

Brussels, 28 October 2015
(OR. en)

13426/15

LIMITE

JAI 789
ASIM 127
RELEX 851

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From: High-Level Working Group on Asylum and Migration
On: 21 October 2015
To: Delegations
Subject: Summary of discussions

1. High-Level Conference on the Eastern Mediterranean/Western Balkans route and the Valletta Summit

The **Chair** and **EEAS** provided information on the outcome of the High-level Conference on the Eastern Mediterranean/Western Balkans route, held in Luxembourg on 8 October 2015 (the Declaration adopted by the Conference is set out in doc. 12876/15).

The **Chair** also provided information on the state of play of the preparation of the Valletta Summit, to be held on 13 November 2015.

2. Implementation of the Global Approach

The **Commission** referred to the GAMM update, which outlines the state of play of dialogues and processes under the Global Approach (the GAMM update is set up in the Annex to this Note). Specific information was provided on the following items:

- By the **Commission**, on the outcome of the EU-ACP Seminar on return and readmission, held in Brussels on 28-29 September 2015;

- By **HU**, on the outcome of the First meeting of the police cooperation network project under the Budapest process, held in Ankara on 6-8 October 2015;
- By the **Chair**, on the outcome of the GFMD held in Istanbul on 14-16 October 2015. The **Group** had an exchange of views on this subject. The **Chair** concluded that the follow-up to and the preparation of upcoming GFMD meetings should be further examined by the Group;
- **CZ** drew attention to the Senior Officials Meeting of the Prague process, to be held on 7-8 December in Prague.

The AOB items were also addressed in conjunction with this item.

- The **Chair** provided information on the outcome of the JHA Council held in Luxembourg on 8-9 October 2015;
- The **EEAS** provided information on the Council Conclusions on migration adopted by the Council (Foreign Affairs) at its meeting in Luxembourg on 12 October 2015;
- The **EEAS** provided an update on the High-Level Dialogue with Ethiopia, held in Addis Ababa on 20 October 2015. In the framework of this item, the **Commission** provided information on the negotiations for the conclusion of a Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility, which took place in the margins of the High-Level Dialogue. The **Chair** invited delegations to submit possible comments by Friday 23 October 2015.

3. Dialogues on Migration and Mobility

The **Chair**, the **Commission** and the **EEAS** provided information on the state of play of the Dialogues on Migration, Mobility and Security.

The **Group** had an exchange of views on the launch of a Mobility Partnership EU-Lebanon. The **Chair** invited delegations to submit possible comments by Tuesday 27 October 2015.

4. RDPP

Information was provided on the state of play of the RDPPs Northern Africa (by **IT** and the **Commission**), Horn of Africa (by **NL** and the **Commission**) and Middle East (by **DK**).

5. Frontex cooperation with third-countries

The **Frontex** representative provided information on the state of play of the agency's cooperation and activities vis-à-vis third countries.

6. ASEM cooperation on migration

The **Chair** provided information on the outcome of the 13th ASEM Conference of the Directors-General of Immigration and Management of Migratory Flows, held in Singapore on 5-6 October 2015.

The **Chair** indicated that the issue of the future of the ASEM cooperation on migration will need to be further considered.

7. EU-CELAC Structured and Comprehensive Dialogue on Migration

The **Chair** and the **Commission** provided information on the preparation of the EU-CELAC X High-Level Meeting of the above Dialogue.

8. Follow-up to the Statement of the Informal meeting of the Heads of State or Government of 23 September and to the Conclusions of the European Council on 15-16 October 2015

The **Chair** provided information on the results of the above two EC meetings and in particular on the EU action vis-vis third countries of origin and transit of migrants. The **Commission** provided information on the most recent developments concerning the Emergency Trust Fund for stability.

9. Khartoum Process and Rabat Process

Information was provided on the latest developments concerning the Khartoum process (by **UK**) and the Rabat process (by **PT**). The meetings of the Steering Committee and the Senior Official Meetings of the Khartoum and Rabat processes are planned respectively in London on 23-24 November and in Porto on 1-2 December 2015.

10. Migration and development nexus

The **Chair** provided information on the discussions at the lunch of the JHA Council on 8 October 2015 on the above subject.



GAMM UPDATE

19 October 2015

This document provides an updated overview of the main external migration dialogues and processes implemented in the framework of the EU Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (GAMM). The document is compiled for the information of the EU High Level Working Group on Asylum and Migration by the responsible European Commission services, in association with the EEAS.

Part 1- The regional processes

(A) THE PRAGUE PROCESS

The Prague Process is a framework for dialogue and cooperation between the EU and its Member States, the non-EU Schengen States and 19 partner countries to the East (Russia, Eastern Partnership countries, Central Asian countries, Western Balkan countries, Turkey).

The work is based on the Joint Ministerial Declaration (Prague 2009) and the Action Plan 2012-2016, adopted at the second Ministerial Conference of the Prague Process (Poznan, 2011).

