

Capstone Project Policy Brief

“G2: Should the EU develop a common migration policy? On what conditions should this be based? What could be its distinguishing features?”

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Group 6

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Cooperation Outside the EU

- Collaboration between the EU and migrants' origin countries is imperative in order to reduce smuggling and protect human rights. The cooperation should include law enforcement and better information sharing to combat smuggling networks. Also, the EU should promote legal pathways through creating job opportunities in certain sectors.
- To address the growing threat of climate change as a source for migration, the EU must develop a clear, unified definition and legislation for climate refugees to ensure their safety.

Border Security and Border Management

- Agencies, with Frontex being the most important one, define migrants as security threats and consider their safety as secondary to that of the EU. However, these same agencies are in fact held to higher standards by European institutions of human rights. Yet, even though these organisations have adequate resources, they do not prioritise human safety.
- The security of EU borders and human life should be of equal importance. To assure this, there must be greater cooperation between Frontex and NGOs, coast guards must be retrained to implement this change, and an independent and transparent institution or framework must be created to ensure these new principles.

Solidarity

- The relocation mechanism is inherently flawed. It does not consider that migration is recurrent as opposed to sporadic, and it also omits a large share of migrants in many cases.
- Thus, to remedy these shortcomings it is argued that the distribution calculation must accommodate the member states' ability to promote integration through employment. Consequently, economic and labour market assessments should be considered more and more thoroughly when measuring a nation's ability to assimilate migrants.

Integration of Settled Migrants

- It is a well-documented fact that advanced understanding of a language is vital to comfortably assimilate into a foreign culture, and the EU Pact does not provide any precise measure to guarantee this training. Thus, seriously impeding integration.
- Therefore, it is the intention of this paper to create a simple, yet precise framework to assure that all migrants are trained to speak the language of their respective countries to a C1 level. Without this training, a migrant cannot be truly expected to comfortably live in their society.