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Invitation

Dear colleagues,

On behalf of the Croatian Presidency and the European Migration Network (EMN), I would like to invite you to the EMN e-Conference "**Challenges of Irregular Migration on the Eastern Mediterranean- Western Balkans Route in the time of COVID-19**" that will take place on 24 June 2020.

The conference will provide an opportunity for representatives of Member States, EU institutions and international organizations to exchange their knowledge and experience on dealing with irregular migration in the time of COVID-19 pandemic as well as views on future perspectives in this regard.

In line with political discussions held during the Croatian Presidency, this EMN videoconference will provide an opportunity for prominent experts to reflect on three important topics: situation on the Eastern Mediterranean-Western Balkans migration route, combatting migrant smuggling networks, and protection and promotion of fundamental rights of migrants.

Even though we envisage that our discussion will focus on the Eastern Mediterranean-Western Balkans migration route, as the Presidency we are well aware that the whole migration perspective can be achieved only by taking a comprehensive approach to migration and giving consideration to different angles. Therefore, we invite the participants to also complement our exchange with the experiences gained on other migration routes towards the EU.

With this in mind, I am using this opportunity to enclose a detailed agenda of the conference, as well as the registration link. Please confirm your attendance via the following link: <u>https://unilu.webex.com/unilu/onstage/g.php?MTID=e480f9c8301fd4c9ccf4b37c97f53cf36</u>

After registration, you will receive an email with the link to join the conference and with the rules regarding participation (house-keeping rules). As the number of participants at this conference is not limited, we encourage you to share this invitation with your colleagues and officials in your government.

Should you have any further questions, please contact emn@mup.hr.

I am looking forward to your participation.

Yours sincerely,

Pentavec

Lidija Pentavec National Coordinator Head of Section in Division for Illegal Migration