

Over the last years, the European Union has been moving towards a holistic approach to migration taking into full consideration the relationship of migration

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migration and integration policies in order to ensure women's rights and civic participation to fully use their employment potential and to improve their access to

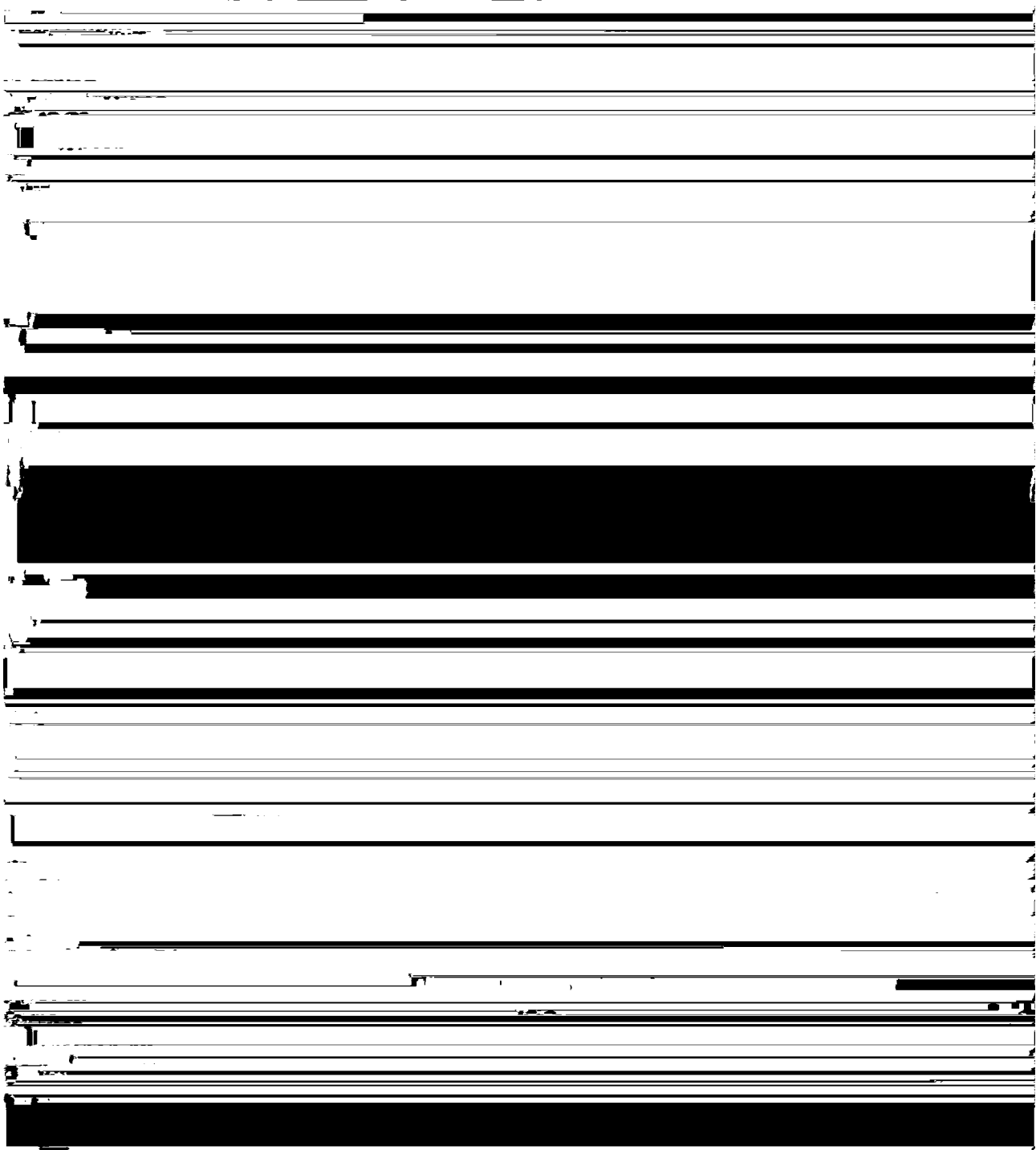
education and lifelong learning.

With its **Communication on the Social Dimension of Globalization**<sup>13</sup> the European Commission also highlighted the key role of fully addressing migration issues in shaping

globalization and of assessing the development impact of migration policies. A **Thematic Program on Human and Social Development**<sup>14</sup> further affects migration incentives through support for the improvement of living and working conditions in developing countries. In line with the 2005 UN World Summit conclusions on human and social development, the European Union is committed in particular to **promote full and**



In order to enhance the protection capacity of regions of origin of refugees, where most refugees are located, and better protect existing refugee populations there, the European Commission has also proposed the implementation of **Regional Protection Programmes**<sup>25</sup> to help provide durable solutions such as repatriation, local integration or resettlement, in partnership with UN High Commissioner for Refugees, through practically-based projects and funding.



The AENEAS programme<sup>30</sup>, established in 2004, provides Third countries with financial and technical assistance in the areas of migration and asylum. Its main objectives are **protecting migrants' rights** against exclusion, discrimination and exploitation; facilitating the use of **legal channels** for labour migration; fighting against **illegal migration** with a particular focus on **trafficking and smuggling** of human beings; improving the capacity to provide refugees with **asylum and international protection**; facilitating the **readmission and social and professional reintegration of returnees**.

The programme promotes the positive outcome of migration on the countries of origin of migrants, for instance through **supporting diasporas' initiatives to contribute to their**

**productive investments and development initiatives**. It also contributes to limiting or counteracting the negative effects produced by emigration on countries of origin, for instance by preventing brain drain.

From 2007, the AENEAS programme will be superseded by a new **Thematic**

**ROUND TABLE 4**

**Promoting building partnership and capacity-building and sharing best practices at all levels, including at the bilateral and regional levels, for the benefit of countries and migrants alike**

The European Union emphasizes the importance of adequately reflecting migration-related issues in external relations policies as well as in the overall policy framework with Third Countries and in its financial appropriations: the Cotonou Agreement, Stabilization and Association Agreements, Neighbourhood Action Plans and Euro-Mediterranean

management and to engage in dialogue with all stakeholders, including social partners and civil society.

In a **Communication on Priority Actions for responding to the challenges of migration**<sup>37</sup>, focusing mainly on certain aspects of the **management of migration in relation to the Mediterranean area and Africa**, the European Commission made a proposal for a better and more coordinated use of existing instruments and policies. This was built on in the **Global Approach to Migration: Priority actions focusing on Africa and the Mediterranean**<sup>38</sup>, which was adopted by Heads of State and Government of the European Union in December 2005, in view of concrete actions to be implemented in the course of 2006.

APRIL 12, 2006

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#### NOTES

- 1 **Report of the Global Commission on International Migration “Migration in an interconnected world : new directions for action”**  
<http://www.gcim.org>
- 2 **COM (2005) 311 The European Union Development Policy “the European Consensus”**  
[http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/lex/LexUriServ/site/en/com/2005/com2005\\_0311en01.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/lex/LexUriServ/site/en/com/2005/com2005_0311en01.pdf)
- 3 **COM (2005) 375 Proposal for a regulation on Community statistics on migration and international protection**  
[http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/lex/LexUriServ/site/en/com/2005/com2005\\_0375en01.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/lex/LexUriServ/site/en/com/2005/com2005_0375en01.pdf)
- 4 **EU Council Conclusions – Migration and External Relations, Nov. 2005**  
[http://europa-eu-un.org/articles/fr/article\\_5340\\_fr.htm](http://europa-eu-un.org/articles/fr/article_5340_fr.htm)
- 5 **COM (2002) 703 Integrating migration issues in the European Union’s relations with Third Countries**  
[http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/lex/LexUriServ/site/en/com/2002/com2002\\_0703en01.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/lex/LexUriServ/site/en/com/2002/com2002_0703en01.pdf)



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**and social development**

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