



Restoring Dignity,
Inspiring Change.

© ICMC/Sahar Zafar

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

SHORT
VERSION

ICMC Headquarters
1, rue de Varembe
PO Box 96, 1211 Geneva
Switzerland
+41 22 919 10 20
info@icmc.net

U.S. Liaison Office
3211 4th Street NE
20017 Washington, D.C.
United States of America
+1 202 541 33 89
usa@icmc.net

ICMC, Inc. Development Office
31 Milk Street, suite 315
Boston, MA 02109
United States of America
+1 888 265 87 47
development@icmc.net

ICMC Europe
40 Rue Washington
1050 Brussels
Belgium
+32 2 227 97 29
europe@icmc.net

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

Dr. Anne T. Gallagher
President



As incoming ICMC President, it is an honor for me to introduce this Annual Report. The year it documents was a momentous one: not least for the adoption of the first global framework agreement on migration, along with a further agreement on refugees. The Global Compact for Migration stands as

a collective acknowledgment that no country can deal with these issues alone; that working together under an umbrella of shared values and commitments is the only way forward.

In measuring the impact of our collective efforts around this Global Compact, I believe two issues must be decisive. The first is detention. Large-scale, indiscriminate detention of migrants is a clear signal of policy failure. The Global Compact affirms that detention is to be used only after other approaches have failed. Effective, low-cost alternatives are available. And when detention is unavoidable, we know how to make it less harmful. If the Compact does its job, migrant detention must become dignified, humane and increasingly rare.

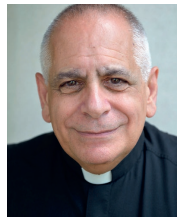
The second issue is integration. A significant proportion of the world's migrants will not return home anytime soon. Either we make integration work or we consign millions of women, men and children to a less than half-life in refugee camps and on the economic and geographical fringes of our cities and towns. Integration has been done well in the past. But today's political and logistical challenges are unprecedented and their resolution requires radically new ways of thinking and working. We need to replicate and expand every small success, recognizing that effective integration is the most valuable gift on offer for migrants and their host communities.

ICMC's long and rich history has won it widespread recognition and respect. Yet I believe its best years lie ahead. We deliver a unique blend of front-line support and principled advocacy that is needed more today than ever before. Our work is anchored to Catholic doctrine that emphasizes the dignity and worth of every human being. Our network of member Bishop's conferences and other partners spans the globe. We are demonstrating a capacity and willingness to adapt to an increasingly challenging operating environment. ICMC's officials – the heart of our organization – stand out for their professionalism and dedication.

We at ICMC share a vision: of a world where the movement of people across borders is safer, better regulated and widely welcomed as mutually rewarding for everyone involved. In working towards that vision, we depend on and deeply appreciate the support of our members, partners, and donors.

WITH GRATITUDE AND IN COMMUNION OF SERVICE

Msgr. Robert J. Vitillo
Secretary General



Gratitude – this is the first word that comes to mind when we look back at 2018.

Gratitude to ICMC's dedicated staff who, over another year, yet again achieved impressive results while serving and protecting refugees and migrants around

the world with exemplary professionalism and empathy. Gratitude to ICMC donors who, through their trust and support, made it possible for our staff to carry out their duties. And above all, gratitude to the people we had the privilege to serve, who taught us the deep meaning of words like resilience, dignity and hope.

This Annual Report takes a format that differs from that of previous years. We chose to highlight some central aspects of our work rather than give an exhaustive accounting of each activity. We decided to organize the report according to the four milestones in Pope Francis' road map to peace: *Welcome, Protect, Promote* and *Integrate*. In each of those sections, we focused on ICMC's direct operations and advocacy activities as well as on the efforts carried out by our members and partners around the world. These are just examples of the much more extensive work done by a network that infuses life into ICMC structures.

