



November 2015 NSDA Public Forum:
Refugees vs. National Interest

Resolved: In response to the current crisis, a government should prioritize the humanitarian needs of refugees over its national interests.

Table of Contents

PRO 4

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: MASSIVE CRISIS AT HAND..... 4

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: CRISIS LIKELY TO GET WORSE 7

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: MANY OF THE REFUGEES ARE CHILDREN 9

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: MUST ACT NOW!..... 10

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: NATIONAL INTEREST APPROACHES ARE SIGN OF A WEAK COUNTRY/POOR PERCEPTION.... 12

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: GOOD PLANNING ALLOWS FOR TAKING ON LARGE NUMBER OF REFUGEES 13

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: ANY ACTION BETTER THAN CURRENT APPROACH 14

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: INTERNATIONAL LAW DEMANDS PROTECTIONS/ACTION 15

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: SAVE THE CHILDREN PLAN DETAILED 16

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: EUROPEAN QUOTA PLAN DETAILED..... 17

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: CAP-AND-TRADE SYSTEM FOR REFUGEES DETAILED..... 18

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: HUMANITARIAN VISA PLAN DETAILED..... 19

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: ALL COUNTRIES THAT PARTICIPATED IN MILITARY ACTION IN TARGET COUNTRIES ARE OBLIGATED TO ACT ON REFUGEES 21

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: INCREMENTAL/SLOW APPROACHES ARE BAD 22

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: MANY COUNTRIES HAVE ECONOMIC RESOURCES TO DEAL WITH REFUGEE CRISIS..... 23

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: ECONOMIC COSTS FOR REFUGEES GO DOWN/ARE MITIGATED OVER TIME..... 25

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: NO ECONOMIC CRISIS FROM ALLOWING REFUGEES INTO A COUNTRY 26

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: LOCAL RESISTANCE AGAINST REFUGEES IS RACIST 28

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: INCREASED IMMIGRATION CAN HELP WESTERN COUNTRY’S DEMOGRAPHIC PROBLEMS... 29

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: INCREASED IMMIGRANTS CREATES MASSIVE LONG-TERM GROWTH 32

NATIONAL INTEREST RESPONSE BAD: REINSTATING EUROPEAN BORDERS BAD 33

NATIONAL INTEREST RESPONSE BAD: GOES AGAINST REGIONAL COOPERATION LIKE THE EU 35

NATIONAL INTEREST RESPONSE BAD: INCREASES VIOLENCE AGAINST IMMIGRANTS..... 36

A/T: COUNTRIES ARE SHIPPING REFUGEES BACK TO CONFLICT ZONES 37

A/T: MOST OF THE “REFUGEES” ARE ACTUALLY ECONOMIC MIGRANTS 38

A/T: SHOULD DEAL WITH TRUE CRIMES LIKE SMUGGLING ONLY..... 39

A/T: HELPING REFUGEES CREATES “PULL” OF REFUGEES INTO A COUNTRY 40

A/T: SHOULD ONLY FOCUS ON LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS IN THE HOME COUNTRIES..... 41

CON 42

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: ONLY POSSIBLE SOLUTION TO THIS SITUATION IS GOOD MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES42

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: ONLY LONG TERM SOLUTION IS DEALING WITH CONFLICTS IN HOME REGIONS, NOT DEALING WITH REFUGEES 43

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: CURRENT CRISIS ISN’T AS BIG AS PURPORTED 44

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: NATIONS IN THE CONFLICT REGION SHOULD ACT FIRST..... 45

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: COSTS OF DEALING WITH REFUGEES IS DAUNTING 46

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: SHOULD DEAL WITH CRITICAL NATIONAL PROBLEMS OVER HELPING REFUGEES 47

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: OPEN BORDERS WILL CREATE A FLOOD OF IMMIGRANTS 48

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: PRIVATE AND RELIGIOUS GROUPS SHOULD TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR REFUGEES..... 49

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: SLOW, REASONABLE IMMIGRATION BEST 50

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: SLOW APPROACHES DECREASE INCENTIVE FOR DANGEROUS TRAVEL 51

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: BALANCED APPROACHES ARE BETTER THAN HUMANITARIAN FOCUSED APPROACHES52

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: EVEN COUNTRIES THAT WELCOME REFUGEES ADMIT THERE MUST BE LIMITS 53

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: MUST LIMIT REFUGEES DUE TO EXTREMISM..... 56

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: SHOULD HAVE A WIDER SOLUTION THAN INDIVIDUAL NATION STATES 57

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: NO UNIVERSAL SOLUTION TO REFUGEES POSSIBLE (EU EXAMPLES) 58

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: SHARED REGIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL SOLUTIONS BAD..... 59



NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: SHOULD ONLY ACT TOGETHER AND NOT INDEPENDENTLY 60
NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: OPEN BORDERS ENCOURAGE A FLOOD OF REFUGEES 61
NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: OPEN BORDERS SHOULDN'T BE COMBINED WITH A WELFARE STATE 62
NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: QUOTA SYSTEM DOOMED TO FAIL 63
NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: REMOTE ASYLUM STATIONS DESTABILIZE REGIONS 66
NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: ANY ONE COUNTRY OR REGION CAN'T SHOULDER THIS PROBLEM 67
NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: SHOULD FIX BORDERS FIRST, THEN DEAL WITH REFUGEES 68
QUOTA PLAN BAD: DOESN'T STOP DANGEROUS TRAVEL OF MIGRANTS 69
A/T: COUNTRIES CAN OFFER PROSPERITY TO IMMIGRANTS VIA ECONOMIC GROWTH 70
A/T: DEMOGRAPHICS JUSTIFY INCREASING REFUGEES 72



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HUMANITARIAN FIRST: MASSIVE CRISIS AT HAND

INACTION IS A STAIN TO A COUNTRY'S CONSCIENCE-Wintour '15

[Patrick; Political Editor; Britain should not take more Middle East refugees, says David Cameron; the Guardian; 2 September 2015; <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/sep/02/david-cameron-migration-crisis-will-not-be-solved-by-uk-taking-in-more-refugees>; retrieved 5 October 2015]

Andy Burnham, the shadow health secretary and another Labour leadership contender has demanded that the government make a Commons statement next week. He said the response of Cameron and his ministers had veered from the inadequate to the misjudged and was a stain on the nation's conscience.

"Many of these refugees are children, fleeing the violence and horrors of war. The images we have seen of children washed up on beaches will leave no person unmoved. When Parliament returns next week, MPs must be given an opportunity to debate the Government's handling of the crisis and the chance to make a judgement on whether Britain should accept a share of refugees," he said.

REFUGEES FACE A HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN EUROPE-Deen '15

[Thalif; Europe Squabbles While Refugees Die; Africa News Service; 31 August 2015; Gale Group Databases]

As tens of thousands of refugees continue to flee conflict-ridden countries, including Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya and Syria, Western European governments and international humanitarian organisations are struggling to cope with a snowballing humanitarian crisis threatening to explode.

Hungary is building a fence to ward off refugees. Slovakia says it will accept only Christian refugees, triggering a condemnation by the United Nations.

The crisis was further dramatized last week when the Austrians discovered an abandoned delivery truck containing the decomposing bodies of some 71 refugees, including eight women and three children, off a highway outside of Vienna.

THE CURRENT REFUGEE CRISIS SMACKS OF THE EUROPEAN GENOCIDES OF THE PAST-Applebaum '15

[Anne; Europe's Deadly Denial; Slate; September 2015;

http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/foreigners/2015/09/europe_refugee_crisis_the_eu_has_failed_to_confront_the_wars_in_syria_and.html; retrieved 10 October 2015]

Picking apart the layers of irony and hypocrisy that surround the European refugee crisis is like peeling an onion without a knife. At a train station in southern Moravia, Czech Republic, police pulled 200 refugees off a train and marked numbers on their arms. On its eastern border, Hungary is building a barbed-wire fence to keep out refugees, remarkably like the barbed-wire "iron curtain" that once marked its western border. Choose whatever image you want—ships full of Jews being sent back to Nazi Europe, refugees furtively negotiating with smugglers at a bar in Casablanca—and it now has a modern twist.

THOUSANDS ARE DYING ON THE JOURNEY TO EUROPE IN SEARCH OF A BETTER LIFE-Nordberg '15

[Jeny; New York-based investigative reporter and author; Europe's Crisis of Conscience; The New Yorker; 11 September 2015; <http://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/europes-crisis-of-conscience>; retrieved 5 October 2015]

More than ten thousand children have died in the Syrian civil war, along with two hundred thousand adults. We are mostly protected from images of their deaths. But two thousand five hundred people are estimated to have died while attempting to cross the Mediterranean this year alone, and we see photos of them, including children, and begin to examine ourselves.



LACK OF A COORDINATED RESPONSE HAD CREATED HELLISH CONDITIONS FOR REFUGEES IN PLACES LIKE GREECE-Nordberg '15

[Jeny; New York-based investigative reporter and author; Europe's Crisis of Conscience; The New Yorker; 11 September 2015; <http://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/europes-crisis-of-conscience>; retrieved 5 October 2015]

A stark example of dysfunction can be found on the Greek islands, where volunteers and non-governmental organizations are struggling to assist boat refugees, who are living in what Amnesty International describes as “hellish conditions.” The large-scale management that is needed for these refugees has never existed in Greece—and this is Europe, which has some of the world’s most sophisticated military and rescue teams, whose expertise and manpower are dispatched around the world. The E.U. has sent emergency funds, but Greek authorities have resisted setting up proper reception facilities, fearing what politicians call a “pull factor”: creating arrival conditions that appear attractive to potential refugees, encouraging more people to risk the journey.

CURRENT POLICIES ARE ENCOURAGING DANGEROUS, EXPENSIVE JOURNEYS TO EUROPE VIA SMUGGLERS-Nordberg '15

[Jeny; New York-based investigative reporter and author; Europe's Crisis of Conscience; The New Yorker; 11 September 2015; <http://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/europes-crisis-of-conscience>; retrieved 5 October 2015]

Those who are desperate enough to leave Syria or Afghanistan are left with the option of hiring smugglers. The going rate from Syria to Sweden is between ten thousand and eighteen thousand dollars per person, depending on the route, according to smugglers to whom I've spoken in the suburbs of Stockholm. It's far more expensive than a plane ticket, and far more dangerous. Hundreds pack into small boats, setting off from Turkey or Libya, hoping to be picked up by European coast guard vessels and dropped off in Greece or Italy. Boat operators charge Africans four hundred to seven hundred dollars to cross the Mediterranean from Libya, a friend who is involved in Mediterranean rescue operations of migrants told me this past summer. “It's almost as though we are forcing them out to sea,” he said. “We won't do anything to help you while you're on land, but once you risk your life, we will try to get there before you drown.”

THE NUMBER OF TRAGEDIES RELATED TO THE CURRENT REFUGEE CRISIS KEEP STACKING UP-Van Gulik '15

[Gauri; Global Post; "A human rights failure of tragic proportions": Europe's disgraceful response to the refugee crisis; Salon; 8 September 2015;

http://www.salon.com/2015/09/08/a_human_rights_failure_of_tragic_proportions_europes_disgraceful_response_to_the_refugee_crisis_partner/; retrieved 8 October 2015]

“A solemn moment of silence.” The world over, this is the traditional response when lives are cut short by tragedy. It has also been a common response to tragedies in Europe and off its shores when thousands of refugees and migrants have been killed while making terrifying journeys in search of safety and better lives in Europe. In the space of just a few recent days, three new tragedies added to a growing list that has brought a record number of refugees and migrants to untimely deaths this year. Fifty-two bodies were found inside the hull of a ship about 30 nautical miles off the coast of Libya. Then, police in Austria discovered 71 corpses, including children, crammed inside a truck left abandoned at the side of the main highway between Budapest and Vienna. Police have told news media the dead were likely Syrians and apparently died by suffocation. And, finally came news of a tragic shipwreck off the coast of Zuwara, Libya. It is feared that up to 200 may have died. Amnesty International reported earlier that up to 4,000 refugees became trapped when Macedonia closed the border with Greece.



COUNTRIES ARE CREATING A GREATER CRISIS BY FAILING TO CREATE SAFE ROUTES OF TRAVEL FOR REFUGEES-Van Gulik '15

[Gauri; Global Post; "A human rights failure of tragic proportions": Europe's disgraceful response to the refugee crisis; Salon; 8 September 2015;

http://www.salon.com/2015/09/08/a_human_rights_failure_of_tragic_proportions_europes_disgraceful_response_to_the_refugee_crisis_partner/; retrieved 8 October 2015]

Amnesty International representatives recently returned from Lesbos, one of the Greek islands on the frontline of Europe's refugee crisis. Overloaded, under-resourced authorities are failing to cope with the dramatic increase in the number of people arriving on the island — 33,000 since the beginning of August. Thousands, including many Syrian refugees, are living in squalid conditions.

These crises are symptoms of the same problem: Europe is not accepting its responsibility during an unprecedented global refugee crisis. It is failing to create safe routes for refugees.



HUMANITARIAN FIRST: CRISIS LIKELY TO GET WORSE

THE REFUGEE PROBLEM IS NOT GOING AWAY; INACTION IS NOT AN OPTION-Rosenthal '15

[Max; How the Refugees Crisis Is Wreaking Havoc on the European Union; Mother Jones; 3 September 2015; <http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2015/08/how-migrant-crisis-wreaking-havoc-on-european-union>; retrieved 4 October 2015]

Whether open borders—and the European project itself—are doomed is up for debate. Davis, writing for the Carnegie Europe Center, a foreign affairs think tank, said the Schengen Agreement will probably collapse next year, unless major changes are adopted. Yet Schain believes the accord's demise is unlikely. "Really nobody wants Schengen to break down," he says. "There's just too much at stake."

Either way, thousands of refugees arrive in Germany nearly every day, and every night brings news of another attack on planned housing for migrants. This problem is not going away.

EUROPEAN REFUGEE PROBLEM LIKELY TO GET WORSE WITH THOSE FROM OTHER COUNTRIES JOINING THE MOVEMENT-Sly '15

[Liz; Iraqis join an intensifying flow of refugees to Europe from Turkey; The Washington Post; 6 September 2015; https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/iraqis-join-an-intensifying-flow-of-refugees-to-europe-from-turkey/2015/09/06/aee71eaa-54a6-11e5-9f54-1ea23f6e02f3_story.html; retrieved 5 October 2015]

The influx of refugees and migrants overwhelming Europe seems destined to intensify as the welcome extended by Germany encourages more people from the world's most violent and impoverished countries to travel in search of new lives.

Iraqis formed the largest number of people descending from buses in the upscale Turkish seaside town of Bodrum on Sunday to attempt the short but perilous sea crossing to Greece, where two-thirds of those of those seeking asylum in Europe have arrived this year.

A little more than half of the arrivals in Greece this year have been Syrians fleeing their country's brutal and unending war - and by August the proportion of Syrians had climbed to 78 percent, according to the most recent figures provided by the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees.

But the Syrians now are being joined by Iraqis, as they, too, abandon hope that their country's conflict will ever be resolved, said Mohammed Hamed, 33, an Iraqi policeman who left his wife and three children in the southern Iraqi city of Karbala three days ago.

"Many Iraqis are coming now and many more will come in the future if they can get the money," he said as he mingled with other Iraqis newly arriving at the bus station in Bodrum. He plans to head for Germany, and then secure access for the rest of his family.

"We were hoping we could fix Iraq, but Iraq is unfixable," said Ali Fadl, 32, another of the new arrivals, a former Iraqi soldier who was wearing a U.S. army T-shirt given to him by American troops during an assignment guarding the Green Zone.

IMMIGRANTS WILL CONTINUE TO TRAVEL TO EUROPE AS LONG AS POOR CONDITIONS REMAIN IN THEIR HOME COUNTRIES-Rwagatare '15

[Joseph; Who is to Blame for Refugee Crisis? Europe Should Answer; Africa News Service; 22 September 2015; Gale Group Databases]

Call them what you will - economic migrants, refugees, asylum seekers, or whatever other name you choose, you won't change their circumstances or stem their flow. Hate them, rail against them, close your borders or send your police to push them back, you won't wipe away their existence. They will keep coming as long as the conditions that create them have not changed. This is the simple fact that the West is discovering, but which it is not ready to face.

CURRENT CRISIS WAS MADE WORSE BY NOT ENACTING GOOD POLICIES WHEN THE ARAB SPRING STARTED EARLIER; MUST ADOPT BETTER POLICIES NOW!-Nordberg '15

[Jeny; New York-based investigative reporter and author; Europe's Crisis of Conscience; The New Yorker; 11 September 2015; <http://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/europes-crisis-of-conscience>; retrieved 5 October 2015]

The horror stories of refugee flights gone wrong have tilted many Europeans toward a more active engagement in the refugee crisis. But the fact is that, for years now, most of Europe has done its best to stave off people from the global South, sometimes coming very close to the limits of international law. Anna Eva Radicetti, the head of the International Organization for Migration's Policy and Programme Unit, pointed out that what is now seen as an "emergency" could have been prevented, or better managed, if policies recommended by migration experts as early as 2010, at the start of the Tunisian Revolution, had been implemented. The situation has just been made more acute this year by the procrastination and unease of European leaders.

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: MANY OF THE REFUGEES ARE CHILDREN

WOMEN AND CHILDREN ARE THE MOST VULNERABLE IN THE CURRENT REFUGEE CRISIS-Unicef '15

[Migrant and refugee crisis in Europe; Unicef; 17 September 2015;
http://www.unicef.org/emergencies/index_85510.html; retrieved 1 October 2015]

The rising number of people entering Europe in 2015 in search of safety and in search of a better life has captured the world's attention with scenes of heartbreaking tragedy. Travelling hundreds and thousands of miles over land and over water, from Africa, the Middle East and Asia, people are risking everything in the hope of reaching their goal, and the danger does not end at a border crossing.

