

Brussels, 27.01.2020

Dear Commissioner Johansson,

Together we represent 216 organisations working to support refugees and migrants providing services and defending their rights in Europe and worldwide. With this letter, we would like to request a formal consultation as part of the development of the Migration and Asylum Pact.

We experience the consequences and impact of EU policies and laws on a daily basis. Many of us are working with asylum-seekers, refugees and migrants in critical areas of arrival and along the migration route. In European member states, we support local and national authorities to ensure refugees and migrants receive the protection they need. Across the globe, we work in humanitarian and development settings, providing relief to people affected by brutal wars, poverty, inequality and climate change. The knowledge we gained and ties we have built with local communities cannot be ignored when developing relevant policies.

We have always appreciated the open manner in which the EU engages with civil society. We also strongly welcome your efforts to meet with NGOs and representatives of civil society during your first months in office, both during your visits to Member States and at the EU level. However, we are concerned that the Migration and Asylum Pact is currently being designed with only limited inputs from non-governmental actors.

Article 11 of the Treaty of the European Union states that European Institutions shall maintain an open dialogue with civil society and *carry out broad consultations with parties concerned in order to ensure that the Union's actions are coherent and transparent*. The Better Regulation Agenda, published in 2015, refers to *'impact assessments and evaluations to improve the evidence base which underpins all legislative proposals, without prejudice to political decisions.'* Preceding the European Agenda on Migration of 2015, the European Commission organised a formal, public consultation. In 2016 consultations were limited, due to the urgency dictated by the so-called refugee crisis.

Today, that sense of urgency no longer exists and there is an opportunity to build a comprehensive, sustainable EU migration and asylum policy.

The Migration and Asylum Pact, and its forthcoming legislative proposals, should aim at building a consensus between EU, national and local decision-makers, civil society working on the ground and the migrants and refugees that are directly affected. Engaging in this dialogue will enable the EU to build an asylum and migration policy that is effective and in line with European values. In a world that is increasingly trying to suppress or criminalise the voices of civil society, the EU should set a positive example and make them part of the conversation through a transparent process that generates accountability.

We therefore request that the European Commission launches a formal consultation process on the Migration and Asylum Pact and forthcoming proposals.

Yours sincerely,

11.11.11 (Belgium)
A Buon Diritto Onlus
Access Info Europe
ACT Alliance EU
Action Against Hunger
ActionAid Hellas
ActionAid Italia
ADEPE (Guinea)
Aditus Foundation
African Media Association Malta
Aitima NGO (Greece)
Aktion Grenzenlos e.V./Medizinische Flüchtlingshilfe Nürnberg + Fürth (Germany)
ALC (Agir pour le Lien social et la Citoyenneté)
Alianza por la Solidaridad-ActionAid Spain
Alleanza Kontra l-Faqar
Ambrela - Platform for Development Organisations
AMERA International
Amnesty International
Animus Association Foundation, Bulgaria
Anti Slavery International
Arab Network for Migrants' Rights (ANMR)
ARCI (Italy)
ARDD/Arab Renaissance for Democracy & Development
AreYouSyrious
ARSIS – Association for the Social Support of Youth (Greece)
Asociación Salud y Familia
Association for action against violence and human trafficking -Open Gate La Strada Macedonia
Association for Integration and Migration (Czech Republic)
Association for Legal Intervention Poland
Association for the Development of Alternative Practises for Education and Reintegration ADPARE
ASTI asbl - Association de Soutien aux Travailleurs Immigrés (Luxembourg)
ASTRA-Anti trafficking action, Serbia
Ban Ying (Germany)
Border Violence Monitoring
Brot für die Welt (Germany)
Bulgarian Platform for International Development (BPID)
CARE
Caritas Europa
CCME - Churches' Commission for Migrants in Europe
CEFA il seme della solidarietà - Comitato Europeo per la Formazione e l'Agricoltura
Center for Youth Integration (Serbia)
Centre for Migration Studies Foundation (Poland)
Centre for Peace Studies Zagreb
Church of Sweden
CIAI - Centro Italiano Aiuti all'Infanzia
CIES Onlus- Centro Informazione e educazione allo sviluppo

CIHRS (Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies)
CISV - Comunità Impegno Servizio Volontariato
COE - Associazione Centro Orientamento Educativo
CoMensha (Netherlands)
COMI - Cooperazione per il mondo in via di sviluppo
Comité Contre l'Esclavage Moderne (CCEM)
Concord Italia
Cooperativa sociale Dedalus (Italy)
Coordinadora de ONG para el Desarrollo-España.
COP - Consorzio delle Ong Piemontesi
COPE - Cooperazione Paesi Emergenti
COSPE - Cooperazione per Sviluppo Paesi Emergenti
CVCS – Centro Volontari Cooperazione allo Sviluppo
CVM - Comunità Volontari per il Mondo
Danish Refugee Council
Defence for Children International Greece
Department of Inclusion and Access to Learning, University of Malta
Department of Social Policy and Social Work, University of Malta
Destination Unknown
Diaconia ECCB - Centre of Relief and Development
Diakonie Österreich
DIGNITY – Danish Institute against Torture
Dutch Council for Refugees (VluchtelingenWerk Nederland)
Early Childhood Development Association of Malta (ECDAM)
ECPAT Turkey/ NGOs Network Against CSEC Turkey
ECRE
EMERGENCY ONG ONLUS
Equal Rights Beyond Borders
Eurodiaconia
EuroMed Rights
Europe External Programme with Africa
European Association for the Defence of Human Rights (AEDH)
European Evangelical Alliance
European Network Against Racism
European Network of Migrant Women
European Network on Statelessness
European Women's Lobby
Faculty of Education, University of Malta
FairWork
Feantsa
Finn Church Aid
Finnish Lutheran Overseas Mission
Finnish Refugee Advice Centre
Finnish Refugee Council
Finnish Somalia Network
Flüchtlingsrat NRW

