



European
Commission



FACTSHEETS COMPILATION 2016

*Migration and
Home Affairs*



Table of contents

AGENDA ON MIGRATION

04

- A European Agenda on Migration – State of Play December 2016 (14/12/2016) 06
- Relocation and Resettlement (08/12/2016) 09
- The facility for refugees in Turkey (08/12/2016) 11
- Managing the refugee Crisis - EU financial support to Greece (08/12/2016) 14
- EU-Turkey Statement: Progress Report September 2016 (28/09/2016) 20
- The Schengen Rules Explained (28/09/2016) 24
- Securing Europe’s External Borders: A European Border and Coast Guard (28/09/2016) 26
- Asylum Procedures: reforming the Common European Asylum System (13/07/2016) 28
- Qualification: reforming the Common European Asylum System (13/07/2016) 30
- Reception Conditions: reforming the Common European Asylum System (13/07/2016) 32
- The Common European Asylum System (CEAS) (13/07/2016) 34
- Revision of the EU Blue Card Directive (07/06/2016) 36
- Action Plan on the Integration of the Third-Country Nationals (07/06/2016) 38
- Managing the Refugee Crisis - A New Partnership Framework (07/06/2016) 41
- The Reform of the Dublin System (04/05/2016) 44
- Managing the Refugee Crisis - EU Support to Jordan (16/03/2016) 47
- Managing the Refugee Crisis - EU Support to Lebanon (16/03/2016) 50
- Managing the Refugee Crisis - Balancing Responsibility and Solidarity on Migration and Asylum (10/02/2016) 53
- EU Budget for the Refugee Crisis (10/02/2016) 55

AGENDA ON SECURITY

56

- The Schengen Information System (21/12/2016) 58
- A European Agenda on Security: State of Play December 2016 (12/2016) 61
- ETIAS - The European Travel Information and Autorisation System (16/11/2016) 64
- Stronger and Smarter Borders for the European Union - The Entry-Exit System (06/04/2016) 67



EUROPEAN AGENDA ON MIGRATION





EUROPEAN UNION

A European Agenda on Migration

State of Play: December 2016

A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO MIGRATION

No Member State can effectively address migration alone. It is clear that we need a European approach. This requires using all policies and tools at our disposal – combining internal and external policies to best effect. All actors: Member States, EU institutions, International Organisations, civil society, local authorities and third countries need to work together to make a common European migration policy a reality. 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 challenge of the refugee crisis and the Commission has put in place all the important building blocks needed for a European approach to ensure strong borders, fair procedures and a sustainable system able to anticipate problems. What is needed now is a swift adoption of the Commission's proposals by the co-legislators and the full implementation by the Member States of the collective decisions taken.



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18 May 2015	Military CSDP operation to disrupt the business model of human smuggling and trafficking networks in the Southern Central Mediterranean
27 May 2015	Triple the capacities and assets for the Frontex joint operations Triton and Poseidon in 2015 and 2016
	Additional €60 million in EU emergency funding for frontline Member States
	Additional €30 million for EU Regional Development and Protection Programmes (RDPPs) starting from North Africa and the Horn of Africa in 2015/2016
	Relocation Scheme to relocate 40,000 people from Italy and Greece
27 May 2015	Resettlement Scheme to resettle over 20,000 people from outside the EU
	Guidelines for the Member States on the implementation of EU rules on the obligation to take fingerprints
	Hotspot approach in Italy and Greece with deployment of Migration Management Support Teams
	EU Action Plan against migrant smuggling
9 September 2015	Establishment of pilot multi-purpose centre in Niger in cooperation with IOM and UNHCR
	Relocation Scheme to relocate 120,000 people from Italy, Greece and other Member States directly affected
	A permanent crisis relocation mechanism under the Dublin system
	A European list of safe countries of origin
	An EU Action plan on return
23 September 2015	€1.8 billion from EU budget for Trust Fund for Africa, additional €82 million pledged from national donors
	€500 million from EU budget for Trust Fund for Syria
	Additional €500 million from Member States in humanitarian assistance for UNHCR, World Food Programme and other organisations
30 September 2015	Additional €500 million in EU humanitarian assistance for UNHCR, World Food Programme and other organisations
8 October 2015	Additional €100 million in EU emergency funding for frontline Member States
	€1.3 million to increase staff of EU Agencies Frontex, EASO, Europol
15 October 2015	Additional €17 million in EU aid for Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
15 October 2015	Additional €900 million to tackle refugee crisis in EU budget 2016

KEY

Adopted

Not yet adopted by Member States and / or European Parliament

15 October 2015	EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan
12 November 2015	Launch of EU's Emergency Trust Fund for Africa
13 November 2015	Agreement on EU budget for 2016 brings total funding to address the refugee crisis in 2015 and 2016 to close to €10 billion
24 November 2015	A €3 billion Refugee Facility for Turkey
10 December 2015	Additional €13 million in humanitarian aid for refugees in Western Balkans
15 December 2015	European Commission proposes the establishment of a European Border and Coast Guard
	Recommendation for a Voluntary Humanitarian Admission Scheme with Turkey for refugees from Syria
	Proposal to amend the Schengen Borders Code - provide systematic controls of EU national against relevant databases at the external borders both when entering or exiting Schengen area
16 December 2015	The EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa launched its first package of actions to address the root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement
2 March 2016	Commission proposes new Emergency Support Instrument for faster crisis response within the EU
4 March 2016	European Commission presents a detailed 'Back to Schengen' Roadmap of the concrete steps needed to return order to the management of the EU's external and internal borders
	First projects under the Facility for Refugees in Turkey
6 March 2016	Frontex and NATO reached a common understanding on modalities for cooperation in the Aegean Sea
15 March 2016	European Commission announces €445 million in humanitarian aid for Syria crisis
18 March 2016	EU-Turkey Statement to break the business model of smugglers and to offer migrants an alternative to putting their lives at risk
21 March 2016	Commission proposal to make 54,000 places foreseen for relocation available for the purpose of resettling Syrian refugees from Turkey to the EU
6 April 2016	European Commission presents a revised proposal for an Entry-Exit System to facilitate and reinforce border check procedures for non-EU nationals
19 April 2016	Commission launches first projects under Emergency Support Instrument to improve conditions for refugees in Greece
26 April 2016	European Commission proposes new approach to better support displaced people through its external action

KEY

Adopted

Not yet adopted by Member States and / or European Parliament

4 May 2016	European Commission presents first package for reforming the Common European Asylum System (CEAS): Dublin, EURODAC, European Union Agency for Asylum
	Next steps towards lifting of temporary border controls: Commission recommendation to prolong proportionate controls at certain internal Schengen borders for a maximum period of 6 months
	Commission proposes to lift visa requirements for the citizens of Turkey as soon as the Turkish authorities will fulfil the outstanding benchmarks of its Visa Liberalisation Roadmap
7 June 2016	European Commission presents package on legal migration
	European Commission presents Action Plan on integration
	European Commission launches Migration Partnership Framework for third countries
20 June 2016	Foreign Affairs Council extends mandate of EUNAVFOR Med Operation Sophia until 27 July 2017 and adds two supporting tasks: training of the Libyan coastguards and navy and contributing to the implementation of the UN arms embargo on the high seas off the coast of Libya
22 June 2016	€200 million allocated from the EU Trust Fund for Syria to support one million refugees in Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon
28 June 2016	European Council endorses Migration Partnership Framework proposed by the Commission
30 June 2016	European Commission proposes draft budget for 2017 with €5.2 billion allocated for measures to reinforce external borders and address migration crisis
13 July 2016	European Commission presents second package for reforming the Common European Asylum System (CEAS): Asylum Procedures Regulation, Qualification Regulation, Reception Conditions Directive, EU Resettlement Framework
10 September 2016	Additional €115 million of emergency assistance for refugees in Greece via Emergency Support Instrument, total announced so far: €198 million
19 September 2016	UN adopts Global Compacts on refugees and migration as supported by the European Union
6 October 2016	Launch of the European Border and Coast Guard
October 2016	€500 million from the European Development Fund reserve added to the Trust Fund for Africa, bringing total funds from the Commission to almost €2.4 billion
25 October 2016	Back to Schengen: Commission recommends extending temporary internal border controls for a limited period of three months
6 December 2016	€139 million mobilised from the EU Trust Fund for Syria for refugees and their host communities in Lebanon and for stabilisation needs in Iraq
8 December 2016	Back to Dublin: Commission sets out process for gradual resumption of Dublin transfers to Greece
December 2016	Facility for Refugees in Turkey: €2.2 billion out of the €3 billion foreseen for 2016/17 allocated, €1.3 billion contracted and €677 million disbursed so far.



Relocation and Resettlement – State of Play

6 December 2016

Relocation

Based on Commission proposals, the Justice and Home Affairs Council adopted in September 2015 two Decisions to relocate 160,000 asylum seekers from Italy and Greece, to assist them in dealing with the pressures of the refugee crisis.

Under the emergency relocation scheme, 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 relocations should take place over two years, with the EU budget providing financial support to the Member States participating.

The tables below present the latest state of play with the implementation of these Decisions by the Member States.

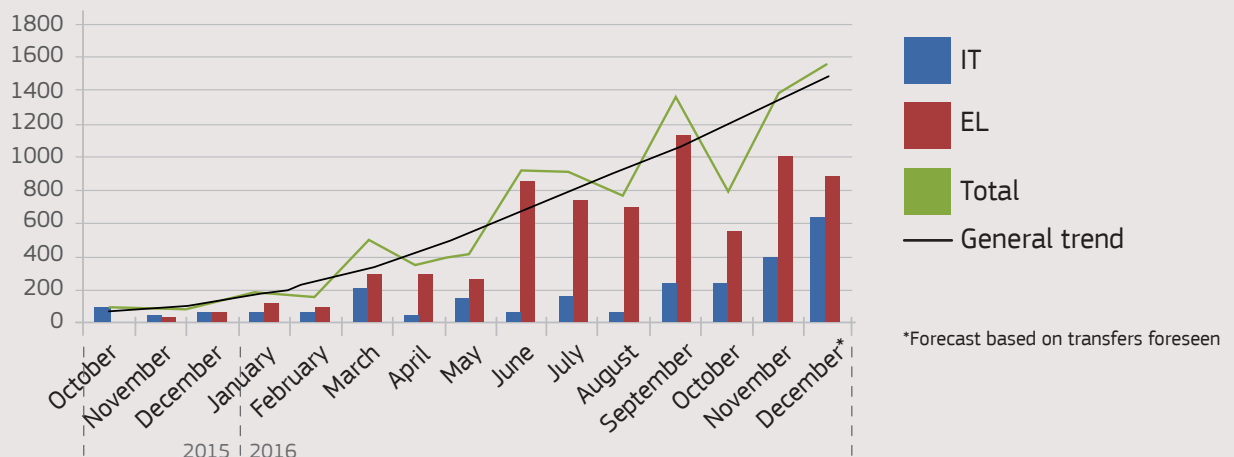
RELOCATION (state of play as of 6 December 2016)

8162 people have been relocated since the launch of the scheme

Member States	Relocated from Italy	Relocated from Greece	Member States	Relocated from Italy	Relocated from Greece
Austria	X	X	Latvia	8	140
Belgium	29	177	Lithuania	X	185
Bulgaria	X	29	Luxembourg	40	136
Croatia	9	10	Malta	46	34
Cyprus	10	42	Netherlands	331	767
Czech Republic	X	12	Poland	X	X
Denmark	X	X	Portugal	261	459
Estonia	X	66	Romania	43	499
Finland	359	542	Slovenia	23	101
France	282	2091	Slovakia	X	9
Germany	207	408	Spain	50	348
Hungary	X	X	Sweden	39	X
Ireland	X	109	Norway	80	20
			Switzerland	133	28

	Relocated from Italy	Relocated from Greece
TOTAL	1950	6212

Relocations from Italy and Greece (October 2015 - December 2016)



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 from 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.

13,887 people have been resettled under both schemes so far*

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	1501	x
Belgium	569	98
Czech Republic	52	x
Denmark	481	x
Estonia	11	11
Finland	293	140 (outside of 20 July scheme)
France	1739	423 (249 within 20 July scheme + 174 outside of 20 July scheme)
Germany	1060	1060
Ireland	500	x
Italy	631	82
Latvia	6	6
Lithuania	25	25
Luxembourg	x	52 (outside of 20 July scheme)
Netherlands	803	367
Portugal	12	12
Spain	289	57
Sweden	491	278 (269 within 20 July scheme)
United Kingdom	2200	x
Iceland	50	x
Liechtenstein	20	x
Norway	2635	150
Switzerland	519	x
TOTAL	13,887	A total of 2761 people were resettled from Turkey under the 1:1 mechanism; 2386 of whom through the scheme of 20 July

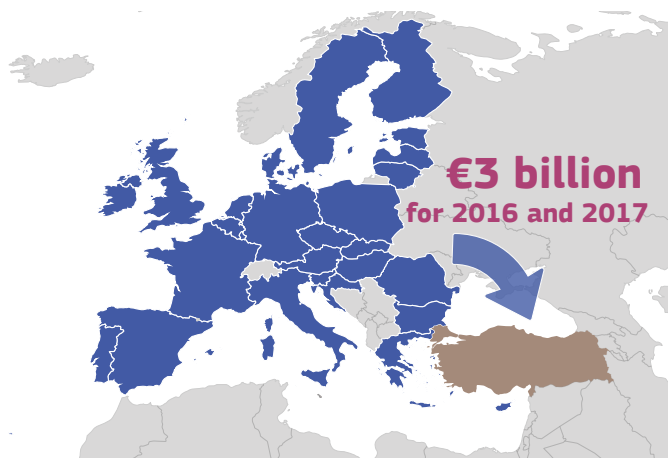
*Based on information made available by Member States and Associated Countries as of 5 December 2016



MANAGING THE REFUGEE CRISIS

THE FACILITY FOR REFUGEES IN TURKEY

Turkey's geographical position makes it a first reception and transit country for many refugees and migrants. As the result of an unprecedented influx of people seeking refuge, the country currently hosts more than 2.7 million registered Syrian refugees and is making commendable efforts to provide them with humanitarian aid and support. The EU is committed to assist Turkey in dealing with this challenge. The European Commission is providing humanitarian assistance to support vulnerable refugees who have fled violence in their country, in particular those living outside of camps and in need of immediate aid, and those requiring health assistance and access to education.



THE FACILITY

The Facility for Refugees in Turkey is the answer to the EU Member States' call for significant additional funding to support refugees in the country. The Facility is designed to ensure that the needs of refugees and host communities are addressed in a comprehensive and coordinated manner. The Facility for Refugees in Turkey focuses on humanitarian assistance, education, migration management, health, municipal infrastructure, and socio-economic support.

The Facility has a budget of €3 billion for 2016-2017. This is made up of €1 billion from the EU budget, and €2 billion from the EU Member States.

HOW DOES THE FACILITY FUNCTION?

To ensure the coordination, complementarity and efficiency of the assistance, the Facility Steering Committee provides strategic guidance on the type of actions to be financed, with what amount, and through which financing instruments. The Steering Committee is chaired by the European Commission and composed of EU Member State representatives, with Turkey sitting in an advisory capacity. Projects are selected according to a needs assessment, and following the procedure of the financing instruments mobilised.

TOTAL SUPPORT THROUGH THE FACILITY TO DATE

Of the overall €3 billion, **€2.2 billion have so far been allocated**, for both humanitarian and non-humanitarian assistance. Of the €2.2 billion allocated, €1.3 billion have been contracted. Of these €1.3 billion contracted, €677 million have been disbursed to date.



HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT UNDER THE FACILITY

Since the beginning of the Syria crisis, the European Commission has contributed **more than €583 million for humanitarian assistance** inside Turkey, providing services such as health, food and basic needs assistance, winterization, shelter, education, water and sanitation, psychological support and protection programmes to refugees in camps and urban settings.

In June 2016, the Commission published the **Humanitarian Implementation Plan for Turkey (HIP)**, for a total amount of **€505,65 million**, making it the largest HIP ever published. The largest ever humanitarian programme in EU history was contracted in September under this HIP for a total amount of €348 million: the **Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN)**. The ESSN is using direct cash transfers through debit cards to cover the everyday needs of the most vulnerable refugee families in Turkey. Financed by the EU and its Member States under the 'Facility for Refugees in Turkey', it is the first social assistance scheme of its kind, combining international humanitarian know-how and government services to reach out to one million refugees across Turkey. The ESSN is cost-effective and efficient as well as more dignified for the beneficiaries. The ESSN comes on top of the €74 million contracted by the end of July under the HIP Turkey to scale up activities in the field of protection, winterisation, health and education. €90 million had already have contracted by 15 April, under the HIP Syria regional crisis, in order to scale- up ongoing humanitarian activities.

In the second half of 2016 and early 2017, the implementation of the Humanitarian Implementation Plan published on 3 June will focus on:

- Ensuring the swift implementation of the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) for refugees in Turkey, announced on 8 September 2016. The first cash transfers under the ESSN are planned for October 2016, and as many as one million refugees will benefit from the scheme by the first quarter of 2017.
- Implementing projects in the field of winterisation and protection as well as non-formal education and health, in complementarity with the projects under the EU longer-term instruments.
- In order to ensure the consistent implementation of humanitarian assistance under the FRIT, information management projects will also be implemented.
- Finally, a funding buffer has also been secured to respond swiftly to urgent and unexpected humanitarian needs.

NON-HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT UNDER THE FACILITY

In July 2016, the Commission adopted a **Special Measure worth €1.415 billion** which provides three strands of funding to address urgent needs of refugees and host communities in Turkey in the priority areas of education, health, municipal infrastructure and socio-economic support in the ten most affected provinces.

The first strand provides **two direct grants worth €600 million** with the Turkish ministries for education and health, signed at the end of September, 2016. These grants will cover operational costs of and access to education and healthcare services for Syrian refugees and their children.

The second strand provides EU financial support for education and health-related infrastructure. It also provides for funding for municipal infrastructure in host communities and socio-economic support for Syrian refugees in Turkey, and will be implemented through delegation agreements with International Financial Institutions.

The third strand of the Measure includes an allocation to top-up the EU Regional Trust Fund in response to the Syrian crisis, allowing it to continue funding bottom-up assistance to refugees and host communities.

In August 2016, the Commission signed a €60 million agreement with the Turkish Directorate General for Migration Management (DGMM), to ensure that the transportation, reception and hosting of migrants returned from Greece to Turkey is carried out in a secure way in dignified conditions.

TIMELINE

4 October 2016: The fourth Steering Committee of the Facility for Refugees in Turkey meets in Brussels.

27 September 2016: The European Commission announces the:

- Signature of **two direct grants worth €600 million** to support Syrian refugees and host communities in Turkey in the areas of **education and health**.

8 September 2016: The European Commission announces the:

- **Biggest ever humanitarian aid programme worth €348 million.** The contract of the **Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN)** is signed by the European Commission with the World Food programme who will work in partnership with the Turkish Red Crescent and Turkish authorities to address the everyday needs of as many as 1 million refugees.

