Resettlement

Putting refugees at the centre of resettlement in the UK

Leena Bhatia and Ashley Lear

There is growing evidence that the current resettlement regime in the UK is failing to meet the needs of refugees. This failure is not just a consequence of the lack of resources, but also of a failure to understand the needs of refugees and their experiences.

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Putting refugees at the centre of resettlement in the UK

The importance of legal counsel

At each stage of the resettlement process, the presence of counsel offers crucial psycho-social support and helps to prevent cases from slipping through the cracks of the asylum process.

Refugee resettlement and activism in New Zealand

Refugee resettlement is a complex and challenging process. In New Zealand, there are several efforts underway to improve the experience of refugees and to ensure that their needs are effectively met.

The view of integration in US resettlement policy is currently disconnected from the views of refugees themselves. Catherine Tyson (Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies)

How do we measure success in refugee resettlement?

Steps for private refugee sponsorship in Canada

For almost four decades, groups of Canadian private citizens have sponsored refugees for resettlement in Canada. Jennifer Hyndman, William Payne and Shauna Jimenez (York University / George Brown College / Community social worker)

The importance of legal counsel

When NGOs have helped shape resettlement

In the context of today’s global context, there is a need to reinforce the role of NGOs in the resettlement process. NGOs are uniquely positioned to identify and interview vulnerable refugees and to play a larger role in setting priorities.

How NGOs have helped shape resettlement

Non-government organisations (NGOs) have a rich history of involvement in case identification and referral for resettlement, and are uniquely positioned to identify and interview refugees.

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How do we measure success in refugee resettlement?
A 'successful' refugee resettlement programme: the case of Nepal

Carol Batchelor and Edwina O'Shea (UNHCR)

www.fmreview.org/resettlement/batchelor-oshea

A globally-recognised achievement, Nepal’s resettlement programme was established in 1976 and has had on the remaining camp populations. To the story of this successful resettlement programme, however, is the failure to tackle the impact it has had on the people they leave behind and the agencies that work with them. With the prospect that numbers will continue to rise, this is an opportunity for the Nepal government and other donor agencies to reassess whether it is a good use of resources and the right mechanism for providing protection and integration to refugees. Nepal’s resettlement programme has some clear lessons to draw in particular on some of the countries that resettle the largest numbers of refugees.

This issue of FMR also contains a mini-feature on ‘secondary migration’. This traditional ‘durable solution’ – the managed movement of refugees to a safe third country – already affects many thousands of refugees every year, the communities they move into, and the people they leave behind. And it is an opportunity for donor agencies to reassess whether it is a good use of resources and the right mechanism for providing protection and integration to refugees. Nepal’s resettlement programme has some clear lessons to draw in particular on some of the countries that resettle the largest numbers of refugees.

Putting refugees at the centre of resettlement in the UK

Michel Colleaux and Andrew Tomlinson (University of Sussex)

www.fmreview.org/resettlement/colleaux-tomlinson

There are growing numbers of refugees in the UK who have been through a resettlement programme, and many are increasingly aware of opportunities to control the programme and shape their own futures. The story of resettlement in the UK – as well as the more internationally known stories of refugee resettlement in Canada and the US – shows that when resettlement programmes are driven by the people who are resettled, they can have a positive impact on the people they leave behind and the agencies that work with them.

Who will resettle Syrian men in the US?

John Pearson (University of California)

www.fmreview.org/resettlement/pearson

Resettlement programmes for Syrian refugees severely restrict access to social services, including health care and job opportunities. With resettlement and temporary protected status applications on the rise, this is an opportunity to reassess the impact and design of resettlement programmes.

Security practices and resettlement

Shoshana Fine (Columbia School of Social Work)

www.fmreview.org/resettlement/fine

The resettlement process is not neutral, but represents a range of choices and procedures that reproduce inequalities.

Surge and selection: power in the refugee resettlement regime

Amanda Cellini (Peace Research Institute Oslo)

www.fmreview.org/resettlement/cellini

The relationship between government and government-contracted refugee resettlement service providers in Australia needs to be based more on autonomy and trust.

