

# IS THERE A NEED TO EXPAND THE REFUGEE DEFINITION?

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**Abstract :** This article examines the urgency of protecting against displacement caused by climate change under international law and questions why Rohingya displacement has not been resolved even though it has been protected by international law, whether the harmonization of human rights approaches, national law, and international law towards refugees and climate refugees. This paper uses a literature review method and a normative legal approach by reviewing national and international human rights law. The findings of this paper suggest that many Rohingya continue to flee to safer countries, often taking enormous risks, including dangerous ocean crossings. The impacts of climate change can be categorized as persecution, the Refugee Convention requires that such persecution be due to race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership of a particular social group. Persecution alone is not enough. The difficulty is that the impacts of climate change are largely indiscriminate, and not related to specific characteristics such as a person's background or beliefs. The Rohingya people have experienced violence, discrimination, and persecution for decades, and the international community has failed to protect them effectively. The international community has allowed Myanmar to carry out genocide against the Rohingya without taking any action, even though United Nations member states are obliged to protect their population from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity. National, international, and human rights laws play an important role in determining the legal status and rights of refugees in a country. All three must be embedded and integrated, starting from international law and its derivatives to national law which contains humanitarian rights.

**Keywords:** Rohingya; Refugees; Climate Refugees; International Law

## I. INTRODUCTION

The Rohingya refugee crisis and the climate change refugee issue are complex and multifaceted issues, with significant implications for international law. The Rohingya refugee crisis is the result of conflict between the Rohingya ethnic minority in Myanmar and the Myanmar government. More than 3,500 Rohingya attempted deadly sea crossings in 2022, a 360 per cent increase compared to 2021. At least 348 Rohingya died during sea crossings in 2022 who sought refuge in neighbouring countries, such as Malaysia, Indonesia, and especially Bangladesh. The international refugee regime, as represented by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), has been involved in dealing with this crisis. However, there are challenges and complexities in the international response, as stated by several experts and stakeholders (Faruque 2020).

The Rohingya people, a Muslim ethnic minority in Myanmar, have faced persecution, oppression, and violence, prompting many to flee their homeland in search of safer places. Protection law, namely international law, is relevant to the Rohingya refugee crisis. The 1951 Refugee Convention and the 1967 Protocol, which are the main international legal instruments governing the status, treatment, and rights of refugees, apply to Rohingya refugees. Additionally, international human rights and international humanitarian law may also be relevant to the Rohingya refugee crisis (Haryadi 2022) (Syahrin 2018).

The Rohingya people have experienced violence, discrimination, and persecution for decades, and the international community has failed to protect them effectively. The international community has allowed Myanmar to carry out genocide against the Rohingya without taking any action, even though United Nations member states are obliged to protect their population from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity (Himel Rahman 2023). The Rohingya crisis has attracted international attention and has not yet been resolved, and the number of Rohingya refugees is likely to continue to increase (Syahrin 2018). Based on that, can underline that the Rohingya refugee crisis raises important questions regarding the international legal framework for protecting the displaced population and addressing the root causes of displacement. The international community must make extraordinary efforts to address the tragic conditions faced by the Rohingya people and ensure their rights and protection under international law.

On the other hand, climate refugees are those who are displaced due to the impacts of climate change, such as rising sea levels, extreme weather, and other natural disasters. The relationship between conflict, climate change, and disasters in the context of forced displacement has been widely discussed both academically and practically, highlighting the interrelationships between these factors. International legal protection law is relevant to the Rohingya refugee crisis and refugees due to climate change. In the context of refugees due to climate change, international human rights, international humanitarian law, and international environmental law may or may not still be relevant, and need to be improved (Neef, Jones, and Marlowe 2023).

Climate refugees, or people displaced by the impacts of climate change, do not have legal status recognized by international law. The 1951 Refugee Convention and the 1967 Protocol, which are the main international legal instruments governing the status, treatment, and rights of refugees, do not apply to refugees resulting from climate change. The current international legal framework does not recognize climate change as a basis for granting refugee status (Tyler 2023). However, some experts and stakeholders argue that the principle of non-refoulement can be applied in situations where there is little reasonable expectation that migrants will return to life-threatening situations. This principle guarantees that no one should be returned to a country where they will face degrading treatment and/or other violations of human rights (María José Fernández 2015). The United Nations Human Rights Committee has also decided on legal protection for people seeking protection due to the adverse impacts of climate change, recognizing that environmental degradation and climate risks limit human rights. This decision is significant because it is the first step towards establishing an international legal obligation to protect individuals affected by climate change and other threats to human security not covered by the 1951 Geneva Refugee Convention.

