

CISV IPP – Roskilde, 10 July 2018

Integration of refugees in Denmark

Presentation and discussion

1. Danish Refugee Council and DRC Integration Department
2. The global challenge
3. Integration of refugees – the Danish case

Dansk Flygtningehjælp

DANISH REFUGEE COUNCIL

Danish Refugee Council

Established in 1956 to support refugees from Hungary. Today, the largest Danish NGO with programs in 36 countries worldwide.

In Denmark, we cooperate with government, municipalities, and public institutions for provision of integration services. We carry out advocacy. We provide counselling for asylum seekers.



Vision and mission

A dignified life for all displaced

We assist refugees and the displaced, protect their rights and empower them towards a better future

Integration Department – 500 employees + 8,000 volunteers

Lærdansk



Center
for
Udsatte
Flygtninge

FRIVILLIG
AFDELINGEN

Integrationsnet

En del af Dansk Flygtningehjælp

**FLYGTNINGE
HJÆLPENS
TOLKESERVICE**

DRC's Integration Circle



- A dignified life as a vision for integration activities: Support and enable refugees and migrants to be part of a community and to enjoy equal rights and opportunities in Denmark.
- Language proficiency, employment, participation in civil society, and an inclusive society are pivotal for the quality of life, empowerment and future possibilities of refugees and migrants.
- Meeting the individual with a focus on resources.

THE GLOBAL CHALLENGE

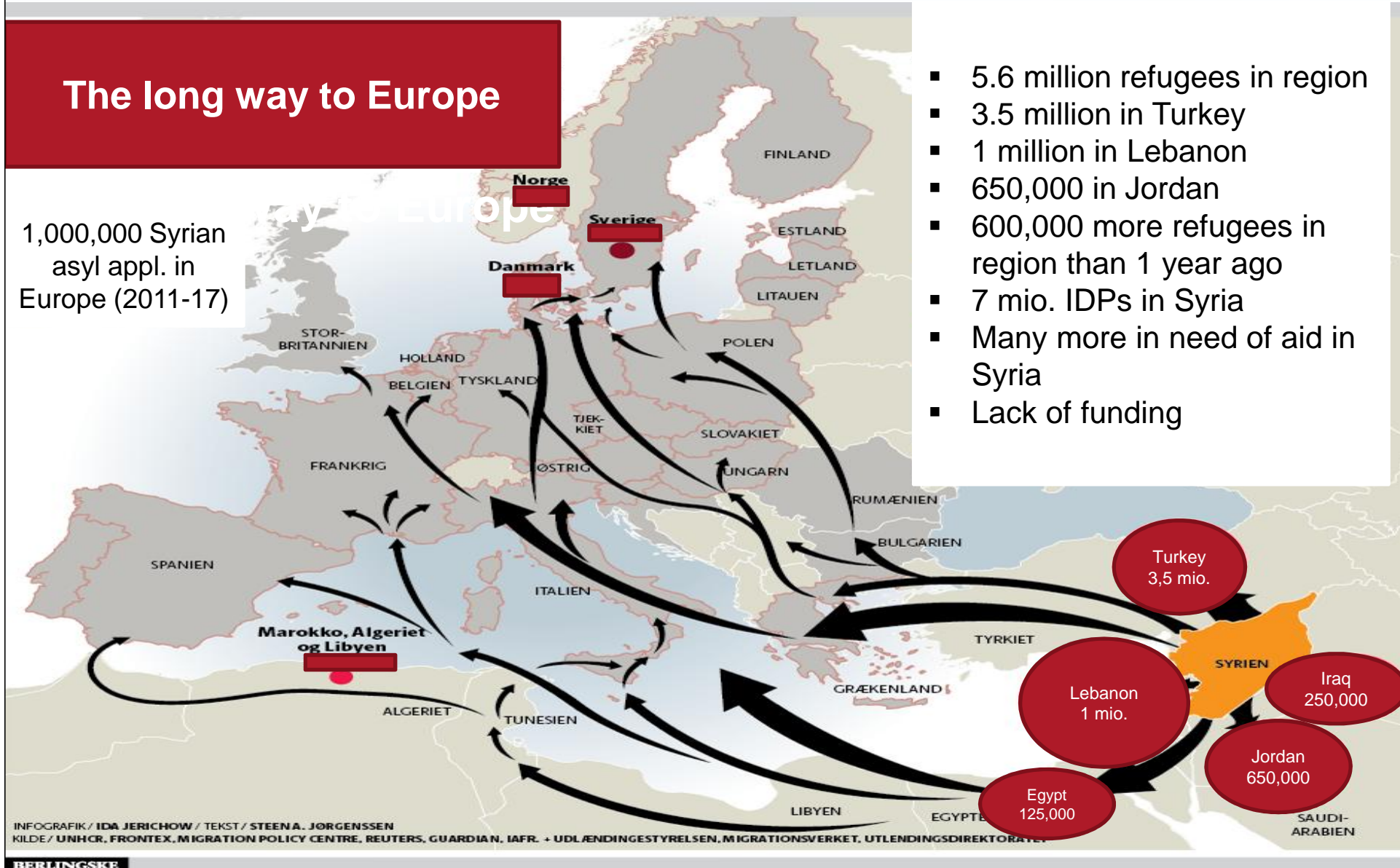
68.5 million forcibly displaced



The long way to Europe

1,000,000 Syrian
asyl appl. in
Europe (2011-17)

