

# FORCED MIGRATION AND GLOBAL MIGRATION: POLICY AND RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

KAREN JACOBSEN

Fletcher School of Law + Diplomacy, Tufts University

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University



THE FLETCHER SCHOOL

TUFTS UNIVERSITY

## OVERVIEW OF CLASS TODAY

- The big picture: Who are the international migrants, how many, where from where going? How is forced migration different?
- Some 21<sup>st</sup> C characteristics of global migration, and new ways to think about it.
- International and national policy responses to forced migration

# TERMINOLOGY

- **International migrants** (aka “Foreign-born population”)

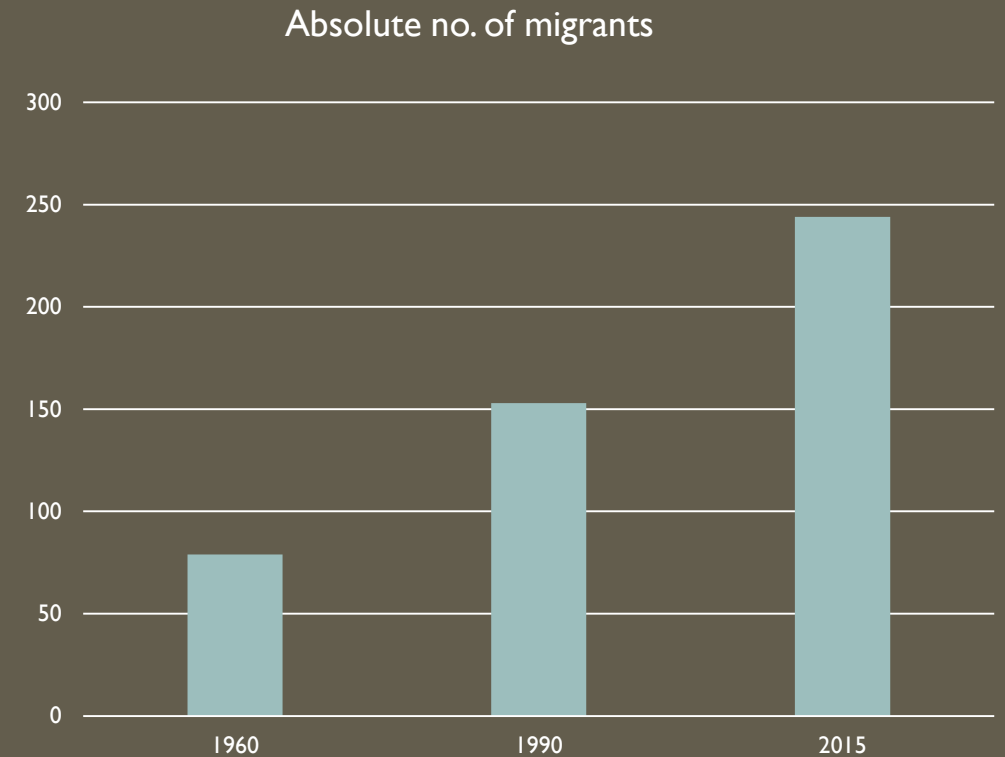
defined as those “living outside the country of their birth” usually for more than one year.

- Excludes visitors, tourists, business travel, etc
  - includes refugees (legally defined in 1951 Refugee Convention)
- **Internal migration** – those who move within their country of birth/citizenship, and do not cross borders
  - Includes Internally displaced people (IDPs), rural-urban migrants

**HAS GLOBAL MIGRATION  
INCREASED OVER THE PAST 50  
YEARS?**

# HOW MANY ARE MOVING ACROSS BORDERS?

- Absolute number of international migrants has increased
- BUT percentage of global population has not changed much (2.6% in 1960 to 3.3% in 2015)
- i.e. 97% of global population stays home!



