

RESEARCH ON TAP

# Initiative on Forced Displacement: Research, Pedagogy, Engagement, and Ethical Impact

Tuesday, March 3, 2020

[bu.edu/research/events](https://bu.edu/research/events)



Boston University Office of Research

IN LEBANON,

1  
OUT  
OF  
EVERY  
5

PEOPLE  
ARE

REFUGEES



70.8 MILLION  
PEOPLE  
FORCIBLY  
DISPLACED  
WORLDWIDE



HOW CAN YOU MAKE  
AN IMPACT?

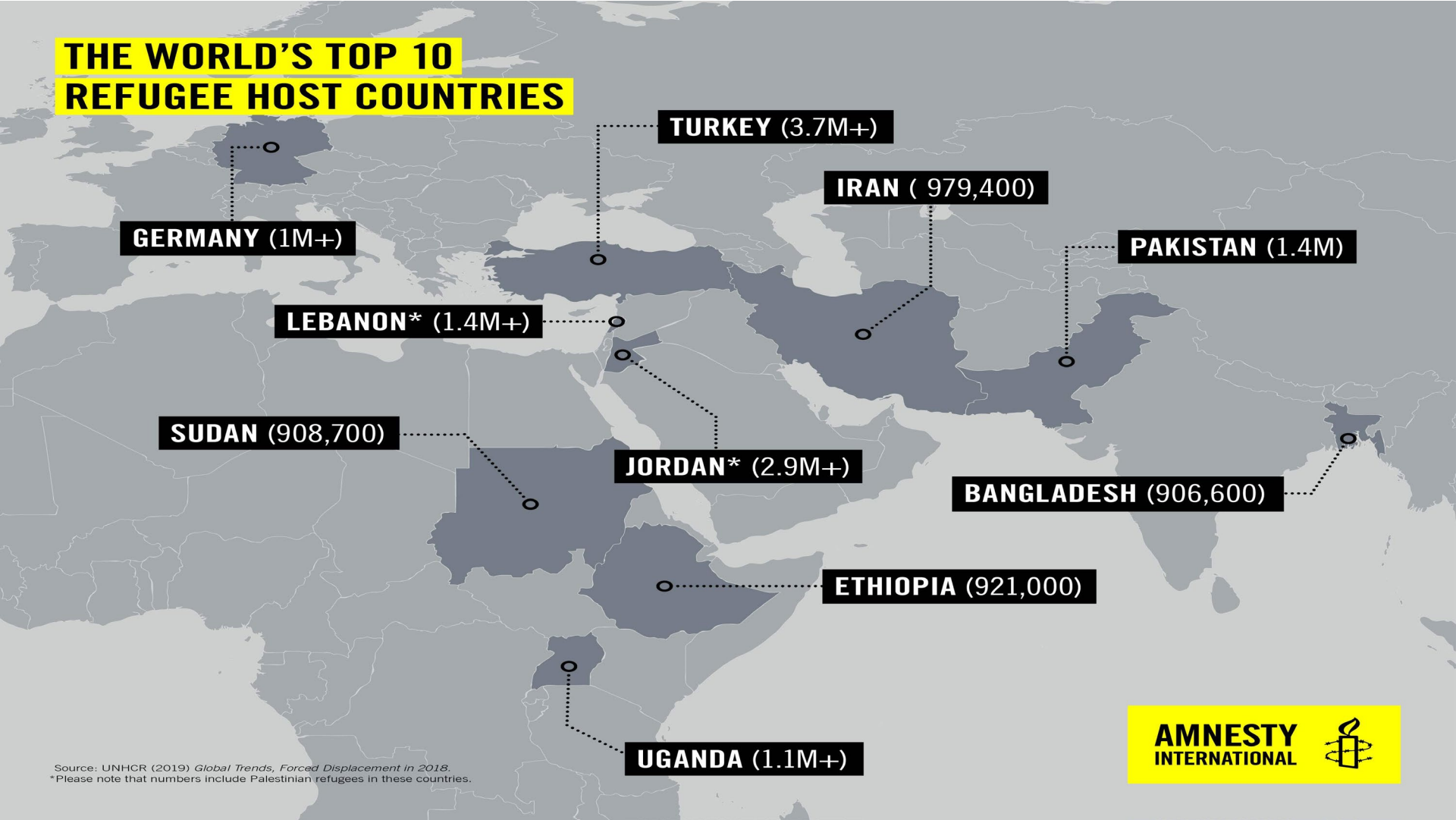
UGANDA IS THE  
**3<sup>rd</sup>**  
LARGEST REFUGEE HOST  
WITH ABOUT **1.2 million**

INTERNALLY DISPLACED  
PEOPLE  
**41.3 million**

**1 refugee every 2 seconds**



## THE WORLD'S TOP 10 REFUGEE HOST COUNTRIES



Source: UNHCR (2019) *Global Trends, Forced Displacement in 2018*.  
 \*Please note that numbers include Palestinian refugees in these countries.

