

FAHAMU

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Links are marked in [blue](#).

New Mexican Legislation on Refugees and Complementary Protection

Contributed by [Bárbara Pérez-Martínez](#), the Protection Director for the Mexican Commission for Refugee Aid in Mexico City, Mexico.

Throughout the twentieth century, Mexico has found different avenues by which to provide protection to refugees in need of protection. Among the first instruments implemented by the Mexican Government was the concept of political asylum, based on a legal institution born in the Inter American System in the 1920's designed to provide protection to high profile political and military leaders. Diplomatic asylum could also be requested at Mexican Embassies and granted to individuals or small groups of asylum seekers who were outside Mexico but in need of protection. In the first decades of the 20th Century, thousands of refugees fleeing Franco's Spain found shelter in Mexico from the persecution they faced in their country. Three decades later, Mexico opened its doors to hundreds of South American nationals escaping dictatorial regimes; and by the 1980s, as a result of the conflict experienced in Central America, Mexico provided protection to a large number of Salvadorians and thousands of Guatemalans.

As a result of this last exodus, in 1990 Mexico incorporated a definition of a refugee into the Mexican General Population Law. However, because by then Mexico was not a signatory of the [1951 Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees](#), the refugee definition incorporated in the General Population Law was based on that established in the [1984 Cartagena Declaration on Refugees](#). This definition considers a person to be a refugee when he/she has fled the country of residence in order to protect his/her life, safety or freedom, when these have been threatened by generalised violence, foreign aggression, internal conflicts, massive violation of human rights or other circumstances which have seriously disturbed public order.

It was not until 2000 that Mexico became signatory of the 1951 Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its [1967 Protocol](#). In 2002, the Mexican Government assumed responsibility for individual refugee status determination (RSD) adjudication, a task previously carried out by the UNHCR Country Office in Mexico. Even though the 1951 Convention definition was not included in the General Population Law, as a matter of 'good practice' the Mexican Government took elements from both the Cartagena Declaration and the 1951 Convention definition of a refugee into consideration. Still, Mexico did not have a specific Refugee Legislation.

On 26th January, 2011, however, Mexican President Felipe Calderón [enacted](#) the new '[Law on Refugees and Complementary Protection](#)'. This Law makes significant improvements to Mexico's refugee protection practices. Several of the more relevant aspects of the new Law include:

1. A broader refugee definition encompassing the Cartagena Declaration, the 1951 Geneva Convention (including gender as a specific nexus), as well as [Sur Place refugees](#):

- a) Owing to a well- founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, **gender**, membership in a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his/her 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 of 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.
- b) Has fled his/her country of residence in order to protect his/her life, safety of freedom when threatened by generalised violence, foreign aggression, internal conflicts, massive violation of human rights or other circumstances which have seriously disturbed public order.
- c) When owing to circumstances that arose in his/her country of origin as a result of activities carried out during his stay in national territory, has well-founded fear of being persecuted for reason of race, religion, nationality, **gender**, membership to a particular social group or political opinion; or if his/her life, safety or freedom have

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NEWS

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TUNISIA: Tunisians [reject](#) externalisation of Italian border

KENYA: [Refugees face indiscriminate arrest and harassment](#) by Kenyan authorities

UGANDA: Landmark [court ruling](#) on right to privacy and dignity after newspaper [incites](#) anti-LGBTI violence

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CAMBODIA: Human Rights Watch demands [Cambodia ensure Montagnards' asylum rights](#) after refugee centre closure

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NEPAL: Increased numbers of Bhutanese refugees [resettled](#)

MIDDLE EAST

ISRAEL: Israeli government sets out [procedure](#) for handling political asylum seekers

TURKEY: Justice system [fails to protect](#) LGBTI survivors of sexual violence, hate crimes

EGYPT: Wikileaks cables reveal UNHCR's [challenges](#) in fulfilling its mandate; Iraqi [refugees flee](#) revolutionary unrest in Cairo

