

# INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

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## **Mission of the ICRC President in Spain**

Mr. Alexandre Hay, ICRC President, accompanied by Mr. Serge Nessi, head of the Finance Division and Mr. Thierry Germond, ICRC regional delegate for Europe, visited Spain from 24 to 26 October.

The ICRC President was received in audience by King Juan Carlos and had talks with the Minister and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, as well as with the Minister of Justice. The ICRC delegation gave them an account of the ICRC's main activities throughout the world and stressed the growing financial needs they entail for the institution.

The President of the Spanish Red Cross, Mr. Enrique de la Mata Gorostizaga, who is also President of the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, welcomed Mr. Hay and accompanied him on most of his visits, notably to the audience granted by King Juan Carlos. Invited to the offices of the National Society, the ICRC representatives took part in a working session with senior members of this Red Cross Society and were greatly impressed by their drive and organizing ability.

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## **Lebanese President visits ICRC**

The Lebanese President, Mr. Amin Gemayel, visited the International Committee of the Red Cross on 4 November. He was accompanied by Lebanon's ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva, Mr. Ibrahim Karma.

Mr. Gemayel was received by the ICRC President, Mr. Alexandre Hay, and ICRC officials. Welcoming the Lebanese President, Mr. Hay expressed the hope that peace will return to Lebanon as soon as possible. In his reply, President Gemayel thanked the ICRC for its humanitarian assistance activity in Lebanon, wishing that his country would soon be able to contribute to Red Cross action instead of being its beneficiary. The visit ended with private talks.