

The European Union and the refugee crisis

TECH 330 – Technology and the Global Society

Andreas Dewald

October 23rd, 2018



Agenda

The European Union

Refugee crisis in 2015

Personal experiences

Group Work / Questions / Discussion



Agenda

The European Union

Refugee crisis in 2015

Personal experiences

Group Work / Questions / Discussion



THE EUROPEAN UNION (EU)

HISTORY

- Officially founded in 1958 -> European Economic Community
- Treaty of Maastricht 1993, official foundation
 - **European Community**
 - **Common Foreign and Security Policy**
 - **Police and Judicial Cooperation in Criminal Matters**
- Development over the years -> Euro as a common currency in 2002



THE EUROPEAN UNION (EU)

FACTS

- 28 countries
- Over 510 million citizens
- Gross domestic product of 16.477 trillion US dollars
(22.2% of global nominal GDP)
- 2012 awarded the Nobel Peace Prize



THE EUROPEAN UNION (EU)

COUNTRIES AND GEOGRAPHY



27 Member States	
<i>Joined in 1957</i>	
	Belgium 10.5 million 24 MEPs
	France 62.8 million 78 MEPs
	Germany 82.4 million 99 MEPs
	Italy 58.7 million 78 MEPs
	Luxembourg 0.4 million 6 MEPs
	Netherlands 16.3 million 27 MEPs
<i>Joined in 1973</i>	
	Denmark 5.4 million 14 MEPs
	Ireland 4.2 million 13 MEPs
	United Kingdom 60.3 million 78 MEPs
<i>Joined in 1981</i>	
	Greece 11.1 million 24 MEPs
<i>Joined in 1986</i>	
	Portugal 10.5 million 24 MEPs
	Spain 43.7 million 54 MEPs
<i>Joined in 1995</i>	
	Austria 8.2 million 18 MEPs
	Finland 5.2 million 14 MEPs
	Sweden 9.0 million 19 MEPs



<i>Joined in 2004</i>	
	Cyprus 0.7 million 6 MEPs
	Czech Republic 10.2 million 24 MEPs
	Estonia 1.3 million 6 MEPs
	Hungary 10.0 million 24 MEPs
	Latvia 2.2 million 9 MEPs
	Lithuania 3.4 million 13 MEPs
	Malta 0.4 million 5 MEPs
	Poland 38.1 million 54 MEPs
	Slovak Republic 5.3 million 14 MEPs
	Slovenia 2.0 million 7 MEPs
<i>Joined in 2007</i>	
	Bulgaria 7.7 million 18 MEPs
	Romania 21.6 million 35 MEPs
<i>3 Candidate Countries</i>	
	Croatia 4.4 million
	FYR Macedonia 2.0 million
	Turkey 72.6 million

Joined in 2013

Agenda

The European Union

Refugee crisis in 2015

Personal experiences

Group Work / Questions / Discussion



REFUGEE CRISIS IN 2015

DEFINITIONS

- Migration: Someone moving to another country or region. Legally with a visa, work permit or illegally without documents etc.
 - Can be sent back
- Refugee: escaping war or persecution
 - Legally entitled to basic protection

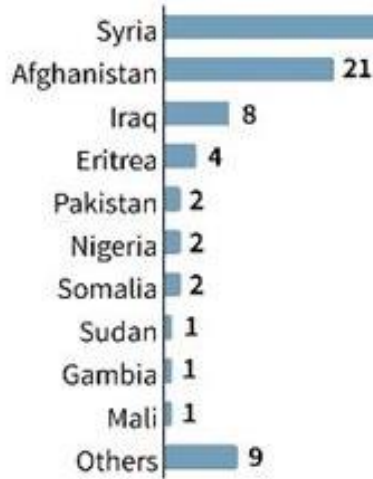
REFUGEE CRISIS IN 2015

NUMBERS

One million refugees and migrants reach Europe by sea

Half of those who made the treacherous Mediterranean crossing were fleeing the war in Syria

