

## **JOINT STATEMENT OF THE VISEGRAD GROUP COUNTRIES**

**LA VALLETTA, 12 NOVEMBER 2015**

We, the Prime Ministers of the Czech Republic, Hungary and Slovak Republic convened in La Valletta on 12 November 2015 to coordinate our positions ahead of the Informal Meeting of Heads of State or Government.

We reiterated our commitment to a complex EU approach to solving the migration-related challenges. Solidarity constitutes an integral part of this effort. The Visegrad Group countries have stressed that an effective cooperation with countries of origin and transit with tangible results based on conditionality belongs among the key factors for a successful management of migratory flows. The Visegrad Group countries expressed their conviction that providing steady and sustainable conditions in the countries of origin for economic and social development and thus a prospect to prosper in the future is crucial for an efficient management of the migration crisis. By the same token, the Visegrad Group countries consider the protection of the external border as prerequisite for a functional EU asylum and migration policy as such.

To demonstrate our resolve in these areas, we agreed to strengthen the Visegrad Group share in EU action to ensure there are sufficient capabilities to address the key issues for slowing down the inflow of migrants.

First, following the meeting with the African countries, we agreed to further increase our respective allocations to the Trust Fund for Africa by 400,000 EUR so that the overall Visegrad Group 2015 contribution will total 3 mil. EUR.

Second, given the key importance of effective external border protection and in order to strengthen the EASO and Frontex capacities we decided to further significantly increase the number of experts we provide to both agencies. Each of our respective countries nominates additional 75 experts for Frontex and EASO.<sup>1</sup>

We believe that these initiatives will facilitate the implementation of the complex EU and Member States' response to migration-related challenges. In the spirit of solidarity, we stand ready to continue our active involvement in the execution of the relevant measures tackling the root causes of the current situation.

---

<sup>1</sup> These commitments have been confirmed by the Czech Republic, Hungary and the Slovak Republic and remain open for Poland to join in once the new government takes office.