

# European Commission: Home Affairs

EUROPA European Commission Home Affairs Policies Borders

DG HOME at a glance

Policies

Documentation centre

Newsroom

Tenders

Funding

Commissioner

RSS

## Borders

[Part I](#) covers the latest developments which occurred within the recent years.  
[Part II](#) gives a general view of the accomplishments and the acquis at European level of the matter concerned.

### I) Latest developments

### II) General context

The Schengen Area guarantees free movement within a territory of 25 countries, home to more than 400 million citizens. It has 42 673 km of sea and 7 778 km of land frontiers.

The abolition of borders between the Schengen members brought with it a need to coordinate a more effective surveillance of their external borders as well as the necessity of law and rule harmonisation and increased cooperation in the areas of fight against drugs, arms trafficking and organised crime in general, police cooperation and visa policies.

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
Home Affairs

Last update: 07 September 2010 | [Back to top](#)

captured 3/27/12

Internal Security Strategy

Asylum

Immigration

Borders

Visa

Border control

Maps and Statistics

FAQ

Large IT Systems

Crisis & Terrorism

Organised crime

Police cooperation

External relations

Agencies