

Everyone has the right to a nationality. Making it a reality takes collective action.

Hosted by the Global Alliance to End Statelessness (GAtES), this interactive event connects lived expertise, policy leadership and practical experience to resolve statelessness, prevent new cases and protect rights. Two years after its launch, the Global Alliance has grown to more than 200 members from governments, stateless-led organizations, civil society, UN agencies, regional organizations, academia and legal experts, providing an important platform for collective action on statelessness.

We will hear from governments who have reformed nationality laws, established pathways to nationality for stateless populations, strengthened safeguards to prevent childhood statelessness, and expanded protection and documentation for stateless persons, alongside governments now seeking to advance similar reforms. Guided by UNHCR's Global Action Plan to End Statelessness 2.0, we will turn shared learning into partnerships and concrete commitments.

Global Alliance Annual Roundtable

The Global Alliance Annual Roundtable is the Alliance's flagship annual convening, which serves as a unique multistakeholder space where members and partners can showcase effective strategies, develop partnerships and advance concrete commitments. It also helps connect the work of the Alliance's Thematic Working Groups, Solutions Seeker Programme, and Regional Network Labs, translating discussion into practical collaboration and measurable progress under the Global Action Plan to End Statelessness 2.0.

This year's Roundtable will place particular emphasis on identifying actionable solutions, encouraging new pledges and strengthening cooperation across sectors and regions to accelerate implementation.

Who should join? People with lived experience, stateless-led and community organisations, governments, UN agencies, regional and international institutions, civil society, researchers and partners. Perspectives from Africa, Asia, the Americas, Europe and the Middle East will help identify and connect solutions across regions.

A whole-of-society approach - with lived expertise at its heart.

Be part of the conversation and the commitment. Panels, a pledge wall and lived expertise and storytelling will invite and stimulate contributions from the room and online. Bring a proposal, partnership offer or pledge to help move discussion into implementation.

Connect expertise. Build partnerships. Turn commitments into change.

Co-funded by the European Union

Provisional programme:

08:00–08:30 | **In person**: Arrival/registration and coffee/networking; **Online**: Please log in at 08:25.

08:30–09:00 | Opening session

- **Welcome and introduction:** Event Moderator – **Chris Nash**, Director European Network on Statelessness
- **Opening remarks: Barham Salih,** United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- **Introducing the Global Alliance to End Statelessness and the Global Action Plan 2.0: Marin Roman**, UNHCR & GAtES Secretariat Coordinator

09:00–10:00 | Session 1 – Finding solutions for major situations of statelessness

How can political will deliver lasting solutions?

Linking Actions 1 and 8 of UNHCR's Global Action Plan 2.0, this session explores resolving major situations, including by ensuring that individuals who are entitled to nationality can confirm, acquire or document that nationality in practice. Community, government and regional perspectives will identify practical pathways, partnerships and pledges.

- **Christy Chitengu**, Co-Lead of the Global Movement Against Statelessness (Moderator)
- **Monika Sandvik**, Head of UNHCR Statelessness Section
- **Ali Johar**, Director of Education & Movement Building, Rohingya Human Rights Initiative
- **Government of Thailand** (TBC)
- **Hon Selma Sassi-Safer**, Commissioner of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights & Special rapporteur on Refugees, Asylum Seekers, Internally Displaced Persons and Migrants in Africa
- **Government of Syria** (TBC)

10:00–10:15 | Short coffee/screen break

10:15–11:15 | Session 2 - Protecting the rights of stateless people and addressing childhood statelessness

Protecting rights today and preventing statelessness for the next generation go hand in hand. This session links safeguards so no child is born stateless (Action 2), birth registration as an important safeguard against statelessness (Action 7), identification, protection and facilitated naturalisation in migratory contexts (Action 6), and enjoyment of rights (Action 11). A pledge wall will translate priorities into practical commitments.

- **Martine Kalaw**, Author & Advocate, United Stateless (Moderator)
- **Radha Govil**, Deputy Director, Peter McMullin Centre on Statelessness; co-chair of GAtES Thematic Working Group on Protecting the Rights of Stateless Persons
- **Amarilis Busch Tavares,** Coordinator-General, National Committee for Refugees (CONARE), Govt. of Brazil
- **Bhaskar Mishra,** Child Protection Specialist – Global Technical Lead on CRVS and Legal Identity, UNICEF; co-chair of GAtES Thematic Working Group on Ending Childhood Statelessness
- **Mitra Jalali**, Senior Legal Adviser, OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities

11:15–12:15 | Session 3 - Addressing discrimination as a cause of statelessness

How can everyone enjoy nationality without discrimination? Lived experience storytelling and dialogue will shape this session on removing gender discrimination from nationality laws (Action 3) and preventing discriminatory denial, loss or deprivation of nationality on ethnic, racial, religious, political and other grounds (Action 4) - seeking commitments from governments to reform laws, policies and practices.

- **Bina Ramanand**, Executive Director, Family Frontiers (Moderator)
- **Catherine Harrington**, Director, Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights, co-chair of GAtES Thematic Working Group on Addressing Discrimination in Nationality Laws
- **Rasha Altabshi,** Director, Warsheh Team
- **Government of Liberia** (TBC)
- **Lobna Azzam**, Director of Family and Childhood Department, League of Arab States (TBC)
- **Jawad Fairooz**, Director, Salam DHR; member of the GAtES Advisory Committee

12:15–12:30 | Closing session

- **Final reflections: Melvin Castulo Suarez**, State Counsel (Senior Protection Officer), Department of Justice, Government of the Philippines, Chair of the GAtES Advisory Committee.
- **Closing remarks and next steps: Chris Nash**, Director, European Network on Statelessness.

From shared learning to shared action.
Join the discussion. Help turn commitments into change.

Taking place as the Alliance marks its second anniversary and surpasses 200 members, the 2026 Roundtable offers a timely opportunity to assess progress, strengthen partnerships and accelerate implementation of the Global Action Plan to End Statelessness 2.0.

How to register

Join us in-person: Please fill out our registration form as soon as possible as places are limited, but by latest 2 December 2026.

Join us online: If you are unable to attend in-person, it will be possible to attend the event online. You can fill out our online registration form by 2 December 2026.

We will carefully review all registrations and confirm places on a rolling basis but by latest 3 December.