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<td>EU-Turkey Statement (07/12/2017)</td>
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<td>Relocation: EU Solidarity Between Member States (15/11/2017)</td>
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<td>Resettlement: Ensuring Safe and Legal Access to Protection for Refugees (15/11/2017)</td>
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<td>Relocation - Sharing Responsibility (27/09/2017)</td>
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<td>Toward an Efficient and Credible EU Return Policy (27/09/2017)</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>The Updated Schengen Rules (27/09/2017)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relocation and Resettlement (06/09/2017)</td>
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<td>Central Mediterranean Route: Commission Action Plan to Support Italy and Stem Migration Flows (04/07/2017)</td>
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MANAGING MIGRATION
EU Financial Support to Greece
December 2017

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

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

*Information as of July 2017

All numbers in this factsheet have been rounded up or down.
Long-term funding to Greece (allocations) 2014 - 2020

**AMIF**

ASYLUM, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION FUND (AMIF)

€322.8m

**ISF**

INTERNAL SECURITY FUND (ISF)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISF - Borders</th>
<th>ISF - Police</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>€214.9m</td>
<td>€23.3m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Funding for emergency relocation mechanism

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

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

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

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

Emergency Funding (allocated)

- **€139.1m**
  - AMIF Emergency Assistance directly allocated to Greek authorities

- **€55.8m**
  - ISF Emergency Assistance directly allocated to Greek authorities

**€190.4m**

Emergency Assistance allocated to International Organisations/Union Agencies (IOM, UNHCR, EASO)

Source: AMIF and ISF
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Award Decision taken</th>
<th>EU contribution</th>
<th>Title of the action</th>
<th>Responsible Entity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMIF</td>
<td>22/12/2017</td>
<td>€7m</td>
<td>Immediate response to the refugee-migrant crisis by providing shelter, accommodation, catering and transportation in the mainland and in the Easter Aegean Islands.</td>
<td>Ministry of Defence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMIF</td>
<td>30/11/2017</td>
<td>€7.25m</td>
<td>Ensuring and enhancing access to a fair and efficient Asylum Process in Greece</td>
<td>Ministry of Migration Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>27/07/2016</td>
<td>€0.44m</td>
<td>Construction works of the sewer system and water supply network in Samos</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>27/07/2016</td>
<td>€7.2m</td>
<td>Emergency assistance for the effective management of immigration flows in the Greek territory</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>19/07/2016</td>
<td>€10.1m</td>
<td>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)</td>
<td>Ministry of Defence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMIF</td>
<td>19/07/2016</td>
<td>€52.2m</td>
<td>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)</td>
<td>Ministry of Defence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMIF</td>
<td>19/07/2016</td>
<td>€24.18m</td>
<td>Comprehensive emergency health response to refugee crisis</td>
<td>Ministry of Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMIF</td>
<td>17/05/2016</td>
<td>€2.1m</td>
<td>Ensuring a fair and efficient Asylum Process, including in the context of the implementation of the EU-Turkey agreement</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>17/05/2016</td>
<td>€3.06m</td>
<td>Upgrading the existing IT-system of the Hellenic Police for the registration process of third-country nationals</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>17/05/2016</td>
<td>€7m</td>
<td>Provisional services to third-country nationals and operational support to the Hellenic Police services at the external borders</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>18/03/2016</td>
<td>€6.6m</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>Ministry of Defence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMIF</td>
<td>18/03/2016</td>
<td>€23.9m</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>Ministry of Defence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund</td>
<td>Award Decision taken</td>
<td>EU contribution</td>
<td>Title of the action</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>03/03/2016</td>
<td>€3.24m</td>
<td>Enhancement of human resources in First Reception Centres</td>
<td>First Reception Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>08/02/2016</td>
<td>€12.76m</td>
<td>Provision of prefabricated shelter houses for the hosting of third country nationals</td>
<td>Ministry of Infrastructure, Transport and Networks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>08/12/2015</td>
<td>€3.27m</td>
<td>Immediate enhancement of the response to the public health challenge</td>
<td>Ministry of Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>05/11/2015</td>
<td>€0.68m</td>
<td>Reinforcement of the Orestiada Police Directorate with police personnel</td>
<td>Hellenic Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>05/11/2015</td>
<td>€2.54m</td>
<td>Return of third countries nationals to their country of origin</td>
<td>Hellenic Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMIF</td>
<td>16/10/2015</td>
<td>€5.99m</td>
<td>Transportation, Accomodation, Alimentation of TCNs in need of international protection and/or potential asylum seekers to mainland</td>
<td>General Secretary for Co-Ordination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>01/10/2015</td>
<td>€0.39m</td>
<td>Administrative reinforcement of First Reception Service</td>
<td>First Reception Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>01/10/2015</td>
<td>€1.1m</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>Hellenic Coast Guard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>01/10/2015</td>
<td>€4.03m</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>First Reception Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>01/10/2015</td>
<td>€2.36m</td>
<td>Reinforcement of the Eastern Aegean Police Agencies</td>
<td>Hellenic Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>01/10/2015</td>
<td>€2.89m</td>
<td>Emergency assistance covering unexpected maintenance and repair costs related to the intense use of HCG maritime assets as well as Search &amp; Rescue and medical Equipment in view of ensuring a high level domain awareness of the severely affected Eastern Aegean EU external borders and to minimize the losses of human lives at sea</td>
<td>Hellenic Coast Guard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>17/06/2015</td>
<td>€0.69m</td>
<td>Emergency assistance in support of the organisation, provision of legal information and interpretation for the effective management of immigration flows in the Eastern External Borders</td>
<td>First Reception Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>17/06/2015</td>
<td>€0.48m</td>
<td>Emergency assistance for the procurement of Search &amp; Rescue Equipment to avert losses of migrants’ life at sea</td>
<td>Hellenic Coast Guard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>17/06/2015</td>
<td>€2.20m</td>
<td>Emergency assistance covering staff related costs in order to ensure a high level domain awareness of the severely affected Eastern Aegean EU external borders and to minimize the losses of human lives at sea</td>
<td>Hellenic Coast Guard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMIF</td>
<td>20/01/2015</td>
<td>€1.18m</td>
<td>Support the operation of the Greek Asylum Service, especially the provision of mobile asylum units on 4 border islands.</td>
<td>Asylum Service</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Allocated Funds for International Organisations/ Union Agencies (IOM, UNHCR, EASO)

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

### Greece - Indirect management

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

[12]
Emergency support instrument - Total amount of emergency support allocated so far: €401 million

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Award Decision taken</th>
<th>EU contribution</th>
<th>Main activities</th>
<th>Responsible Entity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ESI</td>
<td>16/03/2016</td>
<td>€17m</td>
<td>Basic health care, food parcels, water, sanitation and hygiene, psychosocial support, winterisation and cash-based assistance</td>
<td>IFRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESI</td>
<td>16/03/2016</td>
<td>€10.2 m</td>
<td>Primary health care, referrals for specialised medical care, psychosocial support for migrants and refugees</td>
<td>Médecins Du Monde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESI</td>
<td>01/04/2016</td>
<td>€62m</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>UNHCR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESI</td>
<td>01/04/2016</td>
<td>€14.7m</td>
<td>Food distributions, site management support, shelter, protection, water, sanitation and hygiene assistance</td>
<td>Danish Refugee Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESI</td>
<td>01/04/2016</td>
<td>€19.23m</td>
<td>Protection, psychosocial support, safe spaces for women, safe learning and healing spaces for children, water, sanitation/hygiene and food assistance, cash-based assistance</td>
<td>Internatio-nal Rescue Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESI</td>
<td>01/04/2016</td>
<td>€13.25m</td>
<td>Water, sanitation and hygiene, food, protection, winterisation of shelters, psycho-social support and counselling</td>
<td>OXFAM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESI</td>
<td>16/04/2016</td>
<td>€9.18m</td>
<td>Child friendly spaces, non-formal education classes, psycho-social support and nutrition with special focus on unaccompanied minors</td>
<td>Save the Children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESI</td>
<td>01/06/2016</td>
<td>€9.3m</td>
<td>Shelter, health- and psycho social support, non- food items, child friendly spaces, legal support and interpretation services</td>
<td>Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESI</td>
<td>01/08/2016</td>
<td>€11m</td>
<td>Food aid, non-formal education, shelter assistance via an urban rental scheme</td>
<td>Norwegian Refugee Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESI</td>
<td>01/08/2016</td>
<td>€3.5m</td>
<td>Provision of assistance to extremely vulnerable refugees in the urban areas of Athens and Thessaloniki</td>
<td>CARE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESI</td>
<td>01/08/2016</td>
<td>€31.8m</td>
<td>Transportation of children from and to schools, construction of new sites and rehabilitation of existing centres</td>
<td>IOM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESI</td>
<td>01/08/2016</td>
<td>€3m</td>
<td>Rehabilitation and upgrades of sites in the islands of Chios and Lesvos</td>
<td>UNHCR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESI</td>
<td>01/09/2016</td>
<td>€7.15m</td>
<td>Multi-purpose cash grants</td>
<td>Mercy Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund</td>
<td>Award Decision taken</td>
<td>EU contribution</td>
<td>Main activities</td>
<td>Responsible Entity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESI</td>
<td>15/09/2016</td>
<td>€4.7m</td>
<td>Non-formal education assistance and comprehensive protection assistance for vulnerable children, including unaccompanied minors</td>
<td>Terre des Hommes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESI</td>
<td>01/11/2016</td>
<td>€8.5m</td>
<td>Child protection services particularly targeting unaccompanied minors</td>
<td>UNICEF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESI</td>
<td>01/04/2017</td>
<td>€57.65m</td>
<td>Multi-purpose cash grants</td>
<td>UNHCR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESI</td>
<td>01/04/2017</td>
<td>€18.5m</td>
<td>Campsite management in 13 refugee campsites</td>
<td>Danish Refugee Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESI</td>
<td>01/05/2017</td>
<td>€6m</td>
<td>Basic health care, psycho-social support, preparedness</td>
<td>IFRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESI</td>
<td>01/06/2017</td>
<td>€0.9m</td>
<td>Mental health services for refugees in urban settings</td>
<td>Médecins Du Monde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESI</td>
<td>01/07/2017</td>
<td>€93.5m</td>
<td>Rental scheme: financing of accommodation for refugees in apartments</td>
<td>UNHCR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Over the past 20 years, the European Union has put in place some of the highest common asylum standards in the world. And in the past two years, European migration policy has advanced in leaps and bounds with the European Agenda on Migration proposed by the Juncker Commission in May 2015. Progressively, a more united approach to dealing with migration is emerging. But there is still work to be done to build up a coherent and comprehensive way of both reaping the benefits and addressing the challenges deriving from migration in the long term.

