individuals who profit modestly from smuggling services. The livelihood of these individuals may depend on the smuggling market that exists in their communities. In other cases, smuggling is carried out by members of sophisticated and often unscrupulous organizations which may make large profits from the smuggling, and/or from the extortion and exploitation of migrants.<sup>15</sup>

14. Organizing the smuggling of migrants might range from pre-planned, highly sophisticated smuggling operations involving different methods (such as first travelling openly with falsified documents, then being guided over a green border on foot and finally driven hidden in a lorry over a border) to simple smuggling services (such as guiding a migrant over the green border) that were negotiated on an ad hoc basis between the migrant “on the move” and the smuggler (e.g. in a border town). Similarly, the number of actors involved (that is, criminals involved in a smuggling operation) can vary considerably. Also their relationship to each other can take various forms.<sup>16</sup>

15. Too often, it is assumed that the smuggling of migrants is a business dominated by hierarchically organized criminal groups who utilize existing smuggling routes (for example, those used for drug trafficking) and adapt various *modi operandi* to deal with a different commodity — migrants. This might be true in certain countries and regions, but there are also large numbers of smaller, flexible criminal groups or individual criminals that interact when necessary. Although these groups may form networks, these networks should not be confused with a unified organization characterized by a “mafia”-style hierarchy.<sup>17</sup>

16. The first type of migrant smuggling is ad-hoc smuggling services, where the smuggling process is not pre-organized. Migrants organize their journey themselves with the occasional use of local smugglers, since the migrant usually does not have sufficient financial or logistical options for being smuggled in other ways. It is rare that families rely on this way of being smuggled. The other common types of migrant smuggling are through misuse or abuse of documents, or illegal residence through sham marriages.<sup>18</sup>

## II. Challenges

17. The smuggling of migrants and the activities related to it is a truly global concern, generating enormous profits for the criminals involved. It also fuels corruption and organized

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<sup>14</sup> Ibid.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid.

<sup>16</sup> United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, “A short introduction to migrant smuggling”, Issue Paper, 2010.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid

<sup>18</sup> Matthias Neske, “*Human smuggling to and through Germany*” in *International Migration*, vol. 44, No. 4 (October 2006).

crime in countries of origin, transit and destination. The smuggling of migrants is a deadly business – which has cost several thousand people their lives – and must be eradicated.<sup>19</sup>

18. Socio-economic conditions, insecurity and environmental disasters often drive large migration movements. The demand for migrant smuggling largely stems from limited opportunities for legal migration and proactive recruitment and misinformation by smugglers.<sup>20</sup>

19. Criminals are increasingly providing smuggling services to irregular migrants to evade national border controls, migration regulations and visa requirements. Most irregular migrants resort to the assistance of profit-seeking smugglers. As border controls are improved, migrants are deterred from attempting to cross them irregularly on their own and are diverted into the hands of smugglers.<sup>21</sup>

20. Smugglers of migrants are becoming more and more organized, establishing professional networks that transcend borders and encompass all regions. As with other forms of organized crime, the groups concerned have increased their operations by shifting routes in a bid to expand into other markets and circumvent the responses of States. Criminal groups have merged or formed cooperative relationships, expanding their geographical reach and the range of their criminal activities. Some criminal groups view migrants as simply one of many commodities to be smuggled, alongside drugs and firearms. Since the smuggling of migrants is a highly profitable illicit activity with a relatively low risk of detection and punishment, it is attractive to criminals.<sup>22</sup>

21. The modus operandi of migrant smugglers is diverse. Highly sophisticated and expensive services rely on document fraud or 'visa-smuggling'. Contrasted with these are low cost methods which often pose high risks for migrants, and have led to a dramatic increase in loss of life in recent years.<sup>23</sup>

22. Migrant smugglers constantly change routes and modus operandi in response to changed circumstances often at the expense of the safety of smuggled migrants. Smuggled migrants are vulnerable to life-threatening risks, abuse and exploitation; thousands of people have suffocated in containers, perished in deserts or dehydrated at sea, and have lost their lives as a result of the indifferent or even deliberate actions of migrant smugglers.<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, “A short introduction to migrant smuggling”, Issue Paper, 2010.