# TYPES OF MIGRATION

- Labor migration
- Family migration (reunification)
- Forced displacement:
  - Refugees and IDPs
  - Disaster victims (famine victims)
  - Climate-related migration
  - Trafficking (enslavement, forced labor, sex trade)
- Return movements/Repatriation/Deportation



## INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

(SOURCE: UN INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION REPORT 2017\* AND UNHCR GLOBAL TRENDS 2017)

	2017	2000
international migrants	<b>258 million</b> (49% increase from 2000)	173 million
Refugees	21.3 million (8% of total 258m) (82% increase from 2000)	11.7 million (6% of total 173m)

## Some of the world's many migration routes





# EUROPE (MAPS DEPICTS ONE-WAY FLOWS, BUT RETURN MOVEMENTS TOO)



## 21<sup>ST</sup> C SHIFTS IN GLOBAL MIGRATION

- Securitization + pushing out of EU/US borders
- Rise of illicit migration industry (smuggling, finances)
- EU/US migration politics: the rise of xenophobia based on fear, populism + demagoguery – feeds same in regions
- Increased presence of women and youth in migration flows
- Urban migration (internal and external; forced and labor)



## SOME NEW WAYS TO THINK ABOUT GLOBAL MIGRATION

**Mixed migration** – refugees and IDPs mixed together with other kinds of migrants

**A spectrum** - rather than forced or voluntary

**Migration systems** - sets of places linked by flows and counter-flows of people, goods, services, and information, which tend to facilitate further exchange, including migration, between the places\*

## GLOBAL DISPLACEMENT AT END-2017

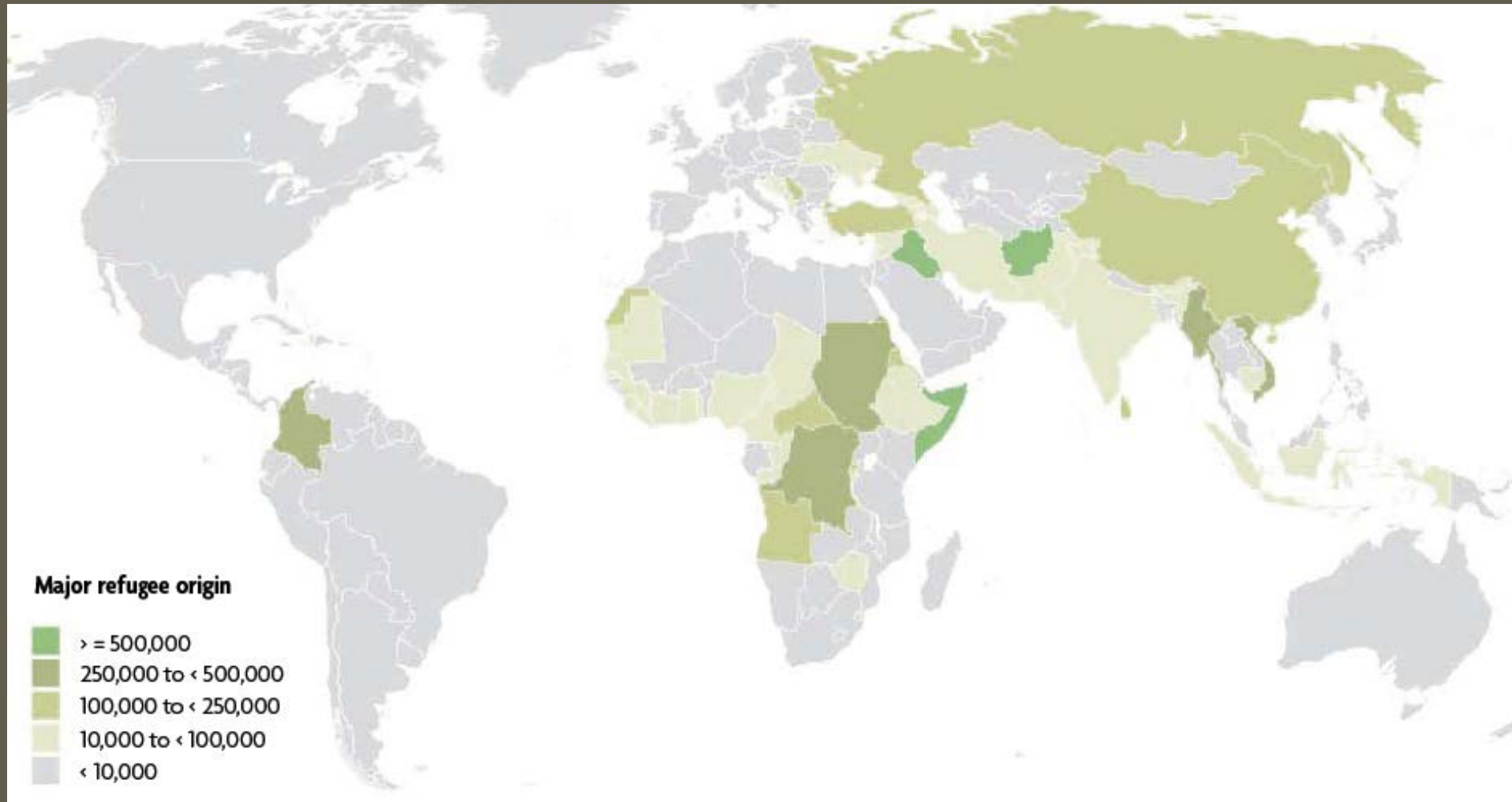
### HOW MANY AND WHO?

