



REFUGEES, RELIGION, AND RESISTANCE: A European Mass Migration Crisis Simulation

SIMULATION PLAYBOOK BASIC

*Volker Franke
Shea Holland
Lina Tuschling
Cortney Stewart*

**Case Study #0818-06
PKSOI TRENDS GLOBAL CASE STUDY SERIES**

DISCLAIMER: The views expressed in this case study are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of PKSOI, Kennesaw State University, the U.S. Army, the Department of Defense, or the U.S. Government. This case study is published as part of the PKSOI Trends Global Case Study Series by the Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute (PKSOI) and cleared for public release; distribution is unlimited. Content is not copyrighted. Material may be reprinted if credit is given to the original author.

Refugees, Religion and Resistance

Simulation Playbook Basic

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Waldbach, Germany Background	1
Saxony Fact Sheet	3
Player Role Descriptions	6
Timeline for Refugees in Europe	9
EUROPE: Syrian Asylum Applications	10
Asylum and Refugee Policy in Germany	11
Humanitarian Admission Programmes at Federal Level	13
The German National Policy towards Refugees since August 2015	16

Waldbach, Germany¹



In a small town in the state of Saxony, Germany, 13 km northeast of the city of Dresden, refugees crossing the border from the Czech Republic find their first stop at a small transitional camp. The town of Waldbach is home to over 18,000 residents, and since Syrian refugees have been pouring into Germany an estimated 900 people are residing in the refugee camp there. When the town agreed to accept refugees, the local authorities decided that any type of shelter would be better than another tent city. Therefore, a warehouse that had not been in use was converted into a shelter with the capacity to hold 350 refugees.

The temporary refugee home is secured by a private security company, HBS, with the help of German police standing outside the building. The refugees are encouraged to stay inside the camp, especially after dark and never to leave the camp alone. As time is going on, Waldbach residents are growing increasingly hostile toward the refugees. As in other parts of Germany, locals have gathered for the past two weeks in protest of Germany's open-armed policy towards refugees. Graffiti and signs proclaiming "Refugees Go Home!" "Rapefugees Not Welcome" and "No to National Suicide" have become common place. Pegida (and other right-wing German groups) have held large demonstrations, sometimes erupting in violence, that have helped mold Dresden and its outlying towns, like Waldbach, into the bedrock of the German far right movement.

The German police recognize the tension but are left with little resources to handle problems within and between the refugee population and the community. They say, "The refugees don't speak German. There's nothing we can do." Indeed, other than a small leaflet printed in Arabic

¹ Google. (2015). Google Maps Dresden, Germany.

explaining the German asylum process, support to resolve growing community-camp tensions has been largely missing.

The current mayor of Waldbach is in the final months of his term and has decided not to seek re-election. This has created an open political field and has launched Waldbach to the center stage of the refugee policy discussion. With the municipal election just weeks away, Waldbach's refugee camp has become the spotlight of debate and has drawn sharp divisions between local leaders of various organizations, as well as between native and naturalized German citizens.

The influx of refugees has also affected the economic prosperity of Waldbach. With only one porcelain factory providing a large portion of the jobs to local residents, local residents fear that the large numbers of refugees will slowly take the available low skilled positions. Waldbach already suffers from a decreasing population, and the higher paid technology development jobs in Dresden have lured away many businesses and skilled workers. While the current mayor has struggled to slow the brain drain, the new refugee populations and the upcoming elections will affect the future course of Waldbach.

Saxony Fact Sheet

Population ²	1990 - 4.9 million 2007 - 4.2 million Estimated 2020 - 3.9 million
Median Age ³	1990 - 39 years old 2007 - 45 years old Estimated 2020 - 49 years old
Unemployment Rate ⁴	2014 - 8.8% (Compared to 6.7% for Germany overall) May 2015 - 8.2% (Compared to 6.3% for Germany overall) Leipzig has the highest unemployment in the Saxony region.
Economic Sectors	<p>Technology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - microchip production in Dresden - biotechnology in Dresden - electric bioengineering in Dresden - solar technology developed and produced in Freiburg <p>Manufacturing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Publishing (insignificant portion of regional economy) - Porcelain (insignificant portion of regional economy) <p>Tourism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leipzig - Dresden - Lake District of Lausitz <p>Automobile*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - VW Phaeton factory in Dresden - VW factory in Zwickau <p>Machinery*</p> <p>Services*</p> <p>*Primary economic sectors</p>
Religion ⁵	<p>Traditionally predominantly Protestant but after 40 years under Communist rule the population is non-religious.</p> <p>As of 2011 (% of population):</p> <p>Protestant - 21.4%</p> <p>Catholic - 3.8%</p>

