Global Compact for Migration

No state can manage migration effectively and sustainably in isolation.

The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration is an effective tool for countries to discuss how best to address challenges to human mobility without compromising the human rights of people and each country's sovereignty. In recent years, the effects of climate change, conflicts, insecurity, and war have heavily contributed to the forced movement within countries and across borders.

In 2020 over 281 million people were international migrants while over 59 million people were internally displaced by the end of 2021. Since 2014 more than 50,000 migrants have lost their lives on migratory routes across the world. A migrant is someone who is moving from place to place (within his or her country or across borders), usually for economic reasons such as seasonal work. They are not forced to leave their native countries because of persecution or violence, but rather in search of better opportunities while immigrants move to foreign countries permanently for work or better living conditions.

Regardless of the reasons that compel people to move, migrants and displaced people represent some of the most vulnerable and marginalized groups in society, and are often exposed to abuse and exploitation, have limited access to essential services including healthcare, and are faced with xenophobic attacks and stigma fueled by misinformation.

Their financial contribution through remittance offers a lifeline to families and spur local markets especially those of Low- and Middle-Income Countries while their role in the labor market remains invaluable as evident on the frontline of the COVID-19 pandemic response. Their knowledge, networks, and skills have greatly contributed to the development of resilient communities. Strengthening the contribution of migrants to sustainable development requires collective effort to improve the governance of migration and addressing the challenges migrants face.

Ways States Can Promote Safe Migration

1. Open family reunification to migrants at all skill levels
2. Establish governmental programs for labor migration
3. Give residences or work permits to irregular migrants in country
4. Introduce vises for migrants with specific skills
5. Grant humanitarian visas for people in especially difficult situations

