



The Work of the Holy See in Fostering the Welcome, Protection, Promotion and Integration of Migrants and Refugees

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The Diplomatic Work of the Holy See

- What does *Sancta Sedes* or Holy See mean?
- Biblical Ground as Salt, Light and Leaven. Social content of the kerygma (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 177-181)
- Brief History
 - Edict of Milan and the growth of the civil authority of the Pope.
 - Apocrisarii, Legati, Nuntii
 - Modern diplomacy
 - Arbiter in the age of global exploration and colonization.
 - The Protestant Reformation
 - The French Revolution and the 1815 Council of Vienna
 - The Period between 1870-1929.
 - World Wars and Multilateral Diplomacy and Organizations
 - Today bilateral relations with 183 countries and participates in most International Organizations and Programs.



The Holy See at the United Nations

- Overlap of Four UN Pillars with Catholic Social Teaching.
- Early involvement of the Holy See between 1945-1964 on 1951 Refugee Convention and the Special Committee on Refugees, UNESCO, the IAEA, FAO, the Law of the Sea, the situation in the Middle East, China, and population control movement.
- Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to the UN
 - Important Dates: April 6, 1964 and July 1, 2004
 - Led by a Permanent Observer
 - New York, Geneva, Vienna, Nairobi, UNESCO, FAO
- Five Papal Visits to the UN Headquarters in New York:
 - Paul VI (10.4.65)
 - John Paul II (10.2.79 and 10.5.95)
 - Benedict XVI (4.18.08)
 - Francis (9.25.15)



The Holy See and Migrants and Refugees

- Long background on caring for the stranger:
 - Abraham
 - Jacob and his family
 - Moses and the Israelites.
 - “You shall not write a stranger or oppress him, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt” (Ex 22:21)
 - Babylonian Exile
 - Holy Family
 - Jesus: “I was a stranger and you welcomed me” (Mt 25:35)

- Church teaching
 - Pius XII – 1952 Apostolic Constitution *Exsul Familia Nazarethana*
 - John XXIII – 1963 *Pacem in Terris* 103-105
 - Vatican II – *Gaudium et Spes* 84
 - Papal Messages for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees since 1976
 - Local Churches, like the 2003 Pastoral Letter: *Strangers No Longer: Together on the Journey of Hope* of the Catholic Bishops of the USA and Mexico.



The International Situation and Response

- Crisis of Refugees after World War II
 - 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 14, recognizes the right of persons to seek asylum from persecution in other countries
 - 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (entered into force 4.22.1954), referring to European refugees before 1.1.1951. Updated by 1967 Protocol that removed time limits and applied to all refugees.
 - Nothing was done about migrants in general, although many of their fundamental human rights were protected by the UDHR and subsequent Conventions.



The International Situation and Response

- Recent Crisis and the Ongoing Need
 - The UN High Commissioner for Refugees said that as of December 2015, there were 65.3 million refugees, asylum-seekers and internally displaced people worldwide.
 - One out of every 113 people.
 - Every minute, 24 people around the world flee their home because of violence or persecution.
 - UN DESA says that as of 2017, there are 258 million living in a country other than of their birth, 3.4 percent of the inhabitants on earth.
 - 26 million refugee and asylum seekers, with 84 percent in low- and middle-income countries.
 - Median age is 39.2
 - 48.4 percent are women.
 - Two-third of all international migrants live in just 20 countries, half in just ten. The largest number (49.8 million, 19% of the total) are resident in the USA. Asia has 80 million, Europe 78 million.



The International Situation and Response

- **The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (25 September 2015)**
 - Preamble 35 and Targets 8.8, 10.7, 10.c, 17.18
- **The New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (19 September 2016)**
- **The Global Compact for Refugees (GCR)**
 - Intergovernmental consultations in Geneva under the leadership of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees toward a Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework that would ease the pressures on host countries, enhance refugee self-reliance, expand access to third country solutions, and support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity.
 - Final Draft published 6.26.2018
- **The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM)**
 - Intergovernmental negotiations in New York.
 - Final Draft informally approved 7.13.2018. To be formally adopted December 10-11 in Marrakesh, Morocco.
- The GCR and GCM should close protection gaps so that there's a seamless protection continuum protecting human rights. Many *de iure* refugees are treated as *de facto* migrants and find themselves in situations of irregularity and grave vulnerability.



