



# The Refugee Crisis and the European Union

(Grab a paper from the front of the room. Please and  
THX).



# Warm-up Questions

Answer the following questions on a sheet of paper

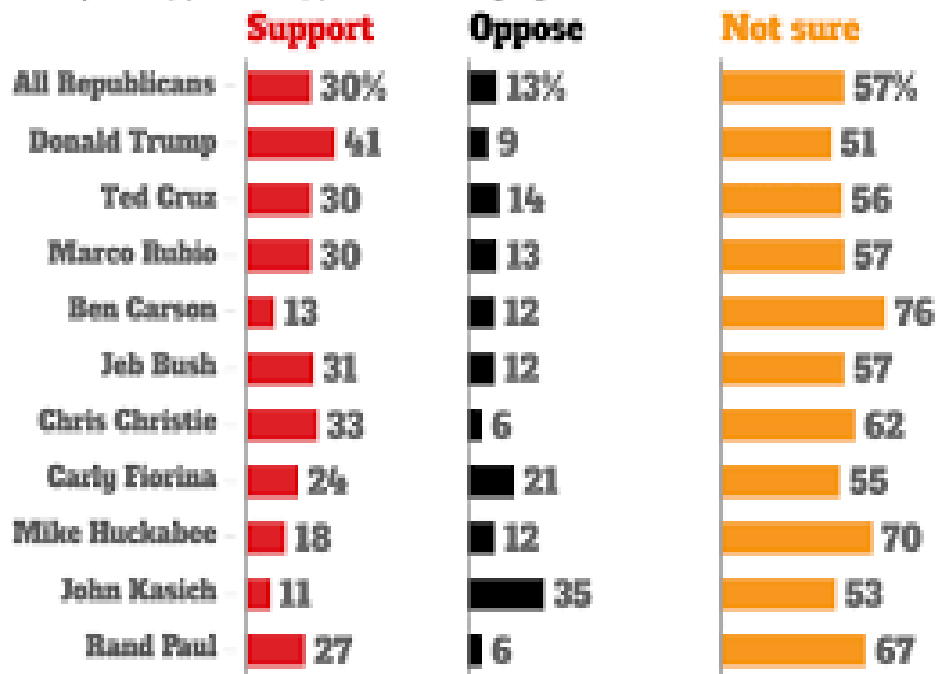
- What's the difference between immigrants and refugees?
- What are some of the causes of the current refugee crisis? (If you're not sure, think about events that often lead to refugees.)
- Should the U.S. or European Union get more involved and bomb Agrabah?



# Bomb Agrabah?

- If you said yes, you're not alone.

Would you support or oppose bombing Agrabah?



	Base	Democratic Primary			
		Hillary Clinton	Martin O'Malley	Bernie Sanders	Not sure
Bomb Agrabah Support/Oppose					
Support bombing Agrabah	19%	13%	39%	23%	23%
Oppose bombing Agrabah	36%	37%	35%	39%	14%
Not sure	45%	50%	26%	39%	63%

# Here's what that would look like:



- It's important to study geography and learn about current events!

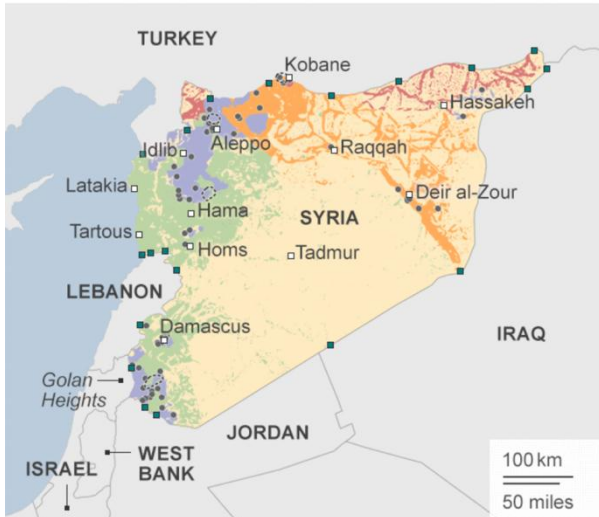




# So why do so many people want to bomb “Agrabah” and what does that have to do with Europe?

- In which country do most people likely assume Agrabah is located?