Recent and upcoming events

| | | |
|--------------------|--|--|
| 4 November 2011 | Ministerial Conference, Poznan | Adoption Action Plan 2012-2016 |
| 28-29 October 2014 | Senior Officials Meeting, Berlin | Discussion on the way forward (after 2016) for Prague Process |
| 22 April 2015 | 4 th Core Group Meeting, Warsaw | Preparations for Senior Officials Meeting |
| 6-7 July 2015 | Senior Officials Meeting, Budapest | 1st Preparatory Meeting for the 3rd Ministerial Conference in 2016 (evaluation of PP Action Plan 2012–2016). Identification of topics for and funding of PP TI continuation after January 2016 |
| 5 November 2015 | 5 th Core Group Meeting, Bratislava | Preparations of the agenda and topics of the concluding SOM of the Prague Process Targeted Initiative project; presentation and endorsement of PP TI results; 2nd Preparatory Meeting for the 3rd Ministerial Conference in 2016 |
| 7-8 December 2015 | Senior Officials Meeting, Prague | 2nd Preparatory Meeting for the 3rd Ministerial Conference in 2016: agenda, expected outcomes and Work Plan 2016 |

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|------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| April 2016 | Core Group Meeting, TBD | Fine-tuning of the agenda and topics of the concluding SOM of the Objective 3 of the Prague Process Targeted Initiative project; presentation and endorsement of PP TI results; 3rd Preparatory Meeting for the 3rd Ministerial Conference in 2016 |
| May/June 2016 | Senior Officials Meeting, TBC | Concluding Objective 3 of the Prague Process Targeted Initiative project; presentation and endorsement of PP TI results; 3rd Preparatory Meeting for the 3rd Ministerial Conference in 2016: final draft of the Ministerial document endorsed |
| 5 October 2016 | Senior Officials Meeting, Bratislava | Last comments to the Ministerial document and its finalisation for endorsement |
| 6-7 October 2016 | Ministerial Conference, Bratislava | Adoption of results of PP TI, endorsement of the Ministerial document and agreement on the future of the Prague Process in the coming five years (2017 – 2021) |

(B) THE EASTERN PARTNERSHIP PANEL ON MIGRATION AND ASYLUM

The Eastern Partnership is the framework for cooperation between the EU and Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. Joint Declarations were adopted at Eastern Partnership Summits of Prague (2009), Warsaw (2011) and Vilnius (2013).

The dialogue on migration takes place in the context of the panel on Migration and Asylum, established in December 2011 which succeeds the work undertaken through the Söderköping process.

Recent and upcoming events

| | | |
|---------------------|---|--|
| 29 January 2015 | Eastern Partnership JHA Ministerial Meeting, Riga | |
| 5-6 March 2015 | 8 th Panel on Migration and Asylum, Budapest | Theme: migration trends and data management |
| 6-7 May 2015 | Expert workshop, Minsk | Theme: Public/private cooperation in attracting labour migrants and facilitating work opportunities abroad |
| 4-5 June 2015 | Experts ad-hoc meeting, Kiev | Theme: Registration and Integration of IDPs |
| 21-22 October 2015 | Expert workshop, Kiev | Theme: Unaccompanied minor asylum seekers |
| 26-27 November 2015 | 9 th Panel on Migration and Asylum, Tbilisi | Theme: Family reunification |

(C) THE AFRICA-EU MIGRATION AND MOBILITY DIALOGUE

The Africa-EU Migration and Mobility Dialogue is the framework for dialogue and cooperation on migration issues between the EU and all African States. It was launched at the second Africa-EU Summit in December 2007 in Lisbon. The third Action Plan (2014-2017) was adopted at the Africa-EU Summit on 2-3 April 2014 together with the Africa-EU Declaration on Migration and Mobility.

Recent and upcoming events

| | | |
|----------------|--|--|
| 2-3 April 2014 | EU-Africa Summit, Brussels | Adoption of the next Action Plan 2014-2017 and a Political Declaration on Migration and Mobility |
| 21 April 2015 | College-to-College (C2C) meeting, Brussels | Migration was the first point on the agenda, a substantial paragraph on migration is included in the joint Declaration |
| October 2015 | Joint Annual Forum, Addis Ababa | Review and assessment of implementation of the Roadmap and discussion of Roadmap strategic themes |

(D) THE RABAT PROCESS

The Rabat process was launched at the first Euro-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development that took place in July 2006 in Rabat. The process aims to enhance dialogue and cooperation between countries of origin, transit and destination along the West African migration route. The fourth ministerial conference was held in Rome on in November 2014 where Ministerial Declaration and Action Plan for 2015-17 were adopted.

Recent and upcoming events

| | | |
|-------------------|---|---|
| 27 November 2014 | 4 th Euro-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development, Rome | Adoption of Rome Declaration |
| 15-16 April 2015 | Steering Committee, Lisbon | Discussion on the next steps of the new phase of the Process, decision on 5 thematic seminars |
| 15-16 June 2015 | Thematic seminar on International protection, Rabat Steering Committee, Rabat | Exchange of information and good practice among the Rabat Process partners 2 flagship projects were recommended, thematic meetings and proposals for trainings discussed |
| 1-4 December 2015 | Thematic meeting on trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants, Porto (co-chair Portugal and Niger) Senior Officials Meeting, Steering Committee, Porto | Exchange of information and good practice among the Rabat Process partners Follow up to the Valletta Summit, decide on trainings, confirm thematic meetings, inform and consult countries outside the Steering Committee about developments since the last Ministerial |

(E) THE BUDAPEST PROCESS

The Budapest Process was initiated in 1991 as a consultative forum, currently containing of more than 50 governments and 10 international organisations, aiming at developing comprehensive and sustainable systems for orderly migration. Within the Budapest Process, a Silk Routes Partnership for Migration was established at the Ministerial Conference held in Istanbul on 19 April 2013. The Istanbul Declaration sets out the main objectives and activities of the countries along this migratory route.

