



Global Refugee Crisis

Wed, Oct 21, 2015

4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

E25-111 | 45 Carleton St, Cambridge

Global Refugee Crisis

Global?

- Global?
- Forced migrants fleeing Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan?
- What makes **this** migration different from refugees and irregular migrants leaving Myanmar, Central America . . .
- Because Europe is the destination?

Refugees?

- Does legal status matter? How many are ‘refugees’ (by the strict legal definition)? Asylum seekers? Mixed migrants?
- Is everyone who leaves a country overwhelmed by violence a ‘refugee’? Eligible for asylum?

Crisis?

- **Size** of the flow of migrants
- **Destinations** sought by the migrant flows: reluctant Europe; overwhelmed Lebanon and Jordan; Turkey seeking concessions from EU.
- **Migrants:** Many middle class with skills and/or education. Money to travel.
- **Smugglers** –enormous industry
- **Highly visible deaths**

Numbers

This photo shows about **160** migrants in southern Hungary waiting to board a bus to a registration center on Sept. 9. They will be excluded from the only two relocation plans approved by European leaders so far. The plans will relocate a total of **160,000** people in Greece and Italy to other countries in Europe.



Numbers

160
migrants in
the photo

160,000
migrants
relocated in
approved plans

549,000
migrant arrivals
in Greece, Italy
and Hungary

1,300,000
asylum
applications
expected this
year

4,700,000
asylum seekers in
Turkey, Lebanon
and Jordan

The New York Times

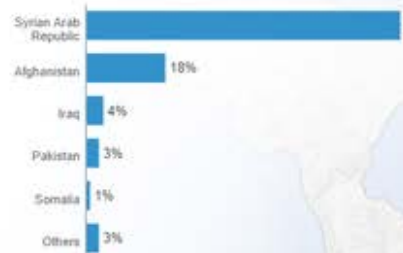
<http://nyti.ms/1UDRrK3>

Dangerous sea arrivals

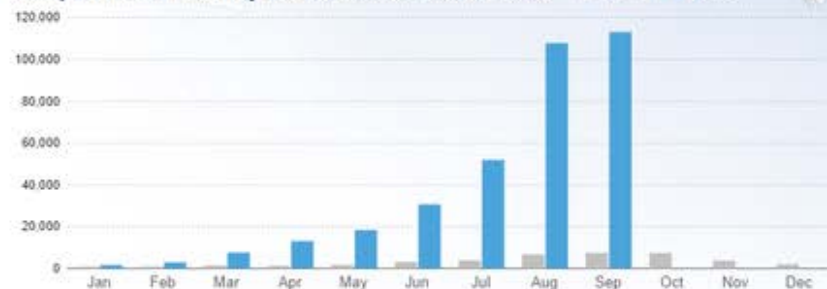
Increasing numbers of refugees and migrants take their chances aboard unseaworthy boats and dinghies in a desperate bid to reach Europe. The vast majority of those attempting this dangerous crossing are in need of international protection, fleeing war, violence and persecution in their country of origin. Every year these movements continue to exact a devastating toll on human life.

Top-10 nationalities of Mediterranean sea arrivals

Top-10 nationalities represent 100% of the sea arrivals



Comparison of monthly Mediterranean sea arrivals



347,474 arrivals by sea in 2015

97% of arrivals come from the world's top 10 refugee-producing countries

Last updated 21 Sep 2015

Sea arrivals in 2015
Main routes through the Mediterranean

Demographics



*Serbia (AND KOSOVO): SRES1244 (1999)

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

[Click here to view sources and disclaimer](#)

EUROPE

No End in Sight to Tide of Migrants Entering Europe, U.N. Says

By SEWELL CHAN | SEPT. 25, 2015

LONDON — The flood of Syrian refugees pouring into the heart of Europe to ease anytime soon, and worsening conditions in Iraq could send new displaced people onto the Continent, United Nations officials warned

Based on the proportions outlined in the plan, here are countries that have already approved asylum applications at a rate ...

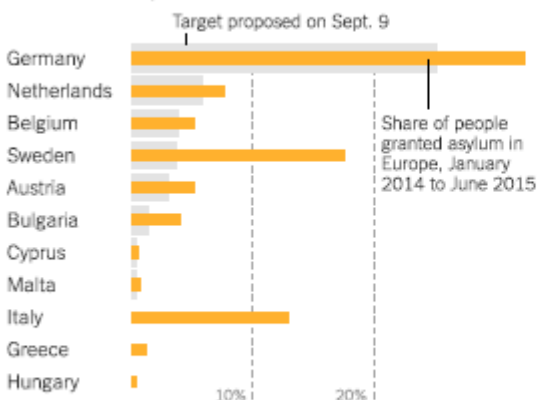
Higher than the quota



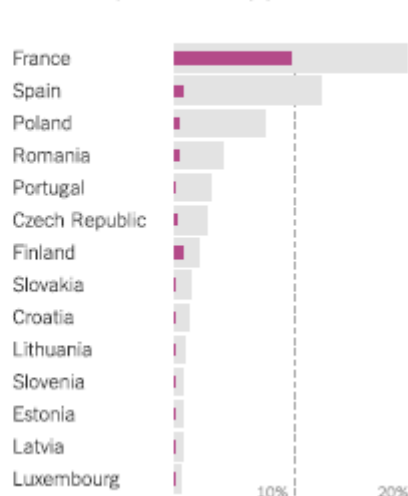
Lower than the quota



Eleven countries would meet the quota



14 countries would have to accept more applications



analysis of demographic, economic and asylum data for each country. Note: Britain, Denmark and Ireland are exempt from the new relocation

The plan is not comprehensive: Five times as many migrants have already arrived in Greece this year as the 50,400 who would be relocated to other

WORLD

Migrant or Refugee? There Is a Difference, With Legal Implications

By SOMINI SENGUPTA AUG. 27, 2015

In the first half of this year alone, at least 137,000 men, women and children crossed the Mediterranean Sea to reach the shores of Europe, according to the United Nations. Thousands are traveling across the Balkans now.

Q. Does it matter what you call them?

A. Yes. The terms “migrant” and “refugee” are sometimes used interchangeably, but there is a crucial legal difference between the two.

Q. Who is a refugee?

A. Briefly, a refugee is person who has fled his or her country to escape war or persecution, and can prove it.

The 1951 Refugee Convention, negotiated after World War II, defines a refugee as a person who, “owing to a 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 to, or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country.”

Among those crossing the Mediterranean in the first half of 2015, the greatest numbers came from Syria, Afghanistan or Eritrea. Syrians are widely presumed to be refugees because of the civil war there, according to the United Nations refugee agency. Many Afghans have been able to make the case that they are fleeing conflict,

Anotheher migrant flow

REFUGEES

Amnesty spotlights 'hellish reality' of Southeast Asian refugee crisis

Trafficked, beaten and sometimes even killed for ransom - a new AI report examines the horrors experienced by Rohingya attempting to flee persecution in Myanmar in May this year, and warns of another looming crisis.



"We felt so sorry whenever we saw the people dead and thrown to the sea. The people are dying on the ground in Myanmar [...] and they are dying in the sea too." These are the words of a 15-year old Rohingya girl, speaking to Amnesty International (AI) about the conditions she and thousands of other migrants endured at sea for weeks during this May's Southeast Asian refugee crisis.

The girl is one of more than 100 Rohingya refugees who reached Indonesia after crossing the

Legal status of individuals fleeing Syria

Syria Needs Analysis Project - June 2013

This thematic report outlines the rights and obligations of individuals who have fled Syria by stipulating the legal framework applicable to those residing in Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, Iraq and Egypt. The document intends to provide humanitarian responders with an overview of the legal framework; it is not an official legal document and should therefore not be used as such.

The Syria Needs Analysis Project welcomes all information that could complement this report. For additional information, comments or questions please email SNAP@ACAPS.org

Content

[Access to services per country](#)

[International refugee law](#)

[Definitions](#)

[Country pages](#)

[Annex A: Applicable laws](#)

Overview

By June 2013, over 1.6 million people fled Syria in search of protection and access to essential services. Their legal status is primarily governed by the laws of the host country where they reside. The legal framework applicable to asylum seekers and refugees differs significantly between countries and different laws apply to different groups of people. In Lebanon for instance, the situation varies significantly between Syrians and Palestinian Refugees from Syria (PRS). As a result of this complexity, individuals fleeing Syria are often unaware of their rights and obligations.

Overall, the people fleeing Syria can be divided into 3 different groups, depending on their status in the host-country:

- Those residing in camps;
- Those who have the appropriate papers and are therefore regularly residing in a country; and
- Those who are irregular, meaning residing in a host country without the required documents.

Weekend Greece Arrivals Exceed Peak Summer Day Totals

Posted: 10/20/15

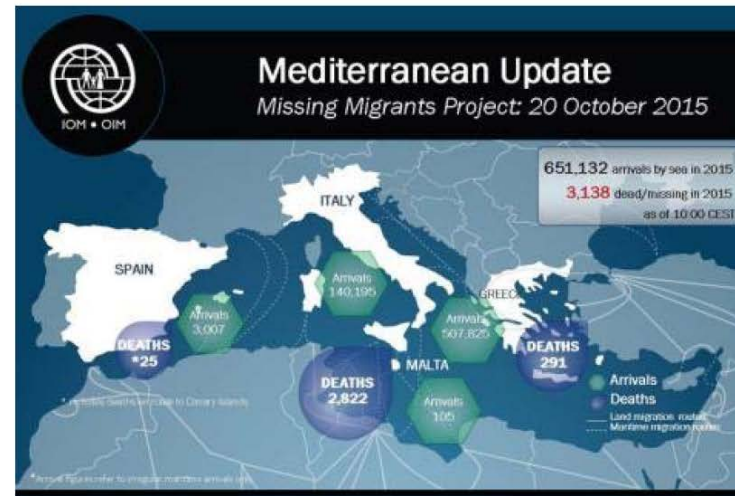
Region-Country:

Europe and Central Asia / Greece / Italy

Themes: Missing Migrants

Greece - IOM Greece reports, after consultations with the Hellenic Police, an unprecedented number of migrants arriving in Greece this weekend, with totals exceeding arrivals during peak summer sailing days.

On Friday (16/10) over 8,900 migrants crossed into Greece; on Saturday (17/10) arrivals exceeded 9,100; and on Sunday (18/10), arrivals approached 9,200.



(https://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/press_release/pictures/md-10202015-1.jpg)

PewResearchCenter

APRIL 24, 2015

Refugees stream into Europe, where they are not welcomed with open arms

BY JACOB POUSHTER ([HTTP://WWW.PEWRESEARCH.ORG/AUTHOR/JPOUSHTER/](http://www.pewresearch.org/author/jpoushter/))

Let Syrian Refugees In—All of Them

Why resettlement is a cheaper, and morally superior, alternative to Western military action in Syria



Migrants wait to exit a train in Croatia.

