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Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

2011/2157(INI)

18.10.2011

OPINION

of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

for the Committee on Foreign Affairs

on the review of the European Neighbourhood Policy
(2011/2157(INI))

Rapporteur: H  l  ne Flautre

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs calls on the Committee on Foreign Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Considers it essential that the EU fully support, through its revised neighbourhood policy, the aspirations of those who fight for democracy, the rule of law, social justice and human rights, and stresses that mobility is a key component of the new neighbourhood strategy; calls, in this connection, for the EU to fully support the democratisation process by providing not only humanitarian support but also assistance for political, social, economic and cultural reforms;
2. Recalls, in this connection, that the Member States must uphold the principle of ‘non-refoulement’ and make every effort to facilitate the development of an accessible, fair and protective EU asylum system;
3. Believes that the review of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) creates an opportunity for the EU to effectively meet its objectives and respect its values as laid down in Articles 2, 3, 6, 8 and 21 of the TEU;
4. Calls on the Council and the Commission to set up a structured dialogue with third country authorities in order to develop a win-win approach to mobility, to ease visa formalities, to make greater use of the opportunities offered by the EU Visa Code and progress towards visa liberalisation and to evaluate the existing mobility partnerships, focusing in particular on the effects of the interdependence between development aid, security, regular migration and irregular migration as defined in the Global Approach to Migration; calls for special attention to be paid to ensuring that partner countries do not suffer from a ‘brain drain’;
5. Calls on the Member States and the EU to ratify the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime; considers that the review of the ENP should facilitate the adoption of specific measures in these fields; agrees with the Commission’s observations concerning the situation with regard to migration for family reasons, and welcomes its forthcoming Green Paper on the subject;
6. Takes the view that it is essential, as part of a coherent long-term strategy, to analyse the deep-rooted causes of migration flows in order to arrive at more appropriate responses in relation to the right to mobility;
7. Calls on the EU to enhance the accessibility and channelling of EU funds into projects aimed at informing migrants of their rights and responsibilities and at protecting their rights, with particular reference to the rights of unaccompanied minors, women and other vulnerable groups; asks the Commission therefore to provide Parliament with a detailed report on the use of EU funds earmarked for neighbouring countries, including under the Commission’s thematic programme for cooperation with third countries in the areas of migration and asylum;

8. Strongly supports the partnership with societies approach and thus calls on the Commission and the Vice-President/High Representative to develop mechanisms to ensure its full application, in particular by setting up a mechanism involving civil society in the definition of objectives and benchmarks and in the implementation and monitoring of all agreements with partners, by maintaining a transparent dialogue on JHA matters with democratically elected authorities and national parliaments, and by enhancing Parliament's democratic scrutiny of all mechanisms, dialogues and agreements on migration;
9. Calls on the Commission and the Council urgently to address the refugee crisis by conducting an enquiry into the shipwrecks of boat people and related cases of failure to lend assistance at sea, in cooperation with the Commissioner for Human Rights and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, by asking the EU Member States to make public the agreements concluded with third countries, by providing support to the countries concerned, and, in particular, by exploring the possibility of setting up humanitarian corridors and unblocking without delay the negotiations on the Joint EU Resettlement Programme; calls on the Member States, in partnership with the UNHCR, to resettle refugees having fled Libya who are still stuck in camps on the Tunisian and Egyptian borders and whose lives would be endangered by a return to Libya on account of the abuses being committed against sub-Saharan peoples; calls on the Commission to clarify the precise circumstances in which Member States subject to a 'disproportionate influx of displaced persons' could avail themselves of the provisions of Directive 2001/55/EC on minimum standards for giving temporary protection in the event of a mass influx of displaced persons; calls on the Council and the Commission to ensure that there is a follow-up to the Commission communication entitled 'Evaluation of EU Readmission Agreements', in particular as regards respect for fundamental rights in the implementation of such agreements.

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

Date adopted	17.10.2011
Result of final vote	+: 35 -: 2 0: 0
Members present for the final vote	Jan Philipp Albrecht, Rita Borsellino, Simon Busuttil, Philip Claey's, Carlos Coelho, Tanja Fajon, Hélène Flautre, Kinga Gál, Kinga Göncz, Ágnes Hankiss, Anna Hedh, Salvatore Iacolino, Sophia in 't Veld, Livia Járóka, Teresa Jiménez-Becerril Barrio, Juan Fernando López Aguilar, Baroness Sarah Ludford, Monica Luisa Macovei, Véronique Mathieu, Claude Moraes, Jan Mulder, Georgios Papanikolaou, Carmen Romero López, Judith Sargentini, Birgit Sippel, Csaba Sógor, Rui Tavares, Kyriacos Triantaphyllides, Axel Voss, Auke Zijlstra
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Edit Bauer, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Dimitrios Droutsas, Ana Gomes
Substitute(s) under Rule 187(2) present for the final vote	Albert Deß, Mikael Gustafsson, Gabriele Zimmer