



# CROATIA

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**Statement by  
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Mr. Chairperson,

As this is the first time that my delegation is taking the floor during this session of the Commission on Population and Development, please allow me to congratulate you and the other members of the Bureau on your election and to thank you for the efforts put into organizing the 39<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission. I would like to assure you of the full cooperation of my delegation during the 39th Session of the Commission.

As Croatia has already aligned itself with the statement of the European Union, I will limit my statement to the national policies of Croatia towards a coherent migration policy.

Croatia has drafted its Strategy on Migration as the first step towards a comprehensive migration policy. The strategy envisages steps towards strengthening institutional capacity to manage migration effectively within the framework of the alignment of national legislation with that of the European Union.

Croatia manages migration in accordance with principles of freedom of movement, solidarity and humanity, keeping in mind that migration has a positive impact on economic and social development. Further, Croatia is determined to ensure respect of human rights and freedoms, including migrants' right to seek and receive political asylum. Legal foreign immigrants are able to stay in Croatia either temporary or permanently with the issue of the enhancement of their social inclusion being a priority.

Migration flows impact on the economic, political and cultural life of society. As such the state seeks to balance migration by harmonizing it with the needs of the labor market, by stimulating the return of the Croatian Diaspora and by enabling migration for family reunification of Croatian citizens and emigrants from abroad.