

**User Name: = subscriber530507**

**Date and Time: = 2024-06-11**

**Job Number: = 226345562**

**Documents (500)**

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "syrian refugees" or "syrian refugee crisis"

**Search Type:** Boolean

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| news | Timeline: 01 Jan, 2014 to 31 Dec, 2017 Source Location: Europe Source Location: United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland Source Type: Newspapers Source Name: The Independent (United Kingdom) |

1. [**Twitter account lists hundreds of Jews who were killed after being refused entry to US They were escaping persecution from the Nazis, but most Jewish passengers of the St Louis ship were forced to return to Europe**](#Bookmark_1)

2. [**Donald Trump expected to order Mexican border wall and temporarily ban refugees White House aides say the president will begin with his border wall on Wednesday**](#Bookmark_2)

3. [**Seattle judge blocks Donald Trump's immigration ban nationwide Airlines are now allowing people to enter the US from the affected countries**](#Bookmark_3)

4. [**Donald Macintyre's Sketch: The S-word prompts an unseemly bout of consensus**](#Bookmark_4)

5. [**Twitter account lists hundreds of Jews who were killed after being refused entry to US They were escaping persecution from the Nazis, but most Jewish passengers of the St Louis ship were forced to return to Europe**](#Bookmark_5)

6. [**Donald Trump could be impeached over 'Muslim ban', says Texas congressman US border agency denies its agents were told to ignore judicial orders against ban**](#Bookmark_6)

7. [**Our responsibility for refugees should not be forgotten Even after Brexit, the UK cannot insulate itself from the obligations to help dealwith Europe's refugee crisis**](#Bookmark_7)

8. [**US federal judge blocks Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban' in Michigan The judge clarified that the executive order does not apply to lawful permanent US residents**](#Bookmark_8)

9. [**EU says member states can start deporting refugees and migrants back to Greece from March Returning immigrants'will provide further disincentives against irregular entry,' claims commission's deputyleader**](#Bookmark_9)

10. [**Harrowing images show desperate Syrian refugees break through fence to Turkish territories to escape Isis Photos show men, women and children climbing barbed wire fence**](#Bookmark_10)

11. [**White House cites Quebec mosque attack to justify Donald Trump's security policies 'It's a terrible reminder of why we must remain vigilant, and why the president is taking steps to be proactive', says Sean Spicer**](#Bookmark_11)

12. [**Seattle judge blocks Donald Trump's immigration ban nationwide Airlines are now allowing people to enter the US from the affected countries**](#Bookmark_12)

13. [**Seattle judge blocks Donald Trump's immigration ban nationwide Airlines are now allowing people to enter the US from the affected countries**](#Bookmark_13)

14. [**The S-word prompts an unseemly bout of consensus Sketch**](#Bookmark_14)

15. [**German police arrest three Syrian men 'sent to Europe by Isis to carry out terror attacks' as part of Paris attacks network Investigators say 17-year-old suspect had been trained with weapons and explosives in Raqqa**](#Bookmark_15)

16. [**John Oliver once begged Donald Trump to run for President: 'I'm an idiot' The British satirical news host has one final message for those who haven't cast their vote**](#Bookmark_16)

17. [**John Oliver once begged Donald Trump to run for President: 'I'm an idiot' The British satirical news host has one final message for those who haven't cast their vote**](#Bookmark_17)

18. [**170 refugees who drowned off Egypt coast 'do not deserve sympathy', Egyptian MP says He previously said women must undergo female genital mutilation to help curb male 'sexual weakness'**](#Bookmark_18)

19. [**Justin Trudeau's statement to Donald Trump could make Americans think twice about emigrating to Canada Despite Mr Trudeau's stark contrast to almost everything Mr Trump has pledged, the Canadian Prime Minister pledged to 'keep bui...**](#Bookmark_19)

20. [**John Oliver once begged Donald Trump to run for President: 'I'm an idiot' The British satirical news host has one final message for those who haven't cast their vote**](#Bookmark_20)

21. [**The rise of politicians like Donald Trump and Nigel Farage contributed to Jo Cox's death, says murdered MP's husband In a New York Times op-ed, Mr Cox condemns populists who 'share a strategy based on exploiting divisions between people'**](#Bookmark_21)

22. [**What did Trump say during the second presidential debate against Hillary Clinton? With his poll numbers in decline, the Republican candidate didn't hold back in his attacks on Hillary Clinton**](#Bookmark_22)

23. [**German police arrest three Syrian men 'sent to Europe by Isis to carry out terror attacks' as part of Paris attacks network Investigators say 17-year-old suspect had been trained with weapons and explosives in Raqqa**](#Bookmark_23)

24. [**German police arrest three Syrian men 'sent to Europe by Isis to carry out terror attacks' as part of Paris attacks network Investigators say 17-year-old suspect had been trained with weapons and explosives in Raqqa**](#Bookmark_24)

25. [**German police arrest three Syrian men 'sent to Europe by Isis to carry out terror attacks' as part of Paris attacks network Investigators say 17-year-old suspect had been trained with weapons and explosives in Raqqa**](#Bookmark_25)

26. [**What did Trump say during the second presidential debate? With his poll numbers in decline, the Republican candidate didn't hold back in his attacks on Hillary Clinton**](#Bookmark_26)

27. [**Francois Hollande tells UN General Assembly on Syria 'Enough is enough' The civil war in the country is now entering its sixth year**](#Bookmark_27)

28. [**Syrian children hold Pokemon pictures in the hope people will find them and save them Pictures emerge after five years of a civil war that has left hundreds of thousands dead and seen millions forced to flee their homes**](#Bookmark_28)

29. [**Erdogan shouldn't rush to congratulate himself over coup - dark days lie ahead**](#Bookmark_29)

30. [**Do you have #refugenes? 12 celebrities you never knew were refugees New campaigns asks members of British public: 'Do you have refugenes?'**](#Bookmark_30)

31. [**Leader of Pegida anti-refugee movement moves to Tenerife to flee 'persecution' in Germany Lutz Bachmann has previously called asylum seekers fleeing conflict and persecution'scum'**](#Bookmark_31)

32. [**Royal Navy has 'worryingly low' number of border patrol boats guarding UK coastline UK Border Force is 'clearly under-resourced,' saysHome Affairs Select Committee report after a year-long inquiry**](#Bookmark_32)

33. [**What did Donald Trump say during the second presidential debate? With his poll numbers in decline, the Republican candidate didn't hold back in his attacks on Hillary Clinton**](#Bookmark_33)

34. [**THE SILENCED HAVE FOUND THEIR VOICE Now We Are Here: Young Vic, London**](#Bookmark_34)

35. [**The rise of politicians like Donald Trump and Nigel Farage contributed to Jo Cox's death, says murdered MP's husband In a New York Times op-ed, Mr Cox condemns populists who 'share a strategy based on exploiting divisions between people'**](#Bookmark_35)

36. [**The rise of politicians like Donald Trump and Nigel Farage contributed to Jo Cox's death, says murdered MP's husband In a New York Times op-ed, Mr Cox says those most visible on the globalstage 'share a strategy based on exploitin...**](#Bookmark_36)

37. [**German police arrest three Syrian men 'sent to Europe by Isis to carry out terror attacks' as part of Paris attacks network Investigators say 17-year-old suspect had been trained with weapons and explosives in Raqqa**](#Bookmark_37)

38. [**German police arrest three Syrian men 'sent to Europe by Isis to carry out terror attacks' as part of Paris attacks network Investigators say 17-year-old suspect had been trained with weapons and explosives in Raqqa**](#Bookmark_38)

39. [**Royal Navy has 'worryingly low' number of border patrol boats guarding UK coastline UK Border Force is 'clearly under-resourced,' saysHome Affairs Select Committee report after a year-long inquiry**](#Bookmark_39)

40. [**John Oliver delivers scathing monologue on Brexit following EU referendum 'The United Kingdom [is] a place whose very name, after this week's events, is beginning to sound a bit sarcastic,' Oliver says**](#Bookmark_40)

41. [**Refugee crisis: Record 65 million people forced to flee homes, UN says 24 people were displaced from their homes every minute of every day during 2015**](#Bookmark_41)

42. [**Erdogan shouldn't congratulate himself too hard for the military coup's failure - dark days are ahead Secular Turkish Muslims, non-Muslims, non-Sunnis, Kurds, LGBT individuals, dissenting journalists, academics, and others who wis...**](#Bookmark_42)

43. [**Mila Kunis condemns Donald Trump : 'We came here on a religious-refugee visa I'm not going to blow this country up' At the age of seven Kunis travelled from the Ukraine to Los Angeles with her family**](#Bookmark_43)

44. [**Refugee crisis: Record 65 million people forced to flee homes, UN says 24 people were displaced from their homes every minute of every day during 2015**](#Bookmark_44)

45. [**Royal Navy has 'worryingly low' number of border patrol boats guarding UK coastline UK Border Force is 'clearly under-resourced,' saysHome Affairs Select Committee report after a year-long inquiry**](#Bookmark_45)

46. [**Refugee crisis: Record 65 million people forced to flee homes in 2015, UN says 24 people were displaced from their homes every minute of every day during 2015**](#Bookmark_46)

47. [**John Oliver delivers scathing monologue on Brexit following EU referendum 'The United Kingdom [is] a place whose very name, after this week's events, is beginning to sound a bit sarcastic,' Oliver says**](#Bookmark_47)

48. [**Nigerian refugee who fled Boko Haram killed in Italy A 38-year-old local man has been arrestedon suspicion of murder motivated by racism**](#Bookmark_48)

49. [**John Oliver delivers scathing monologue on Brexit following EU referendum 'The United Kingdom [is] a place whose very name, after this week's events, is beginning to sound a bit sarcastic,' Oliver says**](#Bookmark_49)

50. [**EU referendum: Baroness Warsi subjected to Islamophobic abuse by Brexit supporters after she defects to Remain The Conservative peer said the 'hate and xenophobia' of Leave had gone 'too far'**](#Bookmark_50)

51. [**EU referendum: Baroness Warsi subjected to Islamophobic abuse by Brexit supporters after she defects to Remain The Conservative peer said the 'hate and xenophobia' of Leave had gone 'too far'**](#Bookmark_51)

52. [**Turkey coup attempt: Military claims to have taken over as President says he will defend government Turkish Armed Forces have 'completely taken over the administration of the country to reinstate constitutional order, human rights and freedoms'**](#Bookmark_52)

53. [**Jo Cox: MP's last message warned against immigration 'spin' in EU debate The Yorkshire MP's final message says:'We can do far more to deal with the pressures caused by migration from inside the EU'**](#Bookmark_53)

54. [**Cologne sex attack charge against Algerian man dismissed by judge The 26-year-old defendant has already been given a six month suspended sentence for handling stolen goods**](#Bookmark_54)

55. [**Mafia 'attaching flaming rags to cats' to start Sicily forest fires 'Not possible for the whole of Sicily to go up in flames at the same time by chance', authorities say**](#Bookmark_55)

56. [**Woman who defied neo-Nazis in viral photo of raised fist speaks of anger that prompted gesture 'I did it because I was so p\*\*\*\*\*off. I was standing there and I looked at him, and he looked at me'**](#Bookmark_56)

57. [**Erdogan shouldn't congratulate himself too hard for the military coup's failure - dark days are ahead All those who wish to see Erdogan step down through due democratic process after 12 years of rule, fear that Friday's calamitous...**](#Bookmark_57)

58. [**More than 400 refugees 'drown in Mediterranean' after boats capsize crossing from Egypt to Italy Reports say the refugees were fleeing to Italy from Somalia , Ethiopia and Eritrea**](#Bookmark_58)

59. [**Fears 400 refugees have drowned in Mediterranean after boats capsize Reports say the refugees were fleeing to Italy from Somalia , Ethiopia and Eritrea**](#Bookmark_59)

60. [**Turkey deports British academic for 'making terrorist propaganda' Lecturer says the Kurdish leaflets were invitations to a festival**](#Bookmark_60)

61. [**Refugees attempt perilous new route to Europe after Turkey 's doors close**](#Bookmark_61)

62. [**Fears 400 refugees 'drown in Mediterranean' after boats capsize Reports say the refugees were fleeing to Italy from Somalia , Ethiopia and Eritrea**](#Bookmark_62)

63. [**Cologne sex attack charge against Algerian man dismissed by judge The 26-year-old defendant has already been given a six month suspended sentence for handling stolen goods**](#Bookmark_63)

64. [**President Erdogan says freedom and democracy have 'no value' in Turkey amid arrests and military crackdown Dozens of activists, politicians and academics have been detained in Turkey as discussions continue over the refugee crisis**](#Bookmark_64)

65. [**Donald Trump claims British muslims are not reporting suspected terrorists Trump made the remarks in an interview with Good Morning Britain 's Piers Morgan**](#Bookmark_65)

66. [**Refugees Minister hits out at Tory backbenchers for trivialising the plight of migrants Richard Harrington said the plight of migrants and refugees was 'not a game at all'**](#Bookmark_66)

67. [**Britain 'setting a dangerous precedent to the world on human rights', says Amnesty Condemnation comes as UN describes moves to scrap the Human Rights Act as 'profoundly regrettable'**](#Bookmark_67)

68. [**Donald Trump criticised for mocking journalist's disability during campaign speech The Republican presidential frontrunner mimicked New York Times reporter Serge Kovaleski's congenital joint condition**](#Bookmark_68)

69. [**Independent Scotland 'would be more at risk from terrorism' Paris terror attacks Security**](#Bookmark_69)

70. [**UK could take more refugee children in migrant camps, Conservative MP Justine Greening says Charities led by Save The Children are pressuring the government to admit at least 3,000 children into the UK**](#Bookmark_70)

71. [**I'm a fan, Jess Phillips, but please admit you're wrong on Cologne sex attacks and violence against women It doesn't help anyone to pretend that women everywhere face the same problems**](#Bookmark_71)

72. [**British 'are among the least likely to welcome refugees' Syrian crisis**](#Bookmark_72)

73. [**Syria air strikes: Activist group in Isis-controlled city of Raqqa claim bombing will 'make the people suffer more' UK parliament voted to extend bombing Isis to Syria in controversial vote yesterday evening**](#Bookmark_73)

74. [**Cologne attacks: Support for refugees in Germany plummeting amid far-right protests and vigilante attacks More Germans surveyed now say the number of asylum seekers in the country is too high**](#Bookmark_74)

75. [**Donald Trump accused of defending supporters who 'roughed up' a Black Lives Matter activist during Alabama rally After a Black Lives Matter activist was thrown to the ground for interrupting the rally, Trump said: 'Maybe he should have been roughed up'**](#Bookmark_75)

76. [**Germany follows Switzerland and Denmark to seize cash and valuables from arriving refugees Officials said the move enforced federal laws requiring asylum seekers to exhaust their own resources before receiving state welfare**](#Bookmark_76)

77. [**Donald Trump says Hillary Clinton was 'schlonged' to presidency by Barack Obama The Republican presidential frontrunner also discussed a toilet break Mrs Clinton had taken with his rally in Michigan**](#Bookmark_77)

78. [**Donald Trump criticised for mocking journalist's disability during campaign speech The Republican presidential frontrunner mockedNew York Times reporter Serge Kovaleski's congenital joint condition**](#Bookmark_78)

79. [**Cologne sexual assaults: Leaked police report reveals 'chaos beyond description' as women attacked and robbed 'I'm Syrian , you have to treat me nicely! Angela Merkel invited me,' one man reportedly told officers**](#Bookmark_79)

80. [**Republican voters still support Donald Trump despite 'Muslim ban' comments The 69-year-old has more than double the support of his nearest party rival- but a Saudi prince says he is 'a disgrace'**](#Bookmark_80)

81. [**Donald Trump accused of defending supporters who 'roughed up' a Black Lives Matter activist during Alabama rally After a Black Lives Matter activist was thrown to the ground for interrupting the rally, Trump said: 'Maybe he should have been roughed up'**](#Bookmark_81)

82. [**Donald Trump criticised for mocking journalist's disability during campaign speech The Republican presidential frontrunner mimicked New York Times reporter Serge Kovaleski's congenital joint condition**](#Bookmark_82)

83. [**Paris terror: How the attacks have blown the refugee debate wide open The UN has joined rights groups in warning that the attacks could lead to a crackdown on migrants and asylum seekers**](#Bookmark_83)

84. [**Cologne attacks: Support for refugees in Germany falling amid far-right protests and vigilante attacks More Germans surveyed now say the number of asylum seekers in the country is too high**](#Bookmark_84)

85. [**Labour will consult Stop the War Coalition before deciding its position on Syria air strikes, says Corbyn minister Catherine West, a shadow foreign minister, told Stop the War event that Labour would speak to the pressure group if...**](#Bookmark_85)

86. [**Donald Trump condemned for mocking journalist's disability during campaign speech The Republican presidential frontrunner mockedNew York Times reporter Serge Kovaleski's congenital joint condition**](#Bookmark_86)

87. [**Donald Trump accused of defending supporters who 'roughed up' a Black Lives Matter activist at Alabama rally After a Black Lives Matter activist was thrown to the ground for interrupting the rally, Trump said: 'Maybe he should have been roughed up'**](#Bookmark_87)

88. [**Donald Trump accused of defending supporters who 'roughed up' a Black Lives Matter activist during Alabama rally After a Black Lives Matter activist was thrown to the ground for interrupting the rally, Trump said: 'Maybe he should have been roughed up'**](#Bookmark_88)

89. [**Donald Trump criticised for mocking journalist's disability during campaign speech The Republican presidential frontrunner mimicked New York Times reporter Serge Kovaleski's congenital joint condition**](#Bookmark_89)

90. [**Twenty children among 200 Syrians deported by UK since start of war Refugee crisis**](#Bookmark_90)

91. [**Donald Trump claims Bill Clinton has a 'penchant for sexism' The Republican frontunner spoke out over the weekend**](#Bookmark_91)

92. [**Paris terror: How the attacks have blown the debate on refugees wide open The UN has joined rights groups in warning that the attacks could lead to a crackdown on migrants and asylum seekers**](#Bookmark_92)

93. [**Refugee crisis: EU report on Turkey 's membership contains muted criticism as it seeks nation's co-operation with influx Publication was delayed so as not to influence the country's recent election, but it is hard to see why since...**](#Bookmark_93)

94. [**Syria cholera outbreak sparks fears of 'international threat' Doctorsays nation'scrippled medical infrastructure, and the lack of access available to aid agencies, meansdisease could spread quickly, both inside the country and across borders**](#Bookmark_94)

95. [**Labour will consult Stop the War Coalition before deciding its position on Syria air strikes, says Corbyn minister Catherine West, a shadow foreign minister, told Stop the War event that Labour would speak to the pressure group if...**](#Bookmark_95)

96. [**This flying visit was nothing more than an exercise in being seen The Lebanese are all too familiar with such PR excursions, says ROBERT FISK in Beirut**](#Bookmark_96)

97. [**Refugee crisis: Tim Farron calls for Britain to 'open its heart' and take in 3,000 child refugees Lib Dem leader will propose a Bill to commit UK to take in unaccompanied children displaced by conflict**](#Bookmark_97)

98. [**Sonny Bill Williams video: New Zealand star gives Rugby World Cup medal to young boy after security guard wrestled him to the ground Young Charlue Lines was trying to celebrate with the victorious All Blacks side when security tackled him to the ground**](#Bookmark_98)

99. [**Refugee crisis: EU leaders expect to reach deal on fixed quotas at summit next week Setting up EU administered 'hot spots' in Greece and Italy will also be high on the agenda**](#Bookmark_99)

100. [**Donald Trump condemned for mocking journalist's disability during campaign speech The Republican presidential frontrunner mockedNew York Times reporter Serge Kovaleski's congenital joint condition**](#Bookmark_100)

101. [**Donald Trump condemned for mocking journalist's disability during campaign speech The Republican presidential frontrunner mockedNew York Times reporter Serge Kovaleski's congenital joint condition**](#Bookmark_101)

102. [**Sonny Bill Williams video: New Zealand star gives Rugby World Cup medal to young boy after security guard wrestled him to the ground Young Charlie Lines was trying to celebrate with the victorious All Blacks side when security tackled him to the ground**](#Bookmark_102)

103. [**Aylan Kurdi: The harrowing photos of refugees that didn't go viral As thousands of people continue risking their lives crossing Mediterranean, many face harsh conditions on their arrival in Europe**](#Bookmark_103)

104. [**Jeremy Corbyn accuses the Tories of an 'absurd lie' over cuts to tax credits David Cameron said he rejected cutting the payments before the election**](#Bookmark_104)

105. [**Refugee crisis: Steve Jobs was 'a Syrian migrant's child' too, tech community observes A tweet prompted by Aylan Kurdi's tragic story has been shared by thousands**](#Bookmark_105)

106. [**AFTER ANKARA TURKEY 'S PERFECT STORM**](#Bookmark_106)

107. [**'I love my dog, I need her': Syrian refugee, 17, walks 300 miles carrying pet to Europe Aslan, who fled the war Damascus, said he could not leave his pet behind**](#Bookmark_107)

108. [**Refugee crisis: People traffickers luring families on to boats by allowing children to go 'free of charge' A worker for Unicef has said 10-year-olds cost half the price of their parents, and children and babies can board for free**](#Bookmark_108)

109. [**Refugee crisis: David Cameron to be presented with 1.4 million signatures as clamour grows for Britain to do more The Independent will join campaigners delivering a message to parliament**](#Bookmark_109)

110. [**Andy McSmith's Diary: Jeremy Corbyn stays laid back about his speech, and its tendency to recycle ideas The leader's advisers should have known it wouldn't take long to find out a chunk of it was from a four-year old blog**](#Bookmark_110)

111. [**Syrian girl's painting captures the horrors of the conflict Painting by young refugee was given as a 'present' to German police officers**](#Bookmark_111)

112. [**David Cameron's flying visit to Lebanon was nothing more than an exercise in being seen The Lebanese are all too familiar with PR excursions such as this**](#Bookmark_112)

113. [**Refugee crisis: Hungary 's parliament passes law allowing army to use rubber bullets, tear gas grenades and net guns against refugees Hungary 's Prime Minister Viktor Orban claims eastern European countries have been forced to pro...**](#Bookmark_113)

114. [**Kos crisis: The story behind the photograph of a Syrian father shared by thousands online Laith Majid was photographed with his children by freelancer Daniel Etter**](#Bookmark_114)

115. [**David Cameron says Britain cannot take 'more and more' refugees But Britain lags far behind other European countries in how much help it has given**](#Bookmark_115)

116. [**Forget everything you know about nice, liberal Sweden - that country no longer exists The government's collapse due to far-right extremists is the latest crack to emerge in the country's Utopian image**](#Bookmark_116)

117. [**The BBC has just done more to eradicate 'terrorism' than all our wars since 9/11 You can say that without being utterly facetious**](#Bookmark_117)

118. [**Nigel Farage claims Frankie Boyle 'completely misunderstood' him over Ukip immigration policies after comedian compared leader to Nazi The Ukip leader continues the verbal joust between himself and the comedian**](#Bookmark_118)

119. [**Nigel Farage : Frankie Boyle 'completely misunderstood me' The Ukip leader continues the verbal joust between himself and the comedian**](#Bookmark_119)

120. [**Who is Peter Kassig, the latest hostage threatened with beheading in Isis video? The former US Army Ranger has apparently converted to Islam**](#Bookmark_120)

121. [**Forget everything you know about nice, liberal Sweden - that country no longer exists The government's collapse due to far-right extremists is the latest crack to emerge in the country's Utopian image**](#Bookmark_121)

122. [**Peter Kassig beheading video: Family issues appeal over Isis footage showing US aid worker's apparent murder Statement asks for people 'not to play into hostage takers' hands' by sharing the graphic images**](#Bookmark_122)

123. [**MPs to hold HSBC to account after Syrian customers are turned away**](#Bookmark_123)

124. [**MPs to hold HSBC to account after Syrian customers are turned away Labour MP John Mann said that ' HSBC has a lot of questions to answer' and described its behaviour as 'outrageous'**](#Bookmark_124)

125. [**While the West stands by and does little, Syria 's troubled neighbours are forced to cope with an influx of refugees The moral case for our taking in a proportion of those in need is overwhelming**](#Bookmark_125)

126. [**SEEDS OF THE SPRING**](#Bookmark_126)

127. [**'I'm safe now. But I just think of the family I left behind' Syamend Farhan is living proof of the difference that asylum in the UK can make. JAMIE MERRILL talks to him**](#Bookmark_127)

128. [**The smoking gun: Syria photos may be proof of 'industrial-scale killing' and torture carried out by Assad regime Images leaked by defector whose job was to 'take pictures of killed detainees'**](#Bookmark_128)

129. [**The smoking gun: Syria photos may be proof of 'industrial-scale killing' and torture carried out by Assad regime Images leaked by defector whose job was to 'take pictures of killed detainees'**](#Bookmark_129)

130. [**Torture in Syria : Photos may be proof of 'industrial-scale killing' carried out by Assad regime Images leaked by defector whose job was to 'take pictures of killed detainees'**](#Bookmark_130)

131. [**'Nick Griffin might be bankrupt, but at least he's not Michael Schumacher, ' says BNP head of press, Simon Darby As if working for a far right political party wasn't tough enough, head press officer Simon Darby thought he'd make h...**](#Bookmark_131)

132. [**'Nick Griffin might be bankrupt, but at least he's not Michael Schumacher, ' says BNP head of press, Simon Darby As if working for a far right political party wasn't tough enough, head press officer Simon Darby thought he'd make h...**](#Bookmark_132)

133. [**Nothing to lose vs Everything to gain. Big beasts in ermine do battle over Europe My Week**](#Bookmark_133)

134. [**Syrian refugees chant "We want bus" as they walk towards Austria Footage captures hundreds of refugees chanting for transport as they are forced to walk into Austria**](file:///C:\Users\Emma\Downloads\We#Bookmark_134)

135. [**Nothing to lose vs Everything to gain. Big beasts in ermine do battle over Europe My Week**](#Bookmark_135)

136. [**How Patel went from a 'holiday' to a resignation**](#Bookmark_136)

137. [**Turkish troops enter Syria in major operation to support anti-Assad rebels Al-Qaeda-linked rebels could mount a resistance to new Turkish presence, potentially sparking new fighting in contested northwest region**](#Bookmark_137)

138. [**Irma: Six residents of Florida nursing home die after being left without power following hurricane Police have opened a criminal investigation**](#Bookmark_138)

139. [**Far-right party set to become Germany 's third largest political body, new poll reveals The Alternative for Germany , which has stirred controversy for its members' attitudes to the Nazis,takes ananti-immigrant stance**](#Bookmark_139)

140. [**World news in brief**](#Bookmark_140)

141. [**Syria conflict: My plan for dealing with President Bashar al-Assad, Isis and the refugee crisis If the words of our politicians are to have real meaning, amajor rethink is needed, says a veteran of Iraq and Bosnia**](#Bookmark_141)

142. [**First victim identified as Syrian refugee who came to UK seeking a 'better life'**](#Bookmark_142)

143. [**Syrian refugee family featured in 'lost family portrait' find missing daughter in Turkey Missing eldest daughter discovered safe and well in Istanbulis now hoping to get a passport in order to be reunited with her family**](#Bookmark_143)

144. [**Far-right party set to become Germany 's third largest political body, new poll reveals The Alternative for Germany , which has stirred controversy for its members' attitudes to the Nazis,takes ananti-immigrant stance**](#Bookmark_144)

145. [**Syrian refugee family featured in 'lost family portrait' find missing daughter in Turkey Missing eldest daughter discovered safe and well in Istanbulis now hoping to get a passport in order to be reunited with her family**](#Bookmark_145)

146. [**Syrian refugee family featured in 'lost family portrait' find missing daughter in Turkey Missing eldest daughter discovered safe and well in Istanbul , Turkey , is now hoping to get a passport in order to be reunited with her family**](#Bookmark_146)

147. [**EU holds crisis talks about migrant influx after Italy threatens to block rescue ships Italian Interior Minister Marco Minniti: 'We are under enormous pressure'**](#Bookmark_147)

148. [**Grenfell Tower fire: First victim named as Syrian refugee Mohammed Alhajali 'He survived Assad, he survived the war, only to be killed in a tower block in London'**](#Bookmark_148)

149. [**Syrian refugee family featured in 'lost family portrait' find missing daughter in Turkey Missing eldest daughter discovered safe and well in Gaziantep is now hoping to get a passport in order to be reunited with her family**](#Bookmark_149)

150. [**Finsbury Park Mosque attack: Right-wing commentators upset after being accused of radicalisation JK Rowling says columnists and pundits who have stoked fears about immigration have questions to answer**](#Bookmark_150)

151. [**Private company responsible for Grenfell Tower maintenance asks public to donate money to help fire victims Kensington and Chelsea Tenant Management Organisation faces tough questions over whether residents' concerns over fire safety were listened to**](#Bookmark_151)

152. [**Finsbury Park Mosque attack: Right-wing commentators upset after being accused of radicalisation JK Rowling says columnists and pundits who have stoked fears about immigration have questions to answer**](#Bookmark_152)

153. [**Does Boris Johnson even realise the irony in his praise for Lebanon 's refugee policy?**](#Bookmark_153)

154. [**Britain 's lonely future, outside Europe and stripped of Nato, is a national security threat The German Chancellor has predicted Britain 's future after Brexit quiteaccurately: a stumbling economy, failing public services anddepre...**](#Bookmark_154)

155. [**Donald Trump launches attack on judge who stopped 'Muslim travel ban': 'If something happens blame him' The President criticised the US judicial system - the third branch of government that acts as a check for the Executive Branch...**](#Bookmark_155)

156. [**Merkel is right: Europe will become more self-reliant. Bad news for us, outside it**](#Bookmark_156)

157. [**Chance of being killed by refugee terrorist in United States is one in 3.6 billion Donald Trump expected to issue order suspending immigration from seven Muslim-majority countries despite little evidence to support policy as effective terrorismdeterrent**](#Bookmark_157)

158. [**Man who tried to drive pregnant refugee and family from Italy to France prosecuted 'aiding illegal immigration' Felix Croft was stopped by police as he attempted to drive over border from Ventimiglia**](#Bookmark_158)

159. [**Donald Trump's Muslim ban: Steve Jobs was son of Syrian migrant Presidentexpected to sign executive orders forMexico border wall and immigration measures this week**](#Bookmark_159)

160. [**Think Syrian refugees should take up arms and sort out their own country? You need this pub brawl analogy You're sitting in the pub with your family having Sunday lunch when suddenly you hear someone at the bar say they've been sh...**](#Bookmark_160)

161. [**Donald Trump speaks out about immigration in Sweden Mr Trump made his initial remarks at a rally in Florida**](#Bookmark_161)

162. [**EU Malta summit: Refugees heading to Europe to be redirected to Asia and Latin America in new £30m British aid plan A £30m package will provide life-saving supplies across Eastern Europe and Greece - but also try to divert refugees elsewhere in the world**](#Bookmark_162)

163. [**OPEN FOR BUSINESS With rising anti-immigrant rhetoric sweeping across Europe, one restaurant in the Netherlands is employing refugees and helping them to settle in. Kashmira Gander reports**](#Bookmark_163)

164. [**Border agents are ignoring federal court orders and still deporting people, lawyers say An estimated 100 and 200 travelers aredetained at airports across the country**](#Bookmark_164)

165. [**EU Malta summit: Refugees heading to Europe to be redirected to Asia and Latin America in new £30m British aid plan A £30m package will provide life-saving supplies across Eastern Europe and Greece -but also try to divert refugees elsewhere in the world**](#Bookmark_165)

166. [**Donald Trump immigration ban: More than 100,000 visas revoked after travel restrictions imposed on seven Muslim-majority countries Number emerges during hearing for lawsuit filed by two Yemeni brothers affected by controversial policy**](#Bookmark_166)

167. [**Donald Trump has lowest approval ratings of any President in US history But 78 per cent say he is handling the job "exactly as they would expect"**](file:///C:\Users\Emma\Downloads\exactly#Bookmark_167)

168. [**Jeff Sessions faces scrutiny over Michael Flynn's calls to Russia The attorney general was sitting on the same national security council as Flynn when he sought to reassure the Russians that sanctions would be overturned**](#Bookmark_168)

169. [**Muslim ban: Donald Trump's lawyer of choice to represent his Supreme Court appeal withdraws availability Chuck Cooper informed the government he no longer wanted to be considered for the role**](#Bookmark_169)

170. [**Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban' to be re-introduced with Iraq removed from list of countries The country has been excluded because it is so key in fighting against Isis**](#Bookmark_170)

171. [**Lawyers are using Donald Trump's anti-Muslim rhetoric against him to fight his immigration ban Attorneys-general ofWashington and Minnesota are questioning the motivebehind his controversial executive order**](#Bookmark_171)

172. [**Donald Trump's Muslim ban: Steve Jobs was son of Syrian migrant Presidentexpected to sign executive orders forMexico border wall and immigration measures this week**](#Bookmark_172)

173. [**Donald Trump launches attack on judge who stopped 'Muslim travel ban': 'If something happens blame him'**](#Bookmark_173)

174. [**Orlando shooting: Fact-checking the Clinton and Trump speeches after the massacre of 49 people We combed through the speeches to find factual assertions that were worthy of fact checking**](#Bookmark_174)

175. [**George W Bush breaks silence to attack Donald Trump's war on the media Free press is 'indispensable to democracy', says former President**](#Bookmark_175)

176. [**Ann Coulter warns Donald Trump of voter backlash if he 'betrays' them on immigration Among the circle of hardline Trump supporters, Ms Coulter seems to be getting nervous**](#Bookmark_176)

177. [**Germany offers asylum seekers up to (EURO)1,200 each to voluntarily return to their home countries Government budgets (EURO)40m for programme amid huge backlog in asylum claims**](#Bookmark_177)

178. [**First of the 20,000 Syrian refugees David Cameron promised to take in arrive in Britain The EU has also agreed a deal to relocate 120,000 refugees around the continent**](#Bookmark_178)

179. [**Donald Trump expected to order Mexican border wall and temporarily ban refugees White House aides say the president will begin with his border wall on Wednesday**](#Bookmark_179)

180. [**Jeremy Corbyn calls for Donald Trump to be banned from UK visit until Muslim country travel ban is lifted Some British citizens with dual nationalities will be affected by the ban**](#Bookmark_180)

181. [**Syria crisis: Britain 's response to humanitarian disaster is 'woefully inadequate', says coalition of leading charities in open letter to David Cameron Exclusive: Immigration figures will show that the UK has only taken in 100 refugees, say organisations**](#Bookmark_181)

182. [**Iraqi refugee detained at JFK airport says ' America is the land of freedom'**](#Bookmark_182)

183. [**The battle is over, but the refugees can never go home**](#Bookmark_183)

184. [**Jewish university declares sanctuary status after Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban' More than 200 students signed a petition asking for financial support to undocumented students and staff**](#Bookmark_184)

185. [**Jeremy Corbyn calls for Donald Trump to be banned from UK visit until Muslim ban is lifted The US president has slapped some British nationals with a ban**](#Bookmark_185)

186. [**Syrian torture victims settling in UK may not be receiving specialist care, report warns According to a report by the influential Public Accounts Select Committee more than half of the 2,659 Syrianrefugees resettled up to the end ...**](#Bookmark_186)

187. [**Trump's vile refugee ban is being shamefully endorsed by Theresa May**](#Bookmark_187)

188. [**Muslims in Congress blast Donald Trump's revised travel ban New order excludespeople with valid green cards but Democrats say it still won't stand up in court**](#Bookmark_188)

189. [**Aleppo: Syrian army resumes bombardment of city as fragile ceasefire crumbles Both sides accuse other of breaking fragileRussiaand Turkey brokered ceasefire as violence resumes in embattled Syrian city and promised evacuations put on hold**](#Bookmark_189)

190. [**Donald Trump immigration ban: Detained Iraqi refugee says ' America is the land of freedom' The former interpreter was one of 12 people held at JFK Airport**](#Bookmark_190)

191. [**EU Malta summit: Refugees heading to Europe to be redirected to Asia and Latin America in new £30m British aid plan A £30m package will provide lifesaving supplies across Eastern Europe while encouragingrefugees to consider destinations other than Europe**](#Bookmark_191)

192. [**'Friends don't take friends to the Security Council': Israel 's Netanyahu accuses US of 'shameful ambush' over UN settlements vote Israeli leader lashes out at US President Barack Obama over US abstention on UNvote condemning sett...**](#Bookmark_192)

193. [**US town holds pro-refugee rally following Donald Trump victory 'Fear may run the White House, but it will not run our Community'**](#Bookmark_193)

194. [**EU Malta summit: Refugees heading to Europe to be redirected to Asia and Latin America in new £30m British aid plan A £30m package will provide life-saving supplies across Eastern Europe and Greece -but also try to divert refugees elsewhere in the world**](#Bookmark_194)

195. [**Israel 's Netanyahu accuses US of 'shameful ambush' over UN settlements vote 'Friends do not take friends to the UN Security Council,' Israeli leader says, in rebuke toUS President Barack Obama over US abstention on UN vote condem...**](#Bookmark_195)

196. [**Isis suspect 'scouted out Brandenburg Gate and German parliament' for possible terror attack on Berlin Syrian man, 19, held in custody as police investigate alleged plot coordinated in Syria**](#Bookmark_196)

197. [**Syria crisis: Britain 's response to humanitarian disaster 'woefully inadequate', says coalition of leading charities in open letter to David Cameron Exclusive: Immigration figures will show that the UK has only taken in 100 refugees, say organisations**](#Bookmark_197)

198. [**German government calls for calm after asylum seeker accused of rape and murder ignites anti-migrant backlash Neo-Nazis said to be 'rubbing their hands with glee'after 17-year-oldAfghan migrant accused of killing woman**](#Bookmark_198)

199. [**We Are All Refugees: The radio soap about displaced Syrians inspired by The Archers The world's longest-running radio soap is one of the models for the everyday story of refugee folk, says its co-producer Charlotte Eager**](#Bookmark_199)

200. [**When the battle is over, the refugees can never go home**](#Bookmark_200)

201. [**What did Donald Trump say? His key quotes from the second presidential debate With his poll numbers in decline, the Republican candidate didn't hold back in his attacks on Hillary Clinton**](#Bookmark_201)

202. [**German police spark outrage for telling authorities to keep refugees away from carnival celebrations Internal email said groups of asylum seekers could trigger 'undesirable interactions'**](#Bookmark_202)

203. [**Donald Trump's 'extreme' Muslim registry plans revealed by potential cabinet minister Rights activists say the measures are already enough to spark protests**](#Bookmark_203)

204. [**Welcoming refugees with plots of land and cash 'gives boost to local economy' 'The results show clearly that refugees benefit those countries that welcome them and give them what they need to build new lives'**](#Bookmark_204)

205. [**What did Donald Trump say during the second presidential debate? With his poll numbers in decline, the Republican candidate didn't hold back in his attacks on Hillary Clinton**](#Bookmark_205)

206. [**US plans to take in 110,000 refugees over the next year Increase of almost a third reflects growing concerns about the world's refugee crisis as conflicts in Syria , Iraq and Afghanistan continue**](#Bookmark_206)

207. [**Child refugees in Italy 'forced into prostitution'**](#Bookmark_207)

208. [**UN Security Council to vote on halting Israeli settlement-building Draft resolution circulated by Egypt says construction is 'dangerously imperilling' a two-state peace solution**](#Bookmark_208)

209. [**US plans to take in 110,000 refugees over the next year Increase of almost a third reflects growing concerns about the world's refugee crisis as conflicts in Syria , Iraq and Afghanistan continue**](#Bookmark_209)

210. [**Tory Leave campaigner denies Brexit caused hate crime increase The number of hate crimes committed in the UK rose by 58 per cent in the week after the EU referendum, witheven higher increases in many areas that voted strongly to leave**](#Bookmark_210)

211. [**US plans to take in 110,000 refugees in one year Increase of almost a third reflects growing concerns about the world's refugee crisis as conflicts in Syria , Iraq and Afghanistan continue**](#Bookmark_211)

212. [**Now We Are Here, Young Vic, theatre review: 'Well worth catching' The Young Vic is welcoming visits by foreign companies and engaging withlocal communities and young people.Its latest show,Now We Are Here, has been created by refu...**](#Bookmark_212)

213. [**Child refugees in Italy 'forced into prostitution'**](#Bookmark_213)

214. [**Now We Are Here, Young Vic, theatre review: 'Well worth catching' The Young Vic is welcoming visits by foreign companies and engaging withlocal communities and young people.Its latest show,Now We Are Here, has been created by refu...**](#Bookmark_214)

215. [**Jo Cox dead: EU referendum campaigning suspended after Labour MP killed in shooting and stabbing Politicians express shock after fatal attack on member forBatley and Spen**](#Bookmark_215)

216. [**Turkey coup attempt: Military claims to have taken over as President says he will defend government**](#Bookmark_216)

217. [**Syrian children hold Pokemon pictures in the hope people will find them and save them Pictures emerge after five years of a civil war that has left hundreds of thousands dead and seen millions forced to flee their homes**](#Bookmark_217)

218. [**EU referendum: Baroness Warsi subjected to Islamophobic abuse by Brexit supporters after she defects to Remain The Conservative peer said the 'hate and xenophobia' of Leave had gone 'too far'**](#Bookmark_218)

219. [**Alleged killer of MP Jo Cox 'bought gun-making manual from far-right neo-Nazi group' Documents suggest Thomas Mair had recorded links to National Alliance**](#Bookmark_219)

220. [**Vote Leave's point-based immigration system is utter nonsense. The numbers just don't add up Of those leaving Syria 50 per centare trained professionalswhich meansthat half of the three million refugees are just a simple English l...**](#Bookmark_220)

221. [**EU referendum: Baroness Warsi subjected to Islamophobic abuse by Brexit supporters after defecting The Conservative peer said the 'hate and xenophobia' of Leave had gone 'too far'**](#Bookmark_221)

222. [**Jo Cox death: Alleged killer Tommy Mair 'bought gun-making manual from far-right neo-Nazi group' Documents suggest Mair had recorded links to National Alliance**](#Bookmark_222)

223. [**EU referendum campaigns suspended after death of Labour MP Jo Cox Politicians express shock after fatal attack on member forBatley and Spen**](#Bookmark_223)

224. [**Syrian child refugee reveals the horror she experienced while trying to reach Germany 'I beg you get us out of here. The cold is killing us,' a woman in the footage says**](#Bookmark_224)

225. [**Suicide bombers kill five in eastern Lebanon blasts**](#Bookmark_225)

226. [**Refugee crisis: Majority of Europeans believe increased migration raises terror threat, survey says Several countries also expressunfavourable opinion of the Muslims**](#Bookmark_226)

227. [**Refugee crisis: First boats return rejected migrants to Turkey on Europe's 'day of shame' A deal has been struck with Turkey to return failed applicants, but human rights campaigners say it is deeply flawed**](#Bookmark_227)

228. [**EU faces 'populist uprising' if it fails to control migration crisis, former MI6 chief warns Former spymaster said the impact of mass migration is 'eating away at the willingness of EU states to act together'**](#Bookmark_228)

229. [**UK government running 'covert' propaganda campaign to stop Muslims joining Isis Unit uses local community groups to spread its anti-extremism message - without revealing its government links**](#Bookmark_229)

230. [**The Government's approach to the refugee crisis is unsympathetic, unimaginative and narrow The more hysterical opponents of refugee resettlement see in the face of every Syrian childa would-be terrorist. Byignoring their plight, that's all the more likely**](#Bookmark_230)

231. [**The reckless return of migrants to Turkey is a dangerous time for Europe Ankara has not managed to shut down migrationflows in the past, and there is nothing toprevent theTurkish President, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, asking for more concessions**](#Bookmark_231)

232. [**Norway 's immigration minister jumps in the Aegean Sea for 'very special' recreation of refugee rescue The stunt was widely criticised in Norway butSylvi Listhaugsaid she wanted to recognise rescuers' work**](#Bookmark_232)

233. [**Pope Francis 'to take 10 refugees on his plane back to Italy ' after visit to Greek island where thousands trapped A Greek official confirmed the plan, which is not thought to violate the terms of the EU- Turkey deal**](#Bookmark_233)

234. [**Turkey does not need to join EU for a humane policy on refugees to be reached There is an opportunityto bind Turkey to European values while stopping well short of full EU membership**](#Bookmark_234)

235. [**Donald Trump claims British Muslims are 'absolutely not reporting' suspected terrorists Trump made the remarks in an interview with Good Morning Britain 's Piers Morgan**](#Bookmark_235)

236. [**'A dark day for Europe': EU reaches agreement to send refugees back to Turkey The deal has been heavily criticised by human rights organisations**](#Bookmark_236)

237. [**Norway 's immigration minister jumps in the Aegean Sea for 'very special' recreation of refugee rescue The stunt was widely criticised in Norway butSylvi Listhaugsaid she wanted to recognise rescuers' work**](#Bookmark_237)

238. [**Pope Francis 'to take 10 refugees on his plane back to Italy ' after visit to Greek island where thousands trapped A Greek official confirmed the plan, which is not thought to violate the terms of the EU- Turkey deal**](#Bookmark_238)

239. [**Pope Francis 'to take 12 refugees on his plane back to Italy ' after visit to Greek island where thousands trapped A Greek official confirmed the plan, which is not thought to violate the terms of the EU- Turkey deal**](#Bookmark_239)

240. [**How much longer can we ignore child refugees? Editorials**](#Bookmark_240)

241. [**' George Clooney effect': I don't want a cup of what that dishy hunk is selling If the actor is involved in the marketing of anything, the ad agency's powers of persuasion become altogether less crucial. But Donald MacInnes has so...**](#Bookmark_241)

242. [**Donald Trump claims British Muslims are not reporting suspected terrorists Trump made the remarks in an interview with Good Morning Britain 's Piers Morgan**](#Bookmark_242)

243. [**Tawian's first female president Tsai Ing-Wen : Democracy campaigner, Gay rights champion and cat-lover Supporters have flooded the streets in celebration of her victory**](#Bookmark_243)

244. [**Cleanliness is next to godliness Greek refugee centre given a last-minute spring clean ahead of Pope's visit**](#Bookmark_244)

245. [**Donald Trump claims British muslims are not reporting suspected terrorists Trump made the remarks in an interview with Good Morning Britain 's Piers Morgan**](#Bookmark_245)

246. [**US to deport hundreds of migrant families fleeing violence in Central America The Department of Homeland Security is planning to carry out raids in January**](#Bookmark_246)

247. [**Not a done deal Editorials A just, humane and effective policy on the refugee crisis does not require Turkey to join the EU any time soon**](#Bookmark_247)

248. [**Theresa May ducks key debate on new immigration rule that will see teachers, charity workers and NHS staff deported Exclusive:Despite being named personally in a petition signed by more than 100,000 people, Home Secretary sends in...**](#Bookmark_248)

249. [**Thousands of travellers hit with flight cancellations to and from Turkey this summer amid terror fears Airlines are cutting back on flights to some destinations in Turkey so they can switch aircraft to more lucrative destinations, especially in Spain**](#Bookmark_249)

250. [**Hebden Bridge flooding: How the West Yorkshire town rose to Mother Nature's challenge In a warehouse lent by a scaffolding firm, three volunteers organised tons of donations, from toys to washing machines**](#Bookmark_250)

251. [**America 's biggest fears revealed: War in Syria , homegrown terror and nuclear conflict with North Korea top 2016 list Results show Americans are overwhelmingly worried about events in the Middle East and North Africa**](#Bookmark_251)

252. [**Donald Trump threatens to pull £700m investment from Scotland if he is refused entry to UK The tycoon is heading the polls among Republican candidates**](#Bookmark_252)

253. [**EU in for 'nasty surprise' over 'secret pact' to resettle refugees Syria air strikes**](#Bookmark_253)

254. [**Cologne attacks: Support for refugees in Germany falling amid far-right protests and vigilante attacks More Germans surveyed now say the number of asylum seekers in the country is too high**](#Bookmark_254)

255. [**#BuyPens: Syrian refugee photographed selling pens to feed children uses crowdfunding to start businesses Abdul Halim al-Attar is now employing other refugees in the three businesses he started using money raised by well-wishers around the world**](#Bookmark_255)

256. [**Paris killings push world leaders to find solution to Syria crisis Envoys gather in Vienna for talks to end civil war, but no Syrian representatives at the table**](#Bookmark_256)

257. [**Surveillance bill: Government concessions unlikely to head off revolt from Labour and Lib Dem peers Parties still believe the Bill will amount to what has been denounced as a 'snooper's charter'**](#Bookmark_257)

258. [**America 's biggest fears revealed: War in Syria , homegrown terror and nuclear conflict with North Korea top 2016 list Results show Americans are overwhelmingly worried about events in the Middle East and North Africa**](#Bookmark_258)

259. [**Paris attacks: These are the Muslim victims of the Paris killings So far, five Muslims have been named as victims of Friday's attacks**](#Bookmark_259)

260. [**Refugee crisis: UK to receive 1,000 Syrians by Christmas - but is it enough? The first charter flight bringing refugees from Syrian border camps will arrive next week**](#Bookmark_260)

261. [**Cohesion matters Editorials Disaffection spurred the Paris attacks; the integration of immigrants through education is paramount, here as well**](#Bookmark_261)

262. [**Paris terror: These are the Muslim victims of the France attacks A talented violinist, an architect and the mother of aneight-month-old daughter are among those killed**](#Bookmark_262)

263. [**Donald Trump labelled a 'fascist' by Republican presidential rivals after mocking disabled reporter during campaign rally Billionaire under fire over impersonation of New York Times reporter Serge Kovaleskiwho suffers from arthrogryposis**](#Bookmark_263)

264. [**Sonny Bill Williams video: New Zealand star gives Rugby World Cup medal to young boy and is presented with replacement at award ceremony Young Charlie Lines was trying to celebrate with the victorious All Blacks side when security tackled him to the ground**](#Bookmark_264)

265. [**'I love my dog, I need her': Syrian refugee, 17, walks than 300 miles carrying pet to Europe Aslan, who fled the war Damascus, said he could not leave his pet behind**](#Bookmark_265)

266. [**Donald Macintyre's Sketch: Jeremy Corbyn as champion of White Van Man - what next? The delegates got what they wanted after a crushing electoral defeat: a speech which spoke triumphantly to their hearts**](#Bookmark_266)

267. [**The picture that shows how desperate refugees are to enter the EU The migrant was rushed to hospital after wedging himself behind the car's engine block and radiator**](#Bookmark_267)

268. [**Calais and beyond Editorials The refugee problem will be solved not across the Channel but in the countries the migrants are leaving behind**](#Bookmark_268)

269. [**Italian PM hails Europe's (mostly) united response Refugee crisis Renzi replies to letter signed by coalition of newspapers including 'The Independent' with warning against unilateral foreign policy**](#Bookmark_269)

270. [**How Arab cinema is making a name for itself at the world's biggest film festivals Arab filmhasbecome 'more political and courageous'since the Arab Spring**](#Bookmark_270)

271. [**Israeli and US alarm as Russia gives Syria anti-aircraft missile system**](#Bookmark_271)

272. [**'Migrant chic' photoshoot was not meant to be offensive, says Hungarian photographer Norbert Baksa has been receiving online abuse over the images, which he said were intended to draw attention to the 'complexity' of the refugee crisis**](#Bookmark_272)

273. [**Surveillance bill: Government concessions unlikely to head off revolt from Labour and Lib Dem peers Parties still believe the Bill will amount to what has been denounced as a 'snooper's charter'**](#Bookmark_273)

274. [**Aylan Kurdi: Little boy whose tragic death changed Britain 's response to the refugee crisis laid to rest in Kobani His father, Abdullah, said he never wants to leave the war-torn city again**](#Bookmark_274)

275. [**How Arab cinema is making a name for itself at the world's biggest film festivals Arab filmhasbecome "more political and courageous" since the Arab Spring**](file:///C:\Users\Emma\Downloads\more#Bookmark_275)

276. [**Syrian refugee helped by viral #BuyPens campaign wants to use donations to help others 'I don't want to be the only one being helped - there are people worse off than me,' Abdul Halim Attar said**](#Bookmark_276)

277. [**Olympic Games 2016: Refugees allowed to compete in Rio Games for first time in event's history Thoseunable to represent their home countries for political reasonswill be able to march at the opening ceremony and compete as independent athletes**](#Bookmark_277)

278. [**Humanitarian groups warn that locking down borders will not solve migrants crisis**](#Bookmark_278)

279. [**Nearly half of Britons believe refugees should be turned away from the UK, research reveals Islamic Relief says study reveals a 'dramatic hardening of views'**](#Bookmark_279)

280. [**Refugee crisis: 20 children among 200 Syrians deported by the UK since start of war Exclusive: 27 Syrians have had their asylum claims rejected this year alone**](#Bookmark_280)

281. [**Blame Isis, not refugees: An agreement to tackle chaos in Calais is welcome, but doesn't go to the root cause of the migrant crisis**](#Bookmark_281)

282. [**How Arab cinema is making a name for itself at the world's biggest film festivals Arab filmhasbecome "more political and courageous" since the Arab Spring**](file:///C:\Users\Emma\Downloads\more#Bookmark_282)

283. [**Syria conflict: Israeli and US alarm as Russia gives Assad regime anti-aircraft missile system President Putin is expected to go to the UN later this month to propose a new 'international alliance' against Isis**](#Bookmark_283)

284. [**Katie Hopkins accuses Ed Miliband of being 'on the spectrum' following Labour leader's debate performance The Sun columnist was also less than complimentary about Green Party leader Natalie Bennett in her alternative commentary**](#Bookmark_284)

285. [**Peter Kassig beheading: Parents Paula and Ed say they need time to 'mourn, cry and forgive' following their son's murder Peter Kassig, also known as Abdul-Rhaman, was beheaded by Isis militants in a video released yesterday**](#Bookmark_285)

286. [**Peter Kassig beheading: Parents say they need time to 'mourn, cry and forgive' following their son's murder Peter Kassig, also known as Abdul-Rhaman, was beheaded by Isis militants in a video released yesterday**](#Bookmark_286)

287. [**Pope Francis takes three families of Syrian refugees detained on Greek island of Lesbos on plane back to Italy The Vatican said 12 people, including six children, were taken as 'a gesture of welcome'**](#Bookmark_287)

288. [**Jihadi John: Philip Hammond says intelligence agencies are 'getting warm' in hunt for Isis militant Murderer of David Haines and US journalists has not been publicly identified**](#Bookmark_288)

289. [**Pope Francis takes three families of Syrian refugees detained on Greek island of Lesbos on his plane back to Italy The Vatican said 12 people, including six children, were taken as 'a gesture of welcome'**](#Bookmark_289)

290. [**'Obama is the founder of Isis': Donald Trump's most controversial quotes The fiery-mouthed Republican nominee has repeatedly promised to be more 'presidential'**](#Bookmark_290)

291. [**'Obama is the founder of Isis': Donald Trump's most controversial quotes The fiery-mouthed Republican nominee has repeatedly promised to be more 'presidential'**](#Bookmark_291)

292. [**How the refugee crisis turned Lesbos waiters into goat herders and spread ripples of pain across Europe When thousands of refugees alighted on their shores, Greek islanders were praised for their generous response. Now as tourism ...**](#Bookmark_292)

293. [**Priti Patel: A timeline of how the scandal developed from a family 'holiday' to a near-certain sacking In just five days, Theresa May has shifted from insisting 'no investigation'is necessary -to preparing to fire her International Development Secretary**](#Bookmark_293)

294. [**Obama's photographer on taking 1.9 million photos of America 's first black president and throwing shade at Trump Pete Souza says he tries to be 'somewhat subtle and respectful' in his Instagram post responses to President Donald Trump**](#Bookmark_294)

295. [**Mysterious fanged sea creature washed up during Hurricane Harvey identified**](#Bookmark_295)

296. [**Disabled people are being 'shut out of society' by spending cuts, equality bodies warn Campaigners say human rights being ignored as those in need of additional care 'bear the brunt' of austerity policies**](#Bookmark_296)

297. [**Mysterious fanged sea creature washed up during Hurricane Harvey identified**](#Bookmark_297)

298. [**Refugee crisis: With the UN nowhere to be found, the residents of Lesbos have had to help hundreds of refugees a day on their own The north coast of Lesbos is ground zero for the refugee traffic because it is much the closest point to Turkey**](#Bookmark_298)

299. [**Thousands of refugees are returning to war-torn Syria amid UN safety warnings**](#Bookmark_299)

300. [**Huge fires devastate two refugee camps in Lebanon**](#Bookmark_300)

301. [**Afghan all-girl engineering team denied US visas while robot granted entry Students mystified by decision and forced to watch competition on Skype as US caught in wrangling over President Donald Trump's 'Muslim travel ban'**](#Bookmark_301)

302. [**Paul Ryan defends Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban' but says rhetoric around it is dangerous The House Speaker argued it made sense for the US to take a 'pause' and reform its vetting procedures**](#Bookmark_302)

303. [**The idiot economics of Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban' will hit his own people in the wallet The fact that those who had been granted green cards (permanent residence) were initially included in the ban will have sent a chill through ...**](#Bookmark_303)

304. [**Thousands set to for London march after week of global protests against Trump's travel ban The organisers of the demonstration condemn the US travel ban as"an appalling attack on human rights"**](file:///C:\Users\Emma\Downloads\an#Bookmark_304)

305. [**Muslim-majority countries linked to Trump 's business escape US immigration ban**](#Bookmark_305)

306. [**Germany plans to tag suspected terrorists amid security failure concerns**](#Bookmark_306)

307. [**Donald Trump admits his ' Sweden attack' comments were based on debunked Fox News report Mr Trump made the remarks at an event for his supporters in Florida**](#Bookmark_307)

308. [**Theresa May insists Donald Trump gave her no advance warning of his 'Muslim ban' on refugees**](#Bookmark_308)

309. [**Florida region where Donald Trump held rally had 50 per cent more murders than whole of Sweden US President confused the world by speaking aboutthings that allegedly happened 'last night'in Sweden , after watching a discredited do...**](#Bookmark_309)

310. [**Donald Trump Muslim immigration ban: US border patrol 'checking people's Facebook for political views' Refugees and green card holders detained and interrogated despite legal right to come to the US**](#Bookmark_310)

311. [**White friends, why aren't you protesting against Trump's 'Muslim Ban' aimed at refugees like me? Last night an event invitation began to circulate on my Facebook feed for an Emergency Demo against Trump's #MuslimBan and UK complic...**](#Bookmark_311)

312. [**The idiot economics of Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban' will hit his own people in the wallet The fact that those who had been granted green cards (permanent residence) were initially included in the ban will have sent a chill through ...**](#Bookmark_312)

313. [**The idiot economics of this ban will hit Trump's own people in the wallet**](#Bookmark_313)

314. [**Donald Trump immigration ban: Detained Iraqi refugee says ' America is the land of freedom' The former interpreter was one of 12 people held at JFK Airport**](#Bookmark_314)

315. [**Boris Johnson just praised Lebanon for being a 'moral example' to the world for its refugee policy without even realising the irony Lebanon has taken in 1.5 million refugees to date.The UK on the other hand has taken in a paltry 6,000**](#Bookmark_315)

316. [**Donald Trump's team 'discussing plans for Muslim registration system' Immigration hardlinersays plans underway for programme to force Muslimsregister ondatabase**](#Bookmark_316)

317. [**Keep your tired, poor, huddled masses away - Donald Trump's message, shamefully endorsed by Theresa May The shadow of selfishness and neglect is darkening over the world - let us spread the light of altruism and compassion instead**](#Bookmark_317)

318. [**TV preview: Sherlock, BBC1 Sunday 1 January; No Offence; Unforgotten; Silent Witness; Death in Paradise Gerard Gilbert takes us through the TV detectives who aren't Benedict Cumberbatch onscreen during the New Year week**](#Bookmark_318)

319. [**Israel lashes out over UN settlements vote by withdrawing ambassadors and halting aid Diplomatic representatives to New Zealand and Senegal withdrawn as Israeli official accuses US of 'abandoning' the country by abstaining on Security Council resolution**](#Bookmark_319)

320. [**'Refugees should not be sent back to face torture' Donald Trump's travel ban could be in breach of international law, warns UN human rights chief**](#Bookmark_320)

321. [**Thousands set for London march after week of global protests against Trump's travel ban The organisers of the demonstration condemn the US travel ban as 'an appalling attack on human rights'**](#Bookmark_321)

322. [**Cessation of Syrian hostilities needed to stop Idlib becoming next Aleppo, UN envoy warns Senior European diplomat says evacuation from Aleppo to IdlibsuitsRussia and Assad regime as it puts'all their rotten eggs in one basket'**](#Bookmark_322)

323. [**Cessation of Syrian hostilities needed to stop Idlib becoming next Aleppo, UN envoy warns Senior European diplomat says evacuation from Aleppo to IdlibsuitsRussia and Assad regime as it puts'all their rotten eggs in one basket'**](#Bookmark_323)

324. [**Donald Trump immigration ban: Detained Iraqi refugee says ' America is the land of freedom' The former interpreter was one of 12 people held at JFK Airport**](#Bookmark_324)

325. [**Syrian army says it has retaken Aleppo At least 34,000 people, both civilians and opposition fighters, have been evacuated from east Aleppo in a week-long operation**](#Bookmark_325)

326. [**Donald Trump is just the latest in a long line of dubious state visitors. It's time the UK used its soft power more morally Is the Government now willing to cherry pick when the 'will of the people'should be heeded?**](#Bookmark_326)

327. [**Donald Trump's team 'discussing plans for Muslim registration system' Immigration hardlinersays plans underway for programme to force Muslimsregister ondatabase**](#Bookmark_327)

328. [**WATCHING THE DETECTIVES**](#Bookmark_328)

329. [**Israel lashes out over UN settlements vote by withdrawing ambassadors and halting aid Diplomatic representatives to New Zealand and Senegal withdrawn as Israeli official accuses US of 'abandoning' the country by abstaining on Security Council resolution**](#Bookmark_329)

330. [**Cessation of Syrian hostilities needed to stop Idlib becoming next Aleppo, UN envoy warns Senior European diplomat says evacuation from Aleppo to IdlibsuitsRussia and Assad regime as it puts'all their rotten eggs in one basket'**](#Bookmark_330)

331. [**World news in brief**](#Bookmark_331)

332. [**Donald Trump's team 'discussing plans for Muslim registration system' Immigration hardlinersays plans underway for program to make Muslims to register on a database**](#Bookmark_332)

333. [**Donald Trump Muslim immigration ban: US border patrol 'checking people's Facebook for political views' Refugees and green card holders detained and interrogated despite legal right to come to the US**](#Bookmark_333)

334. [**Syrian army say they have retaken Aleppo At least 34,000 people, both civilians and opposition fighters, have been evacuated from east Aleppo in a week-long operation**](#Bookmark_334)

335. [**Syrian army says it has retaken Aleppo At least 34,000 people, both civilians and opposition fighters, have been evacuated from east Aleppo in a week-long operation**](#Bookmark_335)

336. [**Ex-Tea Party star is Trump's first female appointment South Carolina governor Nikki Haley will soon take on the role of US ambassador to the UN , while Mr Trump's second female appointment, Betsy DeVos, is to be the Secretary of Education**](#Bookmark_336)

337. [**Donald Trump's administration has seven people who have expressed Islamophobic sentiment One person would be too many**](#Bookmark_337)

338. [**Trump's team sets to work on 'Muslim registry system'**](#Bookmark_338)

339. [**Donald Trump's team 'discussing plans for Muslim registration system' Immigration hardlinersays plans underway for programme to force Muslimsregister ondatabase**](#Bookmark_339)

340. [**Donald Trump's team 'discussing plans for Muslim registration system' Immigration hardlinersays plans underway for programme to force Muslimsregister ondatabase**](#Bookmark_340)

341. [**Donald Trump's team 'discussing plans for Muslim registration system' Immigration hardlinersays plans underway for programme to force Muslimsregister ondatabase**](#Bookmark_341)

342. [**Assad: US air strikes on Syrian army base were 'definitely intentional' Syrian President Bashar al-Assad also rejected US claims that Syrian or Russian planes struck an aid convoy and that his government is stopping food reaching besieged east Aleppo**](#Bookmark_342)

343. [**Refugee crisis: Sea Cemetery pays poignant tribute to the Syrians who drowned trying to reach Europe A floating cemetery has been created in memory of thousands of Syrian refugees that have drowned on their perilous journey across the Mediterranean Sea**](#Bookmark_343)

344. [**Assassination may do more harm to Turkey 's relations with US than with Russia**](#Bookmark_344)

345. [**EU says member states can start deporting refugees and migrants back to Greece from March Returning immigrants'will provide further disincentives against irregular entry,' claims commission's deputyleader**](#Bookmark_345)

346. [**Theresa May urged to rethink Britain 's refugee policy by 200 religious leaders 'How can a civilised country allow this to continue?'**](#Bookmark_346)

347. [**Refugees Welcome Here protest: Thousands march on Downing Street calling on UK to resettle more migrants Protest comes days before world leaders meet to discuss crisis at UN General Assembly**](#Bookmark_347)

348. [**Syria crisis: Secretary of State John Kerry says Russia and US are 'in a parallel universe' over ceasefire The US Secretary of State said he could not reconcile what his Russian counterpart had said with the reality**](#Bookmark_348)

349. [**Thousands march to Downing Street in 'refugees welcome here' protest**](#Bookmark_349)

350. [**Child refugees 'sexually abused by Italian men' after being picked up while sleeping homeless in parks Charities warn that countless child asylum seekersare being abused and exploited**](#Bookmark_350)

351. [**British teenagers caught up in deadly gun battle involving notorious gang leader at Bulgarian beach bar The friends told The Independent : 'People came running out of the restaurant area with prams and stuff screaming'**](#Bookmark_351)

352. [**Child refugees 'sexually abused by Italian men' after being picked up while sleeping homeless in parks Charities warn that countless child asylum seekersare being abused and exploited**](#Bookmark_352)

353. [**Assad: US air strikes on Syrian army base were 'definitely intentional' Syrian President Bashar al-Assad also rejected US claims that Syrian or Russian planes struck an aid convoy and that his government is stopping food reaching besieged east Aleppo**](#Bookmark_353)

354. [**Jo Cox death: Alleged killer Tommy Mair 'bought gun-making manual from far-right neo-Nazi group' Documents suggest Mair had recorded links to National Alliance**](#Bookmark_354)

355. [**Vigilantes drag mentally ill Iraqi refugee out of supermarket and tie him to a tree in Germany Footage of the incident showed the men dragging the asylum seeker out of a supermarket**](#Bookmark_355)

356. [**Eid marks a new beginning for British Muslims - we need this now more than ever after Brexit This Ramadan has been particularly challenging for British Muslims, not physically but mentally and spiritually due to the divisive EU referendum**](#Bookmark_356)

357. [**Jo Cox death: Alleged killer Tommy Mair 'bought gun-making manual from far-right neo-Nazi group' Documents suggest Mair had recorded links to National Alliance**](#Bookmark_357)

358. [**Angelina Jolie Pitt appointment as London School of Economics professor divides opinion One student against the decision says LSE serves to undermine the university,students, staffand, ultimately, 'our meritocratic society'**](#Bookmark_358)

359. [**Vigilantes drag mentally ill Iraqi refugee out of supermarket and tie him to a tree in Germany Footage of the incident showed the men dragging the asylum seeker out of a supermarket**](#Bookmark_359)

360. [**Jo Cox death: Alleged killer Tommy Mair 'bought gun-making manual from far-right neo-Nazi group' Documents suggest Mair had recorded links to National Alliance**](#Bookmark_360)

361. [**Hundreds of mothers and children to be deported from US**](#Bookmark_361)

362. [**Refugee children stranded in Greece are so unschooled they 'cannot even hold a pencil' More than 20per cent of refugee children in Greece have never been to school**](#Bookmark_362)

363. [**'A dark day for Europe': EU reaches agreement to send refugees back to Turkey despite legal concerns The deal has been heavily criticised by human rights organisations**](#Bookmark_363)

364. [**UK to take in up to 3,000 vulnerable child refugees, Home Office announces Children who have already reached Europe are excluded from the scheme, which targets refugee camps in the Middle East and North Africa**](#Bookmark_364)

365. [**Canada wildfire to 'double in size' as blaze creates own weather and smoke is detected in Florida At least 80,000 people have been evacuated from their homes**](#Bookmark_365)

366. [**British teenagers caught up in deadly gun battle involving notorious gang leader at Bulgarian beach bar The friends told The Independent they were unharmed in the incident and decided to continue their holiday**](#Bookmark_366)

367. [**Refugee crisis: EU- Turkey deal could be contributing to falling deaths in migrant boat disasters but arrivals rising in Italy Deaths have fallen in the Aegean Sea but crossings over the Central Mediterranean continue**](#Bookmark_367)

368. [**The chart that shows just how generous the UK's offer to take 3,000 refugee children really is The government's callsit 'the largest resettlement programme for refugee children' - but how does it really compare?**](#Bookmark_368)

369. [**Increasing humanitarian aid to Syria will stop refugees travelling to Europe, David Cameron says The UK says it is more than doubling its aid commitment to the region**](#Bookmark_369)

370. [**Theresa May ducks key debate on new immigration rule that will see teachers, charity workers and NHS staff deported Exclusive:Despite being named personally in a petition signed by more than 100,000 people, Home Secretary sends in...**](#Bookmark_370)

371. [**Valentine's Day: A couple together for 83 years to share the lessons they have learned The couple are to spread their wisdom on Twitter**](#Bookmark_371)

372. [**Turkey has been put out in the cold by the US and Russia Despite Erdogan's attemps to castrate the growing political influence of the Kurds, his blundering diplomacy is having the opposite effect**](#Bookmark_372)

373. [**Aleppo siege: 20,000 Syrians gather at Turkey 's border as Europe urges leaders to use (EURO)3 billion to offer asylum Most families are sleeping without shelter, she said, despite night-time temperatures plunging close to zero**](#Bookmark_373)

374. [**Prominent Danish activist and author prosecuted for 'people trafficking' after giving Syrian refugee family a lift Lisbeth Zornig and her husband Mikael Lindholm were eachfined 22,500 krone**](#Bookmark_374)

375. [**Anne Frank's step-sister says Donald Trump is 'acting like Hitler' A win for the Republican frontrunner in the presidential elections would be a 'complete disaster',Eva Schloss says**](#Bookmark_375)

376. [**The big political failure I've witnessed is neglect of our institutions**](#Bookmark_376)

377. [**Paris attacks: Eight terror suspects named so far are not refugees and have EU passports Several of thesuspects lived in the Brussels neighbourhood ofMolenbeek**](#Bookmark_377)

378. [**Syria refugee summit: World leaders hail landmark aid package to help Syrians displaced by conflict Close to $11bn (£7.5bn) in aid was pledged by donors at an international conference in London**](#Bookmark_378)

379. [**Paris attacks: Comedian Adam Hills hits back at those who criticised him for defending muslims "It seemed to me that a good way of combatting this would be 1) be nice to non-ISIS related Muslims (ie the vast majority of Muslims) a...**](file:///C:\Users\Emma\Downloads\It#Bookmark_379)

380. [**Paris attacks: The eight terror suspects named so far are not refugees and all have EU passports Several of thesuspects lived in the Brussels neighbourhood ofMolenbeek**](#Bookmark_380)

381. [**Jeremy Corbyn defends waiting five days to visit floods: 'I didn't want to get in the way' Labour leader met angry flood victims in York, telling them they have 'every right to be angry' at the Government's record on flood defence spending**](#Bookmark_381)

382. [**Refugee crisis: Two babies among nine refugees drowned after boat capsizes trying to reach Greek islands It came after more than 360 refugees and asylum seekers died attempting sea crossings last month**](#Bookmark_382)

383. [**Thanksgiving: A guide to getting through the awkward family dinner You need to start with the common ground and build slowly from there**](#Bookmark_383)

384. [**What Americans thought about Jewish refugees on the eve of World War II In July 1938 fewer than 5%of Americanssurveyed believed the United States should raise its immigration quotas**](#Bookmark_384)

385. [**Refugee crisis: Europe reflects on year of refugees as number of arrivals reaches one million As 2015draws to a close, there is little sign the continent is gettingnearer to resolving the year's defining issue**](#Bookmark_385)

386. [**Putin has come out smelling of roses in the eyes of Washington Paris terror attacks France is flexing its muscles. Russia and the West are talking again. Iran is joining the anti-Isis coalition - much to Saudi Arabia 's annoyance....**](#Bookmark_386)

387. [**Paris attacks: Comedian Adam Hills hits back at those who criticsed him for defending muslims "It seemed to me that a good way of combatting this would be 1) be nice to non-ISIS related Muslims (ie the vast majority of Muslims) an...**](file:///C:\Users\Emma\Downloads\It#Bookmark_387)

388. [**Justin Trudeau : The rise of the feminist and pro-choice Canadian Prime Minister who wants to legalise marijuana 'right away' Trudeau's Liberal party won the election on Monday**](#Bookmark_388)

389. [**Refugee crisis: At least eleven drown after boats capsize near Lesbos Greek authorities rescue 242 people but further casualties feared after 'day of death'**](#Bookmark_389)

390. [**Paris attacks: The eight terror suspects named so far all have EU passports Several of thesuspects lived in the Brussels neighbourhood ofMolenbeek**](#Bookmark_390)

391. [**Obama set to come out firing in his final State of Union speech**](#Bookmark_391)

392. [**'Heart-wrenching' scenes a reminder of 'duty to help' Refugee crisis**](#Bookmark_392)

393. [**Justin Trudeau : The rise of the feminist and pro-choice Canadian Prime Minister who wants to legalise marijuana 'right away' Trudeau's Liberal party won the election on Monday**](#Bookmark_393)

394. [**700 child refugees a day now claiming asylum EXCLUSIVE 'We will look back with shame if we allow more to die needlessly'**](#Bookmark_394)

395. [**Justin Trudeau : The rise of the feminist and pro-choice Canadian Prime Minister who wants to legalise marijuana 'right away' Trudeau's Liberal party won the election on Monday**](#Bookmark_395)

396. [**Refugee crisis: At least eleven drown after boats capsize near Lesbos Greek authorities rescue 242 people but further casualties feared after 'day of death'**](#Bookmark_396)

397. [**Refugee crisis: Greece finds a legacy for its Olympics by housing refugees in empty stadiums World View:Residents on Lesbos say the first Syriza government, which took power in January, did nothing about the refugees flooding through**](#Bookmark_397)

398. [**We must destroy Isis but not play into their hands - the wrong response would create countless new recruits Hollande says our response to Isis must be "merciless" - and I agree - but it must also be strategic so we don't fall into their trap**](file:///C:\Users\Emma\Downloads\merciless#Bookmark_398)

399. [**Hundreds of migrants stranded in Budapest after police stop trains departing for Germany All westbound departures from Keleti station were stopped earlier today**](#Bookmark_399)

400. [**Refugee crisis: Europe reflects on the year of refugees as number of arrivals reaches one million As 2015draws to a close, there is little sign the continent is gettingnearer to resolving the year's defining issue**](#Bookmark_400)

401. [**Justin Trudeau : The rise of the feminist and pro-choice Canadian Prime Minister who wants to legalise marijuana 'right away' Trudeau's Liberal party won the election on Monday**](#Bookmark_401)

402. [**Get real, Mr Burnham: Labour may want to reclaim ground from Ukip on immigration but should avoid simplifying the issue**](#Bookmark_402)

403. [**EU leaders struggle to agree on 1,500-strong border force to manage refugee crisis The proposed rapid action force could potentially override national governments**](#Bookmark_403)

404. [**Paris attacks reactions: Madonna, John Oliver and more send powerful responses Public figures have paid tribute to the 129 victims of Friday's attacks**](#Bookmark_404)

405. [**The refugee crisis is actually having 'sizable' economic benefits in European countries, EU says Britain is missing out on the economic boost, however**](#Bookmark_405)

406. [**Ankara Q&A: Why would the Kurds be targeted? Do previous attacks point to a perpetrator? The blasts outside the capital's main railway station killed scores of pro-Kurdish activists and left-wing union members**](#Bookmark_406)

407. [**If these extraordinarily powerful images of a dead Syrian child washed up on a beach don't change Europe's attitude to refugees, what will? The boy was part of a group of 11 Syrians who drowned off the coastal town of Bodrum in Tu...**](#Bookmark_407)

408. [**Isis says Aylan Kurdi's parents and other refugees are 'sacrificing' their own children An article in the group's propaganda magazine claimed that it is a 'grave sin' for Muslims to flee the so-called Islamic State to reach European countries**](#Bookmark_408)

409. [**Paris attacks prompt a wary truce between Washington and Vladimir Putin Barack Obama chatted amiably with Mr Putin at the G-20 summit, in stark contrast to the same gathering in 2014**](#Bookmark_409)

410. [**Mary Creagh: Cameron made a U-turn this week. We have a moral duty to ensure he keeps his promise Aylan Kurdi was not the first child to escape Assad and Isis, only to meet his tragic death at the hands of the Mediterranean traffickers**](#Bookmark_410)

411. [**Labour MP tells Diane Abbott to stop acting like an 'internet troll' The Twitter argument underlines continuing tensions among Labour MPs surrounding the prospect of military intervention in Syria**](#Bookmark_411)

412. [**Why Jeremy Corbyn's Labour leadership won't pave the way for a Liberal Democrat resurrection As a long-time member of the Lib Dems myself, I see others predicting that Corbyn will drive centrist voters to us. But history teaches us this doesn't happen**](#Bookmark_412)

413. [**Migrant crisis: Humanitarian groups urge leaders to put human lives ahead of politics instead of locking down 'Fortress Europe' The deaths of around 800 migrants in April prompted soul-searching in the EU**](#Bookmark_413)

414. [**Students killed in suspected Isis suicide bombing at rally in Turkey Suruc attack marks dramatic escalation of terror group's campaign over the Syrian border**](#Bookmark_414)

415. [**Call to segregate rival refugee groups after clashes at German asylum centres Angela Merkel's open-door migrant policy and her calls for a "culture of welcome" are facing a growing backlash from within her party**](file:///C:\Users\Emma\Downloads\culture#Bookmark_415)

416. [**The News Matrix: Wednesday 7 January 2015**](#Bookmark_416)

417. [**For Turkey 's aid workers, these cruel videos are part of the daily round**](#Bookmark_417)

418. [**Erdogan warns Kobani is 'about to fall to Isis' as militants advance on Syria -Turkey border town Militants fighting Kurdish defenders have taken control of three districts**](#Bookmark_418)

419. [**The Geneva talks are the only hope for Syria - and Iran should have been part of them The UN 's view has been that Tehran should have a place at the table**](#Bookmark_419)

420. [**Syria peace talks: Geneva II is the only hope for Syria - and Iran should have been part of it The UN 's view has been that Tehran should have a place at the table**](#Bookmark_420)

421. [**Gordon Brown may have been a poor PM, but he still deserves respect It is as if Westminster has become collectively deaf out of sheer loathing**](#Bookmark_421)

422. [**It's the norm to denigrate Gordon Brown. But the former PM doesn't deserve it It is as if Westminster has become collectively deaf out of sheer loathing**](#Bookmark_422)

423. [**What it's like living in one of the largest Syrian refugee camps in the world The highly anticipated documentary After Spring debuted at this year's Tribeca Film Festival.**](#Bookmark_423)

424. [**What it's like living in one of the largest Syrian refugee camps in the world The highly anticipated documentary After Spring debuted at this year's Tribeca Film Festival.**](#Bookmark_424)

425. [**What it's like living in one of the largest Syrian refugee camps in the world The highly anticipated documentary After Spring debuted at this year's Tribeca Film Festival.**](#Bookmark_425)

426. [**The martial art of survival in the world's largest refugee camp Justin Carissimo hears the remarkable story of the Zaatari Taekwondo Academy**](#Bookmark_426)

427. [**What it's like living in one of the largest Syrian refugee camps in the world The highly anticipated documentary After Spring debuted at this year's Tribeca Film Festival.**](#Bookmark_427)

428. [**The Arab Spring, five years on: A season that began in hope, but ended in desolation Five years ago, waves of popular protestbegan to spread, thrillingly, across theArab world. Is anyone better off as aresult? Patrick Cockburn reflects**](#Bookmark_428)

429. [**A spring that began in hope, but ended in desolation The Arab Spring: Five years on Five years ago, waves of popular protest began to spread, thrillingly, across the Arab world. Is anyone better off as a result? PATRICK COCKBURN reflects**](#Bookmark_429)

430. [**The US are giving rise to Isis by ending their support to Syrian rebel forces During the US presidential campaign Trump declared he wanted to work with Russia in Jordan . After getting to the White House he stated that support for...**](#Bookmark_430)

431. [**The fake refugee images that are being used to distort public opinion on asylum seekers The outpouring of public support for refugees in the wake of the death of Aylan Kurdi has sparked an online backlash**](#Bookmark_431)

432. [**British MPs should be ashamed of the four years they've wasted over Syria**](#Bookmark_432)

433. [**Donald Trump's budget proposal slashes Middle Eastern aid funding by 80% while he visits the region Despite paying lip service to building ties with Muslim nations, the new administration is seeking to cut £656 billion of current ...**](#Bookmark_433)

434. [**Mick Mulvaney's confirmation as Donald Trump's budget director adds to anti-Muslim and anti-media cabinet New director of the Office of Management and Budget is confirmed by the Senate**](#Bookmark_434)

435. [**The idiot economics of Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban' will hit his own people in the wallet The fact that those who had been granted green cards (permanent residence) were initially included in the ban will have sent a chill through ...**](#Bookmark_435)

436. [**The Berliner building bridges by hosting refugee dinners in her home Desperate to help Syrians fleeing war in some small way, a cook and writer has encouragedBerliners and refugees to break bread**](#Bookmark_436)

437. [**Donald Trump calls judge's suspension of immigration ban 'ridiculous' and says it will be overturned President says block onexecutive order, enacted by federal judge, could lead to 'big trouble'**](#Bookmark_437)

438. [**President Donald Trump is bombing four of the seven countries from where he's restricting immigration Plans for new executive orders are latest in string of the decrees**](#Bookmark_438)

439. [**Trudeau's charm offensive on the White House**](#Bookmark_439)

440. [**Donald Trump's immigration ban hits Muslim-majority countries (except those linked to his business) President mulling 'extreme vetting'process for some migrants**](#Bookmark_440)

441. [**Donald Trump immigration ban: More than 100,000 visas revoked after travel restrictions imposed on seven Muslim-majority countries Number emerges during hearing for lawsuit filed by two Yemeni brothers affected by controversial policy**](#Bookmark_441)

442. [**UN condemns Trump bar on asylum and entry from Muslim-majority countries**](#Bookmark_442)

443. [**Germany plans to electronically tag suspected terrorists amid concern over security failures after Berlin attack Government stepping up security reforms following failures leading up to Berlin attack**](#Bookmark_443)

444. [**Germany plans to electronically tag suspected terrorists amid concern over security failures after Berlin attack Government stepping up security reforms following failures leading up to Berlin attack**](#Bookmark_444)

445. [**Germany 's constitutional court rejects ban on 'neo-Nazi' NPD party Court finds 'lack of evidence' the NPD violates Germany 's consitution**](#Bookmark_445)

446. [**The Berliner building bridges by hosting refugee dinners in her home Desperate to help Syrians fleeing war in some small way, a cook and writer has encouragedBerliners and refugees to break bread**](#Bookmark_446)

447. [**Strangely enough, it's US relations with Turkey that could suffer most after the assassination of the Russian ambassador It is neither in Russia nor Turkey 's interest to elevate this assassination - Russia immediately confirmed t...**](#Bookmark_447)

448. [**The idiot economics of Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban' will hit his own people in the wallet The fact that those who had been granted green cards (permanent residence) were initially included in the ban will have sent a chill through ...**](#Bookmark_448)

449. [**Theresa May accused of 'grovelling' to Donald Trump amid torture row 'As you renew your nation, just as we renew ours', the Prime Minister will say - sparking strong criticism**](#Bookmark_449)

450. [**Donald Trump's administration has seven people who have expressed Islamophobic sentiment One person would be too many**](#Bookmark_450)

451. [**Donald Trump's travel ban on Muslim countries is not the same as their bans on Israelis, says expert 'But we are not talking about thesesmall warring states, we are talking about the leader of the free world, the defender of human rights'**](#Bookmark_451)

452. [**Theresa May accused of 'grovelling' to Donald Trump amid torture row 'As you renew your nation, just as we renew ours', the Prime Minister will say - sparking strong criticism**](#Bookmark_452)

453. [**Strangely enough, it's US relations with Turkey that could suffer most after the assassination of the Russian ambassador It is neither in Russia nor Turkey 's interest to elevate this assassination - Russia immediately confirmed t...**](#Bookmark_453)

454. [**Aleppo: Syrian army resumes bombardment of city as fragile ceasefire crumbles Airstrikesresumein embattled Syrian city and promised evacuations put on hold as short-lived hopes of trapped civilians dashed**](#Bookmark_454)

455. [**Donald Trump's team 'discussing plans for Muslim registration system' Immigration hardlinersays plans underway for programme to force Muslimsregister ondatabase**](#Bookmark_455)

456. [**Strangely enough, it's US relations with Turkey that could suffer most after the assassination of the Russian ambassador It is neither in Russia nor Turkey 's interest to elevate this assassination - Russia immediately confirmed t...**](#Bookmark_456)

457. [**Everything we know about Donald Trump's 'Muslim travel ban' What the new US President ordered and what the globalreaction has been**](#Bookmark_457)

458. [**Donald Trump calls judge's suspension of immigration ban 'ridiculous' and says it will be overturned President says block onexecutive order, enacted by federal judge, could lead to 'big trouble'**](#Bookmark_458)

459. [**TV preview: Sherlock, BBC1 Sunday 1 January; No Offence; Unforgotten; Silent Witness; Death in Paradise Gerard Gilbert takes us through the TV detectives who aren't Benedict Cumberbatch onscreen during the New Year week**](#Bookmark_459)

460. [**EU says Turkey loses way on road to membership since failed coup Turkey challenges EU to finally decide whether the country can join the bloc**](#Bookmark_460)

461. [**Aleppo: Syrian army resumes bombardment of city as fragile ceasefire crumbles Both sides accuse other of breaking fragileRussiaand Turkey brokered ceasefire as air strikesresumein embattled Syrian city and promised evacuations put on hold**](#Bookmark_461)

462. [**Muslim-majority countries not included in Donald Trump immigration ban President mulling 'extreme vetting' process for some migrants**](#Bookmark_462)

463. [**BREAKING BREAD Desperate to help Syrians fleeing war, a cook and writer tells Kashmira Gander how opening her Berlin home for refugee dinners made her realise we are not all that different**](#Bookmark_463)

464. [**EU says Turkey loses way on road to membership since failed coup Turkey challenges EU to finally decide whether the country can join the bloc**](#Bookmark_464)

465. [**Trump calls vote 'once in alifetime chance' in final week of campaigns**](#Bookmark_465)

466. [**New York boy asks Barack Obama to send 5-year-old Syrian refugee to his house so he can be part of family Mr Obama called Alex a 'child who has not learned to be cynical or suspicious or fearful of other people because of where th...**](#Bookmark_466)

467. [**New York boy asks Barack Obama to send 5-year-old Syrian refugee to his house so he can be part of family Mr Obama called Alex a 'child who has not learned to be cynical or suspicious or fearful of other people because of where th...**](#Bookmark_467)

468. [**Trump calls vote 'once in alifetime chance' in final week of campaigns**](#Bookmark_468)

469. [**Donald Trump's team 'discussing plans for Muslim registration system' Immigration hardlinersays plans underway for programme to force Muslimsregister ondatabase**](#Bookmark_469)

470. [**EU says Turkey loses way on road to membership since failed coup Turkey challenges EU to finally decide whether the country can join the bloc**](#Bookmark_470)

471. [**EU says Turkey is losing its way on road to membership**](#Bookmark_471)

472. [**Donald Trump team 'discussing plans for Muslim registration system' Immigration hardlinersays plans underway for programme to force Muslimsregister ondatabase**](#Bookmark_472)

473. [**Trump's Mexican wall plans caused outrage - now we're building one of our own**](#Bookmark_473)

474. [**Refugees Welcome Here protest: Thousands march on Downing Street calling on UK to resettle more migrants Protest comes days before world leaders meet to discuss crisis at UN General Assembly**](#Bookmark_474)

475. [**There's no excuse for giving sexist and anti-immigrant Owen Smith your vote**](#Bookmark_475)

476. [**World leaders urged to address growing education crisis among refugees Global governments must commit to providing a fulleducation to one million refugee children by the end of the school year, anti-poverty campaigners urge**](#Bookmark_476)

477. [**Jo Cox death: Twitter lights up with messages of parliamentary praise with #ThankYourMP British actor Hugh Laurie has tweeted in support**](#Bookmark_477)

478. [**George Osborne accused of 'shameful, disgusting' response to 7-year-old boy who faces deportation from Scotland Mr Osborne seemed to know nothing about the case, the SNP's Westminster leader Angus Robertson said, despite it receiv...**](#Bookmark_478)

479. [**Boost for Assad as Turkish PM offers olive branch to Syria**](#Bookmark_479)

480. [**Refugees hospitalised after huge fire and clashes at Lesbos detention centre amid warnings over more violence Humanitarian agencies warned that 'deplorable' conditions in detention centres in Greece were heightening tensions**](#Bookmark_480)

481. [**This country is no longer safe for immigrants With the 2015 Immigration Act, forsaken EU directives to take in more refugees, Prevent and restrictions on spousal visas it is hard to see how the UK government could make things any worse**](#Bookmark_481)

482. [**Angelina Jolie Pitt appointment as London School of Economics professor divides opinion One student against the decision says LSE serves to undermine the university,students, staffand, ultimately, 'our meritocratic society'**](#Bookmark_482)

483. [**Syrian refugees walk through the night trying to reach Budapest Hundreds of refugees determined to reach the Hungarian capital continued their journey in darkness**](#Bookmark_483)

484. [**Britain First: Who are the far-right group whose name was allegedly shouted by Jo Cox's 'killer'? Some fear that the group and its poisonous right-wing ideology may have influenced Ms Cox's killer**](#Bookmark_484)

485. [**George Osborne accused of 'shameful, disgusting' response to 7-year-old boy facing deportation from Scotland Mr Osborne seemed to know nothing about the case, the SNP's Westminster leader Angus Robertson said, despite it receiving...**](#Bookmark_485)

486. [**George Osborne accused of 'shameful, disgusting' response to 7-year-old boy facing deportation from Scotland Mr Osborne seemed to know nothing about the case, the SNP's Westminster leader Angus Robertson said, despite it receiving...**](#Bookmark_486)

487. [**Jo Cox death: Twitter lights up with messages of parliamentary praise with #ThankYourMP British actor Hugh Laurie has tweeted in support**](#Bookmark_487)

488. [**Obama to deport hundreds of mothers and children fleeing violence in Central America Immigration agents are reportedly set to carry out raids in May and June**](#Bookmark_488)

489. [**Angelina Jolie Pitt appointment as London School of Economics professor divides opinion One student against the decision says LSE serves to undermine the university,students, staffand, ultimately, 'our meritocratic society'**](#Bookmark_489)

490. [**Obama to deport hundreds of mothers and children fleeing violence in Central America Immigration agents are reportedly set to carry out raids in May and June**](#Bookmark_490)

491. [**UK government running 'covert' propaganda campaign to stop Muslims joining Isis Unit uses local community groups to spread its anti-extremism message - without revealing its government links**](#Bookmark_491)

492. [**Turkey confronts the enemy within As the Prime Minister blames female PKK fighter for car bombing that killed 37 people in Ankara, his nation wrestles with the problem that a modern, tolerant society will always be open to attack....**](#Bookmark_492)

493. [**Iraqi refugee targeted for helping US military detained at JFK airport due to Donald Trump immigration ban Under the order Syrian refugees are banned from entry until further notice**](#Bookmark_493)

494. [**Refugees hospitalised after huge fire and clashes at Lesbos detention centre amid warnings over more violence Humanitarian agencies warned that 'deplorable' conditions in detention centres in Greece were heightening tensions**](#Bookmark_494)

495. [**Refugee crisis: More than 3,500 migrants held in 'wholly unacceptable' conditions after crossing English Channel to UK New report criticises conditions at short-term immigration centres in Kent as lacking in human decency**](#Bookmark_495)

496. [**David Cameron's 'bunch of migrants' comments spark 'hypocrisy' claims on international Holocaust Memorial Day 'Were Jewish people fleeing the Nazis in the 1930s "a bunch of migrants"?' one person asked on Twitter**](file:///C:\Users\Emma\Downloads\a#Bookmark_496)

497. [**Cologne attacks: Police use water cannon and pepper spray on anti-immigration Pegida protesters Witnesses said some protesters were aiming fireworks, rocks and even flower pots at police**](#Bookmark_497)

498. [**David Cameron's 'bunch of migrants' comments spark 'hypocrisy' claims on international Holocaust Memorial Day 'Were Jewish people fleeing the Nazis in the 1930s "a bunch of migrants"?' one person asked on Twitter**](file:///C:\Users\Emma\Downloads\a#Bookmark_498)

499. [**Five things Republican hopefuls hope will happen at tonight's GOP debate Presidential candidates trying to prove once they are the real thing**](#Bookmark_499)

500. [**US and France to expand military operations in Syria and Iraq to push back Isis The two leaders met in Washington after more than 130 people were killed in Paris**](#Bookmark_500)



# [*Twitter account lists hundreds of Jews who were killed after being refused entry to US; They were escaping persecution from the Nazis, but most Jewish passengers of the St Louis ship were forced to return to Europe*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MRG-9XD1-F021-61DY-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 27, 2017 Friday 11:46 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 516 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz

**Body**

On International Holocaust Remembrance Day, one twitter account has tweeted out the individual stories of hundreds of Jewish refugees who were turned away by the US after attempting to escape the Nazis.

The St Louis ship sailed fromHamburg to Cuba in 1939, carryingmore than 900 passengers fleeing the Nazis. Most were not allowed to disembark when they got there.

Of those that were sent back, 254 people were killed, most in Auschwitz or Buchenwald concentration camps.

Read more

Donald Trump does not mention Jews in Holocaust memorial statement

Each person - their name and place of death, sometimes with a photograph, has been tweeted by one account called "St Louis Manifest"to remind social media users of the horrors which took place within living memory and which led to more than six million Jews being killed.

The remembrance tweets are particularly poignant in 2017 as Donald Trump sent out a statement which talked of "the innocent" killed in the Holocaust but which did not specifically mention the Jewish people.

Mr Trump has finished his first week in the Oval Office bysigningan executive order to ban ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from entering the country, as well as imposing a blanket, 120-day ban on refugees from six other Muslim-majority and war-torn countries.

My name is Joachim Hirsch. The US turned me away at the border in 1939. I was murdered in Auschwitz pic.twitter.com/pfvJtMpIps

- St. Louis Manifest (@Stl\_Manifest) January 27, 2017

My name is Irmgard Köppel. The US turned me away at the border in 1939. I was murdered in Auschwitz pic.twitter.com/s0ZWjsdYG9

- St. Louis Manifest (@Stl\_Manifest) January 27, 2017

The US onlytook inaround 12,500 Syrians in 2016, much less than other countries.

In 1939, the UK, Belgium, France and the Netherlands reached agreements with Jewish organisations to take in around 900 Jews from the St Louis ship.

"The fact that President Trump's order appears designed to specifically limit the entry of Muslims evokes horrible memories among American Jews of the shameful period leading up to World War Two, when the United States failed to provide a safe haven for the vast majority of Jews in Europe trying to escape Nazi persecution,"said Jeremy Ben-Ami, president of the pro-Israel nonprofit organisation J Street.

MooseRoots | Graphiq

"Most ultimately perished in the Holocaust. That episode remains a blot on the conscience of the United States. It is a terrible irony that today, the same day on which this order is to be signed, is also International Holocaust Remembrance Day."

Read more

As a Jew, I know the warning signs in Trump's speech when I see them

Neo-Nazis planning to 'take action' against Jews in Montana town

Fascist website urges readers to 'troll' Jews, posts contact details

Mr Trump's former rival for the Presidency, Hillary Clinton, spoke of the incident in 1939 during the 2016 campaign trail.

"Now, we've had dark chapters in our history before,"she told the Jewish lobbying group AIPAC.

"If you see bigotry oppose it. If you see violence condemn it. If you see a bully, stand up to him,"she said.

**Load-Date:** January 27, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump expected to order Mexican border wall and temporarily ban refugees; White House aides say the president will begin with his border wall on Wednesday*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MPW-SHT1-F021-610M-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 24, 2017 Tuesday 11:18 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 543 words

**Byline:** Justin Carissimo

**Body**

Donald Trump is expected to sign executive orders this week to prevent ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and Muslim immigrants from entering the United States. He's also expected to order the construction of his infamous, Mexican border wall on Wednesday.

The president is preparing to restrict access to the country from immigrants, refugees, some visa holders from Iraq, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen,

Reuters

reports, citing

congressional aides briefed on the orders.

President Trump's restrictions will likely include a multi-month ban on admitting immigrants from all countries until the State Department and Department of Homeland Security finalize an "extreme vetting" process.

Trump signs executive orders to advance Dakota Access and Keystone XL pipelines

Nihad Awad, the national executive director at the Council on American-Islamic Relations, condemned the initial media reports of President Trump's immigration orders.

"These [executive orders] will not make our nation safer," he tweeted Tuesday night, "rather they will make it more fearful and less welcoming."

In addition to the ban, the president will begin rolling out executive actions that include preparations for his wall on the US-Mexico border along with other enforcement plans, according to two administration officials who spoke to

The Associated Press

.

On the campaign trail, Mr Trump pledged to tighten US immigration policies, including a complete ban on Muslim immigrants from entering the states. He also promised to strengthen border security by building a wall while basically forcing the Mexican government to pay for it. The promise became one of the earliest policies and staple of his campaign.

He eventually softened his stance on both policies while promising to implement a process of extreme vetting for immigrants leaving countries in the Middle East. Come January, the newly elected president's transition team began asking Congress to push funding for the wall through the country's appropriations budget.

On Wednesday afternoon, the president will travel to the Department of Homeland Security to direct the agency begin construction on the wall and repair fencing along the border. The executive order will also increase the staff at the Customs and Border Protection agency by hiring an additional 5,000 employees.

Read more

Trump team deletes apology to LGBT people for past discrimination

Trump nominee admits Obama inauguration crowd size was bigger

Trump clears way for pipeline days after oil spill on reservation

A second order seeks to eliminate sanctuary cities where governments refuse to hand over undocumented immigrants to federal authorities. CNN reports that it will triple resources for Immigration and Custom Enforcement and direct the feds to identify illegal immigrants in the states.

White House press secretary Sean Spicer told reporters Monday that President Trump would be making his immigration policies a priority in the coming weeks.

"First and foremost, the President's been very, very clear that we need to direct agencies to focus on those who are in this country illegally and have a record - a criminal record or poses a threat to the American people," he said at the press briefing. "That's where the priorities going to be."

**Load-Date:** January 25, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Seattle judge blocks Donald Trump's immigration ban nationwide; Airlines are now allowing people to enter the US from the affected countries*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MT2-TFS1-F021-6298-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 4, 2017 Saturday 12:27 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 555 words

**Byline:** Justin Carissimo

**Body**

A federal judge in Seattle has temporarily blocked President Donald Trump's executive order banning entry into the United States from seven Muslim-majority countries.

US District Judge James Robart, who was appointed by President George Bush in 2003, issued a temporary restraining order against the Trump administration's restrictions, ruling that the ban would be immediately stopped nationwide.

Within hours of the ruling, government officials told airlines in a conference call to begin allowing previously barred passengers to fly, the

New York Times

reports.However, the White House issued a statement late Friday announcing that the Department of Justice would file an emergency halt of judge's order. Before sending a second, revised statement to the media, the White House called the judge's ruling "outrageous."

While the federal government argues that the ban protects the country from these countries, Judge Robart said he found "no support" for those claims.

"This ruling is another stinging rejection of President Trump's unconstitutional Muslim ban," Omar Jadwat, director of the ACLU's Immigrants' Rights Project, said in a statement. "We will keep fighting to permanently dismantle this un-American executive order."

In Attorney Ferguson's 90-page lawsuit, he claims the Trump administration is violating the Constitution's protections for religious freedom. The state of Minnesota has also joined the state of Washington's lawsuit which is backed by major companies including Amazon, Expedia, and several institutions of higher-education.

New York and Virginia have also taken legal action against the president.

Reacting to the complaint, White House attorneys issued a response brief, claiming that Washington state is unable to challenge the President and his intentions.

"Every President over the last 30 years has invoked this authority to suspend or impose restrictions on the entry of certain aliens or classes of aliens, in some instances including classifications based on nationality," the brief reads, according to the

Seattle Times

. The brief also claims that foreign nationals do not have the constitutional right to enter the country.

Attorney Ferguson filed his lawsuit on Monday, promising to continue his fight against the ban.

"I want to be very clear, what the judge announced today was nationwide the president's executive order does not apply," he told reporters on Friday.

President Trump's order banned immigration for 90 days from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen. It also halted the admission of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** indefinitely along with all other refugees for 120 days, sparking confusion and outrage resulting in mass protests across the states.

"We only challenged the parts that are actually affecting people immediately, which are the parts about refugees and the parts about targeting these seven countries," Washington Solicitor General Noah Purcell told reporters, "the parts that have getting so much attention and have been causing such immediate harm to people, stranding them oversees and such, are enjoined right away."

Earlier in the day, State Department officials announced that fewer than 60,000 visas had been revoked under the travel ban. The officials revealed the number after a government lawyer in a Virginia courthouse claimed that 100,000 visas had been rescinded.

**Load-Date:** February 4, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Macintyre's Sketch: The S-word prompts an unseemly bout of consensus*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5BBS-8G41-J9YR-G0NW-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 22, 2014 Wednesday 8:09 PM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 473 words

**Byline:** Donald Macintyre

**Body**

MPs can be quite good at raising something without actually mentioning it. "As the Deputy Prime Minister knows, sorry is still the hardest word to say," Labour's Michael McCann said, misquoting Elton John in a preamble to a question which had nothing to with That Lib Dem Crisis.

(For readers unavoidably detained on Mars this week, this referred not to Nick Clegg himself, whose own "sorry" over tuition fees is so famous that it has been set to music, but the trouble caused him by former election wizard Lord Rennard's refusal to apologise to women accusing him of sexual harassment. Trouble now gruesomely magnified by fresh revelations about the Lib Dem MP Mike Hancock.)

McCann was in fact inviting David Cameron to agree that the SNP leader Alex Salmond should apologise for a Scottish independence White Paper "that dodges the tough questions". Which Cameron did. Expect more of these touching little truces between the main parties in the coming months, lasting just long enough for them to give the Nats a kicking.

Apologies were a theme since for about the 400th time Cameron had demanded one from Ed Miliband "for the mess that he left us". (Cameron himself is a serial apologiser, of course, but only for misdeeds he had absolutely nothing to do with, preferably occurring when he was still at prep school, like Bloody Sunday).

This came in the second, rougher half of exchanges in which Miliband provoked derisive roars from the Tory benches just by welcoming the fall in unemployment. (He had no alternative, but it was terrifying to think how they would have reacted if he'd denounced it). After Miliband then complained that average wages had dropped £1,600 since the election, Cameron declared: "He is like an arsonist who goes round setting fire after fire and then complains when the fire brigade are not putting out the fires fast enough."

Miliband's retort that Cameron was deploying his "Bullingdon Club routine" was hardly new. But it would be nice to imagine that he was implying that this was something the Bullers themselves might have done at Oxford. After all, the line between systematic restaurant trashing and a spot of mild fire-raising is fine.

Earlier Miliband had again tried out his softer, maturer style in pressing Cameron to agree to Britain's joining the new UN programme to resettle "a small number of the most vulnerable ***Syrian*** ***refugees***" - with modest success. As in, Cameron: "I do not think that there is a disagreement between us..." Miliband: "I do feel we are gradually inching forward on this issue". Refreshing while it lasted. Which wasn't long, inevitably.

Labour's Stephen Timms had an even clearer result, when Cameron told him he would be "happy to meet" the Trussell Trust, which co-ordinates 400 food banks. Not the best of news for Iain Duncan Smith, who has been refusing to do just that.

**Load-Date:** January 23, 2014

**End of Document**



[*Twitter account lists hundreds of Jews who were killed after being refused entry to US; They were escaping persecution from the Nazis, but most Jewish passengers of the St Louis ship were forced to return to Europe*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MRT-09K1-JCJY-G1HD-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 27, 2017 Friday 11:46 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 530 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz

**Body**

On International Holocaust Remembrance Day, one twitter account has tweeted out the individual stories of hundreds of Jewish refugees who were turned away by the US after attempting to escape the Nazis.

The St Louis ship sailed fromHamburg to Cuba in 1939, carryingmore than 900 passengers fleeing the Nazis. Most were not allowed to disembark when they got there.

Of those that were sent back, 254 people were killed, most in Auschwitz or Buchenwald concentration camps.

Read more

Donald Trump does not mention Jews in Holocaust memorial statement

Each person - their name and place of death, sometimes with a photograph, has been tweeted by one account called "St Louis Manifest"to remind social media users of the horrors which took place within living memory and which led to more than six million Jews being killed.

The remembrance tweets are particularly poignant in 2017 as Donald Trump sent out a statement which talked of "the innocent" killed in the Holocaust but which did not specifically mention the Jewish people.

Mr Trump has finished his first week in the Oval Office bysigningan executive order to ban ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from entering the country, as well as imposing a blanket, 120-day ban on refugees from six other Muslim-majority and war-torn countries.

My name is Joachim Hirsch. The US turned me away at the border in 1939. I was murdered in Auschwitz pic.twitter.com/pfvJtMpIps

- St. Louis Manifest (@Stl\_Manifest) January 27, 2017

My name is Irmgard Köppel. The US turned me away at the border in 1939. I was murdered in Auschwitz pic.twitter.com/s0ZWjsdYG9

- St. Louis Manifest (@Stl\_Manifest) January 27, 2017

The US onlytook inaround 12,500 Syrians in 2016, much less than other countries.

In 1939, the UK, Belgium, France and the Netherlands reached agreements with Jewish organisations to take in around 900 Jews from the St Louis ship.

Donald Trump announces a ban on refugees and all visitors from Muslim-majority countries

"The fact that President Trump's order appears designed to specifically limit the entry of Muslims evokes horrible memories among American Jews of the shameful period leading up to World War Two, when the United States failed to provide a safe haven for the vast majority of Jews in Europe trying to escape Nazi persecution,"said Jeremy Ben-Ami, president of the pro-Israel nonprofit organisation J Street.

MooseRoots | Graphiq

"Most ultimately perished in the Holocaust. That episode remains a blot on the conscience of the United States. It is a terrible irony that today, the same day on which this order is to be signed, is also International Holocaust Remembrance Day."

Read more

As a Jew, I know the warning signs in Trump's speech when I see them

Neo-Nazis planning to 'take action' against Jews in Montana town

Fascist website urges readers to 'troll' Jews, posts contact details

Mr Trump's former rival for the Presidency, Hillary Clinton, spoke of the incident in 1939 during the 2016 campaign trail.

"Now, we've had dark chapters in our history before,"she told the Jewish lobbying group AIPAC.

"If you see bigotry oppose it. If you see violence condemn it. If you see a bully, stand up to him,"she said.

**Load-Date:** January 29, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump could be impeached over 'Muslim ban', says Texas congressman; US border agency denies its agents were told to ignore judicial orders against ban*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MSD-2RT1-JCJY-G31W-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 1, 2017 Wednesday 7:52 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 586 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

A Texas congressman has joined calls for Donald Trump to be impeached for allegedly "exceeding his constitutional authority" with a temporary ban on refugees and immigration from seven Muslim-majority countries.

Joaquin Castro, a Democrat serving in the House of Representatives questioned whether the new President had instructed the US Customs and Border Protection agency (CBP) to disregard court orders against his executive order.

"If Pres. Trump ordered CBP to ignore a judicial order he should be censured as a warning. If he does it again Congress should remove him," Mr Castro wrote on Twitter.

"I have tremendous respect for the presidency but our Republic cannot tolerate a President who ignores direct judicial orders.#checksbalances"

Donald Trump sacks acting attorney general over immigration ban

He is one of a number of Democrats calling for Congress to investigate whether Mr Trump "intentionally exceeded his constitutional authority" to implement the temporary ban, which has sparked global protests.

Many demonstrators have called for Mr Trump to be impeached, but the prospect looks almost impossible with his Republican Party in control of both the House of Representatives and Senate.

Read more

Doanld Trump nominates Neil Gorsuch to Supreme Court

Nixon was only President apart from Trump to fire his Attorney General

State Department dissent memo over Trump's ban reaches 900 signatures

Both houses would have to vote on the move, with the US Constitution requiring a simple majority in the House to impeach a President for "treason, bribery, or other high crimes or misdemeanours".

To be removed from office, he or she must be convicted by the Senate by a two-thirds vote. Congressional elections will be held in 2018, when Democrats will be hoping to re-take control.

The executive order suspends the US refugee programme for four months, and ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** indefinitely, and bars visitors and migrants from seven Muslim-majority countries for 90 days.

Critics have labelled the policy a "Muslim ban" - an allegation denied by the President, who has called for asylum claims by Christians to be prioritised, earning a warning from the UN.

Gillian Christensen, a spokesperson for the CBP, denied the agency was directed to ignore court orders stopping enforcement of the executive order.

"CBP officers are not detaining anyone," she told

Buzzfeed

. "Green card holders who arrive in the US have to go through secondary screening but that process is working smoothly and relatively quickly.

"Furthermore, visa holders who would be affected by the executive order are being denied boarding at their point of departure so they are not even making it into the US."

Following chaos at airports over the weekend as US residents and visa holders were detained, the Secretary of Homeland Security, John Kelly, issued a clarification saying the "entry of lawful permanent residents is in the national interest".

Lawyers have accused border agents of ignoring a judge's stay against the order in attempts to deport legal visitors to the US, with dozens handcuffed and detained at airports.

The acting Attorney General, Sally Yates, was fired for publicly questioning Mr Trump's policy and ordering government lawyers not to defend it, prompting comparisons to the Nixon-era "Saturday night massacre".

Richard Nixon was on the verge of being impeached when the Attorney General and his deputy quit rather than carrying out orders to fire the prosecutor investigating him over Watergate.

**Load-Date:** February 1, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Our responsibility for refugees should not be forgotten; Even after Brexit, the UK cannot insulate itself from the obligations to help dealwith Europe's refugee crisis*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MMK-XP41-JCJY-G49F-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 14, 2017 Saturday 5:30 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EDITORIALS

**Length:** 547 words

**Byline:** Editorial

**Body**

Europe's refugee crisis may have been forgotten as winter has closed in, but it has not ended. People are still dying as they try to cross the Mediterranean, and those in France trying to reach Britain are still suffering.

Although the cold has made it harder and even more dangerous to attempt the crossing from north Africa, the numbers attempting it appear not to have fallen greatly.

More than 100 refugees drowned when a boat sank, as we reporttoday. On Friday 550 refugees were rescued by the Italian coastguard, when two died in the crush on the boats and four more were drowned.

This should suggest that those attempting the crossing are mostly not economic migrants, but desperate people fleeing conflict or persecution. Most of them know the risks and yet are still prepared to run them.

The Prime Minister is right, therefore, to continue the policy of her predecessor in emphasising the importance of dealing with the problem at source. The problem is that the British and other European governments have been impotent in resolving the conflict in Syria, and so the British government's policy has been heavily weighted towards providing help to refugees in camps in neighbouring countries: Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq.

Video shows poor standard of living for refugees in France

This is undoubtedly worthwhile, but it is impossible to escape the suspicion that it is partly an attempt to distract attention from Britain's absence of compassion towards refugees once they have made it to Europe. Theresa May has continued to insist, as Mr Cameron did, that it is better to help refugees in their own region. Slow progress has been made towards fulfilling the previous Prime Minister's promise of settling 20,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Britain by 2020. So far only about 3,000 have been resettled.

Meanwhile other European countries have accepted their responsibilities. The Italian authorities do most of the work of preventing more people from drowning in the Mediterranean, and Germany has taken more than its fair share of the refugees who have survived.

Not only are people dying in large numbers in unsafe boats in the unusually cold Mediterranean, but refugees trying to reach Britain are suffering in France. The Calais camp may have been broken up, but many people are still trying to get here, many of them hoping to reach friends and family here, some of them children. They are in accommodation centres elsewhere in France, or sleeping rough. Our joint responsibility for them, shared with the French government, has not ended with the clearance of the so-called Jungle at Calais.

One of the largely unspoken motives behind the British vote to leave the European Union may have been an attempt to insulate this country from the pressures of the refugee crisis affecting most of Europe.

The Independent

did not share this view. Not only is the UK relatively insulated anyway, by geography and by national control of asylum policy, but we ought to assume more of the responsibility for dealing with the crisis, because ultimately our interests cannot be separated from those of our continental partners.

Even when Britain has left the EU, we will be a member of the European family of nations, and we ought to assume our share of the responsibilities that go with that.

**Load-Date:** January 14, 2017

**End of Document**



[*US federal judge blocks Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban' in Michigan; The judge clarified that the executive order does not apply to lawful permanent US residents*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MSV-VRR1-JCJY-G04B-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 3, 2017 Friday 3:07 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 521 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz

**Body**

A federal judge in Michigan has halted Donald Trump's executive order to ban all travellers from seven Muslim-majority countries.

US District Judge Victoria Roberts in Detroit clarified that the order does not apply to lawful permanent residents of the US, including green card holders.

The lawsuit was brought by the Arab-American Civil Rights League, which argued that the ban on refugees and immigrants was unconstitutional.

It represented about six legal, permanent residents, some of whom had been turned away from planes that were heading to the US.

Read more

US Federal judge issues temporary halt of Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban'

The plaintiff's lawyer, Nabih Ayad, said she congratulated the judge for her "courage" to "address the vulnerable sector of the community".

"...This permanent injunction is the first and only order enjoining the president and the Department of Homeland Security and US Customs and Border Protection from preventing legal permanent residents from returning to the United States," she told

Detroit News.

"Although there has been a clarification from the White House, it was still unclear and could have been changed at any time.

More briefings and a hearing are expected to continue next week.

Mr Trump's chief strategist Steve Bannon was said to be a key architect of banning green card holders, overruling the Department of Homeland Security.

Protests across American airports in response to Trump's immigration ban

The courtruling in Michigan follows a similar legal battle in California, where Los Angeles District Judge Andre Birotte found that those who had already been cleared for legal residencyshould be allowed into the US.

Mr Birotte also ruled that valid immigrant visas could not be cancelled, including those issued from the seven barred countries - Syria, Iran, Iraq, Yemen, Libya, Sudan and Somalia.

The executiveorder, signed last Friday, led toUS Customs and Borderofficials immediately detaining anyone from those countries at an airport if they landed in the US, prompting massive protests around the countryand entangling lawful residents, and even US officials and translators.

The American Civil Liberties Union and the Council on American-Islamic Relations also filed lawsuits to challenge the order.

A New York judge ordered a halt to deportations of travellers who arrived at airports with valid visas to enter the US, but it was later reported that people had still been turned away.

Read more

Lufthansa continuing to fly passengers 'Muslim ban' countries

Iran responds to Trump's 'Muslim ban' by barring US wrestlers

Elon Musk to raise objections to Trump's 'Muslim ban' at meeting

The state of Virginia also filed a lawsuit accusing the President of ignoring a court order to halt the travel ban. It asked judges to demand for the President to show why he should not be held in contempt.

Mr Trump has remained defiant about the ban, insisting it would stop "bad people with bad intentions" from coming to the US.

The order has indefinitely suspended ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, and vows to take in only 50,000 refugees from around the world per fiscal year once the settlement programme is resumed.

**Load-Date:** February 3, 2017

**End of Document**



[*EU says member states can start deporting refugees and migrants back to Greece from March; Returning immigrants'will provide further disincentives against irregular entry,' claims commission's deputyleader*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MBP-11X1-JCJY-G30W-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 8, 2016 Thursday 11:10 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 552 words

**Byline:** Harriet Agerholm

**Body**

Countries in the EU will be able to return migrants to Greece from mid-March, the European Commisssion has announced.

Brussels hopesthe move will help to restore the bloc's migration policies, which collapsed under a mass influx in 2015.

Under EU rules, the first country of entry is responsible for handling an asylum claim, but that system broke down last year in Greece, the main gateway to Europe for more than a million refugees and migrants.

Read more

Turkey 'to send 3,000 refugees to Greece every day'

Woman and child killed in fire at refugee detention camp

Far-right mob attacks refugee camp on Greek island

Unable to cope, Greece let many of them pass through on their own to Germany and other wealthyEUstates in defiance of the bloc's rules. That led countries along the route gradually to close their borders, stranding many in Greece, which struggled to offer them proper shelter.

TheEuropean Commission on Thursday said Greece has improved in hosting and registering arriving asylum-seekers.

It recommended thatEUstates be allowed to send back to Greece asylum-seekers who enter the bloc that way and make it deeper intoEurope from mid-March onwards. The recommendation does not apply to those who have already made that journey.

"This will provide further disincentives against irregular entry and secondary movements, and is an important step for the return to a normally functioning ... system," said the Commission's deputy head, Frans Timmermans.

The bloc's asylum policy and its zone of internal free travel both collapsed last year as an uncontrolled flow ofmigrantsand refugees triggered bitter disputes betweenEUstates on how to handle them.

These disputes remain unresolved and more than 62,000 people are still in Greece, even though anEUagreement with Turkey in March reduced the arrivals to a trickle.

The failure is in large part due to reluctance byEUstates to take in people from Greece and Italy to help process their asylum requests and ease the burden on the two frontline states.

So far, fewer than 8,200 people have been moved from these two Mediterranean countries to otherEUstates under a plan that was supposed to cover 160,000 people and which expires next September. The Commission called onEUstates to step up.

"Our aim is to relocate all those in Italy and Greece who are eligible for relocation within the next year," said the bloc's migration chief, Dimitris Avramopoulos.

Brussels put additional conditions on returning people beyond March, saying Greece should give individual assurances of fair treatment for any returnees and that unaccompanied children not be sent back at all.

Obligatory quotas on refugees are now the focus of a tug of war betweenEUstates seeking to reform their troubled common asylum rules.

The Commission said arrivals from Turkey to Greece stood at an average of 92 people a day since March, compared to thousands that were making at times making it in a single day before the deal with Ankara. It said 1,187 people have been deported from Greece to Turkey since March 2016.

Under the deal with Turkey, which looks fragile now due to a breakdown in ties following Ankara's crackdown in the wake of a botched military coup in July, Brussels also said it had spent 677 millioneuros of the 3 billion promised to help ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** living on Turkish soil.

Reuters

**Load-Date:** December 8, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Harrowing images show desperate Syrian refugees break through fence to Turkish territories to escape Isis; Photos show men, women and children climbing barbed wire fence*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5G73-MP41-JCJY-G4G5-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

June 15, 2015 Monday 11:34 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 118 words

**Byline:** Siobhan Fenton

**Body**

Thousands of desperate refugees are seen clambering through broken fences in a bid to enter Turkey as they flee from Isis forces in Syria in a harrowing set of images.

Syrians fleeing fighting between Isis and Kurdish forces made the dramatic journey at the Akcakale border in order to cross into Turkish territories.

Men, women and children mounted fences topped with barbed wire at the border.

Babies who were too young to walk were lifted by desperate parents through the crowds.

Turkey has taken in some 1.8 million ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, since the conflict erupted in 2011.

Read moreUS spends $9m a day fighting Isis'Jihadist' cyber attack on French TV stationIsis sex slaves 'sold at market for price of cigarettes'

**Load-Date:** June 15, 2015

**End of Document**



[*White House cites Quebec mosque attack to justify Donald Trump's security policies; 'It's a terrible reminder of why we must remain vigilant, and why the president is taking steps to be proactive', says Sean Spicer*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MS6-3FR1-JCJY-G3WJ-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 31, 2017 Tuesday 8:28 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 509 words

**Byline:** Peter Walker

**Body**

Donald Trump's administration appeared to cite the terrorist attack on Muslims at a mosque as justification for the US president's own anti-terror policies.

White Housepress secretary Sean Spicer said the shooting, which killed six worshippers at the Quebec Islamic Cultural Centre in Canada, was a "terrible reminder "of why the Republican leader must be "proactive, rather than reactive".

Twenty-seven-year-old French-Canadian student Alexandre Bissonnette has been charged over what Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has branded a terrorist attack.

Read more

Quebec Mosque shooting suspect was a fan of Donald Trump

"We condemn this attack in the strongest possible terms," said Mr Spicer, who did not refer to it as terrorism.

"It's a terrible reminder of why we must remain vigilant, and why the president is taking steps to be proactive, rather than reactive, when it comes to our nation's safety and security."

Mr Spicer, reading from a statement at the daily press briefing yesterday, did not say which policies he was referring to.

Mr Trump's team however has talked of the importance of being reactive when justifying the highly controversialimmigration ban.

Hundreds on Twitter have expressed confusion over why Mr Trump's team would link an attack, which appeared to target Muslims, to policies which restrict the immigration of Muslims.

Fox News tweeted yesterday that the suspect was of Moroccan origin, based onreports from French language newspaper La Presse.

But police later said this second man, Mohamed el Khadir, was simply a witness and was never arrested.

So.....Spicer is using the Quebec terrorist attack on a mosque to support the ban??? If there's a logic there I don't see it.

- Ruby✨ (@rubyfspeaks) January 31, 2017

Spicer defends Trump's ban citing Quebec mosque attack as justification... He does know that was an attack on Muslims right? pic.twitter.com/UmCxwAruwS

- Alex Mitchell (@AlMitchell89) January 31, 2017

"We're going to put the safety of Americans first, we're not going to wait and react, as I said in the statement, the president is going to be very proactive in protecting this country," added Mr Spicer, who said Mr Trump had spoken to Mr Trudeau by telephone.

"We're not going to wait until we get attacked and figure how we can make sure it doesn't happen again."

Mr Trump's ban suspends admission of all refugees for 120 days, imposes an indefinite ban on ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, and bars admission for 90 days of all immigrants and visa-holders from Syria, Iran, Iraq, Yemen, Libya, Somalia and Sudan.

Alexandre

Bissonnette

has been charged with six counts of murder

Reuters

The 70-year-old property magnate has already fired acting Attorney General Sally Yates for defying the executive order.

Security expert Dr. Bessma Momani at the University of Waterloo,told

Global News

: "The reality here is that there is no rhyme or reason from the security lens to explain those seven countries.

"We can't use the security lens to explain what is frankly a very arbitrary, not very well thought out plan."

**Load-Date:** January 31, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Seattle judge blocks Donald Trump's immigration ban nationwide; Airlines are now allowing people to enter the US from the affected countries*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MT2-00H1-F021-64F6-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 4, 2017 Saturday 12:27 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 542 words

**Byline:** Justin Carissimo

**Body**

A federal judge in Seattle hastemporarily blocked President Donald Trump's executive order banning entry into the United States from seven Muslim-majority countries.

US District Judge James Robert, who was appointed by President George Bush in 2003, issued a temporary restraining order against the Trump administration's restrictions, ruling that the ban would be immediately stopped nationwide.

Within hours of the ruling, government officials told airlines in a conference call to begin allowing previously barred passengers to fly. However, the White House issued a statement late Friday announcing that the Department of Justice would file an emergency haltof judge's order. Before sending a second, revised statement to the media, the White House called the judge's ruling"outrageous."

Read more

Donald Trump boasts about January jobs growth but gets numbers wrong

While the federal government argues that the ban protects the country from these countries, Judge Robert said he found "no support" for those claims.

In Attorney Ferguson's 90-page lawsuit, he claims the Trump administration is violating the Constitution's protections for religious freedom. The state of Minnesota has also joined the state of Washington's lawsuit which is backed by major companies including Amazon, Expedia, and several institutions of higher-education.

New York and Virginia have also taken legal action against the president.

Donald Trump sacks acting attorney general over immigration ban

Reacting to the complaint, White House attorneys issued a response brief, claiming that Washington state is unable to challenge the President and his intentions.

"Every President over the last 30 years has invoked this authority to suspend or impose restrictions on the entry of certain aliens or classes of aliens, in some instances including classifications based on nationality," the brief reads, according to the

Seattle Times

. The brief also claims that foreign nationals do not have the constitutional right to enter the country.

Attorney Ferguson filed his lawsuit on Monday, promising to continue his fight against the ban.

"I want to be very clear, what the judge announced today was nationwide the president's executive order does not apply," he told reporters on Friday.

Protests across American airports in response to Trump's immigration ban

President Trump's order banned immigration for 90 days from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen. It also halted the admission of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** indefinitely along with all other refugees for 120 days, sparking confusion and outrage resulting in mass protests across the states.

"We only challenged the parts that are actually affecting people immediately, which are the parts about refugees and the parts about targeting these seven countries," Washington Solicitor General Noah Purcell told reporters, "the parts that have getting so much attention and have been causing such immediate harm to people, stranding them oversees and such, are enjoined right away."

Earlier in the day, State Department officials announced that fewer than 60,000 visas had been revoked under the travel ban. The officials revealed the number after a government lawyer in a Virginia courthouse claimed that 100,000 visas had been rescinded.

**Load-Date:** February 4, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Seattle judge blocks Donald Trump's immigration ban nationwide; Airlines are now allowing people to enter the US from the affected countries*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MT3-00V1-JCJY-G494-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 4, 2017 Saturday 12:27 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 559 words

**Byline:** Justin Carissimo

**Body**

A federal judge in Seattle has temporarily blocked President Donald Trump's executive order banning entry into the United States from seven Muslim-majority countries.

US District Judge James Robart, who was appointed by President George Bush in 2003, issued a temporary restraining order against the Trump administration's restrictions, ruling that the ban would be immediately stopped nationwide.

Within hours of the ruling, US Customs and Border Protection officials told major American airlineson a conference call to begin allowing previously barred passengers on US-bound flights.However, the White House issued a statement late Friday announcing that the Department of Justice would file an emergency halt of judge's order. Before sending a second, revised statement to the media, the White House called the judge's ruling "outrageous."

While the federal government argues that the ban protects the country from these countries, Judge Robart said he found "no support" for those claims.

"This ruling is another stinging rejection of President Trump's unconstitutional Muslim ban," Omar Jadwat, director of the ACLU's Immigrants' Rights Project, said in a statement. "We will keep fighting to permanently dismantle this un-American executive order."

In Attorney Ferguson's 90-page lawsuit, he claims the Trump administration is violating the Constitution's protections for religious freedom. The state of Minnesota has also joined the state of Washington's lawsuit which is backed by major companies including Amazon, Expedia, and several institutions of higher-education.

New York and Virginia have also taken legal action against the president.

Reacting to the complaint, White House attorneys issued a response brief, claiming that Washington state is unable to challenge the President and his intentions.

"Every President over the last 30 years has invoked this authority to suspend or impose restrictions on the entry of certain aliens or classes of aliens, in some instances including classifications based on nationality," the brief reads, according to the

Seattle Times

. The brief also claims that foreign nationals do not have the constitutional right to enter the country.

Attorney Ferguson filed his lawsuit on Monday, promising to continue his fight against the ban.

"I want to be very clear, what the judge announced today was nationwide the president's executive order does not apply," he told reporters on Friday.

President Trump's order banned immigration for 90 days from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen. It also halted the admission of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** indefinitely along with all other refugees for 120 days, sparking confusion and outrage resulting in mass protests across the states.

"We only challenged the parts that are actually affecting people immediately, which are the parts about refugees and the parts about targeting these seven countries," Washington Solicitor General Noah Purcell told reporters, "the parts that have getting so much attention and have been causing such immediate harm to people, stranding them oversees and such, are enjoined right away."

Earlier in the day, State Department officials announced that fewer than 60,000 visas had been revoked under the travel ban. The officials revealed the number after a government lawyer in a Virginia courthouse claimed that 100,000 visas had been rescinded.

**Load-Date:** February 4, 2017

**End of Document**



[*The S-word prompts an unseemly bout of consensus; Sketch*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5BBP-YR11-F072-40V7-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

January 23, 2014 Thursday

First Edition

Copyright 2014 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 16

**Length:** 476 words

**Byline:** DONALD MACINTYRE

**Body**

MPs can be quite good at raising something without actually mentioning it. "As the Deputy Prime Minister knows, sorry is still the hardest word to say," Labour's Michael McCann said yesterday, misquoting Elton John in a preamble to a question which had nothing to with That Lib Dem Crisis.

(For readers unavoidably detained on Mars this week, this referred not to Nick Clegg himself, whose own "sorry" over tuition fees is so famous that it has been set to music, but the trouble caused him by former election wizard Lord Rennard's refusal to apologise to women accusing him of sexual harassment. Trouble now gruesomely magnified by fresh revelations about the Lib Dem MP Mike Hancock.)

McCann was in fact inviting David Cameron to agree that the SNP leader Alex Salmond should apologise for a Scottish independence White Paper "that dodges the tough questions". Which Cameron did. Expect more of these touching little truces between the main parties in the coming months, lasting just long enough for them to give the Nats a kicking.

Apologies were a theme yesterday since for about the 400th time Cameron had demanded one from Ed Miliband "for the mess that he left us". (Cameron himself is a serial apologiser, of course, but only for misdeeds he had absolutely nothing to do with, preferably occurring when he was still at prep school, like Bloody Sunday).

This came in the second, rougher half of exchanges in which Miliband provoked derisive roars from the Tory benches just by welcoming the fall in unemployment. (He had no alternative, but it was terrifying to think how they would have reacted if he'd denounced it). After Miliband then complained that average wages had dropped £1,600 since the election, Cameron declared: "He is like an arsonist who goes round setting fire after fire and then complains when the fire brigade are not putting out the fires fast enough."

Miliband's retort that Cameron was deploying his "Bullingdon Club routine" was hardly new. But it would be nice to imagine that he was implying that this was something the Bullers themselves might have done at Oxford. After all, the line between systematic restaurant trashing and a spot of mild fire-raising is fine.

Earlier Miliband had again tried out his softer, maturer style in pressing Cameron to agree to Britain's joining the new UN programme to resettle "a small number of the most vulnerable ***Syrian*** ***refugees***" - with modest success. As in, Cameron: "I do not think that there is a disagreement between us???" Miliband: "I do feel we are gradually inching forward on this issue". Refreshing while it lasted. Which wasn't long, inevitably.

Labour's Stephen Timms had an even clearer result, when Cameron told him he would be "happy to meet" the Trussell Trust, which co-ordinates 400 food banks. Not the best of news for Iain Duncan Smith, who has been refusing to do just that.

**Load-Date:** January 22, 2014

**End of Document**



[*German police arrest three Syrian men 'sent to Europe by Isis to carry out terror attacks' as part of Paris attacks network; Investigators say 17-year-old suspect had been trained with weapons and explosives in Raqqa*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KPC-1N61-F021-64CV-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 13, 2016 Tuesday 10:06 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 546 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

German police have arrested three Syrian men suspected of being deployed by Isis to carry out new terror attacks in Europe.

Prosecutors said the three suspects were dispatched to Germany last year "either to carry out a mission that they had been informed about or to wait for further instructions".

They were named as Mahir al-H, 17, Ibrahim M, 18, and Mohamed A, 18, with their surnames redacted according to German privacy laws.

"Concrete missions or orders have not yet been found in the course of investigations carried out so far," a spokesperson for the federal prosecutor said.

Read more

Isis fighter reveals group's plan to spread even after defeat in Iraq and Syria and claims collusion with Turkey

Isis commanders in Syria 'directed failed plot to launch new terror attack in Paris'

Isis plot to attack UK foiled as arrests by Scotland Yard thwart 'significant' operation

Thomas de Maiziere, the German interior minister, said the men could be part of a "sleeper cell" linked to the terrorists who carried out the Paris attacks that killed 130 people in November.

"Everything points to the same smuggling organisation as with the Paris attackers having brought these three who were arrested to Germany," he added.

"And everything points to the travel documents having come from the same workshop."

The arrests were made during a series of dawn raids involving 200 officers, with police searching refugee centres in Großhansdorf, Ahrensburg and Reinfeld in the state of Schleswig-Holstein.

Investigators said the 17-year-old suspect had been trained to use guns and handle explosives in Isis' de-facto capital of Raqqa before crossing into Europe on the refugee route from Turkey to Greece.

The trio, carrying false passports, left Syria in October 2015 - around the same time as at least two of the Paris suicide bombers who crossed to the island of Leros.

They reached Germany in November and have received four-figure payments in US dollars from Isis, as well as mobile phones with pre-installed communication apps.

More than a million refugees and asylum seekers arrived in Germany last year, when Chancellor Angela Merkel opened the border to all Syrians fleeing the country's civil war.

Germany has been targeted in a spate of recent attacks, including three carried out by asylum seekers, of which two were claimed by Isis.

Timeline: Germany rocked by week of deadly violence

Several terror suspects posing as ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** have been arrested in German counter-terror operations so far this year, although no convictions have been announced.

Harry Sarfo, a former Isis recruit,

told

The Independent

he was approached by commanders looking for militants to carry out attacks in the UK and Germany while living in Raqqa last year.

He said he declined and later fled the group, but there are fears it has continued to exploit the refugee route to send back trained jihadists.

Europol estimates that up to 5,000 Europeans may have undergone training at terror camps abroad and the agency's director has warned the continent faces its "biggest terror threat in more than a decade" from returning fighters.

Germany's Federal Criminal Police Office has received 400 tip-offs over migrants alleged to have extremist links but found only 60 with sufficient evidence to begin investigations.

**Load-Date:** September 13, 2016

**End of Document**



[*John Oliver once begged Donald Trump to run for President: 'I'm an idiot'; The British satirical news host has one final message for those who haven't cast their vote*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M42-JTV1-F021-62C4-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

November 7, 2016 Monday 10:08 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 486 words

**Byline:** Heather Saul

**Body**

John Olivercommitted himself to always holding Donald Trumpto account on his HBO show as soon as the reality TV star stepped forward as a prospective future President of the United States.

What few will know is that he was also among a chorus of voices encouraging him to run, albeit for his own amusement, not because of how their political beliefs align.

Throughout a stormy election campaign characterised by its ugliness and its controversies, Oliver has delivered repeated warnings about voting for a man who has suggested the election is being rigged, has promised to use tax payer money to build a huge wall, has suggested ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** could be a fifth column sent by Isisand has been accused of sexual assault or harassment by various women, all of which he has denied.

On Sunday, the British

Last Week Tonight

host used his satirical news show to deliver one final message to the US electorate before they choose their next President on 8 November and bring an end to "this nightmare of a campaign".

"This election hasn't so much appealed to our better angels as it has groped our better angels, mocked their weight, and called them 'sixes at best'," said Oliver. "We are at a point where this man has a genuine shot at the presidency despite having blown up a political party, undermined confidence in our electoral system, declares open season on journalists, and unleashed a river of racism and misogyny. Also, and I feel like we've lost sight of this: He has really stupid hair."

Then Oliver, who once compared Mr Trump to America's back mole ("It may have seemed harmless a year ago, but now that it's gotten frighteningly bigger, it is no longer wise to ignore it")had a confession to make. He took the audience back to his guest shot on

The Daily Show

three years ago, where he made a plea to Mr Trump which has come back to haunt him: to run for President. "Do it. Do it. Look at me. Do it. I will personally write you a campaign check now on behalf of this country which does not want you to be President but which badly wants you to run."

The warnings about a Trump administration have been coming thick and fast in recent days as polls show Hillary Clinton ahead in Ohio, Mr Trump holding a seven-point lead in Iowa. The once ridiculed scenario is now taking on a grim reality as people suspend their disbelief. "The whole world is laughing at us right now," Madonna told her fans on Sunday. "All politicians lie. All. Even our most beloved and esteemed. Can we please get off the email scenario and focus on the bigger picture? If Trump were elected we would be at war in no time at all."

"I'm an idiot," admitted Oliver. "But that clearly shows no outcome is certain, so if you are thinking you don't have to show up to vote on Tuesday because there is no way the impossible could happen, take it from somebody who has learned from painful experience: You are wrong about that."

**Load-Date:** November 7, 2016

**End of Document**



[*John Oliver once begged Donald Trump to run for President: 'I'm an idiot'; The British satirical news host has one final message for those who haven't cast their vote*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M42-JTV1-F021-62C5-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

November 7, 2016 Monday 10:08 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 502 words

**Byline:** Heather Saul

**Body**

John Olivercommitted himself to always holding Donald Trumpto account on his HBO show as soon as the reality TV star stepped forward as a prospective future President of the United States.

What few will know is that he was also among a chorus of voices encouraging him to run, albeit not because of how their political beliefs align.

Throughout a stormy election campaign characterised by its ugliness and its controversies, Oliver has delivered repeated warnings about voting for a man who has suggested the election is being rigged, has promised to use tax payer money to build a huge wall, has suggested ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** could be a fifth column sent by Isisand has been accused of sexual assault or harassment by various women, all of which he has denied.

On Sunday, the British

Last Week Tonight

host used his satirical news show to deliver one final message to the US electorate before they choose their next President on 8 November and bring an end to "this nightmare of a campaign".

"This election hasn't so much appealed to our better angels as it has groped our better angels, mocked their weight, and called them 'sixes at best'," said Oliver. "We are at a point where this man has a genuine shot at the presidency despite having blown up a political party, undermined confidence in our electoral system, declares open season on journalists, and unleashed a river of racism and misogyny. Also, and I feel like we've lost sight of this: He has really stupid hair."

Then Oliver, who once compared Mr Trump to America's back mole ("It may have seemed harmless a year ago, but now that it's gotten frighteningly bigger, it is no longer wise to ignore it") had a confession to make. He took the audience back to his guest slot on

The Daily Show

three years ago, where he made a plea to Mr Trump which has come back to haunt him: to run for President. "Do it. Do it. Look at me. Do it. I will personally write you a campaign check now on behalf of this country which does not want you to be President but which badly wants you to run."

"I'm an idiot," admitted Oliver. "But that clearly shows no outcome is certain, so if you are thinking you don't have to show up to vote on Tuesday because there is no way the impossible could happen, take it from somebody who has learned from painful experience: You are wrong about that."

The warnings about a Trump administration have been coming thick and fast in recent days as polls showHillary Clinton ahead in Ohio and Mr Trump holding a seven-point lead in Iowa. A once ridiculed scenario is now taking on a grim reality as people suspend their disbelief. "The whole world is laughing at us right now,"Madonna told her fans on Sunday. "All politicians lie. All. Even our most beloved and esteemed. Can we please get off the email scenario and focus on the bigger picture? "Wake up people - this is not a reality show. I appreciate his charm and entertainment value but he is not qualified to be a head of state! Facts! Vote Clinton or we are all f\*\*ked."

**Load-Date:** November 7, 2016

**End of Document**



[*170 refugees who drowned off Egypt coast 'do not deserve sympathy', Egyptian MP says; He previously said women must undergo female genital mutilation to help curb male 'sexual weakness'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KT4-G3P1-F021-629Y-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 26, 2016 Monday 1:54 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 540 words

**Byline:** Samuel Osborne

**Body**

An Egyptian MP has said that hundreds of refugees who drowned off the coast of Egypt "do not deserve sympathy" and suggested they deserved to die.

Elhamy Agina, who has previously said women must undergo female genital mutilation (FGM) to help curb male "sexual weakness", also blamed the parents of refugees for not bringing them up right and suggested they should be punished.

"If young people travel behind their parents' backs or without their permission it is their own fault what happens and they do not deserve sympathy," Mr Agina told local media, according to a translation by

The New Arab.

Refugees drown after boat capsizes off Egypt's coast

"The parents of young people who migrate illegally, get caught trying to do so or die [in the process] should be punished, because these young people are reckless and have not found anyone to tell them right from wrong," he added.

"If the government, which has eased travel procedures, had been the one who told these young people to flee on that boat and drown then we would immediately hold the government accountable."

A boat carrying rescue teams returns to the shore at the port city of Rosetta, Egypt (EPA)

On Monday, an Egyptian Health Ministry official said a total of 170 bodies had been pulled from the waters in the five days since the boat sank.

The death toll is expected to rise, as many bodies are thought to be trapped inside the boat's refrigerator, the official said.

Survivors said the boat was carrying up to 450 migrants to Italy from Egypt.

Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi said Egyptians must join hands with his government to prevent a repeat of the tragedy.

Read more

At least 162 bodies recovered after boat carrying hundreds of refugees sinks

France to relocate refugees and migrants 'within weeks' in bid to close Calais Jungle camp

Calais Jungle volunteer who raised alarm over 'sexual exploitation' of refugees publicly names himself

EU should set up 'giant refugee city' in Libya, says Hungary Prime Minister

Denmark's High Court upholds people smuggling conviction for couple who gave ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** lift and biscuits

In his first public comments on the disaster, Mr el-Sisi said the government could not safeguard the country's porous land and sea borders alone.

"As a state, along with its institutions, we are concerned and committed to safeguarding our borders and prevent this, but society must contribute to the effort so this is never repeated."

Many of the Egyptians on board the boat were unescorted minors or single men in their early 20s looking for work in western Europe.

The fact that they were willing to risk their lives to reach Europe has brought into focus Egypt's harsh economic realities, with many of the country's 91 million people struggling to cope with double digit unemployment and rising inflation among a host of economic woes.

Graphiq

Mr el-Sisi also used his televised address to reassure Egyptians that everything was being done to revitalise the country's ailing economy.

"There is hope, but we will not be able to overcome all the challenges in one, two or four years.

"No, it will take time," he added. "We have not forgotten about you, but it takes times to achieve results."

**Load-Date:** September 26, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Justin Trudeau's statement to Donald Trump could make Americans think twice about emigrating to Canada; Despite Mr Trudeau's stark contrast to almost everything Mr Trump has pledged, the Canadian Prime Minister pledged to 'keep building the Canada-US relationship'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M4P-TWD1-JCJY-G3BB-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

November 10, 2016 Thursday 12:41 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 543 words

**Byline:** Olivia Blair

**Body**

For Americans hurriedly vying to cross the Canadian border and stay there for at least the next four years, Justin Trudeau has just reinforced that they will never fully escapeDonald Trump.

On Tuesday, as it became increasingly apparent Mr Trump was on course for a shock victory in the US presidential election the Canadian immigration site crashed as a flurry of Trump opponents anxiously weighed up their options.

However, on Wednesday, the beloved Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau spoke to the President-elect where they both pledged to "keep building the Canada-US relationship".

He also congratulated him in a statement saying: "Canada has no closer friend, partner and ally than the United States. We look forward to working very closely with President-elect Trump, his administration and with the United States Congress in the years ahead, including on issues such as trade, investment and international peace and security.

I congratulate President-elect @realDonaldTrump on his election victory - please read my full statement: [*https://t.co/Kv7fK6B5BA*](https://t.co/Kv7fK6B5BA)

- Justin Trudeau (@JustinTrudeau) November 9, 2016

"The relationship between our two countries serves as a model for the world. Our shared values, deep cultural ties, and strong integrated economies will continue to provide the basis for advancing our strong and prosperous partnership."

While Mr Trudeau may talk about "shared values", his one-year-old government has come to embody the antithesis to what the prospects of a Trump presidency have offered. A welcoming with open arms to ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** fleeing persecution as opposed to a "complete shutdown" of Muslim immigration and a 50/50 gender equal cabinet led by a prime minister who openly calls himself a feminist compared to thecomments America's new president has made about using fame to "grab" women are just two examples.