- Opposition forces
- Islamic State
- Kurdish
- Syrian armed forces
- Border crossing
- Areas suffering high-frequency conflict (Oct, Nov & Dec 2014)
- Areas where control has recently changed





# What was the Arab Spring?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGGDfmhKoyk>

# Syrian Civil War



- More than 250,000 Syrians have lost their lives in four-and-a-half years of armed conflict, which began with anti-government protests before escalating into a full-scale civil war. More than 11 million others have been forced from their homes as forces loyal to President Bashar al-Assad and those opposed to his rule battle each other - as well as jihadist militants from **Islamic State**.
- The Assad Regime has been accused of intentionally using barrel bombs and chemical weapons on civilians. The use of these weapons are considered war crimes by the United Nations .
- The instability in Syria has given ISIL a foothold (territory) in the Middle East.



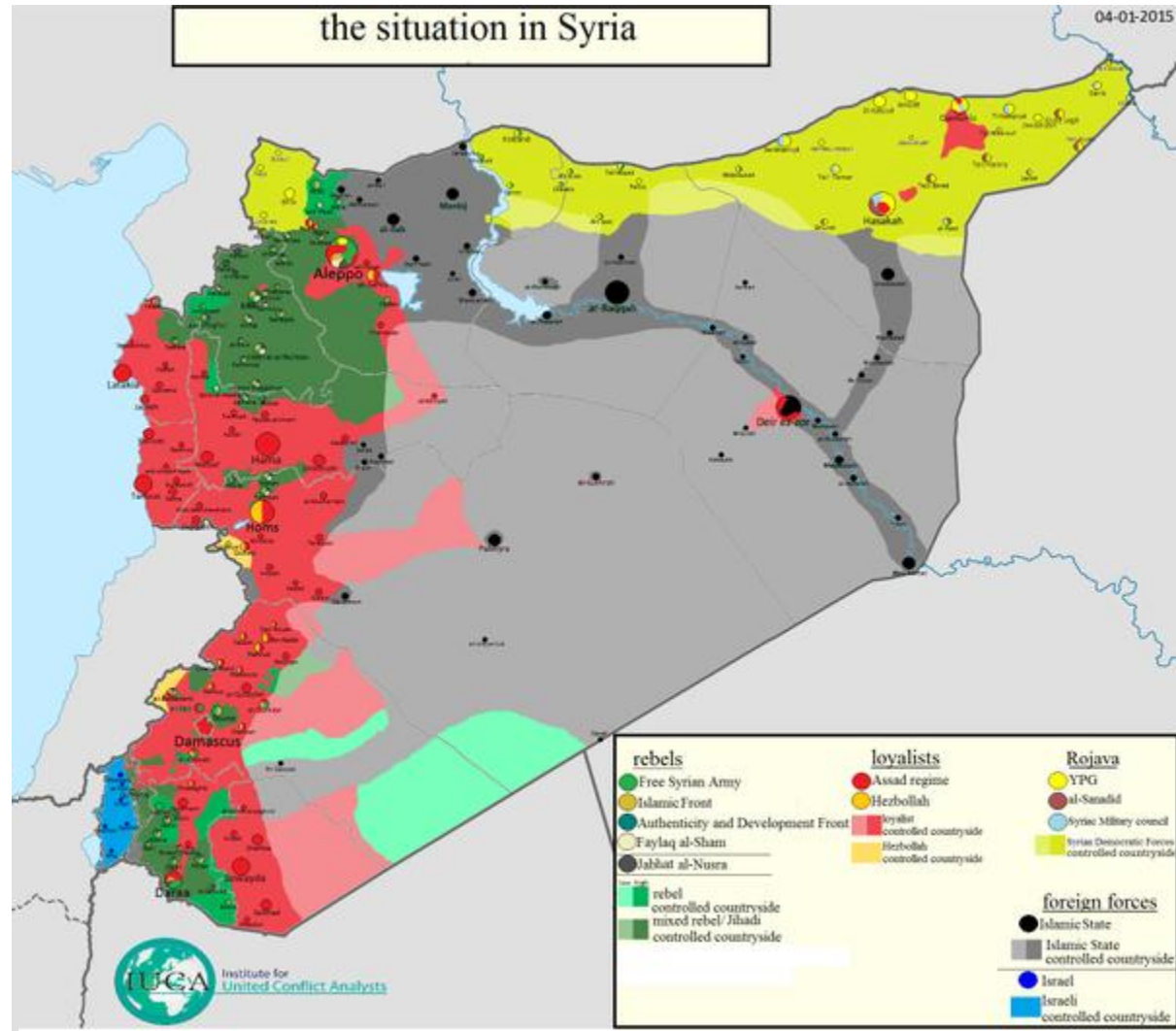
# Syrian Civil War

Photo 1: 1-18-14

Photo 2: 1-1-15

Photo 3: 1-4-16

- The United States supports: Moderate rebels like the Kurds (yellow)
- Russia supports the Syrian government (red)
- Islamic State (black/gray)





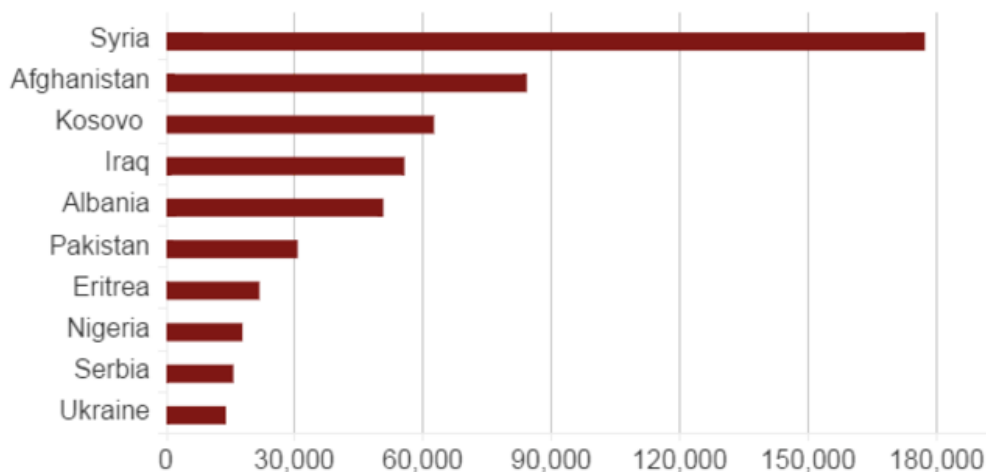
# Refugee Crisis



- Why are there so many refugees from the areas below?

## Top 10 origins of people applying for asylum in the EU

January - October 2015, first-time applications



Source: Eurostat



