



A REINFORCED EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD

November 2019

Europe needs to be able to effectively manage its external borders and provide a high level of security within the Union. This is why President Juncker proposed in his 2018 State of the Union Address to further reinforce the European Border and Coast Guard to give it the right level of ambition to respond to the common challenges Europe is facing in managing migration and borders. With this proposal now adopted by both the European Parliament and the Council, the Agency will soon have the necessary resources and capabilities to support Member States on the ground – constantly and reliably.



WHAT IS NEW?



A 10,000-STRONG STANDING CORPS

The new standing corps of 10,000 border guards – to be rolled out gradually – will ensure sufficient resources for the Agency.



OWN EQUIPMENT

The Agency will acquire its own equipment, such as vessels, planes and vehicles, available to be deployed at all times.



EXPANDED TASKS AND POWERS

The standing corps will be able to carry out executive tasks such as identity checks and authorising or refusing entry – only under the authority and control of the host Member State.



ANTENNA OFFICES

Temporary antenna offices can be set up in EU Member States and third countries to support operational activities of the European Border and Coast Guard.



MORE SUPPORT ON RETURN

The Agency will support Member States in return procedures, including in collecting information necessary for issuing return decisions and identifying non-EU nationals who have no right to stay, acquiring travel documents from non-EU countries, as well as by organising and financing return operations.



COOPERATION WITH NON-EU COUNTRIES

The Agency will be able to launch joint operations and deploy border guards to countries outside the EU and beyond the neighbouring countries.

A NEW STANDING CORPS OF 10,000 BORDER GUARDS

? WHY 10,000?

The 10,000 standing corps was carefully designed – including its size and composition – to be able to address Member States' current and future needs.

It is weighted on:

Additional tasks
of the Agency;

Previous staff and
equipment gaps;

Experience from
the migration crisis.



WHEN?

The new standing corps will be ready to be deployed starting from 2021, gradually reaching its full capacity of 10,000 border guards.



HOW?

All operations of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency will take place under the command and control of the host Member State. The teams deployed from the European Border and Coast Guard standing corps will carry out their duties and tasks in accordance with instructions of team leaders from the host country.



Stronger European Border and Coast Guard will NOT:

- ✗ Diminish national sovereignty
- ✗ Take over Member States' responsibility to protect borders
- ✗ Replace national border guards
- ✗ Unilaterally launch operations at Member States' borders



DID YOU NOW?



During the migration crisis the European Border and Coast Guard had to **increase its deployments** across Europe 5 times.



EU operations at sea, including operations coordinated by the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, contributed to **saving almost 760,000** lives since 2015.



All the **costs** arising from the deployment of the standing corps will **be covered by the Agency**.



Standing corps will be able to intervene only following a **request by a Member State**.



The 10,000 border guards will represent only **8.7%** of the total **115,000 Member States operational staff** in charge of border management across the EU.