**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**



**BOSTON  
UNIVERSITY**

Boston University Office of Research

## INITIATIVE ON FORCED DISPLACEMENT

OUR INITIATIVE

FOR STUDENTS

EVENTS

RESEARCH & PROJECTS

More

BOSTON UNIVERSITY'S

# Initiative on Forced Displacement

PEDAGOGY / RESEARCH / GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT



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## **Mission**

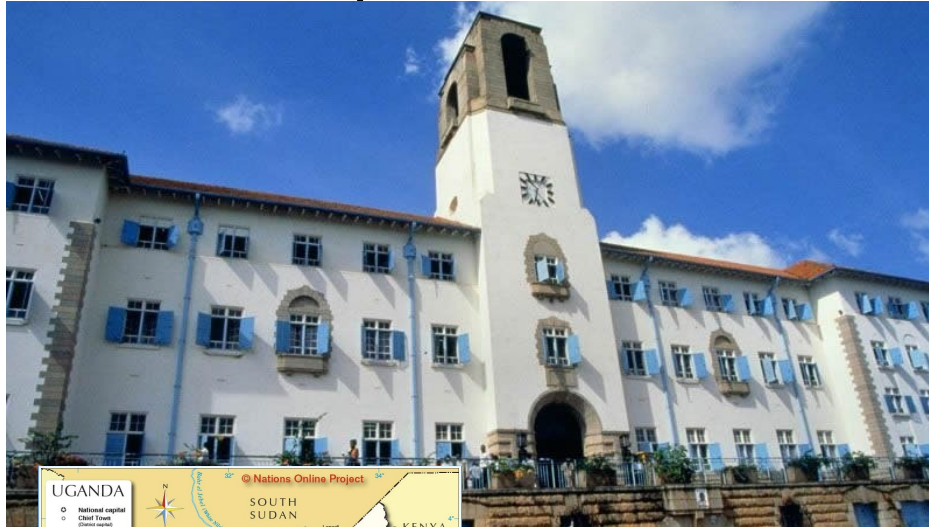
Boston University's Initiative on Forced Displacement (IFD) promotes interdisciplinary research and teaching on the challenge of forced displacement and seeks to generate ethical interventions to improve the lives of displaced people.

## **Vision**

IFD seeks to train the next generation of global leaders, support rigorous research, and develop strong local and international partnerships that will establish Boston University as a preeminent institution in interdisciplinary engagement with the crisis of forced displacement.



# Interdisciplinary Program in Forced Displacement (IPFD)



## Makerere University (June 15 – July 4)

**BOSTON  
UNIVERSITY**

Boston University Office of Research

## Universidad De Los Andes (June 29 – July 11)



*Pictured: Makerere  
and BU students  
speak to doctors at  
Ayilo 1 Refugee  
Settlement*

# **WE ARE** communicators

*Apply to The Interdisciplinary Program in Forced Displacement Studies*



Boston University Initiative on Forced Displacement



Boston University Office of Research



# Interdisciplinary Program in Forced Displacement Studies

## **What happens during IPFD trips?**

IPFD provides an opportunity for students to conduct interdisciplinary research in the context of humanitarian crises and to analyze the ongoing efforts to respond to forced migration in Uganda, Colombia, and Lebanon. We work with universities, government institutions, NGOs, and policymakers in each country through meetings, lectures, and workshops, along with on-site learning focused on displaced populations.

## **Who can participate?**

Everyone! We train and inspire students from **ALL** majors to generate sustainable, ethical interventions in the global crisis of forced displacement.

## **How do I fund my travel?**

Housing and travel from Boston are fully funded by the university but require students to submit an application to be reviewed. Only a limited number of spots are available.

