When Nation States Come Together

We live in a global system. No matter how powerful a country, it needs collaborative, rapid and global responses for peaceful and harmonious societies.

But today's volatile environment is placing the future of international cooperation in danger. The traditional balance of power of the G7 countries was upset at the latest summit with multilateral trade deals questioned solely on the individual country value-added benefits. Leading to mistaken approaches because trying to solve the wrong problems, leaders oppose nationalism against international cooperation in the way they criticise international institutions such as the UN, NATO and the EU.

Against this backdrop, the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) and the Global Compact for Safe Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) were developed following the UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants in 2016, in which 193 Member States adopted the New York Declaration.

In July, both processes completed agreements on improving the ways to handle the global flow of populations. These Compacts are the products of intense and inclusive consultations in which organised civil society is recognised to have played an influential role.

The agreements are expected to be formally adopted in December respectively during a Summit in Morocco for the GCM, and in New York at the UN General Assembly for the GCR.

All but two countries, the United States of America and Hungary, are likely to adopt the GCM which strikes a fine balance between the prerogatives of state sovereignty and of the human rights of all migrants. It is now crucial for civil society organisations to advocate for and support implementation as the GCM now lands at national level.

With the Global Compacts, world leaders are reaffirming the importance of a cooperative international system and the tangible benefits to all stakeholders.

It reminds a peak of multilateralism with the agreement in 2015 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). The SDG and the compacts carry the weight of multilateralism on their back.

We face huge challenges, and only together can we tackle them.

Ignacio Packer
Executive Director | ICVA

Forced Displacement

1. The Global Compact on Refugees:

   - The ‘advance version’ of the Global Compact on Refugees was released on 20 July. In a de-brief with Member States in New York, Mr. Volker Türk said this will be the text the High Commissioner will propose in his annual report to the UN General Assembly in September.

   - Following the sixth and final round of formal consultations, ICVA, on 11 July, organised a meeting with NGOs to debrief on the consultations and strategise on the way forward. ICVA members can access the notes of the meeting. During the formal consultations, ICVA
facilitated and coordinated the 20 NGO statements. All the statements and detailed notes from the consultations are available on ICVA’s website.

2. The Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF): On 12 July, ICVA facilitated a special meeting between ICVA members and UNHCR to discuss CRRF implementation and tools. This was an opportunity for NGOs to follow recent developments in CRRF contexts as well as become familiar with various tools including the recently launched CRRF Global Digital Portal.

3. Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration (GCM): A Joint Civil Society Statement was presented at the Conclusion of Negotiations on the GCM in New York, on 13 July. NGOs can still sign-on to the statement. Over the two and half years from the negotiations around the New York Declaration to the conclusion of the negotiations, the Civil Society Action Committee, co-convened by NGO Committee on Migration, ICMC and ICVA, bridged civil society initiatives and promoted the voice and space for participation of civil society and migrant networks. The Action Committee will participate in the next steps in setting the new governance and for concrete applications.

4. UNHCR NGO Innovation Award - Deadline extended: The first UNHCR NGO Innovation Award was launched at the UNHCR-NGO Annual Consultations in June. The aim of the award is to highlight NGO efforts and achievements that advance the innovative delivery of services to persons of concern to UNHCR. A prize money will be awarded to the winner and runner-up and a representative of each winning organisation will be invited to an award ceremony in Geneva, Switzerland, in December 2018. A jury composed of UNHCR and external partners will select the winners. In order to promote broader participation, the deadline of submission is extended to August 31. Submissions are accepted on the award’s website. More details can also be found on the website. For information and inquiries, please contact ngoinnovationaward@unhcr.org

5. UNHCR September Standing Committee: UNHCR’s 73rd Standing Committee meeting will take place on 19 and 20 September in Geneva. ICVA will facilitate NGO statements on the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) and the Grand Bargain. NGOs interested in leading the drafting of the statements should send their expression of interest to Jerome.Elie@icvanetwork.org and Arjun.Claire@icvanetwork.org.

6. IOM-NGO Consultations: Jointly organised by IOM and ICVA, the fourth annual IOM-NGO Humanitarian Consultations will be held on 25 September, in Geneva, Switzerland. Please save the date in your calendars. The overarching theme of this year’s Consultation will be internal displacement. This builds on the 2017 Nairobi regional Consultation which emphasised the need to further develop global dialogue between IOM and NGOs with regard to strengthening complementarities in preventing, responding to, and progressively resolving internal displacement. Registration will open soon. More information can be found on the IOM website.