- [360 Degree Camera](#) of Syria

- What do they have to lose? Most are aware of the risk they are taking.



# September 2015

## UNITED KINGDOM

The U.K. which is not part of Europe's border-free travel area, is working to stop migrants entering the country through the channel tunnel, which originates in France.

## FRANCE

The political powers that be in France, where the population is already 7.5% Muslim, are under pressure from the far-right National Front party to limit immigration.

## ITALY

With 4,700 miles of coastline -- a length it is almost impossible to patrol -- Italy has been the landing point for an outsized share of refugees reaching the European Union.

## GREECE

With 8,500 miles of coastline, Greece is the entry point of many migrants seeking refuge in the European Union.

## LIBYA

Fighting between rival militias is reported by the UN to have prompted 8,000 people to flee the country.

## GERMANY

One of the EU's most welcoming countries for migrants, Germany has an average annual income of \$47,590 per person -- compared to \$1,606 for Syria.

## AUSTRIA

Austria, a major transit country for migrants seeking to reach Germany, recently instituted border checks after bodies of 71 refugees were discovered in an abandoned truck that had traveled through Hungary.

## HUNGARY

Hungary, a major transit point between Greece and Germany, is planning to build a 13-foot-high fence, 110 miles long, along its border with Serbia to stop the flow of migrants across its territory.

