



**Notetaking for the IMRF virtual side-event**  
**“The role of National Human Rights Institutions in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration implementation with a view of Human rights gender and childhood”**

May 19<sup>th</sup>, 13:30 – 15:00

Spanish Ombudsman Institution

Notes of the session	Member State/UN/Stakeholder
<p>To reflect the following:</p> <p><b>1. Key points raised with focus on innovative approaches, successes and hindrances, and reasons of success or failure</b></p> <p>Good practices were identified in the registration of the births of children on the move and the important role of the NHRI in guaranteeing knowledge of the Pact at the national level</p> <p><b>2. Pledges / Requests:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To put an end to child migrant detention</li> <li>- To make sure the right to have an identity for every person</li> <li>- To make compatible the Migration Policies with Human Rights Treaties, notably the Convention of Children’s Rights</li> <li>- For the NHRIs, to be very vigilant of the challenges faced by migrants in their destination countries</li> </ul> <p><b>3. Issue/s to flag for the Network to follow-up</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To enhance NHRIs capacity to deal with migration issues and to look for vulnerabilities</li> <li>- To end migrant detention for children, and to look for other alternative practices in case of adults.</li> <li>- To support programs for migrant workers so that they can flee vulnerabilities, specially women and young migrants</li> <li>- To guarantee access to documentation as a way to achieve other fundamental rights</li> </ul>	<p><b>Organizer:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ombudsman/NHRI of Spain,</li> </ul> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Spain,</li> <li>- Morocco,</li> <li>- Colombia,</li> <li>- UN Secretary general Special Rapporteur for violence against children</li> </ul> <p><b>54 Participants from:</b> Paraguay, Mexico, Albania, Panama, France, Germany, Venezuela, USA, UK, Dominican Republic. Spain, Colombia, Morocco, IOM, UNHCHR</p>



## Summary (500 words max)

### Introduction

- To promote joint learning about initiatives by NHRIs to protect the rights of migrants. Particular focus on gender and childhood, objectives 1, 4, 7, 10 and 13 GC:

### Panel discussion

- S. Yerga. Director General of Migrations. Spain  
Implementation of GCM is not only a task of governments but also of societies and NHRIs, whose recommendations can achieve a good guidance for governments. He gave several good practices of circular migration established in Spain towards young people working in agriculture or Project YGCA (Young Generations as Change Agents) for Moroccan postgraduate students; WAFIRA Project (Women as financially independent rural actors); or the project training temporary worker women who come to Spain from Morocco each year.
- Mimouna Essayed. President HR Commission Dakhla  
The CNDH continues its long-standing action to support foreigners' access to documentation on civil status and residence. The CNDH gives special attention to the situations of vulnerability of women and children. Also trafficking is a special and worrying issue, several trainings on the matter. The CNDH monitors situations of refusal to enter the territory, placement in a waiting area, or detention. Particular vigilance is given to minors and pregnant women.
- Luis Fajardo. Deputy Ombudsman of Colombia  
He explained the work of his institution towards migrants of Venezuela and other nationalities. Especially relevant was the establishment of "The House of Rights" as information points for migrants to know what their rights are. Good practices towards children: prioritize the implementation of law regulating *ius solis* for children born in Colombia from Venezuelan parents in order to prevent statelessness. Unaccompanied foreign children will be given double nationality in order to protect them better. He also gave examples of good practices concerning gender violence towards migrant women, lack of health attention.
- Patricia Bárcena. Deputy Ombudsman of Spain  
Importance of figures concerning migration to make the phenomenon known and to prevent loose rights. EU Law establishes the obligation of States to provide migrants who cannot be deported with a written confirmation, which is something rarely done. Right to identity of migrants prevents vulnerability and trafficking. Unaccompanied children should be given special protection according to international law bearing always in mind their best interest. Concerning trafficking issues, it is essential to implement good detection instruments to identify victims. Alternative measures to detention for migrants should be implemented and NHRIs have advocated for the eradication of migrant children detention.
- Najat Maalla. UN Secretary general Special Rapporteur for violence against children  
Crucial role of NHRIs to protect migrant children from violence, which should be supported and enhanced. Especially important nowadays with many children on the



move because of several natural and human disasters, which makes them especially vulnerable to trafficking and violence. She advocated for an immediate end to migrant children detention which is something never done in their best interest.

**Interventions from the floor**

- How effective are policies against trafficking and unaccompanied minors from Spain. In the answer, it was stressed the importance of the identification of victims and the importance to work with specialists in these practices.