

The Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM)

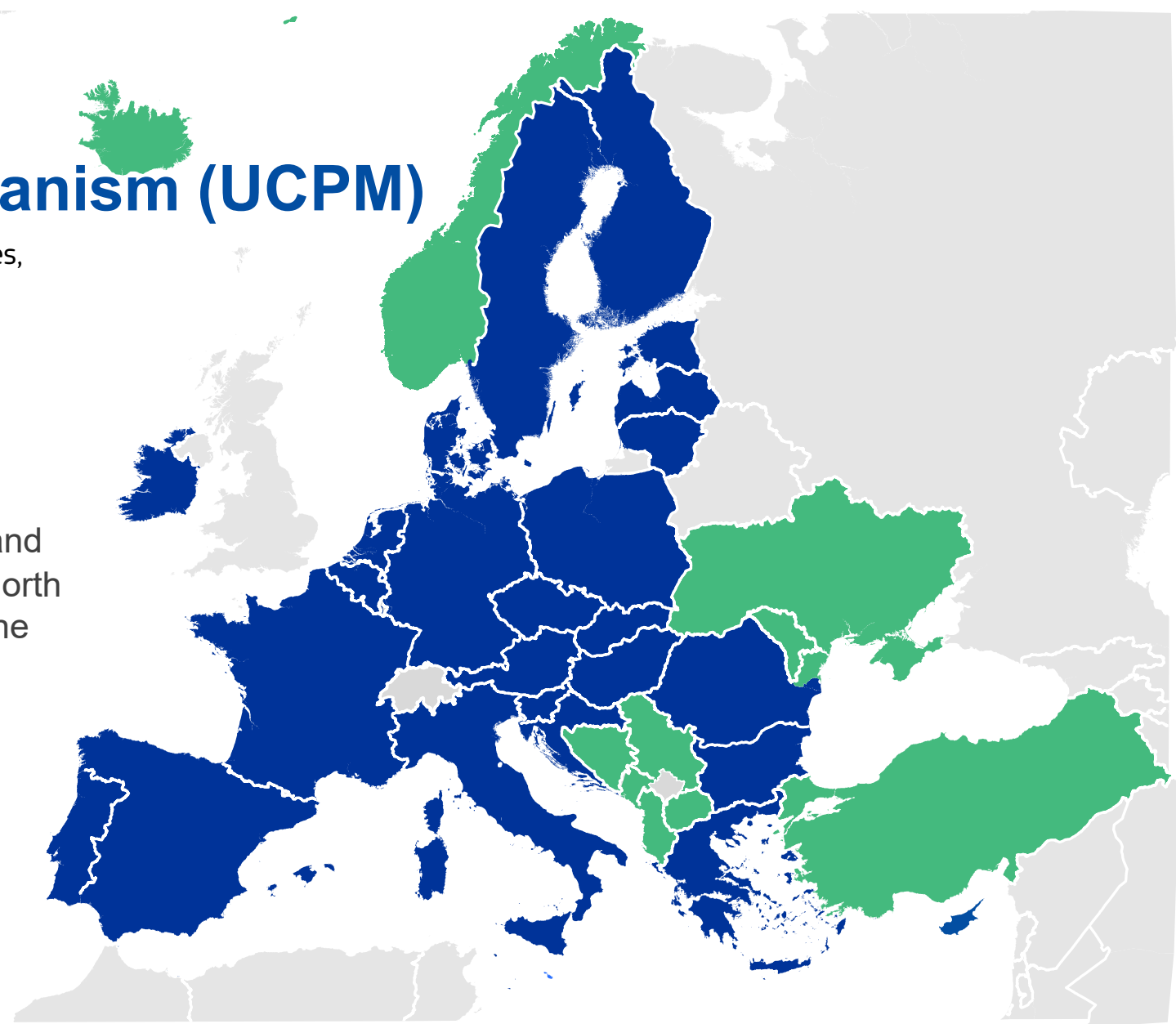
WOAH workshop on Response Plan Development for Disaster Management and Risk Reduction – 9 July 2025

Sien VANLOMMEL
DG ECHO – Emergency Response Operations

EU Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM)

When an emergency overwhelms national response capacities, the [EU Civil Protection Mechanism](#) enables a coordinated assistance by

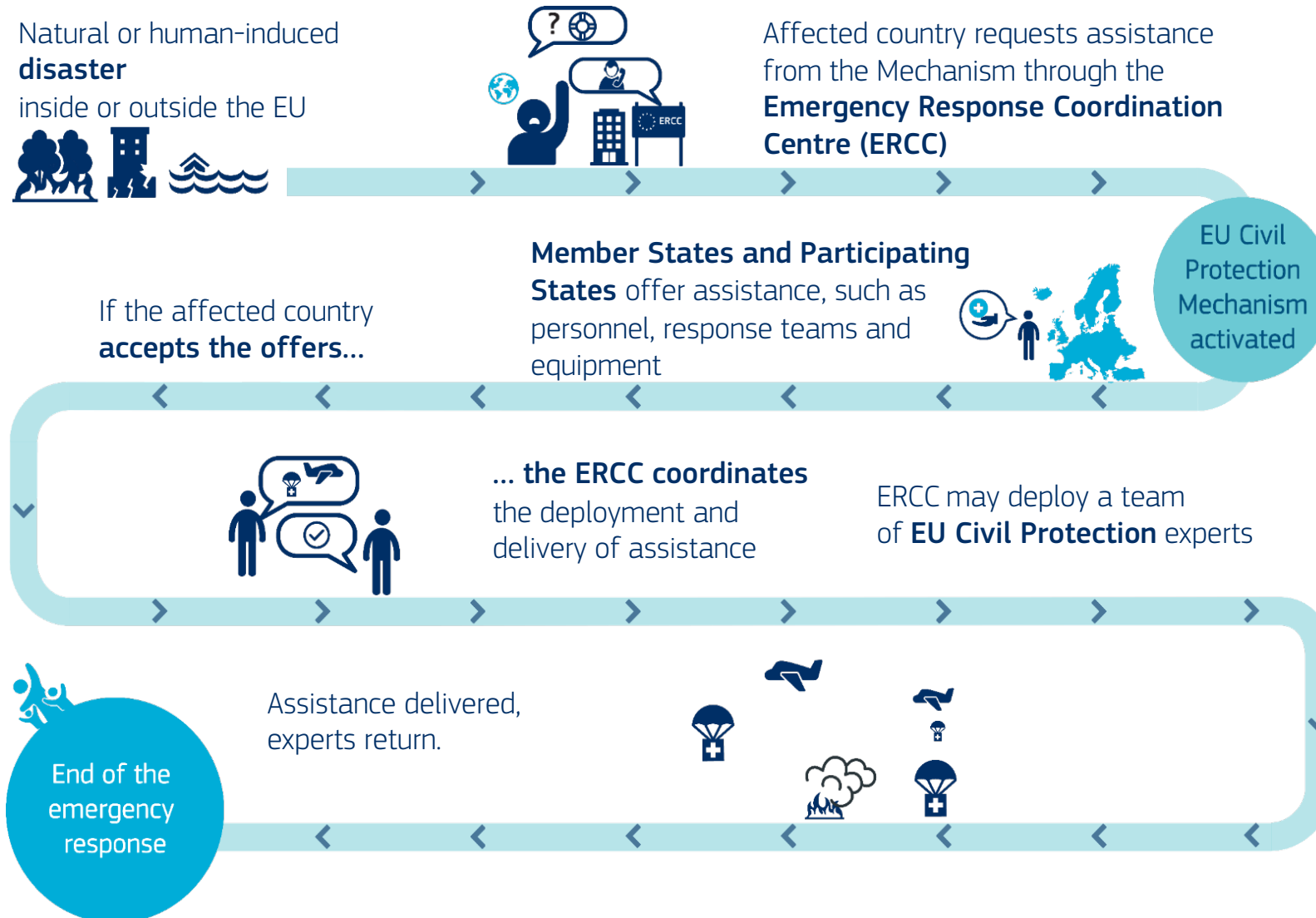
- 27 EU Member States
- 10 Participating States: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Türkiye and Ukraine



0 250 500 1,000 Km



How does the EU Civil Protection Mechanism work?



Types of disasters covered under the UCPM?

