R8new No Discrimination on Migration

Proposers:

Agenda item: 4. Resolutions

Motion text

According to the latest data from the UNHCR, more than 4,000,000 Ukrainians left their country since the beginning of the Russian invasion, seeking asylum in nearby European countries. With the European Union and European countries openly denouncing the war, a wave of solidarity has risen in Europe, with thousands of European citizens having mobilised to welcome and help the Ukrainian refugees, including through donations and the provision of accommodation.

Although this wave of solidarity is admirable and has helped hundreds of thousands, it is developed jointly with a problematic discourse: indeed, we have heard that these refugees would be of “quality”, and that our proximity with the Ukrainian people justified the welcoming efforts, as they are “like us”. This problematic discourse assesses that non-European refugees would be of “bad quality” since they are not “like us”: this is uninhibited racism, and it is unacceptable.

All of us thus must fight this discourse, and underline its racist character: this can no more be the main discourse in the European media, as the FYEG has previously done, with the #NoDiscriminationOnMigration.

Furthermore, we must acknowledge the various marginalised groups made invisible and swept under the rug in our discourse on asylum. In the Ukrainian context alone, people of colour, immigrants, ethnic minorities and LGBTQIA+ refugees faced disproportionately high obstacles in fleeing. In the broader asylum context, systemic, systematic and social discrimination and obstacles are faced on the grounds of religion, beliefs, cultural and ethnic origin, gender and sexual orientation and identity, disability and class. The asylum system within Europe needs exhaustive and comprehensive reform in order to guarantee the right to asylum for all peoples.

Therefore, following this communication campaign, the Federation of Young European Greens calls on the European Union and the governments of all European States to:

- Welcome and guarantee the right to asylum to all refugees, with special

consideration to the extra obstacles faced by marginalised minorities whether from Ukraine or any other place in the world, and to accommodate for these obstacles.

- Stop all pushbacks at the border as well as the deportation of those who have crossed the border, acknowledging the necessity of humanitarian duty instead of the construction of "Fortress Europe".

- Replace Frontex and the concept of “Fortress Europe” with a humanitarian alternative focused on saving and welcoming refugees.

- Immediately stop the criminalisation of people and non-governmental and civil society organisations devoted to welcoming and helping refugees and facilitating the movement of these peoples across international waters, and to finally support these organisations.

- Rather than the persecution of refugee traffickers, combat refugee trafficking by providing real and legal alternatives to traffickers for refugees to flee to the EU, especially for refugees fleeing conflicts, or refugees for whom the journey is too costly and dangerous.

- End as soon as possible EU refugee cooperation treaties with Turkey and Libya as well as the externalisation of the EU border regime via such treaties and the funding of autocratic regimes in Africa to stop migration corridors, which keep out refugees on the basis of their background and which put the most vulnerable refugees in even more dangerous situations.

- Facilitate and ensure the provision of basic rights and needs to those seeking asylum such as humane accommodation pending approval of their asylum process and Europe-wide coordinated processes to ensure asylum seekers are not left in limbo for years in camps.

- Continue this facilitation and guarantee of basic rights and needs upon having their application processed and the refugee relocated including but not limited to language, housing, humane temporary accommodation in facilities, right to work, healthcare and mental healthcare.

- Within the EU, implement an EU-wide framework truly based on the principles of solidarity and responsibility sharing for the shared funding, processing and relocation of asylum seekers and refugees, wherein the Dublin regulation is abolished, Member States with the most resources live up to their commitments to relocate refugees with an enforcement mechanism to ensure this, as well as mechanisms that provide funding for the processing of asylum seekers and coordinate the relocation of refugees in a manner that is finally fairly and justly divided between Member States based on their capacity.

69 Together, we must stand up against racism. Always. Everywhere.