

EN

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Answer given by Mr Brunner
on behalf of the European Commission
(7.10.2025)

The Commission closely monitors the situation of the arrivals of third country nationals departing from Libya towards Crete. Under the Pact on Migration and Asylum¹, Member States are obliged to develop contingency plans, setting out measures to ensure the adequate reception of applicants in cases where the country is confronted with a disproportionate number of arrivals.

The Commission is aware of the Greek law of 11 July 2025 which imposes a three-month suspension on international protection applications for individuals arriving from North Africa and orders their immediate deportation. This is an exceptional situation, as highlighted by the European Council², which addressed the worrying situation in Libya. The Commission is currently evaluating this legislation and monitoring its implementation, which must be in full compliance with EU and international law.

The objective of the Dublin III Regulation³ is to ensure quick access to the asylum procedures and the examination of an application by a single, clearly determined Member State. This Regulation will be replaced by the Asylum Migration Management Regulation⁴ in the summer of 2026. The new responsibility rules should ensure a fair and effective system of attributing responsibility, supported by a permanent solidarity mechanism. In line with the Qualification Directive⁵ which is based on the application of the Geneva Convention⁶, beneficiaries of international protection must be issued with a residence permit by the Member State which granted such status.

¹ 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.

² <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/cjtb3oep/20250626-european-council-conclusions-en.pdf>.

³ Regulation (EU) No 604/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 establishing the criteria and mechanisms for determining the Member State responsible for examining an application for international protection lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national or a stateless person (recast).

⁴ Regulation (EU) 2024/1351 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 May 2024 on asylum and migration management, amending Regulations (EU) 2021/1147 and (EU) 2021/1060 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 604/2013.

⁵ 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, p. 9–26.

⁶ Geneva Convention of 28 July 1951 relating to the Status of Refugees, as supplemented by the New York Protocol of 31 January 1967.