

MIGRATION AND REFUGE

RIGHTS WITHOUT BORDERS: **MEMORY PILLS**



Memory Pills

My name is Avelina, I'm 81 years old and I was born in Salgueiros, a tiny village located in the province of Ourense, in Galicia, Spain. Through my story because you will be addressing various issues which resemble those we experienced many years ago. History repeats itself and we must not forget.

As I already told you, I was born in a small village - which is actually now abandoned - where my father and brothers worked the land. I was very small when the Spanish Civil war broke out, but my mother told me many Galicians and people across the country were



- ✓ Do you know what the words in red mean?

Ask your teacher or check the Glossary at the end of this activity book.



forced to *migrate* to survive. Many went to America and many others sought *asylum* in France. Even children were sent abroad to save them from the war and what came after it. What a difficult decision to take! We stayed in our village, although we went hungry. When my father died around 1950, my brothers decided to migrate to Madrid, the capital city, to work in the underground construction works.

Friends of mine migrated to Germany. Finding a job there was easy. Some worked as maids and although they were paid less, they had food and a place to sleep for free. Others found jobs in car factories. I stayed home to take care of my mother, until 1960 when I married Eduvino and also left for Madrid to search for a better future for our children.



I suggest you analyze this story in class:

* For further indications, see the Educational Guide

- ✓ What aspects did you find most surprising? Is there anything which sounds familiar?
- ✓ Have you gone through a similar situation or know anyone who has?
- ✓ Do you think that what happened so many years ago in my country still happens in other places?
- ✓ How did the people who were forced to migrate feel in that period?
- ✓ Did the people have the same reasons to migrate?
- ✓ Have there always been migrations throughout history?



We encourage you to make your voice heard throughout social networks and join the many people making a joint effort to defend the rights of people on the move.

Share the findings, opinions, information and messages that you think are relevant by using tags or hashtags(#). Following are some of the most commonly used in social networks at national and international level.

*#RefugeesWelcome #Refugee
#YoAcojo #OpenTheBorders
#MigrantsRights
#Bloqueados #StopDeportations*

And our hashtag:
#DerechosEnMovimiento

My story takes place in Spain but it resembles the story of millions of people across the world. At home, find out if anyone in your family or in your close environment has been forced to emigrate from the countryside to the city, or to other cities or countries. Ask them the reasons why they decided to leave their homes and how they felt when they made the decision. If you also come from somewhere different, you may also answer the questionnaire! Use the following questions to collect the information.





> Where were you born?

> Where is your family from?

> Why did you/your family leave your country, city or town?

> How did you/they feel when you/they left?

> Could you/they decide freely whether to leave or not? Why?

> How did you/they get organized for the journey?



> Did someone or something hinder your/their departure?
If the answer is yes, who or what?

> How were you/they received in the new country or city?

> Would you/they repeat the experience? Why?

> What things do you miss most of your city/country?

Making decisions



There is a story behind every person who migrates, and each of them does so for different reasons. Making the decision to leave one's home is generally not easy and the reasons behind the decision can be diverse. To find out more, let's share the information you collected in your questionnaires:

- ✓ Which are the prevailing reasons for leaving?
- ✓ What experiences did you find most surprising?
- ✓ What do the majority of people you interviewed say about how they were received in other countries or cities?

I present you now the case of several people who were also forced to migrate or decided to move voluntarily for different reasons. Read the story thoroughly and fill out the card.





Rean, 32 years old (Iran)

At the age of 22, Rean left Iran with her husband in search of more freedom and with the idea of starting a new life. They wanted to go to the US, but their visa applications were denied, so they decided to head to Europe instead. This decision meant a long and difficult journey: they paid smugglers to help them cross the borders and finally they reached Europe after a hard and hazardous journey.

Once there they requested asylum. For the following seven years, Rean and her husband waited for their refugee status to be decided. They lived in a reception centre for asylum seekers where life was hard – and where they faced the possibility of being denied asylum and sent back to Iran.

