

# REFUGEE & MIGRANT EDUCATION

PATHWAYS FOR HOPE,  
UNDERSTANDING &  
MEANINGFUL INTEGRATION

Rome, Italy | 6-8 November, 2024



Hosted by **Pontifical Urbaniana University**

## WEDNESDAY, 6 NOVEMBER

11:00 Registration and Networking

14:00 Opening Plenary Session

### Welcome Remarks:

Veronica De Sanctis, PhD, Scalabrini  
International Migration Institute

Fr. John Abubakar, OSA, Villanova University

Tina Facca-Miess, PhD, John Carroll University

### Setting the Context:

Br. Michael Schopf, SJ, International Director, JRS

Anthony Cernera, PhD, RME Network

### Refugee Education in Perilous Times:

#### Global Perspectives:

Anne-Christine Bloch, Geneva Representative, JRS

15:45 Panel – Refugee Perspectives

### Stories of Challenge and Hope: Testimonies of Resettled University Refugee Students and of Students in Emergency Situations

Anne-Christine Bloch, Geneva Representative, JRS  
– Moderator

Mahdia Sharifi (Afghanistan, Roma Tre University)

Emmanuel Ushindi (DRC/Malawi Dzaleka Camp,  
La Sapienza University of Rome)

Mathew Onen Terence Charles (South Sudan,  
University of Trento)

Carolina Vanesa Rodriguez Feltan (Argentina,  
Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas)

### Short Break

17:15 AFTERNOON PLENARY SESSION

### Educating University Students About the Global Migration and Refugee Phenomena

Michele Pistone, JD, LLM, Villanova University –  
Moderator

David Dinehart, PhD, College of Engineering,  
Villanova University

Tina Facca-Miess, PhD, Boler College of Business,  
John Carroll University

Walid Mosaraa, Every Campus A Refugee

Carina Black, PhD, Northern Nevada International  
Center, University of Nevada, Reno

### Open Discussion – Q & A

### Reception

## THURSDAY, 7 NOVEMBER

09:00 MORNING SESSION - PLENARY

Anthony J. Cernera, PhD – Introduction and  
Moderator

09:00 Plenary 1.a: Reflections on the Current Situation  
Cardinal Michael Czerny, SJ, Prefect, Dicastery for  
the Promotion of Integral Human Development

Chiara Cardoletti, UNHCR Representative for Italy,  
the Holy See and San Marino

10:00 Plenary 1.b: UNHCR Global and Local Best  
Practices on Education

### Global Compact on Refugees and Updates from the Global Refugee Forum

Manal Stulgaitis, UNHCR

### Manifesto for an Inclusive University, and UNICORE project (University Corridors for Refugees)

Andrea Pecoraro, UNHCR-Italy

Michele Gradoli, LUISS University, Rome

### Refugee Education UK

Catherine Gladwell, PhD - Third Country Pathways  
- Safe and Legal Routes to Protection

### Q & A with Plenary Speakers

11:15 Coffee Break

11:45 Plenary 2: Inclusion and Hope

Angelo Pittaluga, Head of Global Advocacy, JRS –  
Moderator

### Best Practices of Meaningful Inclusion of High School Refugees

Hiba Salem, PhD, Pedro Arrupe Fellow, JRS/Oxford  
Refugee Studies Centre

12:15 Breaking Down Barriers: Increasing Refugee Learner's  
Access to and Completion of Secondary Education,  
Presentation followed by panel discussion

Carly Morlock, Regional Education Program Specialist,  
Asia Pacific, JRS – Moderator

Fr. Cristóbal Madero Cabib, SJ, Vice President for Global  
Engagement, Universidad Alberto Hurtado –  
Presenter

Catherine Gladwell, PhD, Refugee Education UK –  
Finding Voices of Refugee Youth Project – Presenter

Obed Obutu Ombuna, Regional Education Specialist,  
Eastern Africa, JRS – Discussant

### Q&A with Panelists

13:00 Lunch

14:30 AFTERNOON SESSION – WORKSHOPS

**W1.1 – Models for Educating University Students About the Global Migration and Refugee Phenomena**

Michele Pistone, JD, LLM – Moderator  
Douglas L. Smith, ADD, JD, Brandeis University  
Sarah Kilmer, PhD, & Justine DeCamillis, PhD,  
University of Maryland

**W1.2 – Refugee-Led Integration Initiatives**

**Italian National Union of Refugees and Exiles (UNIRE) – Integrating Refugee Students in Universities**

Emmanuel Ushindi (DRC, La Sapienza University of Rome)  
Sakina Mohammadi (Afghanistan, University of Padova)  
Peter Dikonzo (DRC, Bocconi University, Milan)

**W1.3 – Technology and Education at the Margins JWL**

Melodie Honen-Delmar, Jesuit Worldwide Learning – Moderator  
Victor Baba & Emmanuel Aligo – Kakuma Refugee Camp, Technology: Mediation, Peace-Building, Leadership  
Zaid Tahabsem, World Refugee School

**W1.4 – Root Causes & Prospective Solutions**

**Toward a Systemic Solution to Global Refugee Crisis**

Nicholas Santos, SJ, PhD, Creighton University,  
Dominic Chai, SJ, PhD, Boston College,  
Tina Facca-Miess, PhD, John Carroll University  
Clifford Shultz, PhD, Loyola University Chicago

**Root Causes of Forced Migration – Columbia to US**

Daniel Cortes, JD, Villanova University

**Climate Refugees: The Unseen Victims of Ecological Crisis**

Fr. Joby Kunnath Kora, CMI

**Impactful Watershed Management India:**

**An Integrative Justice Approach**

Suji Varghese, SJ, Director, Social Center, Ahmednagar, India  
Nicholas Santos, SJ, PhD, Creighton University

