

## ***“Follow the Money IV” – Launch Event***

### **The Use of AMIF and ISF-BV Funds outside the EU**

**Thursday, 24 November 2022 (9h30 – 12h30)**

**Press Club Brussels, Rue Froissart 95, 1040 Brussels**

#### **Background**

The report “Follow the Money IV: The use of AMIF and ISF-BV funds outside the EU” provides an overview of how funding from the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) and Internal Security Fund- Borders and Visa (ISF-BV) was used outside the European Union (EU) during 2014-2020. It also presents an analysis of the provisions for external spending from the 2021-2027 AMIF and 2021-2027 Border Management and Visa Instrument (BMVI), and offers key recommendations for Member States and the European Commission to improve transparency and accountability on the use of these funds.

It draws on the knowledge base developed by the first three ‘Follow the Money’ studies, which assessed the national programming, design and implementation of the 2014-2020 AMIF funding for asylum, integration, return (Follow the Money I and II) and AMIF funding to incentivise and support Member State participation in solidarity and responsibility-sharing measures in the area of migration and asylum (Follow the Money III).

The report:

- provides an overview of the projects outside the EU supported by AMIF and ISF-BV (Funds) between 2014 and 2020 within the limits of the data that was possible to obtain at the time of compiling the report.
- analyses the legislative basis for external spending of the 2021-2027 AMIF and the 2021-2027 Border Management and Visa Instrument (BMVI), comparing them with the provisions of the 2014-2020 AMIF and ISF-BV, respectively.
- makes a number of recommendations addressed at both Member States and European co-legislators, based on the key findings presented above. In particular, the recommendations target the availability of data, external policy coherence, the monitoring and evaluation framework and human rights safeguards.

This report is produced in the framework of the strategic partnership of the European Council for Refugees and Exiles (ECRE) and the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), established in 2016 to develop and promote discussions on the future of the Common European Asylum System (CEAS).

#### **Objectives**

The launch will include a presentation of the report’s findings and recommendations related to the usage of DG Home affairs funds outside the EU. This is followed by a panel discussion on this issue.

## Agenda

9.30-10.00	<b>Welcome coffee and registration</b>
10.00-10.45	<b>Welcome by UNHCR and ECRE</b> <b>Presentation of the key findings of the “Follow the Money IV” Report</b>  Moderator: Yasmine Rockenfeller, Chief Global Issues – EU, UNHCR  Speaker: Estela Casajuana, Profundo  <b>Questions and Answers</b>
10.45-12.15	<b>Panel discussion: Usage of DG Home Affairs Funds outside the EU: opportunities and challenges</b>  Moderator: Josephine Liebl, Head of Advocacy, ECRE  Speaker: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stephanie Carillon, Head of Unit, Union Actions and Procurement, DG HOME, European Commission</li><li>• Magdalena Irzycka, Federal Public Service Interior, Belgium</li><li>• Letizia Polizzi, EU Policy and Advocacy Advisor, IRC</li></ul> <b>Questions and Answers</b>
12h15-12h30	<b>Concluding remarks and reflections on the way ahead</b>  Amanda Bisong, Policy Officer, ECPDM