

BORDERS ARE THE PAST DO NOT DISMANTLE SCHENGEN!

The Schengen system, together with the euro and the single market, are the most advanced and visible achievements of European integration. They are key elements of a **political project of unification that has guaranteed unprecedented peace and prosperity** to the citizens of Europe.

The issues of migration and security are bound to remain long-term challenges. If national governments choose to respond by re-establishing national borders checks and building fences in a selfish and doomed attempt to keep problems in their neighbours' backyard,

they will solve neither the issue of migration nor improve the security situation.

Such moves will only divert resources from more effective measures. Most of all, they will inflict a lethal blow to people's belief in Europe as a project of integration, freedom and solidarity; if the European project collapses, the European economy will suffer, European influence in the world will be further diminished and democracy will come under pressure in many countries. The threat of Europe turning back to a dreadful past of divisions and fratricidal wars will haunt us once more.

The only way to cope with the refugee and security emergencies is to address them with a European strategy and European solutions, at supranational level, and with full respect of European values and achievements. At this moment, this means that:

- ▶ **the European Parliament** and the Council should rapidly adopt the European Commission's proposals for reinforcing the Schengen system and establishing a European Border and Coastal Guard, as an intermediate step to an entirely European system to manage the common borders of the European Union;
- ▶ **the European Council** should ask the European Commission to develop a roadmap for strengthening European police and intelligence cooperation and moving towards the development of effective European police and intelligence forces to address cross-border crimes and security threats;
- ▶ **the European Commission** should urgently make proposals for implementing urgently sustainable European migration and asylum policies, including a balanced and equitable single European asylum system, with a European asylum authority, mechanisms for sharing the number and costs of arrivals among Member States, and legal routes for economic migrants.

As such steps impact on national sovereignty, their completion is only conceivable within a plan to relaunch European political union, according to a clear and definite time frame.



**GIVING UP FREE MOVEMENT
WOULD KILL THE EUROPEAN PROJECT
BEYOND SCHENGEN: A FEDERAL EUROPE**

