



**APPROACHES TO MIGRATION  
FROM DIFFERENT  
PERSPECTIVES**

**EDITORS**

**Assist. Prof. Dr. Eda KOÇAK GIYAK**

**Assist. Prof. Dr. İlker Salih EBREM**



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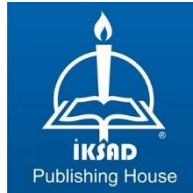
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## PREFACE

In an era defined by interconnectedness and the constant evolution of global dynamics, the phenomenon of migration stands as a testament to the intricate tapestry of human experience. As borders blur and cultures intermingle, the narratives of migration become increasingly diverse and nuanced, reflecting the myriad ways in which individuals and communities navigate the complex web of human mobility.

This book, "APPROACHES TO MIGRATION FROM DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES" seeks to delve into the multifaceted dimensions of migration, shedding light on the various lenses through which this global phenomenon can be examined. The exploration encompasses not only the physical movement of people across geographical boundaries but also delves into the socio-economic, political, and cultural implications that accompany such transitions.

As we embark on this intellectual journey, the reader will encounter a rich tapestry of perspectives, each offering a unique vantage point on migration. From historical analyses that trace the roots of migratory patterns to contemporary examinations of the impact of migration on host societies and the lives of those who embark on these journeys, this book aspires to be a comprehensive exploration of the subject.

The chapters within this volume navigate through the complexities of migration, examining the push and pull factors that drive individuals to seek new horizons. They explore the experiences of migrants, the challenges they face, and the contributions they make to both their countries of origin and their adopted homes. The book also critically evaluates policy frameworks, societal responses, and the ethical considerations that surround the issue of migration in our globalized world.

It is our hope that "APPROACHES TO MIGRATION FROM DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES" serves as a catalyst for dialogue,

understanding, and empathy. By presenting a mosaic of perspectives, we aim to foster a holistic comprehension of migration—one that transcends stereotypes and confronts the reality of the human experience. In doing so, we invite readers to reflect on the significance of migration in shaping our collective past, present, and future.

As we navigate the pages that follow, let us embark on a journey of exploration, contemplation, and discovery. May this book contribute to a deeper understanding of the intricate tapestry of human migration, inspiring thoughtful conversations and encouraging a more inclusive and compassionate world. We would like to thank the authors who contributed to the realization of this study with their chapter articles. We would also like to thank Assoc. Prof. Dr. Seyithan SEYDOŞOĞLU and IKSAD Publishing staff for their support and knowledge during the formation and publication stages of the book. We hope that the book will be useful both to our colleagues in the planning and design professions and to everyone who is interested in the subject.

Editors

December, 2023

## **CHAPTER I**

### **REDESIGNING PUBLIC SPACES AFTER MIGRATION**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Migration has been a common phenomenon throughout human history. Throughout history, people have changed places and moved from one place to another for various reasons. Although it is a normal phenomenon in natural processes, today it is one of the issues that has important causes and effects for both individuals and societies. When the concept is examined especially in terms of cities and urban areas, it is seen that some negative results such as unplanned growth, unplanned urbanization and rapid population growth emerge.

The transformation experienced in public spaces with migration not only changes the social texture and use of space, but also offers opportunities. Increasing diversity in public spaces can pave the way for different cultural interactions and social transformations. At this point, landscape architecture plays an important role in the planning and design of public areas affected by migration. Landscape architecture is one of the professional disciplines that can ensure that urban green areas, parks and gardens have aesthetic and functional qualities that can contribute to the integration of immigrants, recreation opportunities and quality of social life. In addition, designing public spaces with flexibility to respond to various cultural practices and needs is one of the practices that can support the adaptation process of immigrants to urban life. In this context, addressing migration and public spaces from the perspective of landscape architecture is an important component of the sustainability and social harmony of cities.

### **1. THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CITY AND MIGRATION**

As one of the most important steps of human civilization throughout the historical process, cities have become centers of attraction for people living in rural areas as they are places where industry, trade, economic, social and cultural opportunities are concentrated (Güneş,

2011). For this reason, topics such as city, urbanization, urban life, urbanization have become the research object of many scientific disciplines (Kurşun, 2021). In its most general definition, the city is the largest settlement unit where division of labor and specialization is high. According to another definition, "it is a settlement unit that is in continuous social development and where the needs of the society such as settlement, shelter, commuting, work, rest and entertainment are met, where very few people engage in agricultural activities, is more densely populated than villages and consists of small neighborhood units" (Big Turkish Dictionary, 2010). City definitions vary according to study areas. Social scientists define the city "as a bundle of relationships that emerge as a result of the mutual interaction of individuals living in the urban area and maintain their vitality". According to economists, cities are defined "as areas where economic activities differ, where service sectors such as education and health develop with the industrial revolution, and where people live together" (Karaküçük and Gürbüz, 2007). Cities are areas of social organization, and in this respect, being an urbanite also means using organizations (Altuntaş, 2012).

If evaluated from an ecological approach, cities are cultural ecosystems where living creatures living in a certain area and constantly interacting with each other and their non-living environments form a whole (Atıl et al., 2005).

The city is "not only a physical but also a social, political, economic and cultural production area" (Altay, 2007). In addition, cities are spatial fictions that share a long part of human life. While this fiction means a place for the individual, socially it is an area where human relations or conflicts take place (Karaküçük and Gürbüz, 2007). While Durkheim explains the city with the concepts of division of labor and solidarity, Marx defines it with an anti-capitalist approach as areas where the means of production and other needs are located. Weber's definition is economic and political (Güçlü, 2002).

According to Bookchin, it is necessary to think of the city as an eco-community. It is necessary to try to understand the development of the city, the shapes it has taken over time, and how it functions beyond being a market or production center. With this understanding, he defines the city as an ethical human unity in its most developed state (Topal, 2004).

In the Dictionary of Urbanology Terms, a city is a place that is in constant social development and where the needs of the society such as settlement, shelter, commuting, working, resting and entertainment are met, and where very few people engage in agricultural activities. Looking at villages, settlements that are more densely populated and consist of small neighborhood units are referred to as cities (Keleş, 1980).

Urbanization, on the other hand, gives the concentration rate or rate of population in settlement units considered as cities, according to a certain time and place. However, it is insufficient to define urbanization as a mere population concentration or, as is common, a place where non-agricultural production takes place. According to Tekeli (2015), urbanization is the phenomenon of a human settlement or city (if this settlement is a city) changing in size, density, heterogeneity and degrees of integration as a result of the increase in the level of non-agricultural production and the intensification of control and coordination (Kurşun, 2021).

The most important factor that affects and shapes urbanization is the phenomenon of migration. Migration, in its simplest sense, is geographical human movements from one place to another, with or without a specific purpose and goal. In a broad sense, migration can be defined as population movements that change the social structure with the socio-economic, political and cultural dimensions of the process of changing geographical location. This population movement occurs in two ways: internal migration and external migration. Internal migrations

are movements made between settlements within the country for the purpose of permanent settlement. External migrations are population movements from one country to another for the purpose of staying and settling for a long time (Özer, 2004). Migration is not based on a single causal factor (Kurşun, 2021).

Human history is the history of human mobility in space. People have moved from one place to another individually or en masse for a variety of reasons from past to present. Especially before settled life, moving around was a part of human life. Therefore, the phenomenon of migration is a normal and natural process within the social, economic and political changes (Negiz and Yalçın, 2022).

Migration refers to geographical displacement due to economic, political, social or natural reasons. This displacement may occur in the form of crossing an international border or within the borders of the same country. Regardless of the form of migration (voluntary/forced, temporary/permanent, internal/external, individual/mass, etc.), all kinds of population movements (refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced people, exiles, economic migrants, etc.) are included in the definition of migration (Adıgüzel and Tekgöz, 2020; Negiz and Yalçın, 2022).

It is possible to group migration types under two main headings: "internal migrations" and "external migrations". Internal migrations can be divided into "seasonal migrations, permanent migrations, labor migrations and forced-voluntary migrations". External migrations can be divided into different categories such as "brain drains, worker migrations and exchange migrations" (Koçak and Terzi, 2012). Migration types are summarized in Table 1.

**Table 1.** Migration Types (Akdoğan, 2019; Canbolat and Bedük, 2020)

<b>Migration Types</b>	
According to the number of people who migrated	Individual migration
	Mass migration
Depending on the duration of stay at the destination	Temporary migration
	Permanent migration
Depending on the location and distance traveled	Internal migration
	International migration
According to will and formation process	Voluntary migration
	Forced migration
According to legal procedure	Regular migration
	Irregular migration

There are two main reasons for migrating to a different geography from where you live, and it is possible to group them as push and pull reasons. According to Todaro (1969), if a more comprehensive list of reasons is wanted to be created, socio-economic reasons are at the top of this list (Canbolat and Bedük, 2020). Individual's expectations such as job, income and desire for a better life lead him to migrate towards developed cities. This orientation may be regional or international. As a matter of fact, in the 1960s, most European Union countries accepted many immigrants as workers with the promise of meeting these expectations (Günay et al., 2017). Political and socio-cultural reasons can be considered as a second reason (Kaypak and Bimay, 2016). Under this heading, reasons such as discrimination caused by ethnic differences, political instability, exclusion, ideological differences, differences in education level, etc. can be listed (Günay et al., 2017). Undoubtedly, the need for security that we encounter in Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs can also arise with the security problem as a third reason for migration. Immigration can be a solution for individuals who do not feel safe. Finally, natural reasons are also a justification for the decision to migrate. Unavoidable natural disasters such as the region becoming uninhabitable as a result of natural disasters, arable

agricultural lands becoming barren, floods, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, large fires, etc. can play a decisive role in the decision to migrate (Canbolat and Bedük, 2020).

Studies on the relations between migration and urban developments examine the effects of migration in the urban system in five dimensions: employment and urban workforce, wages, physical texture of the city, urban management and socio-cultural structure of the city (Kaygalak, 2009). However, there are also studies that classify the impact of migration on the city from different perspectives (Negiz and Yalçın, 2022).

Changing production and consumption balances, economic and political conditions with industrialization have also differentiated the reasons and forms of migration. Forced migrations due to the current situation lead to homelessness, homelessness and identitylessness (Erzen, 2019). Lack of identity is not specific only to individuals and society, it is also ingrained in the 'place'. Immigration can enrich the local, but it can also lead to the destruction of the local. Migration to the city creates a cultural mixture (Akarsu, 2022).

## **2. MIGRATION IN TERMS OF URBAN SPACE AND URBAN LIFE**

It is seen that the spatial structure of the city is negatively affected, especially during periods when migration occurs intensely and uncontrolled. With the rapid concentration of the population in urban areas, the housing problem and the need for housing of new arrivals to the city are gradually increasing. Especially in cases of intense migration, the state may have difficulty in implementing strategies that can meet this housing need. This housing demand caused by intense migration causes cities to grow uncontrollably. The uncontrolled growth of cities also brings about unplanning (Negiz and Yalçın, 2022). Another result is the increase in housing prices along with the increase in housing

demand and difficulties in accessing housing. The most important result of this situation is the creation of unhealthy living conditions.

Intensive migration processes of cities can also negatively affect the city infrastructure and infrastructure services, urban water resources, natural areas and the environment. With urban expansion, major negative effects such as destruction of natural areas and loss of biodiversity may arise. This situation may result in the suppression of cultural and historical heritage. In parallel with rapid urban developments, there is the destruction of traditional neighborhoods and the loss of local identity. In addition, the tendency towards urban poverty and marginalization may increase with migration in cities. With migration, the city's employment opportunities are limited, resulting in low wages, poor working conditions or the danger of unemployment.

Factors such as cultural differences, language barriers and social prejudice cause prejudices and misunderstanding between urban residents and immigrants. These factors are the most important reason for tensions and conflicts between groups. The most common situation in today's cities is that immigrants tend to live in the same neighborhood in the provinces they live in. The potential of these people to integrate with society and establish social bonds decreases as they concentrate in the neighborhoods where they speak their ethnic origin and mother-tongue.

Health services, education and other social services are among the most important services provided by the state to its citizens. The increase in demand for these services due to migration may cause some difficulties and inadequacies in meeting these services.

Despite all these negativities, migration movements also have some positive effects on urban space and urban life. Migration is a phenomenon that increases diversity in urban space. The fact that immigrants come from different cultures contributes to the formation of



a rich cultural mosaic in urban space. This diversity expands the cultural understanding of the citizens living in that city and makes urban life more rich, colorful and diverse.

Despite the risk of unemployment, the revival of the urban economy can also be achieved thanks to migration movements. Creation of new job opportunities, increase in workforce potential and entrepreneurial activities create potential to revitalize the local economy. Immigrants with different ideas, skills and experiences have a positive impact on promoting cultural and commercial innovations and creating an innovative atmosphere in the urban area.

Immigrants' cultural expressions, such as traditional arts, crafts, music and dance, can increase tolerance and understanding of urban residents and increase social harmony by promoting cultural tourism and creative industries in urban areas.

### **3. REDESIGNING PUBLIC SPACES AFTER MIGRATION**

Jürgen Habermas defines public space as "the living space where private individuals reason around a common issue that concerns them, engage in a rational discussion, and as a result of this discussion, define the tools, processes and spaces where they form a common opinion and public opinion about that issue.". Oscar Negt and Alexander Kluge, on the other hand, oppose Habermas's bourgeois publicity and define the public sphere/space as the proletarian space where "the struggle is decided by means other than war". Hannah Arendt, on the other hand, uses public space in two senses, based on its conceptual content, as 'space of openness/publicity' and 'commonly owned world'. These two meanings have a structure that is closely related to each other but not completely identical (Akyol et al., 2017).

According to Henri Lefebvre, public space is divided into two: 'representative space (used and defined symbolically) and represented space (planned, controlled, orderly)' (Özdemir, 2007). In this context,

city parks are considered as spaces represented according to the normative definition and remind us of the transformations experienced in city squares (Harvey, 1993; HersHKovitz, 1993; Akyol et al. 2017).

Examples of public spaces today include avenues and alleys, parks, squares, marketplaces, transportation venues, spaces specially created to enable various activities, and recreational and entertainment venues such as coastal recreation venues where urban residents can come together and establish social relations. These public spaces are:

1. Parks: City parks, neighborhood parks, district parks
2. Squares: Urban-scale squares, squares located at transit points, small squares between buildings, small-scale squares at the intersections of streets, squares around monuments
3. Streets and road axes: Sidewalks, pedestrianized areas
4. Playgrounds: Children's playgrounds, empty areas used for games.
5. Recreation areas: Sports and picnic areas, coastal strips
6. Shopping areas: Market areas can be classified as shopping streets (Korkmaz and Türkoğlu, 2003).

All spaces within the urban fabric are used for specific purposes. Some of these areas, which are described as "unstructured urban public outdoor spaces", are functional areas (games, sports, parks, etc.) while the other part are complementary spaces such as streets and squares (Etlı, 2016).

Madden (2001) states that a successful public space is:

- It should be suitable for sitting and have sufficient seating elements,
- Finding meeting and intersection areas,
- It has entrance axles that are easily visible and detectable from the outside,

- Having distinctive features
- Pathways and pedestrian axes allow the user to reach the desired location,
- Predominance of pedestrian traffic, not vehicle traffic, in the venue,
- Being connected to the surrounding units (building, street, boulevard, etc.),
- Appropriate positioning of transit points,

He emphasized the necessity of encouraging and providing opportunities for various social activities. Within the framework of this view, he explained the reasons for unsuccessful public spaces as follows:

- Insufficient seating areas.
- Lack of meeting and meeting places (playgrounds, stops, sales units),
- They have a small number of entries and are not detectable.
- They do not have a distinctive feature,
- Roads cannot take people to where they want to go,
- Vehicle density is higher than pedestrian density,
- There are empty and meaningless walls and idle areas around it,
- Located on unsuitable transportation axes (Tunca, 2020).

