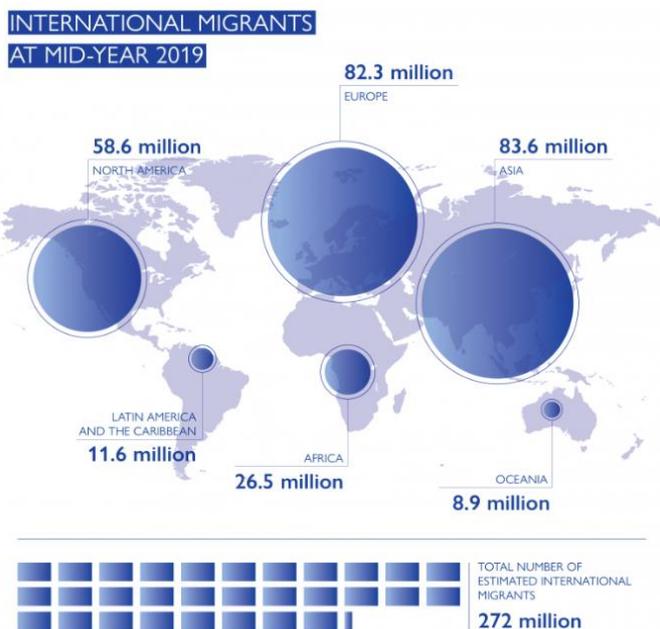


# Handout: Media and Migration Training Workshops

## 1. Migration – The challenge of the 21th Century



### Introduction

**Historic peak:** 258 million migrants and refugees worldwide in 2017. Altogether, more than two-thirds (68 per cent) of all refugees worldwide came from just five countries: Syrian (6.3 million), Afghanistan (2.6), South Sudan (2.4), Myanmar (1.2), Somalia (986,400)

(References: <http://www.unhcr.org/globaltrends2017/>).

**People usually migrate within their region:** In African-European comparison (2017), 19 million Africans migrate within their region (Africa). 9 million Africans migrated to Europe whereas the migration from Europe to Africa is negligible. 41 million Europeans migrate within their region (Europe). Terms needed for a careful migration debate (References: <http://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/refugees/>).

**Hosts of refugees:** For the fourth consecutive year, Turkey hosted the largest number of refugees worldwide, with 3.5 million people. It was followed by Pakistan (1.4 million), Uganda (1.4 million), Lebanon (998,900), the Islamic Republic of Iran (979,400), Germany (970,400), Bangladesh (932,200) and Sudan (906,600) (References: <http://www.unhcr.org/globaltrends2017/>).

## 2. Key Actors, Key Facts, Key Terms and numbers

### Terms needed for a careful migration debate:

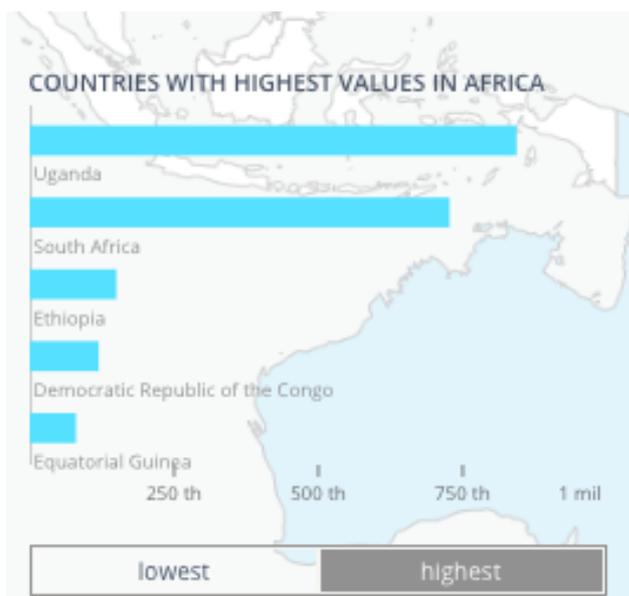
- **Migrants:** Definitions vary, but migrants may be defined as foreign-born, foreign nationals, people who have moved to a country for a longer period of time, who are subject to immigration control.
- **Refugees:** Under international law, a refugee is a person who “owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality (...).”
- **Illegal migration** often involves either unlawful border crossings or overstaying (with or without visa) and may subject migrants to human trafficking networks.
- **Forced migration** is as a “migratory movement with an element of coercion, including threats to life and livelihood, arising from natural or man-made causes (e.g. refugees and internally displaced persons, people displaced by natural or environmental disasters, chemical or nuclear disasters, famine, or development projects).
- **Mixed Migration** is defined as a flow of people travelling together in an irregular manner along the same routes, using the same means of transport, but for different reasons.
- **Internally displaced persons (IDPs)** have been forced to leave home but have not crossed an international border. IDPs try to avoid armed conflicts, violence, natural and human-made disasters.
- **Stateless persons** are 'not considered as a national by any State under the operation of its law'. (Article 1 (1) of the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons)