Despite these efforts, there is no legally binding international agreement that specifically addresses the issue of climate refugees. The lack of a legal framework for climate refugees has

prompted some to call for a new treaty that would recognize the status of climate refugees and establish international obligations to protect them. So, based on the discussion above, this article discusses the urgency of protecting against displacement caused by climate change under international law, why the displacement of Rohingya cannot be resolved even though it is protected by international law, what are the differences and similarities between refugees and climate refugees, and Is harmonizing human rights, national legislative and international law approaches for refugees and climate refugees a solution to resolve these two problems?

## **II. RESEARCH METHOD**

The paper used the normative method (Nasution 2016). The authors used the literature review, sources in the Google Scholar, Scopus, Hein, and World of Science databases using the following keywords: "Rohingya refugees and climate change", "climate refugees and international law", "climate change and international law", and "climate change and Rohingya". The authors found approximately 1200 documents with keywords that the authors searched for several sites that the authors mentioned. The authors filtered up to 500 documents, then filtered again to find approximately 58 documents that the authors used to do this research as a reference for the authors in answering the objectives of this research (Ishaq 2017). Furthermore, the author writes from the data, formulates the purpose of the problem, provides additional argumentation, and describes it through research findings.

## **III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **1. Understanding the Difference between Refugees (Rohingya) and Climate Refugees**

Refugees and climate refugees are two different categories. Refugees are people who are waiting for international protection because their homes have been doubted or destroyed due to war, conflict, or political perception (Sinari, Suhaidi, and Leviza 2013). Meanwhile, climate refugees are people who experience refugees due to climate change, such as floods, earthquakes, and sea erosion (Chaturvedi and Doyle 2010). The similarity between the two is that each country must ensure that activities within its country's jurisdiction or control do not cause refugees from their place of residence. Refugees and climate refugees have several similarities and differences. Both groups involve people who were displaced from their homes due to external factors. However, refugees are usually defined as individuals who have been forced to leave their country and have no intention of returning, while climate refugees do not necessarily cross international borders or face persecution based on specific criteria such as race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion (Williams 2008).

One key difference is that climate refugees are often internal migrants, meaning they move within their own country, and their migration is not always forced. Climate change can cause slow-moving events such as sea level rise, desertification, and food insecurity, which can cause people to migrate gradually over time (Sritharan 2023). In contrast, traditional refugees often flee due to sudden events such as conflict or persecution. Another difference is that climate refugees may not be covered by the 1951 Refugee Convention, which provides the legal framework for refugee protection. This means that climate refugees may not have the same legal rights or protections as traditional refugees.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM), deploring the lack of a globally accepted definition for people moving for environmental reasons, recently issued a definition of

environmental migrant. Environmental migrants, according to the IOM proposal, are persons or groups of people who, due to sudden or progressive environmental changes that hurt their lives or living conditions, are forced to leave their homes, either temporarily or permanently, and move within a region or abroad. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees points out that developing regions, (Cooper 1997) which are the ones most vulnerable to climate change, are home to 84% of the world's refugees (McMichael 2023). Extreme weather events and dangers in regions hosting these refugees disrupt their lives, worsening their humanitarian needs, and even forcing them to flee again.

To address the challenges posed by climate change-induced displacement, various legal and policy frameworks have been proposed, such as the 2018 Global Compact for Migration and the Nansen Initiative (Warner 2018). This framework aims to provide protection and support for people displaced by climate change, recognizing the need for a comprehensive approach that goes beyond traditional refugee status. However, there are several differences, such as legal status, refugees are registered with the Refugee Protection Organization (UNHCR), while climate refugees still do not have official status (Janmyr 2018), meanwhile in terms of protection. Refugees have clearer and more defined laws, while climate refugees still do not have clear protection.

