

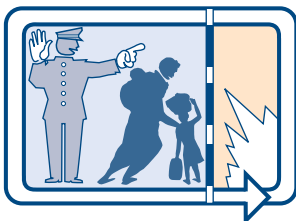
Format for Country Updates and Grading Criteria

USCRI rated countries according to refugees' enjoyment of rights in the 1951 Convention and other instruments and also listed aggravating and extenuating factors (such as severity of violations, the number of people affected, and the population and resources of the host country). Unless otherwise indicated, all events and situations described occurred or continued in 2007. We covered the 60 countries hosting the largest numbers of refugees, based on our best preliminary estimates. The covered countries hosted 99 percent of the world's refugees.

Countries often treated some groups of refugees better than others. In such cases, we rated the rights enjoyment of the *least-favored* groups. Some types of violations necessarily burdened or barred the exercise of other rights. (Movement restrictions, for example, necessarily impinged on the pursuit of livelihoods, and *refoulement* abrogated virtually all other rights.) Nevertheless, to focus on policies and practices needing improvement, we tried to confine descriptions of violations to these specific categories:

Refoulement/Physical Protection

Did the country forcibly return refugees or asylum seekers to their countries of origin or deport them to third countries that did so? Did the government allow asylum seekers a fundamentally fair and efficient process to determine refugee status? Did the Government return or deport migrants without adequate screening for refugees? Were there physically dangerous protection gaps?



Freedom of Movement and Residence

Did the government confine refugees or asylum seekers to camps or segregated settlements? Could they travel freely throughout the national territory and reside where they chose? Did authorities tie aid to encampment? Did refugees have access to international travel documents?



Detention/Access to Courts

Did the government detain refugees or asylum seekers other than for common crimes or lack of documents? Was detention subject to independent monitoring and judicial review? Were refugees or asylum seekers eligible to receive identity documents attesting to their right to be in the country? Did refugees have access to courts to enforce their rights?



Right to Earn a Livelihood

Did the government allow refugees or asylum seekers to work and practice professions legally? Did refugees enjoy the protection of labor legislation on par with nationals? Could they legally engage in business and obtain all necessary licenses? Could refugees open bank accounts and acquire, hold title to, and transfer business premises, farmland, homes, or other capital assets?



Refoulement/Physical Protection and Detention

- A** No *refoulement*/arbitrary detention; fair asylum system; access to courts
- B** No *refoulement*/little detention but faulty asylum system
- C** Some *refoulement*, not systematic/significant detention; gov't harassment & serious protection gaps
- D** Significant *refoulement*/100+ detained; governmental violence against refugees
- F** 100+ *refoulements*; severe governmental violence/100s detained; no access to courts

Right to Earn a Livelihood and Freedom of Movement

- A** No restrictions in policy or practice
- B** Almost no restrictions in policy or practice
- C** Restrictions in policy but wide toleration in practice; aid tied to encampment
- D** Restrictions in policy and practice; harassment
- F** Severe restrictions in policy and practice

A Best	B Better	C Average	D Worse	F Worst
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