

Headline: [Fears not enough is being done to protect asylum seekers in Melbourne detention from coronavirus](#)

Source: ABC News Australia

Date: August 2, 2020

Notes: "Asylum seekers in a Melbourne detention center fear a lack of social distancing and a ban on alcohol-based hand sanitizer have left them vulnerable to coronavirus."

Headline: [Coronavirus: Treating sick and elderly in a refugee camp](#)

Source: BBC News Asia

Date: August 2, 2020

Notes: In this short video clip, Shah Dedar, a representative from Helpage International, walks viewers through some of the challenges faced by elder individuals and refugees living in Cox's Bazar in self-isolation and amid lockdowns due to COVID-19.

Headline: [COVID-19 escalating in ICE detention centers as states hit highest daily records - and ICE deportation flights into Northern Triangle continue](#)

Source: IRC

Date: August 3, 2020

Notes: "Over 20 percent of the ICE detained population is testing positive in ICE facilities in unsanitary and overcrowded conditions, yet ICE is dramatically under-reporting COVID-19 cases by a factor of fifteen on average and failing to release detainees." IRC calls for the release of individuals detained in unsanitary and unsafe facilities by ICE in this press release.

Headline: [Greece reactivates voluntary return program for migrants](#)

Source: Info Migrants

Date: August 3, 2020

Notes: "Despite a small spike in COVID-19 cases in recent weeks after the opening of Greece's borders to tourists, the government has decided to move ahead with reopening the application process for its program for the voluntary return of migrants to their country of origin. The move comes on the heels of restarting forced deportations for migrants who are ineligible for asylum."

Headline: [Lampedusa runs out of room to quarantine new migrants, as politicians start to blame each other](#)

Source: Info Migrants

Date: August 3, 2020

Notes: "About 250 migrants from Tunisia have reached the Italian island of Lampedusa in several small boats in recent days. With no space left to quarantine the new arrivals due the COVID-19 pandemic, politicians across the political spectrum are weighing in on the issue and further polarizing public opinion." Mayor Martello of Lampedusa questions why the Prime Minister of Italy has not declared a state of emergency.

Headline: [Coronavirus: China's stranded migrant workers desperate to return home as savings dry up](#)

Source: South China Morning Post

Date: August 1, 2020

Notes: "With no income, no job and little hope of returning home, some overseas Chinese workers feel like they are languishing in prison." Author Sidney Leng also comments on the unavailability of affordable international flights leaving China's migrant workers competing for airline seats.

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Compiled by Sabeen Rokerya

Headline: [Catholic aid groups: Massive explosion in Beirut compounds Lebanon's dire situation](#)

Source: America Magazine

Date: August 5, 2020

Notes: The August 4th explosion in Beirut compounds an already dire situation for locals, migrant workers, and refugees. In previous months, COVID-19 has intensified the economic crisis and civil unrest the country faces.

Related past reading: [Lebanon: COVID-19 Worsens Medical Supply Crisis](#)

Headline: [In Germany, the coronavirus disproportionately affects migrants](#)

Source: Info Migrants

Date: August 5, 2020

Notes: "The COVID-19 pandemic threatens to derail Germany's push to integrate its growing migrant population. Largely employed in the services sector, migrants face job loss, isolation and contracting the virus at a higher rate than natives. Foreign nationals even grapple with intensified racism due to the pandemic."

Headline: [Federal agents are expelling asylum seekers as young as 8 months from the border, citing COVID-19 risks](#)

Source: The Texas Tribune and ProPublica (co-published)

Date: August 4, 2020

Notes: "Thousands of migrant children have been expelled by the Trump administration since March. Some have been held in hotels without access to lawyers or family. Advocates say many are now "virtually impossible" to find."

Headline: [Ethiopian Workers Are Forced to Return Home, Some With Coronavirus](#)

Source: New York Times

Date: August 1, 2020

Notes: "Unemployed and shunned as possible coronavirus carriers, Ethiopian migrant laborers are returning home by the thousands, placing a huge strain on Ethiopia's poorly equipped medical system. More than 30,000 workers have re-entered Ethiopia since mid-March, according to the government, some of them after suffering abuse and detention in unhealthy conditions in the countries they left, often on the Persian Gulf or in other parts of Africa."

Headline: [Gender-based violence surging among displaced women during pandemic, report warns](#)

Source: The Independent

Date: August 4, 2020

Notes: "Gender-based violence is soaring among displaced women and girls during the coronavirus crisis, a new report has warned. A study by Refugees International has suggested lockdowns, border closures, and economic desperation caused by the public health emergency increase the risk of displaced women and girls suffering domestic abuse at the hands of their partners, conflict-related sexual violence, human trafficking, and forced and early marriage."

Headline: [Migrants at ICE detention centers are sitting ducks because of an inhumane policy](#)

Source: The Washington Post

Date: August 4, 2020

Notes: "COVID-19 has exploded at migrant detention centers nationwide, infecting detainees and employees alike and seeding the disease aboard deportation flights to countries ill-equipped to respond, especially in Latin America. The facilities, run by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, are petri

dishes of contagion, and the residents — many of whom have no serious criminal record — are sitting ducks in the crosshairs of an inhumane policy.”

Headline: [What Impact Will Covid-19 Have On The Movement Of People?](#)

Source: Forbes

Date: August 4, 2020

Notes: With borders shut across the globe, migration has decreased significantly in the wake of COVID-19. The potential long-term impacts the pandemic will have on both forced and voluntary migration are as of yet unknown, but research around the movement of people during and after WW2 may provide some insight.

Headline: [Ending Child Detention in Greece is Possible](#)

Source: Human Rights Watch

Date: August 4, 2020

Notes: “The government should live up to this commitment [to protect children] and show real leadership by abolishing the protective custody regime once and for all. In the meantime, authorities should release all children from immigration detention as soon as possible – all the more urgent amid the Covid-19 pandemic – and establish suitable short-term alternatives to detention.”

Headline: [Refugees are essential to the Covid-19 response](#)

Source: Eco-Business

Date: August 4, 2020

Notes: “To build a better world, every action counts. When it comes to ending the Covid-19 pandemic, those actions must include a broad global commitment to ensuring that all people – including refugees – are protected.”

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Compiled by Katherine McCann

Headline: [Ending 'Asylum As We Know It': Using Pandemic To Expel Migrants, Children At Border](#)

Source: NPR

Date: August 6, 2020

Notes: This article details the arc of the Trump administration's efforts to change the way that asylum works in the United States, from early claims by the administration that the system was a "scam" to the current use of public health fears to close the southern border for asylum seekers and proposed new regulations that would impose permanent limits to asylum.