(References: IOM (2011): Glossary on Migration. European Migration Network (2018): Asylum and Migration. Glossary 6.0; Triandafyllidou, A. and Maroukis, T. (2012) Migrant Smuggling. Irregular Migration from Asia and Africa to Europe. Palgrave Macmillan, London; Hernandez, Diego and Alexandra Rudolph (2014): Modern day slavery: What drives human trafficking in Europe? In: European Journal of Political Economy)

### Key facts:

- International migrant stocks are estimates of "the total number of international migrants present in a given country at a particular point in time" (UN SD, 2017: 9)

### Net Migration Numbers



### 3. Context Factors for Migration

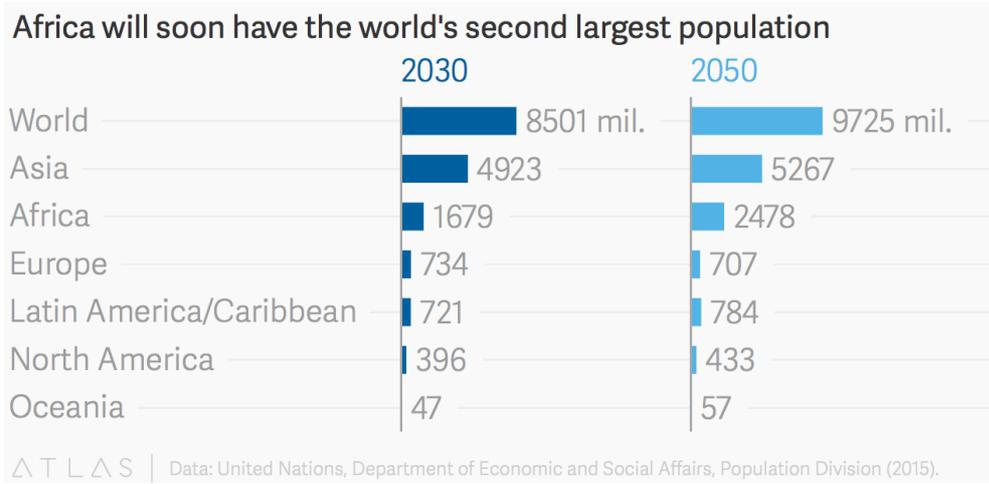
#### Many people in Europe don't know about migration:

- that there are more reasons and explanations for migration than wars, diseases and hunger (= more than stereotypes).
- that the majority of African migrants are hosted by African countries.
- that many African countries have experienced profound political transformation
- that ethnic tension tears many African societies apart.
- that tax policy in many African countries results in lack of infrastructures and participation in public matters is discouraged also by corruption.
- that remittances as important source of income for many African countries.

#### Many people in Africa don't know about migration:

- that by 2050 around 2.2 billion people could be added to the global population and more than half of that growth will occur in Africa. Africa will account for the highest population spurt with an additional 1.3 billion people on the continent. Population growth and lack of infrastructure could lead to more people leaving their homeland.
- that the public expenditures for education remain low despite population growth and Lack of education for girls results in further population growth. Better education frequently results in more migration.
- that there is no single legal instrument in international law that provides a framework to govern migration, and there is no single EU-wide convention on refugees, nor is there an integrated EU asylum or migration policy. (For more information: European Employment Policy Observatory: <https://ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=15894&langId=en>)

- that rigid asylum procedures in Europe disqualify most African applicants.