<sup>20</sup> UNODC, Global Study on Smuggling of Migrants 2018 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.18.IV.9).

<sup>21</sup> United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, “A short introduction to migrant smuggling”, Issue Paper, 2010.

<sup>22</sup> Available at <https://www.unodc.org/toc/en/crimes/migrant-smuggling.html>(accessed on 28 September 2019).

<sup>23</sup> Available at <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/smuggling-of-migrants.html>(accessed on 23 September 2019).

<sup>24</sup> Ibid.

23. Systematic killings of migrants have also been reported along most smuggling routes. But smuggled migrants are also vulnerable to a range of other forms of crime such as violence, rape, theft, kidnapping, extortion and trafficking in persons.<sup>25</sup>

24. These challenges highlight the necessity of devising immediate responses to combat the crime of migrant smuggling, which has to be coordinated between and across regions, and adaptable to new methods. UN Office on Drugs and Crime initialises efforts in implementing the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol, and pursuant to GA RES 61/252, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice has been mandated to function as the governing body of UNODC, and provide a comprehensive solution to the predicament of migrant smuggling, while also providing resources for technical assistance to prevent this crime.<sup>26</sup>

### III. Recommendations and suggestions, priorities for future action

25. The absence or inadequacy of national legislation to address the smuggling of migrants in many parts of the world often means that smugglers of migrants can continue to commit the crime with little fear of being brought to justice. Responses by States often target migrants, leaving smugglers, and especially organized criminal groups, which are more difficult to apprehend, at large. Only a limited number of States have specific policies and mechanisms in place aimed at countering the smuggling of migrants, and a lack of capacity to investigate and prosecute the crime means that criminal justice systems are often unable to meet the challenge of combating it. Beyond this, failure to secure smuggled migrants as witnesses means that prosecutions are often difficult and opportunities to convict are missed. Moreover, the smuggling of migrants is not always considered a serious crime for which a heavy penalty could be imposed. Ensuring that priority is given to investigating higher-level smugglers and taking due account of aggravating circumstances in the prosecution of cases involving the smuggling of migrants could have a deterrent effect on organized criminal groups.<sup>27</sup>

26. A holistic approach to counter smuggling of migrants needs to take into account not only the geography of the crime, but also its different contributing factors.<sup>28</sup>

27. Making regular migration opportunities more accessible in origin countries and refugee camps, including the expansion of migration and asylum bureaux in origin areas, would reduce opportunities for smugglers.<sup>29</sup>

28. The Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air lays out the protection and assistance measures for migrants who have been subject to violence and abuses during the course of smuggling, in its Article 16, which needs to be strictly adhered to by all State Parties, acting under their obligation to international law.

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<sup>25</sup> UNODC, Global Study on Smuggling of Migrants 2018 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.18.IV.9).

<sup>26</sup> Available at <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CCPCJ/index.html> (accessed on 23 September 2019).

<sup>27</sup> Available at <https://www.unodc.org/toc/en/crimes/migrant-smuggling.html> (accessed on 29 September 2019).

<sup>28</sup> UNODC, Global Study on Smuggling of Migrants 2018 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.18.IV.9).

<sup>29</sup> Ibid.

29. Organized criminal groups turn to smuggling of migrants only for the profit that it generates. Following the money trail by launching financial investigations and freezing, seizing and confiscating assets, as well as looking for examples of money-laundering, could have a direct impact on such profits. Making the smuggling of migrants an unprofitable crime would discourage organized criminal groups from becoming involved in it.<sup>30</sup>

30. The smuggling of migrants is by nature a transnational crime, and the smugglers involved work in networks. Key to combating the smuggling of migrants, therefore, is the need to increase international cooperation, reinforce national coordination and ensure that the laws in the countries involved are harmonized in order to close loopholes. Only by ensuring that actors within countries of origin, transit and destination work together can the smuggling of migrants be stopped. The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the Convention, are essential to addressing the crime.<sup>31</sup>

31. The work of UNODC in countering the smuggling of migrants focuses on assisting States in implementing the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol and in enacting laws criminalizing involvement in the smuggling of migrants and on training law enforcement officers and prosecutors from around the world. To break up the criminal networks behind smuggling of migrants, there needs to be enhanced cooperation with Organizations such as the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL).

