UNHCR 2021 Regional Consultations with NGOs in Europe

Regional Dialogue #2 - 27 May 2021

Introduction

Between July and December 2020, the UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe, together with the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE) and the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA), organised five online Dialogues with NGOs, touching upon various topics, selected based on NGO feedbacks, UNHCR's priorities and emerging situations.

These exchanges helped promote two-way information-sharing on key developments impacting the situation of refugees, asylum-seekers, stateless persons and internally displaced people across the region, and enhanced joint and complementary advocacy, including between Geneva and Brussels-based actors.

In 2021, UNHCR, ECRE and ICVA are pursuing these dialogues in the framework of the UNHCR Regional Consultations with NGOs, decentralized at the regional level. This second Dialogue of 2021 will take place following UNHCR's 80th Standing Committee held on 23-25 March 2021, where a situational overview on UNHCR's work in Europe was presented (<u>link</u> to the written version). A statement was also presented by NGO partners on the situation in Europe (<u>link to the written statement</u>).

Objectives

In the presence of the UNHCR Regional Bureau Director, this Dialogue is an opportunity for UNHCR and NGO partners to follow-up on the global discussions held in the context of UNHCR's 80th Standing Committee, share critical operational updates and identify the potential for common and joint advocacy.

Participants

The Director of the UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe will share UNHCR's perspective over the latest and most salient regional developments and participate in a discussion with NGOs.

When registering for the Dialogue, NGO participants are encouraged to share their questions and suggestions.

Agenda (1h45)

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Dialogue will be organised online.

| | Time | Topic | Speakers and facilitators | Content |
|---|--|-----------------------|---|--|
| 1 | 15.30 – 15.40 10 min | Opening | - Nicolas Brass - Head of External Engagement, UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe - Loïse Daï Rocheteau - Policy Officer, International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA) | Quick introduction of Standing Committee meeting |
| 2 | 15.40 – 16.00 20 min | Regional developments | Pascale Moreau – Director, UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe | - Situation overview and updates - Main challenges to be addressed jointly by UNHCR and NGOs |
| 3 | 16.00 – 16.50 50 min | Dialogue | Moderation by Catherine Woollard - Director, European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE) | Q&A with the audience |
| 4 | 16.50 – 17.00 10 min | Closing | ECRE, ICVA, UNHCR | Closing |