



Management Plan 2019

Directorate General for
Migration and Home Affairs

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INTRODUCTION

In 2019, Directorate General for Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME) will continue to pursue a comprehensive approach on both migration and security policies.

Irregular arrivals dropped by 60% in 2017 and further declined in the first half of 2018; Europe is no longer in crisis mode. It is clear however that migration will remain an important challenge in the future. We now need tools for long-term solutions, rather than quick fixes, to equip Europe with future-proof means of managing migration responsibly and fairly. Over the past three years the European Agenda on Migration proposed by the Juncker Commission in May 2015 guided the progress that was needed to respond to immediate challenges. It is now time to complete this work with a sustainable long-term migration policy.

State of the Union 2018
Progress On The European Commission's 10 Priorities

With respect to migration, efforts will concentrate on completion of the work for a sustainable migration policy, setting up where necessary policies, coordinating operational action and providing financial support in the fields of return, protection of external borders, cooperation with third countries, international protection, opening of legal pathways, common visa policy and integration of third country nationals.

A well-functioning Common European Asylum System based on the principles of responsibility and solidarity will remain a priority. As 2019 will see the renewal of the European Parliament's mandate, DG HOME will put all efforts and commitment to support the negotiations between the European Parliament and the Council seeking adoption of the pending legislative proposals before the European elections in May 2019. Efforts will also concentrate on coordinating, supporting and monitoring the implementation of the legislation and measures that have been adopted or strengthened in the past few years to address the migration crisis. Efforts need to continue to protect the external borders while building stronger partnerships with third countries, including to ensure effective implementation of readmission agreements.

Working towards an effective and genuine Security Union that protects will remain another top priority in 2019, with an emphasis on advancing the landmark initiatives that are in the legislative process such as the proposals aiming at:

Europeans rightly expect their Union to keep them safe.

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, State of the Union Address, 12 September 2018

- Preventing radicalisation and the dissemination of terrorist content online.
- Providing law enforcement and judicial authorities with access to electronic evidence and financial information
- Further restricting terrorists' access to explosives precursors

Through the Security Union Task Force supporting the work of the Commissioner for the Security Union, DG HOME will continue ensuring greater coordination on security issues across all policy areas, to help delivering stronger and more comprehensive policy responses to security threats.

DG HOME will work for supporting the inter-institutional negotiation on the next generation of Home Affairs programmes under the post-2020 Multi-Annual Financial Framework.

DG HOME will also work closer with the Justice and Home Affairs Agencies such as the EBCG, Europol, CEPOL, eu-LISA, EMCDDA, EASO for a more consistent and operational delivery.

In addressing these priorities, DG HOME will contribute to the general objectives: 'Towards a new policy on migration' and 'An area of justice and fundamental rights based on mutual trust'. These are two of the 10 key political priorities of this Commission. These priorities are reflected in DG HOME's Strategic Plan 2016-2020 and translated into specific objectives, as summarised in the table below.

General objectives		Specific objectives	
1	Towards a new policy on migration	1.1	Reduce incentives for irregular migration.
		1.2	Effective border management: Save lives and secure EU external borders.
		1.3	Enhance protection and solidarity.
		1.4	A new policy on legal migration to address skill shortages in the EU and enhance effective integration.
2	An area of justice and fundamental rights based on mutual trust	2.1	A strong EU response to tackling terrorism and preventing radicalisation.
		2.2	Disrupt organised crime.
		2.3	An effective response to cybercrime.
3	A Union of democratic change	3.1	Enhance citizens' understanding of the Union, its history and diversity, foster European citizenship and improve conditions for civic and democratic participation at Union level.
4	A deeper and fairer internal market with a strengthened industrial base		

DG HOME's activities in 2019 will concentrate in particular on general objectives 1 and 2.

The plans/activities of the year will take into account and reflect the needs which are related to the necessary preparations to Brexit, including both legislative proposals to be adopted (legislation, delegated and implementing acts) and technical-administrative-budgetary measures. Notwithstanding the need to cater for individual specificities among Directorates-General, these actions are being coordinated by the Secretariat-General with a view to ensuring coherence in the design and timing of these measures.

PART 1. MAIN OUTPUTS FOR THE YEAR

1. Towards a new policy on migration

1.1. Reduce incentives for irregular migration

Under this specific objective, DG HOME's intervention in 2019 will contribute to:

- *Addressing the root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement in third countries*

In 2019, DG HOME will strengthen its bilateral cooperation with **priority partner countries** (key countries of origin and transit¹) with a view to mitigating migratory and security threats. DG HOME will continue supporting a variety of processes. Concrete action and deliverables are detailed in the tables below. Processes include:

- The Prague, Budapest, Khartoum, Rabat, African Union (AU) and African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) processes complementing bilateral engagements
- The Central Mediterranean Contact Group established in Rome in March 2017
- The Joint Valetta Action Plan and the UN Global Compacts on migration and refugees
- The EU-Turkey Statement, the visa liberalisation dialogue with Turkey – see also under objective 1.4
- The Mobility Partnership Facility under which financial support will be provided to
 - Countries signatories of a Mobility Partnership (MP)²
 - Countries signatories of a Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility (CAMP)³
 - Pilots projects on labour migration
- The Western Balkan Strategy
- The Eastern Partnership countries for alignment with EU standards and practices and delivering on Eastern Partnership 2020 deliverable No 17⁴

In participating in these processes, DG HOME will constantly seek to coordinate migration policy with other policy areas in a comprehensive and balanced approach combining leverages and incentives.

It will present developments in regular progress reports.

The **European Migration Liaison Officers** (EMLOs) network, a key asset in stepping up coordination on migration in EU Delegations will continue the valuable work of enhancing engagement of the authorities of partner countries on the entire spectrum of migration issues. EMLOs are operational in 13 partner countries⁵. In 2019, DG HOME will be responsible for :

- Recruiting additional EMLOs for Bangladesh, Egypt and The Gambia
- Replacing EMLOs in Ethiopia, Mali, Niger and Turkey
- Renewing the contracts for the EMLOs in Jordan, Lebanon, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Serbia, Sudan and Tunisia

No action is planned as regards the EMLO in Morocco as the post was filled in February 2018.

¹ E.g. Ethiopia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Irak, Iran, Ivory Coast, Moldova, Morocco, Pakistan, Serbia, Sudan, Turkey, The Gambia, Tunisia

² So far, Mobility Partnerships have been concluded with **nine countries**: Moldova (2008), Cape Verde (2008), Georgia (2009), Armenia (2011), Morocco (2013), Azerbaijan (2013), Tunisia (2014), Jordan (2014) and Belarus (2016).

³ CAMMs have been signed with three countries: Ethiopia (2015), Nigeria (2015) and India (2016).

⁴ Deliverable No 17 concerns Progress on Visa Liberalisation Dialogues and Mobility Partnerships

⁵ In Ethiopia, Jordan, Lebanon, Mali, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Serbia, Sudan, Tunisia and Turkey.

DG HOME will organise one annual networking/training event for all EMLOs and regular video conferences to provide strategic and operational steering.

➤ *Fighting against migrant smugglers*

In 2019, DG HOME will continue supporting the inter-institutional negotiation on the proposal to revise the Regulation on the **European network of immigration liaison officers'** that the Commission adopted in May 2018⁶. The aim is to establish a common formal framework and clear mandate of staff posted in third countries to improve coordination of the EU position and activities vis-à-vis crucial partners, in particular to counter migrant smuggling.

To progress in implementing the EU **Action Plan on Migrant Smuggling**, DG HOME will organise expert meetings to implement different priority strands within the action plan. It will launch i) further cooperation platforms on migrant smuggling (at least one, possibly in Ethiopia) to better coordinate EU and Member States activity in priority third countries that are major sources or transit countries for irregular migration; ii) country specific information campaigns to raise awareness of the risks of smuggling and of irregular migration (at least one). In addition, DG HOME will regularly report on achievements and set out the way forward.

With a view to increasing law enforcement cooperation between EU Member States and third countries and strengthening third countries' police and criminal justice responses to migrant smuggling, at least one common operational partnership (also known as Joint Investigation Team) will be set up with third countries with the financial support of Internal Security Fund (ISF)-Police.

➤ *Effective return policies*

We are proposing to accelerate the return of irregular migrants. The Commission is committed to supporting Member States in doing so.

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, State of the Union Address, 12 September 2018

Effective return and readmission policies are part of the EU's approach to reducing the incentives for irregular migration.

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 that does not fully deliver.

Following the European Council in June 2018, DG HOME put forward, in September 2018, two proposals to increase the effectiveness of return:

1. A proposal for a Directive on common standards and procedures in Member States for returning illegally staying third-country nationals⁷. The changes aim to address key challenges in return procedures and reduce obstacles that Member States encounter when carrying out returns.
2. A proposal for a Regulation on the European Border and Coast Guard⁸, strengthening the supportive role of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (EBCGA) in the field of return

In 2019, DG HOME will facilitate the inter-institutional negotiations with a view to having those proposals adopted by co-legislators before the 2019 European elections. Furthermore, DG HOME will regularly report on the performance of EU Member States and the (EBCGA) in enforcing returns.

⁶ COM/2018/303

⁷ COM/2018/634

⁸ COM/2018/631

In 2018, the Regulation on the use of the Schengen Information System for the return of illegally staying third-country nationals was adopted⁹. In 2019 DG HOME will work on the implementation of this Regulation, in close cooperation with eu-LISA and Member States.

As part of the **Schengen evaluation mechanism**, DG HOME will continue to perform on-site visits to assess Member States' return practices, foster compliance with the relevant acquis, and achieve more effective return policies.

Work will also continue with a view to concluding EU **readmission** agreements or operational arrangements with important third countries of origin (Belarus, China, Morocco, Nigeria and Tunisia, as well as Ghana, Iraq and Iran). DG HOME will also seek to secure that the existing readmission agreements and arrangements deliver effective returns (with Pakistan and Turkey, as well as with Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire).

The Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) will continue supporting the implementation of the European Agenda on Migration. With respect to specific objective 1.1, AMIF will support Member States to, inter alia, prepare return operations, perform assisted voluntary returns and forced removals, offer reintegration incentives and assist vulnerable persons.

Since AMIF is mainly implemented through shared management, based on the national programmes of Member States, DG HOME will continue providing necessary information and guidance to Member States and cooperating with them to monitor the implementation of the actions, in full compliance with the applicable EU provisions.

A share of AMIF funding will continue to be managed and monitored directly by DG HOME through Union Actions and emergency assistance. The respective Annual Work Programmes for 2019, serving also as financing decisions, will shape these measures' main priorities and implementation arrangements.

In 2019, DG HOME will also facilitate the inter-institutional negotiation on the proposals that the Commission adopted in June 2018 for the new Asylum and Migration Fund within the post-2020 Multi-annual Financial Framework (MFF).

General objective 1: Towards a new policy on migration		
Specific objective 1.1. : Reduce incentives for irregular migration		Related to spending programmes Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and Internal Security Fund – Police
Main outputs in 2019:		
Delivery on legislative proposals pending with the legislator		
Output	Indicator	Target
Proposal to revise Regulation on the European network of immigration liaison officers	Adoption by the co-legislators	May 2019
Proposal for a recast of Directive on common standards and procedures in Member States for returning illegally staying third-country nationals (recast Return Directive)	Adoption by the co-legislators	May 2019

⁹ OJ L312/1 07.12.2018

Proposal on Asylum and Migration Fund Proposal on Integrated Border Management Fund	Political agreement	May 2019
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Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes

For a complete listing of expenditure-related outputs please refer to the Programme Statements published together with the [Draft Budget for 2019](#).

Output	Indicator	Target
Support and monitoring actions provided to MS to implement the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) and the Internal Security Fund (ISF) Police	- Number of monitoring visits in MS - Number of meetings (Committees, informal workshops etc) with MS to exchange best practices and ensure performance of implementation	- At least 1 visit to each MS - At least 5 meetings
Revision of the National Programmes under the AMIF to re-commit the unused amounts initially committed to the implementation of the relocation Decisions (2018/0371(COD))	Number of the Commission Implementing Decisions adopted within the required period for revision (6 months)	Commission Decisions regarding 27 National Programmes
Programming actions and financing decisions related to direct management of the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) and the Internal Security Fund (ISF) Police – Union Actions and emergency assistance PLAN/2018/4126 PLAN/2018/4123	Adoption of all relevant Annual Work Programmes 2019 under AMIF (Union Actions ¹⁰) and under ISF Police (Union actions and emergency assistance)	Adopted for the full coverage of the budget by Q1 2019
Contracts and grant agreements for Union Actions under AMIF and ISF Police	Completion of the legal commitments to implement actions of the 2018 Work Programmes under AMIF and ISF Police	100% of the available budget committed
Actions funded under emergency assistance AMIF (EMAS AMIF) to cover most pressing emergency needs	Level of actions supported by EMAS AMIF that cover the most pressing emergency needs	100% of actions funded to cover most pressing emergency needs based on the submitted applications

Other important outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
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¹⁰ The AMIF Emergency assistance 2019 work programme was adopted in 2018.

