## Letter from the Executive Board

## **Dear Delegates**

#### Greetings!

At the outset, we would like to tell you that it will be our honour to serve as your Executive Board for the simulation of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) at BCM Model United Nations Conference 2018-19. It's a pleasure to welcome you to change the world and we hope that these days of the conference will be full of intense discussion and deliberation.

These pages of background guide intend to help you researching the topic that will be debated at BCM MODEL UNITED NATIONS. The document should not be taken at its face value and should only be used for giving directions to your research.

Thus, with utmost sincerity we have tried to prepare this background guide so that you can best represent your country's government, and more importantly your ideas at the simulation of the HRC. Utilise this document as a guide, and not as an encyclopaedia, as it does not contain all the information, analysis or concepts related to the agenda.

We are certain at this moment that you are experiencing pangs of anxiety and excitement while you are into your preparation for this Conference. That you are trying to go through every piece of information or analysis you can lay your hands on. That you are thinking about the relevance of the research which you have already done. That you are a little nervous about meeting new people, or perhaps are a little eager to get into those fancy formals. That you are visualising yourself speaking in front a large crowd of unknown faces. That you are wondering what the judges will be like. That you are feeling concerned about the outcome of your efforts at the end.

It is okay. Enjoy these moments while you are at it.

Thank you.

Good Luck delegates.

Regards,

**TEAM UNHRC** 

SANJHALI JAIN CHAIR (UNHRC) KONICA JAI SINGH VICE CHAIR (UNHRC)

#### Introduction to Human Rights

Human rights are rights inherent to all human beings, whatever our nationality, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, color, religion, language, or any other status. We are all equally entitled to our human rights without discrimination. Human rights are the basic rights and freedoms that belong to every person in the world, from birth until death. They apply regardless of where you are from, what you believe or how you choose to live your life.

They can never be taken away, although they can sometimes be restricted – for example if a person breaks the law, or in the interests of national security.

Universal human rights are often expressed and guaranteed by law, in the forms of treaties, customary international law, general principles and other sources of international law. International human rights law lays down obligations of Governments to act in certain ways or to refrain from certain acts, in order to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms of individuals or groups. These rights are all interrelated, interdependent and indivisible.

The term "human rights" was mentioned seven times in the UN's founding <u>Charter</u>, making the promotion and protection of human rights a key purpose and guiding principle of the Organization. In 1948, the <u>Universal Declaration of Human Rights</u> brought human rights into the realm of international law. Since then, the Organization has diligently protected human rights through legal instruments and onthe-ground activities.

#### Universal and inalienable

Human rights are universal and inalienable; indivisible; interdependent and interrelated. They are universal because everyone is born with and possesses the same rights, regardless of where they live, their gender or race, or their religious, cultural or ethnic background. Inalienable because people's rights can never be taken away. Indivisible and interdependent because all rights — political, civil, social, cultural and economic — are equal in importance and none can be fully enjoyed without the others.

The principle of universality of human rights is the cornerstone of international human rights law. This principle, as first emphasized in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights in 1948, has been reiterated in numerous international human rights conventions, declarations, and resolutions. All States have ratified at least one, and 80% of States have ratified four or more, of the core human rights treaties, reflecting consent of States which creates legal obligations for them and giving concrete expression to universality.

## Interdependent and indivisible

All human rights are indivisible, whether they are civil and political rights, such as the right to life, equality before the law and freedom of expression; economic, social and cultural rights, such as the rights to work, social security and education, or collective rights, such as the rights to development and self-determination, are indivisible, interrelated and interdependent.

## Equal and non-discriminatory

Non-discrimination is a cross-cutting principle in international human rights law. The principle is present in all the major human rights treaties and provides the main theme of some of the international human rights conventions such as the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

The principle applies to every human in relation to all human rights. The principle of non-discrimination is complemented by the principle of equality, as stated in Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights."

