



**50th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council (13 June – 8 July 2022)  
ITEM 3: ID with the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants**

Oral statement delivered by: Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (APG23)

*Check against delivery*

Mr President,

APG23 welcomes the report of the Special Rapporteur on migrants.

As widely reported, at Europe's doorstep violent push backs, at land and sea, have become legitimate acts carried out by several States, jeopardising migrants' lives and making migratory journeys increasingly dangerous. Recently, on the European oriental border thousands of refugees, running away from conflicts and wars, have been trapped in the forest along the borders between Poland and Belarus. Afghans, Iraqis, Syrians and Yemeni, have been experiencing systematic violent deportations without food and medical care, in breach of international legislation.

Sadly, migration management strategies have been aimed at fortifying and militarising borders instead of protecting migrants' rights.

However, despite the restrictive approach in dealing with the migration phenomenon, European Countries have been able to manage the outflow of Ukraine refugees towards EU borders, with an immediate collective reaction by opening borders and providing proper access to housing, health and education and ensuring the right to work.

The prompt European response to the Ukraine humanitarian emergency has shown how policies driven by cooperation among parties together with the full compliance with legislation and human rights can be easily implemented. Access to basic rights such as health, food, housing, education and work should be always guaranteed and regular pathways should be quickly organised. Borders should never be a theatre of death, violence and humiliations.

APG23 strongly condemns the use of violence on the border and the illegal practice of collective expulsion. Migration has to be managed in a humane and effective way. In this regard, international solidarity and the operationalization of the right to development can pave the way to fully realise migrant's rights by eliminating obstacles and ensuring equality of opportunity for all.

Thank you!