

[4/11] A migrant from Guatemala carries her baby as she walks across the Paso del Norte International Bridge after being expelled from the U.S. and sent back to Mexico under Title 42, in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico May 23, 2022. REUTERS/Jose Luis Gonzalez [Read less](#)

# Acknowledgements

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Kristine Greenaway	<i>Toronto Star (print/online)</i>
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*(Note: Some of the news outlets mentioned above did not have coverage related to migrants, refugees, or asylum seekers during the monitoring period.)*

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**Cover image:** Collage of screenshots of relevant news articles published by various North American news outlets on the monitoring dates and coded for the Migrant Media Monitoring Project.

# Preface

As the North American regional expression of the World Association for Christian Communication (WACC-NA), our mission is “Communication for All.” As WACC-NA Value Statement says, “The North American Regional Network of the World Association for Christian Communication is a gathering of advocates dedicated to promoting communication justice in our region and around the world. We advocate full access to information and communication, a press free from political and financial influence, and an open and diverse media.” WACC-North America takes its advocacy role seriously.

WACC-North America undertook three strategic planning initiatives in 2020 during the period of Covid-19. These are Gender Justice, Migrant Justice, and Digital Justice. Gender Justice is an ongoing initiative. We have participated in the Global Media Monitoring Project (GMMP) since its inception in 1995. Migrant Justice has become an important and urgent concern due to the number of migrants seeking refuge, asylum, and reuniting with families across the US-Mexican border. We undertook a board member training for executive committee members of WACC-NA on the advocacy issue of migrants, asylum seekers, and refugees. Research Professor Elizabeth G. Ferris with the Institute for the Study of International Migration at Georgetown University, Washington D.C., offered training on the various categories of international refugees and an overview of the issue. Rev. Dr. Karin Achtelstetter, Executive Director for Canadian Lutheran World Relief, spoke on media and refugees.

Under the leadership of Gregg Brekke, Vice President of WACC-NA, we engaged this first-ever project of monitoring news media covering migrants into North America. A team of monitors across the U.S. and Canada monitored news coverage of migrants on May 24, 25, and 26 in 2022. Terri Miller, a member of the executive committee and consultant at the International Catholic Migration Commission, worked on the Coding Sheets. Dr. Sarah Macharia, Program Manager, Gender & Communication at the World Association for Christian Communication, trained the team of monitors in coding the various news media. She also interpreted the data from the monitoring and helped prepare this report.

Balanced and ethical reporting matters in the coverage of the stories of the migrants from their country of origin to the host country. The voice and agency of the migrants themselves matter. As a faith-based organization, we intend to share these findings with our respective denominations, various interfaith organizations, and advocacy groups engaged in work with the migrants. These evidence-based findings provide an advocacy tool for those involved in activist work, offer a practical resource for the various denominational migrant work, and help urge policy-makers to come up with humane solution to the plight of migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers, while addressing the root causes that continue to displace people from their country of origin. The findings offer us a rich resource to observe the International Migration Day on December 18, and the events preceding and following the day.

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# 1. Introduction

Almost 15% of the population in Canada and the USA combined are immigrants, according to 2019 data from [Migration Policy Institute](#). Immigrants and refugees in both countries come from various countries across the globe, propelled by the range of the economic, political, and social factors driving the transnational movement of people. The factors include limited economic opportunism, authoritarian governments, and political persecution in the countries of origin. Among the pull factors in the destination countries are the promise of employment, security, and pre-existing social networks. Balanced, accurate, and fair news coverage matters but is also a hallmark of professionalism in journalism. Media treatment of migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers influences the ways in which these populations are perceived by the public, policy responses, and ultimately, their lives in the new environments. A poignant illustration is the public debate in the U.S. that followed media reports on the separation of immigrant children from their parents, leading to “calls for action on the previous Trump administration’s zero-tolerance immigration policy.”<sup>1</sup>

The North American region of the World Association for Christian Communication (WACC-NA) monitored 56 news articles in 15 newspapers, news websites and news Twitter (Table 1) to develop an evidence-based understanding of the nature and quality of reporting on migration in mainstream American and Canadian news outlets.

*Table 1. The Sample*

Medium type	Title
Newspapers	Courier Journal; Globe and Mail; New York Times; Toronto Star
News websites	<a href="http://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/">www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/</a> ; <a href="http://www.huffpost.com">www.huffpost.com</a> ; <a href="http://www.MSNBC.com">www.MSNBC.com</a> ; <a href="http://www.nytimes.com">www.nytimes.com</a> ; <a href="http://www.apnews.com">www.apnews.com</a> ; <a href="http://www.forbes.com">www.forbes.com</a> ; <a href="http://www.Reuters.com">www.Reuters.com</a> ; <a href="http://www.OrlandoSentinel.com">www.OrlandoSentinel.com</a> ; <a href="http://www.globalnews.ca">www.globalnews.ca</a>
News Twitter	@GlobeandMail; @Reuters

A cursory look at the titles of the news coverage of migrants, immigrants, and refugees throws light on the complexity of the migration narrative. The mosaic of human stories lays bare the horror of the fleeing millions, the response of agencies and governments of the host countries, and the hospitality of individuals and organizations. The scope of coverage straddles from the genetic history of the first peoples’ migration to the Americas to the present-day migrants’ protest at the US border for entry. The coverage also sheds light on the intersections of gender, race, and migration, with an occasional focus on nativist forces at work. A cross section of the titles shows the sheer number of the displaced people, their migration routes, the backlogs of

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.poynter.org/reporting-editing/2018/how-front-pages-around-the-world-showed-the-separation-of-immigrant-children-in-the-u-s/>

immigration agencies in the host countries, the loss of jobs for the already settled immigrants, a call for humanitarian agencies to help, and an unscrupulous instance of even raising money in the name of building a portion of wall across the US-Mexico border. The scope is local, national, regional, and international. The titles, indeed, offer a microcosm of the multiple angles that constitute a three-day media reportage on migration as well as the complexity of the migration narrative in the making.

- 76 Migrants Feared Dead
- After 25 years here, he faces deportation
- Dutch town that hid Jews in Holocaust opens doors to Ukrainian refugees
- Final Wall Fraud Trial Underway
- In Britain Visa Red Tape Delays
- Shameful step toward erasure of women
- Stateless Roma Refugees
- Texas House Race is a Proxy Fight
- UN Refugee Agency voices concern
- UN: More than 100M people are displaced
- After three months, host cities struggle to find jobs, homes for Ukraine refugees
- Boat with 842 Haitians headed to the US winds up in Cuba
- Migrants in Mexico despair; U.S. extends pandemic asylum limits
- Newfoundland's famous generosity extends to Ukrainian refugees
- UN agency concerned about impact of Canada's immigration backlog on refugees
- Video: 'We are not criminals': Migrants protest U.S. border policy
- After 3 months, host cites struggle to find jobs,
- "It just seemed like fate," Manitoba woman wants more people to host Ukrainian refugees
- 6 migrants die, 19 injured in Mexico bus crash
- 75 People missing-immigrant boat sinks
- Afghan Evacuees Are Still Stranded In the UAE
- As Border Crossings Soar, Biden Relies on Shelters to Manage Influx
- Boat with reported 842 Haitian migrants winds up in Cuba
- Boris Johnson Stands by Foreign Office Chief
- Conservatives are too busy waging a domestic war to stop gun violence
- Death toll in Mexico migrant bus crash rises to 7
- Dozens of Europe-bound migrants missing off Tunisia's coast
- Dozens of Migrants Die After Boat Sinks Off Tunisian Coast
- Exploring 'A Genetic History of the Americas' with Jennifer Raff: podcast and transcript
- Haiti's debt to France linked to large numbers of Haitian migrants at U.S. border
- Haldimand County nurse returning to Ukraine for
- 2nd deployment to help refugees
- Here's What Nobody Told Me About Trying to Learn English as An Adult
- Housekeepers struggle as US hotels ditch daily room cleaning



- In Texas, a Proxy Fight Over Democrats' Stance on Immigration
- IOM: Up to 600 missing at sea in 3 months in Central Med
- Iraqi Man Helped Plot to Kill Bush, FBI Says
- Judge Blocks Biden Administration from Ending Title 42 Migrant Policy
- Maine plans to open new shelter for displaced asylum seekers
- Misinformation amongst migrants hoping to make it to the border and beyond.
- Missoula's Most In-Demand Kitchen is Run by Refugees
- No future for babies: 842 US-bound Haitians end up in Cuba
- Ohio man plotted to visit to Texas to kill George W. Bush
- Over 2 dozen become U.S. citizens in Seattle ceremony: 'I've fulfilled the American dream'
- Refugees Make America Better Off
- Rights group sues over US denying Afghans humanitarian entry
- Rights group: Bulgaria uses police dogs in migrant pushbacks
- Spain, Britain Call on NATO Russia Threat, Africa
- State of Maine asked to oversee services for asylum seekers
- Tears of joy: Emotional welcome at Winnipeg airport first step toward new lives for refugees
- Transcript: The Last Word with Lawrence O'Donnell, 5/25/22
- Transcript: The Rachel Maddow Show, 5/25/22
- Ukrainian refugee camp in Mexico's capital to close
- UN official urges world not to forget Rohingya refugees
- US to Begin Allowing Migrants to Apply for Asylum Under a New System
- What Ever Happened to Michael Gove's Plan to House Refugees
- With appointment in hand, hundreds of people wait at Orlando ICE office. Some have waited for four days

