



UNIVERSITY OF  
OXFORD

REFUGEE  
STUDIES  
CENTRE

# Annual Report

2014–2015



OXFORD  
DEPARTMENT OF  
INTERNATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT

Mobile bicycle market stall  
made from wood sheeting,  
Za'atari refugee camp, Jordan



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STUDIES  
CENTRE

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**Front cover photo:** A young Afghan boy and other new arrivals transiting through Turkey disembark from a boat on the Greek island of Lesbos.

Compiled by Tamsin Kelk  
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© UNHCR / Benjamin Loyseau

A Somali refugee woman and her children in the streets of Kakuma refugee camp, Kenya



RSC / T. Kell

Professor Matthew J. Gibney with students at the International Summer School in Forced Migration 2015

# Director's foreword

It has been a year in which refugees have rarely been out of the news. Refugees and forced displacement are rapidly becoming one of the defining issues of the twenty-first century.

From Syria to the Mediterranean to Calais, we see growing protection needs and yet declining political will. In this context, new ideas and intellectual leadership are urgently needed. The RSC's research, teaching and outreach work has an important role to play. During my first year as Director, I have tried to set out a clear vision and strategy for how we can make a difference.

Our comparative advantage as a centre is in producing independent, academic research, and using that as the basis on which we seek to inform policy and practice. Reflecting our scholarly excellence, all of our permanent academic staff members have been awarded book contracts for forthcoming publications with a major university press. Admission to our MSc in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies was this year more competitive than ever, with an applications-to-places ratio of more than seven-to-one.

We are in the process of building an exciting and coherent programme of new research projects – all of which are guided by the aspiration to have impact through world-class and inter-disciplinary scholarship. These emerging projects include themes such as the economic lives of refugees, humanitarian innovation and technology, Syrian refugees, refugee status determination, the new dynamics of refugee law, and rethinking resettlement.

One of my first goals since taking over as Director has been to stabilise the RSC's financial situation, and I am delighted that, after a number of years of deficit, that position has already been reversed. We have successfully renegotiated our financial model within the Department of International Development, and agreed an exciting new partnership with the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, which will enable us to build from a stable foundation.

I am especially pleased that during the past year, the Centre has been actively engaged in policy and public debate. We have played a convening role for a number of high-level policy events including meetings in collaboration with UNHCR, the World Humanitarian Summit, and the Secretary-General's Representative on Migration. The Humanitarian Innovation Project, which has just launched its new website and logo, is rapidly emerging as one of our main vehicles for policy impact. RSC staff have also played a leadership role in a number of policy processes including the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS), the Solutions Alliance, and the Nansen Initiative.

Importantly, though, we have also engaged with partners at a more 'local' level. We have held field-based workshops, including in Johannesburg, Nairobi, and Kampala, and short courses in Beirut and Amman. We have also tried to engage more with the Oxford community, hosting a panel session as part of Oxford Refugee Week and working more closely with NGO partners within the community.

This year, the RSC has enjoyed unprecedented media coverage, albeit as a result of often tragic circumstances. We have received coverage by CNN, BBC World News, BBC Radio 4, Al-Jazeera, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Guardian*, *The Independent*, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, NPR, and a number of staff have authored important pieces in the mainstream press. The year also saw us convene a new Advisory Board, with all members carefully and strategically chosen to help us have the greatest impact. We are also about to launch a new 'Research in Brief' series in order to make our research more accessible to policymakers, practitioners, and the general public.

We have hosted a number of highly successful events. In July 2015, we convened our second Humanitarian Innovation Conference under the theme of 'Enabling Innovation', with 250 attendees coming from around the world. HRH Princess Basma bint Talal delivered the Annual Harrell-Bond Lecture reflecting on the positive contributions of refugees to Jordan, and Professor Miriam Ticktin gave the Annual Elizabeth Colson Lecture, critically examining the concept of 'innocence' in humanitarianism. We convened pioneering public seminar series, including on 'Global refugee policy' and 'The history of refuge'. As ever, the International Summer School was an immense success and we will be investing to make it even more relevant in future.

We are an RSC in transition, and that also includes on the staff front. This year sees the retirement of Dawn Chatty, Professor of Anthropology and Forced Migration and the former Director of the RSC, after nearly 20 years at the Centre. However, we were collectively delighted to learn that she has been appointed as a Fellow of the British Academy. Joining the RSC, we have Tom Scott-Smith, who will be Associate Professor in Refugee Studies and Forced Migration, Georgia Cole who will be the Joyce Pearce Junior Research Fellow in association with Lady Margaret Hall, and Will Jones who becomes Departmental Lecturer in Politics and Forced Migration for the forthcoming academic year. There are also further academic appointments in the pipeline, with a number of new post-doctoral researchers set to join in the near future.

**Professor Alexander Betts**  
*Director, Refugee Studies Centre*

*Leopold Muller Professor of Forced Migration and International Affairs*



# Our research

The Refugee Studies Centre has won an international reputation as the leading centre for research on the causes and consequences of forced migration, work which embraces a commitment to improving the lives and circumstances of forced migrants. Our research, frequently undertaken in collaboration with other academic institutions around the world, draws upon the knowledge and experiences of humanitarian practitioners and refugees themselves.

RSC staff undertake research with complete academic autonomy, and share knowledge through international engagement in ways that can have impact and relevance for policy, practice, and public debate. Combining scholarship with active engagement in policy ensures that the RSC remains at the forefront of today's most critical debates.



Syrian Kurdish refugees cross into Turkey from Syria, near the town of Kobani

# Research projects

## Enhancing Protection for Syrian Refugees in the Region of Origin

Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, 2015–17  
Professor Alexander Betts

With over 10 million displaced Syrians, including 4 million refugees, the Syrian refugee crisis is the most significant for a generation. Despite European focus on those crossing the Mediterranean, the overwhelming majority of Syrian refugees are in neighbouring countries in the region of origin (1.6 million in Turkey, 1.2 million in Lebanon, 600,000 in Jordan). Those host countries have been overwhelmed and the political willingness to provide indefinite asylum has come under threat. This project seeks to explore ways to enhance protection space for Syrians within the region of origin.

The central focus is on understanding the politics of responses by the main host states of first asylum: Lebanon, Jordan, and Turkey. Although we already know a lot about those governments' basic positions at the capital city level, there is a lot more to understand at the local level. For example, how do municipal or district level authorities shape responses, and what potential opportunities does this open up? Who are the gatekeepers to enhancing protection space, and what sets of power relations and interests shape policy?

Funded by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, the project is based on fieldwork in Turkey, Lebanon, and Jordan, working together with a number of local partners. The research mainly draws upon qualitative interviews. It will seek to inform policy responses in the region and to enhance our understanding of the micro-politics of host state asylum policies.

## The Syrian Humanitarian Disaster: Understanding Perceptions, Aspirations and Behaviour in Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey

2012–ongoing; British Academy funding,  
Oct 2014–Sept 2015  
Professor Dawn Chatty

In the context of the ongoing crisis, this study sets out to understand the perceptions of Syria's refugees, as well as those of policymakers, practitioners and host communities, in respect of the minimum 'right to life' standards for survival in dignity that should be available to those displaced by the Syrian conflict. It seeks to understand discrepancies between the perceptions and aspirations of each group in adequately addressing the protection needs of Syria's refugees given the non-binding nature of state obligations as set out in the 1951 Convention. It is probing what social factors within the host community, particularly among youth, may positively contribute to interim accommodation and, when conditions permit, the reshaping and re-integration of Syrian society post-conflict.

This study expects to draw policy conclusions as well as scholarly findings for further study based on an understanding of the socio-historical context, and on data from focus group discussions and semi-formal interviews. By integrating a socio-historical understanding of Syria and its displaced populations in Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan, and grappling with the most significant socially defined notions of hospitality, generosity and dignity, the study anticipates making a contribution to understanding the disparate responses to Syria's displaced masses. Workshops will be held to advocate for better communications and empathy between aid workers and refugees and host community members. A brief report will appear in the *Journal of Refugee Studies* and several article and book chapters are being prepared.



View over a busy market street in Za'atari refugee camp, Jordan

@ UNHCR / Christopher Herwig

## The Animators: How Diasporas Mobilise to Contest Authoritarianism

Leverhulme Trust; John Fell OUP Fund, 2013–15  
Professor Alexander Betts and Dr Will Jones

This project, which forms part of the Oxford Diasporas Programme, explores the political life of refugees. The absence of opportunity for political contestation at home often means that the most relevant politics for the homeland state takes place transnationally, and in exile. The project explores how refugee diasporas come into existence, and develop particular agendas and political strategies, with different degrees of effectiveness. It examines the cases of Zimbabwe and Rwanda, looking at the contemporary transnational history of political mobilisation in exile, both by opposition and pro-government diasporas.

Based on extensive fieldwork in South Africa, Botswana, Uganda, the UK, Belgium, and France, the project traces the recent historical evolution of these transnational communities. It shows how, far from being static or permanent, diasporas are inherently political entities that have dynamic ‘lifecycles’. Their existence and the forms they take are historically and politically contingent. Crucially, these lifecycles, and the durability of the diaspora, are determined not by the inherent qualities of the diaspora but by the role of elite ‘animators’, who make resources available to the diaspora.

Overall, the project takes up the challenge made by other scholars of diasporas. On an empirical level, we contribute two untold and important transnational political histories: of the Rwandan (2003–2013) and Zimbabwean (2001–2013) diasporas. On a theoretical level, the project offers insights into how political science and international relations can better conceptualise transnational politics in the early twenty-first century. The main output will be a book manuscript, provisionally entitled *The Animators: How Diasporas Mobilise to Contest Authoritarianism* (Cambridge University Press, 2016).

## New Dynamics of International Refugee Law

Research Partnership funded by the Allan Myers Oxford–Melbourne Programme of the Oxford Law Faculty and Melbourne Law School  
Professor Cathryn Costello, with Professor Michelle Foster (University of Melbourne)

This project, led by Cathryn Costello, aims to identify the new dynamics in international refugee law whereby basic protective principles are under strain, yet courts, civil society and refugees reassert rights to protection. The project examines the role of international and domestic courts in refugee protection. It problematizes the practices in some developed countries of asylum, sometimes of dubious legality, which undermine refugee protection in different ways. The first strand relates to measures to preclude access to asylum; the second to measures to undermine the reliability of refugee status determination; the third seeks to clarify the obligations to refugees beyond the 1951 Refugee Convention.

The first output is an article by Michelle Foster and Cathryn Costello for the *Netherlands Yearbook of International Law* on the role of *jus cogens* norms in refugee protection, which will form part of a special edition exploring *jus cogens* across different domains of international law. In particular, the piece examines the status of *non-refoulement* as a norm of customary international law, and potentially a peremptory norm of international law.

The project is seed funded by the Allan Myers Oxford–Melbourne Academic Exchange Programme, which has facilitated the ongoing collaboration between Cathryn Costello and Michelle Foster of the University of Melbourne. Michelle Foster is a leading expert in refugee law. Her scholarship includes *International Refugee Law and Socio-Economic Rights: Refuge from Deprivation* (Cambridge University Press, 2007) and with James Hathaway, *The Law of Refugee Status: Second Edition* (Cambridge University Press, 2014).



Participants at ‘The Zimbabwean Diaspora in 2015: What Next?’, Johannesburg

Kate Stegeman



## Contingent Citizenship: Banishment, Denationalisation and Deportation in the Liberal State

2012–ongoing

Professor Matthew J Gibney

The lawful power to expel people considered criminal, dangerous or otherwise undesirable has been a feature of virtually all human communities. This project explores the various incarnations that expulsion power takes in modern liberal states and the issues it raises for communities ostensibly committed to principles of freedom, equality and human rights. The main foci of analysis in the project are: the history of banishment as a precursor of modern deportation power; denationalisation and the evolution of powers to strip citizenship in liberal states; and the evolution and legitimacy of deportation. In addition to illustrating the ongoing tension between the power to expel and liberal principles, this project attempts to show how new developments in membership and concerns over crime and terrorism in modern states fuel contemporary controversy over expulsion. A monograph on the project is under way and will be published by Cambridge University Press.

## UNHCR and International Cooperation

Professor Gil Loescher and Professor Alexander Betts

This project explores how UNHCR is situated between the constraints and challenges of the interests and priorities of states and other actors in the international system and its own normative agenda of promoting refugee protection and access to solutions. It explains how UNHCR has attempted to reconcile these competing claims, how it has institutionally adapted over time to address new problems, and how it might adapt in the future to meet emerging challenges in refugee protection and world politics. The research critically assesses both the positive and negative consequences of past change and adaptation in the organisation, and engages in new thinking about how UNHCR might better adapt to address the ongoing tension between the political and strategic interests of states and upholding the rights of refugees and other forcibly displaced people. The project also explores under what conditions international cooperation on refugee issues is likely to be successful. A third edition of *UNHCR: The Politics and Practice of Refugee Protection* is now in progress, to be published by Routledge.

The sun sets on Nyumanzi settlement in Uganda while refugees construct their shelters



## Burma's Refugees: Self-Governance among Urban Refugees

Ockenden International and John Fell OUP  
Research Fund, 2013–2015  
Dr Kirsten McConnachie

This project seeks to understand the security challenges faced by urban refugees, and the role of local governance in responding to those challenges. Based on research with Chin urban refugees in India and Malaysia, the project studies: (i) structures of organisation within the refugee communities; (ii) the ways in which refugee self-governance strategies respond to and are shaped by a prevailing security climate; and (iii) the impact of political liberalisation inside Burma on refugees outside the country. A key output of this project is the book *Governing Refugees: Justice, Order and Legal Pluralism* (Routledge, 2014), which was joint recipient of the 2015 Socio-Legal Studies Association Early Career Book Prize.

## Humanitarian Nutrition

Professor Tom Scott-Smith

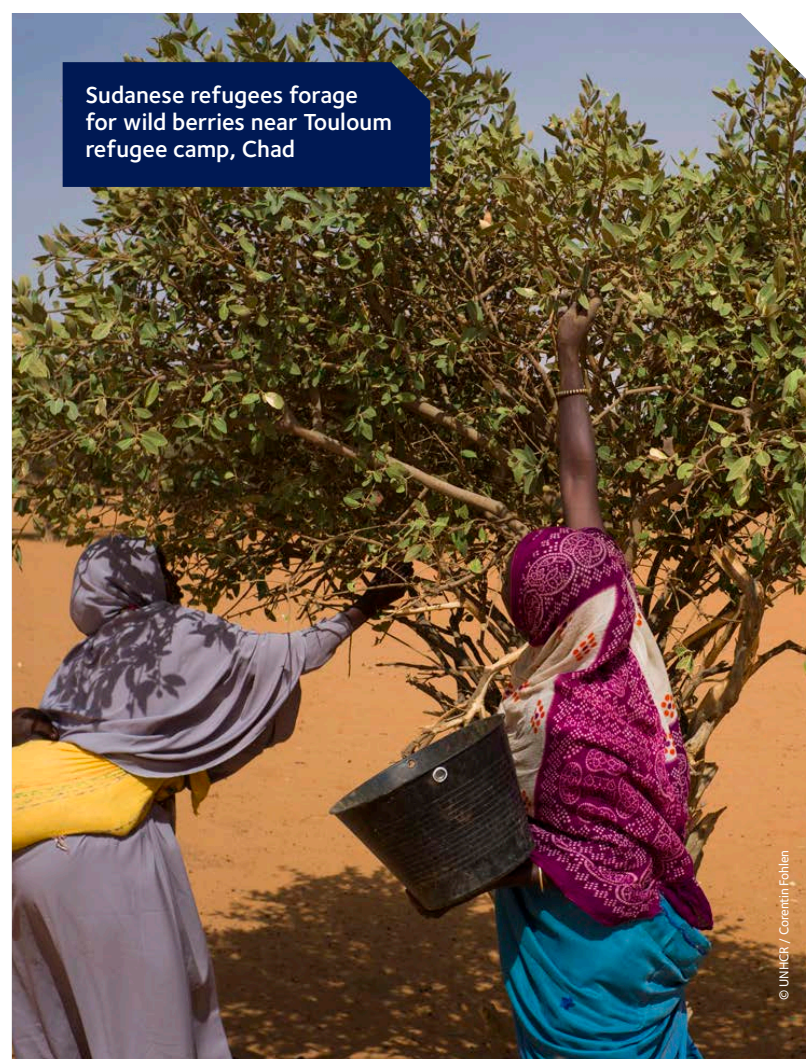
There are two elements to this research: 'The history of humanitarian nutrition', and 'Food from the other side'. The first examines the history of humanitarian nutrition, tracing the changing face of food aid from the 19th Century to the present day. Applying insights from Science and Technology Studies, this research traces how nutritional science transformed humanitarianism, measuring and tackling starvation in new ways. This was partly a shift from communal to individualised forms of feeding, partly a transformation from vernacular to technical foods, partly a change from personal to impersonal approaches to measurement, and partly a shift from tighter to looser styles of management. The story is set out in a monograph, entitled *On an Empty Stomach*, and a biography of the scientist and statesman Lord John Boyd Orr.

The second is an exploration of how refugees and forced migrants are fed in emergencies and particularly in camp settings. This includes, firstly, an exploration of how hunger is made visible: the ways in which people's starvation is translated into an action plan; and secondly, an examination of the material culture of relief, particularly the attempts to develop certain technical foodstuffs for different kinds of malnourishment. The emphasis of this research is on the ways that refugees interact with the aid community: the different categories they use to describe their hunger, the way they interpret and manage their foods, and the clashes of understanding and governance in humanitarian aid.

## The Politics and Semiotics of the Cessation Clauses for Rwandan and Eritrean Refugees

Economic and Social Research Council, 2012–ongoing  
Georgia Cole

This project explores the negotiation histories, execution and outcomes of the Cessation Clauses for Eritrean refugees in Sudan and Rwandan refugees in Uganda. It seeks to explain the gap between Countries of Origin, Countries of Asylum and UNHCR agreeing to apply the 'ceased circumstances' Cessation Clause to these particular caseloads of refugees, and the very different localised politics of implementation that has played out on the ground. Included within this research agenda are explanations of when and why the pursuit of durable solutions segues in to the cancellation of refugee status en masse, and what the desired outcomes of this shift in focus are. It argues that we cannot understand the paradoxical outcomes of either of these instances of the Cessation Clause's invocation without a much greater theoretical engagement within refugee studies with two main questions. Firstly, how do actors interpret and manipulate words and meanings during negotiations? And secondly, what is the significance of this behaviour for how outcomes are determined, and how cooperation is achieved in pursuit of them?



Sudanese refugees forage for wild berries near Touloum refugee camp, Chad



A busy street in Eastleigh, Nairobi, home to many Somali refugees

Credit: C. Rodgers

# Humanitarian Innovation Project

Stephanie and Hunter Hunt, 2012–ongoing

Professor Alexander Betts, Louise Bloom, Dr Naohiko Omata, Dr Josiah Kaplan, and Nina Weaver

Created in 2012, the Humanitarian Innovation Project undertakes research that rethinks the frontiers of the humanitarian system. Beginning with an initial focus on the role of innovation, technology, and the private sector in refugee assistance, it has expanded the scope of its work to four main sub-projects. The project actively engages with practitioners from across government, international organisations, NGOs, business, and crisis-affected communities. It has strong partnerships with UNHCR and the World Humanitarian Summit, and convenes the now annual Humanitarian Innovation Conference.

