

***Courses and Seminars on Broader
Subjects That Include Internal
Displacement***

Humanitarian Crisis in the 1990s: The Challenge to Address the Protection and Assistance Needs of Refugee and Internally Displaced Populations and Root Causes of Refugee Flows through Preventive Action

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Course Description:

In a world population of 5.8 billion, roughly one out of every 115 to 120 persons is displaced by war, civil strife, or persecution. While we continue to hope refugee flows will abate, we see sore people on the move. In 1960 there were 1.4 million refugees. By 1980 the number swelled to 82 million. In our world today there are between 15 and 20 million refugees and approximately 25 to 30 million internally displaced civilians. Fully 80 percent of the displaced are women and children.

Today, refugee movements from countries in distress are greater in numbers, frequency, and complexity. The vast majority of people who are displaced, are displaced because of generalized violence. While individuals per se may not be targeted, whole communities are forced to flee armed, civil conflict because their lives are totally disrupted. To destroy the source of livelihood, opponents kill villagers, burn villages, steal cattle, destroy crops, poison water sources, and strew landmines. Civilians become targets of war, part of the military strategy in these civil wars even though the Geneva Conventions expressly forbid the purposeful uprooting of civilian populations.

The cost in human lives and money is immense. 'When a large-scale humanitarian crisis arises, such as we witnessed in Rwanda, the UNHCR, NGOs, and governments must respond rapidly to assist and protect massive numbers of people, often in critical condition, who are crossing international borders at the same time.

Today, more victims of conflict become internally displaced within their own borders than seek asylum by crossing an international border. For the internally displaced there is no U.N. body mandated to protect and assist them as there is for refugees who cross an international border. With more than 25–30 million civilians internally displaced, the international community is forced to grapple with the complex issue of conflict between national sovereignty on the one hand, and protection of the basic human rights of and humanitarian access to the internally displaced, on the other. It is crit-

ical that humanitarian relief workers have unlimited, uninterrupted, and unimpeded access to internally displaced civilians.

Millions of refugees are returning home to devastated homelands after years in exile. In countries like Mozambique, Eritrea, Ethiopia, and Bosnia-Herzegovina, reconstruction and reconciliation is critical if these countries are not to tip over again into conflict.

If we do not want to witness one humanitarian crisis after another, each more brutal than the one before, we must set new priorities and principles and find new, nonviolent ways to respond to conflict. In reshaping the future, one of our greatest challenges is to work for conflict resolution and crisis prevention. Addressing root causes of conflict is essential.

During the thirteen weeks of this course, we will address the many issues surrounding the forced displacement of people caused by war, civil strife, and persecution. We will seek ways to better protect and assist those who are displaced and consider how conflict resolution and preventive action can become a key element in US. foreign policy and in the activities of grass roots NGOs.

Syllabus:

Week 1:

Overview of World Refugee Movements

A complex variety of conflict and political situations cause massive numbers of people from almost every continent to flee their homes to survive. Increasingly, the movements of refugees and internally displaced civilians are having a greater impact on international peace and security.

Myron Weiner. "Bad Neighbors, Bad Neighborhoods: An Inquiry Into the Causes of Refugee Flows," *International Security*. Volume 21, No. 1 (Summer 1996), 5–42.

Alan Dowty and Gil Loescher. "Refugee Flows As Grounds For International Action," *International Security*. Volume 21, No. 1 (Summer 1996), 43–71.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). *The State of the World's Refugees 1993*. New York: Penguin Books, 1993.

- a. Introduction, "The Challenge of Protection," 1–12.
- b. Chapter I, "The Dynamics of Displacement," 13–30.
- c. Annex I, "Refugee Statistics," 145–161.
- d. Annex II, "International Instruments and Their Significance," 162–168.
- e. Annex III, "The Work of UNHCR," 169–178.

UNHCR. *The State of the World's Refugees 1995*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1995.
Introduction, "Searching for Solutions," 11–17.

- a. Chapter I, "Changing Approaches to the Refugee Problem," 19–55.
- b. Conclusion, "Investing in the Future," 233–243.

Gil Loescher. "The International Refugee Regime," *Journal of International Affairs*, Volume 47, No. 2 (Winter 1994), 351–377.

Aristide R. Zolberg, Astri Suhrke, Sergio Aguayo. *Escape From Violence: Conflict and the Refugee Crises in the Developing World*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1989

- a. Chapter 1, "Who Is a Refugee?" 3–33.

Look over the following:

- b. Chapter 2, "Ethnic Conflict in the New States of Sub-Saharan Africa," 37–71.
- c. Chapter 3, "In the Long Shadow of South Africa," 72–102.
- d. Chapter 9, "Patterns of Social Conflict and Refugee Movements," 227–257.
- e. Chapter 10, "Toward a Better International Refugee Regime," 258–282.

