

Rome and the Visa White List Campaign (February 2009)

Liberalisation in an era of fatigue



Strict but fair (March 2009)

“We strongly support the visa liberalisation process, which creates real incentives for Western Balkan countries to undertake EU-guided measures that are effective in enhancing the security both of their own citizens and the EU's. The process also promises to mobilise support in the Balkans for a wider European reform agenda and to enhance the EU's credibility in the region.

We call on leaders in the Western Balkans to carry out the required reforms. We are glad to see civil society in the region increase efforts to monitor progress. We call on EU leaders and institutions to take this process seriously. The EU must not postpone rewarding countries that have made serious efforts to meet its demanding conditions. It is appropriate for the EU to be strict; it is incumbent upon it to be fair.”

EU VISA roadmaps: VISUALISING what had to be done

ESI Grade Report Bosnia and Herzegovina

	ESI
I. Visa Facilitation and Readmission	
Readmission agreement	1
Visa facilitation agreement	no info
II. Document Security, Illegal Migration, Public Order and Security, and External Relations	
Block 1: Document security	
Commission: "does not yet fully meet all the benchmarks specified in block 1" (3-)	
1.1 Issue biometric passports in line with ICAO and EC standards	3+
1.2 Ensure integrity and security of the personalisation & distribution process	3+
1.3 Establish anti-corruption training & ethical codes for officials (passports, visas)	3
1.4 Report lost and stolen passports to Interpol/LASP database	3+
1.5 Ensure a high level of security of breeder documents and ID cards, incl. issuance procedures	3
Block 2: Illegal Migration including Readmission	
Commission: "does not yet fully meet all the benchmarks specified in block 2" (3-)	
2.1.1 Adopt and implement Nat. Integrated Border Management Strategy and Action Plan	3+
2.1.2 Adopt and implement legislation on movement of persons at the external borders, legislation on border authorities	2-
2.1.3 Take budgetary and other measures ensuring infrastructure, equipment, IT at external borders	3
2.1.4 Establish anti-corruption training & ethical codes for officials (border management)	2+
2.1.5 Conclude working arrangement with FRONTEX	1
2.2.1 Implement carrier's responsibility (in the Law on Movements and Stay of Aliens and Asylum)	1
2.3.1 Implement asylum legislation (in the Law on Movements and Stay of Aliens and Asylum)	2+
2.3.2 Provide adequate infrastructure (reception centres for asylum seekers) & strengthen bodies responsible for asylum procedures	1-
2.4.1 Mechanism to monitor migration flows (incl. migration profile), set up responsible bodies	2-
2.4.2 Adopt and implement national returnee reintegration strategy	3+
2.4.3 Conduct inland detection, investigations of org. facilitated illegal migration	3+
2.4.4 Implement the Law on Movement and Stay of Aliens and Asylum	1-
2.4.5 Ensure expulsion of illegally residing third-country nationals	1-
Block 3: Public order and security	
Commission: "does not yet fully meet the benchmarks under block 3" (3-)	
3.1.1 Implement 2006 strategy to fight organised crime and corruption (in particular cross-border aspects) by adopting & implementing the foreseen action plans	3+
3.1.2 Adopt and implement strategy and action plan to fight trafficking in human beings	1-
3.1.3 Adopt and implement strategy to fight money laundering and financing of terrorism, implement legislation on confiscation of assets of criminals	3+
3.1.4 Adopt and implement strategy and action plan to fight drug trafficking, info at border crossing points about drug seizures and persons involved, internat. cooperation	3+
3.1.5 Implement National Anti-Corruption Strategy and action plan, take additional measures	3+
3.1.6 Implement relevant UN and CoE conventions as well as GRECO recommendations in the areas listed above and the fight against terrorism	3+
3.2.1 Implement internat. conventions on judicial cooperation in criminal matters	2+
3.2.2 Improve judicial cooperation in criminal matters with EU MS and regional countries	3+
3.2.3 Develop working relations with Eurojust	1
3.3.1 Improve law enforcement co-operation among relevant national agencies	3+
3.3.2 Set up coordination mechanisms for information exchange between national agencies	3+
3.3.3 Improve law enforcement cooperation and info exchange regionally and with EU MS	2-
3.3.4 Improve operational and special investigative capacity of law enforcement services to tackle cross-border crime	3+
3.3.5 Prepare operational cooperation agreement with Europol	3+
3.4.1 Implement 2006 Law on Data Protection, set up supervisory authority	3+
3.4.2 Implement internat. conventions on personal data protection	unclear
Block 4: External Relations and Fundamental Rights	
Commission: "on the right track to meet the benchmarks under this block" (3+)	
4.1.1 Ensure freedom of movement for citizens without discrimination	2-
4.2.1 Ensure access to travel and identity documents for all citizens	1-
4.2.2 Ensure access to identity documents for IDPs and refugees	2
4.3.1 Adopt and enforce legislation on anti-discrimination	3+
4.3.2 Implement law on citizenship	1-
4.3.3 Ensure investigation of ethnically motivated incidents in the area of freedom of movement	2-
4.3.4 Ensure respect for constitutional provisions on protection of minorities	2
4.3.5 Implement relevant policies regarding minorities, including Roma	1-
Final remark	
Visa refusal rate and entry refusal rate	no info
Implementation of EU joint actions on travel bans	no info