- **Natural hazards:**
 - Floods, earthquakes, forest fires, cyclones
- **Human-induced disasters**
 - Environmental disasters, industrial accidents, conflict
- **Health emergencies**
 - Disease outbreaks (e.g., COVID-19, Ebola, Mpox, ...)
- **Consular assistance**
 - Terrorist attacks, medical evacuation, repatriation of EU citizens



The Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC)



Monitors disasters
around the globe



Assesses and maps
disaster risks



Provides real-time
information



Coordinates joint European
response operations

The **UCPM** Response Layers





European Civil Protection Pool

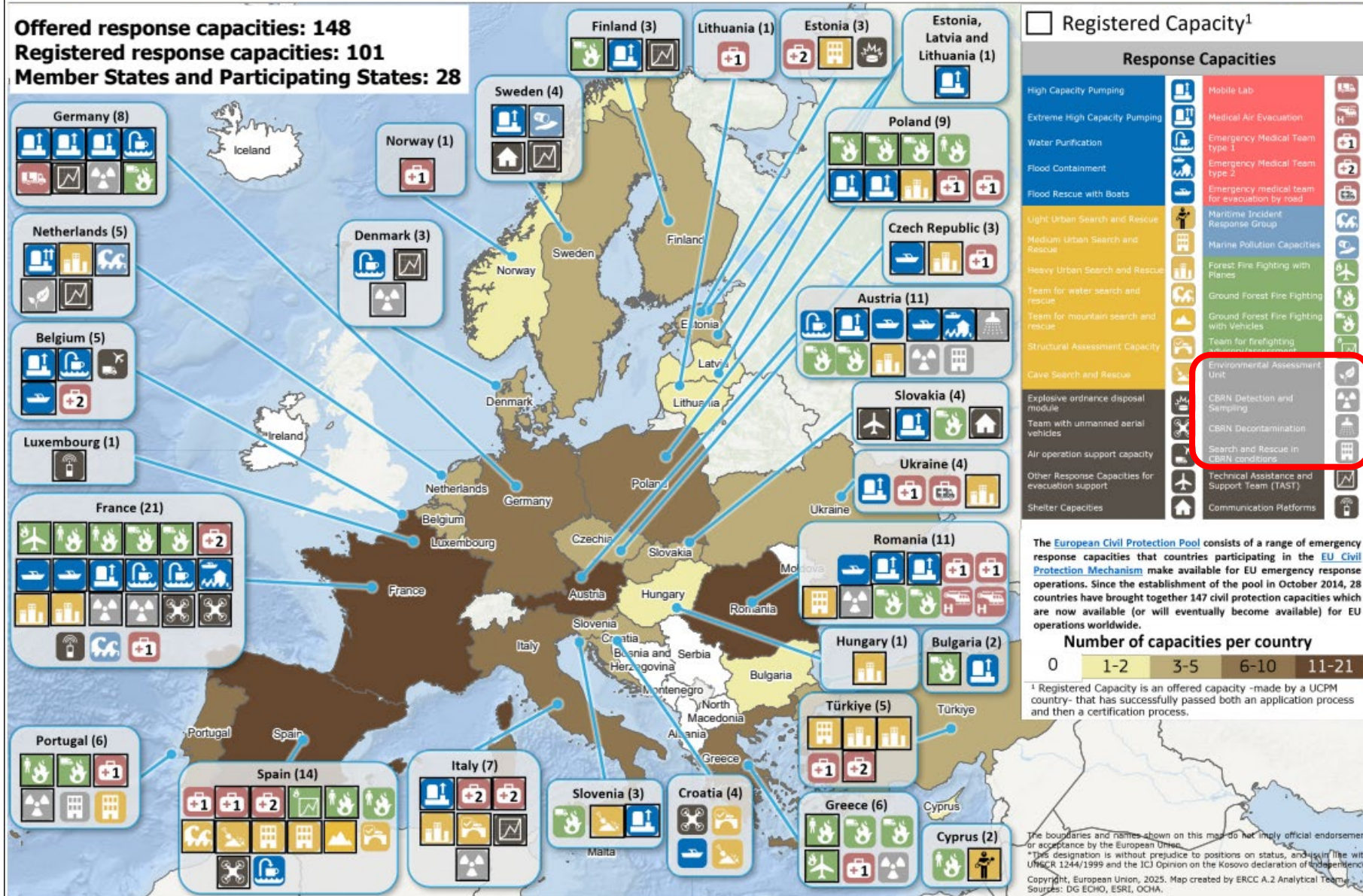
The European Civil Protection Pool is a system whereby Member States can **pre-commit response capacities** for EU civil protection missions.

The **quality** of the assistance is ensured through a **certification process** and quality criteria.

In return for their commitment of assets, **Member States benefit from financial support** from the European Commission to develop, transport and operate these capacities where they are needed → Up to 75% of transport and operational costs.



Offered response capacities: 148
Registered response capacities: 101
Member States and Participating States: 28



Map of
offered and
registered
ECPP
capacities

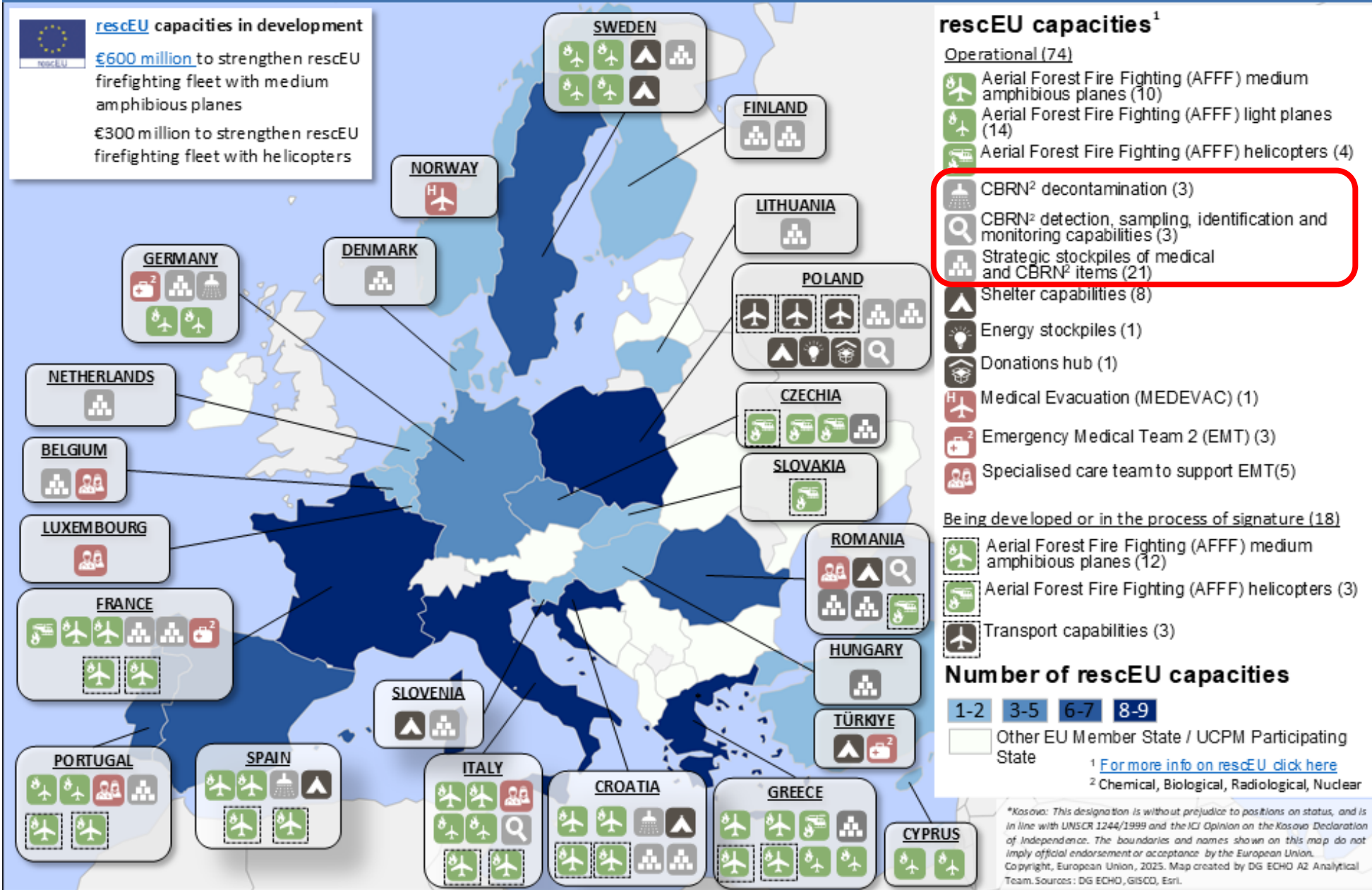
In 2019, the EU introduced an additional layer to its Civil Protection Mechanism **rescEU**

Last-resort capacities

Including:

- Firefighting airplanes and helicopters
- Medical capabilities
- Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear emergency capabilities
- Strategic stockpiles
- Emergency shelter
- Energy equipment
- ...