Recent and upcoming events

| | | |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| 19 April 2013 | Ministerial Conference, Istanbul | Adoption of the Istanbul Declaration on "A Silk Routes Partnership for Migration" |
| 9-10 December 2013 | Senior Officials Meeting, Istanbul | |
| 15-16 December 2014 | Senior Officials Meeting, Istanbul | |
| 17-18 March 2015 | Fourth meeting of the Black sea Region working group, Sofia | |
| 30 March-3 April 2015 | Silk Routes Partnership project-Study visit on migration policy and data management, Tbilisi | |
| 8-12 June 2015 | First annual meeting of the Silk Route region Working Group and third regional training of the Silk Route project (on irregular migration, migrants smuggling and trafficking, and readmission), Islamabad | |
| 6-8 October 2015 | First meeting of the police cooperation network project under the Budapest process, Ankara, | |
| 10-11 November 2015 | Second annual meeting of the Silk Route region Working Group and third regional training of the Silk Route project (migration and development), Dhaka | |
| 25-27 November 2015 tbc | Second meeting of the police cooperation network project under the Budapest process, location to be determined | |
| 14-15 December 2015 tbc | Senior Officials Meeting, location tbd | |

(F) THE KHARTOUM PROCESS

The Khartoum Process (the EU Horn of Africa Migration Route Initiative) is a framework for dialogue and cooperation with countries of origin, transit and destination along the migratory route from the Horn of Africa to Europe. It primarily focuses on smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings and, once consolidated, is expected to be further expanded to the other GAMM priority areas.

Recent and upcoming events

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|------------------|--|---|
| 28 November 2014 | Ministerial Conference, Rome | Launch of the Khartoum Process and adoption of the Rome Declaration |
| 23-24 April 2015 | First meeting of the Steering Committee, Sharm el Sheik, Egypt | The Action Plan was adopted. Participating MS presented over 40 projects for implementation |

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| 9 June 2015 | Launch of the Regional Development and Protection Programme for the Horn of Africa | |
| 23 November 2015 (tbc) | Steering Committee Meeting, London | 2 nd Steering Committee Meeting |
| 24 November 2015 (tbc) | Senior Officials Meeting | 1 st Senior Official Meeting |

(G) THE ACP-EU MIGRATION DIALOGUE

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| <p><i>The ACP-EU Migration Dialogue was launched in June 2010 through a Joint Declaration of the ACP-EU Joint Council. The dialogue is based on Article 13 of the Cotonou Agreement. In May 2011 it was decided to further deepen the dialogue, focusing in particular on the subjects of remittances, visa and readmission, with the specific aim to strengthen the operational aspects of ACP-EU cooperation on these topics.</i></p> <p><i>A series of expert meetings took place to this effect, both at expert and Senior Official / Ambassador level. A joint report including recommendations on remittances, visas and readmission was adopted in June 2012 at the ACP-EU Joint Council of Vanuatu. Joint Visa subgroup meeting, technical workshop on return and readmission and experts' seminar on trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants took place in 2014. The second Visa working group meeting took place in April 2015, and further actions in the area of readmission and remittances are foreseen to take place in 2015.</i></p> <p>Recent and upcoming events</p> | | |
| 19-20 June 2014 | Joint ACP-EU Council of Ministers, Nairobi | Review of the implementation of Vanuatu recommendations and endorsement of the recommendation of the readmission/return experts' seminar to make this group permanent |
| 9-10 July 2014 | Expert meeting on trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants, Brussels | |
| 28 January 2015 | Joint ACP-EU Ambassador meeting, Brussels | Endorsed the conclusions of the expert meeting on THB and SoM and the concept note of the seminar on remittances |
| 9 April 2015 | Second Visa working group meeting, Brussels (meets on biannual basis) | Discuss visa-related practices and legislation, including the implementation of the Visa Code |
| 28-29 May 2015 | Joint ACP-EU Council of Ministers, Brussels | The JMC adopted the recommendations on trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants |
| 28-29 September 2015 | Second expert seminar on return and readmission in West African States, Brussels | Continuation of the established dialogue in line with conclusions of the previous workshop and the Vanuatu recommendations |
| 19 November 2015 | Seminar on Remittances, Brussels | Exchange of information, practices and policies in line with the recommendations on remittances endorsed by the ACP-EU Joint Council in June 2012 |

(G) THE EU-CELAC MIGRATION DIALOGUE

The EU and Latin America and the Caribbean countries (CELAC) Structured and Comprehensive Dialogue on Migration was launched in June 2009 following the mandate of the EU- LAC Lima Summit. The EU-CELAC Action Plan, adopted at the 2010 Madrid Summit, calls for further developing this Dialogue. This commitment was renewed during the last EU-CELAC Summit held in Santiago de Chile in January 2013.

Recent and upcoming events

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|------------------------|--|---|
| 26-27 January 2013 | EU-CELAC Summit, Santiago | |
| 26-27 November 2013 | 8 th EU-CELAC High Level Meeting on Migration, Brussels | Seminar on new migration trends between the two regions |
| 4 November 2014 | Brussels-based meeting | Preparations for the High level Meeting |
| 13 November 2014 | 9 th EU-CELAC High Level Meeting on Migration, Brussels | |
| 10-11 June 2015 | EU-CELAC Summit, Brussels | |
| 20 November 2015 (tbc) | 10 th EU-CELAC High Level Meeting on Migration, Quito (tbc) | |

Part 2 – The bilateral dialogues

(A) TURKEY

Turkey

In 2008 the Council adopted a revised Accession Partnership with Turkey. On 16 December 2013 the EU and Turkey signed a readmission agreement and launched a visa liberalisation dialogue. The readmission agreement entered into force on 1 October 2014.