Main countries of origin



Arrivals by country



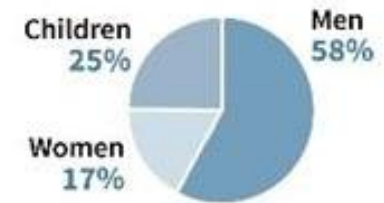
Figures for 2015

1,000,573 arrivals by sea

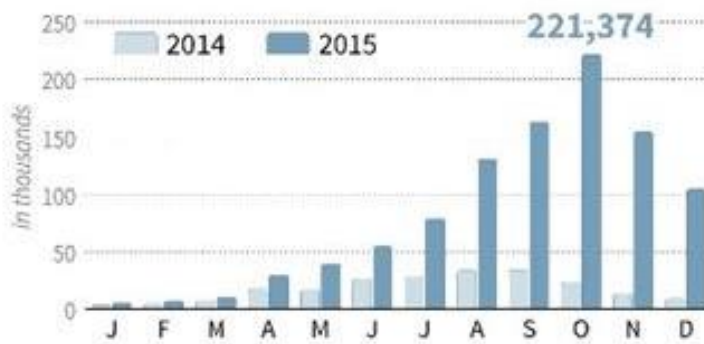
3,735 dead or missing

84% of those arriving had fled from just 10 countries

Who they are

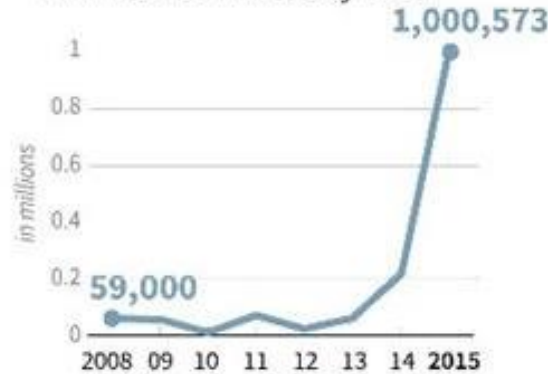


Monthly arrivals by sea

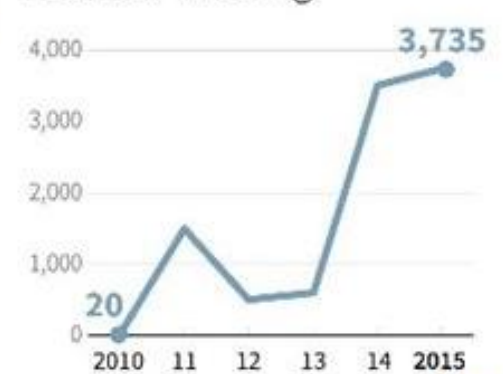


Source: UNHCR

Annual arrivals by sea



Dead or missing

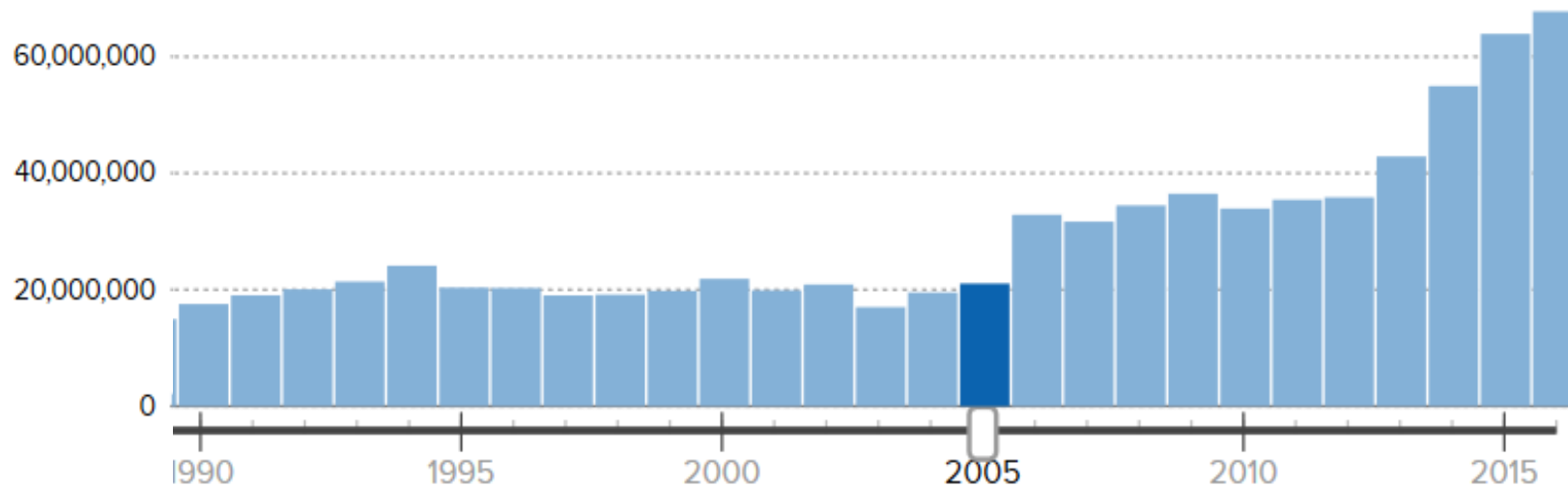


AFP

REFUGEE CRISIS IN 2015

DATA FROM THE UNHCR

- **65.6 million** people around the world have been forced from home
- **22.5 million refugees**, over half of whom are **under the age of 18**
- **5.5 million refugees** from **Syria**



