



## International Migration Law (IML) A new online learning opportunity for NGOs

The International Council of Voluntary Agencies, Civil Society Action Committee and the International Migrants Bill of Rights (IMBR) Initiative at Cornell University are jointly providing a learning program for NGO staff working on migration.

### Rationale:

As NGO staff are often in front line of providing services to migrants and advocating for them, it is crucial that they are aware of the international legal framework guaranteeing the rights of all migrants. Such rights are often but not always enshrined in national legislation. National law must not conflict with the binding obligations accepted by States under international law. Therefore, understanding international legal frameworks relevant to migration governance is important for NGO staff. Such understanding better equips NGO staff to play a broader role within the whole of the society approach and be able to support both migrants and States of origin, transit and destination to ensure compliance with the international legal framework.

Although similar courses exist, this learning program is free, available online and combines a theoretical approach to the law with concrete examples of interventions by NGOs and discussions of opportunities for more coordinated future advocacy. This makes it thus unique in responding to the needs of NGO staff.

### Outline:

The learning program will cover the following subjects:

1. IML: An overview (first part)
2. IML: The rights of migrants under international and regional law (second part)
3. Entry, exit and expulsion/deportation
4. Supporting migrants in realising their labour rights
5. Migration and the law of the sea
6. Promoting alternatives to immigration detention
7. The rights of children in context of migration
8. Addressing statelessness in context of international migration
9. Internal displacement and migration governance
10. Addressing human trafficking and smuggling in people from a right based approach
11. The Global Compacts and regional initiatives
12. Advocacy strategies for promoting migrants' rights

A specific online module will be dedicated to each subject with 2-3 presentations and a questions and answers sessions. Each module will include concrete examples of recent successful advocacy by NGOs to advance the rights of migrants as well as reflections on new opportunities for more coordinated future advocacy. Guest speakers will include representatives from various States' agencies, NGOs working on the specific issue, representatives from UN Agencies and the human rights treaty system, academics, etc. A number of guiding questions and a resource library will also be available.

### Participants:

To ensure the quality of learning, participation will be limited to 35 persons. Interested NGO staff should register online [here](#). Priority will be given to NGO staff working on the ground and willing to attend all/or a considerable number of sessions.

### Language:

The working language for all the modules is English. The organisers will explore possibilities to offer the modules in the future in few more languages.