

Policymakers and humanitarian professionals underscore the role of integration as the most durable and effective solution to address the growing refugee crisis globally. The policy approach adopted in the United States, however, involves a patchwork that lacks national level actions, where the processes are managed by “voluntary” organizations.

### Revisiting the Patchwork of Refugee Integration Policies in the United States: Insights from Three Michigan Cities

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Based on her ongoing research across three Michigan cities, Dr. Alshoubaki will discuss refugee integration policies in the United States. She will distinguish between immigrants and refugees regarding the logistical aspects of integration and reflect on her evolving understanding of the refugee-experiences derived from document analysis and in-depth interviews from Ann Arbor, Dearborn, and Kalamazoo. Dr. Alshoubaki will emphasize the need to move from the current laissez-faire approach to a robust set of federally-coordinated policies for a more uniform and effective refugee solution nationwide. This will, in effect, align with H.R.1308, known as the New Deal for New Americans Act of 2021, that ensures a pathway to successful integration for the benefits of both refugees and the host society.

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