

Refugee Entrepreneurship and Resilience

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Abstract

Resilience is essential for refugee entrepreneurs since it enables them to go through hardship, overcome obstacles, and build their entrepreneurial careers. Several research endeavors have shed light on refugees' entrepreneurial activities, but there are limited studies that address the resilience of refugee entrepreneurs. Therefore, this study will examine refugee entrepreneurship through resilience, using a theoretical construct developed by Ungar et al. (2008), referring to the seven resilience factors in the context of culture. The critical research question highlighted in this paper is: how do internal and external factors interact with refugees' entrepreneurial resilience? Based on the seven-tension model by Ungar et al. (2008), this paper develops a framework that presents the interaction of internal and external factors with refugees' entrepreneurial resilience. It also developed eight research propositions. Previous studies on resilience in refugee entrepreneurship primarily emphasize how resilience affects refugees' motivation to engage in entrepreneurship. However, this study extends the current literature by examining external and internal factors, which influence or are influenced by refugees' entrepreneurial resilience and, therefore, help refugee entrepreneurs overcome barriers and obstacles of entrepreneurship. Furthermore, the result shows the casualties of external and internal factors and refugee entrepreneurs' resilience.

Keywords: *Refugee entrepreneurship, Resilience, Refugee Entrepreneurial Resilience.*

1 Introduction

In recent years, the number of refugees around the world has increased enormously. A refugee is a displaced person whose movement was primarily driven by push factors such as war, persecution, and others (Desai, Naudé, & Stel, 2020). According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), 79.5 million men, women, and children were fleeing at the end of 2019 (UNHCR 2020). In comparison to the previous year, almost nine million more people were fleeing (UNHCR 2019). As a result, the number of people trying to flee has doubled since 2010 and has never been higher today. Moreover, the high unemployment rates among refugees are often the result of local economic conditions and access to the labor market (Sak et al., 2018). However, access to the labor market is the most politically charged and, therefore, most discussed area of socio-economic integration of the refugee population in the host countries (Sak et al., 2018). Entrepreneurship is seen as one of the opportunities for refugees who might have been denied access to the labor market (Feldman et al., 1991) due to language barriers, limited opportunities for

advancement, low wages, and difficulties in obtaining a work permit (Light, 1979; De Freitas, 1991; Fairlie & Meyer, 1996; Kizil, 2016). In these cases, resilience is essential for refugee entrepreneurs since it enables them to go through hardship and overcome obstacles and build their own company (Bullough & Renko, 2013; Corner, Singh & Pavlovich, 2017; Korber & McNaughton, 2018).

Recently, there have been several research endeavours that shed light on the entrepreneurial activities of refugees (Sak et al., 2018; Alrawadieh, Karayilan & Cetin., 2019). However, refugee entrepreneurship is still a new and growing topic, and research is limited (Meister & Mauer, 2019). The amount of research on refugee entrepreneurship has increased since the refugee crisis (Desai et al., 2020). Thus, the importance of the topic is growing more than before. Furthermore, the research on the resilience of refugee entrepreneurs is still at an early stage. At present, refugee entrepreneurs' resilience is almost only examined in single case studies (Alkhaled, 2019). Only a few contributions deal with the factors that determine the resilience of refugee

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entrepreneurs. Moreover, previous studies on how resilience can help refugees in entrepreneurial activities are scarce. To fill this gap, the study examines refugee entrepreneurship through resilience, using a theoretical construct developed by Ungar et al. (2008), which refers to seven factors of resilience in the context of culture. Consequently, to expand the literature on refugee entrepreneurship and gain new insights into the phenomenon, the research will be guided by the research question: "How do internal and external factors interact with refugees' entrepreneurial resilience?"

To answer the research question, this study is structured as follows: Following the introduction, the paper deals with refugee entrepreneurship and presents the research object through different characteristics of refugee entrepreneurs, which have been examined and proven in past research. Accordingly, this study explains resilience concerning refugee entrepreneurship and highlights essential internal and external factors regarding resilience. We then present our conceptual model and related propositions regarding refugees' entrepreneurial resilience. We developed eight research propositions based on argumentation, which is supported by the literature. In the final part, the results and their implications are reflected in the conclusion.

