

International Catholic Migration Commission celebrates 75th anniversary in Rome

“The Church, like a mother, accompanies those who are walking. Where the world sees threats, she sees children; where walls are built, she builds bridges. She knows that her proclamation of the Gospel is credible only when it is translated into gestures of closeness and welcome. And she knows that in every rejected migrant, it is Christ himself who knocks at the door of the community.”

Pope Leo XIV, Apostolic Exhortation ‘*Dilexi te*’

<https://www.icmc.net/it-is-christ-himself-who-knocks-at-the-door>

Rome (29 October 2026) – In the 75th year of the International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC), the **ICMC Council**, representing national Episcopal Conferences and local Churches from every country in the world, meets at Casa La Salle in Rome on 10-12 November.

ICMC was created in 1951 through the efforts of Pope Pius XII, Monsignor Giovanni Battista Montini (later Pope Paul VI), and American layman James Norris. For 75 years, ICMC has protected and served uprooted people - refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced people, victims of human trafficking, and migrants - regardless of faith, race, ethnicity or nationality.

On **10-11 November**, the [ICMC Council](#) will reflect on the global situation related to human mobility, and the specific challenges the Church is encountering across every continent. ICMC members will elect a President and approve a new organizational strategy for the coming four years.

- Keynote speakers **Cardinal Fabio Baggio, C.S.** (Pro-Prefect, Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development), **Mr. Filippo Grande** (111th UN High Commissioner for Refugees), **Ms. Christine Nathan** (ICMC President & Member of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development).

On **12 November**, ICMC will be joined by Caritas Internationalis, Jesuit Refugee Service, and the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) to host **‘Celebrating 75 Years of the UN Refugee Convention: Faith perspectives and moral commitments’**.

- Speakers include **Ms. Francesca Bonelli** (UNHCR Representative to Italy, the Holy See, Malta, & San Marino), **Mr. Peter Prove** (Director, Commission of the Churches on International Affairs), **Mr. Davide Bernocchi** (ICMC Secretary General).

Press access:

Council meeting (10-11 November) Mr. Luca Fasolino (fasolino@icmc.net / +39 349 520 2260)

UN Refugee Convention 75 year celebration (12 November) Register at <https://rb.gy/geuea7>

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Photo & video collection (updated throughout Council meeting) [flickr.com/photos/53070064@N04/sets/72177720336205574/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/53070064@N04/sets/72177720336205574/)