

A refugee is a human being who has had to take care the most difficult decision ever-to cut his roots. Move. Sometimes out of blind fear because his life was in danger, on the other occasions because he simply could not breathe intellectually.

We do not have to list the scores of reasons man has had and will have for reaching this decision. Newspapers, radio and television have illustrated them for decades and there will be new sad stories in the future. Because people are what they are.

This world develops refugee problems. We help to solve them in a practical and concrete manner.

The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees acts on behalf of uprooted people. As a rule it concerns itself with those who are outside their former country and do not enjoy its protection for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion. These people are, what we call-mandate refugees. They are entitled to UNHCR's protection irrespective of their geographical location.