



Université Saint-Joseph de Beyrouth
Faculté de droit et des sciences politiques
Centre d'études des droits du monde arabe

**The Centre of Legal Studies and Research for the Arab World (CEDROMA)
at the Faculty of Law and Political Science
Saint-Joseph University of Beirut**

In collaboration with

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

and **Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs (IFI)
at the American University of Beirut**

has the pleasure of inviting you to attend a conference on

THE GLOBAL COMPACT ON REFUGEES FROM GOODWILL TO EFFECTIVENESS

**On Tuesday 23 October 2018
from 4.00 to 8.00 pm**

Gulbenkian Amphitheatre
Social Sciences Campus
Huvelin street, Ashrafieh, Beirut



Issam Fares Institute for Public
Policy and International Affairs
معهد عصام فارس للسياسات
العامة والشؤون الدولية

*Presentations are in Arabic, French or English at the speaker's convenience.
Simultaneous translation is provided in these three languages.*

In the face of new and on-going conflicts, and subsequent prolonged forced displacement, new and sustainable approaches. In September 2016, the United Nations General Assembly unanimously adopted the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants with a clear imperative: to forge comprehensive and predictable responses to the increasing large-scale movements of refugees in the world. To that end, member states agreed to work upon the adoption of a Global Compact on Refugees before the end of 2018.

The Global Compact on Refugees seeks to implement this vision by setting out mechanisms for a wide-ranging response to refugee crises. The four key objectives framed by the New York Declaration, and elaborated by the Global Compact, are to develop mechanisms to ease the burden and pressures on host countries, to enhance refugee self-reliance, to expand access to third-country solutions, and to support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity. The Global Compact chose to deal with these objectives through a non-prescriptive voluntary approach involving multiple stakeholders acting at various levels. In addition to a Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework, the Global Compact contains a programme of action that sets out an array of international, regional and national arrangements and partnerships to share burdens and responsibilities, and to find adequate solutions to refugee situations.

This conference aims at exploring the Global Compact's ability to balance between the diverse rights and interests of the stakeholders involved in the process, in a country – Lebanon – going through a refugee crisis that could serve as a benchmark for the Compact's efficiency. The terms and conditions of the responsibility-sharing principle enhanced by the Global Compact on Refugees will be discussed from the perspective of the various stakeholders. This will be followed by a discussion about the durable solutions to the refugee situation, based on prevailing Lebanese laws and policies, international standards and operational practices, all in regard to the situation on the ground.

The panel members will include legal experts, as well as representatives of the Lebanese government and of the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and Ambassadors of key donor countries.

For more information :

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4.00-4.15 pm

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Marie-Claude NAJM KOBEH

Professor at the Faculty of Law and Political Science (Saint Joseph University of Beirut), Director of the Centre of Legal Studies and Research for the Arab World (CEDROMA)

Pr. Salim DACCACHE s.j.

Rector of Saint Joseph University of Beirut

4.15-5.45 pm

RESPONSIBILITY SHARING

Moderator: **Sami ATALLAH**, Director of the Lebanese Centre for Policy Studies (LCPS)

Brief overview of the Global Compact on Refugees, as a model for greater international solidarity and cooperation in large-scale refugee situations

Nasser YASSIN

Director of Research at the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, American University of Beirut (AUB), Professor of Policy and Planning at the AUB

The Syrian refugee situation in Lebanon, from 2011 until now

Christina LASSEN

EU Ambassador and Head of the European Union Delegation to Lebanon

The European Union's expressions of support to Lebanon throughout the refugee crisis

Alia AOUN

Lawyer, Senior Legal Advisor on Humanitarian Affairs to the Lebanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants

Does the Global Compact on Refugees provide for new prospects of responsibility sharing?

DISCUSSIONS

5.45-6.00 pm Coffee break

6.00-7.50 pm

DURABLE SOLUTIONS TO REFUGEE SITUATIONS

Moderator: **Tarek MITRI**, Director of the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, AUB, Former Minister

Brief overview of the framework for durable solutions in the Global Compact on Refugees

Aïda AZAR

Professor of Public International Law and Vice-Dean, Faculty of Law and Political Science, Saint Joseph University of Beirut

The principle of non-refoulement and right to return

Jihad HARFOUCHE

Diplomatic Attaché, Lebanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants

The host country's position on durable solutions

Emmanuelle LAMOUREUX

Ambassador of Canada to Lebanon

Resettlement and private sponsorship as solutions, and expressions of responsibility sharing

Mireille GIRARD

Representative for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Lebanon

UNHCR's work, in Lebanon and in Syria, in regard to voluntary return of refugees

DISCUSSIONS

7.50-8.00 pm

CONCLUSIONS

Karim BITAR

Acting Director of the Institute of Political Science (Faculty of Law and Political Science, Saint Joseph University of Beirut), Senior Fellow at the Institute for International and Strategic Relations in Paris (IRIS), Editor of ENA's monthly magazine