According to research that includes observations and surveys of users, the main principles defined to achieve success in public spaces and supported by the Council of Europe are as follows:

- Giving messages that the place is usable and open for use,

- Having aesthetic appeal,
- Provides maximum transition between indoor and outdoor spaces,
- Offering natural environments that will help relieve urban stress,
- Providing a safe and protected environment,
- It is equipped with the activities that are most desired and most likely to happen,
- It should be suitable for the needs of the user group that is most likely to use it and provide diversity in usage,
- Providing a comfortable environment in relation to sun, shade, wind and similar natural environmental elements at times of peak use,
- Being accessible and usable for children and disabled people,
- Providing comfortable and economical care,
- Meeting special needs with the most appropriate material selection, emphasizing changes in use by changing materials
- Designing the space as both a place where visual art is expressed and a social environment

It is very important to follow some strategies and determine a holistic approach in redesigning public spaces after migration. Here, social participation must first be supported. Immigrant communities should be encouraged to actively participate in the design process of public spaces. It is absolutely necessary to conduct interviews to understand the needs, preferences and expectations of the communities. Additionally, the use of ethnic symbols and artistic expressions allows immigrants to express their cultural identities. For this reason, it is

important to create common spaces in cities for both urban residents and immigrants.

The use of multilingual and multicultural signs in the city and the creation of information signs are important elements as they will strengthen immigrants' sense of belonging to the city. In this way, it becomes easier for these people to embrace the city and protect the city they live in.

Creating areas where different communities living in the city can express their cultures and exhibit their cultural structures is another practice that can encourage different cultures to come together and social interaction. To achieve this, multi-purpose spaces, flexible areas where activities and social interaction can take place in various ways should be created. Common area uses and various event venues are the most important urban spaces where individuals and communities can connect with each other. Creating these spaces is one of the steps to be taken to support social integration.

## **CONCLUSION**

Migration is an action that has continued throughout history for various reasons and is a dynamic phenomenon that continues to be encountered frequently today. Many factors such as wars, natural events, political reasons or the desire for a better life, etc. can cause migration. The most well-known types of migration are internal migration, which includes mobility within the borders of the same country, and external migration, which includes international mobility (Canbolat and Bedük, 2020).

Migrations affect the cities and places we live in and are among the most important pressure factors in shaping them. Cities have a dynamic structure. These are areas where constantly changing, transforming and complex relationships exist. From this perspective, it is very important to take a planned approach and make quick and correct

decisions, especially against social changes and movements that arise due to forced migration.

The city is also an interdisciplinary phenomenon. In order to manage all the dynamics of the city correctly, different professions have to work together. One of the professional disciplines that shape cities is landscape architecture. Landscape architects have important duties in the creation of urban open spaces, determination of green infrastructure, and decision-making processes of ecologically based land uses.

As a result, it is necessary to make decisions by considering all the affected and influencing actors of the city from all perspectives and at the same time. Only in this way is it possible to have healthy and livable cities.

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## **CHAPTER II**

### **AN EVALUATION ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MIGRATION AND INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE: THE CASE OF CIRCASSIAN CULTURE**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Since the existence of humanity, people have migrated individually or massively, compulsorily or voluntarily, based on various reasons. These migration movements have not only been a physical displacement, but have also played a decisive role in shaping the social and cultural structure of today's world. The social and cultural interactions and exchanges of societies both express the transfer of a richer cultural accumulation to the present day and point to the efforts of societies to protect their cultural identities. This traumatic process, especially in societies forced to migrate and exiled due to war, violation of human rights, etc., makes it more important to preserve and transmit culture to the future and to come together around a common identity. The migrating society keeps its social and cultural memory alive through its intangible cultural values in the new geography where it starts to live and passes them on for generations. With this transfer, societies preserve their cultural structures and live without breaking away from each other and assimilating around the identities they create with cultural symbols. In this study, the concept of exile is considered as forced migration and the role of intangible cultural heritage values in the construction of identity is discussed with examples from Circassian culture.

### **1. THE CONCEPT OF EXILE IN THE CONCEPT OF MIGRATION**

Geographical displacement of individuals or groups due to social, economic, political or natural conditions is called migration. International Organisation for Migration (IOM) defines migration as the movement of persons across an international border or within state borders (IOM, 2019, p. 137). Migration is a multifaceted process with legal, economic, psychological and social dimensions in addition to physical displacement and can be defined as population movements that change the structure of society (Adıgüzel and Tekgöz, 2020, pp. 303-304). Due to this geographical and demographic change, the

phenomenon of migration can also be evaluated as a transition from one social structure to another, and as a process of adaptation of migrants to a social structure different from the social and cultural environment they are used to. In this process, a new way of life may emerge depending on the production of new conditions in the receiving society together with those who migrate (Yaman, 2018, p. 20). With this mobility, different cultures interact, the coexistence of different societies and the new social, social and cultural relations developed constitute and will continue to constitute today's world. The phenomenon of migration, whose subject is human beings and involves movement, is associated with displacement and dislocation and expresses leaving and settling, separation and reunion.

The phenomenon of migration, which covers time and space, can also be expressed as horizontal mobility between two places. Moving away or having to move away from many elements of social life can cause the balance of social and cultural life to change (Şehitoğlu, 2022, pp. 25-26).

The concept of migration, which emerged with the history of humanity, is a social and social mobility that has been seen in every period of history and in every society. Migration also refers to the migrants' intangible values, lifestyles, cultures, languages, traditions, memories and experiences that they start to live in a new culture with spatial change. (Özbey, 2021, pp.173-174). The migratory movements that have taken place up to the present day have been fundamental determinants of the cultural and social development of today's world. For example, the Migration of Tribes that started in the 4th century with the westward movement of the Huns fleeing from Chinese rule in Central Asia, the spread of Islam with the migration of the Prophet Muhammad from Mecca to Medina in the Islamic tradition, the bringing of people from Africa to America, which was discovered as a result of geographical discoveries in the 15th century, through the slave trade

from the 17th century onwards and the formation of today's American social structure, or the beginning of new migration movements with the Arab Spring that emerged with popular uprisings in the Middle East in 2010 (Yaman, 2018, pp. 13-15).

This population movement, which takes place individually or en masse, compulsorily or voluntarily, leaving the administrative border where they live and moving to another settlement (Adıgüzel and Tekgöz, 2020, p. 304), has various social, social and cultural consequences. Definitions of migration emphasize the act of settlement as well as relocation, and include the processes of people settling in a different region for a certain period of time or for their entire lives and living together with people from different cultures (Aksoy, 2012, p. 293), both adapting to a different culture and preserving their own cultural identity.

Migrations can be of different types such as regular-irregular, forced-voluntary, individual-mass, internal-external. Within the scope of the study, the exile of the Circassian community was evaluated within the scope of forced migration. Forced migration is defined by IOM as a migration movement involving coercion and pressure (IOM, 2019, p. 77). Forced migration is the migration movements of individuals against their own will in order to escape from armed conflict and violence, natural or man-made disasters (Özbey, 2021, p.178). Forced migrations, which occur in situations such as life-threatening war, terrorist incidents or political pressures and violation of human rights, are generally mass migrations (Aksoy, 2012, pp. 293-294; Adıgüzel and Tekgöz, 2020, p. 314).

The concept of diaspora refers to nations or belief groups that were forced to leave their homeland due to compulsory reasons such as exile, genocide, massacre and live as a minority in a different country (Adıgüzel and Tekgöz, 2020, p. 322). IOM defines diaspora as migrants whose identities and sense of belonging are shaped by their migration experiences and past, who have a sense of shared history and identity,

and who maintain ties with their homeland and each other (IOM, 2019, p. 49). The formation of diaspora identity and the sense of protection of social identity are related to common culture, values, achievements, as well as events that are experienced at a mass level and produce traumatic results (Yaman, 2018, p. 31). In this context, the exile experienced by the Circassian community takes place in the memories as a common pain and strengthens the sense of protecting at least the intangible cultural heritage of the community living in the diaspora after the migration process, that is, living in a different geography by leaving their homeland.

## **2. SCOPE AND DEVELOPMENT OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

In the 21st century, attention has been drawn to the diversity and scope of cultural heritage and to intangible cultural heritage, which will complement the concepts set out in the 1972 Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. Oral traditions, performing arts, social practices, rituals, festivities, knowledge about nature and the universe, handicraft traditions, artistic and literary works, etc. are considered as intangible heritage. First brought to the agenda with the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of 2003, it was emphasized that cultural heritage is not only based on physical or architectural qualities, and that intangible cultural values are part of heritage by expanding the scope of the concept of protection. The Xi'an Declaration prepared by ICOMOS in 2005, the Québec (Canada) Declaration on the Preservation of the Spirit of Place prepared by ICOMOS in 2008 and the De Foz Do Iguaçu Declaration prepared by ICOMOS-Brasil in the same year tried to define the content of intangible cultural heritage. In 2003, the focus was on "Space-Memory-Meaning: Conservation of Intangible Values in Monuments and Sites" and in 2008 on "Finding the Spirit of Place" (Kaufman, 2019, p. 47).

In 2005, the Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society adopted by the Council of Europe addressed the contribution of cultural heritage to society and human development, and in this context, the development of intangible cultural heritage was pointed out (Council of Europe, 2005).

The 2008 ICOMOS Québec (Canada) Declaration emphasized that it is the presence of tangible and intangible elements that give meaning and value to place, and the concept of *genius loci*, the spirit of place, was defined as the integrity of tangible (sites, buildings, landscapes, routes, objects, etc.) and intangible (memories, narratives, written documents, festivals, commemorations, rituals, traditions, values, colors, etc.) elements. According to this approach, social development can be achieved through the protection and sustainability of intangible cultural heritage such as community practices and traditional ways of life (ICOMOS, 2008).

With these developments, it has been concluded that the physical qualities of places are a blended essence with intangible values, that the values, beliefs, knowledge and traditions inherited from the past constitute a source, and that intangible cultural heritage expresses both functional and symbolic practices and understandings that regulate the lives of communities in many ways (Kaufman, 2019, pp. 48-52). The interactions of people with each other and their environment shape social life practices, the meanings attributed to space, how space will be shaped and intangible values as a cultural resource. With these approaches, the scope of cultural heritage has been expanded with the protection of intangible values and the concepts of the Spirit of Place, and international studies have emphasized that heritage cannot be defined only by physical or objective forms. These values have been registered with the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity since 2008.



Following these developments, Turkey became a party to the Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2006 and defined intangible values in its protection legislation as non-material production processes and forms such as oral narratives, traditions, social practices, rituals, festivals, handicrafts and performing arts created by the people in oral culture environments. It is aimed to contribute to the protection of intangible heritage by creating two inventories at the national level; Turkey National Inventory of Living Human Treasures and Turkey National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage. As of 2023, 23 intangible cultural heritages are represented in the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity and 2 intangible cultural heritages are represented in the UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding.

### **3. THE CONSTRUCTION OF CIRCASSIAN IDENTITY THROUGH INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

Since intangible cultural heritage deals with practices, representations, knowledge, expressions and skills, it is not static, it is constantly transforming and renewing, and it takes its roots from the communities and geography where it emerged. The protection of intangible cultural heritage has become increasingly important, especially in the process of dispersal of communities due to reasons such as migration, life and adaptation in different geographies and among different societies (Cominelli and Greffe: 2019, p.102). Societies that migrate or are forced to migrate try to hold on to their origins and keep their social memory alive through cultural values; habits from traditional lifestyles, migration stories and memories transmitted through oral culture, cultural symbols, culture-related events or special commemoration days. Memory, as a mental plane that is an accumulation of the past and based on collective memory depending on the level of relationship with identity, is reconstructed through remembering and repetition, and even in the minds of generations that

have not witnessed this process, especially in migrant societies, exile stories are made alive and individuals have a common narrative (Bulut, 2023, pp. 643-646). Especially in exiled societies, intangible cultural values need to be preserved, transmitted from generation to generation and repeated in a certain order in order to build a common identity and culture, internalize values and keep social memory alive, and feel a sense of belonging to the country or culture of origin. Symbols that provide cultural associations are also important in showing the unity and solidarity of migrant groups against other groups.

Circassians, whose origins lie in the Northwest Caucasus, have an ethnically and socio-culturally complex structure and are composed of many sub-clans and ethnic groups, were forced to migrate to Ottoman lands in the 19th century due to the Caucasian-Russian Wars. Many of the Caucasian peoples who migrated to Anatolia were called Circassians, especially due to the similarity of their dress and traditions. Today, this expression is used to cover many sub-ethnic groups such as Abzeh, Besleney, Kabardian, Shapsig, Ubykh, and Circassians in Anatolia are united under this identity and culture (Aksoy, 2018, pp. 63-64 ; Yalçınkaya, 2020, p. 261).

The role of intangible cultural values in the construction of the common identity of the Circassian community is important. For Circassians, who were exiled from the Caucasus and started to live in various parts of the world, this forced migration has been a social trauma, and there have been significant changes in the social and cultural structure with the adaptation process of the immigrated societies. However, with the preservation and survival of intangible cultural values even today, Circassian culture is also preserved and cultural commonality is an inclusive element that brings people together. One of the most important tools in the preservation of Circassian identity is the migration stories transmitted through oral narrative. Today, social memory is kept alive through history books, novelized or compiled as

stories about the exile history. One of the important rituals of Circassian culture is Circassian music and dance. As a part of the cultural structure, the establishment of a Circassian Wedding (Adige Ceug), where Circassian dances are performed accompanied by the harmonica, is an important ritual both in terms of keeping the culture alive and bringing people together. These nights of conversation and dancing are called "Zexes", and in addition to dance and music, these gatherings ensure that the younger generations are not alienated from their own culture. Adyghe Xabze, which is defined as the custom or law of Circassians, is still being kept alive today. This law, which is based not on theory but on practice, ensures social order and regulates the relations of individuals with each other or with the society. It describes a way of life that encompasses all behaviors such as respect, tolerance, sharing, helping and hospitality. Respect is the essence of Circassian law and Circassian life. This approach is still accepted, kept alive and draws attention as the most distinctive feature of Circassian culture. In addition, May 21, 1864, the end of the Caucasus-Russian Wars, is a symbolic date for the Circassian Exile, and commemoration ceremonies are held on this date every year, and with these activities, a common identity is built and the sense of unity and solidarity is strengthened through intangible cultural values.

## **RESULT**

Throughout human history, common cultural values have had a unifying power with both tangible and intangible forms. Sometimes culture has been transmitted through tangible values such as the use of space and architectural traditions, and sometimes culture has been tried to be transmitted and preserved through intangible values, lifestyle, traditions and experiences. Especially in societies that have experienced great migrations, have been exiled, and are trying to establish a life in harmony and integration with the society they have migrated to, it is important to transfer culture to future generations. For societies forced to migrate, preserving their identity through intangible cultural values has

become an effective tool. Oral narratives, stories, periodically recurring rituals or festivals, meetings, use of the mother tongue, commemoration of important events in history play an effective role in the transmission of traditional lifestyle, daily habits and behaviors, common history and values directly related to culture.

Especially in the 21st century, with the expansion of the scope and content of cultural heritage, attention was drawn to intangible cultural heritage and it was emphasized that it is the intangible values that give meaning to the space and structures. With the understanding of common heritage, attention has been drawn to the cultural heritage that is in danger of disappearing and has been ignored until today. With this approach, it is necessary to discuss how and with which methods cultural values, which face the risks of being lost and assimilated due to migration, will be transferred to the future.

In this study, by examining the relationship between migration and intangible cultural heritage, it is tried to examine how societies living apart from their homeland approach intangible cultural heritage in order to transfer their cultural values to the future and how they construct their identities with these values. In this context, examples are given from the Circassian community, which lives in various parts of the world today and draws attention with its culture with ancient and unchanging rules.

It is seen that Circassian identity is defined through intangible values with their traditions and etiquette, their culture, which is based on Nart Epics and includes many elements such as their way of life, language and dances that emerged as a result of their relations with nature. This definition of identity also strengthens the sense of unity and solidarity for the Circassian community and ensures that cultural elements take place in the social memory and are transferred to the future.

