## "QUO VADIS" UNITED EUROPE: AN <u>E</u>-FORTRESS IN BECOMING OR THE PROMISE LAND "ELDORADO"?

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Abstract: The Arab Spring had some serious consequences in terms of human mobility, Europe finding itself facing an extremely dynamic and uncertain emergency situation, crying out for a prompt response, putting under pressure the foundations and the components of the EU's migration policy asking for a clear reconsideration of its strategy on cross-border migration, mobility and security. Alerted by this unprecedented phenomenon and in addition by the terrorist and organised crime experiences of the previous years, the European elites came out with the EUROSUR and the Smart Borders Initiative. This research targets many problems, wondering if the European Union is erecting fences and building walls at its external frontiers, this being a clear return to the realist perceptions, or it's constructing bridges which connects cultures, heading towards inclusive practices. By analysing the viability of the EUROSUR proposal and of Smart Borders Initiative we wish to give a prognosis of the direction where the EU is heading in border security and immigration policy matters, envisaging the creation of an e-fortress Europe with invisible fences rather than a promise land, Eldorado.

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