

# THE EFFECTS OF ZAPAD 2017 ON EUROPEAN SECURITY AND STABILITY

## PART 2

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### Introduction

The content of ZAPAD 2017 Part 1 has focused on the effects that ZAPAD 2017 may have on the neighboring countries of the Russian Federation and the possibilities offered by Putin to boost pressure on neighboring countries and Eastern European NATO countries. In this section, the influence of new migrant routes through the Black Sea and North Russia will be exposed to Europe's stability. In addition, the question must be answered if and if so what role Ankara and Moscow play in creating and safeguarding those migrant routes. And, moreover, it needs to be investigated to what extent Moscow can use migrant flows from the Middle East and North Africa, to achieve political goals.

### Migrant flows

Migrant flows or – as they are called by politicians and the asylum industry – cautiously, “refugee flows” have proved to be an effective tool in achieving political goals and stifle stability in North, West and South European countries over the past three years. The Islamic part of that migrant stream does not want to adapt to Western norms and values patterns, translated into laws and



Source: NI police

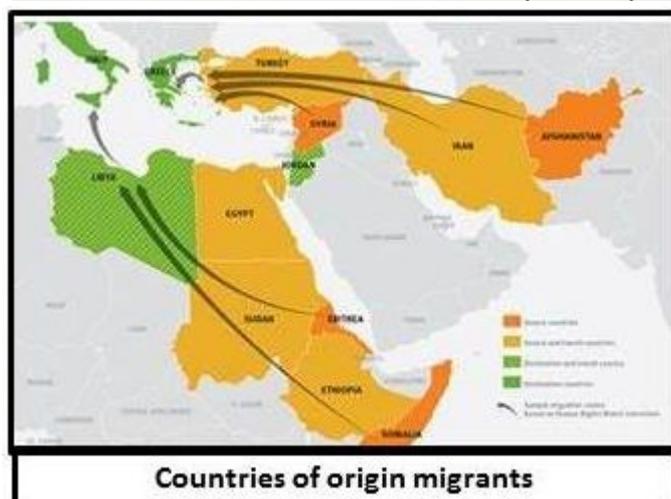
rules, and constantly emphasizes that it is the duty of European countries to assist them in their relative poverty or insecurity and to create the preconditions to be able to maintain their own identity, translated in Quran and Shariah. Refusal to assimilate and the eagerness to impose the Islamic will on Europeans, seem to be the underlying thought of those demands. These prove to be the main reason for rising tensions within European society.

The “open door” policy of the Federal Chancellor of Germany and the statements made by Brussels’s Dutch twaddling Braggart recently about a European superstate by expanding the borderless Schengen area with Serbia and Montenegro, are no incentives for the deplorable segment of the African and Middle East societies to continue to seek their salvage in failing safe states in the mentioned regions. Support and often blackmail by traffickers, organ dealers, media, relief organisations and FRONTEX-led EU-based migrants, will not dry up migrant flows in the near future. The opposite will happen in practice. The unpredictable status of the majority of migrants will boost crime, as well as the activities of stakeholder organizations, and increase the pressure on government, security agencies, the treasury and the common taxpayer, in such a way that security is at stake and money flows into and out the state purse is of balance. The treasury runs out and the welfare state as we know it, threatens to hit its freshness date.

To date, de-stabilisation in one of the countries concerned has not yet come to fruition. Nevertheless, Sweden and, to a lesser extent, France and Germany are actually on the road to a situation in which the Islamic minority wants to determine the daily life of the European citizen. That minority is going to rule the life of the majority. Ankara has also proven that by means of migrant flows it can achieve political goals, such as the EU’s commitment to provide Ankara at least € 3 billion in exchange for minimising migrant flows from the Middle East. In addition, Ankara uses the growing volume of Muslims – especially of Turkish origin – to steer its influence in democratic institutions and processes and for example in the long-term policy of Germany and the Netherlands, in a direction favorable to Ankara.

## Countries of origin of the migrants

Poverty and political chaos threaten European countries, but that no Western politician seems to be bothered. Unlike government leaders in Eastern Europe. They really put an end to Islamic immigration and have their borders strengthened with fences and security. Partly because of the degrading behavior of the Brussels political elite, the European Union is in danger of imploding in the near future. In fact one can currently identify two schisms: an economic schism between



the richer Northern and Western Europe and the poorer Southern and Eastern Europe, as well as a migrant schism between North and West Europe and Eastern Europe.

