



For a European solution to the drama on the borders of Ceuta and Melilla:

Four urgent and achievable measures

Proposal to the Summit of Heads of State and Government of the EU to be held in June

What is happening in Ceuta and Melilla, and by extension, on the southern border of the European Union, is a tragedy on which we must act immediately to put measures adapted to national, European and international legislation in place to ensure the respect for human rights and the principle of non-refoulement. Installation of concertinas, wearing riot gear and illegal refunds are far from resolving the situation and are endangering the lives of people trying to reach Europe causing serious situations of helplessness and vulnerability.

This can and should be resolved quickly, using existing mechanisms.

The focal point lies in putting the **focus on people** in Morocco whom are in humanitarian emergency and ensuring respect for their rights and access to adequate protection. To this demand **the involvement of both the Spanish government and the European Union** in the development of these measures are required.

- 1) Facilitating **regularization under the current process** launched in Morocco, expanding the criteria set and adapting to the reality that these people live. At the same time it should be ensured that the information will not be used for implementation of the 1992 agreement and readmission agreement with the European Union (pending approval).
- 2) Supporting this expansion from the EU criteria and flexibly interpreting the rules on **family reunification** so that these people have access to the EU country where they have relatives residing without having to have to return to their countries of origin.
- 3) **Ensuring adequate protection for refugees and asylum seekers** enabling a centralized and secure way for the arrival into the different countries of the European Union to refugees and persons in need of international protection through **the implementation of a joint resettlement** and ensuring access to the international diplomatic procedure and European borders program.
- 4) **Reconsidering visa policy with regard to African countries** that generate these flows, encouraging a lot less restrictive access than it actually is.

These measures, in accordance with current legislation, would provide rational criteria to a policy that is creating insoluble problems, both human and institutional, to the border of the European Union. They could also help to resolve the situation of most people whom now are immersed in a dynamic that makes their migratory path a continuous suffering experience. A joint response from the EU and not exclusively from the Member States is necessary.

The signed organizations, which are part of the Euro-African network Migreurop (www.migreurop.org), demand a radical change in European policy on migration and asylum. We are aware that the change will not be glimpsed in the short term and that, barring major changes, such policies continue to cause hundreds of deaths and images as those of recent months. Therefore, and according to the situation of

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human emergency in the Southern Border: we propose the creation of a Bureau of Entities, groups and institutions which are sufficiently representative of the problem to be treated, to address the multiple issues involved and to make proposals about different national, community and international bodies with competence in defining migration policies.

This initiative could be valid for all similar situations seen in other European borders, coordinating a unique and responsible answer to the complex reality of the South.

We appeal to those who can influence politicians to put **in place immediately**, this humane and sustainable initiative, going beyond the necessary and essential requirement of respect for Human Rights; to support this solution, to give concrete answers to a drama that is having a huge cost in human lives and suffering and that is becoming, to a few thousand people, a threat. We reject the same old excuses of "pull factor" that are being used and that, despite the formidable political, police and media arsenal, have proved to be untrue.

Let us not add more suffering to the vital immigration and path of these people.

We also call on social and defense of human rights groups, political parties, trade unions, universities, civilian society in general, and anyone else who shares this manifesto to join it.

the Spanish Members organizations MIGREUROP

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