

Global Migration Law in Action



Online Summer Course (Zoom),
Tuesday 8 July 2025
3–6 pm (CEST)

Are you working on migration and human rights? Do you want to deepen your expertise on the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICRMW)?

Join our online course, [Global Migration Law in Action](#), hosted by the Global Migration Law Hub at the Amsterdam Centre for Migration and Refugee Law (ACMRL, VU University Amsterdam)—one of the best research and teaching centers in migration and refugee law worldwide. This is a rare opportunity to gain insider knowledge from top experts in the field.

Course description

The GCM and the ICRMW are the two most significant global legal frameworks on migration, each playing a distinct but complementary role. Adopted in 2018, the GCM builds on existing core human rights treaties. Although it is non-binding, it reinforces states' obligations under international law. In contrast, the ICRMW is a legally binding treaty that establishes clear obligations for state parties to protect migrant workers, including undocumented migrants. While the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) serves as the main platform for assessing progress on the GCM's implementation, the UN Committee on Migrant Workers (CMW) continues to monitor state compliance with the ICRMW through its [reporting mechanism](#). The convergence between these two frameworks has been further clarified by the CMW with the adoption of [General Comment No. 6](#) (2024), which addresses the overlapping protection of migrant workers' rights under the ICRMW and the GCM. This landmark General Comment provides guidance on how states' obligations under the ICRMW align with and support the implementation of the GCM, and vice versa. Together, these mechanisms contribute to a more coherent and rights-based approach to migration governance.

This course is a unique opportunity to learn how to navigate these two frameworks and develop strategies to contribute effectively to the protection of migrants. With the next IMRF set for 2026 and ongoing state reporting to the CMW, this is the ideal moment to enhance your knowledge and skills for meaningful engagement in these processes. The course consists of a pre-session (readings), lectures by ACMRL experts specialized in Global Migration Law, and discussions in small groups to work on practical cases. By the end of the course, participants will:

- ✓ Have a solid understanding of the GCM and ICRMW and their reporting frameworks.
- ✓ Understand the relationship between the GCM, ICRMW and other international instruments.
- ✓ Understand the implications of General Comment No. 6 (2024) by the CMW.
- ✓ Gain practical knowledge on how to use the GCM, ICRMW and General Comment 6 in daily work.
- ✓ Learn how to engage effectively with the IMRF and the CMW reporting mechanism.
- ✓ Receive a certificate of participation and accomplishment from the ACMRL, VU University Amsterdam.

Who can participate?

Aligned with the whole-of-society approach promoted by the GCM and the ICRMW, which emphasizes the role of multiple stakeholders in shaping migration policies, this course is designed for all those interested in migration and refugee issues, particularly:

- ✓ Policymakers and government officials.
- ✓ Representatives from international organizations.
- ✓ Legal practitioners.
- ✓ Civil society organisations representatives.
- ✓ Representatives from trade unions and the private sector.
- ✓ Researchers and academics, including (PhD) students.

The course can also be tailored and delivered exclusively for the staff of a single organization. For details on the in-company format, please contact us via email.

Course language

This call concerns the English version of the course. The course is also available in French and Arabic (see [here](#) for the call and registration).

Registration and fees

To register, please complete this [registration form](#) by 1 June 2025. The course fee is €95, with payment details provided upon registration. The first three registrants will receive a 10% early bird discount.

Questions?

Send an email to hrb.rechten@vu.nl