2 Conceptual Backgrounds

2.1 Refugee Entrepreneurship

Some of the current literature has used the terms "migrant," "refugee," and "asylum seeker" synonymously or have presented refugees as a part of migrants (Wauters & Lambrecht, 2008; Bizri, 2017; Alrawadieh et al., 2019). However, each term and, therefore, each ethnic group has its definition and, further, its obstacles and consequences (Sarpong, 2019). Refugees are defined as people who have fled their homes for various reasons such as war, violence, conflict, or persecution and have crossed an international border to find safety in another country (UNHCR, 2020). On the other hand, migrants leave their home country for better economic conditions and humanitarian security (Bizri, 2017; Sarpong, 2019).

Several kinds of literature support the view that refugee entrepreneurship is refugees' entrepreneurial activity in their host-country (Wauters & Lambrecht, 2008; Shneikat & Alrawadieh, 2019). Furthermore, Meister & Mauer (2019) state that the creation of new ventures offers opportunities for the economic development of the host country in the context of refugee entrepreneurship. Refugee entrepreneurship has recently become significantly evident in several theoretical, empirical, and economic research endeavors. However, this topic is still limited (Wauters & Lambrecht, 2008; Alrawadieh et al., 2019). Past research is either limited to the studied refugee sample focusing on specific ethnic groups, e.g., Syrian refugees, or the research is limited to the country (e.g., Wauters & Lambrecht, 2008; Mawson & Kasem, 2018; Heilbrunn, 2019). Therefore, this study includes general characteristics of refugee entrepreneurs developed by past scholars, regardless of the origin and the host country. Further, we create and extend a broad understanding of refugee entrepreneurship.

Moreover, refugee entrepreneurship is often created as a solution to multiple barriers faced by refugees in the host country, e.g., access to the labor market (Sak et al., 2018; Heilbrunn, 2019). Several findings reveal that refugees' motivation to new venture cover a wide range of push and pull factors, including the desire for independence or the limited availability of resources (Mawson and Kasem, 2018; Sak et al., 2018; Shneikat & Alrawadieh, 2019). Therefore, the limited access to different resources is one of the crucial obstacles and, at the same time, a characteristic of refugee entrepreneurs, which they have to overcome to create new ventures (Meister & Mauer, 2019). Limited access is further affected by the non-recognition of qualifications and home country-specific skills (Wauters & Lambrecht, 2008). The circumstances show that refugee entrepreneurs often have a weaker position in the labor market, and the last alternative is to become self-employed (Shneikat & Alrawadieh, 2019). In addition, limited local networks and a few socio-cultural barriers (Bizri, 2017; Alrawadieh et al., 2019) characterize refugee entrepreneurs. Further, refugee entrepreneurs' social networks often contain strong social ties with their family, friends, customers, and suppliers, which is also highlighted in several studies (Meister & Mauer, 2019; Sheinkat & Alrawadieh, 2019). Moreover, refugees

are characterized by a limited legal status, which hindered interaction in a new socio-economic environment (Meister & Mauer, 2019). The limited rights limit their access to the labor market and their business development (Wauters & Lambrecht, 2008; Meister & Mauer, 2019; Alrawadieh et al., 2019). Finally, it is essential to mention that the strong determination and desire to integrate refugee entrepreneurs is a crucial characteristic (Birzi, 2017; Alrawadieh et al., 2019; Meister & Mauer, 2019).

2.2 Entrepreneurial Resilience

The theory of resilience has its origin in psychological research (Corner et al., 2017). In the 1970s, psychologists began to investigate the phenomenon of resilience, focusing especially on children. Further, the focus then was shifted towards adults and examined the resilience of those who had suffered a difficult or traumatic experience (Folke et al., 2010). In 2013, researchers began to examine resilience dimensions from health and psychology research in the context of entrepreneurial activities (Bullough & Renko, 2013; Manzano et al., 2013; Corner et al., 2017).

To better understand what motivates entrepreneurial activity, it is necessary to understand how individuals create personally perceived opportunities (Desai et al., 2020).

