Article 14

(1) Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution.

(2) This right may not be invoked in the case of prosecutions genuinely arising from non-political crimes or from acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

(1) Toda persona tiene derecho a buscar y disfrutar de asilo en otros países.

(2) Este derecho no puede invocarse en el caso de los enjuiciamientos que realmente surjan de delitos no políticos o de actos contrarios a los propósitos y principios de las Naciones Unidas.
**Legal aid and client advocacy**

**Asistencia legal y defensa del cliente**

**Central American Legal Assistance (CALA)**

CALA provides free or low-cost legal services to New York’s immigrant community. Their mission is to protect and defend Central and South American asylum-seekers and to expand the civil rights of all immigrants.

**CUNY CLEAR - Creating Law Enforcement Accountability & Responsibility**

Created in 2015 to combat police misconduct, CLEAR is staffed by law students in their final year of legal studies, under the supervision of attorneys and faculty members. CLEAR’s community-oriented approach connects direct legal representation with other services aiming to address the fuller range of community concerns.

**Immigrant Defense Project**

IDP helps immigrants remain in the US through legal support. They work in partnership with low-income Illinois, pre-litigation firms, and nonprofit organizations. Their work policy is grounded in the belief that all people, including those with convictions, deserve equal rights. They also conduct trainings for advocates and community members, including trainings on the workings of the deportation system and recent trends in immigration enforcement.

**Immigration Equality**

Immigration Equality is the nation’s leading LGBTQ immigrant rights organization. We represent and advocate for people from around the world facing violence, abuse, and persecution because of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or HIV status. Our legal team has won asylum for more than 1,000 LGBTQ and HIV-positive immigrants while maintaining a 99% success rate. Immigration Equality represents more than 600 asylum seekers and HIV-positive immigrants from more than 50 countries and at least 40 other organizations and social service providers in their cases. Our team works with members of the government to push forward policy solutions; and if the government does not do what is right, we sue the government to fix what is broken.

**Platenon in Disaster Displacement**

Platenon in Disaster Displacement reduces and protects the transition of displaced persons, and to promote cooperation at the national, regional and international levels and among stakeholders dealing in humanitarian assistance and international protection, human rights, migration risk reduction, climate change mitigation.

**Safe Passage Project**

Safe Passage is currently providing free legal representation to nearly 800 immigrant and refugee children living in New York. The assault on immigrant minors’ fundamental rights and protections by this current administration demonstrates the need for strong rules and policy of protection, oversight by federal authorities, and the need for more legal representation for those seeking safety. In collaboration with the New York City Department of Education and the Office of the New York City Special Advocate, and the New York Immigration Coalition, Safe Passage is currently providing free legal representation to nearly 800 immigrant and refugee children living in New York. The assault on immigrant minors’ fundamental rights and protections by this current administration demonstrates the need for strong rules and policy of protection, oversight by federal authorities, and the need for more legal representation for those seeking safety.

**While they are often used interchangeably, the words, “refugiado” and “asylum seeker” have vastly different meanings with important legal distinctions. All refugees and asylum seekers are fleeing persecution, with different but equally complex roots. Refugees have had to leave their country, possibly because of civil war, to escape a life that is intolerable to them. Asylum seekers have not left their home country. Instead, they have sought protection due to the personal threats they have received. Many refugee camps have become extensions of their home countries, providing the same services that would have been available to them if they had not been forced to leave. None of the words “refugiado” and “asylum seeker” can capture the inherently unique experiences of people who are forced off their lands or abandon their homes. Still, people often use international channels while asylum is granted by the government of a state--in the US, it is granted by the federal government.**

**Community empowerment organizations**

**Organización empoderamiento**

**African Communities Together**

African immigrants fighting for civil rights, opportunity, and a better life for families here in the U.S. and back in Africa.

**Arab American Association of New York**

Supports and empowers Arab American and Arab American community by providing services to help them adjust to their new home and become active members of society. The organizing home of activist Linda Sarsour.

**Black Alliance for Just Immigration**

Dedicated to increasing understanding between African-American communities and African immigrants. They provide training and technical assistance to partner organizations to develop leadership skills, work with faith and other community leaders and institutions, and bring together communities to transform systems. They are one of the only organizations that advocate for state-wide immigration reform and promote the rights of black immigrants and refugees. They are the only black immigrant organization on the state level in any state.

