

Migrants and Refugees: an eTwinning Project



eTwinning Project 2015-2016 for France, Germany, Netherlands and Norway

N°01 - December 2015



Reports

What's happening in Europe and why.

Interviews

The experience of refugees in different European countries.



Taking Action

Who's doing what?



Project review:

Culminative work of our 2015 eTwinning Project "Migrants and Refugees"



eTwinning Label for our project

Europe's Migrant Crisis

This magazine presents the culminative project work of our eTwinning project. Students in Years 9 & 10 from four European countries each tackled the current humanitarian problem facing Europe, the migrant crisis. Our aim is to raise awareness of what is happening, not just in Europe, but in the world in general.

The participating schools are as follows:

FRANCE:

Collège Henri Brunet, in Caen (Normandy)
Collège Jacques Monod in Les Pennes-Mirabeau (Provence)

GERMANY:

Schillerschule Hannover, in Hannover

NETHERLANDS:

Carolus Clusius College, in Zwolle

NORWAY:

Hovseter Skole, in Oslo

We hope you enjoy our magazine.

We are the teachers leading this project:

Heather Bainbridge (France)
Kristie Segond (France)
Christian Fischer (Germany)
Amanda Van Dijk (Netherlands)
Bart Tip (Netherlands)
Anna Catharina Campman (Norway)

The classes involved are all ages 13-16.

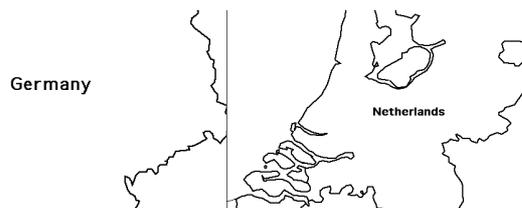
contents



03 **What's happening?**
Introducing the European migrant crisis.

06 **Background Info**
Understanding Europe's multiple migrations.

21 **Interviews**
Speaking with people who make a difference.



38 **Volunteer work.**
Working to make the world a better place.

39 **We're immigrants too.**
Sharing our personal stories and experience.

46 **Impunzi**
Comparing Europe's crisis to one in Africa.



47 **Voices through Art**
Tackling the problem through another media.

48 **Book Reviews**
Reacting to Naidoo's novel about refugees.

57 **eTwinning**
Bringing the project to life in Europe.

*uk.business
insider.com
Phototaken
byThomson
Reuters*



In the year of 2015 the numbers of refugees and migrants highly increased.

European countries have to solve a very tricky situation. Let me explain it to you...

European Migrant Crisis: What's happening ?

In

Syria, ISIS attacks and the government of Bashar al-Assad's have made the Syrians flee their country. They are searching for a better life and security in European countries. It's a long, deadly journey they are obliged to accomplish in order to reach the European coasts. They are traveling mostly by walking but also by boats with the help of a smuggler.

Refugees are not only coming from Syria, they also come from places like Iraq, Nigeria, Afghanistan, Bangladesh... Some countries don't want refugees to come to theirs, like Turkey. Most of the refugees are men (60%). Germany is the country welcoming the most refugees. The refugee crisis is still a sad problem that we need to solve.

In the beginning, we asked ourselves: what do we think?

Our teachers asked us an important question on the first day of the project: what is a refugee? What does a refugee look like?

By answering these questions on a padlet wall, we began to understand that if we had stereotypes and misrepresentations of refugees, then other people would as well.

Here's an example of what we thought:

What do the words 'MIGRANT' and 'IMMIGRANT' make you think of?
Hovseter skole: add your ideas below. Double click to post. Include your name and school.



Immigrants and migrants
Migration is used to describe the movement of people or animals between countries. Migration refers to a large amount of people moving into another country. There are multiple reasons to do so, often because of work or family.
Immigration is a sub-category that simply means that someone has moved to a new country.



When I think of immigrants.
I think that they are people who have moved to place or other. It doesn't need to be moved to another country. It can be like moving from city to another.

Situation in Northern Norway
The situation in Norway is that people from Russia are crossing the border with bikes, the problem is that they are not refugees. They are migrants, but are pretending that they are refugees. We can't have this because we need room for real refugees. They are looking for a better life, even though they have good life compared with the real refugees.



What does the word 'REFUGEE' make you think of?
Schillerschule Hannover: add your ideas below. Double click to post.

Schillerschule Hannover
We worked in a group so here are our results:

We think that refugees escape their countries because of war and persecution.

We also think that refugees lose a lot (house, job,..)

Their journey is illegal, not safe but very expensive.

Often they die on their journey because of the risk they take.

They seek asylum but their future is unclear. They seek asylum because only then they are allowed to work.

Often only the men escape the country because they try to make money in another country so that their family can escape the country also.



Tents like this:



People who are desperately:

Full boats like this one:

Migrants? Refugees? Immigrants?

Each school had groups thinking about what the words 'migrant', 'immigrant' and 'refugee' made them think of. We were all able to look at the walls created by the other schools too.

What do you think?

Some students also created polls or went onto the Voices of Youth website run by UNICEF to discuss the issues with other young people around the world.

<http://www.voicesofyouth.org/en/connect/our-debates>



How do
refugees
travel from
Asia to
Europe? The
journey by
land and
boat - By Miriam

and Rosella 02B

CART
(CA)

A

RO
6
ACE

VIII
1920
PROV

A 07

2172016
PROV

A 207

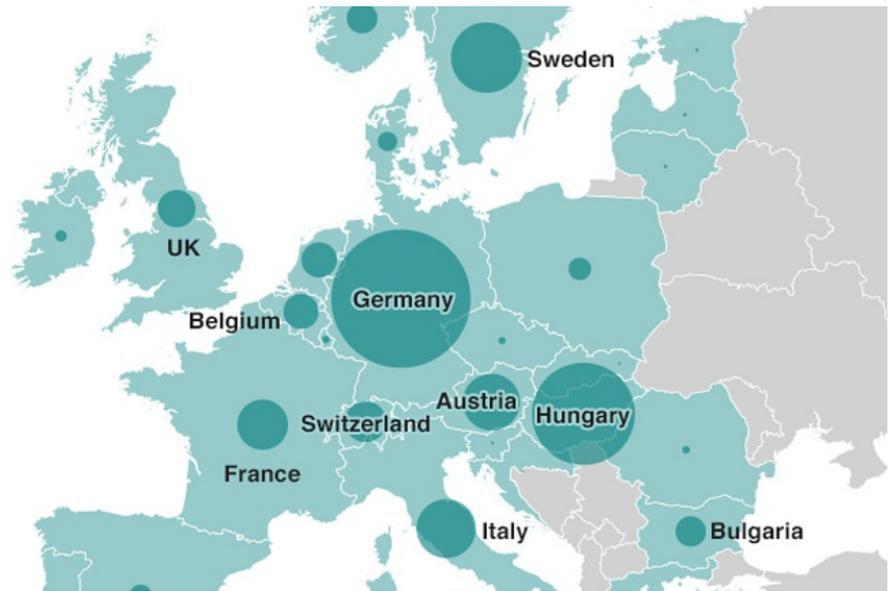
J. A. Douglas
Jacob Gillert
V.P.

997
PROV

The refugees : Where are they?

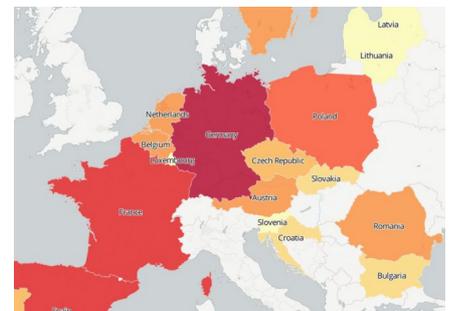
Where are the refugees going ?
Where will they settle ?

The refugees think that they will find better jobs and better lives in rich countries, in Europe. Most of the refugees are going to Germany, Hungary and Sweden (see the map). The refugees are also going to France, Italy and Austria (less than Germany) but these countries don't let the refugees enter as freely as in Germany or in Hungary. The refugees coming from Syria and Afghanistan are mainly going to Germany because it's one of the richest countries in Europe, along with France and the U.K.

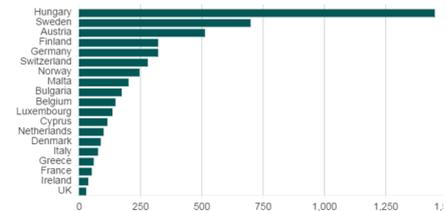


Source: http://icchef-1.bbc.co.uk/news/660/cpsprodpb/8592/production/_86549143_europe_migrant_numbers_oct2015_624.png

According to Eurostats, Hungary is surely the country in Europe where the asylum applications per 100,000 local population is the biggest. This number is explained by the fact that Hungary is a small country where a lot of refugees are going.



Asylum applications per 100,000 local population
 January - October 2015



Source: Eurostat

The refugees coming from Syria and Afghanistan are passing into Greece, Macedonia, Serbia, Hungary, Austria, and finally arriving in Germany.



Refugees and Migrants Definitions

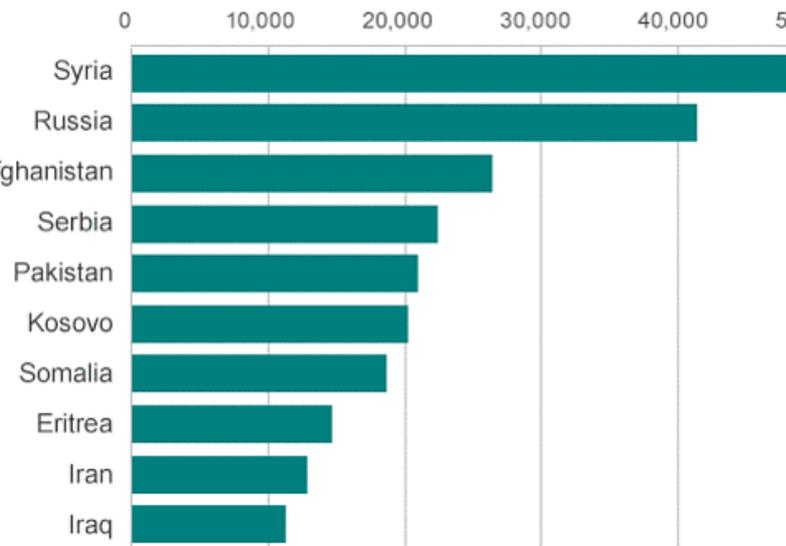
A migrant is a person who moves from one place to another in order to find work or better living conditions.

A refugee is a person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, or natural disaster

WHERE ARE THE REFUGEES COMING FROM?

Where do EU asylum applicants come from?

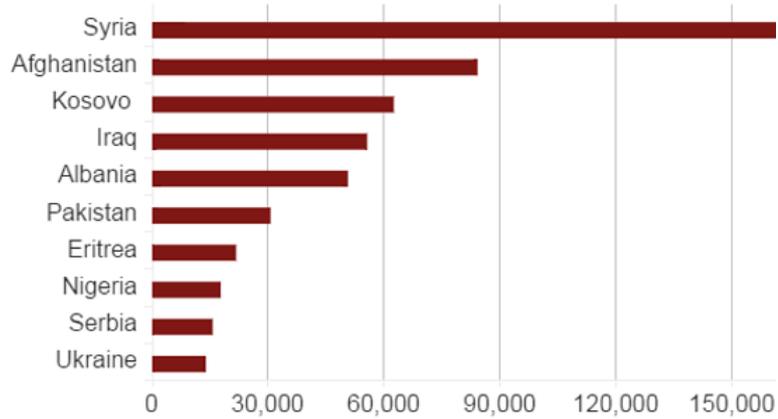
Top 10 countries of origin, 2013



Top 10 countries of origin 2013.
source: THE ECONOMIST;

Top 10 origins of people applying for asylum in the EU

January - October 2015, first-time applications



Source: Eurostat

Top 10 countries of origins 2015
Source: BBC NEWS

What do these graphs show?

Compared to 2013 the number of refugees has tripled. For example, in 2013 there were about 50 000 Syrian refugees in Europe. In 2015 there were about 178 000 Syrian refugees. Most of the refugees are coming from countries where is war or political problems or a dictatorship like Syria, Iraq, Ukraine, Afghanistan...

