

Reply by the European Commission to a request for information from the European Ombudsman
- Complaint 2538/2025/AML

I. BACKGROUND

Between February and December 2022, the Commission received four complaints¹ from Refugee Support Aegean (RSA) and the Greek Council for Refugees (GCR), both civil society organisations active in the field of asylum and migration in Greece. The complaints alleged that Greece was failing to comply with provisions of the Qualification Directive ('QD')², the Reception Conditions Directive ('RCD')³, the Asylum Procedures Directive ('APD')⁴, and the Returns Directive ('RD')⁵, as well as the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights⁶.

The complaints concern the following issues:

1. The continued practice by the Greek authorities of declaring international protection claims inadmissible on Safe Third Country ('STC') grounds, despite the suspension of readmissions to Türkiye⁷;
2. The imposition of a 100 EUR fine for submitting subsequent international protection applications, and the alleged incorrect examination of new and substantial evidence raised in such applications⁸;
3. Systemic delays in the registration of international protection applications on the Greek mainland, preventing international protection applicants from being formally registered, documented or receiving material reception conditions for extended periods⁹;
4. Deficient access to the procedure and the linked application of return measures to families with children¹⁰.

These complaints remain open and under assessment by the Commission Services.

¹ CPLT(2022)00677, CPLT(2022)02264, CPLT(2022)02981 and CPLT(2022)03534

² Article 4(3) of Directive 2011/95/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on standards for the qualification of third-country nationals or stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection, for a uniform status for refugees or for persons eligible for subsidiary protection, and for the content of the protection granted (recast) *OJ L 337, 20.12.2011*

³ Article 8 of Directive 2013/33/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 laying down standards for the reception of applicants for international protection (recast), *OJ L 180, 29.6.2013*

⁴ Articles 6, 9, 24(3), 38(4), 40-42, 46(3) of Directive 2013/32/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 on common procedures for granting and withdrawing international protection (recast), *OJ L 180, 29.6.2013*

⁵ Articles 5, 6, 14 and 15 of Directive 2008/115/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on common standards and procedures in Member States for returning illegally staying third-country nationals, *OJ L 348, 24.12.2008*

⁶ Articles 1, 6 and 18 Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union

⁷ CPLT(2022)00677 and CPLT(2022)02981

⁸ CPLT(2022)00677

⁹ CPLT(2022)02264

¹⁰ CPLT(2022)03534

II. THE COMPLAINT TO THE EUROPEAN OMBUDSMAN

In September 2025, the same organisations lodged a complaint with the European Ombudsman. They allege maladministration in the Commission's handling of their complaints, in view of the severity of the allegations made therein and the consequences of the continued Greek practice:

- First, the complainants consider that the Commission has not demonstrated that it is carrying out an adequate, thorough and timely assessment of their complaints. In their view, the Commission has excessively relied on dialogue with the Greek authorities through the Task Force Migration Management (the 'Task Force'), which they consider ineffective in remedying ongoing alleged breaches. They argue that such dialogue cannot replace formal enforcement action and that the Commission should have pursued stronger measures to ensure Greece's compliance with EU law.
- Second, they submit that the Commission did not keep them sufficiently informed about the handling of their complaints. They refer in particular to delays and limited responses to their requests for updates, as well as insufficient clarification regarding whether the issues they raised were being examined under other, possibly overlapping, infringement proceedings.

III. EUROPEAN OMBUDSMAN'S INQUIRY

By letter to the President of the Commission dated 21 October 2025, the Ombudsman invited the Commission to provide a written reply to the complaint by 20 January 2026, clarifying (a) the steps taken by the Commission and the reasons for the time required to assess the complaints, (b) the Commission's approach in the context of the Pact on Migration and Asylum, including its monitoring of relevant case law and related infringement activity referenced in the complainants' submissions, and (c) the role of the Task Force Migration Management in handling these matters.

The Ombudsman also requested that, by 20 December 2025, the Commission makes available, for inspection the files relating to the four complaints, as well as files relevant to the infringement proceedings referred to in the correspondence with the complainants.

IV. THE REPLY OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

The Commission welcomes the opportunity to clarify its approach and actions in this matter. Questions (a) and (b) raised by the Ombudsman - concerning the steps taken by the Commission and the reasons for the time required to assess the complaints, as well as the Commission's approach in the context of the Pact on Migration and Asylum and its monitoring of relevant case law - are closely interlinked. The Commission therefore addresses them together in the following section.

