



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

**238<sup>th</sup>**

**RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE**

Delivered on the 12<sup>th</sup> session held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 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 EU Action Plan against migrant smuggling (2015 - 2020) (Senate Print no. K 024/10)**

**The Senate**

**I.**

**1. Got acquainted**

with the present document and welcomes the initiative of the European Commission seeking to prevent and counter migrant smuggling and to ensure the protection of human rights;

**2. Recalls**

that the importance of the fight against smuggling and human trafficking has already been stressed in the 160<sup>th</sup> Resolution of 18 June 2015 (10<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 A European Agenda on Migration (Senate Print K 020/10) and in the 161<sup>st</sup> Resolution of 18 June (10<sup>th</sup> legislative term) on the Proposal for a Council decision establishing provisional measures in the area of international protection for the benefit of Italy and Greece (Senate Print J 023/10);

**3. Notes**

that the transnational character of smuggling requires the cooperation of all relevant institutions and authorities at local, regional, national, European and international level, as well as a coordinated and multidisciplinary approach;

**II.**

**1. Supports,**

in general, the Commission's proposed measures, especially with regard to the seriousness of the safety risks for migrants arising from the use of smuggling networks, and agrees further with the Government's position;

**2. Considers**

it essential to focus on addressing the root causes of illegal migration that can be seen particularly in cooperation with third countries, or more precisely with the countries of origin and transit, especially in the area of improving security of their borders and in the overall stabilization of the region;

**3. Points out**

that the current EU return system does not work and is abused by networks of smugglers for their illegal activities; therefore, it continues to insist that an effective return policy is needed as an effective and efficient return policy can help prevent migrant smuggling;

**4. Considers**

it important to create safe and legal migration channels for refugees to Europe, as well as to use the institute of resettlement for those who are eligible for international protection, since such steps can contribute to a reduction in the use of illegal forms of migration, and thereby also to a reduction in the number of migrant casualties;

**5. Agrees**

with information campaigns in high-risk regions and with monitoring of Internet content that is created by smugglers, and at the same time supports cooperation with Internet service providers and with social media because social networks are currently a very important tool for organizing the activities of smuggling networks and basically serve as an information service for those who want to get to the European continent;

**6. Agrees also**

with the Commission's efforts to disrupt the business model of criminal groups, and in this context emphasizes the importance of investigations to seize and recover assets from smuggling of migrants, as well as identifying, capturing and disposing of vessels used for smuggling;

**7. Notes at the same time**

that the above mentioned measures will require capacity building and coordinated approach of law enforcement authorities of the Member States, as well as the involvement of relevant EU agencies, and therefore in accord with the Government's position the Senate supports the efforts to increase the efficiency of cooperation of EU agencies;

**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

Jozef Regec  
sign manual  
Senate Verifier