



European
Commission

EUROPE'S MIGRATION AND ASYLUM POLICY

Small steps to make a big difference

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.

SAVING LIVES

In 2015 and 2016:



400,000 Lives saved



over 2,000 suspected traffickers and smugglers apprehended



375 vessels removed



The shipwreck off the coast of Lampedusa on 16 October 2013, which cost the lives of 366 Africans, 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 Sophia in 2015, with Triton's assets tripled in 2015.

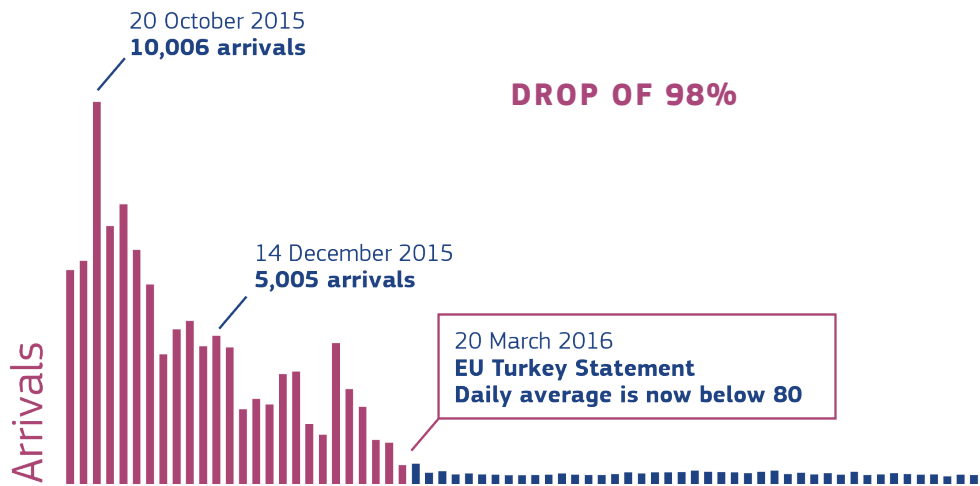
TACKLING THE ROOT CAUSES OF MIGRATION

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 six migrant centres for vulnerable migrants 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 less than 80 a day – a drop of 98%.

Ten months 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.



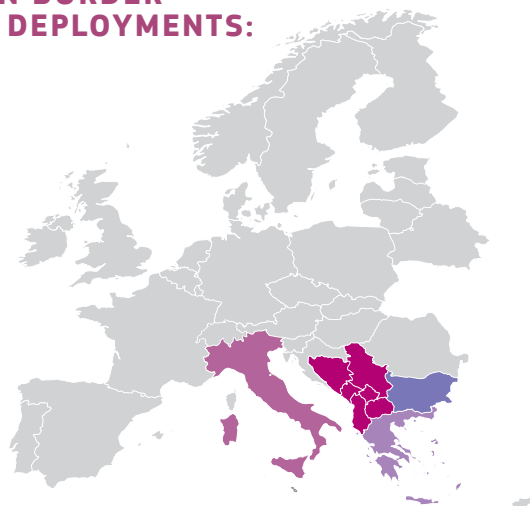
PROTECTING OUR BORDERS

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 three 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 more than 1,550 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:

1,550 EXTRA OFFICERS DEPLOYED



760 officers in Greece



130 officers in Bulgaria

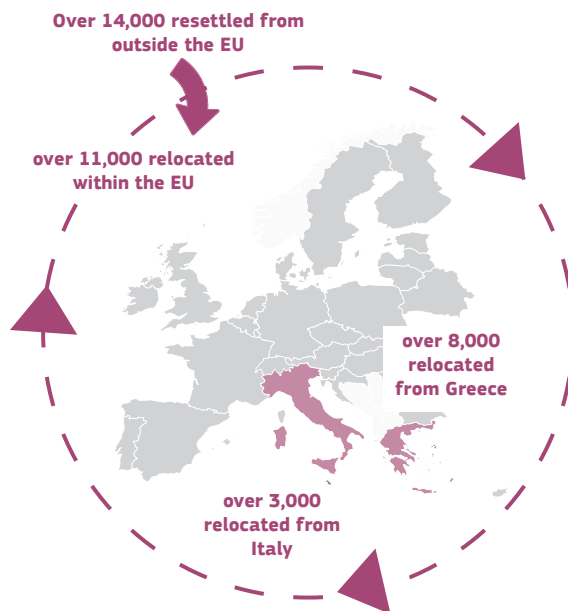


600 officers in Italy



70 officers in the Western Balkans

OPENING SAFE PATHWAYS



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 3,000 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 was later occupied by 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."



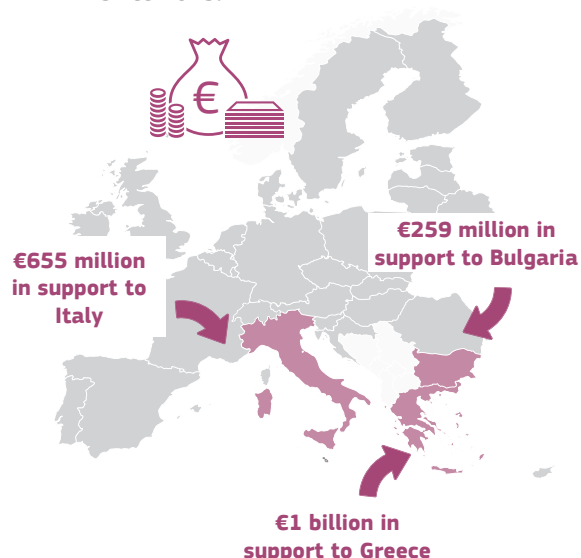
SHOWING SOLIDARITY AT HOME...



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.

Since 2015:



...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.

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



MOBILISING INVESTMENTS through the New Guarantee under the European Fund for Sustainable Development

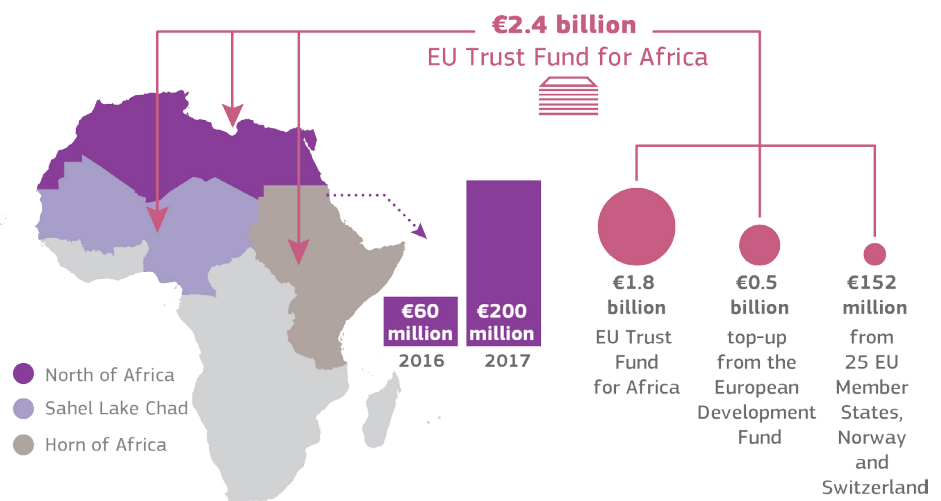


STEPPING UP TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE to develop financially attractive and mature projects and, thus helping to mobilise higher investments.



Improving economic governance, the **BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT** and engaging with the private sector

€2.4 BILLION EU TRUST FUND FOR AFRICA



€44 BILLION EXTERNAL INVESTMENT FUND

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, mobilising total investments of up to €44 billion, or even €88 billion in Member States contribute too.