## Bottom-up Innovation

This work begins from the recognition that the emerging global debate on humanitarian innovation has generally been focused on improving organisational responses. Although important, this dominant focus risks missing an important perspective: the creative problem-solving of refugees and other crisis-affected communities themselves. This sub-project serves as a corrective to that, examining through extensive fieldwork the diverse ways in which refugees engage in bottom-up innovation. On a theoretical level, we have developed a conceptual framework through which to understand such processes and the barriers and obstacles that displaced populations face in innovation. On an empirical level, the work has examined a number of contexts including through research in Uganda, Kenya, South Africa, Jordan, the United States, and Australia. One recent output is *Refugee Innovation: Humanitarian Innovation that Starts with Communities* (RSC 2015). A monograph provisionally entitled *Humanitarian Innovation: A People-Centred Approach* is in progress.

## Refugee Economies

This research strand explores a simple but crucial question: what difference does it make, in economic terms, to be a refugee? Although refugees participate in economic activities and markets in their host states, their economic lives are shaped by different institutional contexts that relate to being a refugee. Despite growing interest in this area, little theory or data exists. By developing a conceptual framework and methodology for exploring 'Refugee Economies', we investigate what makes refugees' economic lives analytically distinctive and explain the factors that lead to variation in economic outcomes for refugees. Between 2012 and 2015, we carried out a large-scale study on refugees' economic activities across four sites in Uganda. Following the success of this research, we are now embarking on developing multi-country panel data on refugee economies over different time series through comparative research. The research aims to advance a better understanding of the economic lives of refugees, while informing policy and practice by rethinking refugee assistance. A major output will be a monograph provisionally entitled *Refugee Economies: Development and Forced Displacement*.

## Military-Humanitarian Innovation

The military has de facto become one of the largest 'humanitarian' actors. Its research and development spending leads to outputs that are increasingly used for humanitarian applications, and it is present in conflict zones and humanitarian spaces around the world. Yet, mutual suspicion and misunderstanding often lead to sub-optimal outcomes. This sub-project has therefore begun to explore questions relating to knowledge creation, diffusion, and exchange between both communities. How do aid workers learn, adapt, and 'rebrand' military innovations for civilian use, and to what degree are military actors adapting humanitarian concepts and practices for their own use? What sensitivities, risks, and dilemmas do such interactions pose for humanitarian practice, principles and, ultimately, the lives of crisis-affected communities? In the past year, the project has explored military-humanitarian knowledge diffusion and exchange in areas such as networked technologies, remote sensing, and risk management approaches used in humanitarian natural disaster response. It has also explored the interplay of knowledge exchange between military and humanitarian medicine and public health in the wake of the Ebola response, as well as 'bottom-up' perspectives towards civil-military coordination amongst affected and beneficiary communities themselves.

## Governance Innovation

Humanitarianism is generally understood to be apolitical and yet in order for it to be effective it needs to engage with and respond to its political context. This leads to a need for reflection on how the humanitarian system can adapt at an institutional level to better respond to politics at the global, regional, national, and local levels. It also gives rise to a more general challenge of how we can think creatively about the global governance of humanitarianism, enabling institutional design to be fit for purpose in the twenty-first century. This work takes a primarily International Relations perspective and seeks to inform policymakers in better institutional responses. Key outputs to date are: two RSC Occasional Policy Papers called 'The Post-Nansen Agenda: the global governance of environmental displacement' and 'Principles for Ethical Humanitarian Innovation', a forthcoming *Foreign Affairs* piece (co-authored by Alexander Betts and Paul Collier) on designing responses to the Syria crisis, and a forthcoming textbook co-authored by Alexander Betts and Emily Paddon titled *The Politics and Practice of Humanitarianism* (Oxford University Press).

To find out more about HIP, take a look at the new project website: [www.oxhip.org](http://www.oxhip.org)



Kagoma weekly market  
in Kyangwali refugee  
settlement, Uganda

RSC / N Omata



Daniel and Bukri, Ethiopian refugees and  
entrepreneurs living in Dallas, USA

RSC / L Bloom

# Policy and impact

A key aim of the Refugee Studies Centre is to ensure that our work has a meaningful impact beyond the academic community. We achieve this by combining our independent, objective and critical scholarship with an active role in engaging policymakers in governments, intergovernmental agencies and non-governmental organisations.

## Policy initiatives

### World Humanitarian Summit

The World Humanitarian Summit (WHS), taking place in Istanbul in May 2016, is the first global summit in humanitarianism. It is a two-year process, comprising six regional consultations and numerous preparatory meetings. It focuses on four thematic areas: 1) Humanitarian Effectiveness; 2) Reducing Vulnerability and Managing Risk; 3) Transformation Through Innovation; 4) Serving the Needs of People in Conflict. The RSC is participating actively in the WHS, notably through the work of the Humanitarian Innovation Project. Alexander Betts was appointed to serve on the thematic working group for 'Transformation Through Innovation'. Within this role, he served as Lead Facilitator for the 'Europe and the Others' regional consultation in Budapest in March 2015. The WHS has also commissioned the RSC report *Refugee Innovation: Humanitarian Innovation that Starts with Communities*, launched at the Humanitarian Innovation Conference (HIP2015) in July 2015. The RSC also hosted a WHS workshop on Ethics and Principles for Humanitarian Innovation, which has led to the development of 'Principles for Ethical Humanitarian Innovation'.

### The Solutions Alliance

The Solutions Alliance is an informal network created in Copenhagen in May 2014 to work towards progressive solutions for refugees and displaced persons. It focuses upon the relationship between displacement and development as a means to end protracted displacement, and is providing a forum within which to examine the economic dimensions of forced displacement. The Alliance has a secretariat, based in Geneva, and hosted by the Danish Refugee Council. It is co-chaired by UNHCR, the governments of Denmark and Colombia, UNDP and the IRC. The RSC has been actively involved in the process, notably through the 'Refugee Economies' research of the Humanitarian Innovation Project. The Solutions Alliance has a number of thematic and situation-specific working groups. Alexander Betts co-chairs the working group on Research, Data, and Performance Management (with Paul Spiegel of UNHCR), which is working to develop a common and policy-relevant research agenda relating to the economic lives of refugees and their impacts on host states. The group's first face-to-face meeting will take place in Geneva in autumn 2015 as a joint event of the RSC, the Graduate Institute and UNHCR.

### UNHCR iCircle

Alexander Betts represents the RSC on UNHCR's Innovation Council, called the iCircle. This council aims to provide creative input on challenges faced by UNHCR. The RSC hosted an iCircle meeting in July 2015.

WHS workshop on Ethics and Principles for Humanitarian Innovation, held at the RSC, 2015\*



### The Nansen Initiative

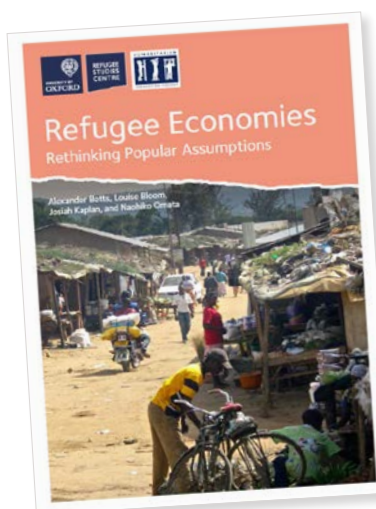
The Nansen Initiative is an informal government-led process that has been exploring responses to cross-border displacement in the context of natural disasters. Led by its Special Envoy, Walter Kälin, the process has been examining these challenges through a series of regional consultations, with the aim of publishing a Protection Agenda to guide future responses to environmental displacement. RSC staff have been involved in the process. Roger Zetter has served on the Advisory Committee to the Initiative. Alexander Betts was commissioned by the Governments of Switzerland and Norway to consider the next steps for the Initiative, authoring 'The Post-Nansen Agenda: The Global Governance of Environmental Displacement', which he presented at an intergovernmental Steering Committee meeting of the Initiative at Chatham House in 2015, and which fed directly into the draft Protection Agenda's section on potential governance arrangements.

\*Pictured are Pascal Daudin (ICRC), Dr Catherine Dolan (SOAS), and Olivier Delarue (UNHCR Innovation).

# Research impact

## Refugee Economies in Uganda

The report, *Refugee Economies: Rethinking Popular Assumptions*, was launched on World Refugee Day 2014. Drawing on research in Uganda, the report sought to explore the economic lives of refugees. By highlighting the complex economic systems of displaced populations, it sought to offer guidance to policymakers on how to promote more sustainable opportunities for market-based approaches to refugee assistance. The report has had a significant impact on policy, practice, and public debate.



It has received media coverage from *The Independent*, *The Guardian*, BBC World News, Central China Television, Thomson Reuters, and the research served as the basis for a NPR documentary.

The report has been presented at key policy meetings: UN ECOSOC's humanitarian section, UNHCR's annual NGO consultations, the World Bank, the Danish

Red Cross annual summit, and a joint UNHCR-RefugeePoint meeting at Harvard University. Invited presentations and workshops have taken place in key government ministries, including DFID and the GIZ.

Within the region itself, launch events have been held (in collaboration with UNHCR and funded by the Norwegian MFA) in Kampala and Nairobi, with governments, NGOs and international organisations; and in the refugee settlements in Uganda.

UNHCR Uganda has now integrated the data set into their programming, and has built a livelihoods programme directly informed by the research, which is aiming to create new market-based opportunities through, for example, business skills training for refugees across the settlements in which we undertook the research. The work has also had global policy impact, shaping the discussions of the Solutions Alliance, as detailed in this section, and feeding into UNHCR's global policy on refugee livelihoods and self-reliance. Currently, a book and a scholarly article based on this research are underway.

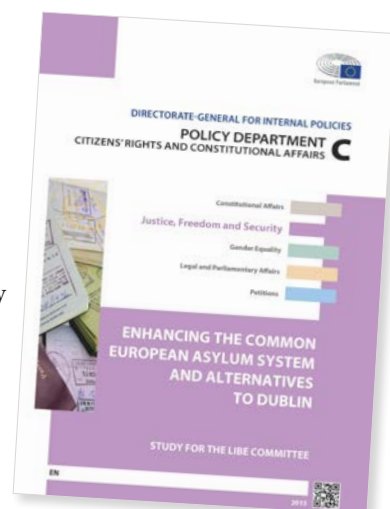
## Rethinking Dublin

In the past year, the European Parliament's Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs has commissioned two studies to ascertain the effectiveness of the Common European Asylum System (CEAS), and in particular, the Dublin system of responsibility allocation for the examination of asylum claims. Professor Cathryn Costello co-authored both studies; Minos Mouzourakis, MSc alumnus, also worked on the first.

Cathryn and Minos presented the findings of the first study at the European Parliament in December 2014, following publication of the study report in November. In June 2015, Cathryn presented on the study at a European Parliament meeting convened by the Green Party.

The report of the second study, published in July, calls for a fundamental rethink of the Dublin system. It makes recommendations for an alternative, non-coercive, solidarity-based system, and suggests a range of options to ensure safe access to protection in the EU.

The reports are: *New Approaches, Alternative Avenues and Means of Access to Asylum Procedures for Persons Seeking International Protection* (Guild E, Costello C, Garlick M, Moreno-Lax V, Mouzourakis M, 2014), and *Enhancing the Common European Asylum System and Alternatives to Dublin* (Guild E, Costello C, Garlick M, Moreno-Lax V, Carrera S, 2015).



## 'Research in Brief' series

In autumn 2015, we will launch a new 'Research in Brief' series to make RSC academic research easily accessible to policymakers, practitioners, and the general public. These briefs will present concise, engaging and visually appealing summaries of research, with key points and, where appropriate, practical recommendations for policymakers. The first briefs are scheduled to cover topics such as the Mediterranean crisis, humanitarian innovation, refugee economies, the Syrian refugee crisis, and deportation.

## Selected media coverage

For a full listing of our media coverage, including links to online content, please visit [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/news](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/news)

24 Sept 2015	Let refugees fly to Europe – <i>The New York Times</i>	3 May 2015	The global refugee problem – The Sunday Edition, CBC Radio
20 Sept 2015	Human migration will be a defining issue of this century. How best to cope? – <i>The Observer</i>	25 April 2015	Forget the ‘war on smuggling’, we need to be helping refugees in need – <i>The Observer</i>
19 Sept 2015	Discussion on the EU refugee crisis – Today, BBC Radio 4	23 April 2015	Why the Mediterranean traffickers aren’t the problem – Amanpour, CNN International
31 August 2015	The EU refugee crisis: ‘What we need is collective action’ – Amanpour, CNN International	21 April 2015	‘Mediterranean migrants’ feature – BBC World News
7 August 2015	Creative solutions needed for refugees and asylum seekers – ABC News	24 Feb 2015	Why stripping citizenship from home-grown terrorists won’t work – <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i>
28 July 2015	Feature on a ‘refugee nation’ proposed by Jason Buzi – The World Tonight, BBC Radio 4	24 Dec 2014	Transformation through innovation: why the humanitarian ecosystem needs to change and evolve – <i>Forbes</i>
26 June 2015	EU sidestep on migrants will do nothing to curb Mediterranean death toll – <i>The Guardian</i>	12 Nov 2014	Beyond the hype: how can ‘innovation’ make impact? – <i>The Guardian</i>
19 June 2015	Global refugees: Is the world failing? – Inside Story, Al Jazeera	2 Oct 2014	High time for Europe to offer temporary protection to refugees from Syria? – <i>openDemocracy</i>
17 May 2015	Should the UK accept EU quotas for refugees? – The Big Questions, BBC1	25 Aug 2014	Challenging the refugee ‘burden’ – <i>openDemocracy</i>
11 May 2015	Mediterranean crisis and EU quotas proposal – BBC News		

## Media coverage

The current global refugee crisis and government responses to it, particularly in the EU, have received unprecedented media attention this year. However, this humanitarian tragedy has been frequently hijacked by politicians who have misrepresented the underlying causes of the problem, used inflammatory language, and suggested ‘solutions’ focused on suppressing mobility and reinforcing border control. RSC staff have been working to correct the misinformation within the current public debate, and to suggest more appropriate solutions. The media coverage detailed here is just a selection of the many interviews, articles, and media appearances we have undertaken.

Alexander Betts has written well-received pieces for *The Observer*, *The New York Times* and *The Conversation*. He has appeared on the Today programme on BBC Radio 4, BBC News, Amanpour on CNN International, NPR’s Here & Now, and on Al Jazeera’s Inside Story, and been interviewed by *The Washington Post* and *The Independent*. Dawn Chatty has appeared on Al Jazeera America, CBC Radio’s The Sunday Show, and the BBC’s The Big Questions, while Cathryn Costello has been interviewed by BBC News, BBC World Service, and *The Guardian*, and written for *The Irish Times* and *openDemocracy* (with RSC Visiting Research Fellow, Dr Mariagiulia Giuffrè).





# A world in turmoil

**Jeff Crisp**

RSC Research Associate

The humanitarian community is under exceptional pressure. The last three years have witnessed a spate of major emergencies, including those triggered by the conflicts in Central African Republic, Iraq, Nigeria, South Sudan, Syria and Ukraine. At the same time, longstanding crises in countries such as Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Myanmar and Somalia have gone unresolved.

One outcome of these developments has been a rapid increase in the number of refugees, displaced people and asylum seekers around the world. According to UNHCR, almost 60 million people have been uprooted by violence and human rights violations, the largest number since the end of the Second World War. And this figure does not include those uprooted by natural disasters.

While humanitarian agencies have done what they can to respond to these events, they are struggling to do so. The funding available is well below what is needed. There is a global shortage of experienced emergency managers. And in a number of situations, ongoing violence and the restrictions imposed by the parties to armed conflicts make it impossible for humanitarian organisations to gain access to those most vulnerable. In Syria, for example, those at greatest risk are not the country's 4 million refugees or 7 million internally displaced people, but the hundreds of thousands who are trapped and besieged by the war, unable to seek safety elsewhere.

What can be done to improve this situation? In their efforts to answer that question, humanitarian agencies and analysts are pursuing a number of different strategies. First, a new emphasis is being placed on the notion of innovation and the use of new approaches and technologies in humanitarian emergencies. Refugee tents are being replaced with more durable and comfortable shelters. Cash transfers are replacing the distribution of food and other relief items. Drones are being used to locate refugees and migrants in distress on the high seas.

Second, serious questions are being raised with respect to the organisational structure of the humanitarian enterprise. Does the division of labour between longstanding agencies such as OCHA, UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP still make sense? How can new donors such as Brazil, the Gulf States and South Korea be more effectively integrated in the humanitarian community?

Third, the traditional nature of humanitarian action is now under intense scrutiny. Instead of distributing relief items, often for years on end and necessitating the use of fragile and expensive supply chains,

would it not be better to adopt a developmental approach, supporting the economy, infrastructure and environment of areas that have experienced an influx of refugees or displaced people? By doing so, host states and communities would reap much greater benefits from the billions of dollars being spent on emergency assistance.

All of these new approaches must be examined, elaborated and evaluated – and the Refugee Studies Centre is ideally placed to contribute to that process. At the same time, the humanitarian community must not be left to shoulder responsibility for the failures of politicians, states and the Security Council. In 1945, the newly established United Nations set itself the task of 'saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war and reaffirming faith in fundamental human rights.' Seventy years later, the unprecedented number of refugees and displaced people scattered across the globe demonstrate the continued relevance of that objective.

For more information please visit:  
[www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/jeffcrisp](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/jeffcrisp)  
 Twitter: @jfcrisp



*Jeff Crisp has held senior positions with UNHCR (Head of Policy Development and Evaluation), Refugees International (Senior Director for Policy and Advocacy) and the Global Commission on International Migration (Director of Policy and Research).*



Destruction in Homs, Syria

© UNHCR / Bassem Dalal

# The Mediterranean crisis and the EU response

**Cathryn Costello**

Andrew W Mellon Associate Professor of International Human Rights and Refugee Law

**The numbers of refugees and migrants making dangerous boat crossings to reach the EU is increasing, as are deaths at sea. The scale of the maritime human tragedy is appalling, but in responding to it, we should seek to understand its causes and context.**

The irregular maritime route to Europe is a refugee route, as borne out by UNHCR's analysis in the first half of 2015.<sup>1</sup> Refugees are, for the most part, unable to make safe, regular journeys to the EU, as the EU's own Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) has documented.<sup>2</sup> Visa policies combine with the carriers' sanctions regime to render it impossible to board regular flights or ferries. With colleagues, we have joined in the chorus supporting greater safe access to seek protection in the EU. For instance, EU Member States could process humanitarian visa applications in their embassies, or extend other visa categories to those seeking refuge. Many small actions could enhance legal routes to the EU, and reduce demand for smugglers.

## Deadly journeys: a hallmark of the crisis

Of course, irregular journeys need not always be life-threatening. Understanding how deadly journeys have come to be the hallmark of the current crisis requires an examination of EU and Member States' complicity in the suppression of mobility. As well as reducing legal routes, European states have fortified their land borders. For example, Greece built a fence in 2012 on its border with Turkey, leading to an increase in the Aegean route. There are documented push-backs and serious human rights violations of those seeking to enter from Turkey to Bulgaria<sup>3</sup> and the planned Hungarian fence and policy turn against refugee protection is ominous.<sup>4</sup> The increase in maritime movement is of course due to increased numbers of refugees globally, but it also reflects a deflection from land journeys to boat journeys.

That boat journeys have become so deadly is clearly reflective of smugglers' ruthlessness and disregard for human life. Rescue at sea is therefore vitally important, but it would not be needed if safe, regular routes were available. Spending billions on rescuing people at sea is becoming part of the new normal, but organising safe transport is not, and it seems that allowing people to board regular means of transport is not on the political agenda.