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**CHAPTER III**

**FROM TEMPORARY SETTLEMENTS TO PERMANENT  
PURSUITS: USER-SPACE AND BEYOND**

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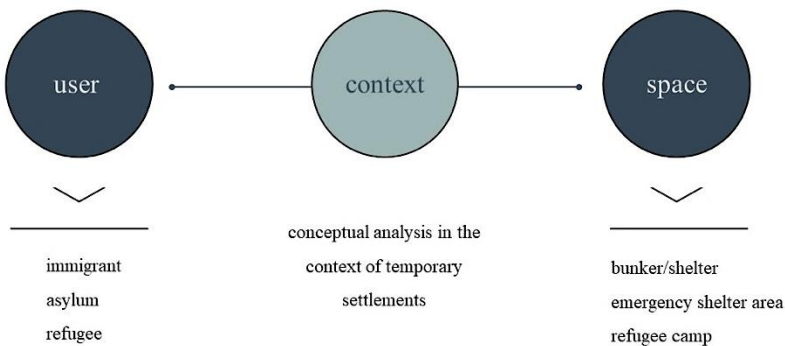
## INTRODUCTION

Today, the Earth is frequently facing with many natural, environmental and humanitarian problems on a global scale. These problems affect daily life in social, cultural, political, economic and many other areas, and their consequences are reflected in physical space. Scarce resources and environmental disasters lead to the creation of urban geographies where living conditions are adversely affected and even the possibilities for sustaining life are lost, leading to significant population movements and displacements. In the realization of today's mass migration movements, many internal or external, immediate or prospective factors such as the desire to escape from the current challenging conditions, the desire to improve the quality of life and/or the tendency not to be harmed by possible natural and artificial threats can be the triggering factor. Although these mass displacements are called "temporary", they have become one of today's socio-spatial problematics, whose minimum living conditions take many years to achieve and whose requirements cannot be fully met by purely physical interventions. This complex structure, which emerges in the context of both the moving person/community and the place of movement, has created a conceptual confusion for the spatial literature.

The study aims to compile the relational concepts used interchangeably in the literature on the two main components of the migration phenomenon, "user" and "space", and to subject these concepts to a conceptual analysis/disaggregation process through content analysis. On the other hand, the secondary objective of the study is to identify the situational differences between users for future studies and to draw attention to the description of the ideal space that meets the needs. In essence, it is thought that this work of analysis in theory can find a response in practice.

## 1.CONCEPT

Concepts are a general form of representation based on certain commonalities that exist in every situation where there is an object, event or idea, whether scientific or non-scientific. However, even if they have commonalities in terms of meaning or context, the interchangeable use of concepts that are essentially different from each other over time erodes their archetype. For this reason, conceptual parsing, or the process of separating a concept from another concept with which it is related, should be read as a process of revealing its unique and fundamental characteristic, rather than attributing new meanings to it. For the study, the process was implemented as shown in Figure 1.



**Figure 1** Conceptual Analysis Process

**Reference:** Orijinal, 2023.

### 1.1 User

As an umbrella concept, migration can be defined in its most general form as "the movement of individuals or communities to relocate". This movement can take place for economic, social, political (TDK, 2023) and climatic reasons independent of the individual (dictated to him/her) or for direct individual reasons such as changing jobs or family reunification (Glossary of Migration Terms, 2023). Therefore, the footprint of migration can extend across states and even continents, creating a border change, or it can occur at a more localized level, starting

and ending between two different points within the same settlement. On the other hand, not all individuals who move do not have the same status and are categorized according to the reason for migration, the type of migration, and the conditions of acceptance.

### **1.1.1 Immigrant**

There is no general definition of migrant as defined by international law and the concept is defined in different ways by different organizations. While the Glossary of Migration Terms (hereinafter GTS) defines migrants as people who move to another country or region for personal reasons (such as to improve their financial and social conditions) without external challenging factors, the United Nations, contrary to this definition, considers any situation, whether voluntary or forced, regular or irregular, as a reason for migration and considers any individual who resides in a foreign country for more than one year as a migrant. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (2023) (hereinafter UNHCR), one of the leading global organizations on the subject, migration is used to describe people who move across an international border based on personal preferences rather than fleeing challenging circumstances (conflict or persecution). According to another global organization, the International Organization for Migration (2023) (hereinafter IOM), the term migrant refers to people who are within a country or across an international border, temporarily or permanently, for a variety of reasons. The Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (2023) (hereinafter AFAD), on the other hand, defined the concept of migrant as a person who leaves his/her country of origin for direct economic reasons or for the purpose of improving his/her life financially and stated that migrant differs from refugee in terms of international status within the same definition. It is possible to say that the definitions examined predominantly associate the concept of migrant with reasons to improve personal and quality of life and

emphasize the condition that the migration movement takes place outside the borders of the country of origin.

### **1.1.2 Asylum**

The concept of asylum seeker is often used in the literature to describe a temporary status to obtain certain rights to recognition, protection and social security. In Turkish law (according to Law No. 6458, Section 62 and the 1994 Regulation), the concept essentially refers to persons who, because of their membership of a particular social group or political opinion, experience a fear of being in their country of nationality and refuse to return to their country of origin. However, the broad definition includes the phrase "due to events occurring outside European countries...", which is noteworthy as it shows that geographical borders can also be effective in determining legal status and related procedures. The GSP defines an asylum-seeker as "a person seeking safety in a country other than his or her own, with a view to protection from persecution or serious harm, pending the outcome of an application for refugee status under relevant national or international instruments". According to the IOM, an asylum-seeker is an individual seeking international protection whose asylum claim has not yet been decided by the country of claim. Accordingly, not every asylum-seeker is a refugee and every recognized refugee is initially considered an asylum-seeker. In parallel with the previous definitions, AFAD uses the concept of asylum-seeker to describe "persons who have lost confidence in their state by feeling oppressed in their country because of their race, religion, social status, political opinion or national identity and therefore seek international protection as refugees but whose status has not yet been officially recognized". In conclusion, it can be said that there is a relatively more clear consensus on the concept of asylum seeker on a local and global scale compared to the concept of migrant.

### **1.1.3 Refugee**

The concept of refugee has been regulated more than the concepts of migrant and asylum-seeker and has been tried to be regulated in international protocols and conventions. At this point, the Geneva Convention of 1951, the New York Protocol of 1967 and the Cartagena Declaration of 1984 are particularly referential. In essence, the relevant sources include within the scope of refugees those who are under the threat of security and freedom due to coercive external factors and who have left their country of origin for this reason. In addition, according to these official conventions, the definition of refugee is a declaration, and as soon as a person fulfills the conditions or criteria set by the conventions, he/she is recognized as a refugee by the UNHCR and the relevant state(s). Other local and global organizations (AFAD and IOM) also do not seem to have introduced a new definition of refugee status, but have taken into account existing legal regulations and definitions.

## **1.2 Space**

The actual structure of temporary settlements in practice often exceeds the initially envisaged capacity and duration, becoming a part of the urban habitat over time. In theory, the "intertwining of similar concepts" mentioned under the heading of user also applies to the heading of place. Although there are temporary settlement concepts diversified by spatial theories and approaches such as informal space, anti-urban architecture, temporary architecture in the literature, definitions and classifications defined by national and international organizations are included in the study.

### **1.2.1 Bunker/Shelter**

The content of the concept of the bunker may vary according to climate, war, adverse environmental and living conditions or the purpose of use. According to AFAD (2023), it is defined as a safe place built for the individual or collective protection of people from nuclear, biological

and chemical threats and disasters. In international platforms, the basic unit of temporary settlement is recognized as "shelter" and this unit is described as a whole with other spatial decisions. The Sphere Project (2018) defines shelter as living units that protect the user from adverse weather conditions, provide security, health, privacy, and are expected to contribute to both family and social life, and then includes these units in the hierarchy of planning, site selection decisions and living space standards. Similar to the Sphere Project's decision-making mechanism, UNHCR has addressed shelter in a cycle of planning, site selection, settlement level, implementation and evaluation. In the classification of temporary settlements into planned/designed settlements, host villages, areas without legal status, short-term accommodation areas and transit centers, different shelter solutions were proposed at the material level for each settlement level (UNHCR, 2023).

The IOM categorizes settlement interventions into four interrelated categories, ranging from shelter design to improving existing shelter and environmental conditions. These are: interventions that ensure access to appropriate shelter and settlements, interventions that provide immediate and medium/long-term safe living conditions, interventions that support the performance of daily tasks in and around the living unit, and interventions that support sustainable settlements by providing appropriate access to basic services, infrastructure and livelihoods (IOM, 2023).

### **1.2.2 Emergency Shelter Area**

Emergency shelters are one of the temporary solutions during and shortly after a disaster and are differentiated from holding centers. They aim to determine the status of asylum-seekers and migrants in an irregular situation, to enable disaster-affected persons to resume their lives and to quickly address their most basic shelter needs. Therefore, its users can be not only asylum-seekers or refugees but also disaster victims, homeless people and people displaced due to unforeseen

circumstances (Ohcdphila, 2023). Areas such as sports halls, collective accommodation areas such as dormitories, tents, etc. (AFAD, 2023) that have not been damaged/damaged by the disaster are used to meet this need. Emergency shelter is defined by UNHCR (2023) as an enclosed living space that provides privacy, physical and emotional safety and healthy shelter conditions, and these spaces are preferred to shared accommodation spaces to help protect and develop the family unit. In addition, UNHCR has set the basic standards for these spaces to be user-oriented and user-constructible, to use environmentally friendly and sustainable materials in their construction, and to offer flexibility in both urban and rural environments. At this point, it is possible to say that different approaches have been adopted by national and international organizations in defining emergency shelter areas and providing spatial solutions.

### **1.2.3 Refugee Camp**

According to Petti (2015), refugee camps, which are seen as the fastest organized accommodation solution for refugees, are usually designed close to the borders of countries and contain mostly tents and/or containers. They are also not built permanently as they are seen as a short-term solution. AFAD, in line with the previous definition (emergency shelter area), defines refugee camps as a collective settlement consisting of temporary shelter units such as tents and containers to provide emergency shelter for disaster victims and where many basic needs are provided until the solution of the permanent shelter problem (AFAD Dictionary of Explained Disaster Management Terms, 2023).

At the international organization level, there are different definitions and approaches on refugee camps. UNHCR (2023) defines camps as temporary facilities established to provide emergency protection and assistance to people forced to flee their homes due to war, persecution or violence. Accordingly, while camps are not intended to



provide permanent solutions, during emergencies they provide the most basic needs such as food, water, shelter, medical assistance, and other basic services, and in cases of protracted displacement, the services provided in camps can even be expanded to include education and livelihood opportunities. In addition, host communities can also benefit from these services. The Sphere Project, in its Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response Handbook, does not directly define refugee camps, but outlines a set of spatial principles for such spaces. These include location and layout planning, living space, household goods, technical assistance, security and environmental sustainability (Sphere, 2018).

## **2.CONTEXT**

In this study, where the two main components of the phenomenon of temporary settlement, the user and the space, are discussed separately, it is not incorrect to say that the user represents the temporary part of the phenomenon and the space represents the settlement part of the phenomenon. The context is designed to reveal the current situation of the user-space relationship with its sub-relational parts (concepts) within the upper title of temporary settlement, which is one of the expected results of the phenomenon of migration.

It is seen that the concept of migrant, which is the first concept addressed at the user section, has different expansions in the literature. The differentiation is that while the condition of being a migrant is based on voluntariness by local authorities, international authorities consider any individual who resides outside the country of origin for more than one year as a migrant, regardless of whether it is voluntary or compulsory. It is possible to say that there is a relatively more clear consensus on the concept of asylum seeker on a local and global scale compared to the concept of migrant. According to the general acceptance, asylum-seeker represents a temporary pre-refugee status that demands protection and certain rights outside the borders of the country

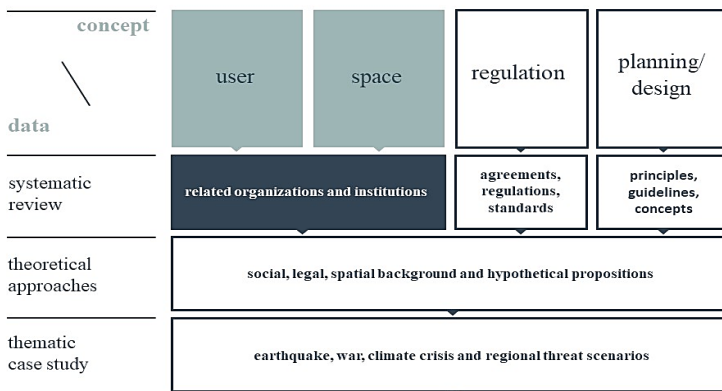
of origin for various reasons. The concept of refugee, on the other hand, seems to encompass the previous two concepts (with the exception of acting on the basis of personal choice) in terms of the privileged rights brought by its legal status. This has also led to the fact that the concept of refugee has more input into space than the concepts of migrant and asylum-seeker.

On the basic unit of temporary settlements in terms of space, there are different views on definitions and approaches at local and international scales. Both the Glossary of Migration Terms and the AFAD Glossary of Disaster Management Terms include the concept of bunker as the smallest part of temporary settlements related to space. In essence, the concept refers to places organized for protection from natural and man-made threats. However, the design principles of these places, minimum production standards and a methodology on how they will be included in the settlement fiction have not been revealed in the local literature. On the other hand, the concept of shelter stands out as the smallest spatial unit of temporary settlements on an international scale. While the concept is essentially defined as a living space that provides basic humanitarian conditions (physical and social), it is also integrated into upper-scale planning and design studies. In addition, this holistic approach has been declared through formats such as design guidelines, emergency handbooks and reports that are updated periodically. Another concept is emergency shelter areas, which differ from other types of temporary settlements in terms of user profile and period of use. In addition to asylum seekers and refugees, these areas can host all kinds of disaster victims and displaced persons and focus on meeting the urgent need for shelter that arises during/after a disaster. In the local context, potential open and enclosed gathering areas that have not been damaged by the disaster are used as emergency shelter areas, while on a global scale, family-oriented discrete units that can be applied in both urban and rural environments and can be produced by the user

are used as emergency shelter areas. Finally, refugee camps encompass the previous settlement types (shelter/shelter and emergency shelter) in terms of their content and scale. These camps, whose main module is described as tent and/or container units in both local and global literature, prioritize providing all kinds of basic services to their users until the shelter problem is permanently solved. In addition, since many refugee camps have turned into permanent settlements for various reasons (ongoing crisis, economic reasons, political strategies, etc.), in addition to the basic services available in these camps, initiatives to create permanent job opportunities are also implemented. Briefly, the concept of temporary settlement refers to the situational structure of refugee camps, while container/tent city formations correspond to the spatial structure of refugee camps.

### 3.CONCLUSION

Temporary settlements, one of the actual expansions of the migration phenomenon, constituted the scope of the study. The data set of the study, which was limited in terms of the concepts of user and space, the two main components of these settlements, was obtained from the latest studies of active emergency organizations compiled in the local-global distinction (Table 1).



**Table 1** Current Situation and Potential Studies

**Reference:** Orijinal, 2023.

The current situation shows that there is no terminological consensus on both user and space on the local-global axis. It is possible to interpret this situation as one of the reasons why user-oriented spaces (needs and demands) cannot be produced. On the other hand, although it is acceptable for local organizations to apply the definitions and standards set by international agreements and conventions one-to-one (unchanged), it is thought-provoking that there is still (despite know-how) no holistic strategy for space at the local level.

The phenomenon of temporary settlement, which is examined in terms of the concept of user and space, is of course open to development and change due to its multidimensional structure. Conceptually, the study can expand on the legislative axis referring to the social structure or on the spatial planning-design axis referring to the physical structure. In addition, these alternative situations can be fed from meta-analyses, theoretical-hypothetical approaches or field-theme-based studies as data sources.

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## **CHAPTER IV**

### **NAVIGATING URBAN JUSTICE: UNRAVELING THE RELATIONSHIP WITH MIGRATION**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Migration has been a part of human history for centuries. People have moved from one place to another in search of better opportunities, to escape conflict or persecution, or to reunite with their loved ones. Migration can help boost economic growth, societal diversity, and innovation, but it can also result in a range of challenges, particularly in urban areas.

While the concept of urban justice applies to all individuals living in the city, it can be more pronounced especially for disadvantaged groups such as migrants. Participation in the labor force and social life in the city, access to affordable housing and certain services is a problem for migrants along with all disadvantaged individuals in the city. This inequality in access to resources leads to urban injustice.

Urban justice and migration share an intricate dance, each influencing and shaping the other in the evolving landscape of our cities. As migration patterns continue to transform urban demographics, the quest for justice becomes inseparable from the challenges and opportunities presented by the movement of people.

In this chapter of the book, we will discuss the concept of migration and urban justice and explore the importance of creating inclusive cities that support and protect the rights of migrants.

### **1.UNDERSTANDING MIGRATION**

Migration refers to the movement of individuals or groups from one place to another, either within a country or across borders. People migrate for various reasons, including economic opportunities, escaping conflict or persecution, or seeking a better life for themselves and their families. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) estimates that there were 281 million international migrants in 2020, up from 173 million in 2000 (IOM, 2020).



Urbanization is a significant driver of migration, with people moving to cities in search of better opportunities, essential services, and social and cultural integration. The World Bank estimated that, in 2020, 56% of the world's population lived in urban areas, a number projected to increase to 68% by 2050 (World Bank, 2020). This trend highlights the importance of understanding the challenges faced by migrants in urban areas and the necessity of promoting urban justice.