"Consistent coverage of immigrant communities matters because of the prevailing misinformation that news consumers receive about immigrants"

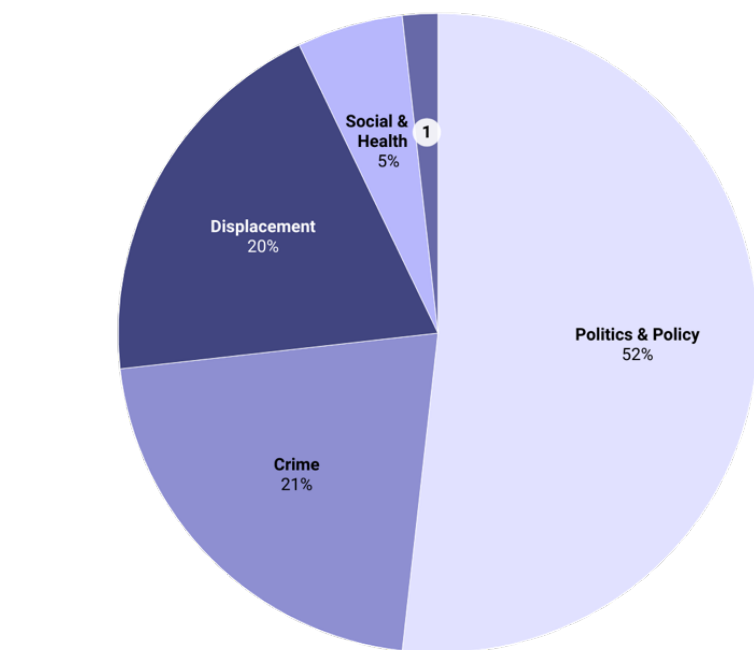
<https://www.poynter.org/commentary/2022/lessons-from-north-carolina-on-covering-local-immigration-news/>



## 2. The Sample

At least 50% of migration stories published by Canadian and American news outlets are reported from the perspective of politics. One or more articles obtained from the sample print

### MMMP - Topics distribution



1 Economy

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newspapers, news Tweets and online news sites covered migration and national, State/Provincial and local legislation on the topic, deportation, humanitarian efforts, integration, and relocation/resettlement.

Two in ten stories focus on migration and crime. Similarly, another 20% focus on migration and displacement. Only 5% of stories in the total sample prominently address the social/health and notably education angle of migration.

The overwhelming tendency to adopt a political angle betrays politicization of an issue that directly concerns a large segment of the North American population.

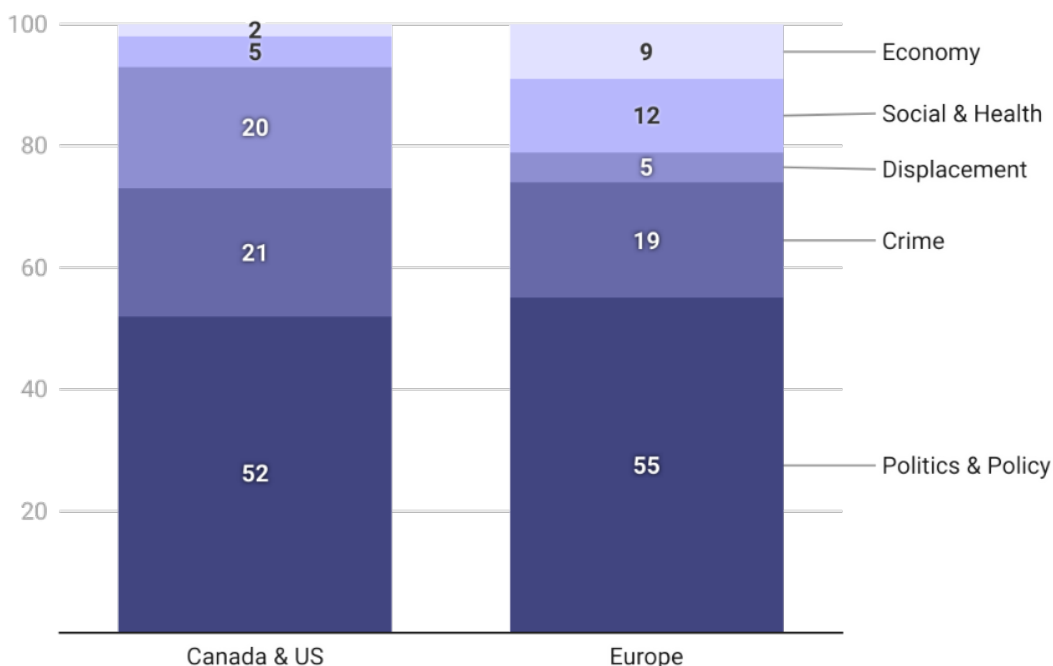
WACC's European region undertook similar research in 2017, with findings from news media in Greece, Italy, Spain, Serbia, the United Kingdom, Sweden, and Norway published in the report *Changing The Narrative: Media Representation Of Refugees And Migrants In Europe*<sup>2</sup>. In the five-year time lapse between the European and the current North American media monitoring, there have been fresh waves of mass migration triggered by crisis such as in Ukraine following invasion by Russia. Such crises may not impact both regions uniformly, nevertheless, a cross-regions comparison of findings is still useful given that both regions remain recipients of a significant number of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees.

Migration reporting that privileges the political dimension is prominent in news stories across both regions (Figure 1). A glaring difference is the proportion of stories linking migration to

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.refugeesreporting.eu/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Changing\\_the\\_Narrative\\_Media\\_Representation\\_of\\_Refugees\\_and\\_Migrants\\_in\\_Europe.pdf](http://www.refugeesreporting.eu/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Changing_the_Narrative_Media_Representation_of_Refugees_and_Migrants_in_Europe.pdf)

economic issues (only 2% in Canada/US compared to 9% in Europe), to the social/health dimensions (5% in Canada/US and more than double this proportion in Europe), and to questions regarding underlying drivers of migration, namely, wars, discrimination, economic factors and climate (20% of the Canadian/American articles compared to only 5% in Europe).

### Regional Comparison. Major Topics in Migration News



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Figure 1

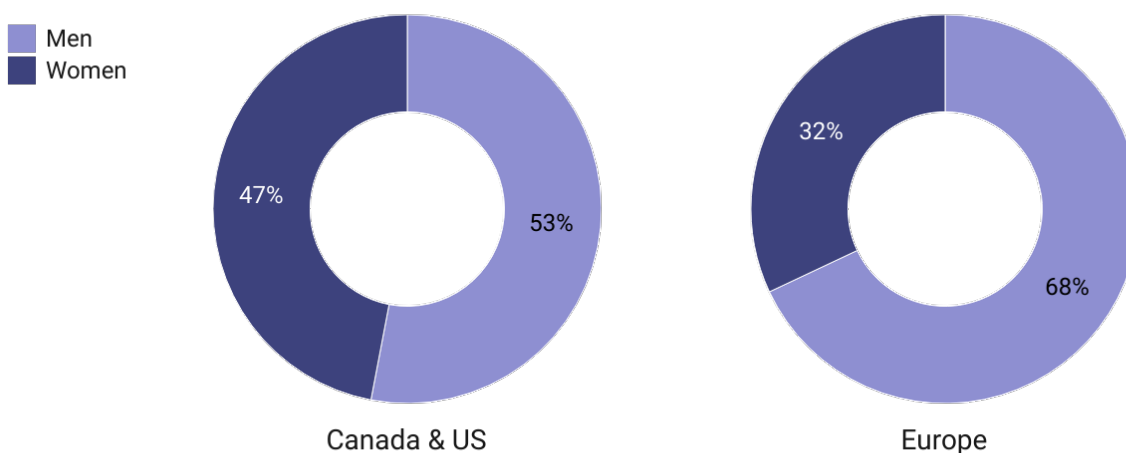
The reportage shows a preponderance of media coverage on the topic of “Politics and Policy” over other topics such as “Displacement,” “Social & Health,” and “Economy.” This places migrants as an *issue* rather than as *peoples*. The coverage of the latter will have shed more light on the *push* factors of migration of *peoples* such as war, extreme poverty, natural disasters, climate change, and economic globalization, and the “pull” factors of migration such as opportunities for labor, albeit cheap labor, rejoining relatives, and seeking freedom from oppression and war in the host countries.

### 3. People in the stories

The stories featured 171 people as subjects and sources, of which 44% were identified by the media monitors as female, 50% as male, and sex was coded as unknown for the remainder 6%. None of the persons in the stories was identified as transgender or other gender minority. **Men make up the majority of persons in migration stories overall at 53% of subjects and sources. A breakdown by medium type reveals an overrepresentation of women in print news (55% female) and the reverse in digital – Twitter and news websites – for men (56% male).**

The proportion of men in the European news sample as subjects and sources was even higher, at 68% or almost 7 in 10. (Figure 2)

Regional Comparison. People in Migration News, by Sex



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Figure 2

**An overwhelming 54% of the North American articles did not contain a single refugee or migrant as a subject or source.**

The agency and subjecthood of the migrants and refugees offer a key to understanding to the depth of their plight. They humanize the victims, shape the public perceptions, and help build the migrant and refugee narratives from their own respective perspectives. Such voices help promote basic hospitality in the host countries to understanding the rights of migrants and refugees, and work on humane solutions regionally and globally.