I've just spoken with President-elect Trump - and we agreed to meet soon to keep building the Canada-US relationship.

- Justin Trudeau (@JustinTrudeau) November 10, 2016

As it is protocol, it is not surprising Mr Trudeau took the high road by congratulating Mr Trump. Other world leaders followed suit, some more reluctant than others.

Read more

Bernie Sanders unafraid of challenging Donald Trump

Theresa May insisted she will preserve the "enduring and special" relationship between the UK and US after previously decrying his unfounded claims parts of London are so radicalised by Muslims that police do not go there as "nonsense" and claiming he "does not understand the UK and what happens in the UK".

Other international heads of government were less warm in their statements. Chancellor Angela Merkel offered Mr Trump "a close working relationship" on the basis that the two countries continue to share values of "democracy, freedom, respect for the law and for human dignity irrespective of origin, skin colour, religion, gender, sexual orientation or political conviction".

InsideGov | Graphiq

The French president Francois Hollande frostily said the Trump victory opens a "period of uncertainty".

"Some positions taken by Donald Trump during the US campaign contradict values and interests we share with the United States," he said.

**Load-Date:** November 10, 2016

**End of Document**



[*John Oliver once begged Donald Trump to run for President: 'I'm an idiot'; The British satirical news host has one final message for those who haven't cast their vote*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M42-JTV1-F021-62C6-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

November 7, 2016 Monday 10:08 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 506 words

**Byline:** Heather Saul

**Body**

John Olivercommitted himself to always holding Donald Trumpto account on his HBO show as soon as the reality TV star stepped forward as a prospective future President of the United States.

What few will know is that he was also among a chorus of voices encouraging him to run, albeit not because of how their political beliefs align.

Throughout a stormy election campaign characterised by its ugliness and its controversies, Oliver has delivered repeated warnings about voting for a man who has suggested the election is being rigged, has promised to use tax payer money to build a huge wall, has suggested ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** could be a fifth column sent by Isisand has been accused of sexual assault or harassment by various women, all of which he has denied.

On Sunday, the British

Last Week Tonight

host used his satirical news show to deliver one final message to the US electorate before they choose their next President on 8 November and bring an end to "this nightmare of a campaign".

"This election hasn't so much appealed to our better angels as it has groped our better angels, mocked their weight, and called them 'sixes at best'," said Oliver. "We are at a point where this man has a genuine shot at the presidency despite having blown up a political party, undermined confidence in our electoral system, declares open season on journalists, and unleashed a river of racism and misogyny. Also, and I feel like we've lost sight of this: He has really stupid hair."

Then Oliver, who once compared Mr Trump to America's back mole ("It may have seemed harmless a year ago, but now that it's gotten frighteningly bigger, it is no longer wise to ignore it") had a confession to make. He took the audience back to his guest slot on

The Daily Show

three years ago, where he made a plea to Mr Trump which has come back to haunt him: to run for President. "Do it. Do it. Look at me. Do it. I will personally write you a campaign check now on behalf of this country which does not want you to be President but which badly wants you to run."

"I'm an idiot," admitted Oliver. "But that clearly shows no outcome is certain, so if you are thinking you don't have to show up to vote on Tuesday because there is no way the impossible could happen, take it from somebody who has learned from painful experience: You are wrong about that."

The warnings about a Trump administration have been coming thick and fast in recent days. Latest polls are showingHillary Clinton ahead in Ohio and Mr Trump holding a seven-point lead in Iowaand a once ridiculed scenario is now taking on a grim reality, forcing people to suspend their disbelief. "The whole world is laughing at us right now,"Madonna told her fans on Sunday. "All politicians lie. All. Even our most beloved and esteemed. Can we please get off the email scenario and focus on the bigger picture? "Wake up people - this is not a reality show. I appreciate his charm and entertainment value but he is not qualified to be a head of state! Facts! Vote Clinton or we are all f\*\*ked."

**Load-Date:** November 7, 2016

**End of Document**



[*The rise of politicians like Donald Trump and Nigel Farage contributed to Jo Cox's death, says murdered MP's husband; In a New York Times op-ed, Mr Cox condemns populists who 'share a strategy based on exploiting divisions between people'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KSG-JMB1-F021-606F-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 23, 2016 Friday 2:22 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 466 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz

**Body**

The husband of the murdered MP Jo Cox has spoken out against a new wave of populists and extremists, including Donald Trump, for inciting hatred and fear.

Brendan Cox, who attended the New York United Nations' summit on refugees this week, wrote in a

New York Times

op-ed that the "aberration" of his wife being killed in the UK happened within a context of anti-immigrant rhetoric that made such a crime more likely.

Ms Cox was murdered on 16 June in her home constituency of Batley and Spen in Yorkshire, just one week before the UK voted to leave the European Union.

Read more

Jo Cox's husband condemns 'act of terror' at memorial

Her husband, who was left to take care of their two young children, Cuillin and Lejla, wrote in the newspaper that the current atmosphere and rhetoric partially contributed to his wife's death, rather than the suspect's reported mental illness.

"This is not just a British problem. The rise of the populists and extremists -who tell people that the problems they face are because of some other group -is a global phenomenon," he said.

"In France, the National Front leader, Marine Le Pen, smears Muslims. In Hungary, Prime Minister Viktor Orban peddles hatred of refugees. In Britain, the former leader of the UKIndependence Party, Nigel Farage, spreads prejudice toward Romanians. And in the United States, the Republican presidential nominee, Donald JTrump, insults Mexicans and Muslims."

He also pointed to history to show how quickly hate is normalised, and the danger of staying silent.

"The fight against hatred and division is a defining issue of our time; no institution can afford to sit it out and hope for the best," he said.

"We have powerful support, but much of it is too passive; we must build stronger coalitions."

Since the death of his wife, Mr Cox said he has focused on raising his children and advancing what Ms Cox believed in: helping ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, addressing people's concerns about security and immigration and bringing communities together to gain mutual understanding.

Read more

Jo Cox 'died for her political views', says husband Brendan Cox in first interview

Jo Cox dead: Read husband Brendan Cox's statement in full

Jo Cox death: MP's husband Brendan Cox says wife was 'killed by hate'

"It is the good that must come out of the horror," he wrote.

He acknowledged that the UN summit in New York would not change the plight of refugees overnight, and that a long-term plan was needed.

This week, president Obama agreed to welcome 110,000 refugees in 2017, an increase of 60 per cent on the last year.

Obama just committed to take 110k refugees in 2017 (60% increase on 2015) despite toxicity of US politics.That is what leadership looks like

- Brendan Cox (@MrBrendanCox) September 20, 2016

"This is what leadership looks like," said Mr Cox on Twitter.

**Load-Date:** September 23, 2016

**End of Document**



[*What did Trump say during the second presidential debate against Hillary Clinton?; With his poll numbers in decline, the Republican candidate didn't hold back in his attacks on Hillary Clinton*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KX4-2WN1-F021-60K7-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

October 10, 2016 Monday 4:21 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 489 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz

**Body**

At the second presidential debate in St Louis, Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton faced off on the most talked about issues of the day: his comments on sexual assault, Muslims, ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, Ms Clinton's emails and Obamacare.

But among the pointed barbs, the insults, accusations and interruptions, few clear statements on polices came forth during the 90 minutes.

Below is a round-up of what the Republican nominee said on the most important talking points of the debate.

Read more

Hilary Clinton says leaked tape proves Donald Trump disrespects women

The 2005 video which shows him bragging that he can grab women's genitals.

"I'm very embarrassed by it, I hate it, but it's locker room talk. It's one of those things. I will knock the hell out of ISIS,"

On Bill Clinton

"What he's done to women, there's never been anybody in the history of politics in this nation that's been so abusive to women."

On prosecuting Hillary Clinton

"I hate to say it but if I win I'm going to instruct my attorney general to get a special prosecutor to look into your situation. There has never been so many lies, so much deception. You ought to be ashamed of yourself," Mr Trump said, and in response, Mrs Clinton said: "It's just awfully good that someone with the temperament of Donald Trump is not in charge of the law in this country." Mr Trump replied: "Because you'd be in jail."

Whether or not Mr Trump supported the war on Iraq

Ms Clinton said she had insisted for the "10th or 12th time" that Mr Trump had supported the invasion of Iraq in 2004, and the myth of his opposition had been "debunked".

"It's not debunked," he said. "It's not debunked."

Taxes

Read more

Second presidential debate: Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton admit what they respect about each other

US presidential debate: Donald Trump says Putin and Assad are helping in fight against Isis

Donald Trump says Clinton laughed at child rape victim Kathy Shelton. That's not quite right

Much speculation is circulating about whether Mr Trump used a loss of almost $1 billion in 1995 to avoid paying federal income tax for over almost two decades.

When confronted over whether he took advantage of tax loopholes, he said: "I absolutely used it, and so did Warren Buffett, and so did George Soros and so did many people who Hillary is getting money from."

On claims that he's sexist

"I have great respect for women. Nobody has more respect for women than I do."

On what he respects about Hillary Clinton

"I will say this about Hillary - she doesn't quit, she doesn't give up. I tell it like it is. She's a fighter."

On his immigration policies

"It's called extreme vetting. We're going to areas like Syria, where they are coming in by the tens of thousands because of Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton wanting to allow a 550 per cent increase [of refugees] over Obama.

"People are coming into this country. We have no idea who they are, where they are from and what their feelings are about this country."

**Load-Date:** October 10, 2016

**End of Document**



[*German police arrest three Syrian men 'sent to Europe by Isis to carry out terror attacks' as part of Paris attacks network; Investigators say 17-year-old suspect had been trained with weapons and explosives in Raqqa*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KPB-BVJ1-JCJY-G2JM-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 13, 2016 Tuesday 10:06 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 494 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

German police have arrested three Syrian men suspected of being deployed by Isis to carry out new terror attacks in Europe.

Prosecutors said the three suspects were dispatched to Germany last year "either to carry out a mission that they had been informed about or to wait for further instructions".

They were named as Mahir al-H, 17, Ibrahim M, 18, and Mohamed A, 18, with their surnames redacted according to German privacy laws.

"Concrete missions or orders have not yet been found in the course of investigations carried out so far," a spokesperson for the federal prosecutor said.

Read more

Isis fighter reveals group's plan to spread even after defeat in Iraq and Syria and claims collusion with Turkey

Isis commanders in Syria 'directed failed plot to launch new terror attack in Paris'

Isis plot to attack UK foiled as arrests by Scotland Yard thwart 'significant' operation

Thomas de Maiziere, the German interior minister, said the men could be part of a "sleeper cell" linked to the terrorists who carried out the Paris attacks in November.

He said the suspects were carrying fake documents "from the same workshop in Syria" and were believed to have been sent to Europe by the same smuggling network as militants that killed 130 people in the French capital.

The arrests were made during a series of raids involving 200 officers in the state of Schleswig-Holstein, with police searching the suspects' homes.

Investigators said the 17-year-old suspect had been trained to use guns and handle explosives in Isis' de-facto capital of Raqqa before crossing into Europe on the refugee route from Turkey to Greece.

The trio, carrying false passports, left Syria in October 2015 - around the same time as at last two of the Paris suicide bombers who crossed to the island of Leros.

They reached Germany in November and have received four-figure payments in American dollars from Isis, as well as mobile phones with pre-installed communication apps.

More than a million refugees and asylum seekers arrived in Germany last year, when Chancellor Angela Merkel opened the border to all Syrians fleeing the country's civil war.

Germany has been targeted in a spate of recent attacks, including three carried out by asylum seekers, of which two were claimed by Isis.

Several terror suspects posing as ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** have been arrested in Germancounter-terror operations so far this year, although no convictions have been announced.

Harry Sarfo, a former Isis recruit,

told

The Independent

he was approached by commanders looking for militants to carry out attacks in the UK and Germany while living in Raqqa last year.

He said he declined and later fled the group, but there are fears it has continuedto exploit the refugee route to send back trained jihadists.

Europol estimates that up to 5,000 Europeans may have undergone training at terror camps abroad and the agency's director has warned the continent faces its "biggest terror threat in more than a decade" from returning fighters.

**Load-Date:** September 13, 2016

**End of Document**



[*German police arrest three Syrian men 'sent to Europe by Isis to carry out terror attacks' as part of Paris attacks network; Investigators say 17-year-old suspect had been trained with weapons and explosives in Raqqa*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KPB-BVJ1-JCJY-G2JP-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 13, 2016 Tuesday 10:06 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 508 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

German police have arrested three Syrian men suspected of being deployed by Isis to carry out new terror attacks in Europe.

Prosecutors said the three suspects were dispatched to Germany last year "either to carry out a mission that they had been informed about or to wait for further instructions".

They were named as Mahir al-H, 17, Ibrahim M, 18, and Mohamed A, 18, with their surnames redacted according to German privacy laws.

"Concrete missions or orders have not yet been found in the course of investigations carried out so far," a spokesperson for the federal prosecutor said.

Read more

Isis fighter reveals group's plan to spread even after defeat in Iraq and Syria and claims collusion with Turkey

Isis commanders in Syria 'directed failed plot to launch new terror attack in Paris'

Isis plot to attack UK foiled as arrests by Scotland Yard thwart 'significant' operation

Thomas de Maiziere, the German interior minister, said the men could be part of a "sleeper cell" linked to the terrorists who carried out the Paris attacks in November.

He said the suspects were carrying fake documents "from the same workshop in Syria" and were believed to have been sent to Europe by the same smuggling network as militants that killed 130 people in the French capital.

The arrests were made during a series of dawn raids involving 200 officers in the state of Schleswig-Holstein, with police searching refugee centres in Großhansdorf, Ahrensburg and Reinfeld.

Investigators said the 17-year-old suspect had been trained to use guns and handle explosives in Isis' de-facto capital of Raqqa before crossing into Europe on the refugee route from Turkey to Greece.

The trio, carrying false passports, left Syria in October 2015 - around the same time as at last two of the Paris suicide bombers who crossed to the island of Leros.

They reached Germany in November and have received four-figure payments in American dollars from Isis, as well as mobile phones with pre-installed communication apps.

More than a million refugees and asylum seekers arrived in Germany last year, when Chancellor Angela Merkel opened the border to all Syrians fleeing the country's civil war.

Germany has been targeted in a spate of recent attacks, including three carried out by asylum seekers, of which two were claimed by Isis.

Several terror suspects posing as ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** have been arrested in German counter-terror operations so far this year, although no convictions have been announced.

Shocking footage from inside Isis prison

Harry Sarfo, a former Isis recruit,

told

The Independent

he was approached by commanders looking for militants to carry out attacks in the UK and Germany while living in Raqqa last year.

He said he declined and later fled the group, but there are fears it has continued to exploit the refugee route to send back trained jihadists.

Europol estimates that up to 5,000 Europeans may have undergone training at terror camps abroad and the agency's director has warned the continent faces its "biggest terror threat in more than a decade" from returning fighters.

**Load-Date:** September 13, 2016

**End of Document**



[*German police arrest three Syrian men 'sent to Europe by Isis to carry out terror attacks' as part of Paris attacks network; Investigators say 17-year-old suspect had been trained with weapons and explosives in Raqqa*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KPB-BVJ1-JCJY-G2JN-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 13, 2016 Tuesday 10:06 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 502 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

German police have arrested three Syrian men suspected of being deployed by Isis to carry out new terror attacks in Europe.

Prosecutors said the three suspects were dispatched to Germany last year "either to carry out a mission that they had been informed about or to wait for further instructions".

They were named as Mahir al-H, 17, Ibrahim M, 18, and Mohamed A, 18, with their surnames redacted according to German privacy laws.

"Concrete missions or orders have not yet been found in the course of investigations carried out so far," a spokesperson for the federal prosecutor said.

Read more

Isis fighter reveals group's plan to spread even after defeat in Iraq and Syria and claims collusion with Turkey

Isis commanders in Syria 'directed failed plot to launch new terror attack in Paris'

Isis plot to attack UK foiled as arrests by Scotland Yard thwart 'significant' operation

Thomas de Maiziere, the German interior minister, said the men could be part of a "sleeper cell" linked to the terrorists who carried out the Paris attacks in November.

He said the suspects were carrying fake documents "from the same workshop in Syria" and were believed to have been sent to Europe by the same smuggling network as militants that killed 130 people in the French capital.

The arrests were made during a series of dawn raids involving 200 officers in the state of Schleswig-Holstein, with police searching refugee centres in Großhansdorf, Ahrensburg and Reinfeld.

Investigators said the 17-year-old suspect had been trained to use guns and handle explosives in Isis' de-facto capital of Raqqa before crossing into Europe on the refugee route from Turkey to Greece.

The trio, carrying false passports, left Syria in October 2015 - around the same time as at last two of the Paris suicide bombers who crossed to the island of Leros.

They reached Germany in November and have received four-figure payments in American dollars from Isis, as well as mobile phones with pre-installed communication apps.

More than a million refugees and asylum seekers arrived in Germany last year, when Chancellor Angela Merkel opened the border to all Syrians fleeing the country's civil war.

Germany has been targeted in a spate of recent attacks, including three carried out by asylum seekers, of which two were claimed by Isis.

Several terror suspects posing as ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** have been arrested in German counter-terror operations so far this year, although no convictions have been announced.

Harry Sarfo, a former Isis recruit,

told

The Independent

he was approached by commanders looking for militants to carry out attacks in the UK and Germany while living in Raqqa last year.

He said he declined and later fled the group, but there are fears it has continued to exploit the refugee route to send back trained jihadists.

Europol estimates that up to 5,000 Europeans may have undergone training at terror camps abroad and the agency's director has warned the continent faces its "biggest terror threat in more than a decade" from returning fighters.

**Load-Date:** September 13, 2016

**End of Document**



[*What did Trump say during the second presidential debate?; With his poll numbers in decline, the Republican candidate didn't hold back in his attacks on Hillary Clinton*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KX3-K171-F021-6484-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

October 10, 2016 Monday 4:21 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 489 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz

**Body**

At the second presidential debate in St Louis, Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton faced off on the most talked about issues of the day: his comments on sexual assault, Muslims, ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, Ms Clinton's emails and Obamacare.

But among the pointed barbs, the insults, accusations and interruptions, few clear statements on polices came forth during the 90 minutes.

Below is a round-up of what the Republican nominee said on the most important talking points of the debate.

Read more

Hilary Clinton says leaked tape proves Donald Trump disrespects women

The 2005 video which shows him bragging that he can grab women's genitals.

"I'm very embarrassed by it, I hate it, but it's locker room talk. It's one of those things. I will knock the hell out of ISIS,"

On Bill Clinton

"What he's done to women, there's never been anybody in the history of politics in this nation that's been so abusive to women."

On prosecuting Hillary Clinton

"I hate to say it but if I win I'm going to instruct my attorney general to get a special prosecutor to look into your situation. There has never been so many lies, so much deception. You ought to be ashamed of yourself," Mr Trump said, and in response, Mrs Clinton said: "It's just awfully good that someone with the temperament of Donald Trump is not in charge of the law in this country." Mr Trump replied: "Because you'd be in jail."

Whether or not Mr Trump supported the war on Iraq

Ms Clinton said she had insisted for the "10th or 12th time" that Mr Trump had supported the invasion of Iraq in 2004, and the myth of his opposition had been "debunked".

"It's not debunked," he said. "It's not debunked."

Taxes

Read more

Second presidential debate: Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton admit what they respect about each other

US presidential debate: Donald Trump says Putin and Assad are helping in fight against Isis

Donald Trump says Clinton laughed at child rape victim Kathy Shelton. That's not quite right

Much speculation is circulating about whether Mr Trump used a loss of almost $1 billion in 1995 to avoid paying federal income tax for over almost two decades.

When confronted over whether he took advantage of tax loopholes, he said: "I absolutely used it, and so did Warren Buffett, and so did George Soros and so did many people who Hillary is getting money from."

On claims that he's sexist

"I have great respect for women. Nobody has more respect for women than I do."

On what he respects about Hillary Clinton

"I will say this about Hillary - she doesn't quit, she doesn't give up. I tell it like it is. She's a fighter."

On his immigration policies

"It's called extreme vetting. We're going to areas like Syria, where they are coming in by the tens of thousands because of Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton wanting to allow a 550 per cent increase [of refugees] over Obama.

"People are coming into this country. We have no idea who they are, where they are from and what their feelings are about this country."

**Load-Date:** October 10, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Francois Hollande tells UN General Assembly on Syria 'Enough is enough'; The civil war in the country is now entering its sixth year*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KRW-5HS1-JCJY-G18B-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 20, 2016 Tuesday 7:00 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 499 words

**Byline:** Andrew Buncombe

**Body**

The leader of Syria's one-time colonial ruler has demanded an end to the violence and carnage currently being endured by its citizens, telling the United Nations: "Enough is enough."

In an impassioned delivery that ran over 20 minutes on Tuesday, French President Francois Hollande blamed the Syrian regime for the collapse of a recently-brokered US-Russian ceasefire.

"The Syrian tragedy will be seen by history as a disgrace for the international community if we do not end it quickly," he told the General Assembly in New York.

Russia and Syria deny responsibility for aid convoy strike

In a speech that also addressed other issues, including the challenge to different countries of confronting global terror, Mr Hollande said the city of Aleppo, which has once again come under a barrage of air strikes, as a "martyred city".

"Thousands of children have died in bombings, whole populations are starving, humanitarian convoys are being attacked, chemical weapons are being used," he said. "I have one thing to say here: enough is enough."

Source: Graphiq

The civil war in Syria, now in its sixth year. Anywhere up to 500,000 people are dead and millions have displaced or forced to flee. The situation there is dominating this week's gathering of world leaders at the United Nations.

US President Barack Obama earlier took the podium to declare that diplomacy was the only way to end the devastating war. The US has dispatched US special forces to Syria and is supporting what it terms moderate rebels who are seeking to overthrow the government.

Hollande:There's an election in America, true but time shouldn't wasted.We can combat terrorism & reach agreement. #UNGA@UN@UN\_News\_Centre

- CameliaEntekhabifard (@CameliaFard) September 20, 2016

The

AFP

said that the United States and Russia, President Bashar al-Assad's ally in the war, earlier chaired a brief meeting of the 23-nation group backing the Syrian peace process, but that there was no breakthrough.

On Wednesday, the UN Security Council was to meet to discuss the Syria crisis, with distrust between Washington and Moscow running high.

Addressing Russia and Iran, Mr Hollande said they must compel the regime to make peace, warning that "if not, they will also, alongside the regime, bear the responsibility for the division and chaos in Syria".

Read more

Amal Clooney calls on UK to take more ***Syrian*** ***refugees***: 'There has been one Yazidi family that gained asylum in UK'

BBC journalist in emotional reunion with family she met in Syria while reporting on picnic for refugees in Toronto

John Kerry claims Syria ceasefire 'is not dead' after aid convoy attack

"I say to the Syrian government's foreign backers that they must compel the regime to enforce peace otherwise they will bear the responsibility for the splitting up of the country and the chaos," he said.

Russia and Iran are the main foreign backers of Mr Assad and his government, while the US and UK are among those countries supporting rebel forces seeking to oust him.

**Load-Date:** September 20, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Syrian children hold Pokemon pictures in the hope people will find them and save them; Pictures emerge after five years of a civil war that has left hundreds of thousands dead and seen millions forced to flee their homes*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K91-WPJ1-F021-63WJ-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

July 21, 2016 Thursday 6:31 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 556 words

**Byline:** May Bulman

**Body**

Photos of Syrian children holding pictures of Pokemon characters and asking the world to save them have been circulating the internet.

The images, published on Facebook,

show young Syrianslooking dejectedlyintothe camera

holdingimages ofPokemon characters with the words: "I am here, come save me".

The signs also state thelocation of each child. They are all in different Syrian towns.

One of the children's sign

reads

: "I am in

Kafr

Nabl

on the outskirts of

Idlib

, come and save me," and another:

"I am in

Kafr

Zeta, save me."

Syrian children hold Pokemon Go pictures in the hope people will find them and save them, by

May Bulman

The photoswere posted by theRevolutionary Forces of Syria Media Office (RFS), a media outlet for the working to spread the messages of Syrians againstBasharal-Assasd's presidential regime.

A spokesperon for RFS, which is based in Turkey andhasreporters in Syrian cities,told

The Independent

: "

With the media spread wide for Pokemon game we decided to publish these images to highlight the suffering of the Syrian people from the bombing of the forces of order and Air-Assad to the Syrian people and besiege them.

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Turkey lose hope of return

Read more

Isis is feeling threatened in Syria - and that is why its reign of terror is spreading

Senior Isis militant 'Omar the Chechen' killed in Iraq, months after the US reported him dead in Syria

Whether Isis jihadis or government soldiers, speak to fighters in Syria and you will discover infinite sadness

"We want to raise awareness and draw attention to the plight of Syrian children in besieged areas and the suffering of Syrian people who are attacked and killed by the Assad regime and its allies."

The imageshavebeencirculated more than 21,500 times.

Hundreds of people commented on the Facebook post expressing sympathy and sharing prayersfor the children.

#PrayForSyria

I am from #Syria come to save me!!! pic.twitter.com/lRbSlGsWrB

- إعلام قوى الثورة (@RFS\_mediaoffice) July 20, 2016

The photos have also been shared on Twitter, with one user describing it as "the Pokemon game you have not seen before".

Since Pokemon Go became an international craze, people have expressed frustration that more attention is not being paid to the suffering in Syria, where a war has raged since 2011 - leaving hundreds of thousands dead

and forcing millionsto flee their homes.

The Syria Solidarity Campaign (SSC), a UK-based organisation that offers political solidarity to the Syrian Revolution, wrote:"Syrians have more pressing concerns than catching Pokemon.

"If only augmented reality could save lives here is Syria."

Syrians have more pressing concerns than catching #Pokemon. If only augmented reality could save lives here is #Syria\_Pokemon.

- Syria Solidarity SSC (@SSCupdate) July 20, 2016

The imageswere publishedaftermore than 50 civilians were killed by airstrikesin northern Syria, the majority of them women and children.

The RFS spokesperson added: "Syrian children are victims of the war and the brutal and indiscriminate attacks that are carriedout on a daily basis by regime and Russian jets.

"The Syrian children are paying the price for the international inaction to stop the Assad killing machine."

Unicef has said it estimates 35,000 children are trapped in and around the Syrian city of Manbij, where the airstrikes hit.

**Load-Date:** July 22, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Erdogan shouldn't rush to congratulate himself over coup - dark days lie ahead*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K84-BTG1-F072-44H4-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

July 18, 2016 Monday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EDITORIAL; Pg. 42

**Length:** 545 words

**Byline:** SARAH JILANI

**Body**

As a botched attempt at an undemocratic military coup took place in Turkey on Friday night, confusion reigned, jets flew overhead, and military vehicles took to the streets of Istanbul and Ankara. Soon, however, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan delivered a live FaceTime address to the nation, calling on people to take to the streets to overturn the coup and defend democracy. The result left 265 dead, 1,440 wounded and the return of Erdogan's democratically elected government.

This reads like a people's success story: unlike the jubilant crowds that met the tanks in Turkey's 1960, 1971 and 1980 coups, this time, the Turkish public responded with a firm "no". Turkey's opposition parties - usually vehemently opposed to Erdogan's AK Party - hurriedly rallied to denounce the coup attempt and state their commitment to democracy on Saturday. Many international heads of state, the UN, and Nato called for the continuation of Turkey's democratically elected government. The people's will had triumphed over militarism.

But while the Turkish government congratulates itself and its loyal 51 per cent for a historical night of defending democracy, this feels far from a victory for Turkey's secular and minority groups. Secular Turkish Muslims, non-Muslims, non-Sunnis, Kurds, LGBT individuals, dissenting journalists, academics, and others who wish to see Erdogan step down through due democratic process after 12 years of rule fear that Friday's events will only sow deeper division in Turkish society.

No one wants the instability and civilian oppression that martial law brings, but many Turks have long been hoping in vain for a truly democratic government, one that, in the true definition of the term, listens to the 49 per cent who happen to disagree with the Islamist and authoritarian direction of the ruling party.

It has now long been the case in Turkey that, when the word "democracy" is used by the state, the calling card is coming out: it directly means their sustained electoral majority, and this justifies whatever is next to come. Democracy has become shorthand for a majority with homogenous values having the right to decide the fate of a diverse and increasingly demoralised minority.

Yesterday's show of democracy was therefore not only questionable in label, but its aftermath looks set to be, too. The government's heavy-handed clampdown has already begun. A remarkable 2,839 army members, and 2,745 judges and prosecutors have been detained within 24 hours: assuming all arrests are based on solid impartial evidence, it is an intelligence feat of astounding accuracy and speed, which Turkey's recent failures to detect terrorist plots suggests unlikely. The sheer numbers bear the hallmarks of a purge, as any unlawful arrests fall through the cracks. Erdogan has also regained some international sympathy, while bolstering a domestic support base that had temporarily waned due to tensions about ***Syrian*** ***refugees***.

The frightening violence of Erdogan's supporters in their so-called caretaking of democracy on Friday night; the rhetoric of democracy and majoritarianism that Erdogan uses interchangeably without qualm; and the pursuit of vengeance over mercy in the aftermath marks this failed coup as the start of darker days for Turkish democracy.

**Load-Date:** July 17, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Do you have #refugenes? 12 celebrities you never knew were refugees; New campaigns asks members of British public: 'Do you have refugenes?'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KMD-KS91-JCJY-G3J5-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 4, 2016 Sunday 1:17 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 492 words

**Byline:** Adam Withnall

**Body**

What do the singers Jamie Cullum and Rita Ora, the authors Ben Elton and Neil Gaiman, the comedian Shappi Khorsandi and the architect Richard Rogers have in common?

All of them have "refugenes", according to a new campaign launched by the charity Help Refugees, which is seeking to raise awareness of the number of people in Britain who have a family history involving flight from conflict.

Some, like The Voice star Ora, are themselves refugees. Her family fled the persecution of ethnic Albanians in Kosovo, settling in the UK in 1991 when she was one year old.

Others, like broadcaster and co-founder of Help Refugees Lliana Bird, have ancestors who were forced to leave their home countries. Bird's grandmother and her family fled Russia in 1919 during the revolution - in part because they were Jews, in part because her great-grandfather was an intellectual.

Read more

The six refugee crises the world forgot

Help Refugees was born out of #HelpCalais, a social media drive started by Bird, the TV presenter Dawn O'Porter and others, to help refugees stuck in "The Jungle" in Calais.

The charity says it now provides more aid to refugee camps across Europe than any other organisation, and the tagline of its new campaign is "Who do you think refugees are?"

In a video outlining his story, musician Cullum says: "Like many people, I have a complicated family history.

"My mother's father was Indian, but an orphan, and was brought to Burma and brought up there with his 15 brothers and sisters by Franciscan monks.

Read more

Hundreds of child refugees have vanished since arriving in the UK, prompting trafficking and abuse fears

International human rights lawyer says 'EU member states are failing' in their obligations to refugees

Refugee children who survive Alan Kurdi's journey face bleak future of detention, danger and abuse

"He met my grandmother, and they had my mother and my uncle in the 1950s.

"When Japan invaded they had to flee Burma, and they came to the UK.

"On my father's side, his mother was Prussian, and Jewish, and at the outset of WW2 and the Nazi invasion she had to flee. A long and complicated journey brought her to Jerusalem, where she found a safe haven and met my grandfather.

"And that's where my father was born.

"I am the product of refugees who found safe haven."

The campaign comes as the Government announced enough local authority places have been found to resettle the 20,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** it committed to give homes to over the next four years.

Home Secretary Amber Rudd said that 2,800 Syrians had arrived by the end of June and been settled in more than 100 council areas, and said the initiative was on track.

"The hard work will continue throughout this Parliament as we provide those who have been traumatised and damaged by war with a safe environment and the chance to rebuild their lives," she said.

For more information and the full list of celebrity supporters of the #refugenes campaign, go to the Help Refugees website.

**Load-Date:** September 4, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Leader of Pegida anti-refugee movement moves to Tenerife to flee 'persecution' in Germany; Lutz Bachmann has previously called asylum seekers fleeing conflict and persecution'scum'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KS8-7SD1-JCJY-G3PP-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 22, 2016 Thursday 2:16 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 515 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

The founder of an anti-refugee group has reportedly moved to Tenerife to escape "persecution" in Germany.

Lutz Bachmann has previously referred to those fleeing conflict and persecutionas "scum" but has reportedly been living on the Spanish island, off the coast of northern Africa, for several months.

The 43-year-old is a leading member ofPegida, which stands for "Patriotic Europeans against Islamisation of the West", and has led anti-immigration marches of tens of thousands of people.

Described by one politician as "Nazis in pinstripes", the group is regularly met by counter-demonstrations accusing members of racism, fascism and xenophobia.

Pegida leader quits amid Hitler photo row

Pegida members have been met with water cannon and pepper spray by riot police at recent demonstrations, with signs calling asylum seekers "rapefugees" frequently seen in crowds.

Read more

Pegida mocked for outrage at black children's photos on Kinder chocolate bars

Thousands take part in anti-Islam Pegida protests across Europe

Former Ukip candidate and Pegida UK leader says 'Muslims should not hold political power' and claims ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** do not exist

Mr Bachmann stepped down from his official post as leader in January 2015 after dressing up as Hitler in a "joke" picture on Facebook, and was found guilty of inciting hatred earlier this year.

But he remained a regular attendee at Pegida's Monday marches in Dresden - until being conspicuously absent from several recent demonstrations.

The

Sächsische Zeitung

reports that Mr Bachmann and his wife arenow living in Tenerife, having left theirformer home near Dresden in May.

In a video posted on social media, he said he was working on the island, adding that his wife was unable to cope with pressure in Dresden, where he said they had been subjected to vandalism and attempted break-ins.

"We have been persecuted," Mr Bachmann continued. "There were four break-in attempts in two months...my car was blown up.

"This is for my safety and the safety of my family."

Tatjana Festerling, the former co-leader of Pegida who was ousted after a dispute with Mr Bachmann, claimed he returns to Germany every two weeks for "a show of resistance."

Mr Bachmann said he would be attending a protest scheduled for 3 October in Dresden in his video.

Addressing the message to "dear patriots" on Tuesday, Mr Bachmann did not confirm whether he had moved to Tenerife permanently but said he was working on the island, "unlike Europe tourists without fixed employment".

"People are not interested in where I live and work," he added. "They couldn't care less as long as I show my face on Mondays."

But from the reaction in Germany, he could be wrong. The country's largest newspapers have reported on his departures, with many commenting on the "irony" of a person who has denied the existence of "real refugees" fleeing to another country for his safety.

Mr Bachmann has not responded to

The Independent'

s request for a comment.

Pegida continues to hold weekly marches in Dresden and has formed factions in several European countries, including the UK.

**Load-Date:** September 22, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Royal Navy has 'worryingly low' number of border patrol boats guarding UK coastline; UK Border Force is 'clearly under-resourced,' saysHome Affairs Select Committee report after a year-long inquiry*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KCK-6MN1-JCJY-G13D-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

August 3, 2016 Wednesday 8:33 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HOME NEWS

**Length:** 549 words

**Byline:** Jess Staufenberg

**Body**

The number of Royal Navy vessels available to patrol Britain's coast is "worryingly low" given the risingthreat from people smugglers, according to a new report.

Small ports along the coastline are being targeted by "criminal gangs" but remain largely unprotected, warnedthe Home Affairs Select Committee in acritical assessment of the UK and EU'sresponse to the refugee crisis.

While theBorder Force hasbeen given considerable responsibility for preventing people smugglers from makinglucrative trips to the UK's shores, it has not been given sufficientresources to do so, said the report.

Read more

Refugees who cannot pay people smugglers 'being sold for organs'

Refugee crisis: 20 children 'die of thirst after being abandoned by people smugglers' in Niger desert

Operation Sophia: EU naval mission to stop people smugglers 'is not working'

"UK Border Force has been given a key role in implementing strengthened coastal security measures but it is clearly under-resourced, with the number of Border Force vessels in operation worryingly low," said the report.

"Royal Navy vessels should be made available to Border Force to make up for shortfalls, where necessary."

Controversy erupted earlier this year when it emerged that just three Border Force cutter vessels were being used to patrol the UK's 7,000 miles of coastal borders - shortly after 18 Albanians were rescued from a sinking inflatable boat off the Kent coast.

The report, which has been published after a year-long inquiry,alsohighlighted differences between the UK's fleet and the capacity other European nations can call on.

In May, ministers announced measures to bolster maritime security, including new patrol boats for Border Force to supplement the existing five-vessel fleet. While the first batch were to be in place within months, full deployment is not expected until the end of next year.

By contrast, reports suggest Italy has as many as 600 boats for 4,700 miles of coast.

The Home Office said the comparison in the report between the UK and other European maritime countries only includes the number of cutters currently deployed in UK territorial waters and takes no account of the additional military and law enforcement vessels available.

The wide-ranging report also:

Described conditions in Calais migrant camps as "absolutely atrocious"

Argued it was "not acceptable" for EU member states to leave the protection of the EU external border up to Italy, Greece and Turkey

Warned that many British local authorities were "not pulling their weight" in resettling ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and there is "scant evidence" the Government would meet its commitment to resettle 20,000 Syrians by 2020

Called on the Government to, "as a one off", accept 157 unaccompanied children in Calais who have family members in the UK

Said maintaining the Le Touquet agreement, which allows British border checks to take place on French soil, should be a "priority".

A Home Office spokeswoman said: "Our priority is to offer humanitarian support to those most in need while maintaining the security of our borders.

"At the same time we continue to work tirelessly to maintain the security of our border, intercepting attempts to enter the UK illegally and targeting the callous gangs that profit from people smuggling."

Additional reporting from Press Association

**Load-Date:** August 3, 2016

**End of Document**



[*What did Donald Trump say during the second presidential debate?; With his poll numbers in decline, the Republican candidate didn't hold back in his attacks on Hillary Clinton*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KX3-7571-JCJY-G40X-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

October 10, 2016 Monday 4:21 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 489 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz

**Body**

At the second presidential debate in St Louis, Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton faced off on the most talked about issues of the day: his comments on sexual assault, Muslims, ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, Ms Clinton's emails and Obamacare.

But among the pointed barbs, the insults, accusations and interruptions, few clear statements on polices came forth during the 90 minutes.

Below is a round-up of what the Republican nominee said on the most important talking points of the debate.

Read more

Hilary Clinton says leaked tape proves Donald Trump disrespects women

The 2005 video which shows him bragging that he can grab women's genitals.

"I'm very embarrassed by it, I hate it, but it's locker room talk. It's one of those things. I will knock the hell out of ISIS,"

On Bill Clinton

"What he's done to women, there's never been anybody in the history of politics in this nation that's been so abusive to women."

On prosecuting Hillary Clinton

"I hate to say it but if I win I'm going to instruct my attorney general to get a special prosecutor to look into your situation. There has never been so many lies, so much deception. You ought to be ashamed of yourself," Mr Trump said, and in response, Mrs Clinton said: "It's just awfully good that someone with the temperament of Donald Trump is not in charge of the law in this country." Mr Trump replied: "Because you'd be in jail."

Whether or not Mr Trump supported the war on Iraq

Ms Clinton said she had insisted for the "10th or 12th time" that Mr Trump had supported the invasion of Iraq in 2004, and the myth of his opposition had been "debunked".

"It's not debunked," he said. "It's not debunked."

Taxes

Read more

Second presidential debate: Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton admit what they respect about each other

US presidential debate: Donald Trump says Putin and Assad are helping in fight against Isis

Donald Trump says Clinton laughed at child rape victim Kathy Shelton. That's not quite right

Much speculation is circulating about whether Mr Trump used a loss of almost $1 billion in 1995 to avoid paying federal income tax for over almost two decades.

When confronted over whether he took advantage of tax loopholes, he said: "I absolutely used it, and so did Warren Buffett, and so did George Soros and so did many people who Hillary is getting money from."

On claims that he's sexist

"I have great respect for women. Nobody has more respect for women than I do."

On what he respects about Hillary Clinton

"I will say this about Hillary - she doesn't quit, she doesn't give up. I tell it like it is. She's a fighter."

On his immigration policies

"It's called extreme vetting. We're going to areas like Syria, where they are coming in by the tens of thousands because of Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton wanting to allow a 550 per cent increase [of refugees] over Obama.

"People are coming into this country. We have no idea who they are, where they are from and what their feelings are about this county."

**Load-Date:** October 10, 2016

**End of Document**



[*THE SILENCED HAVE FOUND THEIR VOICE; Now We Are Here: Young Vic, London*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K9V-4831-F072-42C0-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

July 26, 2016 Tuesday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 42

**Length:** 551 words

**Byline:** REVIEW BY PAUL TAYLOR

**Body**

How many theatres could claim that "our doors are open to the world" without sounding vainglorious or deluded? But in the case of the Young Vic, there is real substance to the assertion. The venue proves this not just in its celebrated international co-productions but in its hospitality to visits by foreign companies and by the depth of its engagement with local communities and young people.

A few weeks ago, the theatre joined forces with Developing Artists and Refuge Productions to bring across Queens of Syria, an exceptionally moving piece in which a group of real-life ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** (none of them actors) brought Euripides' tragedy The Trojan Women up-to-date with their own unforgettable personal testimonies of exile and loss.

The piece was a salutary rebuke to those who have become numbed to the migration crisis or who categorise asylum-seekers as some faceless, threatening mass. Individual narratives are again powerfully emphasised in Now We Are Here which has been created by refugee writers in workshops with Deanna Rodger, Imogen Brodie and Ian Rickson. The latter directs the sensitive, compelling production which strips away everything but the bare minimum needed for these voices to be heard.

In the first half we listen to the overlapping verbatim testimony of Desmond Jolly, Mir Ahmed and Michael Mugishangyezi (beautifully played by Gary Beadle, Manish Gandhi and Jonathan Livingstone).

Two have fled the homophobic abuse in their native countries of Jamaica and Pakistan (such as incarceration in a mental asylum for refusing to get married), while the third has been in prison in East Africa because of "political and tribal tensions".

The second half consists of Tamara McFarlane's lyrical monologue (superbly performed by Golda Rosheuvel) that looks back at her 15-year-old self in Jamaica and recounts how religious intolerance and fear blighted her blossoming sexual love for a fellow schoolgirl.

What do you reply when someone asks you "How was your day?" when you've had to kill the hours before the hostel reopens without any semblance of a routine or even enough for a bus fare in your pocket? It's a question that stumps Michael, who has no ID card either, and he vividly communicates the unending sense of futility of "people who are at the sea level of their own hopes. You mourn your own life".

But the testimonies are flecked with humour too - stories about escapades back home, say, such as the one that left young Mir and his friend with20 floors of uninterrupted secret kissing-time in a yo-yoing lift.

Tamara witnesses the horrific murder of a 14-year-old gay youth by a bigoted mob. In her fear that she will bring a similar retribution down on her loved ones, she makes protective moves that have a piercingly sad outcome. It's as if the stench of burning tyre enters your own nostrils as you listen to Rosheuevel's extraordinarily immediate account of the boy's fate.

The frankness with which all the participants have shared their stories is a tribute both to their courage and to the atmosphere of trust that must have been created in the workshops. All the performances of Now We Are Here are being given for free (donations welcome to three charities working with refugees that have been chosen by the collaborators). Well worth catching.

To 30 July; 20 7922 2922

**Load-Date:** July 25, 2016

**End of Document**



[*The rise of politicians like Donald Trump and Nigel Farage contributed to Jo Cox's death, says murdered MP's husband; In a New York Times op-ed, Mr Cox condemns populists who 'share a strategy based on exploiting divisions between people'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KSG-7161-F021-64PX-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 23, 2016 Friday 2:22 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 470 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz

**Body**

The husband of the murdered British politician Jo Cox has spoken out against a new wave of populists and extremists, including Donald Trump, for inciting hatred and fear.

Brendan Cox, who attended the New York United Nations' summit on refugees this week, wrote in a

New York Times

op-ed that the "aberration" of his wife being killed in the UK happened within a context of anti-immigrant rhetoric that made such a crime more likely.

Ms Cox was murdered on 16 June in her home constituency of Batley and Spen in Yorkshire, just one week before the UK voted to leave the European Union.

Read more

Jo Cox's husband condemns 'act of terror' at memorial

Her husband, who was left to take care of their two young children, Cuillin and Lejla, wrote in the newspaper that the current atmosphere and rhetoric partially contributed to his wife's death, rather than the suspect's reported mental illness.

"This is not just a British problem. The rise of the populists and extremists - who tell people that the problems they face are because of some other group - is a global phenomenon," he said.

"In France, the National Front leader, Marine Le Pen, smears Muslims. In Hungary, Prime Minister Viktor Orban peddles hatred of refugees. In Britain, the former leader of the U.K. Independence Party, Nigel Farage, spreads prejudice toward Romanians. And in the United States, the Republican presidential nominee, Donald J. Trump, insults Mexicans and Muslims."

He also pointed to history to show how quickly hate is normalised, and the danger of staying silent.

"The fight against hatred and division is a defining issue of our time; no institution can afford to sit it out and hope for the best," he said.

"We have powerful support, but much of it is too passive; we must build stronger coalitions."

Since the death of his wife, Mr Cox said he has focused on raising his children and advancing what Ms Cox believed in: helping ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, addressing people's concerns about security and immigration and bringing communities together to gain mutual understanding.

Read more

Jo Cox 'died for her political views', says husband Brendan Cox in first interview

Jo Cox dead: Read husband Brendan Cox's statement in full

Jo Cox death: MP's husband Brendan Cox says wife was 'killed by hate'

"It is the good that must come out of the horror," he wrote.

He acknowledged that the UN summit in New York would not change the plight of refugees overnight, and that a long-term plan was needed.

This week, president Obama agreed to welcome 110,000 refugees in 2017, an increase of 60 per cent on the last year.

Obama just committed to take 110k refugees in 2017 (60% increase on 2015) despite toxicity of US politics.That is what leadership looks like

- Brendan Cox (@MrBrendanCox) September 20, 2016

"This is what leadership looks like," said Mr Cox on twitter.

**Load-Date:** September 23, 2016

**End of Document**



[*The rise of politicians like Donald Trump and Nigel Farage contributed to Jo Cox's death, says murdered MP's husband; In a New York Times op-ed, Mr Cox says those most visible on the globalstage 'share a strategy based on exploiting divisions between people'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KSG-7161-F021-64PW-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 23, 2016 Friday 2:22 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 465 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz

**Body**

The husband of the murdered UK politician Jo Cox has spoken out against world leaders, including Donald Trump, for inciting hatred and fear.

Brendan Cox, who attended the New York United Nations' summit on refugees this week, wrote in a

New York Times

op-ed that the "aberration" of his wife being killed in the UK happened within a context of anti-immigrant rhetoric that made such a crime more likely.

Ms Cox was murdered on 16 June in her home constituency of Batley and Spen in Yorkshire, just one week before the UK voted to leave the European Union.

Read more

Jo Cox's husband condemns 'act of terror' at memorial

Her husband, who was left to take care of their two young children, Cuillin and Lejla, wrote in the newspaper that the current atmosphere and rhetoric partially contributed to his wife's death, rather than the suspect's reported mental illness.

"This is not just a British problem. The rise of the populists and extremists - who tell people that the problems they face are because of some other group - is a global phenomenon," he said.

"In France, the National Front leader, Marine Le Pen, smears Muslims. In Hungary, Prime Minister Viktor Orban peddles hatred of refugees. In Britain, the former leader of the U.K. Independence Party, Nigel Farage, spreads prejudice toward Romanians. And in the United States, the Republican presidential nominee, Donald J. Trump, insults Mexicans and Muslims."

He also pointed to history to show how quickly hate is normalised, and the danger of staying silent.

"The fight against hatred and division is a defining issue of our time; no institution can afford to sit it out and hope for the best," he said.

"We have powerful support, but much of it is too passive; we must build stronger coalitions."

Since the death of his wife, Mr Cox said he has focused on raising his children and advancing what Ms Cox believed in: helping ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, addressing people's concerns about security and immigration and bringing communities together to gain mutual understanding.

Read more

Jo Cox 'died for her political views', says husband Brendan Cox in first interview

Jo Cox dead: Read husband Brendan Cox's statement in full

Jo Cox death: MP's husband Brendan Cox says wife was 'killed by hate'

"It is the good that must come out of the horror," he wrote.

He acknowledged that the UN summit in New York would not change the plight of refugees overnight, and that a long-term plan was needed.

This week, president Obama agreed to welcome 110,000 refugees in 2017, an increase of 60 per cent on the last year.

Obama just committed to take 110k refugees in 2017 (60% increase on 2015) despite toxicity of US politics.That is what leadership looks like

- Brendan Cox (@MrBrendanCox) September 20, 2016

"This is what leadership looks like," said Mr Cox on twitter.

**Load-Date:** September 23, 2016

**End of Document**



[*German police arrest three Syrian men 'sent to Europe by Isis to carry out terror attacks' as part of Paris attacks network; Investigators say 17-year-old suspect had been trained with weapons and explosives in Raqqa*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KPC-1N61-F021-64CT-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 13, 2016 Tuesday 10:06 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 546 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

German police have arrested three Syrian men suspected of being deployed by Isis to carry out new terror attacks in Europe.

Prosecutors said the three suspects were dispatched to Germany last year "either to carry out a mission that they had been informed about or to wait for further instructions".

They were named as Mahir al-H, 17, Ibrahim M, 18, and Mohamed A, 18, with their surnames redacted according to German privacy laws.

"Concrete missions or orders have not yet been found in the course of investigations carried out so far," a spokesperson for the federal prosecutor said.

Read more

Isis fighter reveals group's plan to spread even after defeat in Iraq and Syria and claims collusion with Turkey

Isis commanders in Syria 'directed failed plot to launch new terror attack in Paris'

Isis plot to attack UK foiled as arrests by Scotland Yard thwart 'significant' operation

Thomas de Maiziere, the German interior minister, said the men could be part of a "sleeper cell" linked to the terrorists who carried out the Paris attacks that killed 130 people in November.

"Everything points to the same smuggling organisation as with the Paris attackers having brought these three who were arrested to Germany," he added.

"And everything points to the travel documents having come from the same workshop."

The arrests were made during a series of dawn raids involving 200 officers, with police searching refugee centres in Großhansdorf, Ahrensburg and Reinfeld in the state of Schleswig-Holstein.

Investigators said the 17-year-old suspect had been trained to use guns and handle explosives in Isis' de-facto capital of Raqqa before crossing into Europe on the refugee route from Turkey to Greece.

The trio, carrying false passports, left Syria in October 2015 - around the same time as at last two of the Paris suicide bombers who crossed to the island of Leros.

They reached Germany in November and have received four-figure payments in American dollars from Isis, as well as mobile phones with pre-installed communication apps.

More than a million refugees and asylum seekers arrived in Germany last year, when Chancellor Angela Merkel opened the border to all Syrians fleeing the country's civil war.

Germany has been targeted in a spate of recent attacks, including three carried out by asylum seekers, of which two were claimed by Isis.

Timeline: Germany rocked by week of deadly violence

Several terror suspects posing as ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** have been arrested in German counter-terror operations so far this year, although no convictions have been announced.

Harry Sarfo, a former Isis recruit,

told

The Independent

he was approached by commanders looking for militants to carry out attacks in the UK and Germany while living in Raqqa last year.

He said he declined and later fled the group, but there are fears it has continued to exploit the refugee route to send back trained jihadists.

Europol estimates that up to 5,000 Europeans may have undergone training at terror camps abroad and the agency's director has warned the continent faces its "biggest terror threat in more than a decade" from returning fighters.

Germany's Federal Criminal Police Office has received 400 tip-offs over migrants alleged to have extremist links but found only 60 with sufficient evidence to begin investigations.

**Load-Date:** September 13, 2016

**End of Document**



[*German police arrest three Syrian men 'sent to Europe by Isis to carry out terror attacks' as part of Paris attacks network; Investigators say 17-year-old suspect had been trained with weapons and explosives in Raqqa*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KPC-CD31-F021-60FT-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 13, 2016 Tuesday 10:06 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 546 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

German police have arrested three Syrian men suspected of being deployed by Isis to carry out new terror attacks in Europe.

Prosecutors said the three suspects were dispatched to Germany last year "either to carry out a mission that they had been informed about or to wait for further instructions".

They were named as Mahir al-H, 17, Ibrahim M, 18, and Mohamed A, 18, with their surnames redacted according to German privacy laws.

"Concrete missions or orders have not yet been found in the course of investigations carried out so far," a spokesperson for the federal prosecutor said.

Read more

Isis fighter reveals group's plan to spread even after defeat in Iraq and Syria and claims collusion with Turkey

Isis commanders in Syria 'directed failed plot to launch new terror attack in Paris'

Isis plot to attack UK foiled as arrests by Scotland Yard thwart 'significant' operation

Thomas de Maiziere, the German interior minister, said the men could be part of a "sleeper cell" linked to the terrorists who carried out the Paris attacks that killed 130 people in November.

"Everything points to the same smuggling organisation as with the Paris attackers having brought these three who were arrested to Germany," he added.

"And everything points to the travel documents having come from the same workshop."

The arrests were made during a series of dawn raids involving 200 officers, with police searching refugee centres in Großhansdorf, Ahrensburg and Reinfeld in the state of Schleswig-Holstein.

Investigators said the 17-year-old suspect had been trained to use guns and handle explosives in Isis' de-facto capital of Raqqa before crossing into Europe on the refugee route from Turkey to Greece.

The trio, carrying false passports, left Syria in October 2015 - around the same time as at least two of the Paris suicide bombers who crossed to the island of Leros.

They reached Germany in November and have received four-figure payments in US dollars from Isis, as well as mobile phones with pre-installed communication apps.

More than a million refugees and asylum seekers arrived in Germany last year, when Chancellor Angela Merkel opened the border to all Syrians fleeing the country's civil war.

Germany has been targeted in a spate of recent attacks, including three carried out by asylum seekers, of which two were claimed by Isis.

Timeline: Germany rocked by week of deadly violence

Several terror suspects posing as ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** have been arrested in German counter-terror operations so far this year, although no convictions have been announced.

Harry Sarfo, a former Isis recruit,

told

The Independent

he was approached by commanders looking for militants to carry out attacks in the UK and Germany while living in Raqqa last year.

He said he declined and later fled the group, but there are fears it has continued to exploit the refugee route to send back trained jihadists.

Europol estimates that up to 5,000 Europeans may have undergone training at terror camps abroad and the agency's director has warned the continent faces its "biggest terror threat in more than a decade" from returning fighters.

Germany's Federal Criminal Police Office has received 400 tip-offs over migrants alleged to have extremist links but found only 60 with sufficient evidence to begin investigations.

**Load-Date:** September 13, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Royal Navy has 'worryingly low' number of border patrol boats guarding UK coastline; UK Border Force is 'clearly under-resourced,' saysHome Affairs Select Committee report after a year-long inquiry*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KCK-6MN1-JCJY-G13G-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

August 3, 2016 Wednesday 8:33 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HOME NEWS

**Length:** 567 words

**Byline:** Jess Staufenberg

**Body**

The number of Royal Navy vessels available to patrol Britain's coast is "worryingly low" given the risingthreat from people smugglers, according to a new report.

Small ports along the coastline are being targeted by "criminal gangs" but remain largely unprotected, warnedthe Home Affairs Select Committee in acritical assessment of the UK and EU'sresponse to the refugee crisis.

While theBorder Force hasbeen given considerable responsibility for preventing people smugglers from makinglucrative trips to the UK's shores, it has not been given sufficientresources to do so, said the report.

Read more

Refugees who cannot pay people smugglers 'being sold for organs'

Refugee crisis: 20 children 'die of thirst after being abandoned by people smugglers' in Niger desert

Operation Sophia: EU naval mission to stop people smugglers 'is not working'

"UK Border Force has been given a key role in implementing strengthened coastal security measures but it is clearly under-resourced, with the number of Border Force vessels in operation worryingly low," said the report.

"Royal Navy vessels should be made available to Border Force to make up for shortfalls, where necessary."

Controversy erupted earlier this year when it emerged that just three Border Force cutter vessels were being used to patrol the UK's 7,000 miles of coastal borders - shortly after 18 Albanians were rescued from a sinking inflatable boat off the Kent coast.

Many EU countries have more border security vessels patrolling their coastline than the UK (UK Border Force)

The report, which has been published after a year-long inquiry,alsohighlighted differences between the UK's fleet and the capacity other European nations can call on.

In May, ministers announced measures to bolster maritime security, including new patrol boats for Border Force to supplement the existing five-vessel fleet. While the first batch were to be in place within months, full deployment is not expected until the end of next year.

By contrast, reports suggest Italy has as many as 600 boats for 4,700 miles of coast.

The Home Office said the comparison in the report between the UK and other European maritime countries only includes the number of cutters currently deployed in UK territorial waters and takes no account of the additional military and law enforcement vessels available.

The wide-ranging report also:

Described conditions in Calais migrant camps as "absolutely atrocious"

Argued it was "not acceptable" for EU member states to leave the protection of the EU external border up to Italy, Greece and Turkey

Warned that many British local authorities were "not pulling their weight" in resettling ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and there is "scant evidence" the Government would meet its commitment to resettle 20,000 Syrians by 2020

Called on the Government to, "as a one off", accept 157 unaccompanied children in Calais who have family members in the UK

Said maintaining the Le Touquet agreement, which allows British border checks to take place on French soil, should be a "priority".

A Home Office spokeswoman said: "Our priority is to offer humanitarian support to those most in need while maintaining the security of our borders.

"At the same time we continue to work tirelessly to maintain the security of our border, intercepting attempts to enter the UK illegally and targeting the callous gangs that profit from people smuggling."

Additional reporting from Press Association

**Load-Date:** August 3, 2016

**End of Document**



[*John Oliver delivers scathing monologue on Brexit following EU referendum; 'The United Kingdom [is] a place whose very name, after this week's events, is beginning to sound a bit sarcastic,' Oliver says*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K3R-CHM1-F021-60G9-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 27, 2016 Monday 5:43 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 493 words

**Byline:** Olivia Blair

**Body**

John Oliver has addressed the Brexit referendum result in an impassioned, explicit and angry monologue.

The British comedian wasted no time in delivering his thoughtson Britain voting to leave the EU in a historic referendum, which saw the Leave campaign clinch victory with 52 per cent of the vote, onhis

HBO

talk show

Last Week Tonight

on Sunday evening.

Oliver opened by suggesting that even the name 'United Kingdom' is "beginning to sound a bit sarcastic" given the clear divisions throughout the UK which became apparent in the wake of the vote, before singling outDavid Cameron, Boris Johnson and Nigel Farage.

"Before you have any sympathy for David Cameron, you should know this whole vote was his idea in the first place," the talk show host said.

He then mocked Leave campaigner's Boris Johnsonand Nigel Farage's repeated declaration of 23rd June being hailed as Britain's 'Independence day'.

"Britain was already independent," Oliver stated bluntly. "In fact, it's what many other countries celebrate their independence from."

Using explicit language, he then referred to the new

Independence Day

sequel, which opened in cinemas this weekend, which has a poster depictingLondon being swept up in an apocalyptic setting.

"The sequel to the movie they're quoting actually opened this week and features the wholesale destruction of London - which is beginning to feel pretty f\*\*\*\*\*g appropriate right now."

David Cameron: There is no doubt about the result

Read more

EU referendum: How the US views Brexit - from John Oliver to Donald Trump

Orlando shooting: John Oliver delivers emotive tribute and says the 'worst thing is this pain is so familiar'

John Oliver breaks down 'rigorous' US vetting process for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** after wave of 'anti-refugee rhetoric'

The segment also included a news clip of a Leave voter who said they now regretted their vote and would vote differently if they had the chance.Oliver did not hold back in mocking the voter, sarcastically saying: "You're actually in luck because it turns out incredibly there is going to be another vote coming up and it's happening one week from... of course there isn't, that was the f\*\*\*\*\*g vote, it wasn't a practice round, that was it," he shouted.

The 39-year-old also used the result of Britain's vote to warn the US against voting for presumptive Republican candidate Donald Trump in the presidential elections, warning his US viewers that Britain's vote proves there are "no f\*\*\*\*ng do-overs".

Oliver has made his pro-EU views known before in an earlier monologue warning of the dangers of Britain leaving the EU which has been viewed over 8,500,000 times.

The monologue from the popular host, which gained much traction on social media among Remain supporters, was not aired in the UK ahead of the referendum vote. A

Sky

spokesperson told the

Radio Times

it was pulled from its scheduled slot on

Sky Atlantic t

o comply with Ofcom's broadcasting restrictions around elections.

**Load-Date:** June 27, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: Record 65 million people forced to flee homes, UN says; 24 people were displaced from their homes every minute of every day during 2015*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K26-V5V1-F021-632S-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 20, 2016 Monday 12:23 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 550 words

**Byline:** Peter Yeung

**Body**

The number of refugees in the world has reached the highest level ever recorded, according to figures published by the United Nations (UN).

After an increase of five million last year, the number of people displaced by conflict - refugees, asylum seekers or those displaced internally - was at an estimated 65.3 million by the end of 2015.

It is the equivalent of one in every 113 people on the planet, according to the UN Refugee Agency, and if considered a nation would make up the 21st largest in the world.

Read more

Refugees in New Zealand told to subscribe to Kiwi values

Turkish border guards 'kill 11 ***Syrian*** ***refugees***' in indiscriminate shooting

Refugee crisis: Medical charity MSF rejects funding from UK and other EU nations over 'shameful' response

In its annual reportto mark World Refugee Day, the UN said it was the first time the number of refugees worldwide had passed the 60 million mark.

On average 24 peoplewere displaced from their homes every minute of every day during 2015 - some 34,000 people per day.

"World leaders can no longer watch passively as so many lives are needlessly lost" - @RefugeesChief#WithRefugees[*https://t.co/EiWm9KASTj*](https://t.co/EiWm9KASTj)

- UN Refugee Agency (@Refugees) June 20, 2016

Lamenting the largest refugee crisis of our time,Ban Ki-moon, theUN Secretary General,described it"not just a crisis of numbers", but "a crisis of solidarity."

More than half of the world's refugee comefrom Syria, Afghanistan and Somalia.

(UNHCR)

The UN said 86 per centof therefugees under its mandatewere being sheltered in low- and middle-income countries.

If the closure the Dadaab camp in Kenya, the largest refugee settlement in the world, is to go ahead it will risk a "humanitarian disaster", according to campaigners.

Johan Eldebo, World Vision UK's Senior Humanitarian Policy Adviser, said in a statement: "The Kenyan Government, like many others, is struggling to help millions of displaced and desperate people.

"But this is not just an issue for Kenya or Africa. Over 200,000refugeeshave risked their lives this year to cross the Mediterranean to Europe. More than a quarter has come from Somalia and other war-torn East African countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo and Burundi.

Read more

20 children 'die of thirst after being abandoned by people smugglers'

"It's time for Europe and the rest of the world to accept that we can't wish therefugeechallenge away. We must take collective action to address the root causes driving migration and ensurerefugeesare not marginalised, or left unproductive for years in camps. Children must be given education, communities should have access to healthcare and adults must have work opportunities. Such factors restore dignity and reduce reliance on expensive and unsustainable aid hand-outs."

Filippo Grandi, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, last week warned of a "climate of xenophobia" gripping Europe.

Speaking in Tehran, he said: "Refugees don't bring danger but flee from dangerous places.

"[Those who] stir up public opinion against refugees and migrants have a responsibility in creating a climate of xenophobia that is very worrying in today's Europe."

More than 1,011,700 migrants arrived in Europe by sea last year, according to theInternational Organisation for Migration (IOM), although others estimate that figure to be much higher.

**Load-Date:** June 20, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Erdogan shouldn't congratulate himself too hard for the military coup's failure - dark days are ahead; Secular Turkish Muslims, non-Muslims, non-Sunnis, Kurds, LGBT individuals, dissenting journalists, academics, and others who wish to see Erdogan step down through due democratic process after 12 years of rule fear that Friday's unfortunate events will only sow deeper division in Turkish society*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K80-6BM1-F021-6016-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

July 17, 2016 Sunday 2:54 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 549 words

**Byline:** Sarah Jilani

**Body**

As a botched attempt at an undemocratic military coup took place in Turkey on Friday night, confusion reigned, jets flew overhead, and military vehicles took to the streets of Istanbul and Ankara. Soon, however, President Erdogan delivered a live FaceTime address to the nation, calling on people to take to the streets to overturn the coup and defend democracy. The result left 265 dead, 1,440 wounded and the return of Erdogan's democratically-elected government.

This reads like a people's success story: unlike the jubilant crowds that met the tanks in Turkey's 1960, 1971and 1980 coups, this time, the Turkish public responded with a firm "no". Turkey's opposition parties - usually vehemently opposed to Erdogan's AK Party - hurriedly rallied to denounce the coup attempt and state their commitment to democracy on Saturday. Many international heads of state, the UN, and NATO called for the continuation of Turkey'sdemocratically elected government. The people's will had triumphed over militarism.

But while the Turkish government congratulates itself and its loyal 51 per cent for a historical night of defending democracy, this feels far from a victory for Turkey's secular and minority groups. Secular Turkish Muslims, non-Muslims, non-Sunnis, Kurds, LGBT individuals, dissenting journalists, academics, and others who wish to see Erdogan step down through due democratic process after 12 years of rule fear that Friday's unfortunate events will only sow deeper division in Turkish society.

Thousands welcome Erdogan

No one wants the instability and civilian oppression that martial law brings, but many Turks have long been hoping in vain for a truly democratic government: one that, in the true definition of the term, listens to the 49 per cent who happen to disagree with the Islamist and authoritarian direction of the ruling party. Ithas now long been the case in Turkey that, when the word "democracy" is used by the state, the calling card is coming out: it directly means their sustained electoral majority, and this justifies whatever is next to come. Democracy has become shorthand for a majority with homogenous values having the right to decide the fate of a diverse and increasingly demoralised minority.

Yesterday's show of democracy was therefore not only questionable in label, but its aftermath looks set to be, too. The government's heavy-handed clampdown has already begun. A remarkable 2,839 army members, and 2,745 judges and prosecutors have been detained within 24 hours: assuming all arrests are based on solid impartial evidence, it is an intelligence feat of astounding accuracy and speed, which Turkey's recent failures to detect terrorist plots suggests unlikely. The sheer numbers bear the hallmarks of a purge, as any unlawful arrests fall through the cracks. Erdogan has also regained some international sympathy, while bolstering a domestic support base that had temporarily waned due to tensions about ***Syrian*** ***refugees***.

The frightening violence of Erdogan's supporters in their so-called care-taking of democracy on Friday night; the rhetoric of democracy and majoritarianism that Erdogan uses interchangeably with no qualms; and the pursuit of vengeance over mercy in the aftermath marks this failed coup as the start of darker days for Turkish democracy.

**Load-Date:** July 17, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Mila Kunis condemns Donald Trump: 'We came here on a religious-refugee visa I'm not going to blow this country up'; At the age of seven Kunis travelled from the Ukraine to Los Angeles with her family*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K5V-0TC1-F021-6349-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

July 7, 2016 Thursday 9:31 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 445 words

**Byline:** Maya Oppenheim

**Body**

Mila Kunis has condemned Donald Trump's anti-refugee rhetoric and has said her own experience of being a refugee does not fit into his damning stereotypes of people fleeing their country of origin.

Kunis, 32, who is known for her roles on

That '70s Show

and

Ted

, said she travelled with her family from the Ukraine to the US on a religious-refugee visa and had no intention of "blowing the country up".

Kunis fled the Ukrainian SSR for Los Angeles in 1999 at the age of seven. Her family were Jewish and there was rising wave of antisemitism engulfing the country.

"We came here on a religious-refugee visa," she told

Glamour

. "And I'm not going to blow this country up. I'm clearly paying taxes. I'm not taking anything away."

"So the fact that people look at what's happening and are like, 'Pfft, they're going to blow sh-t up'?"

Kunis expressed sadness at the rise of anti-refugee sentiment within the US but said it could not be solely attributed to Mr Trump and America had to blame itself.

Read more

Mila Kunis: Actor jokes about stealing a chicken in Ukraine after

"It saddens me how much fear we've instilled in ourselves. And going from there to the whole, 'Hey, let's build a wall between Los Angeles and Mexico'.... I don't even have to answer that one. There's no point. It's a really great sound bite. And it got him far."

"Nobody should be mad at him; we did it to ourselves," she concluded.

Immigration is one of the cornerstones of the Republican presidential frontrunner's campaign and Mr Trump has also repeatedly expressed anti-immigrant sentiment in speeches. Early during his campaign launch he said would

build a "great, great" wall along the border with Mexico to keepMexicans from entering the US.

What's more, in a speech on ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in New Hampshire in February of this year, Mr Trump said he had a "bigger heart than anybody in this room," but shortly afterwards said he had "absolutely no problem" with "looking Syrian children in the face" and telling them to leave.

Kunis also spoke about her experience of settling in the US as a refugee in a family of seven and the hard work her parents endured to raise their family. Her parents worked multiple jobs while also studying in college and going to night school to learn English.

"My parents went through hell and back. They came to America with suitcases and a family of seven and $250, and that's it. ... My dad worked - f\*\*\* if I know - seven jobs? He painted a house. He would deliver toilets. He drove a cab, delivered pizzas."

"But growing up poor, I never missed out on anything. My parents did a beautiful job of not making me feel like I was lesser than any other kids."

**Load-Date:** July 7, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: Record 65 million people forced to flee homes, UN says; 24 people were displaced from their homes every minute of every day during 2015*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K26-GJV1-F021-6456-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 20, 2016 Monday 10:10 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 544 words

**Byline:** Peter Yeung

**Body**

The number of refugees in the world has reached more than 65 million, the highest level ever recorded.

After an increase of five million a single year, the number of people displaced by conflict - refugees, asylum seekers or those displaced internally - was at an estimated 65.3 million by the end of 2015.

It is the equivalent of one in every 113 people on the planet, according to the UN Refugee Agency, and if considered a nation would make up the 21st largest in the world.

Read more

Refugees in New Zealand told to subscribe to Kiwi values

Turkish border guards 'kill 11 ***Syrian*** ***refugees***' in indiscriminate shooting

Refugee crisis: Medical charity MSF rejects funding from UK and other EU nations over 'shameful' response

In its annual reportto mark World Refugee Day, the UN said it was the first time the number of refugees worldwide had passed the 60 million mark.

On average 24 peoplewere displaced from their homes every minute of every day during 2015 - some 34,000 people per day.

"World leaders can no longer watch passively as so many lives are needlessly lost" - @RefugeesChief#WithRefugees[*https://t.co/EiWm9KASTj*](https://t.co/EiWm9KASTj)

- UN Refugee Agency (@Refugees) June 20, 2016

Lamenting the largest refugee crisis of our time,Ban Ki Moon, theUN Secretary General,described it"not just a crisis of numbers", but "a crisis of solidarity."

More than half of the world's refugee comefrom Syria, Afghanistan and Somalia.

(UNHCR)

The UN said 86 per centof therefugees under its mandatewere being sheltered in low and middle income countries.

If the closure the Dadaab camp in Kenya, the largest refugee settlement in the world, is to go ahead itwill risk a "humanitarian disaster", according to campaigners.

Johan Eldebo, World Vision UK's Senior Humanitarian Policy Adviser, said in a statement: "The Kenyan government, like many others, is struggling to help millions of displaced and desperate people.

"But this is not just an issue for Kenya or Africa. Over 200,000refugeeshave risked their lives this year to cross the Mediterranean to Europe. More than a quarter has come from Somalia and other war-torn East African countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo and Burundi.

Read more

20 children 'die of thirst after being abandoned by people smugglers'

"It's time for Europe and the rest of the world to accept that we can't wish therefugeechallenge away. We must take collective action to address the root causes driving migration and ensurerefugeesare not marginalised, or left unproductive for years in camps. Children must be given education, communities should have access to healthcare and adults must have work opportunities. Such factors restore dignity and reduce reliance on expensive and unsustainable aid hand-outs."

Filippo Grandi, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, last week warned of a "climate of xenophobia" gripping Europe.

Speaking in Tehran, he said: "Refugees don't bring danger but flee from dangerous places.

"[Those who] stir up public opinion against refugees and migrants have a responsibility in creating a climate of xenophobia that is very worrying in today's Europe."

More than 1,011,700 migrants arrived in Europe by sea last year, according to theInternational Organisation for Migration (IOM), although others estimate that figure to be much higher.

**Load-Date:** June 20, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Royal Navy has 'worryingly low' number of border patrol boats guarding UK coastline; UK Border Force is 'clearly under-resourced,' saysHome Affairs Select Committee report after a year-long inquiry*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KCK-6MN1-JCJY-G13F-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

August 3, 2016 Wednesday 8:33 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HOME NEWS

**Length:** 570 words

**Byline:** Jess Staufenberg

**Body**

The number of Royal Navy vessels available to patrol Britain's coast is "worryingly low" given the risingthreat from people smugglers, according to a new report.

Small ports along the coastline are being targeted by "criminal gangs" but remain largely unprotected, warnedthe Home Affairs Select Committee in acritical assessment of the UK and EU'sresponse to the refugee crisis.

While theBorder Force hasbeen given considerable responsibility for preventing people smugglers from makinglucrative trips to the UK's shores, it has not been given sufficientresources to do so, said the report.

Read more

Refugees who cannot pay people smugglers 'being sold for organs'

Refugee crisis: 20 children 'die of thirst after being abandoned by people smugglers' in Niger desert

Operation Sophia: EU naval mission to stop people smugglers 'is not working'

"UK Border Force has been given a key role in implementing strengthened coastal security measures but it is clearly under-resourced, with the number of Border Force vessels in operation worryingly low," said the report.

"Royal Navy vessels should be made available to Border Force to make up for shortfalls, where necessary."

Controversy erupted earlier this year when it emerged that just three Border Force cutter vessels were being used to patrol the UK's 7,000 miles of coastal borders - shortly after 18 Albanians were rescued from a sinking inflatable boat off the Kent coast.

Many other EU countries with extensive coastlines have more border security vessels in operation than the UK (UK Border Force)

The report, which has been published after a year-long inquiry,alsohighlighted differences between the UK's fleet and the capacity other European nations can call on.

In May, ministers announced measures to bolster maritime security, including new patrol boats for Border Force to supplement the existing five-vessel fleet. While the first batch were to be in place within months, full deployment is not expected until the end of next year.

By contrast, reports suggest Italy has as many as 600 boats for 4,700 miles of coast.

The Home Office said the comparison in the report between the UK and other European maritime countries only includes the number of cutters currently deployed in UK territorial waters and takes no account of the additional military and law enforcement vessels available.

The wide-ranging report also:

Described conditions in Calais migrant camps as "absolutely atrocious"

Argued it was "not acceptable" for EU member states to leave the protection of the EU external border up to Italy, Greece and Turkey

Warned that many British local authorities were "not pulling their weight" in resettling ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and there is "scant evidence" the Government would meet its commitment to resettle 20,000 Syrians by 2020

Called on the Government to, "as a one off", accept 157 unaccompanied children in Calais who have family members in the UK

Said maintaining the Le Touquet agreement, which allows British border checks to take place on French soil, should be a "priority".

A Home Office spokeswoman said: "Our priority is to offer humanitarian support to those most in need while maintaining the security of our borders.

"At the same time we continue to work tirelessly to maintain the security of our border, intercepting attempts to enter the UK illegally and targeting the callous gangs that profit from people smuggling."

Additional reporting from Press Association

**Load-Date:** August 3, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: Record 65 million people forced to flee homes in 2015, UN says; 24 people were displaced from their homes every minute of every day during 2015*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K26-GJV1-F021-6455-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 20, 2016 Monday 10:07 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 544 words

**Byline:** Peter Yeung

**Body**

The number of refugees in the world has reached more than 65 million, the highest level ever recorded.

After an increase of five million a single year, the number of people displaced by conflict - refugees, asylum seekers or those displaced internally - was at an estimated 65.3 million by the end of 2015.

It is the equivalent of one in every 113 people on the planet, according to the UN Refugee Agency, and if considered a nation would make up the 21st largest in the world.

Read more

Refugees in New Zealand told to subscribe to Kiwi values

Turkish border guards 'kill 11 ***Syrian*** ***refugees***' in indiscriminate shooting

Refugee crisis: Medical charity MSF rejects funding from UK and other EU nations over 'shameful' response

In its annual reportto mark World Refugee Day, the UN said it was the first time the number of refugees worldwide had passed the 60 million mark.

On average 24 peoplewere displaced from their homes every minute of every day during 2015 - some 34,000 people per day.

"World leaders can no longer watch passively as so many lives are needlessly lost" - @RefugeesChief#WithRefugees[*https://t.co/EiWm9KASTj*](https://t.co/EiWm9KASTj)

- UN Refugee Agency (@Refugees) June 20, 2016

Lamenting the largest refugee crisis of our time,Ban Ki Moon, theUN Secretary General,described it"not just a crisis of numbers", but "a crisis of solidarity."

More than half of the world's refugee comefrom Syria, Afghanistan and Somalia.

(UNHCR)

The UN said 86 per centof therefugees under its mandatewere being sheltered in low and middle income countries.

If the closure the Dadaab camp in Kenya, the largest refugee settlement in the world, is to go ahead itwill risk a "humanitarian disaster", according to campaigners.

Johan Eldebo, World Vision UK's Senior Humanitarian Policy Adviser, said in a statement: "The Kenyan government, like many others, is struggling to help millions of displaced and desperate people.

"But this is not just an issue for Kenya or Africa. Over 200,000refugeeshave risked their lives this year to cross the Mediterranean to Europe. More than a quarter has come from Somalia and other war-torn East African countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo and Burundi.

Read more

20 children 'die of thirst after being abandoned by people smugglers'

"It's time for Europe and the rest of the world to accept that we can't wish therefugeechallenge away. We must take collective action to address the root causes driving migration and ensurerefugeesare not marginalised, or left unproductive for years in camps. Children must be given education, communities should have access to healthcare and adults must have work opportunities. Such factors restore dignity and reduce reliance on expensive and unsustainable aid hand-outs."

Filippo Grandi, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, last week warned of a "climate of xenophobia" gripping Europe.

Speaking in Tehran, he said: "Refugees don't bring danger but flee from dangerous places.

"[Those who] stir up public opinion against refugees and migrants have a responsibility in creating a climate of xenophobia that is very worrying in today's Europe."

More than 1,011,700 migrants arrived in Europe by sea last year, according to theInternational Organisation for Migration (IOM), although others estimate that figure to be much higher.

**Load-Date:** June 20, 2016

**End of Document**



[*John Oliver delivers scathing monologue on Brexit following EU referendum; 'The United Kingdom [is] a place whose very name, after this week's events, is beginning to sound a bit sarcastic,' Oliver says*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K3R-CHM1-F021-60G8-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 27, 2016 Monday 5:07 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 508 words

**Byline:** Olivia Blair

**Body**

John Oliver has addressed the Brexit referendum result in an impassioned, explicit and angry monologue.

The British comedian wasted no time in delivering his thoughtson Britain voting to leave the EU in a historic referendum, which saw the Leave campaign clinch victory with 52 per cent of the vote, onhis

HBO

talk show

Last Week Tonight

on Sunday evening.

Oliver opened by suggesting that even the name 'United Kingdom' is "beginning to sound a bit sarcastic" given the clear divisions throughout the UK which became apparent in the wake of the vote, before singling outDavid Cameron, Boris Johnson and Nigel Farage.

"Before you have any sympathy for David Cameron, you should know this whole vote was his idea in the first place," the talk show host said.

He then mocked Leave campaigner's Boris Johnson, who he likened to a "shaved orangutan with Owen Wilson's hair", and Nigel Farage's repeated declaration of 23rd June being hailed as Britain's 'Independence day'.

"Britain was already independent," Oliver stated bluntly. "In fact, it's what many other countries celebrate their independence from."

Using explicit language, he then referred to the new

Independence Day

sequel, which opened in cinemas this weekend, which has a poster depictingLondon being swept up in an apocalyptic setting.

"The sequel to the movie they're quoting actually opened this week and features the wholesale destruction of London - which is beginning to feel pretty f\*\*\*\*\*g appropriate right now."

David Cameron: There is no doubt about the result

Read more

EU referendum: How the US views Brexit - from John Oliver to Donald Trump

Orlando shooting: John Oliver delivers emotive tribute and says the 'worst thing is this pain is so familiar'

John Oliver breaks down 'rigorous' US vetting process for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** after wave of 'anti-refugee rhetoric'

The segment also included a news clip of a Leave voter who said they now regretted their vote and would vote differently if they had the chance. Naturally, Oliver did not hold back in ruthlessly mocking the voter, sarcastically saying: "You're actually in luck because it turns out incredibly there is going to be another vote coming up and it's happening one week from... of course there isn't, that was the f\*\*\*\*\*g vote, it wasn't a practice round, that was it," he shouted.

The 39-year-old also used the result of Britain's vote to warn the US against voting for presumptive Republican candidate Donald Trump in the presidential elections, warning his US viewers that Britain's vote proves there are "no f\*\*\*\*ng do-overs".

Oliver has made his pro-EU views known before in an earlier monologue warning of the dangers of Britain leaving the EU which has been viewed over 8,500,000 times.

The monologue from the popular host, which gained much traction on social media among Remain supporters, was not aired in the UK ahead of the referendum vote. A

Sky

spokesperson told the

Radio Times

it was pulled from its scheduled slot on

Sky Atlantic t

o comply with Ofcom's broadcasting restrictions around elections.

**Load-Date:** June 27, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Nigerian refugee who fled Boko Haram killed in Italy; A 38-year-old local man has been arrestedon suspicion of murder motivated by racism*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K60-T7C1-F021-650W-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

July 8, 2016 Friday 12:32 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 513 words

**Byline:** Alexandra Sims

**Body**

A man has been arrested by Italian police on suspicion of killing a Nigerian refugee in Italy.

Emmanuel Chidi Namdi was attacked in Fermo, a small Italian town, on Tuesday after coming to the defence of his wife who was verbally abused by two Italians, according to locals.

ChinyeryEmmanuel told police her 36 year-old husband was knocked unconscious by a man brandishing a road-sign pole.

According to local priestVinicio Albanesi, who is involved with assisting refugees in the town, Emmanuel Chidi was beaten and fell into a coma.

"The assailant continued to kick and punch him even when he was lying on the ground," said Father Albanesi. Emmanuel Chidi died in hospital on Wednesday.

The couple, both Christians, fled to Italy last year on a boat from Libya after escaping an attack on their village church in Nigeria by the Islamist militant group Boko Haram, Fermo church officials said.

Friends of the pair told Italian media that their child and their parents had been killed in the assault.

A local man, who has been described in some reports as a well-known "ultra" football fan, is being held in police custody over the incident.

Police said on Thursday they had arrested Amedeo Mancini, 38, on suspicion of murder motivated by racism.

The suspect's lawyer told AGI news agency the circumstances of the incident had not been fully established.

Friends of Mancini claim he was forced to fight back becauseEmmanuel Chidi tried to attack him after his wife was insulted, according to some Italian news reports.

Other witnesses say the husband was attacked, first with a street sign ripped out of the pavement and then kicked, when he attempted to defend his wife, but did not initiate the violence.

Read more

Third of councils in England refuse to take in ***Syrian*** ***refugees***

Up to 900 refugees from Fallujah feared dead after being kidnapped by anti-Isis militia in Iraq

Police say 13-year-old girl made up 'refugee sex attack' at swimming pool in Austria

Refugees who cannot pay people smugglers 'being sold for organs'

Interior Minister Angelino Alfano visited the town on Thursday. He told reporters that Italy as a whole welcomes refugees.

"Italy isn't represented by Amedeo Mancini," Mr Alfano said. "Fermo and Italy continue to champion welcome" for refugees.

Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi said over Twitter: "The government today is in Fermo, alongside father Vinicio and the local institutions in memory of Emmanuel. Against hatred, racism and violence."

Politicians from all of Italy's parties condemned the killing, however the leader of the right-wing Northern League party, Matteo Salvini, said the incident showed immigration had to be controlled.

"Whoever kills, rapes or assaults another human being has to be punished. Without exception. Regardless of race," he said in a post on Facebook, adding: "It is ever more clear that illegal immigration is out of control ... and will bring no good."

Mr Alfano announced on Thursday thatEmmanuel Chidi's wife had been granted refugee status, the

BBC

reports.

Additional reporting by agencies

**Load-Date:** July 8, 2016

**End of Document**



[*John Oliver delivers scathing monologue on Brexit following EU referendum; 'The United Kingdom [is] a place whose very name, after this week's events, is beginning to sound a bit sarcastic,' Oliver says*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K3R-5R31-F021-64MS-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 27, 2016 Monday 3:10 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 499 words

**Byline:** Olivia Blair

**Body**

John Oliver has addressed the Brexit referendum result in an impassioned, explicit and angry monologue.

The British comedian wasted no time in delivering his thoughtson Britain voting to leave the EU in a historic referendum, which saw the Leave campaign clinch victory with 52 per cent of the vote, onhis

HBO

talk show

Last Week Tonight

on Sunday evening.

Oliver opened by suggesting that even the name 'United Kingdom' is "beginning to sound a bit sarcastic" given the clear divisions throughout the UK which became apparent in the wake of the vote, before singling outDavid Cameron, Boris Johnson and Nigel Farage.

"Before you have any sympathy for David Cameron, you should know this whole vote was his idea in the first place," the talk show host said.

He then mocked Leave campaigner's Boris Johnson, who he likened to a "shaved orangutan with Owen Wilson's hair", and Nigel Farage's repeated declaration of 23rd June being hailed as Britain's 'Independence day'.

"Britain was already independent," Oliver stated bluntly. "In fact, it's what many other countries celebrate their independence from."

Using explicit language, he then referred to the new

Independence Day

sequel, which opened in cinemas this weekend, which has a poster depictingLondon being swept up in an apocalyptic setting.

"The sequel to the movie they're quoting actually opened this week and features the wholesale destruction of London - which is beginning to feel pretty f\*\*\*\*\*g appropriate right now."

Read more

EU referendum: How the US views Brexit - from John Oliver to Donald Trump

Orlando shooting: John Oliver delivers emotive tribute and says the 'worst thing is this pain is so familiar'

John Oliver breaks down 'rigorous' US vetting process for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** after wave of 'anti-refugee rhetoric'

The segment also included a news clip of a Leave voter who said they now regretted their vote and would vote differently if they had the chance. Naturally, Oliver did not hold back in ruthlessly mocking the voter, sarcastically saying: "You're actually in luck because it turns out incredibly there is going to be another vote coming up and it's happening one week from... of course there isn't, that was the f\*\*\*\*\*g vote, it wasn't a practice round, that was it," he shouted.

The 39-year-old also used the result of Britain's vote to warn the US against voting for presumptive Republican candidate Donald Trump in the presidential elections, warning his US viewers that Britain's vote proves there are "no f\*\*\*\*ng do-overs".

Oliver has made his pro-EU views known before in an earlier monologue warning of the dangers of Britain leaving the EU which has been viewed over 8,500,000 times.

The monologue from the popular host, which gained much traction on social media among Remain supporters, was not aired in the UK ahead of the referendum vote. A

Sky

spokesperson told the

Radio Times

it was pulled from its scheduled slot on

Sky Atlantic t

o comply with Ofcom's broadcasting restrictions around elections.

**Load-Date:** June 27, 2016

**End of Document**



[*EU referendum: Baroness Warsi subjected to Islamophobic abuse by Brexit supporters after she defects to Remain; The Conservative peer said the 'hate and xenophobia' of Leave had gone 'too far'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K26-GJV1-F021-644Y-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 20, 2016 Monday 10:03 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 497 words

**Byline:** Jon Stone

**Body**

A Conservative peer has been subjected to Islamophobic abuse by Brexit supporters after announcing she was switching sides from Leave to Remain.

Baroness Warsi previously backed Remain but this morning said that the "hate and xenophobia" of the Leave campaign had gone "too far".

She told the

Times

newspaper she realised she could not support the campaign after seeing a Ukip poster portraying ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in a negative light.

Read more

Baroness Sayeeda Warsi defects from Leave to Remain

After her decision became known she was however immediately subjected to vicious attacks on social media.

The peer, who is a Muslim, was sent messages about "grooming gangs" as well as one referring to her as a "jihadist Trojan horse".

She was also referred to as a "Cameron stooge" with multiple suggestions she would receive some kind of payment for backing Remain.

Another social media user claimed she had hired Muslim "fundamentalist" staff, while others said she was "full of s\*\*t".

One message read: "typical MUSLIM ! Lie ,cheat,lie ,cheat ,lie ,good job your in a country like the UK otherwise you'd be stoned by now FACT". [sic]

The vile reaction of people unhappy with my decision to leave #leave .Politics of hate must stop #uniteagainsthatepic.twitter.com/A86f4Dpyol

- Sayeeda Warsi (@SayeedaWarsi) June 20, 2016

The Conservative, a former Cabinet minister, highlighted the abuse by posting screenshots of it from her account.

"The vile reaction of people unhappy with my decision to leave Leave," she said. "Politics of hate must stop."

Her defection follows that of Conservative MP Sarah Wollaston who said she could not continue to campaign for the Leave campaign because it was making false claims about the NHS.

Ms Wollaston also received a similarly violent reaction when she changed sides, claim claims she was a "plant" in the Leave campaign who had always intended to switch sides.

Read more

EU referendum: Car industry leaders back Remain campaign

David Cameron: Don't make the EU referendum decision about my future

EU referendum: David Cameron says Nigel Farage Brexit poster is 'irresponsible'

EU referendum: Brexit would see Britain back to 'square one', says Cameron

The abuse of the Baroness comes amid calls for the tone of the campaign to improve after the killing of Labour MP Jo Cox.

Mayor of London Sadiq Khan said on Saturday that the EU referendum campaign had become "poisonous" and that "we should all reflect on the way the referendum campaign has been conducted".

Ms Cox's attacker was said by eyewitnesses to have shouted "Britain first, keep Britain independent", and "Britain always comes first, this is for Britain", according to court filings.

The man charged with her murder was heard to say "I'm a political activist" by police as they arrested him, according to police.

The European Union referendum takes place on 23 June. The deadline to register to vote has already passed. The latest suggest Remain regaining the lead after a short stint ahead for the Leave campaign.

**Load-Date:** June 20, 2016

**End of Document**



[*EU referendum: Baroness Warsi subjected to Islamophobic abuse by Brexit supporters after she defects to Remain; The Conservative peer said the 'hate and xenophobia' of Leave had gone 'too far'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K26-GJV1-F021-6450-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 20, 2016 Monday 10:12 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 497 words

**Byline:** Jon Stone

**Body**

A Conservative peer has been subjected to Islamophobic abuse by Brexit supporters after announcing she was switching sides from Leave to Remain.

Baroness Warsi previously backed Leave but this morning said that the "hate and xenophobia" of the Leave campaign had gone "too far".

She told the

Times

newspaper she realised she could not support the campaign after seeing a Ukip poster portraying ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in a negative light.

Read more

Baroness Sayeeda Warsi defects from Leave to Remain

After her decision became known she was however immediately subjected to vicious attacks on social media.

The peer, who is a Muslim, was sent messages about "grooming gangs" as well as one referring to her as a "jihadist Trojan horse".

She was also referred to as a "Cameron stooge" with multiple suggestions she would receive some kind of payment for backing Remain.

Another social media user claimed she had hired Muslim "fundamentalist" staff, while others said she was "full of s\*\*t".

One message read: "typical MUSLIM ! Lie ,cheat,lie ,cheat ,lie ,good job your in a country like the UK otherwise you'd be stoned by now FACT". [sic]

The vile reaction of people unhappy with my decision to leave #leave .Politics of hate must stop #uniteagainsthatepic.twitter.com/A86f4Dpyol

- Sayeeda Warsi (@SayeedaWarsi) June 20, 2016

The Conservative, a former Cabinet minister, highlighted the abuse by posting screenshots of it from her account.

"The vile reaction of people unhappy with my decision to leave Leave," she said. "Politics of hate must stop."

Her defection follows that of Conservative MP Sarah Wollaston who said she could not continue to campaign for the Leave campaign because it was making false claims about the NHS.

Ms Wollaston also received a similarly violent reaction when she changed sides, claim claims she was a "plant" in the Leave campaign who had always intended to switch sides.

Read more

EU referendum: Car industry leaders back Remain campaign

David Cameron: Don't make the EU referendum decision about my future

EU referendum: David Cameron says Nigel Farage Brexit poster is 'irresponsible'

EU referendum: Brexit would see Britain back to 'square one', says Cameron

The abuse of the Baroness comes amid calls for the tone of the campaign to improve after the killing of Labour MP Jo Cox.

Mayor of London Sadiq Khan said on Saturday that the EU referendum campaign had become "poisonous" and that "we should all reflect on the way the referendum campaign has been conducted".

Ms Cox's attacker was said by eyewitnesses to have shouted "Britain first, keep Britain independent", and "Britain always comes first, this is for Britain", according to court filings.

The man charged with her murder was heard to say "I'm a political activist" by police as they arrested him, according to police.

The European Union referendum takes place on 23 June. The deadline to register to vote has already passed. The latest suggest Remain regaining the lead after a short stint ahead for the Leave campaign.

**Load-Date:** June 20, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Turkey coup attempt: Military claims to have taken over as President says he will defend government; Turkish Armed Forces have 'completely taken over the administration of the country to reinstate constitutional order, human rights and freedoms'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K7K-S2G1-F021-615S-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

July 15, 2016 Friday 9:41 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 512 words

**Byline:** Will Worley

**Body**

Turkey's military has claimed to have seized power of the country - but President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said the attempted coup would be put down.

If successful, the overthrow of Mr Erdogan, who has ruled Turkey since 2003, wouldtransformone of the most important USallies in the region while war rages on its border.

"We will overcome this," Mr Erdogan said, speaking by mobile phone to the Turkish sister station of CNN. He called on his followers to take to the streets to defend his government and said the coup plotters would pay a heavy price.

The army has seized media outlets, including the state-run TRT channel. The channel has broadcast a statement on the orders of the military. An announcer read a statement on the orders of the military that accused the government of eroding the democratic and secular rule of law. The country would be run by a "peace council" that would ensure the safety of the population, the statement said.

The statement said: "Turkish Armed Forces have completely taken over the administration of the country to reinstate constitutional order, human rights and freedoms, the rule of law and general security that was damaged.

"All international agreements are still valid. We hope that all of our good relationships with all countries will continue."

A source at TRT told The Independent she and her colleagues were evacuated by the military earlier on Friday. TRT has now gone off air.

Aiports were shut across the country, access to Internet social media sites was cut off, and troops sealed off the two bridges over the Bosphorus in Istanbul, one of which was still lit up red, white and blue in solidarity with victims of the Bastille Day truck attack in France a day earlier.

Turkey, a Nato member with the second biggest military in the Western alliance, is one of the most important allies of the United States in the fight against Islamic State.

It is a principal backer of opponents of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad in that country's civil war, and host to 2 million ***Syrian*** ***refugees***.

The country has been at war with Kurdish separatists, and has suffered numerous bombing and shooting attacks this year, including an attack two weeks ago by Islamists at Istanbul's main airport that killed more than 40 people.

A senior EU source monitoring the situation told Reuters: "It looks like a relatively well orchestrated coup by a significant body of the military, not just a few colonels. They've got control of the airports and are expecting control over the TV station imminently. They control several strategic points in Istanbul.

"Given the scale of the operation, it is difficult to imagine they will stop short of prevailing. It's not just a few colonels," the source repeated.

US Secretary of State John Kerry says he hopes for stability and continuity in Turkey following reports that an attempted military coup is under way in the NATO member state.

Moscow has called on the country to avoid "bloodshed" and Russia's foreign minister is advising countrymen in Turkey to stay inside amid coup uncertainty.

Reuters contributed to this report

**Load-Date:** July 15, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Jo Cox: MP's last message warned against immigration 'spin' in EU debate; The Yorkshire MP's final message says:'We can do far more to deal with the pressures caused by migration from inside the EU'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K20-PJ41-JCJY-G4RB-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 19, 2016 Sunday 10:56 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK

**Length:** 483 words

**Byline:** Jess Staufenberg

**Body**

The final message writtenby Jo Coxfour days before she was killed warned against what she called the "spin" around immigrationin the EU debate.

Ms Cox, who was a vocal supporterof ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, tackled the "legitimate concerns" over migration to explain why Brexit would not solve them.

The Labour MP said the Leave campaign wanted toadopta"more liberal" approach to migration from outside the EU, therefore potentially worsening the situation - and added that an Australian-style points-based system had not slowed migration to that country.

Ms Cox likewise pointed out that EU migrants "have contributed £20 billion more to our economy than they've taken out in benefits"and that this money should be better directed to education and health services.

And she finally noted that the free movement of people would on

ly come to an end by leaving the Single Market - a move that she said would have

disastrous economic consequences.

Her article came days before a Spanish woman who has lived in the UK for 14 years criticised Michael Gove for "using migrants for convenience" and treating them as "the enemy".

She wrote:

"We cannot allow voters to fall for the spin that a vote to leave is the only way to deal with concerns about immigration.

"We can do far more to address both the level and impact of immigration while remaining in the EU. I very rarely agree with the Prime Minister but on this he's right: we are stronger, safer and better off in."

Both sides of the EU debate suspended their campaignsfollowing the brutal attack on Ms Cox as she left a constituency meeting in Batley and Spen in West Yorkshire, and there has beena national outpouring of condolences and condemnation over her loss.

The suspect charged with her murder, ThomasMair, gave his name as "death to traitors, freedom for Britain" during his appearance

at Westminster magistrates court and evidence has been presented of his links to far-right, white supremacist groups.

Read more

Jo Cox death: MPs from rival parties want to sit together in symbolic tribute for special House of Commons session

Jo Cox death: Thomas Mair charged with murder of 41-year-old Batley and Spen MP

Jo Cox death: Barack Obama calls murdered MP's husband as mourners gather at vigils across the UK

Since her death, more than £600,000 has been raised for Ms Cox on a GoFundMe page which has been the biggest and fastest growing fundraising campaign of this kind ever.

Her husband, Brendan, has said his wife would want the UK to "unite to fight against the hatred that killed her."

Mr Cox has also warned that mainstream politicians are "clueless" about dealing with the debate surrounding migration.

"Petrified by the rise of the populists, they try to neuter them by taking their ground and aping their rhetoric," he wrote.

"Far from closing down the debates, these steps legitimise their views, reinforce their frames and pull the debate further to the extremes".

**Load-Date:** June 19, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Cologne sex attack charge against Algerian man dismissed by judge; The 26-year-old defendant has already been given a six month suspended sentence for handling stolen goods*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JPM-N161-F021-60D5-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

May 6, 2016 Friday 3:41 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 525 words

**Byline:** Caroline Mortimer

**Body**

A judge in Cologne has dismissed charges of sexual assault against an Algerian man in connection with the New Year attacks.

Dr Frank Altpeter acquitted the unnamed 26-year-old as it "could not be proven" that he had taken part in the sexual assault.

The victim in the case heard at the court on Friday could not be sure that the two men in the dock were the ones who attacked her, German media reports

The manand another Algerian, 23,were handed six-month suspended sentences over handling stolen goods - relating to the mobile phone of a victim which was found on them -and breaking into a car on a separate occasion.

Read more

The 9 biggest misconceptions everyone has about cologne and perfume

Cologne-style sex attacks could happen in Britain, Nigel Farage says

Cologne sex attacks 'not even crimes according to German rape laws'

A court spokesman told the BBC the men were currently in detention awaiting deportation from Germany.

It was the first case of sexual assault from New Year's Eve to come before the court.

Germany was shocked by the string of sexual assaults and robberies against over 1,000 women in the city.

The victims reported gangs of men of "Arab and North African appearance" surrounding them before groping, assaulting and robbing them.

Over 1,000 incidents of sexual and robbery were reported in Cologne during the New Year's Eve celebrations (Getty Images)

The incident provoked an intense backlash against German Chancellor Angela Merkel's open-door policy towards the ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** who were flooding over land borders and the Mediterrnean sea to escape the brutality of Isis and the Syrian civil war.

Far-right group Pegida staged a rally in Cologne calling for Germany to close its borders.

A subsequent investigation found that of the 159 men arrested in connection with the allegations, although some were asylum seekers, only three people had recently arrived from war-torn regions of Syria and Iraq.

Read more

Germany moves to tighten rape laws in wake of Cologne attacks

The head of the police inquiry, Detective Superintendent Thomas Schulter said of the men being investigated in connection with the attacks, two-thirds were of Algerian or Moroccan origin.

Police were accused of attempting to cover up the attacks after initially reporting that the New Year's Eve celebrations had passed without much incident.

The local police chief, Wolfgang Albers, was suspended over his handling of the incident in January but allegations surfaced in April that the police had been ordered to remove the word "rape" from their report by the interior ministry of the state government.

Cologne newspaper Express published a letter supposedly from a policeman named Joachim H who was on duty that day and described his colleague getting an order to remove the word "vergewaltigung" - or "rape" - because it is the "wish of the state interior ministry".

Police ultimately refused the request but theallegations put more pressure on North Rhine-Westphalia interior minister,Ralf Jäger, over his handling of the crisis.

He denied a cover-up but confirmed there had been "professional discussions" over the "classification" of the New Year's Eve assaults.

**Load-Date:** May 6, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Mafia 'attaching flaming rags to cats' to start Sicily forest fires; 'Not possible for the whole of Sicily to go up in flames at the same time by chance', authorities say*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K27-1641-F021-61YS-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 20, 2016 Monday 2:07 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 523 words

**Byline:** Harry Cockburn

**Body**

Cats in Sicily could have hadpetrol-soaked rags attached to them by people linked to

the Ma

fia

before being setalightand releasedinto forests to start huge fires, according to the island's national park officials.

Dozens of forest fires which broke out within hours of each other in Sicily on Thursday are believed to have been begun by mobsters or their collaborators.

Firefighters had to tackle at least 30 blazes in national parks and woodland. Schools and homes have been evacuated and water and power supplies cut. Several children have been treated for smoke inhalation.

The fires all broke out at around the same time on Thursday, which has led the island's national park officials tosuggesta co-ordinated plan was behind the blazes.

The effects have been exacerbated by temperatures of up to 40C while the 'sirocco', a strong wind which comes from Africa and affects parts of Europe in the summer, has fanned the flames.

Read more

Fort McMurray wildfire could burn for months and be Canada's costliest natural disaster

Oil price pushed up by Canada wildfire and Saudi Arabian oil minister switch

Canada wildfires in Alberta expected to burn for months

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** help victims of Canada wildfires in show of solidarity

Sicilian authorities have pointed the blame at various groups they say have motives for starting the fires, including the mafia, property developers and disgruntled former forest rangers.

"We don't yet have the proof but we suspect that there are criminal interests behind these fires," said Rosario Crocetta, the governor of Sicily. "It horrifies me that criminals in Sicily would set fire to national parks and centuries-old woodland, but there are speculative interests behind the fires."

The mafia recently attempted to assassinate the director of the island's Nebrodi national park, Giuseppe Antoci, following his efforts to crackdown on the organised criminals making millions of euros through defrauding EU funds set aside for farmers in the park.

Meanwhile, much of the land affected is in areas targeted by developers looking to build homes and holiday villas.

Read more

Video shows family driving through raging California wildfires

Mr Antoci believes the fires were started deliberately. He said: "It is not possible that the whole of Sicily can go up in flames at the same time simply by chance.

"One of the mob's arson techniques is to tie a petrol-soaked rag to the tail of a cat and set fire to it," he added.

According to the Telegraph, there is speculation on the island that forest rangers fired after their links to the mafia were discovered could be responsible.

Despite being a small island that is not densely forested, Sicily employs around 23,000 full-time and auxiliary forest rangers.

This has long been argued to be the result of cronyism and political corruption. In Canada, which has colossal tracts of forest, the state employs a total of around 4,200 rangers.

Italian interior minister Angelino Alfano has promised a "tough reaction" to anyone found to be responsible for arson. He said: "I will provide all the resources to the police and Carabinieri (paramilitary police) to catch those responsible."

**Load-Date:** June 20, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Woman who defied neo-Nazis in viral photo of raised fist speaks of anger that prompted gesture; 'I did it because I was so p\*\*\*\*\*off. I was standing there and I looked at him, and he looked at me'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JP6-6TV1-F021-614K-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

May 4, 2016 Wednesday 12:02 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 523 words

**Byline:** Jess Staufenberg

**Body**

A woman pictured facingdown hundreds of neo-Nazishas spoken of the anger that prompted her defiant gesture.

The image of

anti-racism activist

Tess Asplund stood with her fist raised while

staring directly into the eyes of one of the three white male leaders among

200 far-right extremists in the Swedish city of

Borl

änge

has gone viral across Scandinavia, being shared by thousands.

But the

42-year-old

, who livesin Stockholm, has said a group which was "spreading hate" should not have been given a permit to demonstrate in the first place.

Read more

Another building due to house child refugees in Sweden has been burned down by arsonists

Austrian government plans to seize house where Adolf Hitler was born to stop neo-Nazi pilgrimages

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** rescue neo-Nazi German politician after car crash

Swedish swimming pool 'vigilante' patrols accused of neo-Nazi links

"Of course they shouldn't be allowed to march in the first place. They are Nazis," she told

The Independent.

"They are spreading hate. They want a white area. If they got control of the country they would kick me out, kick my family out."

The Nordic Resistance Movement, one ofmany Swedishneo-Nazi groups which has seen its popularity increase,was granted permission by local officials and police to demonstrate in the city, which is 130 miles northof Stockholm.

The Social Democrat Party, the Left Party and non-profit organisation Dalarna Against Racism, whichwere also allowed to demonstrate,reportedly outnumbered the neo-Nazi group.

But Ms Asplund said she was still shockedby how many right-wing extremists were present and had stood in their path "without thinking" out of anger.

"That's the scary thing, there were more than100 of them and that's too much, that's scary," she said.

"I did it because I was so p\*\*\*\*\*off. I was standing there and I looked at him, and he looked at me. Then the police came and asked me to stepaway, which is their job of course."

The raised fist salute has historically been used as a gesture ofsolidarity with oppressed peoples and defiance at their opressors, and became a symbol of the Black Power movement that began during the 1960s in the US.

Russia warns against rise of far-right in Europe

Members of the Nordic Resistance Movement, which is aregistered political party, weremarching withgreen flags that show an arrow pointing upwards. Their website says they aim to establish a Nordic national socialist government in a fight that may require "bloodshed".

Stefan Dangardt, a Borlange police spokesperson, hasdefended the decision to allow the Nordic Resistance Movement to demonstrate.

"There is a constitutional law in Sweden to freely express opinions and have meetings," he told Radio Sweden.

Groups promoting anti-immigration and far-rightideologieshave been on the rise in the traditionally liberal Scandinavian country, with rallies and PR activity for neo-nazi group doubling overthree years, according to Reuters.

The Sweden Democrats, asocial conservative party in the Swedish Parliament, won a 14 per cent share of the seats in the last election withan anti-immigration rhetoric that has seen itspopularity grow since the early 2000s.

**Load-Date:** May 4, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Erdogan shouldn't congratulate himself too hard for the military coup's failure - dark days are ahead; All those who wish to see Erdogan step down through due democratic process after 12 years of rule, fear that Friday's calamitous events will only sow deeper division in Turkish society*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K80-PC51-F021-62NR-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

July 17, 2016 Sunday 2:54 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 548 words

**Byline:** Sarah Jilani

**Body**

As a botched attempt at an undemocratic military coup took place in Turkey on Friday night, confusion reigned, jets flew overhead, and military vehicles took to the streets of Istanbul and Ankara. Soon, however, President Recep TayyipErdogan delivered a live FaceTime address to the nation, calling on people to take to the streets to overturn the coup and defend democracy. The result left 265 dead, 1,440 wounded and the return of Erdogan's democratically elected government.

This reads like a people's success story: unlike the jubilant crowds that met the tanks in Turkey's 1960, 1971and 1980 coups, this time, the Turkish public responded with a firm "no". Turkey's opposition parties - usually vehemently opposed to Erdogan's AK Party - hurriedly rallied to denounce the coup attempt and state their commitment to democracy on Saturday. Many international heads of state, the UN, and NATO called for the continuation of Turkey'sdemocratically elected government. The people's will had triumphed over militarism.

But while the Turkish government congratulates itself and its loyal 51 per cent for a historical night of defending democracy, this feels far from a victory for Turkey's secular and minority groups. Secular Turkish Muslims, non-Muslims, non-Sunnis, Kurds, LGBT individuals, dissenting journalists, academics, and others who wish to see Erdo

g

an step down through due democratic process after 12 years of rule fear that Friday's events will only sow deeper division in Turkish society.

Thousands welcome Erdogan

No one wants the instability and civilian oppression that martial law brings, but many Turks have long been hoping in vain for a truly democratic government, one that, in the true definition of the term, listens to the 49 per cent who happen to disagree with the Islamist and authoritarian direction of the ruling party. Ithas now long been the case in Turkey that, when the word "democracy" is used by the state, the calling card is coming out: it directly means their sustained electoral majority, and this justifies whatever is next to come. Democracy has become shorthand for a majority with homogenous values having the right to decide the fate of a diverse and increasingly demoralised minority.

Yesterday's show of democracy was therefore not only questionable in label, but its aftermath looks set to be, too. The government's heavy-handed clampdown has already begun. A remarkable 2,839 army members, and 2,745 judges and prosecutors have been detained within 24 hours: assuming all arrests are based on solid impartial evidence, it is an intelligence feat of astounding accuracy and speed, which Turkey's recent failures to detect terrorist plots suggests unlikely. The sheer numbers bear the hallmarks of a purge, as any unlawful arrests fall through the cracks. Erdogan has also regained some international sympathy, while bolstering a domestic support base that had temporarily waned due to tensions about ***Syrian*** ***refugees***.

The frightening violence of Erdogan's supporters in their so-called caretaking of democracy on Friday night; the rhetoric of democracy and majoritarianism that Erdogan uses interchangeably without qualm; and the pursuit of vengeance over mercy in the aftermath marks this failed coup as the start of darker days for Turkish democracy.

**Load-Date:** July 17, 2016

**End of Document**



[*More than 400 refugees 'drown in Mediterranean' after boats capsize crossing from Egypt to Italy; Reports say the refugees were fleeing to Italy from Somalia, Ethiopia and Eritrea*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JJT-5N51-F021-63DX-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

April 18, 2016 Monday 3:00 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 560 words

**Byline:** Samuel Osborne

**Body**

Hundreds of refugees are feared to have drowned in the Mediterranean Seaafter their boatscapsized on the way to Europe, a Somali ambassador has said.

More than 400 refugees are thoughtto have drowned, the Somali ambassador to Egypt told BBC Arabic.

Reports say the refugees were fleeing to Italy from Somalia, Ethiopia and Eritrea

in four boats which were ill-equipped for the journey.

"2016, the Mediterranean is a mass grave," Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) tweetedin response to the news.

Italy's President Sergio Mattarella said several hundred people appear to have died.

He said Europe needed to reflect in the face of "yet another tragedy in the Mediterranean in which, it seems, several hundred people have died."

The Italian coastguard said earlier they knew nothing about the reported disaster, andMédecins Sans Frontières have been unable to confirm the news to

The Independent

.

Earlier on Monday morning, the Italian coastguard said108 refugees had been saved and six bodies recovered from a semi-submerged rubber dinghy on Sunday.

Separately, 33 refugees were rescued overnight off eastern coast of Sicily.

The reported tragedy comes almost a year after a fishing boat crowded with refugees sank in the Mediterranean, with around 800 people trapped inside.

Italy vowed to raise the shipwreck from the sea floor, to recover the corpses out of respect for the dead.

Refugee rescued standing atop sinking boat

Almost 6,000 refugees sailed from Libya to Italy last week, in what appears to be the beginning of a wave of 100,000, the International Organisation for Migration said.

EU policymakers have been criticised of "killing by neglect" after they cut rescue missions in the Mediterranean.

The scaling back of search and rescue operations "created the conditions that led to massive loss of life," according to a report.

Read more

239 unaccompanied refugee children disappeared from UK care in 2015

Refugee who attempted suicide prosecuted and threatened with jail

Child refugees being detained in 'dirty' police cells due to 'severe shortage' of safe shelters in Greece, charity warns

Turkish border forces 'fire live rounds at ***Syrian*** ***refugees***' fleeing Isis fighting

Refugee crisis: Lesbos detention centre whitewashed amid last-minute preparations for Pope's visit

Tanya Steele, CEO of Save the Children,said:"The lack of concrete measures to protect children who gamble and lose their lives to reach the perceived safety of Europe should weigh on all our minds. A year on from one of the greatest migration tragedies in the Mediterranean, safe and legal routes have not been properly implemented.

"Europe continues to see this migration crisis as primarily about safeguarding its own borders. A third of those desperate enough to make this perilous journey are children. Even though the European Commission has identified children as one of the most vulnerable groups, recommending relocation measures as a priority, in effect, this is only happening on paper.

"This gruesome anniversary must not be purely symbolic. It is an insult to the thousands of men, women and children who have drowned on Europe's shores if action is not urgently taken to prevent the further loss of human lives. Europe's leaders must invest in search and rescue at sea and offer safe and dignified means of applying for asylum, in line with its legal obligations."

Additional reporting by Reuters

**Load-Date:** April 18, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Fears 400 refugees have drowned in Mediterranean after boats capsize; Reports say the refugees were fleeing to Italy from Somalia, Ethiopia and Eritrea*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JJT-5N51-F021-63F0-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

April 18, 2016 Monday 4:10 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 546 words

**Byline:** Samuel Osborne

**Body**

Hundreds of refugees are feared to have drowned in the Mediterranean Seaafter their boatscapsized.

Italy's President, Sergio Mattarella, said there seemed to have been "yet another tragedy in the Mediterranean".

His comments

followed a report by BBC Arabic quoting the Somali ambassador to Europe that400 people had died crossing from Egypt to Europe.

Reports saidthe refugees were fleeing to Italy from Somalia, Ethiopia and Eritrea

in four boats which were ill-equipped for the journey.

"2016, the Mediterranean is a mass grave," Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) tweetedin response to the news.

The original flurry of reports have, however, yet to be confirmed by either Egyptian or Greek officials.

The Italian coastguard has also said it knew nothing about the reported disaster.

Médecins Sans Frontières has alsobeen unable to confirmto

The Independent

whether the tragedy has taken place.

Earlier on Monday morning, the Italian coastguard said 108 refugees had been saved and six bodies recovered from a semi-submerged rubber dinghy on Sunday.

Separately, 33 refugees were rescued overnight off eastern coast of Sicily.

A year ago,a fishing boat crowded with refugees sank in the Mediterraneanwith around 800 people trapped inside.

Italy has now vowed to raise the shipwreck from the sea floor, to recover the corpses.

Refugee rescued standing atop sinking boat

Almost 6,000 refugees sailed from Libya to Italy last week, in what appears to be the beginning of a wave of 100,000, the International Organisation for Migration said.

EU policymakers have been criticised of "killing by neglect" after they cut rescue missions in the Mediterranean.

The scaling back of search and rescue operations "created the conditions that led to massive loss of life," according to a report.

Read more

239 unaccompanied refugee children disappeared from UK care in 2015

Refugee who attempted suicide prosecuted and threatened with jail

Child refugees being detained in 'dirty' police cells due to 'severe shortage' of safe shelters in Greece, charity warns

Turkish border forces 'fire live rounds at ***Syrian*** ***refugees***' fleeing Isis fighting

Refugee crisis: Lesbos detention centre whitewashed amid last-minute preparations for Pope's visit

Tanya Steele, CEO of Save the Children,said:"The lack of concrete measures to protect children who gamble and lose their lives to reach the perceived safety of Europe should weigh on all our minds. A year on from one of the greatest migration tragedies in the Mediterranean, safe and legal routes have not been properly implemented.

"Europe continues to see this migration crisis as primarily about safeguarding its own borders. A third of those desperate enough to make this perilous journey are children. Even though the European Commission has identified children as one of the most vulnerable groups, recommending relocation measures as a priority, in effect, this is only happening on paper.

"This gruesome anniversary must not be purely symbolic. It is an insult to the thousands of men, women and children who have drowned on Europe's shores if action is not urgently taken to prevent the further loss of human lives. Europe's leaders must invest in search and rescue at sea and offer safe and dignified means of applying for asylum, in line with its legal obligations."

**Load-Date:** April 18, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Turkey deports British academic for 'making terrorist propaganda'; Lecturer says the Kurdish leaflets were invitations to a festival*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J9X-3JW1-JCS0-D0H1-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

March 17, 2016 Thursday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 26

**Length:** 528 words

**Byline:** LAURA PITEL

**Body**

A British academic was deported from Turkey last night after being accused of "making terrorist propaganda" for allegedly handing out pro-Kurdish leaflets.

Chris Stephenson, whose wife is a Turkish citizen, told the Associated Press before boarding a flight that there was "no offence, no trial, just an administrative decision to deport me after 25 years of residency in Turkey".

The timing is deeply embarrassing for EU leaders, who will meet in Brussels today to cement a controversial deal with Turkey aimed at easing the refugee crisis.

It comes amid a wider crackdown on academics, journalists and lawyers in the name of combating terrorism, prompting critics to warn the EU against striking a deal with Ankara at a time of growing human rights concerns.

Yesterday, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan called on the Turkish parliament to move swiftly to broaden anti-terror laws. The state argues that such measures are necessary to protect national security, but human rights groups fear they will be used to stifle debate about a recent flare-up in the long-running conflict between Kurdish militias and the Turkish state.

Mr Stephenson, a computer science lecturer at Bilgi University in Istanbul, was detained on Tuesday while attending a court hearing to support three fellow academics accused of "spreading terrorist propaganda". They had added their names to a petition that strongly criticised a government operation to crush Kurdish militias in the south-east of Turkey.

Mr Stephenson was accused of distributing propaganda for the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK). He disputed this, saying that security guards simply found leaflets in his bag that were issued by a Kurdish-rooted political party inviting people to a Kurdish festival. He said that a reference to Kurdish self-determination and a small picture of a barricade were deemed to constitute terror propaganda. A prosecutor demanded his deportation. Mr Stephenson said his wife and teenage daughter both remained in Turkey and he described his treatment as "very scary and wrong". His lawyer said he planned to appeal. The three academics whom Mr Stephenson was supporting remained in custody.

European leaders have already come under fire for putting Turkey at the heart of their efforts to slash the numbers of refugees and migrants arriving on their shores. Under a draft deal set out last week, Ankara agreed to allow everyone who travelled illegally to Greece from Turkey to be sent back. In exchange, EU countries would accept one Syrian refugee for each one accepted by Turkey.

Billions of pounds in aid money would be granted to support the 2.7 million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** already registered in Turkey. Ankara would be granted a speedier timetable for both visa-free travel for Turkish citizens in the Schengen zone and its bid for EU accession.

The European Council President, Donald Tusk, who will chair the EU summit starting today, said yesterday that there was "still a lot to do" over the deal, and success could hinge on Ankara acting to support peace talks in Cyprus, an EU member. The Cypriot President, Nicos Anastasiades, has threatened to veto any progress in Turkey's accession talks.

**Load-Date:** March 17, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Refugees attempt perilous new route to Europe after Turkey's doors close*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JGK-9581-JCS0-D38S-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

April 8, 2016 Friday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 29

**Length:** 491 words

**Byline:** LAURA PITEL

**Body**

More than 300 people were rescued from a boat that had travelled hundreds of miles from Egypt to the Strait of Sicily, the Italian coast guard said yesterday.

The arrival of the vessel, which was carrying people from Syria, Egypt and the Palestinian territories as well as a string of African countries, will raise fears that a deal between the European Union and Turkey to crack down on the crossing to Greece will simply increase the use of other, more perilous routes.

While Libya to Italy has long been a route for smugglers, a spokeswoman for the Italian coast guard said that it was far less common for refugees and migrants to make the long and dangerous journey from Egypt.

The rescued boat, containing 156 men, 51 women and 107 children, would have travelled about 770 nautical miles by the time it reached the southern Italian port of Crotone, where it was due to be taken by the coast guard. By contrast, at the most popular points, the journey from the western coast of Turkey to the Greek islands is just a few miles.

European leaders are desperate to avoid a repeat of the chaotic scenes of last year, when more than one million refugees and migrants arrived on the continent by sea. A deal struck between the European Union and Turkey last month established that all who arrived the Greek islands from 20 March onwards would be sent back. The first, symbolic deportations took place at the start of this week, with more expected today.

While the Turkey-Greece route has not dried up completely the number of crossings has fallen since the deal came into force. Other routes appear to be growing more popular.

According to the UN refugee agency, the statistics for those traveling to Italy spiked dramatically last month. Around 9,700 people arrived in March 2016, compared to 2,300 the previous year.

Human rights groups have warned that major concerns remain about the practicalities and the legality of the deal. Question marks also hang over the implementation of a string of incentives offered to Ankara in exchange for its cooperation.

Brussels promised Turkey 3 billion Euros in funding to help the 2.7 million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** already registered in the country and the newcomers, with the promise of a a further 3 billion to come.

The EU has promised to resettle one Syrian directly from Turkey for every one who is returned from Greece, and to kick-start Turkey's EU membership talks. Perhaps the most attractive aspect for Turkey's political leaders was an agreement to grant visa-free travel for Turkish citizens to the EU Schengen Zone, which would make it easier for 80 million Turkish citizens to travel for both work and leisure. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan warned yesterday that he would refuse to adhere the deal if the EU failed to hold up its end of the bargain. If the European Union does not take the steps it needs to take, if it does not fulfill its pledges, then Turkey won''t implement this agreement," he said.

**Load-Date:** April 7, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Fears 400 refugees 'drown in Mediterranean' after boats capsize; Reports say the refugees were fleeing to Italy from Somalia, Ethiopia and Eritrea*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JJT-5N51-F021-63DY-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

April 18, 2016 Monday 3:52 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 546 words

**Byline:** Samuel Osborne

**Body**

Hundreds of refugees are feared to have drowned in the Mediterranean Seaafter their boatscapsized.

Italy's President, Sergio Mattarella, said there seemed to have been "yet another tragedy in the Mediterranean".

His comments

followed a report by BBC Arabic quoting the Somali ambassador to Europe that400 people had died crossing from Egypt to Europe.

Reports saidthe refugees were fleeing to Italy from Somalia, Ethiopia and Eritrea

in four boats which were ill-equipped for the journey.

"2016, the Mediterranean is a mass grave," Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) tweetedin response to the news.

The original flurry of reports have, however, yet to be confirmed by either Egyptian or Greek officials.

The Italian coastguard has also said it knew nothing about the reported disaster.

Médecins Sans Frontières has alsobeen unable to confirmto

The Independent

whether the tragedy has taken place.

Earlier on Monday morning, the Italian coastguard said 108 refugees had been saved and six bodies recovered from a semi-submerged rubber dinghy on Sunday.

Separately, 33 refugees were rescued overnight off eastern coast of Sicily.

A year ago,a fishing boat crowded with refugees sank in the Mediterraneanwith around 800 people trapped inside.

Italy has now vowed to raise the shipwreck from the sea floor, to recover the corpses.

Refugee rescued standing atop sinking boat

Almost 6,000 refugees sailed from Libya to Italy last week, in what appears to be the beginning of a wave of 100,000, the International Organisation for Migration said.

EU policymakers have been criticised of "killing by neglect" after they cut rescue missions in the Mediterranean.

The scaling back of search and rescue operations "created the conditions that led to massive loss of life," according to a report.

Read more

239 unaccompanied refugee children disappeared from UK care in 2015

Refugee who attempted suicide prosecuted and threatened with jail

Child refugees being detained in 'dirty' police cells due to 'severe shortage' of safe shelters in Greece, charity warns

Turkish border forces 'fire live rounds at ***Syrian*** ***refugees***' fleeing Isis fighting

Refugee crisis: Lesbos detention centre whitewashed amid last-minute preparations for Pope's visit

Tanya Steele, CEO of Save the Children,said:"The lack of concrete measures to protect children who gamble and lose their lives to reach the perceived safety of Europe should weigh on all our minds. A year on from one of the greatest migration tragedies in the Mediterranean, safe and legal routes have not been properly implemented.

"Europe continues to see this migration crisis as primarily about safeguarding its own borders. A third of those desperate enough to make this perilous journey are children. Even though the European Commission has identified children as one of the most vulnerable groups, recommending relocation measures as a priority, in effect, this is only happening on paper.

"This gruesome anniversary must not be purely symbolic. It is an insult to the thousands of men, women and children who have drowned on Europe's shores if action is not urgently taken to prevent the further loss of human lives. Europe's leaders must invest in search and rescue at sea and offer safe and dignified means of applying for asylum, in line with its legal obligations."

**Load-Date:** April 18, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Cologne sex attack charge against Algerian man dismissed by judge; The 26-year-old defendant has already been given a six month suspended sentence for handling stolen goods*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JPM-N161-F021-60D6-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

May 6, 2016 Friday 3:52 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 534 words

**Byline:** Caroline Mortimer

**Body**

A judge in Cologne has dismissed charges of sexual assault against an Algerian man in connection with the New Year attacks.

Dr Frank Altpeter acquitted the unnamed 26-year-old as it "could not be proven" that he had taken part in the sexual assault.

The victim in the case heard at the court on Friday could not be sure that the two men in the dock were the ones who attacked her, German media reports.

The manand another Algerian, 23,were handed six-month suspended sentences over handling stolen goods - relating to the mobile phone of a victim which was found on them -and breaking into a car on a separate occasion.

Read more

The 9 biggest misconceptions everyone has about cologne and perfume

Cologne-style sex attacks could happen in Britain, Nigel Farage says

Cologne sex attacks 'not even crimes according to German rape laws'

A court spokesman said the men were currently in detention awaiting deportation from Germany.

It was the first case of sexual assault from New Year's Eve to come before the court.

Germany was shocked by the string of sexual assaults and robberies against over 1,000 women in the city.

The victims reported gangs of men of "Arab and North African appearance" surrounding them before groping, assaulting and robbing them.

Over 1,000 incidents of sexual and robbery were reported in Cologne during the New Year's Eve celebrations (Getty Images)

The incident provoked an intense backlash against German Chancellor Angela Merkel's open-door policy towards the ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** who were flooding over land borders and the Mediterrnean sea to escape the brutality of Isis and the Syrian civil war.

Far-right group Pegida staged a rally in Cologne calling for Germany to close its borders after an estimated 1.1m refugees arrived in the country in 2015.

A subsequent investigation found that of the 159 men arrested in connection with the allegations, although some were asylum seekers, only three people had recently arrived from war-torn regions of Syria and Iraq.

Read more

Germany moves to tighten rape laws in wake of Cologne attacks

The head of the police inquiry, Detective Superintendent Thomas Schulter said of the men being investigated in connection with the attacks, two-thirds were of Algerian or Moroccan origin.

Police were accused of attempting to cover up the attacks after initially reporting that the New Year's Eve celebrations had passed without incident.

The local police chief, Wolfgang Albers, was suspended over his handling of the incident in January but allegations surfaced in April that the police had been ordered to remove the word "rape" from their report by the interior ministry of the state government.

Cologne newspaper Express published a letter supposedly from a policeman named Joachim H who was on duty that day and described his colleague getting an order to remove the word "vergewaltigung" - or "rape" - because it was the "wish of the state interior ministry".

Police ultimately refused the request but theallegations put more pressure on North Rhine-Westphalia interior minister,Ralf Jäger, over his handling of the crisis.

He denied a cover-up but confirmed there had been "professional discussions" over the "classification" of the New Year's Eve assaults.

**Load-Date:** May 6, 2016

**End of Document**



[*President Erdogan says freedom and democracy have 'no value' in Turkey amid arrests and military crackdown; Dozens of activists, politicians and academics have been detained in Turkey as discussions continue over the refugee crisis*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JB5-CSF1-JCJY-G3CM-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

March 18, 2016 Friday 9:30 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 525 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

The President of Turkey has said democracy and freedom have "absolutely no value" in the country after calling for journalists, lawyers and politicians to be prosecuted as terrorists.

Recep Tayyip Erdogan spoke on Wednesday as almost 50 people, including activists and academics, were detained in a wave of police raids.

In a speech to local politicians in Ankara, he criticised critics raising concern over Turkey's record on "democracy, freedom and rule of law" as discussions over a landmark deal on the refugee crisis continue.

Turkish riot police use water cannon and tear gas to disperse supporters at Zaman daily newspaper headquarters

"For us, these phrases have absolutely no value any longer," he said in the televised address, according to a translation by DPA.

"Those who stand on our side in the fight against terrorism are our friend. Those on the opposite side, are our enemy."

On Monday, the President had vowed to extend the legal definition of "terrorists" to include MPs, activists and journalists.

"It is not only the person who pulls the trigger, but those who made that possible who should also be defined as terrorists, regardless of their title," Mr Erdogansaid.

Police operations claim to be targeting the banned Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) following a bombing claimed by one of its splinter groups that killed 37 people in Ankara on Sunday.

Car bomb in Turkish capital

But friends of those detained have said they include academics who signed a declaration calling for peace and a British man arrested over leaflets found at his home.

Kurdish groups are suspected of orchestrating several recent attacks across Turkey as government forces continue a crackdownin south-eastern parts of the country where the minority has been demanding greater autonomy for decades.

A ceasefire between Turkey and the PKK collapsed in July and military operations intensified in December, seeing hundreds killed including civilians, the destruction of several districts and more than 350,000 people displaced.

The violence has been accompanied by restrictions on press freedom and civil rights, seeing the

Zaman

newspaper taken over by the government

, journalists arrested and protests crushed by riot police with tear gas and water cannons.

A woman inspects her belongings in her ruined home in Cizre. Turkish authorities have scaled down a 24-hour curfew imposed on the mainly Kurdish town

European leaders have been criticised for failing to censure Turkish politicians over the alleged abuses as they attempt to secure a controversial deal that could help stem the flow of refugees and migrants crossing the Aegean Sea.

An agreement could be reached at a summit in Brussels today, where the German Chancellor Angela Merkel, and Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu will continue negotiations after EU leaders agreed a common stance on Thursday.

The accord would see Turkey agree to take back asylum seekers picked up off the Greek coast in exchange for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** being directly relocated to European nations from camps in Turkey and a series of concessions to speed up the EU membership process.

Additional reporting by Reuters

**Load-Date:** March 18, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump claims British muslims are not reporting suspected terrorists; Trump made the remarks in an interview with Good Morning Britain's Piers Morgan*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JC7-7KK1-F021-62TJ-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

March 23, 2016 Wednesday 9:10 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 514 words

**Byline:** Olivia Blair

**Body**

Donald Trump has claimed British Muslims are "absolutely not reporting" suspected terrorists.

The Republican frontrunner was interviewed by Piers Morgan on

Good Morning Britain

and was asked what he would say to British Muslims, given the numerous occasions he has made inflammatory claims about the religion during his presidential campaign.

"When they see trouble they have to report it," he said. "They are not reporting it. They are absolutely not reporting it and that is a big problem."

Trump'sremarks echo claims he made yesterday, following the attacks in Brussels, where he said "we're having a problem with Muslims" and also called for mosques to be surveilled by authorities.

Trump's quotes were challenged by the Muslim Council of Britain who told

GMB

they were "just not true". Miqdaad Versi, assistant secretary-general of the organisation said: "If you look at London we have a much more integrated society here. We have over 90 per cent of British Muslims who would report someone. If anything were to happen if they knew of anything that was happening in the UK they would report it. There is a very strong Muslim community in the UK." He also said extremists who have perpetrated past attacks don't share the "typical views of a traditional Muslim in society".

"Many of the places these people were being harboured were seen as criminal areas in general. How much is this due to being a Muslim community or just a community of criminality. We have to try to not conflate the two together."

The Brussels attacks which took place on Tuesday morning in a city airport and metro station have killed at least 31 people and injured at least 198. The country is currently in its second day of mourning.

Isis have claimed responsibility for the attacks. Speaking about the terrorist group, Trump pledged that should he become US President he would "hit Isis so hard you wouldn't believe it and I would get the people over there to put up their soldiers because it's about time that somebody did it".

Elsewhere in the interview Trump also defended his controversial pledge for a temporary ban for all Muslims attempting to enter the US but maintained he is not "anti-Muslim". "I'm not anti-anything, I'm just common sense," he claimed.

He also re-iterated his belief that ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** fleeing war should not be allowed into the US. "The Syrians, I don't want them coming in. I don't mind helping to build a safe zone in Syria, but we can't take people in who are undocumented."

More than half a million people in the UK signed a 'Ban Donald Trump' petition after he demanded a block on Muslims entering the US and claimed parts of London were "so radicalised" police were "afraid for their own lives", which also saw an extraordinary intervention from the Metropolitan Police, Boris Johnson and David Cameron who all disputed the claims.

Despite situations like the petition, which actually crashed the government website at one point given the sheer amount of people signing it, Trump said people shouldn't fear him becoming President as he's just a "normal person".

**Load-Date:** March 23, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Refugees Minister hits out at Tory backbenchers for trivialising the plight of migrants; Richard Harrington said the plight of migrants and refugees was 'not a game at all'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J76-91P1-JCJY-G4Y5-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

March 4, 2016 Friday 2:55 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 540 words

**Byline:** Jon Stone

**Body**

The Government's minister for refugees has hit out at Tory backbenchers for claiming that illegal migrants comingto Britain treat their plight like a gameand "sport".

Richard Harrington told the MPs during a debate on harsher punishments for illegal migrants that proposals by Christopher Chope "hugely oversimplif[y] a very complex situation".

"When he said that it's like a sport ... I would like to say that anyone who's seen these people and their plight wouldn't think it's a game at all," the minister said.

Read more

Afghanistan ruled safe enough to deport asylum-seekers from UK

"I would contend that of all the reasons that would stop them from coming here being possibly arrested and given a £5,000 fine and six months in prison would not be a deterrent in any way.

"Where would they be deported to? This deportation sounds easy ... but truth is that most of these illegal migrants have got no place to be deported to.

"I accept that under the Dublin convention they can be deported back to the country they've come from, but I think most people would accept that isn't an answer."

Sir Edward Leigh had described the actionsof illegal migrants as "like a child's game" in support of the new fines, deportation orders, and prison sentences proposed by Mr Chope.

"People arrive in this country illegally. When they get to Dover, they shout 'Home' and apparently there is nothing the police can do about it. The whole system is brought into disrepute," he had said.

Responding to Mr Harrington's statement that people could not simply be deported back to the country they had come to the UK from, he said:

Sir Edward Leigh had described illegal migration as 'like a child's game'

"I'm afraid it is an answer - that's what people can't understand."

Mr Chope has previously proposed similar immigration rules a number of times and had also tried to amend the Government's own immigration package to include them.

Earlier this week former EU trade commissioner and former business secretary Peter Mandelson said Britain was not taking enough ***Syrian*** ***refugees***.

"Whilst Germany has done an enormous amount and taken on a huge burden, there are responsibilities for the rest of us - we cannot create a situation where Germany alone is being largely expected to cope by itself," Lord Mandelson told BBC Radio 4's Today programme.

"I suspect we will have to do more," he added.

Read more

UK 'to give France (EURO)20 million extra' to stop Calais migrants

Calais refugees 'will be allowed to reach UK' in event of Brexit

EU pledges (EURO)700m in extra aid to cope with refugee influx

Reports of armed Calais refugees raises fears of violent clashes

The British Government has committed to taking 4,000 refugees a year from Syria - but says it will not accept refugees who have travelled to Europe under their own steam.

The number of refugees accepted by the UK is very small compared to other similar countries, however.

Germany's Government has said it expects to take around a million people this year, and the European Commission says it expected four million people to arrive in Europe over the same people.

**Load-Date:** March 4, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Britain 'setting a dangerous precedent to the world on human rights', says Amnesty; Condemnation comes as UN describes moves to scrap the Human Rights Act as 'profoundly regrettable'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J56-WXR1-F021-63RT-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

February 24, 2016 Wednesday 12:02 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 586 words

**Byline:** Chris Green

**Body**

The UK is setting a "dangerous precedent" to the rest of the world by undermining the human rights of its own citizens at the same time as continuing to supply arms to questionable regimes such as Saudi Arabia, according to a major report published on 24February.

The Government's commitment to repealing the Human Rights Act, its reluctance to open the UK's borders to ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and proposals for the mass surveillance of UK citizens are all criticised in Amnesty International's annual global analysis of 160 countries and territories.

The Conservatives committed to replacing 1998's Human Rights Act with a British Bill of Rights ahead of last year's general election. The Government has yet to unveil the details of the changes, but the UN has described the move as "profoundly regrettable" and has raised concerns that repealing the Act could have an impact on the country's most vulnerable people.

Read more

Human rights a lower priority than trade, says Foreign Office chief

The Amnesty report also criticised the draft Investigatory Powers Bill - which it said could "threaten human rights" by opening the door to the mass surveillance of citizens' internet habits and phone records - and the Trade Union Bill, which it said would make it more difficult for workers to exercise their right to strike.

"The UK is setting a dangerous precedent to the world on human rights," said Amnesty International UK director Kate Allen. "There's no doubt that the downgrading of human rights by this Government is a gift to dictators the world over and fatally undermines our ability to call on other countries to uphold rights and laws. People around the world are still fighting to get basic human rights and we should not let politicians take our hard-won rights away with the stroke of a pen."

The report also notes the UK's continued reluctance to "share responsibility" for the increasing number of refugees arriving in Europe from Syria, pointing out that it was accepting far fewer people than some other countries, and criticises the Government's continuing arms exports to Saudi Arabia in the face of claims that the country may be responsible for atrocities in Yemen.

Read more

TTIP 'must include human rights', Corbyn tells Cameron

The Government is once again singling out Israel for impunity

A new age of happiness in the UAE? Maybe not

Responding to the report, the Government accused Amnesty of prejudging its changes to the Human Rights Act."It is irresponsible for any campaign group to criticise our proposals before they've seen them," said Justice Minister Dominic Raab. "Amnesty have already been told our plans involve the UK remaining in the European Convention [on Human Rights], so this scaremongering undermines their own credibility."

A HMG Spokeswoman said:"The Government is absolutely committed to promoting and protecting universal human rights. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office's departmental report is clear that human rights, democratic values and strengthening the rules-based international system are vital and integral parts of the FCO's work. The FCO has also doubled funding for global human rights and democracy projects to its highest ever level of £10.6m.

"Far from undermining human rights, the investigatory powers bill will promote freedoms and rights by protecting both the privacy and security of the public while ensuring world-leading oversight and safeguards.

**Load-Date:** February 24, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump criticised for mocking journalist's disability during campaign speech; The Republican presidential frontrunner mimicked New York Times reporter Serge Kovaleski's congenital joint condition*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HG9-50T1-F021-64CG-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 27, 2015 Friday 2:47 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 569 words

**Byline:** Hardeep Matharu

**Body**

Donald Trump has been widely condemned for mocking a reporter's disability during a campaign speech.

The Republican presidential frontrunner imitated

The New York Times'

culture and investigative reporter, Serge Kovaleski, during a rally for supporters in South Carolina on Tuesday.

Read more

Donald Trump claims he had 'no idea' Serge Kovaleski was disabled

Mr Kovaleski suffers from arthrogryposis, a congenital condition affecting how his joints move.

The millionaire entrepreneur made several offensive gestures while defending a claim he made a few days earlier in which he said he hadwitnessedthousands of Muslims in New Jersey celebrating on the day of the9/11 attacks.

This claim has reportedly since been discredited by government and law officials who were in New Jersey in the days following the terrorist attack.

A 2001 article written by Mr Kovaleski for the

Washington Post

had claimed that "authorities detained and questioned a number of people who were allegedly seen celebrating the attacks and holding tailgate-style parties on rooftops while they watched the devastation on the other side of the river" in Jersey city, within hours of the planes crashing into the World Trade Centre.

But Mr Kovaleski told CNN this week: "We did a lot of shoe leather reporting in and around Jersey City and talked to a lot of residents and officials for the broader story. Much of that has, indeed, faded from memory.

"But I do not recall anyone saying there were thousands, or even hundreds, of people celebrating. That was not the case, as best as I can remember it."

Mr Trump was referencing these comments during his speech when he imitated Mr Kovaleski.

He said: "The poor guy. You've got to see this guy. Ah, I don't remember what I said! I don't remember!", while jerking his arms and hands in a manner mocking Mr Kovaleski's condition.

The presidential candidate's campaign spokeswoman declined to comment on the incident, but another campaign official said the entrepreneur was "not aware of any condition and was not mocking his physical appearance in any way," according to the

Washington Post

.

The official added that Mr Trump "was merely emphasising the uncertainty of the verbal/written statement provided by the reporter in regards to his article".

It is understood that Mr Trump is familiar with Mr Kovaleski as the latter covered him while a reporter for the

New York Daily News

in the late 1980s to early 1990s.

Read more

Donald Trump says he would bring back waterboarding

Donald Trump claims eight ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** could be 'Isis'

Trumps retweets false murder stats from fictional organisation

The New York Times

has said it was "outrageous" for Mr Trump to have ridiculed Mr Kovaleski's appearance.

"We think it's outrageous that he would ridicule the appearance of one of our reporters," a spokeswoman for the newspaper said on Wednesday.

Following the incident, Mr Kovaleski said: "The sad part about it is, it didn't in the slightest bit jar or surprise me that Donald Trump would do something this low-rent, given his track record," reports the Washington Post.

Mr Trump has been much criticisedon social media for the stunt, with a petition even being started on the change.org website to "make Trump apologise to Serge Kovaleski".

**Load-Date:** November 27, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Independent Scotland 'would be more at risk from terrorism'; Paris terror attacks Security*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HDR-J9F1-JCS0-D23H-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

November 20, 2015 Friday

First Edition

Copyright 2015 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 12

**Length:** 506 words

**Byline:** CHRIS GREEN SCOTLAND EDITOR

**Body**

The risk of a terrorist attack in Scotland would "greatly increase" if the country became independent because of the inevitable reduction in the strength of its intelligence services and military, the Scotland Secretary has said.

In the wake of the attacks in Paris, David Mundell said Scotland was better protected as part of the UK and described the idea that the country would be less of a target for terrorists after separation as "very naive".

Mr Mundell, who voted in favour of the UK joining US air strikes against Syria in 2013, also said the Government should examine "the military options" to combat Isis.

"We live in a very dangerous world, and I think in that world we are better as a United Kingdom, pooling and sharing our resources, than for Scotland to be on its own," said the Conservative MP. "Some very naive arguments have been previously set out that somehow if Scotland was on its own it wouldn't be subject to any international attention or terrorist attack.

"I just think that's completely wrong - we've seen countries that people would hold out as being on the moral high ground, such as Sweden and Denmark, having very serious incidents. Scotland being on its own wouldn't make it risk-free; in fact I think it would greatly increase the risk, because we just wouldn't have the same capacity as we do in the UK in terms of our security, our intelligence services and military backup."

Mr Mundell said one of the "strongest reasons" for preserving the union was that the UK was able to "pull together" when it was under threat. Emergency situations - such as the case of the nurse Pauline Cafferkey, who had to be flown to a London hospital after contracting Ebola - showed how effectively the UK and Scottish Governments could respond to danger, he added.

