A Humanitarian Approach to EU Migration Policies in the Mediterranean

The Council of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) Party convening in Bucharest, Romania on the 21st of October 2023:

Notes that:

- the recent worrying announcement by the European Commission regarding support for the implementation of the memorandum of understanding signed on 16 July with the Tunisian authorities, with a migration aid package amounting to approximately 127 million Euro;
- the huge number of deaths recorded in the Mediterranean in the last year, 1,680 according to UNHCR estimates, highlighting the lack of political will that has led to such tragedies;
- the strong emphasis placed on the repression of illegal trafficker networks in cooperation with Tunisia, as reported by the spokesperson of the community executive;

Believes that:

- the importance of ensuring that every agreement or initiative undertaken by the EU respects and promotes the rights and well-being of all individuals involved, in the hope of overcoming the Dublin Regulation;

Welcomes:

- von der Leyen's proposal for a new European search and rescue mission without violating the principle of non-refoulement;

Urges the European Commission:

- to ensure that every agreement or funding provided fully respects human rights and EU principles;
- to stick to a humanitarian approach to migration;
- to reconsider the current emphasis on repression and to develop a joint strategy that values the security, dignity, and rights of people on the move;
- to make sure the European Union maintains its commitments and fundamental values in terms of human rights and solidarity, in compliance with the 1951 Geneva Convention that guarantees reception to people fleeing conflicts and persecution

Urges Member States:

- To ease resettlements and reunifications, promote competent integration into the workforce, and receive migrants promptly relocated within the EU to discourage illegal departures and trafficking, focusing on faster asylum processes.