

State of implementation of
commitments and operational decisions
taken on the refugee crisis since
September 2015

Valletta, 12 November 2015

**COMMISSION CONTRIBUTION TO
THE INFORMAL MEETING
OF HEADS OF STATE
OR GOVERNMENT**



KEY COMMITMENTS AT THE INFORMAL MEETING OF EU HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT ON MIGRATION, 23 SEPTEMBER 2015



- Mobilisation of **EU budget** – to be matched by **Member States** – to provide:
 - Additional **€1 billion** to **humanitarian agencies**
 - Substantial funding increase for **EU Trust Fund on Syria** to reach **€1 billion**
 - An **EU Trust Fund for Africa** of **€3,6 billion**
- **Shared responsibility** of **EU institutions** and **national governments** to support action and implement the rules
- **Operational decisions** by October European Council:
 - Strengthen cooperation on migration with **Turkey**
 - Extra support to **Western Balkans**
 - **Stronger borders** and support through **EU agencies** (Frontex, EASO and Europol)
 - Meet the requests to **support the work of hotspots**
 - **Enhance the EU budget funds** for migration and borders

KEY COMMITMENTS AGREED AT THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON 15 OCTOBER 2015



- **Cooperating with third countries to stem the flows**
 - Focus on implementing the joint **Action Plan with Turkey**, the **Eastern Mediterranean/Western Balkans** route and the **Valletta Summit**
 - Extra Member States' contributions to humanitarian funding
- **Strengthening the protection of the external border**
 - **Full use of existing possibilities** to manage the border
 - Development of a **European Border and Coast Guard**; towards an integrated management system for external borders
- **Responding to the influx of refugees and ensuring returns**
 - All Member States to support **hotspots**, **relocation** and **return** with the expertise and resources required
 - Implementation of **readmission agreements** or commitments, including through defined incentives for third countries

KEY COMMITMENTS AGREED AT THE LEADERS' MEETING ON REFUGEE FLOWS ALONG THE WESTERN BALKANS ROUTE ON 25 OCTOBER 2015



- **Permanent exchange of information**
- **Limiting secondary movements by discouraging movements to another border**
- **Supporting refugees and providing shelter and rest**
 - Commitment to additional 50,000 reception places in Greece, 50,000 further along the route, working with UNHCR
 - Harnessing the support of international financial institutions
- **Managing the migration flows together**
 - Full capacity to register arrivals and exchange the information
 - More results on return and readmission
- **Border management and tackling smuggling and trafficking**
 - 10 specific locations for enhanced border management
 - Slovenia to get 400 police officers and essential equipment
- **Information on the rights and obligations of refugees and migrants ("no registration, no rights")**

RESULTS SO FAR: HOTSPOTS



ITALY

- **Lampedusa** hotspot operational (500 reception capacity)
- **Pozzallo, Porto Empedocle, Augusta, Trapani** hotspots are fully operational as disembarkation points but are yet to be opened as hotspots (political decision)
- Taranto hotspot to open by January 2016
- **Frontex** presence in four hotspots, **European Asylum Support Office (EASO)** in one. Agencies ready for full roll out following opening of the other hotspots

RESOURCES for support to Hotspots in Italy and Greece

- Member States' response to **Frontex** calls: **320** out of **775**
- Member States' response to **EASO** calls: **177** out of **374**

RESULTS SO FAR: HOTSPOTS



GREECE

- **Lesvos** hotspot set up but full operation needs extra capacity
- **Chios, Samos, Leros** and **Kos** hotspots have some operational capacity but not yet functioning hotspot. Refurbishment works underway.
- **Frontex** presence at all five hotspots, **European Asylum Support Office (EASO)** in one

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RESULTS SO FAR: RELOCATION between Member States

14 September 2015: adoption of proposals to relocate in 2015-2016 160.000 people in need of international protection (of which 54.000 people to be decided at a later stage)



EFFECTIVE RELOCATION AS OF 6 NOVEMBER

From **Italy** – **5** exercises totaling **117** people (Sweden, Finland, France, Spain) out of **39.600** people

From **Greece** – **1** exercise totaling **30** people (Luxembourg) out of **66.400** people

