



PICUM Strategic Plan 2016 - 2020



PLATFORM FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON
UNDOCUMENTED MIGRANTS

Who we are

PICUM, the **Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants**, is a network of organisations working to ensure social justice and human rights for undocumented migrants.

Vision

PICUM seeks a world where human mobility is recognised as a normal reality, and where all people are guaranteed their human rights regardless of migration or residence status.

Mission

Grounded in principles and values of social justice, anti-racism and equality, PICUM is committed to ensuring that undocumented migrants have a dignified standard of living and rights.

Working principles

Bringing together a broad range of experience and expertise, PICUM generates and coordinates a humane and informed response to undocumented migrants' realities and provides a platform to engage policy makers and the general public in the full realisation of their rights.

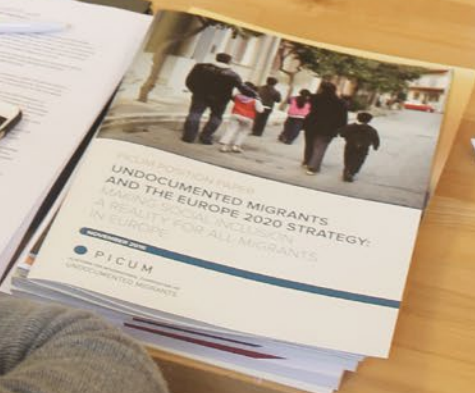
A diverse and multi-stakeholder membership network

PICUM is a network of more than 140 organisations. PICUM membership is open to any non-profit and non-governmental organisation (NGO) working with or for the rights of undocumented migrants, and committed to PICUM's vision, mission and values. This ranges from voluntary, migrant-led and grassroots organisations to trade unions, health care providers and international networks.

PICUM also engages 'PICUM Supporters', any individual – whether a lawyer, service provider, researcher, journalist, undocumented migrant or other member of the general public – that shares PICUM's vision, mission and values. For more information, see PICUM's website www.picum.org



2016-2020 Strategic orientation



2016-2020 Strategic orientation

With its 2016-2020 strategic orientation PICUM aims to ensure it remains a relevant and dynamic organisation, with the capacity and innovation to respond to emerging opportunities and threats, while using its resources in the most effective and strategic way to advance undocumented migrants' rights.

The over-arching vision of PICUM's founders remains as relevant today as it did in the mid-1990s. Based on a process of reflection with PICUM members, this strategic orientation reaffirms and reframes PICUM's vision, mission, and working principles, and sets out PICUM's corresponding strategic objectives for 2016-2020, in a clear framework for PICUM members, partners, funders and other supporters.

A changing migration landscape

Global economic, political, demographic, security and environmental developments, and persistent inequalities, are increasingly driving and fostering human mobility. Mobility is a cornerstone of the European Union. Yet developments in the legal and political framework governing migration, particularly at European Union level, undermine the conditions to realise the full benefits of human mobility for individuals, families and communities in countries of origin, transit and destination.

In 2015, migration has come to the forefront of intergovernmental policy making, with fundamental decisions and actions being developed by national governments at European level, and national realities greatly influenced by regional policies, particularly in those member states with external EU borders. This represents a number of critical opportunities and challenges. The European Union and its member states are steadfastly pursuing further criminalisation of migration, border control and cooperation with other countries to prevent migration and facilitate deportations. Advancements towards the recognition and realisation of the rights of all people, regardless of their migration or residence status, and whether or not they claim - or are recognised as beneficiaries of – international protection are under threat.

However, it must now be recognised how migration, residence and citizenship policies drive irregular and unsafe migration and place people at risk of losing their status. How they do not correspond to global developments and realities, including the needs of European labour markets and social protection systems and the needs of people to migrate to Europe, whether for work, study, protection and family reunification.

In the coming years more than ever, there is a need for evidence, joint and coordinated advocacy at European and national level, partnership, communication and exchange to drive systemic and sustainable reform of policy and practice. This action must provide regular channels for migration and routes out of irregularity, prevent people from becoming undocumented, and ensure the rights of all people, regardless of migration status.



PICUM Director, Michele LeVoy, delivering civil society's message at the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) on 14 May 2014 in Stockholm, on a panel including United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon. Photo: ©Milka Isinta

Medium term goals for 2016-2020



Medium term goals for 2016-2020

Firewall principle

- PICUM will increase recognition and implementation in law and practice of the “firewall principle” – a clear separation between immigration enforcement and access to services (including health care, shelter, and education), protection and justice.

Regular channels

- PICUM will increase evidence and consensus on the need for more regular channels for migration, particularly for labour migration across skills levels, and on the need for mechanisms to regularise undocumented migrants on specific grounds.

Addressing violations

- PICUM will address the consistent violations of migrants’ rights in the context of migration enforcement policy and practice.

Non-discrimination

- PICUM will address the specific age and gender discrimination faced by children and by women throughout migration processes and as a result of migration control and enforcement policies and practices.

Building support

- PICUM will secure a broader consensus among wider civil society, service providers and the general public, in support of its vision.

Strengthening membership

- PICUM will be increasingly sustainable, representative, and relevant as a membership organisation.

Strategic responses

- PICUM will be dynamic, innovative and strategic in its response to identified needs and objectives as well as emerging opportunities and threats.

How we will work towards our goals



How we will work towards our goals

1. PICUM will further build its evidence base and communicate it effectively to elected officials, policy makers, civil servants, service providers, the general public and other stakeholders through various means.



