

RESOLUTION
OF THE SEJM OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND

of 15 June 2023

on the proposal to introduce the EU mechanism to relocate illegal migrants

The Sejm of the Republic of Poland expresses its firm opposition to the attempt to introduce at the European Union level mechanisms for the forced relocation of illegal migrants based on the Regulations of the European Parliament and of the Council on asylum and migration management and on the asylum procedure as agreed by the Council of the European Union on 8 June 2023, with the opposition of Poland and Hungary.

The current proposal to introduce the so-called "migration pact" and the accompanying position of the Council of the European Union are an obvious reference to the irresponsible proposals made during the 2014 and 2015 migration crisis, including the rejected 2016 draft regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation No. 604/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 on the establishment of criteria and mechanisms for determining the Member State responsible for examining an application for international protection lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national or a stateless person.

In view of the proposal, which appears once again, aimed at imposing mandatory admission of illegal migrants on Member States or payment of high financial penalties in case of refusal, the Sejm of the Republic of Poland declares that the position of the Sejm expressed in its Resolutions of April 1 and 21 October 2016 remains valid.

We call for respect for the sovereignty and subjectivity of both hosts, namely societies receiving migrants and guests, that is, refugees. The forced relocation of groups of people is a totalitarian practice reducing to the role of objects rather than subjects, both those included in the forced resettlement program and hosts of the place and brings associations with grim chapters in the history of our continent. The idea of democracy is founded on the belief in the sovereignty of the residents of a territory, who express their will through elected representation. Imposing other societies' will on the inhabitants of a country is to reduce that country to the role of a non-sovereign colony and to violate the democratic principles on which the European Union is built.

We express disapproval of the Polish State bearing the social and financial costs of erroneous decisions of another EU Member State. The "open door" policy that Germany pushed within the European Union, in violation of the Treaties, proved to be a fatal mistake. Its negative effect is now

being reflected in the decisions made at the Council of the European Union. The previous bad decisions of 2014 and 2015 cannot be duplicated. This applies both to the directions of European Union policy set by Germany and the decisions made by politicians of the PO-PSL government. The European solidarity must not take the form of blackmail – submission or financial punishment. Decisions on such a significant issue cannot be taken outside the control of Member States or against them bypassing the principle of unanimity.

The Sejm of the Republic of Poland obliges the Government of Poland to oppose such practices firmly.

At the same time, the Sejm of the Republic of Poland draws attention to the fact that during the war in Ukraine, about 7 million refugees from Ukraine have entered Poland in search of safety. To date, about 1.5 million of them remain in our country. Under the circumstances, attempts to place an additional burden on our country to take in illegal immigrants arriving in other Member States or to establish an obligation to pay financial penalties must be deeply opposed since the adoption of the proposed solutions would constitute unlawful interference in the Member States' competences defined in the EU Treaties and could lead to an increase in the influx of illegal migrants into the European Union.

The Sejm of the Republic of Poland fully supports providing and financing humanitarian aid in places of armed conflict and neighbouring countries.

MARSHAL OF THE SEJM

/ - / Elżbieta Witek