

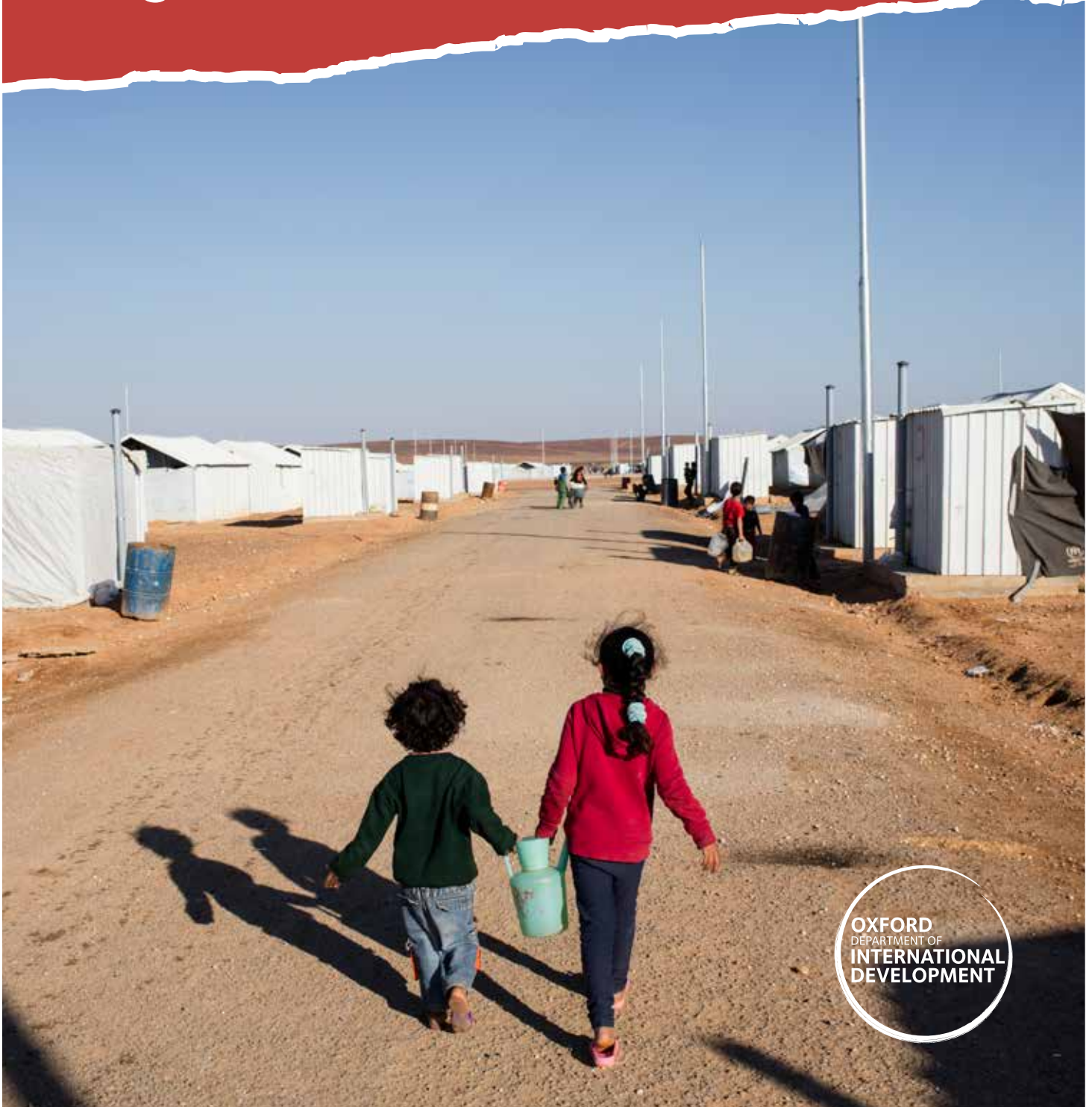


UNIVERSITY OF  
OXFORD

REFUGEE  
STUDIES  
CENTRE

# Annual Report

2015–2016



OXFORD  
DEPARTMENT OF  
INTERNATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT

Ugandan traders bringing in bottled water to Kyangwali refugee settlement, Uganda



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STUDIES  
CENTRE

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**Front cover photo:** Two young Syrian refugees carry a pitcher of water back to their family's container at Azraq refugee camp, Jordan

Compiled by Tamsin Kelk  
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Students at the International Summer School 2016

© RSC



A young Syrian girl prepares for school in Beirut, Lebanon

© UNHCR / Nisreen Jaafar

# Director's foreword

This year has seen significant multilateral engagement with refugees and forced migration. Unprecedented numbers of high-level political events have been convened within and beyond the United Nations. Throughout this, we have tried to engage with changing world events from the unique position of an independent, academic research centre, using our ideas, expertise and convening power to have an impact.



During the course of the year, we have added new and exciting research projects and collaborations. We will soon begin a new centre-wide research project on 'Rethinking Refuge' to be coordinated by Dr Natascha Zaun. Professor Tom Scott-Smith has embarked on new work on the history of humanitarian shelter. Dr Georgia Cole has started work on a project on the value of refugee status to displaced populations themselves. We have begun new primary data collection in East Africa, the Middle East, and Europe. Professor Matthew Gibney spent his sabbatical year working on a book on deportation and denationalisation. And in the next few months several new books will be published by RSC staff, including *Refugee Economies: Forced Displacement and Development* and *Mobilising the Diaspora: How Refugees Challenge Authoritarianism*.

Through our research, we have contributed directly to discussions around the 19th September UN High-Level Meeting on Large-Scale Movements of Refugees and Migration, the World Humanitarian Summit in May, and the London Summit on Syrian Refugees in February, for instance; in each case being directly involved in the conceptual development of major policy ideas. To take two examples: I have worked throughout the year with Professor Paul Collier on a new initiative to create jobs for Syrian refugees in Jordan, while Dr Will Jones has developed a pioneering new idea to introduce preference matching to refugee resettlement.

Meanwhile, our teaching has continued to thrive. This year we received, yet again, the largest and most competitive pool of applications ever for our MSc in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies. Alongside this, we have embarked on a series of teaching reforms to improve our already successful curriculum design.

We have developed our strategic partnerships. I am delighted that we began a new partnership with the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs to support the work of the Humanitarian Innovation Project and, in particular, enabling us to embark on research on the economic lives and contributions of refugees in Kenya. Through our partnership with the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, we have been able to fund two new Junior Research Fellowships, invest in improving our International Summer School, create a new seed fund to catalyse research within the RSC, and work collaboratively on multilateral responses to improve the human rights of vulnerable migrants. We have also initiated new collaborations with Deloitte, the Jesuit Refugee Service, and the International Rescue Committee.

We continued to be visible and active in public engagement. We hosted a special edition of BBC Radio

4's the World Tonight at the RSC. Through a series of TED Talks, I have been able to reach a wider audience, speaking on topics including the refugee crisis. The Humanitarian Innovation Project was awarded the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Public Engagement with Research. As part of Refugee Week, we hosted a joint conference with City of Sanctuary and the British Red Cross called 'From Fortress Europe to Sanctuary Europe', bringing people from advocacy, practice and social enterprise from across the UK and Europe. *Forced Migration Review* has published well-received issues on the European refugee crisis and the relationship between development and displacement.

We have hosted workshops and events on 'History and memory in refugee research', 'Making sense of the EU-Turkey deal', and 'Humanitarianism and the migration crisis', and we hosted special lectures including by former Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees, Alex Aleinikoff. This year's Annual Harrell-Bond Lecture was given by Professor Walter Kälin, at the end of his term as Envoy of the Chairmanship of the Nansen Initiative, focusing on displacement in the context of natural disasters. Professor Séverine Autesserre gave the Annual Elizabeth Colson Lecture, based on her ethnographic work on peacekeeping missions. Our public seminar series have been on 'Refugee Economies', 'Destination Europe', and a celebration of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Barbara Harrell-Bond's seminal work 'Imposing Aid'. Under the leadership of Professor Cathryn Costello, the International Summer School ran successfully with a cohort of over 70 participants from around the world.

During the course of the year, we have recruited significantly. Dr Olivier Sterck has joined as Junior Research Fellow in the Economics of Forced Migration and Dr Natascha Zaun as Junior Research Fellow in Global Refugee Policy. Dr Ali Ali and Dr Fulya Memişoğlu have joined as Research Officers to work on the Politics of the Syrian Refugee Crisis project. Felicity Irwin has joined as our new Administrator, Susanna Power has joined as our Events and International Summer School Coordinator, and Maureen Schoenfeld has joined the *Forced Migration Review* team as Promotions and Finance Assistant.

We were also deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Professor Elizabeth Colson, one of our longstanding supporters and intellectual collaborators.

## Professor Alexander Betts

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

# Our research

The Refugee Studies Centre is a global leader in multidisciplinary research on the causes and consequences of forced migration. We aim to keep academic autonomy at the heart of our research and to empower individuals to address both fundamental issues and applied questions with the potential for far-reaching impact.

Our research draws upon the knowledge and experiences of humanitarian practitioners and refugees themselves, and is often carried out in collaboration with other academic institutions around the world. We combine scholarship with active engagement in policy, ensuring that the RSC remains at the forefront in today's most critical debates.

Qab Elias informal  
refugee settlement,  
Bekaa Valley, Lebanon



# Research projects

## The Politics of the Syrian Refugee Crisis

Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, 2016–17  
 Professor Alexander Betts, Dr Ali Ali, and Dr Fulya Memişoğlu

This project examines the politics and political economy underlying host states' willingness to provide protection to refugees. In particular, it examines the frequently neglected role of local and national politics in determining refugee policies in the present and over time. Who are the gatekeepers? What influences their decision-making? How have core-periphery relations within the host countries shaped the trajectory of policies over time? In order to explore these questions, the project focuses comparatively on Turkey, Jordan, and Lebanon.

Funded by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, the project is based on fieldwork in these three countries, working together with a number of local partners. The research is primarily qualitative, and based on a series of elite interviews in the relevant countries. It will seek to inform policy responses in the region and also develop conceptual tools for thinking about both 'displacement trajectories' and the politics of host state asylum policies. Fieldwork is scheduled for the period between August 2016 and January 2017, and then the work will be written up as a book and a series of other outputs.

## Mapping an Uncertain Future: Social and Spatial Change in Conflicting Syria (FutureSyria)

European Commission – MSCA European Fellowship, 2015–2017  
 Dr Leila Vignat

This research project aims at understanding the spatial and social dynamics of the Syrian conflict. It focuses particularly on the local dimensions of the dynamics of the uprising, on the political mobilisations, on the militarisation of the conflict. It analyses different local networks, the local organisations and the forms of governance that have developed since the beginning of the uprising. Looking at the dynamics of the current crisis at the 'local' level helps us understand current spatial and social reorganisations. In the past year, the research focus has been urban destruction, the internal displacement of populations, and the economy of war. This research forms the basis of a book project, to be completed in 2017. Another output will be a panel on Syria at the next MESA (Middle Eastern Studies Association) Conference in Boston, November 2016, and a presentation at an international conference in Beirut by the WFAW ERC programme on post-Arab Spring changes titled 'How Economics Matter?'. Journal articles have also been submitted.



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

2012–ongoing; British Academy funding, Oct 2014–Sept 2015  
 Emeritus 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 (i.e. health, shelter, water, nutrition, protection and education) that should be made 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.

This study expects to draw policy conclusions as well as preliminary 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. Workshops will be held to advocate for better communications and empathy between aid workers, refugees and host community members. A brief report has appeared in the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) Bulletin, May 2016, and several articles and book chapters are being prepared.

## The Animators: How Diasporas Mobilise to Contest Authoritarian Regimes

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

This project, which forms part of the now finished 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 is a book entitled *Mobilising the Diaspora: How Refugees Challenge 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 problematises the practices in some developed countries of asylum, sometimes of dubious legality, which undermine refugee protection.

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. This forms part of a special edition, being published in September 2016, which explores *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. 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, Winner of the University of Melbourne's Woodward Medal in 2009) and with James Hathaway, *The Law of Refugee Status: Second Edition* (Cambridge University Press, 2014).

Syrian refugees living in Izmir, Turkey







© UNHCR / Zsolt Balta

View of Röszke makeshift refugee camp from the Hungarian side of the Serbia-Hungary border

## The Liberal State and the Expulsion of Members: Banishment, Denationalisation and Deportation

2008–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.

## Humanitarian Nutrition

Professor Tom Scott-Smith

This project examines humanitarian nutrition and its history from the 19th century to the present day. Through archival research, fieldwork, oral history and the analysis of humanitarian handbooks, it examines how Victorian technologies such as the soup kitchen were transformed into contemporary mechanisms for emergency feeding. In many refugee crises around the world emergency feeding is a central part of humanitarian action, and this project traces how

changing understandings of the human body and its needs have affected the treatment of forcibly displaced populations. It explores the transformation from communal to individual designs, from vernacular to technical foods, and from personal to impersonal measurements, examining what shaped these changes, how they reflect the wider socio-political concerns of the age, and how current practices may also be determined by cultural assumptions and historical conditions. Results will appear in a monograph, entitled *On an Empty Stomach: The Humanitarian Approach to Hunger*.

## Humanitarian Shelter

Professor Tom Scott-Smith

What strategies and techniques are used to shelter the forcibly displaced? What assumptions are these based upon? What are their effects? This research examines humanitarian shelter from three distinctive angles. First, through the study of material culture: this project examines shelters, site designs, and remnants of informal housing in order to understand humanitarian techniques and the vernacular practices of people on the move. Second, through ethnographic enquiry: the project uses interviews and participant observation to understand how people live in emergency shelters, how they transform the spaces they inhabit, and how they adapt their everyday lives. Third, through historical analysis: the project examines archives and oral histories in order to understand how approaches to emergency shelter have evolved, how they have remained the same, and how they reflect ideological pressures and socio-political constraints. Results will appear in a monograph and scholarly journal articles from 2017.



Congolese refugee Feza Maniraguha leads her compatriots to harvest rice in Uganda

© UNHCR / Isaac Kasimani



A refugee from South Sudan moulds bricks for a house in Maaji settlement, Uganda

© UNHCR / Isaac Kasimani

## 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. Together with Professor James Milner, the project is now working on a third edition of *UNHCR: The Politics and Practice of Refugee Protection* (to be published by Routledge).

## 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?

## What is the Value of Refugee Status for Accessing Durable Solutions?

Joyce Peace Junior Research Fellowship, 2015–ongoing  
Georgia Cole

Durable solutions are continually evolving to suit states, rather than refugees. Academic approaches to exploring this trend have focused on how to reform the existing regime based on refugee status remaining constant. They ask how to hold states and institutions better to account, or how to support refugees own strategies of self-reliance. These state-, institution- and refugee-centric models of change leave the category of refugeehood essentially untouched, seeing it as a ubiquitous force for good. None challenge whether refugee status in itself helps individuals who have been forcibly displaced to find durable solutions. However, if refugee status is providing only the most minimal of rights, i.e. the right not to be returned to the country of origin, and it is not facilitating individuals' access to durable solutions, then are certain groups best served within the refugee regime? Through empirical research with Eritreans, and drawing on their emic understandings of protection and how to access it, this research critically explores the taken for granted portrayal of refugee status as a necessary gatekeeper to durable solutions.

## Becoming Adult: Conceptions of Futures and Wellbeing Among Young People Subject to Immigration Control in the UK

2014–ongoing: ESRC funding, October 2014–September 2017  
Emeritus Professor Dawn Chatty (Co-Investigator responsible for 'Cultural concepts of futures and wellbeing')

While we are aware that in the age of migration and globalisation popular imaginaries are constructed through and by migration and across national and ethnic divides, this research aims to better understand whether and how norms and ideas contained within different cultural media from each sending country may influence young people's own ideas and intentions about their migratory decision. The sending countries under consideration here are Vietnam, Afghanistan, Albania and Eritrea. The study involves examining relevant cultural media (which may include print media, social media and common discourses and narratives) to explore how the following key concepts are represented and discussed in different cultural media from each of the sending countries, and whether and how the concepts are interconnected through these different media: migration; childhood; youth, adulthood, becoming adult; future, and wellbeing.

# Humanitarian Innovation Project

Stephanie and Hunter Hunt; Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Professor Alexander Betts, Louise Bloom, Dr Naohiko Omata, and Dr Olivier Sterck

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, the project now focuses on two key areas: refugee economies, and bottom-up innovation. Research is also carried out on military-humanitarian innovation, and on governance innovation.

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 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, asking: what symmetries and asymmetries exist between international humanitarian intervention design and affected communities own skills and capabilities?

Since its inception the sub-project has covered a number of contexts including through research in Uganda, Kenya, South Africa, Jordan, the United States, and Australia. Three key areas of focus going forward include: 1) collecting empirical evidence about the way refugees and affected communities

lead on their own innovations, 2) examining the relationship that international aid agencies have with refugees when trying to create new ways of working, 3) using physical infrastructures as a frame of reference to further understand these relationships – including through looking at systems and provision of services such as water, energy, information and communication technologies, and shelter.

This year the sub-project has been working on a monograph provisionally entitled *Humanitarian Innovation: A People-Centred Approach*, which brings together the research from the last four years of the project. Other engagements and activities have included completion of a chapter focusing on innovation as part of the forthcoming manuscript to be published with Oxford University Press on *Refugee Economies: Forced Displacement and Development*.

