

EU launches a needs assessment mission for border management in Libya

This week the European Union has deployed an expert mission in Libya aimed at assisting the Libyan authorities to assess needs on border management. The mission consists of a team of 10 experts drawn from EU Member States. It will last three months and make recommendations to the EU for both medium- to long-term support and for early concrete action to help Libya ensure secure and efficient border management for all its land, sea and air borders.

Together with the United Nations and other international partners, the EU has participated in extensive discussions with the Libyan authorities regarding their priorities for support as they guide Libya through a process of transition. Border management has repeatedly been identified as key in this respect.

The assessment forms part of the EU's wider support for Libya agreed with the Libyan authorities. This included humanitarian assistance during the crisis and a package of €30 million designed to help Libya address some of the most pressing issues. Expert needs assessment missions are already underway in the areas of civil society and media. The EU will continue to discuss assistance for Libya with the authorities in line with its strong commitment to support the transition process.