



Global migration: people, policies & protections

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Gender + Migration HUB



**BALSILLIE SCHOOL
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What is migration?

Migration is the movement of persons away from their place of usual residence, either across an international border or within a State, to a new residence.

- Internal
- International

What is the number of international migrants globally?



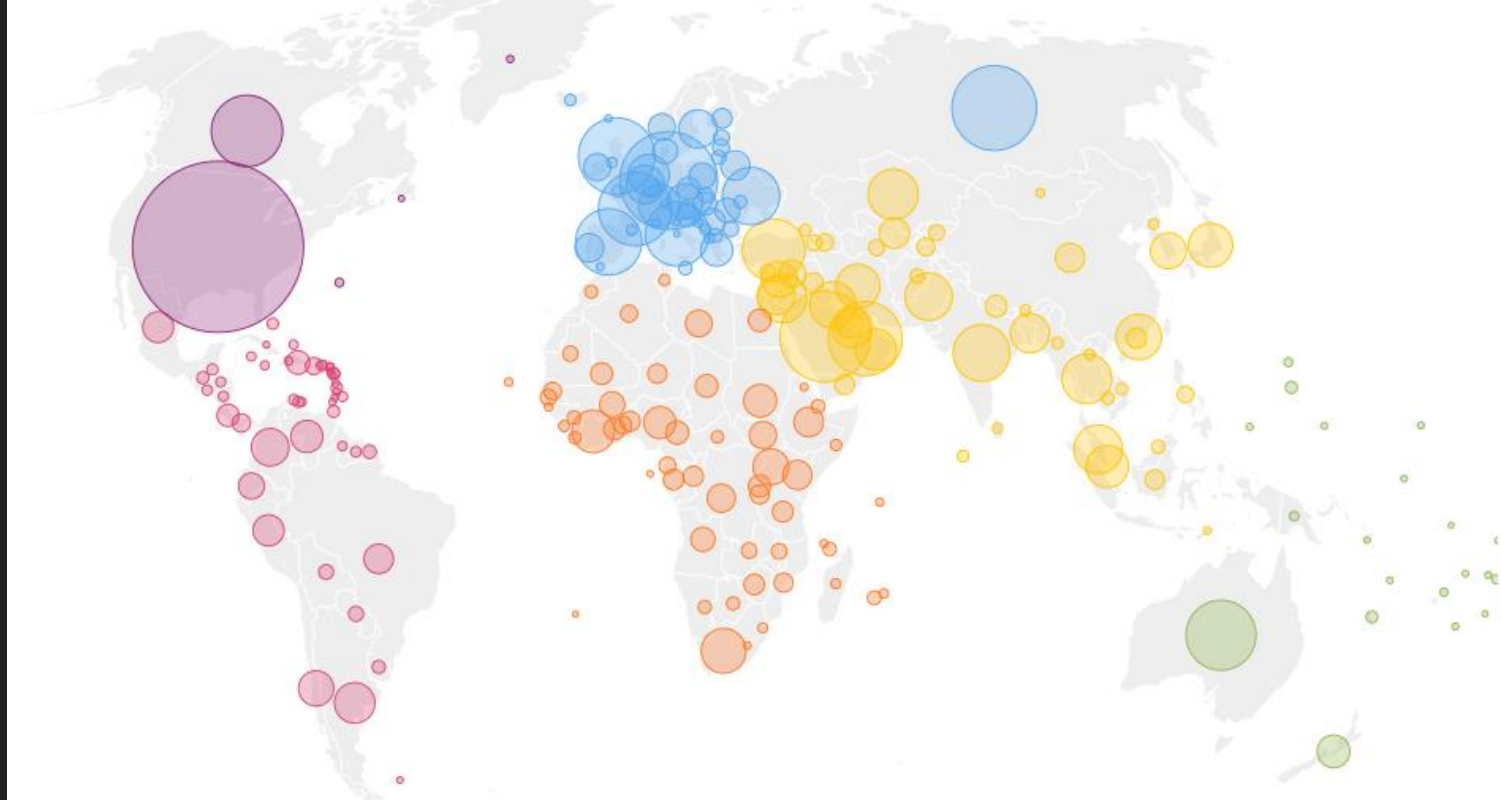
International migrants^(a)