This shows that refugees coming from Syria or Afghanistan had a big increase, all the numbers almost tripled and countries like Iraq on the top 10 rank in 2013, was a country where just 11,000 refugees were coming from now more than 50,000 refugees are coming from Iraq.



Refugees walking along a railway in the rain in France.

Where are refugees going in Europe ?

Refugees were going principally to Hungary, Sweden and Austria in January-October 2015.

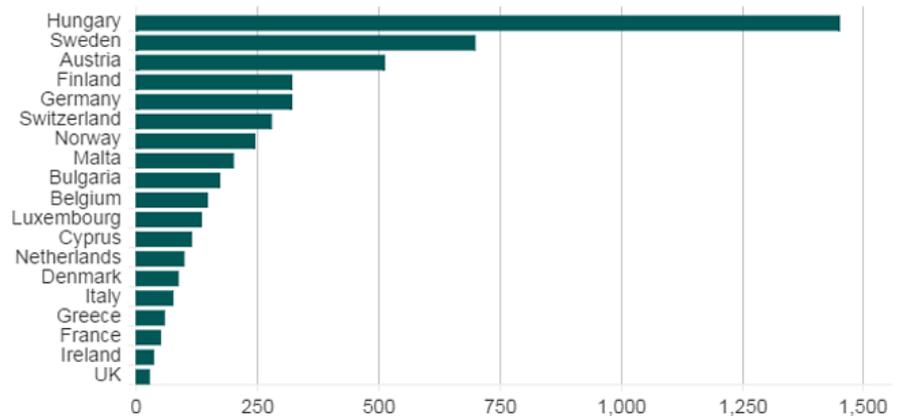
But refugees stay principally in Germany, France and Sweden, because there are the best conditions of living in Europe.

Refugees come from principally Syria, Afghanistan and Kosovo.

The refugees flee their countries principally by boat and plane because of persecution and war.

Asylum applications per 100,000 local population

January - October 2015



Source: Eurostat



Source: http://icmf-1.bbc1.co.uk/news/660/cpsprodpb/FAC2/production/_86549146_asapp.png

This is a very hard trip for refugees because there are policemen who control the borders for going into Europe. There are thousands or maybe million of refugees going to Europe each year.



Libya, Algeria, Turkey, Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia are the principal transit countries for refugees going to Europe.

WHY ARE THE REFUGEES LEAVING?



Every day across the world people make the difficult decision to leave their homes, families, possessions and connections with their local community. They walk away to an uncertain and often frightening future elsewhere.

Refugees leave their homes and their country because they are forced out by factors such as war, natural disasters, environmental crises and poverty. They may also leave because their government will nor or cannot protect them from serious human rights abuses or meet their needs. These refugees face many days of travel, with little food and in fear of their lives.

Right now in Syria thousands of people flee their country everyday. they often decide to escape after seeing their neighbourhood bombed or family members killed. Bombings are destroying crowded cities and horrific human rights violations are widespread.

Families are struggling to survive inside Syria, or make a new home in neighboring countries. While others are risking their lives on the way to Europe, hoping to find acceptance and opportunity. They face harsh winter weathers which makes life as a refugee difficult.

The risks on the journey to the borders can be as hard as staying: People walk for miles through night to avoid being shot at by snipers or being caught by soldiers.

REFUGEES HAVE NO CHOICE. YOU DO.

It is said that Syria's civil war is the worst humanitarian crisis of our time. More than 11 million people have been killed or forced to flee their homes. Over a million of these refugees need help because they are going through alot of things that we can't imagine how it would be like.

"THEY NEED OUR HELP"



Most travel in boats to reach their destination.
Source:theonlinecitizen.



These are examples of Refugees that live in Camps. life is very hard there's only Food, Water, Clothes, Blankets and mattresses. Source:unhcr.org



We should always Know We are all the same.
Source:hnan.com

Refugee Lives and Conditions.



These refugees are trying to cross the border to another country seeking asylum, because they were terrorized by their government and some terrorist organizations, but of course they close the borders on them. Some countries say we have no place or no money or other excuses and some simply answer with we don't want refugees in our country, which makes some people sleep at the borders until they can gain access because some countries only open their borders for a couple of hours, and some just lose hope and go back. Pictures of refugees like this make some people lose hope in humanity itself. Most animals accept each other why can't humans?

Image source: theguardian.com

This represents 80% of the refugees' problems. refugees come seeking asylum: why is that a problem? I think we should think about it.



Refugees travel in these boats to reach their destination. Most of them die. many children die as well, this is Devastating. From the Newyorker

Why are the refugees leaving the Middle East?

It is quite difficult to define the exact borders of the Middle East, since they have changed a lot through the years. However, the Middle East is defined as the area that stretches from Libya to Afghanistan including Egypt, Sudan, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, Iraq, Iran, Yemen, Saudi Arabia and the other countries of the Arabian Peninsula.

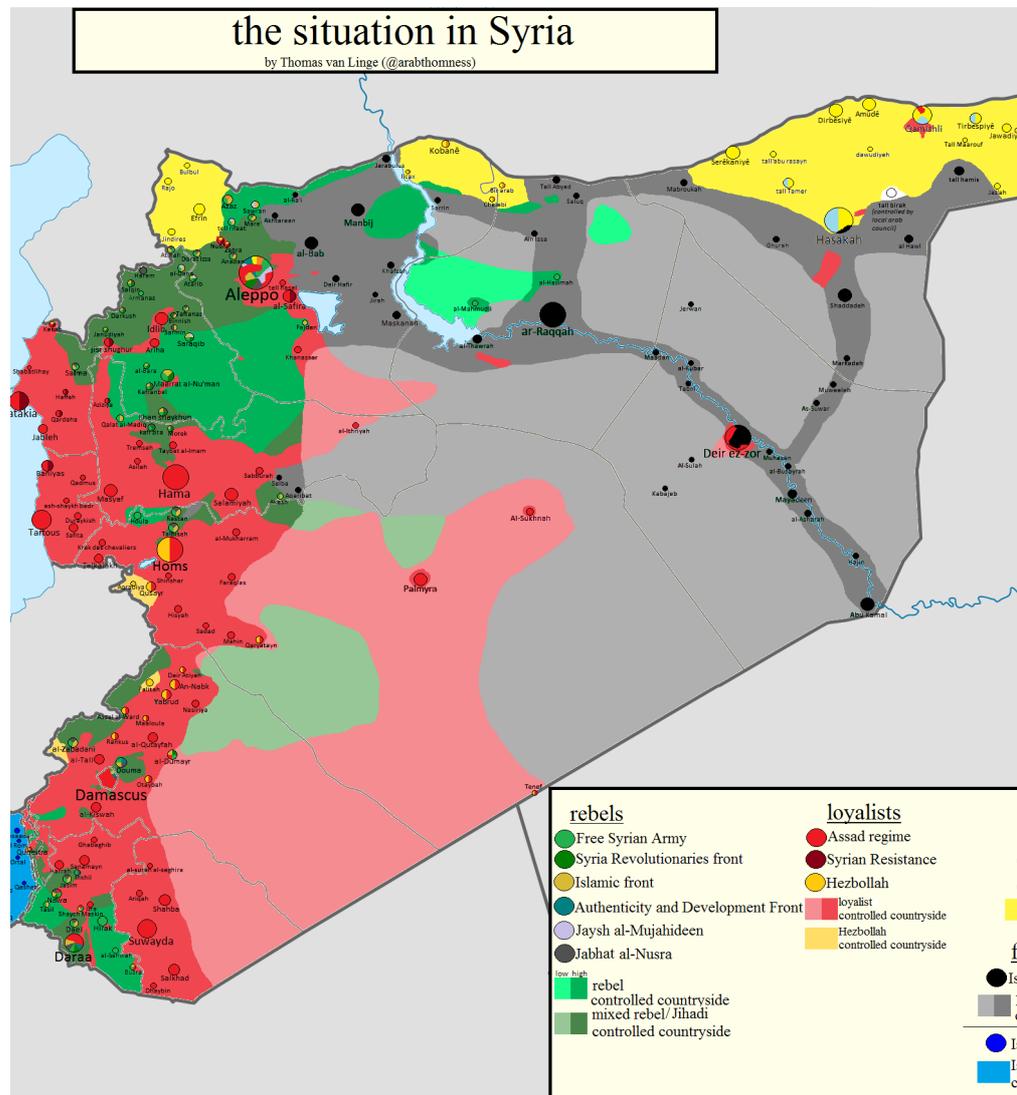
As many of you know, there is a refugee crisis in the world right now. ISIS (Islamic State of Syria) has taken the control in huge parts of Syria, by using violent and cruel methods. ISIS was originally created in Iraq, after USA bombed the country in 2003. ISIS gained power in Syria, when Syrian oppositional groups were demonstrating against Assad and his regime. This resulted in a civil war in Syria, and millions of people had to immigrate. People started by immigrating in their own country, but as the war got worse and ISIS gained more power, people had to immigrate to other foreign countries. Some of these countries were Turkey, Greece, Iraq and Lebanon. However, now the refugees are moving further up to Europe, such as Germany and Scandinavia. and it will continue as ISIS increase their power, and Assad is not willing to give up.

The refugees has to leave the Middle East because of the war, poverty and hunger. They have no possibilities of creating a future and to survive if they stay in Syria, and the majority who chooses to stay end up in eventually joining Syria with no other choice.

However, a difficultie for the regueees when leaving Syria, is that many of the countries in the Middle East are a part of the Gulf countries, and do not allow any housning of refugees. They only offer economical support. The reason for that, is that countries, like Saudi Arabia and Qatar, disagreed with the paragraph about refugees in the UN convention (made after World War 2), and they did not sign the international agreement.

Today an important question is whether other powerful countries should leave Assad in power, or get rid of him? First, this is a problem with several different aspects, that all have important argument

On one side, is USA, who are against the Assad regime, but are willing to negotiate to a certain extent with the Syrian President. The US have been conducting air strikes against IS and other jihadist groups in Syria, but avoiding attacks that may hit Assad's forces. (BBCNEWS, Syria crisis: Where key countries stands). s.



On the other side is Russia, a powerful country that support Assad, and has supplied large amounts of weapons to the Syrian armed forces. On the last day of September, Russia officially began bombing Syria, but it was not against ISIS, in fact it was targeted toward opposition groups against Assad.

Personally, I do not support the US nor Russia. In my opinion, bombing Syria and getting rid of Assad will not work, because when you destroy a country that has only experienced a dictatorship and is ruined by a civil war, as well, the citizens will not know how to establish a democracy. It will then, most likely, result in a new dictator, which is what happened in Iraq, when USA bombed the country and removed Saddam Hussein. However, I am totally against IS and Assad, and I doubt that negotiations will give any successful solutions.

Here you can see a map of Syria, where the black dots are ISIS, and the dark red parts are Assad's regime.



Bashar al-assad, the man who started it all.

Why do people leave Asia?

Rohingya's

The Rohingya's are a Muslim minority in Myanmar which is discriminated against and persecuted because of their religion. In the past three years about 120.000 Rohingya members fled from Myanmar. There are still many out on the sea trying to flee in crowded boats which are nearly breaking into pieces.



Refugees negotiate barbed wire

The Rohingya's are contemplated as "stateless entities" through the Myanmar government because they don't belong to one of the 135 native sections of the population. That means that they lack legal protection from the government of Myanmar and have no rights.



Lifeless child on a beach in Turkey



Refugees trying to flee in a crowded boat

The refugees from Bangladesh are driven by poverty and because of a human rights abuse. Sheikh Hasina the prime minister of Bangladesh says that the compatriots cast a damning light on the image of their country and bring themselves in danger when they want to flee. She also says that the people should stay in Bangladesh because they can reach a better life if they wouldn't spend their money for trying to flee into another country. If you try to flee from Bangladesh and get caught you get punished.

Furthermore, some people leave Syria because they ran out of money and for them the cost of living in Syria is too high or rebel groups or terrorist groups took over control of their town.

Another reason may be that 60 % of Syria's citizen are unemployed and live in poverty and they hope for a better life in the European countries. They want to live in peace and safety or they want their children to be educated.