MEMBER STATES RELOCATION PLACES

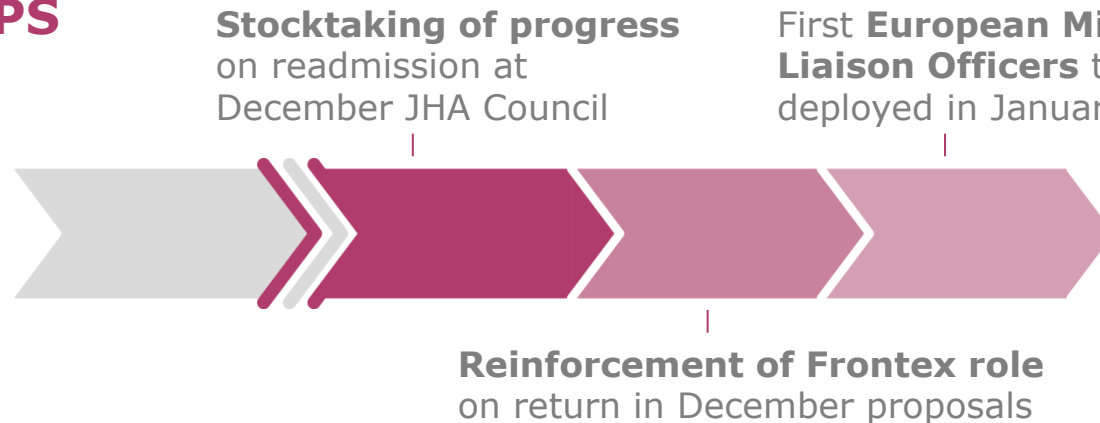
Offers of short-term places – **3.496** (Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Liechtenstein) out of **106.000**

RESULTS SO FAR: RETURNS TO THIRD COUNTRIES



- **Intensification of returns:** Almost **20,000 return decisions** and almost **3,000 returns** effected since 1 October (information from 15 Member States: **Italy** participated in **5** return operations, **Greece** in **2** return operations) – *most successful returns to **Albania, Ukraine, Serbia and Russia** – least successful returns to **Morocco, Afghanistan, Algeria, Pakistan and Tunisia***
- **Stepping up progress on readmission:** prioritisation of readmission in dialogues with relevant third countries

NEXT STEPS



RESULTS SO FAR: RESETTLEMENT FROM THIRD COUNTRIES

STATE OF PLAY

- July commitment to resettle over **20,000** refugees in need of international protection
- Resettlement Workshop 2 October on practical steps needed

FIRST RESULTS

- Notification of resettlement places under the scheme
- Effective resettlement:
373 refugees to the Czech Republic, Italy, Liechtenstein, Ireland, Switzerland

