



The Great Exodus

Refugee Crisis

Refugee vs Migrant

- **Refugee:** Defined by the 1951 Refugee Convention as a person who is owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, social group, or political opinion and is outside the country of his nationality.
- **Migrant:** Anyone moving from one country to another is considered a migrant unless specifically fleeing war or persecution. They may be seeking better job opportunities or to join relatives.



Definitions

- **Internally Displaced Person:** Persons who have been forced to leave their home in order to avoid armed conflict, violence, or violations of human rights and who have not crossed international borders.
- **Asylum Seeker:** Individuals who have sought international protection and whose claims for refugee status have yet to be determined and are awaiting approval.
- **Stateless Person:** Persons defined under international law as not considered as nationals by any state.
- **UNHCR:** The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees mandated to protect and assist refugees at the request of governments or the UN.

Refugee Statistics

- Total number of refugees, internally displaced, asylum seekers, and stateless people reached 65.6 million people at the end of 2016 – increase of 300,00 since last year making these the highest numbers since World War II.
- 22.5 million refugees
- 10 million stateless people
- Over 40.3 million internally displaced
- Over 51% of these refugees are under the age of 18

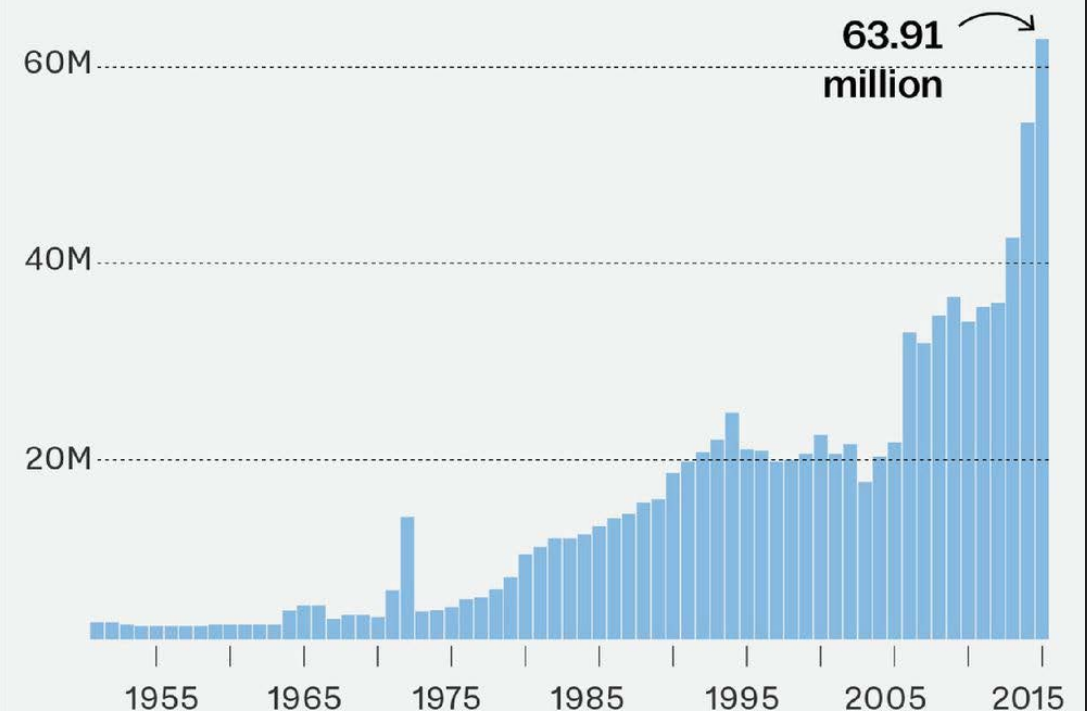


Rise in Refugees

- 15.4 million refugees in 2012
- 7.6 million newly displaced people in 2012 v. 10.3 million newly displaced people in 2016
- Global population of forcibly displaced people has grown from 33.9 million in 1997 to 65.6 million in 2016
- Increase due mainly to Syrian conflict concentrated between 2012-2015

The refugee crisis is at historic proportions

Persons of concern, including refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced persons, and others



Source: UNHCR

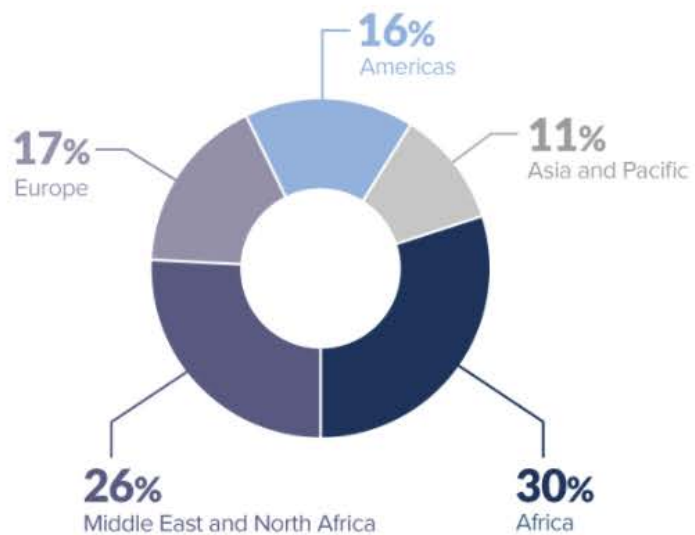
Vox

Where do the refugees come from?