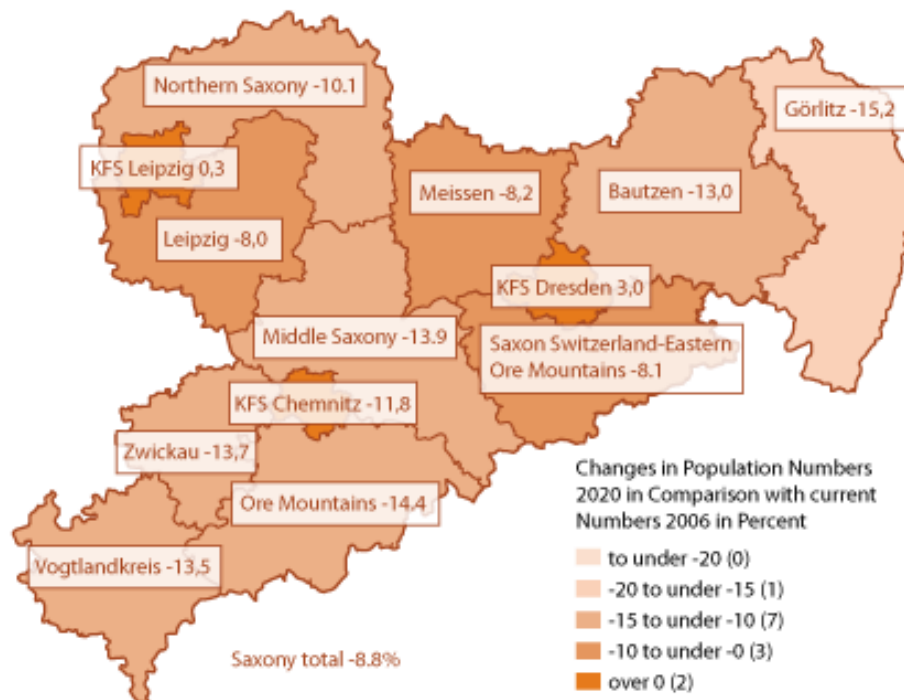
² www.sachsen.de

³ ibid

⁴ <https://ec.europa.eu/eures/main.jsp?countryId=DE&acro=lmi&showRegion=true&lang=en&mode=text®ionId=DE0&nuts2Code=%20&nuts3Code=null&catId=364>

⁵ ibid

	Evangelical - 0.9% Orthodox - 0.3% Other - 1% Non-practicing - 72.6%
--	---



Population Increase only in Leipzig and Dresden; data excerpts for the year 2020 from the 4th regionalised population forecast for the Free State of Saxony 6

With the steadily decreasing population of the Saxony region, the economy has been shifting from low skilled sectors like manufacturing to high skilled sectors like technology production. The high-technology sectors do not have large job markets, but this has been an effective transition for the region to stop the brain drain that was occurring in the early 2000s⁷. The unemployment rate in the region remains higher than the national average, and with the influx of refugees, the unemployment situation is becoming a crisis. Creation of low skill jobs will require increased investment into the manufacturing sectors of the economy, and the Leipzig area would greatly benefit from investments by Porsche and BMW.⁸

⁶ www.sachsen.de © Data: Statistical State Office of the Free State of Saxony; diagram: State Chancellery of Saxony

⁷ <https://ec.europa.eu/eures/main.jsp?countryId=DE&acro=Imi&showRegion=true&lang=en&mode=text®ionId=DE0&nuts2Code=%20&nuts3Code=null&catId=364>

⁸ ibid

Player Role Descriptions

Roles will be assigned the day of the simulation.

Alternative for Deutschland (AFD) Mayoral Candidate: As the AfD Waldbach mayoral candidate, you are new to the political scene. Your party has only been around since the end of 2012, and at the time, was focused mainly on opposition to the euro and taxpayer-funded bailouts of EU countries, like Greece. Your IT company provides services to many local companies, including the porcelain factory. Since the CDU party pushed through new immigration policy, allowing 1.1 million refugees to flood the country, your party has rallied around new issues like migration and Islam.

Mayor of Waldbach: As the Mayor of Waldbach, you are the head of the Waldbach government. You've been a Waldbach resident your entire life. You've been in office for almost 7 years, and now it is time for a new mayor to be elected. You are a member of the CDU party, and it was your decision to establish a refugee camp in Waldbach. To help facilitate smooth refugee integration into Waldbach, you created a position for the Integration and Foreigners' Commissioner, and you stand by your decision to open Waldbach to refugees and migrants.

