

MERCY GLOBAL ACTION NEWSLETTER

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GREETINGS FROM THE MERCY GLOBAL ACTION OFFICE!

• Visit from Eveline Crotty rsm

We were absolutely thrilled to have the delightful Eveline Crotty rsm, Institute Leader of the Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia & PNG (ISMAPNG), visit us at the Mercy Global Action (MGA) Office and the United Nations.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Eveline Crotty rsm for her visit and continued support of the Mercy Global Action Office.

Her leadership and commitment to social justice have been a constant source of inspiration for our team. Her visit served as a powerful reminder of the transformative impact that can be achieved through collective action and collaboration.

We look forward to further collaboration with Eveline and the Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia & PNG as we strive to address the root causes of poverty, injustice, and inequality. Together, we will continue to advocate for the rights and dignity of all individuals, building bridges of solidarity and compassion across borders and making a tangible difference in the lives of those in need.



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MERCY



- *Advocacy Training with Mercy Higher Education Students!*

We are pleased to share the recent visit of CMHE (Conference for Mercy Higher Education) to Mercy Global Action, which coincided with the global observance of World Environment Day. This visit served as a meaningful reminder of the importance of preserving our planet and collaborating towards a sustainable future.

CMHE, established by the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, plays a vital role in upholding Mercy values within educational institutions. They strive to strengthen the bonds of Mercy traditions and cultivate the Mercy identity across all colleges and universities.



In addition to their work with educational institutions, CMHE is actively engaged in developing mission-related programs to inspire students. During their visit, we had the privilege of hosting a workshop, where we had the opportunity to share insights into our work at the United Nations and engage in discussions about the pressing issues that fuel our passion for social and environmental justice.

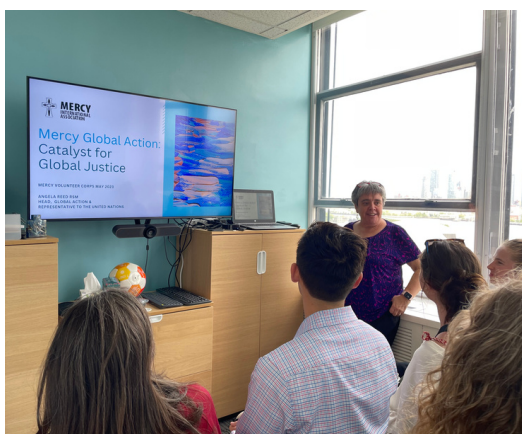
The timing of CMHE's visit during World Environment Day further underscored the urgency of addressing environmental challenges. It prompted reflection on our individual responsibility in preserving our planet and reinforced the importance of collaboration and collective action. Through education, advocacy, and a steadfast commitment to sustainable practices, we emphasized the concrete steps we can collectively take to create a brighter and more sustainable future for all.





• *Mercy Global Action visited by Mercy Volunteer Corps and Gwynedd Mercy University!*

On Friday, May 19, Mercy Global Action had the privilege of hosting Mercy Volunteer Corps (MVC) at our New York office. MVC, an esteemed ministerial partner of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas since 1993, has been empowering volunteers for social change since its establishment in 1978.



MVC's influence has extended both domestically and internationally. In addition to serving economically disadvantaged and marginalized communities within the United States, MVC has been dispatching volunteers to Guyana, South America, since 2000. Their impact is truly remarkable, with over 1,000 volunteers deployed to 169 service sites spanning 24 states, South America, and Central America. Collectively, these volunteers have devoted an impressive 2,042,880 hours to service.

The central mission of MVC revolves around addressing the multifaceted forms of injustice that persist in our contemporary world. Volunteers commit to a year-long service, collaborating with individuals who endure economic disparities, oppression, and marginalization. Whether engaged in education, healthcare, or social services, these volunteers experience personal growth and actively promote interculturality and solidarity as they strive for positive change.



During MVC's visit, we had the privilege of introducing them to the work carried out by the Mercy Global Action office at the United Nations, as well as the alignment of our efforts with the broader Mercy World. This visit provided a valuable opportunity to deepen our understanding and appreciation of how MVC's commitment to compassionate service and social change resonates with the global initiatives of the Sisters of Mercy.

We extend our sincere gratitude for the heartening visit from MVC and commend their unwavering dedication to making a meaningful impact in the lives of those in need. We also appreciate the opportunity to share valuable insights and eagerly anticipate future collaboration and partnership as we continue to pursue our shared goals.





THEMATIC AREAS

DISPLACEMENT OF PERSONS

Midterm Review

SENDAI FRAMEWORK
FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION 2015-2030

- *Sendai Midterm Review Side Event - Human Mobility in the Context of Disasters*

At UN Headquarters, on 18-19 May, the President of the General Assembly convened the High-Level Meeting on the Midterm Review of the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. This meeting was an opportunity for Member States, the United Nations system, partners and other stakeholders to reflect on and examine changes and emerging issues since 2015, and identify course corrections and new initiatives to more effectively address systemic issues related to disaster risk reduction (DRR) by 2030.

On this occasion, IOM, UNHCR, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Norwegian Refugee Council, the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, the Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction, the Platform on Disaster Displacement, as well as the governments of Argentina, Australia, Fiji, Germany, Maldives, Morocco, Mozambique, Norway, the Philippines, Switzerland and the European Union came together to organize the side event “Human Mobility in the Context of Disasters.”

