

FEDARENE, European Federation of Agencies and Regions for Energy and the Environment

Concrete experiences in tackling climate change challenges, sustainability and renewable energy sources

Social and entrepreneurial impact of climate change

Climate refugees

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Side event COP21, Paris, Halle Pajol., 20 esplanade Nathalie Sarraute, Paris 18e. 3 December 2015, 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights



- **Article 13.** (1) Everyone has **the right to freedom of movement and residence** within the borders of each state.
(2) Everyone has **the right to leave any country**, including his own, **and to return** to his country.
- **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.
- There is **an individual and a collective freedom of each migration**, intended as a leaving, as a return, as a way of no return, as a way with return, as a definitive or a temporary emigration. **Freedom of leaving, right to stay, freedom of migration, rights of migrants.**

Refugees

Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, Adoption 28 July 1951, entry into force 22 April 1954

Art. 1 and 2: “... **the term "refugee"** shall apply to any person who... owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of **race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion**, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it...”.



BUT...there are other refugees!

2007, Nobel Peace Prize to IPCC

The Nobel Peace Prize The Norwegian Nobel Committee



Announcement

The Norwegian Nobel Committee

The Nobel Peace Prize for 2007

The Norwegian Nobel Committee has decided that the Nobel Peace Prize for 2007 is to be shared, in two equal parts, between the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and Albert Arnold (Al) Gore Jr. for their efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change, and to lay the foundations for the measures that are needed to counteract such change.

Indications of changes in the earth's future climate must be treated with the utmost seriousness, and with the precautionary principle uppermost in our minds. Extensive climate changes may alter and threaten the living conditions of much of mankind. They may induce large-scale migration and lead to greater competition for the earth's resources. Such changes will place particularly heavy burdens on the world's most vulnerable countries. There may be increased danger of violent conflicts and wars, within and between states.

Through the scientific reports it has issued over the past two decades, the IPCC has created an ever-broader informed consensus about the connection between human activities and global warming. Thousands of scientists and officials from over one hundred countries have collaborated to achieve greater certainty as to the scale of the warming. Whereas in the 1980s global warming seemed to be merely an interesting hypothesis, the 1990s produced firmer evidence in its support. In the last few years, the connections have become even clearer and the consequences still more apparent.

Al Gore has for a long time been one of the world's leading environmentalist politicians. He became aware at an early stage of the climatic challenges the world is facing. His strong commitment, reflected in political activity, lectures, films and books, has strengthened the struggle against climate change. He is probably the single individual who has done most to create greater worldwide understanding of the measures that need to be adopted.

By awarding the Nobel Peace Prize for 2007 to the IPCC and Al Gore, the Norwegian Nobel Committee is seeking to contribute to a sharper focus on the processes and decisions that appear to be necessary to protect the world's future climate, and thereby to reduce the threat to the security of mankind. Action is necessary now, before climate change moves beyond man's control.

Oslo, 12 October 2007

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2015, pope's encyclical Laudato Si'



The Holy See

ENCYCLICAL LETTER
LAUDATO SI'
OF THE HOLY FATHER
FRANCIS
ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME

25. Climate change is a global problem with grave implications: environmental, social, economic, political and for the distribution of goods. It represents one of the principal challenges facing humanity in our day. Its worst impact will probably be felt by developing countries in coming decades. Many of the poor live in areas particularly affected by phenomena related to warming, and their means of subsistence are largely dependent on natural reserves and ecosystemic services such as agriculture, fishing and forestry. They have no other financial activities or resources which can enable them to adapt to climate change or to face natural disasters, and their access to social services and protection is very limited. For example, changes in climate, to which animals and plants cannot adapt, lead them to migrate; this in turn affects the livelihood of the poor, who are then forced to leave their homes, with great uncertainty for their future and that of their children. There has been a tragic rise in the number of migrants seeking to flee from the growing poverty caused by environmental degradation. They are not recognized by international conventions as refugees; they bear the loss of the lives they have left behind, without enjoying any legal protection whatsoever. Sadly, there is widespread indifference to such suffering, which is even now taking place throughout our world. Our lack of response to these tragedies involving our brothers and sisters points to the loss of that sense of responsibility for our fellow men and women upon which all civil society is founded.

