

Model European Parliament
2nd Mediterranean Regional Session Athens 5-10 October 2018

Committee on Security and Defense (SEDE)

Dear delegates of the Committee on Security and Defense,

The question of our committee is on how the EU can fully exploit the potentials of the newly established ‘European Border and Coast Guard Agency’ in order to effectively respond to the security and migration challenges at the continent’s Mediterranean border. You should also be able to come up with other measures that can be taken by the EU to ensure that the EU borders will be well monitored.

In order to be prepared for the committee work there are links attached below that will help you gain knowledge on the issue and develop a better understanding of the current situation and the measures that have already been taken. You are encouraged to find more links and extend your research so you will be able to defend your resolution. We hope that our links and guidance will be helpful to you.

Discussion

The discussion will revolve around the security of Europe’s borders with regards to migration. We will mainly focus on ways of better utilizing the resources of the ‘European Border and Coast Guard Agency’, but any other suggestions concerning our general aim are more than welcome.

Expectations

We expect you to come prepared and have the required knowledge to enable us all to have lively and fruitful committee discussions. Here are some points that you should look into with the help of the attached links and also with additional research if need be:

- Ideas about other measures
- Awareness of your countries’ position
- Knowledge of FRONTEX’s role

As a last step in your preparation for the session, you are strongly advised to compose a position paper (1-2 pages in a word document) which will be presented during the first committee meeting. It will include: a) Your country’s position on the issue, b) Some of your proposed solutions, and c) Some key facts from your research.

Your Committee Presidents,

Stefanos Kyprianou, CP
George Tsiamasiotis, Co-CP
Aidan Cairns, CP Secretary

Useful Links

Basics

A brief description of the ‘European Border and Coast Guard Agency’, more commonly known as “FRONTEX” including its role, structure as well as its benefits

https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/agencies/frontex_en

A quick overview of the problems the Schengen agreement currently faces

<https://worldview.stratfor.com/article/europe-rethinks-schengen-agreement>

European Border and Coast Guard Agency

A video describing how FRONTEX functions

<https://youtu.be/BMxrvWn1xpc>

Key facts about the European Border and Coast Guard Agency

<https://frontex.europa.eu/faq/key-facts/>

Description of the new ‘Themis’ mission, launched in 2018, which aims to replace the older ‘Triton’ mission.

<http://www.dw.com/en/frontex-launches-new-eu-border-control-mission-operation-themis/a-42417610>

European Parliament Publications

FRONTEX official publications

<https://frontex.europa.eu/publications/?category=general>

How the European Union can enforce security checks at EU borders and description of the Entry/Exit System (EES)

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20171020IPR86543/strengthening-security-checks-at-europe-s-borders>

A video of the opening statement on the EU Defense Plan at the European Parliament

https://youtu.be/w_X9Sq26mzM?t=4m25s

A document talking about the regulations that are taking place specifically in Turkey to support a stronger border

https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/sites/homeaffairs/files/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration/20180314_eu-turkey-two-years-on_en.pdf

Regulations adopted by the EU to strengthen the EU's external borders

<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/migratory-pressures/strengthening-external-borders/>

Regulation (EU) 2016/1624: Renamed the ‘European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders’ to the ‘European Border and Coast Guard Agency’, also commonly referred to as ‘FRONTEX’, and extended its responsibilities
<https://publications.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/65db3442-7bcf-11e6-b076-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>

A more detailed explanation of the new ‘European Border and Coast Guard Agency’ and its role, as of September 2017
https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/sites/homeaffairs/files/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration/20170906_ebcg_en.pdf

European agenda with regards to migration
https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration_en

General

An article about enforcing the EU’s external and internal borders in order to combat terrorism
<https://www.esjnews.com/strengthening-external-internal-borders-to-combat-terrorism>

The three European agencies which support the national authorities in performing their coast guard tasks.
<https://maritimecyprus.com/2018/01/02/emsa-creation-of-a-european-coastguard-function/>

Small video about strengthening security in the Schengen area
<https://www.europarl.tv.europa.eu/programme/security/strengthening-security-in-the-schengen-area>

Document discussing PESCO, a CSDP-specific mechanism
https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/pesco_factsheet_09-03-2018_0.pdf

An article regarding PESCO’s implication with regards to migration
<https://europeum.blogactiv.eu/2018/01/04/pesco-possible-implications-in-the-field-of-migration/>

Migration Statistics
<https://bluehub.jrc.ec.europa.eu/migration/app/>

EU Information Systems
https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/sites/homeaffairs/files/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-security/20180516_eu-information-systems-security-borders_en.pdf

Graph of reasons of refusals into the EU
http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/images/1/10/Non-EU_citizens_refused_entry_into_the_EU-28%2C_by_grounds_of_entry_refusal%2C_2015-2016_%28number%29_MI17.png