

Poland and Hungary Slam European Fine on Refusing Refugees



Prague, May 5 (RHC)-- Poland and Hungary on Wednesday censured a plan by the European Union for the imposition of fines on member states if they refuse to accept pre-determined quotas of refugees.

Hungary's Foreign Minister Peter Szijjarto called the EU scheme a form of blackmail, saying the bloc is obstinately going on a wrong path of imposing unwanted refugee quotas.

The European Commission, EU's powerful executive body, earlier proposed that EU countries should be forced to pay a "solidarity contribution" of 250,000 (USD 290,000) euros per refugee they decline to take in despite their previous commitments.

Hungary has opposed since the very beginning an initiative for imposing quotas on members of the EU, saying that could seriously undermine its economy and security. Poland's Foreign Minister Witold Waszczykowski also echoed similar concerns Wednesday, saying he has yet to really believe in the fines scheme.

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