

STATE OF
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A reinforced European Union Agency for Asylum

#SOTEU

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'Our common European values and our historic responsibility are my starting point when I think about the future of Europe's migration policy. My experience tells me that Europe will need more solidarity to prepare for the future. The future of a prosperous continent that will always be open for those in need, but that will also deal with the challenge of migration together, and not leave some to cope alone.'

Jean-Claude Juncker, 1 May 2014



The European Commission is proposing to further reinforce the operational capacity of the EU Agency for Asylum, equipping it with the necessary staff, tools and financial means to support Member States throughout the asylum procedure. This will help Member States to process asylum applications swiftly, avoid backlog and contribute to preventing secondary movements. The Agency will now be able to provide a rapid and full service to Member States, including by assisting in carrying out the entire administrative stage of the procedure, whenever and wherever they need the extra help, particularly at hotspots and in controlled centres. The reinforced EU Agency for Asylum will work in full complementarity with the European Border and Coast Guard — together they will now be able to deploy migration management support teams at all times to offer integrated support on borders, asylum and return where needed.

Increased assistance to Member States

The Agency's staff will be available, at the request of Member States or upon its own initiative in agreement with a Member State, to provide operational and technical assistance throughout the asylum procedure as well as during the procedure under the Dublin Regulation. Member States will take all final decisions.

The Agency's tasks will include:



Identification and registration of asylum seekers



Assisting with or carrying out admissibility and substance interviews



Preparing administrative decisions on applications for international protection for the responsible national authorities



Providing logistical and other support to independent appeal bodies



Providing interpretation and translation services



The deployment of Asylum Support Teams



Under the Dublin procedure: assist with the procedure to determine the Member State responsible for examining an asylum application and other related procedures; and assist with carrying out or with coordinating the allocation or transfer of asylum applicants within the Union.

Deployment of migration management support teams

Migration management support teams are comprised of experts in all aspects of migration, including the European Asylum Agency's asylum experts and legal staff as well as operational staff from the European Border and Coast Guard standing corps and experts from Europol and other EU Agencies. The teams can be deployed to provide the full range of support activities to the requesting Member State.



More financial support

In addition to the Commission's initial proposal on the EU Agency for Asylum, which provided for a budget of €364 million until the end of 2020, an additional €55 million per year between 2019 and 2027 is proposed. For the next budget period (2021-2027), the Commission has proposed a budget of €1.25 billion for the Agency.