The Holy See's Response to the Crisis

- Pope Francis' Leadership
 - Visits to Lampedusa (7.8.2013) and Lesbos (4.16.2016)
 - Establishment of the Migrants and Refugees Section of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development
 - Messages featuring the “four verbs” or “mileposts for action”: to welcome, protect, promote and integrate
 - 2.21.2017 – Address to the Participants in the International Forum on Migration and Peace
 - 1.1.2018 – Message for the 51st World Day of Peace entitled “Migrants and Refugees: Men and Women in Search of Peace.”
 - 1.14.2018 – Message for the 104th World Day of Migrants and Refugees
 - Video prepared by the Migrants and Refugee Section, shown in Puerto Vallarta to begin the stocktaking meeting of the preparatory process towards the GCM



Twenty Action Points

- Prepared by the Migrants and Refugees Section on the basis of the “four verbs,” in two related formats:
 - 20 Action Points for the Global Compacts
 - 20 Pastoral Action Points
- Were developed in consultation with experts from Bishops’ Conferences and NGOs around the world
- Not exhaustive of Church teaching but provide useful considerations not only to the drafting, negotiation and adoption of the Global Compacts but also to Dioceses and Parishes to help the Church better respond to the need.



Twenty Action Points

- Welcoming – Increasing Safe and Legal Routes for Migrants and Refugees
 1. No collective or arbitrary expulsion of migrants and refugees
 2. Increase legal routes for safe and voluntary migration
 3. Value of each person's safety, dignity and rights balanced with national security concerns

- Protecting – Defending the Rights and Dignity of Migrants and Refugees
 4. Protect emigrants their countries of origin
 5. Protect immigrants in their countries of arrival
 6. Empower migrants, asylum seekers and refugees to leverage skills
 7. Protect vulnerable unaccompanied and separated minors
 8. Protect all underage migrants
 9. Provide access to education for all underage migrants, asylum seekers and refugees
 10. Assure access to welfare, basic health care, social security plans
 11. Ensure Migrants never become stateless



Twenty Action Points

- Promoting – Fostering the Integral Human Development of Migrants and Refugees
 12. Value and develop competencies of Migrants, Refugees and Asylum Seekers
 13. Support social and professional inclusion of Migrants, Refugees and Asylum Seekers
 14. Protect and promote family integrity and well-being.
 15. Treat persons with disabilities just like citizens with the same conditions
 16. Increase international funds and support for receiving countries
 17. Assure right to religious freedom
- Integrating – Greater Participation of Migrants and Refugees to Enrich Local Communities
 18. Integration is a two-directional process
 19. Promote solidarity toward Migrants, Refugees and Asylum Seekers
 20. Ensure repatriation programs for those forced to flee humanitarian crises



The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

- Structure
 - Preamble
 - Vision and Guiding Principles
 - Cooperative Framework
 - 23 Objectives
 - Commitments based on the objectives
 - Implementation
 - Follow-up and review



The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

- Preamble
 - The GCM is a milestone in the history of global dialogue and international cooperation on migration.
 - It's a non-legally binding, cooperative framework.
 - Refugees and migrants are entitled to universal human rights and fundamental freedoms, which must be respected, protected and fulfilled.
- 360-degree Vision
 - Migration is part of human experience through history
 - Source of prosperity, innovation and development
 - Most migration is safe, orderly and regular.
 - Must seek common understanding
 - Shared responsibilities
 - Unity of Purpose, with mutual trust, determination and solidarity.



