



Hungary

**Statement by the Delegation of Hungary at the  
OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting  
Warsaw, 28 September 2015**

*Working Session 11: Humanitarian issues and other commitments II – Refugees and  
displaced persons*

We fully align ourselves with the statement delivered on behalf of the EU, but let me make some remarks in my national capacity, too.

**Hungary will continue to observe all applicable international commitments and human rights standards, as it has done in the past. Hungary is ready to receive everyone in need of protection, as it did, for instance, during the Balkan crisis. Consequently Hungary provides protection to those who are genuinely fleeing for their lives and are compelled to leave their homes due to their political affiliation, religion, race or ethnic identity.**

At the same time, as a border country of the European Union, **it is also the duty of Hungary to protect its external border.** Thus the aim of the building of a temporary physical border fence on the Serbian border section was **to reduce the record number of illegal border crossings (more than 200.000 this year)**, and to channel the flood of migrants coming from the South towards border checkpoints, thereby controlling entry into the territory of the European Union.

**Hungary continues to remain committed to protecting its borders, and continues to insist on complying with the provisions of the Schengen Agreement.** This is not optional for any of the signatory countries, as the Agreement stipulates that external Schengen borders may only be crossed at border checkpoints.

**Hungary is making every effort to keep the asylum procedure within the boundaries of the legally binding EU and other international legislation:** it registers asylum seekers and conducts asylum procedures in accordance with relevant regulations. Regrettably, however, the authorities are increasingly faced with the fact that considerable number of people coming to Hungary are evading the authorities and arriving illegally, and many of them are not even prepared to cooperate in official procedures.

In response to the situation the Hungarian Parliament modified several acts seeking to improve the management of mass migration, by making the **asylum procedures swifter and more effective**, and by introducing more stringent regulations under criminal law against human traffickers.

However let me underline that one of the cornerstones of the Hungarian position is that mass migration is a **global challenge for which a global solution is needed**. It is in this spirit that the Hungarian Government has been raising question marks about certain proposed solutions that would not address the root causes of the problem. The Government is ready to engage in constructive dialogue both bilaterally and at international fora on measures aiming at providing shelter for those in need close to their homeland and eventually making it possible for them to return home safely.