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RoSS publishes two issues a year (Spring and Autumn). One of these may be a special issue composed of selected conference papers. RoSS has also a book review section which reflects academic and intellectual diversity in recent social science publications.

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This volume brings together 53 chapters written by prominent scholars who influenced and led the debates on forced migration and refugee studies throughout the last decades. It is an excellent initiative, which not only provides a summary of past and present of this stream of research but also sheds light on the emerging debates that will dominate the field in the upcoming years.

The editors Elena Fiddian-Qasmiyeh, Gil Loescher, Katy Long, and Nando Sigona categorised the essays under important themes. Each part of the book is dedicated to a key topic and systematises the debates, with a number of essays approaching each theme from different angles. The introductory chapter analyses the reasons behind the growing interest in this field and emphasises the importance of studying refugees and forced migration in this era. The editors explain why this stream of research is now currently in transition and briefly touch upon the key debates. Looking at the findings of all chapters in this volume, the editors argue that, “the places where research with and about refugees and forced migration takes place are changing” (p. 13). Firstly, it is argued that the IDPs and refugees reside in the cities and it will not be enough to solely concentrate on refugee camps in order to better understand this forced migration phenomenon. There is also a growing trend in looking at internal displacement, which is a topic that has been overlooked for a long time in the literature. Secondly, the editors detect a major shift in terms of geographical as well as intellectual location and origins of scholars who conduct research on these topics (ibid). While most of the authors who have conducted impactful research have lived in the global North, this trend is currently changing and different perspectives find their place in the literature from all around the world. After introducing each part in the volume, they summarise the findings and provide a future research agenda in the last section. Therefore, this chapter also serves as a conclusion to this volume.

Part I, called ‘Approaches: Old and New,’ sets the scene for the upcoming themes. Including chapters from leading scholars such as Jerome Elie, Guy S. Goodwin-Gill, Matthew J. Gibney, Alexander Betts, Dawn Chatty, Finn Stepputat and Ninna Nyberg Sorensen, Karen Jacobsen, and Michael Collyer, this part provides the reader with a solid background on
forced migration and refugee studies for the reader. Each author explains theoretical approaches to this topic from various fields of social science such as anthropology, sociology, geography, and international relations. It is interesting to see how each discipline approaches the topic at hand from different angles throughout the last decades.

In Part II, the authors explain this phenomenon through a spatial and temporal lens. Oliver Bakewell focuses on encampment and self-settlement, Loren B. Landlau touches upon urban refugees and IDPs. James Milner provides an overview of the protracted refugee situations. Walter Kalin’s chapter delves into the topic of internal displacement and questions whether displaced people constitute a distinct category of concern for scholars and policy makers. Nicholas Van Hear puts emphasis on the hot debates on transnationalism and diasporas. In addition, he provides a lucid analysis of the proliferation of diasporas during the last decade. Stephan Scheel and Vicki Squire, in their essay ‘Forced Migrants as ‘Illegal’ Migrants,’ unpack the debate surrounding the framing of debates on migration and find that the use of these labels to define displaced people are integral to the governing of migration in general.

Part III focuses on the legal and institutional responses to forced migration, and constitutes one of the most crucial parts of this volume as it has policy relevance. Jane McAdam talks about how human rights law can protect the rights of refugees and people displaced due to forced migration. Gil Loescher touches upon the role of UNHCR when it comes to assisting refugees and displaced people. The following chapter by Susan Akram analyses the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees and puts special emphasis on the durable solutions in the Palestinian refugee problem. It is an important case study that provides rich empirical data in terms of understanding the situation of Palestinians, but it also helps us to locate this topic within a broader perspective in the framework of key discussions provided in this volume. Michael Barnett’s chapter deals with refugees and humanitarianism. Randel Hansen’s chapter ‘State Controls: Borders, Refugees and Citizenship’ takes the debate one step further and provides a state-centered perspective while other chapters focus mainly on international organisations. The chapter provides an excellent discussion on how nation-states handle these issues and how borders are central to the nation state. Consistently, Anne Hammerstad’s chapter on the securitisation of forced migration continues the previous discussion. Volker Turk and Rebecca Dowd underline the protection gaps, where they write, “The inadequacies in the protection afforded to refugees and other forcibly displaced persons where existing provisions of international law, notable international refugee law, are either not
applicable, non-existent, or inadequate in scope, or are not interpreted and/or applied in an appropriate manner” (p. 278). Alice Edwards and Laura Van Waas expand on this topic by bringing the situation of statelessness into the discussion. The authors make a definition of ‘statelessness’ and then point out the persistent gaps and discrimination in nationality laws. It is shown that discrimination or gaps in nationality laws can cause or prolong the condition of statelessness however there are some positive developments in the field, which promise amelioration of the situation of displaced people who suffer from this condition. Finally, Simon Russel and Vicky Tennant provide an outline of the debates about institutional mandates and responsibilities related to IDPs. This part includes essays that are highly useful in terms of understanding the capabilities and weaknesses of currently existing institutional and legal mechanisms that are used by international organisations as well as receiving states.

Part IV examines the root causes of displacement. Sarah Kenyon Lischer provides an overview of conflict and crisis generated migration by providing theoretical frameworks on this topic. Christopher McDowell’s focus is on development created population displacement, while Roger Zetter and James Morrissey shift the focus to the environment-mobility nexus where they discuss the links between environmental stress and mobility by giving examples from Bangladesh and Kenya. Bridget Anderson addresses the highly topical issue of refugee trafficking, which is a concern not only for academics but also for policy makers, state officials, as well as international organisations. She touches upon how the discussions on trafficking, which usually focus on child labour and prostitution, are framed in academic debates. The merit of the chapter is that it not only focuses on the victim related perspectives but also talks about the politics of trafficking by questioning the moral meanings that we attach to this topic.