Various studies suggest that there has been a feminization of migration in North America during the past decade at least. An article written in 2014 by Annette B highlights the importance of taking a gendered approach to the study of immigration, arguing that ignoring gender can lead to a distorted understanding of the experiences of immigrant women. It reviews research on the experiences of immigrant women in North America and identifies several areas where further research is needed to better understand the gender-based challenges they face (B, de Arellano, & Coll, 2014).

**In the MMMP sample, women were 62% of the persons identified as refugee or migrants (18 out of 33 in digital news, 8 out of 11 in print articles),** in polar opposition to the European sample where this proportion is only 27%. Historically, female immigrants have tended to outnumber male immigrants in North America. This trend could be explained by several factors, including economic and social reasons. Some studies suggest that women tend to migrate for family reunification, better education and employment opportunities, and to escape discrimination and violence in their home countries. While others suggest that male immigrants tend to migrate for economic reasons such as finding work, better wages, and economic stability. It's also important to note that immigration patterns can vary based on countries of origin, migration policies, and other factors.

A report from the Pew Research Center looks at the gender disparities in the US immigrant population and provides data showing that women have outnumbered men among recently arrived immigrants for several decades. It also discusses some of the reasons for this trend, including family ties, employment opportunities, and gender-based violence in their home countries (Prah, 2019). Hackett (2021) examines the factors contributing to the influx of women immigrants to North America in recent years, pinning the trend down to economic opportunities, family reunification, and political instability in their home countries.

Context matters. During the time of this monitoring, mostly refugees from Ukraine were entering into North America. Since men were mostly recruited for war in Ukraine, the face of refugee and forced migration was often female.

Only 27% or less than three out of 10 persons in the stories was identified as a migrant, refugee and/or asylum seeker, compared to almost double (53%) this proportion in the European sample. In the North American articles, 3% of the migrants were referred to as “illegal”, equal to one half of these populations appearing in European news. Use of such terminology corresponds to findings in other research; a 2019 study by the Media Ecosystems Analysis Group Study found “a significant rise in denigrating speech — including terms like “illegal aliens” — across [US] media, from the far right to the left”.<sup>3</sup> Professional journalists however have a choice as how to handle denigrating speech:

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.mediaecosystems.org/explorations/study-how-major-us-news-sources-cover-immigration>

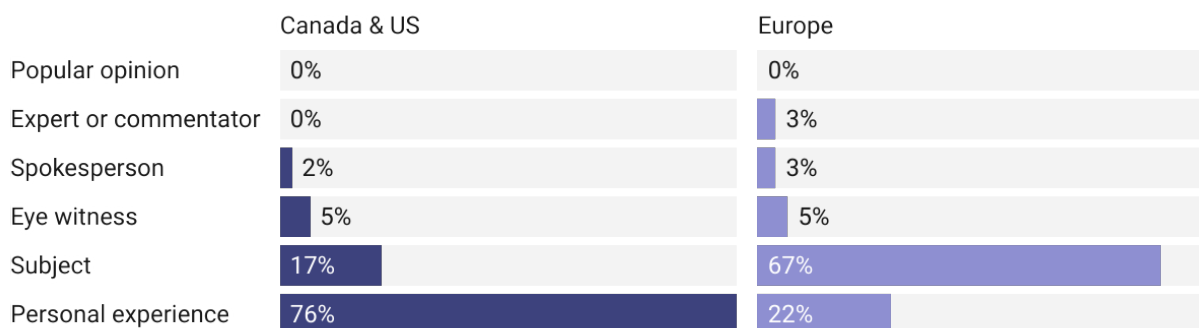
“ [...] they can normalize it, adopting it as part of their official or unofficial style; they can distance themselves from it, keeping it within quotes; or they can gatekeep it, choosing not to showcase it, even within quotes.”<sup>4</sup>

Language matters. Words matter, since they are the basis for building positive or harmful narratives around migrants, immigrants, and refugees. Nativist narratives promote prejudices and tend to incite violence against groups of people.

### 3.1 Functions of migrants & refugees in migration news

The roles that people play in the news inform the general public’s perception of them and the weight accorded to their opinions. Migrant and refugee voices are peripheral in stories about these populations. In the first instance, these voices are completely absent in almost one half of migration stories. In the second instance, where they are present, three out of four asylum seekers, migrants and refugees are heard as persons speaking based on personal experience. (Figure 3) They are completely absent as experts across all news formats, unlike in European news where there is a small but important proportion present as persons providing opinion based on specialist knowledge or expertise.

#### Regional Comparison. Functions of Migrants, Asylum Seekers and Refugees in Migration News



Created with Datawrapper

Figure 3

Across both regions, more or less similar proportions of refugee or migrant voices are in the capacity of spokesperson speaking on behalf of groups and 5% as eyewitness account givers.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

### *3.2 Age of migrants and refugees in migration news*

Age was not specified for 53% of the subjects and sources identified as migrants or refugees. Of those whose age was mentioned, 41% and 36% were in the 19-34 and 50-64 age categories respectively.

During the time of President Trump in the US, there was an overwhelming number of stories about migrant children being separated from their parents. Separation was often used as a deterrence to migration. In 2020, when President Biden was elected, there was a great number of news stories about unaccompanied children who crossed the US-Mexico border to escape poverty and violence in their home countries in South America.

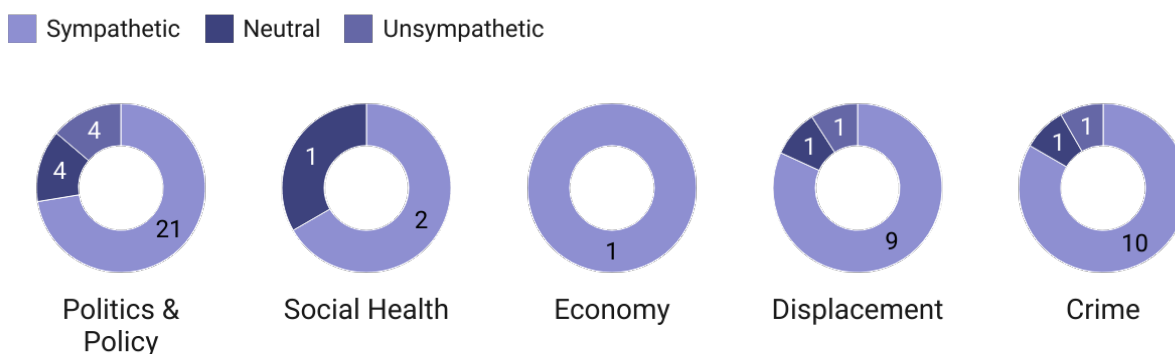
In contrast, the recent monitoring shows significant news coverage of young adults and middle-aged persons.

## 4. News Quality

Further to the extent of diversity of voices in the stories, the quality of reporting may also be measured by the choice of terminology, the tone and angle of the story. The monitors coded 77% of the articles as carrying a “sympathetic” tone and 30% as clearly challenging negative stereotypes about migration, migrants, and refugees. The European study found a comparable 35% as actively challenging such stereotypes but only 33% of stories as “sympathetic”.

Since media shape the migrant narrative, it is heartening to find that 77% of the articles show a sympathetic tone, though only a minority of articles challenges the negative stereotypes. (Figure 4 and Figure 5) A sympathetic tone in the coverage of migrants and refugees paves way to a positive and humane narrative. But to dismantle the negative narrative against the migrant and refugee, something more is needed. A consistent challenging of negative stereotypes as well as a robust human-rights approach in the news coverage. These will help address the hate speech and xenophobia that feed into the deeply entrenched negative narrative.

### Tone in Migration News in Canada and the US



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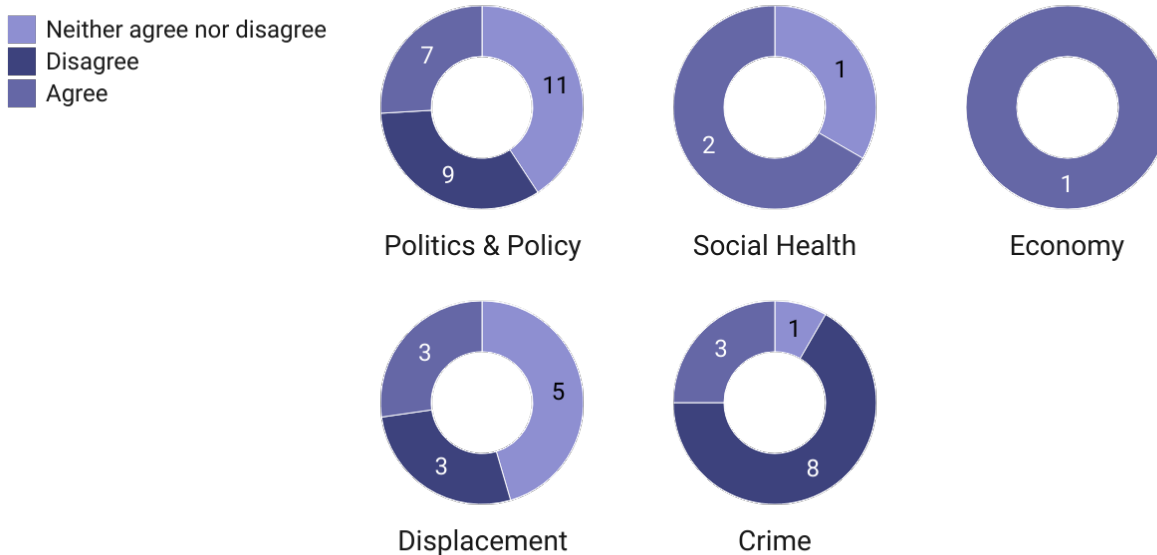
Figure 4

In addition to a rise in denigrating speech in American migration news between 2014 to 2018, the Media Ecosystems Analysis Group found “a sharp increase in citation of three extreme anti-immigration think tanks. [...] these organizations [were] rarely cited with the context necessary to acknowledge that their views are extreme.”<sup>5</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Media Ecosystems Analysis Group Study: How Major US News Sources Cover Immigration (2019)  
<https://www.mediaecosystems.org/explorations/study-how-major-us-news-sources-cover-immigration>



## This story clearly challenges negative stereotypes about refugees and migrants



Created with Datawrapper

Figure 5

In four key news outlets, we found a significant rise in absolute use of denigrating speech, though denigrating speech actually shrinks in percentage terms — that's because there is such a huge growth in immigration coverage overall. This absolute rise in denigrating speech is accompanied by a growth of the use of these terms in quotes — we see lots of evidence that news organizations are usually using these terms either in "scare quotes" or when they are quoting a public figure.

