RSC 2014 Conference “Refugee Voices”
Programme
St Anne’s College, Woodstock Road, Oxford, OX2 6HW

Monday 24th March

8.00 – 9.30 Conference Registration

9.30 – 9.45 Director’s welcome

9.45 – 10.45 Opening plenary – Jeff Crisp, Refugees International
In search of solutions; refugees are doing it for themselves

10.45 – 11.15 Break

11.15 – 1.00 Session 1

PANEL 1 – Representations of ‘the refugee’

Chair: Alexander Betts
Associate Professor of Refugee and Forced Migration Studies

Bendixsen, Synnove
“’They take your photograph. You come into existence’: Irregular migrants and struggles over representations

Hill, Emma
Playing the trickster? Voices of asylum seekers in Glasgow

Bardelli, Nora and Menegello Bressan, Lais
Genuine voices? (Im)mobilizing refugees in humanitarian discourse and practice

Contact: Heidi El-Megrisi, International Summer School and Conferences Manager
rsc-conference@qeh.ox.ac.uk | http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/events/refugee-voices
PANEL 2 Refugee voices and the asylum process

Chair: Cathryn Costello  
*Andrew W. Mellon Associate Professor of International Human Rights and Refugee Law*

Moser–Mercer, Barbara and Mercer, Kerstin  
Whose voice?  
Hearing the refugee interpreter

Barry–Murphy, Emily and Stephenson Jr, Max  
‘Adjudicating the refugee story: assessing pitfalls and charting possibilities’

Bhimji, Fazila  
Die asyl-monologe and the German actors

PANEL 3 – Refugees from Burma/Myanmar

Chair: Gil Loescher  
*Visiting Professor*

Fleming, Rachel  
Efforts to transform the dialogue with refugees: the Chin experience

Jack, Victoria  
Communication as aid: giving voice to refugees on the Thai–Myanmar border

Curwen, Pippa  
The new aid paradigm in Burma - building or undermining peace?

Wilch, Matthew and Hmung, Zo Tum  
The Chins seeking refuge in Mizoram State, India: a roundtable approach to refugee protection

PANEL 4 – Statelessness: Palestinian voices

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

Schiocchet, Leonardo  
Undesirables: 117 Palestinian refugees in Brazil, between humanitarianism and nationalisms

Irfan, Anne  
Stateless governance: the Palestinian refugee camps

Shiblak, Abbas  
No place to call home; the case of Palestinian refugees

1.00 – 2.00  
Lunch

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Session 2

PANEL 5 – Music and cultural expression

Chair: Tom Scott Smith
Teaching Assistant

Kiruthu, Felix
Music as a strategy of youth resilience in Dadaab refugee camp, Kenya

Shao, Oliver
Ox songs and protracted encampment

Whyte, Zachary
The art of the problem: aesthetic encounters of asylum-seeking children in Denmark

PANEL 6 – Refugee voices and new media

Chair: Louise Bloom
Research Officer

Negrine, Ralph
Memories and voices of Jews displaced from Arab lands in 1948-1958

Donà, Giorgia and Godin, Marie
Refugee and diasporic voices in virtual space: live narratives and hybrid activism

Deramo, Michele
Right to a story: how KANERE Free Press transgresses biopower

PANEL 7 – Refugee voices: women from Burma

Chair: Kirsten McConnachie
Joyce Pearce Junior Research Fellow

Zahau, Rosalinn and Fleming, Rachel
A constant state of fear: the situation facing Chin refugee women and children in Delhi

Nhkum, Jessica
Kachin IDPs and the work of Kachin Women’s Association Thailand

Phan, Zoya
Burma’s ethnic nationalities and the question of transition

Ma Khin Mar Mar Kyi
Women and peace

PANEL 8 – Space, identity and ‘becoming’

Chair: Olaf Kleist
German Research Foundation Research Fellow

Sobout, Azadeh
Afghan refugees reclaiming urban space in Iranian cities

Mackenzie, Laurel
Melbourne Hazara oral histories: Hazara mens’ and womens’ stories about becoming Australian

Hynes, Patricia
Rhythms, rituals and remembrance of exile: Lao, Hmong and Vietnamese refugees in Phanat Nikhom refugee camp, Thailand

3.45 – 4.15 Break

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Session 3

PANEL 9 – Art and identity

Chair: Will Jones
Research Officer

Gayed, Andrew
The exilic aesthetic: articulations of patriotism by the expatriate

Derluyn, Ilse, Mels, Cindy, Watters, Charles and Broekaert, Eric
Graffiti by migrants in Zeebrugge

Robertson, Zoe
Living in images: the imaginative practices and aesthetic expressions of Karen refugees resettled in Melbourne, Australia

Payson, Alida
Affects of protest: feeling and feeling for others in refugee mobilisations in Wales

PANEL 10 – Beyond bare life: agency in encampment

Chair: Matthew Gibney
Elizabeth Colson Associate Professor of Politics and Forced Migration

Chowdhory, Nasreen
Gender in camps in Tamil Nadu

Procter, Caitlin
Constructing culture: contesting inter-generational expression in a Palestinian refugee camp.

