



Letter from the CDs

To the esteemed delegates,

Welcome to HAMUN! My name is **Grace Baldwin (she/her)**, and I am your Crisis Director for the EU Council. I am a graduating third year, majoring in International Relations, a minor in Chinese, and a certificate in Core Texts and Ideas from the University of Texas. In high school, I did JROTC and debate, and this conference will mark my full first year of doing MUN. I have crisis staffed and crisis chaired in Central Texas Model UN, and I have been a collegiate delegate twice. My co-CD inspired this committee, but I have extensive knowledge and experience traveling across Europe, my most recent being my study abroad in Italy. My goal for this committee is for every delegate to step into the shoes of a European leader during the onset and height of the migrant crisis during 2015-2016. As a head of state and not merely a representative of your country, your goals and national interests are fundamental in how this committee will flourish. For several heads of state in Europe, election season is in full swing. If you have any questions, feel free to email or reach out to me at gracebaldwin29@utexas.edu.

My name is **Jackie Cheng (she/her)**, and I will be your other Crisis Director for the EU Commission. I'm currently in my last year at UT Austin, majoring in International Relations. MUN has been an integral part of my life since high school, and I am so excited to be working with Grace to make this an enjoyable experience for you all. I was inspired to Crisis Direct this committee from my time studying abroad in Germany, where I got to learn about EU politics and history, especially relating to this period of time that the crisis is set in. There are many lessons to be learned from the various crises that arose during this time period and the responses to them, so I hope you all come into this JCC open-minded and ready to get into it! My advice is to really get to know who you are representing, along with keeping in mind that you all are working for the EU first and foremost. I can't wait to see how you all bring this crisis to life, and if you have any questions or concerns, feel free to reach out to me at jackie.cheng@utexas.edu.

DISCLAIMER: Considering the sensitivity of the topics that will be discussed, along with their recency, we expect absolute care and sensitivity when discussing the issues and lives of migrants in addition to the delegate's own national interests. While some European leaders have had or currently espouse xenophobic and racist rhetoric, generalizations and prejudicial statements will not be tolerated in both committees and HAMUN at large.



WELCOME

Welcome to The EU in Crisis: A Joint Crisis! This JCC brings together all of those a part of the Juncker Commission and the EU Council in the year of 2015. Prior to the events of this JCC, the EU had already been dealing with various crises like the one between Russia and Ukraine and the deaths of hundreds of migrants attempting to flee to the EU. 2015 was a momentous year for the EU as the institution grappled with old and new crises alike. This JCC will start in the middle of that year in the midst of the migrant crisis and the rise in right-wing populism and separatist sentiments, along with other crises that will inevitably be thrown in the EU's way. As the Commission and Council, working together, you will be attempting to salvage the unity of the EU and reconcile opposing interests and ideologies. Before we formally open up this guide, a quick introduction from your Crisis Directors.

EU COMMISSION POWERS AND FUNCTIONS

Members of the EU Commission are made up of Commissioners who are nominated by member states. Once the European Parliament approves of the nomination, the Council of Ministers then formally appoints the Commissioner.

The Commission is tasked with proposing and enforcing legislation, managing EU policies, allocating EU funding, and representing the EU internationally. The Commission is also involved in other functions within the EU, but delegates only need to be aware of the above powers and functions for the sake of this committee.



BACKGROUND



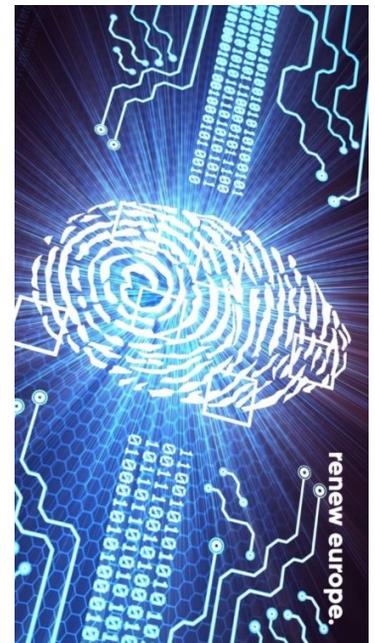
BACKGROUND OF MIGRATION AND POLICY

Migration to the EU and within has a long and extensive background, a background that is impossible to do justice within this background guide. However, I wish to touch on some quick facts in order to paint a clearer picture of what you all will be dealing with.

