

Migration Crisis in the OSCE Area: Towards Greater OSCE Engagement

Thematic report prepared by the Bureau of the OSCE PA General
Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions:

Isabel Santos (MP, Portugal), Chair; Ivana Dobesova (MP, Czech Republic),
Vice-Chair; Gordana Comic (MP, Serbia), Rapporteur

February 2016



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Introduction

Following the active engagement of the OSCE PA's General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions on the topic of the current migrant and refugee crisis in Europe, this thematic report outlines key challenges facing the OSCE area and makes recommendations for the OSCE participating States, the OSCE institutions and national parliaments. Given the current context, it focuses particularly on the refugee flow primarily from Syria.

It is hoped that this report can serve as a basis for discussion at the OSCE PA Winter Meeting, taking place 25-26 February in Vienna, as well as for a broader OSCE-wide reflection on how the OSCE, its institutions and parliamentarians can further support the effort to alleviate the humanitarian crisis at its borders and promote better integration and full respect of the rights of the newly arrived.¹

Background

With "migration" serving as an umbrella term for all human movement, a clear distinction must be drawn between a refugee, an asylum seeker and an economic migrant, as these groups leave their home countries for different reasons and are entitled to different levels of assistance and protection under international law. An **asylum seeker** is a person fleeing persecution and conflict, and seeking protection under the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees. A **refugee** is an asylum seeker whose claim has been endorsed. A **migrant** is a person whose primary motivation for leaving his or her country is economic.

The current refugee and migrant crisis facing the OSCE area is rooted in a much more extensive global crisis, with the flows affecting the OSCE area representing only a fraction of the overall numbers. In 2015, the United Nations announced that worldwide displacement is at the highest level ever recorded – one in every 122 human beings is now a refugee or otherwise displaced. According to the UNHCR, 30 per cent of refugees worldwide are hosted by Turkey, Pakistan and Lebanon. Jordan, an OSCE Partner for Co-operation State, is among the countries with the highest per capita ratio of refugees worldwide, amounting to 8.96 per cent of its population. Of the 20.2 million refugees worldwide, 86 per cent, reside in developing countries.² Thus, South-South migration and especially the refugee flow is significantly larger than the South-North flow visible in the OSCE area.³ By comparison, as of February 2016, OSCE participating States host 3.5 million refugees, equivalent to 0.3 per cent of the overall population in the area, including 1.13 million arrivals in European Union countries since the beginning of 2015.⁴

The refugee and migrant flow has affected different OSCE participating States disproportionately. In the past year, the Eastern Mediterranean and the Western Balkan routes have gained importance, with the Central Mediterranean route through Italy also remaining in heavy usage. In the OSCE area, Turkey is the most affected country, currently hosting around 2.5 million refugees.⁵ States located on the "transit

¹ The Committee takes this opportunity to thank Ms. Maria A. Chepurina from the OSCE PA International Secretariat for her co-operation in the preparation of this report.

² UNHCR Mid-Year Trends 2015. December 2015. URL: <http://www.unhcr.org/5672c2576.html>

³ UNRIC, IOM, UNHCR, UNDP and OHCHR Factsheet: Myths, Facts and Answers about Refugees and Migrants. November 2015. URL: <https://weblog.iom.int/myths-facts-and-answers-about-refugees-and-migrants>

⁴ IOM, Europe/Mediterranean - Mixed Flows in the Mediterranean and Beyond, 12 February 2016, URL: <http://www.iom.int/sitreps/europemediterranean-mixed-flows-mediterranean-and-beyond-10-february-2016>

⁵ UNHCR, Syria Regional Refugee Response, 31 December 2015, URL: <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php>

route” to Northern Europe are also under much strain.⁶ According to the OECD, in absolute terms, the main refugee and migrant destination country in 2015 has been Germany, which is expected to take in up to one million refugees. Sweden and Austria have topped the list in terms of number of refugees per capita.⁷ The five main citizenships of first-time asylum applicants to the EU countries in 2015 have been Syria, Afghanistan, Kosovo, Iraq and Albania.⁸

Obligations, challenges and benefits

International law, in particular the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, clearly defines that individuals having to flee their homes to find sanctuary in another country have the right to be protected by the international community. The cornerstones of the Convention are the principle of non-discrimination, non-penalization and non-refoulement, according to which a refugee should not be returned to a country where he or she faces serious threats to life or freedom, as well as such basic rights as the right to work, right to education, housing and freedom of movement within the territory.⁹

