

FACTSHEET

JOINT OPERATION NORTH MACEDONIA

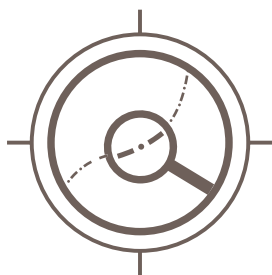
ON 19 APRIL, FRONTEX – THE EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD AGENCY, AND NORTH MACEDONIAN AUTHORITIES LAUNCHED A JOINT OPERATION AT THE COUNTRY’S BORDER WITH GREECE.

THE OPERATION WILL EVENTUALLY ALSO INCLUDE NORTH MACEDONIA’S BORDERS WITH ALBANIA AND SERBIA.

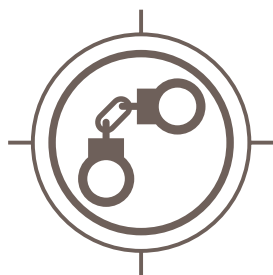


MAIN AIMS: Frontex assists North Macedonia in its efforts to manage migratory flows, handle irregular migration and tackle cross-border crime. Frontex officers will also provide support in the identification and registration of migrants and will help identify vulnerable groups, including unaccompanied minors and victims of trafficking in human beings.

In 2022, the Western Balkan route accounted for nearly half of the irregular entries to the European Union. Reinforcing controls along North Macedonia’s borders will contribute to further enhancing security at the EU’s external borders.



**MANAGE
MIGRATORY
FLOWS**



**TACKLE
CROSS-BORDER
CRIME**



**IDENTIFY
VULNERABLE
GROUPS**



**IDENTIFY
VICTIMS
OF TRAFFICKING**

PEOPLE AND EQUIPMENT: FRONTEX WILL DEPLOY STANDING CORPS OFFICERS AS WELL AS PATROL CARS AND SPECIALISED EQUIPMENT SUCH AS DOCUMENT READERS OR HEARTBEAT DETECTORS.



FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS: The respect and protection of fundamental rights of every person affected by Frontex operations is at the heart of the agency's activity.

Staff and officers participating in Frontex operations receive training on fundamental rights and access to international protection. Frontex fundamental monitors will oversee operational activities to assess the fundamental rights compliance, provide advice and assistance and contribute to the promotion of fundamental rights.



LEGAL BASIS: Before Frontex can launch an operation in a country neighbouring the EU, a status agreement signed between the EU and the respective non-EU country needs to be in place.

The agreement with North Macedonia was signed on 26 October 2022 and it entered into force on 1 April 2023 following the decision by the European Council. The status agreement allows Frontex to assist North Macedonia throughout its territory.

FRONTEX, THE EUROPEAN BORDER AND COAST GUARD AGENCY, SUPPORTS THE MANAGEMENT OF THE EU'S EXTERNAL BORDERS AND THE FIGHT AGAINST CROSS-BORDER CRIME.

IT WORKS HAND-IN-HAND WITH ALL EU MEMBER COUNTRIES AND NEIGHBOURING NATIONS OUTSIDE THE EU, SHARING VALUABLE INSIGHTS AND KNOW-HOW IN DEALING WITH IRREGULAR MIGRATION AND CROSS-BORDER CRIME.

FRONTEX IN NUMBERS



**BIGGEST EU AGENCY,
+2000
STAFF**



**MORE THAN
2000
OFFICERS DEPLOYED
EACH MONTH**



**19
ONGOING
OPERATIONS**



For more information
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