Headline: [Coronavirus surprise: Remittances to Mexico rise during pandemic](#)

Source: Washington Post

Date: August 6, 2020

Notes: In contrast to predictions made by economists about a potential collapse in remittances due to the COVID-19 pandemic, remittances to Mexico in the first six months of 2020 were almost \$2 billion more than they were in the first six months of 2019. In June, payments to El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Honduras also increased compared to the same period in 2019, after a dip earlier this year.

Headline: [Home Office restarts deportation of asylum seekers despite coronavirus fears](#)

Source: The Independent

Date: August 6, 2020

Notes: Asylum seekers are set to be deported from the UK for the first time since the onset of the pandemic in March, prompting criticism from immigration advocates. No COVID-19 testing is planned for deportees currently, raising concerns of potential spread of COVID-19 and placing deportees at additional risk.

Headline: [COVID-19: Here's how we can help refugees](#)

Source: World Economic Forum

Date: August 6, 2020

Notes: This op-ed by Harvard associate professor, Aditi Hazra, outlines the various physical and economic risks that refugees face related to the COVID-19 pandemic and proposes several ways to assist, including the need for local and national governments to incorporate refugees into their response plans, and for vaccine manufacturers and international bodies to prioritize an equitable distribution of the eventual COVID-19 vaccine with meaningful inclusion of refugees into these plans.

Headline: [UN Experts: Sanctions proving deadly during COVID pandemic, humanitarian exemptions not working](#)

Source: ReliefWeb

Date: August 7, 2020

Notes: People in countries under sanctions, such as Cuba, Iran, Sudan, Syria, Venezuela and Yemen, cannot protect themselves against COVID-19 or get life-saving treatment if they fall ill because humanitarian exemptions to the sanctions are not working, UN human rights experts said today.

Headline: [After a Lull, the Number of Migrants Trying to Enter the U.S. Has Soared](#)

Source: New York Times

Date: August 6, 2020

Notes: The number of immigrants arrested at the southwestern border has more than doubled since the spring, fueled by Mexico's economic slump and a Trump administration policy that migrants say works in their favor, by returning them quickly to Mexico, which presents more opportunities to attempt to cross. The numbers of attempted crossings are still lower than at the peak in 2019, but have increased significantly since the lull in the spring of this year.

Headline: [Passports for purchase: How the elite get through a pandemic](#)

Source: CNN

Date: August 7, 2020

Notes: This article explores the growth of “citizen-by-investment” programs (CIPs) and “residence-by-investment” arrangements, also known as “golden visas” in the age of COVID-19. These programs, which allow the very rich to purchase visas into other countries, allow the migration of those with the most resources, while opportunities for those who are most desperate to migrate continue to be restricted by governments globally, thus amplifying inequality.

Headline: [Migrant workers weigh COVID-19 risks, financial needs on Canadian farms](#)

Source: CTV News

Date: August 6, 2020

Notes: This article, featuring interviews with migrant workers laboring on Canadian farms and farm owners, explores issues of health and safety related to the COVID-19 pandemic in these workplaces. Some workers allege that they are not allowed to leave their workplaces and also are not being given proper protections from the virus.

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Compiled by Christina Kay

Headline: [In Beirut, humanitarian responders confront layers of disaster](#)

Source: Devex

Date: August 10, 2020

Notes: Humanitarian actors responding to the deadly explosion in Beirut last week say that the response has been complicated by economic instability, rising levels of food insecurity, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Humanitarian responders who may have, in the past, set up a centralized hub for coordination now face difficulty ensuring internet access for staff working from home. The response has changed in other ways as well: “We recognized our disaster response has to take a different approach. Deploying large teams on a moment’s notice is not really practical anymore, and this is really a perfect example of that. It is extremely difficult to put people and expert responders on a plane and get there,” [Project HOPE executive vice president for global health Chris] Skopec said.”

Headline: [First coronavirus cases reported in Syria’s Al-Hol Camp](#)

Source: Al Jazeera

Date: August 6, 2020

Notes: Three health workers in a camp for displaced persons in northeastern Syria tested positive for COVID-19. The Al-Hol camp is run by the autonomous Kurdish administration and is home to tens of thousands of people. The healthcare system is particularly fragile in the northeast, where Kurdish authorities have attempted to address the COVID-19 pandemic with little support.

Related news: [Syria in Context Investigation: COVID-19 Spreads out of Control in Damascus](#)

Headline: [Without Federal Protections, Farm Workers Risk Coronavirus Infection To Harvest Crop](#)

Source: NPR

Date: August 8, 2020

Notes: Although outbreaks have already been reported among farms in the United States, the federal government has failed to establish rules to protect farmworkers. “I do think some employers are putting in necessary protections,” [director of health policy and programs at Farmworker Justice Alexis] Guild says. But she has heard of workers who, after testing positive for COVID-19, were still required to work or were sent back to their countries — an economic threat that creates a strong incentive for workers not to report mild symptoms.”

Headline: [As the Global Economy Melts Down, Human Trafficking is Booming](#)

Source: Foreign Policy

Date: August 10, 2020

Notes: By driving at least 70 million people into extreme poverty globally, it is anticipated that the COVID-19 pandemic could exacerbate human trafficking, pushing desperate workers to accept risky job offers or high-interest loans. Likewise, “companies, anxious to ramp up production after months of lost income, may be more willing to hire the cheapest labor available, including from unethical recruiters, and to skip labor inspections and other oversight measures—thereby enabling human traffickers to thrive.”

Headline: [Coronavirus Spares Gaza, but Travel Restrictions Do Not](#)

Source: The New York Times

Date: August 8, 2020

Notes: Although there have been no recorded cases of community transmission, the COVID-19 pandemic has greatly impacted life in Gaza. “Citing the need to combat the virus, the various governmental authorities controlling the borders of Gaza have imposed new restrictions on movement outside the territory. That has exacerbated an already challenging situation for Palestinians who say they urgently need to travel to Israel and the West Bank, as well as for those wishing to escape the bleak economic reality by emigrating by way of Egypt.”

