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Introduction

Witnessing internal conflicts, some countries in the Middle East and North Africa have seen humanitarian and human rights crises that forced their citizens to flee. As international covenants failed to face the consequences of massive population movements, especially during events in Syria, Yemen, Palestine, Libya, Iraq, South Sudan and other countries in last decade. Refugee numbers are increasing in the world reaching around 25.9 millions worldwide this year, 19.9 millions of them are under the mandate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), 5.4 millions of them (Palestinian refugees) are under the mandate of The United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), while 3.5 million of them are asylum seekers.

This rapid growth has raised existential fears in host countries, which have become fearful of facing a new overflow of refugees, especially as resources are scarce, and the economic crisis is expanding day by day. This led countries to take measures aimed at reducing the number of refugees, by closing all border crossings and tightening the grip on them, while seeking to push refugees on their lands to return to their countries of origin by not integrating them and preventing them from obtaining services, and restricting their rights guaranteed internationally.

These developments have prompted the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to work on issuing a global charter on refugee affairs,
aimed at alleviating pressures on host countries, and supporting refugees to enhance their self-reliance capabilities, as well as improving the conditions of refugees’ countries of origin, which makes the chances of return greater. These efforts resulted in the end in the issuance of the Global Compact on Migration adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 2018, which came to set a framework for sharing responsibilities between countries regarding the refugee problem, and to develop a comprehensive plan through which guarantees are given to host societies.

Statistics indicate that %50 of the world’s refugees live in six regions, namely: Jordan, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, Lebanon, Turkey, Pakistan, and Uganda. Countries that have the largest number of refugees were Syria, Afghanistan, South Sudan, Myanmar, Somalia, and Sudan.

In this report, the Euro-Med Monitor highlights statistics on refugees, the most prominent causes of refuge and the increase in refugee numbers over the past years, the situation of Arab and European host countries, the extent to which refugees enjoy their rights in these countries, and the legal framework relating to refugees and their problems in relevant international laws and covenants.
Background on refugees’ situation

Refugees are people who have fled their countries due to armed conflicts, serious human rights violations or persecution. They had to leave and seek safety outside of their countries, because the governments of their countries are unable to provide protection for them, hoping that they enjoy these rights under international protection granted to them by international covenants and laws.

Most refugees scattered around the world live in difficult and tragic circumstances imposed on them by the host countries. At the level of host countries, we find that the largest percentage of refugees is hosted by developing countries, where health systems suffer a great shortage of capabilities. Living conditions in these countries are difficult, as many of
them live in overcrowded camps, temporary shelters, reception centers, or official or unofficial detention centers hosting large numbers of families, adults, children and youth.

Most of these camps and places of detention lack adequate health care, medical supplies, and qualified medical cadres, leaving refugees easy targets for infectious diseases – taking into account the large numbers of people these places host.

The recent global outbreak of the Coronavirus has pushed most of the world’s governments to engage in confronting this virus by developing strategies to limit its spread based on precautionary measures imposed on their citizens. These measures ignore the tragic conditions that refugees go through in these countries.

In Greece, refugees and asylum-seekers live in over-crowded shelters. The Greek government placed them in the Moria camp, on the island of Lesbos, where more than 18,000 refugees live in hard living conditions, which has raised concerns about a possible outbreak of the Coronavirus. The Greek government did not take the necessary precautions in this camp to prevent the spread of the pandemic, while international aid workers left the island for fear of infection.

In Lebanon, where the refugee population has exceeded a million Syrian and Palestinian refugees, the state has engaged in several practices of long-term discrimination and marginalization which exacerbated the suffering
of refugees. These policies deprive refugees of access to their basic rights, including accommodation, work, education, and health care. The spread of the Coronavirus in Lebanon has added insult to injury of ignoring the rights of these two groups. Human rights reports have documented that several municipalities imposed discriminatory and unjustified restrictions on the movement of Syrian refugees and have prevented the return of Palestinian refugees stranded abroad to Lebanon while allowing only the return of Lebanese nationals.

While the Coronavirus spread has reached its peak, the situation became more acute in countries that receive refugees and suffer a lack of resources. Many began to warn of the catastrophic consequences of this situation, especially in light of the scarcity of the required medical supplies in countries such as Kenya and Afghanistan, as well as Bangladesh where around 1 million Rohingya refugees live in camps that lack basic services.

In addition, some countries have resorted to closing their borders to asylum seekers, putting the lives of hundreds of them at stake. Some European countries have closed their border to thousands of asylum seekers, especially Greece, Italy and Spain, which have taken strict measures to prevent the entry or exit of asylum-seekers, while other European countries have found themselves forced to delay the implementation of their decisions to receive the most vulnerable refugees.
Refugees around the world: Facts and numbers

- **70.8 million** people are forcibly displaced around the world
- **25.9 million** refugees
- **3.5 million** asylum seekers
- **41.3 million** internally displaced people around the world
- **80%** of the migrants around the world live in developing countries
- **57%** of refugees around the world come from:
  - **Syria** 6.7 million
  - **Afghanistan** 2.7 million
  - **South Sudan** 2.3 million
- **37,000** people are forced to flee their homes every day because of wars and persecution
- **3.9 million** are stateless
- **92,400** refugees were resettled

Source: UNHCR, June 2019
Definition of refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants

The words “refugees”, “asylum-seekers” and “migrants” are used to describe the situation of people who have moved from one place to another, leaving their homelands and crossing its borders. There is a difference in the meaning and the legal status between migrants and refugees although they are often used to mean the same.

Who is a refugee?

«Owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country.» A refugee has the right to enjoy international protection.

Who is an asylum seeker?

Asylum seekers are persons who have left their country to seek protection from persecution and serious violations of their human rights in another country, but have not yet been recognized as refugees, as their applications are being processed. Asylum is a human right, and everyone should be allowed to enter another country to seek asylum.
Who is a migrant?

There is no internationally agreed definition of migrants, but national and international human rights institutions have traditionally defined them as persons residing outside their countries of origin, who are not asylum seekers or refugees.

Some migrants leave their countries to seek work or education, or to join their families, for example, while others feel they have to leave due to poverty, political turmoil, gang violence, natural disasters, or other dangerous conditions surrounding them.

