



WILPF Resolution on Forced Migration and Asylum

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), meeting at the Quadrennial Congress in San José, Costa Rica in August 2011,

Recognising that the root causes of forced migration and the need to seek asylum are grounded in a lack of adherence to human rights,

Recognising the detrimental impact of militarisation on human security and its role in causing displacement,

Noting that the multiple causes of displacement and forced migration have been exacerbated in recent times by the effects of climate change, the increase in natural disasters, and the destruction of resources,

Recognising the gender dimension of displacement, migration, and the seeking of asylum, from the impetus for migration, through transit and travel, and throughout the process of temporary or permanent resettlement,

Recognising the vulnerabilities of those in transit to being trafficked and the gendered and age dimensions of the forced labour outcome, in particular younger women being forced into prostitution,

Emphasizing the unique difficulties and threats faced by women in the migration process, including gender based and sexual violence, and in the legal processes for obtaining status,

Recognizing the need to tackle root causes of forced migration,

1. *Urges* all states to ratify the UN Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families, and to comply with international obligations to protect the human rights of those within its jurisdiction.
2. *Calls on* all governments to ensure that the rights of migrants, and refugees to be free from discrimination are upheld in particular in relation to access to education and employment;
3. *Demands* compliance with the obligations against non refoulement and protections against return where there is the real threat of human rights violations, and calls on states to recognise that the type of violations to which women may be subjected may be different from those of men and ensure their legal recognition;
4. *Calls for* strict regulation of private subcontractors undertaking border control; and
5. *Calls on* states to ensure access to humanitarian and legal assistance, and the early recognition of those in need of international protection.