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Common asylum policy and legal migration policy

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In spite of all the efforts, there is a criticism of Europe for the way it handles migration and specifically the refugee crisis.

We tend to see it as a test for Europe but it is equally a test for national leaders, their political will to act together, their capacity to act nationally in a pro European way, to invest in national capacity to respect European obligations.

In this context it is worth mentioning that European Commission had to launch 37 infringement procedures against 19 member states failing to transpose by July 2015 into national law the new EU directives related to asylum system.

There has also been a long tradition that, in order to secure member states' backing, all legal migration directives offer member states a substantial scope for flexibility. This in turn results in continued fragmentation of the system.

An example here can be the blue card directive which does not replace national systems but adds a European one without establishing the right to admissions which stays at the discretion of member states. That is why the European blue card does not work.

Weaknesses of the Dublin system have been known for years, still have not been addressed in its entirety. There is a hope for change based on the Commission announcement of an overhaul of the system in 2016.

We do not know how decisions and commitments of Valetta summit will be converted into law and action, as well as how they will be financed.

There have been lengthy Council's conclusions over the last months. Not all of them have been implemented for various reasons.

And, finally, we can only hope that yesterday's EU - Turkey summit will be smoothly and quickly converted into action, also on the Turkish side.