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### MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CO-CHAIRS

Dear Friends,

We are proud to present to you our 2022 Annual Report.

Throughout 2022 our team worked and spoke directly with displaced people—including Afghan humanitarian workers, Venezuelans crossing the Darién Gap, displaced families in Chad, and Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh—to understand the challenges they face and to elevate their ideas for change.

Their perspectives set our agenda. Our team worked tirelessly this year to advance the priorities we heard from displaced people on crisis frontlines: raising the alarm on global food insecurity and climate displacement, making the economic case for expanding refugees' access to dignified work, calling for more resources going directly into the hands of local and refugee-led groups, championing the rights of women and girls, and urging leaders here in the United States to recommit to the proud American tradition of welcome. Through it all, several wins and developments detailed in this report affirmed our work and gave us hope for a better future for people seeking safety.

Back at headquarters, we were thrilled to announce the appointment of Jeremy Konyndyk as Refugees International's new president in late 2022. Jeremy's bold vision for the future of humanitarian response and displacement policy will lead Refugees International into an exciting new chapter, building on the institution's decades-long legacy of excellence. We also bid farewell to outgoing president Eric Schwartz, whose steady leadership guided the organization for the last five years. We are so grateful for all that Eric did to advance this vital mission.

The Refugees International team is determined to fight for the rights and well-being of those who have been forced to flee their homes, and we thank you for believing in our vision. Our work would not be possible without the generosity and steadfast commitment of supporters like you.

Sincerely,

Mauran Shitz

Maureen White Board Co-Chair Refugees International

Jeffrer Tendeer

Jeff Tindell Board Co-Chair Refugees International

### **OUR MISSION**

Refugees International advocates for lifesaving assistance, human rights, and protection for displaced people and promotes solutions to displacement crises around the world. We do not accept any government or UN funding, ensuring the independence and credibility of our work.



**Investigate** displacement crises



**Create** policy solutions



Advocate for change

### ADVANCING

### THE RIGHTS OF

### PEOPLE IN

### HUMANITARIAN

### EMERGENCIES

6 I ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Refugees International is dedicated to advancing the rights and safety of people in humanitarian emergencies around the world.

In 2022, Refugees International successfully advocated for additional U.S. humanitarian assistance for populations around the world. Notably, the March 2022 passage of the Fiscal Year 2022 omnibus bill included more than \$4 billion for the International Disaster Assistance (IDA) and Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA) accounts in emergency funding for the Ukraine response thanks to Refugees International and coalition advocacy.

### **East Africa**

#### Food Insecurity

Persistent drought and conflict in the Horn of Africa have created an unprecedented food emergency for 40 million people in the region. Refugees International has called for the declaration of famine in parts of the region and for better protection and aid for people displaced by hunger. A Refugees International team traveled to Kenya in September 2022 to understand the regional outlook and has <u>urged those responding to</u> <u>the crisis</u> to look to lessons from past famine response for a way forward to save lives before it is too late.

#### Ethiopia

Violence and humanitarian disaster are plaguing northern Ethiopia as sporadic fighting and aid restrictions continue amid the country's civil war. Despite some scattered progress, including a peace agreement that was signed in late 2022, civilians are facing widespread displacement, atrocities, human rights violations, and hunger.

Building on its #StopTigrayFamine campaign in 2021, Refugees International has continued to highlight blocking of lifesaving aid, including through <u>public appeals</u> in the media for the U.S. Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa to emphasize accountability for using food as a weapon of war in his August 2022 visit to Ethiopia.

Among those affected, Eritrean refugees in the region are suffering greatly. Parties to the conflict have targeted Eritrean refugees in violent attacks that amount to war crimes—yet they have received little attention or assistance. In March 2022, Refugees International <u>detailed the plight of Eritrean</u> <u>refugees in Ethiopia</u> and called for action. The team was gratified to see the Biden administration include Eritrean refugees affected by conflict in Ethiopia as a new population of concern for resettlement in the FY23 presidential determination announced in September 2022.

#### South Sudan

South Sudan is a displaced nation: one third of its population are unable to return to their homes. The country's humanitarian crisis shows every sign of getting worse. Yet the attention of donors and diplomats is waning. Refugees International <u>called on</u> the UN Security Council to bolster the UN Mission in South Sudan's mandate and resources—and for steps to ensure the 2018 peace agreement gets back on track. Refugees International also urged the Biden administration to appoint a Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa—and welcomed that appointment in January 2022.

