SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE READMISSION AGREEMENT BETWEEN EU AND NORTH MACEDONIA CONCERNING READMISSION OF THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS

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Readmission agreements between North Macedonia and other countries:

- Readmission agreements: European Union, Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Italy, Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, Romania, Sweden and other (a total of 24 agreements) + 1 initiated with Turkey in 2010 (in phase of negotiation)
- **Implementing protocols:** Austria, the Czech Republic and the Benelux countries (total 3 protocols) + 1 initiated with Greece but not yet ratified

State of art of the implementation of the EU – North Macedonia Readmission agreement

Readmission of citizens from the European Union to the Republic of North Macedonia in base of the Readmission agreement between the EU – MK from 2008

Year	Number of readmitted national citizens	Number of readmitted citizens from third countries
2009	697	No data
2010	839	0
2011	1.022	0
2012	1.076	0
2013	1.328	0
2014	1.213	0
2015	1.832	0
2016	5.975	0
2017	No data reported, apart from the phrase that 'the number of deported persons is very low.	0
2018	No data. It is only reported that the percentage of deported persons is equal to 128%, with high percentage of Roma population.	
2019	No data. It is only reported that the percentage of deported persons is equal to 100 % with high percentage of Roma population.	

Table 1.

Data retrieved from the Progress reports of the European Commission for the Republic of North Macedonia for the periods from 2010 until 2019, concerning the number of deported citizens from the European Union to Republic of North Macedonia in base of the EU - MK Readmission

Presumptions for shortcomings in the implementation of the Readmission agreement between the EU and Republic of North Macedonia

- I. Lack of signed readmission agreement between North Macedonia and third countries
- II. Compliance with commitments that derive from the membership in the Council of Europe
- III. Negative repercussion of the EU Dublin system upon North Macedonia
- IV. High costs of return operations of third country nationals

Conclusions and suggestions:

- I. Need to revisit the EU System in asylum and migration
- II. Need for the EU to act as a facilitator for signing Readmission agreements with third countries or offering the possibility to use EU readmission agreements as a legal platform for return operations with third countries
- III. Observance of the commitments that proceed from the Council of Europe
- IV. Division of costs for return operations between the EU and transit countries

Thank you for your attention!

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