(a) and (b) Steps taken and clarification of the Commission's stance

PROCEDURAL ASPECTS

Upon receipt of the four complaints in 2022, the Commission acknowledged receipt of each complaint in a timely manner¹¹. After receiving the complaints, the Commission proceeded with an initial legal and factual assessment. **This assessment confirmed that several of the issues raised warranted continued examination.**

At the time the complaints were submitted, **an infringement procedure (INFR(2009)4104) was already ongoing against Greece concerning the APD, the RCD and the RD**. The matters raised by the complainants, although more recent, overlapped in part within some of the broad grievances of that existing infringement procedure. For some time, the Commission considered that several elements raised in the four complaints could be addressed under the grievances of the open infringement procedure, without launching a new infringement procedure or sending an additional letter of formal notice to Greece. For example, issues relating to the registration platform raised in the complaints were considered to fall under the grievance of the infringement procedure relating to access to asylum generally.

In parallel, the Commission decided to address the issues mentioned in the complaints **through a structured dialogue with the Greek authorities, notably through the Task Force**¹². This course of action is mentioned in the 2017 Communication *EU law: Better results through better application*¹³, which outlines the **Commission's discretion** in choosing the most appropriate enforcement tool. A dialogue between the Commission and Member States is viewed as a legitimate and effective mean of securing compliance where it can deliver corrective action. In 2023, and until its adoption mid-2024, negotiations were ongoing on the Pact on Migration and Asylum ('the Pact'). The negotiations for the adoption of the Pact were particularly divisive and politically sensitive. For this reason, the Commission considered that a cooperative dialogue with Greece was the most appropriate initial step for these complaints, given the broader institutional context at the time.

Following the adoption of the legal acts composing the Pact, the Commission Services resumed the review of pending complaint files considering, where appropriate, a possible closure in view of the forthcoming comprehensive legislative and operational changes. The Pact requires substantial legislative and operational adjustments by Member States, which are effectively resulting in an overhaul of the entire migration management system in each Member State, thus creating an opportunity to address current shortcomings.

In this context, the Commission exercised its discretion not to pursue **the longstanding infringement procedure (INFR(2009)4104) further and decided to close it in October 2024 on opportunity grounds**. Given the evolving legal framework at both EU and national level since 2009, major changes in the Greek migration management system since 2009, and the implementation mechanisms under the Pact, the Commission considered that follow-up could be more effectively pursued within the framework of the Common Implementation Plan

¹¹ Complainants' Appendices CPLT677.2, CPLT2264.2, CPLT2981.2 and CPLT3534.2

¹² Details of exchanges between the Task Force and the Greek authorities regarding the issues raised in the complaints are listed in the complainants' submission to the Ombudsman with references to their Appendices TFMM.1 - TFMM.29.

¹³ EU law: Better results through better application. [EUR-Lex - 52017XC0119\(01\) - EN - EUR-Lex](#)

(‘CIP’)¹⁴, the needs assessment and the discussions on the Greek national implementation plan drafted on this basis with clear actions and timelines, including on procurement, training, and recruitment needs. In particular, grievances relating to effective access to the asylum procedure and to the fair and effective examination of international protection applications were to be monitored under the CIP building block ‘Procedures that converge’ and the corresponding strands of the Greek national implementation plan.

In parallel, the re-assessment of the four complaints confirmed, however, that certain specific substantive issues remained unresolved, and that the files could not be closed. Several concerns raised seemed to remain relevant under the legislative framework established by the Pact, warranting continued monitoring and follow-up as part of the preparations for its implementation. Within this context, holding replies were sent to the complainants in March 2025¹⁵. They informed the complainants that examination remained ongoing and recalled that the Commission continued to monitor developments in the Greek asylum system, including relevant case-law of the Court of Justice of the European Union (‘CJEU’) and of the European Court of Human Rights (‘ECtHR’). While the holding replies did not refer to individual judgements, this included in particular the CJEU’s judgement in Case C-134/23¹⁶ concerning the application of the safe third country concept and readmission by third countries.

