

**DG MIGRATION AND HOME AFFAIRS  
(DG HOME)**

*Last update: January 2019*

Initiative	Keyword(s)
<p>Develop a comprehensive and sustainable European migration and asylum policy framework, as set out in Articles 78 and 79 TFEU, which - in a spirit of solidarity - can lead to the efficient management of migration flows and address critical situations at the EU borders.</p> <p>The main policy initiative is the European Agenda on Migration, presented in May 2015, which is devised into 4 pillars, to deal with all aspects of migration in the immediate, medium and long term. It consists of reducing the incentives for irregular migration by fighting against smugglers and traffickers and improving the rate of return/readmission of irregular migrants; stronger border management and protection of EU external borders; a solid asylum policy and international protection; and a new policy on legal migration, including integration.</p> <p>A Communication on managing migration in all its aspects: progress under the European Agenda on Migration was presented on 4 December 2018. It looks at the three core components of the comprehensive approach to migration management: 1/ action with partners outside the Union; 2/ action at our external borders; 3/ action inside the Union and sets out where we stand and the next steps.</p> <p>The dedicated EU funding supports the implementation of policy priorities. The resources of the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) as well as the Internal Security Fund (ISF) increased to EUR 10.9 billion over the programming period 2014-2020. The reinforcements enabled to address evolving needs and challenges on migration and asylum, border management and security in Member States. To shape the future EU budget after 2021, the Commission proposed in June 2018 to nearly triple the resources dedicated to migration and borders management up to EUR 34.9 billion. The envelope includes the budget of the new generation of Home Affairs Funds and of the relevant EU Agencies.</p>	<p>European Agenda on Migration, irregular migration, asylum, legal migration, integration</p>

<p><b>Legal Migration – Integration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Negotiations on the Proposal for a Revision of the Blue card</b> (EU residence permit to attract highly skilled workers from third countries) of June 2016;</li> <li>• Implementation and follow-up of the <b>Action Plan on integration of third country nationals</b> of June 2016;</li> <li>• <b>Partnership on Inclusion of migrants and refugees</b>, under the Urban Agenda of the EU, in order to improve the consultation, coordination and support to local and regional authorities</li> <li>• The Commission has also established a <b>European Partnership for Integration with social and economic partners</b> at European level to work more closely together to promote a faster and more effective integration of refugees in the European labour market</li> <li>• <b>"Fitness check"</b> of the EU legislation on legal migration to identify gaps and inconsistencies and consider possible ways of simplifying and streamlining the current EU framework in order to contribute to a better management of legal migration flows.</li> <li>• Launch of <b>pilot projects on legal migration from third-countries</b>, with a focus on African countries in a first stage.</li> <li>• <b>Comparative study on labour migration policies</b> and the role of "expression of interest" models and matching mechanisms, to be published in first quarter of 2019;</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Irregular migration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of the EU Action Plan against Migrant Smuggling, May 2015;</li> <li>• EU-Turkey statement and Refugee Facility for Turkey, March 2016; Joint action plan on the implementation of the EU-Turkey Statement, December 2016.</li> <li>• New Migration Partnership Framework, launched in June 2016: implementation of migration compacts;</li> <li>• Implementation of the Renewed EU Action Plan on Return and Recommendation for Member States on how to make return procedures more effective, March 2017;</li> <li>• Commission recommendation on common “Return Handbook” to be used by Member States' competent authorities when carrying out return related tasks of September 2017.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Asylum</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Negotiations of the reform of the Common European Asylum System; proposals for an Asylum Procedure Regulation, a European Union Asylum Agency, a revision of the Reception Conditions Directive, the Qualification Regulation, reform of the Dublin Regulation and recast of the EURODAC Regulation; proposal on Union Resettlement Framework.;</li> <li>• Communication on the protection of children in migration, April 2017.</li> </ul>	