For more information, please contact stats@unhcr.org

REFUGEE CRISIS IN 2015

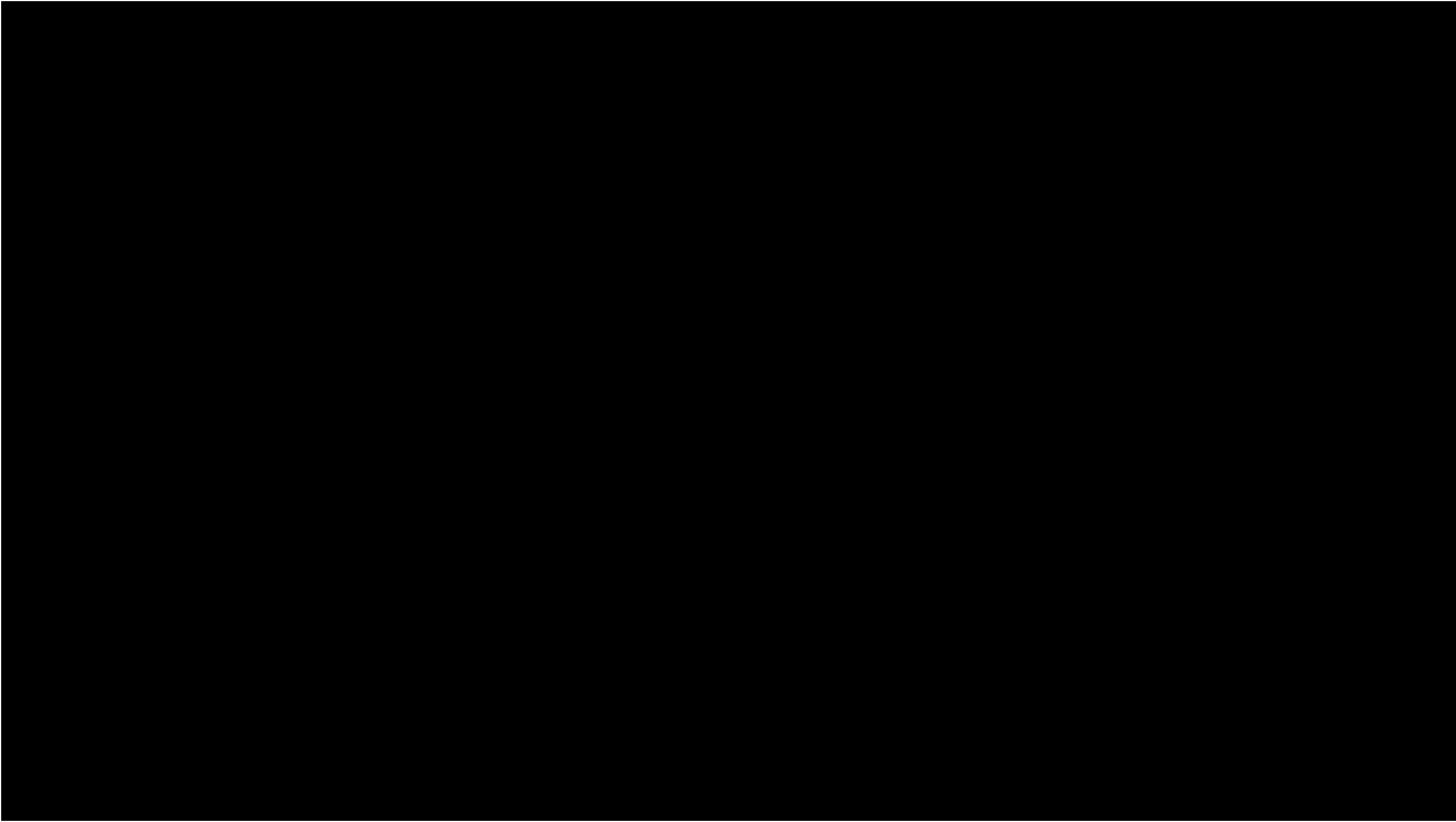
VIDEO

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY®



REFUGEE CRISIS IN 2015

VIDEO



REFUGEE CRISIS IN 2015

WHAT DID EUROPE DO?

- Supporting Italy and Greece
- Working together to allow refugees to move further into Europe
