



THE SENATE  
OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC  
10<sup>TH</sup> TERM

**160<sup>th</sup>**

**RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE**

Delivered on the 9<sup>th</sup> session held on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2015

**on the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions A European Agenda on Migration (Senate Print no. K 020/10)**

**The Senate**

**I.**

**1. Got acquainted**

with the European Agenda on Migration and welcomes the effort of the European Commission to find a comprehensive solution to the ongoing migration crisis which has negative consequences for the Union as a whole; simultaneously it points out that the proposed measures should lead primarily to a reduction in migratory pressures and especially address the causes that lead to them;

**2. Recalls**

that it has been dealing with the migration issue for a long period, adding that the position of the Senate on this issue as well as on the ongoing migration crisis is expressed particularly in the 543<sup>rd</sup> Resolution of 19 June 2014 (9<sup>th</sup> legislative term) on the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions An open and secure Europe: making it happen (Senate Print K 126/09), and in the 63<sup>rd</sup> Resolution of 12 May 2015 (10<sup>th</sup> legislative term) on the information of the Government of the Czech Republic about the results of the extraordinary meeting of the European Council which was held on 23 April 2015 (Senate Print no. 70);

**II.**

**1. Agrees**

with the Position of the Government;

**2. Supports**

particularly saving lives at sea, reinforcing the protection of external borders and the fight against smuggling and human trafficking, as well as the planned operation under the Common Security and Defence Policy in the Mediterranean to capture and destruct the boats of smugglers; in this context, however, attention should be paid to ensure a proper international legal basis for this joint action;

**3. Prefers,**

above all, effective cooperation, direct support and stabilization in the countries of origin of migrants and transit countries, and in accord with the Government highlights the need for geographical balance of the proposed measures, especially in connection with the situation in Ukraine and in the countries of the Western Balkans;

**4. Emphasises**

also the need for an effective return policy as this is a prerequisite for the proper functioning of the common system, and highlights the necessity of strict adherence to the existing common asylum rules by all Member States; therefore it supports the Commission's proposal for more effective monitoring and assistance by the EU to the Member States in the process of applying the rules;

**5. Emphasises**

that the proposed measures must not lead to any restrictions of the free movement of EU citizens;

**6. Is fundamentally opposed**

to the establishment of common mandatory schemes for relocation and resettlement, and puts an emphasis on the exclusively voluntary nature of the proposed mechanisms as these measures do not address the underlying reasons for massive waves of migration and may, on the contrary, further stimulate migration; in this context, it points out again that the individual Member States should continue to bear the main responsibility for their asylum and migration policy, including the right of free decision-making in this area;

**7. Therefore it will closely focus**

on the proposal for a Council decision establishing provisional measures in the area of international protection for the benefit of Italy and Greece;

**8. Also calls on the Government**

to present a proposal of feasible measures at national and EU level through which it intends to voluntarily participate in helping the most vulnerable groups of migrants, and which could help countries exposed to the enormous migratory pressures, while maintaining the current financial, personnel, technical and humanitarian aid directed to the countries the migrants are coming from, and the assistance provided under existing EU activities; in so doing, it is necessary to pay attention to the protection of national security and to take into account the risk of migration waves from the countries east of the EU, which looms large in connection with the unstable situation in Ukraine;

**III.**

**1. Requests**

the Government to inform the Senate about the way this position was taken into account and about further initiatives following this Communication;

**2. Authorises**

the President of the Senate to forward this Resolution to the European Commission.

Milan Štěch  
sign manual  
President of the Senate

Tomáš Grulich  
sign manual  
Senate Verifier