**Questioning the Role of Nation in the International Community**

Inocent-Mária Vladimir Szaniszló, PhD, Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas

**Coffee Break**

16:30 AFTERNOON SESSIONS – WORKSHOPS

**W2.1 - Sharing Faculty Research Projects**

Tina Facca-Miess, PhD – Introduction

**Expanding Educational Access for Displaced Communities: The Arizona State University SunSPOT Model**

Marc Sperber, MS, Arizona State University

**To Russia with(out) Love: Ukrainian War Refugees Migrating to the Land of the Aggressor**

Julia Khrebtan-Höerhager, PhD, Colorado State University

**Collaboration and Effective Partnerships Between Universities and NGOs in Educating Survivors of Modern Slavery**

Vanna Derosas, MSc, and Anta Brachou, PhD, St Mary's University, Twickenham

**W2.2 – Teachers in Crisis Contexts**

Melodie Honen-Delmar – Moderator

**Addressing the Global Teacher Shortage and Formation of Refugee Teachers**

Parfait Fouda Leger, Regional Education Coordinator, West Africa and Great Lakes, JRS  
Batoul Moussa, Regional Education Officer, Middle East & North Africa, JRS

**Inspiring Refugee Leaders through JWL Learning Facilitator Course**

Melodie Honen-Delmar, Director of Professional Programs and Research Manager  
Ferishta Sardary, Global English Language

**Global Report on Teachers: Addressing Teacher Shortages and Transforming the Profession**

Alberto García Gómez, JD, Dean, Faculty of Bioethics, Pontifical Athenaeum Regina Apostolorum

**W2.3 From Displacement to Opportunity: Advancing Economic Inclusion for Refugees and Migrants**

**Building Futures Together: Inclusive Market Systems for Economic Empowerment and Sustainability in Refugee and Host Communities**

Fr. David Holdcroft, SJ, Economic Inclusion Specialist, International Office, JRS  
Juanita Bedoya Palacio, Regional Education Coordinator, LAC, JRS  
Elias Sahyoun, Regional Livelihoods Officer, Lebanon and Syria

**Scalabrinian Model of Employment, Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation (EESI)**

Marcio Toniazzo, Director Scalabrini International Migration Network & Marianna Occhiuto, Head of Fundraising and Partnerships Scalabrinian Agency for Development Cooperation



### Q&A Session

Moderated by Fr. David Holdcroft, SJ, JRS

#### W2.4. Building Successful Partnerships Between Foundations, Universities and NGO's Lessons from the Field

Arnout Mertens, Director of International Programmes and Innovation, JRS – Moderator

#### The Impact of a Grants Program on Enhancing Agency and Human Dignity of Refugees

Nicholas Santos, SJ, PhD, Creighton University/JWL  
Daniel Hendrickson, SJ, PhD Creighton University

#### Collaborative Partnerships to Certify Refugee Researchers

Tina Facca-Miess, PhD, John Carroll University  
Catherine Gladwell, PhD, Refugee Education UK

#### Jesuit Universities Networking and Collaboration on Refugees and Migrants: Insights & Recommendations

Tina Facca Miess, PhD, John Carroll University

#### W2.5 – Education as Accompaniment and Hospitality

#### STRONG: An Integral Academic Training Experience for Citizens with Migrant Backgrounds

Cristiano Colombi, PhD, STRONG PROGRAM,  
Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas

#### Stand with Ukraine Listening Loom (SWULL): Pop Up Art Installation to Foster Peace, Justice and the Common Good

Melanie Menkevich, IHM Center for Literacy,  
Philadelphia

#### Can Authentic Advocacy Address Elite Capture? An Experiment from the US

Douglas L. Smith, ADD, JD, Brandeis University

#### 18:00 General Discussion

Reception

## FRIDAY, 8 NOVEMBER

#### 09:00 MORNING SESSION – PLENARY

Veronica De Sanctis, PhD – Moderator

#### Plenary Session: Collaborative Advocacy

*Making Positive Differences in Public Conversations and Perceptions Regarding Migrants and Refugees - Communicative Strategies for Action*

Vittorio Longhi, Journalist with *The Guardian*,  
*The New York Times International Edition* and  
*La Repubblica*

Sabika Shah Povia, *Associazione Carta di Roma*  
Rahel Saya, *Afghanistan Journalist*

#### 10:30 Coffee Break

#### 11:00 Refugee Education UK - Applied Research

Catherine Gladwell, PhD

#### *Improving Access & Thriving: What Receiving Countries in Global North Can Learn from the Majority World*

#### *University Responsibilities to Displaced Students:*

*From asylum seekers at our doorstep to those on the other side of the world*

#### *Promising Practices In Refugee Education From Across High Income Contexts:*

*Secondary education and college preparation*

#### Open Discussion

#### 13:00 Lunch

#### 14:00 AFTERNOON SESSIONS – PLENARY AND WORKSHOPS

#### Remarks from the Rector

Professor Vincenzo Buonomo

#### *Strategic Directions for the RME Network*

Presentation of the RME Network Survey and Strategic Plan for 2025-2027 - Short Q&A, sharing in break-out groups, plenary debate

Anthony J. Cernera, PhD and Tina Facca-Miess, PhD – Moderators

#### 15:30 *Developing Ways to Foster Deeper Collaboration Among the Participants After the Conference*

*Developing Strategies to Move Forward Together in the Promotion of:*

Research, Impact Measurement  
Advocacy – Social Promotion  
Education About Refugees  
Education For Refugees

#### 17:30 Final Session: Wrap Up and Next Steps, Call to Action, Open Discussion

Reception