

REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR

Mr Doede Ackers Head of Unit DG HOME European Commission

09.08.2022 No 14-8.6/1360-1

Submission of an application to change Estonian National Programme AMIF for 2014-2020

Herewith, the Estonian Ministry of the Interior is submitting the revised Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) programme 2014–2020 for Estonia.

According to the Regulation (EU) 2022/585, adopted on 6 April 2022 and European Commission's letter from 19 April 2022 "New flexibilities to address the migratory consequences of Russia's invasion of Ukraine for the 2014-2020 programmes" Estonia welcomes the changes and applies to direct the unused resettlement and relocation funds to activities related to refugees from Ukraine.

Although the changes in the revised AMIF programme are related only to amendments in the financing plan, we assure the Commission that relocated funds will be used to increase the capability of Estonian Police and Border Guard Board (PBGB) to cope with the influx of refugees from Ukraine.

It is planned to fund additional PBGB officials dealing with asylum and temporary protection applications, lawyers and solicitors. There is also increased need for additional migration counsellors.

The planned activities fall according to the indicative list of eligible activities under second stage: welcome and integration, administrative support for residence related matters and are already reflected in the Estonian AMIF programme in Section 2 list of activities and Section 3 SO1 list of main national objectives.

We hope the explanation is exhaustive and the Commission can approve the revision.

Yours Sincerely,

(signed digitally)

Tarmo Miilits Permanent Secretary Annexes:

- 1. Revised AMIF programme 2014-2020 for Estonia (clean version);
- 2. Revised AMIF programme 2014-202 for Estonia (with track changes).

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