#### **Both Rights and Obligations**

Human rights entail both rights and obligations. States assume obligations and duties under international law to respect, to protect and to fulfil human rights. The obligation to respect means that States must refrain from interfering with or curtailing the enjoyment of human rights. The obligation to protect requires States to protect individuals and groups against human rights abuses. The obligation to fulfil means that States must take positive action to facilitate the enjoyment of basic human rights. At the individual level, while we are entitled our human rights, we should also respect the human rights of others.

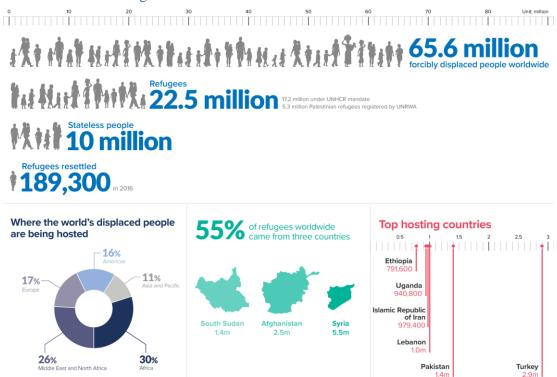
## Agenda Background

The agenda for the committee is human rights of refugees and IDP's in conflict zones. The first thing which you need to note that at no point the agenda states its violation, it just states "human rights", so you can discuss about the violation as well as its implementation.

The world is currently in a situation where there are conflicts going on and at the same time refugees and IDP's are being created due to the actions taken by states. What needs to be kept in mind is the fact there are tools and aid available around the world in order to help these people.

As in such there is no proper convention to help the IDP's from United Nations but the 1951 convention on refugees state the guiding principles and rights of a refugee and an asylum seeker (open to interpretation). What you as delegates need to do from here is break the agenda into different parts and understand the different aspects few of which are given below:

#### Current status of refugees



Source: UNHCR / 19 June 2017 UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency

We are funded almost entirely by voluntary contributions, with 87 per

cent from governments and the

The above figure just gives you a brief of the current refugee situation around the world.

130 countries

We work in 130 countries

(as of 30 June 2017)

http://popstats.unhcr.org/en/overview#\_ga=2.245942535.2029379021.1500618009-272040386.1500618009

10,966 staff

UNHCR employs 10,966 staff

(as of 30 June 2017)

Go to the above link and you'll see what is the current status of refugees in terms of figures. But when it comes to status, it's not just the figures which matter. Points such as:

- 1. Provision of food;
- 2. Provision of accommodation;
- 3. Financial aid;

28,300 people

a day forced to flee their homes

because of conflict and persecution

4. Medical aid;

The above need to be provided which are basically the human rights of all people stated in the UDHR.

When it comes to food, it's a basic necessity for survival. However, due to conflicts and declarations of no-fly zones, food isn't delivered properly to the IDP/refugee camps around the world. The World Food Programme had to made cut in food rations which could've fed 800,000 refugees. However due to *financial and logistical issues* it wasn't possible for them to deliver. In these situations states need to find a source funding and solution in order to make sure the ones who have already suffered don't suffer anymore. The refugee convention as a convention was able to establish the rights of refugees but was never able to establish a framework in order to ensure those rights.

Same goes for Accommodation and Medical aid, the refugees have increased so much that UN alone can't help in housing these displaced people and provide aid. While there are a few countries which are welcoming refugees and while there are some states passing bills to close the borders for refugees. The United Nations as a body and HRC as a committee can suggest a framework in order to make sure no country is overloaded with refugees but at the same time make sure refugees have a place to live with proper healthcare.

## Refugee Convention and legal documents

Given below are a definition of key terms which are relevant to the agenda and need to be made note of:

**Refugee:** According to the 1951 Refugee Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, a refugee is someone who "owing to a well founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality, and is unable to, or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country."

**Returnee:** A returnee is a refugee who has returned to his or her home country. The majority of refugees prefer to return home as soon as it is safe to do so, after a conflict and the country is being rebuilt.