Migrants often face significant challenges while adapting to urban life. These challenges include social exclusion, discrimination, lack of access to affordable housing, healthcare, education, and employment opportunities. Language barriers, cultural differences, and unfamiliarity with local systems also contribute to the difficulties faced by migrants.

- **Social Exclusion:** Migrants can be socially excluded from the host community, which can lead to feelings of isolation and despair. Social exclusion can be due to various factors, such as cultural differences, language barriers, and discrimination. This exclusion can result in a lack of access to essential services, which can further exacerbate the challenges faced by migrants.
- **Discrimination:** Migrants are often targets of discrimination and hostility. This discrimination can take many forms, such as xenophobia, racism, or intolerance. It can also result in a lack of access to employment opportunities, decent housing, and essential services such as healthcare and education.
- **Lack of Access to Affordable Housing:** Migrants often struggle to secure affordable housing, and they may also face discrimination in the rental market. The high cost of housing in urban areas can make it challenging for migrants, who may have lower incomes, to secure decent and affordable housing.
- **Lack of Access to Healthcare and Education:** Migrants may face challenges accessing healthcare due to language barriers, cultural differences, and a lack of documentation. This can lead

to a lack of preventive care and exacerbation of chronic illnesses. Children of migrant families may face barriers in accessing education due to language barriers, social exclusion, and the lack of affordable educational opportunities.

- **Lack of Employment Opportunities:** Migrants often face difficulties in finding employment opportunities due to language barriers, a lack of qualifications, or discrimination. They may also be forced to work in informal or precarious settings, which can result in low wages, poor working conditions, and exploitation.

## **2.URBAN JUSTICE, MIGRATION AND MIGRANTS**

Urban justice refers to the fair and equitable treatment of individuals and communities in urban settings. It encompasses access to basic services, protection against discrimination, inclusion in decision-making processes, and the right to a decent standard of living. Ensuring urban justice is crucial not only for the well-being and human rights of migrants, but also for the overall social and economic development of cities.

Manuel Castells, in his book "La Question Urbaine", defines the city as a place of reproduction and emphasizes distributional problems and inequality due to the role of the local state in ensuring collective consumption. David Harvey, on the other hand, in his book "Social Justice and the City", focuses on the urban space and the social condition of its inhabitants. He also emphasizes how power relations affect urban outcomes and create spatial injustice.

According to Habermas, the strength of the role of disadvantaged groups in policy decisions will ensure a fairer distribution of outcomes. In other words, broad participation and deliberation are important elements in ensuring justice.

Soja (2009) approaches the concept of justice as spatial justice. He states that the concept of spatial justice is not a substitute for social or economic justice, but a different perspective on justice. In other words, spatial justice is a critical spatial perspective. According to Soja (2009, 2010), justice has a geography and space produces both justice and injustice. Therefore, spatial justice is both an outcome and a process. The concept of spatial justice has 2 focal points: (Nordquist, 2013)

1) Fair distribution of resources and services

2) How cities and communities are negotiated, planned, designed and governed

In order to reduce spatial injustice, it is necessary to create more material equality, to ensure that marginalized groups are more respected (Fainstein, 2014) and to increase their visibility in urban space.

In his discussion of the right to the city, Lefebvre (1996) defines modern cities as spaces for consumers rather than citizens and criticizes the fact that the needs of the individual, rather than the needs of society, come to the fore in urban spaces. At the same time, he criticizes urban space for turning into a source that contributes to inequality and injustice beyond being a place of population and production.

Fainstein's Just City is an attempt to create a philosophically harmonious and just city form. It requires a struggle to prevent the consolidation of elite class power that emerged with neoliberal policies, to protect individual rights and freedoms, and to restructure the social processes on which all these are based (Harvey and Potter, 2009).

The concept of rights and the idea of justice have not only been a powerful provocateur in political movements, but have also become the target of a major articulation effort. The problem is therefore not to relativize social justice and rights as ideals, but to reconcile them. When this is done, the result is that certain dominant social processes are based

on certain notions of rights and social justice. According to Rawls' approach, a neutral perspective is essential to identify a universal conception of justice (Harvey and Potter, 2009).

Instead of abstract universal ideas, the focus should be on the relations of the concepts of rights and justice with social processes. For example, the territorial state and capital are two extremes that are not necessarily in opposition to each other but are in tension with each other. In the context of the territorial state, it can be argued that rights are universal and the state figure needs to be preserved in order to enforce these rights. However, if the political power is not willing to do so, the conception of rights is left in a vacuum. In this case, rights are derived and conditional, depending mainly on citizenship and territorial power. Jurisdiction therefore becomes an issue. More difficult questions arise because of persons without nationality, migrants, illegal immigrants, etc. "Citizen" or non-citizen becomes a serious issue that determines the principles of inclusion and exclusion in the territorial specifications of the national or local state. How the state exercises sovereignty is a huge issue and, as has been pointed out in countless writings in recent years, there are limits to this sovereignty imposed by the rules governing the circulation and accumulation of capital around the world. However, the nation-state, with its monopoly over legitimate forms of violence, can define its own bundle of rights and interpretation of rights in a Hobbesian way, limited only by international conventions. Urban citizenship (the rights of migrants, transients and foreigners to participate in local politics) is a more ambiguous concept than that of the state, as it often depends on residence in a social world built on the principles of movement. In many cities, injustice is palpable with respect to the homeless, who are at the very center of their daily lives, imposed on the rest of society simply as a public nuisance. While the rights in this case are theoretically equal, the force applied to determine outcomes is inevitably favored (Harvey and Potter, 2009).

According to Putnam (2007), migration and ethnic diversity reduce solidarity and trust. The decrease in the sense of trust increases the tendency of individuals to withdraw. This situation causes injustice to deepen.

## **2.1 What Can Be Done to Ensure Urban Justice for Migrants?**

Policies that can be implemented to ensure urban justice for migrants and reduce deepening injustice can be listed as follows:

1. **Diversity and Inclusion:** Migration injects cities with a rich tapestry of cultures, languages, and perspectives. Urban justice hinges on embracing this diversity and fostering inclusion. Municipal policies that actively promote inclusivity and celebrate differences lay the foundation for a just urban society where every individual, regardless of their migration history, feels a sense of belonging. Ensuring equitable treatment and social inclusion for migrants is a crucial aspect of urban justice. Migrants, especially those from marginalized groups and lower socioeconomic backgrounds, may face various forms of discrimination, xenophobia, and social exclusion within urban environments. Urban justice requires addressing these challenges and working towards inclusive communities that provide equal opportunities and protection of rights for all residents, regardless of their migration status.

2. **Access to Resources:** Migrants often face disparities in accessing essential resources such as housing, healthcare, and education. Urban justice demands equitable distribution of these resources, transcending nationality or migration status. Efforts to remove systemic barriers ensure that migrants have the same opportunities to thrive in urban environments as long-term residents. Migrants are often confronted with challenges such as limited housing options, high rents, and precarious living conditions. Urban justice requires policies and initiatives aimed at providing affordable and safe housing for all, including migrants. This can involve strategies like social housing

programs, rent control measures, and regulations against housing discrimination.

3. **Labor Market Integration:** Cities are economic hubs, attracting migrants seeking employment opportunities. However, the journey to urban justice involves ensuring fair labor market practices. Implementing policies that prevent exploitation, provide equal opportunities, and recognize the contributions of migrant workers foster a just urban economy that benefits all residents. Many migrants move to cities in search of employment and economic prosperity. However, they often face exploitative working conditions, low wages, and limited access to social services. Urban justice demands fair labor practices, including minimum wage laws, safe working conditions, and equal opportunities for employment for all residents, regardless of their migration status. It also entails supporting migrants in accessing education and vocational training to enhance their economic prospects and social mobility.

4. **Social Cohesion:** Urban areas with diverse migrant populations can sometimes face social tensions and conflicts. Urban justice necessitates fostering inclusive communities where different cultures and backgrounds are valued and respected. Promoting intercultural dialogue, creating spaces for cultural exchange, and combating stereotypes and prejudice contribute to building harmonious and cohesive urban societies. Migration can strain social cohesion, especially if not managed thoughtfully. Urban justice requires proactive measures to build bridges between communities. Initiatives that promote dialogue, cultural exchange, and shared experiences contribute to a cohesive urban fabric where migrants and locals coexist harmoniously.

5. **Legal Protections:** Navigating legal systems can be challenging for migrants, exposing them to vulnerabilities. Urban justice necessitates robust legal protections that safeguard the rights of migrants. Accessible legal support services, advocacy for fair immigration policies, and

combating discrimination are integral components of fostering a just urban environment for all residents.

6. Education for Empowerment: Education emerges as a powerful tool in the pursuit of urban justice amidst migration. Ensuring that migrant children have access to quality education fosters social mobility and integration. Moreover, educational programs that promote cross-cultural understanding contribute to breaking down stereotypes and fostering empathy in urban communities.

7. Responsive Governance: At the heart of the relationship between urban justice and migration lies the role of governance. Responsive and inclusive urban governance actively addresses the needs of all residents, recognizing the dynamics introduced by migration. Collaboration between government bodies, NGOs, and local communities is pivotal in shaping policies that prioritize justice for migrants.

In conclusion, the relationship between urban justice and migration is a complex interplay of social, economic, and cultural factors. By embracing diversity, ensuring equitable access to resources, fostering social cohesion, and implementing inclusive policies, cities can navigate the challenges posed by migration and emerge as beacons of justice where the rights and dignity of every resident are upheld, regardless of their migration history.

Several cities around the world have implemented policies and practices that promote urban justice for migrants. Some examples are:

1. New York City's IDNYC Program: The IDNYC program provides a free government-issued identification card to all city residents over the age of 10, including undocumented migrants. The IDNYC card provides access to essential services such as healthcare, cultural institutions, and financial services (City of New York, 2021).

2. Barcelona's Municipal Action Plan for the Inclusion of Immigrants (PAM): The PAM program emphasizes the importance of social inclusion and integration of immigrants into the community. The program provides access to language classes, employment opportunities, and social services to immigrants (City of Barcelona, 2021).

3. Seoul's Multicultural Family Support Centers: The Multicultural Family Support Centers provide integrated services, including education, healthcare, and social welfare, to migrants and their families. The centers aim to promote cultural diversity and integration while also addressing the challenges faced by migrant families (Seoul Metropolitan Government, 2021).

## **RESULT**

One aspect of urban justice is economic equality. Urban areas often have stark disparities in income and wealth, leading to social divisions and limited opportunities for marginalized communities. To promote urban justice, it is necessary to address the underlying root causes of poverty, such as inadequate education, unemployment, and limited access to affordable housing and healthcare. Policies and initiatives that focus on providing job training, promoting entrepreneurship, and implementing affordable housing strategies can help bridge the economic gap and improve social mobility.

Another element of urban justice is social equality. Cities are melting pots of diverse cultures, races, and identities. However, discrimination and prejudice can lead to social exclusion and marginalization, denying individuals their basic rights and opportunities to thrive. Urban justice entails actively working towards eradicating discrimination and fostering a culture of inclusivity and acceptance. This can be achieved through public education, awareness campaigns, and implementing anti-discrimination policies that protect the rights of all individuals, regardless of their backgrounds.



Urban justice is about creating cities that are fair, inclusive, and sustainable, where all residents have equal opportunities, resources, and protection of their rights. Achieving urban justice requires addressing issues related to economic inequality, social exclusion, crime, discrimination, environmental challenges, and effective governance. By working towards these goals, urban communities can become vibrant, equitable, and supportive environments for all.

Migration is a global phenomenon that brings both opportunities and challenges, particularly in urban areas. To ensure urban justice for migrants, it is essential to address the issues of social exclusion, discrimination, and lack of access to essential services. By adopting inclusive policies, promoting social integration, and fostering collaboration, we can create cities that celebrate diversity and provide equal opportunities for all, ultimately working towards a more just and inclusive society. It is crucial for cities to recognize the contributions of migrants to social and economic development and ensure that their rights are upheld and protected.

Urban governance and policymaking play a key role in shaping the relationship between urban justice and migration. Policies that are inclusive, non-discriminatory, and responsive to the needs of migrants are essential for creating just and inclusive urban environments. Engaging migrant communities in decision-making processes and ensuring their voices are heard in urban planning and development can contribute to achieving urban justice.

In summary, the relationship between urban justice and migration is intertwined, as the treatment and integration of migrants significantly impact the fairness, inclusivity, and overall well-being of urban communities. Urban justice necessitates addressing issues of social inclusion, economic equity, access to housing and services, social cohesion, and effective governance in relation to migration. By recognizing and acting upon these challenges, cities can become more

just and welcoming places for migrants, promoting the overall urban development and well-being of all residents. In another words, supplying urban justice for refugees requires a holistic approach that addresses housing, employment, social integration, legal challenges, and education. Collaborative efforts between governments, non-governmental organizations, and local communities are pivotal to creating inclusive urban environments where refugees can rebuild their lives with dignity and opportunity.

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## **CHAPTER V**

### **GLOBAL MIGRATION PATTERNS AND THE IMPACT OF SYRIAN REFUGEES ON TURKEY'S ECONOMY**

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## INTRODUCTION

Human beings have had the need to relocate and migrate for various reasons since their existence. Although the reasons for migration have similar characteristics in various periods of history, with the development of globalization and technology, the reasons for migration show differences. The concept of migration, which continues to be discussed almost all over the world, is generally caused by economic, social and political reasons. When we look at our country in particular, the concept of migration started with labor migration after the Republican Period, but then continued as internal migration and the reflections of regional and political instabilities that emerged in our neighboring countries in recent years. When we look at the basic tendencies of those who migrate, it is seen that they aim to increase their welfare levels and reach better living standards.

When talking about the concept of migration, the focus has been on recent migration events. The fact that our country has become a preferred destination for foreign nationals in recent years and that we encounter asylum seekers in daily life brings to the forefront the view that migration policies and the impact of migrants on our economy should be further analyzed and scrutinized.

Considering its geographical location, Turkey is a country with high migration mobility as it is a bridge between continents. Migrations given and received for various reasons have social, cultural and economic consequences throughout the country.

Migration creates positive and negative effects for countries. While talking about the gains and acquisitions that our country has been exposed to due to migration, tax loss, which is one of the reasons that create a negative impact, has also been emphasized. The problems that arise when migration to raise living standards exceeds certain capacities are discussed. It is known that in the case of over-capacity migration,



there are negative effects on the living standards of both the people who migrate and the citizens of the country that is the subject of migration.

It is possible to examine the relationship between migration and economy under certain headings by focusing on the economic window. This study reveals the effects of the increasing number of migrants in Turkey on the country's economy, especially in recent years.

## **1. TYPES OF GLOBAL MIGRATION**

Although the concept of migration has always been on the agenda throughout human history, it came to the forefront in the social sense with the Industrial Revolution at the end of the 18th and early 19th centuries. Basically, the reasons for migration can be listed as geographical changes in order to increase the level of welfare, to meet their needs and to sustain their lives. When the types of migration are analyzed in the global context, it is possible to group them under certain headings (Engin and Konuk, 2020: 104-105). We can explain the types of migration under the headings of Labor Migration, Brain Drain, Forced and Voluntary Migration, Refugee Migration, Permanent and Temporary Migration, Regular and Irregular Migration.

### **1.1 Labor Migration**

Labor migration, which started with the idea that those who left their hometowns for a certain period of time to work and returned to their hometowns after a certain period of work with the idea that different people would be employed instead of them, has turned into permanent migration with the effect of the desire of those who go to different countries to work not to return to the lands they live in over time and the changes in the immigrant acceptance conditions of the countries that accept them. These are migrations in response to the need for manpower (Gezgin, 1991: 32). When we look at labor migration, although the purpose of working is the main reason for migration, it is thought that this situation can turn into a permanent situation due to reasons such as

the formation of a sense of belonging to the place of residence, the development of bilateral relations, marriage and the establishment of new kinships.

## **1.2 Brain Drain**

Brain drain is when people who have received a good education in their country, who have developed themselves and who are competent in their field and who are suitable for work go to another country when they are most productive due to R&D work and continue their lives there (Bakırtaş and Kandemir, 2010: 962). The fact that better working conditions and opportunities for higher earnings are offered are seen as the main factors in the realization of brain drain.

