

Forum: Legal Committee

Issue: Ensuring equal access to justice for stateless persons

Student Officer: Iris Divari

Position: Co-Chair



Personal Introduction

Dear delegates,

My name is Iris Divari. I am 15 years old and I attend the 10th grade at HAEF-Athens College. This year, I have the honour of serving as one of the Co-Chairs of the Legal Committee (GA6) at the 8th ACGMUN Conference. This will be my 9th conference and my second time serving as a student officer. I am delighted to share this experience with you!

Firstly, I would like to congratulate you on your upcoming participation in the 8th ACGMUN conference. I encourage you to create lasting memories and enjoy the enriching debate experience this conference offers, as much as I did as a delegate of this committee last year. I also advise you to prepare thoroughly for this conference as it provides an exceptional eye-opening opportunity for you to learn. As a result, I advise you to make the most of this valuable experience.

In this study guide, you will find valuable information regarding the second topic of this committee's agenda. However, I highly encourage you to conduct your own research on the topic so that you can fully comprehend your nation's policy. If any questions on this topic, or anything else regarding the conference arise, please feel free to contact me via my email at:

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Topic Introduction

Statelessness is a complex issue that affects around 15 million people. This is the situation where individuals lack citizenship in any nation which deprives them of, opportunities, protections, and basic rights. This issue is due to causes such as conflict, displacement, discriminatory nationality laws as well as legal framework gaps. Major international instruments that deal with or seek to prevent statelessness include the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons. These see an increased loss to the countries' populations despite these international agreements being established to solve the problems resulting from statelessness. LEDs are mainly affected by statelessness and seek help from MEDs and organizations to tackle this issue not only immediately but long term as well.

Statelessness also interacts with other global issues such as climate change, refugee tracking and human trafficking. First, displacement due to the rise of sea levels or natural hazards can often affect many individuals, create stateless populations and lead people into legal limbo. Also, stateless refugees lack the protection of a home state and rights that are provided for citizens in host countries. Statelessness also has regional impacts. It is prevalent among certain refugee groups such as the Rohingya fleeing Myanmar, who are denied citizenship both in their home country and in host countries such as Bangladesh. For example, Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh face restrictions on movement, employment, and education due to their stateless status.¹ Not only that, stateless individuals are at high risk of exploitation due to their living conditions. Since they have no legal protection, it becomes difficult for them to access their legal rights.² As a result, statelessness is connected to many other global issues that need to be tackled.

¹ *Rohingya Refugee Crisis Explained*, www.unrefugees.org/news/rohingya-refugee-crisis-explained/. Accessed 21 Jan. 2025.

² "Surviving Statelessness and Trafficking: A Rohingya Case Study of Intersection and Protection Gaps - Bangladesh." *ReliefWeb*, 5 Sept. 2023, reliefweb.int/report/bangladesh/surviving-statelessness-and-trafficking-rohingya-case-study-intersection-and-protection-gaps.

Definition of Key Terms

Stateless person

A person is stateless if they do not have a nationality of any country, meaning they are not recognized as belonging to any country. The international legal definition of a stateless person is “a person who is not considered as a national by any State under the operation of its law”³

Recognized statelessness

A legal status that is linked to some rights. In contrast, “undetermined nationality” is merely an administrative term to be used for a limited period of time only and is not linked to any rights. Persons who are in the administrative category of “undetermined nationality” can be either stateless or have a nationality. This has to be clarified and determined in a dedicated procedure. Within this procedure, both legal and factual circumstances have to be considered in determining the statelessness.

De Jure & De Facto

Another dichotomy that is being used to distinguish these two categories is “de jure stateless” and “de facto stateless”. While “de jure stateless” is comparable to the term “recognized stateless”, “de facto stateless” cannot be used synonymously with “undetermined nationality”. The concept of “de facto” statelessness is outdated, which is why neither the UNHCR and other UN bodies, nor the Council of Europe and the European Union use this term anymore. Instead, the term “at risk of statelessness” is used, since only the clarification of actual circumstances in an individual case makes it possible to establish statelessness or nationality.⁴

Refugee

In the international legal understanding, a refugee is a person who has been forced to flee their home country because of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion. The official definition can be found in the Geneva Convention on Refugees. Some international organisations and states also consider war and violence to be reasons for fleeing one’s home country.