Through everyday situations, individuals develop resilience-skills resulting from significant and unforeseen circumstances. For this paper, resilience is defined as the ability to adapt in the face of stress and adversity successfully and therefore as a dynamic process of adaptive overcoming stress while maintaining normal mental and physical characteristics (Bullough & Renko 2013; Eicher et al., 2015). In the context of resilience, adversity describes an unsuccessful occurrence, the nature or existence of severe and enduring difficulties (Tian & Fan, 2014). Thus, resilience is about the capacity to retain to learn, self-organize, and broaden in dynamic environments confronted with a real uncertainty and the unexpected (Folke et al., 2010). In this way, resilient communities or individuals can overcome shocks and start rebuilding more quickly (Shepherd, Saade & Wincent, 2019) and cope better with disruptions, which predicts business success (Ayala & Manzano, 2014). For instance, resilient individuals engage in activities specifically aimed at alleviating problems. In the face of adversity caused by war and terror, this may be the lack of useful employment, the incapacity to provide financial support for the family, and the need to have a regular daily schedule to deal with the chaos generated by war (Shepherd et al., 2019).

Furthermore, a study using mixed methods by Ungar et al. (2008) has shown that cultural and contextual factors significantly affect the factors

Factors	Tensions	Explanation
External	Access to material resources	Availability of financial educational medical and employment assistance and opportunities as well as access to food clothing and shelter.
	Supportive relationships	Relationships with significant others, peers and adults within ones family and community.
Internal	Desirable personal identity	Personal and collective sense of purpose, self-appraisal of strengths and values including spiritual and religious identification.
	Experience of power and control	Experiences of caring for one's self and others, the ability to affect change in one's social and physical environment in order to access health resources.
	Adherence of cultural tradition	Adherence to one's local and/or global cultural practices, values and beliefs.
	Experience of social justice	Experiences related to finding a meaningful role in one's community that brings with it acceptance and social equality relationships with significant others, peers and adults within ones family and community.
	Experience of sense of cohesion	Balancing one's personal interests with a sense of responsibility to the greater good; feeling a part of something larger than oneself, socially and spiritually.

Table 1: Internal and external factors of resilience
Source: Own visualization

that influence the resilience of a population of young people at risk (Table 1). Therefore, it has been demonstrated that resilience is more than just the individual's ability to cope with adversity.

The degree of resilience may depend not only on internal or personal characteristics but also on structural and external factors. Ungar et al. (2008) identified seven tensions of resilience across many different cultures (Table 1). Resolution of these tensions is foundational to experiences of resilience (Ungar et al., 2008). Moreover, internal as well as external factors, can contribute to the process of developing resilience. The internal aspects of resilience relate to internal adaptability, personality characteristics such as empowerment, self-control, cultural sensitivity, self-image and social sensitivity (Çam & Büyükbayram, 2018). External factors include external support such as family, peers, school, and community (Guo et al., 2017).

in entrepreneurship. Furthermore, without resilience, individuals would be less able to adopt the entrepreneurial behavior needed to start-up businesses or venture into new enterprises (Bullough & Renko, 2013). Therefore, resilience in the context of refugee entrepreneurship is about how refugee entrepreneurs deal with the limitations and constraints of their lives to obtain positive effects of resilience in a situation that may be categorized as a “helpless situation.”

3 Development of Research Propositions

Based on the seven-tension model by Ungar et al. (2008), we developed a framework (Figure 1), which presents the interaction of internal and external factors with refugees' entrepreneurial resilience. Furthermore, for this research, we examined each factor's interaction with refugee entrepreneurs' resilience; however, Ungar et al.