"One message I have for people in Scotland is that on these really serious issues, in relation to this terrorist activity and when we had issues around the Ebola case in Scotland, the UK Government and Scottish Government really do work very closely together. We have that capacity. When it really matters, there isn't any politicking," he said.

Mr Mundell also praised Scotland's local councils for agreeing to find houses for the UK's first batch of ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, who arrived at Glasgow Airport on Tuesday. He said the local authorities should be "commended" for their efforts and that he expected to see more displaced Syrians arriving in the country before Christmas.

The Scottish Government responded angrily to Mr Mundell's comments last night. A spokesman for Nicola Sturgeon said: "David Mundell should apologise for these crass and insensitive comments - at a time when there has been widespread international solidarity in the wake of the Paris atrocities, he is using the issue to play constitutional politics. That is totally unacceptable, and the substance of his claim is also completely without foundation - independent nations large and small, across Europe and beyond, co-operate on intelligence gathering all the time, Scotland is no different."

**Load-Date:** November 19, 2015

**End of Document**



[*UK could take more refugee children in migrant camps, Conservative MP Justine Greening says; Charities led by Save The Children are pressuring the government to admit at least 3,000 children into the UK*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HXP-93G1-JCJY-G2SJ-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 24, 2016 Sunday 6:29 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HOME NEWS

**Length:** 550 words

**Byline:** Kate Ng

**Body**

The British Government is seriously considering taking thousands of unaccompanied refugee children, the International Development Secretary has claimed.

Conservative MP Justine Greening said Prime Minister David Cameron will be deciding how best to help refugee children in the "coming days and weeks".

Thousands of refugee children who fled their war-torn countries without their parents are now left unaccompanied in migrant camps in Europe, leaving them vulnerable.

Read more

Cameron considers letting 3,000 refugee children into UK

Tim Farron calls on David Cameron to resettle 3,000 refugee children

Thousands of Syrian refugee children in Iraq left in 'legal limbo'

Posters welcome refugee children as they enter UK

And growing pressure from charities, led by Save the Children, to admit at least 3,000 children into the UK has prompted the Government to re-think its position on the intake of refugees.

Previously, Britain agreed to take 20,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, but insisted on only taking those from refugee camps in the Syrian region, and not from migrant camps in Europe.

According to the Observer, government sources said the acceptance of these children would be in addition to the 20,000 refugees already agreed on.

Ms Greening told Sky News presenter Dermot Murnaghan: "We've steadily evolved our approach as this crisis has evolved; we've been right at the forefront, frankly, of helping children who have been affected by this crisis and will continue to look at how we can do that over the coming days and weeks."

The news follows calls by Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn for Mr Cameron to offer children more than just refuge in the UK, but to also provide them with proper homes and education.

Mr Corbyn visited the Calais Jungle and the Grande-Synthe camp in Dunkirk on Saturday to witness the humanitarian crisis there first-hand.

He compared the acceptance of refugee children to Britain's welcoming of children escaping the Nazis in 1939.

Read more

The Government's shameful response to the refugee crisis in 4 charts

He said: "We have to do more. As a matter of urgency, David Cameron should act to give refuge to unaccompanied refugee children now in Europe - as we did with Jewish Kindertransport children escaping from Nazi tyranny in the 1930s.

"And the government must provide the resources needed for those areas accepting refugees - including housing and education - rather than dumping them in some of Britain's poorest communities."

Labour's home secretary Andy Burnham criticised Mr Cameron for a "lack of judgement and leadership during this refugee crisis".

Mr Burnham said: "[Cameron] has been pursuing his own individual demands on EU migration while the rest of Europe has been grappling with the biggest humanitarian crisis since the Second World War.

"He has left Britain looking blinkered and selfish. Just miles from our own doorstep, there are hundreds of refugee children in makeshift French camps living alone in abhorrent conditions.

"Britain can, and should, be doing more to give those kids a place of safety and I believe the vast majority of people here would support it."

**Load-Date:** January 24, 2016

**End of Document**



[*I'm a fan, Jess Phillips, but please admit you're wrong on Cologne sex attacks and violence against women; It doesn't help anyone to pretend that women everywhere face the same problems*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J02-T821-JCJY-G4RM-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 30, 2016 Saturday 11:03 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 551 words

**Byline:** Joan Smith

**Body**

I like the Labour MP Jess Phillips. I've never met her but she is refreshingly outspoken, saying what she thinks without worrying about the party line. She has been in Parliament less than a year but already stands out from her colleagues, not least because of her robust response to fellow MP Diane Abbott during a row over the lack of women in Jeremy Corbyn's first Shadow Cabinet. Frankly, anyone who puts the appalling Abbott in her place gets a standing ovation from me.

That's why I've had to grit my teeth since Thursday evening, when Phillips appeared on BBC1's Question Time and compared the mass sexual assaults in Cologne on New Year's Eve to the situation faced "every week" by women on Broad Street in Birmingham. Phillips should know this is complete nonsense because she used to work for a charity, Sandwell Women's Aid, which offers support to victims of sexual and domestic violence.

Read more

Cologne mass sex attacks like 'Birmingham every weekend' says MP

Like me, she will be familiar with the statistics on violence against women in this country, which are bad enough but show a picture of individual perpetrators. What happened in German cities was on a different scale, involving gangs of men and hundreds of reported assaults. There were 821 complaints to the police in Cologne, including 359 alleged sexual offences, all relating to the same evening. Meanwhile, a total of 31 serious sexual assaults were recorded over the past 12 months in the centre of Birmingham. I know as well as Phillips that many offences don't get reported to the police, but the figures are so different as to make comparisons meaningless.

So does the nature of the attacks. Mass assaults on this scale, apparently with some degree of organisation, are a new phenomenon in Europe but not in Egypt, where hundreds of female demonstrators have been brutally assaulted in Cairo's Tahrir Square. Patterns of sexual violence differ from country to country, depending to a great extent on what is regarded as acceptable male behaviour, and it doesn't help anyone to pretend that women everywhere face the same problems.

Read more

Osborne's state violence against women will continue tomorrow

Ministers and NGOs demand end to sexual violence against Indian women

Birmingham police hit back at Jess Phillips' Cologne comparison

American woman tells how ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** rescued her in Cologne

Unfortunately, that's what Phillips has done. Instead of admitting that she made a rash remark, she told her local paper on Friday that there are groups of drunk men "in every city" and women have to "constantly worry about being felt up". She still hasn't acknowledged that what she's talking about is very different from being surrounded by 20 men who - I'm sorry for being so graphic - try to thrust their fingers into your vagina.

Phillips is new to public life and the gladiatorial contests encouraged by programmes such as Question Time. But an injudicious remark is doing incalculable damage to her standing and the cause she and I both care passionately about. If Phillips can tell a fellow MP to "fuck off", she needs to be resilient enough to admit her own mistakes.

**Load-Date:** January 30, 2016

**End of Document**



[*British 'are among the least likely to welcome refugees'; Syrian crisis*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HMG-S001-JCS0-D0YW-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

December 17, 2015 Thursday

First Edition

Copyright 2015 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 8

**Length:** 449 words

**Byline:** ANDREW GRICE

**Body**

The British are among the least welcoming people in Europe towards refugees, according to a 14-country survey.

Only one in five Britons would be willing to house a refugee in their home for a short period if they had a spare room, while 80 per cent said they would not.

Of the countries surveyed by ORB International, only Bulgaria, which has adopted a hard line in the migration crisis, had a lower score, with 14 per cent of people saying they would offer a refugee a place in their home.

The most welcoming nation is Spain, where 62 per cent of people would open their door to a refugee if they had a spare room. In Germany, which is set to accept one million refugees this year, and Greece, the figure is 48 per cent.

Britain is well below the 35 per cent average in the countries surveyed. ORB International questioned 1,000 people in England, Scotland and Wales as part of a poll of 13,800 adults across Europe.

Johnny Heald, the managing director of ORB International, said: "These results show that people in the UK are some of the least likely to offer temporary shelter to a refugee??? It seems that it's a problem many don't want to think about, a problem many people are happy to see play out way from our shores. It's hardly a good advert for the Big Society."

A majority of people in the 14 nations (57 per cent) believe the EU should do more to tackle the refugee crisis. In Britain, some 40 per cent want the EU to do more, 33 per cent say its response is about right, and 27 per cent want it to do less.

But many people across Europe seem reluctant to see their governments take more action. Only 30 per cent want their nation to do more, 40 per cent say its response is about right, and 29 per cent want it to do less. In the UK, only 28 per cent want the country to do more, while 32 per cent say it should be doing less.

Across Europe, 59 per cent of those polled believe economic migrants are a burden as they take jobs and increase pressure on public services, while 41 per cent think they strengthen their country. In Britain, the figures are 64 per cent and 36 per cent respectively.

David Cameron announced yesterday that more than 1,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** have been given sanctuary in Britain, meeting his pledge to do so by Christmas. Downing Street said the UK is on track to accept 20,000 Syrians by 2020. The Prime Minister told MPs: "I said that Britain would do its duty and with these 1,000 we've made a very good start."

**POLL RESULTS**

Q If you were asked to and had a spare room in your house, would you be willing to house a refugee for a short period while their paperwork was being nalised?

\* NO

\*YES

BULGARIA

86 14

UK

80 20

EUROPE (14 COUNTRIES)

65 35

FRANCE

64 36

GERMANY

52 48

SPAIN

38 62

**Load-Date:** December 16, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Syria air strikes: Activist group in Isis-controlled city of Raqqa claim bombing will 'make the people suffer more'; UK parliament voted to extend bombing Isis to Syria in controversial vote yesterday evening*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HHJ-TMV1-F021-639S-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

December 3, 2015 Thursday 1:17 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 497 words

**Byline:** Rose Troup Buchanan

**Body**

A Syrian activist group has claimed bombing Isis will not defeat the extremist group but instead "make the people suffer more".

Raqqa is being Slaughtered Silently, a campaigning group opposing Isis and the Assad regime, posted nine tweets in which they listed all the reason why bombing would fail to have contribute towards defeating the extremist organisation.

1-we are against the #UK strikes on #Raqqa all the world is bombing #Raqqa UK will not make any change in The situation #Syria#ISIL

- الرقة تذبح بصمت (@Raqqa\_SL) December 3, 2015

2-if #UK want to help people then they should Accepts ***Syrian*** ***Refugees*** in there country and not close the border #Syria#ISIS#ISIL

- الرقة تذبح بصمت (@Raqqa\_SL) December 3, 2015

3-Just bombing #ISIS In #Raqqa from the sky will not Defeat #ISIS but it will make people Suffers more #Syria#ISIL

- الرقة تذبح بصمت (@Raqqa\_SL) December 3, 2015

4-#ISIS will use #UK strikes to Recruit new people in the west and new fighters and maybe they will do Terrorist attacks #Syria#ISIL

- الرقة تذبح بصمت (@Raqqa\_SL) December 3, 2015

5-the Strange thing is all the world want to fight #ISIS but not even 1 country Dare to send 1 soldier to fight #IS on the ground #Syria

- الرقة تذبح بصمت (@Raqqa\_SL) December 3, 2015

6-which make #ISIS propaganda more stronger to recruit new people and make them look like they are on the right side and the good people

- الرقة تذبح بصمت (@Raqqa\_SL) December 3, 2015

7-using some groups not from the area by some countries for the Liberation of #Raqqa is a big mistake that #ISIS use it to make people join

- الرقة تذبح بصمت (@Raqqa\_SL) December 3, 2015

8-them and it make a sensitivity between the people of the area that could lead to another kind of war in the end #Syria#ISIS#ISIL#Raqqa

- الرقة تذبح بصمت (@Raqqa\_SL) December 3, 2015

9- in the end no body will liberate #Raqqa Except the people of #Raqqa#Syria#ISIS#ISIL

- الرقة تذبح بصمت (@Raqqa\_SL) December 3, 2015

The tweets have been widely picked up and add to the growing concern ordinary Syrians may be inadvertently caught up in the aerial campaign.

However, a statement released following Britain's first air strike against Isis in Syria noted the targeted area - Omar oil fields in an eastern Syrian province - was clear of civilians.

"Before our aircrew conducted their attacks, as is normal they used the aircraft's advanced sensors to confirm that no civilians were in the proximity of the targets, who might be placed at risk."

Read more

Syria's state media claim UK air strikes are against international law

Isis kills Russian 'spy' and warns they will retaliate for air strikes

Britain launches first air strikes against Isis in Syria

In a statement posted on Twitter, Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn added he thought it was "almost inevitable" civilian deaths would be caused after the extension of the UK's strikes against Isis to Syria.

**Load-Date:** December 3, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Cologne attacks: Support for refugees in Germany plummeting amid far-right protests and vigilante attacks; More Germans surveyed now say the number of asylum seekers in the country is too high*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HV9-8S41-F021-62SH-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 13, 2016 Wednesday 9:00 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 564 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Germany's welcoming attitude to refugees is fading fast following the New Year's Eve attacks on women in Cologne, according to new research.

In November, just over half of respondents in a YouGov survey said they thought the number of asylum seekers in the country was too high but that figure now stands at 62 per cent.

Protests by far-right anti-Islam groups Pegida and HoGeSa have swept the country this month, despite being met by equal numbers of anti-fascist counter demonstrators.

Hundreds of right-wing protesters went on the rampage in Leipzig on Monday night, smashing windows and launching fireworks, while at least 11 refugees were attacked by a roving mob who had vowed to "clean up" Cologne the previous day.

Read more

Germany sending hundreds of asylum seekers back to Austria every day

Vigilantes attack asylum seekers after vowing to 'clean up' Cologne

Cologne refugees living in fear of backlash

Angela Merkel says Europe is 'vulnerable' to the refugee crisis

The angry scenes are a far cry from the summer, when Angela Merkel lifted asylum restrictions for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** - a decision that led to the arrival of 1.1 million migrants and asylum seekers last year and was credited in part for making the Chancellor

Time's

Person of the Year

.

Her slogan - "wir schaffen das" - meaning "we can do this", has faded with a series of reversals by the Government, which has now reintroduced border controls and is sending hundreds of refugees back to Austria every day.

"Refugees welcome", the summer's other defining slogan, is also heard less and less as attitudes harden following the police's announcement that migrants were largely responsible for the mass sexual assaults and robberies seen on New Year's Eve.

Research by YouGov for Germany's

Bild

newspaper demonstrates the shift. In November, only a slim majority said the arrival figures were two high, while 42 per cent said they were acceptable and a fifth of respondents said the country could welcome more refugees.

Now, almost two thirds of those surveyed say the number of asylum seekers is too high and only 16 per cent were comfortable with the figures.

German women are more likely than men to oppose the current level of migration, which had not previously been the case, and the New Year's Eve sexual assaults are believed to be the main reason for a 12-point jump.

Anti-sexual violence protesters have also been taking to the streets after police's response to the attacks and Cologne mayor Henriette Reker's controversial proposal of a "code of conduct" for women sparked a new debate about victim-blaming.

At least 19 men are currently under investigation for attacks in the city, including 10 asylum seekers, most of whom arrived in Germany after September.

In response to the alleged assault and robbery of at least 600 victims in Cologne, Ms Merkel has proposed new measures to deny the right of asylum for those who have committed crimes or are on probation in response to calls for change.

Only asylum seekers who have been sentenced to at least three years' imprisonment and will not be at risk in their countries of origin can currently be forcibly deported under German law.

The German cabinet will need to back the plans before a draft law is drawn up.

**Load-Date:** January 13, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump accused of defending supporters who 'roughed up' a Black Lives Matter activist during Alabama rally; After a Black Lives Matter activist was thrown to the ground for interrupting the rally, Trump said: 'Maybe he should have been roughed up'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HFM-RFG1-F021-629P-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 24, 2015 Tuesday 10:55 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 504 words

**Byline:** Doug Bolton

**Body**

US Presidential candidate Donald Trump has been accused of suggesting that his supporters were right to attack a Black Lives Matter activist who interrupted his speech in Birmingham, Alabama on Saturday.

The day after the incident, during which attendees at the Trump rally were filmed throwing activist Mercutio Southall Jr to the ground, Trump was asked to comment on his supporters' actions on the

Fox and Friends

talk show.

Black Lives Matter supporter at Trump rally 'shoved, tackled, punched and kicked'

Trump replied: "Maybe he should have been roughed up."

"It was disgusting what he was doing," he added.

Trump then went on to compare the incident to a similar one at a recent rally for Democratic candidate Bernie Sanders, in which protesters from the Black Lives Matter movement grabbed the microphone from Sanders' hands and kicked him off stage.

Trump said: "This was not handled the way Bernie Sanders handled his problem, I will tell you, but I have a lot of fans and they were not happy about it."

Read more

Trumps retweets false murder stats from fictional organisation

"And this was a very obnoxious guy, who was a troublemaker, was looking to make trouble, but I didn't get to see the event."

A video from the rally, captured by CNN, shows a group of men surrounding Southall after he interrupted the speech. He is thrown to the ground and appears to be punched and kicked by a handful of bystanders, before swiftly being escorted away by security.

According to a

Washington Post

reporter who was in the crowd, one bystander shouted "Don't choke him!" after one of the men put his hands around Southall's neck.

Similar incidents have occurred at previous Trump rallies - Latino protesters at a campaign event in Miami in October were filmed being violently dragged out by attendees, as the crowd chanted "USA, USA".

In August, two men in Boston were arrested after allegedly beating a homeless Mexican man with a metal pole.

After their arrest, police said one of the men, Scott Leader, allegedly said: "Donald Trump was right, all these illegals need to be deported."

Read more

Donald Trump says he would bring back waterboarding

'Proud' Muslim Marine challenges Donald Trump over ID claims

Trump's plans for Muslim 'register' compared to Nazi treatment of Jews

Donald Trump claims eight ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** could be 'Isis'

When questioned about the alleged crime by the

Boston Globe

, Trump replied: "I haven't heard about that. I would be a shame, but I haven't heard about that."

Trump faced criticism, however, after he said: "I will say that people who are following me are very passionate. They love this country and they want this country to be great again."

"They are passionate. I will say that, and everybody here has reported it."

Trump is currently leading in many Republican presidential polls, with former neurosurgeon Ben Carson following in a close second.

**Load-Date:** November 24, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Germany follows Switzerland and Denmark to seize cash and valuables from arriving refugees; Officials said the move enforced federal laws requiring asylum seekers to exhaust their own resources before receiving state welfare*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HXF-0K81-F021-64P7-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 23, 2016 Saturday 11:09 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 626 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

German authorities have started confiscating jewellery, valuables and cash from refugees entering the country to make them fund their stay.

Officials in Bavaria and other southern states seeing high numbers of asylum seekers arriving from Austria are following Denmark and Switzerland to implement the controversial practice.

Joachim Herrmann, the Bavarian interior minister, said anything worth more than (EURO)750 (£570) can legally be seized in his state.

Refugees walk to a special train to Duesseldorf at the train station in Passau, Germany, 16 January 2016

"The practice in Bavaria and the federal rules set out in law correspond in substance with the process in Switzerland," he added.

In neighbouring Baden-Württemberg, asylum seekers can only keep money and valuables worth (EURO)350 (£265).

Read more

Could the refugee crisis really break up the European Union?

EU needs long-term plan as old weather has not stopped refugees

45 refugees drown trying to reach Greece in two overloaded boats

Four ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** welcomed to UK after landmark legal ruling

The average amount seized so far is "in the four figures" per person across the southern states,

Bild

reported.

Aydan Özoguz, the federal government's integration commissioner, told the newspaper that they are implementing federal laws that require asylum seekers to use their own resources.

"If you apply for asylum here, you must use up your income and wealth before receiving aid," he said, according to a translation by

The Local.

"That includes, for example, family jewellery. Even if some prejudices persist - you don't have it any better as an asylum seeker as someone on unemployment benefit."

Similar policies have caused controversy elsewhere in Europe but have been received largely without opposition in Germany, where attitudes towards the 1.1 million asylum seekers who arrived last year have shifted in the wake of the Cologne attacks.

Growing fury in Germany over New Year's Eve assaults on women in Cologne

Ulla Jelpke, an MP for the left-wing Die Linke party, criticised it as "excessive".

"Those who apply for asylum are exercising a fundamental right," she told

Der Tagesspiegel.

"That must not be linked to costs, even in cases were applications are rejected."

Swiss authorities recorded 112 cases where assets over 1000 francs (£690) were confiscated from asylum seekers last year, when around 45,000 refugees arrived in the country.

The state secretariat for migration said anyone who leaves voluntarily within seven months of arrival can take their money and belongings back.

Denmark finalised legislation to do the same last week, but increased the threshold to 10,000 global (£1,015) and exempted sentimental items like wedding rings in the wake of international outrage and internal opposition.

The UN refugee agency (UNHCR) had said the bill, which also delays family reunifications, would "fuel fear and xenophobia".

The debate comes as thousands of refugees from the Middle East and Africa continue to arrive on European shores every day.

At least 46 people drowned on Friday as two overcrowded smuggling boats drowned on their way to Greek islands in the Aegean Sea.

"These deaths highlight both the heartlessness and the futility of the growing chorus demanding greater restrictions on refugee access to Europe," said John Dalhuisen, Amnesty International's Europe and Central Asia director.

"A manageable crisis has become a moral test that Europe is in danger of failing dismally."

Additional reporting by AP

**Load-Date:** January 23, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump says Hillary Clinton was 'schlonged' to presidency by Barack Obama; The Republican presidential frontrunner also discussed a toilet break Mrs Clinton had taken with his rally in Michigan*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HNM-RYN1-JCJY-G1SS-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

December 22, 2015 Tuesday 4:32 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** US ELECTIONS

**Length:** 506 words

**Byline:** Hardeep Matharu

**Body**

Donald Trump has attracted fresh controversy after telling a rally that Hillary Clinton was "schlonged" by Barack Obama when both ran for the Democratic presidential nomination in 2008.

The Republican presidential frontrunner - who has hardly been out of the news in recent weeks following his call for all Muslims to be banned from entering the US - told a 6,000-strong audience in Michigan: "Even her race to Obama. She was going to beat Obama. I don't know who'd be worse. I don't know. How does it get worse?

"

She was favoured to win and she got schlonged, she lost."

Read more

Donald Trump adviser under fire after claiming ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** support

"I watched her the other night and said 'this is not a president'," he added.

The billionaire entrepreneur has previously been criticised for misogynistic comments he made in relation to an interview with

Fox News

anchor Megyn Kelly: "You could see there was blood coming out of her eyes. Blood coming out of wherever."

The 69-year-old used the rally toraise a numberof criticisms he has ofMrs Clinton, who is running for the Democratic nomination for next year's US presidential election.

Mocking her for taking a brief toilet break during Saturday's Democratic debate, Mr Trump told the rally: "I thought she quit, I thought she gave up."

He later added: "I know where she went. It's disgusting. I don't want to talk about it."

Mr Trump also accused the Democratic frontrunner of lying during the debate when she said that Isis had used videos of his comments relating to Muslims to recruit militants.

Mrs Clinton had said that Mr Trump had become Isis's "best recruiter": "They are going to people showing videos of Donald Trump insulting Islam and Muslims in order to recruit more radical jihadists."

Mr Trump has said that counterterrorism experts have found no evidence to support the claim.

Read more

Donald Trump demands that Clinton issue 'apology' for Isis comments

Jimmy Kimmel challenges Donald Trump over 'un-American' Muslim comment

Donald Trump calls Alex Salmond an 'irrelevant has-been'

A spokeswoman for the Clinton campaign later said that "she didn't have a particular video in mind".

Her team reiterated to

CNBC

that her remark had been based on evidence that supporters of the extremist group frequently cite Mr Trump's comments to make the case that Americans hate Muslims.

It quoted a counterterrorism expert and linked to a tweet from a "very vocal Isis supporter".

Campaign chairman John Podesta said: "That's the interpretation we made. I think it's a very fair charge."

Also at the rally, Mr Trump defended the kind words he has been exchanging with Russian President Vladimir Putin, who last week described the presidential candidate as a "flamboyant and outstanding" man.

"That's like a good thing, not a bad thing," Mr Trump said.

"Wouldn't it be nice if we could get along like with people?"

Additional reporting by the Associated Press

**Load-Date:** December 22, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump criticised for mocking journalist's disability during campaign speech; The Republican presidential frontrunner mockedNew York Times reporter Serge Kovaleski's congenital joint condition*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HG3-H9J1-JCJY-G44G-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 26, 2015 Thursday 3:05 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 534 words

**Byline:** Hardeep Matharu

**Body**

Donald Trump has been widely condemned after mocking a reporter's disability during a campaign speech.

The Republican presidential frontrunner has come under fire for disparagingly imitating The New York Times' culture and investigative reporter, Serge Kovaleski, during a rally for supporters in South Carolina on Tuesday.

Mr Kovaleski suffers from arthrogryposis, a congenital condition affecting how his joints move.

The millionaire entrepreneur made the offensive gestures while defending a claim he made a few days earlier in which he had said that he witnessedthousands of Muslims in New Jersey celebrating on the day of the9/11 attacks.

This claim has reportedly since been discredited by government and law officials who were in New Jersey in the days following the terrorist attack.

A 2001 article written by Mr Kovaleski for the Washington Post had claimed that "authorities detained and questioned a number of people who were allegedly seen celebrating the attacks and holding tailgate-style parties on rooftops while they watched the devastation on the other side of the river" in Jersey city, within hours of the planes crashing into the World Trade Centre.

But Mr Kovaleski told CNN this week: "We did a lot of shoe leather reporting in and around Jersey City and talked to a lot of residents and officials for the broader story. Much of that has, indeed, faded from memory.

"But I do not recall anyone saying there were thousands, or even hundreds, of people celebrating. That was not the case, as best as I can remember it."

Mr Trump was referencing these comments during his speech when he imitated Mr Kovaleski.

He said: "The poor guy. You've got to see this guy. Ah, I don't remember what I said! I don't remember!", while jerking his arms and hands in a manner mocking Mr Kovaleski's condition.

The presidential candidate's campaign spokeswoman declined to comment on the incident, but another campaign official said the entrepreneur was "not aware of any condition and was not mocking his physical appearance in any way," according to the Washington Post.

The official added that Mr Trump "was merely emphasising the uncertainty of the verbal/written statement provided by the reporter in regards to his article".

It is understood that Mr Trump is familiar with Mr Kovaleski as the latter covered him while a reporter for the New York Daily News in the late 1980s to early 1990s.

Read more

Donald Trump says he would bring back waterboarding

Donald Trump claims eight ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** could be 'Isis'

Trumps retweets false murder stats from fictional organisation

The New York Times has said it was "outrageous" for Mr Trump to have ridiculed Mr Kovaleski's appearance.

Following the incident, Mr Kovaleski said: "The sad part about it is, it didn't in the slightest bit jar or surprise me that Donald Trump would do something this low-rent, given his track record," reports the Washington Post.

Mr Trump has been much criticisedon social media for the stunt, with a petition even being started on the change.org website to "make Trump apologise to Serge Kovaleski".

**Load-Date:** November 26, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Cologne sexual assaults: Leaked police report reveals 'chaos beyond description' as women attacked and robbed; 'I'm Syrian, you have to treat me nicely! Angela Merkel invited me,' one man reportedly told officers*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HT7-DRF1-F021-6487-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 8, 2016 Friday 10:11 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 580 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

A leaked police report has revealed chaos "beyond description" in Cologne on New Year's Eve, as seen through the eyes of the outnumbered officers trying to contain the disorder.

An account seen by

Der Spiegel

magazine and

Bild

newspaper was written by a senior officer in the German Federal Police.

He described terrified women being forced to "literally run through a gauntlet of extremely intoxicated men" outside the city's main railway station as "fights, thefts, sex, assaults on women" continued all around.

NYE celebrations in Cologne

Police have come under heavy criticism for their response on the night, which is now the subject of more than 120 separate criminal complaints - mostly of sexual assault and robbery.

"In the course of the operation numerous crying and shocked women and girls approached officers to reportsexual assaults by male migrants or groups," the report said.

"Unfortunately it wasn't possible to identify them all."

The unidentified officer wrote that police could not prevent or even record all the crimes and attacks because there were "just too many at the same time".

He said the police presence did not seem to deter the men committing offences, including some who even mocked police as they struggled to reach victims through the crowds.

Vans arriving as back-up were also allegedly targeted by fireworks and officers pelted with glass bottles by huge crowds between Cologne's iconic cathedral and railway station.

Police sent 143 local officers and 70 federal officers into the area in a large-scale operation to clear the area.

The report described "several thousand people, mostly male, of a migrant background who were firing all kinds of fireworks and throwing bottles into the crowd at random".

A 17-year-old British girl previously told how she escaped serious injury when a rocket exploded behind her as she celebrated New Year's Eve with her boyfriend.

"We heard a woman screaming and crying somewhere in the midst of this crowd, appearing to be escaping from a foreign man, who was shouting back and pointing his finger at her and chasing her with his accomplices," she wrote.

"Later on, we saw two men corner women at the cathedral and touch them while they were screaming for help and trying to fight back."

The square was cleared shortly after midnight, police said, although some of the suspects complained of their treatment.

A man claiming to be an asylum seeker is quoted in the report as saying: "I'm Syrian, you have to treat me nicely! Angela Merkel invited me."

Women march through Cologne holding placards reading 'Against Sexism, Against Racism'

A spokesperson for the German Federal Police, Jens Floeren, confirmed the authenticity of the report to

The Local

but said it was one offer's "subjective assessment" of the incident three days afterwards.

Angela Merkel said Germany "will not accept" the assaults and said changes could be made to policing, while asylum seekers and Muslims across the country have voiced outrage.

Among members of a Facebook group for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Germany, some called for the perpetrators to be strongly punished and deported immediately, blaming them for stoking anti-migrant prejudice and increasing the risk of attacks.

Police said investigators working with video footage have identified 16 young men -mostly of North African origin -who may be suspects.

Additional reporting by AP

**Load-Date:** January 8, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Republican voters still support Donald Trump despite 'Muslim ban' comments; The 69-year-old has more than double the support of his nearest party rival- but a Saudi prince says he is 'a disgrace'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HKG-6PB1-F021-6034-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

December 12, 2015 Saturday 10:37 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 551 words

**Byline:** Jess Staufenberg

**Body**

Donald Trump's call for "a ban on all Muslims" entering the US has done nothing todamage his support among Republicans, a poll has revealed.

Despite his remarks in the wake of the San Bernardino shootingcausing outrageacross the political spectrum, damagingthe mogul'sglobal brand and sparking a UK petition to bar him from the country, Mr Trump still leads the Republican race to the White House.

A Saudi prince and billionaire hasadded his condemnation to the international outcry against the real estate billionaire, saying Mr Trump was "a disgrace" to America.

Read more

Trump the entertainer takes centre stage - and plays his crowd again

Yet 35 per cent of Republican voters still back the 69-year-old - with only 29 per cent saying they found Mr Trump's remarks offensive, against 64 per cent who did not.

Mr Trump said in comments on 6 December that he was calling "for a total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States until our country's representatives can figure out what the hell is going on."

According to anational Reuters/Ipsos poll, 41 per cent of Republican voters were more concerned that Mr Trumps "bluntness" could damage his election chances.

"He's really saying what everybody else is feeling," said Donna Fee, 57, a personal caregiver from Missouri.

"But I really think he needs somebody to calm him down, you know. I really think he needs to learn to use a filter."

In a sign of the sharp polarisation Mr Trump creates, a significant majority of Democrats said they were offended by his comments.

Seventy-twopercent of Democrats, and 47 percent of voters overall, said they were offended by his proposalto ban immigrants from joining American Muslims, who make up less than 1 per cent of the population.

And now a Saudi prince has added his own strongly worded criticism, and demanded that the Republican frontrunner withdraw from the presidential race.

.@realDonaldTrump You are a disgrace not only to the GOP but to all America. Withdraw from the U.S presidential race as you will never win.

- الوليد بن طلال (@Alwaleed\_Talal) December 11, 2015

"You are a disgrace not only to the GOP [Grand Old Party, another name for the Repulicans]but to all America," Prince Alwaleed, the chairman of Kingdom Holding, said on his Twitter account.

"Withdraw from the U.S presidential race as you will never win," the prince said.

Read more

American Muslims raise over $100,000 for San Bernardino fund

Canada PM welcomes ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** as US Muslims warn against hate

Anonymous declares war on Donald Trump over Muslim comments

70,000 Indian Muslim clerics issue fatwa against Islamist terrorists

Figures show that 136 people died inmass shootings last year completely unrelated to Islamistextremism, compared to 50 people who have been shot byIslamist terroristsover an entire 14 year period, CNN has reported.

Yet Mr Trump and his stance on Muslims hasmore than double the support of his nearest rivals in the online poll of 481 Republicans.

Retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson came in second among Republicans with 12 per cent, and USSenator Ted Cruz of Texas and former Florida Governor Jeb Bush tied with 10 per cent.

**Load-Date:** December 12, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump accused of defending supporters who 'roughed up' a Black Lives Matter activist during Alabama rally; After a Black Lives Matter activist was thrown to the ground for interrupting the rally, Trump said: 'Maybe he should have been roughed up'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HFF-3M31-JCJY-G3YB-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 23, 2015 Monday 12:55 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 521 words

**Byline:** Doug Bolton

**Body**

US Presidential candidate Donald Trump has been accused of suggesting that his supporters were right to attack a Black Lives Matter activist who interrupted his speech in Birmingham, Alabama on Saturday.

The day after the incident, during which attendees at the Trump rally were filmed throwing activist Mercutio Southall Jr to the ground, Trump was asked to comment on his supporters' actions on the

Fox and Friends

talk show.

Trump replied: "Maybe he should have been roughed up."

A black protester at Trump's rally today in Alabama was shoved, tackled, punched & kicked: [*https://t.co/Aq0wuaAtaxpic.twitter.com/cTRDMtjuBl*](https://t.co/Aq0wuaAtaxpic.twitter.com/cTRDMtjuBl)

- Jeremy Diamond (@JDiamond1) November 21, 2015

"It was disgusting what he was doing," he added.

Trump then went on to compare the incident to a similar one at a recent rally for Democratic candidate Bernie Sanders, in which protesters from the Black Lives Matter movement grabbed the microphone from Sanders' hands and kicked him off stage.

Trump said: "This was not handled the way Bernie Sanders handled his problem, I will tell you, but I have a lot of fans and they were not happy about it."

Read more

Trumps retweets false murder stats from fictional organisation

"And this was a very obnoxious guy, who was a troublemaker, was looking to make trouble, but I didn't get to see the event."

A video from the rally, captured by CNN, shows a group of men surrounding Southall after he interrupted the speech. He is thrown to the ground and appears to be punched and kicked by a handful of bystanders, before swiftly being escorted away by security.

According to a

Washington Post

reporter who was in the crowd, one bystander shouted "Don't choke him!" after one of the men put his hands around Southall's neck.

Similar incidents have occurred at previous Trump rallies - Latino protesters at a campaign event in Miami in October were filmed being violently dragged out by attendees, as the crowd chanted "USA, USA".

In August, two men in Boston were arrested after allegedly beating a homeless Mexican man with a metal pole.

After their arrest, police said one of the men, Scott Leader, allegedly said: "Donald Trump was right, all these illegals need to be deported."

Read more

Donald Trump says he would bring back waterboarding

'Proud' Muslim Marine challenges Donald Trump over ID claims

Trump's plans for Muslim 'register' compared to Nazi treatment of Jews

Donald Trump claims eight ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** could be 'Isis'

When questioned about the alleged crime by the

Boston Globe

, Trump replied: "I haven't heard about that. I would be a shame, but I haven't heard about that."

Trump faced criticism, however, after he said: "I will say that people who are following me are very passionate. They love this country and they want this country to be great again."

"They are passionate. I will say that, and everybody here has reported it."

Trump is currently leading in many Republican presidential polls, with former neurosurgeon Ben Carson following in a close second.

**Load-Date:** November 23, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump criticised for mocking journalist's disability during campaign speech; The Republican presidential frontrunner mimicked New York Times reporter Serge Kovaleski's congenital joint condition*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HG3-H9J1-JCJY-G44H-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 26, 2015 Thursday 3:56 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 550 words

**Byline:** Hardeep Matharu

**Body**

Donald Trump has been widely condemned for mocking a reporter's disability during a campaign speech.

The Republican presidential frontrunner imitatedThe New York Times' culture and investigative reporter, Serge Kovaleski, during a rally for supporters in South Carolina on Tuesday.

Mr Kovaleski suffers from arthrogryposis, a congenital condition affecting how his joints move.

The millionaire entrepreneur made several offensive gestures while defending a claim he made a few days earlier in which he said he hadwitnessedthousands of Muslims in New Jersey celebrating on the day of the9/11 attacks.

This claim has reportedly since been discredited by government and law officials who were in New Jersey in the days following the terrorist attack.

A 2001 article written by Mr Kovaleski for the Washington Post had claimed that "authorities detained and questioned a number of people who were allegedly seen celebrating the attacks and holding tailgate-style parties on rooftops while they watched the devastation on the other side of the river" in Jersey city, within hours of the planes crashing into the World Trade Centre.

But Mr Kovaleski told CNN this week: "We did a lot of shoe leather reporting in and around Jersey City and talked to a lot of residents and officials for the broader story. Much of that has, indeed, faded from memory.

"But I do not recall anyone saying there were thousands, or even hundreds, of people celebrating. That was not the case, as best as I can remember it."

Mr Trump was referencing these comments during his speech when he imitated Mr Kovaleski.

He said: "The poor guy. You've got to see this guy. Ah, I don't remember what I said! I don't remember!", while jerking his arms and hands in a manner mocking Mr Kovaleski's condition.

The presidential candidate's campaign spokeswoman declined to comment on the incident, but another campaign official said the entrepreneur was "not aware of any condition and was not mocking his physical appearance in any way," according to the Washington Post.

The official added that Mr Trump "was merely emphasising the uncertainty of the verbal/written statement provided by the reporter in regards to his article".

It is understood that Mr Trump is familiar with Mr Kovaleski as the latter covered him while a reporter for the New York Daily News in the late 1980s to early 1990s.

Read more

Donald Trump says he would bring back waterboarding

Donald Trump claims eight ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** could be 'Isis'

Trumps retweets false murder stats from fictional organisation

The New York Times has said it was "outrageous" for Mr Trump to have ridiculed Mr Kovaleski's appearance.

"We think it's outrageous that he would ridicule the appearance of one of our reporters," a spokeswoman for the newspaper said on Wednesday.

Following the incident, Mr Kovaleski said: "The sad part about it is, it didn't in the slightest bit jar or surprise me that Donald Trump would do something this low-rent, given his track record," reports the Washington Post.

Mr Trump has been much criticisedon social media for the stunt, with a petition even being started on the change.org website to "make Trump apologise to Serge Kovaleski".

**Load-Date:** November 26, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Paris terror: How the attacks have blown the refugee debate wide open; The UN has joined rights groups in warning that the attacks could lead to a crackdown on migrants and asylum seekers*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HDB-XDY1-JCJY-G39K-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 18, 2015 Wednesday 9:53 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 554 words

**Byline:** Alistair Dawber

**Body**

For many escaping civil war, famine and oppression in the Middle East and Africa, arriving in what is supposed to be a safe haven now risks becoming only the start of their problems.

Rights groups, and even the United Nations, have warned that the terrorist attacks in Paris could lead to a crackdown on migrants and asylum seekers, 800,000 of whom have so far this year risked the perilous trip across the Mediterranean to the shores of Italy, Greece and Spain. More than 3,000 of them have drowned trying. Earlier this summer, Angela Merkel, the German Chancellor, effectively threw open the gates to Germany, allowing migrants to settle in their thousands, giving them access to the rest of Europe thanks the continent's open borders.

Read more

UN urges states not to demonise refugees following Paris attacks

At the time, Ms Merkel's decision was lauded as a humane act. Last Friday's attacks across Paris have now blown that debate wide open, with some linking the carnage in the French capital to the uncontrolled numbers entering Europe. Jihadists posing as asylum seekers are getting in, it is said. That argument gained more potency on Monday when it was confirmed that one of the suicide bombers at the Stade de France had crossed into Greece on 3 October. The UNHCR warned that linking the attacks to the influx of migrants would lead to greater restrictions on the numbers being allowed into the European Union.

Of the six Paris terrorists named by French officials so far, five are known to be either EU nationals, and all were known to the security services. A number had managed to travel to Syria to fight for Isis, before returning home without being picked up by the intelligence services.

Read more

My tweet about refugees went viral after the Paris attacks

Hating refugees is exactly what Isis wants you to do

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** should form army to fight Isis, says Polish minister

Obama says US must not turn its back on Syria refugees

In the aftermath of Friday's attacks, a number of EU countries responded by imposing unilateral restrictions on migrants. The new right of centre government in Poland said it would refuse to accept quotas agreed between its predecessor and Brussels. And France will ask later this week for the effective suspension of the Schengen Agreement, which allows free movement of people within the EU. The leader of the far-right Front National, Marine Le Pen, who commands a lead over François Hollande in opinion polls, has called for an "immediate halt" to migration into the Europe.

But despite the horrific events on Friday night, those gathered in Paris's central Place de la République bore little animosity to the migrants. "What happened here has got nothing to do with immigration," Clara Stein, a 19-year-old au pair, said. "That would be the worst thing that could happen - if suddenly the migrants got the blame for what has happened. They are just normal people looking for a better life."

The tougher language from those on the right is seemingly doing little to dissuade those prepared to risk the hazardous journey. At least nine people drowned today off the Greek island of Kos, attempting to cross the Aegean Sea.

**Load-Date:** November 18, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Cologne attacks: Support for refugees in Germany falling amid far-right protests and vigilante attacks; More Germans surveyed now say the number of asylum seekers in the country is too high*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HV9-M4W1-JCJY-G1BV-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 13, 2016 Wednesday 12:33 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 564 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Germany's welcoming attitude to refugees is fading fast following the New Year's Eve attacks on women in Cologne, according to new research.

In November, just over half of respondents in a YouGov survey said they thought the number of asylum seekers in the country was too high but that figure now stands at 62 per cent.

Protests by far-right anti-Islam groups Pegida and HoGeSa have swept the country this month, despite being met by equal numbers of anti-fascist counter demonstrators.

Hundreds of right-wing protesters went on the rampage in Leipzig on Monday night, smashing windows and launching fireworks, while at least 11 refugees were attacked by a roving mob who had vowed to "clean up" Cologne the previous day.

Read more

Germany sending hundreds of asylum seekers back to Austria every day

Vigilantes attack asylum seekers after vowing to 'clean up' Cologne

Cologne refugees living in fear of backlash

Angela Merkel says Europe is 'vulnerable' to the refugee crisis

The angry scenes are a far cry from the summer, when Angela Merkel lifted asylum restrictions for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** - a decision that led to the arrival of 1.1 million migrants and asylum seekers last year and was credited in part for making the Chancellor

Time's

Person of the Year

.

Her slogan - "wir schaffen das" - meaning "we can do this", has faded with a series of reversals by the Government, which has now reintroduced border controls and is sending hundreds of refugees back to Austria every day.

"Refugees welcome", the summer's other defining slogan, is also heard less and less as attitudes harden following the police's announcement that migrants were largely responsible for the mass sexual assaults and robberies seen on New Year's Eve.

Research by YouGov for Germany's

Bild

newspaper demonstrates the shift. In November, only a slim majority said the arrival figures were two high, while 42 per cent said they were acceptable and a fifth of respondents said the country could welcome more refugees.

Now, almost two thirds of those surveyed say the number of asylum seekers is too high and only 16 per cent were comfortable with the figures.

German women are more likely than men to oppose the current level of migration, which had not previously been the case, and the New Year's Eve sexual assaults are believed to be the main reason for a 12-point jump.

Anti-sexual violence protesters have also been taking to the streets after police's response to the attacks and Cologne mayor Henriette Reker's controversial proposal of a "code of conduct" for women sparked a new debate about victim-blaming.

At least 19 men are currently under investigation for attacks in the city, including 10 asylum seekers, most of whom arrived in Germany after September.

In response to the alleged assault and robbery of at least 600 victims in Cologne, Ms Merkel has proposed new measures to deny the right of asylum for those who have committed crimes or are on probation in response to calls for change.

Only asylum seekers who have been sentenced to at least three years' imprisonment and will not be at risk in their countries of origin can currently be forcibly deported under German law.

The German cabinet will need to back the plans before a draft law is drawn up.

**Load-Date:** January 13, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Labour will consult Stop the War Coalition before deciding its position on Syria air strikes, says Corbyn minister; Catherine West, a shadow foreign minister, told Stop the War event that Labour would speak to the pressure group if and when the Government submits proposals to bomb Syria*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H95-C021-F021-64GS-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 3, 2015 Tuesday 10:46 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 524 words

**Byline:** Matt Dathan

**Body**

Labour will consult the Stop the War Coalition before deciding its position on bombing Syria, a shadow minister has said.

Catherine West, the shadow foreign minister, told the anti-war group at an event on Monday evening she had yet to see government proposals for air strikes against Isis targets in Syria but would speak to the pressure group before making its final decision if and when ministers submittedplans.

She said the prospect of bombing the war-torn country were "more remote" since the launch of Russia's military campaign against Isis and Free Syrian Army rebels in September, which were approved by President Putin in a bid to shore up President Assad's regime.

Her comments come as Downing Street denied reports that David Cameron had shelved plans to launch air strikes in Syria after concluding the Government would fail to win over enough Labour MPs to outweigh several Tory rebels who are set to oppose military action.

Read more

Downing Street denies David Cameron has ditched plans to bomb Syria

Corbyn pulls out of Stop the War conference as diaryis too full

The Stop the War Coalition should do us a favour and disband

No, Stop The War did not call for a war with Israel

Ms West, speaking to a Stop the War event in the House of Commons on Monday night, said: "In terms of Britain's role, as the opposition we haven't seen a proposal.

"Obviously, in the summer - before Russia was involved - we were thinking the Government might bring forward a proposal and we were preparing mentally for that.

"However, since September 30, I think that's more remote and obviously, if that proposal does come forward, then we will need to speak to you and talk to you about what your view on that is."

Labour's Catherine West tells Stop the War meeting party will consult them about any UK Syria air strike proposal pic.twitter.com/1CN1aEhIxz

- Ross Hawkins (@rosschawkins) November 2, 2015

A Labour party spokesman backed up Ms West's comments. "Labour would, of course, listen to representations from the Stop the War Coalition, as it would from other external bodies, before coming to any decision," the spokesman said.

Ms West later said her comment had not been addressed to the Stop the War Coalition which organised the meeting, but to a group of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** who attended.

"When I said I wanted to consult with them, I meant that group of Syrian people," she said.

"These are people who who have lost families and who are refugees ... They have been through a terrible time and they feel they haven't been listened to."

Jeremy Corbyn stood down as chairman of the Stop the War Coalition after being elected Labour leader due to his "busy diary" but insisted he remained "very much committed" to the group's aims.

A week after his landslide victory in the Labour leadership contest he was forced to miss the group's annual conference - the first time he has missed it since the pressure was set up.

His team said he was too busy preparing for the following week's Labour party conference.

**Load-Date:** November 3, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump condemned for mocking journalist's disability during campaign speech; The Republican presidential frontrunner mockedNew York Times reporter Serge Kovaleski's congenital joint condition*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HG2-NW61-JCJY-G0P2-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 26, 2015 Thursday 9:06 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 537 words

**Byline:** Hardeep Matharu

**Body**

Donald Trump has been widely condemned after mocking a reporter's disability during a campaign speech.

The Republican presidential frontrunner has come under fire for disparagingly imitating The New York Times' culture and investigative reporter, Serge Kovaleski, during a rally for supporters in South Carolina on Tuesday.

Mr Kovaleski suffers from arthrogryposis, a congenital condition affecting how his joints move.

Video: CNN/YouTube

The millionaire entrepreneur made the offensive gestures while defending a claim he made a few days earlier in which he had said that he witnessedthousands of Muslims in New Jersey celebrating on the day of the9/11 attacks.

This claim has reportedly since been discredited by government and law officials who were in New Jersey in the days following the terrorist attack.

A 2001 article written by Mr Kovaleski for the Washington Post had claimed that "authorities detained and questioned a number of people who were allegedly seen celebrating the attacks and holding tailgate-style parties on rooftops while they watched the devastation on the other side of the river" in Jersey city, within hours of the planes crashing into the World Trade Centre.

But Mr Kovaleski told CNN this week: "We did a lot of shoe leather reporting in and around Jersey City and talked to a lot of residents and officials for the broader story. Much of that has, indeed, faded from memory.

"But I do not recall anyone saying there were thousands, or even hundreds, of people celebrating. That was not the case, as best as I can remember it."

Mr Trump was referencing these comments during his speech when he imitated Mr Kovaleski.

He said: "The poor guy. You've got to see this guy. Ah, I don't remember what I said! I don't remember!", while jerking his arms and hands in a manner mocking Mr Kovaleski's condition.

The presidential candidate's campaign spokeswoman declined to comment on the incident, but another campaign official said the entrepreneur was "not aware of any condition and was not mocking his physical appearance in any way," according to the Washington Post.

The official added that Mr Trump "was merely emphasising the uncertainty of the verbal/written statement provided by the reporter in regards to his article".

It is understood that Mr Trump is familiar with Mr Kovaleski as the latter covered him while a reporter for the New York Daily News in the late 1980s to early 1990s.

Read more

Donald Trump says he would bring back waterboarding

Donald Trump claims eight ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** could be 'Isis'

Trumps retweets false murder stats from fictional organisation

The New York Times has said it was "outrageous" for Mr Trump to have ridiculed Mr Kovaleski's appearance.

Following the incident, Mr Kovaleski said: "The sad part about it is, it didn't in the slightest bit jar or surprise me that Donald Trump would do something this low-rent, given his track record," reports the Washington Post.

Mr Trump has been much criticisedon social media for the stunt, with a petition even being started on the change.org website to "make Trump apologise to Serge Kovaleski".

**Load-Date:** November 26, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump accused of defending supporters who 'roughed up' a Black Lives Matter activist at Alabama rally; After a Black Lives Matter activist was thrown to the ground for interrupting the rally, Trump said: 'Maybe he should have been roughed up'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HF7-SMC1-JCJY-G530-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 22, 2015 Sunday 5:26 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 523 words

**Byline:** Doug Bolton

**Body**

US Presidential candidate Donald Trump has been accused of suggesting that his supporters were right to attack a Black Lives Matter activist who interrupted his speech in Birmingham, Alabama on Saturday.

The day after the incident, during which attendees at the Trump rally were filmed throwing activist Mercutio Southall Jr to the ground, Trump was asked to comment on his supporters' actions on the

Fox and Friends

talk show.

Trump replied: "Maybe he should have been roughed up."

A black protester at Trump's rally today in Alabama was shoved, tackled, punched & kicked: [*https://t.co/Aq0wuaAtaxpic.twitter.com/cTRDMtjuBl*](https://t.co/Aq0wuaAtaxpic.twitter.com/cTRDMtjuBl)

- Jeremy Diamond (@JDiamond1) November 21, 2015

"It was disgusting what he was doing," he added.

Trump then went on to compare the incident to a similar one at a recent rally for Democratic candidate Bernie Sanders, in which protesters from the Black Lives Matter movement grabbed the microphone from Sanders' hands and kicked him off stage.

Trump said: "This was not handled the way Bernie Sanders handled his problem, I will tell you, but I have a lot of fans and they were not happy about it."

Read more

Black protester thrown to the ground and punched at Donald Trump rally

"And this was a very obnoxious guy, who was a troublemaker, was looking to make trouble, but I didn't get to see the event."

A video from the rally, captured by CNN, shows a group of men surrounding Southall after he interrupted the speech. He is thrown to the ground and appears to be punched and kicked by a handful of bystanders, before swiftly being escorted away by security.

According to a

Washington Post

reporter who was in the crowd, one bystander shouted "Don't choke him!" after one of the men put his hands around Southall's neck.

Similar incidents have occurred at previous Trump rallies - Latino protesters at a campaign event in Miami in October were filmed being violently dragged out by attendees, as the crowd chanted "USA, USA".

In August, two men in Boston were arrested after allegedly beating a homeless Mexican man with a metal pole.

After their arrest, police said one of the men, Scott Leader, allegedly said: "Donald Trump was right, all these illegals need to be deported."

Read more

Donald Trump says he would bring back waterboarding

'Proud' Muslim Marine challenges Donald Trump over ID claims

Trump's plans for Muslim 'register' compared to Nazi treatment of Jews

Donald Trump claims eight ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** could be 'Isis'

When questioned about the alleged crime by the

Boston Globe

, Trump replied: "I haven't heard about that. I would be a shame, but I haven't heard about that."

Trump faced criticism, however, after he said: "I will say that people who are following me are very passionate. They love this country and they want this country to be great again."

"They are passionate. I will say that, and everybody here has reported it."

Trump is currently leading in many Republican presidential polls, with former neurosurgeon Ben Carson following in a close second.

**Load-Date:** November 22, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump accused of defending supporters who 'roughed up' a Black Lives Matter activist during Alabama rally; After a Black Lives Matter activist was thrown to the ground for interrupting the rally, Trump said: 'Maybe he should have been roughed up'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HFD-S871-F021-6355-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 23, 2015 Monday 10:12 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 523 words

**Byline:** Doug Bolton

**Body**

US Presidential candidate Donald Trump has been accused of suggesting that his supporters were right to attack a Black Lives Matter activist who interrupted his speech in Birmingham, Alabama on Saturday.

The day after the incident, during which attendees at the Trump rally were filmed throwing activist Mercutio Southall Jr to the ground, Trump was asked to comment on his supporters' actions on the

Fox and Friends

talk show.

Trump replied: "Maybe he should have been roughed up."

A black protester at Trump's rally today in Alabama was shoved, tackled, punched & kicked: [*https://t.co/Aq0wuaAtaxpic.twitter.com/cTRDMtjuBl*](https://t.co/Aq0wuaAtaxpic.twitter.com/cTRDMtjuBl)

- Jeremy Diamond (@JDiamond1) November 21, 2015

"It was disgusting what he was doing," he added.

Trump then went on to compare the incident to a similar one at a recent rally for Democratic candidate Bernie Sanders, in which protesters from the Black Lives Matter movement grabbed the microphone from Sanders' hands and kicked him off stage.

Trump said: "This was not handled the way Bernie Sanders handled his problem, I will tell you, but I have a lot of fans and they were not happy about it."

Read more

Black protester thrown to the ground and punched at Donald Trump rally

"And this was a very obnoxious guy, who was a troublemaker, was looking to make trouble, but I didn't get to see the event."

A video from the rally, captured by CNN, shows a group of men surrounding Southall after he interrupted the speech. He is thrown to the ground and appears to be punched and kicked by a handful of bystanders, before swiftly being escorted away by security.

According to a

Washington Post

reporter who was in the crowd, one bystander shouted "Don't choke him!" after one of the men put his hands around Southall's neck.

Similar incidents have occurred at previous Trump rallies - Latino protesters at a campaign event in Miami in October were filmed being violently dragged out by attendees, as the crowd chanted "USA, USA".

In August, two men in Boston were arrested after allegedly beating a homeless Mexican man with a metal pole.

After their arrest, police said one of the men, Scott Leader, allegedly said: "Donald Trump was right, all these illegals need to be deported."

Read more

Donald Trump says he would bring back waterboarding

'Proud' Muslim Marine challenges Donald Trump over ID claims

Trump's plans for Muslim 'register' compared to Nazi treatment of Jews

Donald Trump claims eight ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** could be 'Isis'

When questioned about the alleged crime by the

Boston Globe

, Trump replied: "I haven't heard about that. I would be a shame, but I haven't heard about that."

Trump faced criticism, however, after he said: "I will say that people who are following me are very passionate. They love this country and they want this country to be great again."

"They are passionate. I will say that, and everybody here has reported it."

Trump is currently leading in many Republican presidential polls, with former neurosurgeon Ben Carson following in a close second.

**Load-Date:** November 23, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump criticised for mocking journalist's disability during campaign speech; The Republican presidential frontrunner mimicked New York Times reporter Serge Kovaleski's congenital joint condition*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HG4-2HK1-F021-62H4-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 26, 2015 Thursday 6:10 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 557 words

**Byline:** Hardeep Matharu

**Body**

Donald Trump has been widely condemned for mocking a reporter's disability during a campaign speech.

The Republican presidential frontrunner imitated

The New York Times'

culture and investigative reporter, Serge Kovaleski, during a rally for supporters in South Carolina on Tuesday.

Mr Kovaleski suffers from arthrogryposis, a congenital condition affecting how his joints move.

The millionaire entrepreneur made several offensive gestures while defending a claim he made a few days earlier in which he said he hadwitnessedthousands of Muslims in New Jersey celebrating on the day of the9/11 attacks.

This claim has reportedly since been discredited by government and law officials who were in New Jersey in the days following the terrorist attack.

A 2001 article written by Mr Kovaleski for the

Washington Post

had claimed that "authorities detained and questioned a number of people who were allegedly seen celebrating the attacks and holding tailgate-style parties on rooftops while they watched the devastation on the other side of the river" in Jersey city, within hours of the planes crashing into the World Trade Centre.

But Mr Kovaleski told CNN this week: "We did a lot of shoe leather reporting in and around Jersey City and talked to a lot of residents and officials for the broader story. Much of that has, indeed, faded from memory.

"But I do not recall anyone saying there were thousands, or even hundreds, of people celebrating. That was not the case, as best as I can remember it."

Mr Trump was referencing these comments during his speech when he imitated Mr Kovaleski.

He said: "The poor guy. You've got to see this guy. Ah, I don't remember what I said! I don't remember!", while jerking his arms and hands in a manner mocking Mr Kovaleski's condition.

The presidential candidate's campaign spokeswoman declined to comment on the incident, but another campaign official said the entrepreneur was "not aware of any condition and was not mocking his physical appearance in any way," according to the

Washington Post

.

The official added that Mr Trump "was merely emphasising the uncertainty of the verbal/written statement provided by the reporter in regards to his article".

It is understood that Mr Trump is familiar with Mr Kovaleski as the latter covered him while a reporter for the

New York Daily News

in the late 1980s to early 1990s.

Read more

Donald Trump says he would bring back waterboarding

Donald Trump claims eight ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** could be 'Isis'

Trumps retweets false murder stats from fictional organisation

The New York Times

has said it was "outrageous" for Mr Trump to have ridiculed Mr Kovaleski's appearance.

"We think it's outrageous that he would ridicule the appearance of one of our reporters," a spokeswoman for the newspaper said on Wednesday.

Following the incident, Mr Kovaleski said: "The sad part about it is, it didn't in the slightest bit jar or surprise me that Donald Trump would do something this low-rent, given his track record," reports the Washington Post.

Mr Trump has been much criticisedon social media for the stunt, with a petition even being started on the change.org website to "make Trump apologise to Serge Kovaleski".

**Load-Date:** November 26, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Twenty children among 200 Syrians deported by UK since start of war; Refugee crisis*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GWK-FKF1-F072-41Y4-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

September 10, 2015 Thursday

First Edition

Copyright 2015 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 12

**Length:** 515 words

**Byline:** MAEVE MCCLENAGHAN AND OLIVER WRIGHT

**Body**

The Government has deported nearly 200 Syrian men, women and children who have arrived in Britain since the start of the conflict in their country.

Figures uncovered by the Bureau of Investigative Journalism found that more than 160 adults and 20 children have been removed from the UK - including 27 who have had their asylum claims rejected this year alone.

Some have been sent to Greece, a country already overwhelmed by the influx of asylum-seekers, under EU rules which state that a refugee must claim asylum in the first country where they arrive.

The figures emerged as David Cameron told the House of Commons that the UK would stick to its "own approach" and not take part in an EU-wide scheme to share the burden of refugees.

But the hardline British deportation programme will do little to win the Government friends in other European countries which are struggling to cope even without the UK deportees. The shadow Foreign Secretary, Hilary Benn, said the Government is showing the "best of British values" by welcoming ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and not using the UK's opt-out to escape responsibility. "The fact we're not in Schengen doesn't mean we should opt out of our responsibility to stand shoulder to shoulder with our European friends and allies in playing a part," he said.

"Why is a child who has made the same perilous journey that claimed little Aylan al-Kurdi's life and is now in Greece any less deserving of our help than a child in a Syrian refugee camp?"

The Bureau's figures were obtained through Freedom of Information requests and an analysis of government data since the start of the conflict in Syria. They reveal that, far from settling all of those Syrians who have managed to make it to Britain, the UK Government has been removing some of those who have arrived claiming asylum.

Of 31 unaccompanied asylum-seeking Syrian children who have arrived in the UK this year, only 12 were granted refugee status, and 45 per cent (14) were given temporary leave to remain until just before their 18th birthdays. The rest were deemed to be adults and refused. The rate at which unaccompanied Syrian children are being given asylum has dropped in the past three years, from 75 per cent in the first half of 2013 to just 39 per cent this year. The rate at which adults receive asylum is much higher.

Kamena Dorling, of Coram Children's Legal Centre, said: "Syrian children should only be returned to another European country under the Dublin regulations if this is for the purposes of family reunification and it has been assessed that return would be in the child's best interests."

But the Home Office said: "There will be circumstances where children do not meet the criteria to be recognised as a refugee under the Refugee Convention, but they may be granted another form of leave to remain, for example humanitarian protection or discretionary leave.

"The UK has a proud history of granting asylum to those who need it and we consider every application on its individual merits. We take cases involving children seriously and their welfare is at the heart of every decision made."

**Load-Date:** September 9, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump claims Bill Clinton has a 'penchant for sexism'; The Republican frontunner spoke out over the weekend*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HPX-2XD1-JCJY-G0FC-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

December 28, 2015 Monday 1:49 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 545 words

**Byline:** Andrew Buncombe

**Body**

The battle of words between the Democratic and Republican frontrunners has taken a new twist after Donald Trump accused of Bill Clinton of "sexism" as it emerged the former president would campaign for his wife.

Donald Trump sought to use Hillary Clinton's own words - indeed, the precise words she had used to criticise him - by suggesting Mr Clinton "demonstrated a penchant for sexism".

"Hillary Clinton has announced she is letting her husband out to campaign, but he's demonstrated a penchant for sexism," Mr Trump said on Twitter. "So inappropriate!"

Hillary Clinton has announced that she is letting her husband out to campaign but HE'S DEMONSTRATED A PENCHANT FOR SEXISM, so inappropriate!

- Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) December 27, 2015

Mr Trump, 69, who is leading the Republicans in national polls but is some points behind Mrs Clinton in polls measuring a head-to-head between them, used the language she had leveled at him.

In an interview with the

Des Moines Register

last week, Mrs Clinton, said she deplored the tone of Mr Trump's campaign.

Her comments followed series of remarks the former tycoon had made, including the suggestion that it had been "disgusting" that she had gone to the lavatory during a break in a recent Democratic debate. He also said she had been "schlonged" during the 2008 campaign.

I will do far more for women than Hillary, and I will keep our country safe, something which she will not be able to do-no strength/stamina!

- Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) December 27, 2015

"I don't know that he has any boundaries at all. And his bigotry, his bluster, his bullying have become his campaign," she said.

"It's not the first time he's demonstrated a penchant for sexism."

Mr Trump's decision to attack Bill Clinton, one of the most natural campaigners of recent American politics, suggests his potential rival is vulnerable on this issue.

Indeed, US media reports have pointed out this is not the first time that the 42nd president has emerged as a potential issue during the 2016 campaign.

U.S. Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump addresses the crowd during a campaign rally in Grand Rapids, Michigan

In 2013, the wife of Senator Rand Paul of Kentucky, said in an interview with Vogue that Mr Clinton's behavior was "predatory, offensive to women" and should preclude him from returning to the White House, even as the husband of the president.

Mr Paul, a Republican, later said he agreed with his wife, but said Mrs Clinton should be judged by her own actions if she ran for president.

Yet, he has continued to argue that Bill Clinton's presence undermined the Democratic campaign and he used the opportunity to raise the issue of Mr Clinton' affair with Monica Lewinsky.

Read more

Why voting for Donald Trump is to take a stand against boredom

Clinton refuses to comment as Trump offensive gets more offensive

Donald Trump adviser under fire after claiming ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** support

"I think really the media seems to have given President Clinton a pass on this," he said on

NBC's

Meet the Press

on Sunday.

"He took advantage of a girl that was 20 years old and an intern in his office. There is no excuse for that."

**Load-Date:** December 28, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Paris terror: How the attacks have blown the debate on refugees wide open; The UN has joined rights groups in warning that the attacks could lead to a crackdown on migrants and asylum seekers*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HD6-SDV1-F021-626M-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 17, 2015 Tuesday 10:28 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 554 words

**Byline:** Alistair Dawber

**Body**

For many escaping civil war, famine and oppression in the Middle East and Africa, arriving in what is supposed to be a safe haven now risks becoming only the start of their problems.

Rights groups, and even the United Nations, have warned that the terrorist attacks in Paris could lead to a crackdown on migrants and asylum seekers, 800,000 of whom have so far this year risked the perilous trip across the Mediterranean to the shores of Italy, Greece and Spain. More than 3,000 of them have drowned trying. Earlier this summer, Angela Merkel, the German Chancellor, effectively threw open the gates to Germany, allowing migrants to settle in their thousands, giving them access to the rest of Europe thanks the continent's open borders.

Read more

UN urges states not to demonise refugees following Paris attacks

At the time, Ms Merkel's decision was lauded as a humane act. Last Friday's attacks across Paris have now blown that debate wide open, with some linking the carnage in the French capital to the uncontrolled numbers entering Europe. Jihadists posing as asylum seekers are getting in, it is said. That argument gained more potency on Monday when it was confirmed that one of the suicide bombers at the Stade de France had crossed into Greece on 3 October. The UNHCR warned that linking the attacks to the influx of migrants would lead to greater restrictions on the numbers being allowed into the European Union.

Of the six Paris terrorists named by French officials so far, five are known to be either EU nationals, and all were known to the security services. A number had managed to travel to Syria to fight for Isis, before returning home without being picked up by the intelligence services.

Read more

My tweet about refugees went viral after the Paris attacks

Hating refugees is exactly what Isis wants you to do

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** should form army to fight Isis, says Polish minister

Obama says US must not turn its back on Syria refugees

In the aftermath of Friday's attacks, a number of EU countries responded by imposing unilateral restrictions on migrants. The new right of centre government in Poland said it would refuse to accept quotas agreed between its predecessor and Brussels. And France will ask later this week for the effective suspension of the Schengen Agreement, which allows free movement of people within the EU. The leader of the far-right Front National, Marine Le Pen, who commands a lead over François Hollande in opinion polls, has called for an "immediate halt" to migration into the Europe.

But despite the horrific events on Friday night, those gathered in Paris's central Place de la République bore little animosity to the migrants. "What happened here has got nothing to do with immigration," Clara Stein, a 19-year-old au pair, said. "That would be the worst thing that could happen - if suddenly the migrants got the blame for what has happened. They are just normal people looking for a better life."

The tougher language from those on the right is seemingly doing little to dissuade those prepared to risk the hazardous journey. At least nine people drowned today off the Greek island of Kos, attempting to cross the Aegean Sea.

**Load-Date:** November 17, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: EU report on Turkey's membership contains muted criticism as it seeks nation's co-operation with influx; Publication was delayed so as not to influence the country's recent election, but it is hard to see why since its language was so restrained as to suggest that the main intent of its authors was not to give offence to the Turkish government*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HBP-J1B1-JCJY-G52H-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 10, 2015 Tuesday 7:19 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 531 words

**Byline:** Patrick Cockburn

**Body**

The European Union has published its delayed annual report on Turkish membership of the bloc, urging Turkey to resume talks with the Kurds, limit restrictions on the media and respect human rights.

Its publication was delayed by the EU so as not to influence the Turkish elections, but it is hard to see why, since its language was so restrained as to suggest that the main intent of its authors was not to give offence to the Turkish government.

Read more

Erdogan tightens grip on Turkey after surprise election landslide

While negotiations for Turkey to enter the EU have been dead in the water for years, ensuring that the EU has little influence over its behaviour, the need for Turkish co-operation has grown this year because there are some 2.2 million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in the country, many of whom are now making their way to the EU via Greece and the Balkan states.

The EU wants Turkey to absorb more refugees itself, in return for making it easier for Turks to get EU visas, along with financial aid and speeded up talks on EU membership. German Chancellor Angela Merkel attracted criticism from the Turkish opposition just before election when she visited Istanbul and held talks with President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, during which she said there could be no solution to the migration crisis without Turkey.

The EU report "emphasises an overall negative trend in the respect for the rule of law and fundamental rights". There are also significant shortcomings affecting the judiciary and freedom of expression.

This is one way of describing the near total domination of television and press coverage by the ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) which helped it win a majority in the general election on 1 November. But any criticism of its domestic policies by the EU is unlikely to be taken seriously by the Turkish government. Punches are pulled throughout. The report says that "the independence of the judiciary and the principle of separation of powers has been undermined since 2014 and prosecutors have been under strong political pressure".

Read more

Kurdish militants end month-long Turkey ceasefire

President Erdogan's victory is bad for Turkey and the region

Like it or not, Turkey is now President Erdogan's state

Turkey risks becoming an authoritarian state sliding into Syrian mire

In practice, the courts do what the government tells them to do and the AKP has progressively seized control of all levers of power such as the judiciary, army and media since it first came to power in 2002.

The EU draws attention to the fact that over the past year "Turkey saw a severe deterioration in its security situation". This followed suicide bombings by Isis at Suruc on 20 July and in Ankara on 10 October that together killed 134 people. The government used the first of these attacks as the occasion to relaunch a war against the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK). The greater violence and insecurity enabled the AKP to present itself successfully to voters as a guarantor of stability and as the party of Turkish nationalism.

**Load-Date:** November 10, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Syria cholera outbreak sparks fears of 'international threat'; Doctorsays nation'scrippled medical infrastructure, and the lack of access available to aid agencies, meansdisease could spread quickly, both inside the country and across borders*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H7C-MBG1-JCJY-G24C-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

October 25, 2015 Sunday 11:48 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HEALTH NEWS

**Length:** 558 words

**Byline:** Olivia Alabaster

**Body**

Cholera has broken out in Syria, with one child having already died after contracting the disease - and the outbreak could constitute an "international threat".

The break-out, which follows one in Iraq, could spread rapidly, according to Dr Ahmad Tarakji, president of the Syrian American Medical Society (Sams), the largest medical NGO still working in Syria.

Speaking to

The Independent

, Dr Tarakji said that Syria's already crippled medical infrastructure, and the lack of access available to aid agencies, meant the disease could spread quickly, both inside the country and across borders.

"It spreads so easily. People are being displaced inside and outside, people are going to Europe," he said.

Read more

UK launches anti-cholera campaign

Weather forecast could predict cholera outbreaks: study

Bangladesh to hold massive cholera vaccine trial

There are over four million registered ***Syrian refugees*** and nearly eight million internally displaced. A five-year-old boy who died last week in Aleppo province was "very likely" to have been killed by cholera, Dr Tarakji said. In a memo to NGOs working in northern Syria, the World Health Organisation (Who) said it was treating it as a "suspected case" of cholera and that initial tests were positive. "A huge number of people could be exposed," said Dr Tarakji, as "historically it affects people who are displaced".

"Nobody would know who has it," he added, as up to 80 per cent of carriers do not exhibit any symptoms.

The water-borne intestinal disease, which mostly affects children, can kill quickly if not treated, and is spread through unclean water and poor sanitation. Within Syria, and especially in areas outside of government control, water purification is increasingly difficult, and on the migrant trail, many Syrians may not have access to proper toilets or clean water, Dr Tarakji warned.

There have already been 1,200 confirmed cases of cholera in Iraq in recent weeks, including six deaths. An immunisation programme is due to start there next week.

With this constant destruction of the health infrastructure, we're paralysed. We always call on the international community to act, but this is areal threat

Dr Ahmad Tarakji, president of the Syrian American Medical Society

Dominique Legros, Who's cholera chief, expressed concern last week of "a spread towards the Middle East, towards Syria and refugee camps". But in Syria, any vaccination campaign would be nigh on impossible, Dr Tarakji said. While such a campaign was carried out for polio when it emerged in Syria in late 2013, the country's medical infrastructure is now weaker.

"Cholera is treatable and preventable... but the basic right to be treated is not accessible by most people," Dr Tarakji said.

Over recent weeks there have been repeated Russian air strikes targeting hospitals in rebel-held parts of Syria, according to Physicians for Human Rights and doctors on the ground, the latest of which hit a hospital in Hama province on Friday night, leaving four medical staff with major injuries, the Sams president said.

"With this constant destruction of the health infrastructure, we're paralysed," said Dr Tarakji. "We always call on the international community to act, but this [cholera] is a real threat."

**Load-Date:** December 1, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Labour will consult Stop the War Coalition before deciding its position on Syria air strikes, says Corbyn minister; Catherine West, a shadow foreign minister, told Stop the War event that Labour would speak to the pressure group if and when the Government submits proposals to bomb Syria*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H95-C021-F021-64GR-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 3, 2015 Tuesday 10:34 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 493 words

**Byline:** Matt Dathan

**Body**

Labour will consult the Stop the War Coalition before deciding its position on bombing Syria, a shadow minister has said.

Catherine West, the shadow foreign minister, told the anti-war group at an event on Monday evening she had yet to see government proposals for air strikes against Isis targets in Syria but would speak to the pressure group before making its final decision if and when ministers submittedplans.

She said the prospect of bombing the war-torn country were "more remote" since the launch of Russia's military campaign against Isis and Free Syrian Army rebels in September, which were approved by President Putin in a bid to shore up President Assad's regime.

Her comments come as Downing Street denied reports that David Cameron had shelved plans to launch air strikes in Syria after concluding the Government would fail to win over enough Labour MPs to outweigh several Tory rebels who are set to oppose military action.

Read more

Downing Street denies David Cameron has ditched plans to bomb Syria

Corbyn pulls out of Stop the War conference as diaryis too full

The Stop the War Coalition should do us a favour and disband

No, Stop The War did not call for a war with Israel

Ms West, speaking to a Stop the War event in the House of Commons on Monday night, said: "In terms of Britain's role, as the opposition we haven't seen a proposal.

"Obviously, in the summer - before Russia was involved - we were thinking the Government might bring forward a proposal and we were preparing mentally for that.

"However, since September 30, I think that's more remote and obviously, if that proposal does come forward, then we will need to speak to you and talk to you about what your view on that is."

A Labour party spokesman backed up Ms West's comments. "Labour would, of course, listen to representations from the Stop the War Coalition, as it would from other external bodies, before coming to any decision," the spokesman said.

Ms West later said her comment had not been addressed to the Stop the War Coalition which organised the meeting, but to a group of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** who attended.

"When I said I wanted to consult with them, I meant that group of Syrian people," she said.

"These are people who who have lost families and who are refugees ... They have been through a terrible time and they feel they haven't been listened to."

Jeremy Corbyn stood down as chairman of the Stop the War Coalition after being elected Labour leader due to his "busy diary" but insisted he remained "very much committed" to the group's aims.

A week after his landslide victory in the Labour leadership contest he was forced to miss the group's annual conference - the first time he has missed it since the pressure was set up.

His team said he was too busy preparing for the following week's Labour party conference.

**Load-Date:** November 3, 2015

**End of Document**



[*This flying visit was nothing more than an exercise in being seen; The Lebanese are all too familiar with such PR excursions, says ROBERT FISK in Beirut*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GXN-9G01-JCS0-D1SG-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

September 15, 2015 Tuesday

First Edition

Copyright 2015 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 12

**Length:** 441 words

**Byline:** ROBERT FISK

**Body**

Well, PR Dave took quite a trip yesterday - all the way to Lebanon. He even discovered some refugees in the Bekaa Valley.

They are the ones that aren't swarming. Not yet anyway. But if Lebanon returns to civil war, Dave will have to watch out. There are about a million and a half of these chaps here, all Syrians who decided that Lebanon was a safer bet than staying at home. He also met the Lebanese Prime Minister, Tammam Salam, who made a point of suggesting the figures. Was he wondering if perhaps PR Dave would take a few more?

Oddly, he didn't seem to give David Cameron any advice - I would have to add that the prime minister of the Lebanese republic isn't an expert on PR like our own prime minister. He is actually a rather more nuanced man. But a million and a half is rather a lot. It's now almost a quarter of the entire population of Lebanon. Thank god Calais isn't in the Middle East.

But did Dave work out just why all these refugee folk are in Lebanon? We all know he was only a mile from the Syrian border - we all knew that public relations would come into it - but what did he actually think was going on on the other side of the frontier?

A bit of trouble with that bloke Bashar Al-Assad. It wasn't that long ago, surely, that Dave wanted to bomb the guy. The Brits didn't want to go to war but did he have the slightest idea how the country might be put back together again? After all, Mr Salam will presumably want these refugees to go "home" one day, although UN officials here long ago explained that, by and large, one third of all refugees do not go home. They hang around.

I'm not sure, though, that he's got quite the knack of picking things up. He's trained five thousand Lebanese soldiers, but what did he think the soldiers were trained for? To guard refugees? To disarm the Hezbollah?

Dave mentioned the border towers which the Brits have been helping to build. There is a little problem, though, with the fact that Hezbollah's enemies are not very keen on these towers. Isis is who I'm talking about and Isis has already shown what it thinks of Lebanese soldiers (by murdering several of them).

No one seemed to know when the first ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** will be flying off to Britain. Certainly they won't be relieving much of the burden on Lebanon. And one can never tell when politicians arrive in the Middle East whether it is - as they always claim - "to see the situation" for themselves. One rather thought that Dave wanted to be seen in Lebanon rather than see refugees. The Lebanese are wearily familiar with such flings - but then again they've taken a million and a half refugees which is more than Dave will ever do.

**Load-Date:** September 14, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: Tim Farron calls for Britain to 'open its heart' and take in 3,000 child refugees; Lib Dem leader will propose a Bill to commit UK to take in unaccompanied children displaced by conflict*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HJ8-6K21-JCJY-G2H6-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

December 6, 2015 Sunday 10:09 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 536 words

**Byline:** Charlie Cooper

**Body**

Britain should "open its heart" and take in 3,000 child refugees living alone and unaccompanied by their parents in Europe, Tim Farron has said.

The Liberal Democrat leader will this week propose a Private Members Bill that would commit the UK to taking in Syrian, Iraqi, Afghan and Eritrean children displaced by conflict and living alone in Europe.

Unknown thousands of children have entered Europe unaccompanied in the past year. The UNHCR estimates 8,500 arrived in Italy alone between January and October. The Save the Children charity that if the country were to take its fair share of refugee children, Britain should find homes for 3,000.

Read more

Jeremy Corbyn dons a Santa hat to raise money for refugees

The proposed Bill, which will be considered by MPs on Tuesday, is the latest bid by opposition parties to make the moral case to Government for greater action over the refugee and migrant crisis which has seen hundreds of thousands arriving in Europe from the Middle East and North Africa this year alone.

Labour, the Liberal Democrats and the SNP are also seeking to change the law to allow asylum seekers already in the UK to bring elderly relatives, children over the age of 18, and in some cases siblings into the country.

While the UK is a leading donor of aid to refugees in Syria and in camps in neighbouring countries, it has faced criticism for its modest offer of taking in 20,000 refugees by 2020.

"These children have left their home fleeing terror and persecution. I believe Britain must, as it always has done, offer safe haven and open its hearts to those in desperate need," Mr Farron said.

Read more

Birmingham becomes official City of Sanctuary for refugees

The 'sanitary pad missionary' bringing dignity to ***Syrian*** ***refugees***

Child refugees draw the houses they hope to have in camp in Greece

Government refuses to house more refugees after starting Syria strikes

Sweden considering law allowing 'emergency' closure of Øresund Bridge

"I am urging the government to support my bill and establish a programme to take in 3,000 unaccompanied children who are currently alone in Europe."

The call is backed by Save the Children, which has urged people not to "harden hearts" against refugees in the wake of mounting fear over the threat of terrorism in the wake of the Paris attacks, which have led to calls by some for tightening of border controls and a tougher stance on immigration and asylum.

Justin Forsyth, the charity's chief executive, said last week that Britain should be inspired by the example set by the 'kindertransport', which saw 10,000 Jewish children come to the UK from Nazi Germany before the Second World War.

"As people gather in schools and churches around the country to hear the story of a Middle Eastern family, with no place to stay, is there any better response to those who want a clash of civilisations that to say that even in difficult and dangerous times, we stand with the Syrian people, and that refugees are welcome here," Mr Forsyth said in a post on the charity's website.

**Load-Date:** December 6, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Sonny Bill Williams video: New Zealand star gives Rugby World Cup medal to young boy after security guard wrestled him to the ground; Young Charlue Lines was trying to celebrate with the victorious All Blacks side when security tackled him to the ground*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H8R-K2P1-JCJY-G3B9-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 1, 2015 Sunday 7:44 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** INTERNATIONAL

**Length:** 476 words

**Byline:** Jack de Menezes

**Body**

Sonny Bill Williams is already a hero to many in New Zealand, and adding a second Rugby World Cup to his CV only goes to strengthen that status, but what he did immediately after the final whistle was truly incredible.

The All Blacks centre collected his winners medal alongside his team-mates, only to give it away to a young boy who had been knocked to the ground by security after trying to reach Williams on the field.

Young Charlie Lines was said to have been flattened after trying to reach Williams, the the cross-code sensation clearly took a liking to his determination to join in the celebrations as he found him in the stands and gave him his gold winners' medal.

Sonny Bill Williams gives his Rugby World Cup medal to a young fan

Young rugby fan Charlie Lines can't believe his luck when he receives Williams' medal

Watch the video below...

The kind gesture comes after Williams is believed to have offered two tickets to the All Blacks' semi-final victory over South Africa last weekend to ***Syrian*** ***refugees***.

"A young fella snuck on the field somehow but when he was coming up to give me a hug, he got smoked by a security guard, full-on tackled him," Williams said afterwards.

"He was only eight and the other fella was a full-on man, so it looked like he would break his ribs or something.

"The moment probably just got the better of him but he was just so excited to get on the field with the All Blacks. I thought I'd make it a night to remember for him, rather than my medal being hanging up at home or something like that."

Read more

All Blacks retain the Rugby World Cup in thrilling win over Wallabies

"It will be hanging around that young guy's neck and he can tell that story for years to come. He might be a future All Black!

"The bonds that we have as brothers in the changing room are the most important thing," added Williams, insisting he wouldn't regret the gesture.

"The medal represents the win, but going in and seeing the smiles on the boys faces, knowing that we've accomplished something no other All Blacks team has done, is pretty special."

Williams needed barely two minutes to make his impact on the game after coming on at half-time for Conrad Smith, with his over-the-head offload releasing Ma'a Nonu to score a try for the defending champions and stretch the lead to 21-3.

Read more

Rugby World Cup 2015's most memorable moments

Hansen labels McCaw the 'greatest All Black ever'

Carter shines on his All Blacks swnsong to retain the Webb Ellis Cup

Despite fighting back to within four points, Australia weren't able to catch their rivals as they secured a 34-17 victory to claim back-to-back World Cop successes and become the First Nation to lift the Webb Ellis Cup three times in the 28-year history of the tournament.

**Load-Date:** November 1, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: EU leaders expect to reach deal on fixed quotas at summit next week; Setting up EU administered 'hot spots' in Greece and Italy will also be high on the agenda*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GYC-WWC1-F021-62NN-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 18, 2015 Friday 6:50 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 521 words

**Byline:** Tony Paterson

**Body**

European Union leaders are poised to reach a crucial deal which will commit states to accept fixed quotas of thousands of migrants and refugees now reaching the continent, sources close to Chancellor Angela Merkel's government has told The Independent.

The sources in Berlin said they expected EU leaders to reach an agreement by qualified majority vote on the distribution of 120,000 refugees across Europe when they meet for a migrant crisis summit next Wednesday. "A lot of lobbying has been going on. There are one or two governments which have said 'we will comply but we need to be outvoted to claim that we did our best to oppose this'," the source said.

Apart from migrant quotas, Wednesday's summit is expected to focus of providing more aid and resources to Turkey, where an estimated two million predominantly ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** are being given sanctuary. "Recent lack of funding for refugees in Turkey is one of the reasons why they are now making for Europe," a source said.

Germany's foreign minister, Frank-Walter Steinmeier, is on a visit to Turkey where he is expecting to hold talks with the prime minister, Recep Tayyip Erdogan. An EU-wide deal on refugee quotas would be a breakthrough for Ms Merkel's coalition government. Germany has said it is prepared to take in between 800,000 and one million refugees during the current crisis - more than all of the rest of the EU combined. It has asked other EU states to share the load - so far without success. There are strong objections from eastern European states including the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, the Baltic States and Poland. However their opposition now appears to be crumbling.

READ MORE: Croatian PM: 'We cannot accommodate these people any longer'Hungary opens fire on refugees with tear gasCroatia has closed seven of eight border crossings with Serbia12 pictures that capture the chaos of Europe's refugee crisis

Poland is reported to have signalled that its was ready to accept over 9,000 refugees, despite the government's fears of an impending refugee influx from the Ukraine and the impact on an election at the end of October. Latvia was also said to have dropped its opposition. Still, Croatia closed its borders to thousands of refugees after Hungary had done so earlier. How Hungary welcomes its refugees - in pictures

High on the summit agenda are plans to set up EU administered "hot spots" in Greece and Italy. These would aim to decide who is eligible for EU asylum by quickly distinguishing between genuine war refugee and economic migrants as soon as they enter the Schengen zone. German officials have insisted repeatedly that the country is ready to accept thousands of war refugees. "The EU cannot respond to this crisis simply by building a wall," government sources said. However Ms Merkel's government has refused to say when it will suspend controls imposed on its borders with Austria last Monday. Her government is also said to be planning tough new immigration measures. These would force "illegal" migrants to comply with the EU's Dublin agreement and return to the countries from which they first entered the EU.

**Load-Date:** September 18, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump condemned for mocking journalist's disability during campaign speech; The Republican presidential frontrunner mockedNew York Times reporter Serge Kovaleski's congenital joint condition*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HG2-NW61-JCJY-G0P3-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 26, 2015 Thursday 10:58 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 534 words

**Byline:** Hardeep Matharu

**Body**

Donald Trump has been widely condemned after mocking a reporter's disability during a campaign speech.

The Republican presidential frontrunner has come under fire for disparagingly imitating The New York Times' culture and investigative reporter, Serge Kovaleski, during a rally for supporters in South Carolina on Tuesday.

Mr Kovaleski suffers from arthrogryposis, a congenital condition affecting how his joints move.

The millionaire entrepreneur made the offensive gestures while defending a claim he made a few days earlier in which he had said that he witnessedthousands of Muslims in New Jersey celebrating on the day of the9/11 attacks.

This claim has reportedly since been discredited by government and law officials who were in New Jersey in the days following the terrorist attack.

A 2001 article written by Mr Kovaleski for the Washington Post had claimed that "authorities detained and questioned a number of people who were allegedly seen celebrating the attacks and holding tailgate-style parties on rooftops while they watched the devastation on the other side of the river" in Jersey city, within hours of the planes crashing into the World Trade Centre.

But Mr Kovaleski told CNN this week: "We did a lot of shoe leather reporting in and around Jersey City and talked to a lot of residents and officials for the broader story. Much of that has, indeed, faded from memory.

"But I do not recall anyone saying there were thousands, or even hundreds, of people celebrating. That was not the case, as best as I can remember it."

Mr Trump was referencing these comments during his speech when he imitated Mr Kovaleski.

He said: "The poor guy. You've got to see this guy. Ah, I don't remember what I said! I don't remember!", while jerking his arms and hands in a manner mocking Mr Kovaleski's condition.

The presidential candidate's campaign spokeswoman declined to comment on the incident, but another campaign official said the entrepreneur was "not aware of any condition and was not mocking his physical appearance in any way," according to the Washington Post.

The official added that Mr Trump "was merely emphasising the uncertainty of the verbal/written statement provided by the reporter in regards to his article".

It is understood that Mr Trump is familiar with Mr Kovaleski as the latter covered him while a reporter for the New York Daily News in the late 1980s to early 1990s.

Read more

Donald Trump says he would bring back waterboarding

Donald Trump claims eight ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** could be 'Isis'

Trumps retweets false murder stats from fictional organisation

The New York Times has said it was "outrageous" for Mr Trump to have ridiculed Mr Kovaleski's appearance.

Following the incident, Mr Kovaleski said: "The sad part about it is, it didn't in the slightest bit jar or surprise me that Donald Trump would do something this low-rent, given his track record," reports the Washington Post.

Mr Trump has been much criticisedon social media for the stunt, with a petition even being started on the change.org website to "make Trump apologise to Serge Kovaleski".

**Load-Date:** November 26, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump condemned for mocking journalist's disability during campaign speech; The Republican presidential frontrunner mockedNew York Times reporter Serge Kovaleski's congenital joint condition*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HG2-NW61-JCJY-G0P1-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 26, 2015 Thursday 9:00 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 534 words

**Byline:** Hardeep Matharu

**Body**

Donald Trump has been widely condemned after mocking a reporter's disability during a campaign speech.

The Republican presidential frontrunner has come under fire for disparagingly imitating The New York Times' culture and investigative reporter, Serge Kovaleski, during a rally for supporters in South Carolina on Tuesday.

Mr Kovaleski suffers from arthrogryposis, a congenital condition affecting how his joints move.

Video: CNN/YouTube

The millionaire entrepreneur made the offensive gestures while defending a claim he made a few days earlier in which he had said that thousands of Muslims in New Jersey had celebrated the 9/11 attacks.

This claim has reportedly since been discredited by government and law officials who were in New Jersey in the days following the terrorist attack.

A 2001 article written by Mr Kovaleski for the Washington Post had claimed that "authorities detained and questioned a number of people who were allegedly seen celebrating the attacks and holding tailgate-style parties on rooftops while they watched the devastation on the other side of the river" in Jersey city, within hours of the planes crashing into the World Trade Centre.

But Mr Kovaleski told CNN this week: "We did a lot of shoe leather reporting in and around Jersey City and talked to a lot of residents and officials for the broader story. Much of that has, indeed, faded from memory.

"But I do not recall anyone saying there were thousands, or even hundreds, of people celebrating. That was not the case, as best as I can remember it."

Mr Trump was referencing these comments during his speech when he imitated Mr Kovaleski.

He said: "The poor guy. You've got to see this guy. Ah, I don't remember what I said! I don't remember!", while jerking his arms and hands in a manner mocking Mr Kovaleski's condition.

The presidential candidate's campaign spokeswoman declined to comment on the incident, but another campaign official said the entrepreneur was "not aware of any condition and was not mocking his physical appearance in any way," according to the Washington Post.

The official added that Mr Trump "was merely emphasising the uncertainty of the verbal/written statement provided by the reporter in regards to his article".

It is understood that Mr Trump is familiar with Mr Kovaleski as the latter covered him while a reporter for the New York Daily News in the late 1980s to early 1990s.

Read more

Donald Trump says he would bring back waterboarding

Donald Trump claims eight ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** could be 'Isis'

Trumps retweets false murder stats from fictional organisation

The New York Times has said it was "outrageous" for Mr Trump to have ridiculed Mr Kovaleski's appearance.

Following the incident, Mr Kovaleski said: "The sad part about it is, it didn't in the slightest bit jar or surprise me that Donald Trump would do something this low-rent, given his track record," reports the Washington Post.

Mr Trump has been much criticisedon social media for the stunt, with a petition even being started on the change.org website to "make Trump apologise to Serge Kovaleski".

**Load-Date:** November 26, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Sonny Bill Williams video: New Zealand star gives Rugby World Cup medal to young boy after security guard wrestled him to the ground; Young Charlie Lines was trying to celebrate with the victorious All Blacks side when security tackled him to the ground*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H8R-K851-F021-64K2-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 1, 2015 Sunday 10:05 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** INTERNATIONAL

**Length:** 476 words

**Byline:** Jack de Menezes

**Body**

Sonny Bill Williams is already a hero to many in New Zealand, and adding a second Rugby World Cup to his CV only goes to strengthen that status, but what he did immediately after the final whistle was truly incredible.

The All Blacks centre collected his winners medal alongside his team-mates, only to give it away to a young boy who had been knocked to the ground by security after trying to reach Williams on the field.

Young Charlie Lines was said to have been flattened after trying to reach Williams, the the cross-code sensation clearly took a liking to his determination to join in the celebrations as he found him in the stands and gave him his gold winners' medal.

Sonny Bill Williams gives his Rugby World Cup medal to a young fan

Young rugby fan Charlie Lines can't believe his luck when he receives Williams' medal

Watch the video below...

The kind gesture comes after Williams is believed to have offered two tickets to the All Blacks' semi-final victory over South Africa last weekend to ***Syrian*** ***refugees***.

"A young fella snuck on the field somehow but when he was coming up to give me a hug, he got smoked by a security guard, full-on tackled him," Williams said afterwards.

"He was only eight and the other fella was a full-on man, so it looked like he would break his ribs or something.

"The moment probably just got the better of him but he was just so excited to get on the field with the All Blacks. I thought I'd make it a night to remember for him, rather than my medal being hanging up at home or something like that."

Read more

All Blacks retain the Rugby World Cup in thrilling win over Wallabies

"It will be hanging around that young guy's neck and he can tell that story for years to come. He might be a future All Black!

"The bonds that we have as brothers in the changing room are the most important thing," added Williams, insisting he wouldn't regret the gesture.

"The medal represents the win, but going in and seeing the smiles on the boys faces, knowing that we've accomplished something no other All Blacks team has done, is pretty special."

Williams needed barely two minutes to make his impact on the game after coming on at half-time for Conrad Smith, with his over-the-head offload releasing Ma'a Nonu to score a try for the defending champions and stretch the lead to 21-3.

Read more

Rugby World Cup 2015's most memorable moments

Hansen labels McCaw the 'greatest All Black ever'

Carter shines on his All Blacks swnsong to retain the Webb Ellis Cup

Despite fighting back to within four points, Australia weren't able to catch their rivals as they secured a 34-17 victory to claim back-to-back World Cop successes and become the First Nation to lift the Webb Ellis Cup three times in the 28-year history of the tournament.

**Load-Date:** November 1, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Aylan Kurdi: The harrowing photos of refugees that didn't go viral; As thousands of people continue risking their lives crossing Mediterranean, many face harsh conditions on their arrival in Europe*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GVK-D3T1-F021-644F-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 5, 2015 Saturday 2:19 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 493 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Images of three-year-old Aylan Kurdi lying dead on a Turkish beach went viral earlier this week, reigniting outrage over the deaths of thousands of desperate refugees trying to reach safety in Europe.

In the four days since Aylan died, David Cameron has vowed that Britain will take in "thousands more" ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and governments throughout Europe have reaffirmed their commitment to easing the continuing crisis.

The harrowing photos galvanised public support for refugees, seeing people raise hundreds of thousands of pounds for charity and offering their time and even their homes to asylum seekers.

And as these pictures show, there are many more needing help.

Read more: Aylan's last words were 'daddy, please don't die'Refugee dies 'running from police' at Hungarian train stationBoy's father describes moment sons 'slipped away'

This man died minutes after this photo was taken in Bicske, Hungary. He was one almost 300 refugees who broke through a line of riot police on Friday after two days of being held at a train station as they tried to reach Austria. The UN's refugee agency (UNHCR) said he is believed to have fallen and hit his head on train tracks while running from police.

Hungarian authorities had stopped the train in attempt to force refugees to go to a nearby camp to register their asylum applications. Those who resisted, like this woman and her young child, were met with physical force.

The refugees stuck in Bicske included those who had already been stranded in Budapest for two days after police barred them from entering the capital's main station to catch trains to Germany and Austria.

Those who eventually managed to get on trains had to be forcibly crammed inside, including young children and babies.

Many of the refugees in Budapest have travelled along the long land migration route from the Middle East through the Balkans. Some, like this family of refugees from Afghanistan, walk for hundreds of miles along motorways through countries like Greece and Macedonia.

Others risk their lives walking along rail lines. A man died on Friday when he was hit by a train as he walked along lines in northern Greece, near the border with Turkey, in the dark. The driver told police he could not brake in time.

Smugglers are also packing refugees into lorries for long journeys through Europe. The bodies of 71 men, women and children were found in an abandoned truck in Austria last week. Police believe they suffocated to death.

The land route is being used by more and more refugees, partly as a consequence of deaths in the Mediterranean and Aegean Seas. Thousands of people are still attempting to make the voyage from Turkey to Greek islands that killed Aylan and his family.Those who make it are often met by long waits in harsh conditions to register their asylum applications before they can move on.

This newspaper has started a campaign for the UK to welcome a fair share of refugees.

Click here to sign The Independent's petition

**Load-Date:** September 5, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Jeremy Corbyn accuses the Tories of an 'absurd lie' over cuts to tax credits; David Cameron said he rejected cutting the payments before the election*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H1R-JFJ1-F021-6162-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 29, 2015 Tuesday 7:09 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 505 words

**Byline:** Jon stone

**Body**

Jeremy Corbyn has accused David Cameron of committing an "absurd lie" over cuts to tax credits and their effect on people who work.

In his speech to Labour's annual conference in Brighton the party leader noted that the Prime Minister had said before the election he rejected cuts to tax credits - months before cutting them.

He said he the situation exposed the Conservatives as not being on the side of working people.

"It's a shocking broken promise - and the Tories voted it through in Parliament just two weeks ago," Mr Corbyn told delegates and party officials.

brightcove.createExperiences();

"How can it be right for a single mother working as a part time nurse earning just £18,000 to lose £2,000 to this broken promise? Some working families losing nearly £3,500 a year to this same broken promise."

At a leaders' question time event in the run up to May's vote Mr Cameron said he did not want to cut tax credits and said he rejected plans to cut them.

"No I don't want to do that-this report that was out today is something I rejected at the time as Prime Minister and I reject it again today," he said when asked by an audience member whether he would cut the payments made to low-income working families.

Read more

The three issues Corbyn didn't mention in his Labour conference speech

Britain still needs to do more to help ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, says Corbyn

Corbyn kicks off a new politics - using bits of an old Miliband speech

5 things we've learnt about Jeremy Corbyn's 'honest' politics

People loved Jeremy Corbyn's first conference speech

The first Conservative budget made cuts to tax credits as part of £12bn welfare savings. Mr Corbyn said the move was not fair.

"And how can it be right or fair to break this promise while handing out an inheritance tax cut to 60,000 of the wealthiest families in the country? See the contrast," he told his party's conference.

"We'll fight this every inch of the way and we'll campaign at the workplace, in every community against this Tory broken promise and to expose the absurd lie that the Tories are on the side of working people, that they are giving Britain a pay rise."

The Government announced the cuts at the same time as it announced a higher minimum wage, which George Osborne said would make work pay.

But research by the Institute for Fiscal Studies found the higher wage floor would come nowhere near to compensating for the benefit cuts.

In a rare qualitative assessment, the IFS warned that the higher wage could not replace tax credits and benefits as a way of alleviating poverty.

"There may be strong arguments for introducing the new NLW, but it should not be considered a direct substitute for benefits and tax credits aimed at lower income households," it explained.

Mr Osborne said at the time of the wage's announcement that it would provide people with "financial security".

**Load-Date:** September 29, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: Steve Jobs was 'a Syrian migrant's child' too, tech community observes; A tweet prompted by Aylan Kurdi's tragic story has been shared by thousands*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GW1-5VX1-F021-63B0-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 7, 2015 Monday 12:58 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 515 words

**Byline:** Adam Withnall

**Body**

The online tech community has rallied around the story of drowned three-year-old Aylan Kurdi, pointing out that the children of Syrian migrants include the man who invented the iPhone.

Steve Jobs, the Apple founder who died in 2011 and is subject of an upcoming biopic by British director Danny Boyle, was the son of a Syrian man who moved to the US to study in the 1950s.

Abdul Fattah Jandali was born in 1931 to a well-off family in Homs, Syria - a city now most famous as the scene of some of the worst fighting in the country's ongoing civil war.

He and his partner Joanne Carole Schieble had Jobs out of wedlock and were forced to give him up for adoption. They later married, and had Jobs' biological sister Mona Simpson.

Though Jobs' story is a world away from that of Aylan, whose death last week prompted international outrage, a simple post noting their shared Syrian heritage has been shared thousands of times on social media.

Posted by Geneva-based tech entrepreneur David Galbraith, it simply included a picture of Jobs and the caption: "A Syrian migrants' child [sic]."

Galbraith, who was co-founder of the company where Yelp was created and helped author RSS technology, said he was a fan of Jobs and remembered his family history when news about desperate ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** made headlines around the world.

A Syrian migrants' child. pic.twitter.com/sjBxuInpEp- David Galbraith (@daveg) September 2, 2015

He told the Chicago Tribune that he "could barely look [at the photographs of Aylan] as I have two beautiful young children of my own".

He said: "It seemed to be that what the most precious thing in the world, a small child, was washed up on the sea shore like a discarded object of no value, when a child with a parent of the same nationality, given opportunity had created the largest company in the entire world. And here we are seeing an acrimonious debate, about stopping migrants."

The image he chose of Jobs comes from the cover of the late entrepreneurs best-selling, self-titled autobiography. The refugee crisis - in pictures

"It contrasted that of Aylan Kurdi in every way and made me wonder what little boys like him could have achieved if they had been given the chance," Galbraith said.

While the reminder of Jobs' background has been shared more than 11,000 times, not everyone agreed with the apparent sentiment behind it.

Read more: Hungary's PM warns of risks to 'Christian' cultureWays you can help refugees trying to find safety in EuropeTwo charts which shame UK when it comes to EU's refugee crisisRefugees recount joy as thousands reach Austria and Germany

One wrote that it suggests "that human life is worth something only if it achieves 'great things'. Another said the picture implied we should only perceive children as "future assets", adding: "Must we even value the human in economic terms?"

But many others were positive about Galbraith's message. One said it was a "brilliant tweet", while another wrote: "Most times the simplest statements are the most powerful."

Click here to sign The Independent's petition for the UK to welcome a fair share of refugees.

**Load-Date:** September 7, 2015

**End of Document**



[*AFTER ANKARA; TURKEY'S PERFECT STORM*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H4D-H681-JCS0-D0MH-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

October 12, 2015 Monday

First Edition

Copyright 2015 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 4

**Length:** 528 words

**Body**

Q | Who was targeted in Ankara?

A | The twin blasts outside the capital's main railway station killed scores of pro-Kurdish activists and left-wing union members. The head of pro-Kurdish party the HDP said the blasts specifically targeted its supporters.

Q | Why would the Kurds be targeted?

A | Kurds constitute about a fifth of the population of Turkey but the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) has fought a decades-long war against the state for independence. A de facto ceasefire agreed in 2012 broke down in July after Turkey began a "synchronised war on terror" against Isis in Syria and the PKK in southern Turkey and northern Iraq.

Q | Has anyone claimed responsibility for the blasts?

A | No. But the various elements in Turkish politics have been quick to point fingers. The ruling AK party, led by President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, says that it believes either Isis, "extremist" left-wing activists or Kurdish rebels were responsible. Some of those opposed to the AK party have claimed security services were behind the bombings. However, others say the fact that it was a suicide bombing suggests it was an Isis attack.

Q | Do previous attacks point to a perpetrator?

A | Turkey has been hit by several blasts this year. Before Saturday the worst was in July at a peace rally in Suruc near the Syrian border, which killed 32 youth activists. The state blamed Seyh Abdurrahman Alagoz, a 20-year-old man of Kurdish origin, who was believed to have travelled to Isis-controlled territory in the months before. Opposition figures claimed it was the work of the "deep state" controlled by Mr Erdogan, a claim the government denies.

Q | Turkey has often been lauded as a progressive, moderate Muslim nation. How has its politics polarised so quickly?

A | The resumption of hostilities with the Kurds has driven a wedge through politics and the war in Syria has placed huge strain on a country hosting two million refugees. President Erdogan has been in power for more than a decade, initially as Prime Minister. His mildly Islamist AK party has rankled with liberals and those who are fiercely protective of Turkey's secular constitution. He has also followed a no-nonsense path against the Kurds, which opponents say whips up an anti-Kurdish frenzy. There's a volatile political climate, where divisions are pronounced.

Q | With such division, can the AK party hold on to power?

A | The AK relied for years on Sunni Muslim voters outside the main urban centres but it lost its parliamentary majority in elections in June, while the pro-Kurdish HDP scored a stunning victory, winning a bloc of seats in parliament and leaving Mr Erdogan without a legislative majority. He desperately wants to win that back in polls next month, but there is little prospect the AK party will do so.

Q | What do the bombings in Ankara mean for politics?

A | Further polarisation. Everyone is blaming everyone else and there is no sign Mr Erdogan's call for unity in the face of terror is being heeded. The West's vital ally in the Middle East is facing a perfect storm: political polarisation, a resumption of violence with the PKK, the threat from Isis, and two million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and counting.

**Load-Date:** October 11, 2015

**End of Document**



[*'I love my dog, I need her': Syrian refugee, 17, walks 300 miles carrying pet to Europe; Aslan, who fled the war Damascus, said he could not leave his pet behind*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H01-8CP1-F021-62NY-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 21, 2015 Monday 5:11 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 524 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

A 17-year-old Syrian refugee has walked more than 300 miles carrying his pet dog after he could not bear to leave the animal in his war-torn homeland.

Aslan, from Damascus, was interviewed by the UN's refugee agency (UNHCR) after arriving on the Greek island of Lesbos.

Holding the tiny dog as it yapped happily in his arms, he said: "I love this dog, I need her."

I love my dog!"Some people will ask - you have only a small bag?""Yes.""And you bring your dog?""Yes.""Why?""I love my dog!"Many animal lovers will relate to this 17-year-old boy from Damascus, Syria. And we've seen many like him carrying their animals with them on the long journey from Syria, across the Mediterranean Sea and through Europe. When forced to flee home because of war, many people would never dream of leaving their pets behind.Posted by UNHCR on Saturday, 19 September 2015

The teenager said he had walked at least 310 miles (500km) carrying all his belongings in a rucksack, and holding the dog in a red carrier.

"The dog is Rose," Aslan said, holding up his pet's animal passport, before giving her a drink from his water bottle.

"They said 'you can't take your dog'. I have food and I have water, I have everything."

When asked by aid workers why he did not leave Rose in Syria, he replied: "I love my dog."

A spokesperson for the UNHCR said it had seen "many" refugees like Aslan carrying their animals with them on dangerous journeys from the Middle East, across the Mediterranean and onwards through Europe.

Read more: Five-year-old girl dies in boat tragedyThe British family saving refugees' lives on LesbosOne refugee boy's journey across Europe

"When forced to flee home because of war, many people would never dream of leaving their pets behind," she added.

Of the 300,000 refugees and migrants who have arrived in Greece so far this year, more than 93,000 have landed in Lesbos, where the infrastructure is unable to cope.

A British family is leading a group of volunteers helping the thousands of asylum seekers who arrive every day on the island's northern coast.

Eric Kempson, 60, has worked with his wife and teenage daughter to transform their home into an impromptu base of operations for humanitarian efforts.

"I'm here and I'm a human being," he told The Independent. "When you see these babies suffering you can't just watch." The refugee crisis - in pictures

A five-year-old girl was among more than a dozen ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** believed to have died on Saturday when their dinghy sank on the way from Turkey to the island.

Many of the refugees and migrants reaching Greek islands continue their journey through the Western Balkan route, which is becoming increasingly difficult after Hungary closed its border with Serbia and other countries started increasing controls.

The UN estimates that 80 per cent of the people entering Europe through the Balkans are from Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq, with the remainder from a range of countries including Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burundi and in Sub-Saharan Africa.

According to UNHCR figures,  more than 442,440 people have crossed the Mediterranean Sea to Europe so far this year and 2,921 have died attempting the voyage.

**Load-Date:** September 21, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: People traffickers luring families on to boats by allowing children to go 'free of charge'; A worker for Unicef has said 10-year-olds cost half the price of their parents, and children and babies can board for free*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GVT-6G31-JCJY-G19Y-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 6, 2015 Sunday 1:29 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 501 words

**Byline:** Jess Staufenberg

**Body**

Refugee families are being lured onto dangerous vessels to escape war-torn countries by the promise of children going "free of charge".

A worker for Unicef has said 10-year-olds cost half the price of their parents, and children and babies can board for free, in the tarrifs drawn up by smugglers offering passage over the sea.

While the image of drowned toddler Aylan Kurdi has been published across the world this week, yet more young children are being washed up, dead, on beaches on the Libyan coast.

People smugglers who have set up routes of escape for desperate families from Turkey to Greece are letting children go free because they do not take up much space on the boat, a charity worker has said.

Chris Tidey, from Unicef, told the Sunday Mirror the practice of letting children go free was bringing people smugglers yet more desperate customers and was "trading in misery".The refugee crisis - in pictures

"We've spoken to people who have paid up to 1,200 euro (£900) and their infants got in the dinghy for free. Their older kids were 10 so they were charged 600 euro - half price.

"It's trading in misery. All the children, especially those unaccompanied or separated from their families, are particularly vulnerable."

A Turkish security official confirmed that "offers" were taking place to bring people aboard, reported the Sunday Mirror.

READ MOREThis is how desperate refugees are to enter the EUGermans stage pro-migrant rally with 'refugees welcome' bannersMay says migrants should be banned from entering the UKNumber of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** taken in by UK would fit on Tube train

Meanwhile, Mr Tidey said he was also aware of supposed safety talks by people smugglers in case of danger. It surmounted to "cut the boat and start yelling for help" from other refugee boats if they got into difficulties.

The International Organisation for Migration said at least 364,000 people have crossed the Mediterranean to Europe this year. More than 2,800 are thought to have died, many of hundreds of which are thought to be children.

Prime Minister David Cameron said earlier this week that the UK would not take more refugees from the Middle East.

However, he has since said "thousands" more will be given asylum in the UK, but from camps in Syria rather than from those who have already fled the area.

Not enough is known about the people smugglers who are transporting people and charging huge sums whilst making a profit. In January <em class="italic">The Guardian<em class="italic" />reported that one smuggler had made more than a million pounds in just six months.

Many are thought to be based in Turkey, Egypt, Libya, Syria, Italy and Pakistan, the BBC also reported earlier in the year.

The focus on the deaths of migrants was highlighted this week, more than four years since the civil war in Syria began, by the little body of Aylan Kurdi being washed up on a Turkish beach. His mother and five-year-old brother Ghalib died too, after the boat they were in with their father and other refugees capsized.

**Load-Date:** September 6, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: David Cameron to be presented with 1.4 million signatures as clamour grows for Britain to do more; The Independent will join campaigners delivering a message to parliament*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GW7-TG11-F021-6256-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 8, 2015 Tuesday 5:15 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 541 words

**Byline:** Jamie Merrill

**Body**

More than 1.4m signatures and calls for action are set to be presented to MPs on Wednesday in an effort to force David Cameron to take immediate action to combat the refugee crisis, after the Government's pledge to resettle 20,000 refugees was labelled "pitifully short of what is needed".

The Independent will join forces with representatives from aid agencies, refugee charities and campaign groups in Westminster to deliver a message to parliament that the British public wants the Prime Minister to go further and take more radical action.

More than 375,000 people have now signed The Independent's petition urging the Government to take immediate action to open the country's doors to refugees, while hundreds of thousands more have signed separate petitions or made pledges of support to aid agencies and campaign groups, including Save the Children, Amnesty International UK, Citizens UK, Refugee Action, Avaaz and Refugee Action.

"The message could not be clearer," said Stephen Hales, chief executive of Refugee Action. "This petition is part of something much bigger. In hundreds of ways in hundreds of places, the British people want to welcome refugees."

Read more:  Click here to sign The Independent's petitionFive practical ways you can help refugees trying to find safetyAshdown: Syrian child refugees 'to be deported at age 18'Germany says it can take in 500,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** every year

Representatives from the broad coalition of groups, including The Independent, will call on MPs to challenge David Cameron during Prime Minister Questions on Wednesday lunchtime and ahead of an EU crisis meeting on Monday.

The event will also expected to be attended by Sue Hubbard and Katie Whyte, grassroots campaigners who have both set up petitions calling on Government to accept more refugees.

Among the calls being made by campaigners is plea for the UK to consider offering homes to the 3,000 lone children already in Europe. There are also demands for the Government to spell out how exactly many refugees it will resettle this year, after Home Secretary Theresa May told Parliament on Tuesday she could not provide a figure.

The refugee crisis - in pictures

Kate Allen, director of Amnesty International UK, said: "The huge outpouring from the British public of compassion for those fleeing war and persecution and anger at this government's response to the refugee crisis has been truly incredible to see. Everyone who over the last few days has stood up and called the government out should be proud of what they have achieved, but the battle is far from won."

"The crisis within Europe's borders right now needs an immediate response and that means European countries working together to take their fair share of refugees already here, as well as a coordinated effort to save lives at sea, tackle people smuggling and help resolve the conflicts and crises causing so many to flee their homes.

"We all need to keep up the pressure on Cameron to go to the EU meeting on Monday and commit to joining pan-European efforts to turn this crisis around."

A candlelight vigil is planned tonight at Westminster Cathedral, with faith leaders adding their calls to action.

Click here to sign The Independent's Change.org petition

**Load-Date:** September 8, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Andy McSmith's Diary: Jeremy Corbyn stays laid back about his speech, and its tendency to recycle ideas; The leader's advisers should have known it wouldn't take long to find out a chunk of it was from a four-year old blog*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H1R-VVD1-JCJY-G04H-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 29, 2015 Tuesday 8:09 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 545 words

**Byline:** andy mcsmith

**Body**

Jeremy Corbyn's advisers must - or should - have known that it would take no time at all before it became known that a chunk of his conference speech was taken word for word from a blog posted four years ago by the journalist Richard Heller. Ironically, they could have used another of Heller's ideas last week, without running into any difficulty at all - and a very good idea it was too.

Heller, who was a Labour special adviser in the 1980s, was one of the 40,000 who sent in ideas for questions Corbyn could ask at his first Prime Minister's Questions. His suggestion was that Corbyn should point out that though he did not vote against the Iraq war in 2003, David Cameron did vote in favour of it, and then invite the Prime Minister to explain how either the UK or the Middle East was better off as a result of that war. Hearing Cameron try to answer that one would have been a joy.

Read more

Corbyn accuses Tories of an 'absurd lie' over cuts to tax credits

The three issues Corbyn didn't mention in his Labour conference speech

Britain still needs to do more to help ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, says Corbyn

Corbyn kicks off new politics with passages rejected by other leaders

Save the 1,700 jobs at the Redcar steelworks, Corbyn tells Cameron

5 things we've learnt about Jeremy Corbyn's 'honest' politics

Snub to steelworkers

"We stand with the people on Teesside fighting for their jobs, their industry and their community," Corbyn promised in his speech. He was wildly applauded. So was Brian Dennis, a steelworker from Redcar, a town facing economic desolation because of the loss of its steelworks.

Meanwhile, behind the scenes, the big unions were doing deals about who would hold seats on Labour's national executive in the coming year. Community, successor to the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, has always been a bulwark of the right wing of the TUC. It belonged to the Gordon Brown era rather than the brave world of Labour in opposition. The Bakers' Union is more in tune with Corbyn, though they are behind in paying their affiliation. So just as the steelworkers face their biggest crisis in a generation, their representative, Susan Lewis, has been quietly bumped off the NEC by the combined block votes of the left-wing unions, and replaced by a baker.

"They have given Brian a standing ovation, then they kick him in the balls," one angry union representative told me. "Given what has happened on Teesside in the last couple of days, it's just crass. It's hugely political. We believe in negotiation and dealing with whoever we have to deal with. If that makes you a 'moderate' - fine: I'm pretty relaxed about that."

Super-chilled leader

That relaxed style that Corbyn brings to his new role continued even as the prospect of having to deliver his first leader's speech drew ever closer. At 9.30 in the morning, he was spotted in the corridors of Brighton's Hilton Hotel in a t-shirt, shorts and flip-flops. "He was super-relaxed, not at all like a man with a conference speech to deliver. He was chilled," said an eye-witness.

**Load-Date:** September 29, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Syrian girl's painting captures the horrors of the conflict; Painting by young refugee was given as a 'present' to German police officers*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H1P-HS61-JCJY-G1FH-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 29, 2015 Tuesday 12:09 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 574 words

**Byline:** Rick Noack

**Body**

When a 3-year-old Syrian boy named Alan Kurdi drowned in the Mediterranean Sea about three weeks ago, photos of the scene captured the world's attention - whereas the deaths of hundreds of other children had previously gone nearly unnoticed.

These days, it is again an image that seems to have struck a nerve.

When a police department in southern Germany tweeted a photo of a painting by a young Syrian refugee, it immediately went viral. "A present of a Syrian child to the police authorities in Passau. #speechless," the police department's tweet read. The image, which was posted last Thursday, has been shared by more than 8,000 people.

Read more

These are the steps Europe must take to solve the refugee crisis

Call to segregate rival groups after clashes at German asylum centres

Why the world's refugees should be given international passports

What the rest of Europe really thinks about Britain's refugee response

Banksy's Dismaland moves to Calais to provide shelter for refugees

Mark Zuckerberg announces plans to bring Facebook to refugee camps

An orange line divides two strikingly different scenes: On the left side are the horrors of the Syrian civil war. A woman who has lost a leg walks away on crutches. Next to her, a child holds his arms above his head. Dead Syrians lie in the streets, next to destroyed buildings. At the top of the painting is a skull, and ravens fly in the sky above victims.

On the the right side, there are no destroyed homes, and people seem to be coming home from shopping. The child's illustration of refugee life in Germany is decorated with hearts thanking the German police.

German authorities did not provide any information about the identity of the refugee child, which is why some commentators questioned the drawing's authenticity. "Never would a child have painted such an image," one commentator wrote. "Moreover, children don't paint in perspective."

Such doubts reflect a growing divide within Germany: Some say that more refugees should be allowed into the country, but others are much more skeptical. Chancellor Angela Merkel continues to say refugees are welcome, especially ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, but even members of her own party have publicly raised concerns about the influx.

Arson attacks and assaults against refugees are on the rise, as well. In the eastern German town of Heidenau, several asylum seekers were assaulted over the weekend in the city center.

Meanwhile, German authorities have publicly rebutted suggestions that the painting is a fake. Police officer Michael Piltz told the German news site Spiegel Online on Saturday that a refugee girl had presented the present to him and two of his colleagues last Monday. They did not ask the girl for her name or nationality but assumed that she must be Syrian, given that she painted the country's flag and detailed the horror there.

Police press spokesman Werner Straubinger discovered the image and asked whether he could take it, but his request was declined. His colleagues told him that "it had been given to them as a present and that it was worth a lot to them," Straubinger recalled in the conversation with Spiegel Online. Instead of taking the painting, he posted it on Twitter.

© Washington Post

**Load-Date:** September 29, 2015

**End of Document**



[*David Cameron's flying visit to Lebanon was nothing more than an exercise in being seen; The Lebanese are all too familiar with PR excursions such as this*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GXJ-5401-F021-63B2-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 14, 2015 Monday 8:54 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 469 words

**Byline:** Robert Fisk

**Body**

Well, PR Dave took quite a trip - all the way to Lebanon. He even discovered some refugees in the Bekaa Valley.

They are the ones that aren't swarming. Not yet anyway. But if Lebanon returns to civil war, Dave will have to watch out. There are about a million and a half of these chaps here, all Syrians who decided that Lebanon was a safer bet than staying at home. He also met the Lebanese Prime Minister, Tammam Salam, who made a point of suggesting the figures. Was he wondering if perhaps PR Dave would take a few more?

Oddly, he didn't seem to give David Cameron any advice - I would have to add that the prime minister of the Lebanese republic isn't an expert on PR like our own prime minister. He is actually a rather more nuanced man. But a million and a half is rather a lot. It's now almost a quarter of the entire population of Lebanon. Thank god Calais isn't in the Middle East.

But did Dave work out just why all these refugee folk are in Lebanon? We all know he was only a mile from the Syrian border - we all knew that public relations would come into it - but what did he actually think was going on on the other side of the frontier?

A bit of trouble with that bloke Bashar Al-Assad. It wasn't that long ago, surely, that Dave wanted to bomb the guy. The Brits didn't want to go to war but did he have the slightest idea how the country might be put back together again? After all, Mr Salam will presumably want these refugees to go "home" one day, although UN officials here long ago explained that, by and large, one third of all refugees do not go home. They hang around.

Read more: Cameron calls for aid spending closer to SyriaThree stories from Syrians who have made a new life in the WestCameron: UK aid stops 'hundreds of thousands' reaching EU

I'm not sure, though, that he's got quite the knack of picking things up. He's trained five thousand Lebanese soldiers, but what did he think the soldiers were trained for? To guard refugees? To disarm the Hezbollah?

Dave mentioned the border towers which the Brits have been helping to build. There is a little problem, though, with the fact that Hezbollah's enemies are not very keen on these towers. Isis is who I'm talking about and Isis has already shown what it thinks of Lebanese soldiers (by murdering several of them).

No one seemed to know when the first ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** will be flying off to Britain. Certainly they won't be relieving much of the burden on Lebanon. And one can never tell when politicians arrive in the Middle East whether it is - as they always claim - "to see the situation" for themselves. One rather thought that Dave wanted to be seen in Lebanon rather than see refugees. The Lebanese are wearily familiar with such flings - but then again they've taken a million and a half refugees which is more than Dave will ever do.

**Load-Date:** September 14, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: Hungary's parliament passes law allowing army to use rubber bullets, tear gas grenades and net guns against refugees; Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orban claims eastern European countries have been forced to protect themselves against the 'brutal threat' posed by refugees*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H01-F1Y1-F021-63BG-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 21, 2015 Monday 6:43 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 533 words

**Byline:** Loulla-Mae Eleftheriou-Smith

**Body**

Hungary's parliament has passed a law allowing the government to deploy its army to handle refugees at its borders and the use of non-lethal weapons such as rubber bullets and tear gas grenades.

Speaking ahead of the vote on Monday Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orban claimed that millions of refugees are "laying siege" to the borders of his country and of Europe, and said: "The migrants are not just banging on our door, they're breaking it down," before reiterating his view that most were coming for economic and not safety reasons.

The new law will allow soldiers to be sent to help police manage the refugee crisis, carrying out many of the same tasks such as checking ID, detaining suspects and controlling the flow of traffic at the borders.

It also allows the army to use non-lethal force against refugees, which includes the use of rubber bullets, pyrotechnical devices, tear gas grenades and net guns, according to the text posted on the parliament's website.

An emergency summit is being held on Wednesday, when European leaders will attempt to find a unified response to the worst refugee crisis Europe has seen since the Second World War.

Hungary's vote came on the same day its government took out a full page advert in Lebanese and Jordanian newspapers warning people that entering the country illegally is a crime punishable by imprisonment. There are currently hundreds of thousands of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** living in Lebanon and Jordan.

The ad reads: "Hungarians are hospitable, but the strongest possible action is taken against those who attempt to enter Hungary illegally.

"The illegal crossing of the country's border is a crime punishable by imprisonment.

"Do not listen to the people smugglers. Hungary will not allow illegal immigrants to cross its territory."

How Hungary welcomes its refugees - in pictures

The news comes as Orban defended the construction of a steel fence on the border with Serbia to stop refugees from crossing into the country, claiming that eastern European nations have been forced to protect themselves against the "brutal threat" of mass migration.

Orban claimed that Europe had "sent out invitations to the migrants" and said the razor-wire fences being built on the Hungary's borders with Serbia, Croatia and Romania are core to stopping refugees entering the country.

Orban's centre right Fidesz party was supported in the vote by Hungary's radical nationalist Jobbik party, which has called for even tougher measures to be used.

Read more: Hungary: 'Croatia is violating international law' over refugee crisisHungary deploys soldiers to borders as door slams shut on refugeesThousands left stranded after Hungary blocked by razor wire

Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Poland met in Prague on Monday to state their opposition to the EU's proposed quotas for relocation of asylum seekers across Europe.

Talks between the four nations were held with Luxembourg's Foreign Minister Jean Asselborn, whose country holds the EU's rotating presidency. After hours of talks, he said: "We still have 20 hours [...] to come to a conclusion. We know we have to find a European solution."

Additional reporting by agencies

**Load-Date:** September 21, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Kos crisis: The story behind the photograph of a Syrian father shared by thousands online; Laith Majid was photographed with his children by freelancer Daniel Etter*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GPY-RFP1-F021-62RP-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

August 19, 2015 Wednesday 5:23 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 514 words

**Byline:** Rose Troup Buchanan

**Body**

An image of a Syrian father sobbing as he cradles his son and daughter on a Greek beach has been shared by thousands of social media users.

The photograph of Laith Majid, taken by freelancer Daniel Etter at around 4.30am on a beach in Kos, Greece, has provoked a strong reaction to increasingly dehumanised depictions of migrants.

Mr Etter, 34, who confesses he has "never been so touched" by one image, managed to find out about the middle-class family from the Syrian city of Deir ez-Zor.

I am overwhelmed by the reaction to this family's tears of relief. This is why I do what I do. [*http://t.co/guDhQ2w5QUpic.twitter.com/Gu31bKDLMA-*](http://t.co/guDhQ2w5QUpic.twitter.com/Gu31bKDLMA-) Daniel Etter (@DanielEtterFoto) August 17, 2015Made me cry, when I saw it yesterday:   [*https://t.co/c4CTeZFd4o-*](https://t.co/c4CTeZFd4o-) Katrin Zinoun (@dialogtexte) August 17, 2015To those who attack 'migrants' online. Look at this man, fleeing war in Syria, cradling his children. And rethink. pic.twitter.com/1pXEIGStvN- Barry Malone (@malonebarry) August 16, 2015@DanielEtterFoto@ShelaghFogarty this must pull on the heart strings of fathers everywhere. It does mine...- A Green Anisodactyl (@ngc\_457) August 17, 2015Sometimes even to live is an act of courage. ― Seneca   [*https://t.co/hTsk2TcEDh-*](https://t.co/hTsk2TcEDh-) J.Bibi (@SabriRuh) August 17, 2015

An entire country's pain captured in one father's face. Syrian refugee family arrives at Kos. Pic by @DanielEtterFotopic.twitter.com/wMEUy5sUMQ- Mary Fitzgerald (@MaryFitzger) August 18, 2015

The family, who had endured years of bombardments from the Syrian government, rebel forces and most recently Isis, hoped to make it to Germany.

Mr Etter, based in Barcelona but currently photographing migrants along European Union borders, said the mother - who has not been pictured - had worked as an English teacher.

He told Spiegel Online the family of four came ashore with eight others in a small rubber dingy designed for just three people.

"After more than two hours of driving the boat had lost air, water had leaked into it, the refugees were soaked when they arrived at the shore. They were then completely relieved to have arrived safely," he said.

READ MORE: The crisis in Kos, in picturesSyrian rebels call for support as they face attacks on three frontsThe difference between asylum seekers, refugees and economic migrants

"In that moment it all came at them together, the joy of having done it; the love for their family; the grief over what had happened."

The family later stayed in a makeshift tent on another beach in Kos, before attempting to board the Eleftherios Venizelos established by Greek authorities to process ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. "Whether they make it, I don't know," he said.

Mr Etter said although he was used to working as a photographer, witnessing many emotional scenes, he has never been so touched by an image. Looking at the photograph afterwards, he found "tears came again and again," he told Spiegel Online.

"That's never happened to me before."

It comes amid news that the number of migrants attempting to reach the safety of Europe has sharply increased, with a record high of 107,500 recorded in August.

**Load-Date:** August 19, 2015

**End of Document**



[*David Cameron says Britain cannot take 'more and more' refugees; But Britain lags far behind other European countries in how much help it has given*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GTY-NMC1-JCJY-G037-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 3, 2015 Thursday 7:32 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 504 words

**Byline:** Jon Stone

**Body**

The UK cannot be expected to take 'more and more' refugees to help solve the European refugee crisis, David Cameron has said.

The Prime Minister said the UK had already taken "a number" or refugees and that taking more would not help resolve the crisis.

The UK has taken fewer than 1,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, while Germany expects 800,000 this year and has registered 3,500 in one day alone. Other European countries have given shelter to significantly more than the UK.

Britain was criticised by a spokesperson for Germany's ruling party this morning, who said the UK's intransigence on the issue could damage good-will towards its EU renegotiation hopes.

Labour has called for the UK to take in 10,000 refugees, a stance first proposed by candidate Yvette Cooper and backed by all her rivals.

"We have taken a number of genuine asylum seekers from Syrian refugee camps and we keep that under review, but we think the most important thing is to try to bring peace and stability to that part of the world," Mr Cameron said during a visit in Northamptonshire.

"I don't think there is an answer that can be achieved simply by taking more and more refugees."

He said the UK wanted to help stabilise the countries where refugees were coming from. The UK has provided significant international aid to Syria.

"We are taking action right across the board, helping countries from which these people are coming, stabilising them and trying to make sure there are worthwhile jobs and stronger economies there," he argued.

"We are obviously taking action at Calais and the Channel, there's more that we need to do and we are working together with our European partners as well. These are big challenges but we will meet them.

The refusal to budge on asylum numbers comes as significant pressure is applied to the PM on the issue.

Former foreign secretary David Miliband today told the Guardian newspaper that Britain was "at the forefront" of writing migrant conventions and that not following them when so many people were in need was hypocritical.

In pictures: Hundreds stranded in Budapest

"There needs to be some burden-sharing... bigger countries taking more people than smaller countries, richer countries taking more people than poorer countries. Historically the US has taken about 50% of the world's resettled refugees. It would certainly help the European debate if the Americans were seen to be stepping up," he said.

Mr Miliband criticised the description of refugees as "migrants" because most of the people arriving on Europe's shores were being forced to flee from bombs and bullets.

"It is a misnamed crisis, and it seems not misnamed by accident. It's been too convenient to misname it as a migrant crisis, because it suggests these people are voluntarily fleeing, whereas in fact - if you've been barrel-bombed out of your home three times, life and limb demand that you flee. It's not about being politically incorrect in using the term migrant. It's simply incorrect."

Additional reporting by PA

**Load-Date:** September 3, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Forget everything you know about nice, liberal Sweden - that country no longer exists; The government's collapse due to far-right extremists is the latest crack to emerge in the country's Utopian image*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5DS5-2431-F021-63C4-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

December 5, 2014 Friday 7:43 AM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 507 words

**Byline:** Emanuel Sidea

**Body**

The Swedish way of politics has often been put forward as a role model for other countries. Almost everyone has heard about the Swedish model of fair wealth redistribution, proper budget policies, a welfare state with good benefits, and a large public sector. They've also probably heard of how all of this has been achieved through mature bipartisanship, and a visionary embrace of reform.

But yesterday's collapse of the newly elected government is just the latest sign that Sweden has started to transform into a less functional, more European-style country. After only three months of his party being in power, the Social Democrat Prime Minister Stefan Löfven has called a snap election to take place in March.

Snap elections aren't uncommon in Europe, yet last time Sweden had one was in the 1950s. But the biggest surprise here isn't that Sweden has changed, but that the outside world's perception of the country has not. The government collapsed after the far-right extremists of the Sweden Democrats party voted against their proposed budget, to make a point about their liberal immigration policies (Sweden has already offered permanent residence to all ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, and has one of the highest rates of asylum applications in Europe).

The crisis has revealed the existence of a new political generation in Sweden (three of the nine party leaders were born during 1980s). It is one that is much more prepared for a European-style fight to the death. The idea that Swedes always try to reach a consensus is now long gone.

The top 10 countries in the world - according to 'global public opinion'

Löfven, a former union leader, shouldn't be surprised that Sweden isn't the same as it was just ten or twenty years ago. He knows the statistics. We have a large youth generation without proper jobs or housing. An infrastructure in dire need of investment. A private sector eager for political innovation and vision. And a system of young outsiders that put them against a generation born in the 1940s and 50s that harvest all the benefits. Because of the previous centre-right government, led by the "Swedish David Cameron" Fredrik Reinfeldt, there is no inheritance, wealth, or property tax, and large decreases in income tax and capital tax. At the same time, inequality and income distribution is increasing at an alarming rate.

We now have a political situation of no real benefit for anyone. Many of the 85 per cent that voted at the polls in September have an awkward feeling that the 13 per cent who voted for the Sweden Democrats have been able to wield a disproportionate amount of power over Swedish politics. As a result, an increasing number of Swedes are starting to worry that the country is losing its identity. With the next election in March, we will have to wait until then to see. Because in the end it's up to Sweden to decide - does it want to become more European or not?

READ MOREThe UK's sexist new pornography restrictions aren't just an act of state censorship, but could be the first step towards something even worse

**Load-Date:** December 5, 2014

**End of Document**



[*The BBC has just done more to eradicate 'terrorism' than all our wars since 9/11; You can say that without being utterly facetious*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5F5C-PFS1-F021-6076-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 27, 2015 Tuesday 5:20 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 537 words

**Byline:** Memphis Barker

**Body**

The head of BBC Arabic has advised his staff not to label anyone, or any act, as "terrorist". So, Said Kouachi: not a terrorist. Boko Haram: not a group of terrorists. 9/11: not a terrorist atrocity. The term is "too loaded", says the BBC's Tarik Kafala, who prefers to call a bombing a bombing, a massacre a massacre, and a plane flying into a tower... an ideologically motivated attack, I suppose.

There are complications here, to be sure, but isn't the most immediate reaction one of relief? With a small shift in editorial policy, it would seem the BBC has done more to "eradicate terrorism" than 14 years of war put together. You can say that, I think, without being utterly facetious.

The world won't be safer in a literal sense, of course; Isis and al-Qaeda will butcher regardless of the term a BBC newsroom applies. But, minus the "terrorism" tag, the threat from groups like these feels somehow less monstrous, more manageable. Tally up the achievements of the "war on terror" since 9/11, meanwhile, and you get... not a great deal. In the failures column must go a fivefold increase in deaths from terrorism, according to the latest survey from the Global Terrorism Index.

READ MORE:TARIK KAFALA ON BBC ARABIC'S INCREASING SIGNIFICANCEWHY HAS THE UK ACCEPTED ONLY 90 ***SYRIAN*** ***REFUGEES***

One doubt: does the refusal to say "terrorism" offer a false sense of security? No. If anything, Western citizens vastly overestimate the scale of the threat. A Briton, thankfully, has about as much chance of dying in a suicide bombing as they do through slipping on a banana skin. Lose the word "terrorism" and it might help us find some perspective, in fact.

Another doubt: is it a form of self-censorship, or a shirking of the journalist's duty to call things how they are? Again, no. The UN has struggled to agree on a hard and fast definition for "terrorism" for more than a decade. The key ingredients include death and destruction, outside the rules of international law and for a political purpose. But that remains broad, and in practice, most people go with a variant of: "I know it when I see it."

Which means that attacks carried out by non-Muslims often slip out of the "terrorism" picture: after the Charlie Hebdo killings, a former director of the CIA tweeted that this was the "worst" attack in Europe since the 2005 London bombings. He had either forgotten that Anders Breivik murdered 77 people in Norway, or didn't associate white men with primeval scaremongering.

Two more points. We don't report on murderers as "avengers", even though revenge might have guided their hand. Why, then, support groups that aim to sow terror by including that term in their title? If you weren't terrified enough by, say, the Boston bombings, to see that word flashed across television after television after newspaper might easily have finished the job.

The rise of Boko Haram

And in that nexus of fear governments also get spooked. War; CIA torture; even, less dramatically, the proposed Snooper's Charter - the path to each is smoothed by a desire to stamp out "terrorism". Would we react so ferociously if BBC Arabic's calming rule was taken up more widely? Perhaps yes. But theirs is the only war on "terrorism" I wholly support.

**Load-Date:** January 27, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Nigel Farage claims Frankie Boyle 'completely misunderstood' him over Ukip immigration policies after comedian compared leader to Nazi; The Ukip leader continues the verbal joust between himself and the comedian*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5DHK-19M1-F021-61PT-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 4, 2014 Tuesday 2:59 PM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 525 words

**Byline:** Ella Alexander

**Body**

Nigel Farage is just misunderstood, or so he claims in his latest response to Frankie Boyle.

The clash began as a heated 'discussion' on the alleged left-wing bias of comedians as apparently seen on shows such as Mock The Week.

"I see Frankie Boyle completely misunderstood me," tweeted Farage yesterday. "Have a laugh, sure, but persistent bias is a great shame. Thoughts?"

He later posted another seeming dig at Boyle, sharing a BBC link about Ukip calling for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** to be allowed into the UK.

"It'd be great if 'comedians' understood our immigration policy and approach to refugees, before commenting."

I see Frankie Boyle completely misunderstood me. Have a laugh, sure, but persistent bias is a great shame: [*http://t.co/sI3Sqwq5Zt*](http://t.co/sI3Sqwq5Zt) Thoughts?Nigel Farage (@Nigel\_Farage) November 3, 2014It'd be great if "comedians" understood our immigration policy, and our approach to refugees, before commenting:   [*http://t.co/7cHZCAY8m8Nigel*](http://t.co/7cHZCAY8m8Nigel) Farage (@Nigel\_Farage) November 3, 2014

The two have been embroiled in a row since last week, which started  on Twitter over a spat between Mock the Week presenter Dara Ó Briain and right-wing comic Andrew Lawrence, culminating in both Farage and Boyle writing dedicated columns on the subject.

In a piece written for The Independent, the Ukip leader wrote:

"One week I'm Hitler's buddy, then next week the Tower of London's Poppy Memorial is hailed as 'Ukip-style' attraction in the Guardian. Well - which is it? Am I pro-freedom, or anti-freedom? Am I a modern Hitler or a modern Churchill?"

Ukip gaffes and controversies

Yesterday, in a column for the Guardian, Boyle sought to answer his question, suggesting that Ukip is the second coming of Nazis "without the style".

"Well Nigel, you seem to be pro-freedom for big business and rich people, anti-freedom for immigrants, asylum seekers, gay people and other marginalised groups," he wrote.

"Does that also answer the second question or shall I go on? You ask if you're a Hitler or a Churchill. Well, your party forms pacts with right-wing Holocaust deniers.

"The poppy memorial was described as 'Ukip-style' not because your party is imbued with the same Churchillian values as the poppy, but because the stunt itself was viewed as the sort of crass politicisation of patriotism that your party is so fond of."

The row originally started when Ó Briain called Lawrence "bitter" and "self-delusional" for criticising panel shows including Mock The Week for its alleged "liberal back-slapping", arguing that such programmes feature "ageing, balding, fat men, ethnic comedians and women-posing-as-comedians" making jokes at the expense of Ukip and Farage.

Naturally, Farage sided with Lawrence, praising him for his honesty on Twitter.

Boyle responded, posting: "There are a lot of honest people in comedy, which is why they keep calling you a c\*\*t."

The Ukip leader wrote: "Probably the funniest thing I've ever heard you say," to which Boyle retorted: "You didn't hear me say it you daft b\*stard."

READ MORE: NIGEL FARAGE VS FRANKIE BOYLE ROUND ONEDARA O'BRIAIN REACTS TO 'BITTER, SELF-DELUSIONAL' ANDREW LAWRENCENIGEL FARAGE: MOCK THE WEEK DOESN'T UNDERSTAND UKIP

**Load-Date:** November 4, 2014

**End of Document**



[*Nigel Farage: Frankie Boyle 'completely misunderstood me'; The Ukip leader continues the verbal joust between himself and the comedian*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5DHJ-KV81-JCJY-G3Y2-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 4, 2014 Tuesday 9:53 AM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HOME NEWS

**Length:** 526 words

**Byline:** Ella Alexander

**Body**

Nigel Farage is just misunderstood, or so he claims in his latest response to Frankie Boyle.

The clash began as a heated 'discussion' on the alleged left-wing bias of comedians as apparently seen on shows such as Mock The Week.

"I see Frankie Boyle completely misunderstood me," tweeted Farage yesterday. "Have a laugh, sure, but persistent bias is a great shame. Thoughts?"

He later posted another seeming dig at Boyle, sharing a BBC link about Ukip calling for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** to be allowed into the UK.

"It'd be great if 'comedians' understood our immigration policy and approach to refugees, before commenting."

I see Frankie Boyle completely misunderstood me. Have a laugh, sure, but persistent bias is a great shame: [*http://t.co/sI3Sqwq5Zt*](http://t.co/sI3Sqwq5Zt) Thoughts? Nigel Farage (@Nigel\_Farage) November 3, 2014It'd be great if "comedians" understood our immigration policy, and our approach to refugees, before commenting:   [*http://t.co/7cHZCAY8m8*](http://t.co/7cHZCAY8m8) Nigel Farage (@Nigel\_Farage) November 3, 2014

The two have been embroiled in a row since last week, which started  on Twitter over a spat between Mock the Week presenter Dara Ó Briain and right-wing comic Andrew Lawrence, culminating in both Farage and Boyle writing dedicated columns on the subject.

In a piece written for The Independent, the Ukip leader wrote:

"One week I'm Hitler's buddy, then next week the Tower of London's Poppy Memorial is hailed as 'Ukip-style' attraction in the Guardian. Well - which is it? Am I pro-freedom, or anti-freedom? Am I a modern Hitler or a modern Churchill?"

Ukip gaffes and controversies

Yesterday, in a column for the Guardian, Boyle sought to answer his question, suggesting that Ukip is the second coming of Nazis "without the style".

"Well Nigel, you seem to be pro-freedom for big business and rich people, anti-freedom for immigrants, asylum seekers, gay people and other marginalised groups," he wrote.

"Does that also answer the second question or shall I go on? You ask if you're a Hitler or a Churchill. Well, your party forms pacts with right-wing Holocaust deniers.

"The poppy memorial was described as 'Ukip-style' not because your party is imbued with the same Churchillian values as the poppy, but because the stunt itself was viewed as the sort of crass politicisation of patriotism that your party is so fond of."

The row originally started when Ó Briain called Lawrence "bitter" and "self-delusional" for criticising panel shows including Mock The Week for its alleged "liberal back-slapping", arguing that such programmes feature "ageing, balding, fat men, ethnic comedians and women-posing-as-comedians" making jokes at the expense of Ukip and Farage.

Naturally, Farage sided with Lawrence, praising him for his honesty on Twitter.

Boyle responded, posting: "There are a lot of honest people in comedy, which is why they keep calling you a c\*\*t."

The Ukip leader wrote: "Probably the funniest thing I've ever heard you say," to which Boyle retorted: "You didn't hear me say it you daft b\*stard."

READ MORE: NIGEL FARAGE VS FRANKIE BOYLE ROUND ONEDARA O'BRIAIN REACTS TO 'BITTER, SELF-DELUSIONAL' ANDREW LAWRENCENIGEL FARAGE: MOCK THE WEEK DOESN'T UNDERSTAND UKIP

**Load-Date:** November 4, 2014

**End of Document**



[*Who is Peter Kassig, the latest hostage threatened with beheading in Isis video?; The former US Army Ranger has apparently converted to Islam*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5D90-JXY1-F021-61PH-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

October 4, 2014 Saturday 3:53 PM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 521 words

**Byline:** Lewis Smith, Freddy Mayhew

**Body**

Peter Kassig, the hostage threatened with being the next to be killed by Isis militants, is a former US soldier who founded his own aid group.

He appeared at the end of a video released on Friday by Islamic State that showed the death of Salford taxi driver and father-of-two Alan Henning.

It emerged he had converted to Islam while in captivity and has taken the name Abdul-Rahman.

Mr Kassig set up his aid group, Special Emergency Response and Assistance (SERA), after being discharged from military servcice on medical grounds. The group supplied essential equipment such as blankets, stoves, and fuel to ***Syrian*** ***refugees***.

