



**REFUGEES
WELCOME
HERE!**





REFUGEES WELCOME HERE!

MORE REFUGEES | MORE FAIRNESS | MORE WELCOMING COMMUNITIES

Amnesty International and the Canadian Council for Refugees



@refugeecampaign

Advocacy for Refugee Rights in Canada

Training Materials on Refugee Rights

March 31, 2016

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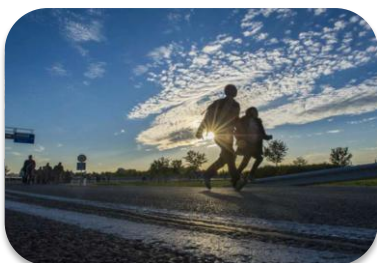
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Family
Reunification



Refugees from
all regions



Refugee
Claimants

Outline

- Why these 3 Campaign themes?
 1. Family reunification
 2. Refugees from all regions
 3. Refugee claimants
- Training resources
- Helping to amplify refugee voices
- Methods to conduct advocacy for refugee rights
- Calls to action

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Family Reunification



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Refugees from all Regions



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Refugee Claimants



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Training Resources



Who is a
refugee?



Destination
Canada



The Moment of
Truth



Advocacy



Digital Activism



How to Lobby
your MP

Refugee Voices

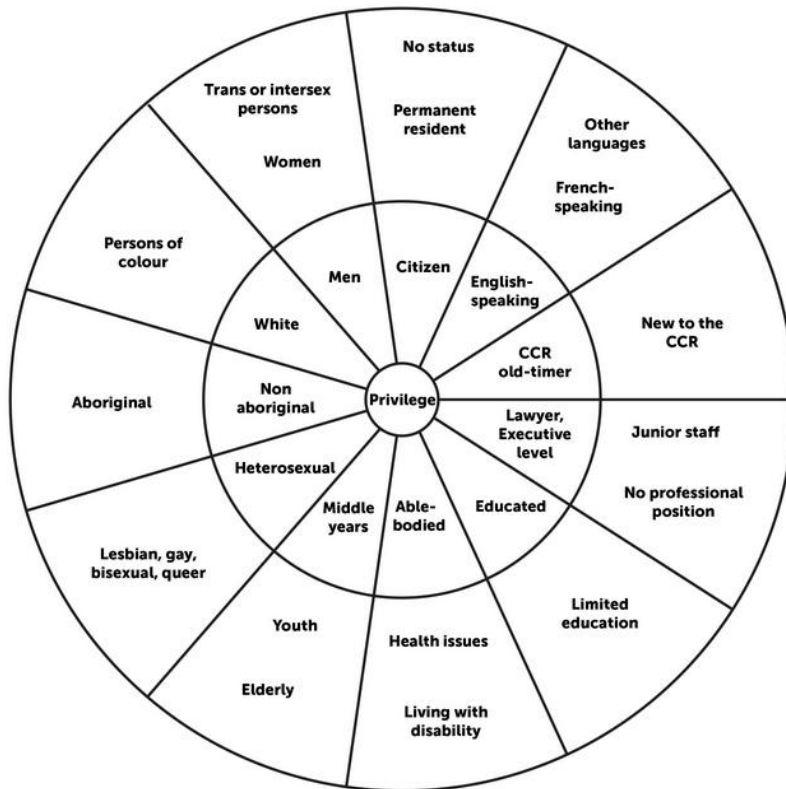


It is essential to include refugees in advocacy that relates to their rights.



Refugee Voices

Power wheel (the closer you are to the centre, the more privilege you have):



- Acknowledge your own privilege
- Invite refugee participation
- Respect the form of participation chosen by refugees
- Support refugees to advocate for themselves





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Call for participation: CCR Youth Network refugee photo project!

take
act!on

As part of a joint CCR-Amnesty International refugee awareness campaign, the CCR Youth Network is launching a **national youth project** to highlight the faces and voices of former refugees.

We are looking for:

- Newcomer youth from across Canada who want to get involved.
- Refugee-serving organizations willing to support newcomer youth participating in this project.
- Photographers willing to support and mentor participating newcomer youth.