Moreover, they want to be treated like a human and they want their human dignity to be respected. Of course, the adults want to find a job here to feed their families. So, they sell their houses and cars and pay 15.000 dollars to be brought over the Mediterranean Sea by a smuggler by ship. But the voyage ends for many refugees with the death. People drown, ships capsize

live to seek asylum in European countries.

Refugees driven by poverty

The refugees from Bangladesh are driven by poverty and because of a human rights abuse. Sheikh Hasina the prime minister of Bangladesh says that the compatriots cast a damning light on the image of their country and bring themselves in danger when they want to flee. She also says that the people should stay in Bangladesh because they can reach a better life if they wouldn't spend their money for trying to flee into another country. If you try to flee from Bangladesh and get caught you get punished.

Why do people leave Africa?

To answer the question, the interview with the refugee from our school helped us a lot! The student we interviewed left Eritrea.

Eritrea is located in the Horn of Africa so in the east. The country Eritrea is the country in Africa most people flee from. In 2014 there were only more people leaving Syria and Afghanistan. The people in Eritrea flee because of the dictator Isayas Afewerki. He has governed the country for over 25 Years.

The problem all teenagers have is that they must join the military when they ought to be in 11th grade. When they do the military service they are treated really bad. Some people even say that the military prison is virtually better because during the military service "you have to walk bare feet through the desert while you do not get water."



Refugee camps in Eritrea; the Eritrean flag; a map

If you have once joined the military you'll be a soldier for life. "If you try to flee and be betrayed by a spy you do not get much food and water. If you complain about the situation you are put with the face in the sand and your hands and feet get tied up." There is a super complex system of spies and those spies are either blackmailed or supporters of Isayas Afe-werki.



Warning:

Isayas Afe-werki

If you dare to criticize him in public you'll be gone forever. Also groups were gone and no-body knew where they were and what has happened to those people.

The whole information of this article and statements that are used are based on a German article of a famous, trustful journal. (<http://www.faz.net/aktuell/politik/fluechtlingskrise/massenflucht-nach-europa-das-elend-in-eritrea-13850121.html>)

Conditions in Eritrea

The conditions in Eritrea are horrible and the inhabitants can't even complain about it by internet. The internet is just too slow and does not really work. The state doesn't even has to ban social media pages like Facebook and Twitter. But all inhabitants are just too afraid of the dictator because he has the power over the families and nobody would dare to demonstrate.

The only TV channel that exists is a channel with the advert of Isayas Afewerki. In Eritrea, there are just no journalists and the journalists from other countries aren't allowed to travel to the country. The result is that all information is not confirmable.

A people on the run

Today (01.19.2015), over 4,5 million people from Syria are reported refugees. There have never been that many since Second World War. We talked to a woman working with the Norwegian Refugee Council(NRC) about the Syrian crisis.



Syrians struggling to get a lot of their most important personal belongings with them.

Today, the NRC are focusing in the areas with the largest needs and where they can access with minimal risk. The NRC delivers five main assistance: education projects, shelter, water and hygienic needs, counsel and foodsecurity.

The education projects consists of providing lost education for refugees. The projects is aimed at people from 15 to 20 years old.

The NRC are also providing tents for refugee camps so that refugees can sleep with a roof over their head.

NRC are doing everything they can to make sure that food rations are delivered safely. They also provide water to drink. The refugees are being provided with new passports with help from NRC.

The woman we talked to, is working with the educationproject. Because the IDPs (internal refugees) miss out education on their way out of Syria, so when they come to the refugee camps they will upgrade their loss of education.

When the refugees get to their camps there will be Syrian teachers waiting for them, so they can still learn in their learning method.

The NRC has a rising success with this project.

A NRC refugee camp.



WHY DO REFUGEES LEAVE THE MIDDLE EAST?

In 2015, over 6 million refugees traveled from Syria to Europe in hope of starting a new life.

The refugees are fleeing their own country because they don't feel safe there anymore. They are afraid to go out, they are afraid to live. Everywhere around them is getting bombed and people gets killed every day. Everyone is fleeing to get a better life somewhere else. Leaving everything behind, they go on a dangerous trip to find a safe place to live.

Children are being raised in chaos. They get sick and some of them has no chance of surviving. There is no medical help and people are poor. People are getting killed for not believing in the "right" religion. Outside peoples houses there is a complete warzone, and houses gets destroyed.

Some have lost everything, their home, their families and their happiness. Others is just leaving, it is a fight to get out of the misery and get a better life. They want to start over in peace without having to be afraid to live their own lives.

So if the Syrians get to Europe thru Turkey or by going over the sea to the Greek Islands, they can travel to the countries they want to go to or know that takes Syrian refugees in.



Most of the refugees go thru Turkey and then over to one of the Greek Islands.

At one place in Turkey, there is only 10 kilometers to the nearest Greek island. But some refugees go over the sea from Syria. When they do this, they put their life in jeopardy. They use all the money they have, to pay for the boat.

The boats that go from Syria to Greece have approximately room for 500 people, but put between 1000-1500 refugees on them. Most of the boats go down because of this.



The Shengen agreement

The Shengen agreement consists of 27 countries; Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Holland, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden, Czech republic, Germany, Hungary and Austria.

The wars in the Middle-East show no sign of ending. People continue to flee, and refugees living in neighboring countries are losing hope of ever returning home.



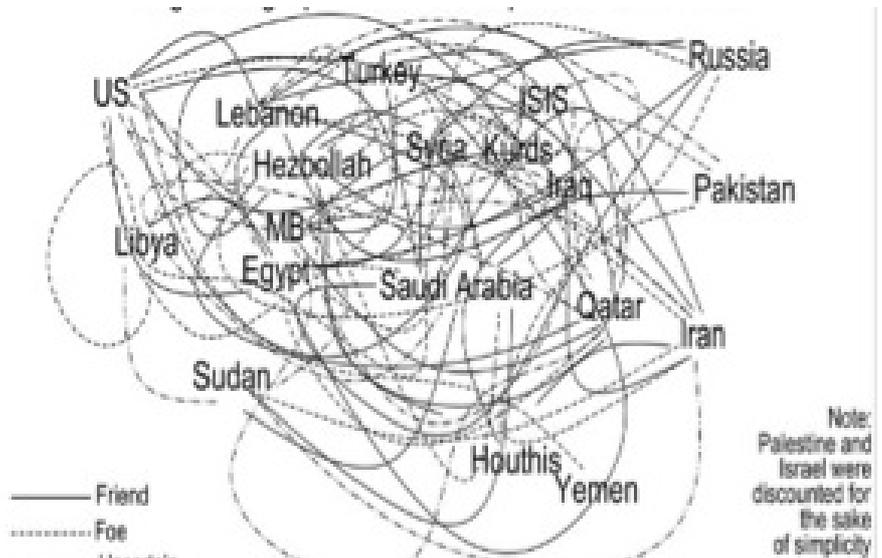
Bashar al-Assad President of Syria

Bashar al-Assad has been President of Syria since 2000. He was educated in the United Kingdom as an eye surgeon and had to succeed his father as President due to the death of his older brother. When Bashar al-Assad took up the presidency, he was initially known as a reformer or modernizer. However, in 2011 a resistance movement was formed, and Syria became a war-zone. Many blame Assad for the war in Syria.



Why are refugees leaving the Middle East?

Diagram of geopolitical relationships in the Middle East



The Wars

The war in Syria is catching headlines in the global media. However, there are several other conflicts that contribute to the large number of displaced persons currently fleeing from the Middle-East.

Some of these conflicts have been going on for decades, as in the highly militarised Palestinian territories, occupied by Israel.

Other conflicts are more recent, or have re-erupted, such as the conflict in Yemen.

Long-term political instability and civil war has caused widespread poverty in countries such as Egypt and Somalia.

Refugees are also fleeing from war-torn countries where conflict supposedly has "ended", such as Afghanistan, Sudan and Libya.

Statistics compiled by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) show that Syria provides the largest number of refugees coming to Europe, followed by Eritrea.

According to the BBC, most fleeing Eritreans say they are refugees from war, while the Eritrean government claims they are economic migrants. As this illustrates, the reasons why people flee are not always clear, and often disputed.

ISIS

SINCE DECLARING A 'CALIPHATE' IN SYRIA AND IRAQ, THE TERRORIST GROUP ISLAMIC STATE IN IRAQ AND SYRIA (ISIS) HAS BECOME NOTORIOUS ACROSS THE WORLD. ISIS IS A MILITANT JIHADIST GROUP, ALLEGEDLY INSPIRED BY WAHABI/SALAFIST IDEOLOGY. THIS IS AN IDEOLOGY THAT ADVOCATES AN EXTREME OR FUNDAMENTALIST INTERPRETATION OF ISLAM. ISIS STARTED AS A SPLINTER GROUP OF AL-QAEDA. THEIR AIM IS TO CREATE AN ISLAMIC STATE ACROSS SUNNI AREAS OF IRAQ AND SYRIA. THE LEADER OF ISIS IS ABU BAKR AL-BAGHDADI. HE EARNED A DOCTORATE IN ISLAMIC STUDIES FROM A UNIVERSITY IN BAGHDAD. HE IS KNOWN FOR ORDERING PUBLIC EXECUTIONS, INCLUDING BEHEADINGS. MUSLIM YOUTH FROM EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE-EAST HAVE JOINED ISIS AS FOREIGN FIGHTERS. ISIS ALSO RECRUITS LOCALLY, OFTEN FORCING CHILDREN TO TAKE LESSONS IN RADICAL JIHADIST IDEOLOGY.

How do the refugees come?

By Jolieke Lugt & Paulien ten Kate | O2B

Refugee routes:



The refugees come from Syria and Afghanistan. Via Macedonia, Serbia, Hungary they enter Western Europe.

Transport:

They mostly come by foot, but also by boat. It is also an opportunity to pay people that take them further on their route.

Problems:

It is very dangerous to go by boat. Often boats sink because there are more people on the boat than the boat can carry.

Refugees often starve by too less food and drinks.

Also, refugees are stuck at borders because they are not allowed to enter that country. This is mostly because they country didn't agree in the government how many refugees can enter the country.







3. - Arriving

Although Europe acts open about having refugees many countries have security at the borders. Refugees find creative ways to get past this security. Sometimes they hide in bushes or forests, or they hide in a truck, train, or even boat cargo. When they are in, they travel further into Europe to their chosen country.



2. - The journey

The boats that refugees get on are very crowded 10-people boats can have 300 people on them. These boats are in a poor condition and the journey is very dangerous. More than 2,500 people have died trying to get to Greece. The boat stops on Crete, where the refugees have to hide until they can take another boat.



1. - Preparation

Most refugees pay smugglers to organize their route. This is the experience of a refugee: "We paid \$1000 each plus \$200 dollars for the smugglers' agent. Two days later we were taken to a cramped house with about 300 people and just one toilet. We were there for nine days before we left."

How do the refugees come?

By Jolieke & Paulien in Zwolle, Netherlands



R

Refugee routes:

The refugees come from Syria and Afghanistan. Via Macedonia, Serbia, Hungary they enter Western Europe. Transport: They mostly come by foot, but also by boat. It is also an opportunity to pay people that take them further on their route. Problems: It is very dangerous to go by boat. Often boats sink because there are more people on the boat than the boat can carry. Refugees often starve by too less food and drinks. Also, refugees are stuck at borders because they are not allowed to enter that country. This is mostly because they country didn't agree in the government how many refugees can enter the country.

Transport:

They mostly come by foot, but also by boat. It is also an opportunity to pay people that take them further on their route.

Problems:

It is very dangerous to go by boat. Often boats sink because there are more people on the boat than the boat can carry. Refugees often starve by too less food and drinks. Also, refugees are stuck at borders because they are not allowed to enter that country. This is mostly because they country didn't agree in the government how many refugees can enter the country.



INTERVIEW

Catherine Gladwell is the manager of a charity for refugees. She's based in London. Their charity helps teenage refugees (14-19 year olds) in education. REFUGEE SUPPORT NETWORK www.refugeesupportnetwork.org

Question: **Why did you choose to work with this company?**

Well, I started the company because I knew teenage refugees who come from war torn countries. Also I wanted to help them.

Question: **What is the most common type of help needed?**

Every person is different but mostly they want help for their English, but also for their confidence. They need to trust themselves. They are in shock when they arrive.

