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

Dr. Wa’ed Alshoubaki
Assistant Professor of Public Administration
University of Jordan
Visiting Fulbright Scholar at SPAA

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.

May 11, 2023, from 5 to 6 p.m. Via Webex

Link: https://wmich.webex.com/wmich/j.php?MTID=maa52baed17f0c4e11d947b946b4389d4

Students: Please note that attending this event counts toward WMU Signature Program (with the chosen focus areas listed on your transcript and diploma) where you attend a total of 18 events and reflect on your experience (www.wmich.edu/signature)