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International Entry-Exit Systems

BUILDING A SAFE AND RESILIENT CANADA

The entry-exit of legitimate travellers and cargo is of high political importance, since public confidence in the safety and security of existing governance systems is at the heart of any government's survival.

Whether it is referred to as 'smart borders' or 'beyond the border,' governments want to achieve total control of overall cross border movements. Governments in Australia, the European Union (EU), New Zealand (NZ) and the United States (US) are moving towards an information-based, automated entry-exit system containing personal information of all non-citizens or third country nationals (TCNs) in the case of the EU to identify 'overstayers,' that is, TCNs who have overstayed their permission to stay.

This paper is based on an annotated bibliography using open source, academic and grey literature reviewing existing heightened entry-exit border security systems used by travellers arriving in or departing from the formal ports of entry (POEs) for the three countries and one region. Its focus was to identify the relevant research that could list existing practices and infrastructure established in Australia, the EU, NZ and the US. The paper used explicit criterion, limiting hidden biases and assumptions, and enabling replication of the research by others.

Twenty-eight documents and seven website references are included in this annotated bibliography. There are three different targets of border security enforcement: terrorism (terrorists, their transnational networks, and the sources of supply for acts of violence), mass unauthorized migration (smuggling or trafficking of irregular migrants), and contraband (including synthetic drugs). The paper focused on the legitimate and unauthorized movement of travellers as they arrived in or departed from each of the above-mentioned entry-exit systems.

The primary focus of the paper involved looking at all methods of conveyance used in travel (i.e., by air, sea

or land). The paper focused on the measures established by each of the four governments to enhance the security of their passenger entry-exit systems.

All four governments, Australia, the EU and its Member States, NZ and the US are members of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the International Air Transport Association (IATA), and the International Maritime Organization (IMO). The strength and effectiveness of the international aviation and maritime security systems rely on the similarity of standards adopted collectively by each Nation State and implemented by individual participants. In contrast, a weakness in one State represents a risk to others in a way that it may be an entry point to be exploited by motivated individuals in the areas of organized crime, terrorist or extremists. Each government is committed to implementing certain legal requirements, including standards associated with the chosen mode of transport when moving passengers and/or cargo internationally.

A number of factors contribute to an increased dependency of border control agencies' use of advance passenger information systems with all four governments. These include a growth in passenger numbers being processed at international airports and maritime ports and pressures to expand airport and maritime facilities to cater to the growth. At the same time the increased volume of contraband, particularly drug trafficking requires each border control agency's increased vigilance and more intensive processing of the passengers and cargo. In addition, ongoing threats posed by international terrorism are being addressed through additional security checks prior to departure. All of this contributes to increased pressures on limited manpower resources available to border control agencies and carriers, and underlines the importance of interagency cooperation between the



variety of border control agencies in place at most international airports and maritime ports.

Koren, Elaine (2013). *International Entry-Exit Security Systems*. Ottawa, ON: Public Safety Canada.

For more information on research at the Law Enforcement and Policing Branch, Public Safety Canada, please contact the Research Unit at ocr-rco@ps-sp.gc.ca.

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