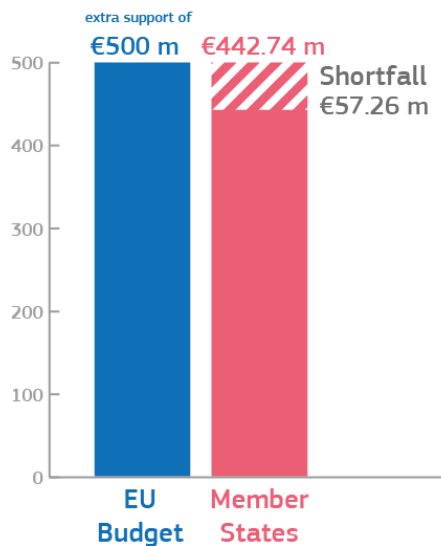
NEXT STEPS

- Commission proposals for a structural system for resettlement

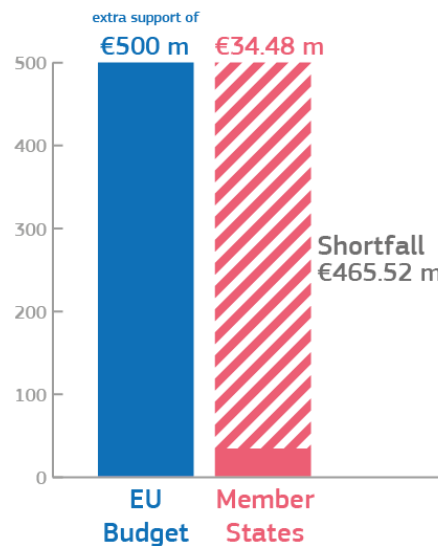


EXTRA EU FUNDING ON MIGRATION

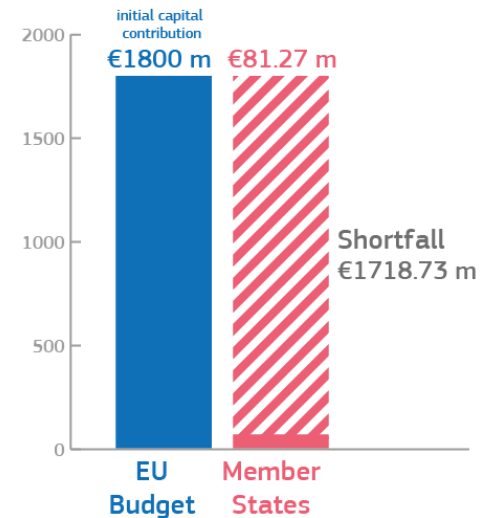
Humanitarian aid commitments since 23 September



EU Trust Fund for the Syrian crisis



EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa*



EU Civil Protection Mechanism

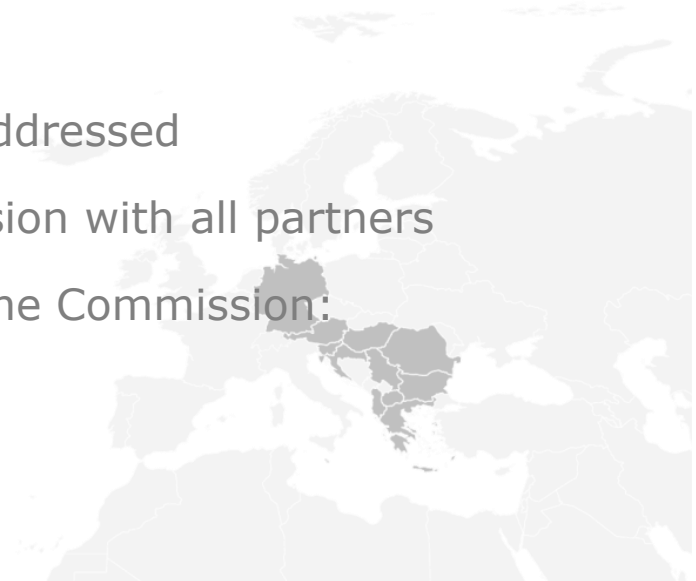
Activated by Hungary, Serbia, Slovenia, Croatia – **16 Member States** have made **75 offers of support**, but well short of needs

*Including €3m from Switzerland and €3m from Norway

RESULTS SO FAR: WESTERN BALKANS LEADERS MEETING



- Systematic **daily exchange of information**
- **Weekly videoconference** between Sherpas of the Heads of State or Government
- Facilitation of "**swift transit**" has been addressed
- **Draft needs assessment** now in discussion with all partners
- Emergency funding already awarded by the Commission:
 - Slovenia **€10.17 million**
 - Croatia **€16.43 million**



RESULTS SO FAR: WESTERN BALKANS LEADERS MEETING



RECEPTION CAPACITY

- **Greece: 50,000** additional capacity. **20,000** rent subsidy scheme with UNHCR in final planning stage, discussions with Greek authorities and UNHCR on remaining needs
- **Other countries** on route: **50,000** additional capacity. Over **15,000** identified, others in active planning with countries concerned

Still shortfalls on both to be filled

BORDER SUPPORT IN 10 SPECIFIC LOCATIONS

- Frontex in contact with **Croatia, Greece, Bulgaria, Hungary**
- But realisation will depend on **national contributions to Frontex calls**

NEXT STEPS: EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD



OBJECTIVES

- Integrated concept of EU border management
- Maximising the potential of Frontex as a European Border Agency
- New form of response to exceptional border pressures



KEY ELEMENTS

- Crisis prevention – more robust upstream preparation
- Earlier intervention to tackle shortcomings
- Stronger common approach in case of crisis

Adoption by the Commission of legislative proposals in
December 2015

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Implementation of decisions is the best way to show both inside the EU and to refugees that the system works and must be used.

This requires:

- **Full application** of rules at the EU external borders
- **Acceleration** of relocation
- **Full support for the Frontex and European Asylum Support Office (EASO)** calls for experts by all Member States
- Creating the **100,000 additional reception places** along the **Western Balkans route**
- **Extra national funding** in line with the agreed commitments
- **Putting in place the steps** needed to realise the EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan