



**High-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on  
addressing large movements of refugees and migrants**

**Statement by  
H. E. Christian Kern  
Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Austria**

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***CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY***

Mr. Secretary General,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me first thank

**Austria will host a regional summit meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September in Vienna to discuss closer cooperation and coordination between the countries along the Balkan route.**

**While we have to close irregular routes, we have to open legal routes at the same time in order to save lives.** For example, resettlement schemes, as already practiced and administered by UNHCR provide such routes and we should make a common effort to make them work effectively.

We are aware that not only Europe is affected by migration. Therefore, we would like to commend the efforts of those **countries hosting very large communities of refugees** in direct **proximity to long-lasting conflicts.**

Our New York declaration adopted here today is very clear about the fact that **no single nation can solve this problem**, so that all of us have to do their fair share in this regard both in the spirit of solidarity and in our own interest.

But all this will not be enough, because in the longer term the only sustainable and most effective way to solve the problem is to solve it in the regions of origin.

That is, **we have to fight the root causes of migration** that are conflicts, climate change, and the lack of opportunities increasingly caused by economic divergence across and within nations. These are the challenges we have to respond to.

We have to increase our efforts in crisis resolution, as clearly effective crisis resolution is a precondition for any further development. Here, of course the United Nations play a key role.

Mr. Secretary General, Excellencies, in the spirit of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, let us work together so that **no one will be left behind**.

Thank you.