What are these people called?

MIGRANTS

Definition:
A *migrant* is someone who moves from one country to another

NOTE: When they arrive they become *immigrants*
REFUGEES

• Any person who **flees persecution or war** can be counted as a refugee.
• When they arrive in a country, **they have to claim asylum** (asylum seekers).
• **If the government accepts** they are fleeing persecution, then they will become a refugee.
However…..

Refugees are expected to ‘claim asylum’ in the first safe country they enter.

FACT:
The majority of migrants refuse to claim asylum in Greece or in Italy. Instead, they prefer to do this in Germany.
ECONOMIC MIGRANTS

- Some of the migrants can be classed as economic migrants.
- They are fleeing poverty (often extreme poverty) but their life is not physically in danger.
Which countries are migrants from?

Top 10 origins of people applying for asylum in the EU
First-time applications in 2015, in thousands

- Syria
- Afghanistan
- Iraq
- Kosovo
- Albania
- Pakistan
- Eritrea
- Nigeria
- Iran
- Ukraine

Source: Eurostat
Asylum Claims in Europe - 2015

Total EU claims* 1,321,560

Number of asylum claims

Source: Eurostat

* Map also shows claims for non-EU members Norway and Switzerland
How do migrants get to Europe

Migrants detected entering the EU illegally, 2014-2015

Source: Frontex
How do migrants get to Europe
How dangerous is the journey?

Migrant deaths in the Mediterranean by month

Source: IOM
How many Syrians are we talking about?
How EU handles the refugees arrival?

In the beginning ..... 

In September 2015, the death of the young Aylan revealed the terrible conditions that refugees are subjected to, in the hope of reaching European shores and find refuge.

Germany, Sweden and the UK expressed their wishes to best help refugees integrate in Europe.
The end of the welcoming spirit

→ Terrorist attacks in Paris and Belgium
→ The “massive rape event” in New Year’s Eve in Germany
→ The massive amount of refugees VS the lack of organization and infrastructures
→ Hostility in many European countries against the refugees
→ The media and political speech changed eg. @UK: debate about Migrants VS Refugees
GERMANY
Multiple migrants arrested for sex attacks in 5 cities

SWITZERLAND
Six women report gang assaults on New Year's Eve in the city of Zurich

AUSTRIA
Austrian police accused of covering up attacks in Vienna

SWEDEN
Women groped and robbed by migrant gangs in Kalmar

FINLAND
Police warn of co-ordinated migrant sex attacks in Helsinki
HOW EUROPE'S WARM WELCOME WORE OUT

**DENMARK** Tried to put off migrants, but finally agreed to let them pass through to reach Sweden.

**GERMANY** Initially welcomed Syrian refugees, but faced with huge numbers reimposed border controls.

**FRANCE** Has called for reinforced controls at Europe’s borders to sort refugees from economic migrants.

**AUSTRIA** Re-introduced checkpoints on its borders with Hungary, Italy, Slovakia and Slovenia at midnight.

**ITALY** Some 120,000 people have crossed the Mediterranean to reach Italy this year, and almost 3,000 have died trying.

**GREECE** Main entry point to the EU for migrants, with about 309,000 arriving this year.

**SWEDEN** Top EU destination for refugees thanks to generous policies allowing automatic permanent residency for Syrians.

**CZECH REPUBLIC** Threatened to deploy armed forces to protect its borders yesterday.

**SLOVAKIA** Has renewed border checks with Hungary and Austria over the migrant crisis.

**HUNGARY** Closed border with Serbia to migrants yesterday and may extend its razor wire fence along frontier with Romania.

**SERBIA** Not in EU. Thousands of migrants camped on border with Hungary yesterday demanded to be allowed through.

**FYROM** Declared a state of emergency and deployed riot police to guard its border with Greece.
Governments’ actions about the refugees

**UNITED KINGDOM**
The U.K., which is not part of Europe’s border-free travel area, is working to stop migrants entering the country through the channel tunnel, which originates in France.

**GERMANY**
One of the EU’s most welcoming countries for migrants, Germany has an average annual income of $47,590 per person -- compared to $1,600 for Syria.