Although this unprecedented flow of migrants presents significant humanitarian challenges in the short-term, it also offers significant opportunities in the longer-term. Eurostat estimates that the EU working age population will decline by 3.5 million within the next five years. The consequent labour and skill shortages could challenge the continent’s economic growth perspectives. Currently incoming migrants can mitigate the effects of the ageing and shrinking population. According to World Bank estimates, a three per cent increase in the workforce in developed countries would generate, between 2005 and 2025, global gains of around EUR 342 billion. In addition, refugees from Syria have mostly completed secondary education and the failure to integrate them in the labour market is resulting in a ‘brain waste’. Migrants usually accept jobs that nationals of the host country are less willing to take, notably in the low-skilled sectors, but also help fill the gaps in the labour market.

In 1975 the signatory states of the Helsinki Final Act agreed to “make it their aim to facilitate freer movement and contacts ... and to contribute to the solution of humanitarian problems that arise.” The OSCE PA has, over the years, put forward and adopted a number of political declarations calling for joint action and urgent solutions to counter the ongoing tragedy. These include: the Resolution on the Situation in the Middle East and its Effect on the OSCE Area (2013); the Resolution on the Situation of Refugees in the OSCE Area (2014); and the Resolution Calling for Urgent Solutions to the Tragedy of Deaths in the Mediterranean (2015).¹⁰

Recent OSCE PA activities on migration

Beside the aforementioned Resolutions, the Assembly has also devoted time at its Winter Meeting in

⁶ Eurostat. Asylum quarterly report. September 2015. URL: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Asylum_quarterly_report#Main_destination_countries

⁷ OECD: Migration Policy Debates. September 2015.

⁸ Eurostat. First time asylum applicants in the EU-28 by citizenship, Q3 2014 – Q3 2015, December 2015. URL: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/File:First_time_asylum_applicants_in_the_EU-28_by_citizenship_Q3_2014_%E2%80%93_Q3_2015.png

⁹ The 1951 Convention, relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol: <http://www.unhcr.org/4ec262df9.html>

¹⁰ Full texts available on the OSCE PA website: <https://www.oscepa.org/meetings/annual-sessions/2015-annual-session-helsinki/2015-helsinki-final-declaration/2292-17>

February 2015, its Helsinki Annual Session in July 2015 and its Ulaanbaatar Autumn Meeting in September 2015 to discussing possible solutions to the refugee and migrant crisis.

Although, traditionally, migration-related issues are largely considered within the mandate of the economic and environmental dimension, the OSCE PA's General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions (Third Committee) has also been active and vocal on the topic, focusing on issues related to the protection of the human rights of incoming populations, their integration into host societies and a more humane approach to migration. Security aspects of migration flow are also receiving increased attention, and should remain a part of discussions.

These policy discussions were complemented over the past year by several field visits by the Third Committee Chair, Vice-Chair and Rapporteur. These were designed to acquire first-hand information on the issue, raise its visibility and advocate for a swifter and better co-ordinated effort to resolving the crisis.

On 21 January 2015, a senior delegation led by OSCE PA President Ilkka Kanerva and Third Committee Chair Isabel Santos, and joined by the Committee Vice-Chair Mehmet Sevki Kulkuloglu and OSCE PA Vice-President Emin Onen, visited a refugee camp in Harran, Turkey, located near the country's border with Syria. The delegation observed the conditions of the refugees in the camp, commended the Turkish government for its open-door policy to refugees fleeing the war in Syria, and called on the international community to boost its assistance to Syrian refugees. The need for greater international solidarity and burden-sharing to support these populations, providing them not only with emergency assistance but also with medium-term support, such as education facilities for children and working permits for adults, was also underlined. The visit also highlighted the importance of integration of NGOs and civil society into this response.

