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The Grand National Assembly of Türkiye

Parliaments and the Global Compacts on Migration and Refugees: How to bring about stronger international cooperation and national implementation

Organized jointly by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye (GNAT)

20-21 June 2022, İstanbul, Türkiye

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

2018 was a crucial year for international migration governance. In December that year, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) and the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR). The Global Compacts offer non-binding cooperative frameworks for States to address a variety of challenges linked to migration.

Among other things, the GCM provides a comprehensive set of guidelines to sending, receiving and transition countries on how to manage migration more effectively in order to reap the benefits of this global phenomenon while neutralizing some of its drawbacks.

The GCR promotes more predictable and equitable responsibility-sharing and provides a blueprint for governments, international organizations and other stakeholders to ensure that host communities get the support they need and that refugees can lead productive lives. More concretely, the GCR aims to ease the pressures on host countries, enhance refugee self-reliance, expand access to third-country solutions, and support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity.

The Global Compacts have each created dedicated mechanisms to examine progress towards implementation, discuss ongoing challenges and best practices, and identify new action to govern migration. In this regard, the GCR established the Global Refugee Forum, to be held every four years, with the first held in 2019. The GCM created the International Migration Review Forum, which is due to meet every four years and will do so for the very first time in May 2022, during which it will adopt a Progress Declaration.

Although a certain amount of progress has been made in implementing both Global Compacts, much more needs to be done. For instance, only a limited number of countries have adopted ambitious national responses for the implementation of the GCM. In a similar vein, a limited number of countries, often with scarce resources, continue to host most of the globe's refugees, leaving the promise of more equitable burden-sharing that underpins the GCR largely unfulfilled.

The global parliamentary conference in Türkiye offers an important opportunity for parliaments and their members to take stock of the progress made in the implementation of the Global Compacts and of old and new challenges that stand in the way of stronger collective, bilateral and national action. The conference aims to collect a series of best parliamentary practices and to identify further concrete steps that parliaments can take, together and individually, to promote stronger international cooperation and national implementation.



Hotel “Hilton Bomonti”, “Grand Ballroom”, M4 floor

Monday, 20 June 2022

8 a.m.	Registration of delegates
9 a.m.	Opening ceremony: Keynote speeches: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hon. Duarte Pacheco, President of the IPU• Hon. Prof. Dr. Mustafa Şentop, Speaker of Grand National Assembly of Türkiye• His Excellency Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Türkiye (Video address) <p>Family Photo Exhibition on Migrants and Refugees</p>
10.15 a.m.	<i>Coffee break</i>
10.30 a.m.	Session I: International governance standards, global compacts and global policy agendas: Targets, commitments, progress and setback in implementation <p>This session will focus on the overall global and regional progress made, remaining obstacles, and old and new opportunities with regard to implementation. For the GCM, the session will mainly draw on the outcome and findings of the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF), convened under the auspices of the UN General Assembly from 17 to 20 May 2022, as well as the United Nations Secretary General's report of 27 December 2021 (A/76/642), especially its 14 recommendations on the implementation of the GCM. With regard to the GCR, the session will draw in particular on the commitments made at the 2019 Global Refugee Forum and the first High-Level Officials Meeting held on 14 and 15 December 2021.</p> <p>This session will also present an overview of the vision and main content of the two Global Compacts. The aim is to promote a better understanding of the philosophy underpinning the Compacts, which were adopted in 2018, along with an appraisal of the nature of the commitments resulting from them, as well as the synergies and tensions that exist between them.</p> <p>Keynote speaker: Hon. Sahiba Gafarova, Speaker of parliament (Azerbaijan)</p> <p>Moderator: Hon. Silvia-Monica Dinica, Deputy Head of the Romanian Delegation to the IPU, Senator, (Romania)</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Philippe Leclerc, Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (Türkiye)• Mr. Gerard Karl Waite, Chief of Mission of IOM (Türkiye)• Mr. Patrick Taran, President of Global Migration Policy Associates
12.30	<i>Lunch offered by the Host Parliament</i> <i>“Crystal Ballroom”, M1 floor</i>
2 p.m.	Session II: Sustainable solutions to forced migration: Addressing root causes in countries of origin <p>In the framework of Target 2 of the GCM, “Minimize the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their country of origin” and in order to allow migration to be a choice and not a necessity, it is critical to provide minimum living conditions in order to provide a more livable environment in countries of origin. This session will address the necessary mechanisms and standards to be set and the challenges and opportunities associated with their implementation.</p>

Keynote speaker: Hon. Herimanana Razafimahefa, President of the Senate (Madagascar)

Moderator: Mr. Patrick Taran, President of Global Migration Policy Associates

Panelists:

- Dr. Fatima Diallo, Vice-Chair of the UN Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Senegal)
 - Mr. Şeref Malkoç, Chief Ombudsman (Türkiye)
 - Mr. Gerard Karl Waite, Chief of Mission of IOM (Türkiye)
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4 p.m.

Coffee break

Joint Press Conference

4.30 p.m.

Session III: Approaches to irregular migration and rights protection, including by managing borders and combating transnational crime

The session will focus on experiences in effective border management that are respectful of the human rights of irregular migrants and on effective responses to transnational crime in the area of human trafficking and the smuggling of persons. It will also look at concrete efforts made to facilitate the voluntary, safe and dignified return and reintegration of migrants in their countries of origin such as the Assisted Voluntary Return Mechanism in Türkiye as well as at some initiatives adopted in countries of destination to provide undocumented migrants with residence and work permits for short or long periods.

