

EN
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Answer given by Ms Johansson
on behalf of the European Commission
(28.9.2022)

EU migration funding for Morocco amounts to circa EUR 360 million, of which EUR 234 million came from the EU Emergency Trust Fund: 80% is destined for institutional support and border management, 11% for measures to protect asylum seekers and 7.5% for socio-economic integration. The Commission plans to continue supporting Morocco with a budget support programme of EUR 150 million - currently under negotiation - to support cooperation in border management in the next three years and the implementation of Moroccan National Strategy on Migration and Asylum, while strengthening the capacity of Moroccan institutions to manage borders in line with human rights standards.

In line with the Regulation on the European Border and Coast Guard¹, the Commission does not interfere with the planning of a joint operation of the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex) at EU external borders. 'Indalo' operational plan as well as any amendments, setting out human resources, assets deployed and their tasks, is agreed between Frontex and Spain based on operational needs. Operational cooperation between Frontex and the Moroccan authorities would require either a status agreement concluded by the EU with Morocco or a working arrangement concluded by Frontex.

The EU will continue to support Morocco in managing migratory flows; all support will be developed in partnership with Moroccan authorities and be specifically designed to address the peculiarities and needs in the country. The EU-Turkey statement of March 2016² reflected a very particular context of the conflict in Syria and the specificities of EU-Turkey relations.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32019R1896>

² <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2016/03/18/eu-turkey-statement/>