Climate refugees

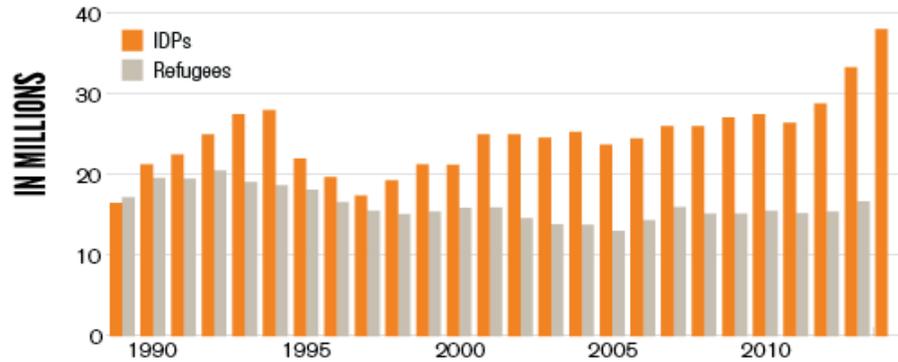
Official predictions for the number of possible ‘climate refugees’: **250 million**
by 2050

and

- in 2007, the IPCC suggested that more than 600 million people currently living in low-lying coastal zones – 438 million in Asia and 246 million in least developed countries – will be directly at risk to potential threats of climate change in this century;
- in 2014, the *International Displacement Monitoring Centre* (IDMC) let us know that “between 2008 and 2012, 144 million people were displaced by disasters”, during the last 10 years “more than 1.5 billion people have been affected by disasters in various ways” and “...22 million people were newly displaced as a result of natural disasters in 2013...”
- Some of them were, are and will be “climate refugees”, that means affected by the consequences of climate change, a number higher than the number of official UNHCR refugees!

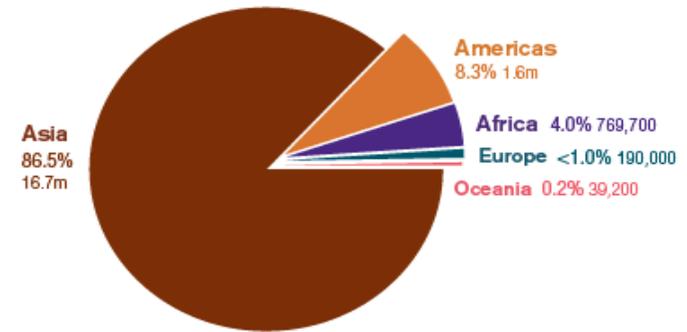
38 million people

displaced by conflict as of January 2015



19.3 million people

newly displaced by disasters in 2014



Climate change effects are creating millions of climate refugees - people forced to move from their living places and land by rising temperatures, droughts and famine, sea level change, and extreme weather events including floods and storms. Many are among our planet's poorest and most vulnerable people, those who have contributed the least to our changing global climate but have become the first and main victims of our failure to prevent climate change.

Climate change is also being recognised as a significant threat to global peace and a driver of security menaces, as groups or even nations come into conflict over ongoing decline or continuous decline of natural resources and ecosystem service, mainly dealing with their subsistence.

Climate refugees are not protected under existing international agreements - in the absence of new legally binding agreements, these people may have nowhere to go and no means to survive.

Sustainable migrations

- In September 2015 the UN General Assembly approved new development goals for the next 15 years, called **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2015-2030**.
- Goal 10 provide **an explicit reference to safe, orderly migration, and responsible**. It means (implicitly): promoting sustainable migration and combating forced migration.
- **Forced migrations** are a constant in the human life on the planet Earth, even in the recent history. It is a form of oppression, which historically we can distinguish in "political" (human beings force other human beings) and "environmental" (if it is the living ecosystem to force species and humans). Now there usually are **arbitrary and prohibited**.

Combating Forced Migrations

- Supporting the development goals and the commitments to sustainable development, is a way to criticise, to oppose, to curb forced migration, those governments and those human behaviors that determine this phenomenon. It is necessary to identify specific measures, policies, supports to intervene on the causes of forced migration or after it occurred. There aren't everlasting and universal solutions. We do not have enough tools: we must better understand, classify, differentiate, select, analyse, act to support a "sustainable migration way".
- Today, accordingly to the UN and the IPCC opinions, largely shared at scientific level, the anthropogenic global climate change is causing forced migration. We - the 39 industrialized countries of Annex I of the Kyoto Protocol, recognized as countries with the higher level of GHG emissions - are responsible for the climate change negative impacts in other areas...
These human escapes have been induced by other human communities.

Environmental refugees

Some forced migration are permanent in the history and geography of the evolution of the human beings on the planet. Most of them are effects of war (and political persecution, which deals with the UNCHR mandate) and ecosystem and climate conditions.

The present climate refugees are not all the environmental refugees, we are aware of!

Five years ago, I published a complete analysis of these forced migrations, in the past, now, in the future*.

But...a new project is ongoing, carried out by Telmo Pievani and myself, published soon by Einaudi ...

