



Refugees and migrants arrive in Lesbos, Greece, after crossing from Turkey. Credit: UNHCR / Socrates Baltagiannis

A note from the Director



The European refugee crisis has shaped the summer months. In tragic circumstances, the RSC played an important role in informing and improving public debate. We have engaged with the media, including in *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, and through the BBC; we have played an active role in trying to shape policy behind the scenes, and begun to consider how our research can have a positive impact.

In addition to this, the International Summer School in July was a resounding success, with stellar evaluations. In the same month, HIP2015 attracted over 200 participants from around the world and led to some outstanding presentations, workshops and debates. FMR has published the Dayton +20 issue. And a new cohort of students has arrived.

I am delighted to begin the term with news of a partnership agreement with the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. This agreement will provide new sources of funding to the RSC, enabling us to appoint two new Junior Research Fellows and seed fund a number of new research activities.

In addition, there are a number of exciting new initiatives emerging from our relationship with the Oxford University Development Office (OUDO). This will include a public fundraising campaign to support research of direct relevance to the European crisis.

On the horizon, we have the Annual Harrell-Bond Lecture, which will be given by Professor Walter Kälin, Special Envoy to the Nansen Initiative and former UN Representative on the Human Rights of IDPs. This term we also have an exciting Public Seminar Series on 'Refugee economies'.

Alexander Betts
Leopold Muller Professor of Forced Migration and
International Affairs

RSC in the news: the EU refugee crisis

Since the last RSC newsletter, the refugee crisis in Europe has escalated. The latest UNHCR figures state that close to 530,000 refugees and migrants have crossed the Mediterranean to Europe this year. September alone saw 168,000 arrivals, the highest monthly figure ever recorded. While EU governments prevaricate and argue about what actions to take to address the refugee influx and the accompanying humanitarian crisis, the media have frequently turned to RSC staff for an informed and independent opinion.

For example, Alexander Betts has appeared on the Today programme on BBC Radio 4, Amanpour on CNN International, and BBC News, amongst many others. He has also written for *The Observer*, *The New York Times*, and most recently, *Foreign Affairs* (co-authoring an article with Professor Sir Paul Collier). Jeff Crisp, our new Research Associate, has appeared on Al Jazeera's Inside Story and spoken with media from the UK to Australia; Olaf Kleist (Visiting Research Fellow) has provided a welcome German perspective; Naohiko Omata has fielded Japanese media enquiries; and Cathryn Costello has been interviewed by *The Guardian*, BBC World News and written for *The Irish Times*, amongst others.

In late September, Cathryn visited the Greek island of Lesbos to witness for herself the situation for refugees arriving on the island. She met Syrians, Iraqis and Afghans, walking in the heat to the island's only reception centre in Mytilini (70 km from the northern coast). Exhausted families with young children, young couples, older and injured people, who had all arrived earlier on rubber dinghies, and then faced a long walk to register and to continue on further in to Europe. Yet, as Cathryn writes in *The Irish Times*, this humanitarian crisis and the accompanying political crisis could have been avoided if there were legal channels available to asylum seekers, such as humanitarian visas. Arrivals could have been dispersed across Europe's airports and ports. Instead, Europe chooses to make it difficult and dangerous for people to come, and is currently failing in its obligations to refugees, and as a humanitarian actor.



Read more: www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/news

Dawn Chatty elected Fellow of British Academy



We are delighted to announce that Dawn Chatty, Emerita Professor of Anthropology and Forced Migration and former Director of the RSC, has been elected as a Fellow of the British Academy.

Dawn is among 42 highly distinguished UK academics from 18 universities elected as Fellows in 2015 in recognition of their outstanding research.

A social anthropologist whose ethnographic interests lie in the Middle East, particularly with nomadic pastoral tribes and refugee young people, Dawn's research interests comprise a number of forced migration and development issues. These include conservation-induced displacement, tribal resettlement, modern technology and social change, gender and development, and the impact of prolonged conflict on refugee young people.

The British Academy Fellowship comprises over 1000 scholars in the humanities and social sciences who have achieved academic distinction as reflected in scholarly research activity and publication.

For more details on Dawn Chatty's research and publications visit:
www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/dawnchatty

Staff changes at the RSC

At the RSC this term, we have a number of staff changes to announce. Alexander Betts, RSC Director (pictured), has been awarded the title of Professor in this year's Recognition of Distinction exercise. He is now Leopold Muller Professor of Forced Migration and International Affairs.

Professor Dawn Chatty is retiring after nearly 20 years at the Centre. The RSC's longest serving academic staff member, having served as its Deputy Director for a decade and then as Director from 2011–2014, she will continue to play an active role, including through research and teaching, as Emerita Professor.