7. DG Swing Speaks at his Last IOM-CSO Consultation: ICVA and other NGO representatives attended the 18 July IOM-CSO Consultation in Geneva, which over the course of three hours covered: 1) recent challenges related to the Rohingya, the Mediterranean crossings, and Venezuelans; 2) updates on the Global Compact on Migration process; 3) IOM’s Voluntary Return and Reintegration Programming; and 4) IOM’s engagement with civil society.

DG Swing welcomed participants and gave his final reflections in this specific forum: “Good migration governance requires partnership,” he said. When asked about today’s apparent erosion of multilateralism, he emphasised the need to reverse an “appalling lack of political courage and vision” and “not only tolerate diversity but embrace it.”
8. IDPs - GP20 Plan of Action to Advance Prevention, Protection and Solutions for IDPs: Launched earlier this year, the multi-stakeholder GP20 Plan of Action aims to reduce and resolve internal displacement through prevention, protection and solutions for IDPs consistent with Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement. Represented by Jane Backhurst of Christian Aid, ICVA is member of the GP20 Steering Group of the Plan of Action for Advancing the Prevention, Protection and Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons. The Steering Group will function from June 2018 to December 2020 and is initially jointly convened by UNHCR and OCHA as co-chairs. The Steering Group is established to oversee the implementation of the Plan of Action for Advancing Prevention, Protection and Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons launched during the 20th Anniversary of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement. The first Steering Group meeting took place on 5 July, with presentations from four workstreams: IDP participation, co-led by the UNSR and Ms. Backhurst, as well as law and policy, durable solutions and data collection and gathering. Ms. Backhurst will regularly engage the ICVA membership through the Forced Displacement Working Group.

Humanitarian Financing

9. Navigating Donor Desires: Through ICVA’s Humanitarian Financing Working Group and Donor Conditions Task Force, ICVA has been hosting some lessons learned sessions for NGOs to exchange among themselves on recent developments. On 9 July, Norwegian People’s Aid shared with NGOs about its $2.025 million settlement with the U.S. government due to an unintentional breach of a clause in a 2012 USAID agreement. On 16 July, Oxfam GB talked about its efforts to report to donors on sexual exploitation and abuse. Considered alongside NRC’s recent findings in "Principles under Pressure: the impact of counter-terrorism measures and preventing/countering violent extremism", it is increasingly important for NGOs to help each other understand expectations and the evolving application of donor conditions on those implementing humanitarian aid.

10. Grand Bargain:

- How to make the Grand Bargain grand again? Check out our blog for five ideas on how to get the most impact out of the Grand Bargain on humanitarian financing. It features many contributions from NGOs.

- Taking the Grand Bargain to country level: On 9 July, ICVA, VOICE, and the Somalia NGO Consortium facilitated a workshop in Mogadishu focused on implementation of the Grand Bargain in the field. 31 participants joined the workshop, representing a range of national NGOs from around Somalia, as well as INGOs working in Somalia. The discussions at the workshop identified a clear interest on behalf of field staff to better translate Grand Bargain commitments into field action. Participants identified localization, reducing duplication and management costs, multi-year funding, and participation revolution as workstreams with particular relevance at the local level. Additionally, improving levels of trust between donors and NGOs was seen as a core cross-cutting theme. A full report on the workshop as well as next steps will be available shortly. To follow-up with specific questions, or interest in the possibility of conducting a similar workshop in a different location, contact Jeremy.Rempel@icvanetwork.org.

- Reporting on Reporting: An Interim Report on the 8+3 Reporting Pilot: The mid-term review of the Harmonized Narrative Reporting Pilot underway in Iraq, Myanmar, and Somalia was released by GPPi in July. On July 20, an initial briefing was held with GPPi to present initial findings to the headquarters groups of pilot participants. Over the next month, additional rollout of the results will be planned for staff in each of the pilot countries. Read the full report.

