Éva NYÁRI

THE EUROPEAN BORDER SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM (EUROSUR)

AZ EURÓPAI HATÁRŐRIZETI RENDSZER (EUROSUR)

Az európai határőrizeti rendszer (EUROSUR) bevezetését az Európai Unió területére egyre nagyobb számban érkező illegális migránsok indokolják. A rendszer hozzájárul ahhoz, hogy a tagállamok hatóságai az illegálisan belépők számának csökkentése érdekében növeljék külső határaikon helyzeti tudatosságukat, javítsák a hírszerzési és reagálási képességeiket.

Introduction of the European Border Surveillance System (EUROSUR) was justified by the rising number of migrants entering into Europen Union. The system contributes to awareness of member states' authoriries to lessen the number of illegal entrants and to better intelligence and response ability.

INTRODUCTION

The world and Europe change day to day, threatening us contingencies are changing either, more and more challenges appear which we should answer to make every citizen feel under cover.

According to the announcement of European Commission in 2010[1] – security of European Union (EU) is threaten by the agressive and organised crime, terrorism and cyber crime what can cause more and more serious danger. To overtake it EU member states have made recomendation for strengthening administration of their external borders, working up resistivity to natural disasters and tragedies caused by humans.

Events happened in south Mediterranean some years ago have pointed out that presence of serious poverty, despondency, defencelessness, military conflicts made and makes thousands of people run from their homelands to Europe with hope for better life, even at the expence not being able to reach their target country. During their journey the travel by so small boats can not guarantee their safe arrival to their destination and groups hurrying to rescue them can not notice them in case of accidents.

To prevent accurance of accidents befall illegal migrants, to lessen the number of deaths, to decrease the cross-border crime in EU the introduction of a single European border surveillance system is needed.

CONTROL OF EU'S EXTERNAL BORDERS

For controlling EU's external border lines is crucial a well functioning border surveillance system as authorities have to be bale to manage the rising inflow of (legal and illegal travellers) people who want to stay in Europe. Certainly we can not leave out of consideration those persons who are not entitled to enter the EU, in their cases more serious prudence is essential during the control.

Much attention should be payed to fight against deliquency, so EU must keep the security on high level and on the other hand the border crossing must be simplier for those who must be entered into member states' territory with full respect of their fundamnetal rights.[2]

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[1] Communication from the European Commission to the European Parliament and the Council – The EU Internal Security Strategy in Action: Five steps towards a more secure Europe (Brussles 2010 11 22)

[2] Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the Economic and Social Committee - Communication on Migration (COM (2011) 248 final, Brussels 2011 05 04)

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Shengen countris are responsible not only for controlling their own borders but as arise from their membership for controlling EU's external borders either. When they fulfil control at their own border actually they are responsible for security of the whole EU and they act on behalf of other members. For that very reason methods and tools of border controlling must be improved constantly, new security and migration challenges must be met so that EU could react on them at the proper time.

Establishing the common system needs common culture, capacity, standards and more over tight cooperation. One of the most useful and core element of it is to establish the European Border Surveillance System (EUROSUR).

An early introduction of the system was urged by the events happened at the Greek-Turkish border as well as performance of common naval exercise HERMES in 2011 when the FRONTEX played key role to manoeuvre the sources to the most endangered borders.

EUROSUR

The European Commission announced its 'Examining the creation of a European Border Surveillance System (EUROSUR)' in February 2008 and execution orders of this document are finalised in our days.

Purpose of EUROSUR is to help border guard authorities of member states (border guard, coast guard, police, customs, navy) in getting precise information about events happening on external continental and sea borders. So they will be able to recognise cross-border actions and their measures can be proved by suitable reasons. These actions will improve response ability of criminal investigation authorities so the offices will get clear picture about needed time for taking under contol the cross-border movements and what tools must be applied to react on particular events.[3]

According to the order-draft member states will cooperate with neighbour countries and FRONTEX in framework of EUROSUR and they can exchange operative information. This information exchange and the modern observation technology contribute to saving life of illegal migrants when they approach the EU's external border from the sea.[4] The system could recognise refugees by spotter robot planes, high resolution cameras and satelitte search engines before they could reach EU's external borders.[5]

Furthermore it will provide help to hunt and liquidate criminal organisations as well as guarantee the respect of fundamental rights, privacy protection and sending back prohibition.[6]

Introduction of the system was planned in three phases. The main task of the first phase was to establish and run national border guard coordinational centres of member states lying on south and eastern external borders of EU just as setting computer communication system between centers of member states and FRONTEX agency. The other main task of the first phase was to examine what financial and logistic help can be provided in case of cooperation with a third neighbouring country.

In the second phase observation equipment and sensors (satellites, unmanned aerial vehicles) which have already been used were planned to be improved. As a result of developements authorities get more frequent and more reliable information about external borders so a common intelligence picture of border areas can be received.