³ “An Overview of Statelessness.” *Melbourne Law School*, 20 Sept. 2024, law.unimelb.edu.au/centres/statelessness/education/factsheet/an-overview-of-statelessness.

“Statelessness - United States Department of State.” *United States Department of State*, 2019, www.state.gov/other-policy-issues/statelessness/.

⁴ “About Statelessness - Statefree.” *Statefree*, 27 Sept. 2024, statefree.world/statelessness/. Accessed 24 Dec. 2024.

Displaced Person

The term displaced person is used to describe people who either fall outside the narrower definition of a refugee – or, in the sense of “internally displaced persons”, are people who have been forced to flee their homes but have not crossed an international border. Displaced persons do not enjoy the same legal status as refugees and may face additional challenges in accessing assistance and protection.

Citizenship

“A legal status and relation between an individual and a state that entails specific legal rights and duties. Citizenship is generally used as a synonym for nationality. Where citizenship is used in a meaning that is different from nationality it refers to the legal rights and duties of individuals attached to nationality under domestic law. In some national laws, citizenship has a more specific meaning and refers to rights and duties that can only be exercised after the age of majority (such as voting rights) or to rights and duties that can only be exercised in the national territory.”⁵

Legal Limbo

When the law is not clear on a specific issue. This can occur due to ambiguous, conflicting, or incomplete laws and more. People in legal limbo, such as stateless individuals, often face difficulties in asserting rights, accessing services, or making long-term decisions because their situation is unresolved or unrecognized by the legal system.⁶

⁵ University, Wayne State. “What Is Citizenship?” *Center for the Study of Citizenship*, csc.wayne.edu/what-is-citizenship. Accessed 21 Jan. 2025.

⁶ *Limbo* | Definition in the Cambridge English Dictionary, dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/limbo. Accessed 21 Jan. 2025.

