



EMN Policy brief on migrants' movements through the Mediterranean

Full report accompanying the Inform on migrants' movements through the Mediterranean

23 December 2015

The European Migration Network (EMN) is co-ordinated by the European Commission with National Contact Points (EMN NCPs) established in each EU Member State plus Norway.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

When this analysis was first commissioned in late 2014 it was intended to address the arrival of people from North Africa across the Mediterranean to countries such as Italy and their onward movements to northern European countries. However, in 2015 the movement of people has changed significantly with greater numbers arriving via land and sea at the South Eastern EU borders, and the focus of this report has broadened to cover these routes of entry. The study focuses on irregular migratory movements, rather than the regular migration of people using legal mechanisms which are well-established and are measured routinely in published statistics.

It is in this context that the current large numbers of asylum seekers, migrants and displaced persons arriving at our borders is a test for the European Union and its Member States. The normal flow and reception of people has been disrupted by these large numbers of people seeking to enter the EU. In a constantly changing picture of migratory flows, this has emerged in different forms and at different parts of the EU and its external borders.

It is against this backdrop that this Policy Brief, supporting the accompanying Inform on Migrant movements through the Mediterranean and onward movements to other Member, has been produced by the EMN. The aim is to present key data on the irregular movements of people across the EU external borders and within the European Union (EU) itself, whether as asylum seekers or as migrants in search of greater economic security, over the past few years and including the first nine months of 2015.

In identifying key data to illustrate irregular migratory flows, this report attempts to summarise patterns for the EU while focusing on the most important flows and countries of origin. As these patterns are continuously subject to change the picture it presents should be seen as a snapshot of developments over the time period covered.

This report has been compiled by the UK National Contact Point (NCP) of the European Migration Network (EMN) with the collaboration of the Italian, French, Netherlands and Swedish NCPs and input from other members of the EMN along with colleagues at Frontex and Eurostat. Most of the data included comprises standard Eurostat figures on asylum applications and decisions, and Frontex detections data. Although a very good guide to the trends being seen, these data are produced as a result of operational activity and processes. The Frontex data, for example, measure the number of detections recorded and will therefore include people detected on more than one occasion and counted more than once, such as if they cross two borders on separate occasions. Meanwhile German asylum application figures, for example, reflect only the completed applications for asylum and not the larger number of people registered as having an intention to apply for asylum, although not all of them may do so. The latest Eurostat data as reported by each EU Member State is provisional and may be subject to future revisions. Nonetheless, in spite of the inherent uncertainty in the available data, this report represents the most comprehensive attempt to summarise the latest trends.

Asylum trends in the EEA¹ from 2009 to September 2015

- ★ Between 2009 and September 2015 there were 3.3 million asylum applications to the EEA and Switzerland². The number of applications more than doubled between 2009 (287,000) and 2014 (662,000) with the sharpest increase in that latter year. In the first nine months of 2015, numbers increased further and there were 901,000 asylum applications were lodged in the EEA, almost twice the number (451,000) recorded over the same period in 2014.
- ★ Between 2009 and September 2015 Syrian nationals accounted for the greatest number of asylum applications in the EEA (448,000). Almost half (222,000) of these Syrian asylum applications were made in the first nine months of 2015.

¹Includes the EEA and Switzerland

²28 EU Member States + EEA (Norway, Lichtenstein, Iceland) + Switzerland

- ★ The nationalities contributing the next highest number of applications in the first nine months of 2015 were Afghani (103,000), Iraqi (69,000), Kosovo (69,000) and Albania (54,000).
- ★ Amongst EEA Member States, the largest number of asylum applications by far, in recent years have been received by Germany. In the first nine months of 2015 Germany received 32% (289,000) of all applications in the EEA up from 11% of the total in 2009. The Member States receiving the next largest numbers of asylum seekers in the first nine months of 2015 were Hungary 176,000 (20%), Sweden 73,000 (8%), Italy 59,000 (7%), Austria 57,000 (7%), and France 51,000 (6%). On the other side of the coin, less than 100 applications were registered in Croatia and Slovak Republic, less than 200 in Estonia and Slovenia, and under 250 in Lithuania and Latvia. In the Mediterranean, notably Cyprus and Malta, received 1,500 and 1,200 asylum applications, respectively.
- ★ In the first nine months of 2015 Germany also received just under a third (31%) of all Syrian applications for asylum recorded in the EEA, although as noted it is possible there are a large additional number of people who are in Germany and have expressed an intention to apply for asylum.
- ★ Of the total applications for asylum recorded by Germany between January and September 2015 (289,000), 24% were from Syrians, and a further 14% were from Eritreans, Afghans, Somalis and Iraqis. However, one third of Germany's asylum applications were from three Western Balkan countries that are much less likely to be recognised as in need of protection as refugees - Albania, Kosovo and Serbia.
- ★ In the first nine months of 2015 Hungary received the largest percentage of Afghani applications (45%) and the second largest number of applications from Syrians (29%) amongst EEA Member States. Of the 176,000 applications received by Hungary in this period, over 60% were from Syrian or Afghani nationals but a further 14% were from Kosovans (this proportion was much higher in the first quarter of 2015). It is expected that monthly applications for asylum in Hungary will be significantly reduced by the end of 2015 as a result of the measures that country has taken to secure its border.
- ★ Sweden received the third highest number of applications between January and September 2015 receiving 73,000 applications. Just over 70% of Sweden's applications were from countries whose asylum seekers are more likely to be granted protection by the EEA (Syrian, Afghani, Eritrean, Iraqi and Somalia).

Routes into the EU

- ★ The routes irregular migrants use to enter the EU are constantly changing. The Central Mediterranean route from Libya to Italy increased three fold between 2013 (45,000 detections) and 2014 (171,000) and this crossing has been particularly precarious, resulting in the deaths of more than 5,000 migrants over the last two years. This is considered the most treacherous route into the EU, but was by far the most common route used in 2014 with three times the number of arrivals recorded compared to the Eastern Mediterranean route to Greece (51,000).
- ★ However, this pattern changed in 2015. Between January and September 2015 the most commonly used route for irregular entry into the EU was the Eastern Mediterranean which saw a large increase in numbers of detected arrivals (401,000 compared to 132,000 in the Central Mediterranean). There were nearly eight times the number detections via the Eastern Mediterranean route in the first nine months of 2015 (401,000) than in the whole of 2014 (51,000). In September 2015 almost 70% (102,000 of the 149,000) of all detections in the Eastern Mediterranean were of Syrian nationals.
- ★ The Western Balkan land route³ also saw an increase in detections in 2014 (43,000) compared to 2013 (20,000). However, the numbers coming through this route increased significantly in 2015, with a total of 297,000 detection recorded in the first nine months of the year, almost seven times higher than the whole of 2014. This increase reflected the inflow of

³ This route describes two main migration flows; migrants coming from the Western Balkan states into Hungary and the secondary movements of migrants who initially entered the EU through the Eastern Mediterranean through Greece, Bulgaria or Cyprus.

migrants from within Europe (e.g. the Western Balkans) alongside those asylum seekers coming from outside. As Frontex data measures detections and not people, there will, as indicated before, be a degree of double counting as arrivals from outside Europe may have also been detected and counted as arriving in the Eastern Mediterranean.

- ★ In 2015 Syrians have predominantly been arriving through the Eastern Mediterranean and onward land routes (Serbia, Hungary and Croatia). The Central Mediterranean route is currently being mainly used by people coming from a variety of African countries.
- ★ The main people using the Western Balkan route were from Afghanistan, Syria and in the first few months of 2015 Kosovo.

Asylum claims on arrival in the EU and onward movements

- ★ Since its adoption in 1990 (and in the revisions in 2003 and 2013) the Dublin Convention has established the principle that the country where an asylum seeker first applies for asylum is responsible for either accepting or rejecting the asylum claim. The aim of the convention was to bring clarity to the asylum process, and to prevent multiple claims or disputes over where a claim might be considered. However, the convention was not designed to deal with the current numbers of asylum seekers being received in the EU in the most recent period.
- ★ Between January and September 2015, Italy was the main point of entry to the EU for Eritrean and Somali nationals. However, less than 1% of Eritrean and 3% of Somali asylum applications to the EEA were made in Italy.
- ★ Across the EEA as a whole, there were around 36,000 applications for asylum by Eritreans, of whom 9,000 (25%) were received by Switzerland, and 7,000 (19%) by Germany and 6,000 (17%) by Sweden. Of the 17,000 applications from Somali nationals 45% were collectively accounted for by both Sweden (4,000; 23%) and Germany (4,000; 22%).
- ★ Between January and September 2015, Greece was the main point of entry to the EU for nationals from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan. However less than 2% of applications from these countries were lodged in Greece.
- ★ Six out of ten of all applications from Syrian nationals were to Germany (31%) or Hungary (29%). Hungary received over 40% of all applications from Afghani nationals. While in the first nine months of 2015 Germany (21%) and Finland (18%) have been the top destinations for asylum for nationals from Iraq.
- ★ Not all asylum seekers arrive through irregular routes. Some will arrive in the EU on a regular visa, whether to work, study or perhaps most commonly as a visitor and only apply for asylum when they have to return to their country of origin. The number of asylum applications for Somalis is 22% higher than the numbers detected arriving irregularly for the first nine months of 2015. The difference is much greater for those from Iraq (118%) which suggests Iraqi nationals may be less likely to be detected entering the EU illegally or may have arrived through more regular routes. In contrast, the number of detections and asylum applications are almost the same for Eritreans. For other nationalities, the data suggests that not all of those arriving in the EU will apply for asylum, or that there is at least a time lag between arrival and then applying for asylum.

Rates of acceptance as a refugee in the EEA

- ★ Not all those people seeking asylum will be found to have "a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion" as defined by Article 1 of the Geneva Convention. The Geneva Convention defines a refugee as someone "outside the country of his nationality and unable or, owing to such fear, unwilling to avail themselves of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it."
- ★ There are processes in place in every EU Member State to assess whether a person has a genuine need for protection. The careful consideration of each individual claim means that a number of asylum applications will not necessarily translate into numbers of refugees.
- ★ The average grant rate for all nationalities applying for asylum across the EEA in the first nine months of 2015 was 48% (based on the total number of decisions made in the same period),

but this varies considerably between Member states (from 14% in Hungary to 76% in Sweden). The average rates of acceptance will vary considerably, depending on the nationalities contributing to the flow of asylum seekers being received by a particular EEA Member State. Syrians (96%) and Eritreans (87%) have a high grant rate across EEA Member States at present for well understood reasons, whilst nationals from Kosovo (2%) and Albania (3%) have a very low grant rate.

- ★ Despite almost one half of those people seeking asylum in the EEA receiving refugee status or another form of protection, of the asylum-seeking nationalities arriving in the EEA in significant number, fourteen (in descending order Bahrain, Swaziland, Syria, Central African Republic, Iraq, Eritrea, Kuwait, Yemen, Afghanistan, Palestine, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Somalia and Stateless nationals currently have a grant rate above 60% on average across the EEA.

Factors influencing secondary movements of irregular migrants within the EU

- ★ The impact of weather conditions on the numbers of crossings over the various routes of entry into the EU (Mediterranean Sea crossings peak in the summer, for example) is well known, as is the role of migrant smugglers and the routes and destinations they commonly use.
- ★ Although the asylum process is important in determining which irregular migrants are able to remain legally in the EU, it is not the greatest influence on where in the EU irregular migrants will seek asylum or perhaps stay on in an irregular status. Economic conditions are important, both the legal situation such as whether an asylum seeker is allowed to work, and general labour market conditions. Furthermore, irregular migrants will also be attracted to countries where they perceive they will be welcome and where there are established networks who may often provide information on the conditions in different countries as well as the routes to take to reach them, and communities who can support them on arrival and help them better integrate.
- ★ In 2013 the biggest diaspora groups for migrants from the five nationalities granted asylum in the largest numbers in Europe for 2014 were in Sweden, Germany and the UK which may help to account for the apparent attractiveness of these countries as destinations. Iraqis in Sweden were estimated to be the largest of these particular foreign born populations in Europe (estimated as around 130,000), followed by the German Afghani and Iraqi populations (98,000 and 94,000 respectively), and the UK Somali population (93,000).

Resettlement and Humanitarian aid

- ★ There are a number of areas where the EU has provided significant support for migrants and refugees, including but not only for those people who have arrived in the EU or at its external borders, but also for the larger number still present in conflict areas. Some of these people are provided with aid where they are situated, often temporarily, whether inside the EU or not, and some may be received for resettlement within the EU and other countries (such as the United States, for example).
- ★ The EU has had significant resettlement programmes for refugees which have operated over a number of years. Rather than being received through irregular channels, these programmes generally involve individuals or families who are accepted as refugees being received through a planned approach offering formal support to help them establish a new life in a safe country. Over the period 2009-2014 a total of 40,000 refugees of all nationalities were resettled across the EU in this way. Sweden was the top country accepting nationals from Syria (905), Eritrea (1,785), Afghanistan (2,180), and Somalia (1,730) under the established resettlement programme. Of European countries, non-EU Norway accepted the most Syrian refugees for resettlement in 2014 (785). Germany was the top country for resettling nationals from Iraq (2,900) in the six years 2009-14, with the UK resettling the second largest number over this period (1,300). At least 18 EU and EEA States currently run resettlement programmes.⁴

⁴ Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, the Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden and the UK, as well as Iceland, Norway and Switzerland. Austria, France, Germany,

- ★ In addition, as has been noted, there are very large numbers of refugees being temporarily accommodated in countries closer to their place of origin, for example at present around 2 million Syrians are living in Turkey, 1.1 million in Lebanon and 0.6 million in Jordan. These people are also in need of support and the EU has provided a large amount of humanitarian aid to displaced Syrians outside of the EU in the region of origin, totalling almost €4 billion, which has gone towards helping feed displaced people and provides health care and education for children and other critical services. Providing aid in the region of origin may also help deter refugees from attempting perilous journeys to other countries.
- ★ Amongst EU Member States, the United Kingdom has been the largest contributor of humanitarian aid to Syria, Eritrea, Afghanistan, Somalia and Iraq since 2009 (€1.4 billion). Germany (€850 million) and Sweden (€350 million) were the next most significant contributing EU Member States.

Italy and the UK run humanitarian admission or evacuation programmes. Other Member States, such as Luxembourg, run ad-hoc resettlement activities.