During their stay in the centre, Rean managed to overcome her loneliness and everyday obstacles when she made new friends and started participating in art and drama projects. Time went by and Rean and her husband divorced. In the face of the new situation, Rean applied once again for asylum and was eventually granted refugee status because a divorced woman would not be accepted in the Iranian society and she would be at risk of persecution or worse if sent back to her country. Rean finally managed to leave the center and now lives happily with her new partner and their newly-born son Kehan.

UNHCR, “Not only numbers”



Doré, 24 years old (Congo-Brazzaville)

Doré arrived in Europe from Congo Brazzaville at the age of 8 and was abandoned by his mother. Although he later lived with relatives, he never had a legal guardian and could not obtain permanent resident status. He has no passport and is currently staying in Europe under a renewable student visa.

Doré is an award - winning acrobat and also runs his own club for young people. In the future he would like to be a sports teacher. Fraucke, his girlfriend, is also a foreigner, but from a European Union Member State. They have plans to start a family together.

UNHCR, “Not only numbers”



Adelina, 27 years old (Kosovo)

Adelina arrived in the European Union at the age of 10, when the political situation in Kosovo was deteriorating. Her father, a tribunal clerk in Gjilan, had come under intense political pressure in his job. Sensing that conflict was not far away, he left home to seek asylum. In his new host country, he was granted refugee status and found work in a fish factory. Later, his wife and two daughters joined him from Kosovo under a family reunification scheme. They also received refugee status.

Today Adelina is a student and is finishing her degree in psychology. She now has citizenship in her host country. She recently returned to Kosovo to visit her family and her country for the first time in 17 years and experienced different emotions linked to this return. She wonders what her life would have been like, if her family had not escaped the war.

UNHCR, “Not only numbers”



Tino, 76 years old (Italy)

Tino is retired. He arrived in Belgium in 1949 via a family reunification scheme: his father was already working there as a miner. Escaping the post war food shortage in Italy, at 16, Tino was the youngest Italian to work in the mine. He later married a Belgian woman, with whom he had children. He then went on to work in factories.

Tino is part of the first wave of migrant workers who participated in the reconstruction of post war Europe. Countries like Germany, France, the UK and Belgium were suffering acute labor shortages and had to implement schemes to attract migrant workers. People came from all over Europe and also from other continents.

UNHCR, “Not only numbers”



Alfredo, 33 years old, and Veronica, 32 years old (Mexico)

Alfredo and Veronica are doctors. They are married and have been in Europe for a year since Alfredo received a job offer in psychiatric research, his specialization. Veronica, a dermatologist, used to work in a hospital and had her own private practice in Mexico. Although her academic qualifications are not recognized in Europe and she cannot work as a doctor, she has found work.

Both Alfredo and Veronica have experienced changes they had not expected: the high cost of living in comparison to their net salaries, the difficulty of finding accommodation, being far from their families, etc.

Alfredo and Veronica are examples of the highly qualified workers the European Union needs to fill the gaps in the European labor market.

UNHCR, “Not only numbers”



Mandy, 19 years old (Cameroon)

Yes, I feel ready to talk now, at least a little bit, about what happened. I do not find it easy to do but perhaps my story could really help people, I sincerely hope so. I met this guy, Patrick, surfing on the internet in 2000.

At that time I was 19 years old. A friend told me his uncle had opened a cyber-café and that someone was working there to help young girls to find white husbands, real husbands. That’s how I got in contact with Patrick. Four months later he came to introduce himself to my family. He went back to his home for two months and then returned to marry me. I requested travel documents at the town hall and the embassy. Three months later, after obtaining my visa, we left my country together.

