

Council meeting of the Socialist International  
United Nations, Geneva, 1-2 July 2016

**Declaration on the political and humanitarian response to current international crises**

The Council of the Socialist International, meeting at the United Nations in Geneva on 1-2 July 2016, held discussions and exchanges on the theme of “Strengthening the political and humanitarian response to current international crises” and reflected in particular on the plight of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs).

Recalling its previous declarations on the issue, notably the declaration on the refugee crisis in November 2015, and the Charter on the Rights of Migrants adopted in July 2015, the SI Council:

Notes the UNHCR’s assessment that the number of people displaced by war, conflict or persecution has hit a record high of 65.3 million forcibly displaced people worldwide.

Recalls that current and future humanitarian crises are extremely likely to be exacerbated by the effects of climate change.

Underlines that international humanitarian crises disproportionately affect those already suffering from poverty.

Considers that multilateral cooperation is indispensable to the response to international crises.

Reiterates the common commitment of the United Nations and Socialist International to peace, democracy and human rights.

Expresses its concern at the shortfall in UN funding for humanitarian assistance.

Encourages governments, in particular those led by SI member parties, to redouble their efforts to mobilise the funds necessary for humanitarian assistance.

Underlines that the political and humanitarian response to international crises go hand in hand.

Recognises that without a political solution to current crises they will continue to perpetuate, and lead to an ever deeper humanitarian crisis.

Reiterates its call for parties to the conflict in Ukraine to uphold international law and implement the ceasefire as outlined in the Minsk II agreement, along with all the other provisions therein.

Reaffirms the commitment of the SI to searching for a political engagement and negotiated solution to conflicts around the world.

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