

FONDAZIONE PROCLADE INTERNAZIONALE – ONLUS

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P O L I C Y B R I E F

International Migration Review Forum 2026

From Emergency Assistance to Integral Accompaniment in Migration

*Contributions from the Claretian experience for the implementation of the
Global Compact for Migration (GCM)*



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1. UN Context and Process

This Policy Brief contributes to the follow-up processes of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the second International Migration Review Forum (IMRF2). It presents how Claretian migration ministry translates the GCM's 23 objectives into concrete practice across Latin America, North America, Africa, Asia, and Europe.

Human mobility has intensified in recent years, driven by structural factors including inequality, violence, climate change, labor demand, and demographic dynamics, and many migrants face restrictive policies, racism, and xenophobia that undermine their rights and social inclusion.

Drawing on lived experience across countries of origin, transit, and destination, this Brief offers evidence-based reflections, key messages, and policy recommendations responding to the priorities of IMRF2. The recommendations are organized around its four Round Tables, which together cover all 23 Objectives of the GCM:

IMRF2 ROUND TABLE	GCM OBJECTIVES	THEMATIC FOCUS
Round Table 1	Obj. 2, 5, 6, 12, 18	Structural drivers; regular pathways; fair recruitment; skills; predictable procedures
Round Table 2	Obj. 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 21	Legal identity; saving lives; smuggling & trafficking; border governance; detention; return & reintegration
Round Table 3	Obj. 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 22	Access to basic services; social inclusion & cohesion; migration & development; remittances; social protection
Round Table 4	Obj. 1, 3, 7, 17, 23	Data & information; reducing vulnerabilities; countering discrimination; narratives; international cooperation

2. Current Migration Realities

Current migration is characterized by forced displacement, mixed flows, and growing vulnerability. Migrants face risks in countries of origin, transit, and destination, including exploitation, irregular administrative status, and discrimination.

- a)** Human mobility constitutes one of the most significant challenges of the contemporary world. Millions of people are forced to leave their homes due to armed conflicts, structural violence, economic inequality, political persecution, and environmental crises. In many cases, migration is not a free choice, but a survival strategy.
- b)** Different regions of the world have become areas of origin, transit, and destination for migrants. The causes of migration include violence, structural poverty, political crises, climate change, and territorial conflicts that particularly affect rural and Indigenous communities.
- c)** Various indigenous and rural communities — such as the Mayangna and Miskito peoples in Nicaragua — face land grabs, violence, and persecution. Similar situations affect communities in countries such as Mexico, Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia, the Congo, Mali, Nigeria, Sudan, and Palestine. As a consequence, many families have sought protection in neighboring countries and in developed countries.
- d)** Today we face a reality that has deepened the humanitarian crisis. Many migrants have been deported or forcibly returned even after fleeing political persecution or death threats, exposing them again to serious risks.
- e)** Xenophobia and aporophobia: Migrants also face discrimination, xenophobia, and poverty-based exclusion in destination countries, which hinder their social integration and access to basic rights.

3. From Emergency Assistance to Integral Accompaniment

The current migration crisis has revealed the limits of responses focused solely on immediate humanitarian assistance. In response to this reality, the Claretian approach proposes a transition from emergency assistance toward integral accompaniment processes, integration, and structural advocacy, placing human dignity and the integral development of migrants at the center.

The Claretian experience in different migration contexts — America, Africa, Asia, and Europe — shows that migration is a complex phenomenon driven by structural causes such as violence, poverty, inequality, climate change, and territorial conflicts. These dynamics force thousands of people to move under conditions of extreme vulnerability, facing risks throughout the migration cycle.

In response, Claretian action has developed a holistic and integral response that articulates humanitarian, social, pastoral, and advocacy dimensions. This approach is inspired by the principles of welcoming, protecting, promoting, and integrating, and is implemented through continuous accompaniment that goes beyond immediate assistance.