In June 2015, an OSCE PA delegation, headed by Isabel Santos, including Second Committee Rapporteur Marietta Tidei and Cristina De Pietro from the Italian Delegation to the OSCE PA, met with migrants, refugees and officials in Rome, at the First Aid Reception Center in Lampedusa and several Reception Centers for asylum seekers in Sicily. Witnessing the scope of the influx, the delegation called for reform of the European Union's Dublin regulations to ensure a more equitable burden-sharing throughout the entire EU, the establishment of a quota system, the creation of advanced Frontex facilities and the setting up of information and screening offices in countries of departure and transit to provide venues for safer legal migration. The commendable work of humanitarian organizations, including the UNHCR, IOM, ICRC and international and local NGOs, was equally noted.

In November 2015, Santos visited Brussels and Geneva for meetings with senior officials from the European Union and the European Parliament, leading think tanks, academics and international organizations, including the IOM, UNHCR and ICRC. In these discussions, Santos advocated for a multifaceted and better co-ordinated approach as the only way to achieve a durable solution to the crisis. Focusing on EU initiatives, she endorsed the idea of expanding the mandate and budget of Frontex to enable it to be operational in countries bordering the EU to support them in conducting robust screening and identification procedures. The need to combat the risks related to the 'securitization' of the migration issue following the latest terrorist attacks in Europe, the need to consider additional ways to save lives and protect refugees during the winter season, as well as the role of parliaments in conveying a clear message of solidarity and tolerance were also brought to the fore.

In February 2016, the leadership of the Third Committee, including Santos, Committee Vice-Chair Ivana Dobesova and Rapporteur Gordana Comic, visited the Czech Republic, Serbia and the Serbian border areas with the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The delegation was joined by Ignacio Sanchez Amor, OSCE PA Special Representative on OSCE Border Issues. In the Czech Republic, the delegation

paid a visit to a residential center for asylum-seekers in Kostelec nad Orlici, met the Interior Ministry and parliamentarians as well as several NGOs working on migrant integration. Taking note of the stated commitment of the Czech Republic to UN resettlement policy and EU relocation initiatives, the delegation discussed ways to promote a more migrant-friendly public discourse, as well as to share best international practices of migrant integration and management of migratory flows throughout Europe.

The visit to Serbia included consultations in Belgrade with the parliament and governmental bodies in Belgrade, the OSCE Mission to Serbia, UNHCR and several NGOs, as well as visits to the refugee reception facilities at Miratovac and the one-stop registration center at Presevo, on the border with the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The delegation, joined by Members of the Serbian Delegation to the OSCE PA, took note of the work done by the Serbian authorities and international humanitarian organizations to implement biometric registration and facilitate legal crossing of the country by refugees heading to Europe. Possible ways of further OSCE engagement in monitoring the situation and supporting national efforts on migration-related subject were equally considered.

A full list of meetings held can be found in the Addendum to this report.

Recommendations to the OSCE

A co-ordinated OSCE-wide reflection on possible action to help mitigate the situation and avoid overlap in the activities of its institutions is much needed. The OSCE toolbox, its geographical scope of action, field missions as well as the comprehensiveness of its mandate are all assets that should be capitalized on.

It is a matter of concern that agreement was not reached by OSCE Foreign Ministers in December 2015 on a draft decision on the OSCE's Response to the Ongoing Migration and Refugee Crisis Functions. Indeed, the last Ministerial Council Decision addressing the issue of migration was adopted more than six years ago, in December 2009.¹¹

The following specific measures should be considered by the OSCE:

1. Greater intra-organizational coherence of effort

The decentralized nature of the OSCE has led to a situation of partial overlap and information shortages. The mandates of the OSCE field operations have been conceived in different time periods and against what were then different sets of priorities. The field operations are therefore unevenly mandated in addressing migration-related issues.

Developing an Organization-wide response, with clearly identified roles and responsibilities of each OSCE body, would ensure better coherence, co-ordination and impact. Offices throughout the OSCE family should be encouraged to come up with specific project proposals on this issue. A clearer division of portfolios on migration-related issues within the three dimensions of OSCE activities is also needed.

The Chairmanship should also pursue as a priority the creation and institutionalization of a high-level co-ordinating position on migration, which could be supported by a network of focal points from each OSCE body.

¹¹ MC.DEC/5/09, 2 December 2009, "Migration Management"

The OSCE could also make more effective use of the Organization's second dimension platforms to share lessons learned and develop best practices for migrants' and refugees' integration into the labour market.