One remarkable expression of this life was when representatives of ICMC members gathered in Rome in March to celebrate the Council Plenary Meeting that takes place once every four years. The Council appointed a new Governing Committee and elected Dr. Anne T. Gallagher as ICMC President. Council members also adopted a Strategic Framework that will guide our work in the coming years by setting a number of priorities such as assisting those forced to leave their homelands and advocating for their rights, combating human trafficking, strengthening child protection and expanding access to positive and life-affirming solutions that allow people on the move to rebuild their lives with dignity.

In recent years, Pope Francis has issued a clarion call, inviting "all believers and men and women of goodwill ... to respond to the many challenges of contemporary migration with generosity, promptness, wisdom and foresight, each according to their abilities." When the path of solidarity ahead of us may seem steep, there is no doubt that the Holy Father's leadership and personal example is a source of encouragement and inspiration.

So, I invite you, the reader of this report, to join in this mission: to serve and protect uprooted people wherever they may be, restoring their dignity and inspiring the necessary changes for their human rights to be respected.



Read the full Annual Report online
www.ICMC.net/2018

COUNCIL PLENARY MEETING

“Today as in the past, liberating the poor, the oppressed and the persecuted is an integral part of the mission entrusted by God to the Church. ... The work of your Commission represents a tangible expression of this important missionary commitment.”

Pope Francis, ICMC Council 2018

FEATURE

Show God's Love to Our Migrant Brothers and Sisters

“I would like to reaffirm that the cause of this organization is the cause of Christ himself,” said Pope Francis addressing ICMC Council members at a private audience on 8 March 2018. May “this work continue to inspire local churches to do all they can for persons forced to leave their home countries and who, all too often, become victims of dishonesty, violence and abuse of every sort,” added the Holy Father.



Discover more
[ICMC.net/2018](https://www.icmc.net/2018)

© ICMC/Stefano Schirato

GOVERNANCE

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP ON MIGRATION

Composed of representatives of national Catholic Bishops' Conferences as well as national Catholic coordinating structures and specialized agencies serving refugees and migrants, the ICMC Council met in Rome from 6-8 March 2018.

The organization's highest governing body reviewed the organization's activities over the previous four-year mandate, elected Dr. Anne Therese Gallagher as ICMC President, appointed a 14-member Governing Committee, and ratified Msgr. Robert J. Vitillo as the organization's Secretary General.

An Australian-born lawyer, practitioner and scholar, Dr. Gallagher spoke of ICMC's unprecedented opportunity to provide urgently needed global leadership on migration in line with Pope Francis' moral and spiritual guidance.

STRATEGY

CALLED TO OVERCOME THE GLOBALIZATION OF INDIFFERENCE

The Council approved a **Strategic Framework** for 2019-2022 grounded in Catholic Social Teaching and Pope Francis' invitation to welcome, protect, promote and integrate uprooted people.

The Framework focuses on humanitarian responses that lead to durable solutions for people most at risk; promoting resettlement; preventing and fighting human trafficking; building a common home by making migration work for all; and promoting change through broader alliances with other faith-based organizations, governments, UN agencies and NGOs.

Council members reviewed the development of the two **UN Global Compacts for Migration and on Refugees** and discussed present-day migration trends. Participants highlighted challenges such as growing globalization of indifference, intensified forced displacement and increasing demonization of migrants and refugees.



Members of the ICMC Governing Committee.

The governing body considered the experiences of ICMC national members from Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, New Zealand and Uganda, as well as of other Catholic-inspired organizations and UN agencies.

“As Pope Francis always reminds us, they [migrants and refugees] are not numbers: they are people, women, men, children, who have a face, who often suffer and are discarded.” *Cardinal Pietro Parolin*

“Fulfilling the gospel's vision for migrants “requires a culture of encounter, accompaniment, dialogue, and hospitality and increasingly of resistance to hostile forces” *Dr. Anna Rowlands*

“Advocacy is “making the best resources of the Church available in the public area; to say to a government: this is what we have experienced, you may find this useful.” *Fr. Michael Czerny*

WELCOME

“Welcoming calls for expanding legal pathways for entry and a stop to pushing migrants and displaced people towards countries where they face persecution and violence. It also demands balancing our concerns about national security with concerns for fundamental human rights.” *Pope Francis*

FEATURE

Offering Vulnerable People an Opportunity to Rebuild Their Lives

Like many young Eritreans, Tedros and Yorusalem undertook a dangerous journey to escape inhumane conditions in their country. As unaccompanied minors, they were eventually resettled to the U.S. in 2018. “I’m not sure yet about what I want to do, but I’m set on continuing my education,” says Yorusalem, while her cousin Tedros dreams of becoming a pharmacist.



