



BECOME A FRIEND OF THE ICRC

***“What matters is not only the good the ICRC brings
but the evil it prevents”***

Nelson Mandela



ICRC



Pedram Yazdi/ICRC



The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) was founded 150 years ago in Geneva on the initiative of Henry Dunant after he witnessed the horrors of the Battle of Solferino in northern Italy.

The ICRC has seen its share of upheavals throughout its rich and inspiring history. Yet the fundamental convictions upon which the ICRC was built have never wavered – they are just as strong now as they were at the time of the Battle of Solferino.

Now, like 150 years ago, those affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence are at the heart of our operations. And these days the large majority of these victims are civilians – be it in Syria, Somalia or any other conflict zone. Hospitals and ambulances are also often targeted. It is essential to stand up for the principles of international humanitarian law in these situations and ensure that emergency humanitarian aid can be delivered.

Along with our operations in long-standing conflicts, like those in Afghanistan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, we have, in recent years, provided assistance when unforeseeable emergencies have arisen, such as those in North Africa and around the Mediterranean. The ICRC must therefore demonstrate both unwavering perseverance and the flexibility to respond rapidly.

We cannot do this without friends who support our work in the long term and help us to secure the necessary resources. We need people on our side who share our convictions – people we will remain in contact with and keep directly informed of the work we are doing.

It would be a great pleasure to count you among the Friends of the ICRC.

Christine Beerli
ICRC Vice-President



Jonathan Pease / ICRC

AT THE HEART OF THE ACTION

By joining the Friends of the ICRC, our most generous and loyal donors can become even more involved in the emergency assistance we provide to those affected by conflict.

ACTING QUICKLY AND EFFECTIVELY

When unforeseeable emergencies arise, the ICRC needs to be able to act quickly in order to minimize the impact on victims.

The contributions made by the Friends of the ICRC help strengthen our emergency operations, ensuring we have the resources we need to meet the basic requirements of the communities affected.

These donations also help to finance our work in forgotten crises, where it is often more difficult to raise funds from the general public.

EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

Sudden, major crises greatly amplify the need for humanitarian assistance. The ICRC has thus intervened in situations such as:

- ▶ unexpected conflicts (Libya in 2011);
- ▶ ongoing conflicts in which the humanitarian situation suddenly deteriorates (Côte d'Ivoire in 2010);
- ▶ natural or technological disasters in conflict zones (Philippines in 2013);
- ▶ emergencies that are too big for a National Red Cross/Crescent Society to deal with alone (Japan in 2011).

BECOME A FRIEND OF THE ICRC

By becoming a Friend of the ICRC, you'll be joining forces with the greatest humanitarian movement of our time. You will help us to ensure that we are always ready to help those in need. In return, you will receive detailed reports to keep you informed of how your money is being spent and will be invited to come and learn more about how the ICRC works.



Dominic Sansoni/ICRC

A PRIVILEGED RELATIONSHIP

As part of our close-knit circle of Friends, you will enjoy certain privileges. This is our way of showing you just how much we appreciate your generosity and value you as a partner.

Friends of the ICRC receive:

FRIENDS

- ▶ a personal invitation to the **annual conference** given by the ICRC vice president;
- ▶ a **regular newsletter with mission reports**, exclusively for Friends of the ICRC;
- ▶ free entry to the **International Red Cross and Red Crescent Museum** for you and a friend – all you have to do is inform your contact person first;
- ▶ a dedicated contact person, **Sabrina Bordji-Michel** (contact details on the back of this brochure).

Patrons are entitled to the same benefits as Friends, plus:

PATRONS

- ▶ a guided tour of the ICRC **archives** for you and a friend – all you have to do is make an appointment with your contact person;
- ▶ a guided tour of the ICRC **logistics centre** for you and a friend – just make an appointment with your contact person;
- ▶ your name displayed on our dedicated **webpage** (optional).

Benefactors enjoy the following additional privileges:

BENEFACTORS

- ▶ an **award** and **certificate** presented by the ICRC vice president;
- ▶ a **meeting each year** with the ICRC Directorate;
- ▶ an invitation to attend the **mission debriefings** with ICRC delegates returning from the field;
- ▶ your name listed in the ICRC **annual report** (optional).



MAKING A VITAL CONTRIBUTION TO EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

Contributions made by Friends of the ICRC go towards financing emergency activities such as the rapid deployment system.

RAPID DEPLOYMENT SYSTEM

- A rapid deployment mechanism is triggered by the **ICRC Department of Operations** on the basis of information provided by ICRC delegations in the field.
- A **crisis-response unit** is immediately set up to determine within just a few hours the strategic approach needed to respond effectively and rapidly to victims' needs.
- A **team of delegates** equipped and trained for rapid deployment is sent into the field within 24 hours to assess actual needs and bring aid to victims; this is achieved in conjunction with our partners within the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.
- The crisis-response unit dispatches **emergency kits** and **additional, more specialized kits** to ICRC staff in the field.

HOW TO BECOME A FRIEND OF THE ICRC

We have **three categories** of Friends; the category you are in will depend on the total amount donated between 1 January and 31 December of the previous year:

- ▶ **Friends**
donated between 5,000 and 9,999 Swiss francs during the previous year.
- ▶ **Patrons**
donated between 10,000 and 24,999 Swiss francs during the previous year.
- ▶ **Benefactors**
donated over 25,000 Swiss francs during the previous year.

MAKE REGULAR DONATIONS

- ▶ By setting up either a direct debit (LSV/SDD, for payments from within Switzerland only) or standing order (for payments from within or outside Switzerland), you will help us to reduce the costs of managing your donations. It will also give us an idea of how much we can expect to receive and when. That way, we can ensure that we put your money to the best possible use. If you would like to arrange your donations this way, just let us know and we will send you the form to fill in.

MAKE A ONE-OFF DONATION

- ▶ By credit card via our website: www.icrc.org/eng/donations/
- ▶ By postal account transfer: to postal account no. 12-5527-6 (within Switzerland only)
- ▶ By bank transfer:
 - Transfers in CHF: to account no. 240-C0129986.0 / CH63 0024 0240 C012 9986 0
 - Transfers in USD: to account no. 240-C0129986.0 / CH52 0024 0240 C012 9986 4
 - Transfers in EUR: to account no. 240-C0129986.0 / CH25 0024 0240 C012 9986 5
 - Transfers in GBP: to account no. 240-C0129986.0 / CH73 0024 0240 C018 3929 1
- ▶ By cheque made out to the ICRC (address at the bottom of the page)

A MORAL COMMITMENT

Each year, we ask our Friends to indicate how much they intend to donate during the coming year. By committing to a certain amount, you will give us an idea of the resources we can count on to rapidly and effectively respond to major humanitarian emergencies.

YOUR CONTACT PERSON



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