



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 12 October 2021
(OR. en)

12742/21
ADD 2

JAI 1083
ASIM 82
MIGR 226
RELEX 839
FRONT 355
VISA 208
CADREFIN 436

COVER NOTE

From:	Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Ms Martine DEPREZ, Director
date of receipt:	30 September 2021
To:	Mr Jeppe TRANHOLM-MIKKELSEN, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union

No. Cion doc.:	COM(2021) 590 final - ANNEX 2
Subject:	ANNEX to the COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS on the Report on Migration and Asylum

Delegations will find attached document COM(2021) 590 final - ANNEX 2.

Encl.: COM(2021) 590 final - ANNEX 2



Brussels, 29.9.2021
COM(2021) 590 final

ANNEX 2

ANNEX

to the

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS**

on the Report on Migration and Asylum

Cooperation with key third countries: Framework and Areas of Cooperation on Migration

Morocco	Commissioners Johansson and Várhelyi visited Morocco in December 2020 to discuss migration and security. Mobility Partnership since 2013. Cooperation also takes place in the Rabat Process. Areas of cooperation include support and protection to migrants in need; strengthening migration governance and management; supporting the prevention of irregular migration, including the fight against migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings; development of effective, integrated border management; fostering cooperation on return, readmission and reintegration of migrants; promoting legal migration including through a number of mobility schemes. Morocco is advancing in its cooperation with Frontex and Europol. There are mandates for readmission and visa facilitation agreements with Morocco. The next informal migration and security dialogue at senior officials level to tentatively take in the coming months.
Tunisia	Commissioner Johansson visited Tunisia in August 2020 and again in May 2021 with Italian Minister of the Interior Lamorgese. HRVP visited Tunisia on 9-10 September and the President of the European Council on 4-5 April 2021. Mobility Partnership since 2014. Areas of cooperation include supporting the development of effective, integrated border management, the prevention of irregular migration, including the fight against migrant smuggling, by fostering cooperation on return, readmission and reintegration of migrants and by promoting legal migration and mobility schemes. Cooperation with Europol is beginning. There are bilateral mandates for readmission and visa facilitation agreements. The EU obtained a mandate for the negotiations of agreements on visa facilitation and readmission in 2014. Five rounds of negotiations were held between 2016 and 2019.
Algeria	The sixth informal dialogue on migration and mobility took place on 1 July 2020. The dialogue aims at strengthening migration governance and management; supporting the development of effective, integrated border management; supporting the prevention of irregular migration, including the fight against migrant smuggling; fostering cooperation on return, readmission and reintegration of migrants. There is some cooperation with EU Agencies and there is mandate to start negotiations for a readmission agreement.
Libya	Successive visits of the President of the European Council, Commissioners Várhelyi and Johansson and the HRVP since April 2021, as well as on-going local dialogue via EU Delegation and work to revitalise the AU-EU-UN Taskforce have framed cooperation with Libya so far. Key objectives of our cooperation are to provide support and protection to those in need, including humanitarian evacuations via the ETMs in Niger and Rwanda and voluntary humanitarian return operations; strengthen migration governance and management; and support the development of effective, integrated border management including support for the Libyan coastguards, saving lives at sea. The Commission is addressing Libyan requests for greater support in the South.
Turkey	The March 2016 EU-Turkey Statement provides the overall framework for the EU-Turkey cooperation on migration. The Statement aims at strengthening migration and asylum management, supporting the prevention of irregular migration, supporting the development of effective, integrated border management and fostering cooperation on return, readmission and reintegration of migrants. It also fosters resettlements from Turkey and provides the framework to improve living conditions for Syrian refugees and host communities in Turkey through comprehensive cooperation between the EU and Turkey. The visa liberalisation dialogue envisaged in the Statement is ongoing. The Statement envisages the activation of a Voluntary Humanitarian Admission Scheme, once irregular crossings have ended or at least been substantially and sustainably reduced. The Standard Operating Procedures of this scheme have been agreed but there is no decision yet to activate the scheme. There is also cooperation with EU agencies. The Presidents of the European Council and of the Commission visited Turkey in March 2021. This visit was followed up by a visit of Commissioner Johansson in May 2021 and Commissioner Várhelyi in September 2021. Commissioner Johansson will attend the