The OSCE and especially OSCE/ODIHR should continue to pursue projects on monitoring the human rights aspect of migration management and integration, including gender-sensitive policies, and encourages participating States to actively support and engage in these endeavours. Work should also be continued with the CoE's Venice Commission on legislative review assistance to countries receiving large migration flows to ensure their legislation is aligned with the 1951 Refugee Convention and other international commitments outlining the refugees' rights. Projects related to building the capacity of refugees to recognize and report instances of discrimination, abuse and hate crime should also be pursued.

2. Enhancing input from OSCE field operations

The OSCE field operations, notably in the Balkan region, should also be increasingly involved and evenly mandated to contribute to the work on migration-related activities, including through joint regional activities (such those as already put in place by the OSCE Mission to Serbia and OSCE Mission to Skopje) and projects with other relevant international bodies (EU, UNHCR, IOM). Situation monitoring could be one of these, supplemented by train-the-trainers programmes for border police and migration services, as well as civil society organizations involved in working with newly arriving migrants and the development of private-public partnerships to support better migrant integration. The allocation of funding for such activities needs to be foreseen.

3. Thematic field mission on migration

Over the past year, the refugee crisis has also brought up divisions existing between participating States, notably between EU and non-EU members, as well as between Western and Eastern European states. For some OSCE participating States, including several EU countries, large-scale refugee inflows are a new experience. Additional training and support is essential to enable them to effectively respond to the crisis.

The creation of a Thematic Field Mission on Migration, which could be based in one of the EU countries most affected by the crisis and would have a region-wide portfolio, could be a solution. The mandate of the mission would focus on strengthening communication channels between governments and national agencies of neighbouring states and countries of origin, transit and destination, to ensure better communication, co-ordination and de-escalation of tensions. The mission could also provide training on migration management and migrant integration, facilitate exchange of best practices for officials dealing with refugee-related issues and monitor the conditions of refugees in the OSCE participating States. The mission would complement the efforts of other humanitarian international organizations, particularly the UNHCR, working in the field.

The key challenge for this proposal would be to ensure a "buy-in" from all participating States and to ensure adequate allocation of limited resources available to the Organization to ensure its proper functioning. Options of extra-budgetary funding should also be considered.

4. Enhancing work with OSCE Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation

Recognizing that developments in the Mediterranean are directly linked to developments in the OSCE area and that the inter-related challenges affecting both regions should be tackled jointly, the OSCE should develop ways to move the partnership to the next level. Participation of Mediterranean partners

in networks of OSCE focal points, including of focal points on migration, and in migration-related trainings, possibly conducted by OSCE/ODIHR, could be one of the steps forward.

5. *Continued targeted parliamentary debate*

The OSCE PA should continue to engage in debates on critical issues related to the migration crisis. The Assembly, which brings together representatives from all 57 participating States, could use its political visibility and outreach to continue to convey a message of solidarity, tolerance and action, as well as awareness-raising of the issue, notably through its annual resolutions, general debates and appropriate visits. OSCE parliamentarians should acknowledge their responsibility to lead by example in combating stereotypes against migrants and refugees, promoting anti-discrimination legislation and by communicating rationally and factually on migration.

During the 2016 OSCE PA Winter Meeting in Vienna, migration is a topic of consideration in all three General Committees, demonstrating its relevance and importance in all fields. The issue should also be at the top of the agenda at the Assembly's annual Mediterranean Forum.

6. *Parliamentary exchange of best practices*

Members of the OSCE PA may want to take the opportunity to showcase the examples from their constituencies of migrant and refugee integration, providing an overview of challenges and opportunities faced during the process and sharing best practices. Such exchanges could contribute to increasing the understanding among the population of the participating States of the benefits brought by migrants including through targeted information campaigns.

7. *Enhanced co-operation with partner organizations*

The OSCE has well-established ties with the UNHCR, ICRC, IOM, the CoE and the European Union. Contacts specific to migration topics should be increased to better co-ordinate efforts and consider joint work in the future, including joint action plan where necessary.

In transit countries that host an OSCE field operation, interagency co-ordination task forces could be established to facilitate information sharing and co-ordination. It should be noted that South East Europe has very positive examples of post-conflict interagency co-ordination on issues related to internally displaced persons and refugees.

Various OSCE structures have worked more or less closely with the above-mentioned bodies; some under-represented parts of the Organization may be in a position to increase co-operation within this process.