Amid this crisis, children are the most vulnerable of all. Many are travelling with their families, while many others are on their own. Every one of them is in need of protection and entitled to the rights guaranteed under the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Migrant children and women, especially those migrating without documentation, are vulnerable to trafficking, abuse and exploitation. In countries of transit and destination, migrants and their families often find themselves victims of discrimination, poverty and social marginalization.

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: MUST ACT NOW!

MUST TAKE SIGNIFICANT ACTION NOW TO DIMINISH THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS FROM THE REFUGEE SITUATION-Wintour '15

[Patrick; Political Editor; Britain should not take more Middle East refugees, says David Cameron; the Guardian; 2 September 2015; <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/sep/02/david-cameron-migration-crisis-will-not-be-solved-by-uk-taking-in-more-refugees>; retrieved 5 October 2015]

Yvette Cooper, the shadow home secretary and Labour leadership candidate, accused the prime minister of turning his back on the worst migration crisis since the second world war.

"When mothers are desperately trying to stop their babies from drowning when their boat has capsized, when people are being left to suffocate in the backs of lorries by evil gangs of traffickers and when children's bodies are being washed to shore, Britain needs to act.

"It is heartbreaking what is happening on our continent. We cannot keep turning our backs on this. We can – and must – do more. If every area in the UK took just 10 families, we could offer sanctuary to 10,000 refugees. Let's not look back with shame at our inaction."

WE MUST ACT NOW; EACH DAY THAT GOES BY WITHOUT A PLAN MEANS MORE SUFFERING BY CHILDREN AND OTHER VULNERABLE REFUGEES-African News Service '15

[Child Refugee Crisis - Europe Needs a Plan; African News Service; 16 September 2015; Gale Group Databases]

Just a day into talks into in Brussels, EU Ministers have failed once again to agree on concrete measures to alleviate the suffering of those who need it most.

While they grapple with policy, thousands of men, women and children are being packed into substandard and in some cases inhumane reception facilities in Greece and along the Balkans route. Whilst they argue about fair share quotas, thousands of children continue this perilous journey alone, only to arrive to a Europe with no plan. A Europe that cannot agree how to protect them.

That is why we're calling for leaders to move from proposals to action.

NOW IS THE TIME FOR EUROPE TO TAKE ACTION-Welsh '15

[Teresa; European Union Calls for Refugee Redistribution; US News & World Report; 9 September 2015; <http://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2015/09/09/european-union-calls-for-refugee-redistribution-as-continent-strains-under-human-influx>; retrieved 9 October 2015]

The European Commission Wednesday called on a so-far hesitant European Union to resettle an additional 120,000 refugees as the migrant crisis gripping the continent shows no signs of abating.

"This requires a strong effort in European solidarity. Before the summer, we did not receive the backing from Member States I had hoped for," European Union President Juan-Claude Juncker said Wednesday. "But I see that the mood is turning. And I believe it is high time for this."



MUST ACT NOW; THE REFUGEES WILL NOT WAIT FOR EUROPE TO CRAFT A SOLUTION-Atwater '15

[Peter, President of Financial Insyghts, Europe's Precarious Refugee Crisis; World Policy Blog; 9 September 2015; <http://www.worldpolicy.org/blog/2015/09/09/europes-precarious-refugee-crisis>; retrieved 4 October 2015]

The longer the refugee crisis goes on and the further mood falls, the more national and even local divisions will become obvious. European policymakers continue to act as if the refugee crisis is a Greek-like financial crisis within their control. Nothing could be further from the truth. What is unfolding is a much broader crisis of social confidence. Across Europe, trust in institutions is evaporating, as the region's mounting refugee crisis exemplifies. A panicked crowd waits for no one. For the sake of the refugee community and European residents, the sooner policymakers realize this, the better.

EUROPE MUST ACT NOW-African News Service '15

[Child Refugee Crisis - Europe Needs a Plan; African News Service; 16 September 2015; Gale Group Databases]

The longer European leaders take to act, the longer we will see children paying the price. No more body bags. No more children dying on our doorstep. The EU must act now.

MUST ACT NOW; THE CURRENT BRUNT OF THE REGUFEE CRISIS IS FALLING ON GREECE, ITALY AND SPAIN-New York Times '15

[Ugly Attacks on Refugees in Europe; New York Times; 16 August 2015; page 8L]

Meanwhile, Europe to the north has failed to agree on an equitable, humane and properly funded response. If the disproportionate burden borne by Greece, Italy and Spain is not reason enough to inspire joint and urgent action, the human suffering and relentless movement of desperate, illegal and moneyless migrants all across the continent, coupled with an ugly increase in racist attacks, should be.

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: NATIONAL INTEREST APPROACHES ARE SIGN OF A WEAK COUNTRY/POOR PERCEPTION

THE ANTI-REFUGEE ATTITUDE IN EUROPEAN AND OTHER PLACES IS A REFLECTION OF PERCEPTION OF INTERNAL CRISIS-Atwater '15

[Peter, President of Financial Insyghts, Europe's Precarious Refugee Crisis; World Policy Blog; 9 September 2015; <http://www.worldpolicy.org/blog/2015/09/09/europes-precarious-refugee-crisis>; retrieved 4 October 2015]

While the refugees' environment is extremely volatile, there is another crucial element to the crisis further contributing to its challenges – darkening European social mood. Looking at the crisis from the perspective of European residents, it is important to appreciate that generosity is highly correlated to confidence. Not only are we more financially forthcoming when we are confident, but we are more socially generous too. We embrace diversity and welcome those who are different. We are more patient.

The history of the Schengen area displays a very clear positive correlation with European social mood. As mood improved, confidence in the European project and regional policymakers rose with it. (Our trust in government is highly reflexive. The better we feel, the more confidence we have in political leaders and government institutions.) Not only did the EU expand geographically, but so too did the free mobility of labor, goods, and services. Rising confidence led to a more open and inclusive Europe.

During 2011, however, falling European confidence led to a reversal in the region's openness as France, and Italy reconstructed border crossings. Falling confidence today is bringing with it even greater nationalism and xenophobic behaviors. Razor-wire fences and border controls are going up across the region aimed at stemming the flow of refugees.

FOCUSING ONLY ON LOCAL INTERESTS LEADS TO SHORT-TERM-MINDED THINKING-Atwater '15

[Peter, President of Financial Insyghts, Europe's Precarious Refugee Crisis; World Policy Blog; 9 September 2015; <http://www.worldpolicy.org/blog/2015/09/09/europes-precarious-refugee-crisis>; retrieved 4 October 2015]

But darkening social mood is also forcing national leaders to choose between local and Europe-wide demands. With falling mood, the same self-interested, short-term-minded traits exhibited in the extreme by refugees are increasingly mirrored by European residents. This is displayed in voters' demands of policymakers.



HUMANITARIAN FIRST: GOOD PLANNING ALLOWS FOR TAKING ON LARGE NUMBER OF REFUGEES

WITH GOOD PLANNING AND GOODWILL, EUROPE CAN TAKE IN A MUCH LARGER NUMBER OF REFUGEES THAN IT IS CURRENTLY DOING-Cali and Sekkarie '15

[Massimiliano, Senior Economist and Samia, Consultant; Much ado about nothing? The economic impact of refugee 'invasions'; Brookings Future Development Blog; 15 September 2015; <http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/future-development/posts/2015/09/16-economic-impact-refugees-cali>; retrieved 8 October 2015]

Of course all this does not imply that handling a large influx of foreigners (refugees or otherwise) is not a challenging undertaking for the receiving country. Social, political, and even economic strains associated with the refugees' inflow have been and continue to be key challenges to Syria's neighbors. But these neighbors have shown the much richer EU countries that there need not be insurmountable economic (or even social and political) costs associated with fulfilling the moral obligation of helping those fleeing wars and prosecution. With proper planning and goodwill, EU countries would be able to welcome a vastly larger share of refugees than they have been doing so far. This is also what more and more proud EU citizens have been demanding.

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: ANY ACTION BETTER THAN CURRENT APPROACH

EVEN AN IMPERFECT SOLUTION IS BETTER THAN THE EXISTING STRATEGIES WITH REFUGEES-Schuck '15

[Peter; Creating a Market for Refugees in Europe; New York Times; 9 June 2015; page A23]

Critics need a reality check. Whether they object on the grounds of national interest, weak enforcement or on the fear of dehumanizing the people they are trying to help, they must recognize that these problems apply to an even greater extent to current refugee arrangements. We must not let the perfect be the enemy of the better; even an imperfect reform may still make more refugees better off.



HUMANITARIAN FIRST: INTERNATIONAL LAW DEMANDS PROTECTIONS/ACTION

COUNTRIES HAVE A MORAL AND LEGAL DUTY TO PROTECT ASYLUM SEEKERS-Van Gulik '15

[Gauri; Global Post; "A human rights failure of tragic proportions": Europe's disgraceful response to the refugee crisis; Salon; 8 September 2015;

http://www.salon.com/2015/09/08/a_human_rights_failure_of_tragic_proportions_europes_disgraceful_response_to_the_refugee_crisis_partner/; retrieved 8 October 2015]

What can be done? No more "moments of silence" — we've had enough of those. It is now the time for leadership, and some European leaders seem to be getting the message.

At the Vienna summit, the calls were less about Fortress Europe and keeping people out, and more about solidarity and responsibility.

Federica Mogherini, vice president of the European Commission, could not have been clearer. Europe, she said, has a "moral and legal duty" to protect asylum seekers. The right words, certainly. But they now need to be matched with action.

THE ABILITY TO APPLY FOR ASYLUM IS A BASIC HUMAN RIGHT, NOW LARGELY IGNORED IN EU POLICY-Nordberg '15

[Jeny; New York-based investigative reporter and author; Europe's Crisis of Conscience; The New Yorker; 11 September 2015; <http://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/europes-crisis-of-conscience>; retrieved 5 October 2015]

The refugees who have managed to set foot on European shores to apply for asylum have taken advantage of a basic human right, afforded to them by international law and by the U.N. Refugee Convention (which was created to help European refugees after the Second World War). But, for years now, the E.U. has tried to avoid granting prospective refugees that right by making it nearly impossible for them to enter any of its countries legally. Try, for example, being an Afghan who wants to apply for a visa, which is mandatory for any air travel to Europe. But armed guards usually will not even let you come near the row of European embassies in Kabul. The same goes for Syrians—to what embassy could they even apply?

INTERNATIONAL LAW OBLIGATES THAT STATES PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF REFUGEES-Deen '15

[Thalif; Europe Squabbles While Refugees Die; Africa News Service; 31 August 2015; Gale Group Databases]

In a hard-hitting statement released Friday, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said he is "horrified and heartbroken" at the latest loss of lives of refugees and migrants in the Mediterranean and Europe.

He pointed out that a large majority of people undertaking these arduous and dangerous journeys are refugees fleeing from places such as Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan.

"International law has stipulated - and states have long recognized - the right of refugees to protection and asylum."

When considering asylum requests, he said, States cannot make distinctions based on religion or other identity - nor can they force people to return to places from which they have fled if there is a well-founded fear of persecution or attack.

"This is not only a matter of international law; it is also our duty as human beings," the U.N. chief declared.



SAVE THE CHILDREN'S FIVE POINT PLAN FOR THE EUROPEAN CRISIS-African News Service '15

[Child Refugee Crisis - Europe Needs a Plan; African News Service; 16 September 2015; Gale Group Databases]

Save the Children's new five point plan sets out what European Ministers must do to stem the escalating humanitarian crisis and to stop further tragedies on our doorstep.

We're calling on European leaders to agree to work together to:

Maintain search and rescue operations with a mandate and capability equal to the task of saving lives in the Mediterranean

Provide safe and legal routes into Europe to tackle trafficking and people smuggling

Provide reception facilities that can separate out economic migrants from refugees and give a place of safety and support for children

Provide relocation and resettlement programmes, with special priority for children, which are equal to the task of the worst refugee crisis since World War Two

Have regional plans - including sufficient aid - for the countries refugees are fleeing from which tackle the root causes of the refugee crisis

THE ONLY FAIR WAY TO CREATE A SYSTEM IN EUROPE IS ADOPTING AN OBJECTIVE QUOTA SYSTEM-Schuck '15
[Peter; Creating a Market for Refugees in Europe; New York Times; 9 June 2015; page A23]

A scheme allocating protection burdens according to each state's capacities, much as the European Union is likely to adopt, is essential. A regional authority should calculate each state's fair share using objective criteria such as gross domestic product, population and land mass. (The formula might also grant credits for past protection efforts.) It should also estimate how many refugees need protection, temporary or permanent, and how many of those can legally qualify for it -- mere economic migrants cannot.



HUMANITARIAN FIRST: CAP-AND-TRADE SYSTEM FOR REFUGEES DETAILED

EUROPE SHOULD CREATE A CAP-AND-TRADE MARKET FOR REFUGEES-Schuck '15

[Peter; Creating a Market for Refugees in Europe; New York Times; 9 June 2015; page A23]

Here's my proposed innovation: The agency should create and regulate a market in which states can buy and sell all or part of their protection quota obligations. Both the agency and the selling state must enforce international standards to ensure that the receiving state protects the human rights of those it agrees to accept.

Just as cap-and-trade schemes enhance environmental protection, this market would maximize the number of refugees protected by exploiting differences in states' resources, politics, geography and attitudes toward newcomers. A more ethnically homogeneous or xenophobic state might eagerly pay a high price (in cash, credit, commodities, political support, development assistance or some other valuable) to more refugee-friendly states to assume its burden, rather than having to bring them in-country.

MARKET SCHEME ALREADY TAKES PLACE WITH LARGE COUNTRIES MAKING PAYMENTS TO OTHERS TO TAKE ON BURDEN OF REFUGEES-Schuck '15

[Peter; Creating a Market for Refugees in Europe; New York Times; 9 June 2015; page A23]

Such payments already take place, in a way: The United States and other countries sometimes pay other states to harbor immigrants; Australia just agreed to give Cambodia \$32 million to do so.

REFUGEE MARKET SCHEME PROVIDES MORE PROTECTIONS-Schuck '15

[Peter; Creating a Market for Refugees in Europe; New York Times; 9 June 2015; page A23]

Almost by definition, such a market would produce more protection than the status quo does, while ensuring that each state does its share in one form or another and that human rights are respected.

REFUGEE MARKETS WOULD BE WELCOMED EVEN BY CRITICS COMPARED TO THE CURRENT STRATEGIES-Schuck '15

[Peter; Creating a Market for Refugees in Europe; New York Times; 9 June 2015; page A23]

Some will object that the market element offends common morality by "commodifying" refugees. But if trading protects more refugees than the status quo does, under conditions at least as favorable to their human rights, the newly protected will surely welcome it -- just as environmentalists now endorse the trading of pollution rights.

EUROPE IS IN AN EXCELLENT POSITION TO CREATE A MARKET APPROACH TO REFUGEES-Schuck '15

[Peter; Creating a Market for Refugees in Europe; New York Times; 9 June 2015; page A23]

Europe has several advantages in designing such a system. It is wealthy, faces long-term worker shortages because of low fertility, can work with the European Union's institutions and resources, and knows that prompt collective action is urgent -- in contrast to, say, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations' recent disarray in the face of large refugee flows from Myanmar and Bangladesh.

Europe also can build on an earlier model. The Vietnam War and its aftereffects pushed out millions of refugees, who were then often turned back by some countries of first asylum. In 1979, after a tragically slow start, the United States assembled a large coalition to provide both temporary relief and permanent resettlement for some 1.7 million refugees -- though not before countless thousands died. Adding a market element might have protected even more.yE



HUMANITARIAN FIRST: HUMANITARIAN VISA PLAN DETAILED

EUROPEAN UNION SHOULD CREATE HUMANITARIAN VISAS TO STOP THE DANGEROUS JOURNEYS TO EUROPE-Betts '15

[Alexander; Director, Refugee Studies Center at Oxford University; Let Refugees Fly to Europe; The New York Times; 25 September 2015; http://www.nytimes.com/2015/09/25/opinion/let-refugees-fly-to-europe.html?_r=0; retrieved 5 October 2015]

The way to avoid this would be to provide an alternative, legal means for asylum seekers to travel to Europe through "humanitarian visas." Small consular outposts could be created outside the European Union, in places like Bodrum in Turkey or Zuwara in Libya. As migratory routes change over time these posts could be relocated. At these transit points people could be quickly screened and those with a plausible asylum claim would be allowed access to Europe. They could then simply fly to Europe or take a scheduled ferry at their own expense.

HUMANITARIAN VISAS WOULD BE A GOOD, BUT RADICAL, APPROACH-Nordberg '15

[Jeny; New York-based investigative reporter and author; Europe's Crisis of Conscience; The New Yorker; 11 September 2015; <http://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/europes-crisis-of-conscience>; retrieved 5 October 2015]

A more radical initiative, which is often brought up by refugee advocates and shot down by politicians, is to allow European embassies in the Middle East and North Africa to extend humanitarian visas.

