

COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION



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Council adopts financing programmes in the area of home affairs 2014-2020

The Council adopted today without discussion four regulations establishing the new financing programmes in the area of home affairs within the framework of the Multiannual Financial Framework for the period 2014-2020. The total financial envelope for the implementation of these programme 2014-2020 is set at EUR 6 901 million in current prices.

The number of funds for the new period has been reduced from six to two.

- The Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF), which will replace the European Refugee Fund (ERF), the Integration Fund (EIF) and the Return Fund (RF).
- The Internal Security Fund (ISF), which will replace the External Borders Fund (EBF), the Prevention, Preparedness and Consequence Management of Terrorism and other Security related risks program (CIPS) and the Prevention of and Fights against Crime (ISEC). The ISF has been divided into two programmes: the ISF-Borders and the ISF-Police.

The decision was taken without discussion at a meeting of the Foreign Affairs Council.



Rue de la Loi 175 B - 1048 BRUSSELS Tel.: +32 (0)2 281 6319 Fax: +32 (0)2 281 8026 press.office@consilium.europa.eu http://www.consilium.europa.eu/press

Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund

The first regulation concerns the **Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF)** (<u>PE-CONS 142/13</u>), a funding programme aiming to contribute to the efficient management of migrations flows and to the implementation, strengthening and development of the common policy on asylum and immigration.

Accordingly, the programme will finance actions to strengthen and develop all aspects of the Common European Asylum System, to support legal migration to the member states and to promote the effective integration of third-country nationals, to enhance fair and effective return strategies in the member states and the solidarity and responsibility sharing between the member states, in particular towards those most affected by migration and asylum flows.

The financial envelope for the implementation of the programme 2014-2020 is set at EUR 3 137 million in current prices.

Internal Security Fund

The internal security fund (ISF) is based on two regulations:

The ISF- Borders regulation (*PE-CONS 141/13*) aims to contribute to ensuring a high level of security in the Union while facilitating legitimate travel, through a uniform and high level of control of the external borders and the effective processing of Schengen visas. Accordingly, the programme will finance actions supporting a common visa policy to facilitate legitimate travel, and tackle illegal immigration, integrated border management to ensure a uniform and high level of control and protection of the external borders and the smooth crossing of the external borders.

The financial envelope for the implementation of the programme 2014-2020 is set at EUR 2 760 million.

The ISF-Police (<u>PE-CONS 135/13</u>) aims to contribute to ensuring a high level of security in the EU. Accordingly, the programme will support actions related to crime prevention, combating cross-border, serious and organised crime including terrorism, and reinforcing cooperation between law enforcement authorities. It will also support actions to enhance the capacity of member states and the EU for managing effectively security-related risks and crisis, and preparing for and protecting people and critical infrastructure against terrorist attacks.

The financial envelope for the implementation of the programme 2014-2020 is set at EUR 1 004 million.

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Horizontal Regulation

The fourth regulation (<u>PE-CONS 139/13</u>) will set out the general rules for the two funds. It establishes:

- the financing of expenditure under national programmes, Union actions, emergency assistance, technical assistance etc.;
- the programming process, including preparation, approval, review and structure;
- the organisation of partnerships consisting of relevant authorities and bodies that shall be involved in the different phases of the national programmes;
- reporting, monitoring and evaluation;
- the management and control systems to be put in place by the member states;
- budget commitments and the clearance of accounts.

The four regulations will enter into force on the day following that of their publication in the Official Journal of the European Union and will apply from 1 January 2014.

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