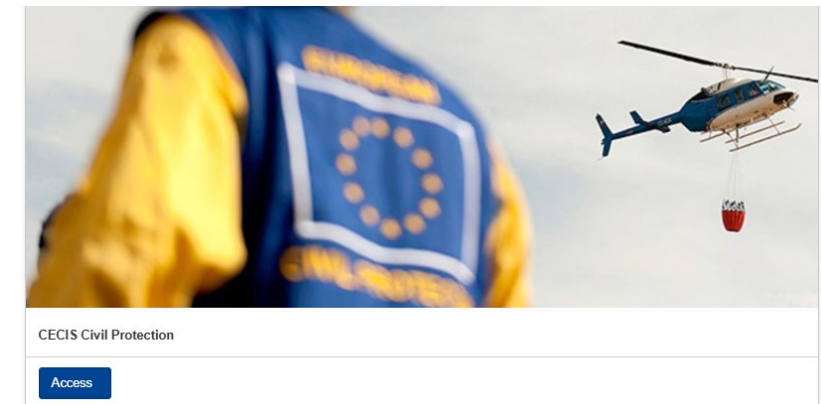
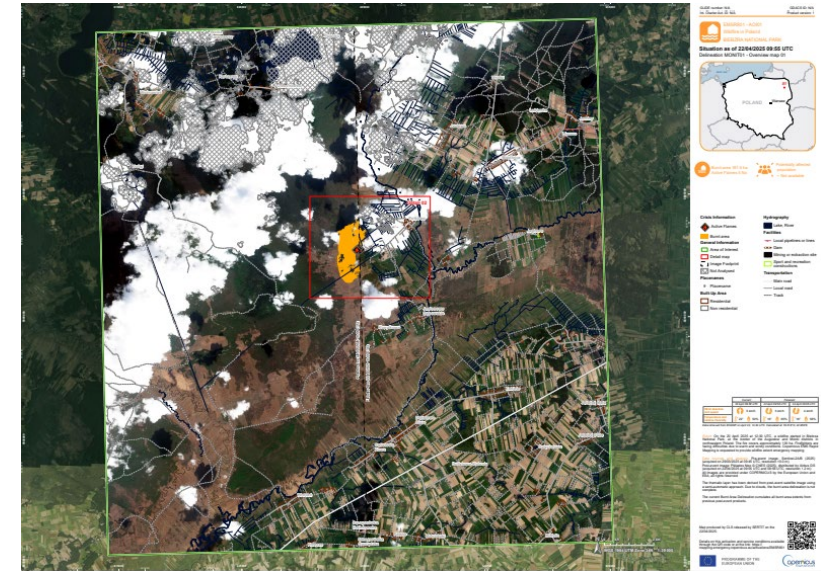




Map of
registered
rescEU
capacities

Other types of operational support provided through UCPM

- **Early warning** and **analytical support**
- **Co-financing** of **transport** and **operational costs**
- **Satellite imagery**: Copernicus Emergency Management Service
- **Facilitation of coordination** with Civil Protection authorities, other competent authorities and emergency response stakeholders.
- Common Emergency Communication and Information System – **CECIS**
- **Information products and analyses**: ECHO Civil Protection Messages, Daily Flash and Daily Map, etc.



FMD outbreak - UCPM activation



Slovakia – Foot and Mouth Disease Outbreak

- Request for assistance on 22 March 2025, following FMD Outbreaks in the region nearby the Hungarian border
- Deployment of:
 - Decontamination gates + teams from Czech Republic
 - CBRN decontamination team (ECPP Certified) from Austria
- Coordination with DG SANTE – link with EU Veterinarian Authorities



Slovakia | Foot and Mouth Disease Outbreak and UCPM Response

EU RESPONSE
As at 14 April 2025, 12:00 UTC

UCPM RESPONSE
Slovakia activated the UCPM¹ with a request for assistance on **22 March 2025** due to multiple outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) on animals in the country.

Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Decontamination Teams, specialised transport trucks and decontamination gates were requested. Accepted offers:

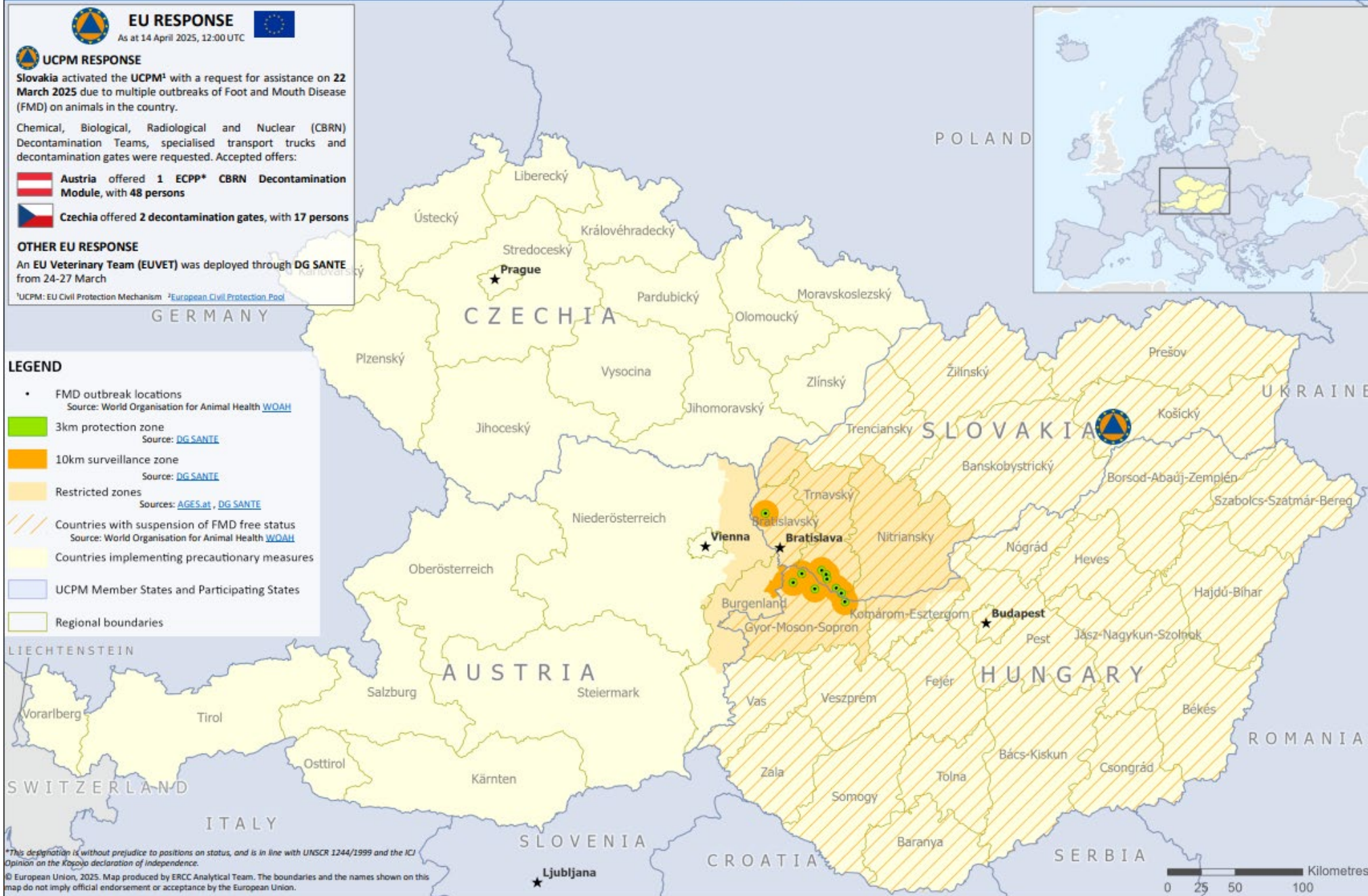
-  **Austria offered 1 ECP² CBRN Decontamination Module, with 48 persons**
-  **Czechia offered 2 decontamination gates, with 17 persons**

OTHER EU RESPONSE
An EU Veterinary Team (EU³ET) was deployed through DG SANTE from 24-27 March

¹UCPM: EU Civil Protection Mechanism ²European Civil Protection Pool

LEGEND

- FMD outbreak locations
Source: World Organisation for Animal Health [WOAH](#)
-  3km protection zone
Source: [DG SANTE](#)
-  10km surveillance zone
Source: [DG SANTE](#)
-  Restricted zones
Sources: [AGES.at](#), [DG SANTE](#)
-  Countries with suspension of FMD free status
Source: World Organisation for Animal Health [WOAH](#)
-  Countries implementing precautionary measures
-  UCPM Member States and Participating States
-  Regional boundaries



Other examples of UCPM activations



Total request for assistance since start of UCPM

Total UCPM requests for assistance
(2002 – 2024)¹



775

NUMBER OF UCPM
REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE
BY COUNTRY



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The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the European Union.

¹211 updates of the UCPM request for assistance made by Ukraine in 2022 related to Russia's invasion in Ukraine are not included in these statistics.



