

**Question for written answer P-005614/2018  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Judith Sargentini (Verts/ALE)**

Subject: Implications of withdrawal of support for the Global Compact for Migration

On Wednesday, 31 October, Sebastian Kurz announced on radio that Austria did not intend to sign the Global Compact for Migration<sup>1</sup>. A similar decision had already been taken by Hungary. Since then, Poland and Czechia have also expressed doubts about signing the Compact.

In addition, the 2019 Commission work programme<sup>2</sup> states that the Commission is withdrawing proposal for a Council decision COM(2018)168 final. If adopted, that proposal would have empowered the Commission to approve the Compact. The stated reason for withdrawing the proposal is that this is a two-stage process in which, after the Compact has been adopted in Marrakesh, formal approval by means of a UN resolution will follow.

1. What implications does the position of these four countries have for the European Union's approach in Marrakesh on 10 and 11 December and subsequently at the UN, and, in formal terms, what role does the Commission still have to play?
2. Why has it been decided to withdraw the proposal for a Council decision, what difference does the UN resolution make in this context, and what are the implications of the lack of a mandate?
3. What is the Commission's assessment of the (possible) international fallout from the lack of internal agreement within the EU on the subject of establishing voluntary international standards for safe and orderly migration?

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/nov/01/austria-criticised-not-signing-un-global-migration-compact-european-commission>

<sup>2</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/cwp\\_2019\\_annexes\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/cwp_2019_annexes_en.pdf)

