



## PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT AND CONSENT FORM

Justice Inclusion Access (JInA) - Ecosystem of support for women students from forced migrant background  
*Chief Investigator: Dr Parisa Glass*

### What is the research study about?

**Background:** Traditionally, centralised support services at Australian universities have been directed at students who are born and educated in Australia and are native English speakers. They are not at students who come from different cultural/ language backgrounds and/or who may have had fragmented previous educational experiences, for example those from forced migrant background.

Forced migration covers UNHCR (the UN Refugee Agency) references to displacement that occurs when individuals are forced to leave their homes or places of habitual residence in order to avoid situations such as armed conflict, violence, human rights abuses, natural or man-made disasters.

Although Australian universities (including UNSW) provide opportunities that may be relevant to students from forced migrant background, the ease of navigating these opportunities through university systems and programs is not satisfactory. Also, there is no clear mechanism to assess the impact of support services in these students and ensure they are fit for purpose.

We propose to establish a program at UNSW for women from forced migrant background, to study in a well-connected and inclusive ecosystem that supports them through their higher education and professional development journey. We aim to include voices of target students to inform the design of proposed support program at UNSW.

Why focus on women? It is well-known that an intersection of multiple forms of systemic discrimination produces greater disadvantage for groups of people who are not dominant and do not have same access to power and privilege as the dominant groups. Even when the systems are not actively discriminatory, structural barriers, such as language, poverty, and migration status can render certain groups of people more disadvantaged than others. Women and girl confront additional challenges in times of displacement.

To help inform the mentioned program, the research team is conducting a research study in 2024. You are invited to take part in this research study which has 2 parts. You may decide to only participate in part 1.

**Part 1)** understand the higher education and career development needs of women students at UNSW who come from forced migrant background (target students). This will be done via semi-structured interviews that will take approximately 1 hour and will be conducted by research team either in-person at UNSW Kensington campus or online via Microsoft Teams.

**Part 2)** test the impact of a current career coaching program offered by UNSW Employability in those that took part in Part 1. Career Explorer Program is currently open to all students at UNSW and is offered each term (<https://www.unsw.edu.au/employability/discover/career-explorer-program>). This program designs students' experience at UNSW in just three coaching sessions, while discovering what drives students, what values are important to them and what programs and jobs excite them. However, there is currently no assessment of this program in target group. This research study aims to understand if this coaching program sufficiently addresses the needs of target students by conducting post-program interviews that will take approximately 30min and will be conducted by research team either in-person at UNSW Kensington campus or online via Microsoft Teams.



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### 1. Who is conducting this research?

The study is being carried out by the following researchers: Dr Parisa Glass from the Faculty of Health & Medicine as Chief Investigator, Dr Elnaz Irannezhad from UNSW Engineering as Co-Investigator and Ms Sherine Al Shallah from the Faculty of Law & Justice as Project Coordinator.

Research Funder: This research is being funded by UNSW Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) with co-funding from UNSW Medicine & Health.

### 2. Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria

Before you decide to participate in this research study, we need to ensure that it is ok for you to take part. The research study is looking to recruit people who meet the following criteria:

- Under-graduate or post-graduate students (including HDR) at UNSW, and
- Identify as woman, and
- Experienced forced-migration prior to settling in Australia.

Participants who do not meet above criteria will be excluded from the study.

### 3. Do I have to take part in this research study?

Participation in this research study is voluntary. If you do not want to take part, you do not have to. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw from the study at any stage.

If you decide you want to take part in the research study, you will be asked to:

- Read the information carefully (ask questions if necessary);
- Sign and return the consent form if you decide to participate in the study;
- Take a copy of this form with you to keep.

### 4. What does participation in this research require, and are there any risks involved?

If you agree to participate you will be asked to complete the following research procedures.

**Part 1)** You will be interviewed and asked questions about your professional needs in higher education and beyond. The interview will take place at a mutually convenient time either in-person with research team at UNSW Kensington campus or online via Microsoft Teams and will take approximately 1 hour. Online interviews will be recorded with transcription enabled via Microsoft Teams with your permission. If you do not wish to be recorded but you would like to participate you may advise the research team and notes will be taken.

Following interviews, a draft of your individual interview transcript and key findings will be shared with you to review for accuracy. You will have an opportunity to edit and add new material.