The EU's attempts to suppress mobility by military means in its EUNAVFOR Med mission aims to

'disrupt the business model of human smuggling and trafficking networks in the Mediterranean.' But creating further impediments to movement simply enhances demand for the services of smugglers. The EU is still trying to get UN Security Council approval for action within Libyan waters, which involves arguing that the transnational crime of human smuggling is a threat to international peace and security. This argument is legally strained and politically dangerous.<sup>5</sup>

## The journey continues within the EU

Once refugees arrive in the EU, they must seek asylum and have their protection needs recognised. Depending on where they arrive, they face huge challenges. Focusing on current arrivals to Greece, there is little capacity to process claims or provide adequate standards of reception. That there are systemic failures in the Greek asylum system was legally established several years ago,<sup>6</sup> such that no EU state may return asylum-seekers there. The EU has already funded refugee protection in Greece, and has increased funding again, but developing capacity takes time. The scenes from the Greek islands this summer make a mockery of any notion of collective EU responsibility towards refugees. It is also a woefully inadequate response to a humanitarian crisis.

The EU's reaction has been limited. At the time of writing, it has agreed to relocate some asylum seekers from Italy and Greece deemed 'in clear need of international protection', which in practice means Syrians and Eritreans. The total number to be relocated from both Italy and Greece over two years is 32,256.<sup>7</sup> However, in the first half of 2015, arrivals by boat to Italy were around 67,500, about the same as the previous year, but there has been a huge increase in those arriving in Greece. The latest figures compiled by UNHCR show the number of sea arrivals from 1 January to 14 August 2015 to be 158,456. Very few of those arriving in Italy apply for asylum there (only about 20%) and less than 5% of those who arrive in Greece do so. People are travelling onwards to find suitable living conditions and access to a fair asylum process.

This is a breakdown of the Dublin System, but yet the instrument has a lot of political support. Again, we have set out alternatives. Given that all asylum-seekers in the EU are entitled to due process, including about transfers under the Dublin system, we have suggested that they should have a say in their country of asylum. Respecting their choices is important ethically, and would reduce later onward movement. Many are making irregular journeys in order to join family, even though the Dublin System obliges states to accept asylum-seekers in order to effect family reunion.



*Cathryn Costello has co-authored two recent studies for the European Parliament on how to improve the EU response to the increase in those seeking protection in the EU. The number of people seeking protection in the EU is a tiny part of the global displacement crisis, and the EU's response has placed all the EU's shortcomings in sharp relief, in particular the lack of safe access to the EU.*



Syrian refugees arrive on Lesbos, Greece, after travelling from Turkey

© UNHCR / Andrew McConnell

## Refugee resettlement

We know the refugees in the Greek islands are coming from Turkey, which currently hosts almost 2 million refugees, mainly from Syria. Turkey's policies were premised on the assumption that Syrians would need only temporary protection. However, as the conflict continues, the numbers in Turkey have increased, and the lack of social support and right to work make living conditions there unsustainable for many refugees. Clearly, there are limits to Turkey's protection capacity, and some refugees are choosing onward movement. Resettling refugees from Turkey (and the other main host countries, Lebanon and Jordan) would seem an important way to offer safe access to the EU, and help deter irregular onward movement. But to have that effect, it would have to be in sufficiently large numbers to offer a credible prospect of resettlement to many. The EU commitment to resettle only 20,000 is important for the lucky few who will be selected for resettlement,<sup>8</sup> but unlikely to deter others from the irregular journey.

## Responsibility-sharing in the EU

As irregular movement to and across the EU is now the norm, some EU countries are doing much more than their fair share. Germany and Sweden stand out. In contrast, the UK government harrumphs about 'swarms' and border controls, whilst paying thin-lipped service to refugee protection. Many other Member States receive relatively small numbers of refugee claims.

For the 1st quarter of 2015, 185,000 (first) asylum applications were made in the EU (Eurostat figures). Of these, 4% were made in the UK, France had 8%, Germany 39.6%, Greece 1.4% (Sweden with a similar size had 6.3%), and Italy 8.2%. The lowest rates were observed in 11 Member States: Croatia, Slovakia, Lithuania, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Latvia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Poland and Spain. One important aspect of the agreed relocation and

resettlement mechanisms is that even though they are in non-binding form, there is a relocation key, which would aim to distribute asylum-seekers according to an assessment of the states' protection capacity. The European Commission has played a strategic role in including this key in the current temporary system, as it could be used in later, binding instruments.

While there is much to praise in the EU's legal commitments to refugee protection, without safe access, that commitment comes at the cost of a life-threatening journey. And the journey does not end once people arrive in the EU. There is much more that can be done, and much good practice developing in some EU Member States, notably Germany and Sweden. Nonetheless, the EU as a collectivity is currently failing in its obligations to refugees, and as a humanitarian actor.

*NB. Article written in August 2015.*

### Key publications

Guild E, Costello C, Garlick M, Moreno-Lax V, Mouzourakis M (2014) *New Approaches, Alternative Avenues and Means of Access to Asylum Procedures for Persons Seeking International Protection*, Report of a study commissioned by the European Parliament's LIBE Committee, under the coordination of the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), Brussels.

Guild E, Costello C, Garlick M, Moreno-Lax V, Carrera S (2015) *Enhancing the Common European Asylum System and Alternatives to Dublin*, Report of a study commissioned by the European Parliament's LIBE Committee, under the coordination of the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) (EP, PE 519.234), Brussels.

### For pages 14 and 15

1. UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), *The sea route to Europe: The Mediterranean passage in the age of refugees*, 1 July 2015.
2. FRA report, 'Legal entry channels to the EU for persons in need of international protection: a toolbox', Fundamental Rights Agency, Brussels, 2015.
3. UNHCR, UNHCR concerned by border practices after deaths of two Iraqis at the Bulgaria-Turkey border, News Stories, 31 March 2015; Human Rights Watch, 'Containment Plan' – Bulgaria's Pushbacks and Detention of Syrian and Other Asylum Seekers and Migrants, April 2014.
4. UNHCR, UNHCR urges Hungary not to amend asylum system in haste, News Stories, 3 July 2015.
5. M Fink, 'Protecting Europe or Irregular Migrants? The (Mis)use of Force in the Mediterranean', 2015, <http://www.ejiltalk.org/protecting-europe-or-irregular-migrants-the-misuse-of-force-in-the-mediterranean/>
6. *MSS v Belgium and Greece* [GC] (2011) 53 EHRR 2.
7. Council of the European Union, Justice and Home Affairs, 11097/15, 20 July 2015.
8. Commission Recommendation of 8 June 2015 on a European resettlement scheme C(2015) 3560 final.

# Studying and learning

The Refugee Studies Centre offers teaching programmes that are academically rigorous and multidisciplinary, attracting outstanding students and practitioners from around the world. Our degree and non-degree courses have two distinct aims: to further academic understanding of forced migration by training future researchers and teachers; and to cultivate the 'reflective practitioner' by enabling professionals who work in the field of forced migration to engage with key debates and to situate displacement in a broad historical and international context.

## Master of Science in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies

The University of Oxford's nine-month master's degree, the interdisciplinary MSc in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies, offers an intellectually demanding route to understanding forced migration in contexts of conflict, repression, natural disasters, environmental change and development policymaking. It places forced migration in an historical, global and human perspective, and encourages informed reflection on international and national responses to both cross-border and internal displacement.

Taught by experts in forced migration, drawn from a range of disciplines including anthropology, geography, international law, politics and international relations, and sociology, students benefit from Oxford's exceptional academic environment and teaching tradition, featuring individual supervision by world-class scholars as well as small-group teaching. They explore forced migration through a thesis, a research methods project, and written exams.

Students undertake three terms of study. In term 1, they follow four core courses which introduce the subject of forced migration and consider it from anthropological, political/international relations, and international legal perspectives. The fourth course is dedicated to Research Methods relevant to the study of forced migration. In term 2, students continue to study International Law and Research Methods, and choose two options courses from a list which changes from year to year.

Those offered recently have included: Conflict and Forced Mobility in Eastern Africa; Dispossession

and Displacement in the Modern Middle East; The History and Politics of Humanitarian Aid; International Relations and Forced Migration; The Politics of Durable Solutions; and UNHCR and World Politics. In the third and final term, students write a 10,000- to 15,000-word thesis based on research conducted over the year.

## The students

Since 1998 the MSc has drawn top-quality students from all over the world, including Rhodes, Marshall, Commonwealth and Fulbright scholars. Our most recent cohort came from 11 countries, many of whom were in receipt of bursary or other financial support. The degree is competitive, with around 180 applicants for each of the 25 places available each year. To date some 400 students have graduated and gone on to doctoral degrees, law school and/or work relevant to human rights, refugees and migration. Graduates are now employed in organisations such as UNHCR, the International Organization for Migration, Save the Children, Human Rights Watch and the Brookings and MacArthur foundations, as well as national governments and universities around the world.



Professor Alexander Betts delivers a lecture

"I was very drawn to the RSC because they are at the top of their field, shaping the newest debates. I really wanted to be at the core of those debates." Helen Leung, MSc 2014-15

### For further information about the master's degree

Please contact the Course Coordinator, Andrea Smith, at [rsc-msc@qeh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:rsc-msc@qeh.ox.ac.uk) or tel: +44 (0)1865 281701. [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/msc](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/msc)

### For enquiries about applications and admissions procedures

Please contact the Graduate Admissions Office at [graduate.admissions@admin.ox.ac.uk](mailto:graduate.admissions@admin.ox.ac.uk) or tel: +44 (0)1865 270059. [www.ox.ac.uk/admissions](http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions)

This year's thesis prize was awarded to Anna Wherry for her thesis 'On the Margins of Forced Migration: Development and Displacement in a "First World" City'.

## Bursaries and support

### Departmental Scholarship

Competitive scholarship offering full fees and a contribution towards living costs for at least one student a year from a developing country (as defined by the UN) to study on the MSc in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies. All eligible applicants applying for admission to the MSc degree will be automatically considered for the scholarship, which will be awarded on a competitive basis.

### The MSc Group Research Project Fund

The fund assists towards UK travel or other costs incurred by master's students conducting their group research projects.

### Belinda Allan Travel Fund

Honouring the Centre's first development officer, this fund provides small travel grants to students from the global South at the RSC for research purposes or to present a paper at a conference.

### University Scholarships

A range of scholarships for international students are awarded annually, such as Clarendon and Rhodes. Eligibility criteria vary and competition is university-wide.

### The Glenn Hendricks Hardship Fund

Established in memory of a former Visiting Fellow, this fund is intended for current MSc students and Visiting Fellows who find themselves in unexpected financial difficulties.

## Doctoral studies

The RSC is a vibrant training ground for young doctoral researchers. The Centre's staff supervise candidates undertaking research degrees at the Oxford Department of International Development and other centres within the University, and provide external supervision to candidates based elsewhere. Students come from different academic disciplines including development studies, politics and international relations, social and cultural anthropology, geography and psychology.

Current topics under investigation include: Children and Asylum; Towards a Political Understanding of Refugee Journeys to Europe; The Evolution of Human Rights Based Norms in Global Mobility Regimes; Examining Indigenous Health Resources among Burmese Refugees and Migrants along the Thai-Burma Border; and States of Knowledge: Political Asylum and the Right to Justification (see Academic Record for complete listing of DPhil theses).

In the coming years the RSC aims to secure further doctoral research scholarship funds, targeted where possible at students from the global South. It is also committed to the development of additional post-doctoral opportunities at the Centre.

### Further information about DPhil opportunities

can be obtained from the Graduate Student Administrator, Dominique Attala, at [admissions@qeh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@qeh.ox.ac.uk) or tel: +44 (0)1865 281806. [www.ox.ac.uk/admissions](http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions) [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/dphil](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/dphil)

## David Passarelli DPhil candidate

### *Irregular Migrant Children and the Right to Education in Canada and the United Kingdom*



My thesis considers the rights of irregular migrant children in Canada and the UK. In particular, I seek to address the issue of education rights for irregular migrant children – often expressed in practice as access to schooling – and how obligations to

provide education to irregular migrant children are understood and instantiated in practice. At the broadest level, the research project engages with the political and moral dimensions of current immigration and social welfare policies in Canada and the UK. It investigates whether there is a special responsibility that public authorities have to meet the needs of irregular migrant children and asks what moral case for providing education (if any) is implicit in the justifications that state authorities actually use in practice in Canada and the UK.

## Evan Easton-Calabria DPhil candidate

### *The Secret Livelihoods of Refugees: A Genealogy of Refugees and Development from 1919–2015*



My research examines the history of refugees and development through tracing refugee livelihoods assistance since the 1920s. This genealogy focuses on institutional approaches to refugees and development, including responses by the

League of Nations High Commission for Refugees, the International Labour Organization (ILO), and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). It suggests that refugees have been involved in development programmes since the first international institutional refugee responses, yet recognition of this has been impeded by a lack of broader historical literature on refugees. Through archival research, key informant interviews, and oral histories, my research traces and critically examines the events, practices, and formation of discourse influencing refugees' involvement in development projects from the 20th century up to today.

## Angela Pilath DPhil candidate

### *The Politics of Environmental Displacement: Epistemic Actors and their Mechanisms of Influence*



I am examining the influence of epistemic actors and their causal claims in international environmental displacement politics. I seek to solve the paradox as to why and how political progress was achieved in recent years despite the persistent lack

of uncontested empirical evidence in the debate. Two intergovernmental negotiation processes are empirically analysed: the UNFCCC negotiations concerning the evolution of paragraph 14(f) in the Cancún Adaptation Framework and the Nansen Initiative. My core argument is that in both cases political action on environmental displacement was externally mobilised through instrumental epistemic influence. The thesis offers important insights into the political sociology of networks. It also holds wider analytical relevance for understanding the political economy of causal knowledge and the influence of essentially contested causal claims in international politics.

## International Summer School in Forced Migration

Now in its 27th year, the RSC's International Summer School in Forced Migration offers an intensive, interdisciplinary and participatory approach to the study of forced migration, combining the very best of the University of Oxford's academic excellence with a stimulating learning programme. One of the RSC's main objectives is to play a convening role; to facilitate dialogue between researchers, practitioners, policymakers and government officials. The Summer School is one way in which we accomplish this, bringing together people to reflect on their experience and to think critically about the aims and assumptions that underlie their work. It aims to provide an opportunity for participants to step outside their institutional affiliations, and to examine critically the structures and institutions of refugee protection. To that end, over three weeks, participants and tutors read, reflect, debate, discuss, and socialise together.

The course follows a curriculum carefully designed to enable participants to understand the causes, consequences and responses to forced migration, and to reflect critically on their own professional practice. The curriculum approaches the complex phenomenon of forced migration from different angles. Beginning with reflection on the diverse ways of conceptualising forced migration, participants are introduced to political, legal and anthropological framings and insights into displacement. The modules then cover the ethics of migration controls in the context of contemporary globalisation; international refugee law; negotiating strategies in the context of refugee repatriation; and the challenges of internal displacement. Optional modules this year spanned the themes of human smuggling; Palestine refugees and international law; and psychosocial support in forced migration settings.

The format of the Summer School involves lectures, small group discussions, debates, moots, simulated negotiations, and individual presentations from all participants. It provides ample opportunity for critical discussion and debate, with invited experts and fellow participants. Central here is regular work in tutor groups, which in 2015 were convened by: Cathryn Costello; Jeff Crisp; Matthew J Gibney; Maryanne Loughry; Tom Scott-Smith; and Liesbeth Schockaert. Participants commented that the tutor group discussions were stimulating and provocative, leading them to question their assumptions and professional practices. Lectures form a key part of the main curriculum, usually opening each new module. Lecturers include world-leading academics and

accomplished professionals from disciplines such as anthropology, politics, law, psychology, and international relations. In 2015 they included: Susan Akram, Alexander Betts, David Cantor, Dawn Chatty, Madeline Garlick, Geoff Gilbert, Mariagiulia Giuffr , Filippo Grandi, Elspeth Guild, Anne Hammerstad, Jason Hart, Khalid Koser, Philip Marfleet, Guy S. Goodwin-Gill, Dallal Stevens, Eva Svoboda, John Taylor, John Vine, Ruvi Ziegler. We were honoured to have Filippo Grandi give the closing address with a candid and thoughtful reflection on 'Thirty years of work with refugees: failures and opportunities'.



*'Thank you very much for providing a life-changing opportunity... I've met so many wonderful people (inside and outside the programme, in fact!) I would never have thought that this programme would turn out to be such a wonderful experience... I will never forget this summer.'*

2015 participant

Photo: Filippo Grandi delivers the closing address at the Summer School 2015

Above all, the format reflects the acknowledgement that 'the Summer School is the participants'. The participants reflect the increasing diversity of the field of forced migration. While staff of the main international organisations are of course well represented (such as UNHCR and IOM), officials from many governments also participate, ranging from those who work on refugee status determination, providing protection on the ground, to those who act as donors within the humanitarian system. Refugee activists, as well as staff of international and local NGOs (Oxfam, MSF, NRC, DRC, Red Cross) are also well represented, together with full-time researchers and academics. This year the participants also included a parliamentarian and a practicing barrister. The mix aims to allow participants to step outside their official roles, and critically reflect on the challenges and complexities of refugee protection. Many participants comment that the highlight is the opportunity to meet, work and socialise with such a diverse, accomplished and committed group.

In 2015, the course attracted nearly 70 participants from more than 20 countries. We were able to offer 3 full bursaries thanks to generous support from The Asfari Foundation and The Said Foundation, and some privately sponsored places thanks to Stephanie Hunt.

**The next International Summer School in Forced Migration will take place in July 2016.** To receive further information as it becomes available, please contact Tara-Sienna Hartman, at [summer.school@qeh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:summer.school@qeh.ox.ac.uk) or visit [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/summerschool](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/summerschool)



## Short courses

The RSC regularly convenes short courses which offer participants the opportunity to engage actively and critically with contemporary debates under the tutelage of distinguished experts in the field of forced migration. The courses, usually held over a weekend, focus on a particular issue related to forced migration, enabling participants to develop their expertise through a mix of lectures, working group exercises and interactive sessions. RSC short courses are suitable for experienced practitioners, graduate researchers, parliamentarians and staff, members of the legal profession, government officials and personnel of inter-governmental and nongovernmental organisations.

Courses held in 2014–15 included: ‘Health and Humanitarian Response in Complex Emergencies’, convened by Professor Dawn Chatty and held at the Oxford Department of International Development (December 2014); and ‘Palestine Refugees and International Law’, convened by Professor Dawn Chatty and Professor Susan M Akram and held at the British Institute, Amman, Jordan and the Asfari Institute, American University of Beirut, Lebanon (March 2015).

For further information, visit [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/study/short-courses](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/study/short-courses)

## Visiting Fellowships

Visiting Fellowships provide an excellent opportunity for senior practitioners and policymakers as well as doctoral students, post-doctoral scholars and professional academics to study in a renowned intellectual environment. Visiting Fellows undertake a specific programme of self-directed study or research under the guidance of an assigned academic advisor. They have full access to the University’s academic facilities and are able to attend the RSC’s weekly Public Seminar Series and the core seminar series of the MSc in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies. They can also present their work in the RSC Work-in-Progress Seminar Series.

During the past year the RSC has welcomed Visiting Study Fellows and Visiting Research Fellows from a variety of countries with a diverse range of experiences and expertise. Through mutual exchange and learning, their presence has greatly enhanced the academic work of the RSC.

Details of recent Visiting Fellows can be found in the Academic Record.

For further information about the programme, visit [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/study/visiting-fellowships](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/study/visiting-fellowships)

### Dr Mariagiulia Guiffré Visiting Research Fellow

*Lecturer in Law, Edge Hill University  
Trinity term 2015*



As a Visiting Research Fellow at the RSC I have mainly worked on my forthcoming monograph on ‘Asylum, Readmission, and Migration Controls’ (Hart Publishing, Oxford). During my stay, I exchanged ideas with researchers working in the area of migration and refugee law and policy. I attended seminars and conferences and conducted extensive research at the law library. I also had the opportunity to present the findings of my research on deportation with assurances of undesirable and unreturnable foreigners at the Work-in-Progress Seminar Series, where I received valuable comments from researchers in different disciplines. In June, I participated as a speaker in the Refugee Week Panel Discussion on ‘How Should Europe Respond to the Mediterranean Refugee Crisis?’. I also taught at the Summer School in Forced Migration, and co-authored an article with Cathryn Costello on the responsibility of European States following the tragic death of almost 900 migrants at sea in April 2015.