HUMANITARIAN VISAS WOULD BE CHEAPER AND SAFER THAN ALTERNATIVES LIKE SMUGGLING-Betts '15

[Alexander; Director, Refugee Studies Center at Oxford University; Let Refugees Fly to Europe; The New York Times; 25 September 2015; http://www.nytimes.com/2015/09/25/opinion/let-refugees-fly-to-europe.html?_r=0; retrieved 5 October 2015]

At the moment, Syrians are paying over 1,000 euros for a short but dangerous crossing from the Turkish coast to Greek islands like Lesbos or Kos, some being rescued by the Greek coast guard. The cost in lives and in resources for the already-stretched Greek state is high. In contrast, a nonstop flight from Bodrum to Frankfurt costs 200 euros. Humanitarian visas would also undercut the smuggling markets. Since the start of the crisis, Europe has declared a "war on smugglers," even proposing to use military force against them. However, like the "war on drugs," such policies are doomed if they only offer supply-side solutions but do nothing to remove the underlying demand of vulnerable people. Enabling refugees to access legal travel routes would immediately reduce the smuggling problem.

HUMANITARIAN VISA SYSTEM COULD BE IMPLEMENTED ALONG WITH THE PROPOSED QUOTA SYSTEM-Betts '15

[Alexander; Director, Refugee Studies Center at Oxford University; Let Refugees Fly to Europe; The New York Times; 25 September 2015; http://www.nytimes.com/2015/09/25/opinion/let-refugees-fly-to-europe.html?_r=0; retrieved 5 October 2015]

There are several ways this policy could be implemented. It could be adopted throughout the European Union, and connected to the Europe-wide quota system. The union could establish outposts at which plausible asylum seekers are identified, in some cases purely on the basis of nationality. They could then quickly receive a travel document, perhaps linked to a "temporary protection status" in a designated member state. The right to remain could last until they are able to return home or regularize their immigration status in the new host country.



HUMANITARIAN VISAS COULD BE IMPLEMENTED BY COUNTRIES EVEN IF EUROPE CAN'T AGREE ON ONE SOLUTION OR STRATEGY-Betts '15

[Alexander; Director, Refugee Studies Center at Oxford University; Let Refugees Fly to Europe; The New York Times; 25 September 2015; http://www.nytimes.com/2015/09/25/opinion/let-refugees-fly-to-europe.html?_r=0; retrieved 5 October 2015]

Even if an E.U. agreement could not be reached, there are other options. Visas could be offered unilaterally by countries that have agreed to accept refugees. Indeed, Brazil has already done this by announcing its willingness to provide humanitarian visas, so far taking over 2,000 Syrian refugees through the scheme, all of whom were recognized as refugees upon arrival. Germany and Sweden, which have pledged to take an even greater number, could do the same, and provide screening and visas at strategically located consular outposts.

HUMANITARIAN VISA SYSTEM HAS AN HISTORICAL PRECEDENT-Betts '15

[Alexander; Director, Refugee Studies Center at Oxford University; Let Refugees Fly to Europe; The New York Times; 25 September 2015; http://www.nytimes.com/2015/09/25/opinion/let-refugees-fly-to-europe.html?_r=0; retrieved 5 October 2015]

The idea of refugee travel documents has an historical precedent: the Nansen Passports used by the League of Nations. Following World War I, the collapse of the Ottoman Empire and the consequences of the Russian Revolution made hundreds of thousands of people stateless and brought refugees to Europe's borders. In 1922 the first High Commissioner for Refugees of the League of Nations, Fridtjof Nansen, convened a conference in Geneva at which a group of countries agreed to recognize Nansen passports as legitimate refugee travel documents. Between 1922 and 1942, the scheme was recognized by over 50 countries and enabled 450,000 people, including Assyrian, Armenian and Turkish refugees, safe passage to Europe. In recognition of its work the Nansen International Refugee Office received the Nobel Peace Prize.

HUMANITARIAN VISA WON'T CREATE INCENTIVES REFUGEES TO FLOOD EUROPE-Betts '15

[Alexander; Director, Refugee Studies Center at Oxford University; Let Refugees Fly to Europe; The New York Times; 25 September 2015; http://www.nytimes.com/2015/09/25/opinion/let-refugees-fly-to-europe.html?_r=0; retrieved 5 October 2015]

There are challenges to issuing refugee travel documents today, but they are surmountable. Governments will understandably worry that allowing legal entry is likely to lead to a "pull factor" and increase the demand to move to Europe. This risk can be addressed in several ways.

First, establishing consular points near Europe's external border would cater mainly to people who are already almost in the European Union and about to risk a dangerous boat journey. Second, visas would only be given to likely refugees, to whom we already have an internationally recognized legal obligation. Third, while it is possible that more Syrian refugees would choose to seek admission to Europe rather than remain in neighboring countries, a slight increase in numbers is a worthwhile price to pay if it saves lives, cuts costs, alleviates pressure at Europe's borders and drastically curtails the human-smuggling market.

Humanitarian visas would not be a panacea and they would not completely remove irregular immigration to Europe. However, even if they were only granted to Syrians, that would address the immediate challenge for more than 70 percent of the people arriving on the Greek islands.

Powerful images of people walking long distances across train lines and motorways have created a widespread sense of crisis in Europe. But much of this tragedy and chaos is avoidable. Simple policy decisions by countries that have agreed to accept large numbers of refugees could halt the mass exodus. In the age of the budget airline and modern consular screening capabilities, such perilous journeys are not necessary.



HUMANITARIAN FIRST: ALL COUNTRIES THAT PARTICIPATED IN MILITARY ACTION IN TARGET COUNTRIES ARE OBLIGATED TO ACT ON REFUGEES

ALL OF THE COUNTRIES THAT PARTICIPATED IN THE WARS IN THE MIDDLE EAST SHOULD BE PART OF THE SOLUTION OF REFUGEES-Nordberg '15

[Jeny; New York-based investigative reporter and author; Europe's Crisis of Conscience; The New Yorker; 11 September 2015; <http://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/europes-crisis-of-conscience>; retrieved 5 October 2015]

But perhaps a refugee crisis largely stemming from wars in the Middle East should be considered more than a European problem. The "humanitarian intervention" in Libya, in 2011, which helped create the chaos that opened up the route through the central Mediterranean to Europe, had countries from Qatar to Norway lining up to take part in the bombings with the United States. Germany, now bearing the brunt of the refugee crisis, notably abstained.

WE MUST CREATE EXPECTATIONS THAT REFUGEES ARE TAKEN CARE OF IN TIMES OF WAR-Nordberg '15

[Jeny; New York-based investigative reporter and author; Europe's Crisis of Conscience; The New Yorker; 11 September 2015; <http://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/europes-crisis-of-conscience>; retrieved 5 October 2015]

The American legal scholar Jill Goldenziel believes that the threat posed by human smuggling and large refugee movements goes beyond any solutions that Europe alone can invent. In a working paper recently presented at the American Society of International Law's annual meeting, she proposed the creation of a new international law for a global geographic distribution of refugees and migrants in the event of a conflict or disaster, as well as safe zones in countries of war, based on the idea that most people would never, by choice, flee to the other side of the world.

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: INCREMENTAL/SLOW APPROACHES ARE BAD

BRITISH APPROACH PROVES IT WON'T HELP EUROPE WITH THE REFUGEE CRISIS-Witte '15

[Griff; As Europe fills with refugees, Britain goes its own way; The Washington Post; 3 October 2015; https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/as-europe-fills-with-refugees-britain-goes-its-own-way/2015/10/01/c6793afe-6305-11e5-8475-781cc9851652_story.html; retrieved 8 October 2015]

But to other European leaders, Britain's stance smacks of an island nation's aloof unwillingness to help its fellow E.U. members at a time of vast need. Through the end of August, Britain had only resettled 216 Syrian refugees since the start of the four-year Syrian conflict. Nearly 5,000 others had been granted asylum or other forms of protection after arriving here on their own. Both numbers are far below the totals that have been accepted in other parts of Europe.

BRITISH APPROACH IS SEEN AS BEING UNWILLING TO DEAL AT ALL WITH THE CRISIS-Witte '15

[Griff; As Europe fills with refugees, Britain goes its own way; The Washington Post; 3 October 2015; https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/as-europe-fills-with-refugees-britain-goes-its-own-way/2015/10/01/c6793afe-6305-11e5-8475-781cc9851652_story.html; retrieved 8 October 2015]

French President Francois Hollande has pointedly said that Britain should not be exempt "from making an effort" just because it sits outside Europe's visa-free travel area. Austrian Chancellor Werner Faymann has warned that Britain won't get what it wants on other European matters if it refuses to cooperate on this one, noting that "solidarity is not a one-way street." The influential German tabloid Bild has labeled Cameron a "shirker."

BRITISH APPROACH IS DOING NOTHING TO ASSIST WITH THE CRISIS ON THE EUROPE MAINLAND-Witte '15

[Griff; As Europe fills with refugees, Britain goes its own way; The Washington Post; 3 October 2015; https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/as-europe-fills-with-refugees-britain-goes-its-own-way/2015/10/01/c6793afe-6305-11e5-8475-781cc9851652_story.html; retrieved 8 October 2015]

Only taking refugees who are still in the Middle East, after all, does nothing to ease the burden posed by the hundreds of thousands who are already in Europe. And it's an option for Britain only because of geography: The English Channel makes this country far more difficult for asylum seekers to access than the European mainland.

"If you're far away from the crisis, you can have the luxury of a more discretionary and more passive refugee policy," said Alexander Betts, director of the Refugee Studies Center at the University of Oxford.

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: MANY COUNTRIES HAVE ECONOMIC RESOURCES TO DEAL WITH REFUGEE CRISIS

INACTION SHOULD NOT BE AN OPTION; MOST COUNTRIES HAVE MUCH MORE CAPACITY TO TAKE IN IMMIGRANTS-Postel et al '15

[Hannah; Cynthia Rathinasamy and Michael Clemens, Researchers; Europe's Refugee Crisis Is Not as Big as You've Heard, and Not Without Recent Precedent; Center for Global Development; 10 September 2015; <http://www.cgdev.org/blog/europes-refugee-crisis-not-big-youve-heard-and-not-without-recent-precedent>; retrieved 4 October 2015]

The answer, too, lies in politics: stronger institutions to encourage cooperation and greater receiving capacity. These flows are not a major departure from other recent flows into the region when considered in larger context. The EU has admitted approximately 3.5 million long-term immigrants each year since 2010. Assuming asylum applications continue on the same scale for the rest of 2015, the EU will receive approximately 720,000 petitions this year. Even if all petitions were somehow approved (which is impossible), this would represent only an approximately 20 percent increase over current inflows.

The cooperative infrastructure to handle that increase can and must be built, and should extend beyond Europe to the United States and other countries who long ago promised to protect refugees. Refugees are not drowning us, but inaction could.

REFUGEE CRISIS IS NOT A FINANCIAL CRISIS; EUROPE HAS MORE THAN ENOUGH RESOURCES TO ASSIST THE INFLUX OF REFUGEES-Miller '15

[Chris; Associate Director of the Grant Strategy Program at Yale and Fellow at the Foreign Policy Research Institute; Border Chaos: Europe Reacts To Syrian Refugee Crisis; YaleGlobal Online; 15 September 2015; <http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/border-chaos-europe-reacts-syrian-refugee-crisis>; retrieved 9 October 2015]

Though politicians fret about the cost of refugees, the crisis is more political than economic. Housing and feeding one or even two million refugees would cost billions of dollars but the member states of the European Union, which constitutes the world's largest economy, could easily foot the bill. The EU spends more than \$50 billion per year on farm subsidies alone, and if leaders wanted, to, they could find similar sums for refugees.

EUROPE COULD HANDLE 500,000 to 1,000,000 REFUGEES AIRLIFTED OUT OF CONFLICT REGIONS-Faiola and Mekhennet '15

[Anthony and Souad; Germany calls for new refugee benefit standards in Europe; The Washington Post; 25 September 2015; Gale Group Databases]

On Friday, de Maiziere, a former top negotiator on German reunification, also reiterated a plan he fielded earlier this month that goes beyond the one approved this week to redistribute 120,000 asylum seekers arriving in Greece to nations in the E.U. De Maiziere called for a "generous" new quota for the total number of refugees allowed into Europe, above which European nations would simply send refugees to secure camps in the Middle East and Africa. He suggested that 500,000 to 1 million refugees could be safely airlifted to Europe directly from conflict zones. He said French officials had warmed to his idea.



TURKEY PROVES THAT PROVIDING RESOURCES FOR MIGRANTS IS DOABLE-Cali and Sekkarie '15

[Massimiliano, Senior Economist and Samia, Consultant; Much ado about nothing? The economic impact of refugee 'invasions'; Brookings Future Development Blog; 15 September 2015; <http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/future-development/posts/2015/09/16-economic-impact-refugees-cali>; retrieved 8 October 2015]

The most persistent economic worriers would probably point to the fiscal burden of ensuring EU-style living standards to a large number of refugees. The experience of Turkey comes in handy once again. Turkey has provided free access to health care and education to all registered refugees and has built camps that have become a “model for the perfect refugee camp.” To provide these services the Turkish government has spent nearly 5.37 billion euros since the refugees first began arriving, entirely funded through its own fiscal resources. While this is undoubtedly a lot of money, there is no indication that this spending has jeopardized the country’s fiscal sustainability. This should be even more the case for the EU, whose economy is 23 times larger than Turkey’s. Moreover if allowed to work, newly arrived migrants can increase their net fiscal contribution to the host economy.

EUROPE IS NOT EVEN CLOSE TO BEING OVERWHELMED BY REFUGEES-Postel et al '15

[Hannah; Cynthia Rathinasamy and Michael Clemens, Researchers; Europe’s Refugee Crisis Is Not as Big as You’ve Heard, and Not Without Recent Precedent; Center for Global Development; 10 September 2015; <http://www.cgdev.org/blog/europes-refugee-crisis-not-big-youve-heard-and-not-without-recent-precedent>; retrieved 4 October 2015]

The blue line is the actual number of all refugees in the countries of today’s 28 European Union member states, through 2014. The orange area is a range of numbers that we’re likely to see by the end of 2015, from the lowest plausible to the highest plausible. That range depends not just on how many people show up in Europe claiming asylum, but how many are actually granted refugee status and benefits.

You can see in that figure that Europe as a whole can do and has done much more than it is now. In the mid-1990s, Europe was successfully hosting refugees to the tune of 0.5 percent of its population. In 2014, that number was much lower, just over 0.2 percent. Even with the surge of pressure this year, the numbers are very unlikely to reach the levels seen just 20 years back.

Individual European countries have handled much, much more than even the highest regional average. After the Hungarian revolution of 1956, Austria found itself with 2 percent of its population as refugees. That’s four times the highest level you see in the figure above. And that was at a time that Austria itself was still wrecked by war.

None of this is to diminish the challenges Europe currently faces. There is certainly a major crisis in the policies and institutions designed to receive, process, and assist people who arrive seeking refugee status.

Those institutions are overwhelmed because Europe and the world community have not decided how to share the responsibility to protect these people. But Europe itself, both its economy and its society, are nowhere close to being overwhelmed. As Oxford’s Alexander Betts succinctly puts it, this refugee crisis “isn’t necessarily a crisis of numbers, it’s been a crisis of politics.”

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: ECONOMIC COSTS FOR REFUGEES GO DOWN/ARE MITIGATED OVER TIME

COST OF REFUGEES WILL GO DOWN OVER TIME AND WILL HAVE LITTLE NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THE ECONOMY OR JOBS-Miller '15

[Chris; Associate Director of the Grant Strategy Program at Yale and Fellow at the Foreign Policy Research Institute; Border Chaos: Europe Reacts To Syrian Refugee Crisis; YaleGlobal Online; 15 September 2015; <http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/border-chaos-europe-reacts-syrian-refugee-crisis>; retrieved 9 October 2015]

Indeed, once refugees are allowed to find jobs and earn an income, their cost to society will decline rapidly. Though voters often fear that outsiders will steal their jobs or drive down their wages, much economic evidence suggests otherwise.



HUMANITARIAN FIRST: NO ECONOMIC CRISIS FROM ALLOWING REFUGEES INTO A COUNTRY

EVIDENCE FROM MIAMI IN THE 80s SUGGEST THAT A MASS INFLUX OF REFUGEES WILL NOT HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THE ECONOMY-Miller '15

[Chris; Associate Director of the Grant Strategy Program at Yale and Fellow at the Foreign Policy Research Institute; Border Chaos: Europe Reacts To Syrian Refugee Crisis; YaleGlobal Online; 15 September 2015; <http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/border-chaos-europe-reacts-syrian-refugee-crisis>; retrieved 9 October 2015]

Economist David Card, for example, collected data about Miami's labor market in 1980, after a rapid influx of Cuban refugees increased the area's labor market by a whopping 7 percent.

Crunching the numbers revealed that the refugees had little long-term effect on other workers. Unemployment did not increase nor did the increased supply of workers depress wages, even among low-skilled native workers who were ostensibly competing with the refugees for work. It turned out that businesses' demand for workers was sufficiently elastic to accommodate a rapid increase in the size of the workforce.

There is little reason to think that the refugees now seeking to enter Europe are much different than the Cubans who reached Miami. Those who succeed in the harrowing journey across the Mediterranean or Aegean are probably on average wealthier and more entrepreneurial than others from their country of origin, so they may do better upon reaching Europe. And even the largest estimates for the scale of refugee flows suggest that they will constitute a far smaller a share of Europe's labor force of more than 200 million than were Cubans in Miami.

