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Public Zoom Webinar

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Description of the Book Launch

Please join us as we launch *Refugees: A Very Short Introduction*, Gil Loescher’s last book. The book offers a concise and compelling introduction to the causes and impact of contemporary refugee responses. By drawing on Loescher’s 40-year legacy as an authority on UNHCR and global refugee issues, the book offers critical insight on the impact of today’s responses to refugee movements for states, global order and refugees themselves. The book also draws on more recent developments to call for a new approach that engages with the root causes of displacement, the politicization of refugee responses, and an enhanced role for civil society actors and refugee-led responses. Speakers will reflect on the meaning of the book for the future of refugee research and responses, including from the perspective of global policy discussions, national responses in the global South, and refugee leadership.

**Gil Loescher** was a long-standing author and authority on the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and global refugee policy issues. A champion of refugees’ rights, he travelled the world visiting refugee camps and helping to shape UN policies on the displaced. He was a visiting fellow at the Refugee Studies Centre at the University of Oxford from 2003 until his death in 2020.

Forced migration is one of the great challenges in the world today. All over the globe people leave their home countries to escape war, natural disasters, and cultural and political oppression. Unfortunately, despite many years of experience, the international community struggles to provide an adequate response to this vast population in need.

This *Very Short Introduction* covers a broad range of issues around the causes and impact of today’s refugee crises for receiving states and societies, for global order, and for refugees themselves. It also discusses the need to understand the realities of the contemporary refugee situation in order to best respond to current and future challenges.