

## PRESS RELEASE OF THE ROMANIAN BORDER POLICE

### Cigarettes to the value of 445.000 lei seized at the Northern border

08 November 2016

*The border police within the Territorial Inspectorate Border Police ITPF Sighetu Marmăției discovered **over 43,200 packages of cigarettes** of Ukrainian origin, to the value of approximately 445.000 lei, hidden in the double ceilings of a bus stopped in traffic but also at the green border. A Romanian citizen is being investigated for committing the offence of smuggling in continued form and the entire quantity of cigarettes was lifted for seizure.*

Yesterday, on 7 October, within the Sector Border Police Vicovu de Sus, an action was initiated in the line of combatting the smuggling of cigarettes of Ukrainian origin, in the area of responsibility.

Thus, around 12.00 o'clock, in the jurisdiction of Vicovu de Sus, Suceava county, a Volkswagen bus was identified in traffic, of which it was said that it transported smuggled cigarettes.

The border policemen stopped for control the bus in question, at the wheel of which was Ionuț A., 37 years' old, from Dolj county.

Following the control, the border police noticed inside the vehicle a space arranged, by doubling the wall separating the compartment for the passengers from the merchandise one, therefore there was taken the measure of driving the bus together with the driver to the premises of the sector, with a view to continuing the searches.

During the detailed control, **15,480 packages of cigarettes** were discovered, of various brands and of Ukrainian origin, **hidden in the space arranged for building a false wall.**

The cigarettes to the value of 154.800 lei were lifted for seizure, the bus to the value of 20.000 lei was made unavailable at the premises of the border police and the Romanian citizen is being investigated for committing the offence of smuggling.

Yesterday, a detaining ordinance for 24 hours was issued to Ionuț A. and he was taken to the Preventive arrest center within County Police Inspectorate IPJ Suceava while during today the competent prosecutor within the Prosecutor's Office attached to the Law Court Rădăuți to dispose in the case.

Yesterday, during the missions carried out at the state border, the border policemen within the Sector Border police PF Brodina, respectively Territorial Service Border police PF Maramureș discovered and seized **27,780 packages of cigarettes**, of various brands, in total amounting to 290.000 lei, at the green border and on communications.

In the cause there are carried out investigations to identify the persons involved and the documentation of the entire activity, at the end of which legal measures will be taken.