

Module 2:
Refugees and Displacement

What compels a person to flee?

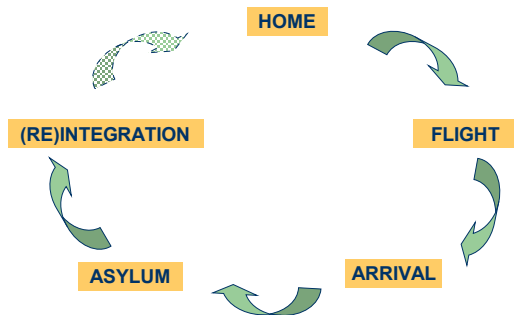
A refugee...

...human rights violations

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border crossing

The phases of the refugee experience



Who is a refugee?

- Gets confusing as so many people are on the move: migrants, IDPs, refugees, asylum-seekers, etc.;
- Defined in UN Refugee Convention;
- Expanded definition in regional instruments.

Universal refugee definition

According to the 1951 Refugee Convention, a refugee is someone:

- OUTSIDE their country of origin, i.e., crossed an international border
- Who has a WELL-FOUNDED FEAR of PERSECUTION for reasons of:
 - NATIONALITY;
 - RELIGION;
 - POLITICAL OPINION;
 - RACE; or
 - MEMBERSHIP OF A PARTICULAR SOCIAL GROUP.
- With no NATIONAL protection.

reach out

Regional refugee definitions

Persons compelled to leave their country owing to external aggression, occupation, foreign domination or events seriously disturbing public order in all or part of their country *(1969 OAU Convention)*

Persons who flee their country because their lives, safety, or freedom have been threatened by general violence, internal conflicts, massive violation of human rights, or other circumstances that have seriously disturbed public order
(1984 Cartagena Declaration)

Refugee status determination cases

- What are the key facts in this case?
- Is this person in need of international protection?
- Does the person fit the 1951 refugee definition?
- Does the person fit any other definition?

Short cases on refugee status

- What phase of the refugee experience are the people in?
- What are the threats facing the people?
- Who/what should protect or assist them?