Headline: [Somali Floods Displace Hundreds of Thousands, Raise Fears of Coronavirus Spread](#)

Source: VOA News

Date: August 7, 2020

Notes: Flooding in southern Somalia have caused more than 650,000 people to flee their homes so far this year, leading to food shortages, disease, and an increased risk of COVID-19. Heavy rains and floods are expected to continue, threatening those individuals who have already been displaced and now live in overcrowded, makeshift shelters. Conditions in these makeshift settlements could facilitate the spread of COVID-19. Aid groups have been unable to access some areas that are controlled by armed groups.

Headline: [Claim asylum seekers face 'climate of fear' after Glasgow attack](#)

Source: The National

Date: August 10, 2020

Notes: Positive Action in Housing (PAIH), an aid group that works with asylum seekers in Glasgow, has raised concerns about the about the suitability and cleanliness of flats that the Home Office contractor Mears has identified as housing for asylum seekers. Asylum seekers who have spoken with PAIH had said they are afraid of reporting concerns for fear that they will be return to their countries of origin. The move from hotels back to private accommodations comes after a June attack at one of the hotels that injured asylum seekers, hotel staff, and a police officer.

Headline: [To meet needs from a distance, NGOs turn to chatbots](#)

Source: Devex

Date: August 7, 2020

Notes: Chatbots, or “a software program that uses automation to interact with people through voice or text,” have become a resource for organizations that have had to scale back their in-person programming. “NGOs that invested in chatbots before the pandemic are now finding messaging at the center of what they do, while those without programs in place are working to catch up.”

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Compiled by Sarah Guyer

Headline: [Asylum officers say proposal weaponizes public health to advance hard-line Trump agenda](#)

Source: CBS News

Date: August 10, 2020

Notes: “U.S. government asylum officers on Monday publicly denounced a proposal that would require them to deny safe harbor to migrants who are deemed a public health risk, accusing the Trump administration of using the coronavirus pandemic as a pretext to advance its restrictive immigration agenda.”

Headline: [ICE is making sure migrant kids don't have COVID-19, then expelling them to "prevent the spread" of COVID-19](#)

Source: The Texas Tribune

Date: August 10, 2020

Notes: “The administration has used infection risk to justify expelling thousands of children without legal protections. But it's only expelling kids who've tested negative.” Lee Gelernt of the ACLU also highlights that the government's knowledge that the children who are being expelled do not have COVID-19 further indicates that Trump's immigration restrictions citing Title 42 are unjustified.

Headline: [Italy Resumes Migrant Deportations](#)

Source: Voice of America

Date: August 11, 2020

Notes: “Twice-weekly charter flights of up to 80 people who Italian authorities describe as illegal economic migrants resumed this week from Italy to Tunisia. The flights, part of an Italian-Tunisian agreement, were put on hold during Italy's COVID-19 lockdown. Italy saw a sharp increase in migration last month that has put a strain on migrant reception centers, particularly in the south of the country.”

Headline: [New guidance for protecting migrant workers during the coronavirus pandemic](#)

Source: UN News

Date: August 10, 2020

Notes: To address the specific challenges migrant workers face during COVID-19, IOM and ICC published a set of employer guidelines on Monday. The advice includes general principles to prevent discrimination, and is presented in five categories: physical and mental health; living and working conditions; economic support; ethical recruitment; and supply chain transparency.

Headline: [Inter-Sector Working Group, Jordan: Refugee Response Coordination, Coronavirus – Update 9 August 2020](#)

Source: UNHCR via ReliefWeb

Date: August 11, 2020

Notes: The report highlights that more refugees are moving back to camps. “Za’atari, which had reported very low return to camp numbers, initially observed lately an average of 100 per day when such movements were authorized. In Azraq, no increase has been recorded, but refugees have been returning since the onset of the pandemic.” The report also highlights the number of leave permits issued lately.

Headline: [Italy: Prosecutors open probe on Treviso migrant center after spike in COVID-19 cases](#)

Source: InfoMigrants

Date: August 11, 2020

Notes: “Prosecutors in Treviso are investigating a migrant center in the former military barracks 'Serena di Casier' in the northeastern Veneto city after the number of confirmed coronavirus cases climbed from two to 257 in less than two months. The center's management was accused of failing to separate migrants who had tested positive for the virus from the other guests.”

Headline: [Opinion: From Cox's Bazar — how to address refugee needs amid COVID-19](#)

Source: Devex

Date: August 12, 2020

Notes: Author Hasina Akhter explains BRAC's three-pronged approach to support residents in Cox's Bazar, and over 260,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the camp. Akhter writes about the prioritization of primary health care, innovation to adapt preventive measures, and the need to spread essential knowledge through community-based outreach.

Headline: [Refugees also affected by Beirut blast as UN relief efforts continue](#)

Source: UN News

Date: August 11, 2020

Notes: "So far, at least 34 refugees were among the more than 200 people reportedly killed in the blast, though the fear is that the number could rise further. Another 124 refugees were injured, 20 of them seriously, while seven are still missing."

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Compiled by Sabeen Rokerya

Headline: [Italy sends army to migrant centers after more COVID cases](#)

Source: InfoMigrants

Date: August 13, 2020

Notes: “As cases of COVID-19 rise in centers for migrants, Italy is sending the army to ensure compliance with the quarantine in a hotspot in Pozzallo and a reception center in Milan. The number of migrants that have tested positive for COVID-19 in a hotspot on the island of Sicily south of the Italian mainland has risen to 73. The prefect has asked for, and been granted, a military presence to ensure compliance with quarantine measures. The army will arrive on Monday, August 17.”

Headline: [US asylum shutdown leaves LGBTQ+ people stranded and in danger in Mexico](#)

Source: The New Humanitarian

Date: August 13, 2020

Notes: The U.S. border closure has brought processing of asylum seekers at the U.S.-Mexico border to a standstill, leaving asylum seekers to wait in crowded camps in dangerous border towns indefinitely. LGBTQ+ migrants face a heightened risk of violence and struggle to access work opportunities and healthcare.

Headline: [Yemen: Houthis Kill, Expel Ethiopian Migrants](#)

Source: Human Rights Watch

Date: August 13, 2020

Notes: “Houthi forces in April 2020 forcibly expelled thousands of Ethiopian migrants from northern Yemen using Covid-19 as a pretext, killing dozens and forcing them to the Saudi border, Human Rights Watch said today. Saudi border guards then fired on the fleeing migrants, killing dozens more, while hundreds of survivors escaped to a mountainous border area.”