- 25.4 million refugees
  - 19.9 million under UNHCR's mandate
  - 5.4 million Palestinian refugees registered by UNRWA
- 40 million internally displaced people
- 3.1 million asylum-seekers

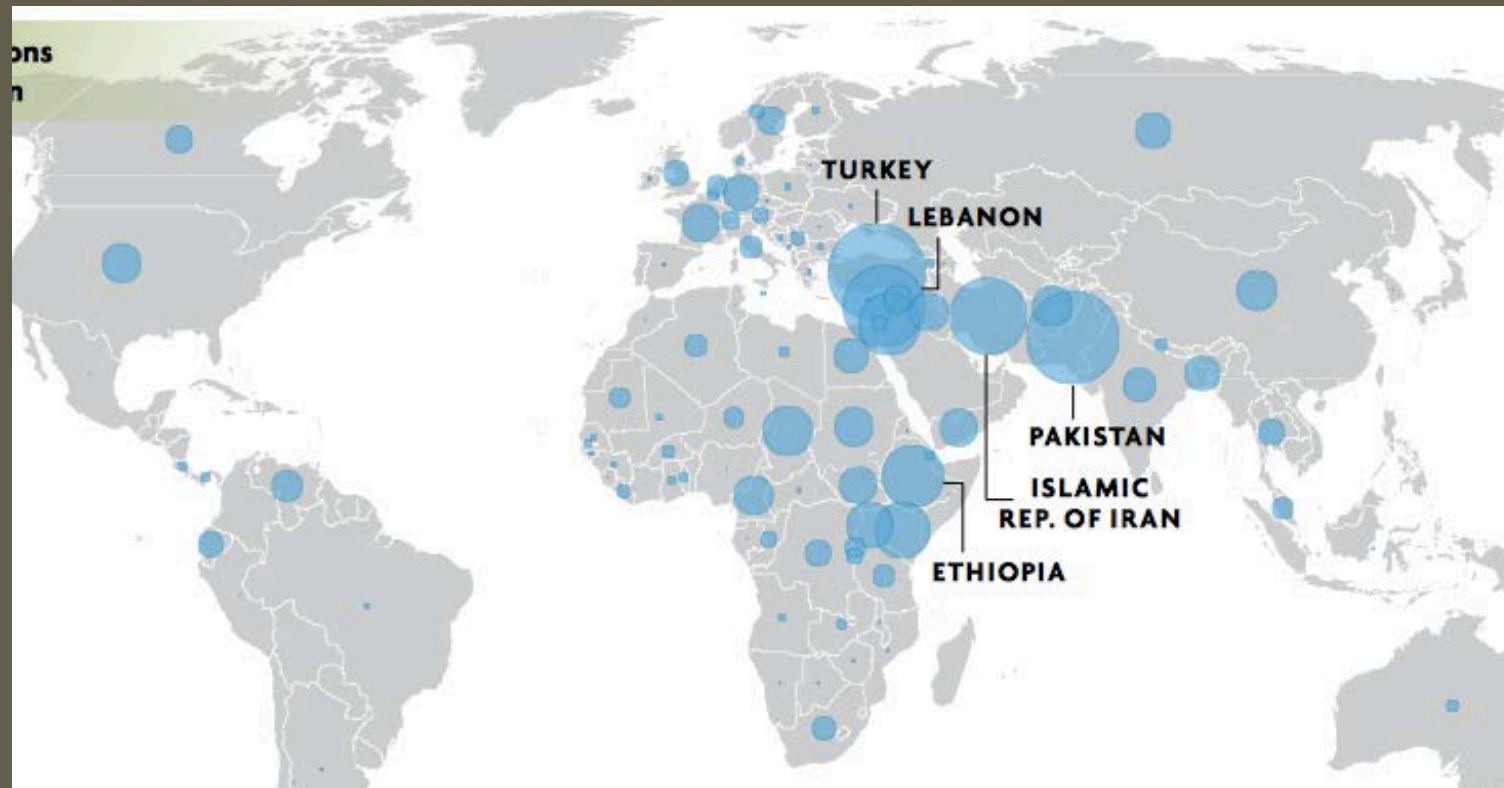
# ARE FORCED MIGRANTS DIFFERENT FROM OTHER MIGRANTS?

