



VHMUN 2016

Study Guide for Human Rights Council

- Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers

NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Greetings delegates,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 6th edition of the VIBGYOR High Model United Nations. The committee, which we would be simulating, is the Human Rights Council and the agenda under discussion would be the rights of migrant workers.

Migration is fundamentally the story of the human race from its origins to the present. Migration is an integral aspect of life on this planet. People move to survive. They move in search of food. They move away from danger and death. They move towards opportunities for life. Migration is tied to the human spirit, which seeks adventure, pursues dreams, and finds reasons to hope even in the most adverse circumstances. In today's world is a situation where people cross borders in growing numbers in pursuit of opportunity and hope for a better life. Today, the number of international migrants is greater than at any time in history, with 214 million people living outside their country of birth. Migration comes with its own hazards ranging from illegal migration to political dissent and human trafficking. Despite all this, nations of the world can come together to multilaterally work towards the protection of the rights of these migrants so that they may be able to attain a respectful earning and living standard for themselves and their families.

This study guide contains information relevant to the agenda but should be in no way be considered as the sole instrument for research. Delegates are advised to go through the guide and then move along to other avenues of research to ensure a healthy debate in committee. That being said if you happen to develop any doubts regarding the agenda or even your individual foreign policy please feel free to email me on tarunn95@gmail.com and I will do my best to revert back to them.

Best of luck and may the force be with you.

COMMITTEE OVERVIEW

Introduction:

Over the course of 2013, several human rights abuses and themes encompassing violations of human rights drew the attention of the international community. The situation in Syria elicited global indignation for human rights atrocities, and the plight of civilians in several African countries facing large-scale atrocities, such as the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Central African Republic, and South Sudan, further contributed to the increased demand for the protection of human rights. United Nations (UN) Special Rapporteurs and independent experts have observed that since the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001, aggressive measures implemented by Member States to combat terrorism have escalated to an extent that infringes upon individual human rights, which has created increased pressure on the UN human rights system to act. Having adopted over 456 resolutions on human rights issues since its creation in 2006, the Human Rights Council (HRC) is the main organ of the UN “responsible for strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights around the globe and for addressing situations of human rights violations and making recommendations on them.” Its duty entails responding to urgent human rights situations around the globe by tackling issues regarding accountability and liability for violations of international human rights and humanitarian law.

Mandate:

The HRC possesses a unique and comprehensive mandate outlined in GA resolution 60/251. The GA mandated the HRC to promote universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms; to address and provide recommendations on all, particularly grave and systematic, violations of human rights; and to promote an effective system of coordination within the UN system, including mainstreaming mechanisms, with respect to human rights issues. Further, the GA designated the HRC as a forum for debate and dialogue on all human rights issues, including addressing violations and responding to emergencies, promoting cooperation and education on human rights, reviewing Member States’ track records, and preventing abuses from occurring. The HRC is guided by the underlying principles of “universality, impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity, constructive international dialogue and cooperation.”

Functions and Powers:

In 2007, the HRC adopted resolution 5/1, which established mechanisms and structures to guide its program of work, rules of procedure, and other operational functions. The resolution also set up the format for the Special Procedures, the Universal Periodic Review, and the Complaint Procedure, which encompass the main powers of the HRC.

Special Procedures:

Special Procedures are mechanisms that enable independent parties to report, monitor, and advise on country specific or thematic situations for the HRC. Each investigation has a mandate, namely the topic under advisement, and a mandate holder, who is typically a Special Rapporteur, an independent expert, or a working group, to carry out the investigation. Special Procedures are empowered to undertake country or field visits, with the support of OHCHR, and to bring specific cases and concerns to the attention of Member States. They can send communications detailing accusations of violations or abuses of human rights, carry out thematic studies, consult with experts, promote and raise awareness of human rights standards, organize and engage in advocacy efforts, and offer technical assistance. In June 2007, HRC resolution 5/2 defined a code of conduct for Special Procedures mandate-holders to strengthen their capacity, credibility, and visibility.

Universal Periodic Review:

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is also one of the most important functions of the HRC, as it reminds all UN Member States of their responsibility to the human rights agenda and other fundamental freedoms. Through the HRC, each Member State of the UN submits to a periodic review to assess its fulfillment of its human rights obligations. As of 2011, all 193 Member States had undergone the UPR process.