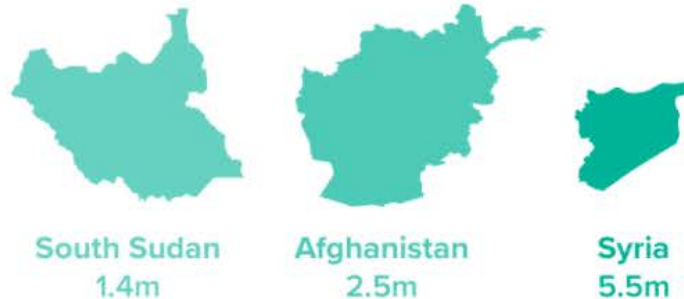
- 55% of refugees worldwide come from 3 countries:
 - Syrian Arab Republic (5.5 million)
 - Afghanistan (2.5 million)
 - South Sudan (1.4 million)
 - Refugee population grew by 64% during second half of 2016: 854,100 to 1.4 million because of the crisis in South Sudan



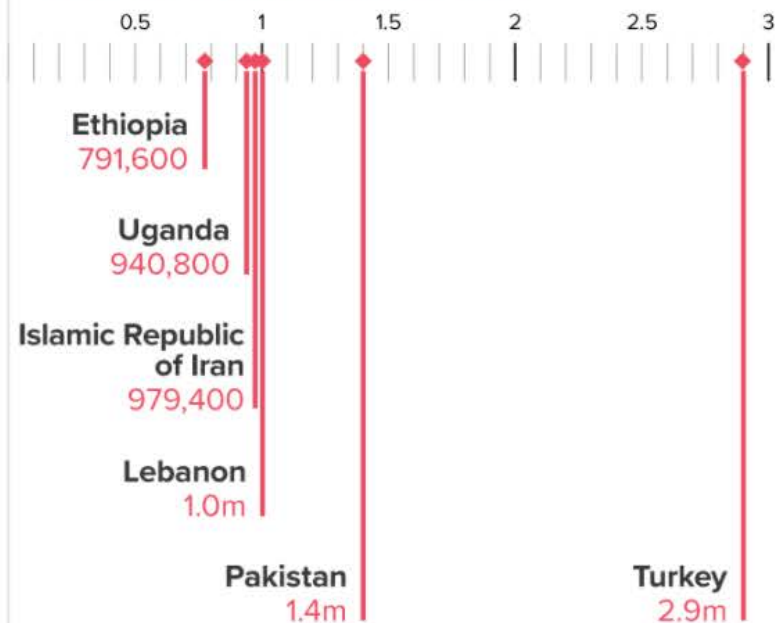
Where the world's displaced people are being hosted



55% of refugees worldwide came from three countries



Top hosting countries



Why are the refugees leaving their homes?



1. PERSECUTION

The Rohingya

- Attacks by **Myanmar** police and military are widespread- often referred to as “ethnic cleansing”
 - the mass expulsion or killing of members of an unwanted ethnic or religious group in a society
- Rise in violence in Myanmar in 2017: **6,700** Rohingya killed within 1 month (Aug-Sep 2017)
- Nearly **650,000** have fled since then – most to Bangladesh



2. WAR

Since its 2011 civil war, **300,000** Syrians have died.

- About **5.5 million** people have fled the country since (Turkey hosts nearly 3 million of them)

- More than **440,000** internally displaced

About 500,000 refugees returned to Syria in 2017 – but UNCHR warns safe conditions are not yet in place

