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NOTE

From:	Commission Services
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Update on state of play of external cooperation in the field of migration policy

Delegations will find attached an update on state of play of external cooperation in the field of migration policy, issued by the Commission Services.



**UPDATE ON STATE OF PLAY OF EXTERNAL COOPERATION
IN THE FIELD OF MIGRATION POLICY
Version of 14 January 2022**

The European Commission adopted the New Pact on Migration and Asylum on 23 September 2020, which contains a strong component on partnerships with third countries.

This document provides an updated overview of the main external migration dialogues and processes since 2019. The document is compiled for the information of the Working Party on the External Aspects of Asylum and Migration by the responsible European Commission and EEAS services.

This document also serves as a tool to follow-up the implementation of the European Council Conclusions (on external aspects of migration) of 16 December, 21-22 October, 24-25 June as well as the outcomes of the Jumbo Meeting of the Home Affairs and the Foreign Affairs Ministers of 15 March 2021.

This document was formally known as the Global Approach to Migration Management (GAMM) update covering dialogues and processes since 2005.

Part 1- Bilateral dialogues

(A) AFRICAN COUNTRIES

Cabo Verde

In 2007, the EU and Cabo Verde agreed on a Special Partnership Agreement and a Joint Declaration on a Mobility Partnership with Cabo Verde was signed in 2008. In December 2014, two visa facilitation and readmission agreements, entered into force. The visa facilitation agreement was jointly evaluated in 2017 and the text has been subsequently amended to include further mobility facilitation. The negotiations started in October 2019 and were concluded on 24 July 2020. On 18 March 2021, the amendment of the EU-Cabo Verde Visa Facilitation Agreement was signed in Brussels. The European Parliament voted the amended agreement on 15 September 2021 and it was adopted by the Council on 7 October 2021. The ratification process on the Caboverdean side continues. It is expected that it will enter into force in the coming months.

Recent and upcoming events

10 September 2019	4th EU-Cabo Verde Joint Visa Facilitation Committee meeting – Brussels	Meeting confirmed the overall satisfactory implementation of the Visa Facilitation Agreement. The Commission requested the Coun-
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		cil the authorization for opening negotiations to amend the EU-Cabo Verde VFA (notably to adjust to Visa Code) and the Council adopted the mandate on the 24 October.
28 November 2019	Formal opening of negotiations on Visa Facilitation Agreement - Brussels	
30 January 2020	Further round of talks on Agreement – Praia	
24 July 2020	Initialling of agreement text via email	
21 March 2021	Signing of amendment of the EU-Cabo Verde Visa Facilitation Agreement	
14 July 2021	Amended agreement text sent to European Parliament for vote of consent	All EP groups in favour except for one
29 June 2021	EU-Cabo Verde Ministerial in Lisbon	Migration and VFA on the agenda
15 September 2021	EU-Cabo Verde amended Visa Facilitation Agreement was voted in the Plenary session of the European Parliament.	
7 October 2021	The Council received the EP's consent and adopted the amended Visa Facilitation Agreement on 7 October.	

<p>Ethiopia <i>The Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility (CAMM) was signed by the EU and Ethiopia on in November 2015. A Joint Declaration "Towards an EU-Ethiopia Strategic Engagement", including a sectoral dialogue on migration, was also signed on 14 June 2016. Procedures for identification and returns of Ethiopian irregular migrants from Europe were approved by the Council on 29 January 2018.</i></p>		
<p>Recent and upcoming events</p>		
24 January 2019	Visit of PM Abiy to Brussels	Meetings with President Tusk, President Juncker and the HR/VP
9 February 2019	EU-Ethiopia Ministerial Meeting, Addis Ababa	Co-chaired by the HR/VP and the Ethiopian MFA. Both sides acknowledged the need for further actions and cooperation, in particular to continue adequately implementing the Joint Valletta Action Plan. Both sides underscored the need for continued dialogue on migration between EU and Ethiopia.
13 May 2019	Joint Working Group on the implementation of Admission Procedures, Brussels	
8 October 2019	First Technical Meeting on the implementation of Admission Procedures, Addis Ababa	
28 November 2019	2 nd meeting of the Joint Working Group on the implementation of Admission Procedures + Consular Workshop, Warsaw	
26-28 February 2020	Visit of Commissioner Johansson to Addis Abba, as part of the College to	

	College discussions with the African Union.	
9-10 February 2021	Finnish Foreign Minister Haavisto meeting with PM Abiy, at the request of HR/VP	
4-9 April 2021	Second mission of Finnish Foreign Minister Haavisto mandated by the HR/VP	
25 October 2021	Visit to Ethiopia by Commissioner Jutta Urpilainen	Meetings with PM Abiy Ahmed Ali, President Sahle-Work Zewde and Deputy PM, Minister for Foreign Affairs Demeke Hasen.
November 2021	Visit to Ethiopia by the EUSR Annette Weber (as part of a series of her visits across the Gulf and the Horn of Africa)	Meeting with PM Abiy Ahmed Ali

<p>Niger <i>High-Level Dialogue on migration launched on 18 September 2015. The EUCAP Sahel Niger mission was enlarged in July 2015 including a new objective on migration. The EUCAP field office in Agadez opened April 2016. Since November 2017, refugees have been evacuated in a humanitarian evacuation scheme from Libya to Niger via the Emergency Transit Mechanism in Niger.</i></p>		
<p>Recent and upcoming events</p>		
January 2019	Sherpa visit to Niger	Visit to the border with Algeria and meetings with the Minister of Interior, the Minister of Plan as well as implementing partners and local authorities.
July 2019	HR/VP visit to Niger	Meeting with Nigerien authorities in the context of the Sahel tour on occasion of the G5 Sahel Ministerial in Ouagadougou.
23 April 2021	HR/VP visit to Niger	Meeting with Nigerien authorities in the context of the Sahel tour (Part of visit to Mauritania, Mali and Niger on 21-24 April 2021);
16 June 2021	EUSR visit to Niger	Meeting with Nigerien authorities in the context of his end of mandate
13 July 2021	Meeting Minister of Interior with Executive Director of EASO	
06 August 2021	6th meeting of Migration Cooperation Forum with the government of Niger (Cadre de Concertation sur la Migration (CCM))	First meeting since 2019.
6-9 September 2021	CIVOPS Commander and MPCC Director, Francisco Perez ESTEBAN (CivOpsCdr) and an FPI delegation visited Niger.	The visit allowed to have a dialogue with national authorities including the Minister of Internal Affairs on the activities of the EUCAP Sahel mission, whose mandate also covers support to migration and border control.
19-24 September 2021	An EASO mission visited Niamey	The main objective was to present the regional pilot project for North Africa and Niger, and to consult on

		the development of the pilot project with Niger, within the framework of the UNHCR Asylum Capacity Support Group (ACSG).
28 September 2021	First meeting of the Steering Committee of Niger's National Migration Policy in Niamey.	The EU participates as observer.
11-14 October 2021	(New) EUSR visit to Niger	Meeting with Nigerien authorities in the context of her mandate as new EUSR
13 October 2021	EU-Niger Political Dialogue	The first post-Cotonou EU-Niger Partnership Dialogue addressed migration issues around the theme: Migration: Overview of migration trends — political and strategic perspectives on migration management.

Nigeria

Under the umbrella of the EU-Nigeria Ministerial meetings, several political dialogues on migration have taken place in the last few years. A Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility (Camm) was signed on 12 March 2015. 5 rounds of the EU Readmission Agreement negotiations took place but stalled at the end of the electoral period in Nigeria in 2018. On 18 November 2020 the 7th EU Nigeria Ministerial saw the relaunching of a high level political dialogue with this key partner country, after a 4-year hiatus, with a confirmed commitment towards a strategic, comprehensive and balanced partnership. Both sides strongly stated their common will to step up cooperation on migration and security, and agree to relaunch readmission negotiations. Following five additional rounds of negotiations at the start of 2021, it was decided to refer back to the political level in order to get guidance on the continuation of these talks and the outstanding issues identified. Commissioner Urpilainen spoke to the Nigerian Minister of Foreign Affairs in June 2021, including on this issue. Negotiations at technical level have yet to resume.. These negotiations are embedded in wider EU-Nigeria relations on migration and mobility (protection, remittances, fight against trafficking and smuggling, legal migration), of which achieving the conditions of an actual and effective cooperation on return and readmission constitute a key aspect.

Recent and upcoming events

11-12 June 2018	Visit of Nigerian Delegation to Brussels	Discussion on Migration and Mobility package (including growth and investment, legal migration, Erasmus +, smuggling, THB, border security management, digital identity) and continuation of the Readmission Agreement negotiations.
13-14 September 2018	Mission to Abuja	Continuation of the Readmission Agreement negotiations
19-20 November 2018	Visit of Nigerian Delegation to Brussels	Continuation of the Readmission Agreement negotiations (5 th round of negotiations).
16 November 2020	Bilateral VTC between Cssi Johansson and Nigerian Minister of Foreign Affairs	To discuss migration and security prior to the Ministerial meeting, including testing the political will to relaunch the readmission negotiations.
18 November 2020	EU-Nigeria Ministerial Summit	Relaunch a comprehensive dia-

		logue for cooperation and launch of a strategic partnership. Ministerial also allowed for relaunching of stalled readmission negotiations.
28 January 2021	Resumption of the negotiations on the readmission agreement (6 th round)	Full day session with a presentation of the new Pact and the resumption of the negotiations on the readmission agreement.
18 February 2021	7 th round of the negotiations on the readmission agreement	Discussion on the provisions of the text
25 February 2021	8 th round of the negotiations on the readmission agreement	Discussion on the provisions of the text
2 March 2021	9 th round of the negotiations on the readmission agreement	Discussion on the provisions of the text
18 March 2021	10 th round of the negotiations on the readmission agreement	Negotiations referred to political level; a number of outstanding issues remain unresolved at technical level.
17- 22 June 2021	Commissioner Urpilainen's discussion with the Nigerian Minister of Foreign Affairs Onyeama.	The Ministerial roadmap and the readmission negotiations were addressed.
30 June 2021	Letter from MFA Onyeama to HRVP on Ministerial Roadmap	MFA indicated Nigeria's commitment to resume readmission negotiations.
September 2021	Meeting MFA Onyeama and incoming EU Ambassador	MFA indicates he is receiving conflicting messages from EUMS on the need for an RA. Technical level negotiations stalled.
26 October 2021	Chief negotiators' phone call on way forward on readmission.	
Q1/Q2 2022 (tbc)	EU-Nigeria Ministerial Meeting Summit (tbc)	

Senegal		
<i>Partnership compact launched by visit of Commissioner Avramopoulos in Dakar on 26 July 2016.</i>		
<i>Political dialogue with the EU on migration started in 2016, but political commitments have not been fully turned into action so far; progress on returns and readmissions from Europe remains limited.</i>		
<i>In 2020, Senegal has pleaded for more legal pathways towards the EU. Following the significant increase of irregular flows towards the Canary Islands, as well as a number of shipwrecks and incidents which affected Senegalese nationals, Senegal has asked the EU and relevant EUMS to enhance joint efforts in reducing irregular flows, fighting migrant smugglers and saving lives at sea.</i>		
Recent and upcoming events		
15 May 2019	Meeting in Brussels between Commissioner Avramopoulos and M. Mamadou Diagna Ndiaye, President of the National Olympic and Sport Committee of Senegal	Senegal is looking for financial support for the Youth Summer Olympic Games 2022. They see the event as an opportunity to create jobs and address the root causes of irregular migration.
12 June 2019	EBCGA and Senegalese authorities inaugurated the AFIC Risk analysis cell	

	in Senegal	
9 July 2019	EBCGA's mission to Dakar	To finalise the Working Arrangements (with the DG of National Police) and the Umbrella agreement (with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs). The finalisation is still pending.
13 – 14 April 2021	Meetings of Commissioner Johansson and Commissioner Urpilainen with President of Senegal M. Sall	The commitment of both sides to step up cooperation in a balanced and comprehensive way was noted.

(B) SOUTHERN MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES

Morocco

The EU-Morocco Association Agreement entered into force in 2000. A Mobility Partnership was signed in June 2013. Since 2013, the EU supports the implementation of Morocco's National Strategy on Migration and Asylum. The Commission has a mandate to negotiate a readmission agreement since 2000 and, also a mandate to negotiate a visa facilitation agreement. A single round of negotiations on both agreements took place in January 2015. Migration and mobility are part of the EU-Morocco Partnership priorities, currently being updated.

