

Lesson Four

Understanding Immigrants Status and Active Citizenship



**Learning
for Living
Together**
Project

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Lesson Four

Understanding Immigrants Status and Active Citizenship


Learning Outcomes

4.1 By the end of this session you should be able to summarise the following terms relating to different immigration statuses

- (a) Asylum seeker
 - (b) Refugees
 - (c) Migrant worker
 - (d) Undocumented migrant
 - (e) Unaccompanied minor/or separated children
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Lesson Four

Learning Outcomes cont.-

- 4.2 Describe the difference between human trafficking and smuggling
 - 4.3 Describe how different immigration statuses impact on society and individuals including
 - (a) Social inclusion
 - (b) Integration
 - (c) Active citizenship
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Definition of Terms

Working in Groups

Discusses what is meant by the following terms

- (a) Asylum seeker
- (b) Refugee
- (c) Migrant worker
- (d) Undocumented migrant
- (e) Unaccompanied minor/or separated children



Asylum Seeker



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Asylum Seeker

- ▶ An asylum seeker is a person who has fled from his or her own country due to fear of persecution and has applied for (legal and physical) protection in another country but has not yet had their claim for protection assessed.
- ▶ A person remains an asylum seeker until their protection ‘status’ has been determined.
<http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646c137.html>
- ▶ Every year, around one million people seek asylum. (UNHCR)
- ▶ National asylum systems are in place to determine who qualifies for international protection

Who is a refugee?




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Definition of refugee :1951 Refugee Convention

Article 1 of the Convention, as amended by the 1967 Protocol, defines a refugee as :

A person who owing to 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 or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it

Difference between an asylum seeker and a refugee

- ▶ An **asylum seeker** is someone who is seeking international protection but whose claim for **refugee** status has not yet been determined.
 - ▶ In contrast, a **refugee** is someone who has been recognised under the 1951 Convention relating to the status of **refugees** to be a **refugee**.
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Migrant worker



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Migrant worker


A migrant worker or as sometimes called an economic migrant. A migrant worker is a person who is working in a state of which s/he is not a national. A migrant worker can be documented and undocumented. A migrant workers normally leaves his/her country voluntarily to seek a better life.

Undocumented/Irregular Migrants

- ▶ Undocumented Immigrants do not always enter the country illegally
- ▶ Sometimes people can enter a country legally to study or work but can subsequently become illegal
- ▶ Immigration status is not static but rather highly changeable,
- ▶ Individuals can move between regularity and irregularity.
- ▶ Immigrants can lose their legal status for reasons beyond their control for example: employers not renewing work permits, exploitation by employers

<https://www.mrci.ie/our-work/justice-for-undocumented/>

Undocumented/Irregular Migrants

- ▶ Available research highlights that migrants with an irregular status are concentrated in low-paid and unstable sectors of employment,
 - ▶ Many of them filling jobs considered to be undesirable by the local population. Irregular migrants are more vulnerable to exploitation and abuse.
 - ▶ Furthermore, they have to remain invisible to immigration authorities and other law enforcement officials, and live without access to the institutions designed to support members of society.
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Rights for Undocumented/Irregular Migrants

- ▶ Migrant workers, regardless of their legal status, have basic human rights as people and as migrant workers.
- ▶ These are set out in a range of international and European covenants and conventions.
- ▶ The International Convention on the Protection of The Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families grants a set of rights for migrant workers including those with an irregular status.

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/cmw.aspx>

Unaccompanied Minors /Separated Children



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Unaccompanied Minors /Separated Children

- ▶ The Separated Children in Europe Programme (SCEP) uses the word “separated” rather than “unaccompanied” because it better defines the essential problem that such children face.
- ▶ “Separated children” are children under 18 years of age who are outside their country of origin and separated from both parents, or their previous legal/customary primary caregiver.
- ▶ Some children are totally alone while others, may be living with extended family members.

<http://www.unhcr.org/4d9474399.pdf>

Unaccompanied Minors /Separated Children

- ▶ Separated children may be seeking asylum because of fear of persecution or the lack of protection due to human rights violations, armed conflict or disturbances in their own country.
- ▶ They may be the victims of trafficking for sexual or other exploitation, or they may have travelled to Europe to escape conditions of serious deprivation.
- ▶ All such children are separated children and entitled to international protection under a broad range of international and regional instruments

Human Trafficking /smuggling?