<b>Borders</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• European Border and Coast Guard, launched in October 2016;</li> <li>• Revised proposal on an Entry Exit System to facilitate and reinforce border check procedures for non-EU nationals, April 2016;</li> <li>• Proposal for a European Travel Information and Authorisation System, November 2016;</li> <li>• Amendment of the Schengen Borders Code - systematic controls of EU nationals against relevant databases at the external borders both when entering or exiting Schengen area; entered into force in April 2017;</li> <li>• Work on the interoperability of information systems.</li> <li>• Proposal for a Regulation on the European Border and Coast Guard accompanied with the Report on the evaluation of EUROSUR</li> <li>• Explore concepts of regional disembarkation arrangements as well as the controlled centres (<a href="https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2018/06/29/20180628-euco-conclusions-final/">https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2018/06/29/20180628-euco-conclusions-final/</a>)</li> </ul>	
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<b>Studies and related outputs</b> In addition to studies carried out by the European Migration Network (EMN): <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-we-do/networks/european_migration_network/reports/studies_en">https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-we-do/networks/european_migration_network/reports/studies_en</a>			
	Eurobarometer on Integration of immigrants	2018	This Special Eurobarometer survey on integration of (non-EU) immigrants in EU Member States was conducted in end October 2017 and published in April 2018. It used a new set of questions specifically tailored to measure the attitudes of Europeans towards immigration and the integration of non-EU immigrants. To this purpose, it focuses on respondents': <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> General perceptions of immigrants and knowledge about the extent and nature of immigration in the respondent's home country;</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Personal experiences of, ties with, and level of comfort in interacting with immigrants;</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation of the success in integrating immigrants, the factors which facilitate integration, the obstacles that may prevent it and the measures that would support it;</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Opinions about the roles and responsibilities of various actors, the media and institutions with respect to the integration of immigrants.</li> </ul>
	DG HOME Statistical Compilation	2018	The Statistical Compilation is a unique collection of migration and security statistics stemming from various sources, such as EUROSTAT, EBCGA and eu-LISA, allowing to observe the interconnection between the different policies. It is prepared by DG HOME Task Force Statistics

			and covers all policy areas within DG HOME's remit, providing a comprehensive and detailed overview of the development of migration and security related areas throughout the past years up to 2017 and 2018, provided that data was already available for 2018. In comparison with last year's edition, the annual data on EURODAC for 2017 has also been included as well as a glossary with all the key terms for a better understanding.
	Data collection, studies and conferences on the links between the trafficking in human beings and migrant smuggling	2018	These activities fall within the indicative overall budgetary allocation in the AMIF WP 2017 reserved for procurement contracts: The aim of the study is to explore the extent of links between the two distinct, yet interlinked crimes of migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings. The interplay between the two remains unclear and is lacking reliable, widespread and comparable evidence. A better understanding of such interplay has been called upon by various stakeholders as well as the European Parliament (EP Report on the fight against trafficking in human beings in the EU's external relations). Therefore, this project would aim at 1/ gathering operational data through fact-findings missions and research on the field, both in third countries and in the EU 2/ putting together the results and drawing main operational conclusions in a single paper 3/ organising a conference to present the outcome of the project with relevant stakeholders.
	Development of third countries' national and regional strategies to combat migrant smuggling (including consultancy services, consultation meetings and seminars);	2017/ 2018	These activities fall within the indicative overall budgetary allocation in the AMIF WP 2016 reserved for procurement contracts. In order to support third countries in setting up national or regional strategies to better combat migrant smuggling, as a first step, the European Commission will procure the drawing up of needs assessments on the best way to address migrant smuggling in selected third countries of origin or transit where migrant smuggling is a relevant phenomenon.  Needs assessment study for the development and implementation of legislation and strategies to counter migrant smuggling covering Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Guinea and ECOWAS - carried out between March and August 2018.
	Migrant communication channels study	2017	DG HOME has commissioned a study on the communication channels used by migrants to seek information in countries of origin and transit from Western Africa to Libya. In addition to interviews with migrants, an analysis of social media and websites will also be conducted. The work has started with publication expected in late 2017. A second study with the same aims focusing on Italy is also planned during 2017, with the contract soon to be awarded (expected in May 2017).
	Best Practices on the Implementation of the Hotspot Approach	2017	DG HOME prepared a Staff Working Document to accompany the Progress Report on the European Agenda on Migration (COM(2017)669) with a view to setting out the key principles to operate hotspots effectively. Based on the experience gained in the implementation of hotspot

