



## Statement of the Continental Assembly of the Jesuit Migration Network

November 7 to 11, 2022

As we, the members of the Assembly of the Jesuit Migration Network, made up of a range of more than 80 educational institutions, parishes, works, and individuals who work to provide comprehensive support to forced migrants and refugees throughout the continent, reaffirm our commitment to them and express our concern:

- We call on States to respect and guarantee their human rights and dignity, re-establishing the right to asylum and promoting realistic alternatives for migratory regularization that facilitate regional integration and access to rights for migrants.
- We urge UN agencies to strengthen their mandate to coordinate a comprehensive response.
- We urge international cooperation agencies to support and promote local agendas that respond to the real needs of migrants and their families.
- We call on civil society to recognize the positive role that migration can play in communities.

We view with concern the expansion of restrictive policies, militarization, externalization of borders, and the impossibility of seeking asylum that has led to trajectories of increased vulnerability that are now continental in scope. These political decisions, which are far removed from our commitment to informed, supported, and protected migration, lead to multiple forms of violence at the points of origin, transition, and destination, and to a greater need to protect the rights of those who migrate.

We also recognize that corruption, impunity, inequality, the weakening of democracy, and political and social violence within the countries violate the right of people to remain in their own territories. At the same time, other issues emerge, such as migration for socio-environmental reasons as a result of violence against our Common Home. We express our solidarity with the peoples of the continent, particularly those suffering under authoritarian governments.

Faced with this reality, as part of the Society of Jesus and the Catholic Church, we believe that we must act with courage and creativity, responding to the call of Pope Francis to welcome, protect, promote, and integrate migrants. To this end, we commit to:

- Strengthening the relationship with and accompaniment of migrants and family members, particularly those who are most vulnerable, promoting their participation in the process of transformation towards migration with dignity.
- Promoting actions of solidarity, hospitality, and reconciliation within the communities in order to eradicate racism, discrimination, and xenophobia.
- Advocating for the transformation of policies that harm the human family, as represented by migrants, and promoting regional, national, and local migration governance based on a human rights approach.
- Promoting a critical, in-depth, and thorough understanding of the migratory realities that challenge us.
- Participating generously in coordination efforts with other organizations and networks with which we share common orientations.

According to the call of Pope Francis on the World Day of Migrants and Refugees, “no one should be excluded” from the project of building the Kingdom. The inclusion of the most vulnerable migrants is a necessary condition to achieve this goal, which is why we believe that the future will be one of hope if we build it together.

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