Background Information

Impacts of Statelessness

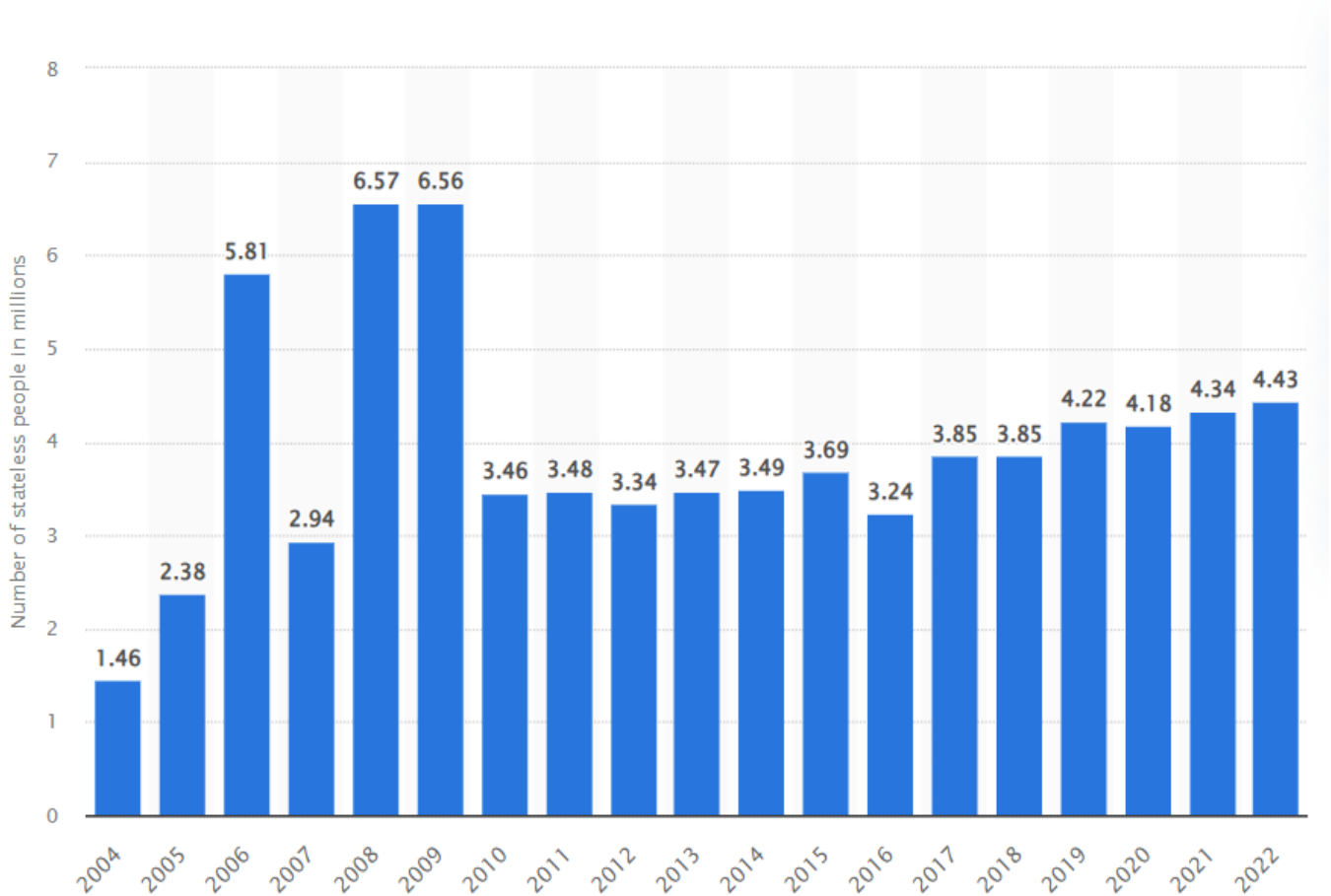


Figure 17: Graph depicting the number of stateless people in millions throughout past years.

Causes of Statelessness

Our society faces many issues that are interlinked with statelessness, increasing stateless populations. Some causes of statelessness include the lack of birth registration and birth certificates, birth to stateless parents, political change and transfer of territory which may alter the nationality status of citizens of the former state, destruction of official records and alteration of nationality during marriage or the dissolution of marriage between couples from different countries and the loss or relinquishment of nationality without first acquiring another.

⁷ "Number of Stateless People Worldwide 2000-2021." Statista, www.statista.com/statistics/268720/number-of-stateless-people-worldwide/.

Not only that, but other examples of common causes of statelessness are targeted discrimination against minorities, administrative oversights, procedural problems, or even conflicts of law between two countries. Also, the law can be a cause of statelessness. More specifically, laws restricting the acquisition of citizenship and the rights of women to pass on their nationality to their children, as well as laws relating to children born out of wedlock and during transit often play an important role when it comes to causing statelessness.

Challenges of being Stateless

Without citizenship, stateless people have no legal protection and no right to vote, and they often lack access to education, employment, health care, registration of birth, marriage, or death and property rights. Stateless people may also encounter travel restrictions, social exclusion, and heightened vulnerability to sexual and physical violence, exploitation, trafficking in persons, forced displacement, and other abuses.

Basic human rights are taken away from these individuals. They lack a passport, ID card or national identification number. For the small number of stateless people that are able to obtain a travel document, their form of identification is not widely accepted. Without proof of nationality, a person is not able to work or open a bank account. Not only that, a stateless child can also be barred from school and education as well as healthcare.

Also, statelessness affects many generations, since certain ethnic or tribal groups are discriminated against, or a population is subjected to lengthy wars and conflict. For example, in Myanmar, the Government removed the legal protections of the Rohingya, causing people like Za Beda to be displaced, lacking human rights.⁸

⁸ USCRI. "What Is Statelessness? Causes, Impact, and Solutions." *USCRI*, 13 Sept. 2024, refugees.org/what-is-statelessness/.

What Solutions Exist to End, Prevent, or Mitigate Statelessness?

Key efforts States could consider to prevent and provide a durable solution for statelessness include creating awareness of statelessness and identifying stateless populations, universal birth registration and other forms of civil documentation, increasing access to naturalization or citizenship by eliminating discrimination in nationality laws and practice and building administrative capacity for civil registry. Also, strengthening political will and addressing gaps in national laws that are causing statelessness can also help mitigate this issue.⁹ The resolution demands that nations modify their citizenship regulations. Regional collaboration is essential, particularly in regions where conflict and displacement significantly contribute to statelessness.

In February 2024, the African Union reached an agreement on a treaty aimed at eliminating statelessness across the continent, following more than ten years of advocacy efforts. The Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights Concerning Specific Aspects of the Right to Nationality and the Elimination of Statelessness in Africa ("AU Protocol on Statelessness") would grant children a right to nationality and eliminate generational statelessness.

