

Refugee

A person who leaves his/her own country to flee a conflict or due to a well-founded fear of persecution because of race, religion, nationality, political views, or membership in a particular social group.

Migrant

A person who moves to a foreign country for various reasons. Some reasons could include employment, education, or to reunite with family. They usually stay for a year or more, and generally do not face a direct threat of persecution or death in their home countries.

Internally Displaced Person

A person who is forcibly uprooted within his/her own country but has not left the country. They may be forced from their home as a result of armed conflict, human rights violations, or natural or man-made disasters.

Host Country

The country to which a refugee relocates.

Asylum

Shelter or protection from danger granted by a country to someone forced to leave their home country.

Asylum Seeker

A person who has moved across international boundaries in search of protection and filed a claim for asylum with the host country's government. (The person is considered a refugee by that government after their claim has been accepted.)

The United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR)

An internationally recognized organization responsible for the protection of refugees worldwide. With voluntary donations from governments and private donors, it provides food, water, shelter, education, medical attention, and other services .

Immigrant

A person who comes to live *permanently* in a foreign country.

Displaced Person

A person who has been forced from their home and livelihood due to a number of factors, the most common being armed conflict. Natural disasters, famine, development and economic changes may also lead to displacement.

Emigrate

To leave one's country to live in another country

Visa

Documentation provided by the government, giving permission for a person to reside (live), travel, work, go to school, or stay in that country

Green Card

An official card, originally green, issued by the U.S. government to foreign nationals permitting them to work in the U.S.

Assimilation

Becoming fully part of another culture or country

Naturalize

To grant the rights and privileges of a citizen to a person from a foreign country