

# Beyond the right to work

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Propositions Accompanying the Dissertation

## **Beyond the Right to Work:**

### Labour Market Engagement of Protracted Refugees Through a Social Exclusion Lens

**Tamara A. Kool**

1. A social exclusion lens to the labour market engagement of refugees enables a closer examination of non-inclusionary practices by acknowledging the heterogeneity among different refugee groups. Furthermore, it seeks to examine how societal relations, institutional frameworks and policy response may alleviate or further exacerbate the position of refugees in society.
2. The right to work is not a siloed process but rather contingent upon other social and economic rights, and spatial policies. The rights and policies are furthermore subject to interest by the host State.
3. Despite the longevity of the existence of the different camps sites and even incorporation of the camps into urban centres or development into a location on its own, camp populations tend to be worse off both in terms of well-being and labour market outcomes. Yet, a camp can also provide an economic space on its own.
4. There is a danger in terms of framing the right to work for refugees by highlighting the needs and potential of one group in particular. It warrants that any policy dialogues should be cognisant of the spill-over effects of policy design on other refugee populations.
5. Unless policies adapt and create a more favourable environment, the individual agency is only able to address part of the conditions that are needed to attain the right to decent work.
6. Any advocacy for policy change requires a critical examination of who is included and who is excluded from the debate otherwise existing divisional structures will be upheld and the prevailing marginalisation of groups will be reinforced.
7. “Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.” – *Article 23.1, UDHR*
8. “Everyone strives after the law,” says the man, “so how is that in these many years no one except me has requested entry?” The gatekeeper sees that the man is already dying and, in order to reach his diminishing sense of hearing, he shouts at him, “Here no one else can gain entry, since this entrance was assigned only to you. I’m going now to close it.” – *Franz Kafka - The Trial*
9. “No one can make you inferior without your consent.” – *Eleanor Roosevelt*