

Amendment 1

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on behalf of the ID Group

Report**A9-0017/2021**

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New EU-Africa Strategy
(2020/2041(INI))

Motion for a resolution (Rule 181(3) of the Rules of Procedure) replacing non-legislative motion for a resolution A9-0017/2021

European Parliament resolution on a new EU-Africa Strategy – a partnership for sustainable and inclusive development

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the joint communication by the High Representative of the Union for Foreign affairs and Security Policy and the Commission of 9 March 2020 entitled ‘Towards a comprehensive Strategy with Africa’ (JOIN(2020)0004),
- having regard to the Refugee Convention of 28 July 1951 and its Protocol of 31 January 1967,
- having regard to its resolution of 25 November 2020 on improving development effectiveness and the efficiency of aid¹,
- having regard to Written Question P-005409/2020,
- having regard to Written Question P-000375/2021,
- having regard to the 2015-2017 Gallup World Poll,
- having regard to the African Union’s Migration Policy Framework for Africa and Plan of Action (2018 – 2030),
- having regard to Pew Research Center’s Spring 2018 Global Attitudes Survey,
- having regard to UNESCO’s Africa Nature capacity-building programme, which aims to improve management effectiveness at natural world heritage sites in Africa,
- A. whereas the new EU-Africa Strategy (the Strategy) proposed by the Commission will supposedly strengthen EU-Africa cooperation through a partnership;
- B. whereas the Strategy is based on the Commission’s false historical narrative, which

¹ Texts adopted, P9_TA(2020)0323.

distorts the true nature of European and African history;

- C. whereas the Strategy focuses to a great extent on asserting multilateral global rule through the United Nations, which would bring national rule to an end and ensure strong Commission-driven support for more control over the United Nations by the nations of Africa;
- D. whereas the Commission's proposal is based on the following pillars: mass immigration from Africa to the EU; the green transition; digital transformation; sustainable growth and jobs; and peace and governance;
- E. whereas a significant part of the Strategy consists of promoting the development of more generous immigration rules for citizens of African nations to settle in even greater numbers in the Member States;
- F. whereas no impact assessment of the Strategy was carried out by the Commission in order to understand the ramifications of the proposed EU policies contained in it, specifically the policy on African immigration to the EU; whereas modest estimations show that between 60 and 70 million adults in Africa are ready to make the move to the EU in order to settle here;
- G. whereas many Member States have already been confronted with significant volumes of uncontrolled illegal mass immigration from Africa, causing significant financial damage in the short-, medium- and long term and societal upheaval, leading to fragmented social structures and environments and laying the foundations for the disruption and eventual demise not only of national welfare systems, but also of the Member States themselves;
- H. whereas the Member States are now facing an unprecedented and growing wave of insecurity, which is closely linked to the mass movements of illegal immigrants into and across the EU, and represents only a small fraction of the numbers of legal and illegal immigrants that will follow should the Strategy be adopted;
- I. whereas a delegation of MEPs met with the Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO)² on 21 September 2020, in order to receive an answer as to what facts the Commission relied on in order to formulate the Strategy; whereas DG DEVCO was unable to provide satisfactory answers;
- J. whereas following a request in writing to provide an answer to two of the most important questions regarding the effects of the Strategy³, DG DEVCO admitted that it had not carried out any such assessment⁴;

² Now the Directorate-General for International Partnerships.

³ 'What is the Commission's assessment of the impact on immigration from Africa to Europe?' and 'what is the Commission's assessment of the impact on each individual Member State?'.

⁴ 'As the Commission pointed out in its reply to Written Question P-005409/2020, the proposed strategy is a political document, so it cannot facilitate migration on its own. The aim of the EU-Africa strategy is rather to propose a balanced, coherent and comprehensive approach to migration and mobility. As a political document setting out broad areas for future action, no impact assessment is needed in accordance with better regulation rules' (answer given by Ms Urpilainen on behalf of the Commission to Written Question P-000375/2021).

- K. whereas the Commission drafts, publishes and advocates for strategies of association with unstable nations in Africa that would have far-reaching and strategically important consequences if they were enacted, as well as a fundamental impact on the future existence of all Member States; whereas the Commission does not even realise or does not wish to admit – despite the importance of doing so – that it has a duty and responsibility to conduct and present an assessment of the impact of its proposal;
- L. whereas the African Union intends to stop immigration out of its member states and encourage their citizens to return from abroad, as they are needed to build up and develop these nations;
- M. whereas all African nations are in dire need of qualified and highly skilled professionals who above all understand the local culture and norms, in order to support local people and face the multitude of challenges ahead that will affect African nations; whereas skilled professionals are in high demand in many areas of the various societies in Africa; whereas there is therefore an urgent need to ensure prompt and dignified return processes for illegal immigrants that have been lured to the EU, so as to ensure that these individuals can use their skills, experience and local knowledge to build more democratic, stable, resilient, prosperous and environmentally friendly nations, and safeguard the future for the next generations of Africans;
- N. whereas illegal mass immigration from Africa to the EU has spiralled out of control and is having a detrimental effect on the relationship between the EU and Africa and the ability of African nations to develop their countries and meet the UN Sustainable Development Goals; whereas it is also threatening the cohesiveness and welfare systems of the Member States, meaning that the main focus of the Strategy needs to be cooperation with regard to controlled and secure borders, respectful and prompt returns of illegal African immigrants to their respective nations, enforcement and adoption of more restricted possibilities for legal immigration, targeted support for a fully African-led development agenda, sustainable energy solutions developed and owned by African nations and citizens, the development of African-owned population policies, support for educational curricula developed by African nations based on their citizens' needs and wants, and an end to all types of programmes administered by the Commission and funded by the contributions of the Member States, as they are not respectful of local African cultures;
1. Stresses that the time has come for a great reset of EU-funded development aid for Africa, and for the Member States to assess the progress and hindrances created by all development aid provided by the Member States via the Commission so far, with a view to striving for a reduction in all African aid channelled via the Commission, while having targeted programmes with a high probability or guarantee of successful and sustainable implementation, in order to ensure that African nations will be able to become truly independent and that the Member States see clear results for committed funds that the Commission is responsible for;
 2. Insists on making use of funds contributed by the Member States for aid and development and handled by the Commission fully transparent and more effective; stresses that the availability of development aid must be dependent on the ability of the recipient nations to fully control and halt illegal immigration;

3. Underlines that making funds other than humanitarian aid and emergency aid conditional on cooperation with the EU on migration or security issues is compatible with the agreed development effectiveness principles, and that any EU development aid should promote joint priorities and policy objectives – security issues and migration management first and foremost – as it stressed in its resolution on improving development effectiveness and the efficiency of aid;
4. Considers that visa policies are important tools for incentivising cooperation on migration and security policies, including by making them more restrictive for African states;
5. Recalls that the Strategy must include a fundamental reflection on the issue of true refugees, some of whom have been in refugee camps for years: recalls, therefore, that it is important for the African nations affected to develop solutions and tackle this issue locally and for Member States to consider providing targeted technical support for this development process; recalls the need to ensure cultural proximity for refugees, the ability to return, more efficient aid for those in need and local ownership of the entire process;
6. Calls for the focus of any strategy with Africa to be on improving African nations' ability to solve the issue of overpopulation and halt all illegal mass migration from and through their territories;
7. Suggests that it is important for African nations to provide their young people with a solid education and tools for building stable and resilient communities, and proposes that development programmes in these areas could be part of a future strategy; suggests, furthermore, that it is important for Member States, and especially the Commission, to respect the national design requirements of each individual nation;
8. Proposes that human development could be part of a future strategy, with the top priority being to provide family planning services, protect the rule of law, ensure good governance, ensure social inclusion and safeguard the rights of citizens, as long as the targeted development programmes funded by the Member States and administered by the Commission do not conflict with local culture, but rather respect it; underlines that the Commission must at all costs avoid further development-related programmes that do not respect the local cultures of the nations and peoples of Africa;
9. Demands that digital technology be used in all institution-building programmes funded by the Member States and administered by the Commission; considers that the use of digital solutions will enable technical support to be provided by Member States at a lower cost and with a better impact, ensure that travel for both experts and beneficiaries can be kept to a minimum, support the achievement of the current climate goals and strengthen African nations' development and their use of IT solutions;
10. Calls on the Commission to step up its commitment to support the Member States in returning all illegal immigrants, so that they can be reunited with their families and contribute their skills and knowledge to the peaceful, democratic and culturally sensitive development of African nations; underlines that this would put the African beneficiaries in the driving seat, enabling them to dictate the speed and direction of change, in line with the intent of the African Union, as expressed in its revised

Migration Policy Framework for Africa and Plan of Action (2018 – 2030);

11. Insists that in the light of the majority opinion expressed by EU citizens in favour of reduced levels of immigration, its new stance must be included in the Strategy in order to make it clear that EU development assistance is now conditional on the ability of recipient states to control illegal immigration through or from their nations;
12. Proposes that African nations consider putting in place a long-term debt management strategy aimed at not indebting future generations of Africans, but rather at enabling them to take advantage of the economic diversification of their respective nations in order to build a viable economy, thereby making it possible for all indebted nations to regain economic sovereignty and financial autonomy;
13. Welcomes the announcement of the UNESCO Africa Nature programme; considers that a future revised strategy might include conservation efforts centred on, for example, forests, wildlife and marine ecosystems; directs the Commission to ensure that African nations play a leading role in any programmes developed and funded by the Member States and administered by the Commission to preserve and safeguard the environment in Africa;
14. Welcomes the idea of promoting EU trade with Africa of goods that cannot be produced or grown in the EU;
15. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the governments of the Member States and the African Union.

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