The holding replies also reiterated that **the Pact provides a key opportunity to strengthen and streamline migration management systems across Member States**, with reinforced fundamental-rights safeguards, and confirmed that the information provided in the four complaints would be taken into account when monitoring the implementation of the new framework. Since the adoption of the Pact, the Commission has set up country teams at both technical and senior level to discuss and monitor the implementation of the Pact with each Member State, according to the priorities set out in the Common and national implementation plans. These discussions include addressing issues with the EU *acquis* which remain relevant under the Pact legislation and monitoring the progress during this transition period¹⁷.

DISCRETION AS TO THE CHOSEN APPROACH

The Commission wishes to underline that it has not remained inactive in addressing potential breaches of EU asylum law by Greece. **In the period covered by this inquiry, the Commission initiated two infringement proceedings against Greece, following a series of unsuccessful exchanges with the national authorities that did not lead to sufficient progress.** The first, launched in January 2023, concerns Greece’s failure to comply with certain provisions of the Directive on standards for the qualification of third-country nationals and stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection (QD)¹⁸. A reasoned opinion in this case was adopted on 7 May 2025¹⁹. The second infringement procedure²⁰, also initiated in

¹⁴ COM(2024) 251

¹⁵ Letters dated 24 and 26 March 2025 - complainants’ Appendices CPLT2264.6, CPLT3534.3, CPLT2981.4 and CPLT677.12

¹⁶ Case C-134/23, *Elliniko Symvoulío gia tous Prosfyges and Ypostirixi Prosfygon sto Aigaio*, 04/10/2024

¹⁷ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, State of play on the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum, COM(2025) 319 final.

¹⁸ INFR(2022)2044

¹⁹ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/inf_25_982

²⁰ INFR(2022)2156

January 2023, concerns incorrect transposition of key provisions of the RCD. Since then, the Commission has received several further responses from the Greek authorities, as well as notification that part of the concerns raised in the infringement have been addressed through national legislative revisions. Both procedures are ongoing. In addition, a long-standing infringement procedure concerning the RD remains open, with the Commission continuing its structured engagement with the Greek authorities to secure further progress²¹. On 23 September 2025, Greece informed the Commission of amendments to its national legislation (Law 3907/2011), intended to align it with Directive 2008/115/EC. The Commission services are currently assessing these amendments, while discussions on matters of concern takes place on a regular basis with the relevant Greek authorities (most recently in November 2025).

By contrast, the same approach regarding infringement procedures was not deemed appropriate for the issues raised in the four complaints at the heart of this inquiry, as the relevant circumstances on the ground have not remained static and have continued to evolve.

ADDRESSING THE ISSUES IN SUBSTANCE

Throughout the period concerned, the Commission raised the outstanding issues, and related matters, with the Greek authorities at both political and technical levels as part of its regular and ongoing dialogue on the implementation of the Pact, the preparations for which also include deliberations on the future legislative and practical arrangements that Greece will have to undertake to align with the new legislative provisions by the summer of 2026.

The issues raised in the complaints were also explicitly addressed in the Commission Communication of April 2025 on migration management in mainland Greece, which took stock of progress achieved and areas requiring further attention²². These efforts are acknowledged by the complainants themselves in their submission to the Ombudsman²³, and the complaints have produced many reports of meetings and correspondence between the Commission and the Greek authorities, documenting the exchanges (inter alia) on the grievances raised in the complaints. As a result of this sustained dialogue with the Greek authorities, certain concerns have been addressed and measurable changes have been observed, albeit sometimes at an uneven pace.

For example:

- At the time the complaints were under assessment, the Commission was aware of ongoing litigation before national courts and, later in 2023, of a preliminary question referred by the Greek Council of the State to the CJEU regarding **the application of the safe third country concept**. The Commission Services followed these proceedings closely, awaiting their outcome given their direct relevance to the complaints. In October 2024, the CJEU delivered its judgement in *Case C-134/23*, followed by several national court decisions²⁴ on the same issue. Following these

²¹ INFR(2014)2231

²² See point 4 of COM(2025) 170 - Communication on the status of migration management in mainland Greece - Migration and Home Affairs

²³ See footnote 12 above.

