



Power of humanity

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Reaffirming the role of the Movement as a factor of peace

DRAFT ZERO RESOLUTION

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DRAFT ZERO RESOLUTION

Reaffirming the role of the Movement as a factor of peace

The Council of Delegates,

acknowledging the changing global landscape, including the increasing complexity and interconnectedness of global challenges – such as armed conflicts and other forms of violence, disasters, internal displacement and migration, public health crises and climate and other emergencies – that contribute to fragility, lack of resources, discrimination, exclusion, racism and increased violence, all of which has created a desire for a culture of peace,

recalling that the motto of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement – “**per humanitatem ad pacem**” (through humanity to peace) – is a call to action to ensure lasting peace,

reiterating the importance and relevance of the Fundamental Principles, which contribute to peace by promoting understanding, conciliation and recognition of the human dignity of all people,

recalling the respective and complementary mandates, roles and responsibilities of the components of the Movement, based on the Statutes, and the value of the work of each of them in alleviating suffering wherever it may be found,

reaffirming the long history of the Movement’s reflections on and contributions to peace, as evidenced in past Council of Delegates and International Conference resolutions, including the Programme of Action of the Red Cross as a Factor of Peace adopted in 1975 at the World Red Cross Conference on Peace,

expressing the heartfelt desire that, through sustained efforts to maintain peace, humanity may be spared new and incalculable suffering caused by protracted and new armed conflicts, disasters, crises and other emergencies,

recalling that the Movement promotes a lasting peace, which is not simply the absence of war, but is a dynamic process of cooperation among all States and peoples, cooperation founded on respect for freedom, independence, national sovereignty, equality, human rights, as well as on a fair and equitable distribution of resources to meet the needs of peoples,

acknowledging that respect for international humanitarian law (IHL) during an armed conflict can contribute to an eventual return to sustainable peace and that by using the language of IHL, the Movement can promote the message of our common humanity,

recalling that humanitarian diplomacy is not a choice but a responsibility based on the status of the components of the Movement, their breadth of experience and complementary mandates, and the Fundamental Principles,

recognizing the role of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) as the guardian of IHL and in maintaining and disseminating the Fundamental Principles and its mandate to take any humanitarian initiative which comes within its role as a specifically neutral and independent institution and intermediary,

reaffirming the role of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to encourage and coordinate the participation of National Societies in activities in cooperation with their national authorities, the exchange of ideas and the sharing of good practices,

reaffirming the role of National Societies as auxiliaries to their governments and their extensive localized network of volunteers in addressing the diverse and evolving challenges faced by communities, due to disasters, conflicts, crises and other emergencies, disseminating the principles and ideals of the Movement and assisting governments,

recognizing the transformative power of volunteering, which enhances civic sense and responsibility, promotes inclusive societies with shared benefits and opportunities, engages diverse individuals as proactive agents of change, enables communities to strengthen their capacities and resilience, fosters deep community roots, increases understanding of persistent challenges and fuels the passion and ideas that drive positive societal transformations,

affirming unwavering support and encouragement for the engagement of young people, who make up half of all National Society volunteers, recognizing their potential as agents of positive change, peacebuilders and advocates for resilience in an ever-changing world,

recognizing the importance of formal and non-formal education as a human right and a powerful tool for empowerment, social cohesion, behaviour change, the dissemination of IHL and the promotion of human values, including those that protect the environment and contribute to a culture of peace and coexistence,

