



2021 Stand Against Racism Content Curator Eva A. Millona



Eva A. Millona

President & CEO, *Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA)*

Eva A. Millona is the President and CEO of the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA), New England's largest organization representing the foreign born, and co-chair of the National Partnership for New Americans, the lead national organization focusing on immigrant integration. She joined MIRA in 1999 and served as Deputy Director and as the Executive Director before becoming President and CEO in 2019, and she is now one of New England's most highly quoted immigration experts. Prior to MIRA, Ms. Millona directed the refugee resettlement program in Central Massachusetts. In her native Albania, she practiced civil and criminal law, serving on Tirana's District Court from 1989–1992, when she was the nation's youngest district judge ever appointed.

Ms. Millona is the co-chair of the Governor's Advisory Council for Refugees and Immigrants and serves on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. She also serves on the Advisory Board for the Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement and the Attorney General's Council for New Americans. She is a frequent speaker on immigrant integration in national and international stages. She is the recipient of over a dozen major awards, including the prestigious 2009 USCIS Outstanding American by Choice Award, the 2010 Wainwright Bank Social Justice Award, and the 2011 and 2012 Powermeter Award, presented to the most influential people for Latinos in Massachusetts.

Discussion Content

["In The Story Of U.S. Immigration, Black Immigrants Are Often Left Out," Weekend Edition](#)

NPR (audio)

Brief intro:

Immigration justice and racial justice are intricately connected, and this interview illustrates exactly why it is so important to take an intersectional approach to our advocacy. Nana Gyamfi of the Black Alliance for Just Immigration shines a light on the unique experiences of Black migrants both within and outside of the United States, and how new policies under the Biden administration continue to target Black immigrant communities.

Eva A Millona's Discussion Questions

1. What do you think it means to be Black in America? What does it mean to be an immigrant in America? What does it mean to be Black and an immigrant in America?
2. When you think of immigrants in the United States, who do you think of? What do they look like and where do they come from? How might this piece have changed your perceptions?
3. There are many different ethnic groups that make up what we refer to as "Black immigrants." What different challenges might Black people migrating from various parts of the world face as they transition into living in the US? What similarities might they experience?