

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

REGIONAL DELEGATION IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, BELARUS AND MOLDOVA



WHO WE ARE

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is a humanitarian organization established in 1863.

It is at the origin of the 1949 Geneva Conventions – the law governing behavior in war – signed by all countries of the world.

Over 70 years ago, the Geneva Conventions gave the ICRC the mandate to protect victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence and to provide them with assistance. The ICRC was constituted as well, as the guardian of International Humanitarian Law (IHL), that is why an integral part of our work is the strengthening and the promotion of IHL.

The ICRC carries its work according to the principles of neutrality, impartiality and independence and is present in over 90 countries around the world.

It is funded by the States party to the Geneva Conventions, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies all over the world and by public and private donors.

The ICRC has received three times the Noble Peace Prize throughout its history (1917, 1944 and 1963). The ICRC is the founding component of what is known as the **Movement of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent** which includes the **International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies** and all the **Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies** (National Societies) around the world.

THE ICRC IN RUSSIA

The ICRC started working in Russia in 1992 to help address the humanitarian needs provoked by the events in Prigorodny District, northern Caucasus. By the end of 2018, the ICRC had helped over two million people by providing food and hygiene items, amongst other.

From 2014 to 2018, the ICRC provided assistance to hundreds of thousands of people in southern Russia, who arrived there fleeing the violence in eastern Ukraine.

This work was always performed in cooperation with the Russian Red Cross.

Today the ICRC continue its work from the Regional delegation in Moscow and the office in Minsk.

TODAY IN RUSSIA

The ICRC carries out activities to ensure the understanding and acceptance of International Humanitarian Law and to raise awareness about the humanitarian situation of people affected by war and violence in places such as Syria and Ukraine. These efforts contribute to safeguard, protection, access and sustained humanitarian assistance for the people suffering the long-lasting consequences of armed conflict and violence.

The ICRC engages with civilian authorities and the Ministries of Defense of States belonging to regional structures, such as the Collective Security Treaty Organization – CSTO and the Commonwealth of Independent States – CIS through its Interparliamentary Assembly, on topics of humanitarian interest and concern.

It carries out activities amongst the civil society, academic institutions and the Media through the participation to public gatherings, round tables, exhibitions, conferences, competitions, training events and Russia-led key multilateral events, such as the annual Moscow Conference on International Security or the Saint Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF).



AND IN THE REGION...

The ICRC has an office – a Mission – based in Belarus, from where it carries out activities of IHL promotion, risk awareness and support to emergency response in cooperation with government and non-government actors in Belarus and Moldova. Activities include for example, exploring ways to reduce civilian risk from exposure to explosive remnants from the Great Patriotic War or reducing the risks to civilians living near ammunition storage facilities.

OUR WORK

PROMOTION OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW (IHL)

The promotion and strengthening of IHL consists in seeking IHL integration into military policy, doctrines, education and training systems. This is done through ICRC regular participation as an expert in diverse forums, as well as by organizing or taking part in events such as the Martens Readings or Moot Court competitions.

The ICRC seeks to facilitate access to IHL legal content in Russian, such as the availability of articles from the **International Review of the Red Cross**, the oldest international publication devoted to humanitarian law, founded in 1869.

<https://international-review.icrc.org/ru>

HUMANITARIAN DIPLOMACY

The ICRC fosters discussions currently shaping humanitarian action, seeking to strengthen dialogue between the ICRC and decision makers.

The ICRC facilitates debates between decision makers and external and in-house experts to debate on IHL related issues and a wide range of other humanitarian issues. This, with the objective to translate humanitarian theory (knowledge, analyses and opinions) into positive concrete proposals, impacting people affected by conflict and violence across the world.



Such debates regard issues such as the respect of IHL, the safeguarding of what is known as **principled humanitarian action**, modern conflicts and weapons, counter-terrorism and the protection of civilians amongst other relevant topics.

ICRC Moscow's **Humanitarianism** is a forum where discussions take place in a neutral and confidential space. Since 2017, this regional platform welcomes national and international guests and experts, hosting tens of events every year.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE – MISSING, FAMILY SEPARATION AND VULNERABLE MIGRANTS

All over the world, the ICRC and Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies provide support to families that have been separated due to past or ongoing armed conflicts, to people deprived of freedom and to find the whereabouts of people who have disappeared along migration routes or due to situations of armed conflict and other forms of violence.

From Moscow, the ICRC continues – directly and with local partners – to support the families of people gone missing. This work is done by providing ICRC's technical expertise in humanitarian forensic action and its long-standing experience facilitating the coordination of authorities and other actors striving to clarify the fate of missing persons. We also help restore the communication between separated family members and reunify families whenever possible.

The ICRC supports projects implemented by the Russian Red Cross and the Belarus Red Cross societies, providing assistance, legal advice and communication services to vulnerable migrants.

SUPPORT TO RED CROSS SOCIETIES IN THE REGION

The ICRC provides support to National Red Cross Societies of Belarus, and the Russian Federation to strengthen their capacity to respond to emergencies, develop their first aid skills, promote humanitarian values and disseminate knowledge about IHL and the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement. In Moldova, the ICRC supports the national Red Cross in disseminating humanitarian values and information about the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

All ICRC activities related to Red Cross Societies in the Region, are coordinated with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

To note that in the frame of the existing COVID-19 challenge around the world, the ICRC is currently and carefully coordinating its response with its Movement partners.

CONTACT US

moscow@icrc.org
+7 495 626 54 26

13/1 Grokholsky Per. 129090 Moscow, Russia
www.icrc.org/ru

The ICRC helps people around the world affected by armed conflict and other violence, doing everything it can to protect their lives and dignity and to relieve their suffering, often with its Red Cross and Red Crescent partners. The organization also seeks to prevent hardship by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and championing universal humanitarian principles.

People know they can count on the ICRC to carry out a range of life-saving activities in conflict zones and to work closely with the communities there to understand and meet their needs. The organization's experience and expertise enables it to respond quickly and effectively, without taking sides.



International Committee of the Red Cross
Regional delegation in Russia, Belarus and Moldova
13/1 Grokholsky Per. 129090 Moscow, Russia
Tel: +7 495 626 54 26 E-mail: moscow@icrc.org
Cover photograph: ICRC
© ICRC, May 2020

facebook.com/ICRCRu
 twitter.com/MKKK
 vk.com/icrc_rus
www.icrc.org/ru