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Title

CA 27 23 Increase in document abuse from Italy

Summary

There has been a recent increase in the abuse of false documents and impostors on flights from Italy to the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland.

Main text

HOIO Italy have reported seeing an increase in false documents and documents presented by impostors travelling from Italy. Passengers present documents belonging to a number of South-East Asian nationalities, including Japan, Hong Kong, South Korea, Singapore, Malaysia and Taiwan. Some recent examples have been seen in the hands of Chinese nationals:



Possible indicators:

- The documents in question frequently contain forged entry stamps to the Schengen area.
- The passengers rarely speak English, despite presenting a document belonging to a country where English is widely spoken (Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan).
- Where the document presented is Japanese, Korean or from Hong Kong, the passenger rarely speaks the language of the document (e.g Cantonese for Hong Kong).
- Bookings are almost always made in the 48 hours before flight time. Half of the identified bookings were made in Italy in the Prato area.

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If you have concerns about the authenticity of a passport or believe it may be in the hands of an imposter, do not hesitate to contact the HOIO Duty Officer.

For further advice contact: Your local HOIO Team

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