



INBOUND TOURISM

UNWTO questionnaire on
Border Movements

BULGARIA
STATE AGENCY FOR TOURISM



INBOUND VISITORS

The methods used in Bulgaria at national borders to obtain the data on arrivals of non-resident travelers are:

- **Optic reading of passport**
- **Bar code in visas**



INBOUND VISITORS

The main difficulties and limitations of the current methods are:

Within the minimal border control for the citizens of European Union, European Economic Community and Switzerland and members of their families, statistical information for their travels is not collected.



INBOUND VISITORS

Bulgaria is outside border for the EU and we consider that the data on arrivals of foreigners to Bulgaria are reliable.

Concerning the data for Member states – National Statistical Institute started in June 2008 to carry out the monthly sample survey with respondents the citizens of EU. The aim of the survey is data collection of arrivals of visitors from Member states and the purposes of visit.



INBOUND VISITORS

National Statistical Institute applies in surveys definitions recommended by the UNWTO.

In accordance with these definitions:

An international visitor is any person who travels to a country other than his/her permanent residence, for a period not greater than 1 year and whose main purpose is not doing any activity for payment.

An international tourist is any person who travels to a country other than his/her permanent residence for at least 24 hours but no more than one year and whose main purpose is not doing any activity for payment.



COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE

Due to the lack of data about permanent residence of foreigners it is assumed that it coincided with their citizenship.

For this reason the tables for foreigners by countries are distributed by residence of foreigners.



INBOUND VISITOR STATISTICS

National Statistical Institute excludes **border, seasonal and other short term workers** from the Inbound Visitor statistics.



INBOUND VISITOR STATISTICS

Tourism statistics do not include:

- Persons arriving with or without contract for work or are looking for work in the country
- Persons entering the country for permanent residence;
- Inhabitants of border regions residing at one side of the border and working on the other;
- Other categories of travelers, not covering the criteria in the definition for an international visitor.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Gergana Kumanova
STATE AGENCY FOR TOURISM
BULGARIA
e-mail: kumanova-tourism@dir.bg