



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

Teaching About Refugees

TEACHING ABOUT STATELESSNESS

AGES

12-15

Lesson plan for video

‘Giorgi’s story’

Watch the video story on

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xvC-3KhatVQ>

Before teaching this topic, take a look at our set of videos for teachers on statelessness. They explain the basics of what statelessness is and will help you answer questions your students may have.

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL9g_yp_6cf6qtjeDpQpabw0JGpFpFnDrl

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, protects people forced to flee their homes because of conflict and persecution. We save lives, protect rights and help build better futures.

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ACTIVITY 1

What is statelessness?

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will understand that most people have a nationality. They will understand that these nationalities represent which country they come from and that there are people that do not have any nationality.

STEP 1: Write the word PASSPORT on the board and elicit ideas about what it is and how we use it. You can do this as a group or in pairs before you all speak in a wider group.

STEP 2: Use your own words or the following paragraph to explain to the students.

“Your passport can tell you what nationality you are. That is the same as telling you what country you come from. There are other documents that you might get if you come from a certain country. Can you think of some?”

“Some people may not be able to have a passport or *(name correct documents that students mentioned in answering the above question ie national identity documents or citizenship card).

“If you are not allowed to have either a passport or a document that says you come from a country, this can be because no country accepts you as belonging to their country. In essence, no country has given you a citizenship.”



ACTIVITY 2

Life and education

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will empathise with the situation of Giorgi and other students who may have found themselves stateless at some point.

STEP 1: Choose a format to give the students the following questions and ensure they read them before watching the video.

What is the boy's name? How old is he? How old are his classmates? Why are they not the same age? Is he upset that he is older and taller than his classmates?

What does he enjoy about school? What other things has he missed out on?

What words can we use to describe his situation? (e.g. he has no nationality, no country has given him a citizenship or will allow him to have their passport.)

STEP 2: Discuss the questions in groups. Once you have broached all the topics, ask the students if they have other questions and see if they can answer them themselves before providing an answer.

STEP 3: Choose an activity based on statelessness from the [Activity guide for 15-18 year olds](#) to further embed the learning about this topic.