Puggioni, Raffaela
Marginalized but not voiceless: the 'camp' of Salaam Palace in Rome

PANEL 11 – History and memory: dominant discourses and the exclusion of refugee voices

Chair: Tom Scott Smith
Teaching Assistant

Marfleet, Philip
Displacements of memory

Strine, Casey
Hearing a voice from the past: the Hebrew Bible as a resource for the study of forced migration

Dudman, Paul
Democratic access or privileged exclusion: preserving (and listening!) to the voice of the refugee within the archival record of the nation-state?

Conference Dinner

Contact: Heidi El-Megrisi, International Summer School and Conferences Manager
rsc-conference@qeh.ox.ac.uk | http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/events/refugee-voices
Tuesday 25th March

**Session 4**

**PANEL 12 - Literary voices**

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

**Davies, Dominic**  
Asylum seeking in a violent metropolis: writing alternative Londons in Brian Chikwava's Harare North

**Behrman, Simon**  
Romanticism, law and the nation state: three novels on the refugee experience

**Kuntz, Blair**  
"Man as a cause": Ghassan Kanafani and the politics of literature

**Seeley, Maira**  
'Real Bedouin words': displacement, cultural 'purity', and Jordanian women's Nabati poetry

**PANEL 13 - Methodologies: reflexivity**

**Chair:**  
Elena Fiddian-Qasmiyeh  
*Senior Research Officer*

**Korac, Maja**  
Refugee voices: challenging the epistemic void

**López Zarzosa, Helia**  
Living in the refugee cycle as a (marginal) scholar and practitioner: epistemological and methodological reflections arising from empirical research

**Opfermann, Lena**  
Representing ‘the story’ on stage – theatre as an alternative form of data representation?

**PANEL 14 - Detention and deportation**

**Chair:**  
Cathryn Costello  
*Andrew W. Mellon Associate Professor of International Human Rights and Refugee Law*

**Newman, Louise**  
Beyond the Island – experiences of asylum seekers in Australia

**Caruana, Julian and Rossi, Alexia**  
Responding to mental health vulnerability in Maltese detention centres: the use of psychological support groups as an intervention tool

**Wainer, Devorah**  
The voice of the silenced in the Australian detention system

**Gerver, Mollie**  
Deportation of Sudanese children by Israel

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PANEL 15 - Refugee youth: coping, adapting, resisting

Chair: 
Kirsten McConnachie  
Joyce Pearce Junior Research Fellow

McQuaid, Katie  
Voice, rights and resistance amongst Congolese human rights defenders

Robinson, Kim and Williams, Lucy  
Young Afghans returning home: making sense of past and present

Gupta, Anna and Clayton, Sue  
Make not break: perspectives on risk and resilience by separated young people seeking asylum

10.45 – 11.15   Break

11.15 – 1.00   Session 5

PANEL 16 - Resistance and the body

Chair: 
Tom Scott Smith  
Teaching Assistant

Fiske, Lucy  
Human rights, the human condition and refugee protest we are human. detained refugees struggle for recognition as human

Danielson, Nora  
Protests in Cairo

Pia, Emily  
Welcome to Greece: violence and activism at the border

PANEL 17 Methodologies: inclusion

Chair: 
Matthew Gibney  
Elizabeth Colson Associate Professor of Politics and Forced Migration

Lawrence, Jeanette, Kaplan, Ida and Dodds, Agnes  
Giving refugee young people a voice: rights, respect and methods

Greenfields Margaret and Paszkiewicz, Natalia  
Reclaiming agency: voices of refugee and asylum-seeking women

Jordan, Sharalyn and Rainbow Refugee Committee  
Unsettling accounts: community-based narrative/ethnographic inquiry with LGBTQ refugees in Canada

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### PANEL 18 – Refugees from Syria

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

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<td>Al Akash, Ruba and Boswall Karen</td>
<td>Listening to the voices of Syrian women refugees in Jordan: ethnographies of displacement and emplacement</td>
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<td>Thorleifsson, Cathrine</td>
<td>Coping strategies among self-settled Syrians in Lebanon</td>
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<td>Kiwan, Dina Jane</td>
<td>Constructions of ‘refugees’ through cultural expression: Syrian refugees in Lebanon</td>
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<td>Ferreri, Veronica</td>
<td>“Khidan li–Adhan... Walls have ears” even in the diaspora: Syrians in London</td>
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### PANEL 19 – Repatriation and return