Migrant:

The term migrant can be understood as “any person who lives temporarily or permanently in a country where he or she was not born, and has acquired some significant social ties to this country.”

Illegal Migrant:

An illegal migrant may be defined as:

- A person that has crossed the border of a country without authorization.
- A person who entered a country legally, but stayed longer than visa time limit permitted.

- A person who is staying legally in a country with a tourist permit, but has taken up employment in breach of visa regulations. This jeopardizes the immigration status.
- A person is born to illegal immigrants and becomes an illegal immigrant him or herself by birth even without ever having crossed an international border.

Migrant worker:

The UN Convention on the Rights of Migrants defines a migrant worker as a “person who is to be engaged, is engaged or has been engaged in a remunerated activity in a State of which he or she is not a national.”

Article 5 of the United Nations convention states

“For the purposes of the present Convention, migrant workers and members of their families:

- a) Are considered as documented or in a regular situation if they are authorized to enter, to stay and to engage in a remunerated activity in the State of employment pursuant to the law of that State and to international agreements to which that State is a party;
- b) Are considered as non-documented or in an irregular situation if they do not comply with the conditions provided for in subparagraph (a) of the present article.”

Reasons behind migration:

Migration involves people moving from one country to another. Cross-border migration is to be considered in the context of social-economic development. Historically migration occurred since the dawn of human civilisation. In present days, the issue of cross-border migration to foreign countries is largely linked to the integration of global labour markets and easy transportation. However, one thing must be made clear that ordinarily people do not move from their home country unless there are compelling reasons to do so. Migrants in foreign land face discrimination, alien culture, foreign language and a different way of life. They live far away from their near and dear ones and their emotional strain is often stressful and deep. So why do millions of these border-crossers head to Europe, the United States or elsewhere in the West? Stable democracies and free markets ensure economic growth, rising standards of living and, thus, lots of jobs, while these countries’ birth rates and native populations fall. In contrast, immigrants usually flee mostly failed states that cannot offer their people any real hope of prosperity and security. There are several reasons for migration and some of them are below:

- i) Economic and demographic factors in labour-sending countries
- ii) Promotion of entrepreneurial skills in labour receiving countries
- iii) Employment opportunities thought or known to be available in labour-receiving countries

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- iv) Civil wars, harassment or discrimination in labour-sending countries from where migrants want to leave for personal reasons
 - v) Overpopulation
 - vi) Family reunification

Migrants are largely of three kinds:

- i) Contract workers
- ii) Permanent migrants
- iii) Illegal or undocumented migrants

Migrants of (i) and (ii) types possess proper documentation from foreign countries. The third (iii) takes the risk of migrating to another country without proper documents. Most of them are semi-skilled or unskilled, either lured by recruiting agents or prompted by their personal knowledge of someone known to them who is earning a lot of money in a foreign country. When potential immigrants believe that the chances of successfully migrating are greater than the risks/costs, illegal immigration becomes an option. The benefits taken into account include not only expected improvements in income and living conditions, but also expectations in relation to potential future residential permits, where illegal immigrants are given a path to naturalization or citizenship.

Illegal migration:

Often illegal migrants are employed in unattractive, demanding, dangerous and dirty jobs because of shortage of labour in labour-receiving countries for such types of jobs. Another advantage for companies in labour-receiving countries is they can employ illegal (undocumented) workers on very low wages. Furthermore, they cannot complain because are in constant threat of being deported to their countries of nationality. Their working and living conditions are very poor. It is reported that thousands of illegal (undocumented) migrants are working abroad. They have been allowed to live without the dignity and worth of a human person just because they work without proper legal documents. It is noted that they contribute significantly to economy of labourreceiving countries through their hard work.