Headline: [Greece reports first coronavirus case in island camp](#)

Source: France 24

Date: August 13, 2020

Notes: “Greece on Thursday reported its first novel coronavirus infection in one of its overcrowded asylum seeker camps. A 35-year-old man from Yemen living at the camp of Vial on the island of Chios tested positive late on Wednesday, a migration ministry official told AFP.” While COVID-19 cases have been identified in camps on the mainland, this is the first case identified inside any of the severely overcrowded island camps.

Headline: [1,200 Missing Migrants Recorded Thus Far in 2020 May Well Undercount Totals Since Covid-19 Outbreak](#)

Source: IOM

Date: August 14, 2020

Notes: “Despite the mobility restrictions put in place in the wake of the COVID-19 outbreak, over 1,200 migrants lost their lives during migration in the first half of 2020, according to data from IOM’s Missing Migrants Project. [...] Yet data collection on deaths and disappearances during migration are increasingly difficult amid the pandemic. Therefore, the 1,200 figure above does not include what IOM estimates are many more deaths linked to COVID-19 cases among migrant workers due to mobility restrictions and lockdowns.”

Headline: [Syria: Child death rate triples in Al-Hol camp as medical access deteriorates](#)

Source: Save the Children

Date: August 13, 2020

Notes: “Eight children under five died in Al Hol camp within five days, as health and nutrition services have rapidly declined. The spike in under-five mortality was recorded between 6 – 10 August, and is more than three times higher than the mortality rate since the beginning of 2020. Fears of a possible COVID-19

outbreak following a spike in cases across North East Syria, coupled with reduced humanitarian access since the beginning of the year due to the restriction in cross border points, has reduced the capacity of operational health facilities by 40%.”

Headline: [Health experts: Proposed asylum change would fail to protect both public health and human rights](#)

Source: Arizona Public Media

Date: August 13, 2020

Notes: “The Trump administration has been asking for public feedback on a proposal to block would-be asylum seekers deemed at risk of carrying a communicable disease. The measure is branded as a safeguard against COVID-19 contagion, but public health experts warn the change would deteriorate human rights while failing to actually curb the pandemic.”

Headline: [Migrants and refugees are being forgotten in the COVID-19 response. This has to change](#)

Source: World Economic Forum

Date: August 12, 2020

Notes: “Despite their vital contribution to society, migrant families are too often overlooked — or overtly excluded — in COVID-19 relief plans. City mayors from all over the world are calling on national and international decision-makers to commit to an equitable pandemic response and recovery. The pandemic has revealed that integrating voices from city leadership into international decision-making is crucial for effective crisis management.”

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Compiled by Katherine McCann

Headline: [Refugee admissions to the US resume after being on pause due to coronavirus](#)

Source: CNN

Date: August 12, 2020

Notes: “In March, the US put a temporary pause on refugee admissions after the International Organization for Migration, which is in charge of booking refugees on their travel, and the United Nations refugee agency announced a temporary suspension of resettlement travel. Both organizations have since moved to restart admissions.”

Headline: [These essential workers face evictions and could become homeless during pandemic](#)

Source: LA Times

Date: August 13, 2020

Notes: “Nearly 80% of California’s workers without legal status are in jobs deemed essential, and on average these laborers lost 25% of their wages between February and April — more than any other demographic of employees.” These workers, of the 1.6 million workers in California without legal status, face fear of evictions amid the pandemic.

Headline: [Coronavirus having a devastating impact on migrant families sending money home](#)

Source: ABC News Australia

Date: August 16, 2020

Notes: “Every year, hundreds of thousands of migrant workers in Australia support their families by sending billions of dollars in remittances back home, often to poor or developing countries such as India, China, Vietnam and the Philippines. Coronavirus and the government restrictions to combat it are bringing those critical flows of money to a halt.” Authors highlight 22-year-old Nayereh Norzahi’s story.

Headline: [‘Why not us?’: Asylum seekers on COVID-19 front lines demand permanent residency in Canada](#)

Source: The Toronto Star

Date: August 15, 2020

Notes: “Ottawa announced Friday that asylum seekers working in specific jobs in the health-care sector would be eligible for permanent residency without first having to wait for their asylum claims to be accepted, but asylum seekers and their supporters say Ottawa’s plan excludes thousands of workers without permanent status in Canada who have labored on the front lines during the pandemic.”

Headline: [UNHCR applauds Canada’s commitment to grant permanent residency to asylum-seekers working on COVID-19 frontlines](#)

Source: UNHCR

Date: August 14, 2020

Notes: In a press release, UNHCR states that it “welcomes Canada’s announcement to open pathways to permanent residency for asylum-seekers in the healthcare sector who have worked on the frontlines of the country’s COVID-19 response.”

Headline: [Coronavirus: Fighting fake news in a refugee camp](#)

Source: BBC News

Date: August 17, 2020

Notes: Young refugees in South Sudan’s Yida refugee camp are fighting myths and working to accurately inform the camp’s residents about COVID-19, where false beliefs about coronavirus are especially dangerous. More than 46,000 people live in the Yida camp, most of them young people displaced by war in Sudan.

Headline: [A Private Security Company Is Detaining Migrant Children at Hotels](#)

Source: NY Times

Date: August 16, 2020

Notes: “The Trump administration has been using major hotel chains to detain children and families taken into custody at the border, creating a largely unregulated shadow system of detention and swift expulsions without the safeguards that are intended to protect the most vulnerable migrants.”

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Compiled by Sabeen Rokerya

Headline: [Eritrean refugees in Ethiopia resist camp closure amid COVID-19 fears](#)

Source: The New Humanitarian

Date: August 17, 2020

Notes: In April, the Ethiopian government announced plans to close Hitsats refugee camp, which houses approximately 27,000 Eritrean refugees, and relocate residents to two existing camps, Adi Harush and Mai Aini. Although UNHCR has warned the government that Adi Harush and Mai Aini are already operating at full capacity and that relocation could increase the risk for COVID-19, the government has yet to provide an update on the relocation. “The lack of clarity makes it difficult, notably for humanitarian actors, to assess the impact and plan for any viable, safe alternatives,’ [Human Rights Watch Horn of Africa Director Laetitia] Bader told TNH, noting that the uncertainty ‘risks creating significant confusion and fear for the Eritrean camp residents.’”

