

Joint declaration establishing a Mobility Partnership between the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the European Union and its participating Member States

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (hereinafter "Jordan"), the European Union (hereinafter "EU") and the participating Member States of the EU, namely Cyprus, Germany, Denmark, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Hungary, Poland, Portugal, Romania and Sweden (hereinafter "the Signatories"),

- RECOGNISING the strong ties that exist between the EU and Jordan since decades, culminating in Jordan's "'advanced status'" within the context of the revised European Neighbourhood Policy that provides a further opportunity to reinforce and deepen relations between the two sides;
- RECALLING the common objective of promoting peace and stability in their common neighbourhood;
- ACTING within the existing framework of the EU-Jordan partnership, and in particular on the basis of the Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreement in force since May 2002 and the second EU-Jordan ENP Action Plan;
- DRAWING ON the Global Approach to Migration and Mobility adopted by the EU as well as the Jordanian government's priorities in these matters;
- RECALLING that respect for fundamental human rights underpins the EU's and Jordan's migration and mobility policies, including in relations with third countries;
- RECOGNISING the benefits and positive impact of well-managed migration and mobility, both for the signatory parties and for the persons involved, by its contribution to the development of people-to-people contacts, cultural, social and economic ties and commercial exchanges between the parties;
- EMPHASISING the contribution of Jordanians residing in Europe to the rapprochement and development of relations between Jordan and the EU;

- REAFFIRMING their determination to develop further their cooperation on migration and mobility on the basis of a comprehensive and balanced approach and in a spirit of partnership;
- RECALLING the joint communications of the European Commission and of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of 8 March and 25 May 2011 on a "Partnership for Democracy and Shared Prosperity with the Southern Mediterranean" and a "New response to a changing neighbourhood"; and the European Commission communication of 24 May 2011 on "A dialogue for migration, mobility and security with the Southern Mediterranean countries";
- RECOGNISING the specific characteristics of Jordan as a major hosting country for refugees in the region and Jordan's significant efforts to support them;
- EMPHASISING Jordan's continued efforts to fight irregular migration and combat cross-border networks involved in trafficking and smuggling of human beings;
- REAFFIRMING that the prevention and control of irregular migration must be reinforced comprehensively and cooperatively by all parties involved and RECOGNISING that poverty and socio-economic imbalances are among the fundamental causes of migratory movement;
- AWARE that the management of migration flows cannot be achieved solely by means of monitoring measures but also requires concerted action to tackle the root causes of migration;
- EMPHASISING the importance of the EU-Jordan Dialogue on Migration, Mobility and Security launched in December 2012;
- ACTING without prejudice to the competences of the EU and of the EU Member States as laid down in the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union;
- ACTING in compliance with the legislative framework of Jordan;

HAVE DECIDED to establish a Mobility Partnership with the following objectives:

- to manage more effectively the mobility of persons for short periods and legal and labour migration, taking into account, with regard to the latter, the labour market of the signatories.
- to strengthen cooperation on migration and development in order to exploit the potential of migration and its positive effects on the development of Jordan and the participating EU Member States.
- to combat irregular migration, networks involved in the trafficking and smuggling of human beings, and to promote an effective return and readmission policy while respecting fundamental rights, the relevant legislation and ensuring the dignity of the people concerned.
- to strengthen the capacity to manage refugees in line with international standards.

