

Press statement: Launch of the publication **Common Home: migration and development in Europe and beyond**, November 5, 2019.

Migration and development can benefit all!

Migration and development in Europe and in other regions of the world are more closely linked than commonly believed, shows a new publication launched today by Caritas Europa. This innovative publication puts forward 27 specific recommendations to EU policy-makers and was launched with a panel discussion at the European Parliament.

"Common Home: migration and development in Europe and beyond" is based on the findings, testimonies and good practices of 11 Common Home national studies covering Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Germany (Bavaria), Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Sweden, and on the analysis of European and international statistical databases and literature.

This publication aims at promoting a more balanced and evidence-based debate at a time when migration has become a deeply contentious issue in Europe. Particularly, it raises awareness about the positive aspects that migration can have at the global level, and its relation with sustainable international cooperation.

“ **In Caritas' view, under the right conditions, migration can contribute to the integral human development of migrants and of members of both countries of destination and countries of origin.** ”

Maria Nyman, Caritas Europa Secretary General

The recommendations to policy-makers are grouped under three main points:

1. Change the negative discourse on migration, counter rising hostility and harmful attitudes toward migrants and migration.
2. Maximise the development potential of migration and enhance migrants' integral human development in countries of destination.
3. Maximise the development potential of migration, enhance opportunities for migrants to be able to contribute in countries of origin, and ensure a virtuous circle between migrations and development.

On development issues, this publication finds that European institutions should place respect for human rights at the core of all partnerships with third countries and ensure that their external policies and do not harm existing development opportunities in developing countries such as, for example, regional mobility across Africa. Agenda 2030, the Global Compact on Migration, existing Policy Coherence frameworks as well as innovative project on labour migration should also be sources for providing promising tools to advocate for these actions.

The Common Home European report was launched today at the European Parliament with a discussion co-hosted by MEP Juan Fernando López Aguilar (S&D, Spain), LIBE Committee Chair and MEP Erik Marquardt (Greens, Germany), DEVE Committee Vice-Chair.

more information

Davide Gnes
Policy and Advocacy Officer
Tel: +32 (0)2 235 03 98
dgnes@caritas.eu

Leticia Lozano
Communication Officer
Tel: +32 (0)2 235 26 54
Mob: +32 (0)474 98 01 83
llozano@caritas.eu

about caritas

Caritas Europa is a network of 49 member organisations in 46 European countries and one of the 7 regions of Caritas Internationalis. Our members assist and provide services to millions of people in need.

Caritas Europa aims at lifting people out of poverty by empowering them and by influencing unjust structures and unfair policies that keep people trapped in positions of disempowerment.



The Common Home publication was produced in the framework of the MIND project, which has received financial support from the DEAR Programme of the European Union. The information contained in this publication does not necessarily reflect the position or opinion of the European Union.