He predominantly worked in Lebanon, having first visited the capital Beirut on a college spring break trip that was said to have deeply affected him.

In an interview with Time magazine, he said he was touched by the warmth of the people he helped while delivering aid.

"I did not meet a single man woman or child who could not muster a smile and a message of strength and hope that was nothing short of earth-shatteringly humbling."

Speaking in a separate interview about SERA, he said: "It's about showing people that we care, that someone is looking out for those who might be overlooked or who have slipped through the cracks in the system for whatever reason."

Back in the US in his home state of Indianapolis he studied for a degree, married briefly and, depressed after his marriage failed, decided to travel to Lebanon to volunteer in a Palestinian refugee camp and a hospital.

Timeline: The emergence of Isis

He served in Iraq as a US Ranger and was determined to learn more about the Middle East and the perspectives of the Arab world after his tour of duty in 2007.

"We each get one life and that's it," he told Time. "We got one shot at this and we don't get any do-overs, and for me, it was time to put up or shut up.

"The way I saw it, I didn't have a choice. This is what I was put here to do. I guess I am just a hopeless romantic, and I am an idealist, and I believe in hopeless causes."

It was on 1 October 2013, while en route to eastern Syria that Mr Kassig was captured.

In a statement issued on Friday evening, US National Security Council spokeswoman Caitlin Hayden confirmed he was being held hostage, saying there was no reason to doubt the authenticity of the video in which he appears.

"We will continue to use every tool at our disposal - military, diplomatic, law enforcement and intelligence - to try to bring Peter home to his family," she said.

His family, who had remained silent since his capture while working to secure his release, have asked for privacy. SERA has suspended its efforts in the meantime.

The Kassig family said in a statement: "We ask everyone around the world to pray for the Henning family, for our son, and for the release of all innocent people being held hostage in the Middle East and around the globe."

Read more: David Cameron vows to hunt down 'barbaric and abhorrent' killersBritish Muslims lead outcry at 'despicable' killingOutpouring of tributes following 'brutal murder' of Salford father-of-two in latest Isis video

Additional reporting by Associated Press

**Load-Date:** October 4, 2014

**End of Document**



[*Forget everything you know about nice, liberal Sweden - that country no longer exists; The government's collapse due to far-right extremists is the latest crack to emerge in the country's Utopian image*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5DS3-8J41-F021-6230-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

December 4, 2014 Thursday 5:49 PM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** COMMENT

**Length:** 507 words

**Byline:** Emanuel Sidea

**Body**

The Swedish way of politics has often been put forward as a role model for other countries. Almost everyone has heard about the Swedish model of fair wealth redistribution, proper budget policies, a welfare state with good benefits, and a large public sector. They've also probably heard of how all of this has been achieved through mature bipartisanship, and a visionary embrace of reform.

But yesterday's collapse of the newly elected government is just the latest sign that Sweden has started to transform into a less functional, more European-style country. After only three months of his party being in power, the Social Democrat Prime Minister Stefan Löfven has called a snap election to take place in March.

Snap elections aren't uncommon in Europe, yet last time Sweden had one was in the 1950s. But the biggest surprise here isn't that Sweden has changed, but that the outside world's perception of the country has not. The government collapsed after the far-right extremists of the Sweden Democrats party voted against their proposed budget, to make a point about their liberal immigration policies (Sweden has already offered permanent residence to all ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, and has one of the highest rates of asylum applications in Europe).

The crisis has revealed the existence of a new political generation in Sweden (three of the nine party leaders were born during 1980s). It is one that is much more prepared for a European-style fight to the death. The idea that Swedes always try to reach a consensus is now long gone.

The top 10 countries in the world - according to 'global public opinion'

Löfven, a former union leader, shouldn't be surprised that Sweden isn't the same as it was just ten or twenty years ago. He knows the statitics. We have a large youth generation without proper jobs or housing. An infrastructure in dire need of investment. A private sector eager for political innovation and vision. And a system of young outsiders that put them against a generation born in the 1940s and 50s that harvest all the benefits. Because of the previous centre-right government, led by the "Swedish David Cameron" Fredrik Reinfeldt, there is no inheritance, wealth, or property tax, and large decreases in income tax and capital tax. At the same time, inequality and income distribution is increasing at an alarming rate.

We now have a political situation of no real benefit for anyone. Many of the 85 per cent that voted at the polls in September have an awkward feeling that the 13 percent who voted for the Sweden Democrats have been able to wield a disproportionate amount of power over Swedish politics. As a result, an increasing number of Swedes are starting to worry that the country is losing its identity. With the next election in March, we will have to wait until then to see. Because in the end it's up to Sweden to decide - does it want to become more European or not?

READ MOREThe UK's sexist new pornography restrictions aren't just an act of state censorship, but could be the first step towards something even worse

**Load-Date:** December 4, 2014

**End of Document**



[*Peter Kassig beheading video: Family issues appeal over Isis footage showing US aid worker's apparent murder; Statement asks for people 'not to play into hostage takers' hands' by sharing the graphic images*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5DM7-SCD1-JCJY-G4MX-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 16, 2014 Sunday 3:23 PM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 479 words

**Byline:** Adam Withnall

**Body**

The family of a US aid worker "killed" by the Isis militant group has called for restraint over the propaganda video purporting to show his death.

Peter Kassig is not shown speaking in the video released via social media today, but a black-clad militant speaking to the camera claims to be standing over the American's remains.

The video, which also shows the most graphic portrayal yet from Isis of the mass beheading of around 16 Syrian "officers and pilots", was widely shared across a number of YouTube and Twitter accounts on Sunday morning.

Intelligence agencies are currently working to establish whether or not the video is genuine, but the US National Security Council has said that, if it were confirmed, the White House would be "appalled by the brutal murder of an innocent American".

Mr Kassig's family has released a statement which said they were aware of the video and that they would be awaiting confirmation from the US government.

"The family respectfully asks that the news media avoid playing into the hostage takers' hands and refrain from publishing or broadcasting photographs or video distributed by the hostage takers," they said.

"We prefer our son is written about and remembered for his important work and the love he shared with friends and family, not in the manner the hostage takers would use to manipulate Americans and further their cause."

Read more: Video shows 'murder' of US aid workerWhat Peter Kassig wrote to his parents from jailKassig's parents appeal to his Isis captors for 'mercy'Isis has army of 200,000, claims senior Kurdish leader

Mr Kassig formed the aid organisation Special Emergency Response and Assistance, or Sera, in Turkey to provide aid and assistance to ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. He began delivering food and medical supplies to Syrian refugee camps in 2012 and is also a trained medical assistant who provided trauma care to wounded Syrian civilians. His friends say he helped train 150 civilians in providing medical aid.

In an interview about his work with Sera, Mr Kassig said: "It's about showing people that we care, that someone is looking out for those who might be overlooked or who have slipped through the cracks in the system for whatever reason." Timeline: The emergence of Isis

Speaking to Time in 2013 about why he chose to become an aid worker, Mr Kassig said: "I did not meet a single man woman or child who could not muster a smile and a message of strength and hope that was nothing short of earth-shatteringly humbling.

"The way I saw it, I didn't have a choice. This is what I was put here to do. I guess I am just a hopeless romantic, and I am an idealist, and I believe in hopeless causes.

"If I can look back on all of this and say that our organisation is able to truly help people, that I was able to share a little bit of hope and that I never stopped learning then I will know this all stood for something."

**Load-Date:** November 16, 2014

**End of Document**



[*MPs to hold HSBC to account after Syrian customers are turned away*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5CVY-2251-F072-432X-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

August 9, 2014 Saturday

Second Edition

Copyright 2014 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** BUSINESS; Pg. 46

**Length:** 552 words

**Byline:** MARIA TADEO

**Body**

MPs may submit a formal request to grill HSBC in Parliament after The Independent revealed that it has closed accounts belonging to ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in the UK, sparking accusations of discrimination by ethnicity at the British banking giant.

Documents obtained by The Independent showed that HSBC sent out letters to Syrian clients, most of them refugees and students with no history of suspicious activity, citing "increased compliance with international obligations concerning payments to and from sanctioned countries".

The Labour MP John Mann, who sits on the influential Treasury Select Committee, told The Independent: "HSBC has a lot of questions to answer. This is a cheap, nasty way of pretending to comply with international sanctions.

"It's outrageous for a British bank to turn down a customer based on his country of origin. HSBC is going after the victims, not the aggressors. These people are fleeing Syria fearing for their lives."

The letters claimed the abrupt decision to terminate their accounts did not reflect the manner in which they had conducted their business, arguing instead that HSBC had responded to an internal assessment of risk, without providing further details as to what the process entailed.

The customers were given two months to find a new bank and many were left in limbo, struggling to open an account elsewhere given their refugee status in the UK.

Syria has been subject to sanctions from the European Union, the United States and the Arab League, since the civil war began more than three years ago.

Last year HSBC announced it would close the accounts of some of its Syrian clients in the Middle East and North Africa to comply with "enhanced oversight on any customer with connections to sanctioned countries". However, the bank is yet to announce a formal extension of the policy to clients in Europe.

The latest allegations of discrimination against HSBC come after a number of Muslim organisations, including the Finsbury Park mosque in north London, accused the bank of taking part in an "Islamophobic campaign" last month.

HSBC has consistently denied that religion or race plays a part when it comes to ending a customer account, adding that it makes decisions according to individual cases, which are thoroughly reviewed.

The Independent contacted a number of banks, including Lloyds Banking Group and Royal Bank of Scotland, after obtaining anecdotal testimonies and copies of bank letters delivered to Syrians in the UK who were turned down as customers and had their accounts closed. Four sources, who requested anonymity, encountered difficulties at Lloyds and Bank of Scotland, part of the Lloyds group. One of them was ultimately allowed to open an account at Halifax, also part of Lloyds Banking Group, on condition that he would refrain from sending money to Syria.

A spokesperson said: "While we were not given the opportunity to investigate these cases, we can categorically state that they do not reflect the group's policy. Lloyds Banking Group does not make decisions to open or close accounts on the grounds of ethnicity or nationality."

A spokeswoman for RBS added: "'We review every opportunity to support our customers individually and take into account specific facts, merits of each case, our internal policies and our legal and regulatory responsibilities."

**Load-Date:** August 8, 2014

**End of Document**



[*MPs to hold HSBC to account after Syrian customers are turned away; Labour MP John Mann said that 'HSBC has a lot of questions to answer' and described its behaviour as 'outrageous'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5CVV-7PR1-J9YR-G1KS-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

August 8, 2014 Friday 8:55 PM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 553 words

**Byline:** Maria Tadeo

**Body**

MPs may submit a formal request to grill HSBC in Parliament after The Independent revealed that it  has closed accounts belonging to ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in the UK, sparking accusations of discrimination by ethnicity at the British banking giant.

Documents obtained by The Independent showed that HSBC sent out letters to Syrian clients, most of them refugees and students with no history of suspicious activity, citing "increased compliance with international obligations concerning payments to and from sanctioned countries".

The Labour MP John Mann, who sits on the influential Treasury Select Committee, told The Independent: "HSBC has a lot of questions to answer. This is a cheap, nasty way of pretending to comply with international sanctions.

"It's outrageous for a British bank to turn down a customer based on his country of origin. HSBC is going after the victims, not the aggressors. These people are fleeing Syria fearing for their lives."

The letters claimed the abrupt decision to terminate their accounts did not reflect the manner in which they had conducted their business, arguing instead that HSBC had responded to an internal assessment of risk, without providing further details as to what the process entailed.

The customers were given two months to find a new bank and many were left in limbo, struggling to open an account elsewhere given their refugee status in the UK.

Syria has been subject to sanctions from the European Union, the United States and the Arab League, since the civil war began more than three years ago.

Last year HSBC announced it would close the accounts of some of its Syrian clients in the Middle East and North Africa to comply with "enhanced oversight on any customer with connections to sanctioned countries". However, the bank is yet to announce a formal extension of the policy to clients in Europe.

The latest allegations of discrimination against HSBC come after a number of Muslim organisations, including the Finsbury Park mosque in north London, accused the bank of taking part in an "Islamophobic campaign" last month.

HSBC has consistently denied that religion or race plays a part when it comes to ending a customer account, adding that it makes decisions according to individual cases, which are thoroughly reviewed.

The Independent contacted a number of banks, including Lloyds Banking Group and Royal Bank of Scotland, after obtaining anecdotal testimonies and copies of bank letters delivered to Syrians in the UK who were turned down as customers and had their accounts closed.

Four sources, who requested anonymity, encountered difficulties at Lloyds and Bank of Scotland, part of the Lloyds group. One of them was ultimately allowed to open an account at Halifax, also part of Lloyds Banking Group, on condition that he would refrain from sending money to Syria.

A spokesperson said: "While we were not given the opportunity to investigate these cases, we can categorically state that they do not reflect the group's policy. Lloyds Banking Group does not make decisions to open or close accounts on the grounds of ethnicity or nationality."

A spokeswoman for RBS added: "'We review every opportunity to support our customers  individually and take into account specific facts,  merits of each case, our internal policies and our legal and regulatory responsibilities."

**Load-Date:** August 8, 2014

**End of Document**



[*While the West stands by and does little, Syria's troubled neighbours are forced to cope with an influx of refugees; The moral case for our taking in a proportion of those in need is overwhelming*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5B9P-DP61-DXDT-64WV-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 17, 2014 Friday 6:43 PM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 511 words

**Byline:** Editorial

**Body**

Playing the numbers game is rarely useful when discussing immigration, but in the case of the refugees fleeing Syria's civil war, the sheer scale of the exodus bears repeating.

Estimates vary, for obvious reasons, but many more than two million people have left the country since the conflict began. And, although we in the West often assume it is our countries that routinely take in the largest numbers of refugees, a glance at the facts reveals a far different reality. For it is Syria's closest neighbours that have to bear the greatest burden - countries with problems enough already.

Lebanon, for example, has taken more than 800,000, approaching a fifth of its total population. That's the equivalent of the UK experiencing 12 million starving, freezing men, women and children flowing across its borders. Jordan, Turkey, Egypt and Iraq (including the autonomous Kurdish region) have taken substantial numbers. So far, in the West, the most generous home for the Syrian expatriates has been Sweden, at more than 15,000.

So the UN's plea that the West takes in an additional 30,000 has to be seen in the context of this vast humanitarian catastrophe. Anyone who has read the first-hand accounts, or seen the television pictures of these beleaguered people trying to find shelter, food and water in cold, inhospitable shacks can see the scale of the tragedy that has affected so many families and individuals.

So it is with a degree of pride and passion that we publish today the letter from aid agencies and charities working in the field to the Prime Minister. The moral case for our taking in a proportion of the refugees is overwhelming. Families in the UK may well be feeling the squeeze, but most would find the suffering of these innocent civilians difficult to comprehend.

So much for the case for taking in our fair share of refugees, which, in any case is going to account for only a small proportion of the total. More important has to be the provision of fuel, food, water, shelter and sanitation to those struggling to survive in camps across the near east.

There are many arguments about international aid - the Indian space programme, for example, and an unpleasantly vocal minority of Tory MPs who would like to see it cut - but the Prime Minister and Chancellor have bravely and stoutly stood against the instincts of their most mean-minded backbenchers.

Here is an opportunity for them once again to impress the country and the international community, to demonstrate magnanimity of outlook and common humanity by welcoming some thousands of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and to allocate substantial funds to buy necessities for the refugee camps, as a part of a co-ordinated international effort.

As the parties gather for peace talks in Geneva next week, the Western partners should be able to agree on such a plan of action. The outlook, after all, is grim.

There is no early end in sight for the civil war, and, like the one that prevailed in Lebanon for decades, it could drag on for years. Sadly, we will have to support the Syrians for a long time yet.

**Load-Date:** January 18, 2014

**End of Document**



[*SEEDS OF THE SPRING*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KV4-5KR1-JCS0-D0CB-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

October 1, 2016 Saturday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** Pg. 73

**Length:** 910 words

**Body**

KALEEM AFTAB

The biggest growth area in cinema seems to be film festivals catering for Arab film. Just over a decade ago, Arab cinema was the runt of the world. Outside of Egypt, there were barely any films made, and those made in Egypt catered for the massive domestic market. Now films from Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar are commonplace at the world's biggest film festivals and with distributors hesitant to release foreign language films, an explosion of festivals has taken place, often providing the only opportunity for audiences to see some of the best award winning films of our times.

This week, the third Safar film festival takes place in London, and on the horizon is the Aan Korb BBC Arabic Film Festival. Across the globe, some of the main festivals include the Arab Film Festival taking place in America in October and in April is the Middle East Now Festival. Earlier this year, the Directors Fortnight section of the Cannes Film Festival opened with Mohammad Diab's Clash.

Set in the aftermath of the ousting of Egyptian president Mohamed Morsi in June 2013, it will play in competition at the London Film Festival in October. The film sees protestors of all political hues arrested and thrown into the back of a police van, where most of the action takes place. The film explores the societal and political implications of the overthrow on the populace.

"The first step of every civil war is dehumanising people," director Diab says. "The first step of solving that is humanising people. This is what the film is trying to do." And with Islamic fundamentalism, the ***Syrian*** ***refugee crisis*** and the fall out from wars in the Middle East continually dominating the news, audiences are turning to movies to find out more, and to hear an alternative version of events.

Those venturing out to see these new Arab films will find tales that are far from the social and political melodramas that the Arab states used to back films that were designed to impart a positive social message. Now the movies are far more radical. "I think that since the Arab Spring and maybe a year or two before there has been a shift," says Safar Film Festival curator Rasha Salti. "The films have become more political and courageous."

Salti says of the shift, "It's a result of the Arab Spring and also the burden of addressing the every day by making films with a didactic message has gone. I think that's because in part social media allows you to be didactic. If you witness sexual harassment in Cairo then everybody can film it and put it on social media immediately and that has become a medium to show it. Filmmakers no longer feel that they have to make a film about that, as being the only place for that voice to be heard." This is also helped by the ability to find funds to make films that are not from the government. "There is less state help for films, thank God," says Salti. "Because that comes with strings attached."

Another reason for the plethora of film festivals is that Arab films do not get regular distribution. The market for foreign films has collapsed around the world. This month in the UK, Pedro Almodovar's Julieta became the first subtitled film since The Raid in 2014 to break £1m. With distributors not wanting to take a risk, films from the Arab world, as well as those from Africa and southern Europe have found themselves increasingly marginalised. The only place to see them on the big screen is at film festivals.

Those that go to see the films at Safar will be in for a surprise by the range of genres and the quality. As I Open My Eyes, by Leila Bouzid is a film about a Tunisian female rock singer, trying to make sense of her life, in the summer before the start of the Arab Spring. It's a film with energy, verve and great music that recently won Best Film at the East End Film Festival.

Sélim Mourad's This Little Father Obsession is a hybrid picture that blends fact and fiction, reminiscent of Italian realism. Salti enthused about Let them Come, a film that deals with what's described as 'years of terrorism' in Algeria in the early 1990s. At the London Film Festival, there will be the world premiere of Emirati filmmaker Ali Mostafa's dystopian sci-fi thriller The Worthy and the UK premiere of the raucous Saudi comedy Barakah Meets Barakah starring Internet sensation Hisham Fageeh.

What is also noteworthy about Arab cinema is the number of female filmmakers. At the forthcoming Arab Film Festival of America, 40 per cent of the 59 films that will be presented are made by female filmmakers. There are films from Mai Masri, Heidi Saman and Nadine Salib. On the horizon, exciting British Arab filmmaker Zeina Durra is working on her second film. One of the most anticipated films of 2017 is Marjoun and the Headscarf by the phenomenal Susan Youssef.

Yet the picture is not without dark clouds. Salti points out that as the world has moved to embraced Arabic film, the Arab world has started to be skeptical of the latest wave of filmmakers, especially those offering a critical eye on Arab dictatorships, or showing sex and prostitutes, as does Morocco's Much Loved.

"In the Arab world there are less film festivals than 10 years ago," recognises Salti. "This is partly because film festivals are expensive to host, but also because they also require a modicum of freedom and in some countries the state of policing expression and exhibition is worse than before the Arab Spring."

The London Film Festival runs 5-16 October

**Load-Date:** September 30, 2016

**End of Document**



[*'I'm safe now. But I just think of the family I left behind'; Syamend Farhan is living proof of the difference that asylum in the UK can make. JAMIE MERRILL talks to him*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5B9N-3V81-JCS0-D04K-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

January 18, 2014 Saturday

Second Edition

Copyright 2014 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 4

**Length:** 507 words

**Byline:** JAMIE MERRILL

**Body**

Syamend Farhan sleeps in a hostel and survives on £5 a day, but the 21-year-old Syrian is just happy to have escaped the terror, the bodies and the sounds of the bombs of Damascus.

Today the former university student lives in Manchester, having made his way to Britain after escaping from Syria last summer. His family are still living in his battered hometown of Aleppo in north Syria - at least he can only assume this is the case, as hasn't been able to contact them in more than a year.

The Government says Britain has already granted asylum to 1,500 ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. Many of these will either have already been in the UK as students or, like Syamend, have faced a dangerous journey across Europe in the hands of people smugglers. It is out of desire to prevent similar treacherous experiences, and to relieve the pressure on the refugee camps, that aid agencies are calling on Britain to join other nations in offering a systematic rehousing scheme for a number of refugees.

Speaking through an interpreter, he told The Independent he was "in danger" after he saw "bodies of people who had been killed by knife in front of me on the streets of Damascus".

He said: "There is no one who lives in Syria who hasn't seen dead bodies in the streets. Wherever people gather or demonstrate they are being targeted"

After a spate of bombings near his university, Syamend overcame his fear and convinced himself he had to leave and head for Turkey. He ended up living in cramped conditions with "hundreds of families, no job and little food" at a Turkish camp. Sick of the "terrible conditions" and harsh treatment, he managed to bribe a people smuggler to get him to Greece. The sea crossing was made in a tiny inflatable boat which capsized in sight of the shore, throwing Syamend and 20 others, some as young as five, into the water only 500 metres from the safety of the Europe Union.

They were rescued by Greek coastguards before being fingerprinted and photographed. They were also threatened, he claims, with being returned to Turkey. He said: "No one died in my dinghy but I know other families who undertook the journey and didn't make it."

After contacting a "distant cousin" who had also fled Syria he was able to secure "false papers" and "a little money", letting him make his way to France before catching the ferry to Dover in August 2013.

Now settled, to some degree, in Manchester, he visits the office of the charity Refugee Action every week for support and advice. He still doesn't know the fate of his parents, three brothers and five sisters in war-torn Aleppo, and can only hope the messages he has sent friends in the region have made it to them.

Syamend, who was granted leave to remain in September, said: "There is nothing worse than being uprooted; nothing could hurt more than being separated from your family, knowing they're at risk. It feels as if my heart is being ripped from my chest."

He is convinced he can never return to Syria. "For now, I can't think of the future - of Syria's future. All I can think of is my family."

**Load-Date:** January 17, 2014

**End of Document**



[*The smoking gun: Syria photos may be proof of 'industrial-scale killing' and torture carried out by Assad regime; Images leaked by defector whose job was to 'take pictures of killed detainees'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5BBH-G1F1-DXDT-64WP-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 21, 2014 Tuesday 12:28 PM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS

**Length:** 530 words

**Byline:** Kunal Dutta

**Body**

Lawyers acting for the Arab state of Qatar claim to have evidence smuggled out of Syria that shows the "systemic killing" of about 11,000 Syrian detainees at the hands of Bashar al-Assad's regime.

The allegations, contained in a 31-page report released yesterday to coincide with the Geneva II talks, were described as a "smoking gun" that could see Syrian officials charged with war crimes. It comes just 24 hours after President Assad insisted he had no intention of quitting and the issue was not up for discussion in Geneva.

The US networkCNN andThe Guardian newspaper claims the evidence came from a military policeman known only as "Caesar" who worked secretly with a Syrian opposition group and later defected and fled the country. It contains graphic images of victims, many of whom appear emaciated, blood-stained and subject to torture.

While the United Nations has documented abuses by both Mr Assad's forces and the rebels, the new evidence is thought to be more detailed than anything yet to emerge from the 34-month crisis. It is being made available to the UN, governments and human rights groups.

Warning: Graphic content

The below gallery contains very graphic images released by the authors of the report.  We have taken the decision to publish these pictures to inform our readers of the alleged abuses being carried out in Syria

In pictures: Images released by the Syria report

The report's authors are London-based Sir Desmond de Silva, QC, the former chief prosecutor of the special court for Sierra Leone, Sir Geoffrey Nice, QC, the former lead prosecutor of former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, and Professor David Crane, who indicted President Charles Taylor of Liberia at the Sierra Leone court.

Mr De Silva told TheGuardian that the evidence "documented industrial-scale killing". He said: "This is a smoking gun of a kind we didn't have before. It makes a very strong case indeed."

MPs revolt over failure to admit ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** as Yvette Cooper condemns minister's dismissal of 'token' impact

The trio, whose work was commissioned by a London legal firm acting for Qatar, interviewed Caesar in three sessions over three days and said his account was "most compelling". The defector told investigators his job was "taking pictures of killed detainees" but did not claim to have witnessed executions or torture.

Warning: Video contains graphic images

"The procedure was that when detainees were killed at their places of detention, their bodies would be taken to a military hospital to which he would be sent with a doctor and a member of the judiciary, Caesar's function being to photograph the corpses ... There could be as many as 50 bodies a day to photograph which require 15 to 30 minutes of work per corpse," the report says.

"The reason for photographing executed persons was twofold. First to permit a death certificate to be produced without families requiring to see the body, thereby avoiding the authorities having to give a truthful account of their deaths; second to confirm that orders to execute individuals had been carried out."

Families were told that the cause of death was either a "heart attack" or "breathing problems", the report adds.

**Load-Date:** January 22, 2014

**End of Document**



[*The smoking gun: Syria photos may be proof of 'industrial-scale killing' and torture carried out by Assad regime; Images leaked by defector whose job was to 'take pictures of killed detainees'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5BBC-07J1-DXDT-61V9-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 21, 2014 Tuesday 11:25 AM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS

**Length:** 502 words

**Byline:** Kunal Dutta

**Body**

Lawyers acting for the Arab state of Qatar claim to have evidence smuggled out of Syria that shows the "systemic killing" of about 11,000 Syrian detainees at the hands of Bashar al-Assad's regime.

The allegations, contained in a 31-page report released yesterday to coincide with the Geneva II talks, were described as a "smoking gun" that could see Syrian officials charged with war crimes. It comes just 24 hours after President Assad insisted he had no intention of quitting and the issue was not up for discussion in Geneva.

The US networkCNN andThe Guardian newspaper claims the evidence came from a military policeman known only as "Caesar" who worked secretly with a Syrian opposition group and later defected and fled the country. It contains graphic images of victims, many of whom appear emaciated, blood-stained and subject to torture.

While the United Nations has documented abuses by both Mr Assad's forces and the rebels, the new evidence is thought to be more detailed than anything yet to emerge from the 34-month crisis. It is being made available to the UN, governments and human rights groups.

Warning: Video contains graphic images

The report's authors are London-based Sir Desmond de Silva, QC, the former chief prosecutor of the special court for Sierra Leone, Sir Geoffrey Nice, QC, the former lead prosecutor of former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, and Professor David Crane, who indicted President Charles Taylor of Liberia at the Sierra Leone court.

Mr De Silva told TheGuardian that the evidence "documented industrial-scale killing". He said: "This is a smoking gun of a kind we didn't have before. It makes a very strong case indeed."

MPs revolt over failure to admit ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** as Yvette Cooper condemns minister's dismissal of 'token' impact

The trio, whose work was commissioned by a London legal firm acting for Qatar, interviewed Caesar in three sessions over three days and said his account was "most compelling". The defector told investigators his job was "taking pictures of killed detainees" but did not claim to have witnessed executions or torture.

"The procedure was that when detainees were killed at their places of detention, their bodies would be taken to a military hospital to which he would be sent with a doctor and a member of the judiciary, Caesar's function being to photograph the corpses ... There could be as many as 50 bodies a day to photograph which require 15 to 30 minutes of work per corpse," the report says.

"The reason for photographing executed persons was twofold. First to permit a death certificate to be produced without families requiring to see the body, thereby avoiding the authorities having to give a truthful account of their deaths; second to confirm that orders to execute individuals had been carried out."

Families were told that the cause of death was either a "heart attack" or "breathing problems", the report adds.

Witness life in a country falling apart

In pictures: The last photographs of a war photographer killed in Syria

**Load-Date:** January 21, 2014

**End of Document**



[*Torture in Syria: Photos may be proof of 'industrial-scale killing' carried out by Assad regime; Images leaked by defector whose job was to 'take pictures of killed detainees'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5BBJ-YF41-DXDT-620B-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 22, 2014 Wednesday 6:59 AM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS

**Length:** 530 words

**Byline:** Kunal Dutta

**Body**

Lawyers acting for the Arab state of Qatar claim to have evidence smuggled out of Syria that shows the "systemic killing" of about 11,000 Syrian detainees at the hands of Bashar al-Assad's regime.

The allegations, contained in a 31-page report released yesterday to coincide with the Geneva II talks, were described as a "smoking gun" that could see Syrian officials charged with war crimes. It comes just 24 hours after President Assad insisted he had no intention of quitting and the issue was not up for discussion in Geneva.

The US networkCNN andThe Guardian newspaper claims the evidence came from a military policeman known only as "Caesar" who worked secretly with a Syrian opposition group and later defected and fled the country. It contains graphic images of victims, many of whom appear emaciated, blood-stained and subject to torture.

While the United Nations has documented abuses by both Mr Assad's forces and the rebels, the new evidence is thought to be more detailed than anything yet to emerge from the 34-month crisis. It is being made available to the UN, governments and human rights groups.

Warning: Graphic content

The below gallery contains very graphic images released by the authors of the report.  We have taken the decision to publish these pictures to inform our readers of the alleged abuses being carried out in Syria

In pictures: Images released by the Syria report

The report's authors are London-based Sir Desmond de Silva, QC, the former chief prosecutor of the special court for Sierra Leone, Sir Geoffrey Nice, QC, the former lead prosecutor of former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, and Professor David Crane, who indicted President Charles Taylor of Liberia at the Sierra Leone court.

Mr De Silva told TheGuardian that the evidence "documented industrial-scale killing". He said: "This is a smoking gun of a kind we didn't have before. It makes a very strong case indeed."

MPs revolt over failure to admit ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** as Yvette Cooper condemns minister's dismissal of 'token' impact

The trio, whose work was commissioned by a London legal firm acting for Qatar, interviewed Caesar in three sessions over three days and said his account was "most compelling". The defector told investigators his job was "taking pictures of killed detainees" but did not claim to have witnessed executions or torture.

Warning: Video contains graphic images

"The procedure was that when detainees were killed at their places of detention, their bodies would be taken to a military hospital to which he would be sent with a doctor and a member of the judiciary, Caesar's function being to photograph the corpses ... There could be as many as 50 bodies a day to photograph which require 15 to 30 minutes of work per corpse," the report says.

"The reason for photographing executed persons was twofold. First to permit a death certificate to be produced without families requiring to see the body, thereby avoiding the authorities having to give a truthful account of their deaths; second to confirm that orders to execute individuals had been carried out."

Families were told that the cause of death was either a "heart attack" or "breathing problems", the report adds.

**Load-Date:** January 22, 2014

**End of Document**



[*'Nick Griffin might be bankrupt, but at least he's not Michael Schumacher,' says BNP head of press, Simon Darby; As if working for a far right political party wasn't tough enough, head press officer Simon Darby thought he'd make his life a bit more difficult*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5B6R-GFS1-DXDT-6004-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 3, 2014 Friday 3:54 PM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 486 words

**Byline:** Jenn Selby

**Body**

Fans of Michael Schumacher will no doubt be left gobsmacked by comments made by a British National Party press officer today.

As if working for a far right political party wasn't tough enough, head press officer Simon Darby thought he'd make his life just that little bit more difficult when tackling the tricky-to-defend news that its leader, Nick Griffin, had been declared bankrupt.

"Look at it this way," he said. "Michael Schumacher has millions in the bank, but he'd do anything to be in Nick's position now wouldn't he."

The former Formula 1 champion is currently fighting for his life in hospital in France, where he lies in a medically-induced coma after suffering a critical head injury following a skiing accident.

Furthermore, it's Schumacher's 45th birthday today, and supporters of the seven-time world champion have been staging a silent vigil outside the Grenoble medical facility where he is being treated. See the images from that below.

Moving scenes as fans hold silent vigil for Michael Schumacher's 45th birthday

Needless to say, these comments are likely to be about as popular as... Being a member of the BNP must be.

During his conversation with the Huffington Post UK, Darby went on to discuss Griffin's financial ruin in greater detail, saying that he remained "remarkably upbeat" about his current situation being played out in front of what he called a "pantomime society".

Griffin himself declared today a "good day", as his status as officially bankrupt has washed away all his debt concerns.

Darby went on to praise Griffin for being "brave" and for taking it all "on the chin for the party".

Griffin racked up towering debts after a dispute with a legal firm over professional negligence.

And professional negligence today reminds us again of one person, Simon Darby, who blew his own metaphorical trumpet for the tough morning of fielding press calls he recently endured.

"It could be worse," he laughed. "I wouldn't want to be Nigel Farage's press officer.

"Imagine being in that position when he said all those people could come into the country."

He was, of course, referring to the UKIP leader's surprise comments over ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. Farage urged the UK government to allow people "fleeing literally for their lives" from the war-torn territory into the country.

"At least there's nothing false about Nick," he added.

The insolvency details of the party chairman were registered on Thursday at Welshpool and Newtown County Court.

Mr Griffin tweeted: "Being bankrupt does not prevent me being or standing as an MEP. It does free me from financial worries. A good day!

"Party funds are not affected in any way. Our campaign in May will be our most professional yet and I will be lead candidate in the North West.

"I am now turning the experience to the benefit of hard-up constituents by producing a booklet on dealing with debt. No surrender."

Read more on Nick Griffin's New Year bankruptcy here.

**Load-Date:** January 4, 2014

**End of Document**



[*'Nick Griffin might be bankrupt, but at least he's not Michael Schumacher,' says BNP head of press, Simon Darby; As if working for a far right political party wasn't tough enough, head press officer Simon Darby thought he'd make his life a bit more difficult*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5B6P-TPS1-DXDT-62HJ-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 3, 2014 Friday 2:59 PM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS

**Length:** 484 words

**Byline:** Jenn Selby

**Body**

Fans of Michael Schumacher will no doubt be left gobsmacked by comments made by a British National Party press officer today.

As if working for a far right political party wasn't tough enough, head press officer Simon Darby thought he'd make his life just that little bit more difficult when tackling the tricky to defend news that its leader, Nick Griffin, had been declared bankrupt.

"Look at it this way," he said. "Michael Schumacher has millions in the bank, but he'd do anything to be in Nick's position now wouldn't he."

The former Formula 1 champion is currently fighting for his life in hospital in France, where he lies in a medically induced coma after suffering a critical head injury following a skiing accident.

Furthermore, it's Schumacher's 45th birthday, and supporters of the seven-time world champion have been staging a silent vigil outside the Grenoble medical facility treating him to show their support. See the images from that below.

Moving scenes as fans hold silent vigil for Michael Schumacher's 45th birthday

Needless to say, these comments are likely to be about as popular as... Being a member of the BNP must be.

During his conversation with the Huffington Post, Darby went on to discuss Griffin's financial ruin in greater detail, saying that he remained "remarkably upbeat" about his current situation being played out in front of what he called a "pantomime society".

Griffin himself declared today a "good day", as his status as officially bankrupt has washed away all his debt concerns.

Darby went on to praise Griffin for being "brave" and for taking it all "on the chin for the party".

Griffin racked up towering debts after a dispute with a legal firm over professional negligence.

And professional negligence today reminds us again of one person, Simon Darby, who blew his own metaphorical trumpet for the tough morning of fielding press calls he recently endured.

"It could be worse," he laughed. "I wouldn't want to be Nigel Farage's press officer.

"Imagine being in that position when he said all those people could come into the country."

He was, of course, referring to the UKIP leader's surprise comments over ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. He urged the UK government to allow people "fleeing literally for their lives" from the war-torn territory into the country.

"At least there's nothing false about Nick," he added.

The insolvency details of the party chairman were registered on Thursday at Welshpool and Newtown County Court.

Mr Griffin tweeted: "Being bankrupt does not prevent me being or standing as an MEP. It does free me from financial worries. A good day!

"Party funds are not affected in any way. Our campaign in May will be our most professional yet and I will be lead candidate in the North West.

"I am now turning the experience to the benefit of hard-up constituents by producing a booklet on dealing with debt. No surrender."

Read more Nick Griffin's New Year bankruptcy here.

**Load-Date:** January 4, 2014

**End of Document**



[*Nothing to lose vs Everything to gain. Big beasts in ermine do battle over Europe; My Week*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H40-K6C1-F072-405K-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

October 10, 2015 Saturday

First Edition

Copyright 2015 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** BUSINESS; Pg. 46

**Length:** 900 words

**Byline:** James Ashton

**Body**

At the Institute of Directors conference on Tuesday, two lords of the political jungle squared off over Europe. They should have sold tickets for Lawson vs Mandelson; in fact, they had.

Lord Lawson told guests at the Royal Albert Hall of the European Union's "contempt for democracy" - of a project driven by political aims, not economic ones - and berated Lord Mandelson for his "lack of self-confidence" in the UK.

Lord Mandelson acknowledged the "integration fatigue" felt in Europe but warned of the disruptive effect of "Brexit" on business, saying: "You can't leave the EU one moment and re-enter the single market the next."

What is interesting is that both of these figures have changed their mind over Europe. Lord Lawson was a strong supporter of the European Union when he was in the Cabinet; Lord Mandelson wanted to join the euro.

As minds have changed, times have changed too. Lord Mandelson pointed out that the export market is not as clear-cut as it was. Rather than finished goods being boxed up to leave these shores on their way to overseas buyers, UK manufacturers are part of complex supply chains that stretch across several countries. Because more than half of Britain's trade is with the EU, pulling out would only increase that complexity.

There is a question over whether Lord Lawson is too far past his prime to lead the Conservatives for Britain "out" campaign. He confessed over lunch - and a glass or two of red - that he was a bit old for this sort of thing. But it is precisely because he has nothing to lose that he will be a leading voice in this debate.

On the other hand, Lord Mandelson is clear-sighted on the issue but you can't help thinking he has one eye on where the next consultancy contract is going to come from.

Outsiders on the centre ground

Another, unannounced, lunch guest at the IoD was Lord Adonis, fresh from being pulled rabbit-like from George Osborne's hat in the Chancellor's party conference speech. As head of the National Infrastructure Commission, the Labour peer must get high-speed rail moving across the country, but also energy projects and perhaps, eventually, housebuilding too.

One of his former ministerial colleagues had been onstage at the IoD conference earlier: David Miliband, talking about the relief effort in response to the ***Syrian*** ***refugee crisis*** and what business leaders should be doing about it. As chief executive of the International Rescue Committee, Mr Miliband has some stunning statistics at his fingertips, stating that last year 20 million people crossed borders to escape conflict and another 40 million were rendered homeless in their own country.

Where does business come in? He talked of "your big heart" and "your hard head". So not just money, then, but ideas - with Mr Miliband pointing out that most of the big problems he could think of were only solved by the combination of government leadership and business innovation.

It all made me think of what the rest of Labour's talented centre-grounders could do for the next five years or more, now that their party has turned left. Lord Adonis had an answer. Britain's biggest charities face a crisis over targeting vulnerable donors and trading personal data. They need political antennae as well as commercial ones.

Beats mouldering on the backbenches.

A whole new ball game

I thought there was little to learn from listening to chief executive Richard Scudamore regale the same conference with stories of the Premier League's world domination - but I was wrong. Take, for example, what he regards as the organisation's biggest rival. It is not the Bundesliga in Germany or La Liga in Spain but almost any other global entertainment company that is competing for viewers in Mumbai or Melbourne. And listen to this claim: the Premier League generates more overseas programme sales than the BBC, ITV, Channel 4, 5 and independent producers put together. That must make it part of the creative industries off the pitch as well as on it.

Mr Scudamore's biggest worry is what happens as everything digitises. Will fans still sit through a full-length match when smartphones are shooting attention spans to pieces? The technology boffins who predicted that everything would be boiled down to three-minute video clips have gone strangely quiet now that day-long box-set binges courtesy of Netflix are in vogue. Ninety minutes seems like a decent compromise.

He who pays the piper???

Blood on the boardroom carpet and a hasty public-relations effort to mop up the mess - the Investment Association excelled itself this week with the ousting of chief executive Daniel Godfrey. This, remember, is the trade body for fund managers - the ones who demand the highest levels of corporate governance from the companies in which they sink clients' money. That includes boardroom harmony, succession planning and all the good stuff that is meant to aid the creation of shareholder value.

Mr Godfrey might well have been on to something, championing reforms including greater transparency for customers. The party never really stopped for fund managers when the financial crisis struck, and an overhaul of the fees structure from which they benefit handsomely is long overdue.

But the error Mr Godfrey committed was forgetting what he was there for. For all the stakeholders that a trade body has - its members, government, the media - the ones who pay the wages must always take precedence.

**Load-Date:** October 9, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Syrian refugees chant "We want bus" as they walk towards Austria; Footage captures hundreds of refugees chanting for transport as they are forced to walk into Austria*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GW1-5VX1-F021-63C4-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 7, 2015 Monday 1:31 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEW ARTICLES

**Length:** 177 words

**Byline:** Ryan Ramgobin

**Body**

Footage has emerged of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** making their way into Austria by foot. They started the 20 kilometre journey from outside Budapest; watched on by local police.

The crowd united together with chants of "We want bus" as they continue on their journey to safety.

Watch the footage below.

Despite carrying heavy personal belongings and looking after young children, the group were determined to make it into Austria.

The recent arrival of refugees into Hungary has not been welcomed by the government.

Viktor Orban, the country's prime minister has said Hungary could deploy its military along its southern border to control the flow.

"We'll bring the border under control step by step... we'll send in the police, then, if we get approval from parliament, we'll deploy the military." He said the proposed move was because there was a potentially "endless" number of migrants and refugees heading for Europe.

In recent days, Orban has antagonised European colleagues over the refugee crisis, claiming it is a "German problem".

**Load-Date:** September 7, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Nothing to lose vs Everything to gain. Big beasts in ermine do battle over Europe; My Week*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H40-R7G1-JCJY-G139-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

October 10, 2015 Saturday 1:10 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** BUSINESS COMMENT

**Length:** 900 words

**Byline:** JAMES ASHTON

**Body**

At the Institute of Directors conference on Tuesday, two lords of the political jungle squared off over Europe. They should have sold tickets for Lawson vs Mandelson; in fact, they had.

Lord Lawson told guests at the Royal Albert Hall of the European Union's "contempt for democracy" - of a project driven by political aims, not economic ones - and berated Lord Mandelson for his "lack of self-confidence" in the UK.

Lord Mandelson acknowledged the "integration fatigue" felt in Europe but warned of the disruptive effect of "Brexit" on business, saying: "You can't leave the EU one moment and re-enter the single market the next."

What is interesting is that both of these figures have changed their mind over Europe. Lord Lawson was a strong supporter of the European Union when he was in the Cabinet; Lord Mandelson wanted to join the euro.

As minds have changed, times have changed too. Lord Mandelson pointed out that the export market is not as clear-cut as it was. Rather than finished goods being boxed up to leave these shores on their way to overseas buyers, UK manufacturers are part of complex supply chains that stretch across several countries. Because more than half of Britain's trade is with the EU, pulling out would only increase that complexity.

There is a question over whether Lord Lawson is too far past his prime to lead the Conservatives for Britain "out" campaign. He confessed over lunch - and a glass or two of red - that he was a bit old for this sort of thing. But it is precisely because he has nothing to lose that he will be a leading voice in this debate.

On the other hand, Lord Mandelson is clear-sighted on the issue but you can't help thinking he has one eye on where the next consultancy contract is going to come from.

Outsiders on the centre ground

Another, unannounced, lunch guest at the IoD was Lord Adonis, fresh from being pulled rabbit-like from George Osborne's hat in the Chancellor's party conference speech. As head of the National Infrastructure Commission, the Labour peer must get high-speed rail moving across the country, but also energy projects and perhaps, eventually, housebuilding too.

One of his former ministerial colleagues had been onstage at the IoD conference earlier: David Miliband, talking about the relief effort in response to the ***Syrian*** ***refugee crisis*** and what business leaders should be doing about it. As chief executive of the International Rescue Committee, Mr Miliband has some stunning statistics at his fingertips, stating that last year 20 million people crossed borders to escape conflict and another 40 million were rendered homeless in their own country.

Where does business come in? He talked of "your big heart" and "your hard head". So not just money, then, but ideas - with Mr Miliband pointing out that most of the big problems he could think of were only solved by the combination of government leadership and business innovation.

It all made me think of what the rest of Labour's talented centre-grounders could do for the next five years or more, now that their party has turned left. Lord Adonis had an answer. Britain's biggest charities face a crisis over targeting vulnerable donors and trading personal data. They need political antennae as well as commercial ones.

Beats mouldering on the backbenches.

A whole new ball game

I thought there was little to learn from listening to chief executive Richard Scudamore regale the same conference with stories of the Premier League's world domination - but I was wrong. Take, for example, what he regards as the organisation's biggest rival. It is not the Bundesliga in Germany or La Liga in Spain but almost any other global entertainment company that is competing for viewers in Mumbai or Melbourne. And listen to this claim: the Premier League generates more overseas programme sales than the BBC, ITV, Channel 4, 5 and independent producers put together. That must make it part of the creative industries off the pitch as well as on it.

Mr Scudamore's biggest worry is what happens as everything digitises. Will fans still sit through a full-length match when smartphones are shooting attention spans to pieces? The technology boffins who predicted that everything would be boiled down to three-minute video clips have gone strangely quiet now that day-long box-set binges courtesy of Netflix are in vogue. Ninety minutes seems like a decent compromise.

He who pays the piper...

Blood on the boardroom carpet and a hasty public-relations effort to mop up the mess - the Investment Association excelled itself this week with the ousting of chief executive Daniel Godfrey. This, remember, is the trade body for fund managers - the ones who demand the highest levels of corporate governance from the companies in which they sink clients' money. That includes boardroom harmony, succession planning and all the good stuff that is meant to aid the creation of shareholder value.

Mr Godfrey might well have been on to something, championing reforms including greater transparency for customers. The party never really stopped for fund managers when the financial crisis struck, and an overhaul of the fees structure from which they benefit handsomely is long overdue.

But the error Mr Godfrey committed was forgetting what he was there for. For all the stakeholders that a trade body has - its members, government, the media - the ones who pay the wages must always take precedence.

**Load-Date:** October 18, 2015

**End of Document**



[*How Patel went from a 'holiday' to a resignation*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5PX8-J7K1-JCS0-D05V-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

November 9, 2017 Thursday

First Edition

Copyright 2017 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 6

**Length:** 590 words

**Byline:** ROB MERRICK DEPUTY POLITICAL EDITOR

**Body**

13 August - Priti Patel flies to Israel with her family for 13-day visit which she later describes as a "holiday", paid for by herself.

3 November - The BBC reveals she held a number of meetings at which official departmental business was discussed, including with the leader of one of Israel's main political parties. The BBC also reports that Ms Patel was accompanied by Lord Polak, president of Conservative Friends of Israel (CFI), which has close links with wealthy Tory donors.

The revelation triggers accusation that she has broken ministerial rules, by failing to tell the Foreign Office about government business conducted overseas. However, Theresa May's official spokesman denies any controversy, insisting Ms Patel had simply taken "the opportunity to meet some people and some organisations". Asked if the Prime Minister was concerned by the allegations, he replies: "There is no investigation taking place."

Later, Ms Patel insists the allegation that she kept the Foreign Office in the dark is false, telling a reporter, "Boris [Johnson] knew about the visit."

6 November - The Cabinet minister issues a lengthy statement accepting the visit "did not accord with the usual procedures". She adds: "I am sorry for this and I apologise for it." She reveals she undertook no fewer than 12 meetings while in Israel, including with Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel's prime minister, the country's security minister and the foreign ministry's chief diplomat.

The statement admits the Foreign Office was "not informed" about the meetings, contrary to her earlier claim. Ms Patel is given a face-to-face reprimand by the Prime Minister, and reminded about her "responsibilities under the ministerial code".

But Ms May's spokesman denies her actions are a "resigning matter", saying: "The important point here is that no UK interests were damaged." He disputes that the ministerial code has been broken, arguing it is "not explicit in this area". The Cabinet Secretary is asked to make it "clearer".

Asked if the Prime Minister had not known, for more than two months, that her minister had met Mr Netanyahu, a foreign head of state, the spokesman replies: "That is correct."

7 November - The BBC reports that Ms Patel - unknown to No 10 - discussed funnelling foreign aid cash for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** through the Israeli Defence Force.

The Foreign Office says it rejected the plan, because it involved humanitarian operations in the Golan Heights, illegally occupied by Israel since 1967. During an "urgent question' in the Commons, Tory MPs fail to support Ms Patel, but the minister is absent, having flown to Africa on a pre-arranged visit.

Later, it is revealed she held two further meetings after her "holiday" in September, with Israel's security minister and the chief diplomat, the former on the House of Commons terrace. It is reported that Lord Polak, who is also chairman of a lobbying group, attended Ms Patel's earlier meetings with members of the Israeli government.

8 November - Downing Street orders Ms Patel to cancel meetings and return home immediately from Kenya, amid a growing belief that she will be sacked.

The Israeli Haaretz newspaper reports that she also visited an Israeli military field hospital in the occupied Golan Heights. No 10 denies it instructed Ms Patel not to publicise the September meeting with diplomat Yuval Rotem to avoid embarrassing the Foreign Office, but accepts it knew about it.

After a meeting with the Prime Minister at 10 Downing Street in the evening, Ms Patel resigned, although she was effectively sacked.

**Load-Date:** November 8, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Turkish troops enter Syria in major operation to support anti-Assad rebels; Al-Qaeda-linked rebels could mount a resistance to new Turkish presence, potentially sparking new fighting in contested northwest region*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5PNS-FKC1-JCJY-G1RY-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

October 9, 2017 Monday 9:19 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST; Version:1

**Length:** 617 words

**Byline:** Bethan McKernan

**Body**

Turkey has sent troops across the border into Syria's northwest Idlib province to aid anti-regime rebel groups, a move which has the potential to spark further violence in the conflict-ravaged area.

A statement from Ankara on Monday said that Turkish soldiers had moved into Idlib overnight as part of an operation to enforce the internationally-brokered 'de-escalation' zone deal, agreed earlier this year.

They would being "reconnaissance activities", the Turkish military said, without specifying how many troops had been committed to the operation, in order to make sure the de-escalation deal was maintained. Turkey said it would also provide aid for civilians in the area.

Footage reportedly shows young ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** being beaten by Turkish soldiers at border

Idlib is now mostly controlled by Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), a Salafist extremist group linked to al-Qaeda, which is not party to the ceasefire deal agreed between the regime and more moderate rebel groups within the Free Syrian Army (FSA) umbrella.

Turkish forces also shelled HTS positions on the edge of Idlib over the weekend. It is unclear whether HTS, heavily outgunned by the Turkish military, will put up any resistance to the Ankara offensive.

Fighting between the two could create a newly active front in Syria's complex civil war, now in its seventh year - and pose new dangers for Idlib's civilians, already pounded in the past by Russian and Syrian air strikes.

"If the [US-led coalition against Isis] or Russia decides on a big operation in this area, that means millions more refugees who will try to go to Turkey. That's why it's in Turkey's interests to not have trouble in this part of Syria," said Wissam Zarqa, a rebel media activist who fled East Aleppo for Idlib when the city fell at the end of last year.

"The question is, can that be done peacefully? Can the Turkish government have checkpoints and some influence here without fighting? Otherwise, things will get more complicated."

The new move from Ankara is the second-largest ever Turkish troop deployment into neighbouring Syria after 2016's Operation Euphrates Shield, when Turkey sent soldiers and tanks to aid local forces in removing Isis from a strip of territory on its border - and also prevent US-backed Kurdish militias from expanding their territory.

Observers say the new offensive is also designed to prevent Kurdish territorial gains in neighbouring Afrin.

Read more

The US could be on World Cup collision course with Syria

Who killed Russian Lieutenant General Valery Asapov in Syria?

Russia threatens to retaliate against US forces in Syria

When did protest turn to war in Syria?

Turkey views the Syrian Kurdish militias, allied to the Kurdish PKK insurgency in its own country, as terrorist organisations. However, the US-led anti-Isis coalition backs the Kurds as the most effective ground force against the militantsin Syria - which has led to tensions between the world powers in the past.

While Turkey has supported rebel factions against Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and his allies in Moscow throughout the conflict, in the last year relations between Ankara and Moscow have somewhat thawed.

The Turkish, Russian and Iranian cooperation on the de-escalation zone plan means that Turkey is "de facto agreeing to the transition of power for Assad," said Talha Kose, an analyst at the Foundation for Political and Social Research in Ankara, speaking on a panel in Istanbul last week.

"It is a very risky area - Turkey may face a backlash from moderate rebels if it can't deliver humanitarian services" and could "come under pressure" from Russia and Iran to eliminate HTS altogether, he added.

Agencies contributed to this report

**Load-Date:** October 9, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Irma: Six residents of Florida nursing home die after being left without power following hurricane; Police have opened a criminal investigation*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5PG6-R6K1-F021-629P-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 13, 2017 Wednesday 2:48 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS; Version:6

**Length:** 592 words

**Byline:** Andrew Buncombe

**Body**

A criminal investigation has been opened after six people died and more than 100 had to be evacuated, after a nursing home was left without air conditioning in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma.

Officials said temperatures soared inside the Rehabilitation Centre at Hollywood Hills, 20 miles north of Miami, after enduring a "prolonged power failure" to the transformer that powered the air conditioning units. Three residents were found dead in the facility and two more died while being transferred to hospital. It is not clear how or when the sixth person died.

"It's a sad event," Tomas Sanchez, the Hollywood police chief, said at a news conference where he said an investigation was underway. "As a precautionary measure, we've assigned police officers to go check all the other 42 assisted living facilities and nursing homes throughout the city to make sure they're in sufficient care of the elderly."

Reports said residents were obliged to remain in rooms without air conditioning. On Tuesday, the lowest temperature in Hollywood was 79f (26C) degrees, according to the National Weather Service.

Barbara Sharief, the mayor of Broward County, said at a Division of Emergency Management press conference on Wednesday that three of the deaths occurred at the nursing and two after the residents were transferred to a nearby hospital. The nursing home remains without power due to Irma.

Woman's 96yo mom was inside. She's angry. Says 3 days w no air. Portable units, fans used. Felt like 115 inside @nbc6pic.twitter.com/uoVDSJPIPM

- Sheli Muniz (@SheliNBC6) September 13, 2017

Florida Governor Rick Scott said he was heartbroken to learn of the deaths.

Breaking: Statement from rehab center where 5 people died early this morning @nbc6pic.twitter.com/BHjPFqEjQB

- Sheli Muniz (@SheliNBC6) September 13, 2017

"I am going to aggressively demand answers on how this tragic event took place," he said a statement. "Although the details of these reported deaths are still under investigation, this situation is unfathomable."

Footage reportedly shows Disney World during Hurricane Irma

Geane Mitchell, a nurse at the centre told the WSVN news channel, she was due to begin work at 7am, having been off for the last few days. However, when she showed up to work, paramedics were barring the doors and telling her she could not enter.

Read more

This chainsaw-wielding nun is coming to the aide of Irma victims

I tried to evacuate for Irma - but it didn't go quite to plan

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** respond to Hurricane Irma by cooking feasts for

Television footage showed rescue crews arriving at the facility shortly after 7.30am on Wednesday and patients sitting outside in wheelchairs. Others were taken away on stretchers.

The

Miami Herald

quoted Flora Mitchell, a 61-year-old who had come to search for information about her sister, who had been a resident there for ten years. She said her sister could not talk or walk.

"I don't know if my sister is living," said Ms Mitchell. "Nobody's telling us nothing."

At least 27 people died in Florida and nearby US states, and destruction was widespread in the Keys, where Irma made initial US landfall on Sunday and became the second major hurricane to strike the mainland this season. More than 40 died in the Caribbean.

In the US, around 4.3m homes and businesses, or about 9m people, were without power in Florida and nearby states, according to Reuters.

Florida Power & Light said it had provided power to some parts of the Hollywood nursing home but that the facility was not on a county top tier list for emergency power restoration.

**Load-Date:** September 13, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Far-right party set to become Germany's third largest political body, new poll reveals; The Alternative for Germany, which has stirred controversy for its members' attitudes to the Nazis,takes ananti-immigrant stance*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5P86-H8R1-JCJY-G44J-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

August 16, 2017 Wednesday 1:03 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE; Version:3

**Length:** 614 words

**Byline:** Maya Oppenheim

**Body**

A far-right anti-immigration party are on course to become the third largest party in Germany, according to a new poll.

The Alternative for Germany (AfD), who enjoyed an unprecedented surge in last year's local elections, is predicted to win 10 per cent of the vote in the election this September.

According to the poll published by Insa and Bild on Tuesday, this will put them in third place directly behind the Social Democrats (SPD) on 25 per cent and Chancellor Angela Merkel's Christian Democrats (CDU) on 37 per cent.

Read more

No-fly zone enforced in Cologne for AfD conference

The AfD, which has stirred controversy for its members' attitudes to the Nazis, was originally founded as a Eurosceptic party in 2013. Since then, it has monopolised on anti-refugee sentiment in the country by attacking Ms Merkel's decision to open Germany's borders to ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in 2015.

The poll found the populist nationalist party are only ahead of their competitors by a fraction. The pro-business Free Democrats (FDP) and Die Linke (The Left Party) are predicted to win nine per cent of the vote.

If the AfD were to become the third largest party in the Bundestag in the forthcoming elections on 24 September it would drastically change the German political landscape. The CDU and their Bavarian sister party the CSU have stockpiled conservative votes throughout the postwar period.

It would also signal a massive cultural and ideological shift. The AfD has capitalised on the fact celebrating German identity has remained taboo since the Second World War - with standing for the national anthem and waving flags frowned upon - by embracing an unapologetically nationalist agenda.

It has also taken an explicitly anti-Islam approach and has contacts with the far-right anti-islam Pegida movement. It previously adopted some of Pegida's anti-press rhetoric such as the slogan "Luegenpresse", meaning "lying press", which mirrors Nazi Germany.

Frauke Petry, who is party chairman of AfD, in the past said German police should "if necessary" shoot at migrants attempting to enter the country illegally.

Germany's AfD says Islam is not welcome

Spurned by the German mainstream left-wing and conservative, the AfD has been hit by a slew of public controversies. Earlier in the year, it was embroiled in a scandal over its attitude toward Hitler's Third Reich during which over six million Jews were murdered.

Read more

German politician sharing picture 'asking Hitler to come back'

Björn Höcke, a senior member of the party who has denied Adolf Hitler was "absolutely evil", prompted outrage after appearing to attack Berlin's Holocaust memorial while calling for the country to take a more "positive" attitude towards its history.

"Germans are the only people in the world who plant a monument of shame in the heart of the capital," he told supporters in Dresden which is the home Pegida movement earlier in the year.

The remarks were believed to refer to Berlin's Holocaust memorial which commemorates the Jewish victims of the Nazi regime with five acres covered with almost 3,000 commemorative blocks. His speechprompted one Left party politician to report him for inciting racial hatred.

After fierce criticism, Mr Höcke, who has previously been compared to Goebbels for remarks including claims that Africans are "fundamentally different" to Europeans, released a statement saying any suggestion he had criticised the Holocaust memorial was "a malicious and deliberately denigratory interpretation of what I actually said".

"In my Dresden speech I wanted to ask how we Germans look at our history," he said, adding there were other elements to German history as well as guilt, such as composers and poets.

**Load-Date:** August 16, 2017

**End of Document**



[*World news in brief*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5PJ7-SC71-F072-4013-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

September 23, 2017 Saturday

Second Edition

Copyright 2017 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 33

**Length:** 636 words

**Body**

Bali: thousands evacuated over volcano alert

More than 11,000 villagers left their homes on the Indonesian island of Bali yesterday after authorities raised the alert level for a volcano to the highest level. It was the third time in little more than a week that the alert level has been raised for Mount Agung.

The Department of Meteorology, Climate and Geophysics said there has been a "tremendous increase" in seismic activity at the mountain, indicating a greater probability of an eruption, though it could not give a time-frame.

The National Disaster Mitigation Agency said no residents or tourists should be within six miles of the crater and within 7.5 miles to the north, north east, south east and south south-west. The agency said nearly 11,300 villagers have evacuated their houses and are scattered across the districts of Karangasem, Klungkung and Buleleng. They are living in temporary shelters, sports centres, village halls and with relatives, said agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho.

The 3,030 metre (9,944ft) Agung last erupted in 1963, killing about 1,100 people and hurling ash as high as six miles. The mountain, 45 miles north east of the tourist hot spot of Kuta, is among more than 120 active volcanoes in Indonesia. AP

Cuba: no clue on cause of diplomat sickness

Cuba's top diplomat says his country still has no idea what caused a number of US and Canadian diplomats to suffer mysterious health problems in Havana. Foreign minister Bruno Rodriguez Parrilla told the UN General Assembly yesterday that early results from its investigation had "found no evidence whatsoever that could confirm the causes or the origin" of the problems.

At least 21 Americans and several Canadians in Havana's diplomatic community have suffered from symptoms believed to have come from some sort of sonic attack. The symptoms include hearing loss and brain damage.

The US secretary of state Rex Tillerson described the incidents as "health attacks". Cuba has denied any involvement or knowledge of them and Mr Rodriguez reiterated that denial yesterday.

Istanbul: Syrian activist and daughter murdered

A Syrian opposition activist and her journalist daughter have been found murdered in their apartment in Istanbul, the Istanbul police department said yesterday. The bodies of 60-year-old Orouba Barakat and her 22-year-old daughter Halla were found in their apartment in Istanbul's Uskudar neighbourhood in the Asian side of the city.

Turkish media reports said Orouba Barakat was investigating alleged torture in prisons run by the Syrian government. It said she had initially lived in Britain, then the United Arab Emirates before coming to Istanbul.

"The hand of tyranny and injustice assassinated my sister Doctor Orouba and her daughter Halla in their apartment in Istanbul," Orouba's sister Shaza wrote on Facebook, adding that they were stabbed to death. Since the outbreak of the Syrian civil war in 2011, Turkey has become home to almost three million ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. Reuters

Death toll from India Kashmir attack rises to 6

At least six Pakistani villagers were killed and 26 were wounded in an attack by India in the disputed Himalayan region of Kashmir, Pakistan's military said yesterday, adding that hundreds of villagers were forced to move to safer places.

The Indian army said in a statement that all violations of a 2003 ceasefire agreement in Kashmir have been initiated by Pakistani forces. The attack, first reported on Thursday night, came as Pakistan Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi accused New Delhi of committing 600 such ceasefire violations since January. In a speech before the UN General Assembly, Mr Abbasi urged the UN to appoint a special envoy to Kashmir and reiterated his accusations against India, saying New Delhi is "brutally suppressing" the struggle of the people in Kashmir. AP

**Load-Date:** September 22, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Syria conflict: My plan for dealing with President Bashar al-Assad, Isis and the refugee crisis; If the words of our politicians are to have real meaning, amajor rethink is needed, says a veteran of Iraq and Bosnia*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HF2-MT91-F021-6178-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 21, 2015 Saturday 9:13 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 1345 words

**Byline:** Michael Graydon

**Body**

The world has been wringing its hands over Syria for years. But it appears that the downing of the Russian airliner and the Paris massacre have been game changers. A UN resolution has been unanimously adopted to "take all necessary action" against Islamic State (Isis). It may now be possible for the West to talk usefully to Vladimir Putin. The bombing is increasing, which might address an immediate political impulse, but that alone will not defeat Isis. A comprehensive plan is needed, though for some this seems like an afterthought.

Let us remind ourselves that Syria is suffering, most pressingly, a vast humanitarian problem. Millions of Syrians have been forced to flee their country, and many more seem likely to follow. Neighbouring Turkey needs international aid to provide food, shelter and perhaps employment for the vast numbers sheltering from the Syrian meltdown. But how long must Turkey act as the dam for Europe against these refugees?

Read more

Britain must learn from past mistakes before joining Syria civil war

The open door to Europe has been a grave mistake. The numbers involved are just too great and the long-term implications for harmony and security in Europe too problematic. But the majority of these people have fled for their own preservation, and the situation will not stabilise until they feel able to return to their own countries. The civil war must be ended and Isisdefeated. Anything else is sticking plaster.

Bashar al-Assad and Isiscannot be dealt with jointly. They must be addressed separately, and the wolf nearest the sleigh first. This now seems to be recognised even if politically some pride will have to be swallowed by those who advocated bombing the Syrian government two years ago - Assad will have to stay for now. That is the price, surely, for engaging Russia, however noxious this may be in the light of Crimea and Ukraine. Militarily, co-ordination of air attacks on Isis(already happening) and co-operation through ascribing areas of responsibility to respective ground forces can be achieved with benefit. It will, however, take time.

But in the humanitarian field the growing political anti-Isisconsensus provides a major opportunity - a plan - in which the UN could take a lead. The establishment of safe havens and of humanitarian access corridors, policed and enforced by experienced UN forces, could provide essential security for many Syrians, and would help immeasurably to stem the flow of refugees. The idea has been toyed with for some time but objections were always raised. It was assumed that Russia would use its Security Council veto to block any resolution affecting Assad. And safe havens would be a distraction from more productive measures - a view strongly espoused by William Hague in an article in October.

Read more

Labour MPs criticise Corbyn's stance on military action in Syria

Jeremy Corbyn repeats refusal to give MPs a free vote on bombing Syria

Russia intensifies air campaign in Syria with '127 sorties'

Minister says 'we're going to war' as public backs action against Isis

Amid the air strikes, Isis crack down on Raqqa's civilians

Support slumps for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Britain after Paris attacks

David Cameron says he would bomb Isis in Syria without UN mandate

Senior Tory says bombing Syria would be futile without a ground force

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** should form army to fight Isis, says Polish minister

Jeremy Corbyn says a military response in Syria could cause 'mayhem'

After the terror attacks, it's clear we owe more foreign aid to Syria

But things have changed since then. In addition to Paris and the Metrojet outrage there is an increasing recognition that open borders in Europe are unsustainable and that holding the majority of refugees close to source with the clear intention to repatriate them in due course, as David Cameron has consistently championed, is the better strategy. And staring us in the face for some time has been the fact that Isisis of much greater concern to world security than Assad.

Against this background, is there not a fair chance of another UN resolution restricted to the humanitarian issue and proposing safe havens and emergency aid corridors? It would be limited in scope initially to selected border areas in which air power could comfortably operate. It would draw manpower from Western and co-operating Arab nations.

Yes, there are issues with Turkey and the Kurds, which would require extensive diplomacy. But, with the right, broad-ranging plan, why would the Russians obstruct such a scheme? This crisis now affects Russian security directly, and Putin needs an image change; he has an interest in getting out of this conflict without losing face.

Obstacles are strong nevertheless. Hague is correct in reminding us of Srebrenica and the dangers of failing to provide safe havens. The UN has not always been successful in this, it is true, but there are success stories which go unremarked, to my knowledge. In Northern Iraq, after the first Gulf War, and before Srebrenica, much good work had been done by the UN and ourselves in particular in distributing aid in very testing conditions and without combat air support.

Yes, it would take a sizeable ground force. But, if the words of the world's politicians in the last week have real meaning, surely Europe, Turkey, Arab nations, Iran and the US are capable of providing the numbers required for a limited humanitarian operation. There are believed to be some 20,000 Isisfighters on the ground; Turkey alone has an army of 400,000; it would not be a ground war, although enforcement would be required. Action by ground forces already engaged would continue, hopefully stiffened by increased numbers of allied special forces. Add in increased allied air power, if required based in Turkey, and it is militarily doable. Some pundits have talked imprecisely about the inevitability of "boots on the ground", without saying whose, or when. This is a concrete plan that, I suggest, our concerned politicians would do well to think seriously about.

All the other elements proposed by William Hague for a lasting solution could continue: funding the refugee camps outside Syria in Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon; focusing in the UN on a long-term future for an independent Syria; assisting responsible opposition groups as described (although this would require much diplomatic effort with Russia) and finally the UK joining its allies in conducting air strikes in Syria.

President Bashar al-Assad speaks with Vladimir Putin last month (Getty)

This plan does not resolve Syria's political future, but nothing else will until the mayhem of this current, highly fluid and terrifying state of affairs is stilled. When individual Syrians have at least a sense that their lives are not in daily danger with escape anywhere as the only solution, then a negotiated political process has a chance. That, surely, is a minimum, but it requires political will. Certainly sceptics will say there is a danger of making an open-ended commitment, but in effect we have a different sort of open-ended commitment as things stand.

The alternative is an increased war effort against Isis,a civil war drifting on and the Syrian people continuing to stream into Turkey and neighbouring countries. Recent agreements on funding may prove a move in the right direction, but they won't stop refugees fleeing Syria. We may all have to eat some humble pie, but it will be well worth it if a shattered population can be assisted to remain in its homeland.

Sir Michael Graydon is a former Chief of the Air Staff and advised the British government on the implementation of no-fly zones in Iraq and Bosnia

**Load-Date:** November 21, 2015

**End of Document**



[*First victim identified as Syrian refugee who came to UK seeking a 'better life'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5NT4-MVC1-F072-408M-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

June 16, 2017 Friday

First Edition

Copyright 2017 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 10

**Length:** 558 words

**Byline:** MAYA OPPENHEIM

**Body**

The first victim of the horrific Grenfell fire has been named as Mohammed Alhajali - a Syrian refugee who came to Britain to seek a "better life". A friend of the victim, who was studying civil engineering at the University of the West London, said he lived on the 14th floor of the 24-storey west London tower block.

The 23-year-old sought to follow his brother Omar, who is currently being treated in hospital, down the stairs of the burning building, but was besieged by billows of smoke. He is said to have been trapped on the floor for two hours while hundreds of firefighters sought to rescue residents, but failed to reach above the 13th floor. His brother, a 25-year-old business student, managed to escape the tower block and is said to be recovering in Kings Cross hospital.

Describing his friend as "kind, charitable and full of passion for his family", Abdulaziz Almashi, said: "He survived Assad, he survived the war, only to be killed in a tower block in London." Mr Almashi, co-founder of the Syria Solidarity Campaign, met Mr Alhajali whilst working for the organisation, which promotes freedom, peace and democracy in Syria. "When the fire reached his flat on the 14th floor, Mohammed bid his friend goodbye, saying that the fire had reached him," the organisation said. "Mohammed undertook a dangerous journey to flee war and death in Syria, only to meet it here in the UK, in his own home. Mohammed came to this country for safety and the UK failed to protect him. We absolutely agree that a thorough investigation into Building Regulations should take place immediately."

The brothers escaped from Syria's southern city of Daraa - the birthplace of the Syrian uprising against Assad - three years ago and were given asylum in Britain. The Syrian Solidarity Campaign expressed their grief at the news, writing on its Facebook page: "RIP Mohammed Al Haj Ali. A Syrian refugee in the UK, Mohammed passed away in the #Grenfell tower fire [on Wednesday]. We are heartbroken for his family, who thought he had found safety in the UK. To Allah we belong and to him we shall return."

The charity made an appeal for the brothers on Wednesday, saying: "Please pray for our brothers Omar Alhajali and Mohammed Alhajali, two ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. They were in the building fire in London yesterday. Both were set to come to our Iftar this Saturday. Omar was found in the hospital and he is in stable condition but his brother Mohammed is still missing and his family do not know his whereabouts."

Mirna Suleiman, a friend of the victim, also voiced her sadness on Facebook, saying: "This beautiful soul was lost today ... as long as many others. His story touched me personally because he had escaped death from Syria and came to the UK to find a new life." She added: "We in the UK are not prepared for major incidents. We think it will never happen to us. We're good at putting loads of rules and regulations and making people pay service charge and housing tax but we're not good at being practical and planning for the worst."

At least 17 people have died in the massive fire which ravaged London's skyline, but the Metropolitan Police said the death toll is expected to increase yet further. Commander Stuart Cundy said 17 people are currently in critical condition and police are seeking to identify and locate the people who continue to be missing.

**Load-Date:** June 15, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Syrian refugee family featured in 'lost family portrait' find missing daughter in Turkey; Missing eldest daughter discovered safe and well in Istanbulis now hoping to get a passport in order to be reunited with her family*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5P4V-0RF1-JCJY-G1XF-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

July 31, 2017 Monday 5:19 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST; Version:2

**Length:** 569 words

**Byline:** Bethan McKernan

**Body**

On a winter day eighteen months ago, Mohammed and his family, from Aleppo province, stood awkwardly in front of a makeshift outdoors photography studio set up at a refugee camp in Lebanon's Bekaa Valle

Mohammed's wife heldtheir newest baby and the twostood behind four chairs - one each for their two olderdaughters and two sons. One remained empty, representing their missing 21-year-old eldest, Reem.

She was separated from the family on her wedding night in 2013, when the region was being bombed by Syrian government forces; the family never knew what happened to her.

Their lips are pursed thinly as they pose next to a physical reminder of their loss.

Qom Elias refugee camp fire: Syrian mother whose home has been destroyed tells of loss in Lebanon

The haunting series of photographs of refugee families by Italian Dario Mitidieri was part of a campaign by Cafod and creative agency M&C Saatchi which drew the world's attention to the plight of Lebanon's estimated 1.5 million refugees; families posed for portraits with spaces or empty chairs symbolising those killed, missing or still trapped in the war-torn country.

Mitidieri's work won several awards, including a 2016 World Press Photo prize.

When Cafod returned to the area in June this year to check how the families were doing, the agency was met with a rare piece of good news: Reem had managed to track her family down by searching social media profiles.

'When we found out about her and where she is we spent two days speaking on the phone,' Mohammed said (Louise Norton)

"I am very happy. It had been four years that I didn't know anything about her," Mohammed said, eagerly showing photos on his picture phone of Reem, her husband and two young children in Turkey.

"When we found out about her and where she is we spent two days speaking on the phone."

Reem is now trying to get a Turkish passport, which will allow her to visit her family, who are stranded in Lebanon in poverty sadly familiar in the tiny country of four million, where around one in four people are Syrian.

Spiralling residency costs, a lack of real work opportunities and a punishing cycle of debt mean that after six years of war next door, many refugees are losing hope.

'It had been four years that I didn't know anything about her,'Mohammed said, eagerly showing photos on his phone of Reem, her husband and two young children in Istanbul (Louise Norton)

Wary of how generations of Palestinians stayed in Lebanon after fleeing the 1948 Arab-Israeli war, when Syrians began to arrive in the country in earnest in 2013, the government refused to build official refugee camps in an effort to dissuade people from staying.

As a result, most Syrians live in rented, often substandard or abandoned accommodation in towns, cities and informal settlements in the agricultural Bekaa Valley.

"We feel here that we aren't stable any more," Mohammed said. "We are always afraid we might need to evacuate where we are living... Things are getting worse."

Syrian couple married for 65 years still have each other despite losing everything in country's war

While the struggles of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** now rarely make headlines, their needs remain great.

"The situation is just stagnating or getting worse," said Laura Ouseley, Cafod's World News Officer.

"Mohammed's story is a bittersweet one. It should be a reminder that even though these issues are out of the news, these people still need international help."

**Load-Date:** July 31, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Far-right party set to become Germany's third largest political body, new poll reveals; The Alternative for Germany, which has stirred controversy for its members' attitudes to the Nazis,takes ananti-immigrant stance*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5PCN-7DF1-JCJY-G20R-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

August 16, 2017 Wednesday 1:03 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE; Version:4

**Length:** 614 words

**Byline:** Maya Oppenheim

**Body**

A far-right anti-immigration party is on course to become the third largest party in Germany, according to a new poll.

The Alternative for Germany (AfD), who enjoyed an unprecedented surge in last year's local elections, is predicted to win 10 per cent of the vote in the election this September.

According to the poll published by Insa and Bild on Tuesday, this will put them in third place directly behind the Social Democrats (SPD) on 25 per cent and Chancellor Angela Merkel's Christian Democrats (CDU) on 37 per cent.

Read more

No-fly zone enforced in Cologne for AfD conference

The AfD, which has stirred controversy for its members' attitudes to the Nazis, was originally founded as a Eurosceptic party in 2013. Since then, it has monopolised on anti-refugee sentiment in the country by attacking Ms Merkel's decision to open Germany's borders to ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in 2015.

The poll found the populist nationalist party are only ahead of their competitors by a fraction. The pro-business Free Democrats (FDP) and Die Linke (The Left Party) are predicted to win nine per cent of the vote.

If the AfD were to become the third largest party in the Bundestag in the forthcoming elections on 24 September it would drastically change the German political landscape. The CDU and their Bavarian sister party the CSU have stockpiled conservative votes throughout the postwar period.

It would also signal a massive cultural and ideological shift. The AfD has capitalised on the fact celebrating German identity has remained taboo since the Second World War - with standing for the national anthem and waving flags frowned upon - by embracing an unapologetically nationalist agenda.

It has also taken an explicitly anti-Islam approach and has contacts with the far-right anti-islam Pegida movement. It previously adopted some of Pegida's anti-press rhetoric such as the slogan "Luegenpresse", meaning "lying press", which mirrors Nazi Germany.

Frauke Petry, who is party chairman of AfD, in the past said German police should "if necessary" shoot at migrants attempting to enter the country illegally.

Germany's AfD says Islam is not welcome

Spurned by the German mainstream left-wing and conservative, the AfD has been hit by a slew of public controversies. Earlier in the year, it was embroiled in a scandal over its attitude toward Hitler's Third Reich during which over six million Jews were murdered.

Read more

German politician sharing picture 'asking Hitler to come back'

Björn Höcke, a senior member of the party who has denied Adolf Hitler was "absolutely evil", prompted outrage after appearing to attack Berlin's Holocaust memorial while calling for the country to take a more "positive" attitude towards its history.

"Germans are the only people in the world who plant a monument of shame in the heart of the capital," he told supporters in Dresden which is the home of Pegida movement earlier in the year.

The remarks were believed to refer to Berlin's Holocaust memorial which commemorates the Jewish victims of the Nazi regime with five acres covered with almost 3,000 commemorative blocks. His speechprompted one Left party politician to report him for inciting racial hatred.

After fierce criticism, Mr Höcke, who has previously been compared to Goebbels for remarks including claims that Africans are "fundamentally different" to Europeans, released a statement saying any suggestion he had criticised the Holocaust memorial was "a malicious and deliberately denigratory interpretation of what I actually said".

"In my Dresden speech I wanted to ask how we Germans look at our history," he said, adding there were other elements to German history as well as guilt, such as composers and poets.

**Load-Date:** September 1, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Syrian refugee family featured in 'lost family portrait' find missing daughter in Turkey; Missing eldest daughter discovered safe and well in Istanbulis now hoping to get a passport in order to be reunited with her family*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5P50-M841-F021-61FT-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

July 31, 2017 Monday 5:19 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST; Version:3

**Length:** 570 words

**Byline:** Bethan McKernan

**Body**

.On a winter day eighteen months ago, Mohammed and his family, from Aleppo province, stood awkwardly in front of a makeshift outdoors photography studio set up at a refugee camp in Lebanon's BekaaValley

Mohammed's wife heldtheir newest baby and the twostood behind four chairs - one each for their two olderdaughters and two sons. One remained empty, representing their missing 21-year-old eldest, Reem.

She was separated from the family on her wedding night in 2013, when the region was being bombed by Syrian government forces; the family never knew what happened to her.

Their lips are pursed thinly as they pose next to a physical reminder of their loss.

Qom Elias refugee camp fire: Syrian mother whose home has been destroyed tells of loss in Lebanon

The haunting series of photographs of refugee families by Italian Dario Mitidieri was part of a campaign by Cafod and creative agency M&C Saatchi which drew the world's attention to the plight of Lebanon's estimated 1.5 million refugees; families posed for portraits with spaces or empty chairs symbolising those killed, missing or still trapped in the war-torn country.

Mitidieri's work won several awards, including a 2016 World Press Photo prize.

When Cafod returned to the area in June this year to check how the families were doing, the agency was met with a rare piece of good news: Reem had managed to track her family down by searching social media profiles.

'When we found out about her and where she is we spent two days speaking on the phone,' Mohammed said (Louise Norton)

"I am very happy. It had been four years that I didn't know anything about her," Mohammed said, eagerly showing photos on his picture phone of Reem, her husband and two young children in Turkey.

"When we found out about her and where she is we spent two days speaking on the phone."

Reem is now trying to get a Turkish passport, which will allow her to visit her family, who are stranded in Lebanon in poverty sadly familiar in the tiny country of four million, where around one in four people are Syrian.

Spiralling residency costs, a lack of real work opportunities and a punishing cycle of debt mean that after six years of war next door, many refugees are losing hope.

'It had been four years that I

didn

't know anything about her,'Mohammed said, eagerly showing photos on his phone of

Reem

, her husband and two young children in Istanbul (Louise Norton)

Wary of how generations of Palestinians stayed in Lebanon after fleeing the 1948 Arab-Israeli war, when Syrians began to arrive in the country in earnest in 2013, the government refused to build official refugee camps in an effort to dissuade people from staying.

As a result, most Syrians live in rented, often substandard or abandoned accommodation in towns, cities and informal settlements in the agricultural Bekaa Valley.

"We feel here that we aren't stable any more," Mohammed said. "We are always afraid we might need to evacuate where we are living... Things are getting worse."

Syrian couple married for 65 years still have each other despite losing everything in country's war

While the struggles of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** now rarely make headlines, their needs remain great.

"The situation is just stagnating or getting worse," said Laura Ouseley, Cafod's World News Officer.

"Mohammed's story is a bittersweet one. It should be a reminder that even though these issues are out of the news, these people still need international help."

**Load-Date:** August 1, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Syrian refugee family featured in 'lost family portrait' find missing daughter in Turkey; Missing eldest daughter discovered safe and well in Istanbul, Turkey, is now hoping to get a passport in order to be reunited with her family*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5P4T-N2V1-F021-6061-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

July 31, 2017 Monday 5:19 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST; Version:1

**Length:** 569 words

**Byline:** Bethan McKernan

**Body**

On a winter day eighteen months ago, Mohammed and his family, from Aleppo province, stood awkwardly in front of a makeshift outdoors photography studio set up at a refugee camp in Lebanon's Bekaa Valle

Mohammed's wife heldtheir newest baby and the twostood behind four chairs - one each for their two olderdaughters and two sons. One remained empty, representing their missing 21-year-old eldest, Reem.

She was separated from the family on her wedding night in 2013, when the region was being bombed by Syrian government forces; the family never knew what happened to her.

Their lips are pursed thinly as they pose next to a physical reminder of their loss.

Qom Elias refugee camp fire: Syrian mother whose home has been destroyed tells of loss in Lebanon

The haunting series of photographs of refugee families by Italian Dario Mitidieri was part of a campaign by Cafod and creative agency M&C Saatchi which drew the world's attention to the plight of Lebanon's estimated 1.5 million refugees; families posed for portraits with spaces or empty chairs symbolising those killed, missing or still trapped in the war-torn country.

Mitidieri's work won several awards, including a 2016 World Press Photo prize.

When Cafod returned to the area in June this year to check how the families were doing, the agency was met with a rare piece of good news: Reem had managed to track her family down by searching social media profiles.

'When we found out about her and where she is we spent two days speaking on the phone,' Mohammed said (Louise Norton)

"I am very happy. It had been four years that I didn't know anything about her," Mohammed said, eagerly showing photos on his picture phone of Reem, her husband and two young children in Turkey.

"When we found out about her and where she is we spent two days speaking on the phone."

Reem is now trying to get a Turkish passport, which will allow her to visit her family, who are stranded in Lebanon in poverty sadly familiar in the tiny country of four million, where around one in four people are Syrian.

Spiralling residency costs, a lack of real work opportunities and a punishing cycle of debt mean that after six years of war next door, many refugees are losing hope.

'It had been four years that I

didn

't know anything about her,'Mohammed said, eagerly showing photos on his phone of

Reem

, her husband and two young children in Istanbul (Louise Norton)

Wary of how generations of Palestinians stayed in Lebanon after fleeing the 1948 Arab-Israeli war, when Syrians began to arrive in the country in earnest in 2013, the government refused to build official refugee camps in an effort to dissuade people from staying.

As a result, most Syrians live in rented, often substandard or abandoned accommodation in towns, cities and informal settlements in the agricultural Bekaa Valley.

"We feel here that we aren't stable any more," Mohammed said. "We are always afraid we might need to evacuate where we are living... Things are getting worse."

Syrian couple married for 65 years still have each other despite losing everything in country's war

While the struggles of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** now rarely make headlines, their needs remain great.

"The situation is just stagnating or getting worse," said Laura Ouseley, Cafod's World News Officer.

"Mohammed's story is a bittersweet one. It should be a reminder that even though these issues are out of the news, these people still need international help."

**Load-Date:** July 31, 2017

**End of Document**



[*EU holds crisis talks about migrant influx after Italy threatens to block rescue ships; Italian Interior Minister Marco Minniti: 'We are under enormous pressure'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5NXM-TVC1-JCJY-G432-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

July 2, 2017 Sunday 6:03 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE; Version:2

**Length:** 638 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz

**Body**

European ministers are holding emergency talks on the migrant crisis, after Italy threatened to block rescue ships due to the "unsustainable" flows of people.

Interior ministers from Germany, France, Spain and Italy will discuss the situation in Paris on Sunday, and consider the request from Rome for rescue ships with foreign flags to disembark in other countries.

Speaking on Sunday, Italian Interior Minister Marco Minniti told newspaper

Il Messaggero

: "If the only ports refugees are taken to are Italian, something is not working."

Read more

Thousands of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** returning to war-torn country

"We are under enormous pressure," he added.

Prime Minister Paolo Gentiloni also accused other European nations of "looking the other way".

More than 500,000 migrants have landed at Italian ports - most arriving in Sicily - since 2014 and the numbers are on the rise.

Since the start of this year, 83,650 people have reached Italy by sea, a 20 per cent increase compared to the same period in 2016.

Many people have also died while crossing the Mediterranean in rickety boats. The UN estimates 2,030 people died in 2017 alone.

The situation in Italy was described as "an unfolding tragedy" by UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi.

"But this cannot be an Italian problem alone," he said. "It is, first and foremost, a matter of international concern, requiring a joined-up, comprehensive regional approach."

The Italian Government has already filled up its 200,000 beds for migrants, and a government source told Reuters last week that the country had reached "saturation point".

EU migration commissioner Dimitris Avramopouloshas already promised that the EU is ready to increase financial support for Italy to manage the flow of people.

Refugee crisis: More than 500 migrants rescued in single day in Mediterranean Sea

But as the will wanes in Europe to help migrants, Italy has toyed with the drastic idea of blocking ships, exceptthose from its own coastguard and military.

Humanitarian groups have warned that any attempt to block rescue boats would violate international law.

Italy has already closed its borders to prevent migrants from travelling through Europe over land.

The International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea stipulates that any ship learning of distress at sea must assist regardless of circumstances, and that the country responsible for operations in that area has primary responsibility for taking passengers off the ship.

If Italy did close its ports, boats from charities such as MSF, Frontex and Save the Children would be affected, as well as those vessels involved in the EU's Operation Sophia anti-smuggling mission.

Read more

Teenage migrant found clinging to British tourist coach in Spain

Smuggler who 'revelled in' torturing migrants arrested in Italy

Migrant deaths in Mediterranean pass 2,000 mark on World Refugee Day

Most of the migrant boats come from Libya following the UK-based removal of dictator Muammar Gaddafi. Thisallowed smugglers to set up lucrative trafficking routes from African nations, the Middle East and Bangladesh to Europe.

The UN has warned of people in Libya being bought and sold like slaves, and that a high rate of migrants to Europe have been tortured or suffered sexual assault.

EU countries were meant to relocate 160,000 asylum seekers between them, under a plan set out in 2015. So far only 20,900 people have been relocated.

The UK and Ireland were exempt from the plan, and several countries voted against the mandatory quotas.

The EU has begun legal action against the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland for refusing to accept their share of asylum seekers.

In local elections last weekend, Italians opted for the centre-right, led by the anti-immigrant Northern League and former Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, who advocate a tougher stance on immigration.

**Load-Date:** July 2, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Grenfell Tower fire: First victim named as Syrian refugee Mohammed Alhajali; 'He survived Assad, he survived the war, only to be killed in a tower block in London'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5NT0-B901-JCJY-G00W-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 15, 2017 Thursday 12:30 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HOME NEWS; Version:13

**Length:** 554 words

**Byline:** Maya Oppenheim

**Body**

The first victim of the horrific Grenfell fire has been named as MohammedAlhajali - a Syrian refugee who came to Britain to seek a "better life".

A friend of the victim, who was studying civil engineering at the University of the West London, said he lived on the 14th floor of the 24-storey west London tower block.

The 24-year-old sought to follow his brother Omar, who is currently being treated in hospital, down the stairs of the burning building, but was besieged by billows of smoke.

He is said to have been trapped on the floor for two hours while hundreds of firefighters sought to rescue residents, but failed to reach above the 13th floor.

His brother, a 25-year-old business student, managed to escape the tower block and is said to be recovering in Kings Cross hospital.

Describing his friend as "kind, charitable and full of passion for his family",Abdulaziz Almashi, said: "He survived Assad, he survived the war, only to be killed in a tower block in London."

Mr Almashi, co-founder of the Syria Solidarity Campaign, met Mr Alhajali whilst working for the organisation, which promotes freedom, peace and democracy in Syria.

"When the fire reached his flat on the 14th floor, Mohammed bid his friend goodbye, saying that the fire had reached him," the organisationsaid.

"Mohammed undertook a dangerous journey to flee war and death in Syria, only to meet it here in the UK, in his own home.

"Mohammed came to this country for safety and the UK failed to protect him.

"We absolutely agree that a thorough investigation into Building Regulations should take place immediately."

The brothers escaped from Syria's southern city of Daraa-the birthplace of the Syrian uprising against Assad-three years ago and were given asylum in Britain.

The Syrian Solidarity Campaign expressed their grief at the news, writing on its Facebook page: "RIP Mohammed Al Haj Ali. A Syrian refugee in the UK, Mohammed passed away in the #Grenfell tower fire yesterday.

"We are heartbroken for his family, who thought he had found safety in the UK. To Allah we belong and to him we shall return."

The charity made an appeal for the brothers yesterday, saying: "Please pray for our brothers Omar Alhajali and Mohammed Alhajali, two ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. They were in the building fire in London yesterday. Both were set to come to our Iftar this Saturday.

"Omar was found in the hospital and he is in stable condition but his brother Mohamed is still missing and his family do not know his whereabouts."

Mirna Suleiman, a friend of the victim, also voiced her sadness on Facebook, saying: "This beautiful soul was lost today ... as long as many others. His story touched me personally because he had escaped death from Syria and came to the UK to find a new life."

She added: "We in the UK are not prepared for major incidents. We think it will never happen to us. We're good at putting loads of rules and regulations and making people pay service charge and housing tax but we're not good at being practical and planning for the worst."

At least 17 people have died in the massive fire which ravaged London's skyline, but the Metropolitan Police said the death toll is expected to increase yet further. Commander Stuart Cundy said 17 people are currently in critical condition and police are seeking to identify and locate the people who continue to be missing.

**Load-Date:** June 15, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Syrian refugee family featured in 'lost family portrait' find missing daughter in Turkey; Missing eldest daughter discovered safe and well in Gaziantep is now hoping to get a passport in order to be reunited with her family*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5P50-YV31-JCJY-G16Y-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

July 31, 2017 Monday 5:19 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST; Version:4

**Length:** 568 words

**Byline:** Bethan McKernan

**Body**

On a winter day eighteen months ago, Mohammed and his family, from Aleppo province, stood awkwardly in front of a makeshift outdoors photography studio set up at a refugee camp in Lebanon'sBekaaValley.

Mohammed's wife heldtheir grandson and the twostood behind four chairs - one each for their two daughters and two sons. One remained empty, representing their missing 21-year-old eldest, Reem.

She was separated from the family on her wedding night in 2013, when the region was being bombed by Syrian government forces; the family never knew what happened to her.

Their lips are pursed thinly as they pose next to a physical reminder of their loss.

Qom Elias refugee camp fire: Syrian mother whose home has been destroyed tells of loss in Lebanon

The haunting series of photographs of refugee families by Italian Dario Mitidieri was part of a campaign by Cafodand creative agency M&C Saatchi which drew the world's attention to the plight of Lebanon's estimated 1.5 million refugees; families posed for portraits with spaces or empty chairs symbolising those killed, missing or still trapped in the war-torn country.

Mitidieri's work won several awards, including a 2016 World Press Photo prize.

When Cafod returned to the area in June this year to check how the families were doing, the agency was met with a rare piece of good news: Reem had managed to track her family down by searching social media profiles.

'When we found out about her and where she is we spent two days speaking on the phone,' Mohammed said (Louise Norton)

"I am very happy. It had been four years that I didn't know anything about her," Mohammed said, eagerly showing photos on his picture phone of Reem, her husband and two young children in Turkey.

"When we found out about her and where she is we spent two days speaking on the phone."

Reem is now trying to get a Turkish passport, which will allow her to visit her family, who are stranded in Lebanon in poverty sadly familiar in the tiny country of four million, where around one in four people are Syrian.

Spiralling residency costs, a lack of real work opportunities and a punishing cycle of debt mean that after six years of war next door, many refugees are losing hope.

'It had been four years that I

didn

't know anything about her,' Mohammed said, eagerly showing photos on his phone of

Reem

, her husband and two young children in Turkey(Louise Norton)

Wary of how generations of Palestinians stayed in Lebanon after fleeing the 1948 Arab-Israeli war, when Syrians began to arrive in the country in earnest in 2013, the government refused to build official refugee camps in an effort to dissuade people from staying.

As a result, most Syrians live in rented, often substandard or abandoned accommodation in towns, cities and informal settlements in the agricultural Bekaa Valley.

"We feel here that we aren't stable any more," Mohammed said. "We are always afraid we might need to evacuate where we are living... Things are getting worse."

Syrian couple married for 65 years still have each other despite losing everything in country's war

While the struggles of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** now rarely make headlines, their needs remain great.

"The situation is just stagnating or getting worse," said Laura Ouseley, Cafod's World News Officer.

"Mohammed's story is a bittersweet one. It should be a reminder that even though these issues are out of the news, these people still need international help."

**Load-Date:** August 1, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Finsbury Park Mosque attack: Right-wing commentators upset after being accused of radicalisation; JK Rowling says columnists and pundits who have stoked fears about immigration have questions to answer*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5NTV-C9F1-JCJY-G3J7-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 19, 2017 Monday 11:55 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HOME NEWS; Version:4

**Length:** 597 words

**Byline:** Tom Batchelor

**Body**

Right-wing commentators have reacted angrily to suggestionsthey were complicit in the radicalisation of a man who attacked Muslims outside a mosque in north London.

One man was killed after the driver of a van, described as a large white man, targeted people near the Finsbury Park Mosque.

JK Rowling responded to the incident, which is being treated as terrorist attack, by tweeting a photo of Ukip's "Breaking Point" poster alongsidethe words: "Let's talk about how the #FinsburyPark terrorist was radicalised."

Finsbury Park attack - how the UK reacted

She also included a tweet from the party's former leader, Nigel Farage, who said the "awful attack" early on Monday morning "could only make this worse".

Let's talk about how the #FinsburyPark terrorist was radicalised. pic.twitter.com/Lx1woEaLKL

- J.K. Rowling (@jk\_rowling) 19 June 2017

You have ignorantly chosen not to listen to my repeated comments about not going to war with Islam. Your prejudice is unhelpful. [*https://t.co/ZeJMFIC7wS*](https://t.co/ZeJMFIC7wS)

- Nigel Farage (@Nigel\_Farage) 19 June 2017

In his reply, Mr Farage accused the Harry Potter author of having "ignorantly chosen not to listen to my repeated comments about not going to war with Islam".

"Your prejudice is unhelpful," he added.

Ukip's "Breaking Point" poster, showing a queue of refugees and migrants which was used during the EU referendum campaign, was reported to police last June over claims that it incited racial hatred.

Read more

Farage refuses to apologise for 'Breaking Point' poster

It drew comparisons with Nazi propaganda footage showing migrants arriving in Europe.

Ms Rowling also criticised former reality TV contestant Katie Hopkins over comments she made in May, when she encouraged "Western men" to "stand up. Rise up. Demand Action".

"Again: let's talk about how the #FinsburyPark terrorist was radicalised," Ms Rowling said in a second tweet on Monday morning.

In her reply, Hopkins called the Scotland-based author "christianophobic" - a word not recognised by the Oxford English Dictionary - and threatened to report her to the police. She later clarified this was a joke.

Other right-wing commentators piled in to censure Ms Rowling.

Toby Young, an associate editor at the Spectator, accused her of "exploiting terrorist incidents for political gain".

Former Sunday Express columnist Julia Hartley-Brewer tweeted: "Yeah, I was waiting for this. Elected politicians calling for limits on immigration are now responsible for inciting terrorism, are they?"

To which Ms Rowling responded: "Yeah, I was waiting for this. We're fine with using pictures of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** to whip up resentment about immigration, are we?"

But those on Ms Rowling's side of the argument also offered their support, with Brendan Cox, the husband of murdered MP Jo Cox, tweeting: "Pathetic to see far right now try & portray their incitement to violence as simple commentary. You hear same excuses from islamist apologists."

Those who dehumanise & stereotype muslims have no moral high ground from which to deplore demonisation of secular westerners by Islamists. [*https://t.co/iVloppzjrt*](https://t.co/iVloppzjrt)

- J.K. Rowling (@jk\_rowling) 19 June 2017

Speaking from Downing Street, Theresa May saidthe attack on Muslims was "every bit as insidious and destructive to our values and our way of life" as the recent string of terror attacks apparently motivated by Islamist extremism, adding: "We will stop at nothing to defeat it.

"Today we come together, as we have done before, to condemn this act and to state once again that hatred and evil of this kind will never succeed."

**Load-Date:** June 19, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Private company responsible for Grenfell Tower maintenance asks public to donate money to help fire victims; Kensington and Chelsea Tenant Management Organisation faces tough questions over whether residents' concerns over fire safety were listened to*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5NST-W0S1-F021-61JT-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 14, 2017 Wednesday 9:31 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HOME NEWS; Version:1

**Length:** 580 words

**Byline:** Ben Kentish

**Body**

The companyresponsible for managing the Grenfell Tower block that was engulfed by fire is asking the public to help cover the cost of supporting the victims of the blaze.

Kensington and Chelsea Tenant Management Organisation (KCTMO), which is facing accusations over alleged safety failings at the 24-story tower, has asked people to donate to a fund set up by a local charity to help those affected by the fire.

The company claimed "every penny raised will go to those affected" but did not say if it would be donating any more itself. Critics have suggested it should not be relying on public donations to help tenants who have lost homes and belongings and, in some cases, family and friends.

Read more

Family of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** among those missing in Grenfell Tower fire

The Independent

has contacted KCTMO for comment. The company said in an earlier statement that it was "doing everything it can to assist the residents of Grenfell Tower".

Twelve people are confirmed to have died in the fire and almost 80 are being treated in hospital, 18 of them in critical care. Police said they expected the death toll to rise.

KCTMO is accused of failing to ensure the safety of tenants in the tower block. The company was reviewing the building's fire safety policy at the time of the fire.

It emerged in the hours after the incident that residents had repeatedly raised concerns about the building's fire safety. The Grenfell Action Group, a campaign group set up by residents, warned last year: "It is a truly terrifying thought but the Grenfell Action Group firmly believe that only a catastrophic event will expose the ineptitude and incompetence of our landlord, the KCTMO."

Reports suggest the building was covered in flammable cladding in order to make it look nicer to people in nearby luxury homes.

Although the tower underwent a £10.3m renovation that was completed in May 2016, it continued to have just one emergency exit, which residents had warned would become blocked in the case of a fire.

The building contained 120 flats and was home to more than 200 people.

KCTMO described the fire as a "tragedy" and said it was wrong to speculate about what caused it.

"We wish to repeat our sincere and heartfelt condolences to all those who have been affected as a result of this devastating event at Grenfell Tower", the company said in a statement "We also wish to pay tribute to the bravery of the emergency services and to those members of the public who continue to selflessly do all they can to assist.

Read more

Death toll rises to 12 in Grenfell Tower blaze

Miracle as baby dropped to safety from burning tenth-floor flat

Woman trapped in burning flat records 'goodbye' message for loved ones

Mother escapes Grenfell blaze 'before realising two kids missing'

"The events of last night and early this morning are a tragedy. KCTMO, in conjunction with RBKC and others, is doing everything it can to assist the residents of Grenfell Tower and those affected by the tragedy. This will remain our immediate concern and focus.

"It is too early to speculate what caused the fire and contributed to its spread. We will co-operate fully with all the relevant authorities in order to ascertain the cause of this tragedy.

"We are aware that concerns have been raised historically by residents. We always take all concerns seriously and these will form part of our forthcoming investigations. While these investigations continue with our co-operation, our core priority at the moment is our residents."

**Load-Date:** June 14, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Finsbury Park Mosque attack: Right-wing commentators upset after being accused of radicalisation; JK Rowling says columnists and pundits who have stoked fears about immigration have questions to answer*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5NTV-6VF1-F021-64JC-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 19, 2017 Monday 11:55 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HOME NEWS; Version:3

**Length:** 590 words

**Byline:** Tom Batchelor

**Body**

Right-wing commentators have reacted angrily to suggestionsthey were complicit in the radicalisation of a man who attacked Muslims outside a mosque in north London.

One man was killed after the driver of a van, described as a large white man, targeted people near the Finsbury Park Mosque.

JK Rowling responded to the incident, which is being treated as terrorist attack, by tweeting a photo of Ukip's "Breaking Point" poster alongsidethe words: "Let's talk about how the #FinsburyPark terrorist was radicalised."

She also included a tweet from the party's former leader, Nigel Farage, who said the "awful attack" early on Monday morning "could only make this worse".

Let's talk about how the #FinsburyPark terrorist was radicalised. pic.twitter.com/Lx1woEaLKL

- J.K. Rowling (@jk\_rowling) 19 June 2017

You have ignorantly chosen not to listen to my repeated comments about not going to war with Islam. Your prejudice is unhelpful. [*https://t.co/ZeJMFIC7wS*](https://t.co/ZeJMFIC7wS)

- Nigel Farage (@Nigel\_Farage) 19 June 2017

In his reply, Mr Farage accused the Harry Potter author of having "ignorantly chosen not to listen to my repeated comments about not going to war with Islam".

"Your prejudice is unhelpful," he added.

Ukip's "Breaking Point" poster, showing a queue of refugees and migrants which was used during the EU referendum campaign, was reported to police last June over claims that it incited racial hatred.

Read more

Farage refuses to apologise for 'Breaking Point' poster

It drew comparisons with Nazi propaganda footage showing migrants arriving in Europe.

Ms Rowling also criticised former reality TV contestant Katie Hopkins over comments she made in May, when she encouraged "Western men" to "stand up. Rise up. Demand Action".

"Again: let's talk about how the #FinsburyPark terrorist was radicalised," Ms Rowling said in a second tweet on Monday morning.

In her reply, Hopkins called the Scotland-based author "christianophobic" - a word not recognised by the Oxford English Dictionary - and threatened to report her to the police. She later clarified this was a joke.

Other right-wing commentators piled in to censure Ms Rowling.

Toby Young, an associate editor at the Spectator, accused her of "exploiting terrorist incidents for political gain".

Former Sunday Express columnist Julia Hartley-Brewer tweeted: "Yeah, I was waiting for this. Elected politicians calling for limits on immigration are now responsible for inciting terrorism, are they?"

To which Ms Rowling responded: "Yeah, I was waiting for this. We're fine with using pictures of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** to whip up resentment about immigration, are we?"

But those on Ms Rowling's side of the argument also offered their support, with Brendan Cox, the husband of murdered MP Jo Cox, tweeting: "Pathetic to see far right now try & portray their incitement to violence as simple commentary. You hear same excuses from islamist apologists."

Those who dehumanise & stereotype muslims have no moral high ground from which to deplore demonisation of secular westerners by Islamists. [*https://t.co/iVloppzjrt*](https://t.co/iVloppzjrt)

- J.K. Rowling (@jk\_rowling) 19 June 2017

Speaking from Downing Street, Theresa May saidthe attack on Muslims was "every bit as insidious and destructive to our values and our way of life" as the recent string of terror attacks apparently motivated by Islamist extremism, adding: "We will stop at nothing to defeat it.

"Today we come together, as we have done before, to condemn this act and to state once again that hatred and evil of this kind will never succeed."

**Load-Date:** June 19, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Does Boris Johnson even realise the irony in his praise for Lebanon's refugee policy?*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5N80-PNF1-F072-42FP-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

April 6, 2017 Thursday

First Edition

Copyright 2017 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** COMMENT; Pg. 30

**Length:** 571 words

**Byline:** KIRSTY MAJOR

**Body**

Boris Johnson has celebrated the efforts of countries like Lebanon for bearing the brunt of the refugee crisis at the Syrian aid conference in Brussels this week. To date Lebanon has taken in 1.5 million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** over the course of the county's six-year civil war, with displaced Syrians now making up a quarter of the country's population. The UK, in contrast, has taken in just 6,000 refugees - including, shamefully, just 340 out of the 3,000 unaccompanied minors we vowed to take in under the aborted Dubs Amendment. If taking in millions makes you a moral example to the international community, what does taking in a few thousand do? Perhaps Johnson should consider that before opening his mouth and blowing out more hot air.

The UK's agreed strategy toward Syria is to provide aid over resettlement. Since 2012, it has committed £2.3bn to the humanitarian crisis: as well as funds being sent directly to improve the conditions on the ground in Syria, £463m of that aid has gone to Lebanon, £423m to Jordan, £317m to Turkey as well as Iraq and Egypt. The aim is to provide humanitarian assistance to refugees at the regional level so that they are discouraged from making the journey to Europe. The same logic forms the basis of the EU-Turkey deal, which allows Greece to return refugees to Turkey, from where EU countries would organise their resettlement.

A problem out of sight is a problem out of mind, but it's still a problem. Take Lebanon, the largest recipient of UK aid outside of Syria. Unlike Jordan and Turkey, there are no formal camps in Lebanon, with all aid provided by a civil society who are no longer able to cope with the demands on their resources. At the state level, Lebanon is barely able to care for its own population. It is a country with its own long-term infrastructure problems (water and electricity shortages are frequent), and seeing its population increase by 25 per cent in just six years has taken its toll. Schools are struggling to cope with new and often traumatised pupils; overcrowding and a lack of sanitation are putting a strain on the country's health service; and Lebanon's annual economic growth has slowed from 8 per cent to an average of 1 per cent.

Lebanon's PM Saad Hariri has spoken of the growing fear of tension between Lebanese and Syrian communities, and the development of civil unrest. This is a country that has for years strived to disassociate itself from foreign policy controversies in the region, and is still working to heal the rifts of war in its own society - to put this into perspective, an estimated six out of ten households still own an automatic weapon. Add millions of refugees, with minimal support, to the equation and you can see how easily the balance could be tipped in favour of widespread discontent.

In contrast, what are a few more thousand refugees to a relatively stable and affluent country like the UK? The UK has vowed to take in 20,000 refugees by 2020, but in the current political context, this seems highlight unlikely, especially given the Conservative Government's inclination to U-turn on such matters. If Boris Johnson really admired the efforts of Syria's neighbours so much, he might want to put his money where his mouth is and lobby for the UK to take in its fair share, thus making Britain a similar "moral example" within Europe. Sadly, his bit-part in Brexit has made such a project way beyond his public profile now.

**Load-Date:** April 5, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Britain's lonely future, outside Europe and stripped of Nato, is a national security threat; The German Chancellor has predicted Britain's future after Brexit quiteaccurately: a stumbling economy, failing public services anddepressed living standards will be joined by a smaller voicein the world*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5NNC-G7H1-JCJY-G3X2-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

May 29, 2017 Monday 5:05 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EDITORIALS; Version:1

**Length:** 591 words

**Byline:** Editorial

**Body**

For all the talk about Brexit, DonaldTrump and a global populist insurgency, the most successful democratic politician of the West so far in the 21st century is a pragmatic, unshowy figure from the Europhile centreright.Angela Merkel, so far as can be judged, is cruising towards a fourth consecutive term as Chancellor, having made the historic decision to permit onemillion ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** to come to Germany. She is a reminder for anyone who cares to look that politics can be mature.

SoMsMerkel carries considerable weight and,when she warns Europe that it will need to look increasingly to its own structures and resources to secure its future prosperity and security,she will be heeded.

Increasingly outspoken, with Germany gradually learning to assert itself, she has spoken almost despairingly of no longer being able to rely on the UK and the US in the manner it has been used to since 1945. She is right, too:President Trump may be less disparaging about Natothan he was on the campaign trail, but he remains equivocal;his relationship with Russia still uncertain. On climate change, the US Presidentseems to take some malicious pleasure in making friends and allies wait for his final verdict, as if he were some judge on a reality television show pausing for dramatic effect before announcing a winner. Overall, Mr Trump is living down to expectations. No wonder the German Chancellor is not prepared to accept his clowning around.

Angela

Merkel

: 'We Europeans must take our destiny into our own hands'

MsMerkel is also right to point to Britain's growing isolation, if not alienation, from Europe. Whoever wins on 8 June,the UK will be led by a more or less Eurosceptic prime minister, committed to whatever Brexit deal can be rescued from the current wreckage.

If it is Theresa May, as is apparent from her Article 50 letter, she will be prepared to sacrifice UK security interests in the name of Brexit. She is also apparently willing to use the future of EU citizens living and working here as negotiating cards. And she will impose limits on the free movement of goods, services and people as the inevitable result of exiting the Single Market and the EU customs union.

Events such as the G7 conference bring into sharper focus what a lonely existence the British will soon have: a stumbling economy, failing public services, depressed living standards will be joined by a smaller role and voice in the world.

There is little sign that the global influence we now exert via the collective clout of the EU will be replaced by closer relations with the US, let alone China, Russia or India.

Some obvious vital interestswill be more vulnerable, such as the status of Gibraltar and the Falklands. Much more important, if Nato does start a gradual decline in power and relevance under President Trump, and some form of EU defence capability emerges to replace it - long an ambition of European federalists - then the UK will be left to assemble its own defenceswithout the collective security offered by Nato or the EU. With a nuclear deterrent which has proved irrelevant in every conflict since the Second World War, and which is in any case highly dependent on America, Britain has only its much denuded conventional armed forces and intelligence services to see off threats at home and abroad. They are highly professional, brave and among the best in the world, but they are no substitute for the leading role Britain used to play in the EU and Nato.

Angela Merkel is right in her implication that a lonelier future lies ahead for Britain.

**Load-Date:** May 29, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump launches attack on judge who stopped 'Muslim travel ban': 'If something happens blame him'; The President criticised the US judicial system - the third branch of government that acts as a check for the Executive Branch - for the second day in a row via his preferred method of communication: Twitter*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MT9-SJ01-JCJY-G4GM-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 5, 2017 Sunday 8:41 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 595 words

**Byline:** Feliks Garcia

**Body**

President Donald Trump criticised the federal judge who halted his executive order that temporarily banned travel and immigration from seven predominantly Muslim countries.

The signing of the order more than a week ago resulted in global confusion as hundreds of travellers and visa-holding immigrants were detained in airports across the US. It sparked massive protests and several lawsuits against the Trump administration.

Read more

'Muslim ban' block shows that Trump will not always get his own way

His first major defeat as President, Mr Trump did not take news of the restraining order against his action well, and wrongly suggested that any future attack on the US would be the result of the court's action.

"Just cannot believe a judge would put our country in such peril," he wrote, tweeting while on vacation at his Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida. "If something happens blame him and court system. People pouring in. Bad!"

He added that the courts were making the Department of Homeland Security's job "very difficult".

Just cannot believe a judge would put our country in such peril. If something happens blame him and court system. People pouring in. Bad!

- Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) February 5, 2017

Mr Trump's Twitter attack follows Judge James Robart's blocking of the executive order, plunging the new administration into a crisis and challenging the President's authority - which is not immune to the Judicial Branch of the government.

However, the Trump administration argued to the contrary in their appeal over the weekend.

Acting Solicitor General Noel Francisco argued that presidential authority is "largely immune from judicial control" regarding immigration to the US. But the 9th US Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco did not agree with that assessment and denied the Justice Department's request to stay the Mr Robart's decision.

The state of Washington was the first to file a lawsuit against the executive order, over which Mr Robart - a George W Bush appointee - presided. In his order, Mr Robart said the states "have met their burden of demonstrating that they face immediate and irreparable injury as a result of the signing and implementation of the Executive Order".

Mr Robart added it is not the court's job to "create policy or judge the wisdom of any particular policy promoted by the other two branches," but rather to make sure that an action taken by the government "comports with our country's laws".

Donald Trump fights back after judge blocks his travel ban

The President was quick to condemn the judge's decision on Twitter.

"The opinion of this so-called judge, which essentially takes law-enforcement away from our country, is ridiculous and will be overturned!" he said.

The President's executive order sought to ban all travel from Iraq, Iran, Yemen, Syria, Libya, Sudan, and Somalia for 90 days. It placed a 120-day ban on refugee admittance from six of those countries, while placing an indefinite halt to acceptance of ***Syrian*** ***refugees***.

Read more

Eight million people face deportation under Trump's executive order

Trump's effort to roll back Dodd-Frank is futile, says Barney Frank

'Muslim ban' block shows that Trump will not always get his own way

It also resulted in the revocation of at least 60,000 visas, according to the State Department. The Department of Justice, however, had said that as many as 100,000 had been revoked.

Washington state Attorney General Bob Ferguson celebrated the judge's decision on Friday.

"The Constitution prevailed today," he told reporters. "No one is above the law - not even the president."

**Load-Date:** February 5, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Merkel is right: Europe will become more self-reliant. Bad news for us, outside it*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5NNH-4K51-F072-400S-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

May 30, 2017 Tuesday

First Edition

Copyright 2017 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 2

**Length:** 582 words

**Byline:** EDITORIAL

**Body**

For all the talk about Brexit, Donald Trump and a global populist insurgency, the most successful democratic politician of the West so far in the 21st century is a pragmatic, unshowy figure from the Europhile centre right. Angela Merkel, so far as can be judged, is cruising towards a fourth consecutive term as Chancellor, having made the historic decision to permit one million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** to come to Germany. She is a reminder for anyone who cares to look that politics can be mature.

So Ms Merkel carries considerable weight and, when she warns Europe that it will need to look increasingly to its own structures and resources to secure its future prosperity and security, she will be heeded.

Increasingly outspoken, with Germany gradually learning to assert itself, she has spoken almost despairingly of no longer being able to rely on the UK and the US in the manner it has been used to since 1945. She is right, too: President Trump may be less disparaging about Nato than he was on the campaign trail, but he remains equivocal; his relationship with Russia still uncertain. On climate change, the US President seems to take some malicious pleasure in making friends and allies wait for his final verdict, as if he were some judge on a reality television show pausing for dramatic effect before announcing a winner. Overall, Mr Trump is living down to expectations. No wonder the German Chancellor is not prepared to accept his clowning around.

Ms Merkel is also right to point to Britain's growing isolation, if not alienation, from Europe. Whoever wins on 8 June, the UK will be led by a more or less Eurosceptic prime minister, committed to whatever Brexit deal can be rescued from the current wreckage.

If it is Theresa May, as is apparent from her Article 50 letter, she will be prepared to sacrifice UK security interests in the name of Brexit. She is also apparently willing to use the future of EU citizens living and working here as negotiating cards. And she will impose limits on the free movement of goods, services and people as the inevitable result of exiting the single market and the EU customs union.

Events such as the G7 conference bring into sharper focus what a lonely existence the British will soon have: a stumbling economy, failing public services, depressed living standards will be joined by a smaller role and voice in the world.

There is little sign that the global influence we now exert via the collective clout of the EU will be replaced by closer relations with the US, let alone China, Russia or India.

Some obvious vital interests will be more vulnerable, such as the status of Gibraltar and the Falklands. Much more important, if Nato does start a gradual decline in power and relevance under President Trump, and some form of EU defence capability emerges to replace it - long an ambition of European federalists - then the UK will be left to assemble its own defences without the collective security offered by Nato or the EU. With a nuclear deterrent which has proved irrelevant in every conflict since the Second World War, and which is in any case highly dependent on America, Britain has only its much denuded conventional armed forces and intelligence services to see off threats at home and abroad. They are highly professional, brave and among the best in the world, but they are no substitute for the leading role Britain used to play in the EU and Nato.

Angela Merkel is right in her implication that a lonelier future lies ahead for Britain.

**Load-Date:** May 29, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Chance of being killed by refugee terrorist in United States is one in 3.6 billion; Donald Trump expected to issue order suspending immigration from seven Muslim-majority countries despite little evidence to support policy as effective terrorismdeterrent*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MR5-SST1-F021-63WG-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 26, 2017 Thursday 8:31 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 552 words

**Byline:** Lucy Pasha-Robinson

**Body**

The chance of a being killed by a refugee terrorist in the US is one in 3.64 billion, according to a new report that studied the tangible risk posed by immigration.

The statistic was revealed as news emerged ofPresident Donald Trump's plan to issue an executive order

suspending immigration from seven Muslim-majority countries, and ban refugees from entering the US for 120 days.

The draft order, is reportedly titled "Protecting the Nation From Terrorist Attacks by Foreign Nationals" and includes plans to suspend applications from ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** indefinitely, according to the political website,

Vox.

The new US leader repeatedly championed the policy during his presidential campaign,arguing that it would protect American people from the threat of terrorism.

Read more

Boris Johnson refuses to criticise Donald Trump's plan to ban refugees

Donald Trump considers 120-day ban on refugees entering the US

Trump vows to cancel meeting with Mexico if they don't pay for wall

Human rights group voice alarm at Donald Trump's 'weekly hate list'

However, aCato Institute study, "Terrorism and Immigration: A Risk Analysis", found little evidence to suggest this would be an effective policy.

The report saidthe chance of being killed by a terrorist attack perpetrated by an illegal immigrant was one in 10.9 billion per year.

The chance of being murdered by a tourist on the common B visa was 1 in 3.9 million per year, it added.

Critics called the Republican leader's proposed measures "unjustifiable", and a spokesperson for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees called the plans "highly concerning from a humanitarian perspective".

Dr Richard Johnson from the University of Oxford's department of politics told

The Independent

: "He is seeking to introduce this policy on a country-wide basis because he cannot actually fulfil what he said he wanted to do during his campaign, which was to ban all Muslims in the US.

"This is an ineffective and unjustifiable policy in terms of what it's trying to achieve - if it's a security measure then it seems a pretty broad brush one. Some of the most recent attacks in the US have been people born there or who have lived in the country for some time."

Read more

As a Jew, I know the warning signs in Trump's speech when I see them

International Rescue Committee president David Miliband called on Mr Trump to rethink the proposed restrictions.

"We are very concerned by the reports of new restrictions on refugee resettlement into the US and call on the Administration to take its time and think again. Refugee resettlement is an American success story," he told

The Independent

.

"At a time of record-breaking levels of refugee flow around the world, now is not the time for America to renounce its historic leadership role. Our clear message to the new Administration is: now is no time for hasty action."

Mr Trump has denied the policy would be a "Muslim ban" but that it would instead constitute "extreme vetting" of certain nations.

"You're looking at people that come in in many cases with evil intentions. I don't want that. They're ISIS. They're coming in under false pretence. I don't want that," he said during an interview on ABC.

According to the draft, immigration will be restricted from Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Yemen, and Iran.

**Load-Date:** January 26, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Man who tried to drive pregnant refugee and family from Italy to France prosecuted 'aiding illegal immigration'; Felix Croft was stopped by police as he attempted to drive over border from Ventimiglia*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MTY-7141-F021-6123-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 8, 2017 Wednesday 6:09 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 602 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

A man who attempted to drive a pregnant asylum seeker and her family from Italy into France faces up to 10 years in prison for "aiding illegal immigration".

Felix Croft was giving out aid in the Italian border city of Ventimiglia in July when he met the woman, who was travelling with her husband, two children and uncle.

Like thousands of other refugees making the treacherous journey to Italy over the Mediterranean Sea, they had reached the French border but been blockedby a heavy police presence.

Italian police struggle to contain

Ventimiglia

migrants as French accused of foul play

Some reports said the family Mr Croft tried to help were Nigerian, while others said they were from the war-torn region of Darfur.

The 28-year-old told the RFI French public radio service he attempted to take the asylum seekers to his home in Vence because there was no space in the church where they attempted to find shelter, and was arrested while driving along the motorway.

Read more

Police find 17 refugees 'suffocating' in refrigerated van

Italian police struggle to contain migrants at border with France-

Refugees shelter on rocky Italian seafront after being turned away

His lawyer, Laura Martinelli, said her client admitted the facts of the case but gave the family a lift "for humanitarian reasons", adding: "This is the first time that a person known to be a volunteer has been arrested, and that the arrest leads to prosecution [in Italy]."

She contended that the law was intended to target organised smugglers who charge migrants for their services, rather than for humanitarian volunteers. The next court hearing is due in Imperia on 16 February.

Another Frenchman, farmer Cédric Herrou, was arrested last month for helping migrants travel through the Roya Valley, near the Italian border in Provence.

The use of anti-smuggling legislation to target volunteers has proved a divisive move for some European countries during the ongoing refugee crisis.

Denmark's High Court upheld a people smuggling conviction for a couple who illegally "assisted" family of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** by giving them a lift and a cup of coffee in September.

Lisbeth Zornig Andersen, the former president of the Danish government's National Council for Children, and her husband transported the group of four adults and two children from southern Denmark to Copenhagen during the height of the refugee crisis in 2015.

They did not believe they had contravened any law, as they had consulted police and stayed within the country, but were prosecuted under the Danish Aliens Act and fined 50,000 krone (£5,700).

Ms Zornig told

The Independent

the court was "setting an example" as numerous other people smuggling cases progress through the courts in Denmark and elsewhere in Europe.

National law is the primary reference for such cases but a 2002 directive from the Council of the European Union also stipulates that anyone who intentionally assists irregular migrants to "enter or transit across" a country in breach of national law can be prosecuted - particularly those who take payment to do so.

But it says that sanctions can be lifted in cases where "the aim of the behaviour is to provide humanitarian assistance", although the waiver is optional.

A United Nations protocol on migrant smuggling, however, defines the act as exclusively motivated by a "financial or other material benefit".

Almost 10,000 refugees and migrants have arrived in Europe by sea so far this year, with the vast majority reaching Italy after the controversial EU-Turkey deal was implemented last year to reduce crossings to Greek islands over the Aegean Sea.

**Load-Date:** February 8, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump's Muslim ban: Steve Jobs was son of Syrian migrant; Presidentexpected to sign executive orders forMexico border wall and immigration measures this week*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MPY-9C71-F021-60PJ-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 25, 2017 Wednesday 8:59 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 613 words

**Byline:** Peter Walker, Adam Withnall

**Body**

The world is once again remindingDonald Trump that one of the most famous Americanswas the son a Syrian migrant ahead of the President's expected ban on new Muslim arrivals.

The father ofSteve Jobs, the Apple founder who died in 2011,moved to the US to study in the 1950s.

Abdul Fattah Jandali was born in 1931 to a well-off family in Homs, Syria - a city now home tosome of the worst fighting in the country'scivil war.

'Alt-right' movement founder urges Trump to freeze immigration for 50 years

He and his partner,Joanne Carole Schieble, had Jobs out of wedlock and were forced to give him up for adoption.

Jerry Durham tweeted today: "Steve Jobs' father was from Syria... Please choose wisely on who to keep out."

Steve Jobs father was from Syria....

Please choose wisely on who to keep out [*https://t.co/mAp6U9uNRa*](https://t.co/mAp6U9uNRa)

- Jerry Durham (@Jerry\_DurhamPT) January 25, 2017

Walied Shateralso wrote: "@POTUS as U ban people, remember, if U banned Syrian immigrants 50 years ago, there would be no Steve Jobs, no Apple!"

Mr Trump is expected to sign executive orders this week to restrict access of immigrants, refugees and some visa holders from Iraq, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen. He is also expected to order the construction of his Mexican border wall on Wednesday.

A simple Twitterpost, noting that Mr Jobs shared Syrian heritage with three-year-old refugee Aylan Kurdi, who was pictured washed up dead on the seashore, wasshared thousands of times on social media in 2015.

Posted by Geneva-based tech entrepreneur David Galbraith, itincluded a picture of Jobs and the caption: "A Syrian migrants' child [sic]."

Galbraith, who was co-founder of the company where Yelp was created and helped author RSS technology, said he was a fan of Jobs and remembered his family history when news about desperate ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** made headlines around the world.

A Syrian migrants' child. pic.twitter.com/sjBxuInpEp

- David Galbraith (@daveg) September 2, 2015

He told the Chicago Tribune that he "could barely look [at the photographs of Aylan] as I have two beautiful young children of my own".

He said: "It seemed to be that what the most precious thing in the world, a small child, was washed up on the sea shore like a discarded object of no value, when a child with a parent of the same nationality, given opportunity had created the largest company in the entire world. And here we are seeing an acrimonious debate, about stopping migrants."

The image he chose of Jobs comes from the cover of the late entrepreneurs best-selling, self-titled autobiography.

"It contrasted that of Aylan Kurdi in every way and made me wonder what little boys like him could have achieved if they had been given the chance," Galbraith said.

While the reminder of Mr Jobs' background has been shared more than 11,000 times, not everyone agreed with the apparent sentiment behind it.

Read more

Hungary's PM warns of risks to 'Christian' culture

Ways you can help refugees trying to find safety in Europe

Two charts which shame UK when it comes to EU's refugee crisis

Refugees recount joy as thousands reach Austria and Germany

One wrote that it suggests "that human life is worth something only if it achieves 'great things'. Another said the picture implied we should only perceive children as "future assets", adding: "Must we even value the human in economic terms?"

But many others were positive about Galbraith's message. One said it was a "brilliant tweet", while another wrote: "Most times the simplest statements are the most powerful.

**Load-Date:** January 25, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Think Syrian refugees should take up arms and sort out their own country? You need this pub brawl analogy; You're sitting in the pub with your family having Sunday lunch when suddenly you hear someone at the bar say they've been short-changed. In response, the bar staff open fire with automatic weapons and kill sixteen people. And that's just the beginning*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J22-GKT1-F021-64V1-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

February 9, 2016 Tuesday 10:14 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 1250 words

**Byline:** Emlyn Pearce

**Body**

So a lot of British people seem to be wondering why refugees don't stay in their own countries and take up arms to defend themselves ("...like the British did during the Second World War!"). Don't get me wrong, I find it quite endearing that your Average Joe thinks he and his mates from Tuesday night five-a-side could put together a viable army, but maybe joining a thirteen-year-old civil war is a bit more complicated than an Inbetweeners movie.

Let me explain.

Have you ever been in a pub when a group of drunk guys starts going berserk, drinking everyone's drinks and punching people in the face?

The rest of the patrons come together, over-power and restrain the troublemakers; the police are called and they are taken away to face the music. That's World War II: everyone in the pub is on the same side and there is a clear set of bad guys ruining the 1940s for everyone else (incidentally, there's also a guy who offers to hold everyone's coats and money when the fight breaks out, and when it stops he won't give them back - that guy is Switzerland's banks).

Now, consider Syria. You're sitting in the pub with your family having Sunday lunch when suddenly you hear someone at the bar say they've been short-changed. In response, the bar staff open fire with automatic weapons and kill sixteen people. You're horrified - in all the years you've been coming to this pub, knowing they've been short-changing people, you never imagined they'd do something like this.

You manage to barricade yourself behind an upturned table in the corner, and just when you think things can't get any worse, a bunch of thugs from the rough pub next door hear there's some trouble and decide to use the opportunity to take over the pub and make it as lawless as the one they've come from (where people have been brawling non-stop for the best part of a decade). There are bullets flying past your little shelter and blood and bodies litter the floor.

Read more

What the case of Kayden Clarke can tell us about trans acceptance

Whose side do you join? The bar staff who started the whole thing by killing the people they were supposed to serve, or the thugs from next door who want to hold you all hostage and make you join a death cult? LESSON NUMBER ONE: NOT EVERY WAR HAS A SIDE WORTH JOINING.

So you start your own army, right? This is an excellent idea - well done for taking the initiative! But exactly how do you start an army anyway? First, you find some like-minded people. So you turn to the guy next to you who's barricaded himself and his family under a table and ask if he has any weapons.

"I've got my car keys and a bottle opener from a Christmas cracker," he says. "The thing is, I was only planning a pub lunch with my family, I didn't realise we'd get caught up in a gun fight, otherwise I suppose I would have been training and stockpiling guns for years."

LESSON NUMBER TWO: STARTING AN ARMY IS REALLY, REALLY HARD.

This is tricky. Very tricky. You decide to try and phone the other pubs in the area to ask for help, but they don't know who you are, and ever since they helped a bunch of patrons in the 80s who ended up flying planes into pubs, they're pretty reluctant to help random groups they've never heard of.

So you just sit it out and wait for everything to blow over, right? After all, you've heard of other pub fights where the bar staff were beaten in minutes (The Sphinx & Pharaoh, the Crazy Colonel), but it gradually becomes clear that this one won't burn out so quickly.

You could crawl out and grab a gun, but that leaves your family completely exposed with nobody to defend them. With every minute that passes, the situation gets more terrifying. Maybe you could chisel a pretty cool spear out of a table leg if you had a few weeks, but right now your children are screaming with terror, begging you to stop the banging and the sounds of people screaming, but you can't. There's nothing you can do.

Suddenly, across a sea of broken glass and empty shell cases, you see the door to the street swing open. There isn't even time to think: you grab your children, the most precious things you have in the world, and you run for the exit.

Read more

My employer was profiting from illegal settlements in Palestine

You stumble into the street, where a crowd has gathered to gawp at the carnage through the windows. As you get to the exit they try to push you and your children back into the pub.

"Go back where you came from!" they say. "You're one of those thugs from the rough pub and you want to bring your violence out here into the street! Shame on you for dragging your children through all that broken glass!"

You manage to get through the crowd to the Queen Elizabeth pub down the road, which you've heard is a really safe, family-friendly pub where the staff treat their patrons with respect.

But when you get to the Queen Elizabeth, you're told by a security guard that there's nowhere to sit because there are too many people already, even though it's clear that the only reason there's nowhere to sit is that the people who own the pub haven't provided enough chairs. There are also loads of coats that have been put on chairs by older people who want to supplement their wine consumption by making youngsters buy them a drink in exchange for somewhere to sit.

Finally, with the help of some sympathetic staff, you find a chair in the corner by the toilets, and you put the kids on the chair while you lean against the wall, exhausted. People start accusing you of ruining the pub for everyone else, even though they were short of chairs long before you arrived. That's when some guy with a big sweaty face who's never been in a pub shooting, never feared for his children's lives, never even seen a gun or a hand grenade, comes up to you and asks why you're not in the other pub sorting out the massacre you've just fled from.

And that's when you finally break down and cry.

Drone video shows levels of devastation in Homs, Syria

IN TODAY'S EPISODE WE LEARNT...

In Britain, we tend to think of every war as a two-sided battle between good and evil, with an established system on the side of good which is able to organise and direct an army. As a nation, we have no easy frame of reference for wars with many factions, or wars where the government is fighting the people, or civil wars where the enemy is present not just in the air, but on the ground too.

Contrary to popular belief, Britain DID produce a flood of refugees during World War II: 3.5 million British refugees fled their homes, but because the war was an international war, with no successful invasion, no enemy boots on the ground and aerial bombardment focused on cities, the vast majority of those refugees went to the British countryside. Had the Germans invaded and started killing Britons on the ground, it's likely we would have seen an even greater exodus to countries like Australia and Canada than the one we did see: not because fleeing from genocide is cowardly, but because self-preservation is deeply ingrained in human nature.

Risking your life by crossing a treacherous sea to escape a war that is not of your doing is infinitely more heroic than selling out your principles to fight for a mad dictator or a death cult; and unless you've ever fled a tangled civil war yourself, it might be wise to put a little less effort into judgement and a little more into understanding.

Emlyn Pearce blogs hereand this piece originally appeared on his publicFacebook page. It has been reprinted here with permission from the author

**Load-Date:** February 9, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump speaks out about immigration in Sweden; Mr Trump made his initial remarks at a rally in Florida*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MXG-13G1-JCJY-G137-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 20, 2017 Monday 2:28 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** US POLITICS; Version:7

**Length:** 624 words

**Byline:** Andrew Buncombe

**Body**

Donald Trump has waded back into the controversy over his comments on Sweden, claiming that its policy of accepting large numbers of migrants was not working.

Mr Trump sparked outcry and confusion over the weekend when he held at rally in Melbourne, Florida, and spoke darkly of things that had allegedly happened "last night" in Sweden. As people from Stockholm to Linkopingscratched their heads as to what he was referring to, the US President then admitted he was talking about a widely debunked Fox News report he had seen on television the night before.

On Monday, Mr Trump tweeted: "Give the public a break - The FAKE NEWS media is trying to say that large scale immigration in Sweden is working out just beautifully. NOT!"

Give the public a break - The FAKE NEWS media is trying to say that large scale immigration in Sweden is working out just beautifully. NOT!

- Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) February 20, 2017

Mr Trump said he had received his information from a segment on a Fox News broadcast on Friday night by Tucker Carlson. Mr Carlson interviewed Ami Horowitz, producer of a film that claimed to document alleged violence committed by refugees in Sweden.

News of Mr Horowitz's documentary made headlines last year when he told conservative outlets such as Breitbart News that there were Muslim "no-go zones" in Europe.

"Over the last two years, they've taken in over 350,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees***," he said. "The reason why I went there was to investigate why Sweden has become the rape capital of Europe. Rape was not unknown, but relatively minor. There were few incidents of rape, let's say about 10 years ago. And rape has absolutely skyrocketed in Europe."

Watergate reporter Carl Bernstein: Trump's attacks on the press are more dangerous than Nixon's

The

New York Times

reported that Swedish officials said their statistics did not justify the kind of assertions made by Mr Horowitz, and that the country had a high number of sexual assault reports, relative to other European countries, because more victims come forward, not because there was more violence.

Henrik Selin, political scientist and deputy director of the Swedish Institute, a state agency dedicated to promoting Sweden globally, told the newspaper he had completed a study focusing on negative news reports about Sweden's intake of refugees.

Mr

Carlson

spoke to the producer of a widely criticised documentary (YouTube)

He said there were many exaggerations and distortions, including reports falsely claiming that Sharia law was predominant in parts of the country.

Swedish officials have hit back at Mr Trump's assertions.

We look forward to informing the US administration about Swedish immigration and integration policies. [*https://t.co/x5G3euOWRh*](https://t.co/x5G3euOWRh)

- Embassy of Sweden US (@SwedeninUSA) February 19, 2017

Former Prime Minister Carl Bildt responded by saying they were twice as many murders just in the Floridacounty where Mr Trump spoke on Saturday, compared to all of Sweden.

"Last year there were approximately 50 per centmore murders only in Orlando/Orange in Florida, where Trump spoke the other day, than in all of Sweden. Bad," he said.

Read more

Donald Trump's messy desk could be a sign of something much worse

The worrying real meaning behind Trump's aggressive handshakes

Donald Trump 'veering off topic during calls with foreign leaders'

Indeed, Sweden's crime rate has fallen since 2005, official statistics show, even as it has taken in hundreds of thousands of immigrants from countries like Syria and Iraq.

Sweden's embassy in the United States repeated Mr Trump's tweet about having seen the Fox report, and added: "We look forward to informing the US administration about Swedish immigration and integration policies."

**Load-Date:** February 21, 2017

**End of Document**



[*EU Malta summit: Refugees heading to Europe to be redirected to Asia and Latin America in new £30m British aid plan; A £30m package will provide life-saving supplies across Eastern Europe and Greece - but also try to divert refugees elsewhere in the world*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MSV-BJH1-JCJY-G0RB-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 3, 2017 Friday 1:05 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 608 words

**Byline:** Rob Merrick

**Body**

Refugees heading to Europe will be urged to settle in Asia and Latin America instead, under a new £30m British aid package.

Theresa May announced the scheme at an EU summit in Malta, arguing it showed the Government is "stepping up its support for the most vulnerable refugees".

The package will see Britain provide life-saving supplies for people facing freezing conditions across Eastern Europe and Greece, including warm clothing, shelter and medical care.

However, it will also pay for better infrastructure in far-flung countries willing to take refugees who had hoped to settle in Europe.

Read more

'UK will continue to work with EU over refugee crisis after Brexit'

The move builds on an existing scheme run by the UN's refugee agency, the UNHCR, but it is the first time Britain's aid budget has been used to bolster it.

It risks adding to criticism that the Prime Minister is unwilling for the UK to accept a reasonable share of the refugees and migrants fleeing Syria and other war zones.

Only a few thousand ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** have been resettled in Britain - and the Government has refused to take part in an EU-wide programme to co-ordinate the continent's response to the crisis.

Government sources stressed that people would only be diverted to countries in Asia and Latin America if they were willing to be resettled there.

The Department for International Development (DFID) is expected to release a list of interested countries later.

In Malta, the Prime Minister insisted the focus of the £30m programme was "helping migrants return home rather than risk their lives continuing perilous journeys to Europe".

It would provide assistance to refugees and migrants across Greece, the Balkans, Libya, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria and Sudan.

Priti Patel, the International Development Secretary, said: "Conflict, drought and political upheaval have fuelled protracted crises and driven mass migration. We cannot ignore these challenges.

"This latest support from the UK will help those who decide they want to return home to do so safely, protect men, women and children from exploitation, and ensure that those caught in freezing conditions get the basic help they need to survive."

Read more

More than 200 refugees drown and freeze to death in first days of 2017

These are the countries that host and send the most migrants

More than 500 refugees rescued in single day as crisis continues

More than 1,000 migrants storm border at Spain's Ceuta

To be delivered by the UNHCR, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Start NGO network, it would:

\* Provide 22,400 life-saving relief items including tents, blankets, winter clothes such as hats and gloves and hygiene kits including mother and baby products.

\* Help more than 60,000 people with emergency medical care, legal support and frontline workers to identify those at risk of violence and trafficking.

\* Allow up to 22,000 people to reunite with family members they have become separated from during their journey, through help with advice, travel home and reintegration on their return.

\* Help countries in Asia and Latin America that "might be able to resettle refugees put the infrastructure and systems in place to do so".

\* Provide more than 1,500 refugees in Egypt, including those fleeing Syria and other conflicts, with urgent health assistance and educational grants for students to go back to school.

\* Provide a migrant centre in Sudan to enable "voluntary returns home when safe", replicating a successful scheme in Niger.

The Government said it would bring the total UK humanitarian support in response to the Mediterranean migration crisis to more than £100m since October 2015.

**Load-Date:** February 3, 2017

**End of Document**



[*OPEN FOR BUSINESS; With rising anti-immigrant rhetoric sweeping across Europe, one restaurant in the Netherlands is employing refugees and helping them to settle in. Kashmira Gander reports*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MX0-9CV1-JCS0-D0JG-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

February 18, 2017 Saturday

First Edition

Copyright 2017 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FEATURES; Pg. 67

**Length:** 592 words

**Byline:** KASHMIRA GANDER

**Body**

In a deeply divided world, any ideas to reunite us are worth a crack. And few things are as unifying as fresh homemade hummus. That Middle-Eastern dish is among the arsenal of crowdfunded restaurant Syr, which is staffed mainly by ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in the Dutch city of Utrecht.

Entirely self-funded, the masterminds behind the project believe that Syr appeals to those on the left desperate to accept and help refugees, and those on the right who are suspicious of multiculturalism and government handouts, says team member Anne Kwakkenbos. Like many European nations, the Netherlands is witnessing the rise of an anti-immigrant, Islamophobic rhetoric. There are currently around 47,500 refugees in the Netherlands. So Syr's founders - including local restaurateur Gijs Werschkull - knew they had to act fast. It went from the germination of an idea to a functioning restaurant at lightning speed. Opening a crowdfunding page in February 2016, the team raised Euro 160,000 (£137,000) in three weeks and attracted 70 volunteers to open in June of the same year. To staff the restaurant, the Syr team worked with the local authorities and organisations to find refugees seeking employment.

To mend rifts in society and look after those fleeing war and hardship in Syria and other nations including Iraq, Syr's chefs combine Middle Eastern and European flavours. Hummus is served in mille-feuille pastry. Pulled lamb is served in a burger bun with mint and yogurt sauce. The Caesar Salad is served "Syrian style" with za'atar spiced grilled chicken, with mesclun salad, croutons, pomegranate and sumac dressing. The team were particularly heartened by the majority of the donations coming from the city of Utrecht.

"Of course we have some negative comments as well but mostly people not understanding the concept and where we were getting the funding," says Kwakkenbos, who works in international development and for a gender equality organisation. "We believe that we need to facilitate that exchange of ideas and food is one of the ways we can do that."

What those behind Syr want to avoid, however, is focusing too much on the members of staff. "We have a responsibility to make sure they can integrate and they're not being used for sad pictures," says Kwakkenbos. "The problem is a lot of people want to hear their stories, but we have to be careful because they are here to build a new life and if we tell the story, that's not what it's about. It's about showing the strength that refugees have. After working with us for a year they can find a job and study, enter the regular job market. We try not to focus on their pasts." She goes on: "The best moment for me was the opening day. We had been working on it for months like crazy. We gathered by the tower in Utrecht's town centre, there was music and children and Dutch people and refugees and we walked towards the restaurant together. It was raining but there were so many. It was amazing to see what you can achieve with a small group of people."

"We have the first Syr baby," she adds. "A couple who were married and they just had a baby and it's great to see they're settling and starting a new life. It's beautiful." At first, the team proposed opening a pop-up, but soon realised they wanted a longer project. In the future, the team want to host language exchange lessons and storytelling nights. "Every time I walk in there is a positive atmosphere," says Kwakkenbos. "It's a very warm place where people come together and a lot of opportunities are being created and more moments will come."

**Load-Date:** February 17, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Border agents are ignoring federal court orders and still deporting people, lawyers say; An estimated 100 and 200 travelers aredetained at airports across the country*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MRX-5VJ1-JCJY-G0KT-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 29, 2017 Sunday 11:28 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 610 words

**Byline:** Justin Carissimo

**Body**

US Customs and Border Protection agents are ignoring a federal judge's stay on President Trump's immigration blacklist against seven majority Muslim countries and deporting people legally traveling to the states, according to attorneys representing those detained at airports across the country.

"Rogue customs and Border Patrol agents continue to try to get people onto planes," Becca Heller, director of the International Refugee Assistance Project, told reporters on Sunday, according to the Guardian. "A lot of people have been handcuffed, a lot of people who don't speak English are being coerced into taking involuntary departures."

President Trump issued his executive order Friday, implementing a 90 day ban for citizens in Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen. It also suspended all refugees from entering the country for 120 days while ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** are barred indefinitely.

