



| ICAO

2026 ICAO **TRIP** SYMPOSIUM

22 - 24 SEPTEMBER | MONTRÉAL, CANADA



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Seamless Travel in Practice

Contactless Travel Solutions and the OSCE's Support to Advance Passenger Information Systems Across the OSCE area

Promotion of Information Exchange and Support for the Establishment of API Systems in the OSCE area

MANDATE

- OSCE Ministerial Council Decision 6/16
On enhancing the use of Advance Passenger Information
- Support to implementation of UNSC resolutions
2178 (2014), 2309 (2016), 2396 (2017), 2482 (2019)
- From awareness raising to technical assistance
Phase I (2017 - 2023) focused on awareness raising and policy dialogue; Phase II (2024 - 2029) delivers legislative, operational and technical support

METHODOLOGY

Four-pillar approach

- Legislative assistance
- Operational assistance
- Transport industry engagement
- ICT and interoperability

Complementarity with international partners

Co-ordination with UNOCT, IOM, ICAO and other partners to ensure coherent support and optimize resource mobilization

Support Tailored to the Stage of Implementation

OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation

EARLY STAGE

Needs assessment, national consultations, advice on the legal and institutional framework

- Georgia
- Montenegro
- Tajikistan
- Turkmenistan

AS IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESSES

National roadmaps, operational and technical questions, support to the establishment of a PIU

- Armenia
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Kazakhstan
- North-Macedonia

THROUGHOUT

Peer exchange and study visits to operational PIUs, such as:

- PIU Albania 2024
- UK Border Targeting Centre 2025
- Belgian PIU 2026
- PIU of Türkiye upcoming



Implementation is rarely a linear process — continuity of engagement matters more than sequence.

Multilateral Platforms for Information Exchange and Co-operation

Annual Passenger Data Seminar

A BROADER FORUM

Bringing together national authorities, international organizations, the transport industry and the private sector

- **Flagship annual event**
Organized in Vienna since 2017
- **Joint format**
Co-organized with UNOCT since 2019
- **Upcoming**
10th Passenger Data Seminar, 2–3 November 2026



Success Stories

Two examples of long-term OSCE engagement

Albania

- **2014–2020**
National Strategy on Integrated Border Management provides the framework for national API implementation
- **2017**
OSCE National Workshop on establishing an API system and preparation of a National Implementation Roadmap
- **2021**
Establishment of the Passenger Information Unit
- **2025**
PIU reorganized into the Travel Intelligence Sector

Kyrgyzstan

- **2018**
Development of the National Implementation Roadmap on API
- **2020**
Adoption of the national legal framework; establishment of the Passenger Information Unit
- **2022**
API system becomes operational
- **2022–2023**
Kyrgyz PIU serves as the first Chair of the EECA Informal Working Group on Passenger Data

Passenger Data Supporting Border Facilitation

How passenger data shapes border checks

1 BEFORE ARRIVAL *Passenger data received*

- Travel document and flight data
- Booking and itinerary information
- Transmitted by carriers before departure



2 PRE-ARRIVAL ASSESSMENT *Relevant checks conducted*

- Automated screening against alerts and watchlists
- Risk assessment by the Passenger Information Unit
- Cases requiring attention identified in advance



3 AT THE BORDER *Resources focused where needed*

- Routine processing for the majority of travellers
- Additional checks for a limited number of cases
- Officers prepared before the aircraft lands

Passenger data does not replace the passport check

It determines how much of that check still has to happen at the counter and which travellers an officer needs to look at more closely

Where do we go from here



Continued support to participating States

Assistance to States establishing fully operational Passenger Information Units, and continued platforms for exchange of experience



Evolving functions of Passenger Information Units

Pre-arrival checks, travel authorization schemes and a broader role within national border management

Passenger data is central to countering terrorism and serious crime, and to the quality of border checks

The potential for growth is considerable: our task is to remain at the forefront of these developments

From Data to Document

1

API system rests on one assumption: the identity data collected is accurate.

