

claims can be determined outside the refugee determination process. This mechanism will ensure that any new refugee determination procedure will not become overloaded by humanitarian claims.

Amnesty International shares the concerns of the Canadian government with respect to the abuse of the process, given that abuse impacts upon legitimate refugee claimants. However, Canada's

primary concern should be the accurate identification and protection of legitimate refugees, and the deterrence of abusive claims secondary.

The Canadian government has a challenging opportunity to devise an inland refugee determination procedure that can be a model for the rest of the world. The challenge is twofold. We must have a procedure which is both expeditious and fair with competent decision-makers at all

levels of the process. Otherwise, miscarriages of justice will continue. If these basic principles can be respected, then Canada will have met the challenge and will once again prove to the international community that we truly are leaders in the area of refugee policy.

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## Profile: The Refugee Documentation Project, York University

The Refugee Documentation Project (RDP) was established in August 1982 to ensure that a centralized body of documentation on refugees would be assembled and made available to individuals and organizations in Canada and abroad. The RDP has compiled a bibliography with over 5,000 entries on key areas of refugee-related research. It maintains a library of books and reports filling 30 metres of shelving and four filing cabinets.

In addition, the RDP supports research on refugee topics and has published a number of studies. With regard to countries of origin research, the RDP has published a firsthand report on the "Homeless, Displaced Persons and Refugees in Lebanon, 1982," which was used as a reference by the United Nations and both sides in the conflict. It also has published a brief, firsthand report on the situation of the Tamils in Sri Lanka.

In the area of settlement research, the RDP did a study of Canadian Government and non-governmental policy for bringing Indo-Chinese refugees to Canada. A major report on settlement policy led directly to the establishment of pilot projects as precursors to a new official settlement policy. The RDP also has published a major study on *Unaccompanied Children in Emergencies: The Canadian Experience*.

The Refugee Documentation Project coordinated the preparation of briefs to the Plaut Commission and spoke to the Association of Immigration Lawyers on status determination in Canada and other legal issues. The RDP chaired the Refugee Policy Review in 1982 and wrote a report for

the Minister on priorities in the refugee area.

Earlier this year, the RDP published a study of the archival resources of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA).

In addition, the Project publishes the quarterly *Refuge: Canada's Periodical on Refugees*.

A founding member of the Inter-

University Consortium for Refugee Research, the RDP co-sponsored with Oxford's Refugee Studies Program a workshop on "Refugees in the Twentieth Century in Europe and the Middle East" in August 1985. In May 1986 it will co-sponsor, with the University of Toronto, a conference on "Canada: Land of Refugees, Land of Asylum?"

Current research projects of members of the RDP include:

| Scholar             | Affiliation                        | Research   |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Adelman, Howard     | Philosophy/York U.                 | Palestinians and UNRWA   |
| Angus, William      | Law/York U.                        | Immigration & Refugee Law  |
| Basok, Tanya        | Sociology/York U.                  | Salvadorean Refugees in Costa Rica   |
| Gismondi, Michael   | Social & Political Thought/York U. | Central American Refugees in Canada  |
| Hathaway, James     | Law/York U.                        | Refugee Law in Canada; Comparative Refugee Law   |
| Lam, Lawrence       | Sociology/York U.                  | Adjustment of Female Vietnamese-Chinese Refugees in Montreal                                 |
| Lanphier, Michael   | Sociology/York U.                  | NGOs and Refugee Resettlement  |
| Luciuk, Lubomyr     | Geography/U. of T.                 | Ukrainian Refugee Migration; Canadian Refugee Policy Post WW II; Afghan Refugees in Pakistan |
| Mata, Fernando      | Sociology/York U.                  | Immigrant Satisfaction: Latin Americans in Canada  |
| Simmons, Alan       | CERLAC/York U.                     | International Migration and Social/Economic Transformation in the Caribbean                  |
| Van Esterick, Penny | Anthropology/York U.               | Lao & Khmer Adaptation in Toronto  |
| Zisman, Alex        | Social & Political Thought/York U. | Media and the Response to Refugees   |