It is important to understand that the failure of migrants to flee persecution does not deny them the right to protection and respect of their human rights, regardless of their status in the countries which they have moved to. All governments must protect migrants from racist violence and xenophobia, exploitation and forced labor, and they should never be detained or forcibly returned to their countries, except for legitimate reasons.
Numbers of refugees from 2019-1990

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of refugees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>19,805,688</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>17,418,028</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>15,451,236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>12,863,676</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>15,516,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>21,377,887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>25,900,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Refugees Numbers
During the Last 30 Years

Source: The World Bank
• Syrian refugees

Despite its significant decline, the internal armed conflict in the Syrian territories is still taking place to this moment, and the Syrian crisis remains one of the largest and most complex humanitarian crises. For more than nine years, Syria has been in a grinding internal conflict that erupted after anti-government demonstrations started in 2011. The Syrian government has confronted them with lethal force and killed hundreds of civilians, which led to splits in the army and the emergence of opposition armed groups. Government forces used various types of weapons, including internationally prohibited weapons, to control areas seized by the armed opposition, which...
led to massacres and war crimes against the Syrian civilians with naval, air, and land bombardment; barrel bombs; and missiles, leaving hundreds of thousands dead and wounded, and forcing about 6.7 million to seek refuge in the neighboring countries (Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq). Turkey is the country that hosts the largest number of Syrian refugees, with more than 3.6 million refugees. Lebanon hosts a million refugees, Jordan hosts 660,000 refugees, and Iraq hosts 250,000 refugees. Between January 2016 and September 2019, the number of refugees returning voluntarily to Syria reached about 209,000 who returned from Iraq, Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, and Turkey, according to UNHCR statistics. The statistics showed that the number of refugees returning from January to September 2019 is around 75,000 refugees, which exceeds the number of refugees returning in 2018, which was around 55,248. In terms of international support, international donors have not fulfilled their pledges to address the Syrian refugee crisis. The regional response plan to support Syrian refugees and empower host communities launched by the United Nations for 2019 received only 58% of promised funding, which is 5.4$ billion. Donors declaration to fulfill their pledges have affected the deteriorating conditions of refugees and their host countries, especially those suffering from a significant economic weakness. Thus, the shortage of international support is an important factor in challenges facing refugees, such as the difficulties of obtaining essential life needs.
• Yemeni refugees

Yemen is living the worst humanitarian crisis in the world as a result of the ongoing war that broke out after the Houthi group took over Sana’a in 2014, toppling the internationally recognized government led by Yemeni President Abd Rabbu Mansour Hadi. This prompted the Saudi-led coalition to intervene (since March 2015) in order to return the Yemeni president and his government to the capital.

This war exacerbated the needs that already existed in Yemen arising from long years of poverty and insecurity as well as the increased violence that affected the lives of millions, and caused heavy losses in lives.

According to the Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED), more than 100,000 Yemenis were killed, including 12,000 civilians since 2015.
Millions of people have fled their homes to escape the devastating conflict and about 80% of the population have become in need for relief assistance. This war created a devastated economy and a collapse in public institutions and services in Yemen. It pushed around 280,692 citizens to seek refuge in neighboring countries searching for safety.

Yemeni refugees are distributed in many neighboring countries. Somalia, Sudan, and Saudi Arabia host the largest number of Yemeni refugees. Tanzania, Kenya and the Congo are also a destination for asylum seekers from Yemen.

- South Sudannese refugees

The civil war broke out in South Sudan in December 2013 after the president Salva Kiir accused his deputy Riek Machar of planning a coup against him. The conditions in the country had worsened turning into internal armed conflict,
which killed thousands of civilians, and forced more than 2.2 million people to flee to neighboring countries in a desperate attempt to reach safety.

South Sudanese refugees are distributed in several countries, with Uganda being the hosting the largest number of them with more than one million refugees. Sudan comes second with 861,000 refugees. Ethiopia, Kenya, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Central African Republic host hundreds of thousands of them too.

Despite the ongoing peace process in South Sudan, the number of refugees has not decreased significantly due to the poor conditions in the country on all economic, health, and life levels, as refugees prefer to stay in countries of asylum until things get better and calm down and the conflict ends.

It should be noted that refugees in South Sudan suffer from bad conditions in refugee camps, such as the lack of drinking water, restrictions on movement, and insufficient food. Most of the diseases the refugees get in the camps are due to the poor living conditions such as poverty, overcrowding, bad nutrition, diarrhea, respiratory infections, malaria and other diseases and epidemics.

UNHCR appealed for amount of 2.7$ billion for refugees in South Sudan for 2019 and 2020. In 2018, the UN agency said that it needs about 1.4$ billion to support these refugees, but it only received %38 of that amount. This imposes a heavy burden on UNHCR and does not provide life-saving humanitarian needs for refugees, of whom %83 are women and children.
Iraq has witnessed wars and internal conflicts during the past three decades, the most prominent was the war launched by the United States of America in 2003, which led to the military occupation of Iraq for eight years from March 2003 until December 2011.

According to documented statistics of the Iraqi Authority, this war had terribly affected Iraq and its residents, and caused deaths in Iraqi civilians of more than 113,000, massive destruction in the country, and led to the spread of sectarian violence between Shiites and Sunnis, which in turn led to a large number of victims.

In 2014, three years after the end of the American occupation of Iraq, the Islamic State (ISIS) launched a military attack on the cities of northern Iraq,
and declared ‘the Islamic Caliphate’ all over the world starting from Iraq. ISIS took control of several cities in Iraq, and the country entered into chaos, military attacks, executions, enforced disappearances, and arrests of Iraqi citizens, as well as worsening conditions such as the lack of resources to renew the already destroyed infrastructure, and the dilapidated health-care system.

These conflicts led millions of refugees to flee searching for a safe heaven. Official statistics issued by the Ministry of Planning in Iraq indicate that the number of Iraqis who have sought refuge in other countries during the 15 years since the American occupation reached more than 4 million Iraqis, spread in many Arab and European countries, most notably Syria, Jordan, Britain, Germany, and Sweden.

- Palestinian refugees

The number of Palestinian refugees has exceeded more than five million. Since 1948, Palestinians have been displaced by Israeli forces, and became refugees inside and outside the occupied Palestinian territories. The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) have been given the mandate to follow their affairs.

According to statistics released by UNRWA, the number of Palestinian refugees inside the occupied Palestinian territories of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip reached about 2,214,783 refugees (1,386,455 refugees in the Gaza Strip, and 828,328 refugees in the West Bank).
While refugees outside the Palestinian territories are distributed among camps established by the United Nations in several countries, namely Jordan, Lebanon and Syria, with Jordan hosting about 2,206,736 refugees, Syria about 552,000 refugees, and Lebanon around 475,075 refugees.