²⁴ Greek Council of State Decision no.117/2023 (dated 3 February 2023); announcement by President of the Greek Council of State of 21 March 2025 that the Plenary decided on 27 February 2025 to annul the joint ministerial decision 538595/12.12.2023 establishing a national list of safe third countries insofar as it includes

judicial developments, inadmissibility decisions based on the safe third country concept concerning Türkiye are no longer taken by the Greek authorities. As communicated by the Greek authorities, applicants affected by these developments are now able to either appeal or file a subsequent application. In view of the continued suspension of re-admissions to Türkiye, the Greek authorities resumed interviews on the merits as of mid-May 2025. This change effectively ended the prolonged limbo situation in which international protection applicants whose claims had been rejected as inadmissible awaited up to twelve months before an examination on the merits was carried out. The revised practice ensures that applications are now assessed on their merits without delay. While this represents a significant development on a central element of the complaints, the Commission did not close its assessment, as the complaints do not merely concern this issue. The Commission continues to monitor the implementation of the revised practice.

- **Regarding delays in registration** of international protection applications, this matter remains a key part of the ongoing dialogue with the Greek authorities on the implementation of the Pact²⁵. The system has experienced fluctuations, which is the main reason this complaint could not be advanced or closed. The registration system has undergone several changes, including periods in which the online platform was suspended, without it being clear whether it would be reinstated. Throughout these fluctuations, the Greek authorities maintained alternative channels for securing appointments and consistently assured the Commission that persons presenting themselves in person at the relevant facilities were registered and granted material reception conditions.

The Commission has continued to raise concerns regarding the timely granting of reception conditions, the functioning of the pre-registration platform and the need for clear communication to international protection applicants, particularly during service interruptions²⁶. While the authorities have attributed delays to high no-show rates, incomplete submissions and the need to verify identity before issuing documentation, the Commission has underlined the importance of ensuring effective and timely access to the asylum procedure, with particular safeguards for vulnerable persons.

In light of the evolving nature of the system and the authorities' assurances regarding in-person access and material reception conditions, the Commission considered it appropriate to continue a structured dialogue while maintaining close monitoring of developments rather than take an adversarial stance;

- The Commission has indicated that it does not support²⁷ **the fee for submitting a second subsequent application** for international protection as it constitutes a de facto

Türkiye as a safe third country for applicants for international protection originating from Syria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Somalia. A second application to annual the second joint ministerial decision re-instating Turkey as a safe third country from April 2025 is also pending before the Council of State.

²⁵ In addition to the exchanges listed by the complainants in their appendices TFMM.9 -10, 13,16-29, this has been raised at Steering Committee Meetings for Migration Management on 28.09.2020, 21.11.2023, 21.03.2024 and 06.06.2024 (see Annexes 1 – 4).

²⁶ See in particular complainants' Appendices TFMM.2, 5, 9, 13 -15, 17 – 22, 24, 26 –27 and CEAS.SWG.1- 5, 7-8, 11- 12, 14.

²⁷ See complainants' Appendices TFMM.1. TFMM.8, TFMM.10 - 15; see also Reply to written question E-5103/2021 (referenced in complainants' submission to the Ombudsman)

restriction to access to the asylum procedure. The Commission is aware of an application for annulment of the relevant Joint Ministerial Decision imposing a EUR 100 fee (now EUR 300) for subsequent asylum applications which was filed by the complainants before the Council of State in 2022. Following postponement, the outcome of this application remains pending²⁸. The issue was also the subject of dialogue at several levels.

ii. *CONCLUSIONS REGARDING THE HANDLING OF THE COMPLAINTS SO FAR*

In view of ongoing legislative and operational developments, including those linked to the implementation of the Pact, the Commission has so far prioritised structured dialogue and close follow-up. In line with the Commission's enforcement policy set out in the Communication "*EU law: Better results through better application*", dialogue may be used to prevent or address potential non-compliance, particularly in situations involving complex structural reforms and evolving legal frameworks. As set out in this Communication, "the Commission enjoys discretionary power in deciding whether, and when, to start an infringement procedure or to refer a case to the Court of Justice. Consequently, the case-law recognises that individuals will not succeed in actions brought against the Commission where it declines to pursue an infringement procedure"²⁹.

The time taken to process these complaints reflects the evolving legal and institutional context in Greece. In addition, successive ministerial reshuffles and changes in key interlocutors within the Greek administration – the most recent occurring in mid-March 2025 – temporarily slowed the dialogue and required time to re-establish working contacts³⁰. These factors contributed to delays in the exchange of information and the overall assessment process.

