

The
G7 Research Group
at the Munk School of Global Affairs at Trinity College in the University of Toronto
presents the

2015 Schloss Elmau G7 Summit Final Compliance Report

9 June 2015 to 6 May 2016

Prepared by
Michael Humeniuk, Jerome Newton, Christian Medeiros and Kaleem Hawa
with Caroline Bracht
G7 Research Group, University of Toronto

23 May 2016
www.g7.utoronto.ca
g8@utoronto.ca
[@g7_rg](#) and [@g8rg](#)

“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, 8 June 2015

Contents

Preface	3
Research Team	4
Analysts	4
Executive Summary	5
The Final Compliance Score.....	5
Compliance by Member	5
Compliance by Commitment	5
The Compliance Gap Between Members.....	5
Future Research and Reports	5
Table A: 2015 Priority Commitments Selected for Assessment.....	6
Table B: 2015 G7 Schloss Elmau Final Compliance Scores.....	8
Table C: 2015 G7 Schloss Elmau Final Compliance Scores by Country	9
Table D: 2015 G7 Schloss Elmau Final Compliance Scores by Commitment.....	10
1. Macroeconomic Policy: Foster Growth	11
2. Macroeconomic Policy: Fiscal Flexibility.....	19
3. Infrastructure: Infrastructure Investment.....	31
4. Gender: Supporting Women Entrepreneurs.....	39
5. Financial Regulation: Automatic Exchange of Tax Information	47
6. Financial Regulation: Tax Agenda.....	53
7. Terrorism: Terrorists' Assets.....	61
8. Nonproliferation: Arms Trade	70
9. Regional Security: Ukraine.....	76
10. Regional Security: Maritime.....	84
11. Human Rights: Migrants	94
12. Development: Refugee Crisis	103
13. Health: Coordinated Rapid Deployment	135
14. Health: National Action Plans	146
15. Health: Vaccines	155
16. Climate Change: Growth Agenda	163
17. Climate Change: Low-Carbon Strategies.....	172
18. Climate Change: Copenhagen Accord	183
19. Climate Change: Vulnerable Countries.....	192
20. Energy: Liberalizing Systems	203
21. Food and Agriculture: Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance.....	218

12. Development: Refugee Crisis

“Based on our common values and principles we are committed to:] Tackling Causes for Refugee Crises.”

G7 Schloss Elmau Summit Declaration

Assessment

Country	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average Score	+1.00		

Background

In 2015, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reported that there are approximately 59.5 million people who are either refugees, internationally displaced persons (IDPs), or asylum seekers.⁵¹⁸ This is the highest level of forced displacement in recorded history.⁵¹⁹ The migration of people towards Europe has had a significant impact on many states within the G7 and the European Union.

Between January and June 2015, approximately 137,000 migrants travelled by sea across the Mediterranean or the Aegean to Europe.⁵²⁰ Of those landing in Italy, the most common countries of origin were Eritrea, and Somalia.⁵²¹ In contrast, many Syrians and Afghans have taken an alternative migration route through Greece.⁵²² Human Rights Watch blames the recent upsurge in migration on conflict in source countries (for example, in Syria) or repressive regimes (as in the case of Eritrea).⁵²³ The increased volume of refugees and asylum seekers, along with the dangerous nature of the journey — there were 1,850 migrant fatalities between January and May 2015⁵²⁴ — contributed to making the topics of refugees and migrant smuggling key issues at the G7’s Elmau Summit.

Yet the Mediterranean was not the only deadly migration route that received international attention in the lead-up to the G7 Summit. Within the first three months of 2015, 25,000 Rohingya and Bangladeshis fled Myanmar and Bangladesh respectively via the Bay of Bengal/Andaman Sea.⁵²⁵ When surrounding states

⁵¹⁸ Worldwide Displacement Hits All-Time High As War And Persecution Increase, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (Geneva) 18 June 2015. Access date: 5 January 2016. <http://www.unhcr.org/558193896.html>.

⁵¹⁹ Worldwide Displacement Hits All-Time High As War And Persecution Increase, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (Geneva) 18 June 2015. Access date: 5 January 2016. <http://www.unhcr.org/558193896.html>.

⁵²⁰ The Sea Route to Europe: The Mediterranean Passage in the Age of Refugees, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (Geneva) 1 July 2015. Access date: 9 January 2016. <http://www.unhcr.org/5592bd059.pdf>.

⁵²¹ Number of Migrants Landing in Europe in 2015 Passes 100,000, International Organization for Migration (Geneva) 9 June 2015. Access date: 9 January 2016. <https://www.iom.int/news/number-migrants-landing-europe-2015-passes-100000>.

⁵²² Number of Migrants Landing in Europe in 2015 Passes 100,000, International Organization for Migration (Geneva) 9 June 2015. Access date: 9 January 2016. <https://www.iom.int/news/number-migrants-landing-europe-2015-passes-100000.hum>

⁵²³ The Mediterranean Migration Crisis, Human Rights Watch (New York) 19 June 2015. Access date: 8 January 2016. <https://www.hrw.org/report/2015/06/19/mediterranean-migration-crisis/why-people-flee-what-eu-should-do>.

⁵²⁴ The Mediterranean Migration Crisis, Human Rights Watch (New York) 19 June 2015. Access date: 8 January 2016. <https://www.hrw.org/report/2015/06/19/mediterranean-migration-crisis/why-people-flee-what-eu-should-do>.

⁵²⁵ UNHCR Reports Show Sharp Increase in Sea Crossings in Bay of Bengal, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (Geneva) 8 May 2015. Access date: 8 January 2016. <http://www.unhcr.org/554c8adf9.html>.

responded to the surge by preventing the boats from landing in May,⁵²⁶ smugglers and human traffickers abandoned up to 8000 migrants at sea.⁵²⁷ This crisis also contributed to the G7's focus on migration in 2015.

However, this is not the first time that the G7/G8 have dealt with issues of migration and migrant smuggling. In fact, the subject has long been an area of focus for the group. In 1995, the G7 established an expert group to study transnational crime in response to growing concern over its capacity to destabilize developing states, spread corruption and pose a threat to financial systems.⁵²⁸ The Lyon Group, as it came to be known, reported back to the G7 with a series of forty recommendations at the Lyon Summit the following year.⁵²⁹ The G7 endorsed these principles, which included an agreement to develop legislation criminalizing "alien smuggling" and to improve information sharing on fraudulent documents.⁵³⁰ Work to implement these objectives took place throughout 1997, and the G7 reaffirmed its commitment to combating migrant smuggling at the Denver Summit.⁵³¹

During the 1998 Birmingham Summit, the G8 agreed to expand its efforts to fight trafficking by supporting the process to develop a United Nations convention against transnational organized crime.⁵³² Following the adoption of United Nations General Assembly Resolution 53/111, members of the G8 worked together during the convention's negotiations in order to create a successful outcome.⁵³³

At the 1999 Ministerial Conference of the G8 Countries on Combating Transnational Organized Crime, the G8 agreed upon a series of guiding principles that they would use to combat trafficking. Within this document, the group widened its focus from the mere containment of migrant smuggling to working towards its prevention. For example, the final communiqué notes, "the primary means to prevent illegal migration and the related activities of smuggling and trafficking organizations is to reduce the root causes of illegal migration and flight in the countries of origin."⁵³⁴ As such, the states and the European Community agreed to "take into consideration the need to address and reduce the root causes of illegal migration" when "negotiating bilateral and multilateral agreements to provide developmental and economic assistance."⁵³⁵ Support for these measures was reaffirmed at the Okinawa Summit in 2000.⁵³⁶

In 2001, G8 Ministers of Justice and the Interior discussed the issue of migrant smuggling and agreed "on the need for further cooperative efforts to combat the organized criminal involvement in the smuggling and

⁵²⁶ Rohingya Migrants from Myanmar, Shunned by Malaysia, Are Spotted Adrift in Andaman Sea, The New York Times (New York) 14 May 2015. Access date: 9 January 2016. <http://www.nytimes.com/2015/05/15/world/asia/burmese-rohingya-bangladeshi-migrants-andaman-sea.html>.

⁵²⁷ Why Are So Many Rohingya Migrants Stranded at Sea? BBC News (London) 18 May 2015. Access date: 9 January 2016. <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-32740637>.

⁵²⁸ Chairman's Statement - Halifax G7 Summit, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 17 June 1995. Access date: 7 January 2016. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/1995halifax/chairman.html>.

⁵²⁹ Chairman's Statement: Toward Greater Security and Stability in a More Cooperative World, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 29 June 1996. Access date: 9 January 2016. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/1996lyon/chair.html>.

⁵³⁰ P8 – Senior Experts Group Recommendations, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 12 April 1996. Access date: 7 January 2016. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/crime/40pts.htm>.

⁵³¹ Communiqué – Denver Summit, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 22 June 1997. Access date: 9 January 2016. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/1997denver/g8final.htm>.

⁵³² Communiqué – Birmingham Summit, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access date: 7 January 2016. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>.

⁵³³ Explanatory Memorandum to COM (2003) 512-3 – Conclusion of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime, EU Monitor (Brussels) 22 August 2003. Access date: 9 January 2016. http://www.eumonitor.eu/9353000/1/j4nvhd3k3hyd3q_j9vvik7m1c3gyxp/vi8rm2zlvz0.

⁵³⁴ Ministerial Conference of the G8 Countries on Combating Transnational Organized Crime, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 19-20 October 1999. Access date: 7 January 2016. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/adhoc/crime99.htm>.

⁵³⁵ Ministerial Conference of the G8 Countries on Combating Transnational Organized Crime, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 19-20 October 1999. Access date: 7 January 2016. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/adhoc/crime99.htm>.

⁵³⁶ G8 Communiqué – Okinawa 2000, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 23 July 2000. Access date: 7 January 2016. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>.

trafficking of persons, while ensuring that the human rights of migrants are protected.”⁵³⁷ During this meeting, the group welcomed the signing of the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, and committed to taking action to bring the document into force as soon as possible.⁵³⁸

Following the events of 9/11, however, steps were taken to streamline the G8’s approach to international crime by combining the Lyon Group and the G8’s expert group on international terrorism.⁵³⁹ At this time, the issue of migrant smuggling appears to have been deprioritized as the summits themselves began to concentrate the fight against terrorism.

Yet, as noted above, recent events in the Bay of Bengal/Andaman Sea and the Mediterranean have again brought this issue into central focus.

Commitment Features

This commitment requires G7 members to undertake two separate strategies to address the increasing global flow of refugees, IDPs and migrants.

First, the G7 has agreed to focus on preventing mass migration in future by addressing the root causes of forced displacement. These factors include war, “repressive regimes,” a lack of economic opportunities and “dire ... ecological situations.”⁵⁴⁰ While the G7 has not clearly defined the latter cause, the UNHCR has noted that climate change is expected to increase levels of migration in the future because it will cause a rise in natural disasters, the disappearance of some small island states, resource scarcity and the deterioration of the environment.⁵⁴¹ Due to the broad scope of this part of the commitment, there are many actions that a G7 member could take to achieve compliance. However, these efforts must be new, and the state must specifically note that they are an attempt to address the root causes of migration.

While the first strategy is aimed at reducing the volume of migration in the long-term, the second strategy within this commitment requires the G7 to take steps to contain uncontrolled migration levels in the short-term, and takes two forms. First, the G7 reaffirmed its “commitment to prevent and combat the trafficking of migrants.”⁵⁴² Within this statement, the G7 appears to be referring to two different, yet related, crimes. At previous Summits, the G8 has referred to migrant smuggling as a form of human trafficking,⁵⁴³ and thus its reference to the “trafficking of migrants” can be interpreted as including both migrant smuggling and the human trafficking of migrants. The EU has differentiated between the two by noting that “in the former [migrant smuggling], migrants willingly engage in the irregular migration process by paying for the services of a smuggler in order to cross an international border, while in the latter they are the victims, coerced into severe exploitation which may or may not be linked to the crossing of a border.”⁵⁴⁴ However, migrants who enter into smuggling agreements are easily exploited and can end up in human trafficking situations. For example, there are many cases where members of the Rohingya minority in Myanmar have entered into

⁵³⁷ Conference of the G8 Ministers of Justice and the Interior, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 26-27 February 2001. Access date: 9 January 2016. <http://www.library.utoronto.ca/g7/adhoc/justice2001.htm>.

⁵³⁸ Conference of the G8 Ministers of Justice and the Interior, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 26-27 February 2001. Access date: 9 January 2016. <http://www.library.utoronto.ca/g7/adhoc/justice2001.htm>.

⁵³⁹ Background on the G8, United States Department of Justice (Washington) 9 September 2014. Access date: 7 January 2016. <http://www.justice.gov/ag/g8-background>.

⁵⁴⁰ Leader’s Declaration: G7 Elmau Summit, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access date: 9 January 2016. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

⁵⁴¹ The State of the World’s Refugees: In Search of Solidarity, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (Geneva) 2012. Access date: 9 January 2016. <http://www.unhcr.org/4fc5ceca9.pdf>, 26.

⁵⁴² Leader’s Declaration: G7 Elmau Summit, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access date: 9 January 2016. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

⁵⁴³ Communiqué – Birmingham Summit, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 17 May 1998. Access date: 7 January 2016. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>.

⁵⁴⁴ EU Action Plan Against Migrant Smuggling (2015-2020), European Commission (Brussels) 27 May 2015. Access date: 9 January 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/e-library/documents/policies/asylum/general/docs/eu_action_plan_against_migrant_smuggling_en.pdf.

agreements with smugglers only to be held for ransom and exploited.⁵⁴⁵ Given this context, G7 members can comply with this part of the commitment by taking action to combat migrant smuggling and/or human trafficking as it relates to migrants.

The second part of the G7's short-term strategy to contain uncontrolled migration pledges to "address the unique development needs of middle-income countries hosting refugees and migrants."⁵⁴⁶ This statement focuses on the importance of providing support to states neighbouring countries in crisis because they receive large numbers of refugees. For example, there were approximately four million Syrian refugees in Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt in September 2015.⁵⁴⁷ According to Amnesty International, approximately one in five people in Lebanon are a Syrian refugee.⁵⁴⁸ Such massive migration can have a destabilizing impact on host communities and poses social, political and economic challenges for the middle-income states involved.

Thus, full compliance with this commitment requires that the member takes action to combat the trafficking of migrants, to provide support for middle-income countries in their efforts to host refugees, and to tackle the causes of refugee crises.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	Member fails to take steps to tackle the causes of refugee crises AND takes no action to combat the trafficking of migrants AND takes no action to provide support for middle-income countries in their efforts to host refugees.
0	Member takes steps to tackle the causes of refugee crises OR takes action to combat the trafficking of migrants OR provides support to middle-income countries in their efforts to host refugees.
+1	Member takes steps to tackle the causes of refugee crises AND takes action to combat the trafficking of migrants AND provides support to middle-income countries in their efforts to host refugees.

Lead Analyst: Sarah Beard

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to take steps to tackle the causes of refugee crises, to support the efforts of middle-income countries (MICs) that are hosting refugees, and to take action to combat the trafficking of migrants.

Canada has made efforts to tackle the root causes of the Syrian refugee crisis during the compliance period, though its strategy to combat the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) changed following the November 2015 federal election.

Prior to the beginning of the compliance period, the government under Prime Minister Stephen Harper decided to extend airstrikes against ISIL into Syria for the purpose of denying ISIL a safe haven from which to initiate attacks into Iraq, and to reduce the threat that it poses to Canada.⁵⁴⁹ Canada had entered into the

⁵⁴⁵ UNHCR Report Shows Sharp Increase in Sea Crossings in Bay of Bengal, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (Geneva) 8 May 2015. Access date: 8 January 2016. <http://www.unhcr.org/554c8adf9.html>.

⁵⁴⁶ Leader's Declaration: G7 Elmau Summit, G7 Research Group (Toronto) 8 June 2015. Access date: 9 January 2016. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>.

⁵⁴⁷ Syria's Refugee Crisis in Number, Amnesty International. 4 September 2015. Access date: 2 May 2016. <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2015/09/syrias-refugee-crisis-in-numbers/>.

⁵⁴⁸ Syria's Refugee Crisis in Number, Amnesty International. 4 September 2015. Access date: 2 May 2016. <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2015/09/syrias-refugee-crisis-in-numbers/>.

⁵⁴⁹ Mark Kennedy, Parliament Votes 149-129 to Widen Canada's Mission Against ISIS to Syria and Extend It for a Year, National Post (Toronto) 31 March 2015. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://news.nationalpost.com/news/canada/canadian-politics/parliament-votes-149-129-to-widen-canadas-mission-against-isis-to-syria-and-extend-it-for-a-year>.

global coalition to fight ISIL in October 2014, when it committed Canadian CF-18s to the mission in Iraq.⁵⁵⁰ The government took further action to degrade ISIL's capabilities during the compliance period by co-chairing a meeting of the anti-ISIL coalition on 30 July 2015, and by committing CAD8.3 million to "fund defence programs in Iraq, as well as supply non-lethal equipment to countries in the region, to help them secure their borders and contain the flow of foreign fighters."⁵⁵¹ In the wake of the drowning of three-year-old Syrian refugee Alan Kurdi in September 2015,⁵⁵² Harper emphasized the important role that Canada's military operations play in resolving the refugee crisis. He said that "as long as we have organizations like ... the so-called Islamic State, creating literally millions of refugees and threatening to slaughter people all over the world, there is no solution to that through refugee policy ... We have to take a firm and military stance against ISIS and that's what we're doing."⁵⁵³

On 8 February 2016, the new government under Prime Minister Justin Trudeau released an alternative strategy aimed at helping to resolve the situation in Iraq and Syria.⁵⁵⁴ Trudeau presented the policy as an attempt to "build real solutions that will last."⁵⁵⁵ While the government decided to stop participating in airstrikes, new initiatives included a commitment to deploying 830 Canadian troops to "various Global Coalition headquarters to further support Coalition members and Iraqi security forces in the planning and execution of military operations," and to provide the training needed to teach members of Iraq's security forces about "casualty management."⁵⁵⁶ The government also promised to become more involved in the peace process efforts in Syria, and stated that "An enhanced presence on the ground will allow Canada to increase its engagement with local and international partners and participate more actively in multilateral efforts to resolve the crises and restore stability in the region."⁵⁵⁷ Canada also pledged to take part in actions to deal with the refugee crisis in the short-term by continuing to provide humanitarian aid to refugees, and by increasing its aid to MIC host communities.⁵⁵⁸

The new strategy followed a meeting of the Small Group of the Global Coalition to Counter ISIL in Rome on 2 February 2016.⁵⁵⁹ Canada's Foreign Affairs Minister Stéphane Dion participated in the conference.⁵⁶⁰

⁵⁵⁰ Stephanie Levitz, MPs Approve Air Combat Mission in Fight Against ISIS, Global News (Toronto) 7 October 2014. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://globalnews.ca/news/1602176/watch-live-mps-continue-to-debate-canadas-role-in-fight-against-isis/>.

⁵⁵¹ Canada Offers Up to CAD8.3 Million in Fight Against ISIS, CBC News (Ottawa) 30 July 2015. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/canada-offers-up-to-8-3m-in-fight-against-isis-1.3173393>.

⁵⁵² Stephen Harper Forced to Address "Heartbreaking Situation" of Kurdi Family, The Guardian (London) 3 September 2015. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/sep/03/canada-stephen-harper-syrian-refugees-kurdi-family>.

⁵⁵³ Harper Vows to Do More to Welcome Syrian Refugees to Canada if Re-Elected, The Guardian (London) 2 September 2015. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/sep/02/stephen-harper-syrian-refugees-canada>.

⁵⁵⁴ Prime Minister Sets New Course to Address Crises in Iraq and Syria and Impacts on the Region, Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau (Ottawa) 8 February 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2016/02/08/prime-minister-sets-new-course-address-crises-iraq-and-syria-and-impacts-region>.

⁵⁵⁵ Prime Minister Sets New Course to Address Crises in Iraq and Syria and Impacts on the Region, Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau (Ottawa) 8 February 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2016/02/08/prime-minister-sets-new-course-address-crises-iraq-and-syria-and-impacts-region>.

⁵⁵⁶ Promoting Security and Stability, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 18 February 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. http://international.gc.ca/world-monde/security-securite/middle_east-moyen_orient/stabilization_development-stabilisation_developpement.aspx?lang=eng.

⁵⁵⁷ Prime Minister Sets New Course to Address Crises in Iraq and Syria and Impacts on the Region, Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau (Ottawa) 8 February 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2016/02/08/prime-minister-sets-new-course-address-crises-iraq-and-syria-and-impacts-region>.

⁵⁵⁸ Prime Minister Sets New Course to Address Crises in Iraq and Syria and Impacts on the Region, Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau (Ottawa) 8 February 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2016/02/08/prime-minister-sets-new-course-address-crises-iraq-and-syria-and-impacts-region>.

⁵⁵⁹ Statement by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Small Group of the Global Coalition to Counter ISIL, US Department of State (Washington DC) 2 February 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2016/02/251995.htm>.

⁵⁶⁰ Opposition Parties Demand Liberals Share Anti-ISIS Plan, CTV News (Toronto) 2 February 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://www.ctvnews.ca/politics/opposition-parties-demand-liberals-share-anti-isis-plan-1.2761999>.