At the beginning everything seemed normal. Everything was so new for me. It was the first time I was in Europe. We arrived to a beautiful house. He told me that evening we would be having his friends over for a little party in my honor. That very same day he had taken my passport under the pretext that he had to start procedures so that I could obtain my residence permit. I didn’t understand

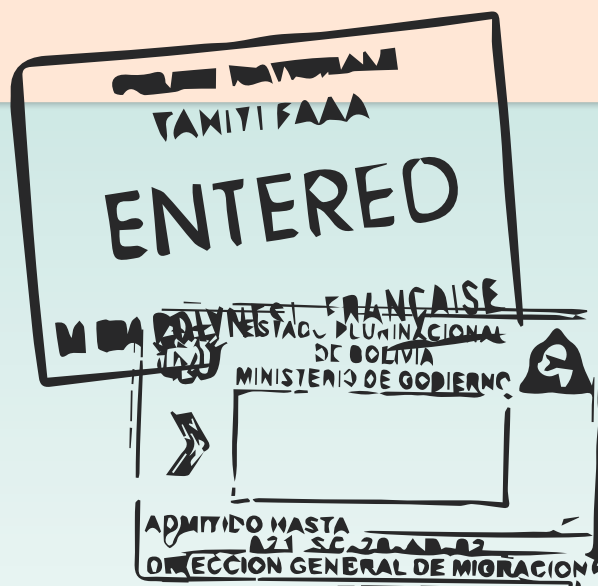
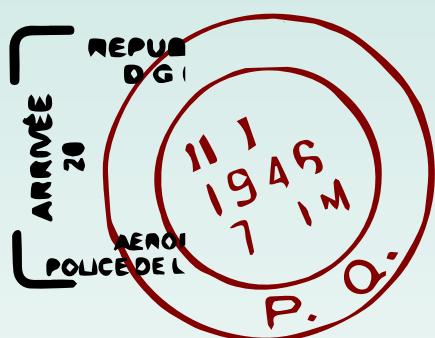


what was going on that evening. They took me to a room. I didn't recognize anyone. I was still under the illusion that I would spend an enjoyable evening. But this first night "home", I was raped by so many men and women; I don't even know how many there were. I was bleeding and broken. I wept all the tears that were inside me, but that was nothing compared to what followed. I was a prisoner, I couldn't go out. I could not escape from the sexual abuse.

The people paid my captors money and when I was not willing to do what their clients wanted, they whipped me. How could they do this? They were like beasts. How could they? This lasted nine months. They controlled me day and night. One day I was in a restaurant. I heard people speaking in Ewondo, my dialect, they came from Cameroon!

My guards did not pay any attention to me when I sang a song in my local dialect. This helped me to alert the people in the restaurant to my situation before I was taken back to the house. Two weeks later I heard sirens outside in the street. I began to cry and scream like a mad person. After that, I only remember waking up in the hospital. Later on there was a trial. Thanks to this, two other girls, who had also been forced into prostitution, were also released. The Cameroonians who saved my life took care of me and helped me recover.

UNHCR, "Not only numbers"



Complementary Material:

You can replace one or several of the stories above for any other you find at: elgranfracaso.eldiario.es/viaje/#description



Card for the Testimonies

Name

Age Place of origin

Reasons why they decided to leave

Their legal status before and their current one

What attraction factors helped them choose the specific country to which they went?

What was the situation in the place of origin when they left?

What feelings has the person conveyed?

If you were in his/her shoes, how would you feel?

What did you find most surprising?



In order to reflect on the origins and conditions of migrations we suggest you watch the following video. After watching the video discuss it together.

MIGRATING IS NOT A CRIME, The Basque Development NGO Coordinator

youtu.be/h6WCTswxl1s



- ✓ Why do people travel and move?
- ✓ Are there forced migrations?
- ✓ Do we all have the same opportunities when it comes to freedom of movement?
- ✓ Why is the video called *Migrating is not a Crime*?
- ✓ What is a visa? What is it for?
- ✓ What are migration policies?
- ✓ What is a residence permit / work permit / student visa?
- ✓ Did you find anything surprising? Why?
- ✓ If everyone has the right to leave one's country, why is this right not respected?
- ✓ Who can be interested in not allowing thousands of people in movement to cross borders freely?