- a distinctive experience and distinctive needs?
  - Experience of loss, sudden upheaval
- Different legal-policy context in host country
  - Different political attitudes on part of hosts?
- Humanitarian assistance

# MAJOR COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN



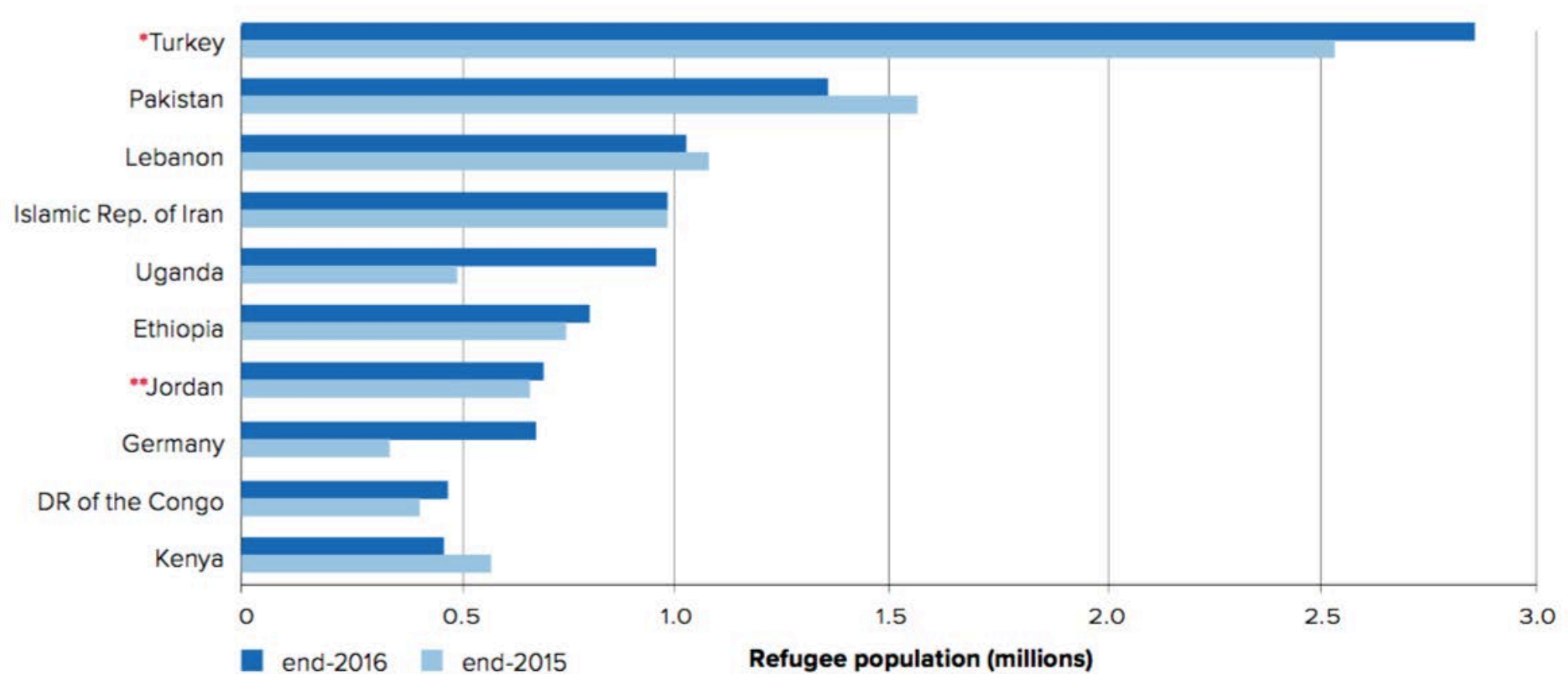
# GLOBAL DISTRIBUTION OF REFUGEES— 25 MILLION IN 2017



# MAJOR REFUGEE-HOSTING COUNTRIES 2015-2016

(SOURCE: UNHCR GLOBAL REVIEW 2016)

Figure 4 | Major refugee-hosting countries





## WHERE ARE THE FORCED MIGRANTS?

- 7.2 million refugees in protracted situations
- Most refugees (86%) and all IDPs are in developing countries.
- Three quarters in region of origin/ neighboring country

## TRENDS IN FORCED DISPLACEMENT

- Most refugees and IDPs *do not live in camps*
- In 2016:

		total in all camps	total non-cmp	total C+NC
HCs w/camps N=48 (33%)	Total refs	<b>4.6mil</b>	<b>7.9m</b>	12.5m (73%)
	%	<b>37%</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>100%</b>
HC w/o camps N=97 (67%)	Total refs	-	<b>4.6m</b>	4.6m (27%)
	%	-	<b>100%</b>	
<b>Total</b>		<b>4.6m</b>	<b>12.6m</b>	<b>17.2m</b> (100%)
		<b>27%</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## IT'S ABOUT URBAN SETTINGS

- Most of the world's refugees live in urban settings amongst the urban poor
- Refugees are part of “mixed migration flows”

# HOW CAN THE WORLD HELP REFUGEES?

## Who should help?

- Rich countries?
- Neighboring countries (the region)?
- Charitable and religious organizations?
- The refugees' people in other countries (diasporas)?

## Who should be helped?

- The countries who host them
- The communities who host them?
- The refugees themselves?