**Internally Displaced Person(IDP):** An internally displaced person (IDP) is a person who has been forced to flee his or her home for the same reason as a refugee, but remains in his or her own country and has not crossed an international border. Unlike refugees, IDPs are not protected by international law or eligible to receive many types of aid.

**Stateless Person**: A stateless person is someone who is not a citizen of any country. Citizenship is the legal bond between a government and an individual, and allows for certain political, economic, social and other rights of the individual, as well as the responsibilities of both government and citizen.

**Asylum Seeker:** When people flee their own country and seek sanctuary in another country, they apply for asylum – the right to be recognized as a refugee and receive legal protection and material assistance. An asylum seeker must demonstrate that his or her fear of persecution in his or her home country is well-founded.

#### Right to Seek Asylum under International Law

The right to seek asylum has been granted under article 14 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This right to seek asylum has been further elaborated upon by existing regional legal instruments such as article 22(7) of the American Convention on Human Rights and article 12(3) of the African Union's Banjul Charter on Human Rights and Peoples Rights. This right has also been reiterated under article 28 of the Arab Charter on Human Rights and numerous provisions of the European Convention on Human Rights.

## 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees

The provisions of the 1951 Refugee Convention list down the set of rights accorded to refugees in conformity to existing international legal instruments and the duties and obligations of those member states hosting refugees. In order to qualify as a refugee under the provisions of article 1 of the 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees, an asylum seeker must demonstrate a well-founded fear of persecution in his or her home country on account of race, religion, nationality, political belief or membership of a particular social group. The 1951 Convention does not define how States parties are to determine whether an individual meets the definition of a refugee. Instead, the establishment of asylum proceedings and refugee status determinations are left to each State party to develop.

The 1951 Convention places a number of restrictions on eligibility for refugee status. Article 1 of the 1951 Refugee Convention also states that all individuals who voluntarily avail themselves of the protection of their country of nationality or habitual residence or individuals who have received protection in a third country are also not considered refugees. Similarly Article 1(D) of the Refugee Convention excludes individuals who, at the time of the 1951 Convention, were already receiving protection or assistance from another UN organ or agency. This exclusion clause has been largely applied to Palestinians receiving aid from the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). Individuals fleeing natural disasters and generalized violence, stateless individuals not outside their country of habitual residence or not facing persecution, and individuals who have crossed an international border fleeing generalized violence are also not considered refugees under either the 1951 Convention or the 1967 Optional Protocol.

## 1967 Optional Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees

The 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees restricted the recognition of refugee status to those circumstances that had come about "as a result of events occurring before 1 January 1951", as well as giving States party to the Convention the option of interpreting this as "events occurring in Europe" or "events occurring in Europe or elsewhere. The 1967 Optional Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees removes temporal and geographical restrictions under the 1951 Convention. However, the Protocol gave those member states, which had previously ratified the 1951 Convention and chosen to use the geographically restricted definition the option to retain that restriction.

The international community's former attempts to solve this problem by approving conventions and establishing refugee organizations hadn't done much of an improvement as legal protection and assistance remained at a rudimentary level. Then the countries decided to make a comprehensive work with delegates from 26 countries as diverse as United States, Israel and Iraq gathered together in Geneva, in 1951, to solve this issue. The result was a global legal instrument explicitly covering the most important aspects of a refugee's life.

The cornerstone of the 1951 Convention is the principle of non refoulement. According to this principle, a refugee should not be returned to a country where he or she faces serious threats to his or her life or freedom.

Whether or not a refugee-hosting country is a signatory to the 1951 Convention and/or its 1967 Protocol, and whether or not it has implemented its Convention obligations and established effective asylum legislation has a profound impact on the refugees within its borders. An assessment of the protection environment is a key step in identifying appropriate durable solutions, including resettlement.

