

MIGRATION and SEEKING ASYLUM

INTRODUCTION – Why is this a Global Justice Issue?

“The idea that some lives matter less is the root of all that is wrong with the world.” Paul Farmer

Globally there is more people on the move than ever before. These are people who were mostly forced to flee their own countries due to climate change, demographics, instability, growing inequality, terrorism, conflict and aspirations for a better life. Migration is not the issue - it is the causes of forced migration that need to be addressed - war, poverty and inequality.

The increase in forced migration in the last number of years has opened the world's eyes to the enormous cost of global inequality, including the thousands of deaths in the Mediterranean since the year 2000 in people's desperate attempt to flee their war-torn countries and homes, making migration a phenomenon of increasing magnitude and complexity.

One of the first, perhaps obvious, ways in which migration can be discussed within a global justice framework is to consider the question of what mobility rights we believe individuals should have under conditions of justice at the global level, or in general, which principles must shape a just migration policy, either for single states or for regional and even global institutions. Refugees are sometimes denied entry into other countries, leaving them without basic human rights such as food, healthcare, education and jobs and sadly children make up the largest percentage of refugees.

The issue of language is relevant here as often migration is formed as an “issue” or “crisis” which dehumanises people. No longer people, they are migrants. The language can reduce human tragedy to numbers and statistics. It is important for students to understand the statistics and challenge preconceptions (including a false understanding that most people seeking asylum are coming to Europe). It is important our students develop empathy and understanding about why people migrate and challenge stereotypes and prejudices and ultimately take action for better policies and a more inclusive society.

GLOBAL GOAL & RELEVANT INDICATOR:

The Global Goals have a number of targets that relate to migration. The most pertinent is 10.7. which calls for well managed migration policies. Others include the importance of reliable data on refugees and internally displaced persons, or the necessity for robust migrant workers' rights (especially for women).

SUGGESTED AREAS OF FOCUS:

- Why people migrate (explore root causes).
- Stereotypes and prejudices. *Resource sheet available on this topic specifically*
- Develop empathy and understanding for peoples experience of being migrants.
- Explore links between past and present Irish emigration and experience of migrants travelling to Ireland today.

- Direct Provision (system of asylum seeker accommodation used in the Republic of Ireland) *Resource sheet available on this topic specifically*
- Declaration on Human rights
 - **Articles 13.1.** Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State..
 - **Article 14 1.** Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution
 - **Article 15 1.** Everyone has the right to a nationality.

SUGGESTED CURRICULUM LINKS:

- ✓ History
- ✓ Modern Languages
- ✓ Gaeilge
- ✓ Geography
- ✓ Religion
- ✓ Maths
- ✓ CSPE
- ✓ SPHE
- ✓ English

SUGGESTED LEARNING INTENTIONS:

Students will be able to:

- understand the difference between migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.
- outline the underlying causes and factors that lead to and influence migration
- explain the problems and opportunities that migration presents.
- discuss a range of causes of individual, group, or organised migration.
- explain the consequences of migration for migrants and refugees and for the host country.
- discuss the impact of globalisation on migration.
- consider the importance of “humanizing” those who otherwise seem distant and different from us.
- increase empathy and understanding of the reasons why people migrate
- consider some of the ways in which refugees build their resilience and cope with the challenges of forced migration
- take action, campaign, create awareness, lobby TD’s and influencers, etc
- discuss ways in which they can welcome and show kindness towards refugees.

TEACHING AND LEARNING MATERIALS:

Resources:

1. **British Red Cross (2019) Refugee Week 2019: You, me and those who came before**
Overview: Contextualised in the history of migration, this resource uses activities to explore the reasons why people may leave their homes. It looks at how while the historical contexts will be different, the reasons can be similar.

Content: 7 sections with information, teaching resources including lesson plans, posters, worksheets, quizzes, diagrams, activities, games, etc. Designed for English schools but links to curriculum in History, Geography and CSPE.

Link: <https://www.redcross.org.uk/get-involved/teaching-resources##>

2. Amnesty International (2018) Respect my Rights, Respect my Dignity

Overview: This resource is a tool for anyone, anywhere, who would like to learn more about refugees' and migrants' rights and get involved in their community or country to advocate for these rights. In particular teachers, young people, activists, human rights defenders and people on the move can use this module to educate and empower their communities to welcome refugees and migrants.

