

# 15 recommendations to chart the course for the future: Commission on the Root Causes of Displacement puts forward proposals

**Press release by the German government's Commission on the Root Causes of Displacement, 19 May 2021**

Berlin – On 18 May 2021, the Commission on the Root Causes of Displacement presented recommendations to the German government and the German parliament for Germany's national and international engagement to mitigate the root causes of displacement and irregular migration. In their report, the 24 members of the commission propose 15 key recommendations that are to feed into the negotiations to form a coalition government in autumn 2021.

The 15 recommendations to chart the course for the future represent a comprehensive package of measures to address the key factors that drive displacement and irregular migration. Among the key recommendations for the next legislative term are

- increased efforts to improve people's physical, economic, social and political safety and security in their countries of origin. This includes inter alia the development of social security systems, strengthening institutions and good governance and targeted support for climate protection in the form of climate matching;
- high priority for internally displaced persons and reliable support for the countries that host refugees provided in close collaboration with international partners;
- an Alliance for Resettlement in cooperation with other countries with a particular focus on giving shelter to women, children and victims of sexualised violence from humanitarian crisis regions and
- strengthening strategic capabilities in order to play a more active role in shaping collaborative international initiatives aimed at preventing crises and resolving ongoing conflicts.

**Bärbel Dieckmann, Chairperson of the Commission and former President of the German NGO Welthungerhilfe, said:** *“Physical, economic, social and political safety and security are prerequisites to ensure people have prospects in their countries of origin for themselves and their families. As long as structural causes such as social inequality, a lack of income opportunities and of social security, political persecution and violent conflicts prevail, people will leave their homes and seek a future elsewhere. The German government should campaign resolutely for a fair global order so that differences in prosperity are reduced and the prospects of people worldwide to build themselves a viable future in their home countries are improved.”*

**Gerda Hasselfeldt, Chairperson of the Commission and President of the German Red Cross, said:** *“Mitigating the root causes of displacement and irregular migration is a long-term political task for the international community that can only be tackled in global solidarity. Our recommendations focus on the international dimension of displacement and irregular migration. Implementing them will require close collaboration with the European Union, with*

*partners and with countries of origin and host countries worldwide, as well as with regional and international organisations I hope that through our report we will contribute to an informed debate in politics, academia and civil society and that our recommendations will create a basis for political decision-making in the new legislative term.“*

The creation of an independent commission goes back to an initiative by more than 150 recipients of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany and was taken up in the coalition agreement of the governing parties CDU, CSU and SPD of 12 March 2018. The 24 members of the Commission were mandated by the German government in July 2019 to identify the main causes of displacement and irregular migration and to develop approaches for effectively mitigating them.

The members of the Commission are experts from academic institutions, non-governmental organisations, the private sector and international organisations, their expertise covers the broad range of issues that play a role in displacement and migration – from conflict, human rights violations and political persecution all the way to resource scarcity, structural food insecurity, inequality and the consequences of climate change. The Commission was chaired by Ms Gerda Hasselfeldt, President of the German Red Cross, and Ms Bärbel Dieckmann, former President of the German NGO Welthungerhilfe. The members of the Commission were independent in their work.

The summary of the report is available in English and can be downloaded under [www.fachkommission-fluchtursachen.de](http://www.fachkommission-fluchtursachen.de). The full English version of the report will be available in June.

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