

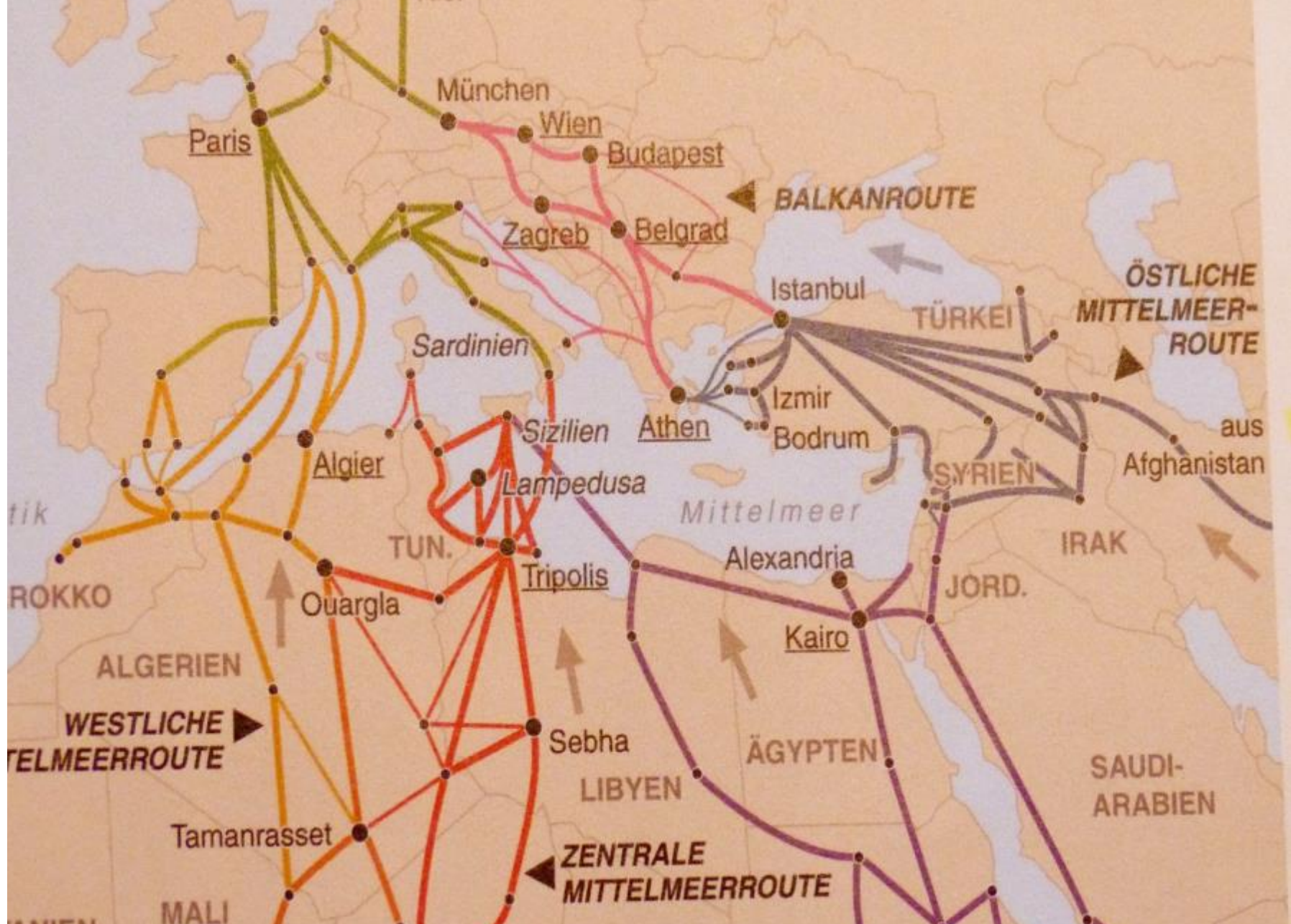
-The ,Refugee Crisis‘ in the European Union-
Germany’s Asylum Seekers: Health/ Crime
Issues, Citizens’ Attitudes

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Topics

- Refugee movements to Europe
- Crime, Health, Education, Cultural traditions, Gender relations
- Why Germany?
- Attitudes of German citizens towards refugees
- The New Year's Eve Cologne Mob



