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**EU Right of Reply to RU on Migration**

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We have repeatedly informed participating States, including in this Council, on the various dimensions of our migration policy, but let me reiterate here but just a few:

Over the last years, the European Union has sought to address both immediate and long-term challenges of managing migration flows by working towards a swift and coordinated European response. More than €15 billion of the EU's budget in 2015 and 2016 have been mobilised to enhance its action on migration both inside the European Union and beyond its borders.

The Council of the European Union has emphasised in June that protecting all children in migration is a priority at all stages of migration.

A considerable amount of money has been earmarked under EU funding programmes to target the protection of children in migration and more has been earmarked by EU Member States to improve their reception capacities. Measures supported include capacity building in child protection systems for children in migration, access to education, projects to promote early identification and prevention of trafficking of children, and emergency support measures.

The fight against human trafficking is one of the European Union's priority actions in this field. Europol together with Eurojust are active in helping dismantle networks involved in the smuggling and trafficking of children.