



Refugee Research Network

Research Digest

Date July 19, 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

Hearing Differently: Knowledge-Based Approaches to Assessment of Refugee Narrative by Pia Zambelli

This article suggests ways of improving the interaction between asylum seekers and host states within the confines of the refugee status determination process. It advocates for exploring new approaches to fact finding and credibility assessment that are based on the notions that truth in the asylum context is relative, not fixed. More information about the article can be found at: <https://academic.oup.com/ijrl/issue/29/1>

'I Simply Do Not Believe': A Case Study of Credibility Determinations in Canadian Refugee Adjudication by Sean Rehaag

This article also examines credibility determinations in Canadian refugee adjudication through a case study of decision-making by a refugee adjudicator who denied every single refugee claim he heard over a three-year period. The case study draws on data and documents obtained from the Immigration and Refugee Board through Access to Information Requests. More information about the article available at: https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2997648

Forced migration and the city: Irregularity, informality, and the politics of presence by Jonathan Darling

This paper explores the relationship between forced migration and the city. It outlines four accounts of the city centred on: displacement and the camp-city, dispersal and refugee resettlement, the 're-scaling' of borders, and the city as a sanctuary. The paper considers how discussions of urban informality and the politics of presence may better unpack the urban character of forced migration. More information about the article available at: <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0309132516629004>

Reports, Working Papers and Briefs

More Financial Burden-Sharing for Developing Countries that Host Refugees by Matthias Lücke and Claas Schneiderheinze

In this policy brief, the contributors make three related points: First, they review relevant research to show that if refugees in low-and-middle-income economies are funded by the international community, the net cost of hosting refugees tends to be small and there may even be net benefits, while negative distributional effects can be mitigated. Second, they suggest ways to make the financing of humanitarian assistance for refugees and local populations more predicatable and adequate to needs. Third, they discuss approaches at better connecting humanitarian assistance and development finance to ensure that both refugees and local populations benefit from adequate public services, infrastructure, and economic opportunities. Available at:

http://www.g20-insights.org/policy_briefs/financial-burden-sharing-developing-countries-host-refugees/

Weathering Crisis, Forging Ahead: Swedish Asylum and Integration Policy by Susan Fratzke

Drawing on interviews with Swedish policymakers and stakeholders, the author maps the ongoing capacity challenges, responses, and innovations in how Sweden supports the success of asylum seekers and refugees. In many ways, flexibility has proven key. Available at:

<http://www.migrationpolicy.org/research/weathering-crisis-forging-ahead-swedish-asylum-and-integration-policy>

Challenging Trafficking in Canada: Policy Brief. Edited by Kamala Kempadoo and Nicole McFadyen (coordinators), Phillip Pilon, Andrea Sterling and Alex Mackenzie

This policy brief argues that challenging human trafficking in Canada today requires a lot more than changes to criminal laws or a passion to change economic and social inequalities and gender injustices. It requires acknowledging sex work as labour. It draws on recent research undertaken in Canada by recognized (feminist) scholars as well as the expertise of community workers and organizations that are engaged with antitrafficking around the country. Available at: <http://cfr.info.yorku.ca/challenging-trafficking-in-canada-policy-brief/>

News Articles and Blogs

Yemen, Libya, and 21st Century Migration Challenges by Katharine Donato

This blog sheds some light on migrants that continues to arrive in conflict-ridden countries: Libya and Yemen, which exacerbates the conditions for both the migrants and those in their homeland. It calls on national governments and international systems to rethink these more complex patterns of migration and displacement. Available at:

<http://blogisim.tumblr.com/post/162435361375/yemen-libya-and-21st-century-migration>

11 Experts to Watch on Refugee Health. By Charlotte Alfred and Kim Bode

From war trauma to women's health, refugees have a complex spectrum of medical needs, bringing challenges for displaced populations, their host countries and aid organizations. This news report introduces 11 experts from across the globe whose work on refugee health offers invaluable insight into this pressing issue. Available at:

<https://www.newsdeeply.com/refugees/articles/2017/06/08/11-experts-to-watch-on-refugee-health>

11 Books Written by or About Refugees to Add to Your Summer Reading List. By Eleanor Sheehan

This article reports on Amazon book editor Sarah Smith recommendation of a few books both about refugees and by refugees. The list compiles poetry, short stories, and novels with a brief description about each selection. Available at: <https://www.popsugar.com/news/Books-About-Refugees-43553684>

Digital and Social Media

TED2017: David Miliband's 4 solutions to ending the global refugee crisis

David Milliband, former British Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and current president and CEO of the [International Rescue Committee](#) talks about the globalization of indifference and offers some specific, tangible ways to help refugees and turn empathy and altruism into action. Available at: <https://www.rescue-uk.org/video/ted2017-david-milibands-4-solutions-ending-global-refugee-crisis>

RefAid

Through a simple, easy-to-use interface, [RefAid](#), a free mobile app uses geolocation to show migrants, refugees, and aid workers a map of the closest services for food, shelter, health care, legal help, and more. Aid organizations can communicate with each other—and touch base with the

refugees they've helped—through a web-based content management system, as well as update and keep track of the services they offer. More information about the initiative available at:
<http://mashable.com/2017/05/29/refaid-refugee-aid-app-shelley-taylor/#IEji8pSEgPq6>

Also a similar initiative in the UK in collaboration with google maps available at:
<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=101pLsNs0xugexponJYhMLLlhyFk&ll=54.416609235008444%2C-6.700996517187491&z=6>