



European  
Commission



# FACTSHEETS COMPILATION 2017

*Migration and  
Home Affairs*



# Table of contents

## AGENDA ON MIGRATION

06

• Managing Migration - EU Financial Support to Greece (12/2017)	08
• Migration: a Roadmap (07/12/2017)	15
• Migration and Borders - State of Play of Main Proposals (07/12/2017)	19
• Overhauling the EU's Asylum Rules (07/12/2017)	22
• The European Border and Coast Guard Agency (07/12/2017)	24
• EU Budget for the Refugee Crisis and Improving Migration Management (07/12/2017)	26
• Migration: Solidarity Within the EU (07/12/2017)	27
• Resettlement and Legal Migration (07/12/2017)	30
• Working with Partner Countries (07/12/2017)	32
• The EU's Key Partnership with Africa (07/12/2017)	34
• EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (07/12/2017)	38
• EU Action in Libya on Migration (07/12/2017)	40
• EU-Turkey Statement (07/12/2017)	43
• Managing Migration - EU Financial Support to Italy (24/11/2017)	46
• Relocation: EU Solidarity Between Member States (15/11/2017)	51
• Resettlement: Ensuring Safe and Legal Access to Protection for Refugees (15/11/2017)	53
• Central Mediterranean Route: Protecting Migrants and Managing Irregular Flows (15/11/2017)	55
• Towards a More Efficient EU Return Policy (15/11/2017)	58
• Securing Europe's External Borders - A European Border and Coast Guard Agency (15/11/2017)	60
• Relocation - Sharing Responsibility (27/09/2017)	62
• Toward an Efficient and Credible EU Return Policy (27/09/2017)	63
• Ensuring Effective Legal Pathways to Europe (27/09/2017)	65
• The Updated Schengen Rules (27/09/2017)	67
• Relocation and Resettlement (06/09/2017)	69
• Central Mediterranean Route: Commission Action Plan to Support Italy and Stem Migration Flows (04/07/2017)	71
• Europe's Migration and Asylum Policy (02/03/2017)	73



# AGENDA ON SECURITY

78

- Security Union - Closing the Information Gap (12/12/2017) 80
- EU Information Systems - Security and Borders (12/12/2017) 82
- Trafficking in Human Beings - New Priority Actions (04/12/2017) 85
- Security Union: Protecting Public Spaces (18/10/2017) 87
- Security Union - A Europe that Protect (18/10/2017) 89
- A European Agenda on Security - State of Play (10/2017) 93
- Non-Cash Payment Fraud (19/09/2017) 97
- Security Union - Interoperability of EU Information Systems (29/06/2017) 99



A stylized map of Europe is shown in the upper right corner, rendered in shades of blue, purple, and pink. The map is overlaid with a white geometric grid of interconnected lines, creating a network-like pattern across the entire page. The background is a light, pale pinkish-purple color.

# EUROPEAN AGENDA ON MIGRATION





European Commission

# MANAGING MIGRATION

## EU Financial Support to Greece

December 2017

### Asylum, Migration and integration Fund/ Internal Security Fund/ Emergency Assistance

Addressing the refugee crisis and managing our external borders are top priorities for the European Union. The Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) supports Greek national efforts to improve reception capacities, ensure that asylum procedures are in line with Union standards, integrate migrants at local and regional levels and increase the effectiveness of return programmes. The Internal Security Fund (ISF) supports national efforts to achieve a uniform and high level of control of the external borders and to fight cross-border organised crime. To support the Greek authorities as well as international organisations and NGOs operating in Greece in managing the refugee and humanitarian crisis, the Commission has allocated over €385 million in emergency assistance since the beginning of 2015. The emergency funding comes on top of the €561 million already allocated to Greece under the national programmes for 2014-2020 (€322.8 million from AMIF and €238.2 million from ISF).

### Emergency support instrument

In urgent and exceptional circumstances, the European Commission can fund emergency humanitarian support for people in need within the European Union. The Emergency Support Instrument aims to provide a faster, more targeted way to respond to major crises. This includes helping Member States cope with large numbers of refugees, with humanitarian funding channelled to UN agencies, non-governmental organisations and international organisations in close coordination and consultation with Member States. Up to €700 million is planned over 2016-18; €401 million in funding for projects have been contracted to date.

\*information as of July 2017

All numbers in this factsheet have been rounded rounded up or down.



ASYLUM, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION FUND (AMIF)

The fund promotes the efficient management of migration flows and the implementation, strengthening and development of a common Union approach to asylum and immigration.



INTERNAL SECURITY FUND (ISF)

The Fund promotes the implementation of the Internal Security Strategy, law enforcement cooperation and the management of the Union's external borders. The ISF is composed of two instruments, ISF Borders and Visa and ISF Police.

National Programmes 2014 - 2020

(Long-term Funding)  
€561m (allocated)  
Disbursed: €126m

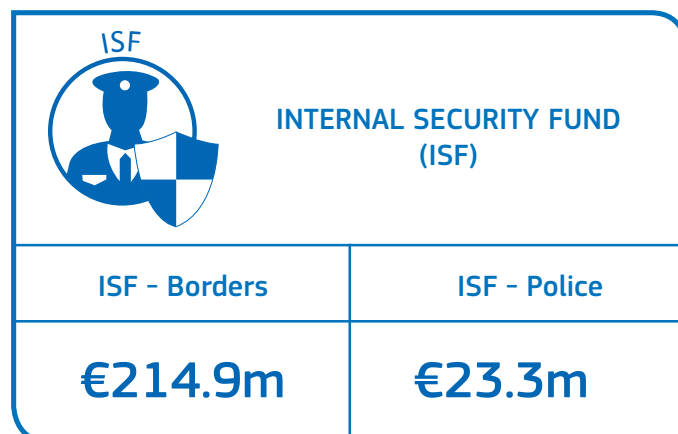
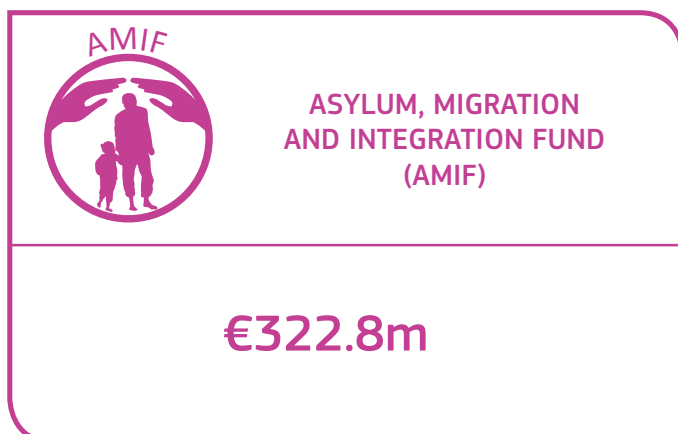
Emergency Funding for Greece

€385m (allocated)  
Disbursed: €279m





## Long-term funding to Greece (allocations) 2014 - 2020



### Funding for emergency relocation mechanism



Greece will receive **€500** for the transport costs of every relocated asylum seeker.

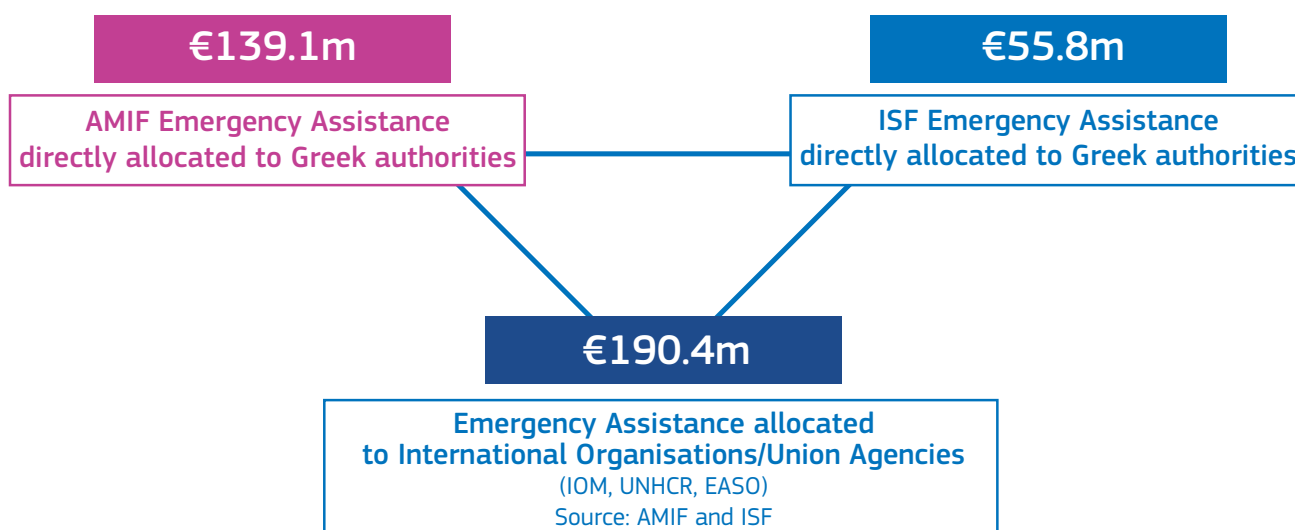
**€35.3 million** was allocated for the implementation of the Relocation & Resettlement mechanisms.

**€14 million** has been paid as pre-financing since February 2016

*\*these amounts are already included in the Greece AMIF National Programme*















### Emergency Funding (allocated)



















## Emergency Funding

### Overview emergency assistance from AMIF & ISF Borders and Visa Funds – Greece



Fund	Award Decision taken	EU contribution	Title of the action	Responsible Entity
	22/12/2017	€7m	Immediate response to the refugee-migrant crisis by providing shelter, accommodation, catering and transportation in the mainland and in the Easter Aegean Islands.	Ministry of Defence
	30/11/2017	€7.25m	Ensuring and enhancing access to a fair and efficient Asylum Process in Greece	Ministry of Migration Policy
	27/07/2016	€0.44m	Construction works of the sewer system and water supply network in Samos	Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform
	27/07/2016	€7.2m	Emergency assistance for the effective management of immigration flows in the Greek territory	Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform
	19/07/2016	€10.1m	Immediate enhancement of the response to the refugee crisis by providing shelter and accommodation, catering, health care, transportation at hotspots, ensuring this way healthy and safe living conditions for the target group (continuation of the project awarded in March)	Ministry of Defence
	19/07/2016	€52.2m	Immediate enhancement of the response to the refugee crisis by providing shelter and accommodation, catering, health care, transportation at open accommodation centres, ensuring this way healthy and safe living conditions for the target group (continuation of the project awarded in March)	Ministry of Defence
	19/07/2016	€24.18m	Comprehensive emergency health response to refugee crisis	Ministry of Health
	17/05/2016	€2.1m	Ensuring a fair and efficient Asylum Process, including in the context of the implementation of the EU-Turkey agreement	Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform
	17/05/2016	€3.06m	Upgrading the existing IT-system of the Hellenic Police for the registration process of third-country nationals	Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform
	17/05/2016	€7m	Provisional services to third-country nationals and operational support to the Hellenic Police services at the external borders	Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform
	18/03/2016	€6.6m	Immediate enhancement of the response to the refugee crisis by providing shelter and accommodation, catering, health care, transportation at hotspots, ensuring this way healthy and safe living conditions for the target group	Ministry of Defence
	18/03/2016	€23.9m	Immediate enhancement of the response to the refugee crisis by providing shelter and accommodation, catering, health care, transportation at open accommodation centres, ensuring this way healthy and safe living conditions for the target group	Ministry of Defence

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Award Decision taken</b>	<b>EU contribution</b>	<b>Title of the action</b>	<b>Responsible Entity</b>
	03/03/2016	€3.24m	Enhancement of human resources in First Reception Centres	First Reception Service
	08/02/2016	€12.76m	Provision of prefabricated shelter houses for the hosting of third country nationals	Ministry of Infrastructure, Transport and Networks
	08/12/2015	€3.27m	Immediate enhancement of the response to the public health challenge presented by the refugee/migrant emergency on the front line of first reception in the Eastern Aegean Sea	Ministry of Public Health
	05/11/2015	€0.68m	Reinforcement of the Orestiada Police Directorate with police personnel	Hellenic Police
	05/11/2015	€2.54m	Return of third countries nationals to their country of origin	Hellenic Police
	16/10/2015	€5.99m	Transportation, Accommodation, Alimentation of TCNs in need of international protection and/or potential asylum seekers to mainland	General Secretary for Co-Ordination
	01/10/2015	€0.39m	Administrative reinforcement of First Reception Service	First Reception Service
	01/10/2015	€1.1m	Emergency assistance covering the deployment of additional staff members and Special Forces to the severely affected Eastern Aegean HCG Authorities in order to improve the management of the intense migratory flows	Hellenic Coast Guard
	01/10/2015	€4.03m	Emergency support enhancing the operational capacity of the Greek authorities and Civil Society Organisations to manage the extreme rise in refugee and migrant flows into Greek national and European territory	First Reception Service
	01/10/2015	€2.36m	Reinforcement of the Eastern Aegean Police Agencies	Hellenic Police
	01/10/2015	€2.89m	Emergency assistance covering unexpected maintenance and repair costs related to the intense use of HCG maritime assets as well as Search & Rescue and medical Equipment in view of ensuring a high level domain awareness of the severely affected Eastern Aegean EU external borders and to minimize the losses of human lives at sea	Hellenic Coast Guard
	17/06/2015	€0.69m	Emergency assistance in support of the organisation, provision of legal information and interpretation for the effective management of immigration flows in the Eastern External Borders	First Reception Service
	17/06/2015	€0.48m	Emergency assistance for the procurement of Search & Rescue Equipment to avert losses of migrants' life at sea	Hellenic Coast Guard
	17/06/2015	€2.20m	Emergency assistance covering staff related costs in order to ensure a high level domain awareness of the severely affected Eastern Aegean EU external borders and to minimize the losses of human lives at sea	Hellenic Coast Guard
	20/01/2015	€1.18m	Support the operation of the Greek Asylum Service, especially the provision of mobile asylum units on 4 border islands.	Asylum Service














## Allocated Funds for International Organisations/ Union Agencies (IOM, UNHCR, EASO)








Fund	Award Decision taken	EU contribution	Title of the action	Responsible Entity
	31/07/2017	€9.3m	Continuation of targeted support to guarantee a smooth transition from emergency mode to stable management of the refugee and migrant situation and provision of services let by the Greek Government	UNHCR
	06/07/2017	€6.48m	Support to management of Kara Tepe (Lesvos) and Souda (Chios) sites (including provision of core relieve items, catering and transport services; protection, educational activities and healthcare)	UNHCR
	24/05/2016	€24.9m	Strengthen the Common European Asylum System, safe pathways to the European Union for persons in need of international protection and acceleration of the implementation of relocation to alleviate the heavy burden that presently weights on Greece, in the context of the fast-track returns to Turkey.	EASO
	17/05/2016	€13m	Emergency support to assist most vulnerable migrants stranded in Greece	IOM
	17/05/2016	€30m	Supporting UNHCR Greece Emergency Response Plan and strengthening the capacity of the asylum service	UNHCR
	26/02/2016	€1.5m	Assisted voluntary return of third country nationals to their country of origin	IOM
	08/02/2016	€1.12m	EASO emergency support for the Greek hotspots to strengthen their fingerprinting capacity	EASO
	08/12/2015	€20m	Relocation programme from Greece to other EU Member States for beneficiaries in clear need of international protection	IOM
	17/08/2015	€2.7m	Strengthening of the first reception response to new arrivals in mixed migratory movements on the Aegean islands	UNHCR
	08/07/2015	€1.43m	Strengthening of the first reception response to new arrivals on the Aegean Islands and in the region of Evros in Greece. 'New Arrivals Intervention' – phase II	UNHCR

## Greece - Indirect management

Fund	Delegation Agreement signed	EU contribution	Title of the action	Responsible Entity
 	26/01/2016	€80m (AMIF: €75m ISF: €5m)	Support to Greece for the development of the hotspot/relocation scheme as well as for developing asylum reception capacity	UNHCR

Emergency support instrument - Total amount of emergency support allocated so far: €401 million

Fund	Award Decision taken	EU contribution	Main activities	Responsible Entity
<b>Contracted to date: €401 million</b>				
	16/03/2016	€17m	Basic health care, food parcels, water, sanitation and hygiene, psychosocial support, winterisation and cash-based assistance	IFRC
	16/03/2016	€10.2 m	Primary health care, referrals for specialised medical care, psychosocial support for migrants and refugees	Médecins Du Monde
	01/04/2016	€62m	Upgrading of existing shelter solutions and site standards in preparation for the winter, provision of non-food items and essential services including water, sanitation, hygiene and protection assistance with an emphasis on unaccompanied minors as well as multi-purpose cash assistance	UNHCR
	01/04/2016	€14.7m	Food distributions, site management support, shelter, protection, water, sanitation and hygiene assistance	Danish Refugee Council
	01/04/2016	€19.23m	Protection, psychosocial support, safe spaces for women, safe learning and healing spaces for children, water, sanitation/hygiene and food assistance, cash-based assistance	International Rescue Committee
	01/04/2016	€13.25m	Water, sanitation and hygiene, food, protection, winterisation of shelters, psycho-social support and counselling	OXFAM
	16/04/2016	€9.18m	Child friendly spaces, non-formal education classes, psycho-social support and nutrition with special focus on unaccompanied minors	Save the Children
	01/06/2016	€9.3m	Shelter, health- and psycho social support, non- food items, child friendly spaces, legal support and interpretation services	Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund
	01/08/2016	€11m	Food aid, non-formal education, shelter assistance via an urban rental scheme	Norwegian Refugee Council
	01/08/2016	€3.5m	Provision of assistance to extremely vulnerable refugees in the urban areas of Athens and Thessaloniki	CARE
	01/08/2016	€31.8m	Transportation of children from and to schools, construction of new sites and rehabilitation of existing centres	IOM
	01/08/2016	€3m	Rehabilitation and upgrades of sites in the islands of Chios and Lesbos	UNHCR
	01/09/2016	€7.15m	Multi-purpose cash grants	Mercy Corps

Fund	Award Decision taken	EU contribution	Main activities	Responsible Entity
 ESI	15/09/2016	€4.7m	Non-formal education assistance and comprehensive protection assistance for vulnerable children, including unaccompanied minors	Terre des Hommes
 ESI	01/11/2016	€8.5m	Child protection services particularly targeting unaccompanied minors	UNICEF
 ESI	01/04/2017	€57.65m	Multi-purpose cash grants	UNHCR
 ESI	01/04/2017	€18.5m	Campsite management in 13 refugee campsites	Danish Refugee Council
 ESI	01/05/2017	€6m	Basic health care, psycho-social support, preparedness	IFRC
 ESI	01/06/2017	€0.9m	Mental health services for refugees in urban settings	Médecins Du Monde
 ESI	01/07/2017	€93.5m	Rental scheme: financing of accommodation for refugees in apartments	UNHCR



# MIGRATION: A ROADMAP THE COMMISSION'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE LEADERS' AGENDA

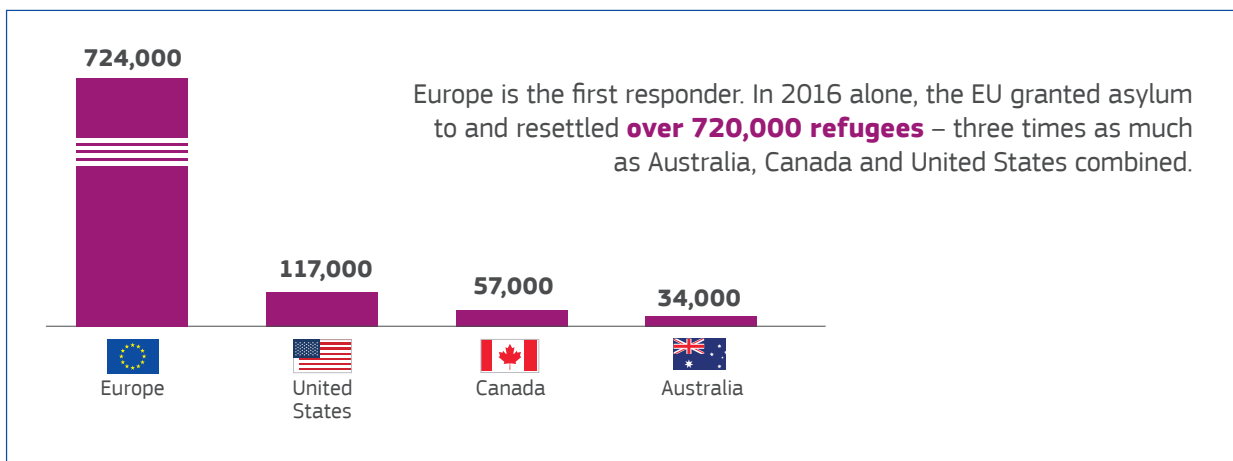
#FutureofEurope #EURoad2Sibiu



Over the past 20 years, the European Union has put in place some of the highest common asylum standards in the world. And in the past two years, European migration policy has advanced in leaps and bounds with the European Agenda on Migration proposed by the Juncker Commission in May 2015. Progressively, a more united approach to dealing with migration is emerging. But there is still work to be done to build up a coherent and comprehensive way of both reaping the benefits and addressing the challenges deriving from migration in the long term.

## EUROPE: THE CONTINENT OF SOLIDARITY

In the face of the worst refugee crisis since the Second World War, Europe is the world's first responder. In 2016 alone, EU Member States granted asylum to 710,395 refugees and offered safe and legal pathways through resettlement to 14,205 people in need of protection – more than three times as much as Australia, Canada and the United States combined.





### FIRST TIME ASYLUM APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FROM 2012-2017:

**2012:** 278,280  
**2013:** 367,825  
**2014:** 562,680  
**2015:** 1,257,030  
**2016:** 1,206,120  
**2017 (Jan-Oct):** 481,705

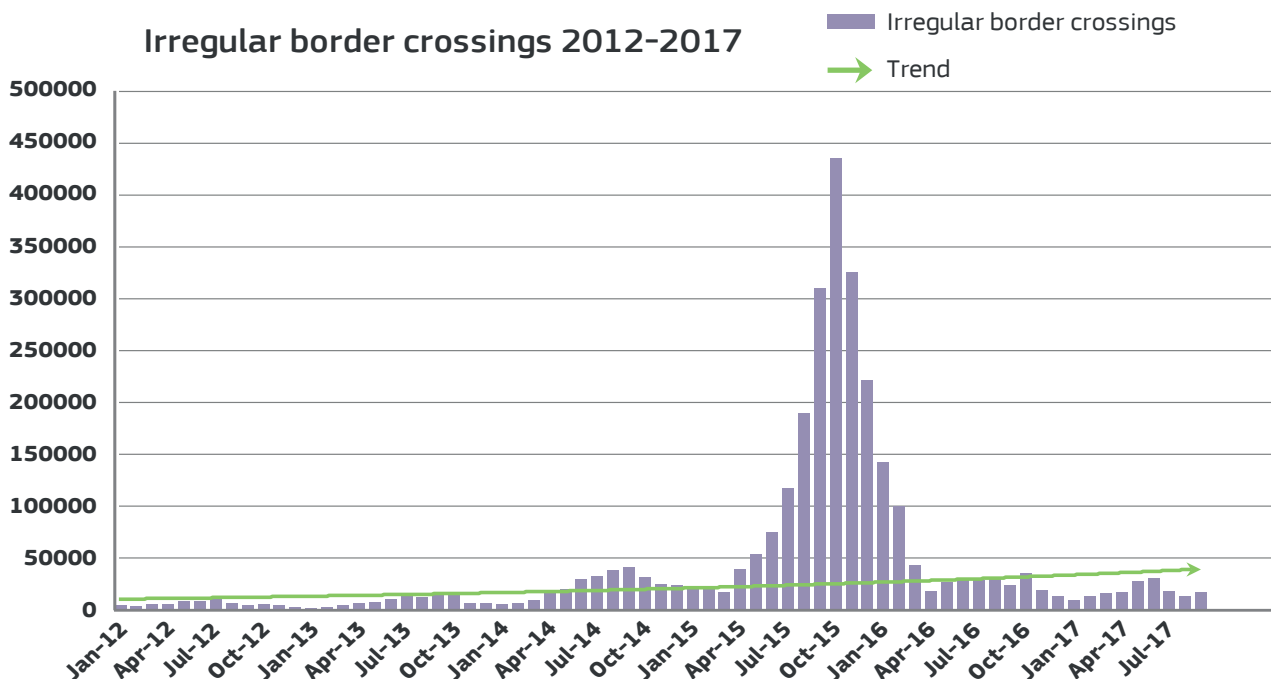


### NUMBER OF PERSONS GRANTED PROTECTION FROM 2012-2017:

**2012:** 116,320  
**2013:** 132,285  
**2014:** 193,580  
**2015:** 333,925  
**2016:** 710,635  
**2017 (Q1-Q3):** 348,165

## MIGRATION: THE CHALLENGE OF A GENERATION

Even if irregular arrivals to the European Union have dropped by 63% in 2017, the trend for the years to come and factors in migration dynamics, such as climate change and demography in the EU and its neighbourhood, point to migration remaining a challenge for decades. With growing instability in our neighbourhood increasing the risk of new routes opening, Europe urgently needs to equip itself with future-proof means of managing migration responsibly and fairly.



## THE WAY FORWARD

The European Union needs a system equal to the long-term reality of increased migration flows and capable of coping with any future crises. In view of the joint commitment to move to a system ensuring resilience to future crises, the Commission invites the leaders to agree on a number of elements, both inside and outside the EU, which would allow for an agreement on a comprehensive package by June 2018.



## ROADMAP TO A DEAL BY JUNE 2018 ON THE COMPREHENSIVE MIGRATION PACKAGE

### In 2018

#### BY FEBRUARY

- ✓ Member States to **pledge at least 50,000 places for the resettlement of people** in need of protection, including through the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Emergency Transit Mechanism from Libya;
- ✓ Support at least 15,000 assisted voluntary returns through the International Organisation for Migration and **1,000 resettlements from Libya** through the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Emergency Transit Mechanism.

#### BY MARCH

- ✓ Adopt the **EU-Asylum Agency** and the **Eurodac** proposals;
- ✓ Reach political agreement between the European Parliament and the Council on the **Qualification Regulation**;
- ✓ Member States to contribute all the assets and staff needed for the **rapid reaction pools** of the European Border and Coast Guard so that they stand fully ready for deployment;
- ✓ All Member States to contribute to close the funding gap of €340 million for the **North of Africa Window of the EU Trust Fund**;
- ✓ The **European Border and Coast Guard Agency** puts in place a fully functioning **return capacity**.

#### BY APRIL

- ✓ Identify the broad outlines for an **agreement on the right balance between responsibility and solidarity**.

#### BY MAY

- ✓ Reach political agreement between the European Parliament and the Council on the **Reception Conditions Directive** and the **Union Resettlement Framework**;
- ✓ Obtain a negotiating mandate on the **Asylum Procedures Regulation** in the European Parliament and the Council;
- ✓ Reach an agreement on the **right balance between responsibility and solidarity** at the meeting of the EU Leaders in Sofia and swiftly translate it into a negotiating mandate for the Council on the **Dublin Regulation**;
- ✓ Adopt first wave of projects under the **European Sustainable Development Fund**;
- ✓ Launch the first **pilot projects for coordinating legal economic migration** offers for key partners countries;
- ✓ Increase the **number of returned migrants** in operations organised in cooperation with the European Border and Coast Guard Agency by at least 20% compared to the same period of 2017;
- ✓ Agree on **readmission agreements or operational arrangements** with three further partner countries.



