



European
Commission

RELOCATION: EU SOLIDARITY BETWEEN MEMBER STATES

November 2017



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**

RELOCATION – SHARING RESPONSIBILITY WITHIN THE EU

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.

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**.

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.

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.

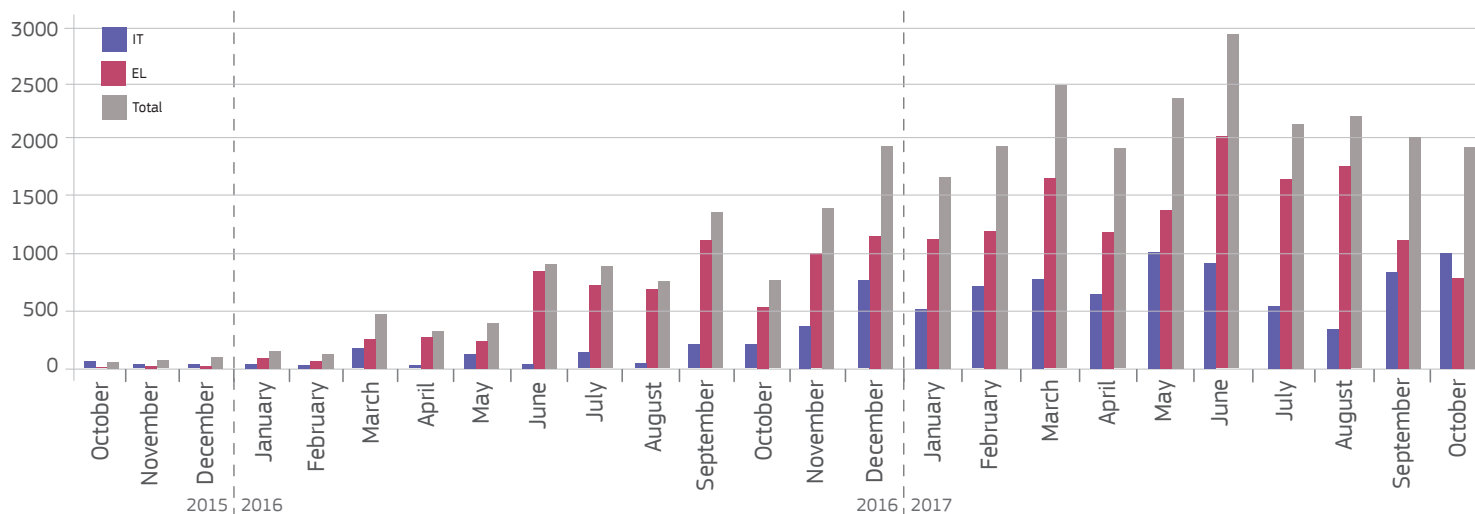
How many still to be relocated?

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

RELOCATIONS FROM ITALY AND GREECE (OCTOBER 2015 - OCTOBER 2017)



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