The program consists of a series of pre-departure sessions, informal meetings, and workshops as well as post-travel conversations and events. The IPFD sessions abroad run for approximately 3 weeks and include:



**Week 1:** Discuss the origin and context of the local refugee crisis, ethical conduct of research, complete needs assessment and formulate problem statements through site visits, seminars, and literature review



**Week 2:** Teams brainstorm and design contextually-relevant solutions with guidance from experts and mentors while incorporating community feedback during site visits.



**Week 3:** Design the team pitch and present the project to "investors," stakeholders, and faculty.



**Beyond:** Students have the opportunity to continue developing their projects in Boston through research and HUB Co-curriculars.



Visit **bit.ly/ifdsum2020** for an application

Boston University Initiative on Forced Displacement

## BU Hult Prize Winners Aim to Bring Learning to Refugee Camps

Students take prize for start-up that uses a Raspberry Pi device



*Misty Ouyang (Sargent'20) (from left), Jessica Thai (CAS'20), and Sheila Phillips (CAS'20) hatched their education start-up, MadrasaTech, this summer while visiting the Saadnayel settlement in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, home to thousands of Syrian refugees. Photo by Katie Clifford*





BU Faculty,  
Graduate Students,  
Staff, and  
Undergraduates can  
get involved in IFD  
and IPFDs.





KILACHAND FAVORITE FILM SERIES

# FOR SAMA

A love letter from a young mother to her daughter, *For Sama* tells the story of Waad al-Kateab's life through five years of the uprising in Aleppo, Syria as she falls in love, gets married and gives birth to Sama, all while cataclysmic conflict rises around her.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26 | 6PM

KILACHAND HALL | 91 BAY STATE RD.

Refreshments will be served.

Following the film, Professor Preston will moderate a discussion.



BOSTON UNIVERSITY'S *CONVERSATIONS IN THE ARTS & IDEAS*

# TEJU COLE

**KNOWN AND STRANGE THINGS**  
*An Evening in Conversation  
with Teju Cole*

**MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2020 | 7PM**  
 **TSAI PERFORMANCE CENTER**  
**685 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE**



*This event is sponsored by the BU Center for the Humanities, Kilachand Honors College, Office of the Provost, Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies, BU Arts Initiative, BU Alumni Association, and CAS Core Curriculum.*



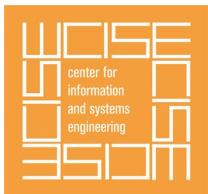
**Boston University** Office of Research

# A Quantitative Research Agenda for Forced Displacement

Yannis Paschalidis

[yannisp@bu.edu](mailto:yannisp@bu.edu)

<http://sites.bu.edu/paschalidis>



Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering  
Division of Systems Engineering  
Department of Biomedical Engineering  
Center for Information and Systems Engineering



# The Problem and Key Challenges

Proportion displaced out of the world population | 2009-2018



Source: UNHCR

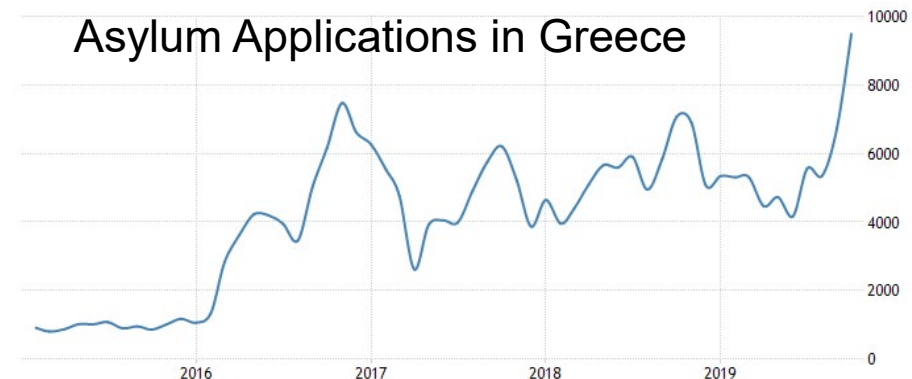
- Forcibly displaced: 43M => 71M
- 13.6M in 2018 alone (26 per min!)
- 2/3 of world refugees from 5 countries (Syria, Afghanistan, South Sudan, Myanmar, Somalia)
- Host countries by refugee population: (Turkey 3.5M, Pakistan 1.5M, Uganda, Sudan, Germany 1M)
- Host countries by density (per 1000): (Lebanon 164, Jordan 71, Turkey, Uganda, Chad)
- Children: 1/2 of refugee population in 2018

## Challenges

- **Accumulation:** Returns to country of origin 4.4% of the 2018 arrivals
- **Inequities:** country of origin, host countries, most refugees in poorer countries
- **Paucity of data:** hard to predict/plan
- **Logistics, Health, Education**



## Asylum Applications in Greece



Source: Trading Economics

SOURCE: TRADINGECONOMICS.COM | EUROSTAT

# Areas for Quantitative Work

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Science helps us understand, Engineering is about doing ...