The agreement has not been put into effect yet. Numerous countries lag in updating their laws, leaving around a million individuals unprotected and countless others in danger. On August 7, 2024, UNHCR facilitated discussions with African Union nations to provide guidance on execution.¹⁰

Statelessness and Gender

In many countries where men and women are not equal, women are not able to confer nationality to their children, leaving them stateless. In 25 countries such as Jordan, the mother cannot pass her nationality to her child. Therefore, if the father of the child is stateless, unknown or unwilling to claim paternity, the child is forced into the ramifications of this way of life.¹¹

⁹ "Statelessness - United States Department of State." *United States Department of State*, 2019, www.state.gov/other-policy-issues/statelessness/.

¹⁰ USCRI. "What Is Statelessness? Causes, Impact, and Solutions." *USCRI*, 13 Sept. 2024, refugees.org/what-is-statelessness/.

¹¹ Rights, BU Intl Human. "Children's Nationality Rights: The Case of Stateless Children in Jordan." *Medium*, 2 June 2020, buslahr.medium.com/childrens-nationality-rights-the-case-of-stateless-children-in-jordan-21bcc3beba.

Also, statelessness can arise when it comes to marriage. Many marriages, especially unregistered or interfaith are not recognized, therefore, women who are stateless cannot get married due to their lack of nationality.

Gender-based statelessness has many, severe consequences. Women without nationality cannot legally work, inherit property, access financial systems or access healthcare, including maternity care. This terrible situation is trapping women and their families in poverty. Children of stateless women are often excluded from schools due to their mother's nationality. Leading to a cycle of inequality.¹²

Major Countries and Organizations Involved

USA

In the worldwide struggle against statelessness, the USA is a key player, promoting protection as well as prevention. The United States, an important defender of human rights, stresses the significance of strengthening legal frameworks and ensuring that statelessness doesn't happen again. The United States promotes non-discriminatory nationality rules and the identification of stateless people by supporting the UNHCR and international conventions. Additionally, the USA supports stateless refugee resettlement and refugee protection. It promotes international collaboration to give stateless people access to essential services and a legal identity. In order to achieve long-term solutions that address the underlying causes of statelessness and protect the human rights of those who are stateless, the United States also backs capacity-building initiatives in emerging nations. "The United States supports the #IBelong Global Campaign to End Statelessness by 2024 . The United States is a member of the Geneva-based "Group of Friends" of the #IBelong campaign, and monitors UNHCR's statelessness activities in the field to track progress toward its Global Action Plan to End Statelessness . In some cases, the United States funds non-governmental organizations to provide assistance and advocate on behalf of stateless people."¹³

¹² "Stateless Women." *European Institute for Gender Equality*, 10 Dec. 2024, eige.europa.eu/publications-resources/thesaurus/terms/1446. Accessed 21 Jan. 2025.

¹³ "Statelessness - United States Department of State." *United States Department of State*, Dec. 2020, 2017-2021.state.gov/other-policy-issues/statelessness/.

UK

Statelessness has long been addressed in the UK through international collaboration, legislative reform, and activism. Through its Nationality and Immigration Act, the UK provides legal safeguards to stateless people and places a high priority on developing inclusive legal frameworks to prevent statelessness.¹⁴ The UK tries to increase awareness worldwide through the UNHCR and is a fervent supporter of international agreements like the 1954 and 1961 Statelessness Conventions. It funds programs that safeguard and integrate stateless people into society and actively promote statelessness determination processes. To prevent women and children from being disproportionately impacted by statelessness, the UK also works to eradicate gender-based discrimination in nationality legislation. The UK's strategy for combating statelessness around the world continues to prioritize human rights advocacy.

Brazil

By emphasizing humanitarian protection and legal inclusion, Brazil has made significant progress in fighting statelessness. To minimize statelessness among migrant populations, the nation changed its nationality laws to guarantee that children born in Brazil automatically obtain citizenship.¹⁵ Additionally, Brazil is actively involved in regional lobbying, pushing Latin American nations to enact inclusive nationality laws and defend the rights of refugees and stateless people. It has given stateless people access to legal channels and a route to naturalization. To guarantee that stateless individuals have access to essential services like healthcare and education, Brazil's strategy also emphasizes integration. Brazil aims to address the urgent needs and underlying causes of statelessness by emphasizing both short-term fixes and long-term changes, which will help to provide enduring rights for those impacted.