## AFGHANISTAN

Until it was overtaken by Syria, which is now producing one-quarter of the world's refugees, Afghanistan spent decades at the top of the list, with at least 1.66 million Afghans submitting asylum applications in other countries in 2014.

## IRAQ

The takeover areas of northern Iraq by the terrorist group ISIS, or Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, is reported to have displaced more than 3.3 million people in Iraq -- many of them fleeing to other countries.

## SOUTH SUDAN

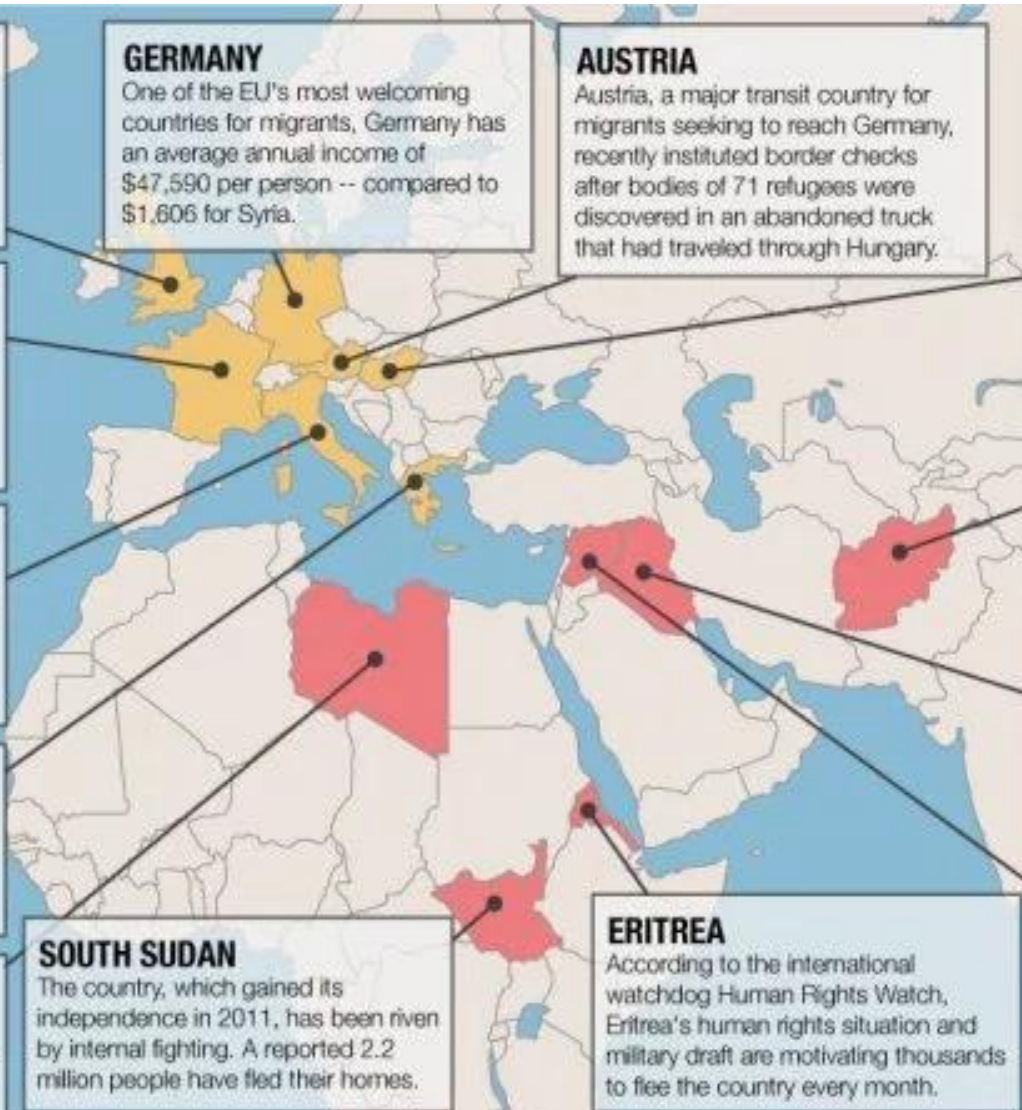
The country, which gained its independence in 2011, has been riven by internal fighting. A reported 2.2 million people have fled their homes.

