The European Commission unveiled its 2026 work programme, outlining the Commission’s legislative and policy priorities for the year ahead, developed in close cooperation with the European Parliament, Member States and EU consultative bodies. A central focus is the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum.

The programme emphasises putting the Pact into practice to ensure a system that prevents abuse, eases pressure on national systems and combines strong responsibility with meaningful solidarity among Member States.

To combat migrant smuggling and human trafficking, the European Commission will propose new sanctions to freeze smugglers’ assets, restrict their movement and cut off profits. Frontex will also see its role reinforced, expanding its operational support and assisting with returns, as part of the EU’s continued efforts to modernise and digitalise the common European return system.

Source(s)

- European Commission (21 October, 2025), [Commission unveils 2026 work programme], https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_2414

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