



“Shaping Europe’s Migration Policy in the light of EU-Africa Relations”

27 November 2014 • Conference 16.00-18.00 • Reception 18-00-19.00

Sveriges Riksdag (The Swedish Parliament), Riksgatan 1, 111 28 Stockholm, Andrakammarsalen

Background:

The topic of migration is of critical importance for **Africa-EU Relations**. In recent years, more than 20.000 migrants have lost their lives crossing the Mediterranean Sea on their way from Africa to Europe. During the 4th EU-Africa Summit in April 2014 European and African policy-makers committed to **improve the governance of migration** and the cooperation with countries of origin, transit and destination. Furthermore, it was agreed to **promote the role of migrants as agents of innovation and development** in order to maximize the development impact of migration. A **comprehensive policy framework** and well-coordinated international cooperation are key steps in managing migration with a view to improving developmental and humanitarian requirements of migrants.

The EU aims at setting up a **balanced approach** to dealing with migration. This includes a proper management of migration flows, fair treatment of third-country nationals residing legally in Member States as well as enhancing measures to combat illegal immigration and promoting closer cooperation with non-member countries in all fields. However, due to rising numbers of migrants seeking to enter the EU illegally **Member State frameworks regulating immigration have become more restrictive**. Consequently, even more migrants try to make their way to Europe via highly **exploitative and insecure channels** often linked to human trafficking and smuggling. Once in Europe migrants have to face many challenges and easily become victims of **human and labour rights abuses**.

The conference aims at exchanging with policy-makers and experts from Sweden, the EU institutions and African partners on the question **How to shape Europe’s migration policy in the light of EU-Africa relations in order to foster a more humanely, economically and ecologically sustainable future**.

Agenda:

15.30-16.00	Registration NB! Bring your ID
16.00-16.10	Welcoming (Olof Palme International Center, Green Forum Foundation, Christian Democratic International Center, European Network of Political Foundations)
16.10-16.20	Introductory Remarks – Maria FERM, Member of Parliament, Spokesperson on Migration, Green Party Sweden
Panel I: Presentation of the ENoP Policy Paper “A new approach to migration in the light of Africa-EU relations” Moderator: Ulrika LÅNG, ENoP Deputy Coordinator	
16.20-16.55	Food for thoughts: Presentation of the ENoP Policy Paper “A new approach to migration in the light of Africa-EU relations” <u>Speakers:</u> Katharina PATZELT (Hanns-Seidel Foundation), Josephine SUNDQVIST (Green Forum), Mårten LÖFBERG (Olof Palme International Center), Mwila KAMELA (JAES support Mechanism, AU Commission), Dr. Ahmed BUGRI, Foundation for Shelter and Support to Migrants Questions&Answers (10 min)
Musical Pause: Pedram SHAHLAI performs a piece dedicated to refugee children in Syria.	
Panel II: Expert Panel: “How to shape Europe’s Migration Policy in the light of EU-Africa Relations?” Moderator: Lawen REDAR, Member of Parliament, Committee on Justice and Committee on European Union Affairs	
17.05-17.55	<u>Speakers:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thomas HAMMARBERG, Migrationspolitiska S-föreningen, i.a. former Human Rights Commissioner of the Council of Europe • Mikael LEYI, Flyktinggruppernas riksråd (FARR) (Refugee and Asylum Council Sweden) • Ali KONATE, Migrants’ Network for Equality, Malta • Prof. Papa Meisa DIENG, Secretary General, African Greens Federation • Laura CORRADO, Head of Unit (acting), DG Home Affairs, Unit B.2 Migration and Asylum, European Commission (tbc) Questions&Answers (25 min)
17.55-18.00	Wrapping-up (Ulrika LÅNG, ENoP Deputy Coordinator)
18.00-19.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reception/mingle in “Sammanbindningsbanan” outside the conference venue