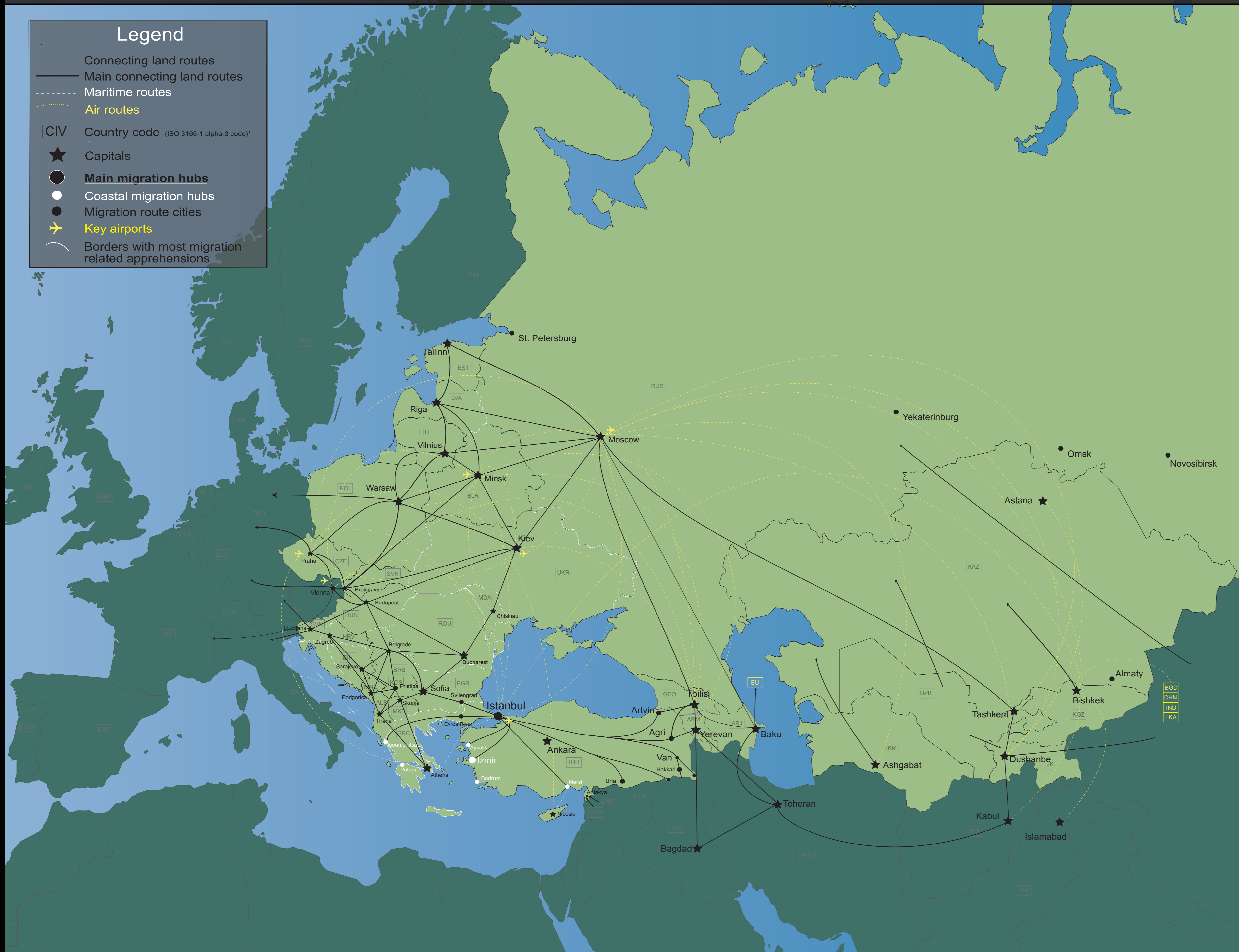


### Legend

- Connecting land routes
- Main connecting land routes
- Maritime routes
- Air routes
- CIV** Country code (ISO 3166-1 alpha-3 code)\*
- Capitals
- Main migration hubs**
- Coastal migration hubs
- Migration route cities
- Key airports**
- Borders with most migration related apprehensions



### Introduction

The Map on Irregular Migration Routes is being developed within the framework of the Building Migration Partnerships (BMP) initiative. The production of this Map has been further facilitated through an additional financial contribution from the government of Poland.

The purpose of this Map is to serve migration authorities as information tool by visualising the main irregular migration flows within Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe as well as in Central Asia and the Russian Federation.

The information provided is mainly based on the "Extended Migration Profiles" published in the framework of the BMP initiative and available at [www.imap-migration.org](http://www.imap-migration.org). In addition to that, the ICMPD "Yearbook on Illegal Migration, Human Smuggling and Trafficking in Central and Eastern Europe" as well as sources such as from Europol, Frontex, Interpol and relevant EU bodies have been used. The information contained is not and cannot be exhaustive and further development will be sought in close cooperation with the countries concerned.

### Irregular Migration Routes in Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe

Main countries of origin include migrants from the Balkan countries (mainly Albania, but also Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina) as well as migrants from the Middle East and Asia (Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan as well as Palestine and other countries). Migrants from the former Soviet Union countries usually come from Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova as well as the Russian Federation.

The main direction of irregular migration flows is still from Eastern and South-Eastern Europe to Western Europe. The main migration routes include:

- The **Baltic route** transiting and/or originating in Moscow heading towards the Baltic States (Estonia, Latvia and/or Lithuania), continuing via Poland to the Czech Republic and heading towards Austria, Germany and other Western European countries.
- The **Central and Eastern European route** transiting and/or originating in the Russian Federation, Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus, continuing via Poland to Slovakia, Hungary and/or the Czech Republic and heading towards Austria, Germany and other Western European countries.
- The **Balkan route** transiting and/or originating in Turkey continuing via the Western Balkan States and heading towards Italy, Austria and other Western European countries.

### Irregular Migration Routes in Central Asia and the Russian Federation

The main challenge is economically motivated migration within the Central Asian region. Main countries of destination for migrants from Southern Caucasus and Central Asia are the Russian Federation and Kazakhstan due to the more favourable economic climate and liberal migration policy.

The **Russian Federation** is on the one hand a transit country for migrants from Asian and African countries heading towards the European Union. On the other hand, it is a destination country for migrants from Southern Caucasus and Central Asia. Migrants usually enter the territory of Russia at the borders with China, Mongolia and Kazakhstan, while leaving the country by crossing the borders with the Baltic states, Ukraine and Belarus. In **Kazakhstan** transit migrants are primarily from Afghanistan and Bangladesh as well as China, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Irregular labour migrants are mainly from Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan.

*The current phase of the BMP initiative, funded by the European Union's Thematic Programme and running between January 2009 and June 2011, is jointly implemented by the Czech Republic (Ministry of the Interior), Hungary (Ministry of Justice and Law Enforcement), Poland (Ministry of Interior and Administration), Romania (Ministry of Administration and Interior), Slovakia (Ministry of Interior), the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD).*

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This poster has been produced within the framework of the "Building Migration Partnerships" initiative. The migration routes displayed on this poster is the sole responsibility of the project partners in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and ICMPD and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.  
\* Kosovo under UNSCR 1244. (KOS)