Discover more
[ICMC.net/2018](https://www.icmc.net/2018)

© ICMC/Christina Wilson

EXPERTISE

ASSISTING GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES AS THEY RECEIVE REFUGEES

Through its **Deployment Scheme**, ICMC facilitates the protection and resettlement of thousands of refugees identified as vulnerable by the UN Refugee Agency around the world. In 2018, ICMC resettlement, child protection, and refugee status determination experts worked in 31 countries in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Europe, and Latin America. They submitted nearly 54,700 cases of vulnerable refugees to be considered for resettlement to third countries. They also worked on the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence and anti-fraud measures.

In Turkey and Lebanon, ICMC’s **Resettlement Support Center** draws on over 65 years’ experience in assisting governments and international agencies. It provides a range of services, from counseling to cultural orientation to facilitating medical exams. The Center helps governments identify and screen vulnerable refugees for whom resettlement is the only solution. In 2018, ICMC staff assisted the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program in Turkey and Lebanon to manage the cases of over 20,000 refugees and interviewed more than 3,200 being considered for resettlement.



ICMC expert Gibson Karuma briefs refugees in Kigeme camp, Rwanda.

ADVOCACY

INCREASING ADMISSION PATHWAYS FOR REFUGEES

Resettlement to a third country and other complementary, safe, and legal admission pathways depend on States’ goodwill. In 2018 ICMC consistently advocated for such life-saving, durable solutions for refugees, in particular throughout negotiations on the Global Compacts for Migration and Refugees.

In June, ICMC highlighted the need for both more resettlement places and a quicker process. In November, ICMC Europe and partners urged the European Union to provide more legal and safe pathways for vulnerable refugees to avert desperate journeys.

Together with the UN Refugees and Migration agencies, ICMC Europe published a paper on innovative models for the protection of refugees, including community-based sponsorship, scholarships and humanitarian admission.

110 ICMC protection experts deployed to 31 countries submitted 54,698 cases of vulnerable refugees to be considered for resettlement to third countries.

Working towards durable solutions for refugees, ICMC continued to serve as a key partner in facilitating resettlement through the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program in Turkey & Lebanon.

ICMC’s expertise in resettlement and cultural orientation services attracted new and emerging EU resettlement States interested in processing refugee resettlement cases out of Turkey.

PROTECT

“**Protecting** has to do with our duty to recognize and defend the inviolable dignity of those who flee real dangers in search of asylum and security, and to prevent their being exploited. I think in particular of women and children who find themselves in situations that expose them to risks and abuses.” *Pope Francis*

FEATURE

Engaging Men as Partners for Change

ICMC's Refugee Women's Protection Corps in Malaysia is getting men involved in the fight against sexual and gender-based violence. Their engagement is essential as they have different possibilities to convince people that gender equality is best for families. And it can lead to better protection for men and boys as well, who are less likely to report abuse. Though still few in number, male Corps members like Hakim, a Rohingya refugee from Myanmar, are increasingly vital as partners for change.



© ICMC/AdenTeo



Discover more
[ICMC.net/2018](https://www.icmc.net/2018)

CAPACITY BUILDING

CURBING ILLEGAL RECRUITMENT PRACTICES

The Migration and Development (MADE) West Africa program entered its second year targeting illegal migration practices and strengthening local advocacy capacity in five countries.

Together with its partners, ICMC Europe sponsored eight multi-stakeholder meetings and workshops, and approved six seed grants to grassroots organizations.

