

Higher Education Supporting Refugees in Europe

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Rome, 16 April 2018

Objectives

- UNHCR
- International Law on Asylum
- CEAS
- Global Trends 2016
- Mediterranean route

UNHCR

- created in 1950
- Humanitarian Agency
- UNHCR is present in 145 countries

UNHCR mandate

- Give **International protection** to the refugees
- Find durable solution for the refugees:



Who help UNHCR?

- Refugees
- Returnees
- Internal Displaced Persons
- Asylum Seekers
- Statelessness

International Refugee Law

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)
- Convention relating to the Status of refugees (Geneva, 1951)
- Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees (New York, 1967)

Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Art. 14

“Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution”.

- Right to seek asylum in another country
- Right to enjoy asylum in another country
- Right to **obtain** asylum?

Geneva Convention on Refugee Status 1951

- Definition of refugee
- Principle of non refolument
- Refugee rights

Who is a refugee?

Art. 1 Geneva Convention

“Owing to **well-founded fear** of being **persecuted** for reasons of **race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion**, is **outside** the country of his nationality and is **unable** or, owing to such fear, is **unwilling** to avail himself of the protection of that country;

or who, **not having a nationality** and being outside the country of his **former habitual residence** as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it”.

Principle of *non refoulement*

Art. 33 Geneva Convention

“No Contracting State shall expel or return (*refouler*) a refugee in any manner whatsoever to the frontiers of territories where his life or freedom would be threatened on account of his race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion”.

Principle of *non refoulement*

- **Internationally recognized principle**
- **Cornerstone** of the right of asylum and of international refugee protection
- **Part of international customary law**

Applicable to:

- **Expulsion and deportation from the territory**
- **Rejection at the borders**
- **Indirect *refoulement* (chain deportation)**

Regional Instruments on Refugee Law

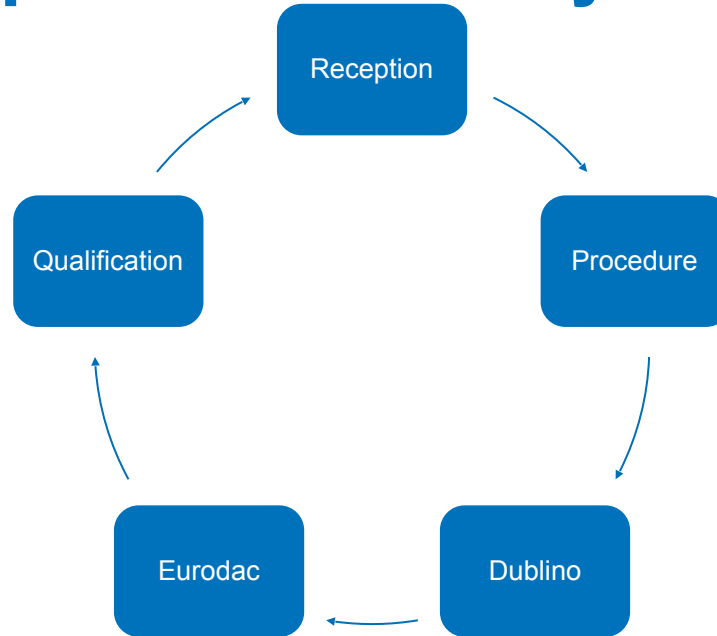
- Regional Refugee Law Instruments:
 - Reflect the further evolution of IRL;
 - Broaden the concept of refugee, adequating it to regional realities;
 - Eliminate protection gaps;
- 1969 OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugees Problems in Africa;
- 1984 Cartagena Declaration.

CEAS (Common European Asylum System)

- Tampere programme 1999.
- Amsterdam Treaty (1997>1999). Asylum under the III pillar.
- Nizza Treaty (2001>2003) first phase on the minimum common rules.
- Aja Programme, November 2004.
- Lisbon Treaty (2007>2009) II phase: from minimum common rules to the Common system
- Stockholm Programme, 10 December 2009. Update and development.
- European Commission communication, April 2016 – *Towards a **reform of the Common European Asylum System** and enhancing legal avenues to Europe.*



Common European Asylum System



International protection

- Refugee status

- Beneficiaries of subsidiary protection

Subsidiary protection

Art. 2 (Qualification Directive – 2011/95/EU)

Person eligible for subsidiary protection

“...a third country national or a stateless person who does not qualify as a refugee but in respect of whom substantial grounds have been shown for believing that the person concerned if returned to his or her country, would face a real risk of suffering **serious harm**..”

Subsidiary protection

Art. 15 (Qualification Directive)

Definition of serious harm

- death penalty or execution; or
- torture or inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment
- serious and individual threat to a civilian's life or person by reason of indiscriminate violence in situations of international or internal armed conflict.