In the aftermath of WWII, we began to see forced migration as many individuals became refugees, were deported or displaced. This created a general sense of awareness of refugees, and asylum laws began to pop up in some European nations. Moving on, the decolonization period following the aftermath of the World Wars saw two large migration movements to the EU: European settlers/colonial administrators and colonial troops/pro-colonial ethnic groups. As the 1950s rolled around, post-colonial migration was supported by the guest worker system. What this was was essentially a system through which companies in the EU could make agreements with nations outside the EU and recruit workers. This system initiated labor migration, and many who came to the EU as guest workers would remain in their host country and settle permanently. As the years progressed, the EU continued to see various migration cycles driven by post-colonial conflicts, labor needs, reunification, etc., and migration would continuously be changing societies and politics within the EU.

The most important thing to keep in mind is how the EU has addressed migration in the past; past action is a good indication of what will and will not work in the present and future.

The Dublin Regulation is the most important law pertaining to migration and asylum seekers and will be specifically discussed in the next section. Holding up the Dublin System along with the Regulation is the EURODAC Regulation, which sets up an EU fingerprint database for asylum seekers. Under EURODAC, an individual who is applying for asylum will have their fingerprints be entered into the EURODAC central system, no matter where the individual is within the EU. All member states participate in this, along with 3 non-EU members: Norway, Iceland and Switzerland. This tool has been quite successful thus far, but with current crises coming along, concerns will undoubtedly be raised about its efficacy.



renew europe.

BACKGROUND

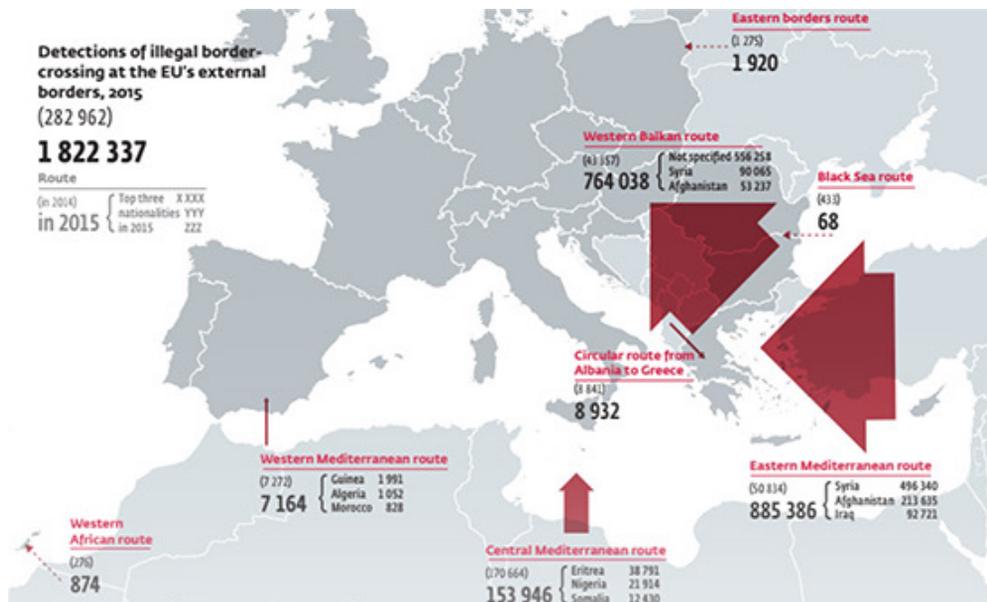


DUBLIN III REGULATION

The Dublin Regulation is the cornerstone of the Dublin System, a structure of laws and practices upholding the principle that an asylum application is to be processed by only one member state. What this system aims to achieve is ensuring that asylum seekers are not being sent from one country to another and preventing one person from submitting multiple applications for asylum.