**Brooklyn Community Pride Center**

Brooklyn Community Pride Center promotes and protects the rights of LGBTQ and HIV-positive immigrants than any other organization and spots patterns and trends that no other organization is able to discern or predict. They work closely with other organizations and social service providers in their cases. Their work policy is grounded in the belief that all people, including those with convictions, deserve equal rights. They also conduct trainings for advocates and community members, including trainings on the workings of the deportation system and recent trends in immigration enforcement.

**The lawsuit was successful in preventing the government from moving these kids and deporting them. It protected them from the trauma of separation from parents, family counseling, counseling for victims, cultural sensitivity training to law enforcement and local agencies, training youth to become peer mediators in conflict resolution, anger management referrals, court appearance accommodation, interpreter and translator assistance.**

**Under the current administration, immigrants who apply for asylum at the US border are detained by ICE officials for the duration of their case. Asylum seekers who are in the US and are not usually detained but will not receive a work permit until 6 months after submitting their application. During that time, they are at heightened risk for homelessness and hunger.**

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**Council on American Islamic Relations**

CAIR’s mission is to enhance the understanding of Islam, protect civil liberties, empower American Muslims through public education, networking and civil engagement.

**Voices for Chechnya**

Voices for Chechnya fights against the Chechen Republic as it orders and encourages the capture, torture, and death of its own LGBTIQ+ people.
Communtiy empowerment organizations

Organización empoderamiento

African Communities Together

Organización de comunidades africanas juntas

African immigrants fighting for civil rights, opportunity, and a better life for families here in the U.S. and back in Africa.

African American Association of New York

Asociación africanos americanos en Nueva York

Supports and empowers Arab Immigrant and Arab American community by providing services to help them adjust to their new home and become active members of the society. The organizing home of Dr. Linda Sarsour.

American Jewish Committee

Comité judío americano

Cease and desist order against the Trump administration in a case challenging the legality of the President’s announcement to freeze admissions to the U.S. for a year. This order ensures the U.S. will continue to receive at least 62,500 refugees in fiscal year 2020.

Brooklyn Preride Center LGBTQ New American Oral History Project

Proyecto de historia oral de nuevas americanas LGBT de Brooklyn

LGBTQ New Americans Project is a collaboration between Brooklyn Community Pride Center, and Immigration Equality, featuring audio and video oral histories of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer immigrants in Brooklyn and throughout NYC. And the Brooklyn Community Pride Center provides services and support to the borough’s LGBTQ+ community through original programming and partnerships with exemplary organizations.

Churches

Iglesias

Supports immigrants in reunifying legally with family, obtaining proper work authorization, learning English and civics, and preparing to pass citizenship exams.

Congregation Beit Simchat Torah

Congregación Beit Simchat Torah

Robust LGBTQ Synagogue with various social justice programs such as “CBST Sanctuary Congregation Beit Simchat Torah” and “Community Hebrew School.”

Queer Detainee Empowerment Project

Proyecto de liberación de presos LGBTQ

Support and empowerment organization that offers legal consultations, orientation to seeking asylum, and support for LGBTQ people within the Russian-speaking public. Fights for social justice, human and civil rights for LGBTQ refugees. Provides informational support to asylum seekers and organizes social events for the inclusion of LGBTQ refugees within the Russian-speaking public.

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Brooklyn Center for New Americans

Centro para nuevas americanas de Brooklyn

A project of the Brooklyn Community Pride Center and serves to understand, engage, empower and give voice to Brooklyn’s LGBTQ+ community. Through original programming and partnerships with exemplary organizations, they create a community with a shared sense of purpose and identity.

EAT Dubai

EAT Dubai

Make the Road New York builds the power of immigrant and working class communities to achieve dignity, control of their lives, and a future where immigrants are valued. They educate and engage African American and black immigrant communities to organize and advocate for racial, social, and economic justice. They provide training and technical assistance to partnerships to develop leadership skills, works with faith communities and initiatives dialogue with African Americans and black immigrants.

Catholic Charities

Casas de los católicos

Provides legal and social services to new refugees and recent arrivals, and helps them adjust to their new home and become active members of society. The organizing home of activist Linda Sarsour.