Refugees can also use unemployment status, while climate refugees do not yet have clear unemployment status. In terms of legal protection, refugees have clearer and more defined legal protection, while climate refugees still do not have clear legal protection. Refugees also have larger and more funding from international sources, while climate refugees still do not have sufficient funding sources (Neves, Baptista, and Pires 2021). Refugees have more establishment facilities and infrastructure, while climate refugees still do not have sufficient establishment facilities. Refugees have more sources of funding and establishment than other countries, while climate refugees still do not have sufficient sources of funding and establishment.

Climate refugees may have considerable control over the decision to migrate, but this varies depending on the type of environmental disturbance. The origin, destination, and duration of environmental disturbances shape the type of refugee. Refugees from disasters and expropriations have limited control over whether environmental changes will result in migration. Gradual degradation allows “environmental emigrants” to determine how they will respond to environmental changes (Myers, 1993). For nearly four decades, the idea of environmental refugees has been used by academics, environmentalists, security and defence intellectuals, policymakers, artists, and writers. Since the 1990s, the ostensibly more specific category of climate refugee has been used to convey displacement resulting from Anthropogenic Climate Change (ACC) (Cantor 2023). There are many problems with the concept of climate refugees. This concept is vague and often historical.

This concept combines waterlogging on coasts, sinking islands, desertification, and natural disasters into one category. This concept highlights one cause of displacement, thereby downplaying possible more proximate causes—such as repressive governments, bad policies, failing economies, complicated colonialism, and the Cold War. Climate refugees have for years been invisible in the migration and climate debate. Therefore, in this context, it may seem paradoxical not to push for the creation of a special climate legal status, parallel to the existing refugee status. However, although the available evidence on how climate change and environmental degradation affect human mobility continues to grow and is indisputable, the

current focus of the debate on establishing climate refugee status can lead to a narrow and biased debate, and only provide partial solutions in addressing the complexities of human mobility and climate change. It is important to continually push for a feature on climate refugees and ask for projections of how many climate refugees there will be in the next twenty years. In contrast, some emblematic small island states, among others, have spoken out that they do not want to become climate refugees; they want to remain in their homes or move with dignity and through regular channels without leaving everything they own behind.

Climate change is a driving catalyst, and the number of climate refugees will continue to increase. The Institute for Economics and Peace estimates that in a worst-case scenario, 1.2 billion people could be displaced by 2050 due to natural disasters and other ecological threats (Yazdanie et al. 2024). Although there have been steps in the right direction, national and international responses to these challenges remain limited, and protection for those affected by these challenges remains limited, and protection for those affected is inadequate. There is no clear definition of a climate refugee, and there is no clear definition of a climate refugee covered by the 1951 Refugee Convention (Hiraide 2023). The Convention only covers people who have a well-founded fear of being persecuted because of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion, and who are unable or unwilling to seek protection from their country of origin. This means that the current climate cannot be a reason to seek asylum or refugee status. However, the 2018 Global Compact for Migration, in its second objective, mentions climate as a potential reason for migration. Although the European Union has not officially recognized climate refugees, it has expressed growing concern and has taken action to support and develop resilience in countries most vulnerable to climate-related stress (Pécoud 2021).

What happens to Rohingya refugees is protected within the framework of international law. As explained above, the difference between the two is that Rohingya refugees are both in terms of legal status, funding, and establishment, and their legal protection is clear and has their rights fulfilled under international law. Based on that, it can be ascertained that the Rohingya are not climate refugees caused by natural disasters, but they are refugees who are waiting for international protection because their homes are doubted or destroyed due to war, conflict, or political perceptions.

## **2. National and International Problems of Rohingya Refugees**

The Rohingya refugee camp is not only a national problem but also an international problem that concerns several countries. The national problem, like countries receiving Rohingya refugees, faces economic challenges in providing for the refugees' basic needs such as food and shelter. There's also potential for social friction between refugees and local communities due to cultural differences. Then, from the point of view of the international problem, the Rohingya refugee issue is considered not just an ASEAN problem, but an international community issue due to its humanitarian crisis nature. Cooperation and support from various parties, including UNHCR and UN member states, are needed to comprehensively address this crisis.

The Rohingya crisis is a complex issue that has political and humanitarian dimensions. Some of the main factors contributing to Rohingya displacement include political instability and discrimination (Sudheer and Banerjee 2021). The Rohingya, a Muslim ethnic group originating from western Myanmar, have faced religious prejudice and harassment for centuries because of their unique language, culture, and religion. The Burmese government does not recognize them as



part of Burmese society, leading to persecution and exclusion from their citizenship rights (Kingston 2018). Rohingya are often considered illegal immigrants from Bangladesh, and their presence has fueled tensions between Myanmar's Muslim minority and Buddhist majority. In 2012, Buddhist extremists attacked Rohingya homes and businesses in Rakhine State, leading to the deaths of thousands and the displacement of hundreds of thousands. Myanmar's military has been accused of murder, rape and other atrocities against the Rohingya, contributing to their decision to leave the country (Zahed 2021).

The Rohingya people are denied access to education, health services, and economic opportunities, further exacerbating their marginalization and poverty. Compared to other refugee families, the Rohingya people receive less attention and support from the international community, hampering their ability to find long-term solutions to their displacement. The Rohingya crisis has had a significant impact on domestic and regional politics (Hossain 2022), as well as relations with major countries, especially ASEAN member countries. This has also caused large numbers of Rohingya to flee to safer countries, often making dangerous sea crossings. National legal problems in Myanmar, resulting from Rohingya displacement, include several aspects that need to be used as reasons, such as citizenship status, that the Rohingya are an ethnic minority in Myanmar who are not recognized as citizens. The Myanmar government decided that they were not native citizens, so they did not have citizenship rights. The international community stated that Myanmar had committed human rights violations against the Rohingya (Parashar and Alam 2019). Rohingya people who have lived in Myanmar for generations are not recognized as citizens by the Myanmar government. Apart from that, there are also acts of violence that are indicated to eliminate the identity of the Rohingya as one of the ethnic groups in Myanmar (Kipgen 2013). Meanwhile, the state's responsibility as a sovereign country is Myanmar's obligation to provide legal protection to its citizens. It can be concluded that the factors that caused Rohingya to flee from Myanmar to ASEAN countries such as Indonesia and Malaysia were due to 1) Discrimination and threats of death. The Myanmar government does not recognize the existence of the Rohingya ethnic group, which causes them to experience threats, killings, and other threats. 2) Rohingya experienced communal violence by security forces, which caused them to flee Myanmar to escape the violence. 3) Restrictions on citizenship: Rohingya do not have citizenship in Myanmar, which causes them to experience poor treatment from residents.

Myanmar must take action to resolve cases of alleged human rights violations against the Rohingya people for the sake of respecting and protecting human rights. International legal issues related to Rohingya cover several aspects, such as the Geneva Convention of 1951 (Al Imran and Mian 2014). Rohingya are refugees who have refugee rights which stipulate that refugees are people or groups who experience persecution in their country of origin in the name of race, ethnicity, ethnicity, and culture so that they have no choice other than leaving their home country. The state must guarantee security that will not threaten Rohingya human rights, including freedom of religion, freedom of religion, and freedom of movement. Rohingya have experienced violations of human rights, including freedom of religion, freedom of movement, and freedom from refugees. Apart from that, the actions carried out by the Myanmar government against the Rohingya meet the criteria for genocide, which is a human rights violation consisting of physical violations, psychological violations, and fiscal violations (Dussich 2018). The world countries

hosting refugees have a responsibility to return Rohingya to their countries of origin if political stability has been restored and their rights are guaranteed not to be violated.

The problem of Rohingya displacement has attracted the attention of the international community, especially ASEAN countries. The wave of Rohingya refugees has caused a humanitarian crisis and international concern. The discrimination applied by the Myanmar government against the Rohingya people is considered worse than Apartheid-style racial segregation in South Africa (Baumgärtel and Miellet 2022). ASEAN as an organization in the region addresses the issue of Rohingya refugees. Several ASEAN countries have already carried out diplomacy (Kartiwa and Jalianty 2023), but it is still happening, so this is a long-term job that requires persistent diplomacy from ASEAN member countries.