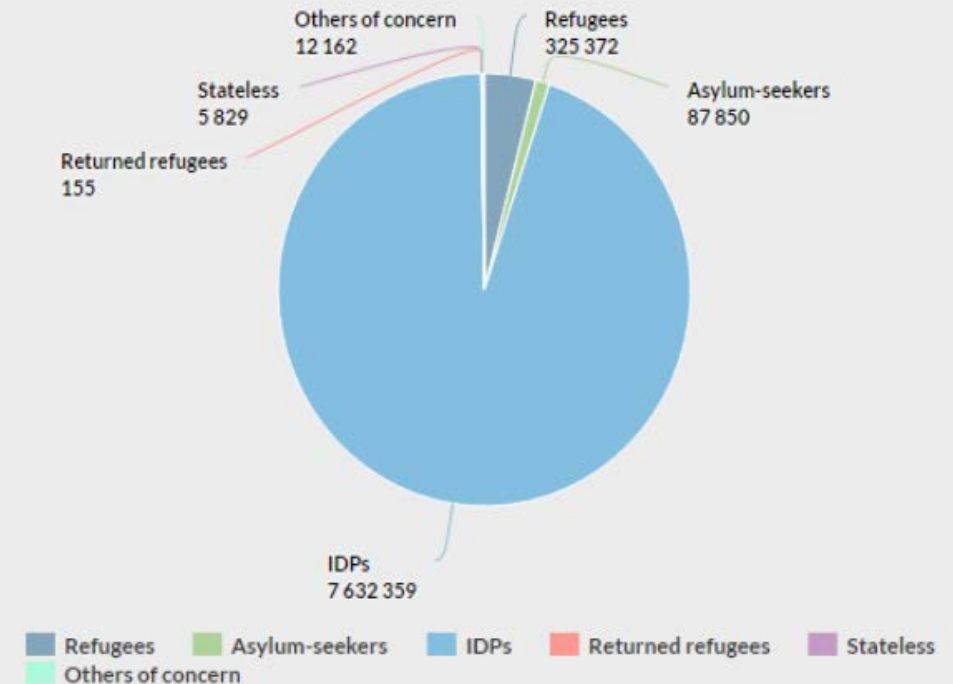


3. VIOLENCE

Latin America

- Colombia : armed conflict since 1964 has generated over 340,000 refugees
 - hold the world’s largest population of internally displaced people: **7.3 million**
- Cartel and gang violence in the Northern Triangle (El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras) also contributes to the number of IDP
- El Salvador had the most new displacements in 2016: **220,000 people**

PEOPLE OF CONCERN - 2017 [PROJECTED]



Latin America’s migration crisis in numbers
Image: UNHCR

4. FAMINE

South Sudan

- Since the outbreak of civil war in 2013, **3.7 million** people have fled the country due to violence and extensive food insecurity
 - another **1.8 million** internally displaced
- Early 2017: **Famine** was declared in parts of country
 - left **100,000** people on the verge of starvation
- Though famine no longer declared as of Nov. 2017: estimated **4.8 million** people (48% of population) are in need of humanitarian assistance
 - By March 2018, estimated **5.1 million** people will continue to face hunger

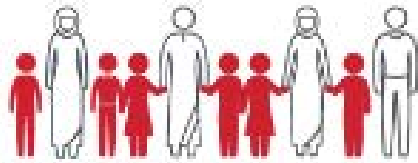


A NEW NATION TORN APART

Families flee to escape conflict

Conflict in the world's newest nation has spread across the country, creating a severe humanitarian crisis. **South Sudan has the third largest refugee crisis**, after Syria and Afghanistan.