Working in Groups discuss the following

1. The difference between human trafficking and smuggling
2. How different immigration statuses impact on society and individuals including
 - (a) Social inclusion
 - (b) Integration
 - (c) Active citizenship




Human Trafficking



- ▶ Photo on <https://foter.com/re2/75bb61>>Foter.com
- ▶ Photo on <https://foter.com/re2/75bb61>>Foter.com

Human Trafficking

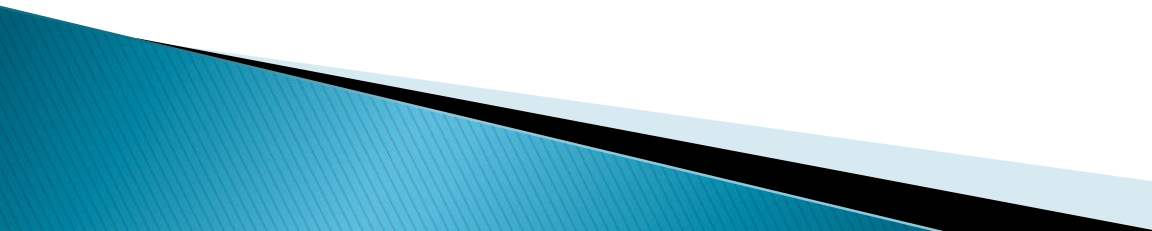
- ▶ Human trafficking is a devastating human rights violation that takes place internationally. It is a form of modern-day slavery.
 - ▶ Traffickers use force, fraud or coercion to enslave their victims into situations involving sexual exploitation or forced labour.
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migrant smuggling?

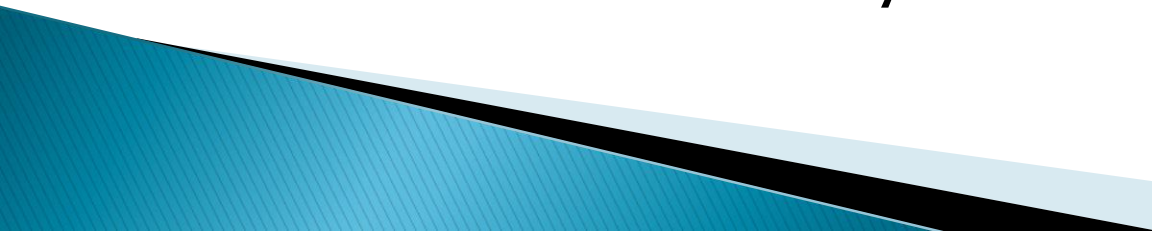


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What is migrant smuggling?

- ▶ People are smuggled into an EU country when they are helped to enter the country without authorisation.
 - ▶ This normally happens by getting help to evade border controls or by getting false or fake travel or identity documents, which can lead to hazardous and dangerous situations for those being smuggled.
 - ▶ While, by definition, migrants cooperate with their smugglers – even seeking them out and paying them—the act of smuggling can often be a dangerous and abusive one.
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The Impact of different Immigration Statuses on the individual and on society

- ▶ Being an asylum seeker for example can impact on access to social welfare provision and active citizenship because asylum seekers in most countries have limited rights than refugees
 - ▶ Equally being an undocumented migrant impacts on access to medical education and other public welfare resources
 - ▶ Being trafficked or smuggled lends migrants to vulnerability and exploitation. It is difficult for such migrants to be active members of society
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Film illustrations of different immigrant statuses

Unit 4.1 <https://youtu.be/GT4W1UuRIPE>

Unit 4.2 <https://youtu.be/2v7F0k-uo5o>



Summary of Lesson 4

Definitions of

- (a) Asylum seeker
- (b) Refugees
- (c) Migrant worker
- (d) Undocumented migrant
- (e) Unaccompanied minor/or separated children
- (f) Human trafficking and smuggling
- (g) How the different immigration statuses impact on society and individuals