

Forum: General Assembly Third Committee

Issue: Measures to accommodate and support displaced persons as a result of conflict

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Introduction

Alongside several rounds of major conflicts involving many regions of the globe, safe passage and quick settlement of displaced persons are some of the most pressing humanitarian issues. According to the UNHCR, as of May 2022, 100 million individuals were forcibly displaced worldwide, with an exponential increase of 10.7 million people displaced from the end of the previous year. The sudden explosion in number is seen to be propelled by deadly conflicts such as but not limited to the war going on in Ukraine, along with violence also seen in Myanmar and Afghanistan – people in the corresponding regions flee the country as they face lack of resources and immense danger. With the danger arising, it is important that leaders and representatives of the world highly prioritize ensuring the safety and rights of displaced persons from conflict zones.

Definition of Key Terms

Displaced Person

A person expelled, deported, or impelled to flee from their country of nationality or habitual residence by the forces or consequences of war or oppression.

Refugee

Someone who has been forced to flee his/her country and is unable or unwilling to return to their country of origin owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion.

‘Prima Facie’ Approach

The recognition by a State or UNHCR of refugee status on the basis of readily apparent, objective circumstances in the country of origin. In the case of stateless asylum-seekers, acknowledging that those fleeing these circumstances from their country of former habitual residence are at risk of harm that brings them within the applicable refugee definition.

Schengen Area

A border-free area guaranteeing free movement to more than 400 million EU citizens, along with non-EU nationals living in the EU or legally present in the EU. Today, this area encompasses most EU countries, except for Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Ireland and Romania. Bulgaria, Croatia and Romania are currently in the process of joining and have already applied the Schengen acquis (to a large extent, while non-EU states such as Iceland, Norway, Switzerland and Liechtenstein have also joined.

History

World War II

World War II was a turning point for displaced persons in Europe. During the span of the war, millions were displaced, some fleeing and others captured and transferred to a different country. Many died in the process, the effects everlasting on those that managed to escape and survive. Even after the War, large numbers of people were unable to return to their country or choose a different country to settle in – they were largely limited in their choices, their safety and rights as people were taken away for a long period of time.

Many organizations supported these people – for example, the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) emerged, originally established by the United Nations General Assembly with a 3-year mandate to complete its work and disband. This organization, now an official part of the UN, carried out a largely two-parted repatriation movement in the Post-Cold War era according to the circumstances in the country of origin.

Under the first category, a peace agreement was reached under the auspices of the international community, incorporating measures for the return of refugees and displaced persons. Under the second category, there is no functioning peace agreement nor a process of national reconciliation in the country of origin – significant areas in the country may still be

experiencing conflict, while the central government may not have the fullest power. The UNHCR, however, continued to assist refugees in returning under less ideal conditions.

Returnees were transported back with a month or two of food rations and a cooking kit. From there, other agencies or regional organizations were expected to take over. This process in the aftermath of World War II, further into the post-Cold War era, was largely successful, aiding an estimated 1 million mainly European civilians from camps in Germany, Austria and Italy to a new life in the United States and to resettle in other countries.

Hungarian Revolution

The Hungarian Revolution lasted from October 23 until November 10, 1956, and was part of the post-World War II Cold War era. The nationwide revolts against the Soviet Union started out with a student demonstration, expanding throughout the country and eventually, resulting in the fall of the government. However, on November 4th, a while after the government had fallen, a large Soviet force invaded Budapest, killing thousands of civilians. During the weekend of November 4-6, 10,000 Hungarians entered Austria through the loosely guarded border. The number of refugees exponentially increased throughout November – by the time borders were sealed, an estimated 200,000 Hungarians had fled the country.

Within days of the beginning of the mass emigration, an operation started in Austria, not only to care for the refugees, but to move them out of the country almost as fast as they arrived. 18,000 were resettled into 37 countries, with both governments and people being largely committed to help displaced persons fleeing from Hungary. In Vienna, a committee was set up comprising the Austrian Interior Minister and his staff, the UNHCR, the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM), and the League of Red Cross Societies (LRCS), as well as a number of local and international NGOs.