1. INTRODUCTION

This briefing summarises trends in asylum applications and movement of non-EU migrants across the EEA over recent years up to September 2015⁵. It outlines the key routes that migrants use to travel to the EEA and the countries where some subsequently claim asylum, along with some of the outcomes of those claims.

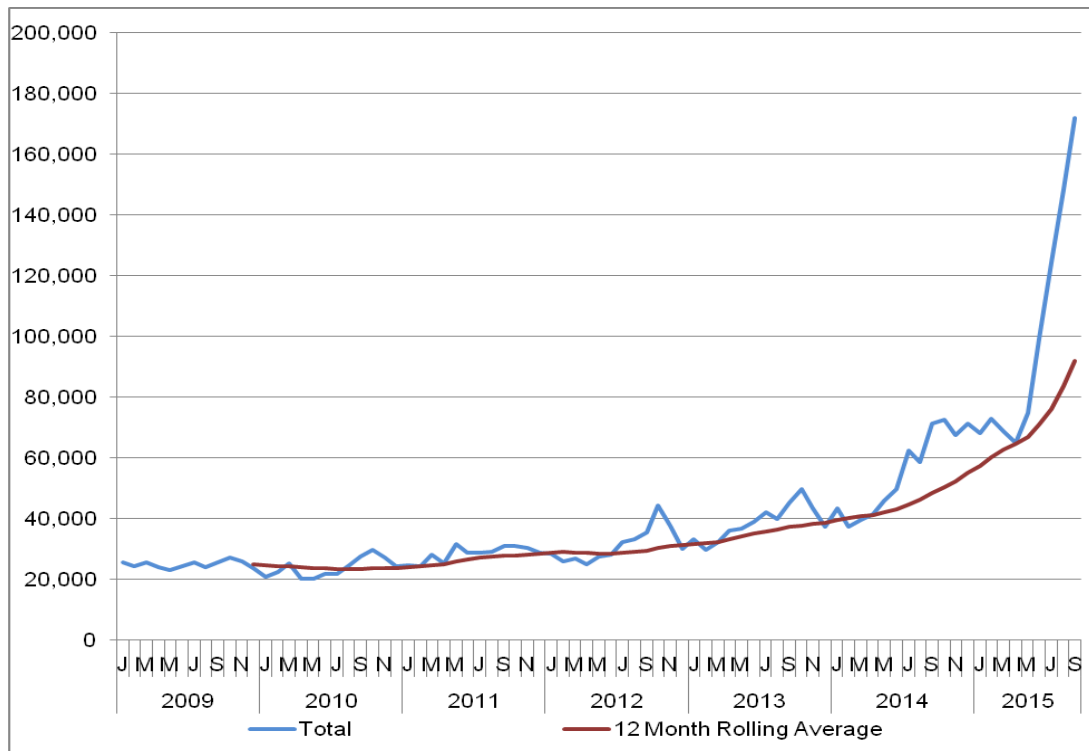
The briefing concentrates on those EU countries receiving the highest number of asylum applications (over 20,000 each in 2014) which are Germany, Sweden, Italy, France, Hungary, UK, Austria, Netherlands and Belgium. Greece is also included where relevant given its geographical location as a key migration route. Comprehensive statistics on asylum applications in all EU Member States are routinely published by Eurostat (<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database>) and these statistics are used here and summarised in tables in the annex to this report.

The data does **not** cover movements of migrants once they have claimed asylum, or those migrants entering the European Economic Area (EEA)⁶ who are not detected on entry or who do not subsequently claim asylum.

Asylum applications in the EEA between 2009 and September 2015

Between the start of 2009 and September 2015, a total of 3.3 million asylum applications have been made in the EEA, and the number of applications in 2015 looks likely to rise to around three times the number five years earlier.

Figure 1. Total monthly asylum applications in the EEA (2009 – September 2015)



⁵ Data is presented based on the most recent available. Data from Frontex is available up until September 2015 and Eurostat is up until September 2015. Eurostat data for July and September however is provisional and is subject to upward revisions as countries add or revise their figures. No figures for September were available at the time of writing for Latvia, Ireland, Romania and Spain.

⁶ Refers to EEA and Switzerland

There were around 300,000 asylum applications lodged in the EEA in 2009 and 2010. Since 2010 there has been a steady increase, and a much more marked rise after early 2014, to 663,000 applications in that year (a 42% increase on 2013). In the first nine months of 2015 numbers have risen even further, with 901,000 asylum applications lodged in the EEA, almost twice the number (451,000) recorded over the same period in 2014.

Figure 1 illustrates the number of asylum applications made each month since 2009. It highlights the significant growth in recent years as well as seasonal trends since 2012 (reflecting a higher number of sea-crossings in the summer months). In 2014, this pattern changed again as applications increased over the summer months and peak in October. However, since the end-of-summer peak in October 2014, the monthly asylum applications have not reduced.

Seasonality factors will affect particular routes differently and that in turn will have an impact on numbers of asylum applications. Since June 2015 there have been very large increases in the number of detections particularly in the less seasonally-affected Eastern Mediterranean, and July 2015 was the first time that detections were over 100,000 in one month since Frontex began keeping records in 2008.

Nationalities applying for asylum in the EEA

Over almost six years between the start of 2009 and September 2015 just over one in ten of the 3.3 million asylum applications⁷ received in the EEA were made by Syrian nationals (448,000; or 13% of the total) (Table 1). The numbers of Syrian asylum seekers began to rise in 2011, following the civil unrest in Syria. The next most significant nationalities applying for asylum in the EEA over these recent years were nationals from Afghanistan (281,000; 8%), Kosovo (180,000; 5%), Iraq (171,000; 5%), Russia (163,000; 5%) and Eritrea (143,000); 4%.

The nationalities of asylum-seekers in the EEA can change rapidly for a variety of reasons. There were 901,000 asylum applications in the nine months to September 2015. The top nationalities claiming asylum in this most recent 9 month period were nationals from Syria (222,000; 25%), Afghanistan (103,000; 11%), Iraq (69,000; 8%), Kosovo (69,000; 8%) and Albania (54,000; 6%). While nationals from Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq have a high likelihood of being recognised as genuine refugees (that is they have high grant rates for asylum applications), nationals from Kosovo and Albania do not. Comparative rates of acceptance as refugees are discussed further below.

Table 1: Total annual asylum applications by nationality across the EU (2009 – September 2015)

Third country	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Jan- Sep	Total
Syria	5,435	5,605	9,240	25,675	52,755	127,890	221,790	448,390
Afghanistan	25,085	22,255	30,245	30,405	27,840	42,735	102,780	281,345

⁷ Asylum applicant¹ means a person having submitted an application for international protection or having been included in such application as a family member during the reference period. Applications submitted by persons who are subsequently found to be a subject of a Dublin procedure are included in the number of asylum applications. Persons who are transferred to another Member State in application of the Dublin Regulation are reported as asylum applicants also in the Member State where they are transferred to. Within the same reference period every person being a subject of asylum application is counted only once, therefore repeat applications are not recorded if the first application has been lodged in the same reference period. However, such a repeat application will be recorded if lodged in a different reference month. It means that the aggregation of the monthly figures may overestimate the number of persons applying for international protection within the aggregated period (year).

Kosovo	14,970	15,160	10,705	10,925	21,180	38,445	68,995	180,380
Iraq	20,995	16,955	16,110	13,865	11,340	21,925	68,465	170,710
Russia	21,440	19,600	18,955	25,010	42,275	20,235	15,520	163,035
Eritrea	9,735	8,050	10,430	11,995	20,300	46,750	36,010	143,270
Serbia	6,445	18,855	15,645	21,075	22,740	31,175	24,955	140,890
Pakistan	10,165	9,420	16,470	20,110	21,195	22,455	36,755	136,570
Somalia	21,775	16,100	15,260	17,270	18,820	18,155	17,060	124,440
Nigeria	12,645	9,140	15,305	10,635	13,960	21,330	23,255	106,270
Albania	2,120	1,965	3,190	7,760	11,400	17,305	54,350	98,090
Other	149,135	143,515	181,345	179,905	201,955	254,870	230,885	1,339,500
Total	299,945	286,620	342,900	374,630	465,760	663,270	900,820	3,332,890

In the first nine months of 2015, nationals from Syrian made up 25% of all applications for asylum in the EEA. Nationals from Western Balkan countries⁸ made up 19%. In comparison, in 2014 Syrian nationals comprised 19% of the EEA asylum applications, and people from the Western Balkans 17%.

During the first nine months of 2015, there has been a large increase in applications for nationals from Kosovo (458%), Iraq (370%) Albania (533%), Afghanistan (274%), and Syria (160%) in comparison to the same period in 2014. The number of Eritrea asylum applications has decreased slightly by 5%.

There have been very large increases in the summer months of 2015 (July – September) for Syrian nationals in comparison to the same months in 2014. There were around 145,000 asylum applications this summer (July – September 2015), 102,000 more than last summer. Large increases in these months were also seen for nationals from Afghanistan (60,000 in July –Sept 2015 in comparison to 11,000 in 2014, and Iraq 46,000 in comparison to 8,000). For nationals from Kosovo the peak was in February 2015 (24,000 in just that one month). However, the influx of Kosovans appears to have been relatively short-lived and the number of applications has subsequently reduced to 3,000 in May 2015 and has continued to fall after that.

⁸ Includes Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Former Yugoslav, Montenegro, Kosovo and Serbia

Figure 2: Monthly asylum applications by nationality across the EEA (Jan –September 2015)

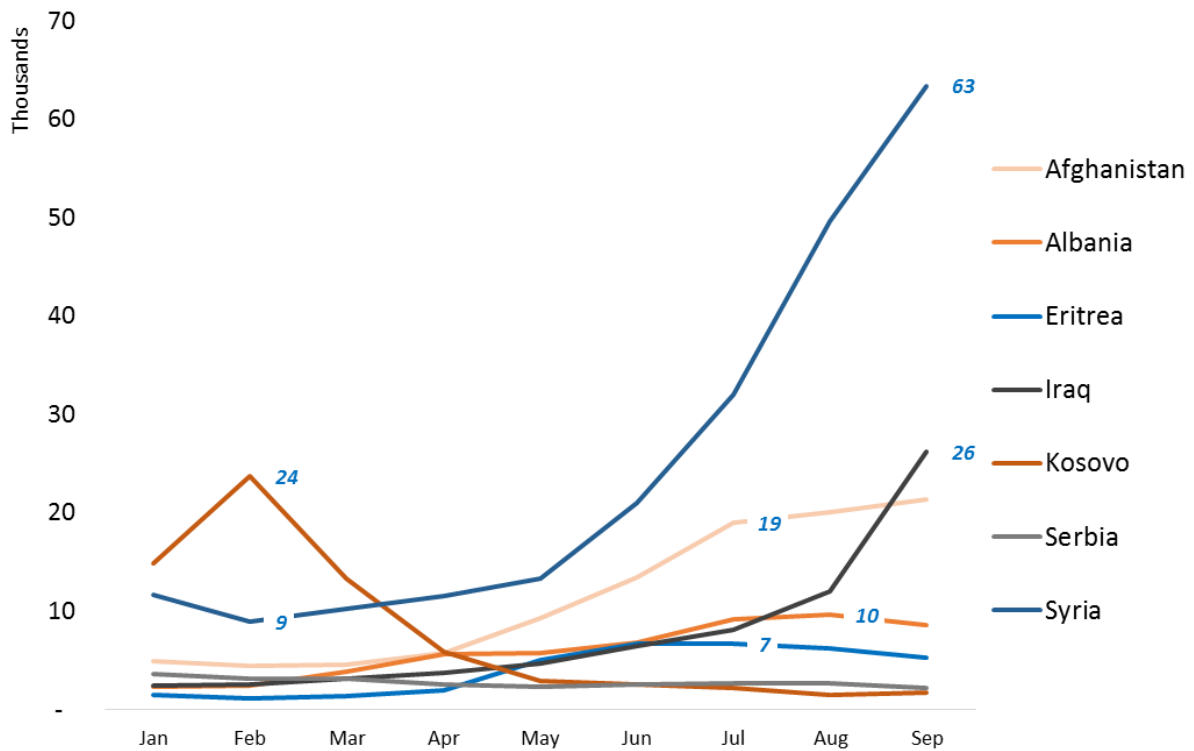
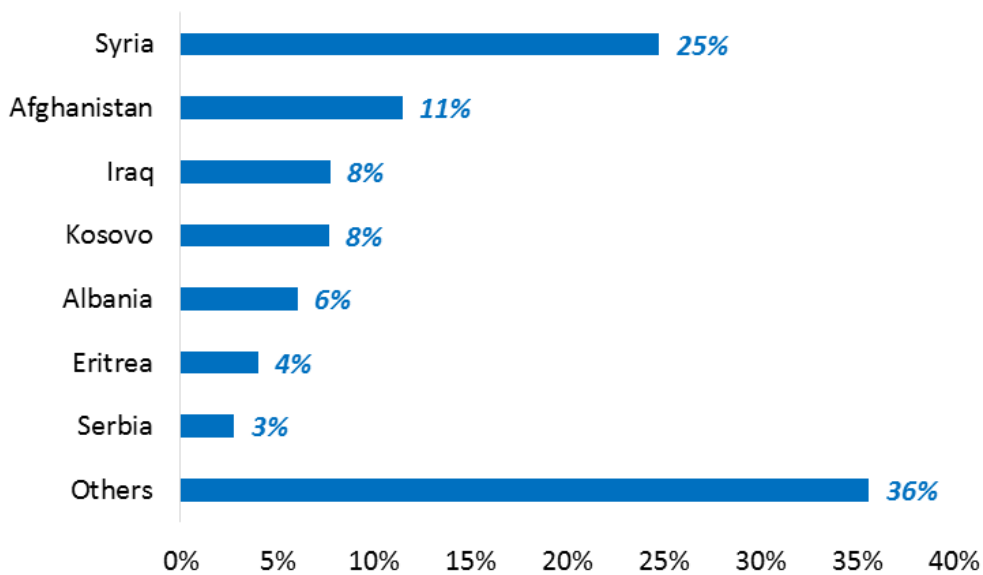


Figure 3: Top nationalities claiming asylum in the EEA, Jan-Sept 2015



Countries in the European Union in which asylum seekers seek refuge

Between 2009 and September 2015 Germany received by far the highest number of asylum applications (831,000). In the first nine months of 2015, it received almost one third (32%) of all asylum applications in the EEA, up from an 11% share in 2009. The numbers reported by Eurostat relate to completed applications. However, Germany is also believed to register larger numbers of people who express an intention to apply for asylum, although it is not clear yet how many will do so. This can perhaps explain the larger numbers of migrants German officials have reported as arriving in that country. This can make the German data hard to interpret.