Currently, the Dublin III Regulation is in place, having replaced the Dublin II Regulation that came before it. The principle on which the Regulation is based remains the same: the first member state with which an asylum seeker comes into contact is responsible for that individual's asylum claim.

With the influx of asylum seekers that the EU is seeing with the emerging migrant crisis, the Dublin Regulation has come under fire, with many calling for reform. This is due to the fact that it places an unfair burden on only some member states, specifically those with borders near the Middle East and Africa. Many have called for reforms that allow for better burden sharing.



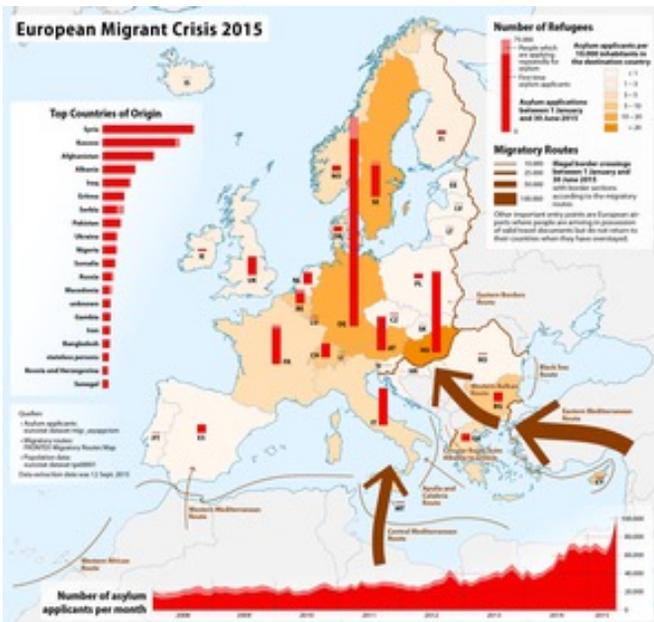
CURRENT SITUATION



MIGRANT CRISIS

The EU had already begun registering increased numbers of refugee arrivals in 2010 due to a confluence of conflicts in parts of the Middle East, Asia and Africa, particularly the wars in Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan, but also terrorist insurgencies in Nigeria and Pakistan, and long-running human rights abuses in Eritrea. Many refugees initially sought to settle in countries closer to their places of origin, in Turkey, many were not permitted to work; in Jordan and Lebanon which hosted millions of Syrian refugees, were placed in refugee camps. In addition, starting in 2014, Lebanon, Jordan and Egypt stopped accepting Syrian asylum seekers. Together these events caused a surge in people fleeing to Europe in 2015, with Greece, Italy, Spain, and Turkey all overwhelmed.

The tragedy in April 20 in the Mediterranean, where over 600 people drowned when their boat capsized some 180 kilometers south of Italy's Lampedusa Island, has underscored the severity of the migrant crisis facing the EU currently. A record 1.3 million migrants have applied for asylum in the 28 member states of the European Union, Norway and Switzerland so far this year—nearly double the previous high water mark of roughly 700,000 that was set in 1992 after the fall of the Iron Curtain and the collapse of the Soviet Union, according to a Pew Research Center analysis of data from Eurostat, the European Union's statistical agency.



CURRENT SITUATION CONT.



MIGRANT CRISIS

Unprecedented numbers of migrants and asylum seekers have traveled by sea to European shores this year. According to UNHCR, the UN refugee agency, 84 percent originate from Syria, Afghanistan, Eritrea, Somalia, and Iraq—all countries experiencing conflict, widespread violence and insecurity, or highly repressive governments. Even accounting for misrepresentations of nationality and the presence of migrants seeking to improve their lives, this should be understood broadly as a refugee crisis.

