

# 1. FORCED DISPLACEMENT IN THE WORLD

## (PHOTOGRAPHS 1 - 2)

*What you see in the photographs are displaced persons camps. What could be the reason why people leave their homes to live in camps like these? People live in camps like these for months or even years. Many children are born and grow up in these places, and never know any other home. What do you think it would be like to live somewhere like this?*

To talk about displaced people, we need to understand certain concepts:

A refugee is someone who is forced to leave their home or place of residence because of war or persecution on the basis of race, religion, nationality, political beliefs, belonging to a certain social group or sexual orientation. When they flee, they leave everything behind and cross their country's borders, usually going to a country that borders their own. Refugees are protected by the 1951 Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, which guarantees certain fundamental rights, largely relating to the concept of no-return: people with refugee status cannot return to their country of origin.



# 1. FORCED DISPLACEMENT IN THE WORLD

## (PHOTOGRAPHS 1 - 2)

A **displaced** person is someone who has had to leave their home for similar reasons to those of refugees, but without crossing an internationally-recognised border, i.e. without leaving their country. Currently, the international community is not obliged to protect displaced people. Instead, they depend on their own country's government, since they are still within the country. The majority of them are in a situation of risk.

Refugees and displaced people are different from economic migrants, who are people who leave their homes with the aim of improving their economic situation, usually of their own will. June 20th is World Refugee Day.

According to UNHCR, at the end of 2016, an average of 20 people per minute are forced to leave their homes and seek refuge, whether within their own country's borders or in other countries. The total number of displaced people is 65.6 million, of whom 22.5 million are refugees, 40.3 million are internally displaced people and 2.8 million are people who have applied for asylum<sup>1</sup>.

There are refugee camps around the world, and they are not just in distant places or warring countries. Some of them are very close to us, such as the ones in France and Greece. As these photos show, some refugee camps are enormous and function like cities.

- Calais, Francia: [Link](#)
- Zaatari, Jordania: [Link](#)
- Dadaab, Kenya: [Link](#)
- Mogadiscio, Somalia: [Link](#)
- Quios, Grecia: [Link](#)

---

1 ACNUR: "Tendencias Globales sobre refugiados y otras personas de interés del ACNUR" (in Spanish): <http://www.acnur.org/recursos/estadisticas/> (Accesed 12th of January 2018).

# 1. FORCED DISPLACEMENT IN THE WORLD

## (PHOTOGRAPHS 1 - 2)

At the same time, it is important to remember the following:

The world of refugees is no accident. **Behind every refugee, there is a cause: there is a government, an army or some companies that produce this sort of situation in order to pursue their own interests.** [...] The refugee problem does not just require one-off assistance. It requires a commitment to transform society. A recognition that a well society cannot be built on creating a state of unwellness in other countries. Statement by Mateo Agirre S.J., Director of the

Jesuit Refugee Service, JRS (1994-2008).

a Project of:



**ALBOAN**

Jesuiten bultzatutako Fundazioa  
ONG promovida por los Jesuitas

To:



**CONFLICT  
FREE  
TECHNOLOGY**

Help:



**DONOSTIA  
SAN SEBASTIÁN**