Policies and Borders

In 2016, more than 60 million people around the world were forced to flee from their homes due to violent conflict - reaching the highest level of displaced people since World War II, according to UNHCR reports. And the number keeps increasing because of conflict and war, poverty and climate change. Today, as in the past, these are people who migrate out of necessity and must be attended to and protected in compliance with international laws.



ACTIVITY

- ✓ What are the reasons that force people to move?
- ✓ What does *refugee* mean? What rights does a refugee have in relation to the rest of migrant people?
- ✓ Why does the video speak of “pushbacks” or summary deportations? Why does this campaign defend the right to transparent and fair asylum?

To learn more about their rights, I invite you to watch the following video. After watching the video, try to find out more about the ideas and concepts which appear in the video:

RIGHT TO REFUGE

youtu.be/e2C_LfGjXRQ



As you know, the Syrian conflict has torn the country apart, leaving thousands dead and driving millions to flee their homes. Those seeking refuge in another country must leave all behind. Many seek refuge in neighboring

countries, but others pay great sums of money to smugglers and middlemen to take them to Europe. Along the way they are exposed to deportation, capture and death.



THE JOURNEY OF THEIR LIVES, UNICEF

youtu.be/41MndRMhTwY



Let's start by watching the following video:

Reflect on the video and discuss it together.

- ✓ To put all this into context, watch the following video: *The European Refugee Crisis and Syria Explained*, www.youtube.com/watch?v=RvOnXh3NN9w an animated video which summarizes the political situation and the refugee crisis.
- ✓ What about you? How do you think that you would face the hazardous journey of a Syrian refugee? If you were in their shoes, would you be able to make the correct decisions for you and your family? Try to put yourselves in their shoes. www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-32057601
- ✓ Was it easy to find the correct route? Why?
- ✓ Does it make a difference if you are a man or a woman when facing a situation like this one?
- ✓ What do we mean when we speak of *safe routes* in this context?



There has been more coverage in the media lately on the situation which migrants and refugees are going through, the hard conditions people are experiencing at the borders, the existing chaos in the refugee camps and the slow pace of decision-making by governments to provide solutions. In short: the consequences of the migration policies are becoming visible. In many regions they are clearly affecting the rights and interests of some groups of people while favoring those of others. In the face of this situation we should ask ourselves: are there economic interests underlying migrations and the policies put forward to control them?



I suggest you search for news and articles which address the business of illegal migration and later answer the following questions:



- ✓ Are there any borders in your country or region? Do you think that the rights of people trying to cross these borders seeking asylum are guaranteed and respected?
- ✓ What do you know about the migration policies of your country or region? What is the objective of these policies? Have they changed over the years? Why?
- ✓ How is the money allocated for migration policies used? How much money is allocated for border security and how much for the rights of people on the move or for asylum seekers? Do you agree with this allocation?
- ✓ Who do you think benefits economically from having thousands of people fleeing their homes? Who benefits from the increasing construction of walls and borders? And from their protection?
- ✓ What does this sentence mean: "The EU prefers walls to asylum"?



You will find more information on this subject in the following links:

- ✓ UNHCR Report ACNUR: "Global Trends: Forced Displacement in 2015. [Link](#)
- ✓ Francisco Javier Vélez Alcalde, "Pateras, cayucos y mafias transfronterizas en África: el negocio de las rutas atlánticas hacia las Islas Canarias", ARI14/2008 – 05/02/2008, Real Instituto: Elcano. [Link](#)
- ✓ UNHCR Report: "Buenas prácticas legislativas sobre protección de refugiados". [Link](#)
- ✓ Carmen González Enríquez, "La crisis de los refugiados y la respuesta europea". ARI 67/2015 – 18/11/2015, Real Instituto Elcano. [Link](#)

Don't be fooled

Now we know how difficult it is to make the decision of leaving one's home, town, country - even one's family! It is a very painful decision and one that requires much bravery. People who make this decision should be respected, accepted and given support.

At present I live in Madrid close to my grandchildren. I cannot hide my surprise when I hear their comments on some subjects, particularly when they speak of news related to refugees or people who have been forced to leave their homes and migrate. I hope they never find themselves in that situation, although some of their friends have left to look for jobs in other countries.

