



Regional Conference "Migration on the Balkan Route- donor coordination and humanitarian challenges" 18 December, Skopje 2015



The Secretariat for European Affairs, in cooperation with the Regional Cooperation Council - RCC, organised a regional conference on "Migration of the Balkan route - donor coordination and humanitarian challenges."

Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Fatmir Besimi, the Chief of European Union Delegation in Skopje, H.E. Aivo Orav, the Minister of Interior, Mr. Oliver Spasovski and the UNDP Resident Representative, Mrs. Louisa Vinton had opening remarks at the

Conference.

The aim of the Conference was to bring together the stakeholders in order to strengthen networking, improve communication channels for migration issues, exchange experiences and best practices among all relevant subjects at national, regional and international level in order to contribute to dealing with the challenges related to migration.

The conference was attended by representatives and teams of experts from the region, the European Commission, the EU ambassadors in the country, international organisations acting at regional level and senior representatives of state authorities working in the domain of migration.

The discussions were focused on the migrant challenge for the regional donor cooperation, as well as dealing with the humanitarian challenge.

[AGENDA](#)



Final Conclusions

Afore moving onwards, the countries participants at today's conference entitled "Migration on the Balkan Route donor coordination and humanitarian challenges," reiterated the prominence and importance of the following resolutions dealing with migration, adopted by all member states and signed by all the countries participants:

- European Parliament resolution of 29 April 2015 on the latest tragedies in the Mediterranean and EU migration and asylum policies (2015/2660(RSP));
- European Parliament resolution of 10 September 2015 on migration and refugees in Europe (2015/2833(RSP))
- IOM RESOLUTION No. 1310 (Adopted on 24 November 2015 by the Council at its 106th Session) on MIGRATION GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK*
- IOM RESOLUTION No. 1243 (CI) (Adopted by the Council at its 523rd meeting on 27 November 2012) IOM MIGRATION CRISIS OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK*

As well as the prominence and importance of the:

- 17 Point Action Plan from 25 October 2015
- Progress Reports on Greece, Italy and the Western Balkans from 15 December 2015
- The continuous High-Level meetings and consultations between the

countries involved

Having into consideration, referring to, and abiding by the aforementioned, the participants of this conference adopted the following:

CONCLUSIONS

1. The countries from the region highlight the notion that the migration state of affairs, along the "Western Balkans" route, presents a series of challenges which have affected all of the involved countries and organizations. Thusly, in this context, it has been agreed that each and every involved side should further develop appropriate mechanisms of support and hereafter intensify cooperation among each other, aimed at resolving the risen issues.
2. The countries from the region reiterate that humanitarian assistance remains a priority on both short and long term, particularly as the forthcoming and imminent waves of immigrants. Within this aspect, cooperation and further involvement of the European Union and international partner organizations is much needed, appreciated and welcome, so the Western Balkan countries can fully commit to continue and further align humanitarian-related activities. Key interest is, and shall forthwith remain to be, overall security and safety for all citizens and migrants.
3. The countries from the region welcome the increasing engagement of FRONTEX and the rest of the international partner organizations; pointing out that, additional actions should be taken into account. Actions in this respect refer to strengthening reception capacities; identification, processing and selection of those coming to the borders, as well as actions and measures to successfully combat human trafficking and other related forms of cross-border crime, which affect overall safety and security. Human rights shall be revered and protected thoroughly.
4. The countries from the region shall continue with subsequent and continuous coordination efforts on activities related to the migrants' issues, subsequently continuing to carry-on with reforms related to EU accession. The countries from the region also call for the European Union and international partner organizations to further intensify efforts on their side for establishing the best mechanisms and solutions overall for the continent itself.