281 million —  Up from **272 million** (or 3.5%) in 2019

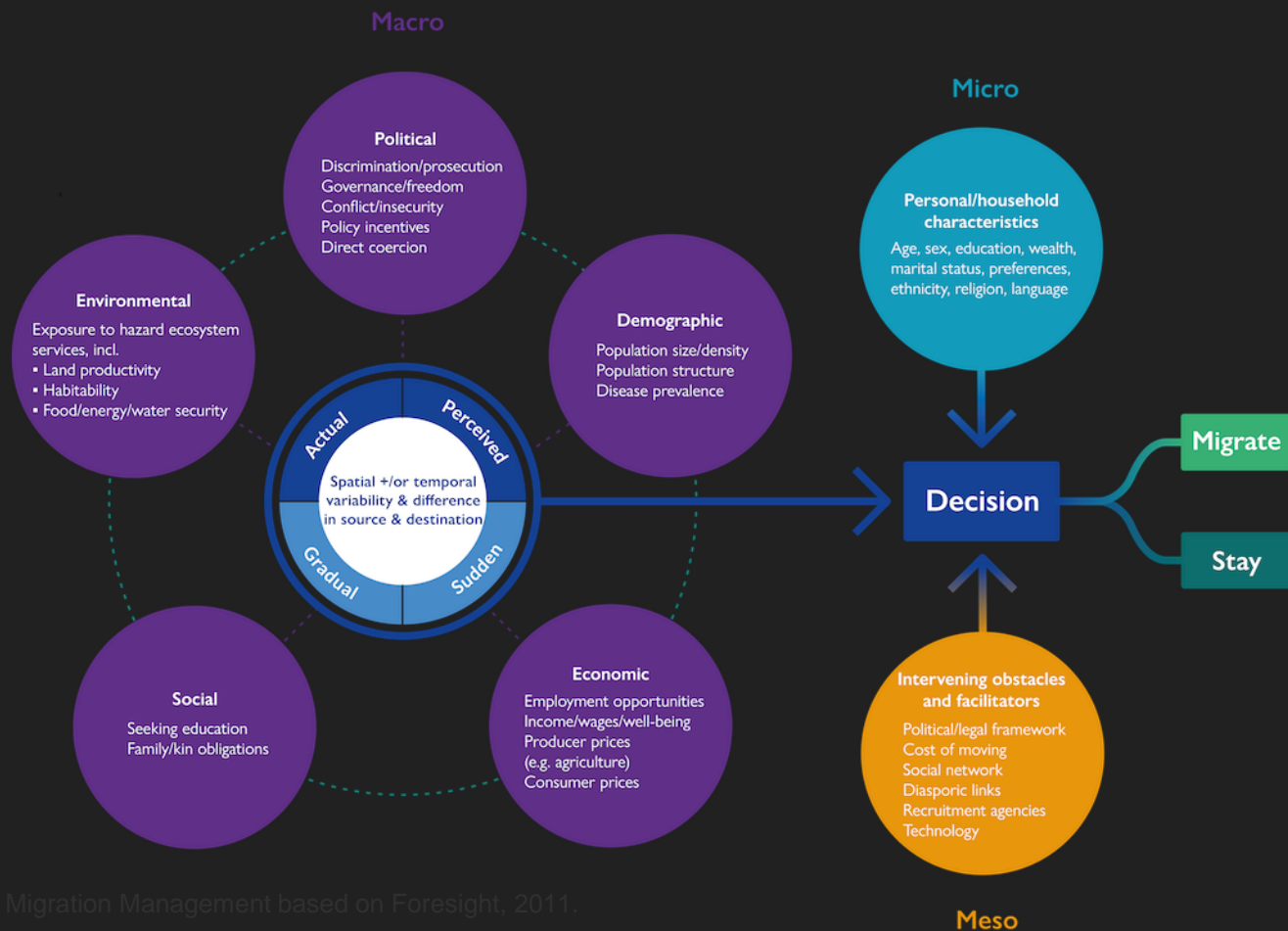
international migrants globally in 2020, or 3.6 per cent of the world's population

Females^(b)	135 million international female migrants globally in 2020, or 3.5 per cent of the world's female population	 Up from 130 million (or 3.4%) in 2019
Males^(a)	146 million international male migrants globally in 2020, or 3.7 per cent of the world's male population	 Up from 141 million (or 3.6%) in 2019
Labour migrants^(b)	169 million migrant workers globally in 2019	 Up from 164 million globally in 2017
Missing migrants^(c)	Around 3,900 dead and missing globally in 2020	 Down from almost 5,400 in 2019

Global patterns of international migration



Why do people migrate?