28 July 2016: The European Commission adopts:

- A **Special Measure worth €1.415 billion** to support refugees in Turkey in the areas of education, health, municipal and social infrastructure, and socio-economic support.
- A series of **humanitarian aid projects** in Turkey, worth **€74million**, bringing the **total humanitarian assistance** in Turkey delivered under the Facility for Refugees in Turkey for 2016 to **€165 million**.
- In four months, the European Commission has mobilised support of **more than €2 billion** to support refugees in Turkey.

30 June 2016: The third Steering Committee of the Facility for Refugees in Turkey meets in Brussels:

- To discuss a Special Measure worth €1.4 billion to fast-track the mobilisation of funding in support of the refugees in Turkey
- To present the Humanitarian Implementation Plan (HIP) for Turkey which sets out a humanitarian strategy under the Facility, for a total amount of €505.65 million
- To present the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) that will address the everyday needs of as many as 1 million refugees.

3 June 2016: The European Commission publishes the:

- **Humanitarian Implementation Plan (HIP) for Turkey**, mobilising **€505.65 million** of the budget of the Facility.

26 May 2016: The European Commission announces additional projects under the Facility:

- **€20 million to support the Turkish Coast Guard** on search and rescue operations to save lives and enhance the protection of migrants and refugees and tackling irregular migration and trafficking.
- **A further €27 million** to facilitate access to education to refugee children, young Syrians (skill trainings and university education), and to assist local communities.

12 May 2016: The second Steering Committee of the Facility for Refugees in Turkey meets in Brussels:

- To endorse the fast-track strategy for the Facility and agree on the main priorities the Facility will focus on in the immediate and medium term, including **humanitarian assistance, migration management, education, health, municipal infrastructure, and socio-economic support**.
- To agree on the priorities and practicalities of how support through the Facility will be accelerated in the months to come.
- To discuss the findings of an independent needs assessment prepared by experts contracted by the European Commission, which provides valuable guidance for further Facility intervention.

19 April 2016: The European Commission announces that:

- A further **€60 million** will be used to cover expenses for food, health care and accommodation for migrants who have been returned from Greece to Turkey.
- Contracts have been signed for a further **€50 million in humanitarian aid**, which will be used to address the immediate needs of refugees in Turkey.

4 March 2016: The first contracts for the Facility are signed and the first payments take place shortly thereafter:

- **€40 million** in humanitarian aid was provided to the World Food Programme in order to contribute to support 735,000 refugees with food assistance.
- **€37 million** was allocated through UNICEF to get an additional 110,000 refugee children into school. This built on existing EU programmes which already support education for 200,000 children.

Further information is available on the **Facility website** at:
http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/news_corner/migration/index_en.htm



MANAGING THE REFUGEE CRISIS

EU Financial Support to Greece

08 December 2016

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 awarded over €352 million in emergency assistance since the beginning of 2015. The emergency funding comes on top of the €509 million already allocated to Greece under the national programmes for 2014-2020 (€294.5 million from AMIF and €214.7 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; €198 million in funding for projects have been announced so far in 2016.

*information as of September 2016



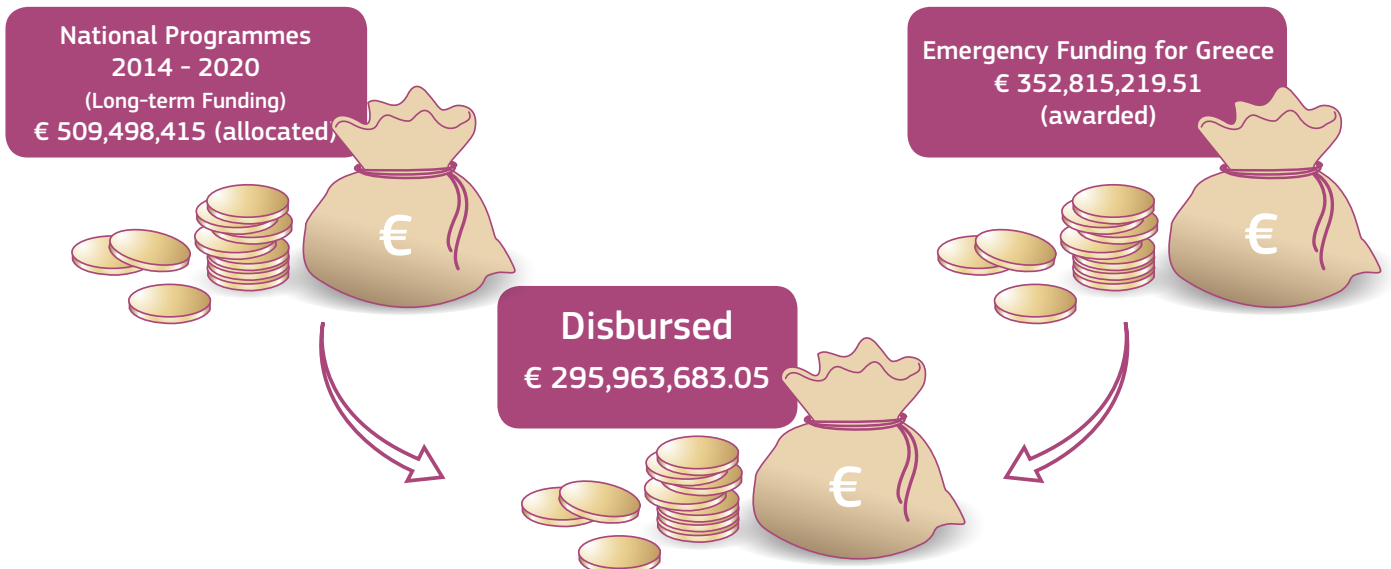
**ASYLUM, MIGRATION
AND INTEGRATION FUND (AMIF)**

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

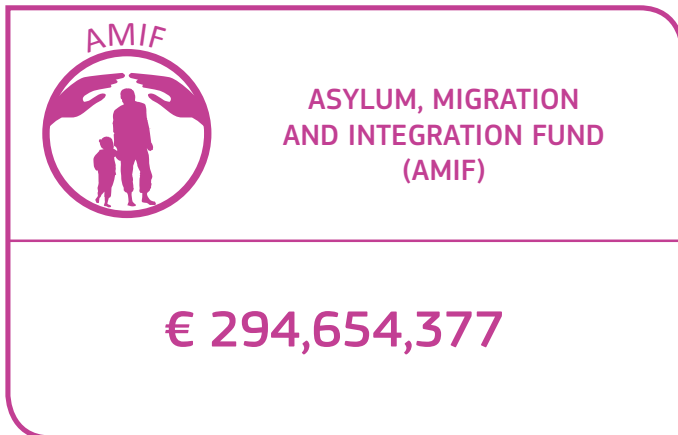


**INTERNAL SECURITY FUND
(ISF)**

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.



Long-term Funding to Greece (allocations) 2014 - 2020



INTERNAL SECURITY FUND (ISF)

ISF - Borders	ISF - Police
€194,354,388	€20,489,650

Funding for emergency relocation mechanism



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

€35.1 million was allocated for the implementation of the Relocation & Resettlement mechanisms.

€13.5 million was paid as pre-financing in February 2016

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



Emergency Funding (awarded)

€ 125,755,862.52

AMIF Emergency Assistance directly awarded to Greek authorities

€ 52,309,184.10

ISF Emergency Assistance directly awarded to Greek authorities











€ 174,750,172.89














Emergency Assistance awarded to International Organisations/Union Agencies (IOM, UNHCR, EASO)
Source: AMIF and ISF





Emergency Funding









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

Fund	Award Decision taken	EU contribution	Main activities	Responsible Entity
	27/07/2016	€0.53M	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	€6.18M	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	€3M	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 hotspots, ensuring this way healthy and safe living conditions for the target group	Ministry of Defence



Fund	Award Decision taken	EU contribution	Main activities	Responsible Entity
	03/03/2016	€3.5M	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	€3.3M	Immediate enhancement of the response to the public health challenge presented by the refugee crisis 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	5 actions: a. Forced return: identification of up to 1,761 third country nationals already in detention (Hellenic Police) b. Forced return: issuing of travel documents for up to 1,080 third country nationals (Hellenic Police) c. Forced return: ticket costs for up to 1,080 third country nationals (Hellenic Police) d. Forced return: escort costs for 10% of all cases third country nationals (Hellenic Police) e. Assisted voluntary return of 1,000 third country nationals (IOM)	Hellenic Police
	16/10/2015	€5.99M	Transportation (and partly also accommodation and alimentation on the ships) for a total of at least 60,000 registered and fully screened third country nationals from Eastern Aegean ports to mainland Greece or from the island Farmakonissi to the island of Leros	General Secretary for Co-Ordination
	01/10/2015	€0.39M	Emergency administrative assistance in support of the recruitment of additional personnel for the effective management of migration flows in the eastern External Borders	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	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	Hellenic Police
	01/10/2015	€2.89M	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	Hellenic Coast Guard
	17/06/2015	€0.69M	Enhancement of human resources in First Reception Centres	First Reception Service
	17/06/2015	€0.48M	Provision of prefabricated shelter houses for the hosting of third country nationals	Hellenic Coast Guard

	17/06/2015	€2.20M	Immediate enhancement of the response to the public health challenge presented by the refugee crisis on the front line of first reception in the Eastern Aegean 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














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

Fund	Award Decision taken	EU contribution	Main activities	Responsible Entity
	24/05/2016	€25M	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 weighs 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	Main activities	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: €198 million

Fund	Award Decision taken	EU contribution	Main activities	Responsible Entity
Contracted to date: €185.95 million				
	16/03/2016	€15 million	Basic health care, food parcels, water, sanitation and hygiene, psychosocial support and cash-based assistance	IFRC
	16/03/2016	€7 million	Primary health care, referrals for specialised medical care, psychosocial support for migrants and refugees	Médecins Du Monde
	01/04/2016	€62 million	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	€12.6 million	Food distributions, site management support, shelter, protection, water, sanitation and hygiene assistance	Danish Refugee Council
	01/04/2016	€16.5 million	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	€6 million	Water, sanitation and hygiene, food, protection, winterisation of shelters, psycho-social support and counselling	OXFAM
	16/04/2016	€7 million	Child friendly spaces, non-formal education classes, psycho-social support and nutrition with special focus on unaccompanied minors	Save the Children
	01/06/2016	€6.8 million	Shelter, health- and psycho social support, non- food items, child friendly spaces, legal support and interpretation services	Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund
	01/08/2016	€11 million	Food aid, non-formal education, shelter assistance via an urban rental scheme	Norwegian Refugee Council
	01/08/2016	€3.5 million	Provision of assistance to extremely vulnerable refugees in the urban areas of Athens and Thessaloniki	CARE
	01/08/2016	€17.8 million	Transportation of children from and to schools, construction of new sites and rehabilitation of existing centres	IOM
	01/08/2016	€3 million	Construction of a new reception facility in Chios	UNHCR
	01/09/2016	€6.25 million	Multi-purpose cash grants	Mercy Corps
	15/09/2016	€3 million	Non-formal education assistance and comprehensive protection assistance for vulnerable children, including unaccompanied minors	Terre des Hommes
	01/11/2016	€8.5 million	Child protection services particularly targeting unaccompanied minors	UNICEF



MANAGING THE REFUGEE CRISIS

EU-TURKEY STATEMENT: PROGRESS REPORT SEPTEMBER 2016

A JOINT RESPONSE

On 18 March 2016 EU Heads of State or Government agreed to end the irregular migration from Turkey to the EU by breaking the business model of the smugglers and offering migrants an alternative to putting their lives at risk. The aim is to restore a legal and orderly admission system for those entitled to international protection in line with EU and international law.

The implementation of the EU - Turkey Statement is delivering results: Despite challenging circumstances, the EU-Turkey Statement had delivered steady results in the face of many challenges. A core goal of the Statement has been to break the business model of smugglers exploiting migrants and refugees taking the potentially fatal risk of irregular crossing from Turkey into Greece. The substantial fall in both crossings and fatalities since the entry into force of the Statement is testament to its effective delivery. In the weeks before the implementation of the Statement, around 1,740 migrants were crossing the Aegean Sea to the Greek islands every day. By contrast, the average daily arrivals since 21 March are down to 94. From over 270 fatalities in the Aegean Sea in 2015, the number of losses of lives has fallen to 11 since the Statement. So far, 1,614 Syrian refugees have been resettled from Turkey to Europe and the return of 578 irregular migrants has been carried out from the Greek islands to Turkey, in full respect of EU and international law.

However, as some individuals continue to make the crossing, while returns from Greece to Turkey proceed at a slow pace, additional pressure is put on the reception facilities on the Greek islands. While the overall scale of flows towards Greece remains far less than before the Statement, this deserves careful monitoring.



CURRENT SITUATION

Since the Second Report in June 2016, the total numbers of arrivals from Turkey to the Greek islands was 9,250 - representing an average daily arrival of around 81. Although an increase was recorded in August, the numbers were still 97% lower than in August 2015.

ENHANCED COORDINATION AND COOPERATION

The EU has provided unprecedented support to the Greek government in terms of expertise and advice logistics, materials and expertise from the EU budget. The **Commission's EU Coordinator** continues to ensure a day-to-day follow-up with the Greek and Turkish authorities, EU Agencies, international organisations, and other Member States. The EU Agencies are providing substantial and critical support.

As of 26 September the **European Asylum Support Office** had deployed 83 interpreters in Greece and 70 Member State experts, out of which 41 are deployed in the hotspots. Regarding border support, as of 25 September, Frontex had 699 officers deployed in Greece, including a total of 675 officers concerned with the implementation of the EU-Turkey Statement. Nevertheless, for the period of September to December 2016, there are still shortfalls.

Europol has stationed 8 specialists in Greece to assist in investigations against migrant smuggling. In addition, 10 guest officers were recently seconded by Member States to carry out second-line security checks in the hotspots.

The EU is providing financial assistance to support the **Turkish Coast Guard** to prevent and better counter irregular migration flows, including the procurement of six search and rescue vessels, as well as linked training. The first vessels should be delivered in February 2017.

EU FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO GREECE

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 awarded over €353 million in emergency assistance since the beginning of 2015** - making Greece the biggest beneficiary of Home Affairs funds. The emergency funding comes on top of the €509 million already allocated to Greece under the national programmes for 2014-2020 (€294,5 million from the Asylum Migration and Integration Fund and €214,7 million from the Internal Security Fund).

Greece has also been awarded €198 million to improve conditions for refugees in Greece from the new Emergency support instrument. Overall, the European Union is reaching over €1 billion of support to Greece in tackling the migration challenges.

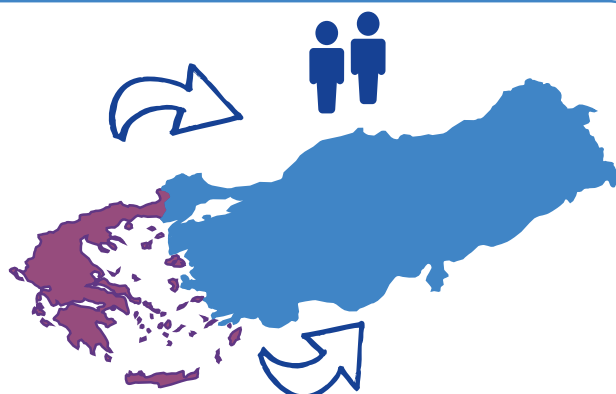
KEY CHALLENGES AND NEXT STEPS

- Member States should urgently increase their support to Greece through EU Agencies. The current shortfall of 59 experts for the European Asylum Support Office and shortages until the end of 2016 for Frontex must be filled before the European Council on 20-21 October. Experts should be deployed for longer periods to provide continuity.
- Cooperation needs to be deepened to optimise the use of intelligence by all EU, NATO, Greek and Turkish authorities.

RETURN OF ALL NEW IRREGULAR MIGRANTS FROM GREECE TO TURKEY

Since 20 March, when the Statement became operational, a total of 578 persons who entered Greece irregularly have been returned to Turkey in the framework of the EU – Turkey Statement. In total, more than 1,600 irregular migrants have been returned from Greece to Turkey in the course of 2016.

All asylum applications are treated on a case-by-case basis. The implementation of the Statement is carried out strictly in accordance with the requirements of EU and international law and in full respect of the principle of *non-refoulement*.



KEY CHALLENGES AND NEXT STEPS

- Speeding up the processing of asylum applications from registration to appeal, in line with EU and international law
- Step-up urgently the pace of returns to Turkey of those whose asylum applications are deemed inadmissible or unfounded
- Increase reception capacity on the islands and transfer to the mainland those applicants who are referred to the regular asylum procedure or who have been granted the refugee status
- Scaling up and adjusting for winter reception capacities in the Greek islands
- Adoption by the Greek authorities of the Standard Operating Procedures for hotspots and nomination of permanent coordinators in hotspots

“ONE FOR ONE” RESETTLEMENT FROM TURKEY TO THE EU

A total of **1614 Syrians have so far been resettled from Turkey to the EU**. As a result, the pace of resettlement is considerably advanced compared to returns from the Greek islands. At this point in time, the number of Syrians resettled substantially exceeds the numbers returned under the EU-Turkey Statement.

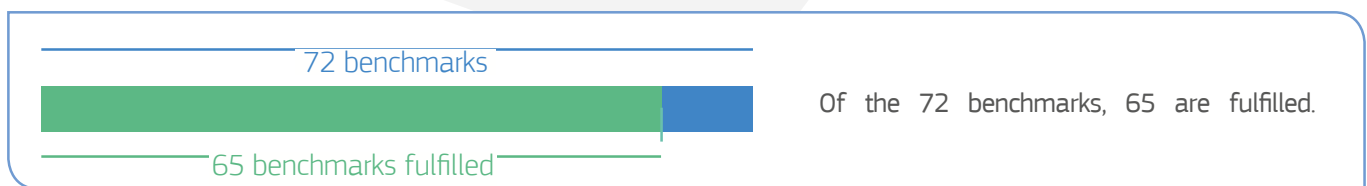
KEY CHALLENGES AND NEXT STEPS

- Maintain the pace of resettlements
- Adoption by the Council of the Commission’s proposal concerning the 54,000 unallocated places

VOLUNTARY HUMANITARIAN ADMISSION SCHEME

The EU-Turkey Statement stipulates that the Voluntary Humanitarian Admission Scheme will be activated once irregular crossings between Turkey and the EU are ending or at least have been substantially and sustainably reduced. The Standard Operating Procedures for the Voluntary Humanitarian Admission Scheme, developed in the Council in cooperation with the Commission, EASO, UNHCR and IOM, are being currently negotiated with Turkey.

VISA LIBERALISATION



The outstanding benchmarks are:

- Issuing biometric travel documents fully compatible with EU standards;
- Adopting the measure to prevent corruption foreseen by the Roadmap;
- Concluding an operational cooperation agreement with Europol;
- Revising legislation and practices on terrorism in line with European standards;
- Aligning legislation on personal data protection with EU standards;
- Offering effective judicial cooperation in criminal matters to all EU Member States;
- Implementing the EU-Turkey Readmission Agreement in all its provisions.

