



# Power of humanity

21<sup>st</sup> Session of the International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
General Assembly

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International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Q&A: Election of IFRC's President, Vice-Presidents, and Governing Board

### Q: What are the IFRC elections?

A: Every four years, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) elects a President; four of its five Vice-Presidents, and 20 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to form its Governing Board.

The President occupies the highest office of IFRC, and she/he is responsible to the General Assembly for ensuring that IFRC pursues its general purpose and exercises its functions as defined in the Constitution.

### Q: Who are the candidates for IFRC President?

A: The deadline for nominations was 6 September 2017, and four individuals presented their candidacy for the position of President. They are (in alphabetical order by country):

Francesco Rocca (Italy)  
Mohammed Al-Hadid (Jordan)  
Sven Mollekleiv (Norway)  
Margareta Wahlström (Sweden)

### Q: When do the elections take place?

A: These elections will take place on 6 November 2017 during IFRC's 21st General Assembly, which is taking place in Antalya, Turkey.

The elections will take place on the first full day of the General Assembly, with a first round of voting for the President and the Vice Presidents, followed by a second round of voting to elect National Society members of the Governing Board.

### Q: How does the voting process work?

A: Votes are cast via an electronic voting mechanism ensuring the secrecy of the vote.

For the office of IFRC President, the candidate receiving an absolute majority - more than 50 per cent of the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies present and voting - is considered to have won. If no candidate receives an absolute majority in the first round, the candidate with the lowest number of votes is taken off the list, and a second round is held. This process will be repeated if necessary until one candidate received an absolute majority.

The candidates receiving the highest number of votes for the office of Vice President in each geographic region – Africa, Americas, Asia Pacific and Europe - will be considered elected. If

there is a tie for any region, subsequent rounds will be held until one candidate receives the majority.

For membership of the Governing Board, the five National Societies receiving the highest number of votes in each geographic region will be considered the elected from that region. If there is a tied vote in any region, subsequent rounds will be held until a majority is achieved, but only in respect of the positions concerned by the tie.

**Q: How does IFRC ensure the election process is fair and robust?**

A: The elections take place in accordance with strict Electoral Standards. The Electoral Standards set out the Principles of Conduct which apply to the campaign and the voting process; the transparency of the process respecting the fundamental notion of a “free and secret ballot”, and provisions related to ensure the equality of candidates as far as possible. The Electoral Standards also set out the applicable process in case of potential breaches of these Principles of Conduct.