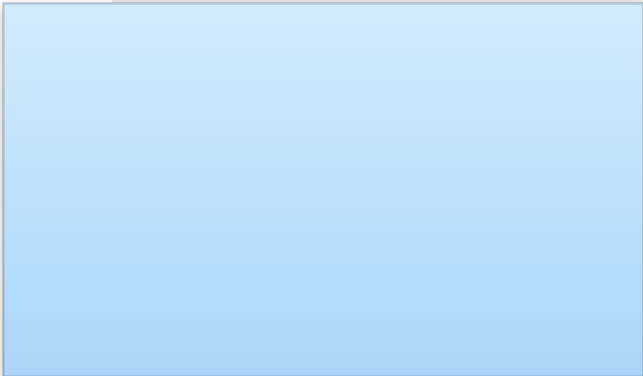
Refugees are people fleeing conflict or persecution. They are defined and protected in international law, and must not be expelled or returned to situations where their life and freedom are at risk.



65.6 MILLION FORCIBLY DISPLACED WORLDWIDE

as a result of persecution, conflict, violence, or human rights violations

- 22.5 million people who were refugees at end-2016
- 17.2 million under UNHCR's mandate
- 5.3 million Palestinian refugees registered by UNRWA
- 40.3 million internally displaced people
- 2.8 million asylum-seekers



displaced

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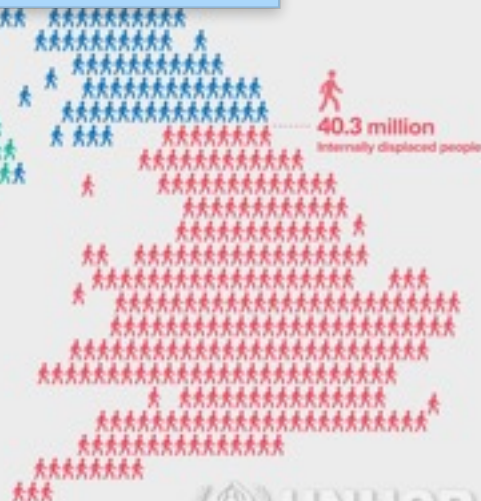


5 million
gees

2.8 million
Asylum-seekers



40.3 million
Internally displaced people



1 in every 113 people on earth
has fled their home to escape
conflict or persecution

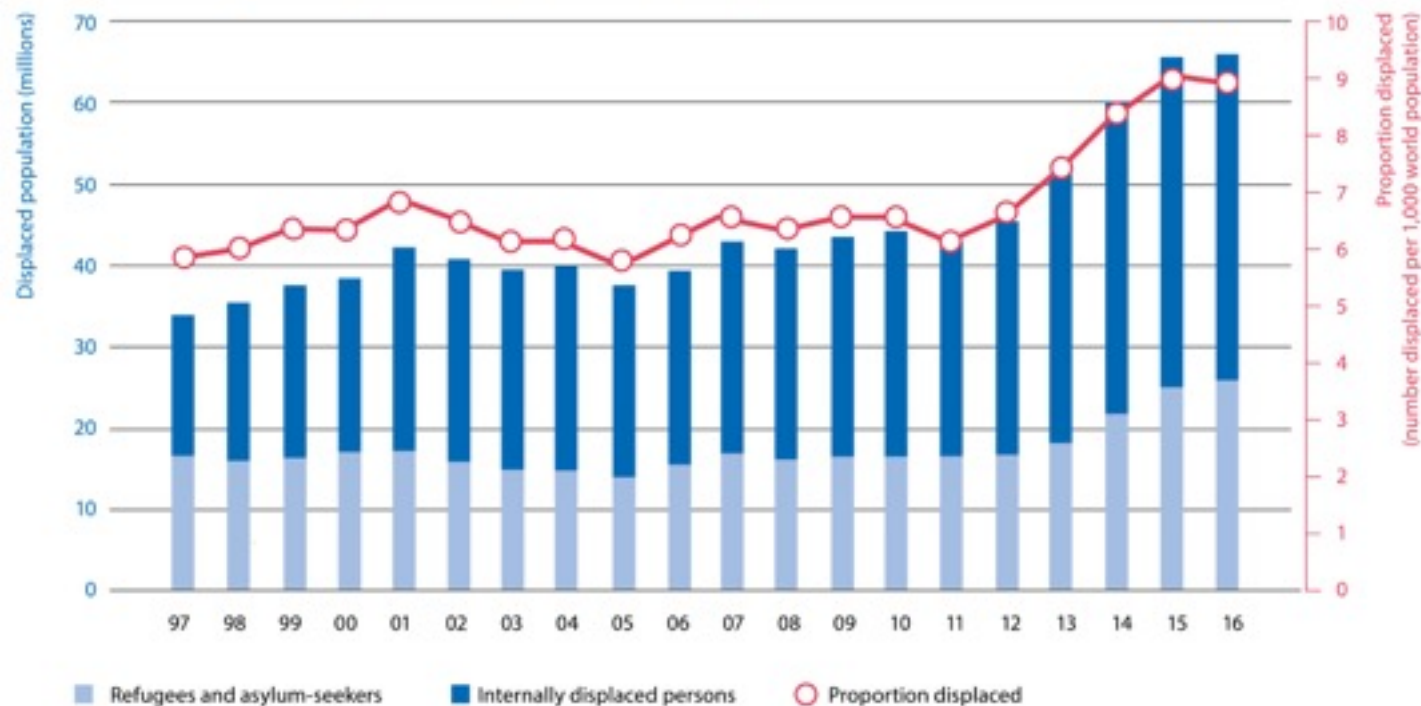


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Source: UNHCR / 15 JUNE 2019