The Commission has encouraged Turkey’s efforts to complete the delivery of all the outstanding benchmarks on the Visa Liberalisation Roadmap as soon as possible.

THE FACILITY FOR REFUGEES IN TURKEY

The Facility for Refugees in Turkey manages a total of €3 billion for 2016 and 2017, and provides a joint coordination mechanism, designed to ensure that the needs of refugees and host communities in Turkey are addressed in a comprehensive and coordinated manner. The Facility focuses on humanitarian assistance, education, migration management, health, municipal infrastructure, and socio-economic support.

At the beginning of September, the Commission signed its largest ever humanitarian programme, the Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN), worth €348 million. Starting in October, the ESSN will cover everyday needs of 1 million refugees across Turkey via a system of monthly transfers onto electronic debit cards.

In addition, under the non-humanitarian assistance envelope, the Commission signed at the end of September, two direct grants with the Turkish Ministries of National Education and Health, for an additional €600 million.

The total of contracted funds now stands at €1.252 billion. Further projects to help build schools, hospitals and utilities will be signed over the next few months under the Special Measure worth €1.4 billion adopted on 28 July 2016. To date, 34 projects have been contracted worth €1.252 billion, out of which €467 million has been disbursed. The total allocated for implementation under the Facility for Refugees in Turkey on humanitarian and non-humanitarian actions now stands at €2.239 billion.

Further information is available on the **Facility website** at: http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/news_corner/migration/index_en.htm

UPGRADING THE CUSTOMS UNION

Preparatory work paving the way to negotiations to modernise and extend the Customs Union is advancing well. The recent consultation saw strong support for upgrading the Customs Union and improving its functioning, and these findings are taken into account in an ongoing impact assessment that looks at options for the future. This will feed into a draft negotiating directive to be presented by the Commission by the end of 2016.

ACCESSION PROCESS

Accession negotiations on Chapter 33 (financial and budgetary provisions) were opened on 30 June in accordance with the EU-Turkey Statement. Preparatory work continues to make progress on five other Chapters, without prejudice to Member States' positions in accordance with the existing rules.

In the key areas of judiciary and fundamental rights, and justice, freedom and security (Chapters 23 and 24), the Commission is updating the documents to take account of the latest developments. These chapters cover a range of critical issues including fundamental rights such as freedom of speech, judiciary, anti-corruption policy, migration and asylum, visa rules, border management, police cooperation, and the fight against organised crime and terrorism. The EU expects Turkey to respect the highest standards when it comes to democracy, rule of law and respect of fundamental freedoms. For the chapters on energy (Chapter 15), education and culture (Chapter 26), and foreign, security and defence policy (Chapter 31), preparatory documents have already been tabled in the Council earlier this year.

HUMANITARIAN CONDITIONS INSIDE SYRIA

The EU and Turkey have both continued to deploy substantial resources for the humanitarian response in Syria and have worked together to promote full and unimpeded access throughout Syria. The EU will continue to provide humanitarian assistance to people across Syria, and has allocated an initial €140 million for life-saving activities for 2016. This funding will support sectors such as health, hygiene, protection and first line response to quickly respond to emergencies and new displacements, with continued priority to besieged, hard-to-reach and prone to displacement areas.



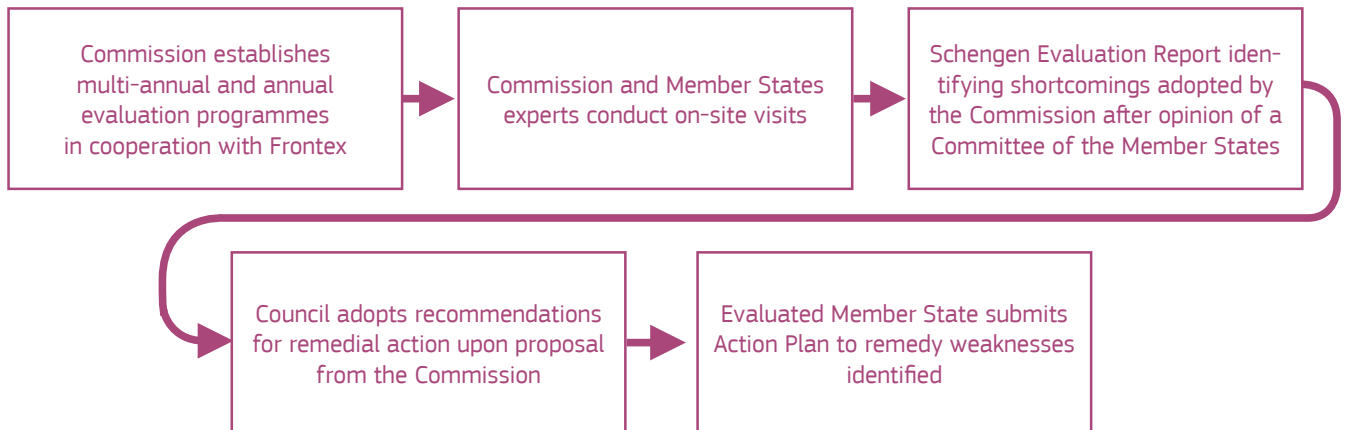
European
Commission

The Schengen Rules Explained

The Schengen Evaluation Mechanism

The Schengen evaluation mechanism provides for monitoring visits to Member States on an annual and multi-annual basis. On average, 5-7 Member States are evaluated each year. The evaluation visits are carried out by Commission-led teams with experts from Member States and Frontex. The visits can be announced or unannounced.

Following each visit, a Schengen Evaluation Report is drawn up and agreed by the Schengen evaluation committee of member state experts. If the report identifies any weaknesses in management of the external border, then recommendations for remedial action are presented. The recommendations are submitted by the Commission to the Council for adoption.



Articles 26, 27 and 28: Temporary Reintroductions of border controls by Member States

The Schengen Borders Code provides Member States with the possibility to temporarily reintroduce controls at internal borders where there is a serious threat to public policy or internal security.

Article 28 – Temporary Reintroduction of Border Controls for Unforeseen Circumstances

- Article 28 can be used in cases requiring immediate action
- 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 26 and 27– Temporary Reintroduction of Border Controls for Foreseen Circumstances

- Article 27 can be used for foreseeable circumstances if notified in advance.
- These controls may last for an initial period of 30 days, renewable up to a maximum of **6 months**.

The Schengen Borders Code allows for the combination of Article 28 and Article 27 measures, allowing for the reintroduction of temporary border controls by Member States for a total duration of 8 months under these procedures.

In the exceptional circumstances, as a matter of last resort and to protect the common interest of the Schengen area, controls can be prolonged beyond this 8 month period. This procedure is set out under Article 29 of the Schengen Borders Code.

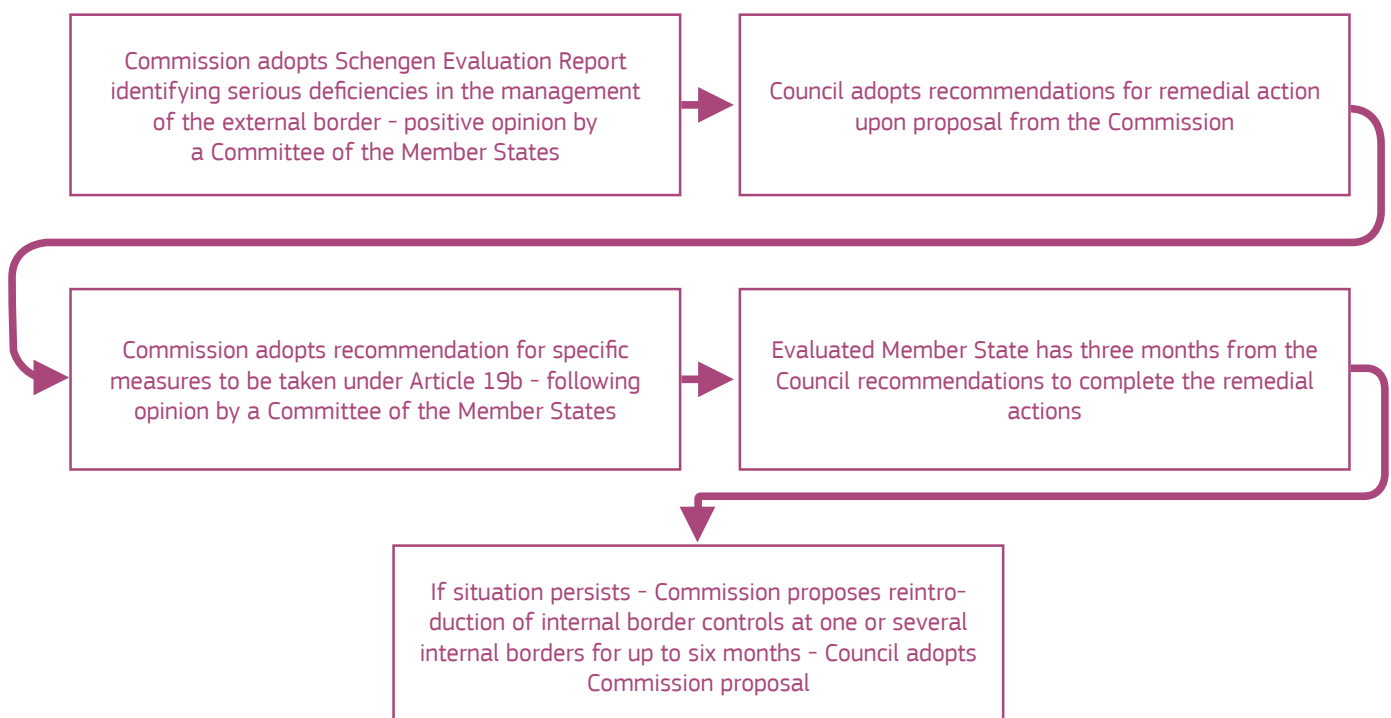
Articles 21 and 29: Threat to the overall functioning of the internal Schengen area

In exceptional situations, deficiencies in the management of the external Schengen border can put at risk the functioning of the internal area of free movement. In these cases, the Council is empowered to recommend border controls at one or several internal borders.

If a Schengen Evaluation Report concludes that in the evaluated Member State there are “serious deficiencies in the carrying out of external border control”, the Council may recommend remedial action to the Member State concerned. The Commission may also, under Article 19b of the Schengen Borders Code, recommend that the evaluated Member State take certain specific measures with a view to ensuring compliance with the Council recommendations.

The Commission adopts these recommendations after obtaining the opinion of a Committee of the Member States, acting by qualified majority. The evaluated Member State then has **three months** from the date of adoption of the Council recommendations to complete the remedial actions.

If the recommendations are not sufficiently addressed within three months, the Commission is empowered to trigger, as a last resort, measures to reintroduce internal border controls. Under **Article 29** of the Schengen Borders Code, the Commission may propose a Recommendation, to be adopted by the Council, to reintroduce controls at all or specific parts of the border of one or more Member States. These are measures of last resort which are subject to a clearly defined process. They may be introduced for a period of up to six months. Controls can be prolonged for additional six month periods up to a maximum duration of **two years**.





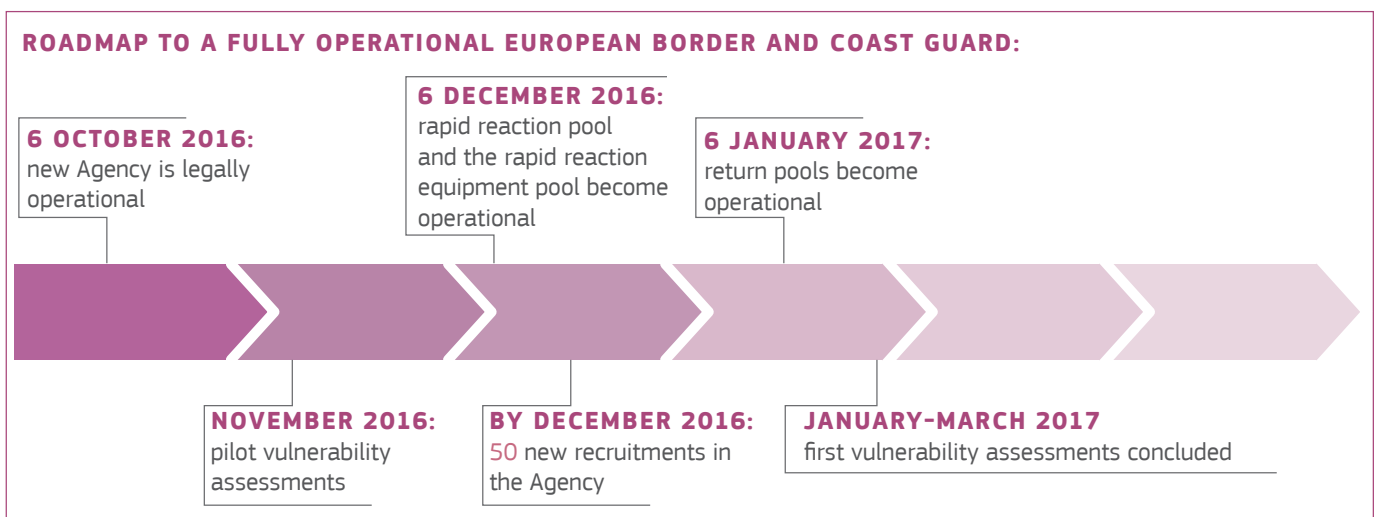
SECURING EUROPE'S EXTERNAL BORDERS A EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD



«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. Frontex already has over 600 agents on the ground at the borders with Turkey in Greece and over 100 in Bulgaria. Now, the EU institutions and the Member States should work very closely together to quickly help set up the new Agency. I want to see at least 200 extra border guards and 50 extra vehicles deployed at the Bulgarian external borders as of October.»

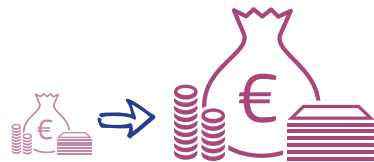
European Commission **President Jean-Claude Juncker**, *State of the Union Address*, 14 September 2016

The Schengen area without internal borders is only sustainable if the external borders are effectively secured and protected. The European Commission in December proposed to establish a European Border and Coast Guard – designed to meet the new challenges and political realities faced by the EU, both as regards migration and internal security. The European Border and Coast Guard was agreed by the European Parliament and Council in a record time of just 9 months and will become operational as of 6 October 2016.



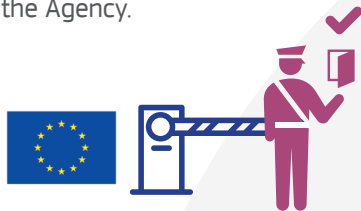
A NEW MANDATE

The limitations of the current EU border agency, Frontex, have hindered its ability to effectively address and remedy the situation created by the refugee crisis: it is not able to purchase its own resources, it does not have its own operational staff and relies on Member State contributions and it is unable to carry out its own return or border management operations without the prior request of a Member State. The new Agency will be strengthened and reinforced to address all these issues.



UNION STANDARDS FOR BORDER MANAGEMENT

The new Agency will ensure Union standards for border management are implemented at all external borders. The external borders will be constantly monitored with periodic risk analyses and mandatory **vulnerability assessments** to identify and address weak spots. **Liaison officers** will be seconded to Member States where the borders are at risk and will be able to relay information back to the Agency.



A RESERVE OF EUROPEAN BORDER GUARDS AND TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT

The Agency's permanent staff will be more than doubled and for the first time, the Agency will be able to purchase its own equipment and deploy them in border operations at a moment's notice. A **rapid reserve pool of at least 1,500 border guards** and a **technical equipment pool** will be put at the disposal of the Agency – meaning there will no longer be shortages of staff or equipment for Agency operations.



PREVENTION OF CROSS-BORDER CRIME



Prevention of cross-border crime will be a priority for the agency. It will be able to process personal data of persons suspected of involvement in criminal activities, such as migrant smuggling, terrorism or trafficking in human beings, as well as personal data of irregular migrants collected by officers deployed by the agency. It will be 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. It will share this information with the authorities of the EU Member States and Europol, enabling them to launch relevant investigations where necessary.

CURRENT FRONTEX DEPLOYMENTS:



- 699 officers in Greece
- 177 officers in Bulgaria
- 514 officers in Italy
- 152 officers in the Western Balkans

A STRONGER ROLE IN RETURNS



The agency will play a role in **voluntary departures** and will also have enhanced technical and operational tasks in the organisation of **return operations** from the territory of the EU, upon a request from Member States as well as on its own initiative.

WORKING WITH AND IN THIRD COUNTRIES

The Agency will have a new mandate to send liaison officers and launch **joint operations** with neighbouring third countries.





European Commission

Asylum procedures: reforming the Common European Asylum System

13 July 2016

The Commission is proposing **to replace the Asylum Procedures Directive with a Regulation to establish a fully harmonised common EU procedure for international protection**, directly applicable in Member States, to provide for a fast but high-quality determination of the international protection needs of applicants.

A fair and efficient common procedure throughout the Union means:

Simpler, clearer and shorter procedures

Short but reasonable time limits are provided for an applicant to accede to the procedure and for concluding the examination of applications both at administrative and judicial levels.



benchmark time limit for a first decision **is maintained**.

New exceptions are introduced

shorter time limits in case of unfounded and inadmissible claims are introduced



Accelerated procedure



Max. 2 months for the examination of the merits of the claim.



Max. 1 month for the admissibility examination.



Max. 10 days for the admissibility examination where an applicant comes from a first country of asylum or a safe third country.

Extended time limits in case of disproportionate increase in the number of applications or complex cases.



3 months



Member States can rely on assistance from the European Union Agency for Asylum

Introduction of time limits

For lodging appeals ranging from **1 week**



Depending on the type of procedure (ex regular, accelerated, admissibility examination)


For decisions at the first appeal stage ranging from **2 months**



Depending on the type of procedure (ex regular, accelerated, admissibility examination)

**may be prolonged by 3 months in cases involving complex issues of facts or law.*



Common guarantees for every applicant



All applicants must be fully informed of their **rights, obligations** and of the **consequences** of not complying with their obligations.

NEW **The new proposal guarantees:**

- **free legal assistance, representation** and the right to a **comprehensive personal interview** (assisted by an interpreter)
- **standardised** information
- **reinforced safeguards for applicants with special procedural needs and unaccompanied minors**
- **the right to remain on the territory** of Member States for the **duration of the administrative procedure** and, in case of an appeal, in principle until the decision is made.

Stricter rules to combat abuse

Obligations for applicants to **cooperate with the authorities...**




by providing the **information** necessary to establish their **identity and to examine their applications.**

NEW **Stricter consequences** in case of non-compliance with such obligations:

For example

No fingerprints Asylum application rejected




The current **optional** procedural rules for sanctioning abusive behaviour are made **compulsory** and further reinforced

↓

Clear, exhaustive and compulsory grounds for an accelerated or admissibility procedure.

