



CONCEPT NOTE

Towards a Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

A regional perspective

Marking the 2016 International Migrants' Day. An IOM and OSCE joint event

Wednesday 14 December 2016, 14:30 - 17:30

OSCE Congress Centre, Hofburg, Neuersaal

Heldenplatz, 1010 Vienna

Background

Migration has been increasingly in the spotlight of public and political debate. The surge in the scale of movements and loss of life of migrants – both in Europe and in other parts of the world – has raised questions about the adequacy of the existing national and international tools to deal with migration-related challenges. On 19 September 2016 the General Assembly of the United Nations for the first time addressed these issues at a *High-Level Plenary Meeting on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants (A/71/L.34)*. The *High-Level Meeting* culminated in the adoption of the *New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants* that launched a process of intergovernmental negotiations aimed at the adoption of a Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in 2018. The Global Compact for Migration would set out a range of common principles and commitments among Member States regarding international migration in all its dimensions. As such, it would make an important contribution to global governance and enhance coordination on international migration. The development and negotiations of the Global Compact for Migration is an ambitious undertaking, which will dominate the migration policy agenda in the next two years. Success can only be achieved in the spirit of partnership and open dialogue among States, international organizations, civil society, migrants and diaspora organizations, academia, and the private sector.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) – the UN migration agency, tasked to service the negotiations for the Global Compact on Migration together with the UN Secretariat – will be a key player in the current and future debate on migration governance. On the other hand, the OSCE, being the largest regional security organization under Chapter VIII of the UN Charter, can offer a regional perspective in the overall discussion, considering that the principles contained in the New York Declaration echo significantly the mandate of the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA) in the field of migration governance.

A joint IOM and OSCE event for the International Migrants' Day

Building on the long-standing cooperation between the two organizations, on the occasion of the 2016 International Migrants' Day, IOM and OSCE are convening a meeting to discuss future steps and challenges for the development and adoption of the *Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration*.

Taking advantage of the respective roles and perspectives in addressing migration-related challenges, the IOM Regional Office for South-Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, and Mission to the UN and other Vienna-based International Organizations, and the OSCE will jointly invite delegations of the participating States to the OSCE, specialists in the area of migration governance, think-tanks, academia and research entities, selected civil society representatives and International Organizations, including OSCE Executive Structures, to actively participate in an interactive discussion, paving the way to enhanced action-oriented cooperation.

The working language will be English and Russian.

The two Organizations will jointly produce the proceedings of this joint event.

At the margins of the event, short films on migration will be screened in the framework of the *Global Migration Film Festival* opening on 5 December and culminating on 18 December 2016, the International Migrants' Day. The festival is an opportunity to celebrate the diversity and unique contributions of migrants to the communities where they live as well as a tribute to the many films that capture the opportunities and challenges of migration. The Festival is part of the UN Secretary General's "Together" global campaign to promote diversity and inclusion of migrants.

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Provisional Agenda

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14:00 – 14:30 Registration of participants and welcoming coffee

14:30 – 15:00 Opening Remarks

Moderator: Professor Ronald Skeldon, School of Global Governance, University of Maastricht, The Netherlands

- **Ambassador Lamberto Zannier**, Secretary General, OSCE
- **Ambassador Laura Thompson**, Deputy Director General, IOM
- **Ambassador Eberhard Pohl**, Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council, Permanent Representative of Germany to the OSCE, 2016 OSCE German Chairmanship
- **Ambassador Florian Raunig**, Head of the Task Force for the 2017 OSCE Austrian Chairmanship, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Austria

15:00 – 15:30 Coffee break and Press opportunity

15:30 – 17:00 Panel discussion: Key prospects and challenges for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

- **Ambassador Claude Wild**, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the OSCE
- Representative of the European Union (**tbc**)
- **Mr. Mark Simon**, Leading Research Fellow at Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration (RANEPA), Moscow (**tbc**)
- **Mr. John Bingham**, Civil Society Coordinator of the Global Forum on Migration and Development
- **Mr. Sönke Lorenz**, incoming 2017 German Co-Chairmanship, Global Forum on Migration and Development

Discussion

17:00 -17:30

The way forward

Moderator: Ms. Sandra Sacchetti, Head of External Co-operation Section, Office of the Secretary General, OSCE

- **Ms. Argentina Szabados**, Director, Regional Office for South-Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, International Organization for Migration
- **Ms. Christine Hirst**, Deputy Head of Democratization Department, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, ODIHR
- **Dr. Halil Yurdakul Yigitgüden**, Co-ordinator of the OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

17:30 – 18:30

Cocktail Reception

Screening of short films in the framework of the Global Migration Film Festival

The Global Migration Film Festival takes place between 5 and 18 December 2016. It is an opportunity for the world to celebrate the diversity and unique contributions of migrants to the communities where they live. The Film Festival is part of the UN's "Together" global campaign to promote diversity and inclusion. For more information, please see

<https://social.shorthand.com/UNmigration/32JUgzeJ66/5-to-18-december>