

# EU funds for migration, asylum and integration policies

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# Goals and methodology

- **Goals:**

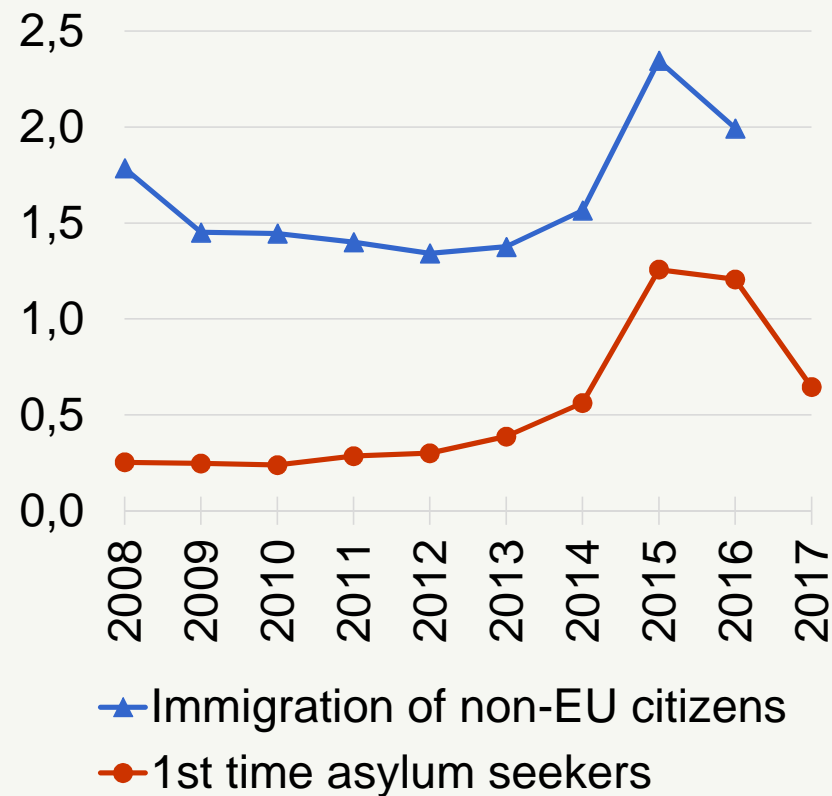
- Provide an overview, analysis and evaluation of the use of EU funds for migration, asylum and integration policies
- Offer recommendations on how to improve the use of these funds

- **Methodology:**

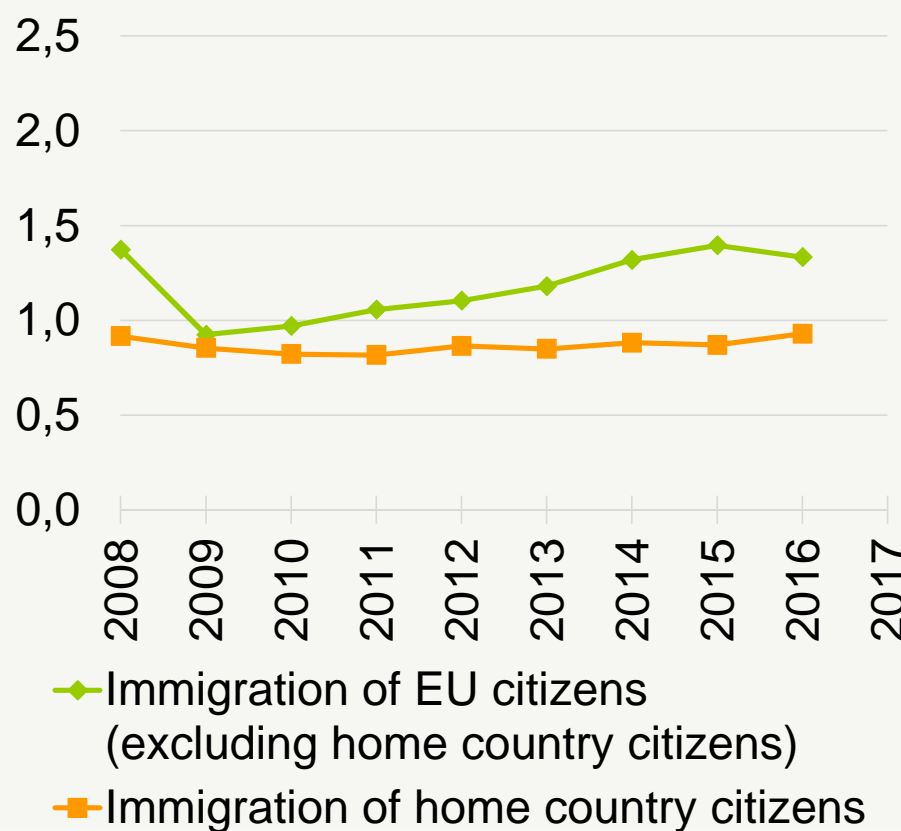
- Analysis of publicly available information
- Insights from interviews with various stakeholders
- Survey of non-governmental organisations

