

Global Refugee Sponsorship Initiative

Why was the *Global Refugee Sponsorship Initiative* founded?

Over 300,000 refugees have been resettled in Canada through the Private Sponsorship of Refugees programme since 1979.

Recently, thousands of Canadians have used the program to directly mobilize a response to the Syrian refugee crisis.

By the end of 2016, 22.5 million people who were refugees. In 2017, just 65,00 were resettled with UNHCR assistance.

Many states are interested in exploring the possibility of enabling citizens or other private entities to directly resettle.



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UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency



uOttawa

When was the *Global Refugee Sponsorship Initiative* founded?

September
20, 2016

- United Nations High Level Summit for Refugees and Migrants 2016

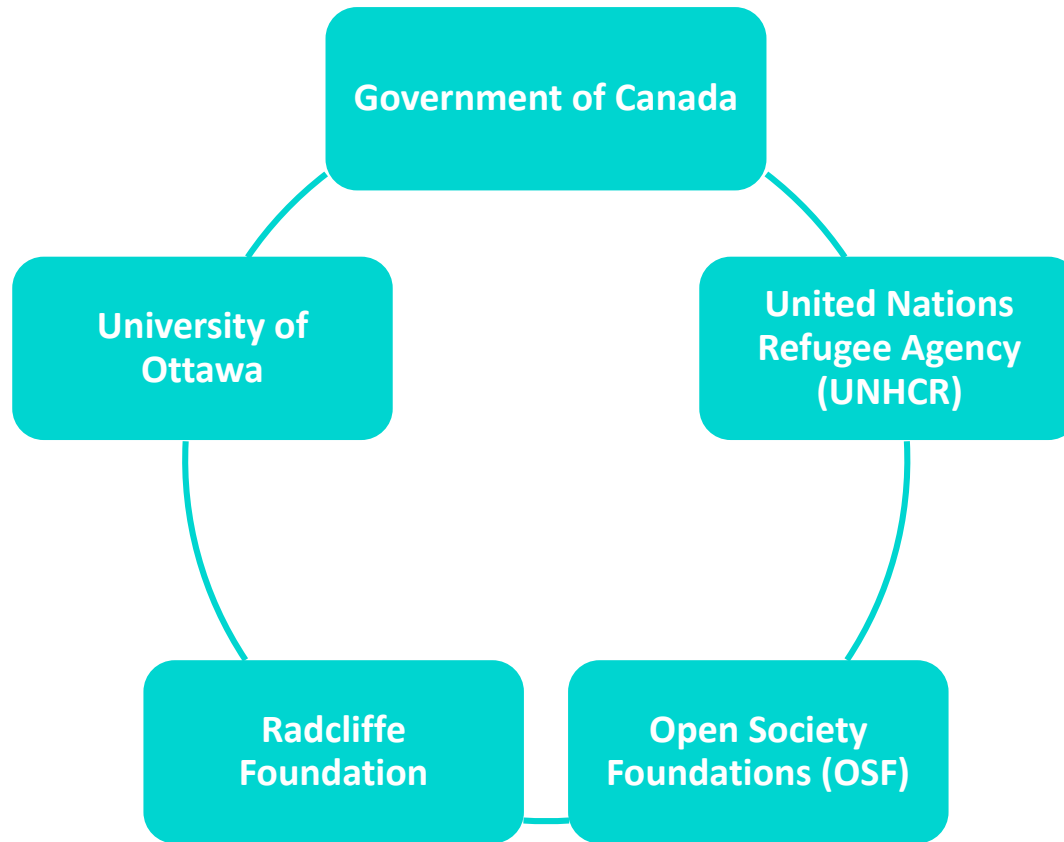
Joint
Announcement

- Private-public partnership to increase global resettlement of refugees through private sponsorship

December
13-15,
2017

- Official launch

Who is the *Global Refugee Sponsorship Initiative*?



What is the *Global Refugee Sponsorship Initiative's* purpose?

Contribute to enhanced international responsibility-sharing by expanding global resettlement spaces through private sponsorship as a pathway for refugees in need of protection

Increase and improve global refugee resettlement by engaging private citizens, communities, and businesses in resettlement efforts;

Strengthen local host communities that come together to welcome newcomers

Improve the political narrative about refugees and other newcomers.

How has GRSI worked to improve refugee protection globally?

- UK Community Sponsorship Program scaling-up and leverage lessons learned for newly interested states
- Latin American Countries Study Tour and Argentina GRSI Mission
- Ireland stakeholder Policy Retreat – framework for sponsorship program;
- GRSI Spanish stakeholder engagement in Madrid + La Rioja
- GRSI Products: *Guidebook on the Building Blocks of Community Sponsorship*, GRSI and community sponsorship fact sheets, informational videos
- State Champions workshop - London
- European Engagement: at Brussels Conference, ATCR Working Group, Metropolis – The Hague, EASO and EU Frank

What is The GUIDEBOOK?

- *Building Blocks of Community Sponsorship Based on Canada's Model*
- Online Resource for government and civil society
- Answers logistical questions about how Community Sponsorship works
- Multi-lingual resource
- Basic subjects include:
 - Refugees: From Eligibility to Arrival
 - Sponsors: From Mobilization to Engagement
 - Settlement and Integration
 - Refugee-Sponsor Relationship
- refugeesponsorship.org

GRSI videos

- [GRSI Canadian video](#)
- [GRSI UK video](#)