**AUSTRIA**
Austria, a major transit country for migrants seeking to reach Germany, recently instituted border checks after bodies of 71 refugees were discovered in an abandoned truck that had traveled through Hungary.

**HUNGARY**
Hungary, a major transit point between Greece and Germany, is planning to build a 13-foot-high fence, 110 miles long, along its border with Serbia to stop the flow of migrants across its territory.

**AFGHANISTAN**
Until it was overtaken by Syria, which is now producing one-quarter of the world’s refugees, Afghanistan spent decades at the top of the list, with at least 1.66 million Afghans submitting asylum applications in other countries in 2014.

**IRAQ**
The takeover areas of northern Iraq by the terrorist group ISIS, or Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, is reported to have displaced more than 3.3 million people in Iraq -- many of them fleeing to other countries.

**GREECE**
With 8,500 miles of coastline, Greece is the entry point of many migrants seeking refuge in the European Union.

**ITALY**
With 4,700 miles of coastline -- a length it is almost impossible to patrol -- Italy has been the landing point for an outsized share of refugees reaching the European Union.

**LIBYA**
Refugees have flocked to war-torn Libya to cross by boat to Europe. Thousands have perished in the sea.

**SOUTH SUDAN**
The country, which gained its independence in 2011, has been riven by internal fighting. A reported 2.2 million people have fled their homes.

**ERITREA**
According to the international watchdog Human Rights Watch, Eritrea’s human rights situation and military draft are motivating thousands to flee the country every month.

**SYRIA**
A civil war that began in 2011 has killed more than 300,000 people, reduced major cities to rubble and prompted more than 4 million people to run for their lives.
Refugees Crisis & its Impact in EU

Europe ➔ DEVIDED

- Extremists won voices
- Countries closed their borders:
  - Denmark - Belgium - Hungary - France - UK - Slovakia - ....

Europe dominated by FEAR

- Terrorist attacks
- EU authorities’ inability to prevent them
  - ➔ fear that ISIS sends terrorists as refugees
  - ➔ Increase of islamophobia and racism due to ignorance

European Spirit ➔ LOST
What is happening now?
EU-Turkey Agreement

Goal
To end irregular migration from Turkey to the EU

On **18 March 2016**, EU & Turkey reconfirmed their commitment to the implementation of their joint action plan activated on **29 November 2015**.

This, was in accordance with Turkey’s statement on the **7th of March 2016** to accept the **rapid return** of all **migrants not in need of international protection** crossing from Turkey into Greece and to **take back all irregular migrants** intercepted in Turkish waters.
EU-Turkey Agreement

1) All new irregular migrants crossing from Turkey to the Greek islands as of 20 March 2016 will be returned to Turkey

2) For every Syrian being returned to Turkey from the Greek islands, another Syrian will be resettled to the EU

3) Turkey will take any necessary measures to prevent new sea or land routes for irregular migration opening from Turkey to the EU

4) Once irregular crossings between Turkey and the EU are ending or have been substantially reduced, a Voluntary Humanitarian Admission Scheme will be activated
The fulfilment of the visa liberalisation roadmap will be accelerated with a view to lifting the visa requirements for Turkish citizens at the latest by the end of June 2016. Turkey will take all the necessary steps to fulfil the remaining requirements.

The EU will, in close cooperation with Turkey, further speed up the disbursement of the initially allocated €3 billion under the Facility for Refugees in Turkey. Once these resources are about to be used in full, the EU will mobilise additional funding for the Facility up to an additional €3 billion to the end of 2018.

The EU and Turkey will work to improve humanitarian conditions inside Syria.
Results of the agreement

Only 177 Syrian refugees resettled in EU under deal with Turkey!

