# *Refugees Digest 8*
# *July 2016*

## Refugees, Migrants and Displaced Persons

The issues around refugees, migrants and displaced persons continues to be fiercely contested across the globe. In Europe and the UK, the issue of immigrants seems to have been a key consideration for many who voted for the UK to exit the EU. More than 3,000 hate crimes and incidents took place in the second half of June, 42% more than in the same period in 2015. On 25 June, the day after the EU referendum result was announced, 289 racist attacks were reported across England, Wales and Northern Ireland. More and more civil society groups are critical of EU attempts to deal with countries often with poor human rights records in an attempt to stop refugees from reaching Europe.

In Italy it has been noted that there has been a sharp increase in the number of unaccompanied minors. In 2015, 12,000 unaccompanied minors made it to Italy and in the first 5 months of 2016 the number had already reached 7,009. Most were young men and in 2016 most were from Egypt. Amidst the consternation surrounding the migrants in Europe, people are prone to neglect the plight of migrants and refugees in South and Central America. Some of the links remind us of that reality. As the contestation deepens, attention is already being turned to the September meeting at the UN to discuss refugee issues especially issues around a greater equity in sharing the responsibility for refugees and the expansion of resettlement programs. Commentators have already regretted the absence in the draft declaration of realistic mechanisms to implement the lofty ideals in the declaration. With regard to South African data, there is an interesting link surveying the world of day labourers and the role of foreign migrants in that sphere. It notes that the increase in numbers in this sector has been accompanied by a greater vulnerability and worsening incomes.

_____

**Peter-John Pearson**
**Director**

- http://www.irinnews.org/analysis/2016/06/27/what-does-brexit-mean-refugees
- http://www.irinnews.org/maps-and-graphics/2016/06/20/millions-asylum-claim-backlog
- http://maryknollogc.org/article/global-migration-crisis-bad-brexit
- http://maryknollogc.org/article/immigration-supreme-court-deadlocked
- http://www.irinnews.org/news/2016/07/04/last-boat-lesvos?utm_source=IRIN+-+the+inside+story+on+emergencies&utm_campaign=d248a34bdf-RSS_EMAIL_ENGLISH_ALL&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_d842d98289-d248a34bdf-15708545
- http://www.irinnews.org/news/2016/07/06/what-happens-teenage-migrants-sicily?utm_source=IRIN+-+the+inside+story+on+emergencies&utm_campaign=e96f31792c-RSS_EMAIL_ENGLISH_ALL&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_d842d98289-e96f31792c-15708545
- http://www.msn.com/en-za/news/world/migrants-put-swedens-cozy-nordic-model-under-pressure/ar-BBu33Tx
- http://globalsistersreport.org/blog/q/migration/q-sr-mary-mccauley-advocate-comprehensive-immigration-reform-40721
- https://cruxnow.com/church-in-the-usa/2016/07/11/us-vigil-reflected-pope-franciss-pro-immigrant-message/
- http://www.indcatholicnews.com/news.php?viewStory=30503
- http://www.irinnews.org/feature/2016/07/14/canada%E2%80%99s-refugee-success-story?utm_source=IRIN+-+the+inside+story+on+emergencies&utm_campaign=d710a61f44-RSS_EMAIL_ENGLISH_ALL&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_d842d98289-d710a61f44-15708545

- http://www.irinnews.org/analysis/2016/07/15/will-refugee-summit-be-%E2%80%9C-missed-opportunity%E2%80%9D?utm_source=IRIN+-+the+inside+story+on+emergencies&utm_campaign=3b9dda5e74-RSS_EMAIL_ENGLISH_ALL&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_d842d98289-3b9dda5e74-15708545
- http://www.thetablet.co.uk/features/2/8654/-now-we-are-foreigners-how-brexit-changed-the-landscape-for-immigr-s?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=The%20Tablet%2023%20July%202016&utm_content=The%20Tablet%2023%20July%202016+CID_54aa6a988a475560698195fce5e5ac3c&utm_source=virtueMail%20marketing%20software&utm_term=A%20sharp%20rise%20in%20racist%20incidents%20since%20the%20EU%20referendum%20has%20put%20fear%20and%20uncertainty%20into%20the%20hearts%20of%20Britains%20migrant%20communities
- http://en.justiceandpeace.nl/news/ngos-strongly-condemn-new-eu-policies-to-contain-migration
- http://www.econ3x3.org/node/342