On the humanitarian level, Palestinian refugees inside the occupied Palestinian territories live in difficult conditions in light of the presence of
the Israeli occupation.

The Gaza Strip has been suffering, for more than 14 years, from a suffocating siege, by land, sea and air, which has led to paralysis in the economy, high unemployment, and a complete collapse of the health sector. Not only this, the coastal enclave has been suffering from armed conflicts that took place between Israel and the Palestinian armed groups that resulted in the killing and wounding of thousands of Palestinians, most of them are refugees.

In the West Bank, Israeli forces are continuingly committing violations in refugee camps including murder, detention, restrictions on movement, as well as daily house demolitions.

In Syria, Palestinian refugees have suffered severe conditions, as the internal conflict exacerbated the humanitarian situation of Palestinian refugees since 2011 as a result of the attacks that targeted a number of camps and neighborhoods where they reside.

Adding to that, they are suffering from the siege on the Yarmouk camp in Damascus, where thousands of Palestinian refugees live. Most of them fled to Jordan and Lebanon after the camp was completely destroyed as a result of the military operations of the Syrian government forces.

In Lebanon, Palestinian refugees have lived for a long time in 12 refugee camps in spite of the poor humanitarian conditions. Although UNRWA’s services given to these camps, refugees suffer from severe overcrowding, poor nutrition, and widespread of diseases and epidemics and a poor health care.
In Jordan, Palestine refugees live in ten camps under the supervision of UNRWA, where the agency provides services for refugees in terms of education, health, and basic services. Though, refugees suffer from poor services provided to them, due to the low budget of the agency after the United States suspended its US funding in September 2018.

- Libyan refugees

For more than nine years, Libya has been in the midst of internal conflict that resulted in the death and injury of thousands of civilians, and displacement of hundreds of thousands. In June 2011, just four months after the outbreak of the civil war, there were about a million refugees, half of whom returned in the same year after the
overthrow of Colonel Muammar Gaddafi. Yousef Abubakr Jalalah, Minister of State for Migrants and Displaced in the Government of National Accord (GNA), confirmed in February 2019 that the number of Libyan refugees in Egypt reached 500,000, and about 300 families in Tunisia.

This refugee crisis was brought about by conflicts that Libya has been experiencing since the beginning of the civil war, which have greatly affected the security conditions inside the country, as many armed militias have spread and have taken control of many areas in Libya in what can be described as a complex network of militias and armed forces, which caused the loss of security and stability.

On April 2019, retired Major General Khalifa Haftar’s forces launched a military attack to take control of the capital, Tripoli, from the internationally recognized GNA led by Fayez al-Sarraj. Haftar’s forces managed to control a military checkpoint about 27 kilometers away from the western gate of Tripoli. However, the GNA forces have reinforced its forces at the entrances of the city and repelled Haftar forces.

After that, violent clashes broke out between the two sides, which is still taking place. Cities of the west of the country have declared the emergency situation to defend the capital, where civilians have fallen victims to violence in the city, including shelling, killing and displacement, resulting in about 1,048 dead, and about 5,558 injured people, as well as the displacement of about 120,000 people.
As a result, the country’s health system and medical services were affected by shortage and lack of basic equipment and medicines, as well as the collapse of water, sanitation infrastructures and other services. The spread of the Coronavirus increased the number of Libyan refugees. UNHCR revealed that the pandemic, along with the continued armed conflict in Libya, led to a rise in the number of refugees during the first quarter of 2020 by 400%, compared to the same period in 2019. This means that the number of Libyan refugees will continue to increase as long as armed conflict persists in Libya.
Map showing the most refugee hosting countries in the world
Situation of Refugees in host countries (Arab countries)

Taking Lebanon and Jordan as examples of the conditions of refugees in host Arab countries that host large numbers of refugees, light will be shed on Syrian and Palestinian refugees, their economic, social, and legal conditions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Refugees residing in Lebanon and their numbers:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Refugees by nationality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syrian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palestinians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia, Iraq, Sudan, and other countries</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• Lebanon

First, Syrian refugees in Lebanon

According to statistics published by the Lebanese government, Lebanon hosts about 1.5 million Syrian refugees. Lebanon is considered one of countries with the largest number of refugees compared to its population, especially when considering the Palestinian refugees and others residing there. The number of Syrian refugees in Lebanon may be greater than this, especially if we knew that UNHCR has stopped registering Syrian arrivals to Lebanon as refugees since May 2015 based on a request submitted by
the Lebanese government at the time, since the refugees profile has been subjected to Lebanese Public Security.

Syrian refugees are distributed in several regions in Lebanon. The Bekaa region has the highest percentage of them, as statistics estimate that there are about %36 of Syrian refugees there. About %26 of them are in the Beirut-Mount Lebanon region, %26 in northern Lebanon, and %12 of them are in southern Lebanon.

Lebanon is considered the only country that prevented the establishment of refugee camps, as this ban came from the Lebanese government which refused at the beginning of the refugee crisis the establishment of these camps. This prevented international and local organizations from providing services to refugees in an organized manner similar to the rest of the world.
In many cases, the refugees themselves built camps in uninhabited lands, through the assistance they receive from some charities. The number of these camps reached about 1,700 hosting tens of thousands of Syrian families, but from the Lebanese government perspective, these camps are random camps and can be removed whenever the government decides to do so.

Living conditions in the camps that were created by charities or private camps do not match the minimum basic rights and standards, as these camps lack drinking water, adequate infrastructure, and the necessary basic services. Moreover, it is difficult to obtain electricity, as local merchants control and sell electricity for exorbitant amounts. Refugees are forced to pay the rubbish’s deportation fees.

Lebanon annually register a number of deaths and injuries among refugees due to weather conditions, especially in winter as refugees’ tents are unable to resist the rain, snow, and the freezing cold.

On the economic and social level, Syrian refugees suffer from extreme poverty that reaches about %58. About %94.5 of them suffer from food insecurity. According to UN estimates, about %52 of these refugees have a very weak standard of living and live on $ 2.4 per day. Approximately, %91 of refugees owe an average of 857$ in accumulated debt.

As for jobs, Syrian refugees work for a low wage compared to their local counterparts, and often do not receive their salary for a long period of
time due to the lack of cash liquidity. Statistics indicate that the largest percentage of Syrian workers in Lebanon work in the agricultural sectors construction and some other services such as cleaning. These workers suffer from low wages in poor and unhealthy working conditions in addition to not enjoying health and social protection in emergency situations.