Source: European Commission



# MIGRATION AND BORDERS - STATE OF PLAY OF MAIN PROPOSALS

## THE COMMISSION'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE LEADERS' AGENDA

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The European Agenda on Migration presented by the Commission in May 2015 set out the need for a comprehensive approach to migration management. Since then, a number of measures have been introduced to address the immediate challenges and to put in place all the important building blocks needed to ensure strong borders, support partner countries to tackle root causes of irregular migration and fight smugglers, fair procedures, and a sustainable system able to anticipate problems. What is needed now is swift adoption of the Commission's proposals by the co-legislators and full implementation by the Member States of the collective decisions taken.

23

**23 main legislative initiatives** have been presented by the European Commission since the Juncker Commission took office.

9

Of these 23 initiatives, **9 have been adopted** by the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union.

14

There are **still 14 Commission legislative initiatives on the table** which the European Parliament and the Council need to adopt.

### PROGRESS TO DATE ON THE MAIN LEGISLATIVE FILES, ACCORDING TO THEIR STATUS

Proposal	Description	Status			
		European Commission	European Parliament	Council of the European Union	Adopted by European Parliament and Council
<b>International protection: provisional measures for the benefit of Italy and Greece</b>	This Decision establishes a temporary and exceptional relocation mechanism over two years from Italy and Greece to other Member States.	May 2015			✓
<b>Uniform format for visas</b>	This Regulation establishes a new common design for the visa sticker, which modernises the safety features to prevent forgery.	June 2015			✓
<b>International protection: provisional measures for the benefit of Italy, Greece and Hungary</b>	This Decision establishes provisional measures in the area of international protection for the benefit of Italy and of Greece, in view of supporting them in better coping with an emergency situation characterised by a sudden inflow of nationals of third countries in those Member States.	September 2015			✓
<b>European travel document for return</b>	This Regulation establishes a uniform European travel document for the return of illegally staying third-country nationals.	December 2015			✓

European Commission	European Parliament	Council of the European Union
Proposal presented	Negotiating mandate agreed	Negotiating mandate agreed
Proposal to be presented	Negotiating mandate to be agreed	Negotiating mandate to be agreed



## PROGRESS TO DATE ON THE MAIN LEGISLATIVE FILES, ACCORDING TO THEIR STATUS

Proposal	Description	Status			
		European Commission	European Parliament	Council of the European Union	Adopted by European Parliament and Council
<b>Reinforcement of checks against relevant databases at external borders</b>	This Regulation introduces mandatory systematic checks also on EU citizens, against relevant databases when crossing the EU's external borders.	December 2015			✓
<b>European Border and Coast Guard Agency</b>	This Regulation establishes a European Border and Coast Guard Agency in order to ensure the effective application of strong common border management standards and provide operational support and intervention where necessary to promptly respond to emerging crises at the external border.	December 2015			✓
<b>Entry/exit system (smart borders)</b>	The Entry/Exit System will register the entry and exit of non-EU nationals and help monitor authorised short stays in the EU. It will modernise external border management by improving the quality and efficiency of controls as well as the detection of document and identity fraud.	April 2016			✓
<b>Asylum: Dublin System</b>	This proposal aims to create a fairer, more efficient and more sustainable system for allocating asylum applications among Member States.	May 2016	November 2017		
<b>Asylum Agency</b>	This proposal will establish a fully-fledged European Union Agency for Asylum with an enhanced mandate and considerably expanded tasks, including the ability to deploy asylum support teams and provide operational and technical assistance.	May 2016	December 2016	December 2016	
<b>Asylum: Eurodac</b>	This proposal aims at adapting and reinforcing the Eurodac system to facilitate returns and help tackle irregular migration.	May 2016	June 2017	June 2017	
<b>Entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purposes of highly skilled employment ('Blue Card')</b>	This proposal on legal migration, also known as the 'Blue Card' scheme, was put forward by the Commission in mid-2016.	June 2016	July 2017	July 2017	
<b>Uniform format for residence permits</b>	This Regulation introduces more modern security features to improve the security features of residence permits.	June 2016			✓
<b>Reception Conditions</b>	This proposal will harmonise reception conditions throughout the EU.	July 2016	May 2017	November 2017	
<b>Asylum Qualification</b>	This proposal will harmonise protection standards in the EU and put an end to secondary movements and asylum shopping	July 2016	July 2017	July 2017	
<b>Asylum procedure</b>	This proposal will reduce differences in recognition rates, discourage secondary movements and ensure common effective procedural guarantees for asylum seekers.	July 2016			
<b>Union resettlement framework</b>	This proposal — about how the EU resettles recognised refugees from outside its territory, such as those in refugee camps — was put forward by the Commission in July last year.	July 2016	October 2017	November 2017	

European Commission	European Parliament	Council of the European Union
Proposal presented	Negotiating mandate agreed	Negotiating mandate agreed
Proposal to be presented	Negotiating mandate to be agreed	Negotiating mandate to be agreed

## PROGRESS TO DATE ON THE MAIN LEGISLATIVE FILES, ACCORDING TO THEIR STATUS

Proposal	Description	Status			
		European Commission	European Parliament	Council of the European Union	Adopted by European Parliament and Council
<b>External investment plan/ European Fund for Sustainable Development</b>	The co-legislators were able to come to a swift political agreement in June for this proposal, less than a year after the Commission presented it in September 2016. Its aim is to use EU funds to leverage private investment into the realm of development in Africa and other parts of the EU's neighbourhood.	September 2016			✓
<b>European Travel Information and Authorisation System</b>	This proposal will create an automated system for pre-travel security and irregular migration screening of visa-exempt non-EU nationals. This will ensure that Member States have better information about non-EU travellers coming to Europe.	November 2016	October 2017	June 2017	
<b>Establishment, operation and use of the Schengen Information System for:</b>	The Commission put forward proposals to revise the Schengen Information System in December 2016, notably with the aim of improving border and migration management.	December 2016	November 2017	November 2017	
• police cooperation and judicial cooperation in criminal matters		December 2016			
• border checks		December 2016			
• the return of illegally staying third country nationals		December 2016			
<b>Agency for the operational management of large-scale IT systems in the area of freedom, security and justice (eu-LISA)</b>	This proposal reviews the Regulation establishing the eu-LISA Agency and strengthens its mandate to make sure it meets current challenges at EU level in the area of freedom, security and justice. In particular, the Agency will now be responsible for the development and roll-out of the technical solutions to achieve the interoperability of the EU information systems.	June 2017			
<b>Revision of the rules for temporary reintroduction of border control at internal borders</b>	This proposal - which aims at making the rules on the temporary reintroduction of border controls better suited to current and future challenges - was presented by the Commission in September 2017.	September 2017			

European Commission	European Parliament	Council of the European Union
Proposal presented	Negotiating mandate agreed	Negotiating mandate agreed
Proposal to be presented	Negotiating mandate to be agreed	Negotiating mandate to be agreed



European Commission

# OVERHAULING THE EU'S ASYLUM RULES

## THE COMMISSION'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE LEADERS' AGENDA

#FutureofEurope #EURoad2Sibiu

The EU needs a robust and effective system for sustainable migration management for the future. The weaknesses in the design and implementation of the current EU asylum system have led to differing treatment of asylum seekers and varying recognition rates across the EU. These divergences encourage secondary movements and abuse of the rules. The procedures are also too complex and lengthy and the system overall leads to disproportionate pressure being put onto the Member States of first entry.

### WHAT THE NEW RULES WILL MEAN IN PRACTICE

#### 1. NO MORE SECONDARY MOVEMENTS



Everywhere in the EU, the same standard of reception conditions will be offered.



Whilst recognition rates can currently vary from 0% to 98% for the same nationality and procedures can take from months to years, with the new rules asylum applications will be treated equally and fairly across the EU.

#### 2. NO MORE ABUSE OF THE SYSTEM

In case of secondary movement, when asylum applicants or refugees go to Member States where they have no right to stay or reside, they will not be entitled to:



Asylum seekers are required to cooperate with authorities and respect their obligations during the asylum procedure or face stricter consequences:

- Refusal to give information on identity
- Applicants abscond
- No fingerprints

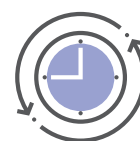


Asylum application may be rejected.

#### 3. EFFICIENT AND FAIR PROCEDURES



Shorter time limits to accept or reject an asylum application.



When asylum claims are manifestly unfounded or persons come from safe countries of origin, examinations should be completed within 2 months.





Protection should only be granted for as long as it is needed and reviewed when there is no longer a risk of persecution or serious harm in the country of origin.

#### 4. A MORE EFFICIENT AND FAIRER SYSTEM FOR ALLOCATING ASYLUM APPLICATIONS AMONGST MEMBER STATES



A system based on solidarity and fair sharing of responsibilities.

### WHAT REMAINS TO BE DONE BY THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE MEMBER STATES?



Proposal		Description	Status			
1	<b>Reform of the Dublin system – presented by the Commission in May 2016</b>	Creating a fairer, more efficient and more sustainable system for allocating asylum applications among Member States. Whilst the European Parliament has adopted a mandate to start negotiations on the Dublin reform, the Council has yet to approve their negotiating mandate for trilogues to start. <b>At the June 2018 European Council, EU leaders should reach a political agreement on the reform of the Common European Asylum System. This should translate swiftly into a negotiating mandate for the Council in order to finalise negotiations with the European Parliament by the end of 2018.</b>	May 2016	November 2017		
2	<b>A new Receptions Conditions Directive – presented by the Commission in July 2016</b>	Harmonising reception conditions throughout the EU. <b>With co-legislators having adopted negotiating mandates, trilogues should start with the aim to reach a political agreement by May 2018.</b>	July 2016	May 2017	November 2017	
3	<b>A new Asylum Procedures Regulation – presented by the Commission in July 2016</b>	Reducing differences in recognition rates, discouraging secondary movements and ensuring common effective procedural guarantees for asylum seekers. <b>Co-legislators to agree on negotiating mandates at the latest by May 2018.</b>	July 2016			
4	<b>A new Qualification Regulation – presented by the Commission in July 2016</b>	Harmonising protection standards in the EU and putting an end to secondary movements and asylum shopping. <b>Co-legislators should continue ongoing trilogues with the aim to reach a political agreement by end of March 2018.</b>	July 2016	July 2017	July 2017	
5	<b>A reinforced EURODAC system – presented by the Commission in May 2016</b>	Adapting and reinforcing the Eurodac system to facilitate returns and help tackle irregular migration. <b>Trilogues are ongoing. Co-legislators to ensure adoption by March 2018.</b>	May 2016	June 2017	June 2017	
6	<b>A European Union Agency for Asylum – presented by the Commission in May 2016</b>	Establishing a fully-fledged European Union Agency for Asylum with an enhanced mandate and considerably expanded tasks, including the ability to deploy asylum support teams and provide operational and technical assistance. <b>Preliminary agreement reached between the co-legislators, work at technical level is still required. The proposal should be adopted by March 2018.</b>	May 2016	December 2016	December 2016	
7	<b>Union resettlement framework</b>	Providing for a permanent framework with a unified procedure for resettlement across the EU. <b>A political agreement between the European Parliament and the Council should be reached by May 2018.</b>	July 2016	October 2017	November 2017	

European Commission	European Parliament	Council of the European Union	Adoptions by the European Parliament or the Council
Proposal presented	Negotiating mandate agreed	Negotiating mandate agreed	Adopted
Proposal to be presented	Negotiating mandate to be agreed	Negotiating mandate to be agreed	Still to be adopted



European  
Commission

# THE EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD AGENCY

## THE COMMISSION'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE LEADERS' AGENDA

#FutureofEurope #EURoad2Sibiu

The **European Border and Coast Guard Agency**, agreed in a record time upon the Commission's proposal, was established in October 2016 to ensure that Europe can better protect its common external borders and is equipped to face any new migration and security challenges. Building on the foundations of Frontex, the new Agency is a powerful tool that supports Member States in their responsibility to control external borders with around 1,400 border guards, complementing the existing national capacities of Member States of over 100,000 border and coast guards. An additional pool of 1,500 border guards is on standby ready to be deployed immediately if an emergency situation at any of the EU's external borders arises. The Agency's operations on land and at sea have helped to better manage migration and secure the EU's external borders, saving hundreds of thousands of lives in the Mediterranean.

### CURRENT EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD DEPLOYMENTS:



- 742 officers in Greece
- 137 officers in Bulgaria
- 322 officers in Italy
- 91 officers in the Western Balkans
- 79 officers in Spain

**OVER 1,400 OFFICERS ACROSS THE EU**

## GAPS HAMPERING THE ROLL-OUT OF THE EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD AGENCY

Over the past year, steps have been taken to operationalise the new Agency, including the setting up of Rapid Reaction Pools for border guards and equipment. Despite repeated calls for Member States to deliver on their commitments, gaps still persist in those pools, especially when it comes to technical equipment. The ongoing joint operations, such as in Bulgaria, Greece and Italy, face similar challenges with a chronic shortage of deployed officers from Member States.

### ESTIMATED DEPLOYMENT GAPS IN JANUARY 2018

	Greece	92
	Bulgaria	114

	Italy	18
	Spain	8





## RAPID REACTION POOL




There is currently a shortfall of 206 nominations for border guards for the Rapid Reaction Pool of 1,500 officers

MEMBER STATES	REQUIRED CONTRIBUTION	STILL MISSING
AUSTRIA	34	✓
BELGIUM	30	✓
BULGARIA	40	✓
CROATIA	65	✓
CYPRUS	8	X <sub>8</sub>
CZECH REPUBLIC	20	✓
DENMARK	29	✓
ESTONIA	18	✓
FINLAND	30	✓
FRANCE	170	✓
GERMANY	225	✓
GREECE	50	✓
HUNGARY	65	✓
ICELAND*	2	X <sub>2</sub>
ITALY	125	✓

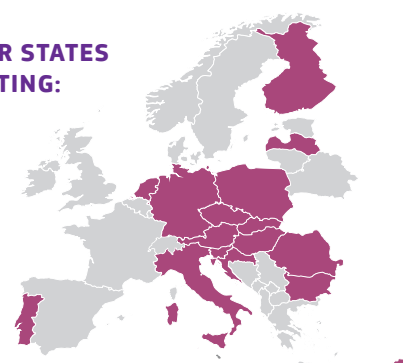
MEMBER STATES	REQUIRED CONTRIBUTION	STILL MISSING
LATVIA	30	✓
LITHUANIA	39	✓
LUXEMBOURG	8	X <sub>1</sub>
MALTA	6	✓
NETHERLANDS	50	✓
NORWAY*	20	X <sub>8</sub>
POLAND	100	✓
PORTUGAL	47	X <sub>42</sub>
ROMANIA	75	✓
SLOVAKIA	35	X <sub>31</sub>
SLOVENIA	35	X <sub>3</sub>
SPAIN	111	X <sub>111</sub>
SWEDEN	17	✓
SWITZERLAND*	16	✓
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>206</b>

## RAPID REACTION EQUIPMENT POOL

Only **14 Member States** are currently contributing technical equipment to the Rapid Reaction Equipment Pool, leaving considerable gaps.

TYPE OF EQUIPMENT	STILL MISSING (ASSETS - MONTH)
	53
	33
	78

**14 MEMBER STATES CONTRIBUTING:**



## TOWARDS FULL OPERATIONALISATION

In the next six months, Member States should, in the spirit of solidarity, increase their support for the swift roll-out of the Agency, paving the way towards its full operationalisation.

**The EU dimension of return policy has been reinforced**, but more synergy with national systems would increase the effectiveness of the return policy. With a strong mandate to support Member States, the Agency's return capacity should become fully functional by March 2018. Member States should constantly monitor and share up-to-date data with the EU increase the number of returned migrants in operations organised in cooperation with the Agency by 50% by June 2018.

**Strengthening our borders is a joint responsibility.** The European Border and Coast Guard Agency has been thoroughly assessing vulnerabilities at the EU's external borders over the past months. Member States now need to ensure a timely implementation of the Agency's recommendations to prevent situations that may put at risk the functioning of the Schengen area. All the necessary assets and staff for the rapid reaction pools need to be contributed and ready for deployment by March 2018.

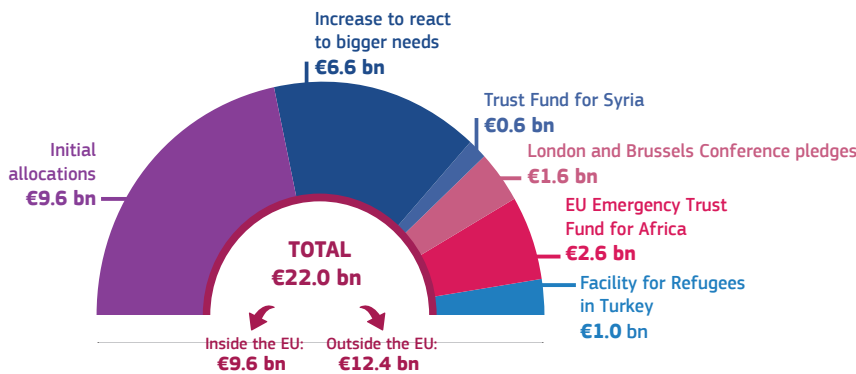


# EU BUDGET FOR THE REFUGEE CRISIS AND IMPROVING MIGRATION MANAGEMENT

THE COMMISSION'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE LEADERS' AGENDA

#FutureofEurope #EURoad2Sibiu

**EU funding to meet the increased migratory challenges for the period 2015-2018 has more than doubled to €22bn from the original allocation of €9.6 billion**



## EU funding inside and outside the EU for the period 2015-2018

### Planned funding inside the EU

AMIF (Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund), ISF (Internal Security Fund) and Emergency Support Instrument	€8.2 bn
Emergency funding	€1.8 bn
Long-term measures	€6.4 bn
Support to agencies and their operations	€1.4 bn
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>€9.6 bn</b>

### Planned funding outside the EU

Humanitarian aid <sup>1</sup>	€3.5 bn
Support to border and migration management in Turkey and the Western Balkans	€0.3 bn
Support to livelihood opportunities, health, education for refugees and mobility policy	€0.8 bn
Return of refugees and displaced persons, aid and support to migrants, fight against root causes of migration <sup>2</sup>	€1.6 bn
Support to stabilisation and peace, security and border management of third countries	€0.4 bn
Trust Fund for Syria (MADAD Fund) <sup>3</sup>	€0.6 bn
Pledges from the London Conference in February 2016 and the Brussels Conference in April 2017 supporting the future of Syria and the region <sup>4</sup>	€1.6 bn
EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa <sup>5</sup>	€2.6 bn
Facility for Refugees in Turkey (FRIT) <sup>6</sup>	€1.0 bn
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>€12.4 bn</b>

<sup>1</sup> No conditionality can be attached to needs-based humanitarian aid, in line with the Humanitarian Principles

<sup>2</sup> Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI) estimate of funds for migration from 2015-2018

<sup>3</sup> Without contributions to FRIT and conference pledges channelled via Madad

<sup>4</sup> Of which €820 million in humanitarian aid. The €1.6 bn reflects the actual implementation for 2015 and 2016 and estimates for 2017 and 2018

<sup>5</sup> €2.3 bn comes from the European Development Fund, amount for 2015-2020

<sup>6</sup> Of which € 310 million in humanitarian aid





European Commission

# MIGRATION: SOLIDARITY WITHIN THE EU

## THE COMMISSION'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE LEADERS' AGENDA

#FutureofEurope #EURoad2Sibiu

Over the past years, the European Union has provided significant financial and practical support for its Member States to tackle immediate challenges, better manage migration and protect the EU's external borders. The EU has worked closer together operationally, financial and politically, with support being offered to Member States through the EU budget, the deployment of manpower and equipment and through the EU relocation scheme.

Member States must now step up their efforts to meet their responsibilities and ensure that Europe is ready to face future migration challenges head on and in full solidarity. More must be done to help ease the pressure on the countries most affected, to ensure the EU agencies tasked to support Member States have the right tools at hand and to make the best use of the funding available.

### SUPPORTING MEMBER STATES ON THE GROUND AND AT SEA

The EU provides material support to its Member States in terms of manpower and equipment through its Agencies. Experts and staff from the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) and Europol are currently at work both on land and at sea to help Member States manage and strengthen the external borders, provide protection to those who need it, effectively return those who do not and, above all, to save lives.

### CURRENT EU AGENCY DEPLOYMENTS



**EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD**

**FRONTEX**

742 officers in Greece

322 officers in Italy

137 officers in Bulgaria

79 officers in Spain

91 officers in the Western Balkans



344 officers in Greece

216 officers in Italy



15 officers in Greece

27 officers in Italy



## RELOCATION – SHARING RESPONSIBILITY WITHIN THE EU

Two years on, the EU relocation scheme has proven to be a success, helping refugees start a new life and ensuring that responsibility is being better shared amongst Member States.

### RELOCATED FROM ITALY



10,842

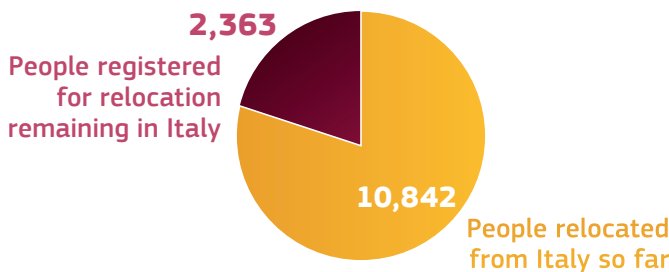
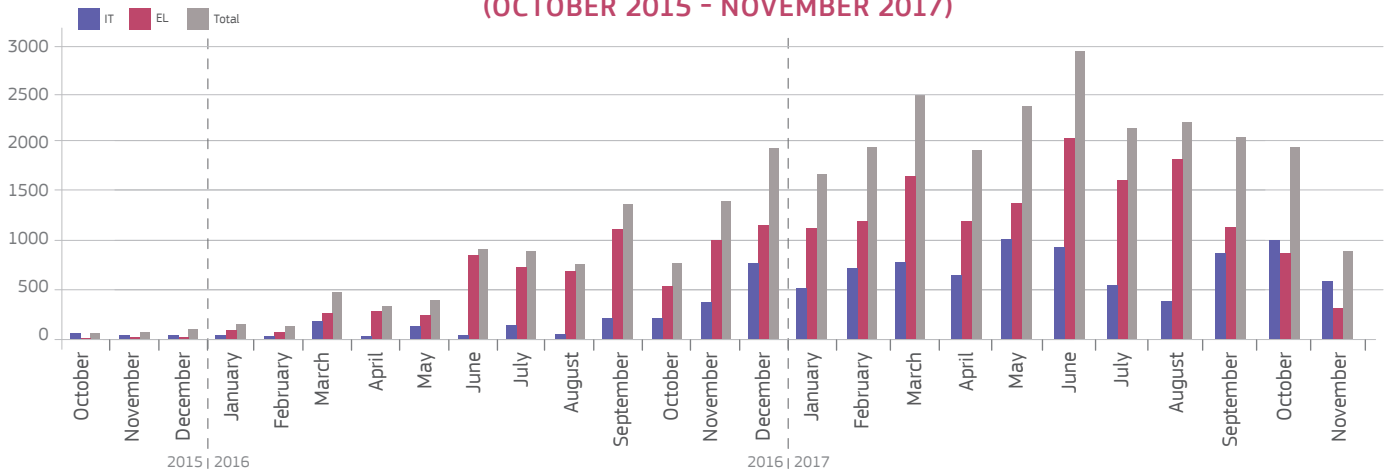
### RELOCATED FROM GREECE



21,524

TOTAL:  
32,366

### RELOCATIONS FROM ITALY AND GREECE (OCTOBER 2015 - NOVEMBER 2017)



Member States should respect their legal obligations and transfer the remaining candidates as a matter of urgency.

The Commission is providing financial support to Member States who are relocating, and stands ready to continue doing so to those Member States which sustain their efforts.

## EU FUNDING FOR MEMBER STATES



TOTAL PLANNED EU FUNDING  
(INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL) FOR  
MIGRATION MANAGEMENT FROM  
2015-2018

EU funding is a vital tool in helping Member States to manage migration effectively, providing a practical demonstration of solidarity and responsibility-sharing in action.

Within the EU, financial support to Member States is allocated under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) and the Internal Security Fund (ISF), as long-term and emergency funding.



**LONG-TERM FUNDING FOR 2014-2020**  
 AMIF: **€3.9 BN**  
 ISF: **€2.3 BN**

**EMERGENCY FUNDING AWARDED SO FAR:**  
 AMIF: **€616 M**  
 ISF: **€276 M**

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO MEMBER STATES UNDER THE ASYLUM, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION FUND AND THE INTERNAL SECURITY FUND<sup>1</sup>

COUNTRY	LONG-TERM FUNDING 2014-2020			EMERGENCY FUNDING (AWARDED)		PAYMENTS LONG-TERM FUNDING 2014-2020 + EMERGENCY FUNDING
	AMIF ALLOCATION	ISF ALLOCATION	TOTAL AMIF + ISF ALLOCATIONS	AMIF EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE	ISF EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE	AMIF AND ISF
AUSTRIA	€93.3m	€28.2m	€121.5m	€20.8m		€59.3m
BELGIUM	€141.7m	€41.7m	€183.4m	€5m	€1.7m	€59.8m
BULGARIA	€19.4m	€77.2m	€96.6m	€39m	€13.8m	€120.9m
CROATIA	€26.3m	€57.4m	€83.7m	€12.4m	€4m	€28.8m
CYPRUS	€38.4m	€43.8m	€82.2m	€975.8m		€14.8m
CZECH REPUBLIC	€50.7m	€34.5m	€85.2m			€16.9m
DENMARK	N/A	€10.3m	€10.3m			€1.7m
ESTONIA	€14.5m	€37.1m	€51.6m			€25.1m
FINLAND	€68.8m	€55.2m	€124m	€8m		€60m
FRANCE	€496.5m	€186.9m	€683.4m	€8.9m	€2.7m <sup>2</sup>	€200.6m
GERMANY	€514.3m	€145.5m	€659.8m	€45.6m		€266.2m
GREECE	€322.8m	€217.7m	€540.5m	€125.8m	€56.2m	€270.6m
HUNGARY	€34.4m	€64.4m	€98.8m	€5.2m	€1.5m	€21.1m
ICELAND	N/A	€5.3m	€5.3m			N/A
IRELAND	€40.3m	€10.5m	€50.8m			€15.9m
ITALY	€381.5m	€252.7	€634.2m	€89.7m	€59.8m	€232.6m
LATVIA	€18.6m	€35.3m	€53.9m			€9.9m
LIECHTENSTEIN	N/A	€5m	€5m			N/A
LITHUANIA	€17.4m	€198.2m	€215.6m			€71m
LUXEMBOURG	€14.4m	€7.8m	€22.2m			€6.4m
MALTA	€20.3m	€75.9m	€96.2m			€16.3m
NETHERLANDS	€204m	€70.1m	€274.1m	€5.6m		€99.7m
NORWAY	N/A	€14.3m	€14.3m			N/A
POLAND	€122.4m	€118m	€240.4m			€49.4m
PORTUGAL	€65m	€41.2m	€106.2m			€23.4m
ROMANIA	€53.3m	€103.7m	€157m			€31.8m
SLOVAKIA	€15.9m	€25.9m	€41.8m			€71m
SLOVENIA	€19.9m	€42.6m	€62.5m	€5.3m	€4.9m	€20m
SPAIN	€400m	€269.7m	€669.7m			€185.1m
SWEDEN	€207.1m	€35.5m	€242.6m	€55m		€168.4m
SWITZERLAND	N/A	€18.9m	€18.9m			N/A
UNITED KINGDOM	€453.7m	N/A	€453.7m			€128.1m
UNHCR	N/A	N/A	N/A	€132.8m	€9.1m	€92.4m
IOM	N/A	N/A	N/A	€41.5m		€67.4m
EASO	N/A	N/A	N/A	€25m	€1.1m	€21m
EUROPOL	N/A	N/A	N/A		€3.7m	€43.7m
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>€3,8551.1m</b>	<b>€2,331.5m</b>	<b>€6,185.6m</b>	<b>€616.m</b>	<b>€275.6m</b>	<b>€2,313.7m</b>

<sup>1</sup> Figures have been rounded up or down where appropriate.

