



***European Economic and Social Committee
Workers' Group***

Brussels, 10 December 2018

**THE UN MIGRATION COMPACT IS AN IMPORTANT STEP TOWARDS MANAGING INTERNATIONAL
MIGRATION AND PROTECTING PEOPLE – THE EESC WORKERS' GROUP CALLS ON ALL MEMBER
STATES TO SUPPORT IT!**

The United Nations has been working to reach a global agreement on economic migration since 2016: an agreement, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration ("the Global Compact on Migration"), has finally been reached and will be signed in Morocco on 10-11 December. The EESC Workers' Group is concerned, however, that several EU Member States have already stated that they will not sign the agreement and several others have not yet made their decision in this regard.

The Global Compact for Migration, although not legally binding or mandatory, is of great importance for several reasons:

1. It recognises that international migration is a global reality that transcends both regional and national approaches and requires a global response.
2. It also recognises that a multilateral framework is required for the proper management of migration flows and that - in this area - the United Nations is the best forum to assume that commitment.
3. It represents a step forward, in the absence of a common legal status, towards establishing a common international standard for migration, similar to that already provided by the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (the 1951 Refugee Convention) which provides protection under international law for refugees and those fleeing persecution or human rights violations.

With the aim of improving workers' conditions anywhere in the world regardless of their national origin, the EESC Workers' Group strongly supports the Global Compact and appeals to all EU Member States to rise to their responsibilities and sign this agreement.