



**Human Rights
Engagement
Strategy**
The case for inclusion

2020 - 2023

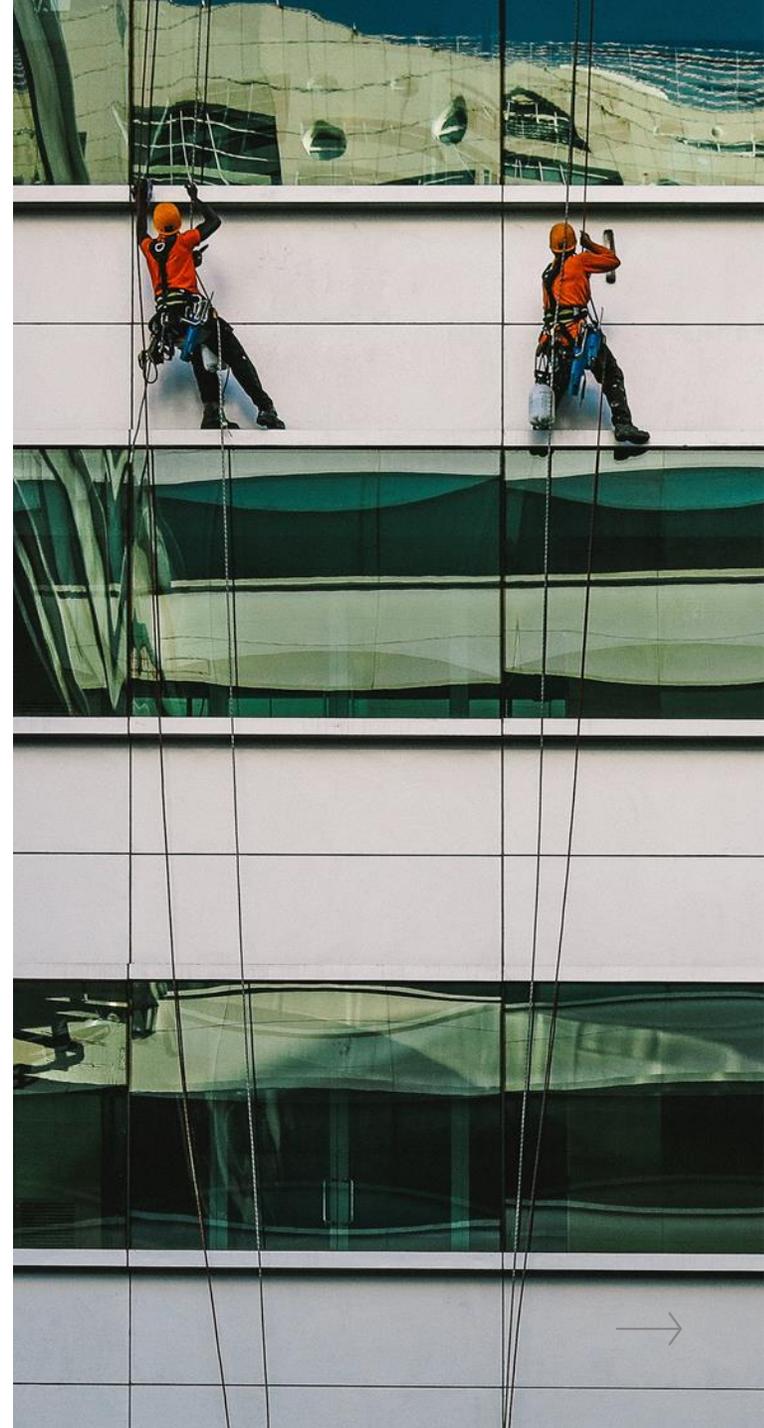
THREE PILLARS

- 1. Advocacy on human rights for inclusion:** include issues related to forced displacement and statelessness in international and regional human rights normative frameworks as well as in national legislative and policy systems, and build strong partnerships around human rights;
- 2. Mainstreaming human rights:** integrate a human rights based approach and/or human rights considerations in all areas of UNHCR's work through advice, guidance and training/capacity building, as well as the development of tools and standards;
- 3. Engagement with human rights mechanisms:** leverage human rights mechanisms to mobilize UNHCR and other stakeholders to include persons of concern in standard-setting and review processes and to take action towards the respect, protection and promotion of their human rights.



Field support

- “Help line”, Good Practice guide
- Community of practice
- Regular thematic webinars
- Human rights engagement Learning Program and dedicated e-learning
- Guidance for the field (NHRIs, racism and xenophobia, UPR...)
- Diversifying our communication- demystifying HR



GUIDANCE ON

RACISM AND XENOPHOBIA

How UNHCR can address and respond to situations of racism and xenophobia affecting persons under its mandate

Definitions

Opportunity to move towards common understandings across the organization on the below terms:

- Principles of equality and non-discrimination
- Racial discrimination
- Racism
- Prejudice
- Stereotype
- Stigma
- Intolerance
- Xenophobia
- Hate crimes
- Hate speech

UNHCR Strategic Approach to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

- Monitor signs of racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance
- Analyse the underlying reasons
- Assess the manifestations of these phenomena and their impact on protection
- Understand legal obligations to protect individuals from racial and other forms of discrimination
- Engage a network of diverse organizations and entities
- Include affected communities in the strategic approach
- Provide individual support to victims.

Directions for UNHCR's efforts to address and respond to racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, hate crimes, hate speech and related intolerance

1. The human rights of refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons, returnees and stateless persons must be ensured without discrimination.
2. Strong laws and policies to combat racism, xenophobia, hate crimes and hate speech are essential.
3. UNHCR recognizes that persons under its mandate are often victims of exclusion, discrimination and intolerance at the intersection of multiple forms of human rights violations and privilege.
4. UNHCR calls for access to justice and effective remedies for victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, hate crimes or hate speech and for holding those responsible to account.
5. UNHCR encourages the inclusion of persons under its mandate in all exercises and platforms monitoring and collecting disaggregated data documenting racial discrimination, racism, xenophobia, hate crimes and hate speech.
6. UNHCR promotes education on the rights of persons under its mandate and messages encouraging inclusion, diversity, empathy and tolerance.
7. UNHCR considers that everyone can play a role to prevent and stop racism and xenophobia that affect refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons, returnees and stateless persons.

2009 UNHCR Strategic Approach to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

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- ii. Analyse the underlying reasons;
- iii. Assess the manifestations of these phenomena and their impact on protection;
- iv. Understand legal obligations to protect individuals from racial discrimination and multiple forms of discrimination;
- v. Engage a network of diverse organizations;
- vi. Include affected communities in the strategic approach;
- vii. Provide individual support to victims.

Historical
racism

Structural
racism

Institutional
racism

Individual
racism

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Partnerships- Steps UNHCR could take with others

- Engage host communities and PoCs in a participatory process to design, implement, monitor and evaluate any approaches to combatting R&X
- Identify and engage new partners working on R&X (e.g. parliamentarians, NGOs, faith-based organizations, community leaders)
- Collaborate with UN and regional mechanisms
- Participate actively in the UN [Network on Racial Discrimination and Protection of Minorities](#)
- Engage proactively with national mechanisms to address racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including collaboration with National Human Rights Institutions
- Work with Governments and relevant national authorities to recognize forms of racism that particularly affect specific groups
- Support and strengthen Governments' capacity to implement existing international, regional and national standards addressing racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance