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## Second High-level Interparliamentary Conference on Migration and Asylum

Monday 14th June under Hybrid format

### Programme

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**10h30 - 11h00**

**Opening session:**

*Symbolic opening with introductory video*

Welcoming speeches:

- President of the European Parliament, David-Maria Sassoli.
- President of the Portuguese *Assembleia da República*, Eduardo Ferro Rodrigues.
- President of the Slovenian National Assembly, Igor Zorčič.
- President of the German Bundestag, Wolfgang Schäuble

**Keynote Speech:**

- Margaritis Schinas, Vice-President of the European Commission for Promoting our European Way of Life

**11h00 - 12h30**

**Session 1: The impact of COVID-19 pandemic on migration and asylum policies**

- Co-chairs: Tomas Tobé (Chairman of the EP DEVE committee) and José Manuel Pureza (Vice-President of the Assembleia da República and Deputy Chair of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs, Rights, Freedoms and Guarantees).
- Introduction:
  - António Vitorino, Director-General of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM).
  - Branko Grims, Chair of the Committee on the Interior, Public Administration and Local Self-Government, Slovenian National Assembly.

- Exchange of views with Members of national Parliaments and the European Parliament.

**Topics for discussion may include:**

- The impact of the pandemic on the economic and political stability of countries of origins and transit.
- Reinforcing partner countries' capabilities on migration governance, i.e. the impact on returns.

*(lunch break)*

**14h - 15h30**

**Session 2: The External dimension of migration and asylum policies**

- Co-chairs: J.F. López Aguilar (Chairman EP LIBE committee) and Sérgio Sousa Pinto (Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Portuguese Communities of the Portuguese Assembleia da República).
- Introduction:
  - Eduardo Cabrita, Minister for Home Affairs, on behalf of the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the EU.
  - Detlef Seif, Member of the Committee on Internal Affairs and Community of the German Bundestag.
- Testimony from the organisation *Operazione Colomba*.
- Exchange of views with Members national Parliaments and the European Parliament.

**Topics for discussion may include:**

- Building mutually beneficial and tailor made partnerships with key third countries of origin and transit in view of achieving a comprehensive EU approach on migration and asylum management, including the promotion of legal pathways for migration to the EU, the integration of migrants and tackling human trafficking;
- Supporting the establishment of a holistic and comprehensive approach to asylum and migration management in the EU;
- Human rights and refugee protection standards in the centre of partnerships with third countries.

**15h30- 16h00**

**Closing ceremony:**

- Final statements by President Eduardo Ferro Rodrigues and President David-Maria Sassoli.

(Musical Moment: [The "Orquestra Geração"](#) (Generation Orchestra\*))

*\*Participants are invited to watch a musical moment performed by the "Youth Generation Orchestra" - a Hymn to Youth, end of the last movement of the 4th Symphony of Joly Braga Santos, conductor Ulysses Ascânio.*

*The "Orquestra Geração", which includes children from Kindergarten (The Affection Orchestra) and young adults from Universities (The Youth Generation Orchestra), was created in 2007 as a project directed towards social intervention through music. It has been awarded the following distinctions: the National Teachers Prize (for innovation) in 2010, considered one of the 50 best social projects in the EU both in 2013 and 2014, an honourable mention by the Foundation Mota Engil (Oporto) in 2017. In 2018, it was declared by AGEAS the best social project of the year and given the gold medal commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the Portuguese Parliament. The "Orquestra Geração" is a member of the Sistema Europe and sits on its board.*