The United Nations General Assembly also responded to this issue, establishing the Special Committee on the Problem of Hungary for the purpose of investigating the Revolution, the subsequent Soviet military intervention and the circumstances and events that led to the installation of a counter-revolutionary government.

Within a few days of the refugees arriving, a massive effort was launched to resettle the Hungarians. They were transferred by bus, train, boat, and plane to 37 different member nations, including the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Germany, Australia, along with 2 African and 12 Latin American countries.

These fleeing Hungarians are recognized as 'prima facie' refugees. When conflicts or violence happens in a region, mass movements of refugees follow. The urgent situation makes it impossible or unnecessary for normal procedures like individual interviews to happen with every asylum-seeker. These large groups are often called 'prima facie' refugees – and the displaced resulting from Hungarian Revolution is an example of this situation.

This uprising and the aftermath shaped the way humanitarian organizations – at least the UNHCR – were to deal with refugee crises, leaving an unerasable mark on international refugee law and policy.

Key Issues

Constant Conflict

Even with constant efforts from multilateral, regional, and nongovernmental organizations, statistics show that the number of displaced persons is still continuously rising. Large and small conflicts are taking part all around the globe for both internal and external reasons such as but not limited to political uprisings, poverty, societal gaps, religious conflicts, expansion of external conflicts, and more.

In the recent years, there have been many international conflicts and crises that have drove people away – among them is the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict. Even before recent events, Ukraine had faced and been impacted by years of conflict and uncertainty – and this conflict has simply added on. As of September 30, 2022, 7,536,433 Ukrainian refugees have been registered outside of Ukraine. Over 7 months since the start of the war, many are still outside the country; some are being forcibly displaced while others are being forcibly transferred to Russia. According to the Center for Strategic and International Studies, Poland and Germany, some neighboring countries of Ukraine, have received the most refugees, followed by the Czech Republic, the United States, United Kingdom, France, Turkey, Italy, and Spain.

In response, the European Union put in place a Temporary Protection Directive (TDP) mandating that all EU member states (with the exception of Denmark) must grant temporary protection to Ukrainians, their family members residing in Ukraine prior to the invasion, and stateless persons with permanent residence status in Ukraine. Moving through countries such as but not limited to Poland, Hungary, and Slovakia – all a part of the UN Regional Refugee Response plan that have open borders with the EU – and reaching the European Union, these refugees are granted access to residence, education, medical, housing and labor market

assistance for 3 years in any participating country. However, the limit of this plan and the major reason why many still return to Ukraine is because temporary EU protection only allow them to travel freely within the Schengen Area for 90 days, when refugees then must stay within one EU country. Some are fearful of getting stuck in a different country, choosing to return to Ukraine despite security-related misgivings rather than risk not being able to reunite with their families.

The fall of Afghanistan, another major crisis that happened just last August, has led to the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) reporting the highest number of conflict-related casualties on record and a striking decline in the security and human rights in large parts of the country. As of December 2021, the total number of people displaced by conflict inside Afghanistan was 3.5 million, with increasing poverty, exacerbated by drought, COVID-19 and food insecurity. Women and children faced heightened protection risks including intimate domestic violence and child marriage with restrictions and systematic exclusion.

Not only are these types of major conflicts forcing people away from their homes, there are constant security-related issues, political disputes, racial crises, and many more small conflicts that have also pushed people to move beyond the borders of their country.

Solutions that are currently provided for those that are displaced has had a positive effect of helping some of those who are already displaced. However, if conflicts all over the world continue, these solutions are simply not enough to follow up with the large amount of people that are forced to leave everything behind and flee their home country.