In addition, Rohingya refugees can also cause negative impacts (László and Schmidt 2018), such as Rohingya refugees can cause conflict between countries in ASEAN, which can help strengthen competitiveness and reduce the possibility of refugees. Rohingya refugees may incur higher security costs, which can help strengthen competitiveness and reduce the likelihood of displacement. To reduce the negative impact of Rohingya refugees, ASEAN countries need to ensure that Rohingya refugees are provided with appropriate rights, including citizenship rights, golden freedom rights, and religious freedom rights. In addition, ASEAN countries also need to ensure that Rohingya refugees are given access to necessary services and facilities, such as education, health, and employment opportunities.

ASEAN countries face several challenges in overcoming the Rohingya refugee crisis. In international law, ASEAN does not have a political and legal framework to handle issues related to refugees, because only two ASEAN countries (the Philippines and Cambodia) are parties to the 1951 Convention (Moretti 2021). Regarding the Status of Refugees or the 1967 Protocol. Countries in the region adopted different responses to the Rohingya refugee crisis, resulting in a lack of uniformity in the strategies adopted by UN agencies in each country. Non-recognition of Rohingya as refugees, some countries, such as Malaysia, categorize Rohingya as “illegal immigrants” (STRAIF 2019) when they enter and live under the threat of detention, while others, such as Thailand, outright detain refugees or adopt alarming rejection policies. directing refugees to other host countries.

Many countries in the ASEAN region are hesitant to officially recognize the Rohingya as refugees due to the economic problems they face, particularly their inability to meet the basic needs of their citizens (Mutaqin 2018). Additionally, the international community has been criticized for not providing sufficient support to ASEAN countries in addressing the Rohingya refugee crisis, leading to a lack of resources and capacity to deal with the issue effectively. Coordination between ASEAN countries must be coordinated. More intensive diplomatic and intervention efforts, especially through active participation in bilateral, regional, and multilateral forums, especially in UN forums, to end the conflict in Myanmar are very important. ASEAN countries must also work hard to lobby countries in the world, including UN member countries and the UNHCR Institution, to resolve the Rohingya refugee problem. Apart from that, ASEAN countries must also develop and manage policies regarding Rohingya refugees, including handling Rohingya refugees, coordination between ASEAN countries, and returning Rohingya refugees to their countries of origin.

### **3. Human Rights, International, and National Law Approaches for Rohingya Refugees and Climate Refugees**

Human Rights, National, and International Law approaches for Rohingya refugees and climate refugees play a crucial role in ensuring their human rights (Jolly and Ahmad 2019). International human rights law regulates the behaviour of the state in human rights matters, including what the rights and obligations of the state are regarding human rights, what must be done by the state in the event of a violation, and how to protect, guarantee and fulfil the human rights of each individual by the state. International legal instruments on human rights have a significant impact on national legislation in member states. The UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and various human rights conventions are the foundation for efforts to safeguard and strengthen these rights.

The human rights approach according to national and international jurists is that human rights are God-given rights, so they are inherent, natural, and universal (Goodwin-Gill 2019). International law also regulates relations between states and other legal subjects, while individuals can in certain instances be held responsible for war crimes, genocide, persecution, and apartheid (d'Amato 2017). Their approach guarantees their human rights, such as the right to life, freedom of expression, and protection from discrimination. States parties to international law must guarantee the human rights, particularly of Rohingya refugees and climate refugees, as part of a just and equitable legal order worldwide.

Nonetheless, some countries have specific laws governing refugees and asylum seekers, outlining their protection and integration procedures. However, the legal framework for climate change refugees varies widely among countries, with only a few jurisdictions having established guidelines to address this unique category of forced migrants. The human rights approach to Rohingya refugees and climate change refugees centres on upholding the fundamental rights and dignity of all individuals, regardless of their migration status or the cause of their displacement. Human rights frameworks, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and various international treaties, emphasize the protection of rights that are essential to the well-being of refugees and displaced persons.

In the case of refugees, human rights principles state that everyone fleeing persecution, conflict, or other forms of harm has the right to seek asylum and enjoy the protection of basic human rights, including the rights to life, liberty, and security. Then, for climate refugees, displaced by environmental degradation or disasters, the human rights approach underscores the need to ensure their rights to a safe environment, access to basic services, and protection from harm. The United Nations High Commission on Human Rights and other human rights bodies advocate for the rights of climate change refugees and displaced persons, urging states to uphold their obligations under international human rights law (Nowak 2007). This includes respecting the principle of non-discrimination, ensuring access to education, health care, and adequate housing for all refugees, and safeguarding their right to seek asylum and international protection (Bacaiian 2011).

