

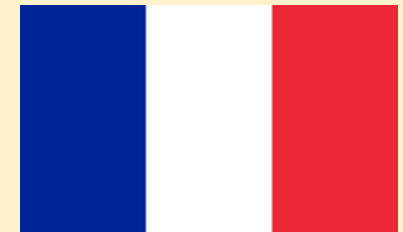
Best border crossing practice



Joint Switzerland - France Border Station – Bardonnex Geneva



- Switzerland generates **every second of its franc abroad**
- It is able to do so **only if the cross- border movement of goods and persons is smooth**
- Services provided by the Swiss Customs Administration seek to **facilitate border crossing** where possible, while at the same time, verifies compliance with the **legal provisions in the interest of Switzerland**



Joint Switzerland - France Border Station – Bardonnex Geneva



- Bardonnex Customs Station **works in coordination with national competent authorities** as well as those between the **two neighbouring countries**
- Swiss and French Customs Authorities **share the premises of Bardonnex Station**
- Swiss Customs have an **export office of the French Authorities** located **inside its Import offices** and vice versa
- In that way, the **customs clearance procedures last significantly less**, as the driver is not obliged to walk long distances between the two offices (importation/exportation) of the two countries or even **drive his truck from one place to the other**



Joint Switzerland - France Border Station – Bardonnex Geneva



- Another facilitation measure is the **sharing of the Customs Station platform and parking between the Swiss and the French Customs Authorities**, which results to both Authorities having the right to **conduct customs search to a vehicle parked anywhere in the Customs Station**
- Every day 600 trucks enter the Switzerland from France and 300 exit





- Actually means **passing through 3 border controls** Palestine, Israel and Jordan
- **Often time consuming**, strict and repeated controls, lengthily queues during holidays
- Not always open
- Passage not open to Palestinians traveling by private cars to Jordan while open to Israelis

The Palestinian side reports that process lasts between 4 to 12 hours

- **Back-to-Back System** is enforced for transport of goods



For Palestinian nationals living in West Bank to go
outside their country **only option**

the Al-Karama Passage near Jericho, through the
Jordan Allenby Bridge - King Hussein Bridge



Transport of passengers King Hussein Bridge



- KHB served 2.6 million passengers last year (1.26 in + 1.34 out)
- Considered not a usual border crossing but a Humanitarian one
- Operating hours coordinated amongst Jordan, Israel and Palestine
 - Sunday to Thursday: 07.00 till 23.00
 - Fridays + Saturdays: 07.00 till 14.00
- From 1 June till 30 September, working hours:
 - Sunday to Thursday: 24 hours per day
 - Fridays and Saturdays: 17 hours per day i.e. 07.00 till 24.00
- In the Jordanian side services are similar to an airport terminal
- After controls, passengers enter a bus to the Israeli border control
- When in Israeli border control - out from the bus - and again checks
- Then in Palestinian bus to drive to the Palestinian side
- Jordanian side reports usual time of control one bus (50 persons) by Israel about 30 minutes;
- A VIP fast lane service available for about 140 EUR/Person



Transport of goods through King Hussein Bridge



- 25% of Palestinian trade is shipped through King Hussein Bridge – 75% through Haifa
- **Back-to-Back System** is enforced
 - Trucks to Palestine are Jordanian - offloaded at Israeli border
 - After control, reloaded in Palestinian trucks
 - Same method used vice versa.
- 70,000 trucks per year and about 250-300 per day
- Open from 07.00 till the last truck, 7 days per week
- No containers allowed – although scanner in place
- Jordanian Customs apply risk management methods



EuroMed Transport
SUPPORT PROJECT

Lebanon National Workshop **On the TIR & the Harmonization** **Conventions**



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Thank you