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UK: [Legal aid cuts](#) would 'disproportionately affect' voluntary sector, Asylum Tribunal allows appeals and provides guidance on considering [claims based on political action abroad](#)

GREECE: [Frontex to remain at Greece/Turkey border](#) permanently

LUXEMBOURG: European Court of Justice to [rule on homosexuality as grounds for persecution](#)

ITALY: Italy sought EU cash to 'tackle influx' after 5,000 Tunisians arrive in Lampedusa fleeing violence; [Frontex to 'help' Italy](#) deal with Tunisian migrants

IRELAND: UNHCR says Ireland needs a unified [asylum procedure](#)

AMERICAS

USA: 28 [Gay Jamaicans](#) granted asylum last year; LGBTI asylum-seekers [encounter new hurdle](#)

MEXICO: President signs [new refugee protection law](#) (see also article below)

CANADA: Government study [criticises detention](#) of asylum seekers and migrants, prompts study of alternatives

been threatened by generalised violence, foreign aggression, internal conflicts, massive violation of human rights or other circumstances which have seriously disturbed public order.

2. The Refugee and Complementary Protection Law guarantees the principles and criteria of: *non refoulement* (non-forced returns), the 'Best Interest of the Child', non-sanction for irregular entry to the country, non-discrimination, family unity and confidentiality.

3. It establishes the basis for clear procedures to determine eligibility, cessation, cancellation and revocation of refugee status.

4. It also allows for the establishment of mechanisms to grant Complementary Protection to those who, having not met the criteria to be recognised as refugees, could be at risk of torture, ill-treatment or other forms of cruel inhuman treatment. With this addition, Mexico becomes the first county in Latin America to establish such protection in its refugee law.

5. It sets the basis for specific guidelines in order to grant refugee status under the *prima facie* criteria.

6. It outlines applicant rights, refugee rights, and institutional assistance provided to them by government institutions, such as a travel document, permission to work, access to health services and health insurance. Regarding education, refugees have access to free primary education and lower cost for secondary education, as well as to provision for the recognition of educational qualifications. Asylum seekers are provided a temporary document that protects them from forced returns. Refugees (25% in 2010) are provided with an identity card and permanent residency which allows for naturalisation within the following two to five years depending upon other aspects on their nationality.

This new Legislation confirms Mexico's commitment to the harmonisation of legislation, to the respect of human rights of all individuals and the strengthening of Mexico's long and generous tradition of asylum. •

*The Fahamu Refugee Legal Aid Newsletter is distributed in **Pambazuka News**, the authoritative pan-African electronic weekly newsletter and platform for social justice in Africa. With over 1000 contributors and more than 500,000 readers, Pambazuka News provides cutting edge commentary and in-depth analysis on politics and current affairs, development, human rights, refugees, gender issues and culture in Africa. Visit [online](#) or subscribe by [email](#).*

Well-founded fear of future persecution not undermined by repeal of anti-sodomy law in Chile, or by non-persecution during short trip to Chile, US court rules

In an unpublished opinion, a US Court for the Ninth Circuit found that the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA) was misplaced in relying on the repeal of the anti-sodomy law in Chile. The status of the law is irrelevant to the petitioner's fear of persecution, given that arresting officers only claimed the statute as a basis for the petitioner's detention on one occasion and none of the incidents suffered were a result of violating the statute. The fact that the petitioner had travelled to Chile did not negate his well-founded fear (*Boer-Sedano v. Gonzales*, 418 F.3d 1082, 1091 (9th Cir.2005)), and the fact that he was not persecuted during this time was explained by the fact that he did nothing to expose his sexuality to his fellow citizens. Similarly to the case of *Karouni*, 399 F.3d at 1173, the argument that a lack of persecution during a short trip to Chile undermines the petitioner's well-founded fear of future persecution, is tantamount to 'saddling [the applicant] with the Hobson's choice of returning to [Chile] and either (1) facing persecution for engaging in future homosexual acts or (2) living a life of celibacy'. The BIA's suggestion that the petitioner could be safe in Chile if he behaved like he had during the short journey in essence meant that the INA wanted the petitioner 'to change a fundamental aspect of his human identity'.