Migrant

An umbrella term, not defined under international law, reflecting the common lay understanding of a person who moves away from his or her place of usual residence, whether within a country or across an international border, temporarily or permanently, and for a variety of reasons.

The term includes a number of well-defined legal categories of people, such as migrant workers; persons whose particular types of movements are legally defined, such as smuggled migrants; as well as those whose status or means of movement are not specifically defined under international law, such as international students (IOM, 2019).

Categories of Migrants (IOM, 2019)

1. Migrant workers

A person who is to be engaged, is engaged or has been engaged in a remunerated activity in a State of which he or she is not a national.

1. High-skilled migrants

A migrant worker who has earned, by higher level education or occupational experience, the level of skill or qualifications typically needed to practice a highly skilled occupation.

1. Irregular migrants

Movement of persons that takes place outside the laws, regulations, or international agreements governing the entry into or exit from the State of origin, transit or destination.

4. Skilled migrant worker

A migrant worker who has the appropriate skill level and specialization to carry out the tasks and duties of a given job.

5. Environmental migrant

A person or group(s) of persons who, predominantly for reasons of sudden or progressive changes in the environment that adversely affect their lives or living conditions, are forced to leave their places of habitual residence, or choose to do so, either temporarily or permanently, and who move within or outside their country of origin or habitual residence.

Refugees

Refugee (mandate):

A person who qualifies for the protection of the United Nations provided by the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in accordance with UNHCR's Statute and, notably, subsequent General Assembly's resolutions clarifying the scope of UNHCR's competency

Refugee (prima facie):

Persons recognized as refugees, by a State or the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, on the basis of objective criteria related to the circumstances in their country of origin, which justify a presumption that they meet the criteria of the applicable refugee definition.

Refugee (1951 Convention):

A person who, owing to a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it.

Understanding migration



Contributions of Migrants



Sociocultural contributions of immigrants: food

For example, food carries incredible cultural, social and economic value.

- Food contributions of immigrants enrich receiving societies with new flavours and recipes that can spark creativity and support the restaurant industry.
- Food integration and transformation within the receiving countries can reflect the integration of immigrants themselves.
- Food dialogues and sharing can help intercultural communication when language only is not enough (IOM, 2020).

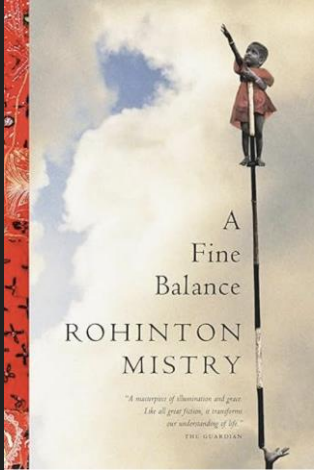


FIFA



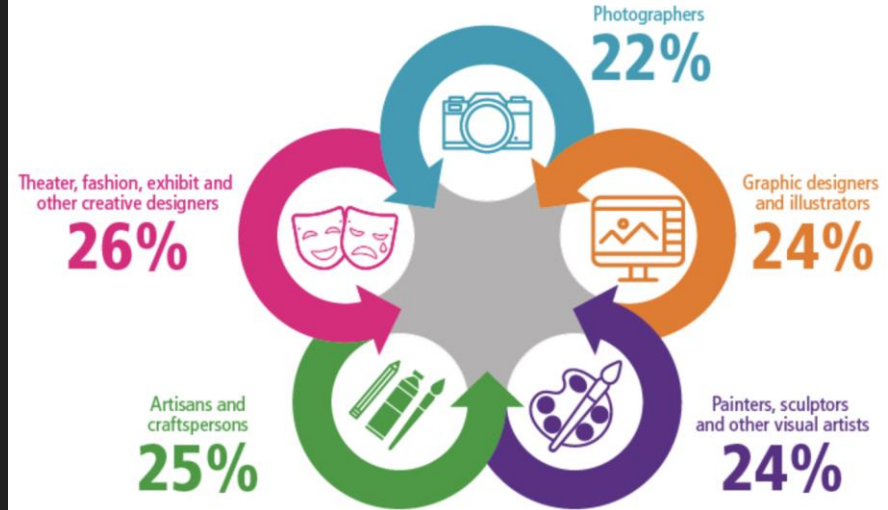
Soccer is the most popular sport in the world, and one of the main objectives of 2022 World Cup™ was the cultural exchange between locals and people from all over the world, helping to enhance cultural understanding and showcasing what the region has to offer.