## 25M REFUGEES: BURDEN SHARING?

- OECD countries help countries of first asylum by:
- Funding in-country programs
- Taking refugees through:
  - Resettlement
  - Asylum

## THIRD COUNTRY RESETTLEMENT

- In 2017 102,800 refugees were resettled in 35 countries (less than 1% of global total, and down 46% from 2016.)
- Even tho United States accepted 65% fewer than in 2016, US still took highest number: 33,400 = 33% of total resettled
  - Followed by Canada (26,600) and Australia (15,100)
  - India resettled 0 (most countries resettled less than 1000 and 11 resettled less than 100)

## SOUTH ASIA (END-2017)

Country of asylum	Refugees	Asylum-seekers	Returned refugees	IDPs protected by UNHCR	Returned IDPs	Total pop of concern
India	197,146	10,519	-	-	-	207,665
Pakistan	1,393,143	3,496	7	174,354	281,640	1,852,650
Sri Lanka	822					54,409
		628	1,586	39,322	408	
Nepal <sup>31</sup>	21,471	152	-	-	-	22,246

# WHAT ARE THE RIGHTS OF REFUGEES? AND IDPS?

- For refugees – a international legal regime:
  - International humanitarian laws, treaties (1951 Convention), international bureaucracy (UNHCR) , national laws, customs (nonrefoulment)
  - Refugee rights clearly stated in this body of law – but depends on national legislation and implementation
- For IDPs – no legal regime
  - Kampala Convention, IDP Guiding Principles



# THE RIGHT TO WORK

- The Right to Work (which allows all people to live in dignity and become self-reliant) is established in
  - Article 23.1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
  - Article 6 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
- For refugees it is established in Articles 17, 18 and 19 of the 1951 Geneva Convention.