The ministers released a joint statement that emphasized their support for the United Nations (UN)-led peace process in Syria, amongst many other issues.⁵⁶¹

Although Canada is not a member of the International Syria Support Group (ISSG), Global Affairs Canada has closely followed its efforts to bring an end to the conflict in Syria, and has offered statements of support for the peace process in addition to its military involvement.

Following the opening of negotiations between the parties involved in the Syrian civil war, Minister of Foreign Affairs Stéphane Dion noted that the peace process was needed to combat the root causes of the refugee crisis. He said that “After five years of violence ... and the displacement of millions, it is imperative that all sides work together to bring an end to the bloodshed. We commend the leadership and support of the United Nations and the International Syria Support Group to this end.”⁵⁶²

Similarly, on 27 February 2016, Canada responded to the announcement of a “cessation of hostilities” agreement by asking that the involved parties “fully comply with the cessation of hostilities” for the purposes of allowing humanitarian aid into the region, and giving the peace negotiations a chance at success.⁵⁶³

Canada has also been heavily involved in supporting MICs that are hosting refugees of the Syrian crisis.

Canada announced that it would resettle 25,000 Syrian refugees in the country on 24 November 2016.⁵⁶⁴ This commitment was framed as a means of aiding MICs by taking the responsibility for hosting some of these refugees from them. Minister of Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship John McCallum noted that “as countries like Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey are hosting ever-increasing numbers of refugees, the government will work ... to welcome these refugees and give them an opportunity to build a new life for themselves.”⁵⁶⁵ This resettlement target was reached on 1 March 2016.⁵⁶⁶

On 26 November 2015, the government of Canada pledged CAD100 million to support the activities of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) as it helps both refugees and people who have been internally displaced by the Syrian crisis.⁵⁶⁷ Some of these funds have been allocated to assist MICs that are hosting Syrian refugees. For example, CAD22 million is being given to the UNHCR in Jordan in order to provide refugees in camps there with basic necessities and healthcare.⁵⁶⁸ The UNHCR in Lebanon will receive CAD30 million in 2016.⁵⁶⁹ These funds will not only go towards humanitarian aid and providing refugees with access to an education, but will also “promote peaceful coexistence with local communities by

⁵⁶¹ Statement by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Small Group of the Global Coalition to Counter ISIL, US Department of State (Washington DC) 2 February 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2016/02/251995.htm>.

⁵⁶² Canada Welcomes Launch of UN-Led Peace Process to End Syrian Conflict, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 31 January 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://www.international.gc.ca/media/aff/news-communications/2016/01/31a.aspx?lang=eng>.

⁵⁶³ Joint Statement by Minister Dion and Minister Bibeau on the Cessation of Hostilities in Syria, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 27 February 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1036679>.

⁵⁶⁴ Canada Offers Leadership on the Syrian Refugee Crisis, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 24 November 2015. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1021919>.

⁵⁶⁵ Canada Offers Leadership on the Syrian Refugee Crisis, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 24 November 2015. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?nid=1021919>.

⁵⁶⁶ Canada Meets Target to Resettle 25,000 Syrian Refugees, The Guardian (London) 1 March 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/mar/01/canada-target-resettle-25000-syrian-refugees>.

⁵⁶⁷ Backgrounder – Government of Canada Announces Funding for Humanitarian Assistance in Syria and Neighbouring Countries, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 26 November 2015. Access date: 28 April 2016. http://www.international.gc.ca/media/dev/news-communications/2015/11/26a_bg.aspx?lang=eng.

⁵⁶⁸ Backgrounder – Government of Canada Announces Funding for Humanitarian Assistance in Syria and Neighbouring Countries, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 26 November 2015. Access date: 28 April 2016. http://www.international.gc.ca/media/dev/news-communications/2015/11/26a_bg.aspx?lang=eng.

⁵⁶⁹ Backgrounder – Government of Canada Announces Funding for Humanitarian Assistance in Syria and Neighbouring Countries, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 26 November 2015. Access date: 28 April 2016. http://www.international.gc.ca/media/dev/news-communications/2015/11/26a_bg.aspx?lang=eng.

supporting institutions and communities most affected by refugee influx.”⁵⁷⁰ Some of this funding will support similar activities in Iraq and Turkey as well.⁵⁷¹

On 4 February 2016, Minister of International Development and La Francophonie Marie-Claude Bibeau represented Canada at the Supporting Syria and the Region Conference in London.⁵⁷² The international conference was convened primarily in order to increase financial support for UN fundraising appeals, which were severely underfunded in 2015.⁵⁷³

In addition, Canada announced that it would be providing CAD100 million to support Syrian refugees and host communities in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and Iraq.⁵⁷⁴ CAD31.8 million of this money was contributed by Canadian citizens through a government donation matching campaign that was launched on 12 September 2015.⁵⁷⁵ Minister Bibeau noted that this effort was vital to help the citizens of MICs because “the communities there are really suffering. Besides helping their own citizens, they’re trying to deal with the basic needs of people who are there to seek refuge, but they don’t have the necessities.”⁵⁷⁶

Canada also agreed to provide financial support to the New Financing Initiative to Support the Middle East and North Africa Region at a pledging conference on 15 April 2016. The initiative, which is an example of cooperation between the World Bank, the European Investment Bank, and the Islamic Development Bank Group, aims “to provide concessional financing to Lebanon and Jordan, the middle-income countries most severely impacted by the Syrian refugee crisis, expand the funding available to countries struggling with slow growth and high youth unemployment as a result of instability, and to prepare for post-war reconstruction.”⁵⁷⁷ The first of these objectives is the most relevant to the commitment to aid MICs hosting refugees. The project aims to achieve this by providing grants and concessional loans to countries like Jordan and Lebanon so that they can “continue to effectively host and provide basic public services to the refugee population while at the same time preserving development gains for their own populations.”⁵⁷⁸

Although Canada has done less than other states to combat migrant smuggling during the compliance period, it has recently taken steps to address this issue.

⁵⁷⁰ Backgrounder – Government of Canada Announces Funding for Humanitarian Assistance in Syria and Neighbouring Countries, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 26 November 2015. Access date: 28 April 2016. http://www.international.gc.ca/media/dev/news-communiqués/2015/11/26a_bg.aspx?lang=eng.

⁵⁷¹ Backgrounder – Government of Canada Announces Funding for Humanitarian Assistance in Syria and Neighbouring Countries, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 26 November 2015. Access date: 28 April 2016. http://www.international.gc.ca/media/dev/news-communiqués/2015/11/26a_bg.aspx?lang=eng.

⁵⁷² “World Is Watching:” Canada Joins Donor Conference for Syrian Refugees, CTV News (Toronto) 4 February 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/world-is-watching-canada-joins-donor-conference-for-syrian-refugees-1.2764442>.

⁵⁷³ Syria Donors Conference 2016: Joint Announcement, Supporting Syria and the Region (London) 16 November 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. <https://www.supportingsyria2016.com/news/syria-donors-conference-2016-joint-announcement/>.

⁵⁷⁴ Address by Minister Bibeau to Announce an Additional CAD100 Million in Support of Humanitarian Assistance in the Middle East, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 13 April 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=advSrch&crtr.page=2&crtr.dpt1D=6673&nid=1054789>.

⁵⁷⁵ Government Creates Emergency Relief Fund to Aid Syrian Crisis Victims, CBC News (Ottawa) 12 September 2015. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/canada-election-2015-federal-humanitarian-assistance-syrians-1.3225728>;

Address by Minister Bibeau to Announce an Additional CAD100 Million in Support of Humanitarian Assistance in the Middle East, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 13 April 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=advSrch&crtr.page=2&crtr.dpt1D=6673&nid=1054789>;

⁵⁷⁶ Address by Minister Bibeau to Announce an Additional CAD100 Million in Support of Humanitarian Assistance in the Middle East, Global Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 13 April 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=advSrch&crtr.page=2&crtr.dpt1D=6673&nid=1054789>.

⁵⁷⁷ International Community Endorses New Initiative to Support Refugees, Host Communities, Recovery and Reconstruction in the Middle East and North Africa, World Bank (Washington DC) 15 April 2016. Access date: 28 April 2016. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2016/04/15/international-community-endorses-new-initiative-to-support-refugees-host-communities-and-recovery-in-mena>.

⁵⁷⁸ Concessional Financing Facility, Middle East and North Africa Financing Initiative (Washington DC) 2016. Access date: 28 April 2016. <http://www.menafinancing.org/overview/concessional-financing-facility>.

On 11 February 2016, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) decided to deploy ships “to conduct reconnaissance, monitoring and surveillance of illegal crossings in the Aegean.”⁵⁷⁹ While their mission is not to conduct migrant rescues, they will relay the location of migrant vessels to the Greek or Turkish coastguards should the ships be in danger, and rescue the migrants themselves if time is of the essence.⁵⁸⁰ Between 12 February and 31 March 2016, HMCS *Fredericton* took part in this mission.⁵⁸¹

Representatives from Canada also participated in the Sixth Ministerial Conference of the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime on 23 March 2016.⁵⁸² This initiative aims to investigate the aforementioned issues in the Asia-Pacific region, and to encourage collaboration to resolve these problems.⁵⁸³ The conference released the Bali Declaration on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons, and Related Transnational Crime.⁵⁸⁴ This non-binding document acknowledges the connection between state weakness and a higher likelihood that migrant smuggling will flourish.⁵⁸⁵ Thus, it calls for the direct targeting of the smugglers through the criminalization of migrant smuggling and for an increase in aid for general state development to reduce the occurrence of this crime in the long-term.⁵⁸⁶

In conclusion, Canada has fully complied with its commitments to combat the root causes of refugee crises, to support MICs that are hosting refugees, and to combat migrant smuggling operations.

Analysts: Andrew Irwin and Sarah Beard

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitments to tackle the causes of refugee crises, to support middle-income countries (MICs) in their efforts to help refugees, and to combat the trafficking of migrants.

France re-confirmed its support for all three of these pledges at the “Eastern Mediterranean-Western Balkans Route” conference in Luxembourg. On 8 October 2015, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, Laurent Fabius, and the Minister of Interior, Bernard Cazeneuve, attended this meeting alongside fellow EU ministers and representatives from Turkey, Lebanon, and Jordan.⁵⁸⁷ Participants not only decided to increase support for countries hosting Syrian refugees, but also to focus on providing aid to Syrian refugees and their host communities in the areas of job access and education.⁵⁸⁸ They also agreed upon the need to deal with the “root causes” of the crisis by supporting efforts to negotiate a peace settlement in Syria and by stepping up

⁵⁷⁹ NATO Defence Ministers Agree on NATO Support to Assist with the Refugee and Migrant Crisis, NATO (Brussels) 11 February 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news_127981.htm?selectedLocale=en.

⁵⁸⁰ Migrant Crisis: NATO Deploys Aegean People-Smuggling Patrols, BBC News (London) 11 February 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-35549478>.

⁵⁸¹ Operation Reassurance, National Defence and the Canadian Armed Forces (Ottawa) 5 February 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://www.forces.gc.ca/en/operations-abroad/nato-ee.page>.

⁵⁸² Sixth Ministerial Conference of the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, Bali Process (Bali) 23 March 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. http://www.baliprocess.net/files/BPMC%20Co-chairs%20Ministerial%20Statement_with%20Bali%20Declaration%20attached%20-%202023%20March%202016.docx.pdf.

⁵⁸³ About the Bali Process, The Bali Process (Bali). Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://www.baliprocess.net/about-the-bali-process>.

⁵⁸⁴ Sixth Ministerial Conference of the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, Bali Process (Bali) 23 March 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. http://www.baliprocess.net/files/BPMC%20Co-chairs%20Ministerial%20Statement_with%20Bali%20Declaration%20attached%20-%202023%20March%202016.docx.pdf.

⁵⁸⁵ Sixth Ministerial Conference of the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, Bali Process (Bali) 23 March 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. http://www.baliprocess.net/files/BPMC%20Co-chairs%20Ministerial%20Statement_with%20Bali%20Declaration%20attached%20-%202023%20March%202016.docx.pdf.

⁵⁸⁶ Sixth Ministerial Conference of the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, Bali Process (Bali) 23 March 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. http://www.baliprocess.net/files/BPMC%20Co-chairs%20Ministerial%20Statement_with%20Bali%20Declaration%20attached%20-%202023%20March%202016.docx.pdf.

⁵⁸⁷ Conference on the Route of the Eastern Mediterranean and the Western Balkans, 08/10/2015, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 8 October 2015. Access date: 20 April 2016. <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/jha/2015/10/08/>.

⁵⁸⁸ High-Level Conference on the Eastern Mediterranean/Western Balkans Route, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 9 October 2015. Access date: 26 April 2016. <http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-12876-2015-INIT/en/pdf>.

efforts to combat the ISIL.⁵⁸⁹ Finally, they pledged to increase their “cooperation to fight organised crime responsible for migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings” and to provide support for the victims of these crimes.⁵⁹⁰

France has taken steps to follow through on its agreement to tackle the root causes of refugee crises.

Between 11 and 12 November 2015, French President François Hollande attended the Valetta Summit on Migration along with other European and African heads of state.⁵⁹¹ The leaders met in order to “strengthen cooperation and address the current challenges but also the opportunities of migration.”⁵⁹² Participants adopted a declaration and action plan meant to tackle the issues of illegal migration and forced displacement by weakening their “root causes,” and thus “reducing poverty, promoting peace, good governance, rule of law and respect for human rights, supporting inclusive economic growth ... [and] improving the delivery of basic services such as education, health, and security.”⁵⁹³ They also agreed upon other strategies to reduce illegal migration such as a commitment to “prevent and fight irregular migration, migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings.”⁵⁹⁴

During the conference, the European Union announced that it had set up an EU Trust Fund for Africa as a means of gathering donations from various organizations and states within the EU so that it could respond quickly and efficiently “to address the root causes of destabilization, displacement and irregular migration, by promoting economic and equal opportunities, security, and development.”⁵⁹⁵ France committed EUR3 million in contribution to the fund.⁵⁹⁶

On 10 February 2016, the six states that initially launched the EU met to discuss the impact of current crises like migration and terrorism on the European project. This group, which included the French Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development, released a joint statement after the conference. In it, the ministers called for greater cooperation with the source countries from which illegal migrants have been coming to Europe, as well as with the countries through which they pass on the way. They argued that this was a vital step in “tackling the root causes of migration.”⁵⁹⁷

France has not only tackled the root causes of the Syrian refugee crisis through its development aid, but has also been directly involved in attempts to weaken ISIL and resolve the Syrian conflict during the compliance period. In September 2015, France expanded its military operations to include airstrikes against ISIL targets in Syria.⁵⁹⁸ The government likely decided to take this action for several reasons, including concerns about

⁵⁸⁹ High-Level Conference on the Eastern Mediterranean/Western Balkans Route, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 9 October 2015. Access date: 26 April 2016. <http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-12876-2015-INIT/en/pdf>.

⁵⁹⁰ High-Level Conference on the Eastern Mediterranean/Western Balkans Route, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 9 October 2015. Access date: 26 April 2016. <http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-12876-2015-INIT/en/pdf>.

⁵⁹¹ List of Participants, Valletta Summit on Migration, 11-12/11/2015, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 11-12 November 2015. Access date: 30 April 2016. <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2015/11/11-12/>.

⁵⁹² Valletta Summit on migration (Valetta) 11-12 November 2015. Access date: 21 April 2016 <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2015/11/11-12/>

⁵⁹³ Valletta Summit Political Declaration, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 11-12 November 2015. Access date: 27 April 2016. <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2015/11/11-12/>.

⁵⁹⁴ Valletta Summit on Migration, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 11-12 November 2015. Access date: 21 April 2016. <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2015/11/11-12/>.

⁵⁹⁵ The EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 27 April 2016. Access date: 27 April 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/regions/africa/eu-emergency-trust-fund-africa_en.

⁵⁹⁶ EU Launches Emergency Fund for Africa with USD1.9 Billion, Agencia EFE. 12 November 2015. Access date: 27 April 2016. <http://www.efe.com/efe/english/portada/eu-launches-emergency-fund-for-africa-with-1-9-billion/50000260-2762116>.

⁵⁹⁷ EU Founding Members Issue Joint Communique on Refugee Crisis, To Bhma English. 10 February 2016. Access date: 28 April 2016. <http://www.tovima.gr/en/article/?aid=775519>.

⁵⁹⁸ Civil War in Syria, Global Conflict Tracker () 29 April 2016. Access date: 30 April 2016. <http://www.cfr.org/global/global-conflict-tracker/p32137#!/conflict/civil-war-in-syria>.

ISIL terrorist attacks in France, and an interest in having a stronger voice in the Syrian peace process.⁵⁹⁹ However, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees António Guterres noted in September 2015 that the increasing flow of refugees to Europe had heightened interest in the Syrian crisis and catalyzed governments to take further action to deal with it.⁶⁰⁰ French Prime Minister Manuel Valls confirmed this opinion, and noted “in Syria, so long as we haven’t found a political solution; so long as we haven’t destroyed this terrorist group, Islamic State ... we will not find a solution [to the refugee crisis].”⁶⁰¹

France has also taken action to support the creation of a peace settlement to end the Syrian civil war. On 26 February 2016, it voted for United Nations Security Council Resolution 2268,⁶⁰² which supported an agreement between the United States and Russia that called fighting between Syrian groups (other than terrorist organizations) to a halt.⁶⁰³ France is also a member of the International Syria Support Group (ISSG), which was formed in the autumn of 2015 for the purpose of ending the Syrian conflict.⁶⁰⁴ It has participated in several meetings of the ISSG during the compliance period.⁶⁰⁵

France has also taken steps to support MICs that are hosting refugees during the Syrian refugee crisis.

On 4 February 2016, Laurent Fabius, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development, attended the Supporting Syria and the Region conference in the United Kingdom.⁶⁰⁶ While there, he announced that France had decided to allocate EUR100 billion to combating the Syrian refugee crisis for the years 2016 to 2018.⁶⁰⁷ He specified that some of this money would be designated to help MICs that are hosting refugees in the region.⁶⁰⁸ In particular, Fabius noted that France would give EUR200 million to Lebanon for initiatives such as youth education, while it would extend EUR950 million in loans to Jordan.⁶⁰⁹ These pledges illustrate French compliance with a number of the commitments that participants made in the conference’s final

⁵⁹⁹ France Launches Air Strikes Against Islamic State in Syria, Reuters. 27 September 2015. Access date: 30 April 2016. <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-france-syria-idUSKCN0RR07Y20150927>.

⁶⁰⁰ Sonia Sengupta, Refugee Crisis in Europe Prompts Western Engagement in Syria, New York Times (New York) 30 September 2015. Access date: 30 April 2016. <http://www.nytimes.com/2015/10/01/world/middleeast/europe-refugee-crisis-syria-civil-war.html>.

⁶⁰¹ Mick Krever, France Says Tackle Syria to Solve Migrant Crisis, Promises Strikes, CNN (Atlanta) 10 September 2015. Access date: 30 April 2016. <http://edition.cnn.com/2015/09/09/world/manuel-valls-amanpour/>.

⁶⁰² Security Council Endorses Syria Cessation of Hostilities Accord, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2268, United Nations (New York) 26 February 2016. Access date: 30 April 2016. <http://www.un.org/press/en/2016/sc12261.doc.htm>.

⁶⁰³ Resolution 2268 (2016), United Nations Security Council (New York) 26 February 2016. Access date: 30 April 2016. http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/s_res_2268.pdf.

⁶⁰⁴ Joint Statement : Final Declaration on the Results of the Syria Talks in Vienna as Agreed by Participants, European Union External Action (Brussels) 30 October 2015. Access date: 30 April 2016. http://eeas.europa.eu/statements-eeas/2015/151030_06.htm.

⁶⁰⁵ 14 November 2015, Statement of the International Syria Support Group, United Nations (New York) 14 November 2015. Access date: 30 April 2016. <http://www.un.org/undpa/Speeches-statements/14112015/syria>; Statement of the International Syria Support Group, US Department of State (Washington DC) 11 February 2016. Access date: 30 April 2016. <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2016/02/252428.htm>.

⁶⁰⁶ Address by French Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development M. Laurent Fabius at the Supporting Syria and the Region Conference, France in the United Kingdom (London) 4 February 2016. Access date: 27 April 2016. <http://www.ambafrance-uk.org/France-to-provide-over-EUR1-billion-in-Syria-aid>.

⁶⁰⁷ Address by French Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development M. Laurent Fabius at the Supporting Syria and the Region Conference, France in the United Kingdom (London) 4 February 2016. Access date: 27 April 2016. <http://www.ambafrance-uk.org/France-to-provide-over-EUR1-billion-in-Syria-aid>.

⁶⁰⁸ Address by French Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development M. Laurent Fabius at the Supporting Syria and the Region Conference, France in the United Kingdom (London) 4 February 2016. Access date: 27 April 2016. <http://www.ambafrance-uk.org/France-to-provide-over-EUR1-billion-in-Syria-aid>.

⁶⁰⁹ Address by French Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development M. Laurent Fabius at the Supporting Syria and the Region Conference, France in the United Kingdom (London) 4 February 2016. Access date: 27 April 2016. <http://www.ambafrance-uk.org/France-to-provide-over-EUR1-billion-in-Syria-aid>.

declaration, which includes an agreement “to reduce the pressure on countries hosting refugees by supporting them in providing access to jobs and education that will benefit both refugees and host communities.”⁶¹⁰

On 15 April 2016, representatives from France attended the International Conference for the Financing Initiative to Support the Middle East and North Africa Region conference, and pledged to financially support the new project.⁶¹¹ The primary objective of the initiative is to close the funding gap between the support that MICs hosting Syrian refugees have received, and what they need.⁶¹² For example, part of the project is focused on providing MICs with grants and loans at concessional rates because MICs have not previously had access to lower interest rate loans due to their development status.⁶¹³ Thus, the program is meant to provide Jordan and Lebanon with the means to support Syrian refugees in their countries, as well as the communities hosting them.

