

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON MIGRATION

The Ad Hoc Committee on Migration was established in February 2016 at the 15th OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Winter Meeting and consists of some 20 parliamentarians from countries spanning North America and Europe.

The Ad Hoc Committee on Migration has been mandated to:

- 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.



Chair Nahima Lanjri, OSCE PA President George Tsereteli and outgoing Chair Filippo Lombardi, 23 February 2018, Vienna

Committee Bureau

Chair	Nahima Lanjri (Belgium)
Vice-Chair	Laurynas Kasciunas (Lithuania)
Vice-Chair	Isabel Santos (Portugal)
Vice-Chair	Makis Voridis (Greece)

The Committee implements its mandate by:

- Conducting field visits to monitor the situation on the ground and develop policy recommendations addressed to OSCE participating States and OSCE Institutions;
- Promoting discussion on the topic of migration among the 323 parliamentarians of the OSCE PA;
- Strengthening co-operation with the OSCE Secretariat, Institutions and relevant international actors.

➤ Field visits

The Committee regularly undertakes field visits to countries impacted by migratory flows to assess implementation of asylum and migration policies and conditions in reception facilities. Past visits include: France (May 2016), Italy (Sept. 2016 & Oct. 2017), Greece (May 2017), Turkey (May 2017), Belgium (Feb. 2018 & April 2019), Serbia (June 2018), Sweden and Denmark (Oct. 2018).



➤ Promoting parliamentary debate

Committee members take an active part in OSCE PA statutory meetings to ensure that the topic of migration remains high on the Assembly's agenda. At the 2017 Annual Session in Minsk, the Committee presented a joint resolution summarizing the principal observations and recommendations from its first year of activity. A resolution on “Minors on the Move” is due to be debated at the 2018 Annual Session in Berlin. The Committee also meets regularly to report on activities, identify main challenges and prepare upcoming events.



➤ Reinforced institutional co-operation

Enhanced co-operation and co-ordination within the OSCE as well as with other relevant international organizations, parliamentary assemblies and non-governmental organizations through briefings and joint initiatives is a key aspect of the work of the Committee.



Focus of Activities

Having focused on emergency responses in frontline countries during its first year, the Committee is currently examining migration policies and best practices in the field of integration in transit and destination countries, as well as measures to promote effective and dignified returns of irregular migrants. It pays special attention to vulnerable migrants, in particular women and girls, and unaccompanied and separated children.

Resolutions of the Ad Hoc Committee:

- The Resolution on **“Ensuring a coherent, shared and responsible governance of migration and refugee flows”**, adopted in July 2017, details recommendations addressed to OSCE States that include:
 - Increasing support to countries hosting large numbers of migrants and refugees;
 - Supporting the development of a common registration system for a comprehensive and orderly processing and security screening of all irregular arrivals;
 - Allocating the necessary financial and human resources to ensure timely processing of asylum claims while respecting key procedural safeguards;
 - Further promoting safe and legal channels for migration;
 - Enforcing strict sentences against persons convicted of human trafficking while promoting viable economic alternatives;
 - Addressing the root causes of migration and refugee flows such as conflict, climate change and poverty through well-informed, long-term policies.
- The Resolution on **“Minors on the Move: The role of the OSCE and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in building an effective protection framework”**, adopted in July 2018, further elaborates on recommendations to harmonize procedures, develop common guidelines and share responsibilities with respect to unaccompanied and separated children.
- In July 2019, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly will debate a new draft resolution on **“Effective Migration Governance Based on Promoting Inclusive Societies and Dignified Returns”**.

For more information on the OSCE PA's migration related work, please scan the QR code