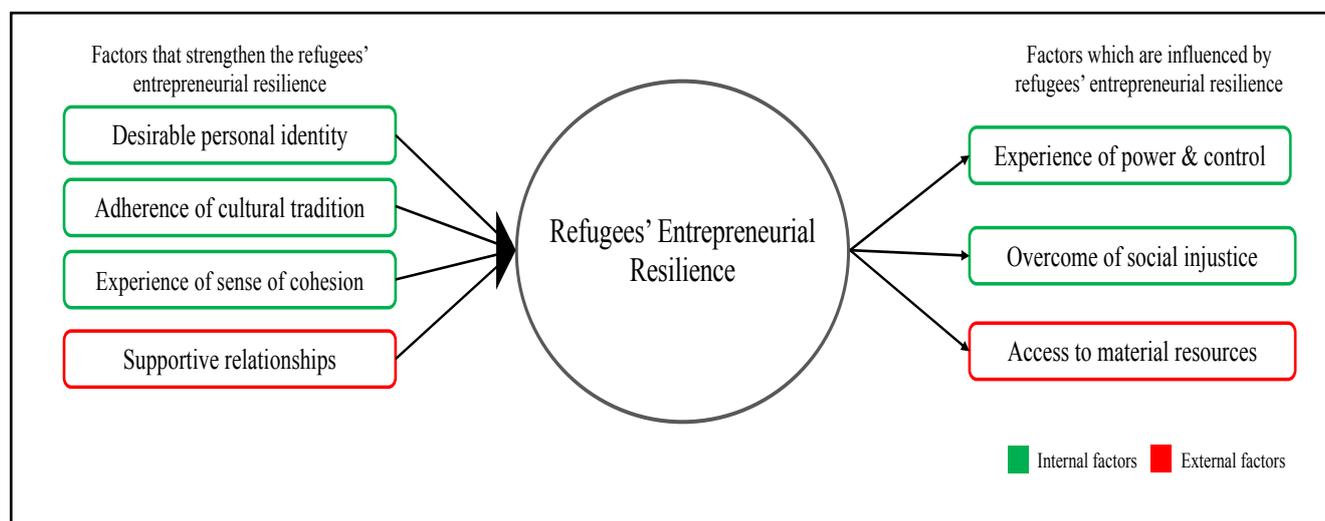


Figure 1: Interaction of internal and external factors with refugees' entrepreneurial resilience

Source: Own illustration

A crisis can have positive and negative impacts (Tedeschi et al., 2004). In particular, refugees are exposed to extreme adversity due to the disasters of war and the resulting deaths and violations. (Tay & Silove, 2017). As a result, they have to leave their home countries, which causes further damage and separates them from their families and friends (Betancourt et al., 2015). Adversity concerning refugees can lead to personal dysfunction such as depression and post-traumatic stress disorder. As mentioned above, resilience is about overcoming adversity while maintaining normal psychological and physical functions (Bullough & Renko, 2013; Eicher et al., 2015). Bullough and Renko (2013) have shown that resilience is an essential factor motivating people facing difficult times to engage

(2008) state that the elements interact with each other. Based on the framework and the review of previous research in that field, we have developed eight research propositions in the following section.

3.1 Access to material resources

Access to material resources is defined by Ungar et al. (2008) “as the availability of structural provisions, including financial assistance and education, as well as basic instrumental needs such as food, shelter, and clothing, access to medical care and employment. “Furthermore, access to resources is needed by entrepreneurs to take advantage of perceived opportunities (Zimmer,

1986). However, previous scholars have also examined entrepreneurs who have engaged in entrepreneurial activities despite having institutional voids and limited resources and developed the so-called “bricolage entrepreneurship” concept (Baker, Miner & Eesley, 2003; Garud & Karnoe, 2003; Baker & Nelson, 2005). They looked at refugee entrepreneurs; the majority experienced such limited access to material resources (Wauters & Lambrecht, 2006; Bizri, 2017). The limitations are often due to discrimination, language barriers, limited access to labor markets and capital, complicated integration, and narrow social networks (Borjas & Bronars, 1989; Gold, 1992; Coate & Tennyson, 1992; McDougall et al., 1994; Wauters & Lambrecht, 2008; Bizri 2017). Having fled their home country, refugees often leave behind all their valuables and sometimes even their families (Wauters & Lambrecht, 2006).