- Sweden
- Germany
- Netherlands → 52 to 55 each
- Finland → 11
- Lithuania → 5
Agreement for relocation from Greece and Italy

EU member state migrant quotas
Number of people countries have agreed to relocate from Greece and Italy

- Germany: 30,000
- France: 20,000
- Spain: 15,000
- Poland: 10,000
- Netherlands: 7,000
- Romania: 6,000
- Belgium: 5,000
- Sweden: 4,000
- Portugal: 3,000
- Czech Rep: 2,000
- Finland: 1,000
- Austria: 1,000
- Bulgaria: 1,000
- Hungary: 1,000
- Croatia: 1,000
- Slovakia: 1,000
- Lithuania: 1,000
- Ireland: 1,000
- Slovenia: 1,000
- Luxembourg: 1,000
- Latvia: 1,000
- Estonia: 1,000
- Cyprus: 1,000
- Malta: 1,000

Note: the UK and Denmark are not taking part in the relocation scheme.

Source: European Commission
1145 people have been relocated since the launch of the scheme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member States</th>
<th>Relocated from Italy</th>
<th>Relocated from Greece</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td></td>
<td>111</td>
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<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>242</td>
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<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malta</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>89</td>
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<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovakia</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>530</strong></td>
<td><strong>615</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member State</td>
<td>Formally pledged</td>
<td>Effectively Relocated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>Bulgaria</td>
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<td>Croatia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>Estonia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>111</td>
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<td>France</td>
<td>970</td>
<td>242</td>
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<td>Germany</td>
<td>40</td>
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<td>Hungary</td>
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<td>Iceland</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Ireland</td>
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<td>Latvia</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liechtenstein</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malta</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>65</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>89</td>
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<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Slovakia</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>150</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,943</strong></td>
<td><strong>615</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Asylum applications in EU

Asylum applications per 100,000 local population, 2015

Source: Eurostat
Asylum Seekers in EU

Some countries carry a disproportionate load

- **Per number of applications**
  - 202,815: Germany
  - 64,625: Italy
  - 64,310: France
  - 31,945: Britain
  - 28,065: Austria
  - 23,770: Switz.
  - 42,775: Hungary
  - 81,325: Sweden

- **Per million population**
  - Germany: 2,513
  - Belgium: 2,016
  - Neth.: 1,454
  - Italy: 1,060
  - France: 972
  - Britain: 494

Source: Eurostat 2014
Asylum application approved in 2015

Main nationalities granted asylum
1 Syria
2 Eritrea
3 Iraq
4 Afghanistan
5 Iran

Total claims granted by country

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>140,910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>32,215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>29,615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>20,630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>16,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>13,905</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Eurostat
EU PROPOSALS for 2016

On relocation:

• Both frontline Member States and Member States where persons in need should be relocated, must quickly implement the two relocation decisions, notably by notifying and increasing places immediately available for relocation and receiving relocated persons.

FACTS

• Only 272 people have been relocated out of the 160,000 agreed in September 2015 by the Council.
EU PROPOSALS for 2016

On resettlement:

- A total of 22,504 people are due to be resettled by the end of 2017.

FACTS

- Based on the information received from Member States and Associated States, 5,331 persons were due to be resettled under the scheme in 2015.

- At the end of last year, the Commission has received confirmation that only 779 had been effectively resettled.
EU PROPOSALS for 2016

On hotspots:

- Fully operational hotspots are necessary to carry out relocation.

**FACTS**

- **Out of 5 hotspot** areas identified in Greece, only 1 is fully operational (Lesvos).

- **Out of the 6 hotspot** areas identified in Italy, only 2 are operational so far (Lampedusa and Trapani).
EU PROPOSALS for 2016

On return:

- Europe needs to increase the rate of return of individuals who do not have the right to stay in Europe, to their countries of origin, by implementing the Return Action Plan and moving forward on readmission agreements and negotiations.
EU PROPOSALS for 2016

On Schengen

- The priority for 2016 should be the return to the normal functioning of Schengen, by ensuring that Member States do not need to exceptionally introduce or prolong internal border controls.
EU PROPOSALS for 2016

On the European Border and Coast Guard

- The Parliament and Council need to rapidly conclude negotiations, as committed by the European Council in December
On the Dublin System

- As announced last September, the Commission will set out a reform of the Dublin System, with proposals due by March 2016, as part of its work towards a single asylum system.