Minister-President of Saxony: As the Minister-President of Saxony, you are head of the government of Saxony. You were elected to your position in 2008, and your party, the CDU, has been in power in Saxony since 1990. You represent Saxony in the German Federal Council, the Bundesrat, and the German Chancellor relies on your expertise about your region. The men and women of your region are the ones holding you accountable for your decisions, and your job involves listening closely to your constituents. You hold considerable power in the federal government, and your influence can shape national policies.

Police Chief of Waldbach: You have been the Police Chief for 17 years and you know the people of Waldbach. As the chief of the Waldbach Police you receive a lot of pressure from the community to provide security from the refugees as well as from the Ministry of the Interior to keep the refugees safe. Your facilities, staff and budget, however, have stayed the same, and it is extremely difficult to meet the new demands. You and your officers are trained to fight crime and have no training in dealing with situations that arise from the influx of refugees.

Social Democratic Party (SPD) Mayoral Candidate: As an SPD candidate you strive to represent the working class. In Waldbach, however, the election is focused mainly on the refugee issue. You support the current Prime Minister's policy on accepting refugees, but your party proposes that there be a better distribution of the burden throughout the EU. You believe in freedom and social justice and hold to your party's platform in the creation of a welfare state that protects the poor in society. Because you understand what it was like to start as an immigrant in Germany, you feel a lot of empathy for the large number of refugees that have taken up residence in Waldbach.

Waldbach Porcelain Factory Owner: As the Waldbach porcelain factory owner, you are the only factory owner in Waldbach. Your factory is the largest employer in the town, and⁶ with advancements in technology, most of your employees do not need many skills to succeed once they have been hired. You support controlled immigration for highly skilled employees,

provided German companies can prove the need for these highly-skilled employees. The closest factory outside of Waldbach is 15 miles away, and that factory produces microchips and other items needed for modern technological devices. You require all potential employees to speak German, to have basic math skills and to pass a background check.

Local Pegida Leader: You run a small hotel and popular restaurant where many locals meet regularly. Therefore, you are well liked among the local population. As the local Pegida leader in Waldbach you are responsible for coordinating rallies and events to demonstrate your group's sentiments concerning the country's refugee policy. You are divorced with one son who lives in Leipzig with his mother. You inherently feel suspicious and skeptical about the new low-skilled laborer refugees coming to Waldbach and are worried for your business and the jobs of your friends at the factory.

Christian Democratic Union (CDU) Mayoral Candidate: As the CDU Mayoral Candidate in Waldbach you are running in an open election on your party's main platforms. The biggest issue in the election is the new refugee housing project that has sparked a lot of controversy in the town. Generally, as an CDU candidate you are conservative and are trying to expand the CDU's influence into Eastern Germany. You support the current Prime Minister's policy on accepting refugees and stick firmly to the CDU refugee policy. Some CDU members are worried your agenda is too pro-refugee and threaten to vote for another candidate.

HBS Vice-President for Cyber- and Private Security: As Vice-President for cybersecurity and private security sectors of one of the premier security providers in Germany. You have been in this position for 7 years, and under your direction, the company has been expanding its private security sector because the need for private security forces has been increasing around the world. HBS had a \$350 million Euro profit margin last year, and you, along with the other Vice-Presidents, have been promised a substantial raise this year if the company's revenue grows by another 2 million Euros, which would make HBS a rival to the largest private security company in Europe.

Waldbach School Principal: You are the principal of the local Realschule (junior high) in Waldbach. Your school serves 1,500 students and grades range from 5 to 10. You have come to Waldbach from the nearby city of Dresden fifteen months ago. You enjoy your work with the students but find it difficult to change some of the routines at school. You have ideas for afternoon and extra-curricular activities to make school more fun for the kids. While some of the teachers are highly motivated, enthusiastic and interested in new approaches, others are persistent to keep everything the same. You are intent on pushing changes forward but budget constraints make it difficult for you. Your spouse works as a manager at the local hotel.

Elected Waldbach Camp Refugee Leader: You are an Afghan refugee and have been in Germany since 2012. You left Afghanistan after you worked as a translator for the German Bundeswehr, and it was not safe for you to stay in your home village anymore. You were elected to represent the entire refugee community inside the Waldbach refugee camp but you have become frustrated because Syrian and Christian refugees seem to be receiving preferential treatment.

Waldbach Camp Muezzin: As the Muezzin in the camp, your community often defers to you about decisions regarding logistics, conflict and the daily life of the community within the camp.

You are the de facto leader, both spiritually and in terms of maintaining the health of the refugee community. The spiritual upbringing of your community, particularly the children, is one of your primary concerns. You are trying to bring the refugees and local population together.

Waldbach Camp Imam: As the Imam in the camp, you speak as the voice for the Muslim community inside the refugee camp, especially the Syrian population. Your community often defers to you about decisions regarding logistics, conflict and the daily life of the community within the camp. You are the de facto spiritual leader. The spiritual upbringing of your community, particularly the children, is one of your primary concerns.

