



YEPP Resolution:

For a Better Coordinated European Migratory Policy and Better Controlled EU Borders

Recognizing:

- That as a space of great freedom and richness, the European Union naturally attracts migrants from other countries.
- That the successive waves of immigration have been, and can continue to be a great chance for Europe, and have contributed to the shaping of a European identity.
- That illegal immigration and border control has, however, become one the most important challenges faced by many European countries, especially those located at the EU's borders and in particular those situated within the Southern region.

Stressing:

- That greater cooperation on migratory policies and a coordinated fight against illegal immigration has been an important aspect of European integration since the initial Schengen agreements, signed in 1985, and has continued to be one with the Maastricht (1992), Nice (2001) and Lisbon (2007) treaties, the Schengen II Agreement, the Accord of Dublin and the Treaty of Prüm.
- That illegal immigration networks have continuously been growing for years, and that it paves the way for human trafficking.
- That the coming into being of an EU-wide free circulation space has rendered cooperation on migratory issues inevitable at the EU level, increasing the necessity for the EU's borders to be efficiently controlled.
- That since certain member states are concerned by such issues more than others given that they carry disproportionate responsibilities simply due to their geographic position, and do not necessarily have the sufficient means to tackle them, this is a matter of European solidarity.

Acknowledging:

- That the creation of the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of the European Union (Frontex) in 2005 was a decisive step towards a better protection of the EU's borders and an EU-wide coordinated tackling of illegal immigration.
- That the creation and setting up of the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) is pertinent towards harmonizing asylum request procedures and providing the necessary institutional capacity building necessary by the relevant Member States.
- That in spite of already important efforts made by member states as well as by Frontex and other European institutions, certain external borders of the EU remain till this very day not efficiently controlled.
- That immigration is a sensitive topic, in which human lives are at stake, and that humanity and respect for human life must remain at the heart of each discussion, negotiations and agreements to be entered into in the future between the EU, countries of origin and of transit.
- That an efficient immigration policy also requires the EU and its member states to carry out efficient development policies in the migrant countries of origin.
- That a number of member states have temporary suspended applicability of Dublin II convention to Greece in view of its recent disproportionate escalation of illegal arrivals of immigrants.

YEPP calls on:

- The European Union to further encourage greater cooperation between member states in tackling illegal immigration, especially the dismantling of illegal immigration networks.
- Member states to decide for an increase of the number of deployable border guards that belong to Frontex's European Patrols Network, and thus tend to the creation of a European border police with a much greater capacity, additional resources and increased prerogatives to assist individual states in border control operations.

- Member states to enable Frontex to play a higher role in the return of migrants found to be illegally residing within European soil, and to facilitate the organization of voluntary-return schemes by member states for which these can be useful.
- Member States to consider the temporary suspension of the Dublin II regulations to Member States who might be exposed to an excessive level of illegal immigrants.
- EU and its member states to further cooperate on legal migration policies to avoid that high disparities lead to an increased difficulty in the management of illegal flows.

Adopted by the YEPP Council in Caserta on February 5, 2011.