Antonio Bronic / Reuters

Syrian Refugee Crisis Roots and consequences

Ali Aljundi

Syria Project Office, Oxfam America

**MIT Center for International Studies
Cambridge, MA, October 11, 2015**



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Presentation Outline

Syria Culture

Conflict roots

Conflict timeline

Conflict multi- impacts

Refugee Crisis

Closing comments

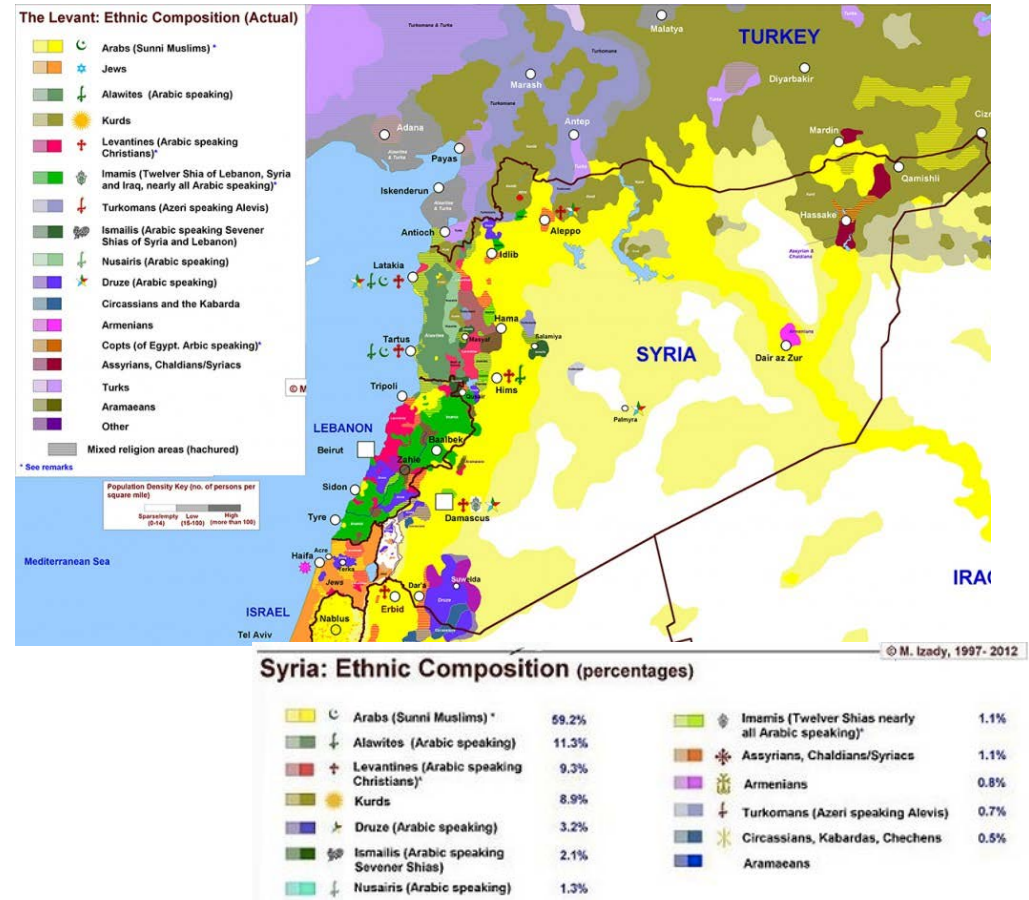


Credit: [Oscar Espinosa / Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com/user/Oscar-Espinosa)

•The Levant: a Culture of Ethnic and Religious Diversity



A Jewish family house in Old Damascus:
<http://bassamsalam.blogspot.com/2010/07/blog-post.html>



Source: <http://www.heritageforpeace.org/syria-country-information/geography/>



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Syria: a Generous Host Refugees Country

Armenians (1915)

Palestinians (1948)

Iraqis (1990s)

Lebanese (1975 & 2006)

Others



http://www.genocide1915.org/bildgalleri_armenian_na.html



Development and Violent Conflict

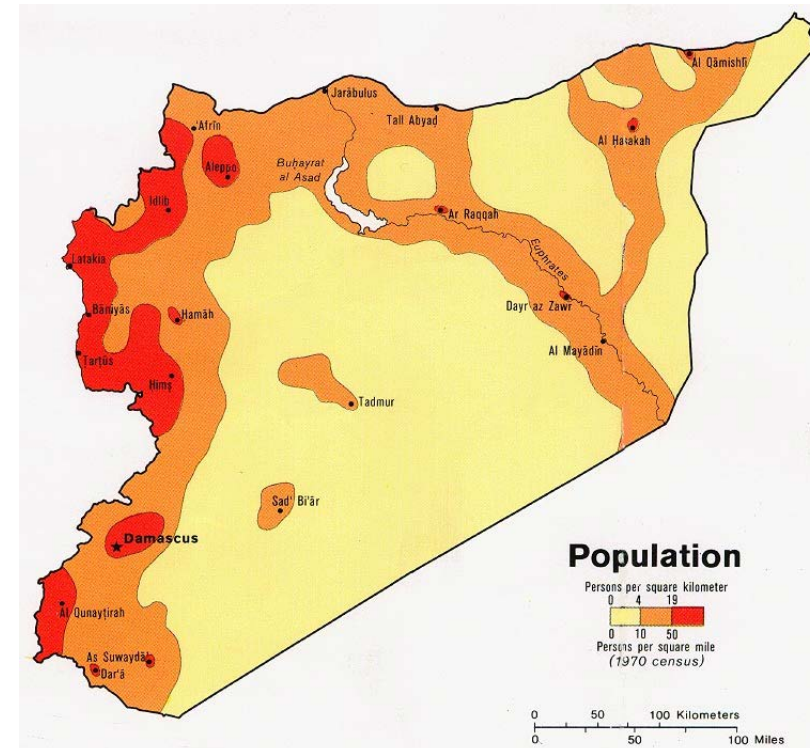
Violent conflicts are resulted of the social polarization, marginalization and deep feeling of exclusion among wide segments of the population (World Bank Report, 2011, p. 3).

“Civil war is development in reverse” (Collier, 2007).



Impact of the Economic Liberation (2000-2011)

- Sharp increase in disparity between rural and urban areas
- Deterioration of agriculture sector (subsidies-drought)
- The internal immigration rate to urban areas jumped from 1.53% in 1990-2000 to 6.92% in 2000-2010 (Jihad Yazigi, 2012).
- Seven million people out of 22 million were living below the poverty line in 2010 (62% of population in rural areas (Jihad Yazigi, 2012).
- High unemployment rates among youth (Labor market absorbed only 400,000 out of the 1.6million newcomers in the last decade (Nasser and Mehchi, 2013, p.23).
- Lack of support to private sector (Syria is ranked 132 out of 185 in starting a business, 176 in getting credits (Doing Business in Syria, 2014)



Conflict Timeline

- March 2011: peaceful demonstrations started in Deraa
- July 2011: The formation of the “Free Syrian Army”
- Summer 2011: Extremists’ armed groups were formed
- March 2012: UN/ Kofy Annan peace plan
- August 2013: Chemical weapon usage in Damascus countryside
- Jan-Feb 2014: Failure of Geneva II talks
- August 2014: ISIS caliphate in Raqqa.
- September 2014: US-led airstrikes against ISIS in Syria and Iraq
- September 2015: Russia airstrikes started and a new coalition of Russia-Iraq and Syrian government was formed.



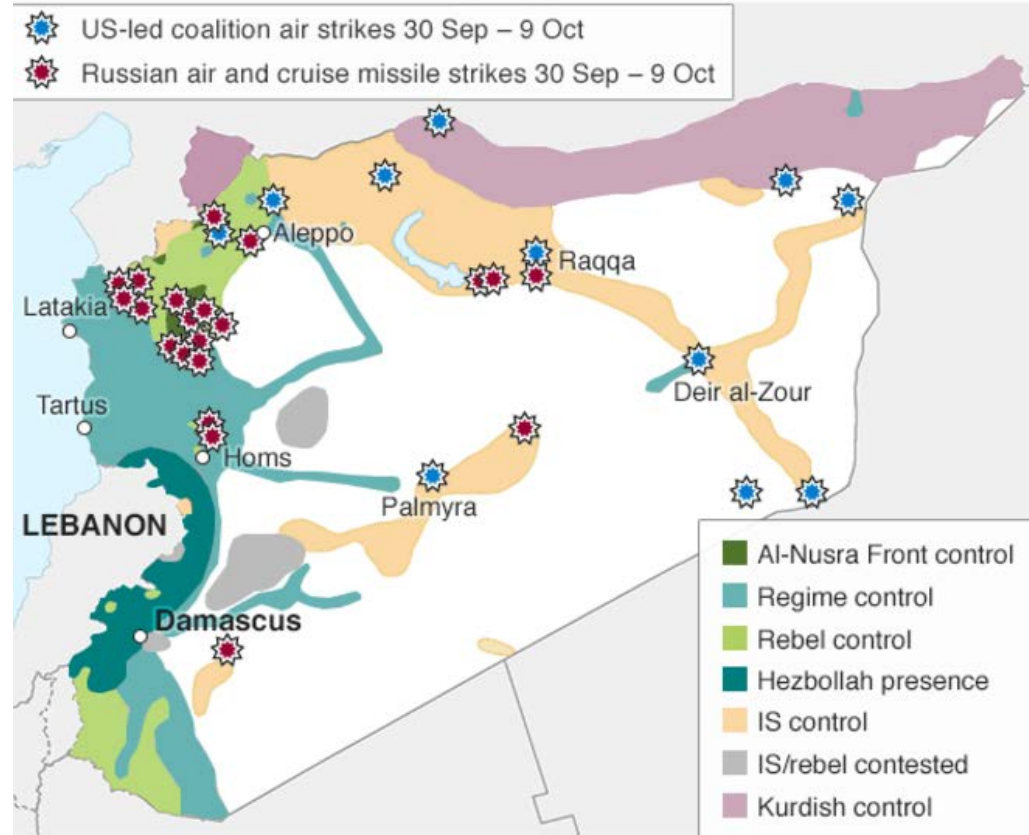
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A “New War”/ Proxy War

New wars ends the binary system(internal/external)
Mary Kaldor, New Wars, 1999

International and regional powers’ conflicts mobilize and fuel the Syrian violent conflict

Russian and US-led strikes in Syria



Source: Institute for the Study of War, US military. Locations may have multiple strikes

