

# Acknowledgments

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In a book devoted to the Middle Eastern refugee crisis, we must begin by thanking the many refugees from Afghanistan, Iraq, Palestine, and Syria who made this book possible by sharing their lives and stories with us. Many of them have faced incredible hardships and unmitigated human suffering. We dedicate this book to them—hoping that they achieve the safety and settled futures to which they ardently aspire.

This book emerged from a meeting that took place at Yale University in September 2019. The meeting brought together for the first time anthropologists studying Middle Eastern refugee populations in various Middle Eastern, European, and North American settings. Here, anthropologists were able to discuss the ways in which war has led to refugee flight from the Middle East, and how resettlement in various host countries has unfolded. Their work, now published in this volume, speaks to the cultural, political, and legal challenges that lead to regimes of exclusion in some settings, and regimes of inclusion in others. We are proud of and grateful to these dedicated anthropologists, who are seeking to humanize the vitriolic discourses and political debates surrounding Middle Eastern refugee resettlement in Europe and North America.

At Yale University, our gathering was hosted by the Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies, the Council on Middle East Studies (CMES), and the Department of Anthropology. Generous support was received from the Edward J. and Dorothy Clark Kempf Memorial Fund, the Yale Program on Refugees, Forced Displacement, and Humanitarian Responses, and the U.S. Department of Education Title VI National Resource Center, which supports Yale CMES's activities. At CMES, we are particularly grateful for the tireless organizational support of the CMES staff, including Cristin Siebert, CMES program director, and Marwa Khaboor, CMES program coordinator, who organized every detail of the meeting, from posters to travel to sound equipment and delicious halal meals. We also appreciate the support provided by the Yale Department of Anthropology, which, among other things, provided us with a beautiful weekend seminar

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*Alf alf shukran*—a million thanks!

—Marcia C. Inhorn and Lucia Volk  
New Haven and San Francisco, January 2021