- To reduce the reliance on irregular routes going forward, the Commission is also preparing a package of measures on legal migration, including a reform of the Blue Card Directive.

It is unsustainable in its current form!
What is happening now in Greece?
Greece: The refugee & migrant crisis in numbers*

- **Over 1 million refugees/migrants** have arrived in Greece, via the Turkish coast, since 2015
- **847,930** arrivals at Greek islands in **2015**
- **150,703** arrivals at Greek islands (1.1- 30.3.2016)
  - **57,066** arrivals in February 2016
  - **26,222** arrivals in March 2016
- **40,574 rescued** at sea (1.1.2016 - 20.3.2016)
- **52,352 remain** temporarily in Greece at various facilities:
  - **5,984** → Greek Islands
  - **2,542** → Central Greece
  - **14,506** → Attica
  - **28,980** → Northern Greece
  - **340** → Southern Greece
Greece by 5.4.2016

- 569 refugees → relocated to EU countries (until 15.3.2016)
- 202 refugees → returned to Turkey under the EU-Turkey Agreement (until 15.3.2016)
- 127 persons have perished at sea and 20 are still missing (1.1.2016 – 20.3.2016)

Sources: Coordinating Body for the Refugee Crisis Management, Hellenic Coastguard, Hellenic Police, UNHCR, EU
Greece by 5.4.2016

Refugees entering Greece through the Islands

Sources: Coordinating Body for the Refugee Crisis Management, Hellenic Coastguard, Hellenic Police, UNHCR, EU
Gender Allocation of Refugees entering Greece

MEN: 40
WOMEN: 38
CHILDREN: 22

February 2016

Sources: Coordinating Body for the Refugee Crisis Management, Hellenic Coastguard, Hellenic Police, UNHCR, EU
Greece fulfils its obligations

- Has put forward **legislation to accelerate the examination procedure** of applications
- Is continuously **improving** the operation, staffing and structure of **Reception Services**
- Continues to **safeguard European sea borders** according to European regulations, in cooperation with FRONTEX and NATO
- **Respects** European Law and the Geneva Convention
- Has **completed the set up** of **reception facilities** currently in operation on Greek islands.
- **Systematically identifies and registers each refugee or migrant** entering the country.
Closing the borders: a solution?

The decision by some countries in the EU and in the so-called “Western Balkans route” to close their borders to all migrants and refugees has been suffocating Greece, which is still receiving large migration flows from the Turkish coast.

The closure of borders is NOT the appropriate way to address the refugee/migration problem, as it has thus far evolved.
Greek-FYROM frontiers
Greek Initiatives: Refugees education

The Principle

Refugees should be welcomed and integrated in the receiving countries, especially the youngsters and children who will require access to education.

The Action

The Council of the University of the Aegean unanimously decided to exceptionally accept refugee students without the admission tests.
Informing the refugees/migrants

The Principle
Refugees and migrants have the right to be informed, in order for them not to fall victim to misinformation and exploitation.

The Actions
• Distribution of **informative brochures** about transportation means and **accommodation** facilities available within the country, especially after the closure of the Western Balkan route and the EU-Turkey agreement
• Provision of **interpreters and translators** on-site
• Launch of **Arabic news bulletins** on public TV/Radio broadcasters
• Launch of an **Athens News Agency webpage in Arabic**
• Establishment of **wi-fi internet connection infrastructure** at all accommodation facilities, with a default access to the Athens News Agency webpage in Arabic → direct and continuous flow of information to refugees/migrants
Greek people attitude ...
What about NGOs?

✓ The European Commission has announced the granting of 83 million euros within the framework of the new emergency support mechanism, for the improvement of the living conditions of the refugees in Greece.