- Predictive Models
  - Predicting arrivals as a function of weather, events, recorded movements, numbers of people in “upstream” locations
- Logistics
  - Supply chain management
  - Inventory control (food, provisions, medicine, etc.)
  - Shift scheduling (for service personnel)
  - Queueing management at refugee camps
- Search and Rescue
  - Autonomous Vehicles (e.g., fleet of coordinating quadcoptors)
- Resource Allocation & Planning
  - Within host countries & more broadly (e.g., facility location)
  - Allocating economic resources and providing incentives



# **My Body Was Left on the Street: Music Education and Displacement**

## **Kính T. Vũ**

Assistant Professor  
Music Education, School of Music  
College of Fine Arts

*Coedited by Prof. André de Quadros*



***My Body Was Left on the Street* includes stories from only a few parts of the world.**

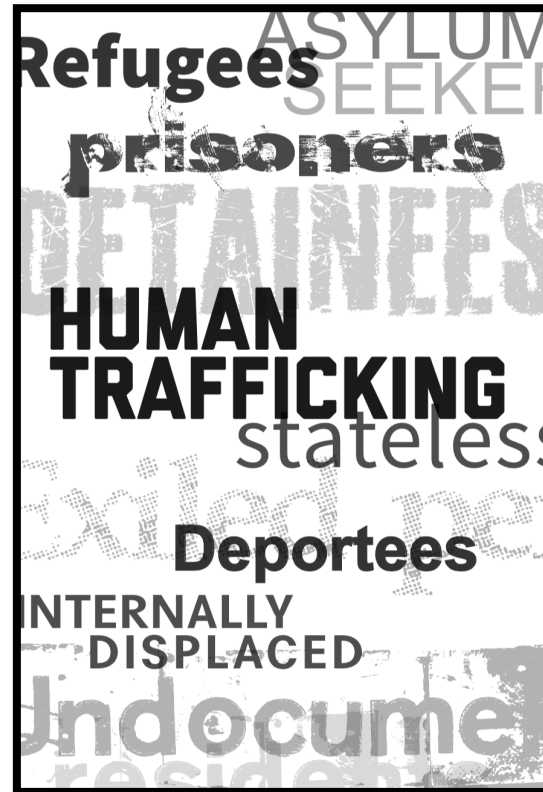
 Places Represented

# Displacement Terms in *My Body*

Images by Anissa Laura Martínez Lozano (CFA MFA Graphic Design)



Meta



Types



Causes



# **The Power of Computer Science and Collaboration: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Forced Migration**

## **Ziba Cranmer**

Director, BU Spark!  
Hariri Institute for Computing







# FMHT CO-LAB

Spark!

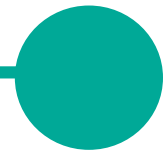
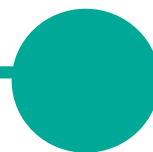
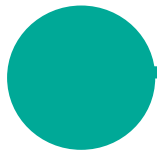
Pardee School for Global Studies

BU Law

*country of  
origin*

*migration  
journey*

*destination  
country*



*risk factors &  
prevention*

*secure communication and document repositories*

*resource inventories and access*

*exploitation mapping and prevention*

**VERITÉ**  
Fair Labor. **Worldwide.**

Bos



Microsoft

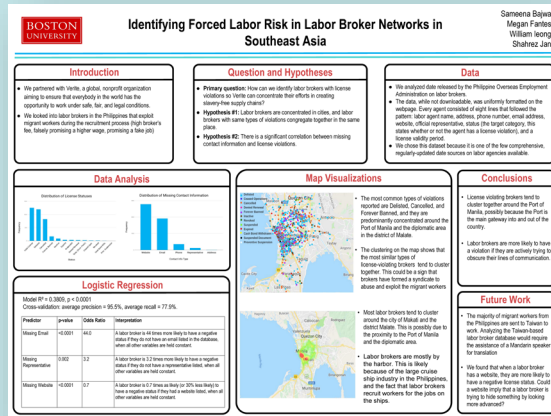
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**Heyrick  
Research**

