



## Towards the IMRF: A Feminist Manifesto for Structural Transformation in Migration Governance

We urge member states to use the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) to unequivocally protect the rights, autonomy, and humanity of all persons on the move—rejecting exclusionary politics. States must build a resilient global migration system grounded in human rights, international law, and genuine rights-based, gender-responsive and migrant-centered international cooperation.

This requires moving beyond rhetorical commitments toward concrete, measurable, and time-bound actions—including robust accountability mechanisms and meaningful implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) at national, regional, and global levels. It also demands the political courage to confront policies that criminalize, exclude, and endanger migrants, and to instead center dignity, justice, and solidarity in migration governance. The credibility of the GCM—and of multilateralism itself—depends on whether States choose to act with integrity, coherence, and urgency in the face of escalating displacement and systemic injustice.

We demand a new social contract that acknowledges mobility as a human reality, addresses the root causes of migration, and prioritizes human life over narrow national interests. States must:

- **End Border Militarization:** Dismantle militarized border policies and operations that treat migrants as criminals and prevent asylum seekers from reaching safety. They must halt the externalization of border controls, including third country deportations. States must fully uphold the principle of *non-refoulement* and accept asylum-seekers without discrimination.
- **Decriminalize Migration:** End the criminalization of migrants and all forms of immigration detention and family separation in all circumstances. These punitive systems inflict severe and lasting harm, particularly traumatize migrant women, children and gender diverse people, endanger pregnant people, and reproduce structural violence.
- **Pathways Out of Irregularity:** Take meaningful steps to advance and expand rights-based, gender-responsive pathways for regular migration instead of temporary labour migration schemes that are employer-tied, restrictive and exploitative. They must

implement broad regularization programs for undocumented persons with clear and accessible pathways to long-term residency and citizenship.

- **Recognize, Reduce, Redistribute, Reward and Represent Care Work:** Migration policies continue to reflect and reinforce structural gender inequalities that devalue care work. States must recognize, redistribute, and reduce women's unpaid care burden, while recognizing all domestic and care work as highly skilled, essential labour that should be adequately rewarded and formalized, with rights to representation. Measures should be adopted to extend social protection coverage to migrant domestic and care workers, ensuring cross-border portability.
- **Decent Work for All:** upholding migrant workers right to organize: Ensure that labour rights are upheld irrespective of migration status and working sector. These rights include living wages, safe and dignified working conditions; and the right to organize, unionize, and bargain collectively—with protection from retaliation and free from legal or practical barriers that silence migrant and domestic workers. These protections must be grounded in the International Labour Organization Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and relevant international labour standards. Labour rights should take precedence over migration policy.
- **Strict Firewalls:** Establish robust, enforceable firewalls between public services and immigration enforcement, ensuring that all migrants—especially women and gender-diverse people—can report violence, access healthcare and education, and seek justice without fear of family separation, detention, deportation, or retaliation. Firewalls must also prohibit data-sharing between service providers, tax authorities, employers, and migration enforcement bodies.
- **Non-Discrimination:** Eliminate all forms of discrimination embedded in migration governance, recognizing that women and gender-diverse migrants face multiple intersecting forms of discrimination due to gender, migration status, race or ethnicity, anti-Blackness, sexual orientation and gender identity, religion, national origin, age, disability, health condition and more. There must be an end to discrimination in migration policy at all levels, including the elimination of racialization in migratory procedures.
- **Climate Pathways:** Recognize the climate crisis as a threat multiplier that drives displacement and deepens inequality, disproportionately impacting women's bodies, livelihoods, and human rights. Acknowledge climate-induced displacement and create rights-based, gender-responsive long-term regular pathways for those forced to move by climate disasters, evictions or land dispossession caused by extractivism. Solutions should consider the unique experiences and needs of women and gender-diverse individuals, while recognising their agency and capacity to rebuild their lives with dignity.
- **Meaningful Participation:** True gender-responsiveness requires the full, equal, safe and meaningful participation of migrant women and gender-diverse people in all policy spaces that impact their lives, avoiding tokenism. States should ensure adequate resources and access (visas, UN credentials, language interpretation, timely information and more).

- **Financing Civil Society and Migrant-Led Initiatives:** Allocate financial resources to support diverse civil society initiatives by and for migrants and asylum seekers addressing key social, economic and political problems: from enhancing their access to services and enjoyment of their legal rights to civic participation, public education and awareness campaigns fostering non-discrimination, democratic values and social cohesion.
- **Protect migrant workers in situations of crisis:** States must guarantee that all migrant workers have access to protection, safe evacuation, and inclusive humanitarian support in situations of crisis, conflict, and climate disasters.
- **End Data Surveillance and Digital Bordering:** States must stop the expansion of digital surveillance, biometric data collection, and AI-driven migration control systems that disproportionately target and criminalize racialized and migrant communities.

