

What is a migrant?

A migrant is a person who moves from one place to another to live, and usually to work, either temporarily or permanently. They may be forced to leave because they do not have access to adequate food, water or shelter, or in order to ensure the safety and security of themselves and their families.

New Zealand has yet to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

Here in New Zealand, AIANZ's work on behalf of refugees, asylum seekers and migrant workers includes:

- Providing information about human rights to the relevant authorities, lawyers and individuals;
- Working on individual cases of asylum-seekers of concern to AI. We work to ensure the *non-refoulement* of people at risk of torture, ill treatment death and unfair detention.
- Calling on governments, including New Zealand, to comply with their international law obligations under the Refugee Convention. Where an asylum seeker may face *refoulement*, we also call for compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), the Convention Against Torture and Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment (Torture Convention). These international agreements prevent states from returning anyone to the risk of torture, ill treatment or death.
- Making submissions on relevant legislation, and including recommendations on at risk groups for consideration within the 750 refugee quota New Zealand annually takes.



Children play in Ifo camp as the sun goes down, Dadaab, Kenya, December 2008. The three camps at Dadaab, which were designed for 90,000 people, now have a population of about 250,000 Somali civilians, making it one of the world's largest and most congested refugee sites.



Source: UNHCR

What is the UNHCR?

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is the UN Refugee Agency, with a specific mandate to help protect refugees and help solve refugee problems worldwide.

UNHCR's most important responsibility, known as 'international protection', is to ensure respect for the basic human rights of refugees including their ability to seek asylum and to ensure that no one is returned involuntarily to a country where he or she has reason to fear persecution.

World Refugee Day is marked annually on 20 June.

What is *non-refoulement*?

Non-refoulement is one of the most important principles in the Refugee Convention. It protects a refugee's right not to be returned to a country where they are in danger of persecution. Amnesty International opposes any individual being forcibly returned to a country where he or she is at risk of suffering serious human rights abuses.

What is an internally displaced person?

Internally displaced persons (IDPs) are those forced to move within their own country because of war, persecution or environmental disasters, rather than cross national borders. Currently IDPs are estimated to be around 24.5 million – 0.4% of the world's population.

The majority of IDPs are in Asia and Africa, numbering 18.1 million people.



Amnesty International is a global movement of 2.8 million supporters, members and activists in more than 150 countries and territories who campaign to end grave abuses of human rights.

Our vision is for every person to enjoy all the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights standards.

We are independent of any government, political ideology, economic interest or religion – funded mainly by our membership and public donations.