The importance of legal counsel

Jeffrey Bloem and Scott Loveridge (University of Minnesota / Michigan State University)

www.fmreview.org/resettlement/bloem-loveridge

At each stage of the resettlement process, the presence of counsel – legal advocates – can help refugees to present their complete cases efficiently and avoid unnecessary rejections.

Refugee resettlement in addition to federal government resettlement programmes.

Michael Collyer, Rupert Brown, Linda Morrice and Linda Tip (University of Sussex)

www.fmreview.org/resettlement/collyer-brown-morrice-tip

For almost four decades, groups of Canadian private citizens have sponsored refugees for resettlement in Canada, and the numbers of refugees sponsored by these groups continues to rise. The process is challenging and sometimes frustrating. There are clear benefits to the sponsoring and sponsored alike.

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Putting refugees at the centre of resettlement in the UK

Sébastien Moretti (Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies)

有效 strategy of resettlement needs to place greater prominence in the context of the recent surge in numbers of refugees. This traditional “dualistic” solution, the managed movement of refugees to a few host countries, will not effectively address the needs of a global refugee population. The sophisticated and complex processes through which they have been subjected to the system have isolated them from the people they have been among and they are not effective. It is, in the view of many observers, a system in which many of the most vulnerable refugees are missed. The issue of NRIs looks at some of the methodologies and challenges of resettlement in order to shed light on what works, what is effective, and how to regulate the system.

Resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes in Europe – where next?

William Lacy Swing (IOM)

The resettlement of Hungarian refugees in 1956

Sébastien Moretti (Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies)

Around the 60th anniversary of the Hungarian uprising it is worth looking back on the efforts to admit Hungarian political refugees, and the special feature on refugee resettlement this year marks the contribution of the Hungarian government and the◕ ◀ unprecedented effort in the world of refugees and the Hungarian diaspora. It then looks at the resettlement of refugees from Syria – who individually seek asylum under the international protection system.

Resettlement and human rights

Sébastien Moretti (Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies)

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Resettlement

Resettlement playing a greater presence in the context of the recent surge in numbers of refugees. This traditional ‘durable solution’ – the managed movement of refugees to a safer third country – already affects millions of people who have fled war or persecution. However, the issue has become more complex as the numbers fleeing conflict into the people they had left behind and the agencies that work with them. With the prospect that numbers will continue to rise, this is an opportune time to reflect on the wider issues surrounding refugee resettlement.

This issue of FMR looks at some of the methodologies and challenges in resettlement in order to shed light on debates such as how – and how well – resettlement is managed, whether it is a good use of funds and energy, and whether it is a good solution for refugees. Case studies draw in particular on some of the countries that resettle the largest numbers of refugees.

Putting refugees at the centre of resettlement in the UK

Michael Collier (Centre for Migration Law, Policy, Practice and Research, University of Kent and LiU University of Sweden)

There are growing numbers of refugees in the UK who have been through a resettlement process. As well as the legal advocates who have the opportunity to support the refugees during the process, it is crucial that any gaps in support are identified and filled. An evaluation of the resettlement in the UK

Jeffrey Bloem and Scott Loveridge (University of Minnesota / Michigan State University)

There is a need to ensure that refugees arriving in the resettlement setting are placed in a safe third country – already affects many thousands of refugees every year, the communities they move into, and the states undertaking to receive them. IOM believes that this holds true regardless of the type of resettlement regime. The top-down process of selection also poses ethical dilemmas, as there is an imbalance of power – and a resulting lack of agency for refugees – in the structure of the resettlement scheme, the destination country or the type of refugee being assisted.

At each stage of the resettlement process, the presence of counsel – legal advocates – can help refugees to present their complete cases efficiently and avoid unnecessary rejections. At each stage of the resettlement process, the presence of counsel – legal advocates – can help refugees to present their complete cases efficiently and avoid unnecessary rejections. It is crucial that any gaps in support are identified and filled. An evaluation of the resettlement

Michael Collyer, Rupert Brown, Linda Morrice and Linda Tip (University of Sussex)

Practical considerations for effective resettlement programming

Betsy Fisher (Urban Justice Center)

There are certain elements of resettlement programming that benefit both refugees and the states undertaking to receive them, and others that can hinder the process. Discussion should focus on how to ensure resettlement programmes are effective, efficient and ethical.