BRINGING IN AN INFLUX OF REFUGEES WILL NOT CRUSH THE ECONOMY; LEBANON PROVES-Cali and Sekkarie '15

[Massimiliano, Senior Economist and Samia, Consultant; Much ado about nothing? The economic impact of refugee 'invasions'; Brookings Future Development Blog; 15 September 2015; <http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/future-development/posts/2015/09/16-economic-impact-refugees-cali>; retrieved 8 October 2015]

So assume you are in a country that has taken in a quarter, or even 2.6 percent, of your population as refugees fleeing war and prosecution. Would your economy collapse? Last time we checked, that was not quite the case. The Lebanese economy has been growing beyond expectations over the past two years, with the World Bank estimating 2.5 percent growth in real terms this year, the country's highest growth rate since 2010. That is remarkable considering the hugely negative spillovers of the Syrian war on Lebanon in terms of armed conflict, and tourism and investments declining markedly, especially from Gulf countries. This economic resilience in the face of large inflows of refugees has been the case for Jordan (which has taken 630,000 Syrian refugees or around 10 percent of its population) and Turkey as well, with both economies growing consistently throughout the refugees' inflow.



OTHER COUNTRIES PROVE THAT THE INFLUX OF REFUGEES DOESN'T HURT WAGES OR EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR NATIVES IN THE HOST COUNTRY-Cali and Sekkarie '15

[Massimiliano, Senior Economist and Samia, Consultant; Much ado about nothing? The economic impact of refugee 'invasions'; Brookings Future Development Blog; 15 September 2015; <http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/future-development/posts/2015/09/16-economic-impact-refugees-cali>; retrieved 8 October 2015]

While the fear of economic collapse does not withstand serious scrutiny, a more founded concern may be that not everyone in the host economy will benefit from a large influx of refugees. A lot more refugees competing for jobs can reduce employment opportunities and/or wages for the host community's residents. Again, a closer look at the data dispels most of these fears. Recent research finds that while Syrian refugees in Turkey—the majority of whom have no formal work permits—have displaced unskilled informal and part-time workers, they have also generated more formal non-agricultural jobs and an increase in average wages for Turkish workers. In addition, many of the displaced workers have gone back to school and may well increase their wages once they return to the labor market. This picture is also consistent with the Jordanian case, where unemployment has not increased in areas where Syrians have resettled, as Syrian workers have tended to find employment in low-skill sectors that Jordanians typically avoid. And this evidence is consistent with that on the net impact of migrants on host countries' labor markets, which is typically small and if anything positive on average.

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: LOCAL RESISTANCE AGAINST REFUGEES IS RACIST

RESISTANCE TO REFUGEES IS FOUNDED IN RACISM-Gilmore '15

[Scott; European refugee crisis? Nope; Maclean's; 14 September 2015; page 10]

Why the alarm? It would be easy to blame racism. There's no denying that many Europeans are deeply worried that Third World migrants threaten their culture. The plot of a 1973 novel, *Le Camp des saints* by French author Jean Raspail, is often cited as emblematic of this fear: Due to overpopulation, a flotilla of several million South Asian migrants arrive in France. Motivated by liberal guilt, Europeans allow them in.

The new arrivals, refusing to assimilate, then destroy Western civilization. As outlandish as the plot seems, the book returned to the bestseller list only a few years ago.

NATIONAL INTERESTING THINKING WILL BRING WAVES OF VIOLENCE AGAINST IMMIGRANTS-Atwater '15

[Peter, President of Financial Insights, Europe's Precarious Refugee Crisis; World Policy Blog; 9 September 2015;

<http://www.worldpolicy.org/blog/2015/09/09/europes-precarious-refugee-crisis>; retrieved 4 October 2015]

Should European mood continue to sour, it will be extremely difficult for policymakers to reach a meaningful pan-European political solution to the refugee crisis in the face of rising protectionism and xenophobia. The potential for violence will rise sharply, manifesting in clashes between refugees and local residents and government officials. This heightened violence will only make resolving the crisis more difficult. There is the very high probability of a contagious and impulsive backlash arising from both sides. We are seeing signs of this already in the escalation in tensions in Calais and Budapest. Unless mood improves quickly, the risk of a vicious deteriorating cycle is high.

HUMANITARIAN FIRST: INCREASED IMMIGRATION CAN HELP WESTERN COUNTRY'S DEMOGRAPHIC PROBLEMS

EASTERN EUROPE FACING A DEMOGRAPHICS CRISIS WITH YOUNGER PEOPLE MOVING WEST AND/OR NOT HAVING CHILDREN-Bodewig '15

[Christian; Program Leader for the World Bank; Is the refugee crisis an opportunity for an aging Europe?; Brookings Future Development Blog; 21 September 2015; <http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/future-development/posts/2015/09/21-refugee-demographics-europe-bodewig>; retrieved 8 October 2015]

But wait a minute. Opposition to immigration appears counterintuitive for countries that face the prospect of aging and rapid population declines. For example, the Baltic countries and Bulgaria have already seen their populations shrink by more than 15 percent since 1990, Croatia by 10 percent, and Romania and Hungary by more than 5 percent. The share of the population aged 65 and above in the countries of Central Europe and the Baltics increased by more than a third between 1990 and 2010. Unlike in Western Europe, where people are living longer, aging in Central Europe and the Baltic countries has been driven significant emigration, especially of young people of child-bearing age and often to Western Europe, and by substantial drops in fertility. Fertility rates in Central Europe and the Baltic countries today are generally below 1.6. They are as low as 1.3 in Poland, Hungary, and Slovakia—far below the replacement fertility rate of 2.1. Population projections suggest that aging and demographic decline will continue and even accelerate, putting economic growth at risk and adding to fiscal pressures through a greater reliance on old age pensions and health services.

EUROPEAN NATIONS NEED IMMIGRANTS TO HELP STEM THE ECONOMIC TIDE OF THEIR AGING POPULATION-Miller '15

[Chris; Associate Director of the Grant Strategy Program at Yale and Fellow at the Foreign Policy Research Institute; Border Chaos: Europe Reacts To Syrian Refugee Crisis; YaleGlobal Online; 15 September 2015; <http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/border-chaos-europe-reacts-syrian-refugee-crisis>; retrieved 9 October 2015]

Indeed, over the long term, Europe might greatly benefit from an influx of new workers. Many of its biggest countries, Germany above all, report low fertility rates and aging populations. On average, German women have fewer than 1.5 children. Without immigration, the population will age rapidly, putting pressure on public services - pensions above all - that are funded by current workers. And Germany is not alone. Many of the largest EU countries, including Poland, Italy and Spain, have similarly low fertility rates, and could rely on immigrants to replenish the working age labor force.

EUROPE HAS A DEMOGRAPHIC PROBLEM THAT COULD BE SOLVED WITH REFUGEES-Gilmore '15

[Scott; European refugee crisis? Nope; Maclean's; 14 September 2015; page 10]

The continent is also grappling with less obvious, but very serious, demographic problems. The population is both aging and shrinking. In other words, every year there are fewer taxpayers to support more retirees. The long-term viability of its welfare state is very much in question.



IMMIGRATION IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE POLICY RESPONSE TO THE DEMOGRAPHIC CRISIS IN EUROPE-Bodewig '15

[Christian; Program Leader for the World Bank; Is the refugee crisis an opportunity for an aging Europe?; Brookings Future Development Blog; 21 September 2015; <http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/future-development/posts/2015/09/21-refugee-demographics-europe-bodewig>; retrieved 8 October 2015]

How can Europe turn this challenge around? Countries can minimize economic and social consequences of demographic change through policies that makes smaller workforces more productive, including through improvements in workers' skills and health so that they can be employed more productively and during longer working lives. Given the vast size of emigration from countries in Central Europe and the Baltics over the last two decades, immigration will not make up for the decline in working-age populations. But with refugee numbers in Europe surging, immigration will gradually become an element of the policy response. The real policy question for the countries of Central Europe and the Baltics today is therefore not whether to accept migrants or not but, rather, how to turn the challenge of today's refugee crisis into an opportunity. At a minimum, the examples of Turkey and Jordan show that hosting far larger numbers of refugees than Europe need not be an economic drag.

OPENING UP BORDERS TO MIGRANT COMMUNITIES CAN BRING FRESH IDEAS AND INNOVATION, IN ADDITION TO A YOUNGER POPULATION TO MEET THE DEMOGRAPHICS CRISIS-Bodewig '15

[Christian; Program Leader for the World Bank; Is the refugee crisis an opportunity for an aging Europe?; Brookings Future Development Blog; 21 September 2015; <http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/future-development/posts/2015/09/21-refugee-demographics-europe-bodewig>; retrieved 8 October 2015]

Many migrants arriving in Europe today come with the skills and motivation to be successful and to make a contribution to their host countries' economies. Many come with children. They have the potential to not just alleviate declining numbers of workers but also to boost innovation through bringing fresh ideas and perspectives. Integrating migrants is challenging. I can think of plenty of examples across Europe where integration has not been successful. But there are others. Take the example of the Vietnamese community that has been living in the Czech Republic for decades. There are more than 60,000 ethnic Vietnamese in the Czech Republic today—20 times more than the European Commission's refugee quota would allocate to the country. Many Vietnamese have excelled in education and are active in the business community. Examples of both failure and success of integration provide lessons to inform policy about how to make Europe's response to the refugee crisis not just an essential humanitarian act but also a smart investment in its economic prosperity.

EUROPE IS EXPERIENCING A SIGNIFICANT DECLINE IN WORKING POPULATION-Desilver '15

[Drew; Senior Writer; Refugee surge brings youth to an aging Europe; FactTank from Pew Research; 8 October 2015; <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/10/08/refugee-surge-brings-youth-to-an-aging-europe/>; retrieved 4 October 2015]

The ongoing surge of refugees into Europe from Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq and other war-ravaged countries presents a striking demographic contrast: hundreds of thousands of predominantly young people trying to get into a region where the population is older than in almost any other place on earth.

Europe has been graying for decades, primarily because of longer life expectancies and low birthrates (and, in some countries, high levels of emigration by young people of child-bearing age). In 1950, according to our analysis of data from the U.N.'s Population Division, 8% of the continent's population was 65 or older; by 1990 that share had risen to 12.7%, and this year it's estimated to be 17.6%.

In fact, 27 of the 30 countries and territories globally with the largest 65-and-older shares are in Europe. That includes six European countries – Italy, Greece, Germany, Portugal, Finland and Bulgaria – where a fifth of the population or more is age 65 or older. (The only country with a higher 65-and-older percentage is Japan, where 26.3% of the population is at least 65.)

Coping with rising numbers of older people, and concomitant declines in working-age people, already is posing considerable social, economic and political challenges in countries such as Germany and Italy, and likely will do so in other societies as they age (including the U.S., where 14.8% of the population now is 65 or older).

BRINING IN LARGE NUMBERS OF YOUNG IMMIGRANTS WOULD BE A LONG-TERM BENEFIT TO AN AGING EUROPEAN POPULATION-Desilver '15

[Drew; Senior Writer; Refugee surge brings youth to an aging Europe; FactTank from Pew Research; 8 October 2015; <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/10/08/refugee-surge-brings-youth-to-an-aging-europe/>; retrieved 4 October 2015]

Previous waves of non-European migration have already altered the culture and demographics of several European countries – think Turks in Germany, North Africans in France, or West Indians and Pakistanis in the United Kingdom. But the current wave of migration into Europe, unprecedented in its sheer scale since the end of World War II, could change the continent's underlying dynamics.

According to data compiled by Eurostat, the European Union's statistical agency, 81% of the 689,000 people who had formally applied for asylum in EU countries this year (through August) were younger than 35; more than half (55%) were ages 18 to 34. Hundreds of thousands more refugees are expected to arrive before year's end; one news report states that German authorities expect as many as 1.5 million asylum-seekers in that country this year.

Some analysts argue the refugee influx could be a long-term benefit to an aging Europe, renewing the supply of younger workers on whom the continent's retirees depend. Christian Bodewig, the World Bank's human development sector leader for central Europe and the Baltics, wrote recently: "The real policy question for the countries of Central Europe and the Baltics today is therefore not whether to accept migrants or not but, rather, how to turn the challenge of today's refugee crisis into an opportunity. ... [Many migrants] have the potential to not just alleviate declining numbers of workers but also to boost innovation through bringing fresh ideas and perspectives."



HUMANITARIAN FIRST: INCREASED IMMIGRANTS CREATES MASSIVE LONG-TERM GROWTH

EVEN IF PERCEIVED PROBLEMS WITH IMMIGRANTS ARE TRUE, EUROPE HAS REAPED IMMENSE ECONOMIC BENEFITS FROM MIGRATION-Gilmore '15

[Scott; European refugee crisis? Nope; Maclean's; 14 September 2015; page 10]

It's true: Immigration has changed the face of Europe. In London now, only 44 per cent of the population is both white and British. In Birmingham and Leicester, the majority are visible minorities. Newspapers across the continent are filled with daily stories of immigration problems, Roma crime rates, and welfare fraud by new arrivals. But, in most cases, the macro data suggest Europe has reaped immense economic benefits from migration.

LEBANON PROVES THAT BRINGING IN MIGRANTS CAN HELP STABILIZE AND GROW THE ECONOMY-Cali and Sekkarie '15

[Massimiliano, Senior Economist and Samia, Consultant; Much ado about nothing? The economic impact of refugee 'invasions'; Brookings Future Development Blog; 15 September 2015; <http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/future-development/posts/2015/09/16-economic-impact-refugees-cali>; retrieved 8 October 2015]

In fact, the inflow of refugees has arguably helped the Lebanese economy withstand the negative effect of its neighbor's civil war. Refugees have been an important source of demand for locally produced services in Lebanon, funded from own savings and labor income, from remittances of relatives abroad and from international aid. In a recent World Bank report we estimate that an additional 1 percent increase in Syrian refugees increases Lebanese service exports by 1.5 percent. And the UNHCR and U.N. Development Program estimate a similar economy-wide impact from the \$800 million that the U.N. spends annually on Syrian refugees in Lebanon. These effects are not unique to Syrian refugees. Burundian and Rwandan refugees fleeing war in the 1990s have generated net economic gains for their Tanzanian host communities.

NATIONAL INTEREST RESPONSE BAD: REINSTATING EUROPEAN BORDERS BAD

REFUGEE CRISIS RISKS INTERNAL OPEN BORDERS, ONE OF THE GREATEST ACHIEVEMENTS OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION-Park '15

[Jeanne, Deputy Director; Europe's Migration Crisis: Council on Foreign Relations Backgrounder; 23 September 2015; <http://www.cfr.org/migration/europes-migration-crisis/p32874>; retrieved 8 October 2015]

The secondary movements of migrants who evade their first country of entry, in clear violation of the Dublin Regulation, have put enormous strain on the EU's visa-free Schengen zone, which eliminated border controls among twenty-six European countries. Considered one of the signature achievements of European integration, it has come under heightened scrutiny in light of the current migrant influx and attendant security concerns. (Fissures first surfaced in April 2011, when France briefly reintroduced border controls in response to the influx of thousands of Tunisian and Libyan refugees from neighboring Italy. Denmark followed suit in May 2011 by reintroducing temporary controls on its shared borders with Sweden and Germany.)

THE REFUGEE CRISIS THREATENS THE ENTIRE EU SYSTEM-Atwater '15

[Peter, President of Financial Insyghts, Europe's Precarious Refugee Crisis; World Policy Blog; 9 September 2015; <http://www.worldpolicy.org/blog/2015/09/09/europes-precarious-refugee-crisis>; retrieved 4 October 2015]

Far more than the plight of the refugees is at stake here, however. The current crisis is exposing just how fragile European leadership cohesion is today. Where the Greek crisis challenges policymakers to reconsider financial constructs of the region, the refugee crisis is revealing fundamental disagreements across a much broader swath of existential issues.

ALLOWING EUROPE TO RESURRECT BORDERS INTERNALLY WOULD UNDO ONE OF THE GREATEST ACHIEVEMENTS IN ITS HISTORY-Rosenthal '15

[Max; How the Refugees Crisis Is Wreaking Havoc on the European Union; Mother JOnes; 3 September 2015; <http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2015/08/how-migrant-crisis-wreaking-havoc-on-european-union>; retrieved 4 October 2015]

In July, the European Union was supposedly on the verge of disaster. Greece seemed ready to reject the demands of its creditors and dump the euro, paving the way for the potential end of Europe's common currency—and perhaps the end of a united Europe.

Two months later, that threat is gone. The Greek government agreed to financial reforms in exchange for another bailout. Talk of a euro exit dissipated. But the conversation in Europe is now dominated by the astronomical rise in the number of migrants trying to enter the continent, both refugees from wars in Syria, Afghanistan, and other countries, as well as job seekers from elsewhere in Europe. The influx is again pitting EU states against each other. Germany and other countries are threatening to reinstate unilateral border controls in the face of EU inaction, undoing the landmark Schengen Agreement that has allowed years of free movement within the European Union.

"It would be a disaster for Europe to go down that way," says Francois Crepeau, the United Nation's special rapporteur on the human rights of migrants. "It would be a disaster for the [European Union] because they would renounce one of their greatest achievements."

REFUGEE CRISIS HAS THE POTENTIAL TO BRING DOWN THE EUROPEAN UNION-Kim '15

[Lician; Berlin-Based Corespondent; A European Disaster: Will the refugee crisis tear the European Union apart?; Slate; September 2015;

http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/foreigners/2015/09/europe_is_deeply_divided_on_the_refugee_crisis_can_angela_merkel_hold_the.html; retrieved 5 October 2015]

A quarter-century ago, it was a refugee crisis that brought down the Berlin Wall and helped sweep away communism. Today it's a refugee crisis that's exposing the cracks in a continent that was supposedly whole and free. Ukraine's struggle with a revanchist Russia and the recurring convulsions of the Greek economy already demonstrated the fragility of the European order. The plight of hundreds of thousands of refugees at Europe's doorstep could break it. Most Europeans had come to see the 28-member European Union as a bloated if benign bureaucracy whose main benefit was ensuring affordable air travel, cheap pinot grigio, and lower mobile roaming charges. Now the most fundamental questions about the EU are open for debate: How much more sovereignty will European countries surrender in a time of uncertainty? And is the EU merely an economic union, or are its values measured in something more than a common currency?

