



**Resolution of the European Police Union (EPU) at the  
General Assembly of the EPU in Berlin on 9th to 10th October 2023**

**Berlin Declaration on Migration Policy in Europe**

**Guaranteeing Humanity and Protection –  
Establishing Robust, Uniform Border Protection –  
Preventing the Dividing of Societies!**

The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union guarantees the fundamental right to asylum in accordance with the Geneva Convention of 28 July 1951; the European Police Union (EPU) is committed to the duty of guaranteeing protection for refugees and people seeking political asylum. Anybody fleeing armed conflict or political persecution to seek refuge in Europe has a right to due process of law, humane accommodation and treatment and the guarantee of all rights as set out in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU.

The present situation at the external borders of the European Union<sup>1</sup> is due to the erroneous decision to leave the protection of these external borders to the respective Member States rather than establishing in a unified effort a European border protection force under the leadership of a European institution. Internal policy decisions by individual Member States have moreover reinforced the “pull factors” and the pressure of migration into Europe.

In many cases, the situation at the EU’s external borders is characterised by the inadequacy of the personnel resources available to the border protection authorities and of the personal equipment issued to their employees, as well as by defective technology and a lack of clarity in the legal situation. Effective border protection for

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[<sup>1</sup> Translator’s note: The original German is “European Situation”.]



the EU cannot be put in place without a fundamental reform of this situation and in the equipping and pay of European border protection forces.

Robust border protection must in the future ensure that illegal migration into Europe is largely halted and that legal immigration is co-ordinated and controlled. Asylum applications must be examined at the external borders before entry into the European Union and entry must be made dependent upon the result of that examination. Humane and safe accommodation must be ensured for people in reception facilities outside the EU for the duration of the examination process.

Illegal migration to Europe has reached a scale which frequently puts too great a strain on the Member States of the EU, but also and especially on their towns, cities and local authorities. This is making integration impossible of people who need protection not merely in the short term and who want to stay in the EU for a longer period. In addition, the current conditions mean that the education of young people in educational institutions of the Member States cannot be guaranteed at all or at best guaranteed only inadequately.

In addition, the failure to control and manage migration to Europe is giving a boost to the radical political forces that seek to divide societies and is causing massive upheavals in the cohesion of the population. The tendency towards radicalisation of social fronts, the formation and strengthening of radical political forces and the departure from humanitarian solutions for the people in Europe is unmistakable and must be halted. The EU must once more be better recognisable as a space of freedom, safety, security and law if divisive forces are to be countered.