Konstanz suburb refugee shelter 1950s (demolished 1961)



Post 1945 housing



Konstanz school children getting lunch across the border in Kreuzlingen, Switzerland



Children in Cologne



German refugee children



Migration to Germany

- 17th-19th century: from France (Huguenots), Poland, Italy to the cities and to the Ruhr region; one seventh of the population;
- 1945-'49: 11-14 million displaced persons (D.P.);
- 1948-1961: 2,7 million refugees from East Germany;
- 1955-1966 ,Guest Worker Immigration';

Post war migration to Germany

- Post 1989: East Germans and Eastern Europeans;
- 1991-1993 asylum seekers/refugees from the civil war regions: Balkans (Ex-Yugoslavia) and elsewhere;
- Last 25 years refugees and asylum seekers from Africa;

A city walk 1945



Refugee shelter



1960s ,Guest'-Workers arriving at Munich station platform 11





Why do refugees come to Germany?



Where do refugees come from?

- Non-EU entry into Germany: Syria 60% (40% Sept. 2016), Afghanistan 24%, Iraq 8%, Pakistan 3%, Eritrea (4th largest group to EU), Somalia 1%, other 5%;
- 2015 across Mediterranean Sea: 741.583;
- Male: 58%, Female 16%, Children 26%;
- 2015: more than 3000 drowned;
- Saved by EU mission: 13 000; German Navy 9600;

Why do they come to Germany?

- 2015: 1.1 mill to Germany (2014: world wide 19.5 mill UNHCR); 86% to countries of the developing countries, global South; most Syrians to Turkey, Jordan, Iraq and Lebanon;
- From Syria, Iraq costs for getting into EU: comparatively low;
- Existing networks of countries of origin; contact points in German cities;
- Fairly good chance of being accepted (or tolerated); good economy, favorable labor market; welcoming atmosphere (until NYE 2015);

Why do refugees come to Germany?

- Collapse of Schengen/Dublin EU multi barrier system;
- Since ‚Arab Spring‘ bilateral agreements b/w: EU and Libya, Tunisia, Morocco, Albania, Ukraine no longer enforceable; Maghreb countries have until now blocked deportation;
- Economic problems have also diminished internal EU cooperation re: refugee influx management;
- Greece and Italy can not systematically register the incoming refugees, and process them into asylum procedures;

Why do refugees come to Germany?

- France and UK no longer accept large numbers of refugees and asylum seekers; Hungary, Poland, Denmark actively deter refugees; Slovakian police have shot at refugees, Hungary ('herded into fields, ... kept in cages, ... fed like animals', Kingsley 2016, p. 267)
- Germany has become 'Ersatz-destination (Zufluchtsland)' Oltmer 2016, p. 16

Refugees: Health issues

- Refugee health situation 2015 arrivals: healthy young men; better than that of average Germans (Montgomery, president of German Medical Assoc.). Medical cost below those of Germans.
- Are no risk but are at risk.
- One third of children post traumatic symptoms; major challenge;

Refugees: Health issues

- Health care: no health insurance, costs covered by municipalities;
- Vaccinations, pain treatment, acute illness: same access; pregnancy
- 15 mths. restrictions: health service, medical treatment can be provided but obligation;
- Germany federal system: health regulations vary from restrictive (Saxony, Bavaria) to generous in 8 Länder: chip card with full health cover;
- Psychotherapy, preventive treatment, rehabilitation, dentistry, prosthesis need applications by patient

Refugees: Health issues

- Initial examination: respiratory system, infectious diseases;
- Voluntary helpers keep system running;
- Vaccinations by far and wide accepted;
- Lack of qualified interpreters/culture scouts;
- Pediatrics: 25-50% communication problems/barriers;
- Cultural conflict issues, Turks/Kurds;

Criminality

- City of Brunswick police report: Near provisional refugee housing, increased rates of property crime (shop-lifting), no increase of serious crime.
- Syrians (0.5%) and Iraqis least visible in crime stats (September 2016 BKA data).
- Kosovo and organized groups from Southeastern Balkans: break and enter, pickpocketing;
- Police Düsseldorf special squad ‚Casablanca‘: 2200 Maghreb offenders; theft, robbery, assault, threats; Cologne 40% of persons of Maghreb origin are registered suspects;

