

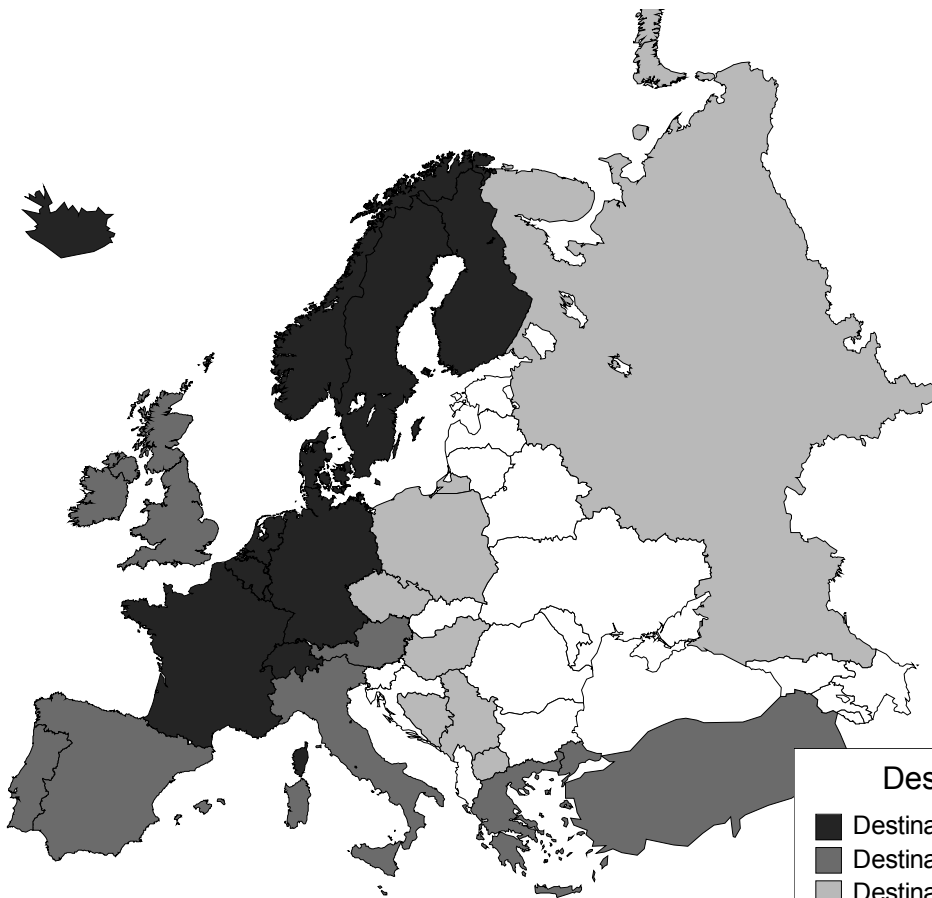
Trafficking routes in CEE/CIS region

Identified trafficking and smuggling routes from the CEE/CIS region to the European Union include:

- ❖ Albania and 'the Balkan Route'. Widely used by organized crime rings.
- ❖ The 'Eastern Route'. With transit in Moscow, Belarus and Poland. Mainly used by African and Asian migrants. Poland is a transit country.
- ❖ The 'Southern Route'. Used by Balkan residents and Romanians. Poland is a transit country.
- ❖ Via Croatia and Slovenia. With Hungary as the most significant transit country into Austria;
- ❖ Via the Czech and Slovak Republics: With transit through the Ukraine. Used by migrants from the Middle East, Far East and the Soviet Union;
- ❖ Via Albania, Hungary or the Czech Republic: With Turkey, Bulgaria and Romania as significant transit countries;
- ❖ The Mediterranean 'Blue Route': crosses the Mediterranean. Migrants from Africa and Asia. Transit through North Africa to Europe via Greece, Italy, Spain and more recently Portugal;
- ❖ The 'Northern or Baltic' routes: with transit through Moscow and the Baltic States into Scandinavia.

Although trafficking routes frequently change, the general direction of trafficking remains the same. As movements of raw materials flow from poorer countries to richer countries, so do movements of migrants, both legal and illegal. As stated at the UN World Conference against Racism in Durban, South Africa, "[Trafficking victims] are the commodities in a multi-billion dollar global industry, dominated by highly organized criminal groups operating with impunity."⁶⁴ Mary Robinson, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights continued by commenting,

'Trafficking is... inherently discriminatory. In the case of trafficking into the global sex industry, we are talking about men from relatively prosperous countries paying for the sexual services of women and girls – and sometimes men and boys – from less wealthy countries. This is more than a labor rights issue or an issue of unequal development. It is a basic human rights issue because it involves such a massive and harmful form of discrimination.'



Destination Countries	
■ Destination	(11)
■ Destination, Transit	(9)
■ Destination, Transit, Source	(7)
□ Other	(20)