

Translated from Swedish by Google

That half of the member states' voters are critical of EU:s migration policy, according to a new survey, hardly comes as a surprise. The wound from the 2015 refugee crisis and the internal frictions that arose between and within the member states have still not healed. A strict migration policy is needed in the EU.

And although the pressure on Sweden has decreased, as a direct result of the government's necessary change in policy, 1.14 million asylum seekers arrived in the EU last year. This is the highest number since 2016.

Given the multifaceted problems that all member states that have received many people for a short time are grappling with, Sweden stands out in this respect as one of the worst affected, the EU:s focus during the coming term must continue to be on strengthening the Union's external borders, that combating illegal migration of people without protection reasons, but also that those who are not granted asylum leave EU:s territory quickly. Without well-functioning external borders, internal free movement will implode, which would be a failure for all EU countries.

The EU therefore needs to strive for a long-term sustainable system that takes into account the member states' ability to integrate the people who are received. Without such a system, which is ultimately a guarantor that migration is not perceived as an economic or social burden, dissatisfaction with the policies pursued will increase and the experience of popular legitimacy will decrease. How migration, and by extension integration, is handled is a matter of fate for Europe - without strict migration, the conditions for the right to asylum are ultimately impossible. EU:s politicians need to deal with both of these aspects going forward.