## ERITREA

According to the international watchdog Human Rights Watch, Eritrea's human rights situation and military draft are motivating thousands to flee the country every month.

## SYRIA

A civil war that began in 2011 has killed more than 300,000 people, reduced major cities to rubble and prompted more than 4 million people to run for their lives.

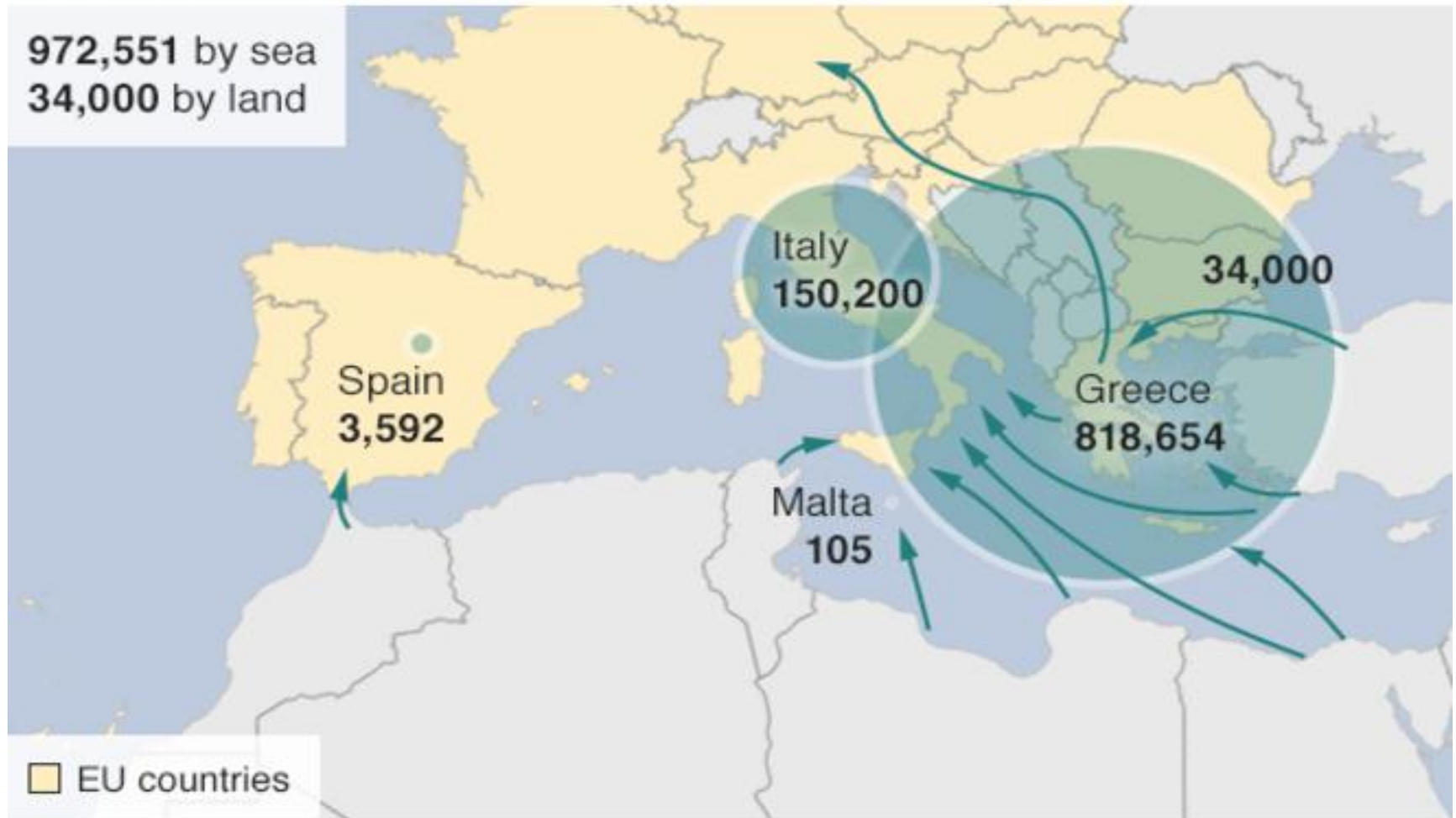




# Migration Routes

1 million arrivals by land and sea in 2015

972,551 by sea  
34,000 by land



EU countries

Source: UNHCR, IOM



# Where will they go?

- Dublin Regulation: Requires refugees to stay in the first European country they arrive in until asylum.
