



INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

REGIONAL DELEGATION FOR ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, CHILE,
PARAGUAY AND URUGUAY

THE ICRC IN THE REGION

The Regional Delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay is based in Brasilia, with offices in Boa Vista (Roraima), Fortaleza (Ceará), Rio de Janeiro (Rio de Janeiro), São Paulo (São Paulo) and a support centre in Buenos Aires.

The ICRC develops activities in the region and works in partnership with local governments, organizations and communities to respond – and promote responses from the authorities – to the humanitarian needs of the population, prioritizing three main areas:

- **The humanitarian consequences of armed violence**, a complex phenomenon with far-reaching repercussions for society. Some of

these are visible, such as when people are killed or injured, others less so, such as when someone disappears, is internally displaced, presents issues related to mental health and/or lacks access to critical public services like health care or education.

- The needs of **migrants**, focusing on people who have been separated from their families, or are missing, or have died and are unidentified.
- The promotion and adoption of **International Humanitarian Law (IHL), International Human Rights Law (IHRL) and humanitarian principles**, which are pillars of the ICRC's work in the countries covered by the Regional Delegation.

FOUNDED IN 1863, AND NOW PRESENT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, THE ICRC:

- works to assist and protect people affected by conflict and armed violence
- is a neutral, impartial and independent organization
- is present in more than 100 countries, with its headquarters in Geneva
- has 20,000 staff members



HUMANITARIAN CONSEQUENCES OF ARMED VIOLENCE

PROTECTING PEOPLE AFFECTED BY VIOLENCE

Armed violence impacts many cities in Brazil and around the world, with high rates of killings and violent fatalities leading to a series of repercussions on the affected communities.

The program in favor of people affected by violence started in Fortaleza at the end of 2019 and aims at strengthening authorities' capacity to respond to protection needs of the population while also supporting communities affected by the violence to strengthen their self-protection and resilience mechanisms.

The ultimate goal is to minimize the impacts of armed violence.

Through a bilateral, confidential dialogue with both the individuals and the concerned authorities, the ICRC documents cases and provides emergency humanitarian aid where necessary. Its proximity to people affected by armed violence enables us to identify recurring patterns of violations, to make recommendations and to provide technical advice to policymakers.





SAFER ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL PUBLIC SERVICES

Often the impacts of armed violence are not visible: for example, it affects directly the provision of education, health or social assistance and reduces the community's access to these essential public services.

To mitigate the impact of armed violence on essential service professionals, and the people they serve, the ICRC has developed the Safer Access to Essential Public Services Programme (Programa Acesso Mais Seguro para Serviços Públicos Essenciais – AMS). This initiative is designed to strengthen the capacity of public institutions to carry out a context analysis in relation to armed violence, risk management, crisis management, stress management, mental health care and psychosocial well-being.

The programme's actions aim to promote changes in the behaviour of professionals and managers working in essential public

services, to strengthen their resilience to the risks and impacts of armed violence, and to lessen the repercussions of armed violence on the provision of services and people's access to them.

The AMS programme equips professionals with know-how and criteria for making decisions using systematic practices, preparing them to act in a moment of risk and/or crisis arising from armed violence.

Developed on the basis of the ICRC's internal guidelines and operational protocols, and its experience of more than 160 years working in situations of armed conflict and armed violence around the world, the AMS promotes a risk management methodology that is adapted to the reality of Brazilian public services and parameterized by the guidelines of the ABNT BR ISO 31000 international standard.



SEARCHING FOR MISSING PERSONS AND SUPPORTING THEIR FAMILIES

The disappearance of a person is a complex yet generalized phenomenon in Brazil that affects women and men, of different ages and social backgrounds.

Through the Protection of Family Links Programme (PFL), the ICRC supports authorities in preventing and addressing the issue, while also advocating for the mitigation of its consequences on their families in the context of armed violence.

We count with a multidisciplinary team with expertise in the areas of protection, forensic science, legal aspects, mental health and psychosocial support, information and technology management, among others.

In the city of Brasilia and in the states of

Ceará, Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, we provide technical advice to authorities to support them build a search mechanism for missing people, to ensure dignified management of human remains and facilitate families' access to services that are capable to attend their multiple needs.

While doing so, we maintain proximity with families of missing people and families' associations, to support them in the creation of a national network of families of the missing in Brazil as a way to boost their resilience and increase their ability to express themselves in society and communicate with the authorities. Our recommendations to authorities are based needs assessments and accompaniment programmes carried out with families of missing persons.

PERSONS DEPRIVED OF THEIR LIBERTY

In Brazil, the ICRC visits places of detention in the state of Ceará and maintains a bilateral and confidential dialogue with prison authorities to ensure that persons deprived of their freedom are treated humanely, with proper consideration for each individual's worth, regardless of the circumstances that led to their detention. We also seek to ease the suffering of families, notably by promoting and supporting communication between detainees and their loved ones.

We encourage authorities to recognize and respond to the particular needs of groups that are especially vulnerable

to detention, such as women, mothers with children in prison, LGBTQIA+ people and those with a disability.

In the region, the ICRC works with the prison authorities of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay, primarily in the area of prison management and infrastructure, and in the framework of the Criteria for Technical Standards in Detention Facilities (CETIP) project. Its purpose is to contribute to safeguarding the dignity and wellbeing of people deprived of their liberty and ensuring that detention facilities comply with internationally recognized standards.



DIALOGUE WITH POLICE FORCES

Armed violence also makes it difficult for police and security forces to carry out their duties.

