International Migrants Day was created in 2000 by the United Nations General Assembly in light of the rapidly growing number of migrants around the world. Recognising international migration as a rising phenomenon and the positive impacts of it, numerous discussions have taken place about respecting the rights of migrants, the need for cooperation to tackle the complexities of migration and elimination of reasons for migration to occur.

As highlighted by the theme from 2018, migration with dignity, choices of migrants to move in the context of globalisation need to be protected, especially female migrants.

**WHAT IS INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS DAY?**

**INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS ACCOUNT FOR**

3.5% OF THE GLOBAL POPULATION

Source: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)

47.9% OF THE TOTAL MIGRANT POPULATION ARE WOMEN

With North America having the highest percentage of women migrants (51.8%)

Source: UN DESA, International Migration 2019

**AS MORE WOMEN MIGRATE INDEPENDENTLY FOR EMPLOYMENT OR EDUCATION,**

**FEMALE MIGRANTS FACE MULTIPLE DISCRIMINATION DUE TO THEIR GENDER AND MIGRANT STATUS**

Source: Migration Data Portal, Gender and Migration

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Quality Education:
4.b.1: For increasing the quantity of scholarships for higher education in developing countries

Gender Equality & Women’s Empowerment:
5.5: Guarantee effective participation of women and equal opportunities in all areas of life to hold decision making positions

Decent work and economic growth:
8.8: Protect labor laws for a safe working environment including migrant workers, particularly women migrants

Reduced Inequalities:
10.7: For organized, safe, responsible migration and mobility of people
10.7.2: Countries to properly manage migration policies

Graduate Women International Triennial Centenary Conference 2019
Policy Resolution No.5 : Human Rights for Refugees and Migrant Women and Children

Advocates to enforce multiple global conventions such as the International Conventions on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of their families

Urges National Federations and Associations (NFAs) countries to address and eliminate human rights violations of migrants

Graduate Women International Resolution No.5 2010: Abuse of Female Migrants

Highlight the need to review migration legislation about human rights protections and introduce new legislation for protecting women from discrimination, abuse and exploitation

Utilise existing international conventions and instruments to include migration in discussions

CALL FOR ACTION

Facilitate discussions about employment policies and political frameworks to raise awareness of the rights of migrants to address the existing gender pay gap and unequal treatment of women migrants.

Source: Migration Data Portal, Migration Data for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); United Nations

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