

Amendments to Draft Contributions of LX COSAC

Submitted by Chairman of the European Affairs Committee Domagoj Ivan Milošević, on behalf of the **Croatian Delegation**

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1. Security and the fight against illegal migration

1.2. COSAC considers that greater efforts must be made to protect the EU's external borders, with the goal of preventing irregular entry into the EU, tackling human trafficking and smuggling and preventing loss of life at sea. **COSAC recognises importance of Schengen and its reform, including advancement of Schengen enlargement process provided that all criteria are met, in protection of EU's borders.**

1.2.a **‡ COSAC** also underlines the necessity to significantly step up the effective return of irregular migrants in line with fundamental principles of international and EU law. Existing readmission agreements should be better implemented and new agreements concluded, including by using the necessary leverage consisting of all relevant EU policies, instruments and tools.

Explanatory note:

Croatian Delegation to COSAC considers Schengen should be referenced in Contributions, as it could be a vital part of the common European solution to prevent irregular entry into the EU.

2. Securing prosperity and competitiveness through digitalisation

2.1. COSAC emphasises that, in order to sustainably secure its prosperity and competitiveness, **EU's regulatory framework should develop in accordance with fast technological advancements.** It is essential that the EU consistently avoid overregulation and make progress in the fields of innovation and digitalisation, **in order to assure that not only consumers, but also citizens benefit from technological developments.**

Explanatory note:

Croatian Delegation to COSAC considers slow regulatory framework in contrast with fast technological development to be a key issue when it comes to digitalisation. While

consumers obviously benefit from increased digitalisation, EU should take steps to assure that citizens benefit as well.

6. A transparent European Union closer to its citizens in light of the upcoming elections to the European Parliament

6.3. COSAC emphasises that the due involvement of national Parliaments in policymaking and legislative processes at European level is of major importance for ensuring a high degree of transparency, efficiency and public acceptance. COSAC encourages the EU's institutions and national ~~and regional~~ Parliaments, **to work together with** regional and local authorities, and civil society ~~to work together~~ in order to improve the exchange of ideas between Parliaments, authorities and citizens across the European Union.

6.4. COSAC welcomes the European Commission's proposals to enhance the communication with regional and local authorities and to take into account their specificities in general consultations. ~~COSAC invites regional and local authorities to intensify their interaction with the European Commission.~~

Explanatory note:

Croatian Delegation to COSAC considers that COSAC should not address regional and local authorities directly, as this is outside its scope of work.