

ABSTRACT

According to UNHCR data from 2018, there are approximately seven and a half million school-age child refugees, with only 61% of them having access to primary education (versus 91% of the total child population). In Greece, child migrants have been around for several years, but they have not had access to education for a long time and some children still do not. The situation was dealt with in various alternative ways, through non-profit organizations, volunteers from around the world and refugees themselves. The thesis is conceived theoretically and empirically. The theoretical part of this thesis deals with these issues. It seeks to explore the educational situation of refugee children in the world, describes the recent migration crisis in Greece, deals with the right to educate refugee children at world and European level, and also in Greece, introduces educational opportunities for refugee children in Greece, both formal, provided by the state, and informal, provided by volunteers and non-profit organizations.

In the empirical part, qualitative research examines the barriers that non-formal education providers have encountered in trying to deliver education to refugee children and describes the methods overcoming these barriers. Conducted ethnographic research included volunteer observation in non-profit organizations in Greece and in-depth interviews with non-formal education providers. The data was divided into two parts applying open coding, depending on whether the statements relate to barriers or methods to overcome them. It has been found that the barriers and methods appear on three levels. Providers of non-formal education must overcome external factors, as well as barriers within the organization or cause by individual children's possibilities. The information gathered can serve as a base to improve the education of refugee children.

KEY WORDS

Greek refugee crisis, refugee, refugee children, education in emergencies, formal education, non-formal education, barriers to education, methods of overcoming