

Editorial

Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration: Humanitarian Pathways¹

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In the last issue of the QRP, Vol. 62 No. 4 (2023), the contributions of the 68th International Conference of the Association for the Study of the World Refugee Problem (AWR) was published on the topic “Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration: Pathways and Perspectives” together with the announcement of a follow-up conference in 2024.

Therefore, you will find in this edition a call for papers for the 69th International Conference of the Association for the Study of the World Refugee Problem (AWR), with the main theme of “Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration: Humanitarian Pathways”. The editorial board is grateful to Friedensau Adventist University in Friedensau, Saxony-Anhalt, who accepted to host the upcoming conference.

The editorial board invites academics, practitioners and all other interested persons to contribute to this interdisciplinary and international discourse by sending their abstract.

To protect refugees and support host communities, the 2018 Global Compact on Refugees (A/73/12 [Part II], adopted by GA Resolution A/Res/73/151), sees resettlement and complementary pathways for admission to third countries as part of the solution. The envisioned outcome of the conference is an analysis of the current status and role of these humanitarian pathways – whether they be publicly, privately or public-privately sponsored. Potentials, limitations and pitfalls will be discussed. Best practice will be shown together with failed endeavours. Their relation and effects on the right for individual refugee, subsidiary or complementary protection will be debated, especially between attempts for stricter migration control and humanitarian access.

Sadly, due to the ongoing refugee emergencies in Afghanistan, DR Congo, the Horn of Africa, Rohingya, Syria, Sudan, Ukraine, Venezuela (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR], n.d.) and other countries, with increasing numbers of persons fleeing their home countries, this year’s topic of the conference is of increased interest and relevance.

While there are arguments about – and from – political leaders using refugees to cause “migration waves” (Braw, 2022) to destabilize countries without directly using military force, there are also other voices like Volker Türk, the UNHCR protection chief in 2017, who argues that the protection of refugees and state security are “compatible goals” (Türk, 2017). A prompt registration and efficient determination of refugee status could facilitate their integration into the labour market and the education system and their access to

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social services, including access to language courses, while at the same time preventing exclusion and marginalization (Türk, 2017). According to him destabilization could be prevented through “a solutions-oriented approach to the current magnitude, scope, and complexity of forced displacement in the world, including its security and law enforcement dimensions” by “predictable and equitable responsibility-sharing arrangements” and “a cooperative framework requir[ing] proper systems for the reception of arrivals and their referral to appropriate processes” (Türk, 2017).

For that reason, politicians should include and implement academic findings, involve practitioners and act within the humanitarian legal framework to help refugees and to stabilize national security at the same time.

In this edition, there are contributions at the intersections of social work and law, research and education as well as a comparative analysis of major refugee populations in one and the same host country. This is complemented by a review of recent jurisdiction and developments. The aim is offering a platform for politicians, practitioners and academics to develop new perspectives and encouraging all of them to walk on a path towards peaceful conflict resolution options and re-establish trustful and responsible relationships.

But first of all, the Presidency of AWR German Section would like to draw the readers' attention to its current resolution on the Middle East Conflict, Simchat Torah Massacre and Gaza War.

References

- Braw, E. (2022, July 18). *Russia is taking advantage of the invasion-stirred migration crisis: As food problems worsen, new refugees head for Europe*. Foreign Policy. <https://foreignpolicy.com/2022/07/18/russia-ukraine-war-migration-food-crisis-putin/>
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- Türk, V. (2017, April 5). *Open briefing to United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee*. UNHCR. <https://www.unhcr.org/publications/open-briefing-uk-sec-council-counter-terrorism-committee>