

**IT IS URGENT TO APPLY THE TEMPORARY PROTECTION DIRECTIVE
TO DISPLACED WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN THE MIDDLE EAST**

The war in Lebanon, the military escalation in the Gaza Strip and the forgotten horror in Yemen are causing millions people to be displaced in one of the worst humanitarian crises in the world.

Conceived in the aftermath of the conflicts in the former Yugoslavia and adopted by the Council on 20 July 2001 (Directive 2001/55/EC), the directive on temporary protection of people fleeing wars was only applied for the first time on 4 March 2022 following the Russian aggression against Ukraine.

We call on the European Commission, as it did on 2 March 2022, to propose to the Council and the European Parliament on the basis of Art. 78(2)(c) TFEU to apply the 2001 directive and thus temporary protection to people fleeing from war-torn territories in the Middle East with special reference to women and children.

We call on MEPs to urge the European Commission and the High Representative to announce this proposal during the plenary debate on 8 October on the situation in the Middle East by indicating the necessary and urgent measures provided for in European legislation according to the principle of subsidiarity.

Rome, 7 October 2024