	High-Level Dialogue on Migration and Security in the course of the autumn.
Western Balkans	Commissioner Johansson visited Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina in February and Serbia in June 2021 and HRVP chaired the Stabilisation and Association Councils with Albania (March 2021) and Bosnia and Herzegovina (July 2021) , where the issue of migration was addressed. Cooperation with countries in the Western Balkans is well framed in the context of the accession process, notably the Stabilisation and Association Councils and Sub-committees on Justice, Freedom and Security and through the Annual EU – Western Balkans Justice and Home Affairs Ministerials and senior official meetings. The focus is on strengthening migration governance and management, including with sufficient accommodation to host migrants/refugees; supporting the development of effective, integrated border management; asylum management; information exchange; fostering cooperation on return, readmission and reintegration of migrants; supporting the prevention of irregular migration, including the fight against migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings. An EU-Western Balkans summit takes place in Brdo of 6 October 2021 and will be preceded by a visit of Commission President von der Leyen to the region on 28-30 September.
Mauritania	Follow-up joint visit of Commissioner Johansson and the Spanish Minister of Interior in September 2020. Cooperation is framed through Senior level dialogue and in the context of regional processes (Rabat, ACP). EU support addresses the root causes of irregular migration, focusing on job creation and resilience as well as on strengthening migration governance in close collaboration with local authorities. Actions include also awareness raising and link creation with the diaspora. Cooperation encompasses also strengthening of integrated border management and, more recently, the fight against migrant smuggling, improving the protection of migrants, both on land and at sea, supporting their return and reintegration, and providing protection to displaced persons as well as social cohesion building among local and refugees' communities.
Ethiopia	EU-Ethiopia Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility since 2015, launched a Comprehensive Migration Dialogue , under which admission procedures on returns have been agreed. Cooperation includes fighting trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants; migration management; support to refugees/IDPs and host communities; returns; the root causes of migration (employment creation and resilience building of vulnerable communities to sustain environmental shocks).
Nigeria	Migration and mobility identified as one track of mutual interest and strenghteed dialogue in the Joint Communique of he EU-Nigeria Ministerial (November 2020). The readmission negotiations were relaunched in January 2021. A call between Commissioner Urpilainen and Nigerian Minister of Foreign Affairs Onyeama took place on 22 June 2021 to inter alia, discuss how to make progress in the readmission negotiations. Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility (CAMM) since 2015. Cooperation includes fight against trafficking of human beings and the smuggling of migrants, strengthening migration governance and integrated border management, return and sustainable reintegration, as well as awareness-raising, student mobility, stability and safety of communities in displacement and supporting free movement and mobility within the Ecowas region. There are pilot projects on legal/labour migration to Europe, implemented by Lithuania and IOM.
Niger	Cooperation takes place in the context of the EU-supported National Coordination Platform on Migration and through the Rabat Process. Policy dialogue focuses on migration management (via budget support) and support to local management of migration and its consequences (resilience). Cooperation focuses on supporting the prevention of irregular migration and the development of effective, integrated border management; providing support and protection to refugees in need via the Emergency Transit Mechanism (for evacuees from Libya) and via the EU-African Union-UN Task Force; joint Investigation Teams (against migrant smuggling and trafficking), search and rescue operations in the desert and reception centres to vulnerable migrants as well as their protection return

	and reintegration; and economic alternatives to migration.
Afghanistan	The Joint Declaration on Migration Cooperation (JDMC) was signed in April 2021 (currently on hold given recent developments) Cooperation also takes place in principle through the Budapest Process and in the Working Group on Human Rights, Good Governance and Migration under the Cooperation Agreement for Partnership and Development (CAPD). EU chairs the Core group of the Support Platform for the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR) in 2021. Cooperation with Afghanistan has focused up to now on addressing the root causes of irregular migration, supporting the development of effective, integrated border management, supporting the prevention of irregular migration, including the fight against migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings; fostering cooperation on return, readmission and reintegration of migrants; the sustainable reintegration of returnees and IDPs; community development projects in areas of high return/displacement; access to housing and land, basic services, vocational training and job opportunities; capacity building and technical support on migration policies and issues; migration management; integrated border management; fighting trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants; migration data collection and analysis. Current and future programmes with Afghanistan are under review given the situation in the country.
Pakistan	The EU- Pakistan Joint Commission and the Strategic Engagement Plan covers migration (11 th meeting June 2021). A readmission agreement is in place since 2010. Pakistan also participates in the Budapest Process and has been a member of the Quadripartite Steering Committee of the Support Platform for the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees (SSAR). Cooperation focuses on supporting the development of effective, integrated border management and the prevention of irregular migration, including the fight against migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings; collection of migration data; establishment of Migrant Resource Centre; support to Afghan refugees and their host communities (access to basic services, livelihoods, TVET, protection). Pakistan has shown strong interest in a full migration dialogue including legal migration.
Iraq	Cooperation takes place in the context of the Informal Dialogue on Migration (fourth meeting February 2021), the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement, and the Budapest Process. Cooperation focuses on strengthening migration governance (elaboration of the Iraqi National Migration Strategy, border management, migration data, fight against smuggling and trafficking, Migrant Resource Centre); supporting the prevention of irregular migration; fostering cooperation on return, readmission and reintegration of migrants; support to IDPs; fighting of trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants; migration data collection and analysis. On 30 July, senior EU officials met with the newly established Iraqi National Committee on Migration, Return and Readmission Cooperation for a targeted discussion on readmission. Further such meetings are planned.
Bangladesh	Bangladesh participates in the Budapest Process. Cooperation focusses on supporting development of effective, integrated border management; collection of migration data; supporting the prevention of irregular migration, including the fight against migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings; fostering cooperation on return, readmission and reintegration of migrants; support to child migrants; humanitarian support for the Rohingya displacement. The EU and Bangladesh concluded Standard Operating Procedures for the Identification and Return of persons without an authorisation in 2017. Bangladesh is currently addressing the identified problems linked to the return of people with no right to stay in the EU.