| Trend of global displacement & proportion displaced | 1997-2016



55% of refugees worldwide
came from three countries



South Sudan
1.4m



Afghanistan
2.5m



Syria
5.5m

© UNHCR

Source: UNHCR / 19 JUNE

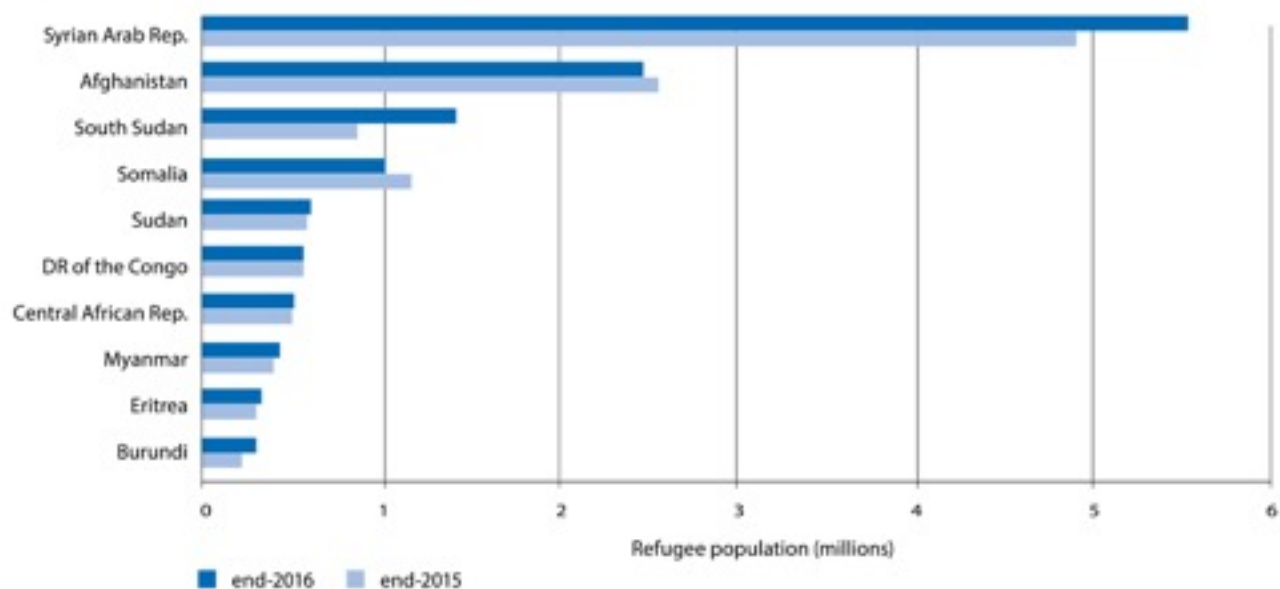


UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

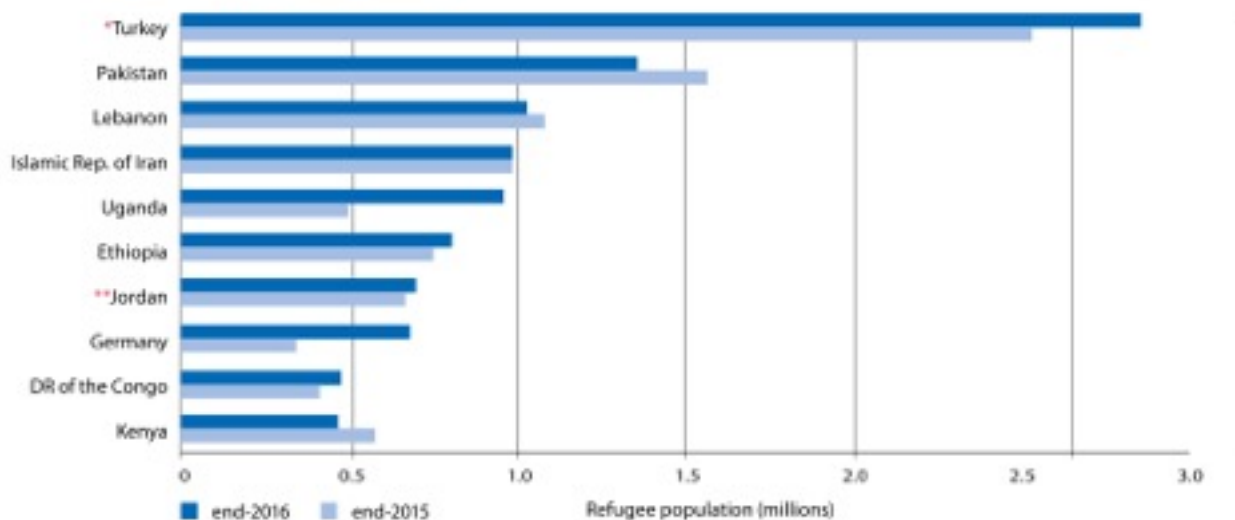


UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