Management and follow-up of bilateral cooperation with priority partner countries	Meetings organised by DG HOME	At least 1 meeting with each of the partner countries
Management of the Prague Process and of the Budapest Process	Workshops organised where HOME policy priorities are reflected	3 workshops
Support provided to the African Union and African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) processes	EU Home Affairs priorities reflected in reports of the AU-EU Summit and ACP-EU Dialogue on Migration and Development, as well as in reports and in the final text of EU-ACP Post Cotonou negotiations	Q4 2019
Participation in Khartoum process, in Rabat process	Number of meetings attended and for which DG HOME coordinated COM inputs	At least 4 meetings
Contribution to the implementation of the La Valetta action plan	EU Home Affairs priorities reflected in meeting reports	Participation to at least 2 meetings Declarations following the meetings reflect EU policies on migration
Advancing the work and actions on the implementation of the Western Balkan Strategy in particular Flagship 2	Strategic inputs provided to high level conferences on Western Balkans Relevant actions under the strategy initiated/completed in 2019	At least 3 high level conferences
Support provided to the UN Global Compacts processes on migration and on refugees	EU Home Affairs priorities reflected in meeting reports, in the implementation process and in particular in the Modalities of the International Migration Review Forum	Participation to at least 2 meetings Declarations following the meetings reflect EU policies on migration
Operational deployment of EMLOs – support through training and monitoring	- Number of training sessions - Number of video conferences - Number of country reports produced by EMLOs	- One 3-day networking/training event Q1 2019 - 4 video conferences - 100reports
Implementation of the EU Action Plan on Migrant Smuggling	- Number of expert meetings to implement different priority strands in the action plan - Number of cooperation platforms launched on migrant smuggling in third countries - Number of common operational partnership (also known as Joint Investigation Team) supporting law enforcement cooperation between EU Member States	-5 -At least 1 -At least 1

	and third countries on migrant smuggling - Number of awareness raising and information campaigns on the risks of irregular migration in selected third-countries	-At least 1
Monitoring of - The implementation of EU Action Plan on Migrant Smuggling - The performance of return systems across the EU (EU Member States and EBCGA)	Number of inputs to progress reports on the European Agenda on Migration with a focus on - EU Action Plan on Migrant Smuggling - Returns and readmissions	- At least 1 input on migrant smuggling - At least 1 input on returns and readmissions
Schengen evaluations on return (in line with Regulation 1053/2013) More information on multi-purpose Schengen evaluations, is provided under Objective 1.2	Number of on-site visits	At least 5 Member States
Continuation of negotiations with a view to concluding new readmission agreements	Number of countries with which negotiations will continue in 2019	5 countries
Continuation of dialogues to establish new informal readmission arrangements	Number of countries with which dialogues will continue in 2019	3 countries
Continuation of dialogues to implement existing readmission agreements and informal readmission arrangements	Number of countries with which dialogues are continued in 2019	8 countries

1.2. *Effective border management: Save lives and secure EU external border*

The Commission is today proposing to further strengthen the European Border and Coast Guard to better protect our external borders.

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, State of the Union Address, 12 September 2018

Under this specific objective, DG HOME's intervention in 2019 will contribute to:

➤ *Strengthening the protection of the EU's external borders*

The revised Regulation on the **European Border and Coast Guard** (EBCG)¹¹, which the Commission proposed in September 2018, will reinforce a European integrated management of the external borders, among others by enabling the EBCGA to establish

¹¹ COM(2018) 631, COM(2018) 632

a standing corps of 10 000 EU border guards by 2020 and allowing it to operate in partner countries outside the EU. The proposal also provides for expanding the **European Border Surveillance System** (EUROSUR) to make it the "backbone" of the European Integrated Border Management (IBM). All its components will be embedded into the functioning of the EBCG.

In 2019, DG HOME will facilitate the interinstitutional negotiation of the new proposal aiming to reach a quick agreement. At the same time it will continue supporting, monitoring and reporting on the operationalisation of the EBCGA. This will include the monitoring of implementation of the five status agreements that were concluded in 2018 with Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia with a view to deploying European Border Guard teams on the territory of these third countries.

In line with Regulations No 2342/2002 and No 1268/2012, an evaluation of the actions/measures funded from the Schengen Facility for Croatia, which were implemented in the period 2013-2017, is to be concluded by the 2nd quarter of 2019. In addition, in 2019, DG HOME will complete a study and deliver a report on the implementation of Regulation 2017/458 introducing systematic checks on all persons crossing the external borders.

DG HOME will continue supporting the **hotspot** approach in cooperation with the host Member States (Greece and Italy) relevant EU Agencies and Member State experts. It will coordinate activities including to address trafficking in human beings in mixed migration flows, taking into account the gender specificity of the phenomenon. Furthermore DG HOME will monitor the implementation of hotspots.

DG HOME will monitor progress in implementing, the **EU-Turkey Statement** and in fulfilling the outstanding benchmarks of the Visa Liberalisation Dialogue¹² building on the second report under the Visa Suspension Mechanism¹³. DG HOME will also help to create **controlled centres** in EU Member States that volunteer to host them. Their purpose will be to swiftly distinguish between migrants entitled to international protection and those with no right to stay and who will be returned. Furthermore, DG HOME will continue ensuring a dialogue on the **Central Mediterranean route** through the **Contact Group** gathering Ministries of Interior from EU and southern partner countries to monitor the development of the flows and to address priorities with a view to securing EU borders.

DG HOME will also ensure that EU standards and practices are applied so as to deliver on **Eastern Partnership (EaP) deliverable 17** on Mobility and People to People Contacts – Visa Liberalisation and Mobility Partnerships. In particular under deliverable 17 Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine continue to fulfil the Visa Liberalisation Action Plans benchmarks, as per the first Commission report under the Visa Regulation's new suspension mechanism. Modernisation of Border Crossing Points' network is on track – e.g. the first jointly operated EU-EaP border crossing point (Poland and Ukraine). The EBCGA provides continued support to capacity building. In accordance with the EaP state of play¹⁴ in 2019 the progress of Mobility Partnership will continue to be monitored through ad hoc meetings and follow up reports.

Using the **Schengen evaluation mechanism**¹⁵, DG HOME regularly evaluates how Member States apply the Schengen rules in a number of fields, namely management of

¹² SWD (2018) 153 Turkey 2018 Report - Regarding the Visa Liberalisation Dialogue, Turkey presented in February 2018 a work plan outlining how Turkey plans to fulfil the seven outstanding benchmarks, out of 72 listed in the visa roadmap. - <https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/20180417-turkey-report.pdf>

¹³ COM(2018) 856
The first report under the Visa Suspension Mechanism produced under DG HOME lead was published on the 20.12.2017, COM(2017)815, https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/sites/homeaffairs/files/what-is-new/news/20171220_first_report_under_suspension_mechanism_en.pdf, The second report will be published on 19.12. 2018.

¹⁴ https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/eap_generic_factsheet_eng_web.pdf

¹⁵ Regulation (1053/2013)

the external border, return, common visa policy, the Schengen Information System and police cooperation (Schengen evaluations in the field of data protection are carried out by DG JUST). The **Schengen evaluation mechanism** thus serves multiple specific objectives, in particular specific objectives 1.1, 1.2, 1.4 and 2.2. Schengen evaluations are key instruments to assess Member States' compliance with the relevant acquis, common standards and basic principles and norms. To organise the evaluations, the Commission establishes multi-annual and annual programmes. In the fourth quarter of 2018, the Commission adopted a programme for announced visits to at least 5 Member States in 2019, to carry out evaluations in the above-mentioned fields. A programme for carrying out unannounced visits in 2019 to Member States in a number of the above-mentioned fields, as well as on the absence of border control at internal borders will be adopted in early 2019.

In addition, depending on the seriousness of the deficiencies identified and the measures taken to remedy them, revisits may also be scheduled.

Given the end of the first multiannual Schengen evaluation cycle 2014-2019, the Commission will have to establish and adopt in 2019 a new multi-annual evaluation programme (2020-2024), as well as a revised Schengen Standard Questionnaire¹⁶.

DG HOME will also follow up on the vulnerability assessments carried out by the EBCGA and in particular the link these have with the Schengen evaluations.

In 2019, DG HOME will, for as long as required by the Council Presidency, continue to contribute to the EU Integrated Political Crisis Response Arrangements (IPCR) activated in relation to the migration crisis, among others through participating at the roundtables at high and working level and editing restricted Integrated Situational Awareness and Analysis (ISAA) reports on the migration and refugee crisis (currently weekly). DG HOME will also continue its work on a possible monitoring and early warning mechanism for migration flows.

Using IT systems and technologies for Smart Borders to better ensure internal security and facilitate the border crossing of bona fide travellers

The three legislative proposals that the Commission presented in 2016 to enhance the use of the **Schengen Information System** (SIS)¹⁷ were adopted by co-legislators in 2018. A new Regulation on the European Union Agency for the Operational Management of Large-Scale IT Systems in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (eu-LISA), amending Regulation (EC) No 1987/2006 and Council Decision 2007/533/JHA and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1077/2011 was also adopted in 2018. In 2019, DG HOME will monitor their implementation.

In 2016 the Commission also presented a legislative proposal for an **Entry/Exit System** (EES) to register entry and exit data and refusal of entry data of third-country nationals crossing the external borders of the Member States, which was adopted by co-legislators on 30 November 2017. The new Regulation (EU) 2017/222 requires the adoption of implementing measures in order for eu-LISA to be able to complete its call for tender. In 2019, the remainder of the implementing measures will be agreed on with the Smart Borders Committee and proposed for adoption by the Commission. Since 2018, the project to develop and implement the EES is monitored by means of Commission's participation in the governance of the project. This involves the participation in the project's Programme Management Board and Advisory Group from 2018 until the project is delivered.

In 2016, the Commission also presented a legislative proposal for a **European Travel Information and Authorisation System** (ETIAS) for visa-exempt third-country nationals "enabling consideration of whether the presence of those third-country nationals in the territory of the Member States would pose a security, illegal immigration or high epidemic risk". The ETIAS establishing Regulation (EU) 2018/1240 requires the

¹⁶ Commission Implementing Decision C(2014) 4657 of 11.7.2014.

¹⁷ OJ L312/1, OJ L 312/14, OJ L312/56, 7.12.2018

adoption of 21 implementing measures and 14 delegated acts. In 2019, the 12 implementing measures and 3 delegated acts necessary to start the development of ETIAS should be adopted by the Commission. The project for development of ETIAS and its links with EES will also be initiated and monitored by means of Commission's participation in the governance of the project. This also involves the participation in the same Programme Management Board mentioned above and dedicated meetings of the Advisory Group from the end of 2018 till the project is delivered.

The EES Regulation contains provisions for facilitating border control which need to be implemented to keep or reinstaure reasonable border crossing times. The solutions to be deployed need in particular to be studied for land borders. A specific action is anticipated for this.

Both EES and ETIAS provide that carriers will need to access a webservice before boarding travellers. As per both regulations a comprehensive solution needs to be developed protecting existing investments made by carriers. A specific consultation of carriers and development of a solution will need to be conducted in 2019.

In December 2017, the Commission adopted proposals on the **interoperability**¹⁸ between EU information systems for security, border and migration management. The aim is to close information gaps by upgrading the information systems and making them work together in a smarter and more efficient way. In 2019, DG HOME will continue facilitating the negotiation on the proposals in the Council and the European Parliament with a view to securing their adoption still during this legislature before the 2019 European elections.

DG HOME will carry out an evaluation of Council Directive 2004/82/EC on **Advance Passenger Information** (API) in the second semester 2019.

The **Internal Security Fund** (ISF) – **borders and visa** will continue supporting actions to ensure an integrated and harmonised border management system based on protection and control measures. In this respect, it will support inter alia the setting up and maintenance of IT systems for the efficient management of migration flows, cooperation actions, training and secondment of staff, reaction capabilities and other equipment.

Like AMIF, ISF is mainly implemented through shared management based on the national programmes of Member States. DG HOME will continue providing necessary information and guidance to Member States and cooperating with them to monitor the implementation of the actions. A smaller share of the funding will continue to be managed directly by DG HOME through Union Actions and emergency assistance.

'**Secure Societies**' Programme under Horizon 2020 will also continue supporting actions to develop technologies, tools and methodologies which contribute to securing EU external borders. This will include both control and surveillance issues, on land and in the maritime domain. It will contribute to further develop the European Border Surveillance System (EUROSUR), its interoperability with other systems, and to enhance the use of new technology for border checks. It will also address supply chain security in the context of the EU's customs policy, and migrant smuggling.

In addition, DG HOME will also facilitate the inter-institutional negotiation on the proposals that the Commission adopted in June 2018 for the new **Border Management and Visa Instrument as part of the Integrated Border Management Fund** within the post-2020 Multi-annual Financial Framework (MFF).

General objective 1. : Towards a new policy on migration	
Specific objective 1.2. : Border management: Save lives and secure EU external border	Related to spending programme ISF Borders and Visa, Horizon 2020
Main outputs in 2019:	

¹⁸ COM(2017)794

Delivery on legislative proposals pending with the legislator

Output	Indicator	Target
Proposal for a revised Regulation on the European Border and Coast Guard including the integration of the European Border Surveillance system(EUROSUR)	Adoption by the co-legislators	May 2019
Proposal on Interoperability between EU information systems for security, border and migration management	Adoption by the co-legislators	May 2019
Proposal for Revised Schengen Borders Code (amending the provisions on temporary reintroduction of internal border controls)	Adoption by the co-legislators	May 2019
Proposal on Integrated Border Management Fund	Political agreement	May 2019

Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes

For a complete listing of expenditure-related outputs please refer to the Programme Statements published together with the [Draft Budget for 2019](#).

