

## Forced Migration Review

(FMR) provides a forum for the regular exchange of practical experience, information and ideas between researchers, refugees and internally displaced people, and those who work with them. It is published in English, Arabic, Spanish and French by the Refugee Studies Centre of the Oxford Department of International Development, University of Oxford.

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### Forced Migration Review

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## From the editors

Europe is experiencing the mass movements of displaced people in a way that it has largely been immune from for decades. The ramifications and manifestations of what is being called a 'migration crisis' are extensive, intersecting with national as well as pan-European politics, existing economic problems, xenophobia, fear of terror attacks, and much more. This crisis, in effect, seems to dwarf in scale and complexity any other crisis that Europe has faced since the end of the Second World War.

The manifestations are as disparate as the building of fences to stop people crossing normally peaceful borders, the deaths of people transported by smugglers in unseaworthy boats, EU political leaders bickering over a Common European Asylum System and the numbers they will or will not allow into their respective countries, and contentious responses to the disaster that continues to unfold in Syria. Alongside this we also see an upsurge of grass-roots compassion, solidarity and assistance to those whose human suffering on a grand scale in and around Europe constitutes the reality behind the rhetoric.

In this issue of FMR, authors throw legal, practical, moral and experiential light on a variety of the multifarious issues and manifestations that make up this 'crisis'.

We would like to thank Elizabeth Collett (Migration Policy Institute Europe), Cathryn Costello (Refugee Studies Centre), Madeline Garlick (UNHCR) and Richard Williams for

their assistance as advisors on the feature theme of this issue. We are also grateful to the International Organization for Migration, the Open Society Foundations, the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and UNHCR's Regional Bureau for Europe for their financial support of the issue.

FMR 51 also includes a range of 'general' articles on other aspects of forced migration.

The full issue and all the individual articles in this issue are online in html, pdf and audio formats at [www.fmreview.org/destination-europe](http://www.fmreview.org/destination-europe). This issue (and its accompanying expanded contents summary) will be available in English, Arabic, French and Spanish. If you would like printed copies, please email us at [fmr@qeh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:fmr@qeh.ox.ac.uk).

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- **Thinking ahead: displacement, transition and solutions** (May 2016)
- **Local communities: first and last providers of protection** (September 2016)

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Marion Couldrey and Maurice Herson  
Editors, Forced Migration Review

**Cover image:** A group of Hazara refugees from Afghanistan at the train station in Presevo, Serbia, November 2015. UNHCR/Daniel Etter • *Editors' comment:* We chose this image in contrast to some of the more stereotypical images of the European refugee 'crisis'. We liked the garden fence dividing the cosy inside from the excluded outside, and the humanity and sense of warmth of the family group – the reminder that refugees and migrants are people who can smile and support each other even when times are very hard.