A study with the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre in Australia was also completed to examine their innovation lab and symbiotic approach to working with people seeking asylum – reports and articles for which are currently under review. This work stream has also begun to explore the informal and formal systems of water and energy in Kakuma refugee camp in Kenya – to help further explore the role of refugees' own innovation and how it both succeeds and struggles against the formally created structures of the camp.

The publication *Refugee Innovation: Humanitarian innovation that starts with communities* is available online at [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/refugeeinnovation](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/refugeeinnovation)

In 2016, Professor Alexander Betts and the Humanitarian Innovation Project team won a University of Oxford Vice-Chancellor's Award for Public Engagement with Research for work exploring the economic lives of refugees.



Sikhanuiso, a Zimbabwean living in Johannesburg, has started her own children's day care centre, attended by refugee and South African children



Within this cluster of shops in Kampala, Somali women run an ayuto, a group insurance scheme

© RSC / N Omata

## Refugee Economies

This research stream aims to explore 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 a growing interest in refugees' livelihoods and self-reliance, there exists little theoretical work in this area. By developing a conceptual framework and methodology for exploring 'Refugee Economies', we investigate what makes refugees' economic lives analytically distinctive and highlight the factors that explain variation in economic outcomes for refugees.

Between 2012 and 2015, we carried out a large-scale study on refugees' economic activities across four different sites in Uganda. Following the success of this initial research in Uganda, we are now embarking on research in Kenya, collecting new data

in the Kakuma refugee camp and in Nairobi. We are working to develop the first panel data set on the economic lives of refugees, comparing two countries with very different regulatory environments: Uganda and Kenya. We are also collaborating with UNHCR Zambia to enable them to use our methods to collect Refugee Economies data in Zambia.

A major output is a book entitled *Refugee Economies: Development and Forced Displacement* (Oxford University Press, 2017). This book represents one of the first to look systematically at the economic lives of refugees, and does so through comparing economic outcomes for refugees in urban areas, protracted camps, and emergency camp contexts, all through the single-country focus on Uganda.

Information about the new book is available here: <https://global.oup.com/academic/product/refugee-economies-9780198795681?cc=gb&lang=en&>

# Policy and impact

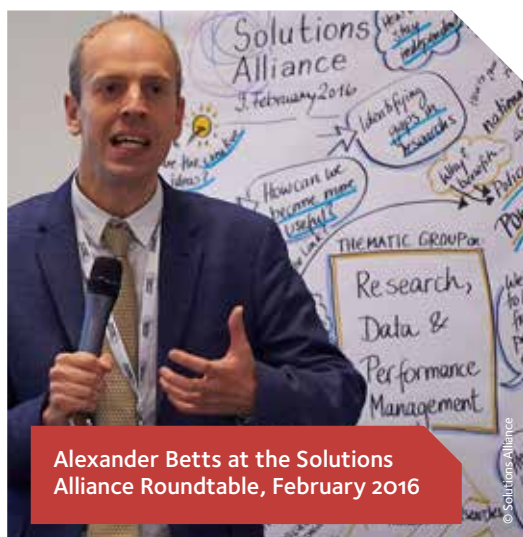
A key aim of the Refugee Studies Centre is to ensure that our work has a meaningful impact beyond the academic community. We achieve this by combining our independent, objective and critical scholarship with an active role in engaging policymakers in governments, intergovernmental agencies and non-governmental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

## Policy engagement

The RSC has continued to participate actively in international policy engagement over the past year.

The last 12 months have seen a number of high-profile events concerning the Syria refugee crisis, plus significant planning, preparation and meetings ahead of the **UN General Assembly Summit on Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants** that will take place on 19 September 2016. Alexander Betts has served as an advisor to the UN Secretary General's Representative on Migration, **Peter Sutherland**, in the preparation for the UN Summit. This began with the RSC hosting a policy workshop for his team in Oxford in September 2015. Betts was invited by **UNHCR, the World Bank and DFID** to co-chair a one-day coordination meeting in Geneva in December 2015 to provide an overarching plan and narrative for the major events and conferences relating to refugees in 2016. Betts and Dawn Chatty have both acted as advisors to the **Elders**, an independent group of global leaders working together for peace and human rights, in preparing several reports to the British government, the EU, and in advance of the UN Summit.

The **Supporting Syria and the Region** conference was held in London in February 2016, which Alexander Betts attended. Here the zonal development model proposed by Betts and Professor Sir Paul Collier (detailed below) was discussed. Dawn Chatty presented policy recommendations to the Youth and Education Roundtable at the civil society conference just prior to the main conference.



Alexander Betts at the Solutions Alliance Roundtable, February 2016

Dawn Chatty was also invited to present her research findings regarding the importance of formal and non-formal education for Syrian youth to the joint **World Bank – Agence Française de Développement Initiative on the Syrian Crisis** in February 2016. She has served as an advisor to UNHCR Regional Offices in addressing issues related to negative coping of refugees from Syria in Lebanon, Jordan and Egypt. She has also acted as an advisor to the **WANA (West Asia and North Africa) Institute**, headed by Prince El Hassan, in determining how best to promote education for refugee youth in Jordan as well as promote feasible and achievable livelihood opportunities.

Cathryn Costello's work on EU asylum law means she has been regularly consulted during the European refugee crisis. In September 2015, Cathryn gave a special presentation on 'Refugees in Crisis' at the **European Society of International Law, Annual Conference** in Oslo. Arising from this, she prepared an open letter from refugee lawyers, which garnered over 900 signatures, including the world's leading refugee lawyers. In February, she attended a high-level policy consultation at the **European Commission** in Brussels, on Legal Aspects of EU Refugee Policy. In April, she attended the **Intergovernmental Consultations on Asylum and Migration in Geneva**, and was invited to an 'Experts Brainstorming Meeting on Family Reunification for Refugees, Beneficiaries of Other Forms of International Protection and Asylum-Seekers' at the **Council of Europe**, Strasbourg, and together with Professor Kees Groenendijk, is preparing a report on that topic. She is also on the CEPS Task Force on the creation of a European Border and Coast Guard.

One of the key events of the past year was the **World Humanitarian Summit**, which took place in May 2016. Alexander Betts presented work on two panels at the Global Consultations meeting for the WHS in Geneva in November 2015. He also served on the Thematic Working Group on 'transformation through innovation', and attended the final Summit in Istanbul. Here he played a role in the launch of the new Global Alliance on Humanitarian Innovation, of which the Humanitarian Innovation Project is a founding member.

We have continued our involvement in the **Solutions Alliance**, an informal network working towards progressive solutions for refugees and the displaced that is co-chaired by UNHCR, the governments of Denmark and Colombia, UNDP and the IRC. Alexander Betts co-chairs the thematic working group on Research,

Data and Performance Management. He served as rapporteur for the Solutions Alliance Roundtable in Brussels in February 2016.

This year, we are pleased to report that we joined the **International Organization for Migration** as an 'Observer'. The IOM is the leading intergovernmental organisation in the field of migration and works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners. Alexander Betts attended the IOM's Migrants In Countries In Crisis (MICIC) Initiative's civil society consultations in Geneva in November 2015. Civil society actors are key partners in the collective effort to better protect and assist migrants caught in countries experiencing conflicts and natural disasters.

The RSC is also working with **Médecins Sans Frontières** to discuss the implications of the European asylum crisis for humanitarian principles. This began with publication in June 2016 of a special issue of the journal *Refugee Survey Quarterly*, edited by Professor Tom Scott-Smith with authors from Médecins Sans Frontières. The special issue has generated a programme of panel discussions exploring how rapid changes in the external environment have affected humanitarianism as a whole. A panel discussion was held at the RSC on 6 July 2016 for humanitarian practitioners and scholars under the title 'Humanitarianism and Forced Migration: Crises, Constraints, and Opportunities'. Further events will follow in London and Amsterdam.



Inside Za'atari  
refugee camp, Jordan

© RSC / L. Bloom

## The Zonal Development Model

In October 2015, *Foreign Affairs* published an article in which Professor Alexander Betts and Professor Sir Paul Collier (of the Blavatnik School of Government) proposed a new approach to the Syrian refugee crisis: the establishment of special economic zones (SEZs) in countries such as Jordan where displaced Syrians could work. This approach, they argued, could provide Syrians with jobs, education and autonomy while also advancing host-country development.

Jordan has long wanted to make the transition to a manufacturing economy and has already established several SEZs in the same areas that host many refugees. For example, the King Hussein Bin Talal Development Area (KHBTD) lies around 10 miles from Za'atari refugee camp, but it lacks both labour and business investment. This, Betts and Collier argued, would be an ideal location to launch a development-based approach to the Syrian refugee crisis.

In a follow-up article published in *Foreign Affairs* in April, Betts and Collier described how this idea had 'gained political traction' over the winter. Developments involving Jordanian King Abdullah, British Prime Minister David Cameron, and World Bank President Jim Young Kim had led to a pilot programme being developed for likely implementation in Jordan in the summer.

Then in July 2016, a deal was finalised between the EU and Jordan granting trade concessions in exchange for work opportunities for refugees. Described by *Refugees Deeply* as 'one of the most important economic experiments in the world today', this deal, which spans 10 years, will apply to 52 product groups manufactured in SEZs on the condition that producers employ more Syrian refugees – at least 15% of the workforce now, rising to 25% after 3 years. There will be some political negotiating required in Jordan, where unemployment is at a record level, but business leaders have welcomed the deal and are hopeful that it will stimulate new investors into zones such as the KHBTD. And there is optimism that, while not a magic bullet, SEZs will be able to provide legal work for Syrians in Jordan.

### Related publications:

Betts, Alexander and Collier, Paul (2015) 'Help refugees help themselves: let displaced Syrians join the labor market', *Foreign Affairs*, November/December.

Betts, Alexander and Collier, Paul (2016) 'Jordan's refugee experiment: a new model for helping the displaced in Jordan', *Foreign Affairs*, 28 April.

Staton, Bethan (2016) 'Jordan experiment spurs jobs for refugees', *Refugees Deeply*, 25 July 2016.

## 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)

<b>3 Aug 2016</b>	Experts to watch: innovating refugee response – <i>Refugees Deeply</i>	<b>29 Dec 2015</b>	Article on global refugee crisis – <i>Toyo Keizai</i>
<b>25 Jul 2016</b>	Jordan experiment spurs jobs for refugees – <i>Refugees Deeply</i>	<b>13 Dec 2015</b>	Global issues don't live in separate boxes. Why no mention in Paris of refugees? – <i>The Observer</i>
<b>6 June 2016</b>	Should refugees be allowed to work? – <i>PBS Newshour</i>	<b>20 Nov 2015</b>	Special programme on immigration and social cohesion – <i>The World Tonight, BBC Radio 4</i>
<b>28 April 2016</b>	Jordan's refugee experiment: a new model for helping the displaced – <i>Foreign Affairs</i>	<b>20 Oct 2015</b>	Help refugees help themselves: let displaced Syrians join the labor market – <i>Foreign Affairs</i>
<b>4 April 2016</b>	Europe's asylum system serves neither the refugees nor the countries – <i>The Washington Post</i>	<b>24 Sept 2015</b>	Let refugees fly to Europe – <i>The New York Times</i>
<b>18 March 2016</b>	Discussion on the proposed EU-Turkey deal to address the EU refugee crisis – <i>Today, BBC Radio 4</i>	<b>20 Sept 2015</b>	Human migration will be a defining issue of this century. How best to cope? – <i>The Observer</i>
<b>9 March 2016</b>	Esta dependencia de Turquía es arriesgada – <i>El País</i>	<b>19 Sept 2015</b>	Discussion on the EU refugee crisis – <i>Today, BBC Radio 4</i>
<b>8 March 2016</b>	Discussion of the EU-Turkey deal to address the EU refugee crisis – <i>Newsnight, BBC1</i>	<b>9 Sept 2015</b>	Why welcoming more refugees makes economic sense for Europe – <i>New Scientist</i>
<b>19 Feb 2016</b>	TED 2016: 'There must be another way' to solve world's problems – <i>CBC News</i>	<b>31 Aug 2015</b>	Discussion on the EU refugee crisis – <i>Amanpour, CNN International</i>
<b>3 Feb 2016</b>	Syrian refugees in Jordan: 'If they cut the coupons, we will probably die' – <i>The Guardian</i>	<b>31 Aug 2015</b>	Refugees and Europe's dilemma – <i>Inside Story, Al Jazeera</i>
<b>29 Jan 2016</b>	Ending the refugee deadlock – <i>The New York Times</i>	<b>19 Aug 2015</b>	Discussion on EU refugee and migrant crisis – <i>BBC News</i>
<b>27 Jan 2016</b>	Turning back on refugees, 'we're in ethical free fall' – <i>Amanpour, CNN International</i>		

## Media coverage

During the past year, the global refugee and migrant crisis, and government responses to it, have continued to receive significant media attention. RSC researchers have actively engaged with the media throughout the year, endeavouring to stimulate more informed and wide-ranging debate. The RSC Director, Professor Alexander Betts, has written articles for *Foreign Affairs*, *The Observer*, and *El País*. He has been interviewed by numerous news programmes, including at length on CNN's *Amanpour* on issues ranging from development-based approaches to the crisis such as special economic zones to benefit both refugee and host populations, to the consequences of the polarisation of the debate between extremes of right and left. The 'refugee matching'

proposal by Dr Will Jones and Dr Alex Teytelboym (of Oxford's Institute for New Economic Thinking) has been attracting increasing attention, including coverage by the *Financial Times* and *The Washington Post*. In the autumn, the RSC was host to BBC Radio 4's *The World Tonight* for a special programme on immigration and social cohesion. More recently, RSC experts have been interviewed on issues such as the EU-Turkey deal to relieve the EU refugee crisis, employment for refugees, and the implications of Brexit for refugees and asylum-seekers.

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)





# A year of TED Talks

The RSC Director, Alexander Betts, has made three powerful and very popular TED Talks in the past year.

In the autumn, he was invited to speak at TEDxVienna and gave a passionate talk addressing some of the common misconceptions about refugees, and the problems with the EU response to the refugee influx. He described the situation of many refugees in protracted displacement situations, spending many years in camps with little hope or opportunities for work or education. In contrast he highlighted Uganda's treatment of refugees. Here refugees have the right to work and some freedom of movement. They are engaged economically, in diverse ways, with local, national and even international economies. Betts highlighted lessons from Uganda for other countries, such as Jordan which at the time was home to over 600,000 refugees but did not give them the right to work. He asked the audience to "rethink refugees not just as vulnerable victims... but as people with potential if we invest in them and support them, to teach us many things, and contribute to our economies and our societies."

In February, Betts gave a powerful talk on the refugee crisis in a packed closing session of the TED 2016 conference in Vancouver. In this talk, which has been viewed over 600,000 times, Betts calls for people to see refugees as individuals with skills, talents and ambitions, deserving of more than the inadequate choices currently available to them. "The current system is failing", he says. "In theory, refugees have a right to seek asylum. In practice,

immigration control blocks the path to safety. In theory, refugees are meant to receive a pathway to long-term integration or return. In practice, they get trapped indefinitely in limbo. In theory, refugees are a shared global responsibility. In practice, geography means that countries proximate to conflict take the overwhelming number of refugees. The system is not failing because the basic rules are wrong but because we are choosing not to apply them."

Finally, at the TEDSummit in June in Banff, Canada, Betts spoke on the topic of Brexit, in a talk that has been viewed over 1.3 million times. He highlighted how the UK referendum vote to leave the EU grew out of a deep, unexamined divide between those who fear globalisation and those who embrace it. Particularly focusing on the role of immigration in the vote, he calls for "a new vision, a vision of a more tolerant, inclusive globalisation, one that brings people with us rather than leaving them behind." Paraphrasing Kofi Annan from a speech on the topic of inclusive globalisation, he says "The glass house of globalisation has to be open to all if it is to remain secure. Bigotry and ignorance are the ugly face of exclusionary and antagonistic globalisation." Addressing the question of how can we achieve inclusive globalisation, he offers four ideas as a starting point.

To watch these TED Talks visit [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/TEDtalks](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/TEDtalks)

Alexander Betts  
speaking at TED2016



# The resilience and revitalisation of the Refugee Convention

**Cathryn Costello**

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

The 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol are remarkably widely ratified, with almost 150 States Parties, across all regions of the globe. Unlike many international treaties, the Refugee Convention is implemented routinely by national governments, courts and by UNHCR, which is engaged (solely or jointly) in status determination in 70 countries. Whereas the domestic impact of many treaties is barely perceptible, the Refugee Convention routinely generates a body of practice, and countless lives are affected every day by its workings. Admittedly, some of the states hosting large refugee populations, such as Pakistan, have not ratified, or like Turkey, maintain a geographical limitation. But even there, the protection granted under domestic law is informed by the Convention and the practices of UNHCR.

Nonetheless, the efficacy of the Refugee Convention is in doubt. Across the world, refugees' rights are violated with impunity. Encampment, deprivation of work and education rights, detention, and abuse in transit are all too common. But many of these failings reflect lack of implementation and cooperation, rather than intrinsic failings of the Convention itself. Without wishing to downplay the scale or seriousness of these problems, this piece highlights some contemporary trends which suggest that in spite of strains, the Convention is being revitalised.

