



Standing for Humanity
Engagés avec l'Humanité
Comprometidos con la Humanidad
الوقوف مع الإنسانية



Bosnia and Herzegovina
2nd - 5th April 2019

Sarajevo Declaration

13th Mediterranean Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
13^{ème} Conférence Méditerranéenne des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
XIII Conferencia Mediterránea de las Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
المؤتمر المتوسطي الثالث عشر لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر



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SARAJEVO DECLARATION

STANDING FOR HUMANITY

We, the leaders of the Mediterranean National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, gathered in Sarajevo for the 13th Mediterranean Conference, from 2nd April - 5th April 2019,

Recalling and building on the San Marino Declaration adopted at the 12th Mediterranean Conference in 2015,

Recalling and building on the Ivory Coast Declaration of 2017 and Almaty Declaration, Baghdad Declaration and Manila Declaration of 2018,

Recalling and building on the commitments to reinforce gender equality and equal opportunities in the leadership and the work of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, adopted at the General Assembly and Council of Delegates in Antalya 2017,

Endorsing the Sarajevo Youth Declaration adopted at the 2nd Mediterranean Youth Meeting in 2019,

Inspired by the Global Compact on Refugees and Global Compact for Migration,

Asserting a vision and commitment that by 2030 a culture of volunteering, prevention, adaptation, engagement and collaboration will be well-established,

Committing to collectively and individually implementing the current 'Standing for Humanity' Sarajevo Declaration,



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RATIONALE FOR 'STANDING FOR HUMANITY'

The Mediterranean basin has a history of thousands of years of shared foundations, values and diversity. Encompassing three continents - Africa, Asia and Europe - in the last years, the region has been facing multiple humanitarian challenges. These include, but are not limited to, unrest and violence, protracted conflicts and socio-politic tensions, ongoing flow of vulnerable migrants, economic crises, natural disasters and climate change.

Home to almost 500 million people, the region has been experiencing different socio-demographic trends, such as increasing social inequality, ageing populations in Western Europe that demand support for their wellbeing and dignity, and a fast-growing youth population in North Africa and Middle East that requires space for meaningful participation in society.

In such a multicultural and diverse region, guaranteeing a peaceful coexistence - within and between countries and communities - is essential for the security and wellbeing of the current population in the Mediterranean and the development of future generations.

Being witness to one of the largest population movements in history, the Mediterranean basin should not be a threatening space for people fleeing conflict, insecurity and poverty. Instead, it should be a safe crossroad where human dignity is respected, and where every human being has the right to protection, health care, education and social services.

The trends in the region require the Movement components to be flexible in adapting and responding in a timely manner, to the current humanitarian challenges. Strengthened cooperation in all contexts, and particularly where there are conflict and insecurity, is essential to respond jointly in an effective and efficient manner.

Therefore, we commit, collectively and individually, to implement the following recommendations of the 13th Mediterranean Conference.

Exploring other views of Social Inclusion

1. Ensure that National Societies social inclusion programmes engage with local communities as well as those of migrants and host communities.
2. Attract and mobilize volunteers to raise awareness on vulnerabilities by promoting a greater use of social media and exploring the use of digital strategies for social inclusion to enhance interaction between all members of society.
3. Engage beneficiaries as volunteers to assist with the identification of, and to respond to, the vulnerabilities in their communities.
4. Adopt new methodologies and practices to enhance humanitarian diplomacy and advocacy with stakeholders for the rights of vulnerable populations.
5. Establish cooperation mechanisms on specific social inclusion areas, to foster the exchange of best practices through various platforms (skill shares, bilateral and multilateral partnerships, trainings, etc.).
6. Improve social inclusion of vulnerable communities through livelihoods actions aimed to build long-term resilience, using existing tools of the IFRC Livelihoods Resource Centre.

Working together for Migrants' dignity, resilience and protection

7. Ensure access to quality information for migrants along the migratory trails adapted to each local context and migrant profile.
8. Create 'safe spaces' where migrants can receive information and assistance.
9. Engage with host communities to build bridges between migrants and the local communities.
10. Define minimum services that each National Society can provide with the support of the Movement along the migratory trails based on mapping of existing services and develop tools for information sharing amongst National Societies building on the 'Restoring Family Links' experience.
11. Enhance preparedness to build resilience, increase empowerment and mutual understanding between migrants and communities.
12. Engage in an active and fruitful dialogue with local authorities and promote humanitarian diplomacy that respects human dignity and fosters integration.
13. Ensure training for volunteers and staff (Help for the Helpers), including cultural awareness and provide psychosocial support to responders.