✓ The financial assistance will be immediately granted to
  o UNHCR
  o the Red Cross
  o other six international NGOs

These partners will cooperate with Greek NGOs that are well aware of the prevailing condition in Greece.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EU humanitarian partner</th>
<th>Funding amount</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Type of action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNHCR</td>
<td>€25 million</td>
<td>9 months</td>
<td>50,000 refugees will benefit in 15 sites from (1) technical and material assistance (such as sleeping mats, blankets, clothing, hygiene kits, rain poncho, socks, kitchen sets, soaps, solar lamps), (2) water, sanitation and hygiene assistance in temporary accommodations, (3) protection assistance with emphasis on unaccompanied or separated children. Additional component: humanitarian coordination support to the humanitarian community in Greece.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Federation of the Red Cross</td>
<td>€15 million</td>
<td>10 months</td>
<td>44,000 refugees will benefit in 15 sites of (1) basic health care, (2) food parcels and non-food items, such as sleeping mats, blankets, clothing, hygiene kits (including for women), kitchen sets, soaps, (3) water, sanitation and hygiene assistance, (4) Psycho-social support, (5) assistance to re-establish family links thanks to the worldwide Red Cross network.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danish Refugee Council</td>
<td>€8 million</td>
<td>9 months</td>
<td>7500 beneficiaries will benefit from a multi-sectoral approach which includes site management support, protection, water, sanitation and hygiene assistance, as well as shelter and the provision of core relief items to cover the needs in 5 sites.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Rescue Committee</td>
<td>€10 million</td>
<td>10 months</td>
<td>Multi-sectoral assistance including protection, psychosocial support, safe spaces for women, safe learning and healing spaces for children, water, sanitation and hygiene, and food assistance for 16,000 beneficiaries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Save the Children</td>
<td>€7 million</td>
<td>12 months</td>
<td>The delivery of child protection activities to vulnerable, at-risk children and their families stranded in mainland Greece. Activities include the provision of child friendly spaces, non-formal education classes, psycho-social support and nutrition. Unaccompanied minors and separated children will also receive targeted interventions, in partnership with the Greek national authorities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OXFAM</td>
<td>€6 million</td>
<td>12 months</td>
<td>Assistance for water, sanitation and hygiene, food, protection &amp; improvement of shelter (winterisation) and other essential items. Improvement of shower and toilet facilities for 3000 people and increased access to services, better consideration of protection site design / management for 2750 people. Activities are both focused in the West, an area where there are few partners active. Food for 3000 people, mainly via vouchers is focused in the North. Essential items for 3000 people will include 600 shelter winterisation kits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund</td>
<td>€5 million</td>
<td>12 months</td>
<td>Provide shelter and basic services, including health and psycho social support, non-food items, child friendly spaces, legal support and interpretation for 1,500 beneficiaries in Thessaloniki.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Médecins Du Monde</td>
<td>€7 million</td>
<td>12 months</td>
<td>Primary health care, referrals for specialised medical care, psychosocial support for migrants and refugees. The project aims at reducing health risks and to provide health care (including specialised health) to 18,000 refugees and migrants stranded in Greece, through fixed and mobile medical units. It respects national curricula and referral mechanisms.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The refugee crisis has created a *lucrative business* for several “*volunteer*” organizations and individuals, who operate where masses of refugees and migrants are gathered, selling *false hope* to the hopeless people.

**What about NGOs?**

However...
The refugee/migrant crisis is a **EUROPEAN** issue to solve
The Greek Proposals

Need for provision of human resources:

Direct assistance to Greece by providing qualified staff from all EU countries mainly for:

- Handling the examination of asylum applications
- Managing the return to Turkey of all those not entitled to or not requesting asylum

The agreement foresees the arrival of approximately 2500 specialized personnel
The Greek Proposals

Need to restrict illegal refugee/migration flows

Direct assistance to Greece in order to crack down illegal trafficking networks deriving from Turkey
The Greek Proposals

Implementation of the re-admission agreement of irregular migrants

This was concluded by both EU-Turkey and Greece-Turkey agreements
The Greek Proposals

Need for fair distribution of refugees among EU member states

✓ through the implementation of the relocation process from Greece to other EU countries

OR

✓ through that of resettlement directly from Turkey.

These procedures are implemented at an extremely slow pace that does not respond to the actual needs,

Their fulfillment should not be voluntary but proportional, according to the population and financial means of every country.
Instead of tripping refugees...
... let’s build a Europe worth to be proud of

Help Refugees