# Immigration into EU28 countries, 2008-2017 (million people)

**(A) Non-EU citizens**



**(B) EU citizens**



- Inflow of asylum seekers declined in 2017, but remained well above pre-2013 numbers
- An even larger number of third-country nationals arrive in the EU for reasons other than asylum

# Initial and current commitment allocations of certain migration-related spending of the 2014-2020 MFF (€millions, current prices)

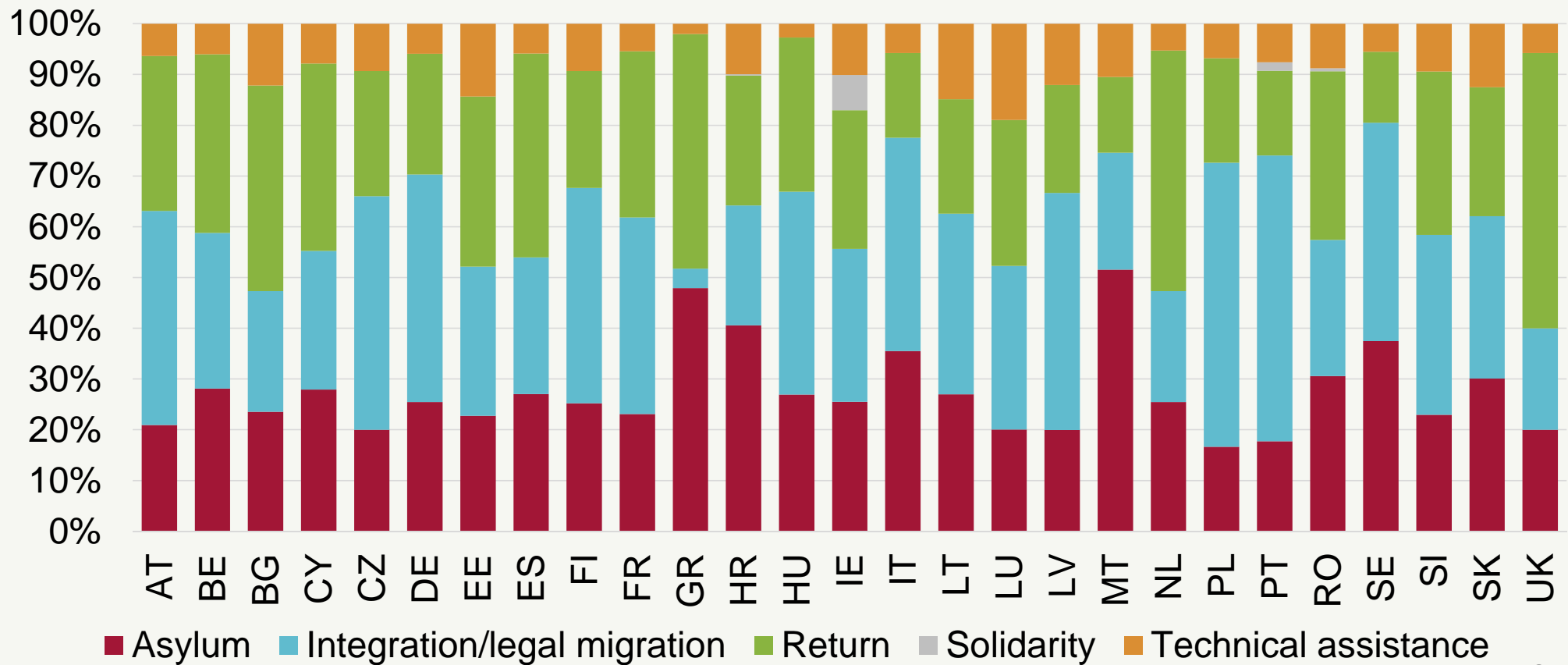
Instrument/programme	Initial allocation 2014-2020	Current allocation 2014-2020
AMIF	3,137	6,654
ISF	3,764	3,882
Emergency support EU	-	647
SIS	69	91
VIS	69	81
EURODAC	1	1
FRONTEX	628	1,638
EASO	109	456
EUROPOL	654	753
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,431</b>	<b>14,201</b>

- For these 9 EU funds/agencies/systems, the increase is from €8.4bn in the initial MFF to €14.2bn, or **from 0.8% of MFF to 1.3% of MFF**
- It is not possible to determine the amount from other EU funds actually spent on migration

# Allocation of migration-related funds between member states

- AMIF and ISF have basic allocation keys, which are based on data from the early 2010s      outdated
- The additional resources for these funds were distributed proportionally to all countries according to the basic allocation key
- Emergency assistance was also granted to some countries based on discretionary decisions, which better reflected pressing immigration problems

# Distribution of AMIF fund allocations across priority areas (percent)



# Implementation

- Proper data on the implementation rate of EU migration-related programmes is not available; available information suggests that implementation might be slow.

