

# **CULTURAL REFERENCES AND COLLECTIVE ACTIONS ON MIGRATION**

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**Ambassador Emilio Izquierdo  
Permanent Representative of Ecuador  
to the UN Geneva**

# INTRODUCTION

- ▶ Dr. Ivette Sánchez
- ▶ Swiss writer Robert Walser
- ▶ *Doctor Pasavento*, a novel by Spanish writer Enrique Vila-Matas
- ▶ Carl Seelig: *Walks With Walser*
- ▶ Dr. Paulina Ledergerber
- ▶ Max Konanz

# Swiss writer Robert Walser



# Spanish writer Enrique Vila-Matas



# Dr. Paulina Ledergerber



# Max Konanz



# Sol de oro



# LEADERSHIP OF ECUADOR IN THE REGIONAL AND WORLD TREATMENT OF THE MIGRATORY THEME

- ▶ 1999 : a considerable number of Ecuadorians emigrated to North America and Europe, mainly as a result of the economic crisis that the country faced at that time.
- ▶ During the same period, a significant number of people of other nationalities chose Ecuador as a destination country, in particular citizens of Colombia that needed international protection. Ecuador is host to over **66,000 refugees**, 95 percent of whom are Colombians. This is the largest refugee population in Latin America.



- ▶ The exodus of Venezuelan nationals is already the largest in the modern history of Latin America and the Caribbean and involves both refugees and migrants. As of early 2019, **more than 230,000 Venezuelans** were estimated to be sheltering in Ecuador, many of whom needed food, health and nutrition assistance.
- ▶ Ecuador has established immediate solutions to support Venezuelan citizens. These measures have materialized in the issuance of **101,404 visas** to regularize their immigration status and in the admission to processing of **2,500 refugee applications**.

# THE QUITO PROCESS

- ▶ September 2018 -**Quito I-**: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, México, Panamá, Paraguay, Perú and Uruguay, first met in Quito, Ecuador. **Declaration of Quito on Human Mobility of Venezuelan Citizens in the Region.**
- ▶ November 22 and 23, 2018 -**Quito II-**: Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Paraguay, Perú and Uruguay, adopted a **Regional Plan of Action.**
- ▶ On April 8 and 9, 2019 -**Quito III-**: Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Panamá, Paraguay, Perú and Venezuela, took place in order to follow up on what was agreed on the Declaration and the Plan of Action, adopted a **Joint Declaration.**

# **Ecuador's long-standing engagement in international Fora has led the country to be the Chair of the Global Forum for Migration and Development (GFMD), in 2019**

Ecuador as the Chair of the Forum will organize in November the Twelfth GFMD Summit in Quito, based on the following three main priorities:

- 1. Joint responses to mixed migration flow**
- 2. Migration narratives and communication**
- 3. Addressing human mobility as part of urban and rural development strategies**