Further steps towards Awareness Raising on Trafficking in Human Beings

14. Encourage National Societies to include activities related to awareness raising, assistance and protection of potential victims of trafficking in human beings as well as advocacy for improved policies.
15. Promote capacity building, including regular training for National Societies.
16. Encourage and support national and regional platforms to facilitate exchange of initiatives, best practices and build common tools.

Climate Change

17. Build knowledge and awareness, including assessing potential impacts of climate change and the implications for National Societies mandate and programmes.
18. Elaborate and roll out strategic action on climate change adaptation using climate smart practices and integrating climate change into ongoing activities particularly in the urban context, while working with relevant stakeholders and partners.
19. Maximize knowledge and use of existing tools of the RCRC Climate Centre, focusing on youth-led action on climate change with a possible roll out in schools.
20. Reduce environmental and carbon footprints in our working environment and activities.

Youth Engagement

21. Promote the participation of youth in the decision-making bodies at all levels and identify key indicators to be included in the IFRC's dashboard.
22. Foster youth capacity building (through training, peer education, mentoring, etc.), with a special emphasis on leadership skills.
23. Improve recruitment and retention policies and ensure their implementation.
24. Promote and engage in intergenerational dialogue.
25. Identify and promote innovative initiatives at local level led by youth.

Women's Leadership

26. Strive to achieve gender parity in leadership governance and management by setting specific goals in the National Societies' legal base, electoral and recruitment processes.
27. Encourage and support women specific fora and networking to build on women's capacities and skills.
28. Identify obstacles and challenges faced by women in the National Societies in our region and advocate to overcome them.

General Commitments

29. To increase all our efforts in leadership to adapt and renew ourselves, as our predecessors did, to ensure the relevance of our humanitarian action being at the forefront of the response to vulnerable populations, maximizing social impact and increasing our entrepreneurial capacities.
30. To strengthen our collaboration and cooperation, by ensuring Host National Society leadership while working with one voice and one action, reweave the mechanisms for implementation of Movement Cooperation frameworks, including the Seville Agreement and Strengthening Movement Cooperation and Coordination, to capitalize all our resources and reinforce our unity and uniqueness as a Movement.

We, the leaders of the National Societies, request the Centre for the Cooperation in the Mediterranean to support and follow up the commitments of the Sarajevo Declaration, paying special attention to youth engagement and development in the region.

The leadership of the Mediterranean National Societies wish to express their warmest thanks and appreciation to the leadership, volunteers and staff of the Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina for their warm hospitality and excellent organization of the 13th Mediterranean Conference, as well as Movement partners for their engagement and support. The leadership of the Red Cross Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina would also like to extend its gratitude to the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina for its continued and invaluable support towards humanitarian causes.

SARAJEVO YOUTH DECLARATION

STANDING FOR HUMANITY

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today we are facing many new Humanitarian challenges such as conflicts at all levels, climate change effects, widespread violence, migration and Trafficking in Human Beings. These realities represent for all of us a strong appeal to reinforce and expand the commitments made during the 1st Red Cross and Red Crescent Mediterranean Youth Meeting in San Marino, in 2015.

The complexity of these issues has significantly increased, leading us to develop new key actions to mitigate the consequences of these trends. Our Vision is inspired by the UN 73rd General Assembly Resolution on 'Volunteering for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development', which underlines the importance of engagement from Volunteers to reach specific objectives on reducing vulnerability and increase the sustainable development.

To achieve this, we have met here in Sarajevo: we are 32 youth delegates from 18 National Societies united to represent all the Red Cross Red Crescent Mediterranean young volunteers and to take action to reduce the impact of the above-mentioned challenges and to foster resilient communities where Youth have a strong influence.

Therefore, through prolific discussion and intercultural dialogue we have identified the following key points: Leadership and Youth Engagement, Social Inclusion and Prevention of Violent Behaviours, Climate Change and Migration and Awareness Raising on Trafficking in Human Beings.