Recent and upcoming events

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|----------------------------------|---|--|
| 23 June 2014 | EU-Turkey Association Council, Luxembourg | |
| 16 March 2014 until 20 June 2014 | Expert missions carried out in Turkey by the Commission services with the support of experts from EU Member States and agencies to assess the respect by Turkey of the visa liberalisation roadmap requirements | |
| 20 October 2014 | Adoption by the Commission of the first report on the implementation by Turkey of its visa liberalisation roadmap | |
| 18 May 2015 | 53th meeting of the EU-Turkey Association Council, Brussels | |
| 13 July 2015 | First meeting of the EU-Turkey Joint Readmission Committee, Brussels | |
| 13 April 2015 until 28 July 2015 | Expert missions carried out in Turkey by the Commission services with the support of experts from EU Member States and agencies to assess the respect by Turkey of the visa liberalisation roadmap requirements | |
| December 2015 | Second Commission's report on the implementation by Turkey of the Visa liberalisation roadmap | |

(B) SOUTHERN MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES

Morocco

The EU-Morocco Association Agreement entered into force in 2000. Meetings of the EU-Morocco Social Affairs and Migration Working Group take place once a year. Negotiations on an EU-Morocco readmission agreement are formally ongoing since 2003 but de facto stalled since June 2010. Negotiations were resumed in January 2015.

On 13 October 2011 a Dialogue on migration, mobility and security was launched. A Mobility Partnership was signed in June 2013. Finalisation of the readmission agreement and the negotiation of a visa facilitation agreement between the EU and Morocco are part of the commitments taken.

Recent and upcoming events

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|---------------------------|--|--|
| 4 October 2013 | Adoption by the Commission of the draft negotiating directives for an EU-Morocco Visa Facilitation Agreement | |
| 5 December 2013 | Adoption by the Council of the negotiation mandate on visa facilitation | |
| 1-2 April 2014 | Commission mission to Rabat | Preliminary talks on the visa facilitation and readmission agreement and technical review of the annexes to the Mobility Partnership |
| 19 January 2015 | Opening of the negotiations on the EU-Morocco Visa Facilitation Agreement, Brussels | |
| 20 January 2015 | Resume of the negotiations on the EU-Morocco Readmission Agreement, Brussels | |
| 20 April 2015 | High-level Meeting on the Mobility Partnership + Review of the Mobility Partnership scoreboard | |
| End 2015/early 2016 (tbc) | Second round of negotiations on visa, 17th rounds of negotiations on readmission | This issue is to be discussed at the subcommittee on migration and social affairs planned for 25 November 2015 |

Tunisia

The EU-Tunisia Association Agreement entered into force in 1998. Meetings of the EU-Tunisia Social Affairs and Migration Working Group take place once per year.

A Dialogue on migration, mobility and security was launched on 6 October 2011. A Mobility Partnership was signed on 3 March 2014. A Visa Facilitation and a Readmission Agreement between the EU and Tunisia are part of this partnership.

Recent and upcoming events

| | | |
|------------------|--|--|
| 19 June 2013 | EU-Tunisia Association Committee | |
| 28-29 April 2014 | Discussions on the Document implementing the Mobility Partnership Declaration ("the Annex"), Tunis | |
| 30 July 2014 | Adoption by the Commission of the draft negotiating directives for an EU- | |

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| | Tunisia Visa Facilitation Agreement and for an EU-Tunisia readmission agreement | |
| 21-22 April 2015 | High-level Meeting on the Mobility Partnership + Review of the Mobility Partnership scoreboard | |
| Early 2016 (tbc) | Opening of the negotiations on the EU-Tunisia Visa Facilitation Agreement and Readmission Agreement | |

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| <p>Algeria</p> <p>The EU-Algeria Association Agreement was signed in 2002 and entered into force on 1 September 2005.</p> <p>The Commission received a mandate to negotiate a readmission agreement with Algeria in November 2002. No negotiation has so far taken place.</p> <p>Recent and upcoming events</p> | | |
| 10 September 2015 | Information session on a Dialogue on migration, mobility and security between the EU and Algeria | Information session addressed to all Algerian Ministries concerned by migration in order to help Algeria confirm its readiness to engage in a Dialogue on migration, mobility and security with the EU. |

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| <p>Egypt</p> <p><i>Relations between the EU and Egypt are governed by an Association Agreement since 2004.</i></p> <p>Recent and upcoming events</p> | | |
| 8 April 2014 | Meeting between Ambassador for Egypt and Director General of DG HOME | Ambassador informs that Egypt is prepared to engage in dialogue with the EU on migration-related issues |
| 22 May 2014 | Follow-up to above meeting at technical level | Informal exchange on possible topics to be included in the dialogue, and next steps to be taken. |

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| <p>Jordan</p> <p><i>Relations between the EU and Jordan are governed by an Association Agreement which entered into force in 2002. On 12 December 2012, the EU and Jordan launched a Dialogue on Migration, Mobility and Security. On 9 October 2014 the EU and Jordan signed a Mobility Partnership.</i></p> <p>Recent and upcoming events</p> | | |
| Ongoing | Discussions on the Annex to the MP | |

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| Lebanon | | |
| <i>In response to the Arab Spring, the first EU-Lebanon ENP Action Plan 2005-2010 was revised in 2012. The new Action Plan 2013-2015 was adopted on 20/06/2014. A Dialogue on Migration, Mobility and Security was launched in December 2014.</i> | | |
| Recent and upcoming events | | |
| July 2014 | Official request from Lebanon to start a Dialogue on Migration, Mobility and Security. | Request was discussed with MS at September and October HLWG with agreement to commence Dialogue. |
| 10 December 2014 | Launch of EU-Lebanon Dialogue | |
| 2-6 March 2015 | First expert mission | Mission covered asylum, international protection and mobility/facilitation of legal migration. |
| 2-5 June 2015 | Second expert mission | |