# HOW ARE REFUGEES SUPPORTED?

- Refugees support themselves!
  - Especially those living outside camps (the majority)
- Humanitarian assistance
  - Food aid and in-kind assistance
  - Cash assistance
  - Livelihoods assistance

# LIVELIHOODS PROGRAMS AND CASH ASSISTANCE

- Both particularly important in urban areas
- Livelihoods programs help refugees become “self-reliant” by
  - using their existing assets and skills
  - advocating with govts to prevent discrimination
  - When targeted also at local host population, can prevent or address local resentment
- Cash assistance often replaces food aid (used in camps)
  - More appropriate in urban areas

## WHAT ARE SOME PROBLEMS WITH PROVIDING CASH + LIVELIHOODS ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES?

- Targeting – who should get assistance?
- How to provide cash? Modalities
- Government resistance – a magnet?
- Is livelihoods support appropriate when refugees are seeking mobility?

# ASYLUM: DIFFERENT SETS OF INTERESTS

- The country of origin + transit
  - (responsible for outflows and through movement, and for return of citizens)
- The asylum country
  - The State - motivated by security concerns, state relations, managing migration; but constrained by law, humanitarian obligs
  - Civil society (domestic politics, xenophobia, media)
- The refugees - and their supporters (UNHCR, aid agencies) – often bolstered by law, media, civil society

# ASYLUM POLICY VS REFUGEE POLICY

**Asylum seekers** = persons who have left their country to seek protection in another country.

## **Asylum policy**

the procedural framework for handling persons seeking protection

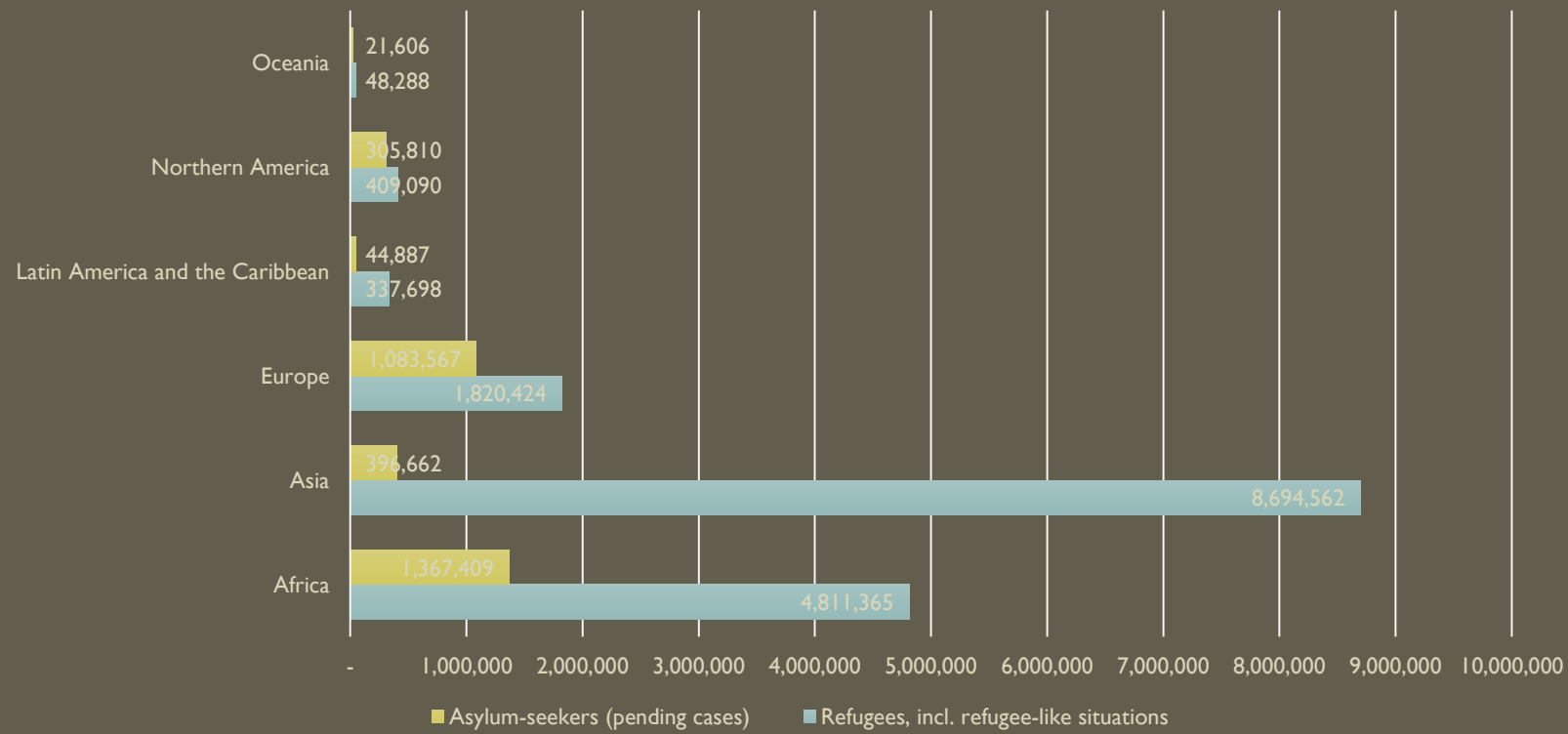
**Refugees** = Persons who have been granted asylum in other countries