Burdens on Host Countries

A large number of countries are already hosting thousands, even millions of refugees from neighboring or smaller countries. For example, in the effects of the Syrian Refugee Crisis, Turkey now hosts the largest refugee population in the world, with the government estimating the total number of registered Syrians under Temporary Protection at 2,225,147. Even while taking both a non-camp approach and a government-financed approach, along with a cross-sectoral collaboration among Turkish ministries in order to respond to the diverse needs of these Syrians under Temporary Protection, the government of Turkey is facing a key challenge of mitigating the potential negative impacts of hosting while building on the positive contributions refugees can make.

The socioeconomic dimensions of displacement, one of the most common issues faced by both displaced and host communities, is also an issue in Turkish areas hosting large numbers of refugees – this includes income, welfare, employment, pressures on housing and

services, social tensions and community relations. As assets and remittances of registered Syrians are depleted, an increasing demand for employment opportunities are seen – however, limitations due to the difficulty in obtaining work permits, language barriers, and the inability to carry on a previous profession are seen among refugees. Furthermore, access to employment has become a potential flashpoint between registered Syrians and Turkish host communities, with the addition of a large Syrian workforce causing unemployment among Turkish communities and decreasing wages for both groups.

Meanwhile, providing education options for Syrians under Temporary Protection has been undergoing; however, several challenges persist in increasing enrollment, sustaining attendance, and ensuring quality instruction. The most pressing are the high degree of mobility of the refugee group, high levels of psychosocial trauma, difficulties in retaining Syrian personnel, the lack of quality control over services provided, overcrowding, damage, and disruption to Turkish schools.

Outside the camps, the pattern of housing and settlement has changed overtime – instead of settling into host households and building upon their existing social, cultural, or economic networks in Turkey, new arrivals are increasingly finding their own places to live, with those originally living with host families moving into their own accommodations. Along with rising food prices in these regions, rising house prices are the largest contributor to the inflation that have been experienced in the refugee-hosting regions along the border. Turkey had already been experiencing rising housing costs at the lower end of the housing spectrum – as Syrian refugees joined the fight for housing, costs have gone through the roof. Furthermore, Syrian refugees settling into houses have complained that landlords are discriminating them due to large numbers and cultural practices, while Turkish families have conversely complained that they find it harder to find a rental property because landlords make more money from Syrians, who are prepared to fit larger numbers of people into smaller spaces.

These types of large and small conflicts among citizens and refugees are constant and inevitable issues in most, if not all hosting countries, not just Turkey. Developing member states face larger issues as previously present problems in the member state, enlarged due to the generation of issues alongside the addition of refugees. These pressures and problems also have potential to develop into larger issues that may endanger the relationship between the government and citizens of the hosting country, possibly causing further damage even after the resolving of temporarily protected refugees in the region.

Illegal Border Crossings

While international movements of displaced persons are also an issue, there is also a small but increasing flow of refugees attempting to illegally cross borders into countries where they can potentially live a safer life. Recently, a surge in migration from Venezuela, Cuba and Nicaragua in September brought the number of illegal crossings to the highest level ever recorded in a fiscal year, according to US Customs and Border Protection.

Previously, migrants were stopped 227,547 times in September at the US border with Mexico. In the fiscal year that ended on September 30, migrants were stopped 2.38 million times, up 37% from 1.73 million times the year before. The annual total surpassed 2 million for the first time in August and is more than twice the highest level during Trump's presidency in 2019.

This is a relatively large issue, as the governments, social branches, organizations, or committees are not able to track the exact number of refugees or any other forms of data they may need to further support the displaced. Certain regulations that countries may have set in order to organize the refugees or the displaced temporarily residing in their countries may be violated as well due to the illegal crossing of borders.

Settling & Integration

An average refugee normally does not directly try to cross international borders – instead, they go through several rounds of internal displacement before they are finally sent abroad. Settling in a new place beyond their home – now considered a dangerous region for living – is an enormous challenge, and these chances are not even given to everyone. Thousands, even millions seek asylum and are considered stateless, constantly under evaluation and waiting long periods to finally legally enter another country. This process, however, has definitely improved over the past few decades, with governments and organizations attempting to make the process more effective and quicker through methods such as but not limited to treaties, conventions, and research projects like *Improving Asylum Procedures: Comparative Analysis and Recommendations for Law and Practice – Detailed Research on Key Asylum Procedures Directive Provisions*, a UNHCR research project on the application of key provisions of the Asylum Procedures Directive in selected member states.

