

# INFORMATION BULLETIN



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge  
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja  
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

## SPAIN: MADRID EXPLOSION

11 March 2004

*The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in over 181 countries.*

### In Brief

This Information Bulletin (no. 01/2004) is being issued based on the needs described below reflecting the information available at this time. The Federation is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation at this time.

*For further information specifically related to this operation please contact*

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*All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>*

*For longer-term programmes, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal.*

### The Situation

In what is considered to be a coordinated attack, a series of four explosions occurred this morning (11 March) on Madrid's rail network. Preliminary indications are that the explosions were caused by bombs planted by terrorists. While Spanish officials have voiced suspicions concerning who might be responsible, there has been no claim from any groups or individuals. Latest reports indicate over 131 people have been killed, and over 800 injured. These figures are expected increase as the rescue, first aid, and immediate medical assistance response continues. According to media reports, after the first blast, three more ripped through a train entering Madrid's main Atocha station, causing the majority of the casualties. The train -- arriving from the eastern Madrid suburb of Alcalá de Henares -- was hit in the front, middle and rear cars.

### Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Medical staff (Government) immediately set up a field hospital to treat the wounded at the scene, and buses were mobilized to help ambulances transport the wounded to hospitals. The initial Spanish Red Cross response includes:

- 5 mobile blood donation units mobilized in different points of the capital.

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- 2 locations to attend to victims close to the explosion points.
- 5 mobile psychological support units with 34 volunteers mobilized from different provinces to attend to victims and relatives.
- 26 ambulances mobilized to transfer injured.
- delivery of relief items (blankets, first aid kits, and stretchers) transported and being distributed.

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