



Item 5: General Debate

The Organization for Defending Victims of Violence Refugee policies in the EU

Mr. President,

After the escalation of war in Syria and Iraq, about 5 million Syrians fled their country. Also, half a million Iraqis were driven from their homes. Afghanistan and Libya too have experienced migration and refugee crisis in various forms. Such situation illustrates new wave of migrations to the countries in the region and also Europe.

The data shows the majority of the refugees are settled in the neighbouring countries of their own country. However, thousands of people taken upon themselves and their families the dangers of a tiresome journey through land and sea to Europe where they face inappropriate treatment and anti-refugee policies. New waves of nationalism and empowerment of the patriotic parties has escalated anti-refugee sentiments in Europe and North America. The EU who used to take-in refugees in the beginning of the Syrian crisis, is closing the door to thousands of migrants through adopting new laws.

Mr. President,

ODVV expresses its deep concern over the new approach of the EU member states towards refugees. The EU has still not managed to create a coordinated mechanism for accepting refugees, and the member countries do not have the inclination to do anything in this regard, either. Such policies target thousands of refugees and also harms international laws, such as the 1951 Convention on Refugees.

ODVV invites the European Union to introduce a comprehensive refugee policy in order to prevent inappropriate treatments towards refugees and decrease the humanitarian calamities of refugees.

ODVV also invites the European colleagues and NGOs to increase their awareness campaign to prevent xenophobia in the Europe.