The effects of urbanization and migration are frequently addressed in UN resolutions and debates on a whole host of topics ranging from the economy to the environment and global health. Urbanization and migration are the two most widespread and constant demographic factors that will affect populations worldwide over the course of the twenty-first century.

Families are disproportionally affected by urbanization and migration. Living and working conditions in cities as well as the risks and precariousness involved in migration too often contribute to families being torn apart and they make it harder for young people to form their own families.

Human mobility and international migration lead to increased vulnerability to poverty and human trafficking. Cities offer better infrastructure, and increased opportunities for education, access to healthcare, and housing. But they are not often friendly to the family. Creating family-friendly cities that welcome children should be a priority in order cities to be sustainable and societies to thrive.

This event titled “The effect of urbanization and migration on the family” will bring together a panel of experts to contribute their insights on the topic. It will examine the harm to children particularly girls who are vulnerable to exploitation traveling without parents. It will be an opportunity for the participants to brainstorm on how to strengthen and protect the family; to create truly sustainable cities and unbiased forms of mobility.