On 8 September 2015, Laurent Fabius co-chaired the International Conference on the Victims of Ethnic and Religious Violence in the Middle East with Nasser Judeh, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.⁶¹⁴ They, along with representatives from 54 other countries and 11 international and regional organizations, set out to develop a roadmap for the international community that outlines specific measures meant to “assist and protect persecuted populations in the Middle East.”⁶¹⁵ Based on suggestions made at the meeting, France and Jordan wrote an action plan so that the international community can achieve this objective.⁶¹⁶ One aspect of this document re-commits France to supporting MICs that are hosting refugees. The declaration “reaffirmed their [participants’] commitment to supporting the most affected states in the region — Jordan, Turkey, Lebanon, and Iraq —that are hosting refugees and displaced populations and helping them.”⁶¹⁷

France has also taken action to combat migrant smuggling during the compliance period.

On 20 August 2015, France and the United Kingdom issued a declaration outlining further steps that they would take to tackle the issue of illegal migration along their borders. This followed a meeting on 28 July 2015, where French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve discussed the problem of illegal migration with British Home Secretary Theresa May.⁶¹⁸ While noting that the issue can only be dealt with in the long-term

⁶¹⁰ Co-Hosts Declaration from the Supporting Syria and the Region Conference, London 2016, Supporting Syria and the Region Conference (London) 4 February 2016. Access date: 27 April 2016. <https://www.supportingsyria2016.com/news/co-hosts-declaration-of-the-supporting-syria-and-the-region-conference-london-2016/>.

⁶¹¹ Donors and Partners, Middle East and North Africa Financing Initiative (Washington DC) 15 April 2016. Access date: 28 April 2016. <http://menafinancing.org/donors-and-partners>; International Community Endorses New Initiative to Support Refugees, Host Communities, Recovery and Reconstruction in the Middle East and North Africa, World Bank (Washington DC) 15 April 2016. Access date: 28 April 2016. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2016/04/15/international-community-endorses-new-initiative-to-support-refugees-host-communities-and-recovery-in-mena>.

⁶¹² Concessional Financing Facility, Middle East and North Africa Financing Initiative (Washington DC) 2016. Access date: 28 April 2016. <http://menafinancing.org/overview/concessional-financing-facility>.

⁶¹³ Concessional Financing Facility, Middle East and North Africa Financing Initiative (Washington DC) 2016. Access date: 28 April 2016. <http://menafinancing.org/overview/concessional-financing-facility>.

⁶¹⁴ International Conference on the Victims of Ethnic and Religious Violence in the Middle East – Co-Chairs’ Conclusions, France Diplomatie (Paris) 8 September 2015. Access date: 20 April 2016. <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/north-africa-and-middle-east/events/article/international-conference-on-the-victims-of-ethnic-and-religious-violence-in-the>.

⁶¹⁵ Understanding the Paris Conference on the Victims of Ethnic and Religious Violence in the Middle East, France Diplomatie (Paris) 8 September 2016. Access date: 20 April 2016. <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/north-africa-and-middle-east/events/article/understanding-the-paris-conference-on-the-victims-of-ethnic-and-religious>.

⁶¹⁶ Understanding the Paris Conference on the Victims of Ethnic and Religious Violence in the Middle East, France Diplomatie (Paris) 8 September 2016. Access date: 20 April 2016. <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/north-africa-and-middle-east/events/article/understanding-the-paris-conference-on-the-victims-of-ethnic-and-religious>.

⁶¹⁷ International Conference on the Victims of Ethnic and Religious Violence in the Middle East – Co-Chairs’ Conclusions, France Diplomatie (Paris) 8 September 2015. Access date: 28 April 2016. <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/north-africa-and-middle-east/events/article/international-conference-on-the-victims-of-ethnic-and-religious-violence-in-the>.

⁶¹⁸ Joint Action Between the UK and France on Migrant Pressure, Gov.UK (London) 29 July 2015. Access date: 30 April 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-action-between-the-uk-and-france-on-migrant-pressure>.

through the economic development and stabilization of source countries, the two states agreed that they must prevent illegal migration through strong border control “so as to destroy their [migrant smugglers’] business model and break the link between coming to Europe illegally and achieving long term settlement.”⁶¹⁹ Their statement notes several new actions that they will take in order to increase border security against illegal migration and migrant smuggling. For example, they agreed to set up a new “joint command and control centre in Calais” that “will have a strong focus on developing and deploying intelligence and operation in real-time against criminal activity on both sides of the Channel.”⁶²⁰ Furthermore, the two states agreed to create the position of a “gold commander” in order “to give unified authority for work to understand, deter, disrupt and interdict criminal activity associated with bringing would-be migrants to the Nord Pas-de-Calais or into the United Kingdom.”⁶²¹ France and the UK also decided to increase their cooperation with the EUROPOL JOT Mare, source countries, and other states in the EU to break up migrant smuggling networks.⁶²²

On 22 June 2015, the EU commenced operation EUNAVFOR Med, which uses vessels from states including France to “identify, capture and dispose of vessels as well as enabling assets used or suspected of being used by migrant smugglers of traffickers.”⁶²³

On 3 February 2016, the Minister of State for European Affairs, Harlem Désir, met with the Turkish Minister for European Affairs, Volkan Bozkir, in a follow-up meeting to the EU-Turkey Summit of 29 November 2015. Amongst other issues, the two representatives discussed the problems of illegal migration between Turkey and Greece, and ways of dismantling migrant smuggling networks.⁶²⁴

Between 25 and 26 February 2016, Matthias Fekl, Minister of State for Foreign Trade, the Promotion of Tourism and French Nationals Abroad, participated in a meeting with foreign affairs ministers from Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal and Spain aimed at discussing the “pertinent aspects of the multitude of interconnected crises affecting the European Union and its citizens, both in our neighbourhood and beyond.”⁶²⁵ Together, they stressed the importance of strengthening the EU’s policy on asylum seekers, as well as following through on measures like the EU-Turkey Action Plan, which are designed to stem the flow of migration.⁶²⁶

⁶¹⁹ Managing Migratory Flows in Calais: Joint Ministerial Declaration on UK/French Co-operation, French Ministry of the Interior (Paris) 20 August 2015. Access date: 28 April 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/455162/Joint_declaration_20_August_2015.pdf.

⁶²⁰ Managing Migratory Flows in Calais: Joint Ministerial Declaration on UK/French Co-operation, French Ministry of the Interior (Paris) 20 August 2015. Access date: 28 April 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/455162/Joint_declaration_20_August_2015.pdf.

⁶²¹ Managing Migratory Flows in Calais: Joint Ministerial Declaration on UK/French Co-operation, French Ministry of the Interior (Paris) 20 August 2015. Access date: 28 April 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/455162/Joint_declaration_20_August_2015.pdf.

⁶²² Managing Migratory Flows in Calais: Joint Ministerial Declaration on UK/French Co-operation, French Ministry of the Interior (Paris) 20 August 2015. Access date: 28 April 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/455162/Joint_declaration_20_August_2015.pdf.

⁶²³ EUNAVFOR Med Operation Sophia, European Union External Action (Brussels). Access date: 30 April 2016. http://www.eeas.europa.eu/csdp/missions-and-operations/eunavfor-med/index_en.htm; EUNAVFOR Med- Operation Sophia Enters Phase 2, European Union External Action (Brussels) 7 October 2015. Access date: 30 April 2016. http://www.eeas.europa.eu/csdp/missions-and-operations/eunavfor-med/press-releases/20151007_en.htm.

⁶²⁴ Meeting Between Harlem Désir and Volkan Bozkir, Turkish Minister for European Affairs, France Diplomatie (Paris) 3 February 2016. Access date: 20 April 2016. <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/turkey/events/article/turkey-meeting-between-harlem-desir-and-volkan-bozkir-turkish-minister-for->

⁶²⁵ Cyprus - 3rd informal Ministerial Meeting of the “Med Group” - Joint Communiqué, France Diplomatie (Paris) 25-26 February 2016. Access date: 20 April 2016 <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/cyprus/events/article/cyprus-3rd-informal-ministerial-meeting-of-the-med-group-joint-communique-25-26->

⁶²⁶ Cyprus - 3rd informal Ministerial Meeting of the “Med Group” - Joint Communiqué, France Diplomatie (Paris) 25-26 February 2016. Access date: 20 April 2016 <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/cyprus/events/article/cyprus-3rd-informal-ministerial-meeting-of-the-med-group-joint-communique-25-26->

The above examples illustrate that France has fully complied with its commitment to take action to tackle the root causes of refugee crises, support MICs in their efforts to host refugees, and combat the trafficking of migrants. As a result, it has been awarded a score of +1.

Analysts: Mathieu Sitaya and Sarah Beard

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied to tackle the causes of refugee crises, to support middle-income countries (MICs) hosting refugees, and to combat migrant trafficking.

On 9 October 2015, at “Conference on the Eastern Mediterranean/Western Balkans Route” Germany re-affirmed the pledges made to address the root causes of migration, human trafficking of migrants and to support the countries of Jordan, Turkey and Lebanon and countries along the transit route to Europe.⁶²⁷ The measures agreed upon included increased financial, educational, legal and administrative support for Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan.⁶²⁸ Long-term goals to address the “root causes” of the refugee crisis include support for a peace settlement in the Syrian civil war and combat violent extremist groups such as ISIL complemented by counter-radicalization programs⁶²⁹ and increased support of Iraq and Afghanistan towards stable and inclusive governments.⁶³⁰

In an effort to reduce the influence of violent radical organizations and ultimately increase long-term stability, Germany announced it is sending Tornado jets for reconnaissance and 1,200 supporting personnel to Syria and Iraq to support the fight against ISIL.⁶³¹ A pledge of the “Conference on the Eastern Mediterranean/Western Balkans Route” was also to seek broader international engagement for political and solutions and financial aid.⁶³² Germany has since advocated for inclusive peace talks, not only with international powers, such as Russia and the United States of America, but also with regional powers such as Iran and Saudi Arabia.⁶³³ Germany has lead efforts towards these peace talks, announcing a meeting 4 May 2016 in Berlin between the German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier, French Foreign Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault, UN envoy Steffan de Mistura and Syrian opposition leader Riad Hijab with the initial goal of a ceasefire in Aleppo.⁶³⁴

German Chancellor Angela Merkel attended the Valletta Summit on Migration in November with other European and African leaders to reiterate their “firm commitment to respect international obligations.”^{635,636} Their declaration called for further development in the “eradication of poverty” through employment opportunities; increasing cooperation of sub-Saharan, Mediterranean and European countries to “foster

⁶²⁷ High-Level Conference on the Eastern Mediterranean/Western Balkans Route, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 9 October 2015. Access date: 05 May 2016. <http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-12876-2015-INIT/en/pdf>.

⁶²⁸ High-Level Conference on the Eastern Mediterranean/Western Balkans Route, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 9 October 2015. Access date: 05 May 2016. <http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-12876-2015-INIT/en/pdf>.

⁶²⁹ High-Level Conference on the Eastern Mediterranean/Western Balkans Route, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 9 October 2015. Access date: 05 May 2016. <http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-12876-2015-INIT/en/pdf>.

⁶³⁰ High-Level Conference on the Eastern Mediterranean/Western Balkans Route, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 9 October 2015. Access date: 05 May 2016. <http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-12876-2015-INIT/en/pdf>.

⁶³¹ German Bundeswehr to deploy surveillance Tornado jets to Syria (03 December 2015). Access date: 05 May 2016. <http://www.dw.com/en/german-bundeswehr-to-deploy-surveillance-tornado-jets-to-syria/a-18892981>.

⁶³² High-Level Conference on the Eastern Mediterranean/Western Balkans Route, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 9 October 2015. Access date: 05 May 2016. <http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-12876-2015-INIT/en/pdf>

⁶³³ Merkel: Assad must be included in Syria peace talks (24 September 2015). Access date 05 May 2016.

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2015/09/merkel-assad-included-syria-peace-talks-150924080649644.html>.

⁶³⁴ Berlin promotes talks for Syria ceasefire, reduction in violence (03 May 2016). Access date: 05 May 2016.

<http://www.dw.com/en/berlin-promotes-talks-for-syria-ceasefire-reduction-in-violence/a-19232012>.

⁶³⁵ List of Participants, Valletta Summit on Migration, 11-12/11/2015, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 11-12 November 2015. Access date: 05 May 2016. <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2015/11/11-12/>

⁶³⁶ Valletta Summit on migration (Valletta) 11-12 November 2015. Access date: 05 May 2016

<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2015/11/11-12/>.

development in regions of origin [of migrants].”⁶³⁷ Support for “resilience” of vulnerable communities and groups, such as women and children, particularly in areas that host large refugee populations and engagement between those refugees and their origin country are also goals to promote stability.⁶³⁸ Sub-regional mechanisms and initiatives, to prevent and manage conflict, and state building of governments emphasizing good governance are to be supported to increase the stability of the region and relieve destabilizing influences.⁶³⁹

Merkel, in accordance with support of the MICs, pledged EUR2.3 billion of EUR11 billion between 2016 and 2018 during the donor conference in London “Supporting Syria and the Region.”⁶⁴⁰ This pledge includes EUR1 billion to humanitarian aid programs and 50 per cent of what the World Food Programme needs for the region, EUR570 million.⁶⁴¹ She also expressed gratitude and praise for Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan for accepting so many refugees and that the EU “wherever possible [would] offer [the region] preferential trading conditions” to boost exports and thus increase financial capacity to properly care for refugees.⁶⁴²

Germany has pledged to reduce human trafficking of migrants by increasing border security and management by increase regional cooperation through judicial and intelligence-gathering and increase support and protection of vulnerable groups.⁶⁴³ Both Turkey and Germany have agreed to strengthen efforts to come down on smugglers and their networks as well as increased cooperation between Frontex, the European border agency, and the Turkish authorities to meet the demand for increase border capacity.⁶⁴⁴ Supporting transit countries with funds and administrative support, increasing legal migration thresholds, and improving socio-economic conditions of origin countries/regions will reduce the number of irregular migrant via human trafficker.⁶⁴⁵ Valletta Summit on migration’s resolved to increase training of border personnel and increasing capacity of facilities to capture forged documents.⁶⁴⁶ Cooperation between the states for intelligence gathers in and dismantling of organized crime network is necessary to the prevention of irregular migration.

Thus, Germany has been awarded a score of +1 for its actions in addressing the causes of refugee status, helping MICs, and challenging human trafficking.

Analysts: Alexander Cadmus

⁶³⁷ Valletta Summit on migration (Valetta) 11-12 November 2015. Access date: 05 May 2016
<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2015/11/11-12/>.

⁶³⁸ Valletta Summit on migration (Valetta) 11-12 November 2015. Access date: 21 April 2016
<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2015/11/11-12/>.

⁶³⁹ Valletta Summit on migration (Valetta) 11-12 November 2015. Access date: 05 May 2016
<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2015/11/11-12/>.

⁶⁴⁰ DONOR CONFERENCE IN LONDON: Eleven billion dollars for Syrian refugees (04 February 2016). Access date 05 May 2016.
https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Reiseberichte/2016/2016-02-04-syrien-konferenz-london_en.html.

⁶⁴¹ DONOR CONFERENCE IN LONDON: Eleven billion dollars for Syrian refugees (04 February 2016). Access date 05 May 2016.
https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Reiseberichte/2016/2016-02-04-syrien-konferenz-london_en.html.

⁶⁴² DONOR CONFERENCE IN LONDON: Eleven billion dollars for Syrian refugees (04 February 2016). Access date 05 May 2016.
https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Reiseberichte/2016/2016-02-04-syrien-konferenz-london_en.html.

⁶⁴³ High-Level Conference on the Eastern Mediterranean/Western Balkans Route, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 9 October 2015. Access date: 05 May 2016. <http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-12876-2015-INIT/en/pdf>.

⁶⁴⁴ Joint Communiqué - German-Turkish intergovernmental consultations, 22nd January 2016. Access date: 05 May 2016.
https://www.bundesregierung.de/Content/EN/Pressemitteilungen/BPA/2016/2016-01-22-gemeinsame-erklarung-deu-tur-konsultationen-englisch_en.html.

⁶⁴⁵ High-Level Conference on the Eastern Mediterranean/Western Balkans Route, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 9 October 2015. Access date: 05 May 2016. <http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-12876-2015-INIT/en/pdf>.

⁶⁴⁶ Valletta Summit on migration (Valetta) 11-12 November 2015. Access date: 05 May 2016
<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2015/11/11-12/>.

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to take steps to tackle the causes of refugee crises, to provide support to middle income countries (MICs) that are hosting refugees, and to take action to combat the trafficking of migrants.

Italy has demonstrated its commitment to tackling the root causes of the refugee crises.

Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi attended the Valletta Summit on Migration on 11 and 12 November 2015.⁶⁴⁷ Migration was declared a “shared responsibility” at the Summit, which was attended by European and African heads of state in order to “strengthen cooperation and address the current challenges but also the opportunities of migration.”⁶⁴⁸ Participants adopted an action plan containing “five priority domains” constructed to tackle the issues of illegal migration and forced displacement through “sixteen priority initiatives” that will be initiated by the end of 2016.⁶⁴⁹ The “five priority domains” agreed upon at the Valletta Summit are as follows: “Development benefits of migration and addressing root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement, legal migration and mobility, protection and asylum, prevention of and fight against irregular migration, and migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings.”⁶⁵⁰

The Valletta Summit Action Plan contained three objectives to achieve the first “priority domain” of “development benefits and addressing root causes of irregular migration.”⁶⁵¹ The three categories are: “investing in development and poverty eradication, development benefits of migration and addressing instability and crises.”⁶⁵² Since the Valletta Summit, the Government of Italy has demonstrated a commitment to “investing in development” through the increase of its official development assistance (ODA) by 13.3 per cent (at 2014 prices and exchange rates) from USD4096 million in 2014 to USD4639 million in 2015.⁶⁵³ 21 per cent of Italy’s ODA is directly related to refugee costs, 5.8 per cent of the total increase in Italy’s ODA is associated with refugee costs, and the other 7.5 per cent increase is aid unrelated to refugee costs, implying that Italy’s increase in ODA is linked both to an increasing cost of hosting refugees and to an increase in humanitarian aid donations.⁶⁵⁴

The Government of Italy has also shown commitment to “addressing instability” in North Africa. Italian Foreign Minister Paolo Gentiloni visited the Libyan Capital, Tripoli, on 12 April 2016 to show support for Libya’s new U.N. backed government led by Fayeze Serraj.⁶⁵⁵ Following the fall of Libyan dictator Moammar Gadhafi in 2011, terrorist and other extremist groups have occupied Libyan territory creating instability that

⁶⁴⁷ List of Participants, Valletta Summit on Migration, 11-12 November 2015, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 11-12 November 2015. Access date: 4 May 2016. <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2015/11/11-12/>.

⁶⁴⁸ Valletta Summit on migration (Valletta) 11-12 November 2015. Access date: 4 May 2016. <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2015/11/11-12/>

⁶⁴⁹ Valletta Summit Political Declaration, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 11-12 November 2015. Access date: 4 May 2016. <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2015/11/11-12/>.

⁶⁵⁰ Valletta Summit Political Declaration, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 11-12 November 2015. Access date: 4 May 2016. <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2015/11/11-12/>.

⁶⁵¹ Valletta Summit Political Declaration, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 11-12 November 2015. Access date: 4 May 2016. <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2015/11/11-12/>.

⁶⁵² Valletta Summit Political Declaration, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 11-12 November 2015. Access date: 4 May 2016. <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2015/11/11-12/>.

⁶⁵³ Development aid in 2015 continues to grow despite costs for in-donor refugees, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (Paris), 16 April 2016. Access date: 4 May 2016. <http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/ODA-2015-detailed-summary.pdf>.

⁶⁵⁴ Development aid in 2015 continues to grow despite costs for in-donor refugees, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (Paris), 16 April 2016. Access date: 4 May 2016. <http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/ODA-2015-detailed-summary.pdf>.

⁶⁵⁵ Italy’s Foreign Minister Visits Libyan Capital of Tripoli in Show of Support for UN-backed Unity Government, U.S. News & World Report (Washington), 12 April 2016. Access date: 4 May 2016. <http://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2016-04-12/italian-fm-arrives-in-libya-in-boost-to-un-backed-government>

has transformed Libya into a channel for migrant smuggling into Europe.⁶⁵⁶ Italian Interior Minister Angelino Alfano stated that approximately 90 percent of migrants that reach Italy by sea some from Libya expressed his hope that the new government will be able to seal it's borders to stop the flow of migrants coming from Libya to Italy.⁶⁵⁷ By supporting a stable Libyan government the Italian government is addressing a root cause of irregular migration.