The first point concerns high recognition rates. For many years, the practice in Europe tended to be that most asylum claims were rejected, and of those who were accepted, Convention refugee status was only for a minority. To illustrate, in the 1990s, refugee status acceptance rates in EU Member States were generally between 5–15%.<sup>1</sup> This phenomenon generated a familiar political trope about 'bogus asylum seekers' – that those who are not refugees claim asylum in the global North as a way to avoid migration controls. This premise no longer holds, at least for the main nationalities who claim asylum. For Syrians, Eritreans, and Iraqis, recognition rates are at record highs – over 90% in many countries. The total recognition rates in Europe are around 60%. This is not to be complacent about wrongful rejection of strong claims, and worrying discrepancies across countries, but the overall picture has shifted dramatically.

A second important development concerns proper interpretation of the Convention. States have largely come in line to accept non-state persecution within its remit. Important strides have been made to overcome the androcentric interpretation of the refugee definition, and to include persecution on grounds of sexuality within the definition. Again, this is not to suggest there are not some egregious misinterpretations in place, such as the US approach to political opinion which leads to a denial of



**Cathryn Costello**



Manus Island Regional Processing Centre for asylum-seekers, Papua New Guinea, 2012



© UNHCR/Federico Scoppa

**From Calais to London – a family reunification for four Syrian refugees**

protection to most who flee gang violence. But overall, many protection gaps have been filled.

The third significant development that shows the revitalisation of the Refugee Convention concerns conflict refugees. Those fleeing truly indiscriminate violence will struggle to find recognition as Convention refugees, but many people fleeing conflict are Convention refugees. A remarkable institutional shift has taken place since the 1990s. Those fleeing the Balkan Wars tended to be granted temporary protection, and that status was designed to operate in isolation from the Convention. In contrast, today many fleeing conflict are recognised as Convention refugees, with subsidiary protection playing an important role in some states. As the UNHCR Protection Considerations on those fleeing Syria have demonstrated, many fleeing conflict are doing so because of actual or imputed political opinion.<sup>2</sup>

Of course, critiques of the Convention nonetheless abound. Notably, when states with noble traditions of refugee protection question the Convention, we should pay attention. The domestic politics of Scandinavian states differ greatly, but political actors there have called into question the value of the Convention. Sweden found itself the EU state with the highest per capita number of asylum-seekers and refugees. Its offer of permanent residence to Syrian refugees made it a popular destination, and it has now altered that feature of its refugee status, entirely within the terms of the Convention. But it is at the brunt of EU failures to allocate responsibility equitably. In December 2015, Danish Prime Minister Lars Løkke Rasmussen suggested the Convention ought to be revisited. Denmark's harsh and illegal restrictions on asylum-seekers' rights aim to deter them. Its approach is not new – it has long remained outside EU asylum measures, so has a freer hand to deter. In February 2016, the Finnish (non-executive) President Sauli Niinistö in an address to parliament claimed that in practice, 'anyone could seek protection in Finland' and end up difficult to deport, irrespective of whether he was recognised as a refugee or not.

While challenging the global instrument may generate some domestic political gains, if it were

followed through at the global level, it risks backfiring with contagion effects. As most refugees remain in developing countries, and European states remain comparatively unaffected by refugee flows (Sweden and Germany excepted), undermining the Convention risks generating greater need for protection in Europe, rather than less. Moreover, many obligations in the Convention are backed up by other international obligations that bind all states. This holds particularly for *non-refoulement*, which is enshrined in many other treaties as well as being a norm of customary international law and arguably 'ripe for recognition' as a norm of *jus cogens*.<sup>3</sup> States would struggle to disavow it.

There are many criticisms that can still be levelled at the Convention. In spite of the three positive developments identified above, the refugee definition remains too narrow. The contribution of scholars based at the Refugee Studies Centre to articulating and defending a broader conception of refugee has been noteworthy, amongst them Shacknove, Gibney, and Betts.<sup>4</sup> But there, the appropriate response is not to abandon the Convention, but to build on it. Secondly, the Convention acknowledges the need for international cooperation, but does not render that cooperation obligatory. There, our response needs to acknowledge that rendering cooperation and responsibility sharing legally obligatory does not mean it will happen, as the EU demonstrates only too well. Thus far, global attempts to establish responsibility sharing are underwhelming,<sup>5</sup> but new structures and processes may emerge that create stronger incentives to cooperate for protection.

In an era when those claiming asylum are refugees, the truly pressing question is how to redesign harsh processes designed for the 'bogus' to render swift recognition to refugees, and to increase compliance with existing obligations. The Convention provides a vision of refugee agency, self-sufficiency, gradual integration or repatriation, as circumstances evolve. It permits states much leeway, and sets up a principled basis for cooperation. Politicians may question it for domestic political gain, but they undermine it at their peril.

<sup>1</sup> M Barutciski, 'EU states and the refugee crisis in the Former the Yugoslavia', *Refugee*, 1994; 14(3): 32–25.

<sup>2</sup> UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), International Protection Considerations with regard to people fleeing the Syrian Arab Republic, Update III, 27 October 2014.

<sup>3</sup> Cathryn Costello and Michelle Foster, 'Non-refoulement as custom and jus cogens? Putting the prohibition to the test', *Netherlands Yearbook of International Law* 2015, 2016; 46: 273–327.

<sup>4</sup> Andrew Shacknove, 'Who is a refugee?', *Ethics*, 1985; 95 (2): 274–84; Matthew Gibney, *The Ethics and Politics of Asylum: Liberal Democracy and the Response to Refugees*, Cambridge University Press, 2004; Alexander Betts, *Survival Migration: Failed Governance and the Crisis of Displacement*, Cornell University Press, 2013.

<sup>5</sup> 'Zero Draft of Outcome Document for 19 September 2016 High-Level Meeting to Address Large-Scale Movements of Refugees and Migrants', circulated by Dina Kawar and David Donoghue to all Permanent Representatives to the United Nations New York, 27 June 2016.

# 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 leading experts in the field of 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.

In 2016–17, the centre has embarked upon a series of course reforms, designed to deepen interdisciplinary understanding of forced migration and widen the scope of core courses available. In the first term students will follow three core courses, which introduce the subject of forced migration from anthropological, political, and legal perspectives. In the second term they will follow a fourth core course on moral philosophy. Across both terms all students also take a course dedicated to research methods in the study of forced migration. In the second term, students also choose two options courses from a list which changes from year to year. Those offered in recent years 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; Refugee Camps and Containment; 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 the 25 places available on the course each year. To date over 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, UNDP, Save the Children, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and the Brookings and MacArthur foundations, as well as national governments and universities around the world.



Tom Scott-Smith  
teaching on the MSc

### 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.

### For enquiries about applications and admissions procedures

Please contact the Admissions Office at [admissions@qeh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@qeh.ox.ac.uk) or tel: +44 (0)1865 281827. Visit the website at [www.ox.ac.uk/admissions](http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions)

This year's thesis prize was awarded to Rachel Landry for her thesis 'The "Humanitarian Smuggling" of Refugees: Criminal Offence or Moral Obligation?'

## Bursaries and support

### Departmental Scholarship

The Department offers a number of full scholarships, which are available to students on any ODID courses. Selection criteria will normally be outstanding academic ability and citizenship of (and normal residence in) a developing country as defined by the United Nations. 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 Weidenfeld. 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: 'Welfare and Wellbeing Within and Beyond the Nation State: Unaccompanied young migrants in Italy and the UK in comparative perspective'; 'Ethnicity, Education and Ethno-nationalism: Constructing and contesting identity within Union Karen'; and 'To What Extent is UNHCR's Response in Afghanistan Shaped by Incentives in the Humanitarian Marketplace?' (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/graduate/courses/dphil-international-development](http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/courses/dphil-international-development)

[www.qeh.ox.ac.uk/content/dphil-international-development](http://www.qeh.ox.ac.uk/content/dphil-international-development)

## Jennifer Barrett

### DPhil candidate

#### *Navigating the deputisation of immigration enforcement functions in the UK*



My research explores the relationship between immigration enforcement and destitution in the UK. I seek to understand the way in which voluntary and community sector organisations mediate enforcement practices and how this relates to the provision of

frontline services for destitute persons – primarily those without recourse to public funds. Long-term fieldwork in London and Essex has allowed me to critically examine these issues through observation of the day-to-day operations of a small charity. This observational approach, which takes destitution rather than migrant as a starting point, allows me to situate enforcement practices within a broader policing of poverty and to explore the ways in which immigration controls are implemented through non-migrant subjectivities. By doing so I am interested in looking at the ways in which conceptualisations of need and vulnerability intersect with discourses around migrants and migration that cross-cut and supersede the migrant/citizen divide.

## Claire Walkey

### DPhil candidate

#### *An ethnography of the everyday politics, practices and ethics of refugee management in Kenya*



My doctoral research explores how the UNHCR, Government of Kenya and civil society organisations interact in the management of refugee affairs in Kenya. In particular, I focus on the re-engagement of the Government of Kenya in refugee issues since 2006

and how the UNHCR is responding to this. It is an elite-level ethnography, based primarily in Nairobi, exploring the everyday politics, practices and ethics of refugee management. I am particularly interested in how these actors are responding to and negotiating normative conflicts between sovereignty and refugee protection.

## Muireann Meehan Speed

### DPhil candidate

#### *Rights in crisis in refugee protection*



My research focuses on human rights in the intersection of refugee and global politics in crises of mass displacement. Through an examination of 'rights in crisis' in the highly fraught and contentious politics of global displacement, I use archival methods to

illuminate the trajectory of a particular right over the course of a 'crisis'. Using the case studies of (a) the principle of family reunification in the Hungarian repatriation (1956), (b) the right to remain in Bosnia (1992–1995) and (c) the right to return in Afghanistan (2002–2009), my research explores how human rights have been applied to the problem of displacement at these particular moments of 'crisis' in order to shed light on why certain rights appear to manifest as disfigured versions of the liberal principles they claim to represent in the politics of refugee protection. In sum, my tentative claim is that human rights manifest as pragmatic liberal bargains.

## International Summer School in Forced Migration

One of the greatest resources of the RSC's International Summer School in Forced Migration is its participants. Celebrating 28 years of the Summer School, this year proved no exception. From 4–22 July, 75 participants from more than 37 countries came together in Oxford to reflect on their experience and to think critically about the aims and expectations that steer their work. Throughout the course they were provided the opportunity to step outside their institutional affiliations, and to cast a critical eye on the structures and institutions of refugee protection.

The Summer School curriculum is carefully constructed to encourage participants to explore the causes, consequences and responses to forced migration from various different angles, enabling them to step back and reflect critically on their own professional practice. In 2016, during the opening week, participants examined the conceptualisation and globalisation of forced migration, considering the political, legal and anthropological framings of displacement, as well as debating the ethics of border controls. Building on this knowledge in the second week, participants then considered asylum policy and international refugee law before undertaking a simulation on negotiating strategies in the context of refugee repatriation, and then exploring the challenges of internal displacement. Optional modules, spanning the themes of human smuggling, Palestine refugees and international law, psychosocial support in forced migration settings, and the ethics and politics of humanitarianism, were taught during the final week of the programme. Regular updates to the curriculum, generously funded by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, enable the Summer School to maintain its pertinence. The curriculum is constantly revised, and over the past three years, a structured process of evaluation and improvement has taken place.

The programme takes an active learning approach with participants engaging in reflection, analysis and teamwork through lectures, small group discussions, debates, moots, simulations, and individual presentations. This creates an environment rich in discussion and dialogue between invited experts and participants. Interspersed

throughout the programme are lectures from world-leading academics and accomplished professionals such as Chaloka Beyani, Hélène Lambert, Roula Nasrallah, Sara Pantuliano, and Professor Guy S Goodwin-Gill who delivered the closing plenary. In feedback received, a particular highlight for participants is the work they do in small tutor groups. Animated, provocative discussions provide fertile ground for the questioning of assumptions and professional practices. This year there were six tutor groups convened by Cathryn Costello, Cate Briddick, Jeff Crisp, Tom Scott-Smith, Liesbeth Schockaert, and Maryanne Loughry, who celebrated her 20th anniversary of Summer School tutoring, for which we expressed our immense gratitude.

A diverse cohort of participants is a crucial element for the success of the Summer School as it fosters great dialogue and debate. Staff of international organisations regularly attend, including many who work with UNHCR and IOM. This year we also welcomed experts from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the World Food Programme. There were equally officials from many governments, ranging from those who work on refugee status determination, reception and social work, to those who act as donors within the humanitarian and development systems. Refugee activists and staff of international and local NGOs contribute greatly to the diversity of perspectives and approaches, along with several full-time researchers and academics. This year, participants came from Amnesty International, the Bertelsmann Stiftung, Connect Settlement Services, Danish Refugee Council, MOAS, MSF, and Oxfam.

The RSC recognises the importance of providing bursary assistance to deserving participants who otherwise would be unable to attend the Summer School, and remains committed to finding funds for this purpose. We were able to offer six full bursaries thanks to generous support from The Asfari Foundation, The Saïd Foundation, and funding provided by the Swiss FDFA. We are launching a new campaign for Summer School bursaries for 2017 and thereafter.

The next International Summer School in Forced Migration will take place in July 2017. The 2017 Summer School will run in a new intensive format, over two weeks. To receive further information, or to donate to the Summer School Bursary Fund, please contact Susanna Power, 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)



Tutors Maryanne Loughry and Jeff Crisp with 2016 participants

## 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 intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations.

In March 2016 Professor Dawn Chatty and Professor Susan M Akram convened the course 'Palestine Refugees and International Law', which was held at the British Institute in Amman, Jordan. This two-day course places the Palestinian refugee case study within the broader context of the international human rights regime. It examines how the policies and practices of Middle Eastern states impinge upon Palestinian refugees.

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

## Forthcoming short courses

The 'Palestine Refugees and International Law' short course, convened by Professor Dawn Chatty and Professor Susan M Akram, will be held on 10–11 March 2017 in Amman, Jordan. For more information, please contact Susanna Power: [rsc-outreach@qeh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:rsc-outreach@qeh.ox.ac.uk) or visit the website: [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/palestine](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/palestine)

## Visiting Fellowships

Visiting Fellowships provide an excellent opportunity for senior practitioners and policymakers as well as doctoral students, postdoctoral 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)

## Stephanie Motz Visiting Study Fellow

*University of Lucerne; Barrister, Zurich*



I came to the RSC as a Visiting Study Fellow in order to work on my PhD which examines the topic of 'Disabled persons and refugee status'. The stay enabled me to conduct detailed research at Oxford's comprehensive libraries and to discuss my work with the

researchers at the RSC. At the Work-in-Progress Seminar Series I presented my research results and ideas, and benefited from the exchange with academics specialised in the field of refugee studies. Together with Cathryn Costello, I also co-convened the Public Seminar Series 'Destination: Europe'. At this seminar series, international experts came to present their cutting-edge research and the exchange of ideas with such experts was very inspiring. I was also able to present previous research on the principle of *non-refoulement* at borders at an RSC special seminar that took place during Hilary term on 'Borders & Human Rights in Europe – Recent Legal Developments Explored'. A further result of my stay at the RSC was a panel application for the 2016 I-CON Conference in Berlin on 'Borders, Otherness and Public Law' together with Cathryn Costello, Siobhan Mullaly and Catherine Briddick, where we appeared in a panel on 'Refugee Privilege or Human Rights Minimalism? Rights Restriction in a Re-Bordering Europe'.

## Asya Pisarevskaya Visiting Study Fellow

*Universities of Milan and Turin*



My visiting period at the Refugee Studies Centre was very productive and interesting. During my stay, I was working on an extensive literature review for my doctoral thesis and refining the conceptual clarity of my research on the 'Compositional effects of

asylum and refugee policy instruments on economic integration of protected humanitarian migrants in European countries'. Through the Bodleian Library System and RSC archives I was able to access very rich, unique material on the economic integration of forced migrants. I worked closely with Professor Roger Zetter, who was very supportive and engaged in my project. I also received valuable advice from Dr Jeff Crisp, and other members of the Centre. I attended several of the public seminars and participated in several social events. At the end of my stay I presented my research design at the RSC's Work-in-Progress Seminar Series, from which I gained some very positive and useful feedback from the audience. I am also writing an RSC working paper on my research. Overall, the atmosphere at the Centre was very friendly and enjoyable for me.

## 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.2,100 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 303 new printed documents during 2015–16.

In addition to the grey literature collection, the specialist book collection also continues to expand with the purchase of 86 new monographs this year. Of these, 46 were for research and 40 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 benefited increasingly from electronic book acquisitions. There are presently over 1,200 e-books on refugee-related topics accessible via SOLO (Search Oxford Libraries Online). During the past year 12 new e-books were purchased for forced migration with an additional 111 related titles added within the International Development field.

Library staff have provided in-depth subject-specific inductions and tours for 113 departmental and external readers including MSc students, Summer School participants, Visiting Fellows and new staff. In addition the Subject Consultant has offered tailored one-to-one research sessions and answered a wide range of email enquiries. These have included such varied subjects as Vietnamese refugee camps (1975–97); UNHCR and state responses to protracted refugee situations; historical and emerging politics of humanitarianism in migration management and asylum; and the integration of migrants through culture and the arts. The Libguide for Refugee and Forced Migration Studies also continues to be a well-used tool for locating online and print resources, recording 1,423 hits over the year (<http://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/refugee-studies>).

Contact Sarah Rhodes ([sarah.rhodes@bodleian.ox.ac.uk](mailto:sarah.rhodes@bodleian.ox.ac.uk)) to make an appointment for subject specific research queries or search the union catalogue (SOLO) for refugee-related material at <http://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk>. You can also visit the Bodleian Social Science Library website at [www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/ssl](http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/ssl) for further information.