Major source countries of refugees



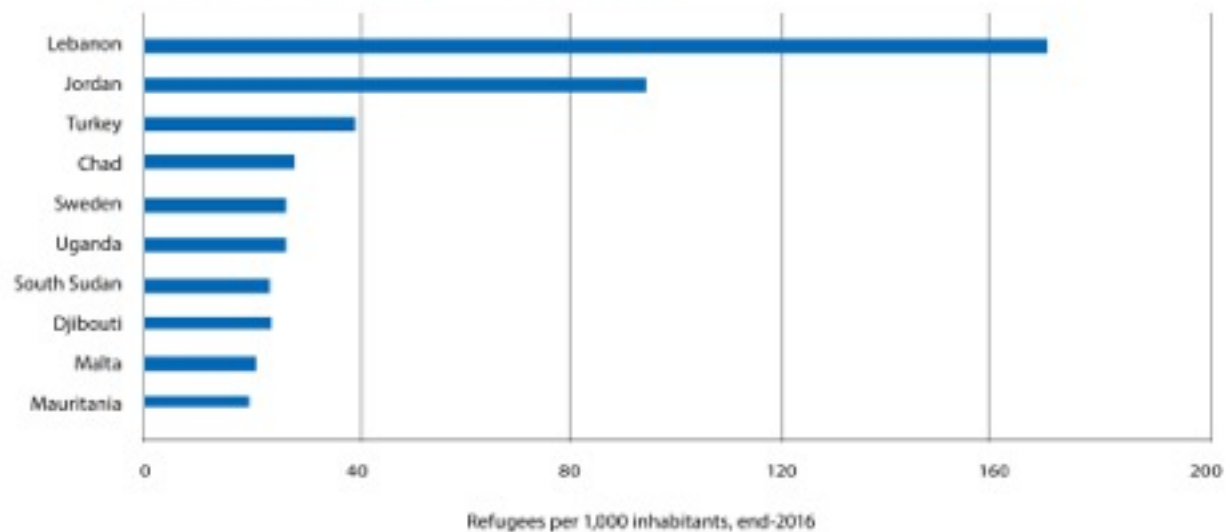
Major refugee-hosting countries



* Refugee figure for Syrians in Turkey was a Government estimate.

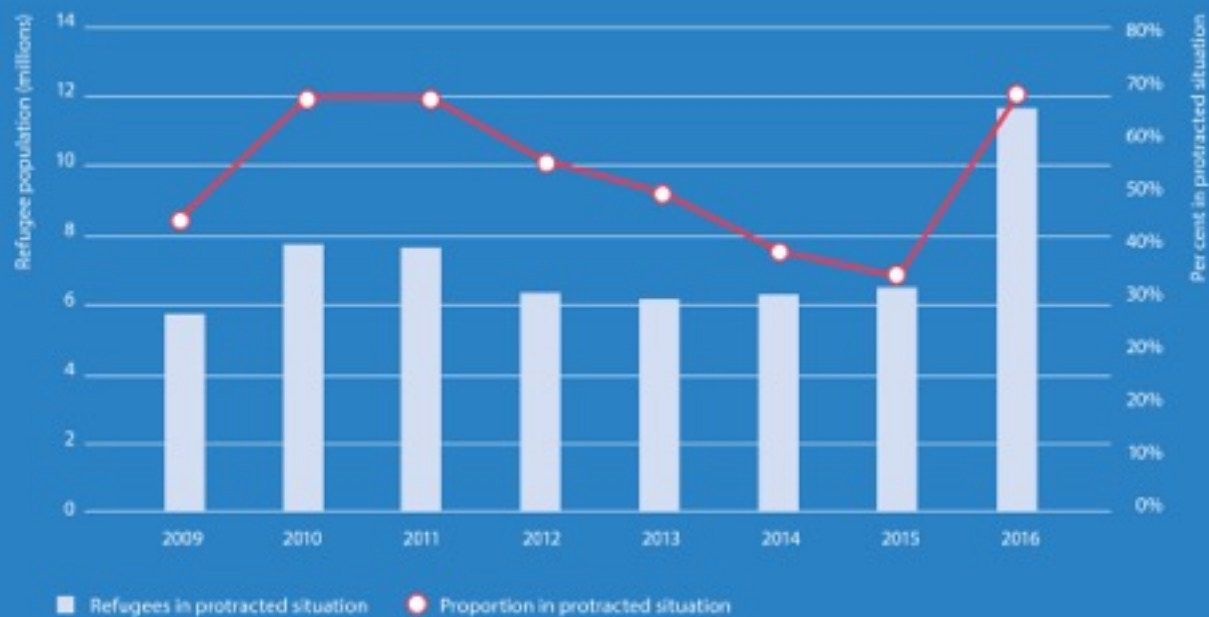
** Includes 33,100 Iraqi refugees registered with UNHCR in Jordan. The Government estimated the number of Iraqis at 400,000 individuals at the end of March

