Library Highlights : March 2004

A la recherche de la Bosnie-Herzégovine. La mise en oeuvre de l'accord de paix de Dayton / Ducasse-Rogier, M. - Paris : Presses Universitaires de France, 2003. - xv, 543 p. : maps, tabl., ill., bibl.
Publication de l'Institut universitaire de hautes études internationales de Genève
ISBN : 2-13053-287X

INDEX TERMS : refugees; internally displaced persons; armed conflict; ethnic cleansing; genocide; human rights; conflict resolution; peace building; reconstruction; elections; return migration; history; European Union; UN; NATO; UNHCR; NATO; OSCE
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Bosnia and Herzegovina; Yugoslavia

Cet ouvrage analyse en profondeur et dans sa globalité la gigantesque entreprise de reconstruction de la Bosnie-Herzégovine qu'a constitué l'accord de paix de Dayton signé en novembre 1995. Cette étude pluridisciplinaire aborde tous les aspects de l'opération originale de consolidation de la paix entreprise à cette occasion. Elle traite en particulier des questions de sécurité (extérieure et intérieure) et, sur le plan civil, de la démocratisation, des élections, du retour des réfugiés, de la réforme de la justice et des médias ou encore de la lutte contre la corruption. (Adapté du résumé de l'éditeur)

Black garden: Armenia and Azerbaijan through peace and war / De Waal, T. - New York (NY); London : New York University Press, 2003. - xiii, 337 p. : maps, photos, bibl., index
ISBN : 0-8147-1944-9

INDEX TERMS : ethnic and national groups; refugees; armed conflict; ethnic conflict; exodus; genocide; violence; deportation; refugee camps; weapons; resistance movements; ceasefire; elections; natural disasters; government; armed forces; UN; OSCE
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Armenia; Azerbaijan

Amongst all the violent conflicts that erupted after the disintegration of the Soviet empire, the Azerbaijan-Armenian dispute over Nagorno-Karabakh has been the most complicated and intractable. Between 1991 and 1994, it became the first interstate war in the former USSR that contributed to twenty thousand deaths and one of the largest refugee flows in modern times. In this book the author combines history with on-the-ground details, personal lives with national politics to reveal, why, this conflict that started quite insignificantly spiraled out of control so quickly. It traces how the conflict lay unresolved in the Soviet era; how Azerbaijani and Armenian leaders exacerbated it; how the Politburo failed to cope with the crisis; how the war began and ended; and how the international community failed to sort out the problem. The book contains two appendixes. The first presents attempts to correct false statistics used by the propaganda machine on both sides to the conflict. The second is a chronological account of events that marked this region from 1214 to 2001.

Buddha is hiding: refugees, citizenship, the new America / Ong, A. - London : University of California Press, 2003. - 333 p. : ill., index, annexes. - (California series in public anthropology ; no. 5)
ISBN : 0-520-22998-3

INDEX TERMS : Cambodians; refugees; immigrants; nationality; receiving country; social conditions; ethnic identity; civil and political rights; exclusion; discrimination; history; gender role; family; medical services; UNHCR; belief systems; refugee/local community relations; refugee impact; integration

GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : United States

In this book the author examines the technologies of government - policies, programmes, codes and practices that attempt to instill in citizen-subjects particular values. The author follows Cambodian refugees in their transition through different modalities of government from the Buddhist absolutism of modern Cambodia, the policing state of Khmer rouge, the mediating world of refugee camps and the advanced liberal democracy of the United States. Each context calls for a different modality of what it is to be human and how life is valued and classified in relation to political calculations about labour, ethics and economy. This is evident in the story of Cambodian Americans, the most invisible racial group in the American consciousness, and their experience of American citizenship. Based on extensive fieldwork in California amongst Cambodian Americans, the author describes that after the experience with the Pol Pot regime, flight from Cambodia and learning to live in America, most have been obliged to break off from Khmer-Buddhist values to become new citizen-subjects through a process of being made by the system and self-making. They do this by balancing religious identity and entrepreneurial values and absorbing and deflecting conflicting lessons about welfare, work, medicine, gender, parenting and mass culture. While their encounters with immigration authorities and employers exhort them to be self-reliant, individualistic and free, the American system and culture constrain them within terms of ethnicity, race and class. For these refugees dealing with this tension is a central dynamic in the ethical project of becoming citizens.