#### 4. Theories on Migration

People move for different reasons. Theories of migration are important because they can help us understand population movements within their wider political and economic contexts.

Contemporary patterns of international migration tend to be from the periphery (poor nations) to the core (rich nations) because economic factors.

##### The Push / Pull factors

Global media predominantly highlight the negative about the African continent. They generally project Western Countries in a most positive light. The youth in Africa consuming this information believe everything and are ready to risk their lives for perceived greener pastures abroad.



The Ubuntu Series aims at sensitizing people of African descent about behaviors that disrupt the development of our countries. We believe change in attitudes can empower us to find homemade solutions for the challenges we face.

- Bad governance from employing inefficient workers leading to poor service delivery.
- Ethnicity and tribalism that is an obstacle to development in many African countries.
- Conflicts
- Climate Change etc...

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNDmFyPG-YPaXRmMGd5RH0w>

## 5. The media and the migration story

**Media tell people what to think about** (Agenda-Setting-Theory: originally suggested that the media sets the public agenda, in the sense that they may not exactly tell you what to think, but they may tell you what to think about). Readers learn not only about a given issue, but also how much importance to attach to that issue from the amount of information in a news story and its position.

**Media tell people how to think about issues** (Framing Theory: is related to the agenda-setting tradition and suggests that how something is presented to the audience – “framed” – influences the choices people make about how to process that information). (Reference: <https://masscommtheory.com/>)

## 6. Migration coverage – Media Effects and Professional Challenges

### Migration & Public Opinion:

On average across the world, 34 per cent would like to see immigration decreased, 21 per cent increased, and 22 per cent kept at its present level. People in Europe tend to hold more negative views towards immigration, with the majority (52%) saying immigration levels should be decreased (IOM).

In Europe, immigration was viewed as the number one public issue ahead of terrorism and the economy in 2016 (European Commission) and recent survey results suggest that the attitudes towards immigration may have become more negative (IPSOS). (References: IOM 2015: [https://publications.iom.int/system/files/how\\_the\\_world\\_gallup.pdf](https://publications.iom.int/system/files/how_the_world_gallup.pdf) European Commission, 2016: [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-16-4493\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-4493_en.htm) , IPSOS 2016: <https://www.ipsosglobaltrends.com/change-in-attitudes-towards-immigrants-2/>)

### Media exert pressure on politicians to react:

The CNN effect is a theory that 24-hour news networks, such as CNN, influence the general political and compels policy makers to intervene in humanitarian situations they may not otherwise have an interest in.

How media in 11 African and European countries cover migration in 2015/16



Erich-Brost-Institut für internationalen Journalismus



Source: Google Maps

<https://jigc.media/research/en/coverage-of-migration-from-africa-to-europe-in-selected-african-and-european-online-newspapers/>

**Research results**

- Key results I: African media pay little attention to migration
- Key results II: Important information is being left out
- Key results III: African migration coverage is dominated by disasters
- Key results IV: Migration coverage in Africa neglects citizens
- A summary of the study is available at: <http://www.jigc.media>

**7. Journalist Techniques: Credible sources, reliable research, ethical reporting**

**Comprehensive list of sources for data and Facts on migration**

Among the trustworthy data sources are those mandated to collect data. These mandated sources follow scientific methodologies of data collection, they are open to international and academic scrutiny, and are mostly guided by statistics laws.

This curriculum uses data from the migration portal which collates a variety of mandated sources <https://migrationdataportal.org/themes/international-migrant-stocks>

Various sources collect and disseminate migrant stock data at the national and international levels.

National statistical offices collect data on migrant stocks through censuses, population registries or administrative sources.

- The UN Statistics Division (UNSD) is mandated to collect official migration statistics, including on migrant stocks, from countries through the Demographic Yearbook data collection system.
- The Statistical Office of the European Union (Eurostat) has a similar task for EU Member States.
- Some governments also report stock data to other international organizations such as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).
- UN DESA provides global estimates of international migrant stocks based on national statistics on country of birth, and where data on the foreign-born were not collected

in national censuses, based on country of citizenship (UN DESA, 2016: 4; UN SD, 2017). These global data are also disaggregated by sex and age.