As expressly noted in the complainants' submission to the Ombudsman, since 2022, **the Commission Services (via the case handlers or the Task Force) have maintained an open and continuous dialogue with the complainants**, in line with the guidelines on good administrative behaviour. Throughout this period, the Commission, both through the case handlers in HOME Unit C3 and the Task Force, has consistently provided the complainants with updates on the state of play where possible, including through written correspondence and informal meetings, most recently in October 2025³¹. In addition, the Task Force has participated in periodic (usually monthly) meetings with civil society organisations in Greece, via the CEAS Working Group as well as frequent ad hoc exchanges³².

These interactions – which the complainants themselves acknowledge in the appendices to their submission – demonstrate that the Commission has ensured transparency in its handling of the complaints, has actively exercised its discretionary powers, and has taken concrete steps to address the issues raised since 2022.

²⁸ A timeline of the proceeding is available at: <https://tinyurl.com/37ydcn5>.

²⁹ Ibid, C18/14.

³⁰ Since 2022, Greece has seen five different Ministers for Migration and Asylum

³¹ See list of exchanges appended to complainants' submission, which includes reference to meetings with the case handlers on 15.03.2024; 09.12.2024; 13.02.2025; 19.05.2025; 27.10.2025

³² Since February 2023, meetings have been held under the auspices of the Legal Aid Working Group (LAWG) subgroup on the Common European Asylum System (CEAS SWG). These meetings are chaired by RSA. 19 meetings have taken place to date (as confirmed by the complainants in their letter detailed complaint).

(c) Role of the Task Force Migration Management

In September 2020, when presenting the Pact and in the aftermath of the fire at the Moria facility on Lesbos, the Commission established a dedicated Task Force for Migration Management. The Task Force is responsible for the Union's strategic, operational, legal and financial work on migration management³³. The Task Force builds on the support provided by the Commission and the EU Agencies since the 2015 migration and refugee crisis, including on the ground deployment. Its work includes coordination with national authorities, EU agencies, international organisations and other relevant actors, such as civil society³⁴. This work enables the Commission to remain fully informed and effectively engaged on all matters related to migration management.

The Task Force provides the Commission with direct operational insight and access to national authorities. It enables timely clarification of technical issues, a deeper understanding of national legislation and practice, and effective coordinated exchanges at political and senior level. The Task Force also supports the Commission's oversight of complementary instruments such as EU agencies' operational activities, EU funding, as well as specialised tools such as the Schengen Evaluation Mechanism, ensuring coordinated and strategic use of all available means.

In relation to any grievances raised to the Commission by stakeholders (including CSO) regarding the implementation of EU law, the Task Force is the main vehicle for continuous dialogue with Greece on migration management. This engagement has helped prevent breaches, support reform and encourage Member State compliance with EU law. Importantly, the Task Force has played a key role in identifying areas requiring improvement, securing systematic follow-up, and delivering tangible outcomes, including in areas such as guardianship reform, the abolition of protective custody for unaccompanied minors, the acceleration of asylum procedures, and improvements in reception conditions. This preventive approach has, in certain cases, allowed the Commission to avoid launching infringement proceedings that had been under consideration, in view of concrete corrective action implemented on the ground.

The Commission recalls the European Ombudsman Decision in its strategic inquiry OI/3/2022/MHZ on how the European Commission ensures respect for fundamental rights in EU-funded migration management facilities in Greece, in which it acknowledged that the documents inspected showed that *"the Task Force promoted important changes in the Greek migration management legislation"* while *"Its participation in the meetings of the steering*

³³ It was created as an innovative structure within the DG HOME, operating through a matrix approach that draws on established resources across DG HOME's policy, operational and financial units, and cooperates closely with all other relevant Commission services.

³⁴ The following areas are covered by the task Force:

- Management of arrivals and registration of applicants for international protection, beneficiaries of temporary protection, and third-country nationals with no legal right to stay;
- Provision of adequate reception facilities;
- Protection of unaccompanied minors and other vulnerable groups;
- Application of efficient asylum and return procedures;
- Implementation of voluntary relocation schemes;
- Border management in compliance with the Schengen acquis;
- Promotion of integration policies and access to social rights.

committee resulted in the Greek authorities giving regular accounts of their actions on migration management”³⁵.

In their submission to the Ombudsman, the complainants acknowledge the Task Force’s mandate, which has been extensively discussed in dedicated meetings. This provides unprecedented, structured engagement between the Commission and civil society on migration management matters.

