



# Resource bank for Members of European Parliament

Key materials to support your work as a champion for humanitarian action and long-term development goals, and a humane approach to asylum and migration.

## Section I: Guidance for EU leadership in a world of compounding crises



### EU RECOMMENDATIONS

[Raise the Bar: A blueprint for EU leadership in a world of compounding crises](#)

*This report highlights seven priority areas for EU policymakers to better respond to the realities of humanitarian, development and displacement crises today.*



### Key Resources | HUMANITARIAN AND CONFLICT



### WATCHLIST REPORTS

[IRC Emergency Watchlist 2024](#) and [Watchlist Crisis Alert on Sudan](#)

The **Emergency Watchlist** report is the IRC's assessment of the 20 countries at greatest risk of new humanitarian emergencies each year.

The **Watchlist Crisis Alert on Sudan**, published in June 2024, provides an overview of the trajectory of one of the world's worst humanitarian crises, characterised by catastrophic levels of hunger and internal displacement.

[Statement](#) on the EU's new development approach

- This statement raises the alarm about the Commission's shift to a transactional approach and disengagement from fragile and conflict-affected states in its development cooperation. We explain why this would have devastating consequences for those most at-risk and undermine the EU's global relevance in an increasingly fragile world, also proposing solutions to strengthen the EU's approach to development.

### Key Resources | MIGRATION AND ASYLUM



### PACT EXPLAINER

[What is the Pact on Migration and Asylum](#)

Our **Pact Explainer** offers a concise overview of key files of the Pact, and an analysis of what is at stake in regard to the rights of refugees

[Press release](#) from the IRC in response to the Pact adoption

- A PR calling on EU leaders to closely monitor how the Pact is being implemented and to urgently put the Union Resettlement Framework into practice.

[Joint statement](#) by civil society actors on the Union Resettlement Framework (URF)

- A statement by 22 civil society organisations calling for the URF to be swiftly and fully put into place by expanding the capacity of national resettlement programmes in all Member States. Furthermore, robust monitoring and reporting are required, and the involvement of displaced people, civil society, and humanitarian actors should be ensured at every step of the process.

## Section II: Key avenues for championing humanitarian, development and displacement issues

As Members of the European Parliament, you have a range of tools at your disposal to drive and influence the EU's priorities for [humanitarian action](#), [development assistance](#), and [migration](#) and [asylum](#).



The Parliament's [legislative powers](#) will allow you to negotiate and approve (or not) changes to the legal basis (and the measures necessary for the implementation) of the EU's humanitarian aid and development policies as well as on asylum and migration. For example, in June 2021, the European Parliament signed the regulation establishing the [NDICI-Global Europe](#), which is the main financial instrument for the EU's development cooperation. More recently and after years of negotiations, the European Parliament [adopted the European Pact on Migration and Asylum](#) in April 2024.



The Parliament's [budgetary powers](#), including in relation to the EU [Multiannual Financial Framework](#) (MFF), will allow you to make the case for allocating financial resources on the basis of what the EU needs to implement its commitments, particularly with regard to supporting people in fragile and conflict-affected states. Specifically on [asylum and migration](#), one of the objectives of the MFF is to provide support for Member States in the management of migration and the development and strengthening of the Common European Asylum System.



The Parliament's [powers of scrutiny](#) will allow you to monitor the European Commission's implementation of humanitarian aid and development policies as well as on asylum and migration. This may include holding hearings for Commissioner-designates and asking them key questions relating to their mandates, providing your approval (or not) for the appointment of the college of Commissioner-designates, asking [parliamentary questions](#) to European institutions and bodies, and discussing policies with the EC on a regular basis in formal and informal settings.



In line with the above, as MEPs you will also be able to help give visibility to certain issues and crises, including through [hearings](#), non-binding [resolutions](#), [missions](#), and public statements and interventions in the media.



