

# PODCAST: Tea and empathy – Refugee ZamZam Yusuf’s extraordinary journey

15 January 2018 – Somali refugee ZamZam Yusuf has a message for any neighbours who think she doesn’t have the right to call Leicester, in the English Midlands, home.

“I would like to offer you a cup of tea” at my house, says the 30-year-old mother-of-four, who came to United Nations Headquarters in New York in January, as world leaders prepare to debate the first-ever [Global Compact for Migration](#).

Her university, De Montfort, in the United Kingdom, has taken the academic lead in furthering the UN’s [Together](#) campaign on behalf of the millions who are on the move, whose basic rights are being denied.

A summit in New York on 9 January aimed to raise awareness and encourage debate on the current challenges faced by refugees in local communities. Led by De Montfort, the universities shared ideas for practical ways they can use skills, experience and voluntary power on their campuses to support those in need in their local areas.

Too often, said UN chief António Guterres – launching his 2018 report, [Making Migration Work for All](#) – their positive contribution is being overshadowed by the plight of a “desperate minority” forced to live in the shadows by countries that violate their rights.

ZamZam came in to our the [Lid is on](#) studio in New York to describe her extraordinary journey – just one of the millions that are being taken each year, in search of a better life.