| Number of refugees per 1,000 inhabitants | end-2016*

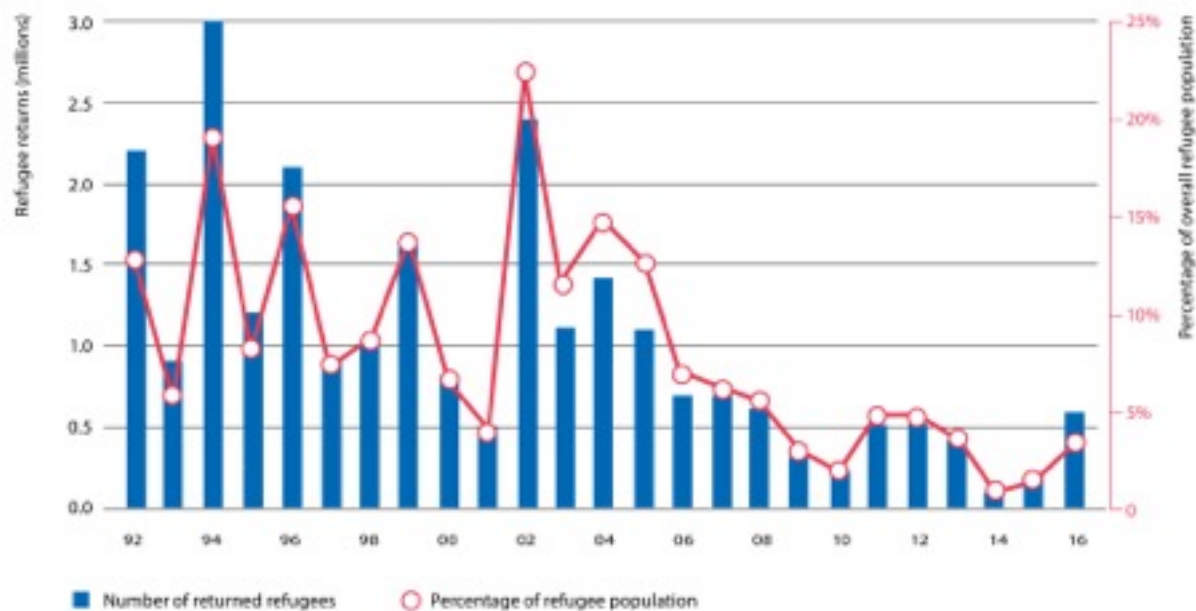


* Only countries with national populations over 100,000 were considered.

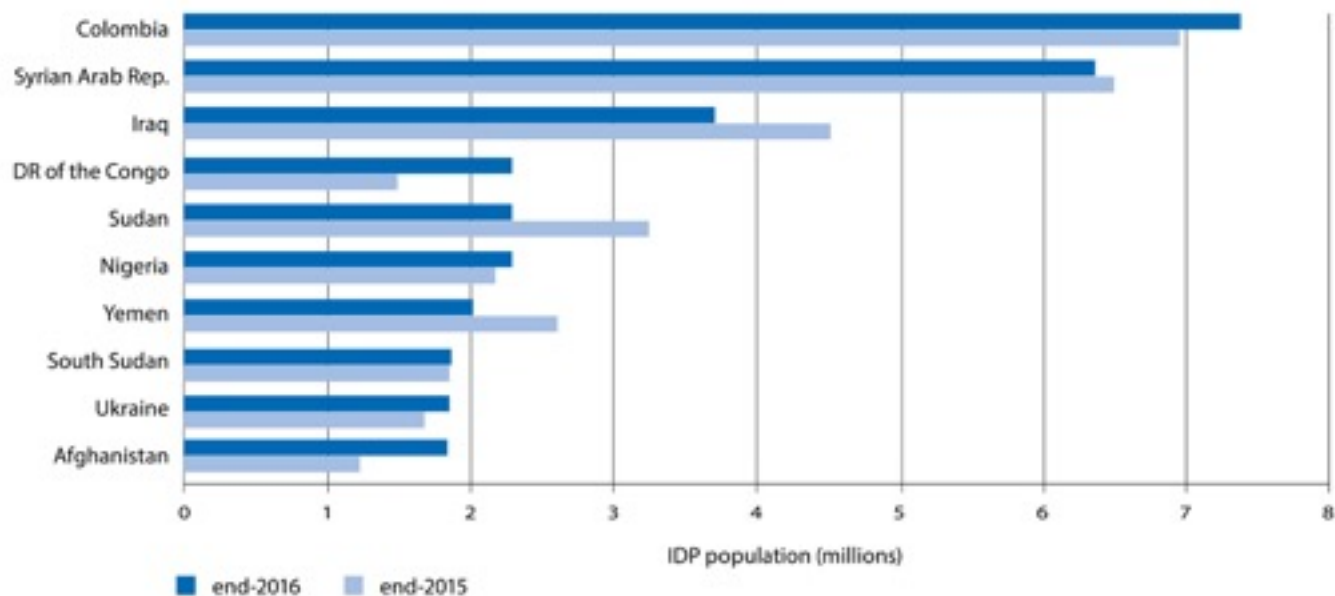
| Refugees in a protracted situation | 2009-2016