Rights of illegal migrants:

Article 3 of the 1948 Declaration of Human Rights provides that “everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.” The right to life leads migrants to work overseas since they can’t get employment in the country. Furthermore there are several ILO Conventions and Recommendations that protect these

migrant-workers from being treated unjustly. The 1949 Convention Concerning Migration for Employment provides a safety valve for them. ILO Conventions of 1962 and 1982 deal with social security entitlements. The fundamental human rights as enshrined in 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights and workers' right under ILO (International Labour Organisation) are flouted in their employment conditions. Although the ILO Conventions provide in establishing minimum standards for the treatment of all workers, most states do not apply the ILO standards to illegal migrants. The irony is that while illegal migrants who are employed in labour-receiving countries contribute to the economic productivity, they have no protection under laws of labour receiving countries. The International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families recognizes that "the human problems involved in migration are even more serious in the case of irregular migration" and the need to encourage appropriate action "to prevent and eliminate clandestine movements and trafficking in migrant workers, while at the same time assuring the protection of their fundamental rights" (Preamble). As measures for preventing and eliminating illegal labour migration, the Convention proposes that the States concerned should collaborate in taking appropriate actions against the dissemination of misleading information relating to emigration and immigration, to detect and eradicate illegal or clandestine movements of migrant workers and impose sanctions on those who are responsible for organising and operating such movements as well as employers of illegal migrant workers (Art. 68). However, the fundamental rights of undocumented migrant workers are protected by the Convention (Art. 8 - 35).

[Violation of rights of migrants:](#)

The International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families is an excellent piece of legislation for the protection of the rights of migrant workers of all sorts, but the question is this that whether the Convention is being implemented by the signatories in its full form and spirit? Are migrant workers being guaranteed fundamental human rights such as life and liberty? Most of the countries involved in Human Rights violations have not signed the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the most important legal basis for the protection of 'migrants' Human Rights. Many governments' policies toward migrants worldwide expose them to human rights abuses including labour exploitation, inadequate access to health care and prolonged detention in poor, overcrowded conditions. Research in Greece, Italy, Libya, Egypt, and Israel showed harsh policies toward arriving migrants, including lack of adequate screening to determine who is a refugee, arbitrary and indefinite detention, returning persons to countries where they risk abuse, and detention of children with adults. Aggressive policies to thwart migrants when they try to cross

borders can be lethal. Since May, Egyptian border guards have killed at least 17 migrants trying to cross into Israel. 12 A report shows that, in situations where violations of the human rights of migrants are alleged to having occurred. Allegations have included:

- A. Arbitrary detention and incommunicado detention of migrants;
- B. Repatriation of migrants facing the threat of torture in countries of origin;
- C. Racism, xenophobia, discrimination and related intolerance against migrants;
- D. Threats to the life and the physical and personal security of migrants;
- E. Summary executions;
- F. Disproportionate use of force by law enforcement officials towards persons attempting to cross borders;
- G. Expulsion of migrants married to nationals;
- H. Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;
- I. Threats to freedom of association, including the right to form and join trade unions;
- J. Collective deportations and collective expulsions;
- K. Enforced disappearances;
- L. Violence against migrant women.

Vulnerable Groups:

Irregular migrants:

An irregular migrant, as defined by the IOM, is any individual who lacks legal status as a result of undocumented entry or visa expiration. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has noted that in all countries, a migrant's legal status is the key determinant of their wellbeing. It can impair their full participation in terms of health care, education, and access to job opportunities. The last decades have seen an intensification of policing and repressive measures, which often lead to human rights abuses against irregular migrants in all stages of migration. They are particularly vulnerable to arbitrary detention and violations arising from substandard detention conditions. The GMG has asserted that immigration control alone is not sufficient to tackle the issue. A comprehensive approach must include the protection of migrant workers' rights regardless of legal status, the engagement of the informal labor market, the opening of more regular avenues for migration to meet labor demand in all sectors, and the regularization of immigrants with illegal status. Furthermore, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention has expressed the view that states' legitimate claim to govern immigration does not legitimize the criminalization of

irregular entry. Viable alternative means may include measures such as registration requirements, regular reporting, or financial deposits. Detention should be a last resort, and it should significantly differ in quality, restrictiveness, and intrusiveness when compared to criminal detention.

Domestic workers:

The number of migrant workers in domestic service is hard if not impossible to quantify in statistical terms, as many are irregular and work unregistered. A 2013 ILO report estimated that there are a total of 53 million domestic workers employed worldwide (nationals and migrants), 83% of whom are assumed to be female. The increasing demand for household aid in wealthy countries is seen as a major driver behind the feminization of labor migration in recent decades. Domestic workers, particularly migrants, suffer a great level of vulnerability due to their often unclear legal status under national law, which excludes them from access to legal protection and makes them more vulnerable to abuse and exploitation by their employers. Moreover, they are faced with discrimination in terms of employment conditions and remuneration, as well as marginalization on the basis of ethnicity or gender. In 2011, the ILO responded to the needs of domestic workers by adopting the Convention concerning Decent Work For Domestic Workers (No. 189), which not only demands respect for the basic human rights and fundamental principles of international labor law for all domestic workers, but also offers specific regulations with regard to minimum standards for living conditions, remuneration, social security, and hours of work for migrant and child domestic workers.

