



GLOBAL COMPACT ON SAFE, ORDERLY AND REGULAR MIGRATION

**THEMATIC SESSION 2: ADDRESSING DRIVERS OF MIGRATION, INCLUDING ADVERSE EFFECTS
OF CLIMATE CHANGE, NATURAL DISASTERS AND HUMAN-MADE CRISES, THROUGH
PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, POVERTY ERADICATION,
CONFLICT PREVENTION AND RESOLUTION**

22-23 MAY 2017

Thank you, Chair.

The ICRC welcomes the opportunity to participate to this session.

We would like to bring two elements to your attention.

First, we ask this session to note that situations of armed violence are major drivers of displacement. A majority of displaced people remain within their country, but a number will cross an international border.

Increasing efforts to prevent and resolve such situations are essential means to protect populations and address the root causes of forced displacement.

Second, we would like to see strong commitment to respect the rules of international humanitarian law (IHL) and international human rights law. Such respect can considerably minimize the forced displacement of people within their country or across borders, and thus have a major impact on the scale of displacement and on the suffering of the population.

In situations of armed conflict, IHL expressly prohibits the forced displacement of civilians for reasons related to the conflict. Compliance with other rules of IHL, such as the prohibition of attacks directed against civilians, can help prevent or minimize displacement.



ICRC

We encourage States to reaffirm, through the migration compact, their commitment to respect these legal frameworks and to provide practical guidance in that respect.

We consider that these elements must not only be reflected in the refugee compact, but also in the migration compact.

People fleeing situations of armed violence may not always be granted refugee status by the receiving countries but they may still need protection and may be unable to return home safely.

We therefore strongly believe that their protection needs must also be acknowledged and addressed in the migration compact.

The ICRC stands ready to assist States by sharing its expertise and field experience.

Thank you.