Dear Federica,

We have the pleasure to enclose herewith a Joint German, Italian and French non paper on “A more active and comprehensive external migration policy of the EU”. This document aims to give a contribution towards a common EU vision on Migration.

At this particular juncture, when the whole Europe is confronted with a historic challenge posed by massive migrations to our Continent, we believe it is high time that the European Union finally take responsibility and act, making use of a wide range of tools. Against this background, we emphasize the importance of the decision of the Foreign Affairs Council to set up the EU naval operation EUNAVFOR MED to disrupt the business model of human migrants’ smugglers in the Southern Central Mediterranean as part of the EU comprehensive migration response.

From a more general perspective, at stake there is more than “just” managing migration flows. On this particular issue, the European Union has to show that what binds us together is not only policies and regulations, but also a most valuable set of principles and morals.

At the same time, we all have to be aware that the leadership of the European Union in world’s affairs today will be measured on our ability to tackle major global problems.

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H.E. Federica MOGHERINI
High Representative of the Union
for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
Vice President of the European Commission
Migration is, indeed, a challenge but also provides us with a great opportunity to prove that Europe is up to the task.

Please, accept the assurances of our highest consideration.

Paolo Gentiloni  Dr. Frank-Walter Steinmeier  Laurent Fabius
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Italy  Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany  Minister of Foreign Affairs of the French Republic