



Refugee crisis in Europe – UNO adds fuel to the fire

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Nothing is stirring up the emotions more, currently, than the never-ending stream of refugees into Europe. Refugees in or refugees out is the controversy. While for some it's the final straw, for others it is far from enough. Some fear the loss of the own identity, while others appeal on hu-manitarian grounds for receiving more refugees. While some feel exploited by the refugees, for others the living conditions of the refugees in Europe are plainly disastrous. The refugees are supported too much or too little. Many see free mobile phones and excessive pocket money for the refugees, others see their unfulfilled needs. While the nerves are raw of some - mostly those of citizens living nearby the hopelessly overcrowded reception centres – others are glossing over facts or adding more fuel to the fire. For instance United Nations Head Commissioner for Refu-gees António Guterres downplayed the number of refugees which have arrived since the begin-ning of the year - Swiss radio SFR1 reported on August, 27th: The 300,000 asylum seekers indeed do exceed the capacity of single countries like Greece, Serbia or Macedonia but not of the Euro-pean Union. The EU has 510 million inhabitants. In relation to this the number of refugees is rela-tively low, said the United Nations Head Commissioner. In other ways as well the UN seems to attempt by all available means to keep the stream of refugees coming into Central Europe: this also means to keep adding fuel to the refugee controversy. The UN Refugee Agency UNHCR - for example - greets Germany's break with the Dublin Agreement concerning Syrian refugees. Swiss TV reported on August, 26th. According to the Dublin Agreement all immigrants have to pass through the asylum procedure in the country where they first arrived. But especially southern European countries like Italy or Greece no longer register all arriving migrants. Because Germany in turn doesn't send back Syrians shows that the Dublin Agreement was rather a pretence to calm the waves. The UNHCR continued: "We would appreciate, too, if other states for example Swit-zerland would decide to take similar actions." There are still other possibilities than receiving refugees unrestrictedly or dismissing implicitly

both of which fuel the refugee conflict. Denmark's example illustrates this. Swiss TV SRF1 re-ported on August, 27. On one side Denmark tries to reduce the attraction for false asylum seekers who want to come to Europe - those who cannot be counted as actual refugees - by means of giv-ing them less money for living. On the other side the migrants are motivated to integrate them-selves. Whoever attends a language course in order to learn Danish receives additional financial support. The parliament voted with a thin majority "yes" in favour of this asylum reform according to SRF1. The Danish government is obviously trying to calm the waves of the European refugee controversy. On one hand by means of deterrence of those which don't want to adapt to Danish conditions and on the other hand by means of

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assistance for those who integrate themselves for example by learning Danish. Experience has shown the less money the refugees get the less false refugees come.

The southern Italian town of Riace with it is 1800 inhabitants demonstrated already in 2011 that this is a feasible way. According to the mayor Domenico Lucano refugees work peaceful side by side with the local residents. In contrast to the other refugee centres in Italy where refugees were mistreated. In Riace the refugees not only repopulated this little town, the mayor said, but they also brought economic prosperity back to it. Bakeries and greengroceries are booming again, the school reopened, the local handicraft was revived. Pottery courses, weaving courses and Italian courses are offered.

In contrast, in several other European countries refugees are by law not allowed to work. Due to this the potential for conflicts increases because the refugees have nothing to do except to sit idly in their accommodations instead of, for instance, helping meet the actual needs of the towns where they are lodged. That these examples of integration, and with them mediation between the two fronts, do not catch on is not without reason. The UN refugee relief organisation immediately criticised the new rules in Denmark – for supporting refugees which are willing to integrate – as discriminatory. That's it what it comes down to! Refugees are supposed to be received, without any conditions. Arrangements which would reduce inevitable potential for conflict between local residents and refugees should be prevented and be defamed as discriminatory. It becomes increas-ingly obvious that the European people are supposed to be divided and through this weakened and destabilised. Europe only can lose as soon as people let themselves be agitated against each other in favour or against refugees. Instead it is necessary to find attractive solutions for both sides – similar to what Denmark and the South Italian village have shown us. Have a good eve-ning.

from dd.

Sources:

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http://www.srf.ch/news/international/die-tage-des-dublin-abkommens-sind-gezaehlt

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