W.R. Smyser. *Refugees: Extended Exile*. New York: Praeger, 1987, 1–121.

Gil Loescher and Laila Monahan (editors). *Refugees and International Relations*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1989.

- a. Gil Loescher, "Introduction: Refugee Issues in International Relations," 1–34.
- b. Jean Pierre Hocke, "Beyond Humanitarianism: The Need for Political Will to Resolve Today's Refugee Problem," 37–48.
- c. Gervase Coles, "Approaching the Refugee Problem Today," 373–410.

Week 2:

Refugees, Refugee-life Populations and Internally Displaced Persons

While the 1951 U.N. Convention and the 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees is the least definition of who is a refugee, its adequacy in addressing the nature and needs of contemporary refugee and internally displaced populations is questionable. How can we reshape current refugee law and structures to meet today's needs?

UNHCR. *Collection of International Instruments Concerning Refugees*. UNHCR: Geneva, 1979.

- a. Universal Instruments. Section I - "Refugees and Stateless Persons," 3–98.
- b. Universal Instruments. Section II - "Human Rights," 99–178.
- c. Regional Instruments. Section I - "Africa," 193–206.

United Nations. *Charter of the United Nations*.

- a. Chapter VI, "Pacific Settlement of Disputes."
- b. Chapter VII, "Action With Respect to Threats to the Peace, Breaches of the Peace, and Acts of Aggression."

UNHCR. *The State of the World's Refugees 1995*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1995. Chapter 2, "Protecting Human Rights," 57–95.

Arthur C. Helton. "Displacement and Human Rights: Current Dilemmas in Refugee Protection," *Journal of International Affairs*. Volume 47, No. 2 (Winter 1994), 379–398.

James C. Hathaway. "Can International Refugee Law Be Made Relevant Again?" U.S. Committee for Refugees. *World Refugee Survey 1996*. 14–19.

Charles William Maynes and Richard S. Williamson (editors). *U.S. Foreign Policy and the United Nations System*. New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 1996. Chapter 6 Fred Cuny. "Refugees, Displaced Persons, and the United Nations System," 187–211.

Howard Adelman and John Sorenson (editors). *African Refugees Development Aid and Repatriation*. Boulder: Westview Press, 1994. Chapter 1, Chris Bakwesegha, "Forced Migration in Africa and the OAU Convention," 3–17.

Roberta Cohen. "Refugees and Human Rights," Refugee Policy Group Issue Paper (February 1995), 1–21.

Kathleen Newland. "Refugees: the Rising Flood," *World Watch*. (May/June 1994), 10–20.

Dick Kirschten. "No Refuge," *National Journal*, No. 37 (September 10, 1994), 2068–2073.

Rosemarie Rogers and Emily Copeland. *Forced Migration: Policy Issues in the Post Cold War World*. Medford, MA: The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, 1993. ,

- a. Section I, Chapter 4, "The Evolution of the International Refugee Regime," 25–40.
- b. Section II, "Rethinking Current Approaches to Asylum, The Three Durable Solutions, and Special Population Groups," 49–87.
- c. Section III, "Toward a Comprehensive Approach to Forced Migration," 96–135.

United Nations. *The United Nations and Human Rights 1945–1995*. The United Nations Blue Book Series. New York: United Nations Publications, 1995. Sections for reading to be determined.

Week 3:

Refugee Women and Children

Women and children comprise 80% of the world's refugee and internally displaced populations. It is critical that their particular needs are addressed. Various guidelines are in place. These must be implemented in the field.

Christina M. Schultz, "Promoting Economic Self-Reliance," *Journal of International Affairs*, Volume 47, No 2 (Winter 1994), 557–578.

Judy Mayotte. *Disposable People?: The Plight of Refugees*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1992. Chapter 5, "Refugee Women," 147–189.

Susan Forbes Martin. *Refugee Women*. Atlantic Highlands, NJ: Zed Books, 1991, 1–104.

Gil Loescher and Laila Monahan (editors). *Refugees and International Relations*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1989. Genevieve Camus-Jacques, "Refugee Women: The Forgotten Majority," 141–158

Roberta Cohen. *Refugee and Internally Displaced Women: A Development Perspective*. Washington, D.C.: The Brookings Institution — Refugee Policy Group Project on Internal Displacement, 1995, 1–35.

UNHCR. *Guidelines On the Protection of Refugee Women*. Geneva: UNHCR, July 1991, 1–67. (Look over rather than read the entire document.)

UNHCR. *Sexual Violence Against Refugees — Guidelines on Prevention and Response*. Geneva: UNHCR, March 1995, 1–64. (Look over rather than read the entire document.)