In 2015, of the 289,000 formal applications to Germany 24% were from Syrians. A further 14% were from people coming from other countries with relatively high rates of acceptance as refugees - Eritrea, Afghanistan, Iraq and Somalia. However 35% were from countries in the Western Balkans (Albania, Serbia and Kosovo) who are generally not granted asylum.

Between 2009 and to September 2015 France received the second highest number of asylum applications (401,000) of all EEA countries. France received the largest number of asylum applications of all EEA countries in 2009, but by the first 9 months of 2015 it was sixth, with 51,000 applications. In the nine months to end September 2015 the largest number of applications to France were from Kosovan applicants, making up 8% of applications. Nationals from Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo and Syria each made up 6% of applications to France.

The third largest number of asylum applications over the period from 2009 to September 2015 was received by Sweden (339,000). This year to September 2015 Sweden also had the third highest number of applications in the EEA with 73,000. Unlike most other EU Member States, a large proportion of applications to Sweden were from countries more likely to be granted asylum - Syria, Eritrea, Somalia, Afghanistan and Iraq (accounting for over two thirds of the Swedish total in the first nine months of 2015). Thirty-five percent of all applications to Sweden over this period were from Syrians.

Hungary was fourth in the EEA for asylum applications between 2009- September 2015 with 248,000. Hungary witnessed a large increase between 2013 and 2014 (from 19,000 to 43,000, up 126%) however there has been an even larger increase since then and between January and September 2015 there were 176,000 applications making Hungary the second highest Member State recipient of asylum seekers in 2015, behind Germany. Hungary received 20% of all applications to the EEA in the first nine months of 2015 in comparison to less than 2% in 2009. In the first nine months of 2015 over a third of all applications to Hungary (36%) were from Syrian nationals and 26% were from nationals from Afghanistan. However, 14% of applications were from nationals from Kosovo, who have a very low grant rate (a number which was considerably higher in the first few months of 2015).

Italy had the fifth highest number of applications between 2009 and September 2015, at 236,000, and experienced the greatest increase in the number of asylum applications between 2013 and 2014 (27,000 to 65,000, 141%) reflecting the increased numbers of crossings in the Central Mediterranean. Italy had the fourth highest number of applications from January to September 2015 with 59,000 applications. The most numerous applicants to Italy have been from Western African countries rather than the most common asylum seeking nationalities elsewhere in the EEA. Almost 50% of applications to Italy were from nationals of Nigeria, Gambia, Mali or Senegal. A further 10% of applications were from Pakistan and 7% from Bangladesh.

Austria had the fifth highest number of applications between January and September 2015 with 57,000 applications twice the number of the whole of 2014. The top nationalities were nationals from Syria (30%), Afghanistan (22%) and Iraq (16%).

Table 2: Asylum applications in the EU, Member States receiving over 20,000 applications in 2014 (plus Greece) and other states, 2009 to September 2015

Member State	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Jan - Sept 15	Total
Germany	33,030	48,595	53,345	77,660	126,990	202,815	288,800	831,235
France	47,625	52,725	57,325	61,460	66,260	64,310	50,840	400,545
Sweden	24,260	31,940	29,710	43,945	54,365	81,330	73,065	338,615
Hungary	4,675	2,095	1,700	2,155	18,895	42,780	175,960	248,260
Italy	17,665	10,060	40,360	17,345	26,620	64,635	59,165	235,850
UK	31,700	24,370	26,950	28,895	30,815	31,945	27,170	201,845

Member State	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Jan - Sept 15	Total
Belgium	22,955	26,550	32,270	28,285	21,215	22,855	27,750	181,880
Austria	15,820	11,060	14,460	17,445	17,520	28,065	56,690	161,060
Netherlands	16,135	15,110	14,595	13,105	13,095	24,530	25,030	121,600
Greece	15,925	10,275	9,310	9,575	8,225	9,435	9,680	72,425
Others	70,155	53,840	62,885	74,760	81,760	89,505	106,670	539,575
Total	299,945	286,620	342,910	374,630	465,760	662,205	900,820	3,332,890

Figure 4: Percentage of the total asylum applications for the top ten EU recipient countries and other EU Member States, 2009 to September 2015

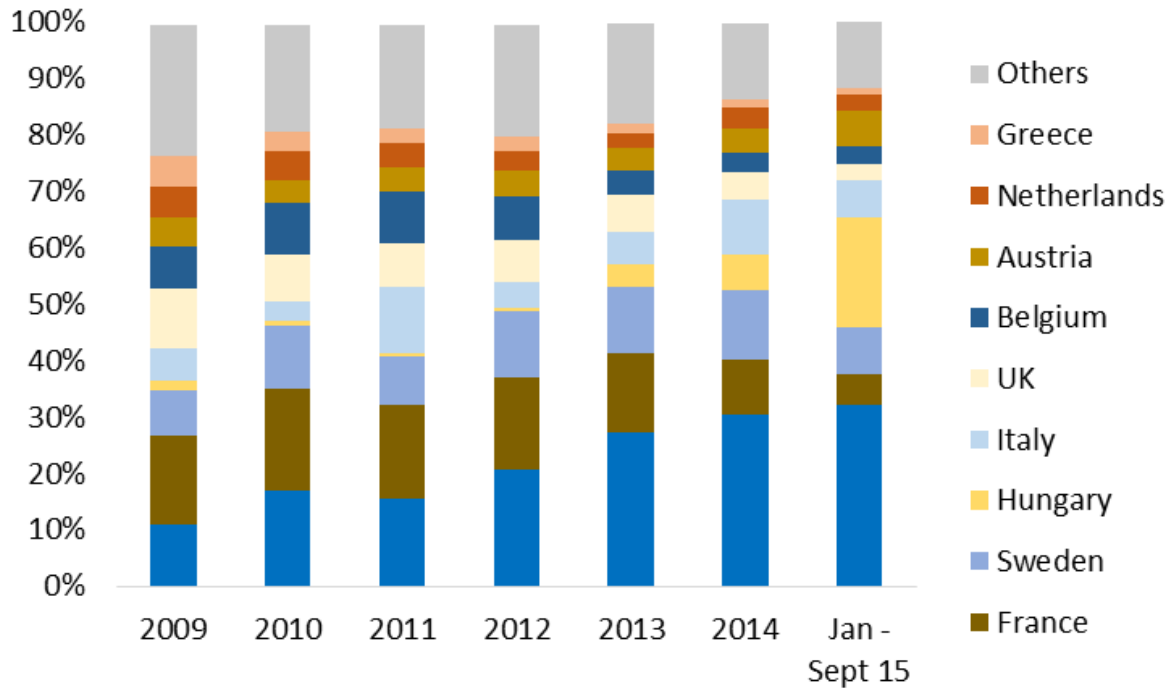
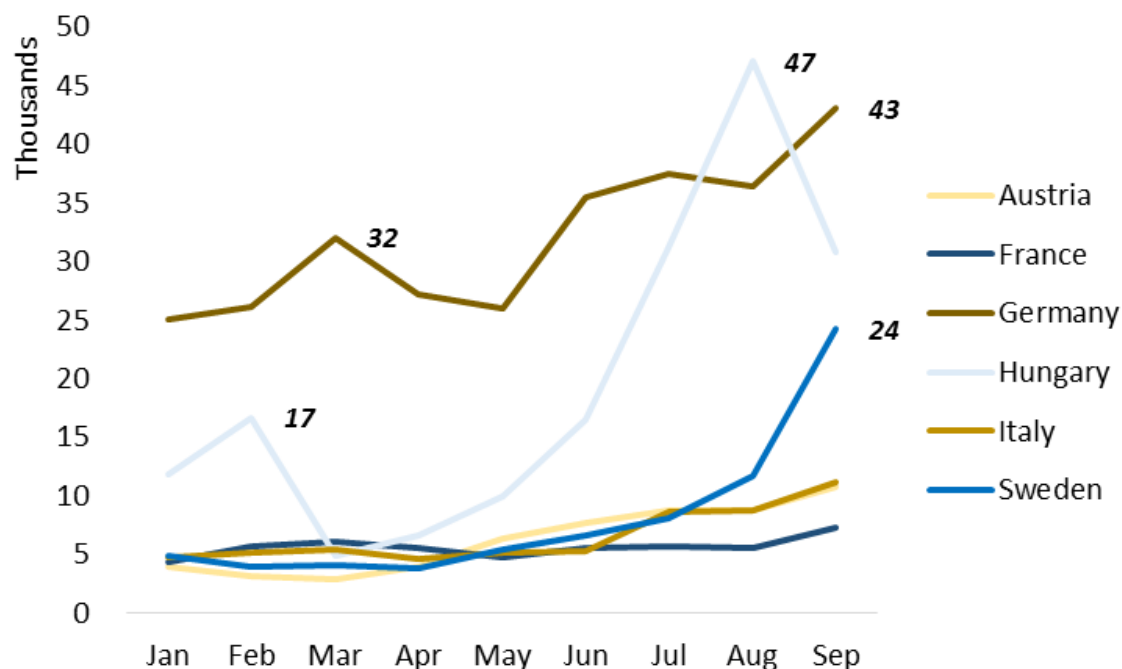


Table 2 and Figure 4 show that over the past four years Germany has been receiving many more asylum seekers than any other EEA country, and in the first nine months of 2015, the number of asylum applications made in Germany has increased to 289,000, compared to around 50,000 four years earlier.

The number of asylum applications in Hungary for the year up until September (176,000) are already four times larger than the whole of 2014 and more than ten times the number in the same period in 2014 (14,000). In 2011, Hungary received only 1,700 applications for asylum.

Figure 5: Monthly asylum applications for key EU Member States (January – September 2015)

Source: Eurostat

It should be noted that there are a range of asylum pressures across the globe, including those related to the applications being seen in the EU resulting in very large numbers of Syrian refugees residing in neighbouring countries in the Middle East. There are however also a range of other refugee crises across the globe. In 2014, the European country receiving the largest number of asylum applications was Russia, the vast majority of which were from nationals of Ukraine.⁹

Migrant routes to Europe between 2009 and September 2015

The routes migrants use to travel to Europe have also been changing. Table 3 presents the numbers of detected illegal border crossings between 2009 and September 2015 for each of the main routes used to enter the EU. The data used are the numbers of detections recorded and published by Frontex.

Table 3: Number of detections¹⁰ along EU entry routes (2009 – 2014)

Routes	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Jan- Sept 2015
Central Mediterranean route (Italy, Malta)	11,043	4,450	64,261	15,151	45,298	170,664	132,176
Eastern Mediterranean route (Greece, Cyprus, Bulgaria)	39,975	55,688	57,025	37,224	24,799	50,834	401,264
Western Balkan route¹¹	3,089	2,371	4,658	6,391	19,951	43,357	297,255

⁹ <http://researchbriefings.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefing/Summary/CBP-7210#fullreport>

¹⁰ Detections includes irregular migrants and those seeking asylum. The detections do not relate to people but occurrences, therefore double counting may occur if the same person is detected on two separate occasions.

¹¹ The Western Balkan route describes migrants from the Western Balkan countries themselves, and the secondary movements of mainly Asian migrants who enter the EU through the Bulgarian-Turkish or Greek-Turkish land or sea borders and then proceed, through the Western Balkans, into Hungary.

Routes	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Jan- Sept 2015
Circular route from Albania to Greece	40,250	35,297	5,269	5,502	8,728	8,841	6,816
Western Mediterranean route (Spain)	6,642	5,003	8,448	6,397	6,838	7,842	10,454
Eastern Border route¹² (Russia, Ukraine, Belarus)	1,335	1,052	1,049	1,597	1,316	1,275	1,430
Black sea route	1	0	0	1	148	433	68
Western Africa route (Canary Islands)	2,244	196	340	174	283	276	378
Other	20	3	1	0	4	10	11
Total	104,599	104,060	141,051	72 437	107,365	283,532	849,852

Source: Frontex 2015 Risk Analysis Report

In 2013 and 2014, the largest number of migrants (171,000) were detected on the Central Mediterranean route, primarily involving travel from Libya to Italy and Malta. This contrasts with previous years when the Eastern Mediterranean crossing was the main route taken by migrants to reach Europe. Large increases in other routes have been seen in recent years. The Western Mediterranean region, which consists of several areas of the southern Spanish coast and the land borders of Ceuta and Melilla has consistently had only around 5,000 – 9,000 detections over the period 2009 -2014. The migrants using this route mainly originated from Cameroon, Algeria and Morocco. However earlier, in 2006, there had been a surge of people from North and Western Africa arriving by boat in the Canary Islands with the Spanish Ministry of Interior reporting 39,180 irregular arrivals of which 31,678 were in the Canaries¹³. Although on a smaller scale, there are similarities with the increases in the Central Mediterranean route more recently, although the countries of origin were more politically stable than Syria and Eritrea are now.

In 2014 the Central Mediterranean was the main route being used by irregular migrants to enter the EU, as it was the previous year although the numbers were smaller. The number of people using this route increased more than three-fold between 2013 (45,000) and 2014 (171,000) and in 2014 the Central Mediterranean route accounted for two thirds (66%) of all detections. This increase was clearly influenced by the increase in Syrian migrants with 40,000 Syrian nationals detected arriving via the route in 2014, the second and third largest numbers coming from Eritrean nationals (34,000) and a number of countries in sub Saharan Africa¹⁴ (26,000).

The routes taken by migrants to enter the European Union changed in 2015, with a return to using the Eastern Mediterranean route. In 2015 the Eastern Mediterranean route once again detected the highest proportion of migrants (as had also been true in 2010 and 2012) with numbers up until September (401,000) already nearly eight times higher than the whole of 2014 (51,000). This increase in flows to the Eastern Mediterranean has not, however, coincided with a decrease in detections via the Central Mediterranean. Overall detections in the Central Mediterranean have remained similar to last year although in recent months there has been signs of a reduction.