After several years of stalemate (within the general freeze of the relations EU-Morocco) the dialogue was formally relaunched in 2019 (Association Council of 27 June 2019). Morocco recognises Migration and Security as central areas for cooperation with the EU. Morocco has engaged substantially, reducing significantly the flow of irregular migrants arriving to the EU via the Mediterranean sea, however, irregular arrivals of Moroccans and from Morocco remain high, especially on the Canary islands route.

During the visit of Commissioner Johansson and Commissioner Várhelyi to Rabat (1-2 December 2020) a new impetus was given to the dialogue and cooperation on migration with Morocco. The holding of the next informal migration dialogue (timing tbc) remains a priority for the EU.

Among its neighbours, the EU's second largest cooperation portfolio on migration is with Morocco, with a total of EUR 346 million to date, largely financed under the EU Trust Fund for Africa-North Africa window. This includes the EUR 101.7 million programme of budget support launched at the end of 2019 to support the Ministry of Interior in the management of migratory flows, the fight against migrant smuggling and the support of vulnerable migrants in Morocco.

Recent and upcoming events

16 January 2019	Positive EP vote on Agriculture Agreement and HRVP visit to Rabat to mark the relaunch of relations	
12 February 2019	Positive EP vote on Fisheries Agreement	
25 April 2019	Visit by Head of Cabinet of Csr Aramopoulos to Rabat to meet senior officials	
20-21 June 2019	Moroccan and EU Senior Officials Meeting (HOME/NEAR/EEAS) in Brussels	Relaunch of the mobility EU-Morocco dialogue under the Mobility Partnership of 2013 on cooperation on migration and security ahead of the Association Council.

27 June 2019	EU-Morocco Association Council	Joint political declaration that includes references to cooperation on migration and mobility
28/29 August 2019	Commission (NEAR/HOME) mission to Morocco	
31 October 2019	First Joint Committee EBCGA-Morocco in Warsaw	
10 December 2019	Operational Committee of the EUTF for Africa – North of Africa window	Additional package on border management and the fight against human trafficking and migrant smuggling
11 June 2020	Launch of the high level dialogue Europol- Morocco	
13 July 2020	Ministerial Conference of the Ministers of Interior of EU Member States and Partner Countries on countering Migrant Smuggling	Chaired by Italian Minister Luciana Lamorgese with the participation of Commissioners Johansson and Várhelyi
7 October 2020	Second Joint Committee EBCGA-Morocco (VTC)	
1-2 December 2020	Visit of Commissioner Johansson to Morocco (together with Csr Várhelyi)	
Spring 2022 (tbc)	Social Affairs and Migration Subcommittee	
Spring 2022 (tbc)	Informal migration dialogue	

Tunisia

The EU-Tunisia Association Agreement entered into force in 1998. The latest EU-Tunisia Sub-Committees on Social Affairs and Migration took place in November 2018.

A Mobility Partnership was signed on 3 March 2014 between Tunisia and the EU. In this context, the Commission has a mandate to negotiate agreements on Visa Facilitation and Readmission. The latest negotiation round took place in January 2019. Migration and mobility are part of the Strategic priorities adopted in November 2018, currently being re-newed.

The EU supports Tunisia in the implementation of the priorities of the National Strategy on Migration such as mobilising Tunisians abroad for investment in the country; providing social and economic assistance to Tunisian returnees as well as to young Tunisians prone to migration in regions most affected by emigration. The EU also supports Tunisia in the development of an Integrated Border Management system.

Recent and upcoming events

22-23 January 2019	Latest round of negotiations for a Visa Facilitation Agreement and Readmission Agreement	
11 April 2019	EU-Tunisia Association Committee	Migration and Mobility on the agenda
17 May 2019	EU-Tunisia Association Council	Migration and mobility on the agenda
13 July 2020	Ministerial Conference of the Ministers of Interior of EU Member States and Partner Countries on countering Migrant Smuggling	Chaired by Italian Minister Luciana Lamorgese with the participation of Commissioners Johansson and Várhelyi

17 August 2020	Mission to Tunisia of Commissioner Johansson and Commissioner Várhelyi, together with Mol and MFA of Italy	
10 March 2021	Sub-committee on justice and security	
20 /21 May 2021	Mission to Tunisia of Commissioner Johansson together with Italian Minister of Interior Lamorgese	
4 June 2021	Visit of Tunisian President Kais Saied to Brussels; meetings with Presidents von der Leyen, Charles Michel, David Sassoli and President of the EIB	
9-10 September 2021	HRVP Borrell's mission to Tunis; meetings with President Kais Saied and Minister of Foreign Affairs Othman Jerandi as well as with political parties and civil society	
1st half 2022 (tbc)	Sub-committee on Migration and Social Affairs	
2 nd half 2022 (tbc)	EU-Tunisia Association Committee	
2 nd half 202 (tbc)	EU-Tunisia Association Council	

<p>Algeria <i>The EU-Algeria Association Agreement entered into force on 1 September 2005. The Commission received a mandate to negotiate a readmission agreement with Algeria in November 2002. No negotiation has so far taken place. Migration and mobility are one of the 5 Partnership priorities adopted in March 2017, currently being renewed.</i></p> <p><i>Algeria was eligible for funding under the EU Trust Fund for Africa but did not express an interest. In recent engagement, including the sixth EU-Algeria Informal Dialogue on Migration and Mobility, the Algerian authorities have shown renewed interest in cooperation on migration.</i></p>		
<p>Recent and upcoming events</p>		
13 July 2020	Ministerial Conference of the Ministers of Interior of EU Member States and Partner Countries on countering Migrant Smuggling	Chaired by Italian Minister Luciana Lamorgese with the participation of Commissioners Johansson and Várhelyi, Algerian Minister of Interior Kamal Beldjoud
7 December 2020	EU-Algeria Association Council (VTC)	Co-chaired by High Representative/Vice President J. Borrell and the Algerian Minister of Foreign Affairs S. Boukadoum. Commissioner Johansson and Minister Boukadoum discussed migration and mobility in a dedicated session.
1 July 2021	EU-Algeria informal dialogue on migration and mobility	Co-chaired by DG HOME DDG Mr Johannes LUCHNER, with participation from EUDEL, EEAS, NEAR, SG and JHA counsellors as observers and on the Algerian side - Mr Cherif OUALID (Directeur des Affaires Consulaires, Direction Générale des Affaires Consulaires et de la Communauté Nationale à l'Étranger, Ministère

		des Affaires Étrangères), with participation from the ministries of foreign affairs, the interior, labour and social affairs, the gendarmerie nationale.
13 September 2021	Sub-committee on Justice and Home Affairs	Co-chaired by EEAS Head of Department Rosamaria Gili and Director Nor-eddine BENFREHA (MFA, Directeur de la coopération avec l'UE et des institutions européennes).
First half of 2022 (tbc)	Association Council	

<p>Egypt <i>Relations between the EU and Egypt are governed by an Association Agreement since 2004. The EU-Egypt Partnership Priorities were adopted on 25 July 2017 and include a chapter on the strengthening of bilateral co-operation on migration and mobility. On 16 December 2017, Commissioner Avramopoulos and Egyptian FM Shoukry launched the EU-Egypt Migration Dialogue. Migration and mobility are part of the EU-Egypt Partnership priorities, currently being renewed.</i></p> <p><i>In Egypt, a EUR 60 million programme under the EU Trust Fund for Africa programme was adopted in May 2017 to boost job opportunities in areas prone to migration, creating employment and building skills of young people – as well as supporting labour-intensive infrastructure development in cities hosting migrants, and other actions (SMEs, skills, health care) for areas with a high concentration of migrants. The Financing Agreement was only ratified by the Egyptian Parliament on 14th April 2019. All projects have been launched.</i></p> <p>Recent and upcoming events</p>		
25 June 2019	Visit of Commissioner Avramopoulos for the second round of the Migration Dialogue	Main purpose to ensure political continuity to the Migration Dialogue and discussion on Security.
10 July 2019	Senior Officials meeting on migration in Cairo	To follow up on the 2 nd round of the Migration Dialogue at the technical level
3 September 2019	EU Counterterrorism dialogue Coordinator visit to Egypt	To relaunch the dialogue on counterterrorism with Egypt.
27 November 2019	Meeting of the 7 th EU-Egypt Stability Cluster, Cairo	The meeting covered counterterrorism, migration and asylum, as well as consular issues.
3-4 February 2020	EASO consultation meeting with Egyptian authorities in Malta	Opportunities for future cooperation
18-19 February 2020	Seminar organised by EASO on asylum in Alexandria	Asylum systems and procedures under the Common European Asylum System
3 September 2020	HRVP visit to Cairo	To discuss bilateral and regional relations; migration pact was briefly raised
4-9 October 2020	EASO technical level mission to Cairo	Future cooperation
5 November 2020	President of the European Council Michel visit to Cairo	To discuss bilateral and regional relations including fight against terrorism
12 July 2021	Meeting between Commissioner Johansson and Egyptian Foreign Minister Shoukry	Discuss migration and security cooperation, raise EU intention to hold the next Migration Dialogue meeting in autumn 2021

05 October 2021	EU-Egypt 7th meeting of Association Committee,	To discuss various aspect of cooperation and in particular programmes for 2021, including migration
25 October 2021	Commissioner Varhelyi visit to Egypt	Meetings with President Al Sisi and Foreign Minister Shoukry (besides other Ministers as well as CSOs, HR- defendants, business). Discussions focused on all aspects of cooperation, including migration, and future programmes
15 November 2021	Commissioner Johansson visit to Cairo	Discussed all aspects of cooperation on migration and mobility with relevant ministers
16 November 2021	Migration Dialogue at senior officials level	

Libya

The overriding priority of EU action is to support a transition towards a stable, democratic and united Libya. The EU contributes to the Berlin Process and the United Nations' efforts for a peaceful resolution of the Libyan crisis. The EU co-chairs the Economic Working Group for a more prosperous Libya. The foreseen elections on 24 December were postponed.

Promoting human rights remains a priority.

The EU aims to strengthen democracy, the rule of law and legitimate national institutions for a stable, resilient and prosperous Libya. Stabilisation is a prerequisite for developing a rights-based migration management system in Libya and for the EU-Libya partnership on migration.

CSDP Operation Irini plays an important role in implementing the UN arms embargo on Libya and, as its secondary tasks, prevent the illicit export of petroleum, train the Libyan Coast Guard and Navy in law enforcement tasks at sea and disrupt the business model of human smuggling and trafficking networks.

Recent and upcoming events:

4 April 2021	Visit to Tripoli by European Council President Charles Michel	First EU-level meeting with new Government of National Unity (GNU)
28 May 2021	Visit to Tripoli by Commissioner Varhelyi with Italian and Maltese Foreign Ministers Di Maio and Bartolo	Meeting to discuss with GNU closer economic cooperation with the EU
7 June 2021	Visit to Tripoli by Commissioner Johansson	Meeting with GNU to discuss new areas of cooperation in migration and border security

8 September 2021	Visit to Tripoli by HRVP Borrell	Meeting with GNU on a range of issues related to stabilisation, political and economic reform
21 October 2021	Ministerial Conference on Libya's Stabilisation	Conference to prepare elections, stabilisation and cooperation with the African Union, EU and UN on stabilisation agenda
12 November 2021	International Conference on Libya	It brought together Libyan transitional authorities, the heads of State and government of the countries invited to the Berlin conferences, and the countries in Libya's neighbourhood.

<p>Jordan <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. First bilateral discussions on visa facilitation and readmission took place in November 2016, but were afterwards put on hold by the Jordanian side, mainly due to concerns over third country nationals' clause in the readmission agreement. EU—Jordan Partnership Priorities 2021-2027 text (including migration and mobility) has been agreed by both sides (to be adopted).</i></p>		
<p>Recent and upcoming events</p>		
17 June 2019	EU raised Mobility Partnership in Association Council.	EU reiterated that it is ready to relaunch the negotiation process on visa facilitation and readmission, and encouraged Jordan to actively explore all opportunities provided by the Mobility Partnership.
26 May 2021	EU-Jordan Subcommittee on justice and security	
31 May 2021	EU – Jordan Association Committee	Discussed a range of subjects including security and Mobility Partnership
30 November – 1 December 2021	Mission of Commissioner Varhelyi to Jordan	

Lebanon

Relations between the EU and Lebanon are governed by an Association Agreement signed in June 2002 (entered into force in April 2006). On 10 December 2014, the EU and Lebanon launched a Dialogue on Migration, Mobility and Security. In 2016, the EU and Lebanon adopted the Partnership Priorities for the period 2016-2020 (extended until end 2021), migration and mobility being one of them. EU-Lebanon Partnership priorities 2021-2027 text (including migration and mobility) is being negotiated.

