
Europe's Migration Crisis and its Possible Short-term Solutions
– a V4 Perspective –

Time: 22 September 2015, 14:00

Venue: Stanhope Hotel, Rue du Commerce 9, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium

Due to the increasing number of international conflicts, migration has risen exponentially in recent years, especially towards Europe. With an unprecedented number of migrants trying to enter the European Union in 2015, the control of the Schengen borders has become a drastically increasing burden.

With the current migrant crisis unfolding on the EU's doorsteps and insufficient support for the Commission's proposal of equal burden-sharing among member states, short-term solutions are necessary before the right EU long-term comprehensive strategy is agreed upon.

Apart from social issues, such as unemployment or social integration, mass migration also raises some major security questions. The free borders of the Schengen area are a luring opportunity for terrorists to pursue their objectives. Therefore, the responsibility of border and transit countries – such as the Visegrád Four – has increased even more. It has become clear that joint action is indispensable not only at European but also at the regional level.

Considering the significance of the current migration crisis, the Antall József Knowledge Centre, the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies (WMCES) and Talentbase Ltd. are organising an international conference focusing on possible short-term responses from a V4 perspective.

The key questions to be discussed are as follows:

- What are the possible short-term responses of the EU to the crisis?
- How should the different aspects of the crisis – the possible threat of terrorism, integration of the migrants and the response of the host societies – be evaluated?
- What is the optimal balance of competences shared between member states and common EU action?
- Are there any common measures the Visegrád Countries can take together at the regional level?
- What are the main challenges posed by the migration crisis on CFSP, and what are the possible solutions thereto?



Wilfried
Martens Centre
for European Studies

Tentative programme:

13:30 Registration

14:00 Opening Remarks

Katalin Bihari – Deputy Director, Antall József Knowledge Centre

14:10 Keynote Speech

Christos Stylianides – Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management, European Commission

14:40 Panel Discussion

Eugenio Ambrosi – Regional Director (EU, Norway, Switzerland), International Organisation for Migration

Balázs Orbán – Research Director, Századvég Foundation

Tomáš Kaválek – Research Fellow, Association for International Affairs (AMO)

Milan Nič – Managing Director, Central European Policy Institute (CEPI)

Moderator: **Vít Novotny** – Senior Research Officer, Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies

16:10 Closing Remarks

György Schöpflin – Member of the European Parliament

16:30 Reception

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