



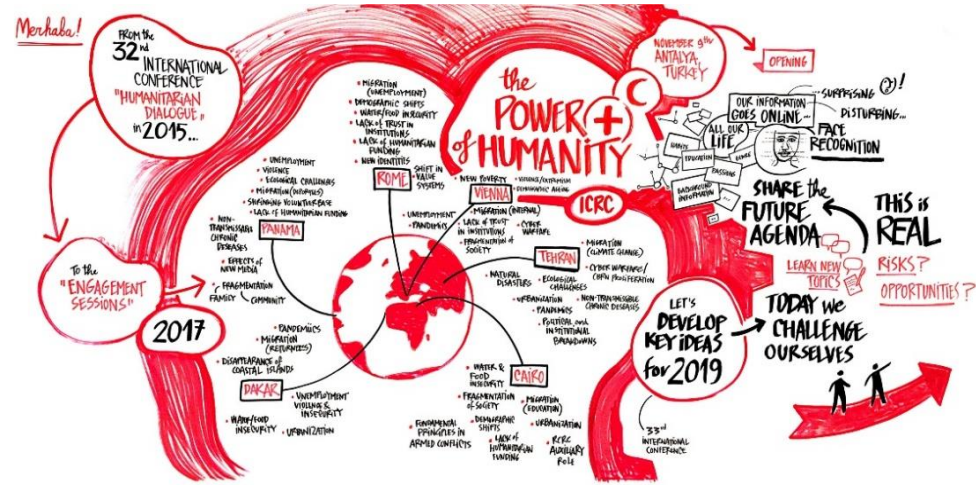
Resolutions

Resolutions are the formal instrument for adopting the decisions of the Conference. At the Conference, the Drafting Committee is tasked with finalizing and negotiating the final text brought for adoption. According to the Statutes of the Movement, resolutions should be adopted by consensus. However, if no consensus is reached, resolutions can be adopted by the majority of those present and voting, unless the Conference decides otherwise.

Pledges

Pledges are voluntary commitments undertaken by Conference members and observers with the aim to carry out measurable actions and activities in support of Conference themes and implementation of resolutions. Pledges serve to enhance cooperation between Conference members and observers and can be a powerful advocacy tool to initiate or advance dialogue with public authorities on the humanitarian agenda. Pledges can be individual, jointly signed among a group of Conference participants, or they can be open for signature to all members and observers willing to support and commit to them.

The resolutions and pledges impact the way the Movement works and gives responsibilities to participants. They also influence the humanitarian sector by setting new standards.



TOWARDS THE 33rd INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The 33rd International Conference proposes to address emerging humanitarian concerns related to health, the effects of climate change, urbanization, new technologies and trust in humanitarian action. It also addresses IHL-related topics and follows up on issues from the 32nd International Conference.

To ensure that the Conference agenda appropriately reflects this ambition and the Conference outcomes are shaped by participant's voices, Movement Components and States are invited to engage in consultations taking place in the lead up to the Conference. These will include **webinars, regional meetings and consultations, briefings to States and observers, and joint consultations between National Societies, States, the IFRC and the ICRC.**

To reflect this forward-looking approach, the Conference's format will adopt innovative and interactive techniques aimed at better stimulating exchanges, mutual learning, networking and ownership.

What you need to know about
The 33rd International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent



**Geneva, Switzerland
9-12 December 2019**

<http://rcrcconference.org/>

For additional information and questions, please contact:
conferences@rcrcconference.org

Power of humanity
RED CROSS RED CRESCENT STATUTORY MEETINGS



THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: WHAT IS IT?



The International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent is the **supreme deliberative body of the Movement**, where all the components of the Movement (ICRC, IFRC and National Societies) meet with the States Parties to the Geneva Conventions. Together they examine and decide upon humanitarian matters of common interest and any other related matter.

The International Conference meets every four years in Geneva and it is usually preceded by the Council of Delegates and the IFRC General Assembly. The Conference's functions and procedures are regulated by the Statutes of the Movement (Art 8-11).

WHAT MAKES THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE UNIQUE?

At the International Conference, **Movement components have the same voice as States**. Based on shared humanitarian principles, they make decisions within a safe environment on relevant humanitarian issues.

WHAT DO WE AIM TO ACHIEVE?

The International Conference aims to:

- Contribute to respect for and development of IHL.
- Improve the safety, security and dignity of individuals by strengthening legal frameworks and policies.
- Shape the global humanitarian agenda.
- Foster relationships, alliances and synergies.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS SO FAR

- 1867:** first International Conference in Paris
- 1949:** adoption of the Geneva Conventions
- 1965:** adoption of the Movement's fundamental principles
- 1995:** promotion of the international campaign to ban landmines
- 2007:** adoption of the International Disaster Response Law Guidelines and definition of the role of National Societies as auxiliaries to their public authorities
- 2015:** Adoption of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Resolution

ELEMENTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

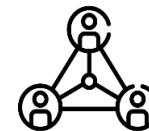
Plenary sessions

Plenary sessions address both procedural and substantial matters. At its first plenary, the Conference elects its Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Secretary General and two Assistant Secretaries General on the proposal of the Council of Delegates, according to art. 15 (3) of the Rules of Procedure.

During the General Debate participants deliver formal statements inspired by the topics of the Conference or other relevant humanitarian matters. The General Debate is open to all members and observers of the Conference; the latter have the right to speak upon the invitation of the Chair.

Commissions

The Commissions are subsidiary bodies open to all participants to the Conference. They offer a space for exchanging best practices and experiences, listening to experts and deepening participants' understanding of specific issues closely related to the agenda of the Conference.



Drafting Committee

The Drafting Committee is set up with the specific task to negotiate and finalise, in terms of substance, draft Resolutions submitted to the Conference for adoption.

The documents finalised by the Drafting Committee are submitted for adoption at the final plenary session.

Side events

Side Events add to the official proceedings of the Conference by providing an informal space for discussion on humanitarian topics related to the Conference agenda. A call for proposals to organize informal events will be launched in early 2019. *Stay tuned!*