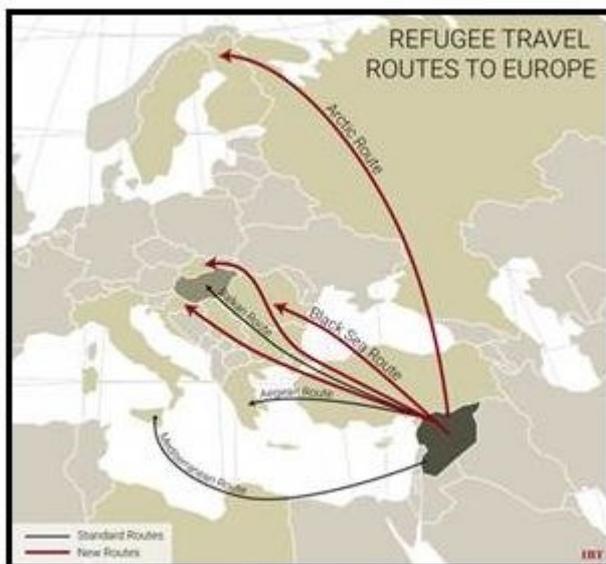
In discussions about migrant flows, the political person uses the term refugee or asylum seeker, where any realistic non-political person calls it what it is: migrant or venturer. Both sides of the political spectrum seem unable to divide that mass into different categories. Partly

because of this, Europe has been flooded by vigilant members of Islamic extremist networks such as IS, Al Qaeda and/or homegrown Jihad veterans. The rising rate of terrorism in European cities is a confirmation of this.

Migrant flows are the cause of a temporary disruption of European societies in terms of attacks, impoverishment, political oppositions, social dissatisfaction, undermining actions (illegal immigration, procedures, childbirth etc.), international distrust and social chaos. Therefore, screening migrant flows must have the highest priority to determine who can really be qualified as a “fugitive” (due to insecurity in the home country). Especially young people from North Africa, the Middle East and Central Asia alone must be investigated intensively to determine if he/she is a real refugee or just a venturer (with the objective of family reunification) or a dangerous Islamic extremist. In any case, a young Muslim without identity papers coming from a safe declared country without a chance on a bright future in any European Country should be taken out directly at the gate of the land of milk and honey.

## Alternative migrant flows from Turkey and Russia?

Recently, media reported with a lot of fanfare that human traffickers had tested the feasibility of a new route through the Black Sea to Bulgaria and Romania. Why using the term “fanfare“? Because the article reflects the impression that the involved human traffickers discovered that route yesterday. And that impression is false. The picture above highlights that the Black Sea



route as well as the Arctic route is already in use since 2015 and in a modest form even in 2014.

Therefore no question of a new route, but more or less an alternative route that recently has been used in a higher frequency and more intensively by human traffickers. Despite the risks of bad weather and upper swell that may sink the primitive boats. The picture underscores also the fact that migrants are bold or desperate enough to make the risky trip from the RF to Finland and Sweden. Given

the already identified growing tensions in Finland, this information may also be classified as an example of old news. Given the point of entry on RF territory, The Arctic route option raises the question how migrants have travelled the vast distance from there to the starting point of the Arctic route near St. Petersburg. Even more, how they were able to survive that long trip and what the actual composition of their group had been. Did anyone die during the trip, were persons left behind and if so where and what happened to them?

## A highly organised and well functioning network

Given bad and sometimes even worse weather conditions, strong wind power, higher waves and catchy currents, the Black Sea route is more challenging more dangerous than the Mediterranean routes. According to the Romanian Coast Guard. That seems to be an over the top statement given the reports and pictures of drowning, dodging and drowned migrants on the shores of North Africa and the Aegean islands.