<https://www.mediaecosystems.org/explorations/study-how-major-us-news-sources-cover-immigration>

A key positive finding is the voice of the migrants; while less than one half of the stories monitored contained a migrant as a subject or source, those stories that featured migrants created room for their voices to be heard. 70% of migrants are quoted directly. (Table 2) Their voice matters.

Non-migrant news sources tend to activists, workers in Civil Society and NGOs (24%) or government officials (22%). Both government and the non-government leaders play a key role, be it resettlement and integration of the refugees or migrants.

Table 2. Key findings

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Detail</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Scope of Story	Local	5%
	National	25%
	Sub-Regional & Regional	14%
	Foreign, International	55%
% of stories making reference to human rights law	Digital (News websites & news twitter)	36%
	Print newspapers	9%
% of migrants quoted directly		70%
Religion of people in the news stories identified as refugees/migrants	Not mentioned	89%
	Muslim	9%
	Atheist /no religious affiliation	2%
	Other	
Top three stated occupations of people in the news stories who are not refugees/migrants	Government, politician, minister, spokesperson, etc.	22%
	Activist or worker in civil society org., NGO, trade union	24%
	Government employee, public servant, diplomat, etc.	9%
Top four stated occupations of people identified as refugees/migrants	Government, politician, minister, spokesperson, etc.	2%
	Activist or worker in civil society org., NGO, trade union	2%
	Academic expert, lecturer, teacher	19%
	Student	
	Other	11%
Refugees/migrants in the news stories	Not applicable	35%
	Non-domestic sexual violence, rape, assault, etc.	2%

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Detail</i>	<i>Percent</i>
identified as victims/survivors	An accident or natural disaster	2%
	Other non-domestic violence, crime, robbery, etc.	9%
	Human-induced disaster, war ,state violence	28%
	Violence or discrimination based on nationality, race, ethnicity	9%
	Domestic violence, rape, murder, etc.	2%
	Difficult economic situation, poverty	13%
Age of people in the news stories referred to as migrants/refugees	Not specified	53%
	<18	4%
	19-34	19%
	35-49	4%
	50-64	17%
	65>	2%

## 5. Case Studies

### Case study 1

*Analysis by Glory Dharmaraj*

Title: **With appointment in hand, hundreds of people wait at Orlando, ICE office. Some have waited for four days**

Outlet: [www.orlandosentinel.com](http://www.orlandosentinel.com)

Reporters: Adriana Terán H and Jennifer A. Marcial Ocasio

Date published: May 25, 2022

The same story had been published on May 1 in *El Sentinel de Orlando*, a weekly Spanish-language newspaper printed by Tribune Publishing in Orlando, Florida. Known as a “sister paper” to the *Orlando Sentinel*, *El Sentinel de Orlando*, it caters to the Hispanic communities in Central Florida.

Written by two Hispanic reporters, Adriana Terán H and Jennifer A. Marcial Ocasio, this story is about the backlog of cases due to Covid-19 in the office of the Immigration and Custom Enforcement Service in Orlando (ICE), Florida. The reporters make distinctions among the categories of those waiting in line. Some wait for “applying or renewing green cards,” some to become a “permanent resident,” and others for handling other residency issues such as Temporary Protected Status (TPS) or Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), or simply to provide information in order to avoid being deported. The story, in short, is about people on several pathways of migration, some on regular and some on irregular pathways. For example, Sandra’s niece has “entered the border illegally” earlier in May. She was there waiting in the line for four days with a “confirmed appointment” and sleeping in the open. Another migrant, Ibrahim, has been there two days prior to his appointment. Rafael Reyes has been in the US for 33 years and is waiting in the line for the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to process his residency application.

Whether the migrants took regular or irregular migration pathways, the story communicates that they are now law abiding and resorting to legal processing of their respective applications.

Both female and male subjects of the story are quoted. There are direct references to the group of about 200 consisting of the elderly, pregnant women, and children. A non-profit organization run by and for the Hispanic community has made it possible to distribute umbrellas, water, food, and toys for the children by the mainly Hispanic host community.

A story that affirms the humanity of every subject in the story, it captures the political as well as civil society engagement in a group of people, mainly Hispanic migrants, as right-bearers. Neither the reporters nor the subjects in the story mention anything harsh about the situation of the elderly, pregnant women, and small children being made to stand in the hot sun for days. Is it due to “fear of reprisals,” already mentioned by one of the subjects (Ibrahim) in another context in the story? The letter of US Representatives Darren Soto and Stephanie

Murphy to the US Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas and the Acting Director of US ICE, Tae D. Johnson lifts up the concern in a courteous tone. The only word that describes the callousness of the ICE office comes from Darren Soto in his twitter immediately after his letter: “Our immigrant families deserve more respect than this **inhumane treatment...**” This is not quoted in the story.

Overall, it is a story from an alternative media (Spanish newspaper) that creates awareness of one’s own people caught up in the bureaucratic immigration process. It is a story with a basic concern of migration as a human process and maintains the dignity and humanity of every subject in the story. Through spatial and visual photographic images, the story creates awareness and a mindful approach to reporting migrant news. Migrants, as subjects, appear mainly due to their “personal experiences.” These experiences are part of what can be called a diasporic hermeneutics. That is, migrant experiences as part of a theory of interpretation.

At the surface level, what the story evokes is a call for immediate attention to those who wait in a long line for processing their applications. An implementation of migration policy at the local level. At a deeper level, how the US *policy* treats different migrants such as labor migrants, information knowledge-based migrants, and other highly skilled migrants has something to do with governance.

## Case study 2

*Analysis by Bonnie Thompson*

Title: **Afghan evacuees are still stranded in the UAE after a string of ‘broken promises’**

Outlet: Huffington Post

Date: May 20, 2022

The author strategically placed a warlord picture/video at the top of the article to give the reader context and continues to inform the reader of the current refugee location in UAE. The US’s relationship with the refugees frames the frustration of promises not kept and sets the stage for sharing the resilience of the refugees in the face of limited support by hosts and the US slowness to honoring their promise. Five pictures show the Afghan refugees as children, parents, activists, communities, and teachers. Overall, a balanced article.

Those who have a clear path to the U.S. face a slow processing time, while thousands of others have no idea where they'll end up.



By Hamed Ahmadi

May 20, 2022, 03:06 PM EDT



### Case study 3

*Analysis by Kristine Greenaway*



**Image: Toronto Star, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons**

**Title: Shameful step toward erasure of women**

Reporter: Rosie Dimanno

Date published: May 24, 2022

The story clearly illustrates the reasons that the subject of the story, a woman and her family left Afghanistan and presents them as justifiable. She quotes a female politician from Afghanistan as saying, "If I had stayed, I think the Taliban would have killed me." The woman being profiled invited the journalist to her home so appears to be willing to go on record with her story. The story details how the situation of women and girls in Afghanistan changed dramatically as soon as the Taliban took power and gives examples of how their rights and freedoms have been suppressed. The reporting is opinion-driven, sympathetic, angry, and despairing. It presents an urgent understanding of the situation that is causing women to flee Afghanistan. The journalist provides non-stereotyped descriptions.

### Case study 4

*Analysis by Kristine Greenaway*

**Title: After 25 years here, he faces deportation**

Reporter: Nicholas Keung

Date published: May 26, 2022

This story appears in a regular column on "Immigration." It is a study of a man awaiting deportation after having had his refugee claim refused. He was seeking political asylum in Canada. The man who is the subject of the story and his son appear to have been willing to speak with the journalist. The reporting is dispassionate and the claimant and the actions of officials seeking to deport him are reported factually. The story presents the chronology of the man's stay in Canada with no commentary. The only commentary and passion are in what his son is quoted as saying when commenting on his father's situation such as: "It just doesn't make any sense to us." The reporting appears to be accurate and is objective and balanced. The journalist does not make any comment on whether the man's asylum claim is justified nor does he comment on the validity of the actions by immigration officials. The journalist provides non-stereotyped coverage.