- 5.6 million refugees in region
- 3.5 million in Turkey
- 1 million in Lebanon
- 650,000 in Jordan
- 600,000 more refugees in region than 1 year ago
- 7 mio. IDPs in Syria
- Many more in need of aid in Syria
- Lack of funding



INFOGRAFIK / IDA JERICHOW / TEKST / STEEN A. JØRGENSEN
KILDE / UNHCR, FRONTEX, MIGRATION POLICY CENTRE, REUTERS, GUARDIAN, IAFR. + UDLÆNDINGESTYRELSEN, MIGRATIONSVERKET, UTLÆNDINGS-DIREKTORATET

❖ All refugees are shocked by
the turn their life has taken

Homs

(The Guardian 2014)



We Refugees

“We lost our home, which means the familiarity of daily life. We lost our occupation, which means the confidence that we are of some use in this world. We lost our language, which means the naturalness of reactions, the simplicity of gestures, the unaffected expression of feelings. We left our relatives in the Polish ghettos and our best friends have been killed in concentration camps, and that means the rupture of our private lives.”

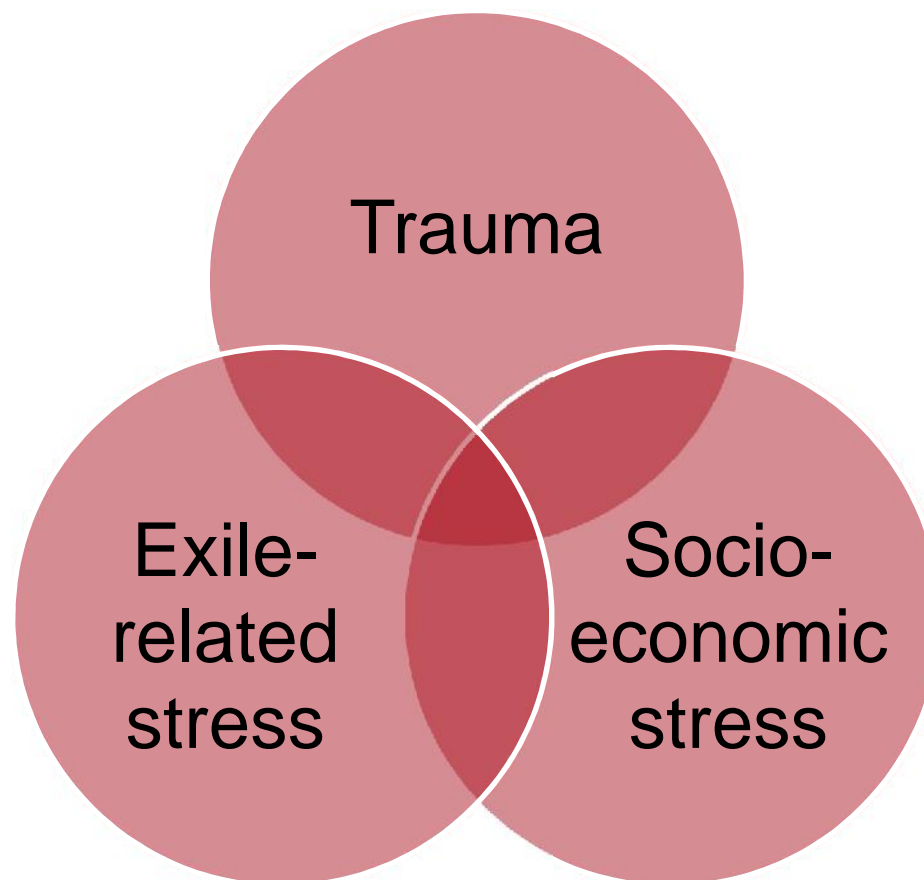
Hannah Arendt, 1943

The Danish case

INTEGRATION OF REFUGEES

❖ Conditions in the country of exile are crucial to the possibilities of healing and integration for refugees

Challenges facing refugees in exile



Conditions in exile impacting on the mental health and quality of life

- Ongoing existential uncertainty
- Poor socio-economic conditions
- Lack of social relations
- Experienced discrimination or marginalization
- Failing connection to the established healthcare system
- Lack of treatment for PTSD
- ‘Common’ stress factors, e.g. divorce, illness...