In Part V (Lived Experiences and Representations of Forced Migration), Nando Sigona’s chapter takes a different turn and discusses the perspectives of political refugees. The chapter provides a solid discussion on victimhood and agency. Jason Hart’s chapter deals with issues related to children and forced migration, Elena Fiddian-Qasmiyeh provides a gender studies perspective on forced migration. Claudio Bolzman focuses on older refugees, which is an understudied topic in the literature. Mansha Mirza makes an original contribution by adding a different perspective with her chapter on disability and displacement. Alastair Ager examines the health related debates concerning forced displacement, while David Hollenbach, draws our attention to the religion-forced migration connection by focusing
on “the normative traditions of several monotheistic and Asian religious communities on the needs and rights of forced migrants” (p. 445). After offering valuable insights on various topics, this part ends with a well-written chapter by Terrence Wright on the media and representations of refugees and forced migrants. The author argues that in order to create a balanced representation of refugees and displaced people we should not solely rely on their access to technology. Instead we should also encourage a kind of journalism that produces balanced, accurate and meaningful reports that do not enforce prejudices and negative images of the refugees and asylum seekers (p. 470).

Part VI is dedicated to durable solutions. Katy Long starts with a chapter that offers explanations of why “conventional solutions to refugee and IDP crises can be said to have failed” (p. 475), and she delves into a discussion about whether refugees can be treated as migrants under certain settings. Lucy Hovil presents a chapter on local integration where she separately analyses de facto and de jure integration by giving examples from refugee situations in Africa. Laura Hammond, in her chapter ‘Voluntary Repatriation and Reintegration’, analyses the complexities of repatriation and return. Joanne Van Selm presents an overview of the debates on refugee resettlement. Both chapters lay out significant findings that may lead future discussions on these topics since there is a growing interest in return migration and resettlement especially among policy makers and nation state governments. The last chapter in this part delivers a sound analysis on burden sharing and refugee protection.

Part VII constitutes the empirical part of the volume and presents case studies that can shed light on the existing realities and challenges ahead. Each author contributes with an essay that provides an overview of a regional case study. These chapters offer empirical analyses but at the same time help the reader better internalise the previous chapters on theoretical discussions.

This volume fills a gap in the market, as it is a unique effort to offer an evaluation of past, present and future of the refugee and forced migration studies from such broad perspectives. It is an invaluable source for those who are new to refugee and forced migration studies, and it is a useful source for those already in the field who want to refresh their memories and revisit the current debates in a neatly prepared handbook. Each chapter contributes to key debates in the field and lucidly analyses crucial matters in this field. Some essays in this book will definitely re-energise debates related to the accommodation of refugees and their status in host countries,
as well as developing durable solutions to ameliorate the refugee situation in both home and host countries. From anthropologists to political scientists, from peace and conflict researchers to sociologists, scholars from different streams of research will all benefit from this lucrative compilation.

Bahar Baser, Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations, Coventry University, UK and Postdoctoral Fellow at the Institute for Turkish Studies, Stockholm University, Sweden.
Information for Authors

RoSS is a peer-reviewed journal. New, original and unsolicited articles are welcomed. Articles should be submitted to the Editor in Chief, Dr. Latif Tas, via email at latif.tas@rossjournal.co.uk. Authors may expect that a decision about publication may take between two to three months. Authors of accepted articles will be asked to transfer copyright to the Review of Social Studies (RoSS).

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- The Harvard referencing system should be used for bibliographical references in the text and footnotes. Notes should be kept to a minimum. A bibliographical reference list should be included at the end of the article, starting on a new page.
- Submissions must be double-spaced throughout, including footnotes and the list of references. Margins should be of at least one inch on all sides and the text should be no smaller than 12 point font (Times New Roman).
- Figures and tables can be included either as part of the main manuscript, or in separate files. The author must obtain any necessary permission for the reproduction of any illustrations or tables already published.
- Pages in the manuscript should be numbered.
- Quotations should be enclosed within double quotation marks. Substantial quotations of 40 or more words should be indented without quotation marks.
- Any alteration in a quotation should be acknowledged, for example: (Ali-All 2002: 75, emphasis added).
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Reviews should involve both a non-evaluative overview of the content and a critical assessment. Please note that the publication of reviews submitted to RoSS is at the discretion of the Book Review editor’s discretion.

The name/s of author/s of the book should be quoted at the top of the first page followed by the full title and subtitle of the book, the publisher, year of publication, number of pages and price (paperback/hardback) as follows:


The reviewer’s name and institution should be placed at the end of the review on the right hand side of the page.

- Reviews for edited and non-edited volumes should be between 1,000 and 1,200 words.
- Submissions must be double-spaced. Margins should be at least one inch on all sides and the text should be no smaller than 12 point font.
- Footnotes should not be used in reviews. Instead, please include a citation in the text itself, followed by a full reference at the end of the review in the Harvard style.
- All quotations from the book reviewed should be followed by the page number from which they have been taken; for example, (p. 34).
- The full name of a person, organisation, or programme should be used when mentioned for the first time, and titles and explanatory phrases should be provided when appropriate.
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