



Refugees and Human Rights

Daniel

Who is a refugee?

- ❖ Art. 1 (A) 2 of the 1951 Refugee Convention defines a refugee as a person who: “...owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it.”



Three fundamental characteristics which define refugees

Being outside a country of origin or habitual residence

Because of fear of being persecuted, they become unable/unwilling to make themselves available to get protection of their country

Their fear of persecution emanates from race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership to a group



Refugees in data

In 2015, there were 21.3 million refugees (UNHCR)

11 million refugees from Syria alone (Bixler & Martinez)

Women and children constitute 80% of today's refugees

High number of refugees came from Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia, South Sudan...

Political turmoil is the main cause for refugee crises



PEOPLE SEEKING SAFETY WORLDWIDE IN NUMBERS

26 MILLION

refugees worldwide



1.4 MILLION

refugees need
resettlement right now



85%

of all refugees are hosted
in developing regions



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Types of Refugees



Political refugees



War refugees



Ethnic refugees



Environmental refugees

Problems refugees face



Finding new homes and safety



Finding food/water



Reluctance to welcome refugees by host countries



Finding jobs

Top Refugee Hosting Countries



THE WORLD'S TOP 10 REFUGEE HOST COUNTRIES

GERMANY (1M+)

TURKEY (3.7M+)

IRAN (979,400)

PAKISTAN (1.4M)

LEBANON* (1.4M+)

SUDAN (908,700)

JORDAN* (2.9M+)

BANGLADESH (906,600)

ETHIOPIA (921,000)

UGANDA (1.1M+)

Source: UNHCR (2019) *Global Trends, Forced Displacement in 2018*.
*Please note that numbers include Palestinian refugees in these countries.

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Instruments to protect refugees rights

- The 1951 Convention on Refugees puts standards on how to treat refugees
- It consists of provision of refugees rights to:
 - Employment and welfare
 - Issuing travel documents
 - Issuing identity papers
 - Asset transfer rights
 - States are obligated to respect, protect, promote, and fulfil all human rights for all people.



Instruments to protect refugees rights

- The 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention issued to protect civilians during war
- The 1954 Convention to protect stateless people



Legal human rights sources applicable to refugees

- Charter of the United Nations (1945)
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)
- Core international human rights treaties
- Regional human rights treaties
- Human rights treaty bodies
- Customary international law



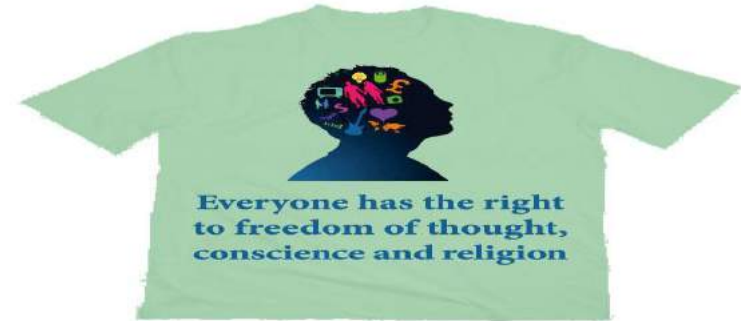
Refugees rights

✓ Right of Freedom of expression

✓ Right of Freedom of thought, conscience and religion

✓ Right of Freedom of assembly

✓ Right of Freedom of association



Refugees rights

- ✓ The Right to work, education and housing
- ✓ Protection from discrimination
- ✓ The Right to Freedom of movement
- ✓ The Right to enjoy asylum
- ✓ The Right to travel documents



2015 main resettlement countries

- 30 countries currently run some kind of refugee resettlement programme,
- USA 52,583
- Canada 10,236
- Australia 5,211
- Norway 2,220
- Germany 2,097
- Sweden 1,808
- UK 1,768



What has been done? Demand to take action

CANADA

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AUSTRALIA: END THE ABUSE OF REFUGEES ON NAURU

Asylum-seekers have experienced physical and sexual abuse, neglect and trauma.



Call on the Australian Minister of Immigration and Border Protection to end the abuse and suffering on Nauru now.

991

People have taken action!
Please lend your support,
before it's too late.

Minister Peter Dutton:

Over one thousand men, women

read and add comment



Email

First Name

Last Name

Phone Number

TAKE ACTION »

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