Summer School students take a break outside at Queen Elizabeth House



# New postdoctoral researchers

In 2016, thanks to new strategic partnerships with the governments of Switzerland and Denmark, we are pleased to welcome four new postdoctoral researchers.

## Ali Ali

### Research Officer, The Politics of the Syrian Refugee Crisis



Ali is currently working on the 'Politics of the Syrian Refugee Crisis' project which compares policy towards Syrian refugees in Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey. He will undertake the fieldwork to gather data on policy in Lebanon and Jordan in the form of interviews with officials at

the national and local level, and with members of local and international organisations working with displaced Syrians. His previous research at the London School of Economics examined the socio-economic implications of the war in Syria, during which time he conducted fieldwork in Turkey in regions bordering Syria in 2013 and 2014. The research examined activists' use of technology to challenge the state, security in opposition areas, and the political economy of war. His doctoral work at the University of East London addressed the relationship between displacement and state-transformation in occupied Iraq, and the coercive transformations of space that took place in Baghdad with implications for displacement. His research was based on interviews with Iraqis living in Syria during 2010 and 2011.

## Fulya Memişoğlu

### Research Officer, The Politics of the Syrian Refugee Crisis



Before joining the RSC, Fulya was an assistant professor in the Department of International Relations at Çukurova University (Turkey). She holds a MA in International Studies from the University of Warwick and a PhD in Politics from the University

of Nottingham. Her general area of research is comparative politics with particular emphasis on the interplay between international, regional and domestic policymaking processes in the field of human rights. After spending a year at the European University Institute as a postdoctoral fellow in 2013 working on migration governance in Southeast Europe, she participated in various research projects conducted by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICPMD), and the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK) focusing on the repercussions of the Syrian refugee crisis. At the RSC, Fulya is working on the 'Politics of the Syrian Refugee Crisis' project, which aims to better understand the responses in the main host states of first asylum for refugees from Syria.

## Olivier Sterck

### Junior Research Fellow in the Economics of Forced Migration



Olivier Sterck is an economist working in the areas of development and health economics. Before joining the RSC, Olivier was postdoctoral research fellow at the Centre for the Study of African Economies (CSAE) at the University of Oxford. He completed his PhD in

economics in 2013 at the Catholic University of Louvain (Belgium). His research is multidisciplinary in scope, building bridges between several fields of study, from the economics of conflicts and HIV to International Relations. Part of it is based on fieldwork conducted in sub-Saharan Africa. As part of the RSC, Olivier aims to apply his expertise in econometrics and economic modelling to the study of refugee economies. With colleagues from the RSC, he will use quantitative methods to study refugee economies in Kenya, Uganda and Burundi. He will also work on the impact evaluation of a programme expanding work permits for Syrian refugees in Jordan.

## Natascha Zaun

### Junior Research Fellow in Global Refugee Policies



Natascha Zaun holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Bremen. During her PhD, she was a visiting fellow at the London School of Economics' Migration Studies Unit. Before coming to the RSC, Natascha worked at the Collaborative Research Centre

597 'Transformations of the State' at the University of Bremen for a research project on 'Border Regime Change and the Mobility of Persons', and as a researcher and lecturer in the area of International Relations at the University of Mainz. Natascha's key areas of expertise cover European and global refugee and immigration policies and politics. In her PhD thesis she analysed EU decision-making on common asylum policies, finding that these policies only reflected the positions of Member States with a long-standing regulatory tradition in the field. A monograph based on her thesis is forthcoming with Palgrave Macmillan. Currently, Natascha's research focuses on the reform of the global refugee regime and responsibility-sharing in global refugee policies.

# Matching refugees: using economic theory to redesign refugee policy

Will Jones

Departmental Lecturer in Forced Migration

In September of 2015, Alexander Teytelboym (an economist at Oxford's Centre for New Economic Thinking) and I drafted a working paper entitled 'The Refugee Match: Aligning the Preferences of Refugees with the Priorities of Hosts'. In that paper, we proposed reconceiving refugee resettlement as a 'two-sided matching market': a scenario where both sides (refugees themselves, and their hosts, either at the level of a state or a local community) have diverse preferences and priorities, there are difficult trade-offs between these preferences, and we want the system we design to be as fair, efficient, fast, and sensitive as possible.

This is parallel to a variety of areas in which economists have been working for decades, including matching children to schools, doctors to hospitals, or even live organ donors to recipients in need of transplants. What all these scenarios also have in common with refugee resettlement is that involving money or trading is normally thought to be morally unacceptable (in contrast to, say, trading carbon permits). However, the capacity in these systems remains a scarce resource which we wish to allocate as effectively as possible, and it is important to design a system that is fair, envy-free, and which makes it safe for participants to tell the truth about their circumstances and aspirations. With these aims in mind, economists have developed algorithms which can systematically and automatically guarantee these properties at a fraction of the expense and time previous systems required. In the context of refugees, then, this represents a shift from considering solely the (important) question of *how many* spaces for resettlement are available, but, once it has been determined that a given population of refugees is being resettled, the question of *who goes where*.

For some, this question is seen as largely unimportant. Wherever they get resettled, it is thought, refugees will get a home, protection of the law, access to the welfare that state provides, and so on. This is wrong. There is considerable evidence that where refugees are resettled within a country has long-term consequences for the quality of their lives. Extensive research by Olof Åslund and his collaborators in Sweden (where a randomised resettlement policy created a petri-dish natural experiment) shows that where refugees are placed has decades-long consequences for their income, health, happiness, and almost every other variable they tested. Furthermore, this is not simply a matter of there being 'good' and 'bad' areas: there is ample evidence that the locations in which different refugee families will flourish are as diverse as refugees themselves. Different refugees will require different bundles of government services, depending on their age, whether they have children and how many, and whether they have any disabilities or unusual medical considerations. Refugees will also have different socio-cultural desires, based on their type and degree of religiosity, the presence of different diaspora networks, and other social characteristics.



Will Jones



Rows of refugees' tents at Idomeni station, Greece, after the closure of the so-called Western Balkan Route to northern Europe

© UNHCR/Achilles Zavellis

Syrian boys play during the evening at Azraq camp, Jordan, currently home to around 36,000 refugees



© UNHCR / Christopher Herwig

Different refugees will re-enter the job market (or set up their own businesses) at different speeds, in different sections, and will require different forms of support to do so. Clearly, who is resettled where can bring vast gains to refugees and the communities that host them without expanding the capacity of the system if we can help ensure refugees are in the areas in which they will best flourish (compatible with extending the same to all other refugees in the system).

Refugee resettlement is currently what we call 'bespoke': committed experts conduct interviews with eligible refugees, collate multiple sources of information, and attempt to process all this information manually. In some cases, refugees themselves are asked what their priorities are. However, all these processes suffer from four key problems. Firstly, this kind of bespoke resettlement is simply untenable for large and rapid resettlement. In such circumstances, either speed or thoroughness is inevitably sacrificed. No system we have studied takes into account even all the factors listed in the preceding paragraph. The only people with direct access to all this information are the refugees themselves. Secondly, the manner in which the preferences of refugees are elicited is ad hoc. These preferences are not elicited in a systematic way which could be built into an algorithm which instantaneously and comprehensively takes those preferences into account. Thirdly, such processes as exist do not have a rule-based way to resolve trade-offs. For example, if economic information suggests a refugee would flourish best in one area, but information about the presence of co-religionists would suggest another, decisions as to which to prioritise are usually either made with reference to an *ex ante* rule of thumb, or in a largely arbitrary way. Finally, insofar as these systems do consider the preferences of refugees themselves, their preferences are 'inferred': bureaucrats use the information available to them in order to try and work out what is best for the refugees. This is analogous to a school district thinking very hard about what child would do best in which school, but ultimately deciding for the parents. Such systems, however solicitous, do not directly empower refugees to decide for themselves what is most important to them.

Concretely, what we have proposed is a centralised clearinghouse to which both sides can submit information: refugee households can submit their

preferences in ranked order over the potential areas for resettlement, and countries or local areas can submit their capacities and priorities. Rather than the impossible task of trying to infer a refugee's preferences completely and accurately, the system simply lets them decide. The system can then instantaneously produce an allocation which prioritises the efficiency, stability, fairness, or non-gameability of the system depending on the selection of algorithm (unfortunately, economists have already proved mathematically that no algorithm can satisfy all of these properties).

The further detail of a refugee match will depend on context. An international refugee match would determine which refugees go to which countries in a hypothetical responsibility-sharing scheme (such as is currently being proposed by the European Commission). A local refugee match could allocate refugees to local areas (as in the British case), across different kinds of refugee status coming out of different resettlement schemes (as in the Canadian case, which blends private and public sponsorship), or across different agencies running resettlement (as in the US case, where resettlement is conducted by nine voluntary agencies). All these cases present different design issues to make sure the system works for refugees within the particular social, political, and institutional contexts they present. To that end, Alex and I have presented this research in London, Cambridge, Vancouver, Chicago, and New York, and spoken to academics and policymakers in several other countries regarding the applicability of refugee matching in these different contexts. Our research has now stretched to three co-authored papers, one book chapter, and a 'hard' mathematical paper working through these difficulties. In all these cases though, refugee matching offers a pragmatic, implementable way to rapidly and efficiently allocate refugees to the areas where they will best flourish, and minimise the strain on communities and public resources. Most importantly, it restores agency, dignity, and choice to refugees themselves.

Will Jones is Departmental Lecturer in Forced Migration at the Refugee Studies Centre, and Lecturer in Politics at Pembroke College. In September 2016, he will take up the position of Lecturer in International Relations at Royal Holloway College, University of London.

#### Selected publications

Jones, Will and Teytelboym, Alex (2016) 'Choices, preferences and priorities in a matching system for refugees,' *Forced Migration Review*, 51: 80–82.

Jones, Will and Teytelboym, Alex (2016) 'An algorithm to alleviate the refugee crisis,' *Refugees Deeply*, 5 August.

# Events

The RSC convenes a wide array of seminars, workshops, and conferences. These include major Refugee and Forced Migration Studies conferences, 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 local engagement with the Oxford community, with civil society in the UK, or further afield.

## From Fortress Europe to Sanctuary Europe

As part of Refugee Week 2016, on 18–19 June the Refugee Studies Centre, in collaboration with Oxford City of Sanctuary, the national City of Sanctuary movement and the British Red Cross, hosted a two-day conference titled 'From Fortress Europe to Sanctuary Europe: Building a Social Movement for Inclusive Asylum'.

With a focus on integration and belonging, the event brought together academics, practitioners, policymakers, social entrepreneurs, and refugees from the UK and Europe to engage in action-oriented mutual learning. It sought to encourage dialogue and collaborative learning in relation to advocacy, practices of integration, and social and economic inclusion. Moving beyond describing current challenges, the aim was to identify good practices and opportunities for social change. Sessions focused on the challenges of accessing protection and safe routes; on welcome and inclusion; access to higher education; campaigning; and countering social exclusion.

Speakers represented a wide range of organisations from the UK and Europe, and refugees themselves. In the opening plenary, speakers included Bryndís Björgvinsdóttir, Icelandic writer and found of the initiative 'Syria is Calling'; and Jonas Kakoschke and Mareike Geiling, co-founders of Flüchtlinge Willkommen (Refugees Welcome). Speaking later were

Katia Bianchini (Max Planck Institute for Religious & Ethnic Diversity, Göttingen), Christina Lejman (Migrant Offshore Aid Station, Malta), and Mariana Stoyanova (Bulgarian Red Cross). Contributors from the UK included Gonzalo Vargas Llosa (Representative, UNHCR UK), Sabir Zazai (Coventry Refugee and Migrant Centre), Don Flynn (Migrants' Rights Network), Gemma Gillie (MSF UK), Richard Stanton (MigrationWork CIC), and Aderonke Apata (human rights activist and founder of Manchester Migrant Solidarity).

In his closing speech, Alexander Betts (RSC Director) stated "It's been a real privilege for us to host this conference and to be able to work with City of Sanctuary and the British Red Cross... For me, listening to the discussions, it's surpassed all my expectations. There's been a huge amount of dynamism."

Jonathan Ellis (Head of Policy, Research and Advocacy at the British Red Cross) called it "A remarkable event", continuing "What this event has done is pull together different sectors, different players, different people... Let's continue building a movement in defence of asylum-seekers and refugees."

For more details visit [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/sanctuary-europe](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/sanctuary-europe)



The opening plenary panel at the conference, with Bryndís Björgvinsdóttir, Alexander Betts, Mareike Geiling, Jonas Kakoschke, and Sabir Zazai

## Annual Lectures

### Annual Harrell-Bond Lecture 2015

On 4 November 2015, we were delighted to welcome Professor Walter Kälin to give the Annual Harrell-Bond Lecture. Professor Kälin is a Swiss international human rights lawyer, legal scholar, and advocate. He is professor of constitutional and international law at the Faculty of Law of the University of Bern (Switzerland), and Envoy of the Chairmanship of the Nansen Initiative. In the lecture titled “We do not want to become refugees”: Human mobility in the age of climate change, Professor Kälin highlighted that disaster displacement is already a major humanitarian challenge. In opening he said, “On average every year more than 26 million people are displaced in the context of disasters, of climate change”, a figure that equates to one person every second. And this level of displacement is likely to increase significantly in the context of climate change. Building on the work of the Nansen Initiative on disaster-induced cross-border displacement, the lecture explored different tools available to address displacement and other forms of disaster-related human mobility.



### Annual Elizabeth Colson Lecture 2016

This year's Annual Elizabeth Colson Lecture was given by Associate Professor Séverine Autesserre of Barnard College, Columbia University. Professor Autesserre spoke on the topic of 'Peaceland: Conflict resolution and the everyday politics of international intervention'. The lecture was based on her award-winning book of the same name, which suggests a new explanation for why international peace interventions often fail to reach their full potential. Based on several years of ethnographic research in conflict zones around the world, it demonstrates that everyday elements – such as expatriates' social habits and usual approaches to understanding their areas of operation – strongly influence peacebuilding effectiveness. In the lecture, Professor Autesserre proposed a number of innovative ways to better help host populations build a sustainable peace.

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: [www.soundcloud.com/refugeestudiescentre](http://www.soundcloud.com/refugeestudiescentre)



### Looking ahead

The 2016 Annual Harrell-Bond Lecture will be given by Patrick Kingsley (Migration correspondent, the *Guardian*) on Wednesday 26 October. Patrick was named foreign affairs journalist of the year at the British Journalism Awards. His book on the European refugee crisis, *The New Odyssey*, was published by Faber in May.

On 16–17 March 2017, the RSC will hold the conference 'Beyond Crisis: Rethinking Refugee Studies' at Keble College Oxford. This conference seeks to reinvigorate scholarly debate on ways in which we can conceive of Refugee and Forced Migration Studies. Further details at [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/2017conference](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/2017conference)

### In memoriam

**Elizabeth Florence Colson** (15 June 1917–3 August 2016) was Professor Emerita of Anthropology at the University of California, Berkeley. She was the director of the Rhodes-Livingstone Institute in Zambia from 1947 to 1951. All of Colson's work was solidly anchored in ethnography. She is best known for her long-term study of the Tonga people of the Gwembe Valley in Zambia and Zimbabwe. This research directly contributed to academic discussions of resettlement, migration, and refugee communities in applied and development anthropology. Colson died shortly after her 99th birthday in Monze, Zambia. She will be remembered as one of anthropology's great ethnographers.

Listen to a podcast of an interview with Elizabeth Colson from 2007: <https://podcasts.ox.ac.uk/interview-professor-elizabeth-colson>

## 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 Economies' in Michaelmas term; 'Destination: Europe' in Hilary term; and 'Imposing Aid' in Trinity term.

### Destination: Europe

Public Seminar Series, Hilary term 2016

Convened by Professor Cathryn Costello, RSC, and Dr Stephanie Motz, University of Lucerne and RSC Visiting Study Fellow

This lecture series was convened in the face of the ongoing refugee crisis in Europe and on its borders. In the absence of safe and legal routes to claim asylum, refugees currently make their own way to Europe, risking their lives in the process. They face many European crises: humanitarian ones at their places of arrival and border crossings; legal ones as some states flout their international and EU obligations; and security ones as rational fears become unduly associated with refugees. There are, of course, many Europes: the EU (with its elaborate Common European Asylum System); the wider Europe of the Council of Europe and pan-European human rights protection, encompassing Turkey; and the Europe of the Mediterranean, Mare Nostrum. Faced with the arrival of refugees in large numbers, the reactions and responsibilities of these various Europes were considered within this seminar series. Reactions range from small-scale offers of relocation and resettlement; to military responses to human smuggling in Libya; to border closures of the Balkans and Central and Eastern Europe; and moves to accommodate large new refugee populations in

Germany, Sweden and the other main destination states. The series examined the implications for European integration, European values and the global refugee protection regime, taking a long and broad view, with legal, historical and political perspectives explored.

This series complemented Issue 51 of *Forced Migration Review*, published in January 2016 and also titled 'Destination: Europe'.