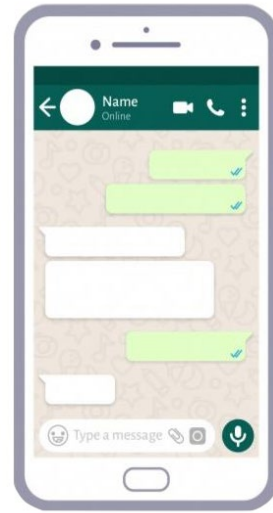
## country of origin

### risk factors & prevention



## migration journey

### resource inventories



## destination country

### exploitation mapping

**Recent arrests highlight human trafficking in the Carolinas**

ALERT  
LODGE SOUTH CIRCLE  
DAVIDSON NAIL SALON

**Recent arrests trafficking in the Carolinas**

A woman's call for help is the Carolinas.

Author: Alex Shabad  
Published: 5:23 PM EDT August 14, 2018  
Updated: 5:22 PM EDT August 14, 2018

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — A woman's call for help reported the crime.

It comes just a day after NBC Charlotte reported the crime.

First Designated Sponsor Organizations

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```

- Data science
- Labor broker listings
- Media reports

- Software engineering
- Whatsapp chatbot
- Database of legal aid service providers

- Machine learning
- Media data & NLP
- Complaints/ visa allocations/ workman's comp

## Comparing Refuge

# Heba Gawayed

Assistant Professor  
Sociology, College of Arts & Sciences





6 million fled to countries of immediate refuge.  
And few were **resettled** or sought **asylum**.



Resettlement and asylum are “durable solutions”  
to the displacement, and new beginnings



Comparative research reveals that refugees’  
**human capital** is shaped by national policies, with  
consequences for their belonging and economic mobility.



School of Social Work

Center for Innovation in Social Work & Health

# **Traumatic Separation and Dislocation of Latinx Immigrant Families Escaping Violence: A Social Work Response**

## **Luz M López, PhD, MSW, MPH**

Clinical Professor and Global Health Core Director  
Center for Innovation in Social Work and Health  
Boston University School of Social Work



# Separation from parents unspeakable pain

- Immigrants from Honduras, Guatemala & El Salvador are escaping violence by gangs known as 'Maras' (UNHCR, 2019).
- Detainment, fear of not seeing their parents ever again results in trauma and permanent developmental damage in children.
- In some facilities they have Spanish speaking adults. However, some Guatemalan children speak Mayan, Quiché, not Spanish. These results in more isolation, fear, and trauma.



## Culturally relevant trauma care approaches

### Pre-migration phase:

Violence & human rights violations

### Migratory movement

Lack of access to basic human & health needs

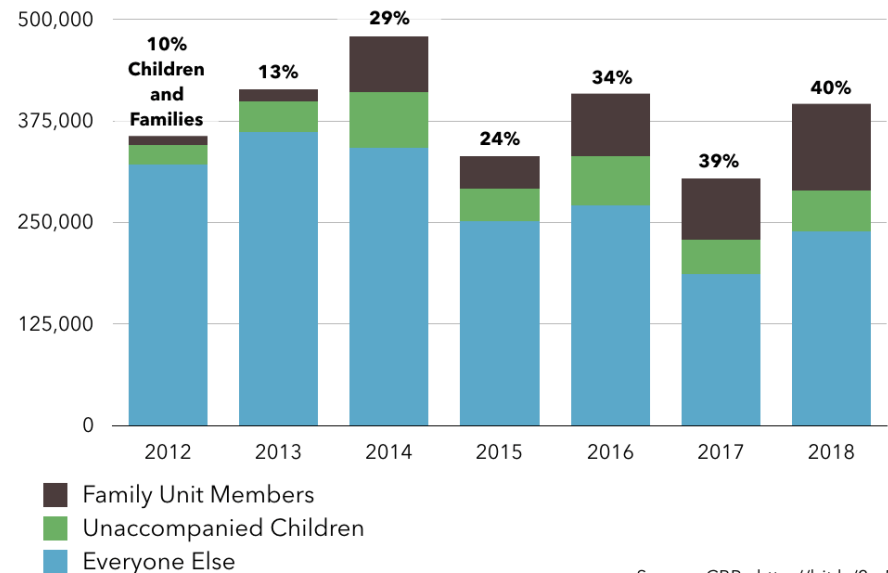
### Various levels of Trauma Care while in USA custody

Access to culturally trained translators, social workers & psychologists

- Family members can use the ICE detainee locator:  
<https://locator.ice.gov/odls/homePage.do>
- Inform family and emergency contacts of the A-Number (alien registration number found on immigration documents from ICE).