Recommendations to the OSCE participating States

The current migrant and refugee crisis is not regional, it is global. At the heart of the crisis affecting the OSCE area is the need for political stabilization, particularly in North Africa and the Middle East. The following recommendations are considered against the backdrop that as long as there is no potential for stabilization of these conflicts, the refugee flow will only increase. Priority recommendations include:

1. Greater financial and political aid must be given to states bordering Syria, such as Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey, which have taken the largest numbers of incoming refugees. If these countries' commitment to providing such support decreases, the flow of asylum seekers to Europe will only multiply.

2. OSCE participating States should also consider providing additional funding to humanitarian organizations, such as the UNHCR, UNDP, IOM and ICRC, enabling them to focus not only on short-term life-saving measures, but also upscaling the resilience approach to aid for Syria, supporting stability and those structures that are still in place, and integrating a development component in their refugee-related activities, which would provide the refugees with language learning, education and vocational training, thereby facilitating their future employment and self-sustainment.
3. All OSCE participating States should also consider increasing the number of refugees they accept, particularly larger and more resourceful participating States, in the spirit of mutual solidarity. The OSCE, with its membership spreading from Vancouver to Vladivostok, and close links with the Mediterranean and Asian Partners for Co-operation, is well-positioned as a forum for raising the issue of solidarity and burden sharing.
4. Measures should be developed ensuring a better functioning resettlement mechanism for people in need of international protection directly from third countries, which responds to humanitarian obligations and provides a safe, legal alternative.
5. Inclusion of asylum seekers and recognized refugees in the national labour force at the earliest possible stage of their migration trajectory should be considered as a cost-effective and socially valuable undertaking. Measures could include the revision of national laws to ensure that asylum seekers have legal access to the labour market and vocational training already while their legal status is pending. Employers, especially businesses, should also be given incentives to hire migrants.
6. The development of ways to create additional legal and safe channels for refugees to access the OSCE states should include strengthening dialogue with the refugees' countries of transit and further promotion of the establishment of multiservice centers, such as the IOM-supported migration consultation centers in third countries.

For the OSCE participating States that are members of the European Union, the following actions should be a priority:

1. Reconsider the practice of selective admittance (Syrians, Afghans and Iraqis) currently applied to migrants taking the South Balkans route. Any citizen of any state has the right to apply for asylum to save his/her life and dignity.
2. Better coordination of efforts, communication and co-operation tools with non-EU transit countries, such as Serbia and former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, need to be developed.
3. Full implementation of the emergency relocation of 160,000 refugees from the states most affected by migration flows under the condition of the functioning hotspot concept. As of January 2016, only 272 migrants have been relocated under this scheme operational since 2015, and the EU has witnessed deep divisions among its member states on the issue.
4. The migrants should be provided with exhaustive information about the possible countries of relocation. Refugees consider some potential countries of relocation undesirable due to insufficient information on living conditions and the protection refugees' rights within those countries.
5. Improved support to and management of the EU's external borders, allowing for systematic registration and identification of migrants.

6. Further and faster operationalization of the hotspots concept in Greece and Italy.
7. More harmonized application of EU common procedures in the area of international protection by implementing fully the Common European Asylum System.
8. Full implementation of national obligations undertaken in relation to the Trust Fund for Africa and Syria. Although the allocation of EUR 1.8 billion funds from the European Union side has been completed, the target of national funding matching the EU financing is far from met.

Conclusions

The Syrian refugee crisis and its impact on the OSCE area, which has been under particular focus in this working paper, is only part of the larger – indeed, global – migration crisis. In the third trimester of 2015, most EU asylum applications came also from Afghanistan, Iraq, Albania and Pakistan.

Moreover, the ongoing conflict in Ukraine has led to over 1.6 million Ukrainian IDPs.¹² This population is suffering from a dire humanitarian situation and exacerbated displacement. Once the security situation in Ukraine allows for it, the OSCE, together with other international actors present in the field, would need to work on creating durable solutions to ensure their return. Several other protracted conflicts in the OSCE area, notably in South Caucasus, have also produced millions of displaced people who need to be supported and their humanitarian rights ensured. Diplomacy for peace and diplomacy with a human face are needed.