From civil strife to civil society: civil and military responsibilities in disrupted states / Maley, W. (ed.); Sampford, C. (ed.); Thakur, R. (ed.). - New York (NY) : United Nations University Press, 2003. - 369 p. : bibl., index
ISBN : 92-808-1070-7

INDEX TERMS : combatants; refugees; UN; NGOs; NATO; humanitarian assistance; reconstruction; armed forces; human rights; international community; peace efforts; peacekeeping forces; democracy; preventive diplomacy; armed intervention; international armed conflict; sovereignty; judicial systems; security; disarmament; demobilization; case studies; international cooperation; civil war
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Somalia; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Yugoslavia; East Timor; Africa

This book highlights the problems and responsibilities of humanitarian intervention and political and civil reconstruction of failed states by the UN, the militaries of key member states and NGOs. In Somalia, Bosnia, Kosovo and East Timor the challenges have been complex and daunting as civil and military organs of the international community seek a common language to achieve patterns of interaction that ensure optimal benefits to disrupted societies. The contributors to this volume recognize the sensitive nature of these challenges and identify steps to smoothen the socio-political transition from civil strife to civil society. In the first part of the book they rigorously examine the dimensions of state disruption and the ways in which international community can effectively respond. They study military doctrine for dealing with disorder and humanitarian emergencies. The contributors examine mechanisms for ending violence and delivering justice and investigate ways to rebuild trust and promote democracy and the rule of law in post-conflict reconstruction and for the reestablishment of civil and social order.

Guerres sans frontières en République démocratique du Congo / Lanotte, O. - Bruxelles : Groupe de recherche et d'information sur la paix et la sécurité (GRIP); Complexe, 2003. - 264 p. : maps, bibl. - (Les livres du GRIP ; no. 266-268)
ISBN : 2-87027-835-7

INDEX TERMS : ethnic and national groups; armed conflict; guerilla warfare; national liberation movements; political change; genocide; massacres; sexual violence; war crimes; crimes against humanity; impunity; landmines; international relations; democracy; government; UN; European Union
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Democratic Republic of the Congo

Depuis août 1998, le Congo déplore déjà trois millions et demi de victimes. Aux Etats-Unis, l'Afrique a presque complètement disparu des écrans radar. La France est devenue prudente suite à sa "mésaventure"

rwandaise tandis que les Nations Unies se voient confinées dans un rôle d'acteur périphérique de la crise. Qualifié de "première grande guerre africaine" impliquant au moins sept pays du continent, des mouvements armés et des groupes rebelles, sans oublier les multiples acteurs privés, le conflit des Grands Lacs a pris des allures d'apocalypse: pillages, crimes de guerre, violences sexuelles, enfants-soldats, criminalisation de la société, etc. Cet ouvrage décrit avec précision et sobriété cette guerre sans front ni frontières. Une première partie est consacrée aux grandes étapes: des prémices du premier conflit menant à l'éviction de Mobutu jusqu'au second qui secoue le Congo des Kabila. Dans un deuxième volet, l'auteur examine le profil des divers acteurs qui se croisent, s'allient ou s'affrontent au gré des enjeux successifs. (Adapté du résumé de l'éditeur)

Human security now / Commission on Human Security. - New York (NY) : Commission on Human Security, 2003. - vii, 159 p. : tabl., ill., bibl.
With a foreword by Sadako Ogata
ISBN : 0-9741108-0-9

INDEX TERMS : protection; armed conflict; reconstruction; reconciliation; education; human rights; sovereignty; UN; UNHCR; WHO; state; development; poverty; economic change; AIDS; victims of conflict; international security

Globalization and political liberalization have brought into play new dynamics and generated new instabilities that demand a more targeted and integrated response to human security from the international community. An independent Commission for Human Security was set up in 2000 to define human security. Human security was defined as the protection of the vital core of all human lives in ways that enhance human freedom and human fulfillment. Human security joined the main agenda items of peace, security and development. This report delves into the implication of a human security approach for current work in conflict and development. It covers distinct but inter-related areas concerned with conflict and poverty, protecting people during violent conflict and in post-conflict situations, defending those forced to move, overcoming economic insecurities, guaranteeing the availability and affordability of essential health care and ensuring the elimination of illiteracy and educational deprivation. The hope is that these short and long term initiatives will enhance the opportunities for eliminating insecurities across the world.