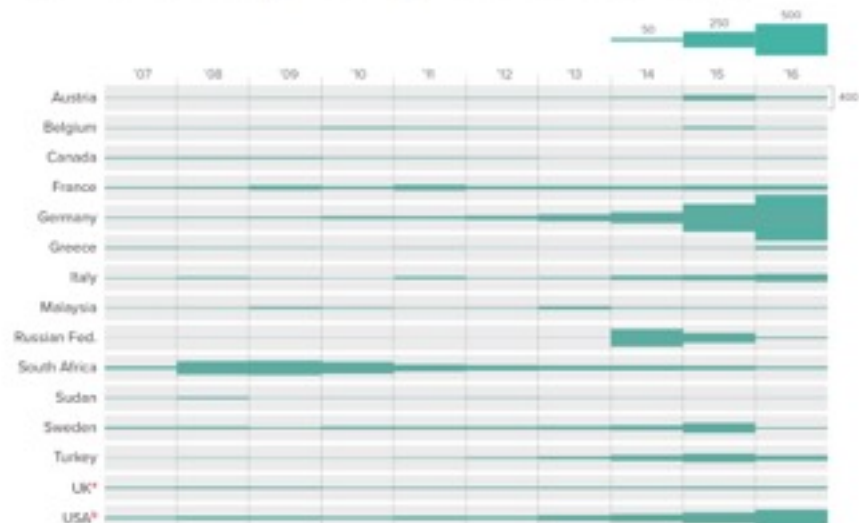
Refugee returns (in millions) and as a percentage of the overall refugee population | 1992-2016



Ten largest IDP populations



Main countries of asylum for new asylum-seekers | 2007-2016, (in thousands)



*Excludes the applications for appeal/administrative review.

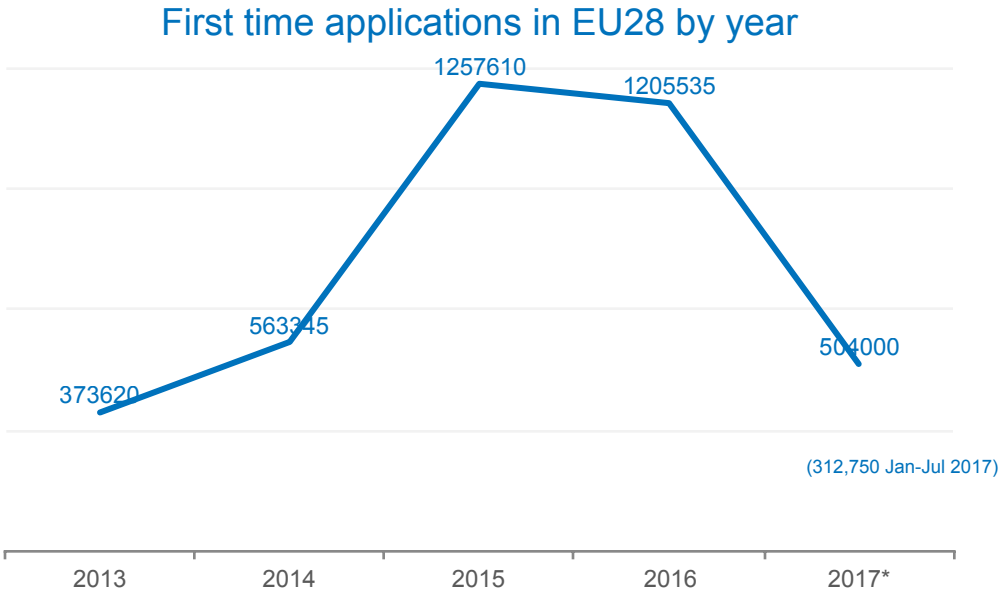
*Cases are multiplied by average number of persons per case.