32. There is also a need to look at immigration controls in a new way, placing sharper focus on the institutions and vested interests involved rather than on the migrants themselves.<sup>32</sup>

33. UNODC should continue defining more and more categories of smugglers based on actual empirical research. Apart from defining smuggling as a crime if it involves “financial or other material benefits”, it is also important to find out when and how the smuggler gets their payment and how this fact contribute to the abusive or non-abusive nature of smuggling.<sup>33</sup>

34. The United Nations should define the motives and incentives of smuggler helpers, also based on the way they benefit from smuggling, like in the case of boat owners, locals who serve as spotters, contacts, etc. The criminalization of every subject who gets in contact with smugglers and/or migrants should be revisited.<sup>34</sup>

35. In the context of migration and displacement of people, social media should be a tool for safety. Networks for connection/help of refugees should be supported officially, whereas

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<sup>30</sup> Available at <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/smuggling-of-migrants.html> (accessed on 23 September 2019).

<sup>31</sup> Ibid.

<sup>32</sup> Salt and Stein, “*Migration as a business: the case of trafficking*”, p. 485.

<sup>33</sup> United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *THE IMPACT OF SOCIAL MEDIA ON THE SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS*, Final Paper, 2017, p. 20.

<sup>34</sup> Ibid.



networks of criminals/frauds should be tracked down. This would lead to a desirable decriminalization of such communication.<sup>35</sup>

36. Migrants should not be prosecuted based on intrusion into their privacy. Their human rights should be respected even in the context of their communication and self-representation on social media.<sup>36</sup>

37. Raising awareness in communities of origin, and particularly in refugee camps, about the dangers involved in smuggling may also help reduce the demand for smuggling services.<sup>37</sup>

38. Data collection, analysis and research on smuggling of migrants remain at their infancy. To build a solid international body of knowledge to support policy making in the area of smuggling of migrant, there is a need to improve data collection systems at the national, regional and international levels.<sup>38</sup>

39. Member States also should revise domestic law on criminalization of citizens enabling the illegal stay, but not entry, of migrants directly or indirectly. This concerns that it should be allowed that migrants buy train/plane tickets, drive their own car, share resources, etc. Even the border policy of member states should be revisited. While an uncontrolled admission of people cannot be possible regarding the rights of the state to protect its citizens, it should not be overseen that migrants are also entitled to the basic human rights.<sup>39</sup>

40. The underlying social, economic and political pressures that fuel the crime cannot be ignored. Unemployment, war and persecution are but three of the many reasons people decide to leave their home country. Pull factors include demand for cheap, undocumented labour in countries of destination. To better understand these dynamics and fully address the root causes of migration in order to prevent organized criminal groups from profiting from vulnerable groups such as migrants, a comprehensive response is required - one that involves examining the issues of migration and development, and one that is based upon a multi-dimensional partnership involving States,<sup>40</sup> civil society actors, academia, the media, state institutions and international organizations.

#### IV. Further reading

<https://undocs.org/A/RES/55/25>  
Smuggling of Migrants Protocol

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<sup>35</sup> Ibid, p. 21.

<sup>36</sup> Ibid, p. 22.

<sup>37</sup> UNODC, Global Study on Smuggling of Migrants 2018 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.18.IV.9).

<sup>38</sup> Ibid.

<sup>39</sup> United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, *THE IMPACT OF SOCIAL MEDIA ON THE SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS*, Final Paper, 2017, p. 21.

<sup>40</sup> United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, "A short introduction to migrant smuggling", Issue Paper, 2010.