248
UCPM
requests in
EU

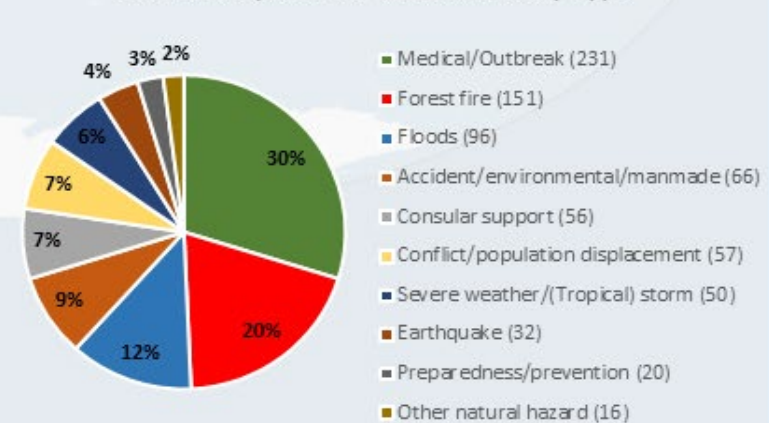


*Kosovo: This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

UCPM request for assistance per year¹



UCPM request for assistance by type¹

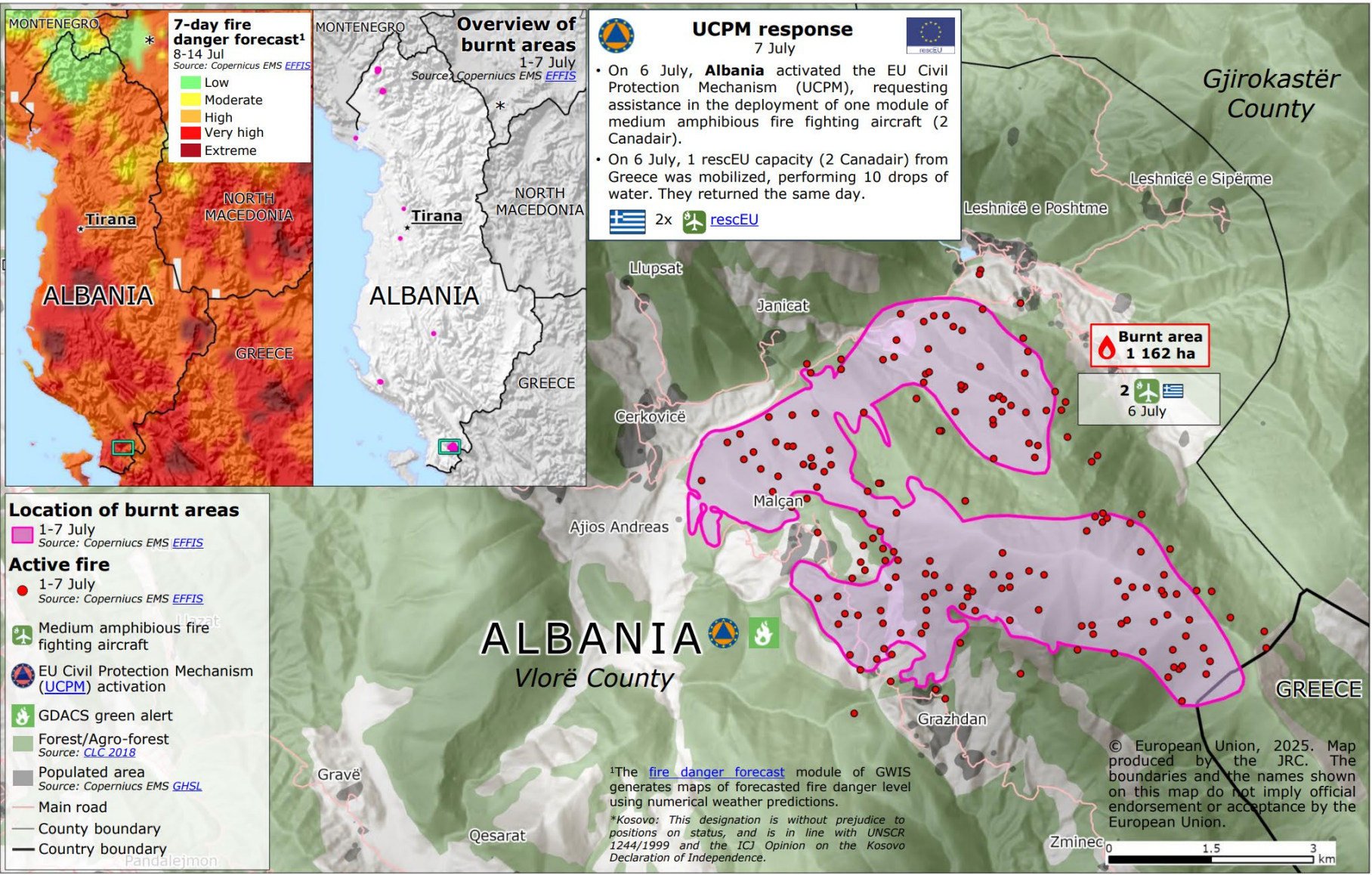


COVID-19

- **174 requests for (medical) assistance** between 2020 and 2024
- Deployment of medical teams, vaccines, medical equipment, personal protective equipment, ...
- Spontaneous offers from MS/PS and mobilisation of rescEU stockpiles
- November 2020: request for **protective suits** following an outbreak of mutated coronavirus in **mink farms**



Albania | Wildfires and UCPM response



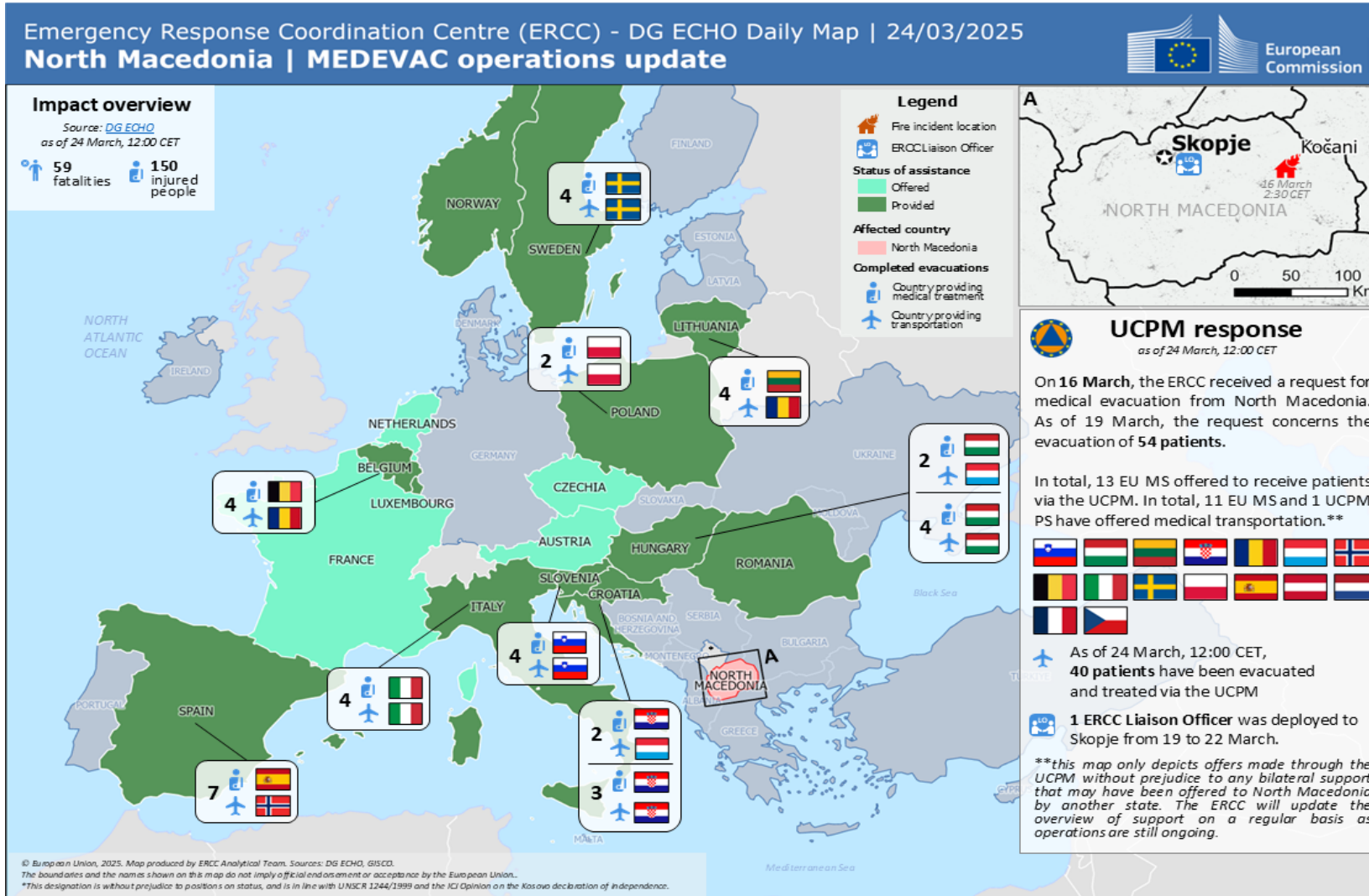
Thank you!