With regard to legal conditions, statistics indicate that about 74% of Syrian refugees who are over the age of fifteen do not have legal residency because the cost of renewing residence is about 200$ which an considerable number of refugees can’t afford.

The lack of legal residency for refugees led to restricting their movement for fear of arrest or deportation. In early 2019, the Lebanese Internal Security Forces deported a number of people because their residency has expired. These forces launched several campaigns and arrested Syrians and deported them to the Syrian borders.

**The non-registered:**

A common term in Syria and Lebanon refering to the absence of the person in the official records of the state in which they settle. These persons have no identity papers or legal character and they are deprived of all their rights, most prominently the right to name and recognition.
The legal problems extend to the issue of registering children at birth, as refugees registered by the United Nations indicate the presence of thousands of non-registered Syrian children in Lebanon, who account for about %83, as these children face a risk of becoming Non-registered refugees. This problem also increased after the Lebanese government took control of the refugees file. The government stated that there are about 260,000 Syrian new-borns on its territory who do not have any nationality, not even the Syrian, which means that these children will remain non-registered until exceptional measures are taken to solve the problem.
second, Palestinian refugees in Lebanon

According to statistics issued by the UNRWA, Lebanon hosts more than 460,000 Palestinian refugees. The majority of them are divided into 12 organized camps supervised by the agency. The rest reside in Lebanese cities and villages. Most of them work in construction, plumbing, and agriculture, as they are prohibited from practicing more than 70 professions according to Lebanese law.

According to UNRWA, about %62 of the Palestinian refugees live inside camps where about %30 of them suffer from poverty, while about %7.9 suffer from abject poverty.

Palestinian refugees in Lebanon suffer from difficult and complicated circumstances. The Palestinian refugees who arrived in Lebanon after 1967 are not allowed to have the right to reside and their residency in Lebanon is illegal as the right to residency is only allowed for those who came to Lebanon after 1948.
The Palestinian refugees in Lebanon are deprived of the following rights:

- Public health care.
- Social services.
- Owning real estate and property.
- Building in Palestinian camps.
- Working in some crafts and professions such as, pharmacy, media, medicine, law, education, and engineering.

Most refugees are unable to be enrolled in Lebanese schools and universities. Only %10 of foreigners are allowed to register in the Lebanese public schools. UNRWA runs only five secondary schools to educate Palestinian refugees.

As for economic and social conditions, about %56 of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon are unemployed. Approximately %38 of Palestinian refugees do simple jobs – as itinerant sellers, construction workers, and farmers – their salary does not provide them with their daily food.

More recently, specifically in December 2019, Palestinian refugees in Lebanon were unable to provide their minimum living requirements due to the Lebanese political crisis as well as the emergence of the Coronavirus pandemic. The Lebanese political crisis has greatly affected them. Many of them were unable to reach their work places due to demonstrations that hindered their arrival. The unemployment rate among them increased from %56 to %80 along with a high poverty rate of %65 due to the lack of jobs opportunities and high prices of food and basic needs due to the deterioration of the local currency (the Lebanese Lira depreciated against U.S. dollar).
Those with academic degrees, such as engineers, face many challenges as well. Palestinian engineers can do everything in practical and professional terms, but they lack the right to be recognized as an engineer. The final version of any contract must be under the name of a Lebanese engineer and the employment contract does not stipulate that the Palestinian engineer should be considered an engineer, but an ordinary worker.

Palestinian doctors have the right to take examinations that enable them to practice their profession, but once they pass these exams successfully, they can only work at UNRWA and the Palestinian Red Crescent hospitals. All medical reports issued by Palestinian doctors are not recognized and need to be signed by a Lebanese doctor to be recognized by the state.

Palestinian refugees suffer from restrictions that limit their ability to move, as they live in camps that are almost besieged by the Lebanese security forces. Freedom of movement, for example, between Ain al-Hilweh and Mieh and Mieh camps is not an option. Nahr al-Bared camp suffers from security restrictions imposed by the Lebanese army on its residents. Likewise, Palestinian refugees are not allowed to repair or expand destroyed camps, as the Lebanese government sets strict conditions for restoration or expansion. This requires obtaining a license from the Army Intelligence which is a complex procedure.

The Lebanese law also excluded Palestinian refugees from the right to own property under the pretext of refusing settlement. Palestinians were prohibited from the right to form associations, unions, and own media outlets.
• Jordan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Refugees by nationality</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Palestinians</td>
<td>2,206,736</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syrians</td>
<td>655,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq, Yemen, Sudan, and other countries</td>
<td>90,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• First: Syrian refugees in Jordan

According to statistics issued by UNHCR in Jordan, more than half a million Syrian refugees reside in Jordan. Amman Governorate hosts the largest
number of refugees, followed by Mafraq, Irbid, and Zarqa. Most Syrian refugees live in urban areas with about %84, while the rest live in three camp namely, Zaatari, Azraq, and the Emirati-Jordanian camp. About %86 of these refugees live below the poverty line relying on aid and subsidized services. There are several studies that indicate that the living conditions in these camps have seen a significant improvement during the few past years. The reason for the suffering of the Syrian refugees from severe economic and social conditions and poverty is the lack of basic needs. UNHCR provided only %42.3 of the needs of the humanitarian response to the Syrian refugee crisis in 2019, which was estimated at 1.015$ billion out of 2.4$ billion with a deficit of about 1.38$ billion. As for work, Syrian refugees are prohibited from carrying out many activities, such as medicine, law, interior design, accounting, education, and electrical maintenance work. However, there are laws issued after the London Donors Conference in 2016 aiming to regulate the labor market for Syrian refugees in Jordan in order to achieve a stable Syrian labor presence where the Jordanian Ministry of Labor allowed giving work permits for Syrians that would enable them to do many jobs legally. According to statistics, the number of Syrians currently working in Jordan ranges between 85,000 and 330,000. They do manual jobs, mainly in the fields of construction, services and sales, and agriculture.
As for education, Syrian refugee students suffer from discrimination, bullying, and violence in schools. These practices may cause parents to keep them at home, thereby losing their right to education.

Second: Palestinian refugees in Jordan

More than two million Palestinian refugees live in Jordan, distributed in ten camps run by UNRWA. Four refugee camps were established in 1948, while the rest were established in 1967. Palestinian refugees suffer from anxiety, as UNRWA’s budget has been reduced during the past years, when the US cut off its financial aid. As a result, UNRWA was exposed to an unprecedented financial crisis that affected the living conditions of Palestinian refugees, who depend
almost completely on aid provided by UNRWA. Statistics indicate that about %31 of families living in Palestinian camps are under the poverty line. Young people aged 29-12 years suffer from %33 unemployment rate.

