



- An **asylum-seeker/applicant for international protection** is a person who is outside the country of her/his nationality and submits an application for international protection, i.e., to be granted refugee status or other forms of protection, in a different country on the basis of international and national law. S/he has the right to reside in the host country until a final decision has been reached by the competent authorities. Asylum-seekers are thus not irregular migrants, though they may enter the host country without identity papers or in any other irregular manner. Not every asylum-seeker may ultimately be recognized as a refugee or beneficiary of subsidiary protection, but every refugee is initially an asylum-seeker.
- A **beneficiary of subsidiary protection** is a person who cannot be strictly defined as a 'refugee' under the 1951 Convention because s/he is not persecuted as an individual, but who is nevertheless in need of protection as, were s/he to be returned to her/his home country, s/he would be in grave danger due to armed conflict, generalised violence and/or widespread violations of human rights. European directives define this form of protection as 'subsidiary' protection.
- **Integration/inclusion:** Refugees need lasting solutions because the situation of being a refugee is not or should not be permanent. Refugees will either return voluntarily to their home country when the conditions that forced them into exile have been reversed or will have to find a lasting solution within a new community – either in the country of first refuge (integration) or in a third country through resettlement or relocation. The 1951 Convention enumerates social and economic rights designed to assist refugees to get on with their lives without depending on handouts. It also

calls upon Contracting States to facilitate the naturalisation of refugees.

- **Internally displaced persons (IDPs)** are persons forced to flee their homes because of war or natural disasters but, unlike refugees, have not crossed an international border, remaining instead inside their home countries.
- An **irregular migrant** is a person who has entered a country in an unauthorized manner, without a visa and has NOT requested asylum or has entered the country in a regular manner and has not left after her/his entry visa has expired or has not left the territory after receipt of an expulsion order. The term "illegal migrant" is considered outdated and is not recognized by international and European institutions. Refugees and other persons in need of international protection often use the same routes as irregular migrants to seek protection. The Geneva Convention recognises that someone fleeing persecution can enter a country irregularly, usually without any documentation, to claim asylum.
- A **migrant/immigrant** is a person who chooses of her/his own accord to leave her/his home country in search of work and of better economic conditions elsewhere. Unlike refugees, migrants may return home without danger to their safety.
- The **non-refoulement principle** is defined in the 1951 Convention: "No Contracting State shall expel or return (*refouler*) a refugee in any manner whatsoever to the frontiers of territories where his life or freedom would be threatened on account of his race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion." It means, in other words, that a refugee cannot be forcibly returned to her/his home country or any other country where s/he could face persecution, nor can an asylum-seeker can be prevented from entering a country to seek protection. **Pushbacks** are illegal as they may end in people being sent back to risk, contrary to the non-refoulement principle.
- **People smuggling** is the facilitation, transportation, attempted transportation, or illegal entry of people across an international border, in violation of one or more countries' laws, either

clandestinely or through deception, such as with the use of fraudulent documents. People smuggling is generally with the consent of the person(s) being smuggled, who often pay large sums of money. While smuggling in human beings in violation of a state's immigration laws for the purpose of financial or material benefit is a criminal offence, it is not a crime for a person to risk her/his life to flee war or persecution in search of protection in another country.

- A **refugee** is a person who has been granted refugee status under the 1951 Geneva Convention on refugees, to which Cyprus is a party along with 148 other countries. Article 1 of the Convention defines a refugee as a person having a '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 person is granted refugee status if s/he can demonstrate that s/he is the victim of individual persecution.
- **Relocation** refers to the movement of refugees from one EU Member State to another. It is an intra-EU process, in which Member States help another Member State to cope with the pressure of hosting a relatively large refugee population by agreeing to receive a number of them. Relocation is an expression of internal EU solidarity and responsibility sharing, particularly with those countries at the borders of Europe that receive a high number of refugees.
- Refugee **resettlement** is the selection and transfer of refugees from a state in which they have sought protection to a third country that admits them – as refugees – with a permanent residence status. Resettlement is a protection tool for refugees whose lives and liberty are at risk. It is a 'durable solution' for refugees alongside local integration and voluntary repatriation and an expression of solidarity with those developing countries that host the majority of the world's refugees. In the EU, resettlement means the movement of refugees from a country outside of the EU to an EU Member State.

■ **Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC):**

Unaccompanied children are children who have been separated from both parents and other relatives and are not being cared for by an adult who, by law or custom, is responsible for doing so. **Separated children** are those separated from both parents or from their previous legal or customary primary caregiver but not necessarily from other relatives. Separated children may be accompanied by other adult family members.

- A **victim of trafficking** is a person who – unlike irregular migrants, who decide to entrust their fate to people smugglers – has not given her/his consent to be transferred to another country or, if s/he has given her/his consent, the latter has been rendered void by the coercive and/or deceitful actions of the traffickers or by the abuse which s/he has been the victim of or has been threatened with. Traffickers aim to achieve control over another person for the purpose of exploitation. 'Exploitation' includes the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.



© UNHCR/Zsolt Balla