Even after they are allowed into different countries and in the rarest cases, given an opportunity to start with a clean slate, there are pressures and burdens on the displaced as well. These minorities often face their own inability in areas of language or uncomfortableness in different cultures, occasionally losing their own cultural identities to effectively integrate into the current societies they are involved in. Increase in racism and xenophobia among locals are also

seen, disagreements even escalating into occasional conflicts. Citizens and governments in low or medium-income countries also worry about the negative effects of refugees joining the country.

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

Not all displaced persons are crossing borders in search of safety – unlike refugees, internally displaced stay within their own country and remain under the protection of its government, even if that government is the reason for their displacement. They are considered among the most vulnerable in the world, since in the process of running, these displaced persons often move to areas difficult for providing humanitarian assistance. Even while so, according to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), at the end of 2021, some 53.2 million people were internally displaced due to armed conflict, generalized violence or human rights violations.

While millions have crossed international borders in search of protection, nearly 7 million are currently displaced inside the country of Ukraine. In response, the Ukrainian government initiated processes for registering IDPs from the current war, while UNHCR and other groups are prioritizing the winterization of accommodations with dropping temperatures amid fuel shortages and rising prices. However, the lack of resources and housing along with family separation, trauma, medical injuries, loss of personal property and identity documents are constantly becoming an issue as the winter impends on the internally displaced.

Major Parties Involved

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Created during the aftermath of World War II, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has been in place for over 70 years, serving as the “guardian” of several instruments related to the protection and preservation of rights for the displaced. Starting with its first task in 1951 of helping an estimated 1 million mainly European civilians, the UNHCR has taken part in assisting the displaced from major refugee crises in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia in the 21st century, while also using expertise to help many internally displaced due to conflicts and expanding to helping stateless people as well.

The organization functions upon two main instruments – the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol. These two key legal documents form the basis of the organization’s work,

defining the term “refugee”, outlining the rights of refugees, and the legal obligations and expectations towards involved member states. The idea of non-discrimination, non-penalization, and non-refoulement are especially prioritized – the Convention is to be applied without discrimination of any type; refugees are not to be penalized for the breaching of immigration rules in the process of seeking asylum; and most importantly, no refugee is to be sent back, against his or her will, to the place where it is deemed that their life, freedom, and/or rights of any kind is endangered or taken away.

The UNHCR is now a massive organization, involving more than 18,879 personnel working in 137 countries – and is still in place, working in favor of many displaced as they cooperate with other organizations, countries, and individuals.

Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC)

The Inter-Agency Standing Committee is the highest-level humanitarian coordination forum of the United Nations – created by the United Nations General Assembly in 1991, the committee is the primary mechanism for inter-agency coordination of humanitarian assistance, the committee itself being a unique forum involving the key UN and non-UN humanitarian partners. Executive heads of 18 organizations are pulled together to formulate policy, set strategic priorities and mobilize resources to humanitarian crises. The IASC advocates for common humanitarian principles and makes decisions with a direct bearing on humanitarian operations in the region. The IASC is chaired by the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC), who also brings critical issues to the attention of the United States Secretary General and the United Nations Security Council. There are multiple smaller groups under the IASC as a whole, such as but not limited to the Deputies Group and the Operational Policy and Advocacy Group (OPAG).

Thematic and operational guidelines regarding the actions in a situation of humanitarian crises are set by this committee, such as but not limited to the *Guidelines for Gender-Based violence Interventions in Humanitarian Settings: Reducing risk, promoting resilience and aiding recovery*, *IASC Non-Binding Guidelines on the Use of Armed Escorts for Humanitarian Convoys*, while weekly reports of efforts in resolving the humanitarian issue at hand is also given.