11. The IASC to launch its learning lab on innovative financing: ICVA is supporting the preparations of the IASC HFTT’s first inter-agency learning module on innovative financing. The first topic will be Islamic Social Financing. The location will likely be Kuala Lumpur. If your organisation has experience in innovating to generate more resources for humanitarian work and would like to exchange learning with other practitioners, please contact Melissa.Pilotti@icvanetwork.org to explore options to contribute.
12. Making the most of pooled funds: ICVA attended the 11 July OCHA-NGO Dialogue Platform on Country-Based Pooled Funds. Participants worked together to identify priorities and learn about recent developments, like OCHA’s internal capacity strengthening initiative on innovation. ICVA appreciates Oxfam GB’s work co-chairing this platform, and NRC for taking the co-chairmanship baton for the next cycle. We liked the inclusion of a donor, Germany, as co-chair of the Pooled Fund Working Group, for a portion of the meeting. And we appreciated the dedicated discussion on the IASC HFTT’s study on Partner Capacity Assessments – as making these more interoperable at the country level will be a key contributor to addressing risk in the context of the Grand Bargain. Read the final report of the 20 June Pooled Fund Working Group meeting in New York.

Humanitarian Partnership

13. World Humanitarian Day – 19 August: This year’s World Humanitarian Day (WHD) marks the fifteenth anniversary since the attack on the Canal Hotel in Baghdad, Iraq, which killed 22 people. Since the attack on the Canal Hotel in 2003, over 4,000 humanitarians have been killed, injured, detained, kidnapped and prevented from responding to those in need. WHD builds on the momentum created by the 2017 #NotATarget campaign, which saw more than 2 million people take social actions urging global leaders to do a better job of protecting civilians, humanitarians and health workers in conflict zones. This year, citizens from around the globe are being asked to sign the petition demanding that world leaders take action to protect people caught in armed conflict. Join the #NotATarget movement and demand world leaders to do everything in their power to protect all civilians in conflict.

14. Agenda for Humanity: Interim Analysis on Progress 2018. Ahead of the publication of the second annual synthesis report on progress since the WHS, OCHA has partnered with international and national partners to prepare deeper analytical snapshots of the progress reported through the Platform for Action, Commitments and Transformation (PACT) in 2017. Find out how stakeholders reported their progress against key transformations of the Agenda for Humanity.

NGO Fora Support Programme

15. ICVA NGO Fora Support Mission – Rohingya Refugee Response in Bangladesh: ICVA’s Director of Programme and Regional Representative for Asia traveled to Bangladesh on a mission to strengthen support to NGOs in the Rohingya Refugee Response. In particular the focus was on providing support to the incoming NGO Platform Coordinator and strengthening aspects of governance and procedures for the new NGO Platform, which has been established for the response with funding from ECHO. In particular, ICVA supported a revision of the NGO Platform TORs and proposed an interim governance mechanism for the NGO Platform in its initial stages. ICVA’s team met with a number of representatives of NGOs and the UN to discuss NGO engagement in the response, and has developed a set of recommendations towards strengthening NGO Coordination, Advocacy, Leadership and Partnerships for a more principled, accountable and effective response. For more information on the mission and recommendations, please contact ICVA’s Regional Representative for Asia, Jeremy.Wellard@icvanetwork.org.

16. Supporting NGO Coordination in Africa:

- ICVA continues supporting the informal coordination of NGOs with regional offices in Dakar sharing information, coordination tools and linking with other fora in Africa.

- ICVA supported members of the Somalia NGO Consortium to participate in the Grand Bargain workshop in Mogadishu that was held on 9 July in collaboration with Intersos and the NGO network Voice.
- ICVA co-facilitated a **Building a Better Response** training in Juba, and is supporting members involvement in the BBR training in Nigeria.

- ICVA has liaised with NGO fora in Cameroon and Nigeria to ensure their involvement in the upcoming **Lake Chad Basin conference**, to take place in Berlin from 3-4 September 2018.

For more information please contact Marco.Rotelli@icvanetwork.org and Addis.Tesfa@icvanetwork.org.

### Humanitarian Learning Stream

17. ICVA Webinar: **Donor perspectives on the humanitarian-development-peace nexus:** [Register now](#) for our fifth and final topic of the Demystifying the humanitarian-development-peace nexus learning stream. **Donor perspectives on the humanitarian-development-peace nexus** takes place on 11 September 2018 from 10:30 to 12:00 (CEST). After having explored how the three main types of actors in the nexus view the current processes and discussions, we will turn to the perspectives of some of the donors.