REQUESTS & VACANCIES

Request for information: countries that do not or will not detain migrants

The [International Detention Coalition](#) seeks any further information on South America or other regions which have either a prohibition or a presumption against detention of migrants, or only use it as a last resort. Initial research from the Migration and Human Rights program, Centre of Human Rights, [National University of Lanus, Argentina](#), has shown that a number of countries in South America seem to have the most developed laws and policies internationally which include either a prohibition, a presumption against, or detention of migrants as a last resort; Venezuela has the strongest law in this regard, while Argentina has the most comprehensive law/policy/practice. If you have further information on countries that do not or will not detain migrants please email IDC director [Grant Mitchell](#).

Request for contacts: LGBTI resettlement programme

The [Organization for Refuge, Asylum & Migration \(ORAM\)](#) is launching its resettlement program for refugees fleeing persecution based on sexual orientation or gender identity. The aim is to create supported resettlement environments for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) refugees. The pilot resettlement site is San Francisco, but ORAM is also working with 'groups of five' sponsorship groups in Canada. ORAM is eager to immediately make this programme available to as many refugees as possible. Readers are encouraged to contact [Rachel Levitan](#) if they know of refugees who would qualify and could benefit from this ground-breaking program. The email should include a half-page profile outlining the person's gender, age, education, employment history, languages, reasons for fleeing country of origin and particular vulnerabilities. Partner groups are ready for an immediate referral.

Volunteer vacancies: legal advocates, Asylum Access, Ecuador, Tanzania, Thailand

[Asylum Access](#), a US-based international refugee rights organisation, seeks experienced legal professionals to serve as unpaid Volunteer Legal Advocates (VLAs) for at least six months in its offices in Quito, Dar es Salaam and Bangkok. VLAs receive intensive training in international refugee law, and practice before local offices of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees or local refugee status adjudicators. The ideal applicant will be a legal professional with substantive knowledge of international human rights and refugee law, including client counseling and advocacy. The candidate should be able to build relationships and adapt legal strategies to fit new and/or challenging circumstances. Client service experience and past work with vulnerable populations is a plus, and fluent professional English is essential. For full details and application instructions, see the pages for [Ecuador](#) (which requires professional-level Spanish), [Tanzania](#) (for which Swahili, French are a plus) and [Thailand](#) (for which Thai, Tamil and Urdu are a plus). Applications are accepted on a rolling basis; interested applicants are encouraged to submit theirs **as soon as possible**.

Vacancies: legal services managers, Asylum Access, Ecuador, Tanzania

[Asylum Access](#) is hiring highly-qualified Legal Services Director/Coordinator in their [Tanzania](#) and Ecuador ([En](#), [Es](#)) offices. The ideal applicant will be a legal professional with substantive knowledge of international human rights and refugee law, including client counseling and advocacy, who is able to build relationships and adapt legal strategies to fit new and/or challenging circumstances. Experience providing legal aid is especially desirable; also desirable is experience training and managing staff and volunteers and managing client services, and being able to work in a diverse and cross-cultural organisation. Fluent professional English is essential for both positions: French and/or Swahili are preferable for the Tanzania position, and fluent Spanish is essential for the Ecuador position. Applications should be submitted **as soon as possible, and no later than February 28, 2011**, via the weblinks above. Only candidates selected for interviews will be contacted.

