

Brussels, 13 October 2023 (OR. en)

Interinstitutional File: 2023/0331(NLE)

13627/23 ADD 1

ASILE 95 JAI 1238 MIGR 303 FRONT 291 COEST 535 SOC 655

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Council
No. prev. doc.:	13544/23
Subject:	Proposal for a COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION extending temporary protection as introduced by Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382
	- Adoption

Delegations will find attached a statement by Poland on the abovementioned subject in view of the (Home Affairs) Council meeting on 19 October 2023. The statement will be entered into the minutes of the Council meeting.

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- STATEMENT BY POLAND -

From the very beginning of the Russian invasion in Ukraine EU Member States have been providing necessary assistance to refugees fleeing from the war.

According to data uploaded on the Temporary Protection Platform (TPP) and channeled via the Blueprint Network as of 10 October 2023, the estimated number of active registration in 27 Member States is still huge i.e. 4 088 249. One of the main countries receiving beneficiaries of temporary protection is Poland that hosts 957 175 beneficiaries (23% of active registrations in the EU). According to OECD estimates, Poland spent 8.36 billion euros on maintaining refugees from Ukraine in 2022 only (including on education, social benefits, medical care, accommodation and others). Is the highest figure among all the OECD member countries.

Poland has no doubt that Ukraine and its citizens deserve our solidarity and therefore does not oppose the extension of temporary protection, but as the country most burdened by the influx of refugees from Ukraine, we call on the European Commission to provide adequate and flexible financing in line with the EUCO conclusions of 9 February 2023. The existing support from the EU budget does not correspond to the scale of needs.

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