The main driver of the increased flows along the Eastern Mediterranean route appears to be a shift in routes of nationals from Syria, who previously headed predominantly for the Central Mediterranean route. This evolved in 2015, as the vast majority of Syrian asylum seekers is coming to the EU via the Eastern land and sea routes, rather than the Central Mediterranean. However, the central route is still witnessing large inflows of other, predominantly African, migrants.

¹² Entry to the EU via Estonia, Finland, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Romania and Slovakia

¹³ <http://migrantsatsea.org/2012/02/13/increase-in-numbers-of-migrants-reaching-spanish-coast-in-2011/>

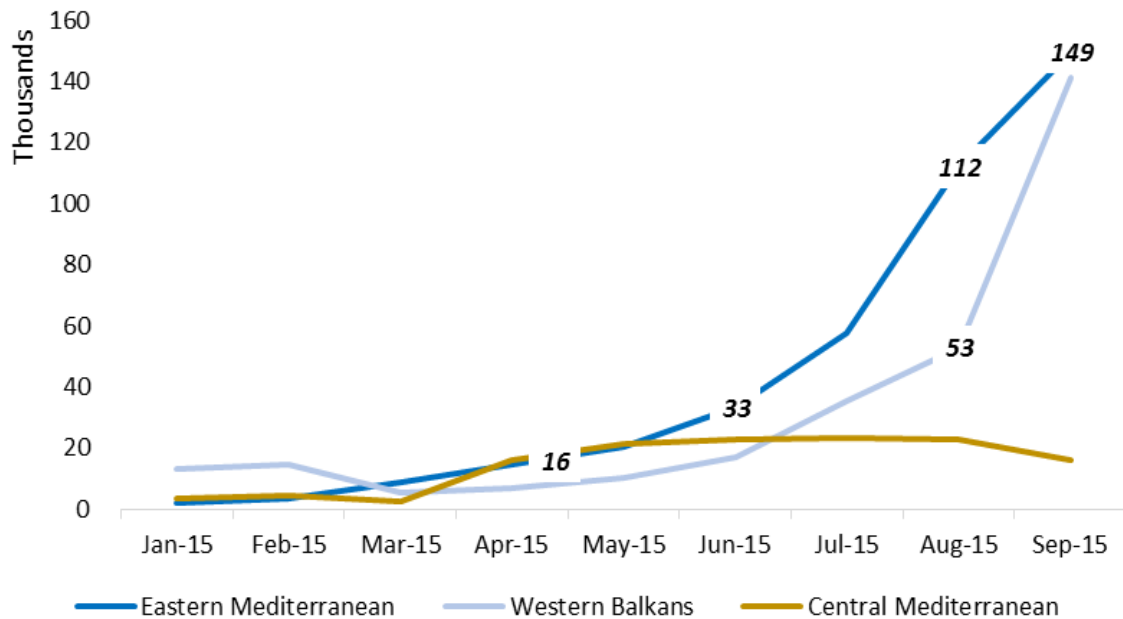
¹⁴ This is a category provided by Frontex of the migrant origin and there is no further detail available.

From January to September 2015 there were 401,000 detections in the Eastern Mediterranean. In September of 2015, 69% of the 149,000 detections in the Eastern Mediterranean route were Syrian (102,000). Altai Consulting (2015) reported that during 2014 it became more difficult for Syrians to use the Central Mediterranean route for two reasons. Firstly, the unrest in Libya in 2014 led to an increased risk of ill treatment and exploitation of migrants and asylum seekers which changed the flows of those entering and departing (IOM 2015). Secondly, the visa requirements for Syrian nationals introduced in Egypt in July 2013 and in Algeria in December 2014 made it more difficult for Syrians to travel to those countries and thereby access the Central Mediterranean route towards the EU.

Other primary users of the Eastern Mediterranean route in 2015 have been nationals from Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan. While Syrian nationals were the top nationality detected using the Central Mediterranean in 2014 with 40,000 arrivals recorded, in the first nine months of 2015 Eritrean (34,000), followed by Nigerian (18,000) nationals were the top nationalities detected on that route.

Between January and September 2015, there has also been a surge in detections in the Western Balkans – with 297,000 detections in the first nine months of 2015, in comparison to 43,000 in the whole of the previous year. The largest numbers of arrivals are from Afghanistan, Syria and, in the first few months of 2015, Kosovo (Frontex 2015). Apart from nationals coming directly from the Balkans this route will include the secondary movements of migrants who previously arrived in Greece. As a result of this complex phenomenon, there will therefore be some double counting in the data.

Figure 5: Monthly detections for the Eastern and Central Mediterranean route and the Western Balkan route (January to September 2015)



Decisions across the EEA (January – September 2015)

Once an individual lodges an asylum application, the EEA Member State in which he or she applies must decide whether to award refugee status or humanitarian protection. Table 4 presents the number of decisions each country made in the first nine months of 2015 and the proportions granted either form of protection.

The overall number of people accepted as refugees will be a product of both the number of applications and the decisions made on those applications, which in turn will be different depending on the countries of origin from which asylum seekers originate.

The numbers of asylum decisions are not a direct subset of the applications as an asylum application may not be decided in the same year as the original application was made. As a result, in some cases more decisions may be recorded than applications received in the same year.

The highest number of asylum decisions in the EEA was reached in Germany (149,000) as 46% (68,000) of their total decisions resulted in granting protection. France came second (56,000) although the number granted protection as a proportion of decisions was lower, at 26% (15,000), in part reflecting the different mix of nationalities applying for asylum in France. In comparison, while third in terms of the number of decisions, Sweden had the highest grant rate (76%) and second in the total number of positive decisions (23,000) – as noted previously, reflecting the specific mix of nationalities of asylum seekers applying for asylum in Sweden.

Hungary had the lowest grant rate (14%) in the EEA, while Hungary also had the largest number of withdrawn applications at 42% in 2014. This factor partly explains the lower number of decisions, and subsequently positive decisions, in relation to the number of applications.

In the first nine months of 2015, the United Kingdom was the only country amongst major recipients of asylum seekers in the EEA to make more decisions (30,000) than the number of applications received in the same period (27,000).

Table 4: Number of applications and first instant decisions¹⁵ for asylum applications by EU country in 2015 (January – September)

Member State	Applications	Decisions	Positive	Rate of positive decisions ^a
Germany	288,800	149,100	68,315	46
Sweden	73,065	29,745	22,695	76
Italy	59,165	44,030	19,790	45
France	50,840	56,185	14,590	26
United Kingdom	27,170	29,520	10,720	36
Netherlands	25,030	13,990	9,785	70
Belgium	27,750	14,185	7,330	52
Greece	9,680	7,405	3,395	46
Hungary	175,960	2,475	350	14
Austria	56,690	:	:	:
Other	106,670	51,440	34,170	66
Total	900,820	398,075	191,140	48

Source: Eurostat

¹⁵ First instance decision: decisions (positive and negative) considering applications for international protection as well as the grants of authorisations to stay for humanitarian reasons, including decisions under priority and accelerated procedures taken by administrative or judicial bodies in Member States. First instance decisions include decisions granted to persons who are a subject of the Dublin Regulation. The rationale for using first instant decisions was that they these applications are more likely to be linked to more recent movement of migrants than all decisions (including outcomes following appeal) which may only be concluded sometime after the original arrival and application for asylum.

The rate of positive decisions is the number of positive decisions to grant asylum or any other form of humanitarian protection as a proportion of the total numbers of decisions made.

As noted, the number of positive decisions are influenced by the different mix of nationalities applying for asylum in each country. Table 5 presents the average percentage of positive decisions for asylum applications for each of the main asylum-seeker nationalities across the whole EEA in the first nine months of 2015.

In 2015, the highest number of positive decisions were from Syria (91,000), while nationals from that country also had the highest acceptance rate (96%) of any nationality.

The second highest number of positive decisions were from Eritrea (20,790) as it also had the second highest rate of positive decisions (87%). Iraq (87%), Afghanistan (69%), Iran (66%) and Somalia (61%) are other countries whose nationals receive more than 60% positive decisions for asylum applications. In addition, Stateless nationals also received a positive decision in 88% of cases. It must be noted that a number of countries with low or very low numbers of application and decisions also have a share of positive decisions of over 75% (Bahrain, Swaziland, Laos, Central African Republic), or between 60% and 75% (Kuwait, Yemen, Palestine and Saudi Arabia)

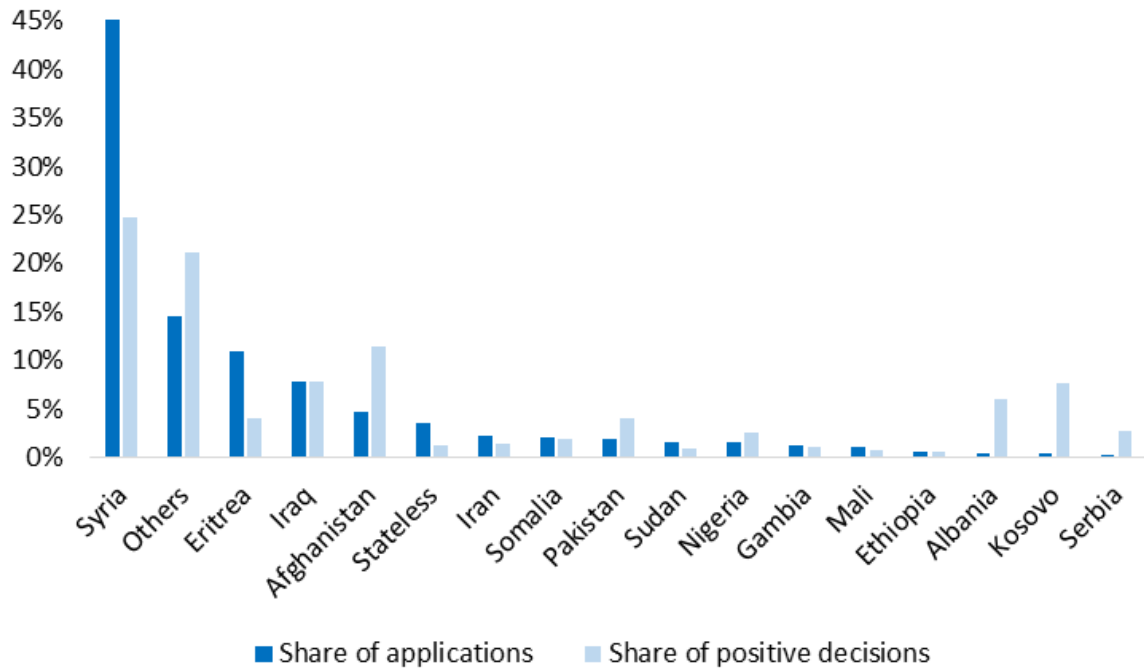
In 2015, Kosovo and Albania had the fourth and fifth highest number of asylum applications in the EEA but had, along with Serbia, by far the lowest proportion of positive decisions (Albania 3%, Kosovo 2%, and Serbia 2%).

Table 5: Number of applications and first instant decisions for asylum applications by origin country, January to September 2015

Third Country	Applications	Decisions	Positive	% positive
Syria	221,770	90,725	87,025	96
Stateless	11,095	7,435	6,575	88
Eritrea	36,010	23,910	20,790	87
Iraq	69,465	17,045	14,845	87
Afghanistan	102,755	12,645	8,765	69
Iran	12,135	6,185	4,095	66
Somalia	17,060	6,580	4,000	61
Sudan	8,370	5,470	3,100	57
Gambia	10,185	6,360	2,205	35
Mali	6,470	7,100	2,085	29
Nigeria	23,235	11,420	3,000	25
Pakistan	36,610	12,635	3,080	24
Bahrain	30	30	30	100
Laos	10	5	5	100
Swaziland	10	20	20	100
Central African Republic	675	515	455	88
Kuwait	180	115	85	74
Yemen	1,065	290	205	71
Palestine	2,375	830	565	68
Saudi Arabia	60	40	25	63
Albania	54,325	26,275	765	3
Kosovo	68,990	32,095	750	2
Serbia	24,955	17,375	265	2
Other	197,390	114,815	31,980	28
Total	905,225	399,915	194,715	49

In 2015, Syria accounted for 25% of the total applications to the EEA but over 45% of the total number of positive decisions. The applications from Syria, Eritrea, Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran and Somalia together accounted for around half (51%) of the applications for asylum in the EEA in the first nine months of 2015. Nationals from Albania, Kosovo and Serbia together accounted for 16% of applications. In the same time period the former group accounted for over 70% the positive decisions across the EEA. The three Balkan countries accounted for less than 1% of the positive decisions.

Figure 6: Percentage of total applications and total positive decisions to the EEA by nationality, January to September 2015



Additional themes in relation to current migration patterns

The following section looks in more depth at the people coming from five third countries with the highest rates of positive decisions across the EEA at present - Syria, Eritrea, Somalia, Afghanistan and Iraq¹⁶. Together these five nationalities accounted for half of all asylum seekers in the first nine months of 2015 and 72% percent of the total number granted asylum in that year. This section highlights a number of additional themes and data to help understand and interpret current trends, namely humanitarian aid provided to the region, other drivers that may encourage people to come to the EEA, patterns of onward migration once people have crossed the EU external borders, the success of asylum applicants in being accepted as refugees and forms of direct resettlement which have been undertaken.

The EU has adopted a variety of responses to support people in crisis countries. This will include aid to support people displaced within their region of origin, temporary assistance to migrants arriving in the European Union and more substantive support to people granted permanent asylum and resettlement. The balance between resettlement numbers, asylum applications received and aid provided to the region will not be consistent between countries for a variety of reasons, not least the proximity to routes of entry to the EU and presence of existing diaspora communities, which might also attract migrants to particular countries.

¹⁶ This group does not comprise nationals from countries with low or very low numbers of applications.

Humanitarian relief in the EU

Since the Syrian conflict began in 2011, the UNHCR estimates that (as of November 2015) over 4 million Syrian refugees were living outside of Syria. The majority reside in the neighbouring countries of Turkey (with 2.1 million Syrian refugees), Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Egypt which together have registered a further two million Syrians, numbers that may continue to grow. UNHCR have estimated that only around 10% of all Syrians seeking refuge have so far applied for asylum in Europe.