Turkey (Türkiye)

Turkey is currently hosting some 3.6 million registered Syrian refugees along with close to 320,000 persons of concerns from other nationalities. The Republic of Turkey is a party of the 1951 Refugee Convention and 1967 Protocol, maintaining the geographical limitations of the

1951 Convention and thus retaining resettlement to a third country as the most preferred durable solution for arriving refugees.

Turkey has also been undertaking legislative and institutional reforms to build an effective national asylum system in compliance with international standards. In April 2013, Turkey's first asylum law – the Law on Foreigners and International Protection – was endorsed by the Parliament and entered into force on 11 April 2014, setting out the main pillars of Turkey's national asylum system and establishing the Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM) as the main entity in charge of policymaking and proceedings for all foreigners in Turkey. Furthermore, the country also adopted Temporary Protection Regulation on 22 October 2014, setting out the rights and obligations along with procedures for those who are granted temporary protection in Turkey.

However, recently, Turkey's treatment of Syrian refugees has generated stark contrast to the past – in May 2022, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan of Turkey announced that he intends to resettle one million refugees in northern Syria, in areas not controlled by the government, despite the fact that Syria remains unsafe for returning refugees. There were also additional limitations set – in February 2022, Turkey's Deputy Interior Minister Ismail Çatakli said applications for temporary and international protection would not be accepted in 16 provinces, while residency permit applications by foreigners in neighborhoods in which 25% or more of the population consists of foreigners will also be rejected. Furthermore, in June, Interior Minister Süleyman Soylu announced that from July 1 onward, the proportion would be reduced to 20% and the number of neighborhoods closed to foreigners' registration increased to 1,200, with cancellation of temporary protection status of Syrians who traveled in the country without applying for permission.

Over the past 2 years, there has also been an increase in racist and xenophobic attacks against foreigners, notably against Syrians. On August 11, 2021, groups of Turkish residents attacked workplaces and homes of Syrians in a neighborhood in Ankara a day after a Syrian youth stabbed and killed a Turkish youth in a fight. Opposition politicians have also made speeches that fuel anti-refugee sentiment in the lead-up to general elections in spring 2023, suggesting that Syrians should be returned to Syria. President Erdogan's coalition government has responded to this with pledges to resettle Syrians in Turkish-occupied areas of northern Syria.

Syrian Arab Republic (Syria)

After 10 years of crisis, millions of Syrians have been forced to flee their homes since 2011, seeking safety as refugees in Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan and beyond, or displaced inside Syria. Today, most Syrian refugees live in poverty, with situations most dire in Lebanon, where over 90% of Syrians live in extreme poverty, along with an increasing number of the communities that host them. Humanitarian needs inside Syria are mounting as well – more than 6.9 million are still displaced inside the country, and 14.6 million require humanitarian and other forms of assistance. Some 5.9 million need help securing safe accommodation, and many still face challenges accessing basic services like education and healthcare.

This severe humanitarian crisis has also played a large role in the increase of the global population of refugees, asylum seekers, and internally displaced people, the numbers topping 50 million for the first time since the Second World War. However, even with the conflict already lasting for more than a decade, there are only small, if not any, signs of resolution, with fighting spilling over into Lebanon and Iraq. This has also led to displacement of local populations and new refugees from those areas, further threatening Syrians that were already taking refuge there.

The European Nation Member States are also facing pressing issues regarding this ever-growing tragedy, with the costs of humanitarian operations mounting and the regional security of the EU neighborhood being undermined. Furthermore, a small but growing portion of refugees are attempting to cross European borders by land, sea, and air in order to claim asylum in an EU member state, predictably generating growing refugee-related issues in those EU states as well.

Timeline of Relevant Resolutions, Treaties and Events

Date	Description of Event
14 December 1950	Establishment of The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
22 April 1954	United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (1951 Convention) entered into force
4 October 1967	The Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees comes into power.