High unemployment rates, very limited financial income, and poorly built homes in which Palestinian refugees live, as well as health and psychological problems, have affected the nature of life for these refugees, especially that about %42.6 of these refugees are children under 15.

In terms of financial income, studies indicate that more than %25 of Palestinian refugee families living in camps receive an annual income of less than 900 Jordanian dinars (640$).

The harsh living conditions experienced by Palestinian refugees pushed refugee women to work to provide a livelihood for their families. Women provide income for about %14 of families. The percentage increases to %46 in cases of severe distress and hardship, as many of them do manual labor such as sewing, embroidery, glass painting, and marketing.

As for health services, it is noted that health services are provided only to refugees registered by UNRWA. The agency runs about 23 medical clinics in Jordan, and it aims to serve Palestinian refugees. However, health centers are few compared to the number of refugees and their needs.

In terms of legal conditions, Palestinian refugees enjoy the same rights of citizenship and residence as Jordanian citizens. Palestinian refugees
displaced from Palestine in 1948 hold Jordanian citizenship, while Palestinian refugees who were displaced to Jordan after 1967 do not obtain Jordanian citizenship. They are not considered Jordanian citizens, but entitled to obtain temporary residence, and always required to renew their residence permits before they expire.

Palestinian refugees enjoy the right to education in Jordanian schools and universities as any Jordanian citizen, with the exception of Palestinians who entered Jordan from the Gaza Strip after 1967. The Gaza refugees have limited seats to study at university, forcing them to compete for access to university.

UNRWA schools provide educational services during elementary and preparatory levels, and some scholarships for outstanding high school students. The agency runs more than 190 schools, but the recent financial crisis affected its services. UNRWA no longer provides assistance to students such as stationery, which added a greater burden on parents. The agency was not able to repair some schools nor increase the number of classes in them due to the increase in the number of students annually. UNRWA has stopped appointing new teachers despite the fact that schools need new staff.
The number of refugee deaths during the asylum journey

**Number of Refugee Deaths**

*during the Asylum Journey in 2019*

- Since 2014, the number of deaths on migration routes worldwide has reached **34,532** persons in 2019.
- Since 2014, the Mediterranean has killed at least **19,164** migrants and refugees in 2019.
- One in **33** people has died in an attempt to cross the central Mediterranean route between North Africa and Italy.
- **413** people, at least, were lost at sea and their deaths have not been fully verified in 2019 recorded during the asylum journey from entry points to Western Europe.
- **123** deaths in Europe
Refugee situation in host countries (Europe)

- First: Turkey

Syrian refugees have been a major issue in the Turkish public affairs during the past years, due to the high number of Syrians in large cities, especially in Istanbul, the economic capital of the country.

According to the latest official census from Directorate General of Migration Management, the number of Syrians in Turkey is 3,630,000 officially registered Syrian refugees, including 103,579 refugees inside refugee camps. Istanbul is on the top of the list of cities in which Syrians are located, with 547,479 refugees, while Gaziantep in the south of the country comes second with 443,290 refugees, followed by Şanlıurfa with 430,537 refugees.

With the expansion of the Syrian presence in Turkey in 2012, the Turkish government began granting refugees from Syria a refugee status called
«kimlik», which in Turkish means “identity”. Refugee’s Kemlik is associated with the state in which they were registered for the first time, where they are required to reside and not allowed to travel to another state without prior travel permission issued from this state. Latest measures are related to the holders of this type of ID specifically.

In addition to Kimlik, Syrians residing in Turkey obtain other types of residency, which are tourist residencies or work residencies, which are types of residencies that do not limit movement and residency.

Turkey’s administration of the refugee file

In 2011, Turkey pursued an “open door” policy allowing the influx of many refugees and their stay in Turkish public facilities until the establishment of refugee camps while the Disaster and Emergency Management Agency (AFAD) was assigned to building camps urgently for refugees. By October 2013, AFAD was able to build 21 camps, housing nearly 200,000 Syrian refugees, while 400,000 refugees preferred to reside in urban areas.

Reports said that the Turkish government has ensured the availability of all basic services, especially medical facilities in refugee accommodations. The Directorate General of Immigration Administration (DGMM) has also been created to implement laws that guarantee the protection of Syrian refugees, perhaps the most important of which was the October 2014 law which provides for the protection of refugees and the necessity of registering them.
Some local reports indicate that between 200,000 and 250,000 refugees refuse to register themselves, for several reasons, including their fear of returning them to the Al-Assad regime, or over fears of placing them by the Turkish government in camps and then preventing them from reaching Europe. In this context, the Turkish government has strived to register all refugees residing on its lands, especially the group that refuses to register for the previous reasons, and has cooperated with various international institutions, in particular the United Nations in order to cover the expenses of refugee residency. However, Turkey still gets less aid compared to what it needs to spend on refugees.

On the informal level, many NGOs have played a prominent role in reducing the severity of the Syrian refugee crisis and contributed to improving their living conditions. For example, some of these institutions provided training courses to teach the Turkish language to refugees in order to help them integrate into society and find jobs, courses to qualify women for the labor market, in addition to psychological treatment sessions. However, some of these institutions’ dependency on donations hinders achieving their goals.
Second: Greece

Greece is one of the main destinations that receive hundreds of migrants daily, from sea and land, most of whom are Syrian refugees who came to Greece via Turkey in the hope of a better life. But local and international human rights reports show what refugees and asylum seekers who are taken to the crowded shelters at the Moria camp on the island of Lesbos are facing difficulties in surviving, as the camp has eight times more people than its real capacity.

Although Greece continued to host a large number of asylum seekers, more than 47,000, it did not provide services not did preserve the rights guaranteed by the International Refugee Law. According to statistics, until the first quarter of this year, Greece recorded a remarkable increase in the
number of refugees arriving there compared to last year, reaching 21,000, after the Turkish authorities allowed Syrian refugees to pass to Greece without intercepting their way, which left an increase in the numbers of those refugees and the violations against them, especially what happened on the Turkish-Greek border in March.

