

# Refugee Law and Policy



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## A Comparative and International Approach

FIFTH EDITION

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*This book is dedicated to the many teachers  
from whom I've learned that being human  
means not to turn away from suffering, but to embrace it with  
compassion and an abiding belief in transformation and healing.  
And to my husband, mentor, and co-author, Richard,  
one of the most gentle souls on  
earth, whose love and faith in me never fails to illuminate my path.*  
—K.M.

*To my daughters  
Kyra Elizabeth and Tessa Irene  
and my partner  
Felipe Gonzales  
—J.M.*

*To Karen for her deep compassion for all beings and her tireless quest for justice.  
And to the refugees and all who seek refuge—may they receive protection.*  
—R.A.B.

*To my family  
—A.D.*



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I believe that as legal scholars we do have a valuable role to play in articulating and lifting up the experiences of human beings who survive violence, material deprivation, and persecution. At the same time, we learn constantly from the refugees and other displaced people with and for whom we work. Their resilience, resourcefulness, courage, and kindness continue to inspire me and to kindle my own contributions to our common endeavors.

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In these troubling times, when so much of this nation's energies are focused on military action, border security and building walls, we are very rapidly losing sight of the humanitarian ideals which came about following the horrific tragedies of World War II. The response of so many countries, particularly our own, is a blight and dangerous harbinger for the future of refugee and humanitarian law. This is a time for all of us who care about the plight of refugees to redouble our efforts to make meaningful change possible. It is for this reason that I give special acknowledgement and gratitude to the millions of displaced persons and refugees and those who work tirelessly to provide them shelter. May there come a time when the refugee is no more.

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