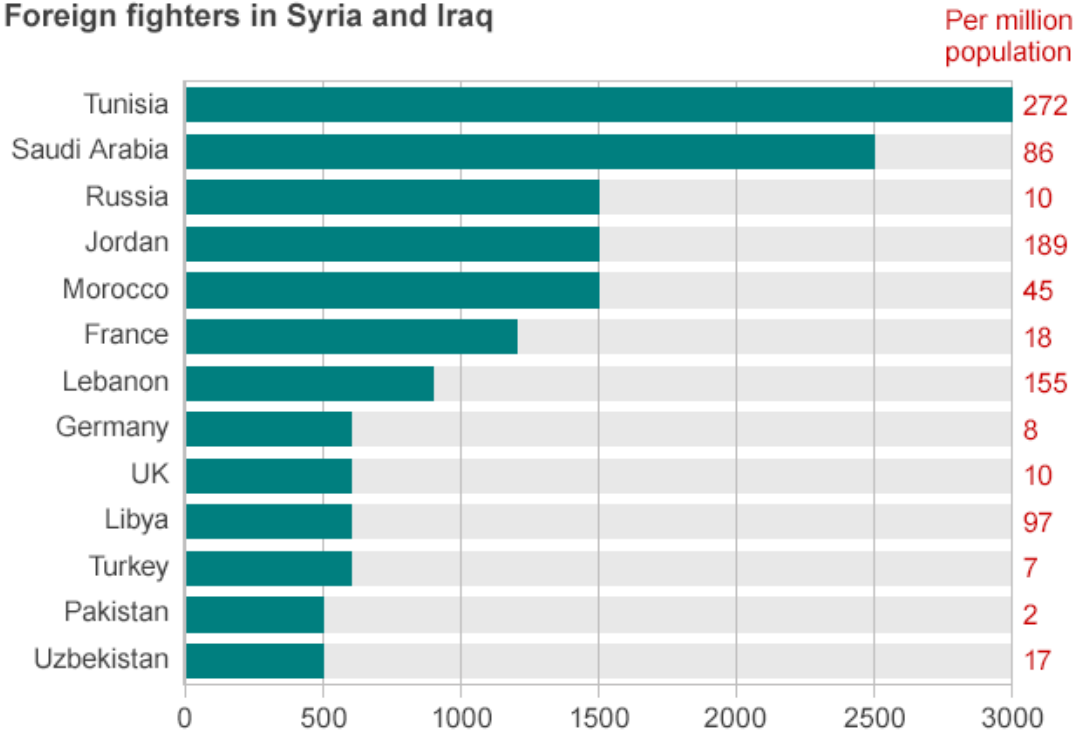
BBC



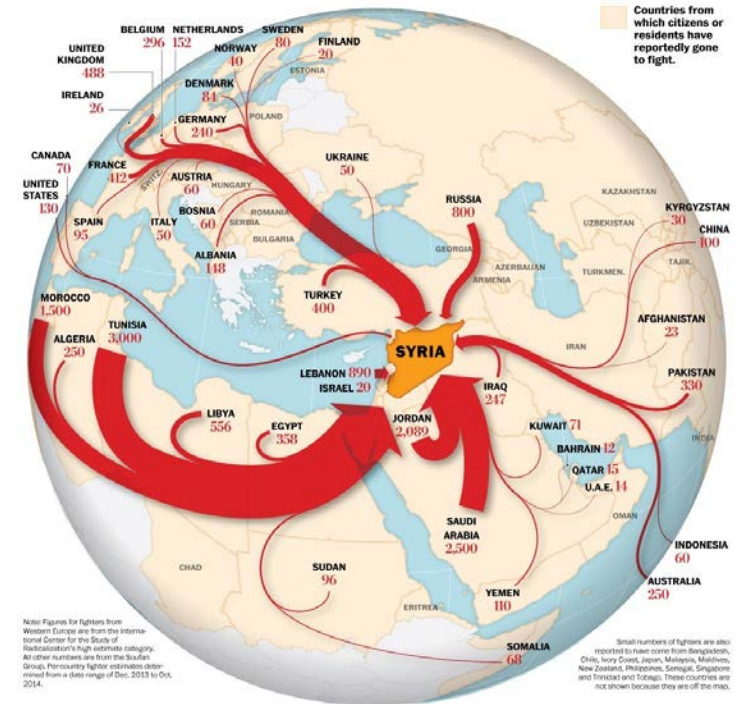
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Attractive destination for extremists

Foreign fighters in Syria and Iraq



Note: Upper estimates used. Countries with fewer than 500 fighters not included
Source: ICSR, CIA World Factbook



Source: Washington

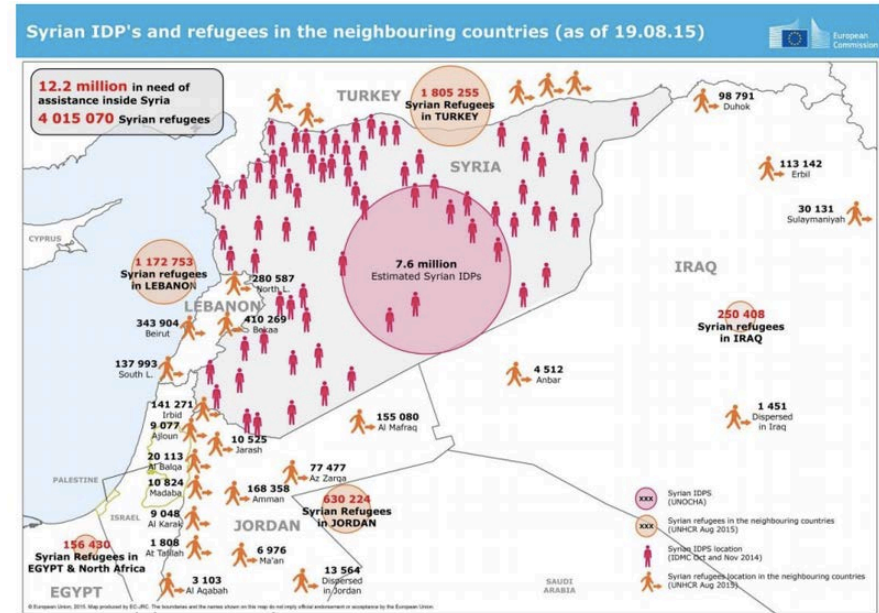
Posthttps://img.washingtonpost.com/rf/image_982w/2010-2019/WashingtonPost/2014/10/12/Foreign/Graphics/enablers-w1.jpg



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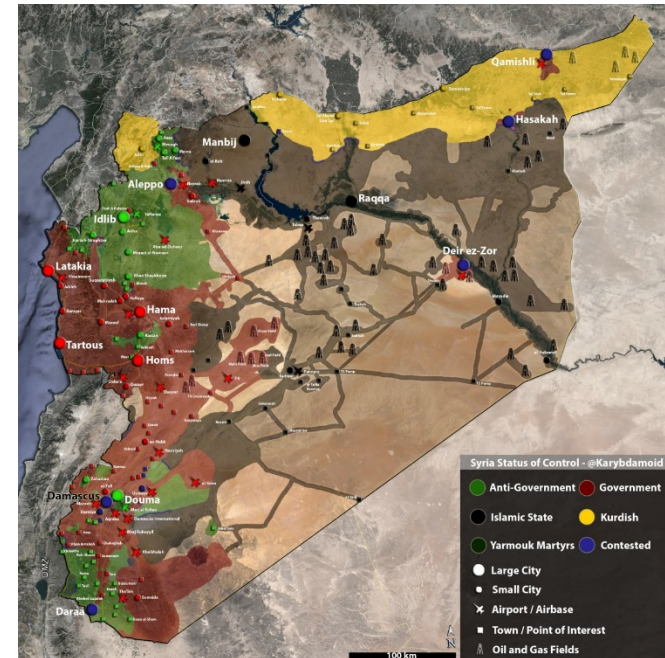
Humanitarian Crisis

- Lack of mechanisms to protect civilians from mass atrocities
- Over 250,000 people have been killed
- Over one million injured.
- 12.2 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, including more than 5.6 million children.
- 7.6 million internally displaced people
- 4.8 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance in hard to reach and besieged locations.



Crisis Economic Impact/ War on Development

- Establishment of informal war economy
- European sanctions (Jihad Yzigi, 2014, Syria War Economy)
- High dependency on external support
- Sharp depreciation in national currency (from 45 to 340sp/one dollar)
- Total economic loss of 202.6 billion dollar (SCPR, 2014)
- 7 million people out of 20 million live in extreme poverty (OCHA website)
- The Syrian economy has contracted by an estimated 40 per cent since 2011 (SCPR, 2014)
- 35% immigration of capitals (SCPR, 2014)
- Syrians started-up account for 32 percent of the total number of foreign- funded new companies established in Turkey in the first four months of this year (<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/syrians-lead-investors-in-turkish-start-ups-in-2015-----.aspx?pageID=238&nID=82461&NewsCatID=345>)



Crisis Impacts on Education

Education status in 2001

Education	to the top
Youth (15-24 years) literacy rate (%) 2008-2012*, male	96.4
Youth (15-24 years) literacy rate (%) 2008-2012*, female	94.1
Number per 100 population 2012, mobile phones	61.2
Number per 100 population 2012, Internet users	24.3
Primary school participation, Net enrolment ratio (%) 2008-2012*, male	99.5
Primary school participation, Net enrolment ratio (%) 2008-2012*, female	99.7
Secondary school participation, Net enrolment ratio (%) 2008-2012*, male	67.9
Secondary school participation, Net enrolment ratio (%) 2008-2012*, female	67.8

Unicef website, Data of Y2000,
http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/syria_statistics.html

Education status in 2014

52% of all school age children (51.8%) no longer attended school.

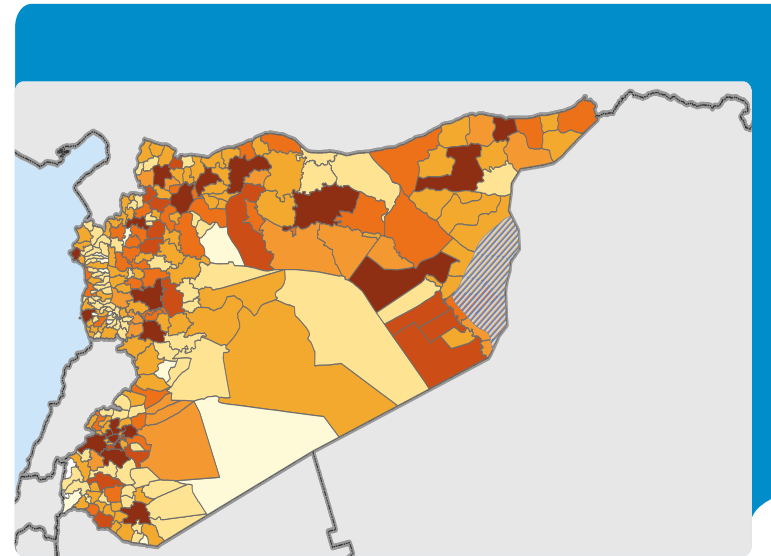
90% of children in Raqqa and Aleppo and 68% in Rural Damascus do not attend school.