**Part 2)** During Part 1, you will be invited to undertake **UNSW Career Explorer Program** in Term 3 if you wish. You are not required to participate in part 2 if you do not wish. This is a free program available to all students at UNSW. If you wish to take part in this free coaching program, you will be directed to follow usual application process for that program. If you undertake and complete that program, you are invited to connect back with research team for a second interview that would take approximately 30min. This is to understand if the program met your individual needs. This interview will be with research team engaged in part 1 at a



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mutually convenient time and may be in person at UNSW Kensington campus or online via Microsoft Teams. A copy of draft interview transcript will be shared with you to review for accuracy and feedback.

**Additional Costs and Reimbursement:** There are no costs associated with participating in this research project. You will be re-imbursed based on below:

Part 1) You will receive a gift voucher to the value of \$100. This is to compensate for 1 hour of interview and post-interview review of draft transcript. This voucher is available to those who complete part 1 including post-interview review of your material.

Part 2) You will receive a gift voucher to the value of \$250. This is to compensate for approximately 3 hours of coaching program commitment followed by interview and feedback. This voucher is available to those who complete all steps in Part 2.

**Psychological Distress:** You may feel that some of the questions we ask are stressful or upsetting. If you do not wish to answer a question, you may skip it and go to the next question, or you may stop immediately. If you become upset or distressed as a result of your participation in the research project, the research team will be able to arrange for counselling or other appropriate support. Alternatively, details for free contactable support services are included at section 9. Any counselling or support will be provided by qualified staff who are not members of the research team. This counselling will be provided free of charge.

### 5. What will happen to information about me?

By signing the consent form, you consent to the research team collecting and using information about you for the research study.

The research team will store the data collected from you for this research project for:

- A minimum of 5 years after the publication of the research results.

The information about you will be stored in an:

- Re-identifiable format where any identifiers such as your name, address, date of birth will be replaced with a self-selected pseudonym for any type of publication or presentation outside approved research team.

You will be asked to provide your consent for the research team to share or use the information collected from you in future research that:

- Will be an extension of, or closely related to, the original project; or is in the same general area of research,
- This is optional and you may choose not to have information collected from you to be used in future research.

Your information will only be shared in a format that will not identify you. You can withdraw your consent for share of your de-identified data by emailing research team.

- Information collected from you in an electronic format will be stored on a UNSW OneDrive and Teams folder which will only be accessible by the approved research team listed in this consent form.



**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT AND CONSENT FORM**

Justice Inclusion Access (JIInA) - Ecosystem of support for women students from forced migrant background  
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- Audio or video recordings will be stored on a UNSW Microsoft Teams folder which will only be accessible by the approved research team in this consent form. This recording is optional and is only intended to check against drafted transcripts. Once transcripts are finalised, these recordings will be deleted. You can choose not to have your interview recorded in which case research team will take notes at the time of interview. Your drafted transcripts will be shared with you for review and feedback prior to finalising.

The information you provide is personal information for the purposes of the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (NSW). You have the right of access to personal information held about you by the University, the right to request correction and amendment of it, and the right to make a complaint about a breach of the Information Protection Principles as contained in the PPIP Act. Further information on how the University protects personal information is available in the [UNSW Privacy Management Plan](#).

**6. How and when will I find out what the results of the research study are?**

The research team intend to publish and report the results of the research. All Information will be published in a way that will not identify you.

If you would like to receive a copy of the results you can let the research team know by inserting your email or mailing address in the consent form. We will only use these details to send you the results of the research.

**7. What if I want to withdraw from the research study?**

If you do consent to participate, you may withdraw at any time. You can do so by completing the 'Withdrawal of Consent Form' which is provided at the end of this document or you can ring/email the research team and tell them you no longer want to participate. Your decision not to participate or to withdraw from the study will not affect your relationship with UNSW Sydney. If you decide to leave the research study, the researchers will not collect additional information from you. You can request that any identifiable information about you be withdrawn from the research project.

**8. What if I have a complaint or any concerns about the research study?**

If you have a complaint regarding any aspect of the study or the way it is being conducted, please contact the UNSW Human Ethics Coordinator:

**Complaints Contact**

<b>Position</b>	UNSW Human Research Ethics Coordinator
<b>Telephone</b>	+ 61 2 9385 6222
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:humanethics@unsw.edu.au">humanethics@unsw.edu.au</a>
<b>HC Reference Number</b>	iRECS6088

**9. What should I do if I have further questions about my involvement in the research study?**

The person you may need to contact will depend on the nature of your query. If you require further information regarding this study or if you have any problems which may be related to your involvement in the study, you can contact the following member/s of the research team:



## PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT AND CONSENT FORM

Justice Inclusion Access (JIInA) - Ecosystem of support for women students from forced migrant background  
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### Research Team Contact Details

<b>Name</b>	Sherine Al Shallah
<b>Position</b>	Project Coordinator
<b>Telephone</b>	
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:s.alshallah@unsw.edu.au">s.alshallah@unsw.edu.au</a>

<b>Name</b>	Elnaz Irannezhad
<b>Position</b>	Co-investigator
<b>Telephone</b>	
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:e.irannezhad@unsw.edu.au">e.irannezhad@unsw.edu.au</a>

### Chief Investigator

<b>Name</b>	Parisa Glass
<b>Position</b>	Conjoint Senior Lecturer
<b>Telephone</b>	0400 474 352
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:p.glass@unsw.edu.au">p.glass@unsw.edu.au</a>

### Support Services Contact Details

If at any stage during the study, you become distressed or require additional support from someone not involved in the research please call:

<b>Name/Organisation</b>	<a href="#">UNSW Sydney</a>
<b>Position</b>	<a href="#">Psychology &amp; Wellness Program</a>
<b>Telephone</b>	<a href="#">(02) 9385 5418</a>
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:counselling@unsw.edu.au">counselling@unsw.edu.au</a>

You can also contact STARTTS which is a not-for-profit and an Affiliated Health Organisation. STARTTS provides free and culturally relevant psychological treatment and support, and community interventions, to help people and communities heal the scars of torture and refugee trauma.

<b>Name/Organisation</b>	STARTTS
<b>Position</b>	STARTTS counselling
<b>Telephone</b>	02 9646 6700
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:stts-startts@health.nsw.gov.au">stts-startts@health.nsw.gov.au</a>



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**Consent Form – Participant providing own consent**

**Declaration by the participant**

- I understand I am being asked to provide consent to participate in this research study;
- I have read the Participant Information Sheet, or someone has read it to me in a language that I understand;
- I understand the purposes, study tasks and risks of the research described in the study;
- I understand that the research team will video record the interviews. I agree to be recorded for this purpose.
- I provide my consent for the information collected about me to be used for the purpose of this research study only.
- I have had an opportunity to ask questions and I am satisfied with the answers I have received;
- I freely agree to participate in this research study as described and understand that I am free to withdraw at any time during the study and withdrawal will not affect my relationship with any of the named organisations and/or research team members;
- I would like to receive a copy of the study results via email or post, I have provided my details below and ask that they be used for this purpose only;
- I understand that I will be given a signed copy of this document to keep.
- I understand that the results of the research will be made available on the UNSW website in aggregated form, or using pseudonyms ensuring anonymity and no results will allow for identification of any individual.
- I would like to receive a copy of the study results via email or post, I have provided my details below and ask that they be used for this purpose only.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Optional Consent for reuse of data and future research:**

- I provide my consent for the information collected about me to be made available to other researchers as described at section 6 of this document.
- I provide my consent for my name and contact details to be retained in a register so I can be contacted about other similar research projects in the future.

**Participant Signature**

Name of Participant (please print)	
Signature of Research Participant	
Date	

**Declaration by Researcher\***

- I have given a verbal explanation of the research study; its study activities and risks and I believe that the participant has understood that explanation.

**Researcher Signature\***

Name of Researcher (please print)	
Signature of Researcher	
Date	

**\*An appropriately qualified member of the research team must provide the explanation of, and information concerning the research study.**

**Note: All parties signing the consent section must date their own signature.**



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## Form for Withdrawal of Participation

I wish to **WITHDRAW** my consent to participate in this research study described above and understand that such withdrawal **WILL NOT** affect my relationship with The University of New South Wales.

- I am withdrawing my consent and I would like any identifiable information collected about me which I have provided for the purpose of this research study withdrawn.
- I am withdrawing my consent to participate in further components of this research and provide my permission for the research team to retain and/or use information collected about me which I have provided for the purpose of this research.
- I am withdrawing my consent and I understand that any information already published and/or not linked to my identity cannot be withdrawn from the research.

### Participant Name

Name of Participant (please type)	
Date	

### The section for Withdrawal of Participation should be forwarded to:

CI Name:	Dr Parisa Glass
Email:	p.glass@unsw.edu.au
Phone:	<a href="tel:0400474352">0400 474 352</a>
Postal Address:	Level 4, Lowy Building UNSW SYDNEY 2052