

The Ad Hoc Committee on Migration was established by the OSCE PA Standing Committee at the 2016 Winter Meeting to act as the focal point for the OSCE PA's work in the field of migration.



Composition

Chair

Daniela De Ridder (Germany)

Vice-Chairs

Alf Dubs (United Kingdom)

Kyriakos Hadjiyianni (Cyprus)

Farah Karimi (The Netherlands)

Gudrun Kugler (Austria)

Members

Alessandro Alfieri (Italy)

Susana Amador (Portugal)

Jan Bauer (Czech Republic)

Malik Ben Achour (Belgium)

Valérie Boyer (France)

Johan Büser (Sweden)

Kemal Çelik (Türkiye)

Fabrizio Comba (Italy)

Hedy Fry (Canada)

Sheila Jackson Lee (United States)

Laurynas Kasčiūnas (Lithuania)

Kristian Klinck (Germany)

Dimitrios Markopoulos (Greece)

Gwen Moore (United States)

David Stögmüller (Austria)

Mandate of the Committee



Serve as a focal point for the OSCE PA's work in the field of migration

in all three dimensions of the OSCE: political and security affairs; economic and environmental issues; and human rights and humanitarian questions; and report back to the President and the Standing Committee;



Develop policy recommendations

aimed at enhancing OSCE work in the field of migration and at improving the treatment of, and prospects for, migrants in OSCE countries;



Promote discussion

within the Assembly on issues related to migration and promote parliamentary exchanges of best practice in these fields;



Work closely with the OSCE Secretariat and Institutions as well as with relevant outside actors on issues related to migration to promote understanding among the members of the Assembly.





Implemented activities

▶ **The Committee regularly undertakes field missions to countries impacted by irregular migratory flows.** Past field visits include: France (2016), Italy (2016, 2017), Greece (2017, 2022), Türkiye (2017), Belgium (2018, 2019), Serbia (2018), Sweden (2018) and Denmark (2018).

▶ Following the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, in an effort to keep the challenges related to migration high on the PA's agenda, the Committee initiated a series of **web dialogues and online exchanges** on topics such as the situation in Lesbos (Greece) and the Lipa camp (Bosnia and Herzegovina) and the impact of Covid-related restrictions.

▶ Since February 2022, the Committee has focused on the **Ukraine Refugee Crisis** and its impact on countries in the OSCE region. The Committee carried out two visits — to the Czech Republic (December 2022) and Moldova (March 2023) — with the aim to share 'best practice' and identify areas where further support is needed.

▶ Committee members take an active part in OSCE PA statutory meetings, putting forth **recommendations for action** aimed at improving migration management in the OSCE area and enhancing the protection of people on the move.

▶ The Committee also regularly engages in dialogue with **policy makers at the European and international levels** on the topic of migration management and asylum policy with the aim to identify areas where parliamentarians can make a difference.

Key Achievements



➤ Field missions to frontline, transit and destination countries with the objective to identify examples of 'best practice' and areas for further improvement.

➤ Highlighting the specific challenges in relation to persons in vulnerable categories, in particular women, unaccompanied and separated minors, and victims of trafficking in human beings.

➤ Formulation of three resolutions containing detailed recommendations on:

- "Effective Migration Governance based on Promoting Inclusive Societies and Dignified Returns" (2019);
- "Minors on the Move: The Role of the OSCE and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in Building an Effective Protection Framework" (2018);
- "Ensuring a Coherent, Shared and Responsible Governance of Migration and Refugee Flows" (2017).

➤ Enhanced dialogue with the OSCE, other parliamentary assemblies, the European Commission, as well as relevant international organizations and NGOs on enhancing migration governance.

History

The OSCE PA has increasingly devoted attention to migration issues since 2013, following the Syrian refugee crisis. As the crisis deepened in 2015/2016, PA delegations visited a number of refugee camps in Türkiye, Italy and South East Europe.

The Committee has been chaired since September 2023 by Vice-President Daniela De Ridder (Germany). Previous Chairs of the Committee: Filippo Lombardi (Switzerland), Nahima Lanjri (Belgium), Margareta Cederfelt (Sweden), Kristian Vigenin (Bulgaria) and Rt. Hon. Mark Pritchard (United Kingdom).