The main program of the third phase is to integrate all reporting and controlling systems into a wide network so that member countries' authorities can rely on each others' data during their measures. Based on the draft this integrated net

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[3] The European Border Surveillance system
http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/justice_freedom_security/free_movement_of_persons_asylum_immigration/l14579_hu.htm
(downloaded: 2013 05 10)
[4] EUROSUR: Recomndation on common border surveillance coordination
http://ec.europa.eu/magyarorszag/press_room/press_releases/20111212_eurosur_hu.htm (downloaded: 2013 05 10)
[5] The New European Border Surveillance system is a Money Pit
http://www.sg.hu/cikkek/89843/penznyelo_az_uj_europai_hatarvedelmi_rendszer (downloaded: 2013 05 10)
[6] EUROSUR: Recomndation on common border surveillance coordination
http://ec.europa.eu/magyarorszag/press_room/press_releases/20111212_eurosur_hu.htm (downloaded: 2013 05 10)

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will focus on Mediterranean sea, south part of the Atlantic ocean (Canary islands) and Black sea, later all European sea regions will be integrated into the system. The first and the second phases have concerned on marine and continental borders while the third phase has focused on marine areas exclusively.[7]

In November 2011 Hungary during her EU presidency – with experimental aim – lounched national coordination centres in 6 from all member states which provide real-time data to each other through the FRONTEX protected network. The Hungarian National Coordination Centre was set up according to EU recomendations and the centre operates in the National Police Headquarters (NPH). Other member states have already set up or are setting up their own national coordination centres and joining FRONTEX system.

While other member states provide data about their external borders Hungary records data of monitoring in depth.

Starting from 2016 data collected during aerial surveillances must be recorded but it is possible even these days on a voluntary basis. Since 2011 Hungary has processed these data and shared them with the states using the system.

USAGE OF EUROSUR IN HUNGARY

The EUROSUR's predecessor system in Hungary was used in the National Police Headquarters from September 2011 what was based on Google Earth. Migration routes, catchings, controlling data have been recorded in Hungarian into the system. Parallel with the usage of this program data recording happened into the new EUROSUR system made by FRONTEX.

Taking the parallelism of the system and avoidance of duplications into consideration from the middle of June 2012 only the system built up by FRONTEX has been used where data are recorded only in English.

The system working at the National Police Headquarters can recognise pictures of all infrared cameras set up at borders, the operator can choose one camera what he wants to watch though he does not have the right to interfere into execution of the action.

The police-office taking part in the action informs the NPH by phone then records data into 'Netzsaru' system and then data are forwarded to NPH by the county police headquarters. The NPH can order regrouping forces and tools according to events.

During data recording – based on Hungarian rating – three impact levels are differentiated. The first impact level is – in case of 1-2 perpetrators – law, the second - in case of 3-9 – middle whilst above 10 it can be called high.

There is an opporunity during the data recording to attach videos, photos, reports and any other documents. The National Coordination Centre makes reports of daily events for leaders of NPH.

With other memeber states – according to FRONTEX directives – only incoming migration data should be shared but the outgoing ones shouldn't. According to the above mentioned regulations only the most important data should be recorded, for example number of perpetrators, their age and nationality. Personal particulars are stored in the national coordination centre of the given member states but on a request they are handed to authorities of petitioner member states.

Common signs and marks are used in the course of data recording into the system.

There is opportunity in EUROSUR system – but only in limited form –to make statistics. Based on them 4000 – 5000 measures were taken from 1 September 2012 in hungary. Among these measures are events fulfilled by National Tax and Customs Administration.

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[7] The European Border Surveillance System (EUROSUR)
http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/justice_freedom_security/free_movement_of_persons_asylum_immigration/l14579_hu.htm
(downloaded: 2013 05 10)

Analytical and evaluation system of EUROSUR is under development as the system usage is not compulsory fot the member states. Though Hungary uses the system, which will become compulsory for all member states from 1 October 2013 after the regulation comes into effect.

SUMMARY

The aim of EUROSUR is to rise status consciousness and reacting ability within border guard[8] fulfilment of which can not be accomplished without tight cooperation of member states' authorities (border guard, coast guard, police, customs, navy) as its realisation is a very complex task what involves many departments of different organizations.

At the time of the system's introduction in 2013 every member state will have data conserning events happen at external borders, so acting authorities can decide what frequent border section needs any measures, regrouping forces and tools, and what co-organizations should be involved into cooperation.

Successful accomplishement of controllings must be started not only at the external border but with the staff of migrant and criminal authorities working in countries of origin and transit states. They make such status-analysis which make possible to lessen the number of people at the external borders appearing with legal title but whose intention is obviously illegal.[9]

To success of above mentioned tasks can contribute the newest technologies, technical equipment used on green and blue borders and the authorities can get help to react on geopolitical changes as fast as possible.

Kulcsszavak: EUROSUR, illegális migráns, határellenőrzés

Keywords: EUROSUR, illegal migrant, border surveillance

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6. Gizella Vas Dr pol. col: The Place and Role of Border Surveillance in Shengen area

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[8] Gizella Vas Dr pol. col: The Place and Role of Border Surveillance in Shengen area
[9] The same