More information:

- [UCPM Factsheet](#)
- [ERCC Factsheet](#)
- [ECHO Daily Products](#) (Daily Flash and Daily Map)

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North Macedonia – Nightclub Fire



Gaza | UCPM and EU humanitarian aid response



EU Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) response

Assistance requested by	Request	Accepted offers from (MS: EU Member State, PS: UCPM Participating State)
WHO	Medical evacuation	10 MS/2 PS: 101 patients and 250 relatives
UNSHRC for Gaza Sigrid Kaag	Cyprus Maritime Corridor	5 MS: Food, shelter, non-food items, logistics support
WHO	Support for Emergency Medical Teams deployment in Cairo	8 MS/1 PS: 36 deployments
Egypt	Support to national healthcare system	10 MS, rescEU stock: Medical equipment, medicines and consumables
ICRC	Support to hospital capacity in Gaza	1 MS: 1 reverse osmosis unit
Multi-country (offer)	Repatriations from Rafah to Cairo by rescEU-facilitated bus	353 people evacuated
Cyprus	Shelter needs for immigration flows	1 MS: 1 000 shelter items
The Netherlands	Consular repatriation from Egypt	1 MS: 1 flight with 43 passengers
France, The Netherlands, Denmark, Slovakia, Belgium	Consular repatriation from Israel	5 MS: 12 flights with 1 467 passengers

ReliefEU Capacities (formerly EHRC)

- 4 521 tonnes of humanitarian relief items transported by air, land or sea
 - 70 flights with 3 140 tonnes from Europe and Dubai to El-Arish, Larnaca and Amman
 - EU convoys with 1 015 tonnes from Dubai to Amman
 - Maritime shipments with 366 tonnes from Europe to Jordan and Egypt
- EU Stocks to Egypt and Palestine* (included above)
 - 781 tonnes of WaSH, shelter and health items
 - 195 tonnes of logistics items
- 12 MS and 30 humanitarian aid partners supported
- 3 logistics experts and 2 health experts deployed in Cairo and Amman, respectively
- 1 EU warehouse operational

Humanitarian funding to Palestine* since 2023**

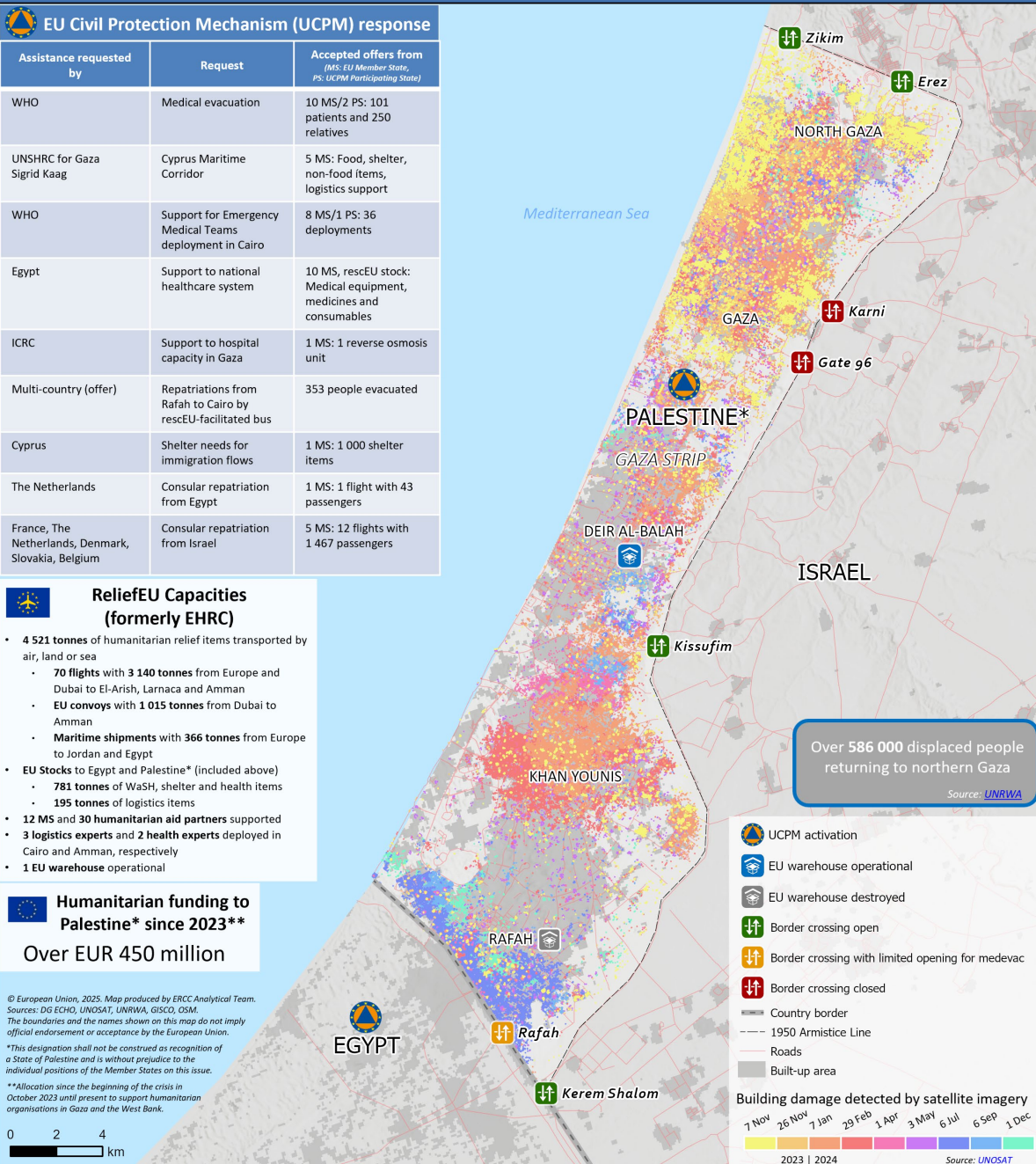
Over EUR 450 million

© European Union, 2025. Map produced by ERCC Analytical Team. Sources: DG ECHO, UNOSAT, UNRWA, GISCO, OSM. The boundaries and the names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the European Union.

*This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual positions of the Member States on this issue.

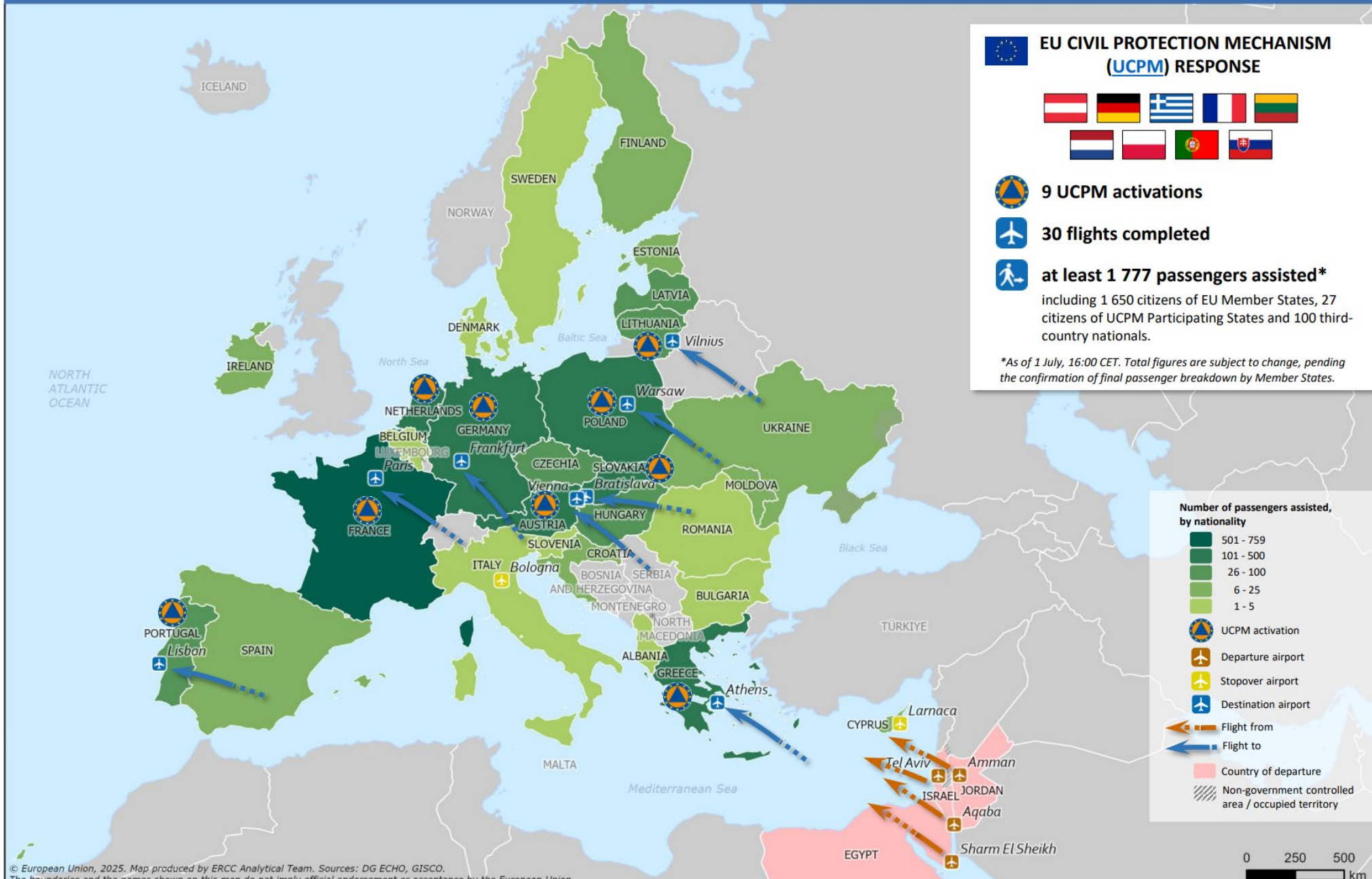
**Allocation since the beginning of the crisis in October 2023 until present to support humanitarian organisations in Gaza and the West Bank.