## **Refugee policy**

- provides refugee assistance in regions of origin
- and
- procedures for resettlement programs

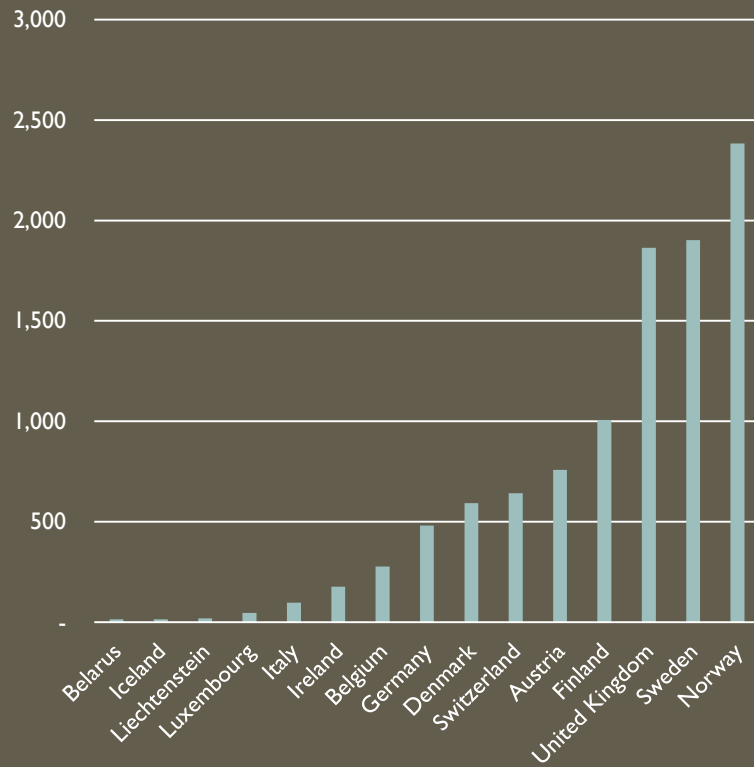
# REFUGEES + ASYLUM SKRS BY REGION, END-2015

end-2015



# RESETTLEMENT EUROPE CF. US, CANADA, AUSTRALIA

Europe 2015



Resettlement 2015