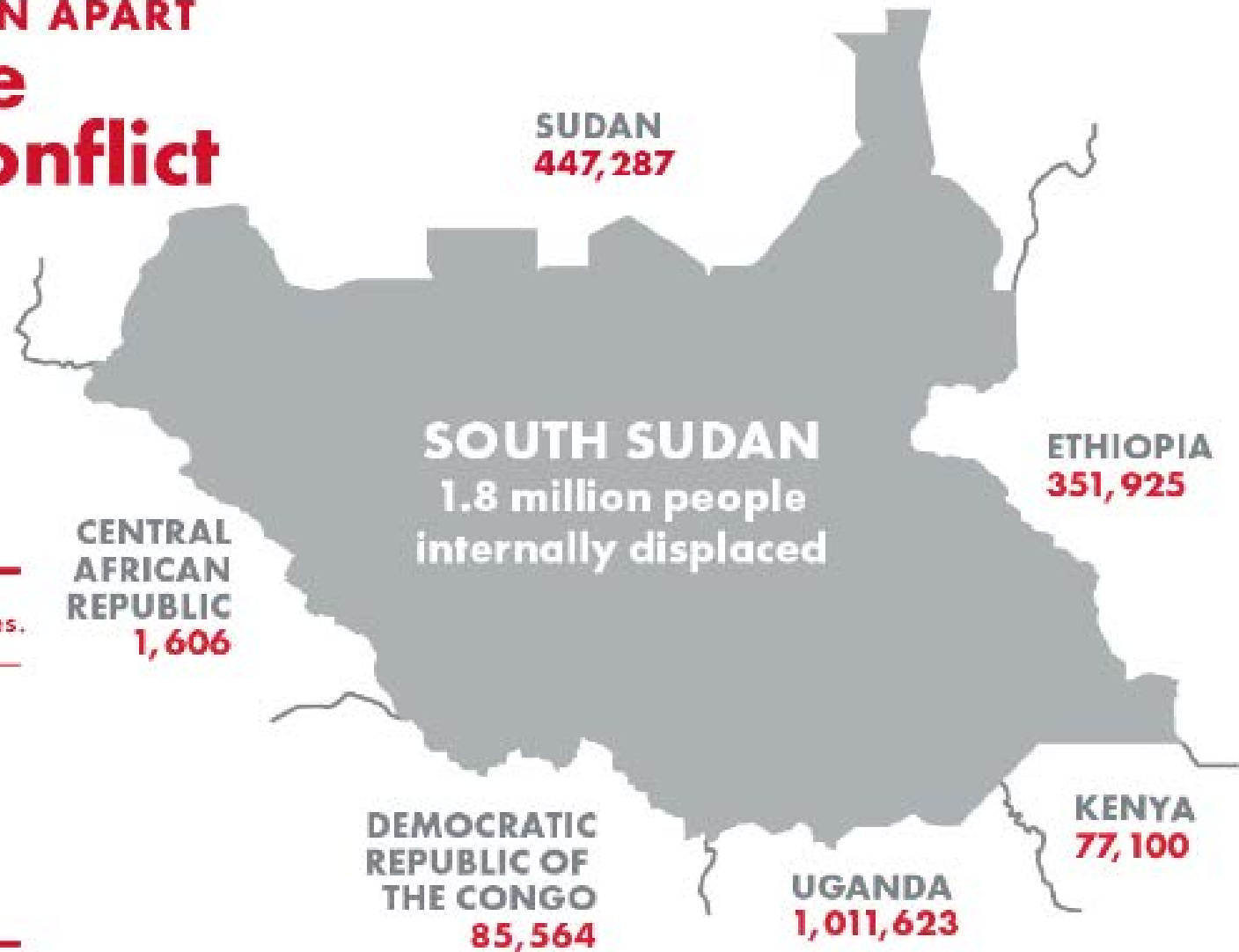
3.7 million have fled their homes.



6 out of 10 South Sudanese refugees are children.

As of October 2017

Source: <http://data.unhcr.org/SouthSudan/regional.php>



Rights of the Refugees



International Law:

- UN Refugee Convention of 1951 states that refugees have the right “to seek and be granted asylum in a foreign territory”. The law provides protection and assistance for asylum-seekers and refugees, regardless of their country of origin.

Core Issue: The convention did not define how States determine whether an individual meets the definition of a refugee. Instead, it is left to each State to develop.

- This has resulted in disparities among different States as governments craft asylum laws based on their different resources, national security concerns, and histories with forced migration movements.



**From 2015 to the present,
which nations have chosen
to accept refugees?**

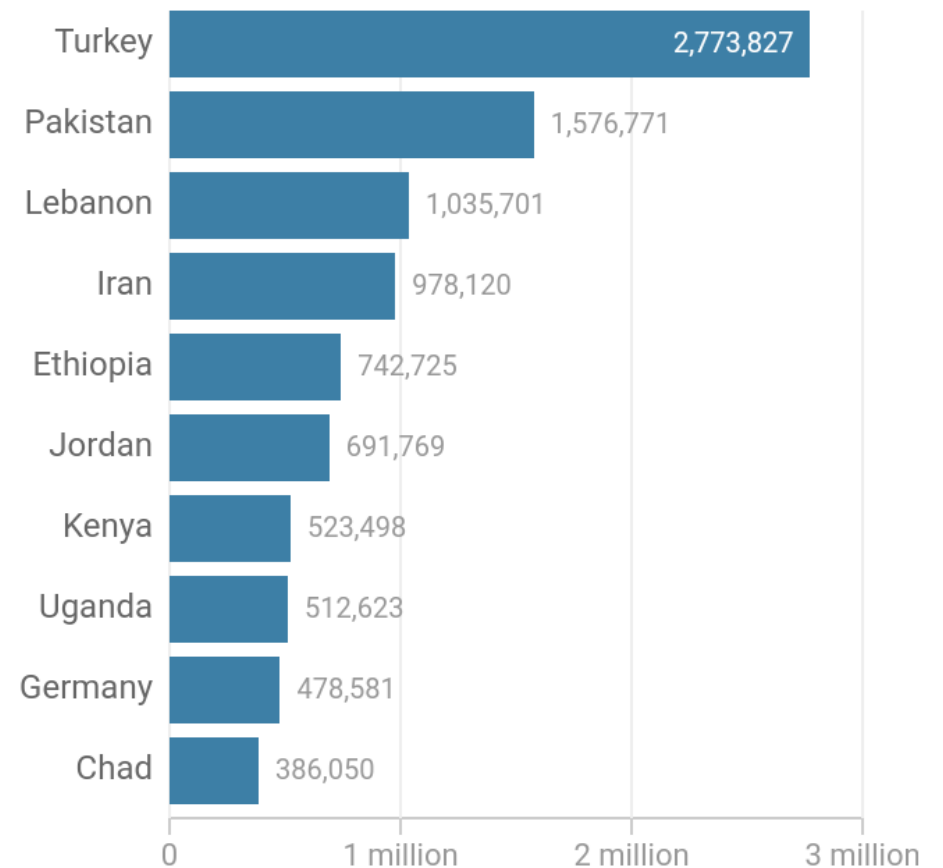
Which have not?