¹⁴ "United Kingdom." Statelessness Index, 17 Jan. 2018, index.statelessness.eu/country/united-kingdom.

¹⁵ "Brazilian Nationality." *Ministério Das Relações Exteriores*, 2024, www.gov.br/mre/pt-br/embaixada-helsinque/consular-services/brazilian-nationality. Accessed 23 Feb. 2025.

Philippines

By adopting broad nationality laws and providing legal protection to immigrant communities and their children, the Philippines has made great strides in combating statelessness. By guaranteeing birthright citizenship under its Constitution, the Philippines keeps children born there from becoming stateless. Stateless people, especially those from displaced groups or ethnic minorities, will have access to naturalization avenues thanks to the government's commitment. Furthermore, the Philippines promotes the protection of stateless and refugee individuals both domestically and through regional collaboration throughout Southeast Asia. Working with agencies like the UNHCR to guarantee the rights and dignity of stateless people, the Philippines' strategy is based on human rights and regional solidarity. Both short-term respite and long-term fixes are the goals of the nation's policy.

India

Addressing statelessness is a major issue for India, especially for its migrant and ethnic minority populations. There are sizable undocumented populations as a result of the nation's complicated nationality regulations and past migration trends. To minimize statelessness among disadvantaged populations, including refugees and ethnic minorities like the Rohingya, India is attempting to update its birth registration procedures and amend its nationality rules. India is encouraging collaboration with its neighbors to eliminate statelessness by getting more active in regional projects in South Asia. India also aims to enhance the social integration of stateless people and supports the UNHCR's mission on statelessness. Even if there has been improvement, India still has difficulties striking a balance between its national security concerns and the rights of stateless people, calling for international cooperation and more inclusive policies.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

In order to combat statelessness worldwide, the UNHCR is essential, offering advocacy, legal aid, and technical help to nations who require it. The UNHCR strives to identify, protect, and integrate stateless people into society as the premier international organization for refugee protection. The Global Action Plan to End Statelessness¹⁶ (2014–2024), led by the UNHCR, aims to prevent statelessness and guarantee the recognition and rights of stateless people. To identify and provide protection to

¹⁶ Global Action Plan to End Statelessness. 2014.

stateless individuals, the organization collaborates with governments to support Statelessness Determination Procedures (SDPs). By urging states to ratify the 1954 and 1961 Statelessness Conventions and implement laws that guarantee the rights of stateless people are upheld internationally, the UNHCR also highlights the significance of international collaboration.

Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion (ISI)

Addressing statelessness and advancing the inclusion of stateless individuals is the mission of the Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion (ISI), a global advocacy and research organization. The ISI seeks to draw attention to the underlying causes of statelessness, including as discrimination, migration, and ethnic conflicts, through research, policy creation, and awareness-raising initiatives. It supports governments and non-governmental organizations in developing their ability and promotes the use of international legal frameworks to safeguard the rights of stateless people. The ISI is especially engaged in promoting gender equality in citizenship rights and tracking and studying how Global Action Plan to End Statelessness. 2014.¹⁷ affects statelessness. The ISI collaborates with international organizations to create all-encompassing strategies to eradicate statelessness, emphasizing international cooperation and long-term legal changes.¹⁸¹⁹

Blocs Expected

Alliance 1 MEDCs (More Economically Developed Countries)

Developed nations emphasize finding long-term solutions and prevention. This alliance emphasizes the need to have balance when it comes to immediate or long-term solutions. Their approach aims to prevent statelessness in the future, in ways such as but not limited to,

- International cooperation and support
- Investing in the development of the rule of law
- Addressing root causes
- Ensuring humanitarian aid and protection

¹⁷ United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. UNHCR Global Focus, <https://reporting.unhcr.org/global-report-2023/focus-areas/statelessness>. Accessed 24 Dec. 2024.

¹⁸ United States Department of State. U.S. Department of State, <https://www.state.gov/other-policy-issues/statelessness/>. Accessed 24 Dec. 2024.

¹⁹ United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. UNHCR UK, <https://www.unhcr.org/uk/about-unhcr/who-we-protect/stateless-people/ending-statelessness/statelessness-around-world>. Accessed 24 Dec. 2024.

