



CONCLUSIONS OF THE PEOPLES GLOBAL ACTION (PGA) 8th and 9th DECEMBER 2018 - MARRAKECH



PGA MARRAKECH - 2018



This encounter allowed for several thematic and regional workshops to be held on:

- Migrants' rights as rights for all
- Gender and Migration
- Social cohesion and belonging
- Migration and Development
- Migration and climate change
- They covered the majority of the world's regions: Africa, Americas, Asia, Middle East and Europe

1. THEMATIC WORKSHOPS: SOME CONCLUSIONS

Some conclusions were highlighted by the participants during the thematic workshops:

- In one of the workshops, the idea that "migrants are in danger but not dangerous" was mentioned. States continue to militarise and to externalise their borders, endangering migrants' life: thousands of lives were lost in the Mediterranean Sea, in the deserts of America and Africa as well as in the Mexico-US corridor. The Honduran caravan is one of the most recent example of it.
- States are deploying policies of refoulement, border closures, detention, mass expulsions, serious human rights violations, affecting more severely women and children, and sometimes even creating unacceptable situations such as slavery in Libya and workers' exploitation.
- The legitimization of detention and detention centres, the criminalization of mobility put migrant people at risk as well as those who help them.
- Populist and extremist movements, which today are expanding all over Europe and in the United States, stigmatize migrants and tend to exacerbate xenophobia and racism through media or within their political discourse. These movements have a negative impact on migrants who are then ostracized, becoming scapegoats and victims of daily violence.
- Migration factors have taken various forms: economic and social factors such as lack of work, economic inequalities, social crises, poor governance, civil wars and more and more climate migration, that will affect mostly the poorest countries on the African and Asian continents. The so-called "refugee crisis", which is in reality a "crisis of solidarity" and a "crisis of democracy", recently grew in a strong way.
- As recalled in the workshop "Gender and migration", women are more exposed to dangers than men with physical and sexual violence during their journey, exploitation at work, trafficking, health problems ...
- Tensions are high on the issue of war refugees and climate refugees. Many examples were brought during workshops, including Rohingyas from Bangladesh; the Hondurans' caravan to the US through Mexico, Syrians towards Europe but more massively towards neighbouring countries (Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan); or the Palestinian refugee problem.
- The label "Sanctuary cities" was approved during the PGA.
- A concrete and important proposal was approved during the final plenary session in that regard. It is framed within a general recommendation in which it was reminded that the areas of intervention are important at all levels, from local to global. Thus, advocating for the internationalisation of these "Sanctuary cities" in Southern countries represents an innovative action. This label "Sanctuary cities" demonstrates that it is possible to propose human and solidarity centred solutions and alternatives to the "welcoming crisis" of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.

towards the defence of the human rights of migrants which are rights for all.

- Beyond the Compact, the 2018 PGA in Marrakech, has been a key space for intense debates, rich exchanges, confrontation of diverse points of view as well as to confirm our struggles to access rights for all and re-

4- COMMON OBJECTIVES

Today, our common objectives lead us to think better and structure our struggles for:

- a legal framework that puts an end to the war on migration
- a Global Compact that protects the dignity and human rights of migrants
- equality men-women, and the inclusion of the gender dimension of migration in countries of origin, transit, destination and return
- free movement and installation for everyone
- the dignity and respect of migrants' rights, in parallel with social justice and climate justice.
- democracy: equal rights for migrants that are more broadly included in the rights for all.
- a real sustainable, equitable and fair development that ensures the citizens' well-being.

The PGA is going to monitor closely future migration policies. We propose that December 18th, the day for Migrant's rights and March 21st, the International Day against Racism and Discriminations are dedicated to common and joint actions, citizen mobilisation and solidarity.

Few proposals raised during the debates have led to concrete proposals of actions:

- local, national, continental and global campaigns for the protection of the rights and dignity of migrants, for the respect and the improvement of international conventions.
- campaigns for a global Compact which protects the rights of migrants, against racism,

sistances against inequalities in the world.

- The time has come! A time for sharing, a time for dialogue, a time for solidarity. Within this space of exchange, participants committed to support the struggle of victims of exclusion, expulsion, violence, exploitation, discrimination and xenophobia.

discrimination, exclusion and xenophobia, and for their comprehensive integration.

- Development at national level of campaigns for "Sanctuary cities". The adoption of the motion for "Sanctuary cities" is a concrete example of what we want to see widely achieved.
- A call was unanimously and strongly reiterated: Let's get mobilized and act together to defend the human rights of migrants and refugees and let's strengthen transnational struggles and solidarity.

The PGA Marrakech was not a simple discussion nor a political utopia for civil society but a space that we want more ambitious in terms of objectives for the protection of migrants. It is neither an outcome nor an end in itself! But a step towards a fairer, more equal and dignified world for migrants.

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