### Case study 5

*Analysis by Daniel Benson*

Title: **Dutch Town that hid Jews in Holocaust opens its doors to Ukrainian Refugees**

Outlet: Globe and Mail newspaper

Date published: May 24, 2022

The story is centered on the people and town (Nieuwlande, Netherlands) that are welcoming refugees from Ukraine who are fleeing the current war. While a family is profiled and quoted briefly in a positive manner, the overwhelming thrust of the story is the town and the town's people who are making space for the refugees. A large portion of the text is devoted to the town's history in providing asylum for Jews fleeing the Holocaust. A comparison is noted both by the writer and one of the townspeople between the treatment and accommodation of the Ukrainian refugees and Syrian refugees from a few years ago, suggesting a critique of the underlying racism, but this is not explicit. The few, short quotes by the refugees themselves (a mother and son), are thin, and limited to phrases of gratitude and appreciation, almost reinforcing a framework of charity rather than personhood, and seems to avoid real or nuanced understanding of refugee/migrant lives. Clearly, in this story, even though the context is refugee and migrant people, the focus is on those who are welcoming them.

### Case study 6

*Analysis by Daniel Benson*

Title: **Stateless Roma refugees segregated in Moldovan refugee centre**

Outlet: Globe and Mail newspaper

Date published: May 26, 2022

The article is bookended with quotes from two Roma-Ukrainian refugees who are in Moldova: the first is a grandmother and her family, the second is a mother with her family. The story highlights the segregation and prejudice that Roma individuals are experiencing in terms of housing, services, support, and human rights. The tone is sympathetic to the refugees, with numerous quotes from the two matriarchs and several of their children. The quotes are poignant and seem to be aimed at garnering sympathy rather than stirring righteous anger. Numerous voices from NGOs are quoted in support of the Roma and critical of the system; while a few voices from government either justify the segregation or deny it is based on anything other than practicalities (nothing to see here!). The overall tone, while supportive of the refugees and critical of the system barriers they face, places them as powerless victims without agency or voice.



### Case study 7

*Analysis by Daniel Benson*

Title: **UN refugee agency voices concern over Canada's immigration backlog**

Outlet: Globe and Mail newspaper

Date published: May 26, 2022

This is essentially a report on statements made by Gillian Triggs, assistant high commissioner for the UNHCR, critical of Canada's slow response and inadequate immigration processes. There is some concern expressed for Afghan women, and Ukrainians in general. There are no specific references to individuals or groups, and no voices from those groups. This places the refugee and migrant issue as a political and administrative football, with little context of the people directly impacted by the dropping of that football.

### Case study 8

*Analysis by Terri Miller*

Title: **Tears of joy: Emotional welcome at Winnipeg airport first step toward new lives for refugees**

Outlet: [www.globalnews.ca](http://www.globalnews.ca)

Date published: May 25, 2022

The story portrays the arriving Ukrainian refugees positively but misses opportunities to promote a more nuanced understanding of refugees and, importantly, the integration journey. Readers could get the impression from the only person quoted directly, who was speaking in conjunction with his roles with the Association of Manitoba Municipalities and the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, that everything will be straightforward now that the refugees have arrived in Canada. He speaks of them being able to "relax, unwind ... now that a major part of the refugee experience is behind them." He does mention integration processes like getting registered for health insurance and finding housing, however, this is in reference to support that will be provided.

The story emphasizes how smoothly the arrival went, which could lead to the impression that all is now good and well. It is a missed opportunity to raise awareness about:

- a) the longer-term nature of integration (which, for example, will involve the newcomers dealing with the traumatic experiences they have experienced and that the person quoted mentions) and
- b) the role that the receiving communities play in successful integration (i.e., integration as a two-way process between newcomers and new communities).

It is a missed opportunity to hear from the new arrivals: what is their experience, what hopes and fears did they have as they stepped off the plane in Winnipeg? Their perspective is absent; their experience is told through the spokesperson for the welcoming organization.

The information given about the arriving refugees could risk underlining a narrative of “worthy” versus “unworthy.”

## 6. Directions for future action

WACC North America has undertaken migrant monitoring as an ongoing project. Plans are underway for using the results for educational and advocacy initiatives. The results will be shared with denominational and inter-faith groups that have taken on an advocacy role in addressing migration from a bottom-up approach and working for just and humane policies as well as opening hearts and homes for hospitality of the migrant and refugee in our midst.

For raising awareness of the migrant plight, before December 18, the annual International Migrant Day, WACC-North America will be reaching out to faith-based organizations, Civil-Rights organizations, and media outlets to promote the rights and wellbeing of the migrant siblings by capturing their voices, agency, and stories.

## References

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- Herman, B., & Salas, C. (2009). Gender and Migration in North America: A Review of Research. *The Canadian Journal of Sociology*.
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# Annexes

## Annex 1. Sample coding guide



## Web News Coding Guide

### 1) Webpage layer:

1. On homepage
2. One click from homepage
3. Two clicks from home page
4. Three clicks from homepage
5. Four or more clicks from homepage

### 2) Topic:

Politics and Policy	
1	National legislation (migrant, asylum seekers, refugees)
2	State / Province legislation
3	Local legislation
4	Returns and deportations
5	Sanctuary
6	Humanitarian efforts (food, water, legal aid, etc.)
7	Border issues (fences, closed borders, etc.)
8	Border detention
9	Integration / assimilation
10	Relocation / resettlement / asylum
11	Other stories on politics and policy (Please detail in comments section)
Social and Health	
12	Health
13	Education
14	Living conditions
15	Children on the move
16	Religion
17	Popular opinion
18	Other stories on social and health (Please detail in comments section)
Economy	

19	Economic impact on refugees
20	Poverty, social welfare
21	Employment
22	Other stories on economy (Please detail in comments section)
Displacement	
23	Displacement from wars, conflicts
24	Displacement due to persecution, discrimination
25	Displacement due to economic factors
26	Displacement due to climate change, disaster
27	Other stories on displacement (Please detail in comments section)
Crime	
28	Crime, terrorism by migrants
29	Smuggling, trafficking (coyotes), danger of passage
30	Attacks, crime, discrimination against migrants
31	Sexual violence against migrants
32	Child abuse, violence against migrant children
33	Other stories on crime (Please detail in comments section)
Other	
34	Other (try to avoid, detail in comments section if necessary)

**3) Story Scope:**

1. US National
2. US State / Region
3. US Local
4. Canada National
5. Canada Province / Region
6. Canada Local
7. International

**4) References to migration law or human rights legislation or policy:**

1. Yes
2. No

**5) If yes to #4, what is the scope of the legislation or policy?**

1. US National
2. US State / Region
3. US Local
4. Canada National
5. Canada Province / Region
6. Canada Local
7. International

Column 6 is for the reporter or journalist. For each story, code each journalist/reporter who(s)...

- (i) wrote the story and whose name appears
- (ii) is visible in video clips
- (iii) voice is heard in audio clips

Code each journalist/reporter in a separate row. Do not code:

- (i) Unnamed journalists (e.g. 'Staff reporter', 'Our correspondent')
- (ii) News agencies

**6) Gender of Reporter:**

- 1. Female
- 2. Male
- 3. Other (transgender, etc.)
- 4. Do not know

## **People in the Story**

Columns 7 to 20 are for people in the news.

**Code:**

- (i) any person whom the story is about even if they are not interviewed or quoted
- (ii) Each person who is interviewed
- (iii) Each person in the story who is quoted, either directly or indirectly. Code only individual people

Code each person on a separate row. Use as many rows as needed.

**Do not code:**

- (i) Groups (e.g. a group of nurses, a group of soldiers)
- (ii) Organizations, companies, collectivities (e.g. political parties)
- (iii) Characters in novels or movies (unless the story is about them)
- (iv) Deceased historical figures (unless the story is about them)
- (v) Interpreters (Code the person being interviewed as if they spoke without an interpreter)

**7) Gender:**

- 1. Female
- 2. Male
- 3. Other (transgender, etc.)
- 4. Do not know

**8) Age:**

- 0. Do not know
- 1. 12 and under
- 2. 13-17
- 3. 18-34
- 4. 35-49
- 5. 50-64
- 6. 65+=6

IF YOU REPLIED 1. OR 2. TO THIS QUESTION, GO TO QUESTION 9). IF YOU REPLIED 3. 4. 5. OR 6. GO TO QUESTION 10)



**9) If the age is below 18, the person is identified as an...?**

1. Unaccompanied minor
2. Accompanied minor
3. Do not know/not specified

**10) Is the person identified as a...?**

1. Migrant Refugee
2. Asylum seeker
3. Illegal Migrant
4. Two or more of the above
5. None of the above

**11) The person is identified as coming from:**

1.	Mexico	9.	Central and Southern Africa (DR Congo, Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, South Africa, etc.)
2.	Central America (Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama)	10.	Central Asia (Afghanistan, Pakistan, Georgia, etc.)
3.	South America (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela)	11.	Rest of Asia (Bangladesh, India, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, China, etc.)
4.	Eastern Europe (Ukraine, Turkey, Russia, Kosovo, Albania, Serbia, etc.)	12.	Oceania (Australia, New Zealand, etc.)
5.	Middle East (Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, Palestine, Yemen, etc.)	13.	North America
6.	North Africa (Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, Libya, Algeria, etc.)	14.	Central, Southern and Western Europe (Germany, UK, Italy, etc.)
7.	Eastern Africa (Somalia, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan, etc.)	15.	Not specified / Other
8.	Western Africa (Gambia, Mali, Nigeria, Guinea, Senegal, Ghana, Niger, Ivory Coast, etc.)		

Please specify the country in the comments section of the coding sheet.