Waldbach Camp Christian Minister: As the Christian spiritual leader in the camp, you speak to the camp administrator and political leaders in Waldbach on behalf of your congregation. Because of the time you have spent in the camp, you know their needs, and you are close friends with the elected refugee leader. You encouraged him to run for leadership. You are willing to work with anyone who is willing to cooperate with you in return because as the golden rule states “treat others as you would like to be treated.” You hope that the political leaders in Waldbach will start listening to the refugees and taking refugee problems seriously.

Integration and Foreigners’ Commissioner: You were born the third of five children to a German mother and Turkish father, who came to Germany in the 1970s to work in the Waldbach porcelain factory. The mayor promoted you to your current position of Integration Commissioner. With the recent influx of refugees to the greater Dresden area, you realize the opportunity to make your mark, contribute to alleviating the emerging crisis.

Waldbach Refugee Friendship Circle Founder: As the Refugee Friendship Circle Founder, you have been interested in helping refugees since the first wave arrived in Waldbach in 2015. You run a volunteer network of individuals who help accompany and support refugees during their first few months in Waldbach. You want refugees to feel welcome in Waldbach and to help them integrate so they can actively participate in society.

UNHCR Regional Coordinator: Your job at the UNHCR is to work with camps across Eastern Germany. You were hired just last year when Germany opened its borders to refugees and the UNHCR found itself overwhelmed with work. As a German citizen, you support the CDU’s refugee agenda and are excited about the opportunities that refugees bring to your country. You know that the original welcoming culture has died down and groups like Pegida and political parties like the AfD have been gaining support. With the UNHCR you are in charge of assisting and supporting the German government in the construction and maintenance of fair and efficient asylum and protection systems.

Waldbach Camp Administrator: As the Waldbach refugee camp administrator, you oversee the daily functioning of the camp. You were hired by the German government a year ago to replace the previous camp administrator, who could not withstand the pressures from the community and the intensity of living at the camp. In your job, you report to both the Mayor of Waldbach, the Minister of Saxony and the UNHCR regional coordinator.

Timeline for Refugees in Europe

13 July: Hungary starts to erect a razor-wire fence along its border with Serbia, to halt an unprecedented flow of refugees seeking entry to the EU.

20 July: EU leaders agree to accept 32,256 refugees from Italy and Greece; this is just short of the 40,000 proposed in May by EC president Jean-Claude Juncker.

27 August: in Austria, the bodies of 71 Syrians are found in an abandoned lorry.

***2 September:* pictures of three-year-old Aylan al-Kurdi, drowned in his Syrian family's attempt to reach Greece from Turkey, provoke a wave of public sympathy for refugees.**

3 September: the slogan 'refugees welcome' goes viral; 250,000 people in 48 hours back an 'Independent' petition calling for Britain to take its fair share of refugees. Budapest reopens its main station after a two-day closure. Hundreds board trains for the Austrian border; others set off for Germany on foot. Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orban says the crisis is a 'German problem'.

7 September: British Prime Minister David Cameron says Britain will take in an extra 20,000 refugees over five years. France agrees to take 24,000. Germany earmarks €6bn to help an expected 800,000 extra refugees.

9 September: President of the European Commission Claude Juncker urges EU member states to take in an additional 120,000 refugees (bringing the total to 160,000), to be distributed on a quota basis. The UK, which has an opt-out, is not included in these plans. The draft plans redistribute almost three-fifths of the new refugees to Germany, France and Spain.

12 September: a summit of EU interior ministers fails to agree a common response.

13 September: a record 5,809 people arrive in Hungary as its border fence nears completion. Germany introduces emergency controls on its borders with Austria, temporarily suspending its Schengen obligations; officials say 63,000 refugees have arrived since the end of August.

14 September: Austria and Slovakia say they too are reintroducing border controls. Germany warns it could face up to one million arrivals this year. Hungary declares a state of emergency and threatens those who enter the country illegally with jail. The EU's border agency reveals that 500,000 migrants and refugees have entered the EU in 2015, 156,000 in August alone.⁹

⁹ <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/refugee-crisis-timeline-how-the-crisis-has-grown-10502690.html>

