

INFORMATION NOTE

The European Union and the Government of Spain, with the support of the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), will convene on 26 May 2020 an International Donors Conference in solidarity with Venezuelan refugees and migrants in Latin America and the Caribbean. In light of the current COVID 19 pandemic, the conference will take place virtually.

At a time when the world's attention is focused on the fight against COVID-19, we should not lose sight of the needs of more than 5 million Venezuelan refugees and migrants who have sought and found safety across the world, mostly in neighbouring countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. COVID-19 has brought many aspects of life to a standstill but the humanitarian implications of this crisis, one of the largest in the world, have not ceased.

The event follows from the commitment made during last year's Solidarity Conference in Brussels to expand the support for humanitarian, protection, socio-economic integration and development programmes for Venezuelan refugees and migrants and their host communities. The lives and welfare of millions of Venezuelans depend on this assistance, and the crisis generated by the COVID-19 pandemic makes this commitment an urgent imperative.

In this context, the objectives of the Pledging Conference are to:

- 1. Mobilize **bilateral and multilateral support** to support the efforts made by States to include Venezuelan refugees and migrants in national programmes and stimulate labour markets for the benefit of Venezuelans and host communities.
- 2. Mobilize financial support for the revised 2020 Response Plan for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela (RMRP), which includes 151 partners in 17 countries who collectively require USD 1,41 Billion for protection, emergency life-saving assistance and longer-term solutions.
- 3. Facilitate stronger and coordinated **engagement** from key actors, including **cooperating States**, **development actors**, as well as civil society.

Date	26 May, 16h00-18h00 GMT +2 (9h00-11h00 GMT -5)
Format	120 minutes virtual session
Conveners	Government of Spain and the European Union, with support from UNHCR and IOM
Participants	 Approximately 50 delegations. Latin American and Caribbean countries hosting Venezuelan refugees and migrants; Major donor countries and International Financial Institutions; UN agencies, NGOs, civil society

Micro-sites	The Conveners of the Conference have created micro-sites to upload relevant documentation on the response:
	EEAS:
	EN: https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/79328/donors-conference-solidarity-venezuelan-refugees-and-migrants-countries-region-amid-covid-19_en
	ES: https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/79395/conferencia-de-
	donantes-en-solidaridad-con-refugiados-y-migrantes-venezolanos-en-pa%C3%ADses-de-la es
	MFA Spain:
	http://www.exteriores.gob.es/Portal/es/SalaDePrensa/ElMinisterioInforma/Paginas/Noticias/2020 0519_MINISTERIO6.aspx
	For more information, please contact: ada-myriam.scanu@eeas.europa.eu ; julita.bas@eeas.europa.eu ; florentino.llera@maec.es
Live Streaming	The EU and the Government of Spain will share all details pertaining to the live streaming through the dedicated micro-sites created for the Conference.