### Dr Philip Orchard Visiting Research Fellow

*Senior Lecturer in International  
Relations and Peace and Conflict  
Studies, University of Queensland  
Trinity term 2015*



During my time at the RSC, my main focus was on a new monograph focusing on the internally displaced persons protection regime. I also undertook initial work into a new research project focusing on the problem of regime-induced displacement funded by the Australian Research Council. My time at the RSC was invaluable in developing further these two projects, including discussions I had with my academic contact, Alexander Betts, other members of staff including Matthew Gibney, Gil Loescher, and Jeff Crisp and the wider Oxford community, and the other visiting researchers. I was able to make excellent use of the grey materials archive that the RSC houses with the Social Science Library. I also welcomed the opportunity to present my work, including through the Public Seminar Series on global refugee policy, and through the RSC’s Work-in-Progress Seminar Series.

## RSC Library

The Refugee Studies collections have been housed in the Bodleian Social Science Library (SSL) since 2009. Readers continue to benefit from the wider social science context within which the specialist forced migration materials sit. These benefits include access to over 250,000 open shelf monographs and c.1000 print-runs of social science related journals, as well as the stack request routes between the Bodleian Libraries.

Access to the unique grey literature collections is still much appreciated by readers with many items requested and issued for use in the Library. It is encouraging to report that although unpublished materials are now often freely available online, the Library has added 352 new printed documents during 2014/15. The specialist book collection has also continued to expand with the purchase of 79 new monographs, including 47 for research and 32 for teaching purposes. Book acquisitions were supplemented by generous donations acquired via the RSC as well as weekly UK-published legal deposit books selected by Sarah Rhodes, the Subject Consultant for Forced Migration.

All new books and documents are listed on the SSL website, under the SSL New Books link. In addition to the print collections, readers also benefitted increasingly from electronic book acquisitions. There are presently over 1,100 e-books on refugee-related topics accessible via SOLO (Search Oxford Libraries Online).

Library staff have provided in-depth subject-specific inductions and tours for 142 departmental and external readers including MSc students, Summer School participants, Visiting Fellows and new staff. The SSL was pleased to welcome the Turkish delegation from the Directorate

General for Migration Management, Ministry of the Interior in February. In addition the Subject Consultant has offered tailored one-to-one research sessions and answered a wide range of email enquiries, including such varied subjects as refugee voices and testimony in the UK; identity and place during protracted exile in the Middle East; and diffusion of medical knowledge from military to humanitarian communities of practice. The Libguide for Refugee Studies also continues to be a well-used tool for locating online and print resources, recording 1,307 hits over the year (<http://ox.libguides.com/refugee-studies>).

Sarah Rhodes had the opportunity to meet with fellow librarians and archivists when she attended 'Democratic Access or Privileged Exclusion? A Workshop on the Preservation of and Access to Refugee Archives' at the University of East London. UEL houses the former British Refugee Council archive, a collection contemporaneous with the RSC grey literature collection.

**Visit the Bodleian Social Science Library website at [www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/ssl](http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/ssl) for further information and search the union catalogue (SOLO) for refugee-related material at [solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk](http://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk)**



Refugee art and crafts at the Humanitarian Innovation Conference 2015



# A tribute to Dawn Chatty on her retirement

**Alexander Betts**

RSC Director

This year Professor Dawn Chatty has retired as Professor of Anthropology and Forced Migration. As the longest serving member of the RSC's academic staff, she has been with the Centre for almost two decades, serving as its Deputy Director for a decade and then as Director of the RSC between 2011 and 2014. She will continue to play an active role in the Centre, including through her research and teaching, as Professor Emerita.

An anthropologist by training, Dawn has made an immense contribution to the RSC and to the study of forced migration. Trained at UCLA, she joined the RSC after working both as an academic anthropologist and a development practitioner, having developed her career in universities in the United States, Lebanon, Syria, and Oman. Her ethnographic research interests have spanned the Middle East, nomadic pastoral tribes, and refugee young people, with her work being published in leading journals from *Anthropology Today* to *Foreign Affairs* to *Social Science and Medicine*. She is perhaps best known for her most recent book, *Dispossession and Displacement in the Modern Middle East*, published by Cambridge University Press in 2010.

In addition to her research, Dawn has contributed to the development of all aspects of the RSC. A strong advocate for its independence and for the importance of the anthropological study of forced migration, she has trained several generations of graduate students of Refugee and Forced Migration Studies. She developed the Research Methods component of the MSc in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies, instilling in students the value of ethnography, research ethics, and an understanding of the lived experience of forced migrants, while allowing students to reflect on the relationship between research and advocacy. She also provided the RSC with a teaching focus on the Middle East, ensuring an ongoing focus on the often neglected situation of Palestine refugees.

During her term as RSC Director, Dawn made numerous important contributions. Among her achievements, she strongly protected the autonomy of the Centre, consolidated a workable management structure at a time of growing funding pressures, succeeded in completing the endowment of its fourth



permanent post, and oversaw the recruitment of a new generation of RSC staff. She also built an exciting programme of short courses on issues ranging from Palestine refugees to health to statelessness, ensuring practitioners could benefit from the research of the RSC.

As a Centre, we are immensely grateful for all that Dawn has contributed but also for the fact that she will continue to be actively involved with our work following 'retirement'. She intends to continue her research generally on the forced settlement of nomadic peoples, and on people forced to move – refugees – with a particular focus on the displaced from Syria. She will continue to have a base at the RSC. We would like to also take the opportunity to warmly congratulate Dawn on her recent appointment as a Fellow of the British Academy, one of the very highest honours for a UK-based scholar working in the humanities and the social sciences.

Photo: Dawn, centre front, with participants at the Dana +10 Conference in Jordan in 2012, promoting the rights of nomadic people not to be moved off their traditional grazing lands.

To find out more about Dawn Chatty's background, research and publications, please visit [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/dawnchatty](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/dawnchatty) or <https://dawnchatty.wordpress.com>

# Environmental displacement governance: the politics of causal claims and the power of epistemic influence

**Angela Pilath**

DPhil candidate

Slow, medium, and fast onset disasters – such as rising sea levels, floods, desertification, earthquakes, windstorms, and other natural disasters – impact people’s abilities to maintain their livelihoods and remain in their homes in many parts of the world. Since 2008, an average of 26.4 million people have been displaced by disasters each year, the equivalent to one person being displaced every second. 19.3 million people were forced to flee their homes in 2014 alone<sup>1</sup>. Yet, international governance on the protection of people displaced by disasters and the effects of climate change is still in its infancy. To date, it fails to assure that those in need receive assistance let alone outlines ways to find durable solutions to their displacement.

Significant legal, political, institutional and operational challenges impede political progress on the issue. However, the lack of uncontested knowledge in the environmental displacement issue-area forms the initial rudimentary roadblock to political advancement. How many people will be displaced, when, what can we do, and what will it cost us? Policymakers require answers to these questions to form the basis of their decisions. Yet, current academic research still fails to provide definitive answers. The environmental displacement concept remains essentially contested due to a range of conceptual and methodological shortcomings, including issues of quantifiability, predictive value, and generalisability of the environment-displacement nexus.

The nexus suffers from the same conceptual and methodological contestations as it did a decade ago. Nevertheless, international political recognition of the issue and states’ willingness to discuss political solutions to disaster displacement, at least in the theoretical, has gained momentum in recent years.

Paradoxically, despite all parties to the debate acknowledging causality to be complex and ambiguous, international negotiations and institutional agreements have proceeded as though there was a common understanding of the causal relationships between the environment and displacement. This begs the questions: 1) how and why was political progress achieved despite the persistent lack of uncontested empirical



**Angela Pilath**



Ruins of a home destroyed by Cyclone Nargis, Myanmar, May 2008

knowledge in the issue-area? And 2) how, why, and with what effects did essentially contested causal claims perform in the political debate despite their limited analytical value?

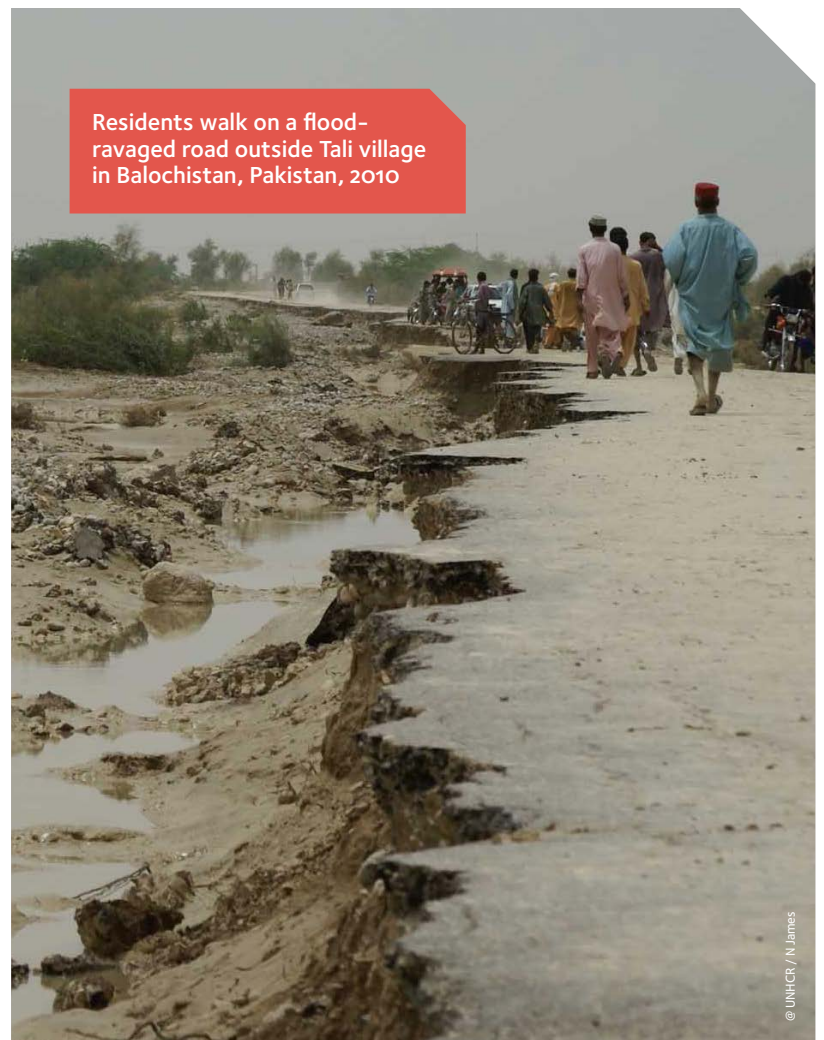
My doctoral research seeks to shed light on this puzzle by investigating the influence of epistemic actors (i.e. academics and researchers representing universities, think tanks, and research centres) and their causal claims in the two most important negotiation processes within the regime complex for environmental displacement: the Nansen Initiative and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiations concerning the evolution of paragraph 14(f) in the Cancún Adaptation Framework. The Nansen Initiative seeks to develop an international protection agenda for disaster-induced cross-border displacement through a process of regional consultations with representatives from the most affected regions. The evolution of paragraph 14(f) CAF constitutes the first formal recognition in an international agreement that pertains to the interconnections between climate change and displacement, and highlights the importance of addressing environmental displacement as part of a global adaptation strategy.

Through a process-tracing method, involving discourse analysis, qualitative elite interviewing, and participant observation of the negotiations, I examine to what degree epistemic actors and their causal claims have had significant influence on environmental displacement politics, and under what conditions and through which mechanisms such influence was established.

My core argument is that political action on environmental displacement was externally mobilised through strategic epistemic influence. In both negotiation processes, epistemic causal claims, despite being analytically contested, were successfully mobilised among policymakers by the same small but highly influential network of actors. It was the influence of a few individuals within that network that, on the basis of their perceived expert authority and diplomatic leadership skills, wielded significant power over the network and brought together an academic-humanitarian coalition that ultimately convinced policymakers of the need to search for international political solutions to disaster displacement.

This analysis of the role of causal claims and the influence of epistemic actors and their networks in environmental displacement politics is a specific case that speaks to a wider phenomenon, in which contested causal knowledge claims nevertheless exert political influence. This shows that, in our increasingly complex world in which politics relies upon negotiations that straddle policy fields, and in which scientific and social scientific knowledge matter for shaping policymakers' interests and bargaining positions, it is crucial that we can identify and understand the instrumental use of causal knowledge within world politics.

My thesis thus offers important insights into the sociology of epistemic networks and advances the research agenda for understanding the political economy of causal knowledge and the role of causal



claims in international politics. It further highlights the importance of acknowledging the individual level in explaining the influence of ideational power in international relations, particularly in issue-areas of essentially contested causal knowledge, such as environmental displacement governance.

Angela Pilath is a DPhil candidate at the RSC. For more information about DPhil opportunities, please visit [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/dphil](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/dphil)

#### Selected publications

Pilath, Angela (2015) 'International Epistemic Organizations and their Role in Shaping the Politics of Environmental Migration'. In Rosenow-Williams, K., Gemenne, F. (eds), *Organizational Perspectives on Environmental Migration*. Routledge Studies in Development, Mobilities and Migration, London: Routledge (forthcoming).

Betts, Alexander and Pilath, Angela (2015) 'The Politics of Causal Claims: the Case of Environmental Migration', *Journal of International Relations and Development*, Special Issue on Problems of Causation in World Politics (forthcoming).

1. IDMC, *Global Estimates 2015: People Displaced by Disaster*, IDMC, NRC, Geneva, p.8.

# Events

The RSC convenes a wide array of seminars, workshops, and conferences. These include the annual Humanitarian Innovation Conference, a major Refugee and Forced Migration Studies conference, the Centre's weekly public and work-in-progress seminar series, and Annual Harrell-Bond and Elizabeth Colson public lectures. We also believe it is important to engage at a more 'local' level, whether through field-based events or local engagement with the Oxford community.

## Humanitarian Innovation Conference (HIP2015)

We hosted the second Humanitarian Innovation Conference at Keble College, Oxford on 17–18 July. The conference was convened in collaboration with the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS), which will take place in Istanbul in May 2016, and which has adopted 'Transformation through Innovation' as one of its four thematic areas. The conference theme was 'Enabling Innovation', and it focused in particular on ways to facilitate innovation by and for crisis-affected communities.

The conference brought together over 250 thought-leaders from across academia, government, international organisations, NGOs, business, and crisis-affected communities. Speakers included Raouf Mazou, UNHCR Representative in Kenya; Sara Pantuliano, Director of the Humanitarian Policy Group at the ODI; Per Heggenes, CEO of the Ikea Foundation; Niels Harild, Manager of the Forced Displacement

Program at the World Bank; Moulid Hujale, a Somali journalist; Paul Wise, Professor of Pediatrics at Stanford University; and Joanna Macrae, Head of Humanitarian Evidence at DFID.

There was a wide range of plenary panels on themes including 'The WHS: what can we expect in Istanbul?'; 'Beyond Cliché: the diverse role of business'; 'Transforming Organisational Culture'; 'Overcoming the Humanitarian-Development Divide'; 'Learning from Failure: the response to the Ebola crisis'; and a debate on 'How Transformative is Technology for Humanitarianism?'. There was also a series of interactive workshops on innovation and design facilitated by a range of organisations, an exhibition space in which we displayed some of the most pioneering humanitarian ideas, and the integration of the arts through photography and performance.

More information about the conference, including videos and podcasts is available on the new Humanitarian Innovation Project website at [www.oxhip.org](http://www.oxhip.org)

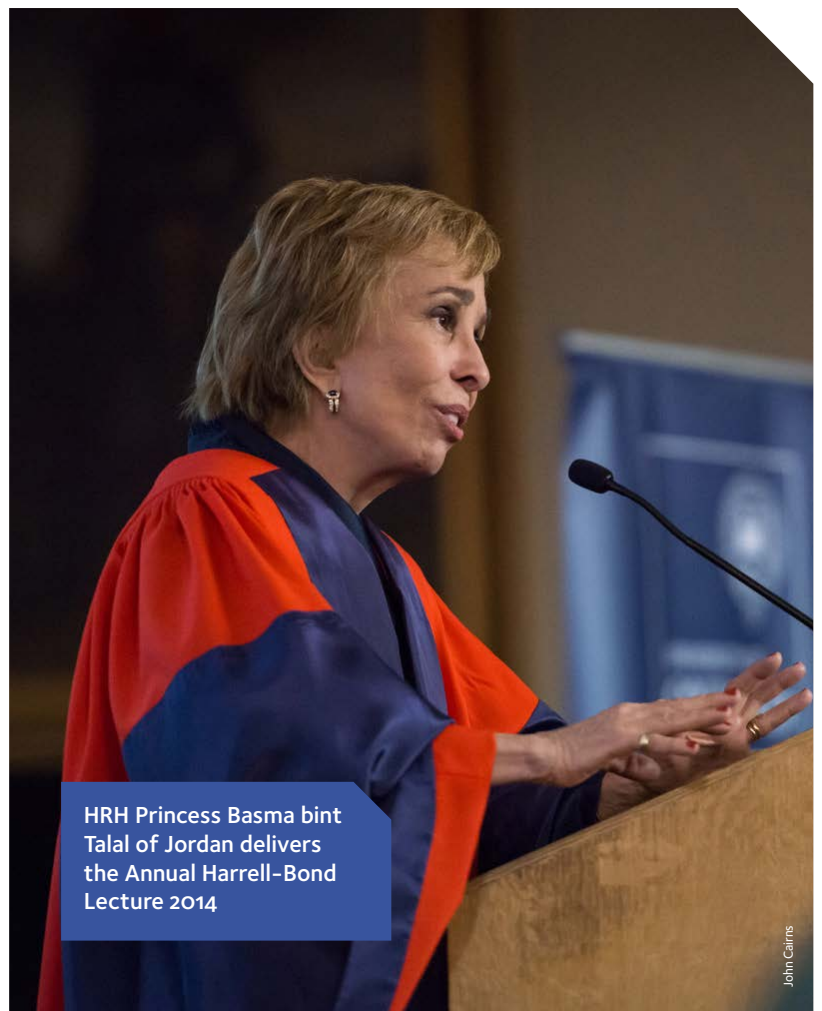


Plenary session on 'How Transformative is Technology for Humanitarianism?' at HIP2015, with Louise Bloom (RSC), Dr Patrick Meier (Qatar Computing Research Institute), Professor Tom Scott-Smith (RSC) and Pascal Daudin (ICRC)

## Annual Lectures

### Annual Harrell-Bond Lecture 2014

On 5 November 2014, we were delighted to welcome Her Royal Highness Princess Basma bint Talal of Jordan to give the Annual Harrell-Bond Lecture. In the lecture titled 'Forced Migration to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan: Burden or Boon', Princess Basma highlighted the benefits of forced migration for receiving countries such as Jordan. This she illustrated by looking back at experiences of previous refugees in Jordan in the last century. Focusing on the Circassians, Chechens and Armenians, she cited refugees' innovation and creativity as promoting development. The Princess argued that 'nations that adjust well [to hosting refugees]... benefit more rapidly from the introduction of all types of new skills, labour and capital... as well as the heightened demand for economic activity'. This viewpoint is supported by recent research by the RSC on Refugee Economies which found that refugees, if given the opportunity, can help themselves and their communities, and contribute to the host economy. The communities comprising the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan have a long history as refugee hosts. This continues today, with Jordan now hosting over 600,000 refugees from Syria and nearly 30,000 from Iraq. Following the lecture, Princess Basma spoke with audience members and distinguished guests, including Oxford University's Vice-Chancellor Professor Andrew Hamilton and RSC students.