**EUROPE: THE CONTINENT OF SOLIDARITY**

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

Europe is the first responder. In 2016 alone, the EU granted asylum to and resettled over 720,000 refugees – three times as much as Australia, Canada and United States combined.
Irregular border crossings 2012-2017

MIGRATION: THE CHALLENGE OF A GENERATION

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

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

### In 2018

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

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

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

#### BY MAY
- ✓ Reach political agreement between the European Parliament and the Council on the **Reception Conditions Directive** and the **Union Resettlement Framework**;
- ✓ Obtain a negotiating mandate on the **Asylum Procedures Regulation** in the European Parliament and the Council;
- ✓ Reach an agreement on the **right balance between responsibility and solidarity** at the meeting of the EU Leaders in Sofia and swiftly translate it into a negotiating mandate for the Council on the **Dublin Regulation**;
- ✓ Adopt first wave of projects under the **European Sustainable Development Fund**;
- ✓ Launch the first **pilot projects for coordinating legal economic migration** offers for key partners countries;
- ✓ Increase the **number of returned migrants** in operations organised in cooperation with the European Border and Coast Guard Agency by at least 20% compared to the same period of 2017;
- ✓ Agree on **readmission agreements or operational arrangements** with three further partner countries.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>BY JUNE</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓ Reach political agreement in the June European Council on the overall reform of the Common European Asylum System;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Reach political agreement between the European Parliament and the Council on the &quot;Blue Card&quot; Directive;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Further increase the number of returned migrants in operations organised in cooperation with the European Border and Coast Guard Agency by 50% compared to the same period of 2017.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>BY OCTOBER</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓ Implement 50% of the resettlement pledges for at least 50,000 people in need of protection.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>In 2019</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>BY MAY</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓ Implement the remaining 50% of the resettlement pledges for at least 50,000 people in need of protection.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

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

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal presented</th>
<th>European Parliament</th>
<th>Council of the European Union</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Negotiating mandate agreed</td>
<td>Negotiating mandate agreed</td>
<td>Negotiating mandate agreed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposal to be presented</td>
<td>Negotiating mandate to be agreed</td>
<td>Negotiating mandate to be agreed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Progress to Date on the Main Legislative Files, According to Their Status

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>External investment plan/ European Fund for Sustainable Development</td>
<td>The co-legislators were able to come to a swift political agreement in June for this proposal, less than a year after the Commission presented it in September 2016. Its aim is to use EU funds to leverage private investment into the realm of development in Africa and other parts of the EU’s neighbourhood.</td>
<td>September 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Travel Information and Authorisation System</td>
<td>This proposal will create an automated system for pre-travel security and irregular migration screening of visa-exempt non-EU nationals. This will ensure that Member States have better information about non-EU travellers coming to Europe.</td>
<td>November 2016, October 2017, June 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establishment, operation and use of the Schengen Information System for: • police cooperation and judicial cooperation in criminal matters • border checks • the return of illegally staying third country nationals</td>
<td>The Commission put forward proposals to revise the Schengen Information System in December 2016, notably with the aim of improving border and migration management.</td>
<td>December 2016, November 2017, November 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agency for the operational management of large-scale IT systems in the area of freedom, security and justice (eu-LISA)</td>
<td>This proposal reviews the Regulation establishing the eu-LISA Agency and strengthens its mandate to make sure it meets current challenges at EU level in the area of freedom, security and justice. In particular, the Agency will now be responsible for the development and roll-out of the technical solutions to achieve the interoperability of the EU information systems.</td>
<td>June 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revision of the rules for temporary reintroduction of border control at internal borders</td>
<td>This proposal - which aims at making the rules on the temporary reintroduction of border controls better suited to current and future challenges - was presented by the Commission in September 2017.</td>
<td>September 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The EU needs a robust and effective system for sustainable migration management for the future. The weaknesses in the design and implementation of the current EU asylum system have led to differing treatment of asylum seekers and varying recognition rates across the EU. These divergences encourage secondary movements and abuse of the rules. The procedures are also too complex and lengthy and the system overall leads to disproportionate pressure being put onto the Member States of first entry.

**WHAT THE NEW RULES WILL MEAN IN PRACTICE**

**1. NO MORE SECONDARY MOVEMENTS**

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

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

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

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

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

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

**3. EFFICIENT AND FAIR PROCEDURES**

Shorter time limits to accept or reject an asylum application.

When asylum claims are manifestly unfounded or persons come from safe countries of origin, examinations should be completed within 2 months.
**WHAT REMAINS TO BE DONE BY THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE MEMBER STATES?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Reform of the Dublin system – presented by the Commission in May 2016</td>
<td>Creating a fairer, more efficient and more sustainable system for allocating asylum applications among Member States. Whilst the European Parliament has adopted a mandate to start negotiations on the Dublin reform, the Council has yet to approve their negotiating mandate for trilogues to start. At the June 2018 European Council, EU leaders should reach a political agreement on the reform of the Common European Asylum System. This should translate swiftly into a negotiating mandate for the Council in order to finalise negotiations with the European Parliament by the end of 2018.</td>
<td>May 2016, November 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 A new Receptions Conditions Directive – presented by the Commission in July 2016</td>
<td>Harmonising reception conditions throughout the EU. With co-legislators having adopted negotiating mandates, trilogues should start with the aim to reach a political agreement by May 2018.</td>
<td>July 2016, May 2017, November 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 A new Qualification Regulation – presented by the Commission in July 2016</td>
<td>Harmonising protection standards in the EU and putting an end to secondary movements and asylum shopping. Co-legislators should continue ongoing trilogues with the aim to reach a political agreement by end of March 2018.</td>
<td>July 2016, July 2017, July 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 A reinforced EURODAC system – presented by the Commission in May 2016</td>
<td>Adapting and reinforcing the Eurodac system to facilitate returns and help tackle irregular migration. Trilogues are ongoing. Co-legislators to ensure adoption by March 2018.</td>
<td>May 2016, June 2017, June 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 A European Union Agency for Asylum – presented by the Commission in May 2016</td>
<td>Establishing a fully-fledged European Union Agency for Asylum with an enhanced mandate and considerably expanded tasks, including the ability to deploy asylum support teams and provide operational and technical assistance. Preliminary agreement reached between the co-legislators, work at technical level is still required. The proposal should be adopted by March 2018.</td>
<td>May 2016, December 2016, December 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Union resettlement framework</td>
<td>Providing for a permanent framework with a unified procedure for resettlement across the EU. A political agreement between the European Parliament and the Council should be reached by May 2018.</td>
<td>July 2016, October 2017, November 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The European Border and Coast Guard Agency, agreed in a record time upon the Commission’s proposal, was established in October 2016 to ensure that Europe can better protect its common external borders and is equipped to face any new migration and security challenges. Building on the foundations of Frontex, the new Agency is a powerful tool that supports Member States in their responsibility to control external borders with around 1,400 border guards, complementing the existing national capacities of Member States of over 100,000 border and coast guards. An additional pool of 1,500 border guards is on standby ready to be deployed immediately if an emergency situation at any of the EU’s external borders arises. The Agency’s operations on land and at sea have helped to better manage migration and secure the EU’s external borders, saving hundreds of thousands of lives in the Mediterranean.

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

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

ESTIMATED DEPLOYMENT GAPS IN JANUARY 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Officers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Over 1,400 Officers Across the EU
CURRENT EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD DEPLOYMENTS:

Over 1,400 officers across the EU
- 79 officers in Spain
- 91 officers in the Western Balkans
- 742 officers in Greece
- 322 officers in Italy
- 137 officers in Bulgaria

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

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

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

TOWARDS FULL OPERATIONALISATION

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

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

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

Rapid Reaction Pool

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBER STATES</th>
<th>REQUIRED CONTRIBUTION</th>
<th>STILL MISSING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>X8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iceland*</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>X2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rapid Reaction Equipment Pool

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE OF EQUIPMENT</th>
<th>STILL MISSING (ASSETS - MONTH)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Car</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aircraft</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ship</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14 Member States Contributing:

- Austria
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Iceland
- Italy

Total: 1,500 206
EU funding to meet the increased migratory challenges for the period 2015-2018 has more than doubled to €22bn from the original allocation of €9.6 billion.

Planned funding inside the EU:
- AMIF (Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund), ISF (Internal Security Fund) and Emergency Support Instrument: €8.2bn
- Emergency funding: €1.8bn
- Long-term measures: €6.4bn
- Support to agencies and their operations: €1.4bn
- TOTAL: €9.6bn

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

1 No conditionality can be attached to needs-based humanitarian aid, in line with the Humanitarian Principles
2 Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI) estimate of funds for migration from 2015-2018
3 Without contributions to FRIT and conference pledges channelled via Madad
4 Of which €820 million in humanitarian aid. The €1.6bn reflects the actual implementation for 2015 and 2016 and estimates for 2017 and 2018
5 €2.3bn comes from the European Development Fund, amount for 2015-2020
6 Of which €310 million in humanitarian aid
Over the past years, the European Union has provided significant financial and practical support for its Member States to tackle immediate challenges, better manage migration and protect the EU’s external borders. The EU has worked closer together operationally, financially and politically, with support being offered to Member States through the EU budget, the deployment of manpower and equipment and through the EU relocation scheme.

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

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

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

**CURRENT EU AGENCY DEPLOYMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Greece</th>
<th>Italy</th>
<th>Bulgaria</th>
<th>Spain</th>
<th>Western Balkans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FRONTEX</td>
<td>742 officers</td>
<td>322 officers</td>
<td>137 officers</td>
<td>79 officers</td>
<td>91 officers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EASO</td>
<td>344 officers</td>
<td>216 officers</td>
<td>27 officers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europol</td>
<td>15 officers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MIGRATION: SOLIDARITY WITHIN THE EU

THE COMMISSION’S CONTRIBUTION TO THE LEADERS’ AGENDA

#FutureofEurope #EURoad2Sibiu
Two years on, the EU relocation scheme has proven to be a success, helping refugees start a new life and ensuring that responsibility is being better shared amongst Member States.

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

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

**EU FUNDING FOR MEMBER STATES**

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

Within the EU, financial support to Member States is allocated under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) and the Internal Security Fund (ISF), as long-term and emergency funding.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
<th>AMIF ALLOCATION</th>
<th>ISF ALLOCATION</th>
<th>TOTAL AMIF + ISF ALLOCATIONS</th>
<th>AMIF EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE</th>
<th>ISF EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE</th>
<th>AMIF AND ISF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AUSTRIA</td>
<td>€93.3m</td>
<td>€28.2m</td>
<td>€121.5m</td>
<td>€20.8m</td>
<td>€59.3m</td>
<td>€121.5m</td>
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<tr>
<td>BELGIUM</td>
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<td>€41.7m</td>
<td>€183.4m</td>
<td>€5m</td>
<td>€17m</td>
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<tr>
<td>BULGARIA</td>
<td>€19.4m</td>
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<td>€138.3m</td>
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<td>€57.4m</td>
<td>€83.7m</td>
<td>€12.4m</td>
<td>€64m</td>
<td>€28.8m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CYPRUS</td>
<td>€38.4m</td>
<td>€43.8m</td>
<td>€82.2m</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>€41.8m</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLOVENIA</td>
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<td>SPAIN</td>
<td>€400m</td>
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<td>€669.7m</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SWEDEN</td>
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<td>€242.6m</td>
<td>€5.5m</td>
<td></td>
<td>€168.4m</td>
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<tr>
<td>SWITZERLAND</td>
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<td>€18.9m</td>
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<td></td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNITED KINGDOM</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>UNHCR</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IOM</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EASO</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EUROPOL</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>€3,855.1m</td>
<td>€2,331.5m</td>
<td>€6,186.6m</td>
<td>€616.6m</td>
<td>€275.6m</td>
<td>€2,313.7m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Figures have been rounded up or down where appropriate.
² The Emergency Assistance awarded to France under the Internal Security Fund consists of Emergency Assistance for ISF – Borders and Visa (€1,731,180.35) and Emergency Assistance for ISF – Police (€699,870).
Managing migration effectively has been a priority for the Juncker Commission from the start. Europe is a continent of solidarity and should keep legal pathways open for people in need of international protection. Offering legal pathways will also prevent migrants and refugees from having to resort to smuggling and trafficking networks and making perilous irregular journeys to reach Europe.

**RESETTLEMENT – A SUCCESS STORY**

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

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

**THE WAY FORWARD**

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

By February 2018: Member States to submit pledges for at least 50,000 resettlements.

By October 2018: Member States to ensure that 50% are effectively resettled.

By May 2019: Member States should complete the remainder of the resettlements.

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

A permanent Union Resettlement Framework was proposed by the Commission in July 2016 in order to coordinate European efforts in the long term and set up a unified procedure and common criteria. Once adopted, the EU resettlement framework will replace the current ad hoc resettlement and humanitarian admission schemes.
SAFE PASSAGE TO PROTECTION – RESETTLEMENT TO THE EU IN 2018

PLEDGES RECEIVED UNDER THE NEW RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMME SO FAR:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member State</th>
<th>Pledges made so far</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>1,670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>10,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member State</th>
<th>Pledges made so far</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malta</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>1,010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovakia</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>2,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>8,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>7,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL 39,758

LEGAL ECONOMIC MIGRATION: EXAMPLES OF INITIATIVES

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

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

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

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

• By May 2018: Member States should launch the first pilot projects for coordinating legal economic migration offers for key partners countries.
The European Union introduced the Partnership Framework on Migration in June 2016, fully embedding migration in the EU’s foreign policy. The Partnership Framework combines all EU policies and instruments with the aim to save lives, break the business model of smugglers, prevent irregular migration and enhance cooperation on returns and readmission, as well as to address the root causes of migration, improve opportunities in countries of origin, step up investments in partner countries and ensure legal pathways to Europe for those in need of international protection. The framework provides a tailor-made and pragmatic approach combining both short and long-term measures, taking into account the specificities of each country and region, as well as the special interests of our partners. The EU started implementing this framework with a number of priority countries of origin and transit – Mali, Nigeria, Niger, Senegal and Ethiopia. A year into the implementation, the approach has delivered concrete results, and is also being applied with countries in North and West Africa, as well as in Asia.

WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED SO FAR?

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

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

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

**Working with partner countries** has delivered concrete results, and is also being applied with countries in North and West Africa, as well as in Asia. The origins of asylum seekers and transit—Mali, Nigeria, Niger, Senegal and Ethiopia—have created strong interests of our partners. The EU started implementing this framework with a number of priority countries of origin, step up investments in partner countries and ensure legal pathways to Europe for those in need of protection. The framework provides a tailor-made and pragmatic approach combining both short-term and long-term measures, taking into account the specificities of each country and region, as well as the special challenges that international protection helps address.

**What has been achieved so far?**

- **Efforts.** So far, 19 Member States have pledged 39,758 places under the new scheme.
- **Funding.** With an input of €4.1 billion from the EU budget and the European Development Fund, the External Investment Plan will mobilise up to €44 billion of investments. If Member States and other partners match the EU’s contribution, the total amount could reach €88 billion.
- **Indicative funding.** The resources allocated to the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa amount to approximately €3.2 billion, with over €2.9 billion from EU Funds and €371.9 million from EU Member States and other partners. Its reach has been expanded to include Guinea, Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana.

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

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

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

**Funding**

- With an input of €4.1 billion from the EU budget and the European Development Fund, the External Investment Plan will mobilise up to €44 billion of investments. If Member States and other partners match the EU’s contribution, the total amount could reach €88 billion.
- The resources allocated to the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa amount to approximately €3.2 billion, with over €2.9 billion from EU Funds and €371.9 million from EU Member States and other partners. Its reach has been expanded to include Guinea, Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana.

**Next steps**

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

- Additional funding needs to be ensured for the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa, in particular the North Africa window. It is necessary that the funding gap of €340 million, of which €110 million are for immediate needs, is closed.
- EU Member States need to deliver on the remaining 10,242 resettlement pledges under the new programme by February 2018.
- Negotiations on readmission agreements or practical arrangements with countries of origin need to continue.
- All components of the EU’s External Investment Plan need to be implemented rapidly.
THE EU’S KEY PARTNERSHIP WITH AFRICA
THE COMMISSION’S CONTRIBUTION TO THE LEADERS’ AGENDA
#FutureofEurope #EURoad2Sibiu

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

AU-EU SUMMIT, CÔTE D’IVOIRE, 29-30 NOVEMBER 2017
The EU and Africa further strengthened their long standing partnership at the 5th African Union – European Union Summit, in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire. African and European leaders adopted a political declaration setting out their joint commitment to invest in youth for a sustainable future. Concretely, they committed to focusing their work on four strategic priorities:

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

PARTNERS ON FOOD SECURITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

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

SUSTAINABLE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY FINANCE (SUNREF)

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

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

LAKE VICTORIA WATER AND SANITATION INITIATIVE (WATSAN)

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

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

PARTNERS IN TRADE AND INVESTMENT TO CREATE JOBS

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

EU EXTERNAL INVESTMENT PLAN

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

- €4.1 billion from the EU budget
- €44 billion from External Investment Plan
- Total: €88 billion if the Member States and partners match the EU’s contribution
Africa has the youngest population in the world: 41% under 15 years, 60% under 25 years. The EU is supporting their education and vocational training with €1.34 billion in funding (2014-2020).

Over 8 million children have been enrolled in primary education and over 160,000 on secondary education as a result of EU programmes (2013-2014).

53,000 people in Africa have benefitted from education and vocational training, skills development and other active labour market programmes with EU support between 2014 and 2016.

15,400 teachers have been trained thanks to EU support (2015-2016).

Most migration takes place inside Africa: around 16 million African migrants are living in Africa, while 9 million are living in the EU.

In 2015, €21 billion of remittances from African expatriates in the EU were sent to Africa, representing over a third of all global remittances.

More than 8 million trips (business and leisure) are made by Europeans to Africa each year.

The common priority of the EU and Africa is to save lives, fight traffickers, create legal pathways to Europe and create economic opportunities for people on the ground.

To address root causes through long-term development, the EU and its Member States together provide €20 billion a year in Official Development Assistance to Africa.

At the AU-EU Summit in Abidjan (29-30 November 2017), European and African leaders addressed the migration situation in Libya, and committed to step up their joint work to ensure the protection of migrants and refugees.

A joint Task Force was set up by the European Union, the African Union and the United Nations to save and protect lives of migrants and refugees along the routes and in particular inside Libya.
• The EU has supported 14 Peace Support Operations in 18 different countries in Africa.

• The EU has helped to significantly reduce piracy around the Horn of Africa through its military mission EUNAVFOR ATALANTA.

• The EU missions in Africa have trained 30,000 military, police and judiciary personnel.

• 192,120 persons directly benefited from EU-supported programmes for civilian post-conflict peace building and conflict prevention (between 2013 and 2014).

• The EU is the leading supporter of the efforts of the G5 Sahel countries to improve security and cross-border cooperation in the region, with commitments totalling €50 million.

• So far, the EU has provided more than €1.3 billion to AMISOM, the African Union mission in Somalia, making it the main contributor.

PARTNERS TO STRENGTHEN GOVERNANCE AND RULE OF LAW

• 129 EU election observation missions and election expert missions have been deployed in Africa since 2000. In the last two years, there have been seven EU election observation missions in The Gambia, Kenya, Liberia, Gabon, Zambia, Ghana and Uganda as well as one election experts mission in Somalia.

• 2,930 human rights defenders received EU support from 2013–2014.

• The EU holds annual human rights dialogues with many African partners, discussing joint efforts to boost good governance and the rule of law.

EU military and civilian missions and operations in Africa

- EU CAP Somalia
- EU CAP Sahel Mali
- EU CAP Sahel Niger
- EUNAVFOR Atalanta
- EUTM Somalia
- EUTM Mali
- EUTM Central African Republic
The EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa was created in November 2015 to fund projects addressing the root causes of instability, forced displacement and irregular migration. It is composed by three windows: the North Africa window, the Sahel and Lake Chad window and the Horn of Africa window.

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

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

**PROJECTS APPROVED AND DISBURSEMENTS**

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

*rounded figures

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

The North Africa window of the EU-Africa Trust Fund has supported 15 contracts for an amount of €132.3 million. In 2017, programmes funded through the EU Trust Fund North Africa window have contributed to assist more than 14,000 vulnerable migrants to voluntarily return from Libya to their countries of origin, where they were provided with sustainable reintegration support. During the same period, medical assistance has been provided by the International Organisation for Migration to more than 6,000 vulnerable migrants stranded at disembarkation points and together with the UNHCR support has been given to more than 3,000 Libyan displaced families. Both organisations provided medical help and direct assistance to more than 20,000 migrants inside and outside detention centres.
To ensure the sustainability of actions already undertaken and launch new important projects the North Africa window needs additional funds. A funding gap of €340 million has been identified, of which €110 million are for immediate needs. The October European Council has asked Member States to ensure sufficient funding by the December European Council.

**PLEDGES AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE AFRICA TRUST FUND**

(In €, as of 04 December 2017)

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

1Including other EU financial instruments such as the European Development Fund
The EU is active in Libya and along the Central Mediterranean route to prevent migrants and refugees from embarking on dangerous journeys to and from Libya, put an end to the trafficking and smuggling business and above all protect migrants and refugees in line with international law. This is part of our broader engagement along the Central Mediterranean route, starting from West Africa, where we fight root causes of migration and strive to prevent people from falling into the hands of criminal networks. All our actions are conducted in partnership with UN agencies and international partners active on the ground.

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

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

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

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**BILATERAL ASSISTANCE**

EU assistance to Libyan people is focused on restoring effective governance and improving socio-economic conditions. Close to €120 million in bilateral support is in place with 37 projects across six sectors: civil society; governance; health; youth and education; migration and protection; and support to the political process, security and mediation. EU support is provided mainly through the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) and the Instrument Contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP).

**HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT**

The EU has humanitarian funding worth almost €30 million in place aimed at helping the most vulnerable conflict-affected Libyans, mainly internally displaced people, through humanitarian organisations, especially in terms of access to emergency health services and essential medicines. As with all the EU’s humanitarian aid, funding will only be provided to humanitarian organisations and is strictly monitored.
So far, the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa has contributed to the voluntary repatriation of more than 14,000 vulnerable migrants through the IOM, supported with reintegration assistance to their countries of origin. The EU will support the acceleration of the International Organisation for Migration’s programme for assisted voluntary returns from Libya to countries of origin, funding an additional 15,000 returns by February 2018. As a measure to raise awareness about the dangers of embarking in perilous journeys, information will be disseminated directly among Libyans and migrants, reaching out to up to 23,500 people.

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

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

**EU ACTIONS ON MIGRATION**

**SAVING LIVES AT SEA AND IN THE DESERT**

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

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

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

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

**PROTECTING AND HELPING MIGRANTS INSIDE LIBYA**

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

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

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

Further, Stabilisation Programmes in place focus on facilitating access to basic services to host communities and employment opportunities for both the local population and for migrants, thus creating alternatives to smuggling.
In September 2017, the Commission launched a new resettlement scheme for at least 50,000 vulnerable refugees, with a focus on North Africa and the Horn of Africa, notably Libya, Egypt, Niger, Sudan, Chad and Ethiopia, whilst ensuring continued resettlement from Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon. The new scheme is also supporting the UNHCR in establishing an emergency evacuation mechanism from Libya – with the first evacuation of 25 refugees from Tripoli having taken place on 11 November.

ENSURING EFFECTIVE LEGAL PATHWAYS TO EUROPE

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

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

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

1) Protection and assistance for all those in need in Libya, with a particular focus on migrants and refugees – to be implemented by the IOM, UNHCR and UNICEF.

2) Stabilisation, aiming at supporting socio-economic development at municipal level and local governance, in order to better integrate migrants, internally displaced persons and returnees and stabilise host communities. It will also ensure that at least 50,000 children have access to education supplies. This action is implemented by UNDP, GIZ, IOM and UNICEF.
On 18 March 2016, EU Heads of State or Government and Turkey agreed on the EU–Turkey Statement to end irregular migration flows from Turkey to the EU, ensure improved reception conditions for refugees in Turkey and open up organised, safe and legal channels to Europe for Syrian refugees. Since then, irregular arrivals have dropped by 97%, while the number of lives lost at sea has decreased substantially. The EU has supported Turkey in its efforts to host refugees and is well on track to contract the €3 billion from its Facility for Refugees in Turkey by the end of 2017. Successful implementation requires continuous efforts and commitment from both the EU and Turkey.