Rosemarie Rogers and Emily Copeland. *Forced Migration: Policy Issues in the Post Cold War World*. Medford, MA: The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, 1993. Chapter 10, "Refugee Women and Children," 88–95.

UNHCR. *Convention On the Rights of the Child*. New York: United Nations Department of Public Information, 1991, DP/1101-May 1991-IOM, 1–54.

UNHCR. *Refugee Survey Quarterly*. Volume 14, Special Issue (Summer 1995).

- a. "Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women," 195–200.
- b. "Note on Certain Aspects of Sexual Violence Against Refugee Women," 201–220.
- c. "Note on Refugee Women and International Protection," 221–238.
- d. "UNHCR Policy on Refugee Women," 239–246.

UNHCR. *Refugee Children Guidelines On Protection and Care*. Geneva: UNHCR, 1994, 5–176.

UNICEF. *The State of the World's Children 1996*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1996. Chapter 1, "Children in War," 12–41.

UNICEF. *The Impact of Armed Conflict on Children*. (Graca Machel study to be published early 1997.)

Guy Goodwin-Gill and Ilene Cohn. *Child Soldiers The Role of Children in Armed Conflict*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1994, 3–181.

Human Rights Watch/Africa. *Children of Sudan Slaves Street Children, and Child Soldiers*. Washington, D.C.: Human Rights Watch, 1995, 1–88.

Human Rights Watch/Africa. *Easy Prey: Child Soldiers in Liberia*. Washington, D.C.: Human Rights Watch, 1994, 1–56.

"On the Protection and Care of Unaccompanied Refugee Children," Proceedings from a Conference in Bellagio, Italy 1994, 1–33.

Week 4:

Assistance to Refugees in Situations of First Asylum

In refugee camps and detention centers in countries of asylum. UNHCR and NGOs are responsible for planning, providing and distributing adequate basic human needs, such as food, shelter, potable water, clothing, sanitation, and medical treatment. to refugees. In addition, they must be concerned with maintaining order in refugee camps as well as encouraging education and vocational training. UNHCR and NGOs most work with host governments who often want to coerce voluntary repatriation by making living conditions in the camps inhospitable and reducing NGO assistance programs. Refugees must also be protected against gang members. armed insurgents. and local security forces and/or camp guards.

UNHCR. *The State of the World's Refugees 1993*. New York: Penguin Books, 1993. Chapter 2, "Asylum Under Threat," 67–82.

Peter Sollis, "The Relief-Development Continuum: Some Notes on Rethinking Assistance for Civilian Victims of Conflict." *Journal of International Studies*, Volume 47, No. 2 (Winter 1994), 451–471.

Judy Mayotte, *Disposable People?: The Plight of Refugees*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1992. Chapter 2, "Closed In," 35–92.

Gil Loescher and Laila Monahan (editors). *Refugees and International Relations*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1989. Randolph Kent, "Emergency Aid: Politics and Priorities," 63–84.

Andrew Natsios, "U.S. Foreign Policy and Complex Humanitarian Emergencies," *USCR World Refugee Survey 1995*, 8–14.

Larry Minear and Thomas G. Weiss. *Mercy Under Fire War and the Global Humanitarian Community*. Boulder: Westview Press, 1995, 1–226. (Applicable to both Weeks 4 and 5)

Jeffrey Clark, “The U.S. Government, Humanitarian Assistance, and the New World Order: A Call for a New Approach,” USCR Issue Paper, September 1991, 1–15.

Week 5:

Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons: Conflicting Policies by Governments and by International Relief Agencies

There are a number of reasons why protection and access to internally displaced civilian is difficult and, in some cases, almost impossible for international organizations and NGOs and extremely costly. Oftentimes, the internally displaced are trapped in the midst of armed conflict or live in a country where all governance has broken down. In some cases, the very governments charged with protecting its citizens may refuse access to those in territory held by rebel factions.

UNHCR. *The State of the World's Refugees 1993*. New York: Penguin, 1993.

- a. Chapter 4, “Protection In Times of Armed Conflict,” 67–82.
- b. Chapter 8, “Broadening the Focus of Protection,” 139–144.

Judy Mayotte. “Civil War in Sudan: The Paradox of Human Rights and National Sovereignty,” *Journal of International Affairs*, Volume 47, No. 2 (Winter 1994), 497–524

Roberta Cohen and Jacques Cuenod. *Improving Institutional Arrangements for the Internally Displaced*. Washington, D.C.: The Brookings Institution — Refugee Policy Group Project on Internal Displacement, 1995, 1–87.