<sup>2</sup> The Emergency Assistance awarded to France under the Internal Security Fund consists of Emergency Assistance for ISF – Borders and Visa (€1,731,180.35) and Emergency Assistance for ISF – Police (€999,870).



European Commission

# RESETTLEMENT AND LEGAL MIGRATION

## THE COMMISSION'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE LEADERS' AGENDA

#FutureofEurope #EURoad2Sibiu

Managing migration effectively has been a priority for the Juncker Commission from the start. Europe is a continent of solidarity and should keep legal pathways open for people in need of international protection. Offering legal pathways will also prevent migrants and refugees from having to resort to smuggling and trafficking networks and making perilous irregular journeys to reach Europe.

### RESETTLEMENT – A SUCCESS STORY

Since 2015, two successful EU resettlement programmes have helped **25,980** of the most vulnerable refugees find shelter in an EU Member State, 18,563 of those under the 20 July 2015 programme.

€500 million set aside for Member States' resettlement efforts in the next two years – **€10,000 for each resettled** person from the EU budget.

#### RESETTLEMENT UNDER THE CURRENT EU PROGRAMME



Total of **22,500** pledged

### THE WAY FORWARD

A new, more ambitious target for the resettlement of 50,000 persons in need of international protection set by President Juncker in September 2017 is within reach. A particular focus should be put on resettlement from North Africa and the Horn of Africa, notably **Libya, Egypt, Niger, Sudan, Chad and Ethiopia**, whilst ensuring continued resettlement from **Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon**.



By February 2018:

Member States to submit pledges for at least 50,000 resettlements.



By October 2018:

Member States to ensure that 50% are effectively resettled.



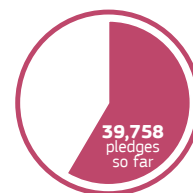
By May 2019:

Member States should complete the remainder of the resettlements.

The new resettlement programme is also supporting the UNHCR in establishing an **emergency evacuation mechanism from Libya** for the purpose of resettlement of vulnerable refugees to Europe or other third countries. The first evacuation of 25 refugees from Tripoli took place on 11 November.

A **permanent Union Resettlement Framework** was proposed by the Commission in July 2016 in order to coordinate European efforts in the long term and set up a unified procedure and common criteria. Once adopted, the EU resettlement framework will replace the current ad hoc resettlement and humanitarian admission schemes.

#### PLEDGES RECEIVED UNDER THE NEW RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMME



A total of **50,000** planned

## SAFE PASSAGE TO PROTECTION – RESETTLEMENT TO THE EU IN 2018

### PLEDGES RECEIVED UNDER THE NEW RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMME SO FAR:

Member State	Pledges made so far
Austria 	0
Belgium 	2,000
Bulgaria 	110
Croatia 	200
Cyprus 	69
Czech Republic 	0
Denmark 	0
Estonia 	80
Finland 	1,670
France 	10,200
Germany 	0
Greece 	0
Hungary 	0
Ireland 	1,200
Italy 	1,000

Member State	Pledges made so far
Latvia 	0
Lithuania 	50
Luxembourg 	200
Malta 	20
Netherlands 	3000
Poland 	0
Portugal 	1010
Romania 	109
Slovakia 	0
Slovenia 	40
Spain 	2,250
Sweden 	8,750
United Kingdom 	7,800
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>39,758</b>

## LEGAL ECONOMIC MIGRATION: EXAMPLES OF INITIATIVES

### ATTRACTING TALENT

Better managing legal channels for skilled migrants as part of a structured EU policy on labour mobility will help us respond to skill shortages and the growing needs of our ageing societies while reducing incentives for irregular migration. Offering legal pathways also helps facilitate cooperation with third countries on issues such as the prevention of irregular migration, readmission and return.

### A NEW BLUE CARD

The EU Blue Card scheme establishes a fast-track admission procedure and ensures a common set of social and economic rights to attract and retain highly skilled non-EU workers. The current scheme has proven to be insufficient and unattractive, however, with only 31% of highly-educated migrants to OECD countries choosing the EU as a destination. The **new Blue Card** scheme proposed by the Commission on June 2016 makes it easier and more attractive to come to the EU, strengthens the rights of workers and their families and provides for more flexible rules so that Member States can attract the work force they need, when they need it.

- By June 2018: The European Parliament and the Council should **reach a political agreement on the new EU Blue Card.**

### PILOT PROJECTS WITH PARTNER COUNTRIES

The Commission is ready to help finance and coordinate pilot projects in 2018 for legal migration to Member States willing to engage in receiving migrants for economic purposes with selected partner countries which have shown political engagement to work in partnership with the EU on migration.

- By May 2018: Member States should launch the first **pilot projects for coordinating legal economic migration** offers for key partners countries.



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# WORKING WITH PARTNER COUNTRIES

## THE COMMISSION'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE LEADERS' AGENDA

*#FutureofEurope #EURoad2Sibiu*

The European Union introduced the Partnership Framework on Migration in June 2016, fully embedding migration in the EU's foreign policy. The Partnership Framework combines all EU policies and instruments with the aim to save lives, break the business model of smugglers, prevent irregular migration and enhance cooperation on returns and readmission, as well as to address the root causes of migration, improve opportunities in countries of origin, step up investments in partner countries and ensure legal pathways to Europe for those in need of international protection. The framework provides a tailor-made and pragmatic approach combining both short and long-term measures, taking into account the specificities of each country and region, as well as the special interests of our partners. The EU started implementing this framework with a number of priority countries of origin and transit – Mali, Nigeria, Niger, Senegal and Ethiopia. A year into the implementation, the approach has delivered concrete results, and is also being applied with countries in North and West Africa, as well as in Asia.

### WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED SO FAR?



- **Cooperation:** Political dialogue with partner countries has reached an unprecedented level. More than 30 high-level visits or meetings involving Member State or EU politicians have taken place in the last quarter of this year. These are often prepared and/or followed up by technical missions. EU involvement in partner countries is being strengthened: Twelve dedicated European migration liaison officers have been deployed to priority countries of origin and transit; and cooperation between partner countries and the European Border and Coast Guard and Europol is being stepped up.



- **Fighting trafficking and smuggling:** In Niger, the EU and Niger have set up a Joint Investigation Team. Through EU support to the Nigerien authorities, in the first half of 2017, 101 persons were arrested and brought to court; and 66 vehicles and 8 motorcycles were seized (in addition, 79 persons were arrested for crimes related to human trafficking). The Joint Investigation Team model will be expanded to other countries, as called for by the European Council in October 2017. In parallel, to provide alternative income sources to smuggling, the EU is providing income support to local communities in northern Niger. The EU will further support the G5 Sahel Joint Force in taking action in the region, with €50 million in funding.



- **Protection:** Under the EU–IOM partnership, 5 transit centres where migrants receive assistance, medical care and psychosocial support have been funded in Niger. EU-financed projects will assist and protect more than 64,500 persons in detention centres, at disembarkation points or in host communities in Libya. Over 15,000 migrants stranded along the route have been assisted in voluntarily returning to their homes. The Commission has also launched a new resettlement scheme, with at least 50,000 additional places for refugees from Turkey, the Middle East and Africa by the end of 2019, and set aside €500 million to support Member States' resettlement efforts. So far, 19 Member States have pledged 39,758 places under the new scheme.







• **Better management:** Returning those who do not have the right to stay in the EU in full respect of fundamental rights is an essential part of the EU's migration policy. To this end, the EU is collectively working with partner countries on concluding readmission agreements and, in parallel, ensuring safe and legal pathways to Europe. For example, Standard Operating Procedures on return have been concluded with Bangladesh, providing a clear framework. The EU is also supporting partners in their migration management systems, through developing for example innovative IT solutions to better manage migration and contribute to good governance and development (monitoring of flows, registry of population).



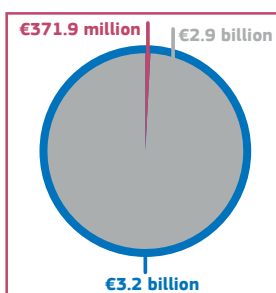
• **Opportunities:** Alternative job programmes have been launched in regions where trafficking used to be the main source of income. In the Horn of Africa, projects now under way with support from the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa will create over 44,000 jobs across Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia, and will directly finance a further 30,000 jobs in South Sudan. Projects are supporting the delivery of basic social services to over 1.6 million beneficiaries. In West Africa and the Sahel, ongoing work targets the creation of 114,000 jobs and supports almost 10,000 micro, small and medium enterprises. Most of these actions include support for returning migrants, to provide them with reintegration opportunities.



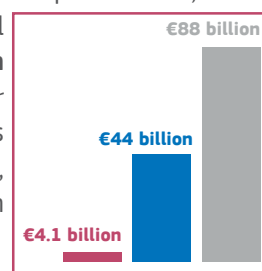
• **Investments:** An ambitious European External Investment Plan (EIP) to support investments in partner countries in Africa and the European Neighbourhood is also being made operational swiftly.

## FUNDING

• The resources allocated to the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa amount to approximately **€3.2 billion**, with over **€2.9 billion** from EU Funds and **€371.9 million** from EU Member States and other partners. Its reach has been expanded to include Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana.



• With an input of **€4.1 billion** from the EU budget and the European Development Fund, the External Investment Plan will mobilise up to **€44 billion** of investments. If Member States and other partners match the EU's contribution, the total amount could reach **€88 billion**.



## NEXT STEPS

**In order to build on initial achievements and ensure continuous progress, further steps need to be taken:**

- Additional funding needs to be ensured for the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa, in particular the North Africa window. It is necessary that the **funding gap of €340 million**, of which €110 million are for immediate needs, is closed.
- EU Member States need to deliver on the remaining 10,242 **resettlement** pledges under the new programme by February 2018.
- Negotiations on **readmission** agreements or practical arrangements with countries of origin need to continue.
- All components of the **EU's External Investment Plan** need to be implemented rapidly.



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# THE EU'S KEY PARTNERSHIP WITH AFRICA

## THE COMMISSION'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE LEADERS' AGENDA

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### THE EU AND AFRICA – KEY PARTNERS

The EU is Africa's main partner. The European Commission and the African Union are working together to tackle the common challenges of today, from investing in youth, fostering sustainable development and strengthening peace and security to boosting investment in the African continent, supporting good governance and better managing migration.

### AU-EU SUMMIT, CÔTE D'IVOIRE, 29-30 NOVEMBER 2017

The EU and Africa further strengthened their long standing partnership at the 5<sup>th</sup> African Union – European Union Summit, in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. African and European leaders adopted a political declaration setting out their joint commitment to invest in youth for a sustainable future. Concretely, they committed to focusing their work on four strategic priorities:

1. Mobilising investments for African structural and sustainable transformation;
2. Investing in people through education, science, technology and skills development;
3. Strengthening resilience, peace, security and governance;
4. Managing mobility and migration.



### PARTNERS ON FOOD SECURITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

- The EU is the leading export market for African agricultural and food products.
- The EU is providing €4.2 billion for the period 2014-2020 for actions related to food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture and fisheries in Africa.
- The EU is supporting African countries in integrating their agricultural sectors into the world's trading system, by addressing non-tariff barriers to trade.
- The EU will provide €2.7 billion of grants for sustainable energy projects in Africa.



## PROJECTS IN ACTION



### SUSTAINABLE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY FINANCE (SUNREF)

This initiative supports local capacities to appraise and finance energy efficiency and renewable energy projects offering credit lines to the private sector through the partner country's local banking system, financing a large number of projects in East and West Africa. EU support is composed of technical assistance programmes to project developers, local service providers and the local partner bank and a performance-based investment grant scheme, to provide additional incentives to green investments.

EU contribution:	€ 26.2 million
Total investment amount:	€ 431 million
Planned duration:	2010-2023
Lead financial institution:	Agence Française de Développement
Region:	East and West Africa



### LAKE VICTORIA WATER AND SANITATION INITIATIVE (WATSAN)

WATSAN is a regional initiative aimed at reversing the environmental deterioration of Lake Victoria and improving the living conditions in its basin. The initiative addresses the three countries sharing the lake coastline — Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania — and aims to provide access to safe drinking water and sanitation for about 3 million people. EU support includes technical assistance and grant support reducing the financial cost to the governments backing the project.

EU contribution:	€ 45 million
Total investment amount:	€ 404 million
Planned duration:	2010-2022
Lead financial institution:	Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau, European Investment Bank and Agence Française de Développement
Countries:	Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania

## PARTNERS IN TRADE AND INVESTMENT TO CREATE JOBS

- Through its new External Investment Plan, the EU will help to attract private investments for sustainable development of up to €44 billion in Africa.
- In 2015, European companies invested €31 billion in African economies, and the total stock of Foreign Direct Investments from the EU in Africa amounted to €294 billion.
- The EU is Africa's biggest trading partner accounting for 34% of African imports and 38% of African exports in 2016.
- The EU is Africa's biggest partner for sustainable energy, with €2.7 billion for Sub-Saharan Africa (2014-2020). And it pays off: 18.2 million people have been given access to energy thanks to EU support.
- The EU and its Member States are the biggest contributors of climate finance to developing countries, having provided €20.2 billion in 2016 alone. A major part of this was benefitting African partners.

## EU EXTERNAL INVESTMENT PLAN

The External Investment Plan provides a state of the art framework to improve sustainable investments in Africa and the European Neighbourhood. It will support innovative financial instruments such as guarantees to boost private investment. With an input of €4.1 billion from the EU, it will help mobilise up to €44 billion of private investments. Such investments will mainly be targeted on improving social and economic infrastructure, for example municipal infrastructure and proximity services, on providing support to small and medium-sized enterprises, and on microfinance and job creation projects, in particular for young people.

- **€4.1 billion** from the EU budget
- **€44 billion** from External Investment Plan
- Total: **€88 billion** if the Member States and partners match the EU's contribution



### **DID YOU KNOW? THANKS TO EU SUPPORT, BETWEEN 2015 AND 2016 ALONE...**

- 3,900 km of road were constructed, rehabilitated or maintained in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- 540 firms gained access to credit in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- 1.5 million people have access to all-season roads in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- 410 micro, small and medium enterprises apply sustainable consumption and production practices in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- 2,600 kilometres of transmission/distribution lines were built or upgraded in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- 871,000 people were provided with access to sustainable energy services.

### **PARTNERS TO BOOST KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS**

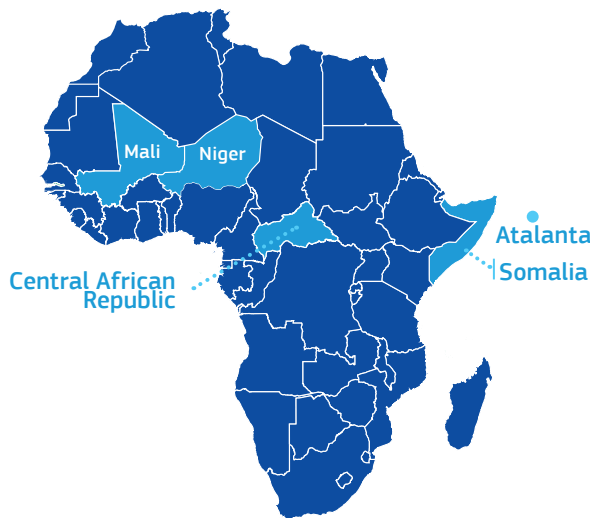
- Africa has the youngest population in the world: 41% under 15 years, 60% under 25 years. The EU is supporting their education and vocational training with €1.34 billion in funding (2014-2020).
- Over 8 million children have been enrolled in primary education and over 160,000 on secondary education as a result of EU programmes (2013-2014).
- 53,000 people in Africa have benefitted from education and vocational training, skills development and other active labour market programmes with EU support between 2014 and 2016.
- 15,400 teachers have been trained thanks to EU support (2015-2016).

### **PARTNERS TO BETTER MANAGE MIGRATION AND MOBILITY**

- Most migration takes place inside Africa: around 16 million African migrants are living in Africa, while 9 million are living in the EU.
- In 2015, €21 billion of remittances from African expatriates in the EU were sent to Africa, representing over a third of all global remittances.
- More than 8 million trips (business and leisure) are made by Europeans to Africa each year.
- The common priority of the EU and Africa is to save lives, fight traffickers, create legal pathways to Europe and create economic opportunities for people on the ground.
- To address root causes through long-term development, the EU and its Member States together provide €20 billion a year in Official Development Assistance to Africa.
- At the AU-EU Summit in Abidjan (29-30 November 2017), European and African leaders addressed the migration situation in Libya, and committed to step up their joint work to ensure the protection of migrants and refugees.
- A joint Task Force was set up by the European Union, the African Union and the United Nations to save and protect lives of migrants and refugees along the routes and in particular inside Libya.

## PARTNERS FOR PEACE AND SECURITY

- The EU has supported 14 Peace Support Operations in 18 different countries in Africa.
- The EU has helped to significantly reduce piracy around the Horn of Africa through its military mission EUNAVFOR ATALANTA.
- The EU missions in Africa have trained 30,000 military, police and judiciary personnel.
- 192,120 persons directly benefited from EU-supported programmes for civilian post-conflict peace building and conflict prevention (between 2013 and 2014).
- The EU is the leading supporter of the efforts of the G5 Sahel countries to improve security and cross-border cooperation in the region, with commitments totalling [€50 million](#).
- So far, the EU has provided more than €1.3 billion to AMISOM, the African Union mission in Somalia, making it the main contributor.



### EU military and civilian missions and operations in Africa

EUCAP Somalia  
EUCAP Sahel Mali  
EUCAP Sahel Niger  
EUNAVFOR Atalanta  
EUTM Somalia  
EUTM Mali  
EUTM Central African Republic

## PARTNERS TO STRENGTHEN GOVERNANCE AND RULE OF LAW

- 129 EU election observation missions and election expert missions have been deployed in Africa since 2000. In the last two years, there have been seven EU election observation missions in The Gambia, Kenya, Liberia, Gabon, Zambia, Ghana and Uganda as well as one election experts mission in Somalia.
- 2,930 human rights defenders received EU support from 2013-2014.
- The EU holds annual human rights dialogues with many African partners, discussing joint efforts to boost good governance and the rule of law.



# EU EMERGENCY TRUST FUND FOR AFRICA

## THE COMMISSION'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE LEADERS' AGENDA

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### THE EMERGENCY TRUST FUND FOR AFRICA

The EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa was created in November 2015 to fund projects addressing the root causes of instability, forced displacement and irregular migration. It is composed by three windows: the North Africa window, the Sahel and Lake Chad window and the Horn of Africa window.

The resources currently available to the Trust Fund amount to €3.3 billion. The EU has made available €2.9 billion from the European Development Fund and other EU financial instruments. EU Member States and other donors (Switzerland and Norway) have pledged €375 million out of which €315.1 million have been paid so far.

As of 4 December 2017 – about two years after its launch – already 120 programmes worth almost €2 billion were approved across the three concerned regions. A total of 194 contracts were signed for a total amount of over €1.3 billion and around €490 million were disbursed to implementing partners.

### PROJECTS APPROVED AND DISBURSEMENTS

(In million €, as of 04 December 2017)

Window	Approved amount	Contracted amount	Paid amount
Horn of Africa	665.0	787.0	146.6
North of Africa	293.6*	787.0	60.4
Sahel and Lake Chad	988.8*	787.0	282.9
Cross-Window Projects	13*	2.6	0.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,960.4*</b>	<b>1,352.2</b>	<b>490.6</b>

\*rounded figures

### THE NORTH AFRICA WINDOW OF THE EU-AFRICA TRUST FUND

The North Africa window of the EU-Africa Trust Fund has supported 15 contracts for an amount of **€132.3 million**. In 2017, programmes funded through the EU Trust Fund North Africa window have contributed to assist more than 14,000 vulnerable migrants to voluntarily return from Libya to their countries of origin, where they were provided with sustainable reintegration support. During the same period, medical assistance has been provided by the International Organisation for Migration to more than 6,000 vulnerable migrants stranded at disembarkation points and together with the UNHCR support has been given to more than 3,000 Libyan displaced families. Both organisations provided medical help and direct assistance to more than 20,000 migrants inside and outside detention centres.



To ensure the sustainability of actions already undertaken and launch new important projects the North Africa window needs additional funds. A funding gap of €340 million has been identified, of which €110 million are for immediate needs. The October European Council has asked Member States to ensure sufficient funding by the December European Council.

## PLEDGES AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE AFRICA TRUST FUND

(In €, as of 04 December 2017)

Donor	Contributions pledged (EUR)	Contributions received (EUR)
Austria	6,000,000	6,000,000
Belgium	10,000,000	6,000,000
Bulgaria	550,000	50,000
Croatia	200,000	200,000
Czech Republic	1,669,008	1,669,008
Denmark	10,033,020	6,000,000
Estonia	1,450,000	1,450,000
Finland	5,000,000	5,000,000
France	9,000,000	3,000,000
Germany	154,000,000	136,000,000
Hungary	700,000	700,000
Ireland	3,000,000	1,200,000
Italy	102,000,000	102,000,000
Latvia	300,000	300,000
Lithuania	50,000	50,000
Luxembourg	3,100,000	3,100,000
Malta	250,000	100,000
Netherlands	26,362,000	13,362,000
Norway (EUR equivalent of NOK)	8,778,990	8,778,990
Poland	8,180,746	8,130,000
Portugal	450,000	450,000
Romania	100,000	100,000
Slovakia	1,600,000	600,000
Slovenia	50,000	50,000
Spain	9,000,000	3,000,000
Sweden	3,000,000	3,000,000
Switzerland	4,100,000	3,600,000
United Kingdom	3,000,000	1,200,000
<b>Total External Contribution</b>	<b>375,023,018.00</b>	<b>315,091,918.61</b>

<sup>4</sup>Including other EU financial instruments such as the European Development Fund



European  
Commission

## EU ACTION IN LIBYA ON MIGRATION

### THE COMMISSION'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE LEADERS' AGENDA

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The EU is active in Libya and along the Central Mediterranean route to prevent migrants and refugees from embarking on dangerous journeys to and from Libya, put an end to the trafficking and smuggling business and above all protect migrants and refugees in line with international law. This is part of our broader engagement along the Central Mediterranean route, starting from West Africa, where we fight root causes of migration and strive to prevent people from falling into the hands of criminal networks. All our actions are conducted in partnership with UN agencies and international partners active on the ground.

#### MULTILATERAL COOPERATION

In the margins of the EU – African Union Summit, the EU together with the African Union, and United Nations set up a joint **Task Force** to accelerate the programme of the International Organisation for Migration for assisted voluntary returns from Libya to countries of origin and the emergency transit mechanism of the UNHCR, to evacuate people in need of international protection. Leaders also adopted a Joint Statement on the Migrant Situation Libya.

The EU **will fund an additional 15,000 assisted voluntary returns** and speed up **support for the emergency transit mechanism with at least 1,000 resettlements by February 2018.**

The work on migration is only one part of the EU's broader relations with Libya and support to the stabilisation of the country. This work is based on 3 areas: diplomatic engagement, economic recovery and humanitarian action.

#### DIPLOMATIC ENGAGEMENT, ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND HUMANITARIAN ACTION

The EU is assisting Libya's political transition and is supporting the UN-led mediation efforts, through the UN Special Envoy Ghassan Salamé, to fully implement the Libyan Political Agreement and forge a lasting solution to the political crisis in Libya. The EU is the fourth member of the Libya Quartet which brings together the UN, AU and the League of Arab States. The EU will continue to support the Libyan political process and maintain its financial assistance for re-establishing fully functioning effective institutions serving all Libyans.

#### BILATERAL ASSISTANCE

EU assistance to Libyan people is focused on restoring effective governance and improving socio-economic conditions.

**Close to €120 million** in bilateral support is in place with 37 projects across six sectors: **civil society; governance; health; youth and education; migration and protection; and support to the political process, security and mediation.**

EU support is provided mainly through the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) and the Instrument Contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP).

#### HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT

The EU has **humanitarian funding worth almost €30 million** in place aimed at helping the most vulnerable conflict-affected Libyans, mainly internally displaced people, through humanitarian organisations, especially in terms of access to emergency health services and essential medicines.

As with all the EU's humanitarian aid, funding will only be provided to humanitarian organisations and is strictly monitored.





## EU ACTIONS ON MIGRATION

### SAVING LIVES AT SEA AND IN THE DESERT

Over 170,000 migrants have been rescued in the Central Mediterranean since 2015 thanks to the efforts of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and EUNAVFOR Med Operation Sophia. Through the Common Security and Defence Policy mission in Niger and Mali and the EU Trust Fund for Africa, the EU supports search and rescue missions in the desert: so far over 1,100 migrants have been rescued in the Sahara in Niger this year by Nigerien authorities and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM).

Launched in June 2015 to counter human trafficking and smuggling in the Central Mediterranean, the **Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) Operation EUNAVFOR Med Sophia** has so far contributed to the apprehension of over 100 suspected smugglers and traffickers and has neutralised close to 500 assets. Operation Sophia also contributes to the implementation of the UN arms embargo on the high seas, in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 2292.

Most lives are lost in Libyan territorial waters, to which EU operations do not have access. For this reason, Operation Sophia, as well as the Italian Coastguard and Operation Seahorse, are also engaged in training the Libyan Navy and Coastguard to enhance their ability to perform search and rescue activities, disrupt smuggling and trafficking activities, and improve the overall security in Libyan territorial waters. The training of Operation Sophia has a strong human rights component and is conducted together with the IOM and the UNHCR. First results are already visible: The IOM has recorded nearly 19,000 migrants having been rescued between January and the end of October 2017 in Libyan territorial waters. Further steps to support better border management are under way, including support for the establishment of a Libyan Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre.

The EU is fighting smuggling activities further upstream along the route by providing capacity building, training and advice to local security forces through the civilian CSDP missions in the Sahel, EUCAP Sahel Niger and Mali. In Niger, the EU and Niger set up a Joint Investigation Team to step up the fight against smugglers.

### PROTECTING AND HELPING MIGRANTS INSIDE LIBYA

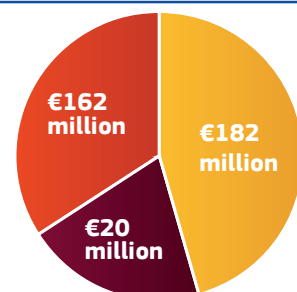
So far, the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa has contributed to the voluntary repatriation of **more than 14,000 vulnerable migrants through the IOM**, supported with reintegration assistance to their countries of origin. The EU will support the acceleration of the International Organisation for Migration's programme for assisted voluntary returns from Libya to countries of origin, funding an additional 15,000 returns by February 2018. As a measure to raise awareness about the dangers of embarking in perilous journeys, information will be disseminated directly among Libyans and migrants, reaching out to up to 23,500 people.

With EU financial backing, the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) have helped to protect and assist more than 20,000 migrants in detention centres and disembarkation points and have also supported 3,000 displaced Libyan families.

Work under the European Union- African Union - United Nations **Task Force**, set up in Abidjan on 29 November 2017, will be taken forward as a priority, to save and protect the lives of migrants and refugees along the routes and in particular in Libya.

Since 2014, the EU has mobilised **€182 million on migration-related projects**, out of which **€162 million** under the [EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa \(EUTF\)](#), **€20 million** under the European Neighbourhood Instrument.

The North Africa Window of the Trust Fund however still has a **funding gap of €340 million**: to which all EU Member States should contribute by March 2018.



