



**Doc. 12499**

26 January 2011

## Asylum seekers and refugees: sharing responsibilities in Europe

### Motion for a resolution

tabled by Mr Christopher CHOPE and other members of the Assembly

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This motion has not been discussed in the Assembly and commits only those who have signed it

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Europe is a favoured destination for refugees and asylum-seekers. This creates particular pressure on the countries at the external borders of Europe, particularly those at the southern borders of the European Union.

The Parliamentary Assembly has observed in its reports that the goal of a fairer division of responsibilities and greater solidarity between European states in the migration and asylum field is far from being achieved. If policies for managing irregular migration and asylum are to operate properly at European level, it is essential that all European states should be involved on a basis of solidarity.

Despite its search for an effective and co-ordinated system, Europe has created – via the Dublin regulation - a system which, in its recent *M.S.S. v. Belgium and Greece* judgment, the European Court of Human Rights has made clear doesn't function properly.

It places an excessive burden on the countries at the borders of the European Union, with the risk that they are unable to offer an equitable, effective system for processing asylum-seekers. A better division of responsibilities would guarantee a system that is fair both for states and asylum-seekers.

The Assembly should consider what measures are needed to ensure that responsibilities in the field of asylum are fairly apportioned in Europe and guarantee refugees and asylum-seekers access to an effective asylum procedure and international protection.

*Signed (see overleaf)*



*Signed*<sup>1</sup>:

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AGRAMUNT Pedro, Spain, EPP/CD  
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CHITI Vannino, Italy, SOC  
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STRIK Tineke, Netherlands, SOC  
STUCCHI Giacomo, Italy, EDG  
TAKTAKISHVILI Chiora, Georgia, ALDE  
WOLDSETH Karin S., Norway, EDG

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1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe  
EDG: European Democrat Group  
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party  
SOC: Socialist Group  
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left  
NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group