Lebanon expressed in May 2019 an interest in starting the negotiations for a Visa facilitation agreement.

In the autumn 2019, there were signals that Lebanon would be willing to relaunch the negotiations on the Mobility Partnership, but no concrete follow-up steps have been taken by Lebanon so far (also due to the deteriorating political, financial, economic and social situation, particularly following the 2020 explosion in the port of Beirut).

Recent and upcoming events

7 December 2020	FAC adopted Council Conclusions on Lebanon	
18-20 June 2021	HR/VP visit to Lebanon	
11 November 2021	VP Schinas mission to Lebanon	Discussed Lebanon's role in hosting the Syrian refugees as well as the situation at the EU external borders with Belarus

(C) Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia)

Cooperation with all Western Balkans partners remains a top political priority for the EU. The work with the Western Balkan partners is also enhanced by the 2018 Western Balkan Strategy and its six flagship initiatives, including on security and migration. All partners except Kosovo enjoy a visa-free regime with the EU.*

The Western Balkan partners are transit countries for migrants. Partnership with the Western Balkans is a good example of the comprehensive approach to migration management as set out in the New Pact. Through the support of the JHA Agencies and with significant financial assistance, the EU is working closely with partners in the region in the area of asylum and reception, border management, return and readmission, migrant smuggling, and sharing of information.

There are various Justice and Home Affairs subcommittee meetings and joint readmission committees with Western Balkan partners.

Recent and upcoming events

17 May 2021	EU – Western Balkans JHA SOM	Asylum, migration, border management and police cooperation in the area of prevention and investigation of child sexual exploitation online and off-line were discussed.
9 - 10 June 2021	Brdo Process Ministerial conference	Main topics were the management of mixed migration and the prevention and investigation of online child sexual abuse.
24 June 2021	Salzburg Forum Ministerial	Schengen, Joint Coordination Platform

29 June 2021	Berlin Process Ministerial	Home Affairs Ministers in the framework of the Berlin Process (focus on security)
30 September 2021	President von der Leyen's mission to the Western Balkans	President von der Leyen visited Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia.
6 October 2021	EU – WB Summit	
11-12 November 2021	Ministerial Conference on Child Sexual abuse	Western Balkan partners were invited to this ministerial conference organised by the Slovenian Presidency in Brdo, Slovenia
2-3 December 2021	EU – Western Balkans JHA Ministerial	Organised by the SI Presidency in Brdo, Slovenia. Western Balkans partners were invited. Topics: migration, counter terrorism, organised crime. Commissioner Johansson held bilaterals with BIH, MK, KS.
14 December 2021	Salzburg Forum Meeting	VTC conference organised by the HU Presidency of the Salzburg Forum. The interior ministers discussed irregular migration.
25 May 2022	EU – Western Balkans JHA SOM	To be organised in Paris by FR Presidency.

ALBANIA

Albania formally agreed an association with the EU by signing a Stabilisation and Association Agreement in 2006 (entry into force in 2009). Albania was awarded candidate status in 2014. The accession negotiations were opened in 2020.

Albania has agreements or arrangements signed with the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex)(2019 Status Agreement) with teams deployed at EU borders, Europol (2013), CEPOL (2013), and the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) (2019), and has signed the 2019 Joint Action Plan on Counter-Terrorism for the Western Balkans.

The fourth report under the Visa Suspension Mechanism adopted in August 2021 confirmed that Albania has taken actions identified in the Third Report and the visa liberalisation benchmarks continue to be fulfilled.

Recent and upcoming events:

20 February 2021	Commissioner Johansson's mission to Albania	Meeting with Minister of the Interior and visiting Frontex joint teams at the border with Greece
1 March 2021	11th EU-Albania Stabilisation and Association Council	
9-10 December 2021	13th EU-Albania Sub-Committee on Justice, Freedom and Security	

15 February 2022	EU-Albania Stabilisation and Association Committee	
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BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Bosnia and Herzegovina formally agreed an association with the EU through the Stabilisation and Association Agreement which entered into force on 1 June 2015. Bosnia and Herzegovina applied for EU membership in February 2016. On the basis of the Commission's Opinion, the EU Council endorsed in 2019 the 14 key priorities the country needs to fulfil to open EU accession negotiations. These cover a number of issues including democracy /functionality, the rule of law, fundamental rights, and public administration reform. Under key priority 8, Bosnia and Herzegovina needs to ensure the effective functioning of border management, migration and asylum systems.

A Status Agreement with the EU, allowing the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex) to deploy teams in the country, was initialled in 2019 but has not been signed yet. A Working Arrangement with Frontex on operational cooperation was signed in 2009. Bosnia and Herzegovina has an Agreement on Operational and Strategic Co-operation with Europol (2016) and a Working Arrangement with CEPOL (2014). In January 2021, the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) agreed on a roadmap with Bosnia and Herzegovina, with the overall objective of enhancing the protection space for asylum seekers in Bosnia, thus aligning it in with the EU Common European Asylum System. Bosnia and Herzegovina has signed the 2019 Joint Action Plan on Counter-Terrorism for the Western Balkans. A new reception and identification centre officially opened in Lipa on 19 November 2021.

The fourth report under the Visa Suspension Mechanism adopted in August 2021 confirmed that Bosnia and Herzegovina has taken actions identified in the Third Report and the visa liberalisation benchmarks continue to be fulfilled.

Recent and upcoming events:

18 - 19 February 2021	Commissioner Johansson's mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	Meeting with state level and local authorities and visit to Lipa reception centre
13 July 2021	EU-BiH Stabilisation and Association Council	
22-23 September 2021	High Level Visit on Migration in Brussels, with the BiH Minister of Security, Selmo Cikotic	BiH delegation met with Commissioners and DGs During the visit, DG NEAR convened a working meeting as a follow-up to the high-level EU-BiH meeting on migration, (July 2019) which was attended also by Deputy Director-General Johannes Luchner (HOME) and colleagues from ECHO and EEAS.
10 November 2021	Bilateral meeting (VTC) of Commissioner Johansson with BiH Minister of Security	Migration and security cooperation, and opening of Lipa were

		discussed.
18 November 2021	Regional conference on “Irregular Migration and the Western Balkan, Response Future Challenges and Joint Solutions”	Cssr Johansson attended the opening session by VTC
2022	EU – Bosnia and Herzegovina Sub-Committee meeting on Justice, Freedom and Security –VTC	The Sub-committee originally planned for December 2021 was postponed due to the political situation.

NORTH MACEDONIA

North Macedonia formally agreed an association with the EU through the Stabilisation and Association Agreement, which entered into force in 2004. It applied for EU membership in 2004 and the Council decided in December 2005 to grant the country candidate status. In March 2020, the General Affairs Council decided to open accession negotiations under the revised methodology. In July 2020 the draft negotiating framework was presented to the Member States.

North Macedonia has agreements or arrangements signed with the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex) (2009), Europol (2011), CEPOL (2017) and has signed the 2019 Joint Action Plan on Counter-Terrorism for the Western Balkans. The Status Agreement with the EU allowing the European Border and Coast Guard Agency to deploy teams of the EBCG standing corps in the country, was initialled in July 2018. Its signature is pending. North Macedonia has a Joint Roadmap to support the further development of a national asylum and reception system in line with EU standards in place.

The fourth report under the Visa Suspension Mechanism adopted in August 2021 confirmed that North Macedonia has taken actions identified in the Third Report and the visa liberalisation benchmarks continue to be fulfilled.

Recent and upcoming events:

17-18 November 2021	EU-North Macedonia Sub-Committee meeting on Justice, Freedom and Security - VTC	
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MONTENEGRO

Montenegro formally agreed an association with the EU by signing a Stabilisation and Association Agreement in 2007 and was awarded candidate status in 2010. The accession negotiations started in 2012 and to date 33 negotiating chapters have been opened (including Chapter 24 on Justice, freedom and security) of which three have been provisionally closed. Sub-Committees on Justice, Freedom and Security take place, in principle, annually.

Montenegro has agreements or arrangements signed with the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex)(2019 Status agreement) with teams deployed at EU borders, Europol (2014), and CEPOL (2011), and has signed the 2019 Joint Action Plan on Counter-Terrorism for the Western Balkans.

The fourth report under the Visa Suspension Mechanism adopted in August 2021 confirmed that Montenegro has taken actions identified in the Third Report and the visa liberalisation benchmarks continue to be fulfilled.

Recent and upcoming events:

17 and 18 March 2021	10th EU-Montenegro Sub-Committee on Justice, Freedom and Security	
22 June 2021	Intergovernmental Conference	Montenegro accepted the revised enlargement methodology.
15 September 2021	Fact-finding mission of the European Migration Network to Montenegro	Montenegro has expressed interest in applying for Observer status in the EMN.
25-28 October 2021	Visit of Minister of Interior Sergej Sekulovic to Brussels	Meetings with Commissioners Jourova, Johansson, Dalli and senior officials from EEAS and the Commission
13 December 2021	Intergovernmental Conference	
26 January 2022	11th meeting of the Stabilisation and Association Committee	
15-16 February 2022	11th EU-Montenegro Sub-Committee on Justice, Freedom and Security	

SERBIA

In March 2012 Serbia was granted EU candidate status. In September 2013 a Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the EU and Serbia entered into force. 18 out of 35 negotiating chapters have been opened, including, “Judiciary and fundamental rights” (so-called chapter 23) and “Justice, freedom and security” (so-called chapter 24) since the start of accession negotiations with Serbia in January 2014. The first inter-governmental conference with Serbia under this revised methodology agreed by the Council in May 2021, was held on 22 June 2021. Member States decided that no new clusters should be opened.

Serbia has Working Arrangements in place with Frontex (2009), Europol (2020), CEPOL (2017) and EMCDDA (2020). A Status Agreement with the EU, allowing the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex) to deploy teams of the EBCG standing corps in the country, was ratified in February 2021 and implemented in June 2021. Serbia has a Joint Roadmap with EASO in place to support the further development of a national asylum and reception system in line with EU standards.

The fourth report under the Visa Suspension Mechanism adopted in August 2021 confirmed that Serbia has taken actions identified in the Third Report and the visa liberalisation benchmarks continue to be fulfilled.

Recent and upcoming events:

17 – 18 June 2021	Commissioner Johansson's mission to Serbia	Meetings with President Vucic (accompanied by Minister of European Integration Joksimović) and Minister of Interior Vulin.
14 December 2021	Intergovernmental Conference	
25 January 2022 (TBC)	EU-Serbia Stabilisation and Association Council	
9 – 10 March 2022	EU-Serbia Subcommittee for Justice, Freedom and Security	

KOSOVO

Kosovo formally agreed an association with the EU by signing a Stabilisation and Association Agreement which entered into force in 2015. Kosovo is a potential candidate. Kosovo is the only Western Balkan partner which does not enjoy a visa-free regime with the EU. In 2018, the Commission confirmed that Kosovo had fulfilled all outstanding visa liberalisation benchmarks. A Decision on the Commission's proposal is pending in the EP and the Council.

Kosovo has Working Arrangements with EBCG (Frontex) since 2016, Europol (2020), CEPOL (2017) and EMCDDA (2020). EASO has been including Kosovo in regional activities and following a priority assessment by EASO in July 2021, a Joint Roadmap is being drafted and expected to be discussed in autumn.

