



Conference on the **Future** of **Europe**

SUMMARY RECORD

Working Group on Migration, Chaired by Mr. Dimitris Kairidis, National Parliament (Greece)

Friday 22 October 202, 11:00 to 13:00

1. Introductory remarks of the Chair

This was the first meeting of the Working Group on Migration. The meeting was held in hybrid format. The Chair, Mr. Dimitris Kairidis, welcomed members together with Mr. Alessandro Alfieri (national Parliaments/Italy), who will become the Chair of this Working Group as of 1 January 2022.

The Chair explained that his role would be to facilitate the discussion in order to ensure that all voices and all components are heard, and outlined his expectations for the Working Group to find compromises between often diverging positions.

The Chair emphasised that the basis for the Working Group's discussions would be what citizens have to say.

2. Discussion

The Chair asked the citizens' component, to outline the state of play of their discussions in Panel 4 (EU in the world/migration), in relation to migration.

During the discussion, one of the citizens from the European Citizens' Panels explained how the participants of the Panel had mapped the issues linked to migration, and discussed those different issues. He explained that citizens had selected what they consider as the most important issues, and expressed his hope that these issues would be at the centre of the Working Group's debates.

In the discussion, Working Group members expressed different opinions, leading to a broad debate.

In particular, the following points were raised:

- The fact that migration and security are discussed in different Working Groups was viewed positively by some, when others also said they needed to be discussed together;
- A few members mentioned the need to stop irregular migration and protect external borders of the EU;
- The importance of labour migration and the protection of migrant workers was referred to by several participants;
- Several members also mentioned the necessity to create more legal pathways for migration; including for labour migration.
- Some members underlined the importance of integrating migrants;
- The need for the revision of the Common Migration and Asylum policy of the EU and to further strengthen solidarity among Member States was mentioned by several participants;
- The need to view migration in the context of climate change effects was also discussed;
- Several participants mentioned the link between migration and demographics;

- A few participants also talked about migration in the geopolitical context, and how migration has been instrumentalised by third countries;
- Some members mentioned the need to help countries of origin, in order to tackle migration at its roots;
- the human perspective of migration, including respect for human rights, was also emphasised;
- Several members also called for the need to find the right balance between the different perspectives in order to find ways to regulate migration.

On the process, several members of the Working Group highlighted that for them the objective was to hear citizens' ideas and reflections, and looked forward to continuing discussions together.

3. Concluding remarks of the Chair

Following the exchange, the Chair concluded that strong views had been expressed, and recalled the main purpose of the Working Group, which is to discuss citizens' ideas.

The Chair subsequently suggested to subdivide the issues raised in the discussion into three sections:

1. Legal migration (harmonization of national policies regarding controlled migration and integration policies);
2. Irregular migration and border protection;
3. Asylum policy, refugee protection and burden sharing among EU Member States.

The Chair mentioned that an online meeting of the Working Group on migration could take place end of November, which would need the agreement of the Co-Chairs of the Executive Board and of all the components of the Working Group, in accordance with the Terms of Reference.

The Chair also recalled that before the next Working Group meeting, the European Citizens' Panels would designate, from among the representatives of the European Citizens' Panels within the Working Group, the spokesperson of the Working group, who would represent the Working Group, together with the Chair, in the Plenary.

ANNEX. List of members of the Working Group on Migration

Chair: Dimitris Kairidis, National Parliament			
Mr	Carmelo	ABELA	Council
Mr	Arnoldas	ABRAMAVIČIUS	Council
Mr	Alessandro	ALFIERI	National Parliaments
Ms	Abir	AL-SAHLANI	European Parliament
Mr	Konstantinos	ANDREADAKIS	European citizens panels
Mr	Marc	ANGEL	European Parliament
Mr	Malik	AZMANI	European Parliament
Mr	Pernando	BARRENA ARZA	European Parliament
Mr	Gunnar	BECK	European Parliament
Mr	Magnus	BERNTSSON	Local/Regional representative
Ms	Uliana	BOGDANSKA	Council
Ms	Marjolijn	BULK	European Economic and Social Committee
Mr	Jaroslav	BŽOCH	National Parliaments
Mr	Luís	CAPOULAS SANTOS	National Parliaments

Ms	Liina	CARR	Social Partners
Ms	Iness	CHAKIR	National citizens panels/events
Ms	Laura Maria	CINQUINI	European citizens panels
Mr	Angel	DZHAMAZKI	European Parliament
Ms	Karoline	EDTSTADLER	Council
Ms	Julia	EICHBERGER	European citizens panels
Mr	Joseph	ELLIS	National Parliaments
Mr	Harris	GEORGIADES	National Parliaments
Ms	Elsie	GISSLEGÅRD	National citizens panels/events
Ms	Sunčana	GLAVAK	European Parliament
Mr	Ľudovít	GOGA	National Parliaments
Ms	Hafida	GUELLATI	European citizens panels
Ms	Gabriela	HEGENBERG	European citizens panels
Ms	Ylva	JOHANSSON	European Commission
Mr	Dimitris	KAIRIDIS	National Parliaments
Mr	Jeroen	LENAERS	European Parliament
Mr	Cees	LOGGEN	Local/Regional representative
Ms	Oudekki	LOONE	National Parliaments
Mr	Arminas	LYDEKA	National Parliaments
Ms	Aurora	MEJÍA ERRASQUÍN	Council
Ms	Augusta	MONTARULI	National Parliaments
Ms	Nathalie	OBERWEIS	National Parliaments
Mr	Philippe	OLIVIER	European Parliament
Mr	Laurentiu	PLOSCEANU	European Economic and Social Committee
Ms	Yoomi	RENSTROM	Committee of the Regions
Mr	Milosh	RISTOVSKI	Civil Society
Ms	Desislava	SIMEONOVA	European citizens panels
Mr	Andrzej	SKIBA	National citizens panels/events
Ms	Sara	SKYTTEDAL	European Parliament
Mr	Jordi	SOLÉ FERRANDO	European Parliament
Ms	Petra	STEGER	National Parliaments
Mr	Tuomas Heikki	SUIHKONEN	European citizens panels
Mr	Tamas	SZILAGYI	Council
Ms	Kata	TUTTO	Committee of the Regions
Mr	Nils	USAKOVS	European Parliament
Mr	Hubregt	VERHOEVEN	European citizens panels
Mr	Dragan	VOLAREVIC	European citizens panels
Mr	Krasimir	ZLATINOV	European citizens panels