Question: **Do you have a lot of volunteers ?**

A LOT ! Since summer, I have received hundreds and hundreds of emails from people wanting to join the project but unfortunately we don't have the money to accept all the requests...

Question: **Are young refugees happy with your help?**

Yes, one of the people we helped even said that we were the first to treat him like a human being.



Question: **What do you think people should do to help the refugee crisis?**

I think 3 things are needed to help the refugee crisis:

- We need to put peace in the war torn countries like Iraq, Syria and Palestine.
- Help Jordan, Lebanon etc... to receive refugees.
- We need to have a better system in Europe (take care of refugees).

*Catherine Gladwell
talking about
Refugees*

*A young
refugee in
London:
" We want to
help our family
and people in
our country."*

Catherine Gladwell

REFUGEE SUPPORT NETWORK

"I started the company because I knew teenage refugees who come from war torn countries"



Question: Do you send child refugees to foster homes ?

Well... it depends on their age if they have more than 15 year old or under they sent to a social home but if they are 16 years old they are sent to foster homes.

Question: Who are foster parents ?

All people can be foster parents: they can be old or young but you need to take an exam that approves you to be a foster parent.

Question: What do you think about refugees ?

Well, the teenage refugees says, " We want to help our family and people in our country." They want to have a good future.

Question: Do you have a lot of supplies ?

We have local charities, a Food Bank, clothes and people give food too.



Students in the 4eA Inter-class interview Catherine Gladwell in London from their classroom in Les Pennes Mirabeau, France

Question: How are refugees adapting to their new country ?

Well they are adapting differently. When they are sent to foster homes they don't have any friends or don't speak English, or they have a lot of stress.

Thanks to Catherine Gladwell at Refugee Support Network for the interview.



Interview with Mr Albarian

Picture of one of
the buildings that
have been shot by
the snipers in
Beirut.

We invited the father of different pupil in another class of the international section to speak to us about his experience as a refugee.

His name is Mr Albarian. He left Lebanon as a refugee with all his family when he was 12 years old in the 1970s.

His family background was: his father that was born in Turkey, and he left during genocide 1915. He has got 2 brothers that at that time were 16-17 years old who live in Canada now and one in the UK.

Mr Albarian being interviewed by the 4e class at College Jacques Monod, France.



Because the schools were closed he had 2 years of school in one 76-77. He showed us a picture of himself when he was younger looking out of the appartement. Just outside was the place where the woman got killed and there were buldings in front of his house with cars outside.

He was on the balcony and was watching outside. The appartements all had bullet holes in them and some were damaged by shells.

W

hen the war started he was 9 years old. It was from 1974-1991. At the beginning of the war, when the schools were closed, he was playing with other children collecting shells and rockets.

People avoided traveling and after that it started to be more violent and terrifying. Bombs were always there day and night.

When his brother was 18 he called to say that he was going to marry an Armenian-Canadian woman. Mr Albarian and his family applied to leave because of this. It took them 1 month to pack up and sell all their furniture. When they were on the plane the tanks and artillery were pointing at the sky to bring down jets. He felt like they wouldn't be able to leave alive. But when they finally flew over Cyprus, he felt safe.

Night Fears

During the night he would tremble waking to huge noises, rockets falling, fire, running. They learned a psalm and repeated it to calm down. He took promises from God to believe he would be safe.



The end of our interview with Mr. Albarian

When he arrived in Canada he was welcomed. It was difficult to adapt to a new language because he didn't speak French. He didn't feel homesick because he didn't have his childhood in Lebanon, and now he loves Canada.

He is now 50 years old and doesn't have any physical scars but has psychological scars.

He is now married and has got 3 children. He returned once to Lebanon to get married and after that he got back to Canada and never went back to Lebanon and doesn't want to. He is now happy in his life with his family and tries to forget what happened but it's impossible.

We have learned much about this man's childhood: we hope that you enjoyed reading.

Interview with the head of Citizenship, Foreign Affairs, Norway-refugee crisis

Twinspace project; migrants and refugees

Do refugees have a future in Norway? *part 1*



- Why do you work with this?

I was attracted by the immigration field because it is an area that has characterized developments in the world after WW2, especially in Europe after the labor migration began here in the 70s.

- Personal experiences with the job?

Today I work as the boss for those who work with citizenship, but I have worked with most types of cases in the field. Taking so radical decisions is a big responsibility. The responsibility is with respect that we must ensure that Norwegian regulations and international conventions such as the Refugee Convention, the Human Rights Convention and the Child Convention are followed. But we are also responsible for each individual so that nobody will be sent back to a country where they are persecuted. It is also very important for those who seek to get his family to Norway, that they are allowed to work here, and that they eventually get Norwegian citizenship.

- Have you participated with making the situation easier for certain refugees?

In my job i experience that I can make good decisions that take account for refugees needs, we can emphasize humanitarian considerations and take particular account of the needs of children.

- What attitude do you perceive that the Norwegian government has to this problem?

I act on the behalf of the state. I do not understand why you say problem? If it is that too many come to Europe and Norway now, the Norwegian government is committed to providing protection for those who need it. The state must accept those who come, sign them and provide housing. The state must ensure that they promote their cause and take a thorough assessment so that they provide protection for those who need it, they are also required to send back those who do not need protection.

- Which way do most choose to make use of when coming to countries like Norway?

It depends on where they travel from.

To get to Norway many come through the Mediterranean and into Italy or Greece and then go through Europe to Norway, or through Russia to the Norwegian border in Storskog.

- Do most of the people you have talked to have a concrete place they wish to settle down in?

Many people want to travel to a country they know welcome many refugees, and preferably to countries where they have relatives or that there already are many from their country of origin who are former refugees, diaspora.

Interview with the head of Citizenship, Foreign affairs, Norway-refugee crisis

Twinspace project; Migrants and refugees

Do refugees have a future in Norway? *part 2*



- What do refugees look for in their new life?

The most important thing is safety, then an opportunity to create a new life for themselves and their families. They want the same as us; security, food, a house, an education and/or job. Most refugees want to be able to return home when it is safe in their homeland.

- Is your job demanding? Do you learn much of it?

I learn a lot everyday I get to work with many knowledgeable and enthusiastic people who are concerned about taking the right decisions and providing good information to the applicants. It can be difficult knowing that there are so many waiting to get their case settled, it is also difficult when you have to say no to someone who wants to stay in Norway. Sometimes the rules can be so that one has to be very strict and send someone out of Norway, although it may mean that they can no longer live with their children. It is necessary, we must follow the laws that the Parliament decides. Our job is to implement what has been decided by our politicians who are elected by the Norwegian people.

- What can others learn from your experiences? What can we do to help?

Now it is important to give money to charity so that those who do not have the opportunity to run away from hunger and war in their own country can get help. Very many wish to give clothing and equipment to the refugees who are here in Norway. It is very nice that people give asylum seekers gifts. Several of our receipts across the country have received many gifts, but now reports say that they need to take a break from it because they have a very high demand. Equally fine as a gift, is that you give them your time. Check with a reception for a voluntary organization if you can do something for the refugees. You can also enroll as a friend and interlocutor through Red Cross and other organizations. The children and young people who come as refugees begin in school, so if there are any in your school, be a good friend and bring them into your life as they learn more about Norway and Norwegian society.

- What is important to give the refugees? How can we integrate them in the Norwegian society?

From IMDI website; those who have been granted permission to stay in Norway will go through an introduction program to prepare immigrants who participate in society and the workplace, and helping them to become economically independent. The introduction program shall include at least training in Norwegian society, and measures to prepare for further education or employment. The state is responsible for implementing the program.

Siham, Hani and Fardowsa from Norway

We have interviewed one of our mothers who came to Norway as a refugee many years ago, and asked her the following questions.

« An interview with a refugee »



Why did you flee from Somalia?

Because of civil war.

How old were you and when did you leave?

September 15, 1994 age 17.

Why did you choose Norway?

Because my mom and my sister lived here, and I have heard that it was a great country to live in.

How did you feel about living your country, was it hard?

It was not that hard since almost all of my relatives were already here in Norway, but then again to leave a land which holds so much memory is really tough.

How was Norway when you first come here?

It was good, especially the weather.

What is the difference between Norway and Somalia?

Here in Norway it was peaceful, while in Somalia there was war and conflict.

How does it feel to be in a safe country?

Good.

Would you like to go back to Somalia?

If it ever becomes peaceful.

How did you come to Somalia and with who?

I first went to Kenya, then to Holland, and then to Oslo. I came with my stepdad.



The picture is from internet

«Seeking asylum is a human right»

-Amnesty International

Dates

1991- • The Beginning of the civil war in Somalia.

Interview with a refugee from our school:

"It took five months... Eritrea to Sudan, to Libya, to Italy, to Germany"



So, how long do you live in Germany? ***I live in Germany for 6 months. Interviewer: So half a year..***

We would like to know what helps you the most here in Germany? And also what helps you staying here and not wanting to go back to your old country? ***So first of all, I think that the school here in Germany is great and I like the freedom in this country.***

And where are you exactly from? ***I am from Eritrea that is in the horn of Africa.***

How did you learn German and English? ***I am still learning German here in school but it is so difficult to speak. I started learning English in Eritrea but it is not that good because the school where I went was not that good and we did not learn grammar.***

Your English is good enough. We can talk to each other so it is ok. Can you describe how people treat you in school? Are they nice? ***Everyone is nice! It is so good!***

Is your class integrating you so that you feel welcome? ***Although I couldn't speak German everybody was nice. Even in English, I cannot understand everything.***

How did you come here? ***First through the Sudan, from Sudan to Libya, from Libya to Italy and from Italy to Germany.***



Wow. So how long did it take? ***It took five months, but I stayed in Sudan two months and two months in Libya. I lived in Sudan for 2 months and I had a friend in Israel and my cousins. They said, that I should go to Europe, because Eritrea is not a good place. And they paid the money and I had to go by car.***

What did you take with you to Germany? "I never had anything. I only had one pocket."



Did you come here with your parents or alone? *I came without my parents. They are still in Eritrea. I don't know exactly, where my father is. He was a soldier for 15 years. If you are in 11th grade you have to go to Sawa. Sawa is the name of the place. It is not a school it is a military base. (Sawa Defence Training Center: military academy in the Gash-Barka region of Eritrea. Since 2003, all local secondary school pupils have been required to attend their 12th grade at an institution proximate to the SAWA Center in order to ensure that they meet their mandatory national service obligation. Wikipedia) I had to run away. Most of them are Teenagers, one month learning, three months military, one month school, three months military etc. I read in Google, that it is 4 months of military training. That's wrong. In google it said, that the teenagers are the problem, but that is not the case. The military is the problem. That's why I left.*

From Libya to Italy, did you go by boat? *Yes by boat. One day to get to Lampedusa and two days to get to the coast of Italy.*

Why did you want to go to Germany? *Because I knew things about it from school and I liked the laws and how people live in Germany. It's safe and I want to live in Germany forever.*

Is it difficult to live here and is it different? *I had to learn the rules and laws and it is a little different, but it is better than at home and it's not a problem.*

What is different with the people? *Most people in Eritrea got black skin, like me and here they do not. That's it.*

Do people in your country play more football or other sports? *They play football, but not so much because we didn't have so much time.*

Where do you live? *Here in Hanover I live in the district called Misburg.*

Do you live by yourself or with other people?

I live in a flat with seven boys. Six of them are from Germany, one is from Ghana and one is from Afghanistan.

When you lived in Sudan have you got any money and where did you live? *I didn't have money and there was a camp for people from Eritrea. They gave us food and a bed they came from America and Canada.*

Have you lived with your family in Eritrea? *From first to eighth grade I lived with my parents but later my father went back to the military. Then I lived with my mother and my grandparents. I lived alone in high school.* Thanks for your time.

What is your mother tongue? *Tigrinya*

Do people in Libya speak that language? Well I wonder how you communicate. *In Sudan and Libya they speak Arabic and I speak a little bit Arabic. But there were some people who spoke arabic perfectly. In Eritrea there are 9 languages and I speak four of them.*

Wow. It's impressive how many languages you can speak!

Interview with the NGO "Land of Asylum"

We interviewed people from the "unaccompanied minors" section, SAMI, of "France Terre d'Asile".

Us: Hello! We have several questions to ask, first of all, what are your actions?

Stephane: We help isolated minors between 16 and 21. We help them with their studies, we give them a home, we give them French lessons...

