



EXTERNALIZATION OF EU ASYLUM AND MIGRATION POLICY: THE CASE OF NORTH MACEDONIA

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Conference meeting on
'Sicurezza transfrontaliera: quali novità dalle proposte dell'UE in materia di migrazione e asilo?'
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1. National legislative framework + European integration process



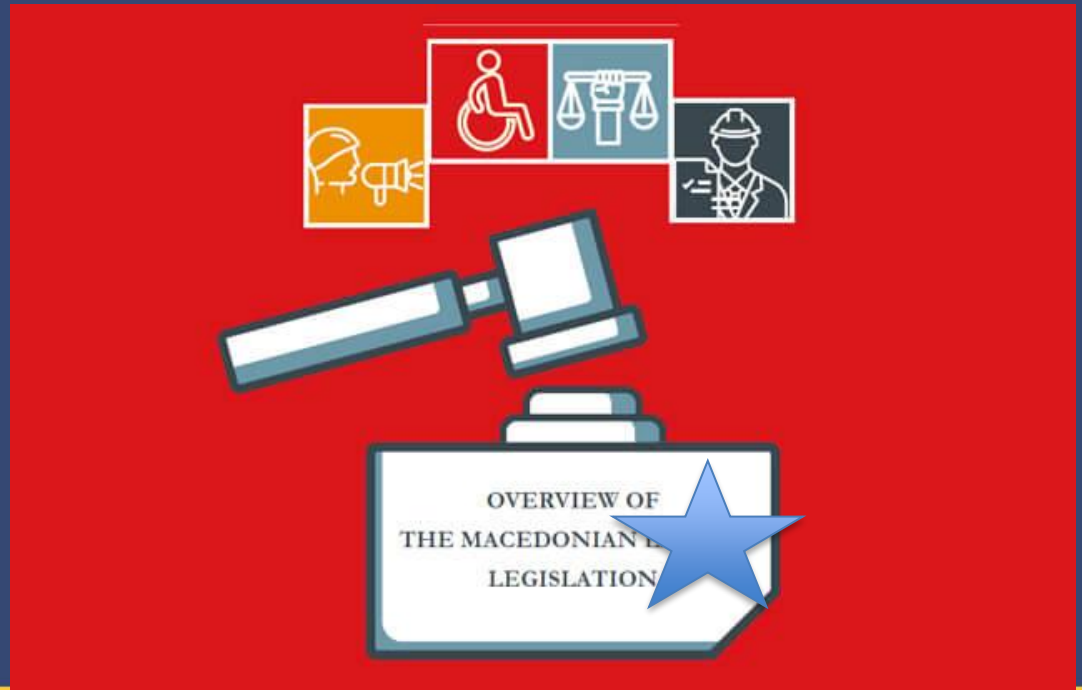
- Harmonization of national law with EU law
- Chapter 24 (Freedom, Justice and Home Affairs)
- Harmonization and implementation of Schengen rules and Integrated border management



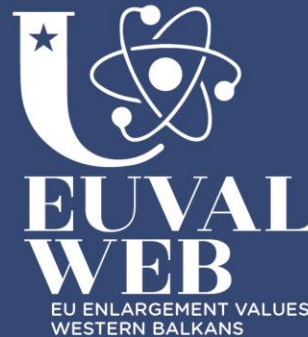
FEBRUARY 2021

EU WB DIRECTIVE TRANSPOSITION

Country	Adopted legislation (before 2021)	Active transposition	Final transposition
Austria	-	✓	✓
Belgium	-	✓	
Bulgaria	-	✓	
Croatia	✓	✓	
Cyprus	-		✓
Czechia	-	✓	
Denmark	-	✓	
Estonia	-	✓	
Finland	-	✓	
France	✓	✓	
Germany	-	✓	
Greece	-	✓	
Hungary	✓	✓	✓
Ireland	✓	✓	
Italy	✓	✓	
Latvia	✓	✓	