Content:

- i. Introduction with information and campaigns
- ii. Four Sections with 3 activities in each:
 1. Developing Empathy
 2. Who are refugees and migrants
 3. The displacement crisis and lack of political will
 4. Refugee and Migrant Rights are human rights
 5. Take Action
- iii. Additional resources at the end of each section.

Link: <https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/ACT3082182018ENGLISH.PDF>

3. UNHCR Education Pack

Overview: This pack is aimed at teachers in Irish schools who wish to familiarise their students with facts and information about refugees. The pack is designed for CSPE teachers, who are teaching students aged from 12 to 15, but can serve as an easy-to-use teaching resource for secondary level students of all ages.

Content:

- i. Why do people flee
- ii. Routes to safety
- iii. How does UNHCR do to help refugees
- iv. Life as a child refugee
- v. Stateless people
- vi. Irish History of Taking Refugees
- vii. Trend at a glance

Link: <https://www.unhcr.org/en-ie/publications/education/58e663b54/education-pack-for-irish-secondary-schools.html>

4. UNHCR Education Resources

Overview: This website provides a variety of teaching materials for different ages. The aim is to assist teachers explore the situation of refugees and migrants. There are specific guidance for teachers with refugees on their classrooms.

Content:

- i. Teaching materials for age ranges 12-15 and 15-18years
- ii. Key lesson theme areas:
 1. Words matter
 2. Facts and Figures about Refugees
 3. UNHCR media materials and reports
 4. Teaching Materials

5. Including refugees in your classroom
6. Other teaching resources

Link: <https://www.unhcr.org/teaching-about-refugees.html>

5. RTE Radio 1 – The outsiders – our teenage Life behind barriers

Content: A resource for teachers with lesson plans and activities linked to the RTE Radio documentary "The Outsiders"

Link: <https://www.rte.ie/radio1/doconone/2014/1212/666539-the-outsiders-our-teenage-life-behind-barriers/>

6. NYCI (2018) Global Rights, Noble Goals: Refugees, Migration, The Sustainable Development Goals & Youth

Overview: Aims to facilitate learning around the refugee "crisis", the drivers of migration, the importance of the plight of refugees and the wider political context of the SDGs. The last three activities focus on the role of young people to consider their role in the world and looks at how to get involved in activities in Ireland.

Content:

- i. Includes info on SDGs (Global goals) and youth context for this in Ireland.
- ii. Overview at beginning of Migration terms, information on migration and Ireland's role, background on Syrian crisis and refugee movement etc.
- iii. You can start with activity one and work through pack or pick activities individually depending on relevance and time.
- iv. Each activity includes: "Did you Know" section with supporting information, lists SDGs relevant to the issue and most activities have a "taking it further section" with more links.
- v. There are suggested age ranges but review appropriateness and feel free to adapt to suit the needs of your group. Important debrief questions at the end of each.
- vi. Note, some issues may be sensitive to members of your group (section on controversial issues at beginning).

Link: <https://www.youth.ie/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/NYCI-Global-Rights-Resource.pdf>

7. Oxfam (2018) Stand with Refugees – Teaching Ideas

Overview: *Cross-curricular teaching ideas* to support learners to strengthen their enquiry skills, think critically about why some people are forced to flee, and develop empathy for others. Aimed at junior cycle age – could be used for TY

Content:

- i. Stand with Refugees Slideshow (images)
- ii. Introduction and context for exploring migration with students
- iii. Activities for: Exploring images, using video to develop empathy and interpreting data
- iv. Useful links and resources

Link: https://drive.globaldimension.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/glp/Refugee_Week_2018.pdf

8. Global Learning Programme (2018) Engage your pupils during Refugee Week (18-24 June)

Overview: *A set of resources and guidance notes for teachers to explore migration with their students. Written for teachers in England but resources adaptable.*

Content:

- i. Refugee and Migration Resource List
- ii. Guidance notes including background on migration 'crisis' and links to learning outcomes.
- iii. Recommended reading list

Link: https://drive.globaldimension.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/glp/Refugee_Week_2018.pdf

9. Youth Work Ireland, Tipperary (2016) What USE is my Mobile Phone? A Toolkit

Overview: *What USE is my Mobile Phone?* begins with the question: 'Can we use our phones to change how we see the world?' and takes participants on a journey from personal use of the phone to asking how it is made and what are the conditions like for the workers?; then onto different uses of the phone globally (walking in some one else's shoes with a mobile) and finally the participants experience having to flee their homes due to conflict, relying on the smartphone as an essential tool.

