

Courtesy translation

SPEAKER OF THE HUNGARIAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Budapest, 15 May 2017

Dear Madame Speaker,

In relation to the item „*Future of the EU as a global player in the context of the current global changes and the role of national parliaments*” from the agenda of the Conference of Speakers of EU Parliaments, which took place in Bratislava on the 23-24th of April 2017 many highly significant questions were raised concerning Europe and our common future, including handling migration. Please allow me to draw your kind attention to the document „*Hungary’ solidarity contribution and participation in burden-sharing*”, which will help you to gain detailed information on what Hungary has done recently for ensuring external border management, addressing the root causes of migration, providing humanitarian assistance and supporting young people coming from countries of origin of asylum seekers. By all these means and in line with the Schengen provisions we have contributed effectively in substantially decreasing the migration pressure on the European Union. Hungary has done all this in the spirit of solidarity.

I can assure you that Hungary and the Hungarian National Assembly remains further committed to solidarity and burden-sharing as presented in the document and will do all it takes to adequately address one of the most important challenges affecting our common future.

I wish you also good luck to carry out your responsible activity.

Yours sincerely,

KÖVÉR László

Hungary' solidarity contribution and participation in burden-sharing

1/ Protection of Schengen external borders and internal market

*The total cost of **external green border** protection based on the Schengen border-control codex and Frontex regulation (HU-SRB, HU-CRO) for the period 2015-2017 is 900 million EUR (0,8 % of GDP). This amount is totally financed by Hungarian taxpayers without breach of SGP rules. What concerns border protection measures and management costs there is no co-financing and it is not possible to make use of SGP flexibility.

*Number of border protection policemen at the HU-SRB border: on average 4500 persons/day, in emergency situations 8000 persons

*100-300 border protection policemen on the Western-Balkan route, 10 in Bulgaria: costs approximately 3 million EUR

*In the framework of Frontex 85 border protection policemen in Greece, plus 3 officers of EASO (vehicles included)

2/ Treating the causes of migration

*Approximately 1000 soldiers in UN, NATO and EU missions, mainly in crisis regions

*150 soldiers in Iraq that number will soon be raised to 200 (in the framework of global coalition fight against ISIS)

*106 soldiers in Afghanistan (NATO Resolute Support)

*Participation in other missions with 2-10 soldiers or officers: EUNAVFORMED Sophia; EUTM Mali, EUTM Somalia etc.

*Total cost of military and civil missions approximately 70 million EUR.

3/ Humanitarian aid – helping on spot

*TR Paquet 1 until 2019: 14,6 million EUR out of which in 2016 10 million EUR already allocated to *frontloading* (instead of 4,3 million EUR)

*SYR Recovery Trust Fund: 3,000,000 EUR + 200,000 EUR bilateral contribution

*EU Trust Fund Africa: 700,000 EUR

*Hospital Project in crisis area: 5,000,000 EUR (Syria Pledging Conference)

*World Food programme: 377,000 EUR (already contributed)

*Afghanistan Donor Conference: 5 million EUR

*other UN and international programmes: approx. 1,200,000 EUR (e.g., Peace Oasis youth centre in Jordan);

*1000 beds for Greece

*bilateral contribution in kind to SRB, FYROM and SI: 1,906,500 EUR

(integration of migrants from Ukraine and humanitarian aid in Ukraine not included)

*long-term stationing and mission of ecumenical aid organisations in the Middle East and Africa; horizontal aid packages for IDP-s (internally displaced person) and returning persons; apartments, hospitals, churches; development office in Erbil.

Stipendium Hungaricum

*Individual programmes for students from third countries

*Hungarian state financing: visa; training; accommodation; insurance

*Currently catering for 2985 visiting fellows; as of September 2017 providing help to more than 6000 students

* More than 60 % of our visiting fellows come from Muslim countries; states from where the majority of migrants arrive to Europe, e.g.: JOR – 254, SYR – 63 (soon above 200), TUN – 163, ALG – 123, NIG – 101, PAL – 75, IRQ – 71 és MAR – 65 persons; costs amount to more than 45 million EUR.

(By way of comparison: Hungary's share in the rejected quota for a two-year period is 1300 persons; taking into account the 12 % implementation rate: approximately 140 persons!)

***Individual projects and programmes in the area of water management and water supply**