



## INTERVENTION

by **His Eminence Cardinal Pietro Parolin**  
Secretary of State of His Holiness Pope Francis  
and Head of the Delegation of the Holy See to the

United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants  
United Nations Headquarters, 19 September 2016

Roundtable #1:  
*Addressing the Root Causes of Large Movements  
of Refugees and Migrants*

Mr. Chair,

During the preparatory phases of this Summit, much attention and effort have been dedicated to the search for durable solutions and more effective ways of sharing responsibility in the face of large movements of

that Pope Francis has often stated the need to resolve open questions

must be that of diplomacy and dialogue.<sup>1</sup>

Moreover, in the last few years religious persecution has become more and more a cause of displacement. Although other groups are heavily targeted, many reports confirm that Christians are by far the most persecuted faith group, speaking of “religious-ethnic cleansing”, which

asylum countries, are facing harassment in refugee settings. We must not abandon them.

The preparatory document for this Roundtable rightly highlights that the availability and use of low technology weaponry has resulted in the spread