Harmonised rules on safe countries



Applications from persons **manifestly not in need of international protection** since they come from a safe country of origin **should be rejected and a swift return organised**

Where applicants have already found a first country of asylum where they enjoy protection or where their applications can be examined by a safe third country, **applications must be declared inadmissible.**

NEW **Full harmonisation** in this area

in **5 years' time**

from the entry into force of the Regulation, **full replacement of national safe country lists or national designations of safe countries of origin and safe third countries** with **European lists or designations at Union level.**





Qualification: Reforming the Common European Asylum System

13 July 2016

The Commission is proposing to replace the Qualification Directive with a Regulation to ensure uniform standards for protection and rights granted to refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection. Asylum applications must be treated equally across the EU to avoid secondary movements and undue pull factors to certain Member States and must lead to the same results, regardless of the Member State in which the application is made. Without affecting applicants' integration prospects, protection should only be granted for as long as the grounds for persecution or serious harm persist.

Main objectives of the proposal

Further **harmonisation** of the common criteria **for recognising applicants for international protection**



NEW

Obligation (currently optional) for authorities **to assess the possible internal protection alternatives.**

Further **harmonisation** of the **rights** of beneficiaries of international protection



NEW

In particular as regards the **duration** and **format** of **residence permits.**

Stricter rules sanctioning secondary movements of beneficiaries of international protection



NEW

The 5-year period after which beneficiaries of international protection are eligible for long-term resident status **should be restarted each time** the person is found in a Member State where they do not have the right to stay and reside.

More **convergence** of **asylum decisions** across the EU



NEW

Obligation for the relevant authorities in Member States to take into account **the common analysis and guidance on the situation in the country of origin** from the **European Union Agency for Asylum** and the **European Country of Origin Information networks**.

Compulsory **systematic** and **regular status reviews** ensuring that protection is granted only **for as long as it is needed**

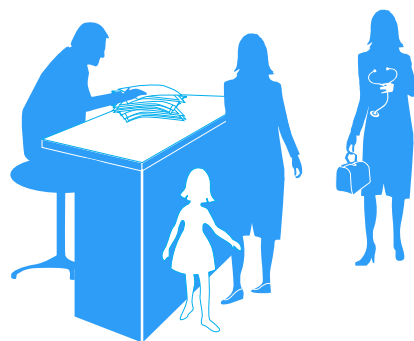


NEW

Obligation for Member States to carry out status reviews when they **renew residence permits*** and **when triggered by a change in EU level country of origin information or guidance**.

**for the first time for refugees and for the first and second time for beneficiaries of subsidiary protection*

Strengthening integration



NEW

Clarification of the scope of the **rights** and **obligations** of beneficiaries as regards **social security** and **social assistance**. Allow Member States to make the granting of certain social assistance conditional on **effective participation** in integration measures.

Reception Conditions: reforming the Common European Asylum System

13 July 2016

The Commission is proposing to reform the Reception Conditions Directive to increase the level of harmonisation of reception conditions, ensure dignified reception standards throughout the EU, reduce incentives for secondary movements and enhance self-sufficiency by granting more favourable conditions for access to the labour market. The reform will contribute to a better management of the asylum flows and the proper treatment of applicants across the EU.

Main objectives of the proposal

Further harmonisation of reception conditions in the EU

Member States must take into account **common standards and indicators** on reception conditions when **monitoring** and **controlling** their reception systems.

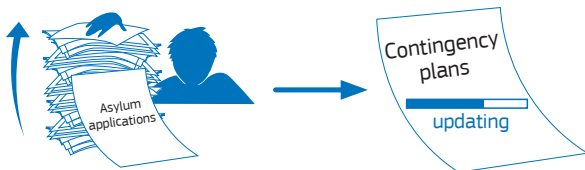


When an **applicant is not** in the Member State where he/she is required to be, he/she **is not entitled** to:

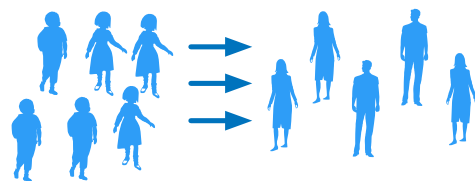


However, applicants **will always be entitled to health care** and to a **dignified standard of living, in accordance with fundamental rights**. Children will always have access to **educational activities** pending the transfer to the Member State responsible.

Member States are required to draw up, and regularly update, **contingency plans** to ensure the **adequate reception of applicants** in cases where they are confronted with a **disproportionate number of applicants**.

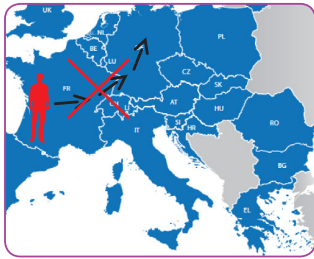


Member States have  from the moment the application is made to assign a **guardian** to represent and assist an **unaccompanied minor**.



Reducing incentives for secondary movements within the EU

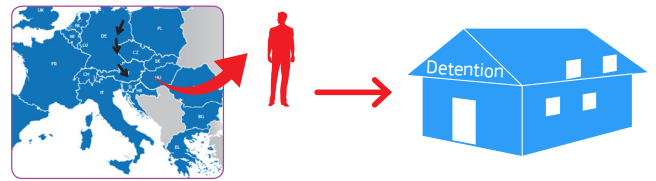
To ensure an orderly management of migration flows, the applicants should remain **available to the competent authorities** and **should not abscond**.



Introduction of **targeted restrictions** to the applicants' **freedom of movement**, such as the designation of the residence and reporting obligations

→ **more effective monitoring**

Introduction of additional grounds for detention: in case an applicant has been assigned a specific place of residence but has not complied with this obligation and when there is a continued risk of absconding, **the applicant may be detained**.

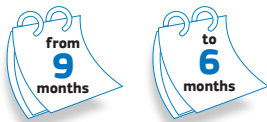


All **guarantees** provided in the current Reception Conditions Directive regarding detention remain unchanged (only justified when it proves necessary, on the basis of an individual assessment and if other less coercive alternative measures cannot be applied effectively).

Increasing self-reliance and integration prospects for applicants in the EU: access to the labour market

Rule:

The time limit for access to the labour market is reduced



from the lodging of the application, when an administrative decision on the asylum application has not been taken.

Particular cases:

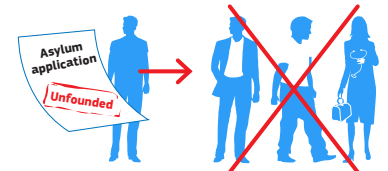
The application is likely to be **well-founded**:

Member States are **encouraged to grant access no later than**



from the lodging of the asylum application

The application is likely to be **unfounded**:



Applicants are **excluded** from access to the labour market.

Access to the labour market should be in full compliance with labour market standards* **which should help to avoid distortions in the labour market.**

Equal rights

Education & Vocational training

Freedom of association & affiliation



Asylum applicants

=



Nationals & third-country nationals

Working conditions

Social security

Recognition of professional qualifications

*Equal treatment with nationals of the Member States should be ensured, subject to possible restrictions, for example regarding family or unemployment benefits



European Commission

The Common European Asylum System (CEAS)

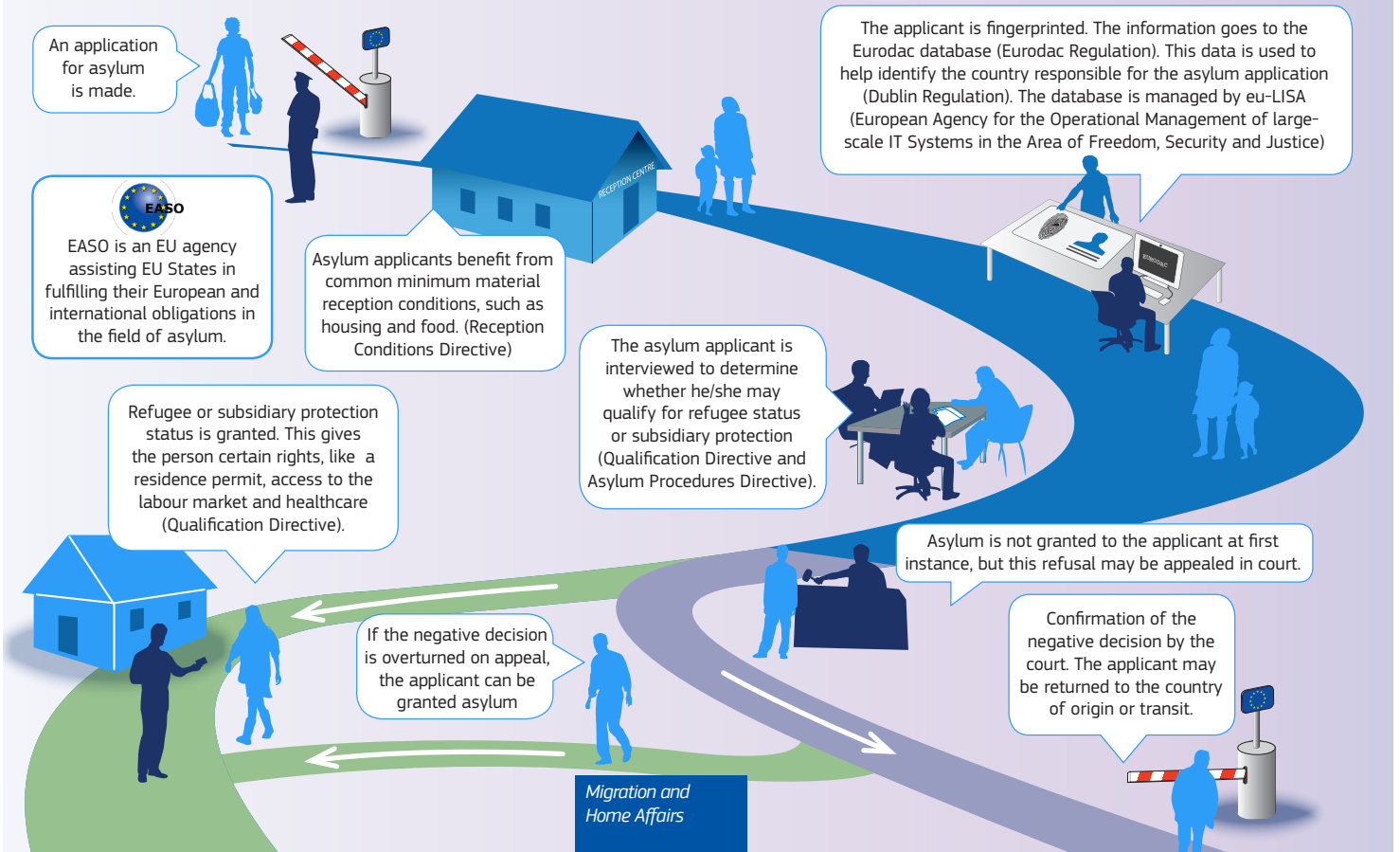
Asylum is granted to people who are fleeing persecution or serious harm in their own country and therefore in need of international protection. Asylum is a fundamental right and granting it is an international obligation, stemming from the 1951 Geneva Convention on the protection of refugees. Those who seek, or have been granted, protection do not have the right to choose in which Member State they want to settle. To this end, the Common European Asylum System (CEAS) provides common minimum standards for the treatment of all asylum seekers and applications. The CEAS consists of a legal framework covering all aspects of the asylum process and a support agency - the European Asylum Support Office (EASO). However, in practice, the current system is still characterised by differing treatment of asylum seekers and varying recognition rates amongst EU Member States. This divergence is what encourages secondary movements and is partly due to the fact that the current rules grant Member States a lot of discretion in how they apply the common EU rules.

The large-scale, uncontrolled arrival of migrants and asylum seekers since early 2015 has put a strain on many Member States' asylum systems and on the CEAS as a whole. The EU now needs to put in place the tools to better manage migration flows in the medium and long term. The overall objective is to move from a system which, by design or poor implementation, encourages uncontrolled or irregular migratory flows to one which provides orderly and safe pathways to the EU for third country nationals.

The European Commission has presented proposals in May and July 2016 to establish a sustainable system for the future, based on common rules, a fairer sharing of responsibility, and safe legal channels for those who need protection to get it in the EU.

THE COMMON EUROPEAN ASYLUM SYSTEM (CEAS)

Asylum is granted to people fleeing persecution or serious harm



THE MAIN LEGISLATION ON ASYLUM IN THE EU



ASYLUM PROCEDURES DIRECTIVE: establishes common standards of safeguards and guarantees to access a fair and efficient asylum procedure.



RECEPTION CONDITIONS DIRECTIVE: establishes minimum common standards of living conditions for asylum applicants; ensures that applicants have access to housing, food, employment and health care.



QUALIFICATION DIRECTIVE: establishes common grounds for granting international protection and foresees a series of rights for its beneficiaries (residence permits, travel documents, access to employment and education, social welfare and healthcare).



DUBLIN REGULATION: determines which Member State is responsible for examining a given asylum application.



EURODAC REGULATION: establishes an EU asylum fingerprint database. When someone applies for asylum, no matter where in the EU, their fingerprints are transmitted to the EURODAC central system.

THE REFORM OF THE COMMON EUROPEAN ASYLUM SYSTEM

The reform of the Common European Asylum System as proposed by the Commission in May and July 2016 establishes a fully efficient, fair and humane asylum policy which functions effectively both in times of normal and in times of high migratory pressure. It ensures a fair allocation of asylum applications among Member States and provides for a common set of rules at EU level to simplify and shorten the asylum procedure, discourage secondary movements and increase the prospect of integration.

	Reason for reform	Legislative proposal
Reform of the Dublin system	Creating a fairer, more efficient and more sustainable system for allocating asylum applications among Member States.	Proposal for a new Dublin Regulation
Reinforcing the EURODAC system	Adapting and reinforcing the Eurodac system and expanding its purpose in order to facilitate returns and help tackling irregular migration, and overall to support the practical implementation of the reformed Dublin System.	Proposal for a new Eurodac Regulation
A new mandate for the EU's asylum agency, currently EASO	Transforming the existing European Asylum Support Office into a fully-fledged European Union Agency for Asylum with an enhanced mandate and considerably expanded tasks to address any structural weaknesses that arise in the application of the EU's asylum system.	Proposal for a Regulation on the European Agency for Asylum
Greater convergence in the EU asylum system	Establishing a common EU procedure for asylum applications as well as harmonised protection standards and rights for asylum seekers and harmonised reception conditions throughout the EU to reduce differences in recognition rates from one Member State to the next, discourage secondary movements and ensure common effective procedural guarantees for asylum seekers.	Proposal for a new Asylum Procedures Regulation Proposal for a new Receptions Conditions Directive Proposal for a new Qualification Regulation



European Commission

Revision of the EU Blue Card Directive

7 June 2016

Highly skilled workers from third countries play a key role in strengthening the EU's competitiveness. The EU faces significant labour and skills shortages in certain sectors, which have the potential to limit growth, productivity and innovation. These shortages are projected to continue to increase in the future. The EU's current framework for the immigration of highly skilled workers is not well-equipped for these challenges. The existing EU Blue Card scheme and Member States' national schemes have proven insufficient so far. Restrictive admission conditions and the existence of parallel rules, conditions and procedures across the EU are creating a burden for employers and applicants and have limited the use of the scheme. The proposal for a new EU Blue Card aims to improve the EU's ability to attract and retain highly skilled workers, in order to enhance the competitiveness of its economy and cope with demographic challenges.

Main proposed changes compared to the current EU Blue Card Directive

**The Directive applies to all EU Member States except for the United Kingdom, Denmark and Ireland.*

Harmonisation, simplification and efficiency

A truly EU-wide scheme:

A harmonised, efficient and streamlined approach establishing a single EU-wide scheme to attract highly skilled workers by offering more clarity and cutting red tape.



More inclusive and flexible admission conditions

A **lower general salary threshold**, equivalent to or at the highest 1.4 times the average national salary, and facilitated access for recent graduates and workers in shortage occupations for whom a lower salary threshold of 80% of the average national salary can be applied.



Extension of the scheme to highly skilled beneficiaries of international protection

residing in Member States and having the right to work under EU asylum rules



Duration of the contract:



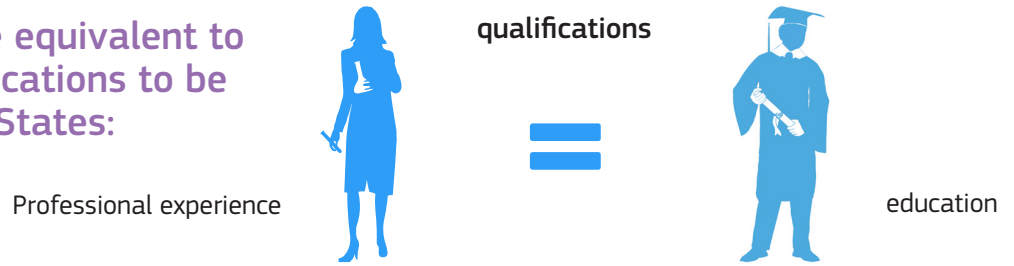
A contract or a job offer in the Member State concerned is still needed. **BUT** the required minimum duration of the contract is brought down from 12 to 6 months to align with labour market realities.

Conditions adaptable to the national labour markets:

More harmonised conditions yet still adaptable to the national needs and circumstances through nationally set salary thresholds (within a range set out in the Directive) and lists for shortage occupations for which a lower salary threshold can be applied. Possibility to make labour market tests in case of serious disturbances, such as high level of unemployment, in the national labour market.

Migration and Home Affairs

Professional experience equivalent to higher education qualifications to be recognised by Member States:



Enhanced Intra-EU mobility

NEW



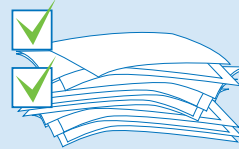
Short-term business trips will be less complicated for EU Blue Card holders.

Moving to another Member State to take up a new job is facilitated

Faster procedures



Fewer conditions



Shorter residence required in previous Member State



Safeguards to protect national labour markets are foreseen

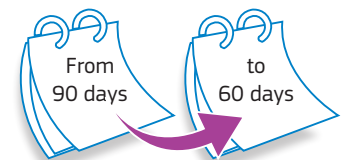
Faster and more flexible procedures

Application procedures:

From now on applications can be submitted either abroad or within the EU (currently applications submitted within the EU are exceptional)



Maximum processing time:



A new «trusted employers» scheme:

Member States may offer a special fast-track procedure for trusted employers with fewer conditions to reduce administrative burden.



Improved rights

Easier access to other high-skills jobs



Right to self-employed activity in parallel with the EU Blue Card job



(when fulfilling the EU Blue Card conditions)

Access to EU long-term residence after:



residence in several Member States



OR



if the EU Blue Card holder resided continuously in the same Member State

New EU Blue Card website

NEW dedicated EU Blue Card section on the EU Immigration Portal with user-friendly, up-to-date and practical information for potential EU Blue Card applicants, providing them with the possibility to compare the conditions and rights of the current EU Blue Card across Member States.