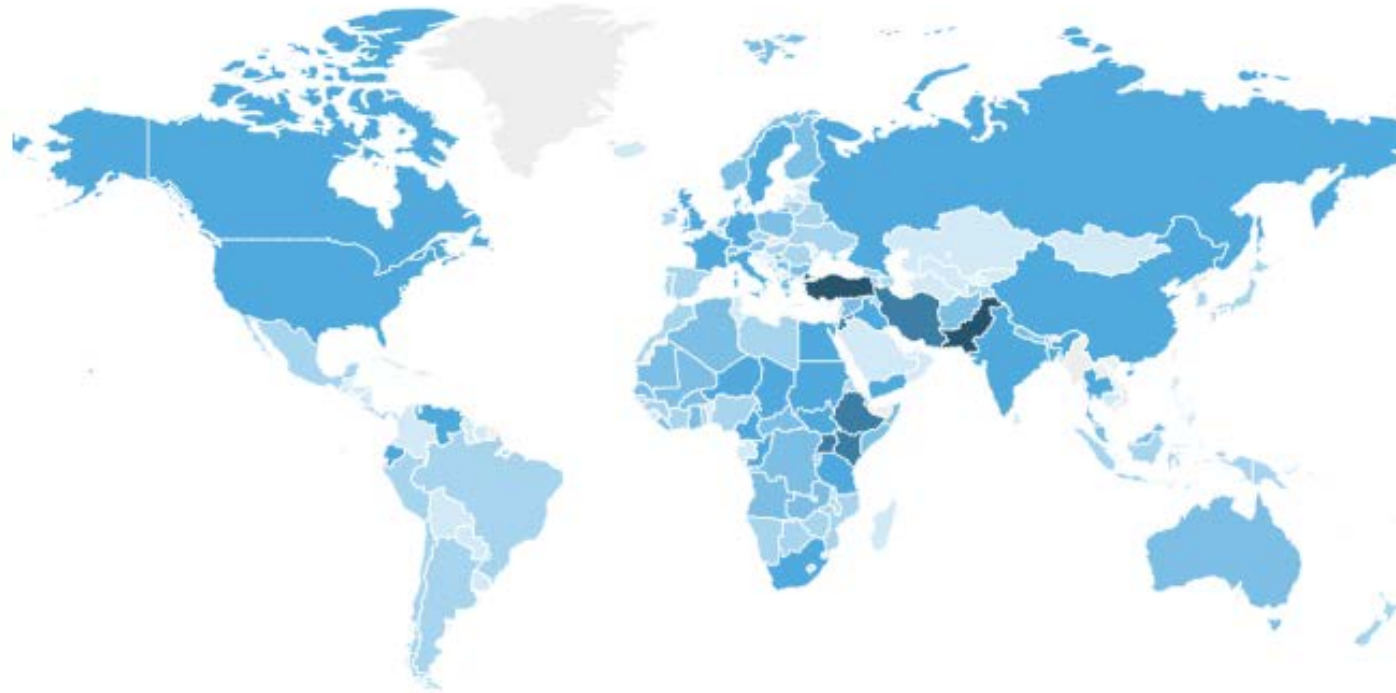
Top Refugee Hosting Countries

Poorer countries host most of the forcibly displaced

- More than 50% of refugees are hosted by countries in Africa and the Middle East
- 84% of refugees live in developing countries

Countries surrounding conflict zones like South Sudan and Syria hosted the most refugees as of mid-2016.