Nonetheless, federal judges in New York, Massachusetts, Virginia, and Washington pushed back. The judicial branch responded by ordering those enforcing the ban to completely halt the removal or deportation of travelers who are otherwise legally authorized to enter the country.

The American Civil Liberties Union estimated that between 100 and 200 travelers are currently detained at airports across the country. Melissa Keaney, a staff attorney with the National Immigration Law Center, told VICE that nearly a dozen people are detained at Los Angeles International Airport. And nearly a dozen travelers are reportedly detained at JFK International Airport in New York.

Read more

White House reverses travel ban on green card holders

The orders merely maintained the status quo of immigration law, still, civil liberties groups celebrated the victory amidst massive protests which broke out across the country.

"The courts can serve as a bulwark against these excesses," Anthony D Romero, the executive director of the ACLU, told the New York Times. "Litigation is going to be a key tool for either undoing these policies or slowing them down."

The ongoing legal battle comes as the Department of Homeland Security said it "will comply with judicial orders; faithfully enforce our immigration laws, and implement the president's Executive Orders to ensure that those entering the United States do not pose a threat to our country or the American people."

The Department of Homeland Security promised to comply with the federal court orders while hinting that little had actually changed.

"The president's executive orders remain in place - prohibited travel will remain prohibited, and the US government retains its right to revoke visas at any time if required for national security or public safety," the statement said.

"No foreign national in a foreign land, without ties to the United States, has any unfettered right to demand entry into the United States or to demand immigration benefits in the United States."

New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman along with 15 other state attorneys condemned President Trump's executive order, calling it unconstitutional and un-American.

"As the chief legal officers for over 130 million Americans and foreign residents of our states, we condemn President Trump's unconstitutional, un-American and unlawful Executive Order," the statement said. "Religious liberty has been, and always will be, a bedrock principle of our country and no president can change that truth."

The joint-statement added, "We are confident that the Executive Order will ultimately be struck down by the courts. In the meantime, we are committed to working to ensure that as few people as possible suffer from the chaotic situation it has created."

**Load-Date:** January 29, 2017

**End of Document**



[*EU Malta summit: Refugees heading to Europe to be redirected to Asia and Latin America in new £30m British aid plan; A £30m package will provide life-saving supplies across Eastern Europe and Greece -but also try to divert refugees elsewhere in the world*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MSW-CCR1-JCJY-G1YR-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 3, 2017 Friday 1:05 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 608 words

**Byline:** Rob Merrick

**Body**

Refugees heading to Europe will be urged to settle in Asia and Latin America instead, under a new £30m British aid package.

Theresa May announced the scheme at an EU summit in Malta, arguing it showed the Government is "stepping up its support for the most vulnerable refugees".

The package will see Britain provide lifesaving supplies for people facing freezing conditions across Eastern Europe and Greece, including warm clothing, shelter and medical care.

However, it will also pay for better infrastructure in far-flung countries willing to take refugees who had hoped to settle in Europe.

Read more

'UK will continue to work with EU over refugee crisis after Brexit'

The move builds on an existing scheme run by the UN's refugee agency, the UNHCR, but it is the first time Britain's aid budget has been used to bolster it.

It risks adding to criticism that the Prime Minister is unwilling for the UK to accept a reasonable share of the refugees and migrants fleeing Syria and other war zones.

Only a few thousand ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** have been resettled in Britain - and the Government has refused to take part in an EU-wide programme to co-ordinate the continent's response to the crisis.

Government sources stressed that people would only be diverted to countries in Asia and Latin America if they were willing to be resettled there.

The Department for International Development (DFID) is expected to release a list of interested countries later.

In Maltathe Prime Minister insisted the focus of the £30m programme was "helping migrants return home rather than risk their lives continuing perilous journeys to Europe".

It would provide assistance to refugees and migrants across Greece, the Balkans, Libya, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria and Sudan.

Priti Patel, the International Development Secretary, said: "Conflict, drought and political upheaval have fuelled protracted crises and driven mass migration. We cannot ignore these challenges.

"This latest support from the UK will help those who decide they want to return home to do so safely, protect men, women and children from exploitation, and ensure that those caught in freezing conditions get the basic help they need to survive."

Read more

More than 200 refugees drown and freeze to death in first days of 2017

These are the countries that host and send the most migrants

More than 500 refugees rescued in single day as crisis continues

More than 1,000 migrants storm border at Spain's Ceuta

To be delivered by the UNHCR, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Start NGO network, it would:

\* Provide 22,400 life-saving relief items including tents, blankets, winter clothes such as hats and gloves and hygiene kits including mother and baby products.

\* Help more than 60,000 people with emergency medical care, legal support and frontline workers to identify those at risk of violence and trafficking.

\* Allow up to 22,000 people to reunite with family members they have become separated from during their journey, through help with advice, travel home and reintegration on their return.

\* Help countries in Asia and Latin America that "might be able to resettle refugees put the infrastructure and systems in place to do so".

\* Provide more than 1,500 refugees in Egypt, including those fleeing Syria and other conflicts, with urgent health assistance and educational grants for students to go back to school.

\* Provide a migrant centre in Sudan to enable "voluntary returns home when safe", replicating a successful scheme in Niger.

The Government said it would bring the total UK humanitarian support in response to the Mediterranean migration crisis to more than £100m since October 2015.

**Load-Date:** February 3, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump immigration ban: More than 100,000 visas revoked after travel restrictions imposed on seven Muslim-majority countries; Number emerges during hearing for lawsuit filed by two Yemeni brothers affected by controversial policy*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MSW-1M31-JCJY-G0NG-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 3, 2017 Friday 4:55 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 594 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz, Tom Batchelor

**Body**

More than 100,000 visas have been revoked from travellers heading to the US under Donald Trump's travel ban, according to court documents.

The

Washington Post

reported the figure, citing a government attorney at a federal court hearing in Virginia.

The number was revealed during a hearing for a lawsuit filed by two Yemeni brothers who flew in to Dulles International Airport on Friday and were put on a return flight to Ethiopia.

Read more

US federal judge blocks Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban' in Michigan

NBC News' Washington affiliate also reported the same number from the hearing.

It is not yet clear who has been affected or what countries they came from.

The executive order, signed by President Trumplast Friday, indefinitely suspended ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, and barred nearly all travellers from seven Muslim-majority countries - Iran, Syria, Yemen, Iraq, Somalia, Libya and Sudan -for 90 days and blocked refugees for 120 days.

Within hours of the order being signed, there was widespread confusion around the country, including in neighbouring countries such asCanada and Mexico.

Hundreds of people who had flown to the US from the seven nations while the order was being signed were detained and placed in handcuffs at airports, questioned for hours, and many of them sent back on a return flight. No clear guidance had been sent to airports or airlines; there were also questions of dual citizenship and no exceptions laid out for people who lived and worked in the US or who were travelling to receiveemergency medical treatment.

The ban also entangled US university students from abroad, and tore families apart who, within hours, became standedby the signing of Mr Trump's pen.

Thanks to massive protests at airports around the country like at John F Kennedy Airport in New York, several detaineeswere freed, including an Iraqi man who had worked as a translator for many years for the US military and whose family lived in the US.

Civil rights groups such as the American Civil Liberties Union and the Council on American-Islamic Relations were outraged at the order, which they deemed unconstitutional and targeting the most vulnerable sectors of society.

At least four states filed lawsuits to challenge the constitutionality of the executive order. In California and Michigan, federal judges ordered the order could not ban lawful, permanent US residents or green card holders who had also been caught up in the ban.

Steve Bannon, Mr Trump's chief strategist, was said to be behind the green card mandate, and he had overruled the Department of Homeland Security. The unelected adviser is now a permanent member of the National Security Council.

Once the refugee resettlement programme is resumed, the US has vowed to only take in 50,000 people in one fiscal year.

Mr Trump has consistently defended the ban, saying it would prevent "bad people" with "bad intent" from coming to the US.

Everybody is arguing whether or not it is a BAN. Call it what you want, it is about keeping bad people (with bad intentions) out of country!

- Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) February 1, 2017

House Speaker Paul Ryan also defended the ban, saying it made sense for the US to take a pause and review its vetting procedures, but said the roll-out of the order was done poorly and the confusion it caused was "regrettable".

A report from the Cato Institute found that there had been no Syrian-related terrorist event in more than four decades on US soil, and countries that had carried out larger attacks in the US, such as Saudi Arabia or Egypt, were not featured on Mr Trump's hit list.

**Load-Date:** February 3, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump has lowest approval ratings of any President in US history; But 78 per cent say he is handling the job "exactly as they would expect"*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MT3-00V1-JCJY-G4CJ-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 4, 2017 Saturday 5:54 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 528 words

**Byline:** Rachel Roberts

**Body**

He has only been in office for two weeks, but with each controversial policy announcement coming hard upon the heels of another, Donald Trump has the lowest approval rating of any new President, according to the latest poll.

Over half of US respondents at 53 per cent disapprove of the way their new President is handling the job, according to the CNN/ORC International poll released on Friday.

Just 44 per cent of respondents gave Mr Trump their approval, making him the only President since polls began to hold a negative approval rating at such an early stage in his White House tenure.

However, there is little surprise expressed among Americans to the way in which Mr Trump has begun his presidency, with 78 per cent saying he is handling things exactly as they would have expected.

Read more

Don't call Donald Trump a liar

George W Bush, who like Mr Trump was elected without winning the popular vote, held a more positive rating with 57 per cent offering their approval in the February of his first term.

Ronald Reagan's first approval rating was 51 per cent according to a Gallup poll in 1981- 7 points above Mr Trump's rating in the CNN poll - but his disapproval rating was markedly lower at just 13 per cent compared to 53 per cent.

Mr Trump's first fortnight in the job has hardly been a quiet period of settling in, with huge worldwide protests opposing his travel ban.

The controversial ban denies entrance to citizens of seven predominantly Muslim nations for 90 days while suspending the US refugee programme for 120 days and indefinitely barring ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from entering.

A majority of those polled by CNN at 53 per cent oppose the ban - but the other 47 per cent are in favour of the executive order.

The travel ban was very much split along party lines, with 88 per cent of Democrats opposed to it but 88 per cent of Republicans in favour.

60 per cent of those polled say they disagree with one of Mr Trump's most controversial election pledges to build a wall on the US-Mexico border - which he has vowed to push ahead with in the next few months.

The approval ratings of Presidents historically tend to go down - although there are exceptions, including Franklin D Roosevelt, whose ratings rose during his time in office.

Barack Obama enjoyed the highest incoming approval ratings of any President in history at 76 per cent in the February after inauguration.

John F Kennedy's stood at 72 per cent, while Bill Clinton's and Richard Nixon's both stood at 59 per cent.

Read more

Nixon was only President apart from Trump to fire his Attorney General

The CNN/ORC poll was conducted by telephone over the last week among a random national sample of 1,002 adults, with a margin of error of plus or minus three percentage points.

Some commentators, including Eric Boehlert, have accused the media of giving Mr Trump an easy time by focusing too much on his frequent tweets and not paying enough attention to his unprecedented poor ratings.

Mr Boehlert, a senior fellow at US research centre, Media Matters, claims: "There's a glaring Trump transition story hiding in plain sight: He's historically unpopular. The press ought to start telling that tale on a daily basis."

**Load-Date:** February 4, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Jeff Sessions faces scrutiny over Michael Flynn's calls to Russia; The attorney general was sitting on the same national security council as Flynn when he sought to reassure the Russians that sanctions would be overturned*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MW7-J161-JCJY-G34S-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 14, 2017 Tuesday 10:10 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 585 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz

**Body**

Jeff Sessions is once again in the spotlight after it was revealed he sat on the same Trump campaign national security council as Michael Flynn, the former national security adviser who was forced to resign after admitting he called the Russian ambassador to reassure them that sanctions would be overturned.

The Attorney General, who was sworn in last week despite opposition from Democrats and civil rights activists, is now being asked to recuse himself from his role at the nation's highest office after speculation is swirling that he may also have been involved in the Russia-related scandal.

That is despite revelations that Mr Sessions would lead the investigation against Mr Flynn.

Read more

Trump knew for weeks that Flynn withheld truth on his call with Russia

The Trump campaign said in a statement on 7 October 2016 last year that his national security council included Mr Flynn, Mr Sessions, Republican Senator Tom Cotton and former Fox News anchor KT McFarland.

After earlier incorrect reports that she had also quit, Ms McFarland said she would remain in her role as the deputy national security adviser after Mr Flynn resigned.

Mr Sessions was reportedly a key architect of Mr Trump's Muslim ban, which barred nearly all travellers from seven Muslim-majority countries for at least 90 days and indefinitely suspended ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. The executive order was signed on 27 January, before Mr Sessions was sworn in to office.

Michael Flynn resigns as national security adviser over Russia row

He has long been a supporter of the President, and acted as an adviser. During his senate confirmation hearing, he said he would recuse himself from any investigation into Hillary Clinton and her alleged misuse of her personal email server when she was secretary of state as he had spoken against her during the campaign.

Senate minority leader Chuck Schumer said that there needs to be "an independent and transparent investigation into General Flynn's action and the Trump's administration's knowledge of them".

"Gen Flynn's resignation is not the end of the story, it is merely the beginning and the American people deserve to know the truth,"he said.

Cory Booker testifies that Jeff Sessions is not qualified to protect the rights of U.S. citizens

The President reportedly knew about Mr Flynn's calls with Russia to reassure Vladimir Putin that former President Barack Obama's sanctions would be overturned for at least three weeks.

Read more

Flynn's resignation has shown that the US media will not be bullied

Trump's presidency will end in tears

Trump under pressure to explain his knowledge of Flynn's Russia ties

White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer addressed the matter to reporters.

"It was not a legal issue, it was a trust issue. General Flynn is a dedicated public servant, he has served this country admirably. I think the president has appreciated his service to the country."

He added: "It was not a matter of law. It was a matter of trust."

Mr Trump's administration has been dogged by allegations of close ties to Russia, including his cabinet members like Rex Tillersonhaving received awards from the country and conducting business there for decades.

Mr Trump praised Mr Putin as being a "great leader" and his work to combat Isis in Syria, even though both countries have been accused of war crimes. Russia allegedly exerted a "campaign of influence" on the election by hacking Democratic computers and leaking information to WikiLeaks, as well as spreading fake news online, according to the FBI and CIA.

**Load-Date:** February 14, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Muslim ban: Donald Trump's lawyer of choice to represent his Supreme Court appeal withdraws availability; Chuck Cooper informed the government he no longer wanted to be considered for the role*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MVB-MVK1-F021-60SD-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 10, 2017 Friday 3:34 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 605 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz

**Body**

Donald Trump's lawyer of choice to represent him at the Supreme Court and push through his controversial Muslim ban executive order has said he no longer wants to be considered for the job.

Chuck Cooper, who was a top contender to argue for Mr Trump in the nation's highest court, withdrew from consideration on Thursday night.

The decision was made the same evening that the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit upheld federal Judge James Robart's decision to enforce a temporary stay on Mr Trump's order.

Read more

Trump says judge's ruling against his 'Muslim ban' is 'political'

Mr Trump vowed to fight back and take the case all the way to the Supreme Court.

Mr Copper said in a statement to

The Independent

that he was "deeply honoured" for the consideration but had "great respect" for any public servant in the Trump administration.

"But after witnessing the treatment that my friend Jeff Sessions, a decent and honorable man who bears only good will and good cheer to everyone he meets, had to endure at the hands of a partisan opposition that will say anything and do anything to advance their political interests, I am unwilling to subject myself, my family, and my friends to such a process," he said.

Cory Booker testifies that Jeff Sessions is not qualified to protect the rights of U.S. citizens

Mr Sessions was sworn in as Attorney General this week after facing massive opposition from Democrats and civil rights activists who claimed that his career has been dogged by allegations of racism and sexism. Mr Sessions, who is against same-sex marriage and abortion, said the accusations of racism were "damnably false charges".

Mr Trump has yet to name his top pick to represent him now that Mr Cooper has withdrawn his nomination. Likely contenders are the new Attorney General and close friend, Jeff Sessions, or acting Solicitor General Noel Francisco.

The administration is reportedly still interviewing candidates for Solicitor General.

One potential candidate is George Conway, husband of the Counselor to the President, Kellyanne Conway.

The executive order, signed 27 January, banned nearly all travellers from seven Muslim-majority countries for 90 days and refugees for 120 days. It also indefinitely suspended ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from entering the US.

It prompted massive protests at airports around the US and ensnared dual nationals as well as visa and green card holders.

Donald Trump says federal judges ruling against his 'Muslim ban' are 'political'

The ban was dealt a big setback after federal Judge Robart halted the ban temporarily and nationwide. Airports were immediately advised to let people into the US from those seven countries.

Mr Trump filed an emergency appeal via the Justice Department, which was denied.

Read more

Senior US politician suggests Donald Trump acting like a 'terrorist'

Lawyers have perfect response to Donald Trump's 'See you in court' vow

Donald Trump loses court battle to reinstate travel ban

Mr Trump was further irked after the Ninth Circuit upheld Mr Robart's decision, and accused the judges of being "political", putting the country in "turmoil" and "peril".

His Supreme Court Justice appointee, Neil Gorsuch, said those comments about the judiciary were "disheartening" and "demoralizing", according to Senator Richard Blumenthal, who related the conversation to reporters.

Mr Trump insisted that the Senator had misrepresented Mr Gorsuch's comments.

Comedian rips apart Donald Trump's 'Not-A-Muslim ban'

White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer said Mr Trump had "no regrets" about selecting Mr Gorsuch and that he would continue to "speak freely" about what he thought of the judiciary.

**Load-Date:** February 10, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban' to be re-introduced with Iraq removed from list of countries; The country has been excluded because it is so key in fighting against Isis*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5N0B-DDR1-F021-64SM-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

March 1, 2017 Wednesday 5:39 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** US POLITICS; Version:1

**Length:** 591 words

**Byline:** Matthew Lee, Vivian Salama

**Body**

President Donald Trump's new immigration order will remove Iraq from the list of countries whose citizens face a temporary U.S. travel ban, U.S. officials said Tuesday, citing the latest draft in circulation. Trump is expected to sign the executive order in the coming days.

Four officials told The Associated Press that the decision followed pressure from the Pentagon and State Department, which had urged the White House to reconsider Iraq's inclusion given its key role in fighting the Islamic State group.

Citizens of six other predominantly Muslim countries - Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen - will remain on the travel ban list, said the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to discuss the order before it is signed. Those bans are effective for 90 days.

The new order includes other changes as well. The officials said the 12-page document no longer singles out ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** for an indefinite ban and instead includes them as part of a general, 120-day suspension of new refugee admissions.

The officials also said the order won't include any explicit exemption for religious minorities in the countries targeted by the travel ban. Critics had accused the administration of adding such language to help Christians get into the United States while excluding Muslims.

The White House did not respond to a request for comment.

Trump signed his original executive order in late January. It sparked immediate confusion, panic and outrage as some travelers were detained in U.S. airports before being sent back overseas and others were barred from boarding flights at foreign airports.

The government initially blocked U.S. green card holders before offering those legal residents special permission to come into the country. It finally decided the order didn't apply to them.

The State Department provisionally revoked roughly 60,000 valid visas in all, before a federal judge in Washington state blocked the government from carrying out the ban. The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld that decision.

Under the revised order, officials said, all existing visas will be honored.

In his first address to a joint session of Congress, Trump on Tuesday evening defended his effort.

"We will shortly take new steps to keep our nation safe and to keep out those who would do us harm," he said.

After Trump signed the original order, Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi refuted the ban and said he would consider reciprocal measures. Many Iraqi lawmakers urged the government to ban Americans from Iraq in response, despite the potential effects that might have on the anti-IS fight.

Audible groans as Trump announces agency solely to report immigrant crime

Al-Abadi then met with Defense Secretary Jim Mattis in Baghdad this month and underscored the U.S.-Iraqi partnership. And Mattis walked back comments made by Trump, suggesting that Americans could get another chance to seize Iraqi oil as compensation for its military efforts there.

"We're not in Iraq to seize anybody's oil," Mattis told reporters on that trip. Al-Abadi also met with Vice President Pence in Munich earlier this month, where the two publicly discussed ways of strengthening cooperation.

The Trump administration's changes to the immigration order follow a report by intelligence analysts at the Homeland Security Department, which found insufficient evidence that citizens of the seven Muslim-majority countries posed a terror threat to the United States. A draft of the analysis was obtained last week by the AP.

Associated Press

**Load-Date:** March 1, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Lawyers are using Donald Trump's anti-Muslim rhetoric against him to fight his immigration ban; Attorneys-general ofWashington and Minnesota are questioning the motivebehind his controversial executive order*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MTW-6891-F021-6015-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 8, 2017 Wednesday 7:43 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 592 words

**Byline:** Jon Sharman

**Body**

Donald Trump's anti-Muslim rhetoric was used against him by state lawyers during an appeals court hearing into the President's controversial hardline immigration ban.

The attorneys-general of Washington and Minnesota have claimed Mr Trump acted in "bad faith in an effort to target Muslims" in signing his executive order banning travel from seven Muslim-majority countries.

During an hour of oral arguments, they pulled quotes from his December 2015 call for a "total and complete shutdown" on Muslims entering the US as well as an interview he gave to a Christian network when he said he wanted to give priority to Christians in Syria.

Read more

Yemen halts permission for US ground raids after botched operation

The states' lawyers said in a filing with the 9th US Circuit Court of Appeals that judges "have both the right and duty to examine" the President's motives.

It comes after former New York mayor Rudy Giuliani revealed that Mr Trump had asked him to investigate "the right way" to legally construct a "Muslim ban".In an interview with Fox News, Mr Giuliani, currently the White House cyber security advisor, added: "We focused on-instead of religion-danger. The areas of the world that create danger for us, which is a factual basis, not a religious basis.Perfectly legal. Perfectly sensible."

The administration's legal team said Washington and Minnesota were asking the court to "take the extraordinary step of second-guessing a formal national security judgement made by the President himself".

Mr Trump has criticised what he has labelled the "so-called" judge who ruled the ban unlawful. Hesaid the decision "takes law enforcement away from our country" and would allow "many very bad and dangerous people" into the US.

The President's order banned travellers from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen from entering the United States for 90 days and all refugees for 120 days. However, ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** would be barred indefinitely.

Three appellate judges from the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco considered the fate of the banon Tuesday, four days after it was blocked by a federal judge in Seattle.

The three judges presiding over the case are William C Canby Jr, who was appointed by President Jimmy Carter; Judge Richard Clifton, who was appointed by President George W Bush; and Judge Michelle Taryn Friedland who was appointed by President Barack Obama.

Read more

Trump: 'I haven't had one call' about Dakota Access Pipeline

Donald Trump reportedly regrets hiring Sean Spicer

Donald Trump's 'cover up' claims come from conspiracy theory website

In one exchange, Judge Friedland asked Justice Department lawyer August Flentje if the government could provided any evidence connecting the seven banned countries to terrorism. He responded by saying, "these proceedings have been moving very fast."

Before the hearing, President Trump said he hoped the case would go on to the Supreme Court while arguing that the order is important for the country. Halfway through the arguments, more than 120,000 viewers listened in via the court's official YouTube page.

Washington State Solicitor General Noah Purcell argued on behalf of Washington state that the motion would throw the country into chaos. "The executive order itself caused irreparable harm to our state and its people," he argued. "We had longtime residents who couldn't travel without knowing if they can return."

The states of Washington and Minnesota brought the case against the Trump administration, which will likely reach the US Supreme Court.

**Load-Date:** February 8, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump's Muslim ban: Steve Jobs was son of Syrian migrant; Presidentexpected to sign executive orders forMexico border wall and immigration measures this week*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MPX-8S51-F021-63C5-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 25, 2017 Wednesday 8:59 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 601 words

**Byline:** Peter Walker, Adam Withnall

**Body**

The world is once again remindingDonald Trump that one of the most famous Americanswas the son a Syrian migrant ahead of the President's expected ban on new Muslim arrivals.

The father ofSteve Jobs, the Apple founder who died in 2011,moved to the US to study in the 1950s.

Abdul Fattah Jandali was born in 1931 to a well-off family in Homs, Syria - a city now home tosome of the worst fighting in the country'scivil war.

He and his partner,Joanne Carole Schieble, had Jobs out of wedlock and were forced to give him up for adoption.

Jerry Durham tweeted today: "Steve Jobs' father was from Syria... Please choose wisely on who to keep out."

Steve Jobs father was from Syria....

Please choose wisely on who to keep out [*https://t.co/mAp6U9uNRa*](https://t.co/mAp6U9uNRa)

- Jerry Durham (@Jerry\_DurhamPT) January 25, 2017

Walied Shateralso wrote: "@POTUS as U ban people, remember, if U banned Syrian immigrants 50 years ago, there would be no Steve Jobs, no Apple!"

Mr Trump is expected to sign executive orders this week to restrict access of immigrants, refugees and some visa holders from Iraq, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen. He is also expected to order the construction of his Mexican border wall on Wednesday.

A simple Twitterpost, noting that Mr Jobs shared Syrian heritage with three-year-old refugee Aylan Kurdi, who was pictured washed up dead on the seashore, wasshared thousands of times on social media in 2015.

Posted by Geneva-based tech entrepreneur David Galbraith, itincluded a picture of Jobs and the caption: "A Syrian migrants' child [sic]."

Galbraith, who was co-founder of the company where Yelp was created and helped author RSS technology, said he was a fan of Jobs and remembered his family history when news about desperate ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** made headlines around the world.

A Syrian migrants' child. pic.twitter.com/sjBxuInpEp

- David Galbraith (@daveg) September 2, 2015

He told the Chicago Tribune that he "could barely look [at the photographs of Aylan] as I have two beautiful young children of my own".

He said: "It seemed to be that what the most precious thing in the world, a small child, was washed up on the sea shore like a discarded object of no value, when a child with a parent of the same nationality, given opportunity had created the largest company in the entire world. And here we are seeing an acrimonious debate, about stopping migrants."

The image he chose of Jobs comes from the cover of the late entrepreneurs best-selling, self-titled autobiography.

"It contrasted that of Aylan Kurdi in every way and made me wonder what little boys like him could have achieved if they had been given the chance," Galbraith said.

While the reminder of Mr Jobs' background has been shared more than 11,000 times, not everyone agreed with the apparent sentiment behind it.

Read more

Hungary's PM warns of risks to 'Christian' culture

Ways you can help refugees trying to find safety in Europe

Two charts which shame UK when it comes to EU's refugee crisis

Refugees recount joy as thousands reach Austria and Germany

One wrote that it suggests "that human life is worth something only if it achieves 'great things'. Another said the picture implied we should only perceive children as "future assets", adding: "Must we even value the human in economic terms?"

But many others were positive about Galbraith's message. One said it was a "brilliant tweet", while another wrote: "Most times the simplest statements are the most powerful.

**Load-Date:** January 25, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump launches attack on judge who stopped 'Muslim travel ban': 'If something happens blame him'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MT9-SJ01-JCJY-G4GK-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 5, 2017 Sunday 8:41 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 592 words

**Byline:** Feliks Garcia

**Body**

President Donald Trump criticised the federal judge who halted his executive order that temporarily banned travel and immigration from seven predominantly Muslim countries.

The signing of the order more than a week ago resulted in global confusion as hundreds of travellers and visa-holding immigrants were detained in airports across the US. It sparked massive protests and several lawsuits against the Trump administration.

Read more

'Muslim ban' block shows that Trump will not always get his own way

His first major defeat as President, Mr Trump did not take news of the restraining order against his action well, and wrongly suggested that any future attack on the US would be the result of the court's action.

"Just cannot believe a judge would put our country in such peril," he wrote, tweeting while on vacation at his Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida. "If something happens blame him and court system. People pouring in. Bad!"

He added that the courts were making the Department of Homeland Security's job "very difficult".

Just cannot believe a judge would put our country in such peril. If something happens blame him and court system. People pouring in. Bad!

- Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) February 5, 2017

Mr Trump's Twitter attack follows Judge James Robart's blocking of the executive order, plunging the new administration into a crisis and challenging the President's authority - which is not immune to the Judicial Branch of the government.

However, the Trump administration argued to the contrary in their appeal over the weekend.

Acting Solicitor General Noel Francisco argued that presidential authority is "largely immune from judicial control" regarding immigration to the US. But the 9th US Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco did not agree with that assessment and denied the Justice Department's request to stay the Mr Robart's decision.

The state of Washington was the first to file a lawsuit against the executive order, over which Mr Robart - a George W Bush appointee - presided. In his order, Mr Robart said the states "have met their burden of demonstrating that they face immediate and irreparable injury as a result of the signing and implementation of the Executive Order".

Mr Robart added it is not the court's job to "create policy or judge the wisdom of any particular policy promoted by the other two branches," but rather to make sure that an action taken by the government "comports with our country's laws".

Donald Trump fights back after judge blocks his travel ban

The President was quick to condemn the judge's decision on Twitter.

"The opinion of this so-called judge, which essentially takes law-enforcement away from our country, is ridiculous and will be overturned!" he said.

The President's executive order sought to ban all travel from Iraq, Iran, Yemen, Syria, Libya, Sudan, and Somalia for 90 days. It placed a 120-day ban on refugee admittance from six of those countries, while placing an indefinite halt to acceptance of ***Syrian*** ***refugees***.

Read more

Eight million people face deportation under Trump's executive order

Trump's effort to roll back Dodd-Frank is futile, says Barney Frank

'Muslim ban' block shows that Trump will not always get his own way

It also resulted in the revocation of at least 60,000 visas, according to DHS. The Department of Justice, however, had said that as many as 100,000 had been revoked.

Washington state Attorney General Bob Ferguson celebrated the judge's decision on Friday.

"The Constitution prevailed today," he told reporters. "No one is above the law - not even the president."

**Load-Date:** February 5, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Orlando shooting: Fact-checking the Clinton and Trump speeches after the massacre of 49 people; We combed through the speeches to find factual assertions that were worthy of fact checking*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K0Y-13N1-JCJY-G55R-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 14, 2016 Tuesday 1:41 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 2965 words

**Byline:** Glenn Kessler, Michelle Ye Hee Lee

**Body**

The presumptive presidential nominees - Democrat Hillary Clinton and Republican Donald Trump -gave dueling speeches on June 13 in the aftermath of the Orlando mass shooting.

We combed through the speeches to find factual assertions that were worthy of fact checking. There were many more such claims, of dubious provenance, in Trump's speech, so his section of the fact check is longer.

The quotes are in the order in which they were delivered. As is our custom in such roundups, we do not provide a Pinocchio rating.

Hillary Clinton

"If you're too dangerous to get on a plane, you are too dangerous to buy a gun in America."

There's arenewed push among gun-control advocates to ban known or suspected terrorists from buying guns.

This phrase has been used to explain provisions in the February 2015 amendment introduced by Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) in the Senate, and Rep. Peter King (R-N.Y.) in the House. Clinton has repeated it on the trail since the San Bernardino, Calif., shooting.

We've explored this rhetoric in the past and found it misleading when referring to the proposal that Feinstein introduced. The "no fly" list is a database that the Transportation Security Administration uses to screen passengers, and people on the list are deemed a threat to commercial aviation or national security.

Read more

The Orlando shooting exposed all of America's weaknesses- but then shone a light on the world's strength

Orlando shooting: Police hunting for possible accomplices of gay nightclub attacker Omar Mateen

Orlando shooting survivor describes gunman Omar Mateen laughing as he shot victims trapped in bathroom

Orlando shooting: Shares in US gun manufacturers jump after massacre amid calls for new weapons controls

Pride in London organisers urge vigilance after Orlando gay nightclub shooting

Orlando shooter Omar Mateen's ex-wife says he had 'gay tendencies' as Pulse patron decribes attacker as 'a regular'

This list is a subset of a larger watch list, the FBI's Terrorist Screening Center's consolidated Terrorist Watchlist. The Feinstein amendment applied to the people in the larger consolidated list, not directly tied to the no-fly list.

The government uses a "reasonable suspicion" standard to nominate and include someone in the Terrorist Watchlist. Belonging to a terrorist organization, or being listed on one of the watch lists, does not automatically stop someone from buying a gun. If a person on a watch list tries to buy a gun, the FBI is notified. There has to be another factor that disqualifies the person from buying a gun under federal or state law, such as a felony conviction or illegal immigration status.

According to FBI Director James Comey, the gunman in the Orlando shooting was once on a terrorism watch list. But he was taken off the list after FBI officials did not find enough evidence to charge him. It's unclear how the proposal that Clinton has supported would have intervened in this case.

"I know some will say that assault weapons and background checks are totally separate issues having nothing to do with terrorism. Well, in Orlando and San Bernardino terrorists used assault weapons, the AR-15. And they used it to kill Americans. That was the same assault weapon used to kill those little children in Sandy Hook."

Many of our readers have inquired about the difference between "assault weapon" and "assault rifle," given media reports using the terms interchangeably. This line by Clinton refers to the weapon used in Orlando and San Bernardino: the AR-15.

Clinton has called for a new ban on assault weapons, after the previous assault-weapons ban expired in 2004 after 10 years. There is mixed evidence as to how effective that ban was, and dispute over the efficacy of bans on certain weapons and large-capacity magazines in general. (Related: See our fact-check on whether proposed gun-control laws since the Newtown shooting in 2012 would have affected those shootings.)

Our colleague Thomas Gibbons-Neff on "Checkpoint" has a helpful explanation of the history of the AR-15. The AR-15 is the civilian version of the M-16, the Army's standard issue rifle. It's commonly referred to as an "assault rifle," but that term doesn't apply to all AR-15s since not all are fully automatic.

As Gibbons-Neff explained: Known to the masses as an "AR-15 assault rifle" and frequently misnamed as a "machine gun," the AR-15 is sold mostly as a semiautomatic weapon only, meaning one pull of the trigger equates to one bullet leaving the barrel. An assault rifle, by definition, means that the weapon is fully automatic.

Fully automatic AR-15s are available in the United States, but they require extensive paperwork from the bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and are exponentially more expensive than their single-fire counterparts. That being said, certain modifications to the weapon's trigger assembly can enable some semiautomatic AR-15s for fully automatic fire.

"For starters, it is long past time for the Saudis, the Qataris and the Kuwaitis and others to stop their citizens from funding extremist organizations."

This has long been an issue for the U.S. government, which has jawboned these countries to little effect. A 2009 State Department cable, issued when Clinton was secretary of state and later released by WikiLeaks, detailed the talking points that were to be delivered to officials in Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Kuwait, urging yet again that action be taken to stem the financing of terror groups through private donation.

We should also note that such concerns did not prevent the Clinton Foundation from accepting millions of dollars from these countries - $10-25 million from Saudi Arabia, $5-10 million from Kuwait and $1-5 million from Qatar.

"It's no coincidence that hate crimes against American Muslims and mosques have tripled after Paris and San Bernardino."

Clinton suggests this is a current statistic, but it is based on just one month of data after the Paris and San Bernardino attacks, collected by the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at California State University. Brian Levin, the center's director, told The Fact Checker that the center did not collect data after Jan. 1 and he acknowledged that it represents a "small data set." But he noted that it reflected a trend of anti-Muslim actions that have spiked after previous instances, mostly notably after the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

Clinton: We must 'stop terrorists from getting' assault weapons Embed Share Play Video3:47

Speaking in Cleveland, Ohio, Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton called for unity in the wake of the tragic shooting in Orlando. Here are key moments from that speech. (Reuters/Associated Press)

Donald Trump

"Even her former Secret Service agent, who's seen her under pressure and in times of stress, has stated that she lacks the temperament and integrity to be our president."

There is a book by a former Secret Service agent due to be released on June 28 that supposedly makes this allegation.

"The killer, whose name I will not use, or ever say, was born in Afghan, of Afghan parents, who immigrated to the United States."

Twitter commentary quickly noted that Trump was wrong, that the shooter was born in the United States. But Trump, using a teleprompter, misspoke. His prepared text correctly stated that Omar Mateen was born an American citizen.

"Even our own FBI director has admitted that we cannot effectively check the backgrounds of people we're letting into America."

Trump overstated what FBI Director James Comey said in congressional testimony.

Comey made his remarks in response to a bill that would have required the FBI chief to personally certify that every single refugee admitted into the country was not a security threat. "Could I certify to there being no risk associated with an individual?" Comey said on Dec. 9. "The bureau doesn't take positions on legislation, and we don't get involved in policy decisions. But that practically would be impossible."

Comey has made it clear that the process in place to vet refugees has gotten better but there is nothing that is "risk-free."

"All of the September 11hijackers were issued visas. Large numbers of Somali refugees in Minnesota have tried to join ISIS."

Trump is correct that the 19 hijackers in the 9/11 attacks had visas - though some of them had overstayed their visa. Five other co-conspirators applied for visas, but were denied. Two others also obtained visas, but were not a part of the actual attacks, according to the 9/11 Commission staff report.

There is a concentration of ethnic Somalis in Minneapolis who have joined known terrorist groups, like al Shabaab and Isis. But numbers are not large. According to the George Washington University's report on U.S.-grown extremism, at least 15 individuals since 2014 have traveled or tried to travel out of America to join ISIS, relying "on a well-worn recruiting apparatus that leveraged deep personal, familial and community relations." Minnesota had the second highest number of arrests (11) made in a state connected to ISIS-related activities in 2015 alone, behind New York.

"Immigration from Afghanistan into the United States has increased nearly five fold - five fold - in just one year. According to Pew Research, 99 percent of the people in Afghanistan support oppressive sharia law."

Trump may be referring to the increase in grants of legal permanent residents to Afghans from fiscal 2013 (2,196) to fiscal 2014 (10,527). The increase resulted in additional visas granted through the Special Immigrant Visa Program for Afghans who were interpreters for the military or worked for the U.S. government, according to the Migration Policy Institute. Congress allowed this fix due to backlogs in processing the cases.

Trump cites Pew's research that 99 percent of Muslims in Afghanistan support sharia law as the official law. But Pew also notes that nearly 30 percent of Muslims in Afghanistan "say sharia should be open to multiple interpretations," and that people often disagree on what "sharia law" means.

"Here is what she [Clinton] said, exact quote, 'Muslims are peaceful and tolerant people, and have nothing whatsoever to do with terrorism.' That is Hillary Clinton."

He is referring to this tweet, which prefaced the comment with the observation that "Islam is not our adversary:"

"Let's be clear: Islam is not our adversary. Muslims are peaceful and tolerant people and have nothing whatsoever to do with terrorism."

"Her plan is to disarm law abiding Americans, abolishing the Second Amendment, and leaving only the bad guys and terrorists with guns....She wants to take away American's guns and then admit the very people who want to slaughter us."

Nope, Clinton does not want to abolish the Second Amendment.

Our friends at FactCheck.organd PolitiFact both debunked this. Clinton has consistently said she supported protecting Americans' constitutional right to bear arms. Her gun violence prevention proposal includes plans to make certain gun purchases a federal crime, and ban certain type of guns (assault weapons).

Let's not forget that Trump himself used to support an assault weapons ban, as he wrote in his 2000 book, "The America We Deserve": "I generally oppose gun control, but I support the ban on assault weapons and I support a slightly longer waiting period to purchase a gun."

"Hillary Clinton's catastrophic immigration plan will bring vastly more radical Islamic immigration into this country, threatening not only our society but our entire way of life.... The burden is on Hillary Clinton to tell us how she will pay for it, her plan will cost hundreds of billions of dollars long term."

We can't fact-check whether Clinton's plan is "catastrophic;" we'll let readers judge that for themselves. It's unclear where Trump is getting the cost estimate on the "hundreds of billions of dollars," but it seems wildly exaggerated. The Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget found that the immigration reform component of Clinton's plan would save the federal budget $100 billion over 10 years.

Trump calls for massive shift in immigration policy Embed Share Play Video3:21

"Each year the United States permanently admits 100,000 immigrants from the Middle East and many more from Muslim countries outside of the Middle East."

Trump overstated the figure here. The number of people seeking lawful permanent resident status ("a green card") adds up to about 76,000 people if you include the Arab countries in the Levant, Persian Gulf and North Africa, according to 2014 Department of Homeland Security figures.

You get to around 100,000 only by including Afghanistan and Pakistan, which of course are outside the traditional "Middle East." Other Muslim countries, such as Indonesia (2,139) and Somalia (5,190), do not significantly add to the total.

"Clinton's State Department was in charge of admissions and the admissions process for people applying to enter from overseas."

This is a strange and false claim. The vetting of immigrants is done by Homeland Security, specifically its arm known as U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Only after USCIS approves a petition for an immigrant visa does State's National Visa Center get involved to complete the paperwork for final processing.

"Having learned nothing from these attacks, she now plans to massively increase admissions without a screening plan including a 500 percent increase in ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** coming into our country."

President Obama (not Hillary Clinton) has directed that 10,000 refugees be admitted from Syria in this fiscal year, up from under 2,000 the previous year. That's where Trump gets his "500 percent," though the raw numbers are not that big. But then he greatly inflates the figure in his next statement.

"Under the Clinton plan, you'd be admitting hundreds of thousands of refugees from the Middle East with no system to vet them, or to prevent the radicalization of the children and their children."

Trump has repeatedly made this "hundreds of thousands" claim, usually referring to Syria, but it's false. The Obama administration said it would accept a total of 85,000 refugees in 2016 and 100,000 in 2017. That's from all countries, of which 10,000 would be from Syria in 2016. In fiscal 2013, about 30 percent came from the Middle East, mostly from Iraq. So no matter how you calculate it, it does not add up to "hundreds of thousands."

Read more

Florida shooting: Son trapped in Orlando gay nightclub sent heartbreaking texts to mother

Omar Mateen: At gunman's Florida mosque prayers offered for those killed in Orlando

Florida gay club shooting: Father of Orlando gunman Omar Mateen hosted TV political quiz show

Florida nightclub shooting: 50 dead after 'terror attack' at Orlando LGBT club Pulse

Trump also falsely claims there is "no system to vet" refugees. The process actually takes two more years, after vetting that starts with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and then continues with checks by U.S. intelligence and security agencies. (Our colleagues at PolitiFact did a good look at this process.)

"We have to stop the tremendous flow of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** into the United States."

There is no "tremendous flow," as we have noted. About 1,800 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** were admitted to the United States from the beginning of the civil war in Syria to November 2015. The United States is actually behind on its goal of settling at least 10,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** this year.

"Americans already admitted four times more immigrants than any country on Earth, anybody in the world."

This is a statistic touted by Sen. Jeff Sessions (R-Ala.), a close adviser to Trump. But it's a dubious one, as it appears based on raw numbers and inconsistent data sets among countries, making it difficult to make an apples-to-apples comparison. The United States is also one of the largest countries in the world in terms of population, so its immigration figures are bound to be among the highest in raw numbers.

A better way to examine this question across large and small countries is net migrants per 1,000 people. On that score, the United States does not rank very high - only 34th in the world in 2015, according to the CIA's World Factbook.

"Not surprisingly, wages for our workers haven't budged. In almost 20 years."

Trump is correct. As we noted recently in another fact check, since 2000, the last year of the Bill Clinton administration, median household income has been largely flat - $57,576 in January 2000 and $57,243 in April 2016.

"They [Muslims] knew the people in San Bernardino were bad. But you know what? They didn't turn them in."

There is no evidence this was the case. There have been unconfirmed second- or third-hand reports - a friend of a friend of a neighbor - that a neighbor claimed to have noticed suspicious activity but did not report anything for fear of doing racial profiling. The religion of this supposed neighbor is unknown, but presumably a fear of racial profiling would suggest the neighbor was not Muslim.

"We've spent almost $5 trillion over the years on trying to nation build in the Middle East and it has been complete and total disaster."

The wars in Afghanistan and Iraq have cost a lot of money - about $2 trillion in direct costs - but nothing close to $5 trillion has been spent on "nation-building." The number climbs to between $4 trillion and $6 trillion when future costs for providing medical care and disability benefits for veterans is added, as well as the future cost of servicing the national debt. But Trump suggest the money has already been spent - and specifically for nation-building.

"He [Obama] gave the world his apology tour."

An oldie but goodie! Republicans claimed in the last election cycle that Obama went on an apology tour, but that was deemed false by fact checkers. We gave the claim Four Pinocchios in 2011.

Copyright: Washington Post

**Load-Date:** June 14, 2016

**End of Document**



[*George W Bush breaks silence to attack Donald Trump's war on the media; Free press is 'indispensable to democracy', says former President*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5N00-6HH1-F021-611M-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 27, 2017 Monday 4:36 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** US POLITICS; Version:1

**Length:** 569 words

**Byline:** Jon Sharman

**Body**

Former President George W Bush has said an independent press is "indispensable to democracy" when asked if he agreed with Donald Trump that the media was the "enemy of the people".

The 43rd President said it was important for a free press to hold power to account, and that lecturing other countries on freedom of expression would become more difficult if "we're not willing to have one ourselves".

Asked on NBC's

Today

programme whether, as he faced harsh criticism during his time in office, he ever considered the media "to be the enemy of the American people", he said: "I consider the media to be indispensable to democracy.

"We need an independent media to hold people like me to account. Power can be very addictive, and it can be corrosive, and it's important for the media to call to account people who abuse their power, whether it be here or elsewhere.

"One of the things I spent a lot of time doing was trying to convince a person like Vladimir Putin, for example, to accept the notion of an independent press. And it's kind of hard to tell others to have an independent, free press when we're not willing to have one ourselves."

Mr Bush was also asked whether President Trump's promises to unify the US had been borne out in his words and actions.

He said: "First of all there's only been one month in office. He's got four years. Secondly, I think you have to take the man for his word that he wants to unify the country and we'll see whether he's able to do so.

The FAKE NEWS media (failing @nytimes, @NBCNews, @ABC, @CBS, @CNN) is not my enemy, it is the enemy of the American People!

- Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) February 17, 2017

"It's hard to unify the country, though, with the news media being so split up. When I was President, you know, you [TV news channels] mattered a lot more, because there was like, three of you.

"And now there's all kinds of information being bombarded out, and people can say things anonymously. It's just a different world."

NBC was one of the sections of the "FAKE NEWS media" Mr Trump denounced as "the enemy of the American People" in a tweet on 17 February.

At the Conservative Political Action Conference last week the President doubled down on his claim. He said: "They are the enemy of the people. Because they have no sources. They just make them up where there are none."

On Twitter Mr Trump has condemned behind-the-scenes leaks from inside the White House that have provided fodder for political reporters in Washington.

Read more

Donald Trump promises 'historic' increase in US military budget

Philip Bilden withdraws as Navy Secretary pick despite Spicer denial

Republican intelligence chief seeks to kill Russia-Trump links probe

He said: "The FBI is totally unable to stop the national security "leakers" that have permeated our government for a long time.

"They can't even find the leakers within the FBI itself. Classified information is being given to media that could have a devastating effect on U.S. FIND NOW".

Mr Bush was also asked whether he agreed with Mr Trump's travel ban. The ban, handed down by executive order, temporarily blocked travellers from seven Muslim-majority countries and suspended entry for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** indefinitely.

It was struck down by judges and a new version is expected this week.

Hinting at his position, Mr Bush said: "I am for an immigration policy that is welcoming and upholds the law."

**Load-Date:** February 27, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Ann Coulter warns Donald Trump of voter backlash if he 'betrays' them on immigration; Among the circle of hardline Trump supporters, Ms Coulter seems to be getting nervous*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M97-CHC1-F021-60VH-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 1, 2016 Thursday 8:05 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 607 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz

**Body**

While the likes of Tomi Lahren and Meghan McCain are warming up the Donald Trump bandwagon, one prominent woman supporter appears increasingly frustrated with the President-elect.

Ann Coulter, the author and commentator who made her name by pushing a hardline anti-immigration stance and who praised Mr Trump's June 2015 speech accusingMexicans ofbeing "rapists", has taken to social media to warn Mr Trump to stick to his campaign pledges of immigration reforms. That includes temporarily banning Muslims, building the wall along the Mexican border and stopping the so-called influx of ***Syrian*** ***refugees***.

There is only one man who could complete these tasks as the head ofthe Department of Homeland Security, according to Ms Coulter. That is Kansas secretary of state Kris Kobach.

Read more

The best Ann Coulter jokes from Rob Lowe's roast have been rounded up

The frontrunner for the rolebelieves that immigrants should be deported if they commit "any felony". He also wants to outlaw sanctuary cities and agrees with Mr Trump's incorrect assertionthat three million people voted "illegally".

In Ms Coulter's latest blog, called "How Trump could ruin his presidency", Ms Coulter said that Mr Trump'sviews on immigration were the only reason that supporters stuck with him through his attack of Arizona senatorandwar hero John McCain, his "lazy"first debate performance and the leaked 2005

Access Hollywood

tape which showed him bragging about grabbing women's genitals.

"But if he breaks a major campaign promise, his supporters will turn on him with a blind ferocity, dwarfing their rage toward Jeb! because Trump's is the more exquisite con. He will have duped them. And he will never, ever, ever get them back,"she said.

Ann Coulter defends Trump

As Mr Trump arrived in Indiana to meet with the bosses at air manufacturing plant Carrier to announced his deal to save less than half the jobs from moving to Mexico, Ms Coulter re-tweeted people who had warned him not to "betray"them and asked him to move on from Indiana and start working on immigration.

"If Trump betrays voters on immigration, he can have as many rallies as he wants, but Americans will say, Been there, done that - you screwed us. He will never escape the stink of broken campaign promises," she wrote.

The Best Ann Coulter Insults at the Rob Lowe Roast

Her words mark a strong turnaround from the title of her latest book, released in August, called

In Trump We Trust

,a diehard loyalist's guide to Trumpism and his brandof "Make America Great Again".In the last few months, however, the President-elect has flirted with a more moderate view on immigration to get votes and appease critics.

Read more

Ann Coulter booed and attacked at Rob Lowe Comedy Central roast

Ann Coulter says Trump's 'ban on Muslims' doesn't go far enough

Ann Coulter: 'Popularity of football in America is a sign of moral

Mr Trump has already irked some supporters by revealing during a meeting with the

New York Times

that he "no longer felt so strongly"about prosecuting Hillary Clinton and heralleged misuse of her personal email server - just one month after he promised to appoint a special prosecutor and investigate the Democrat.

If Mr Trump does not carry out his campaign pledges, it might not reflect well on Ms Coulter - although she has never said she liked the Republican as a person, describing him as "coarse"and "tasteless"- but it will help her to continue to sell books. She can continue tobemoanthe state of the nation becoming "shorter"and "browner", and never haveto defenda situation where her Trumpist idealsare implemented and yet might still fail to achieve her dreams of "whiter" America.

**Load-Date:** December 1, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Germany offers asylum seekers up to (EURO)1,200 each to voluntarily return to their home countries; Government budgets (EURO)40m for programme amid huge backlog in asylum claims*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MSV-VRR1-JCJY-G07Y-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 3, 2017 Friday 3:01 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 613 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

The German government has budgeted more than (EURO)40 million (£35 million) to pay asylum seekers to voluntarily return to their home countries.

Migrants will be offered financial incentives of up to (EURO)1,200 (£1,000) each to leave Germany and withdraw their application for protection, with a lower amount of (EURO)800 (£700) if they choose to depart after being refused asylum.

The German interior ministry is running the "StarthilfePlus" programme with the UN's International Organisation of Migration (IOM), mirroring similar initiatives run in other European countries since the start of the refugee crisis.

It is open to "destitute" citizens of some of the world's top refugee producing countries, including Syria, Afghanistan, Eritrea, Iraq and Nigeria, while Russians, Turks, Ukrainians and other nationalities will be excluded from support after the programme's "transitional stage".

Germany approves new integration law for refugees

In order to receive the money, returnees must sign a formal declaration to the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) pledging to withdraw the asylum application and the legal remedies already applied and refrain from any further appeals.

Read more

Germany plans to electronically tag suspected terrorists

Mass terror raids thwart 'planned Isis attack' in Germany

Germany reacts to Donald Trump's Muslim immigration ban

Thomas de Maizière, the German interior minister, said StarthilfePlus was intended for those with "very poor chances of success" under the country's asylum laws.

"I appeal to understanding and reason: For all those who have no prospect of staying in Germany, voluntarily departure represents a better way than deportation," he added.

"If the possibility of a voluntary return is not used, only the instrument of deportation remains. Only with the consistent application of the law can the functionality of our asylum system be ensured."

The IOM said the funding, including extra "family assistance" grants, is paid out in two stages - one half in Germany before departure and the remainder within eight months of their proven arrival in the country of origin. Children under 12 receive half the adult amount.

The programme was launched as civil servants continue to battle a backlog of around 400,000 asylum claims created by the unprecedented number of refugees who arrived in Germany in 2015.

The number of new applications plummeted by more than 600,000 last year, standing at less than a third of those at the height of the crisis, when Angela Merkel opened Germany's borders to ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** amid a series of boat disasters in the Mediterranean and Aegean seas.

Her policy sparked the arrival of more than a million asylum seekers in Germany, many of whom are still housed in temporary accommodation while awaiting a government decision.

Anti-immigration and far-right groups have criticised the decision, blaming the Chancellor for a series of Isis-inspired terror attacks carried out by migrants in Germany last year, including the Berlin Christmas market massacre.

A man linked to the dead suspect was extradited to Tunisia on Wednesday, following outrage over revelations the Berlin attacker and a known Isis recruiter were not deported to the country because of delays with paperwork.

Germany is the latest European country to boost "voluntary return" programmes amid growing anti-immigration sentiment across the continent.

Denmark's initiative, also run with the IOM, caused 532 asylum seekers to voluntarily leave the country last year - a record number.

Many cited long waiting times in Danish asylum centres, ill family members in their home countries and false expectations as the primary reasons for leaving.

**Load-Date:** February 3, 2017

**End of Document**



[*First of the 20,000 Syrian refugees David Cameron promised to take in arrive in Britain; The EU has also agreed a deal to relocate 120,000 refugees around the continent*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H07-S891-JCJY-G159-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 22, 2015 Tuesday 7:07 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HOME NEWS

**Length:** 171 words

**Byline:** Agency

**Body**

The first ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** to take part in the Government's expanded resettlement programme have reportedly arrived in Britain, the Home Office has confirmed.

The arrival of the group marks the first step to fulfilling David Cameron's promise to resettle 20,000 Syrians over the next four-and-a-half years by expanding the vulnerable persons resettlement scheme.

It comes as the European Union voted to back a plan to relocate 120,000 refugees in the continent through a quota scheme which Britain will not take part in.

A Home Office spokeswoman said: "We are working closely with the with UNHCR and local authorities to make sure we are ready to welcome more Syrians who desperately need our assistance.

"Today a number of people have arrived in the UK as part of the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement (VPR) scheme. As the Prime Minister announced earlier this month, we will resettle 20,000 Syrians over the course of this Parliament through this scheme."

This article will be updated shortly

**Load-Date:** September 22, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump expected to order Mexican border wall and temporarily ban refugees; White House aides say the president will begin with his border wall on Wednesday*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MPY-9C71-F021-60R8-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 24, 2017 Tuesday 11:18 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 606 words

**Byline:** Justin Carissimo

**Body**

Donald Trump is expected to sign executive orders this week to prevent ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and Muslim immigrants from entering the United States. He's also expected to order the construction of his infamous, Mexican border wall on Wednesday.

The president is preparing to restrict access to the country from immigrants, refugees, some visa holders from Iraq, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen,

Reuters

reports, citing

congressional aides briefed on the orders.

President Trump's restrictions will likely include a multi-month ban on admitting immigrants from all countries until the State Department and Department of Homeland Security finalize an "extreme vetting" process.

Big day planned on NATIONAL SECURITY tomorrow. Among many other things, we will build the wall!

- Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) January 25, 2017

"Donald Trump is making good on the most shameful and discriminatory promises he made on the campaign trail," National Iranian American Council said in a statement. "He called for a Muslim ban and is now taking the first steps to implement one. This will not stand. The American people are better than this."

Nihad Awad, the national executive director at the Council on American-Islamic Relations, condemned the initial media reports of President Trump's immigration orders.

"These [executive orders] will not make our nation safer," he tweeted Tuesday night, "rather they will make it more fearful and less welcoming."

In addition to the ban, the president will begin rolling out executive actions that include preparations for his wall on the US-Mexico border along with other enforcement plans, according to two administration officials who spoke to

The Associated Press

.

On the campaign trail, Mr Trump pledged to tighten US immigration policies, including a complete ban on Muslim immigrants from entering the states. He also promised to strengthen border security by building a wall while basically forcing the Mexican government to pay for it. The promise became one of the earliest policies and staple of his campaign.

He eventually softened his stance on both policies while promising to implement a process of extreme vetting for immigrants leaving countries in the Middle East. Come January, the newly elected president's transition team began asking Congress to push funding for the wall through the country's appropriations budget.

On Wednesday afternoon, the president will travel to the Department of Homeland Security to direct the agency begin construction on the wall and repair fencing along the border. The executive order will also increase the staff at the Customs and Border Protection agency by hiring an additional 5,000 employees.

Read more

Trump team deletes apology to LGBT people for past discrimination

Trump nominee admits Obama inauguration crowd size was bigger

Trump clears way for pipeline days after oil spill on reservation

A second order seeks to eliminate sanctuary cities where governments refuse to hand over undocumented immigrants to federal authorities. CNN reports that it will triple resources for Immigration and Custom Enforcement and direct the feds to identify illegal immigrants in the states.

White House press secretary Sean Spicer told reporters Monday that President Trump would be making his immigration policies a priority in the coming weeks.

"First and foremost, the President's been very, very clear that we need to direct agencies to focus on those who are in this country illegally and have a record - a criminal record or poses a threat to the American people," he said at the press briefing. "That's where the priorities going to be."

**Load-Date:** January 25, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Jeremy Corbyn calls for Donald Trump to be banned from UK visit until Muslim country travel ban is lifted; Some British citizens with dual nationalities will be affected by the ban*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MRS-MSP1-JCJY-G4RD-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 29, 2017 Sunday 10:18 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 569 words

**Byline:** Jon Stone

**Body**

Donald Trump should be blocked from making his planned state visit to the UK as long as his "Muslim ban" policy remains in place, Jeremy Corbyn has said.

The Labour leader said Theresa May should not be endorsing Mr Trump until it was clear his Government was "actually going to protect fundamental rights and freedoms and laws".

Ms May invited Mr Trump to Britain on behalf of the Queen when she visited him in Washington DC earlier this week. He accepted her invitation.

Read more

Donald Trump's Muslim ban prevents Iraqi-born MP from visiting kids

The Prime Minister refused to condemn the ban on Saturday when questioned by journalists. The policy affects British citizens who were born in Iraq, including Conservative MP Nadhim Zahawi, who says it will prevent him visiting his children in America.

After sustained criticism, in the early hours of Sunday morning Downing Street issued a statement saying Ms May was in fact opposed to the ban, though she has yet to personally comment on the matter.

Mr Corbyn told ITV1's

Peston on Sunday

programme: "It's slightly odd he should be invited so quickly and particularly in view of the statements that he's made. I suspect this visit is something that might find its way into the long grass.

"I think we need to find out exactly what his intentions are and how much the US parliamentary system is actually going to protect fundamental rights and freedoms and laws.

Read more

Parallels drawn between Donald Trump's refugee policy and Anne Frank

Both Turkish and British prime ministers were asked to condemn Trump

Theresa May repeatedly refuses to condemn Donald Trump immigration ban

"Is it really right to endorse somebody who has used this awful misogynist language throughout the election campaign, awful attacks on Muslims and then this absurd idea of building a wall with their nearest neighbour?"

p.p1 {margin: 0.0px 0.0px 0.0px 0.0px; font: 13.0px 'Helvetica Neue'}

Sources close to Mr Corbyn say the Labour leader also believes a visit would be inappropriate while Mr Trump's separate order banning ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** remains in place.

Speaking after the progamme Mr Corbyn added: "Donald Trump should not be welcomed to Britain while he abuses our shared values with his shameful Muslim ban and attacks on refugees' and women's rights.

"Theresa May would be failing the British people if she does not postpone the state visit and condemn Trump's actions in the clearest terms. That's what Britain expects and deserves."

Theresa May refused to condemn the policy when questioned by reporters (AFP/

Getty

)

MPs previously debated banning Mr Trump from the UK at the start of lastyear after a petition on the matter garnered around half a million signatures, triggering a discussion in Parliament. No action was taken after the debate, however.

Protesters are set to assemble outside Downing Street at 6pm on Sundayto criticise Ms May's response to the attacks on British citizens.

That gathering will come after protests at New York's JFK airport, as well as a strike by some NYC taxi drivers covering journeysto the airport.

The Downing Street statement criticising the plans in the early hours of Sunday morning read: "Immigration policy in the United States is a matter for the government of the United States, just the same as immigration policy for this country should be set by our government.

"But we do not agree with this kind of approach and it is not one we will be taking."

**Load-Date:** January 29, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Syria crisis: Britain's response to humanitarian disaster is 'woefully inadequate', says coalition of leading charities in open letter to David Cameron; Exclusive: Immigration figures will show that the UK has only taken in 100 refugees, say organisations*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5DPC-HF91-F021-63YN-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 26, 2014 Wednesday 10:41 PM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 1250 words

**Byline:** Jamie Merrill

**Body**

Britain's response to the Syria refugee crisis has been "woefully inadequate", according to a coalition of aid groups and charities who are urging the UK to resettle 10,000 refugees.

In an open letter to David Cameron published by The Independent, more than 30 organisations attack the Government for accepting around 100 Syrians - despite committing to welcome many more.

They urge the Prime Minister to "take the lead" in providing safety for Syria's most vulnerable people.

After four years of conflict 3.2m refugees have fled Syria in what aid agencies have called the "worst humanitarian crisis of our generation".

Western governments have been asked by the UN to accept just 100,000 of the most vulnerable refugees from the region. Britain initially resisted these calls, instead highlighting the aid it is offering in the region.

In January, following a concerted campaign supported by The Independent, the Government carried out a major U-turn and committed to admitting up to 500 ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. Since then however this pledge has been downgraded to a commitment to resettle "several hundred" of the most vulnerable Syrians, and Thursday's quarterly immigration figures are expected to show that only around 100 Syrians have arrived under the Government's Vulnerable Persons Relocation (VPR) scheme.

Read more: The letter: We applaud British aid, but aid is not enoughEditorial: Daunting scale of the refugee crisis is no excuse

Yvette Cooper, the shadow Home Secretary said Government's record was "shameful". She said: "Theresa May promised Britain would help up to 500 refugees. But whilst other countries have done their bit, Britain hasn't." The low number welcomed under the VPR scheme are in stark contrast to other Western countries, including Germany which has agreed to resettle 20,000 refugees and the US which has already granted visas to 9,100 Syrians as part of an "open-ended resettlement" policy.

The unprecedented letter is the first time that major aid agencies, including Oxfam, Save the Children, Amnesty International, the Refugee Council, CAFOD and Christian Aid, have openly attacked Government policy on Syrian resettlement and placed a figure on the number of refugees Britain has a duty to resettle.

The letter reflects dismay among aid agencies that Britain has been so slow to accept refuges while countries in the region, such as Lebanon and Jordan, are struggling to provide for 3.2m Syrians with the approach of winter and sub-zero temperatures.

Maurice Wren, chief executive of the Refugee Council, which organised the letter, said: "Syria's story is one of death, destruction and displacement. While the prospects for peace appear more remote than ever, the future for Syria' refugees is bleak. Unable to return home, these people's lives depend on the compassion and generosity of countries like ours. We must not turn our backs on Syria's refugees."

In Lebanon's Bekaa Valley alone more than 140,000 Syrians are living in makeshift shelters 900 metres above sea level, while earlier this week it emerged that Jordan was allegedly forcing some refugees to return to Syria.

Justin Forsyth, chief executive of the Save the Children said Syria's neighbours are "struggling under the burden" while "Britain is offering sanctuary to so few."

On Wednesday, in an intervention one aid agency source described as a "strong challenge to the UK to do more", the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) António Guterres told The Independent that the refugee crisis in the region "needs a much stronger international response than what we have seen so far."

Mr Guterres said: "A growing number of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in the region are very vulnerable... and we urgently need additional resettlement and humanitarian admissions places for them, now and over the coming months."

His most forceful intervention yet comes two weeks before a UNHCR ministerial-level conference in Geneva, which will see the UNHCR call on Western countries to help resettle 100,000 Syrian during 2015 and 2016. However the British government has declined to send a minister to lead its delegation, which will instead be represented by a diplomat from the Foreign Office.

In pictures: Global refugee crisis

The letter to David Cameron comes as the latest immigration figures, released on Thursday, are expected to underline his party's failure to meet their own net migration target of getting immigration below 100,000 by the general election.

Refugee charities are urging the government not to allow domestic politics to overshadow the crisis in Syria. Mark Goldring, Oxfam GB chief executive, said: "Our government has a responsibility to rise above domestic politics and see this for what it is: Britain giving safe, often temporary, homes to people in the direst of need."

A Downing Street spokesman said: "The UK has been at the forefront of the international response to the humanitarian crisis in Syria, having pledged £700m, making us the second largest bilateral donor. This funding is providing support including food, medical care and relief items for over a million people affected by the fighting in Syria, as well as to refugees in Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey and Iraq.

"We will always consider legitimate asylum claims and, through our Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme, we are working closely with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to identify those most at risk and bring them to the UK."

Case study: The family forced to flee Syria after seeing their father executed

Before Tayma, 38, and her seven children (pictured top of the page) fled Syria 10 months ago she had  "everything anyone could ever want" with a healthy family, a loving husband, a productive farm and an eighth child on the way.

Then soldiers came in the night and executed her husband in front of her and threatened her children with rape. She soon found that her sister and six-month-old niece had also been killed, forcing her to flee her farm and take refuge over the border to northern Lebanon.

She said: "One night we heard a noise outside, so my husband got up to see what was happening. I sensed that something was not right, so I woke the kids up and took them to the farm. While I was outside, I saw an armed man dragging my husband on the floor and then shooting him. I screamed hysterically at my children to run away.

"The man emptied his bullets into my husband's chest and walked towards me. He said that if I don't leave right now, he will give my daughters to his men and he will make me watch them get raped and tortured. I collapsed on the ground, tears streaming down my face... I crawled towards my husband's body desperately calling his name; I didn't realise that my daughter, Diana, was behind me all the time until I saw her sitting next to her father drenched in blood, crying and calling him to wake up."

When Tayma eventually arrived in Lebanon she was seven months pregnant and "terrified". She is one of 1.3 million refugees in Lebanon, a country with a normal population of less than 4.5 million. Like thousands of vulnerable refugees arriving in the tiny but swollen country, she was forced to live in a shack with no doors, running water or a bathroom. It was only with help from Save the Children that she managed to install proper windows and a door.

She said: "When I saw the living conditions here, I thought of going back to Syria. But then I figured it's better to live in a stable or an abandoned house than put my children's lives in danger."

Jamie Merrill

**Load-Date:** November 26, 2014

**End of Document**



[*Iraqi refugee detained at JFK airport says 'America is the land of freedom'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MRP-W8F1-JCS0-D237-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

January 29, 2017 Sunday

First Edition

Copyright 2017 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 24

**Length:** 543 words

**Byline:** ANDREW BUNCOMBE NEW YORK

**Body**

An Iraqi refugee released from detention at JFK Airport has spoken of his love of America and his belief it was the land of freedom. Hameed Khalid Darweesh, who worked on behalf of the US government in Iraq for 10 years, was one of 12 refugees being held at the airport after the enforcement of Donald Trump's immigration ban.

Yesterday morning, lawyers for Mr Darweesh filed a habeas corpus lawsuit, seeing his release. At around lunchtime, Mr Darweesh, who was travelling with his wife and three children, was set free. "America is the greatest nation, the greatest people in the world," said Mr Darweesh, who said that he liked Mr Trump.

Mr Darweesh, who was given permission to enter the US because he had been threatened over his work with the US military as an interpreter, said he was heartened by those people who had come to his support. Their actions, he said, reaffirmed to him his belief in American values. "In Iraq, we know that America is the land of the free," he said.

Another detainee, Haider Sameer Abdulkhaleq Alshawi, had flown to the US to join his wife who had worked for a US contractor. After they were detained, lawyers for all of the men filed a suit in the early hours of Saturday morning, seeking their release.

Mr Trump's order, signed on Friday, means that ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** are banned from entry until further notice. Nationals of six further countries, including Iran and Iraq, will be banned from entering the US for 90 days. Meanwhile, the entire US refugee admissions programme is suspended for 120 days, and a lower cap on numbers introduced. Green Card holders from the seven countries are also affected.

"Unfortunately, Donald Trump is basing his policies on bigotry and fear, rather than data," Ibrahim Hooper, a spokesman for the Council on American-Islamic Relations, told The Independent. "There is no evidence that refugees pose a threat to the US."

According to the habeas corpus petition filed in New York, Mr Darweesh worked as an interpreter for the Army's 101st Airborne Division in Baghdad and Mosul starting shortly after the invasion of Iraq in 2003.It said that Mr Darweesh, 53, who arrived with his wife and three children on Friday evening, "was directly targeted twice for his association with the US Armed Forces".

After he was released, Mr Darweesh thanked those who had worked to free him. "This is the humanity. This is the soul of America. This is what pushed me to leave my country to move here," he said. "I'm very, very thankful to the people who came to support me."Asked for his view on Mr Trump, he said he liked him. "But he is the president. I worked for the US government. When I came here I showed my documents. They told me to to go to a room. They kept me there until these people came to help."

Lawyer Mark Doss, who works for the International Refugee Assistance Project, had been at the airport most of the night and said they were still trying to free the other people who were being detained. "There is no clear guidance to Customs and Border Control (CBC). It's the weekend. Things are slow right now," he said.

The lawsuit said that when lawyers for the detained men asked the CBC officers who they could speak to about meeting with Mr Darweesh, they were told: "Mr President. Call Mr Trump."

**Load-Date:** January 28, 2017

**End of Document**



[*The battle is over, but the refugees can never go home*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MCX-6721-JCS0-D274-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

December 14, 2016 Wednesday

Second Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 8

**Length:** 602 words

**Byline:** ISABEL HUNTER

**Body**

The fight for Aleppo is over, and already voices are crying out for refugees to go home to their "liberated" city. But for the Syrians who have escaped the country - the 2.7 million in Turkey, more than one million each to Lebanon and Europe and beyond - the turmoil and human tragedy will continue.

For to be associated with the revolution in any way, as aid worker, teacher, doctor, activist, or journalist, means you can never go home. Refugees fleeing Isis rule can no more go back to government areas than vice versa, and so goes the muddy complexity of this horrific civil war.

What would refugees be going back to? Much of eastern Aleppo (and Homs) has been reduced to acres and acres of rubble lying in piles and piles of dust. Reports of children stuck alive under rubble, and of 82 men and women shot in their houses by government forces, are yet more war crimes to add to a long list with a UN spokesman calling it a "complete meltdown of humanity".

"My name is on a list," has become a frequent refrain of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Turkey, and given as the main reason they cannot go back - most often a government blacklist, but of course there are also Isis and al-Qaida linked-Jabhat al-Nusra (now rebranded Jabhat Fateh al-Sham) lists too.

Nouriman, from Douma on the outskirts of Damascus, said she saw her house bombed in front of her eyes. She managed to salvage her cooking pots from the wreckage of her kitchen. The 46-year-old then risked her life to go back to rescue her nephews, who had been orphaned. Her son-in-law had been a photographer, and her brothers also active in the revolution.

"I could only flash my face at them," she told me from her sitting room in Reyhanli, on the Syrian-Turkish border, describing how she travelled with the rebels in convoys and then by bus through Syrian government checkpoints, terrified she would be recognised and arrested.

Others fled with their children after defecting from the army. Mustafa Hilaq left Damascus with his children for rebel held areas and now looks forward to taking his son to school and playing badminton with him in Turkey. Radwan, 24, fled after his friend was arrested for helping internally displaced people under government controlled Aleppo - he knew he was next. He has settled and opened a computer repair shop on the Turkish border - the calm where he sees a therapist to deal with his severe anxiety.

The long term consequences of integrating 2.7 million refugees in Turkey are dire, and expensive - the seemingly enormous Euro 3bn (£2.5bn) promised by the EU pales in comparison to the near Euro 20bn Turkey plans to spend annually in the coming three years on providing vital assistance.

But integrating a seriously traumatised population goes far beyond basic care. The vast majority have some sort of post-traumatic stress disorder; others have lost legs or eyes, need physiotherapy or complex healthcare to treat cancer, epilepsy or diabetes.

NGOs active in the area, such as the International Medical Corps - who are supported by the European Union Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department (Echo) - are vital to help provide for these long-term and endemic needs.

Refugees in Turkey have long known that, should Assad prevail, they cannot go home. Last summer's migration crisis was largely triggered as Russia joined the Syrian air force bombing schools, markets and hospitals using precision strikes as well as cluster bombs as many assumed, rightly, that chances for a rebel military victory were ever slighter.

Winning Aleppo may be lauded as a victory for Assad. But make no mistake, this bloody war is far from over.

**Load-Date:** December 13, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Jewish university declares sanctuary status after Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban'; More than 200 students signed a petition asking for financial support to undocumented students and staff*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MSF-DVG1-JCJY-G16T-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 1, 2017 Wednesday 6:04 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** WORLD POLITICS

**Length:** 652 words

**Byline:** Chloe Farand

**Body**

A Jewish University declared itself a "sanctuarycampus", which will provide "financial support for undocumented students, staff and faculty" in response to an executive order signed by Donald Trump, which prevents entry to anyone from seven majority-Muslim countries.

Yeshiva University, a private university based in New York, adopted the policy after a petition initiated by the Minority Law Students Alliance was signed by more than 200 students, alumni, administrators and staff at the University's Cardozo's law school.

The petition requested the administrators torefuseentry to immigration officials on the university campuses without a warrant ordisclose private information about students and staff without a court-order.

Read more

Donald Trump considering deportation of welfare-reliant immigrants

Ban says he won't be South Korean president because of 'fake news'

Donald Trump's travel ban separates badly burned Iraqi boy from family

Fox News deletes tweet claiming mosque attack suspect was Moroccan

Yeshiva University's websitenotes more than 500 students and professors from 50 different countries enrol at the institution each year.

The petition also required university administrators to provide financial support to students who maylose their ability to work as they fear Mr Trump's administration will repeal BarackObama's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).

Under DACA certain undocumented immigrants, who entered the country as minors, are allowedto receive a renewable two-year period of deferred action from deportation and areeligible for a work permit.

In wake of #MuslimBan, Yeshiva University & Cardozo Law School announce they will be #SanctuaryCampus. #NoBanNoWall. pic.twitter.com/9NQ16cGSEh

- Cardozo NLG (@CardozoNLG) January 30, 2017

In a statement, the Minority law Students Alliance said: "The petition was written in response to the xenophobic, anti-immigrant Republican presidential campaign and in fear of the repeal of immigration executive order, specifically DACA."

On the same day the university decided to become a "sanctuary campus", Mr Trump announced executive orders including building a wall on the border with Mexico and banning refugees from entering the US.

An executive order has suspended all entry into the US from seven Muslim-dominated countries, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen, for 90 days on national security grounds.

Mr Trump also halted the US refugee programme for 120 days and indefinitely for ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, which sparked international condemnation.

President of the university Richard M. Joel said in a statementadministrators were taking the issues "most seriously". He reassured the student body that the university will "not disclose any private information" nor "assist in any efforts to investigate or detain" students and staff and will "make every effort" to keep students in class if they are prevented to work.

"I hope this clarifies our position: to support all members of our community to the greatest degree possible under the law," the statement read.

In a separate comment, Mr Joel urged students from the seven country listed to stay in the US.

Other universities in the US have declared themselves as sanctuary universitiesWesleyan University and Northwestern University.

President at Wesleyan University, Connecticut,Michael S. Roth previously said: "Since our very beginnings, our country has been immeasurably strengthened by immigrants. Turning our backs on those in need today is worse than heartless.The idea of a religious test for immigrants from some parts of the world is reprehensible, and we believe it to be unconstitutional. These are matters that will be resolved in the courts. Meanwhile, Wesleyan University will remain steadfast in our commitment to treat immigrants and refugees with the dignity and respect they deserve. This is what we mean when we say we are a Sanctuary Campus."

**Load-Date:** February 1, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Jeremy Corbyn calls for Donald Trump to be banned from UK visit until Muslim ban is lifted; The US president has slapped some British nationals with a ban*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MRS-G5R1-F021-62KS-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 29, 2017 Sunday 10:18 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 567 words

**Byline:** Jon Stone

**Body**

Donald Trump should be blocked from making his planned state visit to the UK as long as his "Muslim ban" policy remains in place, Jeremy Corbyn has said.

The Labour leader said Theresa May should not be endorsing Mr Trump until it was clear his Government was "actually going to protect fundamental rights and freedoms and laws".

Ms May invited Mr Trump to Britain on behalf of the Queen when she visited him in Washington DC earlier this week. He accepted her invitation.

Read more

Donald Trump's Muslim ban prevents Iraqi-born MP from visiting kids

The Prime Minister refused to condemn the ban on Saturday when questioned by journalists. The policy affects British citizens who were born in Iraq, including Conservative MP Nadhim Zahawi, who says it will prevent him visiting his children in America.

After sustained criticism, in the early hours of Sunday morning Downing Street issued a statement saying Ms May was in fact opposed to the ban, though she has yet to personally comment on the matter.

Mr Corbyn told ITV1's Peston on Sunday programme: "It's slightly odd he should be invited so quickly and particularly in view of the statements that he's made. I suspect this visit is something that might find its way into the long grass.

"I think we need to find out exactly what his intentions are an how much the US parliamentary system is actually going to protect fundamental rights and freedoms and laws.

Read more

Parallels drawn between Donald Trump's refugee policy and Anne Frank

Both Turkish and British prime ministers were asked to condemn Trump

Theresa May repeatedly refuses to condemn Donald Trump immigration ban

"Is it really right to endorse somebody who has used this awful misogynist language throughout the election campaign, awful attacks on Muslims and then this absurd idea of building a wall with their nearest neighbour?"

p.p1 {margin: 0.0px 0.0px 0.0px 0.0px; font: 13.0px 'Helvetica Neue'}

Sources close to Mr Corbyn say the Labour leader also believes a visit would be inappropriate while Mr Trump's separate order banning ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** remains in place.

Speaking after the progamme Mr Corbyn added: "Donald Trump should not be welcomed to Britain while he abuses our shared values with his shameful Muslim ban and attacks on refugees' and women's rights.

"Theresa May would be failing the British people if she does not postpone the state visit and condemn Trump's actions in the clearest terms. That's what Britain expects and deserves."

Theresa May refused to condemn the policy when questioned by reporters (AFP/

Getty

)

MPs previously debated banning Mr Trump from the UK at the start of law year after a petition on the matter garnered around half a million signatures, triggering a discussion in Parliament. No action was taken after the debate, however.

Protesters are set to assemble at 6pm outside Downing Street to criticise Ms May's response to the attacks on British citizens.

That gathering will come after protests at New York's JFK airport, as well as a strike by some NYC taxi drivers covering journies to the airport.

The Downing Street statement criticising the plans in the early hours of Sunday morning read: "Immigration policy in the United States is a matter for the government of the United States, just the same as immigration policy for this country should be set by our government.

"But we do not agree with this kind of approach and it is not one we will be taking."

**Load-Date:** January 29, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Syrian torture victims settling in UK may not be receiving specialist care, report warns; According to a report by the influential Public Accounts Select Committee more than half of the 2,659 Syrianrefugees resettled up to the end of June 2016 are the survivors of torture or violence*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MM9-FJ91-F021-627M-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 13, 2017 Friday 12:02 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 587 words

**Byline:** Ashley Cowburn

**Body**

Syrian torture survivors who have settled in Britain as refugees may not be receiving specialist support and access to mental health services, according to a new Commons report.

Thereport by the influential Public Accounts Select Committee claims that aroundhalf of the 2,659 Syrianrefugees resettledup to the end of June 2016are the survivors of torture or violence. But, it adds, only a handful have been referred to specialist organisations for assessment and rehabilitation services.

Meg Hillier, the Labour MP who chairs the committee, called on ministers to undertake a full review of how victims of torture are identified and later supported by local authorities. "It is critical that such people receive specialist support," she added.

Read more

World leaders hail landmark aid package to help displaced Syrians

"Our committee has previously highlighted the shortcomings in access to mental health services and we call on the Government to ensure a plan is in place to properly support refugees in need of them".

The committee received evidence from Freedom from Torture, a registered charity dedicated to the treatment and rehabilitation of survivors of torture who seek refuge in the UK. In a statement the charity, however, said it was concerned refugees were not receiving the care they need to recover from their traumatic experiences during Syria's brutal civil war.

The charity added: "Despite being the largest torture rehabilitation centre in the country (and one of the largest in the world), only a handful of Syrians from the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement programme have been referred to us for assessment or rehabilitation services."

The report from the PAC also raises doubts over a pledge by the former Prime Minister David Cameron - in response to the humanitarian crisis in the region during the summer of 2015 - to resettle 20,000 Syrian refuges in Britain by the end of the decade through the Syrian Vulnerable Person Resettlement programme

Despite a concerted effort to resettle 1,000 refugees before Christmas in 2015, the report adds: "Meeting the overall the target, to resettle 20,000 of the most vulnerable ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in the UK by May 2020, remains a significant challenge."

While local authorities across the UK have already made sufficient indicative pledges of support to house all 20,000 of the expected refugees, there was also "confusion"about the full extent of support they were expected to provide. Failure to provide clarity on this issue "risks the successful delivery of the programme," the report warned.

Ms Hillier said more work was needed to make the resettlement programme "sustainable in the longer-term".

The Government should set out "detailed plans"now or risk failing the refugees and undermining public support for the programme, she added.

"It is important to recognise the efforts and achievements of those bodies involved in the early part of this programme, which resettled 1,000 refugees before Christmas 2015,"said Ms Hiller. "But there is a long way to go."

Refugee Council director of advocacy Lisa Doyle said: "The Government's target of resettling 20,000 people is more than achievable and local communities and charities like the Refugee Council are standing ready to help.

"What's needed now is an acknowledgement that the global refugee crisis isn't going away any time soon and that a longer-term strategy for refugee resettlement is needed which clearly outlines roles, responsibilities, resources and an ambitious plan for welcoming refugees beyond 2020."

**Load-Date:** January 13, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Trump's vile refugee ban is being shamefully endorsed by Theresa May*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MRP-W8F1-JCS0-D22G-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

January 29, 2017 Sunday

First Edition

Copyright 2017 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 2

**Length:** 572 words

**Byline:** EDITORIAL

**Body**

They might as well take the Statue of Liberty down and give it back to the French. Except that the French have problems of their own in living up to their responsibility to the "huddled masses yearning to breathe free" - a responsibility in which we British share.

Donald Trump signed an order last night suspending refugee admissions to the United States and temporarily banning all arrivals from seven Muslim-majority countries, with a few exemptions for diplomats.

We should be clear that this is not, technically, the ban on Muslims which Mr Trump spoke about during his election campaign. The order does not explicitly ban people on grounds of their religion. But it is as close to such a thing as is possible under American law. The indefinite ban on ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, in particular, seems hard to reconcile with the US's obligations under international treaties.

It seems that the new administration intends to halve the cap on refugees accepted by the US this year, from 110,000 a year under President Obama, to 50,000. It is a big reduction, which will be imposed regardless of the numbers actually fleeing persecution, and which will be strongly biased in practice against Muslims.

Mr Trump waited until Theresa May's plane had taken off before he signed the executive order, which allowed the Prime Minister to escape direct contamination by his moral squalor. But she cannot escape a measure of indirect association with the President's act. She could have said to him what she had said earlier that day in her statement to mark Holocaust Memorial Day: "Our commitment to remember the Holocaust is about more than words - it is about action. It is about raising awareness, spreading understanding, ensuring the memory of the Holocaust lives on, and standing up to prejudice and hatred wherever it is found today."

Despite having said that she would not hesitate to speak up when he and she disagreed, she chose not to raise the subject. That could be cowardice, or it could be that she, the Home Office Prime Minister, does not disagree.

And she was asked at her news conference in Ankara today what she thought of Mr Trump's policy, and said only: "The United States is responsible for the United States's policy on refugees."

After all, as we report exclusively today, Ms May is failing in her responsibility to those seeking refuge in Britain. Our investigation into what happened to the 1,000 children living in the Calais Jungle before it was cleared last year, whose applications for asylum in Britain were rejected, reveals a terrible story of hardship and neglect. These children have been rehoused in centres around France, many of them which have been unprepared to receive them, in which conditions are primitive and psychological support non-existent.

Of course, the primary responsibility for these children is borne by the French government. But the camp at Calais, created by the desire of people to reach the UK, was rightly accepted as a joint responsibility of the two governments. When the Jungle was cleared, the British Government pledged to bear its share of ensuring that the children rejected as refugees would be decently cared for.

Ms May is failing to fulfil this country's duty to these children.

The shadow of selfishness and neglect is darkening over the world. Ms May needs to do more to live up to her fine words if Britain is to play its part in spreading the light of altruism and compassion instead.

**Load-Date:** January 28, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Muslims in Congress blast Donald Trump's revised travel ban; New order excludespeople with valid green cards but Democrats say it still won't stand up in court*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5N1K-5PC1-JCJY-G194-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

March 6, 2017 Monday 11:53 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** US POLITICS; Version:1

**Length:** 606 words

**Byline:** Caroline Mortimer

**Body**

Two Muslim Congressmen have been quick to condemn Donald Trump's revised travel ban on people from several Muslim-majority countries.

Mr Trump privately signed the order on Monday morning.Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson and Attorney General Jeff Sessions unveiled the directive in a low key press conference a few hours later.

Within hoursDemocrats Andre Carson of Indiana and Keith Ellison of Minnesota denounced what they called "Muslim Ban 2.0" - a revised executive order which means citizens of six Muslim majority countries will be banned from entering the US for up to 90 days.

The pair, who are the only Muslims to sit in the lower house, both vowed to fight the ban and Mr Ellison rejected the White House's claim that it was not designed to discriminate against one religion in particular.

Here we go again...Muslim Ban 2.0 #NoBanNoWall[*https://t.co/HTALRTKZYO*](https://t.co/HTALRTKZYO)

- André Carson (@RepAndreCarson) March 6, 2017

On Campaign, @realDonaldTrump called for "total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States." Now, says "what Muslim Ban?"

- Rep. Keith Ellison (@keithellison) March 6, 2017

The new directive is a revised version of the executive order signed in January which banned citizens of Sudan, Somalia, Yemen, Iraq, Iran, Libya and Syria from coming to the country.

The first order provoked mass protests and confusion as people flying to the US when the order was signed were detained for hours on end or deported on arrival.

It was eventually blocked by a federal court judge after just eight days.

Read more

Donald Trump's new 'Muslim ban' still excludes countries of terrorists

Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban' to be re-introduced with Iraq removed

Trump's new travel ban 'will have same outcome as old one'

The revised order also now mean ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** will only be subject to the ban for 120 days rather than indefinitely.

It has also removed Iraq from the list of banned countries seemingly at the behest of the Pentagon who said it undermined relations with Baghdad while both countries' militaries were co-operating closely in the fight against Isis.

The revised order also does not apply people with dual citizens or people who have already secured valid visas.

Several former critics of the ban have stated their support for the new order such as Republican Senator Lindsey Graham who said it does not discriminate on the basis of religion and focuses on immigrants from "compromised governments and failed states".

In a statement he said: "This Executive Order will achieve the goal of protecting our homeland and will, in my view, pass legal muster."

But Democrat lawmakers are not convinced and still believe the "Muslim ban" will have "the same uphill climb" to be accepted by the courts.

The Senate's Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer told CNN: "Despite their best efforts, I fully expect this executive order to have the same uphill climb in the courts that the previous version had.

Read more

Read full text of Donald Trump's latest travel ban

"A watered-down ban is still a ban. Despite the administration's changes, this dangerous executive order makes us less safe, not more, it is mean-spirited, and un-American. It must be repealed."

The list still does not include Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates or Egypt -where the 9/11 plane hijackers came from - which have business dealings with Mr Trump.

Meanwhile no citizen from the countries on the list has carried out a successful attack on US soil since 2001 and there has not been a single Syrian refugee charged with the intent to carry out acts of terror in at least 40 years, according to the Cato Institute.

**Load-Date:** March 6, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Aleppo: Syrian army resumes bombardment of city as fragile ceasefire crumbles; Both sides accuse other of breaking fragileRussiaand Turkey brokered ceasefire as violence resumes in embattled Syrian city and promised evacuations put on hold*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MCY-GCT1-F021-626G-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 14, 2016 Wednesday 8:57 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 588 words

**Byline:** Bethan McKernan

**Body**

The Syrian army will resume its military operations in Aleppo, the Russian Defence Ministry has said, after reported rebel infringement of the fragile ceasefire.

Rebel officials and a souce close the regime told AFP on Wednesday that the deal was on hold after government shelling hit a rebel neighbourhood, dashing the hopes of trapped civilians for a truce.

A Turkey and Russia brokered

ceasefire dea

l to bring peace to what a UN representative described as a "meltdown of humanity" went into effect on Tuesday evening. It was supposed to include the evacuation of up to 5,000 people to neighbouring rebel-held Idlib province.

However, Lebanese al-Manar TV broadcast footage showing the Syrian government's green evacuation buses leaving the agreed checkpoint without any passengers, indicating the evacuations will be futher delayed and the short-lived promise of a ceasefire is over.

Read more

How the West must share the blame for Aleppo's day of brutality

The images that show just how much has been destroyed in Aleppo

Handful of Government MPs turn up for 'urgent' debate on Aleppo

No, ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** cannot return to Aleppo

The rebels of Aleppo will fight on, but Assad has taken their power

We said 'never again': the tragedy of Aleppo could have been avoided

Five things you can do to help Aleppo

Boris Johnson rules out British aid drops over Aleppo

Russia's Interfax news agency said that rebel attacks at dawn on government strongholds in the northeast of Aleppo had been repelled, and pro-government forces would continue the operation to quash resistance in the last opposition neighbourhoods.

Between 50,000 - 100,000 people are thought to still be trapped in the last slivers of rebel territory in east Aleppo after the Syrian army and Iran-backed militas captured all but a few remaining neighbourhoods in the divided city on Monday.

Reports of the executions of 82 civilians by pro-government militias, including women and children, have alarmed rights groups and the international community, as has the destruction and death caused by incessant bombing and a collapse of medical aid.

Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's forces have all but retaken the city, which after four years of fierce fighting has become the epicentre of Syria's bloody civil war.

Rebel supply lines were cut off in July, and an intense Russian-backed bombing campaign since September has killed hundreds, decimated medical infrastructure, and bought the last urban rebel stronghold in Syria to its knees.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said that he expected all rebel resistance to crumble within the next two to three days.

Residents and activists in the rebel-controlled parts of the city have expressed fears that they will be detained, tortured and killed for resistance to the regime - including humanitarian workers, doctors and teachers.

"Anyone who knows anything about the Assad regime should know what to expect. Death will be a wish for those captured and deemed [to be] opposition, weather [sic] military or civil," one wrote in a Whatsapp message to journalists.

Recapturing Aleppo will be Mr Assad's biggest victory yet in the six-year-old war - but with two thirds of Syria still controlled by the US-backed Free Syrian Army umbrella of rebel factions, extremist groups and the Kurds in the north, the complex conflict is far from over.

To date more than 400,000 people have lost their lives and half of Syria's population displaced from their homes by fighting, the UN says.

**Load-Date:** December 14, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump immigration ban: Detained Iraqi refugee says 'America is the land of freedom'; The former interpreter was one of 12 people held at JFK Airport*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MRK-HCS1-F021-6030-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 28, 2017 Saturday 6:14 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 587 words

**Byline:** Andrew Buncombe

**Body**

An Iraqi refugee released from detention at JFK Airport has spoken of his love of America and his belief it was the land of freedom.

Hameed Khalid Darweesh, had worked on behalf of the US government in Iraq for 10 years, was one of 12 refugees being held at the airport after the enforcement of Donald Trump's immigration ban.

On Saturday morning, lawyers for Mr Darweesh filed a habeas corpus lawsuit, seeing his release. At around lunchtime, Mr Darweesh, who was traveling with his wife and three children, was set free.

#MuslimBan Interview Man Released from JFK Airport During President Trump's Muslim Ban Protest [*https://t.co/gY4KjliMxb*](https://t.co/gY4KjliMxb)

- ViralBreaking (@viralbreaking) January 28, 2017

"America is the greatest nation, the greatest people in the world," said Mr Darweesh, who said that he liked Mr Trump.

Mr Darweesh, who was given permission to enter the US because he had been threatened over his work with the US military as an interpreter, said he was heartened by those people who had come to his support. Their actions, he said, reaffirmed to him his belief in American values.

"In Iraq, we know that America is the land of the free," he said.

Mr Darweesh was one of 12 people held at JFK. Another, Haider Sameer Abdulkhaleq Alshawi, had flown to the US to join his wife, who had worked for a US contractor. After they were detained, lawyers for all of the men filed a suit in the early hours of Saturday morning, seeking their release.

May refuses to condemn Muslim ban

Mr Trump's order, signed on Friday, means that ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** are banned from entry until further notice. Nationals of six further countries, including Iran and Iraq, will be banned from entering the US for 90 days.

Meanwhile, the entire US refugee admissions programme is suspended for 120 days, and a lower cap on numbers introduced. Green Card holders from the seven countries are also affected.

"Unfortunately, Donald Trump is basing his policies on bigotry and and fear, rather than data," Ibrahim Hooper, a spokesman for the Council on American-Islamic Relations, told The Independent. "There is no evidence that refugees pose a threat to the US."

According to the habeas corpus petition filed in New York, Mr Darweesh worked as an interpreter for the Army's 101st Airborne Division in Baghdad and Mosul starting shortly after the invasion of Iraq in 2003.

Graphiq

It said that Mr Darweesh, 53, who arrived with his wife and three children on Friday evening, "was directly targeted twice for his association with the US Armed Forces".

After he was released, Mr Darweesh thanked those who had worked to free him.

"This is the humanity. This is the soul of America. This is what pushed me to leave my country to move here," he said. "I'm very, very thankful to the people who came to support me."

At #JFK right now- no hate, no fear, #refugees are welcome here - #NoBanNoWall#OurNYpic.twitter.com/Y90F6r867U

- NYIC (@thenyic) January 28, 2017

Asked for his view on Mr Trump, he said he liked him. "But he is the president. I worked for the US government. When I came here I showed my documents. They told me to to go to a room. They kept me there until these people came to help."

Lawyer Mark Doss, who works for the International Refugee Assistance Project, had been at the airport most of the night and said they were still trying to free the other people who were being detained.

"There is no clear guidance to Customs and Border Control. It's the weekend. Things are slow right now," he said.

**Load-Date:** January 28, 2017

**End of Document**



[*EU Malta summit: Refugees heading to Europe to be redirected to Asia and Latin America in new £30m British aid plan; A £30m package will provide lifesaving supplies across Eastern Europe while encouragingrefugees to consider destinations other than Europe*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MSW-CCR1-JCJY-G1YT-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 3, 2017 Friday 1:05 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 592 words

**Byline:** Rob Merrick

**Body**

Refugees heading to Europe will be urged to settle in Asia and Latin America instead, under a new £30m British aid package.

Theresa May announced the scheme at an EU summit in Malta, arguing it showed the Government is "stepping up its support for the most vulnerable refugees".

The package will see Britain provide lifesaving supplies for people facing freezing conditions across Eastern Europe and Greece, including warm clothing, shelter and medical care.

However, it will also pay for better infrastructure in far-flung countries willing to take refugees who had hoped to settle in Europe.

Read more

'UK will continue to work with EU over refugee crisis after Brexit'

The move builds on an existing scheme run by The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), but it is the first time Britain's aid budget has been used to bolster it.

It risks adding to criticism that the Prime Minister is unwilling for the UK to accept a reasonable share of the refugees and migrants fleeing Syria and other war zones.

Only a few thousand ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** have been resettled in Britain - and the Government has refused to take part in an EU-wide programme to co-ordinate the continent's response to the crisis.

Government sources stressed that people would only be diverted to countries in Asia and Latin America if they were willing to be resettled there.

The Department for International Development is expected to release a list of interested countries later.

In Malta the Prime Minister insisted the focus of the £30m programme was "helping migrants return home rather than risk their lives continuing perilous journeys to Europe".

It would provide assistance to refugees and migrants across Greece, the Balkans, Libya, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria and Sudan.

Priti Patel, the International Development Secretary, said: "Conflict, drought and political upheaval have fuelled protracted crises and driven mass migration. We cannot ignore these challenges.

"This latest support from the UK will help those who decide they want to return home to do so safely, protect men, women and children from exploitation, and ensure that those caught in freezing conditions get the basic help they need to survive."

Read more

More than 200 refugees drown and freeze to death in first days of 2017

These are the countries that host and send the most migrants

More than 500 refugees rescued in single day as crisis continues

More than 1,000 migrants storm border at Spain's Ceuta

The package will be delivered by UNHCR, the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and NGO collective Start Network. Its aim is to:

\* provide 22,400 life-saving relief items including tents, blankets, winter clothes such as hats and gloves and hygiene kits including mother and baby products

\* help more than 60,000 people with emergency medical care, legal support and frontline workers to identify those at risk of violence and trafficking

\* allow up to 22,000 people to reunite with family members they have become separated from

\* help countries in Asia and Latin America that "might be able to resettle refugees put the infrastructure and systems in place to do so"

\* provide more than 1,500 refugees in Egypt, including those fleeing Syria and other conflicts, with urgent health assistance and educational grants for students to go back to school

\* provide a migrant centre in Sudan to enable "voluntary returns home when safe", replicating a successful scheme in Niger.

According to the Government, the package will bring UK humanitarian support in response to the migrant crisis to more than £100m since October 2015.

**Load-Date:** February 3, 2017

**End of Document**



[*'Friends don't take friends to the Security Council': Israel's Netanyahu accuses US of 'shameful ambush' over UN settlements vote; Israeli leader lashes out at US President Barack Obama over US abstention on UNvote condemning settlement building on Palestinian land and summons Security Council member ambassadors on Christmas Day*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MG9-B8G1-JCJY-G08S-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 25, 2016 Sunday 10:33 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 594 words

**Byline:** Bethan McKernan

**Body**

Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu has targeted US President Barack Obamaand US Secretary of State John Kerry for particular criticism over a controversial UN resolution calling Israeli settlements in the West Bank and east Jerusalem a "flagrant violation of international law."

The 15-member Security Council voted 14 - 0 on the measure on Friday, with US ambassador Samantha Power raising her hand as the lone abstention - a symbolic break with US policy in the past, which has been to use its veto power to shield Israel from international reproval on the issue.

Speaking on Saturday, Mr Netanyahu said Mr Obama had carried out a "shameful ambush" of its ally over the vote, adding that he is looking forward to working with "friend", US President-elect Donald Trump, who takes office in January.

Read more

Bottles of Trump Vodka removed from shelves in Israel

Israel retaliates to UN settlements vote by withdrawing ambassadors

Israel rejects UN settlements resolution and says it won't abide by it

Israel is taking in injured ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from Aleppo

"I told John Kerry - friends do not take friends to the UN Security Council," Mr Netanyahu said.

"The decision taken at the UN yesterday was part of the swan song of the old world biased against Israel," the prime minister added.

"We are entering a new era and as the President-elect Trump said yesterday, this is going to happen much quicker than people think. In this new era there is a high price for those trying to harm Israel."

The White House declined to comment on Mr Netanyahu's criticism. A spokesperson said earlier that the decision to abstain was made in the "absence of a meaningful peace process."

Mr Netanyahu's remarks are indicative of how bitter the relationship between the Obama administration and the Israeli government has become. The refusal to use the US's veto as a permanent member of the Security Council has been widely interpreted as Mr Obama's 'parting shot' after eight years of increasingly icy relations.

Israeli expansion over the agreed 1967 Green Line - which has gone up 23 per centunder Mr Netanyahu's right-wing administration - is viewed as one of the major stumbling blocks to a lasting peace deal in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The UN's vote is largely symbolic, but reiterated the international community's desire for a two-state solution, both Palestinian Authority leader Mahmoud Abbas and UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon said on Friday.

The UN's resolution demands that Israel "immediately and completely cease all settlement activities in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem", but Israel has said it will not abide by the document's dictates, which Mr Netanyahu called "distorted."

Israel accepts help from Palestinians after forest fires

The resolution, originally tabled by Egypt, was withdrawn after intense lobbying by both the Israeli state and incoming President-elect Trump but was proposed again the next day by Venezuela, Malaysia, Senegal and New Zealand.

Israel has cut off diplomatic ties with Senegal and New Zealand and summoned the ambassadors of all the other Security Council member countries, the Foreign Ministry confirmed on Sunday. Israel has no diplomatic relations with either Venezuela or Malaysia.

After the vote took place Mr Trump tweeted that "As to the UN, things will be different after Jan 20th", when he takes office.

The incoming president is likely to be more sympathetic to Israeli policy, and has appointed the pro-settlement David Friedman as the US' next ambassador to the country.

**Load-Date:** December 25, 2016

**End of Document**



[*US town holds pro-refugee rally following Donald Trump victory; 'Fear may run the White House, but it will not run our Community'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M61-4NY1-F021-60TT-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

November 16, 2016 Wednesday 3:08 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 577 words

**Byline:** Siobhan Fenton

**Body**

A US town has held a rally to welcome refugees following Donald Trump's election victory.

Neighbours in Charleston, West Viriginia say they want to send a strong message in light of anti-immigrant and refugee rhetoric during the US presidential campaign.

Concerned residents formed the group 'West Virginia Welcomes' and gathered along Kanawha Boulevard for their 'Virigina Welcomes Refugees Rally'. A Facebook page advertising the event urged locals to: "Bring signs, bring your neighbours, bring your big hearts. Goodwill will always rise over evil. Together we are a stronger nation."

Organisers wrote: "We must come together after this election and show our love for our refugee brothers and sisters, for our Muslim family, for immigrants, for black lives, for LGBTQ neighbors, and for our daughters, sisters, wives and all the women in our lives.

"Fear may run the White House, but it will not run our Community. We must bring love and compassion once again out of the shadow and show how much love we have for our neighbours in West Viriginia."

Beautiful evening for a beautiful gathering in solidarity with refugees and immigrants. #WVwelcomespic.twitter.com/huwri9NVLC

- WV Citizen Action (@WVCAG) November 15, 2016

WV Welcomes rally moves into amphitheater at Haddad. Speaker series has started #wvwelcomespic.twitter.com/m1pLDXNtFe

- WOWK/Alyssa Meisner (@wowkalyssa) November 15, 2016

Wama Shaalon attended the rally with a sign stating 'WV welcomes refugees with open arms' and

told

WV Metro News:

"I think standing up for our refugees that are in a war-torn country is a very important thing because I would like to think that if we were in the same place that they would accept us like we are accepting them."

Noorda Shan, a local high school student, said she feared Mr Trump's posturing about building a wall along the border with Mexico: "That's not what America is all about. America is about freedom and diversity."

Others reportedly carriedbanners with statements including "Love Trumps Hate".

Read more

Group of refugee children from Calais Jungle arrive in Scotland

Here is how London could have its own refugee policy

America's first Somali-American Muslim woman legislator is elected

Refugees face uncertain future after surviving journey to Europe

Residents in the town also held a rally last year calling for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** to be accepted, following the Paris terror attacks.

Following the election result, a spike of hate crimes has been reported in the US, including alleged racist, Islamophobic and homophobic attacks. One woman said said she was shopping in a local Wallmart the day after the election when another woman approached, pulled off her hijab and said: "This is not allowed anymore, so go hang yourself with it around your neck not on your head." A black woman in Indiana said passersby shouted "F\*\*\* you n\*\*\*\*\* b\*\*\*\*. Trump is going to deport you back to Africa."

Following the reports, a spokesperson for the Washington-based Council on American-Islamic Relations told

The Independent

there were "tremendous levels of fear given the anti-Muslim rhetoric we have seen from Donald Trump during this campaign".

"This rhetoric is nothing new," he added. "What is new is how far he has gone with it. That is the shocking thing."

After Mr Trump's election victory was announced, a number of protests and rallies have been held across the US, including by protestors who have surrounded Trump Towers and other properties connected to the businessman.

**Load-Date:** November 16, 2016

**End of Document**



[*EU Malta summit: Refugees heading to Europe to be redirected to Asia and Latin America in new £30m British aid plan; A £30m package will provide life-saving supplies across Eastern Europe and Greece -but also try to divert refugees elsewhere in the world*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MSW-CCR1-JCJY-G1YS-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 3, 2017 Friday 1:05 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 609 words

**Byline:** Rob Merrick

**Body**

Refugees heading to Europe will be urged to settle in Asia and Latin America instead, under a new £30m British aid package.

Theresa May announced the scheme at an EU summit in Malta, arguing it showed the Government is "stepping up its support for the most vulnerable refugees".

The package will see Britain provide lifesaving supplies for people facing freezing conditions across Eastern Europe and Greece, including warm clothing, shelter and medical care.

However, it will also pay for better infrastructure in far-flung countries willing to take refugees who had hoped to settle in Europe.

Read more

'UK will continue to work with EU over refugee crisis after Brexit'

The move builds on an existing scheme run by the UN's refugee agency, the UNHCR, but it is the first time Britain's aid budget has been used to bolster it.

It risks adding to criticism that the Prime Minister is unwilling for the UK to accept a reasonable share of the refugees and migrants fleeing Syria and other war zones.

Only a few thousand ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** have been resettled in Britain - and the Government has refused to take part in an EU-wide programme to co-ordinate the continent's response to the crisis.

Government sources stressed that people would only be diverted to countries in Asia and Latin America if they were willing to be resettled there.

The Department for International Development is expected to release a list of interested countries later.

In Maltathe Prime Minister insisted the focus of the £30m programme was "helping migrants return home rather than risk their lives continuing perilous journeys to Europe".

It would provide assistance to refugees and migrants across Greece, the Balkans, Libya, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria and Sudan.

Priti Patel, the International Development Secretary, said: "Conflict, drought and political upheaval have fuelled protracted crises and driven mass migration. We cannot ignore these challenges.

"This latest support from the UK will help those who decide they want to return home to do so safely, protect men, women and children from exploitation, and ensure that those caught in freezing conditions get the basic help they need to survive."

Read more

More than 200 refugees drown and freeze to death in first days of 2017

These are the countries that host and send the most migrants

More than 500 refugees rescued in single day as crisis continues

More than 1,000 migrants storm border at Spain's Ceuta

The package will be delivered by UNHCR, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Start NGO network. The aim is to:

\* provide 22,400 life-saving relief items including tents, blankets, winter clothes such as hats and gloves and hygiene kits including mother and baby products.

\* help more than 60,000 people with emergency medical care, legal support and frontline workers to identify those at risk of violence and trafficking.

\* allow up to 22,000 people to reunite with family members they have become separated from during their journey, through help with advice, travel home and reintegration on their return.

\* help countries in Asia and Latin America that "might be able to resettle refugees put the infrastructure and systems in place to do so".

\* provide more than 1,500 refugees in Egypt, including those fleeing Syria and other conflicts, with urgent health assistance and educational grants for students to go back to school.

\* provide a migrant centre in Sudan to enable "voluntary returns home when safe", replicating a successful scheme in Niger.

The Government said it would bring the total UK humanitarian support in response to the Mediterranean migration crisis to more than £100m since October 2015.

**Load-Date:** February 3, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Israel's Netanyahu accuses US of 'shameful ambush' over UN settlements vote; 'Friends do not take friends to the UN Security Council,'Israeli leader says, in rebuke toUS President Barack Obama over US abstention on UN vote condemning settlement building on Palestinian land*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MG9-B8G1-JCJY-G08T-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 25, 2016 Sunday 10:33 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 614 words

**Byline:** Bethan McKernan

**Body**

Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu has targeted US President Barack Obamaand US Secretary of State John Kerry for particular criticism over a controversial UN resolution calling Israeli settlements in the West Bank and east Jerusalem a "flagrant violation of international law."

The 15-member Security Council voted 14 - 0 on the measure on Friday, with US ambassador Samantha Power raising her hand as the lone abstention - a symbolic break with US policy in the past, which has been to use its veto power to shield Israel from international reproval on the issue.

Speaking on Saturday, Mr Netanyahu said Mr Obama had carried out a "shameful ambush" of its ally over the vote, adding that he is looking forward to working with "friend", US President-elect Donald Trump, who takes office in January.

Read more

Bottles of Trump Vodka removed from shelves in Israel

Israel retaliates to UN settlements vote by withdrawing ambassadors

Israel rejects UN settlements resolution and says it won't abide by it

Israel is taking in injured ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from Aleppo

"I told John Kerry - friends do not take friends to the UN Security Council," Mr Netanyahu said, claiming that Mr Obama had made a commitmentin 2011 not to impose any final conditions on Israel at the Security Council.

"The decision taken at the UN yesterday was part of the swan song of the old world biased against Israel," the prime minister added.

"We are entering a new era and as the President-elect Trump said yesterday, this is going to happen much quicker than people think. In this new era there is a high price for those trying to harm Israel."

The White House declined to comment on Mr Netanyahu's criticism. A spokesperson said earlier that the decision to abstain was made in the "absence of a meaningful peace process."

Mr Netanyahu's remarks are indicative of how bitter the relationship between the Obama administration and the Israeli government has become. The refusal to use the US's veto as a permanent member of the Security Council has been widely interpreted as Mr Obama's 'parting shot' after eight years of increasingly icy relations.

Israeli expansion over the agreed 1967 Green Line - which has gone up 23 per centunder Mr Netanyahu's right-wing administration - is viewed as one of the major stumbling blocks to a lasting peace deal in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The UN's vote is largely symbolic, but reiterated the international community's desire for a two-state solution, both Palestinian Authority leader Mahmoud Abbas and UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon said on Friday.

The UN's resolution demands that Israel "immediately and completely cease all settlement activities in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem", but Israel has said it will not abide by the document's dictates, which Mr Netanyahu called "distorted."

Israel accepts help from Palestinians after forest fires

The resolution, originally tabled by Egypt, was withdrawn after intense lobbying by both the Israeli state and incoming President-elect Trump but was proposed again the next day by Venezuela, Malaysia, Senegal and New Zealand.

Israel has cut off diplomatic ties with Senegal and New Zealand and summoned the ambassadors of all the other Security Council member countries, the Foreign Ministry confirmed on Sunday. Israel has no diplomatic relations with either Venezuela or Malaysia.

After the vote took place Mr Trump tweeted that "As to the UN, things will be different after Jan 20th", when he takes office.

The incoming president is likely to be more sympathetic to Israeli policy, and has appointed the pro-settlement David Friedman as the US' next ambassador to the country.

**Load-Date:** December 25, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Isis suspect 'scouted out Brandenburg Gate and German parliament' for possible terror attack on Berlin; Syrian man, 19, held in custody as police investigate alleged plot coordinated in Syria*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M4X-YP41-JCJY-G2G7-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

November 11, 2016 Friday 2:04 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 578 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

A teenage Isis supporter scouted out some of Germany's most iconic buildings and monuments for a prospective attack, officials have said.

The 19-year-old Syrian man, who has not been identified, was arrested in March for suspected links to the so-called Islamic State after the alleged plans were uncovered.

Judges at the Federal Court of Justice ruled the man could be held for three more months to allow investigators to continue their work on Thursday, amid fears he could be part of a wider network plotting terror attacks.

In its decision, the court said the suspect had scouted out sites including the Brandenburg Gate, Reichstag parliament building and Alexanderplatz square for potential attacks over several months.

Another Syrian man was arrested for planning a terror attack in Berlin in October(EPA)

Having arrived in Germany as an asylum seeker in August 2015, he was believed to have been gathering detailed information for Isis until February this about the number of people and tourist buses in different areas.

Read more

German terror network sending Isis fighters to Syria arrested

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Germany find mosques too conservative

Syrian terror suspect Jaber al Bakr found dead in his cell in Germany

A court document said intelligence was transmitted to an Isis contact in Syria using a smartphone.

Through electronic messages he also offered to act as a contact for potential attackers in Germany, "commit a non-specified attack" himself "or alternatively with two unknown people" officials said.

Investigators examined four mobile phones and data cards seized during his arrest, and had so far reviewed more than 37,000 text messages and chats, nearly 13,000 visual images and around 9,800 video images, according to the court document.

Investigators believe the man had worked with Isis in Syria since 2013, and maintained contact with the jihadist group using his mobile phone after arriving in Germany.

He also planned to return to Syria, where his parents, wife and son still live, to fight in the conflict there, according to the court document.

Another Syrian man, Jaber al-Bakr, was arrested on suspicion of planning a major bombing at a Berlin airport in October but killed himself in prison days later.

Authorities did not confirm whether there was any link between al-Bakr and the 19-year-old currently in custody.

Germany remains on heightened alert after a suicide bombing by a Syrian Isis supporter and axe attack on a train, both in July.

Earlier this year, a German-born

former Isis fighter told

The Independent

he had been asked to return to his home country and carry out a terror attack by commanders in Raqqa last year.

Harry Sarfo said Isis leaders were specifically looking for recruits to attack the UK and Germany, having already set up networks in other targeted nations.

Police arrested five members of a network accused of radicalising German Muslims and sending them to fight for Isis in Syria on Tuesday.

Let by an extremist preacher known as Abu Walaa, the group is accused of using a mosque and Islamic school in the city of Hildesheim to "create the ideological and linguistic foundations for future activity with Isis", then organising recruits' travel to its territories.

Also on Tuesday, a court in Frankfurt sentenced a 30-year-old German man to eight years in prison for war crimes and membership of Isis.

The court said the man, identified only as Abdelkarim E, fought for the groupin Syria in 2013 and 2014.

**Load-Date:** November 11, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Syria crisis: Britain's response to humanitarian disaster 'woefully inadequate', says coalition of leading charities in open letter to David Cameron; Exclusive: Immigration figures will show that the UK has only taken in 100 refugees, say organisations*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5DPF-8W51-F021-642D-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 27, 2014 Thursday 7:46 AM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 1250 words

**Byline:** Jamie Merrill

**Body**

Britain's response to the Syria refugee crisis has been "woefully inadequate", according to a coalition of aid groups and charities who are urging the UK to resettle 10,000 refugees.

In an open letter to David Cameron published by The Independent, more than 30 organisations attack the Government for accepting around 100 Syrians - despite committing to welcome many more.

They urge the Prime Minister to "take the lead" in providing safety for Syria's most vulnerable people.

After four years of conflict 3.2m refugees have fled Syria in what aid agencies have called the "worst humanitarian crisis of our generation".

Western governments have been asked by the UN to accept just 100,000 of the most vulnerable refugees from the region. Britain initially resisted these calls, instead highlighting the aid it is offering in the region.

In January, following a concerted campaign supported by The Independent, the Government carried out a major U-turn and committed to admitting up to 500 ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. Since then however this pledge has been downgraded to a commitment to resettle "several hundred" of the most vulnerable Syrians, and Thursday's quarterly immigration figures are expected to show that only around 100 Syrians have arrived under the Government's Vulnerable Persons Relocation (VPR) scheme.

Read more: The letter: We applaud British aid, but aid is not enoughEditorial: Daunting scale of the refugee crisis is no excuse

Yvette Cooper, the shadow Home Secretary said Government's record was "shameful". She said: "Theresa May promised Britain would help up to 500 refugees. But whilst other countries have done their bit, Britain hasn't." The low number welcomed under the VPR scheme are in stark contrast to other Western countries, including Germany which has agreed to resettle 20,000 refugees and the US which has already granted visas to 9,100 Syrians as part of an "open-ended resettlement" policy.

The unprecedented letter is the first time that major aid agencies, including Oxfam, Save the Children, Amnesty International, the Refugee Council, CAFOD and Christian Aid, have openly attacked Government policy on Syrian resettlement and placed a figure on the number of refugees Britain has a duty to resettle.

The letter reflects dismay among aid agencies that Britain has been so slow to accept refuges while countries in the region, such as Lebanon and Jordan, are struggling to provide for 3.2m Syrians with the approach of winter and sub-zero temperatures.

Maurice Wren, chief executive of the Refugee Council, which organised the letter, said: "Syria's story is one of death, destruction and displacement. While the prospects for peace appear more remote than ever, the future for Syria' refugees is bleak. Unable to return home, these people's lives depend on the compassion and generosity of countries like ours. We must not turn our backs on Syria's refugees."

In Lebanon's Bekaa Valley alone more than 140,000 Syrians are living in makeshift shelters 900 metres above sea level, while earlier this week it emerged that Jordan was allegedly forcing some refugees to return to Syria.

Justin Forsyth, chief executive of the Save the Children said Syria's neighbours are "struggling under the burden" while "Britain is offering sanctuary to so few."

On Wednesday, in an intervention one aid agency source described as a "strong challenge to the UK to do more", the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) António Guterres told The Independent that the refugee crisis in the region "needs a much stronger international response than what we have seen so far."

Mr Guterres said: "A growing number of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in the region are very vulnerable... and we urgently need additional resettlement and humanitarian admissions places for them, now and over the coming months."

His most forceful intervention yet comes two weeks before a UNHCR ministerial-level conference in Geneva, which will see the UNHCR call on Western countries to help resettle 100,000 Syrian during 2015 and 2016. However the British government has declined to send a minister to lead its delegation, which will instead be represented by a diplomat from the Foreign Office.

In pictures: Global refugee crisis

The letter to David Cameron comes as the latest immigration figures, released on Thursday, are expected to underline his party's failure to meet their own net migration target of getting immigration below 100,000 by the general election.

Refugee charities are urging the government not to allow domestic politics to overshadow the crisis in Syria. Mark Goldring, Oxfam GB chief executive, said: "Our government has a responsibility to rise above domestic politics and see this for what it is: Britain giving safe, often temporary, homes to people in the direst of need."

A Downing Street spokesman said: "The UK has been at the forefront of the international response to the humanitarian crisis in Syria, having pledged £700m, making us the second largest bilateral donor. This funding is providing support including food, medical care and relief items for over a million people affected by the fighting in Syria, as well as to refugees in Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey and Iraq.

"We will always consider legitimate asylum claims and, through our Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme, we are working closely with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to identify those most at risk and bring them to the UK."

Case study: The family forced to flee Syria after seeing their father executed

Before Tayma, 38, and her seven children (pictured top of the page) fled Syria 10 months ago she had  "everything anyone could ever want" with a healthy family, a loving husband, a productive farm and an eighth child on the way.

Then soldiers came in the night and executed her husband in front of her and threatened her children with rape. She soon found that her sister and six-month-old niece had also been killed, forcing her to flee her farm and take refuge over the border to northern Lebanon.

She said: "One night we heard a noise outside, so my husband got up to see what was happening. I sensed that something was not right, so I woke the kids up and took them to the farm. While I was outside, I saw an armed man dragging my husband on the floor and then shooting him. I screamed hysterically at my children to run away.

"The man emptied his bullets into my husband's chest and walked towards me. He said that if I don't leave right now, he will give my daughters to his men and he will make me watch them get raped and tortured. I collapsed on the ground, tears streaming down my face... I crawled towards my husband's body desperately calling his name; I didn't realise that my daughter, Diana, was behind me all the time until I saw her sitting next to her father drenched in blood, crying and calling him to wake up."

When Tayma eventually arrived in Lebanon she was seven months pregnant and "terrified". She is one of 1.3 million refugees in Lebanon, a country with a normal population of less than 4.5 million. Like thousands of vulnerable refugees arriving in the tiny but swollen country, she was forced to live in a shack with no doors, running water or a bathroom. It was only with help from Save the Children that she managed to install proper windows and a door.

She said: "When I saw the living conditions here, I thought of going back to Syria. But then I figured it's better to live in a stable or an abandoned house than put my children's lives in danger."

Jamie Merrill

**Load-Date:** November 27, 2014

**End of Document**



[*German government calls for calm after asylum seeker accused of rape and murder ignites anti-migrant backlash; Neo-Nazis said to be 'rubbing their hands with glee'after 17-year-oldAfghan migrant accused of killing woman*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MB2-S1H1-F021-624Y-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 5, 2016 Monday 5:29 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 622 words

**Byline:** May Bulman

**Body**

The German government has called for calm after the arrest of

an asylum

seeker

over the rape and murder of a woman prompted a backlash against the country's "open door" asylum policy.

Following news that

an Afghan 17-year-old had been accused

of the murder of the 19-year-old woman, anti-immigrant party

Alternative for Germany (AfD)

publicly warned against the "uncontrolled arrival" of immigrants.

Meanwhile, the head of a police union claimed the murder could have been prevented had the country been "better prepared" for immigration.

In response to the anti-migrant backlash, Vice Chancellor Sigmar Gabriel said the alleged incident should not be used to whip up hatred against all refugees.

Mr Gabriel told

Bild

newspaper: "Such horrible murders already happened before the first Afghan or Syrian refugee arrived here. We will not allow incitement after such violent crimes, no matter who commits them."

Read more

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Germany find mosques too conservative

Thousands of refugees successfully sue German government over status

German ministry wants to return asylum seekers to Africa

Interior Minister for German state Baden-Württemberg, Thomas Strobl, meanwhile, said the suspect must answer before the law "regardless of his nationality".

"The alleged offender must now - regardless of his nationality, regardless of the question since when he has lived in Germany - be in court and answer before the law," said

Mr

Strobl.

In response to the arrest of the asylum seeker, AfD co-chief Jörg Meuthen, whose party has grown with the rising discontent over the presence of refugees in Germany, said: "We are shocked by this crime and at the same time we see that our warnings about the uncontrolled arrival of hundreds of thousands of young men from Islamic-patriarchal cultures are written off as populist."

Rainer Wendt, head of the DPoIG police union, claimed the teenager's killing could have been prevented, telling

Bild

: "We wouldn't have this victim, and so many others, if our country had been better prepared for the dangers that always go along with massive immigration."

The

BZ

daily in Berlin said neo-Nazis in Germany were "rubbing their hands with glee" in response to news of the incident, viewing it as an opportunity to spread their propaganda.

The publicationwrote: "This terrible case is a perfect incentive for their propaganda: every refugee is a potential criminal and terrorist!"

On social media issued sarcastic 'thank yous'to Chancellor Angela Merkel, whose open-door asylum policy brought a record number of migrants and refugees into Germany last year.

Maria Ladenburger, the daughter of a high-ranking EU legal official, was raped and murdered in Frieburg as she cycled home, and was later found drowned on a river bank.

The DNA of the Afghan migrant was found at the scene and he was identified on CCTV, according to the authorities in Frieburg.

The suspect, who came to Germany in 2015,

is on remand and will stand trial next year after charges are brought at the conclusion of the police investigation.

Recent figures show anti-migrant sentiment has been growing in Germany over recent years.

Attacks on asylum seekers' accommodation increased more than fivefold from 2014 to 2015, according to national crime statistics, while crimes targeting the homes of asylum-seekers also swelled, quadrupling to 1,031, including four attempted murders, eight explosives offences, 60 assaults and 94 arsons.

A report in September by

Bild

showed more than 500,000 rejected asylum seekers were still living in Germany, with many having received other permits to stay aside from asylum status, or being considered "tolerated" if they, for example, lacked travel documents.

**Load-Date:** December 5, 2016

**End of Document**



[*We Are All Refugees: The radio soap about displaced Syrians inspired by The Archers; The world's longest-running radio soap is one of the models for the everyday story of refugee folk, says its co-producer Charlotte Eager*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5DVG-N9M1-F021-63JB-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

December 15, 2014 Monday 9:02 PM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 1183 words

**Byline:** Charlotte Eager

**Body**

A man and a woman are screaming at each other in Arabic, rehearsing a scene from We Are All Refugees, a six-part radio soap about the lives of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Jordan, due to be broadcast throughout the Middle East this month. The project reflects life in a country where three-quarters of the population are now estimated to be refugees, and to which more than half-a-million Syrians have fled in three years.

The actors doing the shouting in a rehearsal room in Amman are Nawar Bulbul, a Syrian TV matinee idol; 26-year-old Azmi al-Hassany, a young Syrian amateur actor; and Raneem Ibraheem Aga, 23, a Syrian refugee. Bulbul's character, Fadi, is trying to marry off his 15-year-old sister, Reem (played by Aga), to a young Jordanian suitor against her will, to get her out of the refugee camp and off his hands. Fadi's younger brother, Firas, the drama's hero (played by al-Hassany), has returned to the camp from Amman to support his sister. He is scraping a living working illegally as a valet parker in the capital.

"This story is happening every day with Syrians in Jordan, they just don't have much choice," says Aga during a break in rehearsal. "But Reem is strong. She comes up with a way to help her family solve the problem. I hate the idea of a young girl being forced to marry. I was 17 when I did, but I loved my husband."

Aga fled a bombardment in Damascus two years ago with her husband and two sons, aged three and five, to find a new life in Syria. A delivery driver in Syria, her husband now hustles for work on the Jordanian black market as a metal worker. He did not want Aga to act in the soap. "But I nagged and nagged and nagged him until he said yes! I'd always wanted to act, but I never had the chance. And it's paid," she says, smiling, before being summoned back to work.

Our Jordanian driver, Ossama - gripped by the scene - says that the plotline is compelling and truthful: Syrian women are thought to be beautiful, clever and great cooks. "There's a saying in Jordan: 'Marry a Syrian wife; have a good life,'" he says, a little sheepishly.

The idea for the soap, of which I am a co-producer, was born a year ago, when Oxfam took me to Zaatari, the UN's tent and Portakabin city where more than 100,000 of Jordan's half-million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** are corralled. Unfortunately, Jordan, a tiny, desert country of 8 million people, with no oil, not much water and 12.6 per cent unemployment, was already feeling the strain of being the most politically stable country in the Middle East and therefore a magnet for exiles.

The Syrians are just the latest wave of refugees. The Palestinians came in 1948 and again in 1967; Iraqis in 1991, 2003 and again this summer, as they fled the medieval barbarism of Isis. There are even Armenians, well-established now, who filtered down through the wreck of the Ottoman Empire after the genocide against them in 1915.

At the time, I was visiting the camps looking for a place to stage The Trojan Women, Euripides's great anti-war tragedy, as a drama therapy project for refugees. Syrian women talked in the tents and white corrugated plastic boxes they now called home. One girl was about to be married; she was just 15. Her mother, a country woman from a village near the Syrian town of Deraa, explained that marriage was the best solution for her daughter. "There's so much gossip here," she said. "No one has anything to do in the camp; we all know each other's business. People say terrible things about unmarried girls. They call them flirts or sluts."

"And there's no security in the camps," said another woman. "Some girls get attacked or molested when they are going to the bathrooms at night, and then no one will marry them."

"I just want my daughter to be safe," said the first woman. After her mother left, the girl burst into tears, saying: "I don't want to get married. I don't want to leave my family." She was to marry a Jordanian and move out of the camp. "A Jordanian husband will look after her; her children will have Jordanian citizenship," her mother later explained to me, desperately.

We Are All Refugees was partly funded by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) agency, which suggested the themes it wanted covered. Forced early marriage was one, since there's been an epidemic of arranged marriages for Syrian refugee girls - to other Syrians, to Jordanians, even to Saudis and Gulf Arabs, who come to the camps to find a bride. Other themes were domestic violence, water shortages, unemployment, the exploitation of young Syrians who are not allowed to work legally in Jordan and the tensions of two communities forced to live side by side.

The drama was co-written by Wael Qadour, a young refugee Syrian playwright and theatre director, and two Jordanians, Majd Hijjawi, a writer and filmmaker, who also worked on The Hurt Locker, and Ahmad Ameen, who wrote the award-winning film Transit Cities.

Originally, it was to be a TV soap. But radio is much cheaper to produce, and most of the money had to be raised privately. One inspiration was The Archers, the world's longest-running radio soap, broadcast on Radio 4 and a daily addiction for 5 million listeners. It was created in 1951 with an educational purpose: teaching new farming techniques.

There were other models. In 1994, the BBC World Service had enormous success with its Afghan soap Naway Kor, Naway Jan ("New Home, New Life"). Dealing with the problems of Afghans returning from the refugee camps in Pakistan to a then-peaceful Afghanistan, its message was, "Don't tread on the land mines, or grow opium, however much the drug lords pay." It now has more than 35 million listeners and has been running for 20 years. The Taliban tried to take the soap off the air, but the ban was blocked by a mutiny by its own troops.

We Are All Refugees, set partly in a camp and partly in Amman, is to be broadcast on Radio Souriali, the best-known Syrian independent émigré radio station, which broadcasts in the Middle East (including Syria and Jordan), the US and online, and also on the UNHCR website.

In the soap, Yara, a naive, middle-class Jordanian heroine who works for a non-governmental organisation, is played by Shereen Zoumot, a Jordanian-Iraqi actress and producer. Zoumot's mother's family fled Mosul, Iraq, for the relative safety of Baghdad, where her uncle was wounded in a car bomb last month. "Yara's exactly like I used to be," says Zoumot, 26, who acted in When I Saw You, the Palestinian entry for the best foreign-language film Oscar in 2013. "She's an airhead for the first three episodes, then she gets real. I know she'll get together with Firas in the end. Loads of Jordanian girls are going out with Syrian guys now."

The long-term ambition is to turn the radio pilot into a TV soap. "Although my husband might actually divorce me if it goes on TV," says Aga, laughing. µ

Charlotte Eager is a filmmaker and a contributing editor at Newsweek Europe. Last year she co-produced Euripides's 'Trojan Women' in Arabic in Jordan, and she is a co-producer for 'We Are All Refugees'.

© Newsweek

**Load-Date:** December 16, 2014

**End of Document**



[*When the battle is over, the refugees can never go home*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MCX-6721-JCS0-D25B-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

December 14, 2016 Wednesday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 7

**Length:** 603 words

**Byline:** ISABEL HUNTER

**Body**

The fight for Aleppo is all but over, and already voices are crying out for refugees to go home to their "liberated" city. But for the Syrians who have escaped the country - the 2.7 million in Turkey, more than one million each to Lebanon and Europe and beyond - the turmoil and human tragedy will continue.

For to be associated with the revolution in any way, as aid worker, teacher, doctor, activist, or journalist, means you can never go home. Refugees fleeing Isis rule can no more go back to government areas than vice versa, and so goes the muddy complexity of this horrific civil war.

What would refugees be going back to? Much of eastern Aleppo (and Homs) has been reduced to acres and acres of rubble lying in piles and piles of dust. Reports of children stuck alive under rubble, and of 82 men and women shot in their houses by government forces, are yet more war crimes to add to a long list with a UN spokesman calling it a "complete meltdown of humanity".

"My name is on a list," has become a frequent refrain of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Turkey, and given as the main reason they cannot go back - most often a government blacklist, but of course there are also Isis and al-Qaida linked-Jabhat al-Nusra (now rebranded Jabhat Fateh al-Sham) lists too.

Nouriman, from Douma on the outskirts of Damascus, said she saw her house bombed in front of her eyes. She managed to salvage her cooking pots from the wreckage of her kitchen. The 46-year-old then risked her life to go back to rescue her nephews, who had been orphaned. Her son-in-law had been a photographer, and her brothers also active in the revolution.

"I could only flash my face at them," she told me from her sitting room in Reyhanli, on the Syrian-Turkish border, describing how she travelled with the rebels in convoys and then by bus through Syrian government checkpoints, terrified she would be recognised and arrested.

Others fled with their children after defecting from the army. Mustafa Hilaq left Damascus with his children for rebel held areas and now looks forward to taking his son to school and playing badminton with him in Turkey. Radwan, 24, fled after his friend was arrested for helping internally displaced people under government controlled Aleppo - he knew he was next. He has settled and opened a computer repair shop on the Turkish border - the calm where he sees a therapist to deal with his severe anxiety.

The long term consequences of integrating 2.7 million refugees in Turkey are dire, and expensive - the seemingly enormous Euro 3bn (£2.5bn) promised by the EU pales in comparison to the near Euro 20bn Turkey plans to spend annually in the coming three years on providing vital assistance.

But integrating a seriously traumatised population goes far beyond basic care. The vast majority have some sort of post-traumatic stress disorder; others have lost legs or eyes, need physiotherapy or complex healthcare to treat cancer, epilepsy or diabetes.

NGOs active in the area, such as the International Medical Corps - who are supported by the European Union Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department (Echo) - are vital to help provide for these long-term and endemic needs.

Refugees in Turkey have long known that, should Assad prevail, they cannot go home. Last summer's migration crisis was largely triggered as Russia joined the Syrian air force bombing schools, markets and hospitals using precision strikes as well as cluster bombs as many assumed, rightly, that chances for a rebel military victory were ever slighter.

Winning Aleppo may be lauded as a victory for Assad. But make no mistake, this bloody war is far from over.

**Load-Date:** December 13, 2016

**End of Document**



[*What did Donald Trump say? His key quotes from the second presidential debate; With his poll numbers in decline, the Republican candidate didn't hold back in his attacks on Hillary Clinton*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KX2-JBF1-JCJY-G2B7-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

October 10, 2016 Monday 4:21 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 548 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz

**Body**

At the second presidential debate in St Louis, Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton faced off on the most talked about issues of the day: his comments on sexual assault, Muslims, ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, Ms Clinton's emails and Obamacare.

But among the pointed barbs, the insults, accusations and interruptions, few clear statements on polices came forth during the 90 minutes.

Below is a round-up of what the Republican nominee said on the five most important talking points of the debate.

Read more

Hilary Clinton says leaked tape proves Donald Trump disrespects women

The 2005 video which shows him bragging that he can grab women's genitals.

"I'm very embarrassed by it, I hate it, but it's locker room talk. It's one of those things. I will knock the hell out of ISIS,"

On Bill Clinton

"What he's done to women, there's never been anybody in the history of politics in this nation that's been so abusive to women."

On prosecuting Hillary Clinton

"I hate to say it but if I win I'm going to instruct my attorney general to get a special prosecutor to look into your situation. There has never been so many lies, so much deception. You ought to be ashamed of yourself," Mr Trump said, and in response, Mrs Clinton said: "It's just awfully good that someone with the temperament of Donald Trump is not in charge of the law in this country." Mr Trump replied: "Because you'd be in jail."

Whether or not Mr Trump supported the war on Iraq

Ms Clinton said she had insisted for the "10th or 12th time" that Mr Trump had supported the invasion of Iraq in 2004, and the myth of his opposition had been "debunked".

"It's not debunked," he said. "It's not debunked."

Taxes

Much speculation is circulating about whether Mr Trump used a loss of almost $1 billion in 1995 to avoid paying federal income tax for over almost two decades.

Read more

Second presidential debate: Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton admit what they respect about each other

US presidential debate: Donald Trump says Putin and Assad are helping in fight against Isis

Donald Trump says Clinton laughed at child rape victim Kathy Shelton. That's not quite right

When confronted over whether he took advantage of tax loopholes, he said: "I absolutely used it, and so did Warren Buffett, and so did George Soros and so did many people who Hillary is getting money from."

What he really thinks of his rival

"If I am elected president, I'm going to instruct my attorney general to get a special prosecutor to look into your situation," he told Ms Clinton, insisting she would end up in jail.

At the end of the debate, he was asked to say something positive about her.

"She doesn't give up. She's a fighter. And I respect that."

On claims that he's sexist

"I have great respect for women. Nobody has more respect for women than I do."

On what he respects about Hillary Clinton

"I will say this about Hillary - she doesn't quit, she doesn't give up. I tell it like it is. She's a fighter."

On his immigration policies

"It's called extreme vetting. We're going to areas like Syria, where they are coming in by the tens of thousands because of Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton wanting to allow a 550 per cent increase [of refugees] over Obama.

"People are coming into this country. We have no idea who they are, where they are from and what their feelings are about this county."

**Load-Date:** October 10, 2016

**End of Document**



[*German police spark outrage for telling authorities to keep refugees away from carnival celebrations; Internal email said groups of asylum seekers could trigger 'undesirable interactions'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MTP-RDD1-F021-61RF-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 7, 2017 Tuesday 2:54 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 648 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

German police have provoked outrage by advising local authorities not to organise refugee trips to carnival celebrations because of the risk of "undesirable interactions" with locals.

Officers from the headquarters of North Rheine-Westphalia state police (LZPD) said that officers took a "critical view" of the prospect of "mass appearances of refugees and asylum seekers" at the traditional festival.

"We are aware that last year, carers of refugees and asylum seekers organised visits to carnival events," said the memo, which was obtained by the

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

.

"In light of the ongoing security situation in Germany, due to the events of the past couple of years, it could lead to undesirable interactions with the population and we advise against it."

Police officers pass a clown during a carnival parade on 7 February 2016 in Cologne, Germany (

Getty

Images)

The "Information for Carnival 2017" email advised anyone attending to expect "strong" security provisions and a heavy police presence, and ordered them not to carry "large bags, rucksacks or dangerous objects".

It added that refugees should accept searches and other security measures targeting them "without criticism".

Read more

Angela Merkel's party falls behind Germany's centre-left opposition

Germany offers asylum seekers up to (EURO)1,200 each to leave

Germany plans to electronically tag suspected terrorists

German "Karneval" or "Fasching" celebrations officially start in November but peak around Rose Monday, the day before Shrove Tuesday, falling this year on 27 February.

Thousands of people will be joining celebrations across North Rheine-Westphalia, centring on its cities of Cologne, Düsseldorf and Mainz, where there will be parades and traditional performances, music and dance.

Petra Jennen, who runs a refugee centre in Leverkusen, told the

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

she was "embarrassed" by the letter.

"I will not tell our families that they should not go to the parade," she added. "Even in an internal email, the district government and state police cannot communicate in this way."

The North Rheine-Westphalia interior ministry and LZPD disassociated themselves from the letter, saying it was "unauthorised".

Some local politicians were incensed by the leaked email. Marion Heuser, from the German Green Party, said the measures were tantamount to racial profiling.

"Many people have committed themselves to bringing the people left stranded here closer to German culture, which can sometimes be incomprehensible," she wrote on Facebook. "Now refugees should be kept away?"

Rainer Pannenbäcker, director of the LZPD, confirmed that the message was sent out on 30 January.

Read more

Refugee jokes banned at Austrian carnivals

"The wording in this letter is divisive and offensive. I regret that very much," he said."NRW police protect all people who celebrate carnival peacefully, no matter where they come from or what colour their skin is."

Authorities said similar information would be distributed in a more "suitable form" in future.

Authorities in North Rheine-Westphalia came under fire last month after using the pejorative term "Nafri" in a tweet referring to North African immigrants, who they claimed were being vetted during New Year's Eve celebrations in Cologne.

The controversy came a year after mass sexual assaults outside the city's main railway station, where police initially sought to play down attacks largely attributed to migrants.

The assaults and a series of Isis-inspired terror attacks in Germany have fuelled growing anti-immigrant sentiment since Angela Merkel opened the borders to ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in 2015.

She is facing a tough battle to be elected as Chancellor for a fourth term amid rising support for the far-right populist Alternative for Germany, while the anti-Islam Pegida group has drawn thousands of people at its marches.

**Load-Date:** February 8, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump's 'extreme' Muslim registry plans revealed by potential cabinet minister; Rights activists say the measures are already enough to spark protests*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M78-4CD1-F021-652Y-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

November 22, 2016 Tuesday 10:13 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 583 words

**Byline:** Adam Withnall

**Body**

Details have emerged of what a plan for a Muslim registry under Donald Trump might look like, after they were revealed - apparently accidentally - by one of his potential cabinet members.

Kris Kobach is considered the front runner to head up the Department of Homeland Security when Mr Trump forms his administration in January next year.

So some say it is ironic that he was photographed as he arrived for a meeting with the President-elect with a supposedly confidential strategy document visible under his arm.

A cynic would call it a deliberate ploy to get attention for the "Kobach strategic plan for first 365 days", which is how the document is headed.

Read more

Donald Trump's chief of staff refuses to rule out Muslim registry

The proposals involve restarting a post-9/11 era security programme called Nseers (the National Security Entry-Exit registration system), which meant men from certain Muslim-majority countries were subject to additional checks and monitored during their time in the country.

Critics at the time said the programme was ineffective - doing nothing to make the country safer - while encouraging Islamophobia.

Mr Kobach's plan also appears to include adding "extreme vetting" to Nseers. The document describes questioning Muslims "regarding support for Sharia law, jihad, equality of men and women, the United States Constitution".

And it proposes "reducing intake of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** to zero, using authority under the 1980 Refugee Act".

Read more

Nigel Farage makes pitch to become UK's link to Donald Trump

Legal experts think Donald Trump could impeached on his first day o

White supremacists chant 'hail Trump' while performing Hitler salutes

Trump calls for Muslim registry in newly emerged video despite denials

Trump backer claims Muslim registry is the same as Japanese internment

Harder to make out in the document, but still legible, was a definition of "criminal aliens" as "any alien arrested for any crime" - note, not

convicted -

"and any gang member". And further down it is just possible to make out the line "in addition to 386 miles of existing actual wall".

It is unclear how much of the document would ultimately be endorsed by a President Trump. But the language it uses - referring to immigrants as "potential terrorists" and "high-risk aliens" - is in keeping with his stump speeches during the campaign.

Speaking to the Daily Beast, Amnesty International's Naureen Shah said the slim proposals on the document would be enough on their own to cause her group to organise protests.

"We will create the public pressure and international community pressure to make these kinds of proposals untenable," she said.

"When you see that as a package-NSEERS, the so-called extreme vetting, and the shutdown of the refugee program-that package deal, to govern based on bigotry and fear-mongering about the Muslim other, is an astounding way to start."

Katherine Tactaquin, the executive director of the National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, told the Daily Beast that Mr Kobach's ideas meant going back to the post-9/11 norm.

"Obviously that's going to target Muslims," she said. "It's another way of doing that without specifically saying, 'We're identifying Muslims.'"

And Anthony Hensley, Mr Kobach's political rival as the Kansas Senate Minority Leader, was critical of the Secretary of State.

He told the LA Times: "That's the height of irony if he's wanting a job in Homeland Security and you're able to see in a photograph what should be confidential information."

**Load-Date:** November 22, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Welcoming refugees with plots of land and cash 'gives boost to local economy'; 'The results show clearly that refugees benefit those countries that welcome them and give them what they need to build new lives'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M1Y-JFD1-JCJY-G3DS-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

October 28, 2016 Friday 4:34 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AFRICA

**Length:** 627 words

**Byline:** Adam Withnall

**Body**

Refugees make a substantial positive contribution to the economy of their host country if they are welcomed and given plots of land, according to the first major study of its kind.

Researchers working with the World Food Programme (WFP) visited two major refugee settlements in Uganda, which hosts more than 700,000 people fleeing conflicts in neighbouring countries yet has one of the most progressive approaches to asylum seekers in the world.

The study found that for every refugee household in Uganda receiving cash aid from the WFP, the local economy was boosted by more than $1,100 dollars a year.

Refugees who were given cash spent most of it buying food from local producers and vendors, and contributed more to the Ugandan economy than those who were given the equivalent amount in food aid.

Read more

The six refugee crises the world forgot

But Uganda is particularly remarkable because many refugee families are given a plot of agricultural land and raw materials to build their own home upon arrival.

These families contributed more positively to the local economy than those not given their own land, boosting it by an additional $220 a year, as they hire agricultural labour from other households and purchase tools and supplies from local businesses.

"While they are not necessarily more efficient than their Ugandan neighbours, refugees [also] realise higher yields because they invest considerably more labour," said study co-author and WFP refugee programme manager Jaako Valli.