Top countries of origin for new asylum-seekers | 2007-2016, (in thousands)



*Serbia and Kosovo: S-RES/1244 (1998)

First time asylum applications in EU







The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Most common nationalities of Mediterranean sea arrivals from January 2017

[CSV](#) [JSON](#)

Country of origin	Source	Data date	Population
Nigeria		21 Oct 2017	11.3% 17,487
Syrian Arab Rep.		9 Dec 2017	10.7% 16,557
Guinea		21 Oct 2017	7.9% 12,158
Côte d'Ivoire		21 Oct 2017	7.8% 11,966
Morocco		21 Oct 2017	6.2% 9,558
Bangladesh		21 Oct 2017	5.8% 8,896
Gambia		21 Oct 2017	5.0% 7,711
Mali		21 Oct 2017	4.5% 6,953
Iraq		20 Nov 2017	4.5% 6,906
Algeria		20 Nov 2017	4.2% 6,444

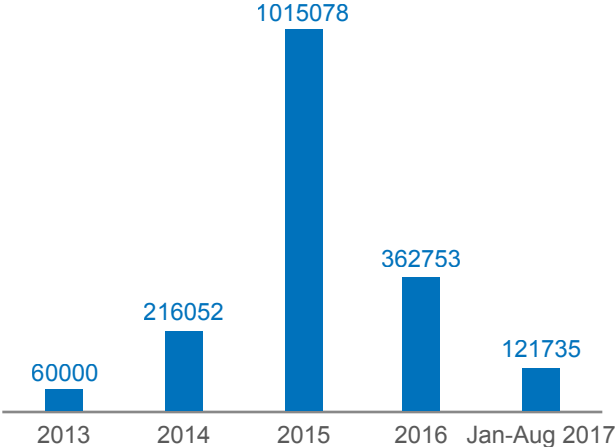
Sea arrivals monthly

[CSV](#) [JSON](#)

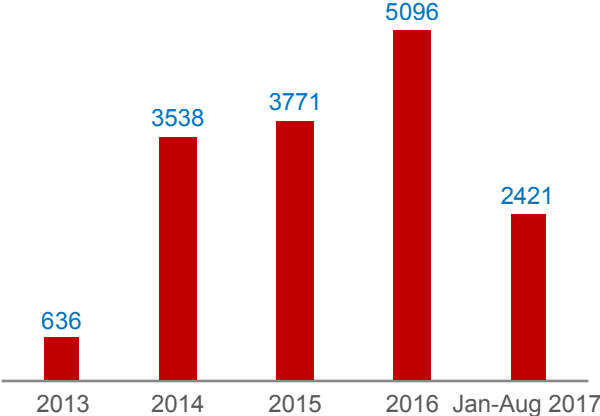


Sea arrivals, dead and missing

Mediterranean Sea Arrivals by year



Dead and missing by year





The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations

Most common nationalities of Mediterranean sea arrivals from January 2017

Country of origin	Source	Data date	Population
Syrian Arab Rep.		31 Mar 2018	11.0% 20,216
Nigeria		28 Feb 2018	10.1% 18,515
Guinea		28 Feb 2018	7.6% 13,892
Côte d'Ivoire		28 Feb 2018	7.4% 13,519
Morocco		28 Feb 2018	6.3% 11,638
Iraq		31 Mar 2018	5.0% 9,100

Sea arrivals in 2018

16,595

Last updated 11 Apr 2018

Dead and missing in 2018 (estimate)

501

Last updated 11 Apr 2018

Previous years

Previous years	Sea arrivals	Dead and missing
2017	172,301	3,139
2016	362,753	5,096
2015	1,015,078	3,771
2014	216,054	3,538