Further, Stabilisation Programmes in place focus on facilitating access to basic services to host communities and employment opportunities for both the local population and for migrants, thus creating alternatives to smuggling.



## PROTECTING AND ASSISTING THOSE IN NEED AND SUPPORTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A programme worth €90 million from the EU Trust Fund was adopted in April 2017 to ensure:

- 1) **Protection and assistance** for all those in need in Libya, with a particular focus on migrants and refugees – to be implemented by the IOM, UNHCR and UNICEF.
- 2) **Stabilisation**, aiming at supporting socio-economic development at municipal level and local governance, in order to better integrate migrants, internally displaced persons and returnees and stabilise host communities. It will also ensure that at least 50,000 children have access to education supplies. This action is implemented by UNDP, GIZ, IOM and UNICEF.

## ENSURING EFFECTIVE LEGAL PATHWAYS TO EUROPE

In September 2017, the Commission launched a new resettlement scheme for at least 50,000 vulnerable refugees, with a focus on North Africa and the Horn of Africa, notably **Libya, Egypt, Niger, Sudan, Chad and Ethiopia**, whilst ensuring continued resettlement from **Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon**. The new scheme is also supporting the UNHCR in establishing an emergency evacuation mechanism from Libya – with the first evacuation of 25 refugees from Tripoli having taken place on 11 November.

The Commission has set aside **€500 million** to support Member States' resettlement efforts in the next two years. So far, 19 Member States have pledged more than **39,750 places** under the new scheme.



European Commission

# EU-TURKEY STATEMENT THE COMMISSION'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE LEADERS' AGENDA

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On 18 March 2016, EU Heads of State or Government and Turkey agreed on the **EU-Turkey Statement** to end irregular migration flows from Turkey to the EU, ensure improved reception conditions for refugees in Turkey and open up organised, safe and legal channels to Europe for Syrian refugees. Since then, irregular arrivals have dropped by 97%, while the number of lives lost at sea has decreased substantially. The EU has supported Turkey in its efforts to host refugees and is well on track to contract the €3 billion from its Facility for Refugees in Turkey by the end of 2017. Successful implementation requires continuous efforts and commitment from both the EU and Turkey.


## THE EU-TURKEY STATEMENT IN ACTION

### A GAME CHANGER



From **10,000** in a single day in October 2015, daily crossings have gone down to an average of around **84** today, while the number of deaths in the Aegean decreased from 1,175 in the 20 months before the statement to 137. That is almost one million people who have not taken dangerous routes to get to the European Union, and more than 1,000 who have not lost their lives trying.

#### ARRIVALS ON THE ISLANDS IN 2015

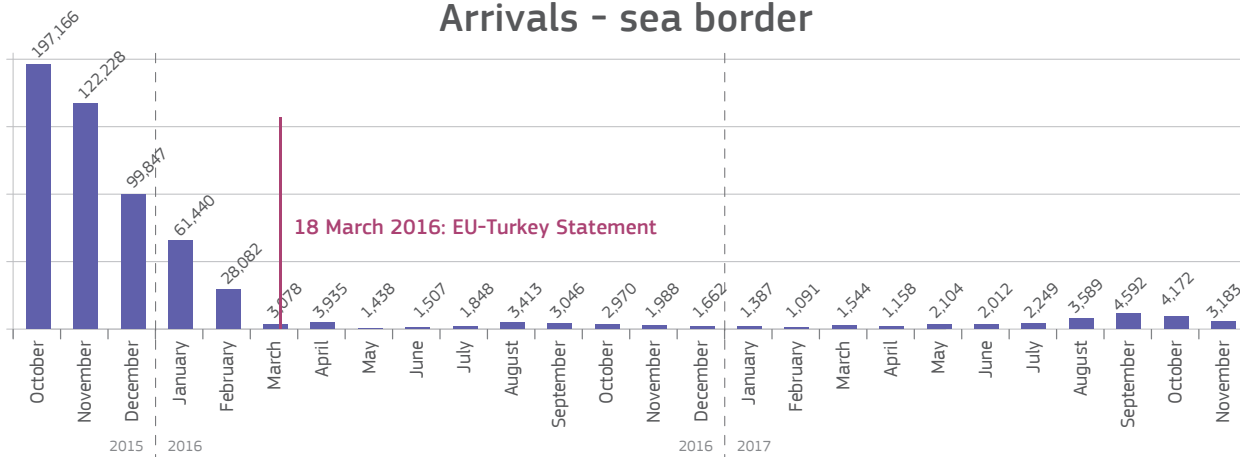
 **October 2015:**  
Daily average  
**6,360 arrivals**

 **December 2015:**  
Daily average  
**3,221 arrivals**

#### ARRIVALS ON THE ISLANDS SINCE THE EU-TURKEY STATEMENT

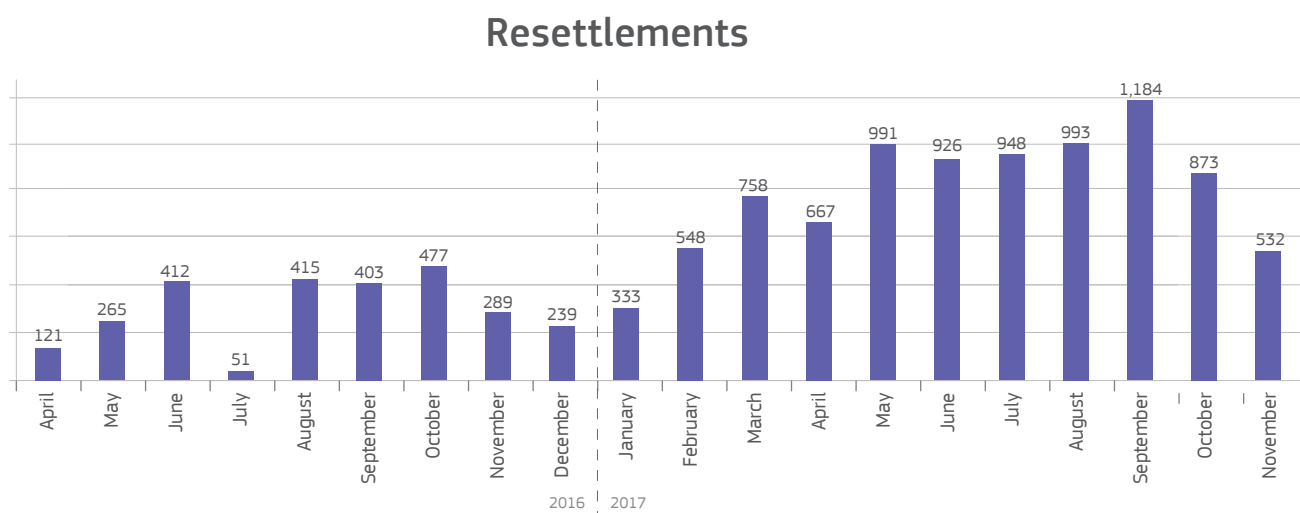
 **Since 18 March 2016:**  
Daily average  
**84 arrivals**  **Drop of 97%**

### Arrivals - sea border



## Resettlement: EU solidarity with Syrian refugees

Resettlements under the EU-Turkey Statement are continuing at a steady pace – in total, over 11,490 Syrian refugees have been resettled from Turkey to EU Member States so far.



## Continued support to Greece

In line with the Joint Action Plan on the implementation of the EU-Turkey Statement, endorsed by EU Heads of State or Government in December 2016, the Commission and EU agencies have continued to provide funding, technical assistance and experts to increase the migration and asylum management capacities of the Greek administration. Around 340 experts from the European Asylum Support Office are deployed in Greece. The European Border and Coast Guard Agency is supporting the Greek authorities with over 740 officers to save lives, perform border surveillance and identify and register arriving migrants through the ongoing joint Operation Poseidon.

Since 2015, the Commission has made more than €1.3 billion available from the EU budget to support the Greek authorities to manage migration and help improve reception capacities and conditions for migrants and asylum seekers, in particular on the islands. The Commission is also supporting the Greek authorities with the transfer to the mainland of vulnerable asylum seekers as well as of those entitled to family reunification.

Thanks to EU support and funding, all migrants and refugees staying in Greece today benefit from a minimum level of services, such as shelter, catering, clothing, healthcare, protection and access to the asylum procedures.

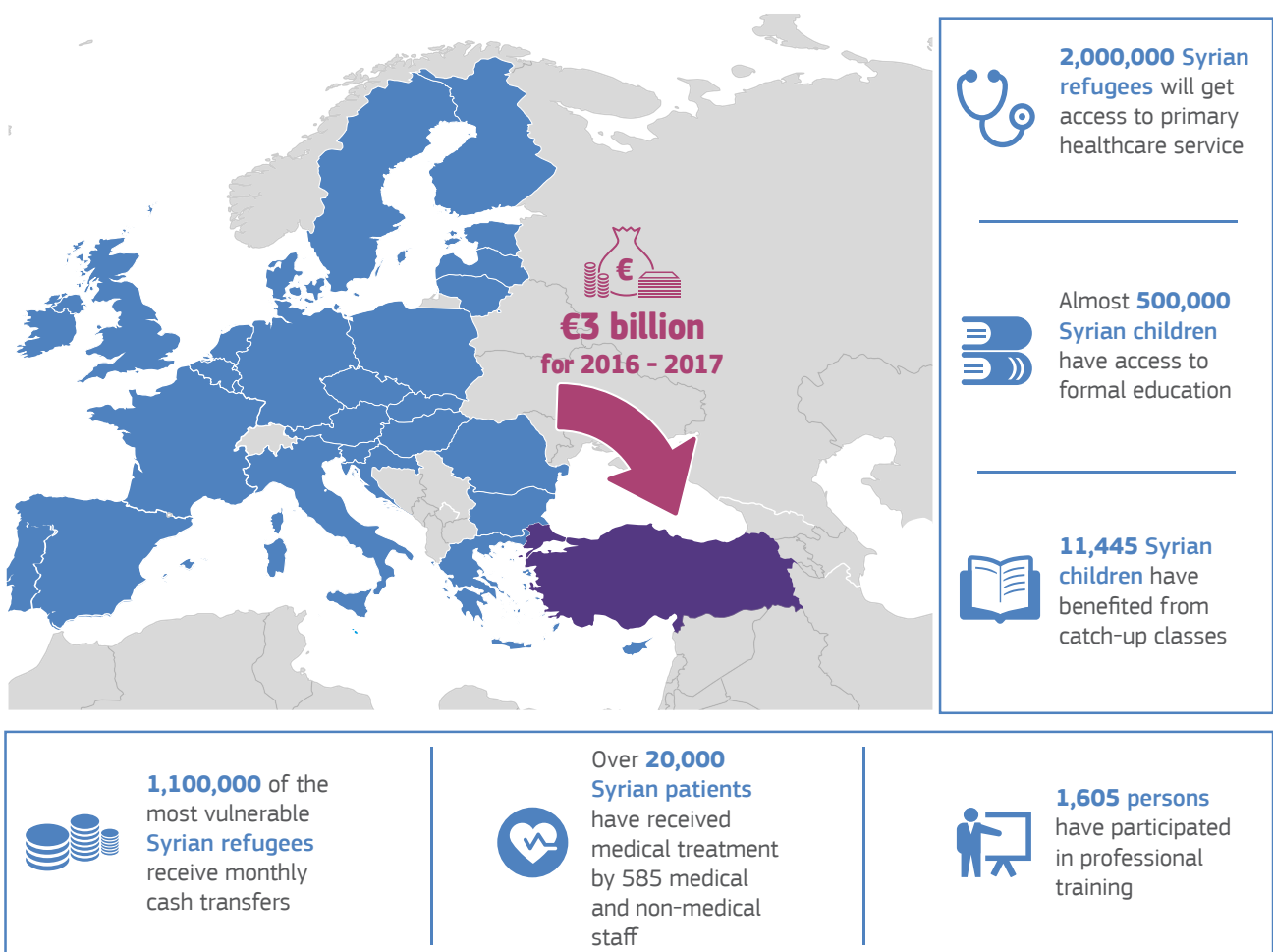
## More progress on returns to Turkey needed

The pace of returns to Turkey from the Greek islands under the Statement remains very slow, with only 2,059 migrants returned since March 2016. Significant additional efforts are still needed to reduce the backlog of asylum applications, address the insufficient pre-return processing and detention capacity in Greece to improve returns.

In addition, 2,041 migrants have returned voluntarily from the islands since June 2016, supported by the Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Programme (AVRR). In total, 11,391 migrants have returned voluntarily from both the Greek islands and mainland through the programme.

## EU support to Syrian refugees in Turkey

The EU is supporting Syrian refugees in Turkey with €3 billion for 2016 and 2017 through its Facility for Refugees in Turkey - €1 billion from the EU budget and €2 billion contributed by EU Member States. The EU is well on track to contract the €3 billion under the Facility by the end of 2017 - €922 million have already been disbursed so far. The money goes to projects to address the needs of refugees and host communities with a focus on humanitarian assistance, education, health, municipal infrastructure and socio-economic support. Under the EU-Turkey Statement Member States have also agreed that the EU should mobilise an additional €3 billion for the EU Facility for Refugees in Turkey shortly after the currently available resources have been contracted.





# MANAGING MIGRATION

## EU Financial Support to Italy

November 2017

### Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)/ Internal Security Fund (ISF)/ Emergency Assistance

The better management of migration and protection of our external borders are top priorities for the European Union. For several years, Italy has been at the forefront in managing migration along the Central Mediterranean route. The Commission supports the Italian efforts to improve the situation by mobilising long-term and emergency funding. Since the beginning of 2015, the Commission has allocated nearly €189 million in emergency assistance to the Italian authorities as well as international organisations and NGOs operating in Italy. This emergency funding comes on top of the €626.4 million already allocated to Italy under the national programmes for 2014-2020 (€381.49 million from AMIF and €252.76 million from ISF).

The Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund supports Italian national efforts to improve reception capacities, ensure that asylum procedures are in line with Union standards, integrate migrants at local and regional levels and increase the effectiveness of return programmes. The Internal Security Fund supports national efforts to achieve a high and uniform level of control of the external borders and to fight cross-border organised crime. Emergency assistance has been allocated to support the Italian Coast Guard with, amongst others, border surveillance and Search and Rescue operations, improving the reception capacities, in particular for unaccompanied minors legal, and legal and social counselling for migrants and refugees.

\*information as of August 2017

*All numbers in this factsheet have been rounded up or down.*



**ASYLUM, MIGRATION  
AND INTEGRATION FUND (AMIF)**

The fund promotes the efficient management of migration flows and the implementation, strengthening and development of a common Union approach to asylum and immigration.



**INTERNAL SECURITY FUND  
(ISF)**

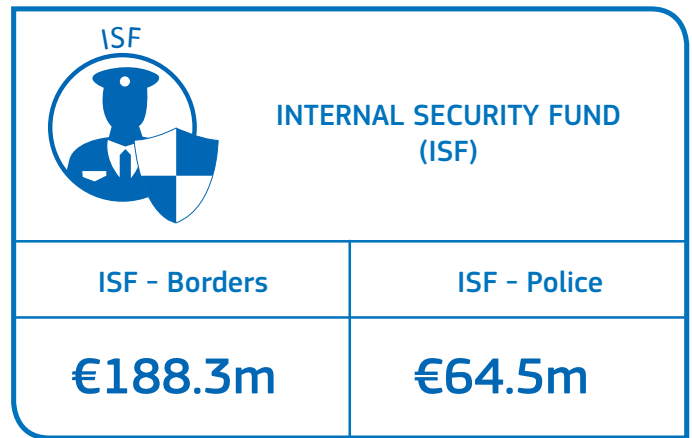
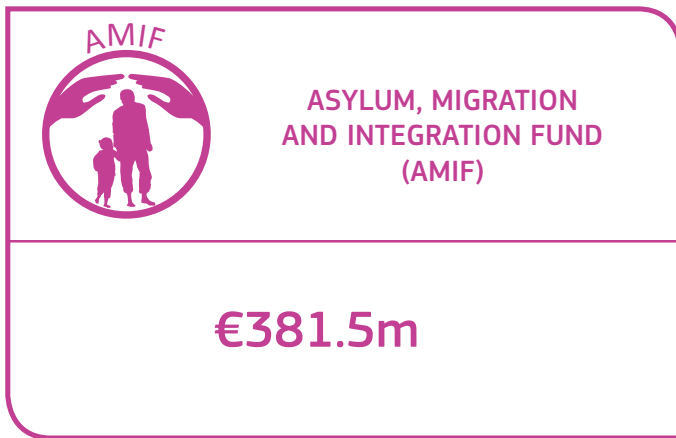
The Fund promotes the implementation of the Internal Security Strategy, law enforcement cooperation and the management of the Union's external borders. The ISF is composed of two instruments, ISF Borders and Visa and ISF Police.

**National Programmes  
2014 - 2020  
(Long-term funding)  
€634.25m (allocated)**

**Emergency Assistance  
allocated to Italy  
€189m**



## Long-term funding to Italy (allocations) 2014 - 2020



### Funding for emergency relocation mechanism



Italy will receive **€500** for the transport costs of every relocated asylum seeker.

**€37.4 million** has been allocated for the implementation of the Relocation & Resettlement mechanisms.

**€7.4 million** has been paid as pre-financing up to May 2017

*\*these amounts are already included in the Italy AMIF National Programme*



### Emergency Funding

**€89.7m**

AMIF Emergency Assistance  
directly allocated to Italian authorities

**€99.4m**

ISF Emergency Assistance  
directly allocated to Italian authorities

**€0.95m**

Emergency Assistance allocated  
to International Organisations/Union Agencies

(IOM, UNHCR, EASO)  
Source: AMIF and ISF








## Emergency Funding

### Overview emergency assistance from AMIF & ISF Borders and Visa Funds - Italy


Fund	Award Decision taken	EU contribution	Title of the action	Responsible Entity
	24/11/2017	€2.3m	Acquisition of units and vehicles of rescue and medical principals - health - HEALTH 2	Ministry of Interior
	24/11/2017	€4.9m	Intervention to improve the monitoring of migration flows and fight crimes related to the trafficking of human beings during the surveillance of external borders - FALCO	Ministry of Interior
	24/11/2017	€13.1m	Overtime retribution to the staff of Police involved in activities related to the management of migration flow - POLSTAFF 2	Ministry of Interior
	24/11/2017	€5.8m	Deployment of a naval unit and embarked helicopters - PATROL 2	Navy
	24/11/2017	€3.2m	Enhancement of the air-naval system for the control of the borders and surveillance of migration flow - AIRNAV	Financial Police
	24/11/2017	€0.04m	Purchase of portable metal detectors - MED	Financial Police
	24/11/2017	€0.1m	Purchase of explosive substance detectors - DETEX	Financial Police
	24/11/2017	€0.5m	Interpretation service and tools to extract devise's information for immigration risks on terrorism - ISTIRT	Ministry of Interior
	24/11/2017	€2.7m	Acquisition of equipment and devices for border surveillance and Search and rescue - SARMED	Coast Guard
	24/11/2017	€2.5m	Implementation of a specific operational framework for border surveillance and to safeguard human life at sea - S.A.S	Coast Guard
	24/11/2017	€4.7m	Linguistic and intercultural mediation for emergency action - III STEP	Ministry of Interior
	12/06/2017	€1.8m	Assessment of the Libyan Coast Guard legal framework and capability in terms of Search and Rescue Services.	Coast Guard
	02/06/2017	€58.2m	BORNER - Boost reception services for migrants in North-East temporary centres.	Ministry of Interior
	02/05/2017	€15.3m	Reception services for migrants eligible for relocation - (REC4REL).	Ministry of Interior



Fund	Award Decision taken	EU contribution	Title of the action	Responsible Entity
	09/03/2017	€12.3m	Implementation of a specific operational framework for border surveillance and to safeguard human life at sea.	Coast Guard
	22/12/2016	€0.7m	Acquisition of equipment, devices and services for border surveillance and Search and Rescue.	Coast Guard
	22/12/2016	€9.5m	Overtime retribution to the staff of the Police involved in activities related to the management of migrations flows.	Ministry of Interior
	22/12/2016	€11.3m	Improvement of the capacity of border surveillance and rescue of lives at sea.	Ministry of Defence Italian Navy
	22/12/2016	€5.4m	Reactivation of maintenance/repairs for 1 EH 101 helicopter.	Ministry of Defence Italian Navy
	22/12/2016	€2.3m	Linguistic and intercultural mediation for emergency action.	Ministry of Defence
	22/12/2016	€2.5m	PUERI - Pilot Action for UAMs: Early Recovery Interventions.	Ministry of Interior
	22/12/2016	€0.6m	Instrumental needs assessment to cope with migratory fluctuations and investigations on illegal trafficking connected with them.	Ministry of Interior
	22/12/2016	€0.2m	Support for standard operating procedures.	Ministry of Interior
	22/12/2016	€4.6m	Implementation of refitting activity on OPV CP 904 "Fiorillo".	Coast Guard
	22/12/2016	€0.8m	Acquisition of units and vehicles of rescue and medical principals.	Ministry of Interior
	27/07/2016	€1m	Acquisition of a high-level insulation mobile unit, stretcher transport isolators with high bio-containment and a kit to deal with infectious agents (PPE) related to healthcare activities in the context of patrolling and surveillance of borders.	Ministry of Defence Italian Navy
	27/07/2016	€2.2m	Implementation of a specific operational framework to safeguard human life at sea.	Coast Guard
	08/02/2016	€0.3m	Purchase of equipment for the fingerprinting needed to properly address the migration crisis.	Ministry of Interior
	08/02/2016	€0.9m	Linguistic and Intercultural Mediation for Emergency Action.	Ministry of Interior

Fund	Award Decision taken	EU contribution	Title of the action	Responsible Entity
	10/07/2015	€4.4m	Linguistic and Intercultural Mediation for Emergency Action.	Ministry of Interior
	10/07/2015	€0.5m	Search and Rescue Operations IV.	Ministry of Interior
	20/03/2015	€0.5m	Search and Rescue Operations III.	Ministry of Interior
	16/02/2015	€11.9m	Improve the capacity for dealing with exponentially growing accommodation needs for unaccompanied foreign minors arriving on IT territory, with particular reference to areas most affected by heavy migratory flows.	Ministry of the Interior - Department for Civil Freedoms and Immigration
	23/12/2014	€1.7m	Continuation for another 9 months of Praesidium IX (legal and social counselling by a consortium led by UNHCR and IOM in IT centres of first arrival and reception).	Ministry of the Interior - Department for Civil Freedoms and Immigration

#### Allocated Funds for International Organisations/ Union Agencies (IOM, UNHCR, EASO)

Fund	Award Decision taken	EU contribution	Main activities	Responsible Entity
	11/01/2016	€0.9m	Complementary measures in light of the relocation programme from Italy to Member States of relocation.	IOM



European  
Commission

# RELOCATION: EU SOLIDARITY BETWEEN MEMBER STATES

November 2017

Europe has consistently shown generosity and true solidarity towards those in need of protection. Over the past year alone, we have opened our doors to more than 720,000 persons in need of protection. The relocation scheme has contributed to ensuring that responsibility is shared fairly between Member States.



«With the EU relocation scheme successfully coming to an end, we have made enormous progress on relocation over the past two years. This shows that responsibility can be successfully shared within the EU. We are committed to provide financial support to those Member States who continue to show solidarity with Greece and Italy.»

EU Migration Commissioner **Avramopoulos**

## RELOCATION – SHARING RESPONSIBILITY WITHIN THE EU

Two years after Member States decided to establish the Emergency Relocation Mechanism, almost all eligible persons registered for relocation in Greece and Italy have been successfully relocated – a total of **over 31,500 persons** in need of international protection. This shows that relocation works – helping refugees start a new life and ensuring that responsibility is shared amongst Member States. The remaining eligible candidates should now be transferred by Member States as a matter of urgency, with Greece and Italy still under migratory pressure. And while the current schemes are coming to an end, the Commission stands ready to provide financial support to those Member States sustaining their relocation efforts and encourages all Member States to continue relocation beyond the current schemes.

### FACTS AND FIGURES:

#### How many in total?

Based on the arrival figures at the time of adoption of the Council Decisions on relocation in 2015 and the expectation that they would continue at the same rate, Member States agreed to support Greece with the relocation of 63,302 persons in need of international protection and Italy with 34,953 – a total of **around 98,000**. But with the EU-Turkey Statement reducing irregular flows to Greece by 96% and the majority of migrants arriving in Italy not being eligible for relocation, the **number of persons to be relocated turned out to be much lower**.

#### All have to contribute

Setting up the relocation mechanism was decided by Member States in legally binding Council decisions. Almost all Member States have respected their legal obligations with regular pledges and relocations. The Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland are the only exceptions, **infringement procedures** launched by the Commission therefore remain ongoing.

#### Will relocation continue?

While the current schemes are coming to an end, the EU should continue to show solidarity with Italy and Greece. Member States are therefore encouraged to continue to relocate from Italy and Greece beyond the current schemes. The Commission stands ready to provide financial support to those Member States sustaining their relocation efforts. The assistance provided by EU agencies to Italy and Greece will also continue and, when needed, be further enhanced.

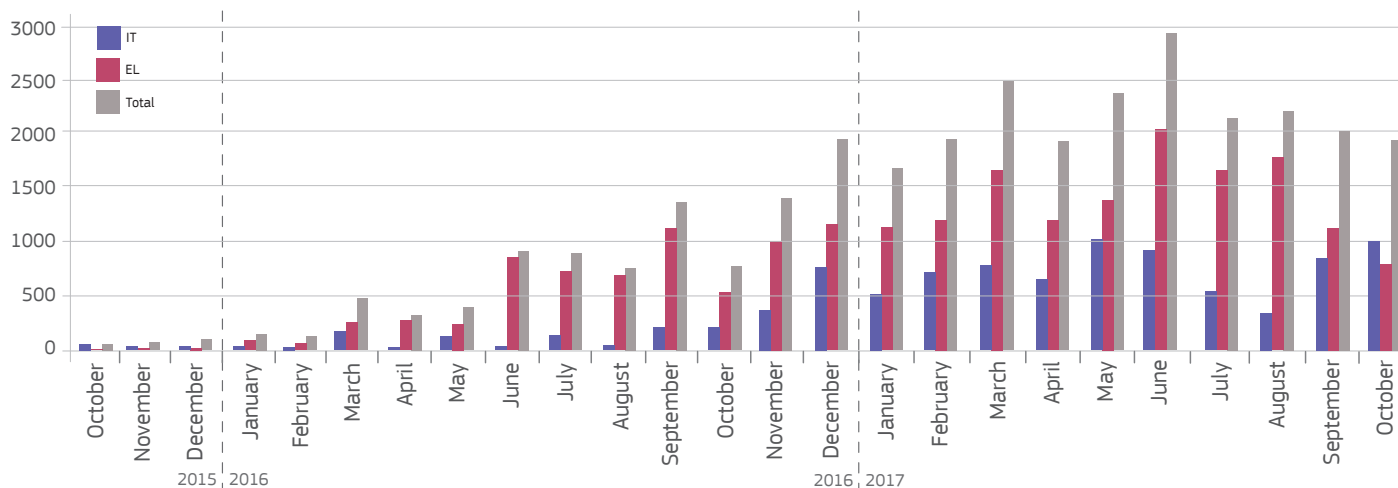
#### How many still to be relocated?

At the moment, there are **758 persons in Greece** awaiting relocation. In **Italy, 3,110** applicants remain to be relocated.