Emergency Assistance Phase: Claretian action responds to emergency assistance and addresses urgent needs by providing food, shelter, basic medical care, emotional support, and spiritual accompaniment, especially in border zones, transit routes, and reception centres. Experience shows that emergency assistance is insufficient if not complemented by medium- and long-term inclusion processes. [GCM Obj. 7, 8]

Social and Community Integration: The Claretian model advances toward social and community integration, promoting access to decent work, vocational training, legal counseling, regularization, and community networks, strengthening migrant autonomy and active participation in host societies. [GCM Obj. 4, 5, 6, 15, 16, 18, 19]

Psychosocial, Cultural, and Spiritual Dimensions: Claretian accompaniment recognizes that migration involves complex processes of grief, adaptation, and identity. Through community spaces, cultural mediation, and strengthening of the social fabric, social cohesion and intercultural coexistence are promoted. [GCM Obj. 16, 17]

Multi-stakeholder Advocacy: Integration requires coordinated action among civil society, faith communities, States, and international institutions to address structural causes and design inclusive policies — including through advocacy and multi-stakeholder engagement at local, national, and UN levels. [GCM Obj. 1, 3, 7, 17, 23]

In this way, the Claretian approach proposes a paradigm shift: moving from assistance-based responses to integral inclusion processes, from a holistic vision that accompanies migrants in all dimensions of their lives and throughout all stages of the migration process. This model contributes to building more just, supportive, and intercultural societies, where human mobility is recognized as an opportunity for encounter and integral human development.

4. Analysis and Global Frameworks

The Claretian experience of accompanying migrants is framed within the main international frameworks guiding global migration governance, particularly the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and international human rights instruments. These frameworks recognize migration as a structural phenomenon requiring coordinated responses centered on human dignity and shared responsibility among countries of origin, transit, and destination.

In relation to the Sustainable Development Goals, Claretian accompaniment is particularly linked to:

- ▶ **SDG 1 (No Poverty):** supporting excluded populations
- ▶ **SDG 8 (Decent Work):** through labor insertion processes
- ▶ **SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities):** by promoting migrant inclusion
- ▶ **SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions):** by defending human rights and access to justice
- ▶ **SDG 17 (Partnerships):** through networking with civil society, faith-based organizations, and international agencies

This approach demonstrates that migration should not be addressed only as a humanitarian challenge, but also as a key dimension of sustainable development and social cohesion.

Field experience also highlights the need to strengthen migration governance based on human rights, international cooperation, and safe mobility pathways. The lack of regular migration channels increases risks of exploitation, violence, and trafficking, while policies focused exclusively on migration control tend to deepen vulnerability. In this context, the Claretian approach proposes integral policies combining protection, integration, and human development, promoting safe and orderly migration that contributes to the common good and sustainable development of both origin and destination societies.

5. Key Messages

Migration is driven by global structural factors that require multilateral responses — including inequality, conflict, climate change, and territorial dispossession. It will remain a defining feature of our world and must be governed, not denied.

Migrants' human rights are systematically violated throughout the migration cycle; policies centred only on control and deterrence deepen vulnerability and irregularity.

Local communities, faith-based actors, and migrant-led organisations are indispensable partners for reception and integration and GCM implementation, particularly where public institutions are absent or overwhelmed.

Safe, regular, and accessible pathways are urgently needed — especially for people in situations of vulnerability — and must be matched with inclusive integration policies.

Integral accompaniment — humanitarian, social, pastoral and advocacy — offers a concrete model for translating the GCM's 23 objectives into practice and for building more just, participatory, and intercultural societies.

International cooperation and shared responsibility are essential for effective migration governance, including fair and ethical recruitment, protection from trafficking and smuggling, joint prevention of deaths, and sustainable reintegration after return.

6. Public Policy Recommendations

To Member States

1

Create safe and regular migration pathways

Develop regulatory frameworks that expand regular mobility channels including labor migration programs, humanitarian visas, family reunification, and educational mobility. These pathways should be accessible, transparent, and adapted to labor market needs and international protection. [RT1 | GCM Obj. 2, 5, 6]

2

Guarantee protection of human rights

Adopt rights-based migration policies ensuring protection of migrants throughout the migration cycle — origin, transit, destination, and return — regardless of migration status. Access to justice, health, and education, and protection from all forms of violence, discrimination, or criminalization. [RT2 | GCM Obj. 4, 7, 8, 11, 13]

3

Strengthen social integration policies

Develop comprehensive public policies ensuring access to decent work, housing, education, health, and participation. Promote an economy oriented toward the common good — transitioning from profit-centered models toward economies prioritizing human dignity, decent work, social justice, and environmental sustainability. [RT3 | GCM Obj. 14, 15, 16, 19]