Headline: [More asylum seekers set to be deported on charter flights despite concerns over safety and legality](#)

Source: The Independent

Date: August 18, 2020

Notes: The UK is moving forward with the deportation of some asylum seekers who have recently arrived in the UK, stating that asylum seekers must claim asylum in the first safe country under the Dublin regulation. Advocates state that the deportations – to Germany, Spain, and France – amount to an “affront to public health” during the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly as France moves to introduce quarantine measures for people coming from the UK and Germany recorded its largest daily increase in COVID-19 cases last week. Bella Sankey, director of Detention Action, stated “History will not judge kindly a department which, in the midst of a deadly pandemic, raids asylum accommodation to forcibly remove terrified asylum seekers from Yemen, Iraq, Syria and other war ravaged countries. Where is the leadership and moral courage?”

Headline: [A record one million displaced by violence in Burkina Faso amid Covid-19](#)

Source: Norwegian Refugee Council

Date: August 18, 2020

Notes: The number of internally displaced people in Burkina Faso has increased more than 1,000 percent since January 2020 – from 87,000 to over one million in August 2020. Schools and healthcare facilities have been targeted by armed groups, limiting access to health care during the pandemic. The lockdown measures and loss of livelihoods have led to indirect adverse impacts for families that were already vulnerable before the pandemic.

Headline: [How Europe’s Pandemic Response Pushed Poor Migrant Workers Further Through the Cracks](#)

Source: VICE News

Date: August 18, 2020

Notes: Although the European Commission and others have described migrant workers as “crucial,” migrants have been largely forgotten in Europe’s pandemic response. Migrants, particularly undocumented migrants, have been largely left out of special government support schemes. Even migrant workers who were employed in agriculture and deemed essential faced low wages and inhumane working conditions. “These issues aren’t anything new. Rather, the pandemic has merely shined a light on systems of inequality and exploitation that have been in place for decades.”

Headline: [The Cost of ‘Singapore Inc.’? A Coronavirus Outbreak Among Migrants](#)

Source: The Nation

Date: August 17, 2020

Notes: As of mid-August, 90% of Singapore’s COVID-19 cases (or 52,516 cases) were in dormitories housing male migrant workers. Kirsten Han writes, “It’s a humanitarian crisis that has shone a harsh light on the inequalities and injustices in Singaporean society, and reflected our inhumane, GDP growth–

chasing politics back at us.” She continues, “While our [Singaporeans] lockdown involved working from home, binge-watching Netflix, and getting meals delivered, migrant workers have been confined to crowded rooms, often with poor ventilation in a humid, tropical climate.”

Related News: [How Singapore Flattened the COVID Curse Among Migrants](#)

Headline: [‘We have nowhere to go’: Refugees and migrant workers among worst hit by Beirut’s devastating blast](#)

Source: The Independent

Date: August 18, 2020

Notes: For Syrians in Lebanon, the blast on August 4th brought back memories of war. UNHCR has reported that at least 34 Syrian refugees were killed in the explosion, making them among the communities most affected. In the weeks before the blast, the Norwegian Refugee Council had reported an increase in the number of Syrian refugees being evicted due to the financial crisis and pandemic. Now, refugees who have lost their homes in the blast have few options for housing. Advocates have also raised concerns about reports that some refugees were denied assistance after the blast.

Headline: [Far Right Seizes on Italy’s Renewed Coronavirus Restrictions to Bash Immigration](#)

Source: Huffington Post

Date: August 17, 2020

Notes: As COVID-19 cases climb again in Italy, the government announced new restrictions on discos and nightclubs. Stoking fears that migration will cause a second wave, Matteo Salvini of the far-right Lega Party said last week: “The only problem related to the virus is not the boys who dance but those who disembark’ [...] ‘The enemy is not the boy who goes to the beach, disco or restaurant, but the thousands of migrants who land on our shores.’” Meanwhile, Italian prosecutors are investigating recent attacks on pro-migrant symbols on the Italian island of Lampedusa.

Headline: [Fear, Language Barriers Hinder Immigrant Contact-Tracing](#)

Source: VOA News

Date: August 19, 2020

Notes: In some areas of the country, contact-tracing is proving difficult due to language barriers, confusion, and fear of the government. For example, in the area with Maryland’s highest number of COVID cases, 56% of adults speak Spanish, but only 60 of more than 1000 contact tracers speak Spanish. Anti-immigrant rhetoric has sown fear in many communities, potentially limiting people’s willingness to answer the phone.

Headline: [COVID-19 Lockdown At Refugee Camp in Jordan Is Tough On Young Syrians](#)

Source: NPR

Date: August 18, 2020

Notes: In this interview, NPR speaks with families and young people in Zaatari camp in Jordan. Young people who previously organized their day around school, sports, and playing with friends feel at a loss due to COVID-19 restrictions. Teens recount their own difficulty adapting to schooling via televised lessons. Few children have access to laptops, so many follow lessons on TV or mobile phones.

Related News: [Dramatic rise in Kenya early pregnancies amid school closures, IRC data suggests](#)

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Compiled by Sarah Guyer

Headline: [War and coronavirus pushes migrants to leave Libya and head to Europe](#)

Source: TRT World

Date: August 20, 2020

Notes: After more than 45 people were killed when a boat carrying migrants attempting to reach Europe capsized off the coast of Libya on August 17, UNHCR and IOM are calling for revisions to the current search and rescue situation in the Mediterranean, which is largely carried out by the Libyan Coast Guard. “European Union countries have been urged not to use the coronavirus pandemic as an excuse to deny migrants a safe place to land.” Boat crossings from Libya/Tunisia to Italy/Malta have increased this year compared to 2019, possibly fueled by an increasingly intense conflict in Libya and COVID-19 restrictions.

Headline: [Europe's largest refugee camp braces for COVID-19 outbreak](#)

Source: Deutsche Welle

Date: August 20, 2020

Notes: “NGOs warn that coronavirus may soon spread at Moria refugee camp on the Greek island of Lesbos, where some 13,000 people live in cramped conditions. Such an outbreak, experts say, would see the island struggle to cope.” The virus is already spreading in Mytilene, the capital of Lesbos, which is just 10km away from Moria. Those familiar with the conditions at Moria say that the sheer number of people in a small space, combined with a lack of handwashing facilities and limited medical care, will make preventing the spread of the virus very difficult, should it arrive in the camp.

Headline: [Conflict and coronavirus spark a hunger crisis in Burkina Faso](#)

Source: The New Humanitarian

Date: August 19, 2020

Notes: In Burkina Faso, ongoing violence coupled with the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in a huge increase in the number of people in need of emergency food aid. It has tripled to more than 3.2 million – some 11,000 of whom are suffering from “catastrophe” levels of hunger. Many of those in need are families that have been displaced from their homes by the conflict, some of whom are being forced to return to the places where they fled in order to access their farms, despite ongoing security challenges in the area. Many people also remain displaced, and are expected to miss another planting season, which will in turn increase the food insecurity in the country.

