Brussels, 21 December 2023

WK 17183/2023 INIT

LIMITE

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VISA

WORKING PAPER

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INFORMATION

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Working Party on Integration, Migration and Expulsion (Expulsion)

Subject: Working Party on Integration, Migration and Expulsion (Expulsion) on 20 December 2023

Delegations will find in the annex two presentations delivered by FRONTEX and by the incoming Belgian Presidency during the meeting of the Working Party on Integration, Migration and Expulsion (IMEX Expulsion) on 20 December 2023.
INCOMING BELGIAN PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION 2024

Working Party on Integration, Migration and Expulsion IMEX (Expulsion)

1 January – 30 June 2024
Priorities of the Belgian Presidency (1/2)

« Two-phase » presidency:

✓ **First weeks/months**: finalisation of the remaining legislative files to ensure final adoption before the end of the legislative term

✓ **Second half of the Presidency**: focus on the operationalization of the agreed reforms and holding of forward-looking discussions on specific policy areas
Priorities of the Belgian Presidency (2/2)

• **Asylum:** finalisation of the Pact, Ukraine (future of TPD), convergence

• **Frontiers:** finalisation of the SBC, evaluation of EBCG regulation

• **Return:** follow-up of current discussions (roadmap, future of return policy), Article 25a Visa Code

• **Visa:** finalisation/general approach on the revision of the visa suspension mechanism, future of visa policy

• **Legal migration:** finalisation of the remaining files, general approach on the Talent Pool proposal

• **External dimension:** follow-up of current discussions

• **Smuggling package, Schengen governance**
Priorities of the WP IMEX (Expulsion)

Policy discussions:

• Future of return policy
• Article 25a Visa Code
• Voluntary return and reintegration

Technical discussions:

• Article 25a Visa Code, Frontex’s mandate, liaison officers, SIS return, readmission agreements negotiations, Schengen cycle (return), statistics, implementation of the Pact
Meeting calendar

IMEX Expulsion
16 January
8 February
12 March
23 April
7 June

Experts conference on voluntary return and reintegration (Antwerp)
19 & 20 March
INCOMING BELGIAN PRESIDENCY
OF THE COUNCIL
OF THE EUROPEAN UNION 2024

Thank you for your attention!
General update on Frontex return and reintegration activities
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON RETURNS - update

- Identification and documentation activities
- EURLO deployments
- CWGs and ad-hoc meetings/workshops
- Sensitisation events
- TAP4RRR
- IT solutions and Best Practices on identification
DEPLOYMENT OF RETURN SPECIALISTS and MS ORIENTED ACTIVITIES

- Return Mobility Programme
- (Alternatives to) detention
- Toolbox for Children
- Returnees with criminal background
- Interpretation Services
Increasing numbers of returns supported by Frontex

Third-country nationals returned by voluntary and forced returns

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1-11 2021</th>
<th>1-11 2022</th>
<th>1-11 2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Voluntary Returns (VR/VD/HVR)</td>
<td>4217</td>
<td>8796</td>
<td>19002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forced returns</td>
<td>12335</td>
<td>13994</td>
<td>16597</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>16552</td>
<td>22790</td>
<td>35599</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Returns in 2023

- 20,067 TCNs, 46%
- 26,503 TCNs, 71%
- 10,925 TCNs, 29%

Frontex organised return operations:
- 5th Frontex organised RO: 25 November 2023
- JRS Charter Package
Increasing share of Frontex coordinated voluntary-based returns per semester
Deployment of Frontex Return Escort and Support Officers in 2023
(SoP December)

- 75 FRESO
- 8 return teams
- 6 Member States

Map showing deployments:
- Amsterdam Schiphol Airport: 3 FRESO
- Berlin Airport: 4 FRESO
- Frontex HQ: 13 FRESO
- Frankfurt International Airport: 12 FRESO
- Paris Roissy Charles de Gaulle Airport: 12 FRESO
- Vienna Airport: 6 FRESO
- Austria BBU: 9 FRESO
- Rome-Fiumicino International Airport: 10 FRESO
- Larnaca: 6 FRESO
JOINT REINTEGRATION SERVICES - OVERALL STATISTICS

- 5683 active cases have been inserted into RIAT since 1 April 2022, 1936 cases are finalized (1829 more cases since last report)
- Total number of TCN: 7132 (6057 adults and 1075 minors) (2213 persons more since last report)

Number of reintegration cases monthly 2023

No of cases by receiving country
JOINT REINTEGRATION SERVICES - MEMBER STATES

Onboarded
26 Member States (25 active)

Ongoing discussions:
HUN, LUX, ITA, ESP, GRC, LIH, IRL, NOR, LTV

Caseload by Member States
HIGH LEVEL ROUND TABLE ON RETURNS
28 Nov 2023 - outcomes

- Mixed Return Operations as a possible solution to increase (cost)effectiveness of charter flights to certain Third Countries of Return
- Use of the post arrival package on return charter flights
- HLRT Joint REACT initiative
- Revision of the return data policy
Thank you for your attention!

www.frontex.europa.eu