Can we already identify a shift from the Mediterranean to the Black Sea? Is that a correct observation given the small numbers of migrants who are forced to use that route? On the other hand, human traffickers may be coerced to seek alternative options given the measures taken by Italy. If they do not act now the money flow may halt very quickly. It is a fact that the agreement between Italy and Libyan warlords with corresponding rewards, affected the migrant flow Libya. It has decreased sharply. Noteworthy that politicians in Brussels claim that success, given the fact that none of them have really supported Italy and Frontex as a cheap and reliable ferry service regularly digs up or “takes over” North-African migrants from human traffickers ships. Success has many fathers, but only one mother.

Romania noticed that the majority of the 2800 migrants (an increase of almost 60% to 2016) come from Syria, Iran, Iraq and Pakistan. Sunnites and Shiites united by despair? The boats all depart from locations on the north coast of the European part of Turkey. It seems that the Turkish authorities compensated by high sums of money have the guile to keep this migrant flow going.

## From Kandalashka to Helsinki

Kandalaksha, a village in northern Russia, initially played a central role in the well-structured Arctic migrant route. Migrants originating from central Asia and the Middle East end up without any problem at the southern shore of the Black Sea and then apparently travel unhindered across the Black Sea or through the east coast of the Black Sea across Russia to Kandalaksha. Although it is still unclear how they are transported to Sint Petersburg, it will certainly not be done on foot, bicycle or motor. Given the vast stretch it will be done by car with or without the help of local authorities.



The first 5000 migrants using the Arctic route used in 2014 a bicycle to ride to the Finnish border; crossed the border uneventful and headed for Norway. However, the migrant flow stopped as soon as Moscow imposed more stringent controls: migrants on bicycle were stopped and send back, whereas the people in a car could cross the border. Forced by that sharp, highly selective control, the traffickers decided to shift the route to the south where two Finnish border controls had to be passed on

the route from St Petersburg to Helsinki.

The shift affected economics in the north and south. In the north the explosively grown bicycle market slowed down and ultimately dried up; the market for cheap old cars in the south was booming. From a location west of St. Petersburg at the Gulf of Finland, migrants are transported daily with rusty, outdated cars from the Soviet period in groups of up to 30 for the small amount of \$ 1000 to the Finnish-Russian border. The number of persons per vehicle, the escort of the vehicles, smooth crossing of check points, all confirms that the whole operation is very well structured. That structure is filled with local 'entrepreneurs' who take care of the transport and advice; hotel owners, car dealers, carriers and local authorities that provide formal deportation orders. Compared to the Mediterranean routes to the Aegean islands (especially Lesbos), Lampedusa, Malta and Gibraltar respectively), the southern Spanish tourist resorts, (Cadiz, Marbella, Fuengirola, Chiclana de la Frontera) is the migrant number still negligible.

Despite the small volume on the alternative migrant routes, experts such as Breedlove think Russia may exploit migrant flows to the European Union in the near future to destabilise EU member states or to warn European societies that certain national political decisions that are not favourable to Moscow, may have a counter-effect with respect to Finland and the softening of economic sanctions. Given the fact that border regions are crowded with Russian military installations, the exploitation of the Arctic route depends on the FSB that opens and closes roads in those regions and Russian authorities in Moscow issuing the necessary deportation orders. If and how they participate in the human trafficking organisations will have to prove.

It is unclear in which direction things will develop, but Moscow claims that Russian territory contains more than 11 million migrants. That volume can be exploited as a means of pressure against neighbouring states as the Baltic states, Finland if these states are willing to take decisions hindering Russians interests such as the wish to become a member of NATO.

## Migration as a hybrid instrument

The text of this article underscores clearly that both Turkey and the Russian Federation are using corruption, trafficking in human beings and presumably organ donation to cover the cost of Black Sea and Arctic migrant routes. It cannot be excluded that these two alternatives will be used to rapidly move migrants to the eastern borders of the EU and NATO. It confirms the rumours that authorities at the lower government levels contemplate the transit of migrants as a very lucrative business and they will not give up that big money source without a fight.

Those two alternative migrant routes must remain under constant observation to prevent Europe from being surprised by hordes of migrants. All member nations have to be very well prepared if Moscow and Ankara decide to exploit the migrant flux as a hybrid instrument to pressure Europe and its member nations to accommodate to their policy targets. It may also be clear that Putin will follow Ankara's example as soon as the volume and frequency of the "new" migration routes can be used as a policy instrument to increase the political pressure on European capitals forcing them to act in the interests of Moscow.