**THE EU-TURKEY STATEMENT IN ACTION**

**A GAME CHANGER**

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

**ARRIVALS ON THE ISLANDS IN 2015**

- **October 2015**: Daily average 6,360 arrivals
- **December 2015**: Daily average 3,221 arrivals

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

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

Arrivals - sea border
Resettlement: EU solidarity with Syrian refugees

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

Continued support to Greece

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

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

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

More progress on returns to Turkey needed

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

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

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

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

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

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

*information as of August 2017

All numbers in this factsheet have been rounded up or down.
Long-term funding to Italy (allocations) 2014 - 2020

ASYLUM, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION FUND (AMIF)

€381.5m

INTERNAL SECURITY FUND (ISF)

ISF - Borders
€188.3m

ISF - Police
€64.5m

Funding for emergency relocation mechanism

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

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

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

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

Emergency Funding

€89.7m

AMIF Emergency Assistance directly allocated to Italian authorities

€99.4m

ISF Emergency Assistance directly allocated to Italian authorities

€0.95m

Emergency Assistance allocated to International Organisations/Union Agencies (IOM, UNHCR, EASO)
Source: AMIF and ISF
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Award Decision taken</th>
<th>EU contribution</th>
<th>Title of the action</th>
<th>Responsible Entity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMIF</td>
<td>24/11/2017</td>
<td>€2.3m</td>
<td>Acquisition of units and vehicles of rescue and medical principals - health - HEALTH 2</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>24/11/2017</td>
<td>€4.9m</td>
<td>Intervention to improve the monitoring of migration flows and fight crimes related to the trafficking of human beings during the surveillance of external borders - FALCO</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>24/11/2017</td>
<td>€13.1m</td>
<td>Overtime retribution to the staff of Police involved in activities related to the management of migration flow - POLSTAFF 2</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>24/11/2017</td>
<td>€5.8m</td>
<td>Deployment of a naval unit and embarked helicopters - PATROL 2</td>
<td>Navy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>24/11/2017</td>
<td>€3.2m</td>
<td>Enhancement of the air-naval system for the control of the borders and surveillance of migration flow - AIRNAV</td>
<td>Financial Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>24/11/2017</td>
<td>€0.04m</td>
<td>Purchase of portable metal detectors - MED</td>
<td>Financial Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>24/11/2017</td>
<td>€0.1m</td>
<td>Purchase of explosive substance detectors - DETEX</td>
<td>Financial Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>24/11/2017</td>
<td>€0.5m</td>
<td>Interpretation service and tools to extract devise's information for immigration risks on terrorism - ISTIRT</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>24/11/2017</td>
<td>€2.7m</td>
<td>Acquisition of equipment and devices for border surveillance and Search and rescue - SARMED</td>
<td>Coast Guard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>24/11/2017</td>
<td>€2.5m</td>
<td>Implementation of a specific operational framework for border surveillance and to safeguard human life at sea - S.A.5</td>
<td>Coast Guard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>24/11/2017</td>
<td>€4.7m</td>
<td>Linguistic and intercultural mediation for emergency action - III STEP</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>12/06/2017</td>
<td>€1.8m</td>
<td>Assessment of the Libyan Coast Guard legal framework and capability in terms of Search and Rescue Services.</td>
<td>Coast Guard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMIF</td>
<td>02/06/2017</td>
<td>€58.2m</td>
<td>BORNER - Boost reception services for migrants in North-East temporary centres.</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMIF</td>
<td>02/05/2017</td>
<td>€15.3m</td>
<td>Reception services for migrants eligible for relocation - (REC4REL).</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund</td>
<td>Award Decision taken</td>
<td>EU contribution</td>
<td>Title of the action</td>
<td>Responsible Entity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>09/03/2017</td>
<td>€12.3m</td>
<td>Implementation of a specific operational framework for border surveillance and to safeguard human life at sea.</td>
<td>Coast Guard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>22/12/2016</td>
<td>€0.7m</td>
<td>Acquisition of equipment, devices and services for border surveillance and Search and Rescue.</td>
<td>Coast Guard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>22/12/2016</td>
<td>€9.5m</td>
<td>Overtime retribution to the staff of the Police involved in activities related to the management of migrations flows.</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>22/12/2016</td>
<td>€11.3m</td>
<td>Improvement of the capacity of border surveillance and rescue of lives at sea.</td>
<td>Ministry of Defence Italian Navy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>22/12/2016</td>
<td>€5.4m</td>
<td>Reactivation of maintenance/repairs for 1 EH 101 helicopter.</td>
<td>Ministry of Defence Italian Navy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>22/12/2016</td>
<td>€2.3m</td>
<td>Linguistic and intercultural mediation for emergency action.</td>
<td>Ministry of Defence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMIF</td>
<td>22/12/2016</td>
<td>€2.5m</td>
<td>PUERI - Pilot Action for UAMs: Early Recovery Interventions.</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>22/12/2016</td>
<td>€0.6m</td>
<td>Instrumental needs assessment to cope with migratory fluctuations and investigations on illegal trafficking connected with them.</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>22/12/2016</td>
<td>€0.2m</td>
<td>Support for standard operating procedures.</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>22/12/2016</td>
<td>€4.6m</td>
<td>Implementation of refitting activity on OPV CP 904 “Fiorillo”.</td>
<td>Coast Guard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>22/12/2016</td>
<td>€0.8m</td>
<td>Acquisition of units and vehicles of rescue and medical principals.</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>27/07/2016</td>
<td>€1m</td>
<td>Acquisition of a high-level insulation mobile unit, stretcher transport isolators with high bio-containment and a kit to deal with infectious agents (PPE) related to healthcare activities in the context of patrolling and surveillance of borders.</td>
<td>Ministry of Defence Italian Navy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>27/07/2016</td>
<td>€2.2m</td>
<td>Implementation of a specific operational framework to safeguard human life at sea.</td>
<td>Coast Guard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>08/02/2016</td>
<td>€0.3m</td>
<td>Purchase of equipment for the fingerprinting needed to properly address the migration crisis.</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>08/02/2016</td>
<td>€0.9m</td>
<td>Linguistic and Intercultural Mediation for Emergency Action.</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund</td>
<td>Award Decision taken</td>
<td>EU contribution</td>
<td>Title of the action</td>
<td>Responsible Entity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>10/07/2015</td>
<td>€4.4m</td>
<td>Linguistic and Intercultural Mediation for Emergency Action.</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>10/07/2015</td>
<td>€0.5m</td>
<td>Search and Rescue Operations IV.</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>20/03/2015</td>
<td>€0.5m</td>
<td>Search and Rescue Operations III.</td>
<td>Ministry of Interior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>16/02/2015</td>
<td>€11.9m</td>
<td>Improve the capacity for dealing with exponentially growing accommodation needs for unaccompanied foreign minors arriving on IT territory, with particular reference to areas most affected by heavy migratory flows.</td>
<td>Ministry of the Interior - Department for Civil Freedoms and Immigration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>23/12/2014</td>
<td>€1.7m</td>
<td>Continuation for another 9 months of Praesidium IX (legal and social counselling by a consortium led by UNHCR and IOM in IT centres of first arrival and reception).</td>
<td>Ministry of the Interior - Department for Civil Freedoms and Immigration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Award Decision taken</th>
<th>EU contribution</th>
<th>Main activities</th>
<th>Responsible Entity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ISF</td>
<td>11/01/2016</td>
<td>€0.9m</td>
<td>Complementary measures in light of the relocation programme from Italy to Member States of relocation.</td>
<td>IOM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Europe has consistently shown generosity and true solidarity towards those in need of protection. Over the past year alone, we have opened our doors to more than 720,000 persons in need of protection. The relocation scheme has contributed to ensuring that responsibility is shared fairly between Member States.

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

**FACTS AND FIGURES:**

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

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

**How many relocations so far?**
Total: 31,503
From Greece: 21,238
From Italy: 10,265

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

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

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

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

By 14 November
Europe has consistently shown solidarity during the migration crisis. Through our resettlement schemes, we enable the most vulnerable refugees in need of protection to reach Europe through legal and safe pathways and prevent them from having to resort to criminal smuggling networks and endanger their lives on dangerous irregular routes.

EU RESETTLEMENT SCHEMES DELIVER CONCRETE RESULTS

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

Through the EU scheme, Member States have agreed to resettle over 22,000 persons in need of international protection during the period 2015-2017. With almost 18,400 - persons mainly from Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon - having been resettled so far, 81% of the agreed target has already been reached. Member States are also successfully resettling Syrian refugees from Turkey under the EU-Turkey Statement of March 2016, having provided protection to over 11,000 Syrians so far. Resettlements from Turkey under the EU-Turkey Statement are also funded by the EU budget.

RESETTLEMENTS TO EU MEMBER STATES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*November 2017

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

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

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

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

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

### The Way Forward

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

### Resettlements under the EU-Turkey Statement from March 2016 – 11,354

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

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

### Resettlements under the 20 July 2015 scheme – 18,366²

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

**TOTAL** 18,366 22,504 81%

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¹ Figures as of 10 November 2017
² A NEW CALL FOR RESETTLEMENT - STEPPING UP JOINT EU EFFORTS

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34,400 PLEDGES FROM 16 MEMBER STATES

---

PLEDGES RECEIVED UNDER THE NEW CALL SO FAR:

### Resettlements under the 20 July 2015 scheme – 18,366²

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member State</th>
<th>resettled</th>
<th>pledged</th>
<th>% complete</th>
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<td>1,100</td>
<td>1,100</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>0%</td>
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<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1,600</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
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<td>Romania</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>519</td>
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<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>2,200</td>
<td>2,200</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL** 18,366 22,504 81%
Central Mediterranean Route: Protecting Migrants and Managing Irregular Flows

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

Saving lives – At Sea and in the Desert

The EU’s first and foremost priority is saving lives. Over 170,000 migrants have been rescued in the Central Mediterranean since 2015 thanks to the efforts of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and Operation Sophia. Additionally, Operation Sophia, the Italian Coastguard and Operation Seahorse started training the Libyan Coast Guard to make sure it can carry out rescue operations in Libyan territorial waters, where the most lives are lost. Through the Common Security and Defence Policy mission in Niger and Mali and the EU Trust Fund for Africa, the EU supports search and rescue missions in the desert: so far over 1,100 migrants have been rescued in the Sahara in Niger this year by Nigerien authorities and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM).
Improving the situation of migrants and refugees along the migratory routes is a top priority for the EU, which is working with the IOM, UNHCR and UNICEF to provide protection, humanitarian assistance, medical support and the possibility for migrants to voluntarily return to their home countries. In Libya, EU support focuses in particular on improving conditions in detention centres and disembarkation points and on establishing a resettlement mechanism to allow people in need of protection to reach Europe through a safe pathway.

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

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

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

Returning those who are not fleeing war or persecution and who do not have the right to stay in the EU, in full respect of fundamental rights, is an essential part of the EU’s migration policy. To increase return rates and improve the cooperation of
While irregular migration must be reduced, safe and legal pathways to Europe through resettlement should become the preferred method of arrival for persons in need of international protection. In September 2017, the Commission launched a new resettlement scheme with at least 50,000 additional places for vulnerable refugees from Turkey, the Middle East and Africa. The new initiative builds on the success of the EU’s ongoing resettlement schemes which are being implemented in cooperation with the UNHCR and through which over 25,700 vulnerable persons have been brought safely to Europe.

ENSURING EFFECTIVE LEGAL PATHWAYS TO EUROPE

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

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

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>21.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guinea</td>
<td>28.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivory Coast</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Commission has set aside €500 million to support Member States’ resettlement efforts in the next two years. So far, 16 Member States have pledged more than 34,400 places under the new scheme.
An effective and humane return policy is an essential part of the EU’s comprehensive approach to better managing migration and reducing the incentives for irregular migration. Whilst Europe will continue to show generosity and solidarity towards those genuinely in need of protection, returning those who are not fleeing war or persecution and who do not have the right to stay in the EU, in full respect of fundamental rights, is equally important for a well-functioning asylum system. It will also send a strong signal against undertaking dangerous irregular journeys to the EU in the first place.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, State of the Union Address, 13 September 2017
TOWARDS A MORE EFFICIENT EUROPEAN RETURN SYSTEM

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

EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD AGENCY: A REINFORCED RETURN DEPARTMENT

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

EU MEMBER STATES: RESOLUTE ACTION AT NATIONAL LEVEL

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

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

COOPERATION WITH THIRD COUNTRIES: MOBILISING INCENTIVES AND LEVERAGES

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nationality</th>
<th>First half of 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Ivory Coast</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Schengen area without internal borders is only sustainable if the external borders are effectively secured and protected. To address the new challenges and political realities faced by the EU, with regards to both migration and internal security, the Commission proposed in December 2015 to establish a European Border and Coast Guard. The Agency was agreed in record time and launched on 6 October 2016. Over a year later, intensive work is ongoing to ensure the full roll-out of the Agency, which is currently assisting Member States with around 1,500 border guards providing support at different sections of the EU external border, complementing the existing national capacities of Member States of over 100,000 border guards. Whereas continued progress has been made towards the full roll-out of the Agency, significant gaps remain in terms of human resources and equipment. The Agency needs to further step up its efforts in becoming a focal point of return operations with Member States making full use of its capabilities in the field.

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

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

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

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

ROADMAP TO A FULLY OPERATIONAL EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD:

**IMPORTANT STEPS COMPLETED:**

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

**NEXT STEPS:**

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

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

UNION STANDARDS FOR BORDER MANAGEMENT

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

A RESERVE OF EUROPEAN BORDER GUARDS AND TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT

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

PREVENTION OF CROSS-BORDER CRIME

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

A STRONGER ROLE IN RETURNS

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

WORKING WITH AND IN THIRD COUNTRIES

Under its new mandate, the European Border and Coast Guard is allowed to carry out operations on the territory of neighbouring third countries, subject to prior agreement. Negotiations towards the completion of the status agreements are currently ongoing with Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. On 16 October 2017, the Council gave the green light to the Commission to negotiate similar agreements with Albania, Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina.
In September 2015, based on a proposal by the Commission, Member States decided to set up an Emergency Relocation System to support Italy and Greece who were faced with an unprecedented increase in arrivals. Two years on, almost all persons registered for relocation in Greece and Italy have been successfully relocated – a total of over 29,000 persons in need of international protection. The results achieved so far show that relocation works – helping refugees start a new life and ensuring that responsibility is shared amongst Member States.