(C) EASTERN PARTNERSHIP COUNTRIES

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| Armenia | | |
| <i>EU relations with Armenia are governed by the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA), which entered into force in 1999. In July 2010, the EU and Armenia launched negotiations on a future EU-Armenia Association Agreement to succeed the PCA. A Mobility Partnership was signed on 27 October 2011.</i> | | |
| <i>The Visa Facilitation Agreement was signed on 17 December 2012 and the Readmission Agreement on 19 April 2013. Both agreements entered into force on 1 January 2014.</i> | | |
| Recent and upcoming events | | |
| 26 March 2014 | JLS Subcommittee with Armenia, Yerevan | |
| 10 September 2014 | 1 st EU-Armenia Joint Readmission Committee, Yerevan | |
| 9 December 2014 | EU-Armenia Cooperation Committee, Brussels | |
| 20 January 2015 | EU-Armenia Cooperation Council, Brussels | |
| 29 April 2015 | 2 nd EU-Armenia Joint Visa and Readmission Committee, Brussels | |
| 17 July 2015 | JLS Subcommittee with Armenia, Brussels | |
| November 2015 (tbc) | Mobility Partnership, Senior Officials Meeting | We are still waiting confirmation from MFA - Armenia |

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| Azerbaijan | | |
| <i>EU relations with Azerbaijan are governed by the EU-Azerbaijan PCA which entered into force in 1999. Since July 2010 the EU and Azerbaijan are negotiating an Association Agreement to succeed the PCA. An EU migration mission visited Azerbaijan on 16 and 17 June 2011 to further enhance cooperation and dialogue with Azerbaijan on migration issues. A Mobility Partnership with Azerbaijan was signed on 5 December 2013.</i> | | |
| <i>The Visa Facilitation Agreement was signed in the margins of the Vilnius Summit of the Eastern Partnership, on 28 November 2013. The Readmission Agreement was signed on 28 February 2014. Both agreements entered into force on 1 September 2014.</i> | | |
| Recent and upcoming events | | |
| 28 February 2014 | JLS Subcommittee with Azerbaijan, Brussels | |
| 27 May 2015 | 1st EU-Azerbaijan Joint Visa and Readmission Committee, Baku | |
| Early 2016 (tbc) | Mobility Partnership, Senior Officials Meeting | We are waiting the signature of the Targeted initiative with ICMPD |

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| Georgia | | |
| <i>The EU - Georgia Association Agreement and the Deep and Comprehensive Trade Agreement, which succeed the PCA of 1999, were signed on 26 June 2014 in Brussels.</i> | | |
| <i>An EU migration mission visited Georgia in 2009. The Mobility Partnership between the European Union and Georgia was signed in November 2009. Readmission and Visa Facilitation Agreements entered into force on 1st March 2011.</i> | | |
| <i>In June 2012 a visa dialogue was opened, examining conditions for visa-free travel of Georgian citizens to the Schengen area. The Visa Liberalisation Action Plan (VLAP) was presented to Georgia on 25 February 2013. The first Commission's progress report of the VLAP was issued on 15 November 2013, the second one in October 2014 and the third was adopted the 8 May 2015. The next VLAP report is expected for the end of 2015.</i> | | |
| Recent and upcoming events | | |
| 15 November 2013 | Adoption of 1st Commission progress report on the VLAP | |
| 4 June 2014 | Joint Readmission Committee & Joint Visa Facilitation Committee, Tbilisi | |
| 18 June 2014 | JFS Subcommittee with Georgia, Tbilisi | |
| 29 October 2014 | Adoption of 2 nd Commission progress report on the VLAP | |
| 17 November 2014 | EU-Georgia Association Council, Brussels | |
| 1-5 December 2014 | VLAP assessment missions – Block I, Tbilisi | |
| From 26 January-20 March 2015 | VLAP assessment missions – Block II, III and IV, Tbilisi | |
| 8 May 2015 | Publication of 3 rd VLAP progress report by the Commission | |
| 16 June 2015 | JFS Subcommittee with Georgia, Tbilisi | |
| 26 November 2015 | Mobility Partnership, Senior Officials | Member States participation is |

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| | Meeting | very much encouraged |
| Mid December 2015 | 4 th Commission progress report on the VLAP | |

Republic of Moldova

The PCA with Moldova went into force in 1994. Negotiations on the Association Agreement to succeed the PCA were launched on 12 January 2010 and the Association Agreement was signed on 27 June 2014 and applies provisionally from 1 September 2014. The EU-Moldova visa facilitation and readmission agreements entered into force in January 2008. An amended visa facilitation agreement entered into force in July 2013. A Mobility Partnership was signed in June 2008.

In June 2010 a visa dialogue was opened, examining conditions for visa-free travel of Moldovan citizens to the EU. Following the Commission's proposal to amend Visa Regulation 539/2001 of 27 November 2013, Moldova was granted visa-free travel to the Schengen area on 28 April 2014. According to figures provided by Moldova, from April 2014 to August 2015 around 500.000 Moldovans travelled visa-free to the Schengen area.

Following the completing of the visa liberalisation process, Moldova is pursuing the convergence of its border management with the requirements of the Schengen Catalogue and Schengen Borders Code, and it would like to start cooperation with the EUROSUR system. Additionally, Moldova is seeking to reinforce its cooperation with EASO and Frontex and benefit from capacity building and training.

Moldova is interested in fostering legal and labour migration channels to the EU, which is in line with the need to rebalance the GAMM priority areas in the Mobility Partnership towards legal migration and migrant centric projects, namely through circular and seasonal migration schemes to the EU.