‘Without LISTSERV she would have been sent home’: Justice for a refugee thanks to global networking

by [Edward Mundy](#), Fahamu Refugee Programme Intern

Imagine preparing a client's case without access to evidence, witnesses, and relevant case law. This is the situation that many legal aid providers in the global south (or developing world) face when advising refugees faced with *refoulement* or incarceration. Take, for example, the case of an asylum seeker residing in Angola who is threatened with *refoulement* to the Democratic Republic of Congo, which they fled amid accusations of witchcraft. Like many others, returning to their home leaves them at serious risk of torture, sexual assault, and murder. [UNICEF reported](#) on the recent increase in accusations and violence associated with witchcraft in central African countries in July 2010, in particular with relation to children. It is, however, exceptionally difficult to obtain concrete evidence for a specific case to support refugee status on the grounds of witchcraft accusations. Such accusations often occur in remote regions, witness statements are non-existent, and law is unenforced. When put into the context where the burden of credible proof rests on the refugee's testimony, conditions under which a lawyer representing refugees must operate, the task of defending a refugee's right to be protected is most challenging. With criminal proceedings, in countries with advanced judicial systems, the burden of proof has long fallen to the prosecution. With regard to refugees, however, the opposite is the case. Thus the ability of legal aid providers in the global south to pool information and resources is absolutely integral to the task.

In 2007 the [Southern Refugee Legal Aid Network \(SRLAN\)](#), was set up at a conference held in Nairobi by 16 refugee advocacy and legal aid NGOs. This network set out to bring together disparate legal aid providers and non-governmental organisations from countries across the world, with a focus on refugees in the global south. The Fahamu Refugee Programme website is directed by Professor Barbara Harrell-Bond who has dedicated her life's work, and subsequent retirement, to the rights of refugees. Establishing the [Refugee Law Project in Uganda](#) in 1999, and [Africa and Middle East Refugee Assistance \(Egypt\)](#) in 2000, as well as the world's first institution dedicated to refugee research – the [Refugee Studies Centre](#) in Oxford – in 1982, in 2005 she was honoured with an OBE in recognition of her contribution to refugee studies. Professor Harrell-Bond describes refugee law as ‘the most complicated aspect of law, encompassing everything from family law to criminal law’, yet it remains peripheral and critically underfunded across the world. Refugees continue to be the most under-represented social group in the world, and one whose treatment by governments across the world is worsening. Citing population pressures, governments in the EU, North America, and Australia have become increasingly restrictive, to the point that to reach ‘our’ shores one needs a

smuggler. And most countries in Europe swiftly deport their failed asylum seekers even though the availability of legal aid is declining and many refugees have to face their interviews without being represented. Despite having ratified the Convention Against Torture, which prohibits sending anyone back to where they are likely to face persecution and death, the [UK Home Office lifted the ban on repatriation of failed asylum seekers to Zimbabwe](#) in October 2010, a move considered premature by the Refugee Council and Zimbabwe Association. Even the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at times fails to appropriately represent the interest of refugees. At any given time UNHCR is making judgements on refugee status determination in as many as 60 different countries around the world, almost exclusively in the global south (see the [RSDWatch website](#) for an analysis of their faulty RSD adjudication procedures). Conducting RSD adjudication compromises the purpose of UNHCR, contradicting its statutory remit, protecting the rights of refugees, with being their judge and jury.

The Fahamu Refugee Programme is seeking to link up lawyers and paralegals around the world through its [website](#), responding to an email list serv, where lawyers can ask questions and seek specialised country of origin information, and its monthly Fahamu Refugee Legal Aid Newsletter. Country of origin information is critical when determining the case of a refugee; even in countries with the most enlightened judicial systems it is impossible to uphold a refugee's case without solid evidence based upon it. The network offers the opportunity for legal aid providers, NGOs and experts to share country of origin information for the benefit of refugee asylum cases.

A recent case was brought to Professor Harrell-Bond's attention of a woman who worked at the US embassy in the Democratic Republic of Congo. She testified that she had been threatened at her home by *Interahamwe* Hutu paramilitary forces on the basis that she was suspected to be a Rwandan spy, and for this reason had fled to South Korea. Her case was taken by the Somyong Law Firm in Seoul. Her claim for asylum in South Korea was backed up by country of origin information from a previous employee of the National Intelligence Agency of the Democratic Republic of Congo, who was contacted through the Fahamu Refugee Programme list serv. That testimony was deemed reliable on the basis of experience and contacts within the Congolese security services, the woman's application for asylum was granted in February 2011. In relaying this case Professor Harrell-Bond emphasises that the positive conclusion would not have been possible without the sharing of information and contacts through the website [SRLAN](#).