To find out more or to sign up to participate, please contact Jihane El Atifi, Refugee Awareness Campaign Coordinator at jelatifi@ccrweb.ca

About the project

- Groups of newcomer youth across Canada will identify and photograph local people who came to Canada as refugees. They will also interview the people so that the photograph can be accompanied by some information on how they contribute to Canada and/or what they recommend to make refugees feel at home in Canada.
- The photos and captions will be collected and presented as an online gallery on Instagram and may be used for exhibits (especially around Refugee Rights Day - April 4) and in campaign resources.
- Guidelines will be provided to support participating youth.
- Project period: January 2016-April 2016
- Location: Anywhere in Canada

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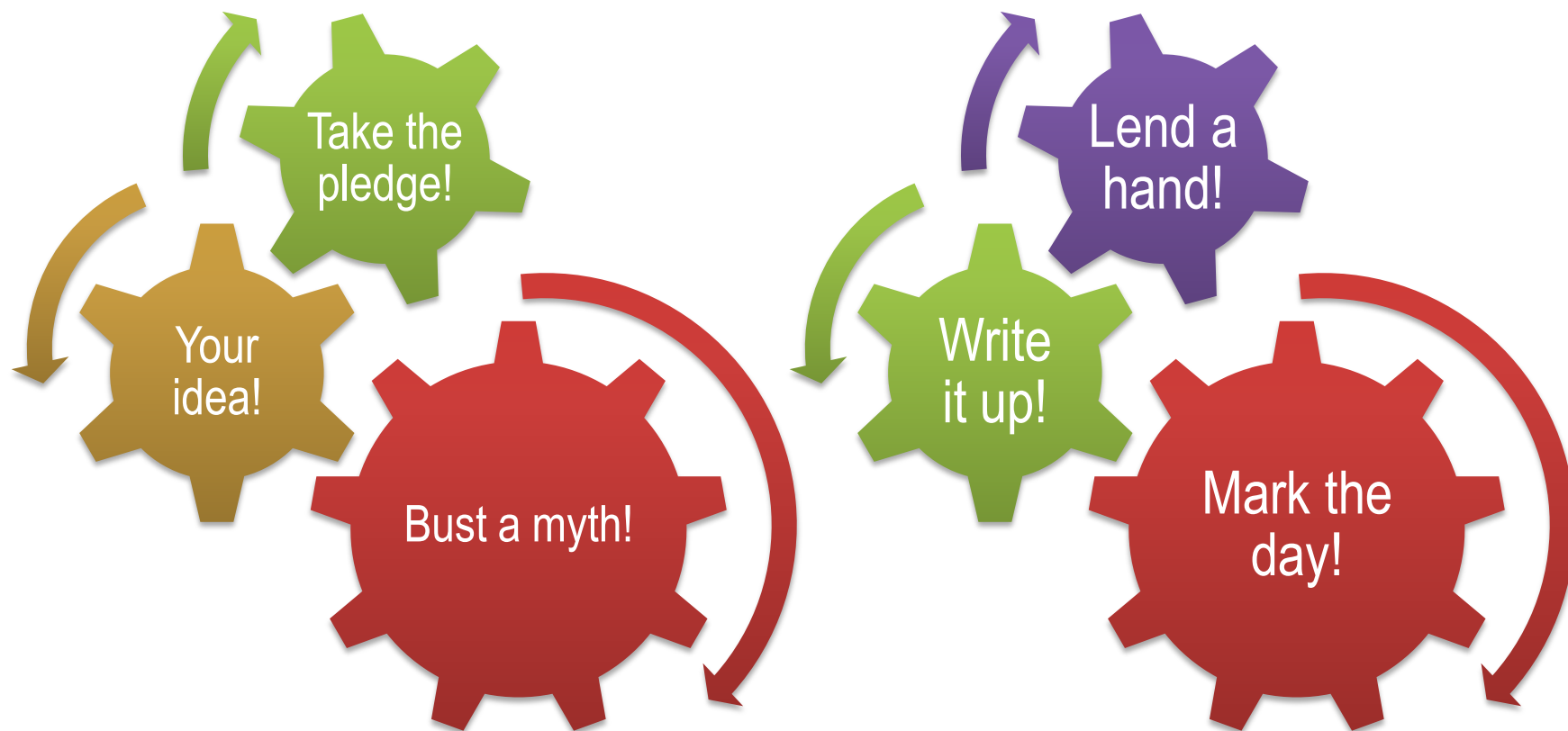
Means of Advocacy



- Digital
- Face to face
 - Policy makers
 - Our own social network
- Written
 - Letters
 - Blogs
 - Legal submissions
- Digital
- Event-based



Calls to Action



1. Take the Pledge!



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I am proud to open Canada's doors to those fleeing grave human rights abuses.

I will strive to keep Canada's doors open now and into the future.

I will challenge and rebut negative stereotypes about refugees.