  - Where are most refugees arriving (causing a strain on resources)? Why aren't they claiming asylum there?
- Italy and Greece desperately need help from the rest of the European Union.
- **European Union**: A political and economic group of 28 countries. The idea is these countries benefit by being able to trade & work with each other.

# The European Union: 500 million people – 28 countries



With all of these countries involved, coming up with a fair policy regarding refugees has been slow and difficult. Imagine if it was up to all of you, individually, to come up with a plan?

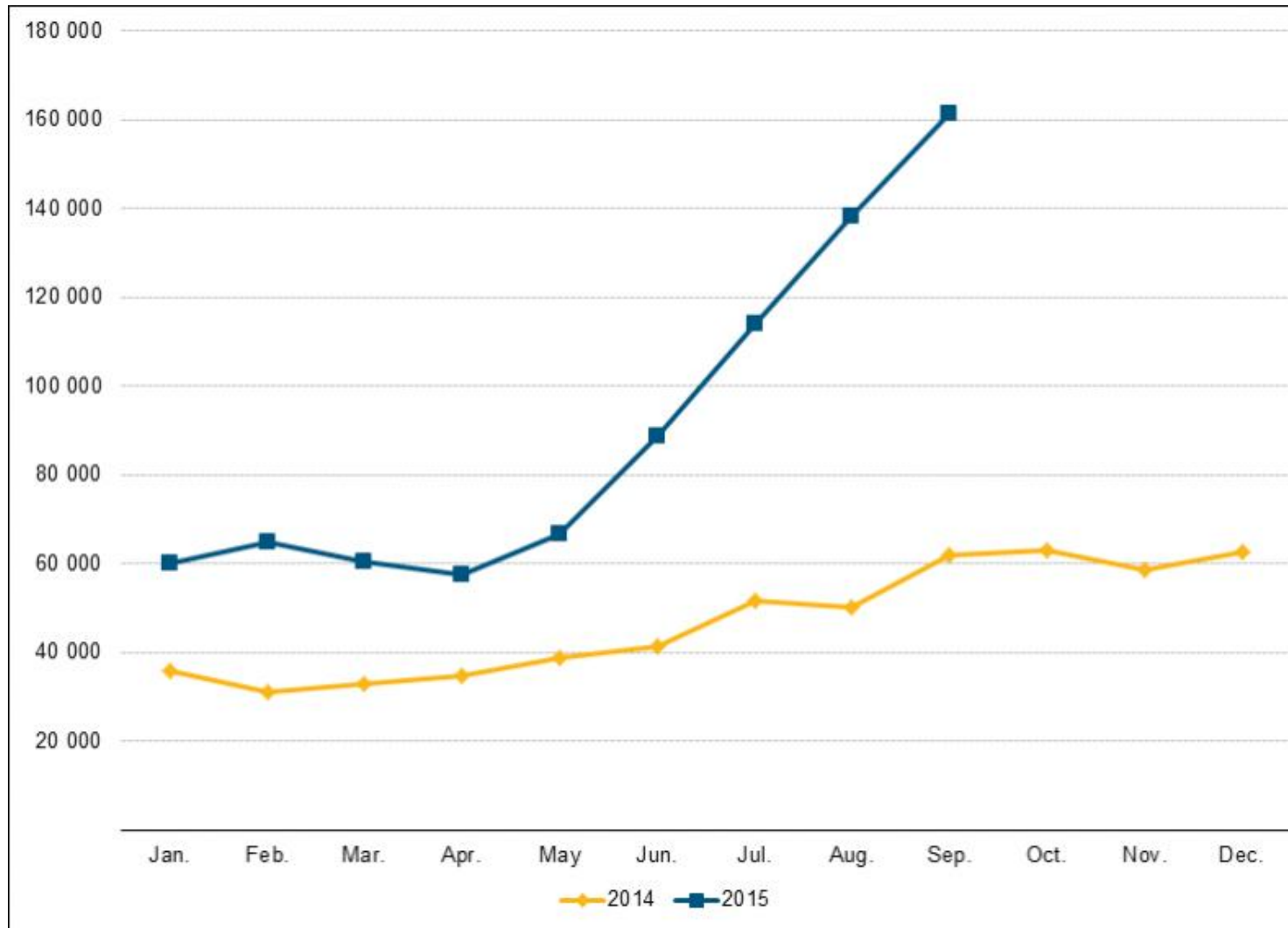
# Asylum applications 2014 (check out the figures on the far right)