Sociocultural contributions of immigration in Canada



Born in India, Rohinton Mistry is an award-winning Canadian author, best known for his novels *Such a Long Journey*, *A Fine Balance* and *Family Matters*. He won the Governor General's Literary Award, Commonwealth Writers Prize, Giller Prize, and Neustadt International Prize, among others. He became a Member of the Order of Canada in 2015.

Percentage of immigrants in creative occupations



Did you know.....

29% of independent artists, writers and performers are immigrants.

Across the country, there are more than 3,000 businesses (defined as self-employed persons with paid employees) in the arts and culture sector owned by immigrants.

Connecting & supporting communities

Did you know.....

On average, immigrants donate more to charity than Canadian-born citizens.

Nearly 40% of immigrants aged 15 and older are volunteers. On average, these people will volunteer 162 hours each year.



Economic contributions of immigration

Migrants play different key roles in their origin and destination countries (OIM, 2020):

- **As Workers:** migrants are part of and impact the labour market; they also alter the country's income distribution and influence domestic investment priorities.
- **As Students:** , migrants, or their children, contribute to increasing the stock of human capital and diffusing knowledge.
- **As Entrepreneurs and investors:** they create job opportunities and promote innovation and technological change.
- **As Consumers:** they contribute to increasing the demand for domestic – and foreign – goods and services.
- **As Savers:** besides sending remittances to their countries of origin they also contribute indirectly, through the bank system, to fostering investment in their host countries.
- **As Taxpayers:** they contribute to the public budget and benefit from public services.



Immigration and Economic Growth

Growing the economy through immigration

75% of Canada's population growth comes from **immigration**, mostly in the **economic category**.

3-year plan sets most ambitious immigration levels in recent history

330,800 in 2019

341,000 in 2020

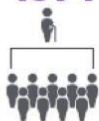
350,000 in 2021



This measured, gradual increase will trend towards 1% of the population by 2021, spurring innovation and representing a major investment in Canada's prosperity, now and into the future.

About 6 in 10 immigrants are selected for their positive economic impact.

1971



Fewer people working to support retirees

2035



In 1971, Canada's worker to retiree ratio was about **7 to 1**.

By 2035, when **5 million** Canadians are set to retire, the ratio will be down to **2 to 1**.



Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés et Citoyenneté Canada

Canada

Global economic growth through remittances

Remittances refers to the money or goods that migrants send back to families and friends in origin countries, are often the most direct and well-known link between migration and development. Remittances exceed official development aid but are private funds.

Globally, remittance flows are estimated at USD 860 billion in 2023 and are projected to grow at a nearly similar rate of 3.1 per cent in 2024 (KNOMAD, 2023)



Benefits of immigration to Canadian sectors

As of May 2021, immigrants aged 25 to 54 represented (Government of Canada, 2023):

- over 36% of people working in accommodation and food services
- nearly 38% of those working in the transportation and warehousing sector
- over 34% of those working in professional, scientific and technical services
- over 20% of those working in construction



20% of sports coaches are immigrants



$\frac{1}{3}$ of people working on science fields were born outside of Canada



1 in 4 artisans and craftspersons are immigrants



More than 1 in 4 workers in the food sector are immigrants



More than 1 in 4 workers in the social assistance sector were born outside Canada

Migration Governance: Challenges & Opportunities

Realities and risks of migration

Human rights violations against migrants can include a denial of civil and political rights such as arbitrary detention, torture, or a lack of due process, as well as economic, social and cultural rights such as the rights to health, housing or education and fair wages. The denial of migrants' rights is often closely linked to discriminatory laws and to deep-seated attitudes of prejudice or xenophobia.