			approach in Italy and Greece, the Commission also identified best practices for Member States hosting hotspots to have clear guidance on what they should do, once the hotspot approach has been activated on their territory at the land or sea borders,
	Challenges and practices for establishing applicants' identity in the migration process	2017	The overall aim of the Study is to offer an overview of the important challenges facing national authorities in their efforts to reliably establish and verify the identity of third country nationals within the context of various migration-related procedures, namely those related to asylum, return and legal migration channels (including both short-stay and long-stay visas). It aims to draw together an overview of national practices in handling these challenges. This Study will hence inform the EU Member States, Norway and the Commission about the nature of these challenges and about the extent to which, and how, (Member) States respond to them, while allowing for the identification of possible steps towards further (joint) actions.
	The impact of EU rules on the effectiveness of return in the Member States: challenges and good practices	2017	This study aims at analysing the impact of EU rules on return – including the Return Directive and related case law from the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU)–on Member States' return policies and practices and on the effectiveness of return decisions issued across the EU. The study will present an estimation of the scale of the population of irregular migrants who have been issued a return decision but whose return to a third country has, as yet, not been carried out. The study will also seek to provide an overview of the challenges encountered by Member States in effectively implementing returns, as well as identify any good practices developed to meet the requirements set in EU legislation on return. Such challenges and good practices may cover national implementing measures or interpretations of concepts used under EU law (e.g. risk of absconding) or of the conditions to implement certain EU provisions, such as Article 15 of the Return Directive on detention. A measure should be considered as good practice when its implementation has contributed to guaranteeing the effective return of illegally staying third-country nationals in conformity with international and EU standards (e.g. non-refoulement principle, decisions adopted on a case-by-case basis and based on objective criteria, best interest of the child principle) and with fundamental rights.
	Annual Report on the Situation of Asylum in the European Union 2016	2017	The EASO Annual Report on the Situation of Asylum in the EU is drawn up in accordance with Article 12 of the EASO Regulation. Its objective is to provide a comprehensive overview of the situation of asylum in the EU (and includes information on Norway and Switzerland) , describing and analysing flows of applicants for international protection, major developments in legislation, jurisprudence, and policies at the EU/national level and reporting on the practical functioning of the Common European Asylum System (CEAS). As in previous years, the report aims to provide analysis based on independent sources of information and helps identify the areas where improvement is most needed (and thus where EASO and other key stakeholders should focus their

			<p>efforts) in line with its declared purpose of improving the quality, consistency and effectiveness of the CEAS.</p> <p>The report takes due account of information already available from a wide range of sources. For the purpose of this report, EASO received information from Member States, EU institutions, civil society, international organisations, and academia. In accordance with its role under Article 35 of the Geneva Convention of 28 July 1951 relating to the Status of Refugees, which is reflected in the EU Treaties and the asylum acquis instruments, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees made a special contribution to this report (also referred to as UNHCR input).</p> <p>The EASO Annual Report covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2016 inclusive, but also refers to major recent relevant developments in the year of writing.</p>
	OECD-EU (2016), Recruiting Immigrant Workers: Europe 2016	2016	<p>This review considers how, in accordance with its mandate, the European Union can improve labour migration management at the Union level and what it could do to make the EU more attractive to highly skilled migrants. The review asks the specific question of how EU rules can help make the EU single market a more appealing destination for skills and talents. It also explores how the EU can improve its labour migration framework to meet current and upcoming challenges against the background of an ageing population.</p>
	Success Stories from the Migration and Home Affairs Funds: Solidarity and Management of Migration flows (2007-2013)	2016	<p>For the period 2007-13, almost EUR 4 billion was allocated for the management of the Union's external borders and for the implementation of common asylum and immigration policies through the General Programme "Solidarity and Management of Migration Flows" (SOLID). The publication presents a series of projects financed by the Funds and selected by the Member States as their best examples. These project posters were presented during the Conference on Home Affairs Funds: 'Investing in an Open and Secure Europe' (29-30 September 2015, Brussels Belgium)</p>
	Report on the progress made in the fight against trafficking in human beings (2016) as required under Article 20 of Directive 2011/36/EU on preventing and	2016	<p>The Report presents trends and challenges in addressing trafficking in human beings, examines progress made, and highlights key issues that the EU and its Member States need to address as a priority. Amongst others, the report suggests more focus to be placed on: tackling all forms of exploitation; increasing the number and effectiveness of investigations and prosecutions; improving data collection; focusing on the early identification of all victims, their protection and assistance; taking a gender-specific and child-sensitive approach; preventing THB by addressing the demand; allocating adequate resources; and cooperating meaningfully with civil society.</p>

	combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims (Progress report)		The Report is accompanied by the Commission Staff Working Document Accompanying the Report on the progress made in the fight against trafficking in human beings (2016)
	Study on the gender dimension of trafficking in human beings	2016	The Study forms part of a broader package of 4 studies that are deliverables of the EU Strategy towards the Eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings 2012-2016. It contributes to the EU Strategy, Priority E Action 2, which states that 'the Commission will develop knowledge on the gender dimensions of human trafficking'. The study looks specifically at the gender dimension of trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation.
	Study on comprehensive policy review of anti-trafficking projects funded by the European Commission	2016	The Study reviews 321 anti-trafficking projects directly funded by the Commission at a total of EUR 158.5 million during the period 2004-2015. The projects were awarded to 221 different principal grant holders and ran activities in over 100 different countries worldwide. The study revealed that most of the funding went for non-specified forms of exploitation (56%) and that over half of funded projects were led by non-governmental organisations (57%). It was concluded that more focus needs to be placed on policy coherence, coordination and accountability; victims and vulnerability; traffickers and trafficking chains; increasing knowledge on trafficking in human beings.
	Country of Origin Information (COI) reports on all seven countries proposed to be included in the EU List of Safe Countries of Origin: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey.	2016	These reports provide factual information on selected topics relevant for safe country designation. They were co-drafted and reviewed by EASO and researchers from a number of national asylum authorities represented in EASO's COI Network, in accordance with the EASO COI Report Methodology. In line with this methodology and the EASO mandate, country information from a wide variety of sources is provided, while refraining from making any assessments or policy conclusions. Thus, the reports aim to support the ongoing negotiations on the EU List of Safe Countries of Origin by offering a factual knowledge base for more informed policy discussions.

	Evaluation of Dublin III Regulation	2016	The study provides an in-depth analysis (article-by-article) on the practical implementation of the 'Dublin III Regulation' in all Member States. It evaluated the effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, consistency and EU added value of the Dublin III Regulation.
	Study on the Temporary Protection Directive	2016	The purpose of the study was to evaluate the continued 'fitness for purpose' of the Temporary Protection Directive as an instrument helping the Union to respond to situations involving a large-scale influx of displaced persons (including persons likely to be in need of international protection), by assessing in particular why the Directive had not been activated since its adoption 15 years ago in 2001.
	Studies on the Qualification Directive	2016	Two studies were launched in 2015; one to focus on the application of the recast Qualification Directive 2011/95/EC by the Member States and a second one to identify implementation problems and other shortcomings and assess to which extent the Directive has led to greater convergence of asylum decisions across the EU.
	Projects of the European Integration Fund (Community action programmes 2007-13)	2015	This report compiles and analyses the 69 projects co-funded by the EIF Community action programmes in the period from 2007 to 2013. It summarises the main contribution of the actions funded and discusses their relevance to policy in specific areas of integration.
	Indicators of Immigrant Integration 2015: Settling in	2015	Joint report with OECD. This publication presents the first broad international comparison across all EU and OECD countries of the outcomes for immigrants and their children. It covers all main areas of integration and includes a special focus on two concrete groups.
	Study on high-risk groups for trafficking in human beings	2015	The Study looked at risk and resilience factors that influence the likelihood for children to become victims of THB, with a view to establishing risk profiles and developing recommendations for improvements in policies in the EU and Member States. The study found that two crucial individual factors - a history of abuse and a vulnerable emotional state - could often be traced back to a dysfunctional family situation, underpinned by material deprivation. Trends identified included that ever younger children are becoming victims of trafficking, growing numbers of girls from Nigeria being the victims of sexual exploitation, an increase in the number of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children who are at risk of being trafficked, a growing number of cases of children with cognitive and developmental disabilities being victims of trafficking, and a growing share of boys for both sexual and labour exploitation.