Denmark: facts and figures

Number of asylum applicants and residence permits

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Asylum applicants	3,806	6,148	7,557	14,792	21,316 UAM: 2.144	6,266 UAM: 1,184	3,479	1,307 <i>per 31 May</i>
Residence permits	2,249	2,583	3,889	6,104	10,849	7,494	2,749	581 <i>per 31 May</i>

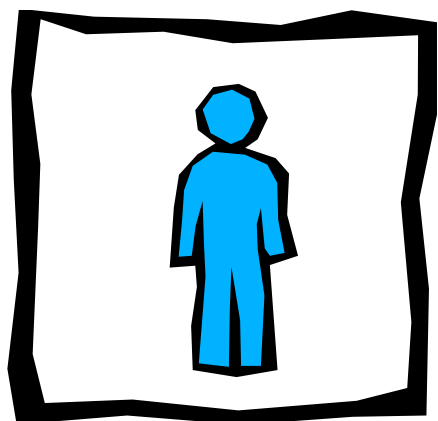
Nationality of asylum applicants

	Country	2015	2016	2017
1	Syria	8,608	1,253	864
2	Iran	2,787	300	148
3	Afghanistan	2,331	1,127	188
4	Eritrea	1,740	274	355
5	Stateless	1,734	491	138
6	Iraq	1,537	452	145

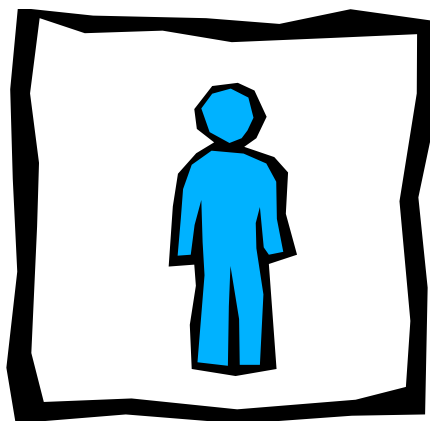
Before 2015: Also many from Somalia

In 2016/17: Also many from Morocco

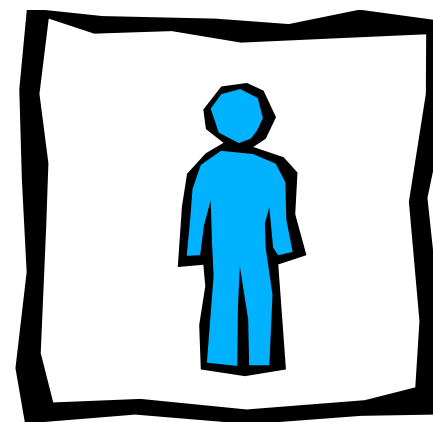
Permanent residence is far away



Temporary residence permit – everyone!



Permanent residence permit can be applied for after 8 years



Citizenship
Can be applied for after 8 years



The Danish Integration Act

Quota system dispersing refugees to (almost) all municipalities

5 year integration program (max.) for refugees

Responsibility of municipalities – individual integration plans

Aim: employment and economic self-sufficiency

Entitlements:

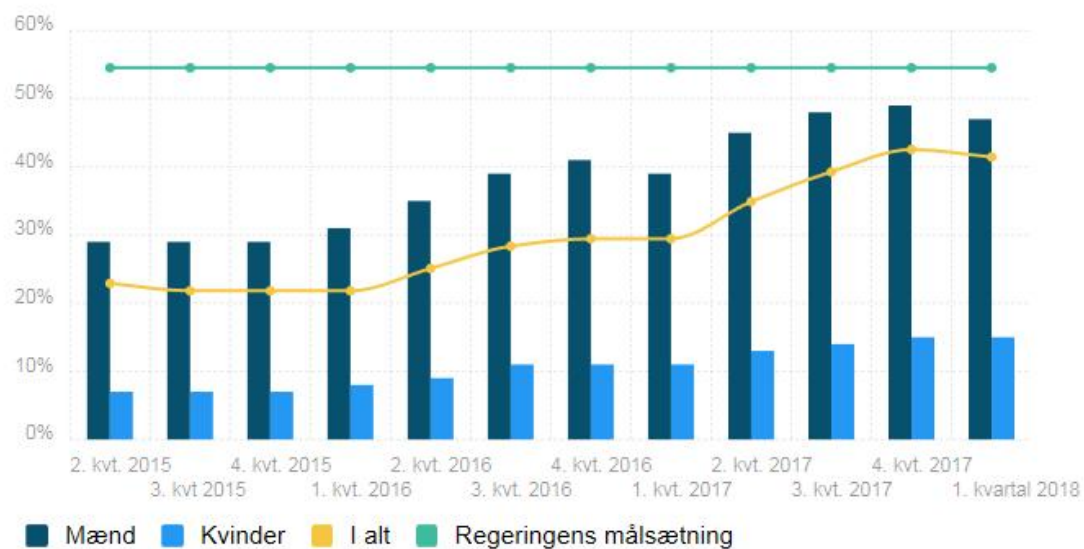
- Free Danish language tuition (18 hours weekly up to five years)
- Social assistance benefit (in accordance with Danish Social Law)
- Affordable housing
- Health care, mental and social care (trauma rehabilitation etc.)

Obligations – 37 hours per week:

- Attend language and cultural orientation training and pass test
- Actively participate in employment promoting schemes

Facts and figures: employment

Refugees in regular/unsupported employment after 3 years:



Source: *Det Nationale Integrationsbarometer, Ministry for Immigration and Integration*



Thank you!

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Knowledge Center for Vulnerable Refugees

<http://www.udsatteflygtninge.dk/>

Danish Refugee Council

<https://drc.ngo/>

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