



Refugees Digest 6 June 2016

Refugees, Migrants & Displaced Persons

The desperate attempts by displaced persons to reach Europe continues unabated, as does the tragedy which plays out on the high seas. Alongside those difficulties the reception of refugees, migrants and displaced persons continues to be more and more muted. The 'EU-Turkey Agreement,' seems to be unravelling swiftly casting doubt on its ultimate effectiveness. Linked to that is the MSF decision not to take money from the EU in protest over its 'continuing attempts to push people and their suffering away from European shores.' Some doubt is cast on the possibility of reaching the UNs numbers for resettlement. In 2015 134,044 individuals were eligible for resettlement and about 61% of that number actually were resettled, which is only a fraction of those eligible for resettlement and only about 0.5% of the total refugee population. One of the articles also notes that the progressive refugee policy in Uganda is now also under strain. Recent counts have estimated that approximately 250 new arrivals per day. These numbers put a huge strain on the traditional Ugandan policy of building self-reliance and integration into the hosting community. The point is clear that all continents are having to deal with problems related to displaced persons and civil society including the faith communities are challenged to be at the forefront of imagining and implementing value based policies and practices.

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