Output	Indicator	Target
Horizon 2020 Secure Societies Work Programme: Launch of projects	Number of sub-topics to be covered by projects Signature date of the Grant Agreements Total amount of EU contribution	7 8 months after submission deadline EUR 41 million
Support and monitoring actions provided to MS to implement the Internal Security Fund (ISF) – borders and visa	Number of monitoring visits in MS Number of meetings (Committees, informal workshops etc) with MS to exchange best practice and ensure performance of implementation	At least 1 visit to each MS At least 5 meetings
Financing decisions 2019 under direct management PLAN/2018/4124 PLAN/2018/4127	Adoption of all relevant Annual Work Programmes 2019 under ISF Borders and Visa (Union Actions and emergency assistance)	Adopted for the full coverage of direct management budget by Q1 2019

Contracts and grant agreements under direct management	Completion of the legal commitments to implement actions of the 2018 Work Programmes for ISF Borders and Visa	100% of the available appropriations
Actions funded under emergency assistance (EMAS) for ISF Borders and Visa covering most pressing emergency needs	Level of actions funded under EMAS ISF Borders that cover the most pressing emergency needs	100% of actions funded covering most pressing emergency needs based on the submitted applications
Evaluation of Schengen Facility for Croatia PLAN/2017/2172	Staff working document published and Commission report adopted	Q2

Other important outputs		
Output	Indicator	Target
Evaluation of Council Directive 2004/82/EC of 29 April 2004 on the obligation of carriers to communicate passenger data (API Directive) PLAN/2018/4573	Staff Working Document	Q3
Monitoring of the roll out of the European Border and Coast Guard	Number of inputs to the progress report on the European Agenda on migration	At least 1
Monitoring of the status agreements with 5 Western Balkan Countries	Number of inputs to the progress report on the European Agenda on migration	At least 1
Monitoring of the implementation of the Schengen Information System under the existing legislation	Number of meetings of the SIS VIS Committee	At least 7
Monitoring of the activities of eu-LISA under the new legislation	Number of Management Boards and Advisory Groups	3 Management Boards and 4 Advisory Groups (per ITsystem)
Preparation of the implementation of the new Schengen Information System (implementing and delegated acts) PLAN/2018/3653 PLAN/2018/3654 PLAN/2018/3655 PLAN/2018/3656 PLAN/2018/3657 PLAN/2018/3658 Preparation of development together with eu-LISA and Member States	Number of implementing and delegated acts adopted	All necessary acts adopted by end 2019
Preparation of the implementing decisions for EES PLAN/2018/3647 PLAN/2018/3648 PLAN/2018/3649 PLAN/2018/3651	Number of implementing decisions agreed on with Smart Borders Committee (SBC)	At least 5 implementing decision having reached a status of consensus within SBC

Monitoring of the implementation of the EES under the project governance defined in the Regulation	Number of Programme Management Board (PMB) and Advisory Group (AG) meetings	Participation in all PMB (estimate of 5) and AG meetings scheduled (estimate of 5) by eu-LISA
Preparation of the implementing decisions and delegated acts necessary for starting the development of ETIAS PLAN/2018/3565 PLAN/2018/3568 PLAN/2018/3570 PLAN/2018/3572 PLAN/2018/3574 PLAN/2018/3576 PLAN/2018/3577 PLAN/2018/3579 PLAN/2018/3581 PLAN/2018/3583 PLAN/2018/3584 PLAN/2018/3586 PLAN/2018/3598 PLAN/2018/3599 PLAN/2018/3600 PLAN/2018/3602 PLAN/2018/3603 PLAN/2018/3605 PLAN/2018/3606 PLAN/2018/3607 PLAN/2018/3611 PLAN/2018/3617 PLAN/2018/3619 PLAN/2018/3621 PLAN/2018/3622 PLAN/2018/3625 PLAN/2018/3626 PLAN/2018/3627 PLAN/2018/3628 PLAN/2018/3629 PLAN/2018/3631 PLAN/2018/3634 PLAN/2018/3635	Number of decisions agreed and acts agreed on with Smart Borders Committee (SBC)	12 decisions and 5 acts have reached a status of consensus within SBC
Monitoring the implementation of ETIAS under the project governance defined in the Regulation	Number of Programme Management Board (PMB) and Advisory Group (AG) meetings	Participation in all PMB (estimate of 5) and AG meetings scheduled (estimate of 5) by eu-LISA
Organisation of workshop on the implementation of EES at land borders in the scope of the planned study	Number of meetings with MS having a land border	Minimum 2
Organisation of workshop on the impact of EES and ETIAS on carriers	Number of meetings with carrier organisations	Minimum 2
Strengthening and further developing the Commission coordination and facilitation role in hotspot areas, in close cooperation with EU agencies and taking into account the European Border and Coast Guard (EBCG) Regulation	- Number of meetings of the EU Regional Task Force involving EU Agencies chaired by DG HOME Organisation/ Participation, where relevant, in coordination mechanisms between EU agencies, national authorities and other stakeholders (e.g. UNHCR, IOM, NGOs) at central or local hotspot levels	- Weekly (IT) monthly (EL) - 100% participation, where relevant - Monthly meetings in EL
Monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the hotspot approach and migration management support	- Release of regular reports - Contributions to reports or ad hoc publications - Number of inputs on the implementation of migration management support in the progress report on the European Agenda on Migration	- Bi-weekly reports (IT, EL & ES) - At least 3 - At least 1

Commission Implementing Decision establishing the 2020 programmes for Schengen evaluations (announced and unannounced visits). PLAN/2018/4092 (announced visits)	Adoption by the Commission	Q3/Q4
Commission Implementing Decision establishing the multiannual evaluation programme for 2020 - 2024 PLAN/2018/4093	Adoption by the Commission	Q2
Schengen evaluation reports (Commission Implementing Decisions) and proposals for recommendations (Commission proposal for a Council Implementing Decision) concerning announced and unannounced on-site visits to Member States	Number of reports and number of proposals for recommendations adopted by the Commission	At least 25 reports and 25 recommendations
Commission Implementing Decision revising Commission Implementing Decision C(2014) 4657 of 11.7.2014 establishing a Schengen standard questionnaire PLAN/2018/4094	Adoption by the Commission	Q2
Annual report on the Schengen evaluation mechanism PLAN/2018/4644	Adoption of the report	Q1/Q2
Study on the implementation of Regulation 2017/458 introducing systematic checks on all persons crossing the external borders	Publication of the study	Q3
Integrated Situational Awareness and Analysis reports in the framework of the European Union Integrated Political Crisis Response arrangements	Reports transmitted to the Council	Weekly reports (due every Tuesday)
Preparation of HOME contribution for, and when relevant representation at, IPCR meetings on the migration crisis	Number of meetings	5
Publications on migratory flows and other migration related data, including an early warning perspective	Publications produced	Quarterly
Support to Eastern Partnership countries to align with EU standards and practices and delivering on Eastern Partnership 2020 deliverable 17	Meetings organised by DG HOME under the Eastern Partnership Panel on Migration Mobility and Integrated Border Management	At least 3 meetings
Strengthening and advancing the implementation of the EU-Turkey Statement	Numbers of irregular arrivals reduced compared to 2015	Numbers reflected in weekly reports, including ISAA and Greece reports
Ensuring that migration policies are adequately reflected in all Central Mediterranean Contact Group	Meetings to prepare the declarations to be adopted	2 meetings

1.3. Enhanced protection and solidarity

We need more solidarity not for solidarity's sake but for the sake of efficiency.

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, State of the Union Address, 12 September 2018

Efforts will continue to reform the Common European Asylum System and to provide legal pathways to access international protection in the EU.

➤ *Strengthening the Common European Asylum System*

In 2016, the Commission presented a set of proposals to reform the **Common European Asylum System (CEAS)**, including the Dublin system. Their adoption is essential to ensure a fair sharing of responsibilities between Member States, establish a common procedure for international protection and uniform standards for qualifying for refugee status as well as for the rights granted to asylum-seekers and refugees. In 2018, the co-legislators reached a broad political agreement on 5 out of 7 proposals, namely as regards the setting-up of a fully fledged European Union Asylum Agency; the reform of Eurodac; the review of the Reception Conditions Directive; the Asylum Qualification Regulation and the EU Resettlement framework. These now need to be finalised and adopted before the 2019 European elections, taking into account the amended Commission proposal on the new Asylum Agency presented in September 2018.

In 2019, DG HOME will continue to pro-actively facilitate discussions among Member States with a view to reaching a common position in the Council on the remaining two asylum proposals (reform of the Dublin system and the Asylum Procedure Regulation). DG HOME will further support the inter-institutional negotiations leading to adoption.

In parallel, DG HOME will continue monitoring the infringement cases that have been initiated since 2013 in relation to the transposition and implementation of the **current CEAS rules**.

DG HOME will also continue working with **European Asylum Support Office (EASO)** to support Member States under pressure while facilitating and strengthening practical cooperation among Member States.

At the same time, DG HOME will continue contributing to steering EASO's activities and monitoring the agency's governance and its performance in implementing its work programme, notably through actively participating in the agency's Management Board meetings.

➤ *A structured EU system on resettlement*

Pending the adoption of a permanent EU Resettlement Framework as part of the reform of the CEAS, the Commission presented an ambitious **resettlement** plan¹⁹ in September 2017. The plan proposed at least 50 000 resettlement places for particularly vulnerable persons in need of international protection who would be admitted by EU Member States by the end of October 2019. By mid 2018, 20 Member States pledged a total of 50 039 resettlement places. Implementation of the new scheme started in December 2017 and by October 2018, over 13 000 people were resettled. DG HOME will continue to monitor the implementation of the scheme and report on its achievements.

The **Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)** will continue supporting actions to implement, strengthen and develop the common policy on asylum. In this respect, it will support, inter alia, capacity-building measures in Member States, reception conditions for asylum seekers, support services, relocation and resettlement operations, and the Humanitarian Legal Admission from Turkey.

The operation of this multi-purpose Fund is presented under specific objective 1.1.

¹⁹ COM(2017) 8020 final

General objective 1. : Towards a new policy on migration**Specific objective 1.3. : Enhanced protection and solidarity**

Related to spending programme Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund

Main outputs in 2019:**Delivery on legislative proposals pending with the legislator**

Output	Indicator	Target
Proposals on Reform of the Common European Asylum System: -EU Asylum Agency -Eurodac -Reception Conditions -Resettlement framework -Asylum Qualification -Dublin -Asylum procedure	Adoption by the co-legislators	May 2019
Proposal on Asylum and Migration Fund	Political agreement	May 2019

Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes

For a complete listing of expenditure-related outputs please refer to the Programme Statements published together with the [Draft Budget for 2019](#).

Output	Indicator	Target
AMIF outputs, indicators and targets have been specified under specific objective 1.1		

Other important outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
Regular monitoring and reporting on resettlement	Number of inputs on resettlement included in progress report on the European Agenda on Migration	At least 1 on resettlement
Follow up on infringement cases initiated since 2013 in relation to the transposition and implementation of the current CEAS rules (Dublin, Eurodac, Asylum Procedures, Qualification, Reception Conditions)	Number of infringement cases on which formal steps are taken in relation to failure to communicate measures for the transposition of one of the CEAS Directives (non-communications) Number of infringement cases in relation to systematic breach of the current CEAS rules on which formal steps are taken.	At least 50 non-communication cases. At least 8 cases
Contributing to the steering of EASO's activities and to the monitoring of EASO's performance in implementing its work	Participation in EASO Management Board meetings and in the Management Board preparatory meetings	One meeting of Management Board and one preparatory meeting per quarter

programme	Review of EASO management reports submitted by the Agency to the Management Board on regular basis.	100%
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1.4. *A new policy on legal migration to address skill shortages in the EU and enhance effective integration*

Under this specific objective, DG HOME's intervention in 2019 will contribute to:

- *Well-managed legal migration and visa policy*

"I would also like to remind Member States again of the need to open legal pathways to the Union. I renew my call. We need skilled migrants."

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, State of the Union Address, 12 September 2018

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.

This is why, in June 2016, the Commission adopted a proposal on entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purpose of highly skilled employment (**Blue Card proposal**). The aim is to improve the EU's ability to attract and retain highly skilled workers. Building on the 2018 Communication on legal pathways for migration²⁰, DG HOME will continue facilitating inter-institutional negotiation with a view to having the Blue Card proposal adopted by co-legislators before the 2019 European elections.

In 2019, the Commission will publish a staff working document on the fitness check of the legal migration acquis. It will also adopt three reports relating to the implementation by Member States of the Long Term resident directive, Single Permit directive and Family Reunification directive.

In 2018, the Commission presented proposals on a revision of the common **visa policy** to adjust it to changing migration and security developments as well as with the new future border management systems (EES and ETIAS) and proposed to launch a reflection on further digitisation of visa procedures. They included proposals to:

- Amend the **Visa Code** to enhance harmonisation of Member States' practices regarding the processing and decision making on visa applications and to link the application of certain procedural facilitations to third countries' level of cooperation on readmission
- Revise the legal framework of the **Visa Information System (VIS)**

In 2019, DG HOME will continue to support the interinstitutional negotiation on these proposals.

Negotiations on **EU visa facilitation agreements** will continue with Belarus, Tunisia and China and may be relaunched with Morocco.

Work will also continue with a view to achieving political agreement on the Commission proposals exempting nationals of Turkey and Kosovo* from the visa requirement.

Efforts will also be pursued with a view to achieving full visa waiver reciprocity for all Member States.