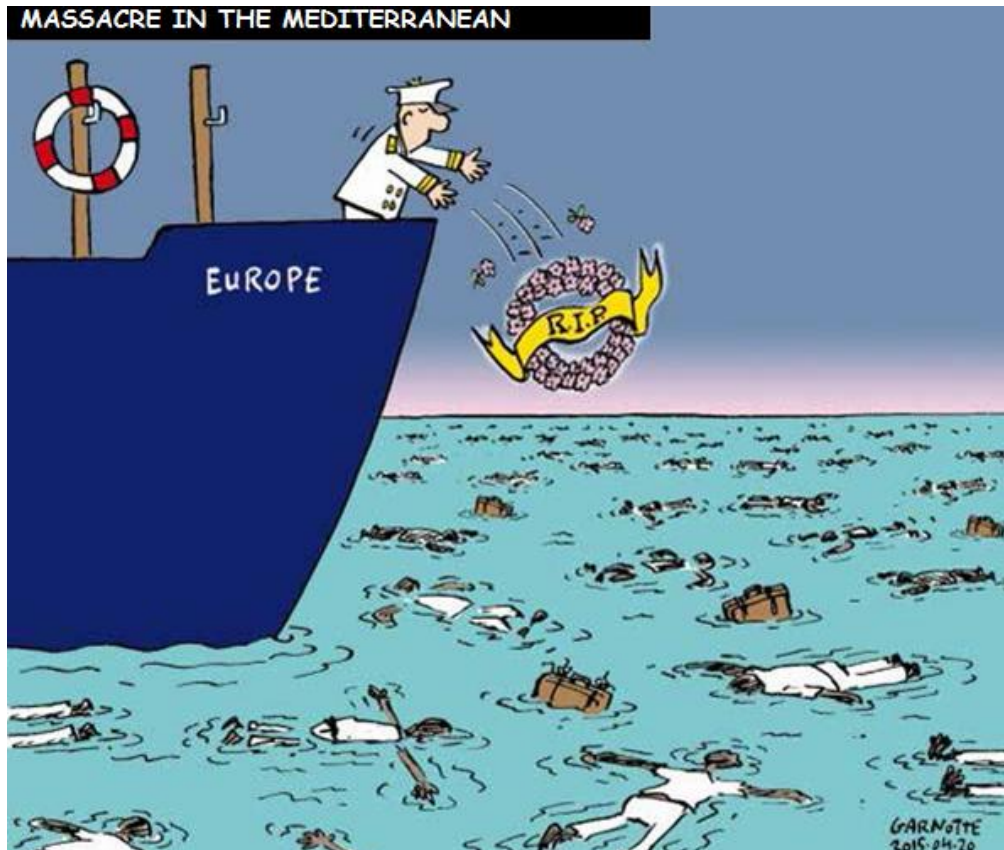
I will support speedy reunification for refugee families.

I will demand fair procedures for refugees in Canada.

I will make a gesture of welcome to refugees in my community.

I call on Canada to be a leader for refugee rights.

2. Bust a Myth!



**Harsh policies
won't stop refugees
from undertaking
dangerous
voyages.**



3. Write it up!

- Minister responsible
- Elected representative
- News Editor
- UN Committee
- Court of law
- Civil servant



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Lifesaver Action for Children and Adults

CANADA:
Reunite refugee families as soon as possible

What is the longest time that you have been away from your mother or father? Sometimes even being away for one week seems too long. Many refugee children are separated from their parents for years because it takes the Canadian government a long time to process their application to come to Canada.

Here is one example. Sophie is a refugee from Africa who had to flee her home country after her husband was killed. She fled with her children to a nearby country but the people who killed her husband found her there and threatened her. Sophie was forced to leave her children in the care of an aunt and came to Canada by herself.

This is what we want to see: Family members together. Pictured here is a Syrian family who escaped their country and are safe in Norway: 2-year-old Kahrman with his father Herman Kharjoul and mother Sherhan Issa.

Canada agreed that Sophie was a refugee who needed a country where she could be safe. She was allowed to stay, but she had to apply to the Canadian government to ask for permission to have her children join her in Canada. She made this application almost two years ago. She is still waiting for her children to join her in Canada.

Many refugee families are separated because it takes the Canadian government a long time to process their applications to come to Canada. Can you imagine waiting three years to see your mother or father again? The worst part is not knowing how long you will have to wait. Three years can seem like forever!

Canada is doing a lot to help refugees now. We should be proud of the way that our government and so many Canadians have welcomed refugees from Syria in the last few months. We must remind our government that people like Sophie, who make a refugee application after they arrive in Canada, must be treated fairly. This means that after the government agrees they are refugees and gives them permission to stay in Canada, their applications to bring their families (husband, wife or children), to Canada must be processed as quickly as possible.

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4. Lend a hand!



- Observe humbly
- Identify a need – then seek confirmation
- Ask if you can help
- Use your skills & connections
- Sharing your time is a valuable contribution



5. Mark the Day(s)!

April 4th – Refugee Rights Day

June 20th – World Refugee Day



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THANK YOU!
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