In addition to these "hard law" instruments, there are a number of "soft law" sources of international refugee law. While not binding, they indicate how refugee law is evolving and reflect a certain political commitment to addressing refugee issues. These include inter alia the Declaration on Territorial Asylum adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1967, other General Assembly and ECOSOC Resolutions, and the Conclusions on International Protection adopted by the ExCom(UNHCR Executive Committee).

## United Conventions on Rights of Child

Article 22 of the United Nations Convention on Rights of Child calls for international protection and humanitarian assistance in the enjoyment of rights for those children seeking refugee status under the relevant provisions of domestic and international legal instruments. Article 22(2) of the Convention also imposes an obligation on part of member states to trace the parents of the concerned child and ensure family reunification and accord the same level of protection to those children who are temporarily or permanently deprived of their family environment.

## **Regional Legal Instruments:**

## 1. African (Banjul) Charter on Human and Peoples Rights (Article 12)

The African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights reiterates the Right to Seek Asylum in other countries and imposes a prohibition upon the mass expulsion of refugees and non-nationals residing within the boundaries of member states on the basis of nationality, race and ethnicity. This relates to the Principle of Non-Refoulement enshrined under Article 33 of the 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees.



## 2. Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa

The Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa or the 1969 Refugee Convention is a regional legal instrument governing the protection of refugees in Africa and extends the definition of refugees beyond the one prescribed in the 1951

## 3. Cartagena Declaration on Refugees

The Cartagena Declaration on Refugees is a non-binding regional instrument on the protection of refugees, which was adopted at the "Colloquium on International Protection for Refugees and Displaced Persons in Central America, Mexico and Panama", held in Cartagena from the 19th to the 22nd November 1984. The declaration aims to build upon the provisions enshrined in the 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol and extends the definition of refugees to "those who have fled their country because their lives, safety or freedom have been threatened by generalized violence, foreign aggression, internal conflicts, massive violation of human rights or other circumstances which have seriously disturbed public order."

# **4.** African Unions Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention)

The African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa is a legally binding instrument that aims to preserve and protect the rights and well-being of internally displaced persons. The Kampala Convention establishes a legally binding definition of internally displaced persons and includes all individuals fleeing their homes on account of violence and human rights abuses in conflict and post conflict societies and those rendered internally displaced as a consequence of natural disasters and large-scale development projects in Africa.

Additional regional legal instruments reflect further evolution in international refugee law. In certain regions, the Convention refugee definition has been broadened to include victims of indiscriminate violence. The 1969 OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of

Refugee Problems in Africa (hereinafter the OAU Convention) explicitly applies not only to persons fleeing persecution but also to those fleeing situations of generalized violence. In African countries, refugee status is widely provided, often on a prima facie basis, for persons fleeing such situations. In Latin America, the 1984 Cartagena Declaration on Refugees(hereinafter the Cartagena Declaration) recommended a refugee definition which includes persons who have fled their country because their lives, safety or freedom have been threatened by generalized violence, foreign aggression, internal conflicts, massive violation of human rights or other circumstances which have seriously disturbed public order. Although the Cartagena Declaration as such is not legally binding, this definition has served as the basis for recognition of refugee status in quite a number of Latin American States.

While recognition under these broader regional instruments offers vitally-needed protection, in the context of resettlement, the resettlement applicant's eligibility under the 1951 Convention will likely need to be reviewed.

#### Relevant branches of International Law

Refugee rights set out in refugee-specific legal instruments are supplemented by other relevant branches of international law, including international human rights, humanitarian and criminal law. The standards set in these laws are also applicable in the assessment of the availability of durable solutions.

International human rights law is a particularly important complement to international refugee law. The right to seek asylum is recognized as a basic human right set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. International human rights law outlines and elaborates additional rights which should be enjoyed by refugees along with others, thus supplementing international refugee law and defining additional standards.