To UN Agencies

1

Support implementation of the Global Compact for Migration

Strengthen GCM follow-up mechanisms through technical assistance, capacity-building, and indicator development, with meaningful participation of civil society and faith-based actors. [RT4 | GCM Obj. 1, 23]

2

Finance integration and protection programs

Increase funding for reception, socio-economic integration, and social cohesion programs. [RT3 | GCM Obj. 14, 15, 16]

3

Promote regional and route-based cooperation

Foster cooperation among countries of origin, transit, and destination, including route-based approaches connecting local realities along key migration corridors. [RT2 | GCM Obj. 9, 10, 21]

To the International Community

1

Strengthen international cooperation

Promote migration governance based on shared responsibility, human rights, and sustainable development. [RT4 | GCM Obj. 23]

2

Combat xenophobia and discrimination

Develop and support global and local awareness campaigns and educational initiatives countering xenophobia, racism, and aporophobia, promoting positive, evidence-based narratives about migration. [RT4 | GCM Obj. 17]

3

Support local organizations and faith communities

Formally recognize their role and strengthen cooperation networks, and ensure their access to adequate resources and spaces for policy dialogue and monitoring. [RT4 | GCM Obj. 3, 7, 23]

7. Claretian Commitments (2026–2030)

In alignment with the IMRF2 multi-stakeholder review architecture and Proclade's ECOSOC-accredited status, the Claretian Family announces the following voluntary commitments to advance GCM implementation globally:

- ▶ Expand integral humanitarian accompaniment along migration routes, ensuring continuous presence, basic assistance, and referral networks in contexts of transit, border crossing, and forced return. [RT2 | GCM Obj. 7, 8, 21]
- ▶ Strengthen legal protection and documentation support, providing accessible immigration counselling, asylum assistance, and regularisation processes for migrants in vulnerable situations. [RT2 | GCM Obj. 4, 12, 13]
- ▶ Scale socio-economic integration pathways, developing training-to-decent-work programmes and advocating for fair recruitment standards and equal labour rights for migrant workers. [RT1 | GCM Obj. 5, 6, 18, 19]
- ▶ Institutionalise psychosocial and intercultural integration, developing community-based methodologies for psychosocial accompaniment and expanding intercultural mediation and social cohesion programmes. [RT3 | GCM Obj. 16, 17]
- ▶ Respond to forced return as a protection priority, advocating for non-refoulement compliance and accompanying returnees with protection screening, psychosocial support, and livelihood assistance. [RT2 | GCM Obj. 21, 8, 13]
- ▶ Build community-level evidence and data, systematically documenting migration needs, protection gaps, and integration outcomes to inform policy at national and international levels. [RT4 | GCM Obj. 1, 3]
- ▶ Strengthen advocacy and counter-narrative action, deepening engagement in national and UN-level migration policy processes and promoting rights-based, evidence-grounded public narratives about migration. [RT4 | GCM Obj. 17, 23]
- ▶ Mobilise a Global Claretian Migration Network, connecting Claretian provinces across all continents to share methodologies, coordinate advocacy, and collectively advance GCM implementation commitments and prepare a Claretian Migration Ministry Directory. [RT4 | GCM Obj. 23]

Conclusion

Migration is a structural phenomenon that requires coordinated responses based on human rights and international cooperation.

The Claretian experience highlights the importance of policies centered on human dignity, solidarity, and international cooperation.

Integral accompaniment — humanitarian, social, pastoral, and advocacy — offers a concrete and tested way to implement the Global Compact for Migration and to build more just, welcoming, and intercultural societies.

The Claretian Family through the efforts of Fondazione Proclade Internazionale-onlus remains committed to this mission and to contributing to the IMRF2 process and the achievement of all 23 GCM Objectives.

Endorsement

This Policy Brief for IMRF2 is endorsed by the following Claretian Major Organisms through their Prefects of Apostolate:

SIGNATORY	MAJOR ORGANISM
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Arvin B. Bellen, CMF	Fr. Rhoel Gallardo Province
José Enrique Aponte, CMF	Colombia Oriental y Ecuador Province
Fr. Joy Pulickal, CMF	Province of North East India
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