

Right of Reply Delegation of Hungary

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Concerning migration, Hungary's basic goal remains to stop the migratory pressure at the European borders. To this end we have to strengthen the protection of borders.

Minister Szijjártó put forward a six-point proposal at the Migration Summit in New York. This contains the following elements: we must handle the root causes of migration, then it must be made clear that a wave of migration without control represents a huge security risk. Thirdly, we must make it clear that it is the responsibility of every country to protect its own citizens. It must also be made clear that 90% of illegal immigrants have been brought to Europe by criminal organizations and smugglers; we must continue the battle against them. In this context let me welcome Ambassador Jarbussinova for the newly launched project to which Hungary made a voluntary contribution. The fifth proposal is the reinforcement of preventive diplomacy on the part of the United Nations.

In connection with the alleged police violations at the border I have to reject it the strongest possible terms. Hungary was among the first countries to conform to EU regulations from the beginning, protect the Schengen borders: stop and register refugees and separate them from the economic migrants.

Hungarian police and military personnel are carrying out their duties lawfully and in accordance with European and Hungarian regulations. The police perform its duties lawfully and professionally and according to the principle of proportionality, with special emphasis on treating illegal immigrants humanely and in a way that respects their human dignity.

Migrants at Hungary's borders are not being harassed; children and minors, many of whom arrive without adult accompaniment, are afforded protection, medical care and education. Hungary treats people who are actually in need humanely, and people who are awaiting entry at the border or within the country's territory are afforded fair procedure, but also expects migrants to obey the laws of the European Union and Hungary.