1991	Creation of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) by the United Nations General Assembly
26 June 2018	The final draft of the Global Compact on Refugees is issued.

Previous Attempts to Solve the Issue

There have been and there still are attempts to solve this humanitarian issue. Many organizations, both on an international and regional scales, such as but not limited to the previously mentioned UNHCR, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the African Union, the European Union, the Organization of American States, have been developed to further address this issue, while non-governmental organizations, such as but not limited to the International Committee of the Red Cross, International Rescue Committee, the International Refugee Assistance Project, are also constantly fulfilling their roles.

The most recent and currently ongoing major conflict is in Ukraine – thousands are inevitably fleeing the country, marking another huge humanitarian crisis in history.

European Union

Since the launching of a Russian military aggression against Ukraine, millions have fled the war, seeking refuge in EU countries and the Republic of Moldova. According to the UNHCR, up to November 1, 2022, some 4.5 million refugees from Ukraine registered for temporary protection or similar schemes in the EU. In response, the EU stands in full solidarity with Ukraine and its people, showing unity and strength and providing Ukraine with coordinated humanitarian, political, financial and material support.

As mentioned above, the European Union is largely contributing to helping these refugees from Ukraine, granting them the automatic right to stay and work throughout its 27 member nations for up to 3 years, while providing housing in reception centers if they have nowhere to stay, along with food, medical care, and information about onward travel. They are also entitled to social welfare payments and access to housing, medical treatment and schools.

Alongside €523 million the union sent for humanitarian aids, the EU has also provided civil protection support to Ukraine, Czechia, Moldova, Poland, Slovakia, and the UNHCR, along with financial and technical support for member states hosting refugees, while also sending border management support for EU countries and Moldova.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Currently the UNHCR teams are on the ground providing winter supplies, emergency cash assistance for the most vulnerable, and helping reinforce homes and shelters against the harsh weather in support of the internally displaced. Emergency experts and stockpiles of essential supplies have been sent to neighboring countries as well as accessible parts of Ukraine, while the UNHCR is also present at border areas and reception centers to identify and provide dedicated care to the most vulnerable. Works with the authorities is also happening, with the UNHCR further supporting reception facilities and coordinating a regional Refugee Response Plan, bringing together 142 partners to support governments' responses. UNICEF is also working in the region, collaborating with partners including the UNHCR and supporting life-saving programs and services for children.

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

In April 2022, the United Nations and humanitarian partners revised the previous appeal of a combined US\$1.7 billion to US\$2.25 billion to help 8.7 million people, with more than half of them being women. The revised Ukraine Flash Appeal has been extended until August 2022, with the four main strategies of delivering in the hardest-to-reach areas, providing aid as close as possible to people in need, responding to displacement and vulnerability in all areas of Ukraine, including via multipurpose cash, and putting people, gender equality, and protection at the center of the response. Through these main strategies, as of 24 April, UN-led inter-agency convoys have delivered supplies on five occasions, while also taking measures to enhance accountability to affected people and preventing sexual exploitation and abuse.

In response to another major humanitarian crisis happening in Afghanistan, in the last quarter of 2021, the UNHCR significantly expanded operations countrywide and rapidly scaled up its staffing and field presence, attempting to meet the dramatically increasing needs, while also assisting Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) who began returning to their areas of origin as soon as the conflict calmed. The UN Security Council also established the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), with the mission headquarters in Kabul. The

Mission also coordinates work with the UN country team comprising 20 agencies, funds and programs with offices in Afghanistan, while also supporting political outreach, conflict resolution, and regional cooperation.

There were also attempts to prevent some key issues that are coming along with these humanitarian crises as well.

Illegal Border Crossings

In response to several rounds of illegal border crossings, the Department of Homeland Security has referred, then prosecuted 100% of illegal border crossers, built the first new border wall in a decade, and deployed the National Guard to the border. There has also been several rounds of executive orders and presidential proclamations on suspending the entry of immigrants and non-immigrant and addressing mass migration through the southern border of the United States, while press releases and fact sheets are also constantly being generated alongside the actions that the Department of Homeland Security and other governmental branches take.