Many migrants, particularly irregular and temporary migrants, are in danger of trafficking. Human trafficking occurs for specific purposes, such as sexual exploitation, labour exploitation, forced criminality, and organ removal; smugglers take advantage of migrants vulnerabilities when they cannot access a safe pathway. Temporary migration programs tie workers access to rights to employers, which heightens their precarity and vulnerability to abuse and exploitation. In both cases, isolation and ineligibility for systems designed for newcomers, coupled with fear of loss of income or deportation, make it very challenging to protect the rights of migrant workers.

See: <https://www.migrantworker.ca/>

Jamaican farm worker says he's still waiting for proper compensation after 2008 accident in Niagara Region

WSIB spokesperson wouldn't comment on Jeleel Stewart's case



Aura Carreño Rosas · CBC News · Posted: Mar 07, 2023 4:00 AM EST | Last Updated: March 7, 2023



OPP discriminated against migrant workers during DNA sweep: Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario





Specific Challenges faced by women migrants

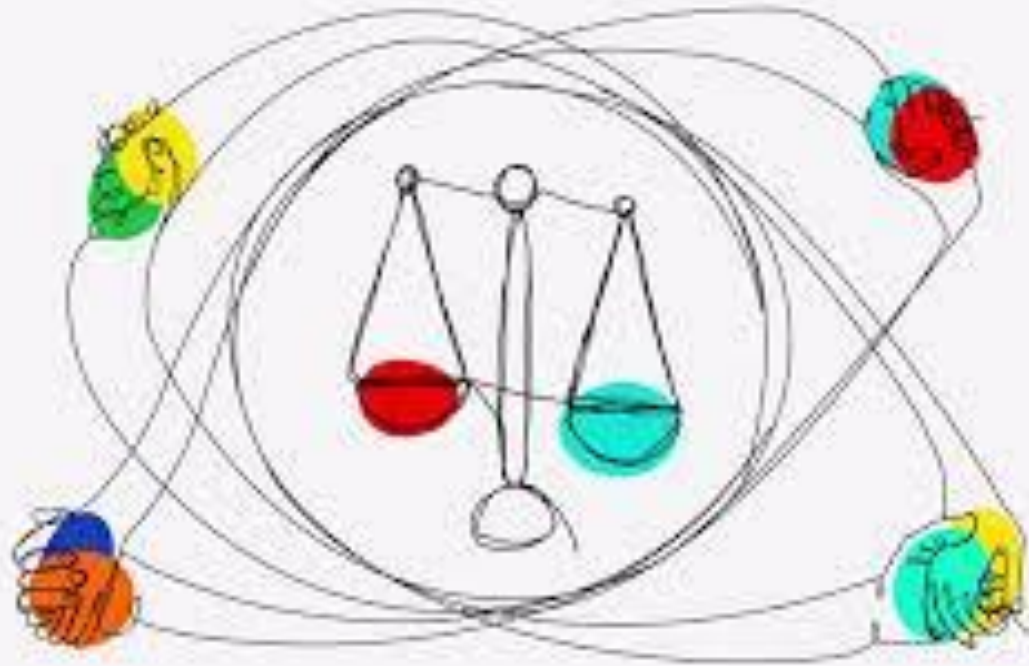
- Restrictive and gendered migration pathways
- Gender stereotypes, discrimination, stigma
- Gendered labour market insertion in precarious employment: high levels → informality, exploitation, lack of regulation and protection of labour rights
- Heightened risks of trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation
- Heightened risks of SGBV
- Barriers to accessing health care, social protection, justice
- Family separation, mental and physical health risks
- Barriers to accessing formal remittance channels