Immigrant and refugee children and their families: clinical, research and training issues / Cramer Azima, F. J. (ed.); Grizenko, N. (ed.). - Madison [CT] : International Universities Press, 2002. - 238 p. : tab., bibl., index
ISBN : 0-8236-2535-4

INDEX TERMS : immigrants; child refugees; mental health; psychological problems; armed conflict; psychiatry; post-traumatic stress disorders; adolescents; cultural identity; case studies; statistical data; family; children; psychotherapy
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : United States; Canada; Europe

The contributors to this book provide a clinical insight into the mental and health problems faced by refugee children in their adopted countries particularly at the time of immigration. Clinicians, actively engaged in treatment, prevention and training in child psychiatry, study groups of refugees in Canada, USA and Europe, from a multicultural perspective. They investigate adolescent immigration populations on health-related factors and their adaptation to their present developmental stage and evaluate their vision of the future. Case studies are presented on the effects of trauma on these groups and an appeal is made for greater sensitivity from clinicians dealing with disturbed immigrant children. The volume also includes detailed training models applicable for preparing psychiatrists and psychologists to increase awareness of the dynamics of culture, ethnicity and identity when working with immigrant and refugee children and their families.

Le développement: une arme de paix / Nkundabagenzi, F.; Santopinto, F. - Bruxelles : Groupe de recherche et d'information sur la paix et la sécurité (GRIP); Complexe, 2003. - 149 p. : tabl., ill. - (Les livres du GRIP ; no. 264-265)
ISBN : 2-87027-933-7

INDEX TERMS : development; preventive diplomacy; international security; peace; economics; politics; human rights; democracy; natural ressources; weapons; disarmament; humanitarian assistance; reconstruction; European Union; NGOs; international cooperation
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Africa; Macedonia

L'objectif de cette étude est d'analyser la politique de coopération au développement de l'Union européenne (UE) lorsqu'elle s'adresse à un pays instable ou en conflit. Le postulat de base est simple: si l'UE est souvent absente de la scène diplomatique internationale, elle est au contraire omniprésente sur le plan économique. Or, il est établi que les problèmes économiques, de sous-développement et de redistribution des richesses peuvent nuire gravement à la stabilité politique, surtout dans les régions les moins avancées de la planète. Mais si les conflits sont liés aux problématiques de développement, il en découle qu'une politique de prévention des conflits se rattache aux stratégies de coopération au développement. Le présent ouvrage, partant d'un tel constat, tente d'examiner les efforts déployés par le principal acteur de la coopération internationale dans ce domaine. L'Union européenne n'est pas seulement un donateur important d'aide publique internationale. Elle peut également être considérée comme un des partenaires économiques les plus influents auprès des pays pauvres. A travers ses programmes de coopération au développement et grâce à son importante politique commerciale, elle est en relation avec toutes les régions du globe. Parmi celles-ci, l'Afrique subsaharienne, pour des raisons historiques notamment, se présente comme un interlocuteur privilégié. Dès lors, la relation étroite que l'Union européenne entretient avec les Etats ACP (Afrique, Caraïbes et Pacifique) représente dans cet ouvrage un exemple édifiant du rôle de la coopération européenne en matière de prévention des conflits (résumé adapté de l'introduction)

The middle of everywhere : the world's refugees come to our town / Pipher, M. - New York (NY); San Diego (CA); London : Harcourt, 2002. - xxv, 390 p. : bibl., annexes, index
ISBN : 0-15-100600-8

INDEX TERMS : refugees; cultural identity; cultural integration; case studies; refugee experiences; education; psycho-social problems; post-traumatic stress disorder; culture shock; testimonies; refugee impact
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : United States

Drawing from anthropology, sociology and psychology, in her study of new waves of war-scarred immigrants to the US, the author profiles refugees from Russia, Croatia, Yemen, Hungary, Somalia, Ethiopia, Sierra Leone, and offers an insight into the complexity of American life. She emphasizes the resilience of these refugees whose testimonies of death, torture, privation and persecution that they fled vary only in detail and, how, once in America, the compulsions of adapting to their adopted environment become imperative. The author emphasizes the effects of globalization, and how it affects people's relationships, their sense of place and their identities. She examines the impact of the dispersal of refugees as they fan out from the coasts and inhabit the American heartland, changing the culture. As the author outlines the basics needed by refugees to adjust to life in a vastly more complex nation, she also realizes how Americans need to adjust as refugees change the definition of what it means to be American. The author is a harsh critic of the Immigration and Naturalization Service and an advocate of 'cultural brokers'.