Participants in Senegal and Guinea explored ways to curb illegal recruitment practices and migrant smuggling. In Ghana and Sierra Leone, progress was made on an implementation roadmap for the Free Movement Protocol of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). Workshops in Burkina Faso, Ghana and Sierra Leone shored up advocacy skills and economic development knowledge.

ADVOCACY

PARTNERING TO MAKE MIGRATION WORK FOR ALL

2018 saw the birth of two Global Compacts – one to ensure Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and one to share responsibility for Refugees.

ICMC was at the forefront of civil society advocacy to UN Member States throughout. With

our partners, we brought in the experience of uprooted people, supporting churches and organizations, welcoming host communities. We urged interconnectivity between the two Compacts and greater focus on expanding admission pathways and regularizing status.

And we raised specific concerns like ending child detention, protecting those who don't come under the 1951 Refugee Convention, and including victims of natural disasters and environmental degradation.

At fora such as the Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact on Migration, ICMC committed to facilitating civil society contributions as key implementation partners. We pledged to work together to change negative narratives and make migration work for all.



© UN Photo/Mark Garten

The UN General Assembly agrees the final version of the Global Compact for Migration in New York in July.



ICMC Jordan assessed the needs of 23,000 Syrian refugees to identify families lacking important documentation. 4,900 people received cash assistance to regularize their documents.



149 ICMC staff deployed to UNHCR operations in Greece provided technical advice to the Government, which dealt with 50,500 new arrivals (45% more than in 2017), of whom 1/3 were children.



ICMC Malaysia reached over 1,500 Rohingya/Burmese refugees with training on sexual and gender-based violence and developed a “training of trainers” toolkit for community leaders.

PROMOTE

“Promoting entails supporting the integral human development of migrants and refugees. Among many possible means of doing so, I would stress the importance of ensuring access to all levels of education for children and young people.”
Pope Francis

FEATURE

Viewing Life Through a Different Lens

Young Syrian refugees in Jordan face many challenges and yet have great potential to contribute to their communities and host society. A PhotoVoice project empowered them to find their voice and be agents for change in their communities. Through digital photography and storytelling, they found a way to see things differently and express themselves.



Discover more
[ICMC.net/2018](https://www.icmc.net/2018)

ADVOCACY

ADVANCING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF MIGRANTS

ICMC plays a leading role in coordinating civil society engagement with the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), an informal, government-led process to advance multi-stakeholder cooperation and dialogue around migration and development.

The 2018 GFMD Summit, including two Civil Society Days, took place in December in Marrakesh, Morocco, immediately before the International Conference to adopt the Global Compact for Migration. The Summit represented the culmination of civil society efforts throughout the year. Some 300 NGO representatives attended the ICMC-coordinated Civil Society Days.

In a message to the Intergovernmental Conference, over 120 civil society actors urged States to implement the Compact's priority goals in a way that would work for all, and recommended to partnering with governments.

A statement at the GFMD closing ceremony outlined concrete civil society commitments to implement the Compact's goals. The NGOs pledged to build a bridge between the two international agreements on human mobility to ensure coherent implementation.



Some 300 civil society representatives attended the Global Forum on Migration and Development. Photo: GFMD Civil Society Days Chair Roula Hamati.

RESEARCH

LAUDATO SÌ AND THE WORLD OF WORK

ICMC-led research is exploring how migration and the world of work interact. It looks at drivers of migration and migrant workers' needs and challenges.

The study is part of *The Future of Work, Labour After Laudato Sì*, a joint project with the International Labour Organization and the Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. The initiative engages Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Sì* in areas related to work, aiming to improve global governance and multiply best NGO practices.

The Center for Migration Studies will research migrants and work in three contexts, with further data from ICMC partners worldwide. A photojournalist visiting four countries will provide first-hand accounts. The findings will be published in 2019.

5,217 educational and recreational kits, including supplies and learning materials, were distributed to boys and girls in Jordan, thus facilitating the fulfilment of their right to education.



