



Plenary sitting

7.9.2015

B8-0833/2015

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statements by the Council and the Commission

pursuant to Rule 123(2) of the Rules of Procedure

on migration and refugees in Europe
(2015/2833(RSP))

**Timothy Kirkhope, Daniel Dalton, Ruža Tomašić, Angel Dzhambazki,
Roberts Zīle, Kazimierz Michał Ujazdowski, Marek Jurek, Valdemar
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on behalf of the ECR Group

**European Parliament resolution on migration and refugees in Europe
(2015/2833(RSP))**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union,
 - having regard to the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms,
 - having regard to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948,
 - having regard to the Geneva Convention of 1951 and the additional protocol thereto,
 - having regard to the conclusions of the European Council Special Summit on the Mediterranean refugee crisis of 22 April 2015,
 - having regard to Rule 123(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the situation across the EU is constantly developing, with the numbers of migrants vastly growing compared to last year's figures and creating new pressure points around the EU;
- B. whereas over 2 000 people have died in the Mediterranean Sea since the beginning of this year;
- C. whereas smugglers and human traffickers exploit irregular migration, and whereas those networks pose a serious risk to the lives of migrants and a challenge for the EU on a massive scale; whereas networks of smugglers operate from third countries' territories in total impunity, generating an estimated EUR 20 billion in profits per year from their criminal activities;
- D. whereas, according to EUROPOL, organised criminal groups that facilitate the trafficking of individuals across the Mediterranean into the EU have direct links with drugs, firearms and terrorism;
- E. whereas regional instability and conflict and the rise of ISIS in neighbouring conflict areas are having an impact on the mass influx of migrants and flows of displaced people and, therefore, on the number of individuals attempting to reach the EU;
1. Urges the European Union and the Member States to find an effective solution and to enhance existing cooperation in order to prevent further loss of life, prevent further departures of trafficked vessels, improve the speed and efficiency with which Member States process asylum seekers, return those who do not meet the criteria without delay, and fully integrate and assist those who are granted asylum;
 2. Calls on the Member States to strengthen the role of FRONTEX and EASO and to offer assistance to the frontline receiving Member States;

3. Stresses that an effective and efficient system for processing asylum applications is essential in order to stabilise the current situation and to distinguish between economic migrants and those who require asylum;
4. Calls on the Member States to offer additional, meaningful resources and financial assistance in order to address the current deficiencies of the EU's migration system in order to make it effective under the current pressures, taking into account their individual situations and responsibilities;
5. Stresses that Member States should ensure that the fingerprints of all migrants are taken and stored on the EURODAC system when migrants are processed in the first EU country they arrive in, in order to detect repeated failed claims and to speed up asylum procedures;
6. Supports the establishment of a new return programme for the rapid return of irregular migrants coordinated by FRONTEX from frontline Member States; calls on the Commission to present this proposal as soon as possible; stresses the need to encourage voluntary return policies, while guaranteeing the protection of all existing rights under EU and international law, and in this regard stresses the importance of negotiating effective readmission agreements with third countries;
7. Call for a zero-tolerance policy on human trafficking, and urges the Member States to work closely with EUROPOL, FRONTEX, EASO and EUROJUST to combat these criminal networks of smugglers by identifying their modus operandi and their routes, preventing their departure and encouraging both the EU and third countries to apply the toughest criminal penalties;
8. Stresses the need for third countries in the region of areas of departure to patrol their own territorial waters in order to intercept trafficked vessels, and calls for third countries to respect international law with regard to saving lives at sea and to ensure the protection of refugees and respect for fundamental rights; asks for international efforts to be enhanced in order to systematically find and destroy vessels used by the smugglers, in full compliance with international law;
9. Calls for closer coordination of EU and Member State policies relating to the training of local police forces in the points of departure of vessels of trafficked persons, in order to identify and stop criminal groups and individuals, and for information services on the ground regarding the potential risks of human trafficking to be increased;
10. Reiterates its support for all UN-led efforts and diplomatic work towards re-establishing government authority in Libya, as well as its commitment to stepping up efforts to address conflict and instability in Libya and Syria; stresses that creating regional stability in conflict areas is key to reducing the further displacement of individuals;
11. Calls for a strengthening of EU cooperation with partner countries in the Middle East and Africa with a view to promoting democracy, the rule of law and human rights and helping to provide assistance for refugee camps in the region; calls in this regard for greater cooperation with countries in the region within the Arab League and the African Union in order to manage, resettle and grant asylum to displaced persons;

12. Stresses that the current migrant crisis is a global humanitarian crisis and therefore cannot be solved by the EU alone, and urges the international community to work together to find solutions and offer assistance;
13. Reiterates the need for policy and action to be based on mutual trust, fulfilment of responsibilities and solidarity in terms of both those Member States receiving asylum seekers and those granting asylum; stresses the need for a sensible and sustainable solution to the current crisis, based not on compulsory binding quotas, but on voluntary relocation and resettlement by Member States, cooperation, the sharing of expertise and resources, and the correct implementation of existing EU law in this area, including the Dublin Regulation;
14. Urges the Commission to make sure that all Member States are properly implementing EU legislation in order to ensure that effective, consistent and humane standards are being implemented across the EU;
15. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the governments and parliaments of the Member States.