ICVA, in partnership with PHAP, have speakers lined-up from the UK Department for International Development (DFID), the Crisis and Fragility, Development Co-operation Directorate of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and from the Overseas Development Institute (ODI). Join us for a discussion on how the actors behind a large proportion of the funding in these sectors are approaching the issue of how and to what degree humanitarian, development, and peace works should be coordinated and/or integrated.

For more information on ICVA’s Learning Streams see the [ICVA website](#), or contact Nishanie.Jayamaha@icvanetwork.org

18. **Learning Opportunities: Become a Coaching Manager:** Coaching techniques can help both individuals and teams within an organisation. Whether you are a CEO or aspire to become a senior leader, this two-part course (15 minutes each) on becoming a more effective manager will help you improve employee performance. Find out more on [disasterready.org](http://disasterready.org).

### ICVA Updates

19. **Prevent and respond to sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment in the aid sector:** The International Development Committee (IDC) Report, “**Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in the Aid Sector**” was released last week. IDC is responsible for holding DFID to account over the effectiveness of its spending, administration and policies. The Committee’s Report sets out how the delivery of aid to people and communities in crisis has been subverted by sexual predators who exploit weakened systems of governance.

All ICVA members welcome the current momentum in enhancing PSEA and SHW measures. The [commitment and call for action](#) at ICVA’s General Assembly in March is a testimony of our collective determination for more integrity. ICVA continues to work on these lines including contributions to “**Enhanced Analysis and Understanding**” with a focus on the “Response systems by national and local organisations” (Actionable recommendations from the ICVA report “**The Long Run Protection Against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse**”).
ICVA has been invited to an international summit to drive collective action to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment in the aid sector. The Summit taking place in London on 18 October is hosted by the UK International Development Secretary.

**New and Noteworthy**

20. **Online Disinformation Toolkit**: InterAction have published a new toolkit in response to the growing concern that NGOs and civil society are vulnerable to online attacks and campaigns that spread false information. This practical guide with insights from on-the-ground experiences, will help organisations better assess and prepare for online disinformation. [Download the guide](https://www.icvanetwork.org/civicrm/mailing/view?reset=1&id=1044&snippet=2).

21. **Getting to 2030: Forced displacement and sustainable development**: See [a Call for Abstracts](https://www.icvanetwork.org/civicrm/mailing/view?reset=1&id=1044&snippet=2) from IDMC for an Internal Displacement Conference to mark the 20th anniversary of both the [Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement](https://www.icvanetwork.org/civicrm/mailing/view?reset=1&id=1044&snippet=2) and IDMC. Contributions from academics, applied researchers, economists, policy makers, national and local government officials and development or humanitarian practitioners are welcome.

**Forthcoming Events**

**ICVA Organised events**

- **September 11**: Learning Stream Webinar: Donor perspectives on the humanitarian-development-peace nexus
- **November 7-9**: National NGO Fora workshop, Geneva
- **December 11-13**: ICVA Asia Regional Members and NGO Fora meeting, Bangkok

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- **March 26**: ICVA Annual Conference, Geneva

**Other events**

- **August 19**: World Humanitarian Day
- **September 14**: Grand Bargain workstream co-convener meeting, Geneva
- **September 19**: Second anniversary of the adoption of the New York Declaration
- **September 19-20**: UNHCR 73rd Standing Committee meeting, Geneva
- **October 1-5**: UNHCR Executive Committee Meeting, Geneva
- **October 1**: UNHCR Nansen Award Ceremony
- **October 8-9**: IOM International Dialogue on Migration, Geneva
- **October 8-9**: IASC Working Group meeting
- **October 18**: International Summit to Tackle Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment in the Aid Sector, London
- **October 23**: Asia-Pacific Conference on Refugee Rights, Bangkok
- **November 1-2**: ICSC Global Perspectives Conference, Berlin
- **November 5-8**: Geneva Peace Week, Geneva
- **November 29**: IASC Principals meeting, Geneva
- **December 3-4**: GFMD Civil Society Days, Marrakesh
- **December 5**: Regional Consultative Group on Civil Military Coordination, Bangladesh
- **December 5-7**: 11th Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) Summit Meeting, Marrakesh
- **December 10-11**: Intergovernmental Conference to adopt the GCM, Marrakesh
- **December 12**: Asia Regional Launch of Sphere Handbook Revision, Bangkok
- **December 18**: High Commissioner’s Dialogue on Protection Challenges, Geneva