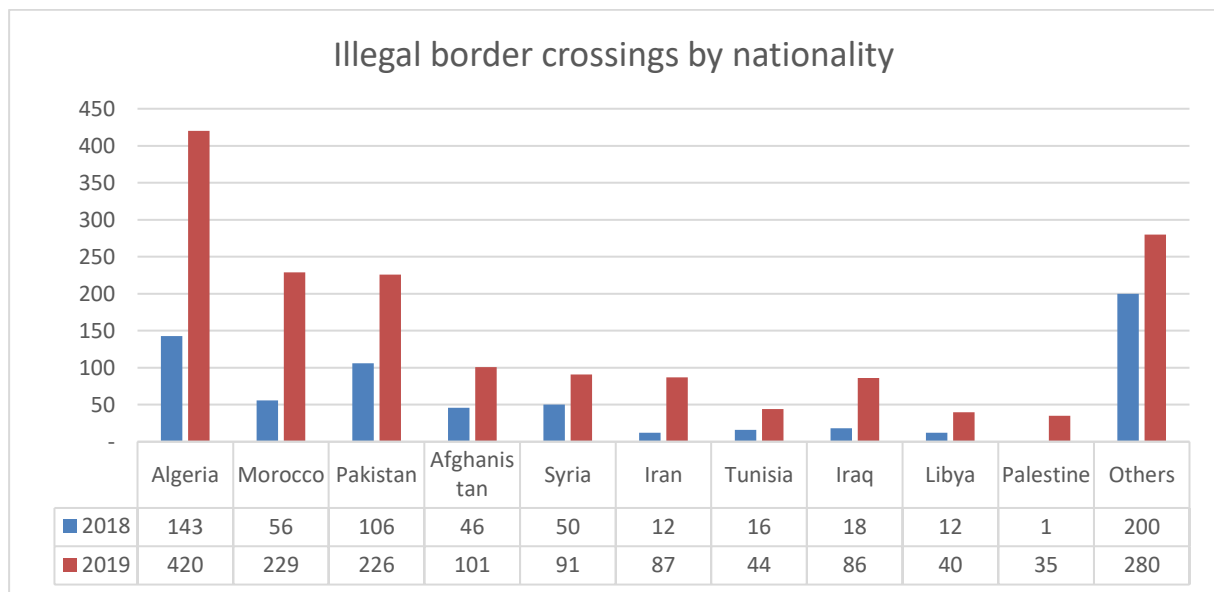


## ILLEGAL MIGRATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA

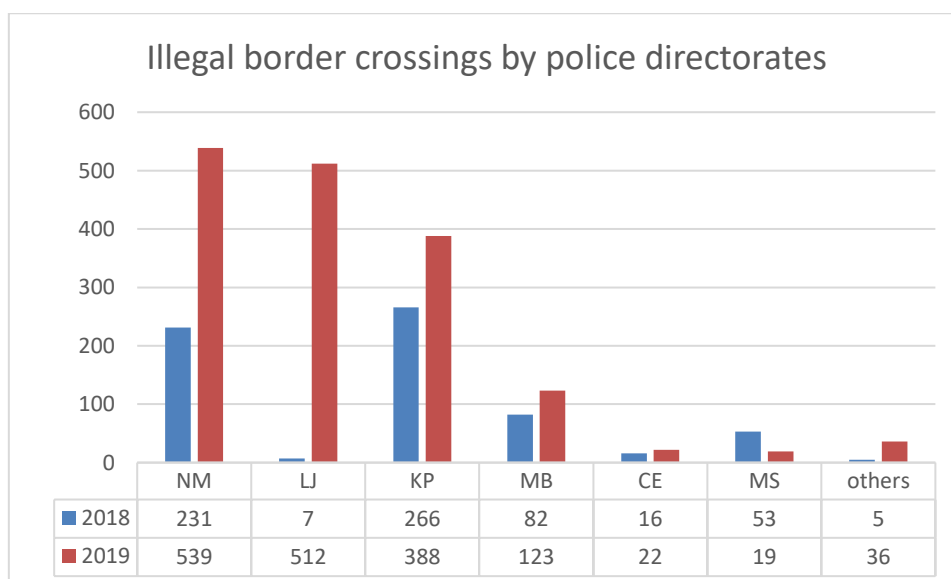
Between January 1 and March 31, 2019, the police recorded a total of 1,639 (660) illegal crossings of the state border of the Republic of Slovenia. The number increased by 148.3% compared to the same period last year.

