

24 October 2016 Danish Refugee Council Panel Debate

“EU one year down the road - Haben wir es geschafft?”

One year after Ms Merkel’s famous quote “Wir schaffen das!” (“We will manage it!”) it is time to review and take stock. On the backdrop of the World Humanitarian Summit, UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants, and numerous reform processes at the EU level the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) is inviting for a panel debate to analyse the state of affairs, and the linkages of the EU policy trends with the global debate.

Objective

The panel debate will explore the humanitarian implications of the EU policy response to the refugee crisis in regions of origin and transit as well as within the European Union from an operational and a policy perspective. It will link up the EU policy response and the policy direction it represents to the global compact processes, and ask how the EU will contribute to a framework for global responsibility sharing. The panellists will put forward concrete recommendations on the way forward.

Programme

13:30-14:00		Arrival and registration
14:00-14:05	Welcome	Ms Birte Hald , DRC Brussels Representative
14:05-14:15	Opening remarks by moderator	Mr Claus Hugaard Sørensen , Senior Humanitarian Adviser and former Director General ECHO
14.15-14.30	Historical perspective, outcome of New York	Mr Andreas Kamm , DRC Secretary General
14:30-14:45	Global Compacts and EU perspective	Mr Jean-Louis de Brouwer , DG ECHO, Director Directorate B Europe, Eastern Neighbourhood and Middle East
14:45-15:00	The operational environment, field perspective	Mr Peter Klansø , DRC Regional Director Middle East and North Africa
15:00-15:15	Moderator	Questions from the floor and answers
15:15-15.30	1951 Refugee Convention under pressure?	Ms Sophie Magennis , Head Policy and Legal Support Unit, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
15:30-15:45	Solidarity within EU	Ms Catherine Woollard , Secretary General, European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE)
15:45-16:00	Moderator	Questions from the floor Winding up – Haben wir es geschafft?
16:00-	Reception	Welcome by Mr Stig Glent Madsen , DRC Chairman and High Court Judge

Location: CEPS, Place du Congrès 1, Conference Hall at ground floor, 1000 Brussels