Often, the things people say about migrants are based on rumors, statements of uncertain or doubtful truth which circulate from person to person without the existence of direct evidence that proves them. They spread rapidly and



widely, strengthening stereotypes and prejudices which end up penetrating our societies.

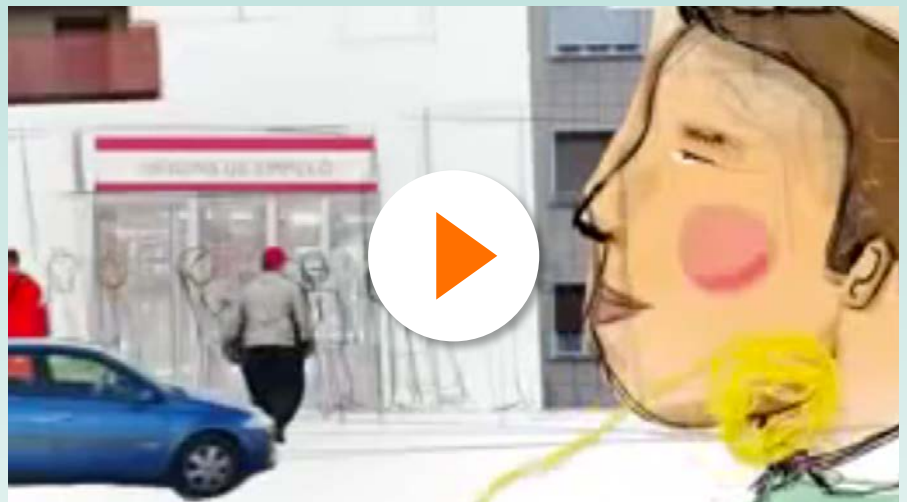
Quoting Einstein: "What a sad era when it's easier to smash an atom than a prejudice!". Indeed, prejudices ignite in our neurons, make their home in our hearts and, more often than not, control our actions.

I encourage you not to let yourselves be fooled and to take a stance for a diverse, plural and inclusive society. Let's work to make this possible!



DON'T BE FOOLED
youtu.be/FDIs-hFgl-s

Let's start by watching the following video: *Don't be fooled*. Later, divide the class into small groups and answer the following questions:



- ✓ What is a rumor? What is its effect? Why is it created?
- ✓ Why is the video called *Don't be fooled*?
- ✓ Who makes rumors circulate?
- ✓ Write down the rumors which appear in the video and look for information to find out if they are true. You may share out the rumors and search for the information, data and arguments to debunk it. When you are done, share your conclusions together.

I suggest you contact an organization, association or Development NGO working for the rights of migrant people. Why don't you interview them so that you can have first-hand information?

Acting to debunk a rumor is important so as to guarantee that everyone is respected. Thinking in a critical manner and analyzing the information we receive is essential to avoid falling in the trap of rumors. Finding reliable data and information is the basic tool to debunk them. This is why we suggest you analyze some of the most common rumors which circulate in your city, town, neighborhood, etc. about different groups of people.

Once you identify the rumors, you can work in groups and search for information, data and arguments to debunk them. After, share your work with the rest of the class.

Rumor-Hunter Card

Rumor:

People it affects:



Rumor-Hunter Card

Where is the rumor disseminated?

Arguments and data which debunk it

How can we change this rumor?

The interview's objective is that you draw conclusions about what you can do: first, to debunk rumors and second, to fight so that everyone's social and human rights are protected and respected.

You can also search the Internet - campaigns have been launched in many countries aimed at denouncing, rejecting and debunking rumors and false statements about different groups and people.

- ✓ With the conclusions you draw you can design an exhibition consisting in panels and posters showing each of the rumors and including the arguments and data which debunk them. This will allow us to show what we have discovered to our families, school, neighborhood... and to everyone through your social networks!