New challenges for migration policy in Central and Eastern Europe / Laczko, F. (ed.); Stacher, I. (ed.); Klekowski von Koppenfels, A. (ed.). - Geneva : International Organization for Migration ; Vienna : International Centre for Migration Policy Development ; The Hague (The Netherlands) : T.M.C. Asser Press, 2002. - xvii, 257 p. : maps, graph., tabl., bibl.
ISBN : 90-6704-153-X

INDEX TERMS : immigrants; asylum seekers; European Union; migration policy; immigration policy; asylum policy; labour law; human trafficking; transit; statistical data; illegal immigration; migrant workers; undocumented migrants; aliens
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Eastern Europe

As Central and Eastern European countries rapidly become countries of transit and immigration they come under greater pressure from the European Union to align their migration and asylum policies with EU practice and expectations. This book considers how EU enlargement eastwards is likely to affect international migration in Europe and discusses ways of combating irregular migration and maintaining adequate border controls. Its review of current and expected migration trends in Central and Eastern Europe, include trends in labour migration prompted by skill shortages in certain employment sectors, transit migration, trafficking and migrant smuggling. The book concludes that although all the CEE countries have in place the legislative dimension of migration it questions the progress made to meet the migration acquis requirements of EU membership. To have a successful migration policy it is important to consider the desirability of replacement migration to correct demographic problems, the employment gaps that may need to be covered with CEEC employees moving and the impact of increased migration on CEE labour markets and societies.

Post-conflict justice / Bassiouni, C. (ed.). - Ardsley (NY) : Transnational, 2002. - xx, 1041 p. : ill., tabl., index. - (International and comparative criminal law series)
ISBN : 1-57105-153-8

INDEX TERMS : victims; civilian population; armed conflict; human rights violations; international humanitarian law; peace efforts; reconciliation; impunity; war crimes; crimes against humanity; international criminal tribunals; prosecution; punishment; apartheid; international cooperation; Commission on Human Rights; UN; NATO; right to justice; case studies
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Yugoslavia; Federation of Russia; Austria; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Rwanda; Sierra Leone; Ethiopia; South Africa; Somalia; East Timor; Cambodia; Haiti; El Salvador; Guatemala

Post-conflict justice refers to retributive and restorative justice that paves the way to future peace and reconciliation and it also refers to restoring and enhancing justice systems that failed as a result of internal conflict. While retributive and restorative justice has received some attention from the international community, the outcry for accountability as the foundation for rebuilding weakened national justice systems has been weak. The world community only very recently reached a consensus about international criminal justice that required post-conflict justice accountability for the perpetrators of international crimes. This volume of essays discusses the values, goals and modalities of accountability. It reviews the various models of accountability mechanisms tried by the international community and raises questions whether an international judicial model serves the best interests of post-conflict justice by addressing both past and future justice-related issues. UN's peacekeeping role and the tensions between the goals and strategies of military peacekeeping operations and civilian post-conflict justice have advanced UN's efforts to develop different models of post-conflict justice to suit different situations. The various contributors to this volume believe that the pursuit of international criminal justice requires the cooperation of international and legal systems, particularly jurisdictional mechanisms.

Refugees and the state: practices of asylum and care in India, 1947-2000 / Samaddar, R. (ed.). - New Delhi; Thousand Oaks (CA); London : Sage, 2003. - 499 p. : tabl., bibl., index
ISBN : 0-7619-9729-6

INDEX TERMS : refugees; civilian population; returnees; women; children; Burmese; Tibetans; Indians; Pakistanis; Bangladeshis; Tamils; Sri Lankans; asylum; protection; history; international instruments; non-refoulement principle; humanitarian assistance; receiving country; state; government; UNHCR
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : India; Pakistan

