



Photo: Keith Barnes Photography

Participants at a celebratory event to mark the retirement of Emeritus Professor Guy S Goodwin-Gill (see page 2)

## A note from the Director



As refugees and forced displacement continue to dominate the media and political agendas, so too the RSC continues to evolve to build an independent research platform from which to influence public debate. Over the last few months, we have been able to recruit a number of new staff. Felicity Irwin, Susanna Power, and Maureen Schoenfeld have joined on the administrative side. Meanwhile, thanks to new strategic partnerships with the governments of Switzerland and Denmark, we will have four new post-doctoral researchers joining over the next few months. Dr Olivier Sterck will join as Junior Research Fellow in the Economics of Forced Migration. Dr Natascha Zaun will join as Junior Research Fellow in Global Refugee Policy and will convene a new centre-wide project on 'Rethinking Global Refugee Policy'. Dr Ali Ali and Dr Fulya Memisoglu will join our new project on the Politics of the Syrian Refugee Crisis. Over the next months, new fieldwork is planned across East Africa, the Middle East, and Europe. We are also trying to ensure the research we do has impact, and will be active participants at the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul May and in the lead-up to the UN High-Level Meeting on Large-Scale Migration and Refugees in New York in September. In all of these endeavours, though, we remain committed to scholarly excellence. This month, we were delighted to co-organise a celebration of the work of Professor Guy S Goodwin-Gill at All Souls College. Guy is a long-time friend and supporter of the RSC and one of the world's leading scholars of refugee law. We are equally looking forward to the theme of the Trinity Term seminar series being a celebration of the 30th anniversary of our founding Director, Dr Barbara Harrell-Bond's groundbreaking book *Imposing Aid*, as well as having Professor Séverine Autesserre of Columbia University deliver the Annual Elizabeth Colson Lecture.

Alexander Betts  
Leopold Muller Professor of Forced Migration and International Affairs

## Innovative refugee matching system attracts attention

The RSC's Dr Will Jones and Dr Alexander Teytelboym of Oxford's Institute for New Economic Thinking have been gaining attention for their innovative proposal for a 'matching system' for refugees and states to help alleviate the current crisis. This system would use an algorithm to attempt to match refugees' preferences with those of host countries (relating to skills, capacities etc). Jones and Teytelboym have been speaking with *The Washington Post* about their proposal. In the interview, Jones says: "refugees are as diverse as any other set of human beings. They have diverse preferences about how they wish to live, what they want to do, what skills they can bring, how they want to pursue their conception of the good. And not all communities can host all refugees equally effectively. Refugee-hosting communities have information about who they could be in the best position to host, but right now, that information doesn't get shared."

The 'matching markets' system would enable this information to be collected and shared, it would introduce greater choice into the resettlement process for refugees, and remove the randomness in state allocation. For example, in the case of the UK, Jones states "Right now, there is a lot of humanitarian goodwill in various local government associations in Britain. What the government doesn't want to do is assign refugees to them that they can't deal with. The British government will end up spending less money, in the immediate term, putting together refugees and communities willing to host them, and in the long term, it will end up hosting refugees that are more likely to integrate successfully."

It is also a system that can be applied by individual governments or more widely across Europe and elsewhere. Jones comments, "You could absolutely do it within one state. Matching markets have huge advantages in working out whether a certain refugee should go to Sweden or to Portugal, but also whether they should be in London or in Middlesbrough."

Jones and Teytelboym wrote about the matching system in the January issue of *Forced Migration Review* on 'Destination: Europe'. They write here: "The Refugee Match is a realistic, pragmatic, quickly implementable and just improvement on much of the current international refugee regime. A matching system, which respects the preferences and choices of refugees and the priorities of states, can better protect the human rights of the vulnerable, and increase the likelihood that states will participate in sharing responsibilities for the international protection of refugees."

Read more: [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/news](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/news)

## Celebrating Professor Guy S Goodwin-Gill



Photo: Keith Barnes Photography

A special international gathering was held on 14-15 April to celebrate the scholarship of Professor Guy S Goodwin-Gill, Emeritus Professor of International Refugee Law and Honorary Associate with the RSC. The celebration entailed several events. On the 14<sup>th</sup>, a group of Professor Goodwin-Gill's former doctoral students gathered to present papers on a range of topics, from forced migration to international criminal law to democratic participation. On the 15<sup>th</sup>, 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, IJRL, the Oxford Faculty of Law, and the Refugee Studies Centre. Participants included Professor Walter Kälin, Professor Elspeth Guild, Professor Jane McAdam, Professor Geoff Gilbert, Dr Volker Türk, Dr Jean-François Durieux, and Dr Cathryn Costello.

Listen to podcasts of the presentations at:  
<http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/celebrating-guy-s-goodwin-gill>

## Alexander Betts named as a Young Global Leader

We are delighted to announce that Professor Alexander Betts has been named one of the Young Global Leaders – Class of 2016 – by the World Economic Forum.

Each year, the World Economic Forum selects the most innovative, enterprising and socially minded men and women under the age of 40 from across the world who are pushing boundaries and rethinking the world around them. This year's class of Young Global Leaders includes brilliant scientists, emerging entrepreneurs, tech investors, activist MPs, and advocates for human rights.

Betts said: "I am really honoured by this. It's a great opportunity to put refugees squarely on the World Economic Forum agenda, and to ensure that both states and markets do more to address one of the defining issues of our time. There are already some brilliant YGLs working on refugee issues and I'm excited to work with them."

Further information:  
<http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/news>

## How we can fix our failing refugee system

A talk by Alexander Betts at TED2016

On February 19, the RSC Director, Alexander Betts, gave a powerful talk on the refugee crisis in a packed closing session of the TED 2016 conference in Vancouver. This talk is now available to view online – and has been downloaded over 500,000 times! In the talk, Betts calls for a new vision, in which refugees are not seen as an inevitable burden, but are recognised 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."

Watch the video of his talk here:  
<http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/ted2016>



## New staff at the RSC

There are a number of new faces at the RSC since the last newsletter.

Felicity Irwin joined us in March as the new RSC Administrator, replacing Anneli Chambliss-Howes. Felicity has previously worked for the Greater London Authority and the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group.

Susanna Power took up the post of Events and International Summer School Coordinator in April. Formerly she worked in Brussels for the NATO Parliamentary Assembly International Secretariat Brussels as

a Committee Coordinator. She has spent time previously at Oxford, obtaining a degree in French at Oriel College.

Also new is Maureen Schoenfeld, taking up the post of Promotion & Finance Assistant for *Forced Migration Review*.

We offer them all a very warm welcome to the Refugee Studies Centre!

Further information:  
<http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/people>

## Making sense of the EU-Turkey deal



On 7 March, 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. We need to break the link between getting in a boat and getting settlement in

Europe.' With the details of the agreement and its implementation still unclear, on 16 March the RSC held a 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, Dr Cathryn Costello, Professor Alexander Betts, Dr Jeff Crisp, and Dr Franck Düvell, with respondents Professor Kalypso Nicolaidis and Dr Gokay Ozerim.

Further details and seminar video available here: <http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/video-making-sense-of-eu-turkey-deal>

## Update from the Humanitarian Innovation Project

At the Humanitarian Innovation Project we have been both writing up our previous research and planning for the next phase. We recently signed a contract with Oxford University Press for our forthcoming book on *Refugee Economies: Forced Displacement and Development*. We are also working on a second book manuscript looking at a people-centred approach to the rise of innovation in humanitarian work.

The project's Senior Research Officer, Dr Naohiko Omata, has just returned from fieldwork in Uganda and Kenya. In Uganda, he conducted a series of interviews with refugee-led community-based organisations as case studies for the humanitarian innovation book. He also attended UNHCR's 3-day annual 'Innovation Jam' which looked at 'bottom-up innovation'.

In Kenya, Naohiko had preliminary meetings with key stakeholders in preparation



Kakuma Refugee Camp, Kenya. Photo: N Omata

for the second case study of HIP's refugee economies research, which is funded by the Danish Government. The study in Kenya aims to look into the economic lives of refugees living in two sites – Nairobi, the capital city, and Kakuma refugee camp – and explore variation in economic outcomes amongst refugees.

For more on HIP visit: [www.oxhip.org](http://www.oxhip.org)

## 'Refugees as a resource' at the Skoll World Forum



From 13-15 April, the 13th Skoll World Forum on Social Entrepreneurship took place at Oxford University's Saïd Business School. The Forum is the premier international platform for advancing entrepreneurial approaches and solutions to the world's most pressing problems.

The RSC Director, Professor Alexander Betts, spoke at the closing plenary session. Talking on the subject of 'Refugees as a resource', he presented an alternative vision for refugees, for how refugees are viewed, and how refugee crises can be managed. He stated, "I think we can have a new vision... if we could recognise that it's about incubating human talents, enabling people to flourish, they will contribute to our societies while they are here, and they will rebuild their societies when they go back. What I've argued is very simple... that these people are human beings and as such they will be able to help themselves, and make a contribution, if we let them."

Watch the video of his talk here:  
<http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/skollwf2016>

## 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, will host a two-day conference titled 'From Fortress Europe to Sanctuary Europe'.

With a focus on integration and belonging, the event will bring together academics, practitioners, policy-makers, social entrepreneurs, and refugees from the UK and Europe to engage in action-oriented mutual learning. The event will seek to encourage dialogue and collaborative learning in relation to advocacy, practices of integration, and social and economic inclusion. Moving beyond describing current challenges, it will seek to identify good practices and opportunities for social change.

The conference programme will be announced shortly.

Further details available at:  
<http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/events>

## Imposing Aid: Thirty years of emergency assistance to refugees

Barbara Harrell-Bond's seminal book *Imposing Aid* 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.

In this term's Public Seminar Series, we reflect 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.

Series convenor: Dr Will Jones.

## Trinity term events

4 May | Annual Elizabeth Colson Lecture  
**Peaceland: Conflict resolution and the everyday politics of international intervention**  
Séverine Autesserre (Associate Professor of Political Science, Barnard College, Columbia University)

11 May | Public Seminar Series  
**Camps as containment: a genealogy of the refugee camp**  
Dr Kirsten McConnachie (Assistant Professor, School of Law, University of Warwick)

25 May | Public Seminar Series  
**Are camps good for kids?**  
Dr Tania Kaiser (Senior Lecturer in Forced Migration Studies, Department of Development Studies, SOAS)

1 June | Public Seminar Series  
**'Food is the best medicine': displacement, return and good (in)security in the Horn of Africa**  
Dr Laura Hammond (Reader in Development Studies, Department of Development Studies, SOAS)

18-19 June | Conference  
**From Fortress Europe to Sanctuary Europe**  
A conference for Refugee Week

Podcasts of seminars are available at:  
<https://soundcloud.com/refugeestudiescentre>  
Further information: [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/events](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/events)

## Forced Migration Review

What we need, says the author of the first article in the latest issue of FMR, is “full global recognition that the challenge of forced displacement is an integral part of the development agenda too”. The fact of people living 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 improvement that is neither purely humanitarian nor purely developmental. Far more could be achieved if development and peace-building actors were also involved in responses to displacement.

This is not a new idea in itself, as shown by the statement made in 1967 by Sadruddin Aga Khan, then High Commissioner for Refugees, which we publish on the back cover. This issue of FMR continues to explore the more recent ideas and practices that are being tried out in order to engage development and humanitarian work in support of ‘transitions’ for displaced people and a variety of ‘solutions’.

FMR 52 also includes a range of ‘general’ articles on other aspects of forced migration: violence and displacement in Nigeria; limitations of resettlement safeguards in mining; Canada’s resettlement of Syrian refugees; asylum restrictions in Sweden; shortcomings of Assisted Voluntary Return programmes; psychosocial age assessment in the UK; provision of information on the Thai-Burma border; legal status of Iraqi refugees in neighbouring countries; Iraqi refugees in Lebanon; and LGBT forced migration in East Africa.

**FMR issue 52, on ‘Thinking ahead: displacement, transitions, solutions’,** is due out in May, and will be available online and in print in English, French, Spanish and Arabic. See [www.fmreview.org/solutions](http://www.fmreview.org/solutions)



**FMR issue 51 – ‘Destination: Europe’** – has continued to be quoted and widely referenced. It is online (at [www.fmreview.org/destination-europe](http://www.fmreview.org/destination-europe)) in English, French, Spanish and Arabic. For print copies,

please email the Editors at [fmr@qeh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:fmr@qeh.ox.ac.uk).

### Forthcoming issues:

- ‘Local communities: first and last providers of protection’, due out September 2016
- ‘Resettlement’, due out February 2017

Details at [www.fmreview.org/forthcoming](http://www.fmreview.org/forthcoming)

### How will FMR look in the future?

We would like to thank the many people who responded to our Readers Survey. We are collating and considering all the responses (in which there are some very useful ideas), and we will report back on the results soon.

*Marion & Maurice, FMR Co-Editors*  
[fmr@qeh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:fmr@qeh.ox.ac.uk)

## Publications

### Refugee Economies book forthcoming

One of the recent major achievements from the Humanitarian Innovation Project is signing a contract with Oxford University Press for our forthcoming book on *Refugee Economies: Forced Displacement and Development*. This is a compilation of our 18-month fieldwork in Uganda, building an unprecedented dataset on the economic lives of refugees. Using the new concept of ‘refugee economies’ to describe the resource allocation system that shapes refugees’ lives in exile, we outline a theoretical understanding of what it is that makes refugees’ economic lives analytically distinctive. Through qualitative and quantitative research carried out in Uganda, we highlight the factors that shape variation in economic outcomes for refugees, and the untapped opportunities that this offers for rethinking refugee assistance. This book is intended to be part of a theory-building exercise and a means to generate greater interest from economists and researchers from other disciplines in the economics of refugees and forced migration.

### Book chapters

**The search of the outer edges of non-refoulement in Europe: exceptionality and flagrant breaches**

Cathryn Costello (2016), In: B. Burson and D. J. Cantor (eds) *Human Rights and the Refugee Definition: Comparative Legal Practice and Theory*, Brill, 180-209

**Humanitarian innovation, integration, and the architecture of refugee protection**

Alexander Betts, Mariano-Florentino Cuéllar and Aparna Surendra (2016), In: R. Hsu and C. Reinprecht (eds) *Migration and Integration*, Vienna University Press, 111-136

**Global governance and forced migration**

Alexander Betts (2016), In: A. Triandafyllidou (ed) *Routledge Handbook of Immigration and Refugee Studies*, Routledge, 312-319

### Journal articles

**EU Law and the detainability of asylum-seekers**

Cathryn Costello and Minos Mouzourakis (2016) *Refugee Survey Quarterly*, 35 (1), 47-73

**Innovation spaces: lessons from the United Nations**

Louise Bloom and Romily Faulkner (2016) *Third World Quarterly*

### Working Papers

**Human mobility as a resource in conflict: the case of Syria**

Diana Ihring (2016) RSC Working Paper, 115

**The role of the special advocate as an alternative to non-disclosure**

Ella Gunn (2016) RSC Working Paper, 114

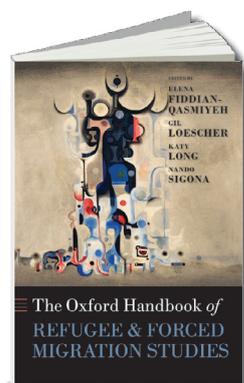
**Militaries and humanitarian innovation: opportunities and risks**

Josiah Kaplan and Evan Easton-Calabria (2016) RSC Working Paper, 113

Further details: [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/publications](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/publications)

## Oxford Handbook of Refugee and Forced Migration Studies – out in paperback in June!

Since the birth of ‘refugee studies’ and the establishment of the Refugee Studies Centre in 1982, research into the causes, experiences and implications of forced migration has grown exponentially, and yet there was no authoritative volume charting the birth and rise of ‘refugee studies’ or critically considering the future challenges for this field until the publication, in 2014, of *The Oxford Handbook of Refugee and Forced Migration Studies*.



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’.

The Handbook’s editorial team was composed of current and former RSC staff and Associates: Dr Elena Fiddian-Qasmiyeh (former RSC Senior Research Officer, now UCL), Professor Gil Loescher (Visiting Professor), Dr Katy Long (former RSC Research Associate) and Dr Nando Sigona (RSC Research Associate). Until now only available in hardback, it will be published in paperback in June at the price of £30.

Details on all publications are available at: [www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/publications](http://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/publications)

This Handbook provides 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, including many RSC staff, readers are introduced to the field