Joint Roadmap

of the European Parliament and rotating presidencies of the Council on the organization, coordination and implementation of the timeline for the negotiations between the co-legislators on the CEAS and the New European Pact on migration and asylum¹

I. Introduction

The European Parliament and the rotating Presidencies of the Council of the EU (France, the Czech Republic, Sweden, Spain and Belgium) referred below as rotating Council Presidencies confirm that the CEAS and the New European Pact on migration and asylum represents a top priority in their work and confirm their commitment to make all efforts towards the adoption of the legislative proposals before the end of the 2019-2024 legislative period.

They agree that such an ambitious reform must be seen as a consistent set of texts to be examined in a comprehensive way, bearing in mind that the adoption of the whole reform shall respect a strict balance between all components of the Pact.

The European Parliament and the rotating Council Presidencies commit to work together as closely as possible and in a spirit of sincere cooperation in line with the agreed joint roadmap enabling the conclusion of the whole Pact by the end of this parliamentary term.

The European Parliament and the rotating Council Presidencies recognize that the individual legislative files under the CEAS and the new Pact reform represent different building blocks of a common system and they strive to organise the negotiations on the individual files in a way that will respect balance, complementarity and legal coherence of the whole reform.

II. Timetable

The European Parliament and the rotating Council Presidencies agree that all negotiations should be organised in a timely manner.

The European Parliament and the rotating Council Presidencies agree that in order to enable the adoption of all legislative proposals that constitute the CEAS and the new Pact (see footnote) before the end of this parliamentary term, the negotiations on all files should be concluded by February 2024.

This will require that the negotiations between the co-legislators should start by the end of 2022, including any sequencing, which should ensure that equivalent, and balanced progress is made on the various aspects of the Pact.

The negotiations leading to adoption of the proposals should be guided by the principles set out in Chapter II of Title V of the Treaty, including in Article 80.

¹ Covering the following legislative proposals: Regulation for Asylum and Migration Management, Regulation for Crisis and Force majeure, Screening Regulation and proposal amending several regulations to facilitate the Screening, Qualification Regulation, Reception Conditions Directive (recast), Amended Asylum Procedures regulation, Return Directive (recast), Amended EURODAC Regulation, Union Resettlement Framework Regulation.

III. Follow-up

The effective implementation of the timetable agreed should be subject to follow-up meetings between the ACG Members and rotating Council Presidencies. To that purpose, meetings will be organised at least twice per Council Presidency term in order to provide for an update on the state of play of the individual files under the Pact, as well as to allow for early warning on any developments on the individual files, that might impact the timely finalization of the Pact before April 2024.

If regular meetings cannot always be organized due to exceptional circumstances then regular reporting in writing could be considered.

The first follow-up meeting shall be organised by ACG and hosted by the EP within three months after the roadmap is agreed upon. Subsequent meetings will be organised and chaired on a rotating basis by the Presidency of the Council in function, within three months after the first meeting. Every next meeting shall take place in intervals of two to four months and all even meetings will be chaired and organized by the ACG, while all odd meetings will be chaired and organized by the rotating Presidency of the Council during that period. All follow-up meetings shall be held in the presence of ACG Members, i.e. the rapporteurs of the CEAS and new Pact files and representatives of the current and the upcoming rotating Council Presidencies, starting from the first meeting until the end of the current legislature. Commission representatives participate in those meetings as observers.

The joint meetings on the follow-up shall focus exclusively on the timetable agreed, the progress made on the respective files by the two co-legislators, as well as on identifying possible delays or challenges in the work and ways to address them in a timely manner.