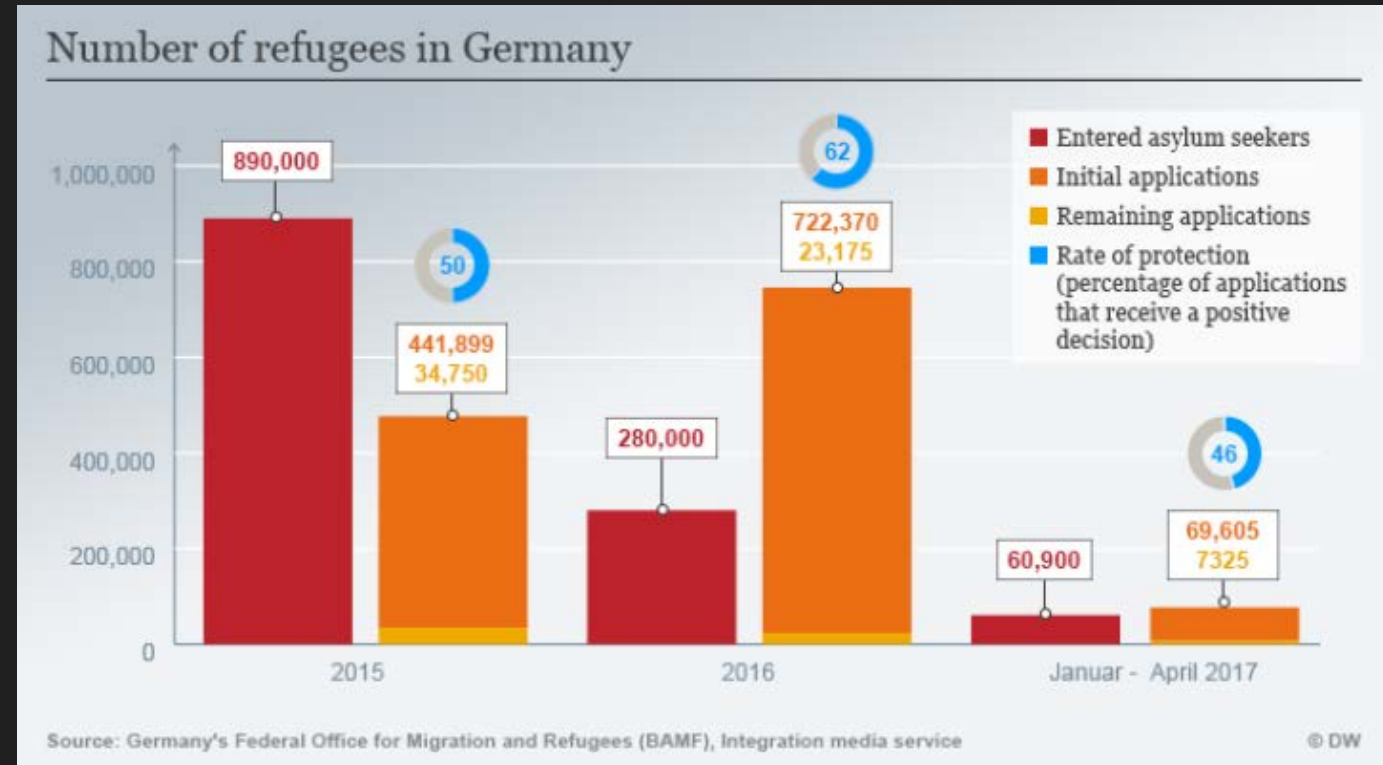


REFUGEE POPULATION, MID- 2016

Today's new refugees do not all want to head west

Europe Bound Refugees

- Germany is the only European country in the list of top hosting nations
- Since 2015: Germany has accepted about 1 million refugees (about 600,000 were Syrian)
- But in 2017 the numbers dropped dramatically