Professor J Edward Taylor of the University of California, Davis, led the research involving surveys of some 1500 households and 385 businesses, and has previously published a study on the benefits of cash aid over food aid to refugees and their host communities in Rwanda.

Read more

I was a child refugee and I want to thank Gary Lineker

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Germany find mosques too conservative

Refugees stuck in Calais after camp closure spark 'new Jungle' fears

Lily Allen accuses Home Office of 'aiding' tabloid media

2016 becomes deadliest ever year for refugees trying to reach Europe

"The multipliers [to the local economy] are significant, regardless of whether a refugee family receives cash or food," he said.

Uganda has been subject to a great deal of international attention for the way it has fostered positive relations between host communities and refugees, despite the huge numbers arriving every day from conflicts in South Sudan, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Speaking at Barack Obama's New York summit on refugees last month, the Ugandan president Yoweri Museveni said it was his country's approach to welcome those fleeing conflict as "your unfortunate brothers and sisters", while recognising the business opportunity they bring.

"It is not correct to treat African refugees as if they are flukers seeking to consume the resources of the indigenous people," he said. "While in exile, both out of humanness and far-sight, the refugees need to be well-treated.

"[And] when peace returns to their tormented land, they will go back and become your treasured partners in production and exchange of goods and services with their former hosts," he said.

"As far as the farsighted is concerned, even the time in exile is important and useful... It is the time to establish future business links."

WFP Deputy Country Director Cheryl Harrison said in a statement: "This is the first time in Uganda that we have been able to calculate the economic impact of humanitarian food assistance.

"It is also the first time that we have calculated the economic impact of Ugandan's generous approach to providing agricultural land to refugees. The results show clearly that refugees benefit those countries that welcome them and give them what they need to build new lives."

**Load-Date:** October 28, 2016

**End of Document**



[*What did Donald Trump say during the second presidential debate?; With his poll numbers in decline, the Republican candidate didn't hold back in his attacks on Hillary Clinton*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KX2-JBF1-JCJY-G2B8-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

October 10, 2016 Monday 4:21 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 548 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz

**Body**

At the second presidential debate in St Louis, Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton faced off on the most talked about issues of the day: his comments on sexual assault, Muslims, ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, Ms Clinton's emails and Obamacare.

But among the pointed barbs, the insults, accusations and interruptions, few clear statements on polices came forth during the 90 minutes.

Below is a round-up of what the Republican nominee said on the five most important talking points of the debate.

Read more

Hilary Clinton says leaked tape proves Donald Trump disrespects women

The 2005 video which shows him bragging that he can grab women's genitals.

"I'm very embarrassed by it, I hate it, but it's locker room talk. It's one of those things. I will knock the hell out of ISIS,"

On Bill Clinton

"What he's done to women, there's never been anybody in the history of politics in this nation that's been so abusive to women."

On prosecuting Hillary Clinton

"I hate to say it but if I win I'm going to instruct my attorney general to get a special prosecutor to look into your situation. There has never been so many lies, so much deception. You ought to be ashamed of yourself," Mr Trump said, and in response, Mrs Clinton said: "It's just awfully good that someone with the temperament of Donald Trump is not in charge of the law in this country." Mr Trump replied: "Because you'd be in jail."

Whether or not Mr Trump supported the war on Iraq

Ms Clinton said she had insisted for the "10th or 12th time" that Mr Trump had supported the invasion of Iraq in 2004, and the myth of his opposition had been "debunked".

"It's not debunked," he said. "It's not debunked."

Taxes

Much speculation is circulating about whether Mr Trump used a loss of almost $1 billion in 1995 to avoid paying federal income tax for over almost two decades.

Read more

Second presidential debate: Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton admit what they respect about each other

US presidential debate: Donald Trump says Putin and Assad are helping in fight against Isis

Donald Trump says Clinton laughed at child rape victim Kathy Shelton. That's not quite right

When confronted over whether he took advantage of tax loopholes, he said: "I absolutely used it, and so did Warren Buffett, and so did George Soros and so did many people who Hillary is getting money from."

What he really thinks of his rival

"If I am elected president, I'm going to instruct my attorney general to get a special prosecutor to look into your situation," he told Ms Clinton, insisting she would end up in jail.

At the end of the debate, he was asked to say something positive about her.

"She doesn't give up. She's a fighter. And I respect that."

On claims that he's sexist

"I have great respect for women. Nobody has more respect for women than I do."

On what he respects about Hillary Clinton

"I will say this about Hillary - she doesn't quit, she doesn't give up. I tell it like it is. She's a fighter."

On his immigration policies

"It's called extreme vetting. We're going to areas like Syria, where they are coming in by the tens of thousands because of Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton wanting to allow a 550 per cent increase [of refugees] over Obama.

"People are coming into this country. We have no idea who they are, where they are from and what their feelings are about this county."

**Load-Date:** October 10, 2016

**End of Document**



[*US plans to take in 110,000 refugees over the next year; Increase of almost a third reflects growing concerns about the world's refugee crisis as conflicts in Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan continue*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KPJ-V7H1-F021-62VB-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 14, 2016 Wednesday 2:45 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS

**Length:** 581 words

**Byline:** Josh Lederman, Associated Press

**Body**

The United States will strive to take in 110,000 refugees from around the world in the coming year, according to a senior Obama administration official, in what would be a nearly 30 percent increase from the 85,000 allowed in during the previous year.

The increase reflects continuing concern about the refugee crisis stemming from Syria's civil war and conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Yet it's still far short of what advocacy groups say is needed to address an unprecedented crisis that saw some 1 million people pour into Europe alone last year.

The official, who wasn't authorised to discuss the numbers before an official announcement,spoke on condition of anonymity.

Read more

Republicans use spending bill deadline to try limiting refugee numbers

Secretary of State John Kerry had previously suggested that the UStarget would climb to 100,000 in the coming year, but that the figure was a floor, not a ceiling. He briefed lawmakers on the revised figure on Tuesday.

The 110,000 goal covers a 12-month period that starts next month. In the 12 months ending on September30, the USgoal was 85,000, and in the three years before that, the target was 70,000 per year.

The White House has tried to emphasise that the refugee programme is safe and doesn't pose a major threat to national security. That concern was heightened last year after terrorist attacks in European cities - including some connected to people who had spent time in Syria.

Officials said that potential refugees would continue to be subject a more rigorous screening process than any other foreigners granted entrance to the U.S.

Aylan Kurdi Anniversary: EU states failing in their obligations to refugees

The announcement comes two weeks after the USannounced it had met President Barack Obama's goal of admitting 10,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** despite early scepticism that it would reach its goal. Millions of Syrians have been displaced by a civil war that has killed roughly half a million people.

Republican governors have pushed back vehemently and tried to refuse to let them into their states, leading to a clash with the administration, which has maintained that states can't legally bar refugees who otherwise meet the criteria.

Obama ignores Americans concerns...and increases refugees to US by 30%.

- Richard Grenell (@RichardGrenell) September 14, 2016

The administration did not release a breakdown of how many refugees would be accepted from specific countries in the coming year.

The UShas tried to encourage other countries, too, to increase their contribution to alleviating the refugee crisis. The official said increasing the UStarget this year reflected that strategy and Mr Obama's belief that all nations need to do more to help the neediest.

Read more

Alan Kurdi anniversary: 8 charts that show how the refugee crisis has changed

World leaders urged to address growing education crisis among refugees

Syrian ceasefire begins - and the US and Russia have the power to make sure it sticks

As part of that effort, Mr Obama plans to host a summit on refugee issues with world leaders next week during the United NationsGeneral Assembly gathering in New York.

The UNrefugee agency chief, Filippo Grandi, said on Tuesday that Europe needed to boost its efforts to take in people from places like Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan. In an Associated Press interview, he called it "one of the great challenges" of the future.

"There's a time now to have this rational discussion," he said.

**Load-Date:** September 14, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Child refugees in Italy 'forced into prostitution'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KHC-C651-JCS0-D32J-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

August 21, 2016 Sunday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 18

**Length:** 594 words

**Byline:** LIZZIE DEARDEN

**Body**

Child refugees are being sexually abused and extorted in Italy as the proportion of unaccompanied minors arriving on Europe's shores reaches record highs. Charities have long warned of smugglers abusing children, frequently forcing girls into prostitution to repay their "debts", but teenage asylum seekers in Sicily say they have been targeted by local men.

Ermias Haile, a 16-year-old from Eritrea, has been sleeping on a building site with his friends since they arrived on the island after making the treacherous voyage from Libya. Like many others, they left an official reception centre for young refugees in the belief they would be forced to remain in Italy after applying from asylum, leaving them alone and unprotected.

Ermias and friends told Sky News an Italian man had sexually abused them after buying them drinks and offering them shelter. "He find us in a place like this [park] and he invite us to a bar and he let us drink beer and then he take us to his home and there he give us beer," he said. "We start drinking and then he start touching us on our body. After we leave the house, he calls us and he gives us money."

Almost 102,000 asylum seekers have arrived by sea in Italy so far this year - 15 per cent of them unaccompanied minors. Most, such as Ermias, are picked up by rescue boats in the Mediterranean and taken to Sicily, where they are sent to local reception centres.

But many leave the comparative safety of the accommodation, travelling to other European cities and often ending up homeless or trapped at borders such as in The Jungle camp in Calais, where several rapes have been reported.

Save the Children said the number of unaccompanied children has doubled in the past year, seeing vulnerable boys and girls thrown into "cycles of abuse". Traffickers saddle girls and young women with up to Euro 50,000 (£43,000) in "debt" for the cost of their journeys across the Mediterranean before forcing them into prostitution and hard labour to pay it off.

Boys are forced into similar schemes, subjected to child labour and criminal activity including theft and drug dealing by gangs. Children are also at risk at overcrowded detention camps on Greek islands, where all migrants are now held until their asylum applications are decided as part of a deal between the EU and Turkish government.

Aid agencies say families are "living in fear" after fleeing violence and persecution in their home countries, with many afraid to let their children out of their sight amid rising tensions, protests and fights. Tanya Steele, Save the Children's interim CEO, said: "It's shocking that in this day and age so many vulnerable children are being subjected to this kind of violence, manipulation and exploitation.

"They make the dangerous journey to Europe on their own seeking safety and a better life, but instead find themselves trapped in a cycle of abuse." Former Prime Minister David Cameron responded to growing calls to house unaccompanied minors by pledging to resettle some of the "most vulnerable" refugee children in May, but none are believed to have arrived.

The Home Affairs Select Committee has warned that the UK is on course to fall short of its pledge to house 20,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** by 2020, highlighting a huge backlog of asylum cases and decisions where refugees had been wrongly returned to violence and persecution.

The British Government previously restricted its scheme to asylum seekers in UN camps in the Middle East and North Africa, arguing that it did not want to encourage them to make the "lethal" sea voyage to Europe.

**Load-Date:** August 20, 2016

**End of Document**



[*UN Security Council to vote on halting Israeli settlement-building; Draft resolution circulated by Egypt says construction is 'dangerously imperilling' a two-state peace solution*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MFN-7TW1-JCJY-G3N1-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 22, 2016 Thursday 8:19 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 604 words

**Byline:** Michelle Nichols

**Body**

The United Nations Security Council is due to vote on a draft resolution that would demand that Israel "immediately and completely cease all settlement activities in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem."

Egypt circulated the draft on Wednesday evening and the 15-member council is due to vote at 8pm GMT on Thursday, diplomats said. They said it was unclear how the United States, which has protected Israel from UN action, would vote.

The White House declined to comment. Some council diplomats hope President Barack Obama, who has had a rocky relationship with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, may allow Security Council action by abstaining on the vote.

Read more

Israel is taking in injured ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from Aleppo

Ban Ki-moon says UN has 'disproportionate' focus on Israel

Moving US embassy to Jerusalem would be 'a declaration of war'

In a post on Twitter, Mr Netanyahu said the US "should veto the anti-Israel resolution at the UN Security Council on Thursday." The tweet gave no indication whether Israel had been informed of how Washington planned to vote.

A resolution needs nine votes in favour and no vetoes by the United States, France, Russia, Britain or China to be adopted.

UN diplomats see the resolution as a final chance for council action on the Middle East before Republican President-elect Donald Trump succeeds Democrat Mr Obama on 20 January.

Mr Trump has signalled he would support Israel in a number of critical areas and not pressure it to engage in talks with the Palestinians.

Obama's administration has been highly critical of Israeli settlement construction in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem. US officials said this month, however, that Mr Obama was not expected to make major moves on Israeli-Palestinian peace before leaving office.

Read more

7-year-old Bana Alabed of Aleppo meets President Erdogan in Turkey

In 2011, the United States vetoed a draft resolution condemning Israeli settlements after the Palestinians refused a compromise offer from Washington. The US says continued Israeli settlement activity lacks legitimacy.

The draft text to be voted on later today says the establishment of settlements by Israel has "no legal validity and constitutes a flagrant violation under international law."

It expresses grave concern that continuing settlement activities "are dangerously imperilling the viability of a two-state solution."

The Palestinians want an independent state in the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem, areas Israel captured in a 1967 war. Most countries and the United Nations view Israeli West Bank settlements as illegal and an obstacle to peace.

Israel disputes that settlements are illegal and says their final status should be determined in any future talks on Palestinian statehood. The last round of US-led peace talks between the Israelis and Palestinians collapsed in 2014.

Israeli UN Ambassador Danny Danon called the draft "the peak of hypocrisy" and said: "It is absurd that at a time when thousands are being massacred in Syria, the Security Council is devoting time and energy to convene and discuss condemning the only true democracy in the Middle East."

The draft said the council would "reiterate its demand that Israel immediately and completely cease all settlement activities in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, and that it fully respect all of its legal obligations in this regard."

The "quartet" sponsoring the stalled Middle East peace process - the United States, Russia, the European Union and the United Nations - said in July that Israel should stop building settlements.

Copyright Reuters

**Load-Date:** December 22, 2016

**End of Document**



[*US plans to take in 110,000 refugees over the next year; Increase of almost a third reflects growing concerns about the world's refugee crisis as conflicts in Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan continue*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KPJ-V7H1-F021-62VC-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 14, 2016 Wednesday 2:45 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS

**Length:** 580 words

**Byline:** Josh Lederman, Associated Press

**Body**

The United States will strive to take in 110,000 refugees from around the world in the coming year, according to a senior Obama administration official, in what would be an almost30 per cent increase from the 85,000 allowed in during the previous year.

The rise reflects continuing concern about the refugee crisis stemming from Syria's civil war and conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Yet it is still far short of what advocacy groups say is needed to address an unprecedented crisis that saw some onemillion people pour into Europe alone last year.

The official, who wasn'tauthorised to discuss the numbers before an official announcement,spoke on condition of anonymity.

Read more

Republicans use spending bill deadline to try limiting refugee numbers

Secretary of State John Kerry had previously suggested that the UStarget would climb to 100,000 in the coming year, but that the figure was a floor, not a ceiling. He briefed lawmakers on the revised figure on Tuesday.

The 110,000 goal covers a 12-month period that starts next month. In the 12 months ending on September30, the USgoal was 85,000, and in the three years before that, the target was 70,000 per year.

The White House has tried to emphasise that the refugee programme is safe and doesn't pose a major threat to national security. That concern was heightened last year after terrorist attacks in European cities - including some connected to people who had spent time in Syria.

Officials said that potential refugees would continue to be subject to a more rigorous screening process than any other foreigners granted entrance to the US

Aylan Kurdi Anniversary: EU states failing in their obligations to refugees

The announcement comes two weeks after the USannounced it had met President Barack Obama's goal of admitting 10,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** despite early scepticism about reaching its goal. Millions of Syrians have been displaced by a civil war that has killed roughly half a million people.

Republican governors have pushed back vehemently and tried to refuse to let them into their states, leading to a clash with the administration, which has maintained that states can't legally bar refugees who otherwise meet the criteria.

Obama ignores Americans concerns...and increases refugees to US by 30%.

- Richard Grenell (@RichardGrenell) September 14, 2016

The administration did not release a breakdown of how many refugees would be accepted from specific countries in the coming year.

The UShas tried to encourage other countries, too, to increase their contribution to alleviating the refugee crisis. The official said increasing the UStarget this year reflected that strategy and Mr Obama's belief that all nations need to do more to help the neediest.

Read more

Alan Kurdi anniversary: 8 charts that show how the refugee crisis has changed

World leaders urged to address growing education crisis among refugees

Syrian ceasefire begins - and the US and Russia have the power to make sure it sticks

As part of that effort, Mr Obama plans to host a summit on refugee issues with world leaders next week during the United NationsGeneral Assembly gathering in New York.

The UNrefugee agency chief, Filippo Grandi, said on Tuesday that Europe needed to boost its efforts to take in people from places such asSyria, Iraq and Afghanistan. In an Associated Press interview, he called it "one of the great challenges" of the future.

"There's a time now to have this rational discussion," he said.

**Load-Date:** September 14, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Tory Leave campaigner denies Brexit caused hate crime increase; The number of hate crimes committed in the UK rose by 58 per cent in the week after the EU referendum, witheven higher increases in many areas that voted strongly to leave*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KNY-D3F1-F021-600R-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 11, 2016 Sunday 6:02 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 556 words

**Byline:** Rob Merrick

**Body**

A prominent Conservative has beensharply criticised after rejecting strong evidence that the EU referendum campaign fuelled a surge in hate crimes.

Daniel Hannan, an MEP and a leading Leave campaigner, accused the media of "jumping on" cases of people who have been attacked or abused which had nothing to do with Brexit.

And he said it was an "insult" to the majority of the British public who voted to leave the EU to draw any connection with hate crimes.

Read more

Brexit caused lasting rise in hate crime, new figures show

Polish men attacked in 'hate crime' hours after murdered Pole's vigil in Harlow

Politicians' anti-immigrant rhetoric fuelled post-Brexit hate crime spike, United Nations says

Tim Farron, the Liberal Democrat leader, immediately accused the South East MEP of being "blind to the simple truth that the nasty, divisive campaign stirred up by Leave has had terrible consequences."

Immediately following the June referendum, police figures recorded a huge increase in hate crimes across England and Wales, with the number of incidents still up year-on-year.

And the United Nations UN's Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination pinned the blame on the "divisive, anti-immigrant and xenophobic rhetoric" of some British politicians.

But, asked by Sky News about the increase in hate crime, Mr Hannan said: "I don't accept that and I think it's a tendentious thing to put the question in the way that you do.

"There has been for a long period a rise in the reporting of hate crime incidents because of the way in which the police have their websites and treat every report as an incident.

"There hasn't been any increase in the number of cases referred for prosecution and some of the cases that the media have jumped on have turned out to have nothing to do with Brexit at all."

Read more

Revealed: the shocking scale of racist hate since the Brexit vote

Mr Hannan said "any kind of intolerance, any kind of hateful incident" should be condemned.

But he added: "To insult 52% of the British electorate by suggesting that there is some connection between voting to take back our laws and being unpleasant to people who have made their lives here, I think that's an extremely dangerous way of going."

Mr Farron said: "What I think is dangerous is Dan Hannan's outright rejection of facts.

"Figures released by the National Police Chiefs' Council show that in the week following the vote to leave the EU the number of incidents rose by 58 per cent.

"It is quite clear but Dan's EU hatred seems to blind him to the simple truth that the nasty, divisive campaign stirred up by Leave has had terrible consequences."

Many areas that voted strongly for Leave posted even higher increases, police figures obtained by The Independent showed.

Towards the close of the campaign, Ukip leader Nigel Farage was widely criticised for unveiling a poster with pictures of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** alongside the caption the "breaking point".

He was also criticised for saying the referendum campaign had been won "without a shot being fired" - despite the fatal shooting of Labour MP Jo Cox.

Just two weeks ago, Poland's Ambassador to the UK said his staff had deal with "15 or 16 such situations" since the referendum result.

He spoke as he visited Harlow, where Polish man Arkadiusz Jozwik was attacked and killed in a suspected hate crime by six teenagers.

**Load-Date:** September 11, 2016

**End of Document**



[*US plans to take in 110,000 refugees in one year; Increase of almost a third reflects growing concerns about the world's refugee crisis as conflicts in Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan continue*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KPJ-V7H1-F021-62V9-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 14, 2016 Wednesday 2:45 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Length:** 580 words

**Byline:** Josh Lederman, Associated Press

**Body**

The United States will strive to take in 110,000 refugees from around the world in the coming year, according to a senior Obama administration official, in what would be a nearly 30 percent increase from the 85,000 allowed in during the previous year.

The increase reflects continuing concern about the refugee crisis stemming from Syria's civil war and conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Yet it's still far short of what advocacy groups say is needed to address an unprecedented crisis that saw some 1 million people pour into Europe alone last year.

The official, who wasn't authorised to discuss the numbers before an official announcement,spoke on condition of anonymity.

Read more

Republicans use spending bill deadline to try limiting refugee numbers

Secretary of State John Kerry had previously suggested that the UStarget would climb to 100,000 in the coming year, but that the figure was a floor, not a ceiling. He briefed lawmakers on the revised figure on Tuesday.

The 110,000 goal covers a 12-month period that starts next month. In the 12 months ending on September30, the USgoal was 85,000, and in the three years before that, the target was 70,000 per year.

The White House has tried to emphasise that the refugee program is safe and doesn't pose a major threat to national security. That concern was heightened last year after terrorist attacks in European cities - including some connected to people who had spent time in Syria.

Officials said that potential refugees would continue to be subject a more rigorous screening process than any other foreigners granted entrance to the U.S.

Aylan Kurdi Anniversary: EU states failing in their obligations to refugees

The announcement comes two weeks after the USannounced it had met President Barack Obama's goal of admitting 10,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** despite early scepticism that it would reach its goal. Millions of Syrians have been displaced by a civil war that has killed roughly half a million people.

Republican governors have pushed back vehemently and tried to refuse to let them into their states, leading to a clash with the administration, which has maintained that states can't legally bar refugees who otherwise meet the criteria.

Obama ignores Americans concerns...and increases refugees to US by 30%.

- Richard Grenell (@RichardGrenell) September 14, 2016

The administration did not release a breakdown of how many refugees would be accepted from specific countries in the coming year.

The UShas tried to encourage other countries, too, to increase their contribution to alleviating the refugee crisis. The official said increasing the UStarget this year reflected that strategy and Mr Obama's belief that all nations need to do more to help the neediest.

Read more

Alan Kurdi anniversary: 8 charts that show how the refugee crisis has changed

World leaders urged to address growing education crisis among refugees

Syrian ceasefire begins - and the US and Russia have the power to make sure it sticks

As part of that effort, Mr Obama plans to host a summit on refugee issues with world leaders next week during the United NationsGeneral Assembly gathering in New York.

The UNrefugee agency chief, Filippo Grandi, said on Tuesday that Europe needed to boost its efforts to take in people from places like Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan. In an Associated Press interview, he called it "one of the great challenges" of the future.

"There's a time now to have this rational discussion," he said.

**Load-Date:** September 14, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Now We Are Here, Young Vic, theatre review: 'Well worth catching'; The Young Vic is welcoming visits by foreign companies and engaging withlocal communities and young people.Its latest show,Now We Are Here, has been created by refugee writers in workshops with Deanna Rodger, Imogen Brodie and Ian Rickson*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K9N-TG31-F021-61MM-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

July 25, 2016 Monday 11:12 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** REVIEWS

**Length:** 554 words

**Byline:** Paul Taylor

**Body**

How many theatres could claim that "our doors are open to the world" without sounding vainglorious or deluded? But in the case of the Young Vic, there is real substance to the assertion. The venue proves this not just in its celebrated international co-productions but in its hospitality to visits by foreign companies and by the depth of its engagement with local communities and young people. A few weeks ago, the theatre joined forces with Developing Artists and Refuge Productions to bring across Queens of Syria, an exceptionally moving piece in which a group of real-life ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** (none of them actors) brought Euripides' tragedy The Trojan Women up-to-date with their own unforgettable personal testimonies of exile and loss.

The piece was a salutary rebuke to those who have become numbed to the migration crisis or who categorise asylum-seekers as some faceless, threatening mass. Individual narratives are again powerfully emphasised in Now We Are Here which has been created by refugee writers in workshops with Deanna Rodger, Imogen Brodie and Ian Rickson. The latter directs the sensitive, compelling production which strips away everything but the bare minimum needed for these voices to be heard.

In the first half we listen to the overlapping verbatim testimony of Desmond Jolly, Mir Ahmed and MichaelMugishangyezi (beautifully played by Gary Beadle, Manish Gandhi and Jonathan Livingstone). Two have fled the homophobic abuse in their native countries of Jamaica and Pakistan (such as incarceration in a mental asylum for refusing to get married), while the third has been in prison in East Africa because of "political and tribal tensions". The second half consists of Tamara McFarlane's lyrical monologue (superbly performed by Golda Rosheuvel) that looks back at her fifteen year old self in Jamaica and recounts how religious intolerance and fear blighted her blossoming sexual love for a fellow schoolgirl.

What do you reply when someone asks you "How was your day?" when you've had to kill the hours before the hostel reopens without any semblance of a routine or even enough for a bus fare in your pocket? It's a question that stumps Michael, who has no ID card either, and he vividly communicates the unending sense of futility of "people who are at the sea level of their own hopes. You mourn your own life". But the testimonies are flecked with humour too - stories about escapades back home, say, such as the one that left young Mir and his friend with twenty floors of uninterrupted secret kissing-time in a yo-yoing lift.

Tamara witnesses the horrific murder of a 14 year old gay youth by a bigoted mob. In her fear that she will bring a similar retribution down on her loved ones, she makes protective moves that have a piercingly sad outcome. It's as if the stench of burning tyre enters your own nostrils as you listen to Rosheuevel's extraordinarily immediate account of the boy's fate. The frankness with which all the participants have shared their stories is a tribute both to their courage and to the atmosphere of trust that must have been created in the workshops. All the performances of Now We Are Here are being given for free (donations welcome to three charities working with refugees that have been chosen by the collaborators). Well worth catching.

To 30 July; 20 7922 2922

**Load-Date:** July 25, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Child refugees in Italy 'forced into prostitution'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KHC-C651-JCS0-D35B-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

August 21, 2016 Sunday

Second Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** SPORT; Pg. 21

**Length:** 594 words

**Byline:** LIZZIE DEARDEN

**Body**

Child refugees are being sexually abused and extorted in Italy as the proportion of unaccompanied minors arriving on Europe's shores reaches record highs. Charities have long warned of smugglers abusing children, frequently forcing girls into prostitution to repay their "debts", but teenage asylum seekers in Sicily say they have been targeted by local men.

Ermias Haile, a 16-year-old from Eritrea, has been sleeping on a building site with his friends since they arrived on the island after making the treacherous voyage from Libya. Like many others, they left an official reception centre for young refugees in the belief they would be forced to remain in Italy after applying from asylum, leaving them alone and unprotected.

Ermias and friends told Sky News an Italian man had sexually abused them after buying them drinks and offering them shelter. "He find us in a place like this [park] and he invite us to a bar and he let us drink beer and then he take us to his home and there he give us beer," he said. "We start drinking and then he start touching us on our body. After we leave the house, he calls us and he gives us money."

Almost 102,000 asylum seekers have arrived by sea in Italy so far this year - 15 per cent of them unaccompanied minors. Most, such as Ermias, are picked up by rescue boats in the Mediterranean and taken to Sicily, where they are sent to local reception centres.

But many leave the comparative safety of the accommodation, travelling to other European cities and often ending up homeless or trapped at borders such as in The Jungle camp in Calais, where several rapes have been reported.

Save the Children said the number of unaccompanied children has doubled in the past year, seeing vulnerable boys and girls thrown into "cycles of abuse". Traffickers saddle girls and young women with up to Euro 50,000 (£ 43,000) in "debt" for the cost of their journeys across the Mediterranean before forcing them into prostitution and hard labour to pay it off.

Boys are forced into similar schemes, subjected to child labour and criminal activity including theft and drug dealing by gangs. Children are also at risk at overcrowded detention camps on Greek islands, where all migrants are now held until their asylum applications are decided as part of a deal between the EU and Turkish government.

Aid agencies say families are "living in fear" after fleeing violence and persecution in their home countries, with many afraid to let their children out of their sight amid rising tensions, protests and fights. Tanya Steele, Save the Children's interim CEO, said: "It's shocking that in this day and age so many vulnerable children are being subjected to this kind of violence, manipulation and exploitation.

"They make the dangerous journey to Europe on their own seeking safety and a better life, but instead find themselves trapped in a cycle of abuse." Former Prime Minister David Cameron responded to growing calls to house unaccompanied minors by pledging to resettle some of the "most vulnerable" refugee children in May, but none are believed to have arrived.

The Home Affairs Select Committee has warned that the UK is on course to fall short of its pledge to house 20,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** by 2020, highlighting a huge backlog of asylum cases and decisions where refugees had been wrongly returned to violence and persecution.

The British Government previously restricted its scheme to asylum seekers in UN camps in the Middle East and North Africa, arguing that it did not want to encourage them to make the "lethal" sea voyage to Europe.

**Load-Date:** August 20, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Now We Are Here, Young Vic, theatre review: 'Well worth catching'; The Young Vic is welcoming visits by foreign companies and engaging withlocal communities and young people.Its latest show,Now We Are Here, has been created by refugee writers in workshops with Deanna Rodger, Imogen Brodie and Ian Rickson*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K9N-TG31-F021-61MN-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

July 25, 2016 Monday 11:12 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** REVIEWS

**Length:** 552 words

**Byline:** Paul Taylor

**Body**

How many theatres could claim that "our doors are open to the world" without sounding vainglorious or deluded? But in the case of the Young Vic, there is real substance to the assertion. The venue proves this not just in its celebrated international co-productions but in its hospitality to visits by foreign companies and by the depth of its engagement with local communities and young people.

A few weeks ago, the theatre joined forces with Developing Artists and Refuge Productions to bring across

Queens of Syria

, an exceptionally moving piece in which a group of real-life ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** (none of them actors) brought Euripides' tragedy

The Trojan Women

up-to-date with their own unforgettable personal testimonies of exile and loss.

The piece was a salutary rebuke to those who have become numbed to the migration crisis or who categorise asylum-seekers as some faceless, threatening mass. Individual narratives are again powerfully emphasised in

Now We Are Here

which has been created by refugee writers in workshops with Deanna Rodger, Imogen Brodie and Ian Rickson. The latter directs the sensitive, compelling production which strips away everything but the bare minimum needed for these voices to be heard.

In the first half we listen to the overlapping verbatim testimony of Desmond Jolly, Mir Ahmed and MichaelMugishangyezi (beautifully played by Gary Beadle, Manish Gandhi and Jonathan Livingstone). Two have fled the homophobic abuse in their native countries of Jamaica and Pakistan (such as incarceration in a mental asylum for refusing to get married), while the third has been in prison in East Africa because of "political and tribal tensions". The second half consists of Tamara McFarlane's lyrical monologue (superbly performed by Golda Rosheuvel) that looks back at her 15-year-old self in Jamaica and recounts how religious intolerance and fear blighted her blossoming sexual love for a fellow schoolgirl.

What do you reply when someone asks you "How was your day?" when you've had to kill the hours before the hostel reopens without any semblance of a routine or even enough for a bus fare in your pocket? It's a question that stumps Michael, who has no ID card either, and he vividly communicates the unending sense of futility of "people who are at the sea level of their own hopes. You mourn your own life". But the testimonies are flecked with humour too - stories about escapades back home, say, such as the one that left young Mir and his friend withl floors of uninterrupted secret kissing-time in a yo-yoing lift.

Tamara witnesses the horrific murder of a 14-year-old gay youth by a bigoted mob. In her fear that she will bring a similar retribution down on her loved ones, she makes protective moves that have a piercingly sad outcome. It's as if the stench of burning tyre enters your own nostrils as you listen to Rosheuevel's extraordinarily immediate account of the boy's fate. The frankness with which all the participants have shared their stories is a tribute both to their courage and to the atmosphere of trust that must have been created in the workshops. All the performances of

Now We Are Here

are being given for free (donations welcome to three charities working with refugees that have been chosen by the collaborators). Well worth catching.

To 30 July; 20 7922 2922

**Load-Date:** July 25, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Jo Cox dead: EU referendum campaigning suspended after Labour MP killed in shooting and stabbing; Politicians express shock after fatal attack on member forBatley and Spen*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K1D-N8G1-F021-60S7-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 16, 2016 Thursday 11:16 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 585 words

**Byline:** Charlie Cooper

**Body**

The rival EU referendum campaigns have suspended campaigning until at least Saturday following the murder of Jo Cox.

Both Britain Stronger In Europe and Vote Leave confirmed that they were suspending all campaigning activity in the wake of the brutal killing of the Labour MP in her constituency. David Cameron cancelled a campaign visit to Gibraltar, while MPs around the country postponed local events.

The BBC said it would cancel Thursday night's editions of

Question Time

and

This Week

.

Tributes to the Batley and Spen MP and expressions of shock poured in from across the political spectrum yesterday.

The Prime Minister said the country had lost "a great star".

Read more

Jo Cox shooting: Eyewitnesses describe moment Labour MP shot outside constituency office

Jo Cox shooting: Man arrested after Labour MP shot in Birstall

Jo Cox shot: Man arrested after Labour MP shot and stabbed in Birstall, West Yorkshire- latest updates

Jo Cox: Labour MP critically injured in shooting and stabbing in West Yorkshire

"She had a big heart and people are going to be very, very sad at what has happened," he said. "She was a very strong campaigning MP. She had a great track record of caring about refugees and had taken a big interest in how we can look after ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and do the right thing in our world. She was a star for her constituents, a star in Parliament and a star right across the House.

"It's right that we are suspending campaigning activity in this referendum and everyone's thoughts will be with Jo's family and her constituents at this terrible time."

"This is absolutely tragic and dreadful news and my thoughts are with Jo's husband Brendan, their two children and wider family. We've lost a great star.

Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn said the whole country would be in shock.

"Jo had a lifelong record of public service and a deep commitment to humanity. She worked both for Oxfam and the anti-slavery charity, the Freedom Fund, before she was elected last year as MP for Batley and Spen - where she was born and grew up.

"Jo died doing her public duty at the heart of our democracy, listening to and representing the people she was elected to serve. It is a profoundly important cause for us all," he added.

"Jo was universally liked at Westminster, not just by her Labour colleagues, but across Parliament."

Jo Cox MP speaks on Aleppo crisis

Vote Leave figurehead and former Mayor of London Boris Johnson tweeted: "Sad and shocked to hear of Jo Cox's death. Appalling a MP should lose her life simply doing her best for constituents. Thoughts with Jo's family."

Former Prime Minister Gordon Brown, whose wife Sarah campaigned with Ms Cox, said:"Our memories will be for ever scarred by this moment. Our hearts will always be hurt at our country's loss.

"Jo Cox was the most vivacious, personable, dynamic and committed friend you could ever have. Whenever you talked to her, the compassion in her eyes and the commitment in her soul shone through. Years of public service advancing the causes she cared passionately about should have been ahead of her.

"People will say that this does not happen in Britain. This should not happen in Britain. And we must resolve that this will never again happen in Britain.

"My and Sarah's thoughts and prayers are with Brendan and their two young children Cuillin and Lejla this evening. They will have all our support in the difficult days ahead. For them and for those of us who were Jo's friends, this is a devastating day. And it is a devastating blow to our democracy."

**Load-Date:** June 16, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Turkey coup attempt: Military claims to have taken over as President says he will defend government*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K7P-JN41-F021-6328-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

July 15, 2016 Friday 9:41 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 579 words

**Byline:** Will Worley

**Body**

Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has said the attempted coup by sections of the military will be put down.

"We will overcome this," Mr Erdogan said, speaking by mobile phone to the Turkish sister station of CNN. He called on his followers to take to the streets to defend his government and said the coup plotters would pay a heavy price.

The army seized media outlets, including the state-run TRT channel. The channel has broadcast a statement on the orders of the military. An announcer read a statement on the orders of the military that accused the government of eroding the democratic and secular rule of law. The country would be run by a "peace council" that would ensure the safety of the population, the statement said.

The statement said: "Turkish Armed Forces have completely taken over the administration of the country to reinstate constitutional order, human rights and freedoms, the rule of law and general security that was damaged.

"All international agreements are still valid. We hope that all of our good relationships with all countries will continue."

A source at TRT told The Independent she and her colleagues were evacuated by the military earlier on Friday.

Mr Erdogan and his supporters have blamed the Islamist Gulen movement of the US-based Islamic cleric Fethullah Gulen, once considered his allies and now his enemies, for the coup. However, the movement denied any involvement in the Turkish military coup attempt. The Alliance for Shared Values said: "we condemn any military intervention in (the) domestic politics of Turkey."

It remains unclear just how much support the attempted coup has among the Turkish military. They were clashes between the military and police on Friday night.A Turkish military commander said fighter jets had shot down a helicopter used by the coup plotters over Ankara. State-run Anadolu news agency said 17 police were killed at special forces headquarters there.

Crowds appeared to be answering Mr Erdogan's call to take to the streets, defying orders by the coup leaders to stay indoors.

"We have a prime minister, we have a chief of command, we're not going to leave this country to degenerates," shouted one man, as groups of government supporters climbed onto a tank near Istanbul's Ataturk airport. Crowds also gathered to greet President Erdogan as he arrived back in Istanbul early on Saturday.

Access to Internet social media sites was cut off in some areas, and troops sealed off the two bridges over the Bosphorus in Istanbul, one of which was still lit up red, white and blue in solidarity with victims of the Bastille Day truck attack in France a day earlier.

Turkey, a Nato member with the second biggest military in the Western alliance, is one of the most important allies of the United States in the fight against Isis.

It is a principal backer of opponents of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad in that country's civil war, and host to 2 million ***Syrian*** ***refugees***.

The country has been at war with Kurdish separatists, and has suffered numerous bombing and shooting attacks this year, including an attack two weeks ago by Islamists at Istanbul's main airport that killed more than 40 people.

US Secretary of State John Kerry says he hopes for stability and continuity in Turkey following reports of the attempted coup.

Moscow has called on the country to avoid "bloodshed" and Russia's foreign minister is advising countrymen in Turkey to stay inside amid coup uncertainty.

Reuters contributed to this report

**Load-Date:** July 16, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Syrian children hold Pokemon pictures in the hope people will find them and save them; Pictures emerge after five years of a civil war that has left hundreds of thousands dead and seen millions forced to flee their homes*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K91-JG81-F021-61H2-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

July 21, 2016 Thursday 6:31 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 598 words

**Byline:** May Bulman

**Body**

Photos of Syrian children holding pictures of Pokemon characters and asking the world to save them have been circulating the internet.

The images, published on Facebook,

show young Syrianslooking dejectedlyintothe camera

holdingimages ofPokemon characters with the words: "I am here, come save me".

The signs also state thelocation of each child. They are all in different Syrian towns.

One of the children's sign

reads

: "I am in

Kafr

Nabl

on the outskirts of

Idlib

, come and save me," and another:

"I am in

Kafr

Zeta, save me."

#PrayForSyria #RFS

انقذوا #الطفولة في #سوريا!! pic.twitter.com/vEE86mPKSH

- إعلام قوى الثورة (@RFS\_mediaoffice) July 20, 2016

Syrian children holding Pokemon photos in hopes the world will find them and save them.#Syria#SyriaBombingpic.twitter.com/red3kCuSqq

- Sedat Gündüz (@cptsdt) July 21, 2016

The photoswere posted by theRevolutionary Forces of Syria Media Office (RFS), a media outlet for the working to spread the messages of Syrians againstBasharal-Assasd's presidential regime.

A spokesperon for RFS, which is based in Turkey andhasreporters in Syrian cities,told

The Independent

: "

With the media spread wide for Pokemon game we decided to publish these images to highlight the suffering of the Syrian people from the bombing of the forces of order and Air-Assad to the Syrian people and besiege them.

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Turkey lose hope of return

Read more

Isis is feeling threatened in Syria - and that is why its reign of terror is spreading

Senior Isis militant 'Omar the Chechen' killed in Iraq, months after the US reported him dead in Syria

Whether Isis jihadis or government soldiers, speak to fighters in Syria and you will discover infinite sadness

"We want to raise awareness and draw attention to the plight of Syrian children in besieged areas and the suffering of Syrian people who are attacked and killed by the Assad regime and its allies."

The imageshavebeencirculated more than 21,500 times.

Hundreds of people commented on the Facebook post expressing sympathy and sharing prayersfor the children.

#PrayForSyria

I am from #Syria come to save me!!! pic.twitter.com/lRbSlGsWrB

- إعلام قوى الثورة (@RFS\_mediaoffice) July 20, 2016

The photos have also been shared on Twitter, with one user describing it as "the Pokemon game you have not seen before".

Since Pokemon Go became an international craze, people have expressed frustration that more attention is not being paid to the suffering in Syria, where a war has raged since 2011 - leaving hundreds of thousands dead

and forcing millionsto flee their homes.

The Syria Solidarity Campaign (SSC), a UK-based organisation that offers political solidarity to the Syrian Revolution, wrote:"Syrians have more pressing concerns than catching Pokemon.

"If only augmented reality could save lives here is Syria."

Syrians have more pressing concerns than catching #Pokemon. If only augmented reality could save lives here is #Syria\_Pokemon.

- Syria Solidarity SSC (@SSCupdate) July 20, 2016

The imageswere publishedaftermore than 50 civilians were killed by airstrikesin northern Syria, the majority of them women and children.

The RFS spokesperson added: "Syrian children are victims of the war and the brutal and indiscriminate attacks that are carriedout on a daily basis by regime and Russian jets.

"The Syrian children are paying the price for the international inaction to stop the Assad killing machine."

Unicef has said it estimates 35,000 children are trapped in and around the Syrian city of Manbij, where the airstrikes hit.

**Load-Date:** July 22, 2016

**End of Document**



[*EU referendum: Baroness Warsi subjected to Islamophobic abuse by Brexit supporters after she defects to Remain; The Conservative peer said the 'hate and xenophobia' of Leave had gone 'too far'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K26-GJV1-F021-6451-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 20, 2016 Monday 10:28 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 580 words

**Byline:** Jon Stone

**Body**

A Conservative peer has been subjected to Islamophobic abuse by Brexit supporters after announcing she was switching sides from Leave to Remain.

Baroness Warsi previously backed Leave but this morning said that the "hate and xenophobia" of the Leave campaign had gone "too far".

She told the

Times

newspaper she realised she could not support the campaign after seeing a Ukip poster portraying ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in a negative light.

Read more

Baroness Sayeeda Warsi defects from Leave to Remain

After her decision became known she was however immediately subjected to vicious attacks on social media.

The peer, who is a Muslim, was sent messages about "grooming gangs" as well as one referring to her as a "jihadist Trojan horse".

She was also referred to as a "Cameron stooge" with multiple suggestions she would receive some kind of payment for backing Remain.

Another social media user claimed she had hired Muslim "fundamentalist" staff, while others said she was "full of s\*\*t".

One message read: "typical MUSLIM ! Lie ,cheat,lie ,cheat ,lie ,good job your in a country like the UK otherwise you'd be stoned by now FACT". [sic]

The vile reaction of people unhappy with my decision to leave #leave .Politics of hate must stop #uniteagainsthatepic.twitter.com/A86f4Dpyol

- Sayeeda Warsi (@SayeedaWarsi) June 20, 2016

The Conservative, a former Cabinet minister, highlighted the abuse by posting screenshots of it from her account.

"The vile reaction of people unhappy with my decision to leave Leave," she said. "Politics of hate must stop."

Other messages sentto the Baroness include:

· "How f=ckin- dare you call Brexiters small minded islanders,low life s\*\*t."

· "Your the token tory and now Cameron is using you.You carry no weight and with your little stunt people have seen through it"

· "

Typical racist comments by warsi,no Muslim should be allowed into our democratic system until they denounce the cult ISLAM"

· "You are just another dishonest ( oh i forgot i had an apartment) politician desperate to stay on the gravy train TRAITOR"

Her defection follows that of Conservative MP Sarah Wollaston who said she could not continue to campaign for the Leave campaign because it was making false claims about the NHS.

Ms Wollaston also received a similarly violent reaction when she changed sides, claim claims she was a "plant" in the Leave campaign who had always intended to switch sides.

Read more

EU referendum: Car industry leaders back Remain campaign

David Cameron: Don't make the EU referendum decision about my future

EU referendum: David Cameron says Nigel Farage Brexit poster is 'irresponsible'

EU referendum: Brexit would see Britain back to 'square one', says Cameron

The abuse of the Baroness comes amid calls for the tone of the campaign to improve after the killing of Labour MP Jo Cox.

Mayor of London Sadiq Khan said on Saturday that the EU referendum campaign had become "poisonous" and that "we should all reflect on the way the referendum campaign has been conducted".

Ms Cox's attacker was said by eyewitnesses to have shouted "Britain first, keep Britain independent", and "Britain always comes first, this is for Britain", according to court filings.

The man charged with her murder was heard to say "I'm a political activist" by police as they arrested him, according to police.

The European Union referendum takes place on 23 June. The deadline to register to vote has already passed. The latest suggest Remain regaining the lead after a short stint ahead for the Leave campaign.

**Load-Date:** June 20, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Alleged killer of MP Jo Cox 'bought gun-making manual from far-right neo-Nazi group'; Documents suggest Thomas Mair had recorded links to National Alliance*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K1J-JWS1-F021-64FN-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 17, 2016 Friday 9:42 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 567 words

**Byline:** Jon Stone

**Body**

The alleged killer of Labour MP Jo Cox purchased a gun-making manual froma far-right neo-Nazi group, new documents suggest.

52-year-old Thomas Mair was detained by police after the multiple shooting and stabbing of the MP in Birstall, West Yorkshire, on Thursday.

Ms Cox, a former aid worker, campaigned tirelessly for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and was a vocal supporter of the European Union and the benefits of multicultural immigration.

Read more

Man arrested over Labour MP killing named locally

The Southern Poverty Law Centre, an established US civil rights group, has produced receipts and invoices bearing Mr Mair's name that it says are from the neo-Nazi National Alliance group.

The receipts suggest Mr Mair bought $670 USD in printed material from the white supremacist group, which was until 2013 was one of the largest neo-Nazi organisations in the US.

He also appears to have purchased a handbook on building improvised weapons, explosives, and incendiaries, according to the records.

The documents, which date from between 1999 and 2003 show Mr Mair's name and an address in Batley, in Ms Cox's constituency.

(Southern Poverty Law Centre)

The Independent

reported yesterday that Mr Mair may have also had links to the "Springbok Club", an organisation which has defended the white supremacist apartheid regime in South Africa.

That group, which says it is "pro-free market capitalism and patriotism and anti-political correctness", has also campaigned against the European Union.The group has condemned Ms Cox's killing.

Jo Cox in the Commons, June 2015

Speculation has raged about the motive for the attack after a number of separate eyewitnesses said Ms Cox's attacker shouted "Britain first" - a longstanding far-right slogan - during the assault.

"Britain First" is also the name of a far-right organisation in Britain which recently publicly advocated "direct action" against Muslim elected officials. The group says it condemns Ms Cox's killing.

(Southern Poverty Law Centre)

The attacker was also said by eyewitnesses to have used a gun of antique appearance.

Eyewitnesses say Ms Cox was shot either two or three times outside her constituency advice surgery in Birstall Library. She was left lying in a pool of blood and then taken by air ambulance to Leeds General Infirmary, where she died.

Eyewitness accounts from the scene paint a confused picture of events, with some reports suggesting Ms Cox intervened in a fight between two men. Others say she was directly targeted by her attacker.There has been speculation over whether Mr Mair had a history of mental health problems.

Read more

Jo Cox in pictures: Remembering the 'bright star' of Westminster

Jo Cox dead: Suspect linked to hard-right group that has campaigned against the EU

Jo Cox death: Detained man described by neighbours as a 'loner'

Jo Cox dead: Read husband Brendan Cox's statement in full

Political friends and supporters of Ms Cox gathered in parliament square on Thursday evening for an impromptu vigil.

Stood amongst tearful colleagues, Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn said in an opening address that Ms Cox was an "exemplary MP, a real servant of democracy in every way".

West Yorkshire police said on Thursday that the incident was "localised" and that they were seeking nobody else either than Mr Mair in relation to the killing.

Campaigning during the European Union referendum has ceased until this weekend as a mark of respect to Ms Cox.

**Load-Date:** June 17, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Vote Leave's point-based immigration system is utter nonsense. The numbers just don't add up; Of those leaving Syria50 per centare trained professionalswhich meansthat half of the three million refugees are just a simple English language test away from a one-way ticket to Britain*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JX5-HSM1-F021-64C7-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 1, 2016 Wednesday 2:24 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 557 words

**Byline:** Nash Riggins

**Body**

Boris Johnson's Brexiteer brigade have introduced their, post-EU immigration policy. It's essentially a tarted-up version of the Aussie-style points-based system that UKIP was pushing last year, and would see all EU citizens stripped of their automatic right to live and work in the UK. Instead, the British people would get to pick and choose who's allowed to enter the country based on each individual's skills and qualifications.

Appearing on BBC Radio 4 Wednesday morning, Vote Leave co-chair Gisela Stuart pointed out the number of migrants allowed to enter the UK under this new plan would depend entirely on the needs of Britain's economy. For example, if the NHS were in need of more staff, migrants with medical training would be prioritised to plug those skills gaps.

Okay, let's run with that for a minute.

Right now, 26 per cent of all NHS doctors are non-British. But more important still, there are literally tens of thousands of NHS posts that are going unfilled because recruiters can't find qualified, home-grown staff. We're currently about 30,000 doctors and nurses short of running an effective health service - and so recruiters are desperately seeking overseas assistance.

Number of child refugees crossing into Europe swells

We all know the NHS is one of Vote Leave's top concerns. So by implementing this fantastic new immigration system, their first order of business would obviously be to track down and import 30,000 new foreigners, right?

And that's just one industry. In order to stay competitive, British universities rely heavily on tuition fees from overseas students - and because higher education generates £73bn for the UK economy, it goes without saying our economy needs all the international students we can get our grubby little hands on. That's at least 260,000 more immigrants.

But we can't stop there. Loads of industries heavily rely on foreign workers - and let's not forget that two-thirds of migrants entering the UK on any given day are classed as trained professionals. We can safely assume they'll all pass Britain's new points-based system with flying colours.

Hmm. It looks like this immigration policy is starting to get out of control. But hey! At least a points-based system will keep all of those Mediterranean refugees out of Britain, right? Nope.

If anything, it could actually provide some of them with an easier path into the country. After all, an estimated 50 per cent of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** are actually trained professionals. Surely that means half of Syria's three million refugees are just a simple English language test away from a one-way ticket to Britain.

Let's face it: Vote Leave's insinuation that a points-based system will somehow slash net migration is complete and utter nonsense. Immigrants are the lifeblood of Britain's biggest industries and most crucial public services. That means if Vote Leave wants to let migrants in the country based on our economic needs, we're going to need even more foreigners living and working in Britain than we've already got - and this is all assuming we aren't pushed into half a dozen new free movement deals with other EU countries as part of our 'lucrative' post-Brexit trade agreements.

Like it or not, immigration was the only was the only card Brexiteers had left - and Vote Leave has just torn that card up into a million teeny, tiny shreds.

**Load-Date:** June 1, 2016

**End of Document**



[*EU referendum: Baroness Warsi subjected to Islamophobic abuse by Brexit supporters after defecting; The Conservative peer said the 'hate and xenophobia' of Leave had gone 'too far'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K26-GJV1-F021-6452-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 20, 2016 Monday 11:08 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 580 words

**Byline:** Jon Stone

**Body**

A Conservative peer has been subjected to Islamophobic abuse by Brexit supporters after announcing she was switching sides from Leave to Remain.

Baroness Warsi previously backed Leave but this morning said that the "hate and xenophobia" of the Leave campaign had gone "too far".

She told the

Times

newspaper she realised she could not support the campaign after seeing a Ukip poster portraying ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in a negative light.

Read more

Baroness Sayeeda Warsi defects from Leave to Remain

After her decision became known she was however immediately subjected to vicious attacks on social media.

The peer, who is a Muslim, was sent messages about "grooming gangs" as well as one referring to her as a "jihadist Trojan horse".

She was also referred to as a "Cameron stooge" with multiple suggestions she would receive some kind of payment for backing Remain.

Another social media user claimed she had hired Muslim "fundamentalist" staff, while others said she was "full of s\*\*t".

One message read: "typical MUSLIM ! Lie ,cheat,lie ,cheat ,lie ,good job your in a country like the UK otherwise you'd be stoned by now FACT". [sic]

The vile reaction of people unhappy with my decision to leave #leave .Politics of hate must stop #uniteagainsthatepic.twitter.com/A86f4Dpyol

- Sayeeda Warsi (@SayeedaWarsi) June 20, 2016

The Conservative, a former Cabinet minister, highlighted the abuse by posting screenshots of it from her account.

"The vile reaction of people unhappy with my decision to leave Leave," she said. "Politics of hate must stop."

Other messages sentto the Baroness include:

· "How f=ckin- dare you call Brexiters small minded islanders,low life s\*\*t."

· "Your the token tory and now Cameron is using you.You carry no weight and with your little stunt people have seen through it"

· "

Typical racist comments by warsi,no Muslim should be allowed into our democratic system until they denounce the cult ISLAM"

· "You are just another dishonest ( oh i forgot i had an apartment) politician desperate to stay on the gravy train TRAITOR"

Her defection follows that of Conservative MP Sarah Wollaston who said she could not continue to campaign for the Leave campaign because it was making false claims about the NHS.

Ms Wollaston also received a similarly violent reaction when she changed sides, claim claims she was a "plant" in the Leave campaign who had always intended to switch sides.

Read more

EU referendum: Car industry leaders back Remain campaign

David Cameron: Don't make the EU referendum decision about my future

EU referendum: David Cameron says Nigel Farage Brexit poster is 'irresponsible'

EU referendum: Brexit would see Britain back to 'square one', says Cameron

The abuse of the Baroness comes amid calls for the tone of the campaign to improve after the killing of Labour MP Jo Cox.

Mayor of London Sadiq Khan said on Saturday that the EU referendum campaign had become "poisonous" and that "we should all reflect on the way the referendum campaign has been conducted".

Ms Cox's attacker was said by eyewitnesses to have shouted "Britain first, keep Britain independent", and "Britain always comes first, this is for Britain", according to court filings.

The man charged with her murder was heard to say "I'm a political activist" by police as they arrested him, according to police.

The European Union referendum takes place on 23 June. The deadline to register to vote has already passed. The latest suggest Remain regaining the lead after a short stint ahead for the Leave campaign.

**Load-Date:** June 20, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Jo Cox death: Alleged killer Tommy Mair 'bought gun-making manual from far-right neo-Nazi group'; Documents suggest Mair had recorded links to National Alliance*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K1J-JWS1-F021-64FP-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 17, 2016 Friday 10:35 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 567 words

**Byline:** Jon Stone

**Body**

The alleged killer of Labour MP Jo Cox purchased a gun-making manual froma far-right neo-Nazi group, new documents suggest.

52-year-old Thomas Mair was detained by police after the multiple shooting and stabbing of the MP in Birstall, West Yorkshire, on Thursday.

Ms Cox, a former aid worker, campaigned tirelessly for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and was a vocal supporter of the European Union and the benefits of multicultural immigration.

Read more

Man arrested over Labour MP killing named locally

The Southern Poverty Law Centre, an established US civil rights group, has produced receipts and invoices bearing Mr Mair's name that it says are from the neo-Nazi National Alliance group.

The receipts suggest Mr Mair bought $670 USD in printed material from the white supremacist group, which was until 2013 was one of the largest neo-Nazi organisations in the US.

He also appears to have purchased a handbook on building improvised weapons, explosives, and incendiaries, according to the records.

The documents, which date from between 1999 and 2003 show Mr Mair's name and an address in Batley, in Ms Cox's constituency.

(Southern Poverty Law Centre)

The Independent

reported yesterday that Mr Mair may have also had links to the "Springbok Club", an organisation which has defended the white supremacist apartheid regime in South Africa.

That group, which says it is "pro-free market capitalism and patriotism and anti-political correctness", has also campaigned against the European Union.The group has condemned Ms Cox's killing.

Jo Cox in the Commons, June 2015

Speculation has raged about the motive for the attack after a number of separate eyewitnesses said Ms Cox's attacker shouted "Britain first" - a longstanding far-right slogan - during the assault.

"Britain First" is also the name of a far-right organisation in Britain which recently publicly advocated "direct action" against Muslim elected officials. The group says it condemns Ms Cox's killing.

(Southern Poverty Law Centre)

The attacker was also said by eyewitnesses to have used a gun of antique appearance.

Eyewitnesses say Ms Cox was shot either two or three times outside her constituency advice surgery in Birstall Library. She was left lying in a pool of blood and then taken by air ambulance to Leeds General Infirmary, where she died.

Eyewitness accounts from the scene paint a confused picture of events, with some reports suggesting Ms Cox intervened in a fight between two men. Others say she was directly targeted by her attacker.There has been speculation over whether Mr Mair had a history of mental health problems.

Read more

Jo Cox in pictures: Remembering the 'bright star' of Westminster

Jo Cox dead: Suspect linked to hard-right group that has campaigned against the EU

Jo Cox death: Detained man described by neighbours as a 'loner'

Jo Cox dead: Read husband Brendan Cox's statement in full

Political friends and supporters of Ms Cox gathered in parliament square on Thursday evening for an impromptu vigil.

Stood amongst tearful colleagues, Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn said in an opening address that Ms Cox was an "exemplary MP, a real servant of democracy in every way".

West Yorkshire police said on Thursday that the incident was "localised" and that they were seeking nobody else either than Mr Mair in relation to the killing.

Campaigning during the European Union referendum has ceased until this weekend as a mark of respect to Ms Cox.

**Load-Date:** June 17, 2016

**End of Document**



[*EU referendum campaigns suspended after death of Labour MP Jo Cox; Politicians express shock after fatal attack on member forBatley and Spen*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K1K-2RR1-F021-615K-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 17, 2016 Friday 2:18 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 585 words

**Byline:** Charlie Cooper

**Body**

The rival EU referendum campaigns have suspended campaigning until at least Saturday following the murder of Jo Cox.

Both Britain Stronger In Europe and Vote Leave confirmed that they were suspending all campaigning activity in the wake of the brutal killing of the Labour MP in her constituency. David Cameron cancelled a campaign visit to Gibraltar, while MPs around the country postponed local events.

The BBC said it would cancel Thursday night's editions of

Question Time

and

This Week

.

Tributes to the Batley and Spen MP and expressions of shock poured in from across the political spectrum yesterday.

The Prime Minister said the country had lost "a great star".

Read more

Jo Cox shooting: Eyewitnesses describe moment Labour MP shot outside constituency office

Jo Cox shooting: Man arrested after Labour MP shot in Birstall

Jo Cox shot: Man arrested after Labour MP shot and stabbed in Birstall, West Yorkshire- latest updates

Jo Cox: Labour MP critically injured in shooting and stabbing in West Yorkshire

"She had a big heart and people are going to be very, very sad at what has happened," he said. "She was a very strong campaigning MP. She had a great track record of caring about refugees and had taken a big interest in how we can look after ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and do the right thing in our world. She was a star for her constituents, a star in Parliament and a star right across the House.

"It's right that we are suspending campaigning activity in this referendum and everyone's thoughts will be with Jo's family and her constituents at this terrible time."

"This is absolutely tragic and dreadful news and my thoughts are with Jo's husband Brendan, their two children and wider family. We've lost a great star.

Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn said the whole country would be in shock.

"Jo had a lifelong record of public service and a deep commitment to humanity. She worked both for Oxfam and the anti-slavery charity, the Freedom Fund, before she was elected last year as MP for Batley and Spen - where she was born and grew up.

"Jo died doing her public duty at the heart of our democracy, listening to and representing the people she was elected to serve. It is a profoundly important cause for us all," he added.

"Jo was universally liked at Westminster, not just by her Labour colleagues, but across Parliament."

Jo Cox MP speaks on Aleppo crisis

Vote Leave figurehead and former Mayor of London Boris Johnson tweeted: "Sad and shocked to hear of Jo Cox's death. Appalling a MP should lose her life simply doing her best for constituents. Thoughts with Jo's family."

Former Prime Minister Gordon Brown, whose wife Sarah campaigned with Ms Cox, said:"Our memories will be for ever scarred by this moment. Our hearts will always be hurt at our country's loss.

"Jo Cox was the most vivacious, personable, dynamic and committed friend you could ever have. Whenever you talked to her, the compassion in her eyes and the commitment in her soul shone through. Years of public service advancing the causes she cared passionately about should have been ahead of her.

"People will say that this does not happen in Britain. This should not happen in Britain. And we must resolve that this will never again happen in Britain.

"My and Sarah's thoughts and prayers are with Brendan and their two young children Cuillin and Lejla this evening. They will have all our support in the difficult days ahead. For them and for those of us who were Jo's friends, this is a devastating day. And it is a devastating blow to our democracy."

**Load-Date:** June 17, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Syrian child refugee reveals the horror she experienced while trying to reach Germany; 'I beg you get us out of here. The cold is killing us,' a woman in the footage says*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K74-V6V1-JCJY-G1M7-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

July 13, 2016 Wednesday 5:38 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 538 words

**Byline:** Harriet Agerholm

**Body**

A young refugee girl from Syria has revealed how two children she was travelling with died of the cold while trying to make it to Germany.

In footage shown in the BBC documentary "Exodus", Isra'a, along with other children and women, huddle together and jump up and down for warmth in the snow on the Serbia-Croatian border.

"We found a tent and made a fire," the 11-year-old said, recalling the incident,"and there were two kids who died from the cold."

Read more

Calais Jungle refugee camp will be completely demolished 'very soon', says mayor

The West's growing intolerance towards refugees is becoming extreme, warns Countryfile's Anita Rani

Refugee crisis: Majority of Europeans believe increased migration raises terror threat, survey says

In the film, a woman is seen saying: "I beg you get us out of here. The cold is killing us."

Isra'a appeared with her father in the second episode of the three-part series. He said: "Here is the problem. She [Isra'a] is seeing things that she can't cope with."

"I was trying to stop it getting to her on the road. But you can't avoid it. It's a heavy burden. And she shares the burden."

Isra'a's home in Aleppo was destroyed by bombing. She had to sell cigarettes on the street to raise the (EURO)12,000 (£10,000)it cost to get her family to Greece.

Read more

Calais Jungle refugee camp will be demolished 'very soon', says mayor

According to the UNHCR, children made up 51 per cent of the world's refugees in 2015. Many had been separated from their parents or were travelling alone. In total last year there were almost 100,000 asylum requests from unaccompanied children.

Hassan Akkad, a Syrian English teacher and photographer, who also appears in the BBC documentary, told

The Independent

he had seen many vulnerable people and children struggle with the journey across Europe.

When he and more than 60others made the crossing across the Mediterranean, the dinghy they were insank. "Everyone was terrified,you could see on their faces," he said.

"Having women and children on the boat also made it more terrifying, we were scared for them. I felt so helpless."

They were eventually rescued, but one of the pregnant women on board started bleeding. She later miscarried.

One man Mr Akkadmet in Macedonia was making the journey to Europe on crutches. Both his legs had been blown off by a bomb in Iraq and he was making his way to Germany alone to try and get treatment.

Mr Akkad added thatthe struggle of the journey across Europewas re-traumatising many who had suffered at the hands of the Assad regime in Syria.

After Mr Akkad peacefully protested against the regime in 2011, he was thrown in a cell with 105 other people. "We were stacked on top of each other," he said. There were cockroaches in the cell with them.

Germany approves new integration law for refugees

Assad'sofficersbroke both his arms andtwo of his ribs. His left leg was so badly damaged after he was beaten it nearly had to be amputated.

This week it emerged that one third of councils in Britain refuse to take in ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, saying the government doesn't give them enoughmoney to support them.

So far, councils have only arranged to take in 8,000 of the 20,000 David Cameron pledged the UK would accept.

**Load-Date:** July 13, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Suicide bombers kill five in eastern Lebanon blasts*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K3V-Y3B1-F072-43KC-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

June 28, 2016 Tuesday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 29

**Length:** 583 words

**Byline:** ZEINA KARAM IN BEIRUT

**Body**

A group of suicide bombers detonated their explosives'' vests in a north-eastern Lebanese village near the border with Syria yesterday, killing five people and wounding at least 15, a Lebanese military official and paramedics said. The blasts occurred in the predominantly Christian village of Qaa, only a few hundred metres away from the border. The state-run National News Agency said four suicide bombers were involved in the rare multiple attack. No group immediately claimed responsibility.

The villagers became suspicious of the men as they were passing through the village at about 4am local time, an eyewitness in Qaa said. When civilian security men who guard the village called out to them, they threw a hand grenade before successively blowing themselves up among civilians. A Lebanese military official said one suicide attacker blew himself up in front of one of the homes, while three other attackers followed, detonating their suicide vests one after the other as people gathered in the area. Four members of the military were among the wounded, the official added.

An investigation is underway.

Qaa and the nearby Ras Baalbek are the only two villages with a Christian majority in the predominantly Shiite northeastern Hermel region, where the Lebanese Shiite Hezbollah group holds sway. The group has sent thousands of its fighters to Syria to fight on the side of Syrian President Bashar Assad''s forces against predominantly Sunni rebels trying to topple him. The area along the Syria border has been struck by bombings claimed by Sunni extremists on several occasion since Syria''s conflict began in March 2011, leading Christians of Qaa to set up selfdefence units to protect against potential attack by Muslim extremists from neighboring Syria.

Since mid-2014, the Lebanese army stepped up operations and patrols in the areas, leading to a reduction in bombings and shelling targeting the area. Qaa''s mayor, Bashir Matar, described in an interview with the Beirut-based pan Arab channel Al-Mayadeen how the fourth attacker was gunned down. Matar said it was unclear what had trigged the first explosion but once people started gathering, another explosion occurred followed by a third one. "As we were treating some of the wounded, I saw the fourth suicide attacker coming toward me. I shouted at him," Matar said. "We opened fire toward him and he blew up."

Lebanon has in recent years faced deadly spillovers from the Syrian civil war next door, and Lebanese authorities have been on high alert, tightening security in recent days. George Kitane, the head of paramedics at the Lebanese Red Cross, confirmed the death toll and said the 15 wounded were rushed to hospitals in nearby areas. He added that several others were treated on the spot.

One of the four explosions struck an ambulance for the village''s archbishopric, killing its driver, residents said. The explosions occurred about 150 metres away from a Lebanese customs border point. The eyewitnesses spoke on condition of anonymity for fears for his safety. Lebanon''s Al-Manar TV, which is owned by the militant group Hezbollah, said six people were killed and blamed the attack on the Islamic State group. Previous attacks in Lebanon have been claimed by the IS group. The area of Mashrea Qaa - a predominantly Sunni area that is near village of Qaa - is home to a large number of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** who have fled the war in Syria. Qaa is located about 70 kilometres (44 miles) north of the eastern Lebanese city of Baalbek.

**Load-Date:** June 27, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: Majority of Europeans believe increased migration raises terror threat, survey says; Several countries also expressunfavourable opinion of the Muslims*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K6X-R261-F021-60DF-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

July 12, 2016 Tuesday 4:22 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 633 words

**Byline:** Peter Yeung

**Body**

The majority of Europeans believe the influx of refugees across the continent has led to an increase in the likelihood of terrorism.

According to a survey by the Pew Research Center, in eight of the ten European countries surveyed at least half are concerned about the terror threat.

The majority of people in five nations say refugees will be an economic burden and take away jobs and social benefits.

Read more

Government hasn't taken in a single child refugee since very public pledge, reveals peer who escaped the NAis

Third of councils in England refuse to take in ***Syrian*** ***refugees***

Up to 900 refugees from Fallujah feared dead after being kidnapped by anti-Isis militia in Iraq

In Hungary, Italy, Poland and Greece, the majority of respondents say they have an unfavourable opinion of the Muslims. At least a quarter of every nation had the same belief.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugeestold

The Independent

: "Refugees are people who are fleeing

conflict, persecution and/or abuses of their human rights and they have a right under international law to seek asylum in other countries.

"Many will have encountered gruelling dangers as they fled for safety. All they want is to rebuild their lives in peace and safety.

Pointing to safeguards built intothe 1951 Refugee Convention, they added:"Combatants/fighters are not entitled to refugee status, those involved in war crimes, crimes against humanity or other serious crimes may be excluded from refugee status, and refugees may be expelled under certain circumstances.

"The growing and misguided focus on the threat from refugees and asylum-seekers has enormous and damaging repercussions."

"This report points to the need to further create awareness in Europe (and elsewhere) about who refugees are and why some are coming to Europe. It is of concern to UNHCR the findings included in this report point to negative perception of refugees which feed into mistrust, but also discrimination and xenophobia."

The survey, which was conducted between April and May this year, covered the European countries of Germany, Sweden, the Netherlands, Britain, France, Spain, Italy, Greece, Hungary and Poland.

Underlining the divisive nature of the refugee crisis, the survey notes: "Across the EU nations surveyed, the refugee crisis has brought into sharp relief deep ideological divides over views of minorities and diversity.

"On nearly all of the questions analyzed in this report, people on the ideological right express more concerns about refugees, more negative attitudes toward minorities and less enthusiasm for a diverse society."

More than one million refugees arrived in Europe in 2015, the majority coming from warn-torn Muslim countries such as Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Anti-refugee populism has increased hugely, with political parties such as the National Front in France, the UK Independence Party, Alternative for Germany and Austria's Freedom Party making huge gains.

Europe has recently suffered several major terrorist attacks, including the assaults by the Isis group on Paris and Brussels that killed scores of people. Many of the attackers were European-born, but some are believed to have traveled to Syria to join Isis before returning to carry out the attacks.

Some 76 per cent of people surveyed in Hungary said they're concerned that refugees will increase the likelihood of terrorism in their country, followed by the Polish with 71 per cent.

Germany and Sweden - which took in the second most asylum seekers in 2015 - are the only countries where at least half say refugees make their nations stronger because of their work and talent.

The number of refugees in the world has reached the highest level ever recorded, according to figures published by the United Nations (UN), at an estimated 65.3 million by the end of 2015.

**Load-Date:** July 12, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: First boats return rejected migrants to Turkey on Europe's 'day of shame'; A deal has been struck with Turkey to return failed applicants, but human rights campaigners say it is deeply flawed*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JFT-2TN1-JCJY-G1DJ-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

April 4, 2016 Monday 1:10 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 620 words

**Byline:** Adam Withnall

**Body**

The first three boats full of rejectedrefugees have arrived in Turkey as part of the EU migrant transfer deal, on what rights campaigners described as a "day of shame" for Europe.

At around the same time, a plane carrying the first 16 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** sent directly to Germany under the terms of the deal landed in the central city of Hannover.

Frontex, the EU border protection agency, said the process taking around 200 mostly Pakistani and Bangladeshi nationals had gone smoothly.

But there was criticism over the lack of transparencysurrounding the exchange, as well as the fact police appeared keen to get the jump on reporters,beginning moving the refugees some hours before scheduled.

Gerry Simpson, a senior refugee advocate with Human Rights Watch, called Monday an "historic day of shame" as the "dirty" migrant deal was implemented.

He told

The Independent

there was a "tremendous amount of uncertainty" about whether those being deported had been allowed access to fair asylum procedures.

Mr Simpson said: "Like a thief in the night, the EU kicked off its shameful refugee dumping deal under cover of dawn.

"Turkey has no asylum procedures in place, so whether these people are from Bangladesh, Pakistan or any other nation it can't be said they have access to fair protection there," he said.

"We have a number of concerns right now, but number one is the concern that the EU is breaching European law by returning people who need protection to an unsafe country."

The failed asylum-seekers were expected to be returned by Turkey to their country of origin - sparking renewed concerns as to what will happen to refugeesarriving from war zones.

The first vessel, the Nazli Jale, reached the port of Dikili accompanied by the Turkish coast guard.

The Lesvos and Erturk vessels arrived shortly after, bringing a total of 202 migrants from the Greek islands of Lesbos and Chios.

A Turkish government official, speaking anonymously,said there were "very few Syrians" among the passengers.The

Associated Press

reportedmigrants were loaded onto buses, addind therewas no immediate word from authorities as to where they would be taken.

Just a few hours earlier therewere clashes between police and local residents on Chios,after a protest was staged against the planned deportations there.

About 4,000 migrants and refugees have been detained on Greek islands since the migrant transferagreement came into effect on 20 March.

Mr Simpson said conditions on the Greek islands themselves were another cause for concern.

"Refugees are faced with substandard humanitarian conditions, and have little access to proper food, sanitation or shelter," he said."People are sleeping under open skies in modern Europe in 2016."

Migrants are deported to Turkey from the port of Mytilene on April 4, 201 (AFP/Getty Images)

No Syrians were present in the first group of migrants coming to Turkey from Greece on Monday, Turkish EU Affairs Minister Volkan Bozkir said, adding that any who doarrive in future will be sent to the southern Turkish city of Osmaniye, not back to Syria itself.

Syrians being sent directly to Europe as part of the exchange deal would be given safe passageto Germany, from where some will be moved on to other countries, he said.

Speaking on Monday afternoon, a spokeswoman forthe UNHCR defended the deal, and said the returns so far had followed "normal policy".

Melissa Fleming said UNHCR workers had spoken to some of those being deported, and found they "did not express their intention to seek asylum".

Ms Fleming said the EU-Turkey deal is expected to carefully screen people who fear for their lives or "have a well-founded fear of persecution" if they are sent home or to another country.

Additional reporting by agencies

**Load-Date:** April 4, 2016

**End of Document**



[*EU faces 'populist uprising' if it fails to control migration crisis, former MI6 chief warns; Former spymaster said the impact of mass migration is 'eating away at the willingness of EU states to act together'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JSY-G7R1-JCJY-G1H0-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

May 17, 2016 Tuesday 9:26 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 595 words

**Byline:** Emma Clark

**Body**

The EU faces a "populist uprising" if it fails to take control of the migration crisis, Britain's former MI6 chief has warned.

Sir Richard Dearlove also fears offering visa-free access to millions in Turkey is like the European Union "storing gasoline next to the fire".

The head of the Secret Intelligence Service until 2004, who has previously claimed the impact of leaving the EU on Britain's security would be low, believes the UK referendum will be the "first roll of the dice in a bigger geopolitical game".

His warnings come as key figures on opposing sides of the debate, including David Cameron and Boris Johnson, prepare to deliver a fresh round of speeches to voters as the referendum campaign battle intensifies.

The latest poll by the

Daily Telegraph

has put the remain campaign in the lead with 51% and the leave camp trailing behind on 45%, a 1% drop since their last poll in April.

The former spymaster said the impact of mass migration is "eating away at the willingness of EU states to act together".

He told the BBC: "If Europe cannot act together to persuade a significant majority of its citizens that it can gain control of its migratory crisis then the EU will find itself at the mercy of a populist uprising, which is already stirring."

He added: "The geopolitical impact is set to reshape Europe's political landscape as those citizens who feel, rationally or not, that their interests and cultural identity are threatened assert their influence."

He argued that while closing the door on migration was not the answer, the EU's offer of visa-free access to 75 million Turks to "stem the flow of migrants across the Aegean seems perverse, like storing gasoline next to the fire one is trying to extinguish".

Visa-free travel to Europe's Schengen area was one of the concessions offered to Ankara in return for Turkey agreeing to take back migrants arriving from its shores into the EU.

Leave campaigner and defence minister Penny Mordaunt said Mr Dearlove's comments confirmed that it was safer for the UK to leave the EU and control its borders.

Read more

President Erdogan criticises West for prioritising gay and animal rights over refugees

Angelina Jolie calls for nations to pull together to tackle refugee crisis

Donald Trump warns of another 9/11-style attack by refugees using ISIS-funded phones

The end of food parcels marks new battle lines for the West Bank's refugees

Refugees and migrants arriving in Greece from Turkey down 90 per cent, says border agency

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** send message to Theresa May: 'We need our children, we miss them so much'

However, former foreign secretary Jack Straw stressed more recent former chiefs of MI5, MI6 and GCHQ believe the UK is more secure remaining in the European Union.

The Prime Minister will deliver a speech at a World Economic Forum event on Tuesday while former London mayor Mr Johnson will continue his Brexit bus tour.

Ukip leader Nigel Farage, Labour's shadow chancellor John McDonnall and Liberal Democrat Leader Tim Farron will also attempt to win round the public.

Mr McDonnell is expected to criticise Conservative MPs on both sides of the debate for bringing out "the worst in Westminsterpolitics".

The senior Labour MP will use a speech at the TUC in London to promote what he says is the positive case for remaining in Europe.

Meanwhile, Mr Johnson rejected conspiracy claims levelled against Leave campaigners.

He bemoaned the "colossal, glutinous tide of nonsense" from Remain, as the campaigns continued to discredit increasingly frenetic warnings they have issued ahead of next month's referendum.

**Load-Date:** May 17, 2016

**End of Document**



[*UK government running 'covert' propaganda campaign to stop Muslims joining Isis; Unit uses local community groups to spread its anti-extremism message - without revealing its government links*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JNT-D8S1-JCJY-G0X4-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

May 2, 2016 Monday 7:41 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 611 words

**Byline:** Caroline Mortimer

**Body**

The UK government has launched a secret propaganda campaign to stop young British Muslims from joining extremist groups, it has been revealed.

A Home Office unit has been set up called the Research, Information and Communications Unit (Ricu) which uses local community groups to spread counter-extremist messages to vulnerable young people who are at risk of being seduced by the slick online propaganda of Isis.

The programme,which was set up in 2007,has focused on Isis for the past two years following the group's declaration of a "caliphate" in its territories in Syria and Iraq. The programme is inspired by a similar scheme set up to fight Communism during the Cold War.

The messages are overwhelmingly targeted at Muslims, particularly males, between the ages of 15 and39.

Read more

Nearly 4,000 people referred to Government's anti-extremism scheme last year

Government's Prevent strategy means pupils 'too scared to talk in case they're branded radical'

Home Office deports three times more teenagers to war-torn countries than previously admitted

But some Muslims have expressed dismay over its techniques, which they say riskundermining the existing Prevent counter-radicalisation programme and alienating some groups.

Insiders

told the

Guardian

Ricu is working at an "industrial pace and scale" to combat the active propaganda machine run by Isis, and rarely uses governmentbranding.

One initiative, called Help for Syria, advertises itself as a campaign providing advice on how to help raise money for ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. It attends university freshers' fairs to talk to hundreds of students face-to-face.

It also delivered leaflets to 760,000 UK homes using the same campaign.

The scheme has focused on tackling the slick propaganda released by Isis

Much of its work is outsourced to a London communications company called Breakthrough Media Network which has produced dozens of websites, leaflets, videos and social media campaigns with titles such as The Truth About Isis and Help for Syria.

Breakthrough organises events at schools and universities and works with a number of Muslim organisations to help spread its message.

Ricu has also set up a PR company to sell stories to national newspapers.

The community groups have said they use Ricu to help them get their message to a wider audience and retain editorial control over what they disseminate, but documents seen by the Guardian show that the programme privately says it has ultimate control over the projects.

The Home Office acknowledged there was a propaganda programme but defended its conduct saying: "All we're trying to do is stop people becoming suicide bombers."

Westminster's intelligence and security committee, which oversees the government's counter-terrorism work, has said it supports the Ricu initiative.

Read more

Guantanamo inmate says Cameron's anti-extremism strategy 'has failed'

One former minister

told the

Guardian

it was "naive" to assume the Government could openly release counter-extremist propaganda but another said although the supported the project overall hiding the source of the messages could damage trust between the Muslim community and the Government.

Human rights lawyer Imran Khan said:"If the government wants its Muslim citizens to listen to it, it needs to be trusted. And to be trusted, it needs to be honest. What is happening here is not honest, it's deeply deceptive.

"Furthermore, this government needs to stop thinking of young British Muslims as some sort of fifth column that it needs to deal with."

Breakthrough says their relationship with Ricu is not covert and it is up to the individual community groups to decide if they want to disclose the government's support.

**Load-Date:** May 2, 2016

**End of Document**



[*The Government's approach to the refugee crisis is unsympathetic, unimaginative and narrow; The more hysterical opponents of refugee resettlement see in the face of every Syrian childa would-be terrorist. Byignoring their plight, that's all the more likely*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JMH-GNJ1-F021-653T-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

April 26, 2016 Tuesday 6:00 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EDITORIALS

**Length:** 622 words

**Byline:** Editorial

**Body**

Thousands of unaccompanied child refugees are stranded in mainland Europe. They are stateless, abandoned and vulnerable.

Precise numbers are inevitably hard to come by, but research by the Bureau for Investigative Journalism has found that 95,000 unaccompanied minors officially sought asylum in Europe in 2015. Many others remain under the radar.

Despite these realities, the government refuses to act. An amendment to the immigration bill, tabled in the Lords, was debated by the House of Commons on Monday. Introduced by Lord Dubs - who himself came to Britain to escape the Nazis in the 1930s - the amendment proposed that the UK take 3,000 Europe-based child refugees.

Despite dozens of abstentions and a few rebels on the Conservative benches, the government carried the day and the amendment was defeated. It has indicated that the UK will instead take 3,000 vulnerable children from camps in countries bordering Syria's unrelenting warzone.

Government ministers argue that agreeing to take those who have already travelled into European countries would encourage other despairing parents to send their children - alone - in the same direction. In other words, better to avert our gaze from those already trapped in dangerous conditions, in case others mistake a fleeting glance for a sign of friendship.

It is also said there are practical difficulties connected to ascertaining the real age of those claiming to be minors; that people as old as 30will pose as children if they think it gives them a free pass into Britain. And, of course, there is a cost attached to resettling any refugees, let alone traumatised children.

None of those anxieties should be discounted. But the fact that they should have won the day is a desperate indictment of the government's entire approach to the refugee crisis - unsympathetic, unimaginative and narrow. Austerity has clearly forced significant cutbacks in 'Conservative compassion'.

It was only under intense pressure last year that David Cameron agreed to increase the overall number of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** Britain would take to 20,000. The addition of 3,000 children from camps in the middle east is welcome in and of itself, but it shouldn't be forgotten that only a fraction of the total have so far arrived on our shores.

Read more

The Tories' cowardice over child refugees is putting Britain to shame

The current deal takes us up to 2020. What on earth will happen in the meantime to children stuck in the Jungle or elsewhere, vulnerable to crime, abuse and radicalisation?

The more hysterical opponents of refugee resettlement see in the face of every Syrian child the whisper of a would-be terrorist. How much more likely is it, in fact, that by ignoring their plight we create the kind of resentment that might one day mutate into something more virulent?

Then there are the facile voices which proclaim the dangers of Islam

per se

and remind all and sundry - often via the anonymity of social media - that Britain is a Christian country by history and tradition, and should stay that way. In so doing they emphasise their obscene failure to practise what might once have been called 'Christian morality'.

Europol, the EU's criminal intelligence agency, estimated in January that up to 10,000 migrant and refugee children have gone missing after arriving in Europe. Many are believed to have fallen victim to criminal gangs. Meanwhile, our government looks away for fear that other would-be refugees might be fooled into thinking Britain cares.

Cameron et al must think again. For as things stand, the child refugees living broken, desolate lives in hellish corners of the continent could be forgiven for wondering if Western governments would have preferred them to have drowned in the Med.

**Load-Date:** April 26, 2016

**End of Document**



[*The reckless return of migrants to Turkey is a dangerous time for Europe; Ankara has not managed to shut down migrationflows in the past, and there is nothing toprevent theTurkish President, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, asking for more concessions*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JFT-JVS1-F021-64F9-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

April 4, 2016 Monday 4:45 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 577 words

**Byline:** Camino Mortera-Martinez

**Body**

Two weeks after the EU signed its boldest, and most reckless, attempt to solve the refugee crisis, Greece has begun to return people to Turkey.Todayaround 135 men, mainly of Pakistani, Bangladeshi and Moroccan origins, have boarded boats from the Greek islands of Lesbos and Chios, heading for the Turkish coastal town of Dikili. Each of these men was accompanied by a policeman, according to Frontex, the EU's border agency.

Deciding how and whether to return migrants to their country of origin or transit is one of the most difficult issues in migration policy. But fair and effective return policies dodeter smugglers.By the end of 2015, it had become clear that the EU had lost control of its borders,and that smugglers were benefiting from it. In a desperate attempt to break down the smuggling business, EU leaders resorted to the most unpleasant measure of them all: sending people back.

Because most asylum seekers cross from Turkey to the Aegean islands, Brussels signed a deal with Ankarawhereby Greece would return all irregular migrants making their way from Turkey. In exchange for each migrant that Turkey takes back from Greece, the EU will resettle one Syrian refugee already in Turkey into Europe. It is known as a 'one in, one out'policy.Officials in Brussels hope the deal, as unpalatable as it might seem,will help decrease the numbers of people arriving in Europeand ease the current state of panic, granting the space to allowmemberstates toagree on longerlasting measures to deal with refugees.

Read more

Who are the real people hurt by the Panama papers?

But to achieve thatthe EU has twisted the lawby deeming Turkey a safe country to return people to. Brussels has angered NGOs and international organisations, and risks rebellions and violent breakouts by desperate refugees stranded in Greece's ill-equipped detention centres.This is a dangerous time for Europe and its migrants.Meanwhile, the EU has given Turkey all sorts of inducements to help. But Ankara has not managed to shut down migrationflows in the past, and nothing prevents Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdoganfrom asking for more.

It is, of course, fartoo soon to say whether the deal has had any effect. The number of irregular migrants arriving in Greece did fall for a week after the deal came into force, but it isnow risingagain. The initial dropwas most likely due to poor weather conditions, rather than to the deterrent effect of a deal many asylum seekers do not even know about.

According to firstreports, the vast majority of those deported today had not tried to apply for asylum in Greece, so would have been returned anyway. Only two of them were Syrians (the only nationality to which the 'one in, one out' policy applies)and they allegedly asked to be returned voluntarily. The only way to assess whether the EU-Turkey refugee deal will help ending the crisis is when massive numbers of Syrians are sent back to TurkeyandEU member-states start taking in ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** directly from Turkey. And, so far, efforts to distribute asylum seekers across Europe have not been very successful: less than 1,000 people have been relocated to Europe since September 2015, when the EU agreed to take in 160,000 refugees.

The EU has a lot to lose in this gamble, so it all needs to be worth it. Otherwise, it will be back to square one, and this time, the European project may be in real danger.

Camino Mortera-Martinez is a research fellow at the Centre for European Reform

**Load-Date:** April 4, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Norway's immigration minister jumps in the Aegean Sea for 'very special' recreation of refugee rescue; The stunt was widely criticised in Norway butSylvi Listhaugsaid she wanted to recognise rescuers' work*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JK7-57N1-JCJY-G4K3-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

April 20, 2016 Wednesday 4:58 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 585 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Norway's immigration minister has jumped into the Aegean Sea and been "rescued" in what she said was an effort to understand the experience of refugees.

Sylvi Listhaug donned a floatation suit before she entered the water off the coast of the Greek island ofLesbos on Tuesday, floating for several minutes before being hauled into a lifeboat.

More than 760 refugees and migrants have drowned so far this year in desperate attempts to cross to Greece and Italy, according to the latest United Nations figures.

Greece begins deporting refugees to Turkey under EU plan

Ms Listhaug described the experience of the mock rescue as "very special" while acknowledging the work of Norwegian rescue teams.

Read more

Pope Francis takes three families of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** on plane back to Rome from Greek island of Lesbos

A tale of two refugee camps on Lesbos as thousands await fate of being sent back to Turkey

Refugee crisis: EU deportations to Turkey from Lesbos continue despite protests

Refugee crisis: Hope turns to despair as Lesbos camp becomes open-air prison

"It was very special, although of course it is a completely different experience when you are wearing a survival suit," she told the

Dagbladet

newspaper.

"It must be absolutely terrible [for refugees], and one thing I'm concerned with is the cynical people who sell lifejackets that help pull them down into the water instead of saving them. That is impossible for me to understand.

"I think it's crucial that we continue to rescue people both here and in the Mediterranean."

The Minister of Integration in Norway, Sylvi Listhaug, taking a bath outside Lesbos. "A taste of being a refugee." pic.twitter.com/KCArJ5ujcB

- Karl Eldar Evang (@KarlEldar) April 19, 2016

One commenter on her official Facebook page called the stunt "incredibly bad judgement and an affront to migrants".

Ms Listhaug, from the conservative Progress Party, responded by saying she was invited by the Norwegian Society for Sea Rescue to see their work and was "incredibly impressed".

Other critics ridiculed the minister's attempt to empathise with refugees, with one quipping: "Tonight I'll sleep with the window open to feel what it's like to be homeless."

Twitter users were also largely unimpressed by Ms Listhaug's experiment, calling it "shameless" and "embarrassing".

The boat that rescued her was deployed in the Aegean last year by the Norwegian government as part of the Operation Poseidon mission run by the Frontex border agency.

Describing her trip to Lesbos, the immigration minister said she also visited detention centresimplemented on the island as part of the EU-Turkey deal and met refugees.

"The conditions there are difficult and Norway is contributing as best we can to improve them," Ms Listhaug wrote.

"We must keep a warm heart and a cool head," she added, calling for a sustainable asylum policy as European nations continue to close their borders to refugees.

The Pope and Angelina Jolie are among other high profile visitors to Lesbos, which has seen the most arrivals out of any island in Europe during the refugee crisis.

Under new rules implemented last month, anyone arriving clandestinely is detained and will be returned to Turkey unless they successfully apply for asylum in Greece.

For every Syrian sent back, the EU will take another Syrian directly from Turkey for resettlement in Europe, but there is no such measure for other nationalities making up more than half of those arriving.

**Load-Date:** April 20, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Pope Francis 'to take 10 refugees on his plane back to Italy' after visit to Greek island where thousands trapped; A Greek official confirmed the plan, which is not thought to violate the terms of the EU-Turkey deal*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JJB-CRK1-JCJY-G00F-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

April 16, 2016 Saturday 9:44 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 625 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

ThePope is reportedly planning to take 10 refugees back to the Vatican as he urges Europe to relocate the thousands of asylum seekers trapped in Greece.

A local official confirmed the plan to the AFP news agency as Pope Francis started his tour of the Greek island of Lesbos with Catholic and Orthodox Church leaders.

His plan is not thought to violate the terms of the controversial EU-Turkey deal as the migrants chosen arrived before the deadline of 20 March.

Pope Francis, greeted by Archbishop Ieronimo, arrives on the Greek island of Lesbos on 16 April 2016 (Reuters)

Greece's national broadcaster reported that eight Syrians and two Afghans would be taken on the Pope's plane when he departs Lesbos later on Saturday.

Read more

Pope Francis arrives on Greek island to meet refugees

Refugee detention centre prepares for Pope's visit

EU continues to deport refugees from Lesbos to Turkey

While Syrians have been prioritised by relocation schemes across Europe, Afghans have been excluded from most programmes and barred from crossing borders as they are not automatically considered refugees, despite making up around a quarter of those arriving on the continent's shores.

Pope Francis is expected to call on European countries to relocate thousands of refugees trapped in Greece by shut borders across the continent.

The Vatican previously said the five-hour visit to Lesbos was purely humanitarian and religious in nature, not political, and wasn't meant as a criticism of the deportation programme seeing some asylum seekers sent back to Turkey.

Pope Francis said he intended "to express closeness and solidarity both to the refugees and to the Lesbos citizens and all the Greek people who are so generous in welcoming (refugees)."

"Refugees are not numbers, they are people who have faces, names, stories, and need to be treated as such," a tweet from his official account said as the visit began.

The pontiff has been outspoken in calls for greater compassion and international co-operation in the refugee crisis, denouncing the "globalisation of indifference" during a trip to Lampedusa - another migrant hotspot.

Controversy continues over the situation in Lesbos, which is now subject to the 18 March EU-Turkey deal.

It stipulates that anyone arriving clandestinely on Greek islands will be returned to Turkey unless they successfully apply for asylum in the country.

For every Syrian sent back, the EU will take another Syrian directly from Turkey for resettlement in Europe but other nationalities make up more than half of those arriving.

In return, Turkey was granted concessions including billions of euros to deal with the more than 2.7 million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** living there, and a speeding up of its stalled accession talks with the EU.

Despite the measures, condemned by human rights groups as "shameful" and "inhumane", desperate asylum seekers fleeing war and persecution in the Middle East and Africa continue to arrive.

Frontex, the European border agency, intercepted a dinghy carrying 41 Syrians and Iraqis off the coast of Lesbos, three hours before the Pope was due to arrive.

He landed at the island's airport at around 10am local time (8am BST), being greeted on a red carpet by the Greek Prime Minister, Alexis Tsipras, and a delegation of Catholic and Orthodox Church leaders.

The pontiff was due to visit Moria, a refugee camp-turned detention centre currently housing almost 3,000 migrants.

The delegation will have lunch with refugee representatives and make a joint declaration, before heading to the island's capital for a prayer service in memory of the many asylum seekers who have drowned attempting to reach Europe.

**Load-Date:** April 16, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Turkey does not need to join EU for a humane policy on refugees to be reached; There is an opportunityto bind Turkey to European values while stopping well short of full EU membership*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JB9-DPX1-F021-62J8-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

March 18, 2016 Friday 11:50 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 612 words

**Byline:** Editorial

**Body**

Any deal that emerges from the EU-Turkey summit in Brussels is likely to be deeply flawed and open to doubts, practical and moral. Some sort of deal is vital but there are limits beyond which - however desperate the migrant crisis - the EU should not go.

In the past week both sides have hardened their positions. There was no certainty that agreement would be reached last night. In the way of these things, any failure was not likely to be final but presented as "progress" towards a third attempt at accommodating the divergent interests and views of 29 nations.

The framework of the deal under discussion is distasteful but preferable to the existing inhumane chaos of people-smuggling gangs, child drownings and swelling refugee "jungles" in Greece. Migrants reaching the Greek islands would be sent back to Turkey. In return, the EU would take - one for one - an initial 72,000 genuine war refugees from the vast holding camps in Turkey.

Read more

EU reaches agreement to send refugees back to Turkey

The intention is to wreck the business plan of the people smugglers and to persuade Iraqi and ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** not to risk their lives by besieging Europe in their hundreds of thousands this summer. So far, so depressing - but necessary. However, European governments, under pressure from their own public, are right to insist on guarantees about the treatment of returned migrants by the Turks. The government of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is refusing to apply the "relevant international standards" that the EU is demanding. For an Ankara government that seems hellbent on dismantling press and personal freedoms, that is not very reassuring.

There are other problems. Turkey is demanding fast-track talks on EU membership. Cyprus declines to consider this until Turkey recognises the country. Ankara refuses. Several EU countries, led by France, are, in any case, unwilling to give guarantees on early Turkish membership. Forms of words will be found to resolve these problems. The EU is good at forms of words.

It must, however, not enter a deal with Ankara which fails to guarantee minimum humanitarian treatment for the migrants pushed back across the Aegean. Such a commitment is the least we owe to the refugees. It would also force the Erdogan government to confront a simple truth. Turkey cannot expect to be treated as a European and democratic country while it tramples European and democratic values.

Ankara has a case for generous treatment by the EU. As the Prime Minister, Ahmet Davutoglu, pointed out yesterday, Turkey has received 2,700,000 refugees since the Syrian crisis began. Compare that with the few thousands grudgingly accepted by Britain. As part of the proposed deal, the EU would give Turkey up to (EURO)8bn (£6.2bn) in the next three years to help pay part of the cost of the migrant camps on the Syrian border. That is justified and long overdue. But the core of the deal - the migrant swap - must be seen to meet minimum international standards, even if some EU countries are reluctant to recognise those standards themselves. The 28 EU members have no choice but to deal with the Erdogan government, undemocratic though its behaviour sometimes is. Despite the press crackdown, there are signs that Ankara knows that it has overplayed its hand in recent years as it sought to become both a regional power broker and a beacon of "soft Islamism", presuming such a thing exists.

There is an opportunity, based on mutual interests, to bind Turkey to European values while stopping well short of full EU membership, with all that entails. But that can only be achieved by striking a genuinely humanitarian deal, not by a cynical political fix.

**Load-Date:** March 18, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump claims British Muslims are 'absolutely not reporting' suspected terrorists; Trump made the remarks in an interview with Good Morning Britain's Piers Morgan*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JC7-K171-JCJY-G0T6-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

March 23, 2016 Wednesday 1:25 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 604 words

**Byline:** Olivia Blair

**Body**

Donald Trump has claimed British Muslims are "absolutely not reporting" suspected terrorists.

The Republican frontrunner was interviewed by Piers Morgan on

Good Morning Britain

and was asked what he would say to British Muslims, given the inflammatory claims he has made about the religion during his presidential campaign as well as his controversial pledge to ban Muslims from he US.

"I'm just saying there is something with a radicalised portion that is very bad and very dangerous [...] I would say this to the Muslims and in the United States also when they see trouble they have to report it," he said. "They are not reporting it. They are absolutely not reporting it and that is a big problem."

Trump'sremarks echo claims he made yesterday, following the attacks in Brussels, where he said "we're having a problem with Muslims" and also called for mosques to be surveilled by authorities.

Trump's quotes were challenged by the Muslim Council of Britain who told

GMB

they were "just not the case". Miqdaad Versi, assistant secretary-general of the organisation said: "If you look at London we have a much more integrated society here. We have over 90 per cent of British Muslims who would report someone. If anything were to happen if they knew of anything that was happening in the UK they would report it. There is a very strong Muslim community in the UK." He also said extremists who have perpetrated past attacks don't share the "typical views of a traditional Muslim in society".

"Many of the places these people were being harboured were seen as criminal areas in general. How much is this due to being a Muslim community or just a community of criminality. We have to try to not conflate the two together."

The Brussels attacks which took place on Tuesday morning in a city airport and metro station have killed at least 31 people and injured at least 198. The country is currently in its second day of mourning.

Isis have claimed responsibility for the attacks. Speaking about the terrorist group, Trump pledged that should he become US President he would "hit Isis so hard you wouldn't believe it and I would get the people over there to put up their soldiers because it's about time that somebody did it".

Elsewhere in the interview Trump also defended his controversial pledge for a temporary ban for all Muslims attempting to enter the US but maintained he is not "anti-Muslim". "I'm not anti-anything, I'm just common sense," he claimed.

He also re-iterated his belief that ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** fleeing war should not be allowed into the US. "The Syrians, I don't want them coming in. I don't mind helping to build a safe zone in Syria, but we can't take people in who are undocumented."

Read more

Donald Trump calls editor 'beautiful' after she asks him question

Donald Trump claims 'we have been having problems with Muslims'

Arnold Schwarzenegger refuses to answer questions about Donald Trump

More than half a million people in the UK signed a 'Ban Donald Trump' petition after he demanded a block on Muslims entering the US and claimed parts of London were "so radicalised" police were "afraid for their own lives", which also saw an extraordinary intervention from the Metropolitan Police, Boris Johnson and David Cameron who all disputed the claims.

Despite situations like the petition, which actually crashed the government website at one point given the sheer amount of people signing it, Trump said people shouldn't fear him becoming President as he's just a "normal person".

**Load-Date:** March 23, 2016

**End of Document**



[*'A dark day for Europe': EU reaches agreement to send refugees back to Turkey; The deal has been heavily criticised by human rights organisations*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JB6-CWV1-F021-643P-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

March 18, 2016 Friday 5:32 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 636 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Human rights organisations have hailed a "dark day for Europe" afteracontroversial deal between Turkey and the European Union aiming to stem the number of refugees fleeing across the Aegean Sea was reached in Brussels.

Donald Tusk, President of the European Council, confirmed the agreement was made unanimously on Friday afternoon.

After less than an hour of discussions, the prime ministers of Finland and the Czech Republic tweeted from inside the European Council negotiations to announce that the 28 leaders had given their approval to the arrangement, which must be signed off by the Turkish Prime Minister before being implemented.

UN says EU-Turkey refugee deal would violate law

Authorities reported a surge in boats being sent towards the island of Lesbos as talks entered their final stages as smuggling traffic appeared to spike ahead of the expected crackdown.

Mustafa Nazmi Sezgin, the governor of Dikili district, told Reuters he knew of around 300 people who had been detained in his district alone and officials in Ankara said the total number detained was around 3,000.

Under the scheme drawn up by Mr Tusk and Ahmet Davutoglu, the Turkish Prime Minister, any migrant arriving in Greece after 20 March would be given a swift individual interview to determine whether they will be allowed to remain or sent back to Turkey.

Responding to heavy criticism from international humanitarian organisations, a spokesperson for European Council President Donald Tusk said that the agreement ensured that any removals would have to be "in full compliance with international and EU law" and that there would be no "collective expulsions".

The EU has agreed to safely resettle one Syrian refugee from camps in Turkey for each irregular migrant returned to the country, in a move aimed to discourage asylum seekers from paying huge sums to smugglers for treacherous sea crossings.

Turkey will also be sent billions of euros and is pushing for visa liberalisation for its 75 million citizens visiting Europe, as the EU "re-energises" accession talks.

Human Rights Watch condemned the situation as a "new low" and said the proposed conditions put the "very principle of international protection for those fleeing war and persecution at stake".

The plan has also been heavily criticised for singling out ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, who make up roughly 40 per cent of arrivals in Europe, over Iraqis, Afghans and other groups needing protection.

Amnesty International's UK director, Kate Allen, said: "This is a dark day for the Refugee Convention, a dark day for Europe and a dark day for humanity.

"It's absolutely shameful to see leaders seeking to abandon their legal obligations. Forcing refugees back into the hands of the very smugglers they just came from so they can have another go at exploiting them is obviously madness.

Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel, Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron and France's President Francois Hollande attend a meeting during a European Union leaders summit on migration in Brussels, Belgium

"There's no way anyone should herald this as a solution."

The Overseas Development Institute, which has conducted research on why refugees choose to migrate, warned that the deal is "unlikely to work" to stop the crisis.

Marta Foresti, the think-tank's Director of Governance and Security, said: "Our research shows refugees and migrants do not make the decision to leave their home lightly, are willing to take significant risks and will not be deterred by the policies and restrictions of EU countries.

"Those excluded from the deal will continue to try different, more dangerous routes if the border between Turkey and Greece is shut to them.

"The EU has failed to provide a humane or pragmatic response to the crisis, what is now needed is leadership at the global level."

Additional reporting by agencies

**Load-Date:** March 18, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Norway's immigration minister jumps in the Aegean Sea for 'very special' recreation of refugee rescue; The stunt was widely criticised in Norway butSylvi Listhaugsaid she wanted to recognise rescuers' work*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JK6-NNW1-JCJY-G4YR-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

April 20, 2016 Wednesday 12:07 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 581 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Norway's immigration minister has jumped into the Aegean Sea and been "rescued" in what she said was an effort to understand refugees' experiences.

Sylvi Listhaug donned a floatation suit before she entered the water off the coast of Lesbos on Tuesday, floating for several minutes before being hauled into a lifeboat.

More than 760 refugees and migrants have drowned so far this year in desperate attempts to cross to Greece and Italy, according to the latest United Nations figures.

Greece begins deporting refugees to Turkey under EU plan

Ms Listhaug described the experience of the mock rescue as "very special" while acknowledging the work of Norwegian rescue teams.

Read more

Pope Francis takes three families of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** on plane back to Rome from Greek island of Lesbos

A tale of two refugee camps on Lesbos as thousands await fate of being sent back to Turkey

Refugee crisis: EU deportations to Turkey from Lesbos continue despite protests

Refugee crisis: Hope turns to despair as Lesbos camp becomes open-air prison

"It was very special, although of course it is a completely different experience when you are wearing a survival suit," she told the

Dagbladet

newspaper.

"It must be absolutely terrible (for refugees), and one thing I'm concerned with is the cynical people who sell lifejackets that help pull them down into the water instead of saving them. That is impossible for me to understand.

"I think it's crucial that we continue to rescue people both here and in the Mediterranean."

The Minister of Integration in Norway, Sylvi Listhaug, taking a bath outside Lesbos. "A taste of being a refugee." pic.twitter.com/KCArJ5ujcB

- Karl Eldar Evang (@KarlEldar) April 19, 2016

One commenter on her official Facebook page called the stunt "incredibly bad judgement and an affront to migrants".

Ms Listhaug, from the conservative Progress Party, responded by saying she was invited by the Norwegian Society for Sea Rescue to see their work and was "incredibly impressed".

Other critics ridiculed the minister's attempt to empathise with refugees, with one quipping: "Tonight I'll sleep with the window open to feel what it's like to be homeless".

Twitter users were also largely unimpressed by Ms Listhaug's experiment, calling it "shameless" and "embarrassing".

The boat that rescued her was deployed in the Aegean last year by the Norwegian government as part of the Operation Poseidon mission run by the Frontex border agency.

Describing her trip to Lesbos, the immigration minister said she also visited detention centres implemented on the island as part of the EU-Turkey deal and met refugees.

"The conditions there are difficult and Norway is contributing as best we can to improve them," Ms Listhaug wrote.

"We must keep a warm heart and a cool head," she added, calling for a sustainable asylum policy as European nations continue to close their borders to refugees.

The Pope and Angelina Jolie are among other high profile visitors to Lesbos, which has seen the most arrivals out of any island in Europe during the refugee crisis.

Under new rules implemented last month, anyone arriving clandestinely is detained and will be returned to Turkey unless they successfully apply for asylum in Greece.

For every Syrian sent back, the EU will take another Syrian directly from Turkey for resettlement in Europe, but there is no such measure for other nationalities making up more than half of those arriving.

**Load-Date:** April 20, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Pope Francis 'to take 10 refugees on his plane back to Italy' after visit to Greek island where thousands trapped; A Greek official confirmed the plan, which is not thought to violate the terms of the EU-Turkey deal*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JJB-CRK1-JCJY-G00D-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

April 16, 2016 Saturday 9:37 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 577 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

The Pope is reportedly planning to take 10 refugees back to the Vatican as he urges Europe to relocate the thousands of asylum seekers trapped in Greece.

A local official confirmed the plan to the AFP news agency as Pope Francis started his tour of the Greek island of Lesbos with Catholic and Orthodox Church leaders.

His plan is not thought to violate the terms of the controversial EU-Turkey deal as the migrants chosen arrived before the deadline of 20 March.

Pope Francis, greeted by Archbishop Ieronimo, arrives on the Greek island of Lesbos on 16 April 2016 (Reuters)

Greek state television reported that eight Syrians and two Afghans would be taken on the Pope's plane when he departs Lesbos later on Saturday.

While Syrians have been prioritised by relocation schemes across Europe, Afghans have been excluded from most programmes and barred from crossing borders as they are not automatically considered refugees, despite making up around a quarter of those arriving on the continent's shores.

Pope Francis is expected to call on European countries to relocate thousands of refugees trapped in Greece by shut borders across the continent.

The Vatican previously said the five-hour visit to Lesbos was purely humanitarian and religious in nature, not political, and wasn't meant as a criticism of the deportation programme seeing some asylum seekers sent back to Turkey.

Pope Francis said he intended "to express closeness and solidarity both to the refugees and to the Lesbos citizens and all the Greek people who are so generous in welcoming (refugees)."

"Refugees are not numbers, they are people who have faces, names, stories, and need to be treated as such," a tweet from his official account said as the visit began.

The pontiff has been outspoken in calls for greater compassion and international co-operation in the refugee crisis, denouncing the "globalisation of indifference" during a trip to Lampedusa - another migrant hotspot.

Controversy continues over the situation in Lesbos, which is now subject to the 18 March EU-Turkey deal.

It stipulates that anyone arriving clandestinely on Greek islands will be returned to Turkey unless they successfully apply for asylum in the country.

For every Syrian sent back, the EU will take another Syrian directly from Turkey for resettlement in Europe but other nationalities make up more than half of those arriving.

In return, Turkey was granted concessions including billions of euros to deal with the more than 2.7 million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** living there, and a speeding up of its stalled accession talks with the EU.

Despite the measures, condemned by human rights groups as "shameful" and "inhumane", desperate asylum seekers fleeing war and persecution in the Middle East and Africa continue to arrive.

Frontex, the European border agency, intercepted a dinghy carrying 41 Syrians and Iraqis off the coast of Lesbos, three hours before the Pope was due to arrive.

He landed at the island's airport at around 10am local time (8am BST), being greeted on a red carpet by the Greek Prime Minister, Alexis Tsipras, and a delegation of Catholic and Orthodox Church leaders.

The pontiff was due to visit Moria, a refugee camp-turned detention centre currently housing almost 3,000 migrants.

The delegation will have lunch with refugee representatives and make a joint declaration, before heading to the island's capital for a prayer service in memory of the many asylum seekers who have drowned attempting to reach Europe.

**Load-Date:** April 16, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Pope Francis 'to take 12 refugees on his plane back to Italy' after visit to Greek island where thousands trapped; A Greek official confirmed the plan, which is not thought to violate the terms of the EU-Turkey deal*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JJB-RHG1-JCJY-G3RY-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

April 16, 2016 Saturday 1:07 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 631 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

ThePope is reportedly planning to take 12refugees back to the Vatican as he urges Europe to relocate the thousands of asylum seekers trapped in Greece.

A local official confirmed the plan to the AFP news agency as Pope Francis started his tour of the Greek island of Lesbos with Catholic and Orthodox Church leaders.

His plan is not thought to violate the terms of the controversial EU-Turkey deal as the migrants chosen arrived before the deadline of 20 March.

Pope Francis, greeted by Archbishop Ieronimo, arrives on the Greek island of Lesbos on 16 April 2016 (Reuters)

Greece's national broadcaster reported that eight Syrians and two Afghans would be taken on the Pope's plane when he departed Lesbos, but a Vatican official later put the number at 12.

Read more

Pope Francis arrives on Greek island to meet refugees

Refugee detention centre prepares for Pope's visit

EU continues to deport refugees from Lesbos to Turkey

While Syrians have been prioritised by relocation schemes across Europe, Afghans have been excluded from most programmes and barred from crossing borders as they are not automatically considered refugees, despite making up around a quarter of those arriving on the continent's shores.

Pope Francis is expected to call on European countries to relocate thousands of refugees trapped in Greece by shut borders across the continent.

The Vatican previously said the five-hour visit to Lesbos was purely humanitarian and religious in nature, not political, and wasn't meant as a criticism of the deportation programme seeing some asylum seekers sent back to Turkey.

Pope Francis said he intended "to express closeness and solidarity both to the refugees and to the Lesbos citizens and all the Greek people who are so generous in welcoming (refugees)."

"Refugees are not numbers, they are people who have faces, names, stories, and need to be treated as such," a tweet from his official account said as the visit began.

The pontiff has been outspoken in calls for greater compassion and international co-operation in the refugee crisis, denouncing the "globalisation of indifference" during a trip to Lampedusa - another migrant hotspot.

Controversy continues over the situation in Lesbos, which is now subject to the 18 March EU-Turkey deal.

It stipulates that anyone arriving clandestinely on Greek islands will be returned to Turkey unless they successfully apply for asylum in the country.

For every Syrian sent back, the EU will take another Syrian directly from Turkey for resettlement in Europe but other nationalities make up more than half of those arriving.

In return, Turkey was granted concessions including billions of euros to deal with the more than 2.7 million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** living there, and a speeding up of its stalled accession talks with the EU.

Despite the measures, condemned by human rights groups as "shameful" and "inhumane", desperate asylum seekers fleeing war and persecution in the Middle East and Africa continue to arrive.

Frontex, the European border agency, intercepted a dinghy carrying 41 Syrians and Iraqis off the coast of Lesbos, three hours before the Pope was due to arrive.

He landed at the island's airport at around 10am local time (8am BST), being greeted on a red carpet by the Greek Prime Minister, Alexis Tsipras, and a delegation of Catholic and Orthodox Church leaders.

The pontiff was due to visit Moria, a refugee camp-turned detention centre currently housing almost 3,000 migrants.

The delegation will have lunch with refugee representatives and make a joint declaration, before heading to the island's capital for a prayer service in memory of the many asylum seekers who have drowned attempting to reach Europe.

**Load-Date:** April 16, 2016

**End of Document**



[*How much longer can we ignore child refugees?; Editorials*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JMM-RNY1-JCS0-D2XD-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

April 27, 2016 Wednesday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EDITORIAL; Pg. 2

**Length:** 610 words

**Body**

Thousands of unaccompanied child refugees are stranded in mainland Europe. They are stateless, abandoned and vulnerable.

Precise numbers are inevitably hard to come by, but research by the Bureau for Investigative Journalism has found that 95,000 unaccompanied minors officially sought asylum in Europe in 2015. Many others remain under the radar.

Despite these realities, the government refuses to act. An amendment to the immigration bill, tabled in the Lords, was debated by the House of Commons on Monday. Introduced by Lord Dubs - who himself came to Britain to escape the Nazis in the 1930s - the amendment proposed that the UK should take 3,000 Europe-based child refugees.

Despite dozens of abstentions and a few rebels on the Conservative benches, the government carried the day and the amendment was defeated. It has indicated that the UK will instead take 3,000 vulnerable children from camps in countries bordering Syria's unrelenting warzone.

Government ministers argue that agreeing to take those who have already travelled into European countries would encourage other despairing parents to send their children - alone - in the same direction. In other words, better to avert our gaze from those already trapped in dangerous conditions, in case others mistake a fleeting glance for a sign of friendship.

It is also said there are practical difficulties connected to ascertaining the real age of those claiming to be minors; that people as old as 30 will pose as children if they think it gives them a free pass into Britain. And, of course, there is a cost attached to resettling any refugees, let alone traumatised children.

None of those anxieties should be discounted. But the fact that they should have won the day is a desperate indictment of the government's entire approach to the refugee crisis - unsympathetic, unimaginative and narrow. Austerity has clearly forced significant cutbacks in "Conservative compassion".

It was only under intense pressure last year that David Cameron agreed to increase the overall number of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** Britain would take to 20,000. The addition of 3,000 children from camps in the Middle East is welcome in and of itself, but it shouldn't be forgotten that only a fraction of the total have so far arrived on our shores.

The current deal takes us up to 2020. What on earth will happen in the meantime to children stuck in the Jungle or elsewhere, vulnerable to crime, abuse and radicalisation?

The more hysterical opponents of refugee resettlement see in the face of every Syrian child the whisper of a would-be terrorist. How much more likely is it, in fact, that by ignoring their plight we create the kind of resentment that might one day mutate into something more virulent?

Then there are the facile voices which proclaim the dangers of Islam per se and remind all and sundry - often via the anonymity of social media - that Britain is a Christian country by history and tradition, and should stay that way. In so doing they emphasise their obscene failure to practise what might once have been called "Christian morality".

Europol, the EU's criminal intelligence agency, estimated in January that up to 10,000 migrant and refugee children have gone missing after arriving in Europe. Many are believed to have fallen victim to criminal gangs. Meanwhile, our government looks away for fear that other would-be refugees might be fooled into thinking Britain cares.

Cameron et al must think again. For as things stand, the child refugees living broken, desolate lives in hellish corners of the continent could be forgiven for wondering if Western governments would have preferred them to have drowned in the Med.

**Load-Date:** April 27, 2016

**End of Document**



[*'George Clooney effect': I don't want a cup of what that dishy hunk is selling; If the actor is involved in the marketing of anything, the ad agency's powers of persuasion become altogether less crucial. But Donald MacInnes has so far managed to resist the urge to buy a new coffee machine...*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JB6-XB71-F021-619N-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

March 18, 2016 Friday 8:42 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** SPEND & SAVE

**Length:** 575 words

**Byline:** Donald MacInnes

**Body**

Our long and winding journey as consumers begins when we are children, sat cross-legged and saucer-eyed in front of the television and being metaphorically hit over the head by shouty adverts for whichever magical castle or day-glo bucket of bouncy slime is bewitching our peers. Because that's really the only criterion for whether or not we will start pestering our mum and dad to buy us something.

If enough of our friends want it, we want it too, dammit! Of course, as we get a little older, our reasons for wanting a product become a little harder to explain. Our individual foibles and the parameters of our lifestyles become the deciding factors in our choices of what to consume. Unless, of course, George Clooney is involved.

If the actor is involved in the marketing of anything, the ad agency's powers of persuasion become altogether less crucial. In the face of Clooney's, well, face - his strong, manly, twinkly-eyed shaggability - our normal defences fail like liquorice barbed wire, leaving us requiring nothing other than to consume whatever pudding or pie he is flogging. There is no need to dazzle us with clever words or slogans.

Read more

Amal Clooney tells ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** how her family were forced to flee

Cannes Film Festival 2016 announces its first film

Clooney effect' sees coffee pods added to national shopping basket

John Goodman on why he'll never speak to Kristen Wiig again

The film DiCaprio, Pitt, Clooney and more are fighting over

George Clooney says fascist Trump hysteria will eventually die down

The only thing we care about is that Mr George Clooney is endorsing the product - and therefore we need only purchase it to become a little more like him. Or at least a little closer to the contents of his handmade Italian slacks.

And if you think you're immune, don't flatter yourself. The evidence is undeniable. Indeed, new numbers just released by the kind of people who release numbers inform us that damn near the whole country has been responding to Clooney's masterful work with Nespresso coffee makers.

Well, the whole country apart from me and my wife. Now, while I am not saying that the lovely Mrs MacInnes is immune to GC's preposterous masculinity and skyscraping hotness, the fact is that we are just not in the market for a new coffee maker. Our Lavazza A Modo Mio machine does us just fine. And, you know... it's a proper Italian coffee machine, kindly gifted to us on the occasion of our engagement.

Read more

Clooney effect' sees coffee pods added to national shopping basket

Not that either of us are coffee snobs in any way (actually, we probably are), but I'm not sure we would want a coffee machine made by the same company that manufactures perhaps the worst instant coffee on Earth (Nescafé), as well as the grottiest chocolate (Milky Bar).

All that said, the Milky Bar Kid, in his own nerdy little way, managed to do exactly what Clooney has done, transcending his beginnings to become one of the true icons of TV marketing. And despite being strong and tough and knowing that only the best is good enough, the Kid did it all without having to debase himself and appeal to the public's groins, unlike Gorgeous George. But then again, all's fair in love and latte.

**Load-Date:** March 18, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump claims British Muslims are not reporting suspected terrorists; Trump made the remarks in an interview with Good Morning Britain's Piers Morgan*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JC7-7KK1-F021-62TM-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

March 23, 2016 Wednesday 9:49 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 604 words

**Byline:** Olivia Blair

**Body**

Donald Trump has claimed British Muslims are "absolutely not reporting" suspected terrorists.

The Republican frontrunner was interviewed by Piers Morgan on

Good Morning Britain

and was asked what he would say to British Muslims, given the inflammatory claims he has made about the religion during his presidential campaign as well as his controversial pledge to ban Muslims from he US.

"I'm just saying there is something with a radicalised portion that is very bad and very dangerous [...] I would say this to the Muslims and in the United States also when they see trouble they have to report it," he said. "They are not reporting it. They are absolutely not reporting it and that is a big problem."

Trump'sremarks echo claims he made yesterday, following the attacks in Brussels, where he said "we're having a problem with Muslims" and also called for mosques to be surveilled by authorities.

Trump's quotes were challenged by the Muslim Council of Britain who told

GMB

they were "just not the case". Miqdaad Versi, assistant secretary-general of the organisation said: "If you look at London we have a much more integrated society here. We have over 90 per cent of British Muslims who would report someone. If anything were to happen if they knew of anything that was happening in the UK they would report it. There is a very strong Muslim community in the UK." He also said extremists who have perpetrated past attacks don't share the "typical views of a traditional Muslim in society".

"Many of the places these people were being harboured were seen as criminal areas in general. How much is this due to being a Muslim community or just a community of criminality. We have to try to not conflate the two together."

The Brussels attacks which took place on Tuesday morning in a city airport and metro station have killed at least 31 people and injured at least 198. The country is currently in its second day of mourning.

Isis have claimed responsibility for the attacks. Speaking about the terrorist group, Trump pledged that should he become US President he would "hit Isis so hard you wouldn't believe it and I would get the people over there to put up their soldiers because it's about time that somebody did it".

Elsewhere in the interview Trump also defended his controversial pledge for a temporary ban for all Muslims attempting to enter the US but maintained he is not "anti-Muslim". "I'm not anti-anything, I'm just common sense," he claimed.

He also re-iterated his belief that ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** fleeing war should not be allowed into the US. "The Syrians, I don't want them coming in. I don't mind helping to build a safe zone in Syria, but we can't take people in who are undocumented."

Read more

Donald Trump calls editor 'beautiful' after she asks him question

Donald Trump claims 'we have been having problems with Muslims'

Arnold Schwarzenegger refuses to answer questions about Donald Trump

More than half a million people in the UK signed a 'Ban Donald Trump' petition after he demanded a block on Muslims entering the US and claimed parts of London were "so radicalised" police were "afraid for their own lives", which also saw an extraordinary intervention from the Metropolitan Police, Boris Johnson and David Cameron who all disputed the claims.

Despite situations like the petition, which actually crashed the government website at one point given the sheer amount of people signing it, Trump said people shouldn't fear him becoming President as he's just a "normal person".

**Load-Date:** March 23, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Tawian's first female president Tsai Ing-Wen: Democracy campaigner, Gay rights champion and cat-lover; Supporters have flooded the streets in celebration of her victory*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HW5-GKJ1-JCJY-G2SJ-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 17, 2016 Sunday 12:18 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 600 words

**Byline:** Maya Oppenheim

**Body**

Tsai Ing-Wen has been elected as Taiwan's first female president.

The 59-year-old secured a decisive margin in a landmark election which could disrupt relations with Beijing.

Ing-Wen is leader of the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) which favours independence from China.

After eight years of the pro-China Kuomintang (KMT) party, Ing-Wen's victory signals a welcome breath of fresh air for many Taiwanese people.

In celebration of the news, her supporters flooded the streets, waving party banners and cheering speeches.

But who exactly is the politician who has just become the most powerful woman in the Chinese-speaking world?

Known for her love of democratic ideals, gay rights and cats, the new president of Taiwan is not your average politician.

Early years

Ing-Wen was born in 1956, seven years after Mao Zedong's communist troops invaded Beijing and drove Chiang Kai-shek's nationalists to escape across the Taiwan Strait. Ing-Wen's route into politics was rather less predictable than her peers. Unlike many, she did not come from a political family. Growing up in an affluent home, she was the youngest of 11 children born to the last of her father's four wives.

Academic past

Ing-Wen was a late arrival to political life and didn't join the DPP until 2004. Prior to entering politics, academia was her great passion. According to a 2012 profile in Taiwan Today, "She is more thoughtful scholar than slogan-shouting politico". After earning a law degree from Taipei's National Taiwan University, she headed to Cornell University in New York for her Masters. According to a 2015interview with

Time

, New York seemed like the right choice for a young woman yearning for "a revolutionary life". After a brief stint in the big apple, she started studying at the LSE in London where she gained a PhD in law.

Wordly politician

Unlike many of her fellow politicos, Ing-Wen is known for her worldly stance and international know-how. According to J Michael Cole, a Taipei-based academic who has known the president since 2008, "She is certainly a lot more worldly than previous leaders of the party." Interestingly, she also looks to Angela Merkel for inspiration. Gerrit van der Wees, a Taiwan expert who has spent time with her during her frequent trips to the United States, says that she likes to compare herself to the German leader. "The fact that Angela Merkel opened the borders to the ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** was something that Tsai commented on as being a very courageous and positive step that she would take too," he explained.

Cat-lover

Ing-Wen makes no secret of her love for cats. Her three felines Xiang xiang, Think Think and Ah Tsai made special appearances throughout her campaign. One even starred in her Chinese New Year's message last year. According to her close associate Cole, "She very much enjoys sitting down with a glass of red wine, and reading a book and spending quality time with her cats."

Democracy advocate

The Taiwanese president has repeatedly expressed her commitment to democracy throughout her campaign. At a post-election news conference, she said it was a value "deeply engrained in the Taiwanese people." Hailing a "new era" in Taiwan, she also said, "Our democratic way of life is forever the resolve of Taiwan's 23 million people".

Gay rights campaigner

Ing-Wen has openly declared her support for gay marriage. Before last year's gay pride parade in Taiwan's capital, she released a video on Facebook which said, "In the face of love, everyone is equal. Let everyone have the freedom to love and to pursue their happiness. I am Tsai Ing-wen, and I support marriage equality".

**Load-Date:** January 17, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Cleanliness is next to godliness; Greek refugee centre given a last-minute spring clean ahead of Pope's visit*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JJ9-2X51-JCS0-D4HD-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

April 16, 2016 Saturday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 24

**Length:** 625 words

**Byline:** LIZZIE DEARDEN

**Body**

A detention centre for asylum seekers in Greece is being urgently spruced up ahead of a visit by the Pope as thousands of people remain trapped inside, waiting to find out if they will be sent back to Turkey.

Workers were dispatched to whitewash the wall surrounding Moria, a former refugee camp on the island of Lesbos, while others painted fences, cleared litter and moved stray tents.

The last-minute efforts on Friday came ahead of Pope Francis' arrival tomorrow with a delegation of Catholic and Orthodox leaders.

Sacha Myers, who is working inside Moria with Save the Children, told The Independent that the now "very white" wall was not a priority for the families living inside Moria.

"We hope the improvements continue but they don't change the fact that we have still got thousands of people locked inside this detention centre with no idea how long they were be here," she said. "The camp was built to hold 2,000 people and now there are 2,900. Families are living on top of each other, there is absolutely no privacy. We're seeing a real deterioration in conditions."

Ms Myers, a communications and media manager for the charity, said that she had met Iraqi and Syrian mothers whose babies were ill with diarrhoea and fever amid declining hygiene.

"Some people are aware of the Pope's visit," she added. "They really want him to help them and understand their issues."

Save the Children is warning that child refugees are being held in appalling conditions at the centre, where they report illness, fights and theft. Charity workers described dirty rooms without enough beds, where children are denied legal services and basic support despite concerns for their mental and physical wellbeing.

High-profile visits by Angelina Jolie, Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras and Labour MP Yvette Cooper, among others, have done little to improve the situation in Moris.

It was set up last year as one of two refugee camps in Lesbos, but on 20 March the gates were locked as it was turned into a detention centre as part of the controversial EU-Turkey deal.

The Pope will be joined by leaders of the Catholic and Orthodox churches as he tours Lesbos, which has seen the highest number of refugees arrive out of any island in Europe.

After visiting Moria, they will have lunch with refugee representatives and make a joint declaration, before heading to the island's capital for a prayer service in memory of the many asylum seekers who have drowned attempting to reach Europe.

The Vatican said that the five-hour visit to Lesbos was purely humanitarian and religious in nature, not political, and wasn''t meant as a criticism of the deportation programme seeing some asylum seekers sent back to Turkey. Pope Francis said he intended "to express closeness and solidarity both to the refugees and to the Lesbos citizens and all the Greek people who are so generous in welcoming (refugees)".

The pontiff has been outspoken in calls for greater compassion and international cooperation in the refugee crisis, denouncing the "globalisation of indifference" during a trip to Lampedusa - another migrant hotspot.

Controversy continues over the situation in Lesbos, which is now subject to the 18 March EU-Turkey deal. It stipulates that anyone arriving clandestinely on Greek islands will be returned to Turkey unless they successfully apply for asylum in the country. For every Syrian sent back, the EU will take another Syrian directly from Turkey for resettlement in Europe but other nationalities make up more than half of those arriving. In return, Turkey was granted concessions including billions of euros to deal with the more than 2.7 million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** living there, and a speeding up of its stalled accession talks with the EU.

Additional reporting by AP

**Load-Date:** April 15, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump claims British muslims are not reporting suspected terrorists; Trump made the remarks in an interview with Good Morning Britain's Piers Morgan*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JC7-7KK1-F021-62TK-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

March 23, 2016 Wednesday 9:25 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 549 words

**Byline:** Olivia Blair

**Body**

Donald Trump has claimed British Muslims are "absolutely not reporting" suspected terrorists.

The Republican frontrunner was interviewed by Piers Morgan on

Good Morning Britain

and was asked what he would say to British Muslims, given the inflammatory claims he has made about the religion during his presidential campaign as well as his controversial pledge to ban Muslims from he US.

"I'm just saying there is something with a radicalised portion that is very bad and very dangerous [...] I would say this to the Muslims and in the United States also when they see trouble they have to report it," he said. "They are not reporting it. They are absolutely not reporting it and that is a big problem."

Trump'sremarks echo claims he made yesterday, following the attacks in Brussels, where he said "we're having a problem with Muslims" and also called for mosques to be surveilled by authorities.

Trump's quotes were challenged by the Muslim Council of Britain who told

GMB

they were "just not true". Miqdaad Versi, assistant secretary-general of the organisation said: "If you look at London we have a much more integrated society here. We have over 90 per cent of British Muslims who would report someone. If anything were to happen if they knew of anything that was happening in the UK they would report it. There is a very strong Muslim community in the UK." He also said extremists who have perpetrated past attacks don't share the "typical views of a traditional Muslim in society".

"Many of the places these people were being harboured were seen as criminal areas in general. How much is this due to being a Muslim community or just a community of criminality. We have to try to not conflate the two together."

The Brussels attacks which took place on Tuesday morning in a city airport and metro station have killed at least 31 people and injured at least 198. The country is currently in its second day of mourning.

Isis have claimed responsibility for the attacks. Speaking about the terrorist group, Trump pledged that should he become US President he would "hit Isis so hard you wouldn't believe it and I would get the people over there to put up their soldiers because it's about time that somebody did it".

Elsewhere in the interview Trump also defended his controversial pledge for a temporary ban for all Muslims attempting to enter the US but maintained he is not "anti-Muslim". "I'm not anti-anything, I'm just common sense," he claimed.

He also re-iterated his belief that ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** fleeing war should not be allowed into the US. "The Syrians, I don't want them coming in. I don't mind helping to build a safe zone in Syria, but we can't take people in who are undocumented."

More than half a million people in the UK signed a 'Ban Donald Trump' petition after he demanded a block on Muslims entering the US and claimed parts of London were "so radicalised" police were "afraid for their own lives", which also saw an extraordinary intervention from the Metropolitan Police, Boris Johnson and David Cameron who all disputed the claims.

Despite situations like the petition, which actually crashed the government website at one point given the sheer amount of people signing it, Trump said people shouldn't fear him becoming President as he's just a "normal person".

**Load-Date:** March 23, 2016

**End of Document**



[*US to deport hundreds of migrant families fleeing violence in Central America; The Department of Homeland Security is planning to carry out raids in January*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HP2-BS41-JCJY-G13C-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

December 24, 2015 Thursday 2:16 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 627 words

**Byline:** Andrew Buncombe

**Body**

The US authorities are planning to seize and forcibly deport hundreds of illegal immigrant families - many of whom have fled violence in central America.

Reports in the US mediasaid the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has begun preparing for a series of raids that would target for deportation hundreds of families. The adults and children would be detained wherever they are found and immediately deported.

The plan would only target those who have already been ordered removed from the United States by an immigration judge. However, the plan had reportedly created controversy both inside the Obama administration and without.

More than 100,000 families crossed the Mexican border last year

"It would be an outrage if the administration subjected Central American families to even more aggressive enforcement tactics," Gregory Chen, director of advocacy for the American Immigration Lawyers Association, told the

Washington Post

.

"This administration has never acknowledged the truth: that these families are refugees seeking asylum who should be given humanitarian protection rather than being detained or rounded up. When other countries are welcoming far more refugees, the US should be ashamed for using jails and even contemplating large-scale deportation tactics."

The plan comes as immigration has become and increasingly central topic in the US presidential debate. This was triggered by comments made by now front-runner Donald Trump when he entered the race and referred to those who crossed the Mexican border as rapists and criminals.

Since then, as Mr Trump has continued to see his numbers increase, rivals such as Senators Ted Cruz and Marco Rubio have sought to match his rhetoric.

U.S. Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump addresses the crowd during a campaign rally in Grand Rapids, Michigan

The issue has not just focussed on migrants or refugees from central America. More than 30 US states have said they will do everything they can to block to settlement of the 10,000 or so ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** the US plans to accommodate.

In the aftermath of the shooting in San Bernardino, in which 14 people were killed and more than 20 injured by a Muslim couple, Mr Trump went even further and said the US should not allow any Muslims to enter the US.

Reports suggest that more than 100,000 families with both adults and children have made the journey across the southwest US border since last year. There have also been large numbers of unaccompanied minors.

A DHS spokesperson told

CBS News

that the deportations would be consistent with Homeland Security Jeh Johnson's emphasis on "individuals who pose a threat to national security, public safety and border security."

Read more

The civilians patrolling th Mexican border to keep Isis out of the USA

More Mexicans are leaving the US than arriving, says new report

Mexican theatre troupe lampoons Donald Trump - the gringo bogeyman

"As Secretary Johnson has consistently said, our border is not open to illegal immigration, and if individuals come here illegally, do not qualify for asylum or other relief, and have final orders of removal, they will be sent back consistent with our laws and our values," the spokesperson said.

The US deported more than 235,000 people between October 2014 and September 2015, the DHS spokesperson said, apparently the fewest since 2006. Over the same period, more than 337,000 people were arrested trying to cross the border illegally.

A study published in November by the Pew Research Center said more Mexicans were leaving the US than migrating into the country, marking a reversal of one of the most significant immigration trends in UShistory.

**Load-Date:** December 24, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Not a done deal; Editorials A just, humane and effective policy on the refugee crisis does not require Turkey to join the EU any time soon*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JBB-5XJ1-JCS0-D4J4-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

March 19, 2016 Saturday

Second Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 2

**Length:** 601 words

**Body**

Any deal that emerges from the EU-Turkey summit in Brussels is likely to be deeply flawed and open to doubts, practical and moral. Some sort of deal is vital but there are limits beyond which - however desperate the migrant crisis - the EU should not go.

In the past week both sides have hardened their positions. There was no certainty that agreement would be reached last night. In the way of these things, any failure was not likely to be final but presented as "progress" towards a third attempt at accommodating the divergent interests and views of 29 nations.

The framework of the deal under discussion is distasteful but preferable to the existing inhumane chaos of people-smuggling gangs, child drownings and swelling refugee "jungles" in Greece. Migrants reaching the Greek islands would be sent back to Turkey. In return, the EU would take - one for one - an initial 72,000 genuine war refugees from the vast holding camps in Turkey.

The intention is to wreck the business plan of the people smugglers and to persuade Iraqi and ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** not to risk their lives by besieging Europe in their hundreds of thousands this summer. So far, so depressing - but necessary. However, European governments, under pressure from their own public, are right to insist on guarantees about the treatment of returned migrants by the Turks. The government of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is refusing to apply the "relevant international standards" that the EU is demanding. For an Ankara government that seems hellbent on dismantling press and personal freedoms, that is not very reassuring.

There are other problems. Turkey is demanding fast-track talks on EU membership. Cyprus declines to consider this until Turkey recognises the country. Ankara refuses. Several EU countries, led by France, are, in any case, unwilling to give guarantees on early Turkish membership. Forms of words will be found to resolve these problems. The EU is good at forms of words.

It must, however, not enter a deal with Ankara which fails to guarantee minimum humanitarian treatment for the migrants pushed back across the Aegean. Such a commitment is the least we owe to the refugees. It would also force the Erdogan government to confront a simple truth. Turkey cannot expect to be treated as a European and democratic country while it tramples European and democratic values.

Ankara has a case for generous treatment by the EU. As the Prime Minister, Ahmet Davutoglu, pointed out yesterday, Turkey has received 2,700,000 refugees since the Syrian crisis began. Compare that with the few thousands grudgingly accepted by Britain. As part of the proposed deal, the EU would give Turkey up to Euro 8bn (£6.2bn) in the next three years to help pay part of the cost of the migrant camps on the Syrian border. That is justified and long overdue. But the core of the deal - the migrant swap - must be seen to meet minimum international standards, even if some EU countries are reluctant to recognise those standards themselves. The 28 EU members have no choice but to deal with the Erdogan government, undemocratic though its behaviour sometimes is. Despite the press crackdown, there are signs that Ankara knows that it has overplayed its hand in recent years as it sought to become both a regional power broker and a beacon of "soft Islamism", presuming such a thing exists.

There is an opportunity, based on mutual interests, to bind Turkey to European values while stopping well short of full EU membership, with all that entails. But that can only be achieved by striking a genuinely humanitarian deal, not by a cynical political fix.

**Load-Date:** March 19, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Theresa May ducks key debate on new immigration rule that will see teachers, charity workers and NHS staff deported; Exclusive:Despite being named personally in a petition signed by more than 100,000 people, Home Secretary sends in a junior minister to defend her 'destructive and discriminatory'policy*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J7W-3S41-F021-63W8-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

March 7, 2016 Monday 7:22 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 637 words

**Byline:** Adam Withnall

**Body**

Theresa May refused to attend a debate in Parliament designed to scrutinise one of her most controversial changes to immigration rules,

The Independent

can reveal.

The Home Secretary has been urged to rethink a £35,000 pay threshold for skilled migrant workers that could see tens of thousands of teachers, charity workers, NHS staff and tech entrepreneurs deported from Britain if they fail to make enough money.

The debate was held in Westminster Hall on Monday after more than 100,000 people signed an online petition expressing anger at the measure, which Labour has called "ill-considered, destructive and discriminatory".

Read more

Meet the skilled workers Theresa May wants kicked out of Britain

Despite being named personally in the petition, Ms May did not attend the debate

and instead sent junior minister Richard Harrington, with James Brokenshire busy with another engagement.

A source admitted it might "seem strange" Ms May was sending Mr Harrington in her stead - given his unrelated portfolio as the minister for ***Syrian*** ***refugees***.

But when asked why the Home Secretary was unable to attend in person, a Home Office spokesman said: "We don't comment on what she is or isn't doing at any given time."

Monday's debate represented the first time MPs were given the chance to scrutinise the £35,000 threshold for non-EU workers, which was pushed through without a Commons vote as part of a raft of changes to immigration rules in 2012.

If uncontested, it will come into effect next month - and campaigners say it could cost the Treasury more than £500 million in lost economic contributions.

Labour's immigration spokesman Keir Starmer, who attended the debate, has previously said his party has "real concerns" over how key industries would be affected by the threshold.

Read more

'Swathes' of the UK refusing asylum seekers

Meet the skilled workers Theresa May wants kicked out of Britain

MPs to debate controversial £35k migrant pay threshold

May urged to rethink £35,000 salary threshold for migrants

Under the news rules, overseas workers who have lived in the UK for five years will have to prove they will be paid the new minimum threshold in order to stay in the country.

Those who fail to demonstrate earnings of more than £35,000 will be denied settlement in the UK and willface deportation.

The Stop35k campaign, whose members set up the original petition on the Government website, says it understands the desire to reduce migration - but argues that a £35,000 minimum salary across all industries is far too high.

Shannon Harmon, a spokeswoman for the group, said it was "troubling" that Ms May was refusing to engage with the debate.

The £35k threshold is not fair, esp out of London. Earnings by UK region [*https://t.co/HUTZQLYOX0#wales#scotlandpic.twitter.com/polGzvD4bH*](https://t.co/HUTZQLYOX0#scotlandpic.twitter.com/polGzvD4bH)

- Stop35k (@stop35k) March 7, 2016

She told

The Independent

: "'It is unfortunate that Theresa May will not attend in person after so many thousands of people have spoken out against one of the Government's most uneconomic policies.

"Richard Harrington is a fantastic public servant as minister for the Syrian immigration crisis, but his choice as the Minister to respond to this debate illustrates a distinct lack of understanding by the Government of the issue."

She said: "This policy will cost the UK hundreds of millions of pounds the Government keeps telling us they can't afford. It will displace valuable workers, and the fact that Theresa May is not willing to engage is extremely concerning."

For more information on the people who face deportation if the £35,000 threshold is introduced, click here. The debate is being streamed on the Parliament website here.

**Load-Date:** March 7, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Thousands of travellers hit with flight cancellations to and from Turkey this summer amid terror fears; Airlines are cutting back on flights to some destinations in Turkey so they can switch aircraft to more lucrative destinations, especially in Spain*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JM3-GX11-F021-62GS-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

April 24, 2016 Sunday 7:39 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS & ADVICE

**Length:** 546 words

**Byline:** Simon Calder

**Body**

Thousands of passengers who have paid in full for summer trips to Turkey are being told "Your flight is cancelled" - but are not always being properly advised about their options.

Demand for holidays in Turkey has slumped because of fears of terrorist attacks on tourist resorts and the largest city, Istanbul. As a result, airlines are cutting back on flights to Bodrum, Dalaman and Antalya so they can switch aircraft to more lucrative destinations, especially in Spain.

Thomas Cook Airlines has cut about one-third of its planned capacity to Turkey. Last November, Lisa Winter from Northfleet in Kent booked a return flight with the airline from Gatwick to Bodrum for her family in August. The outbound flight is still going ahead, but the return leg has been cancelled - with the family invited to give up the last two days of their holiday in order to come back on an earlier Thomas Cook flight.

Read more

Warning over 'credible threat' of terror attacks in Turkey

Ms Winter told

The Independent

: "To book any alternative flights is going to increase my cost by £310, as flights this many months later have increased in price. What recourse do we have?"

Any airline is at liberty to cancel flights without compensation, so long as they give at least two weeks' notice. They are obliged to offer a full refund, or switch passengers to alternative departures.

Some carriers have insisted that these new flights must be on their own services. But the law for any EU airline entitles passengers whose flights are cancelled to "re-routing, under comparable transport conditions, to their final destination at the earliest opportunity". They must offer passengers the most appropriate alternative flight even if that means buying a seat with a rival carrier.

Turkey-Syria border town faces increasing ISIL rocket attacks

The Independent

told Ms Winter of her rights, and advised her to contact Thomas Cook Airlines so that they could arrange seats on an alternative easyJet flight on the original date. She kept detailed notes of the conversation with the company.

"I stated that there was an alternative easyJet flight which was a closer replacement than the one I had been moved to, and said they should book me on it at their expense.

"I was put on hold, then told they cannot book flights with other airlines."

Ms Winter was offered a full refund and told that she could book the easyJet flights herself - which would have cost her over £300.

"I restated their obligation and asked her to speak to a supervisor."

Read more

Turkey car bomb: Explosive-filled vehicle explodes at southeast military base

Pictures of life for Turkey's 2.5 million ***Syrian*** ***refugees***

Will Turkey-EU deal work? Listen to the 'unnamed officials'

After consulting colleagues, the Thomas Cook representative said Ms Winter had been been misinformed about the airline's obligations. "She said that, within their terms and conditions, they can only re-book an alternative Thomas Cook flight."

When

The Independent

contacted Thomas Cook Airlines, a spokesperson said: "We're extremely sorry for the frustration caused to Ms Winter and we will be making contact to rectify the situation.

"We've used this case to improve how we handle similar requests in future, so that our customers can still go on their well-deserved holidays."

**Load-Date:** April 24, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Hebden Bridge flooding: How the West Yorkshire town rose to Mother Nature's challenge; In a warehouse lent by a scaffolding firm, three volunteers organised tons of donations, from toys to washing machines*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HTK-GGC1-F021-638F-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 9, 2016 Saturday 9:10 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 588 words

**Byline:** Horatio Clare

**Body**

Hebden Bridge reeks, a fortnight after the devastating Boxing Day flood, but mingled with mud are smells of sawdust and sealants. "Back Very Soon!" says a sign in a gutted upholsterer. "Hebden Rising!" claims the organic café. What is happening where I live is a quietly extraordinary tale of local and global citizenship.