HRH Princess Basma bint Talal of Jordan delivers the Annual Harrell-Bond Lecture 2014

John Cairns

### Annual Elizabeth Colson Lecture 2015

In June 2015, the Annual Elizabeth Colson Lecture was given by Professor Miriam Ticktin of The New School for Social Research in New York, on the topic of 'Innocence: understanding a political concept'. With the grounding assumption that innocence plays a central role in the politics of forced migration and asylum, Professor Ticktin delved into the idea of innocence, arguing that it is a political – not simply a religious or moral – concept. By examining the figure of the child, the trafficked victim, the migrant, asylum seeker, enemy combatant and the animal, she suggested that innocence sets up hierarchies of humanity, all the while feeding an expanding politics of humanitarianism. Ultimately, she posed the question of whether innocence is a concept we want to protect.

Both these lectures are available as podcasts on the RSC website: [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/news](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/news) or on SoundCloud: [soundcloud.com/refugeestudiescentre](http://soundcloud.com/refugeestudiescentre)

### Looking ahead

The 2015 Annual Harrell-Bond Lecture will be given by Professor Walter Kälin (Envoy of the Chairmanship of the Nansen Initiative, and Professor of Constitutional and International Law, University of Bern) on Wednesday 4 November. In his lecture, '*We do not want to become refugees*': Human mobility in the age of climate change, he will explore different tools available to address displacement and other forms of disaster-related human mobility, building on the work of the Nansen Initiative on disaster-induced cross-border displacement.



Professor Miriam Ticktin discusses 'Innocence' for the Annual Elizabeth Colson Lecture 2015

RSC / T. Keik

## Public Seminar Series

Each term the RSC holds a series of public seminars, held every Wednesday evening at Queen Elizabeth House. This year the series focused on: 'Refugee and Forced Migration Studies – the state of the art' in Michaelmas term; 'The history of refuge' in Hilary term; and 'Global refugee policy' in Trinity term.

### The history of refuge

Hilary term 2015

*Dr J Olaf Kleist, German Research Foundation Research Fellow, RSC; series convenor*

The refugee is often considered a product of modernity and so is refugee protection. This seminar series was convened to consider and discuss historical approaches to understanding refugee protection. It included presentations on pre-modern cases of refuge from ancient Greece to the Roman Empire and to medieval English law, as well as modern but little discussed instances of refugee protection in the late Ottoman Empire and during the India-Pakistan Partition. Peter Gatrell pleaded in a complex overview of refuge in the 20th century for taking refugees seriously in historiography as socio-political agents and factors. Overall, the seminar series emphasised the richness and surprising insights historical research can add to our understanding of refugees and protection as longstanding yet ever-changing categories and principles. Based on a selection of contributions to the seminar series, a special issue of the *Journal of Refugee Studies* is currently being edited.

### Global refugee policy

Trinity term 2015

*Dr James Milner, Carleton University; series co-convenor and speaker*

In recent years, states, UNHCR, and NGOs have invested considerable time and resources to develop, adopt and implement 'global refugee policy'. These policies claim to address issues as diverse as refugees in urban areas, displacement resulting from natural disasters, refugees with disabilities, and resolving protracted refugee situations. However, there has been very limited understanding of the process through which particular issues compete for prominence on the agenda of the global refugee regime's decision-making bodies. In response, 'global refugee policy' has emerged as a new area of enquiry within refugee and forced migration studies. It was the focus of the RSC's 30th Anniversary conference in December 2012 and the theme of the December 2014 special issue of the *Journal of Refugee Studies*.

The presentations considered the meaning of global refugee policy, the process by which certain global policies, such as UNHCR's policy on urban refugees, may be changed, how the views of those outside the formal policy process may influence the development of new policy, and how the case of global policy on internal displacement highlights the tensions and complexities of the policy process itself. Together, the presentations encouraged more critical and systematic thinking about the process by which global refugee policy is made, and the interests and factors that affect its implementation.

### National Refugee Week 2015

For Refugee Week in June, a special panel discussion was held, titled 'How Should Europe Respond to the Mediterranean Refugee Crisis?' The panel was chaired by Dr Jeff Crisp, with speakers Professor Dawn Chatty, Professor Alexander Betts, Professor Cathryn Costello, Dr Mariagiulia Giuffrè (RSC Visiting Research Fellow), and Dr Nando Sigona (RSC Research Associate).

We also held a special workshop on 'Refuge in Europe: Syrian Aspirations', which brought together experts and academics to speak about the concerns, needs and aspirations of Syrians who have fled Syria. It was chaired by Professor Dawn Chatty.

Podcasts of most of the public seminars are available on the RSC website: [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/news](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/news) or on SoundCloud: [soundcloud.com/refugeestudiescentre](http://soundcloud.com/refugeestudiescentre)



The panel for the RSC's Refugee Week discussion on the Mediterranean crisis

The Refugee Economies launch in Uganda, February 2015



## Field-based events

### The Zimbabwean Diaspora in 2015: What Next?

Constitution Hill, Johannesburg

In January 2015, Alexander Betts and Will Jones organised a joint RSC-Oxford Diasporas Programme (ODP) event at Constitution Hill in Johannesburg. The event, “The Zimbabwean Diaspora in 2015: What Next?”, convened academics, civil society, and representatives of the Zimbabwean community in South Africa, many of them refugees. It took place against the backdrop of the expulsion of the remaining Zimbabwean refugees from the Central Methodist Church in downtown Johannesburg, and gave an opportunity for Betts and Jones to present their research on the political mobilisation of the Zimbabwean diaspora back to the community for feedback. The panel main session was chaired by Levi Kabwato of the Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition, and included Bishop Paul Verryn from the Central Methodist Church and Godfrey Phiri of the Global Zimbabwe Forum. The research presented forms the basis of Betts and Jones’ forthcoming book, which looks at refugee politics and seeks to explain how diasporas form to contest authoritarianism, looking at both Zimbabwe and Rwanda. The RSC is grateful to the Oxford Diasporas Programme for providing funding to support the occasion.

### Refugee Economies in Uganda

Kampala and Nakivale refugee settlement

In February 2014, Naohiko Omata and Josiah Kaplan undertook a two-week field mission to Uganda where they held multiple launch events and meetings with communities, refugee researchers and key stakeholders in Kampala and in Nakivale refugee settlement. The goal of the trip was to launch the

Humanitarian Innovation Project’s report *Refugee Economies: Rethinking Popular Assumptions*, as well as a collaborative publication by *Forced Migration Review* on ‘Innovation & Refugees’. Omata and Kaplan, along with former HIP research assistants, visited refugee communities to share the research findings and to solicit feedback. The trip culminated in a final Kampala-based launch event at UNHCR Uganda headquarters. This event drew over 40 stakeholder participants, and provided an invaluable opportunity to share the key findings on refugee livelihoods in Uganda with officials and staff from over 20 institutions, including the Ugandan government, UK DFID, US Embassy, IOM, WFP, FAO and many UNHCR implementing partners. The ‘refugee economies’ work from Uganda is currently being consolidated into a book.

### Refugee Economies in Kenya

Nairobi and Kakuma refugee camp

In April 2015, Naohiko Omata and Nina Weaver visited Kenya, where HIP is hoping to conduct research on refugee economies to build on research already undertaken in Uganda. This trip aimed to explain this existing refugee economies research to the stakeholders and to initiate a constructive partnership between UNHCR Kenya and HIP. Naohiko Omata organised a vibrant 90-minute briefing of *Refugee Economies: Rethinking Popular Assumptions* for UNHCR and the donor community in Nairobi. He also spent two days visiting Kakuma refugee camp in Northern Kenya. Kakuma was founded in 1992, and the camp currently hosts nearly 200,000 refugees. Over two decades, this home for refugees has been gradually embedded within host economic structures. Refugees’ daily economic activities – consumption, production and employment – now appear to play a crucial role in sustaining and contributing to the economic lives of local host communities.

# The cessation of refugee status for Rwandan and Eritrean refugees

**Georgia Cole**

Joyce Pearce Junior Research Fellow and DPhil candidate

When UNHCR issued its recommendation in 2012 for the application of the Cessation Clause to Rwandan refugees, Oxford was at the epicentre of a global campaign to stop this recommendation ever transitioning into implementation. Its application was resisted on the grounds of its prematurity, insensitivity and outright misreading of the systemic repression operating within Rwanda. Questions abounded as to why UNHCR would wish to support the cancellation of Rwandan refugees' statuses, and whose interests this process was ultimately serving.

For a long time, the provision of durable solutions has been far outstripped by the numbers of new refugees falling within UNHCR's remit. The application of the 'ceased circumstances' Cessation Clause to a particular caseload of refugees has therefore appeared to provide one route through which to remove a whole group of individuals from UNHCR's books. This area of UNHCR and State activities nonetheless remains heavily underexplored. There is a dearth of academic studies exploring how, when and why this definitive 'endpoint' is employed within the refugee regime.

My thesis begins to answer these questions through tracing the evolution of the Cessation Clause for Eritrean refugees in the Sudan in 2002, and its ongoing application to Rwandan refugees in Uganda. It also seeks to explain a paradox that became

discernible only during fieldwork in Rwanda, Uganda, Eritrea and Geneva. Interviews, documents and field observations suggested that a reduction in the number of refugees constituted neither a primary goal of the invocation of either Clause, nor the most desirable outcome for any of the parties involved in either set of negotiations. Governments and UNHCR spoke of Rwandan and Eritrean refugees at length, but these caseloads appeared to have become the centre of attention for reasons beyond their protracted physical displacement or the responsibilities emerging from the legal-normative framework of the refugee regime.

These refugees had instead become the focus of negotiations because they signified a host of other concerns to states and UNHCR. Amongst other things, they represented indictments of domestic and



Georgia Cole



Juru weekly market, Nakivale refugee settlement, Uganda. Nakivale is currently home to around 9000 Rwandans.



bilateral politics, UNHCR's failure to broker durable solutions for groups that had spent decades in exile, and the depravities of the humanitarian industry. Cessation was thus a conduit through which to look as though solutions were being arrived at, and to end politically contentious discussions about the protracted exile of these groups. It did not appear to have resulted in any major investment in efforts to establish actual refugees greater access to durable solutions, but this ostensible 'failure' did not appear to be a major cause for concern. The assurance by the Government of Uganda, for example, that the Cessation Clause for Rwandan refugees in the country would be invoked was met by immense self-congratulation by the main parties to the negotiations. This was despite their simultaneous awareness that it was unlikely to result in any significant reduction in the number of Rwandans in the country.

The more that the negotiations over the refugee label became detached from the rights and responsibilities enshrined in the 1951 Convention, the more that the illegitimate behaviour of states and UNHCR came to exhibit a façade of acceptability. UNHCR recommended the invocation of the Cessation Clause for Eritrean refugees less than six months after the Government of Eritrea closed down the country's private press and imprisoned all politicians critical of their policies. A thorough assessment of conditions for return within Eritrea was not possible due to restrictions on internal travel and monitoring, and the country's severe drought and economic impoverishment cast the feasibility of sustainable reintegration in to doubt.

The organisation nonetheless justified their support for the cancellation of Eritrean refugees' statuses as part of a strategy to buy 'good will' from the Eritrean authorities. This, it was hoped, would bolster the position of other United Nations organisations within the country after a turbulent decade when the relationship between the newly independent state and the UN had failed to be fully consolidated. Many employees knew that Cessation went against the basic tenets of protection. The auxiliary meanings associated with the Eritrean refugees in that context, however, firmly incentivised the organisation to pick political expediency over protection and to thus promote the invocation of the Cessation Clause.

I therefore argue throughout my thesis that discussions about refugees have become dangerously abstracted from their legal-normative and corporeal roots. The observation is simple; one need only scan any newspaper to recognise instances where the word refugee is being used to mean something very different to its legal definition in the 1951 Convention. And one need only look at negotiations within the refugee regime to realise that they are often more about alleviating the negative publicity and political significance of refugees than about finding solutions for the physically displaced themselves.

What remains under-theorised within refugee studies, however, is what it is about the structure of language and specific words that make them susceptible to manipulation and why the fact that we use the same words but mean different things matters. I therefore use a framework derived from linguistic semiotics



Women making handicrafts at the Wad Sharifey refugee camp in Kassala State, Sudan, which borders west Eritrea

to theorise the multiple orders of meaning inherent within words, and the theoretical and empirical relationships that exist between them. As language has a productive and constitutive power, this polyvalence has consequences for the attainment of durable solutions and for the security and lived experiences of refugees. Understanding these requires greater attention and it is to this task that my thesis turns.

For more information on Georgia Cole's background, research and publications, please visit [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/georgiacole](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/georgiacole)

#### Selected publications

Cole, Georgia (2014) 'Refugees' integration in Uganda will require renewed lobbying', *Forced Migration Review*, 48: 68-70.

Cole, Georgia (2015) 'Negotiating durable solutions for refugees: a critical space for semiotic analysis', *International Journal for the Semiotics of Law*: 1-19.

# The history of humanitarian nutrition

**Tom Scott-Smith**

Associate Professor of Refugee Studies and Forced Migration

Refugees are often reliant on international aid, especially in camps. The most unfortunate may also be enrolled on supplementary or therapeutic feeding schemes, in which their weight and body shape are monitored closely whilst receiving specialist rations. These systems for managing malnutrition amongst refugee populations have a long and fascinating history.

At the end of the 1940s, with Europe still devastated by the Second World War, millions of displaced people (DPs) looked to a small community of relief workers to meet their basic needs. Homeless and on the brink of starvation, their lives were shaped by a shifting coalition of relief organisations. In a world before aid had become standardised, humanitarian workers adopted a fascinating variety of methods. In providing food, for example, some aid workers acquired surplus army rations – small, compact packets of tinned and dried provisions – cooking them into soups for communal feeding. Others spent years developing their own carefully blended mixtures, designed from available commodities and served in large kitchens.

The memoirs of DPs and relief workers provide a vivid sense of daily life in the camps, which was in a large part determined by humanitarians. They describe the techniques used by humanitarians in this formative period for the sector, and the way DPs interacted with these procedures. These memoirs are an important source for uncovering the history of international aid, revealing an era when, to use the words of

Jacques Vernant, aid organisations acted as a 'paternal administration [who] drew up the menu, fixed meals and curfew times, allocated accommodation, washed linen, and provided toothpaste, cigarettes and chocolate according to carefully worked out scales.'

My research examines these intricate practices of relief, placing them in historical context. It explores how the lives of refugees are shaped by humanitarian aid, and how humanitarian aid, in turn, is shaped by history, society and culture. This is not a simple story of scientific designs, passive recipients and paternalistic authorities, but one in which approaches to aid reflect our assumptions about humanity and the constant, creative tension between the providers of aid and their beneficiaries. At the root of much of my work is an interest in the universal and the particular. Every human needs food, shelter, water, and sanitation, but these needs are also expressions of cultural and historical circumstances.

Much of my work has been about food. As the anthropologist Audrey Richards reminded us eighty



**Tom Scott-Smith** is Associate Professor of Refugee Studies and Forced Migration (from October 2015). Prior to joining the RSC, he was Lecturer in Politics at Bristol University. He has previously taught at the RSC, and worked as a development practitioner in the Middle East, Central Asia, and Sub-Saharan Africa.



Ration packs in a contemporary feeding clinic in Yusuf Batil camp, Upper Nile state, South Sudan

years ago, the act of eating is an important part of social life. How food is provided in refugee camps, therefore, is more than just matching nutrients with cells in the body; it is central to the lived experience of these populations. The structured feeding of populations has also seen considerable change over time, and my work has traced a shift from more communal to individualised forms of organisation. In the first half of the twentieth century the dominant model was the soup kitchen, but in recent years it has become the clinic. Whereas admission to the soup kitchen drew on personal knowledge, emergency feeding in the clinic relies on an impersonal measurement of the body. Whereas the soup kitchen offered communal nourishment from large cauldrons, feeding in the clinic is based on individual, foil-wrapped rations. Whereas the soup kitchen distributed vernacular foods made with recognisable ingredients, emergency feeding now dispenses specialist foods manufactured to technical specifications.

My research involves comparing the past with present, straddling the disciplines of history and anthropology. It involves looking at the way institutions operate today, and comparing this with historical documents. Whilst doing fieldwork a few years ago, I arrived at two very different camps – Yusuf Batil in Upper Nile state of South Sudan, and Za’atari camp in Jordan – just a few weeks after they had been established. Just as in 1945, these refugee communities were reliant on aid for their basic needs, but these needs were interpreted and met very differently from the post-war era. It was not just that cigarettes were off the menu; the regime of humanitarian feeding had changed profoundly, with foods following standardised templates and universal designs.

One example is the delightfully named Plumpy’nut, an individualised packet of peanut paste that is treated very much like a medicine. In contrast to the communal kitchens of the post-war period, this was a personal ration and medicalised response. It was distributed after careful measurement of the upper arm, in a regularised and profoundly egalitarian procedure. In Za’atari camp in Jordan, another recent technology was being trialled: the voucher or cash transfer scheme. This represents a different kind of historical departure, in which, rather than intricately managing the intake of food through a paternalistic authority, the feeding process is devolved to beneficiaries, who buy food and cook it for themselves.

As I join the staff of the RSC I am honoured to follow a rich lineage of scholars, from Barbara Harrell-Bond to Dawn Chatty, who have long illuminated relief work and the experience of forced migrants. My research continues this vibrant tradition in the anthropology of forced migration, focusing on the lived experiences of refugees and the way universal needs are culturally mediated. The RSC also benefits from a profoundly inter-disciplinary spirit, tackling forced migration from a variety of perspectives, including politics, law and history. It is appropriate, therefore, that my research also concerns the politics and history of the aid industry – after all, the lived experiences of refugees have always been shaped by aid, and aid has long been the product of political, legal and historical circumstances. As I leave food behind and move on to my next project – which concerns the study of disaster



Syrian women cook in a mosque converted by UNHCR, Arsal, Lebanon

shelter – I am delighted to call this world-leading centre, with its inter-disciplinary spirit, its legacy of anthropological work, and its focus on institutional and interpersonal dynamics, my new scholarly home.

For more information please visit: [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/tomscottsmith](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/tomscottsmith)

#### Selected publications

Scott-Smith, Tom (2015) ‘Beyond the ‘raw’ and the ‘cooked’: a history of fortified blended foods’, *Disasters*, 39 (2): s244–s260.

Scott-Smith, Tom (2015) ‘Control and biopower in contemporary humanitarian aid: the case of supplementary feeding’, *Journal of Refugee Studies*, 28 (1): 21–37.

# Outreach

Since the inception of the Refugee Studies Centre, outreach activities have played a key role in advancing refugee issues and developing a global community of academics, policymakers and practitioners working in the field of forced migration. Dedicated outlets for a variety of academic and non-academic materials have promoted the work of researchers and practitioners and given a voice to refugees themselves.

The RSC's varied portfolio of outputs includes publications such as the *Journal of Refugee Studies*, information resources, public events, and networking initiatives that promote influential engagement with a range of academics, policymakers, and practitioners. *Forced Migration Review*, the RSC's flagship publication, is the most widely read publication on forced migration. It is available in four languages and free of charge, in print and online. In autumn 2015, we will launch a new 'Research in Brief' series to make our academic research accessible to policymakers, practitioners, and the general public.

