



Европейски парламент Parlamento Europeo Evropský parlament Europa-Parlamentet Europäisches Parlament
Euroopa Parlament Ευρωπαϊκό Κοινοβούλιο European Parliament Parlement européen Parlaimint na hEorpa
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Jean-Claude Juncker
President of the European Commission

Federica Mogherini
High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs
Vice-President of the European Commission

Frans Timmermans
Vice-President of the European Commission

Dimitris Avramopoulos
Commissioner for Migration

Christos Stylianides
Commissioner for Humanitarian Assistance

Brussels, August 14th 2015

Dear President,
Dear High Representative,
Dear Vice-President,
Dear Commissioners,

We are writing to you to urge the European Commission to immediately activate the EU Civil Protection Mechanism to assist EU countries which are most affected by the unprecedented influx of migrants and asylum seekers, as the dramatic emergency crisis in the island of Kos, Greece, is calling for.

We believe that the Mechanism could provide invaluable help in supporting communities which are currently receiving large numbers of refugees and migrants and cannot cope with it. We are persuaded that certain communities, especially in Greece and in Bulgaria, because of its geographic exposure, are particularly strained and community assistance should be made available through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism's specialised response teams, to provide a coordinated response and assistance on the ground and to improve the reception of people in need of assistance on the ground and enable adequate and humane relief.

As you are aware, the humanitarian situation is desperate, both for those risking their lives



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at sea and on land to reach Europe, as well as for those communities whose limits are tested. Irregular migration, refugee and asylum seeker reception is a EU problem and, as such, all should be done to make EU responses available to ameliorate the situation on the ground and to bring relief in a fair and consistent way and in a spirit of solidarity.

Triggering the EU Civil Protection Mechanism, in combination with humanitarian assistance, would thus contribute to making the EU response to the crisis in the Mediterranean more effective and assist frontline countries in coping with the influx of refugees and migrants into their communities.

Sincerely,

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