Jewish Immigration and Refugee Services

Instituto judío de inmigración y refugio

As a human rights organization they work to ensure refugees are protected in the United States and throughout the globe. They provide a full range of legal, social, and family support services.

Human Rights First

Primera línea de derechos humanos

Provides legal and social services to new refugees and recent arrivals, and helps them adjust to their new home and become active members of society. The organizing home of activist Linda Sarsour.

Kinder Corporation

Corporación de niños

They create communities where children develop the values, skills, and confidence to succeed as engaged, productive, and responsible citizens. The organizing home of activist Linda Sarsour.

The New Sanctuary Coalition of NYC

Coalición nueva de santuario de NYC

An interfaith network of congregations, organizations, and individuals, standing publicly in solidarity with families and communities resisting detention and deportation. They organize together across the globe and in the United States to fight against the destructions that global and systemic economic relationships and racism form the basis of the injustices that affect immigrants. They seek reform of United States immigration laws to promote fairness, social and economic justice.

New York for New Yorkers

Nueva York para los nuevos norteamericanos

New Women New Yorkers believes that every immigrant woman coming to New York has the potential of contributing to NYC, regardless of her national origin, cultural background, or educational level. The mission of New Women New Yorkers is to empower immigrant women to fight, secure first-mentoring, fulfilling job in the NYC workforce or to pursue higher education, and they provide a safe, transformative space where immigrant women can build community and support each other, experience and demonstrate leadership, and share their stories.

New York for Syrian Refugees

Nueva York para los refugiados sirios

The mission is to welcome new communities to new York to play a special role in strengthening those communities, NYASR strives to provide the planning and resources necessary to help new communities settle in this new space in dignity. They work to identify existing resources and build additional resources required to make the settlement of Syrian refugees in Albany an exemplary successful experience. Their main goal is to create bonds between established community members and new immigrants.

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ORAM – Organization for Refugees, Asylum & Migration

Organización para los refugiados, asilo y migración

OMN’s mission is to enable the international community to protect exceptionally vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers, including LGBTQ refugees, through research, professional training of refugee professionals, and refugee assistance.

Supportive Housing Fund

Fondo de vivienda apoyativa

Provides legal and social services to new refugees and recent arrivals, and helps them adjust to their new home and become active members of society. The organizing home of activist Linda Sarsour.

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The Anglican Fund

Fondo anglicano

The Anglican Fund invests capital to empower refugee entrepreneurs. Their goal is to usher in a new refugee response paradigm, one in which market based solutions and economic integration are the norm.

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The inefficient, inhumane, punitive and violent US asylum process violates Article 14 of the UN Declaration of Human Rights.

The United Nations Declaration of Human Rights was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in Paris on 10 December 1948 (General Assembly resolution 217 A) as a common standard of achievements for all peoples and all nations. Its primary mechanism of enforcement is the United Nations Human Rights Council, through which an individual or organization may initiate a complaint process.

The complaints procedure is steeped in confidentiality, thus it is almost impossible to find out how effective it is. Some claim that this confidential process offers a more stable environment for the UN to engage with the state, without an adversarial process of public accusation. Others, believe, however, that transparency of process is as important as such stability.

While some have questioned the value of the procedure, it should be noted that 94% of states respond to the complaints raised with them. Learn more: https://www.ohchr.org/

La Declaración de los Derechos Humanos de las Naciones Unidas fue proclamada por la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas en París el 10 de diciembre de 1948 (resolución 217 A de la Asamblea General) como un estándar común de logros para todos los pueblos y todas las naciones. Su principal mecanismo de aplicación es el Consejo de Derechos Humanos de las Naciones Unidas, a través del cual un individuo o organización puede iniciar un proceso de queja.

El procedimiento de quejas está lleno de confidencialidad, por lo que es casi imposible saber qué tan efectivo es. Algunos afirman que este proceso confidencial ofrece un entorno más estable para que la ONU se comprometa con el estado, sin un proceso adversarial de acusación pública. Otros, sin embargo, creen que la transparencia del proceso es tan importante como esa estabilidad.

Mientras que algunos han cuestionado el valor del procedimiento, se debe tener en cuenta que el 94% de los estados responden a las quejas planteadas con ellos. Obtenga más información: https://www.ohchr.org/