### Imposing Aid: Thirty Years of Emergency Assistance to Refugees

Public Seminar Series, Trinity term 2016

Convened by Dr Will Jones, RSC

*Imposing Aid*, RSC founder Barbara Harrell-Bond's seminal book, was the first independent appraisal of an assistance programme mounted by international agencies in response to an emergency influx of refugees – in this case the Ugandans who spilled over the Sudanese border in the early months of 1982. Since its publication in 1986, it has been widely hailed as a key text in Anthropology and Refugee Studies, with far-reaching implications for policy and theory. This seminar series reflected on the continuing relevance of the themes raised in *Imposing Aid*, and its enduring influence on the shape of the discipline: the way humanitarian organisations work or do not work, the critical study of how such organisations may be paternalistic or unaccountable, the conflicts of interest and disparities of power which characterise the interactions between refugees and their ostensible helpers, and the place of refugees in the complex order of international emergency relief settings. Thirty years after the publication of *Imposing Aid*, these issues remain as urgent as ever.

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

Participants at the international gathering to mark the retirement of Emeritus Professor Guy S Goodwin-Gill





Dawn Chatty opens the workshop Refuge from Syria, December 2015

## Special seminars and workshops

### Special seminar: Making Sense of the EU-Turkey Deal

On 7 March 2016, EU leaders announced a new agreement with Turkey, stating that 'bold moves were needed to close down people smuggling routes, to break the business model of the smugglers, to protect our external borders and to end the migration crisis in Europe.' On 16 March the RSC held a special Rapid Response Seminar to close the 'Destination: Europe' series of public seminars. Titled 'Making sense of the EU-Turkey deal: law, politics and practicalities', the seminar brought together experts to examine the deal's legality under both international and EU law, its likely efficacy, and its political impact. Panellists included Professor Guy S Goodwin-Gill (RSC Honorary Associate), Professor Cathryn Costello (RSC), Professor Alexander Betts (RSC), Dr Jeff Crisp (RSC Research Associate), and Dr Franck Düvell (COMPAS, University of Oxford), with respondents Professor Kalypso Nicolaïdis (Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford) and Dr Gökay Özerim (Yaşar University, Turkey).

A video of the seminar is available at: [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/video-making-sense-of-eu-turkey-deal](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/video-making-sense-of-eu-turkey-deal)

### Celebrating the Scholarship of Professor Guy S Goodwin-Gill

A special international gathering was held on 14–15 April 2016 to celebrate the scholarship of Professor Guy S Goodwin-Gill, Emeritus Professor of International Refugee Law and Honorary Associate with the RSC. On the 14th, a group of Professor Goodwin-Gill's former doctoral students presented papers on topics ranging from forced migration to international criminal law to democratic participation. On the 15th, the *International Journal of Refugee Law* (IJRL) hosted a symposium in honour of Professor Goodwin-Gill, jointly sponsored by All Souls College, the Andrew & Renata Kaldor Centre

for International Refugee Law, the Oxford Faculty of Law, and the Refugee Studies Centre. Participants included Professor Walter Kälin, Professor Elspeth Guild, Jean-François Durieux, Professor Jane McAdam, Dr Volker Türk, and Professor Cathryn Costello. Professor Goodwin-Gill concluded the gathering in his characteristically resolute fashion with a truly moving speech, impressively bringing together the conference themes, and injecting cautious optimism in those assembled. The IJRL will publish a special volume in honour of Professor Goodwin-Gill, its founding editor.

Listen to podcasts of the presentations at: [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/celebrating-guy-s-goodwin-gill](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/celebrating-guy-s-goodwin-gill)

### Refuge from Syria

In December 2015, this one-day workshop brought together researchers and practitioners to present findings from recent research into the perceptions, aspirations and behaviour of refugees from Syria, host community members, and practitioners in Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan. Emeritus Professor Dawn Chatty presented her British Academy funded research, alongside other researchers including Dr Eduardo Chemin (Çağ Üniversitesi, Turkey), Dr Filippo Dionigi (LSE) and Professor Annika Rabo (Stockholm University). Also presenting were Oxfam's Sally Abi Khalil (Policy Advisor, Lebanon) and Valentina Bacchin (Lebanon Protection Coordinator), and from UNHCR Shaden Khallaf (UNHCR Regional Office, Amman). Presentations and discussions focused on issues such as education, social cohesion, sustainability, and impact on host communities and infrastructure. One outcome of the workshop was a set of policy recommendations, circulated ahead of the conference 'Supporting Syria and the Region' on 4 February in London.

The workshop was livestreamed and is available to view online. For more details visit: [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/refuge-from-syria](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/refuge-from-syria)

# The morality and politics of deportation

## Exploring the evolving arguments against deportation in the United Kingdom

**Diletta Lauro**

DPhil candidate

The practice of deportation poses a number of moral and political questions for liberal democratic states. The issue of who is to be subject to deportation powers, for example, raises questions about the constitution and the boundaries of membership in the state and interrogates the legitimacy of different kinds of human mobility. Similarly, from the exercise of state deportation powers questions emerge about what constitutes justice in the decision to deport and what justifies the use, and modality, of the state's coercive powers in deportation proceedings and its attendant practices of apprehension, arrest and administrative detention.

The answers to questions such as these have been the cause of significant controversy among citizens, which is revealed by the sustained civil society opposition that deportation has encountered on the ground in most liberal-democratic states. My research explores these ethical and political disputes through an analysis of the changing arguments, goals and strategies of civil society campaigns that contest deportation in the United Kingdom.

The United Kingdom represents an interesting and relatively under-researched empirical context in which to examine the evolution of anti-deportation campaigns. Throughout the twentieth century and particularly in recent times, the United Kingdom has

become a 'pioneering' state in Europe with regards to its increasing deportation powers against unwanted non-citizens living in its territory. Successive governments, particularly from the 1960s onwards, have expanded the categories of individuals eligible for deportation, reduced avenues for appeals against removal decisions, and introduced procedures to implement deportation at a faster pace. Those who are in principle subject to deportation constitute a heterogeneous group of non-citizens, including migrants irregularly present in the territory of the state, asylum-seekers whose application has been rejected, and legally settled migrants who have committed a crime or are believed to be posing a risk to the public interest.



**Diletta Lauro**



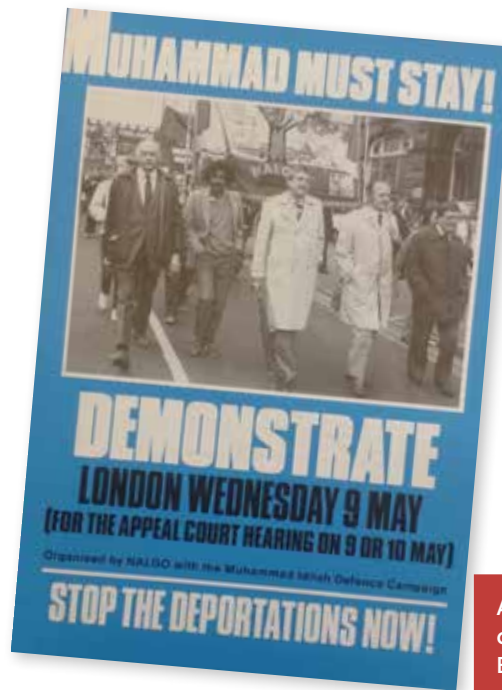
Anti-deportation march, Glasgow, 2010



While considered by the state as a legitimate policy to enforce immigration controls, deportation has been routinely opposed by concerned citizens and civil society groups – including neighbours, schoolmates, ethnic and faith-based groups, political activists, and human rights organisations. In the last 50 years, civil society groups have organised a significant number of campaigns against the deportation of particular individuals, and sometimes against deportation itself, at the local, national and transnational levels. The main national organisation to advertise and support various grassroots anti-deportation campaigns, the National Coalition of Anti-Deportation Campaigns (now called Right to Remain), emerged in 1995. Anti-deportation campaigns have argued that particular migrants should not be deported for a variety of reasons, including human rights violations in their countries of origin, lack of access to justice, and acquired membership ties in the host state.

Although political theory analysis most often takes place at levels of abstraction far removed from these local campaigns, in my view the arguments presented by these campaigns can be considered an important source of political theory analysis for a number of reasons. Firstly, these campaigns are well positioned from an epistemic point of view to conceptualise the nature of the injustices that can arise from deportation in the real world because they have experience of how deportation policies are enforced in practice and often possess a close relationship to those at risk of deportation. Secondly, while most applied ethical perspectives examine the principles that underlie existing institutions or that are widely shared and uncontroversial, focusing on the claims of those who contest state policies allows us to consider the plurality of the justifications and interpretations of existing institutions and policies. Finally, such a focus on contestations provides a more critical and independent perspective compared to those analyses that only include dominant principles, while at the same time it remains well anchored in the challenges that emerge in the real world. Therefore, through an analysis of the conceptual, political and ethical underpinnings of the campaigns' arguments, my thesis aims to make theoretical contributions to the political theory literature on the ethics of migration, the boundaries and entitlements to membership in the political community, and the just exercise of state powers.

In addition to these theoretical contributions, I aim to provide an empirical account of the main actors involved in anti-deportation campaigns, their changing goals, strategies and arguments, thus contributing to the rich migration literature on resistance to immigration controls. My research expands the empirical scope of the existing studies on anti-deportation movements in the United Kingdom by looking at the diversity of various anti-deportation campaigns – in terms of organisation, migratory experiences and legal statuses of the deportees, and types of arguments against deportation – across different historical times. In particular, my study spans from the late 1970s, when the effects of immigration laws increasing state deportation powers came into force, to present times. In uncovering the history of these anti-deportation movements, I consider why the campaigns have adopted different arguments and strategies at



Anti-deportation campaign poster, Birmingham, 1983–84

different historical times and how the debates on the controversies raised by deportation evolved.

The theoretical and empirical aspects of this research are held together by drawing on an approach to political theory that can be characterised as: ‘non-ideal’, in the sense that it critically examines current injustices in the world as it is; ‘contextual’, in the sense that it gives particular weight to changing empirical contexts in discovering, formulating and challenging normative principles; and ‘bottom up’, in the sense that it takes into account anti-deportation campaigns’ own articulations of normative arguments. This approach, I argue, allows conceptualising notions of membership in the state and justice in immigration controls in a potentially transformative way compared to state policies and existing articulations in political theory. Furthermore, such an analysis sheds light onto the possibilities and limitations of creating movements in solidarity with migrants within the non-ideal world, which is characterised by continuously changing laws, expanding state powers to deport, and a generalised climate of public hostility towards immigration.

Diletta Lauro 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

Lauro, Diletta (2015) ‘The ethics of deportation and immigrants’ right to remain in the host state’, Paper presented at the Nuffield Political Theory Workshop, University of Oxford.

Lauro, Diletta (2013) ‘The underlying conceptions of membership of anti-deportation campaigns in the United Kingdom’, Paper submitted for the Degree of Master of Science in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies at the University of Oxford, Winner of the Best Dissertation Award 2012–2013 (Hard copy in the Bodleian Library, University of Oxford).

# Public engagement with research

**Alexander Betts**

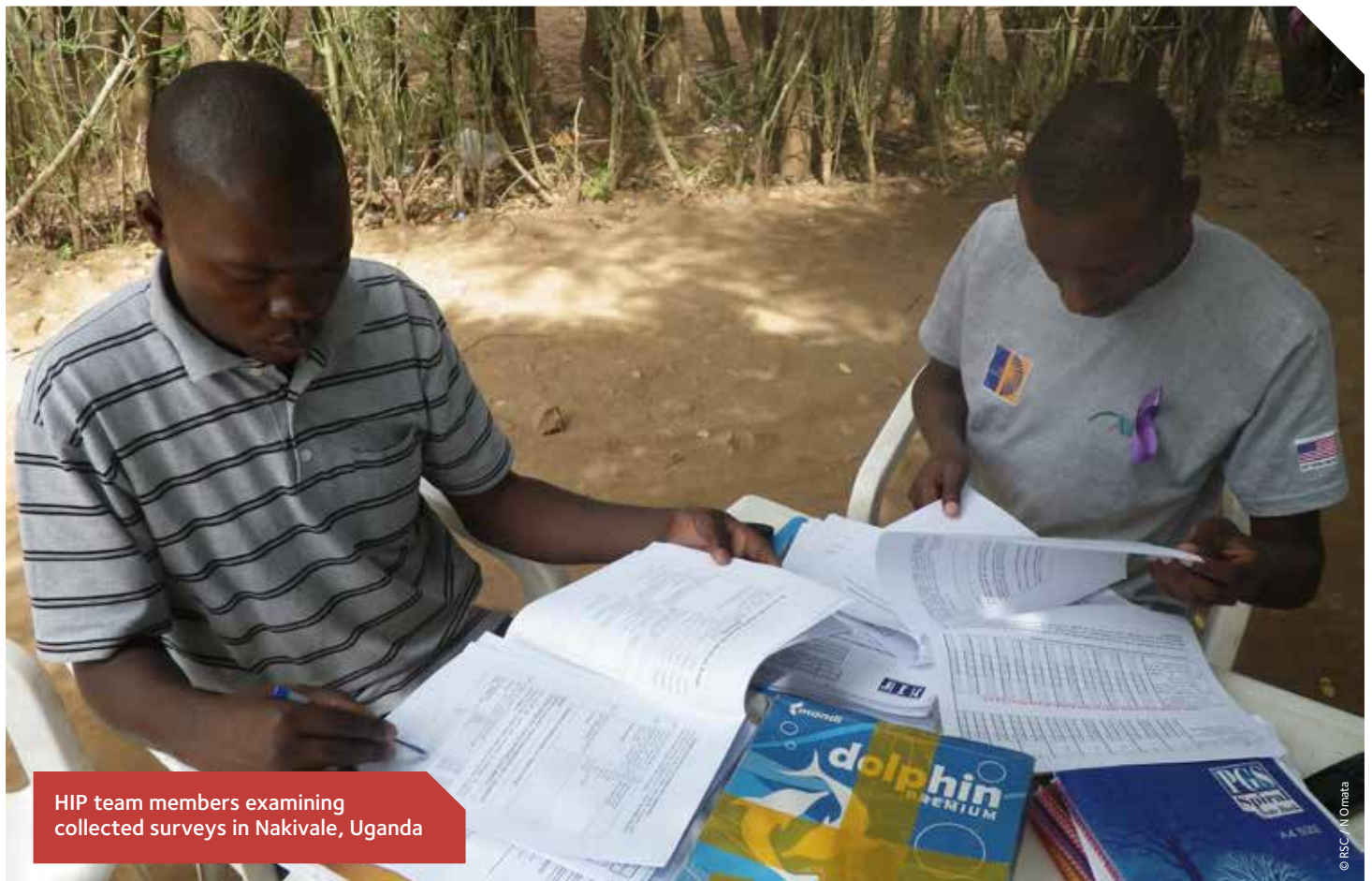
RSC Director; Leopold Muller Professor of Forced Migration and International Affairs

For anyone who does research on refugees and forced migration, the ultimate aim must be to have a positive impact on people's lives. It is not morally tenable to simply sit in our Ivory Tower and engage in debate for its own sake. But, equally, there are many ways in which to have impact. It does not simply have to be about having a direct line to governments and senior policymakers, useful though this is. It does not have to be a policy brief on the most pressing question of the day. It can also be about the more diffuse connections we have to the wider public: the teaching we do, the short courses we run, or the ways in which academic publications change how we think about an issue, for example.

'Public engagement with research' is an idea that has taken off recently across universities. It is about the ways in which we engage the public (in all its forms) in our research through communication, collaboration, and consultation. It serves as an antidote to the slightly narrowly defined 'impact' agenda that has too often been just about influencing 'policy'. The policy world – generally in governments, international organisations, and NGOs – has its own agenda. It sometimes demands data or guidance at fast turnarounds in ways that can sit awkwardly with the comparative advantage of academia: to stand back, reflect, and be independent of an immediate herd mentality. 'Public engagement

with research' helps reconcile the search for relevance with a university's need for independent, reflective, and rigorous research. And that's why we like it: it allows us to be accountable for our relevance while maintaining our independence.

This is especially crucial for the Refugee Studies Centre because of our unique place in the world. We want our research, teaching, and outreach all to shape the world for the better. But we are not a think tank or an NGO, and we are not here to serve any particular interest group. We are here to produce world-class, independent research that can guide and shape public thinking in the



HIP team members examining collected surveys in Nakivale, Uganda

broadest possible sense. This is all the more important at a time of global transformation. In the context of a supposed 'crisis', old ideas and paradigms are being called into question. New consensus are forming, and we absolutely have to engage. But we also need to be in a position to offer forms of engagement that challenge rather unquestioningly the perspective of the crowd.

This year, we were delighted to be awarded one of the first ever Vice-Chancellor's Public Engagement with Research Awards. Although it could have been awarded for many aspects of the RSC's work, it was awarded at a ceremony on 1 July for the Humanitarian Innovation Project's work on 'Refugee Economies' in Uganda. In particular that project was recognised as engaging the public in research in a number of ways. Through participatory, mixed methods research carried out in Uganda, and sustained collaboration with refugees and a range of other partners, we have explored the economic lives of refugees, seeking to explain variation in economic outcomes for refugees.

Most notably, our research collaboratively engaged refugees in all parts of the works. Across all four of our main research sites, Kampala (the urban context), Nakivale settlement (a protracted refugee camp), Kyangwali (a protracted refugee camp), and Rwamwanja (an emergency refugee camp), we built deep relationships of trust with the refugee communities, initially through community leaders in the Somali, Congolese, Rwandan, and South Sudanese communities. Through Naohiko Omata and Josiah Kaplan's presence in the field, we trained 42 refugees as peer researchers and enumerators to enable them to participate directly within the research process as well as the subsequent dissemination of the research.

