

INVITATION

5. October 2023

1.30 pm
to 3.00 pm

**Online
Policy Dialogue**

(ZOOM)

Migration and Asylum - Towards a joint European response? Session III - The External Dimension - Cooperation with third countries

EU Member States are facing increasing pressure due to a growing number of irregular arrivals and asylum applications. To ease the burden on both first-entry and secondary movement destinations, the EU and its Member States have recently agreed on several measures, including the new solidarity mechanism. However, if these numbers keep rising, managing the situation within the EU alone will become increasingly challenging. Collaboration with countries of origin and transit is vital to establish effective return strategies and deter unsafe journeys for those with no right to stay.

How can we strike the right balance between upholding human rights and employing deterrence mechanisms? Does the EU Pact on Migration and the Action Plan on the Central Mediterranean provide useful tools and can the Commission President's 10-points plan for Lampedusa maximise their potential? What lessons can be drawn from experiences with current migrations deals with countries like Tunisia or Turkey? How can we overcome the challenges of cooperation with third countries and what strategies could help to address the misuse of illegal migration as an external tool for political pressure?

We cordially invite you to join our third online expert dialogue session, focusing on the external dimension of European migration and asylum policy. In this session, we will assess progress and identify the pressing obstacles that European Institutions and Member States face as they work towards a common European migration and asylum policy.

Programme

1.30 pm
to 1.35 pm

Welcome:

Dr. Thomas LEEB, Director Brussels Office of the Hanns Seidel Foundation

Dr. Loredana TEODORESCU, Head of EU and International Affairs, Luigi Sturzo Institute

1.35 pm
to 1.50 pm

Introductory statements (5 minutes each):

Mercedes GARCIA PEREZ, Head of Division, Migration and Human Security, European External Action Service (EEAS), Global.G1.4

Guy STESENS, Deputy Director (Asylum, Migration, Visas and Borders), General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union, JAI 1 Home Affairs

Margaret MONYANI, Senior Researcher working on migration, Institute for Security Studies (ISS), Pretoria

Lars GERDES, Deputy Executive Director for Return, Frontex *tbc*

1.50 pm
to 2.55 pm

Policy dialogue session:

Chair: **Dr. Loredana TEODORESCU**, Head of EU and International Affairs, Luigi Sturzo Institute

3.00 pm

End of Conference

Conference language is English. – This policy dialogue is held under Chatham house rule.

Organisation and contact:

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