



# Power of humanity

Council of Delegates of the International  
Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

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## Reaffirming the role of the Movement as a factor of peace

DRAFT RESOLUTION

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## DRAFT RESOLUTION

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# Reaffirming the role of the Movement as a factor of peace

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The Council of Delegates,

*acknowledging* the changing global landscape, including the increasing complexity and interconnectedness of different challenges – such as armed conflicts and other forms of violence, disasters, displacement, public health crises and climate and other emergencies – that contribute to fragility, lack of resources, discrimination, exclusion and intolerance, including racism, all of which has contributed to an increased 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, including through our diverse activities at the global, national and community level,

*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 its Statutes, and the value of each component’s work to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found,

*recalling also* that the Movement, through its work and the dissemination of its ideals, promotes lasting peace, which is not simply the absence of war but a dynamic process of cooperation among all States and peoples, based on the amicable settlement of disputes, respect for human rights and the fair and equitable distribution of resources and firmly founded on respect for international law and mutual understanding,

*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,

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

*recalling* that humanitarian diplomacy is an important tool through which the components of the Movement, based on their complementary mandates, experience and the Fundamental Principles, advocate for the prevention and alleviation of human suffering, notably in contexts of conflict and violence,

*recognizing* the role of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) under IHL and the Statutes of the Movement 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 inspire, encourage, facilitate and always promote the activities of National Societies, the exchange of ideas and the sharing of good practices,

*reaffirming also* the role of National Societies as auxiliaries to their public authorities in the humanitarian field and the role of their extensive network of local volunteers in addressing challenges faced by their communities due to situations of conflict, crises, disasters and other emergencies, including through diverse programmes (such as health, disaster management, livelihood) and through disseminating IHL, the principles and the ideals of the Movement,

*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 role as agents of positive change, peacebuilders and advocates for IHL and humanitarian principles and values in an ever-changing world,

*recognizing* the importance of formal and non-formal education as a fundamental human right and a powerful tool for empowerment, social cohesion, behaviour change, the dissemination of IHL and the promotion of humanitarian values, including those that 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 situations of conflict, disasters, crises and other emergencies, the Movement has a unique contribution and significant experience and expertise to bring to global efforts to promote 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, including capacity strengthening, 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 address discrimination, exclusion and intolerance, including racism, in line with our Fundamental Principles;
4. *calls on* the components of the Movement to further explore the specific possibilities and priorities of their contributions to prospects for peace, as appropriate and in line with their mandates;
5. *encourages* the IFRC, the ICRC and National Societies, according to their mandates, to strengthen humanitarian diplomacy efforts in a collaborative and complementary

- manner, in support of the Movement's contribution towards promoting lasting peace and preventing and alleviating suffering;
6. *urges* the ICRC and National Societies to strengthen their efforts to promote, in a spirit of humanity, respect for IHL in all armed conflicts;
  7. *calls on* National Societies, as auxiliaries to their public authorities in the humanitarian field, to support them in the implementation of IHL-related commitments;
  8. *calls on* National Societies, as auxiliaries to their Public Authorities in the humanitarian field, to acknowledge the contribution of health programming to an environment that may be more conducive to peace and recognise that their outcomes can contribute to social cohesion, dialogue, and resilience to the impact of conflict and violence while empowering communities in the framework of reaffirming the Movement's role as a factor of peace
  9. *urges* the components of the Movement to strengthen and scale up their 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 recognize the leadership role of women in peace efforts, support initiatives that contribute to their full, equal and meaningful participation and to invest in their capacity-building so as to contribute to more comprehensive and enduring peace outcomes in humanitarian contexts;
  10. *urges* all components of the Movement to strengthen their understanding of the links between effective, impartial protection work and efforts to promote lasting peace, including through implementation of the "Protection in the Movement" resolution, recognizing that an understanding of the different impacts of armed conflict, disasters and other emergencies on women, girls, men and boys and strengthened protection from harm can contribute to the promotion of peace;
  11. *encourages* all components of the Movement to further strengthen their action and cooperation in tracing missing persons, protecting and restoring family links, clarifying the fate and whereabouts of missing persons, support for alternatives to immigration detention 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 in situations of armed conflict in this regard;
  12. *welcomes* the contribution of the Movement to advocacy and humanitarian diplomacy for disarmament, including towards the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons, anti-personnel mines and cluster munitions, and building a world free from the threats posed by such arms;
  13. *calls on* National Societies to co-create appropriate programmes with communities, with the support of the IFRC and the ICRC, where appropriate, to strengthen resilience, enhance social inclusion and contribute to prospects for peace;
  14. *calls on* National Societies to prioritize volunteer- and youth-led programming and invest in initiatives to improve satisfaction and motivation, 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;

15. *urges* the IFRC to mainstream the implementation of volunteer and youth policies, along with the strategic framework for education, to strengthen formal and non-formal education activities that promote social cohesion, behaviour change and resilience-building;
16. *urges* National Societies to prioritize and expand their efforts to support States in providing quality education on humanitarian values and IHL and in protecting and ensuring inclusive, equitable, accessible education in emergencies with the support of the IFRC and the ICRC, where relevant;
17. *calls on* National Societies 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, humanitarian, development and peace-building actors and other stakeholders, where relevant, in order to enhance collective efforts, develop joint strategies and share best practices in conflict prevention and peace education;
18. *calls on* the Movement to increase collaboration on operational research and knowledge-sharing, to support evidence-based programming, considering 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.