

EN

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Answer given by Mr Brunner
on behalf of the European Commission
(6.1.2025)

1. The Commission is continuously monitoring the situation in the Middle East, including within the framework of the EU Migration Preparedness and Crisis Blueprint¹, sharing common situational awareness and information with and for the Member States, to ensure preparedness and support as needed. The Commission stands ready to further support Member States, including Greece and Cyprus, by continuing its financial and operational support, with the help of the EU Agencies². The Commission is committed to the implementation of the measures included in the Action Plan for the Eastern Mediterranean Route³. In the context of the implementation process for the Pact on Migration and Asylum, the Commission is supporting Member States to ensure the establishment of a well-prepared migration management system by 2026, including with measures on preparedness, contingency planning and crisis response⁴.

2. The EU-Turkey Statement⁵ remains the main framework for cooperation with Türkiye on migration. The EU continues to be committed to the implementation of the Statement and has been clear that Türkiye needs to fulfil all the commitments set out therein.

3. To support Member States in addressing needs with regards to migration management border management and internal, the Commission provides support through the Home Affairs Funds⁶. The EU Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM)⁷ allows Member States and UCPM participating states to request assistance, including from the Commission's emergency stockpiles (rescEU)⁸, to provide relief materials to countries in need of extra resources. The Mechanism already delivered shelter materials to Cyprus in October 2023, in preparation for a potential influx of a large number of people from the Middle East.

¹ Commission Recommendation (EU) 2020/1366 of 23 September 2020 on an EU mechanism for preparedness and management of crises related to migration.

² EU Asylum Agency (EUAA), Frontex, EUROPOL.

³ https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/eu-action-plan-eastern-mediterranean-migration-2023-10-18_en

⁴ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on a New Pact on Migration and Asylum - COM/2020/609 final

⁵ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2016/03/18/eu-turkey-statement/>

⁶ The 2021-2027 Home Affairs Funds programmes of Greece amount to more than EUR 1.5 billion while under the programmes of Cyprus more than EUR 188 million have been made available.

⁷ https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/what/civil-protection/eu-civil-protection-mechanism_en

⁸ https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/what/civil-protection/resceu_en