

STATEMENT: Third informal thematic session on international cooperation and governance of migration in all its dimensions, including at borders, transit, entry, return readmission, integration and reintegration (Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration) – 19-20 June 2017

Panel 3: International cooperation and governance of migration on return, readmission, integration and reintegration

Thank you, Chair, for giving me the floor, and the panellists, for their insightful remarks.

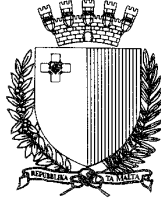
Malta aligns itself with the statement delivered earlier by the Delegation of the European Union.

Malta believes that effective return, readmission, and reintegration policies are central elements of successful migration management, as they help to discourage people from travelling in an irregular manner and risking their lives.

Readmission agreements remain key components of broader international cooperation.

That said, Malta suggests that:

- The Global Compact should encourage dialogue among countries of origin, transit, and destination on standards of return practices, by stimulating the reinforcement of the relevant international and regional fora.



- As enshrined in international law, States should commit to enhance their logistical and operational capacity to respond, in a timely manner, to readmission applications, and to facilitate and accept, without condition, the return and readmission of their nationals who do not have the right to stay on other States' territory. To this end, States should swiftly identify their nationals and provide them with travel documents. The Global Compact should also encourage the establishment of international legal and institutional structures that favour readmission agreements.
- Malta also believes that it would be crucial to step up efforts aimed at increasing migrants' awareness and understanding of assisted voluntary returns, for example, through awareness raising campaigns.
- Finally, the Global Compact should also promote, where appropriate, initiatives aimed at ensuring effective and sustainable reintegration assistance for returnees, in close cooperation with international organisations, namely the International Organization for Migration, to help them reintegrate swiftly in their home community, labour market and social system.

Thank you.