

Campaign on Access to Protection for Refugees from Syria



3 October, 2012

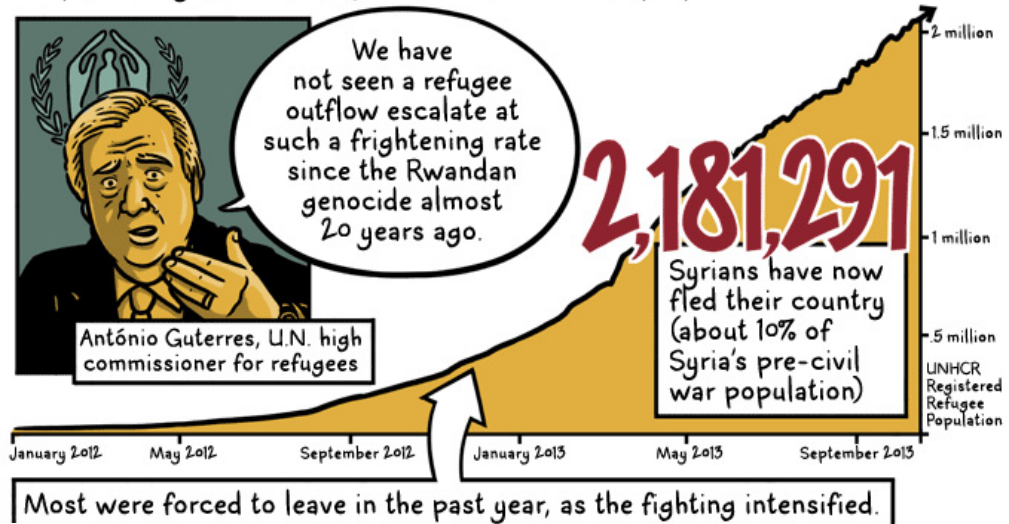
Most people wish to remain in the region in order to be able to return when the conflict is over...

A devastating side effect of the conflict that has engulfed Syria for the past two years is a refugee crisis of enormous proportions.



We have not seen a refugee outflow escalate at such a frightening rate since the Rwandan genocide almost 20 years ago.

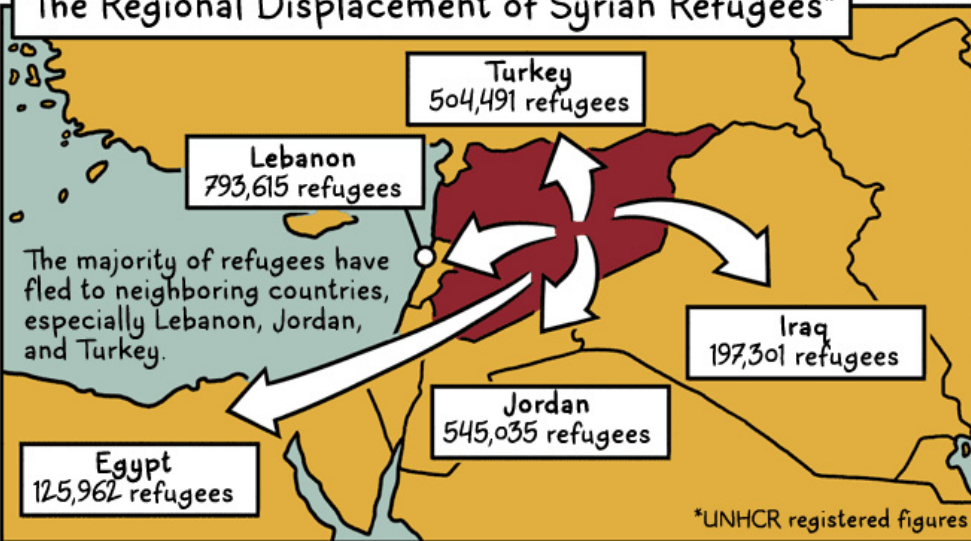
António Guterres, U.N. high commissioner for refugees



Comic by Andy Warner

... but those who want to come to Europe are facing many **obstacles** (visas denied, push-backs, limited resettlement and humanitarian admission opportunities, etc.) and have not many choices apart from **irregular entry, putting their lives at risk.**

The Regional Displacement of Syrian Refugees*



Comic by Andy Warner

In contrast, only 53,000 Syrians have sought protection in European countries (other than Turkey) since the beginning of the conflict

Campaign Aim

- Ensure access to protection for refugees from Syria by increasing the engagement of the broader public and NGOs across Europe to put pressure on European governments and EU institutions

- **Ensure Access to Protection for Syria's Refugees by:**

- **Helping refugees get out:**
 - a. Facilitate family reunification
 - b. Grant humanitarian access through embassies in neighbouring countries
 - **c. Continue to offer places for resettlement and humanitarian admission**

- **Letting refugees in:**
 - a. No push-backs at the borders
 - b. Border controls should be carried out in a protection-sensitive manner
 - c. Continue current moratoria on returns to Syria

- **Target:**

National and European decision-makers through a coordinated policy and public campaign involving general public and national and European-based NGOs.

- **Policy and public campaign**

- Policy Campaign: Letter-writing and press work on national and European level).
- Public Campaign: Activities to be defined. ECRE and partners are currently discussing possible activities with PR company.

- **Timing:** 20 January – 20 June 2014, World Refugee Day

Participating Organisations

- 55 organisations in 32 European countries including 6 international organisations



Would you like to join?

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Asylkoordination, Diakonie Austria (Austria), International Eurasia
• Press Fund (Azerbaijan), Belgian Refugee Council, Flemish Refugee Action (Belgium), Bulgarian Red Cross, Bulgarian Helsinki Committee (Bulgaria), Croatian Law Centre (Croatia), KISA (Cyprus), OPU (Czech Republic), Danish Refugee Council (Denmark), Estonian Refugee Council (Estonia), Finnish Red Cross (Finland), Forum réfugiés – Cosi, France terre d'asile (France), Macedonian Young Lawyers' Association (Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), German Red Cross, ProAsyl, Arbeiterwohlfahrt (Germany), KSPM-ERP, Greek Council for Refugees (Greece), Hungarian Helsinki Committee (Hungary), CIR (Italy), Civil Rights Program (Kosovo), Lithuanian Red Cross Society (Lithuania), Caritas Luxembourg (Luxembourg), Aditus (Malta), NOAS (Norway), Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights (Poland), Portuguese Refugee Council (Portugal), Romanian National Council for Refugees (Romania), Belgrade Centre for Human Rights, Asylum Protection Centre (Serbia), Slovak Humanitarian Council (Slovakia), Rescate, CEAR (Spain), Caritas Sweden, Swedish Red Cross (Sweden), Swiss Refugee Council (Switzerland), Dutch Council for Refugees, UAF (The Netherlands), Helsinki Citizens' Assembly (Turkey), Asylum Aid, Freedom from Torture, Refugee Council, Regional Refugee Forum, Refugee Action, Scottish Refugee Council, Welsh Refugee Council (UK), HIAS (Ukraine) and IRCT, ECRE, ICMC, JRS Europe, CCME and Amnesty International on the European/International level.

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