Recent and upcoming events

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|--------------------|---|---|
| 28 April 2014 | Entry into force of visa-free regime for holders of biometric passports | |
| 8 July 2014 | Extended Local Cooperation Platform, Mobility Partnership, Chisinau | |
| 9 December 2014 | Mobility Partnership, Senior Officials Meeting, Brussels | |
| 9 June 2015 | EU-Moldova JFS Subcommittee, Chisinau | |
| 9 July 2015 | Extended Local Cooperation Platform, Mobility Partnership, Chisinau | |
| 11 November 2015 | Mobility Partnership, Senior Officials Meeting, Brussels | Member States participation is very much encouraged |
| First half of 2016 | 7 th VFA/RA joint committees, Chisinau | |

Ukraine

The PCA entered into force in 1998. Negotiations on an EU-Ukraine Association Agreement started in September 2008 and initialled in 2012. Ukraine and the EU parliament simultaneously ratified the economic and political parts of the Association Agreement that will on 16 September 2014. Economic integration is postponed until the end of 2015. The Readmission and Visa Facilitation agreements were concluded in 2008. An amended version of the Visa Facilitation agreement with Ukraine entered into force in July 2013.

In 2008 a visa dialogue was opened, examining conditions for visa-free travel of Ukrainian citizens to the EU. A VLAP was endorsed by the Council on 10 November 2010 and presented by the EU to Ukraine at the EU-Ukraine Summit on 22 November 2010. Upon the last Commission's report (27 May 2014) and its Council endorsement (23 June 2014) Ukraine is officially in the second phase of its VLAP where the state of implementation of the legislative and policy framework is looked at.

Recent and upcoming events

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| 26 March 2014 | Visa Dialogue Senior Officials Meeting, Kiev | |
| 14 May 2014 | Joint Visa Facilitation Committee, Kiev | |
| September 2014 – April 2015 | VLAP assessment missions – Block I, II, III and IV | |
| May 2015 | Publication of VLAP progress report by the Commission | |
| Second half 2015 (date tbc) | Joint Readmission Committee, Brussels | JRC proposed on 17 June was postponed due to inability to travel of UA delegation |

Belarus

An EU migration mission visited Belarus in 2009. On 28 February 2011 the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations on visa facilitation and readmission agreements with Belarus. The Commission submitted a formal invitation to the Belarusian authorities in June 2011 which was accepted in January 2014. The first technical negotiations took place in Minsk in June 2014, the second round in November 2014 in Brussels and the last round in March 2015 in Minsk. The results were encouraging, but the concerns of some MS around the security of the Belarussian diplomatic passports have stalled progress. The Commission has offered expert advice on security standards of diplomatic passports. However, Belarus so far has not responded to the Commission's proposal.

*Additionally, Belarus and the EU agreed on 1 June 2015 on the political declaration for a Mobility Partnership. Signature will be planned as soon as VFA and RA negotiation are concluded. Belarus is looking forward to substantial EU support for the development of **biometric ID documents**, for the **digitalisation of the civil registry** and for the **implementation of the future Readmission agreement**. The Council has been provided with a draft Annex of project areas for consideration.*

Belarus has indicated that it would like to reinforce cooperation with EU agencies Europol, Eurojust, Cepol and Frontex, and if possible sign strategic cooperation agreements with them.

Recent and upcoming events

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|---------------------|---|--|
| 30 January 2014 | Political launch of EU-Belarus Visa Facilitation/Readmission Agreement negotiations, Brussels | |
| 12-13 June 2014 | First technical round of VFA/RA negotiations, Minsk | |
| 24-25 November 2014 | Second technical round of VFA/RA negotiations, Brussels | |
| 11-12 March 2015 | Third technical round of VFA/RA negotiations, Minsk | |
| 6 March 2015 | Endorsement by Council of the draft Joint Declaration of the EU-Belarus Mobility Partnership | |

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| 26 March 2015 | First round of consultations on MP Declaration, Minsk | |
| November/December 2015 | Discussion in Council and with Belarus of the Annex to the Joint Declaration of the EU-Belarus Mobility Partnership | MS are encouraged to consider specific projects they would like to take part in. |
| First half of 2016 (estimated) | Signing of the EU-Belarus Mobility Partnership, VFA and RA | |

(D) RUSSIA

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| <p>Russia</p> <p><i>The EU-Russia PCA came into force in 1997. Ministerial meetings for Freedom, Security and Justice area (PPC) are organised regularly. The Visa Facilitation and Readmission Agreements entered into force on 1 June 2007. On 11 April 2011 the Council adopted the mandate for the renegotiation of the Visa Facilitation Agreement. The Visa Dialogue was launched in 2007 and in this context, on 15 December 2011, the Parties agreed on a list of Common Steps which would need to be implemented before the talks on EU-Russia visa waiver agreement might be launched.</i></p> <p><i>In May 2011 Russia and EU launched a Dialogue on Migration. The Dialogue focuses through experts' discussions and field visits on legal migration, migration and development, asylum and other forms of international protection, as well as on addressing irregular migration and trafficking in human beings. In the context of the crisis with Ukraine, the migration dialogue is continuing only at expert level, but without a work programme for 2015-2016. The Russian side has agreed that at this stage no senior official meetings of the migration dialogue will be held.</i></p> <p><i>EU and Russia have established Senior Officials Meeting on JLS matters which should meet once a year and should constitute the bridge between experts level discussion and political contacts (JLS PPC). Meetings have been discontinued following the start of the Ukraine crisis.</i></p> <p><i>In March 2014, in the context of the crisis with Ukraine, the EU decided to suspend bilateral talks with the Russian Federation on visa matters (Visa Dialogue and amended VFA). Meetings under the Joint Visa Facilitation committee and Joint Readmission committee are continuing.</i></p> <p>Recent and upcoming events</p> | | |
| 28 January 2014 | EU-Russia Summit | |
| 6-7 February 2014 | 6 th meeting of the Migration Dialogue, Stockholm | Theme: International Protection, Migration and Development, and field trip to Swedish asylum facilities |
| 24-25 June 2014 | 7 th meeting of the Migration Dialogue, Moscow | Biometrics and migration IT systems |
| 2 July 2014 | 14 th EU-Russia Joint Readmission Committee | |
| 17 December 2014 | 11th meeting of the Joint Visa Facilitation Committee between the EU and Russia | |
| 12-13 February 2015 | 8 th meeting of the Migration Dialogue, Helsinki | Legal/labour migration |
| November/December 2015 (tbc) | 9 th meeting of the Migration Dialogue, Moscow | International protection |
| First half of 2016 (tbc) | Participation of FMS in a meeting of the EU National Contact Points on | Addressing e.g. citizenship and language tests as a tool for |

