

Migration Challenges in Europe: A Conversation with Director General António Vitorino

15 October 2021, 12.00-13.00 CEST

Online session via [CIDOB's Youtube channel](#)

Organised by: CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs) in the framework of the H2020 research project EU IDEA – Integration and Differentiation for Effectiveness and Accountability

The instable geopolitical situation in Afghanistan, economic breakdowns in the Middle East and North Africa, and the strict control of international mobility in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic create a tensed migration situation around Europe. Which European policies would be the most appropriate to deal with this set of challenges? What forms of cooperation should European countries consider? Director General Vitorino will share his policy experience on migration affairs in Europe and discuss current migration challenges.

António Vitorino has served as the Director General of the International Organization for Migration since 2018. His distinguished political career includes serving as European Commissioner for Justice and Home Affairs in the Prodi Commission from 1999 to 2004, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defense in the government of António Guterres in Portugal from 1995 to 1997, and chair of the Civil Liberties and Internal Affairs Committee in charge of Migration, Asylum, Justice and Fundamental Rights in the European Parliament between 1994 and 1995.

- 12.00 **Welcome**
Pol Morillas, Director, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs)
- 12.05 **Keynote talk “Migration challenges in Europe”**
António Vitorino, Director General of the International Organization for Migration, former European Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship (1999-2004), and former Portuguese Minister of National Defence (1995-1997)
- Moderator:* **Blanca Garcés**, Senior Research Fellow, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs)
- 12.25 **Further remarks and questions by CIDOB and EU IDEA experts**
Corinne Balleix, Working Group on Migration, Jacques Delors Institute
Emmanuel Comte, Senior Research Fellow, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs)
Katariina Mustasilta, Research Fellow, Finnish Institute of International Affairs (FIIA)
- 12.45 **Questions from the audience**



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