Women and girls:

The number of female migrant workers is almost equal to that of male migrant workers, but their migration experiences differ significantly. There is a difference in migratory behaviors; in factors leading to irregular migration; and in the opportunities, challenges and risks faced by men and women. Women experience heightened vulnerability to abuse, exploitation, gender-based violence, and gender-based discrimination in areas such as access to appropriate health care. Despite the provisions laid out in the widely ratified Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) (1979) and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (1993), many female migrant workers and girls have reported experiencing sexual abuse and violence in the workplace and in the context of smuggling or trafficking. In 2013, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon compiled a report on violence against women migrant workers, in which he encouraged national governments to intensify their efforts in the protection of women's human rights and the provision of basic services to female migrant workers. The

2008 OHCHR report on international migration and human rights underlined the notion of a “life cycle approach” to assess the situation of women and girls at all stages of migration, from their preparation for departure until their return to the homeland of origin. An early account of an application of this approach can be seen in the circular migration project run by Unió de Pagesos in Spain. This program not only facilitates circular migratory movement for seasonal laborers from Morocco, but also makes special provisions available to meet the needs of female migrants, such as assistance through social workers. Beyond offering migrants the chance of an increased income, the program also includes training activities. Thus, not only is a brain drain avoided, but also higher skilled workers can transfer newly gained knowledge to their home communities.

Children:

According to the IOM's “World Migration Report 2013,” children under the age of 18 constitute almost 20% of all international migrants originating in the global South. These children are especially vulnerable to exploitation and trafficking, especially when travelling unaccompanied or separated from their parents. In host societies, migrant workers' children are highly marginalized, often lacking access to education, health care, and other basic services. Migrant children born in a host country, especially those in an irregular situation, sometimes face insurmountable obstacles as regards their rights to registration at birth, a name, and a nationality as laid out in the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) (1990). The CRC has the best interest of the child as its defining principle; therefore, States Parties must ensure that labor, migration, health care, education, and social policies are in line with this requirement.

International Response:

United Nations Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families:

The United Nations Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families is an international agreement governing the matters described in the title. It was signed on 18 December 1990. On 1 July 2003, the United Nations Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families entered into force, after the threshold of 20 ratifying States was reached in March 2003. The Committee on Migrant Workers (CMW) monitors implementation of the convention, and is one of the seven UN-linked Human rights treaty bodies. The United Nations Convention constitutes a comprehensive international treaty regarding the protection of migrant workers' rights. It emphasizes the connection between migration and human rights, which is increasingly becoming



a crucial policy topic worldwide. The Convention aims at protecting migrant workers and members of their families; its existence sets a moral standard, and serves as a guide and stimulus for the promotion of migrant rights in each country. The primary objective of the Convention is to foster respect for migrants' human rights.

The International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (ICRMW):

The International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (ICRMW) entered into force on 1 July 2003, some 13 years after it had been formally opened for ratification in 1990. It has, however, attracted very little in the way of support from states: the recent ratifications by Argentina and Albania, in 2007, have increased the number of States Parties to a mere 37 – a figure that is, by some considerable distance, the lowest of any of the instruments viewed by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights as “core” human rights treaties. This lack of success becomes all the more apparent upon consideration of the fact that not one major migrant receiving state is among the parties to the Convention. The United States, the European Union, and countless other nation-states and political bodies are struggling to define attitudes and policies towards immigrants and immigration for the 21st Century. This national and global debate usually revolves around economic impacts and the legal status of individual or groups of immigrants. This highlights how migrants remain forgotten in terms of access to rights. Even though their labour is essential in the world economy, the non-economic aspect of migration, and especially migrants' rights, remain a neglected dimension of globalisation. This volume provides in-depth information on the Convention and on the reasons behind states' reluctance towards its ratification. It brings together researchers, international civil servants and NGO members and relies upon an interdisciplinary perspective that includes not only law, but also sociology and political science.

