

The World Humanitarian Summit

Johanniter Commitments to the Agenda for Humanity

Humanitarian Principles

We have signed and reaffirm our commitment to the ICRC Code of Conduct, including the Humanitarian Principles.

People at the centre:

We commit to put people at the center of our actions by

- adopting the Core Humanitarian Standard, with the objective of making humanitarian action more appropriate, effective, and responsive to the needs of people and communities affected by crisis. We thus want to ensure that our beneficiaries know what they can expect from us, are able to express their views and concerns, and are listened and responded to by our teams and partners. (Johanniter)
- supporting the “Inclusion Charter” with its five steps to ensure impartial humanitarian response for the most vulnerable.
- adopting the “IASC statement on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse”.

Protecting and promoting the health of crisis-affected people

In support of putting health at the centre of collective humanitarian action and building on the SPHERE standards, we commit to:

- provide – in close co-operation with national health authorities, local civil society and relevant international organizations and context specific – relevant parts of an essential package of health services for crisis-affected people, including refugees, IDPs and host populations, according to their specific needs and vulnerabilities. Elements from the essential package provided by Johanniter include promotional, preventive and curative primary health services (comprising communicable disease prevention and control measures); child and neonatal health (including vaccinations); reproductive health (based on its Minimum Initial Service Package); trauma and injury care including in relation to gender violence; mental health; management of non-communicable diseases; and provision for the additional needs of elderly, chronically ill and disabled. The minimum package would include necessary logistical backup and support in nutrition, food security, water, sanitation, and hygiene, along with social protection, community engagement, and integration into community-based services. Special efforts will be made to train local health workers and community volunteers.
- offer our rapidly deployable “Emergency Medical Teams” upon classification by the WHO EMT system.

Women and Girls: Catalysing to achieve gender equality (CR 2 + 3)

We commit to

- contribute to universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights. (Johanniter re CC 2)
- ensure that our humanitarian programming is gender responsive. (CC4)

Inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action

In support of the implementation of the “Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action” and the upcoming Action Plan, we commit to:

- further improve access for persons with disabilities to our humanitarian aid, taking into consideration the diversity of their needs and the allocation of financial resources to address access barriers, where necessary.
- increase the participation of persons with disabilities and their organisations (Disabled People’s Organisations/DPOs) in the planning, implementation and evaluation of our projects, including measures to further develop their capacities.
- plan and implement measures to increase the understanding of and capacities on disability and the rights and needs of persons with disabilities in our partner organisations to strengthen their response in this regard.
- provide emergency wheelchairs to individuals and/or hospitals and for use at our medical points in humanitarian emergencies, if feasible and appropriate and maintain our capacities to deliver these emergency wheelchair services.

Humanitarian financing: investing in humanity (CR 5)

By having endorsed the “Charter for Change: Localization of Humanitarian Aid” we commit to

- reaffirm the Principles of Partnership and work on eye-level with our local partners, pass at least 20% of own humanitarian funding to local NGOs, report transparently on those funding shares, prevent the negative impact of recruiting national NGO staff during emergencies, provide organizational support and capacity building, and promote the role of local actors to media and the public. (Johanniter re CC 2)

Changing people’s lives: from delivering aid to ending need (CR 4)

We commit to “Anticipate, Not Wait” and “Reinforce, Not Replace” by:

- supporting local risk management strategies and training communities in analyzing risks, preparing for disasters and qualifying “first responders”
- qualifying staff of own medical assets as WHO-classified “Emergency Medical Teams” whilst actively helping to shape the procedures
- contributing with capacities to the “First Responder Community” of the German Foreign Office
- training of volunteers on disaster response in close attunement with European NGOs
- contributing to the development and success of international disaster response bodies such as the “European Civil Protection Mechanism” and UN OCHA
- prioritizing the safety and integrity of staff and beneficiaries, through mitigating measures, training and contributing to the European Interagency Security Forum (EISF). (Johanniter re CC 1)

- supporting and investing in local capacity strengthening and response systems, wherever the context allows. (Johanniter re CC 1)

Natural disasters and climate change: managing risk and crises differently (CR 4)

We commit to reinforce national and local leadership and capacities in managing disaster and climate-related risks through strengthened preparedness and predictable response and recovery arrangements. (CC 2)

We commit to increase investment in building community resilience as a critical first line of response, with the full and effective participation of women. (CC4)

Leaving no one behind: a commitment to address forced displacement (CR 3)

We recognize both the humanitarian and development challenges of displacement and commit to reduce vulnerability and improve the resilience, self-reliance and protection of refugees and IDPs. (Johanniter re CC 1)

We commit to promote and support safe, dignified and durable solutions for internally displaced persons and refugees in a coherent and measurable manner through well coordinated local programmes. (Johanniter re CC 2)

Regarding refugees in Germany:

We are both committed to improve living conditions in their home countries (f. ex. in 2015 we supported 135.000 Syrian refugees and IDPs Syria, Jordan, Lebanon) and to support their arrival and housing in Germany as well as their sustainable integration into German society (in 2015 we provided ca. 60.000 housing places and cared for a refugees in 150 hostels and camps throughout Germany).

We respect the dignity of every single refugee, independently of his or her legal status. We especially care for the protection of women, children, unaccompanied minors and other vulnerable persons amongst refugees.

We define integration as the equal participation in all economic, social and societal realms. It is a task for the whole of society to which we actively contribute in close partnership with the public sector, other social organizations, the churches, civil society initiatives and the private sector. We integrate refugees also by including immigrants as staff and volunteers in our organization.

We reject any polemics against affected people and favor realistic solution-oriented debates instead. We firmly counter any form of intolerance, xenophobia and violence against refugees, our staff, and volunteers. We strive for a peaceful togetherness of all people in our country, based on mutual respect, and the respect of our constitution and societal values.

(cf. "Butzbacher Erklärung" of 29.02.2016)