### The Proportion of Children and Families, Among Apprehended Migrants, Keeps Increasing



Source: CBP - <http://bit.ly/2mDr1fQ>

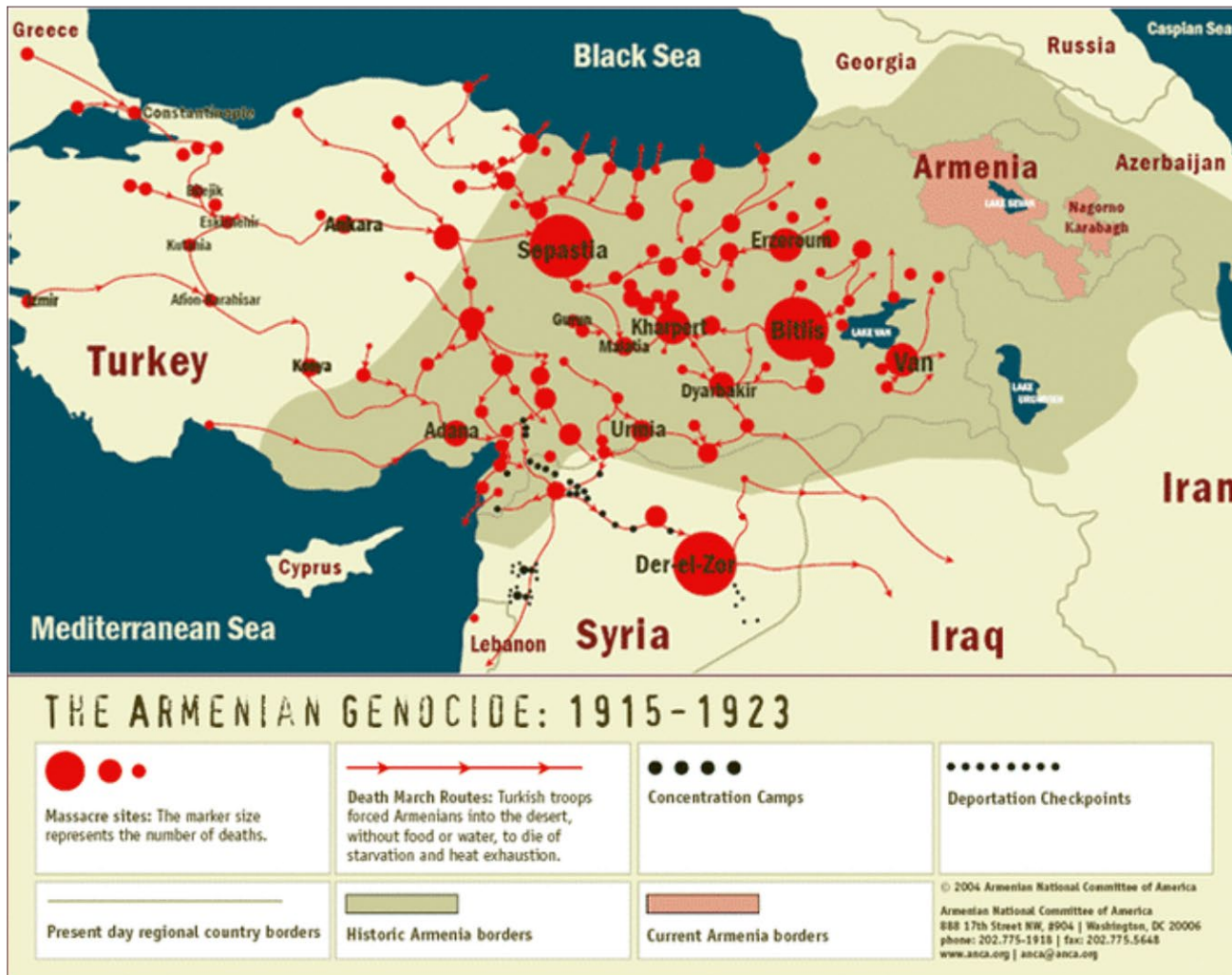


## Doing Justice Through Adaptation

# Scott Thompson

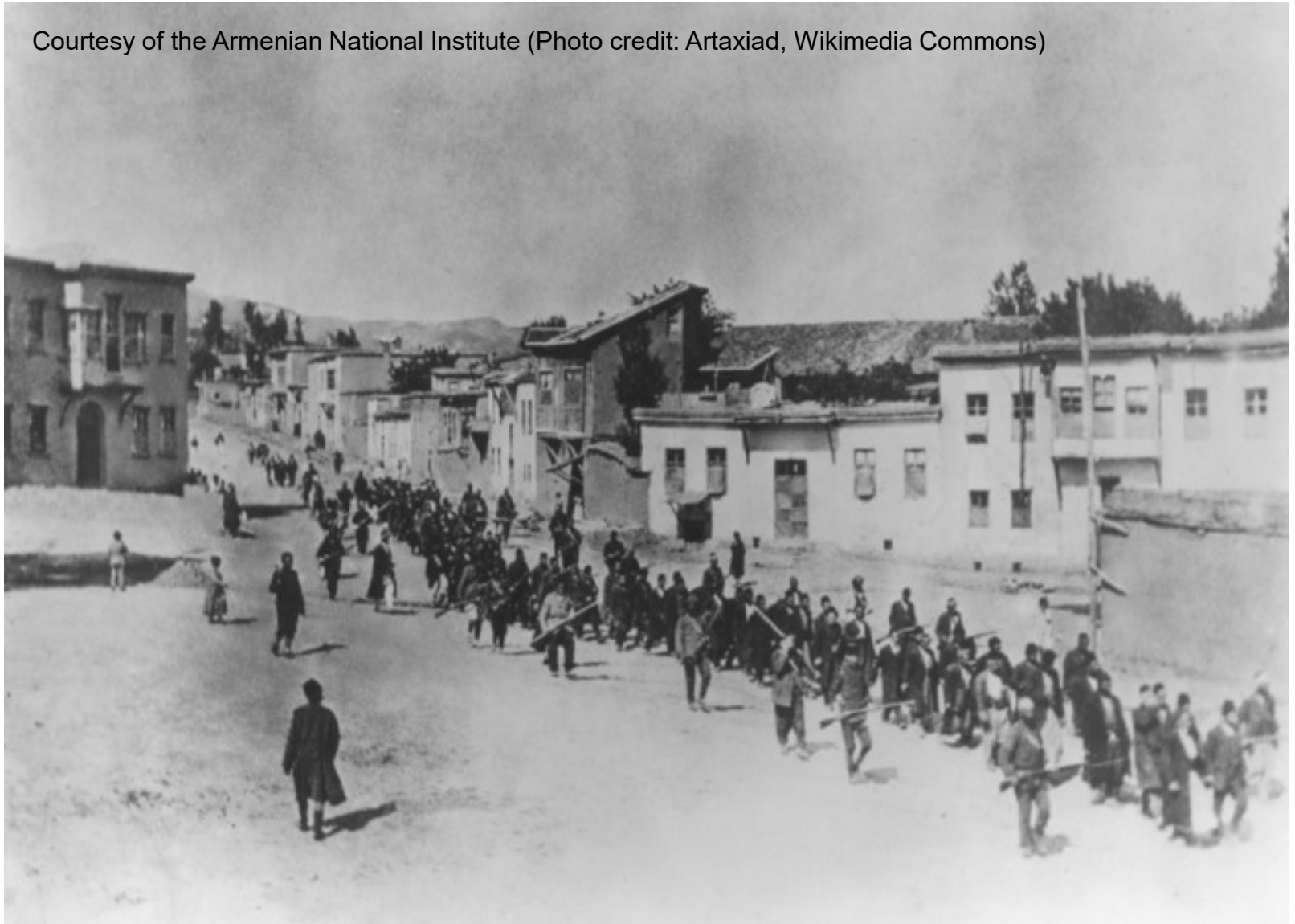
Director, Screenwriting Department  
Film & Television, College of Communication





Based on maps prepared by Z. Khazdarian for the Armenian National Delegation and Raymond H. Kevorkian and Eric Van Lauve for the Bibliothèque Nourar.