	Total (number, rounded figures)	Minors (%)			Aged 18 and over (%)			Age unknown (%)	Analysis of minors (%)	
		All minors	0–13	14–17	18–34	35–64	65 and over		Accompanied	Unaccompanied
<b>EU-28</b>	625 920	26	19	7	54	20	1	0	86	14
Belgium	22 710	29	23	7	48	22	1	0	93	7
Bulgaria	11 080	30	17	13	56	13	0	0	72	28
Czech Republic	1 145	20	17	3	41	37	2	0	98	2
Denmark	14 680	21	13	7	55	24	1	0	73	27
Germany	202 645	32	25	6	48	19	1	0	93	7
Estonia	155	13	10	3	55	32	3	0	100	0
Ireland	1 450	18	14	4	58	23	1	0	88	12
Greece	9 430	14	7	7	65	21	0	0	67	33
Spain	5 615	20	17	4	56	23	1	0	99	1
France	64 310	22	19	3	51	26	1	0	98	2
Croatia	450	3	1	2	76	21	0	0	33	67
Italy	64 625	7	3	4	84	9	0	0	43	57
Cyprus	1 745	21	16	5	55	23	0	0	86	14
Latvia	375	16	11	5	49	32	4	0	100	0
Lithuania	440	24	20	3	50	26	1	0	95	5
Luxembourg	1 150	31	25	6	50	19	0	0	92	8
Hungary	42 775	28	19	8	57	16	0	0	95	5
Malta	1 350	23	15	8	59	17	1	0	83	17
Netherlands	24 495	21	14	7	53	25	1	0	81	19
Austria	28 035	30	20	11	51	18	0	0	77	23
Poland	8 020	42	37	4	33	24	1	0	94	6
Portugal	440	18	14	5	57	24	2	0	81	19
Romania	1 545	24	15	9	53	21	1	0	75	25
Slovenia	385	30	12	18	48	21	0	0	43	57
Slovakia	330	20	17	3	59	21	0	0	85	15
Finland	3 620	23	16	6	55	21	1	1	76	24
Sweden	81 180	29	19	10	46	24	1	0	70	30
United Kingdom	31 745	21	14	8	54	21	1	3	73	27
Iceland	170	18	15	3	50	29	0	0	100	0
Liechtenstein	65	31	23	8	38	31	0	0	100	0
Norway	13 205	29	20	10	54	17	0	0	76	24
Switzerland	23 555	28	22	7	55	16	0	0	88	12



# Surely things have gotten better right?





## Model European Union!

- You will create a proposal for the EU on what you think should be done about the Refugee Crisis based on the country you are pick.
- HEY, we are finishing the Refugee Crisis handout for the first 20 minutes of class. 20 minutes. That's it. Get busy. You have a computer number assigned to you (list is on top of computer cart).
- Come get your computer! Then wait!

# COUNTRIES TO CHOOSE:

- Hungary
- Italy
- Sweden
- Greece
- France
- Spain
- Germany

Good news sites:

BBC

CNN

Al-Jazeera

NY Times

LA Times

Huffington Post

International Business

Times

Forbes

The Economist