Refugees: education and labour market

- 70% capable of work, 10% have university degree (18% of Germans); two thirds no professional qualification (14% of Germans); 55% of refugees aged under 25;
- OECD: 15 year-old Syrians: 65% below minimum competencies (16% of Germans); two thirds of youngsters from Syria; 400 000 (of 1 mill.) school age;
- Bavaria Chamber of Crafts: 70% of professional trainees (Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan) drop out;
- Menial work, mini-jobs, low rank health care jobs;
- Since beginning 2016: Mandatory distribution across Germany

Cultural traditions, Gender relations

- Religious practice in a secular society;
- In some Muslim cultures: Acceptance of physical punishment; High domestic violence rates;
- Reporting attitudes;
- Masculinity issues: family ,honor', ,protection' of virginity/chastity of female family members;
- For some migrants in host society: material status/ conditions seem more important than education;

Attitudes of Germans towards refugees

- 1991-'93: 25% of Germans against newcomers;
- 2015: initial response not rejection, rather welcoming and willingness to support;

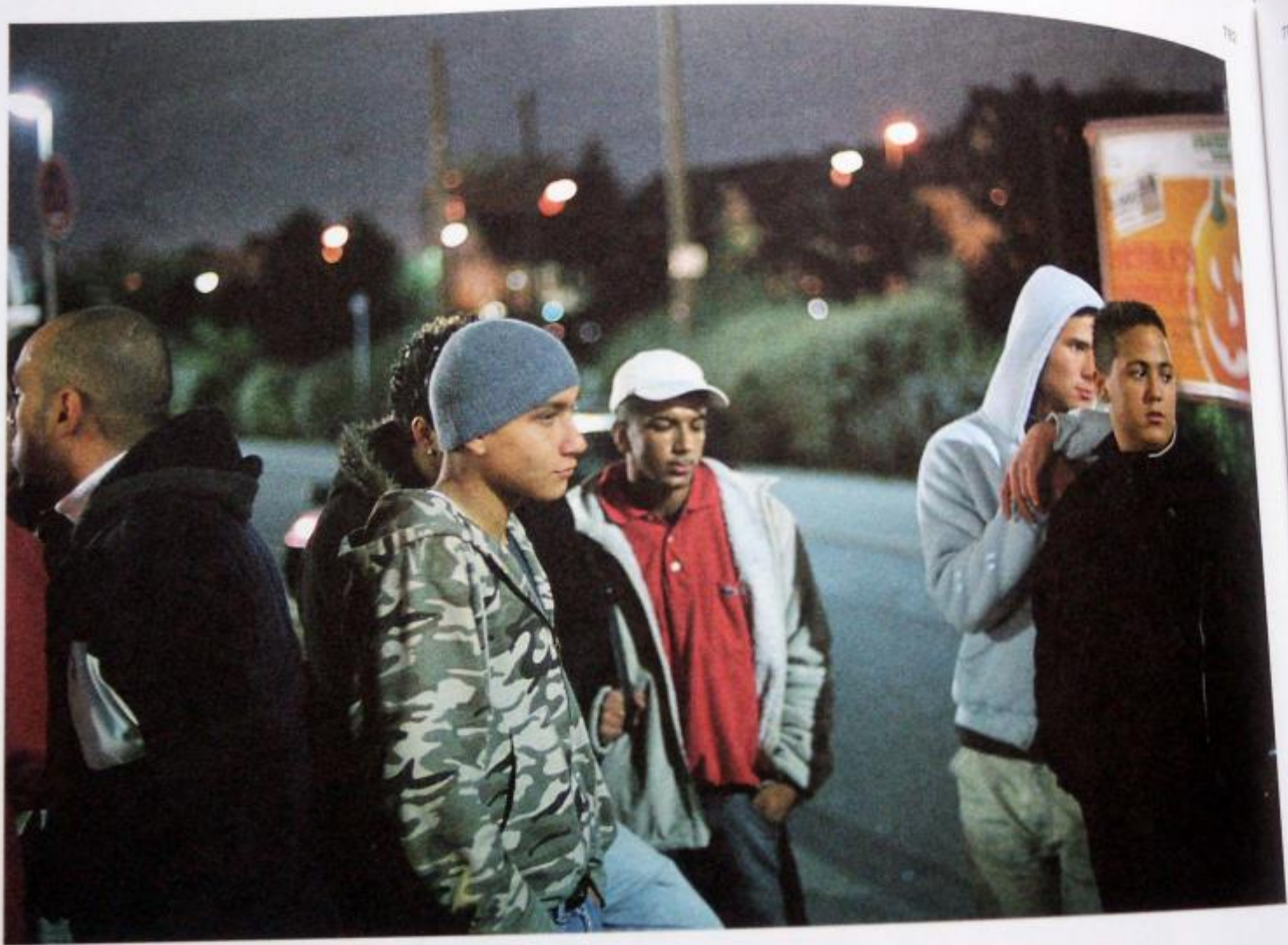
German worries:

- 65%: EU will not be able to cope;
- 63%: xenophobia will increase;
- 51%: refugees will take advantage of the German welfare system;

Attitudes of Germans towards refugees

67% of Germans saw problems (2015/16):

- inadequate housing/accommodation;
- do not want to have refugees' shelter in their neighborhood;
- 8% are actively supporting refugees; 33% know people who are involved in active support;
- Since beginning of 2016 larger proportion of worried persons;



Cologne Main Station New Year's Eve 2015

- Year 2015 Cologne: Police registered nearly 2000 North-African as suspects of crime, mainly Moroccans;
- 0,5 per cent of Syrians were reported as crime suspects; North Africans. 40 per cent;
- "taharrusch dschamai (تحرش جماعي)" 766
- 766 (January, now 1700) criminal offences reported in Cologne, Hamburg et al. 50% include sexual offences;
- All suspects from Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia; very few identified (2016 July: 10%);

Cologne Main Station New Year's Eve 2015

- The Maghreb connection: networks of young men from North African countries in North Rhine Westphalia, Düsseldorf; estimate 2200;
- to Germany via Turkey, some with Syrian documents;
- police reports of robberies, theft, assault, drug dealing.
- 5500 persons from Algeria, Moroccans and Tunisians are subject to deportation orders;
- first six months of 2015: only 53 could be returned to their countries of origin.

Cologne mob attacks



What happened at the Cologne Railway Station ?

- Police was expecting terror attack, had no control, did not order reinforcement, could not inform correctly;
- Offenders formed a violent mob; used the mass situation and rendered groups of female victims helpless;
- Screams for help were not heard, bystanders did not intervene; no risk of detection;
- Outbreak of violence among a mob of radically uncivilized young males. A refugee problem?
- 68 cases; 3 Syrians arrested; 20 IS members exposed; sexual harrassment in public pools: few individual cases



Heaven is where the
police are British, the chefs
Italian, the mechanics German,
the lovers French and it is
all organized by the Swiss.
Hell is where the police are
German, the chefs British,
the mechanics French, the
lovers Swiss, and it is all
organized by the Italians.

Policing the crisis

- Police on borders and in German cities and towns: peaceful maintenance of security and order;
- solving severe conflicts in the shelters among inhabitants;
- Reports of sexual harassment/assault by refugee women;

Chancellor Merkel: ‚Wir schaffen das‘.



EU Refugee Situation

- **Humanitarian** aspects: no limitation to influx;
- Chancellor Merkel's initial motivation;
- **Economic** aspects: needs immigration policy, dependent on labour market situation and needs;
- **Identity** issues: fear of loss of cultural or national identity;

Cultural/National Identity Fears

- Substantial rise of populist movements (Pegida et al.);
- Election gains of populist/right-wing parties in EU member states;
- Populist movements/parties in The Netherlands, France, Denmark, Germany (AFD); Italy, Greece.
- In EU countries 15% (+) of electorate: Nationalist, right-wing extremist attitudes, homophobic, misogynist, anti-Semitic et cetera; Hungary more than half, 20% Neo-Nazi; Poland, Slovakia
- Now: Anti-Islam is common denominator;

Refugees on the move



Berliners watching ‚Rosinenbomber‘



CARE



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