**Amendments to the COSAC draft contribution**

**submitted after the troika meeting of 29 November**

**BELGIUM – Senate**

Point 1.4.

COSAC recognises the need to offer solidarity to Member States facing an unprecedented flow of refugees and in this context welcomes the operational measures taken by the European Commission and Member States **allowing** the first relocations of asylum seekers and the resettlement of migrants from third countries in EU Member States.

*Delete “which allowed” and replace with “allowing”*

Point 2.4.

2.4. Beyond the technical and economic aspects of the Digital Single Market, COSAC calls on the European Commission to formulate suggestions in its forthcoming New Skills Agenda for Europe on how to improve e-skills so that the digital revolution can better favour employment and in this context asserts the importance of the European Social Fund and the Grand Coalition for Digital Jobs**, in particular regarding employee training.**

*At the end of the paragraph add the words “in particular regarding employee training”*

New point 2.6.

**2.6. COSAC insists that, in digital development, the rules on the protection of privacy are observed.**

**CZECH REPUBLIC – Senate**

Because of the reasoned opinions adopted by both chambers of the Czech Parliament and some other Europaen parliamentary chambers on the proposal for a permanent relocation mechanism, we cannot support the Troika compromise wording of paragraph 1.5 of the Contribution. We propose the wording "1.5 COSAC takes note of..." instead of "1.5 COSAC welcomes...", in line with the original amendment from our Hungarian colleagues.

**ITALY – Chamber of Deputies**

After point 1.4 add the following:

**COSAC requests that the decisions of the Council on relocation should be fully and effectively implemented; this could include, if necessarily, a set of incentives and penalties in order to guarantee a good result.**

After point 1.5 add the following:

**COSAC asks the competent European Agencies (Frontex, EASO and FRA) to cooperate and work together to submit a report on the current operation of the Dublin Regulation, and to evaluate the possible impact of alternative proposals of reform.**

After point 2.2 add the following:

**COSAC calls on the European Commission, the European Investment Bank and all EU institutions involved to adopt all the adequate initiatives in order to promote the realization of public and private investments to develop NGA access networks and high capacity connectivity, in line with the guidelines for the application of State aid rules in relation to the rapid deployment of broadband networks** [**(2013/C 25/01)**](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2013:025:0001:0026:EN:PDF)**, and with the principles concerning the best use of the flexibility within the stability and growth pact** [**(COM/2015/012)**](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52015DC0012&qid=1448548357036&from=IT)**, that link the deviation to national expenditure on projects co-funded by the EU for Connecting Europe Facility.**

**POLAND – Sejm & Senate**

1. European Agenda on Migration

1.2. COSAC considers that the adoption of an effective, humanitarian and safe European migration policy has become one of the most urgent objectives of the European Union and supports the Member States to continue working on the implementation of the European agenda presented by the European Commission, ~~which proposes concrete measures to respond to the refugee crisis and to prepare for future challenges.~~

1.4. COSAC recognises the need to offer solidarity to Member States facing an unprecedented flow of refugees and ~~welcomes~~  **takes note** in this context the operational measures taken by the European Commission and the Member States which allowed the first relocations of asylum seekers to take place, and the resettlement of migrants from third countries to EU Member States.

~~1.5. COSAC welcomes the European Commission’s proposal for a permanent relocation mechanism of refugees and looks forward to the European Commission’s proposal for a permanent resettlement scheme and to the reform of the Dublin Regulation in March 2016.~~

1.10. COSAC stresses the need **to explore the ways how legal channels for migration could be used** ~~the need to open legal channels for migration, in order~~ to decrease the attempt of people who risk their lives trying to enter the EU in an illegal way and to meet the increasing demand for skills and talents in the EU. COSAC looks forward to the European Commission’s proposal to revise the Blue Card in March 2016.

3. Enlargement policy

3.2. COSAC ~~takes note of the political guidelines of the President of the European Commission, which exclude further enlargement during the current European Commission’s mandate and supports the efforts of the European Commission in continuing EU accession negotiations and assisting pre-accession countries in implementing reforms;~~ welcomes the European Commission’s 2015 enlargement package.

**ROMANIA – Chamber of Deputies**

Alternative proposal for 1.5

1.5. COSAC ~~welcomes~~ **takes note of** the European Commission’s proposal for a ~~permanent~~ relocation mechanism of refugees **or migrants** and looks forward to the European Commission’s proposal for a ~~permanent~~ resettlement scheme and to the reform of the Dublin Regulation in March 2016, **while urging the relevant authorities to fight abuse of the system, so that real needs can be met. COSAC invites the European Commission to re-think the planned permanent relocation mechanism and try to tailor instruments in such a way as to avoid the risk of destabilizing the European Union.**

**One of the possible solutions might be the establishment of an additional resettlement mechanism outside the EU borders.**

Deletions, replacements, new text explained:

* the relocation mechanism and/or the resettlement scheme should not be designed as ”permanent” as this would give the wrong message to both the population from origin countries and own EU citizens that the EU prepares for a ”permanent” massive flow of migrants; provisional mechanisms are provided in the EU Treaties and are sufficient to address the emergency management of migrants flow
* not only refugees have to be relocated but migrants as well; for some migrants takes a long time to prove refugee status
* abusing the system by migrants would deprive those in real need of international protection from getting assistance and eventually, destabilize any assistance system

resettlement facilities outside the EU borders would prevent tragedies on the way to EU

**UNITED KINGDOM – House of Commons**

(1) After paragraph 1.4, new paragraph: "COSAC recognises that there is a strong case for redefining the definition of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers, and to do this in the context of reviewing the Charter of Fundamental Rights and the European Convention on Human Rights."

(2) Paragraph 1.6, line 17, remove from "COSAC" to "EU".

(3) Paragraph 1.11, line 4, after "borders" insert "provided that this does not assume that the UK would be regarded as within those borders by reason of its exclusion from the Schengen Agreement".

(4) Paragraph 3.1, at end insert "but notes that there have been difficulties in this process and does not believe that this is the time to accelerate this process."

(5) Paragraph 5.1, at beginning insert "Subject to paragraph 5.2"