Accuracy starts with a single travel document

Can we trust the identity data an automated system is deciding on?

2

Forgery techniques evolve alongside document technology including attempts to exploit the biometric and electronic components automated systems rely on.

Sustained investment in border security officers' skills is essential.



Identity assurance at the document level remains essential in an increasingly automated, contactless environment

Building Human Capacity Across the OSCE Area

- ToT Courses on forged document detection (Albania, BiH, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Ukraine)
- Anchored to ICAO TRIP, Frontex, ENFSI, and ISO 17025; document manufacturers deliver direct industry instruction on security features and forgery trends
- Study visits to ABC equipped airports (Amsterdam Schiphol, London Gatwick, Heathrow, Madrid) expose officers to human inspection integrated with automated border control

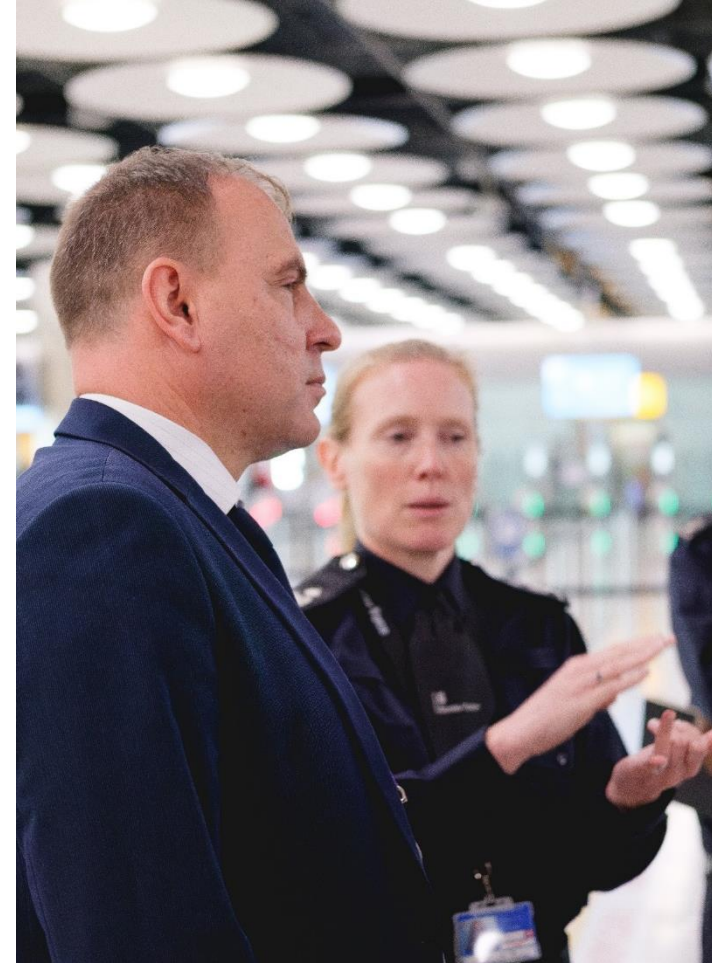


Photo credit Ben Brooks

Case Study: Ukraine Across All Three Inspection Lines



Photo credit Hanna Sazhneva

First line: 76+ frontline officers trained since 2022; ICAO TRIP-certified expert anchors curriculum to MRTD compliance standards



Photo credit Paweł Zacharewicz

Second line: Narva, October 2026, five-day course with Estonian PPA; Portals Paper and AG2 as industry instructors; live observation at Narva border crossing point



Photo credit OSCE

Third line — forensic: Sequenced MFC programme: biometric chip/PKI, security paper, fingerprint, handwriting, digital image analysis; benchmarked to ENFSI standards and ISO 17025



Investing in automated systems without equivalent investment in the human capacity to operate them, interpret their outputs, and verify their underlying cryptographic integrity **leaves a structural gap.**

Technology and training go hand in hand

Thank You