The EU has been growing amounts of humanitarian aid to support people who have been displaced, the vast majority of whom are still living in their regions of origin and have not crossed the EU external borders. Provision of humanitarian aid within the region could deter the movement of some people on perilous journeys to the EU. In 2013 and 2014, total donations by EU Member States to the benefit of Syrian nationals exceeded €500m and a similar amount has already been donated in the first eight months of 2015. The total amount of humanitarian aid provided for supporting Syrians has increased year on year and the ten EU Member States receiving the largest numbers of Syrian asylum seekers have collectively provided €1.8 billion since 2009 (table 6). Since 2009, the UK has provided the largest amount of aid to Syrians compared to other European countries (€1 billion), while Germany and the Netherlands are respectively the second (€493m) and third (€131m) largest donors.

Table 6: Humanitarian aid provided to Syria by the Top 5 EU donor countries between 2012 and 2015 (€millions)

EU Member State	2012	2013	2014	2015 (Jan-Aug)	Total 2012 - 2015
UK	83.1	248.5	310.2	373.9	1,015.7
Germany	48.2	194.8	165.2	82.0	492.7
Netherlands	19.5	31.5	47	31.9	130.9
Sweden	11.2	22.8	15.9	19.9	75.4
France	12.9	18.1	10.5	7.6	49.2
Other EU countries	14.9	53.3	37.1	21.5	129.5
Total	190.0	569.0	586.1	536.8	1,893.7

Source: EDRIS

Other countries in crisis have also been recipients of humanitarian aid, although to a lesser degree than Syria.

For example, financial aid donated to Eritreans in their region amounted to €21 million in total since 2009, a figure substantially lower than the sum provided to support Syrians. The United Kingdom provided more than half of the amount recorded by the EU (€11.3m) although has not provided aid to Eritrea since 2011. Netherlands donated €3.8m, in 2009 and 2010. Sweden has provided a total of €3.7m in aid to Eritrea but – as is the case for all EU donations to Eritrea – no financial contributions in 2015.

Considerably more humanitarian aid has been provided to Somalia, with EU Member States collectively donating €628m between 2009 and 2015. Annual donations peaked in 2011 (€180m) but was only €42m in 2015. The United Kingdom has donated the most humanitarian aid to Somalia (€253m) over this period and accounted for around 40% of the total aid from EU countries, including in the latest year.

Since 2009, the EU has collectively donated €477m in humanitarian aid to Afghanistan. As with Somalia, this figure peaked in 2011 (€101m) before the start of the Syrian crisis and has since abated. In the period 2009 to 2015, Germany donated most humanitarian aid to Afghanistan (€121m), followed by Sweden (€88m) and the United Kingdom (€53m).

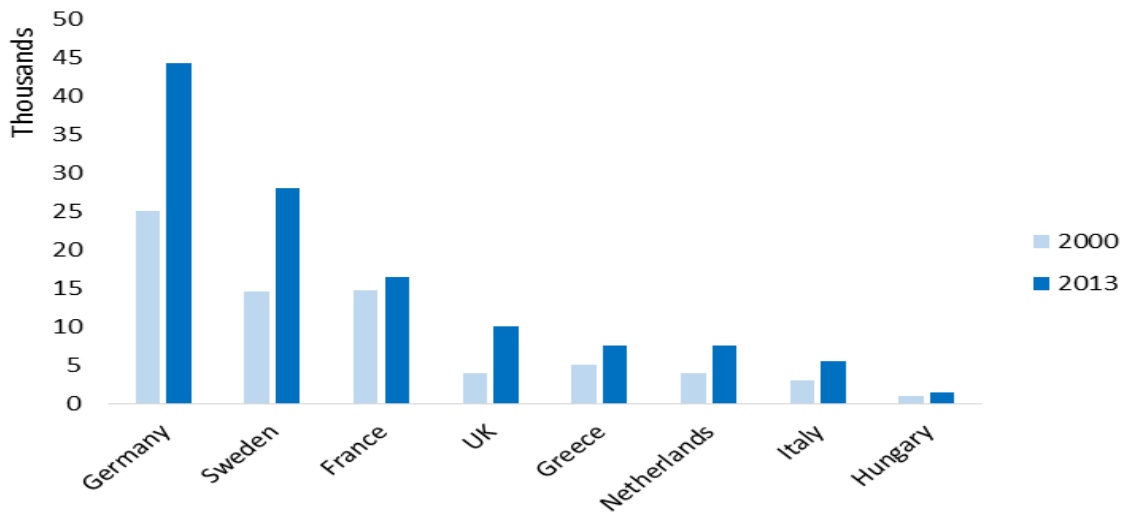
EU Member States have provided a similar sum to support Iraqis (€378m), but almost half (49%) of this figure was donated in 2014 (€186m), and a further quarter (27%) in 2015. Germany has donated the most humanitarian financial aid to Iraq (€148m), followed by Sweden (€71m) and the UK (€56m).

Existing migrant communities in the EEA

Migrants and asylum seekers arriving in the EU are often attracted to Member States where there are existing national or ethnic communities, as this can facilitate integration and provide them with support and networks to assist them on arrival.

The two EU Member States with the largest Syrian diaspora at the beginning of this century were Germany and Sweden, with an estimated 25,000 and 14,000 Syrian residents respectively in the year 2000. However, these were also the two countries who have received the largest numbers of asylum seekers in the most recent period. Almost half (47%) of the 154,619 Syrian born residents in Europe in the latest estimates (2013) were living in these two Member States.

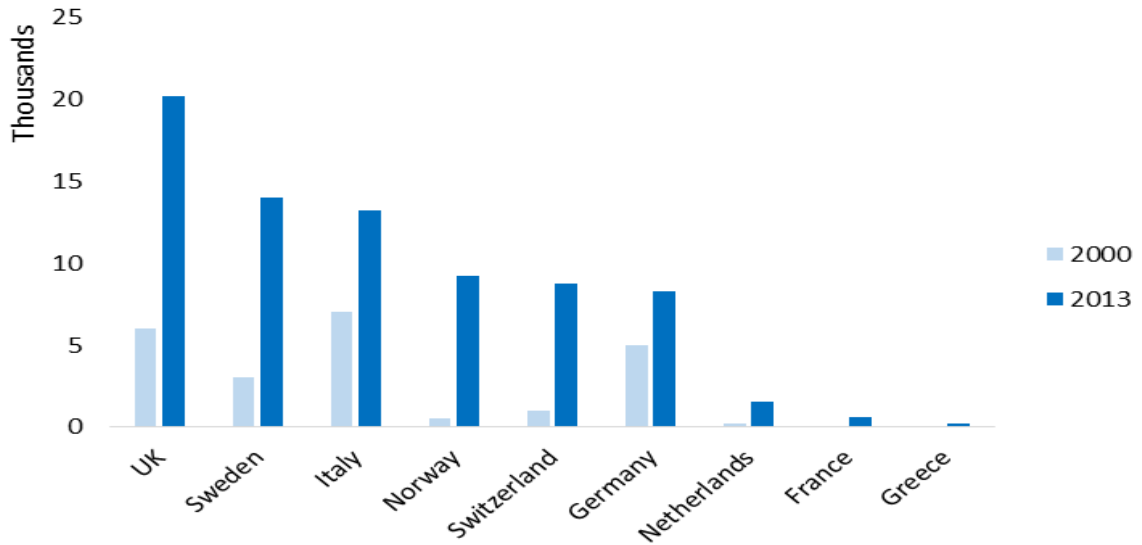
Figure 7: The largest Syrian resident populations in EEA Member States (2000 and 2013)



Source: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

In contrast, Eritrean asylum seekers have not always gone to Member States where there were existing diaspora. For instance, in the year 2000 Italy, the United Kingdom and Germany had the largest Eritrean diaspora, but the number of Eritreans appears to have risen faster in the United Kingdom than either Italy or Germany. Although most Eritreans arriving irregularly in the EEA come through Italy, the vast majority appear to travel on to other countries, such as Germany or Sweden.

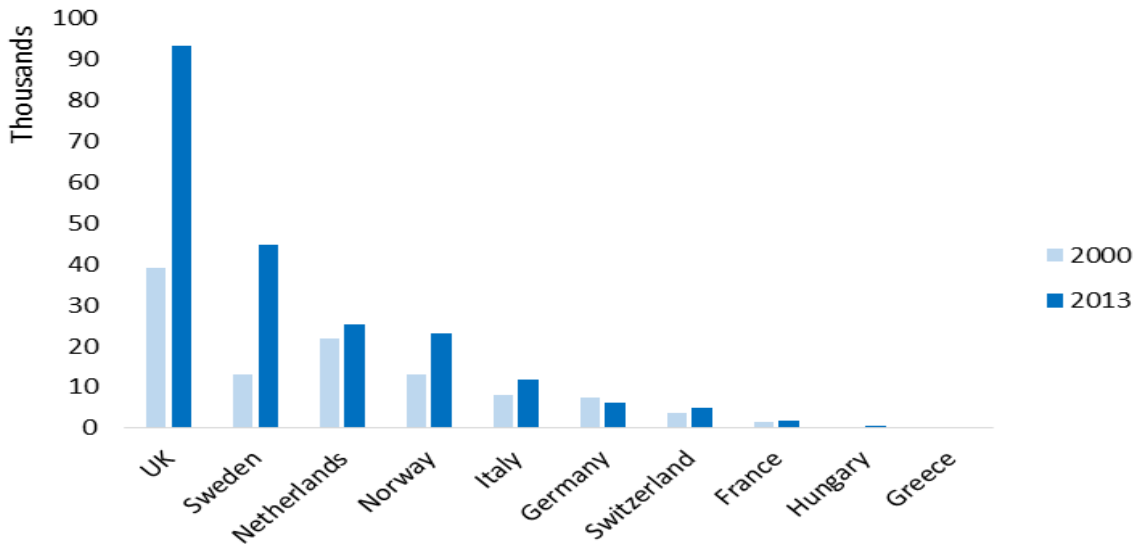
Figure 8: The largest Eritrean resident populations in EEA Member States (2000 and 2013)



Source: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Like Eritreans, Somali migrants have not always gone to third countries where there were existing diaspora. For instance, in 1990 Italy had the largest Somali diaspora (11,363) but by 2013 was only 5th (11,961) as Somalis moved on to other countries in the EEA. As with Eritreans, the United Kingdom went from having a small Somali population in 1990 (503) to having the largest diaspora (93,181) by 2013. Of the estimated 235,736 Somali born residents in Europe, 40% were living in the UK by 2013. Between 2000 and 2010 the Somali born population in the UK almost tripled (from 38,304 to 108,149).

Figure 9: The largest Somali resident populations in EEA countries (2000 and 2013)



Source: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Germany had the largest Afghan diaspora in 2000 (around 70,000) and again 2013 (around 100,000), when its Afghan population was estimated to be over 50% larger than the second largest EEA national Afghan community (in the UK). It was also the top country for asylum applications from Afghanis in 2014.

Onward movements in Europe

Between January and September 2015 there were almost 380,000 Syrian migrants detected as crossing into the EU. Frontex data suggests that around two thirds arrived through the Eastern Mediterranean route. Most Syrians did not apply for asylum in the first country they arrived in, but instead move on to other EEA countries. For example, although more than 100,000 Syrians entered Greece in September alone only around 3,000 claimed asylum there in the first nine months of 2015. This was just 1% of the total number of Syrian asylum applications to the EEA during this period (222,000). Over the same period, Germany accounted for more than a third of the total Syrian asylum applications (68,000; 31%) followed by Hungary (64,000; 29%) and Sweden (26,000; 12%).

Between January and September 2015, there were 218,000 first time asylum applications in the EEA from Syrian nationals, around 60 per cent of the total number of Syrian migrants recorded as entering the EU. It is clear that not all of those recorded as arriving have necessarily applied for asylum at this stage – some may do so subsequent to arriving, others may instead continue to remain in an irregular situation, possibly still considering themselves to be in transit to a further destination. Germany for example is believed to register large numbers of people who intend to apply for asylum, but the statistics on asylum applications reported to Eurostat only relate to subsequently completed applications. Other asylum seekers may arrive clandestinely and remain undetected, and others may have arrived via a legal route (such as a visitor or student visa) and subsequently claim asylum, for example upon expiration of their visa and realising the situation in their country of origin has deteriorated. It is also possible that some asylum seekers initially present themselves as of a certain nationality, while their real citizenship is only established later.

Most Eritreans appear to enter the EU through Italy but the number of Eritreans claiming asylum in Italy is relatively small. In the first nine months of 2015 there were 35,000 Eritreans recorded as having entered the EEA, but only 265 registered applications for asylum in Italy. Across the EEA, there were around 36,000 applications for asylum by Eritreans, of whom 9,000 (25%) were received by Switzerland, and 7,000 19% to Germany and 6,000 (17%) to Sweden. A similar pattern can be discerned for Somali nationals, with for example 17,000 Somali migrants claiming asylum in the first nine months of 2015, the majority of whom arrived via Italy. However, the number of Somali nationals claiming asylum in Italy was only 550 that is 3% of the total number of Somali asylum applications in the EEA during this period. Over the same period, 45% of the Somali applications were collectively accounted for by both Sweden (4,000 23%) and Germany (4,000; 22%).

Between January and September 2015, 130,000 Afghani nationals were detected illegally crossing into the EEA. The main point of entry for Afghani nationals is Greece, with 69% percent entering through that country in September. The number of Afghani nationals claiming asylum in Greece, however, was only 1,500, or 1% of the 103,000 Afghani asylum applications over this period. Hungary received the highest number of asylum applications from Afghani nationals (46,000 or 45%), followed by Germany (15,000 or 14%) and Austria (13,000 or 12%).

Research by the United Kingdom House of Commons Library suggested that the higher number of detections could “be partially explained by the changing status of Afghan migrants already living in the third countries. One contributing factor may be the expiry at the end of June 2015 of resident visas of over 500 000 Afghans currently living in Iran. It is unclear how many will have their visas renewed given the plans of the Iranian government to repatriate foreigners living on its territory. Another important development is the tightening of labour laws in Saudi Arabia, where many Afghans work. All these factors, combined with the uncertain security situation in Afghanistan, contribute to the movement of nationals of Afghanistan towards the EU”.

Similarly, there were 30,000 detections of Iraqi nationals from January to September 2015, though less than 1% of the 69,000 asylum applications of Iraqi nationals lodged in the EU were made in Greece, despite it being the key point of entry for nationals from Iraq with 84% of all detections in September in Greece. The main Member States where Iraqi nationals claimed asylum

between in the first nine months of 2015 were Germany (15,000 or 21%) and Finland (12,000 or 18%).

