

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION REVIEW FORUM COMMITMENTS

of the Office of the High Commissioner
for Human Rights (OHCHR)

On 17 – 20 May 2022, the UN General Assembly is convening the first quadrennial International Migration Review Forum (IMRF). The IMRF is the primary intergovernmental global platform for Member States and stakeholders to discuss and share progress on the implementation of all aspects of the [Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration](#) (GCM). The first IMRF provides a unique opportunity to demonstrate our collective commitment to an ambitious, effective and human rights-based implementation of the GCM. To this end, at the UN Network for Migration we have launched a [pledging initiative](#) calling on all States and stakeholder partners to make concrete commitments, within the framework of the GCM. As the leading UN agency on the human rights of migrants, OHCHR has made the following commitments to advance the GCM's promise of a human rights-based and people-centered approach to migration governance, that will positively impact the lives of migrants and their communities.

OHCHR'S COMMITMENTS TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF MIGRANTS

UN SYSTEM PLEDGE

Together with other members of the UN Network on Migration, OHCHR committed to a common UN system pledge to take concrete steps to support Member States and all stakeholders in the full and effective implementation of the GCM.

OHCHR PLEDGES¹

1. OHCHR commits to strengthen coordination and cooperation and to advance **human rights mainstreaming throughout the United Nations system** for the effective respect, protection and fulfilment of the human rights of all migrants, regardless of status.
2. OHCHR commits to offer **technical cooperation and capacity-building to Governments** to ensure that migration governance efforts are in compliance with international law and standards, and uphold the GCM's guiding principles on human rights, gender-responsive and child-sensitive, including through the development of [GCM national implementation plans](#).
3. OHCHR commits to enhance **monitoring, reporting and advocacy** for the protection of the human rights of all migrants, regardless of their status, including ratification of the international human rights instruments.
4. OHCHR commits to support the **whole-of-society approach of the GCM**, including by promoting the meaningful engagement of migrants, civil society organisations, human

¹ OHCHR pledges can be matched through contributions of financial, technical, or material support.

rights mechanisms, national human rights institutions and all other stakeholder partners in GCM implementation, follow-up and review.

5. OHCHR commits to **combat discrimination of any kind, including hate speech, racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance** and to shift narratives of fear, hate and division to those that uphold everyone's human dignity, including by promoting stories for change through OHCHR's [#StandUp4Migrants campaign](#) and [toolbox](#).
6. OHCHR commits to **protect and expand civic space**, including by offering training and building the capacity of migrants, civil society organisations, national human rights institutions and human rights defenders to monitor and report on violations of the human rights of migrants.

JOINT PLEDGES²

7. We commit to support the **protection of migrants in vulnerable situations**, including by operationalizing the UN [Principles and Guidelines on the Human Rights Protection of Migrants in Vulnerable Situations](#).
8. We commit to work to **end the criminalization of migrants**, including by supporting Governments to revise policies that criminalize irregular migration and by working to end harmful practices such as immigration detention.

9. We commit to support **human rights-based border governance**, including by implementing OHCHR's [Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights at International Borders](#).
10. We commit to promote a **human rights-based approach to return and reintegration**, including by supporting Governments to implement the Network's [position paper](#) and related tools on ensuring safe and dignified return and sustainable reintegration.
11. We commit to support the **expansion of safe and dignified pathways for regular migration**, particularly for migrants in vulnerable situations, including by operationalizing recommendations in the UN Network [Guidance Note on Regular Pathways for Admission and Stay for Migrants in Situations of Vulnerability](#).
12. We commit to **help build more inclusive societies**, including by supporting migrants, regardless of status, to enjoy their [economic, social and cultural rights](#) without discrimination and by taking steps to ensure that health, education, justice and other essential services are firewalled from immigration enforcement so all migrants can enjoy their rights without fear of detention or deportation.

² Joint pledges can be supported by Member States and/or stakeholders co-signing OHCHR pledges, making identical or complementary pledges or by matching through a contribution of financial, technical, or material support.