Courtesy of the Armenian National Institute (Photo credit: Artaxiad, Wikimedia Commons)



## Theater Therapy and Refugee Hospitality

# Carrie J. Preston

Arvind and Chandan Nandlal Kilachand Professor and Director,  
Kilachand Honors College

Department of English and Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies Program,  
College of Arts and Studies



## Help survivors start to process violent situations

To help survivors start to process violent situations that they have personally experienced, a psychodrama activity is used. By recreating life situations, acting them out and assessing them within a safe environment, participants are able to understand more clearly the circumstances in which they have found themselves and determine how they might respond differently in hopes of altering the outcome of such situations. This process unfolds as follows:

- The activity begins with ice-breaking exercises intended to enhance the creativity of participants and allow them to get to know each other in a relaxed manner.
- Participants are asked to recreate, through acting, a single scene that reflects an aspect of their lives. They then listen to music and are asked to describe in writing the situations that they associate with the music. Finally, they are asked to write their life stories and present them to the group.
- The facilitator subsequently guides the participants through their stories, drawing out additional details and helping attendees identify violence to which they may have been subjected or which they may have inflicted upon someone else.
- Two participants then engage in interactive theatre, wherein they act out the roles of the victim and the perpetrator. This has proven to be an effective way to generate discussion and assist participants to find alternatives to violence – in particular related to topics such as early marriage and domestic violence.



Gender Equality Promising Practices: Syrian Refugees in the Middle East and North Africa (Geneva: UNHCR, December 2017)

45

# LIFE SKILLS THROUGH DRAMA

Equipping adolescent girls with key knowledge and skills to help them to mitigate, prevent and respond to Gender Based Violence







## Refugee family in an informal tented settlement in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley

# Engineering, Evidence and Engagement: Improving Access to Health in Refugee Settlements

## Muhammad Zaman

Biomedical Engineering

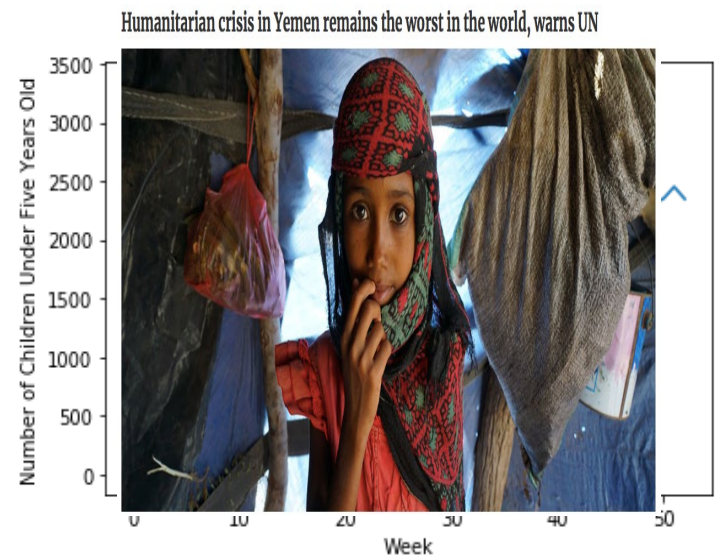




Cluster 1 AA	Cluster 2 AA	Cluster 3 AA
FFGTS ... KRRLSALE	ETPE ... LIGSL	R
FFGTS ... KRRLSALE	ETPE ... LIGSL	R
FFGTS ... KRRLSALE	ETPE ... LIGSL	R
SLR TS ... KRRLSALE	ETPE ... LIGSL	R
FFGTS ... KRRLSALE	ETPE ... LIGSL	R
FFGTS ... KRRLSALE	ETPE ... LIGSL	R
FFGTS ... KRRLSALE	ETPE ... LIGSL	R
FFGTS ... KRRLSALE	ETPE ... LIGSL	R



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# UPCOMING EVENTS

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Learn more & RSVP: [bu.edu/research/events](https://bu.edu/research/events)  
Topic ideas & feedback: [bu.edu/research/topic-ideas](https://bu.edu/research/topic-ideas)

## RESEARCH ON TAP

Biosensors for Human &  
Environmental Health  
Tuesday, April 22, 2020 | 4-6 pm

## RESEARCH HOW-TO

A Deeper Dive into SciVal  
Wednesday, March 4, 2020 | 1-3 pm

Engaging with Science Media  
Wednesday, March 25, 2020 | 3-5 pm

Equity in Innovation  
Tuesday, March 31, 2020 | 11 am-2 pm