The international community as a whole has a role to play in addressing global migration challenges and refugee crises, including the crisis currently affecting the EU. However, the EU, its institutions, and its member states have specific legal obligations to individuals on its territory and at its land and sea borders. Governments should embrace the human rights and protection imperatives at the core of this crisis and respond in accordance with the fundamental values at the heart of the Union's *acquis communautaire*.



The Most Dangerous Route in the World

The Mediterranean is the world's deadliest migration route. According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), over 3,455 people have died at sea trying to reach the EU so far this year. This surpasses the 3,149 who died in all of 2014, and includes an increase in deaths in the Aegean Sea as it became the principal sea channel into the EU. The IOM recorded 512 deaths in the Aegean Sea, up from 73 the previous year. Exposing boat migrants to the risk of drowning can never be an acceptable form of border control. The acceptable approach lies in providing access to safe crossing options and effective search and rescue operations, with all those rescued brought to EU territory for fair processing of any claims for international protection, and with appropriate humane and dignified returns of those who do not have a valid basis to remain in the EU.

Stepped-up search and rescue operations, including by humanitarian and private organizations, have made a difference. These efforts have been concentrated in the central Mediterranean, traditionally the most used, and deadliest, route. Following the deaths of over 1,000 people in a single week in April 2015, the EU tripled the budget of Frontex, its external borders agency, for operations in the Mediterranean. Importantly, it extended the operational plan of its Operation Triton, in the central Mediterranean, to patrol and perform search and rescue in international waters adjacent to Libyan territorial waters. The budget for Operation Poseidon, in the Aegean Sea (eastern Mediterranean) between Turkey and Greece was also increased, but remains much smaller.



RISE IN RIGHT-WING POPULISM

The refugee crisis has galvanized far-right parties across the continent. Despite the rather courageous leadership of German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who favors allowing hundreds of thousands of Syrian refugees into Europe, anti-immigrant and anti-Muslim forces in Germany have sought to capitalize on the moment. In the eastern city of Dresden, anti-Islam protesters even erected a set of gallows for Merkel. In the Netherlands, demagogic far-right leader Geert Wilders has noisily protested any measure to offer sanctuary to refugees. During a speech to parliament, he warned of an "Islamic asylum tsunami" and labeled the refugees "testosterone bombs" who "threaten our girls." This ugly rhetoric was repudiated by his opponents and critics but has not hurt his political chances, as polls showed Wilders's PVV party as potentially winning one of the country's biggest blocs of seats in parliament. The theme is repeated in other corners of Europe, from Nordic nations to Eastern Europe and the Balkans.

As Europe basks in good feelings over its generosity to thousands of migrants and asylum seekers last weekend, critical voices from the political right and far right are poised to become among the biggest beneficiaries of the continuing flow.

Parties that have been growing in opposition to immigration, the influence of Islam and the European Union seized on the decision by Austria and Germany to welcome the migrants, pointing out the difficulty of now shutting the migrant tap. And after the shambles of Greece, the image of a European Union seemingly incapable of defending its borders, while trying to impose mandatory quotas on nations for accepting refugees, fit Euroskeptics' portrayal of Brussels as a European Union capital at once incompetent and domineering.



RISE IN RIGHT-WING POPULISM CONT.

“Germany, Sweden, and Austria deserve great credit for their willingness to accept refugees, but elsewhere on the Continent the reaction ranges from passivity to outright hostility,” said Michael Haltzel, a visiting senior fellow at the Finnish Institute of International Affairs. “There is a considerable danger of overload. And I fear that the political beneficiaries in many countries will be right-wing ultranationalists.”

In France, Marine Le Pen accused Germany of opening its doors to refugees to exploit them for cheap labor, while imposing its immigration policies on its neighbors.

The Syrian civil war is now in its fifth year, and the numbers are staggering. More than four million Syrians have fled the country and are registered as refugees, while another 6.5 million are internally displaced, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. There are more than 1.9 million Syrian refugees in Turkey alone, another 1.1 million in Lebanon and more than 629,000 in Jordan.