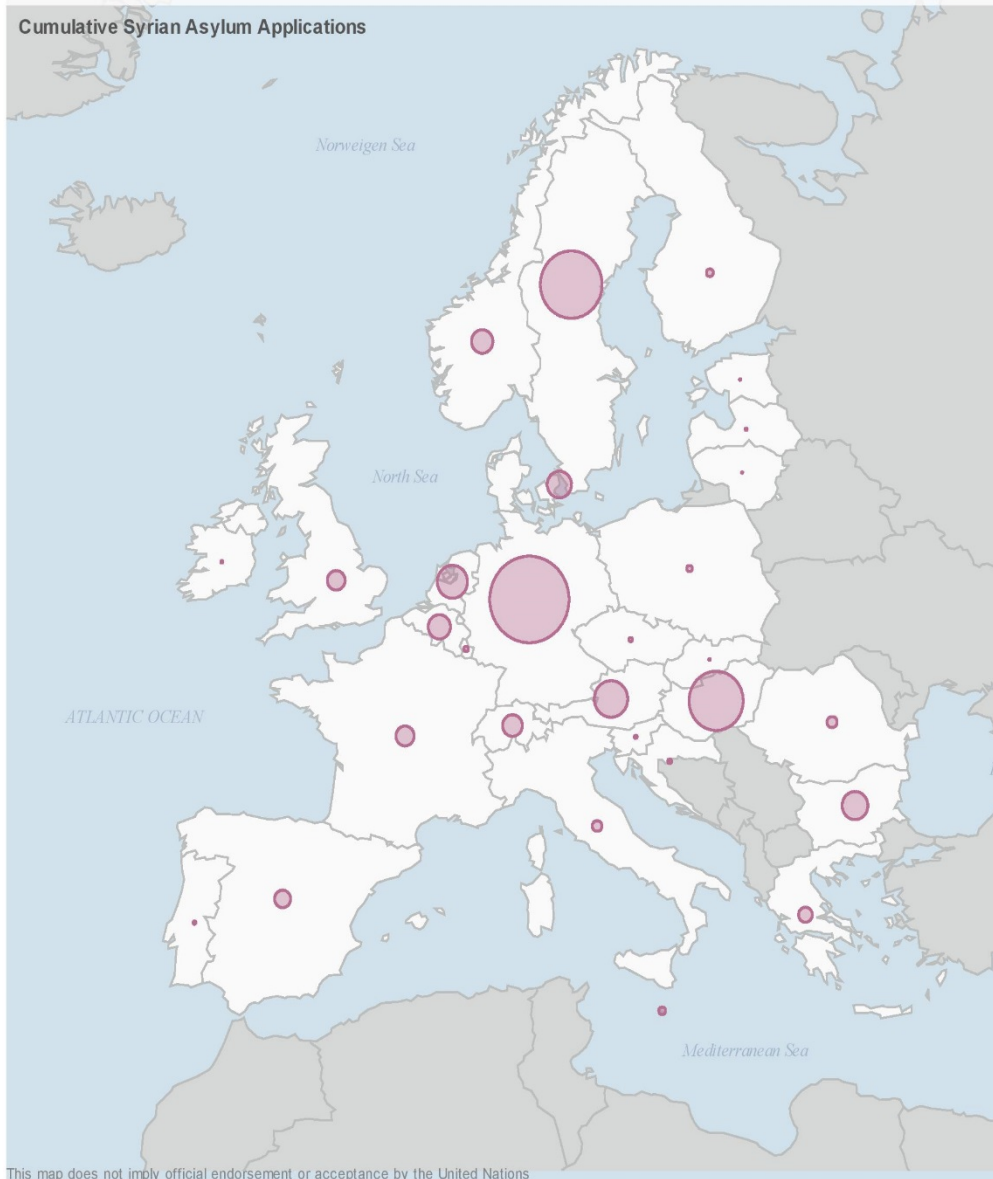
EUROPE: Syrian Asylum Applications

From Apr 2011 to Oct 2015

Europe
All European countries

EU+ Countries
Including Norway and Switzerland

Cumulative Syrian Asylum Applications



About

The number of Syrians arriving in Europe seeking international protection continues to increase. However, it remains low compared to Syria's neighboring countries, with slightly more than 10% of those who have fled the conflict seeking safety in Europe.

Total Asylum Applications

470,772 between Apr 2011 and Oct 2015

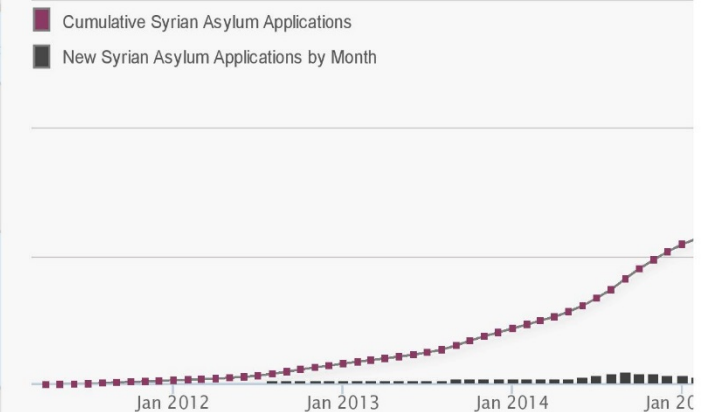
125,666 in 2014 only

Note: Data for the 28 EU Member States plus Norway and Switzerland (EU+). To the extent possible, the figures reflect first time asylum applications, but some of the statistics are likely to include repeated applications (same or different country).

