



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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*Dear President,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Camera Deputaților for its Opinion on the Communication to the European Parliament, the European Council and the Council, “Progress report on the implementation of the European Agenda on Migration” {COM(2019) 481 final}.*

*The Commission has taken due note of the views expressed by the Camera Deputaților in its opinion and of the concerns raised. The comprehensive European agenda on Migration adopted in May 2015 guided the work of the Commission, EU Agencies and Member States in managing migration and developing new EU migration infrastructure, new laws, new systems for coordination and cooperation, and direct operational and financial support from the EU. Progress achieved in the implementation of the Agenda was carefully monitored and this was the latest in a series of reports.*

*In July 2019, President von der Leyen highlighted migration as a key policy area in her Political Guidelines and announced that a New Pact on Migration and Asylum was necessary to address the inefficiencies of the system.*

*Building on the progress of the European Agenda on Migration, and following consultations with the European Parliament, Member States and stakeholders, the Commission proposed a New Pact on Migration and Asylum on 23 September 2020. The New Pact sets out the Commission's new approach to migration and aims at ensuring more coherence to integrate the internal and external dimensions of migration policies. As regards irregular migration and asylum, it offers a fresh start and a new, comprehensive, durable European framework to offer a proper response to the opportunities and challenges in normal times, in situations of pressure and in crisis situations. It proposes an approach that can provide certainty, clarity and decent conditions for the men, women and children arriving in the EU, and allows Europeans to*

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*trust that migration is managed in an effective and humane way, fully in line with our values and fundamental rights.*

*The New Pact comprises different legislative proposals and non-legislative instruments and outlines measures the Commission will take immediately and in the near future. The complete package includes nine instruments and indicates a way forward to conclude negotiations, with a view to making procedures more efficient and giving stronger guarantees to the people affected.*

*The new, comprehensive approach for migration, asylum, integration and border management recognises that overall effectiveness depends on progress on all fronts. It creates faster, seamless migration processes and stronger governance of migration and borders policies, supported by modern IT systems and more effective agencies. It aims to reduce unsafe and irregular routes and promote sustainable and safe legal pathways for those in need of protection. It reflects the reality that most migrants come to the EU through legal channels, which should be better matched to EU labour market needs.*

*This common response includes enhancing the EU's relationships with third countries, as the internal and external dimensions of migration are inextricably linked: working closely with partners has a direct impact on the effectiveness of policies inside the EU. Addressing the root causes of irregular migration, combatting migrant smuggling, helping refugees hosted by third countries and supporting well-managed legal migration are valuable objectives for both the EU and our partners to pursue through comprehensive, balanced and tailor-made partnerships. Financial support has been key in the external dimension of our migration policy, as demonstrated by actions funded under the European Neighbourhood Instrument, the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance and other EU financial instruments, as well as the EUR 4.7 billion EU Trust Fund for Africa. The proposed Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument under the next multiannual financial framework contains an ambitious spending target for migration of 10% to ensure such support can be continued.*

*As regards Turkey, the EU remains committed to the implementation of the 2016 EU-Turkey Statement, including helping its efforts to host around 4 million refugees. With an envelope of EUR 6 billion, the Facility for Refugees in Turkey continues to respond to essential needs of millions of refugees. Engagement with some countries with a significant migration dimension is further complicated by conflict and instability. Despite the conflict in Libya, the EU has continued its work to provide protection to stranded refugees and migrants as well as support to host communities and border management. Together with the African Union and the United Nations Refugee Agency, we have evacuated thousands of the most vulnerable to notably Niger but also Rwanda and to the Emergency Transit Centre in Romania. This has been a life-saving operation, which we are happy is resuming after an interruption due to COVID-19. We very much welcome the recent ceasefire, and will continue supporting Libya and its citizens on their path to stability.*

*The situation in Syria unfortunately remains very complicated. The EU and its Member States remain the largest donor addressing the consequences of the Syrian crisis with over EUR 20 billion of humanitarian, stabilisation, development and economic assistance mobilised since 2011. EUR 2.2 billion have been mobilised under the EU Trust Fund in response to the Syrian crisis.*

*The Commission trusts that the new policy developments set out in this reply address the issues raised by the Camera Deputaților and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Maroš Šefčovič  
Vice-President*

*Ylva Johansson  
Member of the Commission*