**Chair:** Naohiko Omata  
*Research Officer*

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<td>Hovil, Lucy</td>
<td>Hoping for peace, preparing for war: negotiating safety on the borders of Uganda and Sudan</td>
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<td>Van Houte, Marieke, Siegel, Melissa and Davids, Tine</td>
<td>Deconstructing the meanings and motivations of return: an Afghan Case Study</td>
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<td>Grundy Warr, Carl and Chin, Wei Jun</td>
<td>Geopolitical change and mobility dilemmas: anxieties, obstacles and challenges of ‘moving back’ or ‘moving on’ (case of Karenni refugees on the Mae Hong Son (Thailand) – Kayah State (Myanmar) borderland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hughes, Vanessa</td>
<td>“Narrating ‘home’: transcending the nation state”.</td>
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### PANEL 20 – Bhutanese refugees

**Chair:** Gil Loescher  
*Visiting Professor*

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<tr>
<td>Shanahan, Suzanne; Kim, Esther and Stefanich, Julie</td>
<td>Faith and religious practice in Bhutanese and Iraqi refugee communities</td>
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<td>El-Shaarawi, Nadia, Bhai, Kiran and Howard, Kelly</td>
<td>Expressions and experiences of suffering and hope in the process of third-country resettlement</td>
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<td>Ott, Eleanor</td>
<td>Uncovering resettled refugees’ voices</td>
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<td>Shrestha, Tara</td>
<td>Silent cries of Dalits in refugee voice</td>
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1 00 – 2.00  
Lunch
2.00 – 3.45

Session 6

PANEL 21 – Historical voices

Chair: Tom Scott-Smith
Teaching Assistant

Okely, Judith
Reconstructed ethnography of WWII evacuation and displacement

Blaszczyk-Sawyer, Agata
Polish resettlement camps for political refugees after the second world: understanding resettlement to the UK

Watton-Lasbo, Karen Elizabeth
Hope, apathy and despair: refugee voices in transit from Camp Traiskirchen (1982 – 1990)

PANEL 22 – Statelessness: the Rohingya

Chair: Kirsten McConnachie
Joyce Pearce Junior Research Fellow

Farzana, Kazi
Voices of the Burmese Rohingya refugees: an analysis of everyday life in refugee camps in Bangladesh

Tun Khin
The treatment of the Rohingya

de Chickera, Amal
Shared responsibility: an international approach to the Rohingya crisis

Maung, Zarni
The Rohingya: reading the State

PANEL 23 – Coping and resilience

Chair: Maurice Herson
Co-Editor, Forced Migration Review

Porobic, Selma
Meaning making strategies among Bosnian refugees in Sweden

Dombo, Eileen and Ahearn, Frederick
Voices of refugees: psychological adaptation in the aftermath of the Nicaraguan civil war

Kopalapillai, Amirthalingam, Jayatilaka, Danesh and Lakshman Rajith
Displacement and resettlement: voices from Jaffna in Sri Lanka

Yassin, Nasser, Stel, Nora and Rassi, Rima
Organized chaos: informal institution building in the Maashouk gathering

3.45 – 4.15 Break
4.15 – 6.00

Closing Artist Session:

Chair:
Dawn Chatty
Professor of Anthropology and Forced Migration

Fassl, Johanna
Speaking through the void: visual voices of memory in photography

Chapman, Russell
Syria: faces of the revolution

Rubin, Steven
Borderline existence: Chin in Mizoram state

Mitchell, Mary
Photography as self-expression; barriers in accessing education for young asylum seekers in London

Throughout the conference there will be photography and art exhibitions including:

UNRWA – Refugee photography exhibit “clothes line”
Patricia Hynes: Rhythms, rituals and remembrance of exile: Lao, Hmong and Vietnamese refugees in Phanat Nikhom, Thailand
Steven Rubin – Borderline existence: Chin in Mizoram State
Agata Blaszczyk-Sawyer: Polish resettlement camps in the UK

The Refugee Studies Centre would like to thank the following organisations for supporting refugees at the 2014 RSC international conference “Refugee Voices”

Contact: Heidi El-Megrisi, International Summer School and Conferences Manager
rsc-conference@qeh.ox.ac.uk | http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/events/refugee-voices
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The Companion to Development Studies
Edited by Vandana Desai and Rob Potter
March 2014

Statelessness and Citizenship
Campos and the Creation of Political Space
By Victoria Redclift
June 2018

Humanitarian Crises and Migration
Causes, Consequences and Responses
Edited by Susan Martin, Sanjula S. Weerasinghe and Alhaja Taylor
April 2016

Self-Determination and Secession in Africa
The Post-Colonial State
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