4,000 schools were out of service because they were destroyed, damaged or housing IDPs

Source: SCPR report, 2014

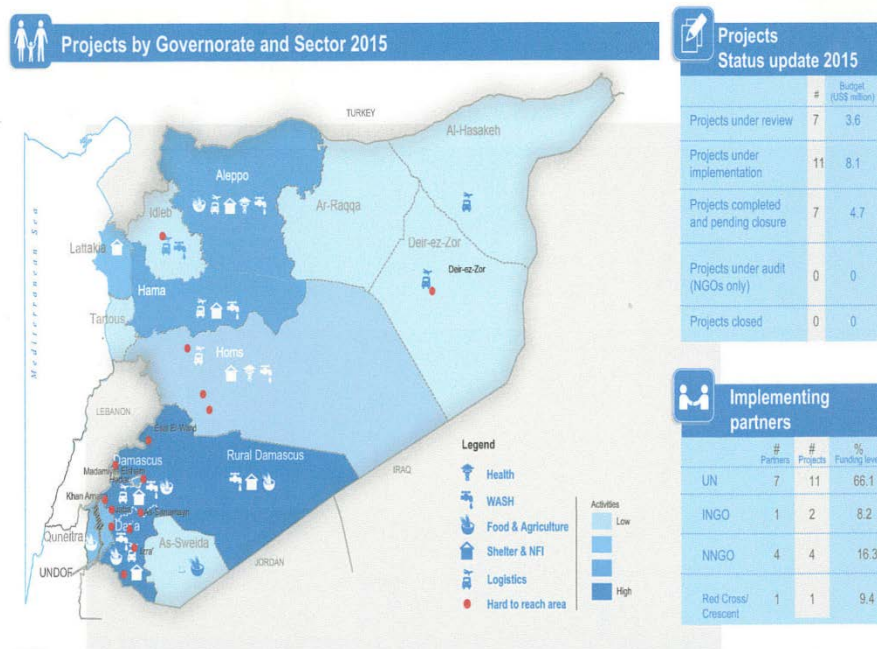
Crisis impact on Health Sector

- 11.6 million people are in urgent need of access to clean water and sanitation
 - Water availability has decreased to less than 50 percent of its pre-crisis levels
 - More than half of Syria's hospitals have been destroyed or badly damaged
 - Only 43 percent of hospitals are fully functional (OCHA, May, 2015).
 - Life expectancy is estimated to have shortened by almost 13 years
 - The flight of healthcare professionals
 - The death and injury of medical staff
 - The collapse of the pharmaceutical industry
- (Jihad Yazigi, Syria War Economy,
http://www.ecfr.eu/page/-/ECFR97_SYRIA_BRIEF_AW.pdf)



Humanitarian Aid inside Syria

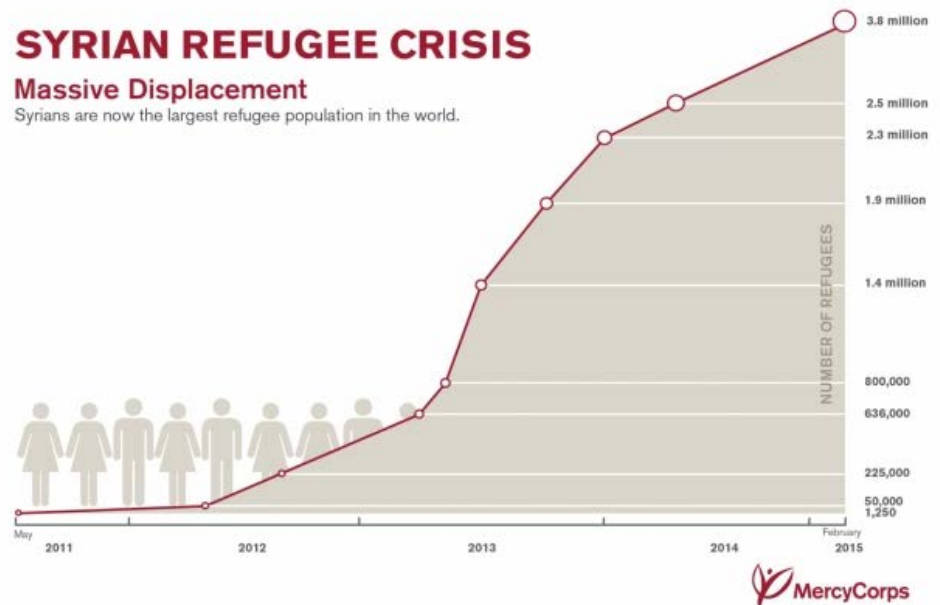
- United Nations SHARP response to provide aid in cooperation with the Syrian government, INGOs and national NGOs
- UN Security Council Resolution 2165 and 20191 in 2014 that authorized directing relief deliveries across conflict lines and through more borders crossings
- Funding status: 64% not covered



Source: OCHA website

Refugee Crisis

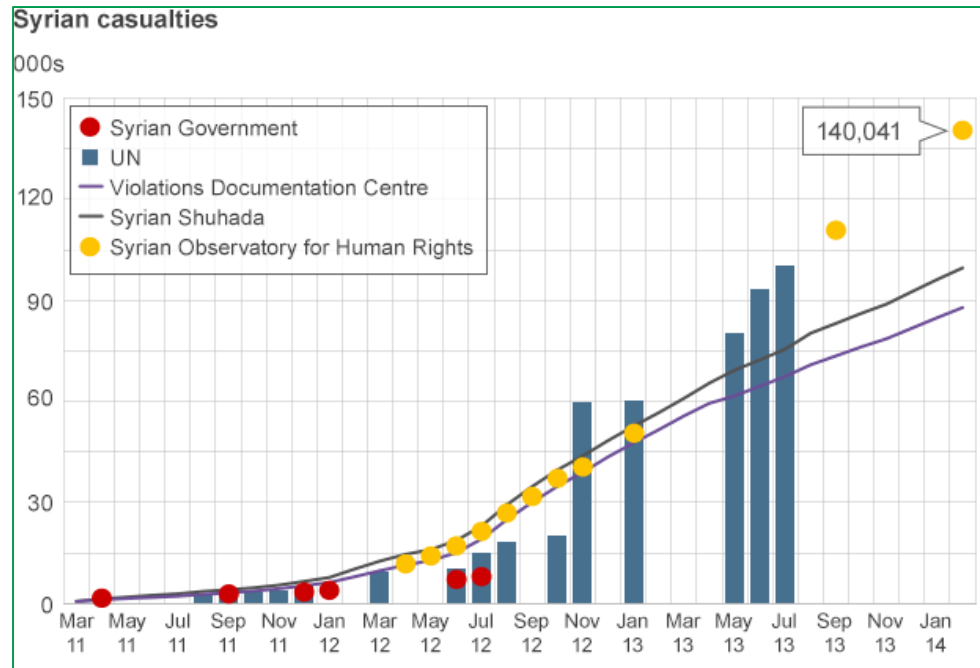
People are fleeing, by the hundreds of thousands.. driven by fear, insecurity and lack of opportunity. Their desperation matched only by their courage and by their hope (Journalist and photographer James Nachtwey).



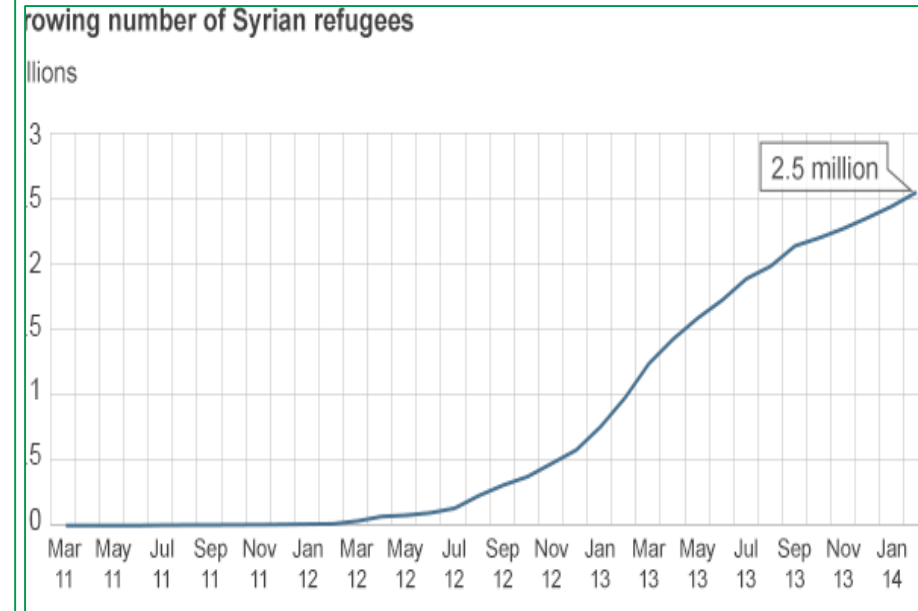
Refugee crisis is a catastrophe for Syria's future as it empties the country from its best brains and human resources

Casualties Toll and refugees Crisis

Casualties



Refugees



Source: BBC News, March 13, 2014, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle->



OXFAM

End the Bloodshed in Syria

- “The world has failed to find common purpose to end Syria’s brutal conflict (OXFAM, 2013).
- The international community must protect civilians from state and non state actors atrocities in order to allow them to stay in their country.
- While key UN Security Council members confirm individually that there is only a political solution to the crisis, they undermine this solution and fuel the armed conflict by providing and allowing flow of arms and ammunition to different fighting parties (Oxfam, 2015).
- The refugee crisis must be dealt with at source, not at borders



**Give us some hope that we will be
able to go back to our beloved
country and contribute to building
a new country that is enough for all**