**Unfortunately there are no more copies available.*



... next year: Freedom to migrate



Valerio Calzolaio
Telmo Pievani
Libertà di migrare



Ci spostiamo da sempre ed è bene così. Le popolazioni umane migrano da milioni di anni, per necessità o per scelta. È così che ci siamo evoluti. *Homo sapiens* ha conquistato la libertà di migrare e il diritto di restare: no a migrazioni forzate, politiche e climatiche.



6 millions, 2 millions, 200.000, 11.000 years ago...

6 millions years ago: first Hominidis and Hominis, two millions first human species, 200.000 Homo sapiens, 30.000 Homo sapiens remain the only human species on the planet, 11.000 the agricultural revolution ... always we meet forced migrations!

In the human evolution, two major groups of major constraints forced to migrate: internal species conflicts, historically determined conditions. Forced migrations are events causing the injury of the right to move and remain and the denial of freedom of movement and migrate, both in absolute terms and in relation with a specific time, place, way, pattern. Conflicts are always caused by human behavior. In the environmental conditions always have been created an modified by human behavior, now more, last 100 years these modifications were more faster, as climate change, an anthropogenic and global phenomenon, is demonstrating.

40 diritti consumi scelte | **41 diritti consumi scelte**

Darwin, ritratto privato del padre dell'evoluzione

40 diritti consumi scelte | **41 diritti consumi scelte**

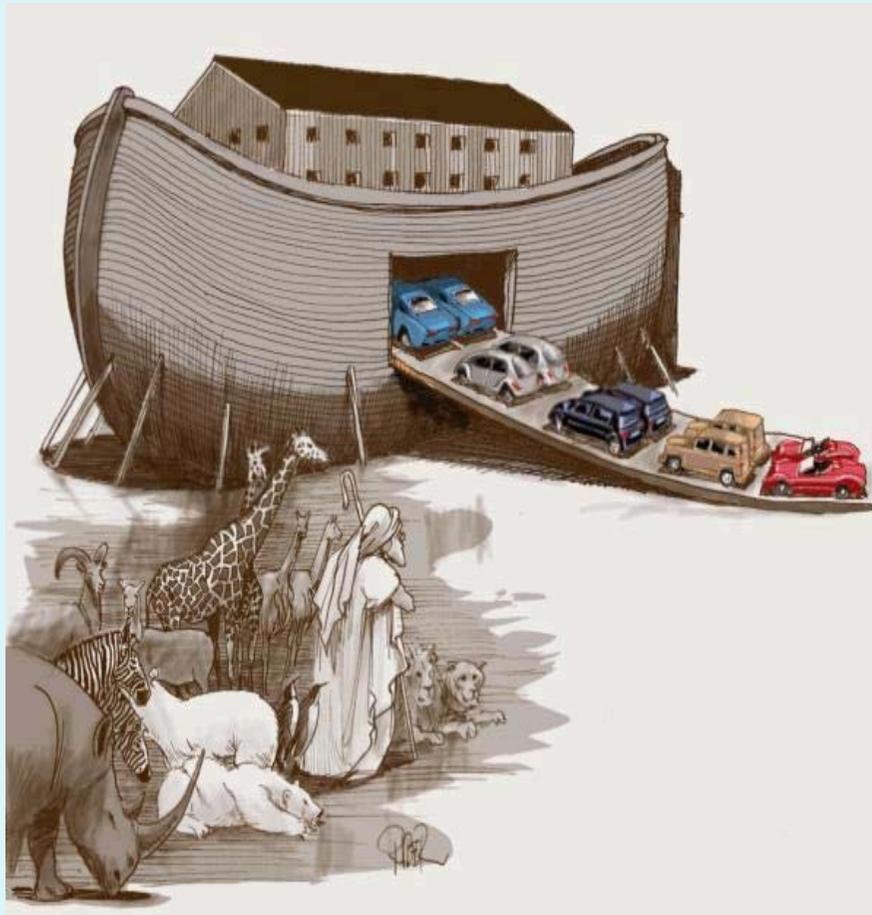
42 diritti consumi scelte | **43 diritti consumi scelte**

42 diritti consumi scelte | **43 diritti consumi scelte**

Alle origini della nostra famiglia

42 diritti consumi scelte | **43 diritti consumi scelte**

Ecosystems and living species at risk: we are approaching the planet boundaries...



- *According to the UN Environment Programme, the Earth is in the midst of a mass extinction of life. Scientists estimate that 150-200 species of plant, insect, bird and mammal become extinct every 24 hours. This is nearly 1,000 times the "natural" or "background" rate and, say many biologists, is greater than anything the world has experienced since the vanishing of the dinosaurs nearly 65m years ...ago.*
- *The action taken over the next two decades will determine whether the relatively stable and benign environmental conditions on which human civilization has depended for the past 10,000 years will continue beyond this century. If we fail to use this opportunity, many ecosystems on the planet will move into new, unprecedented state in which the capacity to provide for the needs of present and future generations is highly uncertain.*

(Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Global Biodiversity Outlook 3)



An epocal schift on migration flows for living species, including humans!

