



JOINT STATEMENT OF THE SECURITY AND DEFENCE COMMITTEES OF V4 PARLIAMENTARY CHAMBERS

Prague, 29 April 2024

In relation to recent migration developments, we jointly:

- 1) **RAISE** concerns about the increased migratory pressure last year both on the EU's external borders and asylum and reception capacities and continuous instrumentalisation of migrants as a hybrid threat against the EU unity.
- 2) **RECOGNISE** the need for further reform of the EU migration and asylum policy after the European elections with the aim to significantly reduce the migratory pressure.
- 3) **HIGHLIGHT** that this reform must be able to address both current and future migration challenges while also adapting to the evolving and increasingly volatile geopolitical landscape.
- 4) **UNDERSCORE** that the reform should complement the Migration and asylum pact by introducing innovative solutions in the external dimension built upon the principles of externalization of migration and asylum procedures.
- 5) **EMPHASIZE** the importance of the EU's investment in forging new strategic partnerships with key third countries along all migratory routes.
- 6) **AGREE** that their common goal should be to strengthen the prevention of illegal migration to the EU and to allow the return to the proper functioning of the Schengen area by enhanced protection of external borders and fight against migrants' smuggling and increased returns in particular.
- 7) **HIGHLIGHT** the importance of pragmatic approach and flexibility in the Migration and asylum pact implementation as well as ensuring that its implementation is supported by adequate EU funding.

8) SUPPORT the increased EU financial support for Member States hosting large numbers Ukrainian refugees.

Signed in Prague, 29 April 2024



Pavel Žáček
Committee on Security
of the Chamber of Deputies
of the Parliament
of the Czech Republic



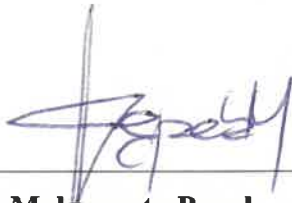
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