

Revised Mission Statement 2022 - 2026

The Centre of Competence on Humanitarian Negotiation (CCHN) was established in 2017 as a joint effort of the Strategic Partnership on Humanitarian Negotiation involving the ICRC, UNHCR, WFP, MSF and the HD Centre. Building upon the experience gathered during the five-year pilot phase, Strategic Partners, members of the CCHN Community and other stakeholders contributed to the revision of the Mission Statement of the CCHN in 2021. The Revised Mission Statement reads as follows:

1. Fostering a community of professionals engaged in frontline humanitarian negotiations.

The core mission of the Centre is to facilitate the emergence of a global community of practice on humanitarian negotiation composed of humanitarian professionals operating on the frontlines. Animated by a common desire to inform and guide the development of humanitarian negotiation as a professional domain, the CCHN Community of practice is at the center of the transformative vision of the CCHN anchoring the safe access of humanitarian organizations to the elucidation and modeling of negotiation practices in complex environments. The members of its Community of practice contribute regularly to the orientation of the CCHN and the development of its activities along the inputs of, and guidance from humanitarian agencies and other institutional partners.

2. Promoting critical reflection, learning and exchanges among peers within this community.

The Centre offers a safe, informal and neutral space to discuss and review humanitarian negotiation practices. The Centre further supports and participates in professional and scientific reflections on negotiation processes, the design of practical tools for field practitioners and the elaboration of negotiation strategies to prevent, mitigate and remedy the effects of hostilities on affected populations. It cooperates with leading policy and academic centers in the review and analysis of humanitarian negotiation dealing with recurring challenges and dilemmas affecting humanitarian action. This cooperation takes place in a transparent manner with the members of the CCHN Community and other relevant stakeholders and in due consideration for the confidentiality of peer-to-peer exchanges. It further proposes case-based material for policy research and training purposes. It hosts regular deliberations among practitioners at regional level, as well as organizes an annual meeting of frontline humanitarian negotiators.

3. Building a greater capacity of humanitarian organizations for effective and collaborative negotiation practice.

The CCHN is committed to expanding and supporting collaborative negotiation capabilities within and across humanitarian organizations through the design of specific training on collaborative practices as well as the setting up of privileged platforms to facilitate peer exchanges around context analysis and negotiation planning. The CCHN also provides advisory support to frontline humanitarian teams on demand. Doing so, the CCHN contributes to developing the capabilities of agencies to mandate and monitor frontline negotiation processes in a consistent and cohesive manner.

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