## Digital communications

### RSC website

The RSC website is key to communicating our research and providing information about our courses, events and media work. Visitors to the website can find a wealth of information about the RSC's research, as well as profiles of staff members and a searchable database featuring both RSC publications and external publications by RSC academics. Prospective students can also learn about our postgraduate and professional teaching programmes, and hear about the experiences of our alumni. In 2014–15, the website received 150,737 visits from 207 countries – a 20% increase on last year.

For more information visit [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk)

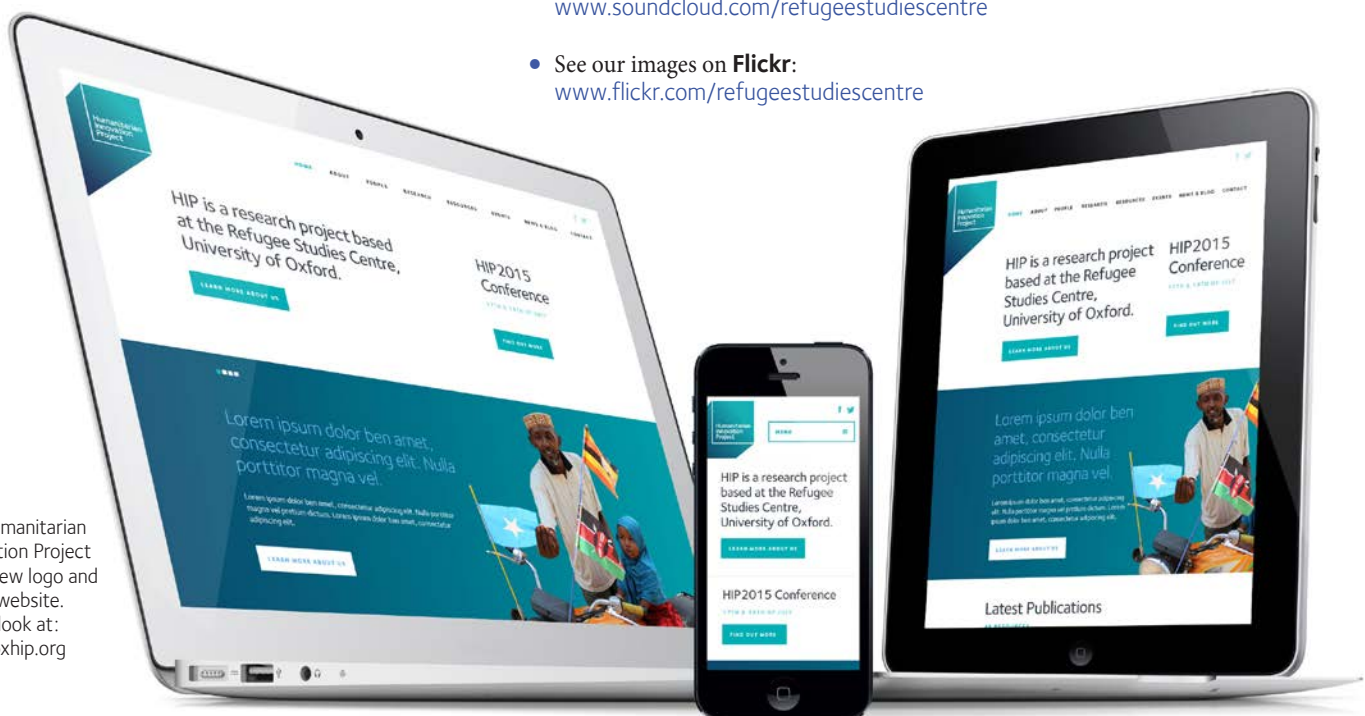
### Social networking and multimedia

During the last year, we have continued our efforts to develop the RSC's digital portfolio in order to engage supporters, students, academics, practitioners, and policymakers through a wider range of media. The RSC website and social media presence are now integrated, improving users' ability to share content and to access our podcasts, videos and other multimedia content.

In 2014–15 we have seen substantial growth in our social media followers:

- On **Facebook**, we have over 3,000 new followers, taking us to 6,400 followers: [www.facebook.com/refugeestudiescentre](http://www.facebook.com/refugeestudiescentre)
- On **Twitter**, we have 5,000 new followers, taking us to 13,200 followers: [@refugeestudies](https://twitter.com/refugeestudies)
- Our **YouTube** channel has received more than 11,000 views in the past 12 months. Video playlists include News, with staff media interviews; Events, such as the Humanitarian Innovation Conference; and Studying in Oxford, with information on the MSc in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies and academic life in Oxford: [www.youtube.com/refugeestudiescentre](http://www.youtube.com/refugeestudiescentre)
- Our podcast series remains a popular resource with more than 5,400 plays registered over the past year via our **SoundCloud** account. This provides podcasts of the RSC Public Seminar Series, our two Annual Lectures, plus occasional special seminars such as our Refugee Week Panel Discussion on the Mediterranean crisis: [www.soundcloud.com/refugeestudiescentre](http://www.soundcloud.com/refugeestudiescentre)
- See our images on **Flickr**: [www.flickr.com/refugeestudiescentre](http://www.flickr.com/refugeestudiescentre)

The Humanitarian Innovation Project has a new logo and a new website. Take a look at: [www.oxhip.org](http://www.oxhip.org)

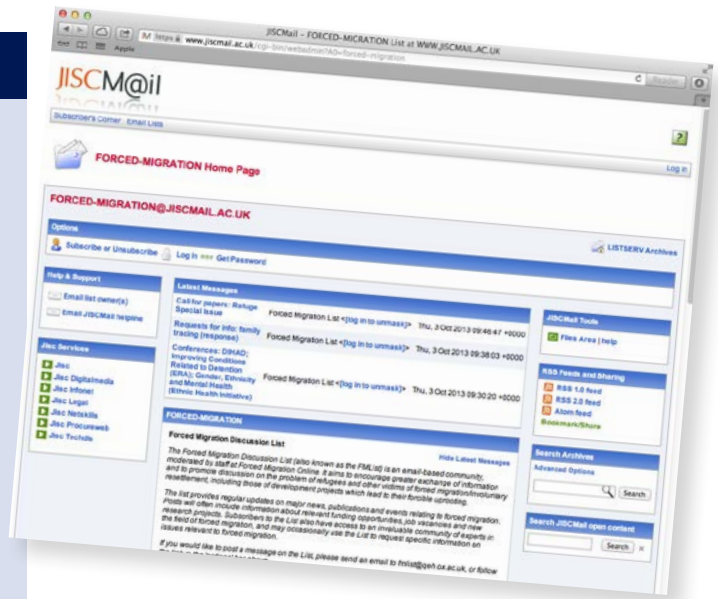


## Forced Migration Discussion List

Established in 2000, the Forced Migration Discussion List (FM List) has built a large community of subscribers involved in refugee and forced migration issues, providing a platform to request information from other users as well as to circulate notices about forthcoming events, publications, job vacancies and other related resources.

With over 2,000 subscribers from over 50 countries in July 2015, the FM List remains a valued resource with a dedicated user base.

For further information and to sign up, please visit [www.jjscmail.ac.uk/lists/forced-migration.html](http://www.jjscmail.ac.uk/lists/forced-migration.html)



Dr Naohiko Omata presents at the conference 'Denmark and the Global Refugee Crisis', Copenhagen, March 2015

# Forced Migration Review

*Forced Migration Review* (FMR) is the in-house magazine of the Refugee Studies Centre. Through FMR, authors from around the world analyse the causes and impacts of displacement; debate policies and programmes; share research findings; reflect the lived experience of displacement; and present examples of good practice and recommendations for policy and action. Over the past 12 months the FMR team has published the following issues.

## FMR 47

### The Syria crisis, displacement and protection

(September 2014)

The numbers of displaced people inside Syria make this the largest crisis of internal displacement in the world, with possibly also the largest number of people who are 'trapped'. In addition, the number of refugees from Syria continues to increase. The international community has an opportunity to set up, from now, an effective response to what is already protracted displacement. The articles discuss how to increase protection for the displaced and how to shape assistance to both the displaced and their 'hosts'.

## FMR Supplement

### Innovation and refugees

(September 2014)

Innovation around displacement is not new. Yet the imperfections of current approaches are obvious in the challenges that we continue to face. With a focus on looking at old problems in new ways and on seeking and fostering innovation itself, new products can be developed, new ways of working can be devised and new modalities and paradigms can emerge to make the lives of displaced people better, more sustainable and less risky. This supplement reflects some of the thinking behind humanitarian innovation for displaced people, and some of its current manifestations. 'Innovation and refugees' was produced in collaboration with the Humanitarian Innovation Project (see page 10).

## FMR 48

### Faith and responses to displacement

(November 2014)

The role of faith in the humanitarian sector is not easy to measure. Faiths generally advocate welcoming the stranger and there are many organisations and individuals inspired by their faith or religion to provide protection and assistance. Yet it is easier to measure the activities inspired by faith than to measure the difference that having that faith makes, and secularly inspired standards for such activities can appear to be in tension with the faith inspiration. This issue also includes seven general articles on other aspects of forced migration.



**FMR 49**

**Disasters and displacement in a changing climate**

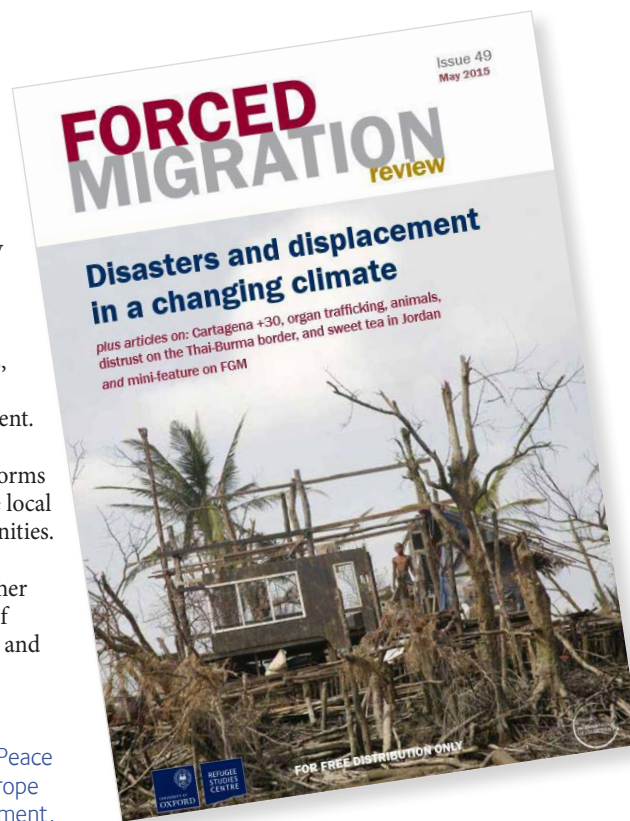
(May 2015)

In light of the projected increase in the frequency and intensity of disasters associated with climate change, the number of people displaced in the context of disasters will inevitably rise. Existing national, regional and international legal regimes, however, currently respond to only some of the protection concerns arising from such displacement. Crafting an appropriate response will demand a cross-sectoral approach that addresses different forms of human mobility and which also recognises the local knowledge, values and beliefs of affected communities.

This issue also includes five further articles on other aspects of forced migration, and a mini-section of five articles on 'Female genital mutilation (FGM) and asylum in Europe'.

Future issues include, Dayton +20: Bosnia and Herzegovina twenty years on from the Dayton Peace Agreement (September 2015), Destination: Europe (December 2015) and Thinking ahead: displacement, transition and solutions (May 2015).

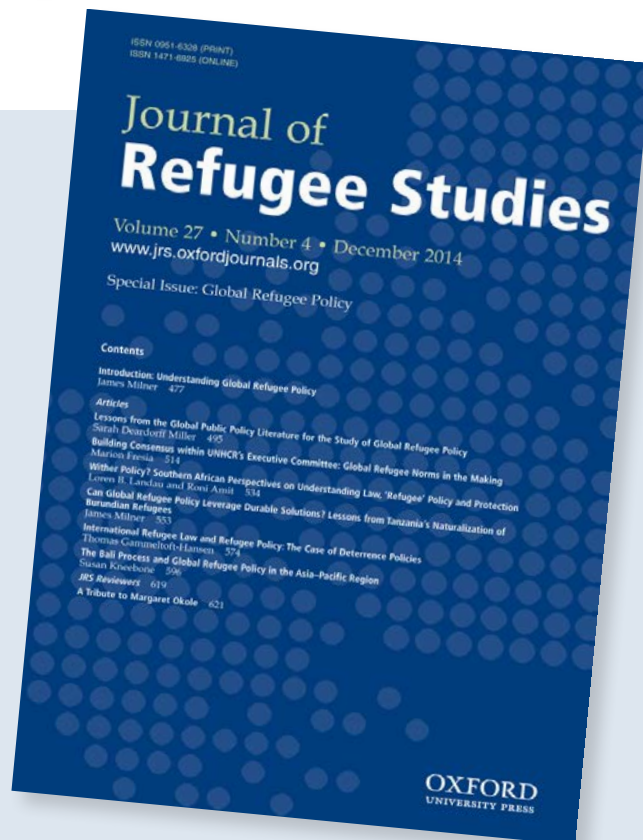
**Find all FMR articles on their website:**  
[www.fmreview.org](http://www.fmreview.org)



**Journal of Refugee Studies**

The *Journal of Refugee Studies* (JRS) is published by Oxford University Press in association with the Refugee Studies Centre. The journal is edited by Dr Khalid Koser of the Geneva Centre for Security Policy, Switzerland. The multidisciplinary journal provides a forum for exploring the dynamics and challenges of forced migration, and critically analysing national, regional and international responses, covering all categories of displaced people. Contributions that develop theoretical understandings of forced migration, or advance knowledge of concepts, policies and practice, are welcomed from academics, policymakers and practitioners.

In addition to frequently publishing articles and book reviews by researchers at the RSC, the journal publishes one special issue each year. In December 2014, a special issue focused on 'Global Refugee Policy' (Vol 27, No 4), with articles selected for their ability to help unpack particular analytical and methodological questions relating to the study of global refugee policy. This issue was led by Dr James Milner, Associate Professor at Carleton University and an RSC Research Associate.



For further details, article abstracts, and information about how to subscribe, visit [www.jrs.oxfordjournals.org](http://www.jrs.oxfordjournals.org). Members of the International Association for the Study of Forced Migration may subscribe at a reduced rate.



Refugees arriving at Presevo, Serbia, from the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia



Dr Josiah Kaplan (RSC, front right) chairs the plenary session 'Ebola Response: Learning from Failure?' at the Humanitarian Innovation Conference 2015, with Professor Paul Wise (Stanford University), Professor David Stuckler (Oxford University), Dr Miriam Orcutt (LSHTM), and Stuart Campo (UNICEF)



# Fundraising and development

In order to ensure that our research, teaching, and outreach activities are world leading and that we can make a difference to the lives of refugees, the Refugee Studies Centre relies on partnership. Impact on policy and practice is at the heart of everything we do, but we cannot have impact on our own. From hard-working students to knowledgeable alumni, from new researchers to renowned emeritus colleagues, from committed advisors to insightful policymakers, from generous donors to engaged practitioners, the RSC is privileged to work with individuals and organisations far beyond Oxford.

Over the past year, we have been developing a range of ways in which to engage more strategically with our partners. We have rebuilt our Advisory Board to ensure that we can rely upon the support of a well-networked and influential group of friends. Our Board includes **Emily Arnold Fernandez** (Founder and Executive Director of Asylum Access); **Professor Chaloka Beyani** (UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons and Associate Professor of Law, LSE); **Dr Jeff Crisp** (Research Associate at the RSC, who has held senior positions with UNHCR, Refugees International, and the Global Commission on International Migration); **Michael Diedring** (Secretary General of the European Council on Refugees and Exiles); **Per Heggenes** (Chief Executive Officer, IKEA Foundation); **Stephanie E. Hunt** (philanthropist and co-founder of the Hunt Institute for Engineering and Humanity); **Raza Husain QC** (specialist in public law at Matrix Chambers with an emphasis on immigration and human rights); **Ewen Macleod** (Head, Policy Development and Evaluation Service, UNHCR); **Dr Cecilia Malmström** (European Commissioner for Trade, former European Commissioner for Home Affairs); **Dr Joanna Macrae** (Head, Humanitarian Policy Team, DFID); **Caroline Moorehead OBE** (Human rights journalist and biographer); **Dr Sara Pantuliano** (Director, Humanitarian Policy Group, Overseas Development Institute); and **Thomas Thomsen** (Chief Adviser, Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs). The new Board met for the first time in November and has already shown itself to be engaged in and committed to developing the RSC's impact in the wider world.

The RSC has also now developed a clearly defined strategy document for the duration of the current directorship, outlining a set of policy-relevant research programmes and institutional goals for the Centre, as well as the steps required to achieve that vision. This strategy document will help us to be accountable to clearly defined and measurable goals over each rotation of the RSC directorship.

We have this year built a number of new and important partnerships, and consolidated some long-standing relationships. We have agreed a strategic partnership with the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, which will provide a significant amount of unrestricted funding to the Centre during the course of the current directorship. We have continued to be generously supported by Stephanie and Hunter Hunt, especially

through their backing of the Humanitarian Innovation Project. The Asfari and Saïd Foundations have provided ongoing support for bursaries to enable participants from underrepresented regions to attend our Summer School.

*Forced Migration Review* has received issue-specific support from a number of donors this year – including CAFOD, the Henry Luce Foundation, Islamic Relief Worldwide, the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, World Relief, and EuropeAid. It continues to be supported by a core group of donors including the Governments of Norway, Switzerland and Luxembourg, UNHCR, Oxfam, the Danish Refugee Council and the Women's Refugee Commission.

We have also developed an ever-growing array of partnerships that can help us to achieve impact, including strong working relationships with UNHCR, IOM, OCHA, and the World Humanitarian Summit, as well as a number of governments. Across the Nansen Initiative, the World Humanitarian Summit, and the Solutions Alliance, we are more actively engaged in policy-relevant thinking than perhaps ever before. The convening role that we are playing for international meetings makes us uniquely placed to play a global role in thought leadership at a time when research and innovation in refugee and forced migration policy are needed more than ever. We are working closely with the Oxford University Development Office in order to find partners to help make our vision for the RSC a reality.

## Donors

**We are deeply appreciative to all of the donors listed below both for their financial support and their enthusiastic collaboration over recent years.**

Asfari Foundation	Norwegian Refugee Council/ Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre
British Academy	Oak Foundation
CAFOD	Ockenden International Trust
Centre on Policy, Migration, and Society (COMPAS)	Open Society Justice Initiative
Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Oxfam
Danish Refugee Council	Oxford Diasporas Programme
Economic & Social Research Council (ESRC)	Regional Development and Protection Programme
Elizabeth Colson	Saïd Foundation
European Union	Stephanie and Hunter Hunt
Ford Foundation	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation/Swiss Cooperation Office – Afghanistan
German Research Foundation	Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs
Henry Luce Foundation	UN-Habitat
International Organization for Migration	UNHCR
ISIM, Georgetown University	UNOCHA
Islamic Relief Worldwide	US Conference of Catholic Bishops
John D and Catherine T MacArthur Foundation	Women's Refugee Commission
John Fell OUP Fund	World Humanitarian Summit
Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign Affairs	World Relief
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	

# Academic record

## Books and edited volumes

**Costello, Cathryn** (with M Freedland) (eds) (2014) *Migrants at Work: Immigration and Vulnerability in Labour Law*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

**Costello, Cathryn** (with A Bogg, ACL Davies and J Prassl) (eds) (2015) *The Autonomy of Labour Law*, Oxford: Hart Publishing.

