**BACKGROUND GUIDE**

**LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD (UNSC)**

Greetings, the leaders of tomorrow!

It is our honour to be nominated as the Executive Board of UNHRC at Glengaze MUN 2020. In this one day conference, your aim must be to discover yourself by the power of your words. Your motive should not be wining, instead it should be learning, because if you learn something then you are the actual winner directly or indirectly.

There would be some first timers including various experienced delegates as well. Yes experience matters, but not more than your internal strength! Not more than your determination and your power of words!

At last EB would like you people to be confident enough with your points and focus to provide solutions for the given agenda. So, “let’s discover the power of unity!”

Executive Board (UNSC)

Chairperson- Shashwat Puri

Vice Chairperson- Ojus Sharma

For any doubt feel free to ask at [shashwatpuri6@gmail.com](mailto:shashwatpuri6@gmail.com)

**ABOUT THE COMMITTEE**

**UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**

The United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) is a United Nations body whose mission is to promote and protect human rights around the world. The UNHRC has 47 members elected for staggered three-year terms on a regional group basis. The headquarters of UNHRC is in Geneva, Switzerland.

The UNHRC investigates allegations of breaches of human rights in United Nations member states, and addresses important thematic human rights issues such as freedom of association and assembly freedom of expression, freedom of belief and religion, women's rights, LGBT rights, and the rights of racial and ethnic minorities.

The UNHRC was established by the UN General Assembly on 15 March 2006 to replace the UN Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR, herein CHR) that had been strongly criticised for allowing countries with poor human rights records to be members. The UNHRC works closely with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and engages the UN's special procedures.

**ECONOMIC IMPACT ON REFUGEES**

The number of refugees displaced by civil conflict or natural disasters is on the rise. Economic impacts of refugees on host countries are controversial and little understood, because data have not been available and the question of refugee impacts does not lend itself to conventional impact evaluation methods. We use a unique Monte Carlo simulation approach with microdata from refugee and host-country surveys to obtain the first estimates of refugee camps’ impacts on surrounding host-country economies and to compare impacts of cash versus in-kind refugee aid. An additional refugee increases total real income within a 10-km radius around two cash camps by significantly more than the aid the refugee receives. Impacts around a camp receiving in-kind (food) aid are smaller.

**COVID-19 AND REFUGEE**

safety and have crossed an internationally recognized border into another country. After formally applying for asylum and being granted refugee status, a person becomes a refugee. There are approximately 25 million refugees worldwide. The largest number of refugees are from Syria, Afghanistan, Somalia, South Sudan, and Burma/Myanmar.

**What puts refugees at a high risk of being affected by COVID-19?**

It varies by refugee population and what the status of the pandemic is where they are living. Refugees will be infected and affected in a similar way to their host communities. Yet refugees are more vulnerable.

Refugee camps—in which about one out of every three refugees lives—are often located in remote areas with limited health care. Usually, there aren't any hospitals in refugee camps. Some of the bigger camps do have them, but few of them will have ICUs or ventilators. There's a pressing question of whether refugees will be able to access host-country hospitals and ICUs when, in many cases, there aren't enough for that country's national population. So access to health care is a major vulnerability.

Second, refugees often live with multiple families in very high population-density conditions. It's going to be extremely difficult for them to social distance—because there really isn't anywhere to social distance. People are especially concerned about the Rohingya population in Bangladesh because they are almost 900,000 people in an incredibly dense area.

Refugees are also more likely to have underlying health conditions such as acute malnutrition. Because of this, there is a lot of concern that the COVID-19 infection will affect refugees more severely than people in their host communities.

There are also over 40 million people who have left their home in fear of persecution and conflict but remain in their country. Internally displaced persons such as those in Darfur, Sudan, as well as Idlib, Syria, are at extreme risk because they are being persecuted in their own country and don't have the same rights that refugees have. The health care system in these places is in shambles, and if COVID-19 affects those populations, they're going to be in a lot of trouble.

**Have there already been COVID-19 outbreaks within refugee populations?**

They're starting. There's an outbreak in the Greek detention centers for asylum seekers and migrants. In a closed, detentionlike setting, the pandemic will spread like wildfire. That's one of the worst scenarios. It is not a good idea to put people in those sorts of conditions. There have also been cases of COVID-19 among asylum seekers and migrants in U.S. detention centers.

**WHAT EB WANTS?**

1. **QUALITY RESEARCH**
2. **ANALYSIS**
3. **CONFIDENCE**

**ALL THE BEST**