### Afghanistan

Following the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan, the international community stood up one of the largest relief operations in the world to stave off the worst. But the humanitarian situation inside the country remains bleak. A Refugees International team traveled to Afghanistan in June 2022 to speak directly with people involved in the humanitarian response about the current challenges

### Pass the Afghan Adjustment Act

AFGHAN-AMERICAN FOUNDATION

**Top Left**: Abdullahi Halakhe speaks with a Burundian refugee woman in Kalobeyei settlement (Kenya) who grows tomatoes to provide her family with income to support themselves. September 2022. Photo Credit: Refugees International.

Roshan Mashal

**Middle Right**: Exceptional Service Award Recipient Roshan Mashal speaks at the 2022 Advocacy Awards. Photo Credit: Refugees International.

**Bottom Right**: Branding from the Refugees International and Afghan-American Foundation campaign on the Afghan Adjustment Act. and opportunities. Based on research there, Refugees International provided a snapshot of the relief effort to date since the Taliban takeover and <u>offered a vision for the way forward</u>.

Refugees International was proud to honor leaders who have been instrumental in evacuating, rescuing, and resettling Afghans at risk at its 2022 Advocacy Awards including former U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, journalist and women's rights activist Roshan Mashal, and activist and leader Mahbouba Seraj.

Refugees International also partnered with the Afghan American Foundation to launch a constituent take-action campaign to urge members of Congress to urgently pass the Afghan Adjustment Act, a bill that provides a path to permanent residency for the more than 70,000 Afghans paroled into the United States in the wake of the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2021. The bill also expands eligibility for special immigrant visas to people who worked for the Afghan military and their families. Thousands of Americans participated in the campaign. Refugees International will continue this advocacy until Afghans seeking safety here have a permanent path to residency.

### Rohingya

Refugees International has advocated for the rights and safety of the Rohingya people since the 1990s. In 2022, the team welcomed several positive developments.

Refugees International first launched its #CallitGenocide campaign in 2020, urging the U.S. government to make a determination that the crimes the Myanmar military committed against the Rohingya in 2017 amounted to genocide. Finally, on March 21, 2022, U.S. Secretary of State Blinken announced that the United States would recognize the crimes for what they are. The genocide determination is a critical step toward accountability and is a solid commitment to justice for all the people who continue to face abuses by the Myanmar military junta to this very day. Refugees International has since called for additional steps to turn words into action and create a "path out of genocide."

One of those steps was a call for the urgent passage of the BURMA Act in the U.S. Congress. Refugees International campaigned for the passage of the BURMA Act, which would enact steps to hold the Myanmar military accountable and get much-needed humanitarian aid to the region. The team urged people to contact their members of Congress and write letters to the editor of their local newspapers on the importance of the legislation, and privately briefed members and their staff. In December 2022, Congress included large parts of the BURMA Act in the National Defense Authorization Act of 2022 (NDAA).

Refugees International also successfully advocated for an additional \$220.5 million in funding for humanitarian assistance and support for ethnic groups and civil society in Myanmar, Bangladesh, Thailand, and the region.

Also in December 2022, the U.S. government announced a program Refugees International has long called for to resettle Rohingya from Bangladesh and elsewhere in the region in the coming year. This program should serve as a catalyst for further resettlement offers from the United States and other countries.

Meanwhile, the situation for Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh and for those who remain in Myanmar continues to deteriorate. In October 2022, a Refugees International team traveled to Bangladesh to examine the situation for the Rohingya in the camps, including challenges around rising insecurity, a lack of education, a lack of livelihood opportunities, restrictions on freedom of movement and civil society, relocations to Bhasan Char, and looming humanitarian funding cuts. Based on priorities set out by Rohingya refugees, Refugees International has offered a <u>clear path for</u> <u>action</u>.

#### Myanmar

In May 2022, a Refugees International team traveled to the Thai-Burma border to look at the displacement and cross-border aid response amid Myanmar's worsening crisis. Following the country's February 2021 coup, hundreds of thousands of people have been forced to flee their homes, and more than a guarter of the country's population need humanitarian assistance. Meanwhile, the military junta is blocking the delivery of aid to those in need. Long-established groups along the Thai-Myanmar border have helped displaced people since the 1990s and can serve as a vital lifeline for the informal delivery of aid. Refugees International released a report calling for increased support for these local groups.

