

Associazione Parlamento Europeo Giovani

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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL LIBERTIES, JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS (LIBE)

Thousands of migrants have crossed the Mediterranean Sea during the first months of 2015, and hundreds of them died in several shipwrecks. Despite the fact that the Frontex-led Operation Triton has been set up in November 2014, Italy is still doing much of the dirty work. What new measures should the Member States take in order to jointly prevent new tragedies in the Meditterrean Sea?

Submitted by: Elisa BELLO, Sofia BELTRAMINI, Emanuele CRICCHI, Eugenio DONATI, Massimiliano DOSMO, Marco FLAUGNATTI, Enrico MARTELLOSSI, Davide MISSANA, Francesca LACAVA (Chairperson, IT).

The European Youth Parliament,

- A. Guided by the European Convention on Human Rights which states that every human being has the "right to life" and the freedom "to leave any country, including his own",
- B. Alarmed by the current and significant political and social instability of numerous Mediterranean countries, and the subsequent higher migratory flow towards Europe, which make the scope of Frontex and its operations too limited,
- C. Deeply disturbed by the death of more than 3,000 migrants in the Mediterranean Sea since the beginning of 2014,
- D. Noting with deep concern that Triton has failed to respond in a proper and consistent manner to the current humanitarian emergency in the Mediterranean Sea,
- E. Noting with regret that the means employed by Triton are insufficient and inadequate to avoid casualties in the Mediterranean sea,
- F. Feeling inspired by the Article 25 of the United Nations Universal Declarations of Human Rights which states that "Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care [...]",

- G. Taking into consideration the unequal distribution of funds and work,
 - H. Deeply conscious of the fact that most of the migrants crossing the Mediterranean Sea use vessels in unsanitary and unhygienic conditions,
 - I. Expressing its appreciation for the significant and helpful contribution made by the numerous NGOs that cooperated with the personnel employed in the mission,
 - J. Aware of the fact that the migratory flows are chiefly comprised of persons departing from North African countries,
 - K. Emphasizing the need to strengthen the investigatory and prosecutorial capacities of the European Union as a whole concerning smuggling of migrants,
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- 1. Considers of paramount importance to widen the mission of Frontex by creating a new branch of the agency called Thalassa whose mandate and aim would be managing and running search and rescue operations even beyond European territorial waters;
 - 2. Hopes for a significant monetary support by the Member States for the newly born Thalassa as to:
 - a) wholly fulfil all its missions needs,
 - b) drive special attention on the goals that were set, but not carried out by Frontex;
 - 3. Calls for the end of the Triton Operation let by Frontex;
 - 4. Proposes the establishment of a new operation called “Mediterraneus” run by Thalassa whose goals would be to:
 - a) prevent new sea accidents from occurring by engaging in search and rescue operations,
 - b) patrol the territorial and international waters in order to locate ships in distress,
 - c) provide health checks and basic medical assistance to those rescued,
 - d) ensure effective border control,
 - e) bring human traffickers to justice;
 - 5. Invites all the Member States to provide an adequate quantity of means and personnel according to the needs of the Mediterraneus operation;
 - 6. Emphasizes the necessity to employ vessels and aircrafts capable of providing medical screening as well as basic health checks to all those rescued, as for Mediterraneus to act as a sanitary filter as well as a SAR and border control-and-patrol device;

7. Expresses its hope that Mediterranean will fully cooperate and work side by side with the numerous NGOs involved in the past months;
8. Suggests that the personnel involved with Mediterranean is selected and recruited by the European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO), whilst the personnel in charge of the technical means should be provided and selected at a national level;
9. Considers of the utmost importance to establish diplomatic relations with North African governments with the aim of cooperating towards preventing departures as well as sharing resources, expertise and intelligence;
10. Calls for the revision of the existing EU legal framework in order to promote a new integrated approach to counter human smuggling and to further discourage potential smugglers from undertaking such actions.