## Chapters

**Betts, Alexander** (2014) 'Survival migration: conflicting refugee identities in Africa'. In: S Kneebone, D Stevens, L Baldassar (eds) *Refugee Protection and the Role of Law: Conflicting Identities*, London: Routledge.

**Betts, Alexander** (2015) 'Global governance and forced migration'. In: A Triandafyllidou (ed) *Handbook of Immigration and Refugee Studies*, Oxford: Routledge.

**Betts, Alexander** and **Jones, Will** (2015) 'The animators: how diasporas mobilise to contest authoritarian states'. In: N Sigona, A Gamlen, G Liberatore, H Neveu Kringelbach (eds) *Oxford Diasporas Programme Collection*, Oxford: Oxford Diasporas Programme.

**Betts, Alexander, Omata, Naohiko, and Bloom, Louise** (2015) 'Humanitarian innovation and refugee protection'. In: K Brennan (ed) *Making Global Institutions Work*, Oxford: Routledge.

**Chatty, Dawn** (2015) 'Iraqi refugees in the Arab Muslim world: Ottoman legacies and Orientalist presumptions'. In: A Fabos, R Isolato (eds) *Managing Muslim Mobilities: Between Spiritual Geographies and the Global Security Regime*, London: Palgrave Macmillan.

**Chatty, Dawn** (2015) 'Forced migration in the Arab world'. In: S Altorki (ed) *A Companion to the Anthropology of the Middle East*, London: Wiley Blackwell.

**Costello, Cathryn** (with M Freedland) (2014) 'Migrants at work and the division of labour law'. In: C Costello, M Freedland (eds) *Migrants at Work: Immigration and Vulnerability in Labour Law*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

**Costello, Cathryn** (2015) 'Migrants and forced labour: a labour law response'. In: A Bogg, C Costello, ACL Davies, J Prassl (eds) *The Autonomy of Labour Law*, Oxford: Hart Publishing.

**Costello, Cathryn** (with E Hancok) (2015) 'The Recast Asylum Procedures Directive 2013/32/EU: Caught between the stereotypes of the abusive asylum seeker and the vulnerable refugee'. In: V Chetail, P De Bruycker, F Maiani (eds) *Reforming the Common European Asylum System: The New European Refugee Law*, Leiden: Martinus Nijhoff.

**Jones, Will** (2015) 'Diaspora as anti-politics: the case of Rwanda'. In: N Sigona, A Gamlen, G Liberatore, H Neveu Kringelbach (eds) *Oxford Diasporas Programme Collection*, Oxford: Oxford Diasporas Programme.

**Zetter, Roger** (2014) 'Creating identities, diminishing protection and the securitisation of asylum in Europe'. In: S Kneebone, D Stevens, L Baldassar (eds) *Refugee Protection and the Role of Law: Conflicting Identities*, London: Routledge.

## Articles

**Betts, Alexander** (2014) 'Refugees and innovation', *Forced Migration Review*, Supplement, September: 4–7.

**Betts, Alexander** (2015) 'Book Review Symposium on "Survival Migration: Failed Governance and the Crisis of Displacement"', *European Political Science*, 14 (1): 59–73.

**Betts, Alexander** (2015) 'The Nansen Initiative: governance questions for the international community', *Forced Migration Review*, 49: 72–75.

**Cole, G** (2014) 'Refugees' integration in Uganda will require renewed lobbying', *Forced Migration Review*, 48: 68–70.

**Cole, G** (2015) 'Negotiating durable solutions for refugees: a critical space for semiotic analysis', *International Journal for the Semiotics of Law-Revue internationale de Sémiotique juridique*: 1–19.

**Costello, Cathryn** (with M Mouzourakis) (2014) 'Reflections on reading Tarakhel', *Asiel & Migrantenrecht*, 10: 404–411.

**Costello, Cathryn** (2015) 'Immigration Detention: The Grounds Beneath our Feet', *Current Legal Problems*.

**Gibney, Matthew J** (2014) 'The deprivation of citizenship in the United Kingdom: a brief history', *Journal of Immigration Asylum and Nationality Law*, 28.4: 326–335.

**Gibney, Matthew J** (2015) 'Refugees and justice between states', *European Journal of Political Theory*, 25 May: 1–17.

**Jones, Will** (2014) 'Rwanda: the way forward', *The Round Table: The Commonwealth Journal of International Affairs* 103: 4.

**Jones, Will** (2015) 'Potemkin pluralism: Rwanda's exclusionary inclusive constitution', *Good Governance Africa*, 32: 5–8.

**Omata, Naohiko** (2014) 'The end of refugee life?' *Peace Review: Journal of Social Justice*, 26 (3): 394–401.

**Zetter, Roger** (with B Blitz) (2014) 'Contestation and reconstruction: natural capital and post-conflict development in borderland regions', *Stability: International Journal of Security and Development*, 3 (1): 32.

**Zetter, Roger** (with G Ben Ezer) (2014) 'Searching for directions: conceptual and methodological challenges in researching refugee journeys', *Journal of Refugee Studies*, 1 August 2014.

**Zetter, Roger** (with H Ruauedel) (2014) 'Development and protection challenges of the Syrian refugee crisis', *Forced Migration Review* 47: 6–10.

**Zetter, Roger** (2015) 'Forced migration and the fragmented landscape of protection', *Revue Suisse pour la Pratique et le Droit D'Asile, Organisation d'Aide aux Réfugiés*, Switzerland, Asyl 1/15: 20–25.

## Papers and reports

**Betts, Alexander, and Bloom, Louise** (2014) *Humanitarian Innovation: The State of the Art*, New York: UN OCHA.

**Betts, Alexander** (2015) *The Post-Nansen Agenda: Global Governance and Environmental Displacement*, Oxford: Refugee Studies Centre.

**Betts, Alexander** (2015) *Principles for Ethical Humanitarian Innovation*, Oxford: Refugee Studies Centre.

**Betts, Alexander, Bloom, Louise, and Weaver, Nina** (2015) *Refugee Innovation: Humanitarian Innovation that Starts with Communities*, Oxford: Humanitarian Innovation Project, University of Oxford.



**Chatty, Dawn** (with S Wahby, H Ahmadzadeh, M Çorabatur, L Hashem, J Al Hussein) (2014) *Ensuring Quality Education for Young Refugees from Syria (12–25 years): A Mapping Exercise*, Oxford: Refugee Studies Centre.

**Costello, Cathryn** (with E Guild, M Garlick, V Moreno-Lax, M Mouzourakis, S Carrera) (2014) *New Approaches, Alternative Avenues and Means of Access to Asylum Procedures for Persons Seeking International Protection, A Study for the LIBE Committee*, Brussels: European Parliament.

**Costello, Cathryn** (with E Guild, M Garlick, V Moreno-Lax, M Mouzourakis, S Carrera) (2015) *Enhancing the Common European Asylum System and Alternatives to Dublin, A Study for the LIBE Committee*, Brussels: European Parliament.

**Gibney, Matthew J** (2015) 'Beware states piercing holes into citizenship', in Macklin, Audrey and Baubock, Rainer, (eds) *The Return of Banishment: Do the New Denationalisation Policies Weaken Citizenship?* (February 2015). Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies Research Paper No. RSCAS 2015/14.

**Omata, Naohiko** (2015) *Examining the impact of training on the economic reintegration of repatriated refugees in Liberia*, Research paper, Vienna: UNIDO.

**Omata, Naohiko and Kaplan, Josiah** (2014) *UNHCR/Oxford Humanitarian Innovation Project (HIP) Joint Rwamwanja Livelihood Study*, Research paper, Geneva: UNHCR.

**Zetter, Roger** (2014) *Protecting Forced Migrants: A State of the Art Report of Concepts, Challenges and Ways Forward*, Bern: Swiss Federal Commission on Migration (FCM).

**Zetter, Roger** (2015) *Protection in Crisis: Forced Migration and Protection in a Global Era*, Washington, DC: Migration Policy Institute.

## RSC Working Paper Series

109: A critical approach to the production of academic knowledge on refugee integration in the global North  
**Christina Kovacs**  
June 2015

108: The rise and fall of the ERPUM pilot: tracing the European policy drive to deport unaccompanied minors  
**Martin Lemberg-Pedersen**  
March 2015

107: Innovation spaces: transforming humanitarian practice in the United Nations  
**Louise Bloom and Romy Faulkner**  
March 2015

106: Smuggled migrant or migrant smuggler: erosion of sea-borne asylum seekers' access to refugee protection in Canada  
**Chelsea Bin Han**  
February 2015

105: 'We Need to Talk about Dublin': responsibility under the Dublin System as a blockage to asylum burden-sharing in the European Union  
**Minos Mouzourakis**  
December 2014

104: Repatriation through a trust-based lens: refugee-state trust relations on the Thai-Burma border and beyond  
**Karen Hargrave**  
December 2014

103: Reluctant to return? The primacy of social networks in the repatriation of Rwandan refugees in Uganda  
**Cleophas Karooma**  
August 2014

## Selected presentations

**Betts, Alexander** (2015) Opening Presentation, Workshop on 'The Zimbabwean Diaspora in 2015: What Next?', 12 January, Constitution Hill, Johannesburg.

**Betts, Alexander** (2015) 'Refugee economies: forced displacement and development', Joint UNHCR-RefugePoint Meeting on Refugee Solutions, 14 April, Harvard University.

**Betts, Alexander** (2015) Keynote Address, 'Explaining refugee resilience', UN ESCWA meeting on addressing regional conflict in the Middle East, 21 May, Amman.

**Betts, Alexander** (2015) 'The Post-Nansen Agenda: global governance and environmental displacement', Chatham House, 22 May, London.

**Betts, Alexander** (2015) Opening Lecture, RSC Summer School in Forced Migration, 6 July, Oxford University.

**Betts, Alexander** (2015) Opening Plenary Panel, 'Bottom-up innovation by refugees', Refugee Research Network Conference, 15 June, York University, Toronto (by skype).

**Betts, Alexander** (2015) Invited Lecture, 'Refugee economies: forced displacement and development', 1 July, GIZ, Berlin.

**Betts, Alexander** (2015) Principles for Ethical Humanitarian Innovation, Humanitarian Innovation Conference 2015, 18 July, University of Oxford.

**Bloom, Louise** (2014) 'The promise of innovation', UNICEF Activate Talks, 11 November, European Parliament, Brussels.

**Bloom, Louise** (2014) 'Protracted displacement and the humanitarian-development divide' and 'Development approaches and forced displacement', Expert Meeting on Forced Displacement & Development, 1 December, Brussels.

**Bloom, Louise** (2015) Keynote, Engineers Without Borders Challenge 2015, June, Nottingham Trent University.

**Chatty, Dawn** (2014) Opening presentation, Workshop on Ensuring Education for Young Refugees from Syria, September, Amman.

**Chatty, Dawn** (2014) 'Syrian refugee crisis', Norwegian Refugee Council Workshop, September, Northern Cyprus.

**Chatty, Dawn** (2014) 'From the Ottoman Empire to the contemporary Middle East: the centrality of forced migration', Public Lecture, 8 October, Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul.

**Chatty, Dawn** (2014) 'Forced migration and humanitarian aid: revising the paradigm', Public lectures, 19 November, California State University and University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA).

**Chatty, Dawn** (2014) Keynote address, 'Refugees from Syria and non-communicable diseases', Faculty of Health Sciences 60th Anniversary Conference on Public Health in Contexts of Uncertainty, 5–6 December, American University of Beirut.

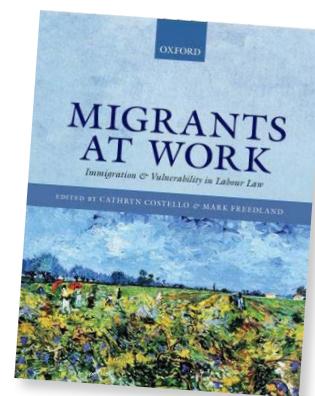
**Chatty, Dawn** (2015) 'Contextualizing the Syrian refugee crisis', SAID Conference on Forced Migration, 11 April, Stanford University, CA.

**Chatty, Dawn** (2015) 'The history of forced migration in the modern Middle East', Public lecture for Middle East Refugees Week, April, Duke University, Durham, NC.

**Chatty, Dawn** (2015) 'The Syrian refugee crisis', Public lecture at Oxford Town Hall sponsored by Amnesty International for Refugee Week, 16 June, Oxford.

**Chatty, Dawn** (2015) Keynote address, 'Perceptions of refugees, hosting community and practitioners in Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan', 12th IMISCOE Conference, 25–27 June, University of Geneva.

**Cole, Georgia** (2014) Co-Convenor of Symposium 'Eritrea & Rwanda: Post-Liberation trajectories in comparative perspective', 1–2 December 2014, University of Oxford.



**Cole, Georgia** (2015) 'The cessation of refugee status: law as a facilitator of violence', 9th Pan-European Conference on International Relations, September, Sicily.

**Cole, Georgia** (with C Lewis) (2015) "'We will speak out': engendering understandings of faith-based responses to SGBV in displacement contexts', 9th Pan-European Conference on International Relations, September, Sicily.

**Cole, Georgia** (2015) 'Cycling in Eritrea: experiencing a new gear?' 6th European Convention on African Studies, July, Paris.

**Cole, Georgia** (2015) 'The end of refugee status', Seminar at SOAS Policy Forum, March, London.

**Cole, Georgia** (2015) 'Struggling to find a fence: a search for the middle ground in Eritrean scholarship', Roundtable at the Nuffield College Qualitative Research Seminars, February, Oxford.

**Gibney, Matthew J** (2014) Discussant on Carens, Miller, and Baubock, The Ethics of Migration, European University Institute, November, Florence.

**Gibney, Matthew J** (2014) 'Deprivation of citizenship in the UK', Keynote Address, Conference on the Migration-Security Nexus, November, University of Neuchatel.

**Gibney, Matthew J** (2014) 'The ethics of deportation', Workshop on Normative Theory and Migration, Department of Political Science, December, University of Amsterdam.

**Gibney, Matthew J** (2015) 'Moral issues raised by the deprivation of citizenship', Seminar on Deportation and Migration, January, Gray's Inn, London.

**Gibney, Matthew J** (2015) 'On states deporting their own citizens', Weekly Seminar in Sociology, May, University of Bern.

**Jones, Will** (2014) 'Rwanda's post-conflict development', The Politics of African Growth and Social Inclusion, 16–17 October, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Washington DC.

**Jones, Will** (2014) 'Who knows what Rwanda is? The diasporic origins of RPF nationalism', Symposium: Eritrea and Rwanda: Post-Liberation Trajectories in Comparative Perspective, 1 December 2014, St Antony's College, Oxford.

**Jones, Will** (2014) 'Refugees as ruling classes: does Charles Tilly work in Central Africa?', Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association of the UK, University of Sussex, Brighton.

**Jones, Will** (2014) 'Transnational networks and global governance: the campaign against cessation for Rwandan refugees' with Alexander **Betts**, Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association of the UK, University of Sussex, Brighton.

**Jones, Will** (2015) 'The animators: how diasporas mobilise to contest authoritarian regimes', Conference on New Political Topographies: Trans-boundary Flows, Power and Legitimation in Africa and Beyond, Centre of African Studies, 28–29 May, University of Edinburgh.

**McConnachie, Kirsten** (2014) 'Refugee coping strategies in urban contexts', Invited panellist, Asia-Pacific Refugee Rights Network Annual Consultations, September, Bangkok.

**McConnachie, Kirsten** (2014) 'Displacement and peace agreements', Workshop organised by Ethnic Nationalities Affairs Committee workshop, December, Chiang Mai.

**McConnachie, Kirsten** (2014) 'Segregated security: refugees from Myanmar in Malaysia', Workshop organised by Law and Society Association, 'Researching State and Personhood: Law and Society in South East Asia', December, National University of Singapore.

**McConnachie, Kirsten** (2015) 'Governing Refugees: author meets readers', invited session, Socio-Legal Studies Association annual conference, March, University of Warwick.

**McConnachie, Kirsten** (2015) 'Self-governance and refugees from Myanmar: from camps to cities', conference presentation, South East Asia Symposium, March, Sunway University, Kuala Lumpur.



**McConnachie**, Kirsten (2015) 'Surviving Securitisation', invited seminar, Centre for Socio-Legal Studies Discussion Group, April, University of Oxford.

**McConnachie**, Kirsten (2015) 'Self-governance among refugees from Burma', invited workshop participant, 'Critical Perspectives on Human Mobility', June, University of Hamburg.

**Omata**, Naohiko (2014) 'Refugee economies', 65th Session of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme, October, Geneva.

**Omata**, Naohiko (2015) 'Refugee Economies: Rethinking Popular Assumptions', at 'Denmark and the Global Refugee Crisis', Red Cross (EU office), March, Copenhagen.

**Omata**, Naohiko (2015) 'Refugee Economies: Rethinking Popular Assumptions', at the launch event of Refugee Economies: Rethinking Popular Assumptions, UNHCR Uganda, February, Kampala.

**Omata**, Naohiko (2015) 'Refugee Economies: Rethinking Popular Assumptions', at the launch event of Refugee Economies: Rethinking Popular Assumptions, UNHCR Kenya, May, Nairobi.

**Omata**, Naohiko (2015) 'Understanding the role of vocational training in economic reintegration of refugees: a case study of Liberia', United Nations Industrial Development Organization, May, Vienna.

**Zetter**, Roger (2014) 'Protecting forced migrants: a state of the art report of concepts, challenges and ways forward', Annual Meeting of the Swiss Federal Commission on Migration, September, Lugano.

**Zetter**, Roger (2014) 'Forced migration, protection and Europe – protection space or protection denied?', Keynote address to ECRE AGC, October, ECRE, Brussels.

**Zetter**, Roger (2014) 'Enhancing protection through cooperation with neighbouring countries', Migration Policy Institute Roundtable, Europe in a Global Context: Refugee protection challenges and potential ways forward, October, Ghent.

**Zetter**, Roger (2014) 'Protection of forced migrants - coherent norms or fragmented policy?', keynote paper to annual conference 'Protéger ou détourner le regard? Octroi de protection aux personnes déplacées et rôle de la société et du monde politique', Swiss Federal Commission on Migration, November, Bern.

**Zetter**, Roger (2014) 'Creating identities, diminishing protection and the securitisation of asylum in Europe', Conference on 'The Migration Security Nexus: the Case of Switzerland in International Perspective', November, Neuchâtel University.

**Zetter**, Roger (2015) 'Protecting forced migrants: concepts, challenges and ways forward', OHCHR/Global Migration Group, January, Geneva.