- PICUM will produce and communicate relevant, timely and accessible information on undocumented migrants' human rights, the impacts of policies, and the realities facing undocumented migrants, families and communities, including those providing frontline services.
- PICUM will contribute to ongoing EU policy processes to ensure undocumented migrants are routinely considered within the development and evaluation of policies on justice and fundamental rights, migration, social inclusion and protection, education, health, gender equality, and children.
- PICUM will foster the development of legal strategies to advance undocumented migrants' human rights, and contribute to the implementation of international and regional human rights law through engagement in related processes and monitoring bodies.
- PICUM will develop communications and tools to reach a wider audience and improve understanding and support for undocumented migrants, including through promoting the use of accurate and fair terminology when speaking about migration.

2. PICUM will work collaboratively to develop coordinated, collective and effective actions and engage new advocates and allies.



- PICUM will contribute to broader social agendas and initiatives and collaborate with other civil society organisations to ensure inclusion of undocumented migrants.
- PICUM will develop specific joint actions and initiatives with a broad range of stakeholders to increase impact and efficacy.
- PICUM will build alliances with strategic partners and institutions in each thematic area of its work, both with the power to improve the lives of undocumented migrants through their daily work and as powerful and convincing allies in pushing structural reforms.

3. PICUM will continue to enable vital support and solidarity among frontline advocates and organisations as a membership network.



- PICUM will provide essential space for information exchange, analysis and joint action to support its members in their daily work and enable them to emerge as a united force for change.
- Effective channels of communication within PICUM's network will enable it to deliver timely and effective multi-level responses to political and practical developments at European and national level.
- PICUM will seek to expand its network to include key frontline advocates and organisations, including those outside of Europe, so they can enjoy the support and solidarity of the PICUM network, and PICUM can be increasingly representative.
- PICUM will support members to promote the empowerment of undocumented migrants to claim their rights, and to participate, and engage in policy processes to achieve social change.

4. PICUM will promote the sustainability of the network.



- PICUM will increase understanding among public and private funders of the urgent need to support civil society action for undocumented migrants' rights, including the provision of service and advocacy, as well as the damage caused by requiring grantees to discriminate on grounds of migration or residence status.
- PICUM will ensure optimal management and governance of the network, and work to secure sustainable funding.
- PICUM will strengthen its sustainability and efficacy as a membership network, by continually improving relations with members and seeking to expand the network in strategic geographical and thematic areas.

Who we will work with



Who we will work with

As a network, and an organisation working for the rights of an extremely marginalised and discriminated group, PICUM sees great value in strengthening its advocacy by working with others and taking a broad and multi-stakeholder approach.

Policy makers

PICUM will continue to engage with elected officials, policy makers and civil servants at national and European Union level, including at the European Council, European Commission and European Parliament, to advance evidence and rights-based law and policy making, implementation, evaluation and reform.

Local and regional authorities

PICUM will continue to build its evidence base on promising policies and practices of inclusion of undocumented residents implemented by local and regional authorities, and will work with interested authorities to disseminate practical solutions and advocate necessary reforms on national level.

Monitoring bodies, institutions and agencies

PICUM works with a wide range of governmental and intergovernmental bodies, institutions and agencies. With both ECOSOC status with the United Nations and Consultative Status with the Council of Europe, PICUM will enhance its cooperation with and contributions to relevant United Nations and Council of Europe bodies, jointly with members and relevant coalitions on national, regional and global level. PICUM will also continue its cooperation with international and regional institutions and agencies, including the International Labour Organisation (ILO), UNICEF, the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), and the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA), and reach out to develop further partnerships.

Service providers, professional bodies and trade unions

PICUM will reach out to develop further partnerships and work closely with partner networks of trade unions and service providers, including victims' support services, shelters, health and legal professionals. PICUM will also support cooperation between its members and members of partner networks.

Civil society alliances

PICUM will continue to be an active member of several civil society alliances on regional and global level working collectively to advance migrants' rights, children's rights and well-being, women's rights, human rights, and social inclusion and protection, as well as to end the immigration detention of children and families.

Research institutions and think tanks

Providing its evidence and analysis to support to further research on the social, legal and policy challenges around undocumented migration will remain a core activity of PICUM's work. PICUM will also disseminate findings, undertake collaborative initiatives, and identify key gaps in the evidence, to influence the research agenda and facilitate more informed policy and practice.

The Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM) was founded in 2001 as an initiative of grassroots organisations. Now representing a network of more than 140 organisations and 100 individual advocates working with undocumented migrants in 33 countries, primarily in Europe as well as in other world regions, PICUM has built a comprehensive evidence base regarding the gap between international human rights law and the policies and practices existing at national level. With over ten years of evidence, experience and expertise on undocumented migrants, PICUM promotes recognition of their fundamental rights, providing an essential link between local realities and the debates at policy level.

Report produced by Michele LeVoy, Lilana Keith and Eve Geddie (PICUM)

February 2016

This publication was made possible with kind support from:



This report has received financial support from the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity "EaSI" (2014-2020). For further information please consult: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/easi>
The information contained in this publication does not necessarily reflect the official position of the European Commission.



SIGRID RAUSING TRUST



PICUM

Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants

Rue du Congres / Congresstraat 37-41, post box 5

1000 Brussels

Belgium

Tel: +32/2/210 17 80

Fax: +32/2/210 17 89

info@picum.org

www.picum.org



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