#### **Europe**

#### Ukraine

Russia's February 2022 attack on Ukraine has triggered a devastating humanitarian and displacement crisis felt around the world. Since the full-scale invasion, millions of people have become displaced within Ukraine's borders and are in need of humanitarian assistance. Many millions more have sought refuge outside Ukraine. Just days into the invasion, a Refugees International team traveled to the Polish border with Ukraine to assess the response. They released one of the first <u>major</u> <u>reports</u> detailing the situation and what needed to be done.

In June and July 2022, a Refugees International team traveled to Romania and Moldova—two countries hosting displaced Ukrainians that both require significant financial and technical support as they respond to the crisis. As the situation shows few signs of abating, Refugees International <u>called</u> for both countries to shift their response from providing emergency humanitarian aid to one promoting integration.

#### Greece

Greek officials point to recent declines in the numbers of asylum seekers arriving, awaiting decisions, and residing in camps as indicators that they have "regained control" of the migration situation in Greece. But the trends are largely driven by policies and practices that undermine access to protection and dignified reception. New facilities on the Aegean islands and mainland are the latest reflection of an approach to asylum based on deterrence, containment, and exclusion. Refugees International traveled to Greece in November 2021 to visit camps for asylum seekers. In 2022, the team set out a new vision for responsibly and humanely managing asylum and reception.

### **The Americas**

#### Protecting Access to Asylum at the U.S. Border

In, "MPP as a Microcosm: What's Wrong with Asylum at the Border and How to Fix It," Refugees International offered an alternative vision for handling asylum seekers at the border, including increasing capacity at ports of entry and releasing asylum seekers to non-profit shelters for help arranging travel to communities where they can pursue their cases with the support of legal counsel. Refugees International also helped prepare an amicus brief whose argument was adopted by the Supreme Court in its June 2022 ruling that the Biden administration could end the Remain in Mexico policy. Refugees International also worked on legislative language in the 2022 Refugee Protection Act, which would ensure no future returns to Mexico of asylum seekers at the border.

In 2022, Refugees International continued to urge the Biden administration to end Title 42, the unjustified COVID-19 related expulsion policy at the border, highlighting its horrible <u>human toll</u> on asylum seekers. To facilitate a smooth transition to humane reception of





**Top Left**: The temporary Reception and Identification Centre (RIC) known as Mavrovouni on the island of Lesvos. November 2021. Photo Credit: Daphne Panayotatos, Refugees International.

**Middle Right**: A Roma woman who lived in Odessa for more than 30 years before fleeing in March for the safety of her children and grandchildren. Photo Credit: Devon Cone, Refugees International

**Bottom Left**: A protester holds a sign in support of restoring protections for asylum seekers during a demonstration outside of the James R. Browning U.S. Courthouse on June 11, 2019 in San Francisco, California. Photo Credit: Justin Sullivan/Getty Images.









**Top Left**: Refugees International hosted a virtual panel discussion with leaders of LGBTQ+ Organizations in Latin America. Photo Credit: Refugees International

**Middle Right**: Due to a lack of private spaces, migrants rest, cook, and care for their children outdoors near the water in Necoclí. Photo Credit: Refugees International.

**Bottom Left**: The Refugees International team meets with Venezuelan migrants at the Casa del Migrante in Esquipulas, Guatemala, on October 7, 2022. Photo Credit: Yael Schacher, Refugees International. asylum seekers at the border, Refugees International successfully advocated for a large increase in appropriations for FEMA funds to support shelters and local governments welcoming asylum seekers.

#### **Central America**

In late 2021, Refugees International and IRCA CASABIERTA—an LGBTQ+ Costa Rica-based organization providing services for LGBTQ+ asylum seekers and refugees—conducted meetings with other LGBTQ+-led organizations across the region to discuss the challenges they face. In January 2022, the groups co-published a report highlighting steps the United States and others can take to invest in these critically important local groups.

Based on the recommendation of the report, the office of U.S. Representative Joaquin Castro and colleagues Rep. David N. Cicilline and Rep. Albio Sires led a letter in July 2022 to the State Department and USAID urging them to expand U.S. support for LGBTQ+ rights in Latin America. Castro, Cicilline, and Sires also hosted a virtual event for congressional colleagues highlighting the needs of LGBTQ+ communities in Latin America featuring Refugees International staff and recommendations.

