

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-004088/25
to the Commission
Anna Maria Cisint (PFE)
(16 October 2025)**

Subject: Reinforcement of Frontex's operational presence and support measures for Member States exposed to irregular migration along the Balkan route

The influx of irregular migrants who have taken the so-called Balkan route, which runs through Bosnia and Herzegovina into areas including the provinces of Trieste and Gorizia, is having an increasing impact on north-east Italy.

The reception facilities in the Friuli Venezia-Giulia region are now at full capacity, which is having critical consequences for the security, public order and social cohesion of local communities.

In the light of this situation and the strategic role of the EU's Frontex agency in combating irregular immigration, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. What measures will it take to support Member States exposed to migratory flows, and particularly Italy, in managing a migratory pressure which the local authorities can no longer sustain?
2. Will it put in place, as soon as possible, EU funding specifically earmarked for the construction of physical barriers and any other means of combating irregular entries and the activities of human traffickers?

Submitted: 16.10.2025

**Answer given by Mr Brunner on behalf of the European Commission
(6 February 2026)**

The EU provides operational support for the management of EU external borders and migration via decentralised EU agencies. The European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex) ⁽¹⁾ can provide operational support in the management of borders with the deployment of technical equipment and trained staff.

The Commission is committed to strengthening Frontex as needed to support Member States facing sustained migratory pressure and to safeguard the integrity of the Schengen area.

The European Asylum Agency (EUAA) ⁽²⁾ can support Member States with deployment of experts in the management of migrants and asylum seekers. In both cases the support can be provided upon the request of a Member State to the dedicated agency.

The EUAA is already supporting Italian authorities with the registration of asylum applicants and their transfer to reception centres in other regions, given the lack of reception capacity in the Friuli-Venezia Giulia region.

The Border Management and Visa Instrument (BMVI) ⁽³⁾ provides financial support to Member States with the aim of supporting effective integrated management at the external borders.

The BMVI contributes to ensuring internal security within the EU, to increase capacity for border control systems and purchase equipment to combat irregular migration and for effective border protection.

Since the Italian Slovenian border is an internal border, EU funding under BMVI, aimed at supporting the external border, cannot be used there.

The Commission has so far focused funding on an integrated border management where the needs are the most urgent and where EU money has had the most impact.

In view of the developments at EU external borders in the past years, the overall needs for border management will need to be reassessed as part of the next Multiannual Financial Framework.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2019/1896 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 November 2019 on the European Border and Coast Guard and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1052/2013 and (EU) 2016/1624, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex%3A32019R1896>.

⁽²⁾ Regulation (EU) 2021/2303 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 December 2021 on the European Union Agency for Asylum and repealing Regulation (EU) No 439/2010, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/2303/oj/eng>.

⁽³⁾ 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, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/1148/oj/eng>.