Top Countries



Evolution of Asylum Applications



Note: In Turkey, 1,938,999 Syrian refugees have been registered by the authorities (as of 25 August 2015).

¹⁰ <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/44404>

Article¹¹

Asylum and refugee policy in Germany

Article 16a of the Basic Law grants victims of political persecution an individual right of asylum. The fundamental right of asylum thus has high priority and expresses Germany's willingness to fulfil its historical and humanitarian obligation to admit refugees.

The admission procedure for asylum seekers is governed by the Asylum Procedure Act (AsylVfG). Asylum seekers whom border authorities permit to enter the Federal Republic of Germany or who are found in the country without a residence permit are transferred to the nearest reception centre of the relevant state.

Using the nation-wide system for initial distribution, they are assigned to reception centres of the individual German states according to a formula defined in the Asylum Procedure Act.



A case worker speaking with a refugee family. Source: picture-alliance/dpa

The asylum process in Germany

Next, their asylum application is submitted to the responsible branch of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) for examination and decision. Asylum seekers receive a certificate of permission to reside which grants a preliminary right to stay in the Federal Republic of Germany during the asylum procedure.

BAMF case workers personally question asylum seekers (with the help of an interpreter) on their travel route and the reasons for persecution. Upon request, female asylum seekers may be questioned by a trained female case worker if the reasons for flight are specific to women. The interview is recorded in writing and translated into the asylum seeker's language, with a copy given to the asylum seeker. The decision on the asylum

¹¹ <https://www.bmi.bund.de/EN/topics/migration/asylum-refugee-protection/asylum-refugee-policy-germany/asylum-refugee-policy.html>

application is based on the interview and any further investigations as needed. Asylum seekers are notified of the decision in writing and given information on legal remedy.

If the asylum application is accepted, persons granted asylum status and those granted refugee status receive a temporary residence permit and are given the same status as Germans within the social insurance system. They are entitled to social welfare, child benefits, child-raising benefits, integration allowances and language courses as well as other forms of integration assistance.

If neither asylum nor refugee protection can be granted, the BAMF examines in the course of the asylum procedure whether there are grounds for a deportation ban. This obligation to conduct an extensive review is intended to ensure that there is no delay in processing. Separate from the asylum procedure, the responsible foreigners authority requests an expert opinion from the BAMF and examines whether a deportation ban applies. As a rule, asylum seekers whose applications have been rejected are required to leave the country.

© The Federal Ministry of the Interior - 2015

Article¹²

Humanitarian admission programmes at federal level

Germany meets its humanitarian responsibilities with several humanitarian admission programmes at federal level, including the German resettlement programme and three admission programmes for especially vulnerable Syrian refugees.

Resettlement

Since 2012, under its resettlement programme Germany has admitted especially vulnerable refugees who have fled their home countries, have little likelihood of returning and few prospects for a better future in the first country that admitted them.

During its first three years as a pilot project, the resettlement programme admitted 300 persons each year: African refugees from Tunisia and Iraqis from Turkey in 2012; Iraqis, Iranians and Syrians from Turkey in 2013; and various nationalities (including Iraqis, Somalians, Sri Lankans, Chinese and Afghans) as well as stateless persons from Syria and Indonesia in 2014. The pilot project was brought to a successful close in late 2014, and the German resettlement programme will now become permanent. Starting in 2015, the programme will admit 500 persons each year.

Background information

The resettlement programme offers long-term residency in Germany to refugees who have fled their home countries. All refugees in this programme, known as "resettlement refugees", have been registered and recognized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. The UNHCR checks whether it is possible for applicants to return to their home country or settle in the first country that admitted them, or whether their only hope for the future is to be resettled in another country.

¹² <https://www.bmi.bund.de/EN/topics/migration/asylum-refugee-protection/humanitarian-admission-programmes/Humanitarian-admission-programmes.html>

In Germany, resettlement refugees are issued a residence permit pursuant to Section 23 (2) of the Residence Act. This permit, granted on humanitarian grounds, entitles holders to pursue any kind of paid employment immediately. They are also entitled to claim social insurance benefits in accordance with the Social Code Books II and XII (unemployment benefits), including suitable accommodation. Social insurance benefits are paid until recipients are able to support themselves through their own employment.

