

Roundtable 6: Addressing the vulnerabilities of refugees and migrants on their journeys from their countries of origins to their countries of arrival

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Thank you distinguished chairs and participants. I am Eleanor Acer, senior director for refugee protection at Human Rights First, a U.S. based organization that advocates for U.S. leadership on human rights. We also partner with law firms to provide pro bono counsel to refugees and

- States should act immediately to save lives on land and sea, while also ensuring access to international protection.

survivors of sexual and gender-based violence and other vulnerable individuals. These processes must be properly resourced. State cooperation or assistance focused on stemming the flow, without prioritizing access to effective protection, will ultimately prove counterproductive from both a rights and migration management perspective.