



# Refugee Research Network

## Research Digest

**Date June 7, 2017**

The RRN Research Digest provides a synopsis of recent research on refugee and forced migration issues from entities associated with the RRN and others.

### Books on Refugee issues

#### **EU Asylum Policies: The Power of Strong Regulating States. By Natascha Zaun.**

This book analyzes the dynamics that lie behind fifteen years of asylum policies in the European Union. It sheds light on why cooperation has led to reinforced refugee protection on paper but has failed to provide it in practice.

More information about the book can be found here:

<http://www.springer.com/gb/book/9783319398280>

#### **A Gendered Approach to the Syrian Refugee Crisis. Edited by Jane Freedman, Zeynep Kivilcim, and Nurcan Özgür Baklacioğlu**

This book covers the conflict in Syria and puts the women's experience at all stages of forced migration in the spot light. It addresses important issues such as the changing nature of gender relations during forced migration, gendered representations of refugees, and the ways in which EU policies may impact differently on men and women.

More information about the book can be found here: <https://www.routledge.com/A-Gendered-Approach-to-the-Syrian-Refugee-Crisis/Freedman-Kivilcim-Baklacioglu/p/book/9781138693722>

### Recent Publications and New Research

#### **Getting by or getting ahead: resettlement inputs and social capital in involuntary resettlement. By Melissa Quetulio-Navarra, Roger Zetter\*, Anke Niehof, and Feng Zhao**

*\*Former director of the Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford.*

This study examines the extent to which resettled populations in two countries are able to restore their socio-economic wellbeing in the place where they have migrated. The researchers examine the level of support through resettlement inputs compared to levels of social capital

for people who have been displaced, both in the first year after their involuntary resettlement and again several years later. They found evidence that inputs and social capital work together to foster improved living conditions.

**More information about this publication is available here:**

<https://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/publications/getting-by-or-getting-ahead-resettlement-inputs-and-social-capital-in-involuntary-resettlement>

**Who Counts in Crises? The New Geopolitics of International Migration and Refugee Governance.** By William Allen, Bridget Anderson, Nicholas Van Hear, Madeleine Sumption, Franck Düvell, Jennifer Hough, Lena Rose, Rachel Humphris and Sarah Walker.

This article problematizes migration and its categorisation by asking central questions such as Who is 'the migrant' that contemporary politics are fixated on? How are answers to 'who counts as a migrant' changing? And Who gets to do that counting, and under what circumstances? by examining how the concepts of 'migrant' and 'refugee' are used in different contexts, and for a variety of purposes, it opens up critical questions about mobility, citizenship, and the nation state.

**The article can be accessed here:** <https://www.compas.ox.ac.uk/media/Geopolitical-Forum-Who-Counts-in-Crises-2017.pdf>

**'In England, they don't call you black!' Migrating racialisations and the production of Roma difference across Europe.** By Jan Grill

This article explores how the movement of Roma to Britain and develops the concept of 'migrating racialisation' to trace how different forms of racialization migrate across Europe. The author argues that migrating racialization takes place through the movement of Roma and non-Roma migrants from Eastern Europe, as well as through particular forms of knowledge circulating constituted by Roma migrants themselves as well as various institutions for 'managing' or 'researching' 'the Roma'.

**More details about the article can be found here:**

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/1369183X.2017.1329007?journalCode=cjms20>

## Reports, Working Papers and Briefs

**#AlanKurdi: Presentation and dissemination of images of suffering on Twitter.** By Joshua Aiken, Hannes Einsporn, Monica Greco, Rachel Landry and Angela Navarro Fusillo

\*Working Paper Series of the Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford

A photograph of a drowned toddler named Alan Kurdi quickly became a symbol of multiple 'crises' including the humanitarian crisis in the Mediterranean, the Syrian civil war and the failure of European Union (EU) protection. This paper looks back at why this image went viral in the first place. Why did Alan's image reach and resonate with an audience of millions, among

countless other harrowing images capturing the crises? The authors explore what it is about the medium of Twitter that enabled the image of Alan to reach viral status yet with equally fleeting substantive outcomes. This analysis provides insights into responsiveness to images of suffering and Twitter as a medium for social change.

**The paper can be accessed here:** <https://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/publications/alankurdi-presentation-and-dissemination-of-images-of-suffering-on-twitter>

### **Creating safe zones and safe corridors in conflict situations: Providing protection at home or preventing the search for asylum? By Geoff Gilbert and Anna Magdalena Rüsçh**

This policy brief asks fundamental questions about the notions of ‘safe zones’ and ‘safe corridors’. It starts by briefly examines the history of the law and practice of safe zones and safe corridors and trace the preconditions to their creation, their qualities and character, how they are accessed, and how protection and other human rights can be assured. Finally, it considers the responsibility and accountability of various international actors with respect to safe zones and safe corridors.

**The policy brief can be accessed here:**

[http://www.kaldorcentre.unsw.edu.au/sites/default/files/Policy brief Creating safe zones and safe corridors.pdf](http://www.kaldorcentre.unsw.edu.au/sites/default/files/Policy%20brief%20Creating%20safe%20zones%20and%20safe%20corridors.pdf)

### **Global Report on Internal Displacement (May 2017) by the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC)**

This year, IDMC’s Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID) examines the connections between internal and cross-border displacement. It shows that people unable to find safety by fleeing within their own country eventually embark on dangerous journeys across borders in search of refuge and a better life. It also indicates that refugees and migrants who return or are deported back to conditions similar to those that led to their flight risk becoming displaced again.

**The report can be accessed here:** <http://www.internal-displacement.org/global-report/grid2017/pdfs/2017-GRID.pdf>

## **Videos and Social Media**

### **Searching for Syria:**

Searching for Syria, a microsite addressing central facts related to the ongoing conflict in the Middle East, is a collaboration between UNHCR and Google. It combines high-resolution imagery, UNHCR data, Google Search Trends and YouTube content to answer five widespread questions that people ask online regarding Syria.

**The microsite can be accessed here:** <https://searchingforsyria.org/en/what-was-syria-like-before-the-war/>