#### The Darién Gap

Migrant crossings through the Darién Gap—a notoriously dangerous stretch of dense jungle between Colombia and Panama—were on the rise in 2022. Venezuelans attempted the crossing with more frequency, as opportunities to find long-term security or dignity in Latin America become increasingly difficult.

To better understand why migrants are making this crossing, in April 2022, Refugees International visited Necoclí and Capurganá, Colombia—two critical junctions in the journey to cross the Gap—to observe the conditions there and to speak directly with people preparing to make the journey. The team detailed the humanitarian conditions for people making the crossing through the Gap and recommended steps to not only improve the humanitarian conditions for migrants along the way but to create regional pathways to safety that would help reroute them from the dangers of the Gap in the first place.

#### Summit of the Americas

In June 2022, regional leaders came together at the Ninth Summit of the Americas in Los Angeles to forge solutions to some of the hemisphere's most pressing challenges-and signed a joint Los Angeles Declaration on Migration and Protection. Refugees International and partners advocated for U.S. leaders to support a protection-first approach to migration at the Summit and for the meaningful inclusion of affected people, including displaced people, in the Summit proceedings. Refugees International and partners released a set of nine guiding principles for the regional framework and hosted a side event at the Summit on migration policy. Refugees International also helped draft and organize a letter to the Biden administration from +100 U.S. civil society organizations on expectations for the Summit and Los Angeles Declaration.

### Haitian Migration and Treatment in Mexico and the U.S. Border

Starting in early 2022, a Refugees International team spoke with displaced Haitian men and women about their inability to find safety in several places during their journeys through the Americas. In a report in April 2022, Refugees International recommended that both Mexico and the United States shift their focus from rights violating enforcement and expulsion policies to increasing access to protection, work, and services for Haitians. In May, Refugees International spoke with UNHCR Mexico and the government of Mexico about ways to improve the response to Haitian migration. Later in 2022, Refugees International successfully advocated for the Biden administration to redesignate Haiti for Temporary Protected Status and to increase access to humanitarian parole for Haitians.

#### Making Better Use of Humanitarian Parole

The Biden administration has heavily relied on the use of humanitarian parole in responding to forced displacement. Although parole is a speedy form of protection, it does not offer a path to permanent residency or resettlement services and integration support. And the administration has not used it equitably or as effectively as it should. Refugees International wrote a comprehensive history of the use of parole and recommended ways the administration should reform its current use today based on lessons from past policy.

#### **West Africa**

#### Chad

Armed conflict, insecurity, and the effects of climate change have displaced hundreds of thousands of people in Chad and left millions in need of humanitarian assistance. In July and August 2022, a Refugees International team traveled to Chad to assess the situation—including the impact of climate change on the crisis—and to determine potential solutions. The team has <u>urged decision makers</u> to take urgent steps to alleviate the situation, including by recommitting funding to the humanitarian response and providing protections to internally displaced people in adherence with the African Union's Kampala Convention.

#### **Burkina Faso**

A longer-than-usual dry season and a worsening global grain shortage amid the Russia-Ukraine conflict make humanitarian action in Burkina Faso more urgent than ever. Refugees International traveled to Ougadougu in February and March 2022 to assess the impact of the country's recent coup d'état on the deteriorating humanitarian crisis and recommended a path forward for improving the <u>aid response</u>, including by surging funding for food assistance and collecting more data on displacement trends.











**Top:** Rohingya woman and child in the refugee camps in Bangladesh. Photo Credit: Daniel P. Sullivan, Refugees International.

**Middle Left**: At the stadium in Tapachula, Mexico, a Haitian man shows pictures of his family and friends in Haiti and documents from his time in Mexico and Brazil. Photo Credit: Daniela Gutierrez. **Middle Right**: Group of internally displaced men in a displacement site outside of Baga Sola, in the province's Department of Kaya, Chad. Photo Credit: Alexandra Lamarche, Refugees International.

**Bottom**: People are seen in a drought affected area in Mandera, Kenya on December 02, 2022. Photo Credit: Gerald Anderson/Anadolu Agency via Getty Images.

### CONFRONTING

### CLIMATE

### DISPLACEMENT

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The impacts of climate change are forcing people from their homes around the world, and yet international policy has failed to offer them meaningful pathways to protection.

As international organizations grapple with the reality of climate displacement, Refugees International worked with UNICEF and IOM to establish new "<u>Guiding Principles for Chil-</u> <u>dren on the Move in the Context of Climate</u> <u>Change</u>," which were released in July 2022.