1. *recognizes* that by virtue of being the world's largest and oldest humanitarian network and witness to the suffering caused by conflict, disasters, crises and other emergencies, the Movement has a unique contribution and moral voice to bring to global efforts to promote humanitarian values and peace and conciliation among all peoples;
2. *recognizes* that contributing to sustainable peace and community resilience requires a coordinated and sustained effort at all levels of the Movement, starting at the local community level and extending to the national, regional and international level;
3. *encourages* the ICRC, the IFRC and National Societies to pursue their efforts – in accordance with their respective mandates – to ensure respect for gender equality, diversity and inclusion and to fight discrimination, exclusion, intolerance, abuse of power and racism, in line with the international legal principles of equality and non-discrimination;
4. *calls on* the components of the Movement to further explore the specific possibilities, priorities and limits of their contributions to prospects for peace, as appropriate in consideration of statutory instruments and their humanitarian mandate;
5. *encourages* the IFRC and the ICRC, according to their mandates, and National Societies, as auxiliaries to their governments, to strengthen humanitarian diplomacy efforts in a collaborative and complementary manner, supporting the pursuit of the Movement's common purpose to promote lasting peace among all peoples;
6. *urges* the ICRC and National Societies to strengthen their efforts to promote the universal and scrupulous application, in a spirit of humanity, of the Geneva Conventions in all armed conflicts;

7. *calls on* National Societies, as auxiliaries to their governments, to support their respective authorities in the implementation of IHL-related commitments;
8. *urges* the Movement to strengthen and scale up work supporting Resolution 12 of the 2017 Council of Delegates and Resolution 5 of the 33rd International Conference (2019) on promoting women as humanitarian leaders, to encourage and support initiatives that contribute to improved governance and equitable participation and to invest in capacity-building programmes to enhance skills and capabilities so as to contribute to more comprehensive and enduring peace outcomes in humanitarian contexts;
9. *urges* the Movement to strengthen its understanding of the links between effective, impartial protection work and efforts to promote lasting peace, which can be supported through the implementation of the “Protection in the Movement” resolution, aimed at strengthening measures to protect women, girls, men and boys during armed conflicts, other situations of violence, disasters and other emergencies, including but not limited to addressing gender-based violence and safeguarding, which can strengthen the resilience of communities and promote peace at the family and community level;
10. *encourages* the Movement to further strengthen its action and cooperation in tracing missing persons, protecting and restoring family links, clarifying the fate and whereabouts of missing persons and ensuring the dignified recovery, identification and return of remains, recognizing the value of these humanitarian activities in promoting reconciliation and dialogue between communities and between States and the importance of the ICRC’s role as a neutral intermediary in armed conflict contexts,
11. *recognizes* the contribution of the Movement to advocacy for disarmament, preventing the use of nuclear weapons and building a world free from the threats posed by such arms;
12. *calls on* National Societies to co-create appropriate programmes with communities, with the support of the IFRC and the ICRC, where appropriate, to address exclusion, tensions and marginalization and contribute to prospects for social inclusion and peace;
13. *calls on* National Societies to prioritize volunteer- and youth-led programming and invest in retention initiatives, capacity-building programmes and thematic training and qualification activities for local volunteers in areas such as non-violent communication, mediation and dialogue facilitation in order to help volunteers understand their role in ensuring neutral and impartial humanitarian action and its contribution to peace, recognizing them as front-line responders and agents of change in their communities;
14. *urges* the IFRC to mainstream the implementation of volunteer and youth policies to strengthen formal and non-formal education activities that promote social cohesion, behaviour change and resilience-building;
15. *urges* National Societies to prioritize and expand their efforts, using their auxiliary role, to support States (mindful that ownership and responsibility for education lies primarily with States) in providing quality humanitarian education and education in emergencies, including on humanitarian values, and disseminating IHL, ensuring that these programmes are inclusive, equitable, accessible and tailored to the specific needs of affected communities, particularly marginalized groups, with the support of the IFRC and the ICRC, where applicable;
16. *calls on* National Societies to undertake efforts, as part of their auxiliary role, to invest in and strengthen partnerships and collaboration with local governments, civil society organizations,

local and national sports organizations, the private sector, environment and climate actors and humanitarian, development and peace-building actors, where relevant, and with other non-traditional stakeholders in order to enhance collective efforts, develop joint strategies and share best practices in conflict prevention, peace education and resilience-building at the local level;

17. *calls on* the Movement to increase collaboration on operational research and knowledge-sharing, to support evidence-based programming, taking into account the impacts of principled action, local leadership, women in humanitarian leadership, youth engagement and volunteering on building sustainable peace and resilience, and to promote advocacy efforts in this regard.