Looking at the health and living conditions inside the Greek refugee camps, we find that the shortcomings in the reception system and the asylum system are still increasing with severe overcrowding, unsanitary conditions, and the lack of adequate specialized care, including medical and psychological care and social support, and that physical and gender-based violence, which is common. Many NGOs have reported deteriorating mental health conditions for asylum seekers, and most unaccompanied children remain in camps with adults, in so-called preventive detention by the police or face displacement, with the authorities not resolving the problem of a lack of juvenile homelessness or Nursery school.

Moria camp

Moria camp is one of the most famous camps that receive refugees and asylum seekers and see violations against refugees and asylum seekers, according to multiple testimonies of the residents of that camp, which hosts more than 18,000 people in an area designed to accommodate only three thousand people. For many refugees and asylum-seekers, the bitter reality of their daily life in the camp outnumbers the hardships and difficulties
they encountered during their sea journey to Europe, and even – at times – exceeded the horrors of war that some of them experienced in their countries from which they had fled.

Because of the prolonged asylum procedures and the shortage of reception centers, the miserable conditions in Moria camp remain the same, which includes severe overcrowding and lack of health and food services while some refugees queue up for hours in a long line to get water and food. According to field human rights reports, refugees cannot get their daily meals despite waiting for long hours because of the Greek government and the administration of the refugee camps’ negligence, which intentionally deny these refugees basic services. Thousands of residents in these centers are calling for basic human rights, including clean water, heating, sanitation, good food, and health care.

Testimonies of asylum seekers in the camps

Several testimonies documented by the Euro-Med Monitor field team in the camps and detention centers on the Greek island of Kos show the difficult conditions experienced by asylum seekers there, and the authorities’ delay in settling their status and processing their asylum applications.

Mustafa Qaidi, who arrived from the western countryside of Aleppo in northern Syria, said: “We live in a tent where we suffer from the cold and there are no blankets. There is no electricity, water, sanitation or anything.”

Sami Al-Bayouk, from the Gaza Strip, talked about the poor living conditions
inside his refugee camp, said: “We live in a place that is not suitable for humans, there are no services or blankets even to cover children and women. Days ago, I almost lost my daughter due to heavy rain and despite complaints that I submitted to the camp’s administration, they did not provide us with anything, so I had to make my wife sleep in a crowded tent for fear of heavy rain due to the lack of any shelter.”

Mohamed Barbakh from the Gaza Strip said: “I expected to live a decent and stable life after arriving in Greece, but we live under harsh conditions here. Why did we ask for humanitarian asylum? In order to live a decent life, we sailed the sea, and we were about to die. We were surprised that the conditions here are so difficult and there are no health facilities and no accommodation for us and for our families. We asked them to let us leave the camp in order to work so that we can buy the basic needs of our families, but they refused to let us leave and told us that we are not allowed to work. We cannot work and rarely receive assistance. Life is difficult and we cannot keep living this way in Greece.”

**Children are in danger the most**

The health conditions at Moria refugee camp located on the island of Lesbos are really poor, as MSF was forced to withdraw vital services in light of tensions that prevailed in the island after the increase in the number of arrivals from Turkey, where the medical organization said, «the situation of unaccompanied minors is extremely worrying, and we have more than
5,000 of them in the country and about 1,000 in Lesbos, and many of these minors live in precarious conditions, in detention centers, and in camps.»

The refugee crisis on the Turkish-Greek border

On February 27th, the Turkish government stated that it will not get in the way of any Syrian refugee intending to go to Greece, which sparked a new wave of asylum on the Turkish-Greek border, as hundreds of thousands of Syrian refugees rushed to the Greek border in order to try to enter Greece as it is considered the gateway of asylum towards European countries, but those borders soon turned into a battlefield. The Greek government strengthened the presence of its security forces, and it went beyond that to the extent of bringing in gunmen who did not wear formal security clothing, as they were shooting and stealing from refugees who tried to cross the border including torturing and sexually assaulting them.

In turn, the Greek security forces fired huge numbers of tear gas canisters without regard for the huge number of children and women, which led to hundreds of cases of suffocation among refugees. Human rights institutions monitored a clear and systematic torture of dozens of refugees by the Greek forces, in addition to the killing of three Syrian refugees on the Greek border. The Euro-Med Monitor documented the recent grave incidents of violence perpetrated by the Greek authorities against asylum seekers, including the Greek border patrol teargassing civilians and children and the Greek coastguard using guns and poles and creating high waves using naval
boats to block inflatable refugee boats from reaching Greece. Under European Union Refugee Law and the 1951 Refugee Convention, Greece is obligated to maintain a clear policy in dealing with asylum applications. The Greek Government’s evocation of Article 87 of the Treaty of the Functioning of the EU (TFEU) does not justify its latest violations, including suspending reception of asylum applications, noting that Article 87 can only be triggered in cases of emergency by the EU Council, following a proposal from the EU Commission and after consulting the European Parliament.

• **Third: Italy**

The Italian Ministry of Interior stated at the end of December 2019 that the number of refugees who arrived in Italy during 2019 was about 11,439 refugees, a %50 drop down compared to 2018 which reached about 23,210 refugees. The reason for this drop is the tragic and dire conditions that
refugees are languishing in Libyan prisons and Greek camps. According to documented reports, many migrants and asylum seekers - especially those who arrived in Italy in 2018 - risk losing their places of residence without any ability to claim housing, food or health care. In case an asylum seeker leaves allocated housing for a short period without giving reasons, it is allowed to withdraw his right of accommodation. According to multiple investigations, at least 40,000 refugees lost the right to accommodation between 2016 and 2017 in a number of Italian provinces. On the other hand, hate speech at the official and institutional levels, especially the right-wing parties in Italy, had a profound impact on the escalation of violence and racist incidents towards asylum seekers, especially Africans, as hundreds of cases of beating and physical and verbal violence were documented. Most refugees and migrants are facing difficult working conditions by employers without any consideration by the Italian government or labor offices that ignore dozens of complaints filed by workers and non-profit organizations about the practices that migrants and refugees are exposed to by depriving them of their pension. Additionally, multiple complaints about the frequent harsh and difficult working conditions have been filed, which affect the health and safety of these refugees and migrants and grossly violate the set of legal rules that guarantee their rights to have fair and safe working conditions.
In 2019, France received 42,100 refugees. They live in France under difficult humanitarian conditions, especially in light of the spread of the Coronavirus COVID19- and the subsequent closure measures that exacerbated the living conditions of refugees in France.

According to documentations by human rights organizations, asylum seekers and refugees in France lack housing and live in the cold, humidity, stress, fatigue, and are crammed in light tents. They are expelled from public places on daily basis and live in deplorable health conditions.