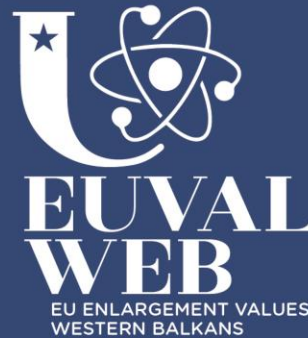
EXTERNALIZATION OF EU POLICY IN ASYLUM AND MIGRATION



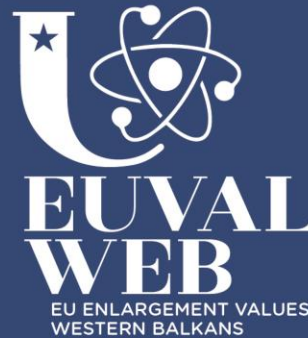
- Lavanex and Wichmann (2009:84) consider the external projection of internal EU policies in a new type of foreign policy, usually referred to as the ‘external dimension’ of a policy field, as in Justice and Home Affairs (JHA), where cooperation within the EU has involved third countries.
- Mounier (2006) defines externalization as externalizing relevant internal policies to tackle threats before they reach the EU territory
- Gammeltoft-Hansen and Hatheway (2015) depict the externalization of migration as “contactless controls” that foresee a new toolbox of “consensual containment” practiced by third countries on behalf of or for the benefit of European States to reduce the number of arrivals in Europe, fomenting migration pre-emption logics far beyond physical borders
- Moreno-Lax (2019) and Papastavridis (2020) define externalization of EU asylum and migration policy as a policy of controlling migratory movements through “cooperative deterrence”, whereby countries at different points of the displacement line align their policies, more or less formally and directly, to repel and dissuade unwanted flows even before they occur.

2. Bilateral police cooperation

- Donation of technical assistance and exchange of best practices
- guest police officers' from EU Member States deployed on the Greek-Macedonian border (Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Hungary, Austria, Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Poland)
- IPA funds



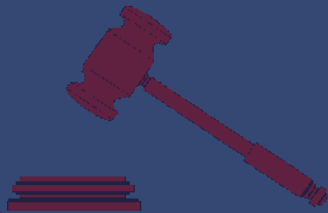
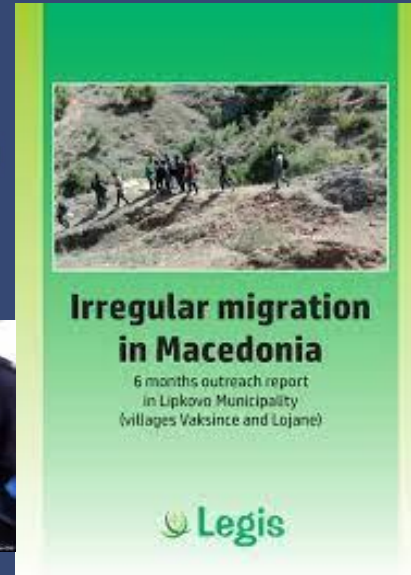
3. Cooperation with Frontex: Working agreement and Status agreement



Reinforced mandate of
the European Border
and Coast Guard
Agency's (Frontex)
(2019)

The EU has signed a Working agreement with the Republic of Macedonia in 2007, while in 2018 it initiated the negotiations for the Status agreement with Frontex. The signing of the Status agreement was blocked by Bulgaria in September 2020, due to the language dispute, and finally it has been signed in December 2022. The agreement is foreseen to enter in force by April 2023.





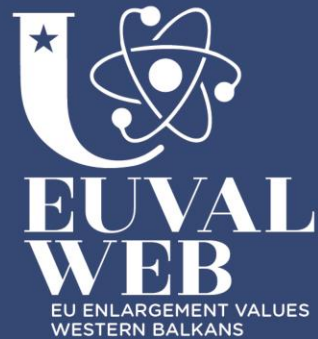
HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES ON BORDERS:

Source: Border Violence Network Group, reports of pushbacks of illegal migrants from North Macedonia in the period August 2019 – January 2022



Border Violence Monitoring Network

- Illegal migration in increase
- Involvement of Frontex and foreign officials in human rights violations and pushback of migrants at borders



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