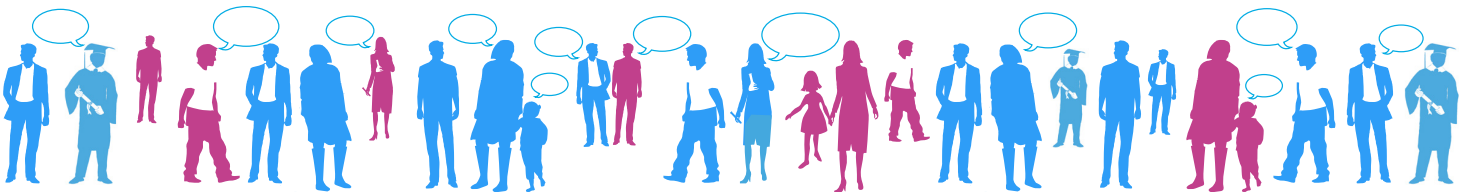
Website:
ec.europa.eu/immigration/bluecard_en



Action Plan on the Integration of Third-Country Nationals

7 June 2016

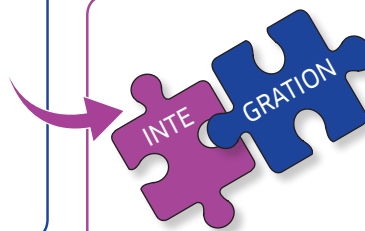
Investing in integration policies today will contribute to making Europe a more prosperous, cohesive, and inclusive society in the long run. The European Commission is launching an Action Plan presenting a framework for action and concrete initiatives to support Member States in the integration of the 20 million non-EU nationals residing legally in the EU. Whilst the competence for integration policy lies primarily with the Member States, the EU plays an important role in supporting, developing and coordinating Member States' actions and policies on integration. The Action Plan includes actions supporting pre-departure and pre-arrival measures, education, employment and vocational training, access to basic services, active participation and social inclusion.



Why an Action Plan on Integration?



Integration is
a precondition for an inclusive,
cohesive and prosperous society

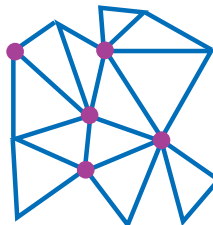


A successful integration of all third-country nationals, whether recently arrived or not, will make migration an opportunity for both third-country nationals and host societies. If well integrated, migrants can boost GDP.



It's a **joint responsibility**
and a common interest

to invest and work together
on integration

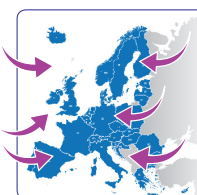


All actors have a responsibility:
national, local and regional
authorities; the EU; civil society
organisations; employers;
migrants and all citizens.



It's **time to strengthen**
our actions

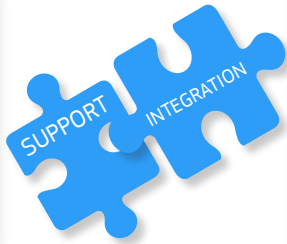
on integration



The recent increase in migratory
flows has reinforced the need
for effective integration policies
on integration of third-country
nationals.

Key policy priorities

PRE-DEPARTURE/ PRE-ARRIVAL MEASURES



Providing support to integration of third country nationals legally residing in the EU at the earliest stage in the migration process has proven to be **a key element of successful integration**. Such measures are particularly important to prepare the resettlement of refugees.

Examples of actions: launch of projects supporting pre-departure and pre-arrival measures for local communities; engagement with Member States to strengthen cooperation with selected third-countries on pre-departure measures.

EDUCATION



Education and training are among the most powerful tools for integration and access to them should be ensured as soon as possible.

Examples of actions: online language assessment and learning for newly arrived migrants; promoting inclusive education; promoting the upgrading of skills of third country nationals; promoting the removal of barriers for the participation of migrant children in early childhood education.

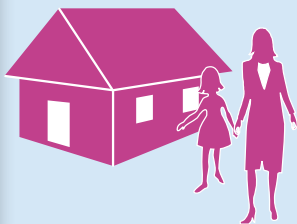
LABOUR MARKET & VOCATIONAL TRAINING



Employment and early integration into vocational training are core parts of the integration process. Finding a job is fundamental to becoming part of the host country's economic and social life.

Examples of actions: Promoting good practices and support projects for labour market integration through "fast-track" insertion and vocational training; pilot projects for migrant entrepreneurship. The "New Skills Agenda for Europe" will also develop actions to support validation of skills and recognition of qualifications such as a "Skills and Qualifications Toolkit" for newly arrived third-country nationals.

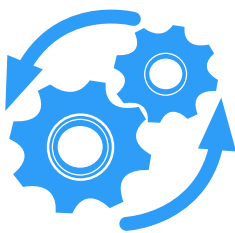
ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES



Access to basic services such as adequate and affordable housing and health services is a basic condition for third-country nationals to start a life in the society of the receiving country.

Examples of actions: support Member States in facing the immediate accommodation challenges related to the refugee crisis; facilitate the exchange of experience and best practices on the urban dimension of diversity and immigration.

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION & SOCIAL INCLUSION



The full participation of third-country nationals in all aspects of community and societal life **is essential to achieve integration**.

Examples of actions: launch of projects to promote Intercultural dialogue, European values, social inclusion; promote migrants' participation in cultural life and sport; develop handbooks and toolboxes for practitioners on cultural awareness.

Key figures on integration

RESIDENCE

2015



EU population: **508 million**

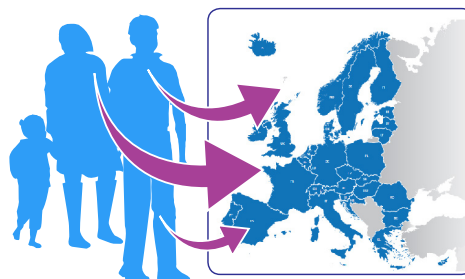
Around **20 million third-country nationals** resided (legally) in the EU

< 4% of total EU population
Most of them came to **work, join their partner/family** or **study**.

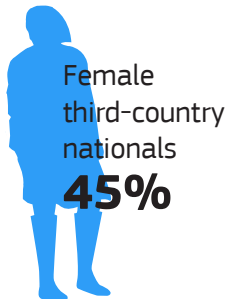
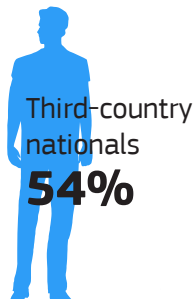
2015

307,620 positive decisions* for asylum issued by EU Member State = **0.06% of the EU population**

*first instance



EMPLOYMENT



Percentage of the host-country nationals and third-country nationals employed in the EU in 2015 (working age 15 to 64)

However, **the gaps in employment tend to decline**

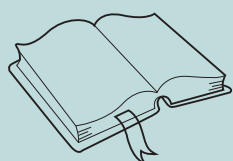
over time: the longer a third-country national stays in a country, the higher his/her employment rate.

Early measures for skills and labour market integration can support better and quicker employment outcomes for recently arrived third-country nationals.

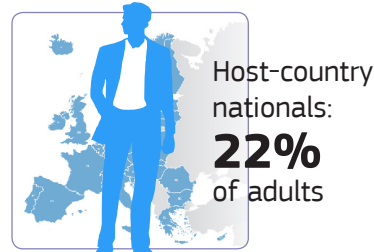
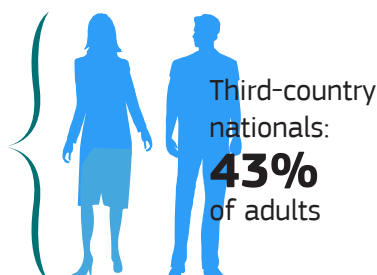
EDUCATION

Helps migrants to participate in the labour market and society.

Many migrants are overqualified or overskilled for their jobs.

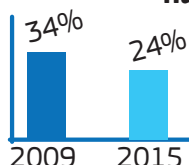


In 2015 Third-country nationals in the EU have lower educational achievements than host-country nationals



had not achieved upper secondary school level

However **the situation is improving** regarding the share of young (18-24) third-country nationals having left education without upper secondary school level **which has dropped:**

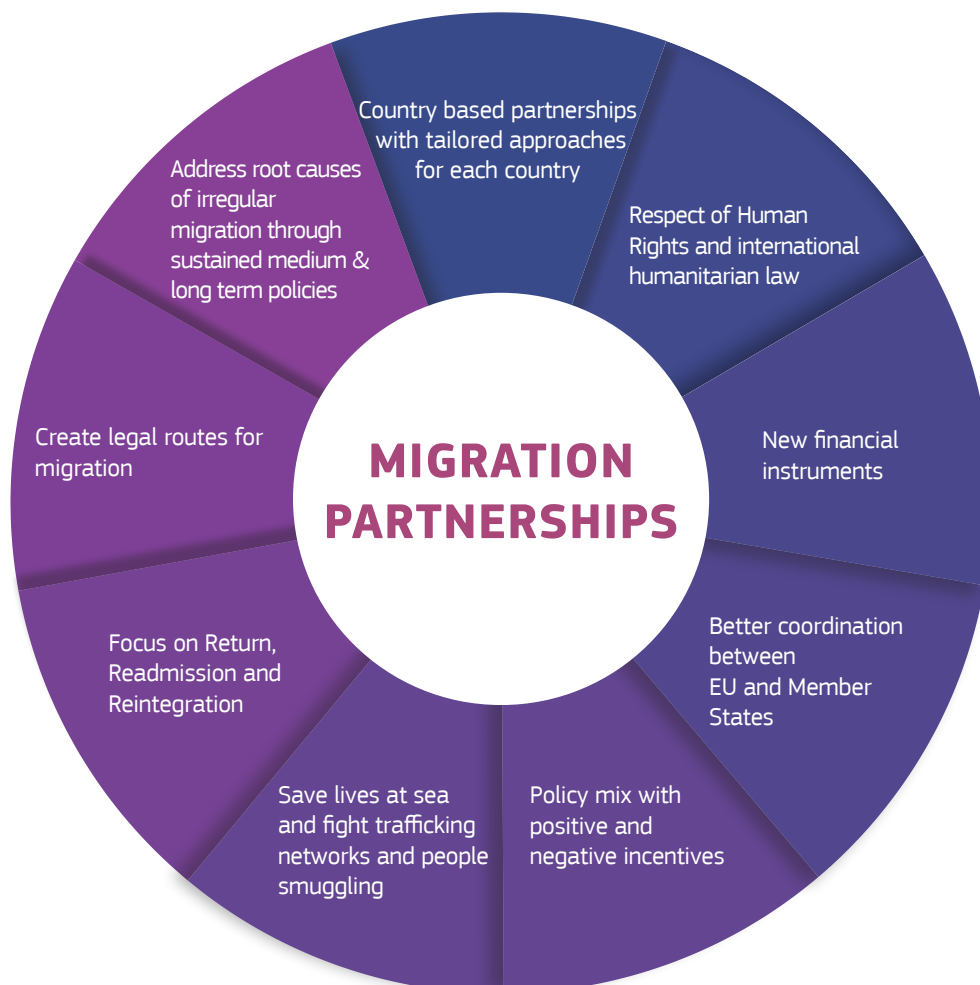




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MANAGING THE REFUGEE CRISIS A NEW PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK

External migratory pressure is the 'new normal' both for the EU and for partner countries. Responding to the current situation requires a more coordinated, systematic and structured approach, matching the EU's interests and the interests of our partners. Migration Partnerships will be at the heart of this approach. The EU will seek partnerships with key third countries of origin and transit using a mix of incentives tailored to produce concrete results in stemming the flow of irregular migrants and helping third countries' development in order to address root causes of irregular migration. This will require the use of all policies and tools at the EU's disposal. Member State contributions – diplomatic, technical and financial – will be of fundamental importance in delivering results.



WHICH ARE THE OBJECTIVES TO BE ACHIEVED?

Short term objectives:

- Save lives in the Mediterranean sea and in countries of origin and transit
- Increase the rate of returns to countries of origin and transit
- Enable migrants and refugees to stay close to home and to avoid taking dangerous journeys

Long-term objective:

- Reduce the root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement by addressing political, social and economic factors

MOBILISING FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

In the short term, the Trust Fund for Africa will be strengthened with a further €0.5 billion from the European Development Fund (EDF).

For the longer term, the Commission is proposing a new and ambitious External Investment Plan in order to mobilise investments in developing third countries, building on the experience of the successful Investment Plan for Europe. €3.1 billion will be mobilised to this end, expected to trigger total investments of up to €31 billion and the potential to increase €62 billion if Member States and other partners match the EU contribution.

PROPOSED PRIORITY PARTNERS:



WHAT MEASURES ARE ALREADY IN PLACE?

The **European Agenda on Migration** set out a wide variety of steps to put migration at the centre of the EU's external relations, building on the **Global Approach on Migration and Mobility**, established dialogues with partners such as the **Rabat , Khartoum and Budapest processes** as well as **Regional Development and Protection Programmes** in the Middle East, North Africa and in the Horn of Africa.

The new Partnership will build on:

High Level Dialogues on Migration with key partner countries

Focus on migration in the **European Neighbourhood Policy** review 2015

Western Balkans Leaders' meeting, October 2015

The **Valletta Summit** on migration, November 2015

EU - Turkey Statement, March 2016

Fight against trafficking networks and people smugglers through EUNAVFOR MED Operation Sophia

Saving lives at sea with the Frontex operations Joint Operation Triton and Joint Operation/Rapid Intervention Poseidon

Return, Readmission and Reintegration:

To date, 17 readmission agreements are in force with the following partner countries: Hong Kong, Macao, Sri Lanka, Albania, Russia, Ukraine, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, Moldova, Pakistan, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Turkey, Cap Verde. In addition, a number of readmission agreements are currently under negotiation.

Financial Instruments:

The EU is the world's largest development and humanitarian aid donor. In addition to existing development cooperation funds, a number of long term instruments have been developed to offer targeted support for migrants, refugees, internally displaced people and host communities. These instruments include the Facility for Refugees in Turkey, the EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis, Humanitarian Aid for the Syria crisis, as well as the Emergency Trust Fund for Africa and Humanitarian Aid for Refugees in Africa.



European Commission

THE REFORM OF THE DUBLIN SYSTEM

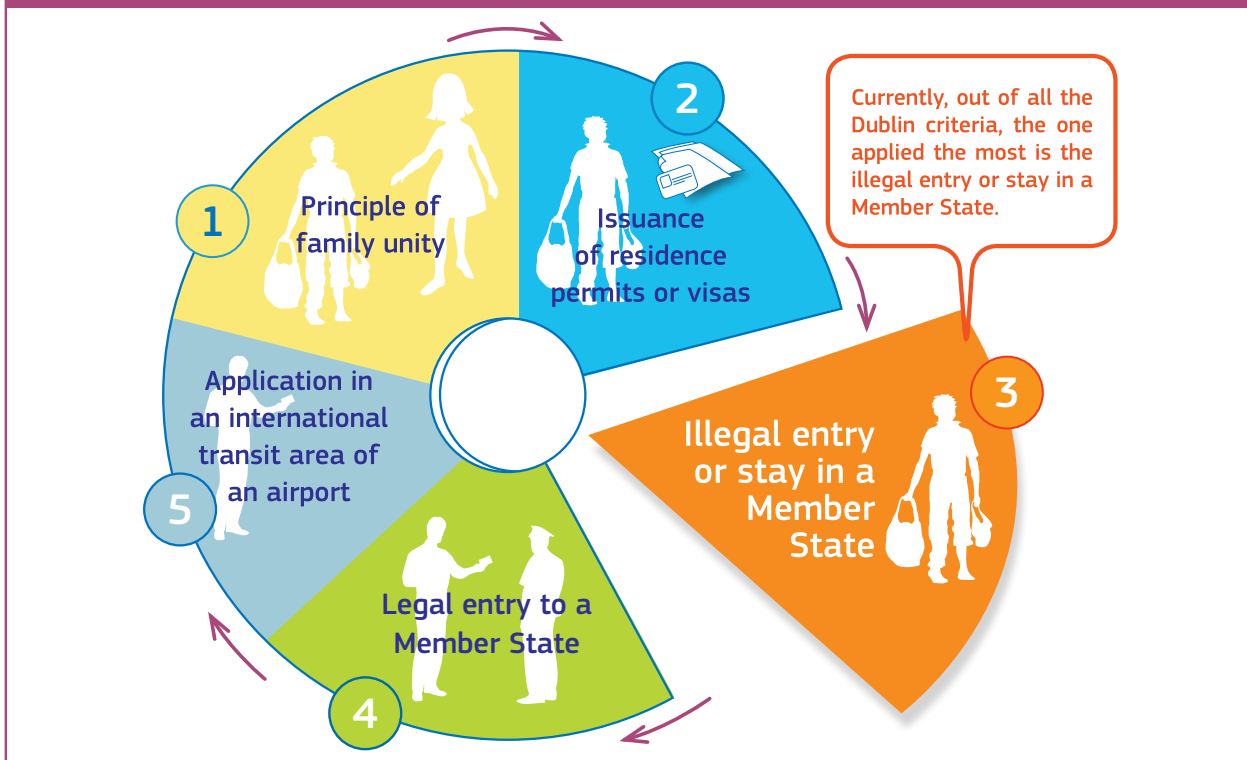


The Dublin Regulation establishes the criteria and mechanisms for determining which EU Member State is responsible for examining an asylum application. The rules aim to ensure quick access to asylum procedures and the examination of an application in substance by a single, clearly determined Member State – an objective which remains valid. The Dublin system, however, was not designed to ensure a sustainable sharing of responsibilities for asylum applicants across the EU – a shortcoming that has been highlighted by the current crisis. The core principle under the current Dublin regime is that the responsibility for examining an asylum claim lies first and foremost with the Member State which played the greatest part in the applicant’s entry to the EU. In most cases this means it is the Member State of first entry. It can also be a Member State which has issued a visa or residence permit to a non-EU national, who then decides to stay and apply for asylum when this authorisation expires. Family unity and the protection of unaccompanied minors are the main reasons to derogate from these rules.

In practice, this means the responsibility for the vast majority of asylum claims is placed on a small number of Member States – a situation which would stretch the capacity of any Member State. If current migration patterns continue, this is unsustainable. This is why the Commission is proposing a reform of the Dublin system to establish a fair and sustainable system.

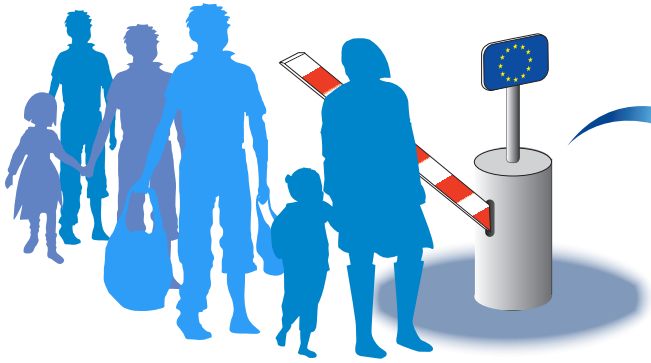
The new system will make sure that when an overwhelming number of asylum requests are filed in just one Member State, the number of asylum seekers exceeding the absorption capacity of that country will be distributed among all Member States that are not confronted with excessive pressure.