Since it attained Independence in 1947, India has played host to numerous communities fleeing persecution and violence. The partition of the subcontinent in 1947 saw one of the largest forced dislocation of people witnessed till then, and created refugees numbering in the millions. India has hosted and protected diverse refugee communities including those from Tibet, Burma (now Myanmar), Sri Lanka, Afghanistan and Bangladesh (erstwhile East Pakistan). This volume analyses India reasonably good record of providing protection and hospitality to refugees, while pointing out the contradictions in the relation between these positive aspects and the manner in which state power has been exercised in post-colonial India. In examining the varied encounters between the state and refugees, the contributors demonstrate that India's story of providing care is simultaneously one of limiting care. It reveals the power of the state to decide whom to extend hospitality to and whom to deny it to. Providing protection and humanitarian assistance to those seeking refuge should not be a question of dispensing kindness. What is required in place of a regime of charity is a regime of rights. (Adapted from the publisher's abstract).

The Refugees Convention 50 years on : globalization and international law / Kneebone, S. (ed.). - Aldershot (United Kingdom); Burlington (VT) : Ashgate, 2003. - xv, 338 p. : index
ISBN : 0-7546-2270-3

INDEX TERMS : refugees; asylum seekers; illegal immigrants; aliens; democracy; human rights; refugee definitions; CSR51; asylum policy; refugee status determination procedures; international refugee law; irregular immigration; durable solutions; right to liberty and security; civil and political rights; safe third country; UNHCR; international protection
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Australia; Canada

The contributors to this collection of essays critically examine the Refugee Convention fifty years after its inception and question whether it provides an adequate framework for protection. These internationally recognized refugee scholars and practitioners identify gaps and dilemmas in the international protection system in the context of globalization and universally recognized global rights. The ever-increasing pressure of asylum seekers and irregular migrants has fueled the debate between human rights and security. The authors reaffirm the essential relevance of the Rule of Law as the basis of treatment towards foreigners and challenge refugee and human rights standards that are selectively applied to immigrants. This discussion makes up the first of the two sub-themes of the book. The second cluster of chapters assess the ability and effectiveness of the Convention as an instrument of human rights protection and international law, its application against human rights standards and its ability to respond to human rights abuses. The authors discuss the role of UNHCR, the role of NGOs as effective instruments of change, nationality and citizenship issues and consider alternative approaches top resolve the global refugee problem.

Safety first: a field security handbook for NGO staff / Bickley, S. - London : Save the Children, 2003. - 146 p. : tabl., photos, ill., bibl., index
Revised version of a previous version published in 1998.
ISBN : 1-84187-065-X

INDEX TERMS : travel; communication technology; landmines; abduction; evacuation; media; NGOs; safety of humanitarian personnel; health; behaviour; manuals
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : world

The environment within which humanitarian agencies function has changed dramatically in the last decade. Adherence to fundamental principles of independence and neutrality are no longer a guarantor of safe access to victims of conflict. National and international staff are frequently subjected to intimidation and violence aimed at manipulating their work to suit agendas of various parties. In the context of ever increasing risks faced by aid agencies and those providing humanitarian assistance, this field guide sets out basic security principles and provides practical guidance and reference material for the aid worker on a range of security issues. Subjects covered include personal security awareness, health, site security, travel, telecommunications, security threats, staff evacuation, incident reporting and analysis and working with the media.

The security council and the protection of human rights / Ramcharan, B.G. - The Hague (Netherlands) : Martinus Nijhoff, 2002. - x, 378 p. : bibl., index. - (International Studies in Human Rights ; vol. 75)
ISBN : 90-411-1878-0

INDEX TERMS : civilian population; human rights violations; protection; armed conflict; international security; international cooperation; international humanitarian law; development; terrorism; disarmament; demobilization; weapons; AIDS; Security Council; Red Cross; OAU; peace efforts
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Africa

This book emphasizes the centrality of human rights in the concepts of human security and in policies and strategies of realizing human security. Within this nexus of human rights and human security and the linkage between gross patterns of violations of human rights and the maintenance of peace, the role of the Security Council is becoming increasingly important. This book reviews the role of the Security Council over the last 50 years in dealing with the human rights imperatives and traces the influence of human rights in the areas of humanitarian intercession, conflict prevention, peace making, peace keeping and peace building. It also looks at the work of the Security Council in integrating a human rights dimension in combating terrorism and in its quest for justice in the face of gross violations of human rights. The book contains a very extensive annex listing and detailing resolutions and Presidential statements of the Security Council on human rights related issues.