## Commitments, payments and RAL of AMIF, ISF and IT systems

	<b>2014-20 Programme Allocation</b>	<b>2014-17 Cumulative commitments</b>	<b>2014-17 Cumulative payments</b>	<b>RAL of 2014-17 programme</b>
<b>AMIF</b>	6,929	4,059	1,733	2,325
<b>ISF</b>	4,073	2,109	799	1,310
<b>IT</b>	164	92	38	54
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,165</b>	<b>6,260</b>	<b>2,570</b>	<b>3,689</b>

# Stakeholders' view – interviews

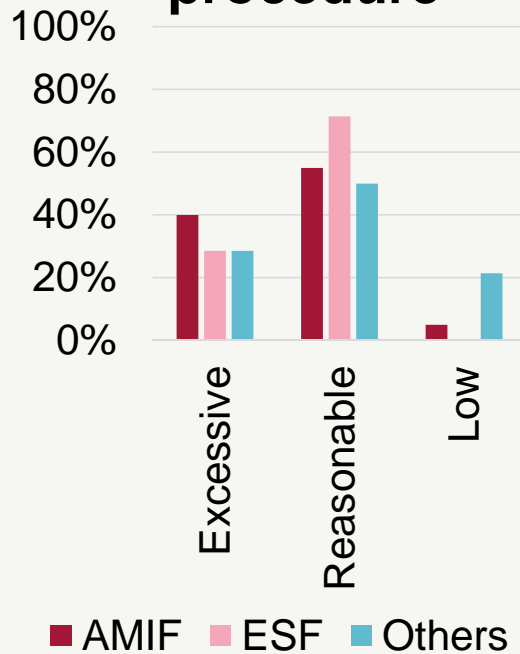
- It is acknowledged that the EU reacted forcefully to the big increase in the number of asylum seekers.
- The EU's accounting system has various complexities, which hinder good operation.
- Insufficient coordination could substantially reduce the effectiveness of operations.
- Intensified migration increased the pressure on staff in EU institutions as well as national authorities.
- The delineation of the various migration-related funds is not always clear.
- More EU funding would be useful.



