

STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY

FOR THE 2024 ELECTION

OF THE STANDING COMMISSION OF THE RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT

Important notice:

- To be valid, this Statement of Candidacy must **be completed and signed by the candidate** who must attach it to the Nomination Form for submission by the required deadline.
- For any questions, contact the Electoral Committee: election@standcom.ch

I, the undersigned Mercedes Babé y Romero,

hereby declare and submit my candidature for election to the Standing Commission by the 34th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in 2024.

I hereby confirm that I am a member of the

Spanish Red Cross

I am fully aware of the functions assigned to the Standing Commission by Article 18 of the Statutes of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (the Movement) and that members of the Standing Commission are elected in a personal capacity.

I confirm that I satisfy the requirements, profile and qualifications for candidates established in the Statutes and Rules of Procedure of the Movement as well as in the "Guidelines for Candidates for election to the Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent" adopted by the Council of Delegates in 2019 (Resolution 4).

I confirm that:

- a. I have a duty to promote and comply with the rules and standards applicable to the election, including without limitation, the requirement to:
 - adhere at all times to the Fundamental Principles, Statutes and Rules of Procedure of the Movement and to respect its ideals and values,
 - not accept a binding mandate from anyone, enter any form of commitment that could affect my freedom of decision or action in the future if elected, or receive any form of campaign support or financial or material aid or contributions from any actor external to the Movement,
 - not to act in any way that would amount to a perceived, potential or actual conflict of interest.

- b. I must provide full cooperation to the Electoral Committee, in particular with regard to any requests for information and enquiries relating to my candidacy.
- c. all the information that I have submitted, and statements that I have made, in this declaration and in my Nomination Form are truthful and accurate.
- d. I will immediately notify the Electoral Committee if, after the date of signature of this declaration:
 - I am no longer able, for any reason, to fulfil any of the requirements, profile and qualifications applicable to this position, or
 - any of the statements in this declaration or in my Nomination Form, are no longer true or accurate for whatever reason, or
 - there is additional information in relation to this declaration or my Nomination Form.

I understand that any (a) false declaration or statement or omission of relevant information in this declaration or my Nomination Form, (b) failure to notify the Electoral Committee as required above, or (c) failure to fulfil any of the requirements set out in this declaration, may lead to my disqualification as a candidate.

I hereby authorize the Electoral Committee to carry out a background check for purposes of evaluating whether I satisfy the requirements, profile, and qualifications for election to the Standing Commission. I consent to the processing of my personal information as necessary and relevant for these purposes. I understand that the Electoral Committee may engage the services of an external third-party firm(s) for these purposes. Finally, I also understand that I may withhold my permission and that in such case, no background check will be conducted, and my candidature will not be processed.

Madrid, 23 July 2024

Signed: Mercedes Babé

Place And Date

1. Candidate motivation

Please indicate here in less than 500 words the motivations of your candidacy, what you would like to accomplish with the Standing Commission and the special competencies that you could bring to it.

Because of my vocation of service and experience in the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, to which I have dedicated my entire professional life, and as a member and current President of the Standing Commission, I have decided to stand for re-election for a second and final term.

During my tenure over the past four and a half years, I have worked with commitment and determination to try to solve the problems and challenges facing our International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

I have been part of the Movement for more than 50 years; I know it well through the countless activities in which I have taken part and the numerous responsibilities I have held during that time.

My involvement includes working both as a volunteer and as a paid professional, for my National Society, the Red Cross of Spain. At the international level, it includes working at the Federation Secretariat, Geneva (1992–1999), serving as a member of various working groups and commissions with the ICRC and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Cross Societies (IFRC), as adviser to the IFRC President (2001–2008), and both as an elected member of the Standing Commission and as its President since the 2019 International Conference.

My contribution to, and membership of, the Standing Commission are supported by my motivation, character, knowledge, experience, determination – even when making difficult decisions –, leadership skills and ability to work as part of a team.

I am fully committed to fulfilling my obligations to attend meetings and deal with related matters as a member of the Commission. I believe that I still have a lot to contribute in order to follow up on, and complete, some of the most important tasks that were started during my current tenure, which is now coming to an end. I also believe that it is crucial that women have a role in the Movement's various governing bodies.

