



## ***Saving Lives and Missing Migrants: From Commitment to Action***

### **A Side-Event of the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF)**

20<sup>th</sup> May 2022, 1.15-2.30 pm New-York  
Room B, UNHQ

#### **Organizers and co-sponsors**

Organized by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), with the support of The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

#### **Background**

With thousands of migrants dying or disappearing along migratory routes every year, the need for concerted action has never been greater. In the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), States have committed to enhancing efforts to save lives and to coordinate transnationally on missing migrants (Objective 8) as well as to address and reduce vulnerabilities in migration, while respecting and upholding human rights (Objective 7).

However, in his latest report on GCM implementation, the UN Secretary-General noted that *“the commitment to saving lives and establishing coordinated international efforts on missing migrants has yet to be translated into meaningful action”*. Implementing Objectives 7 and 8 requires concerted action by States, supported by the UN and other stakeholders, to reduce the risks and vulnerabilities faced by migrants along their journeys, to launch joint efforts to save lives, and to cooperate in the search and identification of missing and/or dead migrants.

The aim of the side event is to provide concrete examples of promising practices and potential ways forward on this under-addressed element of the GCM, emphasizing the need for regional cooperation and the important role being played by national organizations and sub-regional and regional bodies. Building on a recent and unprecedented UN-Red Cross [joint statement](#) on saving lives and preventing migrants from going missing, the event will seek to reinforce and build upon the Secretary-General’s recommendations to reduce the vulnerabilities that undermine the rights or well-being of migrants, their families and societies, cooperate transnationally on missing migrants, and to make preventing loss of life and other tragedies a key element of GCM implementation.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See, Report of the Secretary-General, Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, A/76/642, paras. 104-107.



## AGENDA

**Welcome:** Moderator (Mr. Florian von Koenig, Deputy Head, Missing Persons Project, ICRC) 2min

**Opening statements** 6 min

- Mr. Craig Mokhiber, Director of New York Office, OHCHR
- Ms. Angela Cotroneo, Global Advisor on Migration Issues, ICRC

**Reflection:** Ms. Jenelle Eli, Senior Director, Media Relations and International Communications, reporting on work on the Ocean Viking 5 min

**Panel interventions** 40 min

- Ms. Julissa Raquel Landaverde Rivera, Director, Vice Ministry of Diaspora and Human Mobility, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, El Salvador (as rotating chair of the CRM/Puebla Process)
- Mr. Felipe Gonzalez Morales, UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants
- Mr. Alasan Senghore, Secretary General, Gambia Red Cross Society
- Ms. Claudia Interiano, Regional Coordinator, Fundación para la Justicia

**Questions and Answers** 15 min

*Interventions from participants*

**Wrap-up and conclusions:** Moderator 3 min