



## Refugee protection and forced displacement in the EU post-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)

Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018

**Venue:** Press Club Brussels Europe, Rue Froissart 95, Brussels 1000

### Background and objectives

The EU is a significant donor in the field of asylum and forced displacement both within and outside the EU and in many instances, funding is a tangible way in which the EU can support refugee rights. Preparation of the next EU seven-year budget, the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), 2021-2027, is well underway. After the European Commission published its Communication on the post-2020 MFF in early May, the more detailed proposal on the different funding instruments will become available end of May and throughout June.

This roundtable will analyse proposals for future funding of asylum and integration in the suggested Asylum and Migration Fund and the European Social Fund respectively and discuss the implications of the consolidation of EU external funding instruments with the proposed focus on migration. The roundtable will gather analysis from a variety of stakeholders on possible implications of the proposed post-2020 MFF on refugee protection and forced displacement. It will identify challenges and opportunities to increase support for rights-based policies during the negotiations of the MFF. It will bring together representatives of civil society, international organisations, think tanks, academia as well as EU policy makers working on refugee protection, forced displacement and the MFF.

You can find UNHCR's Recommendations on the post-2020 MFF [here](#) and ECRE's Policy Notes on the post-2020 MFF [here](#).

### Agenda:

#### 9h30: Welcome and Introductory Remarks

- Catherine Woollard, Secretary General, ECRE
- Annabelle Roig-Granjon, Acting Head of Section, Global Issues, UNHCR

#### 9h40 – 11h15 Session I: Supporting integration and inclusion as part of the European Social Fund+ (ESF+) and the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

- What are the implications of moving funding support for long-term integration to the ESF+ and ERDF?
- What is the differentiation between long-term integration supported by ESF+ and ERDF and short-term needs in the early integration phase which are supposed to be supported by the proposed Asylum and Migration Fund?
- What are the lessons of AMIF support to integration and how can they be applied?
- How can the EU support a consistent and effective approach to refugee inclusion in policy making and implementation?

#### Inputs by:

- Antoine Savary, Deputy Head of Unit Legal Migration and Integration, DG Migration and Home Affairs
- Mathieu Tartar, Deputy Head of Sector Free Movement of People, General Secretariat for European Affairs, France
- Petra Hueck, Director, ICMC Europe
- Norbert Grehl-Schmitt, Social and Labour Market Expert, Pro Asyl

Chair: Peter O'Sullivan, UNHCR

### **11h15 – 11h30 Coffee Break**

### **11h30 – 13h00: Session II: Contributing to fair and effective asylum systems within the EU**

- How can it be ensured that allocation and spending levels of the Asylum and Migration Fund (AMF) contribute to a harmonisation of standards across EU Member States?
- How can a more consistent approach to the partnership principle in shaping and implementing AMF funding be ensured?

Inputs by:

- Francisco Gaztelu Mezquiriz, Head of Unit National programmes for North and West Europe; Evaluations; MFF, DG Migration and Home Affairs
- Bodil Valero, MEP Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance
- Annabelle Roig-Granjon, Acting Head of Section, Global Issues, UNHCR

Chair: Daphné Bouteillet-Paquet, Senior Legal Officer, ECRE

### **13h00 – 13h45: Lunch**

### **13h45 – 15h15 Session III: The next MFF as an opportunity to address forced displacement**

- How can it be ensured that the next MFF equips the EU to address forced displacement holistically, from prevention of root causes of forced displacement to long-term support?
- What lessons from past support to displaced and host communities need to inform the post-2020 MFF?
- How can it be ensured that the MFF is fit for purpose to support the Global Compact on Refugees?

Inputs by:

- Stefano Signore, Head of Unit Migration and Employment, DG DEVCO
- Representative of German government
- Veronika Burget, External Relations Officer, Global Issues, UNHCR

Chair: Edouard Rodier, Director, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) Europe

### **15h15 – 15h30: Coffee Break**

### **15h30 – 17h00 Session IV: The consolidation of external funding instruments and specific focus on migration: opportunities and challenges**

- What are the implications of the consolidation of external instruments and increased flexibility of funding for principled and effective EU external action?
- What are the risks and opportunities for refugee protection and rights-based migration policies of the suggested migration focus?

Inputs by:

- Leonello Gabrici, Head of Division Migration and Human Security, EEAS
- Maarietje Schaake, MEP, ALDE
- Catherine Woollard, Secretary General, ECRE

Chair: Petra Hueck, Director, ICMC Europe