As part of the Commission’s overall enforcement approach, the Pact dialogue has served as the primary forum for structured, high-level engagement with the Greek authorities on the implementation of the *acquis* and the forthcoming changes under the Pact.

Through this dialogue, the Commission has raised the issues reflected in the four complaints, sought clarifications, and obtained commitments and updates from the Greek authorities, while ensuring that systemic concerns were integrated into the broader Pact implementation process. This approach ensured early problem-solving, coherence with the legislative transition, and the proportional use of enforcement tools before considering further steps.

The Commission uses all available means to address challenges and support Member States effectively. Its priority is to enforce EU law, promote reform where necessary and ensure coordinated use of operational support, funding and monitoring tools.

V. CONCLUSION

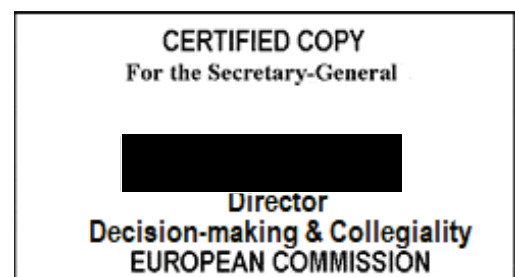
The Commission remains firmly committed to ensuring the correct and uniform application of the EU asylum *acquis* and the Charter of Fundamental Rights across all Member States. The handling of the four complaints concerning Greece has been guided by this objective. The Commission seeks to employ the most effective and constructive means to secure compliance, escalating to formal enforcement action where dialogue proves insufficient.

The approach of favouring a sustained structured dialogue, notably through the Task Force, rather than opening formal infringement procedures is consistent with the Commission’s discretionary power as outlined in 2017 Communication *EU law: Better results through better application*. This cooperative and preventive method has already contributed to progress, including in areas beyond those specifically raised in the complaints.

³⁵ <https://www.ombudsman.europa.eu/en/decision/en/170792>

Where persistent issues remain, the Commission will not hesitate to take formal action. Infringement procedures are pursued where dialogue has been exhausted and corrective action remains insufficient, as demonstrated by the ongoing procedures relating to the QD, the RCD and the RD. The objective remains to ensure the full and effective application of EU law for the benefit of all individuals in the EU.

For the Commission
Magnus BRUNNER
Member of the Commission



List of enclosures:

- Annex 1: Agenda 13th Steering Committee Meeting for Migration Management
28.09.2023
- Annex 2: Agenda 14th Steering Committee Meeting for Migration Management
21.11.2023
- Annex 3: Agenda 16th Steering Committee Meeting for Migration Management
21.03.2024
- Annex 4: Agenda 18th Steering Committee Meeting for Migration Management
06.06.2024



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MIGRATION AND HOME AFFAIRS

Task Force Migration Management

Brussels
HOME.01/

AGENDA
13TH STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING FOR MIGRATION MANAGEMENT

28 SEPTEMBER 2023 - 11:00 (CET)

1. Asylum & Reception

A. Update on the increased arrivals, emergency measures and the situation on the islands and mainland

Islands

- Main challenges and measures to address increased arrivals on the islands (RIS);
- Update on the registration procedure and GAS Project implementation (RIS, GAS)
- State of play of additional support by Agencies (RIS, GAS, Agencies)
- Appropriate Reception conditions for Vulnerable people (RIS, SGVP)

Mainland

- Update on the situation in Evros and trends of irregular arrivals (HP, Frontex)
- Implementation of transfers to the mainland and State of Play of reception capacity in the mainland (RIS)
- Update on the registration procedure (RIS, GAS, MA)
(Backlog, possible transfer of people from Malakasa to Diavata)

B. General Points

- General update on progress of construction of MPRICs in Lesbos and Chios
- Progress of key contracts (MA)
(Interpretation for RIS, Transportation, Guardianship, Stiriksi)
- Protection Activities in 2023 (RIS) (State of play and future steps)

- Issuance / Renewal of resident permits (GAS)
- Challenges on NGOs registration (SG Reception)

2. Border Management and Fundamental Rights

- Update on the work of the Monitoring Committee for Compliance with Fundamental Rights (SG Asylum Policy)
- Update on the work of the FRO (FRO)

