



**HINDUSTAN  
INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL**

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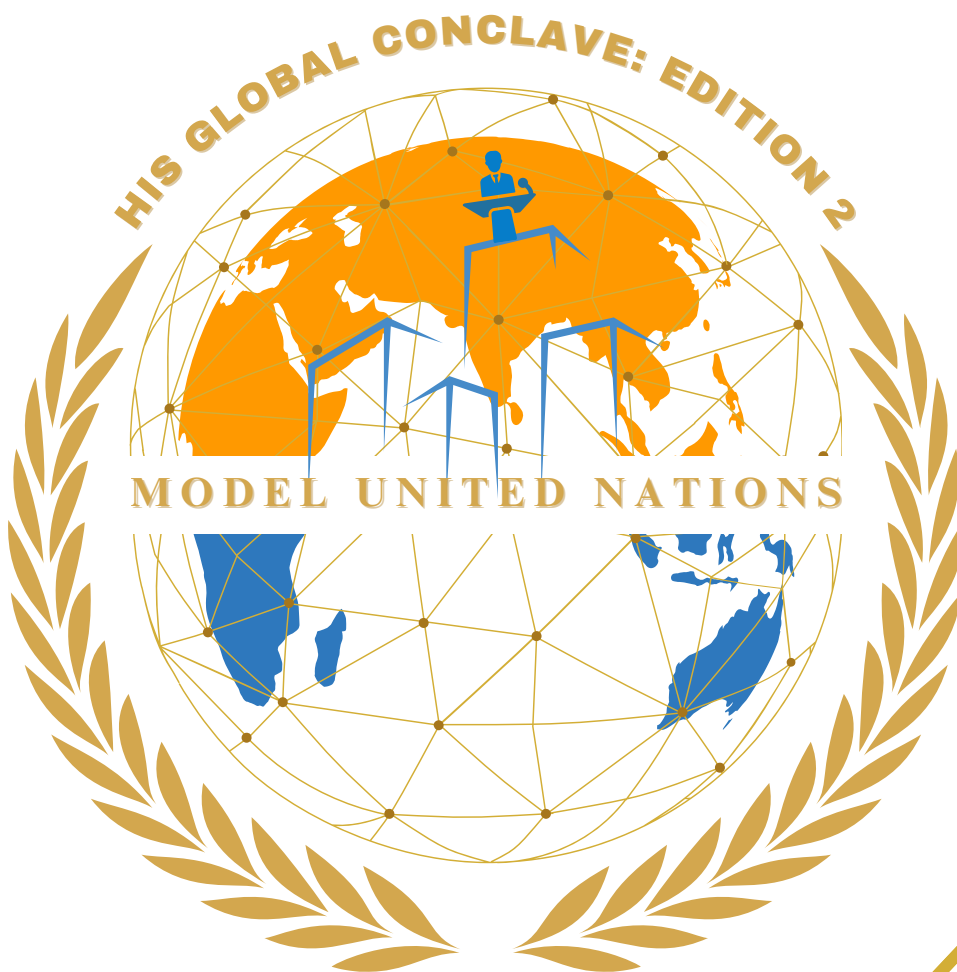
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**Karapakkam**



# BACKGROUND GUIDE

**NOVEMBER 05, 2025**



**UNITED NATIONS HIGH  
COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES**  
"Fostering Global Dialogue for a Better Future"

Dear Delegates,

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to the Hindustan International School Global Conclave – Edition 2. We are delighted to serve as your Chair and Vice-Chairs for this year's UNHCR Committee and look forward to witnessing your dedication to humanitarian diplomacy, innovation, and solution-oriented debate on November 5.

This year's agenda topics are as follows:

Topic 1: Strategies to enhance refugees' employment, shelter, safety, education, and social integration.

Topic 2: Strategies to prevent refugee involvement in crime and exploitation through protection and livelihood opportunities.

These issues have been carefully chosen to challenge your perspectives and inspire meaningful discussions on strengthening refugee protection and empowerment. As we work toward ensuring access to employment, education, shelter, safety, and social inclusion for displaced populations, it is equally vital to explore strategies that prevent exploitation and promote sustainable livelihoods. Your contributions will play a crucial role in shaping comprehensive solutions that uphold human dignity and foster long-term resilience within refugee communities.

Your collaboration and diplomacy in this committee will be invaluable. We encourage you to put forth bold, compassionate, and innovative ideas while engaging constructively with fellow delegates to develop impactful, solution-oriented policies.

Please be assured that the committee EB members are here to support you.

Sincerely,

Chair-Aparajith.S

Vice Chair- P Nikhitha

Vice Chair- Rhashmitha R

## History of the committee:

### UNHCR- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) was established on 14 December 1950 by the United Nations General Assembly, in the aftermath of the Second World War. Initially created with a three-year mandate to help resettle and protect millions of Europeans displaced by conflict, UNHCR's mission quickly expanded as new refugee crises emerged around the world.

UNHCR's primary mandate is to protect and assist refugees, asylum-seekers, stateless persons, and internally displaced populations, while working toward durable solutions such as voluntary repatriation, local integration, and third-country resettlement. Over the decades, the organization has responded to major humanitarian emergencies—from the Hungarian Revolution (1956) and the Vietnamese refugee crisis (1970s) to more recent conflicts in Syria, Afghanistan, and Sudan.