Thanks for your patience



GLOBAL REFUGEE CRISIS

MIT STARR FORUM

Nahuel Arenas

October 21, 2105



OXFAM
America

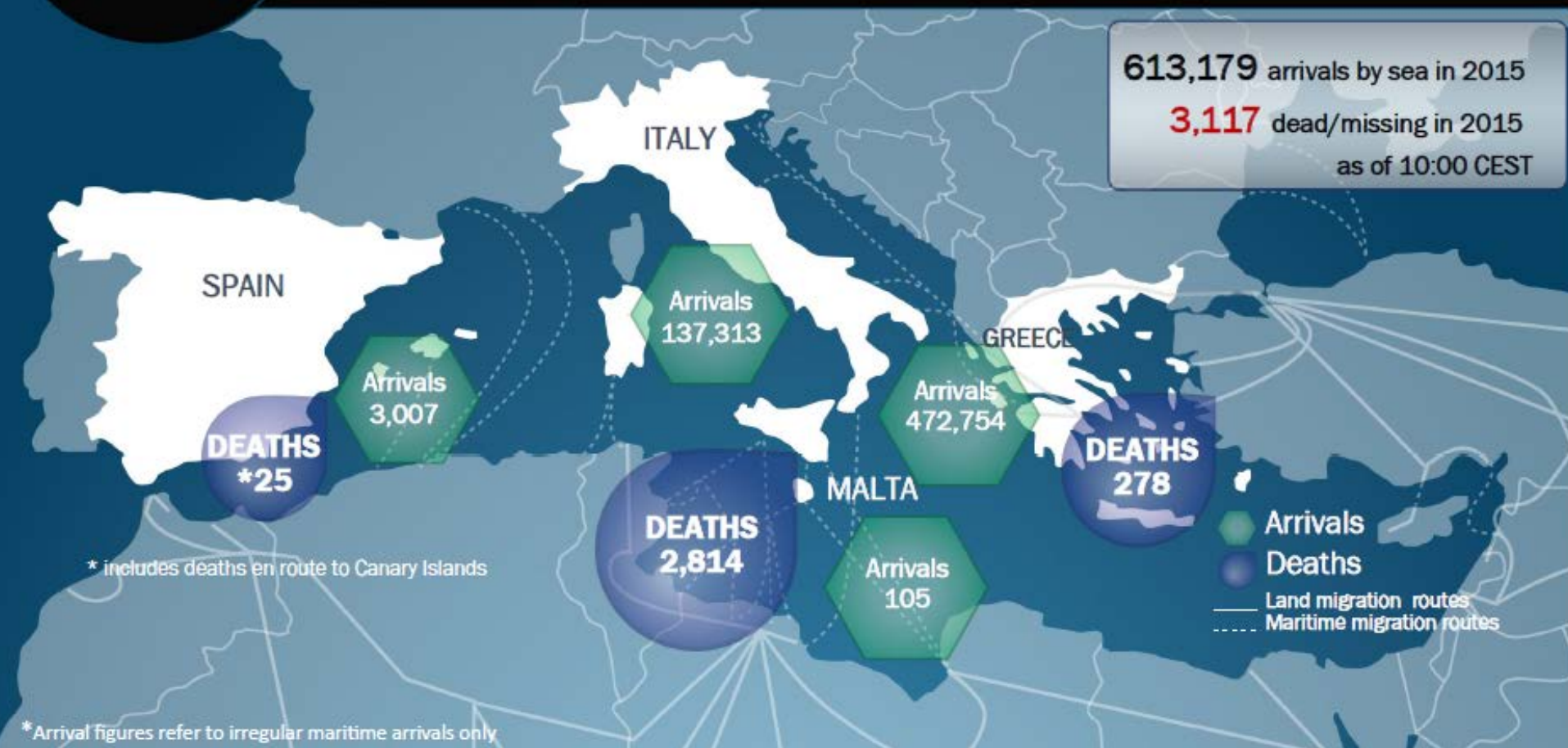




IOM • OIM

Mediterranean Update

Missing Migrants Project: 16 October 2015





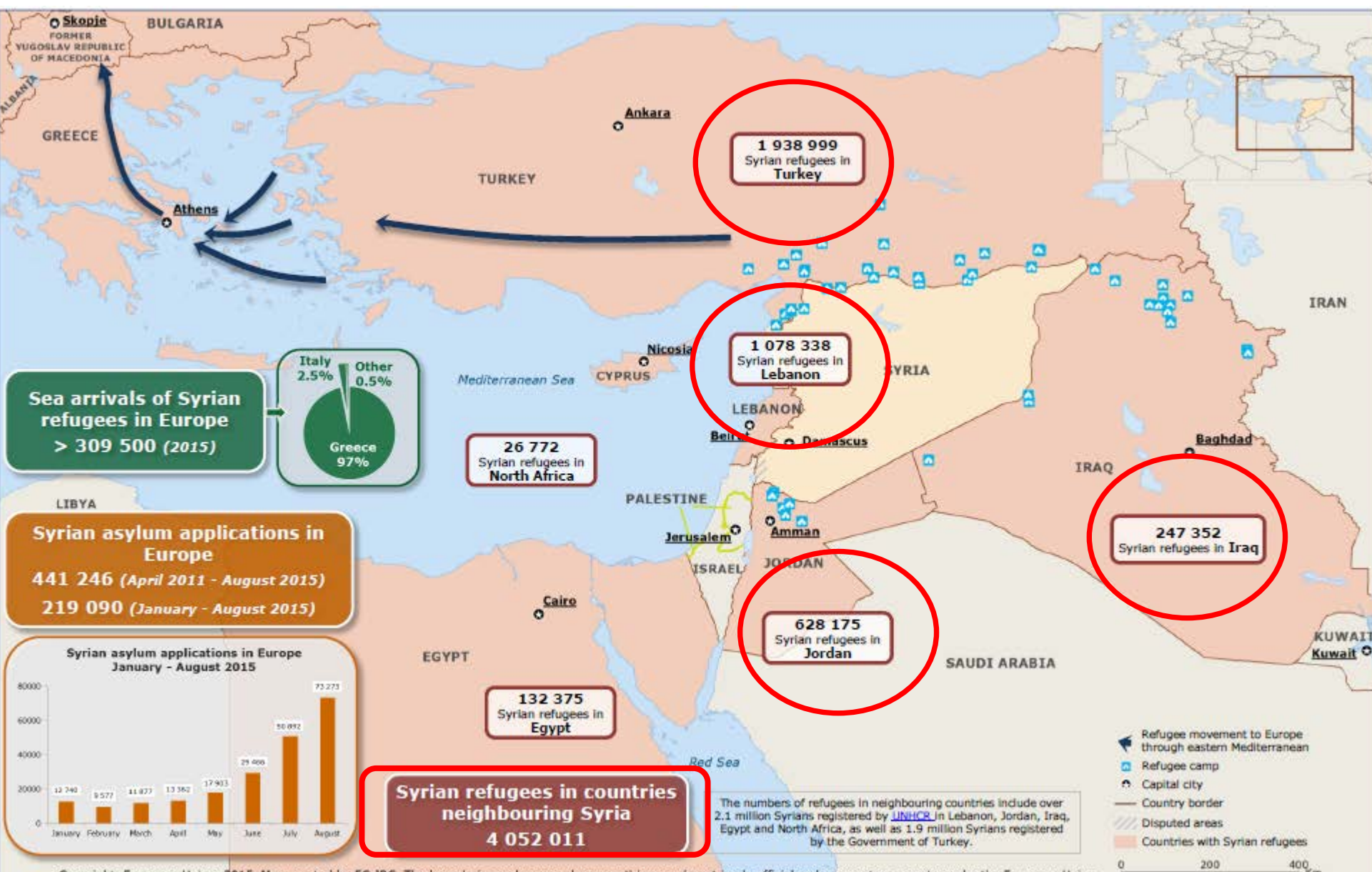
TOP FIVE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN 2015

Destination

Origin Country	Italy		Greece	
	Eritrea	35,938	Syria	277,899
	Nigeria	17,886	Afghanistan	76,620
	Somalia	10,050	Iraq	21,552
	Sudan	8,370	Pakistan	14,323
	Syria	7,072	Albania	12,637

Data for Italy and Greece as of 30/9/15. Data for Greece includes land and sea arrivals. Italy and Greece receive 99% of arrivals in the Mediterranean. Nationalities listed represents approx. 87% of all sea arrivals as 30/9/15. This chart is updated monthly.

Syrian refugees



EUROPE: Syrian Asylum Applications

From Apr 2011 to Sep 2015

Cumulative Syrian Asylum Applications

Europe: 742,5 million people (0,07%)
Germany: 82,6 million (0,6%)

Europe
All European countries



EU+ Countries
Including Norway and Switzerland

About

The number of Syrians arriving in Europe seeking international protection continues to increase. However, it remains low compared to Syria's neighboring countries, with slightly more than 10% of those who have fled the conflict seeking safety in Europe.

Total Asylum Applications

506,597 between Apr 2011 and Sep 2015

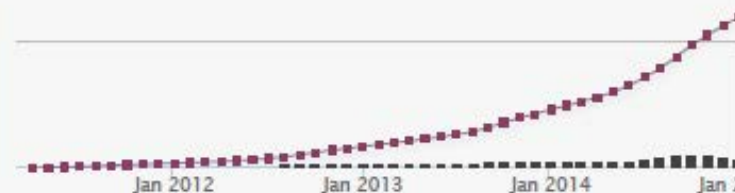
137,947 in 2014 only

Note: Data for 37 European countries which provide monthly information to UNHCR. To the extent possible, the figures reflect first time asylum applications, but some of the statistics are likely to include repeated applications (same or different country).

Top Countries



Evolution of Asylum Applications



Note: In Turkey, 1,938,999 Syrian refugees have been registered by the authorities (as of 25 August 2015).

Who are the Syrians coming to Europe?

- Predominantly young and male (families represent a quarter of those arriving – due to cost and high risk)
- Majority have been previously living as refugees in neighboring countries (Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq)
- Initially fleeing conflict (not poverty)
- Decreasing aid, lack of opportunities, uncertainty.
- Political climate in Europe (window of opportunity), decreasing costs.
- Trend will continue until onset of winter (UNHCR planning for 1.5 million 2015 and 2016)

[source: REACH]



- Ten months into the year, aid appeals for the Syria crisis for 2015 are **funded at 44 % only**, while many more people are in dire need
 - drastic **cuts in aid**
 - lack of support for host countries
- **Jordan, spending \$870m a year** in relation to the crisis.
- **Turkey: four-fifths of the people** who arrived in Europe by sea this year **left from Turkey**'s west coast.
- **Iraq: a humanitarian crisis of its own.**
- **Lebanon 4.5 million Lebanese, 1.1 million registered refugees (25%)**
- Border restrictions











Alina Mohamed
Rachael, 20
September, 20





OXFAM's WORK

- In **Syria, Jordan and Lebanon**, reached over **1.6 million** people with life-saving clean water, sanitation and vital support for families who have lost everything.
- We are helping families get the **information** they need about their **legal and human rights** and connecting them to medical, legal and support services.







AM



OXFAM



Grupa
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CONCLUSIONS

- Displaced Syrians everywhere need a change of approach from the international community; **one which puts their safety and dignity first.**
- Members of the international community must rise to the challenge by **contributing their fair share.**
- Fully fund the humanitarian response and increasing long-term development support to neighboring countries is part of the solution. Offering to resettle 10 %of the refugee population and open up other safe and legal routes to third countries.
- **The violence and bloodshed inside Syria must come to an end.**



THANK YOU!

