



PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA MEDITERRANEE

الجمعية البرلمانية للبحر الأبيض المتوسط

3rd Standing Committee on Dialogue among Civilizations and Human Rights

“The Mediterranean dimension of a Global Compact on Migration and of a Global Compact on Refugees”

Rapporteur: Hon. Badreddine Abdelkafi (Tunisia)

Resolution

Resolution adopted on 16 February 2018 during the 12th Plenary Session in Bucharest

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean,

- a) *Recognizing* the global nature of the unprecedented flows of migrants and refugees, which calls for a coordinated and concerted effort;
- b) *Alarmed by* the proliferation of xenophobic attacks and widespread discrimination against refugees and migrants;
- c) *Recalling* that global migration governance must necessarily be grounded on the recognition and acceptance that migrants are entitled to inalienable rights and that their Human Rights should be always respected and protected, regardless of migratory status, as defined by international law and applicable conventions;
- d) *Recalling* the resolutions on Migration unanimously adopted by PAM at its plenary sessions in 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2015 and 2017;
- e) *Recalling* the recommendations resulted from the PAM parliamentary hearings on Migration, held respectively in 2014, 2015 and the Valletta conference in 2017;
- f) *Underlining* the crucial importance of dismantling organized crime networks managing migrant smuggling and human trafficking, in order to redirect migrants and refugees into safe and orderly flows and to prevent further deaths and human suffering;
- g) *Welcoming* the UN New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, adopted by the General Assembly on 19 September 2016;

- h) *Recognizing* the key role of parliaments in the safe and orderly governance of migration, and the importance of parliamentary initiatives to ensure the ratification and implementation of the relevant international conventions concerning migration governance, protection of migrants and their families, and refugees' protection and assistance;
 - i) *Recognizing* the needs and demand for migration for productive and functional economies, as a consequence of the current technological, structural and demographic changes;
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- I. ***Calls upon*** its Member Parliaments to address the root causes of migration and refugee flows such as conflicts, foreign occupation, poverty, climate change and lack of development opportunities and demographic phenomena, in order to ensure that migration is voluntary and safe, and conducted in a manner that protects the rights of migrants and respects the legitimate concerns of all states involved;
 - II. ***Calls*** its National Parliaments to ensure the ratification and implementation of the relevant international instruments concerning migration governance, protection of migrants and their families, and refugees' protection and assistance;
 - III. ***Urges*** its National Parliaments to follow-up on the recommendations of the joint PAM/IPU/Malta Conference held in Valletta in November 2017 and the United Nations New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants;
 - IV. ***Calls*** on its Member States to enhance their co-operation and co-ordination and share best practices with the aim of developing a coherent, shared and responsible approach to migration governance underpinned by the principles of solidarity and responsibility sharing;
 - V. ***Strongly urges*** its Member States to offer effective protection and assistance to refugees throughout the European Union, pursuant to the established principles of "liberty, democracy and respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law", and in contrast to the rising anti-immigration discourse and ill-feeling towards refugees;
 - VI. ***Calls*** all its Member States to further promote regular migration channels to prevent recourse to smuggling and to strengthen efforts to combat organized criminal groups;
 - VII. ***Encourages*** its Member States to further promote integration of legal migrants and refugees in the host countries and facilitate the building an inclusive society;
 - VIII. ***Acknowledges*** to the countries of destination the right to maintain the Rule of Law and their sovereign authority while dealing with migrant and refugee incomers;
 - IX. ***Calls*** its National Parliaments to introduce concerted national programmes of action and strengthen domestic legislation against intolerance, racism and xenophobia, in favour of integration, non-discrimination and equality with respect to migrants and refugees.
 - X. ***Calls*** its Parliaments to focus on the issue of refugees, by contributing to the ongoing discussions and negotiations on the UN Global Compact on Refugees, which is being

developed in parallel with the UN Global Compact on Migration, as requested to PAM by the President of the UN General Assembly.

- XI. **Invites** its Member Parliaments to improve access to education, training and continuous development, to harmonize education and vocational training standards and to recognize academic qualifications and work experience obtained in third countries, in order to tackle the increasing global shortages of individuals with tertiary-level qualifications and necessary vocational and technical skills.
- XII. **Welcomes** the model cooperation established between PAM and the UN-OHCHR and the European Court of Human Rights, and request that this partnership be intensified with additional ad hoc seminars for PAM parliamentarians to be held on specific issues of concern to the Assembly.
- XIII. **Calls upon** all Member States and the international community to support the United Nations and UNRWA and to increase their contributions to meet the current budget deficit of 800 million US dollars, to spare more than 5 million Palestinian refugees the tragic consequences of this deficit.