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Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs
The Chair

To the Chairperson(s) of the committee(s) concerned

Honourable Chairperson,

On 19 September 2016, the UN General Assembly (UNGA) hosted a High-level summit to address large movements of refugees and migrants. It was the first time the UNGA called for a meeting on large movements of refugees and migrants at the level of Heads of State and Government. The European Parliament was present at the High-level summit, with an ad-hoc delegation of 3 Members from the LIBE Committee. The Summit adopted “the New York declaration”, a proposal for a better international response on these matters. The New York Declaration provided in two annexes that intergovernmental negotiations in consultation with UN Member States and other stakeholders would follow aiming to adopt two global compacts in 2018: a Global compact on refugees and a Global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration.

The LIBE Committee has paid great attention to the processes leading to the Global Compacts, organising meetings and exchanges at different levels¹ in cooperation with interested Committees, in particular with AFET and DEVE Committees. Our Committee acknowledges that this process represents a historic opportunity for achieving a range of principles and commitments regarding international migration in all its dimensions, in line with EP positions.

The intergovernmental negotiations are the final phase leading to the adoption of the global compacts. This phase will start in February 2018 and will include the release of the zero draft of the global compacts ahead of the intergovernmental negotiations.

Against this background, the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs would like to invite Members of national Parliaments to an inter-parliamentary meeting on ***“The UN Global Compacts on refugees and migrants and the role of Parliaments”*** The meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, 27 February 2018, from 14h30 to 18h30**, at the European Parliament premises in Brussels.

I am therefore pleased to invite up to four Members of the relevant committee(s) from each national Parliament (two from each Chamber in the case of bi-cameral Parliaments) to attend this meeting.

¹ Further details available at the following link:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/libe/subject-files.html?id=20170801CDT01641>

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In view of the above, the interparliamentary committee meeting aims to hold an exchange of views with the National parliaments on the Global Compacts. Furthermore, at this significant final stage of the process, this meeting will provide an occasion for in-depth exchange on the positions of the different Member States and foster the role of parliaments in this process. Finally, the interparliamentary committee foresees to strengthen the parliamentary dimension of the EU position and to support the work of the EEAS and the Member States in the final phase of the process leading to the adoption of the Compacts.

In this sense the Interparliamentary meeting envisages the participation of the UN agencies, the co-facilitators, the EEAS, the Commission and the Council Presidency bringing the global and the interinstitutional perspective into the discussions (see draft programme enclosed).

Should you be unable to attend, I would welcome any written contribution, which would be distributed, to our respective Members and other participants.

Practical details regarding the meeting will be forwarded in due course to your Parliament's services for relations with the European Parliament.

I sincerely hope that you will be able to accept this invitation and I am looking forward to welcoming you to the European Parliament on 27 February 2018.

Yours sincerely,



Claude MORAES