



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

“From crisis to governance of migration and refugee flows”

Rapporteur: Hon. Ammar Moussi (Algeria)

Resolution adopted on 21 February 2020 during the 14th Plenary Session in Athens

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean,

- a) *Considering* that migration in the Mediterranean is and remains one of the most important issues for PAM countries and continues to be a cause for unprecedented humanitarian, economic, security and political challenges in both the Mediterranean basin, Europe and Africa at large;
- b) *Convinced* that tailoring legal migration channels, especially for labour migrants, to the receiving capacities of host countries and the needs of their national labour markets, taking also into account the expected migration flows from specific countries, can help the EU avoid the human and economic losses caused by forcing migrants to take irregular channels instead;
- c) *Emphasizing* that protecting, empowering and investing in young migrants and displaced children is crucial and beneficial as it protects them from radicalization;
- d) *Convinced that* comprehensive global cooperation can improve the current difficulties arising from the vulnerability of the region and the resulting wave of mixed flows of migrants and refugees;
- e) *Convinced* that the best way to deal with forced displacement remains to deal with the root causes, so that people do not need to leave home in the first place;
- f) *Given* the rising refugee number due to the persistent political crisis in some countries and regions, such as Syria, Libya, Iraq and Sahel, and the stumbling of a permanent and just solution to the Palestinian refugees’ issue;
- g) *Emphasizing and acknowledging* the vital role played by UNRWA, over 71 years, by providing basic services to approximately 6.2 million Palestinian refugees;
- h) *Expressing* its concern over the increasing number of refugees due to man-made crises, taking into account that providing refugees with food, shelter, health and education services

can be a great burden for host countries, some of which are hosting millions of people, and *recognizing* the duty of the international community to take solid steps in providing basic needs and services to refugees;

- i) *Stressing* that voluntary returns should be in line with the implementation of the UNHCR protection thresholds and parameters necessary for the safe return of refugees, in coordination with the concerned countries and in strict compliance with their sovereignty;
- j) *Convinced* that preventing and combating migrant smuggling and human trafficking requires a new legal framework defining the rights and obligations between countries of origin, transit and destination, along with promoting international cooperation among them;
- k) *Considering* that forecasting future migration flows is crucial to fostering a balanced approach to migration governance that is based on well-informed decision-making;
- l) *Recalling* its Resolution “The implementation of the Global Compact for Migration: PAM’s role”, adopted on 22 February 2019 during its 13th Plenary session in Belgrade, Serbia;

I. Urges EU Member States to adopt and implement, as a matter of urgency, agreed and compulsory policies based on solidarity and burden sharing, to avoid that shoreline countries be left alone to deal with the phenomenon and seek, over and over, ad hoc solutions for each humanitarian rescue ship reaching their territorial waters;

II. Calls on its Member States to refrain from sending migrants back to countries where they might be exposed to the risk of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

III. Stresses the need for prompt parliamentary action to address the question of the future of the children living in detention camps in Northeastern Syria, born from ISIS foreign terrorist fighters and at risk of extreme living conditions and radicalization;

IV. Reiterates its support for the socio-economic role of UNRWA, in line with the mandate granted to it by the UN General Assembly Res. 302 of 8 December 1948, until the issue of the Palestinian refugees will be settled according to the relevant UN Resolutions, and **urges** the international community to continue supporting the Agency;

V. Urges its Member States to make every effort to protect migrants and asylum-seekers against the dangers to which they are exposed, and to put an end to the smuggling and trafficking, by providing safe and legal migration pathways;

VI. Calls its member Parliaments to call on their national governments to ensure that reception conditions for migrants and asylum seekers fulfil the basic rights and needs of these people,

especially for children and women, in strict respect of the sovereignty of States and in compliance with their legislative and regulatory framework;

- VII.** Calls on its Member States to adopt and implement a joint mechanism to share the collective responsibility of providing refugees with basic needs and services;
- VIII.** *Urges* its Member States to supporting the individual development of young migrants and refugees by ensuring access to education, cultural integration - including language and vocational training - and providing adequate health and psychological support;
- IX.** *Calls* its parliamentarians to ensure that the objectives of the Global Compact for Migration and the Global Compact on Refugees are achieved, and their implementation further improved;
- X.** *Urges* all countries of origin of irregular migration to cooperate with countries of destination for the orderly and swift repatriation of all persons that were judged non eligible for legal migrant status, taking into account the human and legal responsibilities of the countries involved and the security concerns associated to identified individual cases;
- XI.** *Urges* its member parliaments to promote initiative in support of resettlement and other legal alternatives to enter countries, such as family reunification, work and study routes;
- XII.** *Requests* PAM Secretariat to organize a meeting in spring 2020, hosted by the Parliament of Morocco, dedicated to the analysis of the future prospects of migration and refugee movements from Africa to Europe in order to predict such movements;
- XIII.** *Requests* PAM Secretariat to organize a meeting dedicated to the harmonization of legislations on smuggling of migrants and the effective implementation of the 3 Smuggling Protocol in the Euro-Mediterranean area, as it is already doing on the issue on counter terrorism;
- XIV.** *Emphasizes* the necessity of working towards finding a durable, just and sustainable solution to the Palestinian issue, in accordance with the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to live in their State, as defined by the UN Security Council Resolutions 242 of November 1967, 338 of October 1973 and 2334 of December 2016, and the Arab peace initiative in the Middle East, as well as assisting Syria and Libya in overcoming their crises as soon as possible, by returning to political appeasement and settlement.