0 2 4 km

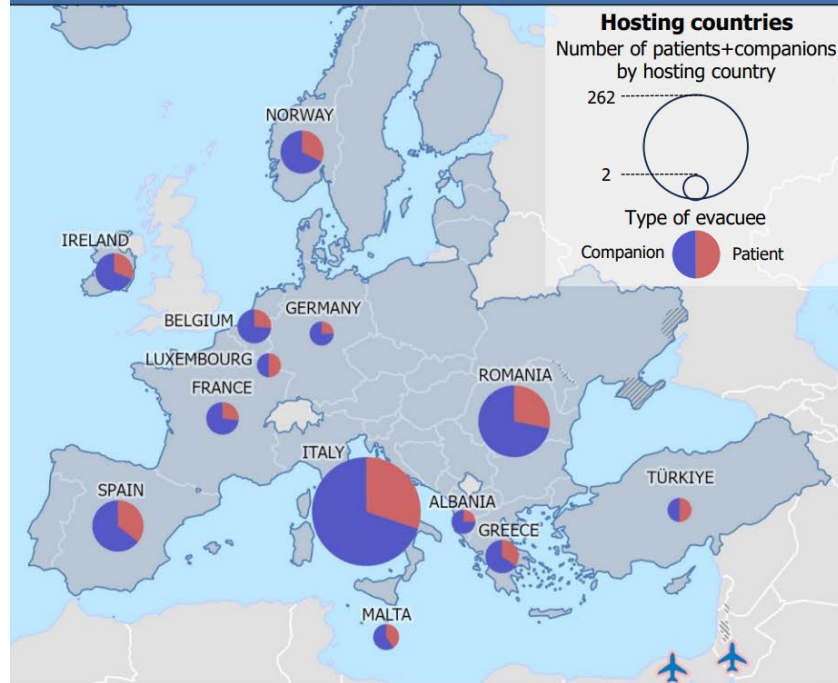


- 14 activations related to Middle East Crisis since 7 October 2023
- Support to Gaza and Lebanon, repatriations, medical evacuations and support to countries affected by spillover of the crisis
- Humanitarian response



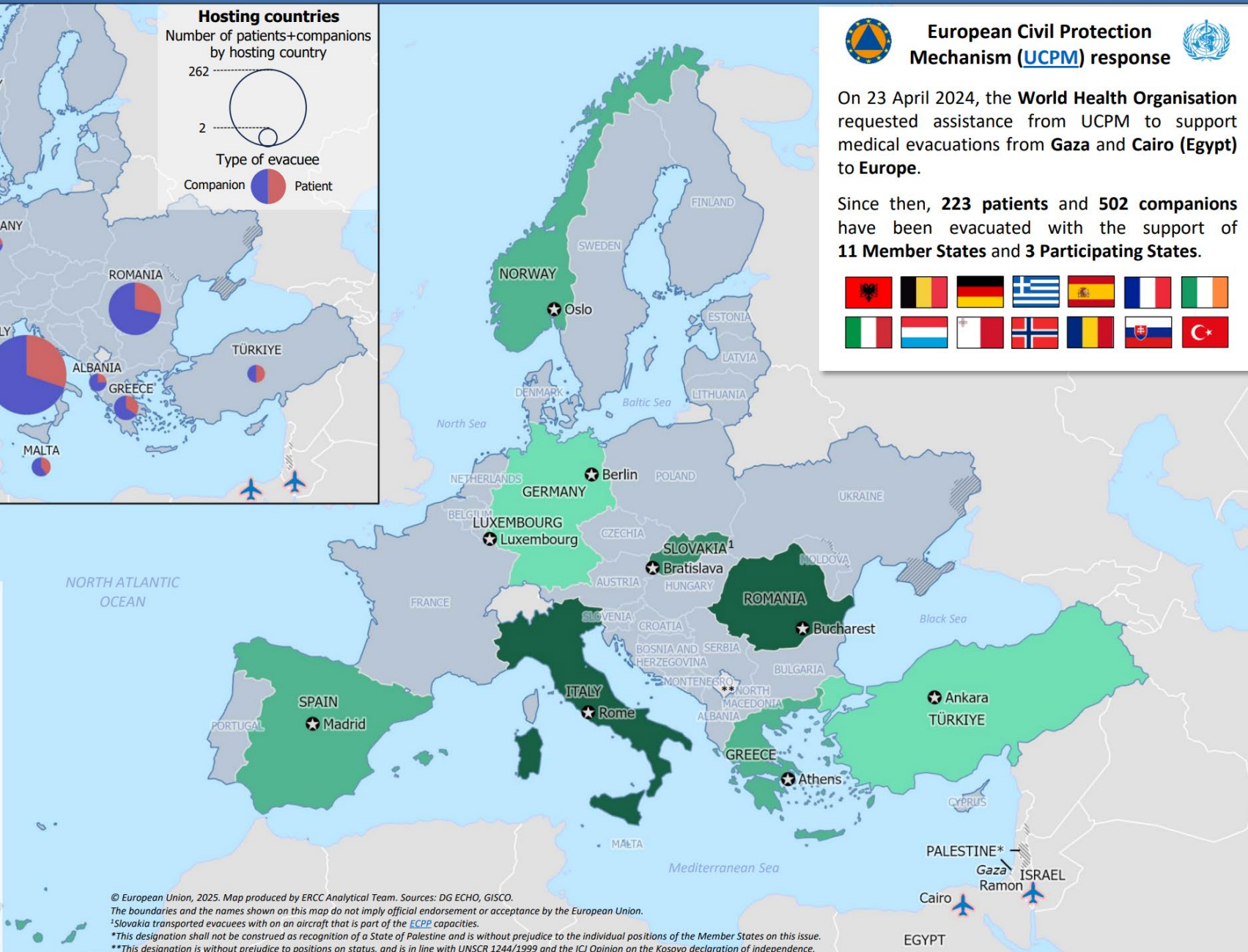
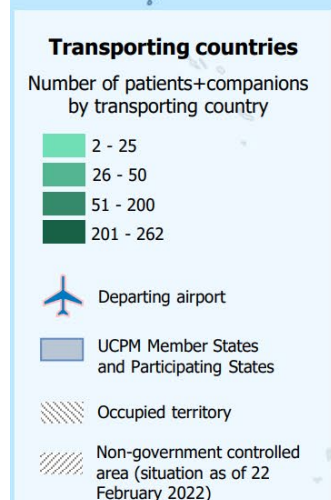


Gaza and Egypt | Medevac operations


**European Civil Protection
Mechanism (UCPM) response**


On 23 April 2024, the **World Health Organisation** requested assistance from UCPM to support medical evacuations from **Gaza and Cairo (Egypt)** to Europe.

Since then, **223 patients** and **502 companions** have been evacuated with the support of **11 Member States** and **3 Participating States**.

