

# *European Union to Discuss Deportation of Asylum Seekers*

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Luxembourg, October 8 (RHC)-- European Union ministers are to discuss plans to speed up the deportation of asylum seekers during a meeting in Luxembourg. On Thursday, EU home affairs ministers are set to decide on measures aimed at containing an influx of refugees by deporting those who fail to gain asylum in EU states.

The EU is expected to threaten that it would withdraw its financial aid for African countries such as Niger and Eritrea if they fail to take back the refugees. EU countries will be encouraged to detain thousands of refugees in order to prevent them from absconding to avoid deportation.

European Union foreign ministers and delegations from Turkey, Jordan, the Balkan states and Lebanon will also take part in the talks. The EU is dealing with a wave of refugees from Middle Eastern and African countries. Figures show that more than 600,000 people have arrived in the EU so far this year.

Some 3,000 have already lost their lives on their way to European countries. Thousands of Syrian refugees fleeing the foreign-sponsored militancy in their country are currently living in Syria's neighboring countries such as Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon.

The EU earlier announced that it would offer up to one billion euros (1.1 billion dollars) in aid in order to help the countries receiving refugees.

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