Recent and upcoming events:

9 – 10 June 2021	5 th EU - Kosovo Sub-Committee Meeting on Justice, Freedom and Security	
7 December 2021	5 th EU-Kosovo Stabilisation and Association Council	
22 - 23 June 2022 (TBC)	6 th EU - Kosovo Sub-Committee Meeting on Justice, Freedom and Security	

(D) 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 Commission adopted the first report on the implementation of the Visa liberalisation roadmap on 20 October 2014. Turkey continued to develop its administrative capacity to implement the EU-Turkey readmission agreement, which entered into force for Turkish nationals in October 2014. Implementation of the agreement for Turkish nationals remained nevertheless unsatisfactory as the provisions of the agreement were not observed in a systematic and coherent manner by all Turkish diplomatic missions in the EU. Regarding the readmission of third country nationals, the relevant provisions entered into force on 1 June 2016. Nevertheless, so far the Turkish Council of Ministers has not taken the decisions authorising the application of these provisions.

The meeting of Heads of State or Government with Turkey on 29 November 2015 activated the EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan on Migration in order to step up cooperation for the support of Syrian refugees under temporary protection and their host communities in Turkey and to strengthen cooperation to prevent irregular migration flows to the EU. A comprehensive cooperation based on shared responsibility, mutual commitments and delivery between the European Union and Turkey was agreed within the framework of the 18 March 2016 EU-Turkey Statement.

In response to the call from EU Member States for significant additional funding to support refugees in Turkey, the Commission established on 24 November 2015 the Facility for Refugees in Turkey. The Facility is a mechanism that coordinates the mobilisation of resources made available under both the EU budget, and additional contributions from Member States integrated into the EU budget as external assigned revenue. Contributions amount to a total of EUR 6 billion, with EUR 3 billion committed for the years 2016-2017 and a further EUR 3 billion committed for 2018-2019. Both tranches combined, all operational funds have been committed and contracted, with close to EUR 4.3 billion disbursed. In 2020 an additional EUR 535 million were committed to ensure the continuation of two flagship Facility interventions (basic needs and access to education). This comes on top of the Facility's EUR 6 billion. In June 2021, the European Council confirmed its commitment to continue supporting refugees and host communities in Turkey. The Commission is now preparing a EUR 3 billion package to be financed by the EU budget. 1 billion EUR has been already allocated of which 325 million will be provided to the continuation of the ESSN, 530 million EUR to education, and 30 million EUR to the improvement of migration management in the period 2021-2023. Overall, the new funding package is intended to gradually move away from humanitarian assistance to long-term livelihood support and gradual disengagement, pending the final restoration of national ownership.

Following the June 2021 European Council Conclusions, a High Level Dialogue on Migration and Security took place on 12 October 2021 in Ankara. On 25 November 2021, a High Level Dialogue on Counter-terrorism took place in Brussels, facilitating a discussion on security threats related to irregular migration, specifically in relation to the deteriorating situation in Afghanistan and the enduring migratory pressures, alongside the financing of terrorist activities through human smuggling and human trafficking operations.

The continued implementation of the 18 March 2016 EU-Turkey Statement, which reduces irregular and dangerous crossings and saves lives in the Aegean Sea, plays a key role in ensuring that the migration challenge is addressed effectively and jointly by the EU and Turkey, is in the interest of both sides and remains crucial with a view to saving lives and preventing irregular migration to the EU.

Recent and upcoming events

15 March 2019	54 th Meeting of the EU-Turkey Association Council	
15 April 2019	Commission's third annual report on the Facility for Refugees in Turkey	
17 May 2019	12 th FRiT Steering Committee Meeting	
3 October 2019	Joint Visit of Commissioner Avramopoulos and DE Mol to Turkey	
5 December 2019	Joint Visit of VP Schinas and Commissioner Johansson to Turkey	

9 December 2019	13 ^d FRiT Steering Committee Meeting	
9 March 2020	EU-Turkey Leaders' Meeting (Brussels)	President Von Der Leyen and President Michel met President Erdogan
30 April 2020	Commission's fourth annual report on the Facility for Refugees in Turkey	
6-7 July 2020	HRVP Borrell meeting with Turkish FM Cavusoglu	
5 November 2020	14 th FRiT Steering Committee Meeting	
21 January 2021	Turkish Foreign Minister Cavusoglu's visit	Met with President von der Leyen, HR/VP Borrell, VP Schinas, Commissioner Johansson
6 April 2021	Joint Visit of President Von Der Leyen and President Michel to President Erdogan in Ankara	
7 May 2021	Visit of Commissioner Johansson in Ankara	Commissioner Johansson held meetings with Vice-President Fuat Oktay, Minister of Interior Sulayman Soylu, and Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu.
25 June 2021	European Council	EU leaders confirming commitment to continue supporting refugees and host communities in Turkey.
22 August 2021	PEC phone call with President Erdogan	Focused on Afghanistan
6-7 September 2021	Visit of Commissioner Varhelyi to Turkey	Meetings with FM Cavusoglu, Mol Soylu , Presid. Advisor Kalin
12 October 2021	EU-Turkey High Level Dialogue on Migration and Security	Co-chaired by Commissioner Johansson and Minister of Interior Soylu
27-29 October 2021	Visit of DFM Kaymakci to Brussels	Meetings with NEAR, HOME, EEAS
18-20 November 2021	Visit of VP Schinas to Turkey - focus on the migration situation in Belarus	VP Schinas met with Minister of Foreign Affairs Cavusoglu and Minister of Interior Soylu
25 November 2021	EU-TK CT Dialogue at senior official level (Brussels)	Last one held in 2017
1-3 December 2021	Visit of Commissioner Lenarcic to Turkey	
17 December 2021	16 th Steering Committee Meeting on the Facility for Refugees in Turkey	

(E) 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. At the 16th EU-China Summit (20-21 November 2013), shared commitments were taken to reinforce the

objectives in the 2020 Agenda. Following that, a Roadmap, which consists of a two-stage approach, was finalised during the 2nd meeting of the EU-China Migration and Mobility Dialogue (Beijing, 9 April 2015). The first stage of the Roadmap, which comprises the signature of the EU-China short stay visa waiver for holders of diplomatic passports, the permission for EU Member States to open Visa Application Centres in 15 Chinese cities and the first Expert meeting held in Beijing on 5 November 2015, is considered finalised. The implementation of the 2nd phase of the roadmap is currently on-going. It involves parallel negotiations on: A visa facilitation agreement (VFA) covering holders of other types of passports (including ordinary passports). This also includes discussions on China allowing EU Member States to open further Visa Application Centres (VACs) in additional Chinese cities; and an agreement on cooperation in combating illegal migration (CIMA – including provisions on readmission in line with the EU mandate).

Recent and upcoming events

9 April 2019	EU-China Summit	China committed “to actively engage in the EU-China Mobility and Migration Dialogue (MDD) and to swiftly conclude the parallel negotiations on the agreements on visa facilitation and on cooperation in combating illegal migration.” The EU has invited China to indicate dates for the 5 th meeting of the MDD, but there has been no concrete reply by the CN side yet.
28 May 2019	Third round of negotiations on EU-China Agreement on Cooperation in Combating Illegal Migration (CIMA) in Brussels	For the first time, China accepted to discuss concrete procedures on readmission and did not question the structure of the draft submitted in October 2018 after the second round of negotiations.
3 July 2019	Comments from China on draft Visa Facilitation Agreement	
26-27 November 2020	Technical meeting on immigration systems (webinar): policies and regulations	
10-11 December 2020	Seminar on cross-country cooperation to fight transnational organized crime: experiences of investigation, prosecution and conviction of trafficking in human beings’ cases	
11 May 2021 and 2 July 2021	Trainings for EU-Embassies in China on victim of trafficking identification	
16 December 2021	Virtual seminar on EU and Chinese return management	
Spring 2022 (tbc)	EU-China Summit (VTC)	
Fall 2022 (tbc)	Training for Chinese officials on anti-document fraud	

India

The EU-India Co-operation Agreement entered into force in 1994. In 2004 the EU and India established 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.

The 2012 EU-India Summit discussed possible ways to facilitate mobility – a recurring Indian request – in parallel with preventing and combating irregular migration. A Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility (CAMM) was signed and subsequently endorsed at the 2016 EU-India Summit. CAMM implementation is referred to in the EU-India Agenda for Action-2020, also endorsed at 2016 Summit as well as in the EU-India Roadmap 2025, endorsed at the 2020 EU-India Summit. The EU-India Leaders' Meeting in Porto on 8 May 2021 confirmed the commitment for close and comprehensive cooperation from both sides on all pillars of the CAMM and the continued engagement under the High-Level Dialogue on Migration and Mobility.

Recent and upcoming events

9-11 July 2019	EU-India High Level Dialogue on Migration and Mobility (HLDMM), India, New Delhi and side meetings with Ministry of Interior, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the National Cyber Coordination Centre (NCCC).	Discussions on possible parallel negotiations on a visa waiver agreement for diplomatic passport holders and a readmission agreement between India and the EU.
9-11 July 2019	2 nd Project Advisory Committee of the CAMM/HLDMM support project & Migration governance seminar	
2 July 2020	3 rd Project Advisory Committee of the CAMM/HLDMM support projects	
15 July 2020	EU-India Summit	Adoption of Joint Statement and 2025 Roadmap
8 May 2021	EU-India Leaders Meeting	Adoption of Connectivity Partnership (including a section on people-to-people connectivity focused on students and researchers)
10 June 2021	Virtual seminar on Irregular Migration	
24 June 2021	4th Project Advisory Committee of the CAMM/HLDMM support project	
24 February 2022	Closing event of the CAMM/HLDMM support project	
2022 [tbc]	EU-India High Level Dialogue on Migration and Mobility	

Bangladesh

The EU-Bangladesh Standard Operating Procedures for the Identification and Return of Persons without an Authorisation to Stay (SOPs) was signed on 20 September 2017. To support capacity to implement the SOPs, DG HOME started in July 2018 a project under the Readmission Capacity Building Facility (RCBF, EUR 4.8 million) aiming at developing a Returnee Case Management System (RCMS) in Bangladesh and deploying an AFIS (Automated Fingerprint Identification System) to enable search by fingerprints in the copy of the Machine Readable Passport database owned by the Special Branch Police. The pilot phase was launched on 9 November 2020. Four Joint Working Groups on the implementation of the SOPs with Bangladesh have taken place to date. The sustaina-

ble reintegration of returnees is supported through the PROTTASHA project, which aims to facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed policies.

Bangladesh has been providing assistance with the support of the EU, international community and humanitarian and development organisations to the Rohingya refugees, who fled violence in Myanmar in 2017.

Bangladesh is one of the countries for which restrictive measures were proposed by the Commission following the first report under Art. 25a of the Visa Code. Following substantial progress in cooperation on return, in 2021, the Council decided not to adopt any measures.

Recent and upcoming events

4-5 April 2019	3rd EU – Bangladesh Joint Working Group on the Standard Operation Procedures for return	
17 October 2019	EU-Bangladesh Sub-group on Human Rights and Good Governance (including a point on Rohingya), Dhaka	
20 October 2019	EU-Bangladesh Sub-group on Development (including points on migration and forced displacement)	
21 October 2019	EU-Bangladesh Joint Commission (including points on migration and Rohingya situation), Dhaka	
16 January 2020	4th EU – Bangladesh Joint Working Group for the implementation of the SOPs, Dhaka	
21 June 2021	5th EU – Bangladesh Joint Working Group for the implementation of the SOPs	
26 October 2021	EU-Bangladesh Diplomatic Consultations (VTC)	
Q1 2022	10th EU-Bangladesh Joint Commission (and subgroups on Trade, Development and Human Rights and Good Governance)	
Q1 2022 (tbc)	6 th EU-Bangladesh Joint Working Group for the Implementation of the SOPs	

Pakistan

Pakistan is a major country of origin, transit and destination of refugees and migrants. Under the Strategic Engagement Plan of 2019, Pakistan and the EU are working towards launching of a comprehensive EU-Pakistan Migration Dialogue. At the moment, the main regular platform for cooperation in the migration area are the meetings of the Joint Readmission Committee for the implementation of the EU-Pakistan Readmission Agreement, as well as interactions at regional level through the Budapest Process. The full and effective implementation of the Readmission Agreement remains a priority. Ensuring protection space in Pakistan and support for Afghan refugees and host communities in the country, addressing the root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement, reducing further arrivals of irregular migrants, strengthening migration governance, border management, countering migrant smuggling and opportunities for legal migration (a major interest of Pakistan) are are-

as to continue to be addressed. At the same time, migration-related cooperation with Pakistan cannot be isolated from the regional dimension of Afghan displacement and cooperation with Afghanistan and Iran.