They are also entitled to take part in integration courses; if a need for integration is identified, they may be required by a foreigners authority or institutions providing basic security benefits for job seekers to take an integration course.

Federally funded migration advising is also available. Social workers provided by the states also help resettlement refugees look for housing and jobs, in their interactions with government agencies, and with other aspects of daily life

Humanitarian admission programmes for 20,000 Syrian refugees

The humanitarian situation in and around Syria, in Egypt and in Libya remains extremely difficult. Most German aid for refugees focuses on providing help in the region. Since 2012, Germany has provided about €800 million in total aid related to the Syrian crisis: €396.65 million in humanitarian aid, €317.67 million in structural transitional aid/bilateral assistance (Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development) and €83.5 million for crisis resolution. The Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW) is helping in the region, particularly in the refugee camps in Jordan and northern Iraq, for example by building systems to store and deliver drinking water and dispose of wastewater.

In addition, three federal admission programmes have been set up to take in a total of 20,000 Syrian refugees needing special protection: the first in May 2013 for 5,000 refugees, the second in December 2013 for another 5,000, and the third in July 2014 for 10,000 refugees. So Germany has committed to take in about three-quarters of all Syrian refugees given protection outside the crisis region.

Given the scale of the refugee crisis and the precarious situation of many refugees, especially children, the Federal Ministry of the Interior is pushing the EU to establish a joint admission programme.

The refugee crisis in numbers

As of December 2014, 80,000 Syrian nationals had entered Germany since the conflict began in 2011; about 60,000 of these have applied for asylum, with many more applying each month.

About 110,000 Syrian nationals currently live in Germany.

The first two federal refugee admission programmes have been completed. Refugees admitted through the third federal programme will be selected in early 2015 and travel to Germany in the first half of the year.

© The Federal Ministry of the Interior - 2015

The German National Policy towards Refugees since August 2015

Since 1985 with the institution of the Schengen Agreement, Germany has held an open policy towards freedom of movement for citizens living in the Schengen Area. In 1999, the Amsterdam Treaty incorporated the Schengen treaties into European Union (EU) law meaning that border controls exist for international travelers entering the European Union but internal border controls are non-existent.

In August 2015, German Chancellor, Angela Merkel, announced that Germany would accept 800,000 asylum seekers¹³. While the Federal Foreign Office in Germany tackles the root causes of flight through humanitarian assistance, the current refugee situation necessitated different courses of action. Due to the increased number of migrants, then German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier and then Economics Minister Sigmar Gabriel proposed a ten point plan for a European refugee policy response¹⁴. Their proposal called for immediate action upon the principles of solidarity:

“First, humane conditions must prevail throughout the EU when refugees are received. For this, we need EU-wide standards that are complied with in every EU member state.

Second, a common European code of asylum must guarantee asylum status that is valid throughout the EU for refugees in need of protection. Looking to the future, we need a new, much more ambitious integration of European asylum policy.

Third, we need a fair distribution of refugees in Europe. The citizens of our country are helping to receive and integrate refugees into our society as never before. This solidarity will only be maintained long-term if people see that the refugee crisis is being approached fairly throughout Europe. A state of affairs in which – as today – only a handful of member states shoulder the entire burden is just as unsustainable as a system that forces those countries that happen to form the outer border of the EU to take the strain alone. We must therefore reform the existing Dublin system. We need binding and objective criteria for refugee quotas for all member states that take their respective capabilities into account.

Fourth, Europe needs a common approach to managing its borders, which cannot be merely restricted to securing our frontiers. Above all, we need more European responsibility for registering and looking after newly arrived refugees.

Fifth, we must provide immediate assistance to the EU countries that are currently under particular strain. Germany is the only EU country to have made available emergency funds to improve the situation of refugees on the Greek islands. The EU and its member states must become more efficient in this area and quickly offer countries first receiving refugees practical and financial support. For us in Germany, we must ensure that the municipal authorities above all are able to

¹³ <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/sep/03/migration-crisis-germany-presses-europe-into-sharing-refugees>

¹⁴ http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/sid_2A51576CDDB9E376B30B3C826BF65E61/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Interview/2015/150823_FAS_10PunktePlan-Fluechtlingspolitik.html?nn=714610

cope with the giant challenges before them. In order to do this, we must provide them with lasting and systematic financial support.

Sixth, we cannot stand idly by and watch people risk their lives trying to get to us. The Mediterranean Sea cannot be a mass grave for desperate refugees. Europe's humanitarian legacy, indeed our European view of humanity, are hanging in the balance. With this in mind, we launched enormous concerted efforts to organize marine rescue operations in the Mediterranean Sea in the spring. We must consolidate these efforts across Europe in the long term and equip the EU with the required capacities.