- 2016 countries started to close borders
- Setting up “hotspots” in Greece and Italy for registration
- Distribution of refugees
- EU deal with Turkey, stopping refugees from moving to Europe
- EU supporting countries who host refugees like Lebanon and Jordan

REFUGEE CRISIS IN 2015

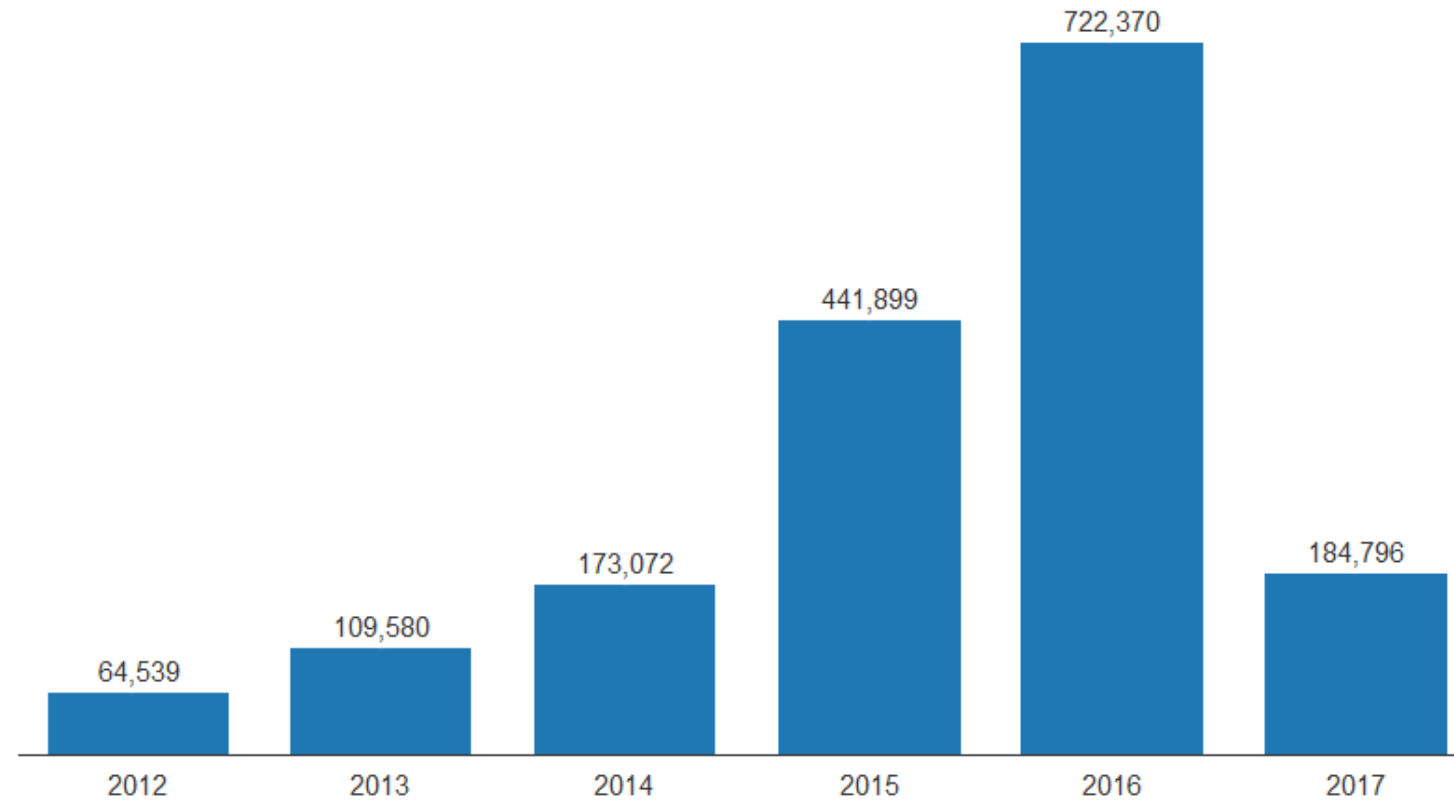
WHY IS IT A CRISIS?

- The EU does not yet have a system / laws in place that controls migration
 - Who has to take what number of refugees?
 - Which countries have to contribute to others to help?
- The process of deciding about ones asylum application takes a long time
- Already difficult housing situations get more difficult with the refugees needing places to live
- Refugees are still coming, numbers have declined

SITUATION TODAY

Asylum requests

The number of first-time asylum requests made in Germany (2011-2017)



Source: [Infratest dimap](#) • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

SITUATION TODAY

- It has become a main political issue, patriotism, conservatism are on the rise
- Protest for and against current politics



Agenda

The European Union

Refugee crisis in 2015

Personal experiences

Group Work / Questions / Discussion



PERSONAL EXPERIENCES

ABDULRAHMAN



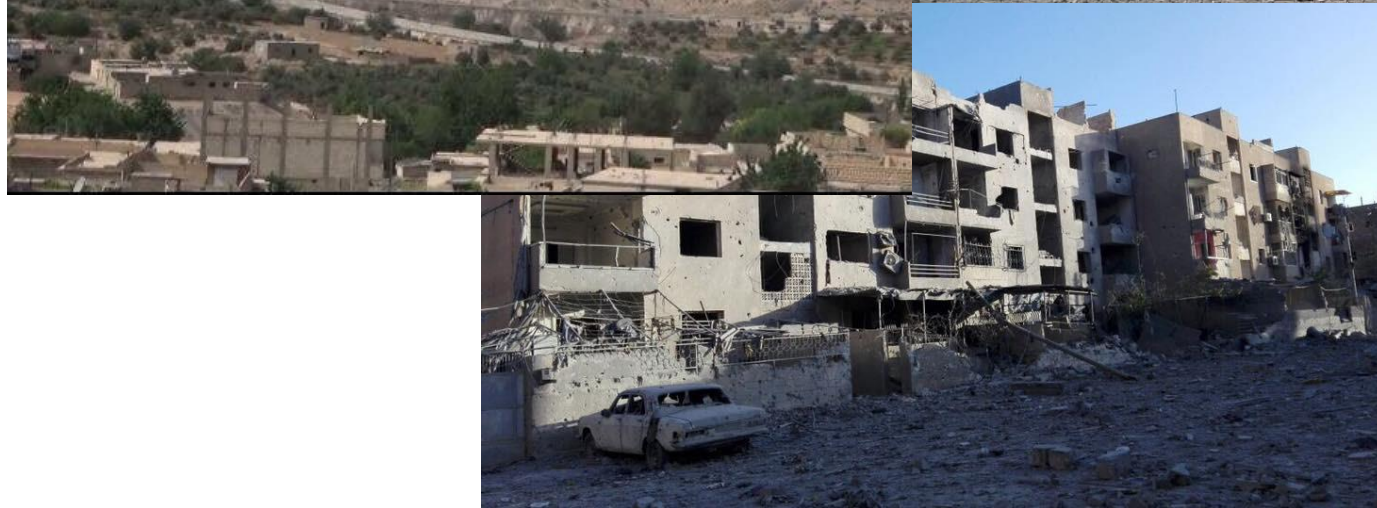
PERSONAL EXPERIENCES

ABDULRAHMAN



PERSONAL EXPERIENCES

ABDULRAHMAN



PERSONAL EXPERIENCES

ABDULRAHMAN



PERSONAL EXPERIENCES

ABDULRAHMAN

- Home town: Al Tabqah
- Electrical Engineering degree from University of Damascus
- Fled from Syria in 2014 to Jordan
- August 2015 to Istanbul, Turkey
- 9 attempts to cross Mediterranean sea to Greece
- Arrived in Germany in December 2015
- Today: employed by Bombardier as a Systems Engineer and part of a club that supports refugees coming to Germany to help with integration and starting to study again



GROUP WORK

- What would have to happen that you would leave everything behind and seek asylum in another country?
- After hearing about Abdulrahman, what are some questions you would have for him or someone who had to leave his country and seek asylum in Europe?

PERSONAL EXPERIENCES

ABDULRAHMAN

- Home town: Al Tabqah
- Electrical Engineering degree from University of Damascus
- Fled from Syria in 2014 to Jordan
- August 2015 to Istanbul, Turkey
- 9 attempts to cross Mediterranean sea to Greece
- Arrived in Germany in December 2015
- Today: employed by Bombardier as a Systems Engineer and part of a club that supports refugees coming to Germany to help with integration and starting to study again