	Study on case-law on trafficking for the purpose of labour exploitation	2015	Purpose of the Study was to identify case law relating to THB for the purpose of labour exploitation in Member State and analyse Member State practice with respect to prosecution of this crime. The study shows that those most at risk of being trafficked for forced labour include migrant workers who have experienced poverty in their home country, persons with low levels of appropriate language skills and often with limited intellectual capacities, persons with a poor knowledge of their rights and the relevant legal framework and persons working in certain low-paid and poorly regulated industrial sectors. Trafficking for forced labour is also driven by a demand for workers and cheap labour.
	Technical Study on Smart Borders	2014	The aim of the Smart Borders Package is to improve the management of the Member States' external borders, fight irregular immigration and provide information on overstayers (EES). It is also to allow for facilitated border crossings for pre-vetted frequent third country travellers (RTP) in order to reduce the time spent at the border crossing points, facilitate travel and cross-border contact and contribute to the protection of borders. Indeed, the foreseen facilitation should result in releasing human resources needed at the external borders for thorough checking where appropriate and/or carrying out other relevant tasks).The objective of the study is to analyse in-depth a set of key issues that have emerged during the discussions with the co-legislators and that are deemed to require further investigation.
	Study on the feasibility of the creation of a European System of Border Guards to control the external borders of the Union	2014	The purpose of the study was to identify three models of what a European System of Border Guards could be composed of, when assessing the expert views in EU Member States, Schengen Associated Member States and at the EU level. After a thorough evaluation of the existing challenges and future opportunities, different options were proposed for improved cooperation at the external borders of the EU, including the increased role of the Frontex Agency.
	Using EU Indicators of Immigrant Integration	2013	The report has three sections: a) report explores how three types of factors influence societal integration outcomes in four areas and as such can inform integration policies; b)reconfirms the availability, accessibility and reliability of the main sources for the calculation of the integration indicators considered within the report; c) presents different options reflecting the different ways in which indicators could be used to understand national contexts, evaluate the outcomes of policies, and use targets to improve integration.

	Study on the Feasibility and legal and practical implications of establishing a mechanism for the joint processing of asylum applications on the territory of the EU	2013	The purpose of the study is to provide a basis for further discussions and informed decisions about the possible further development of an EU mechanism for joint processing of asylum claims. Joint processing of asylum claims inside or outside the territory of the EU has been the subject of administrative, political and academic discussion at various points over the last fifteen years; however, without the establishment of a definition of what exactly the term "joint processing" entails. Thus, it should be stressed that, as much as the purpose of the study is to assess the legal, political, and financial implications of joint processing, it is first and foremost a feasibility study, testing the idea of joint processing, and what it could and should entail, among stakeholders.
	Comparative Study on Best Practices to Interlink Pre-Departure Reintegration Measures Carried out in Member States with Short- and Long-Term Reintegration Measures in the Countries of Return	2012	The overall purpose of the study was to provide practical guidance to Member States in developing and implementing a coherent and sustainable reintegration policy by providing Member States with information on current national policies on reintegration measures, an inventory of best practices and a set of policy relevant conclusions and recommendations on how to create positive synergies between different existing reintegration measures.
	Comparative Study on Practices in the Field of Return of Minors	2011	The call for tender specified that the study should aim to support Member States in their efforts to develop an effective system of return in relation to children. The main activity of the study is to gather information about current practices regarding the return from Europe to countries of origin or transit of third country national children within families or children travelling separated from their families.
	Comparative Study on Best Practices in the Field of Forced Return Monitoring	2011	The overall purpose of the study was to facilitate the transposition of Article 8(6) of the Return Directive by providing Member States with information on best practice examples to support their efforts to develop an effective and transparent monitoring system of the forced-return of illegally staying third-country nationals.