



European
Commission

EU action

to blacklist transport operators that engage in trafficking or smuggling people into the EU

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Certain transport operators, knowingly or unknowingly, **contributed to smuggling and trafficking** migrants to Belarus and the EU's external border. By doing so, they have **put at risk the lives of vulnerable people**, the security of the EU's external borders, and regional stability.

The EU needs tools to **combat the instrumentalisation of migrants** for political purposes. They include measures targeting any transport operator that engages in such illegal activities.

Transport operators engaged in smuggling or trafficking people into the EU

Commission may take measures against transport operators who, in relation to the illegal entry of migrants and persons into EU territory:

- Use transport to commission the smuggling of migrants or trafficking of people;
- Take an active part in the activities of an organised criminal group smuggling migrants or trafficking people with knowledge of its intention to commit those crimes;
- Organise, direct, aid, abet, facilitate or counsel the commission of smuggling of migrants or trafficking of people involving an organised criminal group.

▶ Transport operators of all modes: air, sea, inland waterways, rail and road.

Possible measures by the Commission include



Preventing expansion of, or limiting current EU operations



Suspending transport services from, to or within the EU



Suspending the right to overfly the EU, call on EU ports or make technical stops within the EU



Suspending operating licenses or the right to transit through EU territory

▶ Measures should be appropriate to the circumstances of each particular case.
Measures shall not exceed one year, will be reviewed, and may be renewed.