

- The Movement takes a needs-based approach to migration, and supports vulnerable groups to access assistance and protection, including irregular migrants, women, people with disabilities, elderly and children, particularly separated and unaccompanied minors.
- Our approach is based on our Fundamental Principles – in particular the Principle of Humanity – which requires us to bring assistance, without discrimination, to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found.
- It is the primary responsibility of States to protect and assist migrants in accordance with human rights law, international humanitarian law and refugee law. National Societies, as auxiliary to public authorities stand ready to assist and support States to meet the needs of migrants.
- National Societies can assist States in many ways, from providing emergency relief and basic health services, supporting the ability of migrants to restore and maintain family links, to supporting authorities in promoting longer-term social inclusion and fulfilling their obligations under international law.

Further information

Visit the Statutory Meetings official website at www.rcrcconference.org to read the 2019 Council of Delegates resolution and sign up to the pledge for the 33rd International Conference.

For more information on migration, scan the QR code given below:

IFRC

Tiziana Bonzon, Migration & Displacement Global Lead – DCPRR tiziana.bonzon@ifrc.org and David Fisher, Manager, Policy, Research & Diplomacy Unit david.fisher@ifrc.org

ICRC

Gwenaëlle Fontana, Global Adviser on Migration gfontana@icrc.org
Malvika Verma, Associate in the Protection of Civilian Population Unit mverma@icrc.org



BRIEFING NOTE FOR NATIONAL SOCIETIES ON MIGRATION FOR THE 2019 STATUTORY MEETINGS

Why is migration a topic of discussion at the 2019 Statutory Meetings?



In 2018, there are 41 million internally displaced people and 20 million refugees, almost 4 million stateless persons and 3.5 million asylum seekers globally. Many of whom challenges accessing basic services because of outright exclusion but also more indirect barriers including fear of arrest, detention and deportation, prohibitive high service costs and language issues.

National Societies actively support migrants and displaced communities in both emergency and longer-term programming. In 2018, the IFRC reached nearly 6 million migrants, displaced people and host communities - in all regions of the world - with humanitarian assistance, protection, advocacy and awareness raising in accordance with the [IFRC Strategy on Migration 2018 -2022](#).



Last year States endorsed the *Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration* and the *Global Compact on Refugees*. We stand ready to support States in the [implementation of the Global Compacts](#) in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of the Movement.

At the Statutory Meetings in December, the Movement will come together to discuss issues related to migration and displacement (read the briefing note here) that impact our work.

At the General Assembly

- **Strategy 2030** will be adopted, the strategy highlights Migration and Displacement as one of the five global challenges faced by the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in the next decade.







At the Council of Delegates (2019 CoD)

- A resolution to adopt a **Movement Statement to States on Migration and our Common Humanity**

At the 33rd International Conference (33IC)

- On day two of the 33IC, a spotlight session will focus on **Migration and Internal Displacement**:
For **Migration**, discussion will focus on safety and access to services; preserving humanitarian space; supporting refugees' integration and self-reliance in host communities; and for **Internal Displacement**, discussion will focus on durable solutions and response in urban environments ([link to briefing note here](#))

Main elements on the Movement Statement on Migration:

-  Concern about hardening of laws and attitudes
-  Assert the rights of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers
-  Noting limited progress since Movement Call for Action of 2017
-  Call for implementation of Resolution 3 of 2011* - "NS have effective and safe access to all migrants without discrimination, irrespective of their legal status"
-  Reference to Global Compacts for Migrants and on Refugees
-  Offer to support for States to fulfil their mandate to provide assistance and protection to migrants

Links between Migration and Displacement and other themes at the 2019CoD and 33IC

Council of Delegates Resolutions related to migration:

- [Movement Statement on Migration and our Common Humanity](#)
- [Restoring Family Links: Strategy for the RCRC Movement 2020 - 2025](#)
- [Strengthening implementation of the Movement Policy on Internal Displacement: ten years on](#)
- [International RCRC Movement policy on addressing mental health and PSS](#)

IC Resolutions related to migration:

- [Addressing mental health and psychosocial needs of people affected by armed conflicts, natural disasters and other emergencies](#)
- [Climate-smart disaster laws and policies that leave no one behind](#)
- [Restoring family links while respecting the right to privacy, including as it relates to personal data protection](#)

Spotlight sessions:

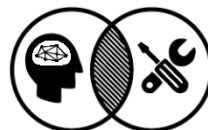
11 December: Urban Communities -- Climate Crisis -- Migration and Internal Displacement

12 December: Conducive environment for effective humanitarian action

How can National Societies engage at the 2019 Statutory Meetings?



Connect with sister National Societies in support for the draft Statement on Migration, to ensure its unanimous adoption at the 2019 CoD.



Participate in the spotlight session on migration and internal displacement and share your experiences and knowledge with States. Explore ways to cooperate further on migration and displacement-related challenges. Advocate States for principled funding for migration and displacement.



Formalise your commitment with your respective States by adapting a pledge (preferably bilaterally with your government) drawing to your context using model pledge language proposed by ICRC and IFRC.



Communicate! Promote the migration key messages and share your experience via twitter, on your website, in newsletters with your community: staff and volunteers, your public, partners and donors

What do we want to ask of the States and what can we offer to them?

- The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement has significant experience working to meet the humanitarian needs of migrants, refugees and displaced persons across their journey.
- The Movement pioneered the concept of Humanitarian Service Points (HSP), which offer a safe, welcoming and strategically located spaces to provide services and support for migrants.
- National Societies, as auxiliaries to the public authorities in the humanitarian field, stand ready to assist and support States to meet the humanitarian needs of refugees and displaced persons. We have a long-standing commitment to working with and for migrants: providing assistance and protection for the most vulnerable, advocating on migrants needs and rights and enhancing migrants' resilience.
- We offer a neutral, principled voice that can be trusted by all actors. We offer important insights from the community level on humanitarian needs and the impact of policies.