## Relevant Treaties and Events

- The 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees.
- General Assembly Resolution on Refugee and displaced children, 15 December,1980 (A/RES/35/187)
- United Nations General Assembly Resolution of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees 82nd plenary meeting, 12 December 1996 (RES/51/75)
- Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on "Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa", 22 February 2000 (A/RES/54/147)
- World Refugee Day, which is held every year on June 20, first marked in 2001.
- 4.8 million Palestinian refugees were registered with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), 2011.
- Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on the report of the Third Committee (A/66/462/Add.2), about "Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons", 22 March 2012 (A/RES/66/165)

- General Assembly Resolution on "Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa", 30 January 2014 (A/RES/68/143)
- Nansen Refugee Award, given out each October to a person or group for outstanding services in supporting refugee causes.

## Challenges faced by Refugees (CASE STUDY)

In 2013, for the first time since World War II, the number of those forcibly displaced from their homes exceeded 50 million. Millions more have since been displaced as a result of conflict and crises around the globe. More than half of Syria's population is displaced. Some four million women, men and children have fled the country and are refugees, making this one of the biggest refugee crises in history. The vast majority - 95% - are living in the countries neighbouring Syria. In one country - Lebanon - Syrian refugees now account for one in every five people.

Despite the huge influx of refugees, the host countries have received almost no meaningful international support. The UN's humanitarian appeal for Syrian refugees was only 23% funded. Calls by the UN for the international community to resettle refugees from Syria have largely fallen on deaf ears. The total number of places offered to refugees from Syria is less than 90,000, only 2.2% of the refugees in the main host countries. It is clear that the situation in Syria will not allow refugees to go home any time soon. However, Syria's neighbours are at breaking point – and some have resorted to deeply troubling measures, including denying desperate people entry to their countries and pushing people back into the conflict.

While Syria is the world's biggest refugee crisis, it is by no means the only one. In Africa people fleeing conflict and persecution in countries like South Sudan, the Central African Republic (CAR), Nigeria and Burundi, have added hundreds of thousands to the longstanding refugee populations from countries such as Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). There are an estimated three million refugees in sub-Saharan Africa. Kenya is home to Dadaab - the world's largest refugee camp, set up in 1991.

Yet, the refugee situations in African countries receive little or no global attention - in 2013, less than 15,000 refugees from African countries were resettled and UN humanitarian appeals are severely underfunded. The South Sudan regional refugee response plan, for example, is only 11% fulfilled. While many African countries have opened their borders to those fleeing conflict, too many refugees and migrants have faced discrimination and abuse in host states. The xenophobic attacks that took place in South Africa in April 2015, for example, left thousands of refugees and migrants displaced in that country.

In an effort to escape desperate situations refugees and migrants risk their lives – one of the starkest examples is the perilous boat journeys in the Mediterranean from North Africa to Europe. In the years following 2014, the largest number of people recorded attempting to cross the Mediterranean by boat to reach Southern Europe were Syrians.

The dramatic increase in the number of lives lost in the Mediterranean is partly due to the decision by Italy and the European Union (EU) to end the Italian navy operation Mare Nostrum at the end of 2014 and replace it with a much more limited EU operation.

In South East Asia the world witnessed harrowing scenes as fishing boats crammed with refugees and migrants from Myanmar and Bangladesh were pushed back to sea by Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia. Desperate children, men and women were left without food, water and medical care for a week, before the Philippines and later Indonesia and Malaysia offered to take them in.

The Mediterranean and South East Asia crises exposed governments' willingness to ignore legal obligations and humanitarian imperatives. In situations where lives were known to be at risk and states had the means to save them, they chose not to act for political reasons. The lives lost were not a result of a violent conflict or an unavoidable natural disaster – most were entirely preventable deaths.

In both Europe and South East Asia, people smugglers and human traffickers have – rightly – been blamed for sending thousands to their deaths. Effectively combatting the criminals who prey on desperate people is vital, but it does not absolve governments of their responsibility to provide refugees with protection.



The global refugee crisis cannot be re-cast as a trafficking and smuggling issue by governments desperate to deflect attention from their failures.

