Emmaus International is calling for an urgent rethink about migration policy, which is largely security-based, and kills thousands of people every year. Emmaus International supports international freedom of movement and settlement.

Our Arguments

- Article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights asserts the right to freedom of movement and settlement
- Only 3% of the world’s global population migrates abroad, and the rate hasn’t changed for the last 50 years (UN 2013)
- 60% of this migration is to the global South (UNDP 2013)
- 20,000 people have died on the Mediterranean borders since 2000 (The Migrants Files)
- On average, each deportation costs the French State 27,000 Euros (Cimade, 2008)

Pilot Project

Emmaus International set up the Organisation for Universal Citizenship (OUC) with France Libertés and Utopia in 2013, and is calling for acceptance of international freedom of movement and settlement. The OUC is campaigning for a round of UN conferences to be held on the issue of migration, with the full involvement of migrants and civil society.

Launched on 23 May 2013, on that day every year the OUC presents universal citizenship passports, which have no legal value, but which are held by migrants and public figures who are committed to supporting the initiative. The OUC is also seeking support from States and civil society organisations for its proposals.