3. Health provision

- State of play of PHILOS II programme – (MoMA, MoH, EODY)
- State of play of launching Hippocrates programme –(MoMA)

4. Integration

- Continuation of Helios as a bridge to ESF+ / State of play of ESF+ transition (MoMA, EMPL and if needed IOM)
- Implementation of integration projects under the Recovery and Resilience Facility, (MoMA)
- State of play of Helios Junior (MoMA)

5. UAMs/Guardianship/Education

- Update on guardianship (SGVP)
- Update on UAM shelters and reception capacity for Unaccompanied Minors (RIS, SGVP)
(Plans to secure sufficient reception capacity on the mainland and the islands)
- Update on safe zones on the islands (VSM financial contribution – RIS, IOM)
- Update on no-cost extension application and preparations for handover of ACE project under ESF+ (MoMA, UNICEF)

6. Returns

- Organisation of Returns Working Group (HOME, HP)
- Implementation of returns (HP, MoMA)
- State of play of AVRR (IOM, MoMA)

7. Voluntary Solidarity Mechanism (relocation and financial contributions)

(Update on the state of play - EUAA, MoMA, COM)

8. AOB



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MIGRATION AND HOME AFFAIRS

Task Force Migration Management

Brussels
HOME.01/

AGENDA
14TH STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING FOR MIGRATION MANAGEMENT

21 NOVEMBER 2023

1. Asylum & Reception

A. Update on the increased arrivals, emergency measures and the situation on the islands and mainland

Islands

- Main challenges and measures to address increased arrivals on the islands (RIS);
 - Interpretation
 - Winterisation and provision of NFIs on the islands (RIS)
 - Update on the status of pending registrations and transfers to the mainland (in relation to status of registrations)
 - Vulnerability assessments and appropriate reception conditions for vulnerable people (RIS, SGVP)
 - Update on the GAS Project implementation (RIS, GAS)
- State of play of additional support by Agencies (RIS, GAS, Agencies)

Mainland

- Update on the situation in Evros and trends of irregular arrivals (HP, Frontex)
- Implementation of transfers to the mainland and State of Play of reception capacity in the mainland (RIS)
- Update on the registration procedure (RIS, GAS, MA)
(Backlog, possible transfer of people from Malakasa to Diavata)

B. General Points

- General update on progress of construction of MPRICs in Lesbos and Chios
- Progress of key contracts (MA)

- *(Interpretation for RIS, Transportation, Guardianship, Stiriksis)*Protection Activities in 2023 (RIS) (State of play and future steps)
 - Issuance / Renewal of resident permits (GAS)
 - Challenges on NGOs registration (SG Reception)
2. Update by the Managing Authority on the possible provision of support (under TA) to partners for the management of the projects **Border Management and Fundamental Rights**
- National Coordination Centre (NCC) relocation and progress (Hellenic Police)
 - Update on the work of the Monitoring Committee for Compliance with Fundamental Rights (SG Asylum Policy)
 - Update on the work of the FRO (FRO)
3. **Health provision**
- State of play of PHILOS II programme – (MoMA, MoH, EODY)
 - State of play of launching Hippocrates programme –(MoMA)
4. **Integration**
- Continuation of Helios as a bridge to ESF+ / State of play of ESF+ transition (MoMA, EMPL and if needed IOM)
 - Implementation of integration projects under the Recovery and Resilience Facility, (MoMA)
 - State of play of Helios Junior (MoMA)
5. **UAMs/Guardianship/Education**
- Update on guardianship (SGVP)
 - Update on UAM shelters and reception capacity for Unaccompanied Minors (RIS, SGVP)
- (Plans to secure sufficient reception capacity and swift transfer from the islands to the mainland)*
- Update on safe zones on the islands (VSM financial contribution – RIS, IOM)
 - Update on no-cost extension application and preparations for handover of ACE project under ESF+ (MoMA, UNICEF)
6. **Returns**
- Organisation of Returns Working Group (HOME, HP)
 - Implementation of returns (HP, MoMA)

- State of play of AVRR (IOM, MoMA)

7. Voluntary Solidarity Mechanism (relocation and financial contributions)

(Update on the state of play - EUAA, MoMA, COM)

8. AOB



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MIGRATION AND HOME AFFAIRS

Task Force Migration Management

Brussels
HOME.01/

AGENDA
16TH STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING FOR MIGRATION MANAGEMENT