Nahuel Arenas | narenas@oxfamamerica.org

Refugee Population Health:

Context, Protection, Access, Norms

Jennifer Leaning, M.D., S.M.H.
FXB Center, Harvard University
October 21, 2015

Overview

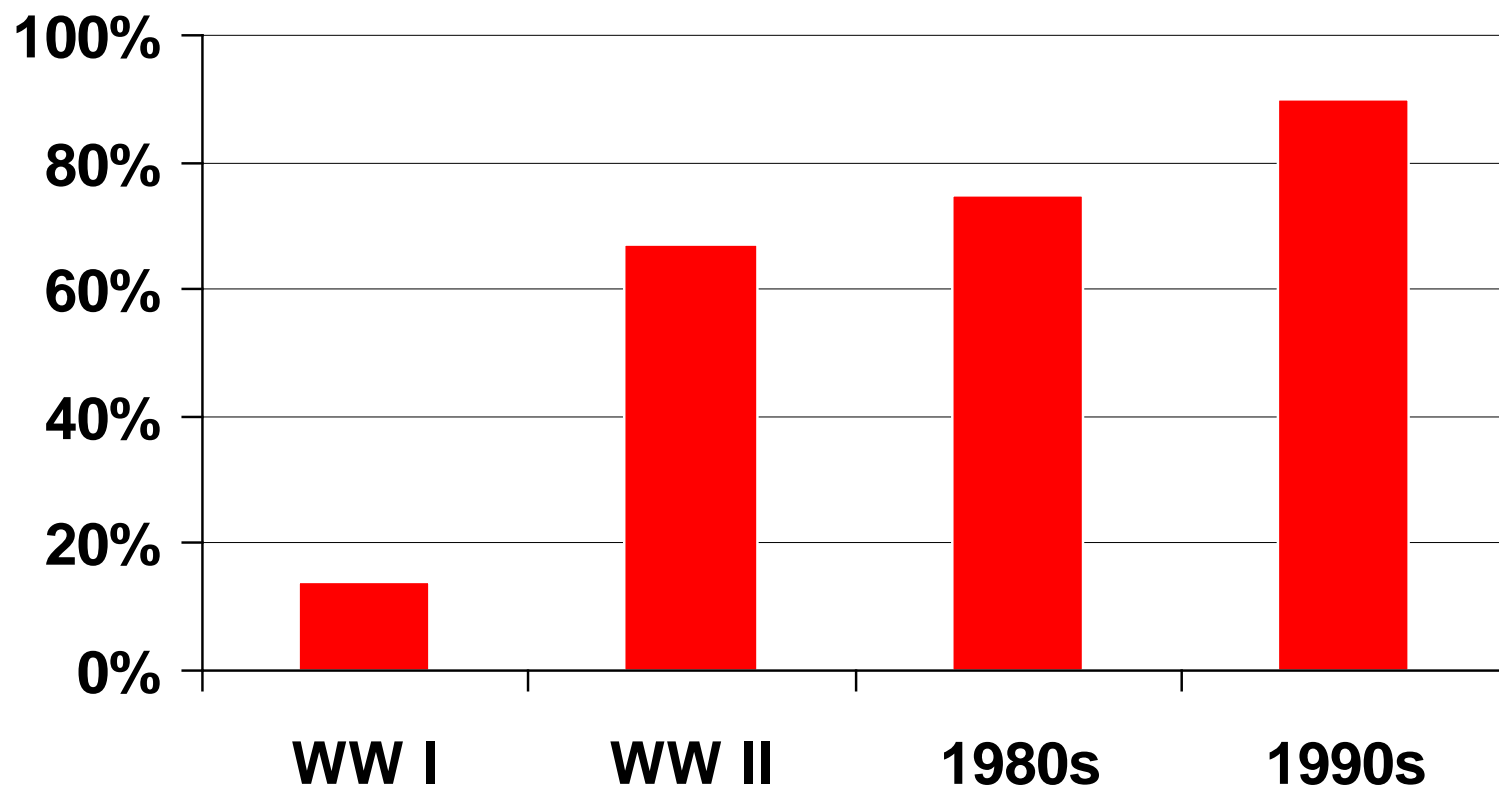
- Context and norms
- Current wars
- Forced migration
- Public health

Context and Norms

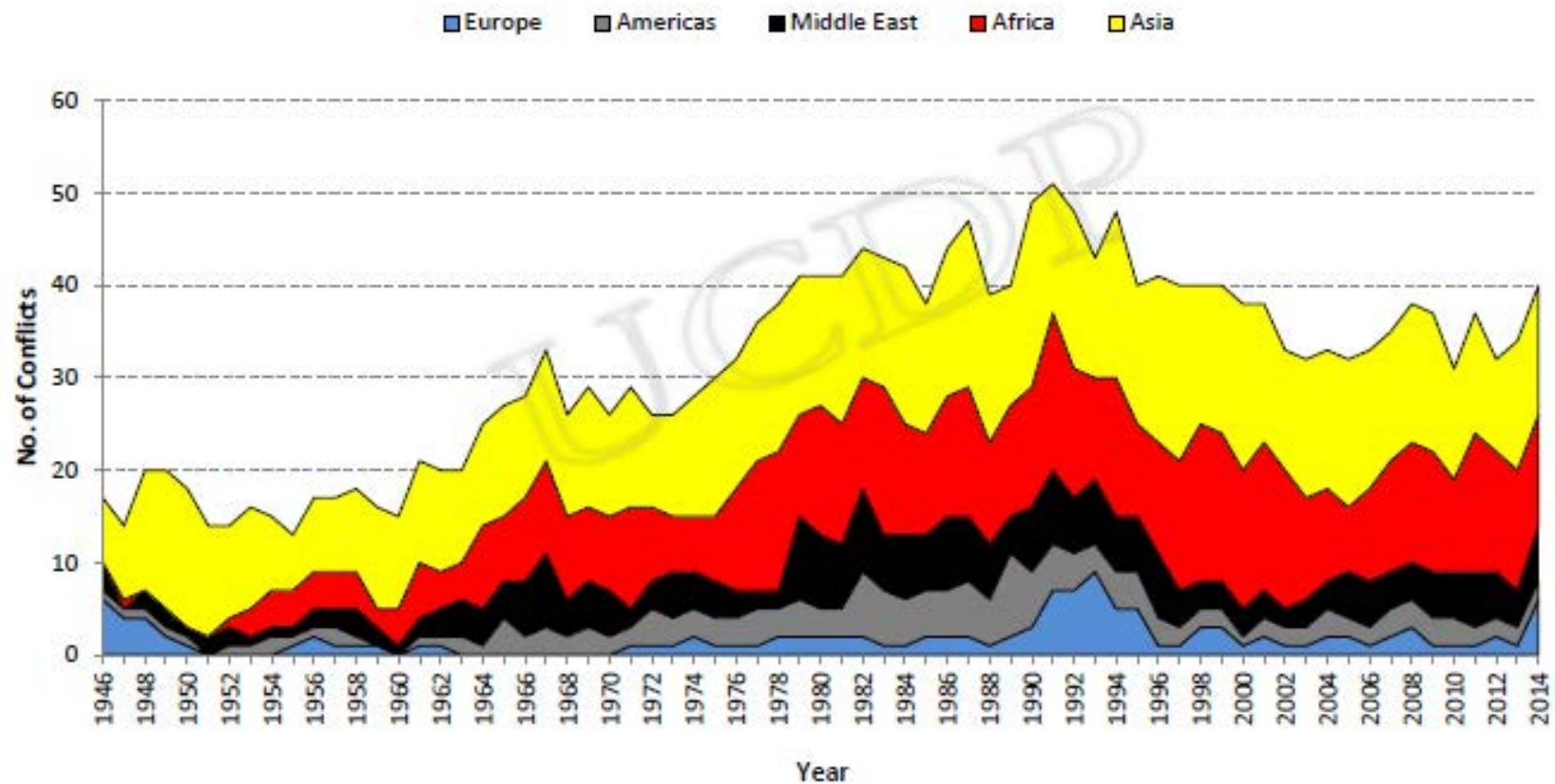
- International Humanitarian Law
- International Human Rights
- Human Security
- Public Health in War and Disasters
 - Epidemiology of War and Disasters
 - Sphere Standards
 - Medical and Public Health Ethics

Wars

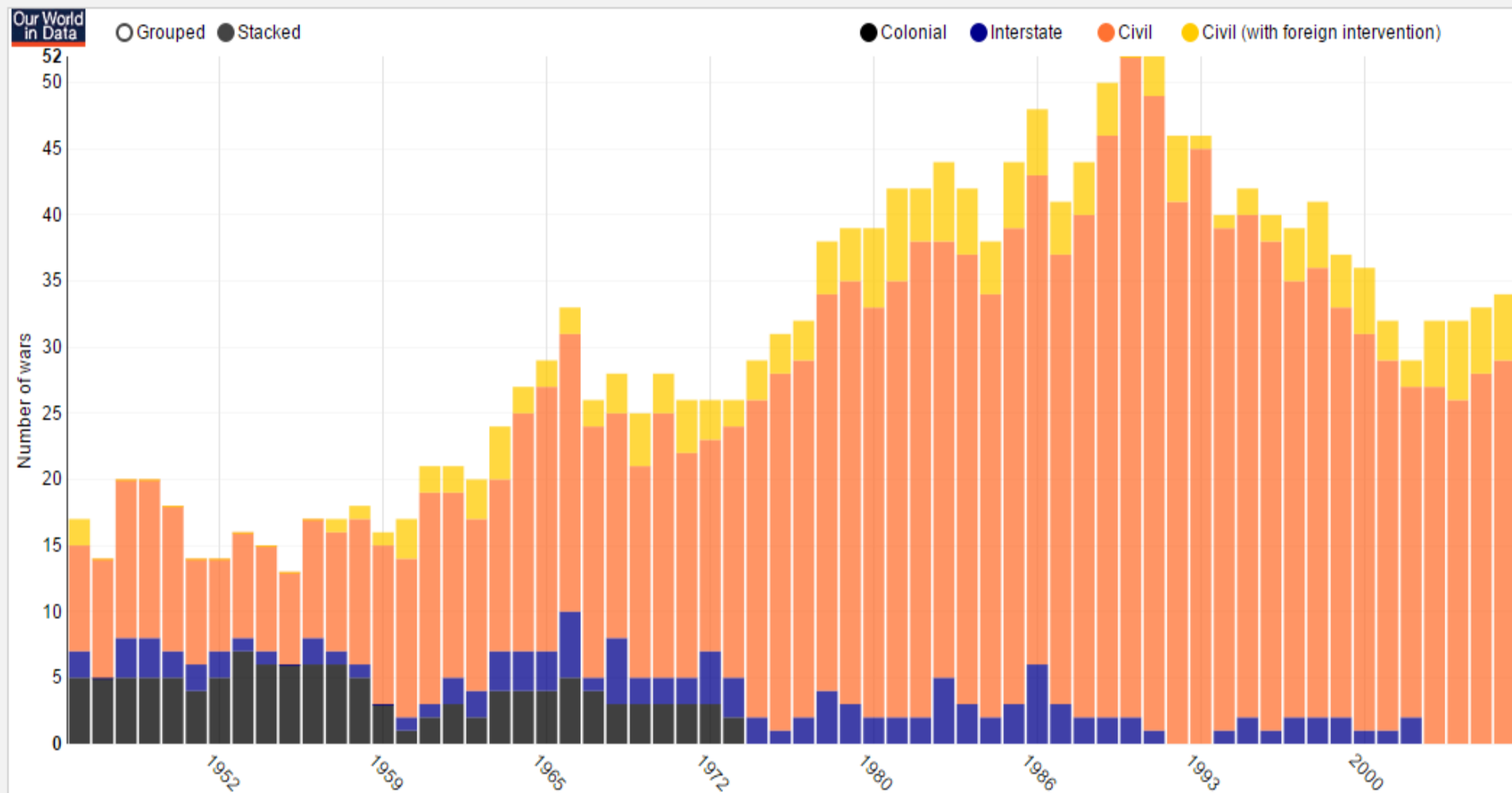
- War and public health
 - 20th century recognition
- Wars of late 20th century
 - Preponderance of internal conflict
 - Targeting civilians
 - Inescapable public health consequences
 - Significant environmental impacts
 - Severe human rights issues



