

July 2018 compared with June 2018 – Production in construction up by 0.3% in euro area – Up by 0.4% in EU28

In July 2018 compared with June 2018, seasonally adjusted production in the construction sector increased by 0.3% in the **euro area** (EA19) and by 0.4% in the **EU28**, according to first estimates from **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**. In June 2018, production in construction grew by 0.7% in the **euro area** and by 1.0% in the **EU28**.

[Full text available on EUROSTAT website](#)

Objective journalism on migration more important than ever

The European Asylum Support Office (EASO) has emphasised society's need for dedicated journalists in raising the public's awareness of the harsh realities which drive refugees to flee their homes.

Speaking on behalf of Mr. Jamil Addou, EASO's Executive Director, the Agency's representative was addressing the second annual [Migration Media Award](#) Ceremony for journalistic excellence on migration in the Euro-Mediterranean region, which took place in Tunis on 18 September 2018. The event is implemented by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) and Open Media Hub in partnership with EASO and the Maltese Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Trade Promotion.

EASO stressed the danger and hatred posed by deliberate misinformation which stigmatises individuals who have no choice but to escape untold horrors in fear of their lives, adding that such strategies are increasingly evident as means of taking advantage of the concerns of citizens.

During his speech, EASO's representative stated: *"More than ever, as the lines between reality and fiction are so easily blurred, we need to re-double our efforts in breaking misconceptions. We need to expose the human tragedy, which is so often overshadowed by the label 'migrant'. A term too often used interchangeably with the term 'asylum seeker'".*

Congratulating the winners and participants of the 2018 Migration Media Award, EASO's representative stressed the critical value of dedicated and objective reporting in humanising refugees and exposing the trauma which so many have experienced. He also highlighted the contribution that such quality

reporting on migration brings to policy makers and public officials in informing their work.

In concluding, EASO praised the Migration Media Award as an important tool in encouraging and recognising the efforts of journalists in striving for quality reporting on asylum and migration. The Agency's representative stated that EASO will continue to support the annual event and augured that it would continue to act as a catalyst for increased objective journalism on the phenomenon in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

Any further information may be obtained from the European Asylum Support Office on the following email address: press@easo.europa.eu

Photo: Open Media Hub

Cargo robberies in France and Poland: six arrested

17 September 2018

□With the support of Eurojust and Europol, the French Gendarmerie and Polish Criminal Police dismantled an organised crime group (OCG) suspected of having committed at least 36 cargo thefts, with damages estimated at EUR 1.5 million. Last week, 15 properties were searched simultaneously in Gorzow, Poland, and Nancy, France, three suspects were arrested in each country, and evidence was seized.

In Europe, the number of incidents of cargo theft is increasing. OCGs, originating mainly from eastern Europe, frequently target high-value products. This OCG targeted trucks at unsecured parking sites in eastern France, although the OCG's activities are suspected to span across several other Member States.

Investigations began in March 2017. International police and judicial cooperation helped in the apprehension of the six suspects. A number of parallel investigations have been opened. Europol provided analytical support before and during the action day. Eurojust ensured a coordinating role on a judiciary level. At the request of the Interregional Specialized Jurisdiction of Nancy, Eurojust organised two coordination meetings with judicial and law enforcement authorities from France, Poland, Germany and Denmark that highlighted the cross-border activities of the targeted OCG.

Main topics and media events 17 – 30 September 2018

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