Europe cannot take them all.

In Germany, Chancellor Angela Merkel voiced something close to pride on Monday that Germany is now seen as a desirable and welcoming destination for refugees. “That is something very valuable, if you look at our history,” she said. There have been more than 200 attacks on asylum seekers or their shelters this year in Germany. In the pretty south German town of Rottenburg am Neckar, officials are investigating as possible arson a fire that broke out at 2 a.m. Monday, injuring six people, in a facility housing 84.



DISCONTENT WITHIN THE EU

Discontent within the EU is nothing new and numerous internal divisions plague the EU and its ability to functionally produce change and create agreements.





OBJECTIVES

During these two days, this committee, together with the Council, should be addressing the following:

- Determine a plan for long term residency of migrants
- The root causes of migration from North Africa and the Middle East
- Possible reforms to existing migration policy (ie. Dublin Regulation and EURODAC)
- Reconciling the various internal divisions within the EU
- Combating the rise in right-wing sentiments
- Propose solutions to addressing discontent within the general EU populace over handling of previous and current crises



Character List

Jean-Claude Juncker - The President of the EU Commission, Juncker holds significant power within this committee. Upon his election as President, Juncker has sought to strengthen the Commission's steering capacities and improve coordination in policy making. A key proponent of overhauling the EU's immigration policies and renegotiating Britain's EU membership, his strong and decisive nature will prove to be a guiding force in this committee.

Frans Timmermans - A highly respected Dutch politician and diplomat, Timmermans is the First Vice President of the Commission, making him Juncker's first deputy and right-hand man. Possessing an impressive portfolio of Inter-Institutional Relations and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU, Timmermans is a key figure in ensuring productive cooperation with the Council and other necessary regional and international institutions. The Dutch politician is known for being pro-migrant and pro-EU and has not been afraid to show his discontent with right-wing populist politicians.

Federica Mogherini - Mogherini currently serves as both a Vice President and the High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy in Juncker's Commission. Since her dual appointment, she has strived to make migration a collective European issue, and like Timmermans, is pro-migrant. She is also a strong advocate for better coordination and cooperation between all member states within the EU, and her expertise in foreign affairs and security will make her a force to be reckoned with when this committee works to address all of the security and international issues facing the EU.

Maroš Šefčovič - The European Commissioner for Energy, Šefčovič has demonstrated concern over the UK's ongoing tension with the EU and believes that migration policy should remain autonomous and in the hands of each member state's government. As part of his appointment, Šefčovič has accomplished plenty in developing a fully integrated energy market between the central and southern regions of Europe. A part of the Party of European Socialists, Šefčovič holds more traditional and conservative beliefs regarding social issues.



Jyrki Katainen - Katainen is the Vice President for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness and has been applauded for incorporating social dialogue in issues with the labor market. Because of his position, Katainen largely views migration with an economic lens, believing that migration is a liability and a burden on Europe's economy. The Finnish politician has also called for addressing issues important to those who support populist political parties in an effort to curb euroscepticism and right-wing populism.

Valdis Dombrovskis - Dombrovskis is the Vice President for the Euro and Social Dialogue and is quite pro-EU. For all crises facing the EU, especially the migrant crisis, he has called for solutions and policies to be coordinated amongst all member states and for existing solutions to be properly implemented. The crises facing the Commission will have economic and financial ramifications, so the Latvian politician will be an important figure to turn to during these times.

Věra Jourová - The European Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality, Jourová is a strong advocate for justice and gender equality. Her portfolio takes a people-centered approach, and she has been outspoken about combatting discrimination at all levels throughout the EU and turning words into action. As this committee tackles the various crises facing the EU, Jourová will be the voice ensuring that no one is left behind and that justice is centered.

Günther Oettinger - Oettinger is currently the European Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society. The German politician takes a solidarity-based approach to the blooming migrant crisis, believing that all of the EU must come together to help the member states that will be most affected. He is also a strong advocate for geopolitical collaboration and cooperation and has proven to be no stranger to controversy.