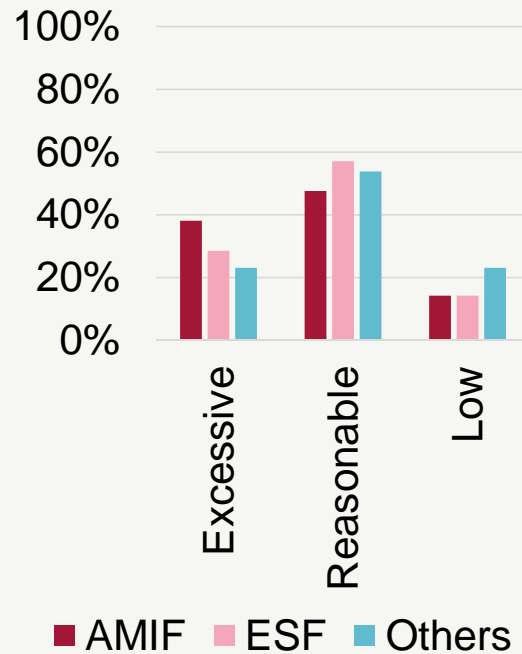
# Stakeholders' view – survey of NGOs

## The administrative burden (% of responses)

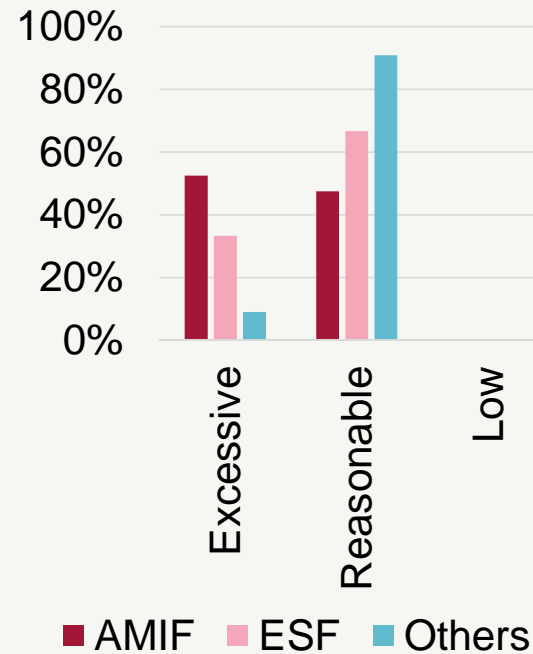
**(A) Application procedure**



**(B) Pay-out**

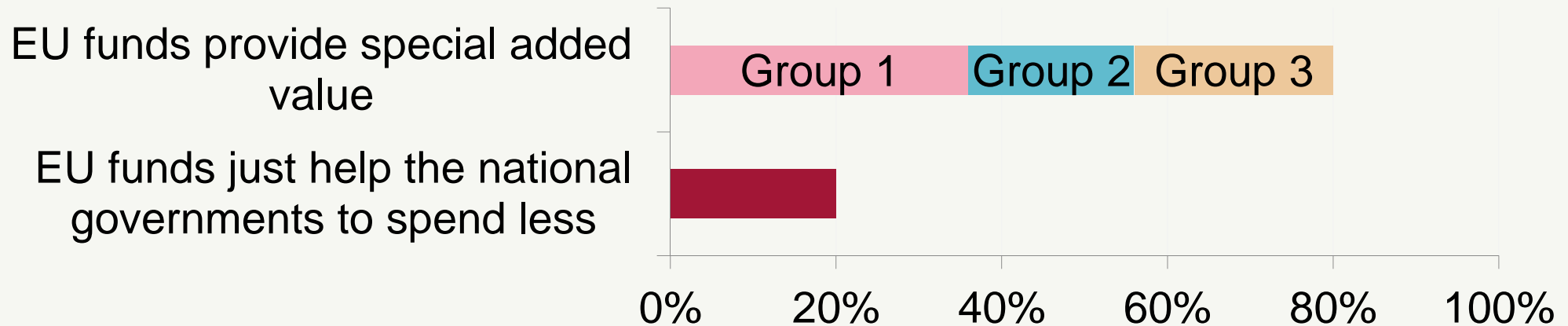


**(C) Ex post audit**



- AMIF is assessed to be more bureaucratic than the ESF or other funds

# Value added of EU funds (% or responses)



- **Group 1:** NGOs that explained their answer by highlighting certain special EU aspect
- **Group 2:** NGOs that did not explain their answer
- **Group 3:** NGOs that explained their answer by the availability of funding, rather than any specific EU-related characteristics

# Value added of EU funds (% or responses)

- **Group 1 responses** (NGOs that explained their answer by highlighting certain special EU aspect)
- EU funding expresses the commitment of the EU to addressing migration-related problems; represents broader European vision
- EU funds enable EU-wide actions and comparison of strengths/weaknesses of national policies and frameworks
- EU funds stimulate cooperation between participants from different countries, helping to share good practices
- European procedures guarantee greater project impact

# Recommendations

1. For the next MFF: AMIF and ISF cross-country allocation keys should reflect more recent migration data based on a formula that updates the keys each year
2. Since the greatest European value added from the disbursement of EU funds relates to coordination between countries and to emergency actions, we recommend increasing the share of emergency assistance in the overall migration envelope
3. The 20 percent minimum allocation shares of AMIF funds for asylum and integration should be reconsidered in light of the best EU value added these funds can provide

## Recommendations, *cont'd*

4. Detailed data on the implementation of migration-related funds should be disclosed.
5. Information websites with the most up-to-date versions of national programmes for AMIF should be maintained.
6. Data on the use of money for migration-related expenditure from EU funds that are not primarily dedicated to migration, such as the ESF, ERDF, EAFRD, EMFF and FEAD, should be disclosed for the current MFF and be accounted for separately in the planned commitments under the next MFF.

## Recommendations, *cont'd*

7. Revision of the financial regulation should aim to increase the flexibility available to funding agencies in case of unforeseen needs, to reduce administrative burdens in the process of awarding grants to beneficiaries and to speed-up payments once grants have been awarded.
8. The coordination between various migration-related operations should be improved, including at the political level between EU and national bodies.
9. EU staffing should be reconsidered and increased in units that have seen substantial increases in their workloads in the context of responding to increased payment needs.

## Recommendations, *cont'd*

10. Increase the overall allocation to migration in the next MFF; both funding allocated to countries and EU agencies.
11. The goals of various EU funds should be clarified and overlaps should be reduced. Better information sharing in relation to grant applications would be advisable.
12. Our survey of NGOs concluded in a long list of recommendations, which we advise to consider.