Roberta Cohen, “Protecting the Internally Displaced,” *USCR World Refugee Survey 1996*. Washington, D.C.: Immigration and Refugee Services of America, 1996, 20–27.

Tom Argent, “The Usual People: Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons From Sierra Leone,” USCR Issue Paper, February 1995, 1–11.

Roger Winter, “Caught In the Spiral of Violence: Burundi's Uprooted People,” USCR Issue Paper, August 1995, 1–28.

Week 6:

The Role of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

Today, when a large-scale humanitarian crisis arises, such as we witnessed in Rwanda, the UNHCR and NGOs must respond rapidly with necessary protection and material assistance. Humanitarian organizations that respond to humanitarian emergencies today are severely stretched financially and challenged to their utmost to respond adequately.

Barry R. Posen, “Military Responses to Refugee Disasters,” *International Security*. Volume 21, No. 1 (Summer 1996), 72–111.

UNHCR. *The State of the World's Refugees 1993*. New York: Penguin Books, 1993. Chapter 5, “Responding to Refugee Emergencies,” 83–102.

UNHCR. *The State of the World's Refugees 1995*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1995. Chapter 3, "Keeping the Peace," 97–141.

David Rieff, "The Humanitarian Trap," *World Policy Journal*. Volume XII, No. 4 (Winter 1995/96). 1–11.

Farouk Mawlawi, "New Conflicts, New Challenges: The Evolving Role of Non-Governmental Actors," *Journal of International Affairs*. Volume 46, No. 2 (Winter 1993), 391–413.

Robert I. Rotberg and Thomas G. Weiss (editors). *From Massacres to Genocide: The Media, Public Policy and Humanitarian Crises*. Washington, D.C.: The Brookings Institution, 1996.

- a. Peter Shiras, "Big Problems, Small Print: A Guide to the Complexity of Humanitarian Emergencies and the Media," 93–114.
- b. John C. Hammock and Joel R. Charny "Emergency Response as Morality Play: The Media, the Relief Agencies, and the Need for Capacity Building," 115–135.

Clarke, Walter and Jeffrey Herbst. "Somalia and the Future of Humanitarian Intervention," *Foreign Affairs*. Volume 75 (March/April 1996), 70–85.

Jon Bennett et al *Meeting Needs: NGO Coordination in Practice*. London: Earthscan Publications, Ltd., 1995. "Introduction: Recent Trends in Relief Aid: Structural Crisis and the Quest for a New Consensus." xi–xxi. Look over other chapters according to your interest.

Kumar Rupesinghe. "Humanitarian Agencies and Armed Conflict," International Alert Discussion Paper (not dated), 1–11.

United Nations. *The United Nations and Somalia 1992–1996*. The United Nations Blue Book Series. New York: United Nations Publications, 1996. Sections for reading to be determined.

Week 7:

Repatriation of Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons

Repatriation is considered the most favored option of the three traditional solutions to refugee situations, the other two being third country resettlement and local integration. Repatriation must be voluntary, though this is being challenged today by incidents of forced repatriation. The newly created Orderly Return Program is controversial.

UNHCR. *The State of the World's Refugees 1993*. New York: Penguin Books, 1993. Chapter 6, "Going Home: Voluntary Repatriation," 103–120

Judy Mayotte. *Disposable People?: The Plight of Refugees*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1992.

- a. Chapter 3, "Cambodia Return," 93–124.
- b. Chapter 6, "Afghan Return," 191–216.
- c. Chapter 9, "Eritrea Return," 279–301.

Gil Loescher and Laila Monahan (editors). *Refugees and International Relations*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1989.

- a. Guy Goodwin-Gill, "Voluntary Repatriation: Legal and Policy Issues," 255–292.
- b. Fred Cuny and Barry Stein, "Prospects For and Promotion of Spontaneous Repatriation," 293–312.

U.S. Committee for Refugees. *World Refugee Survey 1993*. Washington, D.C.: American Council for Nationalities Service, 1993.

- a. Hiram Ruiz, "Repatriation: Tackling Assistance and Protection Concerns," 20–29.
- b. Patricia Weiss Fagen, "Peace in Central America: Transition For the Uprooted," 30–39.

Tom Argent. "If Peace is Real: The Return Home of Uprooted Angolans," USCR Issue Paper (December 1995), 1–35.

Court Robinson. "'Something Like Home Again': The Repatriation of Cambodian Refugees," USCR Issue Paper (May 1994), 1–68.

Jeff Drumtra. "No Place Like Home: Mozambican Refugees Begin Africa's Largest Repatriation," USCR Issue Paper (December 1993), 1–43.

Hiram Ruiz. "Go Home/Stay Put: Tough Options For Displaced Peruvians," USCR Issue Paper (June 1996), 1–32.

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