Criteria for deciding which Member State should be responsible for an asylum application



CURRENT EU RULES

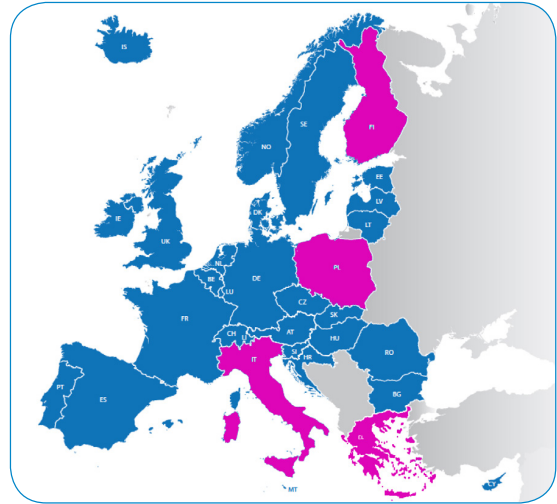
Determining the EU country responsible for the asylum claim



When applying the Dublin rules, the country of arrival is, in most cases, identified as the one responsible for the asylum application.

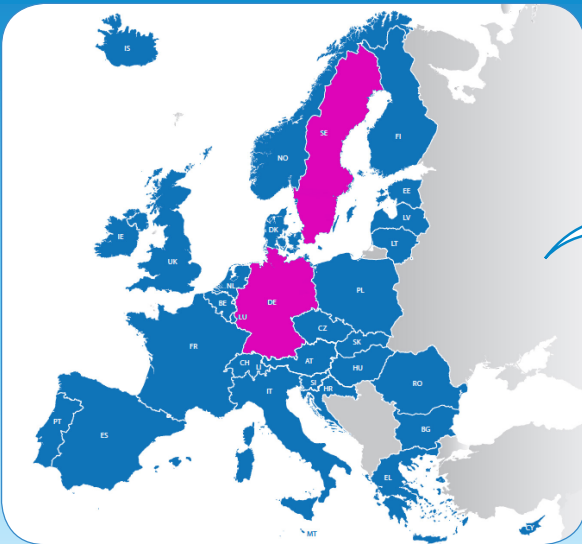
CHALLENGES AND SHORTCOMINGS

Pressure on a small number of Member States



The vast majority of arrivals are currently registered in just a few Member States, putting the asylum systems of these countries of first entry under immense pressure. This is not a fair distribution of responsibility.

Harmonised conditions of reception throughout the EU



The EU has common standards to ensure that asylum seekers are treated equally in an open and fair system – wherever their application is made. According to the Dublin system, asylum seekers cannot choose the EU country where their application will be processed. However, discretionary provisions under EU legislation and a lack of full implementation have resulted in some EU countries offering more attractive reception and asylum systems than others, creating an incentive for asylum shopping.

Uneven implementation of EU rules leads to imbalances and secondary movements



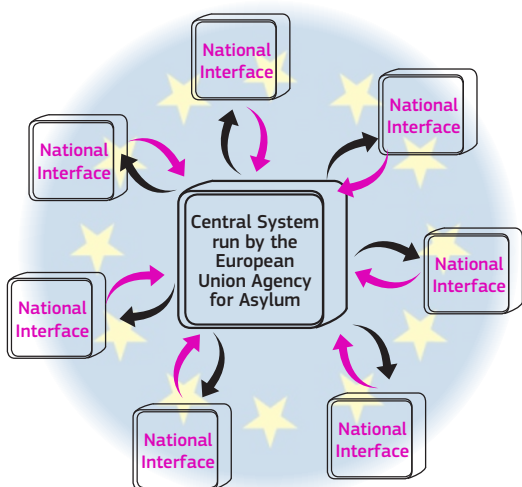
Some migrants seek to avoid registration and fingerprinting and then move on to the country where they wish to get asylum and settle. These secondary movements create imbalances in the distribution of asylum seekers and place disproportionate pressure on the favoured destination countries.

The Dublin reform: a new system to better share responsibilities

To address the inherent weaknesses of the Dublin system for the longer term, the Commission is presenting a proposal to reform it by streamlining and supplementing it with a corrective allocation mechanism (the fairness mechanism). The main elements of the new system are: a new automated system to monitor the number of asylum applications each Member State receives and the number of persons effectively resettled by each; a reference key to help determine when one Member State is under disproportionate pressure and a fairness mechanism to alleviate that pressure.

A new automated system

A new automated system will be developed. It will consist of a central system, a national interface in each Member State and the communication infrastructure between the central system and the national interface.



The automated system will record each asylum application made in the EU as well as the number of persons each Member State effectively resettles.

Determining when a Member State is under pressure

A reference key will show the indicative share of the total number of asylum applications made in the EU each Member State would receive if they were allocated according to a country's size and wealth.

Comparing the reference share to the actual distribution of claims will help determine when one Member State is responsible for a disproportionate amount of applications compared to other Member States.



Size of the population
(50% weighting)



Total Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
(50% weighting)

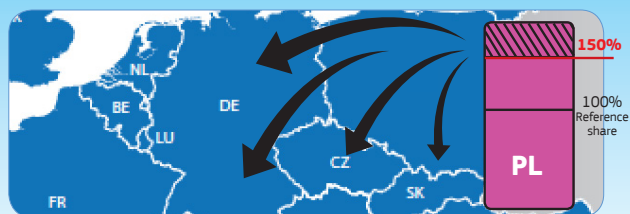


Resettlements will be counted under the number of asylum applications to acknowledge the importance of efforts to implement legal and safe pathways to Europe.

A fairness mechanism

The fairness mechanism will be applied when Member States are confronted with a disproportionate number of asylum applications. If the number of asylum applications made in a Member State is above 150% of the reference share, the fairness mechanism is automatically triggered. All new asylum applications made after the triggering of the mechanism will be relocated across the EU.

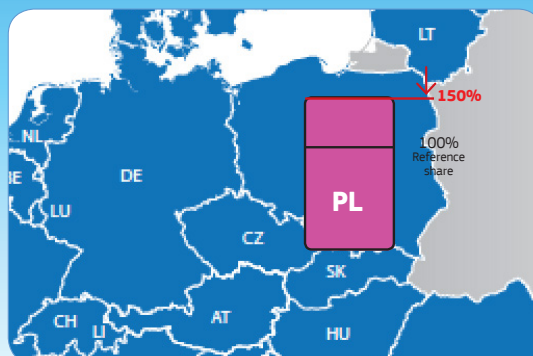
Example: if the number of asylum applications in Poland exceeds 150% of the reference share of all applications, all new applications in Poland will be relocated to other Member States.



If a Member State decides not to accept the allocation of applications from a Member State under pressure, a solidarity contribution of € 250,000 per applicant should be made to the Member State which takes on the responsibility in their place.

Cessation of the mechanism

New arrivals to Member States benefiting from the fairness mechanism will be relocated across the EU until the number of applications is back below 150% of the country's reference share. When the number is back below 150%, the fairness mechanism will end.





European
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MANAGING THE REFUGEE CRISIS

EU SUPPORT TO JORDAN

The EU pays tribute to the outstanding efforts Jordan is making since the outset of the Syrian refugee crisis. The EU remains deeply committed to assisting Jordan in dealing with the crisis. Overall, the EU is the leading donor in the international response to the Syrian crisis, with over **€6.1 billion** from the EU and Member States collectively mobilised in humanitarian and development assistance. This support goes both to Syrians in their country, and to refugees and their host communities in neighbouring Jordan, Lebanon, as well as Iraq, Turkey and Egypt.

At the London conference on “Supporting Syria and the region” in February 2016, the EU pledged **€1 billion** for Jordan and Lebanon together for the years 2016 and 2017. Jordan is expected to receive significant additional support in tackling the refugee crisis.

In Jordan, there are over 642 868 registered Syrian refugees, equal to over 10% of the country's total population before the crisis. In addition, a large number of Palestinian and Iraqi refugees have been residing in Jordan since before the outbreak of the Syrian crisis, although the vast majority of the former hold regular Jordanian citizenship.

Overall, the European Commission has allocated almost **€686 million** in assistance to refugees and vulnerable communities in Jordan.

This includes inter alia:

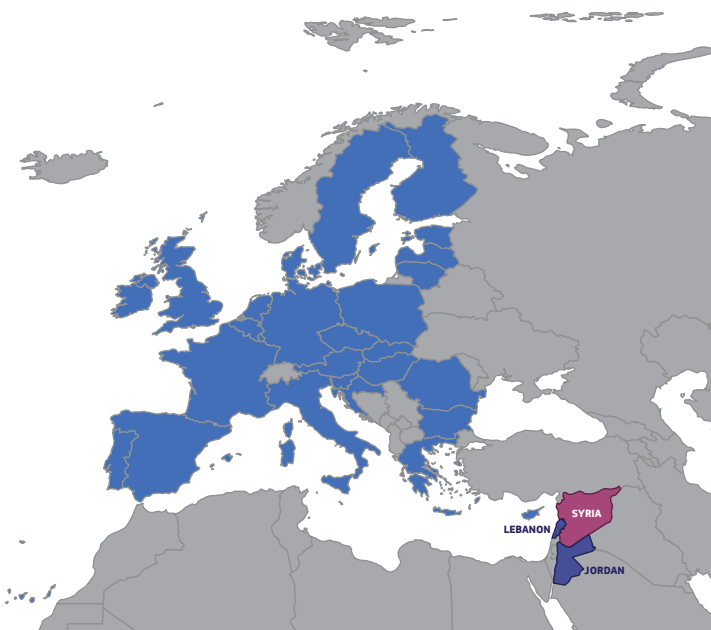
- **more than €251 million** from the humanitarian budget, including **€53 million** for 2016
- **€180 million** from the Macro Financial Assistance Instrument
- **€170 million** from the European Neighbourhood Instrument
- **more than €30 million** from the Instrument contributing to Peace and Stability.

This support comes on top of the **more than €500 million** in regular programmed bilateral cooperation for Jordan under the European Neighbourhood Policy, which brings the **overall amount to over €1.13 billion** since 2011.

Number of Syrian refugees in Jordan:
642 868

Number of Palestinian refugees in
Jordan:
2 097 338

Number of Iraqi refugees in Jordan:
54 586



HUMANITARIAN AID TO JORDAN

Since the beginning of the crisis, the European Commission has contributed **more than €251 million**, providing services such as health, food and basic needs assistance, winterisation, shelter, water and sanitations, psychological support and protection programmes to refugees in camps and urban settings. The provision of basic services in villages and towns across the country also included vulnerable Jordanian families. Specific programmes support children's and women's needs, since approximately 53% of the refugees are children and 23.5% women.

With 83% of the refugees in Jordan living in urban settings, the European Commission supports the most vulnerable refugees through programmes including cash assistance, which is considered the most cost-efficient and dignified way of helping people in need.

EU AID IN ACTION

Since 2012, UNICEF has received a total of **€30million** from the European Commission humanitarian budget for child protection, water and sanitation and the current child cash programme. Since February 2015, UNICEF is assisting about 56,000 girls and boys from 15,750 of the most vulnerable Syrian refugee families in host communities with 20 Jordanian Dinar per child per month. EU humanitarian funding to UNICEF supports the work of the organisation at the North-Eastern border with Syria providing the distribution of water and child protection and nutrition activities for young children.

As a **priority in 2016**, humanitarian funding supports the emergency needs of the more than 57,000 refugees stranded along the North-Eastern border with Syria as the situation has become an emergency. Urgent life-saving assistance is required to meet basic needs and the EU is working with international organisations such as WFP's for weekly food distribution, UNICEF, ICRC for health and UNHCR for registration of new arrivals. With an increasing number of new arrivals to Azraq Camp, another priority is to ensure their basic assistance and shelter in the Camp.

DELIVERY OF AID

The **EU's Humanitarian Aid** is channelled through the United Nations, International Organisations, and international NGO partners, and is responding to life-threatening needs in the areas of food aid, health, water, sanitation and hygiene as well as shelter and protection.

Since 2015, an increasing part of **non-humanitarian aid** for Syria's neighbouring countries to cope with the refugee crisis is channelled through the **EU Regional Trust Fund in response to the Syrian crisis**, the 'Madad Fund'. The Trust Fund aims to bring a more coherent and integrated EU response to the crisis by merging various EU financial instruments and contributions from Member States and other international donors into one single flexible and quick mechanism. The Trust Fund primarily addresses longer term resilience needs of Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries such as Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq, as well as the hosting communities and their administration. In the future, the Trust Fund may start financing resilience activities inside Syria and could become a funding tool for reconstruction, resettlement and governance support following a political settlement of the crisis. With recent pledges from 20 Member States - amounting to over €60 million - and contributions from various EU instruments, the Fund has now reached a **volume of more than €700 million**.

The Operational Board of the Trust Fund has already approved actions for a total amount of **€428 million** including €94 million support to Jordan, with a focus on increasing access for refugees to education and training, as well as livelihoods and WASH.

PREVENTING A LOST GENERATION OF SYRIAN CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The European Union has dedicated substantial resources to addressing the educational needs of children affected by the crisis in Jordan, such as support for basic education, youth programmes, vocational education and higher education in Jordan. The funding- largely through the EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis (Madad Fund) to DAAD and UNICEF- has enabled Jordan to admit over 140,000 Syrian children into their public schools.

In addition, the EU has been supporting the Jordanian Ministry of Education through two subsequent Budget Support Programmes amounting to:

- **€59.6 million** for the years 2011-2014 (of which €29.6 million were dedicated to Syrian children)
- **€53 million** for the school years 2015-2017. Currently a top-up of **€20 million** is under preparation.

An additional **€8 million** has been devoted to Higher Education activities and scholarships in Jordan for Syrians and vulnerable Jordanians through the German Jordanian University and the British Council.

The EU is also active in assisting young people, providing important assistance through the EuroMed Youth programme, which aims at the promotion of youth projects through study visits and voluntary work.

TRADE INITIATIVE – RELAXATION OF RULES OF ORIGIN

At the London Conference on 4 February 2016, as part of its response to the Syria crisis, the EU announced a trade initiative in accordance with earlier Jordanian requests. The initiative proposes a temporary relaxation of Rules of Origin for certain products manufactured with labour including Syrian refugees in selected development zones in Jordan.

The proposed alternative rules of origin for Jordanian exporters would be those used by the EU for imports from Least-Developed Countries under the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) / Everything but Arms (EBA) scheme. The initiative is designed to last ten years, with a mid-term revision allowing the parties to make adjustments in light of experience.

A proposal has now been made to the Council of Ministers. Assuming agreement is reached, the deal will need to be ratified by both parties at the EU-Jordan Association Committee scheduled for late July of this year.



MANAGING THE REFUGEE CRISIS

EU SUPPORT TO LEBANON

The EU pays tribute to the outstanding efforts the country is making since the outset of the Syrian refugee crisis. The EU remains deeply committed to assisting Lebanon in dealing with the crisis. Overall, the EU is the leading donor in the international response to the Syrian crisis, with **over €6.6 billion** from the EU and Member States collectively mobilized in humanitarian and development assistance. This support goes both to Syrians in their country, and to refugees and their host communities in neighbouring Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Turkey and Egypt.

At the London conference on “Supporting Syria and the region” at the beginning of February 2016, the EU pledged €1 billion for Lebanon and Jordan for the years 2016 and 2017. Lebanon is expected to receive significant additional support in tackling the refugee crisis.

Lebanon hosts more than one million Syrian refugees, which represents 25% of the country's population, which is the highest per-capita concentration of refugees worldwide.



Overall, the European Commission has allocated **close to €800 million** in assistance to refugees and vulnerable communities in Lebanon since the beginning of the crisis. This includes:

- **€356.1 million** from the humanitarian budget, including €87 million for 2016
- **more than €250 million** from the European Neighbourhood Instrument mainly to support Lebanese institutions to provide Lebanese vulnerable communities and Syrian refugees with access to basic services
- **more than €42 million** from the Instrument contributing to Peace and Stability to address longer term resilience needs of affected civilians, both refugees and Lebanese host communities
- **€1.2 million** from the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights
- **close to €142 million** through the EU Regional Trust Fund in response to the Syrian crisis, the ‘Madad Fund’, to address longer-term resilience needs of Syrian refugees and support Lebanese host communities and the national administration with a focus on increasing access for refugees to education and training, as well as livelihoods and health

This support comes **on top of the over €219 million** in regular programmed bilateral cooperation for Lebanon under the European Neighbourhood Policy, which brings **overall support to more than €1 billion**. The main part of non-humanitarian funding is allocated to the education sector, but also towards health, livelihoods and local infrastructures.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE EU RESPONSE TO THE SYRIAN CRISIS

- Protect and assist Syrian and Palestinian refugees from Syria
- Help Lebanon mitigate the impact of the crisis by addressing the medium and long term needs of both vulnerable Lebanese citizens and refugees from Syria
- Reinforce the policy dialogue with the Lebanese government and the capacities of existing Lebanese institutions responsible for managing the crisis, at national and local levels
- Contribute to the provision of basic services such as free public education, primary and secondary health care, child and women protection, psycho-social support as well as access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)
- Support the most vulnerable municipalities in improving their infrastructure and economic recovery

HUMANITARIAN AID TO LEBANON

EU humanitarian funding has contributed to cash assistance for most vulnerable refugees, secondary healthcare for lifesaving cases, non-formal education and shelter -including water, hygiene and sanitation- to improve the living conditions of the vulnerable families mostly affected by the displacement. Protection remains a

fundamental sector where partners conduct regular monitoring of the main protection concerns and provide awareness, counselling and legal assistance to the refugee population. Between 2015 and 2016, the EU's **humanitarian aid to Lebanon reached around 665.000 Syrian refugees.**

Number of registered Syrian refugees in Lebanon:
1 033 513*

Number of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon:
260 000 - 280 000



Number of Palestinian refugees from Syria:
40 739

Number of Iraqi refugees in Lebanon:
6 000

PREVENTING A LOST GENERATION OF SYRIAN CHILDREN AND YOUTH

According to UNHCR, close to 417.000 Syrian refugee children in Lebanon are aged between 3 and 14 years old. While exact numbers are not available, it is estimated that nearly half of Syrian refugee children do not have access to any form of education, exposing them to physical and/or psychological violence, child labour and exploitation, early marriage, and recruitment by armed groups. At the London conference, the participants committed that by the end of the 2016/2017 school year, all refugee children and vulnerable children in host communities will be in quality education with equal access for girls and boys.

Since the start of the Syrian refugee crisis, the EU has committed around to €188 million for education and child protection purposes in Lebanon. These funds are spent on formal and non-formal education, including providing refugee students with a safe environment where to learn and exchange while supporting the improvement of the quality of education and institutional capacities in the sector.