The global refugee crisis may be fuelled by conflict and persecution but it is compounded by the neglect of the international community in the face of this human suffering. In the aftermath of World War II, the international community came together to create the United Nations Refugee Convention to protect people from being returned to countries were they risked persecution and human rights abuses. The Refugee Convention has been an important mechanism, providing a framework for the protection of tens of millions of people.

86% of the world's refugees are in developing countries. Some of these countries host hundreds of thousands of people. Turkey, Lebanon and Pakistan each host more than one million refugees. There is a clearly disproportionate burden on a small number of countries.

Nearly one million refugees need resettlement or other forms of humanitarian admission – whereby the most vulnerable refugees in a country are offered residency in another county where they would receive better assistance. Yet, global annual resettlement commitments are less than a tenth of this number.

Although 145 countries have ratified the Refugee Convention, there are regions of the world in which very few countries have ratified the treaty, including most of the Middle East, South Asia and South East Asia. In these countries refugees generally enjoy limited rights and in some cases can't even be legally recognized as refugees. Xenophobic and racist discourse has been normalised in many countries, with certain media outlets and politicians blaming refugees and migrants for economic and social problems.

## Reality of crisis for women

Women's experience of armed conflict is multi-faceted: it means separation, loss of relatives, physical and economic insecurity, an increased risk of sexual violence, wounding, detention, deprivation and even death. In all conflicts, women suffer in ways specific to women.

Yet they should not be seen as a homogenous group; different women will have different needs, vulnerabilities and coping mechanisms. Women in armed conflict are not passive and not necessarily "victims". Around the world, women become members of the regular armed forces, armed groups or their support services. Moreover, women are engaged as politicians, leaders of NGOs and active campaigners for peace.

Essentially, the effect of war on women is not only determined by the character and stage of the conflict, but also by the particular role of each woman caught up in it. Certainly, it is significant to recognize the general needs of women, but it is also vital to respond to women's specific needs – be they combatants, persons deprived of their freedom, refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), mothers and/or members of the civilian population.



On the whole, public international law (in particular international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law) adequately addresses the needs of women in all of these situations. The challenge lies in translating the law into practice by ensuring implementation of and respect for the existing rules. From an operational perspective, many steps can be taken to maximize the legal protection afforded to women in situations of armed conflict. For

example, making international humanitarian law better known to all parties involved in armed conflict; monitoring and ensuring respect for the law; and placing emphasis on the general and specific protection that international law affords to women. Through communication activities and dialogue with parties to armed conflict it is possible to raise the profile of problems specific to women, with a view to enlisting official support and action to prevent or put an end to violations.

To clarify that this focus on women in no way negates the needs of men, two key points should be considered. Firstly, the plight of women is inextricably linked to that of their menfolk: not only are they part of the same families and communities, in wartime men are often targeted through the women close to them. The fate of women can thus be improved through full respect of the rules of international humanitarian law protecting both combatants and non-combatants, be they male or female. Secondly, it may be that assisting men indirectly improves the plight of women. For example, the release of men who have been taken as prisoners of war or who are otherwise deprived of their freedom may ease the emotional and economic burdens of women left unaccompanied in war zones, and may reduce their exposure to violence.

In addition, the very notion of vulnerability demands an appreciation of what makes people vulnerable. This differs according to whether one is male or female, adult or child, rich or poor, deprived of freedom, displaced or a member of the civilian population generally. As women and men have different, culturally-determined social roles, they experience conflict in different ways. It is imperative to recognize these diverse factors of vulnerability and their consequences in order to adapt responses accordingly. At the same time, it must be appreciated that war precipitates changes in traditional roles, which are fluid rather than frozen in time.