In the long run, we will only be able to help refugees in need of protection if those who are not entitled to asylum return to their countries of origin.

For this, we must, seventh, make readmission a key priority of our relations with the countries of origin and also be prepared to make technical and financial support for these countries contingent on constructive cooperation. Existing incentives such as visa facilitations could be expanded.

Eighth, we must come to an EU-wide understanding as to which nations we consider to be safe countries of origin. All countries of the western Balkans aim to join the EU, and we have good cause to extend to them the prospect of accession to the Community. By the same token, this means that we cannot treat them as persecuting countries at the same time. In the future, a country that fulfils the criteria to be an EU accession candidate should be considered throughout the EU to be a safe country of origin.

Ninth, Germany needs an immigration Act. We need a prudent, controlled immigration policy that facilitates lawful stays for the purposes of employment. We must reduce the burden on the asylum system in this area.

Tenth, a comprehensive European asylum, refugee and migration policy also requires new political initiatives to fight the causes of flight in the countries of the Middle East and Africa. Stabilizing failing states and curbing violence and civil war must go hand in hand with concentrated efforts to achieve economic development and create genuine economic and social prospects – especially for young people in the countries of origin. All of the international community's efforts, above all those of the European Union and the United Nations, must be focused with the utmost intensity on this aim."

On September 13, 2015, Germany reintroduced border controls on the border with Austria as a result on the influx of refugees. Internal border controls within the Schengen area are allowed for up to ten days if the EU member nation believes they are necessary for public policy or national security¹⁵. Following the internal border controls between Germany and Austria, the EU Interior Ministers met on September 14 to discuss a new quota system for the European Union¹⁶.

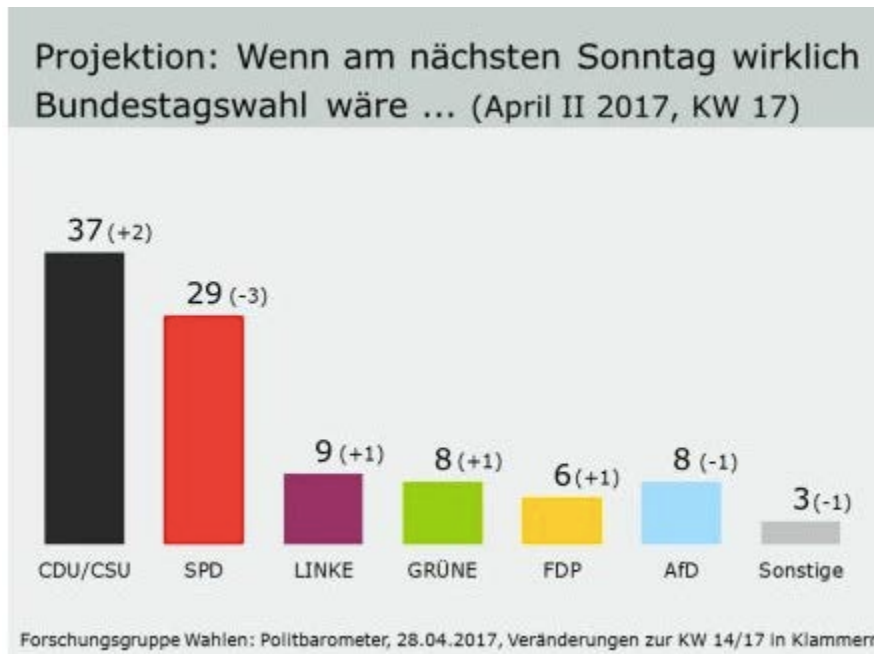
Disagreements between EU member states on how to navigate the refugee influx and, more specifically, how many refugees should be accepted by each country, manifested throughout 2015. For example, in March 2016, EU member states and Turkey signed an agreement designed to

¹⁵ <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-13194723>

¹⁶ <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/aug/31/refugees-found-suffocated-lorry-austria-syrian-family-of-six>

reduce the number of irregular migrants entering the EU in return for considerable financial support and visa-free travel for Turkish citizens into the EU.^{17 18} This is just one policy implication driving German national policy and affecting German national sentiment toward refugees.

The graph below reflects a recent poll, which asks "If elections to the Bundestag were next Sunday, who would you vote for?", and displays the political climate in Germany as the scenario unfolds:



Recent polls can be found here: <http://www.forschungsgruppe.de/Startseite/>.

¹⁷ https://www.swp-berlin.org/fileadmin/contents/products/comments/2016C32_adt_kpp_koh.pdf

¹⁸ <http://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-europe-migrants-turkey-visa-idUKKBN1621D5?il=0>