

ICMC 75th Anniversary Reception and Awards Ceremony

Keynote Speaker



John Thon Majok, MPA
Director
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John Thon Majok is the Director of the Refugee and Forced Displacement Initiative (RAFDI) at the Migration Policy Institute (MPI), where he is also a Senior Advisor for Institutional Development. Mr. Majok leads an initiative that seeks to expand the space for new perspectives and constructive dialogue through evidence-based analysis, aiming to inform policies and improve approaches for better understanding forced displacement in a global context. His research – informed by lived experience in refugee camps – focuses on conflict-induced migration, centering on refugee resilience, self-reliance, education, integration, durable solutions, protracted situations, and the role of faith in global responses.

Prior to joining MPI in 2025, Mr. Majok worked at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, where he was the Founding Director of the Refugee and Forced Displacement Initiative as well as Deputy Director of Development among other leadership roles. Before that, he worked at the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Council of American Overseas Research Centers, Capitol Hill, and the Academy for Educational Development. He graduated with honors from the University of Arizona with a BS in Public Administration and Policy. He holds a Master of Public Administration from George Mason University. Mr. Majok serves on the boards of directors of Jesuit Refugee Service USA, Refugee Investment Network, and the Center for Migration Studies.