**Agency at a Glance**

**What is Frontex**
Frontex, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, supports EU Member States and Schengen-associated countries in the management of external borders. It enforces EU rules at the border and protects the Union against external threats. The agency strengthens border management by providing operational cooperation and capacity building, and by ensuring the smooth return of irregular migrants to their home countries.

**Why Frontex**
Frontex ensures the effective enforcement of EU border and immigration legislation at the external borders of the Union. It supports border control authorities to detect and prevent illegal migration and combat cross-border crime.

**Safeguarding external borders**
Frontex is responsible for the EU and Schengen external borders. It prevents illegal migration and combats cross-border crime.

**Keeping watch 24/7**
Frontex monitors risks to EU border security and keeps a close eye on the latest migration trends and tracks cross-border crime.

**What is Frontex doing**
- **Risk analysis**
  - Analyses risks to EU border security
  - Shares information with national authorities
- **Fighting cross-border crime**
  - Supports national authorities in identifying and protecting victims of migrant smuggling and trafficking
  - Provides expert support for return operations
- **Modelling the sea safer**
  - Conducts operations at sea
  - Provides support to Member States and Schengen-associated countries
- **Outside the EU**
  - Supports Member States and Schengen-associated countries in managing their external borders
  - Develops and maintains partnerships with countries outside the EU
- **Return operations**
  - Provides reintegration and post-arrival support
  - Supports Member States in coordinating and financing return operations
- **ETIAS**
  - Helps prevent illegal migration and combat cross-border crime
  - Supports the cooperation of law enforcement authorities, EU agencies, and international organisations
- **Protecting victims of crime**
  - Supports national authorities in identifying and protecting victims of migrant smuggling and trafficking
- ** Fundamental rights**
  - Supports national authorities in ensuring fundamental rights
  - Reviews Frontex operations
- **MEMA**
  - Facilitates the exchange of information
  - Supports Member States and Schengen-associated countries

**Where is Frontex**
Frontex has an area of operation that covers the entire EU and Schengen area. The agency is present in all Member States and Schengen-associated countries, providing operational cooperation and capacity building.

**Footnotes**
- The Consultative Forum on Fundamental Rights brings together key European institutions.
- An independent fundamental rights officer, supported by fundamental rights monitors, reviews Frontex's operations.
- Frontex works closely with national authorities and EU agencies, including the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation and other EU agencies.
- Frontex develops common training standards for border authorities to harmonise border and coast guard education.
- Frontex develops and maintains a network of partnerships with border authorities in countries outside the EU.