Algerian, Moroccan and Pakistani nationals were the three largest groups registered in the first three months of 2019.

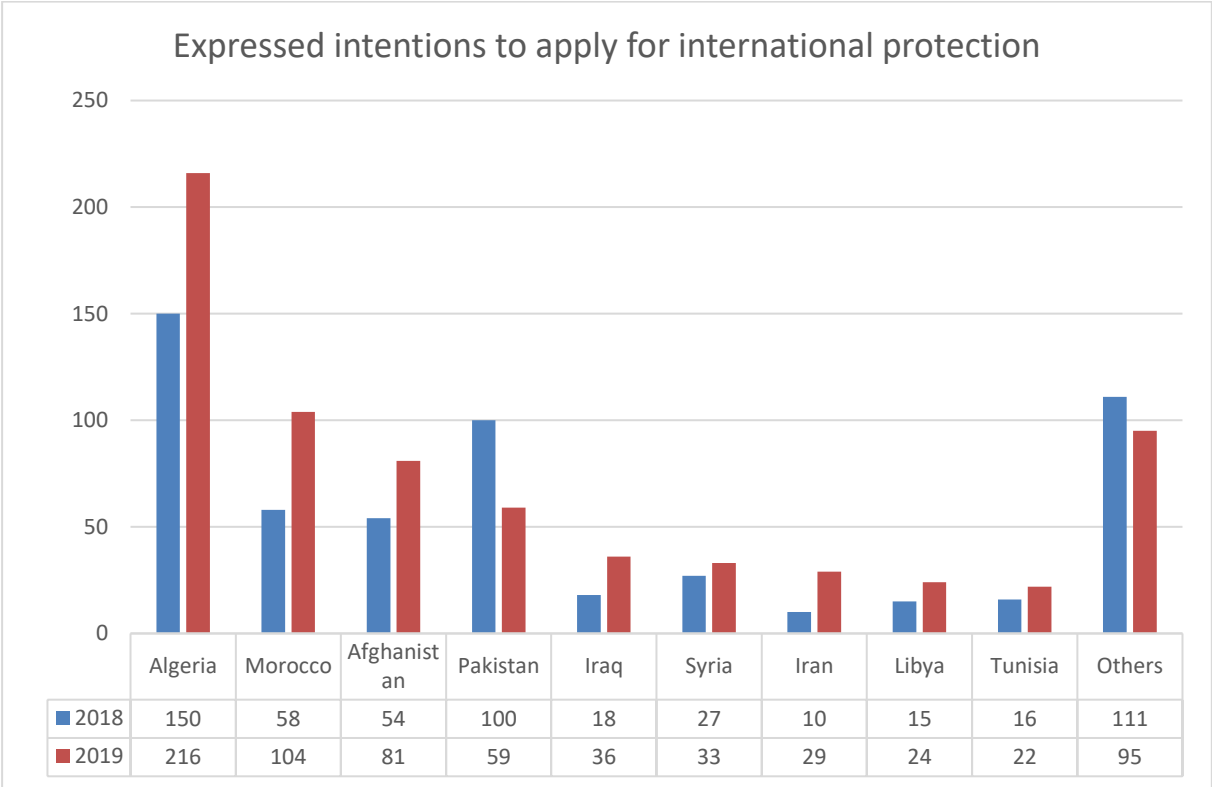
### Overview of illegal crossings by nationality:



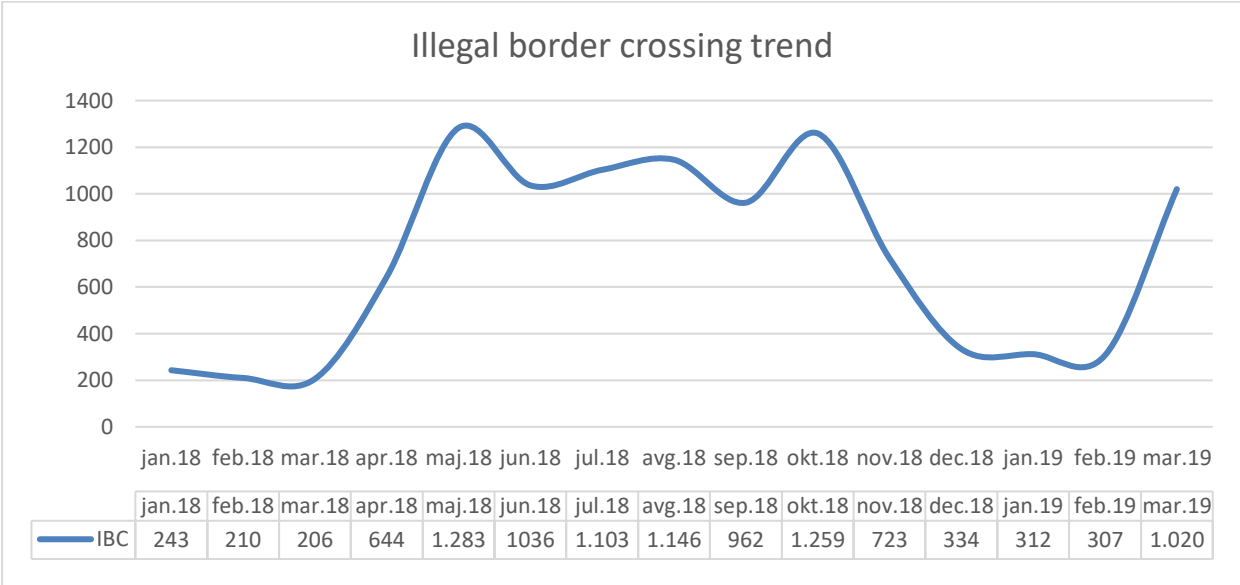
The majority of illegal crossings was dealt with by Novo mesto Police Directorate (NM). Ljubljana Police Directorate (LJ) registered a slightly lower number of illegal arrivals, but still observed an increasing trend. The data are presented below.



In the first quarter of 2019, 699 illegal migrants declared their intention to file an application for international protection. Among these, Algerians were by far the largest group. The number of persons declaring their intention to apply for international protection reported in the same period last year was 559. The applicants were handed over to the authority responsible for international protection.



This year's number of illegal crossings has been increasing with greater intensity than last year.



## Unauthorised entry at internal borders

During police checks within the country or upon exit at the external border, 179 (176) foreigners were found to have made an unauthorised entry into Slovenia at its internal borders without a proper travel document or permit (e.g. residence permit or visa). This represents a slight increase compared to the number of refused persons registered in the same period last year.

### *Unauthorised entry at internal borders by nationality*

Border	Austria		Italy		Hungary		Air borders		Total	
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
<b>Pakistan</b>	2	0	3	22	0	0	0	0	5	22
<b>Albania</b>	2	2	15	14	1	0	0	0	18	16
<b>China</b>	0	2	20	10	0	0	0	0	20	12
<b>Bosnia and Herzegovina</b>	13	9	4	3	0	0	0	0	17	12
<b>Kosovo</b>	3	3	3	7	0	1	0	0	6	11
<b>Others</b>	41	30	63	72	6	4	0	0	110	106
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>179</b>

## Refusals of entry at Slovenia's border crossing points

As a result of non-compliance with the conditions for entry into the Republic of Slovenia or other EU Member States, a total of 1,234 (1,083) third country nationals were rejected at border crossing points in accordance with the Schengen Borders Code. The majority of these were refused entry into Slovenia on the land border (with Croatia). The trend increased by 13.9%. The statistical data are presented in the table.