**Zetter**, Roger (2015) 'Forced migration and protection', ICRC Annual Congress, June, Geneva.

## Conferences and workshops

### Humanitarian Innovation Conference 2015

Convened by the Humanitarian Innovation Project, International Conference, 17–18 July 2015

## Public Seminar Series

### Michaelmas term 2014

**Refugee and forced migration studies: the state of the art**  
Convenors: **Professor Cathryn Costello** and **Dr Kirsten McConnachie**

The Oxford Handbook of Refugee and Forced Migration Studies (Book launch)  
**Dr Elena Fiddian-Qasmiyeh** (University College London) and **Professor Gil Loescher** (Refugee Studies Centre), 15 October 2014

The Ideal Refugees: Gender, Islam, and the Sahrawi Politics of Survival (Book event)  
**Dr Elena Fiddian-Qasmiyeh** (University College London), 22 October 2014

Governing Refugees: Justice, Order and Legal Pluralism on the Thai–Burma border (Book event)  
**Dr Kirsten McConnachie** (Refugee Studies Centre), 29 October 2014

Love of women and a place in the world: romantic love and political commitment in the life of a forced migrant  
**Professor Jonny Steinberg** (African Studies Centre and the Centre for Criminology, University of Oxford), 12 November 2014

Sans Papiers: The Social and Economic Lives of Young Undocumented Migrants (Book event)  
**Professor Roger Zetter** (Refugee Studies Centre) and **Dr Nando Sigona** (University of Birmingham), 19 November 2014  
Inequality, immigration and refugee protection

**Dr Katy Long** (Stanford University and University of Edinburgh), 26 November 2014

Citizenship revocation and the privilege to have rights  
**Professor Audrey Macklin** (University of Toronto), 3 December 2014

## Hilary term 2015

**The history of refuge**  
Convenor: **Dr J Olaf Kleist**

Refugees and the Roman Empire  
**Professor Peter Heather** (King's College London), 21 January 2015

Refuge and protection in the late Ottoman Empire  
**Professor Dawn Chatty** (Refugee Studies Centre), 28 January 2015

The arrival of refugees and the making of India and Pakistan in 1947  
**Dr Yasmin Khan** (Kellogg College, University of Oxford), 11 February 2015  
Exile, refuge and the Greek polis: between justice and humanity  
**Dr Benjamin Gray** (University of Edinburgh), 18 February 2015

Hospitality, protection and refuge in early English law  
**Dr Tom Lambert** (Exeter College, University of Oxford), 25 February 2015

Refugees – what's wrong with history?  
**Professor Peter Gatrell** (University of Manchester), 4 March 2015

## Trinity term 2015

**Global refugee policy**  
Convenor: **Professor Alexander Betts** (with **Dr James Milner**)

Understanding global refugee policy: the case of naturalisation in Tanzania  
**Dr James Milner** (Department of Political Science, Carleton University), 29 April 2015

Better late than never? The evolution and implementation of UNHCR's urban refugee policy  
**Dr Jeff Crisp** (independent consultant) and **MaryBeth Morand** (UNHCR), 6 May 2015

Ethnographic understandings of global refugee policy: looking at policy in practice  
**Dr Marion Fresia** (Institut d'ethnologie, Université de Neuchâtel), 13 May 2015

UNHCR's protection guidelines: what role for external voices?  
**Professor Guy S Goodwin-Gill** (All Souls College, University of Oxford), 20 May 2015

Global policy for IDPs: a parallel process?  
**Dr Phil Orchard** (University of Queensland), 27 May 2015

## Public lectures

### Launch event

An afternoon on Syrian displacement, and protection in Europe  
**Cynthia Orchard** (University of Oxford),  
**Andrew Miller** (BPP University, Leeds/  
 London), and **Professor Roger Zetter**  
 (University of Oxford), 10 September 2014

### Special seminar

Bordering on failure: Canada–US border  
 policy and the politics of refugee exclusion  
**Professor Deborah E Anker**  
 (Harvard University) and **Dr Efrat**  
**A Arbel** (University of British  
 Columbia), 30 September 2014

### Annual Harrell-Bond Lecture 2014

Forced Migration to the Hashemite  
 Kingdom of Jordan: Burden or Boon  
**Her Royal Highness Princess Basma**  
**bint Talal**, 5 November 2014

### Special seminar

Migrants at Work: Immigration and  
 Vulnerability in Labour Law (Book launch)  
**Professor Mark Freedland**, **Professor**  
**Cathryn Costello**, **Professor Hugh**  
**Collins**, **Professor Alan Bogg**, **Professor**  
**ACL Davies**, **Professor Bridget Anderson**  
 (University of Oxford), **Professor Julia**  
**O'Connell-Davidson** (University of  
 Nottingham), **Dr Virginia Mantouvalou**  
 (UCL), **Professor Bernard Ryan**  
 (University of Leicester), 13 February 2015

### Special seminar

Human smuggling before the  
 Supreme Court of Canada  
**Professor Catherine Dauvergne** (University  
 of British Columbia, Canada), 6 May 2015

### Special seminar

Not so exceptional? Understanding the  
 Canada-US border as a place of law  
**Dr Efrat A Arbel** and **Professor Benjamin**  
**Goold** (Allard School of Law, University  
 of British Columbia), 11 May 2015

### Special seminar

Historical cross-border relocations in the  
 Pacific: lessons for planned relocations  
 in the context of climate change  
**Professor Jane McAdam** (University  
 of New South Wales), 28 May 2015

### Annual Elizabeth Colson Lecture 2015

Innocence: understanding a political concept  
**Professor Miriam Ticktin** (The New  
 School for Social Research), 10 June 2015

### Special seminar

How should Europe respond to the  
 Mediterranean refugee crisis? A  
 Refugee Week Panel Discussion  
**Dr Jeff Crisp**, **Professor Alexander Betts**,  
**Professor Cathryn Costello** (University of  
 Oxford), **Dr Nando Sigona** (University of  
 Birmingham), and **Dr Mariagiulia Giuffrè**  
 (Edge Hill University), 17 June 2015

## Visiting Fellows

### Visiting Study Fellows

#### Bruno Codispoti, Italy

Universities of Florence and Pisa  
*The 'out of place' – people forced to  
 move or forcibly transferred*  
 Academic contact: Professor Dawn Chatty

#### Jorge Salcedo, Colombia

Universidad del Rosario and  
 Universidad de los Andes  
*The return of IDPs in the middle of the war  
 as a civil resistance movement: the case  
 of the peasant community of Macondo in  
 Turbo, Colombia between 2007 and 2014*  
 Academic contact: Professor  
 Cathryn Costello

#### Dorota Woroniecka- Krzyzanowska, Poland

Graduate School for Social Research,  
 Polish Academy of Sciences  
*Palestinian refugee camp as a form of  
 locality: place-making and community  
 building in extended exile*  
 Academic contact: Professor Dawn Chatty



Farewell dinner at  
 the International  
 Summer School in  
 Forced Migration, 2015

### Visiting Research Fellows

#### Ruba Al Akash, Jordan

Department of Humanities, Jordan University of Science and Technology  
*Listening to the voices of Syrian women refugees in Jordan: ethnographies of displacement and emplacement*  
Academic contact: Professor Dawn Chatty

#### Mariagiulia Giuffrè, UK

Department of Law & Criminology, Edge Hill University  
*Undesirable and unreturnable? Diplomatic assurances and human rights barriers to removal*  
Academic contact: Professor Cathryn Costello

#### Olaf Kleist, Germany

German Research Foundation Research Fellow  
Institute for Migration Research and Intercultural Studies (IMIS), University Osnabrück  
*Towards European resettlement: migration management between protection and deterrence*  
Academic contact: Professor Matthew J Gibney

#### Kathryn Marsh, Australia

Sydney Conservatorium of Music, University of Sydney  
*Creating bridges: music, play and wellbeing in the lives of refugee and immigrant children and young people*  
Academic contact: Professor Matthew J Gibney

#### Philip Orchard, Australia

School of Political Science and International Studies, University of Queensland  
*The IDP protection regime: rhetoric and reality*  
Academic contact: Professor Alexander Betts

#### Tamás Régi, Hungary

Sociology Department, Keimyung University, South Korea and Tourism Department, Kodolányi János University of Applied Sciences, Hungary  
*End of the journey? Forced resettlement among the Mursi of south Ethiopia*  
Academic contacts: Professor Dawn Chatty and Dr David Turton

#### Benjamin Schewel, USA

Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture, University of Virginia  
*Religion and the ethics of forced migration*  
Academic contact: Professor Alexander Betts

### Doctoral research students

#### Ariell Ahearn, Green Templeton College

*The Changing Meaning of Work, Herding and Social Relations in Rural Mongolia: A study of value transformations and experiences of social change*  
Supervisor(s): Professor Dawn Chatty and Professor Craig Jeffries (School of Geography and the Environment)

#### Mouneera Al Khalifa, St John's College

*When Identities Become Lethal: Moving Beyond Sectarianism. An intergenerational study of identity shifts in Bahrain*  
Supervisor(s): Professor Dawn Chatty and Dr Eugene Rogan (Faculty of Oriental Studies)

#### Jennifer Allsopp, Green Templeton College

*Social Networks, Future Planning and Wellbeing Among Unaccompanied Young Migrants Making the Transition to Adulthood in Europe: a Case Study of the UK and Italy*  
Supervisor(s): Dr Elaine Chase (Department of Social Policy and Intervention) and Professor Dawn Chatty

#### Jennifer Barrett, St Catherine's College

*Navigating the Deputisation of Immigration Enforcement Functions in the UK (working title)*  
Supervisor(s): Professor Matthew J Gibney and Professor Bridget Anderson (COMPAS)

#### Catherine Briddick, St Peter's College

*Migrant Status and Violence against Women*  
Supervisor(s): Professor Cathryn Costello

#### Georgia Cole, Green Templeton College

*The Politics of Refugee Cessation in Eritrea and Rwanda*  
Supervisor(s): Professor Alexander Betts

#### Richard Dolan, St Antony's College

*Ethnicity, Education and Ethno-nationalism: Constructing and Contesting Identity within Union Karen*  
Supervisor(s): Professor Dawn Chatty

#### Yulia Ioffe, St Cross College

*Children and Asylum: A New Take on Fragmentation of International Law*  
Supervisor(s): Professor Cathryn Costello

#### Nanor Karageozian, Lincoln College

*Diasporic Return in an Age of Transnationalism: Voluntary Repatriation and Development in the Case of Post-Soviet Armenia*  
Supervisor(s): Professor Dawn Chatty and Dr Oliver Bakewell (International Migration Institute)

#### Diletta Lauro, Lincoln College

*The Evolving Conceptualization of Rights and Membership of Anti-Deportation Movements in the United Kingdom*  
Supervisor(s): Professor Matthew J Gibney

#### Chloe Lewis, Linacre College

*Rape as a Weapon of War in the Democratic Republic of the Congo: Uncovering the Elusive Male 'Victim'*  
Supervisor(s): Professor Dawn Chatty and Dr Elena Fiddian-Qasbiyeh

#### Sean Loughna, St Antony's College

*The Political Economy of Internal Displacement: The Case of Palm Oil in Columbia*  
Supervisor(s): Professor Dawn Chatty and Professor Jenny Pierce (University of Bradford)

#### Muireann Meehan Speed, St Antony's College

*The Evolution of Human Rights Based Norms in Global Mobility Regimes*  
Supervisor(s): Professor Alexander Betts and Professor Matthew J Gibney

#### Rowena Moffatt, Worcester College

*An Appeal to Principle: Access to Justice from Migration Status Decisions*  
Supervisor(s): Professor Cathryn Costello

#### Cora Neumann

*Examining Indigenous Health Resources among Burmese Refugees and Migrants along the Thai-Burma Border*  
Supervisor(s): Professor Dawn Chatty

#### Julia Pacitto, Lincoln College

*Exilic Journeys: Towards a Political Understanding of Refugee Journeys to Europe*  
Supervisor(s): Professor Matthew J Gibney and Dr Nando Sigona (University of Birmingham)

#### David Passarelli, St Antony's College

*Irregular Migrant Children and the Right to Education in Canada and the United Kingdom*  
Supervisor(s): Professor Matthew J Gibney

#### Blair Peruniak, St Edmund Hall

*States of Knowledge: Political Asylum and the Right to Justification*  
Supervisor(s): Professor Matthew J Gibney

#### Angela Pilath, St Antony's College

*The Politics of Environmental Displacement: Epistemic Actors and their Mechanisms of Influence*  
Supervisor(s): Professor Alexander Betts and Professor Roger Zetter

#### Caitlin Procter, St Antony's College

*Social Transitions in Protracted Displacement: A Study with Palestinian Refugee Youth*  
Supervisor(s): Professor Roger Zetter and Professor Jo Boyden (ODID)

#### Tom Scott-Smith, Lincoln College

*Defining Hunger, Redefining Food: A History of Humanitarian Nutrition*  
Supervisor(s): Professor Dawn Chatty

#### Matthew Willner-Reid, St Antony's College

*To What Extent is UNHCR's Response in Afghanistan Shaped by Incentives in the Humanitarian Marketplace?*  
Supervisor(s): Professor Dawn Chatty

MSc students with Alexander Betts at the Broken Chair, Place des Nations, during their trip to Geneva, 2015





# Income and expenditure

## Statement 1. Refugee Studies Centre income and expenditure, 2014–16 (1 August – 31 July)

Reserve balances	Actual 2014–15 (£)	Projected 2015–16 (£) <sup>1</sup>
Opening reserves brought forward	102,442	21,103
<b>Revenue<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Actual 2014–15 (£)</b>	<b>Projected 2015–16 (£)<sup>1</sup></b>
Restricted project income		
Research grant revenue <sup>3</sup>	245,132	330,000
Forced Migration Review <sup>4</sup>	259,158	274,440
Other revenue		
Overheads from research projects and awards	32,582	50,000
Other project income (e.g. publication royalties, institutional consultancies)	33,212	26,000
Workshops, conferences, short courses, and Visiting Fellowships (total revenue)	134,103	130,000
International Summer School in Forced Migration	244,067	250,000
Transfer of endowment revenue to support Centre administrative staff costs <sup>5</sup>	0	47,000
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>948,255</b>	<b>1,107,440</b>
<b>Expenses<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>Actual 2014–15 (£)</b>	<b>Projected 2015–16 (£)<sup>1</sup></b>
Research grant expenditure (including research staff salaries)	245,132	330,000
Core administrative staff salary costs	93,994	86,000
Other core administrative expenses	26,325	19,500
Workshops, conferences, short courses, public lectures, and Visiting Fellowships (total expenditure)	131,361	110,000
International Summer School in Forced Migration	197,239	220,000
Outreach and dissemination		
Forced Migration Review (including FMR staff salaries)	259,158	274,440
Other publications, communications, and outreach activities (including staff salaries)	76,384	59,000
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>1,029,594</b>	<b>1,098,940</b>
<b>Closing balances</b>	<b>Actual 2014–15 (£)</b>	<b>Projected 2015–16 (£)<sup>1</sup></b>
Surplus/deficit after consolidation	-81,339	8,500
Closing reserves carried forward	21,103	29,603

## Statement 2. Performance of endowments<sup>6</sup>

Endowments	Actual 2014–15 (£)	Projected 2015–16 (£) <sup>1</sup>
Opening revenue account balance	385,023	397,293
Endowment income (dividends from Shares and Deposit Pool Interest)	186,549	190,280
Endowment expenditure (salary costs and management fees)	-174,279	-177,765
Transfer of endowment revenue <sup>5</sup>		-47,000
<b>Closing revenue account balance</b>	<b>397,293</b>	<b>362,808</b>
<b>Capital account balance</b>	<b>3,098,498</b>	<b>3,098,498</b>

<sup>1</sup> Budget figures for 2015–16 are indicative only and based on projections. They may therefore be subject to substantive changes, such as the receipt of new funding and the addition of new activities to the 2015–16 programme.

<sup>2</sup> The MSc in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies is offered by the Refugee Studies Centre personnel but managed by the Oxford Department of International Development. For information, in 2014–15, the University fees for this course were £15,345 for Home/EU/Islands students and £20,260 for overseas students. The course normally welcomes a cohort of 25 students.

<sup>3</sup> Research grant revenue is reported as earned when project expenditure is incurred for the current financial year, which does not represent the total value and duration of grants awarded.

<sup>4</sup> Forced Migration Review's total receipts for 2014–15 were £331,962. Of this amount, £67,803 was earmarked for activities in the 2015–16 financial year.

<sup>5</sup> The Refugee Studies Centre is the beneficiary of several endowment funds, which are managed by the Oxford Department of International Development. In FY 2015–16, an agreed proportion of the endowment interest will be used to fund Centre administrative staff costs.

<sup>6</sup> The salaries of the Centre's four permanent academic staff members are paid for through Oxford Department of International Development accounts, drawing upon both endowment revenue and MSc teaching income.

<sup>7</sup> The RSC holds current assets of gifts and donations that are restricted for specific purposes, such as bursary funds that are dedicated to support for students on the MSc in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies and the Visiting Fellowship programme. The value of these funds was £111,840 as at 31 July 2015.

# Staff and associates

## ACADEMIC STAFF

**Professor Alexander Betts**  
Leopold Muller Professor of Forced Migration and International Affairs  
Director, Refugee Studies Centre

**Louise Bloom**  
Research Officer, Humanitarian Innovation Project

**Professor Dawn Chatty**  
Professor of Anthropology and Forced Migration

**Georgia Cole**  
Joyce Pearce Junior Research Fellow\*

**Professor Cathryn Costello**  
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**Dr Elena Fiddian-Qasmiyeh**  
Departmental Lecturer in Forced Migration\*\*

**Professor Matthew J Gibney**  
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Deputy Director, Refugee Studies Centre

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**Dr Naohiko Omata**  
Senior Research Officer, Humanitarian Innovation Project

**Professor Tom Scott-Smith**  
Associate Professor of Refugee Studies and Forced Migration\*

**Dr Leïla Vignal**  
Marie Skłodowska Curie Individual European Fellow\*

## EMERITUS

**Dr Barbara Harrell-Bond OBE**  
Emerita Professor and founding Director of the Refugee Studies Centre, 1982–1996

**Dr David Turton**  
Emeritus Reader and former Director of the Refugee Studies Centre, 1997–2001

**Professor Roger Zetter**  
Emeritus Professor and former Director of the Refugee Studies Centre, 2006–2010

## PUBLICATIONS AND OUTREACH STAFF

**Helen Bunting**  
Communications Assistant\*\*

**Marion Couldrey**  
Forced Migration Review, Co-editor

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Forced Migration, African and Commonwealth Subject Consultant

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Senior Library Assistant, Reader Services/Refugee Studies

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

**Anneli Chambliss Howes**  
Centre Administrator

**Laurence Medley**  
Accounts Officer

**Elizabeth Rozeboom**  
Centre Administrator (Maternity Cover)\*\*

**Andrea Smith**  
Postgraduate Courses Coordinator

**Nina Weaver**  
Project Coordinator, Humanitarian Innovation Project

Key: \* Joining in 2015 \*\* Left in 2014/15

## RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

### Dr Jeff Crisp

RSC Advisor and Honorary Advisor, Refugees International

### Jean-François Durieux

International Institute of Humanitarian Law, San Remo

### Dr Alice Edwards

Senior Legal Coordinator, Division of International Protection, UNHCR

### Professor Michelle Foster

Associate Dean (Research), Melbourne Law School

### Dr Jason Hart

Senior Lecturer in International Development, Department of Social and Policy Sciences, University of Bath

### Dr Josiah Kaplan

Research Consultant, Humanitarian Innovation Project

### Dr Maryanne Loughry

Associate Director, Jesuit Refugee Service Australia

### Professor Jane McAdam

Scientia Professor of Law, Faculty of Law, University of New South Wales

### Dr James Milner

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Carleton University

### Professor Alessandro Monsutti

Associate Professor, Anthropology and Sociology of Development, The Graduate Institute Geneva

### Dr Marie Louise Nørredam

Associate Professor, Department of Public Health, University of Copenhagen

### Dr Emanuela Paoletti

Associate External Relations Officer, UNHCR

### Abbas Shiblak

Founder, Palestinian Diaspora and Refugee Center (SHAML)

### Dr Nando Sigona

Birmingham Fellow, Senior Lecturer and Deputy Director of IRiS, University of Birmingham

### Dr Reuven Ziegler

Lecturer in Law, School of Law, University of Reading

## OXFORD ASSOCIATES

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### Dr Nick Van Hear

Senior Researcher and Deputy Director, COMPAS

## HONORARY ASSOCIATES

### Professor Jan Egeland

Secretary General, Norwegian Refugee Council

### Professor Guy S Goodwin-Gill

Emeritus Fellow, All Souls College, Oxford

### Filippo Grandi

Senior Research Fellow, Issam Fares Institute, American University of Beirut



Making connections at the Humanitarian Innovation Conference, July 2015



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