



EUROPEAN TRAVEL COMMISSION
Rue du Marché aux Herbes 61 - 1000 Brussels - BELGIUM
tel +32 2 - 548 9000 fax +32 2 - 514 1843
press@visiteurope.com / www.etc-corporate.org

PRESS RELEASE

DECLARATION ON THE OCCASION OF THE 90TH GENERAL MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN TRAVEL COMMISSION IN BELGRADE

Belgrade/Brussels, 12th October 2015. On the occasion of the 90th General Meeting of the European Travel Commission (ETC) held in Belgrade (Serbia) on 7-9 October and in the presence of participating members from European National Tourism Organizations, support to European Institutions was expressed for protecting the values of Europe: solidarity, inclusiveness, freedom of mobility, and tolerance.

The European Travel Commission was founded in 1948 with the objective of contributing to the social and economic recovery of Europe, conflict recovery, peace and understanding in the aftermath of World War II.

The ETC's General Meeting expressed its concern regarding challenging situations such as the present Humanitarian refugee crisis, armed conflicts and the destruction of cultural heritage and firmly believes these should be addressed with a common voice of unity.

The persistent and growing intolerable human suffering and the socio-economic effects of this situation are a cause for concern to the ETC. We wish to support European Institutions in the process towards solving this crisis in the shortest possible time frame, while preserving some of Europe's most enduring values: solidarity and freedom of movement.

In such challenging situations, the need for a common, unified, European voice becomes clear and urgent. ETC is proud to contribute to this common stance.

Note to editors:

The European Travel Commission is an association of National Tourism Organisations (NTOs). It was created in 1948 to promote Europe as a tourist destination to the long-haul markets outside of Europe, originally in the USA and later in Canada, Latin America and Asia. It currently has 32 member NTOs, including 8 from outside the European Union.

Europe is the world's no. 1 tourist destination with 588 million international arrivals in 2014 and more than 50% of the market share of worldwide tourism.

Contact: ETC Executive Unit - Rue du Marché aux Herbes 61 - 1000 Brussels - BELGIUM.
T: + 32 2 548 9000 F: + 32 2 514 1843 e-mail: press@visiteurope.com

For further information: ETC's corporate website www.etc-corporate.org is aimed at industry, government and educational personnel interested in tourism to Europe. Tourists seeking travel-specific information and ideas are directed to ETC's consumer portal www.visiteurope.com.