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FACTS AND FIGURES:

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

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

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

How many relocations so far?
Total: 29,144
From Greece: 20,066
From Italy: 9,078

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

All have to contribute
Setting up the relocation mechanism was decided by Member States in legally binding Council decisions. Almost all Member States have respected their legal obligations with regular pledges and relocations. The Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland are the only exceptions and the Commission has therefore launched infringement procedures against them.
An effective and humane return policy is an essential part of the EU’s comprehensive approach to better managing migration and reducing the incentives for irregular migration. Whilst Europe will continue to show generosity and solidarity towards those genuinely in need of protection, returning those who are not fleeing war or persecution and who do not have the right to stay in the EU, in full respect of fundamental rights, is equally important for a well-functioning asylum system. It will also send a strong signal against undertaking dangerous irregular journeys to the EU in the first place.

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

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

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

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

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

The EU remains confronted with unsatisfactory return rates due to inefficient enforcement of existing instruments at EU and national level and a common readmission policy which does not fully deliver.
Member States and the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, with the support of the Commission, need to significantly step up their efforts to deliver on return.

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

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

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

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

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

COOPERATION WITH THIRD COUNTRIES: MOBILISING INCENTIVES AND LEVERAGES

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

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

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<th>Year</th>
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<td>2016</td>
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**ASYLUM RECOGNITION RATES OF TOP 5 NATIONALITIES ARRIVING TO EUROPE VIA THE CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Setting up private sponsorship schemes: Member States are encouraged to establish private sponsorship schemes to allow private groups or civil society organisations to organise and finance the resettlement and integration of persons in need of protection in line with national legislation.

To that effect the Commission invites EASO to coordinate a pilot project on private sponsorship schemes with interested Member States.

A permanent EU Resettlement Framework to coordinate European efforts in the long term: In July 2016 the Commission proposed to create an EU Resettlement Framework with a unified procedure and common criteria. Once adopted, the EU Resettlement Framework will replace the current ad hoc resettlement and humanitarian admission schemes.
Better managing legal channels for skilled migrants as part of a structured EU policy on labour mobility will help us turn irregular flows into needs-based economic migration for non-EU workers, complementing upskilling and employment efforts in the existing work force. It also helps facilitate cooperation on issues such as prevention of irregular migration and readmission and return.

**WHY A NEW EU BLUE CARD?**

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

**BLUE CARD PERMITS ISSUED 2013 - 2016**

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<th>Year</th>
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<td>12,964</td>
<td>12,964</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>13,869</td>
<td>13,869</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>17,104</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>20,979</td>
<td>20,979</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Eurostat

**EXPLORING NEW TOOLS**

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

**INVOLVING THE PRIVATE SECTOR**

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

**PILOT PROJECTS WITH PARTNER COUNTRIES**

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

**CRACKING DOWN ON ILLEGAL EMPLOYMENT OF MIGRANTS**

In line with the Employers Sanction Directive, all Member States prohibit the employment of irregular migrants and impose financial, administrative or criminal sanctions on those employers who break these rules. But in order to significantly reduce the pull factor of illegal work, Member States need to fully implement EU law and, in particular, increase the number of labour inspections to high-risk economic sectors. The Commission will report annually on the implementation of the directive and launch infringement procedures where necessary.
The Commission is proposing targeted updates to the Schengen Borders Code concerning the rules for temporary reintroduction of internal border controls under Article 25. The updates will adjust the rules to the current need to respond to evolving and persistent serious threats to public policy or internal security. At the same time, stronger procedural safeguards will be introduced to ensure that internal border controls remain an exception – a measure of last resort – and are used only if necessary and proportionate to address the threat and with a limited impact on free movement.

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

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

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

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

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

**A new obligation to provide a detailed risk assessment**
- The risk assessment must:
  - demonstrate that the reintroduction of border controls is a measure of last resort;
  - assess the expected length of the threat to internal security or public order;
  - identify which borders are affected and why;
  - explain how internal border control could address the threat.

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

**A NEW ARTICLE 27A - Specific procedure where the serious threat to public policy or internal security exceeds one year**
Exceptionally, where the Member State is confronted with the same serious threat to the public policy or internal security beyond 1 year and where commensurate national measures are taken within the territory to address this threat (for example the introduction of a state of emergency), the internal temporary border controls may be further prolonged for a maximum length of 2 years. This additional prolongation will be subject to a new special procedure involving a Recommendation of the Council, based on an opinion by the Commission.

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

**ARTICLES 26 AND ARTICLES 28 TO 35 REMAIN UNCHANGED**

**ARTICLE 28 – Temporary controls when immediate action is required**
The rules for temporary reintroductions of internal border controls for cases requiring immediate action under Article 28 remain unchanged.
- The reintroduction is for an initial period of 10 days.
- This can be renewed for additional periods of 20 days, up to a maximum of 2 months in total.

**ARTICLE 29 – Temporary controls in case of serious deficiencies in the management of the external borders**
Article 29 of the Schengen Borders Code will continue to offer the only possibility to prolong border controls at internal borders in case of serious deficiencies in the management of the external borders by a Member State as demonstrated by a Schengen Evaluation.
Under the emergency relocation scheme, adopted by the Council in September 2015, asylum seekers with a high chance of having their applications successfully processed are relocated from Greece and Italy, where they have arrived, to other Member States where they will have their asylum applications processed. If these applications are successful, the applicants will be granted refugee status with the right to reside in the Member State to which they are relocated. The EU budget provides financial support to the participating Member States. The tables below present the latest state of play of the implementation of the scheme.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member States</th>
<th>Relocated from Italy</th>
<th>Relocated from Greece</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Member States</th>
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<td>8,451</td>
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</table>
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.

22 518 people have been resettled under both schemes so far (based on information made available by Member States and Associated Countries as of 4 September 2017).
With the situation becoming ever more pressing along the Central Mediterranean Route, the Commission is today setting out a series of measures to be taken by the Commission, Italy and other EU Member States. Building on the solid work of the past two years to save lives at sea and manage the increasing numbers of arrivals along the Central Mediterranean Route, all actors now need to accelerate their efforts in line with the increasing urgency of the situation.

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

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

2017 FACTS

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

5 KEY AREAS OF ACTION

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

**Fighting trafficking in Libya:**
- assisted returns from Libya and Niger to countries of origin, financed by the EU
- engagement with Niger and Mali to prevent movements to Libya
- opening legal pathways from Libya and Niger to the European Union
Cooperating with partner countries:
- concluding readmission agreements with countries of origin and transit
- using positive and negative leverages, like visa policy, to encourage cooperation

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

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

ALL ACTORS NEED TO PITCH IN:

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

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

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

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

SAVING LIVES

In 2015, 2016 and 2017 EU operations contributed to:

- over 520,000 lives saved
- over 2,100 suspected traffickers and smugglers apprehended
- 387 vessels removed

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

TACKLING THE ROOT CAUSES OF MIGRATION

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

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

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

**PROTECTING OUR BORDERS**

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

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

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

- **740 officers** in Greece
- **152 officers** in Bulgaria
- **272 officers** in Italy
- **Around 100 officers** in the Western Balkans
Opening safe and legal pathways is key to both ensuring that persons in need of protection do not have to resort to criminal networks and to effectively break smugglers’ cruel business model. In July 2015, Member States agreed to resettle over 22,000 persons in need of international protection from outside the EU to the EU Member States. In addition, for every Syrian readmitted by Turkey from the Greek islands, another Syrian is being resettled from Turkey to the EU.

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

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

ONE REFUGEE’S STORY

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

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

SHOWING SOLIDARITY AT HOME...

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

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

FACILITY FOR REFUGEES IN TURKEY

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

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

EU SYRIA TRUST FUND

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

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

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

FUNDING FOR AFRICA

€2.55 BILLION EU TRUST FUND FOR AFRICA

Traditional development assistance alone cannot meet the challenge of achieving sustainable development. It must be complemented by other tools, in order to make best use of and leverage scarce public funds. The European Fund for Sustainable Development is expected to trigger additional public and private investment volumes. With an input of €4.1 billion, the EU will mobilise total investments of up to €44 billion, or even €88 billion in Member States contribute, too.
A European Agenda on Migration
State of Play: March 2017

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Measures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27 May 2015</td>
<td>Triple the capacities and assets for the Frontex joint operations Triton and Poseidon in 2015 and 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Additional €60 million in EU emergency funding for frontline Member States</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Additional €30 million for EU Regional Development and Protection Programmes (RDPPs) starting from North Africa and the Horn of Africa in 2015/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Relocation Scheme to relocate 40,000 people from Italy and Greece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Resettlement Scheme to resettle over 20,000 people from outside the EU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Guidelines for the Member States on the implementation of EU rules on the obligation to take fingerprints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hotspot approach in Italy and Greece with deployment of Migration Management Support Teams</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EU Action Plan against migrant smuggling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Establishment of pilot multi-purpose centre in Niger in cooperation with IOM and UNHCR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 June 2015</td>
<td>EUNAVFOR Med Operation Sophia is launched to disrupt the business model of smuggling and trafficking networks in the Southern Central Mediterranean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 September 2015</td>
<td>Relocation Scheme to relocate 120,000 people from Italy, Greece and other Member States directly affected</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A European list of safe countries of origin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>An EU Action plan on return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€1.8 billion from EU budget/EDF for Trust Fund for Africa, additional €82 million pledged from national donors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€500 million from EU budget for Trust Fund for Syria</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 September 2015</td>
<td>Additional €500 million from Member States in humanitarian assistance for UNHCR, World Food Programme and other organisations</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Additional €500 million in EU humanitarian assistance for UNHCR, World Food Programme and other organisations</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 September 2015</td>
<td>Additional €100 million in EU emergency funding for frontline Member States</td>
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<td>€1.3 million to increase staff of EU Agencies Frontex, EASO, Europol</td>
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<td>8 October 2015</td>
<td>Additional €17 million in EU aid for Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 October 2015</td>
<td>Additional €900 million to tackle refugee crisis in EU budget 2016</td>
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<td>15 October 2015</td>
<td>EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 November 2015</td>
<td>Launch of EU’s Emergency Trust Fund for Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 November 2015</td>
<td>Agreement on EU budget for 2016 brings total funding to address the refugee crisis in 2015 and 2016 to close to €10 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 November 2015</td>
<td>A €3 billion Refugee Facility for Turkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 December 2015</td>
<td>Additional €13 million in humanitarian aid for refugees in Western Balkans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 December 2015</td>
<td>European Commission proposes the establishment of a European Border and Coast Guard</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Recommendation for a Voluntary Humanitarian Admission Scheme with Turkey for refugees from Syria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>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</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 December 2015</td>
<td>The EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa launched its first package of actions to address the root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 March 2016</td>
<td>Commission proposes new Emergency Support Instrument for faster crisis response within the EU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 March 2016</td>
<td>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</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>First projects under the Facility for Refugees in Turkey</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 March 2016</td>
<td>Frontex and NATO reached a common understanding on modalities for cooperation in the Aegean Sea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 March 2016</td>
<td>European Commission announces €445 million in humanitarian aid for Syria crisis</td>
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<td>18 March 2016</td>
<td>EU-Turkey Statement to break the business model of smugglers and to offer migrants an alternative to putting their lives at risk</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 March 2016</td>
<td>Commission proposal to make 54,000 places foreseen for relocation available for the purpose of resettling Syrian refugees from Turkey to the EU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 April 2016</td>
<td>European Commission presents a revised proposal for an Entry-Exit System to facilitate and reinforce border check procedures for non-EU nationals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 April 2016</td>
<td>Commission launches first projects under Emergency Support Instrument to improve conditions for refugees in Greece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 April 2016</td>
<td>European Commission proposes new approach to better support displaced people through its external action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 May 2016</td>
<td>European Commission presents first package for reforming the Common European Asylum System (CEAS). Dublin. EURODAC, European Union Agency for Asylum</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>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</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Commission proposes to lift visa requirements for the citizens of Turkey as soon as the Turkish authorities will fulfill the outstanding benchmarks of its Visa Liberalisation Roadmap</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 June 2016</td>
<td>European Commission presents package on legal migration</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>European Commission presents Action Plan on integration</td>
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<td></td>
<td>European Commission presents Migration Partnership Framework for third countries</td>
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### KEY