²⁰ COM/2018/635

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

As part of the **Schengen evaluation mechanism**, DG HOME will perform on-site visits to assess Member States' practices and foster compliance with the relevant acquis regarding the common visa policy.

➤ *Effective integration*

In 2019, DG HOME will support integration efforts of Member States through activities in the field of integration in the labour market including through cooperation with economic and social partners, support to local and regional authorities through training and funding and to national authorities through organizing mutual learning activities.

- In the context of the **European Integration Network**, two study visits for Member States representatives from national and local authorities and NGOs will be organized in 2019: one in Denmark in May and one in France in autumn. In addition, a training session (Urban Academy) of two days will be organised for local and regional politicians/officials on the topic of immigration again in 2019, as participants assessed the first successful edition in 2018 as very relevant and useful.
- In 2019, DG HOME will finance under AMIF the setting up of **transnational networks of cities and regions** to cooperate on integration.
- A high level event on labour market integration, focusing on the mobilisation of the private sector for integration, will be organised in the first quarter 2019
- On 3 and 4 April 2019, the **European Migration Forum** will bring together 200 representatives from NGOs to discuss legal migration issues.
- In the autumn, a **conference on integration** targeting specifically local and regional authorities will be organized in Brussels. This conference will be a follow-up of the successful conference organized in 2017 and will particularly focus on the funding in the context of the preparation of the future MFF.

Within the framework of the **European semester**, DG HOME will provide further analytical input and policy suggestions regarding the integration of third-country nationals for the Member States where this issue is relevant.

The **Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund** (AMIF) will continue supporting actions to develop legal migration to the Member States in accordance with their economic and social needs, and to promote the effective integration of third-country nationals. In this respect, it will support inter alia integration actions involving regional and local actors, education and training, including language classes, civic orientation courses, cooperation with third countries, capacity-building actions and other self-empowerment initiatives to enable third-country nationals to provide for themselves.

The operation of this multi-purpose Fund is presented under specific objective 1.1.

➤ *Maximising the development benefits for countries of origin*

Africa does not need charity, it needs true and fair partnerships. And Europe needs this partnership just as much.

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, State of the Union Address, 12 September 2018

In 2019, DG HOME will continue promoting a comprehensive approach on migration and mobility with third countries in line with the Partnership Framework. It will provide strategic guidance, in particular through the **Mobility Partnership Facility** (MPF).

The MPF will benefit areas that receive no financial support from the EU Trust Funds or other EU instruments such as the European Neighbourhood Facility, Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI) and Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection managed by DG ECHO.

DG HOME will continue coordinating and supporting pilot projects with third countries through which Member States receive a number of migrants coming to the EU via legal migration channels, in particular for economic purposes.

General objective 1.: Towards a new policy on migration**Specific objective 1.4. : A new policy on legal migration and integration**

Related to spending programme Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund

Main outputs in 2019:**Delivery on legislative proposals pending with the legislator**

Output	Indicator	Target
Proposal on Entry and residence of third country nationals for the purposes of highly-skilled employment (revised Blue Card directive)	Adoption by the co-legislators	May 2019
Proposal for a Council Regulation amending the Visa Code	Adoption by the co-legislators	March 2019
Proposal for a Revised Regulation 767/2008 concerning the Visa Information System (VIS) and the exchange of data between Member States on short-stay visas and Regulation 810/2009 establishing a Community Code on visas (the Visa Code) on VIS related aspects	Political agreement	May 2019
Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 539/2001 listing the third countries whose nationals must be in possession of visas when crossing the external borders and those whose nationals are exempt from that requirement, as regards the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the Union	Adoption by the co-legislators	March 2019
Proposal on Asylum and Migration Fund Proposal on Integrated Border Management Fund	Political agreement	May 2019

All new initiatives / significant evaluations from the Commission Work Programme

Output	Indicator	Target
Staff Working Document	Publication of the SWD	Q1 2019

(SWD) on legal migration fitness check 2016/HOME/199		
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Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes

For a complete listing of expenditure-related outputs please refer to the Programme Statements published together with the [Draft Budget for 2019](#).

Output	Indicator	Target	Responsible Unit
AMIF outputs, indicators and targets have been specified under specific objective 1.1			

Other important outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
Implementation of the Long-term residents Directive PLAN/2018/2835	Adoption of the implementation report by the Commission	Q2 2019
Implementation of the single permit Directive PLAN/2018/2837	Adoption of the implementation report by the Commission	Q2 2019
Implementation of the Family reunification Directive PLAN/2018/2836	Adoption of the implementation report by the Commission	Q2 2019
Proposals for Council Decisions on the signing and conclusion of the agreement on the facilitation of the issuance of visas between the European Union and Belarus PLAN/2017/2096 and PLAN/2017/2095	Adoption of the proposals by the Commission	Q1 2019
Proposals for Council decisions on the signing and conclusion of the agreement on the facilitation of the issuance of visas between the European Union and China 2016/HOME/195	Number of negotiation rounds	At least 2 in 2019
Proposals for Council decisions on the signing and conclusion of the agreement on the facilitation of the issuance of visas between the European Union and Tunisia PLAN/2018/4195 and PLAN/2018/4196	Number of negotiating rounds	At least 2 in 2019
Third countries whose nationals are subject to or exempt from a visa requirement: Kosovo	Political agreement	May 2019
Third countries whose nationals are subject to or exempt from a visa requirement: Turkey	Political agreement	May 2019
Schengen evaluations on the common visa policy More information on multi-purpose Schengen evaluations is provided under Objective 1.2	Number of on-site visits	At least 5 Member States

Under the European Integration Network, mutual learning activities for Member States in order to share experience and exchange best practices relating to integration	Number of study visits Number of workshops	At least 2 study visits and one 2-day training session
Number of networks of cities and regions financed under the AMIF integration call launched at the end of 2018	Number of networks	At least 3
Conference on integration for local and regional authorities	Organisation of a conference on integration for local and regional authorities	Q3/Q4 2019
European Migration Forum with the participation of 200 representatives from NGOs to discuss asylum, migration and integration-related issues	Organisation of the event	3 and 4 April 2019
Implementation of the Mobility Partnership Facility	Number of projects implemented under the Mobility Partnership Facility	At least 8 projects awarded in 2019 of which at least 2 on labour migration
Continuing the engagement and work on the visa liberalisation dialogue with Turkey	Number of meetings	At least 3 meetings

2. *An area of justice and fundamental rights based on mutual trust*

2.1. *A strong EU response to tackling terrorism and preventing radicalisation*

Only a strong and united Europe can protect our citizens against threats internal and external – from terrorism to climate change.

European Commission
President Jean-Claude Juncker, State of the Union Address, 12 September 2018

The terrorist threat remains present in the Member States of the European Union. In 2018, the Commission proposed further measures to restrain the space in which terrorists and criminals operate – denying them the means needed to plan, finance and carry out crimes. The **2018 April Counter-Terrorism Package** proposed initiatives aiming at providing law enforcement and judicial authorities with access to electronic evidence and financial information as well as further restriction of terrorists' access to explosives precursors. Moreover, in September 2018 the Commission proposed a regulation on preventing the dissemination of terrorist content online.

These initiatives coupled with the previous **Counter-Terrorism Package** presented in October 2017, which presented a set of operational and practical measures to better defend EU citizens against terrorist threats and deliver a Europe that protects, form a basis of DG HOME's work on counter-terrorism issues in 2019.

In 2019, DG HOME will continue supporting Member States in **protecting public spaces**, such as stadiums, venues hosting cultural events and market squares. In particular, DG HOME plans to identify and develop best practices for Member States' authorities and for private operators in the protection of public spaces. Furthermore, it will continue to work on enhancing preparedness against chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) risks.

Sharing information through relevant databases will remain a priority. Individual information systems will be improved. For instance, the strengthened **Schengen Information System** will help to identify potential terrorists even more effectively thanks to new functions related to **alerts on terrorist suspects**. Information systems should also work together in a more efficient way. To that end, DG HOME will continue facilitating the negotiation on the proposals on the **interoperability**²¹ between EU information systems for security in the Council and the European Parliament (see also under objective 1.2 above). All consequential amendments are included except for Eurodac.

The prevention of **radicalisation** will remain at the core of the EU's counter terrorism policies. In its final report of May 2018, the High level Commission Expert Group on Radicalisation (HLCEG-R) provided specific recommendations, which the Commission welcomed in its 15th Security Union Progress Report, published in June 2018²². The core messages were reiterated by the European Court of Auditors²³ and focused mainly on

- Effectively strengthening coordination mechanisms at EU level (among policy makers, practitioners and researchers, but also within the Commission)
- Improving the transparency of EU's prevention work and
- Supporting the capacity building of key stakeholders

In 2019, DG HOME will continue to follow-up on the HLCEG-R recommendations and coordinate and support the corresponding work strands, networks and activities at EU level.

In September 2018, the Commission adopted a proposal for a Regulation on preventing the dissemination of **terrorist content online**²⁴. Under the new rules, service providers will be requested to get terrorist content off the web within one hour of receiving the removal order from the national authorities. In 2019 DG HOME will support the interinstitutional negotiation on that proposal with a view to having it adopted by co-legislators before the 2019 European elections. In parallel, work will continue within the framework of the EU Internet Forum, including on promoting positive counter-narratives.

In 2019, DG HOME will be closely associated to DG JUST's work in setting up the future Centre of expertise for victims of terrorism.

Work will also continue in 2019 to restrict access to dangerous substances that can be used as **explosives** by terrorist networks. In April 2018, the Commission presented a proposal to revise the Regulation on the marketing and use of explosive precursors²⁵. In 2019, DG HOME will continue facilitating the negotiation between co-legislators on this proposal in view of its adoption before the 2019 European elections. DG HOME will develop guidelines on the implementation of the new Regulation together with the Standing Committee on Precursors. If deemed necessary, DG HOME will also organise preparatory workshops in order to ensure that the revised regulation is applied uniformly across the Union.

Cutting off sources of **terrorist financing** will remain another priority in 2019. The Commission has tightened its rules with the fifth Anti-Money Laundering Directive, in force since July 2018, and is carefully monitoring the implementation by Member States. This is complemented by a stronger criminal justice response to money laundering and terrorist financing with the adoption, in 2018, of a Directive on combating money laundering by criminal law. DG HOME will continue to monitor the existing means to track terrorist financing, with a view to ensuring that financial intelligence is used to its full effect in preventing terrorist attacks. Furthermore, DG HOME will start preparing the fifth joint review of the implementation of the EU-US Terrorist Finance Tracking Programme Agreement in early 2019.

²¹ COM(2017)794

²² COM(2018) 470 final

²³ Special report on "[Tackling radicalisation that leads to terrorism](#)" (13/2018)

²⁴ COM(2018) 640 final

²⁵ COM(2018)209 final

The exchange of **Passenger Name Record** (PNR) data among law enforcement authorities remains crucial, not only within the EU, but also with recognised international partners, to fight terrorism and organised crime. On 26 July 2017, the European Court of Justice issued an opinion on the envisaged EU Canada PNR Agreement with EU Law, observing that the agreement could not be concluded in its proposed form because several of its provisions were incompatible with the fundamental rights recognised by the EU, in particular the right to data protection and respect for private life. On 7 December 2017, the Justice and Home Affairs Council gave mandate to the Commission to negotiate a new agreement with Canada, in line with the requirements formulated by the Court. Negotiations started in 2018 and should be finalised in the course of 2019. Furthermore, DG HOME is also preparing for the joint evaluation of the EU-US PNR Agreement and the joint review and joint evaluation of the EU-Australia PNR Agreement in 2019. The Court's Opinion has no direct implications on Member States' obligation to implement Directive (EU) 2016/681 on the use of PNR data for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of terrorist offences and serious crime. DG HOME will continue to support Member States in their application of the Directive, including by promoting an effective information exchange network among the Passenger Information Units (PIUs). An assessment of the completeness and conformity of the transposition process of the Directive will be conducted in 2019.

DG HOME will continue to pursue efforts within the scope of the **European Programme for Critical Infrastructure Protection** (EPCIP) to support the Member States in protecting critical infrastructure. One pillar of this approach is Directive 2008/114, which establishes a procedure for identifying and designating European Critical Infrastructures (ECI) in the transport and energy sectors. DG HOME recently launched an evaluation of the Directive aimed at providing the Commission with a qualitative and quantitative evaluation of it since it was adopted in 2008 up to the present day. The evaluation will be completed during Q1 2019 and the Staff working document should be published in Q2 2019.

The **Internal Security Fund** (ISF) – Police will continue supporting actions to prevent and fight terrorism and radicalisation to ensure a high level of security in the Union. In this respect, it will support inter alia cooperation and coordination actions between security and law enforcement authorities and services, prevention activities, IT systems and other forms of information exchange, training schemes, equipment, sharing of best practices and development of risk assessments.

Since ISF is mainly implemented through shared management based on the national programmes of Member States, DG HOME will continue carrying out the monitoring process with Member States to ensure the cost-effective implementation, relevance, added value and coherence of actions.

A share of the funding will continue to be managed directly by DG HOME through Union Actions and emergency assistance. The Annual Work Programme for 2019 will shape their main priorities and modalities of implementation.