## **1.3 Forced and Voluntary Migration**

Forced migration is when people are subjected to displacement from their residential areas against their will. The United Nations defines those who have been forced to migrate as 'individuals or communities who have been displaced against their will from the places where they have been living, provided that they are within the borders of the states themselves, especially in order to keep those living in these areas away from the negative effects of conflicts or to protect those who are likely to be exposed to violence from other people who pose a danger' (UN, 2005: 1).

The most important difference between other causes of migration and voluntary migration is that people make their own decisions to migrate. Among the reasons for voluntary migration are factors such as getting to know different cultures, living in a country with a higher level of welfare, and the fact that geographical features allow for different sports and lifestyles (Kara, 2018:27).

## **1.4 Refugee Migration**

According to the 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees, refugees are defined as individuals who are of a certain faith, nationality or descent, who have the belief that they will be subjected to coercion because of their belonging to a community or because of the political opinion they advocate, who are unable to benefit from the protection of their country of nationality because they are in a country other than the country of their nationality, or who do not wish to benefit from the protection of the country of their nationality because of concerns that have arisen, who are unable to return to the land where they live or who do not wish to return because of concerns (Türkoğlu, 2011:103).

There is an opinion that regional instabilities and civil wars in recent years have increased the formation of this type of migration.

## **1.5 Permanent and Temporary Migration**

Permanent migration is the possession of permanent residence and work permits that do not face serious restrictions in the countries they migrate to. Since they do not have a permit to be in the country only for work, they do not have to be expelled from the country even if they are not employed. If they fulfill the special conditions of the country they are in, they have the right to take their families with them (Engin and Konuk, 2020: 105). In case they meet the citizenship requirements with their families, those who fully establish their new lives in this country and realize their future plans on this, realize permanent migration.

**Temporary Migration:** It is a change of residence for a certain period of time for education, visiting different regions and religious reasons. It is not intended to be permanent as its time limit and purpose is clear (Nakhoul, 2014:9).

Visits abroad for a short period of time or for a certain period of time are within the scope of temporary migration. Being in different

countries on the basis of tourism and faith can also be shown in this context. Temporary migration ends when the travels are concluded after a certain period of time and the person returns to his/her home country.

### **1.6 Regular and Irregular Migration**

When we look at the concepts of regular and irregular migration, the sharpest and most distinctive feature is whether it is legal or illegal. The most obvious aspect of irregularity is the absence of visa, residence or work permits. This situation constitutes a situation where the person or persons can be deported if they are detected by the law enforcement authorities of the country where they are located. The situation of being in different countries illegally is explained as irregular migration. It does not seem possible for irregular migrants to live the life they desire in terms of finding a job, shelter, education, health and social life with peace of mind. Regular migration, on the other hand, is migration that does not violate legal regulations, where all the rules are followed in an orderly manner and all necessary permits are available. Those in regular migration have no risk of being caught by law enforcement officers or deported. This situation provides the opportunity to live under more comfortable conditions (Atasü-Topcuoğlu, 2012).

## **2. REPERCUSSIONS OF SYRIAN REFUGEES ON THE TURKISH ECONOMY**

In 2011, as a result of the civil unrest in Syria, many Syrians, fearing for their safety, food and welfare, crossed legally or illegally to countries they considered safer. A large number of Syrians have sought asylum in Turkey, with which they have historical ties and border ties. Due to its geographical location on the transit route to Europe, Turkey has become the country of choice for Syrians seeking to migrate to Europe. Similar problems arise in all countries receiving migration. Some of these problems are inadequate working areas, cultural differences, racial discrimination and economic problems. In addition to

these, there are many other problems. Some of the main problems are discussed (Göker and Keskin, 2015:231-233). In addition to the refugees coming to our country due to its border neighborliness, the fact that Turkey is on the European border, acts as a bridge between Europe and Asia, and is seen as a transit route brings with it the idea that it causes those who are thinking of migrating to European countries to come to our country.

### **2.1 Security, Surveillance, Housing and Cultural Problems**

In terms of security, the large number and intensity of those fleeing from the Syrian regime and terrorist organizations has led to illegal entries into Turkish territory. The fact that those who were registered were later granted visa liberalization has led to an increase in uncontrolled and difficulties in tracking them. In terms of public order, serious problems have started to emerge due to the increase in theft incidents in the country and the high number of beggars, especially among Syrian migrants (Tunca and Karadağ, 2018: 60-61). The fact that there are some disruptions in registration and follow-up has caused the effects of some people of Syrian origin to be seen in daily life. In order to generate income and earnings; child labor, unregistered labor, theft and begging rates have increased.

When the migration of Syrians started, settlements were made in shelter centers. Then, when the migration movements reached very large numbers, they spread throughout the country. The shelter areas allocated to Syrians were not sufficient for their population and to sustain their lives at the level they wanted (AFAD, 2013:36).

The arrival of Syrians has pushed up housing prices and rental prices. This situation varies according to regions. The existence of kinship relations in the provinces neighboring Syria has led to different ways of acquiring property and settlement (Karademir and Doğan, 2019: 119-122).

## **2.2 Language and Education Problem**

In order to establish common culture and social ties, societies living together need to speak the same language. Therefore, it is very important for Syrians living in Turkey to learn Turkish in order to avoid problems in social cohesion. Some countries in Europe require the language requirement when issuing residence visas. It is aimed to increase social cohesion and loyalty in the future (Çetin, 2016: 204-205). Failure to meet on a common ground regarding the language spoken may have negative consequences in terms of social engineering in the coming years. Conflicts will be possible in education, culture, health, communication and many other areas.

The language problem leads to incompatibility and the inability to solve problems in many areas. The fact that the same language is not used in the field of education creates an environment for disagreements to occur. There are problems in transferring demands in the field of health. There are also conflicts in requesting or meeting some humanitarian aid requests due to the lack of language. Children of Syrian asylum-seekers cannot receive sufficient efficiency in the field of education due to language barrier. In terms of employment, the language problem has negative effects in this field as well. It causes difficulties in finding qualified jobs, as there will be great disagreements about the quality, quantity, definition and execution of the job, and it will lead to loss of time (Gee, 2015:18).

## **2.3 Economic Problems**

Syrian refugees have a significant impact on the Turkish economy in general, but also on the labor market. The various expenditures made for the approximately four million refugees increase demand on a regional basis, leading to increases in production and labor demand. In order to meet the needs of Syrian refugees in Turkey, shelter them and help them integrate into a new life, the United Nations has spent more

than 12.1 billion dollars. In addition to these expenditures, the aid provided by citizens, non-governmental organizations and public institutions has reached twenty-five million dollars. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees has declared Turkey, which hosts the majority of all Syrian refugees worldwide, as the country hosting the highest number of refugees in the world. The fact that these resources, which would have been transferred economically to the citizens of the country, are being used for Syrian asylum seekers has brought about various reactions. In the regions where Syrian refugees are densely populated, there has been an economic mobility on basic needs such as shelter, health and food. The increase in demand for food and shelter has led to an increase in trade volume and the creation of new employment areas in these regions (Duruel, 2017: 217).

Considering the evaluations from the point of view of the citizens of the country, although at first there seemed to be nothing wrong with helping with a humanitarian approach, in the following years, the thought that the number of those hosted gradually increased and the economic burden was reflected on the citizens in the process brought along negative discourses. In addition to the economic burden, the idea that the psychological reason for those who cannot find a job is related to the migrants, the involvement of migrants in crimes and the formation of gangs in regional settlements have increased the number of those who agree with these negative views.

From 2011 to 2014, when the Syrian crisis started, Turkey spent 4.5 billion dollars on Syrian refugees. Considering that the number of people who received health services from hospitals during their stay in Turkey was over 500,000 during this period, the economic meaning of all these events affects the society (Oytun and Gündoğar, 2015: 12).

In today's conditions, earning income is almost indispensable for people to sustain their lives. For this reason, it is usual to have economic initiatives in people's lives. In addition to ensuring that the economic

activities fulfill the needs of the person's life, it also reveals his/her position as a class in the society in which he/she is present. From this perspective, the presence of migrants in working life enables them to meet their vital needs. In addition, being in the labor market is seen as valuable for gaining a certain place in society (Ciğerci, 2016: 110).

### **2.3.1 The Impact of Syrian-Based Migration on Unemployment and Labor-Force**

Looking at the economic effects on unemployment, there is an expectation that Syrian workers will be employed instead of Turkish workers, leading to an increase in the unemployment rate. However, studies show that Turkish citizens who have a desire to work are affected by this situation either not at all or to a very small extent. Again, in terms of employment, it is shown that this impact is mostly realized in business areas where the level of education is low (Akgündüz, Berg, & Hassink, 2015, p.18).

According to the results of the researches, the effect of Syrian asylum seekers on unemployment is very limited, while it shows that most of the jobs where Syrian asylum seekers are employed are jobs that Turkish citizens are not willing to work (Koyuncu, 2016:110).

Looking at the impact on employment of Turkish citizens, according to the Central Bank's report, Syrian asylum seekers have caused a negative picture on informal employment. It was revealed that the most affected group was the group with a lower level of education and the group characterized as unskilled labor (Duruel, 2017: 217).

Although research shows that the impact was not very high, the public perception is that unemployment rates are linked to this situation. It is known that some workplaces prefer Syrian asylum seekers as they can get more labor force by paying the same prices instead of employing insured and minimum wage workers. In addition to the reduction in



insurance costs and wage costs, the absence of severance pay makes this situation more attractive for employers.

### **2.3.2 Working Conditions and Areas of Employment of Refugees in Turkey**

Some of the reasons why migrants are disadvantaged are that they do not have citizenship, they do not have a full command of the language of the country they migrate to, and they do not have the opportunity to work in their core skills and expertise. In addition, employers may have concerns about trust. Although employing a migrant who is not registered and who has not been granted citizenship gives the employer the opportunity to employ employees under more favorable financial conditions, the fact that this person has no allegiance and nationality in the legal sense raises question marks for the parties in terms of trust. When the areas and conditions in which refugees work are analyzed, it is possible to reach some common points.

Various studies reveal that refugees are employed informally and this situation reveals that uninsured migrants work in a precarious environment. It is also possible to reach the conclusion that they are employed for lower wages than market conditions, as they do not have the bargaining power to make a living. Despite all these conditions, it is seen that those who accept to work do not have a situation where they can claim their rights in case they do not receive their wages. When the situation of skilled workers, that is, those working in areas requiring expertise, is examined, it is found that the wage differences with domestic workers are less than the difference between the wages of unskilled workers (Toksöz, 2008: 92; Özkarslı, 2015:183,186; Lordoğlu and Aslan, 2016: 793; Çetin, 2016:1005-1006; Kaygısız, 2017: 3).

Looking at the world in general, it is seen that in migrant employment, the areas of employment are generally dangerous and humiliating jobs. In addition to this situation, they are employed in jobs

with long working hours, without insurance, without security measures and with little opportunity for rest (Toksöz, 2008: 92; Özkarslı, 2015:183,186; Lordoğlu and Aslan, 2016: 793; Çetin, 2016:1005-1006; Kaygısız, 2017: 3).

The fact that refugees are seen as cheap and alternative workers in the labor market has paved the way for intense competition among workers. In addition, the formation of groupings between foreign workers and local workers brings with it the idea that foreign workers have started to be excluded by local workers.

### **2.3.3 Effects of Migration on Housing, Rental Market and Urban Planning**

Since Syrians cannot afford the high rents, they prefer to live in the suburbs with more affordable rental costs and reside in houses with relatively more unfavorable conditions with a high population or even with more than one family. With the expectation of profit of the citizens of the country, the way was paved for the slums and the events of building floors on the houses, which led to an increase in new and irregular constructions (Karademir and Doğan, 2019: 119-122). The sudden increase in demand compared to the supply of sold and rented housing brings with it the idea that there will be expectations and increases in these markets. Since immigrants, who are in a position to pay relatively less financially, can stay in places outside the city center at more affordable prices, it has led to an increase in slums and unplanned urbanization around the cities.

### **2.3.4 Tax-Based Problems**

It is important to question why people do not do these behaviors as much as they do a behavior or fulfill a responsibility. Individuals who engage in a behavior based on tax payment affect each other (Hacıköylü, Ay, 2023: 171). While this situation is valid for citizens living in the country as residents, the reactions given to asylum seekers do not differ.

The fact that Syrians cause unfair competition in different business lines due to their unregistered work causes tax loss. This situation also disrupts the voluntary tax compliance of taxpayers living in the country (Gülşen, 2019: 186). The effect of migration on tax perception emerges in different ways. The first of these situations is the unfair competition situation that arises due to the fact that immigrants do not bear the cost of taxation. This has a negative impact on taxpayers who pay their taxes on time. Another important effect arises from the substitution effect of taxation by people who migrate and settle in another country. Again, the incompatibility of immigrants in social life is another point that negatively affects tax perception (Siverekli, Ertuğrul, 2016: 496). There are studies indicating that Syrian asylum-seekers have low tax perceptions. In 2018, 2019 and 2020, Kilis ranks last among 81 provinces in terms of province-based collection rates. In 2020, the collection rate of Kilis province was 28 points lower than Mardin province, which ranked second to last in 2020 (Ay, 2021: 49,50). Kilis is known as the city where the highest proportion of Syrian refugees live.

## **2.4 Registration and Health Problems**

In order to identify and meet the needs of those seeking asylum in Turkey, it is essential that they are registered. The number of people who are not registered, who did not take their passports with them when they left their countries or who do not have passports is very high. Since these people are not registered, there are deficiencies in meeting their needs. Due to the high number of Syrian asylum seekers in the country, 23 mobile registration centers have been established in the country to pave the way for those who are unregistered to access some of their humanitarian needs, and the obstacles preventing them from being treated easily in all hospitals have been removed. Many of these people who have left their country and had to flee the war environment in a hurry need psychological help. The opening of the way for them to receive treatment in all hospitals has led to inadequacies in the field of health in

the country. The fact that Syrian refugees live in unfavorable conditions and share small and unhealthy spaces is a major factor in the occurrence and rapid transmission of epidemic diseases (Yüksel, Bulut and Mor, 2014:9). A person fleeing from a war environment cannot be expected to psychologically adapt to normal life immediately. The same is true for people who have migrated for other reasons, not because of the war situation. When people change their living places, they experience adaptation problems, even for a short period of time. It is thought that people will overcome the adaptation process more quickly with the provision of various psychological support in getting used to their new living environment. Another health problem is the difference in food habits. When communities that do not have very similar regional and cultural characteristics come together, the consumption of food varieties other than normal can lead to various health problems.

## **RESULT**

Migration for specific reasons is as old as human history. Although the reasons for migration differ, the results are similar. Although there are various gains for both migrants and migrants, migration usually brings many social, cultural, political, economic and similar problems. Countries do not want to be exposed to immigration, they want to select those who meet the criteria they want, who will contribute to the development of their countries, and bring them to their countries.

Receiving Brain Drain usually has positive results for countries. In addition, labor migration is also interpreted positively in terms of the ability of countries to overcome their deficiencies in terms of employment. However, the occurrence of unexpected developments, the occurrence of forced or obligatory migrations that occur in an unplanned manner, brings along negative pictures for the citizens of the country receiving and giving migration. In order not to negatively affect the welfare level of the country receiving migration, the maximum number of migrants that can be received should be determined and policies

should be carried out accordingly. There is a prevailing opinion that migration over capacity negatively affects the welfare level of the citizens of the country. Migration, which affects many things economically, also makes its impact felt in areas such as unemployment, rent, health and education. In order to prevent this and similar situations from occurring, first of all, capacity should not be exceeded.

There should be an order and balance in refugee intake worldwide. Various international organizations should be established to reduce and eliminate the economic impact of migration, which has become a global problem in recent years, for the countries receiving migration. Efforts should be made for reverse migration by eliminating the negativities in places of migration. If there is a migration due to war, contribution should be made to the agreement of the parties in order to eliminate the internal turmoil. If there is a war between different countries, common ground should be found with the mediation of other countries. In order to prevent migration due to unemployment and low welfare levels, efforts should be made to eliminate the deficiencies of undeveloped or developing countries. ,

Unregistered labor and child labor should be prevented in countries receiving migration. It is essential to develop a tracking and monitoring system to prevent the increase in unemployment rates and to eliminate tax losses due to unregistered labor. Inspections in this area should be increased. In order to prevent labor exploitation, working hours should be monitored frequently and wages should be controlled.