Asylum decisions and grant rates in the EEA

As noted previously in this report, Syrian nationals applying for asylum are likely to be granted asylum, while Eritreans also have high grant rates. It is possible that some of the people recorded as Syrians were refused if it was discovered they were not Syrian, though the reasons for refusal are not available from routine statistical data. However, as noted previously and perhaps in part as a result of factors such as these, the proportion of asylum applications which result in a positive decision varies considerably between different recipient Member States.

In the first nine months of 2015, for Syrian nationals the rate of positive decisions ranged from 71% in Hungary to over 99% in Sweden and Greece. For Eritreans it varied from 48% in UK to 98% in Sweden. However, for other nationalities applying for asylum in significant numbers the grant rates are often (much) lower. For nationals of Western Balkan countries (Kosovo, Serbia and Albania) the average rate of positive decisions in the EEA is 2%.

Table 7: Number of decisions and share of positive decisions for main nationalities seeking asylum in various EEA Member States, January to September 2015

EEA Member State	Syrians		Eritreans		Kosovo, Serbia and Albania	
	Decisions	%Positive	Decisions	%Positive	Decisions	%Positive
Germany	47,000	96%	3,500	94%	59,385	0%
Hungary	140	71%	10	100%	1,195	0%
Sweden	13,000	99%	5,000	98%	2,905	2%
Italy	245	92%	455	90%	290	53%
France	2,000	97%	575	57%	6,430	12%
United Kingdom	2,000	86%	3,000	48%	1,490	18%
Total EEA	91,000	96%	24,000	87%	75,765	2%

Source: Eurostat

There appears to be no clear relationship between the likelihood of being accepted as a refugee and onward movement to other EEA countries. In the year ending September 2015 the share of positive decisions for Eritreans in Italy (where Eritreans typically arrive) was almost as high (90%) as in Germany (94%) and higher than Switzerland (85%) which is where Eritreans have tended to move to make their claim. Grant rates for Somalis in Germany (51%) and Sweden (59%) where they claim asylum were lower than in Italy (97%) where they first arrive, but where relatively few remain.

Syrians, Afghans and Iraqis typically arrive in the EU via Greece. In the first nine months of 2015 the rate of positive decisions for Syrians in Greece was 99%, and 95% in Germany, 99% in Sweden and 71% in Hungary— three Member States with the highest number of asylum applications of Syrians.

Resettlement in the EEA

Resettled persons are people who have been granted authorisation to reside in an EEA Member State within the framework of a national or EU resettlement scheme. Resettlement means that a third country national is transferred on the basis of their need for international protection as opposed to the third country national travelling to an EEA Member State to claim asylum and then being granted refugee status. Resettled persons are permitted to reside with secure legal status.

Since 2009 the EEA has resettled 3,560 Syrians, with a more than ten-fold increase in the number of Syrians resettled in the EEA between 2013 (265) and 2014 (3,175), as Member States other

than Sweden also started participating in resettlement activities. In the period 2010-2012 a total of 120 Syrians were received as part of a resettlement scheme. Sweden resettled the highest number of Syrians since 2009 (905) but in 2014 Norway resettled most Syrians (785).

Table 8: Total number of resettled Syrian nationals 2009-2014

EEA Member State	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total
Sweden	0	35	5	75	245	545	905
Norway	0	0	0	0	0	785	785
Finland	0	0	0	0	0	430	430
Austria	0	0	0	0	0	385	385
Netherlands	0	0	0	0	15	245	260
France	0	0	0	0	0	230	230
United Kingdom	0	0	0	0	0	145	145
Belgium	0	:	0	0	0	30	30
Hungary	0	:	0	0	0	10	10
Other EU Member States	0	0	5	0	0	370	380
Total EEA	0	35	10	75	265	3,175	3,560

Source: Eurostat

The total number of refugees resettled across the EEA over the period 2009-14 was 40,105. The top five countries benefitting from resettlement are shown in Table 9.

Table 9: Nationalities with the largest numbers of beneficiaries of resettlement in the EEA, 2009-2014

Third Country	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total
Iraq	3,930	1,355	485	430	360	365	6,925
Somalia	150	755	810	755	1,035	635	4,140
Afghanistan	645	355	370	1,070	770	870	4,080
Eritrea	270	625	1,130	655	565	710	3,955
Democratic Republic of the Congo	460	475	485	540	875	770	3,605
Other nationalities	3,335	2,600	2,080	2,720	2,190	4,475	17,400
Total EEA	8,790	6,165	5,360	6,170	5,795	7,825	40,105

Source: Eurostat

In the period 2009-2014 the country with the highest number of resettled nationals was Iraq. Since 2009 Germany has resettled the highest number of Iraqi nationals (2,900), followed by the United Kingdom (1,300), Finland (760) and France (650).

The second group of resettled persons was from Somalia, with Sweden resettling most Somalia nationals (1730), followed by the United Kingdom (990) and Norway (745). Afghani nationals were third mostly likely to be resettled, with again Sweden having resettled more than half of the total number of Afghani nationals resettled in the EU since 2009 (2,200), followed by Finland (900) and Norway (800).

In this period the EEA also resettled almost 4,000 Eritrean nationals. Sweden resettled the highest number of Eritreans (1,785), followed by Norway (1,350), with these two countries together accounting for 79% of the Eritreans resettled in the EEA up to the end of 2014.

Annex 1 References

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Annex 2 Overview tables

Table 10: Total monthly asylum applications¹⁷ in the EEA (2009 – September 2015)

Month	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Jan	25,780	20,935	24,560	28,360	33,285	43,595	68,325
Feb	24,515	22,610	24,495	25,935	29,825	37,515	72,970
Mar	25,625	25,230	28,245	26,780	32,190	39,720	68,755
Apr	23,985	20,285	25,340	24,935	36,280	41,725	65,175
May	23,010	20,185	31,830	27,505	36,785	45,930	74,840
Jun	24,535	21,820	28,955	28,255	39,095	50,035	99,190
Jul	25,610	21,775	28,740	32,160	42,305	62,605	124,470
Aug	24,110	24,645	29,225	33,130	39,795	58,925	150,295
Sep	25,800	27,630	31,175	35,475	45,365	71,350	175,800 ^a
Oct	27,310	29,835	31,050	44,230	49,900	72,770	NA
Nov	25,935	27,330	30,315	37,810	43,570	67,530	NA
Dec	23,730	24,340	28,980	30,055	37,365	71,575	NA
Total	299,945	286,620	342,910	374,630	465,760	663,275	900,820

Source: Eurostat

a Subject to upward revisions

¹⁷ All asylum application figures include main applicants and dependents. Asylum applicant' means a person having submitted an application for international protection or having been included in such application as a family member during the reference period. Applications submitted by persons who are subsequently found to be a subject of a Dublin procedure are included in the number of asylum applications. Persons who are transferred to another Member State in application of the Dublin Regulation are reported as asylum applicants also in the Member State where they are transferred to. Within the same reference period every person being a subject of asylum application is counted only once, therefore repeat applications are not recorded if the first application has been lodged in the same reference period. However, such a repeat application will be recorded if lodged in a different reference month. It means that the aggregation of the monthly figures may overestimate the number of persons applying for international protection within the aggregated period (year).

^a Not all country data available for these months

Table 11: Monthly asylum applications by nationality across the EEA (2014 –September 2015)

Year	Month	Syria	Kosovo	Afghanistan	Eritrea	Serbia	Iraq	Albania	Pakistan	Nigeria	Somalia	Gambia	Mali	Sudan
2014	Jan	6,620	1,185	3,570	1,745	2,840	1,090	1,190	1,760	1,310	1,510	825	650	385
	Feb	6,110	1,040	2,905	1,000	1,660	1,060	1,670	1,665	1,080	1,275	610	685	310
	Mar	6,105	1,035	2,560	1,260	1,715	995	1,605	1,875	1,375	1,335	665	995	365
	Apr	6,335	900	2,350	3,065	1,530	1,055	1,515	1,630	1,485	1,510	915	1,155	365
	May	7,830	890	2,295	5,665	1,500	990	1,285	1,645	1,765	1,545	935	1,665	490
	Jun	9,590	945	2,770	5,605	1,875	1,675	1,310	1,710	1,820	1,605	920	1,270	725
	Jul	12,165	1,335	3,370	7,840	2,860	3,400	1,510	1,975	2,240	1,630	1,115	1,325	810
	Aug	13,175	1,515	3,420	6,415	2,750	2,005	1,140	1,865	1,830	1,595	965	1,105	780
	Sep	17,400	3,510	4,250	5,305	2,935	2,400	1,180	2,175	2,155	1,825	1,280	1,370	900
	Oct	15,720	3,990	4,705	4,290	3,585	2,595	1,435	2,260	2,545	1,595	1,395	1,350	860
	Nov	13,850	8,110	4,585	2,720	3,990	2,435	1,725	2,000	1,855	1,360	1,050	895	630
	Dec	12,995	13,995	5,950	1,840	3,935	2,230	1,745	1,890	1,870	1,370	1,250	670	580
2015	Jan	11,645	14,885	4,930	1,555	3,675	2,510	2,295	1,860	1,635	1,285	1,120	620	410
	Feb	8,960	23,725	4,420	1,140	3,190	2,575	2,495	1,820	1,600	1,370	1,115	640	390
	Mar	10,280	13,390	4,585	1,405	3,150	3,180	3,825	2,030	1,545	1,495	1,115	810	485
	Apr	11,510	5,890	5,760	1,960	2,535	3,725	5,635	2,345	1,630	1,495	865	540	465
	May	13,360	2,900	9,285	5,040	2,285	4,740	5,790	2,795	2,310	2,385	970	640	730
	Jun	21,045	2,610	13,425	6,680	2,530 ^a	6,420 ^a	6,870 ^a	4,080 ^a	2,755 ^a	2,440 ^a	1,080 ^a	620 ^a	995 ^a
	Jul	31,630 ^a	2,280 ^a	18,985 ^a	6,685 ^a	2,695 ^a	8,170 ^a	9,170 ^a	6,805 ^a	3,785 ^a	2,325 ^a	1,215 ^a	765 ^a	1,930 ^a
	Aug	49,240 ^a	1,565 ^a	20,045 ^a	6,275 ^a	2,670 ^a	12,000 ^a	9,640 ^a	9,545 ^a	3,755 ^a	2,065 ^a	1,395 ^a	825 ^a	1,600 ^a
	Sep	62,835 ^a	1,745 ^a	21,285 ^a	5,270 ^a	2,225 ^a	26,145 ^a	8,600 ^a	5,300 ^a	4,180 ^a	2,170 ^a	1,295 ^a	970 ^a	1,365 ^a
	Total	348,400^a	107,440^a	145,450^a	82,760^a	56,130^a	91,395^a	71,630^a	59,030^a	44,525^a	35,185^a	22,095^a	19,565^a	15,570^a

Source: Eurostat

^a Does not include data for all countries**Table 12: Percentage of the total asylum applications to the EEA plus Switzerland (2009 – 2014)**

(EEA Member) State	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Belgium	7.7	9.3	9.4	7.6	4.6	3.4
Germany	11.0	17.0	15.6	20.7	27.3	30.6

Greece	5.3	3.6	2.7	2.6	1.8	1.4
France	15.9	18.4	16.7	16.4	14.2	9.7
Italy	5.9	3.5	11.8	4.6	5.7	9.7
Hungary	1.6	0.7	0.5	0.6	4.1	6.4
Netherlands	5.4	5.3	4.3	3.5	2.8	3.7
Austria	5.3	3.9	4.2	4.7	3.8	4.2
Sweden	8.1	11.1	8.7	11.7	11.7	12.3
United Kingdom	10.6	8.5	7.9	7.7	6.6	5.0
Other EEA plus Switzerland	23.4	18.8	18.3	20.0	17.5	13.5

Source: Eurostat

Table 13: Monthly asylum applications in the EU (Jan 2014 – September 2015)

Year	Month	Belgium	Germany	Greece	France	Italy	Hungary	Netherlands	Austria	Sweden	UK	Other EEA	Total
2014	Jan	1,895	14,945	760	5,125	3,480	1,330	1,490	1,520	4,455	2,585	6,005	43,595
	Feb	1,620	11,670	890	5,365	3,265	725	1,110	1,235	4,110	2,515	5,005	37,515
	Mar	1,590	11,710	795	5,990	3,955	685	1,160	1,330	4,410	2,875	5,230	39,720
	Apr	1,640	11,900	840	5,945	4,300	725	2,430	1,410	4,855	2,370	5,300	41,725
	May	1,350	12,970	845	4,760	5,465	770	3,445	1,780	6,015	2,275	6,260	45,930
	Jun	1,820	14,695	730	5,150	4,615	1,205	1,940	1,770	8,075	2,635	7,395	50,035
	Jul	2,015	20,945	880	5,575	5,675	1,615	2,260	2,220	9,395	3,035	8,985	62,605
	Aug	2,090	18,715	510	4,280	5,110	2,200	2,410	2,445	8,880	2,940	9,340	58,925
	Sep	2,425	20,115	675	5,230	7,265	4,895	3,120	3,300	9,975	3,225	11,135	71,350
	Oct	2,285	22,265	890	6,110	8,980	5,425	2,250	3,160	8,195	3,305	9,915	72,770
	Nov	1,915	22,510	670	4,945	6,865	9,130	1,455	3,690	6,010	2,675	7,650	67,530
	Dec	2,210	20,375	955	5,835	5,660	14,075	1,460	4,205	6,955	2,575	7,275	71,575
2015	Jan	1,715	25,035	1,065	4,440	4,785	11,925	1,050	4,030	4,895	2,785	6,595	68,325
	Feb	1,640	26,085	1,015	5,630	5,140	16,695	970	3,255	4,050	2,255	6,235	72,970
	Mar	1,755	32,055	915	6,090	5,505	4,925	990	2,925	4,120	2,455	7,020	68,755
	Apr	1,625	27,175	980	5,650	4,590	6,690	1,275	4,040	3,920	1,960	7,265	65,175
	May	2,095	25,990	1,145	4,745	5,180	9,970	2,375	6,395	5,375	2,575	9,000	74,840
	Jun	2,895	35,445	1,120	5,600	5,335	16,580	3,085	7,680	6,625	3,075	11,755	99,190
	Jul	3,600	37,530	1,235	5,735	8,610	31,285	3,160	8,790	8,070	4,325	11,965	124,300
	Aug	5,595	36,420	1,050	5,580	8,825	47,095	5,500	8,795	11,745	3,665	14,960	149,225
	Sep	6,830	43,065	1,155	7,370	11,195	30,795	6,625	10,780	24,265	4,075	28,070	174,230
	Total		50,605	491,615	19,120	115,150	123,800	218,740	49,560	84,755	154,395	60,180	192,360

Source: Eurostat

Final totals may subject to upward revisions

Table 14: Monthly detections¹⁸ for the Eastern and Central Mediterranean route and the Western Balkan route (January – September 2015)

Month	Central Mediterranean	Eastern Mediterranean	Western Balkans
Jan	3,615	2,199	12,927
Feb	4,354	3,332	14,722
Mar	2,283	8,620	5,301
Apr	16,058	14,566	7,016
May	21,243	20,213	10,372
Jun	22,878	33,399	17,171
Jul	23,205	57,371	35,565
Aug	22,611	112,112	52,973
Sep	15,929	149,452	141,208
Total	132,176	401,264	297,255

¹⁸ This data is obtained from Frontex although Member States are responsible for collecting and providing their statistics to Eurostat. Consistent with other law-enforcement indicators, variations in administrative data related to border control depend on several factors. In this case, the number of detections of illegal border-crossing and refusals of entry are both functions of the amount of effort spent detecting irregular migrants and the actual flow of irregular migrants to the EU. For example, increased detections of illegal border-crossing might be due to a real increase in the flow of irregular migrants or may in fact be an outcome of more resources made available to detect them. In exceptional cases, increased resources may produce a rise in reported detections while effectively masking an actual decrease in the flow of migrants, resulting from a strong deterrent effect. Information on national-level resources for border-control authorities and their allocation is currently only partially known by Frontex. These data are provided by Member States themselves either within the Schengen evaluation mechanism or within the External Borders Fund (EBF) reporting. Without systematic and reliable information on resources allocated to border control and without estimates of irregular migration flows, it is not possible to assess the performance and impact of the border controls put in place.