In support of the Action Plan created at the Valletta Summit, the European Union (EU) set up the "EU Emergency Trust Fund for stability and addressing root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa" with EUR1.8 billion in contributions "to address the root causes of destabilization, displacement and irregular migration, by promoting economic and equal opportunities, security, and development."⁶⁵⁸ Italy made the third largest contribution to the trust fund with a donation of EUR10 million.⁶⁵⁹

In addition to addressing the root cause of forced migration through humanitarian aid, Italy has demonstrated its commitment to combating the cause of the Syrian refugee crisis by contributing to the fight against the Islamic State. Italy has contributed approximately 300 personnel to training and advising missions for Iraqi Police as well as approximately 260 personnel for air-to-air refuelling and aerial intelligence and 460 personnel to protect workers performing repairs on the Mosul Dam.⁶⁶⁰ Italy also leads the campaign to cut off Islamic State access to financing along with the United States and Saudi Arabia as one of five "lines of effort" in the Global Campaign to Counter the Islamic State.⁶⁶¹

Italy has taken steps to support Middle Income Countries that are hosting refugees.

Italy's development assistance associated with the costs of hosting refugees totals USD982 million.⁶⁶²

Gentiloni attended the Supporting Syria and the Region Conference in London on 4 February 2016.⁶⁶³ Italy pledged EUR350 million for Syria, including EUR130 million as a gift, EUR175 million in soft loans, and EUR45 million in debt cancellation towards Jordan and Lebanon, both countries that are hosting millions of Syrian refugees.⁶⁶⁴

In addition, Italy has donated to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNWRA) to support refugees in Palestine and Syria. Italy contributed EUR8.75 million in 2015 and thus far in 2016 Italy has

⁶⁵⁶ Italy's Foreign Minister Visits Libyan Capital of Tripoli in Show of Support for UN-backed Unity Government, U.S. News & World Report (Washington), 12 April 2016. Access date: 4 May 2016. <http://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2016-04-12/italian-fm-arrives-in-libya-in-boost-to-un-backed-government>

⁶⁵⁷ Italian minister hopes Libya seals borders, offers help, Reuters (London), 17 April 2016. Access date: 4 May 2016. <http://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-libya-italy-minister-idUKKCNOXEORW>

⁶⁵⁸ The EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 27 April 2016. Access date: 5 May 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/regions/africa/eu-emergency-trust-fund-africa_en.

⁶⁵⁹ A European Agenda on Migration, European Commission (Brussels), November 2015. Access date: 5 May 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration/background-information/docs/2_factsheet_emergency_trust_fund_africa_en.pdf

⁶⁶⁰ Kathleen J. McInnis, Coalition Contributions to Countering the Islamic State, Congressional Research Service (Washington), 13 April 2016. Access date: 4 May 2016. <https://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/R44135.pdf>

⁶⁶¹ Kathleen J. McInnis, Coalition Contributions to Countering the Islamic State, Congressional Research Service (Washington), 13 April 2016. Access date: 4 May 2016. <https://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/R44135.pdf>

⁶⁶² Development aid in 2015 continues to grow despite costs for in-donor refugees, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (Paris), 16 April 2016. Access date: 4 May 2016. <http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/ODA-2015-detailed-summary.pdf>.

⁶⁶³ Foreign Minister Gentiloni participates in Supporting Syria and the Region Conference, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome), 4 February 2016. Access date: 5 May 2016. http://www.ambondra.esteri.it/ambasciata_londra/en/ambasciata/ufficio-stampa/news/2016/02/il-ministro-degli-affari-esteri.html

⁶⁶⁴ Foreign Minister Gentiloni participates in Supporting Syria and the Region Conference, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (Rome), 4 February 2016. Access date: 5 May 2016. http://www.ambondra.esteri.it/ambasciata_londra/en/ambasciata/ufficio-stampa/news/2016/02/il-ministro-degli-affari-esteri.html

contributed EUR1 million.⁶⁶⁵ The UNWRA aims to provide core essential services to refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and thus relieving these regions of some of the financial burden associated with hosting refugees.⁶⁶⁶

Italy has taken action to combat migrant smuggling.

The 2015 Trafficking in Persons Report states that Italy fully complies with the Trafficking Victims Protect Act's minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking.⁶⁶⁷ The report notes a recent increase in the number of victim's of human trafficking in Italy but attributes it to an increase in migrants seeking refuge from oppressive conditions.⁶⁶⁸ Specifically, 150,000 migrants arrived in Italy by sea in 2015.⁶⁶⁹ The report indicated that Italy could better combat human trafficking and migrant smuggling if it improved "efforts to screen irregular migrants and asylum seekers to identify possible trafficking victims." Italy and European Commission have already initiated plans to improve the screening and registration processes, complete the construction of remaining hotspots, and fingerprint migrants and entering their data into the central Eurodac system.⁶⁷⁰ Thus, it is clear that Italy is committed to combating human trafficking and migrant smuggling.

In the Council of Europe's report on Organized Crime and Migrants, Italy is described as having a "disproportionate exposure to irregular migration" and a "hard-won expertise in the fight against organized crime" and as a result it is "leads the way in the combat against migrant smuggling."⁶⁷¹ In August 2015 Italian police arrested fifteen migrant smugglers, demonstrating success in combating migrant smuggling.⁶⁷²

Therefore, Italy has fully complied with its commitment to take action to tackle the root causes of refugee crises, support MICs in their efforts to host refugees, and combat the trafficking of migrants. Thus, it has been awarded a score of +1.

Analyst: Brianna Guertin

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitments to counter refugee crises by taking action to tackle the root causes of refugee crises, to provide support for middle-income countries (MICs) in their efforts to host refugees, and to combat the trafficking of migrants.

⁶⁶⁵ Italy Contributed EUR 1 Million for Food Assistance to Palestine Refugees in Syria, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (New York), 1 February 2016. Access date: 4 May 2016. <http://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/press-releases/italy-contributes-eur-1-million-food-assistance-palestine-refugees-syria>

⁶⁶⁶ Italy Contributed EUR 1 Million for Food Assistance to Palestine Refugees in Syria, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (New York), 1 February 2016. Access date: 4 May 2016. <http://www.unrwa.org/newsroom/press-releases/italy-contributes-eur-1-million-food-assistance-palestine-refugees-syria>

⁶⁶⁷ 2015 Trafficking in Persons Report, U.S. Department of State (Washington), July 2015. Access date: May 4th 2016. <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/245365.pdf>

⁶⁶⁸ 2015 Trafficking in Persons Report, U.S. Department of State (Washington), July 2015. Access date: May 4th 2016. <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/245365.pdf>

⁶⁶⁹ Italy: State of Play Report, European Commission (Brussels), 10 February 2016. Access date: 4 May 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration/background-information/docs/italy_state_of_play_report_en.pdf

⁶⁷⁰ Italy: State of Play Report, European Commission (Brussels), 10 February 2016. Access date: 4 May 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration/background-information/docs/italy_state_of_play_report_en.pdf

⁶⁷¹ Organized Crime and Migrants, Council of Europe (Strasbourg), 8 January 2016. Access date: 4 May 2016. <http://semantic-pace.net/tools/pdf.aspx?doc=aHR0cDovL2Fzc2VtYmx5LmNvZS5pbmQvbnNvZG1sL1hSZWYvWDJlURXLWV4dHluYXNwP2ZpbGVpZD0yMjMxNiZsYW5nPUVO&xsl=aHR0cDovL3NlbWFudGljcGFjZS5uZXQvWHNsdC9QZGYvWFJlZi1XRClBVC1YTUwyUERGlhzbA=&xsltparams=ZmlsZWlkPTlyMzE2>

⁶⁷² Organized Crime and Migrants, Council of Europe (Strasbourg), 8 January 2016. Access date: 4 May 2016. <http://semantic-pace.net/tools/pdf.aspx?doc=aHR0cDovL2Fzc2VtYmx5LmNvZS5pbmQvbnNvZG1sL1hSZWYvWDJlURXLWV4dHluYXNwP2ZpbGVpZD0yMjMxNiZsYW5nPUVO&xsl=aHR0cDovL3NlbWFudGljcGFjZS5uZXQvWHNsdC9QZGYvWFJlZi1XRClBVC1YTUwyUERGlhzbA=&xsltparams=ZmlsZWlkPTlyMzE2>

To begin, Japan has taken action to ameliorate the root causes of refugee crises.

At the United Nations General Assembly on 29 September 2015, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe spoke about the Syrian refugee crisis, and noted that “our [Japan’s] unchanging principle is at all times to endeavour to return to the root of the problem and improve the situation.”⁶⁷³ He pledged USD750 million “to help build peace and fully ensure this peace across the Middle East and Africa.”⁶⁷⁴ He noted that Japan had allocated USD810 million for refugees and internally displaced persons in Iraq and Syria in total for 2015.⁶⁷⁵

On 16 January 2016, Japan’s Minister for Foreign Affairs, Fumio Kishida, delivered a policy speech to the Japan Institute of International Affairs acknowledging the challenges facing the international community.⁶⁷⁶ In particular, he singled out the Syrian conflict as a major cause of the refugee crisis, and noted the importance of the “stabilization of areas liberated from the rule of terrorism.”⁶⁷⁷ As such, he pledged USD350 million to support “the stabilization of Syria and Iraq.”⁶⁷⁸

On 15 January 2016, the Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations, Ambassador Motohide Yoshikawa, spoke at the Open Briefing of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) on the Humanitarian Situation in Syria.⁶⁷⁹ The ambassador cited Resolution 2254 adopted by the UNSC in December, and reminded the council of the need for a political solution to the crisis taking place in Syria.⁶⁸⁰ In addition, the ambassador suggested that countries should provide assistance that goes beyond emergency aid to Syrians.⁶⁸¹

Japan has also worked to support MICs in their efforts to host refugees fleeing conflict zones.

On 4 February 2016, Japan’s State Minister for Foreign Affairs Yoichi Muto attended the Supporting Syria and the Region Conference in London.⁶⁸² The objectives of the conference included the attainment of new funding from countries to support Syrian refugees and their host communities in states neighbouring Syria, and to “address the longer term needs of those affected by the crisis by identifying ways to create jobs and provide education.”⁶⁸³ Muto announced at the conference that Japan was pledging a further USD350 million

⁶⁷³ Address by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the 70th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 29 September 2015. Access date: 23 April 2016. http://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/unp_a/page4e_000321.html.

⁶⁷⁴ Address by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the 70th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 29 September 2015. Access date: 23 April 2016. http://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/unp_a/page4e_000321.html.

⁶⁷⁵ Address by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the 70th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 29 September 2015. Access date: 23 April 2016. http://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/unp_a/page4e_000321.html.

⁶⁷⁶ Address by Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida at the Japan Institute of International Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 19 January 2016. Access date: 26 April 2016. http://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/pp/page4e_000370.html.

⁶⁷⁷ Address by Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida at the Japan Institute of International Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 19 January 2016. Access date: 26 April 2016. http://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/pp/page4e_000370.html.

⁶⁷⁸ Address by Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida at the Japan Institute of International Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 19 January 2016. Access date: 26 April 2016. http://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/pp/page4e_000370.html.

⁶⁷⁹ Address by Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations Ambassador Motohide Yoshikawa, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (New York) 15 January 2016. Access date: 26 April 2016. <http://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/statements/yoshikawa011516.html>.

⁶⁸⁰ Address by Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations Ambassador Motohide Yoshikawa, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (New York) 15 January 2016. Access date: 26 April 2016. <http://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/statements/yoshikawa011516.html>.

⁶⁸¹ Address by Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations Ambassador Motohide Yoshikawa, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (New York) 15 January 2016. Access date: 26 April 2016. <http://www.un.emb-japan.go.jp/statements/yoshikawa011516.html>.

⁶⁸² Statement by State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan H.E. Mr. Yoichi Muto at the Supporting Syria and the Region Conference, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 4 February 2016. Access date: 23 April 2016. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000131311.pdf>.

⁶⁸³ Syria Donors Conference 2016: Joint Announcement, Supporting Syria and the Region Conference (London) 16 November 2015. Access date: 23 April 2016. <https://www.supportingsyria2016.com/news/syria-donors-conference-2016-joint-announcement/>.

to both provide humanitarian aid to Syrians within Syria, and to support host communities supporting Syrian refugees in the surrounding region.⁶⁸⁴ In particular, he suggested that Japan would help finance educational programs for refugees living in these host communities.⁶⁸⁵

On 15 April 2016, Japan also committed an unspecified amount of financial support to the New Financing Initiative to Support the Middle East and North Africa Region at a conference.⁶⁸⁶ World Bank President Jim Yong Kim predicted that the impacts of this project, which has been jointly created by the World Bank, the European Investment Bank, and the Islamic Development Bank Group, would be to ameliorate the consequences of the Syrian refugee crisis on Jordan and Lebanon, while also strengthening MENA countries against destabilizing elements in the region.⁶⁸⁷ In particular, the World Bank noted that fund will “provide concessional financing to Lebanon and Jordan, the middle-income countries most severely impacted by the Syrian refugee crisis, expand the funding available to countries struggling with slow growth and high youth unemployment as a result of instability, and ... prepare for post-war reconstruction.”⁶⁸⁸

Japan committed financing to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in early 2016 for the purpose of support IOM’s efforts to aid Syrian refugees living in Iraq, as well as their host communities.⁶⁸⁹ Japan donated USD500,000 to be used for initiatives such as “school transportation for Syrian refugee children and the provision of vocational skills and business training, income generating activities through involvement in cooperatives, and the rehabilitation of shared community infrastructure, in line with the Syrian Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) in Iraq.”⁶⁹⁰

Japan has also taken action to combat migrant smuggling during the compliance period.

On 30 June 2015, Japan pledged USD2.5 million to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) for the purpose of providing aid to the victims of migrant smugglers involved in the Bay of Bengal and Andaman Sea crisis.⁶⁹¹ During the first quarter of 2015, over 25,000 economic migrants and refugees attempted to reach

⁶⁸⁴ Statement by State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan H.E. Mr. Yoji Muto at the Supporting Syria and the Region Conference, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 4 February 2016. Access date: 23 April 2016. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000131311.pdf>.

⁶⁸⁵ Statement by State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan H.E. Mr. Yoji Muto at the Supporting Syria and the Region Conference, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 4 February 2016. Access date: 23 April 2016. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000131311.pdf>.

⁶⁸⁶ International Community Endorses New Initiative to Support Refugees, Host Communities, Recovery and Reconstruction in the Middle East and North Africa, World Bank (New York) 15 April 2016. Access date: 26 April 2016. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2016/04/15/international-community-endorses-new-initiative-to-support-refugees-host-communities-and-recovery-in-mena>

⁶⁸⁷ International Community Endorses New Initiative to Support Refugees, Host Communities, Recovery and Reconstruction in the Middle East and North Africa, World Bank (New York) 15 April 2016. Access date: 26 April 2016. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2016/04/15/international-community-endorses-new-initiative-to-support-refugees-host-communities-and-recovery-in-mena>.

⁶⁸⁸ International Community Endorses New Initiative to Support Refugees, Host Communities, Recovery and Reconstruction in the Middle East and North Africa, World Bank (New York) 15 April 2016. Access date: 26 April 2016. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2016/04/15/international-community-endorses-new-initiative-to-support-refugees-host-communities-and-recovery-in-mena>.

⁶⁸⁹ Japan Donates USD4 Million to International Organization for Migration Iraq to Help Displaced Iraqis, Syrians, International Organization for Migration (Geneva) 4 January 2016. Access date: 26 April 2016. <https://www.iom.int/news/japan-donates-usd-4-million-iom-iraq-help-displaced-iraqis-syrians>.

⁶⁹⁰ Japan Donates USD4 Million to International Organization for Migration Iraq to Help Displaced Iraqis, Syrians, International Organization for Migration (Geneva) 4 January 2016. Access date: 26 April 2016. <https://www.iom.int/news/japan-donates-usd-4-million-iom-iraq-help-displaced-iraqis-syrians>.

⁶⁹¹ Japan Provides International Organization for Migration Thailand USD2.5 Million for Assistance to Migrants in Andaman Sea, International Organization for Migration (Geneva) 30 June 2015. Access date: 26 April 2016. <https://www.iom.int/news/japan-provides-iom-thailand-usd-25-million-assistance-migrants-andaman-sea>.

Thailand, Malaysia, or Indonesia via the Bay of Bengal and Andaman Sea.⁶⁹² Prior to the boat crisis, many of these people were taken advantage of by their smugglers and held for ransom at camps in Thailand.⁶⁹³ However, following the discovery of mass graves of migrants, the Thai government took action to shut down these camps.⁶⁹⁴ As a result, smugglers began to abandon these migrants at sea,⁶⁹⁵ and the IOM called for financing so that it could provide the migrants with necessities like food, shelter, and healthcare, as well as help them return home if they wished.⁶⁹⁶ Japan's financing may also have been used to "provide technical assistance to governments on humanitarian border management ... and technical expertise aimed at strengthening national and regional migration management."⁶⁹⁷

On 23 March 2016, representatives from the Japanese government attended the Sixth Ministerial Conference of the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime.⁶⁹⁸ Created in 2002, one of the aims of the Bali Process is to enhance international cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region on the issue of combating migrant smuggling.⁶⁹⁹ At this year's summit, participants released a statement outlining their worries about the increased incidence of irregular migration.⁷⁰⁰ They called on all participants to adopt legislation declaring migrant smuggling a criminal activity, and to engage in "further law enforcement capacity building to combat people smugglers and human traffickers."⁷⁰¹ The statement also suggests that states increase the channels by which people can apply to migrate legally, so as to decrease the incidence of migrant smuggling and human trafficking.⁷⁰²

On 12 April 2016, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) announced that Japan would be providing it with USD910,000 to support a migration management program in Nigeria.⁷⁰³ The project has the objective of countering "terrorism and other transnational crimes by enhancing land border controls

⁶⁹² Bay of Bengal and Andaman Sea: Proposals for Action, UNHCR (Geneva) May 2015. Access date: 23 April 2016. <http://www.unhcr.org/55682d3b6.html>.

⁶⁹³ Why Are So Many Rohingya Migrants Stranded at Sea? BBC News (London) 18 May 2015. Access date: 23 April 2016. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-32740637>.

⁶⁹⁴ Amy Sawitta Lefevre and Andrew R.C. Marshall, Special Report: Inside Thailand's Trafficking Crackdown, Reuters (London) 9 July 2015. Access date: 24 April 2016. <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-thailand-trafficking-specialreport-idUSKCNOPJ14520150709>.

⁶⁹⁵ Why Are So Many Rohingya Migrants Stranded at Sea? BBC News (London) 18 May 2015. Access date: 23 April 2016. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-32740637>.

⁶⁹⁶ International Organization for Migrant Appeal: Bay of Bengal and Andaman Sea Crisis, International Organization for Migration (Geneva) May 2015. Access date: 24 April 2016. https://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/country_appeal/file/IOM-Appeal-Bay-of-Bengal-and-Andaman-Sea-Crisis.pdf.

⁶⁹⁷ International Organization for Migrant Appeal: Bay of Bengal and Andaman Sea Crisis, International Organization for Migration (Geneva) May 2015. Access date: 24 April 2016. https://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/country_appeal/file/IOM-Appeal-Bay-of-Bengal-and-Andaman-Sea-Crisis.pdf.

⁶⁹⁸ Sixth Ministerial Conference of the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, Bali Process () 23 March 2016. Access date: 24 April 2016. http://www.baliprocess.net/files/BPMC%20Co-chairs%20Ministerial%20Statement_with%20Bali%20Declaration%20attached%20-%202023%20March%202016.docx.pdf.

⁶⁹⁹ Sixth Ministerial Conference of the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, Bali Process () 23 March 2016. Access date: 24 April 2016. http://www.baliprocess.net/files/BPMC%20Co-chairs%20Ministerial%20Statement_with%20Bali%20Declaration%20attached%20-%202023%20March%202016.docx.pdf.

⁷⁰⁰ Bali Declaration on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons, and Related Transnational Crime, Bali Process (Barton) 23 March 2016. Access date: 24 April 2016. http://www.baliprocess.net/files/BPMC%20Co-chairs%20Ministerial%20Statement_with%20Bali%20Declaration%20attached%20-%202023%20March%202016.docx.pdf.

⁷⁰¹ Bali Declaration on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons, and Related Transnational Crime, Bali Process (Barton) 23 March 2016. Access date: 24 April 2016. http://www.baliprocess.net/files/BPMC%20Co-chairs%20Ministerial%20Statement_with%20Bali%20Declaration%20attached%20-%202023%20March%202016.docx.pdf.

⁷⁰² Bali Declaration on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons, and Related Transnational Crime, Bali Process (Barton) 23 March 2016. Access date: 24 April 2016. http://www.baliprocess.net/files/BPMC%20Co-chairs%20Ministerial%20Statement_with%20Bali%20Declaration%20attached%20-%202023%20March%202016.docx.pdf.

⁷⁰³ Japan Backs International Organization for Migration Project to Enhance Nigerian Border Management, International Organization for Migration (Geneva) 12 April 2016. Access date: 24 April 2016. <https://www.iom.int/news/japan-backs-iom-project-enhance-nigerian-border-management>.

through the installation of IOM's Migrant Information and Data Analysis System (MIDAS) at four Nigerian border crossing points.⁷⁰⁴ While the project's goals do not specifically include efforts to lower the incidence of migrant smuggling, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime has noted that migrant smuggling is a growing issue for Nigeria.⁷⁰⁵ By strengthening the Nigerian government's capacity to control its borders, therefore, this initiative indirectly helps to combat migrant smuggling.

Thus, Japan has been awarded a score of +1 for its actions to tackle the causes of refugee crises.