- **Adopted**
- **Not yet adopted by Member States and/or European Parliament**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>20 June 2016</td>
<td>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</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 June 2016</td>
<td>€200 million allocated from the EU Trust Fund for Syria to support one million refugees in Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 June 2016</td>
<td>European Council endorses Migration Partnership Framework proposed by the Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 June 2016</td>
<td>European Commission proposes draft budget for 2017 with €5.2 billion allocated for measures to reinforce external borders and address migration crisis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 July 2016</td>
<td>European Commission presents second package for reforming the Common European Asylum System (CEAS): Asylum Procedures Regulation, Qualification Regulation, Reception Conditions Directive, EU Resettlement Framework</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 September 2016</td>
<td>Additional €115 million of emergency assistance for refugees in Greece via Emergency Support Instrument, total announced so far: €198 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 September 2016</td>
<td>UN adopts Global Compacts on refugees and migration as supported by the European Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 October 2016</td>
<td>The EU and Afghanistan agree on a «Joint Way Forward on Migration issues» to jointly address the challenges linked to irregular migration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 October 2016</td>
<td>Launch of the European Border and Coast Guard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 October 2016</td>
<td>European Travel Document for Return to facilitate the return of irregularly staying third-country nationals adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 October 2016</td>
<td>€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</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 October 2016</td>
<td>Back to Schengen: Commission recommends extending temporary internal border controls for a limited period of three months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 December 2016</td>
<td>€139 million mobilised from the EU Trust Fund for Syria for refugees and their host communities in Lebanon and for stabilisation needs in Iraq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 December 2016</td>
<td>Back to Dublin: Commission sets out process for gradual resumption of Dublin transfers to Greece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2016</td>
<td>New Member State contributions for the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa. Total resources now amount to €2.55 billion, with €2.4 billion from the Commission and €152 million from national donors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 2017</td>
<td>Progress in making the European Border and Coast Guard fully operational: Mandatory rapid reaction pools for 1500 border guards and equipment and new pools for return intervention teams have been set up and stand ready to be deployed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 January 2017</td>
<td>European Commission proposes additional actions on how to better manage migration along the Central Mediterranean Route</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 January 2017</td>
<td>Back to Schengen: Commission recommends the Council allow Member States to maintain temporary controls for another three months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 2017</td>
<td>Facility for Refugees in Turkey: €270 million contracted for the education of 70,000 Syrian refugee children, €2.2 billion out of the €3 billion foreseen for 2016/17 allocated, €1.46 billion contracted and €750 million disbursed so far.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 February 2017</td>
<td>EU Heads of State or Government agree to a set of actions to address migration flows along the Central Mediterranean Route</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 March 2017</td>
<td>Commission presents new Action Plan on Return and a Recommendation to Member States on the efficient implementation of return procedures</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Saving lives and preventing human tragedies have been and will always be one of the main priorities of the European Union’s work in managing the refugee crisis. To this end, EU Naval Operations in the Mediterranean Sea work to save lives at sea, strengthen border control and disrupt the business model of traffickers and human smugglers. Since 2015, EU operations in the Mediterranean have contributed to saving more than 400,000 people, disabled 303 vessels used by criminal networks and transferred 89 suspected smugglers and traffickers to Italian authorities.

**Border management and saving lives at sea**

**Central and Eastern Mediterranean: Frontex operations Triton and Poseidon**

To reinforce its capacity to save lives at sea, the EU significantly enhanced its maritime presence in 2015, tripling the resources and assets available for Frontex Joint Operations Poseidon and Triton.

**OPERATION POSEIDON** provides Greece with technical assistance with the goal of strengthening its border surveillance, its ability to save lives at sea and its registration and identification capacities. Frontex also assists the Greek authorities in carrying out returns and readmissions. Its operational area covers the Greek sea borders with Turkey and the Greek islands.

**OPERATION TRITON** supports Italy with border control, surveillance and search and rescue in the Central Mediterranean. Its operational area covers the territorial waters of Italy as well as parts of the search and rescue zones of Italy and Malta, stretching 138 nautical miles south of Sicily. On numerous occasions, Frontex vessels and aircrafts have also been redirected by the Italian Coast Guard to assist migrants in distress in areas far away from the operational area of Triton.

**PEOPLE RESCUED BETWEEN JANUARY AND AUGUST 2016 WITH THE INVOLVEMENT OF FRONTEX**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frontex Guest Officers Deployed</th>
<th>Vessels Deployed</th>
<th>Aircraft Deployed</th>
<th>Helicopters Deployed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>667</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EU OPERATIONS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA**
Western Mediterranean: Frontex operations Hera, Indalo and Minerva

The border guard officers, vessels and aircrafts deployed by the agency in Spain assist the Spanish authorities with border surveillance and search and rescue. Experts deployed by Frontex also support with the detection of forged documents, stolen cars and import of illegal substances and excise goods.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1,440</th>
<th>people rescued between July and September 2016 with Frontex assets involved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>105</td>
<td>Frontex guest officers deployed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>vessels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>aircraft</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The European Border and Coast Guard Agency was launched on 6 October 2016, building on the basis of Frontex. The new Agency will have a stronger role in supporting, monitoring and, when necessary, reinforcing national border guards, focusing primarily on early detection and prevention of weaknesses in the management of the EU external borders.

The Agency’s permanent staff will be more than doubled and the Agency will be able to purchase its own equipment. 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. The European Border and Coast Guard will now ensure the implementation of Union standards of border management through periodic risk analysis and mandatory vulnerability assessments. In addition, the Agency will have a mandate to assist neighbouring non-EU countries in handling high migratory pressure.

Monitoring, reconnaissance and surveillance – Frontex cooperation with NATO in the Aegean

NATO effectively contributes to the EU’s efforts to stem illegal trafficking and irregular migration through intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance in the Aegean Sea. NATO maritime forces are deployed in the Aegean Sea to contribute with critical, real-time information to fight smuggling and break the business model of criminal networks. The mission, which was launched in February, includes early warning and surveillance activities and the sharing of operational information with Frontex and with the Greek and Turkish Coast Guards. In March 2016, Frontex and NATO reached a common understanding on the modalities of their cooperation in the Aegean Sea. NATO is considering possible additional support to international efforts in the Mediterranean, in complementarity and cooperation with the European Union.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>31</th>
<th>ships from 8 different nations participated so far</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>hours patrolled by NATO ships in the Aegean</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Disrupting trafficking and smuggling networks – EUNAVFOR Med Operation Sophia

To take urgent action against traffickers and human smugglers in the Central Mediterranean, EU Naval Force Mediterranean Operation Sophia was launched on 22 June 2015 following a decision by the European Council. Its objective is to contribute to the wider EU efforts to disrupt the business model of criminal networks in the Central Mediterranean and thus prevent further loss of life at sea.

The operation’s core mandate is to identify, capture and dispose of vessels and enabling assets used or suspected of being used by migrant smugglers or traffickers. The operation is designed around 4 phases. The first phase, which has been concluded, saw the deployment of forces to build a comprehensive understanding of smuggling activity and methods. Currently the operation is in its second phase, which implies the search, boarding, seizure and diversion of smugglers’ vessels on the high seas under conditions provided for by applicable international law. Future phases, subject to the necessary legal framework established by UN Security Council Resolutions, will include taking operational measures against vessels and related assets suspected of being used by human smugglers or traffickers inside coastal states territory.

All activities undertaken by the operation adhere to and are conducted under full respect of international law, including human rights, humanitarian and refugee law and the principle of non-refoulement.

| Smugglers & Traffickers arrested by Italian authorities following EUNAVFOR Med activities | 89 |
| Vessels removed from criminal organisations’ availability | 303 |
| Migrants rescued | 26,428 |
| Rescue operations | 183 |
| Migrants rescued through EUNAVFOR Med aero-naval support | 38,915 |

On 20 June 2016, the European Council added two supporting tasks to the mandate.

1. Training of Libyan Coastguards and Navy, in order to enhance their capability to disrupt smuggling and trafficking networks in Libya, as well as to perform search and rescue activities to save lives.

2. Contribution to the information sharing and support the implementation of the UN arms embargo on the High Seas off the coast of Libya, on the basis of UNSCR 2292 (2016). This will increase maritime situation awareness and limit arms flows to Da’esh and other terrorist groups.

| Troop contributing nations | 25 |
| Total personnel | 1,771 |
| Naval units | 7 |
| Helicopters | 4 |
| Air assets | 3 |

Factsheet updated on 4 October 2016
In April 2014 Jean-Claude Juncker presented as part of his election campaign a five-point plan on migration, including a call for Europe to show more political determination when it comes to legal migration. The European Agenda on Migration, as presented by the Commission in May 2015 highlighted a new policy on legal migration as one of the four pillars to manage migration better in the long run. A smart management of migration requires not only a firm policy in addressing irregular flows while ensuring the protection of those in need, but also a proactive policy of sustainable, transparent, and accessible legal pathways. Providing safe and legal pathways to Europe for persons in need of international protection through resettlement helps fighting the criminal networks of smugglers and traffickers. Legal migration also makes a valuable contribution to the EU’s economic development in the medium and long term, enabling us to respond to skills shortages and to ensure we have a workforce which is strong enough to maintain the European social model for our aging population. Member States are responsible for deciding how many third country nationals they admit for employment, study and research, while EU rules define common admission conditions, procedures and rights for applicants.

NEW LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

On 13 July 2016 the Commission proposed to establish a common European policy on resettlement to ensure orderly and safe pathways to Europe for persons in need of international protection. While the Member States will remain the ones deciding on how many people will be resettled each year, collectively the EU will achieve a greater impact by coordinating national efforts and acting as a whole.

The Commission will provide €10,000 from the EU budget for each person resettled. The EU Resettlement Framework will contribute to the implementation of the new Migration Partnership Framework for cooperation with key third countries of origin and transit presented on 7 June. The priorities of the Migration Partnership Framework are saving lives at sea, increasing returns, enabling migrants and refugees to stay closer to home and, in the long term, helping third countries’ development in order to address root causes of irregular migration.

The EU will also support the establishment of a UN-led global resettlement scheme to contribute to fair sharing of displaced persons and further discourage irregular movements – the EU Resettlement Framework is a direct demonstration of the EU’s commitment to ensure safe pathways to Europe.

Resettlement is the transfer of non-EU national or stateless persons, who have been identified as in need of international protection, to an EU state where they are admitted either on humanitarian grounds or with the status of refugee.

NEW BLUE CARD SCHEME

On 7 June 2016 the Commission presented the proposal to reform the EU Blue Card scheme for highly skilled workers from outside the EU. The proposal 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 CHANGES PROPOSED

- a truly EU-wide scheme
- facilitated intra-EU mobility
- lower salary threshold
- extension to highly skilled beneficiaries of international protection
- improved rights
The Commission adopted on 7 of June 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 Member States’ actions and policies on integration and in fostering cooperation between all relevant actors.

**EU ACTION PLAN ON INTEGRATION**

**KEY AREAS OF ACTION**
- pre-departure and pre-arrival measures
- education
- employment and vocational training
- access to basic services
- active participation and social inclusion

**MAIN EXISTING LEGISLATION AND INITIATIVES**

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

**STUDENTS & RESEARCHERS DIRECTIVE**

The Directive regulates admission conditions, procedures, and rights for young and talented third-country nationals.

Who can apply?*
- students
- researchers
- trainees and volunteers covered by the European Voluntary Service

*Member States may extend the scope of the Directive to all volunteers, to school pupils under exchange schemes and to au pairs.

**INTRA-CORPORATE TRANSFERREES DIRECTIVE**

The Directive makes it easier and quicker for multinational companies based outside the EU to temporarily assign highly skilled employees to subsidiaries situated in the EU through a fast-track entry procedure and a combined work and residence permit. It also facilitates their intra-EU mobility.

Member States will need to report on the number of permits issued starting in 2017.