<https://sherloc.unodc.org/cld/en/v3/som/>

Knowledge Management Portal on Migrant Smuggling

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/CTOC/working-group-on-the-smuggling-of-migrants-2019.html>

Working Group on the Smuggling of Migrants

[https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant-Smuggling/Issue-Papers/Issue\\_Paper\\_-\\_A\\_short\\_introduction\\_to\\_migrant\\_smuggling.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant-Smuggling/Issue-Papers/Issue_Paper_-_A_short_introduction_to_migrant_smuggling.pdf)

A short introduction to migrant smuggling, Issue Paper, UNODC (2010)

[https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant-Smuggling/Smuggling\\_of\\_Migrants\\_A\\_Global\\_Review.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant-Smuggling/Smuggling_of_Migrants_A_Global_Review.pdf)

Smuggling of Migrants: A Global Review (2011)

[https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glosom/GLOSOM\\_2018\\_web\\_small.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glosom/GLOSOM_2018_web_small.pdf)

Global Study on Smuggling of Migrants, UNODC (2018)

[https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Model\\_Law\\_Smuggling\\_of\\_Migrants\\_10-52715\\_Ebook.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Model_Law_Smuggling_of_Migrants_10-52715_Ebook.pdf)

Model Law against the Smuggling of Migrants

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/migrant-smuggling/electronic-basic-training-manual-on-investigating-and-prosecuting-smuggling-of-migrants.html>

Basic training modules on preventing and combating migrant smuggling

[https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant-Smuggling/In-Depth\\_Training\\_Manual\\_SOM\\_en\\_wide\\_use.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant-Smuggling/In-Depth_Training_Manual_SOM_en_wide_use.pdf)

In-Depth Training Manual on Investigating and Prosecuting the Smuggling of Migrants

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/human-trafficking/migrant-smuggling/toolkit-to-combat-smuggling-of-migrants.html>

A toolkit to combat smuggling of migrants

[https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant-Smuggling/Issue-Papers/Issue\\_Paper\\_-\\_Smuggling\\_of\\_Migrants\\_by\\_Sea.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant-Smuggling/Issue-Papers/Issue_Paper_-_Smuggling_of_Migrants_by_Sea.pdf)

Issue Paper: Smuggling of Migrants by Sea (2011)

<https://www.unhcr.org/protection/operations/43662b942/unhcr-summary-position-protocol-against-smuggling-migrants-land-sea-air.html>

UNHCR's summary position on Smuggling of Migrants Protocol

[https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant\\_smuggling\\_in\\_North\\_Africa\\_June\\_2010\\_ebook\\_E\\_09-87293.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant_smuggling_in_North_Africa_June_2010_ebook_E_09-87293.pdf)

Smuggling of Migrants into, through and from North Africa: A thematic review and annotated bibliography of recent publications

[https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant-Smuggling/Report\\_SOM\\_West\\_Africa\\_EU.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant-Smuggling/Report_SOM_West_Africa_EU.pdf)

The Role of Organized Crime in the Smuggling of Migrants from West Africa to the European Union

[https://www.unodc.org/documents/southeastasiaandpacific/Publications/2015/som/Current\\_Trends\\_and\\_Related\\_Challenges\\_web.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/southeastasiaandpacific/Publications/2015/som/Current_Trends_and_Related_Challenges_web.pdf)

Migrant Smuggling in Asia: Current Trends and Challenges, UNODC (2015)

[https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/migrant\\_smuggling\\_data\\_vol2\\_0.pdf](https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/migrant_smuggling_data_vol2_0.pdf)

Migrant Smuggling Data and Research: A global review of the emerging evidence base, Volume 2

[https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant-Smuggling/Framework\\_for\\_Action\\_Smuggling\\_of\\_Migrants.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Migrant-Smuggling/Framework_for_Action_Smuggling_of_Migrants.pdf)

International Framework for Action to implement the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol

[https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/UNODC\\_Partnership\\_Opportunities.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/UNODC_Partnership_Opportunities.pdf)

UNODC Global Programme against Smuggling of Migrants

[https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/tocta/TOCTA\\_Report\\_2010\\_low\\_res.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/tocta/TOCTA_Report_2010_low_res.pdf)

The Globalization of Crime: A Transnational Organized Crime Threat Assessment (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.10.IV.6), Chapter 3: Smuggling of Migrants

[https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/180711\\_final\\_draft\\_0.pdf](https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/180711_final_draft_0.pdf)

Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration