



**Doc. 15629**

11 October 2022

## Immigration, one of the answers to Europe's demographic aging

### **Motion for a resolution**

tabled by Mr Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ 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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Migration pressure has become, especially since 2015, a key issue for our continent. Faced with an unprecedented arrival of migrants, Europe has had great difficulty in facing this challenge in a united and responsible manner. European solidarity has shown its limits and many countries have refused to contribute to the common effort in this area. The very definition of the right to asylum is being questioned by some countries. Some talk of Fortress Europe, while migration is considered by many as the ultimate evil. And we may not have seen anything yet, as suggested by the consequences of the climate crisis looming ahead.

Yet migration may well be an opportunity for Europe, an aging continent with several of its countries depopulating. This phenomenon finds mainly its causes in the increasing life expectancy thanks to medical progress and improved living conditions, coupled with declining birth rates on the continent as a whole.

The age pyramid in several countries shows a worrying reduction in the youth and working age cohorts, as opposed to the impressive growing of the number of retirees, many of whom are now reaching the fourth age, which is often synonymous with dependency.

What will be the future of demographics in Europe? Who will take care of our elderly? Who will keep society running? The answer, at least in part, may lie with work force from elsewhere.

It is necessary to draw up an analysis of the demographic situation in Europe, globally but also regionally, as well as innovative solutions to be explored towards the opening of legal and safe mobility channels based on articulated around reception policies and respect for the common norms and values that unite the members of the Council of Europe.

*Signed (see overleaf)*



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

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1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe  
SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group  
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left