

Asylum, Migration & Integration Fund 2021-2027

As part of the 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), the Commission adopted a proposal for a new regulation establishing the Asylum and Migration Fund (AMF). The aim of the proposal is to contribute to the efficient management of migration flows in the European Union. The European Parliament is due to vote at second reading during the July plenary session on the agreed text resulting from interinstitutional negotiations.

Background

In May 2018, the Commission proposed a new and specific 'Migration and border management' heading in the post-2020 MFF. The new <u>Heading 4 in the 2021-2027 MFF</u> would be organised around two policy clusters – 'migration' and 'border management' – focusing respectively on a comprehensive approach to managing migration and on strengthening the (management of) external borders. One of the funding instruments in the migration cluster is the AMF.

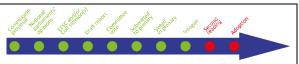
European Commission proposal

The Commission's June 2018 proposal builds on the 2014-2020 Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund. It aims to respond to evolving migration challenges, both within the EU and in cooperation with third countries. Its specific objectives include strengthening the common European asylum system (CEAS), supporting legal migration to Member States, countering irregular migration, and ensuring effectiveness of return and readmission in third countries. Only short-term integration measures would remain under the AMF, while other EU funding instruments would tackle longer-term measures. Member States would receive a fixed sum and an additional amount based on distribution criteria that reflect the needs of Member States. The thematic facility, a flexible and fast response, would be used for specific actions (shared management), Union actions (direct and indirect management), emergency assistance, resettlement; and support to Member States contributing to solidarity and responsibility efforts and European Migration Network.

European Parliament position

Parliament adopted its <u>first-reading position</u> on the AMF in March 2019. On the basis of a report from the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE), it introduced various changes to the Commission proposal, including a modified name (Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund - AMIF), the introduction of minimum percentages for the objectives of solidarity, the CEAS and legal migration/integration. It recommended increased involvement of regional and local authorities. On 9 December 2020, Parliament and Council negotiators reached a provisional agreement on the key political issues. In February 2021, the text of the <u>final compromise agreement</u> was endorsed by Coreper, for the Council, and then approved by LIBE in March. The Council adopted its <u>first-reading position</u> on 14 June 2021. The compromise includes various changes to the original text, including, as advocated by Parliament, renaming AMF as AMIF, provisions to reinforce implementation of the principle of solidarity and fair sharing of responsibility. For example, at least 20 % of the resources from the initial allocation to the thematic facility would be earmarked for the objective of enhancing 'solidarity and fair sharing of responsibility between the Member States, in particular towards those most affected by migration and asylum challenges, including through practical cooperation'. Parliament now needs to formally adopt the text at second reading, with the vote scheduled during the July plenary session, on the basis of a recommendation from LIBE of 29 June.

Recommendation for second reading: <u>2018/0248(COD)</u>; Committee responsible: LIBE; Rapporteur: Tanja Fajon (S&D, Slovenia).



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