**SECURING THE EU’S EXTERNAL BORDERS**

The effective protection of the EU’s external borders is crucial to manage migration and ensure internal security. It is also a prerequisite to maintain a Schengen area without controls at internal borders. In response to heavily increased migratory and security challenges the Commission is proposing to significantly strengthen funding to secure the EU’s external borders.

### A MAJOR INCREASE IN FUNDING

The EU budget for the management of external borders will be increased significantly, reaching more than **€21.3 billion**, compared to **€5.6 billion** for the period 2014-2020.

The Commission proposes to create a new Integrated Border Management Fund worth **€9.3 billion** and to allocate more than **€12 billion** for the decentralised agencies supporting Member States protecting the borders: the European Border and Coast Guard and EU-LISA.

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<th>EU BUDGET FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EXTERNAL BORDERS</th>
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<td><strong>EU BUDGET 2014-2020</strong></td>
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<td><strong>EU BUDGET 2021-2027</strong></td>
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Continued and strengthened focus on stronger borders: Priority areas include: help Member States to buy equipment, including for deployment to the EBCGA, support for new IT systems, actions against migrant smugglers and traffickers, support for search and rescue missions, capacity building for swift operational support when needed.

Supporting Member States: €4.8 billion in long-term funding to support Member States border and visa policy. Each Member State will receive a fixed sum of €5 million with the remainder distributed based on the workload, pressure and threat level at external land borders (30%), external sea borders (35%), airports (20%) and consular offices (15%);

A flexible and fast response: €3.2 billion reserved for EU-level projects and swift and flexible support in urgent cases

Strengthening the EU’s visa policy: support the modernisation of the EU’s visa policy, including with new IT systems

Better customs controls equipment: €1.3 billion for new state-of-the-art equipment, for example: scanners, automated number plate detection systems

Source: European Commission
A STRONG EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD AGENCY TO PROTECT OUR EXTERNAL BORDERS

In addition to the funding presented today, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency will benefit from a significant share of the €12 billion allocated to the agencies supporting Member States in the management and protection of the external border.

This will allow for the creation of a standing corps of around 10,000 border guards.

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BUILT-IN FLEXIBILITY TO Respond TO REAL-TIME NEEDS

Flexibility in built in the design of the Instrument for Border Management and Visa:

€3.2 billion - New thematic facility: Under the thematic facility, funding will be provided periodically to Member States to support EU-level action and to respond to urgent needs.

€0.8 billion - Mid-term allocation to national programmes: Instead of allocating all funding at the beginning in 2021, 10% of the total fund will be made available to Member States in 2024, based on updated statistical Eurostat data.

This allows for quick responses to unforeseen challenges and crisis situations.

WHAT IS NEW IN THE COMMISSION PROPOSALS?

A new Integrated Border Management Fund will help guarantee a high level of security in the EU by ensuring strong and effective border management, while safeguarding the free movement of persons. It will reinforce support to Member States in securing the EU’s common external borders—which we have a shared responsibility to protect. It will also help Member States carrying out customs controls by financing customs control equipment.

The reinforced Asylum and Migration Fund will help Member States manage migration flows more efficiently. It will support efforts to counter irregular migration and to ensure the effective return and readmission of irregular migrants to their home countries.

These efforts need to be complemented by a strong and fully operational European Border and Coast Guard Agency at the core of a fully integrated EU border-management system. The Commission proposes to create a standing corps of around 10,000 border guards and to provide financial and operational support and training for Member States where gaps exist.

To facilitate and improve the functioning of the Common European Asylum system, the Asylum and Migration fund will complement and reinforce the activities of the new European Union Agency for Asylum. The Agency’s role is to help ensure that individual asylum cases are dealt with in a coherent way by all Member States. The Agency will also provide assistance needed to Member States subject to particular pressures with temporary support and assistance to repair or rebuild asylum and reception capacities.

While the Asylum and Migration Fund will support the social integration of migrants and asylum seekers, the medium and long-term integration of non-EU nationals and people with refugee status will be supported through the European Social Fund+ and the European Regional Development Fund.

Partnership and cooperation with third countries is an essential component of the European Union’s migration and asylum policy, and actions financed under the external policy instruments will play a complementary role in addressing the root causes of migration in non-EU countries.

European Border and Coast Guard Agency officers

Current situation pool of 1,500 national border guards activated for rapid border interventions

Commission proposal for new standing corps of around 10,000 border guards

Source: European Commission