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

A method of the UNHCR attempting to deal with the internally displaced is the so-called “cluster approach”. A cluster, in this context, is when a group of agencies work together to set up and deliver an area of assistance, such as shelter, healthcare, camp management or protection. Currently, the UNHCR leads the Global Protection Cluster, co-leads the Global Shelter Cluster with International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the Global Camp Coordination Camp Management Cluster (CCCM) with International Organization for Migration (IOM). These clusters assume coordination and operational delivery roles, providing life-saving assistance and work to identify solutions for the displaced – similar examples of assistance are seen currently in Ukraine.

Just like this, responses have normally happened on multiple levels – on the ground, regionally, and internationally at the same time, with corresponding changes made by multiple suborganizations under the United Nations. However, past methods are mainly focused on the support after the event has happened; prerequisites are either not addressed or is not considered as a priority, which results in the policies lacking prevention for similar future situations.

Possible Solutions

Preventing Conflicts

The most basic, but also possibly the most challenging solution is to attack one of the major reasons of these displaced persons – to improve conflict prevention, mediation, and resolution systems. As mentioned in several articles, a well-functioning refugee regime not only should have methods to deal with the displaced after they happen, but should also be able to facilitate peaceful resolutions of conflicts.

The United Nations has constantly played a crucial role in helping to mediate inter- and intra-State conflicts at all stages – before they escalate into conflict, after the outbreak of violence, and during implementation of peace agreements. Attempts to reach successful conflict mediation has involved the establishment of the Department of Political Affairs (DPA) in 1992, further the joining of forces with the Peacebuilding Support Unit (PBSO) in 2019. Similar attempts like these – generating relevant committees and establishing more guidelines and/or using a variety of methods to generate middle groups – will be increasingly effective as the addition and development of additional sharpening of the abilities to deal with different scale conflicts.

Support for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

Another could be enhancing the support for internally displaced persons. As mentioned above, in most cases, people are internally displaced several times before becoming an international refugee; thus, the support for the internally displaced may also play an important role in attempts to mediate the number of displaced persons.

This can be done through a myriad of ways, including the expansion of current measures put in place by the UNHCR, such as but not limited to forming clusters of organizations and providing necessary materials to the internally displaced in various countries. Further developments in methods of sending support for those that are not easily reachable is also becoming necessary as there is a vast increase in the number of internally displaced persons, with groups moving beyond areas that are comparatively easily reachable while attempting to escape the violence happening in conflict regions.

Assistance for International Refugees

The following solutions are applicable to those that have already escaped their home countries and are now internationally searching for refuge.

One could be to ease the process of entering another country – for example, simplifying the asylum process or bolstering the countries' administrative capacity to process asylum claims can help ensure the protection for refugees. This would shorten the time for those that are stuck between the region of conflict and another country – making this process quick and efficient would be a major key point in resolving issues that may come up for the refugees desperately using time and resources to sustain their lives and begin anew in another region. The US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has already partially put this into place, with a possibility for refugees to ask USCIS to expedite adjudication of a benefit request (such as an application or petition) for an immigration benefit, with criteria or circumstances set by the USCIS. These types of developments that set exact circumstances and generate a possibility for those that need it to speed up their asylum processes up is also necessary in preparation for larger humanitarian crises, when prioritization of those that seriously need it becomes an issue.

Another could be to improve assistance for the displaced that are attempting to settle in another country; this can be done in many aspects, including providing development aid for the refugees and condition that on work authorizations for or improved treatment of refugees in profit for the hosting country, and allocating social services based on the needs of refugees. Even after settling in another region, many displaced are not able to settle down in the short term, lacking resources, jobs, and time as they try to survive. Providing essential support for their survival and sustaining of lives, something the EU is currently attempting to due through providing jobs and places to stay, is another large aspect that could be expanded on in terms of supporting the displaced.

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