The **'Secure Societies' Programme** under Horizon 2020 will continue supporting actions to develop technologies, tools and methodologies that contribute to the fight against terrorism. The "Secure Society" call will address a range of topics including illegal trafficking and terrorism (including cyber-terrorism), along with understanding and tackling terrorist ideas and beliefs. Given that the fight against and the prevention of crime (including cyber-crime) will also be targeted, the output relating to Horizon 2020 Secure Societies Work Programme for 2019 and detailed in the table below will not only be valid for specific objective 2.1 but also for specific objective 2.2 (disrupt organised crime), specific objective 2.3 (fighting cybercrime) and beyond (protecting infrastructure of Europe in the European smart cities, pre-standarisation mechanisms for security, and general matters).

In addition, DG HOME will continue building up the "Community of Users" (CoU), which was launched at the end of 2014. This will entail two CoU Thematic Workshops and Governance Meetings in 2019. The aim is to build up synergies among H2020 and ISF projects in the CBRN-E area, to study and consolidate a strategy regarding standardization developments, and to study market opportunities for tools/technologies issued from EU-funded projects.

On an international level, the European Commission has taken the presidency of the International Forum to Advance First Responder Innovation (IFAFRI). IFAFRI collects the needs of First Responders and disseminates the results to stakeholders like R&D and industry.

In 2019, DG HOME will also facilitate the inter-institutional negotiation on the proposals that the Commission adopted in June 2018 for the Internal Security Fund within the post-2020 Multi-annual Financial Framework (MFF).

In 2019, DG HOME will strengthen bilateral counter-terrorism **cooperation with priority partner countries** (strategic partners – Schengen Associated Countries, USA - and neighbouring countries²⁶) **and multilateral organizations** (United Nations, Interpol) with a view to developing effective antiterrorism partnerships. DG HOME will participate in the regular counter-terrorism dialogues led by EEAS with the EU Counter-Terrorism Coordinator. With the help of Counter-Terrorism/Security experts deployed in EU Delegations, it will support concrete cooperation projects on the identified priorities:

- Development of bilateral action plans with each Western Balkan partner to implement the Joint Action Plan on Counter-Terrorism signed on 5 October 2018
- Support of the Radicalisation Awareness Network to priority countries
- Engagement with NATO on issues of mutual interest (e.g. CBRN, unmanned aerial vehicles)

DG HOME will continue working with EEAS and partners to enhance cooperation between military and law enforcement, Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) missions/operations and Justice and HOME Affairs (JHA) agencies.

Finally, DG HOME will continue reporting at regular intervals on the main achievements in tackling terrorism and preventing radicalisation in reports on progress towards an effective and genuine Security Union.

General objective 2. : An area of justice and fundamental rights based on mutual trust

Specific objective 2.1.: A strong EU response to tackling terrorism and preventing radicalisation Related to spending programme Internal Security Fund and Horizon 2020

Main outputs in 2019:

Delivery on legislative proposals pending with the legislator

Output	Indicator	Target
Proposal for Revision of the Regulation (EU) 98/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the marketing and use of explosives precursors	Adoption by co-legislators	May 2019
Proposal on Interoperability between EU information systems for security, border and migration management	Adoption by the co-legislators	May 2019
Proposal for a Regulation on preventing the	Adoption by co-legislators	May 2019

²⁶ Western Balkan, Turkey, Middle East and North Africa

dissemination of terrorist content online		
Proposal on Internal Security Fund Proposal on Integrated Border Management Fund	Political agreement	May 2019

Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes

For a complete listing of expenditure-related outputs please refer to the Programme Statements published together with the [Draft Budget for 2019](#).

Output	Indicator	Target
Horizon 2020 Secure Societies Work Programme- - launch of projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fighting crime and terrorism 	Number of sub-topics to be covered by projects Signature date of the Grant Agreements Total amount of EU contribution	5 8 months after date of submission deadline EUR 39 million
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protecting the infrastructure of Europe and the people in the European smart cities 	Number of sub-topics to be covered by projects Signature date of grant agreements Total amount of EU contribution	1 8 months after date of submission deadline EUR 24 million
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-standardisation mechanisms for security 	Number of sub-topics covered by projects Signature date of grant agreement Total amount of EU contribution	1 8 months after date of submission deadline EUR 0.9 million
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Matters 	Number of sub-topics covered by project Signature date of grant agreements Total amount of EU contribution	3 8 months after date of submission deadline EUR 11 million
Support and monitoring actions provided to MS to implement the Internal Security Fund (ISF) – police	Number of monitoring visits in MS Number of meetings (Committees, informal workshops etc) with MS to exchange best practices and ensure performance of implementation	At least 1 monitoring visit to each MS At least 5 meetings
Financing decisions 2019 under direct management	Adoption of all relevant Annual Work	Adopted for the full coverage of direct management budget by Q1

	Programmes 2019 under ISF – Police (Union Actions and Emergency Assistance)	2019
Contracts and grant agreements under direct management	Completion of the legal commitments to implement actions of the 2018 Work Programmes for ISF Police	100% of available appropriations

Other important outputs		
Output	Indicator	Target
Inputs to progress reports on Security Union relating to achievements in tackling terrorism and preventing radicalisation	Number of inputs to the progress reports	At least 4
Evaluation of Directive 2008/114/EC of 8 December 2008 on the identification and designation of European critical infrastructures and the assessment of the need to improve their protection (PLAN/2018/2389)	Staff working document published	Q2 2019
Support to Member States in their efforts to enhance preparedness against CBRN threat	Number of trainings for Member States organised in the EUSECTRA training facility	2
Support to the adoption and implementation of the Regulation on the prevention of the dissemination of terrorist content online	Number of meetings prepared, attended and followed up by DG HOME	At least 3
Delivering on both objectives of the EU Internet Forum (reducing the accessibility to terrorist content online and promoting positive alternative-narratives)	Number of meetings and workshops for relevant stakeholders of the Forum.	4
Support to enhanced cooperation between stakeholders in the protection area	- Number of meetings of the CBRN Security Advisory Group and other related expert meetings	2
	- Number of meetings on protection of public spaces, incl. operators forum, practitioners forum and policy group	2
	- Number of meetings on critical infrastructure	2

	<p>protection, including CIP Points of Contacts</p> <p>- Number of meetings of the Security Union Task Force Subgroup on Protection</p>	2
Study on the completeness and conformity of the transposition of the PNR Directive	Production of the study	By end of 2019
Support to the extension of an information exchange network among Passenger Information Units (PIUs)	Number of PIUs connected to the Europol's Secure Information Exchange Network Application (SIENA)	At least 20
Agreement between the EU and Canada on the processing and transfer of Passenger Name Record (PNR) data by air carriers (PLAN/2018/3194 PLAN/2018/3192)	<p>Adoption of the proposal for the signature of the Agreement (PLAN/2018/3194)</p> <p>Adoption of the proposal for the conclusion of the Agreement (PLAN/2018/3192)</p>	<p>Q2 2019</p> <p>Q2 2019</p>
Agreement between the EU and Mexico on the processing and transfer of Passenger Name Record (PNR) data by air carriers – (2015/HOME/235 2015/HOME/236)	<p>Adoption of the proposal for the signature of the Agreement (2015/HOME/236)</p> <p>Adoption of the proposal for the conclusion of the Agreement (2015/HOME/235)</p>	Planning depends on the progress made in the CAN PNR file
Joint Evaluation of the Agreement between the EU and the US on the use and transfer of Passenger Name Record (PNR) data	Adoption of a report on the joint evaluation	To be decided. Planning depends on the timing of the joint evaluation (still to be agreed with US).
Joint Evaluation of the Agreement between the EU and Australia on the processing and transfer of Passenger Name Record (PNR) data	Adoption of a report on the joint review	To be decided. Planning depends on the timing of the joint evaluation (still to be agreed with AUS).
Joint Review of the Agreement between the EU and Australia on the processing and transfer of Passenger Name Record (PNR) data	Adoption of a report on the joint review	To be decided. Planning depends on the timing of the joint evaluation (still to be agreed with AUS).
Support to Member States in the application of the EU PNR Directive	Number of meetings held with Member States with ISF financial support	At least 3 -
Support to enhanced cooperation between stakeholders in the area of prevention of radicalisation	<p>- Number of meetings of the Steering Board on Radicalisation</p> <p>- Number of meetings of the Network of</p>	<p>- 1</p> <p>- 2</p>

	<p>Prevention Policy Makers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of meetings of Policy makers and practitioners within the RAN - Number of meetings of the Security Union Task Force Subgroup on Radicalisation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 - 2
Transparency on EU funded projects in the area of prevention of radicalisation	Publicly available mapping of EU projects and programmes on radicalisation	By June 2019, in accordance with the follow up agreed on the report by the European Court of Auditors
Implementation of the Joint Action Plan on Counter-Terrorism for the Western Balkans – Bilateral tailor-made follow-up	<p>Bilateral plans proposed by the Commission</p> <p>Signature of the bilateral implementing action plan with each WB partner</p>	<p>6 proposed bilateral plans</p> <p>At least 3 bilateral implementing action plans agreed</p>
Support to Member States (and third countries) and practitioners in their prevention efforts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of tools, including guidance documents and training developed for Member States and practitioners - Number of bi- or multilateral Member States project-based collaborations and study visits - Number of RAN deployments to third countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In accordance with the agreed Annual Activity Plan of the RAN - 5 projects and 10 MSs involved (subject to the initiative of Member States) - 4 RAN deployments
Fifth Joint Review of the EU-US Terrorist Finance Tracking Programme Agreement	Adoption of a report on the joint review	Q2

2.2. Disrupt organised crime

Europeans rightly expect their Union to keep them safe.

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, State of the Union Address, 12 September 2018

Action will be taken to fight against terrorism in the areas of explosives. The use of Passenger Name Record and information systems (see under objective 2.1) will also help to disrupt organised crime. For instance, the strengthened Schengen Information System will not only help to identify potential terrorists but also potential criminals.

Providing law enforcement with the information they need to carry out investigations is critical for disrupting serious and organised cross-border crime. Centralised registries at national level provide all national bank accounts listed to one person. The proposal that was adopted in April 2018 as part of the Security Package, for a **Directive laying down rules facilitating the use of financial and other information for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of certain criminal offences** will help to improve the access to such registries by law enforcement authorities and the exchange of information, particularly relevant in serious and organised crime cases. It will also allow

authorities to more easily share such information with their counterparts in other Member States. In 2019, DG Home will continue taking an active role in the interinstitutional negotiation to facilitate adoption before the 2019 European elections.

In 2019, a **High level expert group on law enforcement** should be launched to look at the future policy and operational needs of the law enforcement community (access to and analysis of information, operational cooperation, research and training needs).

In order to strengthen **Europol's** role in fighting against cross-border crime, DG HOME will continue facilitating negotiations with third countries to establish their cooperation with Europol. DG HOME will also further support the work on technical solutions to improve the sharing of information with Europol.

As part of the **Schengen evaluation mechanism** (see also specific objective 1.2), DG HOME will perform on-site visits to Member States aiming, among other issues, to assess how they conduct cross-border police cooperation and use the related instruments, in particular joint patrols, hot pursuits and cross-border surveillance.

By autumn 2019, a feasibility study on improving information exchange under the **Prüm Decisions** (Council Decisions 2008/615/JHA and 2008/616/JHA), commissioned by DG HOME, will be finalised. The study will assess the feasibility of

- Adding new data categories to be exchanged by Member States
- Upgrading the standards and requirements for the exchange of information
- Improving the exchange of hit follow-up information
- Changing the technical architecture of the system
- Linking the Prüm framework to other JHA central information systems and interoperability components

Directive 2016/680 lays down **data protection** rules for law enforcement authorities. In 2019, the Commission will review Union acts that regulate the processing of personal data by the police and the judiciary. The aim will be to assess the need to align them with Directive 2016/680 and to make, where appropriate, the necessary proposals to amend them. This exercise will be led by DG JUST. DG HOME will contribute to it as about a third of the instruments concerned fall within DG HOME's remit. They include:

- The Prüm Decision, the Swedish Framework Decision, the Council Common Position 2005/69/JHA on exchanging certain data with Interpol and the EU PNR Directive 2016/681 (D1),
- SIS II, EURODAC, EES, ETIAS (B3) and VIS (B2) to the extent they concern access by law enforcement authorities to these databases,
- Council Directive 2004/82/EC on the obligation of carriers to communicate passenger data (API data)(C2),
- Council Decision 2007/845/JHA on cooperation between EU countries' Asset Recovery Offices (AROs) in the field of tracing and identification of proceeds from, or other property related to crime and Council Decision of 17 October 2000 concerning arrangements for cooperation between financial intelligence units (FIUs) of the Member States with respect to exchanging information (D3), and
- Council Framework Decision 2005/671/JHA of 20 September 2005 on the exchange of information and cooperation concerning terrorist offences, as amended by Directive (EU) 2017/541 (D2).

Preventing diversion from the legal trade to the black market remains a priority in international trade, and legislation needs to be adapted to current threats (for instance the increasing use of deactivated firearms). DG HOME will collect evidence on the possible options for the review of Regulation 258/2012 on import, export and transit authorisations of **firearms** and their respective impacts. The purpose of this study is to provide the Commission with a cost-benefit assessment of various policy options to improve the implementation of Article 10 of the United Nations Firearms Protocol in relation to export authorisations and import and transit measures for firearms, their parts and components and ammunition. In parallel, DG HOME will work to enhance the effective application of Regulation 258/2012. DG HOME will also prepare an evaluation report of the 2014-2019 Action Plan on firearms trafficking between the EU and the South East Europe Region, including a proposal for a new action plan.

