



Humanitarian admission programmes in Germany for beneficiaries of protection from Syria

Janne Grote

German National Contact Point of the
European Migration Network (www.emn-germany.de)
&

Research Centre of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF)

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Total number of persons admitted via different humanitarian admission programmes and schemes (2012-Feb 2017)

Admission programme	Persons entering per year						
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Jan-Feb 2017	Total
HAP Syria	-	1.879	9.933	7.147	88	-	19.047
Resettlement	307	293	321	480	1,060 (TUR); 155 (LBN)	ni	2.616
Humanitarian Admission TUR	-	-	-	-	-	343	343
Relocation from Italy and Greece	-	-	-	11 (ITA) 10 (GRC)	444 (ITA) 634 (GRC)	615 (ITA) 912 (GRC)	2.626
Admission Procedure for Afghan Local Staff	-	67	946	1.018	721	119	2.871
Private sponsorship programmes for Syrian beneficiaries of protection	-	ni	ni	ni	ni	ni	<21.500

Source: Federal Office for Migration and Refugees; ni = no (yearly) information

HAP Syria

- Unlike the resettlement programme, Germany has had humanitarian admission programmes for 60 years now (resettlement since 2012)
- **Examples:**
1956: 13.000 refugees from Hungary;
1979: 35.000 boat people from Vietnam
- **In 2013 and 2014:** three humanitarian admission programmes for all in all 20,000 beneficiaries of protection from Syria, its neighbouring countries, Egypt & Libya (admission until 2016)

HAP Syria

- **UNHCR recognized refugee status** was only partly required; dossier based selection by proposals of i.a. the federal Länder, the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees, the Foreign Office or the Federal Ministry of the Interior
- **Selection criteria:** humanitarian reasons, family ties, contribution to the reconstruction of the country after the conflict has ended ← priority for those who received a declaration of commitment or a promise of assistance with accommodation and support from relatives in Germany
- **Pre-departure information:** provided by IOM

HAP Syria

- **Departure** : 1/3 charter flights (UNHCR selected persons); 2/3 individual departure
- **Accommodation** : 1/3 first two weeks in a reception centre (UNHCR selected persons); 2/3 mostly private accommodation and (relatives and host municipalities)
- **Residence title** was issued usually for two years; includes a work permit from the very beginning ← not based on the assumption that the admitted TCN will stay in Germany permanently but may return when the conflict in the crisis state is over

Family reunification

- HAP Syria : may only be permitted in exceptional cases
- In contrast: Since 1 August 2015 Resettlement refugees are put on equal footing with beneficiaries of protection in regard to family reunification (privileged treatment: certain conditions for family reunification shall be waived)
- **Side note:** Family reunification has been suspended until 16 March 2018 for all those who were granted subsidiary protection after 17 March 2016 (does not concern HAP Syria or Resettlement)

Challenges

- Provide decentralized housing in local communities
- Difficulties in counseling due to parallel existence of different admission procedures

Best practices

- Central first reception for 14 days (short and clearly defined period)
- Counseling and support during the first year after their arrival in their community

Thank you for your attention

Contact

German National Contact Point of the
European Migration Network
Federal Office for Migration and Refugees
Research Centre on Migration, Integration and Asylum
Frankenstraße 210
DE - 90461 Nürnberg

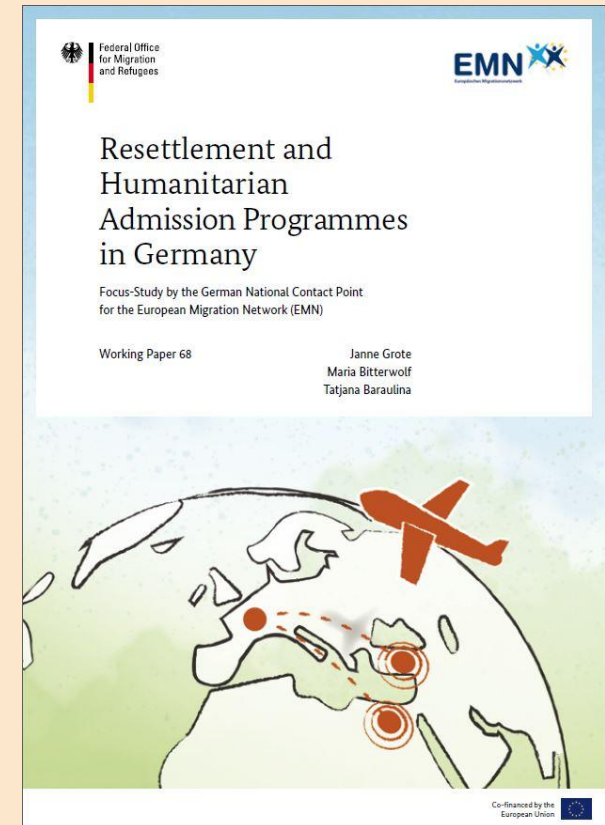
Janne Grote

Janne.Grote@bamf.bund.de

www.bamf.de

www.emn-germany.de

Tel. +49 (0) 911 943 24653



References and photo credit

National study:

Grote, Janne/Bitterwolf, Maria/Baraulina, Tatjana (2016): Resettlement and Humanitarian Admission Programmes in Germany. Focus Study by the German National Contact Point for the European Migration Network (EMN). Working Paper 68 of the Research Centre of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees. Nuremberg: BAMF. **Download in German and English:** www.emn-germany.de

References:

Baraulina, Tatjana/Bitterwolf, Maria (2017): Resettlement: Aufnahme- und Integrationserfahrungen von besonders schutzbedürftigen Flüchtlingen. Ergebnisse einer qualitativen Befragung der im Jahr 2012 aufgenommenen Personen, Working Paper 70, Nürnberg: BAMF.

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