Thousands of refugees are homeless

Care4Calais organization estimates that there are about 1,000 people who are homeless in Calais in addition to 2,000 others throughout Dunkerque
and the coastal region. Moreover, human rights organizations fear that the Coronavirus COVID19-outbreak will be devastating for people who are already exposed to various types of risk.

The available data indicates that it is impossible for migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in northern France to effectively remain isolated if they start to feel ill because they have no place to live in, no access to food. Things got really bad that these refugees cannot even contact emergency services because they have to charge their phones to do this, and the only place where they could do this is at the day-care and service centers that have been closed due to the virus and the absence of the French government’s role in meeting the needs of these migrants and refugees.

• Fifth: Croatia

Asylum seekers try to reach the European Union by passing through Croatia, when they come from Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, but Croatia has
consistently prevented them from exercising their right to asylum upon arriving in its territory. Not only this, expulsions by the police have been characterized by intimidation, systematic violence and personal property confiscation, as well as the use of excessive force.

Dozens of asylum seekers who attempted to cross Croatia to reach the European Union from Bosnia and Herzegovina get their rights violated by the Croatian Police, including discrimination and abuse, as they were prevented from submitting asylum applications while some were dispossessed of their personal belongings including mobile phones and money before being forcefully and unlawfully returned to Bosnia.

It is worth noting that all refugees whose requests have not been accepted are at the risk of expulsion and refoulement, which may compel them to return to a country where they would be exposed to serious violations of their human rights.

According to European Union plans, Croatia committed to accepting about 1,600 refugees by the end of 2019, as part of a redistribution and resettlement plan, but as of mid-November 2019, it had received only 100 people, and had not resettled any refugees.

As for its most recent violations, in April 2020 dozens of asylum seekers who attempted to cross to Croatia from Bosnia complained of the Croatian Police discrimination and abuse, as they were sprayed with orange paint on their heads, while some were dispossessed of their personal belongings
including mobile phones and money before being forcefully and unlawfully returned to Bosnia.

• Sixth: Ireland

Asylum seekers in Ireland are placed in Direct Provision (DP) centres until their status is assessed, which on average takes about 14 months, and some have been held for up to four years there. This system was introduced 20 years ago, and conditions are appalling. Even after being granted a permission to stay in Ireland, some have to stay in provision centres because they are unable to find housing. The most worrying issue is children who live in these centres, where nappies and formula milk are often denied to new-born babies, and the necessary living and health facilities are unavailable, which negatively affects their health and increases the risk of contracting diseases.
Families and large groups of people are cramped in small bedrooms. Some rooms don’t have a door, there is no insulation and the furniture is worn-up and unclean. There is no privacy in these centres and there are many restrictions regarding food where asylum seekers are not allowed to cook. They get low-quality food and sometimes different from their cultures. There are restrictions on visitors' reception and sometimes they are placed under a full curfew.

Asylum seekers receive an allowance of 19.10 € per week per adult and 9.60 € per child, which is beneath the minimum standard to cover their needs. Residents are not allowed to cook for themselves and are given low-quality and culturally inappropriate food. Asylum seekers have no access to work or education.

Reports have indicated that 90 percent of DP residents suffer from depression after the first six months of their stay. Between 2007 and 2017, forty-four people died in the centres. The cause of death for fifteen of the said victims was recorded as “unknown” or simply “died.” However, there were no further inquiries into any of these cases.
Asylum seekers in Sweden suffer from the long waiting period to obtain legal papers regulating their living conditions, which sometimes take up to 36 months, which means that it is difficult for them to enjoy basic services such as medical care, educational services, work and others until they obtain their residency cards and documents. The issue was not limited to the delay in granting asylum permits, but Sweden’s policies towards asylum seekers escalated to the refusal to give some nationalities special papers regulating their status as refugees, including Palestinians, as dozens of them reported rejecting their asylum applications.

According to Kanaan Hamad, a Palestinian asylum seeker in Sweden, the Swedish government imposed restrictive measures that included the
expulsion of some asylum seekers from the immigration houses (refugees’ residences) and the reduction of humanitarian aid, which provides a small amount of money for refugees to buy food. These measures undermine the stability and security of asylum seekers.

According to Hamad, the procedures do not target new asylum seekers only. Palestinians who have lived in the country for more than a decade have a great difficulty in obtaining long-term legal residence. The Swedish authorities grant them a one-year residence permit which prevents them from integrating into the society and hinders their ability to find work or access health and education services. Additionally, they are prohibited from exiting Sweden, which has made life more difficult for those who have fled conflict and combat zones.

Asylum seekers in Malta suffer from tragic and dangerous conditions while traveling from Libya to European countries, where they undertake the dangerous Mediterranean path to Europe and get sent back to Libya. They have spoken out to the media about being intercepted at sea by private ships that Malta’s government contracted to push migrants back to Libya. The victims of this serious violation have indicated deliberate humiliation and mistreatment by ship crews determined to return them to Libyan detention centers despite their cries for help and rescue. As a result, some captured asylum seekers have died en route to Libya.

A former Maltese official, Neville Gafà, broke the news that following direct
instructions from the Maltese Prime Minister’s office, he was hired to coordinate the use of private ships and fishing trawlers to intercept asylum seekers in the Mediterranean and push them back to Libya. According to human rights reports, asylum seekers returned to Libya are held in infamous detention camps that lack adequate infrastructure, sufficient food and water, or access to medical care and hygiene. Refugees and migrants there are treated inhumanely with utter contempt, where inmates are subject to torture and brutal treatment.

- Ninth: Belgium

In January 2020, the Belgian Minister of Immigration announced a set of measures and restrictions on asylum seekers to prevent «asylum shoppers» or what is known as people who break the Dublin Procedure. This included
extending the period of Dublin Procedure to 18 months instead of six months, which means that an asylum-seeker who goes to a European country other than the one he/she arrived in and presents his/her fingerprints, cannot access rights granted to refugees in the new European country except after 18 months, which means that he/she remains without any protection or rights throughout this period. Once this period is over, the application will be considered, which poses a danger to those receiving their basic rights such as the lack of access to health services, education and work.

The country witnessed an escalation of violence and hatred against asylum centers, including the burning of some centers in November 2019 as dozens of attacks were documented by local and international human rights institutions and centers, including exposing asylum seekers to verbal and physical attacks by Belgian citizens. Belgium has seen a rise in racist speeches and campaigns calling for the expulsion of asylum seekers from the country.
Statistics showing the number of asylum seekers arriving in Europe

About 123,920 asylum seekers arrived in Europe in 2009. 110,669 of them arrived by sea.