Additionally, Bonnano et al. (2010) argue that “the loss of economic resources as a result of disaster poses what is arguably an even more imposing risk factor and that the psychological adjustment post adversity depends, even if not solely, on individual resources and losses. However, as mentioned earlier, on the one hand, refugees’ access to material resources is limited, and on the other hand, they lose the majority of their resources fleeing their home, yet they manage to engage in entrepreneurship and successfully run their businesses (Wauters & Lambrecht, 2006; Bizri, 2017; Heilbrunn et al., 2019; Sandberg, Immonen & Kok, 2019; Shneikat & Alradawieh, 2019). Based on this argumentation, we suggest the following research proposition:

RP-1: The refugees’ entrepreneurial resilience helps to overcome the limited access to material resources.

3.2 Supportive relationships

Numerous scholars have examined social networks in the context of entrepreneurship (Gold, 1992; Masurel et al., 2002; Anderies, Walker, & Kinzig., 2006; Wauters & Lambrecht, 2008; Docquier & Rapoport, 2012; Bizri, 2017; Heilbrunn et al., 2019; Shepherd et al., 2019). Wauters and Lambrecht (2008), for example, highlight the importance of social networks in the process of engaging in entrepreneurship since social networks

can provide important information, attract customers and suppliers and give access to financial capital. For an entrepreneur, being embedded in a social network of strong and weak ties is necessary (Masurel et al., 2002), where for ethnic or refugee entrepreneurs the strong ties, in particular, play a crucial role since they start with fewer resources and limited access to capital (Wauters & Lambrecht, 2008). However, in the case of refugee entrepreneurs, either have fled their homes alone, leaving their families behind with hopes of bringing them to the host country at a later point (Gold, 1992), or they have managed to flee together. Still, either way, refugees’ networks of strong ties are limited at the arrival. Before relocating, most refugees have a strong social support system consisting of immediate and extended family, friends, and neighbors like family (Bizri, 2017). Trying to rebuild such a social support system, refugees often form networks of people from the same country who share the same norms and standards (Adler & Kwon, 2002; Docquier & Rapoport, 2012). Ungar et al. (2008) use the term supportive relationships in their research on resilience when referring to “relationships with significant others, peers, and adults within one’s family and community”. Furthermore, Bonnano et al. (2010) state that individuals’ social capital and networks are important for fostering resilience. Therefore, we formally propose:

RP-2: Having supportive relationships with family members and co-ethnic employees strengthens the refugees’ entrepreneurial resilience.

3.3 Desirable personal identity

According to Ungar et al. (2008), the individual and a collective sense of purpose, self-appraisal of strengths and values, including spiritual and religious identification, promote and preserve a sense of individual identity. Additionally, in their study, Ungar et al. (2008) found out that respondents could navigate through challenges by firmly believing in themselves. Similar outcomes were found in a large number of studies on the research object of refugee entrepreneurship, e.g., in the Heilbrunn et al. (2019) study, where refugee entrepreneurs have shown faith in themselves as the responsibility to care for their family. Comparing the results, similar outcomes have been

recognized. Further, the literature on resilience states that the individual's faith in his or her own ability to deal with stressful situations and problems contributes to overcoming conflicts and promotes resilience (Bullough & Renko, 2013). In the entrepreneurial context, the belief in one's abilities allows individuals to take the necessary suitable measures for the business in challenging and difficult situations, which helps develop the ability to grow out of adversity rather than fear it. Thus, entrepreneurs who strongly believe in their capability to deal with stressful conditions and engage in entrepreneurial activities will build up their resilience and become more inclined to get out of trouble and become stronger.

RP-3: The strong belief of refugees in themselves and in their capacity strengthens the refugees' entrepreneurial resilience.

3.4 Experience of power and control

Unger et al. (2007) define the experience of power and control as the ability to cause changes in the social and physical environment and thus to care for oneself and others. Refugee entrepreneurs often experience a lack of help and use this experience as motivation to proactively care for themselves and other community members (Shepherd et al., 2019). Besides, refugees are often discriminated against as outsiders because they are considered uncompetitive due to a lack of language skills or unrecognized qualifications and a limited understanding of the local labor market (Schneikat & Alrawadieh, 2019; Heilbrunn et al., 2019). Because of these circumstances, refugees are forced to engage in entrepreneurial activities and support each other (Bizri, 2017; Shepherd et al., 2019). This happens because refugees believe that no one else will help them, and they show strong self-confidence in their actions (Bizri, 2017; Shepherd et al., 2019). The strong self-confidence of an entrepreneur helps to believe in their abilities and effectively manage challenges and stress factors (Bullough & Renko, 2013). Therefore, resilience is essential for the development of entrepreneurial aspirations. Thus, entrepreneurs who believe in their ability to cope with stressful environments and be entrepreneurial are more likely to help themselves and others out of adversity (Ungar et al., 2008; Bullough & Renko, 2013). Consequently, refugee entrepreneurs' resilience strengthens their ability to make changes