**SEASONAL WORKERS DIRECTIVE**

The Directive sets out rules for the entry and stay and on the rights of seasonal workers from third countries in a Member State for a maximum period of between 5 and 9 months over any 12 month period.

Member States will need to report on the number of permits issued to seasonal workers starting in 2017.

**LONG-TERM RESIDENTS DIRECTIVE**

The Directive allows Member States to grant long-term resident status to third-country nationals, including beneficiaries of international protection, who have resided legally and continuously in a Member State for 5 years and who fulfil a set of other conditions - such as stable and regular resources.

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The Directive allows Member States to grant long-term resident status to third-country nationals, including beneficiaries of international protection, who have resided legally and continuously in a Member State for 5 years and who fulfil a set of other conditions - such as stable and regular resources.
The Directive regulates admission conditions, procedures, and residence rights for family members of third-country nationals residing in an EU Member State.

Who can benefit from family reunification: spouse, under-age children and the children of the spouse. EU States may also authorise reunification with an unmarried partner, adult dependent children, or dependent older relatives.

Single application procedure and a single permit combining work and residence for third country workers. It provides for a set of common rights to be granted (e.g. equal treatment with nationals as regards working conditions, access to certain social security benefits).

Who can benefit: Third country workers living in an EU Member state, or applying for work and residence there. Other third country nationals admitted for other purposes (e.g. family reunification) but who have the right to work.

Third countries wishing to cooperate with the EU to:
- organise legal migration
- foster well-managed mobility
- prevent and combat irregular migration
- eradicate trafficking in human beings
- maximise the development impact of migration and mobility and promote international protection

Mobility Partnerships have been signed so far with the following countries: Cape Verde, Moldova, Georgia, Armenia, Morocco, Azerbaijan, and Tunisia.

This framework defines how the EU conducts its policy dialogues and cooperation with non-EU countries, based on clearly defined priorities and embedded in the EU’s overall external action, including development cooperation.
EUROPEAN UNION

The EU pays tribute to the outstanding efforts Jordan has made and is continuing to make since the onset 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 €6.6 billion from the EU and Member States collectively mobilised in humanitarian and development assistance. This support goes both to Syrians still inside their country, as well as 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 657,433 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 more than €752.3 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
- €171 million from the European Neighbourhood Instrument
- more than €32 million from the Instrument contributing to Peace and Stability.
- €118.3 million adopted by the Boards of the Madad Regional Trust Fund to address longer-term resilience needs of Syrian refugees and support Jordan’s 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 more than €500 million in regular programmed bilateral cooperation for Jordan under the European Neighbourhood Policy, which brings the overall amount to over €1.25 billion since 2011.

Updated: 15. August 2016
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, urban settings and to asylum seeker at the border. 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 51.5% of the refugees are children and 25.1% women.

With 78.5 % of the refugees in Jordan living in urban settings, the EU 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 €30 million from the EU 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 Dinars 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.

In 2016, the €53 Millions of EU humanitarian funding is supporting the emergency needs of the more than ~70,000 refugees stranded along the North-Eastern border. working with international organisations such as WFP’s for food distribution, UNICEF for education and water provision, ICRC for health and UNHCR for registration of new arrivals. Next to these interventions, ECHO is pursuing its support in favour of the most vulnerable (refugees and most vulnerable Jordanian) funding projects in several sectors like protection, health, winterization and basic needs ECHO si also responding to the need of the refugees that were admitted lately in Jordan, ensuring their basic assistance and shelter in the Azraq 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 basic need, food aid, health, water, sanitation and hygiene, shelter, protection and education in emergency

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. With pledges from 21 Member States - amounting to over €69 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 €628 million including €118.3 million support to Jordan, with a focus on increasing access for refugees to education and training, as well as livelihoods and WASH.

*Sources: UNHCR, UNRWA, IOM
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 (the ‘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 continuous Budget Support Programmes amounting to:

- **€59.6 million** for the years 2011-2014 (of which €29.6 million were dedicated to Syrian children)
- **€55 million** for the school years 2015-2017. A top-up of €20 million is currently 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.

The proposal was adopted at the 10th EU-Jordan Association Committee on 19 July 2016.
The EU pays tribute to the outstanding efforts Lebanon 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 more than €828.3 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
- close to €280 million from the European Neighbourhood Instrument to provide Lebanese vulnerable communities and Syrian refugees with access to basic services
- more than €34 million from the Instrument contributing to Peace and Stability to address longer term resilience needs of affected civilians, both refugees and Lebanese host communities.
- close to €157 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 healthAdministration with a focus on increasing access for
- €1.2 million from the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights.

This support comes on top of the over €219 million in regular programmed bilateral cooperation for Lebanon under the European Neighbourhood Policy bringing overall support to approximately €1.0473 billion. The main portion of non-humanitarian funding is allocated to the education sector, but also towards health, livelihoods and local infrastructures.

Updated: 15. August 2016
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 €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).

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

Number of registered Palestinian refugees from Syria: 40,739

*Sources: UNHCR, UNRWA, IOM
**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.
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.

New exceptions are introduced

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

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

Introduction of time limits

ranging from 1 week to 1 month

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

For lodging appeals

For decisions at the first appeal stage

ranging from 2 months to 6 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.

The new proposal guarantees:

- free legal assistance, representation and the right to a comprehensive personal interview (assisted by an interpreter)
- standardised information

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.

Strict consequences in case of non-compliance with such obligations:

For example

No fingerprints  
Asylum application rejected

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.

Full harmonisation in this area

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.
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

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

**Stricter rules** sanctioning secondary movements of beneficiaries of international protection

**NEW**

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

**NEW**

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

**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

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**

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**

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.
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:

- material reception conditions
- employment and vocational training

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 application is made to represent and assist an unaccompanied minor from the moment the

5 days

Asylum applications

Contingency plans updating

Migration and Home Affairs
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 9 months to 6 months 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 3 months.

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

National & 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.
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 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.

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<td>Reinforcing the EURODAC system</td>
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<td>A new mandate for the EU's asylum agency, currently EASO</td>
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<td>Proposal for a new Qualification Regulation</td>
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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.

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.

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

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

Enhanced Intra-EU mobility

- 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)

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
- Access to EU long-term residence after:
  - 5 years
  - 3 years 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
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.

**Integration** is a precondition for an inclusive, cohesive and prosperous society. It’s a **joint responsibility and a common interest** to invest and work together on integration. It’s **time to strengthen our actions** on integration. 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. All actors have a responsibility: national, local and regional authorities; the EU; civil society organisations; employers; migrants and all citizens. The recent increase in migratory flows has reinforced the need for effective integration policies on integration of third-country nationals.
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 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.

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 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.

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)

Host-country nationals 66%
Third-country nationals 54%
Female third-country nationals 45%

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.

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

Many migrants are overqualified or overskilled for their jobs.

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:

- Third-country nationals: 43% of adults
- Host-country nationals: 22% of adults

2009 2015
34% 24%
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.
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.

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

PROPOSED PRIORITY PARTNERS:
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:

**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.
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:

1. Principle of family unity
2. Issuance of residence permits or visas
3. Illegal entry or stay in a Member State
4. Legal entry to a Member State
5. Application in an international transit area of an airport

Currently, out of all the Dublin criteria, the one applied the most is the illegal entry or stay in a Member State.
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.

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

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.

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.

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 States 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.

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.

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.
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 Lesvos, Chios, Samos, Leros and Kos. Currently one hotspot is fully operational (in Lesvos). 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.

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

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<th>Open infringement cases within the Common European Asylum System</th>
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<td>8 bad application or non-conformity cases:</td>
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<td>Greece</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy (3 cases)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cyprus (2 cases)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hungary (2 cases)</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 non-communication cases:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Germany, Estonia, Greece, Spain, France, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Slovenia</td>
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identified by the Italian authorities in Lampedusa, Pozzallo, Porto Empedocle/Villa Sikania, 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 as 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.
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**

**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

**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

* AMIF: Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund
  ISF: Internal Security Fund
EUROPEAN AGENDA ON SECURITY
The current EU information systems for security, border and migration management do not work together — they are fragmented, complex and difficult to operate. This risks pieces of information slipping through the net and terrorists and criminals escaping detection by using multiple or fraudulent identities, endangering the EU’s internal security and the safety of European citizens.

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

**WHAT IS INTEROPERABILITY?**

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

**HOW WILL INTEROPERABILITY WORK?**

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

- **European search portal** – a one-stop shop carrying out a simultaneous search of multiple EU information systems, in line with the users’ access rights.
- **Shared biometric matching service** – a tool cross-checking biometric data (fingerprints and facial images) and detecting links between information on the same person in different EU information systems.
- **Common identity repository** – a shared container of biographical and biometric information, such as name and date of birth, stored in relevant systems about non-EU citizens.
- **Multiple identity detector** – automatic alert system detecting multiple or fraudulent identities.
Effective identity checks – the proposals establish rules for police officers to query the identity data of third-country nationals in the common identity repository to identify a person during a police check.

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

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

**WHAT SYSTEMS ARE INVOLVED?**

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

**Existing systems:**

- **the Schengen Information System (SIS)** a broad range of alerts on people and objects related to criminal activity and missing persons.
- **the Eurodac** – fingerprint database of asylum applicants and third-country nationals irregularly crossing EU borders or irregularly staying in the EU.
- **the Visa Information System (VIS)** information on short-stay visas.

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

- **Entry/Exit System (EES)** - electronic register of entry and exit information of third country nationals crossing EU borders.
- **European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS)** – pre-travel security and irregular migration screening of visa-exempt non-EU nationals.
- **European Criminal Record Information System for third-country nationals (ECRIS-TCN system)** system for exchanging information on non-EU nationals convicted in the European Union.

**STRONG DATA PROTECTION SAFEGUARDS**

Privacy and security are two sides of the same coin. The proposed measures will not lead to the interconnectivity of the individual systems. Each system will keep its specific purpose limitation, access rules and data retention rules. The proposed measures will also not lead to an increase in the collection of new data. They provide a targeted and intelligent way of using existing information held in EU systems to best effect.
Over the past years, the EU has been developing large-scale centralised IT information systems for collecting, processing and sharing information relevant to security, migration and external border management. These systems are vital for security cooperation, as well as for the management of external borders and migration in the EU. The Commission is now proposing to make these information systems at EU level interoperable — that is, able to exchange data and share information so that authorities and competent officials have the information they need, when and where they need it, and to ensure that this information is complete, accurate and reliable.

EXISTING INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Schengen Information System (SIS)
EU-wide database for controls at external Schengen borders, and law enforcement and judicial cooperation

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

**Participating countries**
26 EU Member States
4 Schengen Associated Countries
Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein

**To whom does it apply?**
EU and non-EU nationals

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

Visa Information System (VIS)
Exchange of information on EU visas between Schengen Members

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

**Participating countries**
22 EU Member States
4 Schengen Associated Countries
Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein

**To whom does it apply?**
Non-EU nationals requiring an EU visa

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

**EU asylum fingerprint database**

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

**Participating countries**

- 28 EU Member States
- 4 Schengen Associated Countries

**Proposed improvements**

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

---

**European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS)**

**Exchange of information on criminal convictions**

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

**Participating countries**

- 28 EU Member States

**Proposed improvements**

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

---

**Entry/Exit System (EES)**

**Recording crossing of the EU’s external borders**

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

**Participating countries**

- 21 EU Member States
- Denmark to decide
- 4 Schengen Associated Countries

**Next Steps**

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

Criminal records information about non-EU nationals

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

Participating countries

28 EU Member States

To whom does it apply?

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

Next Steps

  Regulation - 29 June 2017
- Expected adoption: mid-2018
- Scheduled operation: 2020/2021

European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS)

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

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

Participating countries

25 EU Member States

Denmark to decide

4 Schengen Associated Countries

Switzerland
Norway
Italy
Liechtenstein

To whom does it apply?

