

Refugee solutions and international law

The principle of international co-operation

- Article 1(3) UN Charter
- Article 2(1) UN Charter

.......

- Declaration of Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation, UNGA res. 2625(XXV), 24 October 1970
- ... to co-operate ... irrespective of the differences in their political, economic and social systems...

Protection and solutions – A summary history

1921 – League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Task: to provide legal and political protection **Assistance** < private voluntary organisations

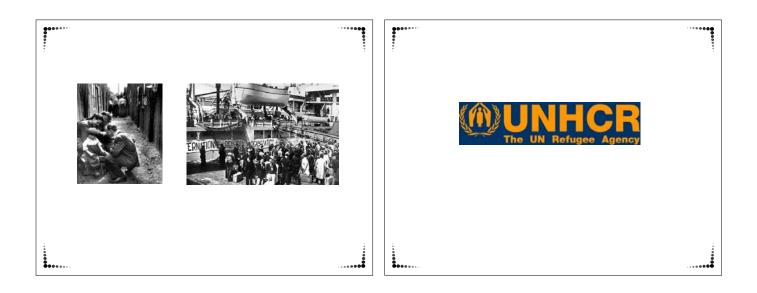
1943 – United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration

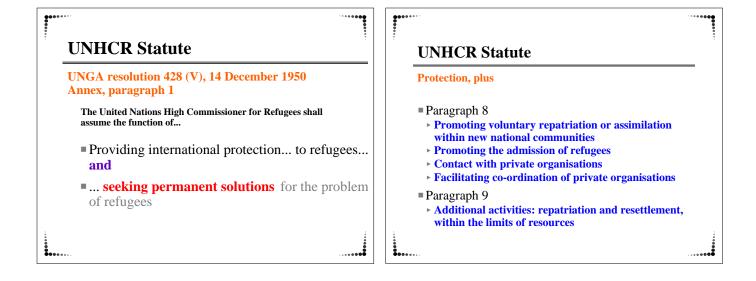
Task: repatriation and return post conflict 'Refugees': No mandate

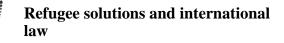
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1946 – International Refugee Organization Task: Repatriation and resettlement Context: The ideology and politics of exile







The principle of international co-operation –1951 Convention

- **Final Act**
 - * *Recommends that Governments continue to receive refugees in their territories and that they act in concert in a true spirit of international co-operation in order that these refugees may find asylum and the possibility of resettlement.'

Preamble

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- ... international co-operation
- ... effective co-ordination

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The principle of international co-operation – Regional approaches

■ 1969 OAU Convention

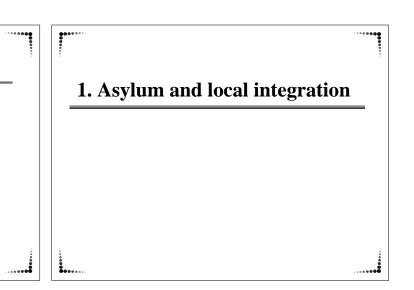
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- ► Article II(1): ... best endeavours...
- Article II(4): ... African solidarity and international co-operation
- EU Council Directive 2001/55/EC on temporary protection in the event of a mass influx
 European Asylum Support Office

UNHCR Executive Committee 2005

Solutions – the hierarchy

- ... voluntary repatriation, in safety and dignity, where and when feasible, remains the most preferred solution in the majority of refugee situations;
- ... a **combination of solutions**, taking into account the specific circumstances of each refugee situation, can help achieve lasting solutions...





Conclusion on Local Integration

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• ... local integration is a sovereign decision and an option to be exercised by States guided by their treaty obligations and human rights principles, and that the provisions of this Conclusion are for the guidance of States and UNHCR when local integration is to be considered...

