

## EU resettlement framework

Many migrants and refugees trying to come to Europe risk their lives by embarking on perilous sea journeys to escape persecution, conflict, instability and poverty. On 13 July 2016, as part of the reform of the Common European Asylum System, the European Commission presented a proposal for a regulation establishing an EU resettlement framework, to provide safe and legal ways into the EU for displaced persons in clear need of international protection. During the April I plenary session, the European Parliament is due to vote its first-reading position on the December 2023 agreement resulting from interinstitutional negotiations.

### Background

[Resettlement](#) is a tool to help displaced persons in need of protection reach Europe safely and legally, and receive protection for as long as necessary. It is a durable solution that includes **selection and transfer of refugees from a country in which they seek protection to another country**. For a resettlement to take place, the United Nations Refugee Agency has to determine that an applicant is a refugee according to the [1951 Geneva Convention](#), and has to identify resettlement as the most appropriate solution. The current EU resettlement policy does not entail common rules and procedures, and is mostly a compilation of [national or multilateral programmes](#). Funding through the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund ([AMIF](#)) is the primary mechanism for encouraging Member States to engage in resettlement.

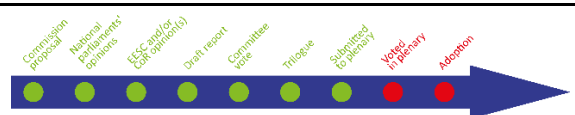
### European Commission proposal

The aim of the [proposal](#) is to create a **permanent framework with common procedures** that would complement the current ad hoc multilateral and national resettlement programmes. It would provide common EU rules on the admission of third-country nationals, procedures in the resettlement process, types of status to be accorded by Member States, decision-making procedures for implementing the framework, and financial support for Member States' resettlement efforts. The framework would be implemented on the basis of an annual EU resettlement plan, adopted by the Council on a proposal from the Commission, determining the maximum total number of people to be resettled and the number of people each Member State is to resettle within this total. When specifying the regions or third countries from which resettlement will take place, the proposal would take into account, among other things, third countries' effective cooperation with the EU in the field of migration and asylum.

### European Parliament position

Parliament's Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) adopted its [report](#) on 12 October 2017. According to the report, Member States should provide resettled people with a durable solution through granting refugee or subsidiary protection status. The Commission (and not the Council) should adopt an EU resettlement plan by delegated act every two years. Furthermore, resettlement should not be used for other foreign-policy objectives, and should not depend on third countries' cooperation on other migration-related matters. The report backs a payment of €10 000 per resettled person if Member States resettle under the EU resettlement framework, as proposed by the Commission. However, contrary to the Commission proposal, the report retains the allocation of €6 000 from AMIF for every person resettled under Member States' national resettlement programmes. A [compromise](#) text agreed in trilogue was endorsed in the Council and approved in the LIBE committee on 14 February 2024.

First-reading report: [2016/0225\(COD\)](#); Committee responsible: LIBE; Rapporteur: Malin Björk (The Left, Sweden). For further information see our 'EU Legislation in progress' [briefing](#).



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