In the last year, the EU has undertaken an unprecedented mobilisation of the EU budget of over €10 billion in 2015 and 2016 to address the refugee crisis and assist the countries most affected.

This includes:

- **€640 million** to support relocation.
- A total of **€327 million** in emergency assistance allocated to EU Member States so far.
- **€148 million** was awarded in emergency assistance to Greece, including an **€80 million** programme to help build reception capacity to house migrants and refugees in Greece via the UNHCR and **€21 million** via the International Organisation for Migration (IOM).
- **€20 million** to Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to make a practical difference by increasing operational capacity in migration management. This comes on top of the almost **€22 million** allocated for humanitarian aid to the Western Balkans.
The European Commission has proposed a new instrument to provide emergency assistance within European Union Member States in response to major crises, including helping Member States cope with large numbers of refugees.

- EU emergency support to complement and supplement Member States' humanitarian response inside the EU
- Examples: provision of food, shelter and other basic necessities
- Funding of €700 million between 2016 and 2018
- Implementation via partner organisations such as UN agencies, NGOs, international organisations or specialised services of the Member States

**EU CIVIL PROTECTION MECHANISM**

The EU Civil Protection Mechanism can be activated by a Member State if it feels overwhelmed by a crisis. The Mechanism can mobilise various types of in-kind assistance, including modules (teams and equipment), shelter, medical supplies and other non-food items, as well as expertise. Participating States provide the assistance, and the Commission can co-finance the transport of relief items and experts to the country in question.

Activated since September 2015 by Croatia, Greece, Slovenia and Serbia
15 EU Member States have made offers: Austria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Romania, Slovakia, Spain and the United Kingdom.

780,000 individual items have been provided

**PROPOSAL FOR A EUROPEAN ASSISTANCE INSTRUMENT**

The European Commission has proposed a new instrument to provide emergency assistance within European Union Member States in response to major crises, including helping Member States cope with large numbers of refugees.