



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL MIGRATION AND HOME AFFAIRS
The Director General

Brussels,

Mrs Gemma M. Martínez Soliño
Viceconsejera de Derechos sociales,
Igualdad, Diversidad y Juventud
Gobierno de Canarias
SPAIN

**Subject: Reception for Unaccompanied Minors and EU financial support
2021-27 to the Outermost Regions, your letter dated 23 November 2020,
Ares(2020)7020912**

Dear Mrs Martínez Soliño,

I would like to thank you for our interesting exchanges last 19 October regarding the initiatives undertaken by your Government in the current challenging context of migration surge. I can assure you that the European Commission is fully aware of the situation, and stands ready to support the Spanish authorities in this regard. You inform in your letter on the opening this year of 24 emergency houses in order to receive over 1 900 Unaccompanied minors. I agree that your main interlocutor for a possible EU funding support is indeed the Ministry of Inclusion, Social Security and Migration, managing the national programme of Spain under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, which includes as a priority the reception of Unaccompanied minors. It is also via the Ministry that a possible emergency assistance (EMAS) request is to be made, should the funds remaining under the AMIF national programme not be sufficient.

An envelope of EUR 9 881 billion is earmarked under the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027ⁱ for the future Asylum and Migration Fund (AMF), representing a substantial increase as compared to 2014-2020 period. As you know, one of the key priorities of this Fund is to provide the necessary assistance to migrants, in line with the EU acquis and the European Charter of fundamental rights.

As things stand and as already explained, no specific envelope has been earmarked for the Outermost Regions in the EU funds for migration for the period 2012-2027. However, the national authorities may choose to support projects borne by the regions through their national programmes, and ensure that sufficient funds are allocated for this purpose.

The consultation with the Ministry in the framework of the partnership principle is therefore critical to ensure that the reception of Unaccompanied minors remains a priority under the future AMF national programme of Spain for the period 2021-2027.

I have been informed that a new integration strategy for Spain (PECI) is being discussed. This strategy could provide the necessary framework for a coordination between the national and regional efforts as regards the reception and integration of third country nationals including the Unaccompanied minors, and help to identify priority projects for support, including under the future AMF and the European Social Fund (ESF+).

I would like to thank you for your dialogue and reiterate my support to the outstanding efforts deployed by your Government in the current situation.

Yours sincerely,

e-Signed

Monique PARIAT
Director General

ⁱ Agreement between the Council and the European Parliament, 10 November 2020, in current prices.