



Infographic: Rights, Resettlement and Complementary Pathways

Codified Rights

ASYLUM

A person fleeing persecution or serious danger can seek asylum in another state. If granted, asylum includes the right to: stay on the other state's territory, non-refoulement, and humane standards of treatment.

FAMILY REUNIFICATION

Recognised refugees have the right to reunite with their nuclear family: usually spouses or partners and minor children, in the case of adults, and at least parents or legal guardians, in the case of unaccompanied minors.

If reunification is granted, these family members receive safe access to and temporary or permanent protection in the admission country.

REFUGEE

According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), refugees are "people who have fled war, violence, conflict or persecution and have crossed an international border to find safety in another country".

In international law, the 1951 Refugee Convention defines a refugee as someone who 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".

People who do not fall within the scope of this definition, but would face serious harm in countries of origin, might qualify for subsidiary protection.

NON-REFOULEMENT

The principle of non-refoulement protects persons from being removed from a state if they face real risks of irreparable harm upon return, including persecution, torture, ill-treatment or other serious human rights violations.

Safe Pathways

RESETTLEMENT

UNHCR defines resettlement as the transfer of refugees from an asylum country to another state that has agreed to admit them and ultimately grant them permanent residence.

Resettlement aims to offer a durable solution for refugees who are in a particularly vulnerable situation in the country of asylum, such as refugees with medical, legal or physical needs, survivors of torture, or women, girls and children at risk.

RELOCATION

Relocation refers to the orderly transfer of individuals seeking protection from one state to another within the European Union (EU). Relocations aim to signal solidarity and relieve pressure from individual EU member states.

COMPLEMENTARY PATHWAYS

HUMANITARIAN ADMISSION PROGRAMMES



are usually set up in reaction to acute conflicts or crisis situations and intend to admit larger numbers of a particular group or nationality of refugees in short periods of time.

Such programmes are similar to resettlement but allow for more flexible selection criteria and procedures.

PRIVATE/COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP



refers to admission programmes in which individuals or private associations provide financial, practical and/or emotional support in the admission of refugees.

Programmes can be :

- privately organised admissions and integration through legal and safe pathways
- state-led admissions, which involve sponsors mainly to support refugees financially, practically and emotionally after arrival.

EDUCATION PATHWAYS



provide refugees with safe and regulated access to admission countries for the purpose of scholarships, apprenticeships or trainee programmes, and may provide options for employment or permanent residency after graduation.

HUMANITARIAN VISAS



grant people in need of protection legal entry to a country where they can apply for asylum, sometimes through fast-tracked procedures.

EVACUATIONS



are a means to admit people directly from a country where they are at risk of severe abuses and human rights violations due to e.g., conflict.

Evacuations can also serve to first relocate people to a neighbouring state from where they are then admitted to another state.

FAMILY REUNIFICATION (EXTENDED FAMILY)



facilitate, next to the right to reunite with nuclear family, the reunion of refugees with extended family members or people that are emotionally or financially dependent upon them.

EMPLOYMENT PATHWAYS



provide refugees with safe and regulated access to admission countries for the purpose of employment and grant them either temporary or permanent residence.