Content:

- i. Aimed for 12-18year olds
- ii. 7 Sessions with materials, time notes and age suitability
- iii. Information, fact cards and onward reference points

Link: <https://developmenteducation.ie/app/uploads/2018/05/What-USE-is-my-mobile-phone.pdf>

Activities:**1. UNICEF – Children on the Move**

Overview: Using a short film, students explore what it means for people to flee their home and the impact this has.

Content:

- i. Aimed for up to 18year olds
- ii. 60mins
- iii. Includes:
 1. Definitions of key terms
 2. Instructions
 3. Links to clips
 4. Question sheet for students
 5. Human stories with photos of children affected by migration (Syria, Palestine, South Sudan, Macedonia etc)
- iv. Information, fact cards and onward reference points

Link: <https://developmenteducation.ie/app/uploads/2018/05/What-USE-is-my-mobile-phone.pdf>

2. National Geographic – Political Borders

Overview: Lesson plan from National Geographic, exploring the notion of borders and how/why they are created

Link: http://www.iupui.edu/~geni/documents/Lesson1PoliticalBorders_000.pdf

Online Games:

Syrian Journey: Choose your own escape route

Overview: Interactive game where you must be a person fleeing Syria for Europe. You are given a range of choices. The decisions you make determine your story. The routes, options and outcomes in this Syrian Journey feature were based on real stories uncovered by extensive research as part of a BBC Arabic digital project exploring migration from Syria.

Link: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-32057601>

Short Video Clips:

1. **Your phone is now a refugee's phone [Watch on Mobile] –**

Overview: This striking film, designed to watch on a mobile phone, helps the viewer to experience with immediacy the confusion and fear facing refugees making a perilous journey by boat. Your phone is now a refugee's phone. Text messages arrive from your family. Suddenly someone contacts you on WhatsApp warning you to turn back. But are they right? Your lifeline is a phone with no signal that's rapidly running out of battery.

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m1BLsySgsHM>

2. **Animation: Leaving Home: The Stories of Brigit and Sami**

Overview: A senior primary animation telling the stories of two children from different parts of the world, faced with the difficult decision of whether or not to leave home. This animation draws on similarities between the Irish experience of migration during the great famine, and the current refugee crisis.

Link: <https://developmenteducation.ie/resource/leaving-home-stories-brigit-sami/>

3. **UNHCR (2019) Global Trends in Forced Displacement – 2018 Figures**

Overview: A video by the UN Refugee Agency on forced displacement. Provides statistics regarding where people are traveling from and why. Looks at resettlement and discusses struggles faced by asylum seekers / refugees.

Link: <https://www.unhcr.org/uk/news/videos/2019/6/5d05701c4/unhcrs-global-trends-in-forced-displacement-2018-figures.html?query=Global%20Trends%20forced%20displacement>

4. **Amnesty Poland, Looking Beyond Borders – 4 minutes experiment**

A video showing a simple experiment, during which refugees and Europeans sat opposite each other and looked into each other's eyes. Do read the information below the video as it provides great context for exploring the content with students

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f7XhrXUoD6U>

5. **The Best of Times, Worst of Times** – a short film that highlights the great progress made in poverty reduction over the last 25 years and the important work that remains to be done.

Link: https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/mb7qpn/new-short-film-brings-attention-to-progress-and-challenges-of-global-issues

6. The UN Refugee Agency provides a number of animations as teaching materials to increase understanding on the topic of refugees, asylum and migration.
Link: <https://www.unhcr.org/en-ie/teaching-about-refugees.html>
7. The UN Refugee Agency's utube channel has a vast selection of short video clips
Link: <https://www.youtube.com/user/unhcr>
8. International Migration - 7min video clip explaining the history and origins of migration.
Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IOZmqlwgur4>

Documentaries:

1. **Born in Gaza** – This documentary focuses on the devastating violence of the Israel-Palestine conflict and its effects on the children of Gaza. It is narrated by young children growing up in a war zone.
Link: available on Netflix
2. **Born in Syria** –Hernan Zin's wrenching documentary traces the journeys of seven child refugees being moved across Europe in search of a new life.
Link: available on Netflix
3. **E-team** (Emergencies Team) – This documentary explores the atrocities committed in countries held hostage by ruthless dictators as documented and investigated by Human Rights Watch. The documentary brings us to the frontline in Syria and Libya where crimes are rampant, random and often undocumented, making the E-teams's efforts to get information out of the country and into the hands of media outlets and criminal courts all the more necessary.
Link: available on Netflix
4. **Exodus – Our Journey to Europe (Ep. 1)** – this series documents the journey of thousands of Syrian refugees and their arrival on the Turkish port of Izmir.
Link: <https://vimeo.com/185455685>

Other:

Syrian Children's Rap

Link: www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/a-tough-rap-watch-syrian-kids-raise-their-voices/

LOWKEY FT. MAI KHALIL- AHMED (OFFICIAL VIDEO)

Link: www.youtube.com/watch?v=FNqum-5RhY

Media and Migration:

Link: www.youth.ie/nyci/Delegates-Action

Another Kind of Girl:

Link:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=mJqWQWMP9xk&list=PLubrEgFfc7LKStIglwccHcs_sRHNonHWK&index=21

Exit Right:**Link:**

www.youtube.com/watch?v=wgSTIJWvh70&list=PLubrEgFfc7LKStIglwccHcs_sRHNonHWK&index=27

Inclusion

Link: www.intercultural.ie/content/lets-actinclusion-video-series

The White Helmets: Watch via Netflix and get more information at www.whitehelmets.org/

Fire at Sea:

Link: www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fire_at_Sea

I am a Migrant:

Link: www.iamamigrant.org/

In their words - Refugees and migrants:

Link: www.youtube.com/watch?v=VeL_30ss7ps

**WWGS have taken recommendations for these, we have not necessarily pre-watched them all. Please review before showing students to check suitability.*

Podcasts:

1. This website has 5 podcasts on migration and social inclusion
Link: <https://vienna.impacthub.net/2018/08/24/5-great-podcasts-migration-social-inclusion/>
2. The Centre of Migration and Diaspora Studies in the SOAS University of London provides an array of podcasts on Migration, refugees and asylum seekers.
Link: <https://www.soas.ac.uk/migrationdiaspora/podcasts/>
3. The BBC podcasts on migration
Link 1: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p03cspb1>
Link 2: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p03v7qq3>

Publications:

Title: In Search of Safety: Children & the Refugee Crisis in Europe

Published by: UNICEF (UK)

Content: This weblink has power point presentations as well as a resource to help students make sense of the current refugee and migrant crisis in Europe, within a

children's rights framework. It provides information, 20 learning activities, factsheets, a glossary of terms and an appendix with additional information.

Link: <https://www.unicef.org.uk/rights-respecting-schools/resources/teaching-resources/refugee-crisis-europe/>

Title: Irregular Migration + Global Justice (2014)

Published by: The Hague Institute For Global Justice

Content: This short and concise document

Link: <http://www.thehagueinstituteforglobaljustice.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Irregular-Migration-and-Global-Justice.pdf>

Blog:

Migrants at Sea: This blog follows migration by sea from Africa or towards the Middle East with up to date statistics and links

Link: <https://migrantsatsea.org/about/>

Infographics/ Maps:

The Flow Towards Europe

An interactive map showing the flow of migration over time (*Scroll down to see more info regarding countries outside of Europe hosting those migrating. *Please also note that the language here is alarmist. Unpack the issue of language when discussing humanitarian issues*)

Link: <https://www.lucify.com/the-flow-towards-europe/> -

UN - Refugee and Migrants: Statistics regarding migration

Link: <https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/infographics>

<https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/infographics>

Open Migration: Statistics surrounding migration

Link: <https://openmigration.org/en/infographics/#all>

News Sites:

TheGuardian.com – Content Section “Refugees”

Stories from across the world relating to Refugees

Link: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/refugees>

TheJournal.ie News Feed - Migrant ‘Crisis’

Overview: Updated news stories from people travelling to Europe for Asylum including information on crossings, Irish rescue missions etc

Link: <https://www.thejournal.ie/migrant-crisis/news/>

BBC News Feed - Europe Migrant ‘Crisis’

Overview: Updated news stories from people travelling to Europe for Asylum including information on crossings, detention centres etc

Link: <https://www.bbc.com/news/topics/cnx753je2q4t/europe-migrant-crisis>

News Articles (for Teacher):

The Guardian (1st Aug 2019) How the media contributed to the migrant crisis

Link: <https://www.theguardian.com/news/2019/aug/01/media-framed-migrant-crisis-disaster-reporting>

Articles (for Student):

SpunOut (Updated: 29th June 2018) Why are there Refugees in Ireland?