Christophe: We take care of them!

Us: And when they're under 16?

C: They go to foster homes.

Us: And after, when they are adults?

C: We help them find a job.

Us: What was your motivation to work here?

S: I wanted to do social work and I knew a lot of foreigners, I wanted to be able to help them.

C: I wanted to be useful to society.

Us: Is there some SAMI (service for unaccompanied minors) everywhere in France?

C: Yes but they are not called the same.

Us: For how long has the SAMI existed?

S: Since 2006.

Us: Do the kids talk to their parents?

C: It depends on their situations.

Us: Is one nationality more present?

S: Right now we have a lot of people from Bangladesh.

Us: Do you have Syrian kids?

C&S: Not for the moment, but we think that they will come soon.



Logo of "France Terre d'asile"

Us: Do you have problems with the kids?

S: Sometimes, but we always manage to solve them.

Us: How many people work here, in the SAMI?

C: 10 tutors for 90 kids.

Us: How do the kids know the SAMI?

S: We think that the smugglers give them our address.

Us: How do they come?

S: By boat, by foot, by plane, by truck.... It depends.

Us: Do they have traumas?

S&C: We have a psychologist who works here, sometimes they have nightmares, because of war, but we always get over the traumas.

Us: Thank you very much !



Our class meeting people from France Terre d'asile.



Being a Tutor

Christophe & Stephane are both tutors :

Tutors take care of isolated minors: it can be kids whose parents can't educate them, kids who have handicaps, kids with social difficulties (no home, no papers, etc), kids coming out of detention centers, and sometimes tutors work in foster homes.

NORWAY- Maren, Caroline

An interview with professor Aashild Kolaas at PRIO (Peace Research Institute Oslo) about what is happening in the Middle-East, the refugees that are coming to Europe and what we can do about the crisis.

«Who wants to go to Europe?» part 1



«Think for yourself, and find your own information about what is going on»

- Do you think this war could escalate to a world war?

I think that. If you look at just today's news, and the Islamic State attacking as far away as in Indonesia, and that they are allegedly attacking in a number of different countries now. It is a possibility that the war can escalate.

- What do you think is the main reason refugees are fleeing the middle east?

I do not think that there is any reason to doubt that people are fleeing the Middle East because of war and conflict. It is very clear. On the other hand governments in certain countries are saying that people from their countries are fleeing because of economic problems, as economic migrants.

So there is a political discussion whether a country, that might be persecuting their own population, would not agree that people are fleeing because of war. They would say that these are just economic migrants. And you also have certain people in Europe saying that these are not real refugees, so that is also a part of the political debate, which tends to become quite polarized. So it is difficult to give a precise answer to this question.

- What do you think is necessary to integrate these refugees to their new homes?

This question is also highly political, and it is going to be a very big question discussed by politicians in all of Europe in the coming years. So this is also a difficult question to answer.

- How can we best work for peace?

I think it is very important to try to think for yourself and find your own information about what is going on. I do not think it is a good idea to just listen to the big news in the media and take everything they say for granted. It is extremely important to think critically about what you hear, even in the media, because they do have their own narratives and their own stories they want to tell you. It is difficult like I said, because the media is whom we rely on for information. And we can not rely on our textbooks, that are 10 years old, for what is going on today. The teachers might not have the opportunity to do their own research, and researchers take a long time to produce their research. In the middle of this it is very important to use every type of information channel that you have access to and think critical about everything.

*--Interview with PRIO professor .
January 2016 - This interview is not directly cited.*

NORWAY- Maren, Caroline

An interview with professor Aashild Kolaas at PRIO (Peace Research Institute Oslo) about what is happening in the Middle-East, the refugees that are coming to Europe and what we can do about the crisis.

«Who wants to go to Europe?» part 2



"On the situation today we can only hope to have results in a couple of years"

• Have you done any research on why people want to go to Europe?

Yes, we have. One of my colleagues have done a policy brief called *Who wants to go to Europe?* It is a result of a large scale survey on immigration aspiration.

The project was founded by the European union framework program seven. It ran from 2010 to 2013. It is important to note that, because it takes a long time for a real project like this to be carried out. First we have to apply for funds, then we have to carry out the research, and then start writing. And when we are talking about articles and books it could take several years. And policy briefs like this are a simply way to present results. In the case studies here only Ukraine and Turkey are quite relevant as far as the situation today. The other two countries that have been studied are Senegal and Morocco, and we do not see that many refugees coming from these countries today.

8000 people from 16 different areas in the four different countries were interviewed. The most commonly preferred destinations for immigration were France and Spain for the Moroccans. Belgium, Germany and USA for the people from Turkey. Italy and France for people from Senegal. And USA, Germany and Russia for people from Ukraine.

You might say that these results do not say much about the situation today, and yet these are the latest results we have.

And on the situation today we can only hope to have results in a couple of years.

• What do you know about the war in Syria?

I am an anthropologist, and very few anthropologists have the opportunity to go to Syria right now, because it is a warzone. So what we can rely on as researchers is information collected by the media.

I do have experience from years of research in areas where I have done fieldwork, where I can see how what happens on the ground is represented in the media.

So what I can say about Syria would only be based on how I see the way the information is collected on the ground being turned into news. And from my experience in Mumbai, I can say that the media will make a war story out of the events on the ground.

Syria is a big country. There are places where you will not even see that there is a war. At the same time there are places where there are probably a lot of fighting.

--Interview with PRIO professor - February 2016 - This interview is not directly cited.

Refugees are fleeing across Europe. How is the UK helping to alleviate the crisis?

Photo source:
BT-home.com



The UK government have promised to bring in 20,000 refugees by 2020

"I want to help people help refugees."

Joy Johnston works for the Home Office in the UK in the immigration team. Her department is responsible for internal affairs but she works with other governments on the international side.

W

hat do you do?

I am in charge of relocating Syrian refugees once they arrive in the UK. These refugees are flown in directly from the refugee camps in the neighbouring countries.

Why don't you take people from the 'Jungle camp' in Calais?

The reason is that want to dissuade refugees from taking the dangerous trip across Europe to seek asylum.

How do you choose the refugees to relocate to the UK?

We try to identify vulnerable people who are injured, elderly or families with young children. It's the UNHCR that chooses the refugees who will be part of the 20,000.

Do you have the funds for this project? Where do they come from?

The funds are mostly from charity donations. Also we have money left over from other development projects. The aim is not to support these refugees financially indefinitely, but to help them to become independent and release them into work.

What happens once the refugees arrive in the UK?

They are settled in different areas of the country. Any medical needs are dealt with and we offer trauma counselling. We encourage them to learn English quickly if they don't already. We provide Arabic-speaking translators: we have had many offers of help in this domain.

Did you know?

50% of the refugees who are resettled in the UK are children.



Bob Geldof, a British rock star, has offered his second home to help refugees.

Source: dailystar.co.uk

Syrian children play in one of the number of Syrian refugee camps in Lebanon (Joseph Eid) Source: Independent.co.uk

Thanks go to Joy Johnston for granting us this interview.

What kind of donations have the public made?

Some businesses have donated items such as thousands of colouring books, but we need more basics to help families start up their lives in the UK. Some people have offered to house refugees, but for the security of both parties, this is not possible. It could cause conflicts. Certain celebrities have offered spare houses to house refugees and we are looking into this possibility.

This project has already helped resettle 1,000 Syrian refugees across the UK between September and December 2015.



Source: Home Office UK

Grønland,
Oslo,
Norway



Interviews with refugees: Interview 1

The Norwegian students Hani, Fardowsa and Siham went to Grønland in Oslo to interview two refugees that have been living there since they came to Norway.

Where are you from?

I'm from a place called Al-Hasakah province in northwest Syria, a place under control of the Syrian regime, and their allies.

What happened to you in Syria and why did you choose Norway?

I came to Norway because I had to join Assad's military because of my age. I have also been in jail for several months, because I have been talking against the regime. I have been talking with many Syrians around the world before I chose Norway. I graduated as an oil engineer and found that Norway was great. A great chance to get a job.

How did you come to Norway?

I came to Norway by boat from Turkey to Greece, then by foot to Austria. That way it was easy to travel to Norway by train and bus.

How much did it cost?

It was around 7000 dollars from Syria to Norway.

What is the difference between Norway and Syria?

Syria can't be compared with any other countries because of war. But it was cheap to live there before the revolution.

vegetables and fruits in our farms. There were many sheep owners in my area, so the access to meat was easy there, but we only ate it for special occasions like eid, birth of a child, exams etc.

The system in Syria was corrupted. You had to pay bribery for every official and private sector.

Syria has many groups of people like Arabs, Kurds, Turkish, Armenian and Syrian. So there were many religion/sects there, but the majority is Arabian, Sunni Muslims. There is a military dictatorship in Syria, so freedom of speech doesn't exist.

Soldiers can whenever check your phone to see if you have said something against the regime. In the land where I come from the culture stays above the religion Islam. For example women are not given their rights as they should have been given according to the Quran. But it is changing, because women living in cities have more rights now. The average number of children is five, families are bigger than in Norway, and the family bond is stronger in Syria than in Norway.

The first interview: a refugee from Syria.

What do you think about Norway?

I like Norway. Everybody is nice here, and I haven't seen any racism, I have only read about it. It has gone well learning Norwegian, but sometimes it can be frustrating. Many words mean the same, and I miss the Arabian cultural feeling. The Norwegian people are like a deserted island, but kind when you get to know them.

Interviews with refugees: Interview 2

The Norwegian students Hani, Fardowsa and Siham went to Grønland in Oslo to interview two refugees that have been living there since they came to Norway.

Second interview with a refugee from Eritrea



Where are you from?

Eritrea

Why did you come to Norway?

To search for a better life that never happened. But it is still better than Eritrea.

Was it because of the war and is there still war?

Everybody knows that there is war in Eritrea, that is the reason I came here.

How did you get here?

To be honest, I came by plane like what people normally do.

What is the difference between Norway and Eritrea?

Here I feel safe, and more protected. And at least I have enough food to eat.

Was it hard to live in Eritrea?

Yes, because of the war, which made life complicated.

Was it hard to get something to eat and drink?

Not really, but we were always under their system in the military. So you don't have a private life and a job that you can provide your future with.

What does it mean for you to be in a safe country?

I don't know, to be honest I have been everywhere in Europe and I love this country, it's peaceful here and the people are calm. There is no violence and aggressiveness and no bullying. I feel like home

Do you want to go back to your country?

If I can have a peaceful life to live, why not. At least I enjoy the sunlight and no more snow. I feel like a penguin here.

How long have you been here?

I have been here for 3 years, but I am struggling with the language.

I understand some words, but not that much.

Thanks!

*Grønland,
Oslo,
Norway*



*Elisabeth ,
volunteer for the
Red Cross, age 15*

The Youth Red Cross is an international organization that helps asylum seekers to get through the latency.



Interview with a student who works as a volunteer for the Youth Red Cross

What are your tasks as a volunteer for the Youth Red Cross?

I have different tasks every time I am at the asylum. It depends on the activities we have, but mostly I would arrange an activity as bowling, then teach them how to do it and maybe talk to them.

What is your experience with working at an asylum?

So far it has been a good experience. I think that they are very nice, and I think that it has been very giving experience.

How did you become a volunteer?

I have been a member in the Youth Red Cross in one year now, and when I

heard about the new activity; activities at an asylum, I said that I would want to volunteer on that activity, and so I did!

Why did you want to become a volunteer for the Youth Red Cross?

I believe that the world is unfair, and I simply wanted to do a little difference in the world, and help them who has a need for it.

Is this something you want to continue doing?

I definitely do not want to stop being a volunteer for the Youth Red Cross. So I want to continue doing this until I am old and senile!

Dina, Hovseter School, Norway



Félicie



Louis

We're immigrants, too.

In the international section of College Brunet we have many immigrants. We are all bilingual and we all at least speak English fluently. In our class we are nine students. I'm going to talk about Zein, Louis, Zélie and Félicie.

Zélie was born in France, she went to Ireland for three years when she was eight, then she went to Italy for two years. She came back to France in September 2015.

Zein was born in Syria, when she was seven years old she went to Saudi Arabia; she came to France in January 2015.

Louis was born in France, at the age of six he went to Egypt and he came back to France three years after.

