

**2017 GFMD Civil Society Days, 29 June & 1 July**  
**Safe, Orderly, Regular Migration Now: *Mechanics of a Compact worth Agreeing to***

**Reporting template 2017**  
**Civil Society Days working sessions and special sessions**

**Session theme:** **Working Session 3: Safe, orderly mechanisms in return and reintegration**

**A. 29 June - RECOMMENDATIONS DAY // Priority Messages to convey to states by the CSD Chairs and CSD rapporteur tomorrow during Common Space “Mechanisms in return and re-integration” Focus Session 4.**

1. Which are civil society’s “non-negotiables” - redlines and baselines - for this theme?

- 1) Preliminary remarks
  - a. What is effective return – for whom? For governments or for the people?
  - b. Citizens who go back to their home countries, where they can be productive, bring back social remittances and contribute to their societies. Dignified return!
- 2) Myth about “return”: If you enforce deportation you can have migration reform (USA)
- 3) Clear definitions – no euphemisms
  - a. Deportation is forced return; other categories: consented return and voluntary return
  - b. Criminality (petty crime – not sure you say that or administrative offences should not be used as a pretext for forced return/deportation)
  - c. Development aid should not be used for return (Development aid is meant to be for the poorest);
  - d. Protect people from deportation (e.g. after having lived a certain numbers of years in the country of immigration – no year was decided upon) by regularisation processes; people after long time in the immigration country have lost all their ties to the home country
  - e. No detention/detention as little as possible/there are alternatives to detention (this was not consensus)
  - f. The principle of non-refoulement should be respected
- 4) Voluntary return for CS is a process with choices, where people can reflect about their options (and the moment of return, e.g. making sure they get their due salaries before returning)
- 5) It should be tailor made and context specific (it is a difference if someone has newly arrived and return or has to return or if someone has been living in a country for 20 years and returns)
- 6) There should be no deportation of children in no circumstances and they should not be separated from their families. The best interest of the child should prevail.
- 7) There should be a transition period to adulthood for young people and they should be protected from deportation (Youth)
- 8) Not deport seriously ill people!
- 9) Home countries need to take responsibility for their own citizens who return (infrastructure, services, also in their consulates, support). Provide reintegration programmes/reintegration centres
- 10) Reintegration measures should also benefit, support home community/country (especially if the assistance provided to returnees is more than the local population gets/has). The measures should be connected/mainstreamed into other social programmes in order to ensure the above.
- 11) Think about stateless people – where should they return to?