Refugees International's Climate Displacement Program Manager Kayly Ober <u>testified</u> in July at a Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission hearing on human rights concerns arising from the impacts of climate change and migration, the very first hearing on the topic for the Commission.

In September 2022, Refugees International <u>led a letter from leaders of 14 refugee</u> <u>resettlement and policy organizations</u> to the White House calling on the Biden administration to create resettlement pathways for

climate-impacted populations in the FY2023 Presidential Determination. The letter asks that the administration prioritize for resettlement-through Priority 2 (P-2) group designations—three refugee populations currently affected by adverse climate impacts: South Sudanese and Ethiopian refugees in Sudan; Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh; and persecuted Hondurans and Guatemalans from regions affected by hurricanes and drought. Though the P-2 pathway for these climate-impacted populations did not make it into the presidential determination, Refugees International will continue to push for such action and calls on the Biden administration to meet its commitments to strengthen global protection for people displaced by the impacts of climate change.



Left: Kayly Ober (upper right) at the Bonn Climate Change Conference: Exploring Policy Options on the Spectrum of Human Mobility in the Context of Climate Change. Photo Credit: Refugees International.

### STRENGTHENING

### **REFUGEES'**

## ACCESS TO WORK

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### **Refugee Access to Work Rights**

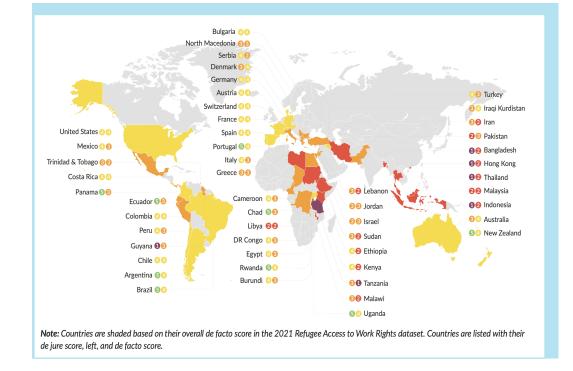
When refugees can access jobs, they can rebuild their lives and contribute to their host economies. In July 2022, Refugees International, the Center for Global Development, and Asylum Access released a <u>major report</u> examining the gap between law and reality for refugee access to work in 51 countries that host around nine out of 10 of the world's refugees.

The report found that at least 55 percent of refugees live in a country that significantly restricts their right to work in practice—and calls on refugee-hosting countries to ensure that their domestic laws grant refugees the right to work and freedom of movement, and that these rights are upheld in practice.

An <u>interactive website</u> showcases the data and highlights the benefits refugees bring to their local communities when they have access to work.

### Focus on Venezuelans in Colombia

Colombia's northern city of Riohacha, where poverty and insecurity prevail, is also home to one of the largest populations of displaced Venezuelans relative to its local population. Much like Colombians and Indigenous Wayúus in the area, Venezuelans in Riohacha live in precarity and have few opportunities to access work. The case of Riohacha provides a key for other regions in Colombia that face significant development challenges and struggle to integrate Venezuelans. Refugees International and the Center for Global Development called for a different approach to ensure their economic inclusion and highlight a path forward for other parts of the country facing similar challenges.



**Above**: Screenshot of index of 2022 Global Refugee Work Rights Report. Photo Credit: Refugees International.

### LOCALIZING AID

### AND PUTTING POWER

### IN THE HANDS OF

### DISPLACED PEOPLE

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Local groups have tremendous ability to respond nimbly in humanitarian and displacement emergencies. Their community-based knowledge and first-hand experience with the people they seek to serve allow them to deliver relief efficiently and sensitively. Refugees International is calling for donors to put more resources and power in the hands of locally led groups, especially those that are refugee-led. To shape priorities and approaches, Refugees International contributed to a public comment for USAID's draft localization policy and later for the Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance.

#### Ukraine

While the initial response to the crisis in Ukraine was largely led by Ukrainian volunteers and civil society, international donors have generously stepped in to help meet Ukraine's humanitarian needs. However, most of this money is going toward UN entities and international NGOs. This internationalization risks undermining the capacity of Ukrainian organizations and the efficacy of their humanitarian response.

In June and July 2022, a Refugees International team visited humanitarian operations throughout Ukraine to better understand the humanitarian response inside the country. Refugees International has called for several practical steps that can be taken immediately to reverse the course.