Honoured with two Nobel Peace Prizes in 1954 and 1981, UNHCR continues to uphold its humanitarian mission amidst evolving challenges such as climate-induced displacement, protracted conflicts, and statelessness.

Today, UNHCR operates in over 130 countries, providing protection and assistance to more than 110 million displaced persons worldwide. Guided by the principles of humanity, neutrality, and international cooperation, the organization remains steadfast in its commitment to ensuring that every person forced to flee their home can find safety, dignity, and hope for a better future.

## Introduction to the Agenda

### Agenda 1: Strategies to Enhance Refugees' Employment, Shelter, Safety, Education, and Social Integration

Ensuring the protection and well-being of refugees is a global responsibility that requires coordinated international action. Refugees often face challenges such as unemployment, lack of secure housing, limited access to education, and difficulties integrating into host communities. This agenda emphasizes the need for comprehensive strategies that empower refugees to rebuild their lives with dignity. Strengthening livelihood programs, improving access to quality education and healthcare, and fostering inclusive social policies are vital to promoting self-reliance and long-term stability. By encouraging host nations and international partners to collaborate, the global community can create sustainable systems that uphold human rights and ensure safety, opportunity, and inclusion for all displaced persons.

### Agenda 2: Strategies to Prevent Refugee Involvement in Crime and Exploitation through Protection and Livelihood Opportunities

Refugees facing economic hardship, social isolation, or lack of legal protection are often vulnerable to crime and exploitation. This agenda calls for a proactive approach to addressing these risks through improved protection mechanisms, access to legal aid, and livelihood opportunities that reduce vulnerability. Enhancing vocational training, employment access, and community engagement initiatives can promote self-sufficiency and prevent exploitation. International cooperation and the support of humanitarian agencies are essential to creating secure environments where refugees can live with dignity and contribute positively to their host societies.

## Key Treaties And Achievements

### **1951 Refugee Convention – Adopted on July 28, 1951**

The cornerstone of international refugee law, this convention defines who qualifies as a refugee and outlines their rights, as well as the legal obligations of states to protect them. It establishes the principle of non-refoulement, which prohibits the return of refugees to countries where they face threats to their life or freedom.

### **1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees – Adopted on January 31, 1967**

An essential supplement to the 1951 Convention, the Protocol removes the original geographic and temporal limitations, extending protection to refugees worldwide, regardless of when or where they were displaced.

### **Statute of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees – Adopted on December 14, 1950**

Formally establishes UNHCR's mandate to lead and coordinate international efforts to protect refugees and seek durable solutions to their displacement through voluntary repatriation, local integration, or resettlement.

### **New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants – Adopted on September 19, 2016**

A landmark agreement by UN Member States reaffirming shared responsibility for protecting refugees and migrants. It laid the foundation for the Global Compact on Refugees and emphasizes international solidarity and burden-sharing.

## **Global Compact on Refugees – Adopted on December 17, 2018**

Strengthens the international response to refugee situations by improving mechanisms for aid, education, and employment, while promoting long-term development and inclusion in host communities.

## **Nansen Refugee Award – Established in 1954**

An annual UNHCR honour recognizing individuals, groups, or organizations that have shown outstanding dedication and service to the refugee cause.

## **Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) – Launched in 2016**

Introduced as part of the Global Compact on Refugees, the CRRF outlines a practical approach to support both refugees and host communities through shared responsibility, inclusion, and long-term development strategies.

## Important Events

### 1. Establishment of UNHCR (1950):

Founded on December 14, 1950, by the UN General Assembly to assist millions displaced after World War II, UNHCR began as a temporary agency but evolved into a global humanitarian organization.

### 2. Adoption of the 1951 Refugee Convention:

Adopted on July 28, 1951, this Convention defines who is a refugee and outlines their rights and state obligations, forming the foundation of international refugee protection.

### 3. 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees:

The Protocol expanded the 1951 Convention's scope by removing geographic and time limits, enabling UNHCR to protect refugees worldwide.

### 4. Launch of the Nansen Refugee Award (1954):

Established to honour exceptional service to refugees, this award highlights global humanitarian efforts and dedication to displaced populations.

### 5. Indochina Refugee Crisis (1970s–1980s):

UNHCR led international operations to rescue and resettle refugees fleeing Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos, marking one of its largest humanitarian missions.



### 6. Rwandan Genocide and Refugee Crisis (1994):

Following the genocide, UNHCR provided emergency relief and protection to millions displaced across Central Africa, reinforcing its crisis-response role.

### 7. 50th Anniversary of the Refugee Convention (2001):

UNHCR launched global campaigns to renew international commitment to refugee protection and address emerging challenges like statelessness.

### 8. Syria Refugee Crisis (2011–Present):

UNHCR has coordinated large-scale humanitarian aid for over 6 million Syrian refugees, focusing on shelter, education, and livelihood support.



## Closing Remarks

As delegates of the Hindustan International School Global Conclave – Edition 2 you are entrusted with the responsibility of representing your assigned country and conducting in-depth research on the given agenda topics.

This conference provides a platform for you to demonstrate your debating prowess, diplomatic finesse, critical thinking, analytical reasoning, and collaborative spirit with fellow delegates in addressing global refugee challenges.

We look forward to an engaging, insightful, and solution-driven session ahead.

Good luck, delegates!

Regards,

The UNHCR Executive Board