As regards **drugs**, DG HOME will prepare a proposal for a common EU position on the scheduling of new psychoactive substances under the applicable UN Conventions for the 62nd session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND). Such a common EU position is important as changes to the Schedules²⁷ of the UN Conventions have direct repercussions for the scope of application of Union law in the area of drug control for all Member States (see Article 1 of Council Framework Decision 2004/757/JHA). In addition, the Commission will actively work on the preparation of the Ministerial Segment of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs that will take place in March 2019 and shape the future drugs policy.

DG HOME will prepare a report presenting the outcomes of the evaluation of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA). It will also launch the final evaluation of the EU Drugs Strategy (2013-2020).

In 2019, DG HOME will prepare the third report on the implementation of the Council Framework Decision on combating **corruption** in the private sector²⁸. Two implementation reports were already published in 2007²⁹ and 2011³⁰. The third implementation report will summarise the data received from Member States in 2016. In addition, DG HOME will continue contributing to the European Semester chapters on fighting corruption. DG HOME will continue to cooperate with a network of local research correspondents on corruption. Furthermore, it will organise up to four workshops as part of the experience-sharing programme that was launched by the Commission in 2015 to support Member States, local NGOs and other stakeholders in addressing specific challenges identified in the EU Anti-Corruption Report³¹.

DG HOME, in close cooperation with the Secretariat General of the Commission, will continue preparatory work for clarifying the competences of the Union with respect to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (UNTOC).

DG HOME will also follow up on the Eastern Partnership 2020^{32 33 34}. Deliverable number 9 ("Strengthening Institutions and Good Governance - Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption Mechanisms") and deliverable 12 ("Stronger cooperation in the area of security")

Under deliverable number 9, DG HOME will participate in efforts aiming at:

- Setting up an E-asset declaration system in Armenia, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. Azerbaijan has expressed interest in this system
- Establishing high-level anti-corruption bodies
- Setting up a track record of investigations and convictions of high-level and complex corruption cases
- Cooperating to develop tools for financial investigations
- Establishing public registries of beneficial ownership

With respect to deliverable number 12 DG HOME will help to strengthen the capacity of cybercrime units created within law enforcement authorities in order to make them operational.

Efforts to address **trafficking in human beings** will continue in 2019. The key outputs to be delivered by DG HOME are covered in the 2017 Communication "Reporting on the follow-up to the EU Strategy towards the eradication of trafficking in human beings and identifying further concrete actions"³⁵. They will include an **EU-wide awareness-raising**

²⁷ The Schedules of the UN drug Conventions are the annexes to the conventions in which the substances considered "drugs" under the Conventions are listed. The listing in the different Schedules leads to different consequences for these drugs.

²⁸ 2003/568/JHA of 22 July 2003.

²⁹ (COM (2007) 328 final

³⁰ (COM(2011) 309 final.

³¹ (COM(2014) 38 final.

³² https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/eap_generic_factsheet_eng_web.pdf

³³ https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/20_deliverables_for_2020.pdf

³⁴ https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/52216/eu-and-eap-countries-review-progress-achieved-under-20-deliverables-2020_en

³⁵ COM(2017) 728 final

campaign on trafficking in human beings and studies. The Union response to trafficking in human beings will be further coordinated, including through existing networks (e.g. via the meetings of the EU Civil Society Platform, the EU Network of National Rapporteurs and Equivalent Mechanisms, and the EU Agencies coordination group of contact points on trafficking in human beings).

The **Internal Security Fund (ISF) – police** will continue supporting actions to prevent and fight against organised crime with a view to ensuring a high level of security in the Union. In this respect, it will support inter alia cooperation and coordination actions between security and law enforcement authorities and services, prevention activities, IT systems and other forms of exchange of information, training schemes, equipment, sharing of best practices and development of risk assessments. The operation of this multi-purpose Fund is presented under specific objective 2.1.

The outputs relating to 'Secure Societies' Programme under Horizon 2020 in this area have been presented under specific objective 2.1.

Finally, DG HOME will continue reporting on the main achievements in disrupting organised crime in the regular progress reports on the Security Union.

General objective 2.: An area of justice and fundamental rights based on mutual trust		
Specific objective 2.2.: Disrupt organised crime		Related to spending programme Internal Security Fund and Horizon 2020
Main outputs in 2019:		
Delivery on legislative proposals pending with the legislator		
Output	Indicator	Target
Proposal for a Directive on facilitating the use of financial information for the prevention, detection, investigation or prosecution of certain criminal offences	Adoption by the co-legislators	May 2019
Proposal on Internal Security Fund Proposal on Integrated Border Management Fund	Political agreement	May 2019

Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes		
<i>For a complete listing of expenditure-related outputs please refer to the Programme Statements published together with the Draft Budget for 2019.</i>		
Output	Indicator	Target
Horizon 2020 Secure Societies Work Programme: - launch of projects Please refer to Specific Objective 2.1		
Outputs, indicators and targets relating to Internal Security Fund (ISF) – police have been specified under specific objective 2.1		

Other important outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
Inputs to progress reports on Security Union relating to achievements in disrupting organised crime and the way forward	Number of inputs to the progress reports	At least 4
Outputs relating to Passenger Name Record (PNR) See under objective 2.1		
Agreements between the EU and respectively Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey on cooperation with the EU Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol)	% of articles regarded as stable (in ongoing negotiations) which are in line with the negotiating directives % of negotiating directives addressed in any initialled agreements	100% 100%
Schengen evaluations on police cooperation - Visits to Member States More information on multi-purpose Schengen evaluations, is provided under Objective 1.2	Number of visits to Member States	5
Study on the feasibility of improving information exchange under Prüm Decisions	Acceptance of the report of the study	Autumn 2019
Study on the improvement of the EU system of export authorisation and import and transit measures for firearms	Publication of the final report	Q2 2019
Evaluation report of the 2014-2019 Action Plan on firearms trafficking between the EU and the South East Europe Region PLAN/2018/4786	Adoption by the Commission	Q2 2019
Workshops within the framework of the anti-corruption experience-sharing programme	Number of workshops	Up to 4
Report on the implementation of the Council Framework Decision 2003/568/JHA of 22 July 2003 on combating corruption in the private sector PLAN/2017/2354	Adoption by the Commission	Q1 2019
Study on "confiscation and asset recovery in Member States – what works, what does not work"	Finalisation of study	2019
Report on the implementation of Directive 2014/42/EU of 3 April 2014 on the freezing and confiscation of instrumentalities and proceeds of crime in the European Union PLAN 2018/4874	Adoption by the Commission	Q4/2019
Evaluation of the European Crime Prevention Network (EUCPN) set up by Council Decision 2009/902/JHA of 30	Adoption by the Commission	Q4 2019/Q1 2020

November 2009 PLAN/2018/4782		
Study on organised crime in the context of Framework Decision 2008/841/JHA	Finalisation of study	Q4 2019
Report on the results of the external evaluation of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) PLAN/2017/1680	Adoption by the Commission	Q1 2019
Proposal for a Council Decision on the position to be adopted, on behalf of the European Union, in the 62 nd session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on the scheduling of substances in March 2019 PLAN/2018/3893	Adoption of the proposal and subsequent adoption by the Council ahead of the 62 nd session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs	Q1 2019
Study on the economic, social and human costs of trafficking in human beings	Adoption of study	Q4 2019
EU-wide awareness raising activities on THB	Number of involved countries Number of major themes addressed	All EU Member States At least 3
Support to stakeholders to fully implement Directive 2011/36/EU	Number of annual meetings of the EU Civil Society Platform against trafficking in human beings consisting of 100 NGOs Number of annual meeting with the EU Network of National Rapporteurs and Equivalent Mechanisms Event marking the EU Anti-Trafficking day	2 meetings in Q2 and Q4 2 meetings in Q2 and Q4 Q3 2019
Partnership 2020 deliverable number 9 ("Strengthening Institutions and Good Governance - Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption Mechanisms") and Deliverable 12: stronger cooperation in the area of security	Meetings of the Eastern Partnership Panel on Rule of Law	At least 1 meeting in 2019

2.3. *An effective response to cybercrime*

In 2019, DG HOME will facilitate adoption of pending proposals, take stock of and support the implementation of existing acquis on combating child sexual abuse and exploitation and cyber attacks, and set out the way forward to more effectively fight cybercrime. It will also report on progress in the Commission's regular reports on the Security Union.

In cooperation with DG JUST, DG HOME prepared a legislative proposal on **cross-border access to electronic evidence** for investigating cyber-enabled crimes. The Commission adopted the proposals for a Regulation and a Directive in April 2018 to give law enforcement and the judiciary the right tools to access electronic evidence. The Council reached a General Approach on the Regulation in December 2018, allowing for negotiations with the Parliament to take place in 2019, once the Parliament has

established its position. The Council reached a General Approach on the Directive in the first half of 2019. DG HOME will remain involved in inter-institutional negotiation with a view to having the proposal adopted by co-legislators before the 2019 European elections.

In parallel, DG HOME will continue coordinating the implementation of a number of **practical measures** to ensure full use of and improvements to existing instruments for police and judicial cooperation, including standardised forms, an electronic platform, secure channels for transmission of requests and of digital evidence, and training.³⁶

Another major initiative relates to the **Budapest Convention on Cybercrime**, which is a Council of Europe Convention and the first international treaty on crimes committed via the Internet and other computer networks. It is open to accession by countries that are not members of the Council of Europe, and a total of 62 States, including Japan and the United States, have signed and ratified the Convention. In 2017, the Parties to the Budapest Convention decided to negotiate a **second additional Protocol to the Convention** to better address procedural obstacles by the end of 2019. This Protocol will aim at improving cross-border access to electronic evidence for criminal investigations, e.g. through production orders for service providers or direct access to information. The Protocol may include elements that are already covered by existing acquis at EU level, including on Mutual Legal Assistance or in relation to the European Investigation Order. Its scope may also reflect the above-mentioned work on cross-border access to electronic evidence. The Commission intends to propose, as soon as possible, the adoption of a recommendation for negotiating directives, taking into account the progress made in the discussions on the electronic evidence proposals and the need for sufficient clarity about the parameters and safeguards of the future EU internal arrangements. Once these are adopted by the Council in 2019, DG HOME will participate in drafting and negotiation sessions.

Furthermore, given that the majority of cross-border requests for electronic evidence are addressed to service providers headquartered in the United States, DG HOME (jointly with DG JUST) also intends to commence **negotiations with the United States** for an agreement that would address the currently existing conflicts of laws between obligations imposed on service providers by the United States, on the one side, and the European Union and its Member States, on the other side. This initiative would complement the electronic evidence proposals of the EU, in particular when it comes to content data held by the service providers in the United States. It would also define the conditions and safeguards for issuing and executing judicial orders addressed directly to service providers. The Commission intends to propose, as soon as possible, the adoption of a recommendation for negotiating directives, taking into account the progress made in the discussions on the electronic evidence proposals and the need for sufficient clarity about the parameters and safeguards of the future EU internal arrangements. Once these are adopted by the Council in 2019, DG HOME and DG JUST will reach out to the United States to commence the process.

DG HOME will also continue its work on **encryption**. Specifically, as outlined in the 11th Security Union Progress Report it will continue supporting Europol in its project to enhance its decryption capabilities, as well as follow the work done by the network of points of expertise, particularly to develop competencies in Member States and set up a toolbox of alternative investigative techniques. In parallel, DG HOME will take stock of the technical and legal developments relevant to the role of encryption in criminal investigations, in cooperation with Europol, and Eurojust, and continue to facilitate thematic stakeholder dialogues with industry and other interested parties such as academia and civil society organisations to obtain a deeper understanding of concerns and explore avenues for further initiatives.

To complement the above initiatives, DG HOME aims to contribute to and develop the Commission's thinking and guidance on the way forward on **data retention**.

Furthermore, DG HOME will monitor and support the implementation of :

³⁶ Further information is available at https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/organized-crime-and-human-trafficking/e-evidence_en .

- The 2013 **Cybersecurity Strategy** and the recent complementary Communication on Cyber Resilience, Deterrence and Defence³⁷ that was released in September 2017 (in cooperation with DG CNECT)
- Existing **Directives on attacks against information systems and on combating child sexual abuse, sexual exploitation and child pornography**. In this context, DG HOME will conduct an assessment of the practical implementation of the Child Sexual Exploitation Directive to analyse the impact and added value of the Directive.

In the Joint Declaration made by the President of the European Council, the President of the European Commission, and the Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation in July 2016 there is a strong accent on the development of coordinated procedures that will contribute to implement joint efforts in particular on addressing hybrid threats (with a cyber component). Cyber security is considered an area where the cooperation is a strategic priority. One of the main declared targets is to step up coordination on exercises in particular the parallel and coordinated exercises that took place in 2017 and should continue in 2019. The Council conclusions adopted on 6 December 2016, 19 June 2017 and on 5 December 2017 insisted on the cooperation in the already mentioned strategic areas and on the importance of the parallel and coordinated exercises.

The co-legislators confirmed the agreement on the whole text of the Directive COM(2017)489 on **combating fraud and counterfeiting of non-cash means of payment**, replacing Council Framework Decision 2001/413/JHA. Adoption is expected by February 2019.

Finally, DG HOME will initiate a reflection process with relevant stakeholders on the way forward to more effectively fight cybercrime, which could also be used as an input for the next College. It will also continue reporting on the main achievements in fighting cybercrime in the regular progress reports on the Security Union.

The Internal Security Fund (ISF) – police and the 'Secure Societies' Programme under Horizon 2020 will continue supporting actions to prevent and fight cybercrime and therefore to ensure a high level of security in the Union. In this respect, it will support inter alia cooperation and coordination actions between security and law enforcement authorities and services, prevention activities, IT systems and other forms of exchange of information, training schemes, equipment, sharing of best practices and development of risk assessments.

The operation of the multi-purpose ISF - police is presented under specific objective 2.1.

The outputs relating to 'Secure Societies' Programme under Horizon 2020 in this area have also been presented under specific objective 2.1.

Depending on the EU-NATO agenda, DG HOME will as the leading operational DG from the Commission side, plan and conduct the PACE19 with NATO. PACE19 is a parallel and coordinated exercise involving NATO's and the EU institutions', EEAS, EU Agencies and Member States' different crises mechanisms.

Relevant general objective 2. : An area of justice and fundamental rights based on mutual trust

Specific objective 2.3. : Fighting cybercrime

Related to spending programme Internal Security Fund and Horizon 2020

Main outputs in 2019:

Delivery on legislative proposals pending with the legislator

³⁷ JOIN(2017) 450.

Output	Indicator	Target
Proposals for a Regulation and a Directive on cross-border access to electronic evidence and on the appointment of legal representatives	Adoption by the co-legislators	May 2019
Proposal for a Directive COM(2017)489 on combating fraud and counterfeiting of non-cash means of payment and replacing Council Framework Decision 2001/413/JHA	Adoption by the co-legislators	February 2019
Proposal on Internal Security Fund	Political agreement	May 2019

Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes

For a complete listing of expenditure-related outputs please refer to the Programme Statements published together with the [Draft Budget for 2019](#).

Output	Indicator	Target
Horizon 2020 Secure Societies Work Programme: - launch of projects Please refer to Specific Objective 2.1		
Outputs, indicators and targets relating to Internal Security Fund (ISF) – police have been specified under specific objective 2.1		

Other important outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
Inputs to progress reports on Security Union relating to achievements in fighting cybercrime and the way forward	Number of inputs to the progress reports	At least 4
Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations on a Second Additional Protocol to the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime, on procedural provisions for cross-border access to electronic evidence	Adoption by Council	Q1 2019
Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations for an Executive Agreement with the United States of America on cross-border access to electronic evidence	Adoption by Council	Q1 2019

Monitoring implementation of the updated Cybersecurity Strategy ³⁸	Number of updated progress tables Number of meetings of Task Force Security Union sub-group on cybersecurity	4 in 2019 4 in 2019
Fostering implementation of Directive 2011/93/EU on combating child sexual abuse and sexual exploitation and child pornography	Number of infringement proceedings launched Number of expert meetings	EU Pilot and/or infringement proceedings launched against 27 Member States 2 expert meetings
Fostering implementation of Directive 2013/40/EU on attacks against information systems	Number of infringement proceedings launched Number of expert meetings	EU Pilot and/or infringement proceedings launched against 12 or more Member States 2 expert meetings
PACE19 planned and conducted in cooperation between EU institutions, EEAS, EU Agencies, Member States and NATO.	Number of meetings organised within DG HOME, as well as with relevant DGs and other institutional stakeholders such the EEAS, the Council General Secretariat and NATO	At least 120
Concluding activities for PACE18	Number of meetings organised within DG HOME, as well as with relevant DGs and other institutional stakeholders such the EEAS, the Council General Secretariat and NATO	30

3. A Union of democratic change

3.1. Enhance citizens' understanding of the Union, its history and diversity, foster European citizenship and improve conditions for civic and democratic participation at Union level

In 2019, DG HOME will continue to steer the **Europe for Citizens programme**, to define its objectives, strategies and priority areas of action, to monitor its general

³⁸ JOIN/2017/450

implementation by the **Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA)**, and to evaluate the programme results at European level. The main output will relate to supervising EACEA to ensure that the Agency delivers 384 projects and 30 operating grants in the two strands of the programme, namely "European remembrance" and "Democratic engagement and civic participation". Corresponding tasks entrusted to the Agency under DG HOME's supervision will include drawing up calls for proposals, selecting projects in cooperation with DG HOME and signing Grant Decisions/Agreements, financial management, monitoring of projects, and communication with beneficiaries.

The projects and activities that will be funded by the programme will contribute to the Commission's objective of "a Union of Democratic change". They will help to progress towards the specific objective of enhancing citizens' understanding of the Union, its history and diversity, foster European citizenship and improve conditions for civic and democratic participation at Union level. They will foster participatory and informed citizenship by giving citizens an opportunity to make their voice heard and to participate in shaping a more open, tolerant and inclusive society with less prejudice. Projects on Europe's shared history will focus in particular on promoting a sense of belonging and the fundamental values upon which the Union is built, such as tolerance, solidarity, non-discrimination and mutual understanding.

In 2019, DG HOME will also organise and cooperate on meetings with stakeholders including civil society organisations, to raise awareness on the programme's objectives. In April 2019 a high-level event will bring together the beneficiaries of the programme with a view to sharing experience and strengthening citizens' engagement with the European Union and its values. Part of the event will be open to the general public.

Finally, DG HOME will be involved in the setting up of the Rights and Values programme as a follow up on the Europe for Citizens programme under the post 2020 Multi-annual Financial Framework. The Rights and Values programme will bring together the current Rights, Equality and Citizenship programme managed by DG JUST and the Europe for Citizens programme. Its general objective will be to protect and promote rights and values as enshrined in the EU Treaties, including by supporting civil society organisations, in order to sustain open, democratic and inclusive societies. The Commission presented the proposal for the Rights and Values programme in May 2018.

Relevant general objective 3.: A Union of democratic change

Specific objective 3.1.: Enhance citizens' understanding of the Union, its <i>history</i> and diversity, foster European citizenship and improve conditions for civic and democratic participation at Union level	Related to spending programme Europe For Citizens
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Main outputs in 2019:

Delivery on legislative proposals pending with the legislator

Output	Indicator	Target
Proposal for Rights and Values programme	Political agreement	2019

Important items from work programmes/financing decisions/operational programmes

For a complete listing of expenditure-related outputs please refer to the Programme Statements published together with the [Draft Budget for 2019](#).

Output	Indicator	Target
Supervision of the implementation of the Europe for Citizens programme by the Education, Audiovisual and Culture	Number of Remembrance projects	44
	Number of Town-	277

Executive Agency (EACEA)	Twinning projects	
	Number of Networks of towns projects	35
	Number of Civil society projects	28
	Number of support structures in the Member States	36
	Number of multi-annual operating grants awarded under of the Europe for Citizens programme	30

Other important outputs		
Output	Indicator	Target
Europe for Citizens- high-level stakeholders event	Date Number of participants	Semester 1 300
Meetings with stakeholders	Number of meetings	At least 2

4. *A Deeper and Fairer Internal Market with a Strengthened Industrial Base*

In 2019, DG HOME will continue contributing to efforts to make the EU security industry more competitive and to ensure the proper functioning of the EU internal market for security solutions.

Under Horizon 2020, two studies are planned to be launched in the second semester 2019 which will include a study on the Security research market in the EU with a total estimated amount of EUR 1 million and another on the Commercialisation of security research results with an estimated budget of EUR 500 000.

PART 2. MAIN ORGANISATIONAL MANAGEMENT OUTPUTS FOR THE YEAR

a. *Human resource management*

In 2019 DG HOME will continue its work in line with its Strategic Plan 2016-2020³⁹.

In its meeting on 19 July 2017, the College adopted quantitative targets of first female appointments to be made per directorate general and service at middle management level by 1 November 2019, while continuing to pursue the general objective of having minimum 40% of female middle managers across the organisation⁴⁰. With currently half of its middle managers being female, DG HOME's target is to appoint one new female middle manager by November 2019.

Regarding staff engagement and staff well-being, DG HOME will continue its work set out in the Action Plan following the latest staff survey of 2016. This plan was drawn up in the context of the staff increase related to the management of the migration crisis, a series of reorganizations and of less positive staff survey results compared to 2014, in particular regarding staff's perception of the DG' well-being policy.

In addition, in 2018 DG HOME advanced in the preparation of a comprehensive HR strategy, in line with the recommendations of the internal audit on its HR management and staff allocation carried out in 2017 by the IAS. This strategy will be finalised by early

³⁹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/strategic-plan-2016-2020-dg-home_may2016_en.pdf

⁴⁰ SEC(2017)359

2019. A new Action Plan will be developed in the first months in 2019 to take also into account the results of the 2018 Staff Survey.

The HR Modernisation project as laid down in the [Communication on Synergies and Efficiencies](#) will continue to be rolled out in the Commission. HR services for DGs are now delivered by the Account Management Centres (AMCs). Within each DG, the HR Business Correspondent⁴¹ coordinates strategic HR matters and prepares the related decisions of the DG's management.

DG HOME intends to pursue the following priority actions during 2019:

- DG HOME will pursue the new target as regards first appointments of female middle managers by actively encouraging its female staff to apply when management positions are vacant and by encouraging participation in a new HR project aiming at facilitating access of women to management positions;
- On staff engagement, DG HOME will continue its efforts to address the areas that the Staff Survey 2016 identified as critical issues for staff working in the DG by:
 - Continuing finalising the implementation of the actions defined in the Action Plan 2017
 - Adopting a new Action Plan as follow-up to the 2018 Staff Survey;
- Well-being is an area where the activities developed over the last years will continue in close collaboration with DG HR;
- The existing system of matching human resources to the needs and priorities of DG HOME will be further developed; efficient measures for mobility of staff will be defined;
- A comprehensive Learning and Development Plan 2019 will be presented.
- HR strategy will be finalised and implemented. Progress will be monitored using relevant indicators, including measures to maintain or increase staff performance through sustainable people management.

Objective: The DG deploys effectively its resources in support of the delivery of the Commission priorities and core business, has a competent and engaged workforce, which is driven by an effective and gender-balanced management and which can deploy its full potential within supportive and healthy working conditions.

Main outputs in 2019:

Output	Indicator	Target
Activities to encourage female representation in middle and senior management positions	Female representation percentage in middle management (for first appointments - mandatory targets set until 2019 ⁴²) and in senior management	At least one additional female middle manager to be appointed by 2019. A balance between male and female representation at the level of middle and senior management.
Implement the 2019 Learning and Development Plan	Number of actions for talent management in DG HOME	Increase the number of actions carried out compared to last year (5 actions)
Activities to improve the integration of newcomers Newcomers' sessions	Number of sessions for newcomers.	At least 2 newcomers' sessions to be organised in 2019
Events/seminars aiming at people	Number of seminars and lunch conferences	Maintain or increase the number of activities offered compared to

⁴¹ BC team of DG HOME is composed of three persons (3 FTE) - 30.11.2017

⁴² SEC(2017) 359 final

development and continuous learning.		last year (25 activities).
Continuation and reinforcement of existing activities in the area of well-being	Number of well-being activities offered in DG HOME Approval of action plan by Director General	Maintain or increase the number of activities compared to last year (4 activities) . By end of Q2 2019

b. Financial Management: Internal control and Risk management

Objective 1: Effective and reliable internal control system giving the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and the regularity of the underlying transactions

In 2019, DG HOME will implement a number of assurance-related activities on the expenditures from Union funds under DG HOME's responsibility. The aim is to guarantee the legality of the expenditures and to minimize regularity risks, by continuing to ensure that appropriate preventive and corrective mechanisms are in place as a matter of high priority. The achievement of this objective will be mainly supported by the following actions:

- **Audits, both as desk work and on-the-spot**, with an increased focus on risks. These activities aim at providing assurance of the legality and regularity of the expenditures declared to the Commission, while keeping an efficient use of audit resources.
- **The application of financial corrections**, when needed.
- **The implementation of internal audit recommendations** on the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions.

As regards the 2007-2013 programming period, in 2019 DG HOME will complete the closure of the Annual Programmes for which the final payment has not been made yet. This is consistent with the principle of sound financial management, and focuses on timely processing and closure of open irregularities. Through the finalisation of the last ex post audits DG HOME will keep working with the aim to reach a rate of residual risk on the total declared expenditures below the materiality level of 2%.

As regards the 2014-2020 programming period (in total 58 AMIF and ISF programmes) the specific audit approach will be continued, including the review of the control systems. This review may be done through desk review, system review meetings or system audits on the spot. Furthermore, system audits based on an updated risk assessment will be conducted with a twofold aim: to assess the functioning of the management and control systems put in place by the national authorities and to gain assurance on the work of the national Audit Authorities.

In 2018, DG HOME reduced the number of late payments through measures put in place to absorb the delay. In 2019, DG HOME will continue to sustain the good progress made in 2018 on reducing the late payments.

As the existing DG HOME framework contract for external audit contractor expires end of March 2019, DG HOME is in the process of launching a new framework contract to ensure availability of external audit services to support the DG in the implementation of the annual audit work programmes.

Objective 1: Effective and reliable internal control system giving the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and the regularity of the underlying transactions.

Main outputs in 2019:

Output	Indicator	Target
Ex-post (financial) audits of direct	Audit coverage for direct management grants	10%

management grants		
Legality and regularity of direct management expenditure	Error rate – direct management	Error rate below 2%
Legality and regularity of shared management expenditure	Error rate – shared management	Below 2%
System audits of the AMIF - ISF funds	Number of Funds audited in Member States	Audit Work Plan 2019: Up to 5 Funds (AMIF-ISF)
Closure of the 2007-2013 programmes	% of 2007-2013 Programmes closed out of the total (combined responsibility – with MS)	100% excluding judicial proceeding or OLAF follow-up
Clearance decisions for shared management (national programmes under AMIF/ISF)	1. Percentage of adoption of the clearance decisions regarding the accounts 2017 for the national programmes under AMIF 2. Percentage of payment of balance under AMIF/ISF within regulatory deadlines.	1 to 2. 100%
Obtain reasonable assurance that the expenditures declared are legal and regular	Number of 2014-2020 programmes for which expenditure has been declared Implementation of the audit plan	100% Full implementation of the audit plan

Objective 2: Effective and reliable internal control system in line with sound financial management.