Recent and upcoming events

20 March 2019	EU-Pakistan Political Dialogue, Brussels	
26 March 2019	EU-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue, Islamabad	
15 November 2019	EU-Pakistan Joint Commission	Including a point on migration and mobility
28 January 2020	11th Joint Readmission Committee and high level mission (DG HOME DDG meeting various migration related counter-parts)	
8 October 2020	EU-Pakistan Political Dialogue	Including point on migration (return and readmission) and implementation of Readmission Case Management System
3 November 2020	EU-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue, Islamabad	Including point on migration (return and readmission, Pact on Migration and Asylum)
24 February 2021	12th Joint Readmission Committee, VTC	
16 June 2021	EU-Pakistan Joint Commission	Included a point on migration and mobility.
3 December 2021	EU-Pakistan Political Dialogue	Included a point on migration and mobility.
7 December 2021	EU-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue	Included a point on migration and mobility.
Q1 2022 (tbc)	Joint Readmission Committee	

Afghanistan

Since 2016, the EU has been engaged with Afghanistan in a constructive dialogue on migration and forced displacement, with the aim to build a long-term partnership in this area in a spirit of solidarity. This balanced and comprehensive cooperation on migration was reflected in the Joint Way Forward (JWF) and its successor arrangement entitled 'Joint Declaration on Migration Cooperation (JDMC-signed on 26 April 2021) which builds on the JWF and consolidates the already very good EU-Afghan cooperation on migration governance by adapting to the migratory situation in 2021. These documents have been instrumental in allowing Afghans residing irregularly in the EU to return in a safe, dignified and orderly way, and in reintegrating them in Afghanistan. While any decision on returns is the competence of EU Member States within the limits imposed by EU law, carrying out returns would be effectively impossible, in the current circumstances.

From the beginning of the crisis in mid-August 2021, the Commission and the EEAS put in place a set of priority actions :

1. Safe evacuation of EU nationals from Afghanistan, as well as of those Afghans and their families who have worked for the EU and for its Member States;
2. Ensure safe and legal pathways for Afghans in need of immediate protection, with a strong gender dimension. Building on the Resettlement Forum of July 2021, Commissioner Johansson repeatedly called on EU Member States to step up their engagement on resettlement, increase their quotas and consider other complementary pathways to ensure the highest possible number of legal admissions of Afghan refugees, notably women and children.

3. On 7 October 2021, Commissioner Johansson and High Representative Vice-President Josep Borrell convened a High-level Forum on providing protection to Afghans at risk dedicated to taking stock of the EU Member States' intentions as regards providing protection to the various categories of people at risk in Afghanistan and the neighbouring countries. In addition, a specific, multi-annual Support Scheme for Afghans was announced with the aim to combine short-term measures, notably evacuations/safe passage, and more medium- and long-term measures, including resettlement from neighbouring countries (based on referrals from UNHCR, e.g. from Iran and Pakistan), humanitarian admissions, and other complementary pathways (family reunification and pathways linked to study or work). The Commission is currently working with the EU Member States so as to advance on this Support Scheme which will be in line with the wider Afghan Support Package, worth EUR 1 billion that President Von der Leyen announced at the G20 leader's call on 12 December.
4. Continue supporting the neighbouring countries to Afghanistan and countries of transit in their efforts to provide protection, safe and dignified reception conditions for displaced Afghans and to support the host communities. Continuation of ongoing EU programmes and strengthening cooperation, including on capacity building for host communities in Pakistan, Iran and Tajikistan, as well as other countries in the region, to prevent the unsafe and irregular movements of people, to strengthen border management with the support of Frontex and support protection systems, further reinforce existing programmes on law enforcement cooperation to counter migrant smuggling and trafficking networks, with the support of Europol. Currently, the Commission is exploring several ways of re-orienting and enhancing EU support under the 2021-2027 multiannual financial framework through NDICI-Global Europe and other instruments;
5. Enhanced political outreach and dialogue and further strengthening the international community's response on Afghan displacement also through the Core Group of the Solution Strategy for Afghan refugees (SSAR) and its Support Platform. The EU will use its lead role as chair of this Group in this respect also for 2022.

Recent and upcoming events:

8 May 2019	6 th Meeting of the EU – Afghanistan Joint Working Group under the JWF on migration	
14 May 2019	2nd EU – Afghanistan Joint Committee, Kabul	
9 May 2019	2nd meeting of the Special Working Group on Human Rights, Good Governance and Migration, Kabul	
6 December 2019	7 th Meeting of the EU – Afghanistan Joint Working Group under the JWF on migration, Brussels	
17 – 18 February 2020	International Conference on 40 years of hosting Afghan refugees in Pakistan , Islamabad	
11 November 2020	8th meeting of the EU - Afghanistan Joint Working Group under the Joint Way Forward (JWF) on migration issues	
23 -24 November 2020	Ministerial Pledging Conference on Afghanistan	
24 February 2021	Special Working Group meeting on Human Rights, Good Governance and Migration	

Iran		
<i>In February 2019, the Council adopted the text of the Framework for a Comprehensive Dialogue Between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the European Union on Migration and Refugee Issues, i.e. the terms for reference for a migration dialogue. The document been endorsed during the EU-Iran High Level Dialogue of December 2020 but was not yet been signed and the dialogue has not been launched.</i>		
Recent and upcoming events		
8 December 2020	High-Level Dialogue with Iran – endorsement of Dialogue on Migration and Refugees Issues, agreement to start discussions at technical level while awaiting political launch.	
October 2021	Visit of EEAS delegation to Tehran	Possibility of launching the first technical meeting under the Dialogue on Migration and Refugee issues brought up.

Iraq		
<i>Four meetings under the informal Migration Dialogue took place in 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2021 respectively, discussions comprised irregular migration and return, migration governance and migration and development.</i>		
<i>A readmission clause is included as a legally binding obligation in the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (art. 105) in force since 1 August 2018. However, cooperation on non-voluntary returns remains unsatisfactory.</i>		
<i>Iraq is one of the countries for which restrictive measures were proposed by the Commission following the first report under Art. 25a of the Visa Code. Discussion is ongoing with Iraq including with the National Committee on Migration set-up by Iraq.</i>		
<i>Discussions have also taken place with Iraq concerning the instrumentalisation of migrants on the Belarus – EU borders.</i>		
Recent and upcoming events		
27 March 2019	3 rd meeting of Informal Migration Dialogue	
8 September 2020	Sub-committee meeting on Human Rights and Democracy under the PCA.	
17 September 2020	Visit of Iraqi Foreign Minister in Brussels/meeting HRVP	Intention to hold the next iteration of the informal Migration Dialogue was confirmed
15 February 2021	4th meeting of the informal Migration Dialogue	
17 June 2021	Meeting of the EU Delegation with Iraqi Prime Minister to deliver a letter addressed to three migration-related ministers and co-signed by HRVP and the EU Commissioner for Migration and Home Affairs focusing on Iraqi lack of	

	cooperation on non-voluntary returns.	
21 June 2021	Iraqi Foreign Minister took part in FAC	
30 June 2021	Iraqi Prime Minister met PCOM in Brussels	
30 July 2021	Meeting with the newly established Iraqi National Committee on Migration, headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Khairallah.	Iraq agreed to revert in writing with an outline of their proposals on return and readmission on which basis further exchanges could take place.
6-7 September 2021	Visit to Iraq by HR/VP Borrell	On readmission and returns, Iraq verbally reconfirmed willingness to extend non-voluntary return to some other categories. Measures taken to restrict arrivals of irregular migrants into Belarus, such as flights suspension in place until mid-September.
24 September 2021	Iraqi Foreign Minister replies to a June letter of HRVP and Commissioner Johansson	Openness to work on migration including returns, however, forced returns not approached.
27 October 2021	Iraqi Foreign Minister follow up letter to his September letter addressed to HRVP and Csr Johansson.	Reiterates openness to work on migration including returns, providing more details on proposed measures however, forced returns are not addressed.
15 November 2021	VP Schinas' visit to Iraq	Talks focused on the situation at the Belarus border. Non-voluntary returns brought up also with relation to the process under article 25a of the Visa Code. Reiteration of commitment to solve the BY situation.
29 November 2021	Visit of Deputy Foreign Minister Khairallah to Brussels	The DFM met with an EU delegation led by DG HOME (DDG Luchner). Discussions focused on the current situation at the EU/Belarus external border, the Visa Code article 25a process and ways to improve cooperation on voluntary and non-voluntary returns of Iraqi citizens.
20 January 2022	Visit of Foreign Minister and Deputy Foreign Minister to Brussels	To discuss cooperation on migration and esp. returns in the context of the BY situation and in general

(F) EASTERN PARTNERSHIP COUNTRIES

Armenia

EU relations with Armenia are currently governed by the Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement (CEPA) signed in November 2017, which entered into force on 1 March 2021 (substantial parts of it had been provisionally applied already since 1 June 2018).

A Mobility Partnership was signed on 27 October 2011. The first EU-Armenia Mobility Partnership High Level Meeting took place in January 2018.

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.

The Joint Declaration of the Eastern Partnership Summit (Brussels, 15 December 2021) includes a reference to a possible visa liberalisation dialogue, which “could be considered where conditions are met.”

Recent and upcoming events

August 2020	EU-Armenia Joint Readmission Committee – written exchange	
17 December 2020	EU-Armenia Partnership Council	
28 April 2021	EU-Armenia Joint Visa Facilitation Committee	
27 May 2021	EU-Armenia Justice, Freedom and Security Subcommittee	
29 June 2021	EU-Armenia Joint Readmission Committee	
2022 (tbc)	EU-Armenia Partnership Committee	

Azerbaijan

EU relations with Azerbaijan are governed by the EU-Azerbaijan Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA), which entered into force in 1999. Negotiations are currently taking place to agree on a framework agreement to replace the PCA (started in February 2017).

The Joint Declaration of the Eastern Partnership Summit (Brussels, 15 December 2021) includes a reference to a possible visa liberalisation dialogue, which “could be considered where conditions are met.”

These agreements entered into force on 1 September 2014. A Mobility Partnership with Azerbaijan was signed on 5 December 2013 and the first High-Level Meeting was organised in February 2017.

Recent and upcoming events

6 November 2019	EU-Azerbaijan Joint Visa Facilitation Committee	
5 March 2020	EU-Azerbaijan JLS Subcommittee, Brussels	
Autumn 2020	EU-Azerbaijan Joint Readmission Committee (written exchange)	
19 November 2020	EU-Azerbaijan Cooperation Committee	
18 December 2020	EU-Azerbaijan Cooperation Council	
27 April 2021	EU-Azerbaijan Justice, Freedom and Security Subcommittee	

2022 (tbc)	EU-Azerbaijan Joint Visa Facilitation Committee	
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Belarus

Belarus is the only country in the Eastern Partnership region that does not have a framework document with the EU. The EU-Belarus Partnership and Cooperation Agreement was signed in 1995, but ratification was frozen in 1997. Negotiations on the EU-Belarus Partnership Priorities (a political document of non-binding nature) started in 2016, however were put on hold in 2020.

On 13 October 2016, Belarus and the EU signed a Joint Declaration on a Mobility Partnership. The kick off meeting took place on 10 November 2017.

Since summer 2021, Lithuania, Poland and Latvia have experienced an unprecedented increase in irregular border crossings from Belarus, as a result of the Belarusian regime's attempts to incite or acquiesce in irregular border crossings of non-EU nationals into the EU for political purposes. The EU and its Member States strongly condemned this instrumentalisation of migrants and refugees by the Belarusian regime, as confirmed by the EU Ministers of Home Affairs on 18 August 2021. Moreover, in the Declaration by the High Representative on behalf of the European Union on the instrumentalisation of migrants and refugees by the regime (30 July 2021), they stressed that using human beings in need to advance political goals violates fundamental European values and principles. In the recent weeks, there were signs of de-escalation at the external EU borders with Belarus with a significantly lower number of arrivals and prevented crossings. The situation however remains complex and unpredictable.

On 15 November 2021, the Council amended the EU sanctions regime regarding Belarus; the EU is now also able to target both individuals and entities organising or contributing to activities that facilitate illegal crossing of the EU's borders. As part of the European Union's united response to state-sponsored instrumentalisation of people at the EU's external border with Belarus, the Commission and High Representative proposed on 23 November 2021 measures to prevent and restrict the activities of transport operators that engage in or facilitate smuggling or trafficking of people into the EU. This will add a new instrument to the EU's toolbox for supporting Member States affected by such hybrid attacks.

