



International Migration Law (IML)  
NGO Learning Initiative

## Session Ten

### Internal Displacement and Migration Governance

According to the [Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement](#), internally displaced persons (IDPs) are "persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized border." At a record high of 55 million at the end of 2020<sup>1</sup>, IDPs face a multitude of risks: they are often deprived of adequate shelter, food and health services, have limited or no access to livelihoods and remain at risk of human rights abuses, in particular in settings of protracted or chronic displacement.

**Objective of the session:** Participants will learn about the international legal framework relating to internal displacement and migration governance. They will also hear about NGO work, protection challenges and solutions and existing best practices.

⇒ Introduction: organisers (8')

⇒ First speaker: **Martina Caterina, Legal Officer, UNHCR / Chair of the GPC Task Team on Law & Policy** (20')

- Overview of international and regional legal framework standards relating to internal displacement;
- How can NGOs work to promote such standards at the country level?;
- Link to Global Protection Cluster.

⇒ Second speaker: **Barbara Essig, Policy Expert, Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC)** (20')

- Work of IDMC: analysis of the scale of the phenomenon, global and regional overview of trends, patterns, etc.
- Protection challenges and solutions; best practices.

⇒ Questions and Answers (Q&A) session (30')

⇒ Closing remarks: organisers (8')

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<sup>1</sup> IDMC, Global Report on Internal Displacement 2021, <https://www.internal-displacement.org/global-report/grid2021/>



Further reading:

- United Nations, *Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement*, 1998, available at <https://undocs.org/E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2>
- W. Kaelin, *Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement: Annotations*, 2008, available at:  
[https://www.globalprotectioncluster.org/assets/files/tools\\_and\\_guidance/protection\\_of\\_idps/Kailin\\_Annotations-EN.pdf](https://www.globalprotectioncluster.org/assets/files/tools_and_guidance/protection_of_idps/Kailin_Annotations-EN.pdf)
- African Union, *AU Convention on the Protection and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons (Kampala Convention)*, 2009, available at <https://www.unhcr.org/4ae9bede9.html>
- Brookings – Bern, *Addressing Internal Displacement: a Framework for National Responsibility*, 2005
- IASC, *Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced People*, 2010, available at <https://www.globalprotectioncluster.org/2020/11/23/gp20-compilation-of-national-practices-to-prevent-address-and-find-durable-solutions-to-internal-displacement/>
- IDMC, *Global Report on Internal Displacement 2021*, with a special focus on disaster displacement and the impacts of climate change, available at <https://www.internal-displacement.org/global-report/grid2021/>
- GP20, *Compilation of National Practices to Prevent, Address and Find Durable Solutions to Internal Displacement*, available at <https://www.globalprotectioncluster.org/2020/11/23/gp20-compilation-of-national-practices-to-prevent-address-and-find-durable-solutions-to-internal-displacement/>