



Facility for Refugees in Turkey: €47 million to strengthen migration management and to support education of Syrian refugees

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European Commission support for the immediate needs of refugees in Turkey

Today, the European Commission is delivering on its commitment to accelerate the implementation of the Facility for Refugees in Turkey by announcing a further €47 million in new projects, bringing the total amount contracted under the Facility to address the immediate needs of refugees and host communities in Turkey so far to almost €240 million.

€20 million has been committed under the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (IcSP) to enhance the capacity of the Turkish Coast Guard to carry out search and rescue operations. An additional €27 million will fund educational infrastructure, skills training and social support for Syrian refugees under the EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis. This new commitment is part of the accelerated implementation of the Facility for Refugees in Turkey which was agreed under the EU-Turkey Statement of 18 March.

Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations Johannes **Hahn** said: *"The European Union is delivering on its commitment for swift implementation of the EU-Turkey agreement, in support of the refugees. Our assistance to better manage migration flows is aimed to save lives of migrants and refugees and tackling irregular migration and trafficking. Today we also reaffirm that access to education for refugee children and young Syrians is an absolute priority. The EU Trust Fund in response to the Syrian crisis is one of Europe's key instruments for delivering on our €3 billion pledge to help Syria and the region. The new funding for Turkey focuses on two key priorities of the EU-Turkey Joint Statement: to provide schooling to all children and to invest in livelihoods and social cohesion for refugees and host communities, ensure stability and provide refugees with the hope and perspective of a better life."*

The Coast Guard project mobilises €20 million to strengthen the operational capacity to successfully conduct search and rescue operations, save lives and enhance the protection of migrants and refugees while at the same time tackling irregular migration and trafficking. The project will fund search and rescue boats and other specialised life-saving equipment. This will be complemented by training and support for Coast Guard staff. The project will be implemented by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in close cooperation with the Turkish Coast Guard, and will be overseen by the EU Delegation to Turkey.

The education projects, worth a total of €27 million, are signed under the EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis. They will be implemented in cooperation with the German development agency GiZ and international NGOs. Projects worth €22 million will provide additional infrastructure for the education of 23,000 refugee children, skills training for 24,000 young Syrians, social support for more than 74,000 of the most vulnerable Syrians, and assistance for local administrations. An additional action worth €5 million has been adopted to increase access for almost 1,000 young Syrians to Turkish universities in the coming academic year.

This will be followed by further funding in this sector in the coming months. Before the war, 20% of 18-25 year old Syrians were enrolled in higher and further education; this has dropped to less than 5% of the same age group today among refugees, creating the serious risk of a 'lost generation'.

Background

Facility for Refugees in Turkey

The Facility for Refugees in Turkey was established by the European Commission to coordinate and streamline actions financed in order to deliver efficient and complementary support to Syrians under temporary protection and host communities in Turkey. Under the Facility, the European Union is committed to provide an initial €3 billion of additional resources to help refugees in Turkey.

Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace

The Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace provides direct support for the Union's external policies by increasing the efficiency and coherence of the Union's actions in the areas of crisis response, conflict prevention, peace-building and crisis preparedness, and in addressing global and trans-regional threats. The Instrument can be used to provide technical and financial assistance in response to situations of urgency, crisis or emerging crisis.

[The EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syria crisis](#)

The EU Trust Fund began operating in May 2015 to provide a regional response to a regional crisis, thus enabling the EU and its Member States to jointly intervene in response to growing and shifting needs and to support the implementation of the "EU regional strategy for Syria and Iraq as well as the ISIL/Da'esh threat". Being the main EU instrument to respond to the forced displacement crisis in the region, the Trust Fund aims to bring a more coherent and integrated EU response to the crisis by merging various EU financial instruments and contributions from Member States and other international donors into one single flexible and quick mechanism. The Trust Fund primarily addresses longer term resilience needs of Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries such as Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq, as well as the hosting communities and their administration.

For more information:

[EU-Turkey Cooperation: A €3 billion Refugee Facility for Turkey](#)

[EU announces first projects under the Facility for Refugees in Turkey: €95 million to be provided for immediate educational and humanitarian assistance](#)

Facility for Refugees in Turkey: [Commission delivers an additional €110 million under the implementation of EU-Turkey agreement](#)

[Facility for Refugees in Turkey – Steering Committee accelerates and scales up implementation](#)

[Implementing the EU-Turkey Agreement – Questions and Answers](#)

FACTSHEET: [The Facility for Refugees in Turkey](#)

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