While a bus floated down the main street, and the river swept away sheets of tarmac (a witness said they looked like sharks' fins) the town hall became the hub of a fight back. There was no national appeal and no declared emergency. Government and nation were on holiday.

Read more

Scotland flooding 'has cost £700m' with more 'awful' weather to come

Food and donations arrived: 2,500 crumpets and the output of an entire curry house; a box of pregnancy tester kits and wild boar pâté. Soup kitchens opened. Muslim charities, a Sikh aid organisation and volunteers from an Israeli emergency team arrived: "We have come from helping ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Greece," said Mickey Noam-Alon.

"The astounding thing was there was no overt leaderhip," said Dai Larner, a trustee of the Hebden Bridge Community Association. "No one said: 'You can't do that' - chaos to start with, but then it was inspiring."

Flood victims became aid workers. Phil, an architect who didn't want to give his surname, did what he could for his wrecked ground floor and went salvaging in his neighbours' basements. "I put a request on Facebook. Within an hour we had 20 volunteers, dehumidifiers, two electricians - they worked non-stop." His meter is now near the ceiling and he is thinking about the next time the waters come. "They used to call it the Greenwich of the north," said Phil's partner, Emma. "It will have to be the Venice."

In a warehouse lent by a scaffolding firm, three volunteers organised tons of donations, from toys to washing machines. Jill Shaw, a foster carer, said: "The humility of people ... We had to press them to take chocolates and sweets - they asked for cans of beans. It was Christmas! One couple walked a mile and half with a baby. All they wanted was one small pack of nappies. Everyone said: 'Are you sure no one else's need is greater than mine?'"

Read more

UK to take lessons from Dutch on how a low country can avoid flooding

Floods chief fails to apologise for being in Barbados during crisis

Jeremy Corbyn criticises David Cameron for dodging flood questions

Children rescued in North Yorkshire after school bus caught in flood

Whitby 'cut off' after flash flooding

The floods have revealed the imbecility of Osborne's economic strategy

How a town in Yorkshire worked with nature to avoid the floods

Perhaps this is the lesson of Hebden. In extraordinary circumstances, a strong society can rise with glorious solidarity. Its community groups, mixed population and alternative traditions served it well. No politician can claim credit (with the exception of those who joined the volunteers). The town and the community worked as towns and communities are supposed to work: rich and poor, needful and able together, in a triumph of altruism and decency.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if our leaders began to think, as the volunteers will be thinking, even as you read this, not "How little can we get away with?" but "What more can we do?"

**Load-Date:** January 9, 2016

**End of Document**



[*America's biggest fears revealed: War in Syria, homegrown terror and nuclear conflict with North Korea top 2016 list; Results show Americans are overwhelmingly worried about events in the Middle East and North Africa*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HNT-WSP1-JCJY-G063-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

December 23, 2015 Wednesday 11:13 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 670 words

**Byline:** John Hall

**Body**

An escalation in the Syrian Civil War, further terror attacks on US soil and nuclear war with North Korea are American citizens' biggest concerns heading into 2016, a new study has revealed.

The US Council on Foreign Relations asked 1,000 members of the public what they feel are the most significant challenges facing the world over the next year to produce a list of 30 separate threats.

The results show that Americans are overwhelmingly worried about events in the Middle East and North Africa, with seven of the top 11 issues relating to those regions.

Read more

Integrating a million refugees is a daunting task for Europe

Iraqi forces advance on remaining Isis fighters in Ramadi

Woman shouting 'Isis is great' during sex reported to police

Donald Trump adviser under fire after claiming ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** support

Perhaps unsurprisingly the Syrian Civil War is considered the biggest threat to global security in 2016 - not least because of the involvement of the so-called Islamic State terror group.

In a year that has also seen numerous gun massacres across America, US nationals second biggest fear is further mass casualty terror attacks in the country, followed by cyber-attacks on critical military, government and civilian infrastructure.

Kim Jong-un's persistent sabre-rattling has clearly got a large chunk of the American population spooked, as the outbreak of nuclear war with North Korea is considered the fourth biggest issue, while refugee crisis-induced political instability within the European Union comes in at number five.

Elsewhere, violence and instability in Libya, Turkey, Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan, Lebanon, Yemen and Nigeria, and increased tensions between Israel and Palestine and Russia and Ukraine top Americans' concerns.

They are far less concerned with direct conflict with Russia, however, seeing the possibility of armed confrontation between China and Japan in the East China Sea and an escalation of criminal violence in Mexico as considerably bigger threats to global security.

Paul Stares, director of the US Centre for Preventive Action , said the survey should be used as a tool to encourage policy makers to concentrate their efforts on the most pressing global issues.

"Anticipating areas of instability and, in particular, plausible contingencies that could harm US interests can help to trigger early action and thus reduce the likelihood of belated and costly responses," he added.

Mr Stares said the study deliberately avoided economic and environmental factors as the results are too hard to predict, and instead encouraged participants to focus solely on geopolitical concerns.

Those taking part were asked to rank issues from high (meaning likely to trigger US military involvement or threaten strategic resources) to low (meaning limited strategic importance).

TIER I THREATS

Intensification of civil war in Syria

Mass casualty terror attack on the US

Cyber attack on critical infrastructure

Nuclear war with North Korea

Political instability in European Union resulting from migrants and refugees

Violence and instability in Libya

Increased tensions between Israel and Palestine

Political violence in Turkey

Instability in Egypt

Violence in Afghanistan

Fracturing of Iraq

TIER II THREATS

Escalation of crime-related violence in Mexico

Internal violence and stability in Pakistan

Violence and instability in Lebanon

Intensification of conflict in Ukraine

Instability in Lebanon

Civil war in Yemen

Confrontation between US and Iran

Armed confrontation in East China Sea between China and Japan

Dispute in South China Sea

Tensions between Russia and NATO

TIER III THREATS

India-Pakistan military confrontation

Political instability in Saudi Arabia

Violence in Nigeria from Boko Haram

Escalation of extremism in Russia

Civil war in South Sudan

Violence in Central African Republic

Violence in Myanmar

Political instability in Democratic Republic of Congo

**Load-Date:** December 23, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump threatens to pull £700m investment from Scotland if he is refused entry to UK; The tycoon is heading the polls among Republican candidates*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HSV-WB21-F021-61W7-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 6, 2016 Wednesday 7:36 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 618 words

**Byline:** Chris Green, Andrew Buncombe

**Body**

Republican frontrunnerDonald Trump has threatened to withhold £700m of investment in Scotland if he is banned from entering the UK.

As British MPs prepare to debate later this month whether or not the US presidential hopeful should be refused permission, Mr Trump has said any restrictions on his movement to Britain would see him withdraw millions of pounds of investment from golfing projects in Scotland.

The debate in parliament comes after the billionaire presidential candidatecalled for a temporary ban on Muslims entering the US. It was scheduled after more than half a million people signed a government petition.

Donald Trump plans to investment hundreds of millions of dollars in resorts in Scotland

In a statement issued on Wednesday, the Trump Organisation said its plans to invest a total of £700m in the billionaire's two Scottish golf resorts - Trump Turnberry in south Ayrshire and the Trump International Golf Links near Aberdeen - would be suspended if any such measure was taken.

"Any action to restrict travel would force The Trump Organisation to immediately end these and all future investments we are currently contemplating in the United Kingdom," it said.

"Westminster would create a dangerous precedent and send a terrible message to the world that the United Kingdom opposes free speech and has no interest in attracting inward investment."

The company said banning Mr Trump from the UK would also "alienate the many millions of United States citizens who wholeheartedly support Mr Trump".

It added: "Many people now agree with Mr Trump that there is a serious problem that must be resolved. This can only be achieved if we are willing to discuss these tough issues openly and honestly."

Home Secretary Theresa May will make the ultimate decision about Mr Trump

Mr Trump prompted widespread condemnation last month when he suggested there should be a "total and complete" shutdown on Muslims entering the US to prevent terrorist attacks.

He spoke out after a Muslim couple, Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik, attacked a health facility in San Bernardino, California, that left 14 people dead and wounded more than 20.

A poll taken at the time suggested that up to a third of Americans supported Mr Trump's proposals. More than 30 US states - the majority run by Republican governors - said they would do everything in their power to block the settlement of up to 15,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, that President Barack Obama wants to bring to the US.

In the wake of the comments, David Cameron described his comments as "divisive, unhelpful and quite simply wrong" but said the billionaire should not be banned from Britain.

However, Mr Trumps remarks sparked more than 560,000 people signed a petition calling for him to be prevented from travelling to the UK, and on Tuesday the House of Commons petitions committee said a Westminster Hall debate on the issue would be held on 18 January.

Read more

Donald Trump questions Ted Cruz's eligibility to run for US presidency

Donald Trump's ad analysed: Missteps, aesthetics, and impact

MPs set to debate whether to ban Donald Trump from the UK

Despite that, there will be no vote at the end of the debate and it the decision on whether or not to ban Mr Trump will ultimately be decided by Theresa May, the Home Secretary.

Unlike Mr Cameron, Nicola Sturgeon has suggested that excluding Mr Trump from the UK should be considered by the Government. "She agrees that there are laws around people who make certain comments being allowed in and he should be considered in the same way," a spokeswoman for Scotland's First Minister said last month.

**Load-Date:** January 6, 2016

**End of Document**



[*EU in for 'nasty surprise' over 'secret pact' to resettle refugees; Syria air strikes*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HHH-5DJ1-F072-415M-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

December 3, 2015 Thursday

First Edition

Copyright 2015 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 10

**Length:** 602 words

**Byline:** LEO CENDROWICZ IN BRUSSELS AND TONY PATERSON IN BERLIN

**Body**

Germany has struck a secret pact with Turkey for the European Union to take in as many as half a million Syrians currently living in Turkish refugee camps, Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban claimed yesterday.

While EU officials were last night vociferously denying the suggestions of a secret deal with Ankara, they did not dispute that efforts are being made to manage the resettlement of Syrians in Europe more efficiently.

Speaking in Budapest, Mr Orban said an EU agreement on the transfer of refugees from Turkey would be announced in Berlin today or tomorrow. "A nasty surprise lies in wait for Europe," he said.

Mr Orban claimed that the deal was endorsed just before last Sunday's EU-Turkey summit in Brussels, when German Chancellor Angela Merkel hosted a mini-summit with seven other EU leaders prepared to resettle refugees from Turkish camps next year.

While EU officials said the eight leaders - from Germany, Austria, Belgium, Finland, Greece, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, and Sweden - discussed resettling around 400,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Turkey in the EU, they insisted there was nothing secret or new about the proposals. Ms Merkel said on Sunday that the idea was to "replace illegal migration with legal migration??? it's an uphill struggle, but it's well worth the effort".

Resettlement was specifically mentioned in the Euro 3bn deal the EU struck with Turkey on Sunday to help stop the 2.5 million Syrians currently living in Turkish refugee camps from heading to the EU.

European Commission officials said the idea was to eventually bring the refugees to Europe in a managed, open, and voluntarily process - and that recalcitrant countries such as Hungary would not be obliged to join in. "Those member states willing to join this common undertaking will tell us if they would like to be part of this," said one official.

Nonetheless, Mr Orban, who has opposed the idea of EU refugee quotas from the outset, said Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and the Czech Republic would face intense pressure from the EU to take in more refugees. "We cannot accept this," he insisted.

Elizabeth Collett, director of the Migration Policy Institute Europe said the initiative made sense after the painful EU arguments in September on relocation quotas.

"Germany is rightly thinking it does not want a tortuous process of going through the 28 countries," she said.

"This would be a deal that works for both the EU and Turkey: when you resettle, you do it in a pragmatic, humane, managed way that prioritises the most vulnerable."

Ms Collett said Mr Orban was deliberately stirring resentment against both refugees and the EU itself.

Slovakia which has also loudly opposed refugee quotas, yesterday lodged a lawsuit at the European Court of Justice against the EU's relocation scheme, which aims to redistribute 160,000 asylum seekers from Italy and Greece to other EU member states.

Meanwhile, the EU took steps to criminalise people who travel abroad for terrorist purposes, meaning suspects would not have to commit an act of terror to be convicted of terrorism. The move comes as part of a series of new security measures in the wake of the Paris attacks, where several of the terrorists had travelled back and forth to Syria. The proposals unveiled by the Commission would also criminalise the funding, organisation and facilitation of terror-related travel.

\* A beach in the Turkish city of Bodrum is to be renamed after Aylan Kurdi, the Syrian toddler whose lifeless body opened the eyes of Europe to the horror of the refugee crisis. The municipality this week voted to honour the boy, according to the Daily Sabah.

**Load-Date:** December 2, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Cologne attacks: Support for refugees in Germany falling amid far-right protests and vigilante attacks; More Germans surveyed now say the number of asylum seekers in the country is too high*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HVB-45B1-JCJY-G131-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 13, 2016 Wednesday 4:27 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 584 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Germany's welcoming attitude to refugees is fading fast following the New Year's Eve attacks on women in Cologne, according to new research.

In November, just over half of respondents in a YouGov survey said they thought the number of asylum seekers in the country was too high but that figure now stands at 62 per cent.

Protests by far-right anti-Islam groups Pegida and HoGeSa have swept the country this month, despite being met by equal numbers of anti-fascist counter demonstrators.

Hundreds of right-wing protesters went on the rampage in Leipzig on Monday night, smashing windows and launching fireworks, while at least 11 refugees were attacked by a roving mob who had vowed to "clean up" Cologne the previous day.

Read more

Germany sending hundreds of asylum seekers back to Austria every day

Vigilantes attack asylum seekers after vowing to 'clean up' Cologne

Cologne refugees living in fear of backlash

Angela Merkel says Europe is 'vulnerable' to the refugee crisis

The angry scenes are a far cry from the summer, when Angela Merkel lifted asylum restrictions for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** - a decision that led to the arrival of 1.1 million migrants and asylum seekers last year and was credited in part for making the Chancellor

Time's

Person of the Year

.

Her slogan - "wir schaffen das" - meaning "we can do this", has faded with a series of reversals by the Government, which has now reintroduced border controls and is sending hundreds of refugees back to Austria every day.

"Refugees welcome", the summer's other defining slogan, is also heard less and less as attitudes harden following the police's announcement that migrants were largely responsible for the mass sexual assaults and robberies seen on New Year's Eve.

Research by YouGov for Germany's

Bild

newspaper demonstrates the shift. In November, only a slim majority said the arrival figures were two high, while 42 per cent said they were acceptable and a fifth of respondents said the country could welcome more refugees.

The change in opinions over the past five months can be seen in the Statista graphic created for

The Independent

above.

Now, almost two thirds of those surveyed say the number of asylum seekers is too high and only 16 per cent were comfortable with the figures.

German women are more likely than men to oppose the current level of migration, which had not previously been the case, and the New Year's Eve sexual assaults are believed to be the main reason for a 12-point jump.

Anti-sexual violence protesters have also been taking to the streets after police's response to the attacks and Cologne mayor Henriette Reker's controversial proposal of a "code of conduct" for women sparked a new debate about victim-blaming.

At least 19 men are currently under investigation for attacks in the city, including 10 asylum seekers, most of whom arrived in Germany after September.

In response to the alleged assault and robbery of at least 600 victims in Cologne, Ms Merkel has proposed new measures to deny the right of asylum for those who have committed crimes or are on probation in response to calls for change.

Only asylum seekers who have been sentenced to at least three years' imprisonment and will not be at risk in their countries of origin can currently be forcibly deported under German law.

The German cabinet will need to back the plans before a draft law is drawn up.

**Load-Date:** January 13, 2016

**End of Document**



[*#BuyPens: Syrian refugee photographed selling pens to feed children uses crowdfunding to start businesses; Abdul Halim al-Attar is now employing other refugees in the three businesses he started using money raised by well-wishers around the world*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HHK-G421-F021-635S-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

December 3, 2015 Thursday 5:49 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 572 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

A Syrian refugee who was photographed walking the streets of Beirut selling biros to feed his children has used money donated from around the world to employ his fellow asylum seekers.

Abdul Halim al-Attar has been able to set up three businesses in the Lebanese capital using the $191,000 (£127,000) raised by an online crowdfunding campaign.

The 33-year-old father said he was astounded by the outpouring of support after a photo of him selling pens as he carried his sleeping daughter went viral.

Read more

#BuyPens: Refugee pictured selling pens in Beirut says he'll help

Mr al-Attar was not even aware he had been photographed by a passer-by until a member of the public told him the image was spreading around the world.

The photo was first posted on Twitter by Gissur Simonarson, an activist and the founder of Conflict News, who then set up afundraising page to help Abdul and his children start a better life.

Read more

Syrian refugee to use money from #BuyPens campaign to help others

#BuyPens: Refugee pictured selling pens in Beirut says he'll help

'Pen seller of Beirut' may lose quarter of proceeds from viral fund

When it closed three months later, the campaign had collected almost forty times its original target, raising $188,685 (£125,000), and another £1,540 has poured in since then.

Mr al-Attar immediately vowed to use the money to help his fellow refugees and has since opened a bakery, kebab shop and restaurant that employ 16 Syrian asylum seekers.

A Palestinian fighter walks through the rubble of the al-Yarmouk Palestinian refugee camp, south of Damascus, Syria

In an interview with the Associated Press, he said he had also given away about $25,000 (£17,000) to friends and relatives still living in the war-torn country.

"Not only did my life change, but also the lives of my children and the lives of people in Syria whom I helped," he said.

"I had to invest the money, otherwise it will be lost...when God wants to grant you something, you'll get it."

But receiving the funds has been a struggle, with him only collecting 40 per cent of donations so far as PayPay does not operate in Lebanon and the money is being transferred piece by piece by a campaigner in Dubai.

Indiegogo and Paypal also took out about $20,000 (£13,000) in processing and banking fees.

The money has helped him build a better life for his family in Beirut, moving his children from the one room they all shared to a two-bedroom flat.

Four-year-old Reem, who was draped over her father's shoulder in the viral photo, has new toys while her nine-year-old brother, Abdullelah, is back in school after three years unable to attend.

Mr al-Attar and his family had been living in Yarmouk, the Palestinian refugee camp on the southern edge of Damascus, where he was employed at a chocolate factory, when the Syrian civil war broke out.

The camp has been devastated by regime bombing and fighting between Isis and militants, forcing thousands of its residents to flee.

Many left for Lebanon, where there are about 1.2 million registered ***Syrian refugees*** in Lebanon, with two thirds believed to be unemployed.

Mr Al-Attar said he is getting used to his new community, saying Lebanese people and Syrians are more friendly than before.

"They just greet me better now when they see me. They respect me more," he said.

Additional reporting by AP

**Load-Date:** December 3, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Paris killings push world leaders to find solution to Syria crisis; Envoys gather in Vienna for talks to end civil war, but no Syrian representatives at the table*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HCJ-VPD1-F021-64FR-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 14, 2015 Saturday 9:52 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 601 words

**Byline:** Maddy French, Matthew Lee

**Body**

World powers have pushed forward with attempts to find a political solution to the war in Syria, setting a deadline of January 2016 for the Syrian government and recognised opposition groups to talk, with plans for elections and a new constitution within 18 months.

With the events in Paris weighing heavily on diplomatic talks in Vienna, the US Secretary of State John Kerry announced that senior diplomats from 19 nations had agreed to push for the talks and organise ceasefires.

The United Nation's special envoy for Syria, Staffan de Mistura, would also begin immediate work on determining who should sit at any negotiations, he added. Mr Kerry said those talks would lead to an agreement on a transitional government, a new constitution within six months, and then elections within 18 months. The agreement would bring about a "credible, inclusive and non-sectarian" government.

Mr de Mistura said that horrors of Paris had spurred the diplomats to push forward with their plan to end the civil war in Syria. "This is momentum. We can start at any time," he said in a news conference after the deal was announced. "If those in Paris thought they could influence the international community, the response was today."

Before the meeting, Mr Kerry said: "The one thing we could say to those people is that what they do in this is stiffen our resolve, all of us, to fight back, to hold people accountable, and to stand up for rule of law, which is exactly what we are here to do. And if they've done anything, they've encouraged us today to do even harder work to make progress and to help resolve the crises that we face."

Sergei Lavrov, the Russian Foreign Minister, said that the majority of delegates wanted an immediate ceasefire in Syria.

However, important details were not spelt out, and there was no guarantee that Syrian opposition groups and the government would agree to meet. Crucially, the role of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad in any transition remained unresolved.

Mr Assad's place in a future Syria has derailed every attempt to get the opposition and government to end the war, which has lasted four-and-a-half years and in which hundreds of thousands of people have been killed.

The Syrian National Coalition, the US-sponsored opposition in exile, has in the past insisted that the Syrian government agreed to remove the Syrian president before any negotiations take place. The Syrian government has refused to provide any such pre-condition. There were no Syrian representatives at the talks.

Read more

Co-ordinated Paris attacks 'show the fragility of free societies'

The lessons of Mumbai were learned - by the jihadis

How terrorist organisations appeal to alienated young men

How a mild Friday night in Paris plunged into murderous mayhem

However, previous recent rounds of talks in Vienna, which for the first time included representatives from Iran and Saudi Arabia, had failed to get even this far.

Outside the talks, a group of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** showed their support for ending the war, and spoke of their solidarity with the people of Paris after the horrors of 13 November.

A Syrian woman said that a ceasefire was an absolute priority. Holding a poster with the words "We stand with Paris", she said her group had sympathy for the people in France.

"We are standing by them," she said. "Violence must be tackled everywhere and [politicians] should find a way to stop this [Islamic State] violence. But they were too late in Paris."

**Load-Date:** November 14, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Surveillance bill: Government concessions unlikely to head off revolt from Labour and Lib Dem peers; Parties still believe the Bill will amount to what has been denounced as a 'snooper's charter'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H8Y-WCH1-F021-61MN-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 2, 2015 Monday 2:28 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 604 words

**Byline:** Mark Leftly

**Body**

The Government has moved to calm concerns that its new surveillance bill, to be introduced this week, will impinge on civil liberties.

The Liberal Democrats killed the 2012 Draft Communications Data Bill when they shared power with the Conservatives. However, David Cameron and Home Secretary Theresa May are poised to revive what is now known as the Investigatory Powers Bill, which revises 15-year-old legislation, after the Tories secured an outright majority at May's general election.

Read more

New Lords revolt looms over surveillance powers

A government source acknowledged that MPs from all parties, the Royal United Services Institute defence think-tank and David Anderson, the powerful Independent Reviewer of Terrorism legislation, have worried about how the proposals could lead to the state snooping on individuals through their online histories. But the source insisted that certain measures from three years ago, such as demanding that UK-based internet firms keep data that crosses their networks from overseas companies, had been dropped.

The Bill is also expected to enshrine journalists' rights to protect their sources, while police will not be allowed to check everybody's web browsing histories. There will also be no government restriction or ban on encryption, as some critics, who believed this contravened people's right to privacy, had feared.

Home Secretary Theresa May will introduce the new Bill this week (Getty)

The source said: "We're absolutely clear that key parts of the original plans from 2012 will be dropped from the new Bill. We know these powers are needed as technology changes and terrorists and criminals use ever more sophisticated ways to communicate. But we need to give people the reassurance that not only are they needed, but that they are only ever used in a necessary, proportionate and accountable way."

However, the concessions are unlikely to prevent a Labour and Lib Dem revolt in the House of Lords, just a week after their peers wrecked the Government's tax credit cut plans. The parties are worried that ministers, rather than judges, will have the power to issue warrants for phone-tapping or online surveillance and still believe the Bill will amount to what has been denounced as a "snooper's charter".

Read more

Police 'to be given powers to view everyone's entire internet history'

If they defeat the Government again, there will be further outcry from Conservative MPs who believe the House of Lords is breaking constitutional convention, with an appointed chamber overruling the democratically elected House of Commons.

The Government is also trying to counter criticisms that it has not done enough to help ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. On 1 November, International Development Secretary Justine Greening will pledge £5m to the Start Network, a coalition of humanitarian agencies including Christian Aid and Save the Children, for people who have travelled to the western Balkan countries such as Greece and Serbia.

This will help fund supplies, such as towels and nappies, and is in addition to £20m handed to other organisations including the International Red Cross. But political opponents do not believe the UK has accepted enough refugees. Last week, Lib Dem leader Tim Farron called on the Government to provide homes for 3,000 unaccompanied children.

Ms Greening said: "Syrian children and their families face worsening winter conditions, many dressed in nothing but the light summer clothes they escaped in. Some are forced to sleep in the open so this latest assistance from the UK - food, water and sleeping bags - is badly needed."

**Load-Date:** November 2, 2015

**End of Document**



[*America's biggest fears revealed: War in Syria, homegrown terror and nuclear conflict with North Korea top 2016 list; Results show Americans are overwhelmingly worried about events in the Middle East and North Africa*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HNV-7711-JCJY-G28W-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

December 23, 2015 Wednesday 12:33 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 667 words

**Byline:** John Hall

**Body**

An escalation in the Syrian war, further terror attacks on US soil and nuclear war with North Korea are some ofbiggest concerns heading into 2016, a new study has revealed.

The Council on Foreign Relationsin the US asked 1,000 members of the public what they feel are the most significant challenges facing the world over the next year to produce a list of 30 separate threats.

The results show that Americans are overwhelmingly worried about events in the Middle East and North Africa -with seven of the top 11 issues relating to those regions.

Read more

Integrating a million refugees is a daunting task for Europe

Iraqi forces advance on remaining Isis fighters in Ramadi

Woman shouting 'Isis is great' during sex reported to police

Donald Trump adviser under fire after claiming ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** support

Perhaps unsurprisingly the Syrian war is considered the biggest threat to global security in 2016 - not least because of the involvement of the so-called Islamic State terror group.

In a year that has also seen numerous gun massacres across America, US nationals second biggest fear is further mass casualty terror attacks in the country, followed by cyber-attacks on critical military, government and civilian infrastructure.

Kim Jong-un's persistent sabre-rattling has clearly got a large chunk of the American population spooked, as the outbreak of nuclear war with North Korea is considered the fourth biggest issue, while refugee crisis-induced political instability within the European Union comes in at number five.

Elsewhere, violence and instability in Libya, Turkey, Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan, Lebanon, Yemen and Nigeria, and increased tensions between Israel and Palestine and Russia and Ukraine top Americans' concerns.

They are far less concerned with direct conflict with Russia, however, seeing the possibility of armed confrontation between China and Japan in the East China Sea and an escalation of criminal violence in Mexico as considerably bigger threats to global security.

Paul Stares, director of the US Centre for Preventive Action , said the survey should be used as a tool to encourage policy makers to concentrate their efforts on the most pressing global issues.

"Anticipating areas of instability and, in particular, plausible contingencies that could harm US interests can help to trigger early action and thus reduce the likelihood of belated and costly responses," he added.

Mr Stares said the study deliberately avoided economic and environmental factors as the results are too hard to predict, and instead encouraged participants to focus solely on geopolitical concerns.

Those taking part were asked to rank issues from high (meaning likely to trigger US military involvement or threaten strategic resources) to low (meaning limited strategic importance).

TIER I THREATS

Intensification of civil war in Syria

Mass casualty terror attack on the US

Cyber attack on critical infrastructure

Nuclear war with North Korea

Political instability in European Union resulting from migrants and refugees

Violence and instability in Libya

Increased tensions between Israel and Palestine

Political violence in Turkey

Instability in Egypt

Violence in Afghanistan

Fracturing of Iraq

TIER II THREATS

Escalation of crime-related violence in Mexico

Internal violence and stability in Pakistan

Violence and instability in Lebanon

Intensification of conflict in Ukraine

Instability in Lebanon

Civil war in Yemen

Confrontation between US and Iran

Armed confrontation in East China Sea between China and Japan

Dispute in South China Sea

Tensions between Russia and NATO

TIER III THREATS

India-Pakistan military confrontation

Political instability in Saudi Arabia

Violence in Nigeria from Boko Haram

Escalation of extremism in Russia

Civil war in South Sudan

Violence in Central African Republic

Violence in Myanmar

Political instability in Democratic Republic of Congo

**Load-Date:** December 23, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Paris attacks: These are the Muslim victims of the Paris killings; So far, five Muslims have been named as victims of Friday's attacks*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HDC-RR11-JCJY-G390-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 18, 2015 Wednesday 4:47 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 606 words

**Byline:** Doug Bolton

**Body**

Five Muslims were amongthe 129 people killed by terrorists in Paris on Friday night - one of them shot dead while celebrating her birthday in a local restaurant.

Read more

French government identifies all 129 people killed in Paris attacks

French authorities announced on Wednesday that all of those killed in Friday's attacks have now been identified, with the families of over 100 victims travelling to Paris to identify their loved ones.

Not all the victims have yet been named, but there are at least five Muslims among the dead.

Houda Saadi, who was of Tunisian descent, was celebrating her 35th birthday at the La Belle Equipe café where she worked in Paris' 11th arrondissement.

Tous les Tunisiens sont les deux soeurs Halima et Houda Saadi, tuées par balles à Paris le 13/11/15. pic.twitter.com/uQYTCKSWHy

- soleil444 (@soleil444) November 14, 2015

Celebrating with her was her sister, Halima, and her brothers, Khaled and Abdallah.

When a gunman arrived and started spraying the café with bullets, Halima was killed instantly, with Houda dying from her injuries later. Both brothers survived.

Another victim at La Belle Equipe was Djamila Houd, a 41-year-old receptionist. According to her sister Tassadit, who was quoted inl'Echo Republicain, her freedom and personality made her "a symbol these fanatics want to destroy." She is survived by an eight-month-old daughter.

Djamila Houd, 41, was killed at La Belle Equipe

At around the same time, Kherieddine Sahbi, an Algerian who had come to Paris to study ethnomusicology, was killed as he walked home.

A talented violinist, he was a student at Paris' prestigious Sorbonne university.

Repose en paix mon ami Didine Having a face, to put to a name. #KheireddineSahbi#Algeria#ParisAttackspic.twitter.com/8U5EagHPve

- Elyes Antri (@ElyesAntri) November 17, 2015

Asta Diakité was another Muslim who was killed over the course of Friday night.

Read more

England v France homage to Paris leads to outpouring of gratitude

Support slumps for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Britain after Paris attacks

Death of Diesel the police dog sparks #jesuischien Twitter trend

French government identifies all 129 people killed in Paris attacks

She was the cousin of Lassana Diarra - a professional footballer for the French national team, who played both in the France-Germany match that was interrupted by the bombing near the Stade de France, and in the emotional England-France gameat Wembley Stadium on Tuesday night.

Asta Diakité's cousin went on to play football for France against England three days after he death

Writing on Facebook, Diarra said of his cousin: "She was my rock, my supporter, my older sister."

Also killed was Mohamed Amine Benmbarek - a Moroccan architect, who designed buildings an taught at the Paris-Malaquais architecture school.

Mohamed Amine Benmbarek , jeune architecte marocain abattu à Paris .Allah y rahmou pic.twitter.com/B2lfvwaXo2

- Aymane (@aymane729) November 16, 2015

He was shot while sitting on the terrace of Le Carillon café with his wife, who survived the attack.

As they did after the Charlie Hebdo attacks in January, many French Muslims have grown worried about the possibility of anti-Muslim reprisals in the wake of the latest killings.

Many others have publicly denounced the attacks, just like all other French people - a group called the Muslim Students of France created a powerful video addressing the attacks, quoting a passage from the Quran, "Whosoever takes one life, it is as though he has killed all of humanity."

**Load-Date:** November 18, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: UK to receive 1,000 Syrians by Christmas - but is it enough?; The first charter flight bringing refugees from Syrian border camps will arrive next week*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HBW-4951-JCJY-G3F1-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 11, 2015 Wednesday 10:55 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HOME NEWS

**Length:** 602 words

**Byline:** Adam Withnall

**Body**

The first in a series of charter flights bringing ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** to Britain will arrive next week, the Home Office has said, making the UK on track to take in 1,000 people by Christmas.

It's a major milestone on the way to the UK taking in 20,000 of the most vulnerable refugees by the end of the current Parliament, a target which will ultimately require around 400 arrivals a month.

David Cameron pledged to take in that number amid a public outcry following the publication of pictures of drowned three-year-old Aylan Kurdi, and a campaign by The Independent which urged the Prime Minister to "no longer turn a blind eye to the refugees' plight".

Britain has refused to commit to taking refugees who have already arrived in Italy or Greece under an EU relocation scheme, instead offering homes to those deemed the most in need by UN officials on Syrian border camps.

Speaking to a Commons committee, the Home Office permanent secretary MarkSedwill admitted that the UK faces only "a tiny fraction" of those seen in other EU states.

Under the first phase of the EU scheme to rehome 120,000, countries across the bloc have agreed to take in numbers of refugees which vary based on their size, GDP and other factors.

Not all of the first tranche of people will be given new homes before the end of this year, but the European commission has said it recognises "the urgency of the situation" with hundreds more people arriving every day.

Germany will take in more than 17,000 people in the first phase of the EU programme. But outside the official relocations, Angela Merkel's government could face as many as 1.1 million refugee arrivals by the end of the year.

Read more

Europe's leaders meet to tackle crisis for the sixth time this year

Merkel set to curb Germany's open-door policy

Refugee crisis bringing 'sizable' economic benefits, EU says

Western promises of help insufficient as refugees face bleak winter

According to a new estimate from the Munich-based Ifo institute, the cost of housing, feeding and educating hundreds of thousands of asylum-seekers could rise to more than (EURO)21bn (£14.9bn) this year.

In Sweden, the country's migration agency has announced that it expects to have received up to 190,000 asylum seekers by the end of 2015, more than twice the number of previous estimates.

It said that despite worsening weather, 10,000 people are arriving every week compared to 4,000 during the summer.

MrSedwill- the Home Office's most senior civil servant - said Britain was on track to meet Mr Cameron's relatively modest commitment.

"The Prime Minister has set us a target for the new scheme of 1,000 by Christmas and plans are in place for that," he said.

"The first charter flight is due to arrive next week. There are a series of charter flights over the next few weeks in order to meet that objective."

The official said there were "great uncertainties" regarding exactly how and when refugees would arrive.

"We are dealing with very vulnerable people from the camps," he said. "But we have got plans in place. The old scheme - good scheme though it was - wasn't designed for the kind of numbers we are planning to bring in. We have expanded the categories we will receive in the UK."

Those who arrive in Britain under the scheme will not be granted full refugee status. Instead, they will be granted humanitarian protection - including the right to work - for five years, after which they have to apply for permanent residence if they want to stay.

**Load-Date:** November 11, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Cohesion matters; Editorials Disaffection spurred the Paris attacks; the integration of immigrants through education is paramount, here as well*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HD9-KKG1-F072-4035-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

November 18, 2015 Wednesday

First Edition

Copyright 2015 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 2

**Length:** 569 words

**Body**

Yesterday's arrival in Glasgow of a flight carrying ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** marks the beginning of the UK's commitment to resettle vulnerable families and individuals fleeing civil war. It is an important milestone and we must hope the Government meets its target of welcoming a thousand refugees before Christmas. Last week's outrages in Paris must not change Britain's plans to offer succour to people in need.

Those who are given the opportunity to start a new life in this country will undergo hefty security screening. That should reassure locals made anxious by the "Trojan horse" theory - as yet unproved - that one of Friday's killers came into Europe posing as a refugee. We should have nothing to fear from people who have been driven here by terror and will arrive full of hope. We should offer them support, not suspicion.

A welcoming attitude will be vital if the 20,000 refugees due in Britain by 2020 are to play a full part in this nation's civic life. Integration is at the heart of combating the drift towards radicalism which can lead some immigrants to turn their back on the West. Already it is clear that it was young French men who were at the forefront of the attacks in Paris last Friday: youths radicalised by alienation from the state in which they were born or grew up. We saw the same in this country with the London bombings a decade ago.

Since then, assimilation of immigrant communities has become a priority in Britain - and that is why minister after minister has focused on the importance of language skills, of education and of community engagement. The rhetoric doesn't always match up to reality - cuts to English language courses have been particularly galling. Nonetheless, there is at least a recognition of the importance of integration - for first-generation immigrants and beyond.

A new study by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) indicates that the UK has been relatively successful in fostering a sense of belonging, especially among young people. Among first-generation immigrant students in this country, more than 84 per cent reported feeling "like they belong" at school. This seems indicative of a wider sense of Britishness among immigrant communities. Indeed, a 2012 report to the Government's Migration Advisory Committee found that recent and established immigrants were for the most part as likely as white Britons to report a feeling of belonging to Britain.

The contrast with France is striking. The OECD study found only 43 per cent of students who were first-generation immigrants felt they belonged at school, and among the second generation that proportion fell to 39.5 per cent.

In these dark days following Friday's attack it is hard to start examining how such brutal atrocities could take place at the hands of French citizens. There can surely be no simple answer. Yet for those with knowledge of the banlieues, the OECD's data will add fuel to the notion that communities in some French cities are horribly fractured, tempting hopeless men to a life of religious extremism.

Efforts here to encourage integration might offer lessons to the French government in the years ahead. But it is vital, too, that political leaders in the UK remain committed to policies that promote cohesion. This week we may all be French, but next week we will all be British again. It is vital that everyone living in this country feels like they belong.

**Load-Date:** November 17, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Paris terror: These are the Muslim victims of the France attacks; A talented violinist, an architect and the mother of aneight-month-old daughter are among those killed*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HDD-91R1-JCJY-G48P-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 18, 2015 Wednesday 6:43 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 599 words

**Byline:** Doug Bolton

**Body**

Five Muslims were amongthe 129 people killed by terrorists in Paris on Friday night - one of them shot dead while celebrating her birthday in a local restaurant.

Read more

French government identifies all 129 people killed in Paris attacks

French authorities announced on Wednesday that all of those killed in Friday's attacks have now been identified, with the families of over 100 victims travelling to Paris to identify their loved ones.

Not all the victims have yet been named, but there are at least five Muslims among the dead.

Houda Saadi, who was of Tunisian descent, was celebrating her 35th birthday at the La Belle Equipe café where she worked in Paris' 11th arrondissement.

Tous les Tunisiens sont les deux soeurs Halima et Houda Saadi, tuées par balles à Paris le 13/11/15. pic.twitter.com/uQYTCKSWHy

- soleil444 (@soleil444) November 14, 2015

Celebrating with her was her sister, Halima, and her brothers, Khaled and Abdallah.

When a gunman arrived and started spraying the café with bullets, Halima was killed instantly, with Houda dying from her injuries later. Both brothers survived.

Another victim at La Belle Equipe was Djamila Houd, a 41-year-old receptionist. According to her sister Tassadit, who was quoted inl'Echo Republicain, her freedom and personality made her "a symbol these fanatics want to destroy." She is survived by an eight-month-old daughter.

Djamila

Houd

, 41, was killed at La Belle

Equipe

At around the same time, Kherieddine Sahbi, an Algerian who had come to Paris to study ethnomusicology, was killed as he walked home.

A talented violinist, he was a student at Paris' prestigious Sorbonne university.

Repose en paix mon ami Didine Having a face, to put to a name. #KheireddineSahbi#Algeria#ParisAttackspic.twitter.com/8U5EagHPve

- Elyes Antri (@ElyesAntri) November 17, 2015

Asta Diakité was another Muslim who was killed over the course of Friday night.

Read more

England v France homage to Paris leads to outpouring of gratitude

Support slumps for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Britain after Paris attacks

Death of Diesel the police dog sparks #

jesuischien

Twitter trend

French government identifies all 129 people killed in Paris attacks

She was the cousin of Lassana Diarra - a professional footballer for the French national team, who played both in the France-Germany match that was interrupted by the bombing near the Stade de France, and in the emotional England-France gameat Wembley Stadium on Tuesday night.

Asta

Diakité's

cousin went on to play football for France against England three days after he death

Writing on Facebook, Diarra said of his cousin: "She was my rock, my supporter, my older sister."

Also killed was Mohamed Amine Benmbarek - a Moroccan architect, who designed buildings an taught at the Paris-Malaquais architecture school.

Mohamed Amine Benmbarek , jeune architecte marocain abattu à Paris .Allah y rahmou pic.twitter.com/B2lfvwaXo2

- Aymane (@aymane729) November 16, 2015

He was shot while sitting on the terrace of Le Carillon café with his wife, who survived the attack.

As they did after the Charlie Hebdo attacks in January, many French Muslims have grown worried about the possibility of anti-Muslim reprisals in the wake of the latest killings.

Many others have publicly denounced the attacks, just like all other French people - a group called the Muslim Students of France created a powerful video addressing the attacks, quoting a passage from the Quran, "Whosoever takes one life, it is as though he has killed all of humanity."

**Load-Date:** November 18, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump labelled a 'fascist' by Republican presidential rivals after mocking disabled reporter during campaign rally; Billionaire under fire over impersonation of New York Times reporter Serge Kovaleskiwho suffers from arthrogryposis*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HG4-2HK1-F021-62MW-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 26, 2015 Thursday 7:04 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 621 words

**Byline:** Tim Walker

**Body**

The reality television star and Republican presidential frontrunner Donald Trump stoked controversy yet again this week, when he mocked a journalist with a chronic congenital condition during a campaign rally in South Carolina. The real estate mogul flailed his arms stiffly as he imitated Serge Kovaleski, a

New York Times

reporter who suffers from arthrogryposis, which limits joint movement.

Read more

Could Donald Trump really become the first internet President?

Mr Kovaleski had provoked The Donald's ire by disputing his claim to have witnessed "thousands" of Arab-Americans in New Jersey cheering as the World Trade Centre crumbled on 11 September 2001 - a long-discredited conspiracy theory, for which Mr Trump failed to present a scrap of evidence. "The sad part about it is, it didn't in the slightest bit jar or surprise me that Donald Trump would do something this low-rent, given his track record," Mr Kovaleski told

The Washington Post

.

Last weekend Mr Trump appeared to applaud his own supporters as they assaulted a Black Lives Matter activist during one of his campaign appearances. He subsequently appeared to tweet a set of false crime statistics suggesting 81 per cent of white murder victims were killed by black people; it was left to Bill O'Reilly of

Fox News

to tell him that the figures were incorrect.

#BlackLivesMatter Activist Thrown to the Floor at Trump Rally

This week, Mr Trump warned that President Barack Obama intends to allow 250,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** to enter the US next year; the actual figure is 10,000. He called for the resumption of waterboarding to combat Isis and - most troubling of all - said he would support the establishment of a database to register Muslims in the US.

The New York Times

criticised the candidate for his "racist lies", but others have begun to use a different word: fascism.

Max Boot, a military historian who advises Trump's Republican rival Marco Rubio on foreign policy, wrote on Twitter: "Trump is a fascist. And that's not a term I use loosely or often. But he's earned it." John Noonan, a national security adviser to Jeb Bush, tweeted: "Forced federal registration of US citizens, based on religious identity, is fascism. Period."

Read more

Americans tweet Donald Trump their 'Muslim IDs'

Donald Trump says he would bring back waterboarding

Black protester thrown to the ground and punched at Donald Trump rally

Mexican theatre troupe lampoons Donald Trump - the gringo bogeyman

Picture of journalist sat on Donald Trump's lap criticised

Jim Gilmore, a former Governor of Virginia, who is also running for the Republican nomination, said in an interview that Mr Trump's proposed immigration policies sounded like "fascist talk"; while Ohio's Governor, John Kasich, is running a campaign ad that conflates Mr Trump's rhetoric with Nazi Germany, paraphrasing the famous "First they came..." poem by the German pastor Martin Niemöller.

It isn't just Mr Trump's campaign rivals who have mentioned the "F-word". An editorial in

The Seattle Times

argued that "Trump's campaign message reflects a kind of creeping fascism," while Slate's chief political correspondent, Jamelle Bouie, wrote in an op-ed: "The rhetoric of fascism is here. And increasingly, the policies are too. The only thing left is the violence."

Despite the criticism, Mr Trump remains well ahead of his fellow Republican contenders in recent national polls; a

Washington Post

/

ABC News

poll this week put his support at 33 per cent, 10 points clear of his closest rival, the retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson.

**Load-Date:** November 26, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Sonny Bill Williams video: New Zealand star gives Rugby World Cup medal to young boy and is presented with replacement at award ceremony; Young Charlie Lines was trying to celebrate with the victorious All Blacks side when security tackled him to the ground*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H8T-7211-JCJY-G0NF-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 1, 2015 Sunday 9:06 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** INTERNATIONAL

**Length:** 548 words

**Byline:** Jack de Menezes

**Body**

Sonny Bill Williams is already a hero to many in New Zealand, and adding a second Rugby World Cup to his CV only goes to strengthen that status, but what he did immediately after the final whistle was truly incredible.

The All Blacks centre collected his winners medal alongside his team-mates, only to give it away to a young boy who had been knocked to the ground by security after trying to reach Williams on the field.

Young Charlie Lines was said to have been flattened after trying to reach Williams, the the cross-code sensation clearly took a liking to his determination to join in the celebrations as he found him in the stands and gave him his gold winners' medal.

Sonny Bill Williams gives his Rugby World Cup medal to a young fan

Young rugby fan Charlie Lines can't believe his luck when he receives Williams' medal

Watch the video below...

The kind gesture comes after Williams is believed to have offered two tickets to the All Blacks' semi-final victory over South Africa last weekend to ***Syrian*** ***refugees***.

"A young fella snuck on the field somehow but when he was coming up to give me a hug, he got smoked by a security guard, full-on tackled him," Williams said afterwards.

"He was only eight and the other fella was a full-on man, so it looked like he would break his ribs or something.

"The moment probably just got the better of him but he was just so excited to get on the field with the All Blacks. I thought I'd make it a night to remember for him, rather than my medal being hanging up at home or something like that."

Read more

All Blacks retain the Rugby World Cup in thrilling win over Wallabies

"It will be hanging around that young guy's neck and he can tell that story for years to come. He might be a future All Black!

"The bonds that we have as brothers in the changing room are the most important thing," added Williams, insisting he wouldn't regret the gesture.

"The medal represents the win, but going in and seeing the smiles on the boys faces, knowing that we've accomplished something no other All Blacks team has done, is pretty special."

However, in the true spirit of the game, World Rugby presented Williams with a second medal at the World Rugby Awards in honour of his kind gesture, with the All Black international receiving a standing ovation from those in attendance.

Watch the video below...

.@SonnyBWilliams receiving his new @rugbyworldcup winners' medal to a standing ovation at the #WorldRugbyAwardspic.twitter.com/poQuZyvUn2

- World Rugby (@WorldRugby) November 1, 2015

Williams needed barely two minutes to make his impact on the game after coming on at half-time for Conrad Smith, with his over-the-head offload releasing Ma'a Nonu to score a try for the defending champions and stretch the lead to 21-3.

Read more

Rugby World Cup 2015's most memorable moments

Hansen labels McCaw the 'greatest All Black ever'

Player ratings: Carter shines on his All Blacks swansong

Despite fighting back to within four points, Australia weren't able to catch their rivals as they secured a 34-17 victory to claim back-to-back World Cop successes and become the First Nation to lift the Webb Ellis Cup three times in the 28-year history of the tournament.

**Load-Date:** November 1, 2015

**End of Document**



[*'I love my dog, I need her': Syrian refugee, 17, walks than 300 miles carrying pet to Europe; Aslan, who fled the war Damascus, said he could not leave his pet behind*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H0M-P2D1-F021-606H-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 24, 2015 Thursday 12:09 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 559 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

A 17-year-old Syrian refugee has walked more than 300 miles carrying his pet dog after he could not bear to leave the animal in his war-torn homeland.

Aslan, from Damascus, was interviewed by the UN's refugee agency (UNHCR) after arriving on the Greek island of Lesbos.

Holding the tiny dog as it yapped happily in his arms, he said: "I love this dog, I need her."

I love my dog!

"Some people will ask - you have only a small bag?""Yes.""And you bring your dog?""Yes.""Why?""I love my dog!"Many animal lovers will relate to this 17-year-old boy from Damascus, Syria. And we've seen many like him carrying their animals with them on the long journey from Syria, across the Mediterranean Sea and through Europe. When forced to flee home because of war, many people would never dream of leaving their pets behind.

Posted by UNHCR on Saturday, 19 September 2015

The teenager said he had walked at least 310 miles (500km) carrying all his belongings in a rucksack, and holding the dog in a red carrier.

"The dog is Rose," Aslan said, holding up his pet's animal passport, before giving her a drink from his water bottle.

"They said 'you can't take your dog'. I have food and I have water, I have everything."

When asked by aid workers why he did not leave Rose in Syria, he replied: "I love my dog."

A spokesperson for the UNHCR said it had seen "many" refugees like Aslan carrying their animals with them on dangerous journeys from the Middle East, across the Mediterranean and onwards through Europe.

Read more

Five-year-old girl dies in boat tragedy

The British family saving refugees' lives on Lesbos

One refugee boy's journey across Europe

"When forced to flee home because of war, many people would never dream of leaving their pets behind," she added.

Of the 300,000 refugees and migrants who have arrived in Greece so far this year, more than 93,000 have landed in Lesbos, where the infrastructure is unable to cope.

Aslan was continuing his journey from the Greek island of Lesbos, into Europe with Rose

A British family is leading a group of volunteers helping the thousands of asylum seekers who arrive every day on the island's northern coast.

Eric Kempson, 60, has worked with his wife and teenage daughter to transform their home into an impromptu base of operations for humanitarian efforts.

"I'm here and I'm a human being," he told

The Independent

. "When you see these babies suffering you can't just watch."

A five-year-old girl was among more than a dozen ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** believed to have died on Saturday when their dinghy sank on the way from Turkey to the island.

Many of the refugees and migrants reaching Greek islands continue their journey through the Western Balkan route, which is becoming increasingly difficult after Hungary closed its border with Serbia and other countries started increasing controls.

The UN estimates that 80 per cent of the people entering Europe through the Balkans are from Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq, with the remainder from a range of countries including Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burundi and in Sub-Saharan Africa.

According to UNHCR figures, more than 442,440 people have crossed the Mediterranean Sea to Europe so far this year and 2,921 have died attempting the voyage.

**Load-Date:** September 24, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Donald Macintyre's Sketch: Jeremy Corbyn as champion of White Van Man - what next?; The delegates got what they wanted after a crushing electoral defeat: a speech which spoke triumphantly to their hearts*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H1R-VVD1-JCJY-G04M-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 29, 2015 Tuesday 9:09 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 591 words

**Byline:** donald macintyre

**Body**

In an almost lyrical passage, Jeremy Corbyn described how on "one of the proudest days of my life" he had cycled home from Parliament at 5am "having voted for the national minimum wage legislation".

For a nanosecond it seemed as if he might be about to acknowledge the Blair/Brown government that had brought it in.

This was fantasy, of course. Despite his genuinely warm tributes to his leadership rivals, including the Blairite Liz Kendall, that would have been a unity pitch too far.

Indeed, the only Labour leaders he praised - apart from the interim leader Harriet Harman - were the first and the most recent: Keir Hardie and Ed Miliband. Even Clement Attlee, who unlike the other two won elections, was not in the pantheon.

But having queued patiently for two hours, the delegates got what they wanted after a crushing electoral defeat, which Corbyn didn't mention, let alone analyse: a speech which spoke triumphantly to their hearts.

OK, there were a few scrambled metaphors. Declaring that young and old alike were "fizzing" with ideas, he suggested: "Let's give them the space for that fizz to explode into the joy we want of a better society." This was hard to follow, possibly because generally the more space fizz has, the less likely it is to explode.

And then there was "autocuegate"! In a well-deserved sideswipe at the SNP Scottish government for cutting college places to pay for free tuition, he declared: "STRONG MESSAGE HERE." Since this faintly jarring phrase wasn't in the printed text, it was hard to escape the conclusion that it had been a stage direction on the teleprompter.

Read more

Corbyn missed his chance to cast a spell over the party faithful

Corbyn accuses Tories of an 'absurd lie' over cuts to tax credits

Britain still needs to do more to help ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, says Corbyn

Corbyn kicks off new politics with passages rejected by other leaders

5 things we've learnt about Jeremy Corbyn's 'honest' politics

But his occasional stumbles with this engine of modern politics - which Miliband had eschewed at his peril - made zero difference to his ecstatic reception. It was if he had finally liberated the delegates from the collective straitjacket that had stifled them for two decades.

Some of his strongest lines, resonating in the hall and maybe beyond, served up, if not the old-time religion, then at least its "modern left" version. As in "isn't it curious that globalisation always means low wages for poor people, but is used to justify massive payments to top chief executives?" And the "kinder, more inclusive" politics".

He got a mid-speech ovation for vigorously denouncing misogynistic "cyber-bullying" - a point originally raised by Yvette Cooper.

Though quite when the endless internal debate he envisages will produce firm policies is less clear. Maybe there was a clue in the last three words of his "I am not leader who wants to impose leadership lines all the time."

For all his already famous unspunness he was not wholly, well, unspun. He wore a tie if not a suit. There were a couple of OKish pre-scripted jokes - including at the expense of his "Chairman Mao-style bicycle", as the press had described it.

And he skilfully made a naked pitch to the "self-employed" and "entrepreneurs". Of all the unpredictable twists of recent months, this was among the most unpredictable: Corbyn as champion of White Van Man.

**Load-Date:** September 29, 2015

**End of Document**



[*The picture that shows how desperate refugees are to enter the EU; The migrant was rushed to hospital after wedging himself behind the car's engine block and radiator*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GTS-36K1-F021-6047-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 1, 2015 Tuesday 8:58 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 586 words

**Byline:** Alexandra Sims, Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

A picture of an African man trying to smuggle himself into Spain by squeezing himself behind a car engine shows the desperate lengths migrants are taking to flee persecution, civil war and poverty.

The man was discovered by Spanish boarder police in a bad state of health due searing temperatures and petrol fumes from cramming himself behind the car's engine block and radiator.

The refugee who is reportedly from Guinea in West Africa was making his way from Morocco into the Spanish enclave of Ceuta, one of two North African territories owned by Madrid, according to<em class="italic" /><em class="italic">Europa Press.

A second refugee, also from Guinea, was discovered behind one of the seats inside the car.

The pair, identified only by their initials T.D. and A.B, have been taken to a local hospital suffering from cramp and dehydration. The car's driver has been arrested.

Doctors have said that smuggling attempt could have been fatal if the refugees had been left inside the restricted spaces any longer.

The number of people migrating to European countries from Africa and the Middle East, including Syria, Eritrea, Iraq and Afghanistan, has risen dramatically in recent months, with many escaping conflict as refugees.

In recent weeks, there have been flashpoints between refugees and police in Greece, Serbia, Macedonia and, most recently, Hungary.

On Tuesday, hundreds of migrants were stranded in Budapest after police stopped trains leaving for Austria and Germany in a bid to stop them travelling onwards.

Authorities reportedly halted westbound departures from Keleti station for more than an hour this morning, with an announcement over its loudspeakers saying that the measure would be in effect for an undetermined period of time.

Hundreds of migrants and asylum seekers were ordered to leave the building, including many who had spent hundreds of euros on tickets.

Chanting "Germany Germany" at budapest Keleti train station pic.twitter.com/Okm5XqUkA2- gultuysuz (@gultuysuz) September 1, 2015

Photos showed men and women, some with young children, waving their tickets in the air outside the station as they chanted "Germany, Germany".

Although the station was later reopened, migrants were barred from entering by lines of police with batons and riot helmets and they were left sitting on the pavement outside, facing a temporary blockade.

An emergency meeting has been called for 14 September to address the crisis, in which over 300,000 people have cross the Mediterranean this year and thousands more are bellived to be crossing to Europe by land through the Balkans.

Read more: Police arrest 15 men for smuggling migrants on the back of jet-skis near MarbellaMore than 11,000 Icelanders offer to house ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** to help European crisisAsylum seekers using bikes to enter Europe at remote Norway border post

Several EU states, including many in eastern Europe rejected proposals to distribute 40,000 asylum seekers according to a new quota system in June.

Hungary, a main gateway to the EU for asylum seekers from countries including Syria and Afghanistan, received international criticism for erecting a 100 mile-long barbed wire fence along its border with Serbia.

In pictures: Hundreds of migrants stranded in Budapest

German Chancellor Angela Merkel has warned that the "Europe we want" will fade if some countries continue to demand the reintroduction of border controls rather than taking in refugees.

Germany expects to receive more than 800,000 refugees this year, more than any other EU nation.

**Load-Date:** September 1, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Calais and beyond; Editorials The refugee problem will be solved not across the Channel but in the countries the migrants are leaving behind*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GRB-2111-JCS0-D19F-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

August 21, 2015 Friday

First Edition

Copyright 2015 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 2

**Length:** 583 words

**Body**

If nothing else, the Home Secretary, Theresa May, showed that the British talent for understatement is alive and well when she remarked yesterday that Calais has had a "difficult summer". In signing an agreement with her French counterpart to take more co-ordinated and effective action to deal with some of the roots of the problem, she and the French government also displayed a refreshing willingness to work together rather than trade cross-Channel insults. They also showed a readiness to take seriously the smuggling gangs, throughout Europe and some from Britain, that have done so much to create human misery.

So the "command and control centre" and joint police action are welcome. It would be churlish to complain that these arrangements should have been put in place many months - if not years - ago. Improving the capacity of the authorities to deal with people who are putting themselves and others in danger by getting into lorries or trying to walk through the Channel Tunnel is an unalloyed good. Even if a generous view is taken of the case for allowing more of these migrants into Britain - not least because the proportion accepted here is small compared with those being offered help by other European partners, notably Germany - there is a right way to do it, via an orderly process of assessment, and a disorderly way to do it, as at Calais.

It is no way to treat human beings, and the constant stream of images of the chaos at Calais undermines confidence in the case for managed migration - and, indeed, the credibility of the European Union. To put things at their most mercenary, a referendum on the UK remaining in the EU is more likely to be won if the British people have confidence that governments in Italy, Greece and France and elsewhere are co??'operating properly. Slovakia's recent refusal to accept migrants who are Muslim, but to permit Christians and atheists to enter, sends out a gruesome message.

So, the sooner the Anglo-French force "relentlessly pursues and disrupts the callous criminal gangs that facilitate and profit from the smuggling of vulnerable people, often with total disregard for their lives", the better. The suspicion, however, is that there are more powerful fundamental forces driving these movements of people.

Although dramatic, events at Calais are nothing new; immigrants have been moving from places of war and poverty to those of peace and prosperity for millennia. The likelihood is that, if Calais becomes a much harder place to get into the UK from, then other routes will be opened up. They may be other channel ports, or more sophisticated forgeries of documents, or more would-be migrants overstaying tourist visas, or more " students" enrolling at bogus colleges and so on.

Of course, the really acute migrant crises are taking place elsewhere. Countries such as Lebanon and Jordan are, for example, dealing with the effects of the barbaric waves of violence sweeping across Syria and Iraq. There are one million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Lebanon, a further 600,000 in Jordan, and these countries cannot cope. If we do not want more of these homeless people to end up, through desperation, in northern Europe then we need to make sure they are looked after as well as they can be in the camps in the region. We should also try to build an international coalition including Saudi Arabia, Iran, the US and Russia to end the Isis reign of terror. It is that duty and that moral task, not Channel security, which has been most badly neglected.

**Load-Date:** August 20, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Italian PM hails Europe's (mostly) united response; Refugee crisis Renzi replies to letter signed by coalition of newspapers including 'The Independent' with warning against unilateral foreign policy*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GWT-DFG1-F072-436K-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

September 11, 2015 Friday

First Edition

Copyright 2015 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 12

**Length:** 610 words

**Byline:** MICHAEL DAY IN ROME AND LEO CENDROWICZ IN BRUSSELS

**Body**

The Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi has responded directly to the call by The Independent for EU nations to step up to the challenge of dealing with the most serious refugee crisis on the continent since the end of the Second World War.

European publications including this newspaper have called on the leaders of all European nations to "take decisive action to deal with this humanitarian tragedy and prevent further loss of life", ahead of a key meeting on 14 September in which states will discuss the crisis.

Mr Renzi said Italy had felt abandoned in its efforts to deal with the crisis. He said, however, that had now changed. "We are proud of the way in which in Austria, Germany, and elsewhere our compatriots in Europe, our European brothers, have welcomed refugees," Mr Renzi said. Germany has said it will take up to half a million refugees a year. But Italy's premier warned that all EU countries must do their part.

"This will only be possible if each country welcomes a number of guests in quotas - and repatriation of those who have no right to asylum is organised by the European Union," he said, writing to newspapers including Italy's La Repubblica, El Pais in Spain and France's Libération. He added: "Europe must do away with the Dublin agreement [which states asylum-seekers must remain in the EU country of their arrival while their claims are processed]."

Mr Renzi did not, however, address calls for Europe to establish simple, safe and practical ways for refugees to seek asylum in Europe without risking their lives. Nor did he pledge increased financial and humanitarian aid to Middle Eastern nations affected by the Syrian conflict.

Significantly, though Mr Renzi warned against rash Western foreign policy. "The international community and Europe have underestimated the cost of their initiatives in Libya and Syria, and overestimated their ability to build a future in those territories," he said. "It's not enough to simply kick out a dictator or bombard an enemy if you cannot win the educative, cultural and economic challenges."

EU plans to relocate 160,000 new asylum-seekers would only be a "drop in the ocean", the German Vice-Chancellor Sigmar Gabriel said yesterday, as he outlined the migrant flow into the country.

Some 450,000 people have arrived in Germany so far this year, with 37,000 in the first eight days of September alone, Mr Gabriel told the German parliament. Mr Gabriel said many EU countries were in denial about the scale of the migration. "The distribution of 160,000 refugees across Europe is a first step. You could call it a drop in the ocean."

Mr Gabriel was echoed by the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE), which said yesterday that the refugee flows into Europe are, "more than manageable".

"The dramatic press reports on arrivals in Greece, Italy and at the Eastern borders of the EU create the false image of Europe being overwhelmed," the ECRE said in its annual report of asylum data. The report acknowledged that the refugee flow "has reached historical proportions".

"Nevertheless, EU member states have the resources to respond to the increasing numbers," it argued.

**US TO TAKE 10,000 SYRIANS**

President Barack Obama will make a "significant" push to accept 10,000 refugees.

"The President has informed his team that he would like them to make preparations to accept, at least 10,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in the next fiscal year," his press secretary John Earnest said. He also said the administration has provided $4bn (£2.6bn) in aid. Mr Earnest described Germany's talks to accept 800,000 and Venezuela's vow to bring in 20,000 refugees as "demonstrating tremendous generosity and hospitality."

**Load-Date:** September 10, 2015

**End of Document**



[*How Arab cinema is making a name for itself at the world's biggest film festivals; Arab filmhasbecome 'more political and courageous'since the Arab Spring*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KTS-X301-JCJY-G2K1-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 27, 2016 Tuesday 5:22 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FILM

**Length:** 935 words

**Byline:** Kaleem Aftab

**Body**

The biggest growth area in cinema seems to be film festivals catering for Arab film. Just over a decade ago, Arab cinema was the runt of the world. Outside of Egypt, there were barely any films made, and those made in Egypt catered for the massive domestic market.

Now films from Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar are commonplace at the world's biggest film festivals and with distributors hesitant to release foreign language films, an explosion of festivals has taken place, often providing the only opportunity for audiences to see some of the best award winning films of our times.

This week, the third Safar film festival takes place in London, and on the horizon is the Aan Korb BBC Arabic Film Festival. Across the globe, some of the main festivals include the Arab Film Festival taking place in America in October and in April is the Middle East Now Festival.

Earlier this year, the Directors Fortnight section of the Cannes Film Festival opened with Mohammad Diab's

Clash

. Set in the aftermath of the ousting of Egyptian president Mohamed Morsi in June 2013, it will play in competition at the London Film Festival in October. The film sees protestors of all political hues arrested and thrown into the back of a police van, where most of the action takes place. The film explores the societal and political implications of the overthrow on the populace.

"The first step of every civil war is dehumanising people," director Diab says. "The first step of solving that is humanising people. This is what the film is trying to do."

And with Islamic fundamentalism, the ***Syrian*** ***refugee crisis*** and the fall out from wars in the Middle East continually dominating the news, audiences are turning to movies to find out more, and to hear an alternative version of events.

Those venturing out to see these new Arab films will find tales that are far from the social and political melodramas that the Arab states used to backfilms that were designed to impart a positive social message. Now the movies are far more radical. "I think that since the Arab Spring and maybe a year or two before there has been a shift," says Safar Film Festival curator Rasha Salti. "The films have become more political and courageous."

Mohamed Khan's 2015 drama 'Before The Summer Crowds'

Salti says of the shift, "It's a result of the Arab Spring and also the burden of addressing the every day by making films with a didactic message has gone. I think that's because in part social media allows you to be didactic. If you witness sexual harassment in Cairo then everybody can film it and put it on social media immediately and that has become a medium to show it. Filmmakers no longer feel that they have to make a film about that, as being the only place for that voice to be heard."

This is also helped by the ability to find funds to make films that are not from the government. "There is less state help for films, thank God," says Salti. "Because that comes with strings attached."

Another reason for the plethora of film festivals is that Arab films do not get regular distribution. The market for foreign films has collapsed around the world. This month in the UK, Pedro Almodovar's

Julieta

became the first subtitled film since

The

Raid

in 2014 to break £1m. With distributors not wanting to take a risk, films from the Arab world, as well as those from Africa and southern Europe have found themselves increasingly marginalised. The only place to see them on the big screen is at film festivals.

Those that go to see the films at SAFAR will be in for a surprise by the range of genres and the quality.

As I Open My Eyes

, by Leila Bouzid is a film about a Tunisian female rock singer, trying to make sense of her life, in the summer before the start of the Arab Spring. It's a film with energy, verve and great music that recently won Best Film at the East End Film Festival.

Sélim Mourad's

This Little Father Obsession

is a hybrid picture that blends fact and fiction, reminiscent of Italian realism. Salti enthused about

Let them Come

, a film that deals with what's described as'years of terrorism'in Algeria in the early 1990s. At the London Film Festival, there will be the world premiere of Emirati filmmaker Ali Mostafa's dystopian sci-fi thriller

The Worthy

and the UK premiere of the raucous Saudi comedy

Barakah Meets Barakah

starring Internet sensation Hisham Fageeh.

Salem Brahimi's 2015 film, 'Let Them Come'

What is also noteworthy about Arab cinema is the number of female filmmakers. At the forthcoming Arab Film Festival of America, 40 per cent of the 59 films that will be presented are made by female filmmakers. There are films from Mai Masri, Heidi Saman and Nadine Salib. On the horizon, exciting British Arab filmmaker Zeina Durra is working on her second film. One of the most anticipated films of 2017 is

Marjoun and the Headscarf

by the phenomenal Susan Youssef.

Yet the picture is not without dark clouds. Salti points out that as the world has moved to embraced Arabic film, the Arab world has started to be skeptical of the latest wave of filmmakers, especially those offering a critical eye on Arab dictatorships, or showing sex and prostitutes, as does Morocco's

Much Loved

.

"In the Arab world there are less film festivals than 10 years ago," recognises Salti. "This is partly because film festivals are expensive to host, but also because they also require a modicum of freedom and in some countries the state of policing expression and exhibition is worse than before the Arab Spring."

TheLondon Film Festival runs from 5-16 October, while theArab Film Festival (venues in California) runs 7-16 October

**Load-Date:** September 29, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Israeli and US alarm as Russia gives Syria anti-aircraft missile system*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GY3-7MF1-F072-42GG-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

September 17, 2015 Thursday

First Edition

Copyright 2015 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 24

**Length:** 580 words

**Byline:** JOHN LICHFIELD IN PARIS

**Body**

The United States and Israel voiced concern yesterday about Russia's intentions in Syria amid signs that Moscow and the West are being sucked further into the conflict.

The Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, will visit Russia next week to ask President Vladimir Putin about his reported plans to deploy advanced ground-to-air missiles to assist the Syrian government.

The French government said it would expand its existing air-to-ground operations against Isis in Iraq and would join the US in attacking Isis in Syria within the next few weeks. At the same time, Moscow is stoking up diplomatic - and domestic political - pressure on Western countries to abandon their opposition to the Syrian President, Bashar al-Assad.

Mr Putin is expected to go to the United Nations later this month to propose a new "international alliance" against Isis. He will suggest that the only way to defeat the Islamists, and check the Syrian refugee tide into Europe, is for the West to swallow its pride and support Mr Assad's regime.

The Syrian President was given a forum on Russian media to make the same argument yesterday. Mr Assad said that Western governments had only themselves to blame for the European refugee crisis. Millions of Syrians had fled the country, he said, to escape "terrorists" supported by the West and Gulf states.

"Stop, if you are worried about [the refugees], stop supporting terrorists," Mr Assad said. The Assad regime uses the word "terrorists" to mean secular opposition movements as well as Isis.

Some of the estimated five million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** now outside the country have fled from Isis-controlled territory. Many others have abandoned their homes to escape indiscriminate bombardment by Assad-controlled forces.

The United States expressed its concern yesterday about the Russian military build-up. Secretary of State John Kerry had made Washington's views known in a telephone call to the Russian Foreign Minister, Sergei Lavrov.

Any attempt to prop up Mr Assad, diplomatically or militarily, Mr Kerry had said, "risks exacerbating and extending the conflict, and undermining our shared goal of fighting extremism".

In an unexpected development, Israel also expressed its deep concern at the new Russian military deployments.

Mr Netanyahu will fly to Moscow next week to state his fears that Russian weapons - especially hi-tech anti-aircraft missiles - could find their way into the hands of Mr Assad's Hezbollah allies on the Lebanon-Israeli border. "The Prime Minister will present the threats to Israel emanating from the increased flow of advanced weaponry to the Syrian arena and from the transfer of lethal weaponry to Hezbollah and other terrorist groups," an Israeli spokesman said.

Russia, a long-term ally of the Assad regime, is reported to have deployed seven battle tanks, a handful of troops and artillery to Syria in recent days. Both Western and Russian sources have also spoken of plans by Moscow to add an advanced SA-22 surface-to-air missile system to Syria.

France joined the United States in rejecting the renewed overtures from Moscow for support for the Assad regime. The French Defence Minister, Yves Le Drian, also confirmed that a dozen French air force jets currently based in Jordan to carry out attacks on Isis targets in Iraq would also be flying missions into Syria in the coming weeks.

Mr Drian said France's change of strategy - a switch also being considered by Britain - was a response to worrying developments on the ground.

**Load-Date:** September 16, 2015

**End of Document**



[*'Migrant chic' photoshoot was not meant to be offensive, says Hungarian photographer; Norbert Baksa has been receiving online abuse over the images, which he said were intended to draw attention to the 'complexity' of the refugee crisis*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H3M-SM31-F021-6333-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

October 8, 2015 Thursday 4:10 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PHOTOGRAPHY

**Length:** 646 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

The Hungarian photographer who sparked controversy with a fashion shoot inspired by the refugee crisis has said he did not mean to offend anyone.

Norbert Baksa photographed a female model appearing to struggle with a police officer, looking through a barbed wire fence and with her dress falling open as she took a selfie on a Chanel-branded smartphone.

The 38-year-old, who is based in Budapest, told

The Independent

the project intended to draw attention to the "double-edged" nature of the crisis affecting his country and make people see it from different perspectives.

Some viewers accused Mr

Baksa

of demeaning refugees

"The clothes were directly inspired by the refugees themselves as you see in news reports," he added.

Read more

Meeting the desperate and the hopeful on a 1,300-mile refugee trail

German companies refuse to sell razor-wire for fence against refugees

Hungary places full-page newspaper ad warning refugees away

Ban

Ki-moon

urges compassion as Hungary opens fire at refugees

"I usually refuse to deal with political topics, but this situation affects the daily lives of virtually everybody in Hungary."

As images in the "Der Migrant" series started spreading on social media, many people accused the photographer of exploiting the humanitarian crisis and sexualising vulnerable refugees.

"Not a parody, just sick," one person wrote on Twitter. Several people dubbed the shoot "migrant chic", calling it "disgusting and distasteful" and "heartless".

Some viewers accused Mr

Baksa

of demeaning refugees

Others took objection to the fact model Monika Jablonczky was dressed in a way that could be deemed offensive in conservative cultures acrossthe Middle East and sub-Saharan Africa, where many migrants are arriving from.

Others said the use of the smartphone and luxury clothes perpetuated counterproductive assumptions that some ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** are "rich" and do not deserve asylum in Europe.

Mr Baksa said that many viewers had reacted to his work from their own viewpoint and "without trying to understand the message", but has subsequently removed the images from his website.

"These people find the pictures offensive, but we never meant to offend anybody, but rather to draw the attention to the complexity of these people's problem," he added.

Norbert

Baksa

said he did not mean the images to cause

offence

"During the shooting, we did our best to respect people's faith and conviction and not to cross certain boundaries."

The Hungarian government has drawn international condemnation for its handling of the hundreds of thousands of refugees and migrants crossing its borders to enter the European Union over the summer.

After completing a controversial 110-mile long razor wire fence blocking arrivals from Serbia, it is extending the barrier along the boundary with Croatia and has shut train stations in attempts to stop families using the country as passage.

Viktor Orban, the Hungarian Prime Minister, has claimed that his country is being "overrun" by refugees, while a prominent member of his Fidesz party claimed that "the very existence of Christian Europe" was under threat.

Mr Baksa said he wanted his photography to make people realise that they are only receiving "partial or biased information" on the very complex situation.

"This is exactly what we wanted to picture," he added. "You see a suffering woman, who is also beautiful and despite her situation, has some high quality pieces of outfit and a smartphone.

"The shoot is not intended to glamourise this clearly bad situation, but rather to draw the attention to the problem and make people think about it.

"Artists around the world regularly attract the public's attention to current problems through 'shocking' installations and pictures. This is another example of such art."

**Load-Date:** October 8, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Surveillance bill: Government concessions unlikely to head off revolt from Labour and Lib Dem peers; Parties still believe the Bill will amount to what has been denounced as a 'snooper's charter'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H8K-7YH1-JCJY-G1KY-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

October 31, 2015 Saturday 9:08 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 604 words

**Byline:** MARK LEFTLY

**Body**

The Government has moved to calm concerns that its new surveillance bill, to be introduced this week, will impinge on civil liberties.

The Liberal Democrats killed the 2012 Draft Communications Data Bill when they shared power with the Conservatives. However, David Cameron and Home Secretary Theresa May are poised to revive what is now known as the Investigatory Powers Bill, which revises 15-year-old legislation, after the Tories secured an outright majority at May's general election.

Read more

New Lords revolt looms over surveillance powers

A government source acknowledged that MPs from all parties, the Royal United Services Institute defence think-tank and David Anderson, the powerful Independent Reviewer of Terrorism legislation, have worried about how the proposals could lead to the state snooping on individuals through their online histories. But the source insisted that certain measures from three years ago, such as demanding that UK-based internet firms keep data that crosses their networks from overseas companies, had been dropped.

The Bill is also expected to enshrine journalists' rights to protect their sources, while police will not be allowed to check everybody's web browsing histories. There will also be no government restriction or ban on encryption, as some critics, who believed this contravened people's right to privacy, had feared.

Home Secretary Theresa May will introduce the new Bill this week (Getty)

The source said: "We're absolutely clear that key parts of the original plans from 2012 will be dropped from the new Bill. We know these powers are needed as technology changes and terrorists and criminals use ever more sophisticated ways to communicate. But we need to give people the reassurance that not only are they needed, but that they are only ever used in a necessary, proportionate and accountable way."

However, the concessions are unlikely to prevent a Labour and Lib Dem revolt in the House of Lords, just a week after their peers wrecked the Government's tax credit cut plans. The parties are worried that ministers, rather than judges, will have the power to issue warrants for phone-tapping or online surveillance and still believe the Bill will amount to what has been denounced as a "snooper's charter".

Read more

Police 'to be given powers to view everyone's entire internet history'

If they defeat the Government again, there will be further outcry from Conservative MPs who believe the House of Lords is breaking constitutional convention, with an appointed chamber overruling the democratically elected House of Commons.

The Government is also trying to counter criticisms that it has not done enough to help ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. On 1 November, International Development Secretary Justine Greening will pledge £5m to the Start Network, a coalition of humanitarian agencies including Christian Aid and Save the Children, for people who have travelled to the western Balkan countries such as Greece and Serbia.

This will help fund supplies, such as towels and nappies, and is in addition to £20m handed to other organisations including the International Red Cross. But political opponents do not believe the UK has accepted enough refugees. Last week, Lib Dem leader Tim Farron called on the Government to provide homes for 3,000 unaccompanied children.

Ms Greening said: "Syrian children and their families face worsening winter conditions, many dressed in nothing but the light summer clothes they escaped in. Some are forced to sleep in the open so this latest assistance from the UK - food, water and sleeping bags - is badly needed."

**Load-Date:** October 31, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Aylan Kurdi: Little boy whose tragic death changed Britain's response to the refugee crisis laid to rest in Kobani; His father, Abdullah, said he never wants to leave the war-torn city again*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GVC-DYR1-JCJY-G15H-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 5, 2015 Saturday 9:33 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 565 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden, Rodi Said

**Body**

Aylan Kurdi has been laid to rest in his war-torn home of Kobani alongside his brother and mother as his death continues to send shockwaves through the world.

His father, Abdullah, wept with relatives as the three-year-old's body was lowered into the ground.

Along with his five-year-old brother, Galip, and mother, Rihan, he was buried in the dusty Martyrs Cemetery as dozens of mourners gathered to pay their respects.

In Kobani, the ambulances drove past sobbing mourners, Kurdish flags, and shelled buildings towards the Martyrs' Cemetery.

Kobani has been ravaged by the Syrian civil war, being besieged by Isis for several months last year, sparking bombing campaigns and street fighting that destroyed much of the city.

The violence sent most of its residents fleeing over the nearby border to Turkey, including Aylan and his family, but his father told his loved ones he never wants to leave home again.

Read more: Aylan's father describes boat tragedy'Let this be the last tragedy for refugees'Aylan's story: How a small Syrian child came to drown

"He only wanted to go to Europe for the sake of his children," said Suleiman Kurdi, an uncle of the grieving father. "Now that they're dead, he wants to stay here in Kobani next to them."

Speaking to reporters as he travelled with his children's bodies from Turkey to Syria earlier on Friday, Mr Kurdi said governments in the Middle East, not just Europe, need to help the refugee crisis.

"I want Arab governments - not European countries - to see (what happened to) my children, and because of them to help people," he added.

Mr Kurdi had previously described his sons as "the most beautiful children in the world".

They were among 12 people who drowned after two boats capsized while trying to reach the Greek island of Kos from Turkey.

Mr Kurdi described how the overloaded boat flipped over moments after the captain panicked and abandoned the vessel in rough waves, leaving him to watch as his loved ones were swept away.

"I was holding my wife's hand. My children slipped away from my hands," he said. "We tried to hold on to the boat. Everyone was screaming in pitch darkness."

Turkish police have arrested four suspected traffickers over the deaths, all believed to be Syrian men.

Images of Aylan's body, washed up face-down on a Turkish beach - reignited anger over the deaths of thousands of desperate refugees trying to reach Europe and dissatisfaction with the EU's response.

David Cameron has announced that Britain will take in "thousands more" ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in response to a tide of public support. The refugee crisis - in pictures

A petition started by this newspaper for the UK to welcome its fair share has been signed by more than 250,000 people, while prominent politicians are among thousands more sharing pictures of themselves with the message "refugees welcome".

The United Nations refugee agency estimates more than 300,000 people have used dangerous sea-routes so far this year to reach Europe, with around 2,500 losing their lives.

Many of those refugees have fled Syria's four-year civil war, in which more than 250,000 people have been killed and some 11 million - half of the country's population - driven from their homes.

This newspaper has started a campaign for the UK to welcome a fair share of refugees.

Click here to sign The Independent's petition

Additional reporting by agencies

**Load-Date:** September 5, 2015

**End of Document**



[*How Arab cinema is making a name for itself at the world's biggest film festivals; Arab filmhasbecome "more political and courageous" since the Arab Spring*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KTP-W981-JCJY-G4MS-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 27, 2016 Tuesday 5:22 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FILM

**Length:** 931 words

**Byline:** Kaleem Aftab

**Body**

The biggest growth area in cinema seems to be film festivals catering for Arab film. Just over a decade ago, Arab cinema was the runt of the world. Outside of Egypt, there were barely any films made, and those made in Egypt catered for the massive domestic market.

Now films from Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar are commonplace at the world's biggest film festivals and with distributors hesitant to release foreign language films, an explosion of festivals has taken place, often providing the only opportunity for audiences to see some of the best award winning films of our times.

This week, the third Safar film festival takes place in London, and on the horizon is the Aan Korb BBC Arabic Film Festival. Across the globe, some of the main festivals include the Arab Film Festival taking place in America in October and in April is the Middle East Now Festival.

Earlier this year, the Directors Fortnight section of the Cannes Film Festival opened with Mohammad Diab's Clash. Set in the aftermath of the ousting of Egyptian president Mohamed Morsi in June 2013, it will play in competition at the London Film Festival in October. The film sees protestors of all political hues arrested and thrown into the back of a police van, where most of the action takes place. The film explores the societal and political implications of the overthrow on the populace.

"The first step of every civil war is dehumanising people," director Diab says. "The first step of solving that is humanising people. This is what the film is trying to do."

And with Islamic fundamentalism, the ***Syrian*** ***refugee crisis*** and the fall out from wars in the Middle East continually dominating the news, audiences are turning to movies to find out more, and to hear an alternative version of events.

Those venturing out to see these new Arab films will find tales that are far from the social and political melodramas that the Arab states used to back - films that were designed to impart a positive social message. Now the movies are far more radical. "I think that since the Arab Spring and maybe a year or two before there has been a shift," says Safar Film Festival curator Rasha Salti. "The films have become more political and courageous."

Mohamed Khan's 2015 drama 'Before The Summer Crowds'

Salti says of the shift, "It's a result of the Arab Spring and also the burden of addressing the every day by making films with a didactic message has gone. I think that's because in part social media allows you to be didactic. If you witness sexual harassment in Cairo then everybody can film it and put it on social media immediately and that has become a medium to show it. Filmmakers no longer feel that they have to make a film about that, as being the only place for that voice to be heard."

This is also helped by the ability to find funds to make films that are not from the government. "There is less state help for films, thank God," says Salti. "Because that comes with strings attached."

Another reason for the plethora of film festivals is that Arab films do not get regular distribution. The market for foreign films has collapsed around the world. This month in the UK, Pedro Almodovar's Julieta became the first subtitled film since the Raid in 2014 to break £1 million. With distributors not wanting to take a risk, films from the Arab world, as well as those from Africa and southern Europe have found themselves increasingly marginalised. The only place to see them on the big screen is at film festivals.

Those that go to see the films at SAFAR will be in for a surprise by the range of genres and the quality. As I Open My Eyes, by Leila Bouzid is a film about a Tunisian female rock singer, trying to make sense of her life, in the summer before the start of the Arab Spring. It's a film with energy, verve and great music that recently won Best Film at the East End Film Festival.

Sélim Mourad's This Little Father Obsession is a hybrid picture that blends fact and fiction, reminiscent of Italian realism. Salti enthused about Let them Come, a film that deals with the so-called 'Years of terrorism' in Algeria in the early 1990s. At the London Film Festival, there will be the world premiere of Emirati filmmaker Ali Mostafa's dystopian sci-fi thriller The Worthy and the UK premiere of the raucous Saudi comedy Barakah Meets Barakah starring Internet sensation Hisham Fageeh.

Salem Brahimi's 2015 film, 'Let Them Come'

What is also noteworthy about Arab cinema is the number of female filmmakers. At the forthcoming Arab Film Festival of America, 40 per cent of the 59 films that will be presented are made by female filmmakers. There are films from Mai Masri, Heidi Saman and Nadine Salib. On the horizon, exciting British Arab filmmaker Zeina Durra is working on her second film. One of the most anticipated films of 2017 is Marjoun and the Headscarf by the phenomenal Susan Youssef.

Yet the picture is not without dark clouds. Salti points out that as the world has moved to embraced Arabic film, the Arab world has started to be skeptical of the latest wave of filmmakers, especially those offering a critical eye on Arab dictatorships, or showing sex and prostitutes, as does Morocco's Much Loved.

"In the Arab world there are less film festivals than 10 years ago," recognises Salti. "This is partly because film festivals are expensive to host, but also because they also require a modicum of freedom and in some countries the state of policing expression and exhibition is worse than before the Arab Spring."

London Film Festival 5-16 October, Arab Film Festival (venues in California) Oct 7-16

**Load-Date:** September 29, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Syrian refugee helped by viral #BuyPens campaign wants to use donations to help others; 'I don't want to be the only one being helped - there are people worse off than me,' Abdul Halim Attar said*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GTY-GN11-JCJY-G027-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 2, 2015 Wednesday 3:40 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 509 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

A Syrian refugee in line to receive more than £100,000 after a photo of him selling pens in Lebanon went viral has said he wants to use his sudden change of fortunes to help thousands of others in desperate need.

Abdul Halim Attar was not even aware he had been photographed by a passer-by until a member of the public told him the image was spreading around the world last week.

The 35-year-old told Sky News Arabia: "I feel like I am in a dream. I still cannot believe what has happened to me, that the whole world stood by me.

"I don't know how to thank them."

Gotten a lot of requests to help this man and his daughter. Anyone know people in Beirut able to locate him? #BuyPenspic.twitter.com/KOz4mjW1rdGissur Simonarson CN (@GissiSim) August 25, 2015

Abdul, a Palestinian-Syrian, who was forced to flee his home in Yarmouk by the country's civil war, had been living in Beirut for three years with his two children.

Read more: Photo of Syrian refugee goes viralFundraising campaign raises thousands of poundsComment: Would my cousin have been saved by a viral photo?

Living on a United Nations allowance of just $38 (£25) a month for the whole family, he resorted to selling biros on the city streets so he could afford food and a roof over their heads.

The image that captured attention across the world showed what he said was a normal day - walking for hours clutching a bunch of pens as his three-year-old daughter slept on his shoulder.

"I want to thank the Lebanese people who brought my pens," Abdul told Sky News Arabia.

"Had it not been for them, I would have been doomed a long time ago."

The photo was posted on Twitter by Gissur Simonarson, an activist and the founder of Conflict News, who then set up a fundraising page to help Abdul and his children start a better life. In pictures: Syria conflict

By Wednesday afternoon it had raised $175,777 (£115,000), with donations from almost 7,000 people in at least 116 countries over just six days.

The campaign will run for another nine days and the funds can take up to two weeks to be processed by the Indigogo website, meaning Abdul has not yet received any of the money.

Mr Simonarson said the donations will reach him as soon as possible and that in the meantime, his rent has been paid and fundraiser Carol Malouf is in Beirut helping the family with residency documents.

I asked Abdul about his dream.He said he wants to go back home to #Syria, to the way things were. @Buy\_Pens#BuyPenspic.twitter.com/kULhlnuOy3- Carol Malouf (@carolmalouf) August 28, 2015

In an interview with Al-Jazeera, Abdul said his priority is to secure an education for his daughter, Reem, and nine-year-old son Aboudi.

But he also wants to help the hundreds of thousands of other ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** forced to flee their homes by the country's brutal civil war and the rise of Isis.

Abdul said: "I want to use the money to help Syrians. I don't want to be the only one being helped - there are thousands of children on the streets.

"There are people who are worse off than I am ... I hope this campaign grows to help all Syrians."

**Load-Date:** September 2, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Olympic Games 2016: Refugees allowed to compete in Rio Games for first time in event's history; Thoseunable to represent their home countries for political reasonswill be able to march at the opening ceremony and compete as independent athletes*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H7R-2B51-JCJY-G31Y-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

October 27, 2015 Tuesday 8:24 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** OLYMPICS

**Length:** 604 words

**Byline:** Tom Peck

**Body**

Refugee athletes will be allowed to compete at the Rio Games under the Olympic flag, for the first time in the event's history.

High-quality athletes, who meet qualifying standards but who are unable to represent their home countries for political reasons, will be able to march at the opening ceremony and compete as independent athletes.

Read more

Olympic legacy? Greece houses refugees in empty stadiums

The International Olympic Committee president Thomas Bach made the announcement at a speech to the United Nations General Assembly, where he asked the UN's 193 member states to help in the search for refugee athletes.

"This will be a symbol of hope for all the refugees in our world and will make the world better aware of the magnitude of this crisis," he said.

"Having no national team to belong to, having no flag to march behind, having no national anthem to be played, these refugee athletes will be welcomed to the Olympic games with the Olympic flag and with the Olympic anthem."

Independent athletes have previously competed at the Games, including four in London. Three were from the Netherlands Antilles, and Guor Marial represented South Sudan in the marathon. Neither country is a formal member of the IOC.

Athletes from recognised nations where conflict and other difficulties prevented them from representing their own countries have previously been unable to take part. Bach said they would be welcome to live in the Olympic Village alongside the other expected 11,000 athletes and play a full part in the Games.

Read more

The two ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** who died trying to swim from Calais to UK

One map showing how Europe is becoming a fortress to keep refugees out

How private companies are exploiting the refugee crisis for profit

The number of refugees worldwide continues to rise and the Syrian crisis brought the matter to unprecedented worldwide public attention. The UN estimates there are currently around 20 million displaced people in the world. More than half a million refugees and economic migrants have entered Europe this year, according to UN estimates.

It is unlikely that significant numbers of athletes, if any at all, will make their way to Rio de Janeiro from any of the world's huge refugee camps, such as those in Jordan dealing with the Syrian crisis. But if Syrian or Iraqi nationals, or indeed anyone newly arrived in Europe and claiming asylum is able to show themselves to be elite-level athletes, president Bach said the IOC had made funds available to help.

"We are assisting high-level refugee athletes to continue their sports careers," he said. "We help them to make their dream of sporting excellence come true, even when they have to flee from violence and hunger."

The UN also formally adopted a resolution on the Olympic Truce, urging its member nations not to fight during the Olympic and Paralympic Games. The Olympic Truce has been a focus of Olympics for decades, and requires the head of each national team to sign a "peace wall" in the athletes village.

The Olympic Truce resolution was introduced by Carlos Nuzman, who is president of the organising committee of the Games, and was sponsored by 180 countries. It urges all UN member states to observe the truce from a week before the Games begin on 5 August next year, until a week after the end of the Paralympics on 18 September.

During the opening ceremony of the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, while Vladimir Putin was in the crowd, Russian tanks entered Georgian separatist regions, beginning a lengthy conflict.

**Load-Date:** October 27, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Humanitarian groups warn that locking down borders will not solve migrants crisis*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5G95-PHX1-JCS0-D1Y3-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

June 25, 2015 Thursday

First Edition

Copyright 2015 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 4

**Length:** 640 words

**Byline:** CHARLOTTE MCDONALD-GIBSON IN BRUSSELS

**Body**

European leaders debating migration in Brussels today must put human lives before short-term political goals, politicians and humanitarian groups have urged, cautioning against simply reinforcing borders and freezing out the world's most needy refugees.

The deaths of around 800 men, women and children in a migrant boat wreck in the Mediterranean in April prompted soul-searching among European Union leaders, and promises of action were followed by European Commission proposals to resettle 40,000 refugees across the continent.

But an EU official yesterday conceded that the idea of mandatory quotas "will never gather support from member states" and would be watered down to a voluntary pledge with further details about who will accept new refugees postponed until next month.

The EU instead appears to be shifting the focus to locking down the borders of "Fortress Europe". An early draft of the conclusions from the EU leaders' summit published by the civil liberties group Statewatch includes a pledge to set up centres to fingerprint and register migrants, with more powers to the EU border agency Frontex to deport people.

Hungarian Foreign Minister, Peter Szijjarto, yesterday said they would be speeding up work on a fence along the border with Serbia, where more than 61,000 migrants have crossed this year.

"Nothing is more symbolic of Fortress Europe than building a fence," Iverna McGowan, acting director of Amnesty International's European Institutions Office, said. "Having a security based approach is absolutely not the solution. It is not going to change the reality of four million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in camps. We need a more responsible human approach."

Martin Xuereb, director of the Migrant Offshore Aid Station, which assists migrants at sea, said the focus must be on bolstering search and rescue in the Mediterranean. "All those who feel compelled to make this crossing should not be left to die at sea and ministers must retain this at the top of their agenda," he said.

The ongoing civil war in Syria has pushed the number of refugees in the world to the highest level since the end of the Second World War, and the political vacuum in Libya has created a thriving trade in smugglers willing to pile desperate people on unseaworthy crafts and launch them into the Mediterranean.

At least 60,000 people have arrived in Italy this year and more than 2,000 people have died attempting the crossing. Amnesty estimates that at least 61,474 refugees have also arrived on the Greek islands so far this year - up from 43,500 in the whole of 2014.

Nations on the front-line of the refugee crisis have been calling for more solidarity from the other EU nations, but countries including Britain, France and Spain are opposed to any binding quotas for redistributing the refugees. Instead governments guard their right to decide exactly who crosses their borders, wary of the influence of anti-immigration parties.

"National selfishness still prevails over solidarity," said Gianni Pittella, the President of the Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament. "And this national selfishness threatens to prevail in the conclusions of the next [leaders' summit]."

In a comment piece in The Guardian Italian Prime Minister, Matteo Renzi urged Europe not to forget history.

"We want to fight for a set of values, for civility and peace," he wrote. "This is why the European Union was founded - not for bond spreads and stability pacts, but for these values. If we ignore them now, while the Mediterranean seethes, and children drown, it is Europe itself that we lose."

Mr Renzi took a more strident tone yesterday, telling his Senate that the centre-left "should not be afraid of repatriation". He added that the Dublin agreement - under which asylum seekers are the responsibility of the country in which they land - was "deeply wrong."

**Load-Date:** June 24, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Nearly half of Britons believe refugees should be turned away from the UK, research reveals; Islamic Relief says study reveals a 'dramatic hardening of views'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5G72-4R11-JCJY-G17S-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

June 15, 2015 Monday 10:40 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 597 words

**Byline:** Josh Barrie

**Body**

Almost half of British people think refugees - including those who have escaped the civil war in Syria - should be turned away from the UK, new research has revealed.

In what Islamic Relief said was a "dramatic hardening of views" against people displaced by war, a poll commissioned by the charity and compiled by YouGov showed that 42 per cent of Britons do not think foreign nationals seeking safety from conflict or persecution should be welcomed to UK shores. Last year, a similar survey found that 31 per cent of Britons believed the UK should not let refugees in.

When it comes to the Syrian crisis specifically, attitudes are even more steadfast - 47 per cent of the 6,000 people polled said the UK should not provide refuge. Only 29 per cent were in favour.

There are now four million refugees from Syria alone, with 95 per cent in only five host countries: Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt. Despite calls from the international community and a coalition of charities for more help, the UK has offered shelter to just 187 ***Syrian*** ***refugees***.

Islamic Relief believes part of the problem could be linked to an increasingly negative view of Muslim people. As the religious holy month of Ramadan begins, the organisation wants to celebrate the role British Muslims play in society, and the donations they give to fund aid.

Read more: Block on North Korean refugees prompts appealMillions could be taken from aid budget to keep migrants outAppeal system for processing asylum applications declared unlawful

"The results of this poll are extremely worrying because they show that public attitudes towards Muslims are hugely negative and attitudes towards refugees have hardened significantly," said Islamic Relief UK director Jehangir Malik. "It's time we celebrated the role British Muslims play as part of the solution rather than demonising the Muslim community as part of the problem."

The research sample found a crucial difference in public agreement to house refugees. While 34 per cent of people said they think refugees should be welcomed, just 29 per cent said the same when asked about those from Syria and the Middle East.

It also asked respondents what three words or phrases people associate with the term Muslim, and found perceptions portrayed a "worrying" trend. The top answer, at 12 per cent, was "terrorism". Other words that ranked highly were "misogynist" and "extremist".

The Refugee Council's head of advocacy, Dr Lisa Doyle, said religion should not play a part in responding to humanitarian crises. "These findings should provide the Government with a grave reminder of the importance of leadership when setting the tone of the debate around refugee and asylum policy," she said. In pictures: Syria's escalating refugee crisis

"Asylum should have nothing to do with religion or nationality - it is about providing safety to people who need it. Getting the debate wrong could have a direct and serious impact on the lives of some of the world's most desperate people."

Shaheen Chughtai, deputy head of humanitarian policy at Oxfam, said the British public tends to respond well to natural disasters, but as war is so complex, there can be a misunderstanding of the "horrors" of what is happening.

"It can be a challenge, because people don't actually see what's going on," he said. "In Syria, for example, it's politics and war that has led to the crisis. But often it's innocent people who bear the brunt of the persecution and destruction. If people saw the hunger, the extreme violence, whole lives being torn apart, people might better realise what's going on."

**Load-Date:** June 15, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: 20 children among 200 Syrians deported by the UK since start of war; Exclusive: 27 Syrians have had their asylum claims rejected this year alone*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GWG-M4D1-JCJY-G3B9-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 10, 2015 Thursday 7:29 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 557 words

**Byline:** Maeve McClenaghan, Oliver Wright

**Body**

The Government has deported nearly 200 Syrian men, women and children who have arrived in Britain since the start of the conflict in their country.

Figures uncovered by the Bureau of Investigative Journalism found that more than 160 adults and 20 children have been removed from the UK - including 27 who have had their asylum claims rejected this year alone.

Some have been sent to Greece, a country already overwhelmed by the influx of asylum-seekers, under EU rules which state that a refugee must claim asylum in the first country where they arrive.

The figures emerged as David Cameron told the House of Commons that the UK would stick to its "own approach" and not take part in an EU-wide scheme to share the burden of refugees.

But the hard-line British deportation programme will do little to win the Government friends in other European countries which are struggling to cope even without the UK deportees. The shadow Foreign Secretary, Hilary Benn, said the Government is showing the "best of British values" by welcoming ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and not using our opt-out to escape responsibility. "The fact we're not in Schengen doesn't mean we should opt out of our responsibility to stand shoulder to shoulder with our European friends and allies in playing a part," he said.

"Why is a child who has made the same perilous journey that claimed little Aylan al-Kurdi's life and is now in Greece any less deserving of our help than a child in a Syrian refugee camp?"

Read: Five practical ways you can help refugeesEditorial: Sign The Independent's petition to welcome refugees10,000 refugees reach Munich and are greeted with food and water

The Bureau's figures were obtained through Freedom of Information requests and an analysis of government data since the start of the conflict in Syria. They reveal that, far from settling all of those Syrians who have managed to make it to Britain, the UK Government has been removing some of those that have arrived claiming asylum.

The refugee crisis - in pictures

Of 31 unaccompanied asylum seeking Syrian children who have arrived in the UK this year, only 12 were granted refugee status, 45 per cent (14) were given temporary leave to remain until just before their 18th birthdays. The rest were deemed to be adults and refused. The rate at which unaccompanied Syrian children are being given asylum has dropped in the past three years, from 75 per cent in the first half of 2013 to just 39 per cent this year. The rate at which adults receive asylum is much higher.

Kamena Dorling of Coram Children's Legal Centre said:  "Syrian children should only be returned to another European country under the Dublin regulations if this is for the purposes of family reunification and it has been assessed that return would be in the child's best interests."

But the Home Office said: "There will be circumstances where children do not meet the criteria to be recognised as a refugee under the Refugee Convention, but they may be granted another form of leave to remain, for example humanitarian protection or discretionary leave.

"The UK has a proud history of granting asylum to those who need it and we consider every application on its individual merits. We take cases involving children seriously and their welfare is at the heart of every decision made."

Click here to sign The Independent's Change.org petition

**Load-Date:** September 10, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Blame Isis, not refugees: An agreement to tackle chaos in Calais is welcome, but doesn't go to the root cause of the migrant crisis*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GRB-61Y1-F021-63FY-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

August 21, 2015 Friday 2:15 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 586 words

**Byline:** Editorial

**Body**

If nothing else, the Home Secretary, Theresa May, showed that the British talent for understatement is alive and well when she remarked that Calais has had a "difficult summer". In signing an agreement with her French counterpart to take more co-ordinated and effective action to deal with some of the roots of the problem, she and the French government also displayed a refreshing willingness to work together rather than trade cross-Channel insults. They also showed a readiness to take seriously the smuggling gangs, throughout Europe and some from Britain, that have done so much to create human misery.

So the "command and control centre" and joint police action are welcome. It would be churlish to complain that these arrangements should have been put in place many months - if not years - ago. Improving the capacity of the authorities to deal with people who are putting themselves and others in danger by getting into lorries or trying to walk through the Channel Tunnel is an unalloyed good. Even if a generous view is taken of the case for allowing more of these migrants into Britain - not least because the proportion accepted here is small compared with those being offered help by other European partners, notably Germany - there is a right way to do it, via an orderly process of assessment, and a disorderly way to do it, as at Calais.

It is no way to treat human beings, and the constant stream of images of the chaos at Calais undermines confidence in the case for managed migration - and, indeed, the credibility of the European Union. To put things at their most mercenary, a referendum on the UK remaining in the EU is more likely to be won if the British people have confidence that governments in Italy, Greece and France and elsewhere are co-operating properly. Slovakia's recent refusal to accept migrants who are Muslim, but to permit Christians and atheists to enter, sends out a gruesome message.

So, the sooner the Anglo-French force "relentlessly pursues and disrupts the callous criminal gangs that facilitate and profit from the smuggling of vulnerable people, often with total disregard for their lives" the better. The suspicion, however, is that there are more powerful fundamental forces driving these movements of people. In pictures: Calais crisis intensifies

Although dramatic, events at Calais are nothing new; immigrants have been moving from places of war and poverty to those of peace and prosperity for millennia. The likelihood is that, if Calais becomes a much harder place to get into the UK from, then other routes will be opened up. They may be other channel ports, or more sophisticated forgeries of documents, or more would-be migrants overstaying tourist visas, or more " students" enrolling at bogus colleges and so on.

Of course, the really acute migrant crises are taking place elsewhere. Countries such as Lebanon and Jordan are, for example, dealing with the effects of the barbaric waves of violence sweeping across Syria and Iraq. There are one million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Lebanon, a further 600,000 in Jordan, and they cannot cope. If we do not want more of these homeless people to end up, through desperation, in northern Europe then we need to make sure they are looked after as well as they can be in the camps in the region. We should also try to build an international coalition including Saudi Arabia, Iran, the US and Russia to end the Isis reign of terror. It is that duty and that moral task, not Channel security, which has been most badly neglected.

**Load-Date:** August 21, 2015

**End of Document**



[*How Arab cinema is making a name for itself at the world's biggest film festivals; Arab filmhasbecome "more political and courageous" since the Arab Spring*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KTB-MCD1-F021-63K2-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 27, 2016 Tuesday 5:22 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FILM

**Length:** 931 words

**Byline:** Kaleem Aftab

**Body**

The biggest growth area in cinema seems to be film festivals catering for Arab film. Just over a decade ago, Arab cinema was the runt of the world. Outside of Egypt, there were barely any films made, and those made in Egypt catered for the massive domestic market.

Now films from Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar are commonplace at the world's biggest film festivals and with distributors hesitant to release foreign language films, an explosion of festivals has taken place, often providing the only opportunity for audiences to see some of the best award winning films of our times.

This week, the third Safar film festival takes place in London, and on the horizon is the Aan Korb BBC Arabic Film Festival. Across the globe, some of the main festivals include the Arab Film Festival taking place in America in October and in April is the Middle East Now Festival.

Earlier this year, the Directors Fortnight section of the Cannes Film Festival opened with Mohammad Diab's Clash. Set in the aftermath of the ousting of Egyptian president Mohamed Morsi in June 2013, it will play in competition at the London Film Festival in October. The film sees protestors of all political hues arrested and thrown into the back of a police van, where most of the action takes place. The film explores the societal and political implications of the overthrow on the populace.

"The first step of every civil war is dehumanising people," director Diab says. "The first step of solving that is humanising people. This is what the film is trying to do."

And with Islamic fundamentalism, the ***Syrian*** ***refugee crisis*** and the fall out from wars in the Middle East continually dominating the news, audiences are turning to movies to find out more, and to hear an alternative version of events.

Those venturing out to see these new Arab films will find tales that are far from the social and political melodramas that the Arab states used to back - films that were designed to impart a positive social message. Now the movies are far more radical. "I think that since the Arab Spring and maybe a year or two before there has been a shift," says Safar Film Festival curator Rasha Salti. "The films have become more political and courageous."

Mohamed Khan's 2015 drama 'Before The Summer Crowds'

Salti says of the shift, "It's a result of the Arab Spring and also the burden of addressing the every day by making films with a didactic message has gone. I think that's because in part social media allows you to be didactic. If you witness sexual harassment in Cairo then everybody can film it and put it on social media immediately and that has become a medium to show it. Filmmakers no longer feel that they have to make a film about that, as being the only place for that voice to be heard."

This is also helped by the ability to find funds to make films that are not from the government. "There is less state help for films, thank God," says Salti. "Because that comes with strings attached."

Another reason for the plethora of film festivals is that Arab films do not get regular distribution. The market for foreign films has collapsed around the world. This month in the UK, Pedro Almodovar's Julieta became the first subtitled film since the Raid in 2014 to break £1 million. With distributors not wanting to take a risk, films from the Arab world, as well as those from Africa and southern Europe have found themselves increasingly marginalised. The only place to see them on the big screen is at film festivals.

Those that go to see the films at SAFAR will be in for a surprise by the range of genres and the quality. As I Open My Eyes, by Leila Bouzid is a film about a Tunisian female rock singer, trying to make sense of her life, in the summer before the start of the Arab Spring. It's a film with energy, verve and great music that recently won Best Film at the East End Film Festival.

Sélim Mourad's This Little Father Obsession is a hybrid picture that blends fact and fiction, reminiscent of Italian realism. Salti enthused about Let them Come, a film that deals with the so-called 'Years of terrorism' in Algeria in the early 1990s. At the London Film Festival, there will be the world premiere of Emirati filmmaker Ali Mostafa's dystopian sci-fi thriller The Worthy and the UK premiere of the raucous Saudi comedy Barakah Meets Barakah starring Internet sensation Hisham Fageeh.

Salem Brahimi's 2015 film, 'Let Them Come'

What is also noteworthy about Arab cinema is the number of female filmmakers. At the forthcoming Arab Film Festival of America, 40 per cent of the 59 films that will be presented are made by female filmmakers. There are films from Mai Masri, Heidi Salman and Nadine Salib. On the horizon, exciting British Arab filmmaker Zeina Durra is working on her second film. One of the most anticipated films of 2017 is Marjoun and the Headscarf by the phenomenal Susan Youssef.

Yet the picture is not without dark clouds. Salti points out that as the world has moved to embraced Arabic film, the Arab world has started to be skeptical of the latest wave of filmmakers, especially those offering a critical eye on Arab dictatorships, or showing sex and prostitutes, as does Morocco's Much Loved.

"In the Arab world there are less film festivals than 10 years ago," recognises Salti. "This is partly because film festivals are expensive to host, but also because they also require a modicum of freedom and in some countries the state of policing expression and exhibition is worse than before the Arab Spring."

London Film Festival 5-16 October, Arab Film Festival (venues in California) Oct 7-16

**Load-Date:** September 27, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Syria conflict: Israeli and US alarm as Russia gives Assad regime anti-aircraft missile system; President Putin is expected to go to the UN later this month to propose a new 'international alliance' against Isis*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GY0-3NT1-F021-60P2-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 16, 2015 Wednesday 7:58 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 612 words

**Byline:** John Lichfield

**Body**

The United States and Israel have voiced concern about Russia's intentions in Syria amid signs that Moscow and the West are being sucked further into the conflict.

The Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, will visit Russia next week to ask President Vladimir Putin about his reported plans to deploy advanced ground-to-air missiles to assist the Syrian government.

The French government said it would expand its existing air-to-ground operations against Isis in Iraq and would join the US in attacking Isis in Syria within the next few weeks. At the same time, Moscow is stoking up diplomatic - and domestic political - pressure on Western countries to abandon their opposition to the Syrian President, Bashar al-Assad.

Mr Putin is expected to go to the United Nations later this month to propose a new "international alliance" against Isis. He will suggest that the only way to defeat the Islamists, and check the Syrian refugee tide into Europe, is for the West to swallow its pride and support Mr Assad's regime.

The Syrian President was given a forum on Russian media to make the same argument. Mr Assad said that Western governments had only themselves to blame for the European refugee crisis. Millions of Syrians had fled the country, he said, to escape "terrorists" supported by the West and Gulf states.

"Stop, if you are worried about [the refugees], stop supporting terrorists," Mr Assad said. The Assad regime uses the word "terrorists" to mean secular opposition movements as well as Isis.

Some of the estimated five million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** now outside the country have fled from Isis-controlled territory. Many others have abandoned their homes to escape indiscriminate bombardment by Assad-controlled forces.

Read more: Russia has 'positioned tanks in Syrian airfield,' say US officialsComment: Putin holds the key to ending bloodshedComment: Only a US-Russian agreement can spur a settlement in Syria

The United States expressed its concern about the Russian military build-up. Secretary of State John Kerry had made Washington's views known in a telephone call to the Russian Foreign Minister, Sergei Lavrov.

Any attempt to prop up Mr Assad, diplomatically or militarily, Mr Kerry had said, "risks exacerbating and extending the conflict, and undermining our shared goal of fighting extremism".

In an unexpected development, Israel also expressed its deep concern at the new Russian military deployments.

World News in Pictures

Mr Netanyahu will fly to Moscow next week to state his fears that Russian weapons - especially hi-tech anti-aircraft missiles - could find their way into the hands of Mr Assad's Hezbollah allies on the Lebanon-Israeli border. "The Prime Minister will present the threats to Israel emanating from the increased flow of advanced weaponry to the Syrian arena and from the transfer of lethal weaponry to Hezbollah and other terrorist groups," an Israeli spokesman said.

Russia, a long-term ally of the Assad regime, is reported to have deployed seven battle tanks, a handful of troops and artillery to Syria in recent days. Both Western and Russian sources have also spoken of plans by Moscow to add an advanced SA-22 surface-to-air missile system to Syria.

France joined the United States in rejecting the renewed overtures from Moscow for support for the Assad regime. The French Defence Minister, Yves Le Drian, also confirmed that a dozen French air force jets currently based in Jordan to carry out attacks on Isis targets in Iraq would also be flying missions into Syria in the coming weeks.

Mr Drian said France's change of strategy - a switch also being considered by Britain - was a response to worrying developments on the ground.

**Load-Date:** September 16, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Katie Hopkins accuses Ed Miliband of being 'on the spectrum' following Labour leader's debate performance; The Sun columnist was also less than complimentary about Green Party leader Natalie Bennett in her alternative commentary*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5FNJ-2WB1-F021-61C5-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

April 3, 2015 Friday 12:28 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 640 words

**Byline:** Jenn Selby

**Body**

As the seven-way leaders' debate raged on ITV on hot election topics such as the future of the NHS, clearing the deficit, immigration and climate change, a certain The Sun columnist was busy lowering the tone on Twitter with a running commentary not just on the leaders' performances on the night, but their physical attributes, too.

Ed Miliband in particular found himself at the centre of Katie Hopkins' firing line, mostly over his clear debate tactic of addressing the "people at home" with a piece to camera as he answered questions from the studio audience.

At one point, Hopkins suggested that Labour leader displayed characteristics of autism:

Ed, stop staring at me in my Jim jams. It's freaking me out #leadersdebateKatie Hopkins (@KTHopkins) April 2, 2015Ed, will you please quit looking down the barrel and talk to the audience or the questioner. Just plain weird #leadersdebateKatie Hopkins (@KTHopkins) April 2, 2015ED STOP LOOKING AT US. You are weird. Look at people not a machine. Try and act off the spectrum #leadersdebateKatie Hopkins (@KTHopkins) April 2, 2015

But he was by no means the only person Hopkins gave a hard time. Natalie Bennett, leader of the Green party, had it tougher than most:

Why on earth do we have the Greens and Leanne Wood in this debate? Like the irritating Aunt at a wedding #leadersdebateKatie Hopkins (@KTHopkins) April 2, 2015has anyone else noticed the size of Natalie Bennett's hands? That bird could shift rubble with those spades #leadersdebateKatie Hopkins (@KTHopkins) April 2, 2015Natalie wants us to worry about 50% of the worlds wildlife, Natalie love, wildlife isn't on our agenda right now. #leadersdebateKatie Hopkins (@KTHopkins) April 2, 2015Look Green Party. You aren't getting in. You aren't even properly British. Get yourself to MandS and get a suit. #leadersdebateKatie Hopkins (@KTHopkins) April 2, 2015The Greens want free education, to pay off student debts, stop global warming and offer pet unicorns for all. #leadersdebateKatie Hopkins (@KTHopkins) April 2, 2015Natalie would like us to take ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. We are making most of them love. Last nine came straight from Rochdale #leadersdebateKatie Hopkins (@KTHopkins) April 2, 2015

As did Nicola Sturgeon. Unsurprisingly, Hopkins appeared to be Team Nigel Farage all the way, even seemingly applauding his decision to voice his argument that immigrants with HIV are flocking to Britain to seek treatment for free on the NHS:

Come on Farage - this is yours for the taking. Please don't thank Joan for her question. She has been thanked enough #leadersdebateKatie Hopkins (@KTHopkins) April 2, 2015Bugger me, Farage went after foreign HIV patients. Tough one to win in this forum. Best save that for a friendly audience #leadersdebateKatie Hopkins (@KTHopkins) April 2, 2015Short break. MAKE UP FOR FARAGE, powder for Farage. #leadersdebateKatie Hopkins (@KTHopkins) April 2, 2015Australian style point system is exactly what we need. Plus Australian style gun ships to fend them off in the channel. #leadersdebateKatie Hopkins (@KTHopkins) April 2, 2015

But of course, no Hopkins stream of consciousness would be complete without an inflammatory comment of her own to throw into the mix:

Seven day a week NHS? Old people would still clutter it up when us working mums need it most. #leadersdebateKatie Hopkins (@KTHopkins) April 2, 2015

Her alternative leaders' debate analysis comes in the same week Labour MP Simon Danczuk reported her to the police, claiming she incited racial hatred with a series of tweets about Pakistani men in his constituency.

Katie Hopkins' most offensive moments

It also follows the promise she made that just might have won Ed Miliband the General Election.

Read More: Watch Nigel Farage Short-circuit Mid DebateThe Leaders' Debate In NumbersMiliband's Pieces To Camera Leave 'People At Home' Divided

**Load-Date:** April 3, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Peter Kassig beheading: Parents Paula and Ed say they need time to 'mourn, cry and forgive' following their son's murder; Peter Kassig, also known as Abdul-Rhaman, was beheaded by Isis militants in a video released yesterday*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5DMF-RPW1-JCJY-G3ST-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 17, 2014 Monday 9:40 PM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 568 words

**Byline:** Kashmira Gander

**Body**

The parents of Peter Kassig, an American aid worker who was beheaded by Isis militants, have said their "hearts are battered" and they need time to "mourn, cry - and yes - forgive".

Kassig, 26, who was born Peter but changed his name to Abdul-Rhaman when he converted to Islam, was abducted by Isis in Syria last year and has since become the fifth Western hostage to be killed in a video by the group. The footage also showed 14 other men being beheaded.

In early October, Isis militants had threatened to kill Kassig, a medic and former US Army Ranger, in the video which showed the beheading of British aid worker Alan Henning.

"Our hearts are battered, but they will mend. The world is broken, but it will be healed in the end. And good will prevail as the One God of many names will prevail," Paula Kassig said at a news conference in an Indianapolis Church.

Kassig's father, Ed Kassig, added, "Please pray for Abdul-Rahman, or Pete if that is how you knew him, at sunset this evening. Pray also for all people held against their will in Syria, Iraq, and around the world.

"Lastly, please allow our family the time and privacy to mourn, cry - and yes, forgive - and begin to heal," he said.

Timeline: The emergence of Isis

Read more: 'Jihadi John' suspect shown during 2011 London riotsKassig beheading video labelled act of 'pure evil' by ObamaKassig 'just wanted to help people' and embraced values of IslamKassig: A new video, but a different ending. What could it mean?Peter Kassig death: David Cameron condemns Isis video

Mrs Kassig went on to read words written about her son by one of his former teachers.

"If a person can be both a realist and an idealist, then that's Peter," she read.

"Peter has earned the right to be both... Peter's life is evidence that he's been right all along; one person can make a difference."

Kassig briefly served in Iraq in 2007 during a stint in the US Army, and returned to the Middle East in 2012 for a trip while studying political science, his family said.

Friends said Kassig was aware of the risks in war-torn Syria, where some 200,000 people have died and millions are displaced.

But touched by the plight of ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, Kassig travelled to Lebanon where he volunteered as an emergency medical technician, then founded an aid organisation to provide food and medical supplies to refugees and first aid training to civilians in Syria.

Before his death, his parents made repeated appeals to the extremist fighters to spare their son, who converted to Islam in captivity. They said his conversion was a sincere process that began months before he was captured in October 2013.

In an interview before he was taken hostage, Kassig spoke about his work in Lebanon, according to a clip his parents released on Sunday.

"I was able to share a little bit of hope and comfort with some people. They were able to teach me something about themselves that I wouldn't have known otherwise and we each were given an opportunity to look at the conflict in a different way," Kassig said in the audio clip.

"There's very few individuals you meet that are so selfless and that truly want to help people and that put everyone else before them," former roommate Michael Downey told NBC.

Confirming the death of the humanitarian worker, US President Barack Obama condemned the murderers and labelled the killing "pure evil".

Additional reporting by Reuters

**Load-Date:** November 17, 2014

**End of Document**



[*Peter Kassig beheading: Parents say they need time to 'mourn, cry and forgive' following their son's murder; Peter Kassig, also known as Abdul-Rhaman, was beheaded by Isis militants in a video released yesterday*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5DMH-J2Y1-JCJY-G4KT-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 18, 2014 Tuesday 9:58 AM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 568 words

**Byline:** Kashmira Gander

**Body**

The parents of Peter Kassig, an American aid worker who was beheaded by Isis militants, have said their "hearts are battered" and they need time to "mourn, cry - and yes - forgive".

Kassig, 26, who was born Peter but changed his name to Abdul-Rhaman when he converted to Islam, was abducted by Isis in Syria last year and has since become the fifth Western hostage to be killed in a video by the group. The footage also showed 14 other men being beheaded.

In early October, Isis militants had threatened to kill Kassig, a medic and former US Army Ranger, in the video which showed the beheading of British aid worker Alan Henning.

"Our hearts are battered, but they will mend. The world is broken, but it will be healed in the end. And good will prevail as the One God of many names will prevail," Paula Kassig said at a news conference in an Indianapolis Church.

Kassig's father, Ed Kassig, added, "Please pray for Abdul-Rahman, or Pete if that is how you knew him, at sunset this evening. Pray also for all people held against their will in Syria, Iraq, and around the world.

"Lastly, please allow our family the time and privacy to mourn, cry - and yes, forgive - and begin to heal," he said.

Mrs Kassig went on to read words written about her son by one of his former teachers.

"If a person can be both a realist and an idealist, then that's Peter," she read.

Read more: 'Jihadi John' suspect shown during 2011 London riotsKassig beheading video labelled act of 'pure evil' by ObamaKassig 'just wanted to help people' and embraced values of IslamKassig: A new video, but a different ending. What could it mean?Peter Kassig death: David Cameron condemns Isis video

"Peter has earned the right to be both... Peter's life is evidence that he's been right all along; one person can make a difference."

Kassig briefly served in Iraq in 2007 during a stint in the US Army, and returned to the Middle East in 2012 for a trip while studying political science, his family said.

Friends said Kassig was aware of the risks in war-torn Syria, where some 200,000 people have died and millions are displaced.

But touched by the plight of ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, Kassig travelled to Lebanon where he volunteered as an emergency medical technician, then founded an aid organisation to provide food and medical supplies to refugees and first aid training to civilians in Syria.

Timeline: The emergence of Isis

Before his death, his parents made repeated appeals to the extremist fighters to spare their son, who converted to Islam in captivity. They said his conversion was a sincere process that began months before he was captured in October 2013.

In an interview before he was taken hostage, Kassig spoke about his work in Lebanon, according to a clip his parents released on Sunday.

"I was able to share a little bit of hope and comfort with some people. They were able to teach me something about themselves that I wouldn't have known otherwise and we each were given an opportunity to look at the conflict in a different way," Kassig said in the audio clip.

"There's very few individuals you meet that are so selfless and that truly want to help people and that put everyone else before them," former roommate Michael Downey told NBC.

Confirming the death of the humanitarian worker, US President Barack Obama condemned the murderers and labelled the killing "pure evil".

Additional reporting by Reuters

**Load-Date:** November 18, 2014

**End of Document**



[*Pope Francis takes three families of Syrian refugees detained on Greek island of Lesbos on plane back to Italy; The Vatican said 12 people, including six children, were taken as 'a gesture of welcome'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JJB-RHG1-JCJY-G3VR-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

April 16, 2016 Saturday 1:41 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 160 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Three families of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** are on their way to Italy with the Pope after he offered them a place on his plane.

They were among thousands of people trapped on the Greek island of Lesbos as part of the controversial EU-Turkey deal which sees all asylum seekers arriving over the Aegean detained as they await their fate.

A statement from the Vatican said 12 people, including six children, were in the group taken as part of a "gesture of welcome regarding refugees".

Footage showed them lined up on the tarmac of Lesbos' main airport as Pope Francis said his farewells to Catholic and Orthodox leaders who accompanied him on Saturday's tour of the island.

The delegation visited the Moria detention centre, where almost 3,000 people are being held in decisions described as "appalling" by charities.

They also visited the island's capital of Mytilene for a prayer service to commemorate the hundreds of migrants who have died attempting to reach Europe's shores.

**Load-Date:** April 16, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Jihadi John: Philip Hammond says intelligence agencies are 'getting warm' in hunt for Isis militant; Murderer of David Haines and US journalists has not been publicly identified*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5D9J-BHN1-JCJY-G47S-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 24, 2014 Wednesday 4:07 PM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 604 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Philip Hammond has claimed intelligence agencies are "getting warm" in the investigation to reveal the identity of the Islamic State (Isis) militant known as Jihadi John.

The man, who speaks with a London or south-east accent, is believed to be the masked murderer of David Haines, Steven Sotloff and James Foley seen in the extremist group's gruesome beheading videos.

Officials have claimed Britain is "close" to identifying the terrorist for a month but no identity has been released.

Speaking to CNN at the United Nations summit in New York, the Foreign Secretary claimed the net was closing in.

"We are getting warm, we are working on all the leads. There's a big investigation and we are getting warm," he said.

"We are narrowing down the field but I don't want to say any more at this stage."

Up to 500 British jihadists are believed to be fighting with Isis in Syria and Iraq and the Government has increased counter-extremism measures in an attempt to prevent anyone else travelling to the conflict zones.

One of the men believed to be under investigation is a former rapper who reportedly travelled to the Syria last year from west London to join Isis.

Abdel-Majed Abdel Bary, 24, known as L Jinny or Lyricist Jinn, came to national attention earlier this year, when he posted a picture of himself holding a severed head on Twitter.

His father, Adel Abdul Bary, admitted terror charges including liasing with Osama bin Laden after becoming an al-Qaeda spokesman after the 1998 US embassy bombings at a court in New York on Friday.

Several politicians and officials have suggested Jihadi John's identity would soon be revealed since the first beheading, of Mr Foley, in August.

Just days after the killing, the British Ambassador to the US, Sir Peter Westmacott, said agencies were "not far away" from naming the militant.

He told CNN that voice-recognition and intelligence was being used to track him down.

Read more: Identity of Jihadi John remains a mysteryIf MI5 identify militant, what can they do about it?Father of British isis fighter admits terror charges

Numerous reports have followed in several outlets that the identities of Jihadi John and his associates are known to authorities but they cannot act without endangering the lives of Alan Henning and other hostages.

The Foreign Secretary condemned the treatment of the volunteer aid worker, who left his family in Salford to help ***Syrian*** ***refugees***.

In pictures: The rise of Isis

In a cruel twist, the Isis militants holding Mr Henning sent his wife an audio recording of him pleading for his life.

Mr Hammond said: "What we do know is Alan Henning was out there simply to help. He was a humanitarian worker who went with an aid convoy organised by British Muslim groups to provide support to refugees in Syria.

"He was doing good and I think it speaks volumes about Isis that this is the way they are treating somebody who went out there to help their people and support their communities in their time of need."

Mr Hammond's claims come as the United States and Arab allies continue bombing Isis strongholds in Syria, reportedly including the city of Raqqa where it is thought Mr Henning is being held.

Separate footage released this week showed British photojournalist John Cantlie in a propaganda video reading a speech scripted by Isis.

When asked about Britain's policy of not paying ransoms to terrorists to release hostages, Mr Hammond said it was "absolutely right".

The Home Office would not comment further on the investigation and it is understood that, for security reasons, Jihadi John's identity would not be made public if it was known.

Additional reporting by PA

**Load-Date:** October 7, 2014

**End of Document**



[*Pope Francis takes three families of Syrian refugees detained on Greek island of Lesbos on his plane back to Italy; The Vatican said 12 people, including six children, were taken as 'a gesture of welcome'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JJB-RHG1-JCJY-G3VP-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

April 16, 2016 Saturday 1:36 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 160 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Three families of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** are on their way to Italy with the Pope after he offered them a place on his plane.

They were among thousands of people trapped on the Greek island of Lesbos as part of the controversial EU-Turkey deal which sees all asylum seekers arriving over the Aegean detained as they await their fate.

A statement from the Vatican said 12 people, including six children, were in the group taken as part of a "gesture of welcome regarding refugees".

Footage showed them lined up on the tarmac of Lesbos' main airport as Pope Francis said his farewells to Catholic and Orthodox leaders who accompanied him on Saturday's tour of the island.

The delegation visited the Moria detention centre, where almost 3,000 people are being held in decisions described as "appalling" by charities.

They also visited the island's capital of Mytilene for a prayer service to commemorate the hundreds of migrants who have died attempting to reach Europe's shores.

**Load-Date:** April 16, 2016

**End of Document**



[*'Obama is the founder of Isis': Donald Trump's most controversial quotes; The fiery-mouthed Republican nominee has repeatedly promised to be more 'presidential'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KWD-51V1-JCJY-G55J-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

October 6, 2016 Thursday 12:52 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 1424 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz

**Body**

When Donald Trump was chosen as the Republican nominee in July, many were shocked. Others were happy. Some were confused. But the tidal wave of momentum that has pushed the Democrat-turned-Republican into the running for the highest office in the world has kept rolling in the months since the Republican convention.

Backed by powerful allies, money, business, family and a large voter base of mostly working class, white voters, it appears that there is little that Mr Trump can say to provoke his supporters to reconsider - no matter how base or insulting.

Although the candidate has made controversial and negative remarks about people with disabilities, women, Hispanics, Mexicans, African Americans, the Chinese, military veterans - to name a few - most polls show he has a relatively minor lag behind his rival, Hillary Clinton.

Read more

Trump insulted women for the 'entertainment' on The Apprentice

"Why aren't I 50 points ahead?" Ms Clinton recently asked. She seemed to be as confused as many other voters.

Below is a run-down of her opponent'sworst comments.

26 September 2016: "She doesn't have the stamina to be president"

Mr Trump has peddled theories that Ms Clinton is not physically well, jumping on a video of her stumbling as she got into a car after the 9/11 memorial service this year. He also imitated her unsteady walk at a rally.

Donald Trump does impression of Hillary Clinton faint

27 September 2016: "She was the winner and she gained a massive amount of weight, and it was a real problem"

Mr Trump was referring to his criticism of former Miss Universe winner, Alicia Machado, who he accused of gaining weight and forced to do sit-ups in front of reporters in the mid 1990s. His remarks about the former model resurfaced in the first presidential debate but the Republican did little to reverse his comments in ensuing interviews, calling her the "worst" winner they had ever had.

The woman Trump called 'Miss Piggy' appears in video supporting Hillary Clinton

26 September 2016: "That makes me smart"

Mr Trump stunned millions of Americans when he made the retort to Hillary Clinton at the first presidential debate, during which she accused him of evading federal income tax for almost two decades.

Clinton Slams Trump for Debate Comments

26 September 2016: "That's business, by the way"

Similarly, at the debate, he responded to Ms Clinton's claim that he had "rooted for the housing crisis" almost a decade ago, when he could take advantage of the fallen value of property.

20 August 2016: "You're living in poverty, your schools are no good, you have no jobs, 58 per cent of your youth is unemployed - what the hell do you have to lose?"

Mr Trump's last minute and negative pitch to win over African American voters in Ohio, less than three months before the election, was not warmly welcomed. In some polls he has close to zero per cent of the black vote.

GOP Must Do Better with African Americans' - Trump

6 July 2015: "The Mexican Government is forcing their most unwanted people into the United States. They are, in many cases, criminals, drug dealers, rapists, etc"

His comments to Fox News on 5 July was a staunch defense of earlier comments that echoed the negative sentiment against Mexicans.

He did not fail to add: "And some, I assume, are good people."

7 December 2015: "Donald J. Trump is calling for a total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States until our country's representatives can figure out what is going on"

The campaign statement said that Mr Trump would propose a temporary ban of all Muslims shortly after the terrorist attacks in Paris. He has not outlined how he would implement the ban and has been accused of consistently smearing Muslims with negative associations.

16 November 2015: "[***Syrian*** ***refugees***] could be one of the great Trojan horses"

In November last year, Mr Trump said ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** could not be allowed into the US, claiming they presented "another problem" in a country which already has "tremendous problems".

He also said at a rally in Connecticut that he would be prepared to look a Syrian child refugee in the face and tell them to "go home".

March 2011: "I want to see his birth certificate. I'm starting to think that he was not born here"

Mr Trump, speaking to NBC News, spearheaded the "birther" conspiracy theory that president Barack Obama was not born in the US. It was not until mid-September, after his campaign had publicly denounced the rumor, that he backed down and said the president "was born in the US. Period."

'All of Donald Trump's political activity stems back to 'racist birther lie'

9 August 2016: "If [Hillary Clinton' gets to pick her judges, nothing you can do, folks. Although the Second Amendment people - maybe there is, I don't know"

As Mr Trump appeared to despair over the gap in the supreme court justice roster, he also implied that gun advocates could assassinate his rival.

10 August 2016: "[Obama] is the founder of Isis"

At a speech in Florida in August, even the crowd behind Mr Trump looked shocked when he announced that the Democratic president founded the terrorist network group. Mr Trump said he was trying to criticise the president's strategy in the Middle East.

27 July 2016: "Russia, if you're listening, I hope you're able to find the 30,000 emails that are missing. I think you'll be rewarded mightily by our press"

Mr Trump was accused of "treason" for apparently encouraging Russian intelligence agencies to hack the Ms Clinton's emails, following the hack of the Democratic National Committee, which exposed an attempt to smear Bernie Sanders.

26 March 2016: "Would I rather have North Korea have [nuclear weapons] with Japan sitting there having them also? You may very well be better off if that's the case. If Japan had that nuclear threat, I'm not sure that would be a bad thing for us"

Mr Trump told the

New York Times

in March that if Japan and South Korea had their own nuclear weapons, they would rely less on financial aid from the US. He also countries should reimburse the US for the protection it has already provided, such as Saudi Arabia.

Tim Kaine says Trump wants to go nuclear in vice presidential debate

30 March 2016: "The answer is there has to be some form of punishment [for women getting abortions]"

His comments to MSNBC in March sparked an outcry from men and women who opposed Mr Trump's proposal to lock up women who decide to abort their pregnancy. He also wants to defund Planned Parenthood. He later retracted his comment and suggested punishment should be focused on the abortion providers.

23 March 2016: "Be careful, Lyin' Ted, or I will spill the beans on your wife!"

Mr Trump took the lowest route when he was battling in the polls against the Texas senator in March 2016, posting a "my wife is prettier than yours" meme alongside the caption: "The images are worth a thousand words."

Lyin' Ted Cruz just used a picture of Melania from a G.Q. shoot in his ad. Be careful, Lyin' Ted, or I will spill the beans on your wife!

- Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) March 23, 2016

7 May 2016: "She's married to a man who was the worst abuser of women in the history of politics"

Bill Clinton has not escaped the beady eye of Mr Trump. He accused his wife of defending the former president against accusations of extramarital affairs which brought "shame" and "chaos" to the country. He also invited Gennifer Flowers to sit in the front row of the first presidential debate to "unnerve" Ms Clinton, but retracted the invitation.

Michelle Obama mocks Trump with microphone

2011: "You're disgusting, you're disgusting!"

Read more

Donald Trump's former accountant says he's not a tax genius and 'didn't understand the code'

'I'm nervous!': School children react adversely to Donald Trump walking into their classroom

Teenage girl explains dangers of body-shaming to Hillary Clinton: 'I see the damage Donald Trump does'

Mr Trump reportedly screamed at a female lawyer who had requested to step outside of a deposition to breast feed her child in 2011.

The claim was not disputed by his lawyer, Allen Garten, who was present at the meeting.

October 2004: "And whether people want to say that or not, the fact is it [pregnancy] is an inconvenience for a person that is running a business"

15-year-old girl: I see with my own eyes the damage Donald Trump does when he talks about women

In an interview with Dateline, the Republican said that pregnancy is "wonderful" - but it might be hard for a woman to come back to work. He also said that despite having five children and seven grandchildren, he has never changed a nappy.

**Load-Date:** October 7, 2016

**End of Document**



[*'Obama is the founder of Isis': Donald Trump's most controversial quotes; The fiery-mouthed Republican nominee has repeatedly promised to be more 'presidential'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KW6-5RN1-JCJY-G3X3-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

October 6, 2016 Thursday 12:52 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 1371 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz

**Body**

When Donald Trump was chosen as the Republican nominee in July, many were shocked. Others were happy. Some were confused. But the tidal wave of momentum that has pushed the Democrat-turned-Republican into the running for the highest office in the world has kept rolling in the months since the Republican convention.

Backed by powerful allies, money, business, family and a large voter base of mostly working class, white voters, it appears that there is little that Mr Trump can say to provoke his supporters to reconsider - no matter how base or insulting.

Although the candidate has made controversial and negative remarks about people with disabilities, women, Hispanics, Mexicans, African Americans, the Chinese, military veterans - to name a few - most polls show he has a relatively minor lag behind his rival, Hillary Clinton.

Read more

New York Times compiles list of everyone Trump has insulted

Below is a run-down of the worst comments.

"She doesn't have the stamina to be president"

Mr Trump has peddled theories that Ms Clinton is not physically well, jumping on a video of her stumbling as she got into a car after the 9/11 memorial service this year. He also imitated her unsteady walk at a rally.

Donald Trump does impression of Hillary Clinton faint

"She was the winner and she gained a massive amount of weight, and it was a real problem"

Mr Trump was referring to his criticism of former Miss Universe winner, Alicia Machado, who he accused of gaining weight and forced to do sit-ups in front of reporters in the mid 1990s. His remarks about the former model resurfaced in the first presidential debate but the Republican did little to reverse his comments in ensuing interviews, calling her the "worst" winner they had ever had.

The woman Trump called 'Miss Piggy' appears in video supporting Hillary Clinton

"That makes me smart"

Mr Trump stunned millions of Americans when he made the retort to Hillary Clinton at the first presidential debate, during which she accused him of evading federal income tax for almost two decades.

Clinton Slams Trump for Debate Comments

"That's business, by the way"

Similarly, at the debate, he responded to Ms Clinton's claim that he had "rooted for the housing crisis" almost a decade ago, when he could take advantage of the fallen value of property.

"You're living in poverty, your schools are no good, you have no jobs, 58 per cent of your youth is unemployed - what the hell do you have to lose?"

Mr Trump's last minute and negative pitch to win over African American voters in Ohio, less than three months before the election, was not warmly welcomed. In some polls he has close to zero per cent of the black vote.

GOP Must Do Better with African Americans' - Trump

"The Mexican Government is forcing their most unwanted people into the United States. They are, in many cases, criminals, drug dealers, rapists, etc"

His comments to Fox News on 5 July was a staunch defense of earlier comments that echoed the negative sentiment against Mexicans.

He did not fail to add: "And some, I assume, are good people."

"Donald J. Trump is calling for a total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States until our country's representatives can figure out what is going on"

The November 2015 campaign statement said that Mr Trump would propose a temporary ban of all Muslims shortly after the terrorist attacks in Paris. He has not outlined how he would implement the ban and has been accused of consistently smearing Muslims with negative associations.

"[***Syrian*** ***refugees***] could be one of the great Trojan horses"

In November last year, Mr Trump said ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** could not be allowed into the US, claiming they presented "another problem" in a country which already has "tremendous problems".

He also said at a rally in Connecticut that he would be prepared to look a Syrian child refugee in the face and tell them to "go home".

"I want to see his birth certificate. I'm starting to think that he was not born here"

Mr Trump, speaking to ABC News in March 2011, spearheaded the "birther" conspiracy theory that president Barack Obama was not born in the US. It was not until mid-September, after his campaign had publicly denounced the rumor, that he backed down and said the president "was born in the US. Period."

'All of Donald Trump's political activity stems back to 'racist birther lie'

"If [Hillary Clinton' gets to pick her judges, nothing you can do, folks. Although the Second Amendment people - maybe there is, I don't know"

As Mr Trump appeared to despair over the gap in the supreme court justice roster, he also implied that gun advocates could assassinate his rival.

"[Obama] is the founder of Isis"

At a speech in Florida in August, even the crowd behind Mr Trump looked shocked when he announced that the Democratic president founded the terrorist network group. Mr Trump said he was trying to criticise the president's strategy in the Middle East.

Graphiq

"Russia, if you're listening, I hope you're able to find the 30,000 emails that are missing. I think you'll be rewarded mightily by our press"

Mr Trump was accused of "treason" for apparently encouraging Russian intelligence agencies to hack the Ms Clinton's emails, following the hack of the Democratic National Committee, which exposed an attempt to smear Bernie Sanders.

"Would I rather have North Korea have [nuclear weapons] with Japan sitting there having them also? You may very well be better off if that's the case. If Japan had that nuclear threat, I'm not sure that would be a bad thing for us"

Mr Trump told the

New York Times

in March that if Japan and South Korea had their own nuclear weapons, they would rely less on financial aid from the US. He also countries should reimburse the US for the protection it has already provided, such as Saudi Arabia.

Tim Kaine says Trump wants to go nuclear in vice presidential debate

"The answer is there has to be some form of punishment [for women getting abortions]"

His comments to MSNBC in March sparked an outcry from men and women who opposed Mr Trump's proposal to lock up women who decide to abort their pregnancy. He also wants to defund Planned Parenthood. He later retracted his comment and suggested punishment should be focused on the abortion providers.

"Be careful, Lyin' Ted, or I will spill the beans on your wife!"

Mr Trump took the lowest route when he was battling in the polls against the Texas senator in March 2016, posting a "my wife is prettier than yours" meme alongside the caption: "The images are worth a thousand words."

Lyin' Ted Cruz just used a picture of Melania from a G.Q. shoot in his ad. Be careful, Lyin' Ted, or I will spill the beans on your wife!

- Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) March 23, 2016

"She's married to a man who was the worst abuser of women in the history of politics"

Bill Clinton has not escaped the beady eye of Mr Trump. He accused his wife of defending the former president against accusations of extramarital affairs which brought "shame" and "chaos" to the country. He also invited Gennifer Flowers to sit in the front row of the first presidential debate to "unnerve" Ms Clinton, but retracted the invitation.

Michelle Obama mocks Trump with microphone

"You're disgusting, you're disgusting!"

Read more

Donald Trump's former accountant says he's not a tax genius and 'didn't understand the code'

'I'm nervous!': School children react adversely to Donald Trump walking into their classroom

Teenage girl explains dangers of body-shaming to Hillary Clinton: 'I see the damage Donald Trump does'

Mr Trump reportedly screamed at a female lawyer who had requested to step outside of a deposition to breast feed her child in 2011.

The claim was not disputed by his lawyer, Allen Garten, who was present at the meeting.

"And whether people want to say that or not, the fact is it [pregnancy] is an inconvenience for a person that is running a business"

15-year-old girl: I see with my own eyes the damage Donald Trump does when he talks about women

In a 2004 interview with Dateline, the Republican said that pregnancy is "wonderful"- but it might be hard for a woman to come back to work. He also said that despite having five children and seven grandchildren, he has never changed a nappy.

**Load-Date:** October 6, 2016

**End of Document**



[*How the refugee crisis turned Lesbos waiters into goat herders and spread ripples of pain across Europe; When thousands of refugees alighted on their shores, Greek islanders were praised for their generous response. Now as tourism and jobs dry up, many feel abandoned*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KBC-7HJ1-JCJY-G2VC-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

July 28, 2016 Thursday 9:27 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 1422 words

**Byline:** William Booth

**Body**

This is a story about war and waiting tables, about how a line can be drawn between the chaos in Syria and Theodore Kourniaris lost his job

in

Molyvoson the Greek island of Lesbos.

In the eastern isles of Greece, the hidden face of the European refugee crisis is an everyday guy like MrKourniaris, who suspects he has been cheated - not only by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, who drops barrel bombs on his own people, but also by leaders such as German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who threw open the door to refugees and then slammed it shut.

Mr Kourniaris, 27, is a Greek waiter who lives with his mother. He has spent every summer season since he was a boy humping bottles of chilled retsina and plates of grilled octopus to German and British and Dutch merry-makers in packed tavernas in his picture-postcard-perfect village on the sea.

Read more

UK on course to fail pledge to resettle 20,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees***

The tourists?"They're gone," says MrKourniaris. The April-to-October trade that sustains the island has vanished, as middle-class European pensioners and young families with children decided they would not spend their holidays on an island that hosted 600,000 war refugees and economic migrants over the past 18 months.

The islanders, it's worth noting, had greeted those same refugees with hot food and blankets as they emerged from the cold waters of the Aegean, winning praise from all quarters.

MrKouniarislost his waitingjob when tourists stopped visiting.To survive, hewill spend the winter months, if he is lucky, tugging on goat teats."By hand," he says. "Hundreds of them."For around (EURO)20a day.

If you don't care that MrKourniaris and thousands like him have lost their jobs on the hardest-hit Aegean island, he suggests you try milking goats.

Without the summer season, MrKourniaris not only will lose his restaurant wages but also could be denied three months of government unemployment benefits, which he relies on to get through the winter. He will lose his health insurance, too."I'm barely keeping my head above the water," he says.

Theodore Kouniaris, a waiter in Molyvos on Lesbos, who lost his job when tourists stopped visiting (Washington Post)

There were many tourists here last year - during the worst of the crisis - and thousands of asylum seekers arrived each day."They came up on our beach, right there," saysDimitrios Vatis, 71, co-owner of the Aphrodite Hotel, pointing to the pebbly beach in a secluded cove.He says members of his staff would excuse themselves from the hotel restaurant and run down to carry the children ashore.

Sitting at a table by the wine-dark sea, the hotelier flips open his reservation books and sighs. For 2015, the pages were all coloured in red, meaning almost every room was booked. For 2016, it's almost all white, meaning empty.

"We feel nobody cares about us. Nobody takes a moment to think of the cause and effects of these things," MrVatis says. "We hear them. They call us fascists now, because we complain. But we helped the refugees before anyone! Before the NGOs, before the UN, we helped them. Now, if you're even a little bit anti-immigrant, if you say, 'Wait a minute,' you're a fascist."

Tourism is a wipeout this year."The situation is the worst in 50 years on the island," said Periklis Antoniou, chairman of the Lesvos Hoteliers Association, which uses an alternate spelling of the island, and owner of the Heliotrope Hotel.

