LAWS4271 REFUGEE LAW

INTRODUCTION

Definitions

- Forced migration a migratory movement involving forced compulsion or coercion. Used to
 describe movements of refugees, displace peopled, including those displaced by natural disasters,
 and victims of trafficking.
- Refugee people who flee their country due to well-founded fear of persecution due to reasons of race, religion, nationality or membership of a particular social group or political opinion. People who are outside their country of nationality or permanent residence and are unable or unwilling to return.
- Asylum Seekers individuals who have sought international protection and whose claims for status have not yet been determined.
- Internally displaced persons persons who have been forced to flee or leave their homes due to conflict, violations of human rights, natural disasters and who have not crossed an internationally recognised state border.
- Resettlement the transfer of refugees from the country in which they sought protection to another state that has agreed to settle them.
- Protracted Situation 25k or more refugees from the same nationality have been in exile for 5 years
 or more in a particular assigned country. These populations are not considered to be in an
 emergency situation. They have simply not been offered a durable situation, but are unlikely to
 receive one. A long-term state of limbo.

Global Trends and Context

- 2012 45m, 2013 50.1, 2014 59.5.
- In 2011, 70k refugees crossed the Mediterranean. In 2014, more than 219k crossed the Mediterranean.
- Afghanistan, Colombia, Somalia and Iraq are among the most common countries of origin for refugees.
- In the second half of 2015, a large number of refugees began arriving in Europe. During this period, over 1 million people sought refuge in Europe, mostly landing in Greece and Italy. Difficult to determine how many people go missing during this period.
- Majority of newly displaced Syrians were registered in Turkey, around 1m. The largest refugee population in the world. Turkey remains the largest refugee host country. Lebanon and Jordan also popular.
- By the end of 2015, Turkey had over 2.5m refugees. Pakistan 1.5m, Lebanon 1m, Iran 1m, Ethiopia 0.75m. Sub-Saharan states still taking the vast majority of refugees.
- Syrians are the largest forcibly displaced population. Colombia 2nd with 7.7m, but mostly internally displaced. 4.7m Afghani.
- Around 650 per 1000 Syrian nationals are currently displaced.
- Refugee population from South Sudan grew by 80% in 2015.
- In 2016, Germany took in 200,000 refugees. Total number now 1.3m.
- In 2017, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Myanmar both became less hospitable to citizens, and created more refugees. Myanmar situation particularly rapid, around 1.1m displaced to Bangladesh. Government did not recognise as lawful citizens. UN claimed sufficient for ethnic cleansing.
- Major source countries included Syria, Afghanistan, South Sudan, Myanmar, Somalia, Sudan, DR Congo, Central African Republic, Eritrea and Burundi.
- Protracted situations include refugees in camps, those living on the outskirts of cities. Depends what
 is occurring in original state, response of the host state, whether durable situations are available,
 and the capacity of the states involved to generate these situations. Often, the international
 community is not engaged in protecting these populations. Share many characteristics with
 refugees. May be stateless in a country they are living in.