Over 130,000 Afghan refugees accessed primary healthcare services at ICMC-Pakistan-run basic health facilities in camps through consultations and health, hygiene and sanitation awareness sessions.



In Syria, 4,883 women and their newborns received prompt postnatal care, while nutrition sessions for 969 new mothers addressed the importance and benefits of breastfeeding.

INTEGRATE

“**Integrating** refugees and migrants means allowing them to participate fully in the life of a society that welcomes them as part of a process of mutual enrichment and fruitful cooperation in service of the integral human development of the local community.”

Pope Francis

FEATURE

Migrants Rescued at Sea Rebuild Their Lives in Portugal

“With everything we have to manage, no day is alike here!” says the migrant reception center coordinator in Fundão, a town northeast of Lisbon. Last year, 86 migrants and asylum-seekers were rescued in the Mediterranean by the ship Aquarius. After docking in Italy, 19 of the “Aquarius migrants” were resettled in Portugal. “The first time I heard of Portugal was in Italy!” says one of them, Augustina Sunday from Nigeria. And she adds: “What I know now is that it’s a peaceful country.”

© ICMC/Maëva Poulet



Discover more
ICMC.net/2018

CAPACITY BUILDING

INTEGRATING REFUGEES IN SMALL COMMUNITIES

Small towns generally gain a lot from welcoming refugees. Their human scale, the involvement of community members, and the availability of housing all help refugees rebuild their lives, integrate and become independent in their new community.

At a time when European municipalities are expected to welcome 50,000 refugees from the Middle East and Africa, **SHARE Integration**, a part of the SHARE Network led by ICMC Europe, is responding to Europe’s expanded resettlement role by connecting local and regional actors to support integration in small- and medium-sized municipalities and rural areas.

SHARE Integration promotes and enables refugee resettlement by delivering tailored training, conducting research, developing and sharing innovative tools and facilitating best practice exchange.

ADVOCACY

ADVOCATING TO MAKE SUCCESSFUL INTEGRATION A REALITY

Integration is a process in which refugees adapt and become part of society, and receiving communities create welcoming conditions and recognize the benefits newcomers bring. In 2018 ICMC continued to promote integration as a necessary aspect of migration.

ICMC underlined the importance of pre-departure cultural orientation to government representatives at a seminar in May. In June, ICMC and European partners called on States to refrain from using the return of individuals to countries of origin to curb irregular migration, a focus that inhibits integration.

In October, the ICMC President urged governments to ensure receiving communities are adequately supported, noting that relationships are transformed when integration is a two-way partnership.

In November, the ICMC-led SHARE Integration network highlighted advantages and challenges of integration in small communities at an event in The Hague. In the same month, ICMC and European partners urged States to support family reunification, education and community-based sponsorship programs to facilitate integration.



ICMC Europe Head Petra Hueck and panelists at a SHARE Integration conference in The Hague.



385 local actors in small municipalities in The Netherlands, Romania, Italy, Portugal, Germany, Australia, France and Belgium benefited from pilot trainings by SHARE Integration partners.



A new Settlement and Integration Roster supports capacity-building in emerging resettlement countries, particularly in Central Eastern Europe and the Baltics.



Over 7,000 contacts received the SHARE Integration magazine of which two issues have so far been published. The magazine covers program updates, shares good practices and partners’ stories.

DONORS & FINANCES

ICMC is deeply grateful to all its donors for their trust, support and commitment to our common mission of protecting and serving uprooted people wherever they are and regardless of their status.

A variety of donors funded ICMC's work during 2018. Government and multilateral funding covered a significant percentage of ICMC's operational and advocacy programs. This funding was complemented by contributions from ICMC national members and Vatican offices as well as Catholic foundations.

Private donors made a crucial contribution to help migrants and refugees restore their lives with dignity and hope through ICMC's work. In 2018, the ICMC, Inc. Development Office in Boston, U.S. was supported by 10,214 individual donors who gave 19,577 gifts.

To all of them, we are deeply grateful.