Analysts: Justin Lee and Sarah Beard

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitments to tackling the root causes of refugee crises, supporting middle-income countries (MICs) that are hosting refugees, and combating migrant smuggling.

While attending the European Union-Africa Valletta Summit in November 2015, British Prime Minister David Cameron announced that the UK would be allocating GBP200 million to reduce refugee flows by combating the causes of refugee crises in Africa.⁷⁰⁶ In a statement providing further detail regarding this new aid, International Development Secretary Justine Greening noted that the funding package aims to "tackle the root causes of problems such as instability and lack of opportunity."⁷⁰⁷ The Department of International Development said that the majority of migrants arriving in Italy in 2015 were of African origin from places including Somalia and Sudan. Greening said that "creating better lives and opportunities, helping the countries that people want to migrate from develop, is the only long term solution to help lessen the drivers of migration."⁷⁰⁸ The minister stated that there would be funding for projects including: GBP27 million to combat environmental disasters such as El Niño in countries including Somalia and Kenya;⁷⁰⁹ GBP13 million to support job creation in Somalia;⁷¹⁰ a GBP2 million contribution to the EU's Africa Trust Fund.⁷¹¹

The UK has also committed to combating the root causes of the refugee crisis in Syria. On 17 November 2015, Cameron revealed that the government had decided to redistribute spending within the aid budget by increasing the amount spent on the stabilization of failing states from 20 per cent to 50 per cent.⁷¹² This pledge was realized by the UK's new aid strategy, which affirmed this new approach, and argued that increased funding for fragile states was needed both in Syria and in the wider region in order to "address current crises, the root causes of migration, and the threats posed to the UK by the ongoing conflict."⁷¹³ However, as Gideon Rabinowitz, a research officer for the Centre for Aid and Public Expenditure notes, the

⁷⁰⁴ Japan Backs International Organization for Migration Project to Enhance Nigerian Border Management, International Organization for Migration (Geneva) 12 April 2016. Access date: 24 April 2016. <https://www.iom.int/news/japan-backs-iom-project-enhance-nigerian-border-management>.

⁷⁰⁵ Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (Vienna) 2016. Access date: 26 April 2016. <https://www.unodc.org/nigeria/en/human-trafficking-and-smuggling-of-migrants.html>.

⁷⁰⁶ UK Pledges GBP200 Million to Help Africa Tackle Refugee Crisis, ITV News (London) 11 November 2015. Access date: 17 March 2016. <http://www.itv.com/news/update/2015-11-11/uk-pledges-200m-to-help-africa-tackle-migration-crisis/>.

⁷⁰⁷ New Funds to Help Tackle Causes of Migration, GOV.UK (London) 12 November 2015. Access date: 17 March 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-funds-to-help-tackle-causes-of-migration>.

⁷⁰⁸ New Funds to Help Tackle Causes of Migration, GOV.UK (London) 12 November 2015. Access date: 17 March 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-funds-to-help-tackle-causes-of-migration>.

⁷⁰⁹ New Funds to Help Tackle Causes of Migration, GOV.UK (London) 12 November 2015. Access date: 17 March 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-funds-to-help-tackle-causes-of-migration>.

⁷¹⁰ UK Pledges GBP200 Million to Help Africa Tackle Refugee Crisis, ITV News (London) 11 November 2015. Access date: 17 March 2016. <http://www.itv.com/news/update/2015-11-11/uk-pledges-200m-to-help-africa-tackle-migration-crisis/>.

⁷¹¹ New Funds to Help Tackle Causes of Migration, GOV.UK (London) 12 November 2015. Access date: 17 March 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-funds-to-help-tackle-causes-of-migration>.

⁷¹² Cameron Earmarks Half of UK Aid Budget for Fragile States, EurActiv.com () 17 November 2015. Access date: 17 April 2016. <http://www.euractiv.com/section/development-policy/news/cameron-earmarks-half-of-uk-aid-budget-for-fragile-states/>.

⁷¹³ UK Aid: Allocation of Resources: Interim Report, Parliament.UK (London) 22 March 2016. Access date: 1 May 2016. <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmselect/cmintdev/927/927.pdf>. 7.

practical impact of this re-allocation depends on which definition of “fragility” one uses.⁷¹⁴ The wider the definition, the lower the need for a reallocation of funds. In fact, the Overseas Development Institute noted that only two of the Department for International Development’s 10 priority states were not counted as fragile after the publication of the new strategy.⁷¹⁵ Nevertheless, a recent report by the British Parliament’s International Development Committee indicates that the UK government recognizes the problem and is taking steps to correct it.⁷¹⁶ Thus, this change in strategy does represent an action taken during the compliance period to tackle the root causes of migration.

In addition to its attempts to achieve the stabilization of the region through development, the UK has worked to combat the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), and therefore to stabilize Syria, through military involvement in the state. On 5 September 2015, Chancellor George Osborne argued that Britain should commence airstrikes in Syria in order to stem the refugee crisis.⁷¹⁷ The British House of Commons voted in favour of this policy on 3 December 2015, and the first sorties against ISIL took place shortly after.⁷¹⁸

The UK has also been a supporter of the peace process to halt the Syrian conflict. The International Syria Support Group was created in the fall of 2015 for the purpose of ending the Syrian conflict.⁷¹⁹ Britain has been represented at several meetings of this group that fall within the compliance period since that time.⁷²⁰

In addition to addressing the root causes of refugee crises, the UK has made an effort to tackle the short-term consequences of mass migration by supporting MICs that have been heavily impacted by refugee movements.

Cameron announced that the UK had decided to earmark an additional GBP100 million to deal with the effects of the Syrian crisis on 4 September 2015.⁷²¹ He noted that 40 per cent of these funds would be given to MICs such as Lebanon and Jordan to help them sustain the refugee camps in these states.⁷²²

On 4 February 2016, the UK co-hosted the “Supporting Syria and the Region 2016” Conference.⁷²³ This gathering of approximately sixty states and other interested parties met both to discuss the international

⁷¹⁴ Gideon Rabinowitz, ODI on the New UK Aid Strategy, ODI (London) 27 November 2015. Access date: 17 April 2016. <http://www.odi.org/comment/10147-new-uk-aid-strategy-dfid-government>.

⁷¹⁵ Gideon Rabinowitz, ODI on the New UK Aid Strategy, ODI (London) 27 November 2015. Access date: 17 April 2016. <http://www.odi.org/comment/10147-new-uk-aid-strategy-dfid-government>.

⁷¹⁶ UK Aid: Allocation of Resources: Interim Report, Parliament.UK (London) 22 March 2016. Access date: 1 May 2016. <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmselect/cmintdev/927/927.pdf>. 9-11.

⁷¹⁷ George Osborne Hints at Military Strikes in Syria to Stem Exodus of Refugees, Independent (London) 5 September 2015. Access date: 1 May 2016. <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/george-osborne-hints-at-military-strikes-in-syria-to-stem-exodus-of-refugees-10488387.html>.

⁷¹⁸ Syria Air Strikes: What You Need to know, BBC News (London) 3 December 2015. Access date: 1 May 2016. <http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-34931421>.

⁷¹⁹ Joint Statement: Final Declaration on the Results of the Syria Talks in Vienna as Agreed by Participants, European Union External Action (Brussels) 30 October 2015. Access date: 1 May 2016. http://eeas.europa.eu/statements-eeas/2015/151030_06.htm.

⁷²⁰ 14 November 2015, Statement of the International Syria Support Group, United Nations (New York) 14 November 2015. Access date: 30 April 2016. <http://www.un.org/undpa/Speeches-statements/14112015/syria>; Statement of the International Syria Support Group, US Department of State (Washington DC) 11 February 2016. Access date: 30 April 2016. <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2016/02/252428.htm>.

⁷²¹ Address by British Prime Minister David Cameron in Madrid, Gov.UK (London) 4 September 2015. Access date: 17 April 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-statement-in-madrid-on-aid-for-syria-and-eu-reform>.

⁷²² Address by British Prime Minister David Cameron in Madrid, Gov.UK (London) 4 September 2015. Access date: 17 April 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-statement-in-madrid-on-aid-for-syria-and-eu-reform>.

⁷²³ Co-Hosts Declaration of the Supporting Syria and the Region Conference: London 2016, Gov.UK (London) 4 February 2016. Access date: 1 May 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/498040/Supporting_Syria_the_Region_London_2016_-_Co-hosts_Declaration_penultimate_.pdf.

community's approach to the crisis in Syria, and to collect financial support for its humanitarian response.⁷²⁴ Greening, noted that the UK decided to support the initiative after fundraising appeals for Syria and affected MICs in the region were only 54 per cent funded in 2015.⁷²⁵ The two primary fundraising appeals that form the basis of this year's response to this crisis by the international community are the 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) and the 2016 Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP). The HRP focuses on providing aid to people remaining in Syria, with the objectives of "saving lives and alleviating suffering, enhancing protection and building resilience."⁷²⁶ In contrast, the 3RP is refugee-oriented and aims to "address the challenges facing refugees, impacted communities and host countries in Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, and Egypt."⁷²⁷ With approximately 4.6 million Syrian refugees registered in 3RP states, the plan requires USD4.55 billion this year to be fully funded.⁷²⁸ The UK helped to raise over USD11 billion in aid from the international community during this conference.⁷²⁹ This funding included pledges towards the 3RP,⁷³⁰ and illustrates Britain's support for MICs in the Syrian region.

In addition to co-hosting the event, the UK announced that it would double its aid to Syria and the region by allocating an additional GBP1.2 billion to be spent between 2016 and 2020.⁷³¹ In addition to this aid, the UK, in a joint declaration by the co-hosts, called for new initiatives in education and job creation to support both Syrian refugees and citizens of host countries.⁷³² In particular, the statement notes that "Participants agreed to reduce the pressure on countries hosting refugees by supporting them in providing access to jobs and education that will benefit both refugees and host communities. Through linking relief and development efforts, this will provide a lasting benefit for those countries."⁷³³ In terms of increasing employment, the UK committed to funding job creation programs, as well as helping host countries get "access to external markets, [and] access to concessional financing."⁷³⁴ Furthermore, in order to support the "No Lost Generation"

⁷²⁴ Co-Hosts Declaration of the Supporting Syria and the Region Conference: London 2016, Gov.UK (London) 4 February 2016. Access date: 1 May 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/498040/Supporting_Syria_the_Region_London_2016_-_Co-hosts_Declaration_penultimate_.pdf.

⁷²⁵ Address by International Development Secretary Justine Greening in the British House of Commons, Gov.UK (London) 8 February 2016. Access date: 17 April 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/justine-greening-statement-to-parliament-on-syria>.

⁷²⁶ Overview: 2016 Syria Humanitarian Response Plan and 2016-2017 Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan, Supporting Syria and the Region – London 2016 (London) 4 February 2016. Access date: 17 April 2016. https://2c8kkt1ykog81j8k9p47oglb-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/2016_HRP_3RP_Chapeau_Syria_FINAL_hi_res.pdf, 9.

⁷²⁷ Syria Crisis - 2016 3RP Overview, Supporting Syria and the Region – London 2016 (London). Access date: 17 April 2016. <https://2c8kkt1ykog81j8k9p47oglb-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/2016-Syria-HRP-2016-2017-3RP-overview-1280px-1.jpg>.

⁷²⁸ Overview: 2016 Syria Humanitarian Response Plan and 2016-2017 Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan, Supporting Syria and the Region – London 2016 (London) 4 February 2016. Access date: 17 April 2016. https://2c8kkt1ykog81j8k9p47oglb-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/2016_HRP_3RP_Chapeau_Syria_FINAL_hi_res.pdf, 2, 4.

⁷²⁹ Co-Host's Statement Annex: Fundraising, Supporting Syria and the Region, Gov.UK (London) 8 February 2016. Access date: 17 April 2016. <https://www.supportingsyria2016.com/news/co-hosts-statement-annex-fundraising/>.

⁷³⁰ Co-Host's Statement Annex: Fundraising, Supporting Syria and the Region, Gov.UK (London) 8 February 2016. Access date: 17 April 2016. <https://www.supportingsyria2016.com/news/co-hosts-statement-annex-fundraising/>.

⁷³¹ UK to Invest an Extra GBP1.2 Billion Supporting Syria and the Region, Gov. UK (London) 4 February 2016. Access date: 17 April 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-invest-an-extra-12-billion-supporting-syria-and-the-region>.

⁷³² Co-Hosts Declaration of the Supporting Syria and the Region Conference: London 2016, Gov.UK (London) 4 February 2016. Access date: 1 May 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/498040/Supporting_Syria_the_Region_London_2016_-_Co-hosts_Declaration_penultimate_.pdf.

⁷³³ Co-Hosts Declaration from the Supporting Syria and the Region Conference, Supporting Syria and the Region (London) 4 February 2016. Access date: 17 April 2016. <https://www.supportingsyria2016.com/news/co-hosts-declaration-of-the-supporting-syria-and-the-region-conference-london-2016/>.

⁷³⁴ Co-Hosts Declaration from the Supporting Syria and the Region Conference, Supporting Syria and the Region (London) 4 February 2016. Access date: 17 April 2016. <https://www.supportingsyria2016.com/news/co-hosts-declaration-of-the-supporting-syria-and-the-region-conference-london-2016/>.

initiative, participants pledged to ensure that 1.7 million children from refugee and host community families had access to an education.⁷³⁵

On 15 April 2016, the United Kingdom pledged to financially support a New Financing Initiative to Support the Middle East and North Africa Region.⁷³⁶ The initiative, which was co-created by the World Bank, the European Investment Bank, and the Islamic Development Bank, aims to “provide concessional financing to Lebanon and Jordan, the middle-income countries most severely impacted by the Syrian refugee crisis, expand the funding available to countries struggling with slow growth and high youth unemployment as a result of instability, and to prepare for post-war reconstruction.”⁷³⁷

The UK has also taken steps to combat migrant smuggling during the compliance period.

In June 2015, the British government revealed that it would be creating an Organized Immigration Crime (OIC) Taskforce with the mandate of identifying and halting the operations of migrant smugglers in the Mediterranean.⁷³⁸ Furthermore, on 11 November 2015, Prime Minister Cameron announced plans to increase the number of jobs within the taskforce to approximately 100; extend the mandate of the OIC taskforce until 2020.⁷³⁹ In order to realize the latter commitment, the government pledged a further GBP44 million to the initiative.⁷⁴⁰

On 7 March 2016, Great Britain deployed a navy ship, two UK Border Force cutters, and a Wildcat helicopter on a mission to patrol the Aegean Sea and find vessels that are attempting to smuggle migrants into Greece. The UK’s Defence Secretary, Michael Fallon, noted that the primary objective of the assignment is to “build up a picture of these routes and to start breaking the smugglers’ business model ... What’s essential is to work out where this people smuggling is done from and then to get a policy in place of returning people which in the end will stop people [from] making this very, very dangerous crossing.”⁷⁴¹ At the same time, Fallon stated that Britain would also be following the international Law of the Sea, and rescuing migrants in precarious situations.⁷⁴²

⁷³⁵ Co-Hosts Declaration from the Supporting Syria and the Region Conference, Supporting Syria and the Region (London) 4 February 2016. Access date: 17 April 2016. <https://www.supportingsyria2016.com/news/co-hosts-declaration-of-the-supporting-syria-and-the-region-conference-london-2016/>.

⁷³⁶ International Community Endorses New Initiative to Support Refugees, Host Communities, Recovery and Reconstruction in the Middle East and North Africa, World Bank (Washington DC) 15 April 2016. Access date: 1 May 2016. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2016/04/15/international-community-endorses-new-initiative-to-support-refugees-host-communities-and-recovery-in-mena>.

⁷³⁷ International Community Endorses New Initiative to Support Refugees, Host Communities, Recovery and Reconstruction in the Middle East and North Africa, World Bank (Washington DC) 15 April 2016. Access date: 1 May 2016. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2016/04/15/international-community-endorses-new-initiative-to-support-refugees-host-communities-and-recovery-in-mena>.

⁷³⁸ Human Trafficking: Written Question – 28297, www.parliament.uk (London) 1 March 2016. Access date: 17 April 2016. <http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-02-24/28297>.

⁷³⁹ Kevin Schofield, Immigration Crime Taskforce to Be Expanded to Tackle People Smugglers, Politics Home (London) 11 November 2016. Access date: 17 April 2016. <https://www.politicshome.com/news/uk/home-affairs/news/60163/immigration-crime-taskforce-be-expanded-tackle-people-smugglers>.

⁷⁴⁰ UK Steps Up Counter-Smuggling Efforts, Gov.UK (London) 11 November 2015. Access date: 17 April 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-steps-up-counter-smuggling-efforts>.

⁷⁴¹ “Britain Deploys Troops and Ships to Patrol the Sea Between Greece and Turkey to Tackle the Migrant Crisis But Their Main Job Won’t Be to Stop People Entering Europe.” MailOnline (London) 7 March 2016. Access date: 14 April 2016. <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3479641/UK-naval-ship-way-help-smash-migrant-smugglers-Vessel-start-patrols-days-spot-boats-intercepted-Turkish-coastguard.html>.

⁷⁴² “Britain Deploys Troops and Ships to Patrol the Sea Between Greece and Turkey to Tackle the Migrant Crisis But Their Main Job Won’t Be to Stop People Entering Europe.” MailOnline (London) 7 March 2016. Access date: 14 April 2016. <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3479641/UK-naval-ship-way-help-smash-migrant-smugglers-Vessel-start-patrols-days-spot-boats-intercepted-Turkish-coastguard.html>.

Furthermore, the UK has committed to cooperating with international partners to combat migrant smugglers. In particular, it has had several discussions with France concerning irregular migration during the compliance period. On 20 August 2015, Britain signed an agreement with France outlining steps to deter economic migrants from attempting to enter the UK illegally by using migrant smugglers.⁷⁴³ While the two states noted that this was a problem that had to be solved by breaking up migrant smuggling networks and supporting the development of source countries in the long-term, they argued that they must strengthen the border in the short-term as a disincentive to potential illegal migrants.⁷⁴⁴ This action plan outlines a number of steps that the two governments will take. Most importantly, Britain committed EUR5 million to help fund programs to help refugees claim asylum, identify and protect people who are vulnerable to human traffickers, and dissuade migrants from attempting to enter the UK illegally.⁷⁴⁵

On 3 November 2015, France and Great Britain signed an agreement to increase their work together to dismantle migrant smuggling operations.⁷⁴⁶ French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve noted that the agreement “reinforces cooperation between our police services, our intelligence services, and ... aims to ultimately increase judicial cooperation between our two countries in the fight against illegal immigration and smuggling networks.”⁷⁴⁷

Moreover, representatives from the UK attended the Sixth Ministerial Conference of the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime as observers on 23 March 2016.⁷⁴⁸ One of this initiative’s goals is for members to cooperate to reduce migrant smuggling in the Asia-Pacific region. Although the UK is not a full member, its participation as an observer indicates its interest in combating migrant smuggling in the region.

These efforts illustrate that the UK has fully complied with its commitments to tackle the root causes of the refugee crisis, to help MICs that are hosting refugees, and to combat migrant smuggling.

Analyst: Sarah Beard

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to tackle the causes of refugee crises, to support middle income countries (MICs) within refugee crisis regions, and to combat the trafficking of migrants. Notably, it has addressed the need for a political solution to address the root causes of forced displacement, and proposed plans to stop the trafficking of migrants.

The US has taken action to address the root causes of the Syrian conflict during the compliance period.

As the co-chair of the International Syria Support Group (ISSG), the US has been instrumental in initiating a peace process between the parties to the Syrian civil war (excluding ISIL). On 30 October 2015, the US met

⁷⁴³ Managing Migratory Flows in Calais: Joint Ministerial Declaration on United Kingdom/France Cooperation, Gov.UK (London) 20 August 2015. Access date: 1 May 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/455162/Joint_declaration_20_August_2015.pdf.

⁷⁴⁴ Managing Migratory Flows in Calais: Joint Ministerial Declaration on United Kingdom/France Cooperation, Gov.UK (London) 20 August 2015. Access date: 1 May 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/455162/Joint_declaration_20_August_2015.pdf.

⁷⁴⁵ Managing Migratory Flows in Calais: Joint Ministerial Declaration on United Kingdom/France Cooperation, Gov.UK (London) 20 August 2015. Access date: 1 May 2016. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/455162/Joint_declaration_20_August_2015.pdf.

⁷⁴⁶ Britain and France to Cooperate to Combat Migrant Smugglers, The Sun Daily (Selangor Darul Ehsan) 3 November 2016. Access date: 1 May 2016. <http://www.thesundaily.my/news/1601022>.

⁷⁴⁷ People Smugglers: UK and France to Join Forces, The Local (Stockholm) 3 November 2015. Access date: 1 May 2016. <http://www.thelocal.fr/20151103/people-smugglers-uk-to-send-more-police-to-france>.