Pierre Moscovici - Moscovici is the European Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs, Taxation and Customs. The French politician has spoken out against nationalistic sentiment within Europe and has called for responses to the various crises facing the EU to be centered on European values and identity—caring for humanity and human rights. Pro-migrant and pro-EU, Moscovici is more optimistic regarding the economic and financial impact of migration on the EU.



Marianne Thyssen - Thyssen is the European Commissioner in charge of Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labor Mobility and is the first Belgian woman to be appointed to the Commission. Like some other Commissioners here, she takes a very people-centered and social approach to developing EU policy. Thyssen has also been a strong advocate against the practice of social dumping and believes that with improved coordination and cooperation, the EU will be able to address any crisis thrown its way.

Johannes Hahn - The European Commissioner for European Neighborhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations, Hahn will be one of the most important people to turn to when addressing the migrant crisis on the doorsteps of the EU. In his capacity as Commissioner, the Austrian politician has taken a pan-European approach centered on cooperation and providing support to most affected nations. It should be noted that Hahn's portfolio does not deal directly with migration policy, but rather with efforts to tie nations in the EU "Neighborhood" closer to the Union.

Dimitris Avramopoulos - Avramopoulos is the European Commissioner for Migration and Home Affairs, also making him another key person to turn to when it comes to the migrant crisis. The Greek politician is another pro-migrant Commissioner and will play a critical role in reforming EU migration policy and coordinating shared responsibility in any piece of legislation passed by the Commission. Also a pro-EU Commissioner, Avramopoulos is a staunch supporter of standing by the values the EU is built on when addressing any crisis facing the Union.

Vytenis Andriukaitis - Although Andriukaitis is the European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, his philosophy since taking office will be applicable to all crises facing the EU. The Lithuanian politician is a firm believer in not only cooperation amongst the Commission, but also working hand in hand with member states in implementing solutions that will help the EU overcome any crisis and problem. As such, this places him as a strong opponent of separatist and anti-EU sentiments.

Elżbieta Bieńkowska - Hailing from Poland, Bieńkowska currently serves as the European Commissioner for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs. She has been known as an asset in Polish politics and is known to not engage in party politics. Her previous experience with handling EU structural funds in the Polish government, along with her current position, make her an important voice in this committee when considering the economic ramifications of the crises the Commission will be facing.



Miguel Arias Cañete - Cañete serves as the European Commissioner for Energy and Climate Action. During his time as Commissioner thus far, he has demonstrated that the EU means business, and that in times of difficulty, the EU will come together and show a united front. Thus, this makes him a fellow pro-EU Commissioner, who will be standing strongly against any separatist sentiments within the EU.

Neven Mimica - A Croatian politician and diplomat, Mimica is the European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development. Under his appointment, he is responsible for the EU's development policy, making him primarily concerned with stemming mass migration from the source. As such, Mimica will be a key figure in cooperating with regions that are a major source of migrants to Europe and working to ensure that root causes of migration are addressed.

Margrethe Vestager - Vestager currently works as the European Commissioner for Competition, one of the most powerful positions in the Commission. Regarding migration, Vestager has a slightly moderate/progressive take on the crisis facing the EU; she believes that migration must be controlled, especially undocumented migration, but also believes that it is good that refugees are able to come to Europe and obtain protection and citizenship status. Additionally, she believes immigration is good for businesses in the EU as it provides a greater pool of workers to employ from. These views will make her a voice of reason in this committee, and because of her willingness to go up against large corporations under her role as Commissioner, she will no doubt stand up for what she believes is right during discussions in this committee.

Violeta Bulc - The European Commissioner for Transport, Bulc is a strong believer in the strengths of the EU, making her another pro-EU Commissioner in this committee. Due to her position as the Commissioner for Transport, matters involving the Schengen Area, especially its borders, are of primary importance to Bulc. She has previously noted concern over undocumented migration into the EU.