#### How many relocations so far?

Total: **31,503**  
From **Greece**: 21,238  
From **Italy**: 10,265

## RELOCATIONS FROM ITALY AND GREECE (OCTOBER 2015 - OCTOBER 2017)



### RELOCATIONS CARRIED OUT BY MEMBER STATES AND ASSOCIATED COUNTRIES

Member State	Relocated from Italy	Relocated from Greece	Total	Legal commitment
Austria	15	0	15	1,953
Belgium	361	698	1,059	3,812
Bulgaria	0	50	50	1,302
Croatia	18	60	78	968
Cyprus	47	96	143	320
Czech Republic	0	12	12	2,691
Estonia	0	141	141	329
Finland	779	1,201	1,980	2,078
France	377	4,322	4,699	19,714
Germany	3,972	5,197	9,169	27,536
Hungary	0	0	0	1,294
Ireland	0	646	646	600
Latvia	27	294	321	481
Liechtenstein	0	10	10	
Lithuania	29	355	384	671
Luxembourg	211	271	482	557
Malta	67	101	168	131
Netherlands	842	1,709	2,551	5,947
Norway	816	693	1,509	
Poland	0	0	0	6,182
Portugal	315	1,192	1,507	2,951
Romania	45	683	728	4,180
Slovakia	0	16	16	902
Slovenia	60	172	232	567
Spain	205	1,096	1,301	9,323
Sweden	1,202	1,619	2,851	3,766
Switzerland	877	574	1,421	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,265</b>	<b>21,238</b>	<b>31,503</b>	<b>98,255</b>



European Commission

# RESETTLEMENT: ENSURING SAFE AND LEGAL ACCESS TO PROTECTION FOR REFUGEES

November 2017



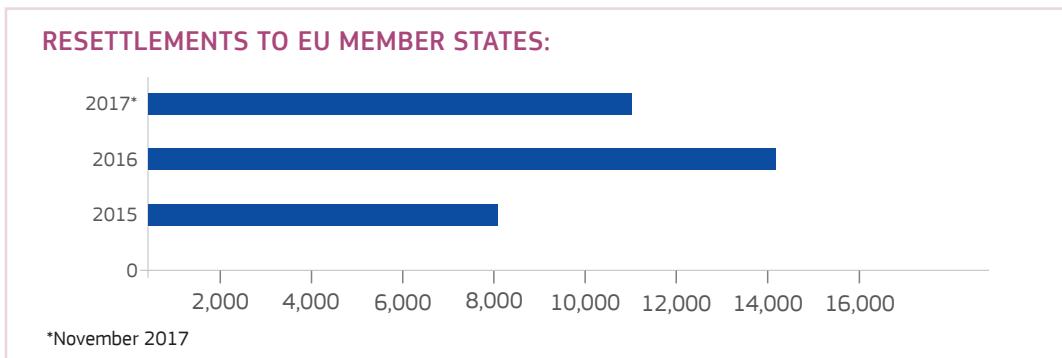
«People who are in genuine need of protection should not have to risk their lives on dangerous irregular journeys to Europe or put themselves in the hands of smugglers. Resettlement should become the preferred way for refugees to receive protection. With over 25,000 persons resettled since 2015, the EU has collectively delivered on its promise to provide safe pathways for the most vulnerable refugees. I encourage Member States to be even more ambitious and step up our collective resettlement efforts, in particular along the Central Mediterranean route.»

EU Migration Commissioner **Avramopoulos**

Europe has consistently shown solidarity during the migration crisis. Through our **resettlement schemes**, we enable the most vulnerable refugees in need of protection to reach Europe through legal and safe pathways and prevent them from having to resort to criminal smuggling networks and endanger their lives on dangerous irregular routes.

## EU RESETTLEMENT SCHEMES DELIVER CONCRETE RESULTS

Whilst the decision to take part in resettlement lies with EU Member States, the Commission is providing a joint framework and financial support. A European resettlement scheme has been in place since July 2015 to provide legal and safe pathways to enter the EU and increase our collective resettlement efforts.



Through the **EU scheme**, Member States have agreed to resettle over 22,000 persons in need of international protection during the period 2015-2017. With almost 18,400 - persons mainly from Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon - having been resettled so far, 81% of the agreed target has already been reached.

Member States are also successfully resettling Syrian refugees from Turkey under the **EU-Turkey Statement** of 18 March 2016, having provided protection to over 11,000 Syrians so far. Resettlements from Turkey under the EU-Turkey Statement are also funded by the EU budget.

**RESETTLED  
SO FAR:**

**25,739** IN TOTAL  
UNDER BOTH THE EU  
RESETTLEMENT SCHEME  
LAUNCHED IN JULY 2015  
AND THE EU-TURKEY  
STATEMENT OF MARCH  
2016



## A NEW CALL FOR RESETTLEMENT - STEPPING UP JOINT EU EFFORTS

Building on the successful joint EU efforts and with the current resettlement schemes coming to an end, the Commission has proposed a **new resettlement scheme with at least 50,000** additional places for particularly vulnerable persons in need of international protection, to be admitted by EU Member States by October 2019. A particular focus should be put on resettlement from North Africa and the Horn of Africa, notably **Libya, Egypt, Niger, Sudan, Chad and Ethiopia**, whilst ensuring continued resettlement from **Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon**. The new scheme will also support the UNHCR in establishing an emergency evacuation mechanism from Libya. So far, 34,400 pledges have been made by 16 Member States. The Commission expects to shortly receive pledges from additional Member States as well as increased commitments from those which have already pledged.

The Commission has set aside **€500 million** to support Member States' resettlement efforts in the next two years - **€10,000 for each resettled person** from the EU budget.

Setting up **private sponsorship schemes**: Member States are encouraged to establish private sponsorship schemes to allow private groups or civil society organisations to organise and finance the resettlement and integration of persons in need of protection in line with national legislation. To that effect the Commission has invited EASO to coordinate a pilot project on private sponsorship schemes with interested Member States.

### PLEDGES RECEIVED UNDER THE NEW CALL SO FAR:

**34,400** PLEDGES  
FROM 16 MEMBER STATES

### RESETTLEMENTS UNDER THE 20 JULY 2015 SCHEME – 18,366<sup>2</sup>

Member State	resettled	pledged	% complete
Austria	1,880	1,900	99%
Belgium	1,100	1,100	100%
Bulgaria	0	50	0%
Croatia	0	150	0%
Cyprus	0	69	0%
Czech Republic	52	400	13%
Denmark	481	1,000	48%
Estonia	20	20	100%
Finland	293	293	100%
France	2,283	2,375	96%
Germany	1,600	1,600	100%
Greece	0	354	0%
Iceland	50	50	100%
Ireland	520	520	100%
Italy	1,521	1,989	76%
Latvia	42	50	84%
Liechtenstein	20	20	100%
Lithuania	32	70	46%
Luxembourg	26	30	87%
Malta	14	14	100%
Netherlands	1,000	1,000	100%
Norway	3,489	3,500	99%
Poland	0	900	0%
Portugal	76	191	40%
Romania	26	80	33%
Slovakia	0	100	0%
Slovenia	0	20	0%
Spain	631	1,449	44%
Sweden	491	491	100%
Switzerland	519	519	100%
United Kingdom	2,200	2,200	100%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18,366</b>	<b>22,504</b>	<b>81%</b>

## THE WAY FORWARD

A **permanent EU Resettlement Framework** to coordinate European efforts in the long term: In July 2016 the Commission proposed to create an EU Resettlement framework with a unified procedure and common criteria. Once adopted, the EU resettlement framework will replace the current ad hoc resettlement and humanitarian admission schemes.

### RESETTLEMENTS UNDER THE EU-TURKEY STATEMENT FROM MARCH 2016 – 11,354<sup>1</sup>

Member State	Total resettled
Austria	192
Belgium	823
Estonia	30
Finland	994
France	1,091
Germany	3,797
Italy	327
Latvia	42
Lithuania	32
Luxembourg	206
Malta	17
Netherlands	2,594
Portugal	46
Spain	410
Sweden	753

<sup>1</sup> A total of 11,354 persons have been resettled from Turkey under the 1:1 mechanism as of 10 November 2017, of which 3,621 are also counted under the 20 July scheme

<sup>2</sup> Figures as of 10 November 2017



## CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE: PROTECTING MIGRANTS AND MANAGING IRREGULAR FLOWS



*“We managed to get more control over the Central Mediterranean route with arrivals in August down by 81% compared to the same month last year. In doing so, we have drastically reduced the loss of life in the Mediterranean.”*

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, State of the Union Address, 13 September 2017

Saving lives, protecting migrants, fight traffickers and replacing irregular migration with organised, legal and safe pathways are the core objectives of the EU's migration policy along the Central Mediterranean route. Over the past few years, in the face of an ever-increasing death toll at sea, the Juncker Commission, together with the High Representative and EU Member States, has made enormous efforts to better manage the flows and put an end to the cruel smuggling and trafficking business. Cooperation with partner countries is essential to this end and has been taken to an unprecedented level through the Partnership Framework on Migration. Since summer 2017, both deaths at sea and irregular arrivals in Italy have decreased. The way forward must build on these steps by further enhancing cooperation with our partners in Africa, cutting off the smugglers, fighting the root causes of irregular migration, helping stranded migrants return home and ensuring the most vulnerable can come to Europe safely.

### SAVING LIVES – AT SEA AND IN THE DESERT



The EU's first and foremost priority is saving lives. Over **170,000 migrants** have been rescued in the Central Mediterranean **since 2015** thanks to the efforts of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and Operation Sophia. Additionally, Operation Sophia, the Italian Coastguard and Operation Seahorse started training the Libyan Coast Guard to make sure it can carry out rescue operations in Libyan territorial waters, where the most lives are lost. Through the Common Security and Defence Policy mission in Niger and Mali and the EU Trust Fund for Africa, the EU supports search and rescue missions in the desert: so far over 1,100 migrants have been rescued in the Sahara in Niger this year by Nigerien authorities and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM).

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## PROVIDING PROTECTION FOR MIGRANTS

Improving the situation of migrants and refugees along the migratory routes is a top priority for the EU, which is working with the IOM, UNHCR and UNICEF to provide protection, humanitarian assistance, medical support and the possibility for migrants to voluntarily return to their home countries. In Libya, EU support focuses in particular on improving conditions in detention centres and disembarkation points and on establishing a resettlement mechanism to allow people in need of protection to reach Europe through a safe pathway.



So far, more than 15,000 migrants, including over 10,000 from Libya, and also from Mali, Niger and Mauritania have benefitted from the **Assisted Voluntary Return** programme run by the IOM and supported by the EU.

## FIGHTING SMUGGLERS AND TRAFFICKERS

Criminal networks are taking advantage of people's despair along the migratory routes. To break their business model, the EU and its Member States launched Operation Sophia in 2015. The Operation has so far helped to apprehend more than 119 suspected smugglers. To prevent migrants from being stranded in Libya, the EU is fighting smuggling activities further upstream along the route by providing capacity building, training and advice to local security forces through the CSDP missions EUCAP Sahel Niger and Mali. In Niger, the EU and Niger set up a Joint Investigation Team which is arresting smugglers, bringing them before the courts and seizing vehicles.

On a regional scale, High Representative/Vice-President Mogherini has announced €50 million in support from the EU to the G5 Sahel Joint Force and the EU Training Mission in Mali has provided expertise, training and advice for the establishment of the Joint Force. The G5 Sahel Joint Force aims at tackling common security challenges, including organised crime and the trafficking of arms, drugs and human beings.

### Progress on cooperation with Niger

Through the EU Trust Fund for Africa, operational and judicial capabilities of the Nigerien police and the Joint Investigation Team are being strengthened to fight traffickers and smugglers. After six months of work, **101 persons** have been arrested and brought to court and **66 vehicles** have been seized. Economic alternatives to smuggling are offered, as well as income support to local communities in northern Niger.



**101 persons**  
have been arrested



**66 vehicles**  
have been seized

## INCREASING COOPERATION ON RETURN

Returning those who are not fleeing war or persecution and who do not have the right to stay in the EU, in full respect of fundamental rights, is an essential part of the EU's migration policy. To increase return rates and improve the cooperation of



First half of 2017

Nigeria	21.5%
Guinea	28.5%
Bangladesh	17%
Ivory Coast	28%
Mali	30%

our partner countries on readmission, the EU is collectively working on concluding readmission agreements or practical arrangements that can achieve concrete results. While some have already been achieved, others are in the making. The EU will continue pursuing this approach using all necessary incentives, levers and tools.

Asylum Recognition Rates of top 5 nationalities arriving to Europe via the Central Mediterranean Route

ENSURING EFFECTIVE LEGAL PATHWAYS TO EUROPE

While irregular migration must be reduced, safe and legal pathways to Europe through resettlement should become the preferred method of arrival for persons in need of international protection. In September 2017, the Commission launched a new resettlement scheme with at least 50,000 additional places for vulnerable refugees from Turkey, the Middle East and Africa. The new initiative builds on the success of the EU's ongoing resettlement schemes which are being implemented in cooperation with the UNHCR and through which over 25,700 vulnerable persons have been brought safely to Europe.

The Commission has set aside **€500 million** to support Member States' resettlement efforts in the next two years. So far, **16 Member States** have pledged more than **34,400 places** under the new scheme.

LONG-TERM SUPPORT: TACKLING THE ROOT CAUSES OF IRREGULAR MIGRATION AND CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AT HOME

In Africa, the EU is cooperating with countries of origin and transit to give people opportunities and fight poverty, climate change, political instability and violence – among the root causes of irregular migration. The **EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa**, worth €3.1 billion, supports initiatives that boost economic development, improve migration management and increase stability in countries of origin, for example by improving good governance, helping create jobs and providing vocational training. The North Africa window of the Trust Fund contributes in particular to community stabilisation. Creating employment opportunities, fostering a more robust development path and supporting local authorities to restore essential service delivery will be crucial to improve the resilience of both migrant and local population, notably in Libya and to prevent additional irregular migration flows originating from countries in the region, such as Tunisia, Algeria and Egypt.

In addition, the **External Investment Plan** for Africa and the EU Neighbourhood is expected to trigger public and private investment volumes of up to €44 billion with an initial EU investment of €4.1 billion.



# TOWARDS A MORE EFFICIENT EU RETURN POLICY

November 2017



*"People who have no right to stay in Europe must be returned to their countries of origin. When only 36% of irregular migrants are returned, it is clear we need to significantly step up our work. This is the only way Europe will be able to show solidarity with refugees in real need of protection."*

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, State of the Union Address, 13 September 2017

An effective and humane return policy is an essential part of the EU's comprehensive approach to better managing migration and reducing the incentives for irregular migration. Whilst Europe will continue to show generosity and solidarity towards those genuinely in need of protection, returning those who are not fleeing war or persecution and who do not have the right to stay in the EU, in full respect of fundamental rights, is equally important for a well-functioning asylum system. It will also send a strong signal against undertaking dangerous irregular journeys to the EU in the first place.

## PROGRESS MADE SO FAR

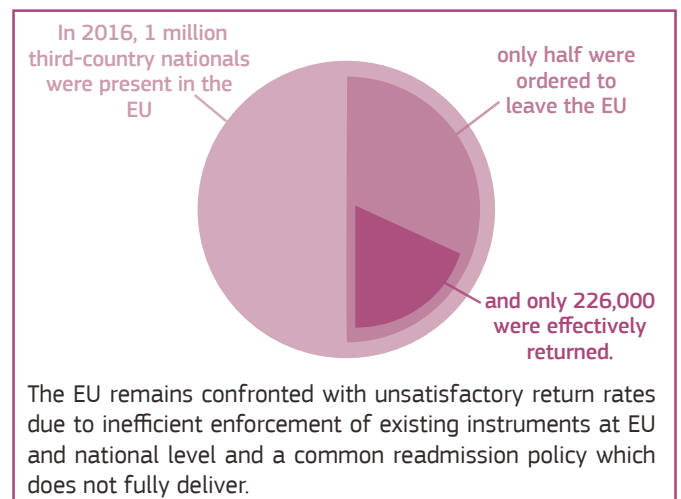
Over the past two and a half years, the Commission has brought forward work under its 2015 European Agenda for Migration to help Member States make their return and readmission policies more effective.

A priority for the new **European Border and Coast Guard Agency**: The Agency has a strong mandate to support Member States to organise and coordinate returns. Three pools of return specialists, escorts and monitors are now fully operational and available for immediate deployment to support Member States.

A reinforced **EU Action Plan on Return**: In March 2017 the Commission put forward a concrete set of practical recommendations to Member States to make return procedures more effective, close legal loopholes and improve cooperation with countries of origin on return and readmission, in line with fundamental rights requirements.

**Development of Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Programmes (AVRRs)**: The Commission has provided practical and financial support to Member States for the development of AVRRs.

**Cooperation with third countries**: Whilst progress has been made in the implementation of existing **readmission agreements** the finalisation of other negotiations remain at a standstill and those launched in 2016 have not progressed as expected. The focus is therefore on **improving structured practical cooperation**. With the conclusion of an agreement on Standard Operating Procedures on return with Bangladesh in September, the EU now needs to achieve progress to establish structured practical cooperation also with other key countries under this new approach.



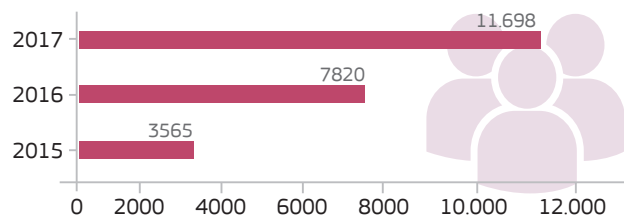
## TOWARDS A MORE EFFICIENT EUROPEAN RETURN SYSTEM

Member States and the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, with the support of the Commission, need to significantly step up their efforts to deliver on return.

### EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD AGENCY: A REINFORCED RETURN DEPARTMENT

More work is needed to transform the Agency into a **true operational EU return hub**. A strengthened **Return Department** with operational autonomy will ensure that its new return tools are fully operationalised and exploited. The Agency will develop **operational plans** for all Member States by the first quarter of 2018, which will include concrete return objectives. Together with Member States, the Agency will also design **pilot projects** to develop and test innovative solutions for joint management of returns. By November, new operational steps to support Member States on return operations will be put forward by the European Border and Coast Guard Agency who will be serving as a focal point on return at EU level.

Persons returned in operations supported by the European Border and Coast Guard Agency



### EU MEMBER STATES: RESOLUTE ACTION AT NATIONAL LEVEL

EU Member States should provide regular and **up-to-date situational reports** of their return needs and should work with the Agency to organise return operations. The Commission-run **Irregular Migration Management Application (IRMA)** should be integrated into the workflow on return management of both Member States and the European Border and Coast Guard Agency in the course of 2018.

The Commission will **report regularly on progress made** covering both, Member States and the European Border and Coast Guard. In the long term, and based on the results achieved through the measures agreed until now, the Commission will explore the need to further align national return procedures, such as through standardising the return process, approximating rules on detention and entry bans and making return decisions in one Member State valid across the EU.

### COOPERATION WITH THIRD COUNTRIES: MOBILISING INCENTIVES AND LEVERAGES

Enhancing cooperation by key third countries of origin requires the collective mobilisation of all the **incentives and leverages** available at EU and national level, including **coordinated visa measures**. While there is now a clear framework for cooperation with Bangladesh, engagement with Nigeria, Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal and Mali needs to be stepped up. Negotiations on readmission agreements with Nigeria and Tunisia should be finalised as soon as possible. In all cases, as endorsed by the European Council, the mobilisation of incentives and leverages at EU level will continue to be actively explored and applied as needed.

### ASYLUM RECOGNITION RATES OF TOP 5 NATIONALITIES ARRIVING TO EUROPE VIA THE CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

First half of 2017	
Nigeria	21.5%
Guinea	28.5%
Bangladesh	17%
Ivory Coast	28%
Mali	30%



# SECURING EUROPE'S EXTERNAL BORDERS A EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD AGENCY

NOVEMBER 2017



«We will defend our borders with the new European Border and Coast Guard, which is now being put in place, just nine months after the Commission proposed it. Now, the EU institutions and the Member States should work very closely together to quickly help set up the new Agency.»

European Commission **President Jean-Claude Juncker**, *State of the Union Address*, 14 September 2016

**EUROPEAN  
BORDER AND  
COAST GUARD**



The Schengen area without internal borders is only sustainable if the external borders are effectively secured and protected. To address the new challenges and political realities faced by the EU, with regards to both migration and internal security, the Commission proposed in December 2015 to establish a European Border and Coast Guard. The Agency was agreed in record time and launched on 6 October 2016. Over a year later, intensive work is ongoing to ensure the full roll-out of the Agency, which is currently assisting Member States with around 1,500 border guards providing support at different sections of the EU external border, complementing the existing national capacities of Member States of over 100,000 border guards. Whereas continued progress has been made towards the full roll-out of the Agency, significant gaps remain in terms of human resources and equipment. The Agency needs to further step up its efforts in becoming a focal point of return operations with Member States making full use of its capabilities in the field.

## ROADMAP TO A FULLY OPERATIONAL EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD:

### ➤ IMPORTANT STEPS COMPLETED:

- Confirmed full availability of 1,500 border guards under the mandatory **Rapid Reaction Pool**.
- Launch of three new **return pools** to support Member States in organising and coordinating return operations (return monitors, return escorts and return specialists).
- Negotiations on the status agreements for operational cooperation in the field of border management are ongoing with **Serbia** and **the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**. Authorisation was granted to open similar negotiations with **Albania, Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina**.
- The **headquarters agreement** between the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and Poland entered into force on 1 November 2017.

### ➤➤ NEXT STEPS:

- Member States to **fully respond to calls for deployment** and to ensure that the agreed resources are made available for ongoing operations, both in terms of human resources and technical equipment
- Member States to complete the nomination of border guards to the **Rapid Reaction Pool** and to rapidly fill the gaps in assets for the **Rapid Reaction Equipment Pool**.
- First cycle of **vulnerability assessments** to be completed by December 2017.
- The Agency and Member States to better align **return activities** and make full use of the Agency's strengthened instruments and tools. The Agency to present **operational steps** on return by the end of November with concrete **operational plans** to be developed by the end of the first quarter of 2018.
- Member States to implement the recommendations of the **vulnerability assessments** in a timely fashion.
- The roll-out of **liaison officers** is underway and the process should be completed by the Agency by February 2018.

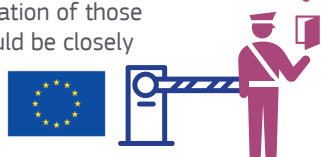
## A NEW MANDATE

The limitations of the former EU border agency, Frontex, had hindered its ability to effectively address and remedy the situation created by the refugee crisis: it did not have its own operational staff and relied on Member State contributions and was unable to carry out its own return or border management operations without the prior request of a Member State. Building on the foundations of Frontex, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency's role and activities have been strengthened and significantly expanded to address all these issues. The Agency is currently increasing its own capabilities to provide support to frontline Member States by leasing or purchasing equipment. Until 2020, the Agency has an additional €40 million at its disposal to acquire its own equipment, in particular small and medium size assets. The Agency has adopted a strategy to acquire and manage its own resources until 2020 and is now developing a long-term strategy until 2027.



## UNION STANDARDS FOR BORDER MANAGEMENT

The new Agency will ensure Union standards for border management are guaranteed at all external borders as a shared responsibility between the Agency and the national authorities. The reinforcement of preventive assessments guaranteeing the effective functioning of the Schengen area is a top political priority for the EU. To that end, the Agency has completed baseline assessments for all Member States and recommended concrete measures on the most urgent vulnerabilities for 21 of them. The Member States now need to ensure a timely implementation of those recommendations, which should be closely monitored by the Agency.



## A RESERVE OF EUROPEAN BORDER GUARDS AND TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT

The full availability of more than 1,500 border guards and other officers to the **Rapid Reaction Pool** has been confirmed by Member States. Further progress has been made with regards to the nomination of border guards with three quarters having now been provided by Member States. Despite additional calls, no progress has been made in terms of the required equipment leaving considerable gaps in the **Rapid Reaction Equipment Pool**. The 14 Member States which had previously contributed to the equipment pool continue to be the only ones to have done so. Member States should ensure, in the spirit of solidarity, more readiness to contribute to the pool to support a possible rapid border intervention. In the future, the gaps in the technical equipment will be alleviated with €200 million made available to Member States by the Commission under Internal Security Fund (ISF) for purchasing the relevant equipment.

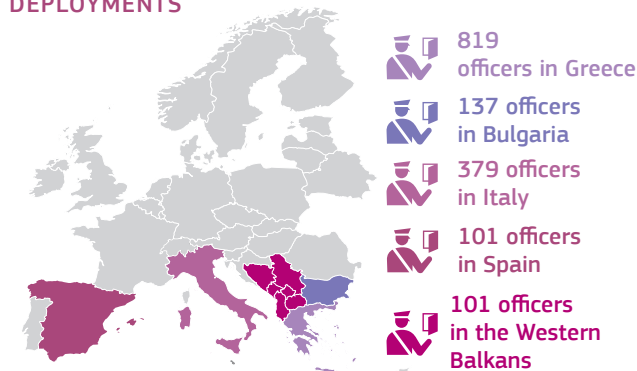


## PREVENTION OF CROSS-BORDER CRIME

Prevention of cross-border crime is a priority for the Agency. It is now able to process personal data of persons suspected of involvement in criminal activities, such as migrant smuggling, terrorism or trafficking in human beings. It is also able to collect information such as license plate numbers, vehicle identification numbers, telephone numbers or ship identification numbers necessary for analysis of migrant routes and methods used in different types of cross border crime. This information will be shared with the authorities of the EU Member States and Europol, enabling them to launch relevant investigations where necessary.



## CURRENT EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD DEPLOYMENTS



## A STRONGER ROLE IN RETURNS

Support to Member States in the return of irregular migrants has been added as one of the priority areas of the Agency's work. The Agency's efforts in this field have brought positive results but further work is needed to fully operationalise and exploit the potential of some of the new return tools. The pace of return operations organised by the Agency has continued to grow, reaching a total number of 11,698 persons returned in 2017. The three **return pools** are now fully operational but are still under-utilised by Member States. To encourage and facilitate the use of the pools, the Agency will put forward concrete operational steps by the end of the month. At the same time, Member States should commit to making full use of the Agency's new tools and work together with the Agency to better align return activities.

## WORKING WITH AND IN THIRD COUNTRIES

Under its new mandate, the European Border and Coast Guard is allowed to carry out operations on the territory of neighbouring third countries, subject to prior agreement. Negotiations towards the completion of the status agreements are currently ongoing with Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. On 16 October 2017, the Council gave the green light to the Commission to negotiate similar agreements with Albania, Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina.



# RELOCATION

## Sharing responsibility

September 2017

Europe has consistently shown generosity and true solidarity towards those in need of protection during the migration crisis. Over the past year alone, we have opened our doors to more than 720,000 persons in need of protection. The relocation scheme has contributed to ensuring that responsibility is shared fairly between Member States.

### RELOCATION – SHARING RESPONSIBILITY WITHIN THE EU



«We have made enormous progress on relocation over the past two years. The success of the scheme must be assessed against its capability **to relocate all those present and eligible – a perfectly feasible objective** if Member States continue their efforts during the last stage of the scheme.»

EU Migration Commissioner **Avramopoulos**

In September 2015, based on a proposal by the Commission, Member States decided to set up an Emergency Relocation System to support Italy and Greece who were faced with an unprecedented increase in arrivals. Two years on, almost all persons registered for relocation in Greece and Italy have been successfully relocated – a total of over 29,000 persons in need of international protection. The results achieved so far show that relocation works – helping refugees start a new life and ensuring that responsibility is shared amongst Member States.

#### FACTS AND FIGURES:

##### How many in total?

The relocation scheme applies to eligible asylum seekers arriving in Greece and Italy between September 2015 and September 2017. Based on the arrival figures at the time and the expectation that they would continue at the same rate, Member States agreed to support Greece with the relocation of 63,302 persons in need of international protection and Italy with 34,953 – a total of **around 98,000**. But with the EU-Turkey Statement reducing irregular flows to Greece by 97 % and the majority of migrants arriving in Italy not being eligible, the **number of persons to be relocated turned out to be much lower**.