Félicie has always lived in France but her father is Canadian.



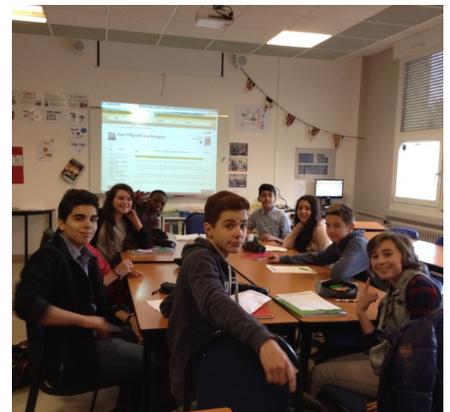
Zélie and Zein



The people that I write about have changed countries for many reasons.

We're immigrants, too.

On the big image there are the people I will talk about.



First I will present 3 of my classmates and tell their immigration stories.

The first person I will talk about is Ali, he is Syrian and has lived in 5 different countries. Ali first lived in Kuwait then left because of family problems; he then went to Syria then he left because the situation was getting bad; after he went to Turkey but left because of studies in better countries.

The second person I will talk about is Pierre (Peter): he is French and he lived in two countries. He first lived in France then went to Canada because his father's company transferred him to Montreal, then he came back to France because he was home-sick.

Now I will talk about Qasim: he is Pakistani and he left Pakistan when he was eight because his father works in France. His immigration story is different from the usual immigrant stories, because his parents already had a restaurant in France, so he came later on with his 4 brothers, and he has been living here for the last 5 years.

And last, I will talk about myself, Abdoulaye. I am African-American, I lived for 2 years in Guinea (an African country) with my father; then I went to America and stayed with my aunt for 3 to 4 years. And now I live in France, I've been living here for almost 3 years.

What do you think about the immigration stories of my classmates?



The entrance to our school, which has about 350 students.



Here we are in the Marco Polo classroom.



A view of the courtyard where we spend our free time.

The International Section in Caen

We are in the international section because we already speak English.

In the international section, we speak English all the time, and there is one friend who can't speak French, so we always speak English with him. We are all friends and we are only nine students in the class, and our teacher is really kind.

We are not really a big or small class: it's good for nine students. We all have different nationalities: we have two French, two Syrian, one Pakistani, one African-American, one French-Italian, and two Canadians. We mostly study English literature.



Our teacher Mrs Segond came to France from America almost 20 years ago.

She's one example of an economic migrant.



We are very supportive of each other.

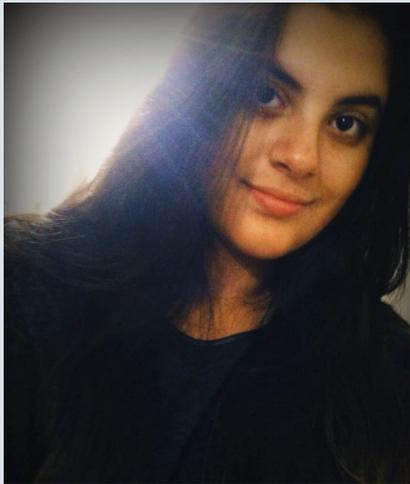
I didn't speak French when I came to France.



Are we immigrants too?

My name is Eveline. I was born in France, in Nice.

My mother immigrated to France about 15 years ago. Before that, she lived in Russia but she went to France for some personal reasons. At the beginning of her immigration, my mother had homesickness. My family is from Eastern Europe, I have Russian, Armenian, Turkish, Cossack and Spanish blood.



Antoinette

My name is Louis. I'm French. I was born in France. My parents are French. My two

sisters are Australian. This is because they were born in Australia while we went to Australia for my father's work. We were economic migrants when we went there and it was easy for me to settle-in because I was little and also because I was also learning English in France.



Here are a few of the stories from the pupils in our class:



Mariska, Eveline and Emma

I'm **Antoinette**. I was born in France, but after 1 year I left to go to Sweden and I lived there for 10 years. My mom didn't want to live in Sweden anymore, but I have many of my Lebanese family who live there and also in Florida. My family is Lebanese because my mom comes from there and when she was young her parents died and she had to be separated from her sisters and brothers in different countries and my mom was sent to France. So she wanted to come back after 10 years in Sweden because France is more her real country. When I was in Sweden I was in an international school too.

Being an immigrant for me is...terrible. When I was leaving Sweden I was sad and furious, because I had all my memories there, all my friends, my family. It's been nearly 4 years that I've been in France and I still don't like it.

I lived in a cool country with all the people and things I love and I had to leave it to go to a country that I don't really know. For me it's terrible, and it's been 2 years since I went to Sweden so I miss it very much. I only want to come back and live there just like I was doing before.

My name is Cédric. I was born in France

My parents are Italian and French so I am: 50% Italian, 40% French, 5% Algerian, 5% Vietnamese and have some Canadian origins

My Mom: She has a mom that lived in Vietnam but went back to France because of the war there and lived in Poitiers where most of her sisters were born. My grandfather is purely French (his name is Tourette) and made a world wide program about dams.

My Dad: He has an Italian dad and an Algerian-French mother that have all grown in France.

Are we migrants too?

Here are our family histories...
Perhaps we are!

My name is Emma. I was born in France, but my grandpa(my mother's adoptive father) is from Italy and my paternal grandmother is from Tunisia. My grandpa came to France when the the country needed blue collar workers, nothing really special but when he arrived he was in his twenties and he didn't know how to speak French. He had to learn the language and it was really difficult for him but now he knows words that even my mother and my dad don't know.

My grandmother came to France when she was around eight, she had to escape war in Tunisia. One year before she left her her older sisters left so she felt lonely but then it was too dangerous so they really had to leave. One day day before leaving she had to say goodbye to all of her animals (chickens, cows, pigs...)



Cedric, Jonathan, Louis

Hi, my name is Mariska and I'm 13. I was born in France but have two different nationalities: French and Dutch. My mother is French and my father Dutch. They met in Montpellier as students during an Erasmus exchange. Before my sister and I were born, my parents lived in many countries such as The Netherlands, Germany and England. These many moves were for work, but now we are settled in France.

I'd like to say one thing to anyone against migrants: If you were bombed and living in terrible conditions on a daily basis, you'd be happy too that another country would welcome you and take care of you. So please treat the others as you'd like to be treated.



Mrs Bainbridge

I'm British and have taken French nationality.

I was born in the UK and moved to France to work here. I would probably be classed as an economic migrant.

I think that I still feel quite British, despite having lived in France for 12 years now.

When I first arrived here, I didn't feel at home because I couldn't always express myself. It's not easy moving countries, even if it was a personal choice. How much harder it must be when it is forced on people!

Hey my name is Jonathan and I'm 13 years old. I was born in Belgium.

My Mom was born in Manchester. She's English and my Dad was born in Ile de la Reunion. He's French but they moved to Belgium and now to France.

The reasons that my parents moved country because they wanted to work with a church.

My Mom and Dad met in Montpellier as students. They married 2 years after, and they moved to Belgium and lived there for 16 years before moving to France.

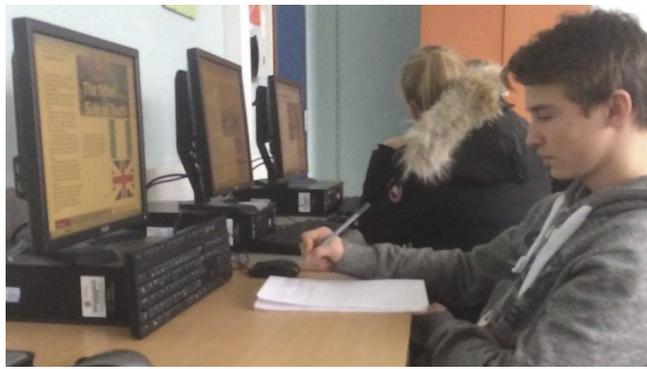
I got the French nationality and English nationality but I need to live 3 years in Belgium to get the Belgian nationality because I lived there for 7 years.

I felt very bad when I moved from Belgium.

I was very sad about that because a lose a lot of friends there most of my friends don't know me now because I've changed a lot.

Well if I had to say something to Immigrants or people that don't like them

"Just let the country change you and be like you want to be."



THE AIM OF OUR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION CLASS

Our class is all about establishing international connections, and gaining knowledge about different cultures. The aim is to bring people with different ethnicities and backgrounds

together to give them an understanding of the world as a whole, and develop an open-minded generation. International cooperation is about breaking down barriers, and seeing the people behind the prejudice of today's society.

Through skype seeings, projects and video interviews, teenagers from various countries are brought together to create a more peaceful future.



Carolus Clusius College

in Zwolle, Netherlands

Zwolle on the map



Orfeo

At the Orfeo department of the Carolus Clusius College (CCC) in Zwolle, the Netherlands, we offer most subjects in English, such as History, Geography and of course English.

At the moment, this is only done in Orfeo, our highest level department, where children are challenged to communicate in English as a foreign language, aimed to prepare them for their future position in this globalising world.

The pupils in Orfeo 2 (12-14 yrs old) have participated in the Refugee Project and have

read the book 'The Other Side of Truth' by Beverley Naidoo.

They have researched the routes refugees take on their way into Europe and they have given their views on possible ways of dealing with the refugee 'problem', by means of essays and a debate.

The collaboration with other European schools enables the pupils to see across their own borders and learn about the different viewpoints within the different European countries.

Netherlands on the map





Alexandre-Reza is the voice of the people we shouldn't forget.



With each picture came a story about the people Alexandre met in Rwanda.



Some of refugees have been living in HCR camps for almost 20 years!

Alexandre-Reza Kokabi: Impunzi Photos come to Caen

Alexandre-Reza is a journalist from our town of Caen--from the Collège Brunet actually!

After leaving Collège Brunet, Alexandre-Reza studied high school in Caen, then left Normandy for journalism school in Brittany. He won an important competition, Le Monde-HCR 2015, writing an article about an immigrant friend he had known in Caen.

His prize? A paid trip to the destination of his choice for a photo-documentary, financed by the UNHCR.

His destination? The refugee camps of Rwanda.

He spoke to us in January, sharing with us his photos and his stories.



Alexandre doesn't want us to pity the refugees: he told us how many of them are hopeful for the future. They have even created jobs for themselves in the camps!

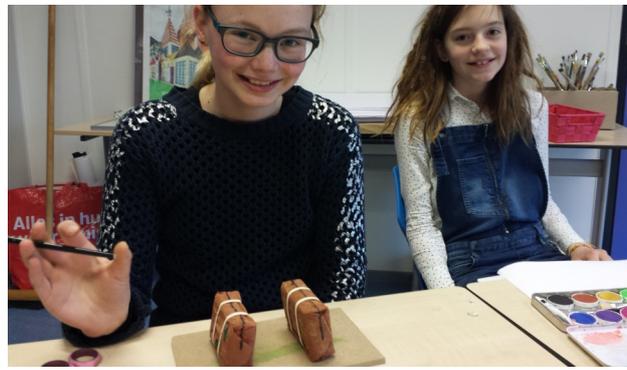


Many of the refugees come from Congo or Burundi. They are housed by the UNHCR.

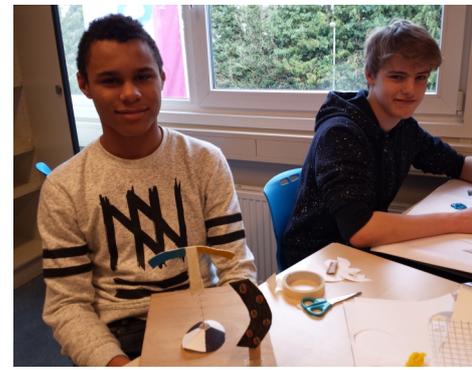
Impunzi means 'refugee' in one language spoken in Rwanda.



Maarten : "I have made a heart because the refugees need a warm heart from us"



Paulien is making 2 suitcases, representing the feeling how it is to leave your home. "Because life for refugees is really tough "



Noel : "My monument is about what refugees are just looking for: that is Peace"

Expressing how you feel by making a monument- Dutch students Art



Students of Carolus Clusius College make art for Migrants and Refugees

The assignment is to make a monument for the Migrants and/ or Refugees. Since we have been working on this project students became more understanding of the situation of people dealing with having to leave their home.