Demography of Mediterranean sea arrivals from January 2017



Desperate Journeys - January 2017 to March 2018

Download View details | 3.75 MB |

Download Count: 20,826

Sea arrivals in Italy

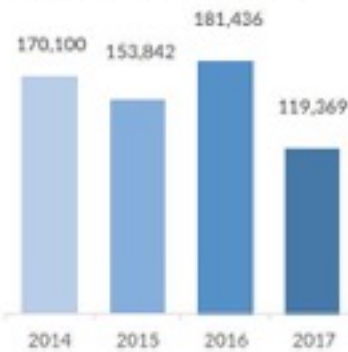
Monthly sea arrivals

January 2014 to December 2017

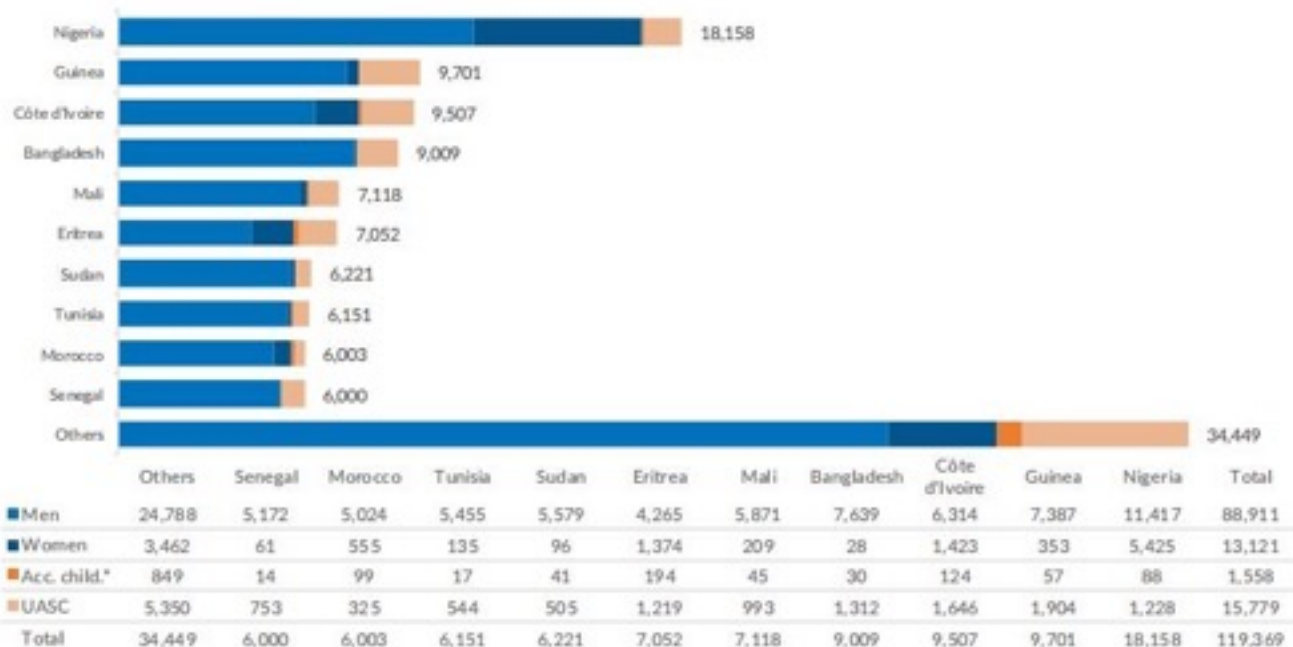


Yearly sea arrivals

January to December, 2014-2017

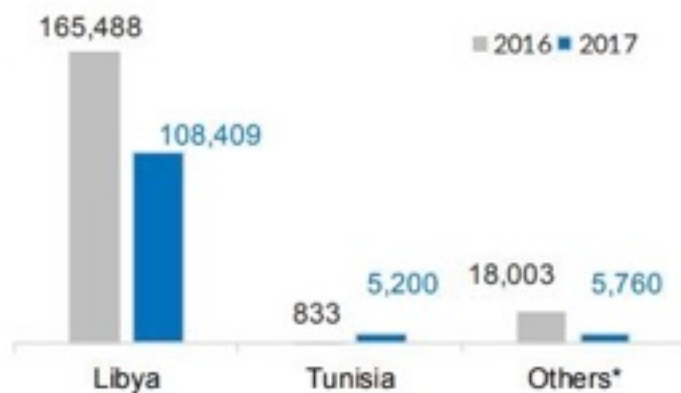


Nationality and demographics of arrivals - January to December 2017



Country of embarkation

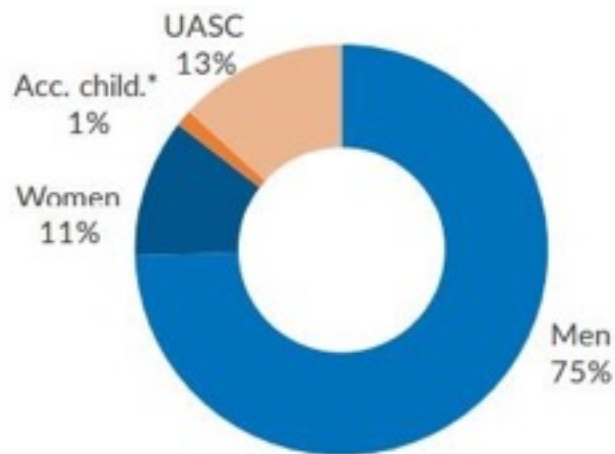
January to December 2016 and 2017



* Others include Egypt, Greece, Tunisia and unknown

Demographics of arrivals

January to December 2017



A more predictable and equitable way of responding to large movements of refugees is called for through the adoption of a global compact on responsibility-sharing for refugees, and the elements of a comprehensive response plan for refugees are set out”.

Ban Ki Moon - In safety and dignity: addressing large movements of refugees and migrants. April 2016.

“I’m here today -- I called this summit -- because this crisis is one of the most urgent tests of our time -- our capacity for collective action. And finally, this crisis is a test of our common humanity -- whether we give in to suspicion and fear and build walls, or whether we see ourselves in another”.

Barak Obama – New York 20 September 2016.

Integration is the challenge

Thank you

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data.unhcr.org/Mediterranean

www.unhcr.it