##### Who is eligible?

Nationalities with an overall asylum recognition rate of **75% or higher** in EU Member States. Currently: Eritrea, Syria, Yemen, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bhutan, Qatar, United Arab Emirates.

##### How many relocations so far?

Total: **29,144**  
From **Greece**: 20,066  
From **Italy**: 9,078

##### How many still to be relocated?

At the moment, there are around **2,000 persons in Greece** awaiting relocation with another up to 2,000 that might still be registered. In **Italy, 7,200 eligible** persons have arrived in 2017 so far – but only 4,000 have been registered. Italy therefore needs to step up efforts to swiftly identify and register all remaining applicants eligible for relocation.

##### All have to contribute

Setting up the relocation mechanism was decided by Member States in legally binding Council decisions. Almost all Member States have respected their legal obligations with regular pledges and relocations. The Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland are the only exceptions and the Commission has therefore launched **infringement procedures** against them.

##### For how long?

**The Council Decisions of 2015** apply to eligible persons in clear need of international protection arriving in the territory of Italy and Greece until 26 September 2017. Member States should therefore step up their efforts and ensure that those eligible are relocated quickly thereafter.



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## STATE OF THE UNION 2017

# TOWARDS AN EFFICIENT AND CREDIBLE EU RETURN POLICY



*“People who have no right to stay in Europe must be returned to their countries of origin. When only 36% of irregular migrants are returned, it is clear we need to significantly step up our work. This is the only way Europe will be able to show solidarity with refugees in real need of protection.”*

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, State of the Union Address, 13 September 2017

An effective and humane return policy is an essential part of the EU's comprehensive approach to better managing migration and reducing the incentives for irregular migration. Whilst Europe will continue to show generosity and solidarity towards those genuinely in need of protection, returning those who are not fleeing war or persecution and who do not have the right to stay in the EU, in full respect of fundamental rights, is equally important for a well-functioning asylum system. It will also send a strong signal against undertaking dangerous irregular journeys to the EU in the first place.

### PROGRESS MADE SO FAR

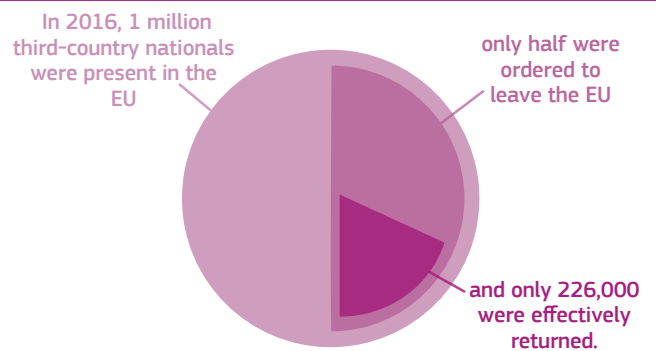
Over the past two and a half years, the Commission has brought forward work under its 2015 European Agenda for Migration to help Member States make their return and readmission policies more effective.

A priority for the new **European Border and Coast Guard Agency**: The Agency has a strong mandate to support Member States to organise and coordinate returns. Three pools of return specialists, escorts and monitors are now fully operational and available for immediate deployment to support Member States.

A reinforced **EU Action Plan on Return: In March 2017 the Commission** put forward a concrete set of practical **recommendations** to Member States to make return procedures more effective, close legal loopholes and improve cooperation with countries of origin on return and readmission, in line with fundamental rights requirements.

**Development of Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Programmes (AVRRs)**: The Commission has provided practical and financial support to Member States for the development of AVRRs.

**Cooperation with third countries**: Whilst progress has been made in the implementation of existing **readmission agreements** the finalisation of other negotiations remain at a standstill and those launched in 2016 have not progressed as expected. The focus is therefore on **improving structured practical cooperation**. With the conclusion of an agreement on Standard Operating Procedures on return with Bangladesh in September, the EU now needs to achieve progress to establish structured practical cooperation also with other key countries under this new approach.



The EU remains confronted with unsatisfactory return rates due to inefficient enforcement of existing instruments at EU and national level and a common readmission policy which does not fully deliver.

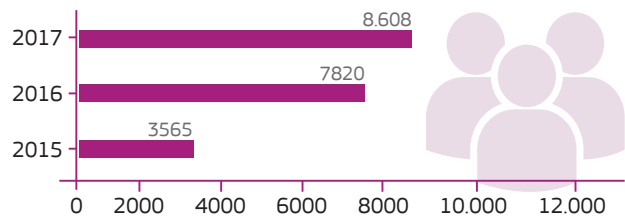
## TOWARDS A MORE EFFICIENT EUROPEAN RETURN SYSTEM

Member States and the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, with the support of the Commission, need to significantly step up their efforts to deliver on return.

### EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD AGENCY: A REINFORCED RETURN DEPARTMENT

More work is needed to transform the Agency into a **true operational EU return hub**. A strengthened **Return Department** with operational autonomy will ensure that its new return tools are fully operationalised and exploited. The Agency will develop **operational plans** for all Member States by mid-2018, which will include concrete return objectives. Together with Member States, the Agency will also design **pilot projects** to develop and test innovative solutions for joint management of returns.

Persons returned in operations supported by the European Border and Coast Guard Agency



### EU MEMBER STATES: RESOLUTE ACTION AT NATIONAL LEVEL

EU Member States should provide regular and **up-to-date situational reports** of their return needs and should work with the Agency to organise return operations. The Commission-run **Irregular Migration Management Application (IRMA)** should be integrated into the workflow on return management of both Member States and the European Border and Coast Guard Agency in the course of 2018.

The Commission will **report regularly on progress made** covering both, Member States and the European Border and Coast Guard. In the long term, and based on the results achieved through the measures agreed until now, the Commission will explore the need to further align national return procedures, such as through standardising the return process, approximating rules on detention and entry bans and making return decisions in one Member State valid across the EU.

### COOPERATION WITH THIRD COUNTRIES: MOBILISING INCENTIVES AND LEVERAGES

Enhancing cooperation by key third countries of origin requires mobilising all the **incentives and leverages** available at EU and national level, including **coordinated visa measures**.

### ASYLUM RECOGNITION RATES OF TOP 5 NATIONALITIES ARRIVING TO EUROPE VIA THE CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

First half of 2017	
Nigeria	21.5%
Guinea	28.5%
Bangladesh	17%
Ivory Coast	28%
Mali	30%





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## STATE OF THE UNION 2017

# ENSURING EFFECTIVE LEGAL PATHWAYS TO EUROPE



*“Irregular migration will only stop if there is a real alternative to perilous journeys. We are close to having resettled 22,000 refugees from Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon and I support UN High Commissioner Grandi’s call to resettle a further 40,000 refugees from Libya and the surrounding countries. At the same time, legal migration is a necessity for Europe as an ageing continent. This is why the Commission made proposals to make it easier for skilled migrants to reach Europe with a Blue Card.”*

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, State of the Union Address, 13 September 2017

Europe has consistently shown solidarity during the migration crisis. Over the past year alone, we have granted protection to more than 720,000 persons in need of protection. Through our **resettlement schemes**, we enable the most vulnerable refugees in need of protection to reach Europe through legal and safe pathways and prevent them from having to endanger their lives on dangerous illegal routes. At the same time, enhancing **lawful alternatives for economic migration** will help us respond to the growing needs of the ageing workforce in our societies and skill shortages on the labour markets while reducing incentives for irregular migration.

### A NEW CALL FOR RESETTLEMENT

Ensuring legal pathways to Europe for those in need of international protection is a key part of the EU’s asylum and migration policy. The Commission has been working successfully with member states over the past few years to increase the EU’s collective resettlement efforts.

Building on the successful joint EU efforts, the Commission is proposing today a **new resettlement scheme with at least 50,000** additional resettlement places for particularly vulnerable persons in need of international protection, to be admitted by EU Member States by October 2019.

A particular focus should be put on resettlement from **North Africa and the Horn of Africa, notably Libya, Egypt, Niger, Sudan, Chad, and Ethiopia**, whilst ensuring continued resettlement from Turkey and the Middle East.

The Commission has set aside **€500 million** to support Member States’ resettlement efforts in the next two years - **€10,000 for each resettled person from the EU budget**.

### RESETTLED SO FAR:

**23,000**

UNDER BOTH THE EU RESETTLEMENT  
SCHEME LAUNCHED IN JULY 2015  
AND THE EU-TURKEY STATEMENT  
FROM MARCH 2016

Setting up **private sponsorship schemes**: Member States are encouraged to establish private sponsorship schemes to allow private groups or civil society organisations to organise and finance the resettlement and integration of persons in need of protection in line with national legislation. To that effect the Commission invites EASO to coordinate a pilot project on private sponsorship schemes with interested Member States.

A **permanent EU Resettlement Framework** to coordinate European efforts in the long term: In July 2016 the Commission proposed to create an EU Resettlement Framework with a unified procedure and common criteria. Once adopted, the EU Resettlement Framework with a unified procedure and common criteria. Once adopted, the EU resettlement framework will replace the current ad hoc resettlement and humanitarian admission schemes.

## BETTER MANAGING LEGAL MIGRATION

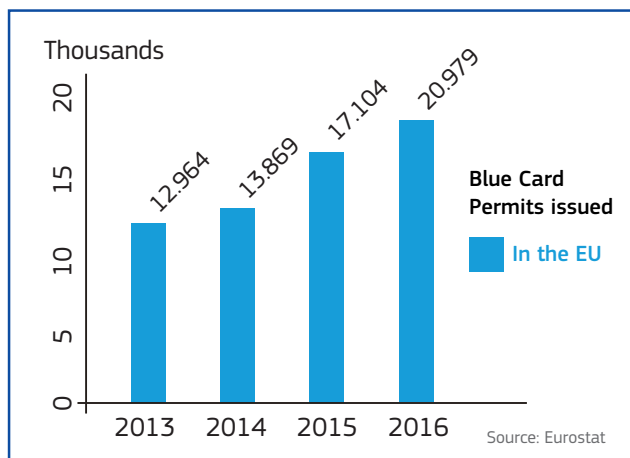
Better managing legal channels for skilled migrants as part of a structured EU policy on labour mobility will help us turn irregular flows into needs-based economic migration for non-EU workers, complementing upskilling and employment efforts in the existing work force. It also helps facilitate cooperation on issues such as prevention of irregular migration and readmission and return.

### WHY A NEW EU BLUE CARD?

The EU faces significant labour shortages in certain sectors, which have the potential to limit growth and competitiveness – a challenge that will become more and more pressing due to Europe's ageing demographic profile. The new Blue Card makes it easier and more attractive for highly skilled workers to come to the EU, strengthens the rights of workers and their families and provides for more flexible rules so that Member States can attract the work force they need, when they need it.

This is why, in June 2016, the Commission proposed a **new EU Blue Card** to improve the EU's ability to attract and retain highly skilled workers. The European Parliament and the Council should now swiftly come to an agreement and adopt the Commission proposal.

### BLUE CARD PERMITS ISSUED 2013 - 2016



### EXPLORING NEW TOOLS

The Commission is currently analysing how the current legal framework can be further simplified. We are also looking at systems already applied in other countries that work on the basis of "expressions of interest" to manage legal migration.

### INVOLVING THE PRIVATE SECTOR

In order to identify labour market needs in the EU, it is essential that private **sector stakeholders** are involved.

### PILOT PROJECTS WITH PARTNER COUNTRIES

The Commission is ready to help finance and coordinate pilot projects in 2018 for legal migration with selected partner countries which have shown political engagement to work in partnership with the EU on migration.

### CRACKING DOWN ON ILLEGAL EMPLOYMENT OF MIGRANTS

In line with the **Employers Sanction Directive**, all Member States prohibit the employment of irregular migrants and impose financial, administrative or criminal sanctions on those employers who break these rules. But in order to significantly reduce the pull factor of illegal work, Member States need to fully implement EU law and, in particular, **increase the number of labour inspections to high-risk economic sectors**. The Commission will report annually on the implementation of the directive and **launch infringement procedures where necessary**.



# THE UPDATED SCHENGEN RULES

September 2017

The Commission is proposing targeted **updates to the Schengen Borders Code** concerning the rules for temporary reintroduction of internal border controls under Article 25. The updates will adjust the rules to the current need to respond to evolving and persistent serious threats to public policy or internal security. At the same time, **stronger procedural safeguards will be introduced** to ensure that internal border controls remain an exception – a measure of last resort – and are used only if necessary and proportionate to address the threat and with a limited impact on free movement.

## ARTICLES 25 - 35 : Temporary Reintroductions of Internal Border Controls by Member States

The Schengen Borders Code (Regulation 2016/399) provides Member States with the possibility to temporarily reintroduce controls at internal borders under strict conditions. The Commission is proposing to make targeted updates for the rules in cases of foreseeable events and identified threats, by prolonging a maximum time limit from **6 months to 1 year** for the reintroduction of border controls. In parallel, the Commission is adding **stronger procedural guarantees** to ensure that these controls are introduced only as a last resort measure and that concerned Member States are fully involved. The Commission is also proposing to introduce **a new special procedure** for cases where the same serious threat to public policy or internal security persists beyond one year.

- ✓ Stronger procedural guarantees
- ✓ New special procedure for persistent serious threats
- ✓ 1 year initial maximum time limit
- ✓ 2 years in case of persistent serious threats

## THE UPDATED RULES EXPLAINED

### ARTICLE 25 – Temporary Reintroduction of Border Controls for Foreseeable Circumstances

Article 25 can be used for foreseeable circumstances where there is **a serious threat to public policy or internal security**. Such a threat can be caused for example by cross-border terrorism or irregular secondary movements that justify reintroduction of border controls.

#### Time limits - the current 6 months are extended up to 1 year:

- Controls for foreseeable circumstances may last for an initial period of **30 days** or for the foreseeable duration of the serious threat if longer.
- The controls can be renewed for additional periods of up to 30 days, up to a maximum of 6 months with the possibility to prolong controls up to a maximum period of **1 year in total**.
- In cases where the controls last for more than 6 months, Member States will have the obligation to demonstrate retrospectively in the **risk assessment** not only the efficiency of the reintroduced border control in addressing the identified threat, but also to provide a detailed explanation of how the neighbouring Member States affected by such prolongation were consulted and involved in determining the least burdensome operational arrangements.
- The Commission may in each case issue an opinion on the reintroduction of internal border controls. In cases where the controls last for more than 6 months or where the Commission has concerns about the necessity or proportionality of the controls, **the Commission has an obligation to issue an opinion**.

## NEW ADDITIONAL PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS

The updated rules for the reintroduction of temporary border controls at the internal borders are accompanied by **stronger safeguards and new reporting requirements**.

### New requirements to notify the planned reintroduction in advance:

The reintroduction of temporary border controls must be notified to the Commission and other Member States. The notification should include information on measures to be taken by the neighbouring Member States, to be agreed upon prior to the temporary reintroduction of border controls at the concerned internal borders.

### A new obligation to provide a detailed risk assessment

- The risk assessment must:

- demonstrate that the reintroduction of border controls is **a measure of last resort**;
- assess the expected **length** of the threat to internal security or public order;
- identify which **borders** are **affected** and why;
- explain how internal border control could **address the threat**.

The European **Border and Coast Guard Agency** and **Europol** will be involved in the evaluation of the risk assessment.

## A NEW ARTICLE 27A - Specific procedure where the serious threat to public policy or internal security exceeds one year

Exceptionally, where the Member State is confronted with the same serious threat to the public policy or internal security beyond 1 year and **where commensurate national measures are taken within the territory to address this threat** (for example the introduction of a state of emergency), the internal temporary border controls may be further prolonged for a **maximum length of 2 years**. This additional prolongation will be subject to a **new special procedure** involving a Recommendation of the Council, based on an opinion by the Commission.

### Procedure step by step:

- **Notification by Member State:** The Member State in question notifies the Commission and the other Member States at least 6 weeks in advance.
- **Opinion issued by the Commission.**
- **Recommendation by the Council:** taking due account of the opinion of the Commission, the Council may recommend a further prolongation of internal border controls for a period of up to 6 months. The Council recommendation is a prerequisite for further prolongations.
- **Further prolongation up to 2 years:** The 6 month period may be prolonged no more than 3 times for further periods of up to 6 months with a maximum cap of 2 years. This can take place only on the basis of a Council recommendation. Where appropriate, the Council can determine conditions for cooperation between the Member States concerned.

## ARTICLES 26 AND ARTICLES 28 TO 35 REMAIN UNCHANGED

### ARTICLE 28 – Temporary controls when immediate action is required

The rules for temporary reintroductions of internal border controls for cases requiring immediate action under Article 28 remain unchanged.

- The reintroduction is for an initial period of 10 days.
- This can be renewed for additional periods of 20 days, up to a maximum of 2 months in total.

### ARTICLE 29 - Temporary controls in case of serious deficiencies in the management of the external borders

Article 29 of the Schengen Borders Code will continue to offer the only possibility to prolong border controls at internal borders in case of serious deficiencies in the management of the external borders by a Member State as demonstrated by a Schengen Evaluation.



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# RELOCATION AND RESETTLEMENT

6 SEPTEMBER 2017

## RELOCATION

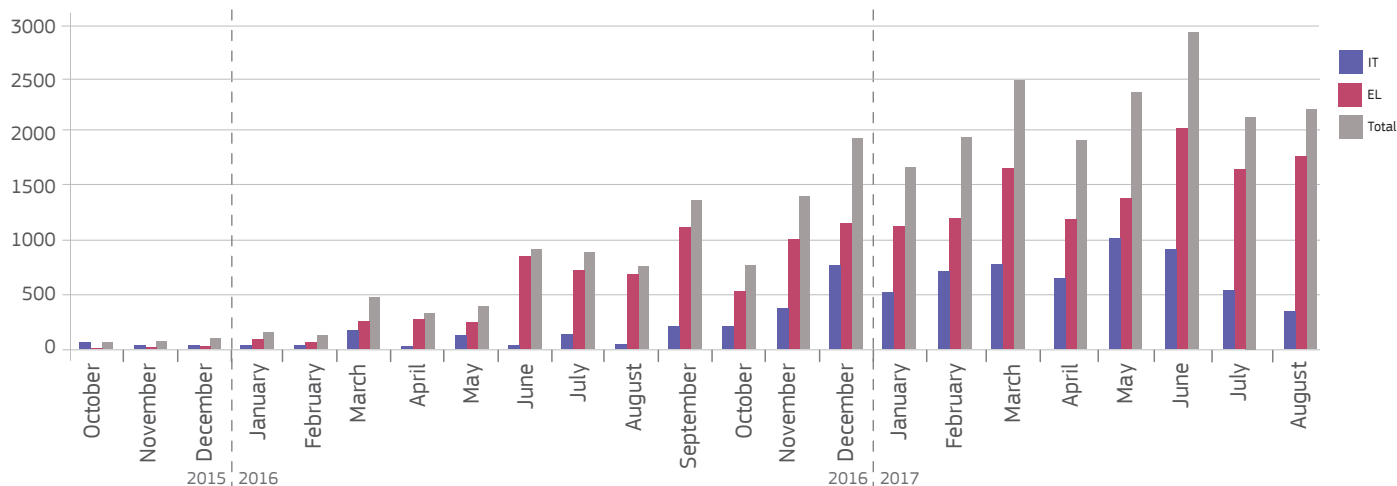
Under the emergency relocation scheme, adopted by the Council in September 2015, asylum seekers with a high chance of having their applications successfully processed are relocated from Greece and Italy, where they have arrived, to other Member States where they will have their asylum applications processed. If these applications are successful, the applicants will be granted refugee status with the right to reside in the Member State to which they are relocated. The EU budget provides financial support to the participating Member States. The tables below present the latest state of play of the implementation of the scheme.

**27 695 people** have been relocated since the launch of the scheme (*state of play as of 4 September 2017*).

Member States	Relocated from Italy	Relocated from Greece	Member States	Relocated from Italy	Relocated from Greece
Austria	15	X	Luxembourg	111	271
Belgium	259	677	Malta	47	101
Bulgaria	X	50	Netherlands	762	1 595
Croatia	18	60	Poland	X	X
Cyprus	34	96	Portugal	299	1 116
Czech Republic	X	12	Romania	45	682
Estonia	X	141	Slovenia	45	172
Finland	755	1 196	Slovakia	X	16
France	330	3 948	Spain	168	1 089
Germany	3 405	4 447	Sweden	511	1 392
Hungary	X	X	Liechtenstein	X	10
Ireland	X	487	Norway	815	693
Latvia	27	294	Switzerland	778	344
Lithuania	27	355			
<b>TOTAL</b>					
<b>Relocated from Italy</b>			<b>Relocated from Greece</b>		
<b>8 451</b>			<b>19 244</b>		



## RELOCATIONS FROM ITALY AND GREECE (OCTOBER 2015 - AUGUST 2017)



## RESETTLEMENT

In May 2015 the Commission proposed a European Resettlement Scheme which was adopted by the Council in July 2015. To avoid displaced persons in need of protection having to resort to the criminal networks of smugglers and traffickers, the resettlement programme provides legal and safe pathways to enter the EU. The agreed scheme will see over 22,000 people in need of international protection resettled from outside of the EU to the EU Member States. This two year scheme is supported by the EU budget. In the EU-Turkey Statement of 18 March, it was agreed that for every Syrian national returned from the Greek islands another will be resettled to the EU directly from Turkey. This 1:1 mechanism aims to replace irregular flows of migrants travelling in dangerous conditions across the Aegean Sea by an orderly and legal resettlement process.

**22 518 people** have been resettled under both schemes so far (based on information made available by Member States and Associated Countries as of 4 September 2017).

Member State/ Associated State	Total resettled under the 20 July scheme, including under the 1:1 mechanism with Turkey	Total resettled under the 1:1 mechanism with Turkey (since 4 April 2016)	Member State/ Associated State	Total resettled under the 20 July scheme, including under the 1:1 mechanism with Turkey	Total resettled under the 1:1 mechanism with Turkey (since 4 April 2016)
Austria	1 830	152	Lithuania	28	28
Belgium	905	708 (245 within 20 July scheme + 463 outside of 20 July scheme)	Luxembourg	26	141 (outside of 20 July scheme)
Czech Republic	52	X	Netherlands	1 000	1 942 (556 within 20 July scheme + 1386 outside of 20 July scheme)
Denmark	481	X	Portugal	76	12
Estonia	20	20	Romania	X	11 under the 1:1 mechanism outside of 20 July scheme
Finland	293	754 (outside of 20 July scheme)	Spain	631	195
France	1 965	926 (228 within 20 July scheme) + 698 Outside of 20 July scheme)	Sweden	491	726 (269 within 20 July scheme)
Germany	1 600	2 903 (1600 within 20 July scheme + 1303 outside of 20 July scheme)	United Kingdom	2200	X
Ireland	520	X	Iceland	50	X
Italy	1 152	291	Liechtenstein	20	X
Latvia	25	25	Norway	3 421	X
			Switzerland	519	X

### TOTAL

Total resettled under the 20 July scheme, including under the 1:1 mechanism with Turkey

**17 305**

Total resettled under the 1:1 mechanism with Turkey (since 4 April 2016)

A total of **8 834 people** were resettled from Turkey under the 1:1 mechanism, 3 621 of whom through the scheme of 20 July



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## CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE:

# COMMISSION ACTION PLAN TO SUPPORT ITALY AND STEM MIGRATION FLOWS

JULY 2017

With the situation becoming ever more pressing along the Central Mediterranean Route, the Commission is today setting out a series of measures to be taken by the Commission, Italy and other EU Member States. Building on the solid work of the past two years to save lives at sea and manage the increasing numbers of arrivals along the Central Mediterranean Route, all actors now need to accelerate their efforts in line with the increasing urgency of the situation.



*«Neither Italy nor Greece can be left on their own to deal with the migration and refugee crisis. And the Commission will be there to support what I would call the heroic efforts made by Italy to meet this challenge.»*

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, Tallinn, 30 June 2017

## 2017 FACTS

- **85,183** arrivals in Italy
- More than **2,000 lives** lost in the Mediterranean
- Main country of departure: **Libya (95%)**
- Top five nationalities: **Nigeria, Bangladesh, Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia**

## 5 KEY AREAS OF ACTION



### Saving lives:

- better coordination and clear rules for all those involved in search and rescue activities
- an enhanced Libyan coast guard able to save lives in Libyan territorial waters
- establishing Maritime Rescue Coordination Centres in Libya, Egypt and Tunisia



### Fighting trafficking in Libya:

- assisted returns from Libya and Niger to countries of origin, financed by the EU
- engagement with Niger and Mali to prevent movements to Libya
- opening legal pathways from Libya and Niger to the European Union



### **Cooperating with partner countries:**

- concluding readmission agreements with countries of origin and transit
- using positive and negative leverages, like visa policy, to encourage cooperation



### **Stepping up returns**

- deployment of the EU Border and Coast Guard Agency 'Rapid Return' teams to Italy
- expedited return procedures in Italy
- increased reception and pre-removal detention capacity in Italy



### **EU Solidarity**

- accelerated relocation from Italy to other Member States
- agreement on a future reform of the EU asylum system

## **ALL ACTORS NEED TO PITCH IN:**



### **THE COMMISSION WILL**

- mobilise funding for Italy
- mobilise the EU Agencies for Italy
- work on enhancing the capacity of the Libyan Coast Guard
- launch a new resettlement pledging exercise
- accelerate returns from Libya and Niger
- work with Italy on writing a Code of Conduct for NGOs carrying out search and rescue



### **OTHER MEMBER STATES SHOULD**

- mobilise funding for the EU-Africa Trust Fund
- accelerate relocation from Italy
- help conclude agreements with partner countries in Africa
- agree on the future reform of the Asylum system



### **ITALY SHOULD**

- write a Code of Conduct for NGOs carrying out search and rescue
- improve the relocation procedure in Italy
- increase reception and detention capacity in Italy
- step up returns





# EUROPE'S MIGRATION AND ASYLUM POLICY

## Small steps to make a big difference

Throughout history, people have migrated from one place to another. People try to reach European shores for different reasons and through different channels. They look for legal pathways, but they also risk their lives, to escape from political oppression, war and poverty, as well as to find family reunification, entrepreneurship, knowledge and education. Every person's migration tells its own story. Over the past 20 years, the European Union has put in place some of the highest, common asylum standards in the world. And in the past two years, European migration policy has advanced in leaps and bounds with the European Agenda on Migration proposed by the Juncker Commission in May 2015. Progressively, a more united approach to dealing with migration is emerging. But there is still work to be done to build up a coherent and comprehensive way of both reaping the benefits and addressing the challenges deriving from migration in the long term.

### SAVING LIVES

In 2015, 2016 and 2017 EU operations contributed to:



over 520,000 lives saved



over 2,100 suspected traffickers and smugglers apprehended



387 vessels removed



The shipwreck off the coast of Lampedusa on 16 October 2013, which cost the lives of 366 people, marked a turning point. The Italian government first launched a major military-humanitarian operation, Mare Nostrum, which was succeeded by EU operations Triton in 2014 and EUNAVFOR Med Operation Sophia in 2015, with Triton's assets tripled in 2015.