The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

- Guiding Principles
 - People centered
 - International cooperation
 - National Sovereignty
 - Rule of Law, Due Process and Access to Justice
 - Sustainable Development
 - Respect, protect, and fulfill the human rights of all migrants
 - Gender-responsive
 - Child-sensitive
 - Whole-of-government approach
 - Whole-of-society approach



The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

○ Objectives

1. Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies
2. Minimize the adverse drivers and structural factors that compel people to leave their country of origin
3. Provide accurate and timely information at all stages of migration
4. Ensure that all migrants have proof of legal identity and adequate documentation
5. Enhance availability and flexibility of pathways for regular migration
6. Facilitate fair and ethical recruitment and safeguard conditions that ensure decent work



The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

○ Objectives

7. Address and reduce vulnerabilities in migration
8. Save lives and establish coordinated international efforts on missing migrants
9. Strengthen the transnational response to smuggling of migrants
10. Prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in the context of international migration
11. Manage borders in an integrated, secure and coordinated manner
12. Strengthen certainty and predictability in migration procedures for appropriate screening, assessment and referral



The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

○ Objectives

13. Use migration detention only as a measure of last resort and work towards alternatives
14. Enhance consular protection, assistance and cooperation throughout the migration cycle
15. Provide access to basic services for migrants
16. Empower migrants and societies to realize full inclusion and social cohesion
17. Eliminate all forms of discrimination and promote evidence-based public discourse to shape perceptions of migration
18. Invest in skills development and facilitate mutual recognition of skills, qualifications and competences



The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

○ Objectives

19. Create conditions for migrants and diasporas to fully contribute to sustainable development in all countries
20. Promote faster, safer and cheaper transfer of remittances and foster financial inclusion of migrants
21. Cooperate in facilitating safe and dignified return and readmission, as well as sustainable reintegration
22. Establish mechanisms for the portability of social security entitlements and earned benefits
23. Strengthen international cooperation and global partnerships for safe, orderly and regular migration



The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

- Implementation
 - Concerted efforts at all levels
 - Commitment to implement nationally and enhanced bilateral, regional and multilateral cooperation and a revitalized global partnership.
 - Capacity-building mechanism at UN
 - 44. “We will implement the Global Compact in cooperation and partnership with migrants, civil society, migrant and diaspora organizations, **faith-based organizations**, local authorities and communities, the private sector, trade unions, parliamentarians, National Human Rights Institutions, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, academia, the media and other relevant stakeholders.”
- Follow-up and Review
 - Quadrennial International Migration Review Forum



The Global Compact for Refugees

- Introduction on background, guiding principles, objectives and addressing root causes.
- Comprehensive refugee response framework
- Program of action:
 - Arrangements for burden-sharing and responsibility-sharing
 - Global arrangement for international cooperation
 - Arrangements to support a specific refugee situation
 - Key tools like funding, partnerships, data.
 - Areas in need of support
 - Reception and admission – earning warning, safety and security, registration and documentation
 - Meeting needs and supporting communities – education, jobs, health, women and girls, children, accommodations, food security, statelessness
 - Solutions – support for countries of origin, voluntary repatriation, resettlement, pathways to third countries, local integration
- Follow-up and Review



Pope Francis' 2018 World Day of Peace Message

- “The Migrants and Refugees Section of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development has published a set of twenty action points that provide concrete leads for implementing these four verbs – welcome, protect, promote, integrate – in public policy and in the attitudes and activities of Christian communities. The aim of this and other contributions is to express the interest of the Catholic Church in the process leading to the adoption of the two U.N. Global Compacts. This interest is the sign of a more general pastoral concern that goes back to the very origins of the Church and has continued in her many works up to the present time.”
- “It is my heartfelt hope this spirit will guide the process that in the course of 2018 will lead the United Nations to draft and approve two Global Compacts, one for safe, orderly and regular migration and the other for refugees. As shared agreements at a global level, these compacts will provide a framework for policy proposals and practical measures. For this reason, they need to be inspired by compassion, foresight and courage, so as to take advantage of every opportunity to advance the peace-building process. Only in this way can the realism required of international politics avoid surrendering to cynicism and to the globalization of indifference.”



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