



European  
Commission

## REFORMING THE COMMON EUROPEAN ASYLUM SYSTEM: WHAT THE INDIVIDUAL REFORMS WOULD CHANGE AND WHY WE NEED THEM NOW

In addition to the 7 proposals to reform the Common European Asylum System tabled in 2016, the Commission put forward 3 new proposals on 12 September 2018 (one of which updates one of the 7), bringing the total to 9.

# 8 European Border and Coast Guard

December 2018



### Strong added value

Without replacing Member States' responsibility, the reinforced European Border and Coast Guard will ensure that Member States can rely on full EU operational support at the external borders at all times. In addition, the Agency's capacity to support returns and to cooperate with non-EU countries will be further reinforced.



### Commission proposal tabled in September

European Parliament and Council to adopt negotiation positions. Political agreement is possible in early 2019.

## THE REINFORCED MANDATE FOR THE EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD WILL ENSURE:



### A new standing corps of 10,000

To ensure predictable and appropriate resources, the Agency will be able to rely on its own staff and its own equipment, such as vessels, planes and vehicles.



### A tool at the service of Member States

While the mandate of the European Border and Coast Guard expands, it serves to support Member States and does not replace their responsibilities in external border management and return.



### Expanded tasks and powers

Members of the standing corps – under the authority and control of the Member State – will be able to carry out tasks requiring executive powers such as identity checks, authorising or refusing entry at the external borders.



### More support on return

The Agency can already organise and finance joint return operations. Now it will also be able to support return procedures in Member States, for example by identifying irregularly staying non-EU nationals, acquiring travel documents and preparing return decisions for national authorities.



### Cooperation with non-EU countries

The Agency will be able – subject to prior agreement of the country concerned – to launch joint operations and deploy staff outside the EU, beyond countries neighbouring the EU, as is the case today.

## WHY A 10,000 STANDING CORPS?

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

### It is weighted on:

experiences from the migration crisis

new tasks of the Agency

persistent personnel and equipment gaps



*The solution offered by the standing corps is a **reliable, flexible** and **sustainable** way of managing the EU's external borders in the spirit of European solidarity.*

## DID YOU KNOW?

- ✓ During the migration crisis the European Border and Coast Guard had to increase its deployments across Europe **5 times**.
- ✓ The staff and equipment pledges made by Member States covered only **49% of the actual deployment needs for land borders**.
- ✓ In 2017, the Agency organised 342 returns operations, deploying 625 officers, and **returning 14,271 people**.
- ✓ As of 2020, the Agency will operate the central unit of the **European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS)** with 250 staff members.
- ✓ 10,000 European Border and Coast Guard staff represents **only 8.7% of the total 115,000 Member States staff** in charge of border management.