### *Entry refusals by nationality*

Nationality / Border	Land borders		Air borders		Sea borders		Total	
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
<b>Albania</b>	226	354	57	83	0	0	<b>283</b>	<b>437</b>
<b>Serbia</b>	205	222	2	1	0	0	<b>207</b>	<b>223</b>
<b>Bosnia and Herzegovina</b>	256	215	6	8	0	0	<b>262</b>	<b>223</b>
<b>North Macedonia</b>	127	111	2	0	0	0	<b>129</b>	<b>111</b>
<b>Kosovo</b>	49	64	0	7	0	0	<b>49</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>Afghanistan</b>	19	49	0	0	0	0	<b>19</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Other</b>	122	102	11	18	1	0	<b>134</b>	<b>120</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.004</b>	<b>1.117</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1.083</b>	<b>1.234</b>

## Unauthorised residence

The police registered a total of 1,312 foreigners on the grounds of their unauthorised residence in the territory of the Republic of Slovenia or other EU Member States. The number in the corresponding period last year was 968. The trend is up by 35.5%.

*Persons found to be illegally present in Slovenia, by nationality*

Nationality	2018	2019
Albania	194	330
Moldova	81	274
Bosnia and Herzegovina	239	268
Serbia	192	206
North Macedonia	170	162
Ukraine	9	14
Kosovo	16	11
Montenegro	12	8
Others	55	39
<b>Total</b>	<b>968</b>	<b>1.312</b>

### Implementation of return and readmission agreements

#### a) Return of persons to foreign police authorities

Pursuant to international agreements, the Slovenian police returned 1,013 (152) foreigners to foreign law enforcement agencies. Of these, many were returned on the border with Croatia – 975 (120). A total of 219 (1) Algerians were returned at the border, representing the largest group.

#### Admission of persons from foreign police authorities

Based on international readmission agreements, 152 (64) persons were returned to Slovenia. Of these, 15 were Slovenians.

*Persons returned or readmitted based on international agreements, by sections of state border*

Country	Admission from		Readmission to	
	2017	2018	2017	2018
Italy	22	57	8	31
Austria	7	15	7	2
Croatia	0	8	120	975
Hungary	6	1	1	0
Air borders	29	71	16	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>1.013</b>

## **Overall assessment of the situation**

Overall, the number of illegal crossings has increased sharply this year. The volume has already exceeded last year's numbers that were also quite high. The nationality structure in illegal border crossings is changing and a significant rise in the arrival of Moroccans and Algerians has been observed.

Also, a significant proportion of illegal migrants declare their intention to file an application for international protection. After being placed in reception/asylum centres, they tend to leave the facilities to continue their journey to countries of their intended destination. Algerian and Moroccan nationals are the strongest groups among those who leave such facilities.

Most illegal entries into Slovenia take place at the border with Italy, however, this number is still relatively low. The total number is down by two fifths. These irregular arrivals are usually perpetrated by persons coming from countries that pose a low migration-related risk. Pakistani nationals are an exception in this regard.

The number of refused third country nationals at the external Schengen border in Slovenia has increased. The refused nationals mainly come from the states of the Western Balkan region. In this regard, nationals of Afghanistan are an exception mostly because they tend to avoid border control by hiding in transport vehicles.

The number of foreigners dealt with by the police on account of unauthorised stay has grown significantly. The main reason for foreigners' irregular stay in Slovenia is that they exceed their permitted duration of residence. As a rule, these nationals come from the countries in the Western Balkan region. The number of Moldovans is higher as a result of visa liberalisation.

The issues related to (re)admission and return to Slovenia's neighbouring countries are related to illegal migration in our area. These numbers also depend on the specific issues pertaining to Slovenia's internal borders.

### **Note:**

- The statistical data were captured on 15.4.2019. Subsequent data entries or up-dates may affect the above statistical data. The numbers in brackets indicate last year's statistics.

Uniformed Police Directorate  
Border Police Division