In North America, migration flows from developing Asian countries to the United States and Canada continue to increase steadily. The number of African immigrants in the United States has more than doubled during the last decade, reaching about two million, while migration from Central America and the Caribbean to the United States has also continued to rise. Much of this migration is irregular, including a troubling trend of unaccompanied migrant children trying to cross the Mexico-U.S. border.¹³ There are an estimated 11.3 million unauthorized immigrants in the U.S., comprising 3.5 per cent of the nation's population.¹⁴

Central Asia is also experiencing its own unique issues related to migration, with some of the world's largest international labour migration and remittances flows occurring not along traditional North-South dividing lines, but within the framework of the Commonwealth of Independent States, particularly among Central Asian countries and the Russian Federation. While there are clearly some benefits to the Central Asian region from these remittances, there are also a number of human development costs and risks, *inter alia* to family and social cohesion, health, and human capital. As the UNDP has pointed out,

¹² IOM Ukraine, IDP Assistance Report, 23 November 2015, URL: https://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/situation_reports/file/IOM-Ukraine-IDP-Assistance-Report-November-2015.pdf

¹³ International Organization for Migration: Central and North America and the Caribbean, URL: <https://www.iom.int/central-and-north-america-and-caribbean>

¹⁴ Pew Research Center, "5 facts about illegal immigration in the U.S.," 19 November 2015, URL: <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/11/19/5-facts-about-illegal-immigration-in-the-u-s/>

these costs and risks can be offset by better migration management in both source and destination countries.¹⁵

While recognizing that there are security aspects to migration flows, there is a critical need to prevent the over-securitization of discourse and policy-making related to migration, particularly following the Paris tragedy. Some political forces are using such events to position migration as a purely national security issue, rather than a human security issue related to providing assistance to conflict-affected populations. The risk of securitizing migration is that it can lead to the legitimization of extraordinary responses. Although a need for better screening procedures is evident, those fleeing war and seeking asylum in Europe should not be demonized.

As the largest regional security organization in the world, the OSCE has a strong potential for being instrumental in the resolution of the global migration crisis. Its primary strength is in the joint forces of its bodies, fully using the unique potential of its parliamentary dimension, and in better international outreach. Little time is left before the summer months will lead to a significant increase in the numbers of refugees coming to Europe, so this time should be well capitalized upon to ensure a more sustainable, longer-term and professional approach to this issue. The problem of migratory flows is not European, it is human. Helping people fleeing war and oppression cannot be an option. This should be an imperative.

¹⁵ UNDP, Central Asia Human Development Series, 12 October 2015, URL: <http://www.eurasia.undp.org/content/rbec/en/home/library/poverty/central-asia-trade-and-human-development.html>

Annex: List of interlocutors

European Institutions

European Commission, Brussels, Belgium

Christos Stylianides, Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management

Ben Smulders, Head of the Cabinet of Commissioner Frans Timmermans

European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium

Antoine Cahen, Head of the Secretariat of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE)

Kashetu Kyenge, MEP; Rapporteur on the strategic report focused on the need for a holistic EU approach to migration within the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

International Organizations

International Committee of the Red Cross, Geneva, Switzerland

Christine Beerli, Permanent Vice-President

Red Cross (Croce Rossa), Italy

Flavio Ronzi, Director, Mineo

International Organization for Migration, Geneva, Switzerland

William Lacy-Swing, Director General

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Carol Batchelor, Director of the Division for International Protection, Geneva, Switzerland

Roland Schilling, Deputy Regional Representative, Rome, Italy

Astrid Castelein, Head of Field Office, South Serbia

Hans Friedrich Schodder, Representative of UNHCR, Serbia

National Institutions

Parliament of Italy

Gennaro Migliore, Chairman of the Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry on reception centers for immigrants

Regional Government of Italy

Giusi Nicolini, Mayor of Lampedusa

Rocco Maccarone, Brigade Commander of the Financial Guard of Lampedusa, Lampedusa

Grand National Assembly of Turkey

Numan Kurtulmus, Deputy Prime Minister

Ayhan Sefer Ustun, chair of the Human Rights Examination Commission in the Grand National Assembly of Turkey

