CRISIS OVERVIEW AND BACKGROUND

START OF THE CONFLICT: UN REPORTS

Pro-democracy protests erupted in March 2011 in the southern city of Deraa.

The unrest triggered nationwide protests demanding President Assad’s resignation.

Opposition supporters eventually began to take up arms, first to defend themselves and later to expel security forces from their local areas.

Fighting reached the capital Damascus and second city of Aleppo in 2012.

By June 2013, the UN said 90,000 people had been killed in the conflict. By March 2015, this figure had reached 220,000 and continues to climb.
According to UNHCR data, the number of Syrian refugees in the Middle East is as follows:

- **Turkey**: 1.6 million people displaced
- **Lebanon**: 1.5 million people displaced
- **Syria**: 7.6 million people displaced
- **Iraq**: 250,000 people displaced
- **Jordan**: 628,887 people displaced
- **Egypt & North Africa**: 156,375 people displaced
12.2 MILLION PEOPLE IN NEED OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN SYRIA

7.6 MILLION INTERNALLY DISPLACED (IDPS) WITHIN SYRIA

4 MILLION SYRIAN REFUGEES IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES

310,000 DEATHS FROM THE CONFLICT (SINCE THE CIVIL WAR BROKE OUT)

MORE THAN HALF THE POPULATION OF SYRIA
MORE THAN HALF ARE CHILDREN

THE SYRIA CRISIS IS THE “BIGGEST HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY OF OUR ERA”
- UNITED+NATIONS
UNITED NATIONS LAUNCHED A 2015 APPEAL FOR $8.4 BILLION TO PROVIDE HELP TO 18 MILLION SYRIANS

ECONOMIC LOSS: $202 BILLION
FOUR IN EVERY FIVE SYRIANS NOW LIVING IN POVERTY

UNHCR does not have 59% of the funds it needs to reach refugees in need of assistance
In recent weeks, the upsurge of Syrians seeking asylum in European countries has overwhelmed existing capacity. According to UNHCR, as of July 2015 almost 350,000 Syrians have applied for asylum in Europe since the conflict in Syria began, nearly half applying in Germany and Sweden and one third in Serbia, Hungary, Austria, Bulgaria, and the Netherlands combined.
With neither side able to inflict a decisive defeat on the other, the international community long ago concluded that only a political solution could end the conflict in Syria.

In January 2014, the US, Russia and UN convened a conference in Switzerland to implement the 2012 Geneva Communique, an internationally-backed agreement that called for the establishment of a transitional governing body in Syria formed on the basis of mutual consent.

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon says the organization's long-term strategic objective remains a political solution based upon the Geneva Communique.
EUROPEAN MIGRATION CRISIS

520,000

Refugees and migrants have crossed the Mediterranean Sea to reach Europe since the start of 2015.

54%

Estimated 54 percent of new arrivals overall are from Syria, where ongoing conflict is in its fifth year.

Hungary’s tighter border restrictions are rerouting refugees in Serbia to travel through Croatia.

120,000

EU leaders approved a plan to relocate 120,000 refugees from Greece and Italy.

International Medical Corps & partners have begun program activities in Serbia & Greece.

>387,000

New arrivals who entered Europe through Greece.
Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) | ECHO Daily Map | 30/09/2015
Western Balkans route - Refugee Crisis

According to the Council decision on 22/09, 66,000 out of 120,000 persons will be relocated from Italy and Greece (15,600 from Italy and 50,400 from Greece). The remaining 54,000 persons will be relocated from Italy and Greece in the same proportion after one year of the entry into force of the decision.

Hungary, EUCPM* activation on 11/09
- Hungary requested mainly tents, heaters, blankets and other non-food items.
- DK, BG, FI, SI and PL have fulfilled the Request for Assistance

Serbia, EUCPM* activation on 21/09
- Serbia requested vehicles, fuel, heaters, shelters, beds, mattresses, pillows, blankets, mobile showers and toilets, hygiene items, food, etc.
- For now HU have fulfilled part of the Request for Assistance

Humanitarian Aid Funding
- ECHO is releasing €1.5 million to assist refugees and migrants in Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.
- ECHO has granted €900,000 in EU humanitarian assistance to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (on 31/07) and €130,000 to Serbia (on 20/08). The funding went directly to the International Federation of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

*EUCPM: European Union Civil Protection Mechanism
CURRENT SITUATION: REFUGEES & ASYLUM SEEKERS TO EUROPE  
IOM /endash.case 29 SEPTEMBER 2015

## TOP FIVE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRY OF ORIGIN</th>
<th>ITALY</th>
<th>GREECE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ERITREA</td>
<td>30,708</td>
<td>SYRIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIGERIA</td>
<td>15,113</td>
<td>AFGHANISTAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOMALIA</td>
<td>8,790</td>
<td>PAKISTAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUDAN</td>
<td>7,126</td>
<td>ALBANIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SYRIA</td>
<td>6,710</td>
<td>IRAQ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nationalities listed represents 89% of all sea arrivals as of 31/8/15.

Data for Italy and Greece as of 31/8/15. Data for Greece includes land and sea arrivals. Italy and Greece receive 99% of arrivals in the Mediterranean.
CURRENT SITUATION: FUNDING & SUPPORT

PERCENTAGE* OF REFUGEES LIVING IN HOST COMMUNITIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST (APPROXIMATE)

80%

REFUGEES LIVING OUTSIDE CAMPS IN JORDAN LIVING BELOW THE POVERTY LINE

86%

SYRIAN FAMILIES IN LEBANON LIVING BELOW THE POVERTY LINE

70%

FAMILIES STRUGGLE TO PAY FOR EDUCATION, HEALTH CARE, RENT, WATER AND SANITATION

CHILD LABOR BEGGING EARLY MARRIAGE INCREASING
KEY ISSUES & NEEDS: MOVEMENT OF REFUGEES TO EUROPE

SEVEN FACTORS BEHIND THE MOVEMENT OF SYRIAN REFUGEES TO EUROPE

- LOSS OF HOPE
- HIGH COSTS OF LIVING/DEEPENING POVERTY
- LIMITED LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES
- AID SHORTFALLS
- HURDLES TO RENEW LEGAL RESIDENCY
- SCANT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES
- FEELING UNSAFE IN IRAQ