



Refugee Research Network

Research Digest

Date June 14, 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.

Recent Publications and New Research

Return Migration and Economic Outcomes in the Conflict Context. By Sonja Fransen, Isabel Ruiz & Carlos Vargas-Silva

This article focuses on the post-conflict period by exploring the difference in the economic outcomes between return migrant households and non-migrant households in Burundi, a country that witnessed a large-scale conflict, massive emigration, and massive post-war refugee return. It concludes that returnee households report lower levels of economic well-being. The article brings back this conclusion to factors such as legal restrictions on economic activities faced by returnees while in displacement, which resulted in high levels of inactivity abroad and a potential loss/deterioration of skills.

The article can be accessed at this link: <https://www.compas.ox.ac.uk/2017/return-migration-and-economic-outcomes-in-the-conflict-context/>

Power and Responsibility at the Margins: The Case of India in the Global Refugee Regime. By Ranabir Samaddar

This article discusses the experience of refugee flows into India since independence and how it has conditioned India's engagement with the global refugee regime. Given the dominant discourse of "responsibility to protect" as part of the global governance regime, the article asks if there is a different way to conceptualize responsibility in the post-colonial context. India, the article contends, not only offers a story of protection and hospitality but is also an eloquent example of how post-colonial political power had a long reciprocal relation with responsibility.

The article can be accessed at this link:

<http://refuge.journals.yorku.ca/index.php/refuge/article/view/40447/36440>

Children and Forced Migration: Durable Solutions During Transient Years. Edited by: Marisa O. Ensor & Elżbieta M Goździak.

This book draws our attention to the child and youth migrant, a group that constitutes a disproportionately large percentage of displaced populations worldwide. It highlights how they

face additional difficulties due to the inconsistent definition and uneven implementation of the traditional 'durable solutions' to forced migration implemented by national governments and international assistance agencies. This book will appeal to students and scholars of forced migration studies, development, conflict and peace-building and youth studies, along with policy-makers, children's rights organizations and NGOs.

More information about the book can be found here:

<https://www.palgrave.com/de/book/9783319406909>

Reports, Working Papers and Briefs

Worker, helper, auntie, maid?: Working conditions and attitudes experienced by migrant domestic workers in Thailand and Malaysia. International Labour Organization, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. Bangkok: ILO, 2016.

This report tries to create a clearer picture of the underlying factors influencing the lived employment experiences of migrant domestic workers in Thailand and Malaysia. It focuses on the links between the working conditions as described by migrant domestic workers, and attitudes to migrant and domestic workers as expressed in the media and by employers.

The report can be accessed at this link: http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---sro-bangkok/documents/publication/wcms_537808.pdf

Research in Brief: Decriminalising 'Humanitarian Smuggling'. By Rachel Landry.

This research brief summarizes the legal and policy findings from the Refugee Studies Center Working Paper no. 119. It outlines the concept of 'humanitarian smuggling', and then critiques smuggling prohibitions at the international and the EU levels. It argues that these prohibitions are overbroad and vague, failing to meet basic requirements of the rule of law. Finally, the brief analyses existing proposals to improve the framework governing smuggling and provides additional recommendations to decriminalize 'humanitarian smugglers'

The brief can be accessed at this link: <https://www.rsc.ox.ac.uk/publications/research-in-brief-decriminalising-humanitarian-smuggling>

"Hell On Earth": Abuses against refugees and migrants trying to reach Europe from Libya. By Izza Leghtas- Refugee International Field report, June 2017.

While the Turkey-Greece route was mostly used by Syrians, Iraqis, and Afghans, the majority of refugees and migrants using the Libya-Italy route are from West and East Africa. As of the end of April 2017, the majority of people reaching Italy's shores from Libya were from Nigeria, Bangladesh, Guinea, Ivory Coast, and Gambia. This Refugee International report gathers stories and testimonies of migrants who had recently arrived in Italy from Libya.

The full report can be accessed at this link:

<https://www.refugeesinternational.org/reports/2017/libya>

News Articles and Blogs

Steppes and the city: rural to urban migration in Mongolia [MSc guest blog] By Faraz Shibli.

This blog puts the country of Mongolia in the spotlight highlighting the intersection between nomadism, climate change and urbanization and how they shape internal migration.

The blog can be accessed at this link: <https://www.compas.ox.ac.uk/2017/steppes-and-the-city-rural-to-urban-migration-in-mongolia/>

News article: Journalist bridges connection between refugees and Indigenous people. CBC.

Sadia Rafiquddin is sharing her own personal connection with Innu elder Elizabeth Penashue as an example of how refugees like herself share a lot in common with Canada's First Nations.

The article can be accessed at this link (an audio option is available):
<http://www.cbc.ca/beta/news/canada/british-columbia/journalist-bridges-connection-between-refugees-and-indigenous-people-1.4115311>

Videos and Social Media

RLI 2nd Annual Conference - Keynote Presentations

This podcast collection includes the Refugee Law Initiative 2nd Annual Conference: 'Mass Influx? Law, Policy and Large-Scale Movements of Refugees and Migrants' Keynote speakers' presentations. The keynote speakers include: Professor Alexander Betts (Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford); Professor Francois Crepeau (UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Migrants); Professor Loren Landau (African Centre for Migration and Society, Witwatersrand University); Dr Volker Turk (Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, UNHCR).

The podcast can be accessed at this link: <http://rli.sas.ac.uk/resources/podcasts>

Documentary: Warehouse

This documentary explores the plight of long-term refugees through a glimpse into the lives of those living in Dadaab, Kenya, one of the world's largest refugee camps. It offers a look at the camp's inner workings through one man's journey to do everything in his power to provide for his family. This man's story is not unique however; it accentuates the much larger problems that long-term refugees have faced for centuries such as resettling, reuniting with their families, and finding not only identity but a sense of place.

The trailer and more information about the documentary can be accessed at this link
<https://www.facebook.com/warehouse Refugee/videos/1706384866055844/?fref=mentions>