⁷⁴⁸ Sixth Ministerial Conference of the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, Bali Process (Bali) 23 March 2016. Access date: 30 April 2016. <http://www.baliprocess.net/ministerial-conferences-and-senior-officials-meetings>.

with 19 other nations and organizations to discuss the Syrian conflict, and to attempt to find a way forward that would satisfy each participants' interests.⁷⁴⁹ Following the conference, they released a joint communiqué calling for a ceasefire in Syria, as well as the opening up a peace process that would result in elections and a new constitution for Syria.⁷⁵⁰ The same parties (with the addition of the Arab League) then named themselves the ISSG and met for a second time on 14 November 2015 to continue their discussions.⁷⁵¹ At this time, the US, along with other members of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) "pledged to support a UNSC resolution to empower a UN-endorsed ceasefire monitoring mission in those parts of the country where monitors would not come under threat of attacks from terrorists, and to support a political transition process in accordance with the Geneva Communiqué."⁷⁵² UNSC Resolution 2254 was adopted unanimously on 18 December 2015, and asked the UN to undertake these actions.⁷⁵³ On 12 February 2016, the US and Russia announced that they had agreed to a "cessation of hostilities" within a week to allow for humanitarian aid to reach Syrian citizens, and to attempt to create a ceasefire through the creation of an ISSG ceasefire task force.⁷⁵⁴ A "cessation of hostilities" came into effect on 27 February 2016,⁷⁵⁵ and it was unanimously supported by a UNSC vote.⁷⁵⁶ The US has also been involved in supporting UN-led peace talks, which began on 14 March 2016 following a failed attempt in January.⁷⁵⁷ However, violations of the ceasefire agreement derailed peace talks in April.⁷⁵⁸

A statement by US Secretary of State John Kerry illustrates that these attempts to stabilize Syria are efforts to directly address the root causes of the refugee crisis. For example, on 13 January 2016, Kerry noted that the only way to halt the Syrian refugee crisis was by finding a political solution to the Syrian conflict. He stated, "the reality is there will be no end to this crisis, no end to the pressures on Lebanon, on Jordan, on Turkey ... no end to this crisis unless there is an end to the conflict itself ... And that is why the third pillar of our strategy is to de-escalate the conflict in Syria."⁷⁵⁹

US President Barack Obama decided to send approximately 50 Special Operations troops to Syria in order to provide support to local forces on 30 October 2015.⁷⁶⁰ Despite this, however, the US does not see its military strategy as a means of resolving the Syrian refugee crisis. Press Secretary Josh Earnest noted that military

⁷⁴⁹ Vienna Communiqué on Syria, Embassy of the United States in Syria, 30 October 2015. Access date: 1 May 2016. <http://damascus.usembassy.gov/statedept103015en1.html>.

⁷⁵⁰ Vienna Communiqué on Syria, Embassy of the United States in Syria, 30 October 2015. Access date: 1 May 2016. <http://damascus.usembassy.gov/statedept103015en1.html>.

⁷⁵¹ 14 November 2015, Statement of the International Syria Support Group, United Nations (New York) 14 November 2015. Access date: 1 May 2016. <http://www.un.org/undpa/Speeches-statements/14112015/syria>.

⁷⁵² 14 November 2015, Statement of the International Syria Support Group, United Nations (New York) 14 November 2015. Access date: 1 May 2016. <http://www.un.org/undpa/Speeches-statements/14112015/syria>.

⁷⁵³ Security Council Unanimously Adopts Resolution 2254 (2015), Endorsing Road Map for Peace Process in Syria, Setting Timetable for Talks, United Nations (New York) 18 December 2015. Access date: 1 May 2016. <http://www.un.org/press/en/2015/sc12171.doc.htm>.

⁷⁵⁴ Syria: "Cessation of Hostilities": Full Text of the Support Group's Communiqué, The Guardian (London) 12 February 2016. Access date: 1 May 2016. <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/feb/12/syria-cessation-of-hostilities-full-text-of-the-support-groups-communication>.

⁷⁵⁵ Civil War in Syria, Global Conflict Tracker (New York) 29 April 2016. Access date: 1 May 2016. <http://www.cfr.org/global/global-conflict-tracker/p32137#!/conflict/civil-war-in-syria>.

⁷⁵⁶ Security Council Endorses Syria Cessation of Hostilities Accord, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2268 (2016), United Nations (New York) 26 February 2016. Access date: 1 May 2016. <http://www.un.org/press/en/2016/sc12261.doc.htm>.

⁷⁵⁷ Syrian Civil War Timeline: Tracking Five Years of Conflict, Independent (London) 13 March 2016. Access date: 1 May 2016. <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/syrian-civil-war-timeline-tracking-five-years-of-conflict-a6929411.html>.

⁷⁵⁸ Nick Cumming-Bruce, UN Urges US and Russia to Act Quickly to Save Syria Peace Talks, New York Times (New York) 22 April 2016. Access date: 1 May 2016. <http://www.nytimes.com/2016/04/23/world/middleeast/un-urges-us-and-russia-to-act-quickly-to-save-syria-peace-talks.html>.

⁷⁵⁹ Address by US Secretary of State John Kerry at the National Defense University on the US Foreign Policy Agenda for 2016, US Department of State (Washington DC) 13 January 2016. Access date: 20 April 2016. <http://www.state.gov/secretary/remarks/2016/01/251177.htm>.

⁷⁶⁰ Barbara Starr and Jeremy Diamond, Syria: Obama Authorizes Boots on Ground to Fight ISIS, CNN (Atlanta) 30 October 2015. Access date: 1 May 2016. <http://edition.cnn.com/2015/10/30/politics/syria-troops-special-operations-forces/>.

intervention could prevent terrorists from using Syria as a base from which to launch attacks on the West. However, he argued that “we need a political transition inside of Syria in order to address the root causes.”⁷⁶¹ Similarly, Obama stressed that Syrian President Bashar Assad was “the primary root cause of this crisis” on 16 November 2015 at the G20 Antalya Summit.⁷⁶² While also urging other countries to share the burden of countries such as Turkey, Lebanon, and Jordan that have hosted migrants, Obama reaffirmed the country’s military, humanitarian, and diplomatic support.⁷⁶³

The US has also funded initiatives with the goal of supporting MICs in the Middle East in their efforts to host Syrian refugees.

Secretary of State John Kerry attended the Supporting Syria and the Region Conference on 4 February 2016.⁷⁶⁴ One of the objectives of this meeting was to attain financial pledges from states and multilateral organizations for the purpose of “supporting neighbouring countries who have shown enormous generosity in hosting refugees to cope with the impact of the crisis.”⁷⁶⁵ While there, Kerry announced that the US would respond to this request by providing USD925 million to provide both refugees and Syrians remaining in the country with basic necessities such as food, water and healthcare and provide refugees living in Jordan and Lebanon with access to an education.⁷⁶⁶

On 15 April 2016, the US declared that it would give USD25 million to the New Financing Initiative to Support the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Region.⁷⁶⁷ This new instrument was created in October 2015 by the United Nations, World Bank, and the Islamic Development Bank Group⁷⁶⁸ with the provision of “concessional financing to support refugees and host communities in Jordan and Lebanon” as one of its primary objectives.⁷⁶⁹

These initiatives complement numerous humanitarian aid projects that commenced prior to the compliance period, such as USAID’s support to refugees in Jordan.⁷⁷⁰

Furthermore, the US has taken steps to combat migrant smuggling during the compliance period.

The US announced new steps to deter potential Central American refugees from involvement with migrant smuggling networks on 13 January 2016.⁷⁷¹ US Secretary of State John Kerry noted that “we have plans to

⁷⁶¹ Daily Press Briefing by United States Press Secretary Josh Earnest, The White House (Washington DC) 30 October 2015. Access date: 1 May 2016. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/10/30/daily-press-briefing-press-secretary-josh-earnest-103015>.

⁷⁶² Address by President Barack Obama at the G20 Summit, The White House (Washington DC) 16 November 2015. Access date: 1 May 2016. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/11/16/press-conference-president-obama-antalya-turkey>.

⁷⁶³ Address by President Barack Obama at the G20 Summit, The White House (Washington DC) 16 November 2015. Access date: 1 May 2016. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/11/16/press-conference-president-obama-antalya-turkey>

⁷⁶⁴ Address by US Secretary of State John Kerry at the National Defense University on the US Foreign Policy Agenda for 2016, US Department of State (Washington DC) 13 January 2016. Access date: 20 April 2016. <http://www.state.gov/secretary/remarks/2016/01/251177.htm>.

⁷⁶⁵ Syria Donors Conference 2016: Joint Announcement, Supporting Syria and the Region (London) 16 November 2015. Access date: 1 May 2016. <https://www.supportingsyria2016.com/news/syria-donors-conference-2016-joint-announcement/>.

⁷⁶⁶ Address by Secretary of State John Kerry at the Supporting Syria and the Region Conference, US Department of State (Washington DC) 4 February 2016. Access date: 1 May 2016. <http://www.state.gov/secretary/remarks/2016/02/252121.htm>.

⁷⁶⁷ Address by Secretary of State John Kerry at the Supporting Syria and the Region Conference, US Department of State (Washington DC) 4 February 2016. Access date: 1 May 2016. <http://www.state.gov/secretary/remarks/2016/02/252121.htm>.

⁷⁶⁸ New Joint Initiative to Mobilize Additional Support for Refugees, Recovery, and Reconstruction in the Middle East and North Africa, The World Bank (New York) 10 October 2015. Access date: 20 April 2016. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2015/10/10/new-joint-initiative-to-mobilize-additional-support-for-refugees-in-the-middle-east-and-north-africa>.

⁷⁶⁹ World Bank Approves USD100 Million in Financing to Create 100 Thousand Jobs for Jordanians, Syrian Refugees, The World Bank (New York) 27 March 2016. Access date: 20 April 2016. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2016/03/27/exceptional-financing-jordan-jobs-syrian-refugees>.

⁷⁷⁰ Our Work in Jordan, USAID (Washington DC). Access date: 2 May 2016. <https://www.usaid.gov/jordan/our-work>.

expand the US refugee admissions programme in order to help vulnerable families and individuals from El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, and offer them a safe and legal alternative to the dangerous journey that many are tempted to begin, making them at that instant easy prey for human smugglers.”⁷⁷²

In addition, the International Centre for Migration Policy Development released a report on the consequences of the Syrian conflict for human trafficking in December 2015.⁷⁷³ Funded by the US Department of State’s Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, the report highlighted the connection between migrant smuggling and human trafficking.⁷⁷⁴ One of its conclusions was that refugees had become increasingly likely to find themselves in human trafficking situations because they: (1) needed to find the money to hire migrant smugglers to get them to Europe; (2) had contact with migrant smugglers who sometimes ended up exploiting them.⁷⁷⁵

On 27 July 2015, the US Department of State released the Trafficking in Persons Report for 2015 in order to shed light on human trafficking in the global marketplace, and to provide suggestions for countries on how to combat the trafficking of migrants in their regions.⁷⁷⁶ In an introduction to the report, Secretary of State John Kerry emphasized the need for “governments ... to enforce the rule of law, share information, invest in judicial resources, and espouse policies that urge respect for the rights and dignity of every human being.”⁷⁷⁷

In conclusion, the US has been awarded a score of +1 for its measures to tackle the causes of refugee crises, to support MICs that are hosting refugees, and to combat the trafficking of migrants.

Analysts: Justin Lee and Sarah Beard

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to take steps to tackle the root causes of refugee crises, to support middle-income countries (MICs) in their efforts to host refugees, and to take action to combat the trafficking of migrants.

The EU illustrated compliance with its commitment to dealing with the root causes of mass migration through its involvement in, and actions at, the Valletta Summit on Migration. Held between 11 and 12 November 2015, the impetus for the conference was the shipwreck of a migrant smuggling boat in the

⁷⁷¹ Address by US Secretary of State John Kerry at the National Defense University on the US Foreign Policy Agenda for 2016, US Department of State (Washington DC) 13 January 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://www.state.gov/secretary/remarks/2016/01/251177.htm>.

⁷⁷² Address by US Secretary of State John Kerry at the National Defense University on the US Foreign Policy Agenda for 2016, US Department of State (Washington DC) 13 January 2016. Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://www.state.gov/secretary/remarks/2016/01/251177.htm>.

⁷⁷³ Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, US Department of State (Washington DC). Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/index.htm>.

⁷⁷⁴ Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, US Department of State (Washington DC). Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/index.htm>.

⁷⁷⁵ Targeting Vulnerabilities: The Impact of the Syrian War and Refugee Situation on Trafficking in Persons, International Centre for Migration Policy Development (Vienna) December 2015. Access date: 2 May 2016. http://www.icmpd.org/fileadmin/ICMPD-Website/Anti-Trafficking/Targeting_Vulnerabilities_EN_SOFT_.pdf, 210.

⁷⁷⁶ Trafficking in Persons Report 2016, US Department of State (Washington DC). Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2015/index.htm>.

⁷⁷⁷ Letter from US Secretary of State John Kerry on the Trafficking in Persons Report 2015, US Department of State (Washington DC). Access date: 2 May 2016. <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2015/243358.htm>.

Mediterranean in April 2015, which killed approximately 800 migrants.⁷⁷⁸ Participants at the Summit, who included representatives from countries in Europe and Africa, discussed the issue of migration and ways of overcoming some of the problems that it causes.⁷⁷⁹ The result was the Valletta Summit Declaration and Action Plan, which is meant to “address the root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement” and “prevent and fight irregular migration, migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings,” amongst other objectives.⁷⁸⁰

In addition, the EU announced the creation of an “Emergency Trust Fund for Stability and Addressing Root Causes of Irregular Migration and Displaced Persons in Africa” at the conference.⁷⁸¹ The objective of the EUR1.8 billion trust fund is “to address the root causes of destabilisation, displacement and irregular migration, by promoting economic and equal opportunities, security and development.”⁷⁸² In order to achieve this goal, the EU noted that the trust fund would be used to support projects that create jobs, work to improve the rule of law, help states control migration, and provide “food and nutrition security, health, education and social protection, as well as environmental sustainability” in countries falling along African migration routes.⁷⁸³

The EU has also taken action to support MICs acting as host communities to refugees.

The Council of the European Union agreed to provide the EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis (Madad Trust Fund) with an additional EUR300 million on 8 October 2015.⁷⁸⁴ Created in 2014, the Madad Trust Fund’s main goal “is to provide a coherent and reinforced aid response to the Syrian crisis on a regional scale, responding primarily in the first instance to the needs of refugees from Syria in neighbouring countries, as well as of the communities hosting the refugees and their administrations....”⁷⁸⁵ One example of this is the Madad Fund’s decision to finance a series of aid programs targeted at Syrian refugees living in Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan, and Iraq on 1 December 2015.⁷⁸⁶ The EUR350 million will be allocated towards “the provision of basic education and child protection, better access to healthcare, improved water and waste-water infrastructure, as well as support to resilience, economic opportunities and social

⁷⁷⁸ Address by President of the European Union Donald Tusk at the Valletta Summit on Migration, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 11 November 2015. Access date: 19 April 2016. <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2015/11/11-tusk-opening-statement-valletta-summit/>; UN Confirms 800 Dead in Shipwreck Disaster: As It Happened on April 20, The Telegraph (London) 21 April 2015. Access date: 19 April 2016. <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/italy/11551278/Mediterranean-migrant-crisis-hits-Italy-as-EU-ministers-meet-live.html>.

⁷⁷⁹ Valletta Summit on Migration, 11-12/11/2015, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 11-12 November 2015. Access date: 20 April 2016. <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2015/11/11-12/>.

⁷⁸⁰ Valletta Summit on Migration, 11-12/11/2015, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 11-12 November 2015. Access date: 20 April 2016. <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2015/11/11-12/>.

⁷⁸¹ Valletta Summit on Migration, 11-12/11/2015, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 11-12 November 2015. Access date: 20 April 2016. <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2015/11/11-12/>.

⁷⁸² The European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 29 April 2016. Access date: 29 April 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/regions/africa/eu-emergency-trust-fund-africa_en.

⁷⁸³ A European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa, European Commission (Brussels) 12 November 2015. Access date: 29 April 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-15-6056_en.htm.

⁷⁸⁴ Council Approves More Money to Tackle Refugee Crisis, Council of the European Union (Brussels) 8 October 2015. Access date: 29 April 2016. <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2015/10/8-council-approves-money-refugee/>.

⁷⁸⁵ Strategic Orientation Document for the European Union Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis, “The Madad Fund,” European Commission (Brussels). Access date: 20 April 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/neighbourhood/countries/syria/madad/eu_regional_tf_madad_syrian_crisis_strategic_orientation_paper.pdf.

⁷⁸⁶ Syrian Refugee Crisis: EU Trust Fund Launches Single Biggest EU Response Package Ever for EUR350 Million, Helping Up to 1.5 Million Refugees and Their Host Communities in Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan, and Iraq, European Commission (Brussels) 1 December 2015. Access date: 19 April 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-6212_en.htm.

inclusion.”⁷⁸⁷ Most importantly, EUR130 million of this will help create jobs in MICs for refugees and host communities.⁷⁸⁸

The EU has also undertaken initiatives that serve the dual purposes of supporting MICs, and also combating migrant smuggling.

On 15 October 2015, the EU announced that it had collaborated with Turkey to create a Joint Action Plan to help Turkey deal with the Syrian refugee crisis.⁷⁸⁹ The EU noted that the objectives of the new approach include attempts to: (1) ameliorate the “root causes” of the mass migration; (2) provide help to Syrian refugees and their host communities; (3) properly manage migration waves so as “to prevent irregular migration flows to the EU.”⁷⁹⁰ Practically, the accord commits the EU to both supporting refugee host communities in the region, and tackling the issue of migrant smuggling. For example, the action plan pledges that the EU will find new funds to support Syrian refugees staying in Turkey, Jordan, Iraq, and Lebanon.⁷⁹¹ On the issue of migrant smuggling, the action plan states that the EU will “Further support Turkey to strengthen its capacity to combat migrant smuggling, notably by reinforcing the Turkish Coast Guard patrolling and surveillance capacity as well as other relevant Turkish authorities.”⁷⁹² The document also promises increased cooperation and information sharing with Turkey for the purpose of dismantling migrant smuggling networks.⁷⁹³

On 24 November 2015, the EU followed through on one of its commitments to Turkey by announcing that it had decided to fund the creation of a refugee facility “to coordinate and streamline actions financed in order to deliver efficient and complementary support to Syrians under temporary protection and host communities in Turkey.”⁷⁹⁴

The EU and Turkey announced a second agreement that focuses on regaining control of the EU’s borders and preventing illegal migration on 18 March 2016.⁷⁹⁵ The two parties agreed that the EU would return all migrants arriving illegally on the Greek islands to Turkey, while accepting one Syrian refugee for legal resettlement for each illegal migrant that is sent back to Turkey.⁷⁹⁶ In addition, the EU promised Turkey faster progress through the visa liberalization and EU accession processes, as well as the agreeing to hasten the release of money to Turkey through the Facility for Refugees in Turkey and to provide a maximum of EUR6

⁷⁸⁷ Syrian Refugee Crisis: EU Trust Fund Launches Single Biggest EU Response Package Ever for EUR350 Million, Helping Up to 1.5 Million Refugees and Their Host Communities in Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan, and Iraq, European Commission (Brussels) 1 December 2015. Access date: 19 April 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-6212_en.htm.

⁷⁸⁸ Syrian Refugee Crisis: EU Trust Fund Launches Single Biggest EU Response Package Ever for EUR350 Million, Helping Up to 1.5 Million Refugees and Their Host Communities in Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan, and Iraq, European Commission (Brussels) 1 December 2015. Access date: 19 April 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-6212_en.htm.

⁷⁸⁹ EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 15 October 2015. Access date: 18 April 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-15-5860_en.htm.

⁷⁹⁰ EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 15 October 2015. Access date: 18 April 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-15-5860_en.htm.

⁷⁹¹ EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 15 October 2015. Access date: 18 April 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-15-5860_en.htm.

⁷⁹² EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 15 October 2015. Access date: 18 April 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-15-5860_en.htm.

⁷⁹³ EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan, European Commission (Brussels) 15 October 2015. Access date: 18 April 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-15-5860_en.htm.

⁷⁹⁴ EU-Turkey Cooperation: A EUR3 Billion Refugee Facility for Turkey, European Commission (Brussels) 24 November 2015. Access date: 18 April 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-6162_en.htm.

⁷⁹⁵ EU-Turkey Agreement: Questions and Answers, European Commission (Brussels) 19 March 2016. Access date: 29 April 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-16-963_en.htm.

⁷⁹⁶ EU-Turkey Agreement: Questions and Answers, European Commission (Brussels) 19 March 2016. Access date: 29 April 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-16-963_en.htm.

billion for the facility for the years 2016 to 2018.⁷⁹⁷ The EU has adopted this plan because it “targets the people smugglers’ business model and removes the incentive to seek irregular routes to the EU.”⁷⁹⁸

However, the plan includes further funding for the refugee facility, which means that it also represents support for MICs in their efforts to host refugees. For example, the EU announced that it would be funding two new projects under the facility on 19 April 2016.⁷⁹⁹ While EUR60 million has been set aside to cover the costs of refugee returns from Greece to Turkey, EUR50 million in aid will go to providing humanitarian aid to those returnees.⁸⁰⁰

The EU has also taken other steps that are solely directed at addressing the problem of migrant smuggling. While efforts to improve border management capabilities that precede the compliance period cannot count towards the EU’s score in this area, it should be noted that the EU has implemented several long-term migration programs to improve border management capabilities. The Asylum, Migration, and Integration Fund and the Internal Security Fund have provided EUR7 billion to fund 58 national programs in member states from 2014-2020.⁸⁰¹

On 15 July 2015, the EU announced that it would be working with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) on a four-year project known as the Global Action to Prevent and Address Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants.⁸⁰² The program has a number of goals, which include providing help to developing states as they criminalize the act of migrant smuggling and develop means of stopping migrant smugglers.⁸⁰³ In addition, the initiative provides funding for the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to “work with government authorities and civil society organizations to develop assistance and support programmes for victims of trafficking and vulnerable migrants, such as smuggled migrants.”⁸⁰⁴

One of the ways that it has done so during the compliance period is to increase levels of cooperation between Europol and INTERPOL. Between 15 and 16 October 2015, the two agencies conducted their first joint forum on the question of how to combat migrant smuggling organizations.⁸⁰⁵ The forum led to a number of agreements between the two parties, including agreements to cooperate on the creation of a report on the criminal organizations involved in migrant smuggling, set up an INTERPOL Specialist Operational Network against Migrant Smuggling that will cooperate with Europol and “will aim to increase the real-time exchange of police information worldwide so as to more effectively investigate migrant smugglers and dismantle the

⁷⁹⁷ EU-Turkey Agreement: Questions and Answers, European Commission (Brussels) 19 March 2016. Access date: 29 April 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-16-963_en.htm.