On 23 November 2021, a joint Commission/HRVP communication responding to state-sponsored instrumentalisation of migrants at the EU external border was adopted.

On 1 December 2021, the Commission put forward a set of provisional measures in the areas of asylum and return to assist the three countries confronted with the emergency situation created by Belarus' instrumentalisation of migrants, in line with Article 78(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

On 2 December 2021, the Council imposed restrictive measures as part of the 5th sanctions package, on an additional 17 individuals and 11 entities (including Belavia and Cham Wings Airlines) in view of the situation in Belarus.

On 14 December 2021, the Commission proposed updated rules to reinforce the governance of the Schengen area. The targeted changes will bring greater EU coordination and better equip Member States to deal with emerging challenges when managing both the EU's common external border and internal borders within the Schengen area. The update seeks to ensure that reintroducing internal border controls remains a measure of last resort. The new rules also introduce common tools to manage the external borders more efficiently in case of a public health crisis, building on the lessons learnt from the COVID-19 pandemic. The instrumentalisation of migrants is also addressed in the update to the Schengen rules, as well as through a parallel proposal for measures Member States can take in the fields of asylum and return in such a situation.

Since the outbreak of the crisis, the Commission has been in constant contact with the Lithuanian, Latvian and Polish authorities to alleviate the pressure at their borders with Belarus and to support them with the management of the situation. The EU agencies are fully mobilised: the European Asylum Support Office, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex) and Europol are present on the ground. The Commission works closely with IOM and UNHCR on the provision of humanitarian aid to migrants stranded in Belarus but also on the possibility to scale up returns from EU MS and Belarus. To this purpose, the Commission has allocated €700,000 in humanitarian assistance for vulnerable refu-

gees and migrants stranded in Belarus, at the borders and inside the country, of which €200,000 is going immediately to support the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. An additional €500,000 is mobilised for further humanitarian assistance to be implemented by EU's partner organisations on the ground. Since the summer, the Commission has stepped up dialogue with relevant third countries to alert them of the situation and to ensure that they act to prevent their own nationals from falling into the trap set by the Belarusian authorities. In November 2021, Vice-President Schinas travelled to Dubai, Beirut, Baghdad, Ankara, Istanbul and Tashkent. These efforts have produced results, e.g. all direct flights from Iraq to Minsk are suspended since the summer; from Beirut, only Lebanese/Belarusian nationals and persons in possession of a Belarus residence permit are now allowed to travel to Minsk (which has effectively led to the cancellation of all flights); Turkish Airlines, FlyDubai and Belavia are no longer accepting nationals of Iraq, Syria, Yemen and Afghanistan on flights from Istanbul and Dubai to Minsk; Cham Wings has completely suspended flights from Damascus to Minsk; Uzbekistan has banned air transit to Belarus through its territory for citizens of Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, Yemen, Lebanon and Libya. The EU will continue to monitor the situation and reach out as needed, taking into account – apart from possible new flight connections towards Belarus – also ongoing/upcoming visa talks/regulations between Belarus and third countries.

On 1 July 2020, the EU-Belarus Visa Facilitation and Readmission Agreements entered into force. On 28 June 2021, Belarusian authorities announced its decision to suspend the Readmission Agreement (formally notified on 2 December 2021). On 9 November 2021, the Council adopted the Commission proposal on the partial suspension of the EU-Belarus Visa Facilitation Agreement. The suspension concerns government officials of Belarus (members of Belarus official delegations; members of Belarus national and regional Governments and Parliaments, Belarus Constitutional Court and Belarus Supreme Court).

Recent and upcoming events

26 March 2019	6 th and final round of negotiations on the visa facilitation and readmission agreements, Brussels	Final texts were agreed between the chief negotiators on 29 March.
24-25 April 2019	7 th meeting of the EU-Belarus Coordination Group, Minsk	

Georgia

The EU – Georgia Association Agreement, including a Deep and Comprehensive Trade Agreement, (succeeding the PCA of 1999), was signed on 26 June 2014 in Brussels and entered fully into force on 1 July 2016.

The Mobility Partnership between the European Union and Georgia was signed in November 2009. The Readmission and Visa Facilitation Agreements with Georgia entered into force on 1st March 2011. Georgian citizens were granted visa-free travel to the Schengen area on 28 March 2017.

The fourth report under the Visa Suspension Mechanism adopted in August 2021 confirmed that Georgia has taken actions identified in the Third Report and the visa liberalisation benchmarks continue to be fulfilled.

Recent and upcoming events

5 March 2019	EU-Georgia Association Council, Brussels	Bilateral meeting between Commissioner Avramopoulos and Prime Minister of Georgia in the margins of the Association Council to discuss stepping up cooperation, followed by a visit of DG to Georgia (23-24 April 2019).
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22 May 2019	JLS Subcommittee with Georgia, Tbilisi	Discussion to identify concrete operational measures to decrease irregular migration and crime-related challenges linked to the travel of Georgian citizens to the EU.
18 June 2019	EU-Georgia Association Committee, Tbilisi	
17 September 2019	EU-Georgia Joint Readmission Committee, Tbilisi	
1 July 2020	EU-Georgia Justice, Freedom and Security Subcommittee	
15 December 2020	EU-Georgia Association Committee	
16 March 2021	EU-Georgia Association Council	
15 October 2021	EU-Georgia Justice, Freedom and Security Subcommittee	

Republic of Moldova

The EU-Republic of Moldova Association Agreement, including a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area, (succeeding the PCA of 1994), was signed on 27 June 2014 and fully entered into force on 1 July 2016.

The EU-Moldova Visa Facilitation Agreement and Readmission Agreement 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.

Moldovan citizens were granted visa-free travel to the Schengen area on 28 April 2014.

Moldovan citizens continued to benefit from visa-free travel to the EU and the Schengen Associated Countries. From 28 April 2014 until 31 December 2020, some 2 366 647 Moldovan citizens made almost 9 million trips to the Schengen area under the visa-free regime. The fourth report under the Visa Suspension Mechanism adopted in August 2021 confirmed that Moldova continues to fulfil the visa liberalisation benchmarks. At the same time it also identified that further efforts were needed to address the issue of unfounded asylum applications, alignment of Moldova's visa policy with the EU lists of visa-required third countries as well as in the areas of financial fraud, anti-money laundering, the prevention and fight against corruption and organised crime.

Recent and upcoming events

30 September 2019	Association Council	
15 October 2019	EU-Moldova Joint Readmission Committee, Brussels	
14 November 2019	JLS Subcommittee	
24 September 2020	JLS Subcommittee	
19 February 2020	EU-Moldova Association Committee	
18 November 2020	EU-Moldova Joint Readmission Committee	
12 October 2021 (VTC)	Justice, Freedom and Security Subcommittee	
28 October 2021	EU-Moldova Association Council	

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 on 16 September 2014.

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. As of the 11 June 2017, Ukrainian citizens, can travel visa-free to the Schengen area.

The fourth report under the Visa Suspension Mechanism adopted in August 2021 confirmed that Ukraine has taken actions identified in the Third Report and the visa liberalisation benchmarks continue to be fulfilled.

22 March 2019	JHA Subcommittee, Kiev	
8 July 2019	EU-Ukraine Summit, Kiev	
6 September 2019	12 th EU-Ukraine Joint Readmission Committee Meeting, Kiev	
5 November 2019	EU-Ukraine Association Committee	
December 2019 (tbc)	EU-Ukraine Association Council	
1 July 2020	Justice, Freedom and Security Subcommittee	
1 October 2020	EU-Ukraine Summit	
10 November 2020	EU-Ukraine Association Committee	
8 December 2020	EU-Ukraine Association Council-	This was replaced by a call on 8 December and the EU-Ukraine Association Council will take place on 11 February 2021
11 February 2021	EU- Ukraine Association Council	
19 May 2021	EU-Ukraine Justice, Freedom and Security Subcommittee	
12 October 2021	EU-Ukraine Summit	
29-30 November 2021	EU-Ukraine Association Committee	

(G) RUSSIA**Russia**

The EU-Russia Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) came into force in 1997. Ministerial meetings for Freedom, Security and Justice area were organised regularly until the Ukraine crisis. The Visa Facilitation and Readmission Agreements entered into force on 1 June 2007. On 11 April 2011, the Council adopted a mandate for the renegotiation of the Visa Facilitation Agreement.

However, further cooperation with Russia in the Home Affairs area was affected by the illegal annexation of Crimea and Russian destabilisation of eastern Ukraine, which led to the introduction of sanctions against Russia. Meetings at ministerial and senior officials levels were suspended and all negotiations on new home affairs agreements, namely on visa liberalisation, upgraded Visa Facilitation Agreement (VFA), Europol and Eurojust (agreements on operational cooperation), have been suspended.

Collaboration with Russia continues mainly at expert level, such as the Visa Facilitation Agreement

(VFA) and Readmission Agreement (RA) Joint Committees or Drugs expert meetings or migration dialogues, when deemed feasible and of interest to the EU.

Recent and upcoming events

21 October 2019	EU-Russia Counter-Terrorism Talks (high-level), Moscow	
22 November 2019	EU-Russia Joint Readmission Committee, Brussels	
4 December 2019	EU-Russia expert dialogue on Drugs, Brussels	
24 November 2020	EU-Russia Drugs Dialogue, Brussels	
24 November 2021	EU-Russia Expert Meeting on Drugs, VTC	
2022 (tbc)	EU-Russia Joint Visa Facilitation Committee, Brussels	
2022 (tbc)	EU-Russia Joint Readmission Committee, Moscow	

(H) UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

*Relations between the EU and the US were 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. In 2015, the framework of the EU –US cooperation for 2014-2020 was further developed in the **"Renewed EU-U.S. Statement on Enhancing transatlantic cooperation in the area of Justice, Freedom and Security"**.*

Further to this commitment cooperation has been developed on migration and asylum issues in the context of the EU-US Cooperation Platform on Migration and Refugee issues, launched in 2010. Activities included areas such as unaccompanied minors, biometrics, refugee resettlement, trafficking in human beings and development of capacity building for migration management in third countries and contribution of the Diaspora to the development of countries of origin of migration. The dialogue was not continued under the Trump administration. The new administration is interested in reengaging with the EU on migration related topics, including at the UN/IGC fora and exploratory discussions on such a renewed dialogue are currently ongoing. Issues related to border management and visas are discussed in the regular EU-US Justice and Home Affairs Senior Officials and Ministerial meetings.

Recent and upcoming events

27-28 February 2019	EU - US JHA Senior Officials Meeting, Bucharest, Romania	Topics covered counterterrorism, cybersecurity, border management (including visa reciprocity) and migration (combatting migrant smuggling and trafficking).
19 June 2019	EU-US JHA Ministerial, Bucharest, Romania	Topics covered: counterterrorism, information exchange, cybersecurity, borders, visas and migration (including updates by the EU on EBCGA and ETIAS)).
26 September 2019	EU - US JHA Senior Officials Meeting SOM, Brussels, Belgium	Topics discussed included visa reciprocity (US are in the process of assessing Member States' replies to their questionnaire, pro-

		gress expected to be achieved quickly), counterterrorism, cybersecurity, aviation security, resilience of electoral systems, hybrid threats, cross-border access to e-evidence.
10-11 December 2019	EU-US JHA Ministerial, Washington D.C, USA	The agenda included mostly security related issues and visa reciprocity. It was decided to launch a transatlantic exchange of experiences on violent extremism
28 May 2020	VTC - EU-US JHA	A VTC focused on Covid-19 related developments in the EU and US (including travel restrictions). EU and US informed about each other's measures and confirmed the willingness to continue the information exchange.
15 September 2020	VTC - EU - US JHA Senior Officials Meeting	While the most salient points of the discussion covered PNR and data protection, US informed that Croatia was close to meet the US Visa Waiver Requirements. Both sides explained their different travel restrictions related to COVID-19.
14-15 April 2021	VTC - EU - US JHA Senior Officials Meeting	The agenda included mostly security related issues, but also covered migration. EU and US expressed interest to reengage on migration and in this context to explore possible issues of mutual interest.
22 June 2021	EU-US JHA Ministerial, Lisbon	Agenda included EU and US migratory situation and the Principals confirmed their agreement to pursue a transatlantic migration dialogue. Possible issues to discuss could include protection of those in need, community sponsorships, integration, legal pathways, partnerships with countries of transit and origin, readmission, and tackling smuggling of migrants.
9 July 2021	High Level Resettlement Forum	Event organised by Commissioner Johansson. The US and Canada were invited at ministerial level.
27 August – 2 September 2021	Visit of Commissioner Johansson to the United States	
20 September 2021, Slovenia	EU-US Justice and Home Affairs' Senior Officials' meeting	The US announced publicly its decision to move away from the

		current travel ban and to open the air borders to all vaccinated passengers from the EU+ as of “early November”.
29 November 2021	EU-US Platform on Migration and Asylum	The discussion focused on Afghanistan, resettlement and possible coordinated approach, as well as explore other avenues for future cooperation, one of the examples being smuggling of migrants.
16 December 2021, Washington D.C	EU – US JHA Ministerial meeting	Discussions centred on cyber-crime, child sexual abuse, ransomware, Artificial Intelligence, environmental crime, Afghanistan, violent extremism and PNR. The next SOM is scheduled for 5 April 2022 and JHA Ministerial Meeting for 24 June 2022.
5 April 2022	EU - US JHA Senior Officials Meeting	
24 June 2022	EU – US JHA Ministerial Meeting	

Part 2- 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) and the subsequent Ministerial Declaration of 2016 (covering the period 2017-2021).