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| | Integration | migrant integration, integration indicators, and the role of civil society and local authorities. |
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(E) AFRICAN COUNTRIES

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| Cape Verde | | |
| <i>In 2007 the EU and Cape Verde agreed on a Special Partnership Agreement. An EU migration mission visited Cape Verde in May 2007. The Mobility Partnership with Cape Verde was signed in 2007. Cape Verde ratified visa facilitation and readmission agreements in October 2014. They entered into force on 1 December 2014.</i> | | |
| Recent and upcoming events | | |
| 6-7 June 2011 | Political dialogue meeting at ministerial level, Praia | |
| 8 April 2014 | Political Dialogue Meeting at Ministerial Level | Explore possible ways to strengthen MP |
| 1 December 2014 | | Entry into force of the visa facilitation and readmission agreements |
| 5 October 2015 | Joint Committees on visa facilitation and readmission | |

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| Nigeria | | |
| <i>Under the umbrella of the EU-Nigeria Ministerial meetings, several political dialogues session on migration have taken place in the last few years. A Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility (CAMM) was signed on 12 March 2015.</i> | | |
| Recent and upcoming events | | |
| 12 March 2015 | Signature of CAMM at the side of the JHA Council | |
| 8-9 July 2015 | local dialogue on migration issues in Abuja | Identify priorities for CAMM implementation |
| November/December 2015 | 2015 Ministerial Dialogue in Brussels | |

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| Ethiopia | | |
| <i>In February 2015 the draft text of text for a Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility (CAMM) was approved by the Council. The text will be transmitted to Ethiopian authorities seeking their approval/comments.</i> | | |
| Recent and upcoming events | | |
| 27 January 2015 | The Council took note/approved of the text of the draft joint declaration of CAMM to be negotiated with Ethiopia. | |
| February 2015 | Transmission to the Ethiopian authorities of a draft text of an EU-Ethiopia Joint Declaration establishing CAMM. | |

South Africa

South Africa and the EU entered into a Strategic Partnership in 2007. An EU migration mission visited South Africa in September 2008. Since then, in the frame of the Joint Cooperation Council, a Migration Dialogue Forum is organised.

Recent and upcoming events

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| 10 June 2013 | EU/SA Ministerial meeting, Brussels | |
| 18 July 2013 | EU/SA Summit, Pretoria, Pretoria | |
| 25 November 2014 | Migration dialogue | Discussion on border management, Khartoum Process, Rabat Process; GAMM and CAMM and EU visa policy |
| 26 November 2014 | EU/SA Joint Cooperation Council | |

(F) ASIAN COUNTRIES

China

The EU-China comprehensive strategic partnership came into force in 2003. China signed an Approved Destination Status Agreement in 2004, facilitating the entry of Chinese tourists into EU Member States and including provisions on readmission. Formal negotiation of an EU readmission agreement, based on 2002 negotiating directives, has not started yet. Negotiation of a PCA, including an article on readmission and visa cooperation, started in 2007.

At the 14th EU-China Summit in February 2012 both sides agreed to explore the possibilities of facilitating mobility for Chinese and EU citizens, and strengthen cooperation on illegal immigration, as well as to pay special attention to the question of mutual visa exemption for holders of diplomatic passports. The 15th EU-China Summit reiterated these objectives, while calling for the launch an EU-China High Level Dialogue on Migration and Mobility.

Recent and upcoming events

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| 14 October 2013 | EU-China Migration and Mobility Dialogue , Brussels | Provided basis for general information exchange and discussed broad parameters of cooperation package on visa-readmission. |
| 20-21 November 2013 | 16 th EU-China Summit | Negotiations did not result in the consolidation of above cooperation package. Reply to EU letter on outcome of October HLD was received in September 2014, proposing different parameters than those suggested by the EU. Further exchanges with China are ongoing. |
| 9 April 2015 | 2 nd meeting of the EU-China Migration and Mobility Dialogue, Beijing | Some progress achieved with two outstanding issues on visa application centres and return cooperation |
| 29 June 2015 | 17 th EU-China Summit | The package on the visa, mobility and readmission cooperation was finalised in the form of the joint minutes of the MMD and endorsed by the Summit. |

