PRESS RELEASE

The international conference on “Migration in Europe: the role of ESC-SIs in addressing challenges, responsibilities and solutions” was held in Bucharest on June 16 and 17, 2016. The event was jointly organized by the Romanian Economic and Social Council (ESC) and the International Association of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions (AICESIS). The participants, who represented 16 countries coming from Africa, Europe, Latin America and the Middle East, analysed the phenomenon of cross-border migration, the ways and methods of managing the phenomenon, as well as the consequences facing the countries of origin, transit countries and host countries.

In his opening speech, Mr. Florian Costache, President of the Romanian ESC, said that “while the countries of origin have fewer methods of controlling the migratory flows, transit and host countries, which are especially on the European continent, try to implement more or less efficient solutions, which, nevertheless, prove to have few chances of turning into a common European policy. Different governments adopt different strategies, while public opinion in different countries has responded differently to this new challenge”.

Mr. Agripino Núñez, AICESIS President, expressed the same concern over the current situation and over the need to find agreeable and efficient solutions to the phenomenon.

The debates were centred, on the one hand, on the role the ESCs and SIs have in the dialogue among the countries of origin, transit and host countries, in particular regarding a common position concerning an approach focused on the observance of human rights, and on the other hand on the involvement of these institutions in the drafting process of common policies regarding migration control, the integration and inclusion of migrants in host countries. There were analysed the points of view of the representatives of countries of origin, transit and host countries.

The participants offered pertinent explanations concerning the nature, the causes, the implications and the consequences of migration, and pointed out the possibilities the ESCs have to engage in a dialogue with the governmental institutions and with the civil society of the host countries concerning the integration of migrants in society and labour market.

In particular, all participants in the conference expressed their solidarity and their support to the presidents of the ESCs of Jordan, of Lebanon and of Palestine, as well as to the migrants of these countries.
In this sense, at the next AICESIS General Assembly meeting, which will be held in September 2016 in Cotonou, Benin, there will be submitted a report and a proposal for a joint declaration.

AICESIS President
Agripino Antonio NÚÑEZ COLLADO

Președintele CES România
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