The Schengen Crisis and the Refugee Inflow to Europe
OUTLINE

1. Introduction
2. The European Policies
3. Welcoming States
4. Anti-migration States
5. Conclusion
1. INTRODUCTION

- Late 2014, war in Syria, fleeing violence & poverty in countries such as Iraq, Afghanistan, Eritrea, Somalia, Niger, and Kosovo
- Syrian Refugees gathering in border-town camps in neighboring Turkey, Lebanon, and Jordan
- By 2015, camps were full of residents unable to find work or educate their children
- So, more and more people decided to seek asylum further afield
• In 2015, an estimated 1.5 million people made their way from Greece towards western Europe via the “Balkan Route”.
• Most of the refugees come from: Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Applications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syria</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albania</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eritrea</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Eurostat
Where are they going?

- Germany received the highest number of new asylum applications in 2015, with more than 476,000.
- 2nd place - Hungary with 177,130 applications
How do they get to Europe?

- According to IOM, more than 1,011,700 migrants arrived by sea in 2015, 34,900 by land.
- Frontex monitors the routes migrants use and numbers arriving at Europe’s borders and put the figure crossing into Europe in 2015 at more than 1,800,000.
- Most of those heading for Greece take the relatively short voyage from Turkey to the islands of Kos, Chios, Lesvos and Samos - often in rubber dinghies or small wooden boats.
Why is this an issue?

- Budget Issues
- Number of children in migration
- Economic Migrants
- Number of deaths
- Schengen area - introduced temporary checks at their borders
2. The European Policies
Serina Hayashi
European Union treaties & laws regarding migration

LEGAL BASIS

— Articles 67(2), 78 and 80 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU);

— Article 18 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights.
European Union treaties & laws regarding migration

- **The Schengen Agreement (1985)**
  Signed with the aim of abolishing checks at the borders between member countries of the European Communities (freedom of movement)

- **Treaty of Maastricht (1991)**
  Greater intergovernmental cooperation on immigration & asylum

- **Treaty of Amsterdam (1997)**
  Provided a legal basis for EU action to legislate immigration & asylum policies on minimum standard
• Treaty of Lisbon (2007)

Empowered the rights of asylum-seekers within the EU (the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union legally binding)
The quota plan for asylum seekers

- A plan for the relocation of asylum-seekers
- The scheme will distribute most of the asylum-seekers in frontline countries to other European countries.
- The hope is to relieve some of the pressure of the migrant crisis on frontline countries.
Issues regarding policies:

The Schengen Agreement (free cross-border movement of people)

❖ Excessive influx of refugee into Germany
   ➢ Since Germany is known for its tolerant policy for refugees and its quality treatment was known through SNS
   ➢ In 2015, Germany took in 1.1 million migrants

❖ Security concerns
   ➢ Free-movement of people makes it hard to distinguish terrorists from the other migrants
Measures sought by European countries

- the EU responsibility and burden sharing by the introduction of the relocation system
  - Dublin regulation, the Eurodac regulation
- Toughening up border controls
Supposition to migration
Yuto Niizeki
Reasons and advantages of accepting refugees

Economic gains

Increase in cultural diversity

Increase in standard of living in the part of immigrants.

A younger workforce

Skilled workers in much needed sectors
Where refugees seek asylum in Europe

Number of asylum applications lodged in 2015 (January through August unless noted otherwise)

- **Germany**: 221,933
- **Hungary**: 143,009
- **Serbia and Kosovo**: 103,946
- **Turkey**: 70,848
- **Sweden**: 44,512
- **France**: 40,407
- **Italy**: 38,653
- **Austria**: 35,604
- **United Kingdom**: 19,196
- **Switzerland**: 18,739

* January through July

Source: UNHCR
Germany

1950~1960 recruitment of foreign workers because of labour shortage

1973 pause of recruitment because of the oil crisis (immigrants’ families migration)

1980s and 1990s massive number of immigrants from Eastern Europe

1990s fall of the Berlin Wall and the end of cold war

Late 90s sub-replacement fertility and development of IT fields.
Germany now a days

Birth rate is 1.3

It is expected that 40% of the population will be over 65 years-old

High average life span
Solving population problem and social security problem

Solving labour shortage and lack of technologists and doctors

New policies

e.g. teaching systems, acceptance test
4. Opposition to migration

Mikki Wasara
Issues of debate and controversy

Duality between destination states and frontier states.

Transit-only -states

Questions of national security

Polarized political atmosphere

Domestic political pressure vs. unified EU-level policy
Entry vs. Destination

Changes in refugee paradigm; easing access to destinations replaced by border control

New routes emerge

Weight of the crisis pools onto fewer states

In the absence of a common policy, some states wash their hands from the whole issue
Transit-countries
Example: Border Walls in the Balkans
Entry vs. Destination

Changes in refugee paradigm; easing access to destinations replaced by border control

New routes emerge

Weight of the crisis pools onto fewer states

In the absence of a common policy, some states wash their hands from the whole issue
National security & Fear of terrorism

Recent rise of extremism
Large attention grabbing attacks
The atmosphere of fear
Growing public outcry towards politicians
Anti-migration policies and attitudes gain footing
Polarization of domestic politics

Right-wing, conservative and nationalist parties gain momentum around the continent

Opposed by progressive left-wing parties more welcoming towards migration

*The Overton Window* shifting as time passes

The persisting importance of domestic institutions regarding asylum
Conclusion

Where we are now:

- Germany’s Government
- Italy and Central Europe
- June 28-29 EU Council

Leon Gaschka (1M161039-5)
Germany

Issues within the government

- Seehofer vs. Merkel
- Border vs. No border

Secondary movements

- During application process
- Already registered to other country
The EU

Italy’s new populist government

- Issues with arrivals through the Mediterranean

Absence of Central European countries

- Refusing to take part in sharing responsibility of arrivals
June 28-29 EU Council

Merkel - bilateral/trilateral agreements

- All countries or not, Merkel and Macron comment on moving forward towards a solution

The crisis is now mainly “political” - Macron

Italy - Protection Centers

- EU leaders agree, but the process is “complicated, slow and costly”
"Our top priority, if we want to save free movement within the Schengen area, is to ensure real, strict controls of the EU's external borders"

- Charles Michel, Prime Minister of Belgium
Sources and links

https://www.ft.com/content/2872b844-73e7-11e8-aa31-31da4279a601
http://uk.businessinsider.com/map-refugees-europe-migrants-2016-2
https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/explainers/understanding-migration-and-asylum-european-union