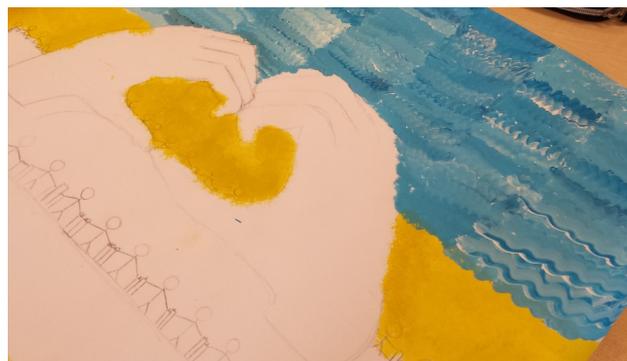
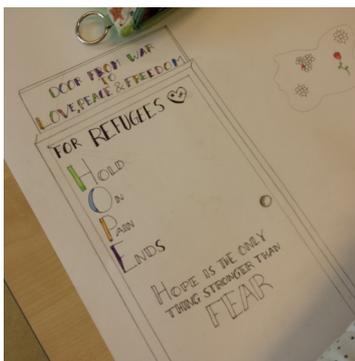
It is important to make art about such feelings, because in this way we act, we make the world a bit better.

This whole class came to a better understanding of the theme Migrants and Refugees.

www.orfeogymnasium.nl

www.hetccc.nl

This artwork represents a door. The door symbolises that especially children have a hard time coping with this. It is made by Jolieke.



Two hands as one heart. It represents the feeling we want to give to the refugees.

A novel about two young people who overnight become refugees...

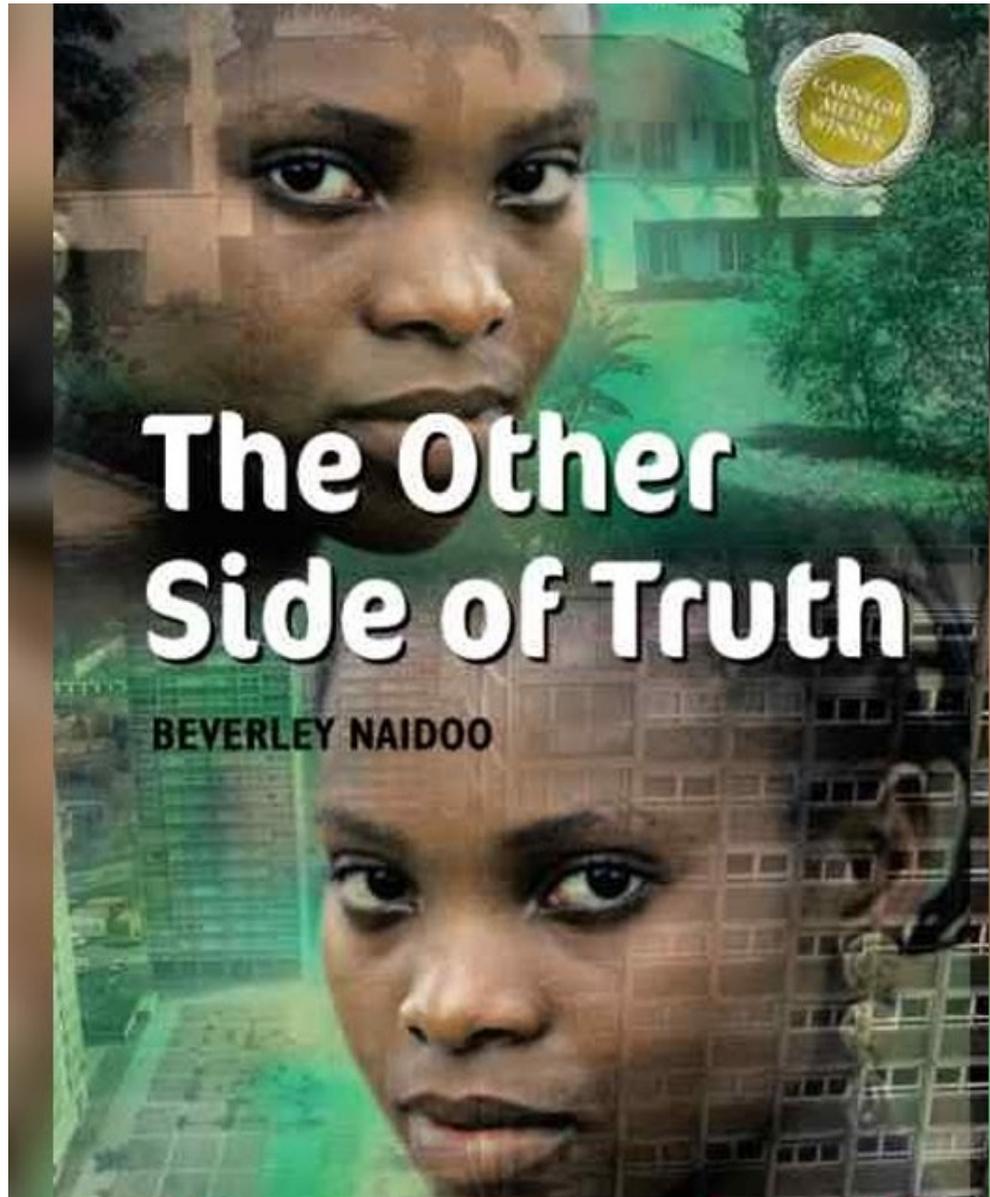
THE OTHER SIDE OF TRUTH

This must be one of the most eye opening books I have ever read. I knew a lot about the refugee crisis but I never understood what it was like until now.

The past year the news have been overflowing with articles about refugees fleeing their homecountry for their own safety. I knew it was tough for the refugees and I had heard what conditions they lived in, but I never really fathomed what they were feeling. This book gives you an insight on how much work it is for asylum seekers and what it is like coming to a new country unwillingly. The book reminds you that not everyone has the same privileges as you do and not everyone has the same right to freedom as us in the developed countries.

I have to say, while reading *The Other Side of Truth* I felt rage flowing through my body like blood. How could a government, which should of been trying to bring their country further, be shooting and killing their own people? The government in Nigeria were taking away the peoples right to freedom, all so that they could control and gain power. Today Nigerians right to freedom is still unstable. With a quavering government and the threat of Boko Haram, living in Nigeria is still tough.

The Other Side of Truth is a book everyone should read, both older and younger people. Since the book is short and written in a simple language it is not a hard read. The book is great in the way that it surrounds complicated topics at the same time as it tells an adventours and fun story.



« Narrated with
exepthional skill in a
bracing, unadorned
style... »
The Scotsman

Quick Summary

When the mother of twelve-year-old Sade and her younger brother Femi is killed by Nigeria's corrupt military government the kids are sent by their father to London for safety. They are to meet their uncle in the city, but when he is not there they are left alone and afraid on unknown streets.

Abdoulaye in Caen

The Other Side of Truth

by Beverley Naidoo
(from her own experience)



"Sade is slipping her English book into her schoolbag when Mama screams..."

Beverley Naidoo's book won the Carnegie Medal and Nestle Smarties Silver Award in the year 2000. Beverley Naidoo must have been inspired by her own personal stories, because she exiled herself from South Africa because she was angry with her country because of the apartheid.

This book is both historical fiction and coming of age, because the children Sade and Femi learn to adapt to a new country. In 1995 Sade and Femi leave Nigeria and go to England all alone.

During the entire story the children must learn to leave childhood and grow into adulthood. They must find ways to survive in a new hostile country. The children are forced to flee their home country because their mother was killed and their father was scared they would be next.

The O is a book that makes feel like you are living the experience with Sade and Femi through out the whole story. Sade talks to us as if we are really physically with her.

A SHOT. Two shots at the gate in the early morning and a car **SCREECHES** away down an avenue of palm trees.

A **TRAGEDY** – and a **TERRIBLE LOSS** for **SADE** and her younger brother, **FEMI**, children of an outspoken journalist. Now **TERROR** is all around them and they must **FLEE** their country **AT ONCE. AND ALONE.**

Plans for their **JOURNEY** have to be **HASTILY ARRANGED.** Everything must be done in **SECRET.** But once **SADE** and **FEMI** reach **ENGLAND**, they will be **SAFE – WON'T THEY?**

'A marvellous read . . . that refuels the desire for justice and freedom'
– Jon Snow

Winner of the **CARNEGIE MEDAL 2000**
and the **NESTLÉ SMARTIES SILVER AWARD 2000**



“You call your article 'Our children's future'. What do you imagine will happen to your own, Folarin?”

Summary

“The other side of truth” is a coming-of-age novel writing by Beverley Naidoo. It was published in 2000 and the author won a Carnegie medal.

Truth...

I thought that the title of the book, “The other side of truth” is really interesting because it makes you think about the truth and about lying. If you lie for the good reasons is it still something bad ?

It's the story of Femi and Sade, two kids living in Nigeria. Their father is a journalist but his articles doesn't please the government. Sade and Femi's world collapses the day their mother gets assassinated, they have to flee the country, and go to a country they never gone before, running away from the assassins, without their father.

The book is written with Sade's point of view and I think it's a really good choice because you can identify yourself to Sade and if you don't know anything about the refugee situation, you learn with her trough the story. Also, the “mistakes” she makes (lying, no going to the police...) make the story go on and makes it more interesting.

But if you know about the situation, Sade's character can be annoying because you think about what she had to do.

This book is interesting but it's not a really good book, although some parts are touching. If you are curious about refugees or integration, you should read this book and I think you will like it. The style of writing is particular because everything is written from a 12 year old point of view, so that can maybe bother you a little. If you prefer action, you could find this book quiet boring, so be warned.

Ali in Caen

The Other Side of Truth

Winner of the
Carnegie Medal 2001 and
the Nestle Smarties Silver
Award

In the novel "The Other Side of Truth" by Beverley Naidoo, we talk about a historical fiction story that talks about Refugees. The reader will be able to follow the main characters step by step and we will see from their point of view, except the main charachters are a 12 years old girl named Sade and her brother, a 10 years old boy named Femi. The reader will feel what's it's like to be in a foreign country surrounded by strangers, a different language, alone and scared but as a kid, not a grownu. Some adult readers might not get attached to the story more than young readers will.

After reaching England and being abandoned by their smuggler they have to keep each other safe but they can't tell the truth to anyone or everything might go wrong.

My opinion about this story is it's not very fun to read but it's interesting and it can actually come to a point to change the way you think. For people who love mysteries and real life based stories then this is your story. I would recommend it for young readers who are interested in historical stories because this story isn't for fantasy or action lovers: it's based on a real life event.

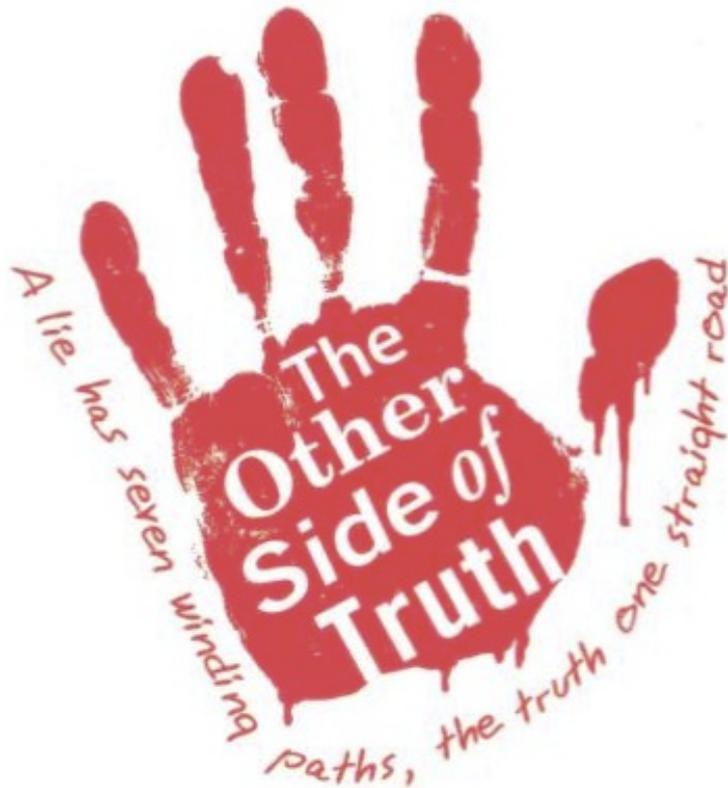


*Légende de la photo
lorem ipsum dolorem
at conceptuer lorem ipsum
dolorem at capture*

«A shot. Two shots at the gate in the early morning and a car screeches away down an avenue of palm trees.»