To advance this work further, the team has since partnered with a range of Ukrainian and international organizations to form a working group on localization that now serves as the main meeting point for international and Ukrainian NGO advocacy managers. The team co-hosted a series of convenings across Ukraine on localization in late 2022 and has raised challenges and opportunities to senior officials involved in the aid response. In Washington, Refugees International targeted policy audiences to help broaden support for U.S. government pledges to localize aid, notably USAID Administrator Power's pledge of making sure 25 percent of U.S. aid reaches local NGOs by 2025.

### **Northwest Syria**

In late 2021, Refugees International partnered with local groups in southwest Turkey to establish the Syria Northwest Aid Continuation Task Force (SNACTF), to explore alternatives to the precarious UNSC-led cross-border mechanism. In July 2022, Refugees International and the taskforce published a report providing a bold plan for what must be done to lay the groundwork for a more sustainable aid effort in Northwest Syria. Vice President for Programs and Policy Hardin Lang testified before a House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on the humanitarian impact of the conflict in Syria.

During the UN General Assembly in September 2022, Refugees International led a letter signed by 39 mostly Syrian-led NGOs to Secretary-General Guterres and UN General Assembly President Csaba Kőrösi urging the leaders to work alongside Syrian NGOs in both contingency planning for the potential closure of the UN-led Bab-al-Hawa cross-border aid mechanism into Northwest Syria and to begin laying the groundwork for a more sustainable and locally led aid response. **Top Left**: Para-athlete Oleg Kapinus, 48, receives food items during an aid distribution in Kharkiv on September 27, 2022. Photo Credit: Yasuy-Asuyoshi Chiba/AFP via Getty Images.

**Bottom Left**: Refugees International spoke with representatives of Ukrainian local organizations on the the importance of localizing aid in Ukraine. Photo Credit: Refugees International.

**Bottom Right**: Civil society and humanitarian workers form a human chain as a vigil. They are calling for the UN resolution to maintain the passage of humanitarian aid into Idlib, Syria's rebel-held northwestern province, from Turkey. Photo Credit: Omar Haj Kadour/AFP via Getty Images.









### CHAMPIONING

### THE RIGHTS OF

### WOMEN AND GIRLS

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Refugees International is committed to advancing the rights of displaced women and ensuring that they are part of the solutions to the challenges they face in displacement.

### Afghan Women and Girls at Risk

In late 2021, Refugees International traveled to Albania to interview Afghan women leaders who had evacuated with their families as the Taliban seized power. These leaders shared information about their lives and work, their experiences under Taliban rule, how they managed to escape, what they knew of the current situation inside Afghanistan, and their thoughts on the way forward. Refugees International released a <u>report</u> <u>informed by those interviews</u> detailing steps the international community can take to ensure a better future for the country's women and girls.

On the one-year anniversary of the Taliban takeover in August 2022, Refugees International and several partners outlined <u>seven</u> <u>steps</u> for centering gender equality and human rights in all diplomatic, development, peacebuilding, and humanitarian engagement in Afghanistan.

Refugees International also <u>advocated</u> <u>fiercely against</u> the Taliban's decision to prohibit women from working for NGOs in Afghanistan, announced in late December 2022.

### **Congress Steps Up for Refugee** Women

Refugees International celebrated the inclusion of the Refugee Sanitation Facility Safety Act in the National Defense Authorization Act, an important, practical piece of legislation that Refugees International has long promoted that will help ensure the dignity of women in displacement by requiring organizations that receive U.S. funding to ensure that refugee women and girls can use bathrooms safely in camps.



**Above:** Taliban fighters fired into the air as they dispersed a rare rally by women who chanted "Bread, work and freedom" and marched in front of the education ministry building. Photo Credit: Nava Jamshidi/picture alliance via Getty Images.



**Above:** A group of Rohingya women queue up to use the bathrooms at a transit camp in Lhokseumawe on the northern coast of Indonesia's Sumatra island on September 8, 2020. Photo Credit: Rahmat Mirza/AFP via Getty Images.

### **MESSAGE FROM**



Dear friends,

2022 was a year of growth and progress for the Refugee Advocacy Lab, a collaboration between Refugees International, the International Rescue Committee, the International Refugee Assistance Project, and Refugee Congress.

Together with our diverse set of partners and with refugee leadership on the ground, we secured tangible policy wins at the state and local level to advance refugee inclusion; shared new research and insight on strategic communications and messaging; and offered critical tools and resources to partners to build capacity for the movement.