Cecilia Malmström - Malmström is the European Commissioner for Trade, but her past role as the Commissioner for Home Affairs will give her much insight into dealing with the migrant crisis. Regarding discontent amongst certain member states towards the EU, Malmström has made clear her discontent towards those states, making her yet another pro-EU member in this committee.



Karmenu Vella - Hailing from Malta, Vella is the European Commissioner for the Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries. Under the Maritime Affairs umbrella of Vella's role, he will be mostly concerned about the Mediterranean route when it comes to the migrant crisis and ensuring the security of that region. He will also be mostly concerned with making sure that any crises resulting from separatist sentiments and discontent be swiftly addressed as to not impact EU fisheries.

Tibor Navracsics - Navracsics is currently the European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport. As such, he is primarily concerned with helping to organize education in refugee camps that have popped up due to the migrant crisis, along with supporting the educational systems of member states in light of the influx of refugees. Despite his Hungarian roots, Navracsics still very much believes in the EU.

Carlos Moedas - Born in Portugal, Moedas serves as the European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation. His commitment to developing social innovation and research will prove to be critical to this committee as it works to address the various crises this committee will face and is also a reflection of the Commission's dedication to its social priorities.

Phil Hogan - An Irish politician, Hogan currently works as the European Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development. He is a staunch advocate of strengthening EU unity, especially in light of the crises the EU faces.

Christos Stylianides - Stylianides is the European Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management, making him in charge of dealing with the distribution of aid; the EU Commission is the world's largest supplier of humanitarian aid. Stylianides' role makes him another critical member to turn to when addressing the migrant crisis, along with other crises as he is also in charge of coordinating and managing emergency responses both within and outside the EU.

Andrus Ansip - Working double duty, Ansip currently serves as both Vice President of the European Commission and the European Commissioner for the Digital Single Market. Ansip has expressed concerns about brain drain, which could make him a pro-migrant member of this committee as migrants provide another pool of workers to employ from.



Corina Crețu - Hailing from România, Crețu is the European Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms. Her portfolio includes managing the regional policy of the EU, which includes the European Regional Development Fund. Because of the nature of her role, Crețu is very much pro-EU and believes in working towards strengthening the cohesion and unity of the EU.

Jonathan Hill - Hill is the European Commissioner for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union. He has previously proclaimed himself as a “translator” to the EU, conveying public and political opinion from Britain.

Kristalina Georgieva - A Bulgarian economist, Georgieva currently works as the European Commissioner for the Budget and Human Resources. As the EU deals with the crises thrown its way, it is inevitable that the EU’s budget must be taken into consideration to make sure it is well equipped financially, which will make Georgieva another crucial member to turn to in order to ensure the EU does not falter nor fail economically.

SPECIAL VOTING PROCEDURE

In order to make this Joint as accurate as possible, a special procedure will be implemented when it comes to the passage of directives. This procedure will essentially mirror how legislation is passed within the EU, but some aspects will be changed in order to tailor it to this Joint.

Both committees will be debating and discussing the various topics and objectives outlined in the guides, however, the passage of directives is where the functions of each committee diverges. The Commission is tasked with drafting directives; they are **NOT PASSING DIRECTIVES**. Rather than voting to pass a directive, the Commission will vote on whether to send off a directive to the Council (standard crisis procedure applies during this vote). If it does not pass, the procedure will end there and discussions will continue on.

If the Commission successfully votes on sending off a directive to the Council, the Council is then charged with discussing the directive. The Council may amend the directive and then vote, or, they may go ahead with voting on passing the directive without making any amendments. In order for a directive to be passed by the Council and go into effect, a qualified majority (16 delegates or 55%) is required. If a qualified majority is not reached, then the directive is scrapped.

In summary, the Commission drafts directives to send off to the Council, while the Council is tasked with discussing, amending and passing directive to go into effect. If any questions arise during the conference, please bring it to the attention of the Dais or Crisis Directors.