We call for your active support on the following:

Leadership and Youth Engagement

Positive and focused/responsible leadership is essential for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. All National Societies should pay greater attention to the personal growth of individual volunteers in order to enhance the effectiveness of our services throughout the Mediterranean basin.

Adequate methodology and tools will allow young volunteers to develop as leaders and positively influence the National Societies and their communities. In order to achieve this, a constructive dialogue between governance and management is essential.

As Young Leaders of Red Cross and Red Crescent of the Mediterranean Region, we call our National Societies and we commit:

- To evaluate youth engagement and actively contribute to the implementation of the IFRC Youth Policy and Youth Engagement Strategy through the Self-Assessment tool;
- To facilitate and to provide space and resources for Minimum Standards Youth Leadership Programmes (with focus on young women);
- To support the implementation of leadership skills in other Red Cross and Red Crescent;
- To support programmes (First Aid, Disaster Management, Awareness raising on trafficking in Human Beings, etc.);
- To foster our efforts in humanitarian diplomacy, with training addressed to youth, regular meetings with senior leaders, appealing to other civil society organisations to build long lasting partnerships and strongly influence our communities.

Social Inclusion and Promotion of a Culture of Non Violence and Peace – Prevention of Violent Behaviours

Despite our continuous efforts, violent behaviours are spreading and are not dealt enough. Mass media role appears to be stronger than ever thanks to availability of new communication channels, highly influencing public opinion and in parallel generate indifference on certain relevant topics.

Building inclusive communities based on mutual acceptance and understanding should be an outstanding priority for the Red Cross and Red Crescent. Vulnerability factors are spreading in the Region and, in critical contexts, the lack of awareness of

people's own rights and the mistrust in the institutions might cause shame and acceptance of the violence from the victims.

We must strengthen our efforts to prevent violent behaviours and promote a culture of non-violence and peace, therefore we call our National Societies and we commit:

- To reinforce regional collaboration, sharing tools and experiences to build a common strategy in order to scale up actions in our countries;
- To embrace the new technologies and social media to support our work;
- To promote social inclusion among all target groups in an innovative way, improving capacities for different programmes, with the participation of youth in all aspects.

Climate Change

Despite climate change has been in our agenda for long, and is nowadays a key worldwide challenge, it is not yet effectively integrated in our Red Cross and Red Crescent programmes.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action should therefore focus on supporting our communities in climate change adaptation, to reduce its impact banking on Youth as key agents of change in this process.

Being one of the main humanitarian challenges, we call our National Societies to react and we commit:

- To foster activities on integrated prevention and disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation;
- To raise awareness that climate change is a global challenge with localized impacts;
- To take advantage of the materials and support from RCRC Climate Centre, including '*Y-Adapt Youth Engagement Curriculum*';
- To engage and train Youth Leaders at all levels.

Migration and Awareness on trafficking in Human Beings

The Mediterranean basin has witnessed a large number of people migrating and in danger, especially young people, with the risk of becoming victims of trafficking in human beings due to armed conflict, cultural aversion, violence, poverty and climate change. All Mediterranean countries are involved in the migration being countries of origin, transit and/or destination.

Standing for humanity and dignity of all human beings, we call our National Societies and we commit:

- To invest more in trainings on the migration and raising awareness on Trafficking in Human Beings in order to increase our capacity to support vulnerable migrants and assist and protect (potential) victims of human trafficking; through non formal and peer education;
- To organize, adopt and adapt social acceptance programmes for migrants and internally displaced persons.

General Commitments

All the above-mentioned challenges could not be addressed without a strong cooperation within the entire Mediterranean region, therefore we call our National Societies and we commit:

- To strengthen and expand our capacities, sharing competences and expertise;
- To create a common plan of action based on needs, monitoring, evaluating and reporting in order to show the impact of our intervention;
- To encourage better communication and good practices exchange between our National Societies.

We as Youth Leaders of the National Societies in the Mediterranean Region proactively engage in taking actions to tackle the above-mentioned humanitarian challenges, by living our Fundamental Principles and leading by example.



Cruz Roja Española



Croce Rossa Italiana

TURKISHREDCRESCENT



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