The increase in demand for housing with the arrival of migrants may lead to extraordinary increases in apartment and rental prices. In order to prevent the citizens of the country from being in a difficult situation, a control mechanism should be developed for the actual sales prices in apartment sales. Steps can also be taken to protect tenants by imposing certain upper limits on rental advertisements. Financial and penal measures could be further tightened to prevent opportunism.

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## **CHAPTER VI**

### **CRISIS OF HUMANITY: ANALYZING THE PRESENCE OF SYRIAN REFUGEES IN TURKEY, LEBANON AND JORDAN**

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## INTRODUCTION

The migration is a concept that emerges due to the need for people to relocate. The fact that migrating people are seen as a problem has occurred as a result of mass human movements. The main factors that enable people to move collectively from one place to another are wars and conflicts that occur in the region they live in, poor living of the people, violations of human rights, dictatorial regimes and negative conditions created by natural disasters. The existence of people moving massively not only affects those who migrate, but also has begun to deeply shake the societies that face mass migration (Argin, 2021, p.77).

When we examine migrations in historical periods, it is seen that human behavior is similar in all period. Although migration of people has occurred in different periods and with different motivations, it has always been towards developed and prosperous countries. Migration movements, which began to be seen especially after World War II, took place in the 1950s, to former colonies and exploiting states, and in the 1960s, labor migration from underdeveloped neighboring countries to developed countries. The Cold War period caused many changes in nation structures and international structure. During and after this period, there was a change in the security threats and tools perceived by the countries. With the globalization trend after the Cold War, an order was formed in which information, money, services and people changed places rapidly and the concept of border crossings between countries became more flexible. This situation has caused serious increases in migration and human mobility between states (Sokullu, 2019, pp.1-2).

With the multipolar structure that has begun to be seen in the international system, we are faced with an insecure structure with ethnic conflicts, civil war and terrorism, especially after the Cold War period. In this order, the understanding of the "new war", in which identity conflicts occur instead of ideologies, unarmed civilians are targeted, ethnic cleansing is seen as one of the tools of war, and is carried out

under the proxy of non-state actors, has accelerated "irregular", "illegal" and "mass" migration movements. Following the Cold War, refugee migration began to occur as a result of the war in Yugoslavia, and the human security dimension was added to the concept of migration. Refugees, who had to leave their countries in large numbers due to war, poverty, disease and security, have begun to pose economic, cultural and security threats in the countries they arrived in, through legal and illegal means (Sokullu, 2019, pp.1-2).

The involvement of immigrants in terrorist acts committed in some countries to which they immigrated in the first half of the 2000s reinforced the relationship between immigration and security and played an important role in determining the policies of states towards immigration and immigrants. Because immigrants within the securitization policies towards immigrants; They are described as people who increase the crime rate, are a source of disease that has never been seen before, take away job opportunities from local people and cause a decrease in their wages, cannot be integrated, reduce the standard of education in schools and cause disruption of health services (Kaygusuz, 2021, p.62).

Common culture, history and language have an important place in the nation-state structure. The fact that immigrants have a culture, religion and language different from the country they come from is perceived as a threat by the nation state. The importance of a homogeneous nation in the nation-state structure and the fact that immigrants pose a threat that disrupts this homogeneous structure causes them to be seen as the "other" and to be at the center of the understanding of insecurity (Kaygusuz, 2021, p.69).

The desire of immigrants to leave their homelands for more prosperous countries has caused the measures taken by these countries to be increased, and as a result of these measures, the desired ground for human smugglers has been created. Mass migration movements have

paved the way for drug gangs to use immigrants as low-cost couriers. As a result of migration movements, militants of terrorist organizations have gained the ability to move without revealing their traces. The fact that immigrants are unable to meet their basic needs in the country they come to makes them a potential human resource for criminal organizations. The fact that immigrants fall into the network of criminal organizations in the country they come to illegally and are associated with many terrorism-related crimes also paves the way for the local people in the countries they come to exhibit radical attitudes (Argin, 2021, p.81).

## **1. LEGAL DEFINITIONS OF MIGRATION**

After World War II, political, economic and cultural problems began to be seen in many countries. Migration movements from these countries to more prosperous countries have also accelerated. This situation creates problems for the receiving countries as well as serious human rights problems for refugees. The United Nations, which was established after World War II to ensure international peace and security, was quick to react to the events. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees was established on 14 December 1950 in order to find a permanent solution to the problems of people who had to leave their country and to provide international protection to these people. This organization also plays an important role in making international refugee agreements and trying to ensure that states comply with the requirements of international refugee law accepted within the framework of the agreements. The concept of protecting refugees is not just about ensuring their physical security. In order for refugees to have various rights in the countries they are in, the legal status of refugees was determined under the name of the Geneva Convention on 28.07.1951. According to this agreement, it is aimed to provide international protection to people who cannot benefit from the protection of their own state until national protection is provided, to legally determine the status of these people and

to enable them to benefit from the rights provided by the agreement (Nurdoğan, Dur and Öztürk, 2017, pp. 223-224).

The primary goal of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is to ensure that the basic human needs such as health, shelter and food are met for those who have to leave their current location. After these conditions are met, three basic principles are followed to improve the living conditions of displaced people. The first of these principles is to send people with refugee status back to their home countries by establishing an environment of trust in their country, the second is to ensure their integration with the country they took refuge in, and finally, it is aimed to resettle them in a country permanently (Nurdoğan, Dur and Öztürk, 2017, p. 224).

According to the Geneva Convention, the definition of refugee is as follows.

*“As a result of events occurring before 1 January 1951 and owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted 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.”* (UNHCR, 2010)

According to the definition of refugees in the Geneva Convention signed in 1951 and the rights that refugees will have only people affected by events that occurred before 1951 are included. In other words, the contract is limited to 1951. The aim of the limitation is for 7 million Europeans who had to leave their countries after World War II to return to their homes (Türkoğlu, 2011, p.103).

The problem of people forced to leave their countries around the world due to the geographical and historical restriction created by the phrases "events that occurred before 1951" and "events that occurred in Europe" in the Convention has not been resolved. Due to the increase in conflicts outside Europe and the increasing number of people living in these regions day by day, the necessity of updating the contract has been revealed. In this context, geographical and historical restrictions were removed by adding an additional protocol to the Geneva Convention in 1967. Thus, the way has been opened for people who had to leave the country they live in to be accepted as refugee status without being subject to any restrictions (Nurdoğan, Dur and Öztürk, 2017, pp. 224-225).

After defining refugees in the Geneva Convention, various rights for refugees are also defined. The most important rights of refugees that may affect them in the countries they go to are as follows:

*“Article 2: Every refugee has duties to the country in which he finds himself, which require in particular that he conform to its laws and regulations as well as to measures taken for the maintenance of public order.*

*Article 3: The Contracting States shall apply the provisions of this Convention to refugees without discrimination as to race, religion or country of origin.*

*Article 21: As regards housing, the Contracting States, in so far as the matter is regulated by laws or regulations or is subject to the control of public authorities, shall accord to refugees lawfully staying in their territory treatment as favourable as possible and, in any event, not less favourable than that accorded to aliens generally in the same circumstances.*

*Article 22:*



*1) The Contracting States shall accord to refugees the same treatment as is accorded to nationals with respect to elementary education.*

*2) The Contracting States shall accord to refugee's treatment as favourable as possible, and, in any event, not less favourable than that accorded to aliens generally in the same circumstances, with respect to education other than elementary education and, in particular, as regards access to studies, the recognition of foreign school certificates, diplomas and degrees, the remission of fees and charges and the award of scholarships." (UNHCR, 2010).*

Article 24 regulates the labor and social security rights of refugees. According to this article, states are obliged to apply the same treatment to refugees as they do to their own citizens, without discriminating against refugees in terms of labor and social security (UNHCR, 2010).

Within the framework of the Geneva Convention, it is seen that the set of rules that States must comply with regarding refugees have been shaped. The main goal is to send refugees, who have social, economic and security rights due to the rights arising from the content of the contract, safely to the regions they came from. In recent years, civil conflicts and interstate tensions in many regions around the world have increased refugee mobility. The data in UNHCR's Global Trends Forced Displacement 2022 report supports this information. According to the report, 108.4 million people were forcibly displaced, 62.5 million of them had to relocate within the country, and 35.3 million people became refugees. When the number of refugees is examined, it is seen that 52% of the refugees are citizens of only three countries. The top three countries in terms of refugee numbers are: Syrian Arab Republic (6.5 million), Ukraine (5.7 million), Afghanistan (5.7 million). When the countries hosting refugees are examined, Turkey is at the top of the list.

Turkey hosts 3.6 million refugees. This rate makes Turkey the country with the highest number of refugees in the world (UNHCR, 2022).

In countries where internal conflicts are experienced, prolonged conflict periods or failure to provide basic security conditions cause refugees to continue to stay in the countries they go to for a very long time, and even with the prolongation of the period, they have to establish order in the countries they go to and become obliged to integrate into society. The increase in time that refugees spend in their host countries causes various tensions and complaints between the host country society and the refugees. Palestinian refugees who had to leave their country due to the Arab-Israeli Wars in the past had serious effects on the countries they went to. Again, recently, due to the Russia-Ukraine war and the Syrian Civil War, the effects of Ukrainian and Syrian refugees on the countries they go to have reached serious levels.

## **2. REFUGEE INFLUENCY CREATED BY THE SYRIAN CIVIL WAR AND ITS EFFECTS**

A Tunisian young man burned himself to death as a result of protesting his living conditions and the sharing of these images on social media caused the Arab Spring, the demonstrations that started in Tunisia on December 18, 2010 and spread throughout the Arab world. This term was first used by political scientist Marc Lynch in the US political academic journal "Foreign Policy". The demonstrations that started in Tunisia spread to many Arab countries. The common slogan of the mass demonstrations, where people took to the streets against the country's governments and demanded a change of governments through protests, was "the citizens want to destroy the regime" (QadirMushtag and Afzal, 2017, p.1). The fire that surrounded the Arab world was initially tried to be suppressed by the use of violence by the rulers of many countries, but after a while it resulted in a change in administrations. The most complicated stop of the Arab Spring was again Syria. The demonstrations in Syria were tried to be suppressed by the government's

use of violence and many civilians lost their lives. The violent events in the country caused the administration to lose control and a civil war environment was created in which many countries were involved. With the start of the civil war, millions of Syrians had to leave their country and took refuge in various countries.

Since the conflict that started on March 15, 2011, 13 million Syrians have been forced to leave their homes (UMHD). While 6.8 million Syrians were displaced within the country, nearly 5.5 million Syrians had to take refuge in neighboring countries. Of the 6.8 million people displaced within the country, 68% cannot access basic livelihoods, 67% cannot benefit from basic services and 55% cannot access basic food. The number of children who cannot receive education has reached 2.4 million. The number of people living in camps has reached 2.1 million (Tatlı, 2023, p.3). Difficult living conditions and security concerns in Syria have led Syrian citizens to seek refuge in other countries.

Turkey has been the country with the highest concentration of Syrian refugees since the beginning of the civil conflict in Syria. When current data is examined, it is seen that despite the years that have passed, there has been no serious development in terms of returning to Syria.

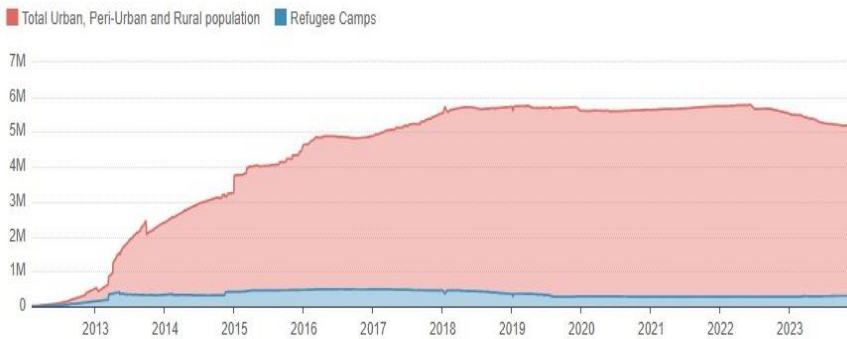
Location name	Source	Data date	Population
Türkiye	Government of Turkey	5 Oct 2023	63.1% 3,274,059
Lebanon	UNHCR	30 Sep 2023	15.2% 789,842
Jordan	UNHCR	30 Nov 2023	12.6% 651,329
Iraq	UNHCR	31 Oct 2023	5.2% 272,165
Egypt	UNHCR	30 Nov 2023	3.0% 152,973
Other (North Africa)	UNHCR	31 Dec 2022	0.9% 45,003

**Figure 1.** Total Persons of Concern by Country of Asylum

**Reference:** UNHCR, 2023

Due to the Syrian Civil War, it is seen that nearly 5 million Syrians still live abroad. Turkey and Lebanon are at the top of these countries. The fact that the number of refugees is over 3 million poses a serious economic and social burden for Turkey. Although the number of refugees taking shelter in Lebanon is incomparable with Turkey, Syrian refugees pose serious risks for Lebanon, considering that Lebanon has a population of 5.5 million and the country's administration is formed according to various ethnic structures.

In order to survive, the majority of Syrian citizens had to integrate into society and look for work in neighboring countries where they went to seek asylum. Because, despite the passing years, the opportunity and infrastructure for return has not been established. This situation caused Syrians to seek permanent order in the countries they went to. When we look at the registered Syrian refugee trends from 2013 to the present, we see the following picture.



**Figure 2.** Trend of Registered Syrian Refugees

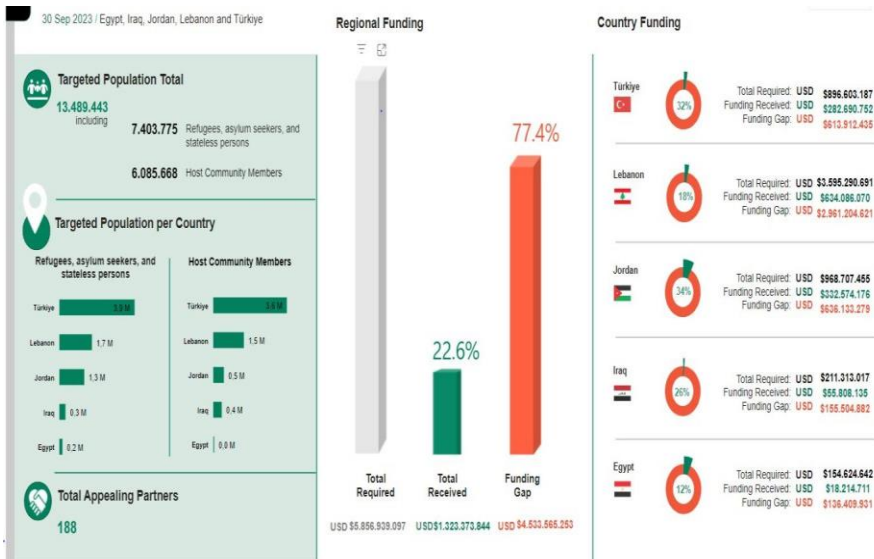
**Reference:** UNHCR, 2023

It is obviously seen that the majority of Syrians who have left the country since the beginning of the Syrian Civil War have never lived in camps and have integrated into the society in the countries they go to. As of 2023, only 303 thousand 152 of 5 million 371 Syrian refugees live in

camps, while 4 million 882 thousand people live in cities and rural areas (UNHCR, 2023). Reactions towards Syrian refugees began to increase after the deterioration of economic indicators, especially in Turkey and Lebanon, due to the mixing of Syrian refugees with the urban population and the failure to return over the years.

### **3. EFFECTS OF SYRIAN REFUGEES ON NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES**

When we look at the countries bordering Syria, we see Turkey, Lebanon, Iraq and Jordan. The countries where Syrian refugees are most concentrated are Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq, respectively. Since the Syrian Civil War lasted much longer than expected and a change of administration could not be achieved, it was never possible for Syrian refugees to return to their country. This situation prolongs the stay of Syrian refugees in the countries they go to and even makes their return impossible. In such a system, social unrest occurs in countries where the number of Syrian refugees is high and many issues are attributed to refugees. Especially the military, economic and social security of the countries neighboring Syria have been greatly affected by the Syrian Civil War. The deteriorating economies of the countries neighboring Syria in recent years have turned all eyes to Syrian refugees, and Syrian refugees have begun to be seen as one of the responsible for the deteriorating economy. Of course, it is not a correct approach to hold Syrians alone as responsible for the deteriorating economic structures of countries, but a concrete fact is that the money spent by countries for refugees and the amount of aid they receive from international organizations are far from each other. The picture is seen more clearly in the financing summary prepared by UNHCR for Syrian refugees.