Gender and migration

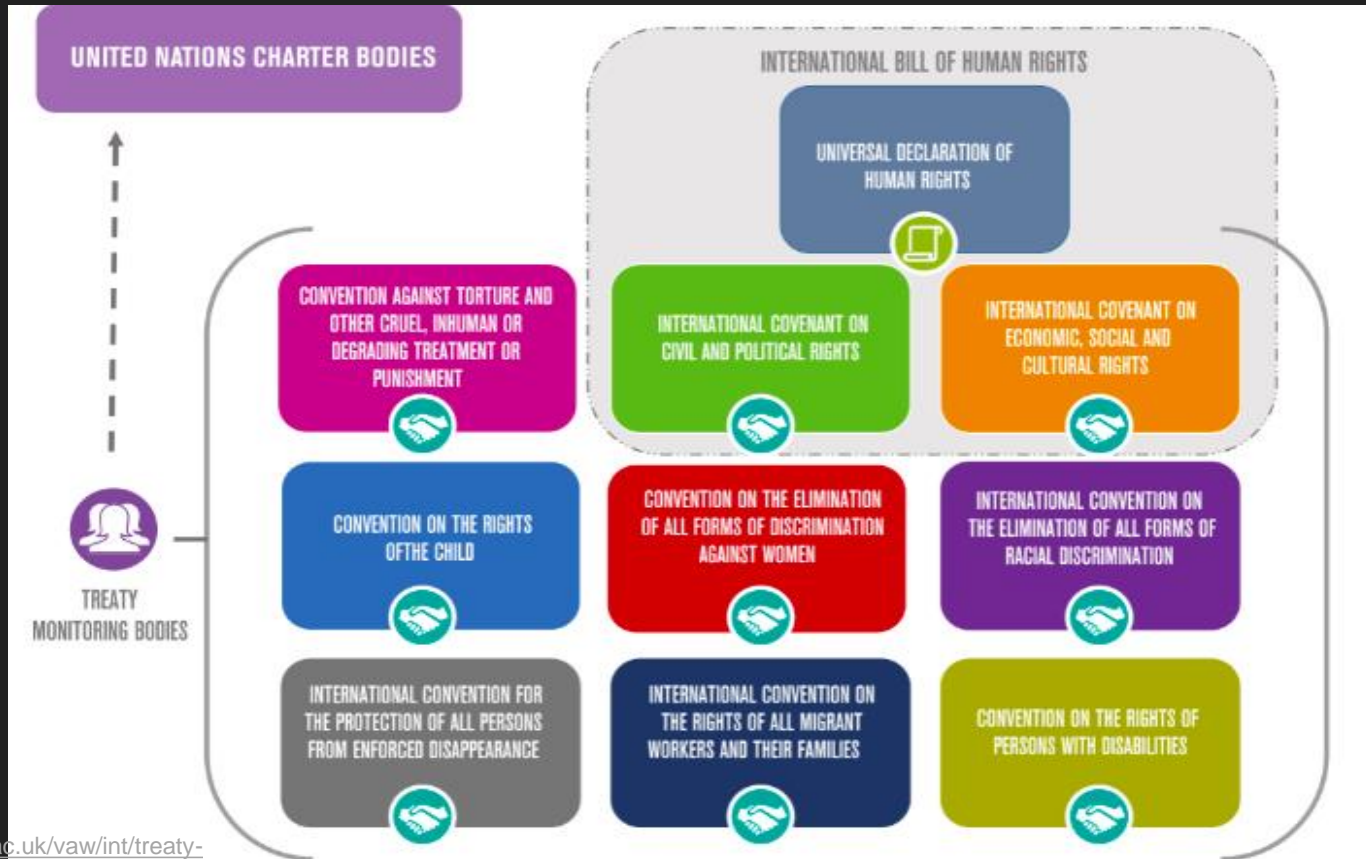
Gender affects all stages of migration. Decision-making about whether and who should migrate; experiences while in transit or working and integrating in the destination country; as well as reintegration in the origin country upon return are all influenced by gender roles and structural forms of inequality.

In addition to gender, the lived experiences of migrants are influenced by identity markers, such as race, ethnicity, nation, religion, class, sexual orientation and/or gender identity. Women and gender diverse migrants may face multiple forms of discrimination at various stages of migration.

