

Borders

Prevention

Objective: reduce the reasons that might cause or facilitate immigration officers to deny you access to the country.

At borders

Objective: Cross borders in a safe way



Individual

- Only minimal data should be brought with you. Type and encrypt sensitive information on your computer.
- Bring a 'clean' laptop and phone if possible.
- Back up all key files and documents in a secure place that can be accessed if your equipment is confiscated.
- Carry sensitive information and electronic equipment in hand luggage if travelling by plane.
- Small, encrypted USB sticks can be useful for security and being able to hide sensitive data.
- Agree in advance with colleagues or fellow artists/activists what you will say. Discuss any red lines you will not cross.
- Have a back-up cover story to explain your trip.
- Do not say sensitive things on plane.
- Be prepared to be questioned about your activities in other countries/visas marked in your passport.
- Decide in advance if you are going to put the actual hotel and location where you are staying on the visa entry form.
- Memorise emergency phone numbers.
- Before departure, make sure to remove any sensitive paper waste from your room and dispose of it safely elsewhere.

Organisational (if applicable)

- Do not get separated from your belongings.
- Don't forget about receipts, tickets, bills, etc... Send them via mail (with DHL for instance) if possible. Otherwise, keep them in your suitcase (in a sock for instance).
- Keep phones off until well outside airport.
- If travelling in a group or meeting someone outside, agree in advance a location where you will meet after immigration.
- Set a time to turn on mobile phones if you have not met at the agreed time and need to communicate.
- Provide only minimal information to immigration about activities.