Our research was enormously enhanced through its participatory approach. We were able to attain significant access through building deep relationships of trust within the refugee communities as a result of recruiting and training refugees themselves as peer researchers and working with them as co-creators and collaborators on the research project. Our research teams benefited from the training we offered in areas such as report writing, presentation skills, and interview and survey methods training. It has been gratifying to see the subsequent success of some of our researchers. Robert Hakiza was awarded the Ockenden Prize for his work in developing a skills-training programme for refugees at his community-based organisation, YARID. Kiflu Hussain was resettled to the United States where he continued to work as a researcher at the Hunt Institute for Engineering and Humanity. Ntakimaze Nziyovira and Angeliqe Kabami both received Mastercard scholarships to study abroad.

Furthermore, we have collaborated with a range of other partners in the development of the research and its dissemination, including the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Ugandan Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), and sought to disseminate the research widely to shape the public debate on refugees on a global scale. The Permanent Secretary in the Office of the Prime Minister remarked, for example, that "The research conducted by Oxford HIP on the refugees' economic activities has made a significant



contribution to the development of the OPM and joint self-reliance programme in Uganda... The analysis and data provided by HIP have become a significant underpinning of our policymaking in the area of refugees' self-reliance and have also enabled us to conduct evidence-based policymaking", and the government and UNHCR jointly showcased a video featuring our research at the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul.

We have tried to communicate the research to as wide a public audience as possible. This has included launch events in Kenya and Uganda, including within the Nakivale refugee settlement with several of the refugees involved in our work. The work has featured in presentations at a range of public events, including the Skoll World Forum, the Global Philanthropy Forum, TED, the World Bank, UNHCR's annual NGO consultations, the US State Department, DFID, the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, and the Danish Red Cross' annual meeting. It has also received media coverage in the *Guardian*, *The Economist*, the *Independent*, *Fast Company Magazine*, IRIN news, the BBC, Al Jazeera, and CNN, for example, as well as forming the basis of an NPR documentary played across 900 US-based radio stations.

The project serves one example of how the Refugee Studies Centre aspires to approach research: engaged, relevant, and collaborative but still independent and academically rigorous.

**Refugee Economies: Forced Displacement and Development** (by Alexander Betts, Louise Bloom, Josiah Kaplan, and Naohiko Omata) will be published by Oxford University Press in November 2016.

# 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 free of charge, in print and online, in four languages – English, French, Spanish, and Arabic. In the autumn of 2015, we launched a new 'Research in Brief' series to make our academic research more 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 public engagement. 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 2015–16, the website received over 200,000 visits from 220 countries – a 34% increase on last year.

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

### Follow us on Twitter



### 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 wide range of media. The RSC website and social media presence are integrated, improving users' ability to share content and to access our podcasts, videos and other multimedia content.

In 2015–16 we have seen substantial growth in our social media followers:

- On **Facebook**, we have over 5,000 new followers, taking us to a total of 11,800: [www.facebook.com/refugeestudiescentre](http://www.facebook.com/refugeestudiescentre)
- On **Twitter**, we have seen an increase of nearly 7,000 followers, taking us to over 20,000: [@refugeestudies](https://twitter.com/refugeestudies)
- Our **YouTube** channel has received more than 16,500 views in the past year. Video playlists includes 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 7,700 plays registered over the past 12 months on our **SoundCloud** channel. This provides podcasts of the RSC Public Seminar Series, our two Annual Lectures, plus special seminars and events such as the conference From Fortress Europe to Sanctuary Europe: [www.soundcloud.com/refugeestudiescentre](http://www.soundcloud.com/refugeestudiescentre)
- See our images on **Flickr**: [www.flickr.com/refugeestudiescentre](http://www.flickr.com/refugeestudiescentre)

Visit the RSC website for up-to-date news and information

## Research in Brief series

In autumn 2015, we launched our new Research in Brief series, presenting concise and engaging summaries of RSC research. Four briefings are available at time of press.

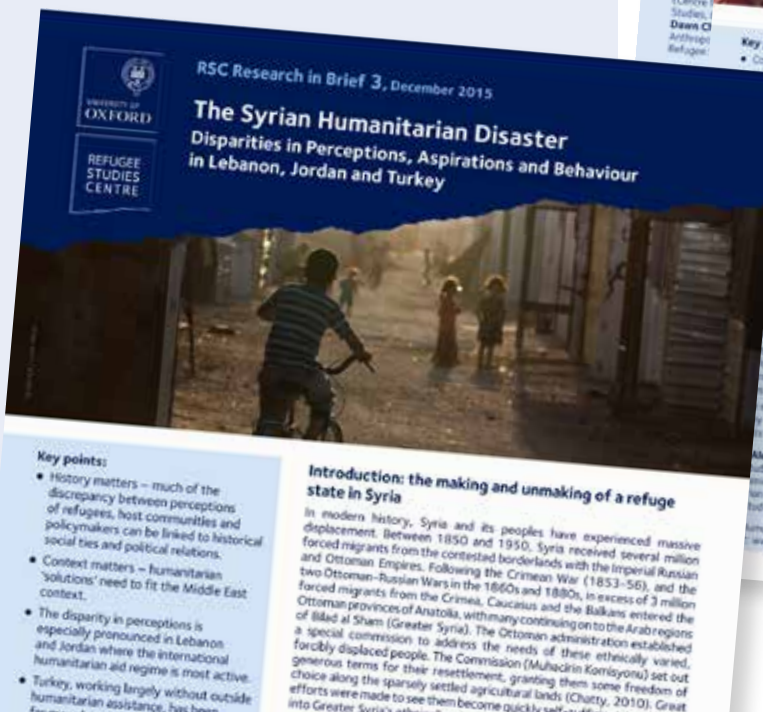
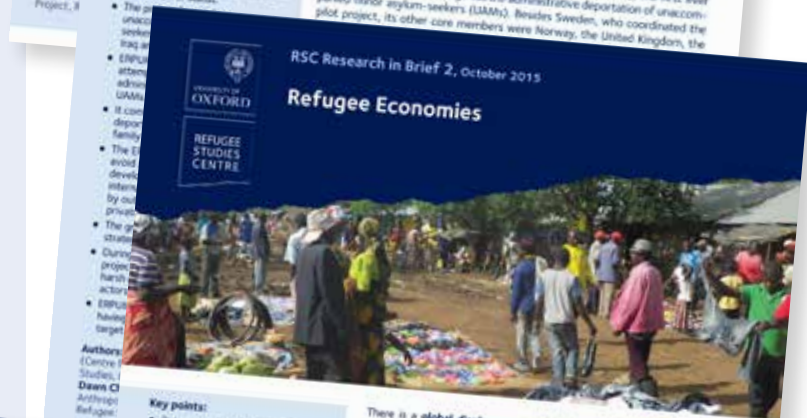
The first in the series focuses on Bottom-Up Humanitarian Innovation, which aims to enable aid agencies to support the creativity and skills of affected populations. Written by Louise Bloom, it provides findings from research by the Humanitarian Innovation Project (HIP) in Uganda, Kenya, South Africa, Jordan, and the USA.

The second, by Professor Alexander Betts and Dr Naohiko Omata, focuses on Refugee Economies. It reports on HIP research in Uganda into the economic lives of refugees, how refugees' economic lives are distinctive from others, and what explains the variation in economic outcomes for refugees.

The ongoing Syrian humanitarian crisis is the subject of the third briefing, by Emeritus Professor Dawn Chatty. This provides research findings on the perceptions, aspirations and behaviour of refugees, host communities and practitioners in Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon.

Finally, the latest briefing, by Dr Martin Lemberg-Pedersen (University of Copenhagen) and Emeritus Professor Dawn Chatty, documents the institutional dynamics of the European Return Platform for Unaccompanied Minors (ERPUM), a pilot project that was discontinued in June 2014.

All briefs can be downloaded at: [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/publications](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/publications)



# 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.

## A peace agreement 20 years on

### A crisis of the moment examined

### A decades-old conundrum explored:

The feature themes of the three issues of *Forced Migration Review* (FMR) published this year reflect very different subjects but, as ever, they bring together researchers, practitioners, policymakers and displaced people to:

- consider the impact of programmes to respond to displacement
- apply lessons from the past to the conflicts of today
- put a crisis in context and assess the options
- share new approaches to thorny, age-old problems.

## FMR 50

### Dayton +20: Bosnia and Herzegovina twenty years on from the Dayton Peace Agreement (September 2015)


The Dayton Peace Agreement brought the 1992–95 Bosnian war to an end. Some 263,000 people had died and more than two million people had been displaced. The Peace Agreement recognised the right of all displaced people to return or receive compensation – but four years of war had left a legacy of distrust, and those who had been displaced would not easily or readily return to live side by side in peace. Thousands of people are still displaced today, and solutions to the legacy of the war are still needed. This issue of FMR reflects on the lessons that may be drawn from the successes and failures of the Peace Agreement: lessons that also have resonance for other, more current crises, such as in Syria or Ukraine. This issue was also published in Bosnian (Latin and Cyrillic).


## FMR 51

### Destination: Europe

(January 2016)

This issue explores the disparate manifestations of Europe's 'migration crisis': the building of fences to stop people crossing normally peaceful borders, the deaths of people transported by smugglers in unseaworthy boats, the bickering by EU political leaders over a Common European Asylum System and the numbers they will or will not allow into their respective countries, and the contentious responses to the disaster that continues to unfold in Syria. Alongside this, however, we have also seen an upsurge of grass-roots compassion, solidarity and assistance to those whose human suffering on a grand scale in and around Europe constitutes the reality behind the rhetoric.

 excellent from @FMReview on the disparate manifestations of the 'migration crisis' – essential reading

 Thanks to @FMReview an outstanding FMR special issue on migration to Europe.

## FMR 52

### Thinking ahead: displacement, transitions, solutions

(May 2016)

The existence of people in very protracted displacement, the inadequacy of the solutions proposed for them, and the inevitability that many people now becoming displaced will face the same fate all point to the pressing need for improvements that cannot reasonably be achieved through humanitarian action alone. This issue of FMR explores the ideas and practices that are being tried out in order to engage both development and humanitarian work in support of 'transitions' and 'solutions' for displaced people. What we need, says one author, is "full global recognition that the challenge of forced displacement is an integral part of the development agenda too".

These and all previous issues are available online at [www.fmreview.org](http://www.fmreview.org)



## FMR Reader Survey

This year FMR conducted a short Reader Survey. We received encouraging feedback to go on doing more of what we do, and helpful suggestions for content and ways of working. One innovation endorsed by those who responded was the suggestion of publishing occasional **thematic listings** of articles published by FMR over the years on specific topics. The first ones are now online at [www.fmreview.org/thematic-listings](http://www.fmreview.org/thematic-listings). As importantly, we also got a snapshot of our readership and how variables (such as location and age) affect preferences for reading FMR in print or online.

Read more at [www.fmreview.org/accountability/survey2016](http://www.fmreview.org/accountability/survey2016)

## Future issues

### FMR 53: Local communities: first and last providers of protection (due out October 2016)

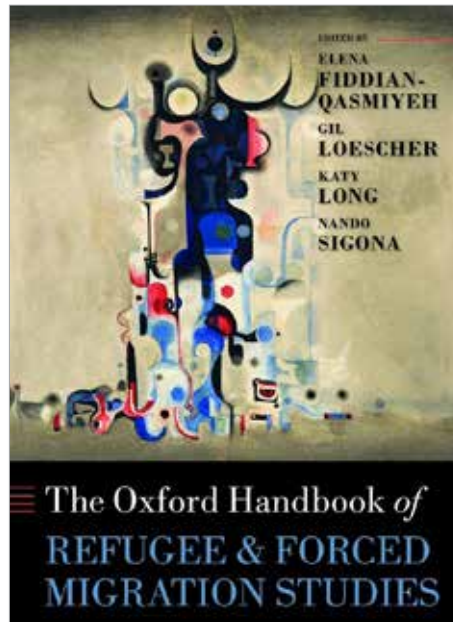
This issue's feature theme looks at the capacity of local communities to organise themselves before, during and after displacement in ways that help protect the community as a whole. See [www.fmreview.org/community-protection](http://www.fmreview.org/community-protection)

### FMR 54: Resettlement (due out February 2017)

This issue will reflect, inform and contribute to current debates around the role of resettlement in meeting the needs of refugees, particularly those who are most vulnerable or at risk. Call for articles at [www.fmreview.org/resettlement](http://www.fmreview.org/resettlement)

### FMR 55: Shelter (due out June 2017)

This issue of FMR will seek to help improve understanding and practice around the theme of shelter in order ultimately to provide better shelter solutions for people displaced by conflict, natural disasters and other causes of emergencies. See [www.fmreview.org/shelter](http://www.fmreview.org/shelter)



## The Oxford Handbook of Refugee & Forced Migration Studies is now out in paperback.

The Handbook was edited by current and former RSC staff and RSC Associates: Dr Elena Fiddian-Qasmiyeh (former RSC Senior Research Officer), Professor Gil Loescher (Visiting Professor), Dr Katy Long (former RSC Research Associate) and Dr Nando Sigona (RSC Research Associate). It offers a comprehensive and cutting-edge overview of the key intellectual, political, social and institutional challenges arising from mass displacement in the world today. Through state-of-the-art contributions by more than 50 leading scholars and practitioners, readers are introduced to the field via a combination of innovative academic analysis and critical personal reflections of working with and about refugees and other displaced peoples, including trafficked people and 'environmental refugees'.

Further details available at [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/oxford-handbook-paperback](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/oxford-handbook-paperback)

## 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.

This year, the journal published a special virtual issue on unaccompanied minors and refugee children. The first in an occasional series of

virtual issues, compiling and making freely available articles from recent print issues on a particular theme, this issue brings together eight articles published since 2012 that between them provide insights into a forced migration phenomenon of growing relevance. This virtual issue is freely accessible until 31 December 2016.

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.





Will Jones chairs a panel at the conference From Fortress Europe to Sanctuary Europe, with Christina Lejman, Giulia Gori, Anne-Laure Losseau, and Ghazi El Rass

© RSC



A father and son from Aleppo, Syria, collect recyclables in Izmir, Turkey

© UNHCR / Andrew McCormell



# Fundraising and development

The Refugee Studies Centre's greatest strength lies in the wealth of relationships we have cultivated and fostered over the years. From hard-working students to knowledgeable alumni, from cutting-edge new researchers to renowned emeritus colleagues, from committed advisors to insightful policymakers, generous donors and engaged practitioners, the RSC has an impact on and is impacted by individuals and organisations far beyond the walls of Queen Elizabeth House. Committed academics and dedicated staff are just the beginning when it comes to the engaged, thoughtful people who contribute to the RSC to build knowledge and understanding of forced migration in order to help improve the lives of the world's most vulnerable people.

During the past year, we have built a series of important strategic partnerships, which have brought new funding to the RSC while simultaneously enabling us to have wider impact.

We have embarked on an initially two-year, renewable, strategic partnership with the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA). In particular, we are excited to be collaborating with their Human Security Division, which for a long time has undertaken important work on the right of vulnerable migrants and displaced populations. The partnership has allowed us to invest in improvements to the International Summer School, to appoint two new Junior Research Fellows in strategically important areas, and to create a new seed research fund to catalyse research across the centre. Through the partnership, we have undertaken policy collaborations in a number of areas, including supporting the Swiss Chair of the OSCE Informal Working Group on Migration and Switzerland's multilateral work on the human rights of migrants.

We are equally delighted to have built a similar strategic partnership with the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The partnership has enabled the Humanitarian Innovation Project to expand the scope of its research from Uganda to Kenya, pilot new methodologies, and has contributed to the appointment of our Junior Research Fellow in the Economics of Forced Migration. As part of the collaboration, we have continued to play an active role in the Danish-backed Solutions Alliance, which serves as an important vehicle through which our research on Refugee Economies can continue to have policy impact.

Our partnership model is one we are keen to develop further, having had extremely positive experiences of how our activities can be supported by external partners while enabling us to have wider impact.

Stephanie and Hunter Hunt have continued to support the work of the Humanitarian Innovation Project, and have been the RSC's most significant and generous donors over the last 5 years. We are thrilled that the University has recognised their contribution by inviting them to join the Vice Chancellor's Court of

Benefactors. The Asfari Foundation and the Saïd Foundation have supported the RSC's work through bursaries for our International Summer School. Likewise, the Asfari Foundation, the Saïd Foundation and the Vitol Foundation have funded our mapping of education opportunities for refugee youth from Syria in Turkey, Northern Iraq/Kurdistan, Lebanon and Jordan. Meanwhile, Delmi has provided generous funding for a new study on 'responsibility-sharing in the refugee regime'.

A range of donors have generously supported the work of *Forced Migration Review* (FMR), enabling it to produce issues on the Dayton Peace Agreement 20 years on, Europe's refugee 'crisis', and the relationship between development and displacement.

We are also thankful for the donations received through the 30th Anniversary Barbara Harrell-Bond Fund, launched last year to support the development of the next generation of research, teaching and practice in refugee studies. The Fund will help us to sustain support for the most talented students and practitioners, especially those from the global South, as well as ensuring the continuation and improvement of our efforts to advance refugee issues and develop a global community of academics, policymakers and practitioners working in the field of forced migration. Funding for bursaries for our Summer School and MSc students continues to be a major priority so that as many people as possible can benefit from our courses.