Table 15: Percentage of asylum applications and positive decisions across the EEA by asylum seeker nationality January –September 2015

Third country	Applications	% of total applications	Decisions	% of total decisions	Positive	% Rate of positive decisions ¹	% of total positive decisions
Syria	221,770	25	90,725	23	87,025	96	46
Stateless	11,095	1	23,910	6	20,790	88	11
Iraq	69,515	8	17,045	4	14,845	87	8
Eritrea	36,010	4	12,645	3	8,765	87	5
Afghanistan	102,755	11	7,435	2	6,575	69	3
Iran	12,135	1	6,185	2	4,095	66	2
Somalia	17,060	2	6,580	2	4,000	61	2
Sudan	8,370	1	5,470	1	3,100	57	2
Gambia	10,185	1	12,635	3	3,080	26	2
Mali	6,470	1	11,420	3	3,000	25	2
Pakistan	36,610	4	7,100	2	2,085	24	1
Nigeria	23,235	3	6,360	2	2,205	21	1
Albania	54,325	6	26,275	7	765	3	0
Kosovo	68,990	8	32,095	8	750	2	0
Serbia	24,955	3	17,375	4	265	2	0
Other	197,340	22	114,815	29	31,980	25	17
Total	900,820	100	392,615	100	191,040	48	100

Source: Eurostat

Table 16: Syrian asylum applications in the EU (2009 – September 2015)

EU Member State	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Jan- Sept 2015
Belgium	430	460	640	1,030	1,135	2,705	5,630
Germany	1,175	2,035	3,435	7,930	12,855	41,100	68,195
Greece	965	165	350	275	485	785	2,775
France	65	195	120	635	1,315	2,845	2810
Italy	105	50	540	355	635	505	365
Hungary	20	25	90	145	975	6,855	64,415

EU Member State	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Jan- Sept 2015
Netherlands	130	155	200	575	2,265	8,790	10,175
Austria	280	205	435	930	2,005	7,730	16,740
Sweden	580	450	640	7,920	16,540	30,750	25,685
UK	195	165	515	1,305	2,030	2,410	1,875
Other	1,490	1,700	2,275	4,575	12,515	23,465	23,490
Total	5,435	5,605	9,240	25,675	52,755	127,940	221,790

Source: Eurostat

Table 17: The number of Syrians detected illegally crossing a border into the EU and the number of first time asylum applications¹⁹ from Syrians in the EEA (January to September 2015)

Month	Detected Illegal border-crossings (Frontex)	First Time Asylum Applications	Difference between detections and asylum applications
Jan	3,149	11,360	-8,211
Feb	3,213	8,630	-5,417
Mar	7,627	9,980	-2,353
Apr	12,532	11,155	1,377
May	15,964	12,940	3,024
Jun	26,427	20,615	5,812
Jul	55,571	31,455	24,116
Aug	116,090	49,010	67,080
Sep	136,503	62,825	73,678
Total	377,076	217,970	159,106

Source: Illegal detection Frontex, First time Asylum Applications Eurostat

¹⁹ The number of detections illegally crossing a border into the EU and the number of first time asylum applications are not comparable given that they are not the same people. Some of the asylum applicants may have arrived on a regular visa or undetected. However the difference in these figures between countries may indicate certain nationalities are arriving undetected or via another route and changes between months provide some indication of the changing pictures of the routes and possibly detections. (Source - http://frontex.europa.eu/assets/Publications/Risk_Analysis/Annual_Risk_Analysis_2015.pdf)

Table 18: Number of Syrian first time asylum applications by EEA Member State (January to September 2015)

(EEA Member) State	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	Total
Austria	905	660	835	1,020	1,835	2,435	2,300	2,815	3,770	16,575
Belgium	265	225	225	225	280	520	670	1,220	1,910	5,540
Bulgaria	590	460	405	545	530	850	675	515	455	5,025
Denmark	315	140	150	240	315	490	480	945	1,285	4,360
France	160	300	225	275	205	300	230	330	775	2,800
Germany	5,340	4,025	4,420	4,225	4,810	7,300	9,140	10,110	16,545	65,915
Greece	235	225	225	255	335	375	410	335	245	2,640
Hungary	535	615	1,265	1,750	2,035	4,655	12,345	23,000	17,729	63,929
Italy	30	25	25	35	15	25	25	15	170	365
Netherlands	315	190	190	235	440	735	1,120	2,840	4,060	10,125
Norway	115	85	75	90	95	185	310	870	2,640	4,465
Sweden	1,545	925	920	970	1,175	1,715	2,475	4,755	10,910	25,390
Switzerland	135	150	95	135	90	125	235	395	905	2,265
UK	260	165	160	110	140	165	315	225	325	1,865
Other EEA	615	440	765	1,045	640	740	725	640	1,101	6,711
Total	11,360	8,630	9,980	11,155	12,940	20,615	31,455	49,010	62,825	217,970

Source: Eurostat

Table 19: Eritrean asylum applications in the EU (2009 – 2014)

EU Member State	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Jan- Sept 2015
Belgium	75	110	70	80	70	820	290
Germany	380	660	650	670	3,640	13,255	6,675
Greece	45	60	35	140	155	260	60
France	425	730	935	495	430	725	680
Italy	865	180	530	735	2,110	480	265
Hungary	0	0	5	5	90	120	540
Netherlands	485	410	500	480	920	3,910	5,875
Austria	20	15	25	15	60	110	70
Sweden	1,035	1,465	1,705	2,405	4,880	11,530	5,980

EU Member State	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Jan- Sept 2015
United Kingdom	1,470	815	865	785	1,460	3,280	2,865
Other	4,935	3,605	5,110	6,185	6,485	12,240	12,710
Total	9,735	8,050	10,430	11,995	20,300	46,730	36,010

Source: Eurostat

Table 20: The number of Eritreans detected illegally crossing a border into the EU and the number of first time asylum applications from Eritreans in the EEA (January – September 2015)

Month	Detected border-crossings (Frontex)	Illegal	First Time Asylum Applications	Difference between detections and asylum applications
Jan		254	1,480	-1,226
Feb		672	1,070	-398
Mar		155	1,280	-1,125
Apr		4,605	1,845	2,760
May		6,117	4,920	1,197
Jun		6,718	6,535	183
Jul		6,434	6,550	-116
Aug		5,243	6,185	-942
Sep		4,810	5,155	-345
Total		35,008	35,020	-12

Source: Illegal detection Frontex, First time Asylum Applications Eurostat

Table 21: Number of Eritrean first time asylum applications by EEA Member State (January – September 2015)

(EEA Member) State	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	Total
Austria	5	0	5	15	10	15	10	5	5	70
Belgium	15	5	20	35	55	35	20	40	40	265
Bulgaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Denmark	5	10	25	75	210	225	230	355	255	1390
France	70	75	75	85	190	100	70	0	0	665
Germany	620	350	305	360	610	1,065	1,210	980	1,115	6615

(EEA Member) State	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	Total
Greece	15	5	10	5	10	10	5	0	0	60
Hungary	10	0	15	45	40	35	195	165	20	525
Italy	35	40	40	25	15	40	25	25	20	265
Netherlands	25	20	85	355	1,075	1,250	990	1,275	765	5840
Norway	50	35	45	130	570	200	280	430	405	2145
Sweden	185	170	205	395	1,045	965	815	865	750	5395
Switzerland	135	155	250	220	800	2,190	2,120	1,605	1,370	8845
United Kingdom	310	205	195	90	270	405	565	425	390	2855
Other EEA	0	0	5	10	20	0	15	15	20	85
Total	1,480	1,070	1,280	1,845	4,920	6,535	6,550	6,185	5,155	35,020

Source: Eurostat

Final Totals may be subject to upward revisions

Table 22: Somali asylum applications in the EU (2009 – 2014)

EU Member State	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Jan- Sept 2015
Belgium	240	315	530	460	270	365	1,700
Germany	360	2,260	1,010	1,295	3,875	5,685	3,745
Greece	140	140	70	60	120	115	95
France	285	420	770	525	495	810	830
Italy	1,490	85	1,375	805	2,775	810	550
Hungary	75	50	60	70	190	195	325
Netherlands	6,025	3,670	1,985	1,425	1,215	595	280
Austria	345	200	615	485	435	1,160	1,700
Sweden	5,910	5,630	4,045	5,695	3,940	4,870	3,915
United Kingdom	1,120	725	685	695	530	405	295
Other	5,785	2,605	4,115	5,755	4,975	3,125	3,595
Total	21,775	16,100	15,260	17,270	18,820	18,135	17,030

Source: Eurostat

Table 23: The number of Somali detected illegally crossing a border into the EU and the number of first time asylum applications from Somalis in the EEA (April 2014 - June 2015)

Month	Detected Illegal border-crossings (Frontex)	First Time Asylum Applications	Difference between detections and asylum applications
Jan	524	1,140	- 616
Feb	800	1,195	- 395
Mar	340	1,370	- 1,030
Apr	3,056	1,370	1,686
May	1,565	2,260	- 695
Jun	1,672	2,275	- 603
Jul	1,538	2,220	-682
Aug	1,743	1,975	-232
Sep	1,811	2,055	-244
Total	13,049	15,860	-2,811

Source: Illegal detection Frontex, First time Asylum Applications Eurostat

Table 24: Number of Somali first time asylum applications by EEA Member State (January – September 2015)

(EEA Member) State	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	Total
Austria	100	140	135	270	280	235	255	150	125	1,890
Belgium	35	30	100	100	425	280	265	215	185	1,870
Bulgaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	5
Denmark	35	35	20	30	25	10	5	5	20	230
France	75	45	95	75	95	90	110	115	110	945
Germany	340	420	285	395	415	590	485	355	300	4,570
Greece	15	15	10	10	5	10	15	10	5	105
Hungary	10	10	15	30	10	35	85	70	45	280
Italy	50	45	75	45	90	55	110	40	35	640
Netherlands	20	15	20	5	25	10	10	20	10	170
Norway	30	20	50	15	40	45	45	60	45	525
Sweden	280	265	345	220	455	410	355	425	525	4,555
Switzerland	65	50	70	30	170	235	145	115	110	1,235
United Kingdom	30	40	40	35	25	40	35	30	20	350
Other EEA	55	65	110	110	200	230	300	365	515	1,950
Total	1,140	1,195	1,370	1,370	2,260	2,275	2,220	1,975	2,055	15,860

Source: Eurostat
Final Totals maybe

Table 25: Afghani asylum applications in the EU (2009 – 2014)

Member State	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Jan- Sept 2015
Belgium	2,055	1,830	3,195	3,290	1,675	2,330	2,605
Germany	3,520	6,065	7,955	7,840	8,240	9,675	14,695
Greece	1,510	525	635	585	1,225	1,710	1,490
France	715	795	685	570	590	635	790
Italy	615	875	1,425	1,495	2,055	3,120	2,860
Hungary	1,195	700	650	880	2,330	8,795	45,870
Netherlands	1,400	1,585	2,395	1,620	1,365	880	845
Austria	2,215	1,590	3,630	4,015	2,590	5,075	12,735
Sweden	1,695	2,400	4,130	4,760	3,025	3,105	9,920
United Kingdom	3,650	1,980	1,665	1,355	1,585	1,820	1,935
Other	6,515	3,910	3,880	3,995	3,160	5,555	9,035
Total	25,085	22,255	30,245	30,405	27,840	42,700	102,780

Source: Eurostat

Table 26: The number of Afghani detected illegally crossing a border into the EU and the number of first time asylum applications from Afghanis in the EEA (January – September 2015)

Month	Detected Illegal border-crossings (Frontex)	First Time Asylum Applications in the EU	Difference between detections and asylum applications
Jan	1,872	4,715	-2,843
Feb	1,793	4,230	-2,437
Mar	3,197	4,340	-1,143
Apr	5,714	5,505	209
May	9,831	9,065	766
Jun	15,477	13,215	2,262
Jul	24,010	18,610	5,400
Aug	29,891	19,725	10,166
Sep	38,315	21,080	17,235
Total	130,100	100,485	29,615

Source: Illegal detection Frontex, First time Asylum Applications Eurostat

Table 27: Number of Afghani first time asylum applications by country (January – September)