### TACKLING THE ROOT CAUSES OF MIGRATION

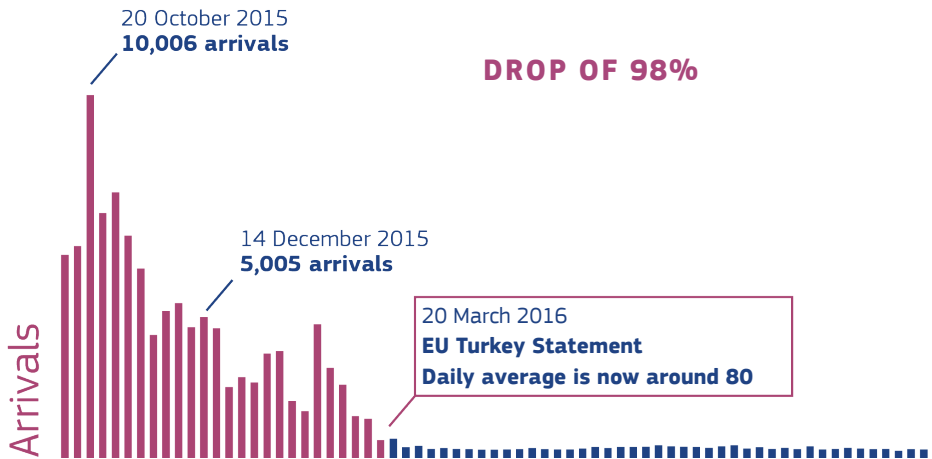
To tackle the root causes of migration and better manage migration, the EU is working on enhancing relations with **five key countries of origin and transit in Africa (Ethiopia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal)**. The **Partnership Framework and the Valletta Action Plan** have allowed us to initiate long-term cooperation with a number of partner countries and both are already yielding results. For example, the EU's cooperation with **Niger** is helping to reduce the transit flow through the Sahara, with EU funding supporting self-employment in transit zones and five migrant centres for vulnerable migrants, run by IOM, as well as hands-on EU support on the ground helping to tackle smuggling and trafficking in human beings.



## REDUCING FLOWS

Since the EU-Turkey Statement was agreed in March 2016, the daily crossing from Turkey to Greece went down from 10,000 in a single day in October 2015 to an average of around 80 a day. Overall, arrivals to the Greek islands from Turkey have dropped by 98%.

Almost one year later, that's **one million people who did not arrive in the European Union, and nearly 1,000 who did not lose their lives** trying.



## PROTECTING OUR BORDERS

In October 2016, we launched the European Border and Coast Guard Agency to ensure that Europe can protect its common external borders and face the new migration and security challenges together. Over the past five months, important progress has been made in making the new Agency fully operational, including the setting up of **mandatory rapid reaction pools for border guards** and equipment and the launch of new pools for **return intervention teams**. These can be deployed in support of Member States who have the primary role and competence in reinforcing controls at the external borders.

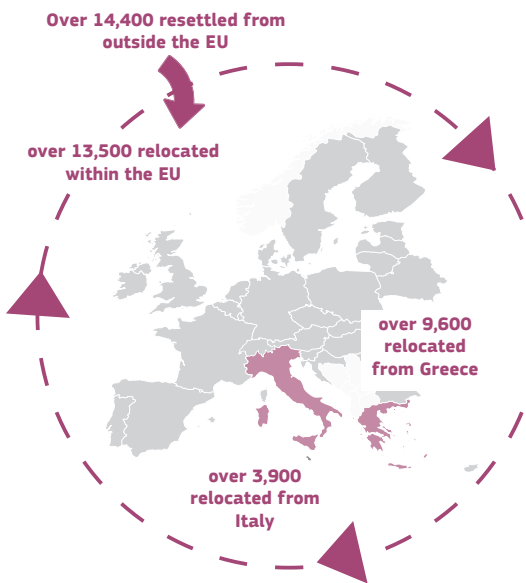
Currently the European Border and Coast Guard has around 1,350 officers deployed to support Member States at the external borders, complementing the **existing national capacities of Member States of over 100,000 border guards**.

**CURRENT EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD DEPLOYMENTS:**

**AROUND 1,350 EXTRA OFFICERS DEPLOYED**

- 740 officers in Greece
- 152 officers in Bulgaria
- 272 officers in Italy
- Around 100 officers in the Western Balkans

## OPENING SAFE PATHWAYS



Opening safe and legal pathways is key to both ensuring that persons in need of protection do not have to resort to criminal networks and to effectively break smugglers' cruel business model. In July 2015, Member States **agreed to resettle over 22,000 persons in need of international protection** from outside the EU to the EU Member States. In addition, for every Syrian readmitted by Turkey from the Greek islands, another Syrian is being resettled from Turkey to the EU.

Member States also decided in September 2015 to set up an **Emergency Relocation System** within the European Union. Asylum seekers with a high chance of having their applications successfully processed are relocated from Greece and Italy, where they have arrived, to other Member States where they will have their asylum applications processed.

If the **target pace of 4,500 relocations per month** is met, Member States should be able to relocate all those eligible by the end of 2017.

## ONE REFUGEE'S STORY

The European resettlement scheme offers a safe and legal route to the EU for those in need of protection. Haea Alhaj Saleh is from Raqqah, which became later the stronghold of Daesh. She was resettled from Turkey and offered a new home in the Netherlands.

*"We just wanted a future. We wanted peace. There was a war going on, there was destruction – that is why we left. I hope to finish my education and graduate. I hope one day there will be peace so I can go back and serve Syria with whatever I can do."*



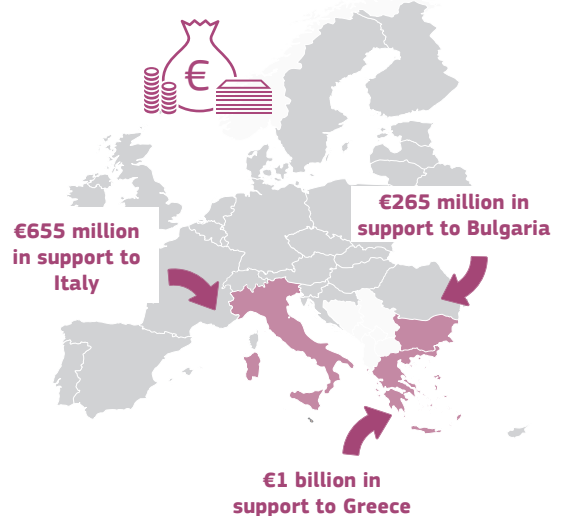
## SHOWING SOLIDARITY AT HOME...



Since the onset of the refugee crisis, over 900,000 items such as blankets, mattresses, beds and tents as well as teams and equipment, shelter and medical supplies have been channelled through the **EU Civil Protection Mechanism** to the affected countries.

The European Commission funds emergency humanitarian support for people in need within the EU to help provide food, water and medicine and keep refugees warm in the winter. For example, a new **€8.5 million project financed by the EU and run by UNICEF** will support more than 6,000 refugee and migrant children across Greece, including unaccompanied minors, who need dedicated care.

Since 2015:



## ...AND ABROAD

### FACILITY FOR REFUGEES IN TURKEY



- **€3 billion to help Syrian refugees in Turkey**

The EU's largest-ever humanitarian aid programme will help 1 million of the most vulnerable refugees in Turkey. Working with the **World Food Programme** in collaboration with the Turkish Red Crescent and Turkish government institutions, the EU is distributing **electronic debit cards** to refugee families allowing people to pay for what they need the most, providing them with the dignity of choice.

### EU SYRIA TRUST FUND

- **More than €900 million to help refugees in Jordan**
- **Nearly €900 million to help refugees in Lebanon**

The European Union is the leading donor in the international response to the Syrian crisis with over **€9.4 billion in humanitarian and development assistance** already allocated. Investing in the education of Syrian refugee children is one of the main priorities of our actions. The EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis launched the 'Generation Found' project, implemented by UNICEF, to support 663,000 children and **young people who have fled the war in Syria** and taken refuge in Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey.

- **€43 million to help refugees in Serbia and €50 million for refugees in the former Yugoslavia Republic of Macedonia**

### FUNDING FOR AFRICA

#### €2.55 BILLION EU TRUST FUND FOR AFRICA



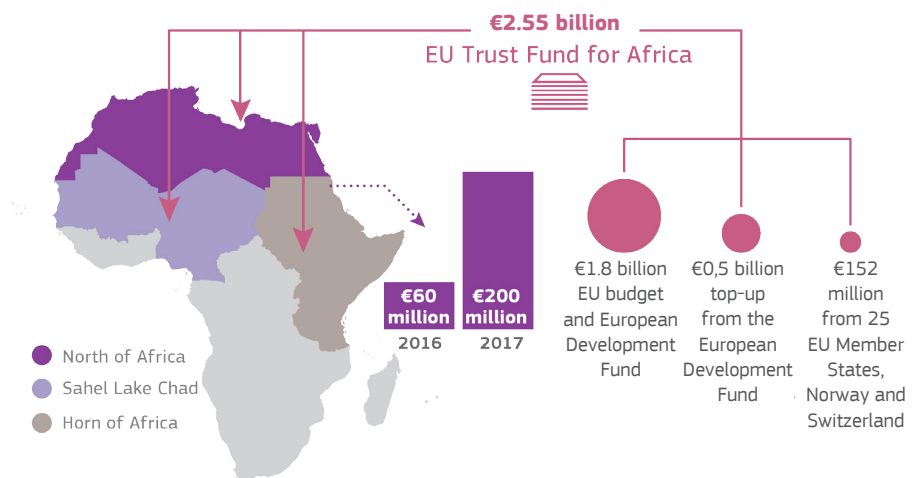
**MOBILISING INVESTMENTS** through the New Guarantee under the European Fund for Sustainable Development



**STEPPING UP TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE** to develop financially attractive and mature projects and, thus helping to mobilise higher investments.



Improving economic governance, the **BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT** and engaging with the private sector



#### LEVERAGING €44 BILLION THROUGH THE EXTERNAL INVESTMENT PLAN

Traditional development assistance alone cannot meet the challenge of achieving sustainable development. It must be complemented by other tools, in order to make best use of and leverage scarce public funds. The European Fund for Sustainable Development is expected to trigger additional public and private investment volumes. With an input of €4.1 billion, the EU will mobilise total investments of up to €44 billion, or even €88 billion in Member States contribute, too.



# EUROPEAN AGENDA ON SECURITY







# SECURITY UNION

## Closing the information gap



The current EU information systems for security, border and migration management do not work together – they are fragmented, complex and difficult to operate. This risks pieces of information slipping through the net and terrorists and criminals escaping detection by using multiple or fraudulent identities, endangering the EU's internal security and the safety of European citizens.

Over the past year, the EU has been working to make the various information systems at EU level interoperable — that is, able to exchange data and share information so that authorities and responsible officials have the information they need, when and where they need it. Today, the Commission is completing this work by proposing new tools to make EU information systems stronger and smarter, and to ensure that they work better together. The tools will make it easier for border guards and police officers to have complete, reliable and accurate information needed for their duties, and to detect people who are possibly hiding criminal or terrorist activities behind false identities.

### WHAT IS INTEROPERABILITY?



Interoperability is the ability of information systems to exchange data and to enable the sharing of information. It is about a targeted and intelligent way of using existing data to best effect, without creating new databases or changing the access rights to the existing information systems.

### HOW WILL INTEROPERABILITY WORK?

The Commission proposes four main elements to improve interoperability of the EU information systems and information sharing. These new tools will allow border guards, police officers, visa and immigration officials to have faster, more reliable and more complete information on people posing a security threat:

▶ **European search portal** – a one-stop shop carrying out a simultaneous search of multiple EU information systems, in line with the users' access rights.



▶ **Shared biometric matching service** – a tool cross-checking biometric data (fingerprints and facial images) and detecting links between information on the same person in different EU information systems.



▶ **Common identity repository** – a shared container of biographical and biometric information, such as name and date of birth, stored in relevant systems about non-EU citizens.



▶ **Multiple identity detector** – automatic alert system detecting multiple or fraudulent identities.



**Effective identity checks** – the proposals establish rules for police officers to query the identity data of third-country nationals in the common identity repository to identify a person during a police check.

**Access for law enforcement** – the proposal streamlines the rules for police officers to access information on third-country nationals in non-law-enforcement databases (such as the Entry-Exit System, Eurodac and the future ETIAS) where necessary to prevent, investigate, detect or prosecute terrorism and other serious criminal offences, in full respect of fundamental rights and data protection and without broadening the scope of access beyond current rules.



The EU Agency responsible for the management of information systems, eu-LISA, is set to play a crucial role in the technical implementation and the development of interoperability of EU information systems. In order to enable eu-LISA to bring this work forward, the Commission proposed in June 2017 to strengthen the mandate of the Agency.

## WHAT SYSTEMS ARE INVOLVED?

The EU information systems that will become interoperable and able to work together, include three already existing systems and three future systems, proposed by the Commission to be developed in the coming years.

### Existing systems:


- 


● **the Schengen Information System (SIS)** a broad range of alerts on people and objects related to criminal activity and missing persons.
- 


● **the Eurodac** - fingerprint database of asylum applicants and third-country nationals irregularly crossing EU borders or irregularly staying in the EU.
- 

● **the Visa Information System (VIS)** information on short-stay visas.

### New systems proposed by the Commission but not yet developed:

- 

● **Entry/Exit System (EES)** - electronic register of entry and exit information of third country nationals crossing EU borders.
- 

● **European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS)** - pre-travel security and irregular migration screening of visa-exempt non-EU nationals.
- 

● **European Criminal Record Information System for third-country nationals (ECRIS-TCN system)** system for exchanging information on non-EU nationals convicted in the European Union.

## STRONG DATA PROTECTION SAFEGUARDS

Privacy and security are two sides of the same coin. The proposed measures will **not** lead to the interconnectivity of the individual systems. Each system will keep its specific purpose limitation, access rules and data retention rules. The proposed measures will also **not** lead to an increase in the collection of new data. They provide a targeted and intelligent way of using existing information held in EU systems to best effect.



European Commission

# EU INFORMATION SYSTEMS Security and Borders

December 2017

Over the past years, the EU has been developing large-scale centralised IT information systems for collecting, processing and sharing information relevant to security, migration and external border management. These systems are vital for security cooperation, as well as for the management of external borders and migration in the EU. The Commission is now proposing to make these information systems at EU level interoperable — that is, able to exchange data and share information so that authorities and competent officials have the information they need, when and where they need it, and to ensure that this information is complete, accurate and reliable

## EXISTING INFORMATION SYSTEMS

### Schengen Information System (SIS)

EU-wide database for controls at external Schengen borders, and law enforcement and judicial cooperation

SIS is an EU-wide, large-scale information system that stores alerts and provides information on certain categories of wanted or missing persons or objects. The system also includes instructions to police officers or border guards on the specific action to be taken when a person or object is located, for example to arrest a person, to protect a vulnerable missing person or to seize an object, such as an invalid passport or stolen car. Consulted 3.9 billion times in 2016, SIS is the most widely used information-sharing system for border management and security in Europe.

#### Participating countries

26 EU Member States



4 Schengen Associated Countries



Switzerland Norway Iceland Liechtenstein

#### To whom does it apply?

EU and non-EU nationals



#### Proposed improvements

A revision of SIS was proposed on 21 December 2016 to bring about important technical and operational improvements to the system, creating new alert categories and ensuring even more efficient information exchange between Member States and with EU Agencies such as Europol, Eurojust and the European Border and Coast Guard Agency.

### Visa Information System (VIS)

Exchange of information on EU visas between Schengen Members

VIS connects consulates in non-EU countries and all external border crossing points of Schengen States. It collects data and decisions relating to applications for short-stay visas to visit or transit through the Schengen Area. VIS is one of the most advanced systems of its kind, with over 50 million visa applications and 37.5 million fingerprint sets registered as of November 2017.

#### Participating countries

22 EU Member States



4 Schengen Associated Countries



Switzerland Norway Iceland Liechtenstein

#### To whom does it apply?

Non-EU nationals requiring an EU visa



#### Upcoming improvements

A revision of VIS is planned for 2018 to improve its functionalities and to ensure its interoperability with the other EU large scale information systems.

## Eurodac

### EU asylum fingerprint database

Eurodac is a database with fingerprint data of asylum applicants and third-country nationals who have crossed the external borders irregularly or who are irregularly staying in a Member State.

#### Participating countries

28 EU Member States



4 Schengen Associated Countries



Switzerland

Norway

Iceland

Liechtenstein

#### To whom does it apply?

**Non-EU** nationals applying for asylum in the EU



#### Proposed improvements

A revision of Eurodac was proposed on 4 May 2016 to expand the scope of the database to include irregular crossings and identification of illegally staying non-EU nationals.

## European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS)

### Exchange of information on criminal convictions

ECRIS is a decentralised electronic system to exchange criminal record information between EU Member States. The system provides judges, prosecutors and other relevant authorities with easy access to comprehensive information on an individual's criminal history, no matter in which Member State that person has been convicted in the past. Member States sent around 364,751 requests through ECRIS in 2016.

#### Participating countries

28 EU Member States



#### To whom does it apply?

**All persons convicted** in the EU and whose conviction appears in national criminal records registers.

#### Proposed improvements

Two new instruments were proposed in 2016 and 2017 to create the ECRIS-Third Country National system, which will make ECRIS more efficient when it comes to the exchange of criminal records information about non-EU nationals.

## FUTURE INFORMATION SYSTEMS

### Entry/Exit System (EES)

#### Recording crossing of the EU's external borders

The Entry/Exit System will collect the data of non-EU nationals (identity and travel documents) and register their entry and exit records (date and place of entry and exit) to facilitate border crossing of bona fide travellers and to identify visa over-stayers. It will replace the current system of manual stamping of passports.

#### Participating countries

21 EU Member States



Denmark to decide



4 Schengen Associated Countries



Switzerland

Norway

Iceland

Liechtenstein

#### To whom does it apply?

All **non-EU** nationals



(for short stay visits only)

#### Next Steps

- Presented by the Commission: 6 April 2016
- Adoption: November 2017
- Scheduled operation: 2020

## ECRIS-TCN system

### Criminal records information about non-EU nationals

The ECRIS-Third Country National system will be a centralised hit/no-hit system to supplement the existing EU criminal records database in relation to non-EU nationals convicted in the European Union. It will allow Member States to quickly find out in which other Member State(s) information on previous convictions of a non-EU national is stored, so that the ECRIS system can then be used to exchange this information.

#### Participating countries

28 EU Member States



#### To whom does it apply?

**All non-EU nationals** and **stateless persons** convicted in the EU and whose convictions are stored in the national registers of criminal records.

#### Next Steps

- Proposals by the Commission: Directive - 19 January 2016  
Regulation - 29 June 2017
- Expected adoption: mid-2018
- Scheduled operation: 2020/2021

## European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS)

### Pre-travel security and irregular migration screening of visa-exempt non-EU nationals

ETIAS will gather information on all travellers who are travelling visa-free to Europe and ensure that possible security and irregular migration concerns are identified prior to travel to the Schengen area. This will contribute to a more efficient management of the EU's external borders, improving internal security and facilitating a better management of irregular migration.

#### Participating countries

25 EU Member States



Denmark to decide



4 Schengen Associated Countries



Switzerland

Norway

Iceland

Liechtenstein

#### To whom does it apply?



EU visa-exempt  
**non-EU** nationals

#### Next Steps

- Presented by the Commission: 16 November 2016
- Expected adoption: early 2018
- Scheduled operational: 2020

## WHO CAN ACCESS WHICH DATABASE?

	SIS*	VIS	Eurodac	EES	ETIAS
<b>Exclusively accessible to authorised users within the competent national authorities and under certain conditions/limitations:</b>					
Visa authorities (consular posts) and immigration authorities	●	●		●	
Border controls authorities (border guards)	●	●		●	●
Asylum authorities	●	●	●		
Police authorities	●				
Customs authorities	●				
Judicial authorities	●				
Vehicle, boat and aircraft registration authorities	●				
Carriers				●	●
<b>Under certain conditions:</b>					
Other national authorities		●		●	●
Europol	●	●		●	●
Eurojust	●				
European Border and Coast Guard Agency	●				●

\* As proposed in the Commission's December 2016 legislative proposals



# TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

## New priority actions

Trafficking in human beings remains a highly profitable form of serious and organised crime, explicitly prohibited in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. Behind each victim lie devastating experiences and suffering that must be appropriately acknowledged and addressed, and more importantly, prevented. The EU has put in place a robust legal framework and set out a comprehensive strategy for EU actions to eradicate trafficking in human beings. However, in light of recent migratory, economic and security challenges, the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings continues to evolve. To step up the EU's response, the Commission has outlined a set of targeted actions in three priority areas: (i) disrupting the traffickers' business model and untangling the trafficking chain, (ii) providing better access to and realising the rights for victims and (iii) intensifying a coordinated and consolidated response, both within and outside the EU

**Clearly, there are substantially more victims than those covered by official figures. The crime has an obvious gender dimension. Trafficking for sexual exploitation, involving mainly women and girls as victims, is consistently reported as the prevalent form.**

### 1. DISRUPTING TRAFFICKERS' BUSINESS MODEL AND UNTANGLING THE TRAFFICKING CHAIN

In a climate where impunity for perpetrators and users prevails, profits from the exploitation of human beings remain high. While there is a diverse legal landscape within the EU, national laws are failing to effectively discourage the demand for trafficking services.

#### PRIORITY ACTIONS:

- ▶ **Member States are further encouraged**, to the extent they have not done so, to criminalise those knowingly using services exacted from victims of trafficking.
- ▶ **Disrupt** the financial business model of traffickers by developing operational activities and methodologies
- ▶ **Improve** effectiveness of investigations and prosecutions
- ▶ **Ensure** trafficking-free supply and value chains in line with international and European standards
- ▶ **Promote** best practices in non-financial information reporting



## 2. PROVIDING BETTER ACCESS TO AND REALISING THE RIGHTS FOR VICTIMS

Identifying victims at an early stage is the first step towards making sure they are treated as ‘rights holders’ – that they have access to their rights and can exercise them effectively. This includes ensuring that victims receive appropriate gender specific and child sensitive assistance and protection.

### PRIORITY ACTIONS:

- ▶ **Develop** and distribute tailored guidelines by the European Institute for Gender Equality
- ▶ **Review** Member States’ national and transnational referral mechanisms
- ▶ **Develop** in cooperation with FRA practical guidance to better prevent child trafficking
- ▶ **Use** of EU border and migration management tools for detecting, identifying and sharing information and data on victims of trafficking and traffickers

## 3. INTENSIFYING A COORDINATED AND CONSOLIDATED RESPONSE, BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE EU

Trafficking does not stop at national or EU borders. An improved coordination of the internal and external aspects of EU anti-trafficking efforts is essential to effectively fight this crime.

### PRIORITY ACTIONS:

- ▶ **Engage** EU Justice and Home Affairs agencies to working together on this matter
- ▶ **Implementation** of the relevant human trafficking aspects in external policy areas:
  - Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals
  - EU - UN Spotlight Initiative to eliminate violence against women and girls
  - Joint Staff Working Document ‘EU’s activities on gender equality and women’s empowerment in the EU’s external relations’
  - Call to Action on Protection from Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies
- ▶ **Review** and identify the priority countries and regions for action against trafficking in human beings

### CROSS-CUTTING PRIORITIES

The Commission identified two additional cross-cutting priorities focused on **widening the knowledge base** and improving understanding of this complex phenomenon, and **provision of appropriate funding** in support of anti-trafficking initiatives and projects.



### PRIORITY ACTIONS:

- ▶ **Publish** evidence and statistics on the costs of trafficking, criminal justice and the impact of the EU approach to combating trafficking for sexual exploitation
- ▶ **Support** anti-trafficking objectives and priorities through various EU funding programmes such as Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF), Internal Security Fund (ISF), Horizon 2020, Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA), European Development Fund (EDF) and the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa.
- ▶ **Launch** an EU-wide awareness-raising campaign



European  
Commission

# SECURITY UNION: Protecting Public Spaces

October 2017



*"The European Union must also be stronger in fighting terrorism. In the past three years, we have made real progress. But we still lack the means to act quickly in case of cross-border terrorist threats."*

*European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, State of the Union Address, 13 September 2017*

In the past three years, the European Union and its Member States have taken decisive action to deny terrorists the means to carry out attacks, share information between Member States, counter radicalisation and manage our borders better. But as the recurring terrorist attacks in Europe show, more needs to be done to prevent in the future attacks such as those seen in the streets of Barcelona, Berlin, London, Manchester, Nice, Paris or Stockholm.

What these attacks had in common is that they targeted open public spaces. While the risk of such attacks can never be entirely eliminated, there are concrete operational measures Member States can take with the support of the EU in order to better protect public spaces from the threat of terrorism. In its Action Plan, the Commission has committed to providing targeted funding of up to €118.5 million over the next year, stepping up the exchange of best practice, issuing guidance material to Member States, and fostering cooperation between local actors and the private sector.

## TARGETED FUNDING



EU funding supports Member States in the protection of public spaces, be it in developing urban infrastructure to secure open public spaces, raising public awareness, or investing in security research.

- €18.5 million for projects launched today to support transnational projects improving the protection of public spaces
- Up to €100 million in 2018 to support cities investing in security solutions
- €195 million in funding for 48 security research projects related to public space protection

## EXCHANGING EXPERTISE AND BEST PRACTICE

The Commission will establish a **Practitioners' Forum** where law enforcement practitioners and existing law enforcement networks can share knowledge about protecting public spaces. The Commission will also establish a **High-Risk Security Network** to organise common trainings and joint exercises for law enforcement to improve their preparedness and enhance their response capacity.



## DEVELOPING GUIDANCE MATERIAL



Over the next year, the Commission will issue new guidance material to help Member States address a wide set of issues related to the protection of public spaces:

- Guidance on enhancing the physical resistance of buildings
- Guidance on the security barriers in crowded places for cities and urban planners
- Guidance on 'security by design' for protective urban landscape design
- Guidance on the protection of sports and cultural events
- Guidance on the protection of landside areas at airports
- Guidance on the use of explosives detection dogs
- Guidance on information campaigns to raise public awareness

## IMPROVING COOPERATION BETWEEN LOCAL ACTORS AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR

### STAKEHOLDERS

Private operators are often owners of the infrastructure that needs protection. Whether it is a shopping mall, a football stadium or a cinema, the private sector is usually the main stakeholder. The Commission will, by the end of this year, set up an **Operator's Forum** in order to work with the private sector in developing recommendations and sharing best practices and serving as a channel to communicate between public authorities and operators of different public spaces.



### LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES

Mayors of major cities have a crucial role to play in the protection of public spaces. The Commission will reinforce the involvement of these stakeholders and establish a dialogue to explore how communities can better enhance the protection of public spaces. The first dedicated meeting with mayors of cities and other regional and local authorities will take place early next year.

## ENHANCING TRANSPORT SECURITY

Transportation means are both targets of terrorist acts but also a means to conduct attacks (e.g. hijacked planes or truck-ramming). The EU constantly monitors whether security rules and their implementation on the ground set the right framework.

### AVIATION SECURITY

A comprehensive risk assessment is being carried out looking at how we can enhance security systems for detection of prohibited items and suspect passengers coming to the EU from third countries.



### RAIL TRANSPORT

There is currently no EU legislative framework to protect passenger rail transport against terrorism and serious crime. On 15 June 2017, the Commission launched a common railway risk assessment and is working on further measures to improve passenger railway security.