This year saw a record number of pro-refugee measures introduced across the country. In Lab states, this included the passage or implementation of 12 state and local policies to reduce barriers to the workforce, improve access to education from K-12 to university level, ensure mental health services are accessible to refugee and immigrant populations, improve language access from local government to state educational systems, and more. We were also thrilled to add Oregon as our eighth Lab state in partnership with Church World Service and the Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon.

Looking towards the White House, we mobilized more than 385 bipartisan state and local elected officials from all 50 states to call on President Biden to rebuild the refugee resettlement program in his Presidential Determination.

The Lab also welcomed 12 new members to the Refugee Storytellers Collective, an initiative by and for individuals who have experienced forced displacement and believe in the power of sharing their stories for social change. Refugee leadership has remained at the center of Lab activities, including the powerful story of Collective member Ayda Zugay in her successful campaign to <u>#FindTracy</u>, which reached missions of people around the globe, and the development of critical resources such as <u>10 Best Practices for Engaging with Refugee Leaders</u>, a guide authored by refugees for centering displaced people in policy advocacy.

On behalf of the entire Lab team, we thank you for your partnership and your tireless efforts to grow and strengthen this movement. We look forward to continuing to work in solidarity with you in the year to come.

In solidarity,

hatt Pmi

Kate Brick Director of the Refugee Advocacy Lab

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Sue Morton

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**Refugees International's** independence and willingness to speak truth to power makes it a powerful force for displaced people. With more than 100 million people around the world forced from their homes, our humanity requires us to bear witness and to act.

- AI WEIWEI, ARTIST AND HUMANITARIAN REFUGEES INTERNATIONAL BOARD MEMBER

### FINANCES

	2020	2021	2022
	Total	Total	Total
SUPPORT AND REVENUE			
Contributions	2,243,459	2,698,753	2,046,902
Foundation Grants	1,030,525	1,474,301	1,899,361
Contract Revenue	181,501	256,447	362,553
In-Kind Contributions	218,579	147,985	164,040
Income Sub-total	3,674,064	4,577,486	4,472,856
Investment Gain/(Loss)	353,182	402,144	(723,398)
Total Support and Revenue	4,027,246	4,979,630	3,749,458
EXPENSES			
Program Services			
Advocacy	2,431,939	2,624,328	2,623,999
Public Education	827,070	904,859	_*
Strategic Outreach	442,779	299,027	1,571,657
Total Program Services	3,701,788	3,828,214	4,195,656
Supporting Services			
General and Administrative	230,650	161,845	187,891
Fundraising	271,110	382,172	536,726
Total Supporting Services	501,760	544,017	724,617
Total Expenses	4,203,548	4,372,231	4,920,273
Other Items	(135,604)	357,937	(94,422)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(311,906)	965,336	(1,265,237)
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	5,405,228	5,093,322	6,058,658
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	5,093,322	6,058,658	4,793,421

\* Public Education expenses are combined in Strategic Outreach.

# YOU MAKE THE DIFFERENCE.

Refugees International advocates for lifesaving assistance and protection for displaced people and promotes solutions to displacement crises around the world. We do not accept any government or UN funding, ensuring the independence and credibility of our work. That is why your support is crucial. Your contribution helps shed light on unseen crises around the world and brings the untold experiences of refugees and displaced people to the halls of political power.

Please visit our website at <u>refugeesinternational.org/#donate</u> to submit your donation.

Together, we can create a more welcoming world.

THANK YOU.

# JOIN US

### **NEWSLETTER - THE RI BULLETIN**

Learn how you can help us advocate for displaced people by signing up for our newsletter:

refugeesinternational.org/newslettersignup

#### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

- @RefugeesIntl
- Refugees International
- in Refugees International

#### **EVENTS**

Stay tuned for upcoming events on our website:

refugeesinternational.org/ri-events

#### **FUNDRAISE**

Ask your friends and family to join the movement. Start your own fundraising campaign on Facebook or contact donations@refintl. org to set up a personal fundraising page.

#### DONATE

Give online at <u>refugeesinternational.org/#donate</u> or by mail to:

Refugees International Attn: Development PO Box 33036 Washington, DC 20033

Refugees International also accepts gifts in the form of stocks. For more information, please contact donations@refintl.org.

#### **PLANNED GIFTS**

Ensure lasting support for displaced people through a bequest to Refugees International. Contact rroberts@refintl.org for more information or to indicate that you have already included Refugees International in your estate plan.



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