

## EIN-A4

### Seminar on The importance of Mediterranean stability for democracy and regional progress

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- The importance of the Mediterranean region is crucial for the security, stability and development of Europe. Since, this region is an external EU border we need to ensure the protection and regional progress among Mediterranean countries. Migration and security issues are even more dangerous than the crisis in Ukraine.
- The situation in Mediterranean has deteriorated very rapidly in the past months. We have 350 000 refugees came to Europe by the end of July, we will have approximately 1 million by the end of the year. The number of dead's dropped. According to statistical data round about 3/4 of refugees are young men. The world is changing faster than our perceptions.
- The current situation is a failure of EU to implement a good and realistic cooperation policy in order to help the development of the region and to prevent social crisis in Arab counties. Arab spring opened the gates for dramatic social, political and economic changes in those countries. We have a vacuum of powers and reliable negotiating part after the fall of autocratic regimes like Kaddafi's. In that relation EU must answer the question are we following the right policy (not negotiating with Assad).
- In order to find a solution for the threat from ISIS EU has to find a common language with different players (Russia, USA, Israel, Jordan etc.). The situation in Africa is not a problem only for the EU, it is a world problem which have to be solved under the UN flag. We also have to support economic development in Arab countries because ISIS is using this problem against democracy.
- We also need to reinforce FRONTEX and have a policy which will allow EU to integrate the refugees. EU countries have to answer the question what is their capacity to integrate large amount of refugees and

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have to involve Russia and Turkey in this process. We need to restore the pragmatic EU thinking and invest in cultural integration.

- The problem with refugees is not about the numbers but in their capacity to integrate themselves in our society. The world population is increasing for the past decades while in the EU we have lower rates. Europe needs migrants instead of refugees in order to help the economic growth. Migrants are working the same way as nationals.
- EU must stay united and to react as a union. We have to change our strategy and practically implement it. We have Euro-Med and EU neighborhood policy but we failed to predict the problems that happened. EU must strengthen the external borders and accept Romania and Bulgaria as a part of Schengen.
- People in the refugees's camps are losing hope because we are not capable to provide good way of life in the camps. What we are seeing now is just the start.
- EU spent 4 Billion euro for the past 2 years for Humanitarian Aid for refugees but Europe has to improve its strategy and financial help in order to give hope to Syrian people that can stay and live a decent life in their country.