

# Listening to volunteer experiences

# Users guide

This material is to be used for a discussion on the experiences of volunteers working in conflict and emergency situations. The quotes are drawn from a larger research material of the ViCE Initiative – for more detailed information and instructions, please visit [www.rcrcvice.org](http://www.rcrcvice.org)

Print the material double sided (in colour). Cut the papers into postcards, this print set contains 10 different quotes with a total of 80 handouts.

This exercise can take between 30-60 minutes.

Divide the participants into smaller groups of 3-5 people and provide them with 1- 3 quotes each.

Instruct them to read the quotes 2-3 times before discussing the questions in their groups

1. How does this quote make you feel?
2. What issues does this quote raise?
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Bring back the participants to a plenary discussion. If possible, bring out input from the participants with post-its that can be grouped to visualize different topics.

Good luck!

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"As for me, the situation in the country forced us to become volunteers. Everyday there are incidents which would force us to become volunteers. Well, the revolution started when I was just born and now I am forty. We face incidents on a daily basis that one can say the whole population should be volunteers. No one. Everyone should become a volunteer." (Male volunteer)

1. How does this quote make you feel?
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“My village is very remote; it is far from the railroad and the roads. You have to go there by foot. I have to leave behind my wife, who is 30 and my three children. The oldest is only 6 years old. They are 6 years old, 4 years old, and 7 months old. Because I am passionate about this work, they can’t prevent me.” (Male volunteer).

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