

## RESEARCH REPORT



Issue: Refugee crisis in Europe

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### **Definition of Key Terms**

#### Refugees

Men, women and children who flee from one country to another because of terrible living conditions.

#### European Union

A political and economic union of 28 member states that are located in Europe.

### **General overview**

The refugee crisis is a current problem in the European Union because a lot of people are taking refuge from the Middle East. The situation in the home countries of the refugees is really bad. They flee from war, Islamic terrorism and a bad economic situation. This is why in 2015 a lot of refugees came to Europe and the countries did not know how to handle the new situation. The countries tried to find places for the refugees in their country. But through the West-Balkans conference and the agreement between the EU and Turkey, the borders of the Balkan route were actually closed. Therefore the refugees have to stay in front of the borders in a refugee camp.

In these refugee camps the refugees do not receive any rights and they only got a small amount of groceries which the whole camp needs to share. The families sleep in really crowded tents.

Furthermore the refugees in the countries have a lot of problems there. The refugees often do not receive their rights and are not treated equally compared to the native population. Although the number of refugees coming to Europe has already decreased, but they still got a lot of problems with the refugees within the country. In the first three quarters in 2016, there were about 1 million applications for political asylum and the departments have to take a long time to check all these applications. This can take up to 9 months. The EU-Commission guesses that from the beginning of 2016 till the end of 2017, there will come about 3 million refugees to Europe.

### **Useful documents**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/European\\_migrant\\_crisis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/European_migrant_crisis)

<http://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/refugees/index.html>

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-34131911>