Survey of Palestinian refugees and internally displaced persons 2002 / Boqae'e, N. (ed.); Rempel, T. (ed.). - Bethlehem (Palestine) : Badil Ressource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights, 2003. - 200 p. : photos, maps, ill., tabl. - (Survey of Palestinian refugees and internally displaced persons, ISSN 1728-1679)
Also available in Arabic

INDEX TERMS : Palestinians; refugees; internally displaced persons; history; mass exodus; refugee camps; human rights violations; self-determination; demography; international instruments; economics; housing; education; health; protection; international assistance; international law; negotiation; durable solutions; return; General Assembly resolutions; UN; UNHCR; UNRWA; Red Cross
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Palestine

This survey endeavors to address gaps in information about Palestinian refugees and internally displaced persons and searches for creative ways to engage international actors and the Isreali public in a substantive debate about a durable solution for Palestinian refugees as part of a comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East. It provides basic information about the Palestinian displacement - the circumstances of displacement and the size, characteristics and legal status of those displaced. The survey aims to clarify the framework governing protection and assistance for this displaced population and sets out basic principles for durable solutions consistent with international law and relevant UN resolutions. The survey contains five annexes detailing selected UN resolutions, selected UN resolutions by subject matter, UNRWA funding from 1950-2000, selected refugee statements and the Palestine Taba Proposal.

Theorizing diaspora: a reader / Evans Braziel, J. (ed.); Mannur, A. (ed.). - Oxford (United Kingdom) : Blackwell, 2003. - 345 p. : index, bibl. - (Keywords in cultural studies; No. 6)
ISBN : 0-631-23391-1

INDEX TERMS : Chinese; intellectuals; Jews; refugees; gender groups; immigration; emigration; history; population; state; economics; ethnic identity; cultural identity; telematic media; case studies; migrants; displaced persons
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : World; South Asia; United Kingdom

This book of essays, scholars and academics mediate between different theorizations of diaspora for a better understanding of the importance of diasporas within contemporary discussions of migration and identity. By mapping the trajectory of diaspora studies since the early 1990s, it puts this human phenomenon, involving the displacement, movement and separation of people, within a historical perspective, hence linking its past politics with its potential future. Anthropologists, literary theorists and cultural critics present divergent strains of multiple diasporas - Jewish, Black African, Chinese, South Asian and Caribbean, and study them within their ideological, cultural, national, transnational and post-national perspective. The book is organized into four thematic sections. Part 1 probes the economic, political and cultural relations of diaspora and globalization as a phenomenon defining modernity; Part 2 includes essays exploring the subjective terrains of diaspora and migration and examines diaspora in relation to social construction of ethnicity; in Part 3 the contributors suggest ways in which gender and sexuality inflect diaspora formations; in Part 4 the essays discuss the cultural aspects of diaspora and diasporic communities in film, literature and identity politics. The editors conclude the book with a postscript that examines the role of cyberscapes in shaping future diasporic paths.

Voices from the camps : Vietnamese children seeking asylum / Freeman, J.M.; Nguyen, D.H. - Seattle (WA); London : University of Washington Press, 2003. - xix, 235 p. : map, bibl., photos, index
ISBN : 0-295-98313-2

INDEX TERMS : child refugees; asylum seekers; returnees; unaccompanied minors; Vietnamese; refugee camps; anthropology; living conditions; refugee experiences; interviews; testimonies; country of first asylum; UNHCR; international community; psycho-social problems
GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS : Viet Nam

The mass exodus of political and economic refugees from Vietnam in the late 1970s overwhelmed the resources available to the international community to receive them. This book talks about the traumatic experiences of refugee children incarcerated in first asylum camps in squalid conditions and eventually resettled in the US or repatriated to Vietnam. Combining anthropology and social work with advocacy for unaccompanied children the authors present the voices and experiences of Vietnamese refugee children neglected or abused by aid organizations. They interviewed over 200 children in camps in the US and in Vietnam with the aim of discovering gaps in their treatment and protection. Authorities in countries of first asylum and the international community led by UNHCR, instead of screening demands on a case by case basis, forced children back to Vietnam as soon as Vietnam reversed its policy of readmitting emigrants. Though many of these children were eventually able to reconstruct their lives, their stories reveal that they continue to be scared by their refugee experience. Their experience underlines the urgency of humane, practical and cost-effective approaches for the protection and care of children at risk.