

H.E. Mr. António Guterres
Secretary-General of the United Nations
Executive Office of the Secretary-General
S-3800, United Nations Secretariat Bldg
New York, NY 10017



November 29, 2018

German Position on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Your Excellency,

We are writing to you as members of Deutscher Bundestag, Germany's federal parliament, who serve as spokespersons for the Berliner Kreis, a caucus of conservative CDU/CSU members of parliament.

We would like to draw your attention to the Bundestag resolution (printed paper 19/6056) on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) in which the members of the Bundestag, in the exercise of their constitutional rights, explain the Bundestag's position in regard to the GCM.

Particularly, the Bundestag resolution strongly emphasizes national sovereignty and that it is the Bundestag's privilege to take any legislative decisions on migration:

“Germany’s national sovereignty is non-negotiable. In step with this, the guiding principles of the GCM expressly reaffirm the “sovereign right of States to determine their national migration policy and their prerogative to govern migration within their jurisdiction, in conformity with international law”. Against this backdrop, the German Bundestag notes that the Bundestag takes decisions on migration which modify or establish the law. The GCM does not give rise to any enforceable rights and duties and does not modify or establish any laws whatsoever. This means that our laws – for instance in the area of the laws governing foreigners and social and citizenship laws – as well as the decisions of our authorities and courts continue to apply and be enforced in full.”

Furthermore, concerning access to basic services, the Bundestag resolution states that, as of today, Germany already fully complies with the standards laid down in the GCM:

“Providing reliable access to basic services to migrants in all countries. Germany already fully meets these standards.”

Especially, Germany is committed to and guarantees the human rights of all human beings, which includes migrants, of course.


Finally, we would like to underscore that the Bundestag resolution expresses the Bundestag’s understanding of the GCM’s intention to be - beside ordering and controlling migration – also limiting migration:


“The GCM is designed to contribute to ordering, controlling and limiting migration to a greater degree whilst at the same time protecting the rights of migrants.”

Please, find an English translation of the Bundestag resolution attached.

We would appreciate if you could kindly pass on the Bundestag resolution and this letter to relevant UN institutions, organisations, and member states involved in the GCM process.

Sincerely,


Sylvia Pantel, MdB
Spokesperson, Berliner Kreis


Klaus-Peter-Willsch, MdB
Spokesperson, Berliner Kreis