



RESOLUTION:

A COMMON RESPONSIBILITY FOR REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

Adopted at the YEPP Council Meeting
In Zagreb, Croatia, on the 7th of March 2015

Recognising:

- According to the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) the world is facing the worst refugee disaster since the Second World War. Over 51 million people have been forcibly displaced around the world. This massive increase of refugees is mainly driven by the war in Syria;
- The neighbouring countries of Syria are taking a big responsibility and have received millions of Syrian refugees;
- The crises in Syria, Iraq and northern Africa have led to a large increase in the number of refugees also in the EU. Experts are predicting that the current crisis in Ukraine can lead to a larger scale of Ukrainian refugees entering the EU. Some Ukrainian refugees have already arrived in Poland;
- Germany and Sweden have together received half of the asylum seekers entering the EU. At the same time the majority of the refugees from the MENA-region have entered Greece, Malta and Italy;
- The EU has developed The Common European Asylum System in able to harmonise the asylum policies and to take a common European responsibility for migration issues.
- The conclusions of YEPP after the mission to Lampedusa in 2013.

Acknowledging:

- The Common European Asylum System is dysfunctional, since few EU countries are taking major responsibility for receiving asylum seekers in the EU;
- The UN has called on the EU to set up a common quota system and to receive more quota refugees from UNHCR;

- The EU and all its Member States need to take common action to tackle the biggest humanitarian disaster of our time happening in the EU's neighbouring countries.
- The EU must work more effectively on long-term solutions by taking concrete and effective measures to stabilise and improve local environments and to assure their return to home countries.

YEPP calls on:

- The EU and all its Member States to take a bigger responsibility for receiving and assisting refugees from conflict zones;
- The EU Commission to set up a common quota refugee system based on population and infrastructural capabilities of each member state, and to increase the cooperation with UNHCR;
- The EU Member States to follow the example of Germany and Sweden by receiving more quota refugees from the UNHCR;
- EU Member States and the EU Commission to provide Germany and Sweden with increased assistance in handling asylum applications, and to provide Greece and Italy with an enhanced support mechanism to handle the volume of immigrants at their point of entry in order to ensure that asylum applications are better dealt with at the subsequent stages.
- The EU Commission to reform the Dublin regulation in the Common European Asylum System as it is not functioning according to its purpose.
- The EU Member States to set up a common and more effective system for the review of requests for asylum.
- The EU embassies in countries of war, and the neighbouring embassies, to facilitate those refugees who have real reason and need to apply for asylum within the European Union.