- The World Development Indicators database by the World Bank also contains datasets on total international migrant stock and international migrant stock as a percentage of the total population among other global development datasets, which are retrieved from officially recognized international data sources (for instance, population censuses, population registers and nationally representative surveys).
- The African Development Bank (ADB), publishing the African Statistical Yearbook, retrieves its data from national (national data focal persons, publications, websites, databases) and international sources (supplementing missing data).

Data strengths & limitations: Estimates of migrant stock are available for 232 UN countries. There are significant regional variations in data availability – almost 20 per cent of African countries and 10 per cent of countries in Asia do not have recent data on international migrant stocks (UN DESA, 2017). <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic-social/sconcerns/migration/index.cshtml>

Various sources collect and disseminate migrant stock data at the national and international levels. This paper cautions to critically reflect on sources for data and graphs: Who is the source? What is the source's mission? How is this source being funded, and by whom? What is the funders' objective?

### Webinars on migration: some examples

Webinar - Data in Europe: Migration 15 May 2018:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MxZzmyzGjPc>

PRB Webinar: Migration and the Environment:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0fyt0J0wThQ>

Webinar: Inclusion of Migrants with Irregular Status: a Role for Cities:  
<http://citiesofmigration.ca/webinar/webinar-inclusion-of-migrants-with-irregular-status/>

### Ethics of Migration Reporting: The Responsibility of the Journalist:

- Images are symbols: Take care of a well-considered use
- Narratives have contexts: Think well about your terminology
- Facts and emotion are part of the stories: Use both
- There is more than the national perspective: Keep that in mind – even for local stories
- Migrants are (more than) actors, they are humans - with individual stories and feelings: Take care of this in for interviews and reporting
- As a journalist you can shape public opinion about migration and migrants: Think about the effects of your coverage

The Ethical Journalism Network has created **guidelines for migration reporting**. In a video the Chair of the EJN's board of trustees, Dorothy Byrne (<https://ethicaljournalismnetwork.org/what-we-do/media-and-migration>) introduces the guidelines and explains why covering migration in an ethical way is so important:

### 1. Facts not bias

Are we accurate and have we been impartial, inclusive and fact-based in our reporting?  
Are we acting independently from narratives that stem from politics and emotion rather than facts?

Are we fairly and transparently reporting the impact of migration on communities?"

### 2. Know the law

Asylum seeker? Refugee? Victim of trafficking? Migrant worker? Do we use irregular migrant? Do we understand and use migrant definitions correctly and do we articulate to our audience the rights migrants are due under international, regional and national law?

### 3. Show humanity

Humanity is the essence of ethical journalism. But we must keep our emotions in check, avoid victimization, over simplification and the framing of coverage in a narrow humanitarian context that takes no account of the bigger picture.

### 4. Speak for all

Do we have migrant voices? Are we listening to the communities they are passing through or joining? Question how representative self-appointed community and migrant spokespeople really are.

### 5. Challenge hate

Have we avoided extremism? Have we taken the time to judge whether inflammatory content about migrants or those who seek to limit migration can lead to hatred? Words like "swarms", "floods" and "waves" should be treated with caution, as should indiscriminate use of "racism" and "xenophobia."

Another example is from Italy, where media have developed a purpose-built charter against discrimination for journalists: **Carta di Roma (Charter of Rome)** (this Charter is available online at: <http://www.cartadiroma.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/CODE-AND-GLOSSARY-ENGLISH.pdf> ).

Rules can also be found in: **Media and Trafficking in Human Beings Guidelines with 8 chapters**

(this guideline is available online at:

<https://ethicaljournalismnetwork.org/resources/publications/media-trafficking-guidelines> )

and

**Reporting on migration and minorities, approach and guidelines.**

## Rules and Codes

Oversimplification

Focus negativ aspects

No bias

Stick to facts

Be differentiated

No sensationalism

- Avoid oversimplification. Migration is a complex topic, with many different causes and many effects, and deserves nuanced media coverage. In general, migrants themselves are neither victims nor heroes.

- Don't fall into the trap of focusing solely on possible negative aspects of large-scale migration. It is also important to highlight positive contributions of migration and individual migrants.

- Strive to be accurate and free of bias. Reporting should aim to be impartial, inclusive and fact-based.

- When covering the impact of migration on areas such as the economy and crime, don't fall prey to assumptions or narratives that stem from politics and emotion. Stick to the facts – what do the statistics actually show?

