

EGYPT

FACTS AND FIGURES

JANUARY – DECEMBER 2023



The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is an impartial, neutral and independent organization whose exclusively humanitarian mission is to protect the lives and dignity of victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence and to provide them with assistance. The ICRC also endeavours to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and universal humanitarian principles.

In Egypt, the ICRC serves as a pivotal hub for coordinating and facilitating the organization's operational responses in neighboring conflict-affected regions such as Gaza, Sudan, and other areas in the Middle East and Africa where the ICRC is actively involved. The ICRC Egypt delegation promotes IHL and helps reestablish contact between family members separated by conflict, other situations of violence, and migration.

Through its partnership with the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC), the ICRC strives to ensure an efficient response to various humanitarian needs and assist the most vulnerable. Through different activities and partnerships in 2023, the ICRC worked on:

SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS OF ARMED CONFLICTS IN THE REGION

With the eruption of the conflicts in Sudan and Gaza in 2023, the ICRC Egypt delegation contributed to the ICRC's response to the crises with the following support:

GAZA:

75 TRUCKS

carrying **1,875** tons of essential assistance entered Gaza through Egypt in cooperation with the ERC.

EGP 17.5 mn SUPPORT

to ERC's operational response plan focusing on areas of protection, emergency response, and capacity strengthening of ERC volunteers.

7,623 PHONE CALLS

to reconnect family members were facilitated by the ERC in **12** different locations in Egypt through three emergency kits (primarily consisting of mobile phones and internet routers) provided by the ICRC.

199 Palestinians

stranded in Egypt received cash assistance for their immediate needs.

15 ERC VOLUNTEERS

were trained on handling requests for tracing lost family members.

SUDAN:

EGP 17.2 mn IN SUPPORT

for ERC's emergency response plan, including material and equipment provided to ERC's branch in Aswan.

10,824 INDIVIDUALS

who left Sudan and are living in Greater Cairo, Alexandria, and Aswan received cash assistance to help them address their immediate needs.

7,769 PHONE CALLS

to reconnect family members were facilitated by the ERC at the Egyptian-Sudanese border through three emergency kits (primarily consisting of mobile phones and internet routers) provided by the ICRC.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WITH THE EGYPTIAN RED CRESCENT

Aside from responding to urgent humanitarian needs in the region, the ICRC and ERC are partnering in several fields including emergency preparedness and response:

75 ERC VOLUNTEERS

from Cairo, North Sinai, Port Said, Ismailia, Alexandria, and Aswan governorates were trained on first aid and emergency response mechanisms.

25 ERC VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF

from Cairo, Aswan, Alexandria, and North Sinai branches received training to improve their ability to assess economic security needs.

ASSISTING VULNERABLE PEOPLE WITH ESSENTIAL NEEDS

\$ 317 REFUGEES

aged 18–24, including women-headed households, attended a skills and entrepreneurship course and received over EGP 1.6 million to help them establish their own projects.

BRINGING FAMILIES TOGETHER

📄 9,813 VISITORS

approached the ICRC for enquiries and restoring family links services.

👤? 2,294 TRACING REQUESTS

for persons with whom contact was lost were addressed by the ICRC by the end of September 2023.

📍 152 SOUGHT PERSONS

were successfully located and contact was restored through Red Cross messages, phone calls, and direct family reunifications in Cairo. The average duration of loss of contact between enquirers and sought persons is 6.5 years.

🗣️ 27 RED CROSS MESSAGES

and oral greetings (*Salamat*) were exchanged between families living in Egypt and their relatives who were visited by the ICRC in places of detention abroad.

🗣️ 70 ORAL GREETINGS

(*Salamat*) were exchanged between families living in Egypt and their relatives who were rescued as part of the collaboration between the Movement and SOS Méditerranée during the Ocean Viking ship rescue operations.