**12) Is the person mentioned alive or dead?**

1. Alive
2. Dead
3. Do not know

**13) Religion:**

1. Atheist or no religious affiliation
2. Buddhist

3. Christian
4. Hindu
5. Jewish
6. Muslim
7. Other
8. Not mentioned

**14) Is the person described in terms of a family relationship** (e.g. wife, husband, mother, son, aunt, daughter, uncle, etc.)?

1. Yes
2. No

**15) Occupation or position:** See table.

0.	Not stated	7.	Unskilled laborer
1.	Worker in an inter-governmental / international organization	8.	Academic expert, lecturer, teacher
2.	Government, politician, minister, spokesperson, etc.	9.	Student
3.	Activist or worker in civil society org., NGO, trade union	10.	Health professional, social worker, childcare worker
4.	Government employee, public servant, diplomat, etc.	11.	Religious figure (priest, pastor, monk, rabbi, mullah, nun, etc.)
5.	Lawyer, judge, magistrate, legal advocate, etc.	12.	Other (only as last resort & explain in comments)
6.	Police, military, para-military, militia, fire officer		

**16) Function in the news story:** See table.

0.	0. Do not know	4.	Spokesperson
1.	Personal experience	5.	Popular opinion
2.	Biographical / About the subject	6.	Expert or commentator
3.	Eyewitness	7.	Other

**17) The story identifies the person as someone who has experienced:** See table.

0.	Not applicable	7.	Violence or discrimination based on nationality, race, ethnicity
1.	Non-domestic sexual violence, rape, assault, etc.	8.	Domestic violence, rape, murder, etc.
2.	An accident or natural disaster	9.	Discrimination based on gender, age, ability, etc.
3.	Other non-domestic violence, crime, robbery, etc.	10.	Difficult economic situation, poverty
4.	Human-induced disaster, war 8.	11.	Other (specify in 'comments')
5.	Violence or discrimination based on religion (eg. FGM, Islamophobia, etc.)		
6.	Terrorism		

**18) The story identifies the person as a perpetrator of:** See table.

0.	Not applicable	5.	Perpetrator of violence or discrimination based on nationality, race, ethnicity
1.	Perpetrator of non-domestic violence, crime, robbery, etc.	6.	Perpetrator of domestic violence, rape, sexual assault, etc.
2.	Perpetrator of acts of war, crimes against humanity, state violence, etc.	7.	Perpetrator of discrimination based on gender, age, ability, etc.
3.	Perpetrator of violence or discrimination based on religion (FGM, Islamophobia, etc.)	8.	Other Perpetrator (specify in 'comments')
4.	Perpetrator of acts of terrorism 8.		

**19) Is the person directly quoted:**

1. Yes
2. No

**20) Is there a photograph of the person in the story:**

1. Yes
2. No
3. Do not know

## **Analysis**

**21) Copy and paste the URL of the story in this column.** Describe any photographs, images, other multimedia features included in the story. Note down the conclusions you draw from the images, audio and video.

**22) Is the story about an individual refugee/migrant or group of refugees/migrants?:**

1. Individual
2. Group
3. Do not know/Not specified

**23) What is the tone of the story with regard to migrants, refugees?:**

1. Sympathetic
2. Unsympathetic
3. Neutral
4. Do not know, cannot decide

**24) This story clearly challenges negative stereotypes about migrants/refugees:**

1. Agree
2. Disagree
3. Neither agree nor disagree
4. Do not know

**25) This story clearly promotes negative stereotypes about migrants/refugees:**

1. Agree
2. Disagree
3. Neither agree nor disagree
4. Do not know

**26) Does this story warrant further analysis:**

1. Yes\*
2. No

*\*If you select '1' (Yes), you will need to send a photograph or link of the story to the project coordinator.*

**SKIP ONE ROW TO CODE THE NEXT ARTICLE.**

### **The Qualitative Analysis**

Write your analysis for the selected stories on a separate sheet. Try as much as possible to find:

- (i) a story which illustrates journalism that CLEARLY challenges negative stereotypes about refugees/migrants
- (ii) a story which illustrates journalism that entrenches negative stereotypes about refugees/migrants
- (iii) a story that illustrates a missed opportunity to create better understanding about and/or response to refugees/migrants

What words, descriptors or terminology are used to describe refugees/migrants in the story? How would you describe the tone of the story with regard to refugees/migrants? Is the reporting sensitive, fair, accurate, objective and balanced? Does the reporting style encourage real and nuanced understanding of refugee/migrant lives, their stories, hopes and aspirations? Or do the journalistic choices of vocabulary, style or story angle fuel stigma, discrimination or hostility towards refugees/migrants? Would you say the journalist's choices uphold media professional ethics such as prescriptions for non-racist, non-sexist, nondiscriminatory and non-stereotyped coverage? Do the images used identify vulnerable individuals such as children or put to risk people fearing persecution?

These questions are not exhaustive but a general guide on the issues to raise in your analysis.

## Annex 2. Resource. Glossary of terms

Source: [https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/iml\\_34\\_glossary.pdf](https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/iml_34_glossary.pdf)

1. Alien: An individual who does not have the nationality of the State in whose territory that individual is present.
2. Amnesty: Refer to regularization
3. Applicant: In the migration context, a person who formally requests administrative or judicial action, such as the granting of a visa, work permit or refugee status.
4. Armed conflict: A conflict in which there is a resort to armed force between States or protracted armed violence between governmental authorities and organized armed groups or between such groups within a State.
5. Assisted migration: The movement of migrants carried out with the assistance of governments or international organizations, as opposed to spontaneous, unaided migration.
6. Asylum: The grant, by a State, of protection on its territory to persons outside their country of nationality or habitual residence, who are fleeing persecution or serious harm or for other reasons. Asylum encompasses a variety of elements, including nonrefoulement, permission to remain on the territory of the asylum country, humane standards of treatment and eventually a durable solution.
7. Asylum seeker: An individual who is seeking international protection. In countries with individualized procedures, an asylum seeker is someone whose claim has not yet been finally decided on by the country in which he or she has submitted it. Not every asylum seeker will ultimately be recognized as a refugee, but every recognized refugee is initially an asylum seeker.
8. Border control: Border checks and border surveillance activities conducted at the physical borders – air (airports), sea (sea, lake, river ports) and land borders (land, railway) – of the State aimed at regulating the entry (or the intention to enter) and departure of persons, animals and goods to and from the State's territory, in exercise of its sovereignty.
9. Border control point/crossing point: A place authorized by the competent authorities to cross the border (for persons or goods), or a place officially designated by the legal framework of the State as an official entry to / exit from the State.
10. Borders (international): Politically defined boundaries separating territory or maritime zones between political entities and the areas where political entities exercise border governance measures on their territory or extraterritorially. Such areas include border crossing points (airports, land border crossing points, ports), immigration and transit zones, the “no-man’s land” between crossing points of neighboring countries, as well as embassies and consulates (insofar as visa issuance is concerned).
11. Child: Every human being below the age of eighteen years unless, under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier.
12. Child trafficking: The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation.
13. Circular migration: A form of migration in which people repeatedly move back and forth between two or more countries
14. Citizen: Refer to national
15. Citizenship: Refer to nationality
16. Clandestine migration: Refer to irregular migration
17. Climate migration: The movement of a person or groups of persons who, predominantly for reasons of sudden or progressive change in the environment due to climate change, are obliged

- to leave their habitual place of residence, or choose to do so, either temporarily or permanently, within a State or across an international border.
18. Climate/environmental refugee: Refer to environmental migrant
  19. Cross-border displacement: The movements of persons who have been forced or obliged to leave their homes or places of habitual residence and move across international borders.
  20. Dependent: In the migration context, any person who is granted entry into a State for the purpose of family reunification on the basis of being supported by a “sponsor” with whom the individual has a proven family relationship.
  21. Deportation: In the migration context, see also expulsion. In international humanitarian law, deportation refers to the forced displacement of civilians which is prohibited in times of occupation and non-international armed conflict except when required for their security or imperative military reasons.
  22. Deportation order: An administrative act or a judicial decision ordering the removal or deportation of a non-national.
  23. Detention (migration): The deprivation of liberty for migration-related reasons.
  24. Detention center (migration): A specialized facility used for the detention of migrants with the primary purpose of facilitating administrative measures such as identification, processing of a claim or enforcing a removal order.
  25. Diaspora: Migrants or descendants of migrants whose identity and sense of belonging, either real or symbolic, have been shaped by their migration experience and background. They maintain links with their homelands, and to each other, based on a shared sense of history, identity, or mutual experiences in the destination country.
  26. Diplomatic protection: The invocation by a State, through diplomatic action or other means of peaceful settlement, of the responsibility of another State for an injury caused by an internationally wrongful act of that State to a natural or legal person that is a national of the former State with a view to the implementation of such responsibility.
  27. Disaster: A serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society at any scale due to hazardous events interacting with conditions of exposure, vulnerability and capacity, leading to one or more of the following: human, material, economic and environmental losses and impacts.
  28. Disaster displacement: The movement of persons who have been forced or obliged to leave their homes or places of habitual residence as a result of a disaster or in order to avoid the impact of an immediate and foreseeable natural hazard.
  29. Discrimination: Any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference which is based on any ground such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status, and which has the purpose or effect of nullifying or impairing the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by all persons, on an equal footing, of all rights and freedoms.
  30. Disengaged combatant: A person who has assumed any of the responsibilities or carried out any of the activities of a ‘combatant’, and has laid down or surrendered his/her arms with a view to separating from the armed group.
  31. Displaced persons: Persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, either across an international border or within a State (internally displaced person or IDP), in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters.
  32. Displacement: The movement of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters.