The resettlement of refugee children

Melissa Douglas, Rachel Lekien and Lucy W Kihara (KARAT)

In recent years, there has been increased recognition that refugee resettlement may be shaped in the stages leading up to their arrival. In the case of ‘resettlement’, the strategic use of counsel to guide and protect refugees is invaluable.

Refugee resettlement and humanitarian admission programmes in Europe – where we are?

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Post-deportation risks and monitoring mini-feature

Jill Alipe, Charlotte Blondel, Ayesha Parveen, Mahfouz Abbas
(University of Oxford, University of Hasselt, University of Melbourne)

What happens to people who are deported after their asylum applications have failed? Many who are deported are at risk of harm when they return to their country of origin or have little monitoring done of deportation outcomes.

Risks encountered after forced removal: the return experiences of Vietnamese asylum seekers

Emily Bowker (Refugee Support Network)

Several young Vietnamese asylum seekers forcibly removed from the UK have since been re-detained. This paper presents preliminary findings from a mixed methods study of their experiences.

A grim return: post-deportation risks in Uganda

Charity Akumah Dreyfus (Refugee Law Project, Makerere University, University of Reading)

This paper examines what happens to asylum seekers who have been forcibly returned to their country of origin.

The EU-Turkey deal: what happens to people who return to Turkey?

Seva Tutunyako and Jill Alipe (University of Pompeu Fabra, Vrije University Amsterdam, University of Oxford)

This paper investigates the experiences of failed Ugandan asylum seekers forcibly removed to Turkey under the EU-Turkey deal.

Refugees and the Swiss statelessness determination process

Karen Hamann (Swiss State Secretariat for Migration)

We argue that in practice, the Swiss statelessness determination process is rather progressive compared to other states.

Migrant, refugee or minor? It matters for children in Europe.

Jonathan Goh, Sophie Kurschner, Tina Esmail and Jonathan van Arneman (Macalester College, University of California Berkeley, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Sciences Po Paris)

This article explores the capacity of children's services and child rights institutions to recognise the developmental needs of migrant and refugee children.

When money speaks: behind asylum seekers’ consumption patterns

Prabal Barua, Mohammad Shahjahan, Mohammed Arifur Rahman and Syed Hafizur Rahman (University of Oxford, Thames Valley University, University of Durham)

This paper examines the consumption patterns of asylum seekers placed in the UK to Afghanistan. Its conclusions highlight both the difficulties facing the returnees and the need for evidence-based solutions.

Ensuring the rights of climate-displaced people in Bangladesh

Pranab Roy, Mohammad Shahjahan, Mohammad Arifur Rahman, Syed Hafizur Rahman and Mohsin Hazar Ali (Young Pioneer in Social Action) (Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology)

This paper argues that a strategy of bottom-up community mobilization and of increasing the capacity of local organizations could best be used to ensure that the rights of the climate-displaced are respected.

The ability of refugees to gain admission to Australia is increasingly based on perceptions of 'deservingness'. One consequence is that men in particular are more likely to be denied resettlement.

Alice M Neikirk (The Australian National University)

Findings from a longitudinal study of long-term resettlement experiences of refugee youth living in Melbourne / Durham University / Queensland University of Technology / Swinburne University of Technology

We discuss the experiences of young refugee youth living in Melbourne and the potential for interventions at an early stage.

We would like to thank Michael Collins of Sussex University and Jeff Crisp of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and UNHCR’s Division of International Protection for their financial support of this micro-feature.
Resettlement of refugee youth in Australia: experiences and outcomes over 15 years

George Aratrar and Julia K pacing (University of Technology Sydney)

The aims and objectives of resettlement are poorly specified and the outcomes are poorly measured. For resettlement to be effective, it needs a much stronger evidence base and it needs improved coordination at the international level.

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