Beverley Naidoo,
the author

BEVERLEY NAIDOO



"The other side of truth," is a novel, first published in 2000, by Puffin. The novel brings up the important, and very relevant and topical refugee-issue the world is facing at this instant. In this review I will focus on my thoughts of the book, rather than talking you through the plot. .

Reading experiences

Keeping the background of the author in mind, the heartfelt and gripping descriptions in this book become even more special. Naidoo has a simple, yet utterly beautiful way of writing, this made the reading experience pleasurable.

Personal opinions

This book has both interesting characters, an entertaining storyline and a very different perspective on the refugee crisis. The book also brings up the importance of family and friendship.

The book opened my eyes and made me realize how big of an impact the media and press has on the world. It really is the fourth estate, and has the power to change the outcome of many situations entirely.

The book is provocative, and made to start a debate. It challenges the reader and forces him to think and reflect. Reading this book was very rewarding to me, and as I finished the book I was left feeling more educated and got this feeling of understanding.

All in all, I found this book delightful! It is wonderfully written, addresses important issues and is a real pageturner. I highly recommend reading "The other side of truth".

*Written by
Selma,
10D,
Hovseter*

"A lie has seven winding paths, the truth has one straight road."

The author

Beverly Naidoo was born in Johannesburg, in 1943. In the early sixties Naidoo engaged in anti-apartheid movement, for which she was arrested. She later moved to London and lived in exile there.

Plot summary

In the book we meet Sade and Femi, two Nigerian children. Their father writes rebellious articles towards the government, addressing his discontent with their violations of the human rights. The government does not like this and threatens to kill the entire family. Mama gets shot and the rest of the family is forced to flee. The children leave first, alone. They were going to meet their uncle in London, but things do not go as planned.

The Other Side of Truth - Beverly Naidoo

In the book "The other side of truth," the author, Beverly Naidoo, in many ways manages to reach out to the reader with her immense use of known concepts as a device. Not only has the author covered an extremely important topic in today's society - she has done so in a beautiful manner.

With use of her unformal yet correct writing style, Naidoo creates a reading experience suited for the intended audience - young adult. The most important aspect of the book - immigration is clearly defined.

Naidoo was born in Johannesburg and grew up there at the time of apartheid. Ken Saro-Wiwa, a bold journalist and civil-rights activist often mentioned in the book, lived there at the same time.

This tells us that the author may have been personally effected by the situation - and this has made a clear mark on her writing, making it easier to understand. In my opinion, this gives the book an imprint that grants every reader the ability to relate to it on a higher level.

A character that can be closely associated with Naidoo's personal connection to the Ken Sawo-Wiwa situation, is Sade and Femi's own father. A bold journalist representing the fourth estate in a matter that the Nigerian government strongly opposes to. A civil rights activist, and also the reason behind the main characters' sudden fleeing.



All in all, I would highly recommend this book. It excites the reader, while feeding the brain with information that is most relevant in today's society.

The author explores several relevant issues in today's society in a sense of stunning realism. The characters, language, storyline unite in an entirely authentic and alluring matter which helps create an immense understanding of the so important subject that is occurring.

Sade and her brother, Femi, are brutally forced to leave their home, when their mother is suddenly murdered by a group of government assassins. Their worst nightmare becomes the horrible reality, and they must flee their country abruptly.

The Other Side of Truth

By: Beverly Naidoo

The Other Side of Truth is a book about Nigerian refugees, Sade and her brother Femi, and their journey to freedom.

I read this book for my international class and i thought it was very interesting. It shows how hard it can be to be a refugee.

Sade and her younger brother Femi must Leave thier home in Lagos, Nigeria after thier mother is shot and killed.

Thier father is a journalist and only writes the truth. "The Truth is the truth, how can I write what's un true?" he says. This is a dangerous job and many people want him dead.

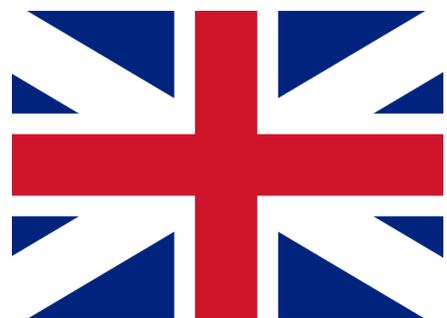
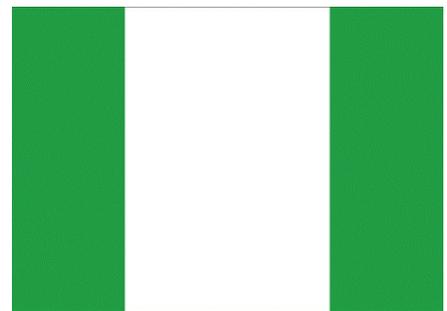
To escape danger Sade and Femi must go to London and live with thier Uncle Dele. Once they get to London with illegal passports they find out that thier Uncle is missing and they're all alone.

Of course they cant go to the police beacuse they are illegal immigrants. It's not until they are accused of shop lifting when they are sent to child services. There they find a family willing to take them in.

This isn't the end of thier hard journey. Sade gets bullied at school by some girls. I thought that part was so bad beacuse even after all they went through they still have to deal with bullies.



The recurring theme in the book is basically don't lie, always tell the truth. Even though the biggest problem in the book (everyone is after their father, they have to leave Nigeria) is caused by telling the truth.



The Author
Beverly Naidoo



Awards

- UK Arts Council Award for work in progress
- Carnegie Medal for year's best children's book
- silver runner up for the 2000 Nestle smarties book prize
- International Board on Books for Young People honor book in 2002
- 2002 Jane addams children book award

The Other Side of Caring



By
Rachel
in Zwolle

In the book *The Other Side of Truth* we see the story of Sade and Femi. They're refugees, fleeing from their home country, Nigeria. But when they're in England, they need to be taken care of, just like all other refugees. First they come in the house of Mrs. Graham, a kind, loving woman. She cares for Sade and Femi.

I think it's good what Mrs. Graham does. Refugees are scared of what happened in their home countries. Many might be traumatized. So if you care for the refugees, they will feel better. If you just keep caring and showing your love like Mrs. Graham does, they might begin to trust people more and get better.

Closing the borders?!



Should the borders be closed? That's a big question for refugees, and of course for the government as well. If the refugees are allowed to come in, where do they stay? All those questions, but few answers.

Racism is bad, and it's for no reason. And if you've got no reason, why would you do it? I personally think the borders should not close because what did they do wrong to you? But there are some people doing something wrong but everyone does something wrong. We do something wrong as well because we want the borders to close. So let them in!

By

Gijs in Zwolle

The refugees get my permission to come in, but where do they go? I don't know. People like Sade have seen awful things, but we don't know it. We only know that they are refugees.

Racism, Sade has gone through it, why does the officer need their names for no reason? Maybe because the agents think they're going to do something wrong. Or just because they're black?

eTwinning offers a collaborative platform to the European learning community, allowing pupils and teachers to work together and share in the learning experience.

***eTwinning** is the e-community for schools in Europe.*



Source:

https://www.etwinning.net/en/pub/discov/what_is_etwinning.htm



eTwinning Label



Kristie Segond, Collège Henri Brunet, France
Heather Bainbridge, Collège Monod, France
Amanda van Dijk, Carolus Clusius College, Netherlands
Bart Tip, Carolus Clusius College, Netherlands
Anna Catharina Campman, Hovseter skole, Norway
Christian Fischer, Schillerschule Hannover, Germany

were awarded the Label for their project:

Migrants and Refugees

24.08.2015

Marie-Christine Clément-Bonhomme
National Support Service
France

Marc Durando
Central Support Service



Heather Bainbridge France

As the refugee crisis was unfolding and becoming more and more prominent in the media, it seemed to be essential to somehow engage the young people I teach, not only with the facts, but to go deeper. So from families who have migrated. Through looking at the crisis from different angles with European partners, the students have reacted, participated and opened up to not only the complexity of the political issues at stake, but the human cost too. We have all moved from shocking headlines to really grappling with the issues that have been brought up.



Kristie Segond France

The students I teach come from very diverse backgrounds: most of them were born and have spent a considerable number of years outside of France. Working on the topic of migrations was a given. Comparing our migration stories to those of others has helped us understand the complexity of the current crisis in Europe. Working with other European countries, my students realized that not all cultures view the world in the same way: comparing our stereotypes and visions of refugees and migrants at the beginning of the project was an eye-opener!



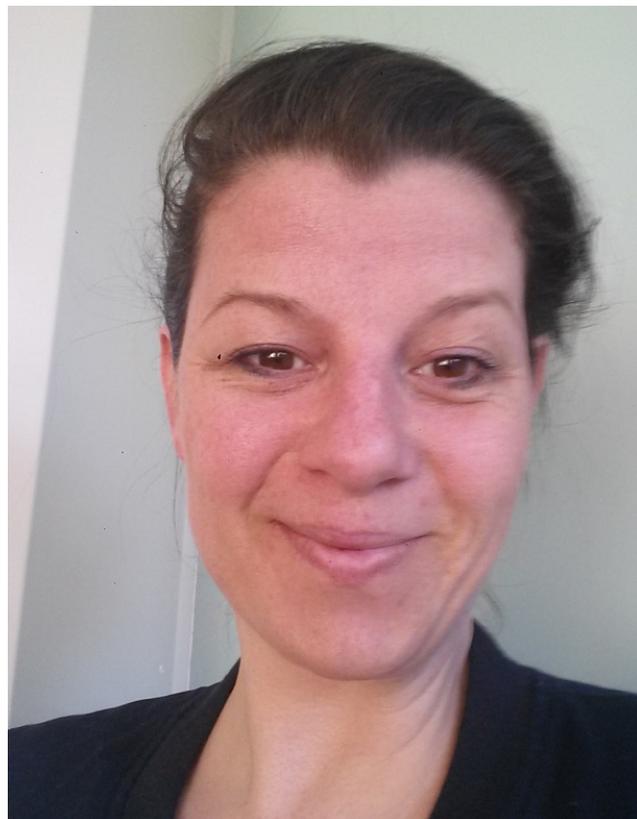
Christian Fischer Germany

Hardly any other issue has been so fiercely contested in Germany than the refugee crisis. I had to sign up for this project – despite not having a suitable group at first. I found four students, and I thrilled with the results. Media coverage here tends to portray Germany as the only country granting refugees asylum, and here, this myth is punctured. But not only has the project opened our eyes for the European dimension, it also helped us to actually take notice of refugees from our own community. In short: The project has helped us find out who “these refugees” are.



Amanda Van Dijk Netherlands

I am the bilingual coordinator and Art teacher at Carolus Clusius College, in Orfeo International Gymnasium. Together with my colleague Bart Tip, who is an English teacher, we worked on this project. For me it was quite clear from the beginning this theme was really important to work on with our students. In every country opinions and feelings about this topic differ. It warms me that more knowledge of this theme led to more understanding in our young students. This is what education can be, since we are creating the future in a changing Europe. I am humbled to have had a part in this.



Bart Tip Netherlands

I've been teaching a few years now and I particularly enjoy the only-English classes, all classes except languages. The challenge this offers is very interesting both for them and for me. I don't have to teach English from scratch, but I can teach whatever I want through English. This diversity of teachable subjects allows me to make lessons interesting and sometimes even fun. The refugee project had many viewpoints as well, and it was enthralling to see how pupils thought about the subject and how they believed the refugee 'problem' could be tackled.



Anna Catharina Campman, Norway

First of all we asked ourselves, "What might force me and my family to abandon my home and leave my country?" Internet research and interviews provided information on the historical background and the current situation in countries that are the greatest sources of refugees, as well as personal experiences. The project turned out to be a valuable learning experience, which taught us that this global issue is everyone's responsibility.





eTwinning