

‘Staggering number’ of Europeans embraced jihad, many returning home, EU claims

[The Telegraph reported](#). The route through the Greek islands accounted for the largest number of detections – more than 885,000.

“There is no EU system capable of tracing people’s movements following an illegal border-crossing. Therefore it is not possible to establish the precise number of persons who have illegally crossed two sections of the external borders of the EU,” the report stated.

The EU Commission announced Wednesday it wants to change the standard that forces the first nation where a migrant arrives to process his or her asylum request. “The current system is not sustainable,” EU Vice-President Frans Timmermans said.

Austria’s Interior Minister Johanna Mikl-Leitner and Germany’s Interior Minister Thomas de Maiziere said Tuesday the EU must link efforts to control migration and improve security by establishing functioning outer borders and improving information exchange channels among its member nations over terror threats.

“A Europe without internal borders can exist only when a European outer border” functions to control those entering the EU, Mikl-Leitner said. Citing figures of 5,000 radicals in Europe, she said the EU needed “systematic border controls ... where EU citizens first and foremost are the ones controlled.”

The Commission on Wednesday proposed activating a “distribution key” to spread asylum applicants around the EU. That means each EU nation would have to take a set number of asylum-seekers, according to a quota devised by the bloc.

Still, a mandatory distribution of some asylum-seekers already in Europe has already caused serious frictions among many EU nations and the Commission’s proposal to amend one rule was unlikely to change that immediately.