- It's possible to predict that in the next three decades there will be hundreds of millions of new climate refugees, especially in certain areas, especially towards Europe, especially through the Mediterranean Sea. Ipcc reports show some global climate change impacts, unique, reliable, albeit with different sizes, in different temporal scenarios and with a different degree of geographical vulnerability: sea raising, water shortage, extreme weather events, which all have impacts in the Mediterranean basin recognized as a crucial area of the entire planet (hotspot). The Mediterranean has been, is and will be a huge migration crossroads of the world, with complex effects on ecosystem dynamics, on international social security and politics, on cultural and religious evolutions.



- Those who leave and will leave from North Africa (the five countries with their shoreline on the Mediterranean Sea) in general don't look for the first "asylum", they are not "refugees", mostly they are coming from the countries of Sub-Saharan Africa, fleeing from other armed and climatic upheavals.
- Yet to get there (in North Africa) those people first had to flee their residence, then travel a lot so dangerous and exploited (even the Sahara, as the Mediterranean is a graveyard of forced migrants).
- The climate refugees have no responsibility of events caused by the behavior of other communities across the other side of the world ("our" rich world). Here, it should be stated for all a right to stay, not to migrate! Of course adapting it with measures for prevention and resilience, mitigation and reduction, with funds for assistance. And Mediterranean policies - solidarity responsible, tolerant fair - are essential.

... a Michael Nash docufilm (2010) ...

A documentary film about "the human face of climate change."



I'am finishing: we have to discuss about regions, energy, climate, refugees and you've choiced a very good location for this side event!

We are in an old station, SNCF (Société Nationale des Chemins de fer Français), part of the industrial heritage of the nineteenth century. Built in 1926 along the tracks of the Gare du Nord, this building was formerly the "MESSAGING CUSTOMS." Now it's a greenery-strewn retail and culinary hub. The garden is installed between the hall and the railway tracks, draws a continuous route: covered garden under the Halle Pajol, open garden to the north. organized into successive strips of vegetable scenes. The architects sought to minimize the environmental footprint of the building, the first solar power station in Paris.

Last May « La Chapelle » migrants found shelter in front of the Vaclav Havel library in Pajol street and where evacuated (at the beginning of June). The migrants were transfered by force, in spite of the popular resistance, to the police station of « L'Evangile » street. Many inhabitants of the 18th district of Paris express their indignation and bring food, clothes, blankets, backpacks, mattresses, plastic canvas sheets, cardboard boxes, and continue to support and welcome the migrants.



The Dialogue of Nature and an **Icelander**

Inciso in italiano sul dialogo della Natura e di un Islandese (Leopardi, 1824)

Natura's speaking:

- *“Immaginavi tu forse che il mondo fosse fatto per causa vostra? Ora sappi che nelle fatture, negli ordini e nelle operazioni mie, trattone pochissime, sempre ebbi ed ho l'intenzione a tutt'altro, che alla felicità degli uomini o all'infelicità. Quando io vi offendo in qualunque modo e con qual si sia mezzo, io non me n'avveggo, se non rarissime volte: come, ordinariamente, se io vi diletto o vi benefico, io non lo so; e non ho fatto, come credete voi, quelle tali cose, o non fo quelle tali azioni, per dilettarvi o giovarvi. E finalmente, **se anche mi avvenisse di estinguere tutta la vostra specie, io non me ne avvedrei**”*
- *“... Tu mostri non aver posto mente che la vita di **quest'universo è perpetuo circuito di produzione e distruzione**, collegate ambedue tra se di maniera, che ciascheduna serve continuamente all'altra, e alla conservazione del mondo; il quale sempre che cessasse o l'una o l'altra di loro, verrebbe parimente in dissoluzione. Per **tanto risulterebbe in suo danno se fosse lui cosa alcuna libera da patimento.**”*

Thank you ...

- ... to the European Federation of Agencies and Regions for Energy and Environment, the network of regional and local organisations which implement, co-ordinate and facilitate energy and environment policies
- ... to the Fedarene's Board of Administration, the 65 member regions from 18 countries, and to Abruzzo Region
- ... to the city of Paris (in this moment of suffering and sorrow)
- ... to all the audience, and
- to everybody that support and improve the resilience of the planet and the acknowledgement of the climate refugees.

[Best regards: calzolaiov@gmail.com](mailto:calzolaiov@gmail.com)

