

WEEKLY MEETING | 23/09/2015

Management of the refugee crisis: Commission shows the way forward

Moving forward on the management of the refugee crisis, the Commission sets out priority actions for the next six months. President Juncker will present them tonight at the extraordinary informal meeting of Heads of State and Government.



The EU has demonstrated its capacity to act in the face of the refugee crisis by deciding on the relocation of 160,000 persons in need of international protection. This is an

important milestone in implementing the Commission's broader European Agenda on Migration. Now it is possible to move ahead. As the situation has worsened, the crisis needs to be managed swiftly, by showing solidarity and taking responsibility.

One day after a crucial Council meeting of interior ministers, the Commission put forward immediate measures of operational, financial and legal nature. They outline what the Commission will do next and what it expects all Member States to do, namely to take responsibility, both politically and financially.

President Juncker will present these measures at tonight's extraordinary informal meeting of Heads of State and Government. He said: "*The decision to relocate 160,000 people from the most affected Member States is a historic first and a genuine, laudable expression of European solidarity. It cannot be the end of the story, however. It is time for further, bold, determined and concerted action by the European Union, by its institutions and by all its Member States.*"

The most pressing need is to support Member States managing exceptional numbers of refugees on their territory. This requires action both inside and outside the EU. The Commission offers increased operational and budgetary support to help the most affected Member States and the third countries most concerned. It also intends to increase resources of the most relevant EU agencies like Frontex, the European Asylum Support Office and Europol. It is also taking legal action against Member States not complying with EU legislation on the Common European Asylum System.

Operational measures in support of Member States:

- Migration Management Support Teams working in "hotspots" to implement the relocation decisions
- Frontex joint operations
- EU Civil Protection Mechanism
- Rapid border intervention teams (RABIT)
- Lifting temporary internal border controls in Schengen area
- Diplomatic offensive and intensify cooperation with third countries

Budgetary support:

- Increasing emergency funding for most affected Member States by €100 million for 2015
- Increasing 2015 funding for Frontex, European Asylum Support Office and Europol by €1.3 million to cover 120 additional posts
- For 2016: increasing the emergency funding for the most affected Member States and the funding for Frontex, EASO and Europol by €600 million for 2016

Implementing existing EU law

- Full and swift implementation by Member States of EU law in the area of asylum and migration
- 40 infringement decisions have been adopted today against 19 Member States to ensure full compliance with the Common European Asylum System
- Restore the normal situation and reinstate Dublin transfers to Greece within six months

Legislative steps towards a robust Common European Asylum System

- Establishment of a European Border and Coast Guard and extension of the Frontex mandate (December 2015)
- Legal migration package including revision of Blue Card (March 2016)
- Further reform of the Dublin Regulation (March 2016)
- Proposal for a structured system on resettlement (March 2016)

Today the Commission also received Mr Vítor Manuel da Silva Caldeira, President of the European Court of Auditors, and Members of the Court of Auditors for the regular annual meeting between the two institutions. The visit of the Court of Auditors comes before the presentation of the Court of Auditors' Annual report in November.

Related Links

- [Managing the refugee crisis: Remarks by President Juncker](#)

- [Press release - Managing the refugee crisis: Immediate operational, budgetary and legal measures under the European Agenda on Migration](#)
- [Press release - More Responsibility in managing the refugee crisis: European Commission adopts 40 infringement decisions to make European Asylum System work](#)
- [European Commission Statement following the decision at the Extraordinary Justice and Home Affairs Council to relocate 120,000 refugees](#)
- [Factsheet - Refugee Crisis – Q&A on Emergency Relocation](#)
- [Presentation – Managing the refugee crisis](#)  (447 kB)
- [Readout of the College meeting](#)
- [Doorstep by Commissioner Bulc](#)
- [Doorstep by Commissioner Avramopoulos](#)
- [Doorstep by Commissioner Moedas](#)
- [Doorstep by Commissioner Vestager](#)
- [Doorstep by Commissioner Hahn](#)
- [Doorstep by Commissioner Crețu](#)
- [Doorstep by Vice-President Katainen](#)
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- [Doorstep by Commissioner Moscovici](#)
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- [Commission priority: Migration](#)