There are a significant number of people working and fighting for our right to free movement, making social pressure to achieve that our political leaders take action. There are organizations working in the field, providing resources that governments refuse to give. Others work directly with migrants in their host countries, defending their rights and working to end the rumors about people on the move.

Local organizations and associations working with migrants can help you find solid arguments to debunk rumors and build alternative narratives on the reality of migrant communities. What do you know about them?



These resources can help you debunk some rumors and myths:

- ✓ Web on migrants contribution to the UK: #MigrantsContribute
<http://contribute.migrantsrights.org.uk/>
- ✓ Debunking the worse myths on migration
<http://www.lavanguardia.com/vida/20150410/54429787423/desmontando-peores-mitos-inmigracion.html>
- ✓ Data to debunk false myths and legends on migration
http://www.huffingtonpost.es/2015/11/29/mitos-falsos-migracion_n_8398132.html
- ✓ Myths and reality on migration
<http://www.mequieroir.com/migracion/guias/mitos-realidades-emigracion/>

Act Now! Proposals for action

*I would like you to discuss the following sentence:
"Borders exist between countries, not people".*

I remember that on September 25 1962 there was a great flood that killed over 600 people. We went there with one of our neighbor's trucks to offer help - as did many other volunteers who came from different places. It was hard. Many families had lost their homes, they had lost everything and we helped remove the rubble. I remember how scared we were with the possibility of finding a dead body, but we worked with the hope of finding someone alive.



Today, many people devote their time and efforts to helping people on the move who have been forced to leave their homes and cross borders in search of a better life in another country.

Back then, collective commitment forced our political leaders to find solutions and improve people's lives and we learned that solidarity between peoples and communities is the base for democracy and a dignified life. Now I stay connected to the internet all day long to keep updated on what associations and organizations are doing in the field and to know what we can do from here. Together we have the power to make a difference and we cannot lower our guard. We must take a stance.

There are many actions we can carry out locally to demand people's right to freedom of movement and to let people know about how men and women are struggling to live a decent life. Make the most of every opportunity to continue advocating - inside and outside your class - for everyone's right to enjoy a life in dignity and peace!



Make your voice heard! Why don't you write the "Rights without Borders" manifesto? Read all the conclusions you have drawn during each phase again and summarize them into three categories: observation, analysis and action.



Rights without Borders Manifesto

Observation

The things we have discovered and investigated on migrations: causes, feelings and emotions of the people who are forced to migrate, etc.

We have discovered that... / We have investigated... / Now we know that...

Analysis

What we denounce based on what we have observed: unfair situations in the countries of origin, violation of rights both in the countries of origin and during the journey, difficulties in obtaining asylum and refuge, etc.:

We agree in... / We do not agree in ... / We think it is unfair that ...

Action

What we can do to help change this situation and to raise awareness, what we can denounce, what we can demand our local, national and also international leaders, etc.

We want to denounce that... / We demand... that ... / We commit ourselves to...

This manifesto will serve to think about what actions and proposals we can carry out in our closest environment to fight for and demand free movement of people. You will probably get more people to join your cause if you disseminate the manifesto through your social networks. I'm pretty sure you will find ideas to make your manifesto more attractive. Be creative! It can be a picture, a video and even a denunciation action.

You can launch an awareness campaign in social networks based on your manifesto. All ideas will be well received – videos, blogs, posts, posters, etc. The objective is to claim for everyone's right to free movement.

Check the following video. You may find it inspiring:

SERRAT AND CEAR CALL FOR AN END TO REFUGEE DEATHS

youtube.com/watch?v=fMwEL6ppDS4



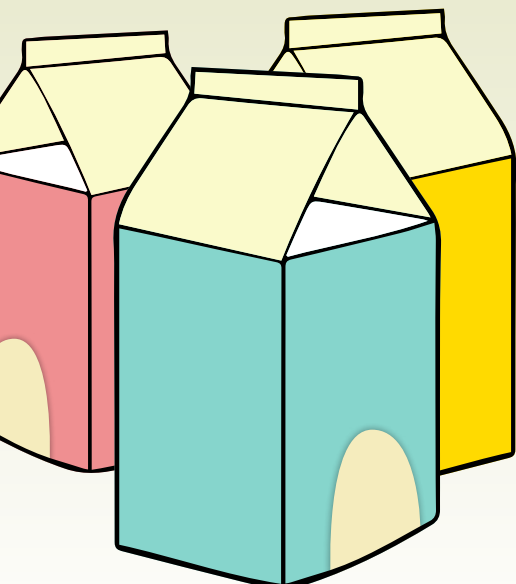
Symbolic Action: The Unfairness Wall

I also encourage you to organize in your school a symbolic action to denounce that migrants' rights are being violated.

I suggest you build a wall with empty cartons. In this wall we will include all the things we discovered these weeks: the reasons which drive so many people to move, the violation of human rights, the lack of empathy with migrants, etc.

Later, we will tear down the wall. Take pictures of your wall and share them in all the ways you can think of so that our voice is heard and we can let the world know that there are many people who want rights without borders!

You can also carry out this action in a square or park of your hometown and help raise awareness on this subject.



Before bidding you farewell I would like to share with you a poem by one of today's greatest Spanish poets, Julie Sopetran. It is a real gift for anyone who thinks that people and people's rights have no borders.



Don't forget to share everything with the hashtag:

#DerechosEnMovimiento

I want to share your world
but do not call me an intruder,
being illegal is no excuse
and neither is being a vagabond.
Look at the deep sea,
and you will find no staples there,
nor borders nor lies;
When the waves wash over
human walls, they hand over
their freedom to maps.

Farewell!





Glossary¹

Asylum: protection or refuge granted by a State to a non-national person which it recognizes as a refugee. The recognition of the right to asylum leads to the provision of the permits needed to be able to live and work in that state.

Asylum Seeker: a person who has applied for legal recognition as a refugee in another country and is waiting for a decision on their application.

Displaced Person: as happens with refugees, a displaced person is someone who flees their State or community due to fear for his or her life. The difference between them is that a displaced person does not cross borders but looks for a safe place within his or her own country.

Emigration: the act of leaving a state to settle in another. International laws on human rights set out everyone's right to leave any country, including one's own. Only under certain specific circumstances a State can impose restrictions on this right. The prohibition to leave a country usually is the result of a legal mandate.

FAO: the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations was established in 1945. It is one of the UN's largest specialized agencies. Its main objective is to defeat hunger across the world by striving to achieve widespread food security, increased levels of nutrition, improved agriculture productivity and conditions of rural populations, and contributing to the expansion of world economy.

Family Reunification: a legal instrument whereby family members separated through forced or voluntary migration regroup in a country other than the one of their origin. This measure improves the quality of life and social and economic situation of the family.

Immigration: Process by which non-nationals enter a country with the intention of settling in it.

Involuntary or Forced Repatriation: The return of refugees to the territory of their State of origin induced by the creation of circumstances which do not leave any other alternative. Repatriation is a personal right (unlike

expulsion and deportation which are primarily within the domain of State sovereignty) and, as such, neither the State of nationality nor the State of temporary residence or detaining power is justified in enforcing repatriation against the will of an eligible person, whether refugee or prisoner of war. According to contemporary international law, prisoners of war or refugees refusing repatriation, particularly if motivated by fears of political persecution in their own country, should be protected from refoulement and given, if possible, temporary or permanent asylum.

Legal and Safe Routes: set of tools and provisions to protect the rights of people who are forced to flee their countries because of armed conflicts, persecution, poverty, etc. They include the schemes of resettlement, subsidiary protection and family reunification.

Migration: the movement of people either across an international border, or within a State. It is a population movement, encompassing all types of movements of people, regardless of its size, composition or causes; it includes

¹ Source:

Amnesty International: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/get-involved/i-welcome/>

International Organization for Migrations (IOM), basic glossary: http://www.iomvienna.at/sites/default/files/IML_1_EN.pdf

migration of refugees, displaced persons, economic migrants, and persons moving for other purposes.

Refugee: a person who is compelled to leave their country owing to fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality and political opinions among others. This definition also includes people fleeing from armed conflict or generalized violence. Being granted the status of refugee includes the following: authorization for residence, expelling travel and identity documents and authorization for work.

Refugee Camp: refugee camps are temporary settlements built to host groups of people who have been forced to flee their homes and search a better place where to begin anew. People living in a refugee camp not only need a place where to sleep; they also need food and medical assistance. Displaced people arrive at refugee camps with different needs. Their situation is sometimes solved within a short period of time, but many people have to stay in the camps for years. For example, Kosovo refugees stayed in a refugee camp in Albania only three months, whereas Somali refugees are living in camps in Kenya since 1991 and have built throughout these years a real community with the common needs of any city which requires a specific management.

Repatriation: The personal right of a refugee or a prisoner of war to return to his or her country of nationality under specific conditions laid down in various international instruments (Geneva Conventions, 1949 and Protocols, 1977, the Regulations Respecting the Laws and Customs of War on Land, Annexed to the Fourth Hague Convention, 1907, human rights instruments as well as customary international law). The option of repatriation is bestowed upon the individual personally and not upon the detaining power. In the law of international armed conflict, repatriation also entails the obligation of the detaining power to release eligible persons (soldiers and civilians) and the duty of the country of origin to receive its own nationals at the end of hostilities.

Resettlement: a tool which protects refugees. A person is resettled when a country other than the one they arrived to when they left their country of origin grants them settlement. The existence of this tool responds to the fact that the first place to which a refugee arrives is sometimes not able to guarantee the refugee's security and integrity, because the state cannot face the arrival of a great number of refugees in a short period of time or because another country (the country that has granted resettlement) offers better

possibilities for the social integration of the refugee person. Resettlement can represent the last resort for particularly vulnerable people such as children, sexually abused women and people with disabilities.

Residence Permit: a legal document issued by the competent authorities of a State to a non-national, confirming that he or she has the right to live in the State concerned.

The 1951 Geneva Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 New York Protocol: legal base which, since their adoption, have allowed protecting millions of refugees across the world. Both documents clearly spell out who a refugee is and the type of legal protection, other assistance and social rights a refugee is entitled to receive.

Trafficker: An intermediary who is moving people in order to obtain an economic or other profit by means of deception, coercion and/or other forms of exploitation. The intent ab initio on the part of the trafficker is to exploit the person and gain profit or advantage from the exploitation.

Trafficking in persons: The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other

forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation (Art. 3(a), UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the UN Convention Against Organized Crime, 2000).

UNHCR: the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees was established on December 14, 1950 by the UN General Assembly. The agency is mandated to lead a co-ordinate international action to protect refugees and “stateless” people and resolve their problems worldwide. It works to ensure that everyone can exercise the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge in another state. It also identifies long-lasting solutions for refugees, such as voluntary return in safe and

decent conditions, local integration or resettlement to a third country.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR): this milestone document was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in Paris on December 10, 1948 in the resolution 217 A (III). Across its 30 articles it sets out the fundamental human rights based on the San Francisco Charter (June 26, 1945). The declaration is based on the recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family, without distinction of any kind such as nationality, place of residence, sex, national or social origin, color, religion, language or any other condition. Everyone is entitled to the same rights, without distinction. These rights are interrelated, interdependent and indivisible.

Visa: Stamp placed at a consular office on the appli-

cant’s passport or travel papers to indicate that the immigration officer considers the applicant to belong to the category of non-nationals in the issuing country and that he or she has been granted permission to enter the country, according to legal standards. The visa establishes a state’s admission requirements. International practice is developing towards automated systems for machine-readable visas in the form of labels or signs including security devices, in conformity with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) standards.

Voluntary Return: The return of eligible persons to their country of origin on the basis of freely expressed willingness to such return.

Work Permit: a legal document issued by a competent authority of a State giving authorization for employment of migrant workers in the host country.