Key Members: USA, UK, Germany, France, Canada, Japan or

Countries that have substantial resources and often lead the global agenda on human rights, humanitarian aid, and international law reform. They frequently promote financial donations to battle statelessness, promote international accords, and advocate for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Alliance 2 LEDCs (Less Economically Developed Countries)

Affected nations may push for immediate financial and technical support for practical solutions. This Alliance focuses on immediate, practical solutions, seeking financial and technical support from MEDCs, due to conflict, displacement, and weak national frameworks. This approach aims to alleviate the immediate effect of statelessness in ways such as but not limited to,

- Advocacy for Refugee protection
- Capacity Building
- Advocacy for fairer immigration and nationality laws
- Integration of Stateless Individuals.

Key members: Bangladesh, Thailand, Brazil, Turkey, Philippines or

Countries that frequently either directly experience statelessness or serve as centers of transit for displaced persons and stateless refugees. With the assistance of international organizations like the UNHCR, they prioritize providing urgent relief and assistance while working toward long-term, sustainable solutions.²⁰

Timeline of Events

Date	Description of Event
December 10, 1948	The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 15) was adopted, stating that "Everyone has the right to a nationality." ^{21 22}

²⁰ United Nations Statistics Division. UNSD, <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/53rd-session/documents/BG-3f-Country-examples-of%20data-collection-on-statelessness-statistics-E.pdf>. Accessed 24 Dec. 2024.

²¹ "A Study of Statelessness, United Nations, August 1949, Lake Success - New York | Refworld." Refworld, 2023, www.refworld.org/legal/leghist/ahcrsp/1949/en/40644?utm_source=chatgpt.com. Accessed 21 Jan. 2025.

²²United Nations. Universal Declaration of Human Rights. 1948. <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>

July 28, 1951	The 1951 Refugee Convention was established, recognizing the plight of stateless persons but focusing on refugee issues. ²³
September 28, 1954	The Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons was adopted, defining a stateless person and outlining their rights and protections. ²⁴
August 30, 1961	The Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness was adopted, setting rules to prevent statelessness at birth or through deprivation of nationality. ²⁵
August 4, 1972	The Expulsion of Asians from Uganda by Idi Amin caused statelessness for many individuals with Asian heritage who were not recognized as nationals elsewhere. ²⁶
January 1, 1989	The Convention on the Rights of the Child emphasized every child's right to acquire a nationality, reducing statelessness among children. ²⁷
December 26, 1991	The dissolution of the Soviet Union created millions of stateless individuals in newly independent states with unclear nationality laws.
November 6, 1997	The UNHCR Global Mandate was extended to address statelessness and assist stateless persons worldwide.
November 4, 2014	The #TheIBelong Campaign was launched by UNHCR, aiming to end statelessness by 2024.
August 25, 2017	The Rohingya Crisis in Myanmar escalated, rendering hundreds of thousands stateless due to denial of citizenship. ²⁸

²³ "UN Conventions on Statelessness | UNHCR US." UNHCR US, 2025, www.unhcr.org/us/what-we-do/protect-human-rights/ending-statelessness/un-conventions-statelessness?utm_source=chatgpt.com. Accessed 21 Jan. 2025.

²⁴ United Nations. Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees. 1951. <https://www.unhcr.org/3b66c2aa10>

²⁵ United Nations. Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. 1961. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-reduction-statelessness>

Peace Palace Library. "A 100-Year (Hi)Story of Statelessness." Peace Palace Library, 2016. <https://peacepalacelibrary.nl/blog/2016/100-year-history-statelessness>

²⁶ "A 100-Year (Hi)Story of Statelessness | Peace Palace Library." Peacepalacelibrary.nl, 2016, peacepalacelibrary.nl/blog/2016/100-year-history-statelessness?utm_source=chatgpt.com. Accessed 21 Jan. 2025.

²⁷ United Nations. Convention on the Rights of the Child. 1989. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-rights-child>

²⁸ "Timeline: The Kurds' Quest for Independence." Council on Foreign Relations, 2019, www.cfr.org/timeline/kurds-long-struggle-statelessness?utm_source=chatgpt.com. Accessed 21 Jan. 2025.

December 17, 2018	The Global Compact on Refugees included a strong focus on addressing statelessness in humanitarian and development efforts.
November 4, 2021	The UNHCR Global Action Plan for ending statelessness marked significant progress, with thousands of people being granted nationality worldwide.