To this end, they will ENDEAVOUR to develop further their dialogue and cooperation on migration, mobility and security in a spirit of shared responsibility and solidarity, in particular along the following lines:

Mobility and legal migration

1. To further improve aspects of consular services and procedures for the issuing of Schengen visas.
2. To pursue cooperation between the EU Member States and Jordan on simplifying the procedures for entry and legal stays (including the possibility of issuing multiple-entry visas that are valid for a longer period of time, and waiving administration fees for certain categories of people in accordance with applicable legislation).
3. To negotiate an agreement to facilitate the issuing of visas between the EU and Jordan, in order to ensure more fluid mobility between the sides.
4. To better inform Jordanian citizens about the options for legal migration to the EU, including the entry conditions and the rights and duties arising from these.
5. To better inform Jordanian citizens with the requisite qualifications about the employment, study and training opportunities available in the participating Member States, in particular by increasing cooperation between their competent authorities.
6. To cooperate closely in order to facilitate mutual recognition of vocational and academic qualifications as well as to develop curricula in such a manner as to enhance recognition of Jordanian qualifications within the EU and other destination countries.
7. To improve synergies between policies promoting mobility of persons and other areas of sectoral cooperation (trade, education, research, culture) in order to make it easier for Jordanian vocational trainees, students, academics, researchers, artists, culture professionals, government officials and business people to enter and stay in the EU Member States.
8. To stimulate mobility towards the EU for the purpose of acquiring vocational or academic skills that will enable Jordanian nationals to develop viable economic activities and improve their employability within the global labour market.

Promoting border management, preventing and combating irregular migration

9. To negotiate a readmission agreement between the EU and Jordan with provisions relating to third country nationals based on clear and transparent criteria to be laid down in the agreement and taking into account the specific situation of Jordan.
10. To support Jordan in its efforts to enhance capacity at the legislative, institutional and operational level in order to prevent irregular migration and fight transnational crime networks involved in the smuggling of migrants, assist in accordance with Jordanian national legislation migrants in crisis situations while ensuring respect and protection of fundamental human rights of all migrants.
11. To support Jordan's efforts in addressing trafficking in human beings in all its forms through promoting legal and administrative reforms and capacity building initiatives in order to dismantle trans-national criminal networks, protect and assist victims of trafficking.
12. To cooperate in conducting information and awareness-raising campaigns on the risks and dangers of irregular migration and of exploitation by people-smuggling networks, in particular by promoting the role of civil society.
13. To enhance information exchange, administrative capacity and operational and technical cooperation with regard to border management, the detection and dismantling of networks involved in transnational organised crime including smuggling of irregular migrants and forging of documents as well as prevention of the terrorist threat.
14. To work together to develop cooperation for the implementation of active policies promoting integration and inter-culturality and combating exclusion and xenophobia, in order to avoid prejudice and stereotypes among the host country and migrants.
15. To further enhance procedures for the security and issue of travel documents and other official documents issued by the Jordanian authorities, in compliance with international standards.

Migration and development

16. To strengthen cooperation between Jordan and the EU and its Member States in support of the socio-economic development of regions with higher migration potential by implementing targeted policies and encouraging investment, including by Jordanians resident abroad, in order to generate employment and reduce brain-drain.
17. To enhance the role of Jordanian nationals residing outside Jordan in contributing to the development of Jordan, in particular by mobilising Jordanian expertise within the EU, and to support development initiatives for Jordan taken by civil society in collaboration with the relevant institutions and bodies of both parties.
18. To facilitate the social reintegration of migrants and their families voluntarily returning to Jordan and to enable them to derive the maximum benefit from the skills acquired during their time abroad and apply them within areas that can contribute to the development and improvement of the Jordanian labour market.
19. To promote the integration of legal migrants, so as to enhance their capacity to contribute to the development of their host countries, and to ensure respect of the fundamental human rights of all migrants.
20. To encourage migrants to invest productively in Jordan, in particular by promoting the financial education of migrants and recipient families.
21. To implement policies to prevent and manage the "brain drain" phenomenon, including by promoting circular migration and the mobilisation of skills, and to address the mismatch between skilled unemployed Jordanians and the Jordanian labour market offer.

International protection

22. To support the strengthening of the Jordanian legislative and institutional framework for asylum, in accordance with Jordan's legislation and international standards.

