Deputy Minister participates in the Council of the EU JHAA meeting

The Deputy Minister for Migration and International Protection, Mr Ioannidis, remarked that Cyprus has substantially progressed in the Pact implementation. Cyprus has adapted its legislative, administrative and operational frameworks, including screening procedures, border procedures, contingency planning and the operation of the Pournara Reception Centre.

Regarding improving returns through strengthening cooperation on readmission with third countries, Mr Ioannides supported the combined use of migration diplomacy, visa policy, strategic partnerships and financial instruments for the EU to develop a coherent approach towards partner countries. He made it clear that, where cooperation remains insufficient, the EU must be ready to make full use of its available tools.

Regarding efforts to integrate Cyprus in the Schengen area, Mr Ioannides pointed out that all recommendations of the European Commission are now considered implemented and Cyprus is technically ready for full participation. He added that an agreement is now needed at the political level.

Source(s)

- Deputy Ministry of Immigration and International Protection | Υφυπουργείο Μετανάστευσης, και Διεθνούς Προστασίας (1 October, 2026), [The Deputy Minister of Migration and International Protection participated in the Justice and Home Affairs Council of the EU], https://www.gov.cy/evropaika-themata/o-yfypourgos-metanastefsis-kai-diethnous-prostasias-symmeteiche-sto-symvoulio-dikaiosynis-kai-esoterikon-ypotheseon-tis-ee-2/

Date of development
01.10.2026
Country
Cyprus
Thematic area(s)
Access to procedures and non-refoulement, Reception, Crisis and emergency measures, Return
Development type
Practice

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