⁷⁹⁸ EU-Turkey Agreement: Questions and Answers, European Commission (Brussels) 19 March 2016. Access date: 29 April 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-16-963_en.htm.

⁷⁹⁹ Facility for Refugees in Turkey: Commission Delivers an Additional EUR110 Million Under the Implementation of the EU-Turkey Agreement, European Commission (Brussels) 19 April 2016. Access date: 29 April 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-1464_fr.htm.

⁸⁰⁰ Facility for Refugees in Turkey: Commission Delivers an Additional EUR110 Million Under the Implementation of the EU-Turkey Agreement, European Commission (Brussels) 19 April 2016. Access date: 29 April 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-1464_fr.htm.

⁸⁰¹ EU Funding for Migration and Security: How It Works, European Commission (Brussels) 14 August 2015. Access date: 17 January 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/e-library/docs/20150814_funds_amif_fsi_en.pdf.

⁸⁰² New Multi-Year Initiative Launched to Step Up Global Response to Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: Brussels Liaison Office (Brussels) 21 January 2016. Access date: 24 April 2016. <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/press/releases/2016/January/new-multi-year-initiative-launched-to-step-up-global-response-to-trafficking-in-persons-and-the-smuggling-of-migrants.html>.

⁸⁰³ Global Action to Prevent and Address Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Brussels Liaison Office (Brussels) 15 July 2015. Access date: 24 April 2016. <https://www.unodc.org/brussels/en/globalhumantrafficking.html>.

⁸⁰⁴ Global Action to Prevent and Address Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Brussels Liaison Office (Brussels) 15 July 2015. Access date: 24 April 2016. <https://www.unodc.org/brussels/en/globalhumantrafficking.html>.

⁸⁰⁵ Interpol-Europol Forum Outlines Steps Against People Smuggling, Europol (The Hague) 16 October 2015. Access date: 20 April 2016. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/content/interpol-europol-forum-outlines-steps-against-people-smuggling>.

criminal organisations to which they may belong.”⁸⁰⁶ The two agencies held a follow-up forum between 22 and 23 February 2016, where Europol inaugurated the European Migrant Smuggling Centre (EMSC).⁸⁰⁷ First suggested by the European Agenda on Migration in May 2015, the EMSC aims to increase cooperation and information-sharing between EU member states on the issue of migrant smuggling.⁸⁰⁸

In addition to its efforts to reduce migrant smuggling in the long-term, the EU has stepped up its operations to rescue refugees and directly combat migrant smugglers during the compliance period. On 22 June 2015, the European Naval Force – Mediterranean Operation Sophia was begun. The mandate of this mission is to “contribute to disrupt the business model of human smuggling and trafficking networks in the Mediterranean,” and to “contribute to reducing the further loss of lives at sea.”⁸⁰⁹ While the mission was initially approved on 18 May 2015,⁸¹⁰ it does count towards compliance because it has entered into new operational phases during the latter half of 2015. On 7 October 2015, Operation Sophia was authorized to initiate phase two of its operations and begin “to board, search, seize and divert vessels suspected of being used for people smuggling.”⁸¹¹ During phase one, it rescued over 3 thousand migrants,⁸¹² and focused on gathering information on migrant smuggling routes.⁸¹³

Finally, the European Commission announced plans to strengthen the EU’s border management on 15 December 2015. For example, it agreed to create a new European Border and Coast Guard to “...help to manage migration more effectively.”⁸¹⁴ This new agency will increase cooperation between member states and the EU’s organization for the oversight of external borders.⁸¹⁵

Thus, the EU has been awarded a score of +1. It has taken targeted the root causes of refugee crises through its work at the Valletta Summit on Migration as well as through the emergency trust fund for Africa. It has also supported MICs hosting refugees through various agreements and monetary donations. Finally, it has tackled the issue of migrant smuggling through strengthened border management, increased cooperation between agencies to disrupt migrant smuggling networks, and a returns program.

Analysts: Jaspreet Khela and Sarah Beard

⁸⁰⁶ Interpol-Europol Forum Outlines Steps Against People Smuggling, Europol (The Hague) 16 October 2015. Access date: 20 April 2016. <https://www.europol.europa.eu/content/interpol-europol-forum-outlines-steps-against-people-smuggling>.

⁸⁰⁷ Europol Launches the European Migrant Smuggling Centre, Europol (The Hague) 22 February 2016. Access date: 20 April 2016. https://www.europol.europa.eu/content/EMSC_launch.

⁸⁰⁸ Europol Launches the European Migrant Smuggling Centre, Europol (The Hague) 22 February 2016. Access date: 20 April 2016. https://www.europol.europa.eu/content/EMSC_launch.

⁸⁰⁹ European Union Naval Force – Mediterranean Operation Sophia, European Union Naval Force Med Operation Sophia (Rome) 23 March 2016. Access date: 20 April 2016. http://www.eeas.europa.eu/csdp/missions-and-operations/eunavfor-med/pdf/factsheet_eunavfor_med_en.pdf.

⁸¹⁰ EUNAVFOR Med Operation SOPHIA, European Union External Action (Brussels). Access date: 29 April 2016. http://www.eeas.europa.eu/csdp/missions-and-operations/eunavfor-med/index_en.htm.

⁸¹¹ Migrant Crisis: EU to Begin Seizing Smugglers’ Boats, BBC News (London) 7 October 2015. Access date: 20 April 2016. <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-34461503>.

⁸¹² Address by EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs Federica Mogherini on the Vote of UN Resolution 2240 on EU Naval Operation in the Mediterranean (Brussels), 9 October 2015. Access date: 20 April 2016. <http://www.federicamogherini.net/tag/eunavfor-med/?lang=en>.

⁸¹³ Migrant Crisis: EU to Begin Seizing Smugglers’ Boats, BBC News (London) 7 October 2015. Access date: 20 April 2016. <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-34461503>.

⁸¹⁴ A European Border and Coast Guard to Protect Europe’s External Borders, European Commission (Brussels) 15 December 2015. Access date: 29 April 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-6327_en.htm.

⁸¹⁵ A European Border and Coast Guard to Protect Europe’s External Borders, European Commission (Brussels) 15 December 2015. Access date: 29 April 2016. http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-6327_en.htm.

13. Health: Coordinated Rapid Deployment

“[The G7] will set up or strengthen mechanisms for rapid deployment of multidisciplinary teams of experts coordinated through a common platform.”

G7 Schloss Elmau Summit Declaration

Assessment

	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France		0	
Germany			+1
Italy			+1
Japan		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average	+0.75		

Background

The 2007 World Health Organization (WHO) International Health Regulations are a framework for collaboration among states to increase public health and reduce the effects of cross-border epidemics.⁸¹⁶ The 2011 Ebola outbreak, one of the largest in history, was met with a WHO response of unprecedented scale.⁸¹⁷ However, many deemed efforts to contain and eliminate Ebola unsuccessful. In particular, they argued that the slowness, inefficiency and high cost of the response of WHO and the efforts of the United Nations Mission for Ebola Emergency Response mission demonstrated its inability to respond to a future pandemics.⁸¹⁸ The lack of coordination among countries and international organizations has played a significant part in this failure.⁸¹⁹ Consequently, the G7 has committed to the further expansion of international cooperation to better prepare itself to combat future outbreaks and public health emergencies.

Commitment Features

Part of the solution to global health emergencies is increasing active collaboration between countries. Improving rapid response is best done through the combination of efforts by countries and would focus on a global strategy to improve public health. Germany, Ghana and Norway proposed an initiative to the UN Secretary-General for a comprehensive proposal for effective health crisis management. Response mechanisms are also being developed at WHO, World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, including the development of a Pandemic Emergency Facility by the World Bank. Part of compliance would necessitate supporting these proposals as well as internal G7 efforts.

Compliance to this commitment does not mean a general statement announcing efforts to combat disease and other infectious diseases. Compliance to this commitment would require an active statement on strengthening mechanisms for the rapid deployment of teams to combat global health outbreaks. For full compliance this should be coordinated through a common platform.

⁸¹⁶ Alert & Response Operation, World Health Organization. Access date: 17 January 2016.

<http://www.who.int/csr/alertresponse/en/>

⁸¹⁷ One Year Later, Ebola Outbreak Offers Lessons for Next Epidemic, New York Times, 23 March 2015. Access date: 17 January 2016. <http://search.proquest.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/docview/1712318216?accountid=14771>

⁸¹⁸ Ebola global response was ‘too slow’, say health experts, BBC News, 23 November 2015. Access date: 17 January 2016. <http://www.bbc.com/news/health-34877787>

⁸¹⁹ Ebola global response was ‘too slow’, say health experts, BBC News, 23 November 2015. Access date: 17 January 2016. <http://www.bbc.com/news/health-34877787>

Scoring Guidelines

-1	Member neither strengthens multidisciplinary teams NOR coordinates via the development of a common platform.
0	Member strengthens multidisciplinary teams OR coordinates via the development of a common platform.
+1	Member strengthens multidisciplinary teams AND coordinates via the development of a common platform.

Lead Analyst: Emma de Leeuw

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen mechanisms for deploying experts to respond to future epidemics.

Canada's response to the Ebola crisis included a number of measures such as domestic preparedness funding, increased border measures, the development of a vaccine and financial as well as technical resources for West African countries. The Canadian government coordinated efforts through the United Nations Missions for Emergency Ebola Response as well as the Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies.⁸²⁰ Canada sent 40 Canadian Forces health staff to Sierra Leone to treat affected health care workers and pledged CAD20.9 million to ten humanitarian organizations.⁸²¹ However, Canada did also suspend travel visas for people arriving from those countries, which increased public uncertainty about Ebola threat levels.⁸²²

Canada's International Health Regulations focus on the "need to report and act on potential public health emergencies of international concern in a timely fashion, and to support public health capacity-building of partners."⁸²³ Canada has established an Ebola virus Rapid Response team that responds to potential outbreaks within Canada.⁸²⁴ Internationally, through collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), the US Centers for Disease Control and the Pan American Health Organization, the Canadian Rapid Response team is able to contribute to the mitigation of international public health emergencies.

Canada was also part of a meeting regarding work in outbreaks and emergencies led by WHO and the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN).⁸²⁵ The meeting between the various international organizations was to ensure that Canada's Rapid Response Team approach was consistent with other regional and international partners to ensure effective deployment in case of an international public health emergency.⁸²⁶

Canada receives full compliance on its health commitment for rapid deployment through a common platform. A Canadian rapid deployment team has been created to respond to cases of a public health

⁸²⁰ Canada's response to Ebola, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 8 December 2015. Access date: 4 February 2016.

<http://healthycanadians.gc.ca/diseases-conditions-maladies-affections/disease-maladie/ebola/response-reponse/index-eng.php>

⁸²¹ Ebola outbreak: Canada calls for volunteers to fight Ebola in Africa, CBC News (Toronto) 27 November 2014. Access date: 4 February 2016. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/ebola-outbreak-canada-calls-for-volunteers-to-fight-ebola-in-africa-1.2852392>

⁸²² Ebola outbreak: Canada calls for volunteers to fight Ebola in Africa, CBC News (Toronto) 27 November 2014. Access date: 4 February 2016. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/ebola-outbreak-canada-calls-for-volunteers-to-fight-ebola-in-africa-1.2852392>

⁸²³ Canada Communicable Disease Report CCDR (Volume 41S-6), Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 17 December 2015. Access date: 4 February 2016. <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publicat/ccdr-rmtc/15vol41/dr-rm41s-6/implementation-science-eng.php>

⁸²⁴ Canada Communicable Disease Report CCDR (Volume 41S-6), Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 17 December 2015. Access date: 4 February 2016. <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publicat/ccdr-rmtc/15vol41/dr-rm41s-6/implementation-science-eng.php>

⁸²⁵ Meeting between Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN) Steering Committee (SCOM) members and the Chair of the Advisory Group on Reform of WHO's Work in Outbreaks and Emergencies, World Health Organization

http://www.who.int/about/who_reform/emergency-capacities/Meeting-report-GOARN-Steering-Committee-17-Sept-2015.pdf

⁸²⁶ Canada Communicable Disease Report CCDR (Volume 41S-6), Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 17 December 2015. Access date: 4 February 2016. <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publicat/ccdr-rmtc/15vol41/dr-rm41s-6/implementation-science-eng.php>

emergency within Canadian provinces or territories. Initiative has also been taken towards cooperation through common platforms. Canada has met with GOARN to discuss way cooperation can be increased among states but also among international organizations.

Therefore, Canada receives a rank of +1 for compliance as a result of Canadian efforts to strengthen and create a rapid deployment team as well as contributing to the future development of a common platform.

Analyst: Emma de Leeuw

France: 0

France has partially complied with its commitment to strengthen multidisciplinary teams and coordinates via the development of a common platform.

On 25 June 2015, Laurent Fabius, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development, held a meeting in Paris with Bill Gates and the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization where the three signed a tripartite agreement for EUR100 million aimed at augmenting immunization levels in several French-speaking countries in the Sahel region: Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Chad.⁸²⁷ The agreement will help provide new vaccines, extend the duration of existing projects and help improve the health systems of the aforementioned countries.⁸²⁸

On 29 October 2015, Annick Girardin, Minister of State for Development and Francophony, held a meeting with Jean-François Delfraissy, Interministerial Coordinator of the fight against Ebola where they discussed progressions in the effort against the West African Ebola epidemic.⁸²⁹ Concurrently, France was preparing to send a team of 20 civil security trainers to Guinea in order to assist with ongoing efforts in the fight against Ebola and to provide fresh supplies to response teams already stationed in Guinea.⁸³⁰

On 29 October 2015, Minister Girardin and her colleague Thierry Mandon, Minister of State for Research, along with Christos Stylianides, European Commissioner and Ebola Coordinator, chaired an international conference, which examined the lessons learned from the management of the crisis in Africa.⁸³¹ An agreement was reached by setting a common goal for health development and was subsequently followed by a new EUR174 million pledge, which adds to the EUR160 million already assigned to the affected zones.⁸³²

From March to July 2015, France has deployed several regional epidemic warning and response teams in Guinea as part of the PREPARE Project and France continues to provide logistical and technical assistance to

⁸²⁷ Health in the Sahel – Meeting between Laurent Fabius and Bill Gates and signing of an agreement between the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the French Development Agency and the GAVI Alliance (Paris) 25 June 2015. Access date: 3 February 2016 <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/health-education-gender/events/article/health-in-the-sahel-signing-of-an-agreement-between-the-bill-melinda-gates>

⁸²⁸ Health in the Sahel – Meeting between Laurent Fabius and Bill Gates and signing of an agreement between the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the French Development Agency and the GAVI Alliance (Paris) 25 June 2015. Access date: 3 February 2016 <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/health-education-gender/events/article/health-in-the-sahel-signing-of-an-agreement-between-the-bill-melinda-gates>

⁸²⁹ Ebola – Paris – International conference on lessons learned from the management of the crisis (Paris) 29 October 2015. Access date: 3 February 2016 <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/health-education-gender/fight-against-the-ebola-epidemic/events/article/ebola-west-africa-meeting-between>

⁸³⁰ Ebola – Paris – International conference on lessons learned from the management of the crisis (Paris) 29 October 2015. Access date: 3 February 2016 <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/health-education-gender/fight-against-the-ebola-epidemic/events/article/ebola-west-africa-meeting-between>

⁸³¹ Ebola – Paris – International conference on lessons learned from the management of the crisis (Paris) 29 October 2015. Access date: 3 February 2016 <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/health-education-gender/fight-against-the-ebola-epidemic/events/article/ebola-paris-international-conference-on-lessons-learned-from-the-management-of>

⁸³² Ebola – Paris – International conference on lessons learned from the management of the crisis (Paris) 29 October 2015. Access date: 3 February 2016 <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/health-education-gender/fight-against-the-ebola-epidemic/events/article/ebola-paris-international-conference-on-lessons-learned-from-the-management-of>

local Regional health directorates.⁸³³ In addition to this assistance, the Agence française du développement will provide EUR10 million over the next three years to assist with the improvement of health facilities in the Guinean forest region.⁸³⁴

On 29 December 2015, Minister Girardin reiterated the need for Guinea to, “recover economically ... rebuild its healthcare system, and obtain instruments that help it respond more effectively in the event of a new epidemic.”⁸³⁵ In addition to its continued logistical and technical and financial support in Guinea, France is actively pursuing the establishment of a health crisis response system with its partners at the United Nations, World Health Organization (WHO) and the European Union.⁸³⁶

France has committed considerable support by way of financial, technical and logistical aid to regions directly affected by the Ebola crisis, namely Guinea. These efforts, however, have been conducted unilaterally. In addition to these efforts, France has coordinated with the UN, WHO and the EU in an attempt to establish a health crisis response system.

Therefore, France has been awarded a score of 0 for its partial compliance.

Analyst: Mathieu Sitaya

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen mechanisms for deploying exports to respond to future epidemics.

Germany’s global health policy is focused on “containing pandemics, fighting fatal infectious diseases (HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and polio) and strengthening health care systems.”⁸³⁷ The German government sustains a number of partnerships related to health, both bilateral and multilateral. Germany continues to participate in the Northern Dimension Partnership in Public Health and Social Well-being with nine other states in the Baltic Sea Region.

In 2013 Germany’s Federal Foreign Office launched the three-year German Partnership Program for Excellence in Biological and Health Security, with a budget of EUR23 million. This program focuses on global partnerships with the aim of mitigating biological security risks and encompasses a number of projects based in various German institutions.⁸³⁸

⁸³³ The Fight against the Ebola Epidemic, Government of France (Paris). Access date: 25 April 2016. <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/health-education-gender/fight-against-the-ebola-epidemic/events/article/fight-against-the-ebola-epidemic-19978>

⁸³⁴ The Fight against the Ebola Epidemic, Government of France (Paris). Access date: 25 April 2016. <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/health-education-gender/fight-against-the-ebola-epidemic/events/article/fight-against-the-ebola-epidemic-19978>

⁸³⁵ Guinea – End of Ebola epidemic – Statement by Annick Girardin, Government of France (Paris) 29 December 2015. Access date: 3 February 2016 <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/guinea/events/article/guinea-end-of-ebola-epidemic-statement-by-annick-girardin-29-12-15>

⁸³⁶ Guinea – End of Ebola epidemic – Statement by Annick Girardin, Government of France (Paris) 29 December 2015. Access date: 3 February 2016 <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/guinea/events/article/guinea-end-of-ebola-epidemic-statement-by-annick-girardin-29-12-15>

⁸³⁷ Global Health Policy, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 2 August 2013. Access date: 2 February 2016. http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/GlobaleFragen/Gesundheit/Gesundheitspolitik_node.html

⁸³⁸ German Partnership Program for Excellence in Biological and Health Security, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 18 February 2015. Access date: 2 February 2016. <http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/Abroestung/BioChemie/Biosicherheitsprogramm.html?nn=694448>

Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) hosted the GAVI the Vaccine Alliance pledging conference in January of 2015, in response to the Ebola crisis.⁸³⁹ The conference succeeded in mobilizing an additional USD7.5 billion towards a second replenishment of GAVI for 2016–2020. The German government also increased its contribution to GAVI to EUR600 million for the 2016–2020 period.⁸⁴⁰

In August 2015 Germany's Robert Koch Institute produced a "Framework Ebola Virus Disease" document, containing recommendations and regulations with regards to infection control of the Ebola virus within Germany. The document continues to be updated regularly, with updates in March and August 2015.⁸⁴¹

The German government provided EUR195 million to support a number of preventive and humanitarian projects related to the Ebola epidemic in West Africa.⁸⁴² These projects include providing special motorcycles from the Federal Agency for Technical Relief for the transportation of blood samples, and providing lorries for the World Food Programme for food transportation to affected areas. German funding also established treatment centres in both Sierra Leone and Liberia, as well as a mobile laboratory in Mali.

The German Government continues to support a two-year program run by the Robert Koch Institute, which trains medical staff in West Africa to treat patients who are highly infectious. This program, which ends in 2016, enables local medical staff to both recognize and care for those infected with Ebola.⁸⁴³

Germany receives full compliance with regards to its health commitment for rapid deployment through a common platform. Through its consistent support of global partnerships, and impressive domestic efforts at rapid deployment, Germany receives a rank of +1 for compliance.

Analyst: Jessie Castello

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen mechanisms for deploying exports to respond to a future epidemics.

Italy has expressed its support for the rapid deployment of health crisis management resources internationally. It is an active participant in numerous inter-governmental organizations that work to collaborate health emergency responses. Having once been affected by the Ebola virus, Italy has consistently held public health as a priority on its public agenda.