REFUGEE CRISIS WILL FORCE COUNTRIES TO REINSTATE "TEMPORARY" BORDER CONTROLS FOR LONGER AND LONGER TIME-Park '15

[Jeanne, Deputy Director; Europe's Migration Crisis: Council on Foreign Relations Backgrounder; 23 September 2015;

<http://www.cfr.org/migration/europes-migration-crisis/p32874>; retrieved 8 October 2015]

While Schengen rules allow member countries to erect temporary border controls under extenuating "public policy or national security" circumstances, CSIS' Conley fears that a sustained influx of migrants could spur more member states to suspend borderless travel for longer stretches of time. "I suspect if the politics surrounding migration really start getting messy, you'll see countries reintroducing internal borders with greater frequency, which means they would have chiseled away at one of the main pillars of Europe, which is the free movement of people," she says.

REINSTATING BORDERS WOULD BE A DISASTER FOR EUROPE-Rosenthal '15

[Max; How the Refugees Crisis Is Wreaking Havoc on the European Union; Mother Jones; 3 September 2015;

<http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2015/08/how-migrant-crisis-wreaking-havoc-on-european-union>; retrieved 4 October 2015]

German leaders call the European Union's slow pace "unacceptable," and a range of top German politicians and cabinet ministers have spoken about reinstating border controls—which has already begun to happen in northern Italy, along with the building of a border fence in Hungary that refugees are rushing to get through before it's completed. The Schengen Agreement, which eliminated almost all border checks within the European Union nearly 20 years ago, is a fundamental part of EU law and identity. It is "perhaps the most visible day-to-day sign of European integration" according to James Davis, the director of the Institute of Political Science at Switzerland's University of St. Gallen. Enforcing borders and imposing checkpoints again would be a major symbolic blow for the European Union. It would also harm European trade and tourism, just as China's economic slowdown is hitting the global economy. "To close down the borders has long-term consequences in terms of trade, in terms of cultural exchanges, in terms of movement of people that are not calculated," says the United Nation's Crepeau.



NATIONAL INTEREST RESPONSE BAD: GOES AGAINST REGIONAL COOPERATION LIKE THE EU

**FOCUSING ON NATIONAL SECURITY IN THIS SITUATION GOES AGAINST THE IDEALS IN WHICH THE EU WAS FOUNDED-
Park '15**

[Jeanne, Deputy Director; Europe's Migration Crisis: Council on Foreign Relations Backgrounder; 23 September 2015; <http://www.cfr.org/migration/europes-migration-crisis/p32874>; retrieved 8 October 2015]

But for CSIS' Conley, such practices would not just imperil migrants and refugees, but also the very ideals upon which the EU was founded. "The political response of countries pushing migrants out or incarcerating them for long stretches runs counter to the very values that the EU promotes, like protecting human life and the right to asylum," she says.



NATIONAL INTEREST RESPONSE BAD: INCREASES VIOLENCE AGAINST IMMIGRANTS

A NATIONAL INTEREST REPOSSES HAS CREATED THE MOST DANGEROUS SITUATION FOR MIGRANTS ANYWHERE ON EARTH-Park '15

[Jeanne, Deputy Director; Europe's Migration Crisis: Council on Foreign Relations Backgrounder; 23 September 2015; <http://www.cfr.org/migration/europes-migration-crisis/p32874>; retrieved 8 October 2015]

Migrants and refugees streaming into Europe from Africa, the Middle East, and South Asia have presented European leaders and policymakers with their greatest challenge since the debt crisis. The International Organization for Migration calls Europe the most dangerous destination for irregular migration in the world, and the Mediterranean the world's most dangerous border crossing. Yet despite the escalating human toll, the European Union's collective response to its current migrant influx has been ad hoc and, critics charge, more focused on securing the bloc's borders than on protecting the rights of migrants and refugees. However, with nationalist parties ascendant in many member states, and concerns about Islamic terrorism looming large across the continent, it remains unclear if the bloc or its member states are capable of implementing lasting asylum and immigration reforms.

A/T: COUNTRIES ARE SHIPPING REFUGEES BACK TO CONFLICT ZONES

FEW REFUGEES ARE ACTUALLY BEING DEPORTED FROM GERMANY-Faiola '15

[Anthony; After hard journeys to Europe, which refugees get to stay?; The Washington Post; 20 September 2015; https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/after-hard-journeys-to-europe-who-gets-to-stay/2015/09/20/583ded9c-5aee-11e5-8475-781cc9851652_story.html; retrieved 8 October 2015]

Germany is ground zero in Europe's migrant crisis, a nation set to receive up to 1 million asylum seekers this year, far more than any other country in the region. Yet, like Hassan, after risking their lives by land and sea to reach the continent's economic powerhouse, about one in every two asylum seekers is initially rejected. It has made asylum a numbers game. In Germany, 86 percent of Syrians are being granted some form of refugee status, as are 82 percent of Iraqis and 80 percent of Eritreans. Only 30 percent of Afghans are making the cut. For those coming from Kosovo and Albania, the acceptance rate stands at almost zero.

But if Hassan's story suggests the trials set to face hundreds of thousands of rejected asylum seekers - two stressful years spent in a bureaucratic nightmare trying to stay - it also offers them a ray of hope. While vast numbers of migrants like him are being rejected, far fewer are actually being deported.



A/T: MOST OF THE “REFUGEES” ARE ACTUALLY ECONOMIC MIGRANTS

CAN'T TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN REFUGEES AND ECONOMIC MIGRANTS-Applebaum '15

[Anne; Europe’s Deadly Denial; Slate; September 2015;

http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/foreigners/2015/09/europe_refugee_crisis_the_eu_has_failed_to_confront_the_wars_in_syria_and.html; retrieved 10 October 2015]

Even now, almost all of the slogans being bandied about as “solutions” are based on false assumptions. We should “let in real refugees but not economic migrants”? For one, it’s rarely easy to tell the difference. More to the point, the number of potentially “legitimate” refugees is staggeringly high. As of July, the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees had registered more than 4 million Syrian refugees, of whom more than a million are in Turkey and 1.8 million are in Lebanon, a country of only 4.8 million people. That’s not counting Iraqis, Libyans, Afghans, and others who have equally suffered political or religious persecution, or even the millions of displaced Syrians still in Syria. Exactly how many of them will Europe take?

MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES REPRESENT SIGNIFICANT GRAY AREA AND OFTEN TRAVEL TOGETHER-Park '15

[Jeanne, Deputy Director; Europe’s Migration Crisis: Council on Foreign Relations Backgrounder; 23 September 2015;

<http://www.cfr.org/migration/europes-migration-crisis/p32874>; retrieved 8 October 2015]

Distinguishing migrants from asylum seekers and refugees is not always a clear-cut process, yet it is a crucial designation because these groups are entitled to different levels of assistance and protection under international law.

An asylum seeker is defined as a person fleeing persecution or conflict, and therefore seeking international protection under the 1951 Refugee Convention on the Status of Refugees; a refugee is an asylum seeker whose claim has been approved. However, the UN considers migrants fleeing war or persecution to be refugees, even before they officially receive asylum. (Syrian and Eritrean nationals, for example, enjoy prima facie refugee status.) An economic migrant, by contrast, is person whose primary motivation for leaving his or her home country is economic gain. The term "migrant" is seen as an umbrella term for all three groups. (Said another way: all refugees are migrants, but not all migrants are refugees.)

Europe is currently witnessing a mixed-migration phenomenon, in which economic migrants and asylum seekers travel together. In reality, these groups can and do overlap, and this gray area is frequently exacerbated by the inconsistent methods with which asylum applications are often processed across the EU's twenty-eight member states.



A/T: SHOULD DEAL WITH TRUE CRIMES LIKE SMUGGLING ONLY

SMUGGLER-ONLY APPROACH FAILS TO GET AT THE CORE ISSUES RELATED TO REFUGEES-Park '15

[Jeanne, Deputy Director; Europe's Migration Crisis: Council on Foreign Relations Backgrounder; 23 September 2015; <http://www.cfr.org/migration/europes-migration-crisis/p32874>; retrieved 8 October 2015]

A ten-point plan on migration adopted by the EU in April 2015 includes calls for a "systematic effort to capture and destroy vessels used by the smugglers." However, many critics argue that this focus on disrupting smuggling operations fails to recognize the larger "push factors" driving migration to the region: poverty and conflict across large swaths of the Middle East, Africa, and South Asia that have left many with no recourse but to flee.



A/T: HELPING REFUGEES CREATES “PULL” OF REFUGEES INTO A COUNTRY

REFUGEES ARE LESS MOVING TOWARDS SOMETHING THAN LEAVING SOMETHING HORRIBLE-Atwater '15

[Peter, President of Financial Insights, Europe's Precarious Refugee Crisis; World Policy Blog; 9 September 2015; <http://www.worldpolicy.org/blog/2015/09/09/europes-precarious-refugee-crisis>; retrieved 4 October 2015]

To grasp the precariousness of the current crisis, one must ignore the political rhetoric and standard analysis and focus on how refugee and European voter confidence is impacting unfolding events. As we saw with the crisis in Greece, social mood and confidence levels have a much bigger effect on outcomes than most pundits and policymakers realize. To state that refugees have lost confidence and are desperate would be an understatement. Exodus only takes place when mood is at its lowest, hopelessness has set in and every other alternative has been exhausted. Emigration is an act of deliberate sacrifice, where those leaving give up everything for the possibility of a better future. Refugees are not going toward somewhere new as much as they are fleeing from mentally and emotionally debilitating uncertainty.

REFUGEES ARE ACTING OUT OF HOPELESSNESS AND WILL TAKE DRASTIC ACTIONS IN LIGHT OF THEIR PLIGHT-Atwater '15

[Peter, President of Financial Insights, Europe's Precarious Refugee Crisis; World Policy Blog; 9 September 2015; <http://www.worldpolicy.org/blog/2015/09/09/europes-precarious-refugee-crisis>; retrieved 4 October 2015]

But extreme lows in social confidence also bring with them unique impulsive behaviors that reflect extreme self-interest and very narrow time frames. For refugees, the only people who truly matter are close family. The only time frame that matters is right now. When desperation takes hold, deliberate decision making that takes into consideration the interests of others and long-term consequences is replaced by our survival-driven impulsive instincts. We focus entirely on the here and now.

When you consider the dangerous and extreme means by which refugees have travelled to Europe, those actions reflect these behaviors very clearly. What policymakers may woefully underappreciate is that until confidence improves, refugees' actions will continue to reflect these extreme impulsive survivalist traits. The desperation we have seen in Calais and in Budapest is not exceptional. We are witnessing how those who are hopeless routinely behave.

A/T: SHOULD ONLY FOCUS ON LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS IN THE HOME COUNTRIES

SOLUTIONS IN SYRIA REMAIN ELUSIVE; WE MUST DEAL WITH THOSE FLEEING THE CONFLICT-Welsh '15

[Teresa; Why the U.S. Can't Immediately Resettle Syrian Refugees; US News & World Report; 15 September 2015; <http://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2015/09/15/why-the-us-cant-immediately-resettle-syrian-refugees>; retrieved 9 October 2015]

The West has repeatedly called for a diplomatic solution to end the Syrian civil war, but as that remains elusive, the world must figure out how to handle those fleeing the conflict. The growth of the Islamic State group in Syria and Iraq has further complicated things, meaning refugees displaced from their homes both inside Syria and outside are unlikely to be able to return anytime soon. The terrorist organization's rapid spread also contributes to the necessity of government security checks on refugees to ensure no members of the group are legally allowed in.

WE CAN'T LET REFUGEES DIE WHILE WE CRAFT A LONG-TERM RESPONSE TO THE REFUGEE CRISIS-Wintour '15

[Patrick; Political Editor; Britain should not take more Middle East refugees, says David Cameron; the Guardian; 2 September 2015; <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/sep/02/david-cameron-migration-crisis-will-not-be-solved-by-uk-taking-in-more-refugees>; retrieved 5 October 2015]

But in a sign that the political temperature on the issue was rising, Cameron faced calls to do more from both the Catholic church and two of the Labour leadership contenders.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, the head of the Catholic church in England and Wales, said: "This is a disgrace. That we are letting people die and seeing dead bodies on the beaches, when together, Europe is such a wealthy place. We should be able to fashion a short-term response, not just a long-term response.

"It is no longer an abstract problem of people on the scrounge. It's not. It's people who are desperate for the sake of their families, their elderly, their youngsters, their children. And the more we see that the more the opportunity for a political response that is a bit more generous, is growing. What is screaming out is the human tragedy of this problem, to which we can be more generous."

EFFORTS TO DEAL WITH THE CORE CONFLICTS SHOULD NOT REPLACE DEALING WITH THE REFUGEE CRISIS STRAIGHT UP-Welsh '15

[Teresa; European Union Calls for Refugee Redistribution; US News & World Report; 9 September 2015; <http://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2015/09/09/european-union-calls-for-refugee-redistribution-as-continent-strains-under-human-influx>; retrieved 9 October 2015]

Junker also called for a "European diplomatic offensive" to deal with the crises in Syria and Libya that are causing much of the mass migration. He said the European Union must be more assertive when it comes to ending the conflicts.

"I do not want to create any illusions that the refugee crisis will be over any time soon. It will not," Junker said. "But pushing back boats from piers, setting fire to refugee camps, or turning a blind eye to poor and helpless people: that is not Europe."



CON

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: ONLY POSSIBLE SOLUTION TO THIS SITUATION IS GOOD MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES

CLEAR MANAGEMENT OF THIS CRISIS IS CRITICAL-Ignatieff '15

[Michael; Author and Former Canadian Politician; This Isn't a 'European Problem;' New York Times; 6 September 2015; page 2L]

So why are our leaders -- President Obama, Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Prime Minister Tony Abbott and President Dilma Rousseff -- doing so little? Resettling refugees, they fear, will trigger an even greater exodus, and they don't know how their teams could handle the chaos that would result. Tough, resourceful management -- clear quotas for Syrian refugees (especially those with young families), simplified procedures and a commitment to airlift people out quickly -- could solve these problems.

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: ONLY LONG TERM SOLUTION IS DEALING WITH CONFLICTS IN HOME REGIONS, NOT DEALING WITH REFUGEES

THE ONLY LONG-TERM SOLUTION TO THE IMMIGRATION ISSUE IS TO GO TO THE CONFLICTS THAT ARE INSPIRING THE MIGRATION-Park '15

[Jeanne, Deputy Director; Europe's Migration Crisis: Council on Foreign Relations Backgrounder; 23 September 2015; <http://www.cfr.org/migration/europes-migration-crisis/p32874>; retrieved 8 October 2015]

Quota plans and naval operations may help EU member states better manage this crisis, but experts caution that these proposals alone will not stem the tide of migrants. For that, European leaders must address the root causes of migration: helping to broker an end to Syria's civil war, restoring stability to Libya, and upping aid to sub-Saharan Africa. Barring a political solution to these regional crises, Europe will continue to struggle with migrant inflows.

SHOULD FOCUS OUR ACTIONS ON THE COUNTRIES IN WHICH THESE INDIVIDUALS ARE COMING FROM-Wintour '15

[Patrick; Political Editor; Britain should not take more Middle East refugees, says David Cameron; the Guardian; 2 September 2015; <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/sep/02/david-cameron-migration-crisis-will-not-be-solved-by-uk-taking-in-more-refugees>; retrieved 5 October 2015]

The prime minister said Britain was focused on stabilising and improving the countries where migrants and refugees came from and highlighted action the government was taking to improve security at the French port of Calais. He said: "We are taking action right across the board, helping countries from which these people are coming, stabilising them and trying to make sure there are worthwhile jobs and stronger economies there. "We are obviously taking action at Calais and the Channel, there's more that we need to do and we are working together with our European partners as well. These are big challenges but we will meet them."

DESPITE THE ACCUSATIONS OF HEARTLESSNESS, THE ONLY LONG-TERM SOLUTION TO THE REFUGEE CRISIS IS TO BRING STABILITY TO THEIR HOME COUNTRIES-Wintour '15

[Patrick; Political Editor; Britain should not take more Middle East refugees, says David Cameron; the Guardian; 2 September 2015; <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/sep/02/david-cameron-migration-crisis-will-not-be-solved-by-uk-taking-in-more-refugees>; retrieved 5 October 2015]

David Cameron faced accusations of heartlessness after he insisted Britain should not take any further refugees from the war-torn Middle East, as community groups prepared to show that councils in the UK are willing to take thousands more.

The prime minister knows he and the home secretary, Theresa May, will be pressured over the migration issue when parliament returns next week, but some senior Tory backbenchers said they expected Cameron to shift his ground after distressing pictures of a drowned child, who had been found washed up on a beach in Turkey, went viral. Cameron insisted the best solution to the crisis was to bring peace and stability to the Middle East. During a visit to Northamptonshire, he said: "We have taken a number of genuine asylum seekers from Syrian refugee camps and we keep that under review, but we think the most important thing is to try to bring peace and stability to that part of the world.

"I don't think there is an answer that can be achieved simply by taking more and more refugees."