14,500 refugees sailed the sea from Libya and Tunisia.
66,166 refugees took the eastern Mediterranean path, especially between Turkey, Greece and Cyprus.

Most refugees entered Europe from Austria.
Legal background

Human rights conventions in general and conventions relating to refugees in particular are an essential source for refugees’ protection which enables them to exercise their rights and freedoms guaranteed by these conventions. The United Nations Refugee Convention of 1951 and its 1967 Protocol are the main cornerstone of the asylum system and refugee protection, as they provide the global framework, standards and the basic principles for refugee protection, based on cooperation and sharing the responsibility of refugee by the states parties. In addition to the 1951 Convention, there are many international conventions and covenants that take care of refugee rights, the most important of which are:

- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948.
- The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966.
Based on these international agreements and covenants, it is evident that refugees have a set of rights guaranteed by international law and have an international protection, which requires countries that ratify these agreements to assist and protect refugees by granting them the rights established in these agreements. In return, refugees have obligations and conditions determined by the relevant agreements or by the country of asylum in order to maintain public order and national security.

All international human rights covenants, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in general and the United Nations Refugee Convention of 1951 in particular, have recognized many refugee rights in the country of asylum as follows:

- The right to litigate: In the country of asylum, a refugee has the right to free litigation before courts, and this right is a guarantee for refugees’ protection, as the judiciary is the basic reference for providing justice to the refugees when their rights are violated.

- The right to education: Refugees have the right to acquire the necessary education, especially for children, a right that cannot be condoned or bargained away as it is a basic human right.

- The right to wage-earning employment: Due to the difficult economic hardships that refugees suffer from, the right to work has been devoted to them so that they do not remain dependent on the community in which they live.
• The right to move and choose a place of residence: The country of asylum should regularly grant refugees living in its territory the right to choose their place of residence and free movement within its borders, in a manner that does not contradict the special restrictions related to public order.

• The right to housing: It means the right to rent and live in suitable places, where a legal resident refugee enjoys this right in accordance with laws and regulations the state applies to foreigners in general.

• The right to practice religious rituals: This right includes the freedom of refugees to practice their religious rituals, choose religious education, and secure religious and moral education for their children in accordance with their own conviction and beliefs.

• The right to have an ID card and travel documents: Refugees' possession of identity documents is extremely important in order to facilitate administrative procedures and other activities in daily life. Given the harsh conditions of asylum, it is often impossible for refugees to prove their identity in the country of asylum either because of not having their identity documents, or because of losing them during their escape or due to the expiry of their validity period and the impossibility of contacting their countries to renew them due to the interruption of their relationship with their home countries. Therefore, the asylum country is obligated to issue a personal identity card for every refugee in its territory who does not have a valid travel document. The Refugee Convention of 1951 obligated
the contracting states to issue passports to refugees legally residing in its territory to enable them to travel outside, unless compelling reasons of public order or national security are required for the country of asylum. In this case, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) or the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is responsible for issuing these documents in cases where the country of asylum is a non-Party to the 1951 Convention or the 1967 Protocol.

- The right to social and health care: Refugees have the right to access the necessary health care and social assistance that enables them to survive under the difficult and harsh conditions that they go through.

Out of these rights guaranteed by international human rights conventions related to refugees’ affairs, all refugees have obligations towards the country in which they reside, which requires them to comply by laws and provisions in this country, and by procedures aimed at maintaining public order. Refugees should refrain from engaging in any act that violates local laws. In return, the country of asylum is obliged not to forcible return refugees to the country of persecution and not to expel refugees or return them to places that endanger their lives and freedom. The principle of non-refoulement is a fundamental principle in international law and constitutes a fundamental rule of refugee law, and it is one of the main bedrocks on which asylum is based, and it is even described as the cornerstone of the international legal system for refugee protection.
In summary, refugees’ rights include legal protection that is granted to them through asylum. These rights are divided into two parts, the first part; It is a protection of a positive nature, under which refugees are allowed to enter and stay in the country of asylum for a specified period while giving them a set of basic rights that guarantee an adequate human condition for them. The second part; It is a protection of a negative nature represented in the inadmissibility of returning refugees to the persecuting state. This includes the prohibition of deportation and extradition and providing refugees with a temporary shelter until another state accepts them in its territory. In return, refugees are bound by a set of obligations towards the country of asylum, such as their commitment to respect the laws of this state, and that is equal to all people subject to its sovereignty.
Recommendations

By studying the conditions of refugees in general and the legal foundations that constitute the basic backbone for the protection of their rights, it becomes clear that many gaps must be filled in and a lot of efforts should be made to improve the human rights system of refugees by protecting them, securing their needs and safeguarding their rights. In light of the armed conflicts and disasters that the world is witnessing that have increased flows of refugees towards receiving countries, the Euro-Med Monitor's recommends:

1. All states, especially Lebanon and Jordan, to join and ratify the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol to establish an integrated legal and human rights framework for refugee rights and to have a protection system in line with international conventions and human rights and refugee-related conventions.

2. To activate the principle of international burden sharing through the solidarity of all members of the international community to help countries receiving refugees to bear the burdens. This can't happen unless countries realize the need to address the refugees' problem in an integrated manner by enabling them to exercise their rights and strive to find lasting solutions to their problems in cooperation with the UNHCR and other relevant organizations and agencies.
3. The necessity of the host countries to commit to assume their responsibilities and enable refugees to access their rights and freedoms guaranteed by the human rights conventions and refugee agreements, and to work to establish their rights, especially their right to non-refoulement (the principle of non-refoulement).

4. The necessity to reject racial discrimination, arrogance, the pejorative attitude towards refugees in host countries and adopt a more humane approach towards them. Countries have a critical role to play in changing hate speech directed against them to a rational and moderate speech based on the recognition of the human dignity of every person who seeks protection and needs it. Media institutions should standardize their terminology related to refugee issues so that they are not interpreted in different ways that may negatively affect the refugee issue and may be interpreted as hate speech or incitement against them.

5. Organizations and agencies contributing and working on refugee issues should work more effectively to promote the culture of accepting these refugees and migrants into society, by conducting seminars, workshops and studies to raise awareness about refugee rights, in addition to following the process of registering refugees and seeking to solve the problems of those whose applications are rejected.