Joining us are Tom Scott-Smith, who will be Associate Professor in Refugee Studies and



Forced Migration; Georgia Cole, who will be the Joyce Pearce Junior Research Fellow in association with Lady Margaret Hall; Will Jones, who becomes Departmental Lecturer in Politics and Forced Migration; and Leila Vignal, who is joining us for two years from the University of Rennes-2 as Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual European Fellow.

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual European Fellow.

We bid a fond farewell to Kirsten McConnachie who is moving on to a position as Assistant Professor in the School of Law, University of Warwick. We wish her well in her new post.

Read more: www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/people

HIP2015 focuses on facilitating innovation

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



Over 250 thought-leaders came together, from academia, government, NGOs, international organisations, business, and crisis-affected communities themselves. Speakers included Per Heggnes, CEO of the Ikea Foundation; Sara Pantuliano, Director of the Humanitarian Policy Group at the ODI; Raouf Mazou, UNHCR Representative in Kenya; and Moulid Hujale, a Somali journalist.

A wide range of plenary panels took place, on themes such as 'The WHS: what can we expect in Istanbul?', 'Learning from failure: the response to the Ebola crisis', and 'How transformative is technology for humanitarianism?' Other activities included interactive workshops on innovation and design, and an exhibition of pioneering humanitarian ideas.

Visit the new HIP website for conference news, including videos and podcasts: www.oxhip.org

New strategic partnership with Swiss FDFA

With refugees and forced displacement rapidly becoming one of the defining issues of the 21st century, we are pleased to announce that we have agreed a strategic partnership with the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. This will provide a significant amount of unrestricted funding to the RSC over the next two years.

RSC fundraising drive

This autumn the RSC will embark on a major fundraising initiative, spearheaded by the University of Oxford's Development Office. This will include an online giving campaign. Details will appear on the RSC website in the coming weeks.

Find out more: www.rsc.ox.ac.uk

World Humanitarian Summit preparations

Alexander Betts has been actively involved with the process of the World Humanitarian Summit, taking place in Istanbul in May 2016. In October it published its Synthesis Report, to which Professor Betts has contributed directly. This report consolidates the insights of regional consultations around the world and sets an agenda for change. In the same month, he attended the Global Consultations meeting, appearing on panels on Ethics and Humanitarian Action, a New Deal for Refugees, and Humanitarian Innovation, alongside high-level speakers such as the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees.

New RSC associates



We are pleased to welcome three new associate appointments this summer. Professor Guy S Goodwin-Gill (Emeritus Fellow at All Souls College) is appointed an

Honorary Associate, Professor Elaine Chase (Senior Research Fellow, Department of Social Policy & Intervention) is appointed an Oxford Associate, and Dr Jeff Crisp (pictured) has added the role of Research Associate to his existing role of Advisor. Jeff has held senior positions with UNHCR, Refugees International and the Global Commission on International Migration. He is now based in the Centre and a very welcome addition to the RSC team.

Read more: www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/people

RSC December workshop: 'Refuge from Syria'



Za'atari refugee camp, Jordan. © UNHCR/C. Herwig

A one-day workshop will be held on 9 December 2015 at the RSC to engage researchers and practitioners with findings from recent research into the perceptions, aspirations and behaviour of refugees from Syria, host community members, and practitioners in Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan. Emerita Professor Dawn Chatty will present her British Academy funded research on this theme alongside a number of other researchers and practitioners with recent experience in this area. The workshop aims to promote greater understanding of the unique socio-historical context of the Syrian humanitarian disaster in each of the regional hosting countries by addressing specifically changing perceptions and aspirations. In addition the workshop hopes to present examples of good practice and lessons learned from practitioners in all the countries bordering on Syria.

A full programme for the workshop, including speakers, will be available shortly.

Details can be found at:
www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/refuge-from-syria

Global Refugee Policy Network

In late 2014, James Milner, Associate Professor at Carleton University and RSC Research Associate, launched the Global Refugee Policy Network (website: <http://refugeereseearch.net/ms/grp/>). This Network came about following a workshop at the RSC's 30th Anniversary Conference on 'Understanding Global Refugee Policy'. It has been set up to share information and encourage collaboration on issues relating to the making and implementation of global refugee policy.

The Network now has a YouTube channel and a twitter address (@GRPNetwork). Currently on YouTube you can find videos, filmed at the RSC this summer, of experts giving their views on whether 'global refugee policy' exists and its importance, including Professor Guy S Goodwin-Gill, Dr Jeff Crisp, Dr Olaf Kleist, Dr Naohiko Omata, Dr Phil Orchard, and Professor Milner himself.

Further information: www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/news

RSC International Summer School 2015

The 26th International Summer School in Forced Migration took place on 6–24 July. We were delighted to welcome nearly 70 participants from more than 20 countries. We were able to offer 3 full bursaries thanks to generous support from the Asfari Foundation and the Saïd Foundation, and some privately sponsored places thanks to Stephanie Hunt.

We were honoured to have Filippo Grandi (pictured) give this year's closing address.



As always we received some wonderful feedback from participants. For example, one participant commented: 'Thank you very much for providing a life-changing opportunity. At the Summer School, I've met so many wonderful people (inside and outside the programme, in fact!) I would never have thought that this programme would turn out to be such a wonderful experience... I will never forget this summer – thank you again!'

Next year's course dates are 4–22 July 2016. To find out more and to apply, please visit www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/summerschool, where you can also watch interviews with several participants on the course in recent years.

Palestine Refugees & International Law short course



Course participants, March 2015.

The RSC short course on Palestine Refugees & International Law will again be held in Amman in March 2016. Ever popular, this two-day course places the Palestinian refugee case study within the broader context of the international human rights regime. It examines, within a human rights framework, the policies and practices of Middle Eastern states as they impinge upon Palestinian refugees, using a mix of lectures, working group exercises and interactive sessions.

Further details are available at:
www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/study/short-courses

Refugee economies

The Michaelmas Term Public Seminar Series will gather leading scholars working on related issues in order to consolidate the empirical and theoretical knowledge of refugee economies. In addition to knowledge building, this seminar series is intended to initiate nurturing wider networks of researchers working on economic lives of refugees and to establish a common space for exchanging ideas, and discussing findings and challenges.

The seminars, listed below, are free of charge and open to all. No registration required. Podcasts will be available for most seminars.

Michaelmas term 2015 events

21 October 2015 | Public Seminar Series
Refugee economies: forced displacement and development

Professor Alexander Betts (Refugee Studies Centre)

28 October 2015 | Public Seminar Series
Displacement economies: thinking through the paradoxes of crisis and creativity

Professor Amanda Hammar (University of Copenhagen)

4 November 2015 | Annual Harrell-Bond Lecture

'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 Professor of Constitutional and International Law, University of Bern)

11 November 2015 | Public Seminar Series
Navigating Nakivale: the borderland economy of a refugee camp

Professor Morten Bøås (Norwegian Institute of International Affairs)

18 November 2015 | Public Seminar Series
The economic consequences of refugee return: evidence from Burundi and Tanzania

Professor Carlos Vargas-Silva (COMPAS, University of Oxford)

25 November 2015 | Public Seminar Series
Being Oromo in Nairobi's 'Little Mogadishu': Eastleigh's Ethiopian refugees and their livelihoods

Dr Neil Carrier (African Studies Centre, University of Oxford)

2 December 2015 | Public Seminar Series
From macro-economy to political economy: situating the refugee development discourse at the large scale

Emeritus Professor Roger Zetter (Refugee Studies Centre)

9 December 2015 | Special Workshop
Refuge in Syria

One-day workshop convened by Emerita Professor Dawn Chatty (Refugee Studies Centre)

Further information: www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/events

Forced Migration Review

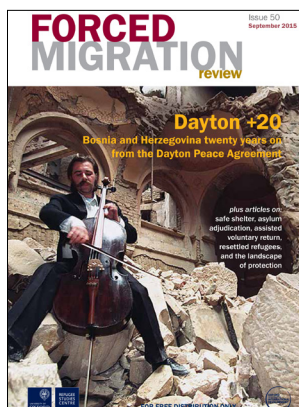
Why are we still discussing a 20-year-old peace agreement?

Forced Migration Review usually focuses on current conflicts, current displacement, but its latest issue takes a more historical perspective.

The Dayton Peace Agreement, signed on 21st November 1995, brought the 1992–95 Bosnian war to an end. The use of violence against civilians during the war had shocked the world. Some 263,000 people had died and more than two million people – out of a pre-war population of 4.4 million – had been displaced.

The Dayton Peace Agreement recognised the right of all displaced people to return to their homes of origin, or to receive compensation for property if they could not return. 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.

FMR issue 50 reflects on the lessons that may be drawn from the successes and failures of the Agreement: lessons that have resonance not just for Bosnia and Herzegovina but also for other, more current crises, such as in Syria or Ukraine.



Valentin Inzko, High Representative to Bosnia and Herzegovina, writes in his Foreword to the issue:

‘Contributions reflect lessons learned and insights gained from practitioner and researcher engagement in the Western Balkans over the last 20 years. This practice-oriented approach offers us a tool to be more effective in tackling the problems the international community faces in this region and beyond, and this is why this work has my strong support.’

This issue of FMR includes 20 articles on ‘Dayton +20’, plus five ‘general’ articles on: safe shelters for survivors of SGBV, inconsistencies in asylum appeal adjudication in the UK, assisted voluntary return of young Afghans, refugees’ perspectives on successful resettlement in the US, and the fragmentation of the ‘protection landscape’.

FMR 50 is online at www.fmreview.org/dayton20 in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Bosnian/Croatian (Latin alphabet) and Serbian (Cyrillic). For print copies, please email the Editors at fmr@qeh.ox.ac.uk.

Details of our forthcoming issues – on ‘Destination: Europe’ and ‘Thinking ahead: displacement, transition and solutions’ – can be found at www.fmreview.org/forthcoming.

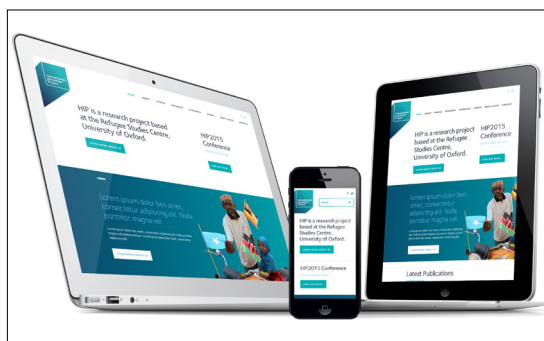
For more on Forced Migration Review please visit: www.fmreview.org

Update from the Humanitarian Innovation Project

In July, the Humanitarian Innovation Project launched a new report ‘Refugee Innovation: Humanitarian Innovation that Starts with Communities’ at the Humanitarian Innovation Conference on 17 July 2015. Written by Alexander Betts, Louise Bloom, and Nina Weaver, this report focuses on examples and case studies of ‘bottom-up innovation’ among different refugee populations based on fieldwork in Jordan, Kenya, Uganda, South Africa, and the USA.

The HIP team has also been busy in the field. In August, Louise conducted fieldwork on an innovation lab for an Asylum Seeker Resource Centre in Melbourne, Australia. In September, Josiah Kaplan began four weeks of fieldwork for military humanitarian research in the USA.

HIP has a new logo and a new website, the work for which was completed and went live in October. We hope that our new design will make it easier for us to share our project’s research, publications and other activities. The team is especially grateful to Stephanie and Hunter Hunt for funding and assisting with



the development of HIP’s new logo, branding and design.

With the launch of our new site, HIP released all follow-up materials from the 2015 Humanitarian Innovation Conference. This includes videos of all keynotes and plenary panels from the conference as well as seven panels from the parallel sessions. There are also podcasts, photos, and selected speaker presentations and conference papers available at the site, as well as the full conference report: www.oxhip.org/events/hip2015/

For more on HIP please visit: www.oxhip.org

New publications

Help Refugees Help Themselves: Let Displaced Syrians Join the Labor Market

Foreign Affairs, Nov/Dec 2015

This article by Alexander Betts and Paul Collier looks at the EU response to the Syrian refugee crisis, and the situation of the millions of displaced Syrians closer to home. It argues that ‘An effective refugee policy should improve the lives of the refugees in the short term and the prospects of the region in the long term, and it should also serve the economic and security interests of the host states.’

Also published recently:

The 2015 Refugee Crisis in the European Union, CEPS Policy Brief

This Brief, co-authored by Cathryn Costello, examines the real issues regarding the current EU refugee crisis, and makes concrete recommendations to alleviate the challenges faced.

Enhancing the Common European Asylum System and Alternatives to Dublin

Report of a study commissioned by the European Parliament’s Committee on Civil Liberties, co-authored by Cathryn Costello.

Refugee Innovation: Humanitarian Innovation that Starts with Communities

This new report from the Humanitarian Innovation Project showcases examples of refugee-led innovation from around the world.

Sustainable Refugee Return: Triggers, constraints and lessons on addressing the development challenges of forced displacement

Report of a study to identify the conditions that influence the decisions by refugees in protracted displacement regarding return to their home country, co-authored by Roger Zetter.

Journal articles

Immigration detention: the grounds beneath our feet

Cathryn Costello (2015) *Current Legal Problems*, 1–35

Beyond the ‘raw’ and the ‘cooked’: a history of fortified blended foods

Tom Scott-Smith (2015) *Disasters*, 39, s244–s260

Negotiating durable solutions for refugees: a critical space for semiotic analysis

Georgia Cole (2015) *International Journal for the Semiotics of Law*, 1–19

Refugees and justice between states

Matthew J Gibney (2015) *European Journal of Political Theory*, 1–17

Working Papers

A critical approach to the production of academic knowledge on refugee integration in the global North

Christina Kovacs, RSC Working Paper 109, June 2015

Further details: www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/publications