

UDC 341

**THE GLOBAL STRATEGY OF INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF RED CROSS
ON MIGRATION ASSISTANCE**

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Perhaps the rising number of migration is one of the most significant Humanitarian Challenges in this era. These days a huge number of migrants' movement, from various regions such as in the Bay of Bengal and Andaman Sea, around the Mediterranean Basin, Eastern Africa and the Horn, Latin America, from the Northern Triangle onward to Mexico and the United States, has showed the vulnerabilities and potential risks migrants facing. What ICRC does is provide support and assistance to migrants in emergency situations such as large scale population movements. They also work to ensure that these migrants do not fall into situations of exploitation and abuse. Other activities include providing migrants in refugee camps with essential items such as food hygiene kits and clothes, shelter, emergency accommodation among others. In addition, ICRC provides basic health services such as first aid and psychological support. Another major problem which migrants face is losing contact with their family back home. ICRC helps to restore family links [1].

Assistance to migrants has long been part of the many tasks that the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies deals with. Their activities are supported by founding principles, the global nature of its work and the involvement of volunteers and local communities [2]. Over time, however, the nature of migration has changed, new features have emerged and other related challenges have arisen that require different approaches to addressing them. Such changes necessitate a re-prioritization and improvement of previous working methods. For these purposes, it is necessary to carry out a collective analysis of the work done to identify the most acute problems migrants face; to create plans and strategies to improve the effectiveness of work in assisting migrants. Together, the International Federation and National Societies of Red Cross and Red Crescent have developed a joint global five-year strategy (2018-2022) to address the most common migration problems [3].

As reported by the World Health Organization, the number of international migrants in the world accounts for 258 million people. The amount of forcibly displaced persons currently exceeds 68 million [4]. Half of them are children. The country's political and economic instability, poor quality of life, environmental and climatic problems are pushing people to migrate. In many cases, migrants go through great trials on their way to safety. Most of them are not sufficiently aware of their rights, leading to violations by others, thus newcomers are discriminated against or even detained upon arrival at a safe place. Usually, migrants find it very difficult to get used to the new society and experience challenges related to language and cultural barriers. Due to the long and grueling relocation from one place to another, they have to be faced with the problem of access to health services; people with chronic diseases are forced to interrupt treatment, and skin infections occur due to the lack of hygiene. The difficulties of nomadic life frequently make them move further and further in search of security and stability. Very often, such displacement results in the loss of contact with family and relatives.

The National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (acting alone or in a partnership with the IFRC) aims to address the humanitarian problems of migrants who are deprived in the process of their displacement [5]. They strive to help and protect these vulnerable people, to uphold their rights and dignity, to support them in finding ways to improve their lives and make socially responsible decisions, to promote their social integration and good interaction between migrants and host populations.

As stated in the strategy 2018-2022 of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, one of the methods to achieve the goals of improving assistance to migrants is to expand the number of national societies that will focus on migration issues [3]. This will help to better collect the necessary information on the challenges faced by expatriates. They will also carry out key Red Cross activities (providing shelter, food, access to information, health care and family

reunification). In addition, National Societies, IFRC, and ICRC will join forces to improve the effectiveness of family reunification efforts, as well as use innovative approaches to help those in need, especially children left without family members and loved ones. Collaborative work will also take into account what is essential to build the resilience of migrants to various shocks, to increase their awareness of their rights and the potential risks they may face during the entire migration process. Programs to provide reliable information will be expanded to this end. Considerable attention will be paid to helping migrants to socialize and adapt to the new society. For this purpose, National Societies will provide information on the specific conditions and standards established in a host country. Assistance will also be provided in accessing services by migrants. IFRC will work to ensure the safety of migrants and increase the provision of health services [6].

Strategy 2018-2022 also highlights the expected results of the above actions. Thus, according to the official document of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, vulnerable people will be provided with all necessary information regarding the rights and possible dangers and difficulties they may face. Migrants will freely receive assistance and use the services provided by the organization. An increasing number of families will be successfully reunited through search operations. Migrants will be able to feel safe and confident that their lives and health are not in danger. Health care will also be available to more migrants. Finally, vulnerable people will be able to successfully integrate into their new society, where they will not be discriminated against and their rights and honor will be respected.

Strategy 2030 was also developed jointly by the National Societies and IFRC to identify problems within the organization and to forecast events that may occur in the next 10 years. The strategy considers the structure of the organization itself and the changes necessary to implement to quickly respond to certain challenges that may arise in the future [7]. Thus, Strategy 2030 includes 7 major changes, one of which is devoted to the topic of volunteering. According to S. Hazeldine, it is mainly planned to increase the number, diversity, and mobility of volunteers [8]. He writes that the first way to achieve these goals is to bring volunteerism to the global level, which means that volunteers will be able to provide their assistance using information technology from home. It will also enable people with disabilities to contribute to the work of the ICRC, for example by providing online English lessons. Speaking about technology, the author also singles out another method involving the use of the most advanced robots in the work with migrants (often in search of the wreckage after a disaster) as substitutes for staff and volunteers. In addition, the strategy takes into account the difficulty of women with children being able to participate as volunteers, for whom it is very important to have the income to support their families. These women are, according to S. Hazeldine, given special scholarships to support childcare and livelihoods. Overall, the expected results of the strategy are to attract more and more volunteers, including people with different abilities and backgrounds. Volunteers will also be able to help those who are far away from them and in need.

To conclude, founded in 1863, The International Committee of the Red Cross has strived to ensure humanitarian care and disaster relief for marginalized populations across the world. In this report, their organizational objectives have been addressed, along with their core activities, funding, who they are accountable to, and more specifically, their global strategy on migration assistance. By addressing the Theory of Change, this report aimed to discuss and analyze how the Red Cross are addressing the problems they aim to confront, how they're going about it, and what outcome they expect from their efforts. By combining primary and secondary sources on the organization, this report analyzed the collective ambitions of the ICRC and their intentions with assisting the migration crisis.

Literature

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