(EEA Member) State	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	Total
Austria	615	410	570	740	1,490	1,810	2,710	1,860	2,280	12,485
Belgium	150	95	60	95	150	275	360	435	560	2,180
Bulgaria	275	345	260	235	290	255	520	335	745	3,260
Denmark	25	25	25	25	45	45	55	80	215	540
France	35	50	75	70	40	75	80	95	235	755
Germany	1,130	970	885	1,120	1,150	2,050	2,105	2,270	2,725	14,405
Greece	165	185	170	180	130	125	165	130	115	1,365
Hungary	1,375	1,195	1,450	2,260	4,660	6,715	10,010	10,330	7,300	45,295
Italy	290	405	295	245	230	305	325	410	355	2,860
Netherlands	35	35	30	45	40	50	65	140	155	595
Norway	65	40	50	55	145	255	320	440	630	2,000
Sweden	325	250	260	230	410	725	1,195	2,175	4,205	9,775
Switzerland	90	90	40	65	110	155	250	455	655	1,910
United Kingdom	110	110	120	120	135	295	430	310	335	1,875
Other EEA	30	25	50	20	40	80	20	260	570	1,185
Total	4,715	4,230	4,340	5,505	9,065	13,215	18,610	19,725	21,080	100,485

Source: Eurostat

Table 28: Iraqi asylum applications in the EU (2009 – 2014)

EU Member State	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Jan-Sept 2015
Germany	7,320	5,945	6,210	5,675	4,195	9,495	14,600
Sweden	2,310	1,995	1,640	1,345	1,480	2,665	5,680
Netherlands	2,165	1,905	2,005	1,885	955	1,320	1,035
Belgium	1,535	1,990	2,210	975	930	1,395	7,190
United Kingdom	1,085	610	445	460	480	890	1,310
Austria	395	345	485	495	465	1,105	9,170
Italy	405	380	345	405	555	790	315
France	605	450	265	185	95	900	2,350
Bulgaria	305	450	345	325	255	610	3,390
Greece	885	340	255	315	145	175	300
Hungary	55	50	55	30	65	495	9,110
Other	3,930	2,495	1,850	1,770	1,720	2,030	15,015
Total	20,995	16,955	16,110	13,865	11,340	21,870	69,465

Source: Eurostat

Table 29: The number of Iraqis detected illegally crossing a border into the EU and the number of first time asylum applications from Iraqis in the EEA (January – September 2015)

Month	Detected Illegal border-crossings (Frontex)	First Time Asylum Applications in the EU	Difference between detections and asylum applications
Jan	263	2,220	-1,957
Feb	401	2,300	-1,899
Mar	897	2,900	-2,003
Apr	1,246	3,380	-2,134
May	1,572	4,490	-2,918
Jun	2,503	6,180	-3,677
Jul	3,288	7,940	-4,652
Aug	5,747	11,790	-6,043
Sep	14,764	25,900	-11,136
Total	30,681	67,100	-36,419

Source: Illegal detection Frontex, First time asylum applications Eurostat

Table 30: Number of Iraqi first time asylum applications by country (January 2015 – September 2015)

(EEA Member) State	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	Total
Austria	290	200	310	480	1,070	1,245	1,285	1,275	2,750	8,905
Belgium	115	65	90	60	170	415	970	2,460	2,645	6,990
Bulgaria	100	95	275	235	435	415	560	505	750	3,370
Denmark	10	5	5	5	15	20	20	115	285	480
France	85	395	250	200	160	235	300	230	490	2,345
Germany	900	835	1,050	1,280	1,380	1,975	1,985	1,720	2,455	13,580
Greece	20	15	10	15	20	25	45	55	45	250
Hungary	125	230	450	660	725	1,040	1,400	2,255	2,135	9,020
Italy	45	40	35	20	25	30	40	40	40	315
Netherlands	45	30	30	35	40	55	80	140	390	845
Norway	20	15	5	10	10	20	20	70	540	710
Sweden	190	140	135	155	150	235	300	550	3,440	5,295
Switzerland	25	40	20	25	25	30	65	175	335	740
United Kingdom	110	85	90	65	80	140	175	240	310	1,295

(EEA Member) State	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	Total
Other EEA	135	115	140	135	190	305	680	1,950	9,285	12,935
Total	2,220	2,300	2,900	3,380	4,490	6,180	7,940	11,790	25,900	67,100

Source: Eurostat

A2.1 Diaspora Populations

Data is from the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2013)

Table 31: Diaspora populations in Europe (1990)

(EEA Member) State	Afghani	Eritrean	Iraqi	Somali	Syrian
Austria	4,748	57	3,043	670	1,828
Belgium	45	-	45	987	698
Bulgaria	222	1	171	1	473
France	3,346	160	4,614	1,485	13,644
Germany	33,279	2,815	6,844	5,957	15,330
Greece	413	91	4,410	29	4,354
Hungary	274	0	732	1	482
Italy	271	779	176	11,363	527
Netherlands	9,943	156	1,160	1,874	2,051
Norway	256	19	747	1,301	196
Sweden	3,368	2,399	38,795	10,279	-
Switzerland	1,755	994	3,289	2,645	1,309
United Kingdom	503	252	265	503	252
N. Europe	4,582	2,754	42,528	12,826	12,209
E. Europe	20,172	55	3,278	156	9,543
S. Europe	686	882	5,344	11,402	6,973
W. Europe	53,116	4,182	19,008	13,620	34,880
Europe	78,556	7,873	70,158	38,004	63,605

Table 32: Diaspora populations in Europe (2000)

(EEA Member) State	Afghani	Eritrean	Iraqi	Somali	Syrian
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(EEA Member) State	Afghani	Eritrean	Iraqi	Somali	Syrian
Austria	5,966	72	3,823	841	2,297
Belgium	30	-	30	568	693
Bulgaria	223	2	358	2	738
France	3,563	171	4,912	1,581	14,526
Germany	69,794	5,143	58,884	7,749	25,116
Greece	367	81	6,606	26	5,181
Hungary	532	7	565	272	846
Italy	201	7,417	1,498	6,842	3,399
Netherlands	20,179	317	30,401	21,797	4,163
Norway	652	542	7,098	13,082	595
Sweden	4,287	3,054	49,372	13,082	14,162
Switzerland	1,980	1,122	3,711	2,985	1,477
United Kingdom	27,156	6,447	23,637	38,304	4,205
N. Europe	35,573	10,187	96,399	73,736	20,606
E. Europe	12,966	72	3,450	404	13,026
S. Europe	574	7,517	9,665	6,887	12,390
W. Europe	101,512	6,825	101,773	35,523	48,291
Europe	150,625	24,601	211,287	116,550	94,313

Table 33: Diaspora populations in Europe (2010)

(EEA Member) State	Afghani	Eritrean	Iraqi	Somali	Syrian
Austria	7,370	89	4,723	1,039	2,838
Belgium	1,967	-	1,676	668	1,612
Bulgaria	294	3	657	3	1,234
France	4,529	608	5,823	1,791	15,941
Germany	96,863	8,157	92,784	6,046	43,843
Greece	299	174	7,443	13	7,246
Hungary	782	10	831		1,244
Italy	3,330	10,990	2,780	9,943	4,574

(EEA Member) State	Afghani	Eritrean	Iraqi	Somali	Syrian
Netherlands	31,360	1,089	41,316	19,995	7,010
Norway	9,241	5,049	21,475	18,746	1,487
Sweden	14,420	10,301	121,761	37,846	20,758
Switzerland	3,621	5,923	6,516	4,185	2,820
U.K.	53,091	16,714	67,839	108,149	10,815
N. Europe	90,106	32,412	241,608	184,423	35,847
E. Europe	7,263	49	4,555	520	15,108
S. Europe	3,648	11,194	12,189	9,978	16,841
W. Europe	145,710	15,866	152,849	33,726	74,085
Europe	246,727	59,521	411,201	228,647	141,881

Table 34: Diaspora populations in Europe (2013)

(EEA Member) State	Afghani	Eritrean	Iraqi	Somali	Syrian
Austria	7,704	93	4,937	1,086	2,967
Belgium	2,038	-	1,737	692	1,670
Bulgaria	314	3	701	3	1,317
France	4,682	628	6,019	1,851	16,478
Germany	97,970	8,250	93,844	6,115	44,344
Greece	309	180	7,704	13	7,500
Hungary	847	11	900	433	1,347
Italy	4,006	13,221	3,344	11,961	5,503
Netherlands	33,589	1,585	42,011	25,403	7,499
Norway	12,481	9,258	24,763	23,278	1,796
Sweden	21,919	14,013	130,449	44,856	28,067
Switzerland	4,544	8,759	7,425	4,861	3,640
U.K.	61,438	20,172	73,726	93,181	10,035
N. Europe	111,608	44,014	261,637	183,168	44,975
E. Europe	7,275	49	4,764	552	14,668
S. Europe	4,333	13,435	13,117	12,005	18,356

(EEA Member) State	Afghani	Eritrean	Iraqi	Somali	Syrian
W. Europe	150,527	19,315	155,988	40,011	76,620
Europe	273,743	76,813	435,506	235,736	154,619

Table 35: Number of persons resettled in each Member State 2009 -2014

(EEA Member) State	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total
Total	8,790	6,165	5,360	6,170	5,795	7,680	39,960
European Union (28 countries)	7,400	5,060	4,090	4,930	4,840	6,380	32,700
Sweden	1,890	1,790	1,620	1,680	1,820	2,045	10,845
Norway	1,390	1,095	1,270	1,230	955	1,285	7,225
United Kingdom	945	720	455	1,040	965	645	4,770
Finland	725	545	585	730	675	1,090	4,350
Germany	2,070	525	145	305	280	280	3,605
Netherlands	370	430	540	430	310	790	2,870
Denmark	450	495	515	470	515	345	2,790
France	520	360	130	100	90	450	1,650
Ireland	190	20	45	50	85	95	485
Austria	0	0	0	0	0	390	390
Italy	160	55	0	0	0	0	215
Belgium	45	N/A	25	0	100	35	205
Spain	N/A	N/A	N/A	80	0	125	205
Portugal	0	35	30	15	0	15	95
Romania	0	40	0	0	0	40	80
Czech Republic	0	40	0	25	0	0	65
Luxembourg	30	5	0	0	0	30	65
Iceland	0	5	0	10	0	10	25
Hungary	0	N/A	0	0	0	10	10
Lithuania	N/A	N/A	0	5	0	0	5
Liechtenstein	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	5	5

(EEA Member) State	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total
Bulgaria	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	0
Estonia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Greece	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	0	0
Croatia	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0	0
Cyprus	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	0	0	0
Latvia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Malta	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Poland	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	0
Slovenia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Slovakia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Switzerland	N/A	0	0	0	0	0	0

Source: Eurostat

Table 36: Humanitarian Aid provided by Member States between 2009 – August 2015 (euros)

Member State	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Sweden	473,949,527	470,912,165	576,964,807	779,602,173	528,754,026	596,291,005	275,631,650	3,702,105,352
UK	207,551,260	246,076,855	167,761,713	316,851,130	639,611,467	814,011,401	645,264,633	3,037,128,459
Germany	263,592,607	295,778,608	266,649,237	331,751,571	426,470,731	804,973,420	328,909,702	2,718,125,875
Netherlands	164,296,015	217,882,370	124,554,209	131,369,323	134,513,808	239,623,090	243,198,877	1,255,437,692
Denmark	158,301,423	186,248,037	208,586,097	68,372,808	276,114,016	251,358,186	43,706,077	1,192,686,643
Belgium	98,398,896	100,916,750	133,450,072	164,062,259	142,126,563	84,650,240	191,500,120	915,104,900
Finland	79,131,000	85,999,593	96,686,593	89,875,418	102,140,351	117,657,000	87,060,000	658,549,955
France	80,763,140	84,725,430	102,299,299	59,395,817	54,248,181	64,612,886	21,508,090	467,552,843
Ireland	85,213,873	65,282,465	74,238,446	61,949,959	72,111,084	62,444,722	21,560,365	442,800,914
Spain	13,813,837	92,443,208	173,288,073	43,137,387	40,741,908	39,498,333	7,821,112	410,743,858
Italy	50,912,453	59,529,271	41,450,786	30,476,633	37,116,243	66,104,471	22,522,995	308,112,853
Luxembourg	34,107,063	34,069,416	33,141,950	37,040,384	35,979,941	35,507,524	29,982,189	239,828,467
Austria	10,905,000	14,768,000	13,944,000	9,450,000	9,995,000	11,178,000	3,280,000	73,520,000
Czech Republic	3,373,600	3,315,877	2,965,048	2,901,112	2,843,430	3,643,855	2,489,988	21,532,911
Poland	704,605	552,000	4,318,374	3,543,828	3,220,417	2,312,401	1,427,313	16,078,937

Member State	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Estonia	452,135	1,096,210	1,029,440	1,089,393	2,043,993	2,312,724	0	8,023,895
Greece	4,385,000	575,000	822,507	100,000	139,047	1,160,000	0	7,181,554
Hungary	300,250	670,500	260,031	539,359	611,961	374,909	0	2,757,010
Portugal	422,170	86,927	0	0	155,000	39,142	1,162,694	1,865,933
Slovenia	218,805	220,651	828,687	60,000	150,000	60,000	0	1,538,143
Romania	150,000	150,000	205,000	235,850	229,362	73,325	0	1,043,537
Malta	0	65,000	157,000	15,000	115,000	325,000	0	677,000
Lithuania	0	234,210	28,962	14,481	60,820	192,621	140,000	671,094
Slovakia	212,000	110,000	0	138,500	98,500	0	0	559,000
Croatia	0	0	0	262,833	95,569	197,135	0	555,537
Latvia	0	43,457	142,288	43,000	80,000	100,000	0	408,745
Bulgaria	0	0	0	201,694	153,350	0	0	355,044
Cyprus	0	200,000	0	0	0	0	0	200,000
Total	2,623,829,659	3,026,981,634	3,065,115,722	3,391,515,349	3,774,436,849	4,370,149,463	2,892,174,106	23,144,202,782

Source: EDRIS²⁰ Humanitarian Aid (data as of 19th of August 2015)

²⁰ Data on humanitarian aid has been taken from the European Emergency Disaster Response Information System (EDRIS). EDRIS presents real time information on cash and in-kind assistance provided by Member States (MS) to different countries/regions. Examples of the recipients of funds are Oxfam, UNICEF and OCHA