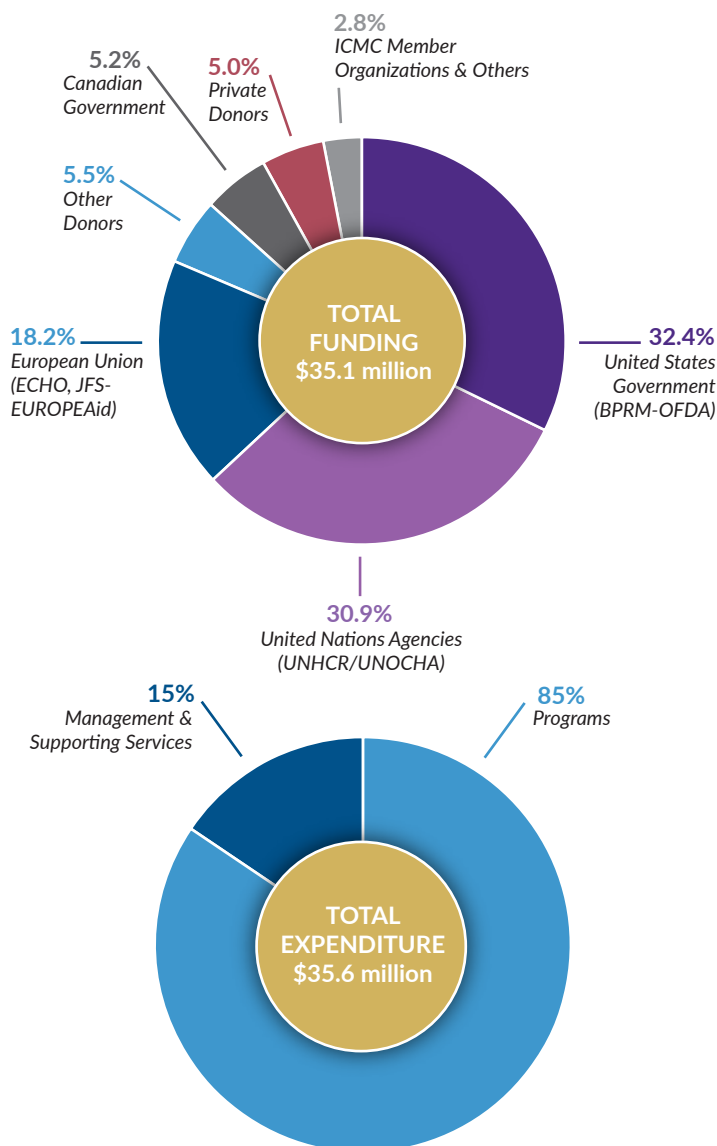
INSTITUTIONAL DONORS

Australian Embassy's Direct Aid Program (DAP)
 Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers (COA, the Netherlands)
 Embassy of Taiwan to the Holy See
 Government of Bangladesh
 Government of the Kingdom of Morocco
 Government of the United Arab Emirates
 Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)
 Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
 United States Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (BPRM)
 United States Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA)

Development and Cooperation EuropeAid (DEVCO)
 European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO)
 European Commission
 International Organization for Migration (IOM)
 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
 United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

Aurora Prize for Awakening Humanity
 Buddhist Compassion Relief Tzu Chi Foundation, Taiwan
 German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ)
 International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA)
 Oak Foundation
 Porticus

FUNDING AND EXPENDITURE



1951 FOUNDERS' CIRCLE

ICMC acknowledges the contributions of the 1951 Founders' Circle, a group of donors who made a commitment of \$1,000 or more during 2018. ICMC is deeply grateful to all its private donors for their support as well as for their prayers and partnership, without which we could not carry out our mission.

For more information and a full listing of 1951 Founders' Circle's donors as well as a copy of the Statutory Auditor's Report and Consolidated Financial Statements 2018, please visit www.ICMC.net/2018



You can support migrants and refugees assisted by ICMC
www.ICMC.net/donate