33. Documented migrant: A migrant authorized to enter and to stay pursuant to the law of that State or to international agreements to which that State is a party and who is in possession of documents necessary to prove his or her regular status in the country. Also *documented migrant worker, migrant, regular migration, undocumented migrant*.
34. Durable solution (refugees): Any means by which the situation of refugees can be satisfactorily and permanently resolved to enable them to lead normal lives.
35. Economic migrant: While not a category in international law, the term is sometimes used to refer to any person who is moving or has moved across an international border or within a State, solely or primarily motivated by economic opportunities.
36. Emigrant: From the perspective of the country of departure, a person who moves from his or her country of nationality or usual residence to another country, so that the country of destination effectively becomes his or her new country of usual residence.
37. Environmental migrant: A person or group(s) of persons who, predominantly for reasons of sudden or progressive changes in the environment that adversely affect their lives or living conditions, are forced to leave their places of habitual residence, or choose to do so, either temporarily or permanently, and who move within or outside their country of origin or habitual residence.
38. Expatriate: A person who voluntarily renounces his or her nationality.
39. Exploitation: The act of taking advantage of something or someone, in particular the act of taking unjust advantage of another for one's own benefit.
40. Expulsion: A formal act or conduct attributable to a State by which a nonnational is compelled to leave the territory of that State. Also *deportation, expulsion order, forced return, refoulement, removal*
41. Extradition: The process whereby under treaty or upon the basis of reciprocity one State surrenders to another State at its request a person accused or convicted of a criminal offence committed against the laws of the requesting state, such requesting state being competent to try the offender or to apply the sentence or detention order.
42. Facilitated migration: Regular migration that has been encouraged or supported by State policies and practices or by the direct assistance of international organizations to make the act of migration and residence easier, more transparent and more convenient.
43. Forced marriage: Marriage that is entered into without the free and full consent of one or both the intending spouses.
44. Forced migration: A migratory movement which, although the drivers can be diverse, involves force, compulsion, or coercion.
45. Forced return: The act of returning an individual, against his or her will, to the country of origin, transit or to a third country that agrees to receive the person, generally carried out on the basis of an administrative or judicial act or decision.
46. Foreign worker: Refer to migrant worker
47. Foreigner: A person in a State of which he is not a citizen or national.
48. Freedom of movement (right to): In human rights law, a human right comprising three basic elements: freedom of movement within the territory of a country and to choose one's residence, the right to leave any country and the right to return to one's own country. Source: Adapted from Universal Declaration of Human Rights (adopted 10 December 1948) UNGA Res 217(A), Art. 13. In the context of free movement agreements, the freedom of entry and residence into another State that is a party to the agreement.
49. Gender: The socially constructed roles and relationships, personality traits, attitudes, behaviors, values, relative power and influence that society ascribes to males and females on a differential



- basis. Gender is relational and refers not simply to women or men, but to the relationship between them.
50. Gender-based violence (GBV): An umbrella term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person's will and is based on socially ascribed (i.e. gender) differences between males and females. It includes acts that inflict physical, sexual or mental harm or suffering, threats of such acts, coercion, and denial of resources, opportunities or services, forced marriage and other deprivations of liberty. These acts can occur in public or in private.
  51. Genocide: Any of the following acts committed with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group, such as: killing members of the group; causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part; imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group; forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.
  52. Guest worker: Generally considered to be a migrant worker recruited for a restricted time of residence and employment.
  53. Human rights: Universal legal guarantees protecting individuals and groups against actions and omissions that interfere with fundamental freedoms, entitlements and human dignity.
  54. Humanitarian action: Assistance, protection and advocacy in response to humanitarian needs resulting from natural hazards, armed conflict or other causes, or emergency response preparations. It aims to save lives and reduce suffering in the short term, and in such a way as to preserve people's dignity and open the way to recovery and durable solutions to displacement.
  55. Humanitarian admission: A process offering a pathway for admission into a country on a temporary or permanent basis to persons or groups of persons with protection needs. Humanitarian admission is often an expedited process used for persons in need of protection, including but not limited to refugees, persons with urgent protection needs, migrants in vulnerable situations, extended family members, or persons in need of medical assistance and care.
  56. Illegal alien: Refer to *irregular migrant and undocumented migrant*
  57. Illegal migrant: Refer to *irregular migrant and undocumented migrant*
  58. Immigrant: From the perspective of the country of arrival, a person who moves into a country other than that of his or her nationality or usual residence, so that the country of destination effectively becomes his or her new country of usual residence.
  59. Immigration: From the perspective of the country of arrival, the act of moving into a country other than one's country of nationality or usual residence, so that the country of destination effectively becomes his or her new country of usual residence.
  60. Immigration quota: A quantitative limit on the number of immigrants admitted into a State during a given period of time overall or under certain visa categories.
  61. Immigration status: The status of a migrant under the immigration law of the country of destination.
  62. Indigenous people: People in independent countries who are regarded as indigenous on account of their descent from the populations which inhabited the country, or a geographical region to which the country belongs, at the time of conquest or colonization or the establishment of present State boundaries and who, irrespective of their legal status, retain some or all of their own social, economic, cultural and political institutions.
  63. Internal migrant: Any person who is moving or has moved within a State for the purpose of establishing a new temporary or permanent residence or because of displacement. See also *internally displaced persons, internal migration, migrant*

64. Internally displaced persons (IDPs): Persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border.
65. International migrant: Any person who is outside a State of which he or she is a citizen or national, or, in the case of a stateless person, his or her State of birth or habitual residence. The term includes migrants who intend to move permanently or temporarily, and those who move in a regular or documented manner as well as migrants in irregular situations.
66. International student: A person who has moved across an international border away from his or her habitual place of residence for the purpose of undertaking a program of study.
67. Irregular migration: Movement of persons that takes place outside the laws, regulations, or international agreements governing the entry into or exit from the State of origin, transit or destination. Also *irregular migrant, undocumented migrant*
68. Itinerant worker: A migrant worker who, having his or her habitual residence in one State, has to travel to another State or States for short periods, owing to the nature of his or her occupation.
69. Kidnapping: The crime of seizing and taking away a person by force or fraud, often with a demand for ransom.
70. Labor migration: Movement of persons from one State to another, or within their own country of residence, for the purpose of employment.
71. Legal entry: In the context of migration, the entry of a person into a country of which he or she does not have the nationality, in compliance with the legal requirements of the State. Also *lawful admission*
72. LGBTQI: An acronym for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex persons.
73. Members of the family: Persons married to a migrant or a national, or having with them a relationship that, according to applicable law, produces effects equivalent to marriage, as well as their dependent children or other dependent persons who are recognized as members of the family by applicable legislation or applicable bilateral or multilateral agreements between the States concerned, including when they are not nationals of the State.
74. Migrant: An umbrella term, not defined under international law, reflecting the common lay understanding of a person who moves away from his or her place of usual residence, whether within a country or across an international border, temporarily or permanently, and for a variety of reasons. The term includes a number of well-defined legal categories of people, such as migrant workers; persons whose particular types of movements are legally defined, such as smuggled migrants; as well as those whose status or means of movement are not specifically defined under international law, such as international students.
75. Migrant in an irregular situation: A person who moves or has moved across an international border and is not authorized to enter or to stay in a State pursuant to the law of that State and to international agreements to which that State is a party. Also *illegal alien, illegal migrant, irregular migrant, undocumented migrant*
76. Migrant in a regular situation: A person who moves or has moved across an international border and is authorized to enter or to stay in a State pursuant to the law of that State and to international agreements to which that State is a party. Also *documented migrant, documented migrant worker, migrant, regular migrant, regular migration*
77. Migrant worker: A person who is to be engaged, is engaged or has been engaged in a remunerated activity in a State of which he or she is not a national.
78. Migration: The movement of persons away from their place of usual residence, either across an international border or within a State.