Signed,

Women in Migration Network (WIMN)  
 Aprabasi Mahila Kamdar Samuha  
 Académicas en Acción Crítica  
 ACCSS  
 ACT Alliance - Action by Churches Together  
 AfroResistance  
 Alianza Americas  
 Alianza Migrante (Ecuador)  
 Almena Cooperativa Feminista, SCCL  
 Amka Africa Justice Initiative  
 APS MIGRAS  
 Asociación Pop No'j  
 Asociación Por Tí Muner  
 Association of Roman Catholic Women Priests  
 AWID (Association for Women's Rights in Development)  
 Ayuda en Acción  
 Azadi Community  
 Building and Wood Workers International - BWI  
 Caleidoscopio Humano  
 CAREF - Comisión Argentina para Refugiados y Migrantes  
 Casa de la Mujer  
 Católicas por el Derecho a Decidir El Salvador  
 Center for Regional Food Studies  
 Centro de Atención a la Familia Migrante Indígena AC  
 Centro de Atención Integral a la Mujer - CAIM  
 Centro de Estudios y Fortalecimiento Comunitario Mano Vuelta AC  
 Centro Mujeres AC  
 Chaska ASBL  
 Civil Society Action Committee Secretariat

Coalición Dominicana por los Derechos Humanos y la Justicia Racial  
Cochitlehua Centro Mexicano de Intercambios AC  
Colectiva de Latinoamericanas con Discapacidad por los Derechos Humanos  
Colectiva Mujeres en Migración por la Paz (Memipaz)  
Colectiva Sororidad Glocal  
Corporación Espacios de Mujer  
Creación Positiva  
CRECEN  
DAWN (Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era)  
Echoes of Women in Africa Initiatives  
Enlace Continental de Mujeres Indígenas de las Américas-ECMIA  
Formación y Capacitación AC  
Fundación Arcoiris por el Respeto a la Diversidad Sexual  
Fundación Margen de Apoyo y Promoción de la Mujer  
funDheg  
FUSA Asociación Civil  
Gender + Migration Hub  
Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women (GAATW)  
Global Migration Policy Associates -- GMPA  
Global Research Forum on Diaspora and Transnationalism (GRFDT)  
Grupo Tematico sobre Personas Migrantes y Desplazadas, MeSCALC  
Haitian Women for Haitian Refugees  
Humans Before Borders, HuBB  
Initiatives des Femmes en Situations Difficiles pour le Développement  
Durable et Intégré, IFESIDDI  
Instituto de Investigaciones en Ciencias Sociales (IICSAL, Flacso /conicet)  
Instituto para las Mujeres en la Migración, AC (IMUMI)  
International Detention Coalition  
International Domestic Workers Federation (IDWF)  
International Federation of Business and Professional Women - BPW International  
International Migrant Alliance (IMA) Research Foundation  
International\* Women Space  
IPPF  
Justice for Migrant Women  
Kaltsilaltik AC  
La Revolución en el Cuerpo  
Latinas en Poder  
MADRE Inc  
Manju Gurung, POURAKHI Nepal  
MAP Foundation  
Medecins du Monde France  
Melissa Network  
Mercy International Association  
Migrant Workers Association in Bahrain  
Migrant Workers' Action  
Movilidades Libres y Elegidas-CoLibres

Mujeres con Voz  
NAMAN & Association Migration Internationale (Maroc)  
National Network for Immigrant & Refugee Rights (NNIRR)  
North American Climate, Conservation and Environment (NACCE)  
Observatorio de Género y Equidad  
Observatorio de los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos de las Personas  
con Discapacidad - ODISEX PERU  
Organización de Mujeres Tierra Viva  
PacificwinPacific  
PICUM - Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants  
Pakistan United Workers Federation  
RAÍCES Análisis de Género para el Desarrollo A.C.  
Red Acoge  
Red de mujeres migrantes desde el corazón de América Latina y el Caribe  
Red Eclesial Latinoamericana y Caribeña de Migración, Desplazamiento,  
Refugio y Trata de Personas (Red CLAMOR)  
Red Internacional de Diplomacia Feminista por la Paz  
Red Mesoamericana Mujer Salud y Migración  
Red Nacional de Abogadas Feministas  
Red Regional de Organizaciones Civiles para las Migraciones  
RED-HILA  
Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary NGO  
RESAMA - Red Sudamericana para las Migraciones Ambientales  
Revibra  
Scalabrini International Migration Network  
Servicio de Extensión y Desarrollo Rural (SEDRA)  
Servicios Ecumenicos para Reconciliacion y Reconstruccion  
Society of the Divine Word Southern Province JPIC  
Society of the Sacred Heart  
Tafawuq Consulting Centre for Development  
The A Project مشروع الألف  
The International Grail  
The Union of Indonesian Migrant Workers (SBMI)  
Tiye International  
Tunisian Association of Environmental Law  
Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)  
United States Grail  
Voces de Mujeres, Guatemala  
WIDE+ European Gender and Migration Working Group  
WIEGO  
Wo-Mi Women Migrants  
Women Against Violence Europe (WAVE) Network  
WOREC  
WUNRN - Women's UN Report Network