In particular, since 2012 EU funds, channelled largely through UNICEF and UNHCR have been paying enrolment fees for around 240,000 refugee children from Syria (6-14 age group)

DELIVERY OF AID

Since 2015, an increasing part of **non-humanitarian aid** for Syria's neighbouring countries to cope with the refugee crisis is channelled through the **EU Regional Trust Fund in response to the Syrian crisis, the 'Madad Fund'**. The Trust Fund aims to bring a more coherent and integrated EU response to the crisis by merging various EU financial instruments and contributions from Member States and other international donors into one single flexible and quick mechanism. The Trust Fund primarily addresses longer term resilience needs of Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries such as Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq, as well as the hosting communities and their administration. In the future, the Trust Fund may start financing resilience activities inside Syria and could become a funding tool for reconstruction, resettlement and governance support following a political settlement of the crisis. With recent pledges from 21 Member States - amounting to over €69.3 million - and contributions from various EU instruments, the Fund is now reaching a **total volume of more than €700 million**. Additional funds will be committed in 2016 and beyond.

The Operational Board of the Trust Fund has already approved actions for a total amount **€628 million** including **€142 million support to Lebanon**, with a focus on increasing access for refugees to education and training, as well as livelihoods and health.





MANAGING THE REFUGEE CRISIS BALANCING RESPONSIBILITY AND SOLIDARITY ON MIGRATION AND ASYLUM

In managing asylum and migration policy comprehensively, responsibility and solidarity must go hand in hand. The European Commission has a number of immediate and long-term actions to strike the necessary balance between taking responsibility and ensuring solidarity of Member States.

COMPLYING WITH THE COMMON EUROPEAN ASYLUM SYSTEM (CEAS) AND ASSUMING RESPONSIBILITY

- The European Union's asylum standards are among the highest in the world and the Commission, as Guardian of the Treaties enforces their implementation. The Commission is committed to assisting Member States to properly apply the EU's common asylum rules and to manage the refugee crisis. The Commission and European Asylum Support Office (EASO) have provided operational guidance for Member States to assist them with the implementation of asylum legislation and regularly meets with the Member States. In cases where Member States do not comply with the common asylum rules, the Commission enforces their application through infringement proceedings.
- On 27 May 2015, the Commission published guidelines for Member States setting out a best practice approach for fingerprinting newly arrived applicants for international protection. Currently, Member States apply the existing legislation under varying conditions, using either detention, coercion or neither to ensure fingerprinting. As a result, the Commission services put forward a common approach for the process of fingerprinting.
- EU legislation includes specific provisions to fight against abuses, for example by allowing swift processing of asylum applications likely to be unfounded, including for people originating from countries considered as 'safe'. In September 2015, the Commission proposed a Regulation establishing an EU common list of safe countries of origin. A European list would allow for swifter processing of individual asylum applications of persons originating from 'safe' countries and for faster returns if it is

PUTTING SOLIDARITY INTO PRACTICE

- **Funding:** The European Commission is providing over **€8.4 billion** under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF), and the Internal Security Fund (ISF) to address migration and security challenges in Europe. For 2016, the Commission proposed an increase in the EU budget for dealing with the refugee crisis, and has foreseen emergency financial assistance for Member States of €133 million under the AMIF and €55.9 million under the ISF.
- **Relocation:** In September 2015, the Council adopted two Decisions establishing a temporary emergency relocation mechanism to relocate 160,000 persons in clear need of international protection from Italy and Greece.
- **Resettlement:** Following the Commission's Recommendation, Member States adopted in July 2015 a plan to resettle **22,504** displaced persons from outside the EU who are in clear need of international protection, through multilateral and national schemes. The priority areas for resettlement are the Middle East, North Africa and the Horn of Africa. According to information communicated by Member States, **3,358** people had been resettled by the end of 2015. The Commission will soon bring forward a horizontal resettlement initiative to ensure a collective approach to resettlement as a central tool in the EU's assistance to countries hosting large numbers of refugee populations.
- **Hotspots:** Under the European Agenda on Migration, the Commission has sent migration management support teams to provide assistance to national authorities at Hotspots in Greece and Italy. Five hotspot areas have been identified by the Greek authorities in the Aegean islands of Lesbos, Chios, Samos, Leros and Kos. Currently one hotspot is fully operational (in Lesbos). Six hotspot areas have been

confirmed that they have no right of asylum. Applicants will have the right to challenge the presumption of safety in light of their individual circumstances, and should receive protection if the conditions are met. The Commission proposed to include Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo*, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey in the EU common list of safe countries of origin. The proposal must now be adopted by the European Parliament and Council. The Commission has also called for a stronger and more coherent use by Member States of the provisions allowing the return of asylum seekers to safe third countries.

- As guardian of the Treaties, the Commission is responsible for monitoring the full and correct implementation of the instruments of the Common European Asylum System. Since 23 September 2015, the Commission has adopted a total of 58 infringement decisions related to the EU asylum acquis. There are currently 70 open infringement procedures that include one or more violations of the instruments in the table below.

identified by the Italian authorities in Lampedusa, Pozzallo, Porto Empedocle/Villa Sikanina, Trapani, Augusta and Taranto. Two hotspots are fully operational (in Lampedusa and Pozzallo), and a third one (Trapani) is reaching completion.

- The European Asylum Support Office (EASO), Frontex and Europol are working on the ground with national authorities to swiftly interview, identify, register and fingerprint incoming migrants. Those claiming asylum are immediately channelled into an asylum procedure where EASO support teams help to process asylum cases as quickly as possible. For those clearly not in need of protection, Frontex is helping Member States by coordinating the return of irregular migrants. Europol and Eurojust are assisting the host Member State with investigations to dismantle the smuggling and trafficking networks. Dedicated EU Regional Taskforces (EURTFs) have been set up in Catania (Sicily, Italy) and in Piraeus (Greece) to coordinate the implementation of the Hotspot approach.

- EU Civil Protection Mechanism:** The Civil Protection Mechanism has been used to provide humanitarian assistance to five countries dealing with emergency situations due to the unprecedented flow of refugees across their territory. Four requests are still active, from Serbia, Slovenia, Croatia, and Greece. A total of 15 countries have made offers of assistance, providing items such tents, sleeping bags and bedding, personal protective items, heating and lighting equipment, and electricity generators. The Commission recently increased its funding and now covers 85% of the transport costs of this aid, but there are requests for assistance from Member States which remain outstanding.

A full published list of open and closed cases can be found here: http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-is-new/eu-law-and-monitoring/infringements-by-policy-asylum_en.htm

Open infringement cases within the Common European Asylum System

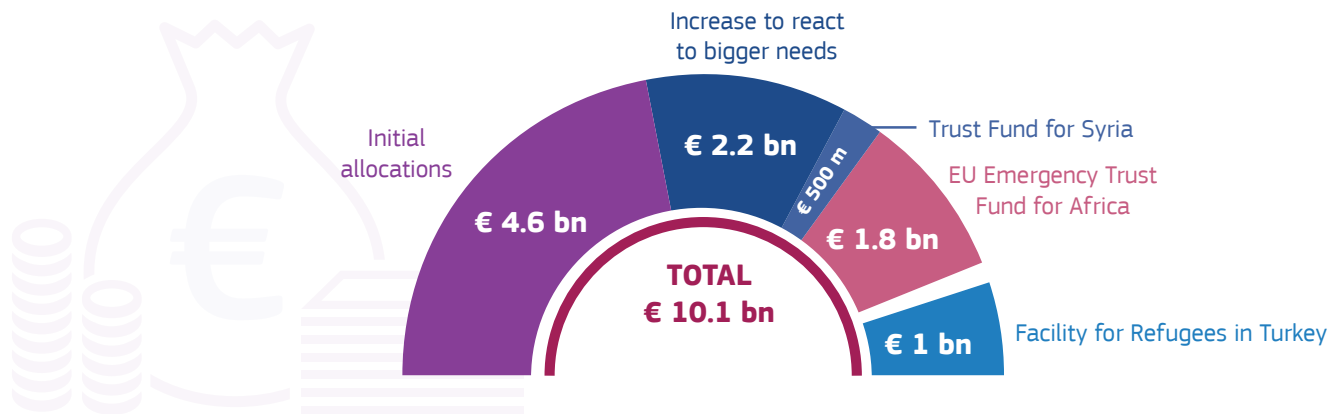
Asylum Procedures Directive 2005/85/ EC and 2013/32/EU (recast)	Reception Conditions Directive 2003/9/EC and 2013/33/EU (recast)	Qualification Directive 2004/83/ EC and 2011/95/ EU	Dublin III Regulation 604/2013	Eurodac regulation 603/2013	Directive 2011/51/EU amending Council Directive 2003/109/EC to extend its scope to beneficiaries of international protection
<p>8 bad application or non-conformity cases: Greece Italy (3 cases) Cyprus (2 cases) Hungary (2 cases)</p> <p>18 non-communication cases: Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Germany, Estonia, Greece, Spain, France, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Slovenia</p>	<p>7 bad application or non-conformity cases Greece, France Italy (2 cases) Cyprus (2 cases) Hungary</p> <p>19 non-communication cases: Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Germany, Estonia, Greece, Spain, France, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Austria, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Slovenia</p>	<p>1 bad application or non-conformity case: Italy</p> <p>13 non-communication cases: Slovenia, Cyprus, Bulgaria, Portugal, Poland, Malta, Italy, Hungary, France, Finland, Spain, Lithuania, Romania</p>	<p>1 case: Italy</p>	<p>4 cases: Greece Croatia Italy Cyprus</p>	<p>7 non-communication cases: Germany Greece France Italy Latvia Slovenia Austria</p>



EU budget for the refugee crisis

Addressing the refugee crisis and managing our external borders are top priorities for the European Union. We have more than doubled EU funding to meet these challenges in 2015 and 2016.

EU budget response to the refugee crisis



EU funding in and outside the EU

Funding inside the EU	
AMIF and ISF*	€ 3.70 bn
Emergency funding	€ 335 m
Long-term measures	€ 3.365 bn
Additional support to agencies and their operations	€ 170 m
Distribution of dairy products to the refugees	€ 30 m
TOTAL	€ 3.9 bn

* AMIF: Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund
ISF: Internal Security Fund

Funding outside the EU	
Humanitarian aid	€ 2.15 bn
Security and border control	€ 300 m
Counter terrorism	€ 100 m
Trust Fund for Syria	€ 500 m
Return of refugees and displaced persons	€ 280 m
Education and health	€ 70 m
EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa	€ 1.8 bn
Facility for Refugees in Turkey	€ 1 bn
TOTAL	€ 6.2 bn

EUROPEAN AGENDA ON SECURITY







European Commission

The Schengen Information System

21 December 2016

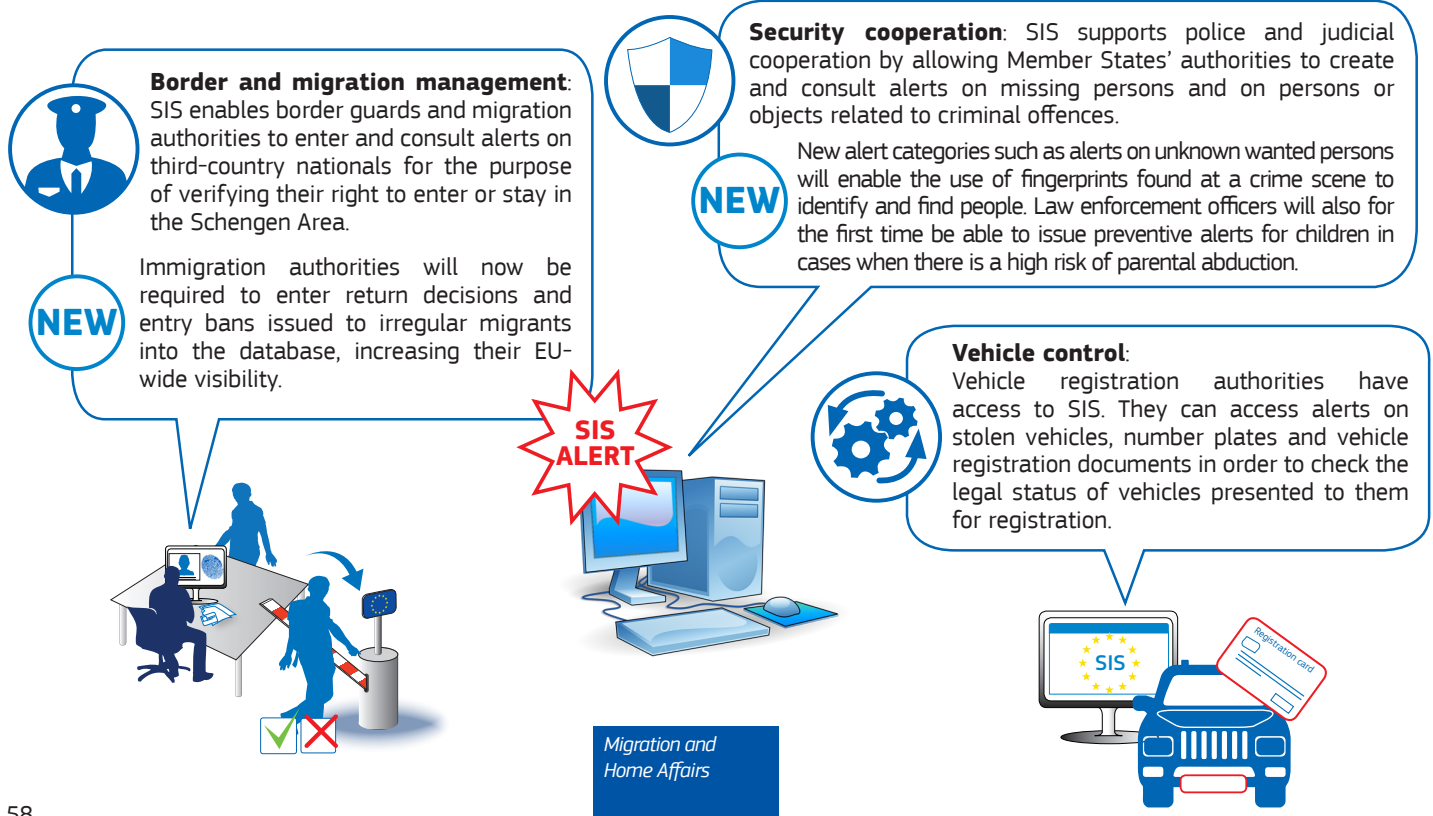
The Schengen Information System (SIS) is an EU information system to share information for law enforcement, border and migration management. It contains alerts on wanted or missing persons and objects such as vehicles, firearms, and identification documents that have been lost or stolen or may have been used to carry out a crime. Since its creation over 15 years ago the SIS database has proven to be an incredibly useful tool for police, border guards and customs officers - who all need to have access to high quality information about the persons or objects they are checking, with clear instructions about what needs to be done in case of a hit with SIS. The system is at the very heart of Schengen cooperation and plays a crucial role in facilitating the free movement of people within the Schengen area.

The Commission is now proposing to extend and improve the use of this database by enriching the data it contains with new alert categories, ensuring an even more efficient information exchange between Member States and with EU Agencies such as Europol, Eurojust and the European Border and Coast Guard, improving the end-to-end security of the system and strengthening data protection safeguards.

WHAT IS SIS USED FOR?

The main purpose of SIS is to help preserve internal security and improve border and migration management in the Schengen area by locating wanted persons and stolen objects and taking the necessary measures.

Three areas of competence:



WHAT TYPE OF ALERTS CAN BE ISSUED?

EXISTING ALERTS



Refusal of entry or stay of third-country nationals



Persons wanted for arrest



Missing persons



Persons in order to assist with a judicial procedure



Persons and objects for discreet or specific checks



Falsified documents

Objects for seizure or use as evidence in criminal procedures



NEW ALERTS



Return decisions



Wanted Unknown Person alerts on the basis of fingerprints left at crime scenes



Persons and objects for inquiry checks



Preventive alerts to signal children at risk of parental abduction (under strict conditions)

WHAT KIND OF DATA IS ENTERED INTO SIS?



- **Data for identifying the person or object** that is the subject of the alert
- When available, **photographs and fingerprints**
- **Links between alerts** (e.g. between an alert on a person and a vehicle)
- **Use of facial images** for biometric identification
- **DNA profiles** for missing persons who need to be placed under protection, and especially for missing children (Note: only possible in the absence of photographs or fingerprints suitable for identification)

Information on why the person or object is sought



Instructions on the action to be taken when the person or object has been found

WHICH AUTHORITIES CAN ENTER AND SEARCH ALERTS IN SIS?



- National border control authorities,
- Police authorities,
- Customs authorities,
- Judicial authorities,
- Visa and immigration authorities
- Vehicle, **NEW** **boat and aircraft** registration authorities

Exclusively accessible to the authorised users within competent national authorities.

NEW Europol

will receive access to all alert categories in SIS, including on data on missing persons, return alerts, and third-country nationals whose entry or stay is refused in the Schengen area and will be included in the exchange of supplementary information in relation to SIS alerts that have been issued within the context of serious organised crime and terrorism.

Eurojust

can continue to access the system to carry out queries on the alert categories it needs to access for its work.

NEW European Border and Coast Guard Agency

The new Agency and its teams will have access to all alert categories in SIS, which will allow them to do their job more effectively in carrying out returns of irregular migrants and managing the future European Travel Information and Authorisation System.

IN WHICH COUNTRIES IS SIS IN OPERATION?

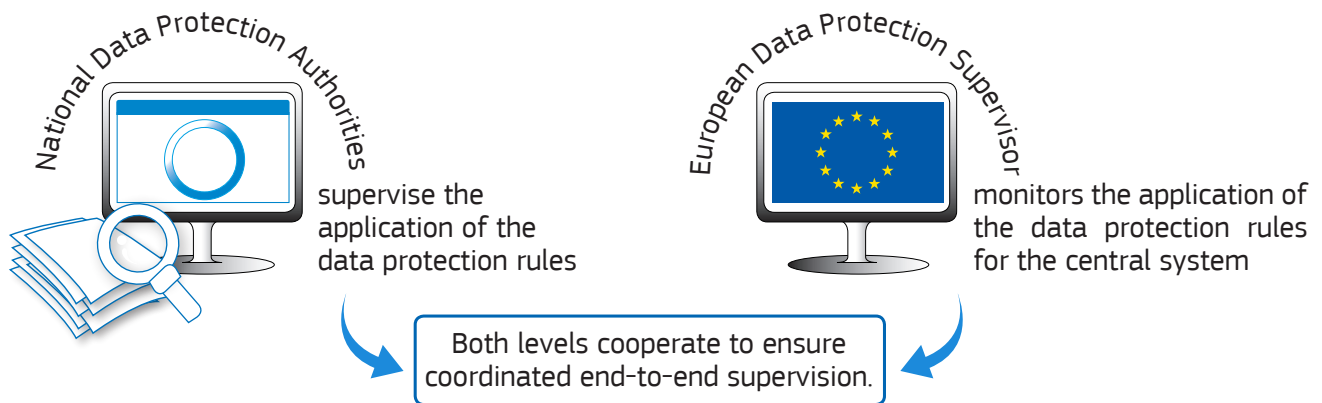
EU Member States that are part of the Schengen Area

Associated Countries that are part of the Schengen Area (Switzerland, Norway, Liechtenstein and Iceland)

Special conditions exist for EU Member States that are not part of the Schengen Area (Bulgaria, Romania, and the United Kingdom). SIS is not yet operational in Croatia, Cyprus and Ireland, but work is underway to fulfil the technical and legal conditions for them to connect to SIS.

