

## **Migration and Foreign Policies. The Search for Better European Governance.**

Brussels, 12 May 2016, 11 am - 5 pm  
The German Marshall Fund of the United States

As migration and mobility issues have acquired a new salience in international relations during the past 25 years, the European Union and its member states have stepped up their cooperation in a field which has become increasingly multidimensional and transnational. Existing policy frameworks, such as the Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (GAMM), have captured the complexity of designing coherent policies which address regular and irregular migration management, place migration management in the broader context of international peace and stability, and incorporate a diverse set of priorities from development, international protection and human rights, to security.

The current refugee crisis has dramatically shown the limits in the European governance of complex population movements at both the national and EU levels. The weaknesses in the governance system derive, among other things, from insufficient understanding of the present and future challenges that global population movement will pose to EU policies, from lackluster synergies among different decision-making levels in a mixed competence field, and from the politically controversial issues that migration raise in European societies.

To counteract these limitations, this workshop will explore how migration and mobility policy can better interact with foreign and security policy to design and implement comprehensive and forward-looking policies, by stimulating a productive exchange between experts with diverse backgrounds. To do so, we will seek to identify and bridge analytical gaps in the way the crisis is currently understood, while projecting how population movements driven by conflict, climate change, and economic growth asymmetries may further exacerbate the governance challenge in the next decades. These steps will help to define policy needs, as well as adequate tools and implementation mechanisms which will allow Europe and third states to manage migration streams in a more unified and coordinated manner.

<p><b><u>May 12<sup>th</sup> – Migration and Foreign Policies. The Search for Better European Governance.</u></b>  <b><u>Location: GMF Brussels Office, Residence Palace, Rue de Loi 155, 1040, Brussels, Belgium</u></b></p>	
10:45	<b><u>Registration</u></b>
11:00	<b><u>Welcome, scene setter and objectives of the workshop</u></b>
11:15	<p><b><u>The challenges of the near future: conflict in the Middle East and developments in Africa</u></b></p> <p>Geographical proximity and a historical European engagement with the Middle East and Africa make political developments in these two parts of the world of consequence to Europe. Instability in the Middle East and North Africa is proving to be politically intractable in the short term, while Africa is set towards a period of unprecedented change. Conflict, climate change, urbanization, demography but also economic and technological development is likely to increase migratory pressure on Europe. Understanding the forthcoming political scenarios is key to ascertaining whether the EU's institutional and policy set up is fit for the challenge.</p>
11:30	<p><b><u>Case Study - Group 1: Conflict in the Middle East: analysis of the EU response to the 2015-16 refugee influx and the EU-Turkey deal</u></b></p> <p>Most scenarios predict at least another decade of turmoil in the Middle East and North Africa, which is the key source of the refugee surge of 2015-2016. Multifaceted responses and proposals (including security-related initiatives, strengthening EU internal capabilities to deal with asylum seeking and immigration, humanitarian aid, and cooperation with Turkey) have not added up to robust and sustainable governance. Without a thorough analysis of these failures, Europe will not be able to face the migratory pressure of the near future. This session aims to unpack the various responses so far developed, examine their sustainability, strengths and weaknesses, and identify necessary gaps to be addressed to better prepare for the future.</p>
11:30	<p><b><u>Case Study - Group 2: Developments in Africa: analysis of the Valletta summit</u></b></p> <p>As a continent, Africa stands at a crossroads between economic development and the legacies of poverty and poor governance. Present and future challenges, from the impact of climate change to instability and conflict, are likely to intensify population movements also towards Europe. Europe remains the most engaged external actor in the continent and is increasingly designing policies which include sustainable development, mobility cooperation and migration containment goals, the most recent example is to be found in the Valletta conference of November 2015. This session aims to examine whether these initiatives address the broad panoply of challenges and opportunities, whether migration policies are appropriately contextualized with foreign, security and development policies, and explores whether the institutional and policy set up is sufficiently focused on addressing short and long-term goals, including in relation to the human and financial resources devoted to these issues.</p>
13:30	<b><u>Lunch Break</u></b>

13:45	<b><u>Feedback from the rapporteurs of the two groups</u></b>
14:15	<p><b><u>Lessons learned from the governance crises of 2015-16</u></b></p> <p>Responses to the migration and refugee surge require mobilizing complex policy-shaping and decision-making structures. The session aims to unpack the key weaknesses of current European governance by focusing on cognitive gaps in analysis and understanding of challenges and trends, the pertinence of the tools and staff and financial resources to produce immediate and longer-term responses, institutional burden-sharing and coordination, decision-making locus of responsibility, and the challenge of shared competences.</p>
16:00	<p><b><u>Building the blocks for a new governance of migration and foreign policies.</u></b></p> <p>Looking ahead, Europe needs to improve the ability to dovetail foreign and migration policies and provide responses which address short and longer-term challenges, in line with the commitments made in international law. What priorities should be addressed to improve the governance of migration and foreign policies? What institutional synergies need to be sought? In order to achieve these goals, financial and human resources also need to back any political commitment. What principles, framework and ambition for a new international management of global mobility?</p>
17:00	<b><u>End of seminar</u></b>