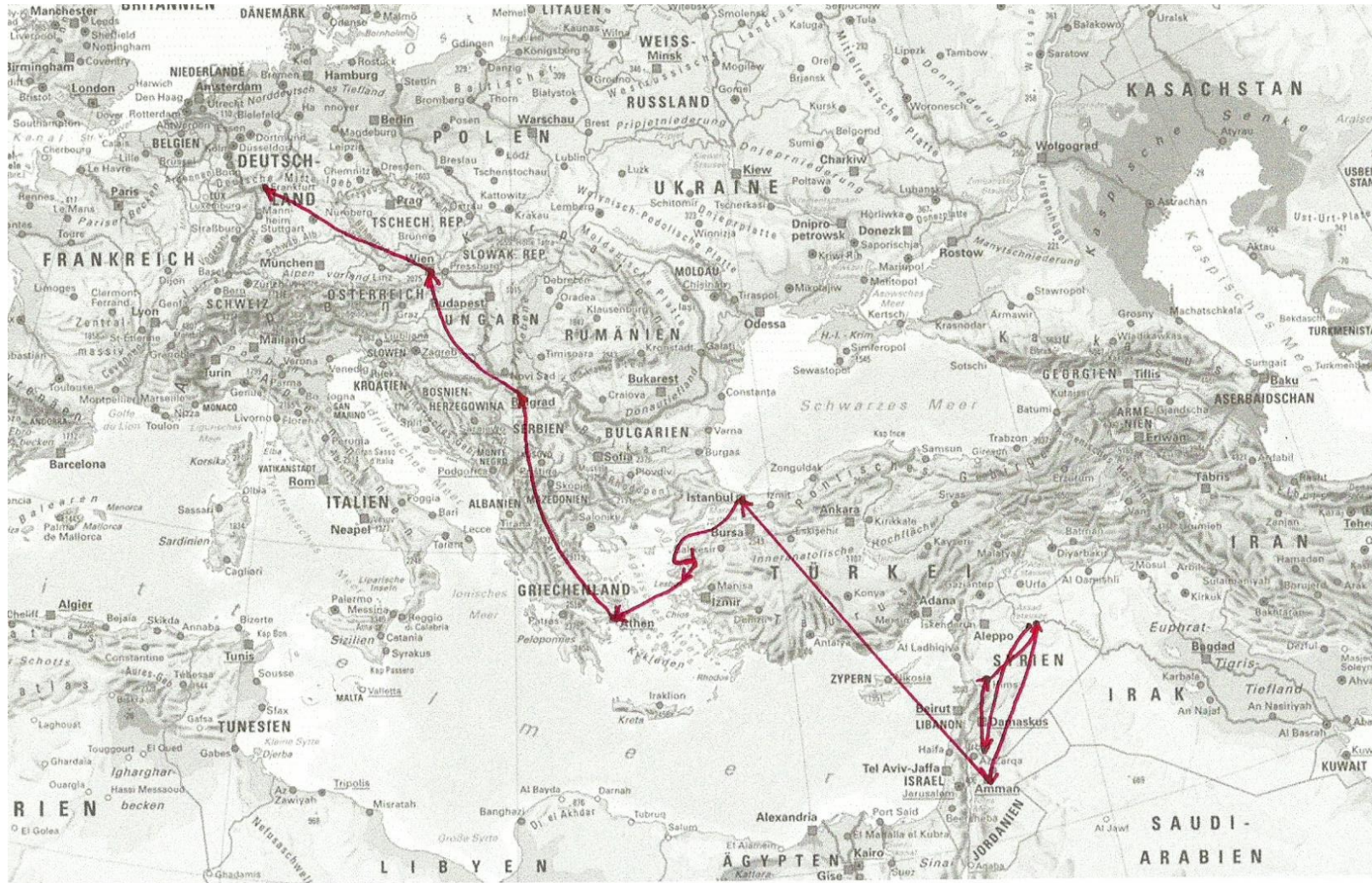


PERSONAL EXPERIENCES

ABDULRAHMAN

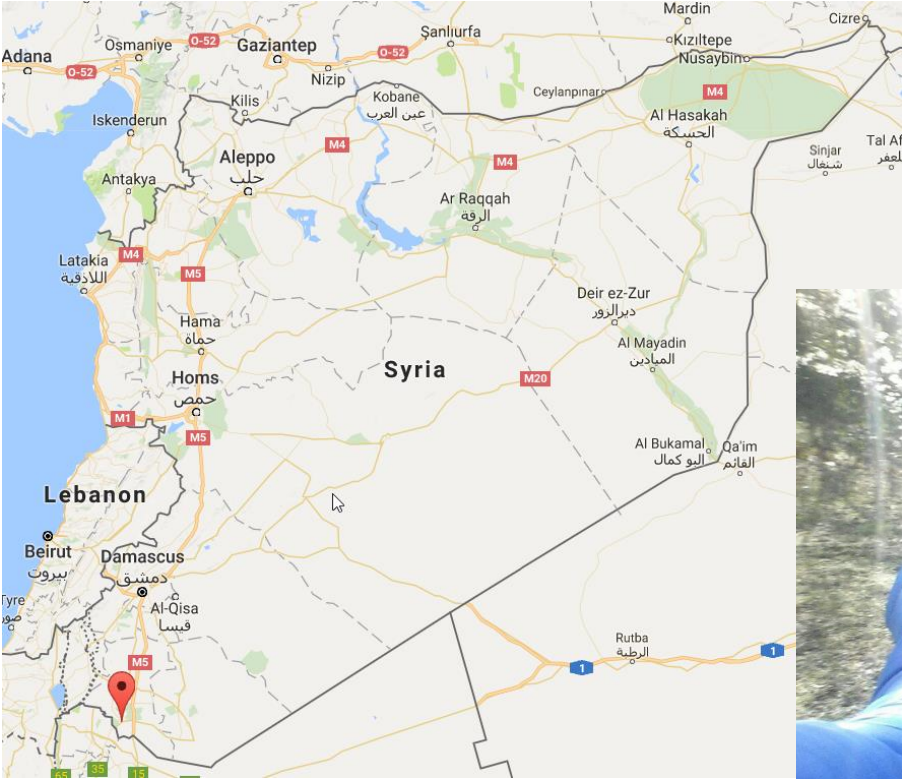
Istanbul to Frankfurt
1,900 miles

Houston to San Francisco
1,900 miles



PERSONAL EXPERIENCES

HAMIDS



PERSONAL EXPERIENCES

HAMIDS



Agenda

The European Union

Refugee crisis in 2015

Personal experiences

Group Work / Discussion



Thank you for your attention

Questions?

