

# Resources for Learning about Refugees and Asylum Seekers



Welcome the stranger.  
Protect the refugee.

## Introduction

In addition to the HIAS [blog](#) and [video gallery](#), use the articles and videos below to expand your knowledge. Invite family, friends, or community members to read, watch, or listen to these resources and then discuss your learnings over FaceTime or Zoom.

## Articles

1. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a disproportionately hard impact on refugees and migrants. They are often exposed to the virus with limited tools to protect themselves, and public health measures do not always reach them. Read [this report](#) from the World Health Organization to learn more about how the pandemic has impacted refugees, as well as [HIAS' 2020 Year End in Review](#) to learn about some of the ways we have helped mitigate that impact.
2. For most of human history, people have lived within a surprisingly narrow range of temperatures in the places where the climate supported abundant food production. As the planet warms, those regions are shifting. Entire nations will lose their ability to farm grains and vegetables. [Read more about how ProPublica and The New York Times Magazine have modeled how climate refugees might move across international borders.](#)
3. Find out where things stand with the thousands of children separated from their parents and adult guardians with [the Southern Poverty Law Center's timeline](#) of the progression of this devastating policy.
4. In a [photographic timeline](#) covering the start of the Greek migration crisis in 2015 to the present, Nicola Zolin shows how the Greek islands changed from a starting point or stopover to a permanent home for thousands of refugees. The fires in the Moria refugee camp in the fall of 2020 were devastating and the coronavirus pandemic has exacerbated the situation.
5. A French baker's impassioned campaign to save his Guinean apprentice from deportation ended in victory, as Laye Fode Traore was granted French residency. Read more about the story of baker Stephane Ravacley, who [had been on hunger strike for over a week to protest](#) the threatened expulsion of his employee, and how he spent more than a year training the young man in the town of Besancon after he arrived in France as an unaccompanied minor.

## Podcasts and Videos

1. Listen to HIAS's new podcast [Crossing Borders](#), which takes you inside the experience of being a refugee by introducing you to people hoping to rebuild their lives in a new home and some of those dedicated to helping them succeed.
2. Explore the UNHCR's (the UN refugee agency) [video archives](#), which includes stories of refugees from all over the world.
3. Celebrated author and Goodwill Ambassador for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Neil Gaiman joined forces with hundreds of fans and artists to release [a new animated version of his poem \*What You Need To Be Warm\*](#). The poem reflects the journeys and challenges refugees face, especially in the cold, winter months. Gaiman asked his Twitter followers to share words and memories of warmth as inspiration for the poem.
4. Watch this [brief report](#) from a sprawling makeshift city that houses hundreds of thousands of Rohingya people, driven from their homes by Myanmar's military. Consider pairing this short video with the film [I Am Rohingya](#), a powerful documentary that chronicles the journey of fourteen Rohingya youth who take to the stage in order to depict their families' harrowing escape from Burma.
5. [Midnight Traveler](#) is the firsthand documentation of one Afghani asylum-seeking family's harrowing trek across numerous borders, revealing the danger and uncertainty facing asylum seekers juxtaposed with the unbreakable love shared amongst a family in search of safety.