Editor's Note

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The fourth Volume of EJHR focuses on understanding the complex and multilayered relationship between migration and human rights evident at different stages of migratory cycle, different categories of migrants, policy and legal frameworks.

The working definition of the term "migrants" as adopted in this volume draws on IOM's definition of a migrant[1], an umbrella term that encompasses different categories of people on the move: a migrant is any person who is moving or has moved across an international border or within a State away from his/her habitual place of residence, regardless of (1) the person's legal status; (2) whether the movement is voluntary or involuntary; (3) what the causes for the movement are; or (4) what the length of the stay is. This understanding of a migrant is a critique of the simplistic binaries of forced vs. voluntary, refugee vs. economic migrant etc.; a phenomenon Apostolova (2015) describes as 'categorical fetishism'[2]. Koser and Martin (2011)[3], allude the distinction between 'refugees' on the one hand and 'migrants' on the other does not reflect realities of migration processes as positionilaity is a dynamic process that might change in different context and across time.

Available evidence in the field of migration and refugee studies shows the interplay of several factors as drivers of migration. At the very initial stage of the migration cycle, also called the "push factors" of migration, most studies conducted in the Ethiopian context often remain at the descriptive level focusing on the various factors that underline a migration project without *adopting a human-rights lens*. They tend to be descriptive in nature and often fail to underscore national, regional and international human rights norms and standards, which can be powerful programmatic and methodological tools for improving migrants' rights.

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[1] https://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/migration/index.html

[2] Raia Apostolova. 2015. Economic vs. Political: Violent abstractions in Europe's refugee crisis. Central European University.

[3] Kalid Koser and Susan Martin. 2011. The Migration-displacement nexus: Patterns, processes and policies. Berghahn Books.

Despite several incidences of exploitation, migrants' rights have remained on the margins of the national human rights agenda in Ethiopia, which studies in the field of migration also reflect. The human rights approach of the "push factors", on the other hand, recognizes the fact that triggers of migration include multidimensional violations of basic economic, social, civil and political rights. This approach helps to go beyond identifying the "push" factors and examine the degree to which different forms of "economic migration" are, in fact, "voluntary" or are rather related to structural factors that underpin violations of rights at places of origin, transit and destination.

This fourth volume of EJHR has seven contributions. The contribution by Benyam Mezmur eloquently discusses how the engagement of UN Committee on the Rights of the Child with State Parties on child migration issues was significantly informed or influenced by the migration crisis in Europe. He critically reflects on continuous guidance provided by CRC committee and the two Joint General Comments (JGCs) on children in the context of international migration. The contribution by Fana and Frehiwot, calls for a comprehensive understanding of determinants of migration and policy making, drawing on agency of the migrants. The authors substantiate their argument drawing on a study conducted in Tigray and Addis Ababa. The contribution by Nicola et al is based on qualitative data collected by the Gender and Adolescence: Global Evidence (GAGE), a nine-year mixed methods longitudinal research and evaluation study. In their contribution the authors discuss how migrant flows need to reflect on the rights of all migrants, including adolescent girls and boys.

The contribution by Tadesse, Fassil and Jaxu accents the need to analyze and understand the evolving legal frameworks, institutional response mechanisms, challenges and opportunities. The contribution by Kiya draws on an ethnographic study conducted on Ethio-Sudanese border town and discusses how migration industry is influenced by broader social and political considerations. The contribution by Felegeberhan elucidates existing gaps in protection of rights of migrants by illustrating how the lack of enforcement and implementation of existing policies further exacerbates the vulnerability of prospective labour migrants from Ethiopia.

The article by Sehin and Joanna reflects on the unequal power relations created through domestic work and how perceived or real danger plays a significant role in the self-discipline of domestic workers. The

authors also discussed the agency of the domestic workers by illustrating everyday forms of resistance that enable migrant women retain a sense of self and dignity.

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