Armed Conflict by Region, 1946-2014



Number of state-based armed conflicts by type, 1946-2007 – Max Roser⁴

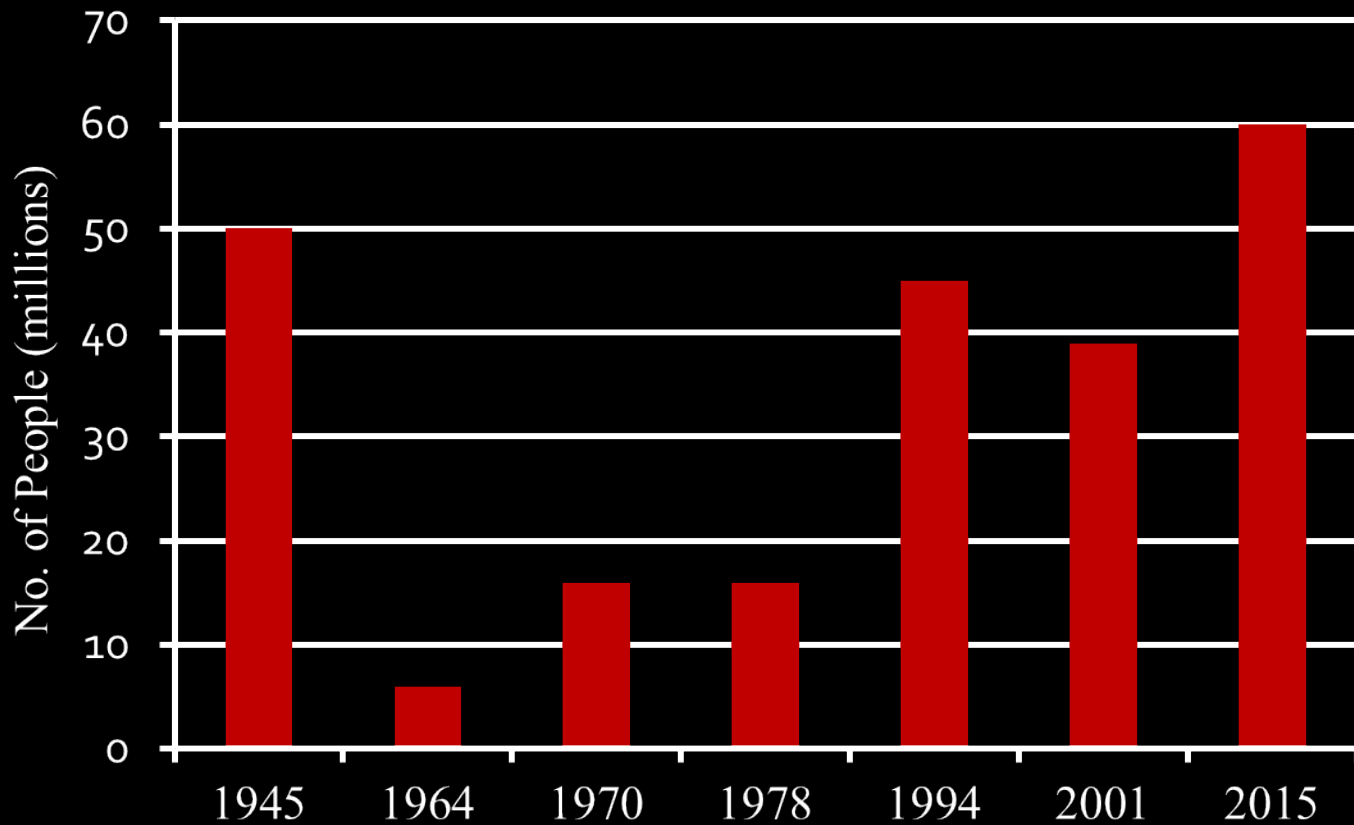


The author Max Roser licensed this visualisation under a [CC BY-SA license](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/). You are welcome to share but please refer to its source where you find more information: www.OurWorldinData.org/data/war-peace/war-and-peace-after-1945
Data sources: Human Security Project (PRIO data)

Forced Migration

- Population movement = Distress Migration
 - Flight from war and atrocity
 - Flight from major disasters/famine/environmental degradation/climate change
 - Flight from deprivation and hopelessness
- Emergency needs
 - Security, Shelter, Water, Food, Sanitation, Health, Protection
- Temporary vs. permanent settlement
- Loss of livelihoods, culture, history
- Return and reconstruction

Refugees and IDPs 1945-2015



Source: U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants
(USCRI)

Response of International Community

- Humanitarian aid and civilian protection
- Legal protection (Geneva Conventions)
- Public health epidemiology, analysis, reports, policy contributions
- Military protection
- Geo-political resolution



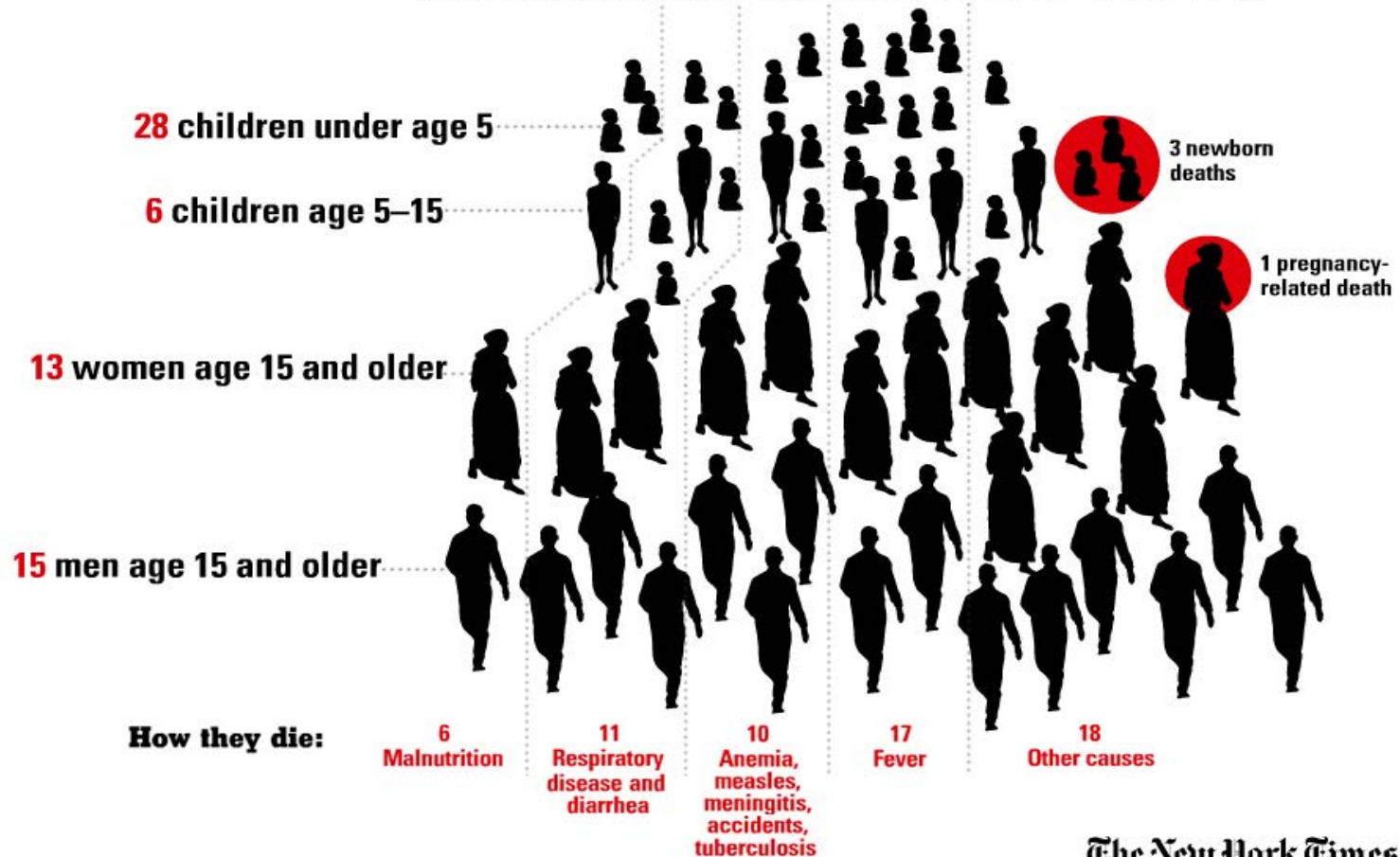
Public Health Approach

- Health needs—INFORMATION
 - Pre-existing
 - Locally contracted/endemic
 - Events in transit
 - Diseases related to circumstances
 - Diet, climate, immune status
 - Treatment/Prevention
- PROTECTION

For every violent death in Congo's war zone...