- Avoid painting migrants with the same broad brush. Keep in mind that within every large group of people – migrants and non-migrants alike – there are criminals and rulebreakers. Take care not to use the actions of one individual to smear the reputation of all members of a group or cast suspicion on all migrants.

- Stay clear of sensationalism. When problems inside the asylum system occur – e.g., migrants riot, or an increase in small-time criminality is noted – look critically for the root cause.

Source: Respect the words project (2017). Reporting on migration and minorities, approach and guidelines

## Rules and Codes

Contextualize

Inform about rights

Give migrants voice

Migration ≠ Terrorism

No dehumanising language

Differentiate groups

Don't use „illegal“ for migrants

Thnik about the migants right to ptivacy

- Put migration movements in context. Inform your audience about the reasons why people feel compelled to leave their homelands, and investigate what connections there may be to policies and practices of European states.

- Inform your readers, viewers or listeners where relevant about the right of asylum (basic background and state obligations) and the process of applying for asylum.

- Include the voices of refugees, asylum seekers and migrants themselves when reporting on the issue of migration.

- Keep in mind that there is no structural connection between migration and terrorism. In cases where there may be a link between these two issues, stick to the facts and avoid generalisations.

- Avoid using dehumanising language that evokes imagery of invasions or natural disasters ("flood", "horde").

- Differentiate among "asylum seekers", "refugees", "migrants" where it is reasonable and feasible to do so. Avoid making sweeping assumptions about migrants' intentions.

- Don't use the adjective "illegal" to describe migrants. Avoid terminology that is more appropriate when referring to objects.

- When it comes to video and photo, balance newsworthiness with migrants' right to privacy (including cultural values regarding being photographed) and any potential for retribution against them. Ensure that photo captions are accurate.

Source: Respect the words project (2017). Reporting on migration and minorities, approach and guidelines

## Rules and Codes

Be mindful with migrants

Contextualize

Don't reproduce racist comments just for shock

Do profound research

Don't judge „migants“ by appearance

- In general, when using migrants as sources for stories, or in interviews, treat them with the same respect as any other source. Be mindful, however, of particular sensitivities. Asylum seekers feeling persecution may fear retribution against them or their families back home, or fear prejudicing their asylum applications. Be clear about what you plan to do with the material they provide (use an interpreter where necessary), and respect requests for anonymity.

- Don't quote politicians or other public figures on migration topics without contextualising, substantiating and, where necessary, challenging their statements. Seek the views of experts, advocacy groups and migrants themselves to help set the context and question politicians' views and assumptions.

- Where it is necessary and newsworthy to report hateful and/or racist comments by groups or individuals, mediate their statements by challenging these comments and exposing any false premises they rely on. Don't simply reproduce such comments for their shock factor.

- Don't rely on popular narratives, images and tropes about migrants; critically examine them instead. Familiarise yourself first-hand with the topic. Talk to migrants yourself. Visit migrant camps and asylum facilities. Ask experts and civil society groups for their views and experience.

- Question assumptions about who and who is not a migrant, and how a migrant is supposed to look and act. Don't assume that a person is a migrant simply on the basis of his or her looks. Migrants are people who migrate; the children or grandchildren of migrants who are born in the country in question no longer fall into that category.

Source: Respect the words project (2017). Reporting on migration and minorities, approach and guidelines

(this guideline is available online at:

[https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/wmr\\_2018\\_en.pdf](https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/wmr_2018_en.pdf))

## 8. Towards collaborative coverage of Migration

Collaborations between journalists and news organisations have become more and more important, especially for those media concerned with investigative journalism. Collaboration allows them to join resources and expertise to investigate issues of public relevance, for example in the fields of politics, business, trade, and crime – both at a pan-national and a cross-border level (Alfter 2016, Alfter 2018, Sambrook 2018).

