

**BULLETIN**  
**No. 200, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

Between 3 and 7 September 2009, the Schengen Evaluation visit in the maritime frontier area will take place in Romania, and the Ministry of Administration and Interior through its Schengen Department coordinates this event.

The Schengen Evaluation visits aim at evaluating, in the field, the stage of fulfillment of those requirements implied by the Schengen acquis' implementation in the specific area, for Romania to become full member of the Schengen territory.

The evaluation team – including 10 experts from the Schengen member states and a representative of the Secretariat General of the EU Council – will evaluate the Ministry of Administration and Interior (the Border Police and the Romanian Immigration Office), the National Customs Authority and the Ministry of Transportation.

Following this visit, the European experts will draw up a report including the evaluation team's conclusions and recommendations, which will consequently be approved within the framework of a SchEval Work Group in Brussels most likely in November this year.

This is the fourth Schengen evaluation mission in Romania, after the first three visits which took place in March, April and June 2009 regarded the areas of police cooperation, personal data protection and visas.

**Background Information**

Every state acceding to join the Schengen area has to undergo a certain evaluation process. In this context, it has to prove that it is meeting all the requirements implied by the Schengen membership.

The Schengen evaluation process is within the responsibility of the Schengen Evaluation Work Group, including representatives of the Member States, one of the European Commission and another one of the General Secretariat of the EU Council.

The first part of the evaluation process consists in a comprehensive questionnaire, including detailed questions on all the relevant aspects of the implementation and application of the Schengen provisions, which every acceding state has to complete. The answers to these questions are discussed within the framework of the Schengen Evaluation Work Group.

When enough data have been gathered, the evaluation visits start for verifying the situation in the field.