HOW IS DATA PROTECTION ENSURED?

SIS has **strict requirements on data quality and data protection**. The basic principle is that the country entering an alert is responsible for its content, and that alerts are only kept for the time required to fulfil the purpose for which they were issued (e.g. an arrest).



If data about a person are stored, that person has the **right to request access to this data and make sure that it is accurate and lawfully entered. If this is not the case, the person has the right to request correction or deletion.**



Additional safeguards are introduced to ensure that the collection, processing and access to data is limited to what is strictly necessary and operationally required, in full respect of EU legislation and fundamental rights, including the right to effective remedies. **Access is restricted only to those who have an operational need to process it.**



A EUROPEAN AGENDA ON SECURITY

STATE OF PLAY: DECEMBER 2016



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 2016. The European Agenda on Security 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: *«My Commission has prioritised security from day one — we criminalised terrorism and foreign fighters across the EU, we cracked down on the use of firearms and on terrorist financing, we worked with internet companies to get terrorist propaganda offline and we fought radicalisation in Europe's schools and prisons. But there is more to be done.»* (State of the Union address, 14 September 2016)

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



© European Union 2015, source: EP - Fred Marcar



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

Combatting 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.

June 2015	Commission proposes first set of Common Risk Indicators concerning foreign terrorist fighters
October 2015	Commission develops guidance on protection of soft target areas
18 November 2015	Commission proposes revision of the Firearms Directive
2 December 2015	Commission proposes new Directive on Combatting Terrorism
	Action Plan against illicit trafficking in and use of firearms and explosives
15 December 2015	Commission adopts the Implementing Regulation on common standards for the deactivation of firearms (applicable since 8 April 2016)
1 January 2016	Launch of the European Counter Terrorism Centre
2 February 2016	Action Plan on strengthening the fight against terrorist financing
5 July 2016	Commission revises 4th Anti-Money Laundering Directive
14 July 2016	Commission adopts list of third countries with deficiencies in fighting money laundering and terrorist financing
29 September 2016	Commission steps up implementation of rules on explosive precursors, launching infringement procedures
30 November 2016	Additional precursors substances subject to enhanced controls
21 December 2016	Commission proposes to criminalise money laundering, strengthen mutual recognition of criminal asset freezing and confiscation orders and tackle illicit cash movements

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.

1 July 2015	Establishment of the EU Internet Referral Unit at Europol
1 October 2015	Launch of the EU Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN) Centre of Excellence
3 December 2015	Launch of an EU Internet Forum to counter terrorist content and hate speech online
14 June 2016	Action Plan on prevention of radicalisation leading to violent extremism
9 November 2016	Launch of «RAN Young» at the RAN High Level Conference
8 December 2016	EU Internet Forum meeting

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

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.

19 January 2016	Commission proposes to amend the European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS)
6 April 2016	Commission establishes a High Level Expert Group on Information Systems and Interoperability
21 April 2016	Adoption of the EU Passenger Name Records Directive
6 July 2016	Adoption of the Directive on Security of Network and Information Systems
29 September 2016	Commission steps up implementation of Prüm Framework, launches infringement procedures
16 November 2016	Commission proposes a European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS)
28 November 2016	Commission presents EU PNR Implementation Plan
7 December 2016	Commission proposes Action Plan on the Security of Travel Documents
21 December 2016	Proposal to revise the Schengen Information System (SIS)

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.

15 December 2015	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
6 April 2016	Commission adopts a Joint Framework on countering hybrid threats
	Commission proposes an EU Entry Exit System
4 May 2016	Commission proposes to adapt and reinforce the Eurodac system
7 September 2016	Commission proposes EU certification of airport screening equipment
6 October 2016	Launch of the European Border and Coast Guard

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.

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



ETIAS - The European Travel Information and Authorisation System

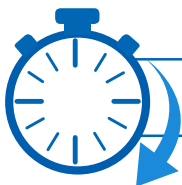


«We need to know who is crossing our borders. By November, we will propose an automated system to determine who will be allowed to travel to Europe. This way we will know who is travelling to Europe before they even get here.»

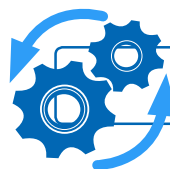
European Commission **President Jean-Claude Juncker**, *State of the Union Address*, 14 September 2016

The Commission is proposing the establishment of a European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) to strengthen security of travel to the Schengen area under visa-free agreements. This follows the announcement in September by President Juncker in his 2016 State of the Union address, and is a first deliverable of the priorities for action identified in the Bratislava Roadmap. The ETIAS will gather information on all travellers who are travelling visa free to Europe and ensure that possible security concerns are identified prior to travelling to the Schengen area, contributing to a more efficient management of the EU's external borders and improving internal security and the security of EU citizens.

THE TRAVEL AUTHORISATION SYSTEM WILL :



Save travellers time & hassle



Improve border management



Complement our visa liberalisation policy



Prevent irregular migration



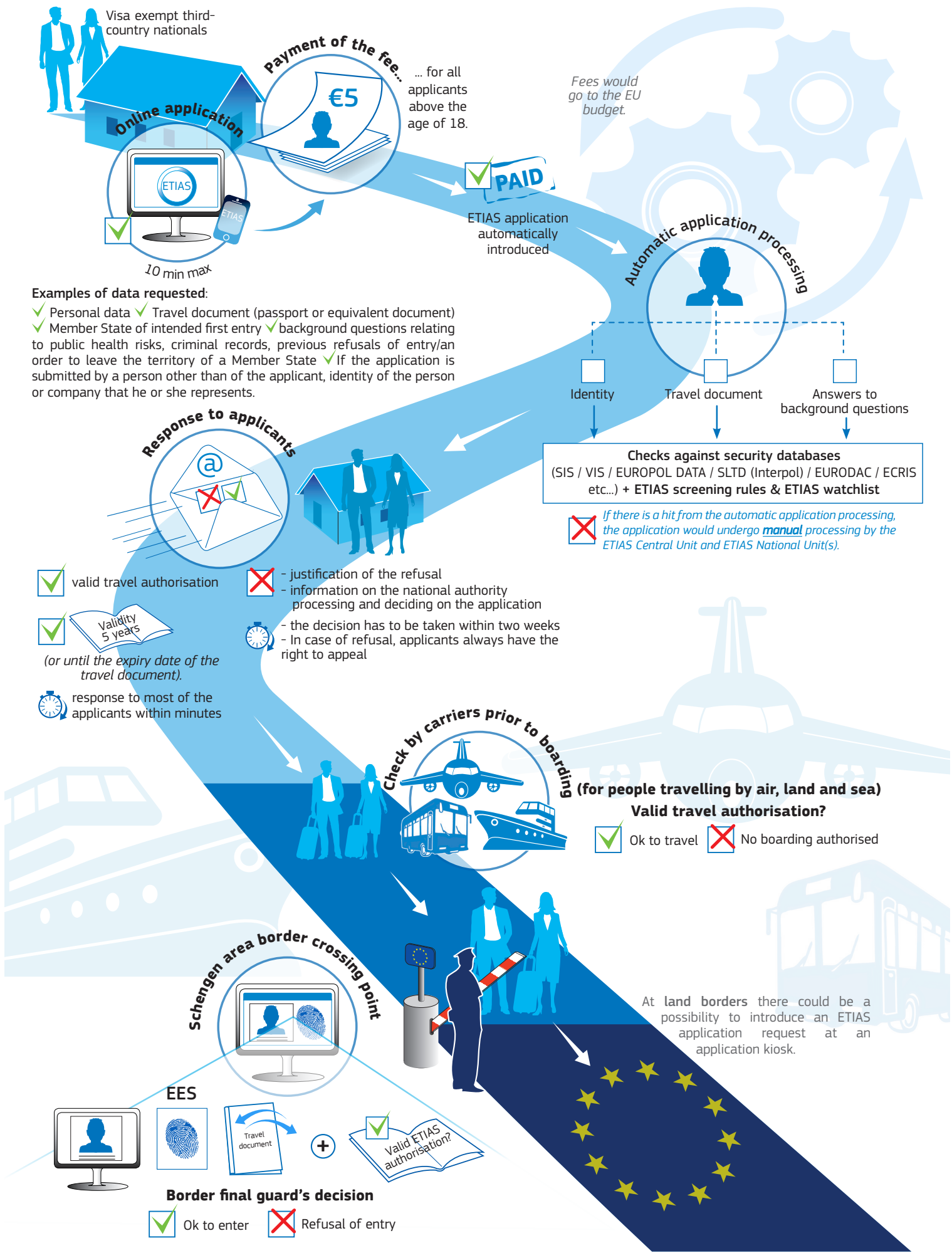
Reinforce the fight against crime & terrorism



ETIAS will apply to visa-free non-EU citizens

Migration and Home Affairs

HOW WILL THE ETIAS SYSTEM WORK?



Visa exempt third-country nationals

Online application
10 min max

Payment of the fee...
€5

... for all applicants above the age of 18.

Fees would go to the EU budget.

PAID

ETIAS application automatically introduced

Automatic application processing

Identity Travel document Answers to background questions

Checks against security databases
(SIS / VIS / EUROPOL DATA / SLTD (Interpol) / EURODAC / ECRIS etc...) + ETIAS screening rules & ETIAS watchlist

If there is a hit from the automatic application processing, the application would undergo **manual** processing by the ETIAS Central Unit and ETIAS National Unit(s).

Examples of data requested:

- Personal data
- Travel document (passport or equivalent document)
- Member State of intended first entry
- background questions relating to public health risks, criminal records, previous refusals of entry/an order to leave the territory of a Member State
- If the application is submitted by a person other than of the applicant, identity of the person or company that he or she represents.

Response to applicants

- valid travel authorisation
- Validity 5 years
(or until the expiry date of the travel document).
- response to most of the applicants within minutes

- justification of the refusal
- information on the national authority processing and deciding on the application
- the decision has to be taken within two weeks
- In case of refusal, applicants always have the right to appeal

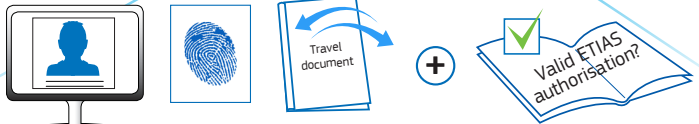
Check by carriers prior to boarding

(for people travelling by air, land and sea)
Valid travel authorisation?

- Ok to travel
- No boarding authorised

Schengen area border crossing point

EES



Border final guard's decision

- Ok to enter
- Refusal of entry

At land borders there could be a possibility to introduce an ETIAS application request at an application kiosk.

REVOCATION OR ANNULMENT OF ETIAS TRAVEL AUTHORISATION

OR



An ETIAS travel authorisation will be revoked **when the conditions for issuing the travel authorisation are no longer met**, particularly when there are serious grounds for believing that the travel authorisation was fraudulently obtained.

The revocation will also apply if:



- for a refusal of entry
- or a reported lost or stolen travel document.

ETIAS
Central
Unit

will verify if this alert corresponds to a valid travel authorisation.

If this is the case, the Member State having created the alert will be responsible for the revocation of the travel authorisation.

A revocation or annulment is done by the authorities of the Member State in possession of the evidence leading to the revocation or annulment or by the ETIAS National Unit of the Member State of first entry as declared by the applicant.

ETIAS STRUCTURE:

ETIAS Central Unit

Ensures that data stored in application files and personal data recorded in the ETIAS system are correct and up to date and, where necessary, verifies applications for travel authorisation to remove any ambiguity about the identity of an applicant in cases of a hit obtained during the automated process.

It will also define, evaluate, test and review specific risk indicators of the ETIAS screening rules after consultation of the ETIAS Screening Board and carry out regular audits on the management of applications and the implementation of the ETIAS screening rules, particularly as regards their impact on fundamental rights and especially with regards to privacy and data protection.

ETIAS National Units

Responsible for carrying out the assessment and decisions on travel authorisation applications referred to them from the automatic process, as well as for issuing opinions when consulted on applications by other Member States' ETIAS National Units.

Europol

will establish and manage the ETIAS watchlist and will be consulted by ETIAS National Units in the follow up to a hit with Europol data during the ETIAS automated processing.

eu-LISA

will be responsible for developing and operating the ETIAS information system.

ETIAS Screening Board

Advisory body composed of representatives from each ETIAS National Unit and Europol.

Will be consulted for the definition, evaluation and revision of the risk indicators as well as for the implementation of the ETIAS watchlist.

European Border and Coast Guard Agency

Mandate to ensure the creation and management of an ETIAS Central Unit.







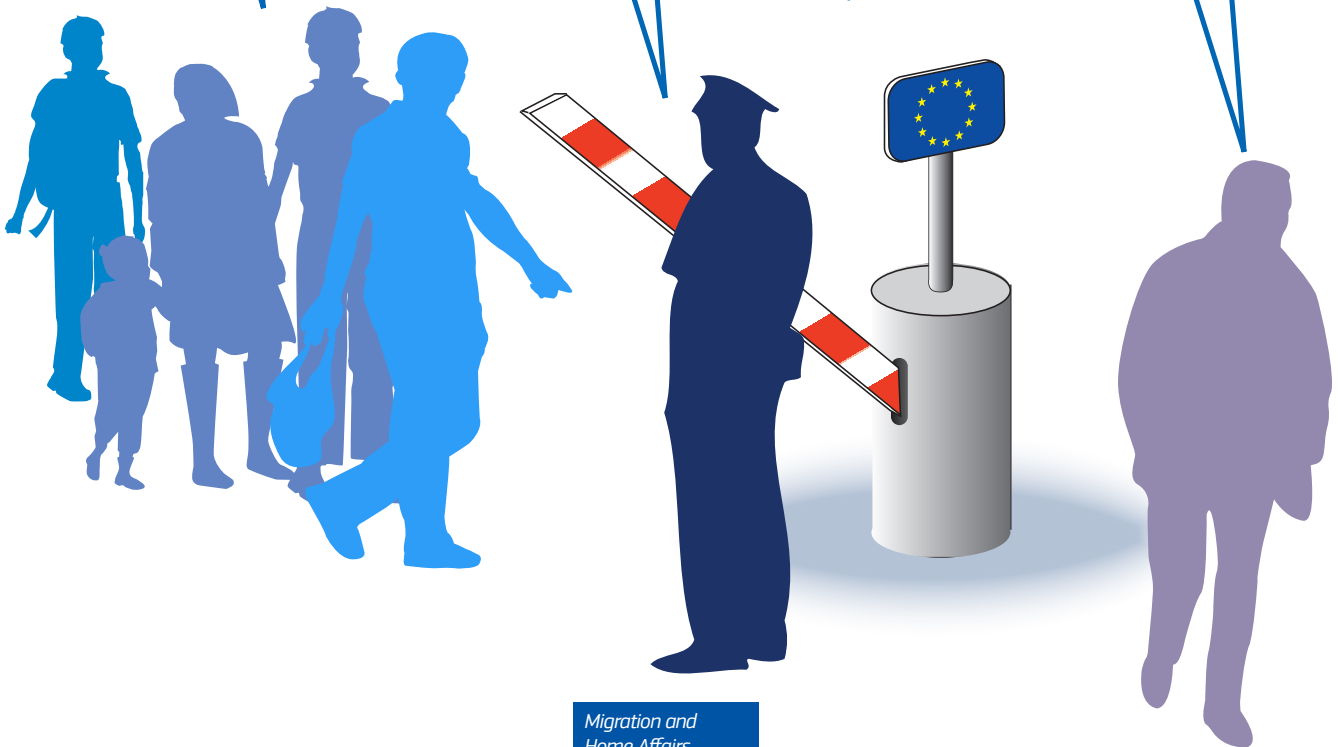
European Commission

Stronger and Smarter Borders for the European Union

The Entry-Exit System

The Commission has proposed the establishment of an Entry-Exit System (EES) to:

-  Contribute to the modernisation of the external border management by improving the quality and efficiency of the external border controls of the Schengen Area
-  Reinforce internal security and the fight against terrorism and serious crime.
-  Help Member States dealing with ever increasing number of travellers to the EU without having to increase the number of border guards
-  Systematically identify over-stayers (individuals remaining in the Schengen Area after the end of their authorised stay)



Migration and Home Affairs

ENTRY / EXIT SYSTEM (EES)

How will the system work?

EES will collect:



Identity

EES will record:



Date and place of entry and exit

90 days in any 180 day period

Entry refusals

EES will replace:



passport

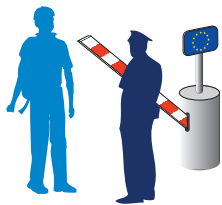
To whom will it apply?

to non-EU nationals, visa-required and visa-exempt travellers in the Schengen area.



Who is using EES data?

The **competent Member State authorities**



Border guards



Consular officers dealing with visas

Who will be able to access data in the EES?

Member States

Law enforcement authorities

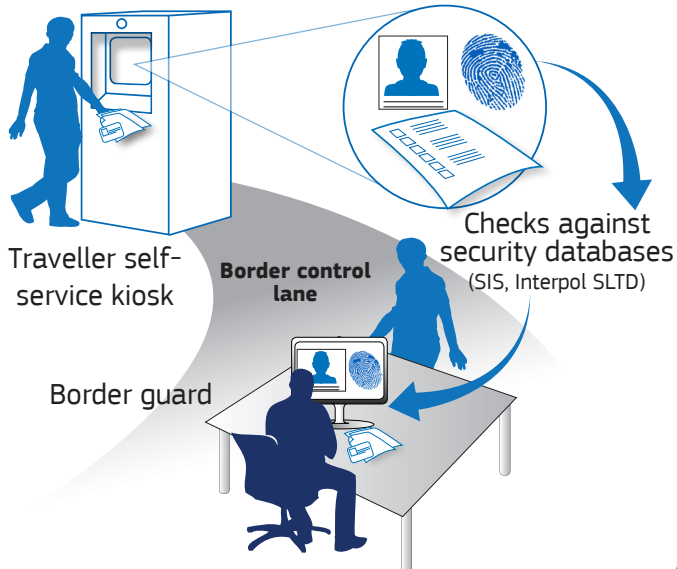
Europol

will have access for criminal identification and criminal intelligence



Border crossing facilitation

for all non-EU nationals



Traveller self-service kiosk

Border control lane

Checks against security databases (SIS, Interpol SLTD)

Border guard

Expected outcomes of EES

It will provide:

- Precise information in a rapid and automated way to border guards during border checks;
- Information to border guards on refusals of entry of non-EU nationals and enable refusals of entry to be checked electronically in the EES;
- Precise information to travellers on the maximum length of their authorised stay;
- Precise information on who is overstaying their authorised stay;
- Evidence-based support to visa policy.

As regards access for law enforcement purposes, the expected impact of the EES will be:

- Support the identification of terrorists, criminals as well as of suspects and victims of crime;
- Provide a record of travel histories of non-EU nationals including crime suspects, perpetrators or victims of crime. It would thus complement the information in the SIS.