in the environment and thus help others who have been in the same situation since they have experienced hardship and discrimination themselves (Shepherd et al., 2019). The belief and motivation to help others lead to the fact that particularly refugee entrepreneurs, with strong resilience, can help others and thereby themselves. Finally, this argumentation leads us to the following proposition:

RP-4: The entrepreneurial resilience of refugees strengthens their ability to make changes in their environment in order to care for their peers and themselves.

3.5 Adherence to cultural tradition

Cultural adherence to one's global cultural tradition is defined by Ungar et al. (2008) as a barrier or a pathway to resilience depending on the link between this tension and others and was understood as comprising all aspects of ethnic family or community identification that were distinguished from aspects of global culture.

Entrepreneurial activities are more successful and are engaged in more often when the entrepreneur has a high social status, represented in a strong cultural bond with society (Thurik & Dejardin, 2011). In the context of entrepreneurship, on one hand, culture builds the opportunity to access entrepreneurship more successfully and simpler. However, on the other hand, culture may lead to additional barriers to entrepreneurship. Various scholars (Wauters & Lambrecht, 2008; Bizri, 2017; Mawson & Kasem, 2019; Alrawadieh et al., 2019) have showed both. Shneikat and Alrawadieh (2019) have indicated a familiarity of refugees towards co-ethnic groups, which allows for a wider comfort zone and a stronger business development for refugee entrepreneurs. Furthermore, through this way refugee entrepreneurs can rely on the support of their strong ties and are able to activate social capital, which helps them to reach their entrepreneurial goals (Bizri, 2017). On one side the cultural adherence towards the global culture of refugees and the associated support of co-ethnics, which helps them to overcome social barriers, represents a chance for refugee entrepreneurs (Meister & Mauer, 2019). However, on the other side, strong adherence to the global culture can lead to limited social and cultural capital within the host

country, which represents a further obstacle (Alrawadieh et al., 2019).

Cultural differences are a key obstacle for refugees and hinder refugees' or refugee entrepreneurs' integration into the host community (Lewis, 2010; Bizri, 2017). Korber and McNaughton (2017) have stated that the overcoming of cultural barriers influences entrepreneurial resilience. In the context of the definition by Ungar et al. (2008) and refugee entrepreneurship, two different consequences of culture adherence can be seen, and we therefore formally propose:

RP-5a: The adherence to the cultural traditions of refugee entrepreneurs strengthens the refugees' entrepreneurial resilience.

RP-5b: The adherence to the cultural traditions of refugee entrepreneurs hinders the development of refugees' entrepreneurial resilience.

3.6 Experience in social justice

The experiences of social justice or social injustices are the relations or missing relation to finding a meaningful role in the community and social equality (Ungar et al., 2008). Refugees very often face discrimination and injustice in host societies (Mawson & Kasem, 2018). Primarily due to language barriers, refugees are being classified as unable to compete (Levie, 2007). Furthermore, besides the language barriers, the not recognition of qualifications, e.g., degrees or work qualifications, have led to unequal social treatments (Shneikat & Alrawadieh, 2019). Moreover, Alrawadieh et al. (2019) have highlighted that such unequal social treatments are visible within the consumer goods markets, capital markets, and labor markets. Due to the combination of barriers caused by the limited knowledge about the host culture and the business environment, refugees who engage in entrepreneurship are rather necessity-driven than opportunity-driven (Bizri, 2017; Mawson & Kasem, 2018). The experience with prejudices and dynamics of the socio-political context within the community and culture captures the encounter with social justice or injustice (Ungar et al., 2008).