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: CURRENT CRISIS ISN'T AS BIG AS PURPORTED

THE CURRENT "CRISIS" IS NOT A CRISIS AT ALL; THE NUMBER OF REFUGEES HERE ISN'T LARGE BY ANY MEASURE- Postel et al '15

[Hannah; Cynthia Rathinasamy and Michael Clemens, Researchers; Europe's Refugee Crisis Is Not as Big as You've Heard, and Not Without Recent Precedent; Center for Global Development; 10 September 2015; <http://www.cgdev.org/blog/europes-refugee-crisis-not-big-youve-heard-and-not-without-recent-precedent>; retrieved 4 October 2015]

Journalists have warned you that there are now 60 million refugees worldwide, and that Europe faces "the worst refugee crisis since World War II." They've told you this again and again and again and again.

Well, fact check: It's not true. Not even close.

First, most of the people displaced by violence, like the slow catastrophe in Syria, are not properly called refugees because most of them have not left their country. Second, Europe's current refugee crisis is certainly not the most serious since World War II. The international community has handled much more, and they've done so recently. If Europe is unable to accommodate the current influx of people fleeing violence, it's because of a failure of policies and institutions, not because of unprecedented numbers.

EUROPE IMMIGRATION CRISIS IS NOT REALLY A CRISIS; AMOUNT OF IMMIGRANTS IS SMALL COMPARED TO WORLDWIDE REFUGEE NUMBERS-Gilmore '15

[Scott; European refugee crisis? Nope; Maclean's; 14 September 2015; page 10]

THERE IS a refugee crisis. Just not in Europe.

According to the United Nations, there are now 60 million refugees globally. This stunning number, equivalent to the entire population of Italy, hasn't been seen since the Second World War.

The total refugee population has been above 40 million since 2007, driven by fighting in Central Asia, the Middle East and Africa. But we didn't start calling it a "crisis" until some of them began arriving in Europe.

Photos of crowded boats and people crawling through barbed wire do give the impression that Europe is being overrun. This year, Germany alone expects 800,000, and the total European number could surpass one million.

That's still less than two per cent of the global head count. The total number of refugees in Europe is 3.1 million, not even one per cent of its population. Turkey hosts more than three times as many per capita. In the U.S., the total number of illegal migrants is 11.3 million; proportionally, several times greater than in Europe.

Nonetheless, European leaders believe it's a crisis. Hungary is building a wall on its border with Serbia. Likewise, Bulgaria is raising barriers on its Turkish frontier, and the United Kingdom has installed taller fences at the Eurotunnel entrance. There is a call to establish reception centres in southern Europe and, on Sept. 14, European interior ministers are convening an emergency meeting to determine additional measures.



NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: NATIONS IN THE CONFLICT REGION SHOULD ACT FIRST

NATIONS IN THE REGION OF THE CRISIS MUST STEP UP AND TAKE MORE IMMIGRANTS-McCurry '15

[Justin; Japan says it must look after its own before allowing in Syrian refugees; The Guardian; 30 September 2015; <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/sep/30/japan-says-it-must-look-after-its-own-before-allowing-syrian-refugees-in>; retrieved 3 October 2015]

While he did not mention any country by name, the EU council president, Donald Tusk, appeared to round on the “hypocrisy” of Gulf states criticising European nations for not taking in enough refugees, while refusing to accept any themselves.

“Many countries represented here deal with this problem in a much simpler way; namely by not allowing migrants and refugees to enter their territories at all,” Tusk said in New York.

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: COSTS OF DEALING WITH REFUGEES IS DAUNTING

NEAR-TERM COSTS OF MANAGING A LARGE FLOW OF REFUGEES IS QUITE DAUNTING-Desilver '15

[Drew; Senior Writer; Refugee surge brings youth to an aging Europe; FactTank from Pew Research; 8 October 2015; <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/10/08/refugee-surge-brings-youth-to-an-aging-europe/>; retrieved 4 October 2015]

In addition, the near-term costs of managing the flow of refugees, providing them with housing, health care, education and other social assistance, and ultimately resettling and integrating them into new societies are daunting. Germany, by far the preferred destination for the migrants, expects to spend \$6.6 billion this year alone. Turkey, which is not in the EU but houses more refugees than any other country (many of whom are making their way into EU countries) says it has spent \$7.6 billion so far this year. (Turkey may get some help from the EU, which has pledged to spend at least \$1.1 billion to aid nations bordering Syria that are housing millions of refugees from that country's civil war.)

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: SHOULD DEAL WITH CRITICAL NATIONAL PROBLEMS OVER HELPING REFUGEES

COUNTRIES SHOULD FOCUS ON INTERNAL CRISIS SITUATIONS BEFORE OPENING BORDERS TO THOSE SEEKING NEW HOMES FROM TROUBLED AREAS-McCurry '15

[Justin; Japan says it must look after its own before allowing in Syrian refugees; The Guardian; 30 September 2015; <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/sep/30/japan-says-it-must-look-after-its-own-before-allowing-syrian-refugees-in>; retrieved 3 October 2015]

Japan must improve the living standards of its own people before it can consider accepting Syrian refugees, the prime minister, Shinzo Abe said, as he announced \$1.6bn in new assistance for Syrians and Iraqis caught up in conflicts in the Middle East.

Abe's consistent refusal to consider allowing even a modest number of refugees to relocate to Japan has prompted criticism of the country's strict policy on asylum: last year, it received a record 5,000 applications but accepted just 11 people.

Speaking at the UN general assembly in New York, Abe insisted Japan must first tackle crises posed by its falling birth rate and an ageing population, and continue its push to boost the number of women in the labour market.

"It is an issue of demography," Abe told reporters after his speech to the UN general assembly. "I would say that before accepting immigrants or refugees, we need to have more activities by women, elderly people and we must raise our birth rate. There are many things that we should do before accepting immigrants."

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: OPEN BORDERS WILL CREATE A FLOOD OF IMMIGRANTS

LIBERAL APPROACHES TO THE REFUGEE PROBLEM ATTRACT EVEN MORE REFUGEES-Reuters '15

['We're at our limit': Merkel told Germany can't take more refugees; Reuters via Christian Today; 5 October 2015; <http://www.christiantoday.com/article/were.at.our.limit.merkel.told.germany.cant.take.more.refugees/66610.htm>; retrieved 10 October 2015]

"If as many asylum seekers continue to come to Germany as in recent weeks, we won't have any choice but to temporarily stop taking people in and to close the borders to them," CSU politician Stephan Mayer told newspaper Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung (FAS).

Thousands of people are streaming into Germany every day, attracted by relatively liberal asylum laws and generous benefits. Some 6,750 people arrived in Bavaria alone on Friday and another 6,000 piled in on Saturday, a police spokesman said.

LARGE SCALE ACTION ON REFUGEES WILL BE A MAGNET TO ENCOURAGE OTHER IMMIGRANTS TO OVERRUN A COUNTRY-Wintour '15

[Patrick; Political Editor; Britain should not take more Middle East refugees, says David Cameron; the Guardian; 2 September 2015; <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/sep/02/david-cameron-migration-crisis-will-not-be-solved-by-uk-taking-in-more-refugees>; retrieved 5 October 2015]

Cameron does not want to join any Europe-wide resettlement programme for refugees, believing that if the UK became involved in a large-scale scheme, it would act as a magnet for other migrants and it would be impossible to distinguish economic migrants from refugees.

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: PRIVATE AND RELIGIOUS GROUPS SHOULD TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR REFUGEES

SHOULD ALLOW FOR RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS AND PRIVATE DONORS TAKE THE PRIMARY ACTION TO HELP REFUGEES OVER NATIONAL GOVERNMENT ACTION-Wintour '15

[Patrick; Political Editor; Britain should not take more Middle East refugees, says David Cameron; the Guardian; 2 September 2015; <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/sep/02/david-cameron-migration-crisis-will-not-be-solved-by-uk-taking-in-more-refugees>; retrieved 5 October 2015]

Berlin has proposed a quota system, thousands of Germans have volunteered to help refugees, and press coverage has been more balanced – but there have also been more violent incidents in Germany

Citizens UK, the community organising group, the Refugee Council and council leaders – including some from Conservative-run councils – are pressing ahead with holding a pledging conference about taking refugees fleeing the instability in the Middle East.

Neil Jameson, executive director of Citizens UK, said: “We are delighted Cooper has made her intervention, but this should not be a party-political issue. We think civil society can show there is a generosity in the British people, and with the help of churches, mosques and synagogues we can identify empty property in which refugees can be housed. The housing must not be public-sector housing because that would not be politically tenable.”

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: SLOW, REASONABLE IMMIGRATION BEST

BRITISH MODEL OF SLOW, ORGANIZED IMMIGRATION OF REFUGEES IS THE ONLY WAY TO ORGANIZE THE CHAOS OF MASS REFUGEE IMMIGRATION-Witte '15

[Griff; As Europe fills with refugees, Britain goes its own way; The Washington Post; 3 October 2015; https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/as-europe-fills-with-refugees-britain-goes-its-own-way/2015/10/01/c6793afe-6305-11e5-8475-781cc9851652_story.html; retrieved 8 October 2015]

But the 20-year-old Halabi took a different route, one that reflects a British approach to the refugee crisis that has placed this country sharply at odds with its European counterparts. Held up by British officials as a potential model for easing the crisis, the strategy has been blasted by critics as a dangerous abdication of responsibility at a time when Europe needs to hang together more than ever before.

Alone among European Union members, Britain has opted out of a quota system for distributing 160,000 refugees who have already arrived on the continent's shores. Britain instead runs a parallel program under which it plans to take, over five years, 20,000 people who have fled Syria but remain in camps or other shelters in the Middle East.

Like Halabi and his family, those who are chosen for resettlement in Britain can bypass the voyages on flimsy rafts and the odysseys across borders. Instead, they simply fly here on commercial jets.

To British Prime Minister David Cameron, it's the only way to bring some order to the chaotic flows, and to reduce the pull factors that have helped to lure more than 500,000 migrants and refugees across the Mediterranean to Europe this year - some 3,000 of whom have died along the way.

"There are 12 million Syrian people who have been made homeless by Bashar al-Assad," Cameron told CBS News this week, referring to the Syrian president. He pointed out that only a small fraction have actually crossed into Europe. "So there's millions left in the region, and we should not be encouraging those people to make the journey."



NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: SLOW APPROACHES DECREASE INCENTIVE FOR DANGEROUS TRAVEL

BRITISH APPROACH DISCOURAGES REFUGEES TO MAKE DANGEROUS JOURNEYS TO POTENTIAL NEW HOMELANDS- Witte '15

[Griff; As Europe fills with refugees, Britain goes its own way; The Washington Post; 3 October 2015; https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/as-europe-fills-with-refugees-britain-goes-its-own-way/2015/10/01/c6793afe-6305-11e5-8475-781cc9851652_story.html; retrieved 8 October 2015]

Betts said there are positive aspects to Britain's approach, which is similar to that of other countries that are geographically distant from the Syrian war, including Australia and the United States.

Among the benefits: A formal refugee resettlement program can reduce the incentive for asylum seekers to embark on dangerous journeys and allows host countries to select the neediest cases while weeding out those who don't merit asylum or who pose a security risk. As the refugee crisis has worsened this year, top U.N. and human rights officials have repeatedly called for countries to expand their resettlement programs.

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: BALANCED APPROACHES ARE BETTER THAN HUMANITARIAN FOCUSED APPROACHES

SOLUTION MUST BE A BALANCE BETWEEN KEEPING BORDERS OPEN AND NOT CREATING PULL FACTORS THAT ENCOURAGE ALL THOSE IN TROUBLED AREAS TO HEAD TO EUROPE-Faiola and Mekhennet '15

[Anthony and Souad; Germany calls for new refugee benefit standards in Europe; The Washington Post; 25 September 2015; Gale Group Databases]

German Interior Minister Thomas de Maiziere called on European nations Friday for new steps to curb the region's refugee crisis, including the adoption of regional standards for aid and benefits to reduce the "pull factors" luring a disproportionately high number of asylum seekers to generous nations such as Germany.

In an interview with The Washington Post, de Maiziere - a longtime ally of Chancellor Angela Merkel and the point person on the refugee crisis in Germany - added that German attempts to aid refugees had been misinterpreted by migrants in far-flung nations such as Afghanistan as a green light to come to Europe.

That, he said, needs to change.

"We cannot close Europe," he said. But, he added, "we cannot open Europe totally for millions and millions of poor people in the world or even for all of those coming from conflict zones. Impossible."

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: EVEN COUNTRIES THAT WELCOME REFUGEES ADMIT THERE MUST BE LIMITS

EVEN GENEROUS COUNTRIES LIKE GERMANY HAVE STEPPED BACK OPEN BORDER POLICIES DUE TO AN INFLUX OF IMMIGRANTS-Welsh '15

[Teresa; Why the U.S. Can't Immediately Resettle Syrian Refugees; US News & World Report; 15 September 2015; <http://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2015/09/15/why-the-us-cant-immediately-resettle-syrian-refugees>; retrieved 9 October 2015]

While Europe is struggling to deal with the crisis and decide how best to share the influx of migrants, countries much smaller than the U.S. have announced they'll take in many more refugees. Germany said it could handle 500,000 Syrian refugees per year for the foreseeable future, and German Chancellor Angela Merkel said her country would welcome them. But over the weekend, Germany instituted border control measures due to an overwhelming influx of migrants that have traversed Eastern Europe in order to reach the wealthier nation.

EVEN COUNTRIES WITH LIBERAL IMMIGRATION POLICIES REALIZE THEIR LIMIT OF DEALING WITH REFUGEES-Reuters '15

['We're at our limit': Merkel told Germany can't take more refugees; Reuters via Christian Today; 5 October 2015; <http://www.christiantoday.com/article/were.at.our.limit.merkel.told.germany.cant.take.more.refugees/66610.htm>; retrieved 10 October 2015]

Some politicians urged her to introduce upper limits for migrant intake.

"We can't save the whole world," Bavarian Finance Minister and CSU member Markus Soeder told Passauer Neue Presse.

CDU politician Lorenz Caffier told newspaper Welt am Sonntag that as many as 1.5 million refugees could arrive in Germany this year but many of the federal states "are at their limit".

Members of the Social Democrats (SPD), Merkel's junior coalition partner, also stressed that Germany had exhausted its ability to deal with the crisis.

The SPD's Malu Dreyer, premier of Rhineland-Palatinate, told Welt am Sonntag volunteers were working "at breaking point" while senior SPD member Thomas Oppermann said a million refugees would take Germany to the limit of its ability to provide accommodation.

EVEN COUNTRIES WITH GENEROUS ATTITUDE LIKE GERMANY REALIZE THERE HAS TO BE LIMIT-Reuters '15

['We're at our limit': Merkel told Germany can't take more refugees; Reuters via Christian Today; 5 October 2015; <http://www.christiantoday.com/article/were.at.our.limit.merkel.told.germany.cant.take.more.refugees/66610.htm>; retrieved 10 October 2015]

Germany needs to limit the number of refugees it takes in or even close its borders, conservative allies of German Chancellor Angela Merkel said at the weekend, as the country deals with record inflows of people fleeing from war and poverty.

Around 800,000 migrants are expected to arrive in Germany, Europe's largest and richest economy, this year and complaints from politicians, the federal states and the municipalities that they cannot cope are growing.

German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said Europe needed to restrict the refugee intake, and members of the Christian Social Union (CSU), the sister party to Merkel's conservatives in Bavaria, said Germany should shut its borders. Bavaria shares a border with Austria and has borne the brunt of the influx.



COUNTRIES THAT HAVE HAD OPEN POLICIES ARE AT THEIR BREAKING POINT OF RESOURCES TO DEAL WITH THE CRISIS-Samuels and Birnbaum '15

[Robert and Michael; From west to east, Europe tightens borders as refugees scramble; The Washington Post; 14 September 2015; https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/border-controls-tighten-across-europe-in-bid-to-stem-refugee-flow/2015/09/14/ac05d804-5a62-11e5-8475-781cc9851652_story.html; retrieved 4 October 2015]

Even Germany, which has declared that there are few limits to the number of asylum seekers it can accommodate, is increasingly under strain, with fresh records of new arrivals set nearly every day.

"Germany is strong and can do a lot," German Vice Chancellor Sigmar Gabriel said in an open letter to supporters.

"Nevertheless, in recent days we have seen that despite the best intentions, our reception capabilities have reached their limits, above all when it comes to the speed of the influx of refugees."

COUNTRIES THAT HAVE STEPPED UP IN THE REGION ARE AT THEIR BREAKING POINT-Welsh '15

[Teresa; European Union Calls for Refugee Redistribution; US News & World Report; 9 September 2015; <http://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2015/09/09/european-union-calls-for-refugee-redistribution-as-continent-strains-under-human-influx>; retrieved 9 October 2015]

Junker's State of the European Union speech in France focused heavily on the crisis that has seen nearly 500,000 people flee to the continent from conflicts in Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, as well as instability in African countries like Libya and Eritrea. Many migrants have landed in Jordan, Turkey and Lebanon, but those countries are near the breaking point of taking in additional people. Juncker called on the entire continent to share the burden, saying that the primary arrival countries of Italy, Greece and Hungary cannot handle the surge of people on their own and the rest of the continent can no longer refuse to act.

EVEN SOFT TOUCH POLICY COUNTRIES LIKE GERMANY ADMIT THEY CAN'T TAKE ALL THAT WANT TO COME TO GERMANY OR EUROPE-Burman '15

[Jake; Now Germany could start REFUSING migrants as official admits: We can't take every refugee; Sunday Express; 23 September 2015; <http://www.express.co.uk/news/world/607265/Germany-Migrants-Angela-Merkel-European-Union-Thomas-de-Maiziere-Ursula-von-der-Leyen>; retrieved 2 October 2015]

Thomas de Maiziere has said there is a limit to the number of migrants European Union member states can take - claiming they "can't take every refugee".

In the latest admission of the country's excessively generous policy towards the migrant crisis, he said: "We cannot accept all the people who are fleeing conflict zones or poverty and want to come to Europe or Germany."

The interior minister proposed that the EU creates legal routes of passage into Europe that would precisely count the arrivals of migrants and introduce strict quotas.

Mr de Maiziere's bold comments oppose Germany's previous soft touch approach towards housing migrants - which left Chancellor Angela Merkel predicting it will take a massive 800,000 migrants in this year alone.

EVEN COUNTRIES WITH AN OPEN COMMITMENT TO BRING IN MORE IMMIGRANTS HAVE CLOSED BORDERS-Burman '15

[Jake; Now Germany could start REFUSING migrants as official admits: We can't take every refugee; Sunday Express; 23 September 2015; <http://www.express.co.uk/news/world/607265/Germany-Migrants-Angela-Merkel-European-Union-Thomas-de-Maiziere-Ursula-von-der-Leyen>; retrieved 2 October 2015]

However Mr de Maixiere claimed that such an approach was essential to tackling the current migrant crisis throughout Europe.

According to Breitbart, he said: "The decision was necessary for humanitarian reasons in exceptional circumstances. Had we not, the same amount would have come, only later."

But German authorities have been increasingly desperate in recent weeks.

Last week German officials went into panic mode and stopped all trains from entering the country from Austria in a bid to quell the flow of refugees.

The move to sever rail links with its closest neighbour came as the German government announced plans to temporarily introduce border controls to combat the deepening crisis.

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: MUST LIMIT REFUGEES DUE TO EXTREMISM

OPENING TO REFUGEES COULD MEAN ALLOWING EXTREMISTS TO GET INTO US BORDERS-Yan '15

[Holly; Refugee crisis: Pressure builds for U.S. to welcome more Syrians; CNN; 9 September 2015; <http://www.cnn.com/2015/09/09/politics/us-syrian-refugees-pressure/>; retrieved 3 October 2015]

Some say opening the country to more Syrian refugees runs the risk of having extremists slip through.

Republican presidential candidate Marco Rubio, a son of immigrants, said the U.S. must be careful.

"We would be potentially open to the relocation of some of these individuals at some point in time to the United States," he said.

"We'd always be concerned that within the overwhelming number of the people seeking refugee, someone with a terrorist background could also sneak in."



NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: SHOULD HAVE A WIDER SOLUTION THAN INDIVIDUAL NATION STATES

WE MUST HAVE A COORDINATED RESPONSE OVER INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES TAKING THE ENTIRE BURDEN-The Local '15

[German minister: 'We can't take every refugee;' The Local; 20 September 2015;
<http://www.thelocal.de/20150920/german-minister-we-cannot-accept-every-refugee>; retrieved 9 October 2015]

Merkel has warned that the asylum issue could become a bigger challenge for the EU than the Greek debt crisis and urged a coordinated approach from Brussels, supporting quotas of refugees for each EU member state but without setting a continent-wide ceiling on the number accepted.

An EU proposal on setting quotas of migrants for each member has triggered strong opposition from Britain and eastern European countries.

De Maiziere this week also proposed toughening asylum laws by sending migrants back to the first EU country they reached and by reducing benefits.

He wants the so-called Dublin Regulation, which normally requires people to make their asylum claims in the first EU country they enter, to be enforced again after Germany said in August it would no longer apply to Syrians.

If his draft is approved, it could leave thousands of people who have reached Germany in recent weeks out in the cold.

EUROPEAN UNION SOLUTION IS TO SHARE REFUGEES AMONG ALL MEMBER NATIONS-Miller '15

[Chris; Associate Director of the Grant Strategy Program at Yale and Fellow at the Foreign Policy Research Institute; Border Chaos: Europe Reacts To Syrian Refugee Crisis; YaleGlobal Online; 15 September 2015;
<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/border-chaos-europe-reacts-syrian-refugee-crisis>; retrieved 9 October 2015]

One of the great accomplishments of European integration - the passport-free movement of people across borders - is now exacerbating a crisis that threatens the core of the European project. European states are announcing tighter border members this week as the continent struggles to cope with tens of thousands of refugees, with more expected daily.

The European Union is racing to devise a solution to the crisis, the centerpiece of which is a plan by which all member countries will share the refugee burden. The crisis has illustrated broader challenges that Europe must address if it is to devise a long-term solution.

EUROPE MUST ADOPT COMMON LEVELS OF SOCIAL BENEFITS TO REFUGEES TO DIMINISH REFUGEES FOCUSING ON ONE COUNTRY-Faiola and Mekhennet '15

[Anthony and Souad; Germany calls for new refugee benefit standards in Europe; The Washington Post; 25 September 2015; Gale Group Databases]

To date, its welcoming policies and lucrative benefits have made Germany by far the single biggest destination for refugees coming to Europe, a situation some European leaders have said Berlin brought on itself by adopting such a generous stance. To reduce the strain on Germany, de Maiziere called for European Union countries to adopt minimum and maximum benefit standards so that no one country becomes an outsized draw.

Such a plan, however, is certain to face resistance in nations such as Hungary and Slovakia that have taken a hard line against refugees.

"We have to find a common European solution," he said. "In the end, we would need really nearly to have the same social benefits."



NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: NO UNIVERSAL SOLUTION TO REFUGEES POSSIBLE (EU EXAMPLES)

IMPOSSIBLE TO COORDINATE REPOSES AMONG EU MEMBERS WITH THEIR DISTINCT POLITICAL CULTURES-Miller '15

[Chris; Associate Director of the Grant Strategy Program at Yale and Fellow at the Foreign Policy Research Institute; Border Chaos: Europe Reacts To Syrian Refugee Crisis; YaleGlobal Online; 15 September 2015; <http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/border-chaos-europe-reacts-syrian-refugee-crisis>; retrieved 9 October 2015]

The first is the problem of coordination. The EU faces a constant struggle to coordinate policies among its member states as demonstrated by new border controls - Germany with Austria; Austria, Slovakia and the Netherlands; and Hungary's with its fence, each contradicting EU's free movement Schengen policy. All European nations want to experience the benefits of a single-market, visa-free travel and a shared currency, but none are eager to pay the costs. Hungary, for example, is threatening to take no migrants, blocking their travel or encouraging them to leave. Europe faces the threat of free riders - those who let others enact and fund policies - in nearly every problem it confronts. Gaining unanimous support often requires long negotiations and unsavory bargains. Politicians like Hungary's Viktor Orban grandstand for domestic audiences by standing up to the EU's unpopular demands, and that makes it harder for the EU to take collective decisions.

A UNIFIED ASYLUM POLICY IS IMPOSSIBLE DUE TO THE DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES THAT EUROPEAN NATIONS BRING TO THE CRISIS-Wente '15

[Margaret; The refugee reality bites Europe; Globe & Mail; 15 September 2015; page a17]

Europe's underlying problem is that a unified asylum policy is impossible. Its member states are too different economically, politically, historically and culturally. High-minded thinkers of the bien-pensant class are busily condemning Eastern Europeans as xenophobic and racist for rejecting their share of the burden. But there are good reasons for their reluctance. Poland's Lech Walesa, who led that nation's independence movement, puts it this way: "Our salaries and houses are still smaller than those in the West. Many people here don't believe that they have anything to share with migrants. Especially that they see that migrants are often well-dressed, sometimes better than many Poles," he told The New York Times.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE E.U. WILL PREVENT A UNIFIED RESPONSE; COUNTRIES ARE LEFT LARGELY ON THEIR OWN-Nordberg '15

[Jeny; New York-based investigative reporter and author; Europe's Crisis of Conscience; The New Yorker; 11 September 2015; <http://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/europes-crisis-of-conscience>; retrieved 5 October 2015]

Germany has issued the strongest calls for a new "burden-sharing" agreement, but at this point that would take a long time, both politically and legally, to implement. A new mandatory quota system would "probably need new institutions and possibly treaty," Carl Bildt, the former Swedish foreign minister, tweeted in response to the Commission's proposal. And without significant changes to the E.U. system, a more formal sharing of refugees seems largely theoretical. As long as Europe keeps its internal borders mostly open, under the Schengen Agreement, a refugee accepted to, say, Romania, could simply get on a train and relocate to France or Germany.

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: SHARED REGIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL SOLUTIONS BAD

FORCING A SHARED SOLUTION WILL BRING A POPULIST BACKLASH ACROSS THE CONTINENT, RISKING THE FOUNDATION OF THE EU-Kim '15

[Lician; Berlin-Based Correspondent; A European Disaster: Will the refugee crisis tear the European Union apart?; Slate; September 2015;

http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/foreigners/2015/09/europe_is_deeply_divided_on_the_refugee_crisis_can_angela_merkel_hold_the.html; retrieved 5 October 2015]

While Germany was the driving force in eurozone debt negotiations and the Ukraine peace process, Merkel has always attempted to “Europeanize” solutions in tandem with France and other partners. The reason isn’t simply German modesty, but an attempt to avoid taking on more responsibility commensurate with Germany’s political and economic clout. The refugee crisis has highlighted the tension between EU members demanding more sovereignty and those calling for even less.

When Orbán said the migrants stuck in Hungary were “Germany’s problem,” he wasn’t just trying to pass the buck. The refugees themselves have made clear they have no wish to stay in Hungary and will do almost anything to get to Germany. The EU is an abstraction for migrants and Europeans alike. And if EU leaders push through decisions on an emotive issue like migration, they could trigger a populist backlash across the continent.

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: SHOULD ONLY ACT TOGETHER AND NOT INDEPENDENTLY

WORLD MUST WORK TOGETHER TO DEAL WITH THE CORE CAUSES OF DISPLACED PEOPLE, LIKE POVERTY-McCurry '15

[Justin; Japan says it must look after its own before allowing in Syrian refugees; The Guardian; 30 September 2015; <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/sep/30/japan-says-it-must-look-after-its-own-before-allowing-syrian-refugees-in>; retrieved 3 October 2015]

Abe added Japan, which is pushing for a permanent seat on the UN security council, would “discharge our own responsibility” in addressing the causes of the refugee crisis.

“Japan would like to contribute by changing the conditions that give rise to refugees. The cause of this tragedy is the fear of violence and terrorism, and terror of poverty. The world must cooperate in order for them to find a way to escape poverty.”

ANY PLAN FOR THE REFUGEE CRISIS MUST INVOLVE UNIFIED ACTION BETWEEN ALL E.U. COUNTRIES-New York Times '15

[Ugly Attacks on Refugees in Europe; New York Times; 16 August 2015; page 8L]

There is no easy answer to the mass migration. The Syrian civil war alone has displaced millions, many of whom will continue trying to reach safe European havens, as will countless other displaced and threatened people in the Middle East and North Africa. What is clear is that no European country alone, and certainly not Greece or Italy, can cope with the flood, or block it. At the very least, the E.U. must allocate far greater resources for humanitarian and administrative work, and it must seek far better ways to share the burden.

EU STRATEGY MUCH BE BASED ON MUTUAL WORK AND ASSURANCE-Africa News Service '15

[UN Calls On Europe to Create Refugee Strategy; Africa News Service; 25 August 2015; Gale Group Databases]

The UN's High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has called on European countries to come together to create a working strategy to deal with the massive influx of refugees making their way to Europe.

The agency said that all European countries and the EU must act together to provide support to countries such as Greece, Macedonia and Serbia whose capacities were overstretched and called for the equitable redistribution of refugees across the EU.

LACK OF A COORDINATED REPONSES IS INCREASING THE EMPHASIS OF NATIONAL SECURITY-Park '15

[Jeanne, Deputy Director; Europe's Migration Crisis: Council on Foreign Relations Backgrounder; 23 September 2015; <http://www.cfr.org/migration/europes-migration-crisis/p32874>; retrieved 8 October 2015]

In the meantime, the lack of a coordinated and proportional EU response to irregular migration in the near-to-mid-term could continue to feed sentiments that push individual countries to emphasize national security over international protection. This could make closed borders, barbed-wire fences, and maritime pushbacks the policy norm rather than the exception.



NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: OPEN BORDERS ENCOURAGE A FLOOD OF REFUGEES

OPEN BORDER POLICIES IN RESPONSE TO REFUGEES HAVE LARGELY BACKFIRED AND CREATED A FLOOD OF MORE REFUGEES-Wente '15

[Margaret; The refugee reality bites Europe; Globe & Mail; 15 September 2015; page a17]

Across the Mediterranean, the human tidal wave of misery has turned into a tsunami. Since the day Alan Kurdi's little body washed up on shore, many more children have drowned on the perilous voyage to Europe. As bureaucrats wring their hands in Brussels, thousands of refugees and migrants huddle in makeshift camps. Thousands more are coming every day. From Baghdad to Lebanon and Kabul, and smugglers' embarkation points throughout Africa, the word is out: The time to go is now.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel's open-hearted, openended welcome to asylum-seekers has backfired, as it was bound to. The system has been overwhelmed. Last Saturday alone, more than 13,000 asylumseekers arrived in Munich. Now Germany has closed its Austrian border to non-EU citizens, on a "temporary," "emergency" basis.



NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: OPEN BORDERS SHOULDN'T BE COMBINED WITH A WELFARE STATE

OPEN BORDERS CAN'T BE COMBINED WITH A WELFARE STATE-Wente '15

[Margaret; Sweden's ugly immigration problem; For decades, the country has offered a generous welcome to refugees. If it isn't working there, then where will it work?; Globe & Mail; 12 September 2015; page F2]

Sweden is a cautionary tale for anyone who believes that Europe is capable of assimilating the hundreds of thousands of refugees and migrants who are besieging the continent, or the millions more who are desperately poised to follow in their wake. The argument that these people are vital to boost the economy - that they will magically create economic growth and bail the Europeans out of their demographic decline - is a fantasy.

It's really very simple, Mr. Sanandaji explained. You can't combine open borders with a welfare state. "If you're offering generous welfare benefits to every citizen, and anyone can come and use these benefits, then a very large number of people will try to do that. And it's just mathematically impossible for a small country like Sweden to fund those benefits."

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: QUOTA SYSTEM DOOMED TO FAIL**QUOTA SYSTEMS WILL NOT WORK; OPEN INTERNAL BORDERS NULLIFIES NATIONAL RESETTLEMENT QUOTAS-Park '15**

[Jeanne, Deputy Director; Europe's Migration Crisis: Council on Foreign Relations Backgrounder; 23 September 2015; <http://www.cfr.org/migration/europes-migration-crisis/p32874>; retrieved 8 October 2015]

In September 2015, EU ministers agreed to resettle 120,000 migrants—a small fraction of those seeking asylum in Europe—from Greece and Italy across twenty-three member states. (Greece and Italy will not be required to resettle more migrants, and Denmark, Ireland, and the UK are exempt from EU asylum policies under provisions laid out in the 2009 Lisbon Treaty.) This plan was approved despite the vocal objections of the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, and Slovakia. This agreement builds upon a previous voluntary quota system that called on member states to resettle forty thousand migrants from Greece and Italy over a two-year period. Critics of this approach argue that free movement inside the Schengen zone effectively nullifies national resettlement quotas.

EASTERN EUROPEAN NATIONS WILL BLOCK ANY UNIFIED ATTEMPT AT REDISTRIBUTION-Nordberg '15

[Jeny; New York-based investigative reporter and author; Europe's Crisis of Conscience; The New Yorker; 11 September 2015; <http://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/europes-crisis-of-conscience>; retrieved 5 October 2015]

This week produced a new European Commission proposal for the “redistribution” of one hundred and sixty thousand refugees from Hungary, Greece, and Italy to other countries, as well as a mandatory quota system. For some countries, this would mean a doubling or tripling of current refugee numbers, which some seem highly unlikely to accept. The former Eastern Bloc countries have expressed the strongest objections to taking in refugees, and several have banded together to oppose Brussels. Slovakia, Cyprus, Poland, and the Czech Republic have announced, or implied, that they can only offer refuge to Christians.

QUOTA SYSTEMS WILL FAIL DUE TO THE DIFFERENT ECONOMIC SITUATIONS IN DIFFERENT EUROPEAN COUNTRIES-Wente '15

[Margaret; The refugee reality bites Europe; Globe & Mail; 15 September 2015; page a17]

In fact, the idea of a quota system was doomed from the start.

It could only work if economic conditions and social benefits were roughly equal everywhere.

In Estonia, the sixth-poorest member of the EU, refugees are entitled to receive 90 (\$135) a month. Refugees in Denmark got 797, until the recent government cutback. Refugees who are settled in poorer countries will simply migrate to richer and more generous ones. Refugees who are settled in the empty German countryside will simply move to Munich or Berlin. The idea that people will stay put because of some bureaucrat's relocation plan is just a fantasy.

CENTRALIZED SYSTEM WILL BE SOUNDLY REJECTED BY BOTH BRITAIN AND EASTERN EUROPE-Kim '15

[Lician; Berlin-Based Correspondent; A European Disaster: Will the refugee crisis tear the European Union apart?; Slate; September 2015;

http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/foreigners/2015/09/europe_is_deeply_divided_on_the_refugee_crisis_can_angela_merkel_hold_the.html; retrieved 5 October 2015]

Meanwhile German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Francois Hollande called for a pan-European solution that would “fairly” distribute refugees across the EU depending on a country's ability to absorb newcomers. European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker is expected to unveil a plan to relocate 120,000 refugees according to a new quota system next week. Former communist countries and Britain, the most reluctant EU member, are opposed to a centralized system.



