Humanitarian aspects of interregional crisis

*Collective actions to face the humanitarian crisis in the Mediterranean*

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Outline

- Situational picture in the Mediterranean: Human rights perspective
- Reinforcement of Frontex JOs: EU Commission’s Agenda on Migration
- International Protection & Border control
- Frontex Joint Operations in the Mediterranean and Fundamental Rights
Situational picture in the Mediterranean

Irregular border-crossing in 2014 by route
EU Commission’s Agenda on Migration

Four pillars to manage migration better

Reducing the incentives for illegal migration
- Address root causes in 3rd countries
- Fight against smugglers and traffickers
- Ensure effective returns

Border Management - saving lives and securing external borders
- Reinforcement of Frontex activities
- Identification of risk trends
- Consolidation of border management practices and operational standards
- Smart borders
- Cooperation with 3rd countries

Europe’s Duty to protect
- Monitoring of the implementation of the Common European Asylum System
- Reinforce role of EASO
- Reinforce Dublin mechanism

A new policy on legal migration
- Revision Blue Card Directive - students & researchers
- Facilitation of business travels
- Revision visa code
EU Commission’s Agenda on Migration

Immediate action for Frontex

- Saving lives at sea → TRITON: +budget +geographical area +capabilities
- Targeting criminal smuggling networks → JOT MARE
- Frontex support in coordination of returns for those who are not in need of international protection
International Protection & border control

- Highest **overall increase** in the EU: 615,000 applicants (+41%)

- Main **nationalities**: Syria, Eritrea, Somalia, Pakistan, Afghanistan, as well as Western Balkans

- **Role of border guards** in ensuring access to procedures: information and referral (Asylum Procedures Directive)

- **Challenges** faced in situations of **mass flows** (reception, registration)
Frontex Joint Operations in the Mediterranean

Operational Objectives

- Border surveillance
- Search and rescue
- Border checks
- Port vigilance
- Voluntary Debriefing activities
  (+interpreters/ cultural mediators)
- Nationality Screening activities
  (+interpreters/ cultural mediators)
Collective actions to face the humanitarian crisis in the Mediterranean

**Frontex Joint Operations in the Mediterranean**

**OPERATION TRITON**

Operational area: 138 NM south from Sicily

- 9 debriefing teams (4 people each)
- 6 screening teams (4 people each)
- 4 airplanes
- 2 helicopters
- 12 patrol boats
- 6 offshore patrol vessels

26 countries take part in operation Triton

Reinforcement of Frontex activities → EU Commission’s Agenda on Migration (13 May 2015)

Italy: Author unknown

deployment levels in the peak summer season
Fundamental Rights aspects of Frontex maritime operations

- New rules on maritime surveillance (REGULATION 656/2014)
  - search and rescue and disembarkation

- Fundamental rights in Frontex Operations: international protection, THB, children

- Cooperation with 3rd countries
  - working arrangement and support integrated border manag projects

- Cooperation with IIOO and NGOs: UNHCR, IOM, FRA, etc.
  - reception & assistance and capacity building/training

- EU Interagency cooperation
  - FRONTEX/EASO/EUROPOL
Thank you for your attention!

Any questions?