



Statement delivered on behalf of Quaker United Nations Office, Franciscans International, Caritas Internationalis, Church World Service, Lutheran World Federation, International Catholic Migration Commission.

As faith-based organizations, we are deeply concerned by human rights violations against migrants—in transit and at borders—including refoulement to torture, deportations to third countries, and widespread exploitation. This occurs as rising militarization and military spending are not making the world more peaceful, but diverting resources from efforts to uphold human rights and improve lives.

We all have human rights. They are inalienable, grounded in inherent human dignity, and don't depend on migration status or borders. The UN Charter affirms that human rights are essential to peace and security—protecting individuals and enabling states to coexist peacefully. Rights-based migration governance, together with principled multilateral cooperation, safeguards migrants while fostering shared responsibility.

The Global Compact for Migration is rooted in international human rights law, reflecting enduring moral and ethical principles found across major cultures and religious traditions—from Hinduism, Judaism, Buddhism, Islam, and Christianity, to philosophical traditions in ancient Babylon, China, India, Rome, Classical Greece and others. These shared principles later found expression in contemporary human rights law.

Restricting migrants' human rights therefore undermines the international legal order, and our common humanity. Faith-based organizations accompany migrants daily, witnessing how weakening human rights protection leads to suffering, insecurity and loss of life, while humanitarian solidarity is criminalized.

At this IMRF, we urge States to reaffirm their commitment to the human rights law that underpins the GCM, so that dignity, solidarity and protection of the most vulnerable remain at the center of migration governance.