Headline: [There's no covid-19 in Syria's worst refugee camp. That may be about to change.](#)

Source: Washington Post

Date: August 20, 2020

Notes: This opinion piece highlights the dangers for displaced people residing in the Rubkan camp in Syria, which is cut off from much outside aid by ongoing conflict in the area and a lack of roads to the camp. This isolation had previously protected the camp from possible COVID-19 infection, but a recent policy change has Syrian refugees from Jordan being forcibly repatriated back into this camp, opening the door to COVID-19 exposure in this vulnerable population.

Headline: [LGBTQ+ refugees face unique roadblocks from COVID-19 restrictions](#)

Source: CTV News

Date: August 19, 2020

Notes: As COVID-19 restrictions have slowed or stopped refugee admissions to many countries, LGBTQ+ refugees are facing additional dangers in the host countries where they are awaiting resettlement. Because LGBTQ+ identities are criminalized in some of these host countries, this group of refugees is at risk for being targeted by authorities, and the longer that COVID-19 delays their resettlement, the more risk they face.

Headline: [India's migrant workers returning to cities confront grim reality of coronavirus lockdown](#)

Source: South China Monitoring Post

Date: August 19, 2020

Notes: "India is approaching 3 million coronavirus infections. Accordingly, local and regional governments have been reluctant to allow normal business to resume. It means many workers face a dire choice between life in their villages and hometowns where there are few jobs and eking out an income in bigger cities."

Related: [How coronavirus has brought caste discrimination back for India's migrant workers](#)

Headline: [Project Puts North Texas Refugees to Work Making Masks](#)

Source: NBC News

Date: August 20, 2020

Notes: A church-affiliated nonprofit in Dallas which provides services to refugees has partnered with the Episcopal Diocese to launch a mask-making project that employs refugees to make masks for purchase and to be donated to the South Dallas community, especially in hotspots that have been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Headline: [It's time to fund organizations led by refugees](#)

Source: Amnesty International

Date: August 19, 2020

Notes: This piece, authored by Yasmin Kayali, co-founder and CCO of Basmeh & Zeitooneh, a refugee-led organization in Lebanon, outlines the ways in which refugee-led organizations have been on the front lines of the COVID-19 response, and now the response to the explosion in Lebanon. However, it highlights that "despite having the relationships, knowledge and agility to make a tremendous difference in the lives of refugees around the world, RLOs face massive hurdles when trying to access funding."

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Compiled by Christina Kay

Headline: [Sicily Gives 24-Hour Notice to Migrants, NGOs to Leave or Risk Arrest Over COVID-19](#)

Source: Newsweek

Date: August 23, 2020

Notes: Overnight on Sunday, the governor of Sicily ordered that all migrants must be transferred off the island, blaming concerns about COVID-19 infection. The ordinance states, "In order to protect and guarantee public health and safety, in the absence of suitable reception facilities, it is forbidden to enter, transit and stop in the territory of the Sicilian Region by every migrant who reaches the Sicilian coasts with large and small boats, including those of NGOs."

Headline: [Venezuela says most-used border crossing from Colombia is now open](#)

Source: Reuters

Date: August 21, 2020

Notes: On Friday, Venezuelan authorities closed the Simon Bolivar bridge, the most-used crossing on the border with Colombia. Colombian authorities indicated on Friday that they had been informed that the bridge was closed due to the high number of returning Venezuelans who had recently arrived and were in quarantine. However, later on Friday, Venezuelan's foreign ministry said the bridge was closed only briefly for disinfection. Venezuela has set weekly limits on the number of its citizens allowed to return, creating a backlog of 40,000 waiting to cross the border.

Related News: [Venezuelan Migrants Face Covid-19 Risk in Aruba Detention Centers](#) (Human Rights Watch)

Headline: [New COVID-19 cluster at Singapore's biggest dormitory after it declared to be 'fully cleared' of the disease](#)

Source: Channel News Asia

Date: August 23, 2020

Notes: Over the weekend, Singapore announced a new COVID-19 cluster in its largest dormitory, the Sungei Tengah Lodge, approximately one month after the dormitory was declared cleared of coronavirus. Sungei Tengah Lodge houses about 16,000 workers. The government has issued a stay-home notice to around 4,800 workers as a precautionary measure. Other workers living in the dormitory were either recently recovered or were not close to the contacts of confirmed cases.

Headline: ['Anti-Migrant' Protesters Set Fire, Throw Stones at MSF Clinic in Greece](#)

Source: Newsweek

Date: August 21, 2020

Notes: At the end of last week, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) reported anti-migrant protesters attacked its pediatric clinic outside the Moria refugee camp on Lesbos after violent riots outside a new coronavirus clinic for migrants, asylum seekers, and refugees. Some protesters threw stones into the facility, where providers were treating patients. Staff eventually had to be evacuated by bus. The incident is part of a growing backlash: MSF field coordinator Marco Sandrone said "For some time now, we have been witnessing a rise in aggressive behavior towards asylum seekers and refugees, as well as humanitarian organizations and volunteers who have repeatedly been targeted and harassed for simply trying to provide assistance to vulnerable groups on Lesbos"

Headline: [UN, rights groups accuse Greece of using pandemic to 'step up' migration restrictions](#)

Source: France 24

Date: August 23, 2020

Notes: Following coverage by the New York Times in early August and accusations by NGOs, UNHCR's Greek office issued a statement on Friday that it had received "reports and testimonies about people being left adrift at sea for a long time, often on unseaworthy or overcrowded dinghies, waiting to be rescued." UNHCR also cited reports of turnbacks, saying that the Greek government should "seriously investigate" expulsions of migrants toward Turkey. In the week prior, Greece's Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis denied the allegations.

Headline: [Myanmar locks down Rakhine capital after outbreak of more infectious virus strain](#)

Source: Reuters

Date: August 21, 2020

Notes: The government of Myanmar has locked down the capital of Rakhine state, citing an outbreak of a more infectious strain of the coronavirus. The majority of recent cases have been in the town of Sittwe, which is home to camps of about 100,000 Rohingya. The government had restricted access to internet across much of the region. The virus has already inflamed tensions between the majority Buddhist and minority Rohingya populations: “Rakhine State parliament lawmaker Kyaw Zaw Oo blamed Rohingya for the outbreak in a Facebook post, saying it was ‘almost 100 percent certain’ that they were to blame and urged segregation between the two ethnic groups.”

