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Committee: GA₃

Issue: Measures to integrate
refugees into society from war-
torn countries

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INTRODUCTION

Imagine a vibrant tapestry of diverse cultures and experiences. Each refugee brings unique stories, skills, and aspirations that can enrich our societies. Our goal is to help them thrive in their new homes. Globally, innovative measures—like community sponsorship programs in Australia and language training in Bulgaria—show how communities can foster inclusion. Integrating refugees is not just a humanitarian duty; it's an opportunity for growth. Together, we can build bridges of understanding that transcend borders.



Background Information

- Integrating refugees from war-torn countries into society presents a complex challenge that requires comprehensive strategies. Successful integration benefits both refugees and host communities. Here are several effective measures:
- **Community Sponsorship Programs**
- Community sponsorship initiatives, like Australia's Community Refugee Integration and Settlement Pilot (CRISP), highlight the role of local communities in refugee integration. Volunteers provide practical support, including housing, language training, and social connections. CRISP has demonstrated high satisfaction rates among refugees and supporters, fostering positive social connections and strong settlement outcomes.
- **Social Connections and Support Networks**
- Building social connections is vital for refugees to feel a sense of belonging. Programs that offer early support—through mentors or integration caseworkers—help refugees navigate their new environment, reducing anxiety and fostering independence. Connecting refugees with established diaspora communities can also provide essential resources for employment and social engagement.

Relevant Treaties or Past Solutions

GA3:

1- 1951 Refugee Convention

- The 1951 Refugee Convention is a foundational treaty that defines the term "refugee," outlines their rights, and establishes the responsibilities of nations to protect them. It emphasizes the principle of non-refoulement, ensuring refugees are not returned to places where they face threats to their life or freedom.

2- 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees

- The 1967 Protocol expands the scope of the 1951 Refugee Convention by removing geographical and temporal limitations, thereby applying its protections to refugees worldwide. This protocol reinforces international commitment to refugee rights and adapts to contemporary displacement situations.

3- Global Compact on Refugees

- The Global Compact on Refugees, adopted in 2018, aims to enhance international cooperation in addressing refugee crises. It emphasizes comprehensive approaches to refugee protection, including support for host countries and communities, while promoting sustainable solutions for refugees' long-term integration.

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Possible Solutions can include:

- Facilitate language acquisition initiatives that provide accessible and flexible language learning opportunities for refugees to improve communication and integration.
- Establish cultural exchange programs that allow refugees to share their traditions and experiences with host communities, fostering mutual respect and understanding.
- Encourage partnerships between government entities and private organizations to pool resources and create a comprehensive support network for refugee integration.

APPENDICE

1- Link to the UNHCR Integration Handbook: <https://www.unhcr.org/handbooks/ih/>

- Provides a comprehensive guide providing checklists, practical advice, and good practices for the integration of resettled refugees

2- Link to the 10 case studies on migration integration in the EU:

https://migrant-integration.ec.europa.eu/news/ten-case-studies-migrant-integration-eu-cities-oecd-and-european-commission_en

3- "Refugee Integration: A Challenge for Europe": <https://youtu.be/JRq0zKZ7jU4>

This video explores various aspects of refugee integration in Europe, including personal stories and community initiatives aimed at fostering inclusion.