Internal control is noted in the context of the Commission's fundamental budgetary principles and associated with sound financial management. Internal control is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance of achieving objectives.

In 2017, the Commission adopted a revised Internal Control Framework which moves away from a compliance-based to a principle-based system, in line with international best practices and in particular with the 2013 COSO framework (Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission). The new framework is fully applicable since January 2018. In order to prepare for this, DG HOME defined in 2017 in the context of the Management Plan for 2018 its internal control monitoring criteria (along with their baselines and performance targets), and appointed in February 2018, subsequent to the dismantlement of the SRD in 2017, its 'Director in charge of Internal Control and Risk Management'. In this area, the priority for 2019 will be to ensure a further swift implementation of the new internal control framework. This will reflect the specific challenges and risks of the DG, and include the assessment of the effectiveness of the system in accordance with Internal Control Principle 16 (*"The Commission selects, develops, and performs ongoing and/or separate assessments to ascertain whether the components of internal control are present and functioning"*).

The legality and regularity of payments are ensured through the controls throughout the management of transactions: negotiations, contracting, payments.

Sound financial management is measured mainly through indicators defined in the Financial Regulation and reported in the Annual Activity Report, such as time-to-inform, time-to-grant and time-to-pay. In addition, DG HOME will continue to pay attention to the effectiveness of the ex ante controls and to the efficiency of the transactions process.

Objective 2: Effective and reliable internal control system in line with sound financial management.

Main outputs in 2019:

Output	Indicator	Target
Correctness of transactions following ex ante controls	Number of exceptions	< 0.1% of total transactions
Efficiency in the transaction processing	Time to inform (Art. 128.2 a FR), time-to-grant (Art. 128.2 b FR) and time to pay (Art. 92 FR)	Monitor the deadlines in order to comply with the provisions of the Financial Regulation.
Appropriateness and satisfaction of the Internal Control Principles	iCAT Survey Participation rate iCAT Survey Satisfaction rate <i>(iCAT = tool for gathering data about soft controls in a DG, complementing the hard statistics)</i>	65% (staff and management) 60% (expressing good and above judgement)

Objective 3: Minimisation of the risk of fraud through application of effective anti-fraud measures, integrated in all activities of the DG, based on the anti-fraud strategy (AFS) of the DG aimed at the prevention, detection and reparation of fraud.

DG HOME's revised anti-fraud strategy has been endorsed in 2018, and will be monitored throughout the period until 2020. The priorities for 2019 will be to ensure a swift implementation of the new strategy and the corresponding action plan, to monitor the review of the Commission's Anti-Fraud Strategy (CAFS) currently performed by OLAF (to be completed by end of 2018) and to adjust DG HOME's strategy as appropriate.

DG HOME will promote awareness of fraud prevention and detection within the DG through specific training courses. Follow-up and implementation of OLAF recommendations will also be assured.

Objective 3: Minimisation of the risk of fraud through application of effective anti-fraud measures, integrated in all activities of the DG, based on the DG's anti-fraud strategy (AFS) aimed at the prevention, detection and reparation of fraud.

Main outputs in 2019:

Output	Indicator	Target
Implementation of OLAF recommendations	% of recommendations issued by OLAF implemented/closed by DG HOME within deadlines	100%
AFS adjusted as/if appropriate	Monitoring and analysis of the new CAFS and adjustment of the AFS, if need be	Q1/2019
Increased level of awareness on anti-fraud measures	Number of participants attending the training sessions on anti-fraud measures	60 persons of DG HOME staff

c. Better Regulation

The main planned outputs linked to the Better Regulation objective in the Strategic Plan are listed in Part 1 under the relevant specific objective in the tables and evaluation plan.

d. Information management aspects

DG HOME will in the fourth quarter of 2019 publish its fourth annual statistical compilation. Divided in two parts, it will include statistics for 2018 on migration and mobility, as well as on security and crime. Data will be gathered from a variety of sources, including Member States, Eurostat and EU Agencies. In 2019 again, the compilation will be made available online on the DG HOME intranet. The compilation is a product of the statistics task force, which gathers experts within DG HOME to share data, knowledge and best practice in both migration and security.

After positive consideration by Eurostat to revise Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection, as launched by DG HOME, the Commission adopted on 16 May 2018 a proposal to amend the Regulation. In 2019, DG HOME will continue to support Eurostat in view of the adoption by the co-legislators.

Furthermore, in 2019, DG HOME will continue using its intranet for the dissemination and documentation of daily press and media alerts, weekly interinstitutional notes and other newsletters. The intranet will remain the repository for documentation on internal rules for briefings, workflows, financial workflows and strategic planning and programming.

Moreover, Basis will continue being used to manage and archive all briefings prepared for Commissioners, the Director General and the Deputy Directors General, making them available for relevant staff members.

In line with the Data, Information and Knowledge Management Strategy at the European Commission⁴³, DG HOME moved to paperless workflows as of April 2017. There are financial documents for which original blue ink signature is still needed. However, even in this case, the paper circulation is avoided as the documents to be signed are printed only when the electronic workflow reaches the person required to sign. The number of ARES files open for consultation to the entire Commission has reached 13.5%, a little bit more than the target set for 2018 at 10%. It is expected that the 20% will be reached by the end of 2019.

In addition, DG HOME will organise at least two lunchtime conferences for its staff a month, to share information about internal procedures, workflows and policy areas.

Building on the existing practices and in line with the Communication⁴⁴ on data, information and knowledge management at the European Commission, DG HOME will move towards managing information in a more strategic way in 2019. More specifically, DG HOME will aim to channel and consolidate the growing information flow of data, trends and analysis, to inform policy makers in a clear, correct and timely manner. This will be done by liaising more effectively with relevant actors within the DG and making full use of the expertise of other services (e.g. through the Knowledge Centre on Migration and Demography), EU Agencies and international organisations.

DG HOME will continue to ensure the adequate handling of EU classified information by its Registry, and ensure that the Secure Zone is running according to required standards; renewing accreditations, quarterly testing critical infrastructures, and implementing the 34 ongoing projects for the functioning of the zone.

Objective: Information and knowledge in your DG is shared and reusable by other DGs. Important documents are registered, filed and retrievable.

Main outputs in 2019:

Output	Indicator	Target
Documents easily shared with other DGs	Number of ARES files open for consultation to the other	20% Q4 2019

⁴³ C(2016) 6626 final {SWD(2016) 333 final, C(2018) 7118 final

⁴⁴ C(2016) 6626 final

	DGs	
Statistical compilation	Release	Q4 2019
Lunchtime conferences	Number	At least two per month
The secure zone and HOME Registry running according to required standards	- Number of meetings held in the secure zone by DG HOME /other DGs;	150
	- Number of EU classified documents handled by the Registry	200

e. External communication activities

The external communication efforts for 2019 will aim at informing the public in Europe and beyond about the central role that the European Commission plays in addressing the ongoing challenges in migration and security. They will include two Citizens Dialogues that will be held with DG HOME's senior management in 2019. It will also include an event to mobilise the more than 150 new project beneficiaries under Union Actions for AMIF and ISF who were informed in the course of 2018 of their successful application for a grant. The aim of the event is to encourage networking and sharing of best practices on project management & how to test new tools and ideas among the various communities of practitioners benefiting from EU grants in the areas of integration of migrants, prevention of radicalization, fight against organized crime, cybercrime and corruption, border surveillance.

DG HOME will illustrate the Commission's actions and measures in simple and clear terms, mainly with social media and audio-visual material, contribute to increase trust in the EU and improve the overall image of the EU. Over the coming year DG HOME's policy will also be highlighted in the EC wide campaign "EU Protects" which sheds a spotlight on the chains of persons involved in making Europe safe.

In the light of the upcoming European elections in 2019, DG HOME will ensure that the migration and security issues are accurately represented in the public debate. Results achieved in different policy areas will be more strongly promoted.

DG HOME's printed material (brochures, leaflets) will be updated and new ones will be created explaining the policy area. This will be complemented with updating existing videos and/or creating new ones in order to explain our policy areas better.

In addition, DG HOME will continue informing migrants and asylum seekers about the main rules and procedures on asylum and migration. It will participate in the editorial board of the media consortium that manages the infomigrants.net portal and related social media accounts with AMIF support. The aim is to inform prospective migrants and counter the narratives of smugglers in third countries, such as Afghanistan, Cameroon, Congo, Ethiopia, Iraq, Mali, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Somalia, Turkey.

Objective: Citizens perceive that the EU is working to improve their lives and engage with the EU. They feel that their concerns are taken into consideration in European decision making and they know about their rights in the EU.

Main outputs in 2019:

Output	Indicator	Target
Twitter	Increase number of followers Increase number of Tweets	+10% Average n°/day: 6
Increase quality and accessibility of DG HOME website, in particular when it comes to availability of media related information	A combination of a lower bounce rate & a higher average time spent on the site Visits	Bounce rate down 8 % in comparison to 2018 and average time spent on website exceeding 1 minute 30 sec 2 million for the whole of 2019
Create a new series of	Number of products created	25

graphic and visual information products (e.g. factsheets) to explain to the general public through multipliers the main actions and measures put in place by the European Commission to address migration and security	for journalists	
Citizens dialogues with DG HOME senior management	Number of dialogues and reach	2 dialogues targeting around 50 persons each (100)
Presentations of migration and security policies to visitors	Rate of response to requests for presentations to visitors from DG COMM	100%
Updating / Creation / Distribution of brochures, leaflets explaining DG HOME's policy areas	Number of new publications Disseminated reach	5 publications 2 000 copies distributed (Print/downloads)
Updating / Creation /Dissemination of Home affairs videos explaining DG HOME's policy areas	Subscribers total Total unique viewers Impressions total Views total	20% improvement over previous years' viewing figures
Participation in the editorial board of the media consortium entrusted with informing prospective asylum seekers and migrants in a wide range of third countries.	Engagement in all related social media accounts Visits of website infomigrants.net	1.5 million a year 2 million visits
Kick off meeting with project organisations new Union actions	Number of project beneficiaries reached with the event	150
Number of people reached with communication actions in 2019	Total number of interactions across all the communication channels	5 million
Annual communication spending:		
Baseline (2018)		Estimated commitments (2019)
EUR 1 600 000 direct grant to media consortium EUR 750 000 under procurement		EUR 2 600 000 direct grant to media consortium EUR 1 550 000 for activities under procurement

f. Examples of initiatives to improve economy and efficiency of financial and non-financial activities of the DG

1. In 2018 the management of the AMIF and ISF National Programmes (shared management) was entirely carried out using the RDIS IT workflow system, improving the economy and efficiency of financial activities as well as any procedure related to the implementation of the programmes. The use of RDIS2 addresses the

need to fully record all workflows related to the management of the programmes and fits within the aim of the Commission to enhance the use of e-signing possibilities and replacing paper-based systems.

Since RDIS2 was launched in 2015, its use has expanded from the first assessment of the annual accounts and the annual implementation reports to all aspects and processes for the shared management programmes (e.g. monitoring visits, system reviews of the Management and Control systems, evaluation activities and mid-term review, revision of basic acts, agreements for the Schengen Associated Countries, assessment of applications for Specific Actions, etc).

In 2019, it is planned to extend RDIS to financial transactions for shared management. At the same time, a pilot case will continue using RDIS2 for the preparation of Annual Work Programmes under Union Actions.

2. In order to improve the economy and efficiency of activities related to the programmes managed directly by DG HOME, grant management processes are gradually changed from paper-based to fully electronic. In order to achieve this, DG HOME started to use the centrally developed IT system "e-Grants" in 2016. While some processes were electronically implemented already from 2016 to 2018, such as electronic calls launching, submission and evaluation, calls for proposals, and grant preparation, in 2019 the cycle will be expanded and finalised for reporting and payments. This change addresses the need to automatize the support processes related to the preparation of grant agreements, therefore reducing the need for administrative control layers, as well as facilitating the monitoring of implementation and reporting.
3. Disaster Resilient Societies: The 'Secure Societies' Programme under Horizon 2020 will support Research, Development and Innovation actions that will increase the disaster resilience of societies. These actions intend to provide technological solutions as well as societal strategies (such as awareness raising campaigns), aimed at reducing loss of human life and at mitigating environmental, economic and material damage caused by natural and man-made disasters. The topic Disaster Resilient Societies addresses a large spectrum of disasters, from climate-related weather events, earthquakes and volcanic events, space weather events, industrial disasters, to crime and terrorism threats. To streamline efficiently the whole process of implementation of Work Programme from evaluation, grant signature, payment, amendments, etc) DG HOME will continue making use of all IT tools in place as SEP/SYGMA/COMPASS which create fully electronic workflows (fully paperless) and record all related information in the same data base.

Output	Indicator	Target
Horizon 2020 Secure Societies – launch of projects	Number of sub-topics to be covered by projects	4
	Signature date of grant agreements	8 months after date of submission deadline
	Total amount of EU contribution	EUR 39 million