#### The road ahead

Over the past fifteen years, international involvement with internally displaced persons has become an increasingly accepted course of action when governments are unable or unwilling to provide for the welfare and security of their displaced populations. One of the reasons for this change has been evolving notions of sovereignty. Although the World Summit in September 2005 did not go so far as to affirm automatic international protection of populations at risk, it did posit a collective 'responsibility to protect' when civilians are subject to ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity or genocide.43 This can be built upon to reinforce both national and international responsibility for internally displaced persons. Similarly, the legal framework contained in the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement has increasingly been guiding governments and international organizations in addressing situations of displacement, influencing how the displaced are perceived and treated at the national and international levels. Less effective have been the institutional arrangements developed, but here too progress is discernible. The UN's decision to assign responsibilities to specific agencies has the potential to bring predictability and clarity to the international response system for the displaced. UNHCR's role in the new division of labour is pivotal because it is focused on protection, the biggest gap in the system. Indeed, UNHCR is at a critical juncture in its 55-year history, having agreed to substantially expand its role to encompass the internally displaced. For the first time since the end of the Second World War, a comprehensive regime is being designed to address the needs of forced migrants on both

sides of the border. As High Commissioner António Guterres put it, the international community has finally awakened to its 'biggest failure in terms of humanitarian action' and decided to act in defence of those who 'have not crossed a frontier'.

### **Refugee Education**

Many refugees leave behind more than their home when conflict forces them to flee – they must also abandon their school. More than half of all refugees are aged under 18, and some older refugees were displaced while pursuing tertiary education.

Nobody needs to be persuaded that it's desirable for kids to stay in school. In my experience, this is particularly true among Syrians, whose culture is steeped in an appreciation of the value of learning. Yet, having become refugees, kids face tremendous challenges in completing their education.

### Conclusion and Questions to be answered

The guide aimed to cover the aspects of:

- 1. Problems and challenges faced
- 2. Financial problems
- 3. Framework problem
- 4. Violation case study
- 5. Stances of a few countries
- 6. Problem in UN

The above topic can be researched further upon the few key points given in between the passages. Also few of the things which you'll need to cover are the stances of the blocs you're a part of and your country stance as well. For eg. Donald Trump said he won't allow refugees in USA however a bill for that hasn't been passed in USA.

Apart from that you can consider the following questions in order to facilitate your debate:

- 1. What are various human rights violations around the world?
- 2. What is the situation of refugees around the world?
- 3. Should the refugees be distributed equally?
- 4. Effect of refugee on the economic condition of state
- 5. Where do the funds come from for the well-being of refugees?
- 6. How can the countries with top 5 GDP's help the states host the refugees?
- 7. Do we need a framework for the refugees? If yes, what will it contain and how will it function?
- 8. What is conflict zone?
- 9. Is the formation of conflict zone necessary for creation of IDP's and refugees?
- 10. What are the rights of IDP's?
- 11. What happens to the IDP's in case the government is abolished and no law is in order?
- 12. How can IDP's in conflict zone be provided with safety?
- 13. What challenges do internally displaced persons face?
- 14. What is the difference between an internally displaced person and a refugee?

## 15. Role of refugee education?

## Links for further research

- 1. <a href="https://www.thestar.com/news/world/2017/07/19/us-supreme-court-rules-trump-can-enforce-refugee-ban-but-must-relax-restrictions-on-family.html">https://www.thestar.com/news/world/2017/07/19/us-supreme-court-rules-trump-can-enforce-refugee-ban-but-must-relax-restrictions-on-family.html</a>
- 2. http://www.unhcr.org/globaltrends2016/#
- 3. <a href="http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations">http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations</a>
- 4. <a href="http://www.unhcr.org/news/latest/2016/6/5763b65a4/global-forced-displacement-hits-record-high.html">http://www.unhcr.org/news/latest/2016/6/5763b65a4/global-forced-displacement-hits-record-high.html</a>
- 5. http://refugeesmigrants.un.org/secretary-generals-report
- 6. http://www.unhcr.org/4b9fb1199.pdf
- 7. <a href="http://www.unhcr.org/58b449f54.pdf">http://www.unhcr.org/58b449f54.pdf</a>
- 8. <a href="http://www.unhcr.org/comprehensive-refugee-response-framework-crrf.html">http://www.unhcr.org/comprehensive-refugee-response-framework-crrf.html</a>