FOCSIV – Federazione degli Organismi Cristiani Servizio Internazionale Volontario
Fondazione don Leandro Rossi
Forum réfugiés-Cosi
Fundación Raíces
GCAP Italia - Coalizione italiana contro la povertà
Global Call to Action Against Poverty (Belgium)
Global Focus (Denmark)
Greek Council for Refugees
Greek Helsinki Monitor
Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights (Poland)
Homo Faber Association (Poland)
HopeNow NGO (Denmark)
Human Resource Development Foundation, Turkey
Human Rights League Slovakia
Human Rights Watch
Hungarian Helsinki Committee
IBIS-Interkulturelle Arbeitsstelle für Forschung, Dokumentation, Bildung und Beratung e.V.
ICMC Europe
Immigrant Advice Bureau (Ireland)
Integra Foundation
International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT)
International Rescue Committee (IRC)
INTERMEDIOS
IPSIA – Istituto Pace Sviluppo Innovazione ACLI
ISCOS - Istituto Sindacale per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo
Islamic Relief Sweden
Isles of the Left
JRS Europe
KIKAP TRABZON (Turkey)
KISA – Action for Equality, Support, Antiracism (Cyprus)
Kopin (Malta)
la Ligue des Droits Humains (LDH) - Belgium
La Strada Czech Republic
La Strada Foundation against Trafficking in Persons and Slavery, Poland
La Strada International
Le Monde des Possibles ASBL (Belgium)
Lebanese Centre for Human Rights (CLDH)
LEFÖ - Beratung, Bildung und Begleitung für Migrantinnen
Liga Portuguesa dos Direitos Humanos – Civitas
Liga voor de Rechten van de Mens (Netherlands)
Ligue des droits de l'Homme (LDH)
l'organisation marocaine des droits humains
LVIA- Lay Volunteers International Association
Malta Dyslexia Association
Malta Emigrants' Commission
Malta Foundation for the Wellbeing of Society

Malta Humanist Association
MANI TESE (Italy)
Mareena (Slovakia)
Médecins du Monde
MEDICUS MUNDI ITALIA
MediNetz Bielefeld
MediNetz Koblenz
MediNetz Mainz e.V. (Germany)
MediNetz Tübingen
MediNetz Würzburg e.V.
Migrant Rights Centre Ireland
Migrant Voice (UK)
Migration Policy Group
Minority Rights Group
Missing Children Europe
MLFM – Movimento per la lotta contro la fame nel mondo
Moroccan association Adala - Justice for the right to a fair trial
Moroccan Organisation of Human Rights (OMDH)
Moviment Graffitti (Malta)
Nadácia Milana Šimečku (Slovakia)
National Church Council/ Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland
Network for Children's Rights (Greece)
NGO Legis
NO NAME KITCHEN
NOMADA Association for Multicultural Society Integration (Poland)
Norwegian Centre Against Racism
Norwegian Refugee Council
Novi Put (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
Omaniae vzw
Open Arms
Open Society European Policy Institute
Overseas NGO
Oxfam
PAG-ASA (support to victims of human trafficking) (Belgium)
PAX (Netherlands)
Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM)
Platform Kinderen op de vlucht/ Plate-forme Mineurs (Belgium)
Polish Migration Forum Foundation
Povod (Slovenia)
PRODOCS - Progetto Domani: Cultura e Solidarietà
Profundo (Netherlands)
ProgettoMondo Mlal
Proyecto Esperanza - Adoratrices
Psicologi nel Mondo-Torino
PUNTO MISSIONE – ASSOCIAZIONE ONLUS
Red Cross EU Office

Reech eng Hand (Luxembourg)
Refugee Rights Europe
RETE Ong (Italy)
RFSL Ungdom (The Swedish Youth Federation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Intersex rights)
Right to Smile Foundation
Saferworld
Save the Children
SB OverSeas
SCAIP - Servizio Collaborazione Assistenza Internazionale Piamartina Onlus
SMES-Europa
Solidarity Network Bern, Switzerland
SOLIDAUNIA La Daunia per il mondo
SOS Malta
Spanish Commission for Refugees (CEAR)
SPARK 15
St Jeanne Antide Foundation (SJAF)
Stichting STIL Utrecht
Studenti #arsien Soċjali
Sudanese Migrants Association (Malta)
SVI - Servizio Volontario Internazionale
Swedish Association of City Missions
Syndicat national autonome du personnel de l'administration publique SNAPAP (CGATA) Algerie
Terre des Hommes
The Center for Legal Aid - Voice (Bulgaria)
The Centre for Refugee Support (Belarus)
The HOME Project
Tunisian League of Human Rights LTDH
Urnammu For Justice & Human Rights
Victim Support Malta
VIDES (Italia)
Vluchtelingenwerk Vlaanderen
WeWorld