[Country of origin information](#) on the network website includes statistics on the origins and host countries of refugees, revealing the extent of the refugee problem in the global south. It is clear that the global south is not only

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disproportionately producing refugees, it is also disproportionately hosting them, with four-fifths of the world's refugees residing in the global south. Several countries figure highly with regard to both refugee country of origin and host country statistics. According to UNHCR statistics Sudan, Iran, and the Democratic Republic of Congo were each in the top 30 countries in the world in 2009 in terms of both refugees originating from and refugees residing in the country. This, coupled with the fact that UNHCR recorded at least one refugee originating from almost every state on the planet in 2009, somewhat defeats the idea of a 'safe country', and emphasises the importance of legal aid. Fahamu Refugee Programme is building a directory of pro-bono legal aid providers, as well as NGOs and refugee charities. At the inception of Southern Refugee Legal Aid Network, a code of conduct for legal aid providers was drawn up called the Nairobi Code, which all members signed. This encourages the responsible development of legal aid providers in the global south, providing a basic code of ethics which ensures that the rights and dignity of refugees are respected. This code dictates that legal aid providers do not benefit, financially or otherwise, directly from their client. In the UK, among other countries, the provision of free legal advice and representation at the point of need is understood, if perhaps not perfect. In most countries in the global south however there is no government or charity-funded system in place to support such a provision, making the application of this clause in the Nairobi Code a particular challenge. This clause is highly important however as a means of protecting refugees from exploitation.

In order to achieve global reach, Fahamu Refugee Programme and the website are hosted by the Fahamu Trust's *Pambazuka News* which has more than 600,000 readers from around the world. Fahamu Trust is an independent charity campaigning for the human rights and social justice movement with offices in Kenya, Senegal, and South Africa. •

EVENTS & TRAININGS

Palestinian Refugees and International Law Workshop, 18th-19th March, 2011 in Damascus

The University of Oxford's [Refugee Studies Centre](#) offers a two-day non-residential workshop that places the Palestinian refugee case study within the broader context of the international human rights regime. It examines, within a human rights framework, the policies and practices of Middle Eastern states as they impinge upon Palestinian refugees. Through a mix of lectures, working group exercises and interactive sessions, participants engage actively and critically with the contemporary debates in international law and analyse the specific context of Palestinian refugees in the Middle East (Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, the West Bank, Gaza and Israel). For more information and the application form, please follow the link [here](#). The workshop is limited to 20 places and will be held at The Danish Institute, Damascus, Syria. The cost is £200. For further information please contact [Heidi El-Megrisi](#).

Free online training for human rights defenders working in Asia

Human rights defenders who have worked or volunteered for an organisation working on minority rights issues in Bangladesh, Burma, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand or Vietnam for two years or more are invited to apply for [Minority Rights Group's](#) free online training on minority rights advocacy. The training, which runs three hours a week for 12 weeks, starting 15th March, 2011, aims to increase the advocacy skills of its participants. To apply, [email](#) for an application form, to return with a recommendation letter by the application deadline of **5th March, 2011**.

Short course in Belgium: 'Vulnerable Groups in the Asylum Procedure'

The [European Legal Network on Asylum](#) will hold an advanced course, 'Vulnerable Groups in the Asylum Procedure', in Leuven, Belgium, from 15th-17th April, 2011. The course is aimed at legal practitioners and advocates from across Europe who defend or who are interested in defending refugees and asylum seekers. It aims to provide practitioners with the legal tools to successfully represent the most vulnerable persons within the asylum procedure. The course will identify and examine the needs of vulnerable groups in a European and international legal framework, including coverage of trafficked persons in a refugee context, those fleeing persecution on the grounds of gender or sexual orientation, torture victims and the role of expert medical evidence, and protection, risk and relocation issues for women and their children. The course will be led in English, costs €400-550 and the deadline for registration is **16th March, 2011**. Full details are available [online](#).