📞 2,856 PHONE CALLS

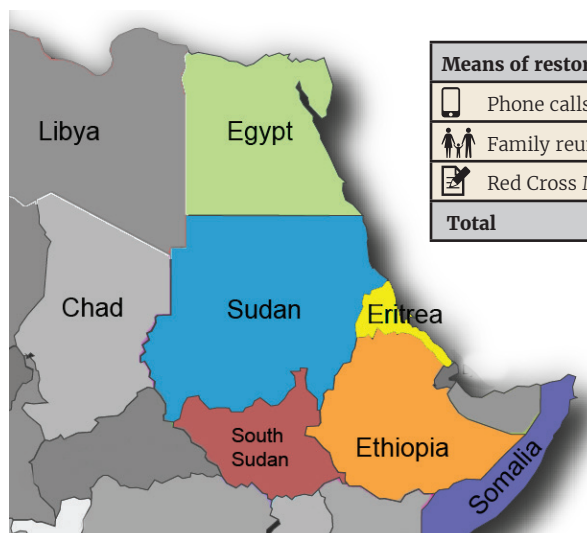
were facilitated to help migrant community members in Egypt maintain contact with their loved ones abroad.

✈️ 357 ICRC TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

were issued on behalf of refugees/asylum seekers exiting Egypt for resettlement in other countries.

Egypt serves as a transit country on migrant routes from Africa and from conflict-stricken countries in the region. Migrants often lose family members on the migratory route and need support in finding them. In 2023, the ICRC Egypt delegation succeeded in helping 152 persons find and connect with their loved ones. This was based on requests received by the ICRC by individuals searching for their family members. The below map shows from where the ICRC received these requests and how contact was restored between family members.

Solved requests came from:	
South Sudan	66
Ethiopia	35
Sudan	30
Eritrea	8
Somalia	8
Egypt	5
Total	152



Means of restoring contact	
📞 Phone calls	127
👤 Family reunification	16
📄 Red Cross Message	9
Total	152

PROMOTING AWARENESS ABOUT THE ICRC AND IHL

On the National Level:

With the Egyptian Armed Forces:

4,809 officers, cadets, and troops were trained on IHL through **29** training courses and dissemination sessions.

The ICRC participated in the joint multilateral military exercise Bright Star – 2023, where it took part in several training activities including the Subject Matter Expert Exchange (SMEE) and the Command Post Exercise (CPX), and held a workshop on “Urban Warfare and Humanitarian Consequences”. The ICRC team observed the execution of several activities in the Field Training Exercise (FTX).

ICRC contributed to the training of **20** foreign officers attending a peacekeeping course in Egypt and **11** foreign officers participating in the Bright Star military exercise, both organized by the Egyptian Armed Forces.

4 Egyptian armed forces officers were invited to attend various trainings organized by the ICRC, including the IHL Regional Training of Trainers (TOT) Course in Morocco, the International Military Course on the Law of Armed Conflict in Sanremo, Italy, and the Emerging Technologies workshop in Jordan.

43 Egyptian armed forces officers and **44** Egyptian police officers nominated for peacekeeping operations participated in orientation sessions on IHL and International Human Rights Law (IHRL).

28 officers from the Military Justice Authority, **2** police officers, **12** participants from the National Commission on IHL (NCIHL), and representatives from other ministries attended 2 workshops on IHL-related topics.

With the Ministry of Interior:

506 Egyptian police officers were introduced to IHL and its interplays with IHRL through 10 training courses and dissemination sessions.

With the Egyptian National Commission on IHL (NCIHL):

40 members and government officials from the NCIHL enhanced their IHL knowledge through one workshop.

35 judges enhanced their IHL knowledge through one workshop.

300 law students from Zagazig and Benha universities enhanced their IHL knowledge through two awareness sessions.

With the media and academic circles:

100 students and **35** teachers and professors from Al-Azhar University’s faculty of Law and Sharia participated in a two-day seminar in Cairo on the commonalities between IHL and Islamic Sharia, in cooperation with Al-Azhar University.

25 journalists from different local and regional news outlets were introduced to IHL through one workshop.

On the Regional Level:

37 participants representing **14** Arab states from governmental and academic circles participated in the IHL Regional Training of Trainers (TOT) Course organized in Morocco, in cooperation with the League of Arab States.

50 high-level governmental officials, including ministers of justice/foreign affairs from **14** Arab countries participated in the Twelfth Regional Meeting of Arab National Committees on IHL that took place in Qatar.

The ICRC IHL regional team participated in different IHL-related events for the benefit of **821** participants from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries and other countries in the region.



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