United States of America:

The United States government should urgently reform its unfair immigration system to uphold the basic rights of non-citizens and provide a path to legal status for the country's unauthorized immigrants, Human Rights Watch said in a policy briefing released today. While the Senate and White House proposals are a good start, more attention could be paid to ongoing abuses in enforcement policies. (HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH)

European Union:

No EU Member State has signed or ratified the Convention. Non-ratification brings the core values of the EU into question. The Member States of the European Union can no longer fall behind but must demonstrate in concrete terms their willingness to be held accountable for migrants as they have done for decades in relation to international treaties protecting other vulnerable groups, such as women and children.

Canada:

To combat a shortage of skilled labour that has been stifling the country's economic growth since the 1970s, Canada has adopted one of the most open immigration policies in the world. As of 2010, the foreign-born population makes up 21.3 percent of the country's total population. However changes to the Canadian Experience Class scheme have caused the lives of thousands of immigrants to be plunged into uncertainty, with some experts saying the Canadian government is guilty of making misleading statements and false promises, but with little to no chance of them being held to account.

United Kingdom:

The UK first introduced a points based system in 2002 called the Highly Skilled Migrant Programme (HSMP). Migrants can come to the UK under this scheme without a sponsor or previous job offer if they can score enough points based on age, education, and past earnings. Points can also be scored for work experience or qualifications earned in the UK. Good English skills are also required. This is still available, but only to applicants outside of the UK, and is set to be replaced by a new "five-tier" points based system.

Australia:

In 2012, Australia received a total of nearly 15,800 asylum claims, up 37 percent from the previous year, according to the United Nations. The country's Department of Immigration and Citizenship states that the Migration Act 1958 requires any noncitizen or person who is unlawfully in Australia to be detained. People without a valid visa are considered unlawful— including children. Migrant children, especially asylum seekers, have been detained in immigration detention centers for months or even years. The Australian Government has responded to human rights complaints by removing children from detention centers and into community detention, or local housing. However, as of February 2013, there were still 1,062 children in the detention centers, according to the Australian Human Rights Commission. Amid all the controversy, reports in April indicated that preparations have been made to bring children back to the notorious Curtin



Immigration Detention Centre, which closed down in 2002 due to riots and protests. It reopened in 2011 and currently holds only adult single men. A portion of the center could be declared an “alternate place of detention,” which the government does not define as a detention center.

Japan:

In a country where nationals favour a racially unique and homogenous society, the foreign population accounted for only 1.7 percent of the total population in 2010, according to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Japan’s strict immigration—or, rather, anti-immigration—policies have drawn heavy criticism. Following the examples of Canada and the United Kingdom, Japan rolled out a new point-based system last spring to rate immigrants. Immigrants earn points based on their academic background and research or business experience, among other factors. Those who score higher—mainly professionals like professors, doctors, and corporate managers—will be given preferential treatment.

Qatar:

An investigation by a UK paper has claimed that many of the migrant workers who are building the infrastructure for the 2022 World Cup in Qatar live in squalid conditions and many are not being paid. The Guardian report says that some migrant workers claim not to have been paid for over a year. According to the report they are living in desperate conditions. Others are apparently working for less than US\$1 The Qatari government however has expressed ‘dismay’ at the allegations. Some people have commented that Qatar already had a questionable human rights record before the bid was won. The US State Department says that many migrant workers who move to Qatar are exploited and abused. Some are forced into prostitution and others into forced labour. The Guardian report claims that foreign workers are especially vulnerable because of the ‘kafala’ work permit system, which means that they can work for only one employer. On arrival in the country, many workers had their passports removed and were paid far less than they had been promised. They were, essentially, prisoners in the country. The report also says that workers are routinely waiting a year to be paid. One Nepali worker told The Guardian ‘We were working but not getting the money’. Another said ‘If I had the money to buy a ticket, I would go home’.

Mexico:

Illegal immigration is not the exclusive domain of rich countries. Mexico, the world’s most proficient source of unauthorized (and legal) immigrants, also hosts about a million irregular immigrants of its own, many of them American retirees who have settled in Mexico without official permission. On May 24, 2011, President Felipe Calderón signed the new and much more liberal Migration Law into law. The Mexican



Senate and the House had unanimously approved the migration bill on February 24 and April 29, respectively. Some of the most significant principles in this new law included new rights for migrants.