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| India | | |
| <p><i>The EU-India Co-operation Agreement entered into force in 1994. In 2004 the EU and India entered into a Strategic Partnership. The EU-India Joint Action Plan was agreed in 2005 at the Summit in The Hague and revised in 2008 at the eighth EU-India Summit in Marseille. This plan aims to promote among others people-to-people contacts and cultural exchanges. After the first EU-India migration dialogue meeting held in 2006, the December 2010 EU-India Summit emphasised the importance of movement of people, and agreed to deepen cooperation by establishing a regular, comprehensive and structured dialogue on migration issues.</i></p> <p><i>The 12th EU-India Summit discussed possible ways to facilitate mobility – a recurring Indian request – in parallel with preventing and combating irregular migration.</i></p> | | |
| Recent and upcoming events | | |
| 10 February 2012 | 12 th EU-India Summit, India, Delhi | |
| 2 July 2012 | EU-India High Level Dialogue Meeting on Migration and Mobility, Delhi | Possible ways to strengthen cooperation with India were discussed, including the establishment of a EU-India working group on migration and mobility and of a CAMM. |
| 30 January 2013 | EU-India Ministerial Meeting | |
| 4 February 2013 | 22 nd EU-India Joint Commission | Discussions on EU-India "non-political" cooperation, including on migration and mobility. |
| 2 April 2013 | Transmission of draft CAMM political declaration to India | Reply received in May 2015 and exploratory talks took place on 22-23 June.. |
| November 2015 | 13 th EU-India Summit | India is again expected to table proposals in relation to visa facilitation/liberalisation. |

(G) UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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| <p><i>Relations between the EU and the US have been formalised in 1990 in the Transatlantic Declaration, and further developed in the New Transatlantic Agenda which outlined a new framework for cooperation including a number of areas for joint action. An EU-US Joint Statement endorsed by the EU-US JHA Ministerial Troika in October 2009 (the so-called "Washington Statement") sets out common values and foundations of EU-US cooperation in the JHA area until 2014 and includes a commitment to enhance both political and operational cooperation in various JHA issues.</i></p> <p><i>Further to this commitment cooperation has been developed on migration and asylum issues in the context of the <u>EU-US Cooperation Platform on Migration and Refugee issues</u>, launched in 2010. Activities include areas such as unaccompanied minors, biometrics, refugee resettlement, trafficking in human beings, development of capacity building for migration management in third countries and contribution of the Diaspora to the development of countries of origin of migration.</i></p> | | |
| Recent and upcoming events | | |
| 26 March 2014 | EU US Summit, Brussels | The Joint Declaration reasserts the objective to reach full visa reciprocity as soon as possible |

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| 29 April 2014 | Meeting of the Steering Committee of the EU-US Platform for cooperation on migration and refugee issues, Brussels | Priority actions for 2014 and consultations ahead of the GFMD |
| 25 June 2014 | EU-US JHA Ministerial Meeting, Athens | |
| 17-18 September 2014 | EU-US Senior Officials Meeting, Rome | Agenda includes : Visa reciprocity, ESTA, unaccompanied minors, EU-US Platform on Migration, update on EU Task Force Mediterranean, future migration outlook, update on Smart Borders |
| 12-13 November 2014 | EU-US Ministerial Meeting, Washington | On HOME issues, agenda focuses on foreign fighters and organised crime |
| 3-4 February 2015 | EU-US Senior Officials Meeting, Riga | |
| 2-3 June 2015 | EU-US JHA Ministerial Meeting, Riga | Agenda focused on counterterrorism; migration management and cyber criminality Statement on JHA cooperation was endorsed |
| 8 – 9 September 2015 | EU-US Senior Officials Meeting, Luxembourg | |
| November 2013 (tbc) | EU-US JHA Ministerial Meeting, Washington D.C | |

(H) BRAZIL

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| <p><i>In the framework of the EU-Brazil Strategic Partnership, established in 2007, Brazil has expressed an interest in enhancing cooperation with the EU on migration and migration related issues, in particular on trafficking in human beings. Following technical exchanges with Brazil, the EU has presented a draft Joint Declaration establishing a CAMM to the Brazilian authorities in January 2015.</i></p> | | |
| <p>Recent and upcoming events</p> | | |
| 20 January 2015 | Transmission of a draft text of an EU-Brazil Joint Declaration establishing a CAMM with Brazil. | |

Part 3 - The global processes

GLOBAL FORUM FOR MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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| <p><i>The GFMD is an initiative of the UN Member States to address the migration and development nexus in practical and action-oriented ways. It is an informal, non-binding, voluntary and government-led process that marks the culmination of more than a decade of international dialogue on the growing importance of the linkages between migration and development.</i></p> <p><i>The process emerged after the UN High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development on 14-15 September 2006. The second High-level Dialogue on 3-4 October 2013 confirmed the GFMD as a valuable forum for holding frank and open discussions, which has helped to build trust among participating stakeholders.</i></p> |
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| Recent and upcoming events | | |
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| 14-16 May 2014 | GFMD Summit, Stockholm | Theme: Unlocking the potential of migration for inclusive development |
| 5 February 2015 | Thematic Meeting, Geneva | Theme: Updating GFMD position on the Post-2015 Development Agenda |
| 29 April 2015 | Thematic Meeting, Geneva | Theme: The role of communications in promoting widespread recognition of the benefits of migration, improving public perceptions of migrants and combating xenophobic reactions |
| 15-16 May 2015 | Business Meeting, Istanbul | Theme: Are businesses fit to compete in the global competition for skills? |
| 3 June | G20-GFMD-GMG Joint Event, Izmir, Turkey | To discuss the role of migration, remittances and diaspora for financing for sustainable development. |
| 15 July 2015 | Thematic Meeting, Brussels | Theme: The Mediterranean Crisis in a Global Context: A New Look at Migration & Development Approaches |
| 8 September 2015 | Thematic Meeting, Geneva | Theme: Recognising the contributions of women migrants to economic and social development in countries of origin and destination and addressing their specific needs |
| 12-13 October 2015 | Civil Society Days, Istanbul | |
| 14-16 October 2015 | 8th GFMD Summit, Istanbul | |

Compiled by DG HOME/A3
19 October 2015