Germany, Italy and France are receiving the most asylum applicants

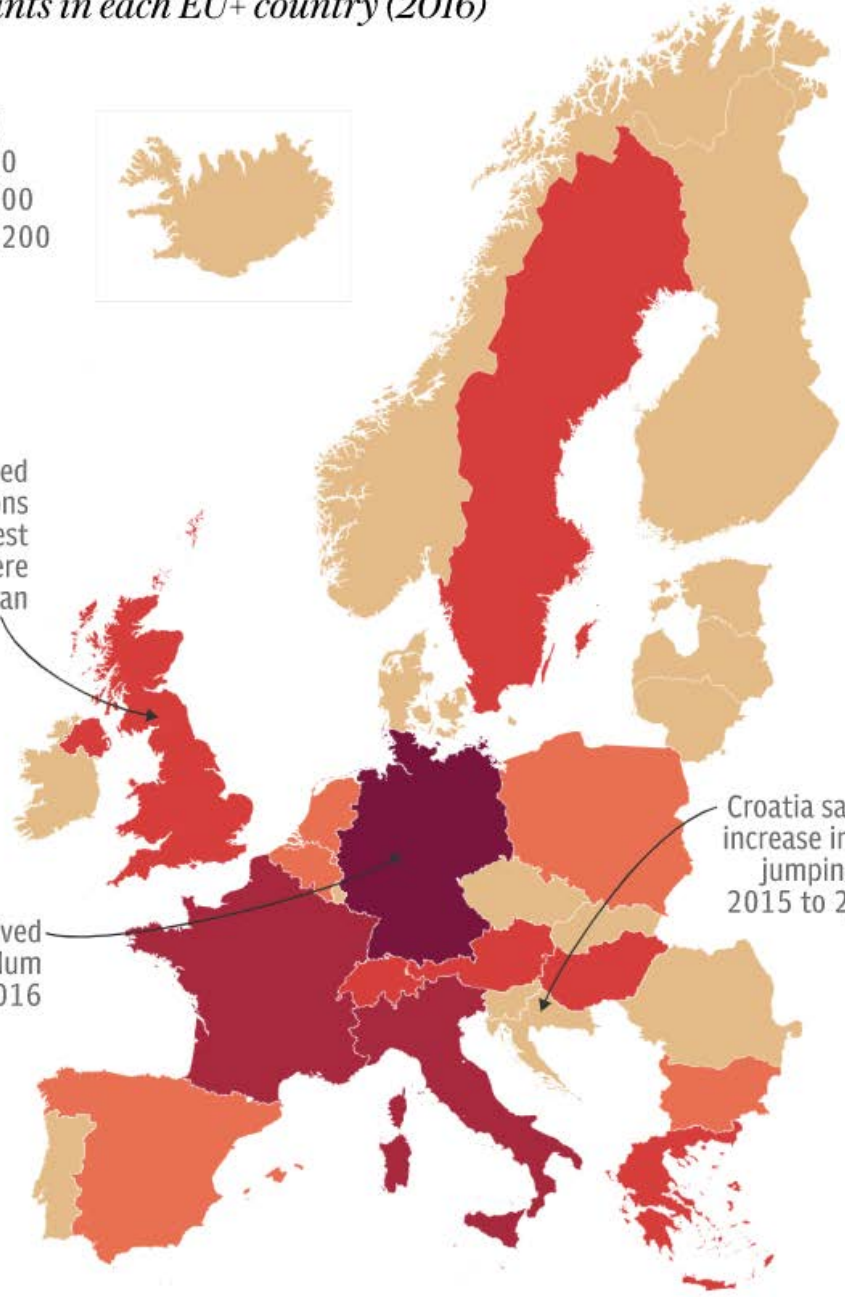
Asylum applicants in each EU+ country (2016)

- 0 - 6,200
- 6,200 - 21,000
- 21,000 - 51,000
- 51,000 - 123,000
- 123,000 - 745,200

The UK received 38,785 applications in 2016, the highest share of which were from Iran

Germany received 745,155 asylum applicants in 2016

Croatia saw the highest increase in applications, jumping from 210 in 2015 to 2,225 in 2016



Reaching Europe by Sea

- 2016: estimated 362,000 refugees and migrants risked their lives crossing the Mediterranean Sea
 - most arriving in Italy and Greece
- So far in 2018: 2,011 people have attempted to reach Europe by sea
 - 173 are feared drowned



Refusing Refugees

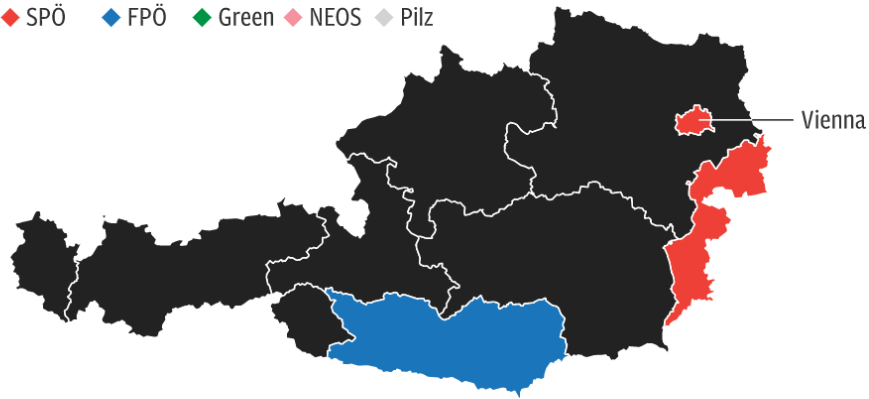
- Wealthy Middle-Eastern nations such as Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have refused to formally accept Syrian Refugees.
- European nations that have completely closed their borders to the refugees include: Hungary, Slovakia, Slovenia, Romania, Denmark
 - The EU may be proposing fines to nations that do not accept refugees.
 - Hungarian President Viktor Orban constructed a wall on the country's border to keep refugees out.