FORCED SHARED BURDEN WILL BE REJECTED IN EUROPE-Rosenthal '15

[Max; How the Refugees Crisis Is Wreaking Havoc on the European Union; Mother Jones; 3 September 2015; <http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2015/08/how-migrant-crisis-wreaking-havoc-on-european-union>; retrieved 4 October 2015]

But the signs for cooperation within the European Union aren't good. EU countries met earlier this year to discuss a quota system, which would have assigned a certain number of refugees to most countries in the union. That effort failed. Leaders of Denmark and other countries insisted that the European Union cannot force them into taking anyone. And they're largely right. "Almost any European country is perfectly capable of saying, 'Screw you, we're closing the borders,'" says Martin Schain, a professor at New York University who studies EU border politics. Underscoring this brewing conflict, Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban on Thursday called the wave of migrants "a German problem."

EUROPEAN UNION SHARED BURDEN PLAN IS COMPLETELY INADEQUATE TO DEAL WITH THE SCOPE OF THE EUROPEAN CRISIS-Samuels and Birnbaum '15

[Robert and Michael; Europe struggles to unite over refugee resettlement plan as disputes deepen; The Washington Post; 10 September 2015; https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/europe-struggles-to-unite-over-refugee-resettlement-plan-as-crisis-mounts/2015/09/10/ce6d1e3e-5661-11e5-9f54-1ea23f6e02f3_story.html; retrieved 6 October 2015]

Thousands more refugees filled chokepoints across Europe on Thursday as overwhelmed leaders tried to rally support for a resettlement plan that even its backers acknowledge is not enough to handle the crush. "One could also say a drop in the ocean that won't solve everything," German Vice Chancellor Sigmar Gabriel told Parliament as he outlined the proposal to spread 160,000 refugees across nearly two dozens countries. The plan, unveiled Wednesday by a top European Union official, seeks to share the burden of the unprecedented waves of asylum seekers - many from Syria and Iraq seeking havens under the generous social programs in countries such as Germany and Sweden.

QUOTA SYSTEM IS DISLIKED BY CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN NATIONS-Samuels and Birnbaum '15

[Robert and Michael; From west to east, Europe tightens borders as refugees scramble; The Washington Post; 14 September 2015; https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/border-controls-tighten-across-europe-in-bid-to-stem-refugee-flow/2015/09/14/ac05d804-5a62-11e5-8475-781cc9851652_story.html; retrieved 4 October 2015]

The proposal to parcel asylum seekers among 22 nations has come under heavy criticism from Central and Eastern European countries, which oppose any steps that would require mandatory refugee quotas. A meeting of EU interior ministers ended Monday in discord, with officials able to agree on measures to strengthen Europe's borders but not on efforts to redistribute 120,000 people across the European Union. Leaders agreed to keep talking and to revisit the matter early next month.



CURRENT SHARED DISTRIBUTION PLAN WON'T STOP THOSE FROM TAKING THE DANGEROUS TRIP TO EUROPE

SEEKING A NEW LIFE-Applebaum '15

[Anne; Europe's Deadly Denial; Slate; September 2015;

http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/foreigners/2015/09/europe_refugee_crisis_the_eu_has_failed_to_confront_the_wars_in_syria_and.html; retrieved 10 October 2015]

But if those praising Merkel's "brave" stance were honest, they would acknowledge that she isn't offering any long-term solutions either. Even if Europe does take another couple of hundred thousand people, dividing them up between countries—as it should—won't prevent others from coming. To avoid accusations of heartlessness, the Italian coast guard rescues thousands of people from tiny boats and rubber dinghies. As a result, people keep taking the terrible risk.

RESISTANCE TO A CENTRAL SOLUTION RANGES FROM EASTERN EUROPEAN NATIONS TO VOCAL MINORITIES IN WESTERN EUROPE-Kim '15

[Lician; Berlin-Based Correspondent; A European Disaster: Will the refugee crisis tear the European Union apart?; Slate; September 2015;

http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/foreigners/2015/09/europe_is_deeply_divided_on_the_refugee_crisis_can_angela_merkel_hold_the.html; retrieved 5 October 2015]

Countries such as Hungary and the Czech Republic, a reliable source of political refugees during the Cold War, are putting up the stiffest resistance to a common European solution. The divide even goes through Germany, with eastern Germans significantly more hostile to migrants than western Germans. Protected from foreign influences by the Iron Curtain, the largely ethnically homogeneous countries of the communist bloc had little experience with immigration and the challenges of multiculturalism.

EASTERN EUROPEAN AND BALTIC STATES ARE AGAINST BOTH A SHARED BURDEN SYSTEM AND BRINGING IN MORE REFUGEES-Bodewig '15

[Christian; Program Leader for the World Bank; Is the refugee crisis an opportunity for an aging Europe?; Brookings Future Development Blog; 21 September 2015; <http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/future-development/posts/2015/09/21-refugee-demographics-europe-bodewig>; retrieved 8 October 2015]

Europe is facing the biggest inflow of migrants in decades. The number of refugees from conflict zones in Syria, Iraq, and elsewhere arriving at southern European shores is rising by the day. The resulting surge of asylum claims in the European Union (EU) have exposed divisions between EU member states over how to react. Governments in Central Europe and the Baltics have rejected the proposals by the European Commission to use mandatory quotas to distribute refugees across all 28 member states and come out against taking in significant numbers of refugees.

NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: REMOTE ASYLUM STATIONS DESTABILIZE REGIONS

CREATING REMOTE ASYLUM APPLICATION CENTERS WILL DESTABILIZE THE REGIONS OF NORTH AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST-Park '15

[Jeanne, Deputy Director; Europe's Migration Crisis: Council on Foreign Relations Backgrounder; 23 September 2015; <http://www.cfr.org/migration/europes-migration-crisis/p32874>; retrieved 8 October 2015]

Some policymakers, like European Council President Donald Tusk, have called for asylum centers to be built in North Africa and the Middle East to enable refugees to apply for asylum without undertaking perilous journeys across the Mediterranean, as well as cutting down on the number of irregular migrants arriving on European shores. However, critics of this plan argue that the sheer number of applicants expected at such "hotspots" could further destabilize already fragile states.



NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: ANY ONE COUNTRY OR REGION CAN'T SHOULDER THIS PROBLEM

**REALISTICALLY, EUROPE CAN ONLY TAKE A FRACTION OF THOSE AFFLICTED BY CURRENT WORLD CRISIS SITUATIONS-
Wente '15**

[Margaret; The refugee reality bites Europe; Globe & Mail; 15 September 2015; page a17]

The biggest problem of all is that we are facing the worst asylum crisis since the Second World War. It will probably get worse before it gets better.

Europe - and Canada - can take in only a fraction of the afflicted.

And no amount of moral posturing will change that.



NATIONAL INTERESTS FIRST: SHOULD FIX BORDERS FIRST, THEN DEAL WITH REFUGEES

WE MUST SET LIMITS TO THE NUMBER OF IMMIGRANTS THAT A COUNTRY CAN TAKE AND CONTROL BORDERS-The Local '15

[German minister: 'We can't take every refugee;' The Local; 20 September 2015;
<http://www.thelocal.de/20150920/german-minister-we-cannot-accept-every-refugee>; retrieved 9 October 2015]

Germany's interior minister, Thomas de Maiziere, on Saturday said the European Union in the future should take in a finite number of migrants while sending the rest back to a safe country in their home regions.

"We cannot accept all the people who are fleeing conflict zones or poverty and want to come to Europe or Germany," said in an interview with the German news weekly Spiegel.

De Maiziere has taken a tougher line in the current crisis of tens of thousands of migrants sweeping across Europe, many heading for Germany, than the country's leader Angela Merkel.

For the conservative minister, Europe must refrain from setting relatively generous quotas of refugees, creating instead "a legal means of immigration" with a cap on the number of people the continent can be responsible for.

THE ONLY WAY TO FIX THE REFUGEE CRISIS IS TO FIX EXTERNAL BORDERS-Wente '15

[Margaret; The refugee reality bites Europe; Globe & Mail; 15 September 2015; page a17]

Appeals to burden-sharing will not fix this. Arguments that immigrants are essential to boost Europe's sluggish economies will not fix this. Even earnest editorials in The New York Times won't fix this. The only fix is for the EU to regain control of its external borders, so that it can manage the influx. And that's not going to happen soon.

THE FIRST STEP OF ANYPOTENTIAL PLAN TO DEAL WITH THE CRISIS IS TO GET CONTROL OF EXTERNAL BORDERS-Samuels and Birnbaum '15

[Robert and Michael; Europe struggles to unite over refugee resettlement plan as disputes deepen; The Washington Post; 10 September 2015; https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/europe-struggles-to-unite-over-refugee-resettlement-plan-as-crisis-mounts/2015/09/10/ce6d1e3e-5661-11e5-9f54-1ea23f6e02f3_story.html; retrieved 6 October 2015]

Under European rules, any plan requires the assent of all countries in the bloc - which appeared to be a huge challenge with open opposition from countries ranging from Central Europe to the Baltics. Juncker said he hoped to put the plan into action as early as Monday.

"What the Commission is proposing is the second, the third or even the fourth step," said Zoltan Kovacs, a spokesman for Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban. "And what we need is the first step. You need to stop the flow of illegal migrants and establish control of the European borders."

WE MUST ENFORCE REASONABLE LIMITS-The Local '15

[German minister: 'We can't take every refugee;' The Local; 20 September 2015;
<http://www.thelocal.de/20150920/german-minister-we-cannot-accept-every-refugee>; retrieved 9 October 2015]

Once the continental limit on refugees has been reached, De Maiziere said they should be sent back to their "region of origin" to a place where "they can live in security and without persecution".

"We should financially help the countries concerned," he added.



QUOTA PLAN BAD: DOESN'T STOP DANGEROUS TRAVEL OF MIGRANTS

CURRENT EUROPEAN QUOTA SYSTEM DOESN'T NOTHING TO STOP DANGEROUS JOURNEYS TO EUROPE-Betts '15

[Alexander; Director, Refugee Studies Center at Oxford University; Let Refugees Fly to Europe; The New York Times; 25 September 2015; http://www.nytimes.com/2015/09/25/opinion/let-refugees-fly-to-europe.html?_r=0; retrieved 5 October 2015]

The European Union's agreement earlier this week centered on a quota system to relocate 120,000 Syrian, Iraqi and Eritrean refugees across member states -- most likely from transit centers in Greece and Italy. The plan has several flaws: It was passed without political consensus, it has no mechanism to ensure that people remain in the countries assigned to take them, and it does not say how those denied asylum will be treated.

The biggest problem, though, is that the plan does nothing to stop people from embarking on perilous journeys to Europe. In order to claim asylum under this plan, refugees would still have to arrive in Europe through clandestine means. This has been the direct cause of tragedy and chaos, with people dying on Europe's roads and drowning at sea. The greatest strain has been at key border areas from Hungary to the Greek islands.



A/T: COUNTRIES CAN OFFER PROSPERITY TO IMMIGRANTS VIA ECONOMIC GROWTH

SWEDEN PROVES THAT OPEN, SUPPORTIVE POLICIES BACKFIRE AND DON'T BRING ECONOMIC PROPERTY TO REFUGEES-Wente '15

[Margaret; Sweden's ugly immigration problem; For decades, the country has offered a generous welcome to refugees. If it isn't working there, then where will it work?; Globe & Mail; 12 September 2015; page F2]

Sweden has the most welcoming asylum policies and most generous welfare programs in the European Union. One typical refugee, Natanael Haile, barely escaped drowning in the Mediterranean in 2013. But the folks back home in Eritrea don't want to know about the perils of his journey. As he told The New York Times, they want to know about "his secondhand car, the government allowances he receives and his plans to find work as a welder once he finishes a two year language course."

As a registered refugee, he receives a monthly living allowance of more than \$700 (U.S.). Sweden's generous immigration policies are essential to the image of a country that (like Canada) prides itself as a moral superpower. For the past 40 years, most of Sweden's immigration has involved refugees and family reunification, so much so that the words "immigrant" and "refugee" are synonymous there (unlike in Canada).

Sweden takes in more refugees per capita than any other European country, and immigrants - mainly from the Middle East and Africa - now make up about 16 per cent of the population. The main political parties, as well as the mainstream media, support the status quo.

Questioning the consensus is regarded as xenophobic and hateful. Now all of Europe is being urged to be as generous as Sweden.

So how are things working out in the most immigration-friendly country on the planet?

Not so well, says Tino Sanandaji. Mr. Sanandaji is himself an immigrant, a Kurdish-Swedish economist who was born in Iran and moved to Sweden when he was 10. He has a doctorate in economics from the University of Chicago and specializes in immigration issues. This week I spoke with him by Skype.

"There has been a lack of integration among non-European refugees," he told me. Fortyeight per cent of immigrants of working age don't work, he said.

Even after 15 years in Sweden, their employment rates reach only about 60 per cent. Sweden has the biggest employment gap in Europe between natives and non-natives.

In Sweden, where equality is revered, inequality is now entrenched. Forty-two per cent of the long-term unemployed are immigrants, Mr. Sanandaji said. Fifty-eight per cent of welfare payments go to immigrants.

SWEDISH OPEN POLICIES HAVE NOT MEANT BETTER LIVES FOR SWEDISH IMMIGRANT CHILDREN-Wente '15

[Margaret; Sweden's ugly immigration problem; For decades, the country has offered a generous welcome to refugees. If it isn't working there, then where will it work?; Globe & Mail; 12 September 2015; page F2]

Forty-five per cent of children with low test scores are immigrants. Immigrants on average earn less than 40 per cent of Swedes. The majority of people charged with murder, rape and robbery are either first- or second-generation immigrants.

"Since the 1980s, Sweden has had the largest increase in inequality of any country in the OECD," Mr. Sanandaji said. It's not for lack of trying. Sweden is tops in Europe for its immigration efforts. Nor is it the newcomers' fault. Sweden's labour market is highly skills-intensive, and even low-skilled Swedes can't get work. "So what chance is there for a 40-year-old woman from Africa?" Mr. Sandaji wondered.

Sweden's fantasy is that if you socialize the children of immigrants and refugees correctly, they'll grow up to be just like native Swedes. But it hasn't worked out that way. Much of the second generation lives in nice Swedish welfare ghettos. The social strains - white flight, a general decline in trust - are growing worse. The immigrantheavy city of Malmo, just across the bridge from Denmark, is an economic and social basket case.

Sweden's generosity costs a fortune, at a time when economic growth is stagnant. The country now spends about \$4-billion a year on settling new refugees - up from \$1-billion a few years ago, Mr. Sanandaji said. And they keep coming. Sweden automatically accepts unaccompanied minors. "We used to take in 500 unaccompanied minors a year," he said. "This year we are expecting 12,000."

A/T: DEMOGRAPHICS JUSTIFY INCREASING REFUGEES

OPENING UP IMMIGRATION IS A POOR WAY TO DEAL WITH A COUNTRY'S DEMOGRAPHIC CRISIS-McCurry '15

[Justin; Japan says it must look after its own before allowing in Syrian refugees; The Guardian; 30 September 2015; <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/sep/30/japan-says-it-must-look-after-its-own-before-allowing-syrian-refugees-in>; retrieved 3 October 2015]

Japan's population is expected to fall dramatically in the coming decades, with experts predicting a serious strain on the economy from a shrinking workforce and rising pension and social security costs. But few politicians have broached immigration as a possible solution.

"To publicly broach mass immigration – and the multicultural adjustments in Japanese life that it would necessarily entail – as a means of solving the country's looming demographic crisis is something that verges on sacrilege," said MG Sheftall, a professor of modern Japanese cultural history at Shizuoka University. "For an important national figure to do so would be an act of political suicide."

MIGRATION WILL DO LITTLE TO DEAL WITH THE TRENDS OF EUROPEAN AGING-Desilver '15

[Drew; Senior Writer; Refugee surge brings youth to an aging Europe; FactTank from Pew Research; 8 October 2015; <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/10/08/refugee-surge-brings-youth-to-an-aging-europe/>; retrieved 4 October 2015]

But others are skeptical that migration, even on the scale being seen this year, can do much more than dent the long-term aging trend. A 2001 report from the U.N.'s Population Division, for instance, estimated that Germany would need a net total of 17.8 million migrants between 1995 and 2050 (an average of 324,000 per year) to keep its overall population from shrinking; even then, the ratio of working-age people to elderly would still fall.

THE DEMOGRAPHIC ARGUMENT IS NOT UNIVERSAL IN EUROPE-Park '15

[Jeanne, Deputy Director; Europe's Migration Crisis: Council on Foreign Relations Backgrounder; 23 September 2015; <http://www.cfr.org/migration/europes-migration-crisis/p32874>; retrieved 8 October 2015]

Some experts say Germany and Sweden's open immigration policies also make economic sense, given Europe's demographic trajectory (PDF) of declining birth rates and ageing populations. Migrants, they argue, could boost Europe's economies as workers, taxpayers, and consumers, and help shore up its famed social safety nets. But others caution that EU citizens might come to regard migrants as economic competitors, not contributors. Brookings' Koser says the demographic argument presents a political paradox for some member states. "You have 50 percent youth unemployment in Spain, and yet Spain needs migrants. That's just a very hard sell," he says.