Headline: [Native son returns home, vows to work for ‘remittance fighters’](#)

Source: Dhaka Tribune

Date: August 22, 2020

Notes: Rayhan Kabir, who had been detained by Malaysian authorities following an interview with Al Jazeera where he discussed the treatment of migrants in the country, returned to his family in Narayanganj, Bangladesh this weekend. Speaking with the Dhaka Tribune, Kabir says: “But the miseries of these expatriate workers often remain unheard of. No one knows their stories. My desire to do something for Bangladeshi expatriates is long overdue. That is the goal of my life now.”

Headline: [If you felt cooped up in lockdown, think of refugees confined indefinitely in camps](#)

Source: The Guardian

Date: August 24, 2020

Notes: Moulid Hujale, a refugee from Somalia who lived in Kenya’s Dadaab refugee camp for many years, writes of the ways in which the coronavirus lockdown has brought back memories of life in Dadaab. She writes, “The lack of freedom of movement has been the most striking thing about the pandemic for me. This is how life is in camps. In Dadaab, you have to apply for a special travel permit to travel to other parts of the country – even for emergency medical reasons. Think about this when you complain about the temporary restrictions.”

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Compiled by Sarah Guyer

Headline: [Why coronavirus is driving more migrants and refugees to try to reach Britain by boat](#)

Source: CBS News

Date: August 24, 2020

Notes: More people have attempted to cross the English Channel by boat to enter the U.K. than recorded in any previous month. UNHCR External Relations Officer Laura Padoan told CBS News that "we're seeing far fewer lorries (trucks) being able to cross through the channel, so people are resorting to using smugglers' dinghies." She also said that it is too early to determine if the overall number of asylum seekers has increased.

Related News: [Far-right groups targeting hotels housing asylum seekers during coronavirus pandemic](#)

Headline: [How One of Mexico's Largest Migrant Camps Has Avoided a COVID-19 Outbreak](#)

Source: Slate

Date: August 25, 2020

Notes: Global Response Management (GRM), a relatively small American NGO that operates a clinic in the migrant camp in Matamoros, has utilized prevention techniques such as self-isolation, testing, and contact tracing to limit COVID-19 spread in the camp. So far, approximately 50 people in the camp have tested positive and one has required hospitalization.

Headline: [Canada is granting residency to some asylum-seekers working in pandemic health care](#)

Source: PRI

Date: August 25, 2020

Notes: "Earlier this month, Canada's immigration minister Marco Mendicino announced that the country will grant permanent residency to some asylum-seekers who have been working in institutions hit hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic: hospitals and long-term care homes."

Headline: [Three years since the Rohingya crisis, the coronavirus is robbing refugees of hope for a brighter future](#)

Source: The Independent

Date: August 25, 2020

Notes: "Life for older refugees was challenging before the coronavirus pandemic, having had to flee their home in later life. Many are now having to cope with congested environments with insufficient water and sanitation facilities, alongside personal health conditions that are often associated with older age, such as poor mobility, failing eyesight, hearing loss or even cognitive decline. Now, they are faced with a steady increase in confirmed Covid-19 cases and fatalities in the camps and host community, with the fear of it continuing to spread in cramped conditions."

Headline: [Homeless at home: Inside Mexico's neglected displacement crisis](#)

Source: The New Humanitarian

Date: August 25, 2020

Notes: "Since the United States severely restricted immigration in March, Mexico has seen an uptick in asylum claims from people fleeing gang violence in Central America, but a far greater number of its own citizens have been forced from their homes by similar brutality and are flying under the humanitarian radar. The UN's refugee agency, UNHCR, has registered nearly 50,000 refugees in Mexico, but this is only a fraction of the 345,000 Mexicans internally displaced by conflict, according to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre."

Headline: [Are EU countries using COVID-19 to clamp down on refugees?](#)

Source: Al Jazeera

Date: August 24, 2020

Notes: Video – Rights groups report that the coronavirus pandemic has provided Italy and Greece an excuse to deny entry to asylum seekers. "Citing the spread of COVID-19, the president of the Italian island of Sicily has banned new arrivals, and ordered all refugee centres to close by midnight on Monday."

Greece's government, meanwhile, has rejected accusations of secretly expelling nearly 1,100 migrants on leaky life rafts since March.”

Headline: [New IRC report: More than 300,000 Rohingya refugee children need Internet access for remote learning during COVID-19 pandemic](#)

Source: IRC

Date: August 24, 2020

Notes: The informal schools managed by humanitarian agencies in the Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh shut down in March due to the COVID-19 pandemic. While in other parts of Bangladesh remote learning is available, a government directive from 2019 bans internet access in the camp.

Full Report: [No Time to Lose: An Urgent Call for Access to Quality Education for Rohingya Children in Cox's Bazar](#)

Headline: [Maldives: Covid-19 Exposes Abuse of Migrants](#)

Source: Human Rights Watch

Date: August 25, 2020

Notes: “Migrant workers in the Maldives face a range of entrenched abuses from employers, including deceptive recruitment practices, wage theft, passport confiscation, unsafe living and working conditions, and excessive work demands, which indicate forced labor and violate domestic and international standards. The spread of Covid-19 and the lockdown to contain it has exacerbated these conditions, as workers face job loss, unpaid leave, reduced salaries, and forced work without pay.”

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Compiled by Katherine McCann

Headline: [Refugees at risk of hunger and malnutrition, as relief hit in Eastern Africa](#)

Source: UN News

Date: August 26, 2020

Notes: “UN World Food Programme (WFP) has been forced to reduce its food and cash assistance for refugees in Eastern Africa by up to 30 per cent, the agency has said, voicing fears that the reductions could worsen in the coming months unless urgent additional funding is received in time.”

Headline: [COVID-19 driving Nicaraguan refugees to hunger and desperation](#)

Source: UNHCR USA

Date: August 28, 2020

Notes: “More than three quarters of Nicaraguan refugees and asylum seekers in Costa Rica are going hungry, eating only once or twice a day as a result of the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. UNHCR is concerned that this could drive returns in adverse conditions. Refugee hosting communities are facing similar conditions.”

Headline: [In the shadow of a pandemic, Rohingya challenge our ideas about refugees](#)

Source: CNN News

Date: August 27, 2020

Notes: This opinion piece discusses the active roles that Rohingya refugees have taken in the leadership and daily implementation of activities in the Cox’s Bazaar refugee camps in Bangladesh before COVID-19 and the increase in the share of work that has been shouldered by Rohingya refugees in the wake of COVID-19 after the decrease in international workers in the camp.