Europe's Far Right

Austrian 2017 election results

Winning parties in each state

◆ ÖVP ◆ SPÖ ◆ FPÖ ◆ Green ◆ NEOS ◆ Pilz



Current voting results*



SOURCE: BM.I FEDERAL MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR

Far-Right Movements

- Extreme conservatism fueled by anti-immigration attitudes
- Nativism, populism (appeal to native-born)

Far-Right in Europe Gov't

- Austria - Europe's youngest leader Sebastian Kurz, 31, formed a new governing coalition that will include a far-right party with Nazi roots
 - **FPO**: far-right Freedom Party
 - **OVP**: conservative People's Party

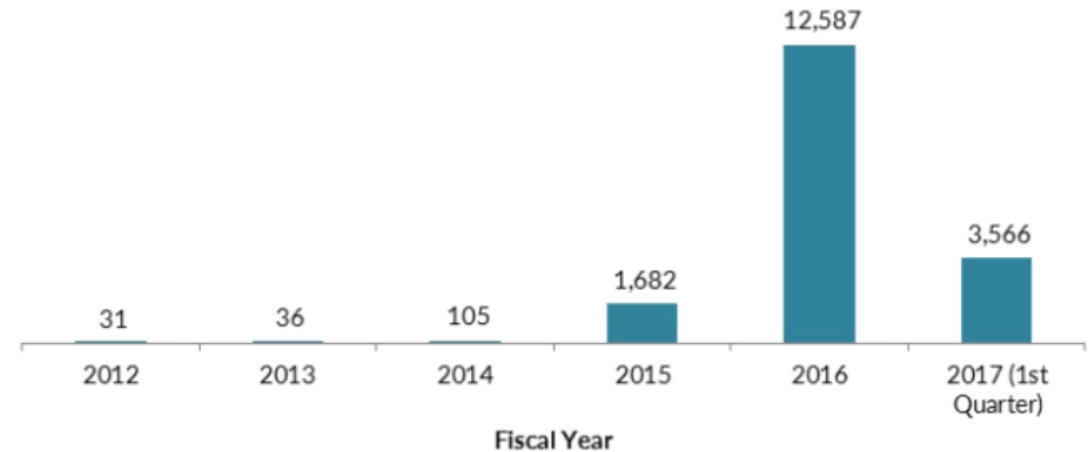
Who is Sebastian Kurz video:

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/12/austria-set-enter-government-171216054027062.html>

The US and Refugees

- July 2017: U.S. reached their 50,000 cap on refugees
 - Refugees can still enter if they can prove close family ties
- Exception: Trump's Travel Ban
 - U.S. Supreme Court allows ban to take effect while legal challenges are heard by a federal appeals court
 - 8 countries: Syria, Libya, Iran, Yemen, Chad, Somalia, North Korea, and Venezuela

9) Even before Trump's order, America wasn't taking in a ton of Syrian refugees



Syrian refugees resettled by the United States. | (Migration Policy Institute)

Since World War II, the United States has let in more refugees than any other country on Earth. But has failed to step up in the past few years, particularly in response to the outflow from Syria.



What are the refugees' most immediate needs as they enter a receiving country?

What are their long-term needs?

Immediate Needs

UNHCR called for European and other countries to offer an additional 40,000 resettlement places to be made available for refugees in 15 priority countries (along central Mediterranean Route)

- **Purpose:** increase number of safe pathways to Europe
- Adequate assistance needed for unaccompanied and separated children



Addressing Immediate Needs

Many nations are quick to accommodate the Syrian refugees coming in.

- Germany is currently training some refugees to work as opticians, electricians, mechanics, metal workers, and floor fitters.
- Canada is providing healthcare, social security, and a pathway to citizenship for refugees.
- Some teachers in Sweden are offering refugees Swedish language lessons.

Short-term Costs, Long-term Benefits

Germany

- 2016: Gov't spent **21.7 billion euros** (\$26.65 billion) on refugee-related expenditures
 - **5.3 billion euros** for integration measures
 - **4.4 billion euros** in social welfare payments
- 2017: Gov't allocated **21.3 billion euros** (6% of annual budget) to refugee assistance





What are the long-term challenges refugees face with resettlement?

Work Opportunities



Boats used by refugees to reach safety in Europe are now being repurposed as tour boats on the canals of Amsterdam, with refugees serving as guides. The “Mister Friday” (left) once carried 282 refugees and migrants across the Mediterranean, while “Hedir” (right), meaning “Stormy Weather,” carried 76.

Education Attainment



“When you see their desire to learn, it gives you a boost of energy,” says Brigitte Dubosclard, a volunteer French teacher for refugees in Pessat-Villeneuve, France. The small town in central France converted its château into a reception centre that has welcomed 136 refugees.

Language/Culture Barriers

"I couldn't play football in Syria, but here I can play whenever I want." Eight-year-old Syrian refugee Ahmad Alzaher takes part in a trial for Bundesliga club Hertha in Berlin, Germany.



Teenagers from Syria and Ireland learn to sail together off the coast of West Cork, Ireland. The teens, who all live in Ballaghaderreen in County Roscommon, are learning sailing skills as well as teamwork.



What if you were a refugee?

People of nowhere: <https://vimeo.com/144857118>