<p>12) Entry bans – Why if you return (UK: if you buy your ticket 1 year re-entry ban; if state buys ticket 2 years, if deported 5 years (not sure))</p> <p>13) Abolish Kafala system (makes people vulnerable and puts them at risk to being deported)</p> <p>14) No forced return to disaster struck areas</p> <p>15) The “fate” of returning migrants need to be monitored – Who does it? (Home countries?)</p> <p>16) Return, readmission and reintegration should not be put in “one basket”</p>	
<p>2. What concrete mechanisms (i.e. policies, practices, partnerships...) specific to your theme exist, existed or should be developed to promote safe, orderly and regular migration, and in a scenario of a graduated 12-year timeline of implementation, where could the implementation of the mechanisms mentioned above be placed; after 2, 7 or 12 years (ie shorter, medium or longer-term).</p>	
<p><i>Mechanism (There were no graduated recommendations)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Facilitate and maintain ties with the home country - provide compulsory social security in the home country (Philippines)</i></li> <li>• <i>Reintegration measures for returnees (Philippines)</i></li> <li>• <i>Voluntary/chosen return as a process operated by a Social Service including CS connecting the community/country of immigration and community/country of return (country of immigration and country of origin have joint responsibility) and connecting/preparing the potential returnee with his community of origin/country of origin (culture, language etc.); for many return is like migrating to a new country a second time. (Belgium and Caritas Network) Create voluntary return networks/referrals</i></li> <li>• <i>Give potential returnees/forced returnees access to impartial legal representation to explore their case and possibly find alternative (regular) options; Moreover if you grant them legal counselling then they will not go underground (US one Federal State)</i></li> <li>• <i>Independent vulnerability and needs assessments (by adequate professionals) need to be made before returning and upon arrival</i></li> <li>• <i>Offer spaces for peer exchange and support (of returnees) in the home country</i></li> <li>• <i>Reintegration support is region/country specific, e.g. return to Africa is not the same as to India</i></li> <li>• <i>German Model: Deal – pregnant women should not be deported for 6 months</i></li> <li>• <i>Take health into consideration: Not deport seriously ill people (some court cases)</i></li> <li>• <i>Develop alternatives to detention: If people are supported in communities they can think about their next steps</i></li> <li>• <i>Give 6 months preparation for voluntary return and deportation</i></li> <li>• <i>6-months for reintegration programme (Support in Nicaragua was mentioned as a positive example)</i></li> <li>• <i>% of the benefits of remittances (for countries) should be set aside for reintegration programmes</i></li> <li>• <i>Allocate budget for reintegration programmes, which is responsibility of governments (CS can be complementary)</i></li> <li>• <i>Reallocate budget from detention to reintegration</i></li> <li>• <i>Passport for safe home coming contains all key information for move around in the home country (Nigeria)</i></li> <li>• <i>Acquired skill to be certified (skills passport)</i></li> <li>• <i>Collect data on return/returnees</i></li> </ul>	<p>short, medium, or long term?</p>
<p>3. What are the <b>two questions</b> on this theme we want to ask governments in Common Space?</p>	
<p>1. What is your vision on dignified return?</p>	

2. Would you want to reduce harmful practices with regards to return?
3. Return is a difficult decision for many migrants; in order to improve the support and services for them and make it effective for returnees, it should be monitored. What are your ideas on who and how it should be monitored?
4. What effort can states make on reintegration support for returned migrants in term of financial assistance or vocational training before return
5. How does states see their role in access to services for returnees

**B. 1 July - COMMITMENT DAY // Civil society commitments towards and beyond the Global Compact for Migration**

1. What 2 strategic steps or actions does the group suggest civil society take on this issue in the next 6 months, including towards the Global Compact for Migration; if relevant:
  - please refer to any relevant mechanisms mentioned in CSD1
  - if possible detail who in civil society will take this action forward

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>First strategic step or action</b> in the next 6 months,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report on evidence of the unsafety of many forced returns (suggestion by one group) as governments ask for evidence/pretend there is no evidence for it.</li> <li>• Concrete recommendations for the Global Compact</li> <li>• Involve religious communities as they are key stakeholders</li> <li>• Advocate at national level for allocation of resources for re-integration</li> <li>• Enhanced South-South cooperation (e.g. Latin America and Africa) as migrations take new routes and encourage governments to do so.</li> <li>• Watch the Valletta agreements EU-Africa</li> <li>• Monitor how development aid is used</li> </ul>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Second strategic step or action</b> in the next 6 months</li> </ul>	
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2. What 2 longer-term strategic steps or actions does the group suggest civil society take to ensure the implementation of these commitments, including, but not limited to the “implementation phase” of the Global Compact for Migration.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>First strategic step or action</b> in 2018</li> </ul>	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Second strategic step or action</b> 2018</li> </ul>	
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**2. Inspiring quotes**

If you like, please provide one or **two quotes** that you heard during the session that you found inspiring. The sessions follow Chatham House rules, so please either ask for approval to name the speaker/organization or put “anonymous”.

**“No deportation Compact”**  
**“You do not become an adult overnight”**  
**“If Compact only talks about consented or voluntary return, I would not support it”.**  
**“Accompanying the individuals independently of the forms of return should be our primary concern”**  
**“Deportation creates shame and anxiety”**