Recent and upcoming events

5-7 March 2019	Study visit to the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees of Germany, Nuremberg	
10-11 June 2019	Senior Officials Meeting, Bucharest	
15 May 2020	Webinar "The impact of the Corona-crisis on migration"	
2 July 2020	Webinar "Maximizing labour migration outcomes in the Prague Process corridors: Practices on how to benchmark countries of destination in June 2020"	
24 September 2020	Webinar "EU Framework for Legal Migration: Lessons learned and main challenges"	
16 November 2020	Senior Officials Meeting, VTC	Pass on Presidency from Lithuania to Czech Republic and Work Plan for 2021 were discussed
28 January 2021	Webinar: "Migration Outlook for 2021: From COVID-19 to the EU's Pact on Migration and Asylum"	
04 March 2021	Webinar: Frontex Role and Capacity on Return	
15 April 2021	Webinar: 'Which Perspectives for Labour Migration Partnerships in the Prague Process region? Lessons from EU funded Pilot Projects on Legal Migration'	
6 May 2021	Webinar "Social Capital and Transnational Human Smuggling: What is the impact of Counter-Smuggling Policies?"	
11 May 2021	Webinar/thematic consultations: Preventing and fighting illegal migration + Promoting readmission, voluntary return and sustainable reintegration	The first (out of 3 planned) of thematic consultations on the roadmap towards 4th Prague Process Ministerial Conference planned for the second half of 2022
25 May 2021	Webinar/thematic consultations: Le-	The 2 nd (out of 3 planned) of

	gal migration with a special emphasis on labour migration + Making migration and mobility positive forces for development	thematic consultations on the roadmap towards 4th Prague Process Ministerial Conference planned for the second half of 2022
10 June 2021	Webinar/thematic consultations: Asylum/international protection + Integration of legally residing migrants in host societies	The 3rd (out of 3 planned) of thematic consultations on the roadmap towards 4th Prague Process Ministerial Conference planned for the second half of 2022
24 June 2021	Webinar: 'Reporting Migration: the role of media in shaping public opinion and policies on migration'	
22 November 2021	Annual Prague Process SOM	
24-25 October 2022 (tbc)	Ministerial Conference	Ministerial Declaration and Action Plan for 2023-2027 to be endorsed.

(B) THE EASTERN PARTNERSHIP PLATFORMS AND PANEL ON MIGRATION, MOBILITY AND INTEGRATED BORDER MANAGEMENT (IBM)

The Eastern Partnership is the framework for cooperation between the EU and Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. The latest Joint Declaration was adopted at the Eastern Partnership Brussels Summit of December 2021. The leaders committed to enhancing their cooperation on the basis of the EaP policy beyond 2020. The five long-term objectives of the EaP policy beyond 2020 emphasise recovery, resilience and reform as key building blocks of the future agenda. The long-term objectives are: (i) developing resilient, sustainable and integrated economies, (ii) ensuring accountable institutions, the rule of law and security, (iii) developing environmental and climate resilience, (iv) delivering a resilient digital transformation, (v) creating resilient, gender-equal, fair and inclusive societies.

Recent and upcoming events

13-14 June 2019	Eastern Partnership Panel on Migration, Mobility and Integrated Border Management (IBM), Minsk	Theme: Information exchange on IBM, different modalities of continued EU support, including border control, integrated system of green border surveillance
12 November 2019	Eastern Partnership Platform 4 „Mobility and People-to-people contacts”	State of play of current cooperation, and jointly brainstorm on the future agenda beyond 2020
17 December 2019	Eastern Partnership Platform 1 „Strengthening institutions and good governance	The future of the Eastern Partnership
March 2020-cancelled, new date tbc	Eastern Partnership Panel on Migration, Mobility and Integrated Border Management (IBM)	Labour Migration
20 October 2020	Eastern Partnership Panel on Rule of Law	Post 2020 Deliverables
24 November 2020	Eastern Partnership Platform 1 Strengthening institutions and Good Governance	Priorities beyond 2020

27 November 2020	Eastern Partnership Platform 4 Mobility and people-to-people contacts	Priorities beyond 2020
15 December 2021	Eastern Partnership Summit	

(C) THE BUDAPEST PROCESS

The Budapest Process was initiated in 1991 as a consultative forum, currently containing 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. This Dialogue is instrumental to reinforce cooperation at regional level with priority Silk Route countries, with which the EU engages on migration through various bilateral frameworks.

Recent and upcoming events

19-20 February 2019	SOM and Budapest Process Ministerial Conference, Istanbul Turkey	Adoption of the Ministerial Declaration "the Istanbul commitments and Action plan its Call to Action. 6 EUMS did not take part in the Declaration but expressed ongoing support to the process
9-10 October 2019	Joint Working Group Meeting with all three regional working groups (Silk Routes, Black Sea and Southeast Europe), North Macedonia	Working Group Meeting to discuss regional and thematic priorities to be included in the implementation plan of the „Call for Action”
4-5 December 2019	Annual Senior Officials Meeting, Turkey	Approval of the implementation plan of the „Call for Action”
3-4 March 2020	Expert meeting on return and reintegration	
14 May 2020	Virtual group discussion on labour migration in the Covid19 Pandemic	
30 June 2020	Virtual group discussion on irregular migration in the COVID-19 pandemic	
30 September 2020	Virtual group discussion on migration narratives	
3-4 November 2020	Virtual thematic Meeting on Labour Migration	
12 November 2020	Virtual Group Discussion with the South East European Region Working Group	
2-3 December 2020	Senior Officials Meeting	
24 March 2021	Webinar on Understanding and Explaining Attitudes to Migration in the Silk Routes	
5 May 2021	Webinar on Migration as a Response to Environmental Change	
1 – 2 June 2021	Thematic Meeting on dismantling of smuggling networks: international cooperation and investigations.	

13 June 2021	First meeting of the Reference Group	
13 July 2021	Second meeting of the Reference Group	
28 September 2021	Third meeting of the Reference Group	
13 October 2021	Webinar on “the Situation in Afghanistan - Implications for the Silk Routes region and what comes next?”	
14 October 2021	Joint meeting of the South East Europe and the Silk Routes Region Working Groups	
8 November 2021	Thematic Meeting on Promoting a Rights-Based Approach for Vulnerable Groups on the Move	
2 December 2021	SOM	

(D) 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 EU-Africa Summit in December 2007 in Lisbon.

Recent and upcoming events

21/22 January 2019	1 st EU-AU Ministerial Meeting, Brussels	While not a specific agenda point, migration was part of the Joint Communique adopted and the discussions.
3 May 2019	Continental Dialogue, Technical meeting between DEVCO and AIR to prepare the AU EU event on Remittances in Nairobi in December 2019	Follow-up meeting to the meeting in November 2018
9-10 December 2019	Technical meeting on Reduction remittances costs in Nairobi hosted by AIR	Bringing together experts on remittances reduction costs.
11 December 2019	High Level Dialogue Meeting, Nairobi	Stocktaking and charting way forward
27 February 2020	College-to-College (C2C) meeting, Addis Ababa	Migration was an agenda point discussed during both the plenary session and a cluster session.
26 October 2021	AU-EU Foreign Affairs Minister meeting (Ministerial), Kigali/Rwanda	Migration was part of the Joint Communique adopted and the joint press release.
17-18 February 2022	6th EU-AU Summit, Brussels	

(E) 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 in November 2014 where Ministerial Declaration and Action Plan for 2015-17 were adopted. The fifth ministerial conference held in Marrakesh, May 2018, adopted the Marrakesh Programme of Action which aligned the work of the Rabat process with the five themes of the Joint Valletta Action Plan, This dialogue contributes to the implementation of the Valetta Action Plan, adopted at the EU-Africa Summit on Migration on 11-12 November 2015.

Recent and upcoming events

23 January 2019	Steering Committee, Brussels	Prepare the SOM of 12-13 February
11 February 2019	Steering Committee, Ouagadougou	Prepare the SOM of 12-13 February
12-13 February 2019	Senior Officials Meeting, Ouagadougou	Define a work programme for the implementation of the Marrakech Action Plan
3 June 2019	Steering Committee, Brussels	Handover of presidency from Burkina Faso to France
1-2 July 2019	Thematic Meeting on Border Management, Madrid	Exchange of information and good practice among the Rabat Process partners
24 October 2019	Thematic meeting on fight against trafficking of human beings and smuggling of migrants with emphasis on dismantling of criminal networks (event led and chaired by France and Côte d'Ivoire). A side event is also organised: 'Scenario building exercise on future mixed migration in 2030 in West and North Africa'	This meeting is organised back to back with the Niamey Declaration High-Level Conference of 22-23 October 2019 (Organised by France/ Secretariat UNODC). This workshop aims to create synergies between the Rabat Process and the Niamey Declaration signed on 16 March 2018.
5-6 November 2019	Technical Workshop on Diaspora Remittances and Sustainable Development, Abuja	Bring together technical experts, practitioners from the public and private sectors, civil society organisations, as well as policy- and decision makers (Rabat Process partners) to improve Rabat Process partners' technical understanding; promote mutual learning and the exchange of good practices on remittances.
13 November 2019	Steering Committee, Brussels	
18 February 2020	Steering Committee, Brussels	Discussed and finalised Rabat process input to the updating of the Joint Valetta Action Plan
16 September 2020	Webinar - Assessment of anti-trafficking efforts, ECOWAS & Mauritania	Presentation of the findings of the "Assessment of Anti-Trafficking Gaps, Needs and Transferrable Practices in the Member States of ECOWAS and Mauritania".

15 October 2020	Virtual Steering Committee Meeting	
28 October 2020	Virtual meeting with Steering Committee members and reference countries Meeting	
21 January 2021	Webinar on return and reintegration	Updates on main developments and exchange of best practices
19 April 2021	Webinar on International Migration And Development,	Identify practices from European and African countries in terms of elaboration, implementation, monitoring and multi-level governance of migration-development policies and strategies at the local, national or regional level.
20 April 2021	Rabat Process Steering Committee and meeting with reference countries (virtual)	
16 June 2021	<u>Virtual</u> migration scenario-building workshop in collaboration with Mixed Migration Centre	Understanding the Rate of Change in Mixed Migration: The role of technology within migration dynamics
1 July 2021	Rabat Process Steering Committee (virtual)	
7 July and 13-14 October 2021	Virtual roundtable (7 July 2021) and a roundtable/study visit (in Geneva, on 13-14 October) on protection and asylum	Exchange of best practices on protection and asylum
14-15 September 2021	Thematic Meeting on Local Authorities, National Authorities and Migration, Paris.	
29 September 2021	Rabat Process Steering Committee meeting, Brussels	
29 September 2021	<u>Virtual</u> migration scenario-building workshop in collaboration with Mixed Migration Centre	Identification of the future mixed migration certainties and uncertainties in North Africa and West Africa: The drivers of mixed migration
13-14 October 2021	<u>Roundtable and study visit on protection and asylum: risks, assistance and durable solutions, Geneva</u>	Exchange of best practices
27 October 2021	<u>Virtual</u> migration scenario-building workshop in collaboration with Mixed Migration Centre	Identification of blind spots and weak signals and examining their implications for policy responses: Environmental change
17-18 November 2021	Senior Officials' Meeting, Malabo	Handover of the Chairmanship from Equatorial Guinea to Spain
1 December 2021	Scenario-building workshop in collaboration with Mixed Migration Centre: <i>"Mixed Migration Futures: How might the future of work drive migration in 2035? Focus on West and North Africa"</i>	Developing future mixed migration scenarios in North Africa and West Africa.
16-17 December 2021	Thematic meeting on legal migration, online	Exchange of best practices on legal migration.