As a member of the Global Health Security Initiative, Italy participated at the 15th ministerial meeting in 2014. The summit issued a communiqué directly responding to the Ebola outbreak, outlining specific actions to recover from this epidemic and prevent future diseases.⁸⁴⁴ Specifically, the statement included a commitment to "operational, material, and technical support" in the form of evacuation services and medical treatment for healthcare personnel.

⁸³⁹ Strengthening health care systems, fighting epidemics, increasing immunisation coverage, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) December 2015. Access date: 2 February 2016.
http://www.bmz.de/g7/en/Entwicklungspolitische_Schwerpunkte/Gesundheitssysteme_staerken/index.html

⁸⁴⁰ Gavi pledging conference January 2015, Gavi Vaccine Alliance (Berlin) 26 January 2015. Access date: 2 February 2016.
<http://www.gavi.org/Funding/Resource-mobilisation/Process/Gavi-pledging-conference-January-2015/>

⁸⁴¹ The Ebola virus disease outbreak in West Africa and the situation in Germany, Robert Koch Institut (Berlin) 18 December 2015. Access date: 2 February 2016. http://www.rki.de/EN/Content/Prevention/Ebola_virus_disease/EVD_situation_summary.html

⁸⁴² Supporting the fight against Ebola, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 29 June 2015. Access date: 2 February 2016.
<http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/HumanitaereHilfe/Ebola/Ebola.html>

⁸⁴³ Supporting the fight against Ebola, Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 29 June 2015. Access date: 2 February 2016.
<http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Aussenpolitik/HumanitaereHilfe/Ebola/Ebola.html>

⁸⁴⁴ Fifteenth Ministerial Meeting of the Global Health Security Initiative, Tokyo, 11 December 2014. Access date: 5 February 2016.
<http://www.ghsi.ca/english/statementtokyo2014.asp>

Furthermore, Italy has worked closely with the World Health Organization (WHO). On 20 March 2015, the association released an organizational blueprint in establishing a global health emergency in question, of which Italy was a signatory.⁸⁴⁵ This represented one of WHO's structural reforms to improve its emergency capabilities, including actions such as engaging civil society and United Nations agencies, and improving efficiency of deploying personnel.

On a bilateral level, Italy has been cooperating with the Czech Republic to ensure legislative coordination for disaster risk reduction.⁸⁴⁶ The strategic goal of achieving a comprehensive and integrated approach to public health emergencies is one of Italy's policy priorities.

In addition, Italy is also a supportive delegate at the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction, the European Disease Prevention and Control Center, and the ToPDad research centre and many more. Italy's active involvement in such international groups demonstrate its emphasis for a multilateral approach to coordinated medical deployment.

Therefore through Italy's cooperation in both multilateral and bilateral efforts to coordinate rapid response team coordination provides it with a +1 for full compliance.

Analyst: Angela Hou

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its commitment to set up strong mechanisms for the coordinated rapid deployment of multidisciplinary experts to combat global health outbreaks.

On 12 October 2015, the Japan International Cooperation Agency signed a grant agreement with the Government of Mozambique granting aid of up to JPY2.121 billion for the building of a new medical facility to train more health workers in order to improve health services throughout the country.⁸⁴⁷

Japan hosted the international conference titled, "Universal Health Coverage in the New Development Era: Toward Building Resilient and Sustainable Health Systems," on 16 December 2015.⁸⁴⁸ In the opening session of the conference, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe emphasized the importance of making health a priority issue in the upcoming G7 Ise-Shima Summit and emphasized the importance of creating a global framework of collaborations to combat health outbreaks.⁸⁴⁹

However, other than issuing statements urging global cooperation to fight public health emergencies more effectively, the Government of Japan has taken very little measure to creating this framework in cooperation with other developed countries.

Thus, Japan receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Raheeb Dastagir

⁸⁴⁵ Note for the Record: Member States Consultation – global health emergency workforce , WHO, 20 March 2015. Access date: 7 February 2016. http://www.who.int/about/who_reform/emergency-capacities/NFR-ER-20March2015.pdf

⁸⁴⁶ Disaster risk reduction legislative as a basis for effective legislation, ISDR, 2011. Access date: 5 February 2016 http://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/gar/2011/en/bgdocs/Llosa_&_Zodrow_2011.pdf

⁸⁴⁷ Signing of Grant Agreement with Mozambique: Constructing a new training school for health workers and improving health services, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 13 October 2015. Access date: 2 February 2015. http://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2015/151013_01.html

⁸⁴⁸ Hosting the International Conference titled, "Universal Health Coverage in the New Development Era: Towards Building Resilient and Sustainable Health Systems," Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 16 December 2015. Access date: 2 February 2015. http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_000975.html

⁸⁴⁹ Address by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the International Conference, Office of the Prime Minister of Japan (Tokyo) 16 December 2015. Access date: 2 February 2015. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000117118.pdf>

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to create and support innovative research networks and rapid response teams, as encouraged by the G7. It has led the global effort to develop increased research transparency among countries and improve existing global health infrastructure, by committing an estimated GBP200 million over the next five years.⁸⁵⁰

On 7 June 2015, Prime Minister David Cameron announced an ambitious plan to improve global health infrastructure. He lamented the poor response to the Ebola crisis and announced a three-tiered plan that would include substantive drug and vaccine development, the creation of a UK-funded rapid response team, as well as national commitment to complete transparency in the fields of vaccine research, data and operations, becoming the first country in the world to do so.^{851,852}

Prime Minister Cameron, on the same day, committed GBP20 million over the next five years to create the UK Vaccines Research and Development Network, with a focus on researching Ebola, Lassa, Marburg and Crimean-Congo Fever. This amounts to a GBP4 million commitment per annum.^{853,854}

The UK-based Medical Research Council (MRC) committed an additional GBP5 million to the network as of 8 June 2015. Des Walsh, Head of Infections and Immunity at the MRC, outlined the importance of the network to deliver benefits to global communities, and strongly encouraged leading health organizations of the world to find opportunities to contribute to research more collaboratively.⁸⁵⁵

In addition, two of the seven nationally funded research councils, the Biotechnology and Biology Sciences Research Council and the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council held an open call from 3 July 2015 to 13 January 2016 for innovative vaccinology practices. The primary focus of the research is to develop new vaccinology technology and practices, to create forums for vaccinology discussion among researchers, and to encourage collaboration of veterinary and medical scientists to advance both animal and human vaccinology.⁸⁵⁶

The second tier of the plan, to increase overall transparency and cooperation in vaccinology amongst the G7 members, was openly called for Prime Minister Cameron at the Elmau Summit. Prime Minister Cameron announced that the UK would lead the global effort via the G7 to make it mandatory to publish results of all clinical results of vaccine trials for relevant diseases; currently, no such mandate exists. This comment comes after the World Health Organization (WHO) made it clear on 14 April 2015, that there was an ethical responsibility to publish results.⁸⁵⁷ Finally, Prime Minister Cameron announced that the United Kingdom's

⁸⁵⁰ Global Health Leaders ask G7 for post-Ebola rapid response unit, Reuters (London) 5 June 2015. Access date: 1 February 2016. <http://uk.reuters.com/article/us-health-g7-global-idUKKBN00L18E20150605>

⁸⁵¹ Prime Minister calls for 'wake-up to the threat from disease outbreak', Prime Minister's Office and The Rt Hon David Cameron MP (London) 7 June 2015. Access date: 2 February 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-calls-for-wake-up-to-the-threat-from-disease-outbreak>

⁸⁵² Data from all UK-funded vaccine trials to be published says PM, BioPharma-Reporter (London) 10 June 2015. Access date: 1 February 2016. <http://www.biopharma-reporter.com/Markets-Regulations/Data-from-all-UK-funded-vaccine-trials-to-be-published-says-PM>

⁸⁵³ Prime Minister calls for 'wake-up to the threat from disease outbreak', Prime Minister's Office and The Rt Hon David Cameron MP (London) 7 June 2015. Access date: 2 February 2016. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-calls-for-wake-up-to-the-threat-from-disease-outbreak>

⁸⁵⁴ UK Rapid Response Team: UK Rapid Response Team Competition, National Institute for Health Research (London) 1 December 2015. Access date: 3 February 2016. <http://www.nihr.ac.uk/funding/uk-rapid-response-team.htm>

⁸⁵⁵ The MRC commits GBP5m towards a new UK R&D Vaccines Network, Medical Research Council (London) 8 June 2015. Access date: 3 February 2016. <https://www.mrc.ac.uk/news/browse/the-mrc-commits-5m-towards-a-new-uk-r-d-vaccines-network/>

⁸⁵⁶ Highlight notice in novel tools and technologies for vaccinology, Biotechnology and Biology Research Council (London) 3 July 2015. Access date: 4 February 2016. <http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/funding/filter/novel-tools-technologies-for-vaccinology/>

⁸⁵⁷ WHO calls for all clinical trial results to be published, AllTrials (London) 14 April 2015. Access date: 3 February 2016. <http://www.alltrials.net/news/who-calls-for-all-clinical-trial-results-to-be-published/>

Chief Medical Officer would collaborate closely with WHO to create a data forum for the precise purpose of sharing information and to make global publication more seamless.⁸⁵⁸

The United Kingdom has committed to create a Rapid Reaction Team (RRT) that would be composed of six to ten expert staff, consisting of epidemiologists, infection control specialists and infection control doctors. Their responsibilities include conducting rapid research on the disease in question, including methods and rate of transmission, and creating immediate global response recommendations. The effort has been spearheaded by Jeremy Farrar, director of the London-based charity Wellcome Trust, and Peter Piot, director of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and co-discoverer of the Ebola.⁸⁵⁹

The majority of the GBP20 million committed is to be dedicated to this RRT, with plans to expand the team to 100 epidemiologists and the reserve to 10,000 scientists. Estimates from Reuters have placed the final cost as being between GBP100–200 million.⁸⁶⁰

Funding for the RRT is currently the joint responsibility of the National Institute for Health Research and Public Health England, with support from the United Kingdom Official Development Assistance Budget. This funding is contingent on the UK only providing financial assistance to recognized countries, which as of 2010 includes approximately 150 countries with a per capita income of USD12,276 or less. The National Institute for Health Research has also identified the army as a public sector partner.⁸⁶¹

Following Prime Minister Cameron's announcement at the Elmau Summit, the two entities launched a public competition aimed at academic institutions to participate in the funding for the RRT. The academic institution that is selected would be required to contribute a minimum of 40 per cent of the annual RRT budget. Applications for institutions closed on 17 December 2015.⁸⁶²

Lastly, the United Kingdom has contributed to the creation of a global Pandemic Emergency Facility, as created by the World Bank Group and WHO. The effort is part of an increased global commitment to faster and more efficient outbreak responses. The Pandemic Emergency Facility is in partnership with the Ebola Recovery and Reconstruction Trust Fund, created by the World Bank Group to address the aftereffects of the Ebola Crisis. As of September 2015 the United Kingdom has committed USD4.5 million to the fund.^{863,864}

The United Kingdom has demonstrated an astounding amount of commitment to furthering the health goals established at the Elmau Summit, with comprehensive funding plans slotted for vaccinology, information technology, and rapid response over the next five years. The United Kingdom has also greatly encouraged the collaboration of the public and private sector by opening calls for funding and cooperation with their research councils and Public Health England. Lastly, the United Kingdom has shown leadership and initiative by being the first country in the world to commit to vaccine research transparency, reaching out to WHO to develop global forums, and committing funds to pre-existing entities to lessen the effects of the Ebola crisis.

The United Kingdom therefore receives a score of +1.

⁸⁵⁸ Prime Minister calls for G7 agreement on clinical trial transparency, AllTrials (London) 8 June 2015. Access date: 3 February 2016. <http://www.alltrials.net/news/prime-minister-calls-for-g7-agreement-on-clinical-trial-transparency/>

⁸⁵⁹ Britain throws weight behind plans for flying-doctor unit to tackle world diseases, Independent (London) 6 June 2015. Access date: 2 February 2016. <http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-families/health-news/britain-throws-weight-behind-plans-for-flying-doctor-unit-to-tackle-world-diseases-10302314.html>

⁸⁶⁰ Global Health Leaders ask G7 for post-Ebola rapid response unit, Reuters (London) 5 June 2015. Access date: 1 February 2016. <http://uk.reuters.com/article/us-health-g7-global-idUKKBN00L18E20150605>

⁸⁶¹ UK Rapid Response Team: UK Rapid Response Team Competition, National Institute for Health Research (London) 1 December 2015. Access date: 3 February 2016. <http://www.nihr.ac.uk/funding/uk-rapid-response-team.htm>

⁸⁶² UK Rapid Response Team: UK Rapid Response Team Competition, National Institute for Health Research (London) 1 December 2015. Access date: 3 February 2016. <http://www.nihr.ac.uk/funding/uk-rapid-response-team.htm>

⁸⁶³ Pandemic Emergency Facility, World Bank (Washington D.C.) 24 September 2015. Access date: 3 February 2016. <http://reliefweb.int/report/sierra-leone/pandemic-emergency-facility-frequently-asked-questions-last-updated-sep-24-2015>

⁸⁶⁴ Pandemic Emergency Facility Frequently Asked Questions, World Bank (Washington D.C.) 19 January 2016. Access date: 2 February 2016. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/pandemics/brief/pandemic-emergency-facility-frequently-asked-questions>

*Analyst: Kristen Shi***United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to strengthen multidisciplinary teams and coordinates via the development of a common platform.

On 29 July 2015, the United States announced its intention to commit USD1 billion to the Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA); an initiative it has been a part of since early 2014 whereby a common platform serves to, “prevent, detect, and respond to future infectious disease outbreaks,” globally.⁸⁶⁵ In 17 African countries, the US will work with local authorities to develop a plan to “achieve and sustain each of the targets of the GHSA.”⁸⁶⁶

On 4–6 August 2015, the United States announced its partnership with the African Union Commission in helping to create the African Center for Disease Control and Prevention.⁸⁶⁷

The United States has maintained its commitment throughout 2015 to facilitate the delivery of treatments of neglected tropical diseases by acquiring drug donations from pharmaceutical companies and delivering them to partner countries.⁸⁶⁸

On 16 November 2015, at the G20 summit in Antalya, US President Barack Obama, announced that the GHSA had expanded to include 30 new partnerships.⁸⁶⁹ These countries, along with existing partners, “will strive to achieve a world safe and secure from infectious disease threats by building measurable, sustainable capacity to prevent, detect and rapidly respond to infectious disease threats, whether naturally occurring, accidental or deliberately spread.”⁸⁷⁰

For its generous contributions and continued efforts in strengthening multidisciplinary teams and coordinating via the development of a common platform such as the GHSA, the United States has been given a score of +1 for its full compliance.

*Analyst: Mathieu Sitaya***European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment for coordinated rapid deployment in global health emergencies. The European Union has committed to provide 20 per cent of its 2020 budget to improve generic and health emergency preparedness planning.⁸⁷¹

The European Union continues to learn from the most recent global health emergency, namely the Ebola outbreak. Between 12 and 14 October 2015, a conference was held in Luxembourg to improve the European Union’s preparedness and response for future outbreaks of health epidemics. Their focus was to identify the

⁸⁶⁵ FACT SHEET: The Global Health Security Agenda (Washington) 28 July 2015. Access date: 4 February 2016. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/07/28/fact-sheet-global-health-security-agenda>

⁸⁶⁶ FACT SHEET: The Global Health Security Agenda (Washington) 28 July 2015. Access date: 4 February 2016. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/07/28/fact-sheet-global-health-security-agenda>

⁸⁶⁷ FACT SHEET: The Global Health Security Agenda (Washington) 28 July 2015. Access date: 4 February 2016. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/07/28/fact-sheet-global-health-security-agenda>

⁸⁶⁸ FACT SHEET: U.S.–African Cooperation on Global Health (Washington) 4 August 2015. Access date: 4 February 2016. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2014/08/04/fact-sheet-us-african-cooperation-global-health>

⁸⁶⁹ FACT SHEET: The U.S. Commitment to the Global Health Security Agenda (Antalya) 16 November 2015. Access date: 4 February 2016. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/11/16/fact-sheet-us-commitment-global-health-security-agenda>

⁸⁷⁰ FACT SHEET: The U.S. Commitment to the Global Health Security Agenda (Antalya) 16 November 2015. Access date: 4 February 2016. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/11/16/fact-sheet-us-commitment-global-health-security-agenda>

⁸⁷¹ The EU in Global Health (Brussels) 20 September, 2014. Access date: 3 February 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/health/eu_world/docs/20140930_global_health_infograph_en.pdf

learning points arising from the Ebola epidemic. Lessons that were learned include coordination, risk assessment processes, and intersectional cooperation for good preparedness planning.⁸⁷²

The European Union has implemented new legislation to deal with cross-border threats to health. This has been instrumental in supporting risk management and coordination of the response at the European Union level. Beyond that, it has increased resources for medical evacuation, mobilization of expertise, and transport facilities for lab waste and clinical activities.⁸⁷³ New resources available will provide national health authorities rapid access to budgets for communication during a crisis. Contractual procedures are too complex and cumbersome to produce communication material.⁸⁷⁴

The conference in Luxembourg brought forth conclusions to strengthen health systems towards a resilient system that includes core capacities for implementing the International Health Regulations (IHR) and reinforcing epidemiological surveillance. The European Union has worked to provide mobile laboratories, the fast mobilization of epidemiological expert and a better medical evacuation system.⁸⁷⁵

European Union activities show interest and compliance to a long term engagement to support medical evaluation and health systems preparedness. Health systems emergency plans taken by the European Union are in line with goals set by the World Health Organization (WHO) to strengthen health systems and implementation of IHR core capacities. The European Union is now in the process of preparing medical staff to be used as medical corps that can be drawn from on short-term notice to be used as teams and equipment for members in health emergencies.⁸⁷⁶ To retain this personnel in zones of need, the European Union has created the PREPARE program as a civil protection mechanisms for regional alert and response teams.⁸⁷⁷

The European Union is an active member in the Advisory Group on Reform of WHO's work in outbreaks and emergencies with health and humanitarian consequences. The program will initiate on-site risk assessment at the discretion of the director-general's within 72 hours for any high threat pathogen.⁸⁷⁸ The program is envisioned to come to its rollout phase in January 2016 and will hope to provide transformative changes to response to health risks and emergencies in activities in the Eastern Mediterranean and African regions.⁸⁷⁹

⁸⁷² Conference "lessons learned for public health from the Ebola outbreak in West Africa – how to improve preparedness and response in the EU for future outbreaks," European Commission (Luxembourg) 12 December 2015. Access date: 3 February 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/health/preparedness_response/docs/ev_20151012_sr_en.pdf

⁸⁷³ Conference "lessons learned for public health from the Ebola outbreak in West Africa – how to improve preparedness and response in the EU for future outbreaks," European Commission (Luxembourg) 12 December 2015. Access date: 3 February 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/health/preparedness_response/docs/ev_20151012_sr_en.pdf

⁸⁷⁴ Conference "lessons learned for public health from the Ebola outbreak in West Africa – how to improve preparedness and response in the EU for future outbreaks," European Commission (Luxembourg) 12 December 2015. Access date: 3 February 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/health/preparedness_response/docs/ev_20151012_sr_en.pdf

⁸⁷⁵ Information Session on Ebola Panels, WHO (Lyon) 24 January 2016. Access date: 3 February 2016.

<http://www.who.int/about/finances-accountability/evaluation/reports/eu-preparedness-and-response-learning-from-the-ebola-outbreak-european-commission.pdf?ua=1>

⁸⁷⁶ Information Session on Ebola Panels, WHO (Lyon) 24 January 2016. Access date: 3 February 2016.

<http://www.who.int/about/finances-accountability/evaluation/reports/eu-preparedness-and-response-learning-from-the-ebola-outbreak-european-commission.pdf?ua=1>

⁸⁷⁷ International Lessons Learned Conference on the Ebola Crisis, European Commission (Paris) 29 October 2015. Access date: 3 February 2016. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/2014-2019/styliandes/announcements/international-lessons-learned-conference-ebola-crisis-paris-29-october-2015_en

⁸⁷⁸ Advisory Group on Reform of WHO's Work in Outbreaks and Emergencies Second Report, WHO (Geneva) 18 January 2015. Access date: 3 February 2016. http://www.who.int/about/who_reform/emergency-capacities/advisory-group/second-report.pdf?ua=1

⁸⁷⁹ Advisory Group on Reform of WHO's Work in Outbreaks and Emergencies Second Report, WHO (Geneva) 18 January 2015. Access date: 3 February 2016. http://www.who.int/about/who_reform/emergency-capacities/advisory-group/second-report.pdf?ua=1

In partnership with WHO and Luxembourg, the European Union continues to work in a program for universal health coverage. Their aim is to build country capacities for the development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of robust and comprehensive national health policies, strategies, plans, and health financing policies to promote universal health coverage.⁸⁸⁰

In taking steps to increase coordinate rapid deployment in global health emergencies, the European Union has shown full compliance and is awarded a score of +1.

Analyst: Fernando Casanova

⁸⁸⁰ Evaluation of the EU-Luxembourg-WHO Universal Health Coverage Partnership, WHO (Geneva) 20 January 2016. Access date: 3 February 2016. http://www.who.int/healthsystems/UHC-Partnership_Evaluation_Call_for_Proposals.pdf?ua=1