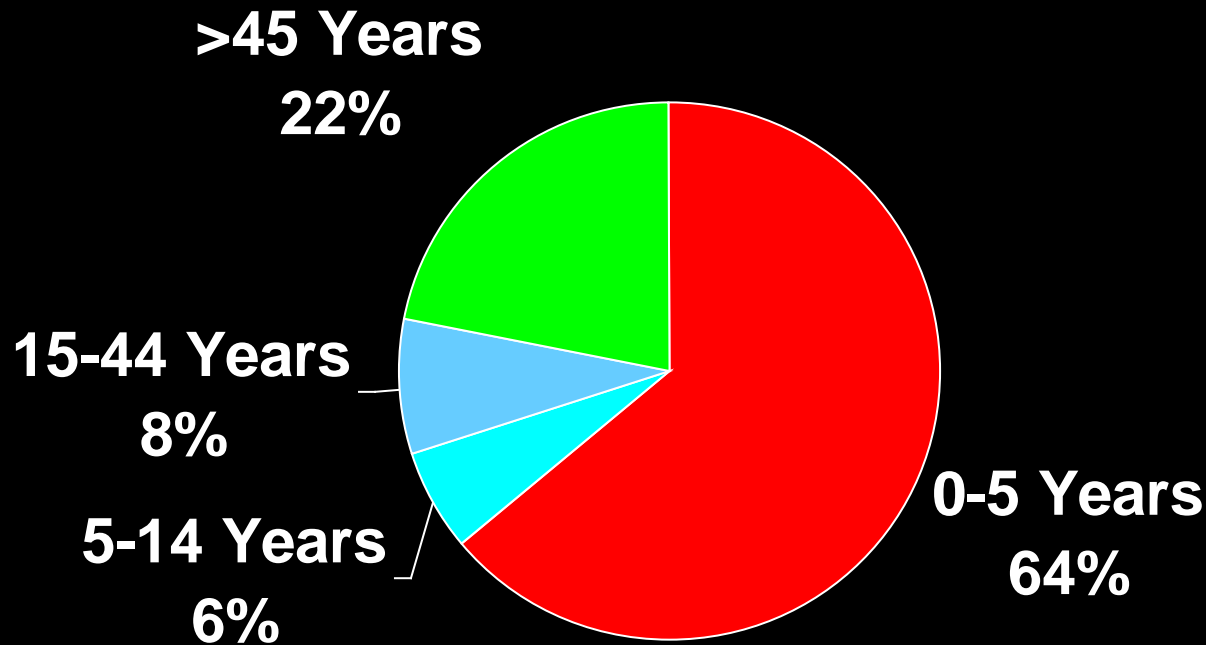


...there are 62 nonviolent deaths from the conflict:

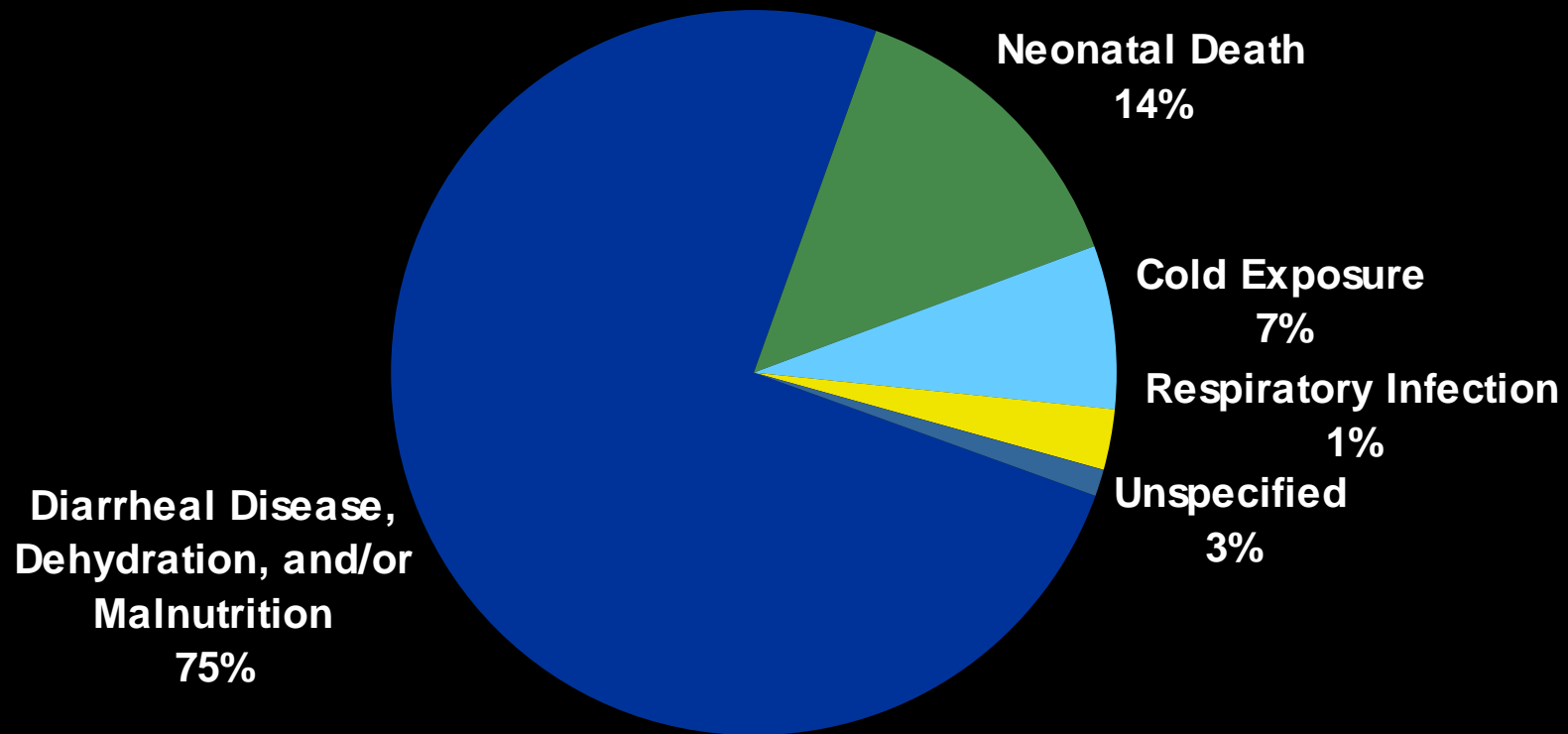


The New York Times

Deaths by age, Kurdish refugees, March 1991, Turkey / Iraq border



Causes of Death of Kurdish Refugees April-May, 1991



Protection

- Civilians in general
- Women
- Children
- Disabled
- Stigmatized minorities

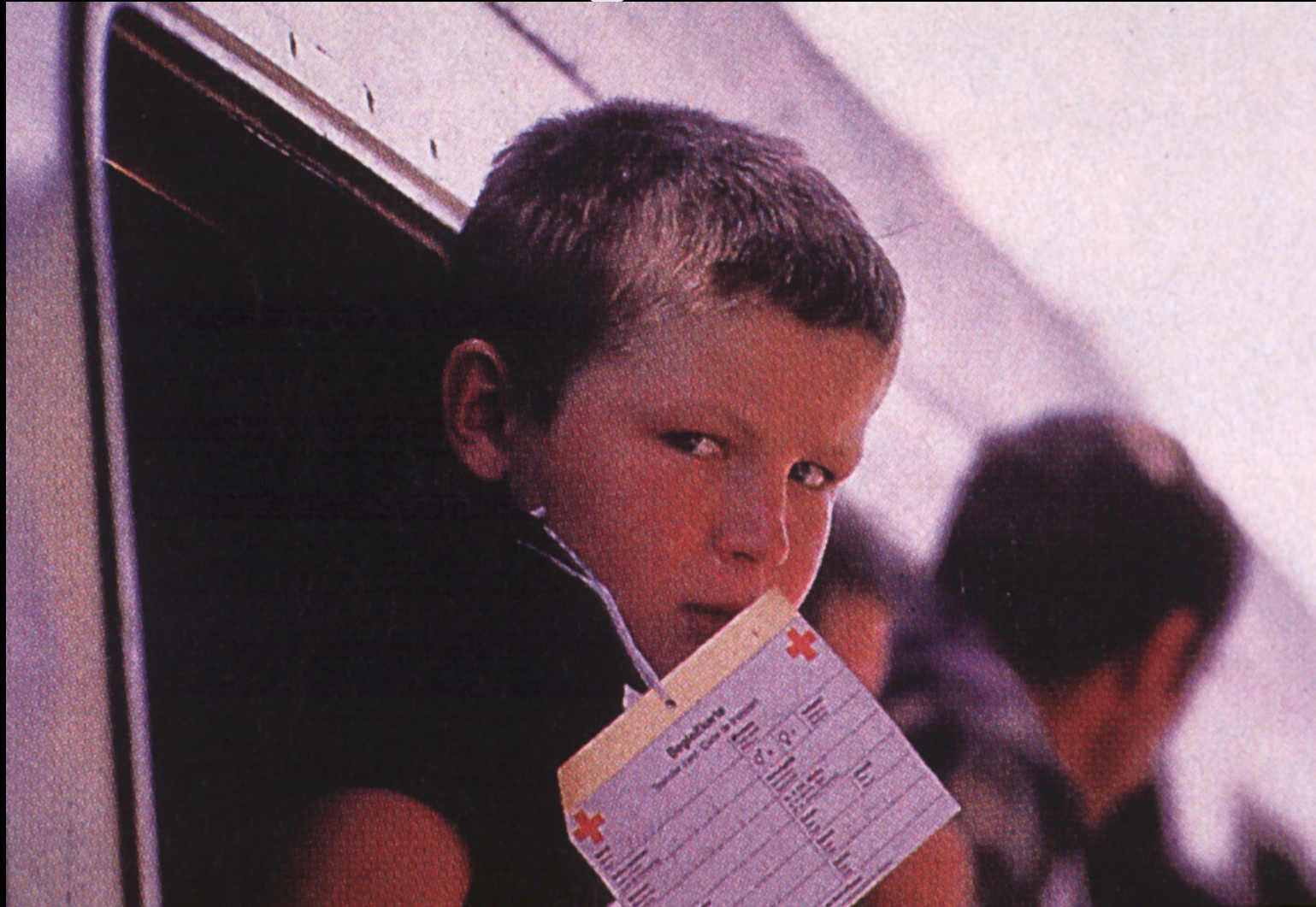
Sarajevo, Yugoslavia 1993



Bosnia, Yugoslavia 1994



Bosnia, Yugoslavia 1994



Syrian Refugees cross Turkey border



Challenges

- Response community becoming increasingly sophisticated but fragmented
- Funds for relief becoming increasingly constrained
- Security issues are mounting
- Return and resettlement more difficult to accomplish
- Crises continue and remain politically unresolved
- Numbers of distressed migrants rising fast

Options to Consider

- Early warning for early action
 - Establish priority on prevention
 - local efforts, international diplomacy, sanctions and blockades, UN observers, UN peacekeepers
- Temporary settlement in the region, Europe, US, Canada on scale of millions
- Crafting subsidiary document to Refugee Convention protection to individuals and groups fleeing collapse of livelihoods and safety