

European Union Ministers Agree on Relocation of 120,000 Refugees



Brussels, September 23 (RHC)-- Interior ministers of the European Union have adopted by majority a resolution to distribute some 120,000 refugees among the member states, much to the dismay of some central and eastern European nations who oppose the mandatory quotas in sharing of the refugee exodus.

The EU's Luxembourg presidency said in a message posted on Twitter on Tuesday that the ministers approved "by large majority of member states" a decision on relocation for the 120,000 refugees.

Some eastern and central European governments, including Hungary as the front line state in the flow of refugees from Middle East, had fiercely lobbied against the relocation plan.

Czech Interior Minister Milan Chovanec said in a separate tweet that his government, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia voted against the measure while Finland abstained in Brussels.

A similar meeting last week failed to yield a consensus as some member states had opposed the controversial binding quotas. The EU ministers had earlier agreed to the relocation of some 40,000 refugees from Greece and Italy, two major destinations for refugees crossing the Mediterranean.

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