Link: <https://spunout.ie/life/article/refugees-and-asylum-seekers>

INFORMATION & CAMPAIGNING ORGANISATIONS:

Who: Irish Refugee Council

Who: The IRC works with and for refugees in Ireland.

Offers: They provide a number of resources for schools and can offer inputs.

Link: <https://www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie/campaigns-policy/for-schools>

Who: NASC - Irish Immigrant Support Centre

Offers: Information about government policies related to Direct Provision and areas they are campaigning on.

Link: <https://www.nascireland.org/campaigns/asylum-process-direct-provision>

Name of Organisation: The United Nations

Offers: indept information on goal no. 10 and all it's targets.

Link: <https://www.globalgoals.org/10-reduced-inequalities>

Name of Org.: The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR)

Offers: Information, facts and figures, definitions, class discussion sheets, animations, short video clips on the Refugee crisis globally. It outlines the work carried out by the UNHCR (The UN Refugee Agency).

Link 1: <https://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/refugees/index.html>

Link 2: <https://www.unhcr.org/en-ie/teaching-about-refugees.html>

Name of Org: Global Justice Now

Who: Global Justice Now is a democratic social justice organisation that works as part of a global movement to challenge the powerful and create a more just and equal world. GJN campaigns for economic justice and an end to poverty.

Offers: Their website has an excellent section on trade. Mostly UK related since Brexit but still lots of good information. This website provides a number of ways for young people to take action around global injustices.

Link: <https://www.globaljustice.org.uk/about-us>

Link 2:

https://www.globaljustice.org.uk/sites/default/files/files/resources/migrant_briefing_web_2016.pdf (A policy briefing on Migration)

Name of Org.: The International Organisation for Migration (IOM)

Offers: The IOM provides an endless list of facts, figures, definitions, publication, blogs, links, short video clips, etc on Migration.

Link: <https://www.iom.int/>

[Campaigns/ Organisations to Link in with:](#)

Doras Luimni's Anti-Rumours campaign

Campaign aims to dispel the widespread myths and misconceptions around the topic of immigration and migrant integration, by providing evidence-based answers and utilising social networks to spread the message of the campaign far and wide.

There are useful infographics and toolkits here:

<http://doraslumni.org/anti-rumours-campaign/>

No Hate Speech Movement Ireland: <http://www.nohatespeech.ie>

The campaign is against the expressions of hate speech online in all its forms, including those that most affect young people, such as identity based cyber-bullying and cyberhate. The campaign is based upon human rights education, youth participation and media literacy. It aims to reduce hate speech and to combat discrimination online. Website includes a number of activities. Identifies 4 skills to challenge hate speech online.

The Sentry - Join the fight against corporate courts

Petition - <https://www.globaljustice.org.uk/corporate-courts>

ACTIONS - CREATING CHANGE:

[Ideas for Political Engagement](#)

Contact your local politicians to discuss Direct Provision & Irelands migration policies by:

- Making an appointment with your TD, phone, use emails and Twitter to contact them directly.
- Facilitate discussion in your school and local community - Invite along local TD's and community members and start stimulating discussion on direct provision and Ireland
- Reach out to civil society and NGO's - Engage with civil society groups and NGO's on the issue of Migration and direct provision.
- Organise activities and demonstrations to increase the frequency and quality of media coverage on Direct Provision
- Use social media to share information

- Have you heard any debates on the radio or news? If not, contact radio and TV broadcasters to ask for the debate to be publicised.

Ideas for School/ Community Actions:

- Create a myth busting display – taking myths, images and reports from the news and showca
- Organise a welcome evening/ dinner for parents, community members and people in direct provision. Link in with people early in the planning to see what type of evening they might enjoy.
- Organise an information evening with politicians about direct provision inviting parents, community members, etc