

# **The Emergency Response Coordination Centre and the Union Civil Protection Mechanism in the answer to crises outside the European Union's territory**



# Content

1. The Mechanism and its operational Centre
2. Interaction with EU structures and Member States
3. Consular assistance within the Mechanism
4. Challenges and opportunities



# Union Civil Protection Mechanism



Since its creation in 2001,

**the EU Civil Protection Mechanism**

was activated for

**300 emergencies**

including the Ebola outbreak (2014), the earthquake in Nepal (2015), forest fires in Europe and tropical cyclones Irma and Maria in the Caribbean (2017)

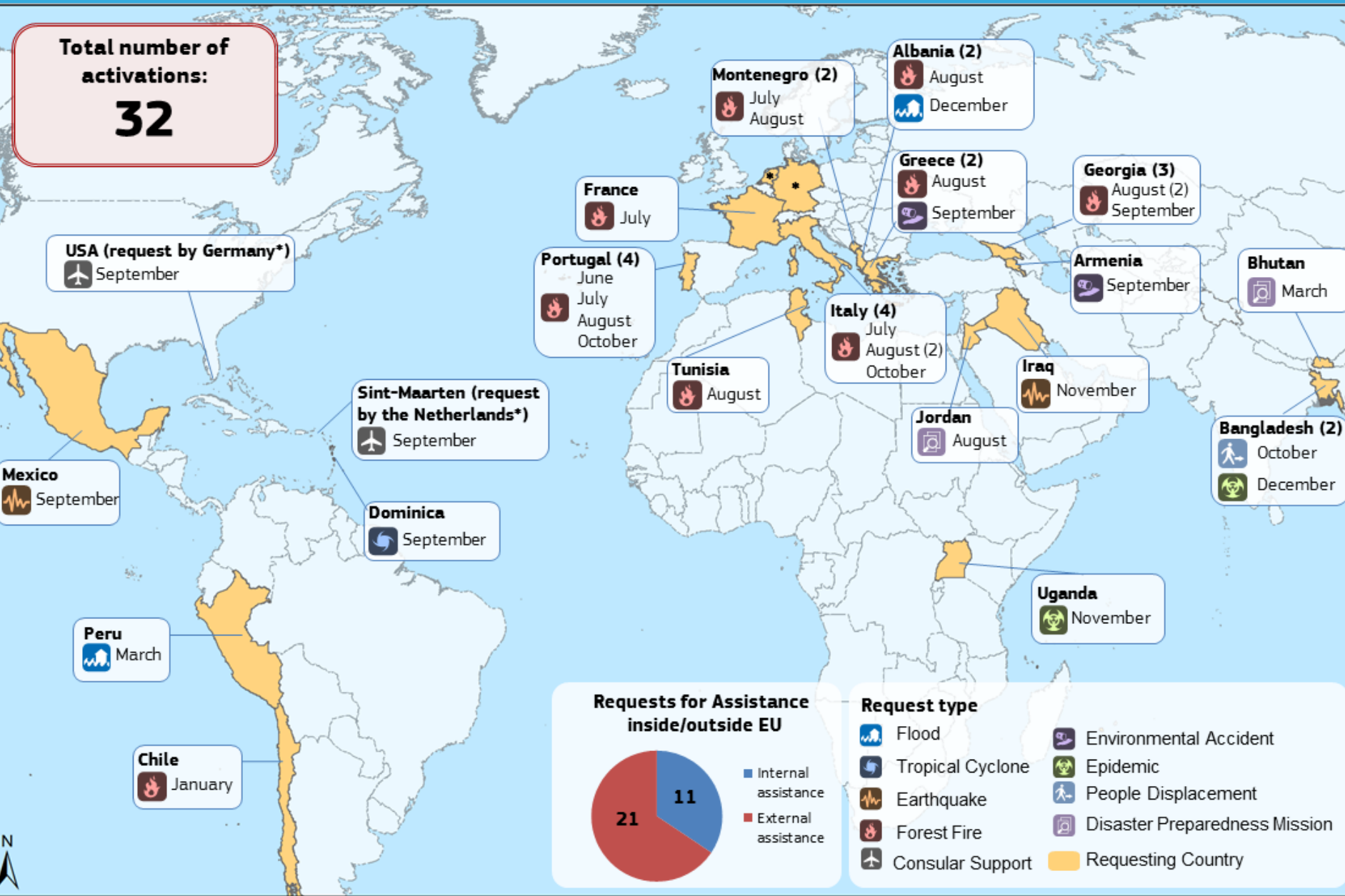
2001

2017





# EU Civil Protection Mechanism - Requests for Assistance in 2017



In May 2013, we launched the

## Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC)

Monitors disasters  
around the globe

24/7

Maps disaster risks



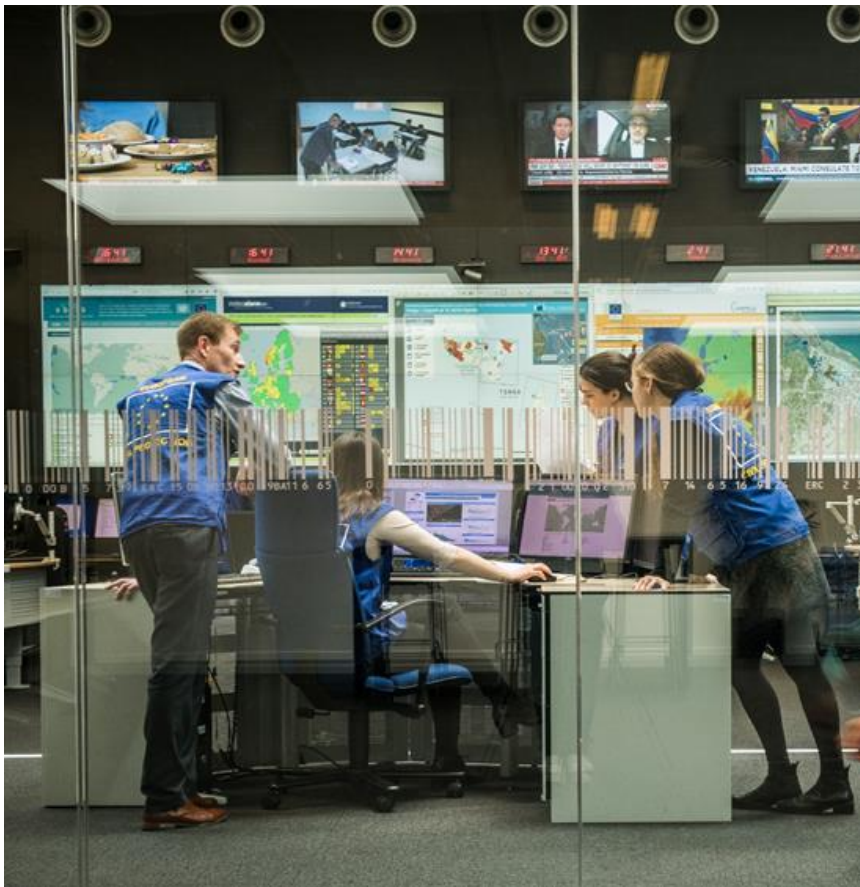
Provides real-time  
information



Coordinates joint European  
response operations



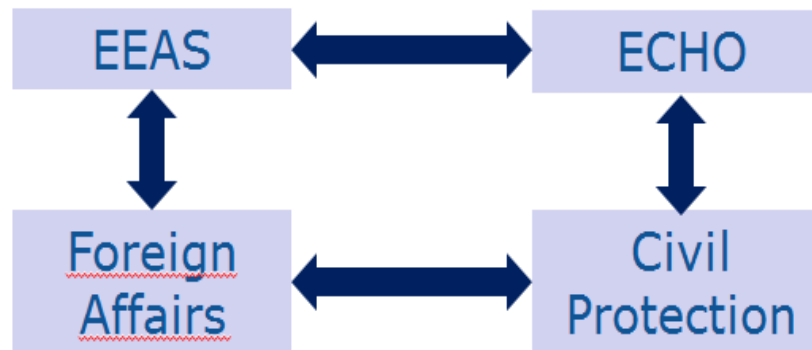
# Articulation with other EU structures



- Council conclusions of 22 January 2018
- The ERCC as a crisis centre for the whole EU
  - Memorandums of Understanding
  - ARGUS
  - Solidarity clause
  - Integrated Political Crisis Response

# Cooperation with the EEAS and Member States

Common awareness and coordination  
between multiple actors



# Consular assistance within the Mechanism

## Legal basis

### UCPM Decision 2013

art 16.7 : « The UCPM may also be used to provide civil protection support to **consular assistance** to the citizens of the Union in disasters in third countries **if requested by the consular authorities** of the Member States concerned»



## Article 23 TFEU

Every citizen of the Union shall, in the territory of a third country in which the Member State of which he is a national is **not represented**, be **entitled to protection** by the diplomatic or consular authorities of any Member State

## Directive 2015/637 on consular protection for unrepresented citizens of the Union in third countries

art 13.4 : the Lead State or Member States coordinating assistance for **unrepresented citizens may seek support from instruments** such as the crisis management structures of the **EEAS** and the **UCPM**

# UCPM consular protection capacities



## Modules

Search and rescue teams  
Emergency shelter  
Medical teams/posts  
Field hospitals  
Medevac planes  
Disaster Victim Identification

## Voluntary Pool

**In-kind assistance**

**Transport co-financing**



# Examples

## Transport facilitation and co-financing

- Mumbai 2008
- Lybia 2011
- Yemen 2015
- Caribbean 2017

## Monitoring and contingency planning

- Bali volcanic eruption 2017
- Venezuela 2017-18



# Challenges and opportunities



## rescEU legislation

- Consular assets included in the draft legislation
- Co-financing for:
  - Spontaneous offers
  - Voluntary pool capacities
  - rescEU capacities

ERCC email:  
ECHO-ERCC@ec.europa.eu



# Thank you for your attention