To further the Movement's reach and impact in line with its mission, I will continue to work on, and address, the complex and critical issues we face, and to promote harmony, integrity, transparency and accountability.

I firmly believe in the need for the Standing Commission to exist. I know that it is an indispensable body whose work within and outside our Movement needs to be reinforced and recognized. For this reason, I am committed to motivating and encouraging the members of the Commission and the Movement's other leaders to build trust among all the Movement's components, and with the outside world, so that it can, as the trustee of the International Conference between Conferences, implement the global vision established in the Statutes of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

Unity within the Movement will enable us to fulfil the functions and tasks assigned to us by the Geneva Conventions and the Movement's Statutes, including the respective statutes of the ICRC and the IFRC.

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I am someone who is sensitive to people's concerns, who knows how to listen and be patient with the opinions of others. I take my assigned responsibilities very seriously and am firmly committed to teamwork, as I have demonstrated throughout my professional career and private life.

If I am elected as a member of the Standing Commission, as I hope and desire, I will accept this great responsibility, and the commitment it brings with it, and apply the ethics and professionalism that have guided my trajectory in the Movement.

2. Curriculum Vitae



Personal Details	
FAMILY NAME & TITLE:	Babé y Romero
FIRST NAME(S):	Mercedes
GENDER :	Female
NATIONALITY(-IES) :	Spanish
DATE OF BIRTH:	23 April 1950
MEMBER OF : <i>(Name of National Society)</i>	Spanish Red Cross
PRESENT FUNCTION(S) IN THE MOVEMENT AND/OR THE NATIONAL SOCIETY:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - President of the Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent - Vice-president of the Regional Assembly and elected member of the Regional Committee of the Majadahonda – Las Rozas (Madrid) branch of the Spanish Red Cross - Member of the Madrid Autonomous Committee - Elected member of the X General Assembly of the Spanish Red Cross
PRESENT FUNCTION(S) OUTSIDE THE MOVEMENT: <i>(when applicable)</i>	

My domestic and international experience with the Red Cross and Red Crescent

(including professional and volunteering activities in the National Society of origin and other components and bodies of the Movement, as well as special achievements at a national and international level)

Year	start with the most recent (expand the table as needed)
Since 2019	Elected member of the Standing Commission and President of the Standing Commission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent
2023	Vice-president of the Local Assembly and elected member of the Regional Committee of the Majadahonda – Las Rozas branch of the Spanish Red Cross (re-elected in 2023)
2023	Elected member of the Autonomous Committee of the Spanish Red Cross in Madrid
2023	Elected Member of the X General Assembly of the Spanish Red Cross
2013-2019	Spanish Red Cross Volunteer. International Institutional Relations Adviser for the Spanish Red Cross
2013	Evaluation team leader in charge of the "Evaluation of the Japanese Red Cross Society and the IFRC Recovery and Rehabilitation Interventions between 2011 and 2013 after the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami (GEJET) and Nuclear Accident of 11 March 2011"
End of 2012	Early retirement. Returned to volunteer work for the Spanish Red Cross, in Institutional Relations with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement
2008-2009	Member of the Implementation Group in support of the Restoring Family Links (RFL) Strategy for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement
2000-2012	Returned to the Spanish Red Cross as Director of the International Cooperation Department. Managed international operations and a team of more than 60 people at its headquarters and more than 100 delegates in the field
1992-1999	I worked at the IFRC in Geneva as Senior Social Welfare Adviser. I was responsible for inspiring and supporting welfare/social and community action issues in National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. Responsible for setting up and initiating the missions of social action and psychosocial support delegates during the Balkan crisis (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia) and in the Great Lakes. Work carried out together with the ICRC and IFRC to develop the Strategy for Children Affected by Armed Conflict (CABAC) and a joint ICRC–IFRC action plan