The treaties provide that Members of the European Commission be subject collectively to a vote of approval by the European Parliament to validate their appointment. It has now become the norm that responsible parliamentary committees hold [hearings](#) of each Commissioner-designate.

## Section III: Meet the IRC EU Advocacy Team



**Dr Imogen Sudbery | Executive Director, IRC Belgium**  
[Imogen.Sudbery@rescue.org](mailto:Imogen.Sudbery@rescue.org)

Imogen heads up the IRC EU office, helping to ensure that EU policy, legislation and funding meet the needs of our clients.



**Dr Marta Welander | Director, EU Advocacy**  
[Marta.Welander@rescue.org](mailto:Marta.Welander@rescue.org)

Marta directs the IRC's advocacy vis-à-vis the EU institutions and oversees the work of the EU advocacy team based in Brussels.



**Lorenzo Angelini | Senior Advocacy Adviser, Humanitarian and Conflict**  
[Lorenzo.Angelini@rescue.org](mailto:Lorenzo.Angelini@rescue.org)

Lorenzo leads our work with MEPs to improve the lives of people affected by conflict and disaster, in particular women and girls. He has a special focus on fragile and conflict-affected settings, including Sudan, the Sahel region, and Afghanistan. Alongside this, Lorenzo leads our work on climate action, malnutrition, humanitarian access, reform of multilateral development banks (MDBs), and the need for better synergies between EU development and humanitarian efforts.



**Meron Ameha Knikman | Senior Advocacy Adviser, Resettlement, Asylum, Integration**  
[Meron.AmehaKnikman@rescue.org](mailto:Meron.AmehaKnikman@rescue.org)

Meron leads our work with MEPs to uphold the rights of people on the move, pressing for solutions which address the issues facing refugees and displaced people in Europe. She follows the implementation of the New Pact on Migration and Asylum, with a particular focus on scaling up refugee resettlement under the new Union Resettlement Framework. Using evidence from our programmes across Europe, she drives the EU agenda toward more effective policies on asylum and integration.



**Pernilla Ekholm | EU Advocacy Coordinator**  
[Pernilla.Ekholm@rescue.org](mailto:Pernilla.Ekholm@rescue.org)

Pernilla supports the EU Advocacy team with meetings, events, and briefings coordination, and leads on developments in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.



**Natalie Stanton | Communications Manager**  
[Natalie.Stanton@rescue.org](mailto:Natalie.Stanton@rescue.org)

Natalie leads the IRC's EU communications. This includes working with MEPs on joint op-eds, social media campaigns, and organising events and exhibitions.

## Section IV: About the International Rescue Committee (IRC)

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) help people whose lives and livelihoods are shattered by conflict and disaster to survive, recover, and gain control of their future. Founded in 1933 at the call of Albert Einstein, the IRC is at work in more than 40 countries.



### ANNUAL REPORT

[IRC's 2023 Annual Report](#)

*This report introduces you to the IRC through stories of clients who are at the centre of our work, in addition to sharing the IRC's financials and impact statistics for the year.*



### The IRC in the EU

Established in 2001, the International Rescue Committee in Brussels uses the IRC's experience from our humanitarian and development programmes to shape EU policies in ways that improve the lives of people worldwide.

Our priorities in Europe are driven by a strong and flourishing European network. The IRC has offices in Belgium, [Italy](#), [Germany](#), [Greece](#), Poland, Switzerland, Serbia, [Sweden](#), Ukraine and the [UK](#), and works with our sister organisation Stichting Vluchteling (SV) in the Netherlands.

**34.5**

Million people reached in countries affected by crisis

**1.6**

Million children and youth enrolled in learning programs

**2.8**

Million people served through built or rehabilitated water systems

**10.7**

Million primary health consultations provided



[Rescue.org/EU](https://www.rescue.org/eu)

@RescueEU  



**This is about the rescue of us and our values as well as the rescue of refugees and their lives.**

- David Miliband, President and CEO of the International Rescue Committee