EU visa-exempt non-EU nationals

Next Steps

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

WHO CAN ACCESS WHICH DATABASE?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SIS*</th>
<th>VIS</th>
<th>Eurodac</th>
<th>EES</th>
<th>ETIAS</th>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Border controls authorities (border guards)</td>
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<td>Asylum authorities</td>
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<td>Police authorities</td>
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<tr>
<td>European Border and Coast Guard Agency</td>
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</table>

As proposed in the Commission’s December 2016 legislative proposals
TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS
New priority actions

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

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

1. DISRUPTING TRAFFICKERS’ BUSINESS MODEL AND UNTANGLING THE TRAFFICKING CHAIN

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

PRIORITY ACTIONS:

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

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

PRIORITY ACTIONS:

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

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

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

PRIORITY ACTIONS:

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

CROSS-CUTTING PRIORITIES

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

PRIORITY ACTIONS:

- **Publish** evidence and statistics on the costs of trafficking, criminal justice and the impact of the EU approach to combating trafficking for sexual exploitation
- **Launch** an EU-wide awareness-raising campaign
- **Support** anti-trafficking objectives and priorities through various EU funding programmes such as Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF), Internal Security Fund (ISF), Horizon 2020, Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA), European Development Fund (EDF) and the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa.
In the past three years, the European Union and its Member States have taken decisive action to deny terrorists the means to carry out attacks, share information between Member States, counter radicalisation and manage our borders better. But as the recurring terrorist attacks in Europe show, more needs to be done to prevent in the future attacks such as those seen in the streets of Barcelona, Berlin, London, Manchester, Nice, Paris or Stockholm.

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

**TARGETED FUNDING**

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

**EXCHANGING EXPERTISE AND BEST PRACTICE**

The Commission will establish a Practitioners’ Forum where law enforcement practitioners and existing law enforcement networks can share knowledge about protecting public spaces. The Commission will also establish a High-Risk Security Network to organise common trainings and joint exercises for law enforcement to improve their preparedness and enhance their response capacity.
A comprehensive risk assessment is being carried out looking at how we can enhance security systems for detection of prohibited items and suspect passengers coming to the EU from third countries.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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*The factsheet was amended on 20 October 2017 to better reflect the content of the Action Plan.
SECURITY UNION

A EUROPE THAT PROTECTS

OCTOBER 2017
It is the most basic and universal of rights to feel safe and secure in your own home. Europeans rightly expect their Union to provide that for them. The Juncker Commission made security a top priority from day one. We have taken decisive action to deny terrorists the means to carry out attacks, share intelligence between Member States, protect Europeans online and manage our borders better.

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

**DENYING TERRORISTS THE MEANS**

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

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

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

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

**SHARING INFORMATION**

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

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

Contains almost 75 million alerts as of 30 August 2017

It was consulted almost 4 billion times in 2016 (100% increase from 2014)
New rules on **Passenger Name Record data** were adopted in 2016, essential for identifying high risk travellers previously unknown to law enforcement authorities. By collecting, sharing and analysing passenger data, law enforcement will be able to **better trace criminal networks** and travel patterns. All EU Member States need to meet the May 2018 deadline for full implementation of these rules and the Commission is supporting this with funding and technical expertise.

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

### PROTECTING EUROPEANS ONLINE

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

With a new law on **security of network and information systems** adopted in July 2016, the Commission has laid the groundwork for improved EU level cooperation and cyber-resilience. In September 2017, the Commission scaled up EU’s response to cyber-attacks proposing an EU Cybersecurity Agency, a new European certification scheme for cyber secure products and services and a Blueprint on how to respond to a large scale attack.

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

### CLEANING UP THE WEB:

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

- **The EU Internet Referral Unit at Europol**
- **Tens of thousands** of posts referred to internet companies
- **Take-down rate of almost 90%**
PROTECTING OUR BORDERS

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

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

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

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

European Border and Coast Guard deployments

148 officers in Bulgaria
342 officers in Italy
874 officers in Greece
128 officers in the Western Balkans

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

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

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

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

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

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

**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.

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

**KEY**

- **Actions Completed**
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- **Proposals adopted by the Commission but not yet adopted by the co-legislators**
- **Work Ongoing**

**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.

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

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

### 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Action</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>End of 2017</td>
<td>Commission proposal on interoperability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 December 2017</td>
<td>EU Internet Forum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q1-Q2 2018</td>
<td>Commission proposal on law enforcement access to centralised bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>account registrations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q1 2018</td>
<td>Commission proposal on e-evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q1-Q2 2018</td>
<td>Evaluation of the Regulation on Explosive Precursors</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 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**
NON-CASH PAYMENT FRAUD

September 2017

WHO DOES IT?
The criminal market for payment card fraud in the EU is dominated by well-structured and globally active organised crime groups, which may be gaining at least EUR 1.44 billion per year. (Source: Europol)

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

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

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

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

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

كرد پریش (ATM)  
كرد پریش (POS)  
كرد نپریش
HOW DOES IT HAPPEN?

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

HOW CAN CRIMINALS GET HOLD OF MY DATA?

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

WHY A NEW INITIATIVE?

1. Updating the legal framework
2. Making law enforcement cooperation more efficient
3. Enhancing prevention and assistance to victims

WHY A NEW INITIATIVE?

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

THE ECONOMIES OF PhISHING

According to a study by Cisco, approximately eight people out of a million falls victim of phishing, with an average loss of $2,000 per victim. Fully automated phishing kits to send phishing messages to 500,000 e-mail addresses can be bought online for just $65. So, for only $130, criminals can generate $16,000, a 12,000% return on investment. This explains why as many as 36 billion phishing messages are sent annually.

WHAT IS NEW?

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

- make it a self-standing offence, aside from using such instruments, to possess, sell, procure for use, import, distribute or otherwise make available a stolen or otherwise unlawfully appropriated counterfeited or falsified payment instrument;
- introduce common rules on the level of penalties;
- clarify the scope of the jurisdiction, ensuring that Member States have jurisdiction in cases where the offence has been committed using an information system and that they are able to exercise jurisdiction if the offence causes damage in their territory;
- strengthen the existing structure and use of the operational contact points;
- enhance the conditions for victims and private entities to report crime;
- address the need to provide statistical data on fraud;
- provide for victims to have access to information about their rights and about available assistance and support.
Effective information sharing is a key element of the fight against terrorism and organised crime. It gives police officers and border guards the right tools to access and exchange the necessary information on people to better protect the EU external borders and enhance the internal security of the EU.

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

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

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

**WHAT IS INTEROPERABILITY?**

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

Interoperability is NOT about:
- collecting more and more new data
- creating one big database available to everyone
- reducing data protection and fundamental rights

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

**WHY IS INTEROPERABILITY IMPORTANT?**

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

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

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

- **European search portal** – to allow systems to be searched simultaneously producing combined results, in full compliance with data protection safeguards;

- **Shared biometric matching service** – to enable searches across different information systems holding biometric data, possibly with hit/no-hit flags indicating a connection with related biometric data found in another system;

- **Common identity repository** – based on alphanumeric identity data (e.g. dates of birth, passport numbers), this detects whether a person is registered under multiple identities in different databases.

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

WHAT EU INFORMATION SYSTEMS EXIST?

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

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

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

- **Eurodac** - EU asylum fingerprint database

New systems are expected to become operational by 2020:

- **Entry/Exit System (EES)** – system recording the crossing of the external EU borders of non-EU nationals

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

**Border and migration management:** SIS enables border guards and migration authorities to enter and consult alerts on third-country nationals for the purpose of verifying their right to enter or stay in the Schengen Area.

Immigration authorities will now be required to enter return decisions and entry bans issued to irregular migrants into the database, increasing their EU-wide visibility.

**Security cooperation:** SIS supports police and judicial cooperation by allowing Member States’ authorities to create and consult alerts on missing persons and on persons or objects related to criminal offences.

New alert categories such as alerts on unknown wanted persons will enable the use of fingerprints found at a crime scene to identify and find people. Law enforcement officers will also for the first time be able to issue preventive alerts for children in cases when there is a high risk of parental abduction.

**Vehicle control:** Vehicle registration authorities have access to SIS. They can access alerts on stolen vehicles, number plates and vehicle registration documents in order to check the legal status of vehicles presented to them for registration.
**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)

**NEW**

**WHICH AUTHORITIES CAN ENTER AND SEARCH ALERTS IN SIS?**

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

*Exclusively accessible to the authorised users within competent national authorities.*

**NEW**
- Europol
- Eurojust
- European Border and Coast Guard Agency

*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.*

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

*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.
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
HOW WILL THE ETIAS SYSTEM WORK?

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

Fees would go to the EU budget.

Visa exempt third-country nationals

ETIAS application automatically introduced

Check by carriers prior to boarding
Ok to travel

ETIAS application
automatically introduced

Valid ETIAS authorisation?

Checks against security databases
(SIS / VIS / EUROPEAN 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).

Response to applicants

- valid travel authorisation
- 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

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/that 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.

Online application

10 min max.

ETIAS

Validity
5 years
(or until the expiry date of the travel document)

Validity
5 years

response to most of the applicants within minutes

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

The revocation will also apply if:
- for a refusal of entry
- or a reported lost or stolen travel document.

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.
Trafficking in human beings (THB) is a crime driven by demand and profit through the exploitation of people and their vulnerabilities. It is a gross violation of human rights, it is explicitly prohibited under the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and it is subject of a comprehensive legal and policy framework (Directive 2011/36/EU and EU Strategy towards the Eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings).

Following the adoption of the Anti-trafficking Directive in 2011, the Commission is today setting out the trends and challenges in addressing trafficking in human beings, examining progress made and highlighting key challenges that the EU and its Member States need to address as a priority.

15 846 victims registered in the EU in 2013-2014 (Member States data)

Given the complexity of the phenomenon, there are solid grounds to believe that the actual numbers of victims of trafficking in the EU are substantially higher.
 Trafficking in human beings for the purpose of sexual exploitation continues by far to be the most prevalent form of trafficking in the EU with over two thirds of the registered victims. 95 % of registered victims for this form of exploitation being women.

 Trafficking in human beings for the purpose of labour exploitation is an increasing phenomenon, particularly affecting men. 74 % of the registered victims were men. This form of exploitation is reported to be expanding due to the economic crisis as well as the increased demand for cheap services and goods.
EMERGING TRENDS IN THE EU

- Organized crime and the internet
- Exploitation of persons with disabilities
- Trafficking in the context of migration and asylum
- Forced criminality and forced begging
- Forced marriages and sham marriages
- Nigerian women and girls arriving from Libya
RESULTS OF ANTI-TRAFFICKING ACTIONS UNDERTAKEN BY MEMBER STATES
NUMBER OF PROSECUTIONS AND CONVICTIONS*

Source: Member States data 2013-2014

*While the majority of Member States refer to the number of individuals, some Member States refer to the number of cases or offenses rather than individuals. Not all Member States provided data on prosecution and convictions for the two year period. No observable trend, although the numbers remain low.
65 % of registered victims were EU citizens.

The top 5 EU countries of citizenship of registered victims are Bulgaria, Hungary, Netherlands, Poland and Romania.

The top 5 non-EU countries of citizenship for registered victims were Albania, China, Morocco, Nigeria and Vietnam.
Actions to address gaps and challenges identified

- Address and prioritise all forms of exploitation
- Increase the number and effectiveness of investigations and prosecutions
- Work on improving data collection in the field of trafficking in human beings
- Focus on the early identification of all victims
- Ensure all victims are offered protection and assistance
- Take gender-specific measures and a child-centred approach
- Focus on the most vulnerable victims
- Prevent trafficking by addressing the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation, including considering legal measures
- Systematically evaluate national anti-trafficking strategies and action plans
- Allocate adequate resources to address trafficking in human beings
- Cooperate meaningfully with civil society
- Coordination on the ground in the framework of the ‘hotspots approach’ amongst all relevant actors
- Ratification of relevant international and regional instruments

The anti-trafficking Directive has created an important momentum in raising awareness on the scale of the phenomenon in the EU, and the need to address it with a wide range of tools.

The meaningful and full implementation of the EU Anti-trafficking Directive will have a real impact in preventing the crime, prosecuting the perpetrators and protecting the victims.
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.

Help Member States dealing with ever-increasing number of travellers to the EU without having to increase the number of border guards.

Reinforce internal security and the fight against terrorism and serious crime.

Systematically identify over-stayers (individuals remaining in the Schengen Area after the end of their authorised stay).
ENTRY / EXIT SYSTEM (EES)

How will the system work?

**EES will collect:**
- Identity
- Travel document

**EES will record:**
- Date and place of entry and exit
- 90 days in any 180 day period

**EES will replace:**
- Passport
- Entry refusals

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
- Checks against security databases (SIS, Interpol SLTD)
- Border control lane
- Border guard
- Access for criminal identification and criminal intelligence

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 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.