Regional Government of Turkey

İzzettin Küçük, Governor of Şanlıurfa

Mehmet Özyavuz, Governor of Harran district

Parliament of the Czech Republic

Lubomír Toufar – Member of Parliament, Vice-Chair of the Sub-Committee on Migration and Asylum Policy, Member of the Committee on European Affairs

Josef Kott – Member of Parliament, Member of the Committee on European Affairs

Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic

Pavla Novotná, Deputy Director of the Department of Asylum and Migration Policy

Jan Kepka, Deputy Head of the Integration and Information Unit

Petr Novák, Head of the Resettlement and Integration of Refugees Unit

Mai Vu, Integration Expert, Integration and Information Unit

Regional Government of the Czech Republic

František Kinský, Mayor of Kostelec nad Orlicí

National Assembly of Serbia

Meho Omerović, Chairman of the Committee on Human and Minority Rights and Gender Equality

Vera Paunović, Member of the Committee on Human and Minority Rights and Gender Equality

Elvira Kovač, Member of the Committee on Human and Minority Rights and Gender Equality

Aida Ćorović, Member of the Committee on Human and Minority Rights and Gender Equality

Vladica Dimitrov, Member of the Committee on Human and Minority Rights and Gender Equality

Svetlana Velimirović, Deputy Commissioner for Refugees

Ivan Gerginov, Assistant Commissioner for Refugees

NGOs

Italy

Caritas, Catania

Medici per i diritti umani, Mineo CARA Hosting Centre for Asylum Seekers, Mineo

Turkey

NGO representatives, Şanlıurfa

The Czech Republic

Caritas, Prague

Slovo 21, Prague

Serbia

Belgrade Center for Human Rights

United Volunteers, Presevo

OSCE PA Delegations

Belgian Delegation

Nahima Lanjri, Head of Delegation

Italian Delegation

Marietta Tidei, Member of Parliament; Rapporteur of the OSCE PA Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment

Cristina De Pietro, Member of Parliament

Turkish Delegation

Emin Onen, OSCE PA Vice President; Member of the Turkish National Assembly

Mehmet Sevki Kulkuloglu, Vice-Chair of the General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions; Member of the Turkish National Assembly

Czech Delegation

Ivana Dobesova, Member of Parliament, Vice-Chair of the OSCE PA Third Committee

Petr Bratský, Member of Parliament

Zuzka Bebarová-Rujbrová, Member of Parliament, Chair of the Committee on Petitions

Serbian Delegation

Dijana Vukomanović, Head of the Serbian Delegation to the OSCE PA

Gordana Čomić, Member of Parliament, Rapporteur of the Third Committee

Spanish Delegation

Ignacio Sanchez Amor, Member of Parliament, Special Representative on OSCE PA Border Issues

OSCE Representatives

Serbia

H. E. Mr. Peter Burkhard, Head of OSCE Mission to Serbia

Michael Uyehara, Deputy Head of Mission

Giovanni Gabassi, Executive Officer

Vladimir Bilandžić, Special Advisor on CSBM

Tommaso Diegoli, Political and Press Affairs Officer

Marzia Cimmino, Political Affairs Officer

Jeffrey Bielej, South Serbia Municipal Coordinator, OSCE Mission to Serbia, Bujanovac

Refugee Reception Facilities

Italy

Stazione Tiburtina refugee camp, Rome

Lampedusa First Aid and Reception Center (CPSA), Lampedusa

Mineo Reception Center for Asylum Seekers (CARA), Mineo

Protection System for Refugees and Asylum Seekers (S.P.R.A.R), Catania

Turkey

Harran refugee camp, Harran

The Czech Republic

Residential center for asylum seekers, Kostelec nad Orlicí

Ivana Vyhnálková, Director of the Residential Centre

Petra Uhlíková, Head of Clients Services Unit

Romana Temo, Head of Social Services Unit

Prague Integration Centre, the Czech Republic

Zdeněk Horváth, Director of Prague Integration Centre

Anca Covrigová, Methodical Supervisor

Alen Kovačević, Coordinator of Subsidiarities and partners

Municipal District of Prague 13, the Czech Republic

Petr Syrový, Head of the Unit on Prevention and Development of Social Services, Department of Social Care

Eva Kalinová, Coordinator of social prevention from the Unit on Prevention and Development of Social Services

Serbia

Refugee Camp in Miratovac

Preševo One-stop Reception Centre

Think Tanks

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