Additionally, refugees who engage in entrepreneurial activities on account of push-factors are at the beginning of the business in weak positions on the labor market (Shneikat & Alrawadieh, 2019). The barriers mentioned above

and obstacles repeatedly have to be overcome by refugee entrepreneurs. This process of continually overcoming those barriers helps refugee entrepreneurs grow their resilience compared to native entrepreneurs. Besides, it is essential to highlight the attribute of not giving up, which influences resilience. Therefore, our research proposition is as follows:

RP-6: The refugees' entrepreneurial resilience helps to overcome social injustice affecting entrepreneurial activities.

3.7 Experience of sense of cohesion

Prior to fleeing their home, many refugees grew up in cultural settings in which they have learned to take responsibility for themselves and their families from a young age (Ungar et al., 2008). Arriving in a new environment with a foreign community, many refugees tend to build networks with co-ethnics who share the same language, values, and norms (Allen, 2009). Applied to the context of refugees engaging in entrepreneurship, according to Shepherd et al. (2019), refugee entrepreneurs are driven by their experiences and their beliefs and feel part of a broader purpose than themselves. Additionally, Bizri (2017) highlights similar findings in her case study. A refugee restaurant owner felt obligated for his co-ethnic employees in the host country and was driven to do so by his moral commitment and national duty. Wilson and Portes (1980), who developed the theory of Enclave Economy, which suggests that immigrant employers hire co-ethnic employees based on the concepts of solidarity and obligation, also describe this phenomenon. Within such businesses of co-ethnics, a pseudo-family business perception is often developed, leading to the shared vision of the business as a lifeboat for the whole co-ethnic community (Bizri, 2017).

Through a strong sense of obligation and responsibility towards employees and family members, refugee entrepreneurs strengthen their resilience. Previous scholars on resilience confirm the significant positive correlation between resilience and cohesion (Vinson, 2004; Townshend et al., 2015). We, therefore, propose the following:

RP-7: The experience of a sense of cohesion strengthens the refugee's entrepreneurial resilience.

4 Conclusion

Research on refugee entrepreneurship has gained in importance over recent years. Various literature nowadays highlights that refugee entrepreneurship is beneficial for refugees regarding their integration into the host country and for the host country itself in terms of economic progress. However, unlike other entrepreneurs, e.g., native or migrant entrepreneurs, refugee entrepreneurs face a high level of adversity before and during their flight to another country. Yet, somehow, they manage to establish and run businesses in environments characterized by obstacles and barriers, mainly attributed to a high level of resilience.

This research aimed to highlight the interactions of factors and the resilience of refugee entrepreneurs, which we have done by applying a framework developed by Ungar et al. (2008) containing seven factors in the context of resilience to refugee entrepreneurs' general characteristics. The result is a framework that shows the casualties of external and internal factors and refugee entrepreneurs' resilience.

Past research on resilience in refugee entrepreneurship primarily emphasizes how resilience affects refugees' motivation to engage in entrepreneurship. However, we extended the current literature by examining external and internal factors, which influence or are influenced by refugees' entrepreneurial resilience and, therefore, help refugee entrepreneurs overcome barriers and obstacles of entrepreneurship. Refugees' entrepreneurial resilience helps overcome resources and the social injustice experienced in the host country. Moreover, refugees' entrepreneurial resilience strengthens their ability to care for themselves and others through entrepreneurial activities. Supportive relationships with family members and co-ethnics strengthen is a factor that boosts the resilience of refugee entrepreneurs and their developed personal identity and their sense of cohesion. However, firm adherence to the refugee's global culture can strengthen and hamper the development of resilience.

Furthermore, our model is regardless of origin and host country and allows more for a generalization. Therefore, future researchers can use our framework in different contexts since refugees

have various sources and cultures and enter other host countries with different socio-political and socio-economical settings. Additionally, the framework can help researchers to extend their current results gained from research on resilience in the context of refugee entrepreneurship. However, it is important to mention that the framework needs further development, primarily since we examined each presented factor individually. Still, the matter of fact is that all of them interact with each other as well. Therefore, we suggest future research to tackle this and extend the framework.

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