

Educator Resources
After the Airlift: Examining the Afghan Refugee Crisis Post-Taliban Takeover
2021 International Education Summit
World Affairs Council of Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky

You can find an edited video version of [this session on YouTube](#) and the full session on our [Facebook page](#). If you are unable to use YouTube or Facebook at your school or organization, please email elundstedt@cincyworldaffairs.org.

Reflection Questions for This Session

1. Dr. Schacher discussed how Afghans resettling in the U.S. have parole status. How does this differ from refugee status and how does it impact Afghans living in the U.S.?
2. How have U.S. refugee and immigration policies changed over time? What reforms could be made with current U.S. policies?
3. Dr. Schacher noted that individuals can assist with this issue. How can you help support refugee resettlement efforts in your community or advocate for change? What organizations help with these efforts in your area?
4. Under U.S. law, a refugee is someone who demonstrates that they were persecuted or fear persecution due to race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group. With this in mind, what groups or conflicts can you think of that would qualify under this definition? Which groups would be excluded? Which qualifications would apply to Afghan refugees?
5. What do you think will be the long-term effects of the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan? What responsibilities do you think the U.S. has in Afghanistan?
6. Can you draw similarities between the U.S. withdrawal in Afghanistan and other historical events (ex: fall of Saigon)? What are the similarities and differences between the two events?

Panelists and Organizations from the Session

Dr. Yael Schacher is a senior U.S. advocate at Refugees International, where she focuses on U.S. asylum, U.S. refugee admissions, temporary protected status, and immigration practices that have refugee protection implications. Prior to joining Refugees International, Yael spent a decade researching the relationship between immigration and refugee policy for her forthcoming book on the history of asylum in the U.S. since the late nineteenth century. She has taught at the University of Connecticut and lectured on immigration history and refugee policy at Harvard Law School, the University of Minnesota, and numerous academic conferences and public forums. In recent years, Yael has focused on direct legal representation on behalf of those seeking asylum and other humanitarian statuses at the Connecticut Institute for Refugees and Immigrants. Most recently, Yael was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Texas at Austin, where she combined historical research on asylum and advocacy on behalf of asylum seekers (with the law school's immigration clinic and with the organization Justice for Our Neighbors). Yael has an M.A. in History and a Ph.D. in American Studies from Harvard University and a B.A. in literature from Columbia University.

Related Lesson Plans

1. [Teaching about refugees](#) (UN High Commissioner for Refugees)
2. [Refugee Stories: Mapping a Crisis](#) (Choices Program)
3. [International Migration Crisis - Diplomacy Simulation](#) (National Museum of American Diplomacy)
4. [Lesson: Understanding the Global Refugee Crisis](#) (Facing History and Ourselves)
5. [Welcoming Newcomers & Resettling Afghan Refugees](#) (Morningside Center for Teaching Social Responsibility)
6. [A Refugee's Story: Global Oneness Project](#) (PBS/Global Oneness)
7. [JWAC Lesson Plan: Refugee Crisis](#) (World Affairs Council of Dallas-Fort Worth)
8. [Migration and Refugees Lesson Plans](#) (Pulitzer Center)

Additional Resources

Videos

1. [A brief history of the Afghanistan War](#) (Vox)
2. [Afghanistan Crisis Explained for Kids](#) (Behind the News)
3. [US troops in Afghanistan: A history \(2017\)](#) (CNN)

Articles/Websites

1. [Crisis in Afghanistan](#) (Refugees International)
2. [Timeline: The US War in Afghanistan](#) (Council on Foreign Relations)
3. [Life on Hold \(Interactive\)](#) (Al Jazeera)
4. [12 Ways to Support Afghan Refugee Students \(Opinion\)](#) (EdWeek)
5. [Refugees and Asylum](#) (U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services)
6. [Evacuate Our Allies Coalition](#)
7. [Operation Allies Welcome](#) (Department of Homeland Security)
8. [Welcome.US](#)

Cincinnati-Focused

1. Article: [50 Afghan refugees are coming to Cincinnati; how you can help](#) (Enquirer)
2. [Refugee Resettlement Services](#) (Catholic Charities of Southwest Ohio)
3. [RefugeeConnect](#) (Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky)
4. Audio Recording: [Cincinnati Edition: Greater Cincinnati groups welcome Afghan refugees](#) (Cincinnati Public Radio WVXU)
5. [IJPC | Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center](#)