Identify specific objectives

Block 2: Illegal Migration including Readmission	
Commission: "FYROM ... appears to generally meet the benchmarks set under Block 2" (1-)	
2.1.1 Implement legislation on movement of persons at the external borders & law on border authorities in line with the 2003 National Integrated Border Management Strategy	1-
2.1.2 Take budgetary and other measures ensuring efficient infrastructure, equipment, IT at borders	2+
2.1.3 Establish anti-corruption training & ethical codes for officials (border management)	1-
2.1.4 Conclude a working arrangement with FRONTEX	1
2.2.1 [Adopt and] implement legislation on carrier's responsibility	1
2.3.1 Implement the asylum legislation in line with internat. Standards	1-
2.3.2 Provide adequate infrastructure (reception centres for asylum seekers) & strengthen bodies responsible for asylum procedures	1-
2.4.1 Mechanism to monitor migration flows (incl. migration profile), set up responsible bodies	2+
2.4.2 Adopt and implement integration policy for migrants incl. sustainable financial & social support	2+
2.4.3 Conduct inland detection, improve capacity to investigate org. facilitated illegal migration	2
2.4.4 Implement a law on the admission and stay of third-country nationals	1
2.4.5 Ensure expulsion of illegally residing third-country nationals	1

Highlight progress ON SPECIFIC ISSUES

comparison of Bosnia over time

Block 2: Illegal Migration including Readmission ESI/Popolari assessment: BiH generally meets the benchmarks under block 2.		
2.1.1 Adopt and implement Nat. Integrated Border Management Strategy and Action Plan	3+	1-
2.1.2 Adopt and implement legislation on movement of persons at the external borders, legislation on border authorities	2-	1
2.1.3 Take budgetary and other measures ensuring infrastructure, equipment, IT at external borders	3	2+
2.1.4 Establish anti-corruption training & ethical codes for officials (border management)	2+	1-
2.1.5 Conclude working arrangement with FRONTEX	1	1
2.2.1 Implement carrier's responsibility (in the Law on Movements and Stay of Aliens and Asylum)	1	1
2.3.1 Implement asylum legislation (in the Law on Movements and Stay of Aliens and Asylum)	2+	1
2.3.2 Provide adequate infrastructure (reception centres for asylum seekers) & strengthen bodies responsible for asylum procedures	1-	1-
2.4.1 Mechanism to monitor migration flows (incl. migration profile), set up responsible bodies	2-	1-
2.4.2 Adopt and implement national returnee reintegration strategy	3+	2
2.4.3 Conduct inland detection, investigations of org. facilitated illegal migration	3+	2
2.4.4 Implement the Law on Movement and Stay of Aliens and Asylum	1-	1
2.4.5 Ensure expulsion of illegally residing third-country nationals	1-	1

Turning assessments into gripping images

	Albania (May 2009)	Bosnia & Herzegovina (May 2009)	Bosnia & Herzegovina (Sept. 2009)	Macedonia (May 2009)	Montenegro (May 2009)	Serbia (May 2009)
Block 1: Document security	3	3	1	1	1	1
Block 2: Illegal migration incl. readmission	3	3	1	1	2	2
Block 3: Public order and security	3	3	2	1	2	2
Block 4: External relations and fundamental rights	3	3	1	1	2	2
Average	3	3	1.25	1	1.75	1.75