Summer program, Chicago, USA: 'Unsettling Resettlement'

The Northwestern [Center for Forced Migration Studies Summer Institute](#) is holding a one-week, non-degree-earning certificate program from 10th-17th July, 2011 at Northwestern University, Chicago, USA. In commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the UNHCR and the 1951 Refugee Convention, the topic for 2011 is 'Unsettling Resettlement' and seeks to engage participants in examining the current refugee regime concerning resettlement. The summer institute is open to both academics and practitioners seeking to expand their knowledge of contemporary critical elements of forced migration/ refugee issues. Invited are government officials and NGO personnel to university faculty and graduate students. To register, please visit the [website](#). Application deadlines are **15th April, 2011** for visa applicants and **1st June, 2011** for non-visa applicants.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

AFRICAN ASYLUM SEEKERS TRAFFICKED INTO ISRAEL SPEAK OUT

On 15th February, 2011, [Hotline for Migrant Workers](#), Israel, released 'The Dead of the Wilderness', which collects testimonials from 60 asylum seekers (24 women and 36 men) who were trafficked across the Sinai. The asylum seekers were mainly from Eritrea and Ethiopia, although some Sudanese claimed that they were not looking to go to Israel, but were taken hostage and family members and friends had to pay ransom for their release. The report details torture, violence, slavery, starvation, killings, and rape. It is estimated that most of the women who have crossed the Sinai under the control of traffickers have been raped, many repeatedly. There are also reports of male rape, often as punishment when individuals would try to prevent women from being raped. The testimonies in this report are reinforced by the findings of [Physicians for Human Rights - Israel](#), who published [information](#) on the conditions of those persons that had survived the crossing of the Sinai, in December 2010 (see our [January issue](#) for more information on this). Hotline for Migrant Workers also identifies collaborators in the trafficking ring within Israel who could be brought to trial for aiding and abetting enslavement, and calls on the Israeli government to invest the necessary resources to do so. It also calls for Israel to demand that Egypt take action against traffickers, and for the international community to do anything it can to persuade the Egyptian authorities to stop the horrifying and illegal actions that their citizens are committing against asylum seekers in the Sinai Desert.

AFRICAN MIGRANTS IN ISRAEL, REMITTANCES, AND ISRAELI POLICY

'[African Migration to Israel: Debt, Employment, and Remittances](#)', has been published by [The Feinstein International Center](#) at Tufts University, USA, about the migration experience and livelihood choices of Sudanese and Eritrean asylum seekers and migrants in Tel Aviv. The research was conducted by Rebecca Furst-Nichols in November-December 2010. Since 2007, increasing numbers of African migrants and asylum seekers have been smuggled across the Egyptian Sinai into Israel. It is estimated that 35,000 non-Jewish African migrants, the majority Eritrean and Sudanese, live in Israel. The report provides an overview of Israeli policy toward African migrants and asylum seekers, routes taken to Israel, experience with Bedouin smugglers, employment opportunities, legal status, protection issues, and the role of remittances in repaying smuggling debt to family and friends in the diaspora.

DESTITUTION OF FAILED ASYLUM SEEKERS IN THE UK

The [Centre for Migration Policy Research \(CMPR\)](#), Swansea University, has published '[Coping with Destitution - Survival and livelihood strategies of refused asylum seekers living in the UK](#)' (Heaven Crawley, Joanne Hemmings and Neil Price, February 2011). This research uncovers how the hundreds of thousands of refused asylum seekers currently living in the UK, with no access to legitimate means of securing a livelihood, survive on a day-to-day and longer-term basis. The strategies adopted by destitute asylum seekers have been analysed within a sustainable livelihoods framework, to ensure a systematic understanding of the different types of resources to which asylum seekers do – and do not – have access, and the impact this has on their lives. It is estimated that 283,500 refused asylum seekers were living in the UK in 2005, and this number seems likely to have increased (NAO 2005). Existing evidence suggests that many asylum seekers have been destitute for more than six months and a significant proportion for more than two years, strongly indicating that refused asylum seekers are prepared to face long periods of destitution in the UK rather than returning to their country of origin.