Gender and Migration



KEY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS





Seventy-third session
Agenda items 14 and 119

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 19 December 2018

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/73/L.66)]

73/195. Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 71/1 of 19 September 2016, in which it decided to convene an intergovernmental conference to adopt a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration, as well as its resolutions 71/280 of 6 April 2017, 72/244 of 24 December 2017 and 72/308 of 6 August 2018,

1. Expresses its profound gratitude to the Government and the people of Morocco for hosting the Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, held in Marrakech on 10 and 11 December 2018, and for providing all the necessary support;

2. Endorses the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration adopted by the Intergovernmental Conference as contained in the annex to the present resolution, and which will also be known as the Marrakech Compact on Migration.

60th plenary meeting
19 December 2018

Annex

Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

We, the Heads of State and Government and High Representatives, meeting in Morocco on 10 and 11 December 2018, reaffirming the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants¹ and determined to make an important contribution to

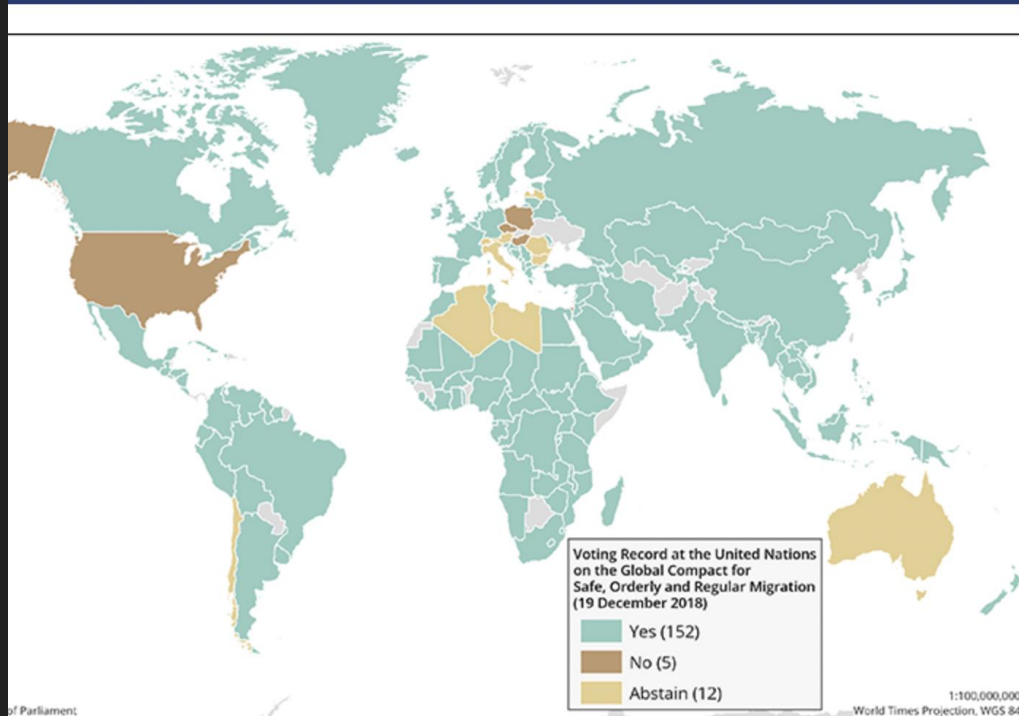
¹ Resolution 71/1.

UN Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration



The Global Compact for Migration

International Support for the *Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration*



- 152 states voting in favour
- Multistakeholder consultations and negotiations, UN SRSG-led
- National implementation plans
- UN Migration Network formation, CSO Liaison, Workplan
- International Migration Review Forum

Research on global migration governance

- Key informant interviews with member state representatives, CSOs, UN agencies
- Participant observation (2015-2023):
 - CSO meetings, UNHCR, UN Treaty Body meetings, Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) preparatory meetings and government/CSO days (Istanbul, Skhirat, Marrakesh), High Level Dialogue on Migration (NYC), Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) (NYC), UN GCM preparatory meetings consultations in Geneva, NYC and Marrakesh
- Gender content analysis of GCM and GCR early and final texts guided by Canada's GBA+

<https://cfc-swc.gc.ca/gba-acs/index-en.html>



Negotiations and consultations



GCM & the future of migration governance



References & Readings

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Thank you

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<https://www.balsillieschool.ca/>

<https://www.migrantworker.ca/>

<https://gendermigrationhub.org/>