Bangladesh:

There are hundreds of thousands of illegal Indians in Bangladesh. They are mainly from the poorest states in India, West Bengal, Meghalaya, Assam and Manipur, which surround Bangladesh. They illegally immigrate to Bangladesh in search of jobs in the metropolitan hubs and a better standard of living. Bangladesh is fifth among the nations sending highest remittances to India. Indians working in Bangladesh sent more than \$3.7 billion back to India in 2012.

India:

It is estimated that several tens of millions of illegal immigrants live in India. Precise figures are not available, but the numbers run in tens of millions, at least 10 million are from Bangladesh, others being from Pakistan, Afghanistan and others. 24 India is constructing barriers on its eastern borders to combat the surge of migrants. The Indo-Bangladeshi barrier is 4,000 km (2,500 mi) long. Presently, India is constructing a fence along the border to restrict illegal traffic from Bangladesh.

Pakistan:

As of 2005, 2.1% of the population of Pakistan had foreign origins, however the number of immigrant's population in Pakistan recently grew sharply. Immigrants from South Asia make up a growing proportion of immigrants in Pakistan. The five largest immigrant groups in Pakistan are in turn Afghans, Bangladeshi, Tajiks, Uzbeks, Turkmens, Iranians, Indians, Sri Lankan, Burmese and Britons including a sizeable number of those of Pakistani origin. Other significant expatriate communities in the country are Armenians, Australians, Turks, Chinese, Americans, Filipinos, Bosnians and many others. Migrants from different countries of Arab world especially Egypt, Iraq, Palestine, Syria, Kuwait, Libya, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen are in thousands. Nearly all illegal migrants in Pakistan are Muslim refugees and they are accepted by the local population. There is no political support or legislation to deport these refugees from Pakistan.

Israel and Palestine:

In May 2012, Israel introduced a law which would allow illegal immigrants to be detained for up to three years, a measure that the Interior Ministry intended to stem the flow of Africans entering Israel across the desert border with Egypt. Tens of thousands of migrants, mostly from Sudan and Eritrea, had crossed the border between 2009 and 2012. 26 Much of the international community considers Israeli settlers in the



West Bank to be illegal migrants. The Israeli government, however, considers only unauthorized squatters in Israeli outposts to be illegal. Israel faces substantial illegal immigration of Arab workers from the Palestinian Authority territories, a migration that includes both workers seeking employment, and individuals escaping the social approbation of the Arab's.

Conclusion:

International labor migration, though driven by economic push and pull factors, must be understood as a multidimensional phenomenon. It involves highly diverse human rights issues arising from the vulnerability of migrants in general and specific risks suffered by individual groups of labor migrants due to their gender, age, legal status, or form of employment. The international legal framework provides a solid foundation for the protection of the fundamental rights of migrant workers in the form of the widely ratified general human rights conventions and the mandatory provisions of the eight ILO core conventions. But the specific international legal instruments for the protection of migrant workers, such as the ICRMW as well as the relevant ILO conventions, have yet to reach universal ratification, which will remain out of reach without greater awareness among Member States and technical support in the implementation of their legal provisions. Labor migration, as a human phenomenon, is accompanied by human rights issues related to more established human rights norms. Migrants' right to health takes a particularly central role, because of its reliance and conditional character in relation to the enjoyment of many other rights. Different rights have individual importance relating to the particular situation of a migrant and the specific vulnerabilities arising therefrom. The list of potential fields for collaboration to approach this issue is non-exhaustive and the potential developmental benefits arising from improved cooperation for all societies involved must be reflected in the formulation of policy solutions.

Further reading:

The Ethics of Migration and Immigration: Key Questions for Policy Makers

http://www.scu.edu/ethics/practicing/focusareas/global_ethics/migration.html#4

Immigration Is Changing Much More Than the Immigration Debate

<http://fivethirtyeight.com/features/immigration-is-changing-much-morethan-the-immigration-debate/>

Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the human rights of migrants -

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/migration/rapporteur/index.htm>



UN Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights on Human Rights and Migration - <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/migration/taskforce/index.htm>

Delegates are also encouraged to explore the topic beyond the scope of this text and identify further human rights issues that may be adversely affected by current practices and how such violations would need to be addressed. Likewise, the presented list of areas for multilateral cooperation is non-exhaustive and delegates are welcome to research further possibilities, including how to best integrate the realization of migrant workers' human rights into the post-2015 development agenda.