Relevant UN Resolutions, Treaties & Events

- [UNHCR Global Action Plan to End Statelessness \(2014-2024\)](#)
- [High-Level Segment on Statelessness \(2019\)](#)
- [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDG's\) \(2015\)](#)
 - Goal 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions)
 - Goal 10 (Reduces Inequalities)
- [#IBELONG Campaign \(2014-Now\)](#)
- [European Convention on Nationality \(1997\)](#)

Previous Attempts to Solve the Issue

1961 Convention on Statelessness

This convention served as the key international treaty aimed at preventing statelessness. The most significant international agreement aimed at reducing and avoiding statelessness is the 1961 Convention. It lays out precise guidelines that guarantee children born without nationality can obtain citizenship in their birth nation. In order to prevent people from becoming stateless as a result of discriminatory laws or legal loopholes, it also restricts states' power to remove nationality arbitrarily. This convention is a crucial instrument in the worldwide struggle against statelessness since it has served as the basis for nationality laws in many nations.²⁹

²⁹ 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, www.unhcr.org/ibelong/wp-content/uploads/1961-Convention-on-the-reduction-of-Statelessness_ENG.pdf.

The #IBelong Campaign by UNHCR (2014–2024)

The UN Refugee Agency started the #IBelong campaign, a ten-year effort to eradicate statelessness globally. It functions by promoting legal changes, expanding birth registration, and offering stateless people legal routes to obtaining citizenship. In addition to increasing international awareness of the issue, the campaign has assisted hundreds of thousands of people in obtaining citizenship. #IBelong has emerged as one of the most successful contemporary campaigns to combat statelessness by enlisting the help of governments and civil society.³⁰

The Bihari People's Citizenship Grant from Bangladesh (2008)

About 300,000 Bihari people, who had been stateless since 1971, were granted citizenship by Bangladesh in 2008, marking a significant milestone in the country's efforts to end statelessness. The Indian-born Biharis had been denied basic rights and subjected to legal isolation for decades. The ruling established a significant precedent for dealing with statelessness nationally by granting people the ability to vote, get passports, and use public services. One of the most important national remedies to the problem is still this case.³¹

Possible Solutions

Strengthen Legal Protection

Stateless persons can obtain fundamental rights, including education, health care and employment by the enhancement of legal protection of their rights. By strengthening legal frameworks at the national and international levels, stateless people's rights will be protected. Effective

³⁰ "The - Google Search." *Google.com*, 2024, [www.google.com/search?client=safari&rls=en&q=The+%23IBelong+Campaign+by+UNHCR+\(2014%E2%80%932024\)&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&safe=active](https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&rls=en&q=The+%23IBelong+Campaign+by+UNHCR+(2014%E2%80%932024)&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&safe=active).

³¹ "UNHCR Web Archive." *Unhcr.org*, 2025, webarchive.archive.unhcr.org/20250223095047/www.refworld.org/docid/52248b724.html.

implementation of treaties such as the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons can protect stateless people against discrimination and exploitation.

Reform Nationality Laws

In order to tackle our issue we will have to reform discriminatory nationality laws. Specifically, those that deny women the right to transmit their nationality to their children and increase stateless populations. By reforming equal and inclusive laws, countries can help end statelessness and prevent it from ever occurring again. As a result, these legal frameworks will enable people born stateless to obtain nationality without unnecessary obstacles.

Increase internal and regional cooperation

By sharing resources, knowledge, and best practices nations can make a collective effort when it comes to preventing statelessness. Regional cooperation and agreements do not only offer pathways for stateless persons to gain nationality or legal status, but they also provide hope, safety and relief for affected populations.

Improve Technology and Stateless Person Tracking

We live in a society where technology evolves rapidly and we have the opportunity to use it to our advantage when it comes to tackling global issues. Investing in technology when it comes to tracking stateless persons can significantly improve the identification and management of stateless populations. Advanced databases and biometric tools can streamline the progress of recognizing stateless populations, ensuring that individuals are registered and protected. Not only that, such technological advancements can also help agencies and humanitarian organisations respond more effectively to statelessness, especially when it comes to conflict zones.³²

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³² HANDBOOK on PROTECTION of STATELESS PERSONS.

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