In the context of climate change, a human rights approach highlights the linkages between environmental degradation, displacement, and human rights violations. This approach requires a holistic response that addresses the root causes of environmental displacement, promotes sustainable development practices, and protects the rights of those most affected by climate



change. By applying a human rights lens to climate change refugees and displaced people, governments and policymakers can better address the complex challenges faced by displaced populations (Atapattu 2015), uphold universal human rights standards, and work to create a more just and inclusive society for all individuals, including those forced to leave their homes due to environmental stress.

However, drawing back on approaches, notably through the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol, established a legal framework to protect refugees worldwide (Goodwin-Gill, McAdam, and Dunlop 2021). While the Convention defines a refugee as a person fleeing persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group, it does not explicitly cover climate change refugees. However, there is growing recognition within the international community of the need to address the unique challenges faced by individuals displaced by environmental factors.

Efforts are underway to expand the existing legal framework to cover climate change refugees. The Nansen Initiative, later replaced by the Platform on Disaster Refugees, has been instrumental in advocating for protection for people displaced by natural disasters and climate change (McAdam 2016). In addition, the Global Compact on Refugees adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2018 emphasizes the importance of international cooperation and responsibility-sharing in addressing refugee crises, including those related to climate change (Nirmal and Sharma 2020). Ultimately, national laws play an important role in determining the legal status, rights, and protections afforded to refugees and asylum seekers within a country's borders. While many countries have established legal frameworks to address traditional forms of displacement, such as refugee status based on persecution, the legal landscape for climate change refugees remains largely undeveloped.

Each country has a different approach to addressing refugees in their national laws. Some jurisdictions have begun to recognize the unique challenges faced by individuals displaced by environmental factors and have taken steps to incorporate provisions for climate-induced displacement into their refugee and immigration laws. These provisions include offering forms of humanitarian protection, temporary residence permits, or special visa categories for climate change refugees. However, the lack of a uniform definition of climate change refugees in national laws poses challenges in providing consistent and comprehensive protection for this vulnerable population (Gibb and Ford 2012). The absence of clear guidelines regarding the legal status, rights, and entitlements of climate change refugees can lead to gaps in protection and hinder effective responses to their needs.

In the case of Rohingya refugees, it is quite clear, that what happened in Rohingya is a case of displacement protected by International Human Rights Law, International and Humanitarian Law. Therefore, the approach needed to solve the problem must be to use the approach of national law in the country, that a country must guarantee the rights of its citizens in its national law regardless of race, culture, beliefs, and others as protected by international law. This problem will become more complex if the existing national law does not provide such guarantees. As an international community, countries have legal obligations towards Rohingya refugees based on international law. States must ensure that everyone has the right to seek asylum and haven in another country, with the option of voluntary return to their country, local integration, or resettlement in a third country. States may not return refugees to countries where they face serious threats to their lives or freedom. States may not discriminate against refugees based on race,

religion, nationality, or membership in a particular social group. Countries must ensure that refugees have access to basic services such as education, health care, and shelter. Countries must allow refugees to work and earn a living. Countries must cooperate to provide protection and assistance to refugees, including through the work of international organizations such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

Based on the discussion above, the author concludes the following things: Refugees and climate refugees are two different categories, but have similarities in the occurrence of refugees due to climate change. Refugees are people who are waiting for international protection because of doubt or destruction in their homes due to war, conflict, or political perceptions. Meanwhile, climate refugees are people who experience displacement due to climate change, such as floods, earthquakes, and sea erosion. However, what is happening to Rohingya Refugees is not climate refugees. Therefore, they are protected by international law, in particular the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees of 1951 and its 1967 Protocol, which establish the principle of non-refoulement, meaning that states may not return refugees to places where they will face persecution. In the context of climate change refugees, international law faces challenges in defining legal status, determining responsibility for protection and assistance, and establishing mechanisms for cross-border movement. Then, to solve the problem, each country must ensure that activities within its jurisdiction or control do not result in refugees from their places of residence. Notably, ongoing discussions in the international community reflect the need for a comprehensive legal framework that can address the increasing displacement caused by climate change-induced refugees. It is therefore important to define displacement broadly to include climate change-induced displacement.

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