



EUROPEAN UNION

Permanent Delegation to the United Nations Office
and other international organisations in Geneva

Ambassador

NOTE VERBALE

The Permanent Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations and other international organisations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

We thank you for your note of 23 October 2017 asking for views and relevant information on 1) the scope and content of the Draft principles and guidelines, supported by practical guidance, on the human rights protection of migrants in vulnerable situations, which are being developed by the Global Migration Group's Working Group in Human Rights and Gender Equality on the basis of existing legal norms; and 2) promising practises in promoting and protecting the human rights of migrants in vulnerable situations.

As regards the *Draft Principles and guidelines*, the European External Action Service and the European Commission services would like to draw your attention to the specific points regarding trafficking in human beings, suggesting references to victims of trafficking in human beings to be included as appropriate throughout the relevant principles, such as for instance:

- Principle 4 on assistance – Victims of trafficking must be provided with appropriate, gender specific and child sensitive assistance as soon as there are reasonable grounds to believe they are victims.
- Principle 7 protection from violence – Trafficking in human beings for all forms of exploitation is a grave violation of human rights and a serious form of organized crime.
- Principle 10 on children – Children are a particularly vulnerable group for trafficking in human beings.
- Principle 11 on women and girls – Trafficking has a strong gender dimension. Trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation is the prevalent form for victims registered in the EU.

Further to the references to 2000 UNTOC Convention and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children and the Council of Europe Convention on Trafficking in Human beings, the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, which explicitly prohibits Trafficking in Human Beings in Article 5, and the EU Anti-trafficking Directive (Directive 2011/36/EU) could be included, where relevant.

Concerning *promising practices in promoting and protecting the human rights of migrants in vulnerable situations*, we would like to draw your attention to the contribution, sent by the Permanent Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations and other international organisations in Geneva on 3 August 2017 in regard of existing principles, good practices and policies on safe, regular and orderly migration, with particular reference to the thematic areas which are based on the six informal thematic sessions of the preparatory process for the UN Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

In addition to the information provided in the 3 August note, we would like to mention the following good practises:

- The work by the European Asylum Support Office (EASO), namely:
 - Specific training on vulnerable persons
 - EASO Practical Guide: Researching the situation of lesbian, gay, and bisexual persons (LGB) in countries of origin [\[BG\]](#) [\[DE\]](#) [\[EL\]](#) [\[EN\]](#) [\[ES\]](#) [\[FR\]](#) [\[IT\]](#) [\[PL\]](#) [\[PT\]](#) [\[RO\]](#)
 - [\[EN\]](#) EASO Guidance on reception conditions: operational standards and indicators [\[BG\]](#) [\[CS\]](#) [\[DA\]](#) [\[DE\]](#) [\[EL\]](#) [\[EN\]](#) [\[ES\]](#) [\[ET\]](#) [\[FI\]](#) [\[FR\]](#) [\[HR\]](#) [\[HU\]](#) [\[IT\]](#) [\[LT\]](#) [\[LV\]](#) [\[MT\]](#) [\[NL\]](#) [\[PL\]](#) [\[PT\]](#) [\[RO\]](#) [\[SK\]](#) [\[SL\]](#) [\[SV\]](#)
 - EASO Tool for Identification of Persons with Special Needs (IPSN) [\[EN\]](#)
 - EASO Age assessment practice in Europe [\[BG\]](#) [\[DE\]](#) [\[EN\]](#) [\[EL\]](#) [\[ES\]](#) [\[FR\]](#) [\[IT\]](#)
 - EASO practical guide on family tracing [\[DE\]](#) [\[EN\]](#) [\[ES\]](#) [\[FR\]](#) [\[IT\]](#)

- As regards support of labour marker integration and social inclusion, the Fund of European Aid to the most deprived (FEAD) provides emergency and material assistance, while the European Social Fund (ESF) deals with matters related to labour market integration.

The Permanent Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations and other international organisations in Geneva takes this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurance of its highest consideration.



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