The screenshot shows the JiGC website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with 'ABOUT JiGC', 'NEWS & STORIES', 'PROJECTS', 'RESEARCH', and 'EVENTS'. A search bar is located to the right. The main content area features a large photograph of a group of people in a classroom setting. Below the photo is the article title 'Journalist Education: Building bridges between Europe and Africa' and a sub-headline 'Over 100 participants from more than thirty countries met at the TU Dortmund to discuss new perspectives for...'. To the right of the main article, there is a sidebar with three smaller article teasers: 'Journalist Education: Building bridges between Europe and Africa', '15 African journalists and 10 European journalists exchanged perspectives on Media and Migration in Rabat/Morocco', and 'EU funds help Uganda take in refugees from DR Congo, and may slow migrant flow to Europe'. The bottom of the page shows the AIMMAD logo and the text 'Africa Institute for Media, Migration and Development (AIMMAD)'.

“Journalism in a Global Context” (JiGC) is an African-European project aimed at connecting journalists and journalism students in Africa and Europe, thus promoting the quality of foreign reporting in Europe and Africa in a crucial time of development for both continents.

## 9. Improving migration coverage: Best practices and journalistic strategies

Why do people consume news?

- People want to orient themselves.
- People want to make their own judgment.
- People want information that benefits them.
- People want to have a say.
- People want to be entertained.

The beginning as a journalist is to decide on a topic/ a focus on a topic → News values

“ **News journalism has a broadly agreed set of values, often referred to as 'newsworthiness'** ” Boyd, A. (1994) *Broadcast Journalism, Techniques of Radio and TV News*. Oxford: Focal.

**But how do you figure out what information is newsworthy?**

- in part it depends on your own values, experiences and knowledge
- some general guidelines exist

**Best practices:**

Your phone is now a refugee's phone | BBC Media Action, in partnership with DAHLIA:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m1BLsySgsHM#action=share>

How Would You React After Looking In The Eyes Of A War Refugee? | Amnesty International Poland:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=By\\_BHbskg\\_E](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=By_BHbskg_E)

Kids, refugees, questions: 'What is it like to have no home?' | The Guardian and Observer charity:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ctCaKH-2Wm8>

Europe's border in Africa | DW Documentary  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SnOXx6ZBWRo&feature=youtu.be>

Surviving One of the Deadliest Routes to Europe: Refugees at Sea | VICE NEWS  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nPelTu3iupc>

Captured, raped, ransomed: the kidnappers preying on Eritrean refugees | The Guardian  
<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2018/jan/19/everyday-thing-kidnappers-preying-on-eritrean-refugees>

Closed borders boost people smuggling across Balkans | DW Report  
<https://www.dw.com/en/closed-borders-boost-people-smuggling-across-balkans/a-41467977>

Delete It | RNW Media <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=za9jQ908xRc#action=share>

The Smuggling Game | Thomson Reuters Foundation News  
<http://news.trust.org/shorthand/the-smuggling-game/>

**Checklist for a high-quality migration story:**

1) **Migrants are more than numbers, but numbers are important:**

The story combines figures and personal destinies.

2) **Everybody should have a voice:** The story cites officials and elites as well as civil society actors or affected individuals.

3) **Cultural roots of migration:** The story explains different layers: social, political, economic and more reasons for migration and side-aspects of migration (c.f. rape)

4) **The story provide context.** The audience should get to know the backgrounds and prehistory.

5) **Constructive reporting:** The story tries to offer solutions.

6) **No paradise overseas, no hell at home:** The story follows an intercultural approach and gives a realistic perspective of the situation at home and abroad (Diaspora!)

7) **The two sides of migration:** The story balances positive and negative aspects of migration.

8) **Empathy with a distance:** The story acknowledges migration as a emotional story, but does not manipulate the audience.

**Where you can find inspiration for stories:**

The institutions and organizations working in support of migrants and refugees share testimonials, for instance:

- iom <https://www.iom.int/testimonials>
- Global Compact refugees and migrants: <http://iamamigrant.org/>
- Nominees and laureates of international humanitarian awards, for instance the Nansen Award <https://www.unhcr.org/nansen-refugee-award.html>
- IRIN offers development-informed reports on migration: <https://www.irinnews.org/migration>
- JiGC <http://jigc.media/>
- InfoMigrants <http://www.infomigrants.net/en/>
- ABC African Migrant <http://www.abc.net.au/btn/story/s4875568.htm>
- Rumors about Germany <https://rumorsaboutgermany.info/>
- Deutsche Welle <https://www.dw.com/en/top-stories/germany-guide-for-refugees/s-32486>