## Donors

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

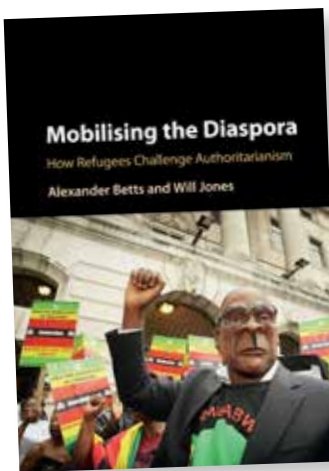
Asfari Foundation	Leverhulme Trust
British Academy	Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Catholic Relief Services–United States Conference of Catholic Bishops	Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Centre on Migration, Policy, and Society (COMPAS)	Norwegian Refugee Council
Communities Foundation of Texas	Ockenden Foundation
Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Ockenden International Trust
Danish Refugee Council	Open Society Foundations
Delmi	Oxfam
Economic & Social Research Council (ESRC)	Oxford Diasporas Programme
Elizabeth Colson	Regional Development and Protection Programme
European Union	Saïd Foundation
Ford Foundation	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Canada
German Research Foundation	Stephanie and Hunter Hunt
Government of Denmark	Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs
Government Offices of Sweden	UK Department for International Development
Henry Luce Foundation	UNHCR
International Organization for Migration	UNOCHA
John Fell OUP Fund	Women's Refugee Commission
	World Humanitarian Summit

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- Vignal, Leïla** (2016), 'Syrien: die strategie des zerstörung', *Blätter für deutsche und internationale Politik*, Mai.
- Vignal, Leïla** (2016), 'Syria: the strategy of destruction', *Books and Ideas*, 6 June.
- Vignal, Leïla** (with A Choplin) (2016) 'Investissements directs du Golfe en Méditerranée arabe: nouvelle frontière et régionalisation économique', *Cybergeo*, September.
- Vignal, Leïla** (with H Thiollet) (eds) (2016) 'Transnationalizing the Arabian Peninsula', Special issue of *Arabian Humanities*, 7, Fall.
- Zetter, Roger** (2015) 'A fragmented landscape of protection', *Forced Migration Review*, 50: 62–5.

## Papers and reports

- Betts, Alexander and Omata, Naohiko** (2015) *Refugee Economies*, RSC Research in Brief 2.
- Bloom, Louise** (2015) *Bottom-up Humanitarian Innovation*, RSC Research in Brief 1.
- Chatty, Dawn** (2015) *The Syrian Humanitarian Disaster: Disparities in perceptions, aspirations and behaviour in Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey*, RSC Research in Brief 3.
- Chatty, Dawn** (with M Lemberg-Pedersen) (2015) *ERPUM and the Drive to Deport Unaccompanied Minors*, RSC Research in Brief 4.
- Chatty, Dawn et al.** (2016) *Refugee from Syria: Policy Recommendations*, The outcome of a workshop held at the Refugee Studies Centre, RSC Policy Note.
- Costello, Cathryn** (with E Guild, M Garlick and V Moreno-Lax) (2015) *The 2015 Refugee Crisis in the European Union*, CEPS Policy Briefing, Brussels: Centre for European Policy Studies.
- Omata, Naohiko** (with N Takahashi) (2015) *Examining the impact of UNIDO's training on the economic reintegration of repatriated refugees in Liberia*, UNIDO Working Paper 12 / 2015, Vienna: United Nations Industrial Development Organization.
- Zetter, Roger** (with N Harild and A Christensen) (2015) *Sustainable Refugee Return: Triggers, constraints, and lessons on addressing the development challenges of forced displacement*, World Bank Global Program on Forced Displacement, Cross Cutting Solutions Area on Fragility, Conflict and Violence, Washington DC: World Bank Group.

## RSC Working Paper Series

- 110: Forced migration in the 'First World': questioning the logics of a humanitarian concept  
**Anna Wherry**  
December 2015
- 111: Assessing economic impacts of hosting refugees: conceptual, methodological and ethical gaps  
**Naohiko Omata and Nina Weaver**  
December 2015
- 112: Dilemmas of representation: organisations' approaches to portraying refugees and asylum seekers  
**Mackenzie Green, Andonis Marden, Maira Seeley, and Kristiina Wells**  
December 2015

113: Militaries and humanitarian innovation: opportunities and risks  
**Josiah Kaplan and Evan Easton-Calabria**  
February 2016

114: The role of the special advocate as an alternative to non-disclosure: examining and looking beyond the balancing act  
**Ella Gunn**  
March 2016

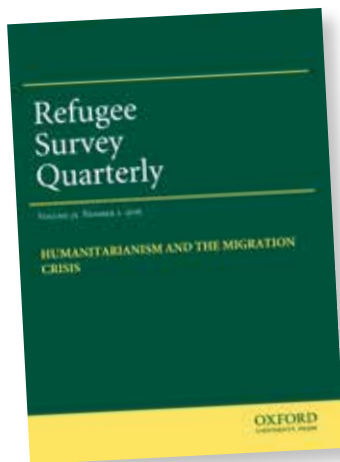
115: Human mobility as a resource in conflict: the case of Syria  
**Diana Ihring**  
April 2016

116: Micro-finance in refugee contexts: current scholarship and research gaps  
**Evan Easton-Calabria and Naohiko Omata**  
June 2016

117: Performing the human: refugees, the body, and the politics of universalism  
**Moe Suzuki**  
July 2016

## Selected presentations

- Betts, Alexander** (2015) 'Refugee innovation: a bottom-up approach', Vienna University of Applied Arts, Vienna, 27 October.
- Betts, Alexander** (2016) 'Protection as autonomy: states, markets, and refugees', Workshop on Responsibility-Sharing for Refugees, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, 24 July.
- Betts, Alexander** (2016) 'Thrive or survive: explaining variation in economic outcomes for refugees', Conference on Rethinking the Refugee Regime, New York, 5 July.
- Betts, Alexander** (2016) 'Why Brexit happened and what we should do about it?', TED Summit, Banff, 29 June.
- Betts, Alexander** (2016) 'New approaches to partnerships and solidarity for refugees', OSCE Informal Working Group on Migration, Vienna, 13 June.
- Betts, Alexander** (2016) 'The economic and political lives of refugees', Annual Migration Lecture, Sheffield University, 9 June.
- Betts, Alexander** (2016) 'Refugees as a resource', Closing Plenary, Skoll World Forum, Oxford, 15 April.
- Betts, Alexander** (2016) 'Helping refugees to help themselves', Keynote, Global Philanthropy Forum, Redwood City, 5 April.
- Betts, Alexander** (2016) 'Our refugee system is failing: here's what we should do about it' TED2016, Vancouver, 19 February.



**Betts, Alexander** (2016) 'Explaining the politics of the refugee crisis', Keynote address, Conference on Multi-Level Migration Governance, Bern University, 11 March.

**Bloom, Louise** (2015) Presentation on 'Disruptive innovation – humanitarian supply chains', Oxford Scenarios Programme, Saïd Business School, University of Oxford, October.

**Bloom, Louise** (2015) Panel on 'Political accountability and water security risks', REACH: Improving water security for the poor, Water Conference 2015, University of Oxford, December.

**Bloom, Louise** (2015) Presentation 'A glimpse into the lives of Syrian Refugees in Jordan', Women's Federation for World Peace UK, London, December.

**Chatty, Dawn** (2015) Keynote, 'Syria: the making and unmaking of a "REFUGEE" state', Migration without Boundaries Conference, Michigan State University, East Lansing, 9 October.

**Chatty, Dawn** (2015) Keynote, 'Fortress Europe: Refugees welcome here?', STAR Conference, London, 7 November.

**Chatty, Dawn** (2015) Keynote, "'No Lost [Syrian Refugee] Generation': More than a slogan but not quite an international initiative?", GenderMed-MuCEM Workshop, Marseille, 14–15 December.

**Chatty, Dawn** (2016) Presentation, 'Syrian humanitarian disaster: sustainability of regional containment?', Western Policy and the Crisis in the Middle East and North Africa, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, 22–24 March.

**Chatty, Dawn** (2016) Keynote, 'Syrian humanitarian disaster: sustainability of containment in the region of conflict?', Migration and Conflict Conference, University of Hamburg, 28 April.

**Chatty, Dawn** (2016) Keynote, 'Caught between a rock and a hard place: understanding perceptions, and aspirations among hosts, practitioners and guests in Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan', Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, University of Halle, 10 May.

**Chatty, Dawn** (2016) Key speaker, 'Migration: policy recommendations from the Syrian humanitarian crisis', Practitioners' Workshop for Conflict and International Security Experts, Crown Agents, London, 26 May.

**Chatty, Dawn** (2016) Key speaker, 'Protracted crises: key issues from the Middle East', Protracted Crises Conference, British Academy, London, 3 June.

**Chatty, Dawn** (2016) Presentation, 'The challenges to policy and practice: Syrian humanitarian crisis', Workshop on Long Term Challenges of Forced Migration, LSE, London, 16 June.

**Chatty, Dawn** (2016) Keynote, 'Engaging refugee narratives: aesthetic expression and forced migration', Engaging Refugee Narratives Conference, University College London, 20 June.

**Chatty, Dawn** (2016) Keynote, 'Mass migration as a method of war: lessons from the Syrian civil war', Changing Character of War Course, St Catherine's College, University of Oxford, 21 June.

**Chatty, Dawn** (2016) Keynote, 'Reflections on herding societies and future directions', Academy of Sciences, Ulaan Bataar, Mongolia, 1 July.

**Cole, Georgia** (2016) 'Struggling to find a fence: a search for the middle ground in Eritrean scholarship', Opening Plenary Panel at the International Conference on Eritrean Studies, Asmara, July.

**Cole, Georgia** (2016) 'Has something been missing in our "theorising" of the refugee label?', Conference Presentation, International Association for the Study of Forced Migration, Poland, July.

**Cole, Georgia** (2016) 'The cessation clause for Eritrean refugees: how and why did it happen?', Presentation at Unlocking Eritrea, Eritrea Research Network Seminar, London South Bank University, May.

**Cole, Georgia** (2016) 'The cessation of refugee status: law as a facilitator of violence', Presentation at 9th Pan-European Conference on International Relations: The Worlds of Violence, Sicily, September.

**Costello, Cathryn** (2015) Special Additional Presentation 'Refugees in crisis', European Society of International Law, Annual Conference, Oslo, 9–11 September.

**Costello, Cathryn** (2015) 'The CJEU as a refugee law court', Symposium on Current Developments in Refugee Law, University of Ankara, Faculty of Law, 1–2 October.

**Costello, Cathryn** (2015) Contribution to Closing Panel, Europe's Shared Burden: Collective Responsibility for Migrants at Sea, 18th UCD Irish European Law Forum, Dublin, 9–10 October.

**Costello, Cathryn** (2015) 'Solidarity and alternatives to Dublin', PERCO Workshop on solidarity among EU countries: Thinking beyond Dublin, Austrian Red Cross Headquarters, Vienna, 21 October (via skype).

**Costello, Cathryn** (2015) Keynote Address 'Refugees in crisis vs. incremental reform', ERA Annual Conference on European Asylum Law 2015, Trier, 22–23 October (via skype).

**Costello, Cathryn** (2015) 'Is there a refugee crisis in Europe, or just a crisis in the lack of refugee protection?', Oxford Human Rights Hub Webinar, with Professor Guy S Goodwin-Gill, University of Oxford, 12 November.

**Costello, Cathryn** (2015) 'Developing safe and/or lawful routes for asylum seekers and refugees into the EU', Forum on Migration Policy of the Research Centre Immigration & Asylum Law (FZAA), Konstanz University, Robert Bosch Foundation, Berlin, 30 November.

**Costello, Cathryn** (2016) Invited LLM Seminar, 'The Common European Asylum System and the refugee crisis', University of Edinburgh, 12 February.

**Costello, Cathryn** (2016) 'The European refugee crisis', Panel Presentation at Conference organised by the Delegation of Syriza in the European Parliament on The EU and Refugees: Facing Reality and Discussing Alternative Solutions, Athens, 12 February (by skype).

**Costello, Cathryn** (2016) Experts Brainstorming Meeting on Family Reunification for Refugees, Beneficiaries of Other Forms of International Protection and Asylum-Seekers, Council of Europe, Strasbourg, 1 April.

**Costello, Cathryn** (2016) 'Safe country? Says who', International Gathering to Celebrate the Scholarship of Professor Guy S Goodwin-Gill, All Souls College, Oxford, 14–15 April.

**Costello, Cathryn** (2016) Workshop of the Model International Mobility Treaty Commission, Columbia University, New York (by skype), 18 April.

**Costello, Cathryn** (2016) Meeting of the Asylum and Refugees Working Group 'Management of Borders in Light of Contemporary Migration: Challenges from the perspective of asylum and protection', Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees (IGC), Geneva, 19–20 April.

**Costello, Cathryn** (2016) Symposium on Migrants at Work, Costello & Freedland (eds), University of Girona, 22 April.

**Costello, Cathryn** (2016), Presentation at 'Reforming Europe', 9th Annual Polish-British Round Table, Krakow, 12–13 May.

**Costello, Cathryn** (2016) Invited keynote lecture: 'Europe: A friend or a foe of global public law?', Koç Center for Global Public Law Colloquium, Koc University Istanbul, 16 May.

**Costello, Cathryn** (2016) 'Citizenship, migration management, and immobility', Oxford Handbook of Citizenship authors' conference, European University Institute, Florence, 2–4 June.

**Costello, Cathryn** (2016) 'The degradation and salvation of asylum', Panel Convenor, Refugee Privilege or Human Rights Minimalism, 2016 ICON-S Conference: Borders, Otherness and Public Law, Humboldt University, Berlin, 17–19 June.

**Gibney, Matthew J** (2015) 'On the norm against deporting citizens', Keynote lecture, Linneaus University, Kalmar, Sweden, December.

**Gibney, Matthew J** (2015) 'Denationalization and forced migration', SSHRC Forced Migration Workshop, University of Toronto, September.

**Gibney, Matthew J** (2015) 'Ethics of asylum, Migration Crisis: A Multi-Disciplinary Discussion, King's College London, December.

**Gibney, Matthew J** (2016) 'Denationalization, Workshop for Oxford Handbook of Citizenship', EUI, Florence, June.

**Gibney, Matthew J** (2016) 'David Miller on refugees', Roundtable discussion on Miller's 'Strangers in our Midst', Nuffield College, Oxford, June.

**Gibney, Matthew J** (2016) 'The morality of human smuggling', Lecture to the International Summer School in Forced Migration, Oxford, July.

**Jones, Will** (2016) Presentation on 'The refugee match', Conference on Rethinking the Global Refugee Protection System, Centre for Migration Studies, State University of New York, July.

**Jones, Will** (2016) Presentation on 'The refugee match', Expert Workshop on Understanding Refugee Law as Shared Responsibility, Allard School of Law, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, July.

**Loescher, Gil** (2015) 'A professional life in refugee studies research', Master class for graduate students in refugee and forced migration studies at Carleton University, Ottawa, September.

**Loescher, Gil** (2015) Paper, 'Agency, influence and power in UNHCR's early history', International Conference on Power and Influence in the Global Refugee Regime, Carleton University, Ottawa, September.

**Loescher, Gil** (2015) Presentation and Discussant, 'The Role of History in Refugee Studies', Workshop with German scholars and historians, Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford, October.

**Omata, Naohiko** (2015) 'Refugee economies in Uganda', Presentation at World Bank hosted workshop, Methodological Workshop on Measuring Impacts of Refugees & IDPs on Host Countries and Communities, Uganda, 20–21 November.

**Omata, Naohiko** (2015) 'Refugee economies: rethinking popular assumptions', Public Lecture at University of Oxford, Tokyo Office, Tokyo, 22 December.

**Omata, Naohiko** (2015) 'Refugee economies: rethinking popular assumptions', Public Lecture at University of Hiroshima, Hiroshima, 24 December.

**Omata, Naohiko** (2016) 'Refugee Reception in Uganda', Panel discussion at public seminar hosted by Humanity House titled: What (not) to learn from non-European countries in hosting refugees?, The Hague, 26 May.

**Omata, Naohiko** (2016) 'Added-value of research for policy making - Refugee Economies: Forced Displacement and Development', Presentation at World Bank and UNHCR hosted workshop, Local Integration as a Solution to Displacement in the Great Lakes Region: Challenges and Opportunities, Nairobi, 6–7 June.

**Omata, Naohiko** (2016) Presentation 'Opportunities and challenges of a participatory approach in refugee research: Working with refugees as research assistants', Workshop titled: What is 'evidence' in evidence-based research on humanitarian crises?, Centre for Development and Emergency Practice, Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, 29 June.

**Scott-Smith, Tom** (2016) 'Humanitarian Design: From High to Low Modernism', Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology Seminar, University of Oxford, 22 January.

**Scott-Smith, Tom** (2016) 'Designing for the Refugee Crisis: A critical view', London Museum of Architecture Seminar, The Building Centre for Innovation in the Built Environment, London, 9 May.

**Scott-Smith, Tom** (2016) 'Designing for inclusion: integrating migrants and refugees', Architecture Sans Frontières Seminar, London, 4 June.

**Scott-Smith, Tom** (2016) 'Architectures of displacement: what is new and old about humanitarian shelter in Europe', EU Border Care Conference, European University Institute, Florence, 27 June.

**Scott-Smith, Tom** (2016) 'Sticky technologies: Plumpy'nut, emergency feeding, and the viscosity of humanitarian design', Humanitarian Objects and Designs Workshop, University of Oxford, 31 July.