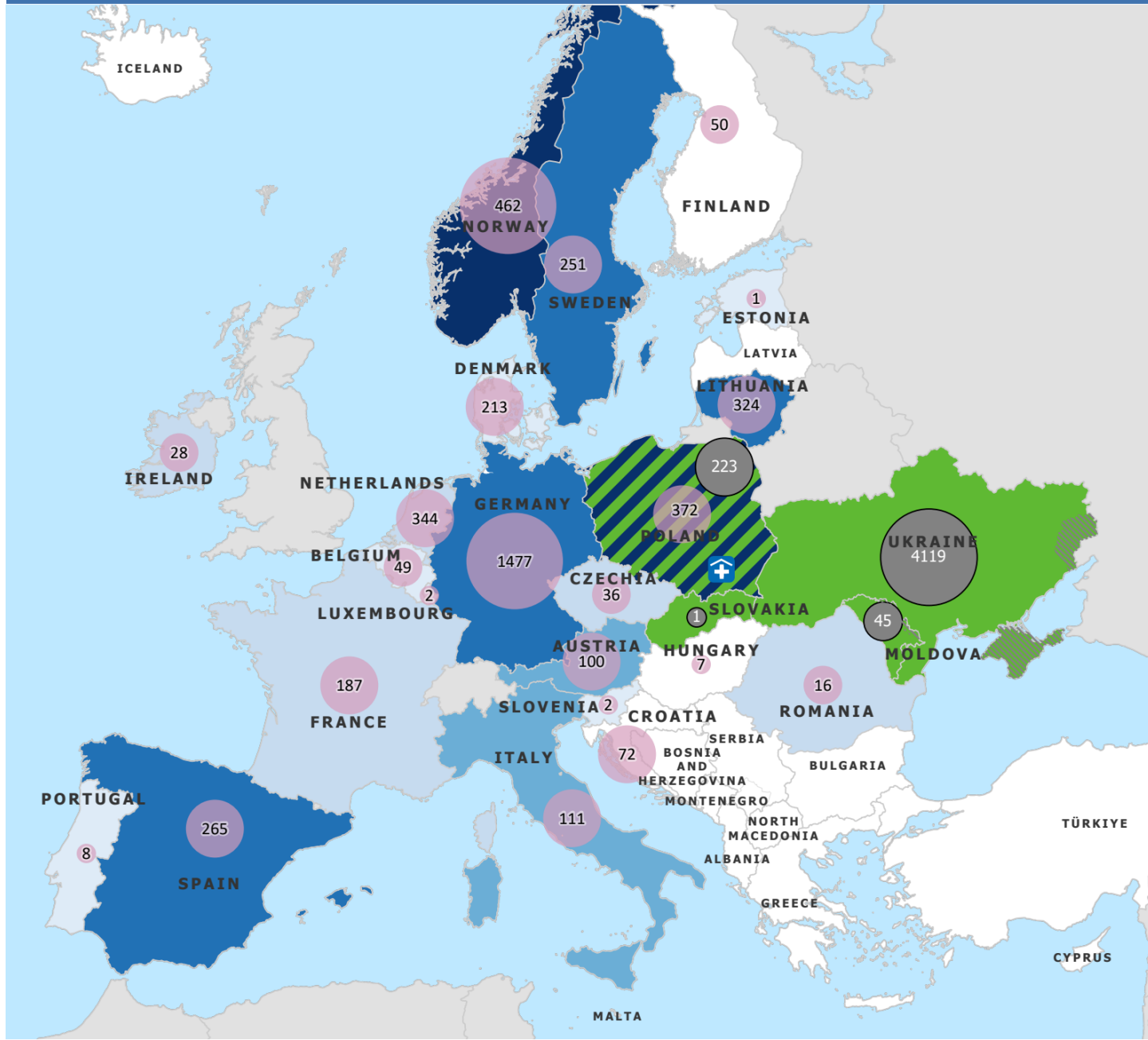




- Energy
- CBRN
- Shelter
- Cultural heritage
- Medical
- Digital IT
- Demining
- Logistics
- Medevac
- Agriculture
- Infrastructure
- Road salt
- etc



Russia's War on Ukraine | UCPM MEDEVAC operations

European
Commission**5 430**

REQUESTS FOR MEDEVAC OPERATIONS

as of 02 June 12:00 CEST

Since March 2022, the European Commission (DG ECHO and DG SANTE) has been coordinating a UCPM medical evacuations scheme.

MEDEVAC operations are centrally coordinated by the ERCC with support from European countries' liaison officers.

**4 388**Completed
operations**29**Operations in
progress*

*from acceptance of MEDEVAC offer to the arrival of the patient in the hosting hospital.

**976**Cancelled
operations**34**Unmet
requests

Transportation of patients organised by country

1 - 20 21 - 50 51 - 150 151 - 350 351 - 2 352

Requesting country

Receiving and
requesting countryCountries not part of
the EU Civil Protection
MechanismNumber of patients
treatedDeparted patients from
requesting country

≥ 376

≥ 251

51 - 375

51 - 250

11 - 50

11 - 50

1 - 10

1 - 10

Non-government controlled areas temporarily
occupied by Russia

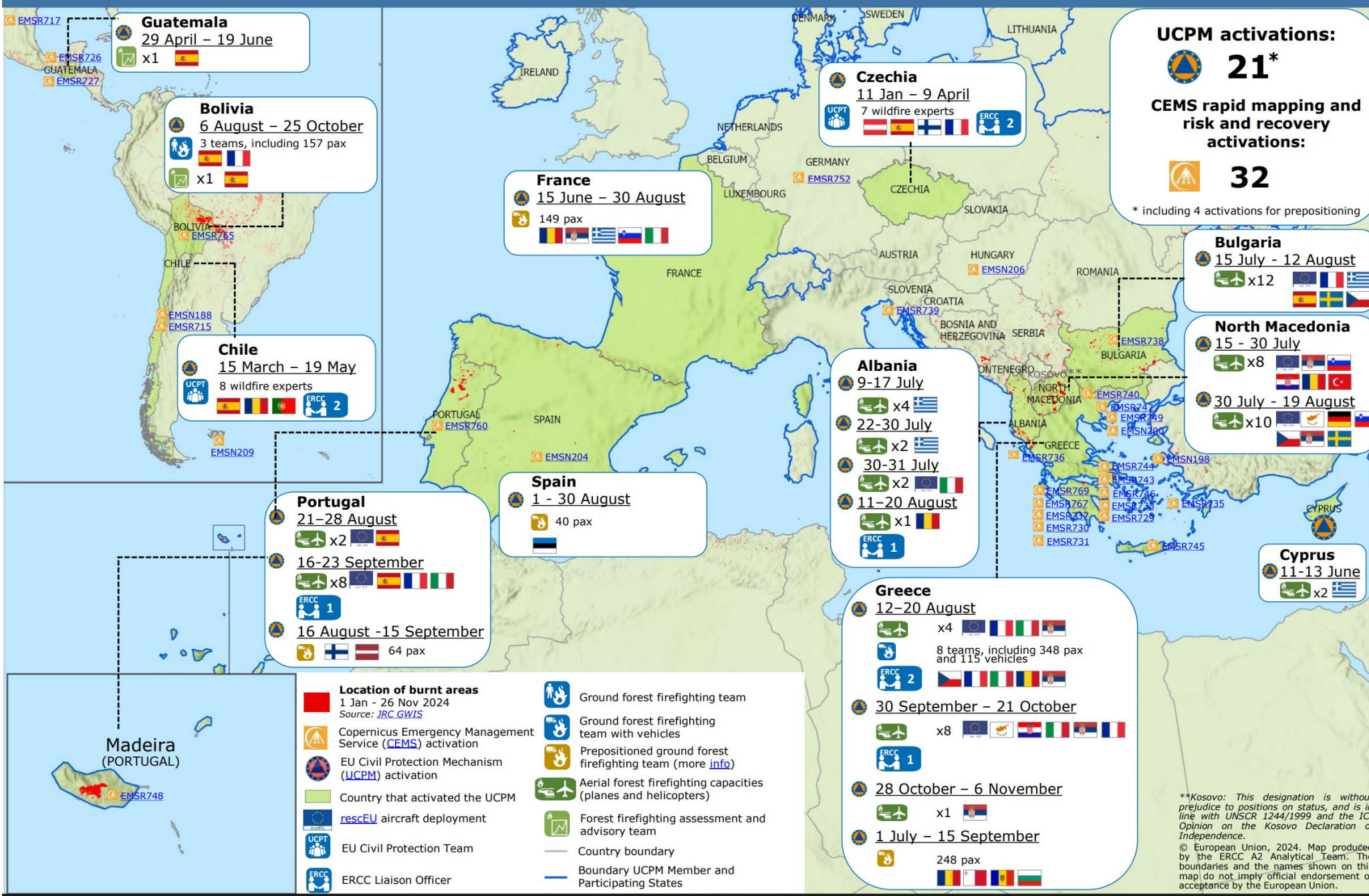
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UCPM and CEMS activations related to wildfires in 2024

Wildfires in 2024



UCPM activations:

 **21***

CEMS rapid mapping and risk and recovery activations:

 **32**

* including 4 activations for prepositioning

Preparedness activations:

- Prepositioned ground firefighting teams
- Over 550 firefighters

Advisory missions

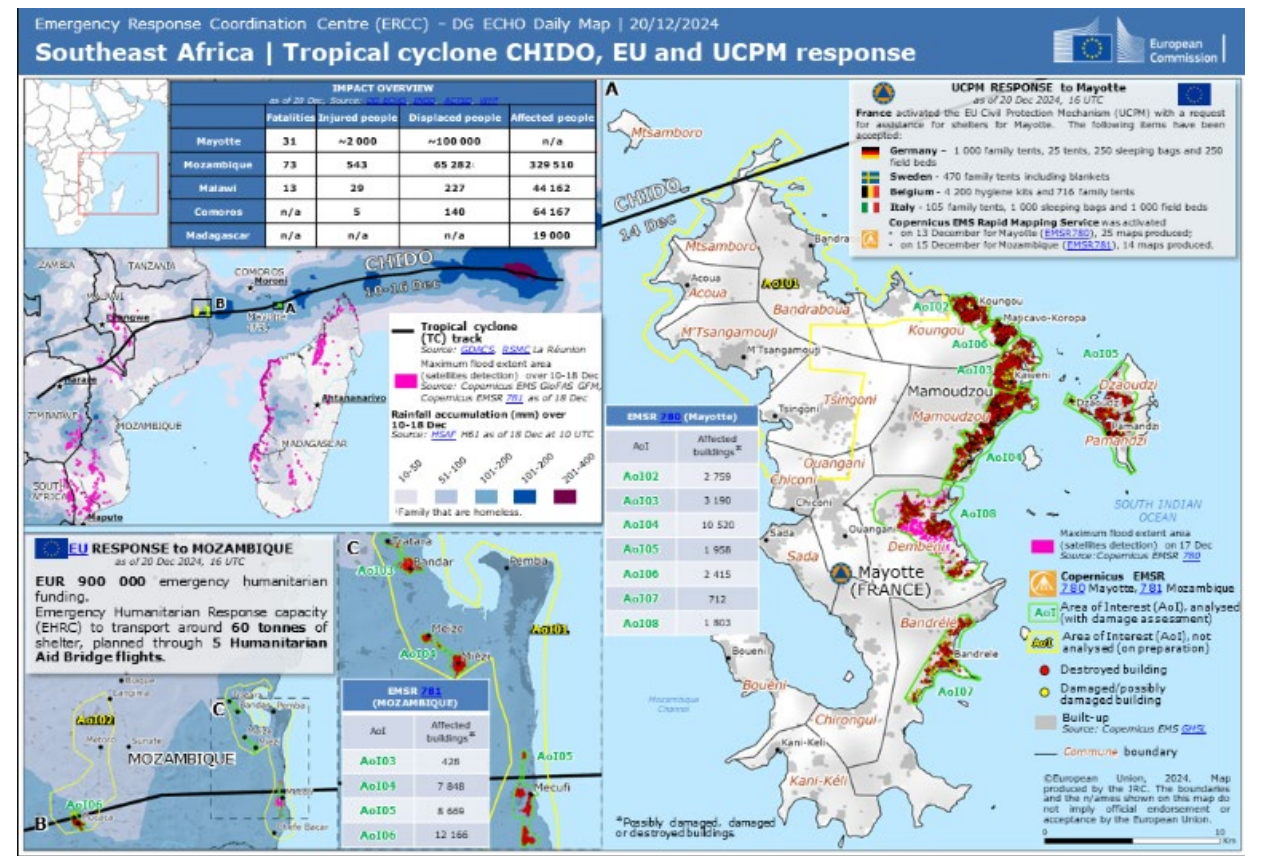
**Kosovo: This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

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Other severe weather events

December 2024: Tropical Cyclone affecting Mayotte (FR)

- Mobilisation of shelter and telecommunication equipment



January 2025: Storm Éowyn affecting Ireland

- Mobilisation of generators (incl. rescEU)
- Transport support from other EU MS

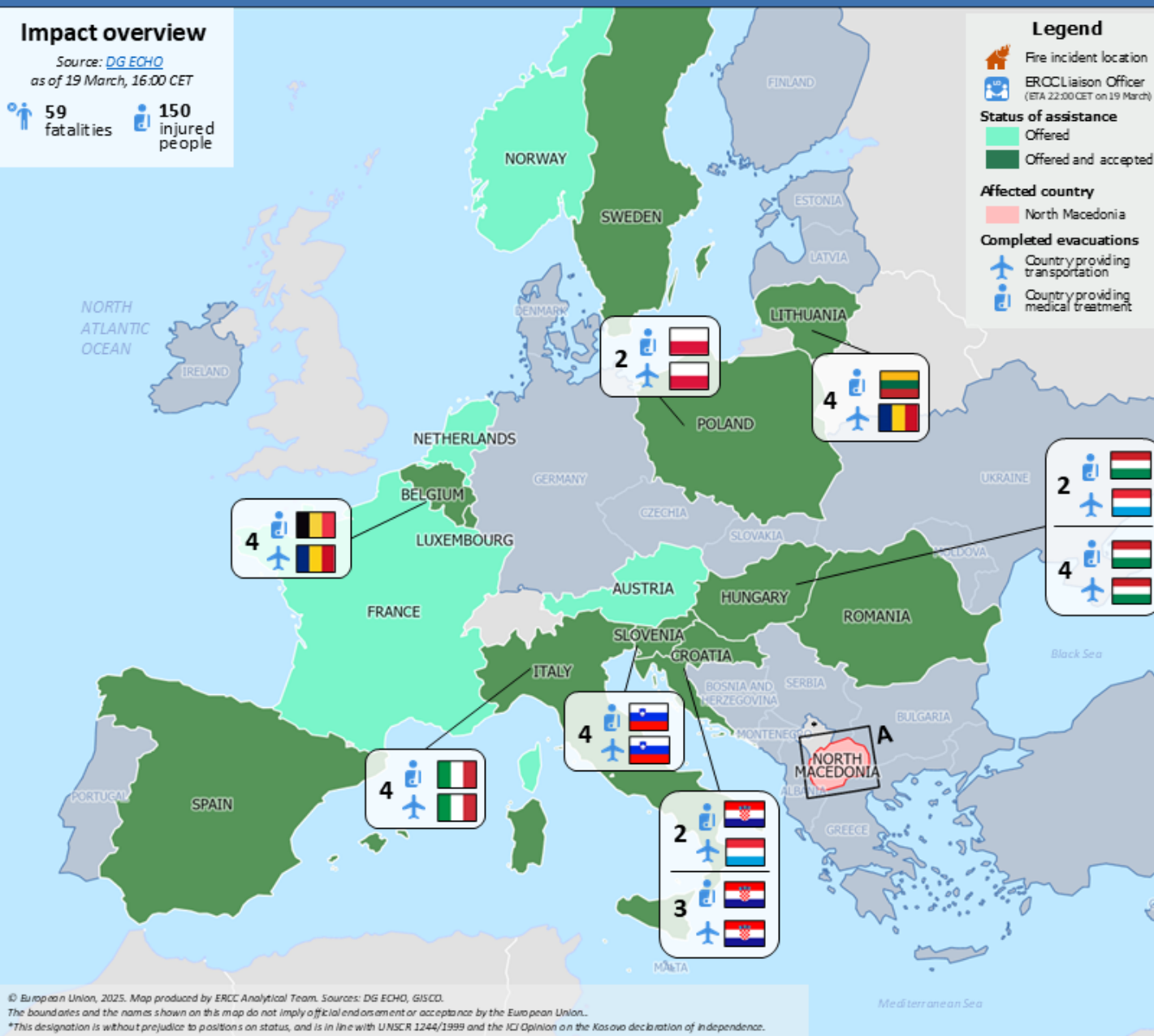


Impact overview

Source: [DG ECHO](#)

as of 19 March, 16:00 CET

59 fatalities
150 injured people



UCPM response

as of 19 March, 16:00 CET

On 16 March, the ERCC received a request for medical evacuation from North Macedonia. As of 19 March, the request concerns the evacuation of 54 patients.

In total, 12 EU MS and 1 UCPM PS offered to receive patients via the UCPM. In total, 10 EU MS have offered medical transportation.**



As of 19 March, 16:00 CET, 29 patients have been evacuated

**this map only depicts offers made through the UCPM without prejudice to any bilateral support that may have been offered to North Macedonia by another state. The ERCC will update the overview of support on a regular basis as operations are still ongoing.



Floods 2024

- 8 Activations in 2024, of which 5 inside Europe:
 - **France**
 - Central Europe: **Poland** and **Czech Republic**
 - **Bosnia and Herzegovina**
 - **Spain**
- 4 flood activations in 2023 in Europe



Floods 2024

- Mobilisation of various types of assistance:
 - High-capacity pumping
 - Search and rescue
 - Heavy machinery
 - In-kind assistance (incl. rescEU)
 - Shelter items