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1984-1992	Director of the Spanish Red Cross Training Centre and Technical Secretary of its Institute of Studies and Training, and of its affiliate, the Spanish Red Cross Centre for the Study and Dissemination of International Humanitarian Law (CEDIH in Spanish).
1982-1984	Spanish Red Cross Office for Relations with International Organizations
1976-1982	Director of the Department of Social Affairs at the Spanish Red Cross. Responsible for establishing this new department of the Spanish Red Cross, which involved organizing a new team at headquarters and across the territorial network, in order to disseminate and promote the implementation of a new function among the National Society's priorities. The objective was to be able to respond more effectively to the needs of people in vulnerable situations, and to incorporate volunteers and young people (who until then had been almost exclusively confined to relief actions) into the new department for social action in the Spanish Red Cross.
1971 - 1975	I worked at the Spanish Red Cross (headquarters) as a Technician in the Red Cross Youth section, promoting the modernization of the youth organization and broadening its sphere of activity to include social action
1970	I joined the Spanish Red Cross as a volunteer, initially in First Aid and later as a member of the Red Cross Youth section
1973 - 2024	Extensive international experience in the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and in the area of social action. During this period, I took part in International Conferences of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, in the IFRC Council of Delegates and General Assemblies, and in numerous meetings and conferences, seminars, workshops and working groups.

Other experience and achievements

(any other relevant functions, roles or special achievements outside of the Movement)

Year	start with the most recent (expand the table as needed)
1997-2007	Member of the International Council of the International Social Service (ISS)
1993-1999	Member of the International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW), as the representative of the IFRC
1977-1981	President of the Professional Association of Social Workers in Madrid
Since 1973	Member of the Spanish Committee for Social Welfare (CEBS in Spanish) Extensive travel to all continents for visits to National Societies on behalf of the organization and field work in various areas and also leisure travel, as a tourist.

Working languages of the Standing Commission

(Tick the relevant boxes as applicable)

ENGLISH	<input type="checkbox"/> mother tongue	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fluent	<input type="checkbox"/> working knowledge
FRENCH	<input type="checkbox"/> mother tongue	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fluent	<input type="checkbox"/> working knowledge
SPANISH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> mother tongue	<input type="checkbox"/> fluent	<input type="checkbox"/> working knowledge
ARABIC	<input type="checkbox"/> mother tongue	<input type="checkbox"/> fluent	<input type="checkbox"/> working knowledge

Education

(academic, professional or social diploma(s) and distinctions)

Year	Start with the most recent (expand the table as needed)
September 2018	Workshop: Radiological and Nuclear Emergency Preparedness: Keys to Improvement. Research Centre for Energy, Environment and Technology (CIEMAT in Spanish), Technical University of Madrid and the Spanish Society of Radiological Protection (SEPR in Spanish)
July 2011	Course: The Eradication of Hunger in the Context of Global Crises Technical University of Madrid and President of The Club of Rome
2006-2007	Postgraduate Course at Comillas University – Developing the Management Work of the Spanish Red Cross
2004	Second Conference on International Cooperation, Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law: Children's Rights
1998	<i>Diplôme de Langue Française</i> from the Alliance Française
1982	Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE)
1980	Degree in Social Work, with a paper on social action during disasters, Comillas University, Madrid
1975	Fulbright Award – Council of International Programs. Graduate studies in Management of Social and Voluntary Organizations at Cleveland State University (Cleveland, Ohio, USA)
1972-1974	Studies at the Faculty of Political Sciences and Sociology (without completing the bachelor's degree), Complutense University of Madrid
1971	Degree in Social Work. School of Social Work Training, Complutense University of Madrid. The Spanish Red Cross Gold Medal for creating and implementing the

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	<p>Social Affairs Department in the National Society</p> <p>Various honorary medals, certificates and recognition awards from several national societies.</p> <p>Numerous certificates for taking part, both as a participant and as a speaker, in courses, seminars, round tables, etc. on leadership, team management skills, social action, international cooperation, development and, in particular, on Red Cross and Red Crescent issues.</p>
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I confirm the accuracy of all the information that I have submitted, and statements that I have made, in this Nomination Form.

