

Talking points of the Republic of Slovenia, minister of interior Tatjana Bobnar:

- Legal pathways are one of the fundamental elements of the comprehensive migration policy in the EU. As such, resettlement should be considered as one of its strategic instruments that **promotes safe and legal ways** to the EU, which, in turn, **prevents dangerous irregular journeys, tackles root causes** of migration in general and **provides protection to persons in need**.
- Resettlement is also an **important element of solidarity** with third countries that host large numbers of migrants fleeing from war or persecution. According to the UNHCR data, the global resettlement needs increased significantly due to the crisis in Afghanistan and most recently in Ukraine. Additionally, the pandemics affected the execution of transfers as well.
- In 2022, Slovenia, **as a part of Western Balkan migration route**, is facing **significant pressure** on its migration and asylum system. As in last year we remain one of the member states with the most burdened asylum system per capita in the EU.
- Nevertheless, **we remain committed to the principles of solidarity**. As resettlement promotes legal and safe pathways to the EU, we consider it to be a **counterbalance to SAR relocations** which are, in our opinion, major pull factor, incentive for dangerous journeys across the sea and for smuggling activities.
- Slovenia took part in **several resettlement and relocation schemes** in the past. Resettlement in particular is an example of good practice, as most of the resettled persons stayed in Slovenia and integrated successfully into our society.
- Following past good experience and despite current migration challenges, Slovenia **announced its pledge for resettlement in 2023** under AMIF pledging exercise. A formal decision **will be submitted to Government of Republic of Slovenia** in next days. I hope we will be able **to officially communicate our commitments accordingly**.