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Answer given by Mr Brunner
on behalf of the European Commission
(11.3.2025)

The Instrument for Financial Support for Border Management and Visa Policy¹ contributes among others to the specific objective of supporting effective European integrated border management at the external borders, by facilitating legitimate border crossings, preventing and detecting illegal immigration and cross-border crime and effectively managing migratory flows. In accordance with the nomenclature of the General Budget of the EU for 2021-2027, the amounts are financed from budget line 11 02 01, under Heading 4: Migration and Border Management.

It is legally possible for Member States to request EU funding for physical barriers to secure the EU's external borders. The Commission has so far focused funding where the needs are the most urgent and where EU money has had the most impact. This includes in particular border surveillance systems and equipment, IT systems, and mobile and stationary units as well as the maintenance of equipment. Now, going forward and in view of the developments at our borders in the past years, it is clear that the overall needs for border management will need to be reassessed as part of the preparation of the next Multiannual Financial Framework proposal. This will have to be done in close cooperation with Member States and the European Parliament.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2021/1148 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 July 2021 establishing, as part of the Integrated Border Management Fund, the Instrument for Financial Support for Border Management and Visa Policy, OJ L 251 of 15.7.2021, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/1148/oj>