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In 2016 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants. The declaration calls upon the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to work with multiple stakeholders to develop comprehensive global compacts on the refugee and migration issues addressing cross-cutting concerns such as human trafficking, smuggling, resettlement, repatriation/returns, climate change and environmental impacts, etc. The declaration further demonstrates the magnitude of the migration and refugee problems around the world and the enormous pressures such displacements are putting on the international system. Within this 4th annual issue The Journal of International Relations, Peace Studies & Development presents several articles, which analyze how the growing migration and refugee crises are affecting various aspects of international affairs. Moreover, it seeks to expand the discourse on the political, economic and social implications of these issues as nations reexamine policies in response to these crises, as well as further our understanding of the various causes and drivers of displacement.

In addition, given our wider goal of expanding global debate, we have included book reviews and a number of articles in our Special Features section focusing on political theory and broader political and socio-economic issues.

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