### ROAD TRANSPORT

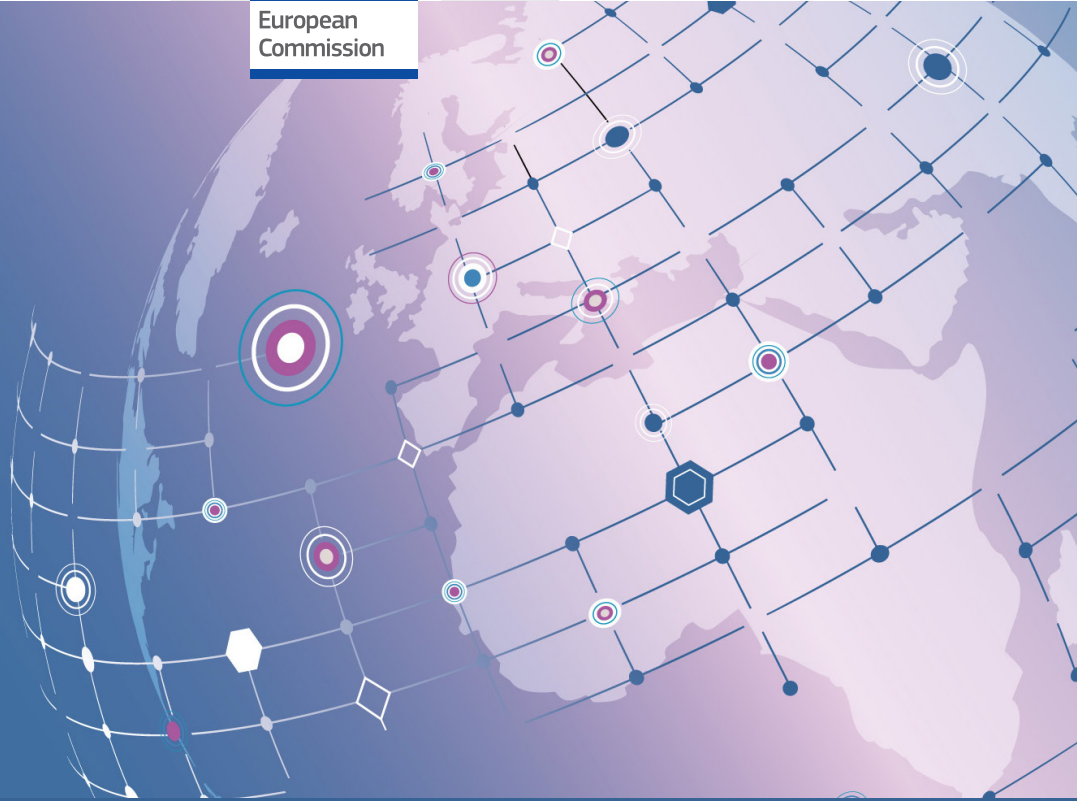
The Commission is working on best practice security guidance for the commercial road transport sector to be ready by the end of 2017. This will focus on improving truck security by mitigating the risk of unauthorised intrusion, including hijacking or theft, of a truck for use in a terrorist ramming attack.







European  
Commission



SECURITY UNION

# A EUROPE THAT PROTECTS

OCTOBER 2017

It is the most basic and universal of rights to feel safe and secure in your own home. Europeans rightly expect their Union to provide that for them. The Juncker Commission made security a top priority from day one. We have taken decisive action to **deny terrorists the means** to carry out attacks, **share intelligence** between Member States, **protect Europeans online** and **manage our borders** better.



*“The time for action has come. In the area of security, as in many other areas in Europe, fragmentation is what makes us vulnerable. Europe needs a genuine Security Union.”* (European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, European Parliament, 12 April 2016)

## DENYING TERRORISTS THE MEANS

In the past two years, the Commission has taken a series of landmark decisions to tighten security law across the EU and cut terrorists off from the money, firearms and substances they use to carry out attacks.



A new **law on combating terrorism**, proposed immediately after the Paris attacks in 2015 and adopted in March 2017, ensures effective preventive measures are in place across the EU. Thanks to this law, terrorism-related offences — such as travelling abroad to commit a terrorist offence, returning or travelling within the EU for such activities, training for terrorist purposes and the financing of terrorism — are now **criminalised** and **heavily sanctioned** everywhere in Europe.



Cutting off the sources of **terrorist financing** is one of the most effective ways to stop potential terrorist attacks. The Commission has put new legislation on the table to criminalise **money laundering** alongside tighter **controls on large cash flows** and stronger rules on **freezing terrorists’ financial resources and confiscation of their assets**. The European Parliament and the Council now need to find an agreement on these files.



The Commission has also reinforced the control of legally held **firearms** in the EU. New rules make it harder to legally acquire high capacity weapons and restricted access to **chemical substances** that could be used to make home-made explosives.

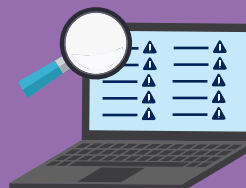
## SHARING INFORMATION

Effective information sharing is a key element in the fight against terrorism. Thanks to the Commission’s efforts to raise awareness and provide practical solutions, information exchange has increased significantly and Member States use databases, such as the Schengen Information System, much more often.

### THE SCHENGEN INFORMATION SYSTEM - THE MOST WIDELY USED INFORMATION SHARING SYSTEM FOR BORDER MANAGEMENT AND SECURITY IN EUROPE



Contains almost **75 million alerts** as of 30 August 2017



It was consulted almost **4 billion times** in 2016 (100% increase from 2014)



New rules on **Passenger Name Record data** were adopted in 2016, essential for identifying high risk travellers previously unknown to law enforcement authorities. By collecting, sharing and analysing passenger data, law enforcement will be able to **better trace criminal networks** and travel patterns. All EU Member States need to meet the May 2018 deadline for full implementation of these rules and the Commission is supporting this with funding and technical expertise.



In May 2017, the Commission proposed a new approach to **interoperability** — the way our information systems interact. All centralised EU information systems for security, border and migration management should become interoperable. We will achieve this by creating a single search portal for police and customs officers to search all databases in parallel and a common identity repository for all systems, meaning that name, date of birth or gender would only be stored once. The Commission has already made proposals to this effect.

## PROTECTING EUROPEANS ONLINE

The cyber-attacks that recently targeted key infrastructure across the world show that we are going to need to invest more heavily in information security. In the past two years the Commission has driven action to counter radicalisation, including online.



With a new law on **security of network and information systems** adopted in July 2016, the Commission has laid the groundwork for improved EU level cooperation and cyber-resilience.

In September 2017, the Commission scaled up EU's response to cyber-attacks proposing an EU Cybersecurity Agency, a new European certification scheme for cyber secure products and services and a Blueprint on how to respond to a large scale attack.



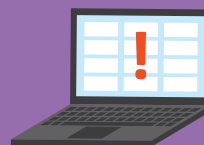
EU initiatives to **counter terrorist propaganda and radicalisation online** are showing results. The **Radicalisation Awareness Network** brings together practitioners from all Member States to develop best practices, and equip them with the skills and confidence they need to address violent extremism. In 2015, the Commission launched the **EU Internet Forum** which brings together governments, Europol and the biggest technology and social media companies to ensure that illegal content, including terrorist propaganda, is taken down as quickly as possible.

## CLEANING UP THE WEB:

The EU Internet Referral Unit at Europol scans the web for online terrorist material. It has referred tens of thousands of posts to internet companies. On average, almost 90% of these posts are then removed.



The EU Internet Referral Unit at Europol



Tens of thousands of posts referred to internet companies



Take-down rate of almost 90%

## PROTECTING OUR BORDERS

In an area of free movement without internal borders, managing Europe's external borders must be a shared responsibility. We need to know who is crossing our borders and we need to be able to effectively secure our common borders.



Since October 2016, the new **European Border and Coast Guard** is operational with a pool of 1,500 border guards that can intervene without delay whenever support is needed at one of our external borders. This allows us not only to ensure that the same high security standards apply at all external borders but also to react more swiftly if necessary.

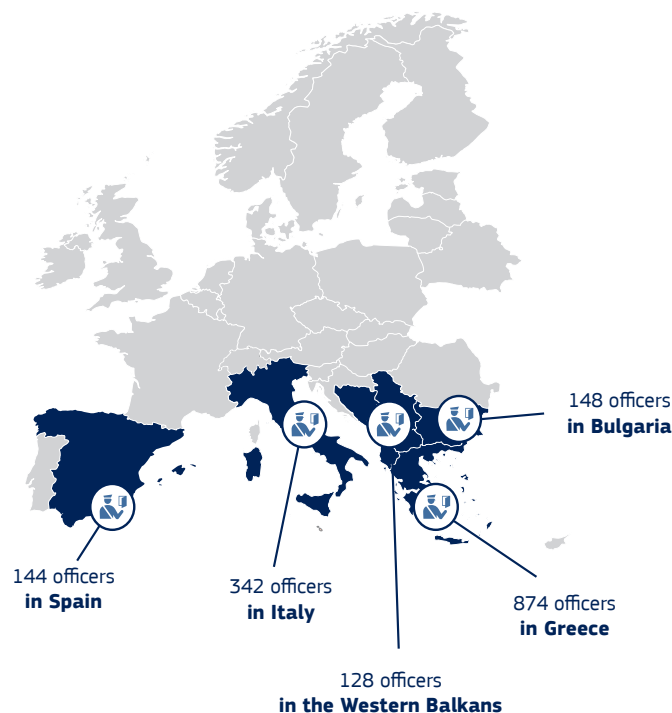


Since 7 April 2017, new EU rules ensure that all travellers crossing the EU's external borders are **systematically checked** against relevant databases, such as the Schengen Information System. This significantly reduces the chances that people who pose a security threat — including EU nationals who have travelled abroad for terrorist purposes — pass the borders unnoticed.



The Commission has also proposed a **European Travel Information and Authorisation System** to ensure that advance security checks can be carried out for all people travelling visa-free to the European Union. The system will help identify persons who may pose a security risk before they reach our borders. The Commission proposal now needs to be adopted by the European Parliament and the Council. By 2020, a **new entry/exit system** should also modernise external border management and record the name, type of travel document, biometrics and the date and place of every foreigner crossing our borders.

## European Border and Coast Guard deployments





# A EUROPEAN AGENDA ON SECURITY

## STATE OF PLAY: OCTOBER 2017



### Security: A priority of the Juncker Commission

Security has been a constant theme since the beginning of this Commission's mandate from President Juncker's Guidelines of July 2014 to the latest State of the Union address of September 2017. The European Agenda on Security of 2015 guides the Commission's work in this area, setting out the main actions to ensure an effective EU response to terrorism and security threats in the European Union. President Juncker also created a specific Commissioner portfolio for the Security Union to ensure an effective implementation of the commitments made.

President Juncker: 'The European Union must also be stronger in fighting terrorism. In the past three years, we have made real progress. But we still lack the means to act quickly in case of cross-border terrorist threats.' (State of the Union address, 13 September 2017)



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<b>15 July 2014</b>	Security included in the 10 Priorities of the Juncker Commission
<b>1 November 2014</b>	Juncker Commission takes office
<b>21 January 2015</b>	College holds first orientation debate on a European Agenda on Security
<b>28 April 2015</b>	Commission adopts European Agenda on Security
<b>18 November 2015</b>	Commission adopts 1 <sup>st</sup> implementation package of the European Agenda on Security (Firearms)
<b>2 December 2015</b>	Commission adopts 2 <sup>nd</sup> implementation package of the European Agenda on Security (Combating Terrorism)
<b>6 April 2016</b>	Commission adopts 3 <sup>rd</sup> implementation package of the European Agenda on Security (External Borders)
<b>20 April 2016</b>	Commission presents Communication on paving the way towards an effective and genuine Security Union
<b>7 September 2016</b>	Commission adopts 4 <sup>th</sup> implementation package of the European Agenda on Security (Security Industry)
<b>16 September 2016</b>	The Bratislava Declaration and Roadmap call on the Union to do everything necessary to support Member States in ensuring internal security and fighting terrorism
<b>19 September 2016</b>	Sir Julian King appointed as the new Commissioner for the Security Union
<b>16 November 2016</b>	Commission adopts 5 <sup>th</sup> implementation package of the European Agenda on Security (Information Systems)
<b>21 December 2016</b>	Commission adopts 6 <sup>th</sup> implementation package of the European Agenda on Security (Terrorism Financing & Information Systems)
<b>29 June 2017</b>	Commission adopts 7 <sup>th</sup> implementation package on the European Agenda on Security (Interoperability)
<b>26 July 2017</b>	Commission presents a Comprehensive Assessment of EU security Policy over the last 15 years.
<b>18 October 2017</b>	Commission adopts 8 <sup>th</sup> implementation package on the European Agenda on Security (Terrorism)



## 1. STRENGTHENING OUR FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM AND ORGANISED CRIME, AND THE MEANS TO SUPPORT THEM

### Combating terrorism and cutting access to financing and firearms

Strengthening the fight against terrorism requires effective action to cut off the support that terrorists benefit from and deprive them of the means to commit attacks.

<b>June 2015</b>	Commission proposes first set of Common Risk Indicators concerning foreign terrorist fighters
<b>October 2015</b>	Commission develops guidance on protection of soft target areas
<b>18 November 2015</b>	Commission proposes revision of the Firearms Directive (entry into force 13 June 2017)
<b>2 December 2015</b>	Commission proposes new Directive on Combating Terrorism Action Plan against illicit trafficking in and use of firearms and explosives
<b>15 December 2015</b>	Commission adopts the Implementing Regulation on common standards for the deactivation of firearms (applicable since 8 April 2016)
<b>1 January 2016</b>	Launch of the European Counter Terrorism Centre (ECTC) at Europol
<b>2 February 2016</b>	Action Plan on strengthening the fight against terrorist financing
<b>5 July 2016</b>	Commission amends 4 <sup>th</sup> Anti-Money Laundering Directive
<b>14 July 2016</b>	Commission adopts list of third countries with deficiencies in fighting money laundering and terrorist financing
<b>29 September 2016</b>	Commission steps up implementation of rules on explosives precursors, launching infringement procedures
<b>30 November 2016</b>	Additional explosives precursors substances subject to enhanced controls
<b>21 December 2016</b>	Commission proposes to criminalise money laundering, strengthen mutual recognition of criminal asset freezing and confiscation orders and tackle illicit cash movements
<b>6-7 February 2017</b>	Launch of the Soft Target Policy Group
<b>15 February 2017</b>	Commission further steps up implementation of rules on explosives precursors, launching additional infringement procedures
<b>28 February 2017</b>	Report on the application of the EU Regulation on explosives precursors
<b>1 May 2017</b>	New Europol Regulation enters into application
<b>20 June 2017</b>	Adoption of the EU Action plan on Drugs 2017-2020
<b>27 June 2017</b>	Report on the supranational assessment of money laundering and terrorist financing risks, Communication on reinforcing the cooperation between FIUs
<b>13 July 2017</b>	Commission legislative proposal against illicit trade in cultural goods
<b>18 October 2017</b>	Action Plan on the protection of public spaces Recommendation on explosive precursors Action Plan on CBRN

<b>KEY</b>	Actions Completed	Proposals adopted by the co-legislators and being implemented	Proposals adopted by the Commission but not yet adopted by the co-legislators	Work Ongoing
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## Preventing and fighting radicalisation

The recent terrorist attacks in Europe have once again underlined the need to tackle radicalisation which can lead to violent extremism. The majority of terrorist suspects involved in those attacks were European citizens, born and raised in Member States, who were radicalised and turned against their fellow citizens to commit atrocities.

<b>1 July 2015</b>	Establishment of the EU Internet Referral Unit at Europol
<b>1 October 2015</b>	Launch of the EU Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN) Centre of Excellence
<b>3 December 2015</b>	Launch of an EU Internet Forum to counter terrorist content and hate speech online
<b>14 June 2016</b>	Communication on supporting the prevention of radicalisation leading to violent extremism
<b>9 November 2016</b>	Launch of "RAN Young" at the RAN High Level Conference
<b>8 December 2016</b>	EU Internet Forum meeting
<b>2 February 2017</b>	Launch of the Network of national prevent policy makers
<b>15-16 March 2017</b>	Launch of the Civil Society Empowerment Programme
<b>19 June 2017</b>	Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN) presents "Responses to Returnees" manual
<b>27 July 2017</b>	Commission sets up a High-Level Expert Group on Radicalisation.
<b>17 July 2017</b>	EU Internet Forum Action Plan to curb terrorist content online
<b>28 September 2017</b>	Guidelines and principles for online platforms to remove illegal content online

## 2. STRENGTHENING OUR DEFENCES AND RESILIENCE

### Improving information exchange and strengthening information systems

Sharing information is central to strengthening our defences against terrorism. The first challenge is to make the best use of existing tools, systems and Agencies. They need to be fully implemented and cooperation enhanced.

<b>19 January 2016</b>	Commission proposes to amend the European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS)
<b>21 April 2016</b>	Adoption of the EU Passenger Name Records (PNR) Directive
<b>6 July 2016</b>	Adoption of the Directive on Security of Network and Information Systems
<b>29 September 2016</b>	Commission steps up implementation of Prüm Framework, launches infringement procedures
<b>16 November 2016</b>	Commission proposes a European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS)
<b>28 November 2016</b>	Commission presents EU PNR Implementation Plan
<b>7 December 2016</b>	Commission proposes Action Plan on the Security of Travel Documents
<b>8 December 2016</b>	Commission steps up implementation of cybercrime acquis, launches infringement procedures
<b>21 December 2016</b>	Proposals to revise the Schengen Information System (SIS)
<b>10 January 2017</b>	Proposal to revise ePrivacy Directive
<b>11 May 2017</b>	Final report of the High Level Expert Group on Information Systems and Interoperability
<b>16 May 2017</b>	Commission sets out a new approach towards interoperability of EU information systems by 2020
<b>29 June 2017</b>	Commission proposes to upgrade the European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS)
<b>29 June 2017</b>	Commission proposes to strengthen the mandate of the eu-LISA Agency
<b>19 September 2017</b>	EU Cybersecurity package

**KEY** Actions Completed

Proposals adopted by the co-legislators and being implemented

Proposals adopted by the Commission but not yet adopted by the co-legislators

Work Ongoing

## Enhancing security at the external border

With the decision to share a common internal area of free movement comes a shared responsibility to provide high and consistent standards of border management and security at the external borders.

<b>15 December 2015</b>	Commission proposes to establish a European Border and Coast Guard
	Commission proposes a targeted modification of the Schengen Borders Code to introduce systematic checks of EU citizens crossing the external border
<b>6 April 2016</b>	Commission adopts a Joint Framework on countering hybrid threats
	Commission proposes an EU Entry Exit System
<b>4 May 2016</b>	Commission proposes to adapt and reinforce the Eurodac system
<b>7 September 2016</b>	Commission proposes EU certification of airport screening equipment
<b>6 October 2016</b>	Launch of the European Border and Coast Guard
<b>7 April 2017</b>	Targeted modification of the Schengen Borders Code with systematic checks of EU citizens crossing the external border became mandatory
<b>19 July 2017</b>	Commission and EEAS report on the implementation of 2016 Joint Framework on countering hybrid threats

## The Way Forward

The Commission will continue to drive forward work, reporting on a monthly basis on the progress made towards an operational and effective Security Union. Reports will be based around two broad pillars: tackling terrorism and organised crime and the means that support them; and strengthening our defences and building resilience against them.

<b>End of 2017</b>	Commission proposal on interoperability
<b>6 December 2017</b>	EU Internet Forum
<b>Q1-Q2 2018</b>	Commission proposal on law enforcement access to centralised bank account registrations
<b>Q1 2018</b>	Commission proposal on e-evidence
<b>Q1-Q2 2018</b>	Evaluation of the Regulation on Explosive Precursors

**KEY** Actions Completed

Proposals adopted by the co-legislators and being implemented

Proposals adopted by the Commission but not yet adopted by the co-legislators

Work Ongoing





European Commission

# NON-CASH PAYMENT FRAUD

September 2017



## WHO DOES IT?



The criminal market for payment card fraud in the EU is dominated by well-structured and globally active organised crime groups, which may be gaining at least EUR 1,44 billion per year. (Source: Europol)

## WHO LOSES FROM IT?

Fraud and counterfeiting of non-cash means of payment represents a threat to security as it provides important income for organized crime and enables other criminal activities such as terrorism, drug trafficking and trafficking in human beings. In addition, non-cash payment fraud causes important direct economic losses (for example, the causes important direct economic losses and reduces consumers' trust), which may result in reduced economic activity and limited engagement in the digital single market.

## WHAT IS THE TREND?

Fraud data exists only for card fraud which is the most important non-cash payment instrument in terms of number of transactions. Available information shows that fraud is rising (especially online): The total value of card fraud using cards issued in SEPA amounted to €1.44 billion<sup>9</sup> in 2013. This represented an increase of 8.1% compared with 2012 and the **total number** of fraudulent transactions using cards issued in SEPA amounted to **11.29 million in 2013**

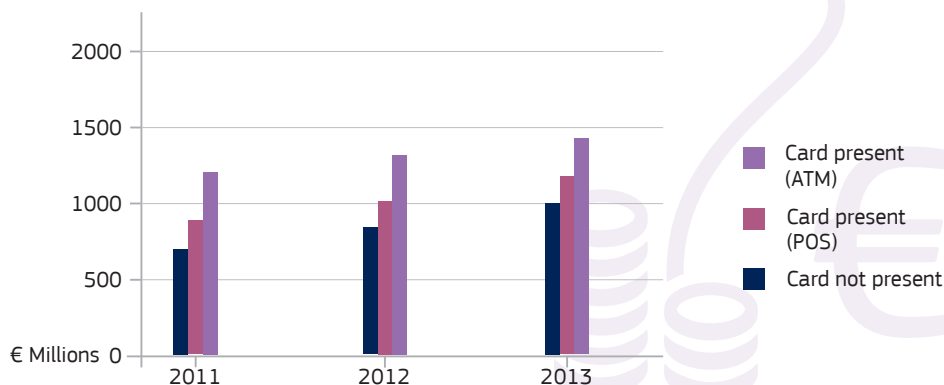


Airlines lose around USD 1 billion per year globally in card fraud (Source: IATA)



Payment card fraud against on-line shops is considered as high profit and low risk criminal activity with losses for the European sector exceeding EUR 1 billion (Source: Europol)

## EVOLUTION OF THE TOTAL VALUE OF CARD FRAUD USING CARDS ISSUED WITHIN SEPA



### HOW DOES IT HAPPEN?

- Fraudulently trigger the execution of payments by using payer information. Once the fraudster has acquired the necessary information, he can use payment instruments (in particular non-corporeal such as card credentials, credit transfers, direct debit and virtual currencies) to trigger the execution of a payment.
- Fraudulently execute payments by tampering with or stealing the payment instrument. Fraudsters can counterfeit cards (credit/debit, fuel, loyalty) out of stolen credentials to pay in stores or withdraw cash in ATMs; counterfeit cheques, vouchers or coupons, etc. Fraudsters can hack information systems to process payments: e.g. tampering with points of sale for card transactions; unlawfully increase the credit card limit to allow excess expenses go undetected, etc.

### HOW CAN CRIMINALS GET HOLD OF MY DATA?

Fraudsters get hold of the information required to trigger the execution of a payment and use it for his own benefit, against the will of the legitimate owner of the funds. There are multiple methods to collect that information: phishing, skimming, pharming... or simply acquiring it from someone else, for instance on “carding forums” (dedicated websites, generally in the darknet, where criminals can sell or acquire stolen credit cards credentials).

#### WHY A NEW INITIATIVE?



**1. Updating the legal framework**



**2. Making law enforcement cooperation more efficient**



**3. Enhancing prevention and assistance to victims**

#### *the economies of phishing*

According to a study by Cisco, approximately **eight people out of a million** falls victim of phishing, with an average loss of \$2,000 per victim. Fully automated phishing kits to send phishing messages to 500,000 e-mail addresses can be bought online for just \$65. So, for only \$130, criminals can generate \$16,000, a 12,000% return on investment.

This explains why as many as 36 billion phishing messages are sent annually.



#### WHAT IS NEW?

The proposal for a new Directive on combating fraud and counterfeiting of non-cash means of payment aims to:

- define the payment instruments in a more encompassing and robust way and expand the scope of the offences related to information systems to include all payment transactions, including transactions through virtual currencies;
- make it a self-standing offence, aside from using such instruments, to possess, sell, procure for use, import, distribute or otherwise make available a stolen or otherwise unlawfully appropriated counterfeited or falsified payment instrument;
- introduce common rules on the level of penalties;
- clarify the scope of the jurisdiction, ensuring that Member States have jurisdiction in cases where the offence has been committed using an information system and that they are able to exercise jurisdiction if the offence causes damage in their territory;
- strengthen the existing structure and use of the operational contact points;
- enhance the conditions for victims and private entities to report crime;
- address the need to provide statistical data on fraud;
- provide for victims to have access to information about their rights and about available assistance and support.



# SECURITY UNION

## Interoperability of EU Information Systems



Effective information sharing is a key element of the fight against terrorism and organised crime. It gives police officers and border guards the right tools to access and exchange the necessary information on people to better protect the EU external borders and enhance the internal security of the EU.

To improve information exchange and maximise the efficiency of information systems at EU level, the Commission has set out a new approach to managing data, where all centralised EU information systems for security, border and migration management are **interoperable** in full respect of data protection and fundamental rights.



*“Border security means that information and intelligence exchange must be prioritised (...) We need to know who is crossing our borders.”*

*(President Juncker's State of the Union address, 14 September 2016)*

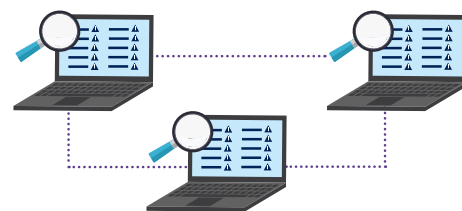
### WHAT IS INTEROPERABILITY?

**Interoperability** of EU information systems for security, border and migration management is the ability of different and separately developed **IT systems** to exchange data and to enable the sharing of **information**, in full respect of fundamental rights, data protection and with strict purpose limitations.

Interoperability is NOT about:

- collecting more and more new data
- creating one big database available to everyone
- reducing data protection and fundamental rights

Interoperability is about a targeted and intelligent way of using existing data in the most efficient way.



### WHY IS INTEROPERABILITY IMPORTANT?

Today's security threats are becoming more complex and transnational making effective information exchange of paramount importance. Unfortunately, the current architecture of EU information systems is still very **complex** and **fragmented**.

Recent terrorist attacks have further highlighted the urgent need for information systems to be interoperable so that criminals and terrorist suspects cannot exploit information loopholes, for instance by using different aliases recorded in several, unconnected databases. Border guards, migration and asylum officials, and police officers need the right information at the right time to protect our borders and ensure security in the EU.

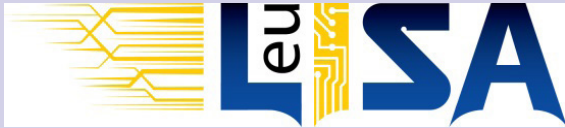


## HOW WILL INTEROPERABILITY OF EU INFORMATION SYSTEMS BE ACHIEVED?

The new approach towards interoperability set out by the Commission in May 2017 has three main features:

- **European search portal** – to allow systems to be searched simultaneously producing combined results, in full compliance with data protection safeguards;
- **Shared biometric matching service** – to enable searches across different information systems holding biometric data, possibly with hit/no-hit flags indicating a connection with related biometric data found in another system;
- **Common identity repository** – based on alphanumeric identity data (e.g. dates of birth, passport numbers), this detects whether a person is registered under multiple identities in different databases.

The Commission will propose the necessary legislative measures to implement this approach and achieve full interoperability by 2020.



The EU Agency responsible for the management of information systems, **eu-LISA**, is set to play a crucial role in the technical implementation of this new approach.

## WHAT EU INFORMATION SYSTEMS EXIST?

The three main existing systems are the Schengen Information System (SIS), the Visa Information System (VIS) and Eurodac:



- **Schengen Information System (SIS)** – external checks at Schengen borders, law enforcement and judicial cooperation



- **Visa Information System (VIS)** – exchange of information on EU visa holders between Schengen States



- **Eurodac** – EU asylum fingerprint database

**New systems are expected to become operational by 2020\***

- **Entry/Exit System (EES)** – system recording the crossing of the external EU borders of non-EU nationals
- **European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS)** – pre-travel security and irregular migration screening of visa-exempt non-EU nationals