21 MARCH 2023

1. Arrivals, and transfers from the islands to the mainland

- Update on the Libya-Crete sub-route:
 - *State of play of arrivals and measures undertaken by the Greek authorities including registration, processing and returns (GAS, Hellenic Police)*
- Update on the situation in Evros and trends of irregular arrivals
- Transfers to the mainland, incl. swift transfer of unaccompanied minors from the islands to the mainland
- Follow-up in terms of procedure and monitoring whereabouts
- Contingency planning for increased arrivals and related funding

2. Reception conditions and funding

(Update on the situation on the islands and mainland)

- Reception capacity and living conditions, incl. safe zones on the islands:
Food situation // cash provision
- *Winterisation/ summerization and provision of NFIs on the islands and mainland*
- *Frequent cases of damages in the MPRICs*
- *Care, safety and security in UAM safe zones*
- State of play of key contracts: Interpretation, Transportation, Facility management,
- Update on progress of construction of MPRICs in Lesbos and Chios

3. Asylum

- Update on the registration procedure on the islands and mainland
- Update on the GAS Project implementation
- Issuance / Renewal of resident permits
- Issuance of ID/ travel documents

4. UAMs/Guardianship/Education

- Update on guardianship
- Update on preparations for handover of ACE project

5. Provision of health activities

- Update on Hippocrates
- Legal framework for age and vulnerability assessment.
- Update on donation of mobile clinics

6. Border Management and Returns

- National Coordination Centre (NCC) relocation and progress
- Organisation of Returns Working Group
- Implementation of returns
- State of play of AVRR

7. State of play of additional support by Agencies

- Request for additional EUAA support to the GSVPIP

8. Fundamental Rights

- Update on the work of the FRO

9. Integration

- Difficulties in opening bank accounts on the islands
- New JMD on AMKA
- Continuation of Helios as a bridge to ESF+ / State of play of ESF+ transition
- Implementation of integration projects under the Recovery and Resilience Facility
 - Update on issue with EFKA

10. Voluntary Solidarity Mechanism (relocation and financial contributions)

(Update on the state of play)

11. AOB

- State of play of new Migration Code (when it will be submitted, etc)



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MIGRATION AND HOME AFFAIRS

Task Force Migration Management

Brussels
HOME.01/

AGENDA
18TH STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING FOR MIGRATION MANAGEMENT
6 JUNE 2024

Reception

1.1. Horizontal issues

- State of play of key contracts: recruitment of staff (eg SGUAMV), Interpretation, Transportation, Facility management/maintenance and repairs, Health provision (PHILOS II / Hippocrates), Stiriksis
- Vulnerability assessments and appropriate reception conditions for vulnerable people; protection activities
- Challenges on NGOs registration
- Restriction of movement of applicants for up to 25days or more

1.2. Islands

- Reception capacity and living conditions, incl. safe zones on the islands:
 - *Food situation // cash provision*
 - *Winterisation and summerisation, provision of NFIs on the islands and on the mainland*
 - *Water and waste management issues (in particular Samos and Leros)*
 - *Degradation (in particular Kos)*
 - *Maintenance and repairs*
 - *Issues with users and organisation of stakeholders' meeting*
 - *Care, safety and security in UAM safe zones*
- Lifting of geographic restrictions and transfers to the mainland?
- Update on progress of construction of MPRICs in Lesvos and Chios

1.3. Contingency Planning

- Contingency planning and preparedness measures for increased arrivals (especially during the summer period)
- Contingency planning under the Pact

2. Asylum

- Registration procedure on the islands and mainland
- Update on the GAS Project implementation
- Issuance / Renewal of resident permits
- Application of the border procedure on the islands
- Provision of special procedural guarantees in the context of the asylum procedure

3. UAMs/Guardianship/Education

- Update on guardianship
- Update on no-cost extension application and preparations for handover of ACE project under ESF+

4. Beneficiaries of International Protection

- Continuation of Helios as a bridge to ESF+ / State of play of ESF+ transition
- State of play of Helios Junior

5. Fundamental Rights

- Update on the work of the Monitoring Committee for Compliance with Fundamental Rights, in particular FRIA regarding reception
- Update on the work of the FRO

6. AOB

- Update and follow-up on Data Protection Authority decision on the IT Systems Kentavros and Hyperion.