**Figure 3.** Funding Summary  
**Reference:** UNHCR, 2023

As we see in the table that only 22.6% of the necessary financing needs of Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt have been met and a financing gap of 77.4% has occurred.

### 3.1 Turkey:

Turkey's longest border is with Syria. When the Syrian Civil War started, Turkey's Syrian refugee policy was an open door policy. According to this policy; Turkey's border gates will be kept open and no incoming refugees will be turned back. No one will be sent back to Syria against their will and their basic humanitarian needs will be met. Minister of Foreign Affairs who was Ahmet Davutoğlu at that time, made the following statement regarding Syrian refugees:

*“Therefore, since beginning the conflict, we maintained an “open door” policy for Syrians fleeing from the violence in their country. Turkey strictly complies with the principle of nonrejection at the border and in accordance with international refugee law, provides*

*Syrians with temporary protection without any discrimination”*  
(Suryantama, 2021, p.64).

Turkey has accepted the incoming refugees and is still the country with the highest number of Syrian refugees. In addition to the fact that Turkey borders Syria and is close in distance, the fact that Turkey is used as a stepping stone in the transition to EU countries has also been effective in creating this situation (Öztürk and Çoltu, 2018, p.192). On this issue, various negotiations have been held between the European Union and Turkey regarding financial support for Syrian refugees and the repatriation of Syrian refugees who have crossed into European territory illegally.

Turkey is a party to the 1951 Geneva Convention, but has geographical reservations to the convention. Accordingly, Turkey grants refugee status only to immigrants from Council of Europe member countries. So in summary; Due to Turkey's reservation to the Geneva Convention, defining Syrians in Turkey as refugees is not a legally appropriate definition. Due to the increase in the number of Syrians in Turkey and the necessity of a legal definition, it was decided to grant "temporary protection" status to Syrians in Turkey in accordance with the 1994 regulation. The idea behind granting this status is that the war in Syria will end and the Syrians will return to their country (Toktaş and Tok, 2022).

The Syrian Civil War had various effects on Turkey. The most important of these effects is the security area. The civil war in Syria has led to the disappearance of the state order and the emergence of non-state organizations. As a result of Turkey's border with Syria being taken under the control of terrorist organizations and their attempts to attack Turkey, border security has disappeared and Turkey has begun to perceive a threat.

With the arrival of Syrian refugees to Turkey and settling in the border cities, housing problems arose and abnormal increases in rents occurred and the cost of living began to increase in all of these cities. Syrians' desire to seek employment and survive has led to an increase in the informal economy and cheaper workers' wages. Although this situation may seem positive for the employer, from the perspective of the paid employee, it causes them to be forced to work for a lower wage or lose their job. This situation caused tension in the relations between local citizens and Syrian refugees and the beginning of social anti-refugee sentiment (Orhan and Gündoğar, 2015, p.17).

According to the survey results of the Metropoll survey company in 2012, right after Syrian refugees started coming to Turkey, 52% of the Turkish people stated that they did not agree with allowing Syrians to enter the country, while 66% stated that other future refugees should be turned away (Makovsky, 2019, p.13). While this survey was being conducted, there were only 80,000 Syrian refugees in Turkey and many of them were in camps. In the survey conducted in 2018, 83% of Turks stated that they viewed Syrian refugees negatively, and 80% declared that Syrians should be sent back. Again, in the survey conducted in 2018, the first complaint of Turkish participants was unemployment, which increased by 28% and the thought that the reason for this was Syrians, while the second place was begging with 18%, the third place was not paying taxes, the fourth place was terrorism and security problems, and the last place was the decrease in wages (Makovsky, 2019, pp.14-15).

Along with the population coming from Syria, the ability of children born in Turkey to receive education and gain the equipment to shape their future is also an important factor in shaping the future of refugees. Looking at the statistics of the Ministry of National Education (Ministry of National Education of the Republic of Turkey), while the schooling rate of students under temporary protection who were of educational age was 34.42% in 2014, this rate was increased to 64.68%



in 2021 as a result of the studies and projects carried out. While this rate is highest at 79.86% in primary school, it drops to 40.14% in high school. It is very difficult to carry out and manage the education processes of 774 thousand 257 students under temporary protection who have access to education (MEB, 2021). The fact that this proportion of students receive education under the Ministry of Education reveals the perception of the Turkish society that refugees are the reason for the deterioration of the education system.

It is an obvious fact that Syrians impose a burden on Turkey in the fields of education, health and security. Prolonging their stay in Turkey increases tension and creates intolerance between Turkish society and Syrians. The difficulty of integration processes and the economic crises occasionally cause tensions to rise between the two societies.

### **3.2 Lebanon:**

Lebanon is a country where tensions have been experienced since the day it existed due to the presence of refugees and internal conflicts have occurred due to the political structure brought by the current constitutional order. In addition to being the most important country where Palestinian refugees emerged as a result of the Arab-Israeli wars, the effectiveness of Palestinian resistance organizations in the country has come with a heavy price. Refugees who were temporarily settled in Lebanon during the wars that followed, especially the 1948-1949 Arab-Israeli War, are still in Lebanon. It is known that 500 thousand Palestinian refugees lived in Lebanon even before the Syrian Civil War (Pirinççi, 2018, p.49). When the legal status of refugees is examined, Lebanon has not ratified the 1951 Geneva convention and the 1967 protocol regarding the status of refugees. For this reason, although it has the right to deny refugee status and permanent residence permit to Syrians coming from Syria, there are thousands of people in its country who do not have refugee status and do not benefit from refugee rights

(Orhan, 2014, p.34). Following the start of the Syrian Civil War, Lebanon is the country hosting the highest number of Syrian refugees after Turkey. According to 2023 UNHCR data, there are 789 thousand 842 Syrian refugees in Lebanon, but it is known that this number is much higher. When Lebanon's population is compared to the refugees in the country, it is among the countries with the highest number of refugees in the world.

Before the Syrian Civil War, Syrians could easily enter and work in Lebanon without any restrictions. With the Syrian Civil War, Syrians' entry into Lebanon began to be restricted in 2014, and arrests and deportations began when crossing the border. Harsh practices against Syrian refugees; Restrictions on the areas where they can work have also been added. It was reported that Syrians could only work in agriculture, cleaning and construction in Lebanon, and they were prevented from working in other areas. The economic difficulties of the country and the very high rate of refugees were effective in making these decisions. Today, 90% of the refugees living in Lebanon live below the poverty line and 83% lack legal residence (Yasin, 2023).

The banking crisis in Lebanon in 2019 and the Beirut Port explosion in 2020 caused the collapse of the Lebanese economy. As a result of these processes, the Lebanese currency lost 80% of its value. While there is 140% inflation in the country, there is 40% unemployment. While the middle class is becoming poorer, the proportion of the extremely poor class is also increasing, reaching a point where they cannot afford food (Karasapan and Shah, 2021) . The resignation processes in the country's administration and the uncertainties brought about by not being able to elect a leader further deepen this crisis. The deterioration in the economy and the worsening of living conditions have led to an increase in racist discourses against Syrians in Lebanon and their being portrayed as responsible for the economic collapse. Lebanese Prime Minister Necip Mikati, in his speech

at the United Nations General Assembly in 2022, said that Lebanon cannot continue to bear the burden of refugees and that Syrian refugees should be sent back to Syria safely and honorably with a road map (Yasin, 2023).

In Lebanon, public services, including infrastructure, health and education systems, have almost come to a standstill. Accessing health services has become more difficult and waiting times have increased. For example, there has been a 27% increase in tuberculosis since 2011, and it has become difficult to find equipment and medicine in the healthcare system. In the education system, only 27% of Lebanese children attend public schools, while the rest attend private schools due to service disruptions. Regarding infrastructure, it has been determined that 92% of the sewage in Akkar and Bekaa is released into the nature without treatment, as the cost of treating waste water cannot be covered (Cherri, Arcos and Castro, 2016, p. 169).

The negativities caused by Syrian refugees in the countries they go to are similar in many countries, but the most important feature that distinguishes Lebanon from other countries is its political structure and divided government according to sects. While this situation has the capacity to disrupt sectarian balances in the country in the long run, it also has the potential to create conflict dynamics between refugees and various sectarian groups. The current economic conditions of the country and the fact that some political parties target Syrians increase social tension. Considering the Palestinian refugee problems in the country's history and the Lebanese Civil War that has continued for many years, the issue of Syrian refugees is a difficult and dangerous phenomenon for the country.

### **3.3 Jordan:**

According to UNHCR figures for 2023, it is reported that 651 thousand 359 Syrian refugees live in Jordan. When the reasons why Syrian refugees went to Jordan at the beginning of the civil war are examined, it is seen that geographical proximity, kinship relations and common culture are the main reasons. While 80% of Syrian refugees who came to Jordan lived in cities, only 20% settled in camps (Orhan, 2014, p. 21). At the beginning of the Syrian Civil War, the Jordanian administration implemented an open-door policy towards Syrian refugees, believing that this war would be short-lived and the current Syrian regime would be overthrown, and welcomed all incoming Syrians.

When we look at the legal status of Syrian refugees in Jordan, we see that Jordan has not signed the 1951 Geneva Convention. Instead, the policy is carried out within the framework of the law prepared in Jordan. Accordingly, within the framework of the general principles of international law, the principle of not sending back those who come to the country in situations that threaten life and freedom is accepted. Despite the principle that refugees coming to the country should not be sent back, according to the law made in Jordan in 1952, only Jordanian citizens are allowed to work in Jordan. Those with a residence permit and passport can only work with the permission of the Ministry of Labor, and this permit is only valid for jobs that are not suitable for the experience and abilities of Jordanian citizens (Orhan, 2014, pp. 22-23).

The Jordanian administration implemented a humanitarian policy that enabled refugees who came to the country to benefit from health and education opportunities free of charge at the beginning of the Syrian Civil War. This policy brought an additional financial burden to the country, but it continued to be implemented. Of course, the financial burden was not only caused by Syrian refugees. The unstable

environment created by the Syrian Civil War in the region affected Jordan's exports and imports and caused a decrease in investments in Jordan (Kenar and Abdullahoğlu, 2021, p. 305). The instability in the region has also changed Jordan's policy towards Syrian refugees. The open-door policy applied to Syrian refugees until 2016 was abandoned as a result of the bomb attack carried out by ISIS members in the town of Rukban, located on the Jordan-Syria border, in 2016. Jordan closed its border with Syria and Syrian refugees trying to cross into Jordan from the other side of the border began to accumulate at the border line (Pirinçi, 2018, 52).

In recent years, the reactions of Jordanian citizens towards Syrian refugees have increased. Jordanian citizens state that Syrians have the jobs they should have and that the Jordanian government grants many rights to Syrians, but the same does not apply to them. The perception among Jordanians that Syrian refugees receive too much aid from the Jordanian government, and that the large number of Syrians threatens the national integrity of the country and negatively affects its economy, increases social discomfort and paves the way for reactions against Syrian refugees (Nafez and Saeb, 2020, p.186). 85% of Jordanian workers say that Syrians should be prevented from freely entering the country, and 65% say that Syrians should live in camps. 84% of Jordanian citizens state that the financial support of Syrians is desperately unfair (Francis, 2015, pp. 7-8).

The burden on the education system and health system is increasing, and the density in these areas reduces the quality of service. The increase in negativities in the economic field disrupts public services. The increase in refugees increases the demand for housing, which in turn increases housing and product prices. In addition to the high cost of living, problems have also begun to appear in working life. Although it is not legally possible for Syrian refugees to work in Jordan, it is estimated that approximately 160 thousand Syrians work

unregistered in the agriculture, construction and service sectors. The increase in the informal economy is reflected in unemployment figures. It is known that the unemployment rate, which was 14.5% in March 2011, increased to 22% in 2014. This unfair situation causes job competition to increase, workers' wages to decrease, and the welfare level of Jordanian citizens to decrease (Francis, 2015, pp. 11-12).

## **RESULT**

Exactly 12 years have passed since the demonstrations began in Syria and turned into conflict. During this period, it was not possible for the majority of the refugees who took refuge in Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan to return to their countries, and it does not seem possible in a short time. Syrian refugees' efforts to survive, based on the fact that their stay in the countries where they take refuge are getting longer and that they need to survive within the society, are creating problems in the countries they are in. Especially in recent times, the blame for the deterioration in the economies of the countries in the region falls on Syrian refugees. In addition, disruptions in public services and differences arising from cultural incompatibility with refugees increase the reaction to refugees.

It does not seem possible to solve the Syrian refugee problem in a short time. Over the course of time, many refugees have established their order in the countries they go to and are trying to somehow exist within the society they live in. Considering the length of time they stay in the countries they go to, it seems very difficult for Syrian refugees to return, even if a safe environment is created in Syria. Because in the intervening period, the order and conditions they left behind in the country they return to will not be there.

When we look at the countries where Syrian refugees are concentrated, Turkey differs from other countries in terms of the Syrian refugees it hosts. The fact that Turkey is a more democratic and free country among the countries in the region has created a center of

attraction for refugees. Despite this, the cultural structure of Turkish society and Syrian refugees is different from each other and it will take time for them to adapt. The large number of refugees in Turkey makes it difficult for them to integrate into society. The situation is different in Jordan and Lebanon. Syrian refugees are culturally compatible with these countries, but Lebanon's sect-based state structure and deep economic crisis increase the impact of Syrian refugees on the country. In Jordan, the effects of refugees are mostly related to the economic field. Jordan's past experiences with Palestinian refugees have resulted in a more cautious and control-oriented approach towards Syrians.

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## **CHAPTER VII**

### **INNOVATIVE OPEN SPACE DESIGN IN REFUGEE CAMPS: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION WINNERS**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Refugee camps looking to foster health, community, and dignity need to pay much more attention to the design of their open spaces. The main reason is that with the high number of displaced persons growing daily, there are increasingly free-ranging solutions for open space generated through design competitions focusing on refugee housing worldwide. This chapter focuses on the design of open space in the three projects that won prizes in architectural competitions for refugee camps. Comparing these winners with the standards established by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees should give a glimpse of new concepts in the design of refugee relief.

## **BACKGROUND**

The UNHCR offers detailed guidance regarding how to design refugee settlements in accordance with international human rights laws and ethics. The six criteria for model refugee shelters proposed by the organization are safety, availability of essential services, treatment of weak groups, whether refugees are genuinely allowed to participate, and whether psychosocial well-being is supported through community building (Paidakaki et al.,2021). Well-planned community areas within the camps can achieve many of these simple objectives. These open spaces fulfill practical functions such as making aid easier to distribute in times of emergency, allowing more expansive space for social gatherings and markets that generate more warmth between people, and natural spaces that enrich the mental outlook. In recent years, competitions on design concepts for refugee housing have emphasized consideration for a particular setting concerning the UNHCR's open-space issues (Jaradat & Beunders, 2023). This analysis evaluates the open space provisions of three award-winning refugee camp plans. These plans are the winner of the Mosul Post War Camp competition, the Mayukwayukwa Refugee Camp competition, and the Maiden Tent Architectural competition. By examining how these plans incorporate

sheltered community centers, green spaces, occupation-oriented activities, or customized outdoor areas, it is possible to identify ways to improve relief settlement models worldwide. Notably, due to the problems of climate change and conflict, mass migration in various parts of the world has made it essential to design dignified refugee spaces that meet protection standards.

## **1. MOSUL POST-WAR COMPETITION WINNER**

### **1.1 Project Overview**

"Impulse," by the French team of Alexandre Houdet, Valentine Aguiar, Antonin Belot, and Hans Fritsch, was the winning design for a transitional refugee shelter, seeking to combine flexibility, dignity, and community resilience in one package. The firm was organized by competition and requested to design community-oriented, environmentally sustainable master plans for Mosul communities victimized by fighting with ISIS (Vollmer, 2021). Surrounded by a communal courtyard, the settlement included modular housing clusters that can be recombined on demand. This feature welcomes social spaces and infrastructure that foster autonomy and neighbourhood spirit for these people, re-establishing their lives after the conflict. The prefab modular blocks are not only defined by their use of space but also have an area of privacy built around each individual and an area around shared yards for participation consisting of converted shipping containers with curtain wall inserts. The secure, durable container shells provide comfortable and practical living conditions and can accommodate flexible room arrangements (Wardeh & Marques, 2023). Apart from that, curtain wall infills, and operable screens made from recycled materials provide flexibility to adapt to the inhabitant's needs as their families change, create a sense of connection to outside space, and provide room for expressing personality. Therefore, the incremental process of building a shelter has dignity and ownership built right in, making it conducive, as seen in Figure 1.