The ICRC collaborates with public security forces because it believes it is important and necessary to apply international human rights norms to policing in order to prevent armed violence and reduce its consequences and the number of its victims.

In its dialogue with police forces, the ICRC publicizes its mission and mandate; organizes training on the international human rights standards applicable to policing; and supports

and promotes the exchange of good practices between regional forces.

Through training, and direct dialogue with these authorities, we promote the integration of law with the incorporation of international standards on human rights and the use of force into institutional documents, in the areas of education (training and specialization courses), policy (procedure manuals, protocols and regulations on the conduct of operations), training and internal mechanisms for monitoring police activity.



SEPARATED, MISSING AND DECEASED MIGRANT PEOPLE

The ICRC is committed to preventing and minimizing the humanitarian impacts of migration, particularly where vulnerable and at-risk populations are involved. Migrants' ability to communicate with their families, whether on the migratory route or in their country of destination, is crucial to both their protection and their ability to face adversity. Through initiatives under the Restoring Family Links (RFL) programme, therefore, the ICRC works to meet the needs of migrants, including refugees.

As part of the Family Links Network – which includes the ICRC, the National Red Cross Societies (NSs) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Society – the RFL programme is designed to prevent family links from being severed, to help to maintain these links and to reduce

disappearances, thereby enabling people in vulnerable situations to let their families know where they are and to maintain contact with their loved ones.

In Brazil and the Southern Cone, the ICRC collaborates with each country's National Society to provide and support services to restore family links for migrants and to facilitate the search for missing migrants in other countries. We also provide support to strengthen the capacity of the NSs to respond to disasters, which can be another cause of family separation and disappearances.

The ICRC also works together with the authorities on the management of dead bodies, in order to prevent disappearances, offering technical guidance on a variety of issues.



ADOPTING AND PROMOTING IHL AND IHRL

International Humanitarian Law (IHL) is a set of norms that, in times of armed conflict, protects people who are not participating or who have ceased to participate in hostilities and regulates the methods and means of warfare on account of the suffering they cause.

IHL is based on a series of treaties, notably the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols, together with a number of other legal instruments. Civilians are the primary victims of IHL violations in today's conflicts, which present challenges in numerous areas, such as new technologies or the classification of conflict.

To promote IHL and International Human Rights Law (IHRL), the ICRC supports States and advises them on ratifying treaties and adopting the legislative or administrative measures necessary at the national level to put them into effect. It also works to encourage the armed forces to incorporate these norms into their policy, teaching, training and monitoring mechanisms.

In addition, the ICRC collaborates with universities to ensure that humanitarian standards and principles are incorporated into academic curricula, and we promote courses on the subject for communicators and students.



COOPERATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

To enhance the impact and viability of operations in Brazil and the Southern Cone, the ICRC promotes cooperation and the exchange of experiences between members of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

This Movement is the largest humanitarian network in the world, with 80 million people who help those suffering the consequences of disasters, armed conflict and social and health emergencies. It consists of the following organizations:

- the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC);
- the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; and
- 192 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Thanks to its cooperative work, this global humanitarian network is able to provide a timely response with a major humanitarian impact in different countries throughout the world.

FORMS OF COOPERATION:

- **Operational partnership:** the ICRC and the National Society – the Red Cross in each country – pool their operational resources to ensure an effective response. In addition to dealing with emergencies, the purpose of the partnership is to make the National Societies better able to meet the needs of the most vulnerable people.

- **Coordinating Movement components:** Movement components cooperate with one another. In situations of conflict or armed violence, they share their experiences in order to help reinforce complementarities and coordinated work for the benefit of the communities they are assisting.
- **Strengthening the capacities of National Societies:** the ICRC can pass on its expertise to National Societies on issues relating to humanitarian principles, for example.
- **Cooperating in drafting the Movement's policies:** as one of the Movement's founding bodies, the ICRC plays an active role in developing and implementing its policies, which are adopted at statutory meetings such as the Council of Delegates and the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

COOPERATION IN BRAZIL AND THE SOUTHERN CONE

In the Regional Delegation, this cooperation work is based essentially on assisting National Societies to develop their capacities. Cooperation plays an active part in responding to the humanitarian impact of emergencies before, during and after they occur. Among the most important activities are the region's response to migration; training first-aid teams to work in unsafe and sensitive environments; and strengthening mechanisms for accountability, transparency and financial sustainability.

MOBILIZING RESOURCES

The ICRC's operations are funded mostly by States. Given the growing need for humanitarian assistance in different contexts, however, we have been seeking to diversify and increase our sources of financing.

In Brazil, we focus our fundraising on donations from individuals and businesses so that we can assist people

affected by armed conflict and armed violence around the world.

Among other activities, we encourage recurring donations from individuals in Brazil; we conduct direct marketing campaigns to expand our donor base; and we work to build long-term relationships with donors, potentially leading to large donations or legacies.



RECRUITING PROFESSIONALS





The ICRC is continually looking for and selecting professionals, training them and developing their skills so that we can rely on a sufficient number of staff members trained to work in operations, adapting flexibly to emergencies and to developments on the ground. Today, more than 20,000 people from 158 different countries work on ICRC missions all over the world, along with over 1,000 employees in our headquarters in Geneva.

Among other activities, the ICRC publicizes the work of its international staff on digital channels and in physical spaces such as job fairs, academic forums and professional events; reinforces its employer brand identity to give its employees a stronger sense of belonging, thereby attracting new talent; and promotes diversity and inclusion in all its selection processes to ensure an appealing, multicultural environment for people with different professional backgrounds, nationalities, lifestyles, cultures and personalities.





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.

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