

## Refugees and Their Unforeseen Future

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**Introduction:** The current hybrid war in Ukraine clearly shows the impacts of modern warfare on civilians. Infrastructure, including healthcare facilities, energy sources, and every entity supporting the lifeline of the people are under attack, leaving no options but to leave the country for those who can. Since the outbreak of the conflict, over three million Ukrainian women and children have migrated to the neighboring countries. Although women and children might be the healthiest groups among refugees, they create other challenges within healthcare. **Method:** Qualitative and quantitative methods which describes all possible impacts of the war on the refugees' situation in three periods of time.

**Migration:** During this period, besides the risk of trauma, there are other types of diseases such as infectious diseases that influence the outcome of the migration.

**Settlement:** This period consists of emergency physical and psychological conditions that bring the refugees to the hospitals. Hygienic issues and exposure to new diseases such as Covid-19 can be part of this period. Additionally, there might be social adjustment issues that need to be discussed.

**The post-conflict:** Consists of PTSD and other psychological impacts of the war, which may change the course of the life of many survivors. The final impact of the failure in social adjustment may also result in long-term socio-cultural issues.

**Results:** We expect that the results of the submitted projects demonstrate the unforeseen physical and psychological wounds in refugees, irrespective of their age and background. One major outcome would be the failure of the social adjustment and if possible, a comparison with previous wars' refugees.

**Conclusion:** The research will conclude by presenting a summary of all results and categorization of the conditions that influence the well-being of refugees as well as the host country. New recommendations will be available based on the experience gained and the results presented.

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## Integrated Civilian-Military Air Operations in the Wake of Hurricane Ian

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**Introduction:** Hurricane Ian impacted Southwest Florida in September 2022 leaving massive destruction. Notably, the

barrier islands were isolated by destroyed bridges and docks. Delivery of Search and Rescue, Medical Care, and other aid required a joint Civilian-Military Air Operation to provide essential services.

**Method:** This presentation will detail the just-in-time development and operation of a massive joint civilian-military air operation in order to provide essential disaster response services.

**Results:** Components of the joint air operation included:

- the establishment of a regional air asset request center
- creation of a command structure for air mission tasking
- the use of an airborne military air traffic control asset for forward control
- setting up a helibase at an international airport
- creation of multiple helispots in remote damaged areas with forward control assets
- the coordination with numerous private, NGO, municipal, county, state, federal, and military agencies
- heavy, medium, and light lift helicopter operations
- both civilian and military dedicated medevac
- hoist and water rescue operations
- accommodating a US presidential visit during operations

Together these operations supported the transportation needs of Search and Rescue, Medical, Command, Planning, and Logistics Operations for XXX days until the establishment of reliable ground transportation.

**Conclusion:** This presentation will not only provide insight into the planning and operation of the joint air operation but will also share the impacts on the medical care from the physicians who were directly involved in the medical care delivered on the barrier islands of Florida.

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## Collaboration Between Civil and Military Means for Teaching Disaster Medicine

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**Introduction:** Training in disaster medicine can be partly theoretical but it must include a large practical part. If part of it can be developed through exercises in virtual reality or on a computer, the realization of life-size disaster exercises bringing together all the disciplines is of great help in this learning. Exercises of such magnitude are difficult to carry out in civilian life for reasons of resources and cost. We therefore wanted to develop this disaster medicine course with the three



French-speaking civil universities but also with the Royal Military School for the practical part.

**Method:** Collaboration agreements were established between three civilian universities (ULB, UCLouvain, ULiège) and the Royal Military School. The army thus provides the infrastructures of the Belgian military units to organize the exercises, personnel, means of make-up, vehicles, and security, all free of cost. Coordination meetings before exercises are also organized during the year by the army.

**Results:** The exercises are organized in complete safety conditions on military fields, isolated from the civilian environment without disturbing the daily functioning of civilians. Access is authorized and organized for the various disciplines (firefighters, police, red cross and other participants). Nearly 100 people (victims, firemen, policemen,...) and 50 vehicles per exercise make the scenario completely believable. Different scenarios are repeated six times to complete the training of 80 students.

**Conclusion:** The collaboration between civilians and military has made it possible to set up quality training integrating a large part of life-size exercises at no cost and in complete safety. This ends the course by integrating in practice all the knowledge learned during the theoretical part and the virtual exercises.

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### Framework for Implementing and Measuring Interoperability and Organizational Change Within and Across a Multi-service and Multi-agency Emergency Response System

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**Introduction:** The Australian Capital Territory Emergency Services Agency (ESA) has experienced a significantly increased burden of training and most significantly recurrent major emergency response events correlated with increased bushfire and extreme weather events since 2019. ACT ESA is required to provide comprehensive pre-hospital paramedic, firefighting, and emergency response support to the population of the Australian Capital Territory on a day-by-day basis (business as usual) but also surge to meet extraordinary demand. Historically, operational roles and functional areas within ACT ESA have worked largely autonomously under business-as-usual conditions. Under crisis or disaster conditions, these sub-agencies are required to work harmoniously together and alongside external agencies such as Australian Defense Force and Australian Federal Police. ACT ESA have identified that interoperability and integration between internal ACT ESA sub-agencies and externally with other agencies is a key problem. From 2023–2027 ACT ESA has committed to a program of organizational change to address this problem.

**Method:** An organizational change plan focusing on improving interoperability and integration was developed using the Generalized Method for Measuring Interoperability and Continuous Quality Improvement frameworks. A comprehensive framework for measuring organizational change and the effectiveness of interventions across multiple workplace domains, based on Kirkpatrick's approach, was developed through a co-design process between academia and the ACT ESA.

**Results:** The ACT ESA change management framework, research, and implementation plan is presented here, alongside the results of preliminary stakeholder and professional engagement activities providing early feedback, adjustment and evolution.

**Conclusion:** The ACT ESA is in a unique position within the Australian emergency response landscape having a much greater degree of centralized command, control, and coordination. Despite this advantage, it has identified interoperability both within the organization and with key partnering organizations as a problem. This study outlines how the ESA is approaching organizational change by applying systematic implementation and change management approaches.

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### International Military Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Literature Review

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**Introduction:** The COVID-19 pandemic created a public health crisis worldwide. Healthcare workers also became ill at a time when hospitals were overwhelmed with patients, leaving critical staffing shortages. Mass vaccination efforts were initiated in some cases without adequate civilian manpower. The governments of many nations utilized their military assets to fill gaps in care, and to initiate projects promoting public health efforts. The COVID-19 pandemic created a never-before-seen international military response to an infectious disease disaster. This literature review highlights the non-conflict assets allocated, abilities utilized, projects completed, overall effectiveness, and lessons learned by the military community worldwide to support their local populace. By collating this information into a single document, the collective global experience can be better analyzed and this information utilized to develop a framework for future disaster preparedness and mitigation planning efforts.

**Method:** Medline (PubMed), GoogleScholar and the JSTOR Security Studies collection were searched for English language articles from January 1, 2020 and onwards. Keywords used included civil-military coordination, hospital, deployment, COVID-19, vaccination, and healthcare. Titles were initially screened for relevance and the abstracts were then reviewed for a decision on inclusion. Article inclusion was determined