

TOWARDS THE 2018 GLOBAL COMPACT FOR A SAFE, ORDERLY, AND REGULAR MIGRATION

ITALIAN VISION

Migration has been a fundamental part of human development through history: migrants moving from a country to another have greatly contributed to economic growth, innovation, trade, culture, and wealth of both origin and destination societies. Indeed, migration is a permanent phenomenon, it always existed and it will always exist. In a more and more globalized and interconnected world, this phenomenon is reaching unprecedented dimensions, with more than 240 million of people on the move in the world.

Facing these new dynamics, we lost the long term perspective on migration, approaching it as a crisis rather than a stable part of States' policies. For this reason, in order to improve migration governance, the Italian vision is to **shift the focus on human mobility from an emergency approach to an encompassing and long-term one, turning massive irregular migration flows into predictable and manageable migration channels.**

The management of these flows reflects policy measures along the entire spectrum of migration - entry, stay and return - and may include security and border management to stem irregular migration on one side, but also channels for regular migration (family reunification, labour mobility, temporary work permits, study permits), refugee resettlement spaces, a robust asylum determination system, comprehensive settlement and integration programming, and naturalization or citizenship pathways.

This should be accompanied by efforts to combat racism, discrimination, and xenophobia, including through a more open, balanced and comprehensive discourse that moves away from framing migrants as a burden or a threat and instead embraces the benefits of human mobility and diversity. Migrants and refugees are increasingly being received in conditions of fear and intolerance, despite the benefits diversity can bring to host and destination countries. Indeed, economies that capitalize on their diversity are more innovative, adaptive and competitive. Likewise, a rich cultural life flourishes when creative expression and the free exchange of ideas are nurtured. Inclusive communities have better education and health outcomes and they foster a sense of belonging and resilience.

Italy welcomes the thematic sessions in preparation of the negotiation process for the Global Compact on Migration and will engage in the subsequent discussions.

In order to contribute to the debate, Italy would like to underline its own set of priorities.

In managing human mobility Italy embraces two main principles underpinning its migration policies:

- **The principle of a shared responsibility:** Italy promotes a common responsibility in managing the flows to ensure a safe and orderly migration, in protecting people on the

move and in particular the most vulnerable ones, such as women and unaccompanied minors (also by humanitarian corridors); in enforcing border control - an essential instrument to reduce irregular migration, fight smuggling and human trafficking, - and tackle issues relating to transnational organized crime, terrorism and illicit trade

- **The principle of a partnership among countries of origin, transit and destination** (all the actors along the migration chain) to address this global phenomenon in a comprehensive way and ensure that all countries benefit from the positive contribution of human mobility to development and economic growth.

The Global Compact on Migration should therefore focus on the three following objectives:

- **Investing** in countries of origin and transit, on the basis of specific partnership agreements, financing sustainable projects (both through ODA and the involvement of the private sector) with high social and economic impact since development is key to better manage human mobility and to tackle the root causes of forced migration and, in turn, well managed human mobility is a vital step in achieving the Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals;
- **Protecting** the most vulnerable among people on the move – women, minors, especially unaccompanied and separated ones - according to international law and standards, while paying particular attention to the victims of trafficking of human beings and gender-based violence. Finally, we also recognize the importance of enhancing law enforcement cooperation in order to drive down cross-border trafficking and tackle illicit financial flows;
- **Valuing** the positive aspects of a safe and orderly human mobility for origin, transit and destination countries, by promoting economic integration and social inclusion of migrants in the host countries and by adopting effective measures to assure the access to basic services and overcome the barriers to the labor market integration. Well-managed human mobility can indeed bring a 'triple win', with benefits to countries of origin, countries of destination, and migrants themselves.

In order to translate this principles in concrete actions the Global Compact on Migration should support Member States commitment in:

- Encouraging international financial institutions and bilateral donors to bolster their financial and technical assistance for main countries of origin and transit as well as host communities;
- Investing in capacity building for local authorities dealing with border management and migrants reception in countries of origin, transit and destination, in order to ensure the safety and dignity of all migrants as well as the protection of their human rights and fundamental freedom;
- Enhancing collection of disaggregated data on migration phenomena and improving data sharing among MS in order to better analyze migration issues.

- Strengthening national protection systems for minors in order to ensure access to basic services to all minors, including those unaccompanied, and determine their best interest. Data collection on minors should play a crucial role in order to avoid disappearance and combat trafficking.
- Sponsoring civil registry systems enhancement and digitalization in countries of origin as a way to avoid statelessness, effectively combat trafficking and improve assistance to its victims;
- Sustaining migrant's health care needs, according to the outcome document "Stepping up action on Refugee and Migrant Health", adopted by the WHO Euro Region in 2015, and with the WHO Resolution "Promoting the health of refugees and migrants" adopted by the 70th World Health Assembly;
- Encouraging a fast and effective integration through an early provision of language and civic education courses, vocational training and any other measure aimed at upgrading migrants' skills on the basis of the national labour market needs;
- Promoting the recognition and accreditation of migrant workers' skills and qualifications and providing means to have their skills and qualifications recognized in destination countries, as well as by improving laws, policies and enforcement mechanisms to promote fair recruitment practices;
- Providing targeted human rights training to all personnel involved in migration management activities, in order to address the specific needs of and protect the most vulnerable people on the move;
- Supporting circular migration through policies and mechanisms aimed at developing skills in countries of origin before departure, reintegrating returnees into origin-country labor markets, and enabling diaspora members to contribute to the skills base in countries of origin.