**Vignal, Leïla** (2015) 'Syria's transforming borders and borderlands under the effect of conflict', 9th Pan-European Conference on International Relations, The European International Studies Association (EISA), Giardini di Naxos, Sicily, 23–26 September.

**Vignal, Leïla** (2016) 'Syria: Destructions, displacements, and warfare', the Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies Research Seminar Series, Spring 2016: Civil Wars in the Arab World, Edinburgh University.

**Vignal, Leïla** (2016) 'La répression en Syrie. Destructions urbaines et déplacements de population comme armes de guerre', Les Dimanches de Souria Houria, Paris, 29 May.

**Zetter, Roger** (2015) 'Human rights and protection of migrants in the context of the current Mediterranean crisis', keynote paper, IOM, EMN Educational Seminar, 'Irregular Migration – Borders and Human Rights', Bratislava, Slovakia.

**Zetter, Roger** (2015) Discussant at the Methodological Workshop on Measuring Impacts of Refugees and IDPs on Host Countries and Host Communities, World Bank, Washington DC.

**Zetter, Roger** (2015) 'From macro-economy to political economy situating the refugee development discourse at the large scale', Public Seminar Series, Refugee Studies Centre, December.

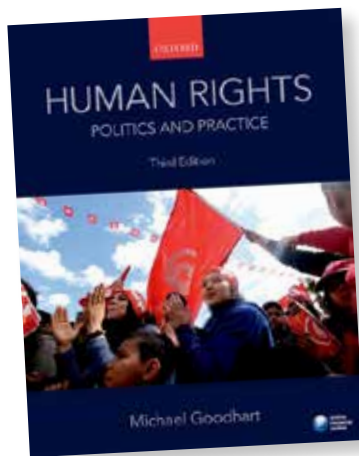
## Conferences and workshops

**History and Memory in Refugee Research**  
2nd Workshop of the German Research Foundation (DFG) Research Network 'Foundations of Refugee Research'. Convened by Dr J Olaf Kleist for the DFG Network 'Foundations of Refugee Research', 30–31 October 2015

**Refuge from Syria**  
Workshop convened by Emeritus Professor Dawn Chatty, 9 December 2015

**Celebrating the Scholarship of Professor Guy S Goodwin-Gill: An International Gathering**  
Convened by All Souls College, the Andrew & Renata Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law, the *International Journal of Refugee Law*, the Oxford Faculty of Law, and the Refugee Studies Centre, 14–15 April 2016

**From Fortress Europe to Sanctuary Europe: Building a Social Movement for Inclusive Asylum**  
Convened by the Refugee Studies Centre, Oxford City of Sanctuary, the national City of Sanctuary movement, and the British Red Cross, 18–19 June 2016



## Public Seminar Series

### Michaelmas term 2015

#### Refugee economies

Convenors: **Professor Alexander Betts** and **Dr Naohiko Omata**

Refugee economies: forced displacement and development  
**Professor Alexander Betts** (Refugee Studies Centre), 21 October 2015

Displacement economies: thinking through the paradoxes of crisis and creativity  
**Professor Amanda Hammar** (Centre of African Studies, University of Copenhagen), 28 October 2015

Navigating Nakivale: the borderland economy of a refugee camp  
**Professor Morten Bøås** (The Norwegian Institute of International Affairs), 11 November 2015

The economic consequences of refugee return: evidence from Burundi and Tanzania  
**Professor Carlos Vargas-Silva** (COMPAS, University of Oxford), 18 November 2015

Being Oromo in Nairobi's 'Little Mogadishu': Eastleigh's Ethiopian refugees and their livelihoods  
**Dr Neil Carrier** (African Studies Centre, University of Oxford), 25 November 2015

From macro-economy to political economy: situating the refugee development discourse at the large scale  
**Professor Roger Zetter** (Refugee Studies Centre), 2 December 2015

### Hilary term 2016

Destination: Europe  
Convenors: **Professor Cathryn Costello** and **Stephanie Motz**

Destination Europe: states, borders and refugees  
**Professor Cathryn Costello** (Refugee Studies Centre), 20 January 2016

Can Europe build a unified response to the asylum crisis?

**Pascal Brice** (French Office for the Protection of Refugees and Stateless Persons), 27 January 2016

Moving forward on asylum in the EU: from crisis to responsibility  
**Madeline Garlick** (Protection Policy and Legal Advice Section, Division of International Protection, UNHCR), 3 February 2016

Resettlement to the UK: Between Sovereigns revisited  
**Dr Emma Haddad** (Former Director, Refugee Resettlement Operations, UK Home Office), 10 February 2016

Fencing off reality: Hungary's reactions to the arrival of refugees and their interpretation in a European legal, political and moral context  
**Professor Boldizsár Nagy** (Eötvös Loránd University and Central European University), 17 February 2016

Wasted lives: borders and the right to life of people crossing them  
**Professor Thomas Spijkerboer** (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam), 9 March 2016

Making sense of the EU-Turkey deal: law, politics and practicalities  
**Professor Guy S Goodwin-Gill** (University of Oxford), **Professor Cathryn Costello** (University of Oxford), **Professor Alexander Betts** (University of Oxford), **Dr Jeff Crisp** (University of Oxford), **Dr Franck Düvell** (University of Oxford), **Professor Tom Scott-Smith** (University of Oxford), **Professor Kalypso Nicolaidis** (University of Oxford), and **Dr Gökay Özerim** (Yaşar University), 16 March 2016

### Trinity term 2016

Imposing aid: thirty years of emergency assistance to refugees  
Convenor: **Dr Will Jones**

Camps as containment: a genealogy of the refugee camp  
**Dr Kirsten McConnachie** (School of Law, University of Warwick), 11 May 2016

'Food is the best medicine': displacement, return and food (in) security in the Horn of Africa  
**Dr Laura Hammond** (Department of Development Studies, SOAS), 1 June 2016

Imagining the refugee camp: are camps good for families?  
**Dr Tania Kaiser** (Department of Development Studies, SOAS), 8 June 2016

## Public lectures

### Special seminar

Africa after neo-abolition: asylum politicization, expert testimony, and the legacy of anti-trafficking advocacy  
**Professor Benjamin N Lawrance** (Rochester Institute of Technology, NY), 13 October 2015

### Special seminar

History, present and centre: Boko Haram, gender violence asylum claims, and the mimetic novelty of Africa  
**Professor Benjamin N Lawrance** (Rochester Institute of Technology, NY), 14 October 2015

### Special seminar

Impacts of forced migrations – the German case. History, historical research, and policies of remembrance  
**Prof Dr Michael Schwartz** (Institute for Contemporary History, Berlin), 30 October 2015

### Annual Harrell-Bond Lecture 2015

'We do not want to become refugees': Human mobility in the age of climate change

**Professor Walter Kälin** (Envoy of the Chairmanship of the Nansen Initiative, and University of Bern), 4 November 2015

### Special seminar

Outward migration to Europe – Reflections from the Aegean

**Rae McGrath** (Country Director for North Syria and Turkey, Mercy Corps), 1 December 2015

### Special seminar

Ending the fast track?

**Jerome Phelps** (Director of Detention Action), 1 February 2016

### Annual Elizabeth Colson Lecture 2016

Peaceland: Conflict resolution and the everyday politics of international intervention

**Professor Séverine Autesserre** (Barnard College, Columbia University), 4 May 2016

### Special seminar

Debate: Tradable refugee-admission quotas, matching, and EU asylum policy  
**Professor Hillel Rapoport** (University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne) and **Dr William Jones** (University of Oxford), 24 May 2016

### Special seminar

Humanitarianism and forced migration: crises, constraints, and opportunities  
**Tom Scott-Smith** (University of Oxford), **Linn Biörklund** (Médecins Sans Frontières, Operational Centre Amsterdam), **Hernan del Valle** (Médecins Sans Frontières, Operational Centre Amsterdam), **Ioanna Kotsioni** (Médecins Sans Frontières Greece), **Cathryn Costello** (University of Oxford), **Jeff Crisp** (Chatham House and University of Oxford), 6 July 2016

## Visiting Fellows

### Visiting Study Fellows

#### Chiara Cipoletti, Italy

University of Teramo  
*The meaning of nationality for the purposes of diplomatic protection*  
Academic contact: Professor Cathryn Costello

#### Marian Gatzweiler, UK

University of Edinburgh  
*Standardization of performance measurement and accountability systems in humanitarian aid administration*  
Academic contact: Professor Alexander Betts

#### I Hsuan (Claudia) Liu, Thailand

UNHCR  
*Protection of statelessness in Thailand: is human right the ceiling?*  
Academic contact: Professor Cathryn Costello

#### Stephanie Motz, Switzerland

University of Lucerne  
*The refugee status of disabled persons*  
Academic contact: Professor Cathryn Costello

#### Asya Pisarevskaya, Italy

Universities of Milan and Turin  
*Compositional effects of asylum and refugee policy instruments on economic integration of protected humanitarian migrants in European countries: qualitative comparative analysis*  
Academic contact: Professor Roger Zetter

### Visiting Research Fellows

#### 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

#### Sébastien Moretti, Switzerland

Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva  
*Protection in the context of mixed migration in Asia-Pacific; the movements of Rohingya/Bangladeshi in the Bay of Bengal and Andaman Sea*  
Academic contact: Professor Cathryn Costello

#### Shirley Worland, Thailand and Australia

Chiang Mai University and Australian Catholic University  
*Recognition of migrant education on the Thai-Burma border: a rights perspective, and Literacy as empowerment for Karen refugees potential repatriation to Karen State, Myanmar*  
Academic contact: Professor Tom Scott-Smith

## Doctoral research students

#### Jenny Allsopp, Green Templeton College

Welfare and Wellbeing Within and Beyond the Nation State: Unaccompanied Young Migrants in Italy and the UK in Comparative Perspective  
Supervisors: Professor Dawn Chatty and Dr Stuart Gietel-Basten (Department of Social Policy and Intervention)

#### Nora Bardelli, Lincoln College

How the 'Real' Refugee is Created and Contested: Governmentality, Strategies and Agency in a Burkinabé Refugee  
Supervisors: Professor Dawn Chatty and Dr Gina Crivello (Oxford Department of International Development)

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

Navigating the Deputisation of Immigration Enforcement Functions in the UK  
Supervisors: Professor Matthew J Gibney and Professor Bridget Anderson (COMPAS)

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

Migrant Status and Violence Against Women  
Supervisor: Professor Cathryn Costello

#### Georgia Cole, Green Templeton College

The Politics and Semiotics of the Cessation Clause for Rwandan and Eritrean Refugees  
Supervisors: Professor Alexander Betts and Professor Tom Scott-Smith

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

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

#### Evan Easton-Calabria, Wolfson College

The Secret Livelihoods of Refugees: A Genealogy of Refugees and Development from 1919–2015  
Supervisor: Professor Alexander Betts

#### Yulia Ioffe, St Cross College

Children and Asylum: A New Take on Fragmentation of International Law  
Supervisors: 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  
Supervisors: Professor Dawn Chatty and Dr Oliver Bakewell (International Migration Institute)

#### Diletta Lauro, Lincoln College

Resolving the Tension Between Human Rights and National Belonging? Anti-Deportation Campaigns in the United Kingdom and Emerging Conceptions of Membership  
Supervisor: 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'  
Supervisors: Professor Dawn Chatty and Dr Elena Fiddian-Qasmiyeh (UCL Department of Geography)

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

Global Migration Governance: The Management of 'Rights'?  
Supervisors: Professor Alexander Betts and Professor Matthew J Gibney

#### Lauren Nishimura, St Edmund Hall

Climate Refugees  
Supervisors: Professor Cathryn Costello and Professor Catherine Redgwell (Oxford Law Faculty)

#### Julia Pacitto, Lincoln College

Exilic Journeys: Towards a Political Understanding of Refugee Journeys to Europe  
Supervisor: Professor Matthew J Gibney

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

Irregular Migrant Children and the Right to Education  
Supervisor: Professor Matthew J Gibney

#### Blair Peruniak, St Edmund Hall

A Republican Theory of Asylum  
Supervisor: Professor Matthew J Gibney

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

The Politics of Environmental Displacement: Epistemic Actors and their Mechanisms of Influence  
Supervisors: Professor Alexander Betts and Professor Roger Zetter

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

Social Transitions in Protracted Displacement: a Study with Palestinian Refugee Youth  
Supervisors: Professor Roger Zetter and Professor Jo Boyden (ODID)

#### Claire Walkey, St Anne's College

The Transition of Refugee Management from UNHCR to the Department of Refugee Affairs in Kenya  
Supervisors: Professor Tom Scott-Smith and Professor Nic Cheeseman (Department of Politics and International Relations)

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

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



Children play at the Kakuma camp reception centre, Kenya

© UNHCR / Will Swenson



A group of young Burundian refugees build a house in Kashojwa village, Nakivale, Uganda

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# Income and expenditure

## Statement 1. Refugee Studies Centre income and expenditure, 2015–16 (1 August–31 July)<sup>6,7</sup>

Reserve balances	Actual 2015–16 (£)	Actual 2014–15 (£)
Opening reserves brought forward	21,103	102,442

Revenue <sup>1</sup>	Actual 2015–16 (£)	Actual 2014–15 (£)
<b>Restricted project income</b>		
Research grant revenue <sup>2</sup>	229,638	245,132
Partner contribution (Swiss FDFA & Danish MFA) <sup>2</sup>	86,871	
Forced Migration Review <sup>3</sup>	250,073	259,158
<b>Other revenue</b>		
Overheads from research projects and awards	40,450	32,582
Other project income (e.g. publication royalties, institutional consultancies)	47,406	33,212
Workshops, conferences, short courses, and Visiting Fellowships (total revenue)	48,307	134,103
International Summer School in Forced Migration	234,383	244,067
Transfer from Department Reserves to support Centre administrative staff costs	47,000	0
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>984,129</b>	<b>948,255</b>

Expenses <sup>5</sup>	Actual 2015–16 (£)	Actual 2014–15 (£)
Research grant expenditure (including research staff salaries)	316,510	245,132
Core administrative staff salary costs	90,670	93,994
Other core administrative expenses	14,320	26,325
Workshops, conferences, short courses, public lectures, and Visiting Fellowships (total expenditure)	33,335	131,361
International Summer School in Forced Migration	187,322	197,239
<b>Outreach and dissemination</b>		
Forced Migration Review (including FMR staff salaries)	250,073	259,158
Other publications, communications, and outreach activities (including staff salaries)	56,524	76,384
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>948,754</b>	<b>1,029,594</b>

Closing balances	Actual 2015–16 (£)	Actual 2014–15 (£)
Surplus/deficit after consolidation	35,375	-81,339
Closing reserves carried forward	56,478	21,103

## Statement 2. Performance of endowments

Endowments <sup>4,5</sup>	Actual 2015–16 (£)	Actual 2014–15 (£)
Opening revenue account balance	397,293	385,023
Add: Prior year adjustment	14,342	
Endowment income (dividends from shares and deposit pool interest)	195,155	186,549
Endowment expenditure (academic salary costs and management fees)	-173,286	-174,279
<b>Closing revenue account balance</b>	<b>433,504</b>	<b>397,293</b>
<b>Capital account balance</b>	<b>3,098,675</b>	<b>3,098,498</b>

<sup>1</sup> The MSc in Refugee & Forced Migration Studies is offered by the Refugee Studies Centre personnel but managed by the Oxford Department of International Development. For information, in 2015–16, the University fees for this course were £15,805 for Home/EU/Islands students and £20,870 for overseas students. The course normally welcomes a cohort of 26 students. Estimated revenue from the course fees was £456,515.

<sup>2</sup> Research grant revenue is reported as earned only when project expenditure is incurred. Total receipt from Partners was £274,155, of this amount £86,871 was expended during the year.

<sup>3</sup> Forced Migration Review brought forward £193,542 from 2014–15, earmarked for activities in 2015–16. Total receipts for 2015–16 were £166,105. At the end of the year the project held £109,574 earmarked for activities in the 2016–17 financial year.

<sup>4</sup> The Refugee Studies Centre is the beneficiary of several endowment funds, which are managed by the Oxford Department of International Development. The Fund held revenue balance of £433,504 and capital balance of £3m.

<sup>5</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>6</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 & Forced Migration Studies and the Visiting Fellowship programme. The value of these funds was £105,556.22 as at 31 July 2016.

<sup>7</sup> Total revenue – encompassing the Centre's activities – would amount to £1.6m. This figure is inclusive of endowment income (£195,155) and the MSc in Refugee & Forced Migration Studies course fees (£456,515).

# Staff and associates

## ACADEMIC STAFF

### Dr Ali Ali

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### Professor 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

### Marion Couldrey

Forced Migration Review, Co-editor

### Sharon Ellis

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Acting Summer School and Outreach Event Coordinator

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### Anneli Chambliss\*\*

Centre Administrator

### Felicity Irwin

Centre Administrator

### Laurence Medley

Accounts Officer

\* Joining in September 2016 \*\* Left during 2015–16

**Elizabeth Rozeboom**  
Administrator

**Andrea Smith**  
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**Dr Nicholas Van Hear**  
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## HONORARY ASSOCIATES

**Professor Jan Egeland**  
Secretary General, Norwegian Refugee Council

**Professor Guy S Goodwin-Gill**  
Emeritus Fellow, All Souls College, Oxford

**Filippo Grandi**  
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees



Summer School 2016  
students outside Queen  
Elizabeth House

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