Headline: [Europe’s migrant crisis is worsening during the pandemic. The reaction has been brutal](#)

Source: CNN News

Date: August 28, 2020

Notes: “Coronavirus has left countries such as Tunisia facing serious economic hardship and unemployment, while others, including Libya, are dealing with the effects of war, which has led to an increase in sea arrivals this year in European countries. But European responses, such as pushbacks at borders in countries such as Greece, an absence of sea rescues in the Mediterranean and unhealthy quarantine arrangements have created huge challenges. And it comes at a time when movement is harder and more dangerous thanks to travel restrictions and the closure of transport routes and processing centers.”

Headline: [Migrant workers face a crisis in a crisis during coronavirus pandemic](#)

Source: CGTN

Date: August 27, 2020

Notes: “The “World Migration Report 2020” published on Tuesday estimates that there were around 272 million international migrants in the world in 2019, among which nearly two-thirds are labor migrants. The launch seminar of the report focused on the dynamics between the pandemic and migration as COVID-19 has immobilized the world, leaving tens of millions of migrants facing unemployment and even deportation.”

Headline: [Health experts’ letter slams proposal that can bar asylum-seekers](#)

Source: Georgia Health News

Date: August 24, 2020

Notes: “Dozens of health experts in Georgia have signed a letter to federal officials protesting a Trump administration proposal that would place a new obstacle for some people seeking asylum in the United

States. The rule aims to bar entry to some individuals based on the threat of spreading diseases. If adopted, it would add to the administration's effort to tighten border control policies."

Headline: [How to build refugee self-reliance during COVID-19](#)

Source: World Economic Forum

Date: August 27, 2020

Notes: "The pandemic has underlined the urgency of enabling refugees to use their skills to support themselves. New coalitions and a tool for measuring the efficacy of self-reliance programmes for refugees will help to encourage this process. The private sector also has a huge role to play."

Headline: [I gave birth during coronavirus as an asylum seeker](#)

Source: Open Democracy

Date: August 26, 2020

Notes: "The doctors were good to me but my circumstances caused problems during the birth and beyond. I came to the UK for safety but I feel far from safe." This op-ed by an asylum seeker from Syria details the hardships faced by one family in the UK during the COVID-19 pandemic, ending with the premature birth of their baby. This is part of a series by Open Democracy that is "lifting up the voices of those whose lives are being disproportionately affected by the coronavirus crisis."

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Compiled by Christina Kay

Headline: [India's migrant workers would 'rather starve' than face humiliation of return to cities after coronavirus lockdown](#)

Source: ABC News Australia

Date: August 30, 2020

Notes: Correspondents document the story of Rampukar Pandit, whose photograph has become a symbol of India's migrant crisis. "Rampukar is left with the long-term scars of India's nationwide lockdown and is battling a system that is seen to have betrayed one of its most valuable resources," economic migrants.

Headline: [As Coronavirus Reappears in Italy, Migrants Become a Target for Politicians](#)

Source: NY Times

Date: August 28, 2020

Notes: "In Pozzallo, a town in southern Sicily that has the highest rate of infection among newly arrived migrants, Roberto Ammatuna, the center-left mayor, has found himself trying to balance fears of a coronavirus influx with an obligation to rescue migrants in distress at sea."

Headline: [UNHCR: COVID-19 Thrusting Nicaraguan Refugees into Hunger, Despair](#)

Source: Voice of America

Date: August 30, 2020

Notes: "This situation has changed dramatically for the worse because of lockdowns and other restrictions imposed to curb the impact of COVID-19. The UNHCR reports more than three-quarters of Nicaragua's refugee population is going hungry as a direct consequence of these measures."

Headline: [Covid-19 Forces 100,000 Venezuelan Migrants Back to Broken Country](#)

Source: Wall Street Journal

Date: August 30, 2020

Notes: "The Torrelles family are among the five million Venezuelans who have since 2014 fled their country, escaping hunger, crime, unemployment and an authoritarian regime. More than 100,000 of these migrants have opted to return to Venezuela since March when coronavirus lockdowns shattered the lives they were rebuilding in Colombia, Peru and other Latin American countries."

Headline: [Locked out by COVID, refugees' lives on hold](#)

Source: Reuters

Date: August 31, 2020

Notes: Author Edward McAllister documents some of the struggles refugees are facing in the process of seeking safety and asylum away from their homes, while countries close borders and lockdown due to COVID-19. "After submitting to a review process that can take years, and winning a chance to make new lives in countries such as the United States and Canada, thousands [of refugees] suddenly learned - often by phone - their flights would no longer take off."

Headline: [At least 27,700 migrant Ethiopians return home since April amid COVID-19 pandemic](#)

Source: CGTN Africa

Date: August 30, 2020

Notes: "More than 27,700 Ethiopian migrants have been repatriated home since April this year. In its latest COVID-19 response update for Ethiopia on Saturday, the UN Migration agency said that Between April 1 and August 27, Ethiopia received over 27,700 returnees. The returnees include 6,944 from Djibouti, 6,696 from Somalia, and 5,329 from Sudan."

Headline: [With immigration proceedings indefinitely delayed by COVID-19, some migrants drown attempting to cross the Rio Grande](#)

Source: KRGV News

Date: August 29, 2020

Notes: “With immigration proceedings indefinitely postponed by the coronavirus pandemic, some migrants are attempting to cross the Rio Grande illegally — and drowning.” A member of Team Brownsville, a volunteer organization assisting migrants in Matamoros, reported that she has heard of four drownings near the migrant camp in Matamoros.

Headline: [Tens of Thousands Converge on Berlin to Denounce Coronavirus Restrictions](#)

Source: Wall Street Journal

Date: August 29, 2020

Notes: “Tens of thousands of protesters occupied the center of the German capital for the second time in a month on Saturday, denouncing pandemic restrictions in defiance of governments that are battling a resurgence of infections.”

Headline: [Millions of Eastern African refugees risk starvation, WFP](#)

Source: Info Migrants

Date: August 31, 2020

Notes: “Serious hunger and malnutrition loom for millions of refugees across Eastern Africa who depend on assistance from the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) to survive, the organization said. The COVID-19 pandemic has reduced vital funding from donors in the region.”

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Compiled by Sabeen Rokerya