Since **displacement is one of the main ways in which disasters affect people and is exacerbated by the adverse impacts of climate change**, human mobility (migration, displacement and planned relocation) considerations need to be well-represented in all disaster prevention, preparedness, response and recovery efforts. **Providing protection and assisting people on the move and ensuring that human mobility decisions are taken in dignity is a primary responsibility of States and a critical challenge** for all stakeholders engaged in reducing disaster risk, including civil society.

In order to make sure human mobility considerations are integrated in DRR policies, local voices, expertise, knowledge and information are required from the frontlines. Failing to account for the impact of human mobility can extend and compound disaster impacts. **Displacement can prevent people from accessing services and supportive infrastructure, livelihoods, undermine their security and increase their exposure and vulnerability to other risks.**

This event provided an opportunity for government representatives, academics, and humanitarian organizations to share challenges as well as effective practices and approaches in order to avert, minimize and address disaster displacement by: enabling people at risk to stay in their communities; protecting and assisting people who are already on the move; and supporting and empowering those who may need to move in the face of disasters and climate change.

[To watch the full event, click here.](#)

THEMATIC AREAS

DEGRADATION OF EARTH



- *June 8th World Oceans Day*

This Newsletter is released on United Nations World Oceans Day, with the theme "Planet Ocean: Tides Are Changing." It emphasizes the importance of collective action to prioritize the ocean.

World Oceans Day reminds us of the immense impact of oceans on our planet and our lives. Oceans cover more than two-thirds of the Earth's surface, generate a significant portion of the oxygen we breathe, regulate the climate, and provide a habitat for countless marine species. However, the health of our oceans is increasingly under threat due to human activities.

Last year, the Mercy Global Actions Oceans Taskforce initiated the Mercy Oceans Campaign, which aligned with the United Nations Ocean Conference. The campaign urged individuals and organizations to reflect on and take action for the ocean's health and sustainability.

The Mercy Oceans Campaign toolkit, created by the Mercy Global Action Oceans Taskforce, is available for download. It offers valuable materials to support individuals and organizations. If you missed accessing the toolkit, you can find it at [\[here\]](#).

In collaboration with Mercy International Association, the Mercy Global Action Oceans Taskforce also developed an Ocean Prayer Resource centered on our ocean. Although the campaign has ended, you can still view the prayer resource at [\[here\]](#) to deepen your connection with our oceans.

Oceans are vital for social justice, economies, and well-being. They sustain coastal communities, provide jobs, and impact the global climate and the oxygen we breathe.

At Mercy Global Action, we believe in the power of collective actions. By uniting efforts and raising our voices, we can bring positive change for our oceans and the future of our planet.

On this World Oceans Day, let's celebrate the magnificence of our oceans and commit to preserving them for future generations. Together, we can make a difference.



[Click here to access the campaign](#)



At the United Nations

THROUGH OUR ECOSOC LENS...

- *Global Plastic Pollution Treaty: A Crucial Step Towards Addressing Plastic Waste*

As we head into Plastic Free July, the world is uniting to combat plastic pollution by developing a global treaty. Currently, UN Member States are negotiating an international agreement to comprehensively tackle plastic pollution throughout its life cycle, from design and production to disposal. In March 2022, during the fifth UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-5.2), an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) was established to advance this legally binding treaty.

The process is well underway, with the INC set to begin its work by the end of 2022, aiming to finalize a global agreement by 2024. The Ad Hoc Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) met in May 2022 to outline the roadmap, rules of procedure, and initial scope of work for the INC. The first negotiating committee meeting (INC-1) took place in November 2022, attended by over 2,300 delegates from 160 countries. INC-2 was scheduled for May-June 2023, with three more meetings planned until the end of 2024, and the treaty's finalization is expected in 2025.

The treaty will have a broad international scope, enforceable by law, and cover the entire life cycle of plastics, including design, production, and disposal. There is growing recognition of the need to address chemicals in plastics, such as additives and non-intentionally added substances.

Support for this global treaty is widespread. A majority of UN Member States expressed their endorsement prior to UNEA-5.2, joined by various groups, including the business sector, civil society, Indigenous Peoples, workers, trade unions, waste pickers, and scientists.

This landmark treaty represents an opportunity for collective action in combating plastic pollution and ensuring a cleaner, more sustainable future. By working together and supporting this vital initiative, we can make significant progress in preserving our environment and protecting future generations.



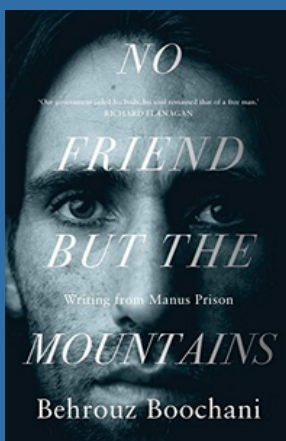
“USEFUL RESOURCES



[Rising Tides II: Public Opinion overwhelmingly supports global rules to end plastic pollution](#)



[Read last year's Mercy Oceans Campaign](#)



[No Friend But the Mountains: Writing from Manus Prison by Behrouz Boochani](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS & INTERNATIONAL HOLIDAYS

- **June 8th - World Oceans Day**
- **June 20th- World Refugee Day**
- **July 1st - Plastic Free July**
- **July 10-14, 17-20 - High-Level Political Forum**



Mercy International Association (MIA) maintains a comprehensive and up to date website and produces an informative fortnightly e-newsletter (MercyNews). Visit our website to discover more about MIA and our global activities: www.mercyworld.org

Subscribe to our e-newsletter to learn about our vision in action and the ministries carried out by our member congregations: www.mercyworld.org/newsroom/enevs/