- 79. Minor: See also *child*
- 80. Minority: A group numerically inferior to the rest of the population of a State and/or in a non-dominant position, whose members possess ethnic, religious or linguistic characteristics differing from those of the rest of the population and show, if only implicitly, a sense of solidarity, directed towards preserving their culture, traditions, religion or language.
- 81. National: A person having a legal bond with a State.
- 82. Nationality: The legal bond between an individual and a State.
- 83. Naturalization: Any mode of acquisition after birth of a nationality not previously held by the person that requires an application by this person or his or her legal agent as well as an act of granting nationality by a public authority. This definition does not include automatic acquisition that is not initiated by the individual concerned or his or her legal agent (even in cases where the individual has an option to decline this attribution of nationality) or acquisition of nationality based on a unilateral act by the target person (e.g. acquisition by declaration or option).
- 84. Nomad: Persons without a fixed place of usual residence who move from one site to another, usually according to well-established patterns of geographical mobility.
- 85. Organized crime: Usually refers to large-scale and complex criminal activities carried out by organized criminal groups and aimed at the establishment, supply and exploitation of illegal markets at the expense of society.
- 86. Overstay: To remain in a country beyond the period for which entry or stay was granted.
- 87. Passport: A document issued by the competent authority of a State, valid for international travels, which identifies the holder as a national of the issuing State and constitutes evidence of the holder's right to return to that State.
- 88. Pathways for migrants in vulnerable situations: Pathways for admission to countries of destination, building on existing national and regional practices for admission and stay of appropriate duration based on compassionate, humanitarian or other considerations for migrants compelled to leave their countries of origin, due to sudden-onset natural disasters and other precarious situations, such as by providing humanitarian visas, private sponsorships, access to education for children, and temporary work permits, while adaptation in or return to their country of origin is not possible. The term may also refer to other solutions for migrants compelled to leave their countries of origin due to slow-onset natural disasters, the adverse effects of climate change, and environmental degradation, such as desertification, land degradation, drought and sea level rise, including when based on devising planned relocation and visa options, in cases where adaptation in or return to their country of origin is not possible.
- 89. Permanent residence: The right, granted by the authorities of a State of destination to a non-national, to live therein on a permanent (unlimited or indefinite) basis. Note: Residence
- 90. Persecution: A threat to life or freedom on account of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership of a particular social group. Other serious violations of human rights for the same reasons also constitute persecution.
- 91. Political opinion: One of the grounds for persecution under the 1951 Refugee Convention implying that a person holds and/or is attributed an opinion that either has been expressed or imputed, and has come to the attention of the authorities. This ground is relevant even on the assumption that an opinion, although not yet expressed, will be expressed and will not be tolerated by the authorities when it is expressed.
- 92. Principal applicant: In the migration context, the person who applies for refugee or other immigration status and under whose name the application is made; also referred to as main or primary applicant.

93. Protection: All activities aimed at obtaining full respect for the rights of the individual in accordance with the letter and the spirit of the relevant bodies of law (i.e. Human Rights law, International Humanitarian Law, Refugee law).
94. Protracted displacement: A situation in which refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and/or other displaced persons have been unable to return to their habitual residence for three years or more, and where the process for finding durable solutions, such as repatriation, integration in host communities, settlement in third locations or other mobility opportunities, has stalled.
95. Psychosocial support: The term “psychosocial” denotes the inter-connection between psychological and social processes and the fact that each continually interacts with and influences the other. The composite term mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) is used to describe any type of local or outside support that aims to protect or promote psychosocial well-being and/or prevent or treat mental disorder.
96. Push-pull factors: A model categorizing the drivers of migration into push and pull factors, whereby push factors are those which drive people to leave their country and pull factors are those attracting them into the country of destination.
97. Qualified national: In the migration context, from the perspective of the country of origin, an emigrant with specific professional skills in demand in that country.
98. Quarantine: The restriction of activities and/or separation from others of suspect persons who are not ill or of suspect baggage, containers, conveyances or goods in such a manner as to prevent the possible spread of infection or contamination.
99. Quota: Refer to immigration quota
100. Race: One of the grounds for persecution for refugee status under the 1951 Refugee Convention, and a prohibited ground of discrimination under human rights law. Not being a scientifically grounded concept, race is generally understood in its widest sense to include all kinds of ethnic groups that are referred to as ‘races’ in common usage.
101. Refugee (per 1951 Convention): A person who, owing to a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it.
102. Regular migration: Migration that occurs in compliance with the laws of the country of origin, transit and destination.
103. Regularization: Any process or programme by which the authorities of a State allow non-nationals in an irregular situation to stay lawfully in the country, by granting them a regular status.
104. Relocation: In the context of humanitarian emergencies, relocations are to be considered as internal humanitarian evacuations and are understood as large-scale movements of civilians, who face an immediate threat to life in a conflict setting, to locations within the same country where they can be more effectively protected.
105. Resettlement (refugees): The transfer of refugees from the country in which they have sought protection to another State that has agreed to admit them – as refugees – with permanent residence status.
106. Residence: The act or fact of living in a given place for some time; the place where one actually lives as distinguished from a domicile. Residence usually means bodily presence as an inhabitant in a given place.
107. Seasonal migrant worker: A migrant worker whose work, or migration for employment is by its character dependent on seasonal conditions and is performed only during part of the year.

108. Separated children: Children, as defined in Article 1 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, who have been separated from both parents, or from their previous legal or customary primary caregiver, but not necessarily from other relatives. These may, therefore, include children accompanied by other adult family members.
109. Servitude: State of a person deprived of liberty and subservient to another forced to live on the other's property and with an impossibility of changing his status.
110. Sexual abuse: The actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions.
111. Sexual exploitation: Any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust, for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially, or politically from the sexual exploitation of another.
112. Sexual violence: Sexual violence is a form of gender-based violence and encompasses any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or acts to traffic, or otherwise directed against a person's sexuality using coercion, by any person regardless of their relationship to the victim, in any setting. Sexual violence takes multiple forms and includes rape, sexual abuse, forced pregnancy, forced sterilization, forced abortion, forced prostitution, trafficking, sexual enslavement, forced circumcision, castration and forced nudity.
113. Slavery: The status or condition of a person over whom any or all the powers attaching to the right of ownership are exercised.
114. Smuggled migrant: A migrant who is or has been the object of the crime of smuggling, regardless of whether the perpetrator is identified, apprehended, prosecuted or convicted.
115. Sponsor: In the migration context, a person or entity who undertakes a (legal, financial or personal) engagement, promise or pledge to support the entry and stay of a non-national into the State.
116. Stateless person: A person who is not considered as a national by any State under the operation of its law.
117. Stranded migrant: Migrants who are unable to return to their country of origin, cannot regularize their status in the country where they reside, and do not have access to legal migration opportunities that would enable them to move on to another State. The term may also refer to migrants who are stranded because of humanitarian or security reasons in the country of destination, transit or origin preventing them to return home while they are also unable to go elsewhere.
118. Temporary migration: Migration for a specific motivation and purpose with the intention to return to the country of origin or habitual residence after a limited period of time or to undertake an onward movement.
119. Torture: Any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person for such purposes as obtaining from him [or her] or a third person information or a confession, punishing him [or her] for an act he [or she] or a third person has committed or is suspected of having committed, or intimidating or coercing him [or her] or a third person, or for any reason based on discrimination of any kind, when such pain or suffering is inflicted by or at the instigation of or with the consent or acquiescence of a public official or other person acting in an official capacity. It does not include pain or suffering arising only from, inherent in or incidental to lawful sanctions.
120. Tourist: A person who does not reside in the country of arrival and is admitted to that country temporarily (under tourist visas if required) for purposes of leisure, recreation, holiday, visits to friends or relatives, health or medical treatment, or religious pilgrimage. A tourist must spend at least a night in a collective or private accommodation in the receiving country and the duration of his or her stay must not surpass 12 months.

121. Trafficker (human): Any person who commits or attempts to commit the crime of trafficking in persons or any person who participates as an accomplice, organizes, or directs other persons to commit the crime of trafficking in persons.
122. Trafficking: in persons The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.
123. Travel document: A document issued by a government or by an international organization which is accepted as a proof of identity for the purpose of crossing international borders.
124. Traveler: A person who moves between different geographic locations, for any purpose and any duration.
125. Treaty: An international agreement concluded between States in written form and governed by international law, whether embodied in a single instrument or in two or more related instruments and whatever its particular designation.
126. Unaccompanied children / minors: Children, as defined in Article 1 of the Convention on the Right of the Child, who have been separated from both parents and other relatives and are not being cared for by an adult who, by law or custom, is responsible for doing so.
127. Undocumented migrant: A non-national who enters or stays in a country without the appropriate documentation. Also *irregular migrant*, *migrant*, *migrant in an irregular situation*, *stateless person*
128. Visa: An endorsement by the competent authorities of a State in a passport or a certificate of identity of a non-national who wishes to enter, leave, or transit through the territory of the State that indicates that the authority, at the time of issuance, considers the holder to fall within a category of non-nationals who can enter, leave or transit the State under the State's laws. A visa establishes the criteria of admission into, transit through or exit from a State.
129. Visitor: In the migration context, the term is used in some national legislation to designate a non-national authorized to stay temporarily on the territory of a State without participating in a professional activity.
130. Voluntary return: The assisted or independent return to the country of origin, transit or another country based on the voluntary decision of the returnee.
131. Vulnerability: Within a migration context, vulnerability is the limited capacity to avoid, resist, cope with, or recover from harm. This limited capacity is the result of the unique interaction of individual, household, community, and structural characteristics and conditions.
132. War crimes: International crimes that include, in case of an international armed conflict a) grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, b) other serious violations of the laws and customs applicable in international armed conflict within the established framework of international law; in the case of an armed conflict not of an international character, a) serious violations of Article 3 common to the four Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 committed against persons taking no active part in the hostilities, including members of armed forces who have laid down their arms and those placed hors de combat by sickness, wounds, detention or any other cause, and b) other serious violations of the laws and customs applicable in armed conflicts not of an international character, within the established framework of international law, as listed and defined in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.
133. Well-founded fear of persecution: A key element of the 1951 Refugee Convention's definition of a refugee. Well-foundedness of fear contains both a subjective element (fear of persecution) and an objective element (the fear must have an objectively justifiable basis). According to the 1951

Convention, persecution must be linked to any one of the five specified grounds: race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group and political opinion.

134. Work permit: A legal document issued by a competent authority of a State authorizing a migrant worker to be employed in the country of destination during the period of validity of the permit.
135. Xenophobia: At the international level, no universally accepted definition of xenophobia exists, though it can be described as attitudes, prejudices and behavior that reject, exclude and often vilify persons, based on the perception that they are outsiders or foreigners to the community, society or national identity.