The designers placed public facilities such as market stalls, urban farming sites, adaptable workshop spaces, and public squares and gardens. All these were meant to help the residents of these modular housing neighbourhoods build communal solidarity and economic autonomy (Archstorming, 2018). Placing these collaborative arenas of livelihood and green landscapes with homes brings together community nurturing and self-sufficiency efforts at the core of neighbourhood existence and not on the institution's borders. Moreover, the broad central courtyard, which would hold events, sports, urban gardening projects, or weekend markets, has space for the refugee community to rebuild in terms of symbolism and practice. The "Breathing Ground" design is a dynamic perforated canopy that filters filtered sunlight and creates a gathering place for the people (Mollica & Hakobyan, 2021). In general, Impulse attempts a delicate balance of acute refugee needs and caring collective spaces, utilities, and programming, which provide a space for refugees and help them transition into culture makers, rebuilding bits of home in the process.



**Figure 1:** The 'Impulse' project won the architectural competition for the post-war camp in Mosul.

**Source:** Archstorming, 2018

## 1.2 Evaluation Against UNHCR Open Space Standards

A careful analysis of the Impulse proposal regarding the UNHCR's guidelines for shelter planning and site organization show a commendable degree of unity with the organization's rights, dignity, and



inclusion ideals ((UNHCR Emergency Handbook, 2023). Based on the analysis, there is room for conceivable improvement in technicalities and localization. Design concepts such as family modular housing and the central courtyard help them meet many recommended criteria, such as safety, accessibility, and community participation (Ghanem, 2020). Nevertheless, it is worth considering and exploring further steps in regional vernacular architecture regarding climate responsiveness, capacity, and population planning. This approach can help balance allocating shared resources by establishing earlier connections between housing and basic infrastructure (Archstorming, 2018). As such, a physical nexus would begin with stronger foundations of localization, infrastructural integration, and sustainability.

Regarding the design for modular living, the refurbished shipping containers offer safe, sturdy, modular housing that can be expanded or reduced in size as the family's needs change over the years in exile. All operable panels provide ventilation and daylight, while screened opening panels are for privacy and individualization, which are in short supply in camps (Archstorming, 2018). Furthermore, the container construction system allows for variations in the collective structural setup or geographic transfer if required. However, there could be even higher standards for refugee living conditions by developing more culturally accessible, climate-sensitive shelter solutions with even greater specificity to the Mosul regional context. Grappling with passive ventilation, thermal massing, and traditional Middle Eastern courtyard house typologies might lead to dwelling form and construction methods that closely match place-based vernacular architecture (Saeed et al.,2022). Finding a way to use the abundant regional raw materials for structural analysis, such as stone rubble or fired bricks left over from damaged buildings, would be of even more help to localized placemaking and the economy than importing foreign container

infrastructure. Thus, intelligently designed transitional shelters can transform marginalized groups and maintain cultural autonomy.

From the standpoint of social infrastructure, the central courtyard designed for participation by residents (known as "Breathing Ground") and the community building spaces are essential. It will provide recommended programming to foster social ties, skills relating to livelihoods, and general well-being, enabling refugees to maintain dignity and meaning in their lives, even along with the provision of material necessities (Ghanem, 2020). For this reason, it respects freedom of movement and assembly. This flexible covered public space for events, cultural happenings, sports, communal gardening, and markets takes mental health seriously in a traumatic situation. Placing offices and training facilities in this area creates an open entry to gathering information, and the building becomes part and parcel of the neighborhood.

Nevertheless, measurable capacity goals could be made to reflect population demographics, phased growth goals, global density standards for the housing clusters, and layout density goals for the communal areas. Mainly, all these will solidify implementation and optimize land utilization. Demand-driven rightsizing of shared infrastructure and facilities meets current residents' needs while also considering potential future residents' needs, eliminating mismatched resources and spatial provisions (Mollica & Hakobyan, 2021). Effectively dimensioned social spaces are based on model projections of population metrics and flows at each phase.

Lastly, developing better physical links and routes early between housing districts, road access points, and essential camp facilities can perhaps make for more integrated and accessible neighborhood planning. According to Saeed et al. (2022), prioritizing these vital connections can bring community impact into higher grades as spaces are woven into a vibrant pedestrian microcosm. When post-war reconstruction is

underway, building channeled roads, walkways, and pipelines to community health centers, schools, and distribution sites for humanitarian assistance and public transport makes it easier to provide public services at a district level in all major areas (Dalal et al.,2018). Noteworthy, to make good use of such uncertainty, compact, connected neighborhoods centered around social courtyards can become vital communal spaces, wayfinding anchors, and soothing landmarks in an otherwise chaotic environment.

## **2. MAYUKWAYUKWA REFUGEE CAMP COMPETITION WINNER**

### **2.1. Project Overview**

The design by Alexander Heilig and Steffen Knab, which won the Mayukwayukwa Refugee Camp competition, reflects a more advanced open community space concept. The design takes advantage of the existing tree in the center of the camp and turns an unused area into a town square where people can gather for events (Archstorming, n.d.). The project has been approved for its sensitivity to local climate and culture, attention to sustainability, and community-participatory spirit. The designers want to create a free, open space where everyone in the refugee community can unite. Therefore, they chose a layout based on a large native tree that can provide shade and perform a public service function. Figure 2.0 shows the winning design.



**Figure 2:** Mayukwayukwa Refugee Camp Open Concept

**Source:** Archstorming, n.d.

In contrast to the camp's little paths and cramped corner houses, a square is suitable for refugees to make markets or have activities or meetings. This openness has come from values of freedom and togetherness within the community. Sustainability-oriented creative elements aimed at this fragile group can be found in the central square. Solar panels both provide renewable electricity and shade-gathering areas. Rainwater collection tanks bordering the open spaces can provide water for irrigation and washing. The designers also specified local natural materials like earth, wood, and stone wherever possible to increase cultural familiarity (Gronau & Ruesink, 2021). The project promotes environmental awareness and local capacity building by interweaving sustainable features with communal areas. Overall, the thoughtfully planned open spaces, sustainable systems, and community-driven approach make this project innovative and well-suited to the Mayukwayukwa Refugee Camp. The central square will significantly improve the quality of life in this vulnerable community.

## **2.2. Cultural Sensitivity and Community Engagement**

While Alexander Heilig and Steffen Knab's winning design has several strengths, opportunities exist to enhance the cultural alignment and depth of community engagement. Ensuring strong sensitivity to local values and including refugees in each planning phase will improve outcomes in the Mayukwayukwa camp. Though ambitious in scope, the project would benefit from an even more immersive community planning approach. One area that could be improved is strengthening cultural symbols and familiar community gathering spaces within the open square design. While centered around a native tree, the architects could further integrate natural elements and layouts that closely resonate with regional traditions. By consulting extensively with Zambian cultural leaders, tribal elders, and oral historians within the refugee population, the designers can identify specific objects, patterns, colors, spatial arrangements, and architectural features that have a deeper

meaning for local customs. For instance, certain totemic animals like the fish eagle or geometric textile designs may have symbolic significance. Circular gathering areas around fire pits echo how communities traditionally came together to make decisions. Integrating these more nuanced yet meaningful aspects will make the space more comforting, familiar, and representative for the refugees.

Additionally, the designers could involve a broader spectrum of demographics from the refugee community in the planning and design process. While the competition submission showed they engaged some refugees directly through focus groups and workshops, incorporating perspectives from women, children, teenagers, the elderly, tribal leaders, religious clergy, and other underrepresented groups could reveal different needs, values, and insights about community space. Broad participation through more workshops, discussion groups, design submissions, and community voting on elements and priorities could produce more unexpected cultural revelations to weave into the square. Engaging and empowering the most diverse possible voices while explicitly seeking out the council of Zambian cultural authorities and oral historians within the camp population is likely to unearth unique regional and tribal traditions, stories, rituals, and symbols that may inspire the space at a deeper level. Planning the communal square with broad refugee representation and insights will evolve into a cross-generational, multi-purpose area that subtly echoes Zambian culture.

Finally, the architects could create more hands-on, tangible opportunities for refugees to directly participate in the construction, decoration, and programming of the public spaces, building elements of the central square with their own hands using local materials and crafting techniques. Structured training programs on constructing cob benches and sandbag habitations, weaving shade structures from grass and bamboo, embellishing mosaic artwork for walls, and carving ornamental poles and symbols from wood can allow refugees to shape spaces

themselves intricately. Inviting people of all ages to paint murals on facades depicting regional stories and myths or inset the main gathering tree with culturally symbolic metals and fabrics turns the square into living folk art. Enabling the community to alter their surroundings physically forges an intensely stronger sense of ownership, inclusion, and investment in the final product than merely consulting them on plans. Facilitating raw building workshops and beautification programming allows the refugees to transition from victims of circumstance to active shapers of their communal environment.

### **2.3. Community Participation**

Also, unusual and especially noteworthy is the amount of community participation that went into the design of this winning entry. It was important for the designers to encourage refugees to play a significant part and design the central square around the refugees' needs (Malama, 2023). Workshops, meetings, discussions, and inviting their views on essential decisions heighten the refugees' sense of owning and investing in space. Only with this kind of participation can the community be enabled and given significance, and long-term participation can be enabled. Apart from that, the architects could push the concept of community participation by holding several refugee-led design workshops (Archstorming, n.d.). This approach was meant to harvest ideas from the community about the central square's layout, landscaping, architectural elements, decorations, and even the uses it will be put to daily.

In terms of gender, age, ethnicity levels, and family size, small groups of refugees could be led through gamified creative placemaking activities, such as building architectural models, participatory mapping, illustrative drawings, and rationing out play money according to different features of importance. The designers organized community hands-on building workshops for making decorative and functional items such as tiled seats, carved posts, woven shade shelters, ornamental garden banks,

and murals of cultural symbols and oral histories (Archstorming, n.d.). Courses specializing in natural construction methods such as cob, adobe, bamboo, recycled materials, and fabric decoration all weave elements of ability and components into a network that forms the central square. These community participation formats are immersive, giving the refugees new life. Refugees can manifest a dream gathering space without waiting for some outside professional (Ndimurwimo & Vundamina, 2021). Thus, such close collaboration with residents usually enables one to create an area with a more vital, grassroots, democratic, collective energy than high design from on high.

As seen from this architecture, exercises that bring refugee visions into the design process and let participants take concrete steps toward participating in design and construction turn the central square from something imposed on the inhabitants to something cultivated from within. These refugee collaborative workshops and hands-on building opportunities are opportunities for a degree of authority and creative license unprecedented in the world (Ndimurwimo & Vundamina, 2021).

As such, design emerged directly from communal resources rather than coming from outside experts. This level of active participation in conceptual design and actual building of these responsive elements provided an extremely precious sense of direct, meaningful contribution, ability development, and proprietorship with personal effort. In the process, easily recognizable local stamps were left on the square as "designed and built by refugees." This project has great potential to turn traditionally unequal power relations into humanitarian design through equality (Williams, 2020). This experience of creative self-realization and community self-respect, the unique rewards of partially constructing their main meeting hall, can encourage displaced people to transform themselves from victims to change makers ruling their own positive living space.

### **3. MAIDEN TENT ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION WINNERS**

#### **3.1. Project Overview**

In 2016, the Maidan Tent Architectural Competition started to find a new gathering place that would allow refugee camp residents suffering from trauma and uncertainty to be mentally healthier and more socially connected. The competition accepted works from 42 countries with more than 230 entries because they are grounded in a particular background. Therefore, many tent designs capable of bringing together gatherings, interaction and relief were achieved through the strength of design alone. Architects Leo Bettini Oberkalmsteiner and Bonaventura Visconti di Modrone won with their Maidan design, which means public place (Walsh, 2018). They just put a wooden platform under the domed tent, a simple suspension of fabric that gives residents space for a well-secured yet open community. The swirling height of the roof-like design also works as a visual anchor and allows for outwardly facing lines that connect participants to the greater world around them. It can be lit at night to produce a glow of clouds on the ceiling. As a result, with its off-white interior and moveable seating, rugs, artwork and programming, the refugees can transform this minimalist wooden floor into a home, as shown in Figure 3.





**Figure 3:** Maidan Tent

**Source:** Walsh, 2018

The Maidan Tent provides a simple yet effective social space for residents of a refugee camp. It is a covered public space that is not reserved for government officials, but rather for the people living in the camp. The tent serves as a middle ground between private shelters and large aid warehouses, offering a flexible and psychologically uplifting environment. It promotes communal living and helps displaced people maintain a sense of normalcy in chaotic conditions. The Maidan Tent is a practical and adaptable solution for creating diverse social spaces in a refugee camp.

### **3.2. Comparison to UNHCR Open Space Standards**

The two award-winning designs that triumphed in the Maidan Tent competition- "Maidan" and the "Hope and Peace for Refugees" proposal- likely exhibited creative vision appropriate to the objectives of the Maidan Tent competition brief. However, questions of functional planning, from the standpoint of humanitarian infrastructure, should still be subject to the constructive comparison of these designs (Gillebo &

Leknes-Kilmork, 2018). It should be done with the UNHCR's criteria and guidelines for required facilities. Open spaces in refugee camps shed light on the areas where the designs need improvement for layout, durability, capacity, accessibility, resilience, sustainability, and integration within the camp (UNHCR Emergency Handbook, 2023). If early substantive contact with the site could be pursued, the quality of both these shelter suggestions could be improved.

In the Maidan Tent, due to the vagueness of its scale and proportion, after implementation, there could be severe imbalances of capacity over various levels that negate the community-building spirit of the tent. The formal tent gesture no longer has precise dimensional prescriptions, technical drawings, equipment specifications, or programmatic occupation planning. As such, calculating the proper size, height, and structural abilities to match intended uses, expected numbers of users, the scale of various gatherings, or connection to other circulation systems in the camp becomes difficult. Based on refugee camp population meters and projecting growth, clear capacity guidelines for intended uses could be used to model ideal physical dimensions and features for social encounters. Scale and proportions could be directly attached to hosting capability targets for numbers of refugees and types of programs. Doing so could allow for the final built form to be more quickly brought into line with the functions given by the goals of community building.

Similarly, by creatively expressing symbolic thematic freedoms and hopes, the broad roof structure in Hope and Peace for Refugees needs to tackle the technical details of construction timbers and spans, load capacities, and the quality of connections. These novel architectural forms should improve and not hinder utility (Yekelchyk,2023). Therefore, the designers should size and model the canopy according to the size conducive for gathering the kind of rainfall and wind loads it can bear. The size should also be conducive for gathering the kinds of

construction with readily available regional materials and workforce for each refugee camp site. Confidence that the tent's structure is intact also provides opportunities to use it for future creative purposes, such as water collection or solar power infrastructure. Even expressive architecture must allow functional flow and endurance.

## CONCLUSION

The comparative analysis of open space design ideas presented across the three competition winners reveals a compelling shift in refugee camp planning – one that prioritizes human-centred spaces fostering community, dignity, and well-being.

The key findings from the comparative analysis of open space design in refugee camps highlight transformative approaches across the three competition-winning projects. Multifunctionality is a central theme, as all projects underscore the importance of adaptable spaces catering to diverse needs, such as gathering areas and small-scale agriculture. Accessibility is prioritized, ensuring physical inclusivity for all residents, aligning with UNHCR standards, and fostering a sense of belonging. The integration of greenery and vegetation emerges as a crucial element, contributing to climate mitigation, well-being, and empowering residents through community gardening. Contextual sensitivity, exemplified by the Mayukwayukwa design, emphasizes cultural considerations, fostering a sense of connection and identity for displaced communities. Scalability and adaptability, presented by the Maiden Tent project, highlight modular structures to meet evolving needs, providing flexibility and optimal resource utilization. Finally, the Mosul Post-War Camp illustrates how open spaces can catalyse healing and social cohesion in post-conflict settings by integrating historical elements and prioritizing community spaces for long-term recovery.

UNHCR open space standards are crucial for refugee communities. These standards ensure sufficient open space, freedom of

movement, recreation, natural light and ventilation. Diverse open spaces cater to different needs, promote inclusivity, and prioritize safety. Accessibility ensures inclusivity for all. Community participation fosters ownership and empowerment. Winning projects showcase innovative approaches, acknowledge challenges, and lay a robust foundation for future camp planning.

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