IMMIGRATION DETENTION AT THE UNITED NATIONS LEVEL

A new International Detention Coalition (IDC) [report](#) provides a brief overview on the developments and gaps on the immigration detention issue at the UN level over the past few years. The IDC has been working at the international level, as well as regionally, through education, networking, advocacy, reporting and research, with a particular focus on preventing and limiting the use of, seeking alternatives to, and using the least restrictive forms of, immigration detention.

KAKUMA NEWS REFLECTOR REFUGEE FREE PRESS WINTER QUARTERLY

The latest issue of [Kakuma News Reflector \(KANERE\)](#), covering November 2010 through January 2011, is now [online](#), as well as available in a limited number of print copies in public spaces in [Kakuma refugee camp, Kenya](#). [KANERE](#) is produced by Ethiopian, Congolese, Ugandan, Rwandan, Somali, Sudanese and Kenyan journalists operating in Kakuma. It is the first fully independent refugee-run news source of its kind to [emerge](#) from a refugee camp (and is in search of sustainable funding; suggestions to this end are welcome via [email](#)). [KANERE's](#) latest issue includes debate on the [Sudanese referendum](#) (for which Kakuma was a [voting centre](#)), concern over the administration of a [refugee scholarship](#), a review of [UNHCR's new population counting](#) procedure in the camp, and an alert about [raids and arrests of refugees](#) by Kenyan police.

ONLINE RESOURCES

INTERACTIVE ONLINE MAP OF REFUGEE FAMILY TRACING EFFORTS

[Refugees United](#), an organisation that aims to help reconnect refugees with their families around the world (a ‘[Google for refugee search](#)’), has teamed up with technology company [Ericsson](#) to launch [Live Dashboard](#), an interactive world map that follows the deployment of our web and mobile tools, used by organisations across the world to help reunite separated families. The tool shows how organisations work on the ground to help families reconnect; the real-time number of refugees signing up in search of loved ones; and the growing number of organisations and private corporations that aim to simplify the refugee family tracing process.

IASFM WEBSITE NEWLY UPDATED

The [International Association for the Study of Forced Migration](#) (IASFM), which hosts a biennial [conference](#) aiming to bring together academics, practitioners and decision-makers working on forced migration issues, to be held from 3rd-6th July, 2011 in Kampala, Uganda, has updated its website with new information on the conference, scholarships, working groups and more.

FILM: UGANDA AND LESBIAN, GAY AND TRANSGENDER ASYLUM; LONDON LAUNCH

On 11th February, 2011, Uganda-based [Refugee Law Project \(RLP\)](#), in collaboration with the Civil Society Coalition on Human Rights & Constitutional Law, launched [Getting Out](#), a documentary on the realities of lesbian, gay and transgender asylum. Copies of the documentary will be available mid-March, and can be requested by [email](#). Meanwhile, those interested can view an [online video](#) of remarks made by Professor Ben Twinomugisha, Dean of Law, Makerere University during the panel discussion after [Getting Out](#)'s launch. Readers in London, United Kingdom may attend the film's London launch on Tuesday 29th March, 2011; full details are [here](#).

NEWS & INFORMATION LINKS

southern refugee legal aid network [website & email list](#)

forced migration current awareness [blog](#)

[rsdwatch](#): information on unhcr's refugee decisions

kanere: kakuma refugee [free press](#)

israel: [hotline for migrant workers quarterly newsletter](#)

refugees international [regional and issue-based e-updates](#)

e-list on preventing and reducing [immigration detention](#)

euromediterranean migration and asylum [blog](#)

european council on refugees and exiles [weekly bulletin](#)

news and developments on human rights in [forum-asia](#)

iraqi refugee [assistance project](#)

women's asylum news [monthly newsletter](#)

international association of [refugee law judges](#)

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