Mercedes Babé y Romero

Candidate's name

Madrid, 23 July 2024

Signature

Place and Date

DECLARATION OF INTEGRITY

FOR THE 2024 ELECTION

OF THE STANDING COMMISSION OF THE RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT

Important notice:

- To be valid, this Declaration of Integrity must **be completed and signed by the candidate** who must attach it to the Nomination Form for submission by the required deadline.
- For any questions, contact the Electoral Committee: election@standcom.ch

I, the undersigned Mercedes Babé y Romero,

a member of the Spanish Red Cross,

hereby make the following declaration of integrity, as part of my candidature for election to the Standing Commission by the 34th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in 2024.

I declare that I have not been:

- involved in the commission of any violation of international humanitarian law or of internationally recognized standards of human rights law,
- involved in offences related to child labor or human trafficking,
- the subject of a conviction for a criminal offence or conduct which gave rise to a civil penalty which would otherwise risk the reputation or standing of the Movement,
- sanctioned by any component of the Movement for:
 - violations of any Movement component's Code of Conduct,
 - the display of character, morality, interests or unethical conduct incompatible with the seven Fundamental Principles,
 - fraudulent or corrupt conduct, or
 - failure to declare a conflict of interest,
- sanctioned for the violation of laws or policies relating to sexual or gender-based exploitation, abuse, or discrimination, harassment or bullying of any kind,
- involved in any conduct, dispute or controversy in or outside the Movement that would risk the reputation or standing of the Movement,
- involved in any act which could be deemed to be a breach of the Fundamental Principles,

which has not been disclosed in my candidature in the space below.

Please include in the space below **any relevant information you deem necessary in respect of the above declaration.**

I confirm the truth and accuracy of all the information that I have submitted, and statements that I have made, in this declaration and in my Nomination Form.

If elected, I declare that I will -

- a. fulfill all the functions required by this elected position,
- b. serve in my personal non-partisan capacity and in the sole interest of the Standing Commission and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (the Movement), and to work towards their general humanitarian object,
- c. adhere at all times to the Fundamental Principles, Statutes and Rules of Procedure of the Movement,
- d. not act in any way that would amount to a perceived, potential or actual conflict of interest.

I will immediately notify the Electoral Committee, if after the date of signature of this declaration, (a) any of the above statements in this declaration, are no longer true or accurate for whatever reason, or (b) there is additional information in relation to this declaration.

I understand that any (a) false declaration or statement or omission of relevant information in this declaration, or (b) failure to fulfil the above requirement to notify the Electoral Committee may lead to my disqualification as a candidate.

Signed: Mercedes Babé

Madrid, 23 July 2024

Place and Date

MEMBERSHIP AND INTEGRITY ATTESTATION

FOR A CANDIDATE TO THE 2024 ELECTION

OF THE STANDING COMMISSION OF THE RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT

Important notice:

- To be valid this attestation must **be completed and signed by a duly authorized representative of the candidate's National Society** and the candidate must attach it to the Nomination Form for submission by the required deadline.
- This attestation is not an endorsement or expression of support for the candidate who is running for election to the Standing Commission in a personal capacity.
- For any questions, contact the Electoral Committee: election@standcom.ch

I, the undersigned Asunción Montenero Fuentes,

in my position as Secretary-General

of the Spanish Red Cross,

declare the following:

- 1) The candidate Mercedes Babé y Romero is currently a member of the Spanish Red Cross
- 2) To the best knowledge of the National Society, the candidate
 - has not been sanctioned by the National Society in the past for:
 - Violating any Code of Conduct of the National Society,
 - Display of character, morality, interests or unethical conduct incompatible with the seven Fundamental Principles of the Movement,
 - Fraudulent or corrupt conduct,
 - Failure to declare a conflict of interest, or
 - Violating laws or policies relating to sexual or gender-based exploitation, abuse or discrimination, harassment or bullying of any kind.
 - has not been involved in any conduct, dispute or controversy within or outside the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement that would risk the reputation or standing of the Red Cross or Red Crescent network.

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by 45581260K
ASUNCION MONTERO
(R: Q2866001 G)
Date: 5 July 2024
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Signature and stamp

Place and Date