(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 but includes also other areas of migration management including the root causes of irregular migration, legal migration and mobility, asylum and international protection, fight against irregular migration and smuggling of people, and return and readmission. The Khartoum Process contributes to the implementation of the Joint Valetta Action Plan adopted at the EU-Africa Summit on Migration on 11-12 November 2015.

Recent and upcoming events

6-7 March, 2019	Steering Committee and Senior Officials Meeting, (Asmara)	Eritrea takes over the chairmanship of the Khartoum Process
17 July 2019	Drafting Committees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Towards the update of the Joint Valetta Action Plan and • Preparation of the Khartoum Process Multiannual Work Plan 	
24- 25 September 2019	Thematic Meeting on “Legal Frameworks and Policy Development: Optimising the Benefits of Organised Labour Migration”, Cairo	
23-24 October, 2019	Thematic Meeting on Migration for Development: Harnessing the Potential of Diaspora, Asmara	
March 2020	Steering Committee and Senior Officials’ Meeting, The Hague	The Netherlands takes over the chairmanship the Khartoum Process ; update of JVAP discussed
5 March 2020	SOM Meeting, The Hague	
2 July 2020	Khartoum Process Virtual Meeting The impact of COVID-19 on Human Mobility in the Khartoum Process Region and Partners’ Responses, VTC	
8 October 2020	Mixed Migration Centre Webinar for Khartoum Process Members on Mixed Migration and the COVID-19 crisis: What’s next for people on the move in the “New Normal”?, VTC	
2 December 2020	Steering Committee Meeting, VTC	
31 March 2021	Trafficking in Human Beings: The 4Ps Revisited. Module 1: Prevention of trafficking for the purpose of labour exploitation (virtual).	
28 April 2021	Trafficking in Human Beings: The 4Ps Revisited. Module 2: Protection of Victims of Trafficking (virtual)	
26 May 2021	Trafficking in Human Beings: The 4Ps Revisited. Module 3: Prosecution (International cooperation) (virtual)	

30 June 2021	Trafficking in Human Beings: Module 4: Partnership (Public-private partnerships) (virtual)	
21 September 2021	Virtual Roundtable: Return, Reintegration and Integration: Finding Durable Solutions	
29 September 2021	Khartoum Process Steering Committee Meeting, Brussels	
24-25 November 2021	Thematic Meeting on Return, Reintegration and Integration: Finding Durable Solutions	The meeting was hosted by Switzerland and co-hosted by Ethiopia.
March 2022 (tbc)	SOM Meeting (place tbd)	Change of the Chairmanship (NL to South Sudan)

(G) THE OACP-EU MIGRATION DIALOGUE

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 4 thematic areas (Visa, remittances, returns and readmission, THB and smuggling of migrants), with the specific aim to strengthen the operational aspects of ACP-EU cooperation on these topics. In 2020, the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States became the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACP).

A series of expert meetings took place on a yearly basis. A joint report including recommendations on remittances, visas and readmission was adopted in June 2012 at the ACP-EU Joint Council of Vanuatu. A 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 last technical dialogue took place in June 2018.

The Dialogue (and in particular the organisation of the thematic meetings) was supported by the EU-ACP Migration Action, a EUR 10M programme which implemented some of the recommendations. The programme finished in August 2019. A final evaluation was carried out and its outcome was presented to EUMS at the OACP WP of 3 June 2020. The Programme covered three components: 1) Demand-driven provision of technical assistance (requested by OACP countries or by regional institutions); 2) Direct support to NSAs projects improving the conditions of migrants and their families; 3) Collection of good practices and dissemination of results.

Both the EU and the OACP sides expressed concerns about the effectiveness of this Dialogue, particularly on the interaction between the political and the technical level, and saw the negotiations of the Post Cotonou Agreement as an opportunity to revisit the EU-OACP migration dialogue and its implementation. The new Agreement reaffirms the enhanced cooperation on migration and mobility, paying particular attention to circular migration, recognising the positive impacts of migration and mobility on sustainable development and addressing the negative effects of irregular migration on countries of origin, transit and destination. It also contains the legally binding annex on return and readmission process.

Once the Post Cotonou Agreement, initialled by the respective Chief Negotiators in April 2021, enters into force, the OACP-EU Development-Migration Dialogue will be replaced by the Partnership Dialogue, the modalities of which still have to be defined. The dialogue on migration and mobility will become part of a wider dialogue, encompassing all policy areas covered by the agreement.

Recent and upcoming events

19-21 February 2019	Regional Thematic Meeting on Remittances, Accra, Ghana	
12-14 March 2019	Regional Thematic Meeting on Trafficking in Human Beings and Smuggling of Migrants, Georgetown, Guyana	
18-20 March 2019	ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, Romania	
3-5 April 2019	Regional Thematic Meeting on Visas and Cooperation on Mobility, Port Vila, Vanuatu	
12 April 2019	ACP-EU Committee of Ambassadors	Migration was on the agenda
23-24 May 2019	Joint ACP-EU Council of Ministers, Brussels	Exchange on Migration in a comprehensive discussion on the basis of the implementation of the JVAP and the EUTF

11 July 2019	ACP-EU Migration Action – Final Event, Brussels	The ACP-EU Migration Action presented good practices and lessons learned based on the analysis of five years of the Action's implementation
17-21 November 2019	ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, Kigali, Rwanda	Migration features in questions from MEPs and COM provided written replies. Migration and Mobility may be addressed during the Plenary, if additional questions arise.
3 and 10 December 2020	ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, Brussels, remotely	Migration features in the resolution on reducing the number of unemployed youth in ACP and EU countries.
15 April 2021	Initialing ceremony of the new OACPS-EU Partnership Agreement.	European Commissioner for International Partnerships Jutta Urpilainen, together with Robert Dussey, Togolese Minister for Foreign Affairs, Chief Negotiator of the OACPS, initialled the negotiated text for a Post-Cotonou agreement.

(H) THE VALLETTA SUMMIT FOLLOW-UP

The Valletta Summit of November 2015 enabled African and EU leaders to establish a frank dialogue and the framework for cooperation on migration including the principles, the language and a comprehensive action plan.

At the Summit it was decided that the existing mechanisms of the Rabat Process, the Khartoum Process and of the Joint EU-Africa Strategy would be used to monitor implementation of the Action plan.

Recent and upcoming events

15 December 2020	Joint Steering Committee of Khartoum and Rabat Process approved update of Joint Valetta Action Plan (JVAP)	
2022 - TBC	Valletta Partners SOM (including approval of update of JVAP)	

(I) 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, called for further developing this Dialogue. This commitment was renewed during the last EU-CELAC Summit held in Brussels in June 2015.

Recent and upcoming events

23-24 January 2019	3 rd EU-CELAC citizen security workshop, Belize	
12-14 June 2019	Regional Workshop on the outflow of migrants and refugees from Venezuela, in Brussels (TAIEX, FPI)	With the participation of 9 LAC countries: COL, ECU, PER, CHI, ARG, BRA, GUY, PAN, Dom. REP.
28-29 October 2019	International Solidarity Conference on the Venezuelan Refugee and Migrant crisis, Brussels	With participation of European Commission, EEAS, UNHCR, IOM, NGOs
5-6 December 2019	Regional Workshop on the outflow of migrants and refugees from Venezuela, in Bogota (Colombia)	With the participation of 9-10 LAC countries.
25 May 2020	Virtual Donors Conference in solidarity with Venezuelan refugees and migrants in countries in the region, amid the COVID-19 pandemic	Co-hosted by Spain and the EU, supported by UNHCR and IOM. Over 40 countries along with UN Agencies, international financial institutions and representatives of national and international civil society.
14 December 2020	EU – LAC Informal Ministerial Meeting - Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the countries of the European Union (EU) and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)	Joint Communiqué: mentions that migration and population mobility in LAC are increasingly important health determinants and require greater cooperation
10 June 2021	Solidarity Event for forcibly displaced persons and host communities in Central America and Mexico (MIRPS countries), San José (Costa Rica).	Organized by Spain as the Presidency of the MIRPS Support Platform. A total of \$ 110 million were announced in the event by the different participants.
17 June 2021	International Donors' Conference in Solidarity with Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants	The European Commission pledged €147 million, in addition to pledges by EU Member States.
2 December 2021	EU-Latin America & Caribbean Leaders' Meeting	EU leaders agreed to step up cooperation to address the Covid-19 pandemic and ensure a long-term recovery. They referred to the regional Team Europe Initiative on Security and Justice to support bi-regional cooperation on citizen security, organised crime and the rule of law.

Part 3 - The global processes

GLOBAL FORUM FOR MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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.

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.

The 8th GFMD Summit came immediately after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

opment, which includes migration as a recognised development enabler. During Turkey's Chairmanship, an important feature was the insertion of forced displacement and refugees on the agenda, not the least due to the Syrian refugee crisis.

Ecuador is currently chairing the process.

Recent and upcoming events

18-26 January 2021	13 th GFMD Summit UAE on-line, opening speech by Commissioner Johansson	Theme: The Future of Human Mobility: Innovative Partnerships for Sustainable Development
18 November 2021	GFMD Friends of the Forum Meeting	Update on the process of internal reform undertaken over the course of 2021 and stocktaking on the GFMD's inputs to the forthcoming International Migration Review Forum (IMRF). Senegal will co-chair the GFMD with France from 1 July 2022 to December 2023. Priorities to be presented in early 2022, key focus will be on climate change and migration.
December 2023	14 th GFMD Summit	

UNITED NATIONS

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 25 September 2015 recognizes that migration contributes to circular growth and development. It calls on UN Member States to increase international cooperation by facilitating orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people. In this respect, the EU counts on a long-standing strategic partnership with the UN. In December 2018, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) and the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) were adopted by the UN General Assembly. This concluded the intense two-year process launched with the adoption of the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants in September 2016. Follow-up and review under the Global Compact on Refugees will be conducted through the Global Refugee Forum (held every four years unless otherwise decided); high-level officials' meetings (held every two years between Forums); as well as annual reporting to the United Nations General Assembly by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. The first Global Refugee Forum took place on 16-18 December 2019. The first High-level Officials Meeting took place on 14-15 December 2021 to take stock of progress and look ahead to the next Global Refugee Forum. UN Member States will review implementation of the GCM through the International Migration Review Forum, to take place every four years beginning in May 2022.

Recent and upcoming events

July 2019	UN General Assembly adopted the modalities for the International Migration Review Forum (Global Compact on Migration)	
11 December 2019	First Annual Meeting of the UN Network on Migration	
17-18 December 2019	First Global Refugee Forum (Global Compact on Refugees)	
12-13 November 2020	First Regional Review of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in the UNECE Region	

1 December 2020	High-level launch of first biennial UN Secretary-General Report "From Promise to Action" on the GCM	<i>UNSG Report on GCM implementation, focusing on key achievements and advancements in GCM implementation mainly among its champion countries. It could not escape the shadow that the COVID-19 pandemic put on its progress. The report present a good snapshot of the achievements of the past two years.</i>
4-8 October 2021	UNHCR Executive Committee meeting	Adoption of conclusions on International protection and durable solutions in the context of a public health emergency
14-15 December 2021	High-level Officials Meeting under the Global Compact on Refugees	Stocktaking on the progress and looking ahead to the next Global Refugee Forum.
10-13 May 2022	International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) New York Preceded by four roundtables in January-February 2022 and the launch of the Secretary-General Report on the GCM during Migration Week on 14-18 February 2022	Adoption of a Progress Declaration

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