

## CONCEPT NOTE

### **Migration: building a new vision of governance based on human rights and solidarity**

Side event on the margins of the 42<sup>nd</sup> session of the Human Rights Council

**16 September, 14.00-15.30, Room XXII**

Palais des Nations, Geneva

*Organised by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and co-sponsored by the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations in Geneva and the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations in Geneva*

### **BACKGROUND**

International migration is often depicted by images of crisis, characterised as one of the biggest challenges of our times and the subject of polarizing debates.

While migration is a positive and empowering experience for many, it is increasingly clear that a lack of human rights-based migration governance at the various levels, coupled with discrimination, xenophobia, related intolerance and other harmful narratives, is leading to the routine violation of migrants' rights in transit, at international borders, and in the countries they migrate to.

Such measures have a severe impact on the human rights of migrants, as well as minorities associated with migration. They also inadvertently impact the wider society and the spaces for defenders of migrants' human rights.

At the same time, considerable achievements have been made to push back against such developments and to emphasise the human rights values that build the foundations of our societies. Across the globe, human rights activists are mobilising to counter this rising tide of hate and reframe the narrative around human rights and migration. Communities are uniting to welcome and show solidarity towards migrants, regardless of their status. Governments, local authorities, civil society actors and others have been working in partnership to promote human rights for all, without discrimination.

The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), sets out Member States' common understanding, shared responsibilities and unity of purpose regarding migration, making it work for all. Significantly, Member States committed to ensure the effective respect, protection and fulfilment of the human rights of all migrants, regardless of their migration status and to eliminate all forms of discrimination, including racism, xenophobia and intolerance against migrants.

### **PURPOSE**

The side event will seek to bring various actors and activists together who are seeking to build new narrative on migration through campaigns but also actions, such as partnerships on welcoming migrants, showing solidarity with migrants or those who defend their rights, and to ensure migrants can access and exercise their human rights. It will seek to provide a platform for stakeholders to:

- Share the successes achieved and lessons learned;
- Promote examples of promising practices;

- Draw from these experiences and identify possible ways of replicating such practices in other contexts;
- Provide key recommendations for Member States to consider in implementing the Global Compact for Migration in a human rights-based and gender-responsive manner.

## **AGENDA**

Screening of OHCHR video from the #StandUp4Migrants series with Indian-American comedian Hari Kondabolu

Moderator:

- Mr. Todd Howland, Chief of the Development, Economic and Social Issues Branch, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

Opening remarks by co-sponsoring Delegation:

- H.E. María del Socorro Flores Liera, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations in Geneva
- H.E. Omar Zniber, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations in Geneva

Panel discussion:

- Ms. Rosie Carter, Hope not Hate, UK
- Ms. Alina Lyapina, Seebrücke (Sea Bridge), Germany
- Ms. Andrea Guerrero, South Border Communities Coalition, USA