Keynote speaker: Dr. Márta Mátrai, First Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly (Hungary)

Moderator: Hon. Guoda Burokienė, member of the Seimas (Lithuania)

Panelists:

- Mr. Tamer Kılıç, International Centre for Migration Policy Development (Türkiye)
 - Dr. Pablo Ceriani, member of the UN Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Argentina)
 - Pr. Zeynep Alemdar, Okan University (Türkiye)
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8 p.m.

Dinner offered by: Hon. Prof. Dr. Mustafa Şentop, Speaker of GNAT

"Hilton Bosphorus", Harbiye, Cumhuriyet Cd. No:50, 34367 Şişli, Istanbul

Departure from "Hilton Bomonti": 7:30 pm (lobby). Participants can also reach the venue directly

Tuesday, 21 June 2022

9 a.m.

Session IV: Responsibility and fair burden sharing in the field of migration

Both Global Compacts underscore the important notion that migration can only be properly governed through a collective effort in which all stakeholders shoulder their responsibilities. When it comes to the situation of refugees, the GCR calls on States and other stakeholders that have not yet contributed to burden- and responsibility-sharing to do so, with a view to broadening the support base in a spirit of international solidarity and cooperation. This session will look at the extent to which States have lived up to their collective responsibility in this regard. In doing so, it will also look at State responses to the specific situation of mixed migrants, who feel forced to leave their countries but do not qualify as refugees.

This session will also look at efforts that have been made to minimize the adverse drivers of migration and to anticipate risks and threats that may trigger or affect migration movements. In doing so, it will examine how development programming and stronger synergies between the implementation of the GCM and the Sustainable Development Goals have offered a useful approach. It will also look at concrete examples of how countries have been able to assist specific categories of vulnerable migrants. Finally, it will look at the challenges that refugees face in finding a safe haven and what countries can do to facilitate access to their asylum systems.

Keynote speaker: Hon. Ahmed Al Safadi, Deputy Speaker (Jordan)

Moderator: Hon. Lucie Milebou-Aubusson, President of the Senate (Gabon)

Panelists:

- Dr. Fatima Diallo, Vice-Chair of the UN Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Senegal)
 - Mr. Ziad Ayad, Senior Policy Officer, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
 - Pr. Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi, University of Tehran and Australian National University (Iran, Islamic Republic of)
 - Ms. Nihal Eminoglu, Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University (Türkiye)
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10.45 a.m.

Coffee break

11 a.m.

Session V: Experience of Türkiye as the country hosting the highest number of displaced persons in the world

Türkiye is a transit point for the migrants aiming at reaching the western countries due to conflicts, and political and economic instabilities in their home countries. At the same time, Türkiye has become an attractive destination for regular and irregular migration, particularly due to its recently-increasing economic and regional power.

Due to its geographical and strategic position, Türkiye has become the final stop of migration movements in a broad sense, including massive movement of asylum seekers, and is hosting more than four millions of displaced persons and asylum from a broad range of countries seekers including 3.7 million Syrians under temporary protection.

This session will focus on the comprehensive policies developed between the government, international organizations and humanitarian organizations in order to manage migration in Türkiye in a sustainable way and to facilitate migration's potential positive results. Positive and negative effects of migration on the economic, socio-cultural structure will be also discussed as well as the safe, voluntary and dignified return of Syrians.

Keynote speaker: Mr. İsmail Çatakılı, Deputy Minister of Interior (Türkiye)

Moderator: Hon. Ravza Kavakçı Kan, PhD, member of the Grand National Assembly (Türkiye)

Panelists:

- Mr. Mehmet Abdullah Aksoy, Head of Department of Women, Family, Education and Social Services, Gaziantep Metropolitan Municipality (Türkiye)
 - Dr. İbrahim Altan, PhD, Member of the Board of Presidential Social Policy and General Manager of the Turkish Red Crescent (Türkiye)
 - Mr. Sadettin Akyil, General Director of International Labour, Ministry of Labour and Social Security (Türkiye)
 - Mr. Hüseyin Oruç, Vice President of Humanitarian Relief Foundation (Türkiye)
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12.30 p.m.

Lunch offered by the Host Parliament
"Crystal Ballroom" room, M1 level

2 p.m.

Session VI: Adjusting lives of migrants and refugees: human dignity, social inclusion and cohesion

The session will look at the different approaches that have been followed to establish regular migration through regional integration frameworks or bilateral migration agreements. The session will focus in particular on labour migration schemes, the aspect of family reunification and the opening up of different channels for those who have humanitarian or human rights protection needs or educational ambitions.

The session will also focus on how countries have been able to put in place laws, regulations and programmes to facilitate social cohesion and mobility by providing migrants and refugees, where necessary, with legal identity and documentation, work and study opportunities and civic education. The session will also look at initiatives that have sought to engage all members of society in the promotion of the social inclusion and cohesion of migrants and refugees.

Keynote speaker: Hon. Olga Sanchez Cordero, Speaker of the Mexican Senate (Mexico)

Moderator: Ms. Farida Haddouche Ilimi, Member of the National People's Assembly (Algeria)

Panelists:

- Hon. Ágnes Vadai, Member of the IPU Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law (Hungary)
- Mr. Gökce Ok, General Director of Harmonization and Communication Department, Presidency of Migration (Türkiye)
- Mr. Rodrigo Sandoval, former Director of the Chilean Migration Department (Chile)
- Pr. Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi, University of Tehran and Australian National University (Iran, Islamic Republic of)

3:45 p.m.

Coffee break

4 – 4.30 p.m.

Closing session

- Presentation of the conclusions from the event by the Conference Rapporteur, Hon. Joseph Osei Owusu, First Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly (Ghana)
 - Closing remarks from Hon. Prof. Dr. Mustafa Şentop, Speaker of Grand National Assembly of Türkiye ■
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