23. To promote the development of Jordanian capacity to deal with persons in need of international protection, with particular focus on refugee status determination procedures especially through technical support and close cooperation with the relevant agencies and bodies of the EU and its Member States, and with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and through the Regional Development and Protection Programme of 2014.
24. To continue supporting Jordan's efforts in managing the inflow of refugees under the scope of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between Jordan and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Horizontal initiatives

25. To increase Jordan's ability to manage migration flows in accordance with the four operational priorities defined by the EU's Global Approach to Migration and Mobility and Jordan's migration priorities.
26. To increase consultation and dialogue with a view to improving the respective migration policies of Jordan, the EU and the Member States concerned.
27. To explore means of developing cooperation between the legislative, administrative, law enforcement and judicial authorities of the Member States and their counterparts in the Jordanian administration, within the framework of their competence, on aspects relating to migration issues, so as to promote the exchange of information and circulation of best practices.
28. To increase the capacities of civil society players to contribute to the improvement of migration management in Jordan, in particular by promoting their activities and cooperation with national authorities to assist migrants and refugees, protect their rights and raise awareness about the risks they may face.
29. To improve and implement the policies and the legal framework governing migration, encouraging on the one hand the appropriate treatment of the various categories of migrants, and on the other hand the involvement of civil society in drawing up and

monitoring those policies.

30. To pay greater heed to migration issues in the development and implementation of the signatory parties' policies, particularly with regard to development, employment and training, commercial and economic policy and gender issues, and to ensure that they are fully consistent with one another.
31. To ensure that accurate and reliable data are collected on migratory movements so that they can inform policy through adequate mechanisms or institutions in place in order to achieve mutually beneficial migration management.

Implementation

32. The Mobility Partnership is conceived as a long-term cooperation framework in line with the Global Approach to Migration and Mobility and with Jordanian migration policy, and is based on political dialogue and cooperation, which will evolve over time on the basis of the existing relationship between Jordan and the EU.
33. The signatory parties take the view that the elements contained in the various components of this partnership will be implemented using a balanced overall approach and constitute a package, particularly the visa and readmission facilitation agreements, which shall be concluded simultaneously.
34. The EU and the undersigned Member States, within the framework of their respective powers and in accordance with the applicable procedures, and Jordan, intend to contribute to the implementation of the Mobility Partnership. The EU agencies, Frontex, Europol, CEPOL, Eurojust, EASO and the ETF, will be involved in the implementation of the partnership. The partnership remains open to any other Member State wishing to participate.
35. Jordan will take action to ensure that the objectives of this partnership are attained, taking account of the technical and financial means available.
36. In order to determine issues of common interest, monitor implementation of the

partnership and, where necessary, reconsider its priorities, in accordance with the migration strategies of the signatory parties, and also to develop that partnership further, the Signatories intend to meet at least once a year at an appropriate level decided by mutual agreement. The Working Party on Social Affairs will also be involved in monitoring the partnership.

37. With a view to implementing the Mobility Partnership, the Signatories confirm their intention to cooperate at an operational level, including by incorporating relevant partners and actors present in Jordan through a cooperation platform as appropriate.
38. With a view to implementing the Mobility Partnership, the Signatories confirm their intention to follow the initiatives set out in the indicative Annex. Partnership actions will be implemented subject to the financial and technical resources to be deployed by the EU, the EU Member States, Jordan, and, in the case of the EU, in compliance with the division of competences between the EU and the Member States.
39. The Signatories intend to ensure proper coordination of their respective efforts and to update the Annex of activities, to be finalised by the parties, on a regular basis. An update of the actions identified in the current partnership will be made in the light of the progress made.
40. The provisions of this joint declaration and its Annex are not designed to create legal rights or obligations under international law.

Done at (...),

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the European Union and the participating Member States of the European Union, namely

For Jordan

For the European Union

For Denmark

For Germany

For Greece

For Spain

For France

For Italy

For Cyprus

For Hungary

For Poland

For Portugal

For Romania

For Sweden