Many charter flights have been cancelled, and even domestic runs from Athens are down. The cruise ships have pulled out. The international travel agents have pivoted away from Lesbos and its sister islands, and bookings are down by 70 to 90 percent, MrAntoniou says.

Read more

Germany attacks: Merkel refuses to change refugee policy amid calls for crackdown after Isis-inspired killings

Turkey's President Erdogan demands EU leaders pay $3bn aid agreed in refugee deal

French policeman filmed ridiculing weeping refugee woman after her camp is dismantled

Theresa May criticised for scrapping ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** minister post

By failing to educate child refugees, we are creating the extremists of the future

"I don't blame the media," he says.But why, he asked, are newspapers and broadcasters still recycling images from last year showing the crisis in the islands at its worst - for instance, of the indelible image of a toddler drowned on a beach?The boy washed ashore in Turkey, not Greece, MrAntoniou points out.

"You have to look very hard to find a refugee today," said Melinda McRostie, who runs a Greek taverna, the Captain's Table, in the Molyvos harbour with her husbandTheodoris. She also founded a group, the Starfish Foundation, to assist refugees.

She describes the stages the island's residents have gone through: "People were shocked, then they helped the refugees - a lot. Now they're angry, and I see it, they're scared: 'Are we going to be refugees too?' "

In March, a deal was struck between the European Union and Turkey that threatens to return asylum seekers to Turkey. Since then, the illegal smuggling has slowed to a trickle - but it has not stopped completely.

Earlier this month, the Greek coast guard reported that four people drowned and six were rescued when a boat overloaded with migrants capsized off Lesbos, according to

Reuters

.

Last year, the Greek islands were an open turnstile toward a new life in Germany or Sweden. Now, they are Europe's waiting room.

A child looks through the fence at the Moria detention camp for migrants and refugees at the island of Lesbos on May 24, 2016. (AFP/Getty Images)

There are some 42,000 asylum seekers in grim camps on the Greek mainland and 8,000 more stuck in the eastern Greek islands. There are about 3,000 still on Lesbos, most at two camps near the island's biggest town.

With a wealth of misery in the world, the crash in the tourism economy here might not seem like a big deal, the waiters of Lesbos admit."You don't see people eating out of skipsyet," saysKourniaris. "But this winter? You might."

Raphael Vouas, 54, closed his popular Sansibal Restaurant here. After 23 years, there weren't enough customers to keep it open and pay staff. That's seven more Greeks without a job.

"Now I am the tourist," the restaurateur says.He spends his days at the beach or sitting in a cafe drinking coffee. "Look at me, I have a tan," he says grimly.

Bureaucrats in Brussels mostly shrug: it's just a few islands; they'll bounce back. The European Union is now struggling to absorb the million-plus asylum seekers it has already let in, most from Syria. Athens has no real plan to make the small-scalerestaurateurs and their employees here whole again.

The frustration felt on the Greek islands is another bell ringing in Europe about the challenges posed by a globalised world, even as Europe encouraged one of the largest mass migrations in history.

The locals here believe they did right by the war refugees - they were on the front line, and they say they would help again. But now they feel abandoned.

The Greeks on Lesbos understand the refugees' plight. Their grandparents had similar experiences. Many locals are descendants of Christian Greeks who were forcibly repatriated from Turkey - as Muslim Turks were from Lesbos - in the aftermath of the First World War.

Ask an unemployed Greek waiter today what he thinks about Donald Trump and his anti-immigrationstance, and even the socialists say the New York real estate mogul might be on to something.Residents here are quick to say that they found the beaches littered with foreign passports - from Morocco, Iran, Algeria, Pakistan - abandoned by migrants looking for a backdoor to Europe.

"They weren't all war refugees, and they weren't all Syrians," says Michael Konstantellis, 39, who has waited tables and has worked as a DJ and travel agent.

A boy stands among the wreck of a torched tent in the Moria detention camp on the Greek island of Lesbos, on June 2, 2016 (AFP/Getty Images)

These same feelings - these micro-stories of anger and abandonment - are spreading across Europe.The images of waves of asylum seekers coming ashore in Lesbos nine months ago were in part behind Britain's vote to abandon the European Union, and they are stoking an anti-immigration tide in Austria, France and Denmark."It'sthe butterfly effect," says MrKourniaris.

The Pope came to Lesbos to highlight the migrant crisis. So did UNSecretary General Ban Ki-moon, Queen Rania of Jordan and Angelina Jolie.The people of Lesbos are short-listed for a Nobel Peace Prize for their generosity.The locals say, "We can't eat prizes."

© Washington Post

**Load-Date:** July 28, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Priti Patel: A timeline of how the scandal developed from a family 'holiday' to a near-certain sacking; In just five days, Theresa May has shifted from insisting 'no investigation'is necessary -to preparing to fire her International Development Secretary*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5PX4-7BN1-JCJY-G24R-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

November 8, 2017 Wednesday 1:17 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS; Version:3

**Length:** 678 words

**Byline:** Rob Merrick

**Body**

13 August

- Priti Patel, the International Development Secretary, flies to Israel with her family for 13-day visit which she later describes as a "holiday", paid for by herself.

3 November

- The BBC reveals she held a number of meetings at which official departmental business was discussed, including with the leader of one of Israel's main political parties.

The BBC also reports that Ms Patel was accompanied by Lord Polak, president of Conservative Friends of Israel(CFI), which has close links with wealthy Tory donors.

The revelation triggers accusation that she has broken ministerial rules, by failing to tell the Foreign Office about government business conducted overseas.

Read more

Priti Patel flies back to UK for expected firing - live updates

However, Theresa May's official spokesman denies any controversy,insisting Ms Patel had simply taken "the opportunity to meet some people and some organisations".

Asked if the Prime Minister was concerned by the allegations, he replies: "There is no investigation taking place."

Later, Ms Patel insists the allegation that she kept the Foreign Office in the dark is false, telling a reporter,"Boris [Johnson] knew about the visit."

6 November

- The Cabinet minister issues a lengthy statement accepting the visit "did not accord with the usual procedures". She adds: "I am sorry for this and I apologise for it."

She reveals she undertook no fewer than 12 meetings while in Israel, including with Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel's prime minister, the country's security minister and the foreign ministry's chief diplomat.

The statement admits the Foreign Office was "not informed" about the meetings, contrary to her earlier claim.

Ms Patel is given a face-to-face reprimand by the Prime Minister, and reminded about her "responsibilities under the ministerial code".

But Ms May's spokesman denies her actions are a "resigning matter", saying: "The important point here is that no UK interests were damaged."

He disputes that the ministerial code has been broken, arguing it is "not explicit in this area". The Cabinet Secretary is asked to make it "clearer".

Asked if the Prime Minister had not known, for more than two months, that her minister had met Mr Netanyahu, a foreign head of state, the spokesman replies: "That is correct."

7 November

- The BBC reports that Ms Patel - unknown to No 10 - discussed funnelling foreign aid cash for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** through the Israeli Defence Force.

The Foreign Office says it rejected the plan, because it involved humanitarian operations in the Golan Heights, illegally occupied by Israel since 1967.

During an "urgent question' in the Commons, Tory MPs fail to support Ms Patel, but the minister is absent, having flown to Africa on a pre-arranged visit.

Later, it is revealed she held two further meetings after her "holiday"in September,with Israel's security minister and the chief diplomat, the former on the House of Commons terrace.

It is reported that Lord Polak, who is also chairman of a lobbying group, attended Ms Patel's earlier meetings with members of the Israeli government.

Read more

Tory MP ridiculed for claim 'Remoaners' stoking Patel controversy

Number 10 'knew' about Priti Patel's latest secret Israeli meeting

Patel set to be sacked over more secret Israeli meetings

Palestinian Ambassador attacks May's refusal to sack Patel

8 November

- Downing Street orders Ms Patel to cancel meetings and return home immediately from Kenya, amid a growing belief that she will be sacked.

The Israeli

Haaretz

newspaper reports that she also visited an Israeli military field hospital in the occupied Golan Heights.

No 10 denies it instructed Ms Patel not to publicise the September meeting with diplomatYuval Rotemto avoid embarrassing the Foreign Office, but accepts it knew about it.

However,

The Independent

is told she still faces dismissal because she did not disclose the Commons meeting with security ministerGilad Erdant

o the Prime

Minister.

No 10 also denies that Ms May knewin Augustabout the meeting with Mr Netanyahu, and the plan for UK aid to be passed through the Israeli army.

**Load-Date:** November 8, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Obama's photographer on taking 1.9 million photos of America's first black president and throwing shade at Trump; Pete Souza says he tries to be 'somewhat subtle and respectful' in his Instagram post responses to President Donald Trump*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5PX5-7NY1-JCJY-G4RM-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

November 8, 2017 Wednesday 6:52 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS; Version:1

**Length:** 624 words

**Byline:** Mythili Sampathkumar

**Body**

Photographer Pete Souzahas reflected on eight years looking at former President Barack Obama and "throwing shade" at President Donald Trump through his Instagram account.

His new book

Obama: An Intimate Portrait

showcases some of Mr Souza's favourite images from the nearly twomillion he took during the Obama presidency.

Some have become posts on his Instagram account, usually timed with Mr Trump's often-controversial tweets.

Read more

Obama's photographer trolls Donald Trump... Again

Mr Souza told National Public Radio that he is aware of his reputation for "throwing shade" at Mr Trump and joked he had to look up the term because he was not sure what it meant.

"I kind of laughed I guess," he said.

However, he does his best to be "somewhat subtle and respectful in the words that I write" and said he feels his feed, "compared to what some people write on Twitter," is "very respectful."

"I think people can interpret them [however they want to]," Mr Souza said.

Some of his more popular posts include responding to Mr Trump's comment in the wake of four US soldiers' deaths in an ambush in Niger when he said previouspresidents, particularly his predecessor, had not called or spent time with Gold Star families.

The President and First Lady console Paul and Janet, parents of Army Sgt. 1st Class Jared C. Monti, who had just been awarded posthumously with the Medal of Honor for his actions in Afghanistan. This was the first of 52 Medals of Honor, the nation's highest award for military valor, that President Obama bestowed during his two terms. I also photographed him meeting with hundreds of wounded soldiers, and family members of those killed in action.

A post shared by Pete Souza (@petesouza) on

Oct 16, 2017 at 12:37pm PDT

This was Mr Souza'sresponse to the President's tweets criticising fellow Republican and Senator Bob Corker for disagreeing with him after Mr Corker said the White House resembled a "day care".

President Obama talks with Sen. Bob Corker inside The Beast after arriving at an event in Tennessee in 2015. The President often disagreed with the Senator but at least talked to him in person or on the phone.

A post shared by Pete Souza (@petesouza) on

Oct 8, 2017 at 10:05am PDT

During the first week of Mr Trump's presidency he signed the travel ban executive order, barring travellers from six Muslim-majority countries including ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** fleeing violence in that country, Mr Souzaposted this picture of Mr Obama smiling and speaking with a child refugee.

Talking with a young refugee at a Dignity for Children Foundation classroom in 2015.

A post shared by Pete Souza (@petesouza) on

Jan 29, 2017 at 5:16am PST

He also reflected on "trying to be a piece of the woodwork" during his years at the White House, as he was a silent presence at sensitive national security meetings, briefings about national tragedies, and the more light-hearted moments Mr Obama often shared with children visiting the Oval Office.

Read more

White House photographer highlights difference between Trump and Obama

Obama photographer Pete Souza trolls Trump after Comey firing

Obama's official photographer mocks Kellyanne Conway microwave theory

Mr Souza's book includes now-iconic images ranging from the moment in the Situation Room just ahead of the assassination of terrorist Osama bin Laden to when Mr Obama leaned over to a staffer's young African-American son to let him touch his head so the boy could see they had similar hair.

"I was there all the time....I wasn't talking to [Obama] all the time, but I was always in every meeting and pretty much every situation that he had as president," Mr Souza noted.

**Load-Date:** November 8, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Mysterious fanged sea creature washed up during Hurricane Harvey identified*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5PGD-R091-JCJY-G4JM-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 14, 2017 Thursday 7:22 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS; Version:1

**Length:** 639 words

**Byline:** Lindsey Bever

**Body**

After high winds and heavy rains brought by Hurricane Harvey, a mysterious sea creature with fangs and no face washed up on the shoreline in southwest Texas - giving the Internet a challenging task: to identify it.

Preeti Desai, social media manager at the National Audubon Society, posted pictures of the critter earlier this month on Twitter, asking, "What the heck is this??"

Desai, who said she had accompanied conservationists assessing the damage from the storm, spotted the creature on a beach in Texas City, about 15 miles from Galveston.

(Twitter/@

Preetalina

)

The Internet gave its best guesses:

A gulper eel.

A "bloated" moray eel.

No, an alien.

Read more

This chainsaw-wielding nun is coming to the aide of Irma victims

I tried to evacuate for Irma - but it didn't go quite to plan

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** respond to Hurricane Irma by cooking feasts for

"I follow a lot of scientists and researchers," Desai told BBC News about her plea for answers on social media. "There's such a great community of these folks that are very helpful, especially when it comes to answering questions about the world or identifying animals and plants."

She said someone suggested that she contact Kenneth Tighe, a biologist with the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History.

Tighe, an eel expert, told Earth Touch News that the creature was most likely a fangtooth snake-eel, or Aplatophis chauliodus.

Fangtooth snake-eels live in burrows 100 to 300 feet down in waters stretching from the Gulf of Mexico to French Guiana, "with only snout and eyes exposed, darting to feed on other fishes and crustaceans," according to FishBase, an online database for fish species.

(Twitter/@

Preetalina

)

Other possibilities? Bathyuroconger vicinus or Xenomystax congroides.

"All three of these species occur off Texas and have large fang-like teeth," Tighe told Earth Touch News. "Too bad you can't clearly see the tip of the tail. That would differentiate between the ophichthid and the congrids."

Desai told BBC News that she left the dead eel alone to "let nature take its course."

She wrote in a post Sept. 8 on Audubon's website that in the wake of Hurricane Harvey, she traveled to Houston to help document "the effects of the hurricane on birds and their habitats."

"I joined Audubon Texas's Coastal Conservation program manager, Victoria Vazquez, and coastal warden, Dennis Jones, to visit some of the rookery islands off the coast of Galveston and assess the damage," she wrote. "They wanted to take a look at things like how much land had been lost and how much plant cover was missing due to being uprooted or washed away. Changes like these could affect the number of species that will be able to nest on the habitat in the future."

"Audubon Texas and partner organizations like Houston Audubon collectively own or lease more than 170 coastal islands, some of which appear and disappear as currents shift and waves wash over them. These islands, even when they're no more than sandbars, are supremely important for many colonial water birds - birds that gather in groups - as they nest and breed during the spring and summer months. Visit at the right time and you'll find American Oystercatchers, Brown Pelicans, Least Terns, and more. (But be careful - birds are especially vulnerable during nesting season and no visitors are allowed on the islands from February through August.) Brown Pelicans in particular were at risk of extinction in the 1970s, and although they've made a comeback since then, their nesting areas (and those of many other species) are now in trouble due to rising sea levels and stronger storms caused by climate change. So it was a positive that most of the chicks had fledged by the time Harvey hit."

Still, people on social media were more interested in - and spooked by - the sea creature she stumbled upon while she was there.

Washington Post

**Load-Date:** September 14, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Disabled people are being 'shut out of society' by spending cuts, equality bodies warn; Campaigners say human rights being ignored as those in need of additional care 'bear the brunt' of austerity policies*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5P9P-G981-F021-63Y4-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

August 23, 2017 Wednesday 1:58 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS; Version:1

**Length:** 697 words

**Byline:** Jon Vale

**Body**

Disabled people are being "increasingly marginalised and shut out of society" as they bear the brunt of Government spending cuts, the UK's equality and human rights bodies have warned.

Campaigners said the UK and devolved governments must start taking the human rights of disabled people more seriously, as officials prepare for an examination on the issue at the United Nations.

Members of an independent watchdog set up to monitor disabled people's rights in the UK say their right to independent living has been eroded as health and social care budgets are cut.

It is among a series of policies criticised by the groups in their submission to the UN.

The UN's Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) previously said welfare reforms have led to "grave and systematic violations" of disabled people's rights, findings the Government said it strongly disagreed with.

Read more

UK accused of breaching UN convention in treatment of disabled people

The committee is now conducting a much wider investigation to assess the UK's progress in implementing the UN Convention on the Rights of Disabled People, as part of a periodic review all nations signed up to the convention must go through.

The Government said the UK is a world leader in disability rights and spends billions of pounds to support those with disabilities and health conditions every year.

But David Isaac, chairman of the Equality and Human Rights Commission, said: "There is a real concern that disabled people are being increasingly marginalised and shut out of society as they bear the brunt of the accumulated impact of cuts in public spending.

"Disabled people have won hard fought battles in recent decades to ensure that they can live independently to exercise choice and control over their support.

"Evidence of regression must be confronted and urgently addressed.

"As the UK and devolved governments' track record on disability rights comes under the international microscope, we call for concerted action to remove the barriers in society that prevent disabled people living full lives on equal terms with non-disabled people."

The report states that seven years of social security reforms have had a "particularly disproportionate, cumulative impact" on disabled people, resulting in a "regression of disabled people's rights to live independently and to an adequate standard of living".

Read more

Four UK airports provide 'poor service' for disabled passengers

Home Office accused of abandoning vulnerable ***Syrian*** ***refugees***

Insurance companies are legally discriminating against disabled people

This is what it's like to live with an invisible disability

Rod Stewart donates thousands to families of disabled children

Other issues raised include underfunding of mental health services, gaps in legal protection and barriers to accessing justice, the continued use of physical and chemical restraint, and the levels of legal protection for disabled people in Northern Ireland, which is lower than in the rest of the UK.

"Everyone is entitled to the same opportunities and respect, the governments must start taking the human rights of disabled people more seriously," Mr Isaac said.

The Government says, as a share of GDP, the UK's public spending on disability and incapacity is higher than all other G7 countries bar Germany, while its focus has been on helping disabled people achieve their potential in the job market and wider society.

A spokeswoman said: "The UK is a recognised world leader in disability rights and equality, which is why we supported the development of the UN convention.

"Almost 600,000 disabled people have moved into work over the last four years and we spend over £50 billion a year to support disabled people and those with health conditions, more than ever before.

"This first periodic review will help build on our progress to empower disabled people in all aspects of their lives."

The Equality and Human Rights Commission, the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland (ECNI), the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission (NIHRC) and the Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC) act as independent monitors of the convention and made a joint submission to the UN.

PA

**Load-Date:** August 23, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Mysterious fanged sea creature washed up during Hurricane Harvey identified*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5PGK-NK71-JCJY-G351-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 14, 2017 Thursday 7:22 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS; Version:2

**Length:** 639 words

**Byline:** Lindsey Bever

**Body**

After high winds and heavy rains brought by Hurricane Harvey, a mysterious sea creature with fangs and no face washed up on the shoreline in southwest Texas - giving the Internet a challenging task: to identify it.

Preeti Desai, social media manager at the National Audubon Society, posted pictures of the critter earlier this month on Twitter, asking, "What the heck is this??"

Desai, who said she had accompanied conservationists assessing the damage from the storm, spotted the creature on a beach in Texas City, about 15 miles from Galveston.

(Twitter/@

Preetalina

)

The Internet gave its best guesses:

A gulper eel.

A "bloated" moray eel.

No, an alien.

Read more

This chainsaw-wielding nun is coming to the aide of Irma victims

I tried to evacuate for Irma - but it didn't go quite to plan

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** respond to Hurricane Irma by cooking feasts for

"I follow a lot of scientists and researchers," Desai told BBC News about her plea for answers on social media. "There's such a great community of these folks that are very helpful, especially when it comes to answering questions about the world or identifying animals and plants."

She said someone suggested that she contact Kenneth Tighe, a biologist with the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History.

Tighe, an eel expert, told Earth Touch News that the creature was most likely a fangtooth snake-eel, or Aplatophis chauliodus.

Fangtooth snake-eels live in burrows 100 to 300 feet down in waters stretching from the Gulf of Mexico to French Guiana, "with only snout and eyes exposed, darting to feed on other fishes and crustaceans," according to FishBase, an online database for fish species.

(Twitter/@

Preetalina

)

Other possibilities? Bathyuroconger vicinus or Xenomystax congroides.

"All three of these species occur off Texas and have large fang-like teeth," Tighe told Earth Touch News. "Too bad you can't clearly see the tip of the tail. That would differentiate between the ophichthid and the congrids."

Desai told BBC News that she left the dead eel alone to "let nature take its course."

She wrote in a post Sept. 8 on Audubon's website that in the wake of Hurricane Harvey, she traveled to Houston to help document "the effects of the hurricane on birds and their habitats."

"I joined Audubon Texas's Coastal Conservation program manager, Victoria Vazquez, and coastal warden, Dennis Jones, to visit some of the rookery islands off the coast of Galveston and assess the damage," she wrote. "They wanted to take a look at things like how much land had been lost and how much plant cover was missing due to being uprooted or washed away. Changes like these could affect the number of species that will be able to nest on the habitat in the future."

"Audubon Texas and partner organizations like Houston Audubon collectively own or lease more than 170 coastal islands, some of which appear and disappear as currents shift and waves wash over them. These islands, even when they're no more than sandbars, are supremely important for many colonial water birds - birds that gather in groups - as they nest and breed during the spring and summer months. Visit at the right time and you'll find American Oystercatchers, Brown Pelicans, Least Terns, and more. (But be careful - birds are especially vulnerable during nesting season and no visitors are allowed on the islands from February through August.) Brown Pelicans in particular were at risk of extinction in the 1970s, and although they've made a comeback since then, their nesting areas (and those of many other species) are now in trouble due to rising sea levels and stronger storms caused by climate change. So it was a positive that most of the chicks had fledged by the time Harvey hit."

Still, people on social media were more interested in - and spooked by - the sea creature she stumbled upon while she was there.

Washington Post

**Load-Date:** September 15, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: With the UN nowhere to be found, the residents of Lesbos have had to help hundreds of refugees a day on their own; The north coast of Lesbos is ground zero for the refugee traffic because it is much the closest point to Turkey*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H1P-HS61-JCJY-G0X8-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 29, 2015 Tuesday 1:09 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 1389 words

**Byline:** PETER POPHAM

**Body**

It was 28 April and Dimitrios Vatis and his family were preparing to welcome the first guests of the season to their hotel with its private beach just outside Molyvos, on the north coast of Lesbos. "We were just opening," says his daughter Aphrodite (also the name of the hotel), "expecting people to arrive, when a boat full of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** turned up.

"It's one thing to see it on TV, it's a different thing to see them coming towards you, some of them singing, some hollering, some crying with joy, with relief...

"This was a small boat, with just 15 people on board. There were kids on the boat, they handed them over to us. They were all wet and cold so we opened rooms in the hotel for them and made them comfortable. I went home and got some of my children's clothes and we dried them and dressed them and soon they were running around... It's hard to see these children in your own children's clothes - it's a strange feeling.

Aphrodite said one man was initially left on the boat. "We discovered he was paralysed from the waist down. Eventually we managed to drag him out of the boat, and we found he had brought his wheelchair with him...

"At the start there was one boat a week. Then one a day. Then it quickly increased until we were getting four to six boats a day. We can get up to 12 boats in a day. There can be up to 70 people in a boat. It took time for people to realise that it wasn't going to stop."

It's one thing to see it on TV, it's a different thing to see them coming towards you, some of them singing, some hollering, some crying with joy, with relief

AphroditeVatis

This summer, Aphrodite and her colleagues have succeeded in juggling the business of running a holiday hotel with the challenges of bringing refugees ashore, and fortunately for this island of 90,000 inhabitants, the paying guests have kept coming as regularly as the refugees.

For Eric and Philippa Kempson, who live couple of miles east along the coast, the crisis has become all-consuming.

Eric is a wood sculptor and he and his family, originally from Windsor, have made their home here for the past 16 years. But today the sculpture takes a back seat. The approach to their home-cum-workshop, 100 yards from the shoreline, is dominated by stacks of boxes and battered suitcases full of clothes, blankets, toys, disposable nappies and sun cream, all sent by well-wishers.

The north coast of Lesbos is ground zero for the refugee traffic because it is much the closest point to Turkey - one hour with a good engine and calm seas. But most of the coast consists of forbidding cliffs. And the amateur helmsmen, who, like their passengers, may never have been in a boat before in their lives, and who pay the people smugglers (EURO)1,000 (£730) or more for the passage, can end up making landfall at any point along it. The Kempsons keep watch over their stretch of coastline as best they can.

"People have always come across," says Eric. "In the past there would be one or two boats a week: Iranians, Iraqis, Afghans. Some of them would row across. But now we get 3,000 people per day, all day and all night. You get all sorts. We had five full-grown Afghans arrive in a kids' plastic boat, driven by the sort of food mixer you use to make candy floss, powered by a 12-volt battery. But they got here. The Greek coast guard rescue people day and night.

"It's going to get worse: we've heard there are 440,000 people in Izmir [about 50 miles away on Turkey's west coast] waiting to come over, and because of the stories about Europe closing its borders, people are panicking. And if they've made it as far as Izmir, they will certainly manage the last stretch. So it's hard for us. We're going at it from dawn to dusk."

The situation greeting the refugees has improved in the weeks since photographs of the drowned body of three-year-old Aylan al-Kurdi jolted the world's conscience. Today the stony beach in front of the Kempsons' home is manned by shifting teams of doctors from France and other volunteers from Norway, Denmark and the Netherlands, who towel the shivering children dry, give them soft toys, dress them in donated clothes, and feed them and their parents with sandwiches.

Read more

These are the steps Europe must take to solve the refugee crisis

John Oliver reacts to Fox News coverage of refugee crisis

Why the world's refugees should be given international passports

Banksy's Dismaland moves to Calais to provide shelter for refugees

Mark Zuckerberg announces plans to bring Facebook to refugee camps

The effort is not centrally co-ordinated and is dependent entirely on the goodwill of the volunteers. Both here and in Mytilini, the island's capital where the refugees must go to be registered, the United Nations refugee agency and the International Committee of the Red Cross - the seasoned professionals who are normally at the heart of any great relief effort - are conspicuous by their absence.

A new reception and screening centre capable of coping with almost 500 people is now being planned for the island by the Greek government. But on Thursday alone about 1,200 people arrived by boat in less than an hour, following the 2,500 who had made the passage the previous day.

In the past few days the UNHCR has started laying on buses to bring new arrivals the 40 miles across the island from Molyvos to the capital. Before that, the able-bodied had to walk the whole way. Thousands made that journey, and the plastic water bottles they discarded now line the entire route.

Driving along one exposed stretch, I came across four young men and stopped to offer them a lift. They came from Herat in Afghanistan; like most of the new arrivals, they had barely a word of English between them. We succeeded in establishing that I was British, and that they had a low opinion of the Taliban.

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** take a photo after completing the next stage, a ferry from Lesbos to Piraeus (EPA)

I left them at their destination, the car park of the ferry port in Mytilini, which was awash with disorientated families, some in tents, others sprawled in the open on sheets of cardboard. Knots of aimless young men wandered around the harbour. All were waiting to be shipped to Athens for the next leg of their odyssey to Vienna or Berlin. There was no indication that anybody was organising anything.

The people of Lesbos wrestle with conflicting feelings towards the refugee tsunami: their pity and compassion is clear, but they also have the sense of being under siege and unable to do anything about it.

"We have more refugees than there are inhabitants of the island," says Eleni (not her real name), the manager of another hotel on the Molyvos coast. "The tourist business is all we have on the island. And the way things are going, all the companies will close. Fifty per cent of our summer reservations were cancelled because of the refugees. When you see the refugee children on the streets, it destroys your feelings. You go home to sleep and you think of these people out there on the streets..."

A Syrian refugee man struggles to carry his daughter off a dinghy at a beach after arriving on Lesbos (Reuters)

On the island, there is no escaping these emotions. There is something very intense about seeing frail boats crammed with frightened people creeping across the face of the ocean towards you. It's very different from facing an angry crowd across a high fence, or watching people trying to wangle their way on to a lorry or a train. I challenge Viktor Orban of Hungary or Nigel Farage to undergo the experience and not be shaken by it, and perhaps be changed. And it doesn't matter how often it happens: every time another rubber boat bounces through the foam and crunches on to the pebbles and the people on board hand over their crying, shivering children to the hands on shore and clamber out and struggle through the shallows, the sense of naked, shared humanity is the same.

It is to the honour of Europe - and shames our so-called leaders - that dozens of volunteers from the far corners of this continent (and from Israel) are there on the beaches of Lesbos to do what needs to be done. And to keep on doing it, over and over again.

**Load-Date:** September 29, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Thousands of refugees are returning to war-torn Syria amid UN safety warnings*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5NXJ-5V61-JCS0-D1JR-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

July 2, 2017 Sunday

First Edition

Copyright 2017 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 21

**Length:** 713 words

**Byline:** LIZZIE DEARDEN

**Body**

Tens of thousands of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** have returned to the country so far this year amid fresh hope for lasting ceasefires in some cities.

The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) said it was seeing a "notable trend of spontaneous returns" from outside and inside the country. Around 31,000 refugees returned from neighbouring countries in the first six months of 2017, while more than 440,000 internally displaced people went back to their homes - a combined total of almost half a million people.

Andrej Mahecic, a spokesperson for the UNHCR, said the main destinations were Aleppo, Hama, Homs and Damascus - all of which are partly or wholly controlled by the Syrian government after devastating battles against rebel groups. Mr Mahecic said Syrians were seeking out family members, checking on property, and "in some cases responding to a real or perceived improvement in security conditions in parts of the country".

But he warned that although there is fresh hope over recent peace talks in Astana and Geneva, the "UNHCR believes conditions for refugees to return in safety and dignity are not yet in place in Syria".

"The sustainability of security improvements in many return areas is uncertain, and there remain significant risks of protection thresholds for voluntary, safe and dignified returns not being met in parts of the country," he added. "Access to the displaced population inside Syria remains a key challenge, with aid convoys still unable to access regularly even the recently newly accessible areas."

Limited progress has been made in the UN-backed peace talks in Geneva, while the West is wary of ceasefires brokered by Bashar al-Assad's allies Russia and Iran, and rebel-supporting Turkey in Astana. Isis and al-Qaeda linked alliance Tahrir al-Sham are barred from all talks and continue to hold swathes of territory.

The UNHCR is scaling up its operations inside Syria for the new arrivals, providing "protection services" and shelter and improving damaged infrastructure and basic services. It warned that mass returns will not be sustainable without employment opportunities, adequate food and water, health care and education - all of which have been severely damaged by the six-year civil war, seeing the illegal targeting of infrastructure and widespread destruction of hospitals and schools.

"At this stage and while UNHCR will be investing to help, with other partners to improve conditions in accessible areas inside Syria, refugee returns from host countries can neither be promoted nor facilitated by UNHCR," Mr Mahecic said. He emphasised that access to asylum for Syrians and allowing them to stay in host countries remained "critical", reiterating an appeal for $304m (£230m) in funding for displaced people.

Kevin Kennedy, the UN regional humanitarian coordinator for Syria, said almost 14 million of the 18 million people currently living in the country in need of some form of humanitarian assistance. Of those, 4.5 million are trapped in besieged or hard to reach areas "in desperate need" of aid, which is being blocked by both the Syrian government and rebel groups.

Over one third of Syrians are displaced within the country, while about 5 million more have fled, mainly to Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon. Since 2015, at least 260,000 refugees have spontaneously returned to Syria, primarily from neighbouring Turkey.

European countries including Germany, Austria and Norway have been offering financial incentives for asylum seekers to voluntarily return to their home nations as borders have hardened throughout the EU.

The vast majority of Syrians arrived on treacherous boat crossings to Greek islands but arrivals have slowed to a trickle since the controversial EU-Turkey deal was imposed in March last year, seeing anyone arriving over the Aegean Sea detained under threat of deportation. The main sea route to Europe became the Central Mediterranean - now the deadliest sea passage in the world - claiming more than 2,000 lives so far this year.

Around 92,000 migrants have arrived on European shores since January - 83,600 to Italy and 9,000 to Greece - mostly from sub-Saharan African nations, Bangladesh and Morocco. Syrians, who once made up the largest group of asylum seekers making the journey, account for only 8 per cent of those arriving in 2017.

**Load-Date:** July 1, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Huge fires devastate two refugee camps in Lebanon*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5NYV-0V21-F072-416B-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

July 8, 2017 Saturday

First Edition

Copyright 2017 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 18

**Length:** 647 words

**Byline:** BETHAN MCKERNAN IN ZAHLE

**Body**

Lebanon's fertile Bekaa Valley is beautiful. In the July sun, gold wheat fields reflect the light and the sky is blue and clear over the mountains which form the border with Syria. The Bekaa's lush landscape is usually at odds with the poverty found there: 39 per cent of Lebanon's registered 1.1 million refugees are living in the 2,564 informal settlements dotted across the Bekaa, according to UN data.

This week, however, blackened fields where two refugee settlements once stood are an unmistakable reminder of the bleak situation ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in this part of the country face.

In the space of just four days, huge fires ripped through two different camps, killing two children and sending around a dozen more people to hospital with severe burns. Souriya, 40, lives in one of the settlements affected just outside the town of Qom Elias, where it is thought the blaze was started by someone using a gas canister to cook in one of the camp's 94 tents.

Her memory of what happened on Sunday afternoon isn't clear because everything happened so quickly, but she recalls scooping up her younger children and running for the camp's only entrance as towers of black smoke rose into the air. "It was terrifying," she told The Independent.

While cooking fires are common in the haphazardly built settlements in which many Syrians in Lebanon are forced to live, they are normally quickly contained, affecting a tent or two before residents manage to put them out. Thanks to the searing 40 degree summer heat wave and wheat crop surrounding the camp, however, it spread very quickly. Several residents said that the fire extinguishers they used to try to put it out had expired and didn't work properly.

Ninety-one of the camp's 94 homes were completely destroyed, leaving around 700 homeless. Almost everyone's identification papers and the few souvenirs and trinkets from home that survived the dangerous journey across the border were destroyed. "We've never seen anything as severe as this. Usually fires are under control much quicker," said Antoine Ghazaly, the UN Refugee Agency's child protection officer for the region.

Souriya - named for her country, an old fashioned moniker which Syrians do not often give their babies these days - came to Lebanon with her husband Hamoud and their children in 2013. Natives of Raqqa, when Isis began to gain a foothold in the area they decided to get out while they still could. Now they have a family of six. Hamoud does odd jobs around the camp for cash in accordance with the strict rules set for Syrian work permits, but the family are desperately poor.

The usual image associated with refugees is one of camps filled with row upon row of white tents - but after taking in so many Palestinians after the 1948 Arab-Israeli war, and fearful of encouraging people to stay, the Lebanese have not allowed aid organisations to set up formal camps for those displaced by Syria's civil war.

As a result, Syrian families make their own homes out of the materials to hand - with limited UN and NGO assistance - or move into derelict or abandoned buildings, often in already overcrowded Palestinian areas.

One hope that kept Souriya going for the last few months was the promise of a new home her father was helping build for the family: a four by four metre semi-permanent house made from timberframe, breezeblocks and tarpaulin, which would have its own latrine.Like everything else at Qob Elias camp, it went up in flames.

While rebuilding work has already begun in earnest - every family reconstructing their own shelter with help from the local Lebanese community - it does not mitigate the sense of loss for many. Talking about the house she had dreamed about, Souriya began to cry. "You can't understand what it's like," she said, her children sitting around her. "Everything we had is gone, again. How many times are you supposed to start again?"

**Load-Date:** July 7, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Afghan all-girl engineering team denied US visas while robot granted entry; Students mystified by decision and forced to watch competition on Skype as US caught in wrangling over President Donald Trump's 'Muslim travel ban'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5NY7-D751-F021-60PV-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

July 5, 2017 Wednesday 9:27 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST; Version:2

**Length:** 619 words

**Byline:** Jalil Ahmad Rezayee

**Body**

Two Afghan girls refused visas to the United States for a robot-building competition said on Tuesday they were mystified by the decision, as the contest's organisers said teams from Iran and Sudan as well as a de facto Syrian team had gained visas.

The unusual story of the Afghan all-girl team of robotics students emerged as the United States grapples with the legality of President Donald Trump's order to temporarily ban travel from six Muslim-majority countries.

Afghanistan itself is not on the list and Team Afghanistan's robot, unlike its creators, has been allowed entry to the United States. Asked by Reuters on Tuesday why the girls were banned, a US State Department spokesperson cited regulations prohibiting the agency from discussing individual visa cases.

So the six team members will watch the ball-sorting machine compete in Washington DC via video link during the July 16-18 event from their hometown of Herat, in western Afghanistan, according to the FIRST Global contest organisers.

"We still don't know the reason why we were not granted visas, because other countries participating in the competition have been given visas," said 14-year-old Fatemah Qaderyan, part of the team that made two journeys to the USEmbassy in the Afghan capital Kabul to apply for their papers.

"No one knows about the future but... we did our best and we hope that our robot could get a position along other robots from other countries," Qaderyan said.

Most of the female team members were either infants or not yet born at the time of the US-backed military intervention in Afghanistan in 2001 that toppled the Taliban regime - whose ultra-hardline interpretation of Sharia (Islamic law) banned girls from school, women from working outside the home and all females from leaving home without a male relative.

Read more

Parents shout 'go back to Mexico' at children's school robotics team

More than 15 years later, around 10,000 US and allied international troops remain in Afghanistan to support an elected government in Kabul that constitutionally guarantees women's rights but is increasingly losing ground to a Taliban insurgency that now controls or contests some 40 percent of territory.

Qaderyan's teammate from Herat, 17-year-old Lida Azizi, was less forgiving of the US visa decision. "All of the countries can participate in the competitions, but we can't. So it's a clear insult for the people of Afghanistan," Azizi said.

FIRST Global's president, Joe Sestak, said in a post on the organisation's Facebook page that he was "saddened" by the US decision but the Afghan team would be able to connect with the competition via a live Skype video link.

"That is how we must now honour our fellow teammates, those brave girls from Afghanistan," he said.

He added that the teams of 156 countries - including from Iran and Sudan, which are on Trump's list of countries whose citizens are banned from entry - had received their visas.

"The support of the US State Department (including its embassies) has been simply nothing short of amazing," Sestak said in the post, adding that one other team, from Gambia, had been also denied visas.

Also approved for visas was "Team Hope," a group of ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, he said.

Syria is among the Muslim-majority countries named in Trump's executive order prohibiting all citizens from entry for 90 days. The other countries, apart from Iran, Syria and Sudan, are Libya, Somalia and Yemen.

In a 26 June ruling, the USSupreme Court revived parts of Trump's 6 Marchexecutive order that had been blocked by lower courts. The highest court let the ban go forward with a limited scope, saying that it cannot apply to anyone with credible "bona fide relationship" with a US person or entity.

Reuters

**Load-Date:** July 5, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Paul Ryan defends Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban' but says rhetoric around it is dangerous; The House Speaker argued it made sense for the US to take a 'pause' and reform its vetting procedures*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MS6-YMY1-F021-6447-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 31, 2017 Tuesday 4:35 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 633 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz

**Body**

House Speaker Paul Ryan insisted Donald Trump's Muslim ban was not dangerous for the US, but the "rhetoric" around it was.

Three days after Mr Trump signed an executive order to ban refugees from seven countries andindefinitely suspendSyrian refugees, Mr Ryan argued that it was merely the way people spoke about the ban which could act as an incentive for terrorists to recruit anti-US operatives.

"I think the rhetoric around this could be used for a recruiting tool [for terrorists] and I think that's dangerous but remember these countries were named by the Obama administration and there is an issue with terrorists trying to infiltrate a refugee population.

"There is nothing wrong with taking a pause and making sure the proper vetting standards are in place."

Read more

There's nothing new about Trump's 'travel ban'

Around 12,500 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** were admitted to the US last year after being vetted for at least two years.

The ban led to large protests at airports around the US and to the former acting Attorney General Sally Yates instructing lawyers not to defend the travel ban - she was then fired at the weekend for "betraying" Mr Trump.

The President's executive order also faces severe criticism from human rights activists, Democrats and a growing group of Republicans.

Mr Ryan himself tweeted against Mr Trump's proposal for extreme vetting and a religious test of incoming refugees and immigrants last July, saying the proposal was "not reflective of America's fundamental values".

"I reject it,"he wrote.

His spokeswoman defended Mr Ryan's support of the the newly-imposed ban, as it was "not a religious test and was not a ban on people of any religion".

At a GOP press conference on Monday morning, Mr Ryan said that national security should be the main focus.

"We can be generous and support our national security at the same time,"he said.

He added that the roll-out of the ban - with no guidance to airports, airlines or about green card and visa holders - caused confusion.

"Now I think it's regrettable that there was some confusion on the roll-out of this,"he said.

"No one wanted to see people with green cards or special immigrant visas like translators get caught up in all of this. And so I think, regrettably the roll-out was confusing but on a go-forward basis I'm confident that [Department of Homeland Security] Secretary [James] Kelly is going to make sure this is done correctly, that they get a good review and we get this up and running with the kind of vetting we want to see."

The blanket order blocks citizens from Iran, Iraq, Syria, Yemen, Sudan, Somalia and Libya from entering the country for at least 90 days. It also bans refugees from anywhere in the world for 120 days, and indefinitely bans refugees from Syria.

Read more

Obama 'heartened' by scale of protests against Trump's travel ban

Thousands march across Britain in protest at Trump travel ban

Trump travel ban 'mean-spirited' and illegal under human rights law

Countries where Donald Trump does business untouched by travel ban

Mr Ryan insisted there was still a role for Congress to provide oversight on Mr Trump's executive orders.

The Republican prompted the audience at the conference to "remember the Paris attacks" as support for the travel ban.

Not one person from the seven countries affected by the ban has carried out a terrorist attack in the US. Countries like Saudi Arabia, from where the 9/11 hijackers came, are not on the list.

If the ban were announced with a one week notice, the "bad" would rush into our country during that week. A lot of bad "dudes" out there!

- Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) January 30, 2017

Other Republicans like South Carolina senator Lindsey Graham have described the ban as a "self-inflicted wound".

But Mr Ryan and SenateMajority Leader Mitch McConnell are not among them.

**Load-Date:** January 31, 2017

**End of Document**



[*The idiot economics of Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban' will hit his own people in the wallet; The fact that those who had been granted green cards (permanent residence) were initially included in the ban will have sent a chill through any non-American worker, regardless of nationality or religion*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MSD-WXS1-JCJY-G00M-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 1, 2017 Wednesday 3:14 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 630 words

**Byline:** Ben Chu

**Body**

A moral disgrace. An act of wanton cruelty. A legal outrage. An unconstitutional power grab. A work of gross administrative incompetence. A self-inflicted security wound. But economic idiocy too?

It seems almost otiose to mention money in the context of Trump's arbitrary executive order barring ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from America, capping the overall refugee intake for 2017 at 50,000 and stopping all entry to nationals from seven countries from the Muslim world.

But it's true. Trump's order not only defiles America's founding principles, sullies its global reputation and gives comfort to autocrats the world over, but it will, in all likelihood, ultimately lead to the diminishment of the vigour of the world's dominant economy too.

One doesn't need to look far in America for examples of refugees and their families who have made a stunning contribution to the country's prosperity. Steve Jobs, the founder of Apple, was the son of a Syrian refugee. Sergey Brin, the Google co-founder, was a refugee from the Soviet Union.

Donald Trump announces a ban on refugees and all visitors from Muslim-majority countries

But the economic case for being open to refugees does not merely rest on a handful of entrepreneurial superstars. The idea that these people seeking sanctuary in other states represent an endless burden on taxpayers - something we've heard so often in Europe in recent years - is nonsense.

Data from Europe shows that, over time, the employment rate of refugees rises from 25 per cent to more than 60 per cent. In Sweden asylum seekers have shown a bigger increase in employment rates than from any other migrant group.

Trump's apologists stress that the ban is only temporary and point out that America in the Obama years only admitted an average of 70,000 refugees a year. It's certainly true that America has not been pulling its weight when it comes to responding to the global refugee emergency.

But this is really to miss the point.

The economic damage from Trump's order goes far wider than its direct impact. The bulk of the harm is in the message it sends. The barely disguised discrimination against Muslims tells 1.6 bn followers of that faith that "America does not want you". And the fact that those who had been granted green cards (permanent residence) were initially included in the ban will have sent a chill through any non-American worker, regardless of nationality or religion. The message here is: you can no longer rely on the US government to respect your status, to treat you fairly.

Many informed observers suspect this anti-immigrant signal is the real goal. And listening to the views of Steve Bannon, Trump's "chief strategist" and reportedly the driving force behind the executive order, this seems all too plausible. Bannon has ranted in the past about US engineering schools being "full of people from South Asia and East Asia" and objected to the number of Asian Silicon Valley chief executives. "Twenty per cent of this country is immigrants. Is that not the beating heart of this problem?" he once asked.

This is no finessing this. What we have here from the mouth of Trump's right hand man is the raw voice of nativist bigotry.

It is also the voice of economic folly. America is a republic founded by immigrants and whose spectacular economic success is built upon successive waves of mass immigration from people from all over the world of all faiths and ethnic backgrounds. It has thrived on the back of immigrants' inventive talents and hard work.

This executive order is likely to be just the beginning. It sets the ugly and profoundly un-American tone. The longer Trump and Bannon control immigration policy in the US, the greater the damage that we can expect to be inflicted on the most productive national economy the planet has ever seen.

**Load-Date:** February 1, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Thousands set to for London march after week of global protests against Trump's travel ban; The organisers of the demonstration condemn the US travel ban as"an appalling attack on human rights"*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MT2-9J41-JCJY-G3W9-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 4, 2017 Saturday 11:58 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HOME NEWS

**Length:** 693 words

**Byline:** Niamh McIntyre

**Body**

Thousands of protestors are set march on London for the second time in a week, to oppose US

President Donald Trump's ban on travellers from seven mainly Muslim nations entering the US.

The protest comes at the end of a week where protests in cities across the world called on President Trump to end the controversial policy.

As thousands were detained at US airports, and 60,000 US visas were revoked, protesters picketed American embassies from Jakarta to Rome.

Read more

Donald Trump's travel ban was preventing this baby from surgery

White House hits back after judge blocks Trump's immigration ban

Iranian baby allowed to enter US after Trump's travel ban

An estimated 30,000 people marched on Downing Street earlier this week, and Sabby Dhalu, from Stand Up To Racism, told

The Independent

he expects another "massive show of opposition" today.

"Campaigners, including Muslim organisations, are coming to central London to send a clear message toTheresa Maythat Trump's not welcome here,"

@Nicola\_aladdin marchers gathering at US Embassy to #StandUpToTrump Oppose #MuslimBanpic.twitter.com/i431rwz5bi

- Stand Up To Racism (@AntiRacismDay) February 4, 2017

On my way to the US Embassy in London to protest the #MuslimBan I've got your back friends. @realDonaldTrump We won't be idle. pic.twitter.com/hlXsCpXo2p

- Kitty E Smith (@KhayoticKitty) February 4, 2017

The organisation has called the US President's travel ban as "an appalling attack on human rights" and said that it is "unacceptable that Theresa May has not come out and condemned this".

Protests against the ban have been organised in at least 12 UK cities, including Sheffield, Brighton and Birmingham.

Protest outside Downing Street sees tens of thousands demonstrate against Trump's immigration ban

President Trump's executive order suspended refugee resettlement in the US for 120 days and barred ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** indefinitely. It also barred travel from seven predominantly Muslim countries - Syria, Iran, Iraq, Yemen, Libya, Sudan and Somalia.

However, the Trump administration suffered an embarrassing setback on Friday, after a

federal judge in Seattle temporarily blocked the executive order regarding the travel ban.

Read more

Seattle judge blocks Trump's immigration ban nationwide

In Australia, thousands rallied on Friday after it emerged that Trump had described a planned refugee resettlement deal, which would relocate 1,250 refugees from the controversial Nauru and Manus Island detention camps to the US, as "dumb".

Around 1,000 people marched on the US embassy in Sydney, while hundreds more gathered in Melbourne.

Australian Senator Richard di Natale said in a post onhis Facebook page:

"Last night Melbourne said "No" to the politics of Donald Trump and the far-right in Australia."

This is the start of a collective resistance movement as people from all walks of life come together and say no to hatred."

Anti-Trump protest in Melbourne Hundreds of protesters marched down Swanston Street, chanting and yelling slogans against the US President pic.twitter.com/hTpMirq1AC

- Brandi Saari (@brandilmelb) February 3, 2017

Earlier in the week, protestors in the Philippines and Indonesiaburned American flags outside their countries' US embassies.

Neither country is in the list of banned countries, but Trump's immigration policies could have a tangible effect on both nations.

NOW: As a sign of dissent, the groups burn a US flag while singing 'Tigreng Papel'. #DumpTrumppic.twitter.com/oDOv1CqWfB

- The Manila Collegian (@MKule) January 30, 2017

Veronica Koman, who organised the protest in Jakarta, told The Associated Press:

"Indonesia is home to nearly 14,000 refugees seeking resettlement in third countries, and Trump's ban will significantly impact their chances of going to the US."

Filipino activists also demonstrated outside the US Embassy in Manila. Just hours after the protest ended, the government's special envoy to the US revealed that more than 300,000 Filipinos living in America are at risk of deportation.

3,000 people are expected to gather in Paris on Saturday for a #NoBanNoWall protest, while in the US, demonstrations have been organised in Miami, Washington, LA and New York.

**Load-Date:** February 4, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Muslim-majority countries linked to Trump's business escape US immigration ban*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MRG-X6K1-JCS0-D1FF-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

January 28, 2017 Saturday

First Edition

Copyright 2017 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 29

**Length:** 674 words

**Byline:** JON SHARMAN

**Body**

President Donald Trump is expected to sign an executive order suspending entry to the US for immigrants from seven Muslim-majority countries. But others where he appears to have conducted business or pursued business interests appear to have escaped censure.

The US leader has caused outrage with the proposals to indefinitely block ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from entering the US and bar all refugees from the rest of the world for at least 120 days. Immigration from Syria and six other predominantly Muslim countries - Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen - would also be suspended for at least 30 days.

Mr Trump and Senator Jeff Sessions, his nominee for Attorney General, have said they wanted to focus restrictions on countries whose migrants pose a threat. "Our country has enough problems without allowing people to come in who, in many cases or in some cases, are looking to do tremendous destruction," the new US leader told ABC News in his first presidential interview.

As a result, the new administration is working on an "extreme vetting"scheme for countries where Mr Trump believes checks are not stringent enough. Iran, Sudan and Syria are all on the State Department's list of terrorism sponsors.

Countries in the same region not subject to the impending crackdown include Saudi Arabia, where Mr Trump had declared he registered a number of companies including THC Jeddah Hotel and DT Jeddah Technical Services, in the kingdom's second city, Jeddah - some of which have since been closed. Trump Organisation lawyer Alan Garten said in December 2016: "There is no deal in Saudi Arabia."

In January 2016, a few months after the companies were created, Mr Trump told Fox News that he "would want to protect Saudi Arabia" from a potential Iranian threat. But he added that the Arab kingdom was "going to have to help us economically" and referenced the billions of dollars the country has made from the oil trade.

Saudi Arabia has previously been associated with terrorism and religious extremism, and has been linked with the largest terror attack on US soil. Of the 19 hijackers involved in the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Centre in New York, 15 were Saudi Arabian citizens. The independent American commission that investigated the attacks found no evidence that the Saudi government or senior Saudi officials financed the terrorists. Saudi Arabia has strenuously denied any involvement in the attacks.

But US diplomatic cables released by whistleblowing website Wikileaks, revealed that private individuals in Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states friendly to the United States are the chief source of funding for al-Qaeda, the Taliban and other terrorist groups. Despite extensive efforts to limit the distribution of funds to extremists from the Middle East, the documents showed deep frustration in Washington with the level of cooperation from governments in the region.

"It has been an ongoing challenge to persuade Saudi officials to treat terrorist financing emanating from Saudi Arabia as a strategic priority," read a cable from Hillary Clinton, then US Secretary of State, dated 30 December, 2009. "Donors in Saudi Arabia constitute the most significant source of funding to Sunni terrorist groups worldwide," added the document. Saudi officials also recently admitted to misleading the US on funding extremism, according to the Politico website.

In Turkey, Mr Trump's company has been paid up to $10m (£8m) since 2014 by the developers of the luxury Trump Towers Istanbul to affix his name to the complex. The building's owner, one of Turkey's biggest oil and media conglomerates, has become an influential voice for the country's increasingly repressive regime.

In Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates, the Trump International Golf Club "features a 30,000 square foot state-of-the-art clubhouse" and is due to open this year.

A licensing deal linked to Trump Tower in Baku, Azerbaijan, was ended in the same bout of "housekeeping" as the Saudi companies, Mr Garten said in December. It had netted Mr Trump nearly $3m since mid-2014.

**Load-Date:** January 27, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Germany plans to tag suspected terrorists amid security failure concerns*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MSS-R9T1-F072-401F-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

February 3, 2017 Friday

First Edition

Copyright 2017 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 26

**Length:** 679 words

**Byline:** LIZZIE DEARDEN

**Body**

The German government is planning to electronically tag jihadis amid outrage over revelations another suspected Isis supporter was set free by authorities. More than a thousand police officers raided homes, mosques and businesses in the state of Hesse, but the huge operation resulted in the arrest of only 16 suspects, including a man who had been on security services' radar for years.

The 36-year-old Tunisian, Haikel S, is a suspected Isis recruiter and smuggler linked to at least two terror attacks in his home country, as well as leading a German extremist network planning an attack. Police hailed his arrest on Wednesday but there was a swift backlash over revelations that, like the Berlin Christmas market attacker, he was known to authorities and an attempt to deport him had failed, forcing him to be released from detention.

Germany's cabinet has addressed proposals to better keep track of potential extremists, approving a law allowing the "fundamental modernisation of police IT systems" to improve information sharing. The measures include the use of ankle bracelets to monitor anyone deemed to be a security threat who has been put under restrictions by the Federal Criminal Police Office. Thomas de Maizière, the interior minister, said the electronic tags would help "control their compliance". "Ankle bracelets are an important instrument to facilitate the surveillance of dangerous people," he added.

German security services have a list of more than 550 Islamists considered "threats to public security" who have lived or currently reside in Germany. Johannes Dimroth, a spokesperson for the interior ministry, declined to speculate how many suspects might now face electronic monitoring. "How many of them could in the future be affected by such a measure is a purely hypothetical question," he told reporters in Berlin. The proposal still has to be approved by the German parliament, where there could be resistance from MPs opposing the tracking of people who have not been convicted of a crime.

Germany's government is following up on promises of reform following a litany of security failures exposed in the wake of the Berlin Christmas market attack. Anis Amri, a failed Tunisian asylum seeker, killed 12 people months after a delay receiving paperwork from his home government ended Germany's attempt to deport him. He had been put under surveillance over a separate alleged terror plot but monitoring was stopped in September after officials uncovered drug dealing and minor crime but failed to reveal evidence of extremism. Amri managed to flee through European countries including the Netherlands, Belgium and France amid an international manhunt following his attack, before being shot dead when he opened fire on police in Italy.

Investigations continue into his possible associates in Germany, with three terror suspects accused of planning to join Isis in Syria or Iraq arrested at his former mosque in Berlin on Tuesday. Amri's attack sparked a 10-point plan by the government to tackle terror, including the tightening of residence requirements for migrants who give false identities, fast-tracked deportations and the detention of rejected asylum seekers who are deemed a threat. Other measures include increased surveillance, the recording of air traffic data to track movement within the EU and improved information sharing.

They come after a string of Isis-inspired terror attacks in Germany that started with a teenage girl's stabbing of a police officer at Hanover railway station in February last year. It was followed by the Würzburg train attack, a suicide bombing in Ansbach and the Berlin Christmas market attack, which were all claimed by Isis.

Anti-immigration groups have seized on the atrocities to criticise Angela Merkel's decision to open Germany's border to ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** during the height of the refugee crisis in 2015. The Chancellor is battling to be re-elected for a fourth term amid opposition from the right-wing populist Alternative für Deutschland party, which has enjoyed unprecedented success in local elections.

**Load-Date:** February 2, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump admits his 'Sweden attack' comments were based on debunked Fox News report; Mr Trump made the remarks at an event for his supporters in Florida*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MXC-R8W1-JCJY-G4KN-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 19, 2017 Sunday 11:42 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** US POLITICS; Version:6

**Length:** 659 words

**Byline:** Andrew Buncombe

**Body**

Donald Trump sparked no small number of raised eyebrows - along with a flurry of sarcastic comments - when he suggested something ominous had happened "last night in Sweden".

After Mr Trump made the remarks at a rally in Florida, everyone from Sweden's former prime minister, weighed in to point out that nothing had averse had happened. "What has he been smoking?" pondered Carl Bildt.

"We've got to keep our country safe," Mr Trump had told his supporters.

My statement as to what's happening in Sweden was in reference to a story that was broadcast on @FoxNews concerning immigrants & Sweden.

- Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) February 19, 2017

"You look at what's happening in Germany. You look at what's happening last night in Sweden. Sweden, who would believe this? Sweden. They took in large numbers. They're having problems like they never thought possible."

Some smart observers suggested Mr Trump may, not for the first time, been referring to something he had watched on Fox News. Business Times pointed to a segment on anchor Tucker Carlson's show on Friday night, which included a clip from a new film by Ami Horowitz claiming to document alleged violence committed by refugees in Sweden.

On Sunday evening, perhaps aware of the confusion and mockery sparked by his comments, Mr Trump indeed confirmed that Fox News had been the inspiration for his comments.

President Trump cites terrorist incident in Sweden that never happened

"My statement as to what's happening in Sweden was in reference to a story that was broadcast on @FoxNews concerning immigrants & Sweden," he said.

News of Mr Horowitz's documentary made headlines last year when he told conservative outlets such as Breitbart News, that there were Muslim "no-go zones" in Europe.

"Over the last two years, they've taken in over 350,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees***," he said. "The reason why I went there was to investigate why Sweden has become the rape capital of Europe. Rape was not unknown, but relatively minor. There were few incidents of rape, let's say about ten years ago. And rape has absolutely skyrocketed in Europe."

The

New York Times

said that Swedish officials had said that their statistics did not justify the kind of assertions made by Mr Horowitz, and that the country had a high number of sexual assault reports, relative to other European countries, because more victims come forward, not because there was more violence.

Graphiq

Henrik Selin, political scientist and deputy director of the Swedish Institute, a state agency dedicated to promoting Sweden globally, told the newspaper he had completed a study focusing on negative news reports about Sweden's intake of refugees.

He said there were many exaggerations and distortions, including reports falsely claiming that Sharia law was predominant in parts of the country.

You should create a "National Security Council" to keep you informed of global security issues.

Relying on @FoxNews could be dodgy. [*https://t.co/KhKoTrKOQx*](https://t.co/KhKoTrKOQx)

- Fake Charlie Whiting (@charlie\_whiting) February 19, 2017

"Some of the stories were very popular to spread in social media by people who have the same kind of agenda - he said that countries should not receive so many refugees," he said.

Meanwhile, Sweden's Aftonbladet newspaper said the film was full of errors.

"At the end of the film, Mr Horowitz says that 'it was not long ago that the first Islamist terrorist attack occurred in the country'."

Read more

Sweden demands answers from Trump over mystery refugee incident

Former Swedish PM asks 'what has Trump been smoking?'

Trump is right, there was a Sweden attack- by neo-Nazis on refugees

It added: "He likely means Taimour Abdulwahab's suicide bombing in central Stockholm. It occurred on 11 December 2010. Thus, for over six years ago.

"But it is not the only remarkable error in the interview with Horowitz. The conversation is full of sweeping claims, exaggerations - and clear errors."

**Load-Date:** February 20, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Theresa May insists Donald Trump gave her no advance warning of his 'Muslim ban' on refugees*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MSD-D651-JCJY-G1PD-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 1, 2017 Wednesday 12:27 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 617 words

**Byline:** Rob Merrick

**Body**

Theresa May has insisted she had no "advance notice" of Donald Trump's controversial announcement of a ban on refugees entering the US.

However, under pressure in the Commons, the Prime Minister insisted everyone was warned that some "travel restrictions" were coming - because the President had said so, in his election campaign.

The carefully-phrased answer appeared to leave open the possibility that the controversy was discussed in some form, during the two leaders' White House meeting last week.

Read more

The four US states suing Donald Trump over his 'Muslim ban'

Ms May also failed to answer when Jeremy Corbyn demanded to know whether she had sought to "persuade" Mr Trump to step back from announcing his travel ban.

She told the Labour leader: "If he is asking me whether I had advance notice of the ban on refugees, the answer is no.

"If he is asking me if I had advance notice that the executive order could affect British citizens, the answer is no.

"If he is asking if I had advance notice of the travel restrictions, the answer is we all did - because President Trump said he was going to do this in his election campaign."

The executive order signed by Mr Trump, at the weekend, halted the US refugee programme for 120 days and indefinitely banned all ***Syrian*** ***refugees***.

However, separately, it also suspended all entry from seven mainly Muslim countries - Iraq, Iran, Yemen, Sudan, Somalia, Libya and Syria - on national security grounds, the White House said.

Ms May's answer appeared to refer to only the first aspect of the order, not the second - which has triggered the loudest protests.

The Prime Minister insisted that, what mattered, was "to protect the interests of British citizens - and that is exactly what she did".

On Monday, Channel 4 News claimed that Ms May was tipped off in advance about the travel ban, something Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson refused to answer questions about.

The claim was potentially hugely damaging, after her initial refusal to criticise the announcement on Saturday - before, many hours later, No.10 said it was wrong.

To the surprise of many MPs, Mr Corbyn did not continue to question Ms May about what was said in the White House - including whether she tried to influence Mr Trump on the travel ban.

On why she initially failed to condemn the ban, the Prime Minister said: "I have made very clear, very clear that we believe that this policy is divisive and wrong, that it is not a policy that we would introduce, and I have also made very clear when asked about this, that this Government has a very different approach to these issues."

Mr Corbyn told Ms May: "President Trump has torn up international agreements on refugees.

"He's threatened to dump international agreements on climate change. He's praised the use of torture. He's incited hatred against Muslims. He's directly attacked women's rights.

"Just what more does President Trump have to do before the Prime Minister will listen to the 1.8m people who have already called for his state visit invitation to be withdrawn?"

But the Prime Minister insisted Labour would not have achieved what she did - an exemption for all British citizens from the travel ban, laying the "foundations of a trade deal" and a "100 per cent commitment to Nato".

She said: "That's what Labour has to offer this country - less protection for British citizens, less prosperous, less safe. He can lead a protest, I'm leading a country."

Critics point out that, while Ms May claimed Mr Trump had given "100 per cent commitment to Nato", the President made no such public statement.

Meanwhile, the petition calling for his state visit to be abandoned will be debated by MPs on February 20, as it nears two million signatures.

**Load-Date:** February 1, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Florida region where Donald Trump held rally had 50 per cent more murders than whole of Sweden; US President confused the world by speaking aboutthings that allegedly happened 'last night'in Sweden, after watching a discredited documentary accusing refugees of perpetuating violence*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MXK-JRY1-JCJY-G0RB-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 20, 2017 Monday 11:34 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS; Version:2

**Length:** 634 words

**Byline:** Charlotte England

**Body**

There were 50 per cent more murders last year in the part of Florida where Donald Trump spoke at a rally over the weekend, than in all of Sweden, according to former Swedish Prime Minister Carl Bildt.

The politician weighed in on the debate, after Mr Trump told crowds in Melbourne, near Orlando, that Sweden's policy of accepting large numbers of migrants was not working and suggested it had led to a spike in violent crime in the country.

Around 100 people are murdered in Sweden each year, and the level has remained relatively stable over the last three decades despite a population increase. Meanwhile, Orange County, Florida, had 167 murders in 2016.

Trump admits 'Sweden attack' comment based on debunked Fox report

Read more

Trump's supporters think the media is covering up attacks in Sweden

Donald Trump speaks out about immigration in Sweden

Trump admits 'Sweden attack' comment based on debunked Fox report

Mr Bildt tweeted: "Last year there were app 50 per cent more murders only in Orlando/Orange in Florida, where Trump spoke the other day, than in all of Sweden. Bad."

Mr Trump sparked confusion and outrage with comments that alluded to sinister things that had allegedly happened "last night" in Sweden. The US President later admitted he was talking about a widely debunked Fox News report he had seen on television the night before.

But he refused to retract his point, tweeting on Monday: "Give the public a break - The FAKE NEWS media is trying to say that large scale immigration in Sweden is working out just beautifully. NOT!"

Give the public a break - The FAKE NEWS media is trying to say that large scale immigration in Sweden is working out just beautifully. NOT!

- Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) February 20, 2017

Last year there were app 50% more murders only in Orlando/Orange in Florida, where Trump spoke the other day, than in all of Sweden. Bad.

- Carl Bildt (@carlbildt) February 20, 2017

Mr Trump said his speech had been informed by a segment on a Fox News broadcast on Friday night by Tucker Carlson. Mr Carlson interviewed Ami Horowitz, producer of a film that claimed to document alleged violence committed by refugees in Sweden.

News of Mr Horowitz's documentary made headlines last year when he told conservative outlets such as Breitbart News that there were Muslim "no-go zones" in Europe.

"Over the last two years, they've taken in over 350,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees***," he said. "The reason why I went there was to investigate why Sweden has become the rape capital of Europe. Rape was not unknown, but relatively minor. There were few incidents of rape, let's say about 10 years ago. And rape has absolutely skyrocketed in Europe."

The New York Times

reported that Swedish officials said their statistics did not justify the kind of assertions made by Mr Horowitz, and that the country had a high number of sexual assault reports, relative to other European countries, because more victims come forward, not because there was more violence.

Henrik Selin, political scientist and deputy director of the Swedish Institute, a state agency dedicated to promoting Sweden globally, told the newspaper he had completed a study focusing on negative news reports about Sweden's intake of refugees.

He said there were many exaggerations and distortions, including reports falsely claiming that Sharia law was predominant in parts of the country.

Some people on social media pointed out

th

at 2016 wa

s an

exce

ptionally bad yea

r for the Orange County death rate, with the mass murder of 49 people in Pulse nightclub boosting numbers above normal.

In 2015 - a more typical year for the county-Sweden had slightly more murders than Orange County, at 112 to Orange County's 102. However, Sweden has a population of nearly 9.6 million, to Orange's 1.2 million, meaning the murder rate is still far lower.

**Load-Date:** February 21, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump Muslim immigration ban: US border patrol 'checking people's Facebook for political views'; Refugees and green card holders detained and interrogated despite legal right to come to the US*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MRS-9YC1-F021-61VB-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 28, 2017 Saturday 7:10 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 655 words

**Byline:** Caroline Mortimer

**Body**

US border agents are checking people's Facebook pages for their political views before allowing them into the country, an immigration lawyer has claimed.

Houston-based lawyer Mana Yegani said several green card holders, who have the right to live and work in the US, were detained by border agents at Americanairports hours after President Donald Trump signed an executive order banning immigration from seven countriesin the Middle East and Africa.

The banaffect travellers with passports from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen and alsoextends to green card holders who are granted authorisation to live and work in the United States, according to a Department of Homeland Security spokeswoman.

Protests erupt outside JFK Airport after President Trump's immigration ban

Ms Yegani, who works with the American Immigration Lawyers Association (Alia), said she and her fellow lawyers had worked through the night fielding calls from people with legitimate visa being detained before entering the US or ordered back on flights to the Muslim-majority countries on the list.

Read more

Green card holders barred from entering US, officials confirm

US airports already refusing people entry after Trump immigration ban

Muslim-majority countries targeted in Donald Trump immigration ban

In one alleged incident a Sudanese PhD student at Stanford University in California, who has lived in the US for 22 years, was held for five hours in New York and in another a dual Iranian-Canadian citizen was not allowed to board a flight in Ottawa.

The Alia said border agents were checking the social media accounts of those detained and were interrogating them about their political beliefs before allowing them into the US.

She said:"These are people that are coming in legally. They have jobs here and they have vehicles here.

"Just because Trump signed something at 6pm yesterday, things are coming to a crashing halt. It's scary."

A spokesman for the Alia told

The Independent

that they had heardwere anecdotal reports of people's social media accounts being targeted -this tactic had been used by border agents for several years despite doubts overwhether it is constitutional.

It comes as several immigration organisations and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLA) launched a lawsuit in New York on behalf of two Iraqi men, one a former US government worker and the other the husband of a former US security contractor.

It said theyhadbeen given visas to enter the US but were detained at JFK airport hours after Mr Trump issued the executive order.

Meanwhile in Cairo, five Iraqis and one Yemeni passenger were barred from boarding aconnecting EgyptAir flight to New York and were redirected to flights back to their home countries, despite holding valid visas.

Dutch airline KLM said it had similarly refused carriage to seven passengers from Muslim countries because there was "no point taking them to the US".

May refuses to condemn Muslim ban

Read more

Iran's Oscar-nominated director barred from awards due to Trump's ban

The order, signed on Holocaust Memorial Day, means ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** have been banned from entering the country indefinitely - though the White House has said it will consider admitting Syrian Christians - and the entire US refugee programme has been suspended for 120 days.

Nationals from the six other countries on the list have been banned from entering the US for 90 days.

The move has been condemned by the UN's refugee agency (UNHCR) and the International Organisation for Migration who said: "The needs of refugees and migrants worldwide have never been greater and the US resettlement program is one of the most important in the world,"

"The longstanding US policy of welcoming refugees has created a win-win situation: it has saved the lives of some of the most vulnerable people in the world who have in turn enriched and strengthened their new societies."

Additional reporting by Reuters

**Load-Date:** January 29, 2017

**End of Document**



[*White friends, why aren't you protesting against Trump's 'Muslim Ban' aimed at refugees like me?; Last night an event invitation began to circulate on my Facebook feed for an Emergency Demo against Trump's #MuslimBan and UK complicity. For all of their moaning in the pub and political rants online, my white friends have been slow to click 'attending'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MS1-0CD1-F021-61KX-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 30, 2017 Monday 3:38 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 579 words

**Byline:** Fong Chau

**Body**

Just over 30 years ago my family and I arrived in England as refugees. We fled war torn Cambodia, trekking through the jungle with my elderly grandmother who had to be carried, dodging bullets as we reached the border to live in a refugee camp in Thailand. We were there for almost three years before finally being able to come to England. If we had stayed where we were, there's no doubt we would have died.

This is the situation ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** find themselves in as they try to escape their war ravaged country as US President Donald Trump has placed an indefinite 'travel ban' on their entry to the US.

Refugees from other nations are not permitted to enter the US for the next 120 days. After this date, they can only enter the country if they are on the list of counties the US has okayed. All other immigrants or visa holders from Iraq, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria or Yemen are unable to enter the US for the next 90 days.

Vocal protests at US airports attack Donald Trump's executive action

The only exception to this rule is if a refugee isa "religious minority" who is being persecuted in their homeland. Essentially, Christian refugees are ok, but Muslims can think again about trying to enter the US.

The Trump administration is framing the executive order as a security measure, titled "Protecting the Nation from Terrorist Attacks by Foreign Nationals", but it is worth bearing in mind that no one from the seven countries on the banned list has been responsible for a terror attack on American soil. This ban is not rational, it is racist.

Last night an invite began to circulate on my Facebook feed for an Emergency Demo against Trump's #MuslimBan and UK complicity. Marches are scheduled to take place in London, Edinburgh, Cardiff and Manchester. Someof my white friends have clicked interested, but few have confirmed that they will join me on the march. For all of their moaning in the pub and political rants online, they are slow to actually stand up against Trump.

The response from our own government has been equally as reticent. Prime Minister Theresa May failed to condemn the policy, while other world leaders were quick to censure. Her reserve a clear message that the UK is willing to forgo any moral purpose for the sake of a post-Brexit trade deal with the US. Later a spokesperson confirmed that Downing Street does, "not agree with this kind of approach". Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson said that it was, "divisive and wrong to stigmatise because of the nationality". Still, Trump is due to visit the UK, despite a petition to stop his state visit reaching 1m signatures. So why are my friends not willing to stand up and show that they stand on the right side of history unlike our government?

Evil happens when good people to do nothing. Don't be a good person that does nothing. White friends, lending your voice to this is one of the most important things you can do. Just because it doesn't directly affect you doesn't make it OK. Refugees are your doctors, taxi drivers, colleagues and friends and you have to stick up for them.

It's not enough just to "not be racist" anymore, because the racists are winning. They are in power and they are emboldened. Protesting Trump's polices in the UK might not make him reverse his executive order overnight, but it will make our elected representatives see that we won't stand for it. Sign the petitions, go to the marches, write to your MP, donate to charities that provide support to refugees.

**Load-Date:** January 30, 2017

**End of Document**



[*The idiot economics of Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban' will hit his own people in the wallet; The fact that those who had been granted green cards (permanent residence) were initially included in the ban will have sent a chill through any non-American worker, regardless of nationality or religion*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MSD-WXS1-JCJY-G00N-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 1, 2017 Wednesday 3:14 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 635 words

**Byline:** Ben Chu

**Body**

A moral disgrace. An act of wanton cruelty. A legal outrage. An unconstitutional power grab. A work of gross administrative incompetence. A self-inflicted security wound. But economic idiocy too?

It seems almost otiose to mention money in the context of Trump's arbitrary executive order barring ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from America, capping the overall refugee intake for 2017 at 50,000 and stopping all entry to nationals from seven countries from the Muslim world.

But it's true. Trump's order not only defiles America's founding principles, sullies its global reputation and gives comfort to autocrats the world over, but it will, in all likelihood, ultimately lead to the diminishment of the vigour of the world's dominant economy too.

One doesn't need to look far in America for examples of refugees and their families who have made a stunning contribution to the country's prosperity. Steve Jobs, the founder of Apple, was the son of a man who fled violence in Syria. Sergey Brin, the Google co-founder, was a refugee from the Soviet Union.

Donald Trump announces a ban on refugees and all visitors from Muslim-majority countries

But the economic case for being open to refugees does not merely rest on a handful of entrepreneurial superstars. The idea that these people seeking sanctuary in other states represent an endless burden on taxpayers - something we've heard so often in Europe in recent years - is nonsense.

Data from Europe shows that, over time, the employment rate of refugees rises from 25 per cent to more than 60 per cent. In Sweden asylum seekers have shown a bigger increase in employment rates than from any other migrant group.

Trump's apologists stress that the ban is only temporary and point out that America in the Obama years only admitted an average of 70,000 refugees a year. It's certainly true that America has not been pulling its weight when it comes to responding to the global refugee emergency.

But this is really to miss the point.

The economic damage from Trump's order goes far wider than its direct impact. The bulk of the harm is in the message it sends. The barely disguised discrimination against Muslims tells 1.6 billion followers of that faith that "America does not want you". And the fact that those who had been granted green cards (permanent residence) were initially included in the ban will have sent a chill through any non-American citizenworker, regardless of nationality or religion. The message here is: you can no longer rely on the US government to respect your status, to treat you fairly.

Many informed observers suspect this anti-immigrant signal is the real goal. And listening to the views of Steve Bannon, Trump's "chief strategist" and reportedly the driving force behind the executive order, this seems all too plausible. Bannon has ranted in the past about US engineering schools being "full of people from South Asia and East Asia" and objected to the number of Asian Silicon Valley chief executives. "Twenty per cent of this country is immigrants. Is that not the beating heart of this problem?" he once asked.

This is no finessing this. What we have here from the mouth of Trump's right hand man is the raw voice of nativist bigotry.

It is also the voice of economic folly. America is a republic founded by immigrants and whose spectacular economic success is built upon successive waves of mass immigration from people from all over the world of all faiths and ethnic backgrounds. It has thrived on the back of immigrants' inventive talents and hard work.

This executive order is likely to be just the beginning. It sets the ugly and profoundly un-American tone. The longer Trump and Bannon control immigration policy in the US, the greater the damage that we can expect to be inflicted on the most productive national economy the planet has ever seen.

**Load-Date:** February 1, 2017

**End of Document**



[*The idiot economics of this ban will hit Trump's own people in the wallet*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MSJ-S801-JCS0-D02D-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

February 2, 2017 Thursday

First Edition

Copyright 2017 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** COMMENT; Pg. 33

**Length:** 620 words

**Byline:** BEN CHU ECONOMICS EDITOR

**Body**

A moral disgrace. An act of wanton cruelty. A legal outrage. An unconstitutional power grab. A work of gross administrative incompetence. A self-inflicted security wound. But economic idiocy too?

It seems almost otiose to mention money in the context of Trump's arbitrary executive order barring ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from America, capping the overall refugee intake for 2017 at 50,000 and stopping all entry to nationals from seven countries from the Muslim world.

But it's true. Trump's order not only defiles America's founding principles, sullies its global reputation and gives comfort to autocrats the world over, but it will, in all likelihood, ultimately lead to the diminishment of the vigour of the world's dominant economy too.

One doesn't need to look far in America for examples of refugees and their families who have made a stunning contribution to the country's prosperity. Steve Jobs, the founder of Apple, was the son of a man who fled violence in Syria. Sergey Brin, the Google co-founder, was a refugee from the Soviet Union.

But the economic case for being open to refugees does not merely rest on a handful of entrepreneurial superstars. The idea that these people seeking sanctuary in other states represent an endless burden on taxpayers - something we've heard so often in Europe in recent years - is nonsense.

Data from Europe shows that, over time, the employment rate of refugees rises from 25 per cent to more than 60 per cent. In Sweden asylum seekers have shown a bigger increase in employment rates than from any other migrant group.

Trump's apologists stress that the ban is only temporary and point out that America in the Obama years only admitted an average of 70,000 refugees a year. It's certainly true that America has not been pulling its weight when it comes to responding to the global refugee emergency.

But this is really to miss the point.

The economic damage from Trump's order goes far wider than its direct impact. The bulk of the harm is in the message it sends. The barely disguised discrimination against Muslims tells 1.6 billion followers of that faith that "America does not want you". And the fact that those who had been granted green cards (permanent residence) were initially included in the ban will have sent a chill through any non-American citizen worker, regardless of nationality or religion. The message here is: you can no longer rely on the US government to respect your status, to treat you fairly.

Many informed observers suspect this anti-immigrant signal is the real goal. And listening to the views of Steve Bannon, Trump's "chief strategist" and reportedly the driving force behind the executive order, this seems all too plausible. Bannon has ranted in the past about US engineering schools being "full of people from South Asia and East Asia" and objected to the number of Asian Silicon Valley chief executives. "Twenty per cent of this country is immigrants. Is that not the beating heart of this problem?" he once asked.

This is no finessing this. What we have here from the mouth of Trump's right hand man is the raw voice of nativist bigotry.

It is also the voice of economic folly. America is a republic founded by immigrants and whose spectacular economic success is built upon successive waves of mass immigration from people from all over the world of all faiths and ethnic backgrounds. It has thrived on the back of immigrants' inventive talents and hard work.

This executive order is likely to be just the beginning. It sets the ugly and profoundly un-American tone. The longer Trump and Bannon control immigration policy in the US, the greater the damage that we can expect to be inflicted on the most productive national economy the planet has ever seen.

**Load-Date:** February 1, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump immigration ban: Detained Iraqi refugee says 'America is the land of freedom'; The former interpreter was one of 12 people held at JFK Airport*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MRK-HCS1-F021-6031-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 28, 2017 Saturday 6:14 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 614 words

**Byline:** Andrew Buncombe

**Body**

An Iraqi refugee released from detention at JFK Airport has spoken of his love of America and his belief it was the land of freedom.

Hameed Khalid Darweesh, had worked on behalf of the US government in Iraq for 10 years, was one of 12 refugees being held at the airport after the enforcement of Donald Trump's immigration ban.

On Saturday morning, lawyers for Mr Darweesh filed a habeas corpus lawsuit, seeing his release. At around lunchtime, Mr Darweesh, who was traveling with his wife and three children, was set free.

Iraqi released from JFK airport has a message: This is the land of freedom #Iraqis#jfkpic.twitter.com/Ufp7eYfUfS

- Daniel Lewis (@DanielLewisCNN) January 28, 2017

"America is the greatest nation, the greatest people in the world," said Mr Darweesh, who said that he liked Mr Trump.

Mr Darweesh, who was given permission to enter the US because he had been threatened over his work with the US military as an interpreter, said he was heartened by those people who had come to his support. Their actions, he said, reaffirmed to him his belief in American values.

"In Iraq, we know that America is the land of the free," he said.

Mr Darweesh was one of 12 people held at JFK. Another, Haider Sameer Abdulkhaleq Alshawi, had flown to the US to join his wife, who had worked for a US contractor. After they were detained, lawyers for all of the men filed a suit in the early hours of Saturday morning, seeking their release.

May refuses to condemn Muslim ban

Mr Trump's order, signed on Friday, means that ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** are banned from entry until further notice. Nationals of six further countries, including Iran and Iraq, will be banned from entering the US for 90 days.

Meanwhile, the entire US refugee admissions programme is suspended for 120 days, and a lower cap on numbers introduced. Green Card holders from the seven countries are also affected.

"Unfortunately, Donald Trump is basing his policies on bigotry and and fear, rather than data," Ibrahim Hooper, a spokesman for the Council on American-Islamic Relations, told

The Independent

. "There is no evidence that refugees pose a threat to the US."

According to the habeas corpus petition filed in New York, Mr Darweesh worked as an interpreter for the Army's 101st Airborne Division in Baghdad and Mosul starting shortly after the invasion of Iraq in 2003.

Graphiq

It said that Mr Darweesh, 53, who arrived with his wife and three children on Friday evening, "was directly targeted twice for his association with the US Armed Forces".

After he was released, Mr Darweesh thanked those who had worked to free him.

"This is the humanity. This is the soul of America. This is what pushed me to leave my country to move here," he said. "I'm very, very thankful to the people who came to support me."

At #JFK right now- no hate, no fear, #refugees are welcome here - #NoBanNoWall#OurNYpic.twitter.com/Y90F6r867U

- NYIC (@thenyic) January 28, 2017

Asked for his view on Mr Trump, he said he liked him. "But he is the president. I worked for the US government. When I came here I showed my documents. They told me to to go to a room. They kept me there until these people came to help."

Lawyer Mark Doss, who works for the International Refugee Assistance Project, had been at the airport most of the night and said they were still trying to free the other people who were being detained.

"There is no clear guidance to Customs and Border Control (CBC). It's the weekend. Things are slow right now," he said.

The lawsuit said that when lawyers for the detained men men, asked the CBCofficers who they could speak to about meeting with Mr Darweesh, they were told: "Mr President. Call Mr Trump."

**Load-Date:** January 28, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Boris Johnson just praised Lebanon for being a 'moral example' to the world for its refugee policy without even realising the irony; Lebanon has taken in 1.5 million refugees to date.The UK on the other hand has taken in a paltry 6,000*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5N7V-JSX1-F021-61TD-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

April 5, 2017 Wednesday 2:04 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES; Version:3

**Length:** 584 words

**Byline:** Kirsty Major

**Body**

Boris Johnson has celebrated the efforts of countries like Lebanon for bearing the brunt of the refugee crisis at the Syrian aid conference in Brussels this week.

To date Lebanon has taken in 1.5 million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** over the course of the county's six-year civil war, with displaced Syrians now making up a quarter of the country's population. The UK, in contrast, has taken in just 6,000 refugees - including, shamefully, just 340 out of the 3,000 unaccompanied minors we vowed to take in under the aborted Dubs Amendment. If taking in millions makes you a moral example to the international community, what does taking in a few thousand do? Perhaps Johnson should consider that before opening his mouth and blowing out more hot air.

The UK's agreed strategy toward Syria is to provide aid over resettlement. Since 2012, it has committed £2.3bn to the humanitarian crisis: as well as funds being sent directly to improve the conditions on the ground in Syria, £463m of that aid has gone to Lebanon, £423m to Jordan, £317m to Turkey as well as Iraq and Egypt.

Boris Johnson: Syrian chemical attack evidence points to

Assad

The aim is to provide humanitarian assistance to refugees at the regional level so that they are discouraged from making the journey to Europe. The same logic forms the basis of the EU-Turkey deal, which allows Greece to return refugees to Turkey, from where EU countries would organise their resettlement.

A problem out of sight is a problem out of mind, but it's still a problem. Take Lebanon, the largest recipient of UK aid outside of Syria. Unlike Jordan and Turkey, there are no formal camps in Lebanon, with all aid provided by a civil society who are no longer able to cope with the demands on their resources.

At the state level, Lebanon is barely able to care for its own population. It is a country with its own long-term infrastructure problems (water and electricity shortages are frequent), and seeing its population increase by 25 per cent in just six years has taken its toll. Schools are struggling to cope with new and often traumatised pupils; overcrowding and a lack of sanitation are putting a strain on the country's health service; and Lebanon's annual economic growth has slowed from 8 per cent to an average of 1 per cent.

Lebanon's PM Saad Hariri has spoken of the growing fear of tension between Lebanese and Syrian communities, and the development of civil unrest. This is a country that has for years strived to disassociate itself from foreign policy controversies in the region, and is still working to heal the rifts of war in its own society - to put this into perspective, an estimated six out of ten households still own an automatic weapon. Add millions of refugees, with minimal support, to the equation and you can see how easily the balance could be tipped in favour of widespread discontent.

In contrast, what are a few more thousand refugees to a relatively stable and affluent country like the UK? The UK has vowed to take in 20,000 refugees by 2020, but in the current political context, this seems highlight unlikely, especially given the Conservative Government's inclination to U-turn on such matters.

If Boris Johnson really admired the efforts of Syria's neighbours so much, he might want to put his money where his mouth is and lobby for the UK to take in its fair share, thus making Britain a similar "moral example" within Europe. Sadly, his bit-part in Brexit has made such a project way beyond his public profile now.

**Load-Date:** April 5, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump's team 'discussing plans for Muslim registration system'; Immigration hardlinersays plans underway for programme to force Muslimsregister ondatabase*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M61-9C81-F021-605F-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

November 16, 2016 Wednesday 11:47 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 766 words

**Byline:** May Bulman

**Body**

Donald Trump's policy advisers are discussingplans to establish a registry for Muslim

immigrants

in the US, a man believed to be akey member of the President-elect's transitionteam has revealed.

Kris Kobach, the s

ecretary of s

tate for Kansas, said

the President-elect'sadvisers were looking at how to implement a proposal suggested by

the billionaire businessman

that would

force immigrants

from

Muslim countries to register on a database

.

Mr Kobach, whohelped devisetough immigration laws in a number of US states and claims to have participated in regular conference calls with Mr Trump's immigration advisers, also said the Trump administration could push ahead rapidly on construction of a US-Mexico border wallwithout seeking immediate congressional approval.

Trump: We're going to deport millions

Read more

Trump's plans for Muslim 'register' compared to Nazi treatment of Jews

Trump already breaking campaign promise to 'drain the swamp'

John Kerry says Trump's Muslim ban 'endangers national security'

The hardline immigration official, whose role has not been confirmed by

the President-elect's transition team but who is thought to be a favourite for the role of Attorney General, said

the immigration group had discussed drafting executive orders for the President-elect's review "so that Trump and the Department of Homeland Security hit the ground running".

The Muslim registration scheme, which would reportedly see Muslims given a form of identification that notes their religion,reflects policies Mr Trump put forward during his campaign to introduce "extreme vetting" of Muslims through tougher security measures.

Such a programme would echo a registration system created under Mr Bush's presidency, which Mr Kobach also helped design, and which required thousands of Arab and Muslim visitors and temporary US residents to register with the state, but was abandoned in 2011 after it was criticised

for unfairly targeting immigrants from Muslim-majority nations.

Created in 2002 following the 9/11

attacks,

the National Security Entry-Exit Registration System (NSEER)required Muslims from countries where extremist organisationswere active to provide information about themselves, undergo interviews with officials and periodically notify the government of their whereabouts.

The registration programme, which focusedon visitors and non-citizen men over the age of 16 from more than 24 designated countries, caused widespread controversy and was deemed redundant in 2011, following complaints from civil libertarians.

FindTheData | Graphiq

In the interview, Mr Kobach saidimmigration advisers were also looking at how the Homeland Security Department could move rapidly on Mr Trump's plans to build a wall between the US and Mexico without approval from Congress, acknowledging that "future fiscal years will require additional appropriations".

Mr Trump presented a hardline stance on Muslims in the US during his election campaign, making a call to temporarily ban all Muslims from entering the country and proposing the introduction of special identity

cards for American Muslims during a debate over ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** entering the country.

While Mr Trump appeared to have pulled back on the anti-Muslim rhetoric immediately after he was elected, hehas since indicated he still plans to follow through on his plans.

FindTheData | Graphiq

In an interview on Sunday Mr Trump told CBS's

60 Minutes

showhe would deport two to three million undocumented immigrants "immediately" upon taking office, and confirmed he still plannedto "build a wall", although he addedthat some parts of the barrier would in fact be a fence.

The President-elect is also reportedly considering appointing as his deputy security advisor the vice-president of a think-tank that has said Muslims are infiltrating the American government.

Mr

Kobachreportedly said in the interview that he believed that illegal immigrants in some cases should be deported before a conviction if they have been charged with a violent crime, echoing Mr Trump's recent pledge to remove immigrants with criminal records who are in the country illegally.

The immigration hardlineralso said the President-elect's immigration advisers had discussed ways of overturning President Barack Obama's 2012 executive action that has granted temporary deportation relief and work permits to more than 700,000 undocumented people who came to the US as children of illegal immigrants.

**Load-Date:** November 16, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Keep your tired, poor, huddled masses away - Donald Trump's message, shamefully endorsed by Theresa May; The shadow of selfishness and neglect is darkening over the world - let us spread the light of altruism and compassion instead*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MRR-0HS1-F021-61WJ-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 29, 2017 Sunday 12:02 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EDITORIALS

**Length:** 606 words

**Byline:** Editorial

**Body**

They might as well take the Statue of Liberty down and give it back to the French. Except that the French have problems of their own in living up to their responsibility to the "huddled masses yearning to breathe free" - a responsibility in which we British share.

Donald Trump signed an order last night suspending refugee admissions to the United States and temporarily banning all arrivals from seven Muslim-majority countries, with a few exemptions for diplomats.

We should be clear that this is not, technically, theban on Muslims which Mr Trump spoke about during his election campaign. The order does not explicitly ban people on grounds of their religion. But it is as close to such a thing as is possible under American law. The indefinite ban on ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, in particular, seems hard to reconcile with the US's obligations under international treaties.

Video shows poor standard of living for refugees in France

It seems that the new administration intends to halve the cap on refugees accepted by the US this year, from 110,000 a year under President Obama, to 50,000. It is a big reduction, which will be imposed regardless of the numbers actually fleeing persecution, and which will be strongly biased in practice against Muslims.

Read more

Donald Trump's cruel ban on refugees sets chilling precedent

Mr Trump waited until Theresa May's plane had taken off before he signed the executive order, which allowed the Prime Minister to escape direct contamination by his moral squalor. But she cannot escape a measure of indirect association with the President's act. She could have said to him what she had said earlier that day in her statement to mark Holocaust Memorial Day: "Our commitment to remember the Holocaust is about more than words - it is about action. It is about raising awareness, spreading understanding, ensuring the memory of the Holocaust lives on, and standing up to prejudice and hatred wherever it is found today."

Despite having said that she would not hesitate to speak up when he and she disagreed, she chose not to raise the subject. That could be cowardice, or it could be that she, the Home Office Prime Minister, does not disagree.

And she was asked at her news conference in Ankara today what she thought of Mr Trump's policy, and said only: "The United States is responsible for the United States's policy on refugees."

After all, as we report exclusively today, Ms May is failing in her responsibility to those seeking refuge in Britain. Our investigation into what happened to the 1,000 children living in the Calais Jungle before it was cleared last year, whose applications for asylum in Britain were rejected, reveals a terrible story of hardship and neglect. These children have been rehoused in centres around France, many of them which have been unprepared to receive them, in which conditions are primitive and psychological support non-existent.

Read more

Watching May cosy up to Trump is enraging when you're a British Muslim

Of course, the primary responsibility for these children is borne by the French government. But the camp at Calais, created by the desire of people to reach the UK, was rightly accepted as a joint responsibility of the two governments. When the Jungle was cleared, the British Government pledged to bear its share of ensuring that the children rejected as refugees would be decently cared for.

Ms May is failing to fulfil this country's duty to these children.

The shadow of selfishness and neglect is darkening over the world. Ms May needs to do more to live up to her fine words if Britain is to play its part in spreading the light of altruism and compassion instead.

**Load-Date:** January 29, 2017

**End of Document**



[*TV preview: Sherlock, BBC1 Sunday 1 January; No Offence; Unforgotten; Silent Witness; Death in Paradise; Gerard Gilbert takes us through the TV detectives who aren't Benedict Cumberbatch onscreen during the New Year week*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MH5-J441-F021-61V5-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 29, 2016 Thursday 2:05 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** REVIEWS

**Length:** 650 words

**Byline:** Gerard Gilbert

**Body**

What can I possibly say about the new Sherlock episode on New Year's Day? Very little beyond its title, which you know already (The Six Thatchers) and that John and Mary Watson (Martin Freeman and Amanda Abbington) welcome their new baby daughter into the world, just as real-life partners Freeman and Abbington have let slip the news of their separation. Otherwise it's mum's the word, but Steven Moffat and Mark Gatiss's juggernaut Conan Doyle reboot isn't the only crime drama returning this coming week. Here, in descending order, are the TV detectives who aren't Benedict Cumberbatch.

No Offence, created and written (this opening episode at least) by Shameless's Paul Abbott, is almost as quip-heavy as Sherlock, although sadly it's difficult to see the fabulous Joanna Scanlan inspiring the sort of besotted fan-worship that follows Cumberbatch around like a cloud of pheromones. And the rest of the cast has Happy New Year written all over it - with Elaine Cassidy, Alexandra Roach, Will Mellor, Paul Ritter and, now, Sarah Solemani, all well up to the demands of Abbott's blackly humorous script.

But it's Scanlan who reigns supreme as DI Vivienne Deering, the sort of lady cop who, on emerging from a shower, is quite happy to towel her lady parts while continuing a conversation with a superior officer. That commanding officer is played by Solemani - the 'her' in Him & Her - who has been introduced as a stern, by-the-book foil to Deering, as the Manchester coppers investigate a bombing at a crematorium that unearths body parts and inspires the line (from Ritter's forensics technician), that it's "an Hieronymous Bosch job". Better than Moffat that, I'd say.

Unforgotten sees the re-teaming of Nicola Walker (Last Tango in Halifax) and Sanjeev Bhaskar (Goodness Gracious Me) as cold-case detectives DCI Cassie Stuart and DS Sunil "Sunny" Khan, the sort of inspired pairing that says this particular casting director deserved his or her fee. Chris Lang's creation is Waking the Dead meets Broadchurch, with one whodunit spread over six episodes, as the perfectly preserved remains of a middle-aged man are fished out of the River Lee in Essex - while, as with the first series, the investigation links various suspects who would appear to have nothing in common. Once again the support cast is a cut or two above average, including Mark Bonar, Rosie Cavaliero, Douglas Hodge and Wendy Craig. Yes, Wendy Craig. As the least likely killer, my money is on her.

Silent Witness returns with a two-part storyline that is bang up to date, featuring ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and people traffickers in Calais, but which I found a little hard to follow. If Emilia Fox's Dr Nikki Alexander barely ever cracks a smile, then that's perfectly understandable given that she spends her life poking around in chest cavities - but she could do with a bit more of Vivienne Deering's black humour. Peoplewhose jobs mean spending a lot of time with dead people tend to be on the earthy side.

Those who prefer to combine murder with sunny escapism, then Death in Paradise also returns with yet another guest cast full of actors who must have looked at the rain splattering their kitchen window, peered at the shooting schedule and thought 'A few weeks in the Caribbean, flights and accommodation paid... why not?'.

Death in Paradise is a joint Anglo-French production which is why, I suppose, Kris Marshall's DI Humphrey Goodman is the sort of Englishman you might find in Midsomer Norton (the French adore Midsomer Murders) - a bit woolly, a bit posh and a bit sexless. The plot involves a seismologist who dies halfway up a volcano, but I wouldn't worry yourself too much about that. Just feel the tropical breeze and dream of escape.

Sherlock, BBC1 Sunday 1 January 8.30pm; No Offence, Channel 4 Wednesday 4 January 9pm; Unforgotten; Silent Witness, BBC1 Monday 2 January 9pm; Death in Paradise, BBC1 Thursday 5 January 9pm.

**Load-Date:** December 29, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Israel lashes out over UN settlements vote by withdrawing ambassadors and halting aid; Diplomatic representatives to New Zealand and Senegal withdrawn as Israeli official accuses US of 'abandoning' the country by abstaining on Security Council resolution*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MG4-H871-F021-62DB-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 24, 2016 Saturday 10:21 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 674 words

**Byline:** Bethan McKernan

**Body**

Israel has taken diplomatic action against the countries that co-sponsored a controversial UN resolution condemning settlement building in the West Bank and Jerusalem.

The 15-member Security Council voted 14 - 0 on the proposed measure on Friday, withUSambassador Samantha Power raising her hand as the lone abstention - a symbolic break with US policy in the past, which has been to veto similar resolutions.

The resolution was put forward by New Zealand, Senegal, Malaysia and Venezuela, taking place just a day after Egypt withdrew it following significant pressure from both Israel and President-elect Donald Trump.

It was met by applause in the chamber, but furious reaction from Israel. An official speaking on condition of anonymity told the Associated Press thatPresident Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry had effectively"abandoned" the country by allowing the resolution to pass.

Read more

Israel rejects UN settlements resolution and says it won't abide by it

Israel ordered to end settlements on Palestinian land in UN resolution

Israel is taking in injured ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from Aleppo

The Obama administration's decision not to shield Israel from the UN's vote calling Israeli expansion a "flagrant violation of international law"has been widely interpreted as a rebuke to Israel's government, despite the fact the US continues to send more than $3bn (£2.4bn) in military aid to the country each year. Mr Obama's parting shot of an abstention was the result of "an absence of a meaningful peace process", the White House said.

Relations betweenthe US and Israel under Mr Obama's tenurehave become somewhat strained, and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahuhas made no secret of the fact thathe is glad his counterpart is leaving office.

Incoming US President Donald Trump is more likely to be friendlier towards the country, tweeting after the vote, "As to the UN, things will be differentafter Jan20th" - when Mr Trump takes office.

The newresolution demands that Israel "immediately and completely cease all settlement activities in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem", pointing out that the international community views any Israeli construction over the agreed 1967 Green Line as illegal.

Israeli man starts charity to get injured Syrians to Israel for medical treatment

While it will not have any practical impact, the resolution is a "significant step" in reconfirming the UN's hopes for a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, outgoing Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said on Friday.

The vote was welcomed by Palestinian representatives. A spokesperson from Palestinan Authority President Mahmoud Abbas' office called it a "big blow to Israeli policy, a unanimous international condemnation of settlements, and a strong support for the two-state solution".

Settlement building - which has accelerated year-on-year under current right-wing Prime Minister Netanyahu- is viewed as one of the major stumbling blocks to a lasting peace deal.

Israel's envoy to the UN, Danny Damon, called the vote "shameful" and a "victory for terror".Israel has said it will not abide by the measures set out in the document.

In Jerusalem, Mr Netanyahu immediately recalled Israel's ambassadors to New Zealand and Senegal, who were ordered to return for consultations.All current aid to Senegal was to be suspended, the prime minister's office said, and an upcoming visit from Senegal's Foreign Minister Mankeur Ndiaye cancelled.

Israel does not have diplomatic relations with either Malaysia or Venezuela.

Defending New Zealand's vote on Saturday, the country's Foreign Minister Murray McCully said: "We have been very open about our view that the [UN Security Council] should be doing more to support the Middle East peace process and the position we adopted today is totally in line with our long established policy on the Palestinian question.

"The vote... should not come as a surprise to anyone and we look forward to continuing to engage constructively with all parties on this issue."

**Load-Date:** December 24, 2016

**End of Document**



[*'Refugees should not be sent back to face torture'; Donald Trump's travel ban could be in breach of international law, warns UN human rights chief*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5N21-SFX1-F072-44BH-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

March 9, 2017 Thursday

First Edition

Copyright 2017 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 21

**Length:** 695 words

**Byline:** LIZZIE DEARDEN

**Body**

The UN's human rights chief has denounced Donald Trump's new immigration ban in an unprecedented assault on the US President. Zeid Ra'ad al-Hussein, the high commissioner for human rights, voiced his concern over the US administration's handling of a series of human rights issues including the treatment of immigrants and Muslims.

"Greater and more consistent leadership is needed to address the recent surge in discrimination, anti-Semitism, and violence against ethnic and religious minorities," he told a meeting of the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva. "Vilification of entire groups such as Mexicans and Muslims, and false claims that migrants commit more crimes than US citizens, are harmful and fuel xenophobic abuses."

Mr Hussein was speaking days after Donald Trump announced the creation of a new agency to deal specifically with crimes committed by "aliens" and pledged to publish a regular list of offences by non-US citizens. The President has also unveiled his new immigration ban that targets six Muslim-majority countries, but lifts the indefinite ban on ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and exempts green card holders.

Despite the changes, Mr Hussein said the executive order was part of a raft of policies that could see children detained and families ripped apart by deportations "without regard for years spent in the US or family roots". "Expedited deportations could amount to collective expulsions and refoulement, in breach of international law, if undertaken without due process guarantees, including individual assessment," he added.

The human rights commissioner also took aim at Mr Trump for his frequent attacks on the press - critical outlets have been excluded from briefings and banned from asking questions, and unfavourable coverage has been dubbed "fake news". "I am dismayed at attempts by the President to intimidate or undermine journalists and judges," Mr Hussein said, alluding to the assault on members of the judiciary that opposed Mr Trump's initial travel ban.

The US was among more than 40 countries examined in a wide-ranging speech yesterday, in which the commissioner warned that 2017 could prove to be a "pivotal year" for human rights amid terror attacks, security crackdowns, populism and the rise of "authoritarian-minded leaders".

Europe's response to the refugee crisis was targeted by Mr Hussein, who sounded a warning over plans to increase cooperation with the Libyan government in efforts to reduce boat crossings over the Mediterranean Sea. "Many ordinary people in Europe have welcomed and supported migrants, but political leaders increasingly demonstrate a chilling indifference to their fate," he said. "I am particularly disturbed by lurid public narratives which appear deliberately aimed at stirring up public fear and panic, by depicting these vulnerable people as criminal invading hordes."

More than 500 asylum seekers have drowned or suffocated on the treacherous route so far this year, following more than 5,000 deaths in 2016. The vast majority of boats are launched by smugglers in Libya, where a fragile government has been unable to regain control of swathes of the country controlled by rival armed groups including Isis. Its agencies, including the coastguard, are themselves accused of torturing, abusing and killing migrants who have been forcibly returned to land and imprisoned in squalid detention centres.

Despite a growing body of evidence raising concern from the UN and humanitarian groups, Britain is among the countries training the Libyan coastguard, while world leaders have agreed to help bolster its capability and Italy has pledged millions of euros in funding for anti-smuggling initiatives.

Mr Hussein praised "heroic efforts" to save lives in the Mediterranean but said he was concerned at calls to establish processing centres for asylum seekers in North Africa "with little regard for human rights". "Migrants apprehended at sea by the Libyan coastguard or similar agencies may be put at risk of further violence," he added. "I reiterate the importance of abiding by the principle that people must not be sent back to countries where they may face torture, persecution or threats to their life."

**Load-Date:** March 8, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Thousands set for London march after week of global protests against Trump's travel ban; The organisers of the demonstration condemn the US travel ban as 'an appalling attack on human rights'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MT2-9J41-JCJY-G3WB-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 4, 2017 Saturday 11:58 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HOME NEWS

**Length:** 694 words

**Byline:** Niamh McIntyre

**Body**

Thousands of protestors are set to march on London for the second time in a week, to oppose US

President Donald Trump's ban on travellers from seven mainly-Muslim nations entering the US.

The protest comes at the end of a week where demonstrations in cities across the world called on President Trump to end the controversial policy.

As thousands were detained at US airports, and 60,000 US visas were revoked, protesters picketed American embassies from Jakarta to Rome.

Read more

Donald Trump's travel ban was preventing this baby from surgery

White House hits back after judge blocks Trump's immigration ban

Iranian baby allowed to enter US after Trump's travel ban

An estimated 30,000 people marched on Downing Street earlier this week, and Sabby Dhalu, from Stand Up To Racism, told

The Independent

he expects another "massive show of opposition" today.

"Campaigners, including Muslim organisations, are coming to central London to send a clear message toTheresa Maythat Trump's not welcome here,"

@Nicola\_aladdin marchers gathering at US Embassy to #StandUpToTrump Oppose #MuslimBanpic.twitter.com/i431rwz5bi

- Stand Up To Racism (@AntiRacismDay) February 4, 2017

On my way to the US Embassy in London to protest the #MuslimBan I've got your back friends. @realDonaldTrump We won't be idle. pic.twitter.com/hlXsCpXo2p

- Kitty E Smith (@KhayoticKitty) February 4, 2017

The organisation has called the US President's travel ban as "an appalling attack on human rights" and said that it is "unacceptable that Theresa May has not come out and condemned this".

Protests against the ban have been organised in at least 12 UK cities, including Sheffield, Brighton and Birmingham.

Protest outside Downing Street sees tens of thousands demonstrate against Trump's immigration ban

President Trump's executive order suspended refugee resettlement in the US for 120 days and barred ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** indefinitely. It also barred travel from seven predominantly Muslim countries - Syria, Iran, Iraq, Yemen, Libya, Sudan and Somalia.

However, the Trump administration suffered an embarrassing setback on Friday, after a

federal judge in Seattle temporarily blocked the executive order regarding the travel ban.

Read more

Seattle judge blocks Trump's immigration ban nationwide

In Australia, thousands rallied on Friday after it emerged that Trump had described a planned refugee resettlement deal, which would relocate 1,250 refugees from the controversial Nauru and Manus Island detention camps to the US, as "dumb".

Around 1,000 people marched on the US embassy in Sydney, while hundreds more gathered in Melbourne.

Australian Senator Richard di Natale said in a post onhis Facebook page:

"Last night Melbourne said "No" to the politics of Donald Trump and the far-right in Australia."

This is the start of a collective resistance movement as people from all walks of life come together and say no to hatred."

Anti-Trump protest in Melbourne Hundreds of protesters marched down Swanston Street, chanting and yelling slogans against the US President pic.twitter.com/hTpMirq1AC

- Brandi Saari (@brandilmelb) February 3, 2017

Earlier in the week, protestors in the Philippines and Indonesiaburned American flags outside their countries' US embassies.

Neither country is in the list of banned countries, but Trump's immigration policies could have a tangible effect on both nations.

NOW: As a sign of dissent, the groups burn a US flag while singing 'Tigreng Papel'. #DumpTrumppic.twitter.com/oDOv1CqWfB

- The Manila Collegian (@MKule) January 30, 2017

Veronica Koman, who organised the protest in Jakarta, told The Associated Press:

"Indonesia is home to nearly 14,000 refugees seeking resettlement in third countries, and Trump's ban will significantly impact their chances of going to the US."

Filipino activists also demonstrated outside the US Embassy in Manila. Just hours after the protest ended, the government's special envoy to the US revealed that more than 300,000 Filipinos living in America are at risk of deportation.

3,000 people are expected to gather in Paris on Saturday for a #NoBanNoWall protest, while in the US, demonstrations have been organised in Miami, Washington, LA and New York.

**Load-Date:** February 4, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Cessation of Syrian hostilities needed to stop Idlib becoming next Aleppo, UN envoy warns; Senior European diplomat says evacuation from Aleppo to IdlibsuitsRussia and Assad regime as it puts'all their rotten eggs in one basket'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MFP-KCH1-JCJY-G3KS-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 22, 2016 Thursday 3:12 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 610 words

**Byline:** Samuel Osborne

**Body**

A cessation of hostilities across Syria is vital to avoid another battle like the bloody fight for Aleppo, the UN special envoy has warned.

Steffan de Mistura said thousands of people evacuated from rebel-held areas of Aleppo after a crushing government offensive could suffer a similar fate in their new refuge outside the city.

At least 34,000 people, both civilians and fighters, havebeen evacuated from east Aleppo in a week-long operation, the latest UN figures show.

"Many of them have gone to Idlib, which could be in theory the next Aleppo," Mr de Mistura warned in Geneva.

Drone footage of fleeing civilians reveals scale of devastation in Aleppo

Thousands of refugees from Aleppo were bussed to Idlib, arousing fears that the rebel-held city in north-western Syria could be next.

Read more

3,000 to leave Aleppo after evacuations stalled for a day

Israel is taking in injured ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from Aleppo

7-year-old Bana Alabed of Aleppo meets President Erdogan in Turkey

Minister refuses to say Russia broke international law in Aleppo

Shocking photos of Aleppo's before and after Syria civil war

Syrian President Bashar al-Assad has declared that the war is far from over and said his armed forces would march on other rebel-held areas.

Evacuees from Aleppo had expressed concerns about being taken to Idlib and a senior European diplomat said earlier this month that this would suit Russia, the Assad regime's main military backer, as it would put "all their rotten eggs in one basket".

The last group of civilians and rebels holed up in a small enclave of Aleppo was expected to leave in the next 24 hours, with the Syrian army and its allies seizing all of the city, delivering the biggest prize yet of the nearly six-year war to Mr Assad.

In comments after meeting a senior Iranian delegation, Mr Assad said his battlefield successes were a "basic step on the road to ending terrorism in the whole of Syria and creating the right circumstances for a solution to end the war".

Russia's air force conducted hundreds of raids that pulverised rebel-held parts of Aleppo, while Iran-backed militias, led by the Lebanese group Hezbollah, poured thousands of fighters into the city to fight the rebels.

More fighters were evacuated overnight from east Aleppo to opposition-held areas under an agreement between the warring sides, the International Committee of the Red Cross said.

"In one of the last stages of the evacuation, more than 4,000 fighters were evacuated in private cars, vans, and pick-ups from eastern Aleppo to western rural Aleppo," ICRC spokeswoman Krista Armstrong said.

This brought to around 34,000 the total number of people evacuated from the district over the past week in an operation hampered by heavy snow and wind, she added.

"The evacuation will continue for the entire day and night and most probably tomorrow [Friday]. Thousands are still expected to be evacuated," MsArmstrong said.

Graphiq

The foreign and defence ministers of Russia, Iran and Turkey met in Moscow on Tuesday and agreed to help broker a new peace deal for Syria.

Russia is not discussing the future of Mr Assad in its talks with Iran and Turkey, Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said.

Mr de

Mistura

said that a cessation of hostilities across Syria was a "priority" and having "regional players like Turkey, Russia and Iran talk to each other is a good thing".

Quoting Russian President Vladimir Putin, Mr de Mistura said talks expected to be held in Kazakhstan were "not considered a competition, it is complementary and a support to the preparation of the UN role [in Syrian peace talks] on 8 February."

Additional reporting by Reuters

**Load-Date:** December 22, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Cessation of Syrian hostilities needed to stop Idlib becoming next Aleppo, UN envoy warns; Senior European diplomat says evacuation from Aleppo to IdlibsuitsRussia and Assad regime as it puts'all their rotten eggs in one basket'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MFP-7YD1-F021-62HY-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 22, 2016 Thursday 3:12 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 608 words

**Byline:** Samuel Osborne

**Body**

A cessation of hostilities across Syria is vital to avoid another battle like the bloody fight for Aleppo, the UN special envoy has warned.

Steffan de Mistura said thousands of people evacuated from rebel-held areas of Aleppo after a crushing government offensive could suffer a similar fate in their new refuge outside the city.

At least 34,000 people, both civilians and fighters, had been evacuated from east Aleppo in a week-long operation, the latest UN figures show.

"Many of them have gone to Idlib, which could be in theory the next Aleppo," Mr de Mistura warned in Geneva.

Drone footage of fleeing civilians reveals scale of devastation in Aleppo

Thousands of refugees from Aleppo were bussed to Idlib, arousing fears that the rebel-held city in northwestern Syria could be next.

Read more

3,000 to leave Aleppo after evacuations stalled for a day

Israel is taking in injured ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from Aleppo

7-year-old Bana Alabed of Aleppo meets President Erdogan in Turkey

Minister refuses to say Russia broke international law in Aleppo

Shocking photos of Aleppo's before and after Syria civil war

Syrian President Bashar al-Assad has declared that the war is far from over and said his armed force would march on other rebel-held areas.

Evacuees from Aleppo had expressed concerns about being taken to Idlib and a senior European diplomat said earlier this month that this would suit Russia, the Assad regime's main military backer, as it would put "all their rotten eggs in one basket".

The last group of civilians and rebels holed up in a small enclave of Aleppo was expected to leave in the next 24 hours, with the Syrian army and its allies seizing all of the city, delivering the biggest prize of the nearly six-year war to Mr Assad.

In comments after meeting a senior Iranian delegation, Mr Assad said his battlefield successes were a "basic step on the road to ending terrorism in the whole of Syria and creating the right circumstances for a solution to end the war".

Russia's air force conducted hundreds of raids that pulverised rebel-held parts of Aleppo, while Iran-backed militias, led by the Lebanese group Hezbollah, poured thousands of fighters into the city to fight the rebels.

More fighters were evacuated overnight from east Aleppo to opposition-held areas under an agreement between the warring sides, the International Committee of the Red Cross said.

"In one of the last stages of the evacuation, more than 4,000 fighters were evacuated in private cars, vans, and pick-ups from eastern Aleppo to western rural Aleppo," ICRC spokeswoman Krista Armstrong said.

This brought to around 34,000 the total number of people evacuated from the district over the past week in an operation hampered by heavy snow and wind, she added.

"The evacuation will continue for the entire day and night and most probably tomorrow [Friday]. Thousands are still expected to be evacuated," MsArmstrong said.

Graphiq

The foreign and defence ministers of Russia, Iran and Turkey met in Moscow on Tuesday and agreed to help broker a new peace deal for Syria.

Russia is not discussing the future of Mr Assad in its talks with Iran and Turkey, Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said.

Mr de

Mistura

said that a cessation of hostilities across Syria was a "priority" and having "regional players like Turkey, Russia and Iran talk to each other is a good thing".

Quoting Russian President Vladimir Putin, Mr de Mistura said talks expected to be held in Kazakhstan were "not considered a competition, it is complementary and a support to the preparation of the UN role [in Syrian peace talks] on 8 Feb."

Additional reporting by Reuters

**Load-Date:** December 22, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump immigration ban: Detained Iraqi refugee says 'America is the land of freedom'; The former interpreter was one of 12 people held at JFK Airport*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MRK-HCS1-F021-6032-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 28, 2017 Saturday 6:14 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 606 words

**Byline:** Andrew Buncombe

**Body**

An Iraqi refugee released from detention at JFK Airport has spoken of his love of America and his belief it was the land of freedom.

Hameed Khalid Darweesh, whoworked on behalf of the US government in Iraq for 10 years, was one of 12 refugees being held at the airport after the enforcement of Donald Trump's immigration ban.

On Saturday morning, lawyers for Mr Darweesh filed a habeas corpus lawsuit, seeing his release. At around lunchtime, Mr Darweesh, who was travelling with his wife and three children, was set free.

Iraqi released from JFK airport has a message: This is the land of freedom #Iraqis#jfkpic.twitter.com/Ufp7eYfUfS

- Daniel Lewis (@DanielLewisCNN) January 28, 2017

"America is the greatest nation, the greatest people in the world," said Mr Darweesh, who said that he liked Mr Trump.

Mr Darweesh, who was given permission to enter the US because he had been threatened over his work with the US military as an interpreter, said he was heartened by those people who had come to his support. Their actions, he said, reaffirmed to him his belief in American values.

"In Iraq, we know that America is the land of the free," he said.

Another detainee, Haider Sameer Abdulkhaleq Alshawi, had flown to the US to join his wife, who had worked for a US contractor. After they were detained, lawyers for all of the men filed a suit in the early hours of Saturday morning, seeking their release.

May refuses to condemn Muslim ban

Mr Trump's order, signed on Friday, means that ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** are banned from entry until further notice. Nationals of six further countries, including Iran and Iraq, will be banned from entering the US for 90 days.

Meanwhile, the entire US refugee admissions programme is suspended for 120 days, and a lower cap on numbers introduced. Green Card holders from the seven countries are also affected.

"Unfortunately, Donald Trump is basing his policies on bigotry and fear, rather than data," Ibrahim Hooper, a spokesman for the Council on American-Islamic Relations, told

The Independent

. "There is no evidence that refugees pose a threat to the US."

According to the habeas corpus petition filed in New York, Mr Darweesh worked as an interpreter for the Army's 101st Airborne Division in Baghdad and Mosul starting shortly after the invasion of Iraq in 2003.

Graphiq

It said that Mr Darweesh, 53, who arrived with his wife and three children on Friday evening, "was directly targeted twice for his association with the US Armed Forces".

After he was released, Mr Darweesh thanked those who had worked to free him.

"This is the humanity. This is the soul of America. This is what pushed me to leave my country to move here," he said. "I'm very, very thankful to the people who came to support me."

At #JFK right now- no hate, no fear, #refugees are welcome here - #NoBanNoWall#OurNYpic.twitter.com/Y90F6r867U

- NYIC (@thenyic) January 28, 2017

Asked for his view on Mr Trump, he said he liked him. "But he is the president. I worked for the US government. When I came here I showed my documents. They told me to to go to a room. They kept me there until these people came to help."

Lawyer Mark Doss, who works for the International Refugee Assistance Project, had been at the airport most of the night and said they were still trying to free the other people who were being detained.

"There is no clear guidance to Customs and Border Control (CBC). It's the weekend. Things are slow right now," he said.

The lawsuit said that when lawyers for the detained menasked the CBCofficers who they could speak to about meeting with Mr Darweesh, they were told: "Mr President. Call Mr Trump."

**Load-Date:** January 28, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Syrian army says it has retaken Aleppo; At least 34,000 people, both civilians and opposition fighters, have been evacuated from east Aleppo in a week-long operation*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MFP-S1R1-JCJY-G453-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 22, 2016 Thursday 6:53 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 636 words

**Byline:** Samuel Osborne

**Body**

The Syrian armed forces says ithasreturned the city of Aleppo to government control, ending a four-year rebel hold over parts of the city.

The last rebel fighters were said to have been evacuated from the city on Thursday, handing President Bashar al-Assad his biggest victory of the war.

The army said it had brought "security and safety" to Aleppo, ending four years of rebel resistance in parts of the northern Syrian city.

Read more

Israel is taking in injured ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from Aleppo

The last group of rebels and their families holed up in a small eastern enclave were evacuated on Thursday, under a deal that gives the army and its allies full control of the city after years of fighting, Syrian state television said.

At least 34,000 people, both civilians and fighters, have been evacuated from easternAleppo in a week-long operation hampered by severe winter weather, the latest UNfigures show. But the United Nations estimates that thousands more remain.

"The process for evacuation was traumatic, with crowding, and vulnerable people waiting for hours and exposed to sub-zero temperatures," UNspokesman Farhan Haq told reporters in New York.

The last evacuees left a tiny pocket that was all that remained of a rebel sector that covered nearly half of Aleppo before being besieged in the summer and hit by intense air strikes that reduced swathes of it to rubble. As the months of bombardment wore on, rescue and health services collapsed.

The retaking of the city came as the UN special envoy for Syria warned on Thursday that cessation of hostilities across the countryis vital to avoid another battle like the bloody fight forAleppo,

Steffan de Mistura said thousands of people evacuated from rebel-held areas of Aleppo after a crushing government offensive could suffer a similar fate in their new refuge outside the city.

"Many of them have gone to Idlib, which could be in theory the next Aleppo,"Mr de Mistura warned fromGeneva.

The Syrian President has declared that the war is far from over and said his armed forces would march on other rebel-held areas.

Evacuees from Aleppo had expressed concerns about being taken to Idlib and a senior European diplomat said earlier this month that this would suit Russia, the Assad regime's main military backer, as it would put "all their rotten eggs in one basket".

Drone footage of fleeing civilians reveals scale of devastation in Aleppo

The last group of civilians and rebels holed up in a small enclave of Aleppo was expected to leave in the next 24 hours, with the Syrian army and its allies seizing all of the city, delivering the biggest prize yet of the nearly six-year war to Mr Assad.

In comments after meeting a senior Iranian delegation, Mr Assad said his battlefield successes were a "basic step on the road to ending terrorism in the whole of Syria and creating the right circumstances for a solution to end the war".

Russia's air force conducted hundreds of raids that pulverised rebel-held parts of Aleppo, while Iran-backed militias, led by the Lebanese group Hezbollah, poured thousands of fighters into the city to fight the rebels.

The foreign and defence ministers of Russia, Iran and Turkey met in Moscow on Tuesday and agreed to help broker a new peace deal for Syria.

Russia is not discussing the future of Mr Assad in its talks with Iran and Turkey, deputy foreign minister Sergei Ryabkov said.

Mr de

Mistura

said that a cessation of hostilities across Syria was a "priority"and having "regional players like Turkey, Russia and Iran talk to each other is a good thing".

Quoting Russian President Vladimir Putin, Mr de Mistura said talks expected to be held in Kazakhstan were "not considered a competition, it is complementary and a support to the preparation of the UN role [in Syrian peace talks] on 8 February".

Agencies contributed to this report

**Load-Date:** December 22, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump is just the latest in a long line of dubious state visitors. It's time the UK used its soft power more morally; Is the Government now willing to cherry pick when the 'will of the people'should be heeded?*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MS6-F521-JCJY-G1NT-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 31, 2017 Tuesday 12:10 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 605 words

**Byline:** Yasmin Ahmed

**Body**

More than 1.6 million peoplehave signed the petition calling for ban on Donald Trump's state visit to the UK; thousands have marched across cities in the country because the public feel that the Government has not made a strong enough stand against Trump. They share one belief: that we have a moral responsibility to stand up to discriminatory policies and that the US immigration ban is not just an American issue, it's an issue for all of us.

Trump's planned arrival fits right in with the long tradition of controversial guests on state visits. In 2007, thousands of protesters mingled with tourists outside Buckingham palace ahead of the Saudi King's arrival in Britain. In 2015 we welcomed a regime which targets activists and their family members with harassment, imprisonment and. The Chinese President Xi Jinping was invited to attend lavish banquets on his state visit, despite his country's human rights records and controversial Chinese rule in Tibet. The then Prime Minister David Cameron even took his guest to a local pub for a pint of beer.

Surely, if the King of Saudi Arabia and President Xi Jinping received a State visit, anyone can? Perhaps that's how we've operated up until now. But it's time for the UK to use its diplomatic power more sensibly when faced with a man who is willing to fire his Attorney General for questioning the legality of his decisions and believes that torture methods such as waterboarding "absolutely work" - despite so much evidence to the contrary.

Thousands join London protests against Donald Trump travel ban

The UK must now reflect on its moral record around state visits. We should be refusing to roll out the red carpet to leaders and regimes with poor records on arms deals and human rights abuses, and we certainly should not add Donald Trump to that embarrassing growing list of dubious guests.

Theresa May, who in the wake of Brexit is stuck in a very difficult position, is inevitably reluctant to cancel the visit. She has failed to even fully condemn Trump's immigration ban, unlike the German Chancellor Angela Merkel or Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. But since then she has had a wake up call: the people's petition and demonstrations at Downing Street and across other cities expose her citizen's true feelings.

Is the Government willing to cherry pick when the "will of the people" should be heeded? We rightfully respected the 1.3 million more people who voted to leave the European Union rather than to remain in the union; now it is time we consider the will of the 1.6 million who have signed the petition against Trump's state visit, a move which has been dismissed and patronised, branded a "populist movement" by some.

Of course we should not ban Trump from Britain entirely. A visit to London to talk about political matters is entirely appropriate for a US President, however controversial, and may even prove useful to us. But a formal state visit and a banquet with the Queen is not befitting of a man who has banned desperate ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from his country indefinitely and imposed a ban on Muslims entering the US.

Our Government should instead be constantly reminding Trump that our casual suspicion of Muslims is fuelling terrorist organisations such as Isis. This time last year, Malala Yousafzai, a survivor of terrorism, spoke out against the problem of stereotyping and generalising victims of terrorism in the Middle-East and Africa: "If your intention is to stop terrorism, do not try to blame the whole population of Muslims for it, because [that] cannot stop terrorism." We should heed her final warning: "It will radicalise more terrorists."

**Load-Date:** January 31, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump's team 'discussing plans for Muslim registration system'; Immigration hardlinersays plans underway for programme to force Muslimsregister ondatabase*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M60-MSS1-JCJY-G3WH-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

November 16, 2016 Wednesday 11:47 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 744 words

**Byline:** May Bulman

**Body**

Donald Trump's policy advisors are discussingplans to establish a registry for Muslim

immigrants

in the US, a man believed to be akey member of the President-elect's transitionteam has revealed.

Kris Kobach, the s

ecretary of s

tate for Kansas, said

the President-elect'sadvisors were looking at how to implement a proposal suggested by

the billionaire businessman

that would

force immigrants

from

Muslim countries to register on a database

.

Mr Kobach, whohelped devisetough immigration laws in a number of US states and claims to have participated in regular conference calls with Mr Trump's immigration advisers, also said the Trump administration could push ahead rapidly on construction of a US-Mexico border wallwithout seeking immediate congressional approval.

Read more

Trump's plans for Muslim 'register' compared to Nazi treatment of Jews

Trump already breaking campaign promise to 'drain the swamp'

John Kerry says Trump's Muslim ban 'endangers national security'

The hardline immigration official, whose role has not been confirmed by

the president-elect's transition team but who is thought to be a favourite for the role of Attorney General, said

the immigration group had discussed drafting executive orders for the president-elect's review "so that Trump and the Department of Homeland Security hit the ground running."

The Muslim registration scheme, which would reportedly see Muslims given a form of identification that notes their religion,reflects policies Mr Trump put forward during his campaign to introduce "extreme vetting" of Muslims through tougher security measures.

Such a program would echo a registration system created under Mr Bush's presidency, which Mr Kobach helped design, and which required thousands of Arab and Muslim visitors and temporary US residents to register with the state, but was abandoned in 2011 after it was criticised

for unfairly targeting immigrants from Muslim-majority nations.

Created in 2002 following the 9/11

attacks,

the National Security Entry-Exit Registration System (NSEER)required Muslims from countries where extremist organisationswere active to provide information about themselves, undergo interviews with officials and periodically notify the government of their whereabouts.

The registration program, which focusedon visitors and non-citizen men over the age of 16 from more than 24 specially designated countries, sparked wide controversy and was deemed redundant in 2011 following complaints from civil libertarians.

In the interview, Mr Kobach saidimmigration advisers were also looking at how the Homeland Security Department could move rapidly on Mr Trump's plans to build a wall between the US and Mexico without approval from Congress, acknowledging that "future fiscal years will require additional appropriations."

Mr Trump presented a hardline stance on Muslims in the US during his election campaign, making a call to temporarily ban all Muslims from entering the country and proposing the introduction of special ID cards for American Muslims during a debate over ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** entering the country.

While the billionaireappeared to pull back on the anti-Muslim rhetoric immediately after he was elected, Mr Trump has since indicated he still plans to follow through on his plans.

In an interview on Sunday the billionaire businessmantold CBS'60 Minutes showhe would deport two to three million undocumented immigrants "immediately" upon taking office, and confirmed he still plannedto "build a wall", although he addedthat some parts of the barrier would in fact be a fence.

The President-elect is also reportedly considering appointing as his deputy security advisor the vice-president of a think-tank that has said Muslims are infiltrating the American government.

Mr

Kobachreportedly said in the interview that he believed that illegal immigrants in some cases should be deported before a conviction if they have been charged with a violent crime, echoing Mr Trump's recent pledge to remove immigrants with criminal records who are in the country illegally.

The immigration hardlineralso said the president-elect's immigration advisors had discussed ways of overturning President Barack Obama's 2012 executive action that has granted temporary deportation relief and work permits to more than 700,000 undocumented people who came to the United States as children of illegal immigrants.

**Load-Date:** November 16, 2016

**End of Document**



[*WATCHING THE DETECTIVES*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MHH-PTJ1-JCS0-D3XG-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

December 31, 2016 Saturday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** Pg. 93

**Length:** 653 words

**Body**

GERARD GILBERT

What can I possibly say about the new Sherlock episode on New Year's Day? Very little beyond its title, which you know already (The Six Thatchers), and that John and Mary Watson (Martin Freeman and Amanda Abbington) welcome their new baby daughter into the world, just as real-life partners Freeman and Abbington have let slip the news of their separation. Otherwise it's mum's the word, but Steven Moffat and Mark Gatiss's juggernaut Conan Doyle reboot isn't the only crime drama returning this coming week. Here, in descending order, are the TV detectives who aren't Benedict Cumberbatch.

No Offence, created and written (this opening episode at least) by Shameless's Paul Abbott, is almost as quip-heavy as Sherlock, although sadly it's difficult to see the fabulous Joanna Scanlan inspiring the sort of besotted fan-worship that follows Cumberbatch around like a cloud of pheromones. And the rest of the cast has Happy New Year written all over it - with Elaine Cassidy, Alexandra Roach, Will Mellor, Paul Ritter and, now, Sarah Solemani, all well up to the demands of Abbott's blackly humorous script. But it's Scanlan who reigns supreme as DI Vivienne Deering, the sort of lady cop who, on emerging from a shower, is quite happy to towel her lady parts while continuing a conversation with a superior officer. That commanding officer is played by Solemani - the 'her' in Him & Her - who has been introduced as a stern, by-the-book foil to Deering, as the Manchester coppers investigate a bombing at a crematorium that unearths body parts and inspires the line (from Ritter's forensics technician), that it's "an Hieronymous Bosch job". Better than Moffat that, I'd say.

Unforgotten sees the re-teaming of Nicola Walker (Last Tango in Halifax) and Sanjeev Bhaskar (Goodness Gracious Me) as cold-case detectives DCI Cassie Stuart and DS Sunil "Sunny" Khan, the sort of inspired pairing that says this particular casting director deserved his or her fee. Chris Lang's creation is Waking the Dead meets Broadchurch, with one whodunnit spread over six episodes, as the perfectly preserved remains of a middle-aged man are fished out of the River Lee in Essex - while, as with the first series, the investigation links various suspects who would appear to have nothing in common. Once again the support cast is a cut or two above average, including Mark Bonar, Rosie Cavaliero, Douglas Hodge and Wendy Craig. Yes, Wendy Craig. As the least likely killer, my money is on her.

Silent Witness returns with a two-part storyline that is bang up to date, featuring ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and people traffickers in Calais, but which I found a little hard to follow. If Emilia Fox's Dr Nikki Alexander barely ever cracks a smile, then that's perfectly understandable given that she spends her life poking around in chest cavities - but she could do with a bit more of Vivienne Deering's black humour. People whose jobs mean spending a lot of time with dead people tend to be on the earthy side.

If you are one of those who prefer to combine murder with sunny escapism, then Death in Paradise also returns with yet another guest cast full of actors who must have looked at the rain splattering their kitchen window, peered at the shooting schedule and thought, "A few weeks in the Caribbean, flights and accommodation paid... why not?" Death in Paradise is a joint Anglo-French production which is why, I suppose, Kris Marshall's DI Humphrey Goodman is the sort of Englishman you might find in Midsomer Norton (the French adore Midsomer Murders) - a bit woolly, a bit posh and a bit sexless. The plot involves a seismologist who dies halfway up a volcano, but I wouldn't worry yourself too much about that. Just feel the tropical breeze and dream of escape.

Sherlock, BBC1 Sunday 8.30pm; No Offence, Channel 4 Wednesday 9pm; Unforgotten, ITV Thursday 9pm; Silent Witness, BBC1 Monday 9pm; Death in Paradise, BBC1 Thursday 9pm

**Load-Date:** December 30, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Israel lashes out over UN settlements vote by withdrawing ambassadors and halting aid; Diplomatic representatives to New Zealand and Senegal withdrawn as Israeli official accuses US of 'abandoning' the country by abstaining on Security Council resolution*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MG4-5XF1-JCJY-G1FM-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 24, 2016 Saturday 10:21 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 676 words

**Byline:** Bethan McKernan

**Body**

Israel has taken diplomatic action against the countries that co-sponsored a controversial UN resolution condemning settlement building in the West Bank and Jerusalem.

The 15-member Security Council voted 14 - 0 on the proposed measure on Friday, withUSambassador Samantha Power raising her hand as the lone abstention - a symbolic break with US policy in the past, which has been to veto similar resolutions.

The resolution was put forward by New Zealand, Senegal, Malaysia and Venezuela, taking place just a day after Egypt withdrew it following significant pressure from both Israel and President-elect Donald Trump.

It was met by applause in the chamber, but furious reaction from Israel. An official speaking on condition of anonymity told the Associated Press that US President Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry had effectively"abandoned" the country by allowing the resolution to pass.

Read more

Israel rejects UN settlements resolution and says it won't abide by it

Israel ordered to end settlements on Palestinian land in UN resolution

Israel is taking in injured ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from Aleppo

The Obama administration's decision not to shield Israel from the UN's vote calling Israeli expansion a "flagrant violation of international law"has been widely interpreted as a rebuke to Israel's government, despite the fact the US continues to send more than $3billion (£2.4billion) in military aid to the country each year. Mr Obama's parting shot of an abstention was the result of "an absence of a meaningful peace process," the White House said.

Relations betweent the US and Israel under Mr Obama's tenurehave become somewhat strained, and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahuhas made no secret of the fact he is glad his counterpart is leaving office.

Incoming US President Donald Trump is more likely to be friendlier towards the country, tweeting after the vote, "As to the UN, things will be differentafter Jan.20th" - when Mr Trump takes office.

The newresolution demands that Israel "immediately and completely cease all settlement activities in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem", pointing out that the international community views any Israeli construction over the agreed 1967 Green Line as illegal.

Israeli man starts charity to get injured Syrians to Israel for medical treatment

While it will not have any practical impact, the resolution is a "significant step" in reconfirming the UN's hopes for a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, outgoing Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon said on Friday.

The vote was welcomed by Palestinian representatives. A spokesperson from Palestinan Authority President Mahmoud Abbas' office called it a "big blow to Israeli policy, a unanimous international condemnation of settlements, and a strong support for the two-state solution."

Settlement building - which has accelerated year on year under current right-wing Prime Minister Netanyahu- is viewed as one of the major stumbling blocks to a lasting peace deal.

Israel's envoy to the UN, Danny Damon, called the vote was "shameful" and a "victory for terror".Israel has said it will not abide by the measures set out in the document.

In Jerusalem, Mr Netanyahu immediately recalled Israel's ambassadors to New Zealand and Senegal, who were ordered to return for consultations.All current aid to Senegal was to be suspended, the prime minister's office said, and an upcoming visit from Senegal's Foreign Minister Mankeur Ndiaye cancelled.

Israel does not have diplomatic relations with either Malaysia or Venezuela.

Defending New Zealand's vote on Saturday, the country's Foreign Minister Murray McCully said: "We have been very open about our view that the [UN Security Council] should be doing more to support the Middle East peace process and the position we adopted today is totally in line with our long established policy on the Palestinian question.

"The vote... should not come as a surprise to anyone and we look forward to continuing to engage constructively with all parties on this issue."

**Load-Date:** December 24, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Cessation of Syrian hostilities needed to stop Idlib becoming next Aleppo, UN envoy warns; Senior European diplomat says evacuation from Aleppo to IdlibsuitsRussia and Assad regime as it puts'all their rotten eggs in one basket'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MFP-KCH1-JCJY-G3KT-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 22, 2016 Thursday 3:12 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 610 words

**Byline:** Samuel Osborne

**Body**

A cessation of hostilities across Syria is vital to avoid another battle like the bloody fight for Aleppo, the UN special envoy has warned.

Steffan de Mistura said thousands of people evacuated from rebel-held areas of Aleppo after a crushing government offensive could suffer a similar fate in their new refuge outside the city.

At least 34,000 people, both civilians and fighters, havebeen evacuated from east Aleppo in a week-long operation, the latest UN figures show.

"Many of them have gone to Idlib, which could be in theory the next Aleppo," Mr de Mistura warned in Geneva.

Drone footage of fleeing civilians reveals scale of devastation in Aleppo

Thousands of refugees from Aleppo were bussed to Idlib, arousing fears that the rebel-held city in north-western Syria could be next.

Read more

3,000 to leave Aleppo after evacuations stalled for a day

Israel is taking in injured ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from Aleppo

7-year-old Bana Alabed of Aleppo meets President Erdogan in Turkey

Minister refuses to say Russia broke international law in Aleppo

Shocking photos of Aleppo's before and after Syria civil war

Syrian President Bashar al-Assad has declared that the war is far from over and said his armed forces would march on other rebel-held areas.

Evacuees from Aleppo had expressed concerns about being taken to Idlib and a senior European diplomat said earlier this month that this would suit Russia, the Assad regime's main military backer, as it would put "all their rotten eggs in one basket".

The last group of civilians and rebels holed up in a small enclave of Aleppo was expected to leave in the next 24 hours, with the Syrian army and its allies seizing all of the city, delivering the biggest prize yet of the nearly six-year war to Mr Assad.

In comments after meeting a senior Iranian delegation, Mr Assad said his battlefield successes were a "basic step on the road to ending terrorism in the whole of Syria and creating the right circumstances for a solution to end the war".

Russia's air force conducted hundreds of raids that pulverised rebel-held parts of Aleppo, while Iran-backed militias, led by the Lebanese group Hezbollah, poured thousands of fighters into the city to fight the rebels.

More fighters were evacuated overnight from east Aleppo to opposition-held areas under an agreement between the warring sides, the International Committee of the Red Cross said.

"In one of the last stages of the evacuation, more than 4,000 fighters were evacuated in private cars, vans, and pick-ups from eastern Aleppo to western rural Aleppo," ICRC spokeswoman Krista Armstrong said.

This brought to around 34,000 the total number of people evacuated from the district over the past week in an operation hampered by heavy snow and wind, she added.

"The evacuation will continue for the entire day and night and most probably tomorrow [Friday]. Thousands are still expected to be evacuated," MsArmstrong said.

Graphiq

The foreign and defence ministers of Russia, Iran and Turkey met in Moscow on Tuesday and agreed to help broker a new peace deal for Syria.

Russia is not discussing the future of Mr Assad in its talks with Iran and Turkey, Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said.

Mr de

Mistura

said that a cessation of hostilities across Syria was a "priority" and having "regional players like Turkey, Russia and Iran talk to each other is a good thing".

Quoting Russian President Vladimir Putin, Mr de Mistura said talks expected to be held in Kazakhstan were "not considered a competition, it is complementary and a support to the preparation of the UN role [in Syrian peace talks] on 8 February."

Additional reporting by Reuters

**Load-Date:** December 22, 2016

**End of Document**



# [*World news in brief*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MRP-W8F1-JCS0-D255-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

January 29, 2017 Sunday

Second Edition

Copyright 2017 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 37

**Length:** 656 words

**Body**

Crowds flock to temple's as China celebrates Lunar New year

People across China are lighting incense sticks and praying at temples to wish for an auspicious start to the Lunar New Year. Thousands of people have visited Beijing's major temples, as today is the first day of the Year of the Rooster. Wearing heavy winter coats, they lit incense sticks and bowed as they prayed for good fortune and health. As many as 80,000 people were expected at the Lama Temple in central Beijing, state television reported.

Ethnic Chinese and others around the world are also marking the holiday with celebrations and visits to temples. Large crowds gathered in Hong Kong and Malaysia on Friday night. In Rio de Janeiro, crowds watched a dragon dance and a performance of tai chi in front of a picture of Rio's famous Christ the Redeemer statue. New York brought in the holiday with fireworks on Thursday night over the Hudson River. In Pyongyang, North Korea, a large crowd laid flowers in front of bronze statues of founding leader Kim Il Sung and his son, Kim Jong Il.

AP

Justin Trudeau: "Canada will welcome" refugees after US immigration ban

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has a message for refugees rejected by U.S. President Donald Trump: Canada will take you. He also intends to talk to Trump about the success of Canada's refugee policy. Trudeaureacted to Trump's ban of Muslims from certain countries by tweeting Saturday: "To those fleeing persecution, terror & war, Canadians will welcome you, regardless of your faith. Diversity is our strength."

Trudeau also posted a picture of him greeting a Syrian child at Toronto's airport in late 2015. Trudeau oversaw the arrival of more than 39,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** soon after he was elected. "The Prime Minister is looking forward to discussing the successes of Canada's immigration and refugee policy with the President when they next speak," Trudeau spokeswoman Kate Purchase told The Associated Press. Trudeau is expected to the visit the White House soon.

AP

Berlusconi to face corruption charges

A Milan judge has ordered former Italian premier Silvio Berlusconi to be tried on corruption charges. Judge Carlo Ottone De Marchi ordered the trial to begin on April 5 in Milan, said Italian news agency ANSA. Milan daily Corriere della Sera said the former three-time premier is accused of having shelled out some 10 million euros (£7.97m), plus expensive gifts, to 20 young women who attended sexy parties at his Arcore villa near Milan.

Mr Berlusconi's lawyers deny any wrongdoing by their client, saying he is being tried for his "generosity" to the women. Prosecutors allege the centre-right leader opposition aimed to "buy" the women's silence in various trials involving him.

AP

Thousands Mongolians protest pollution in nations capital

Thousands of Mongolians stood in frigid weather Saturday for the second time this winter to protest the government response to smog that routinely blankets their capital. An estimated 7,000 people, many of them wearing air masks and gas masks underneath thick winter hats, braved temperatures that fell below minus 20 degrees Celsius (minus 4 Fahrenheit). Standing in the city's central Sukhbataar Square, they held black balloons and protest signs. One banner read: "Wake up and smell the smog."

Ulaanbaatar is one of the world's coldest capitals, and more than half of the city's 1.3 million residents rely on burning raw coal, plastic, rubber tires and other materials to stay warm and cook meals in their homes. In impoverished neighborhoods that ring the city, known as ger districts, many herders and others live in traditional round tents without heating, leaving them to burn polluting fuels. Pollution readings in one ger district Friday were at times nearly 30 times above the levels considered safe by the World Health Organization. Icy winds that whipped through the square during Saturday's protest cleared some of the previous day's pollution.

AP

**Load-Date:** January 28, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump's team 'discussing plans for Muslim registration system'; Immigration hardlinersays plans underway for program to make Muslims to register on a database*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M60-MSS1-JCJY-G3WG-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

November 16, 2016 Wednesday 11:47 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 744 words

**Byline:** May Bulman

**Body**

Donald Trump's policy advisors are discussingplans to establish a registry for Muslim

immigrants

in the US, a man believed to be akey member of the President-elect's transitionteam has revealed.

Kris Kobach, the s

ecretary of s

tate for Kansas, said

the President-elect'sadvisors were looking at how to implement a proposal suggested by

the billionaire businessman

that would

force immigrants

from

Muslim countries to register on a database

.

Mr Kobach, whohelped devisetough immigration laws in a number of US states and claims to have participated in regular conference calls with Mr Trump's immigration advisers, also said the Trump administration could push ahead rapidly on construction of a US-Mexico border wallwithout seeking immediate congressional approval.

Read more

Trump's plans for Muslim 'register' compared to Nazi treatment of Jews

Trump already breaking campaign promise to 'drain the swamp'

John Kerry says Trump's Muslim ban 'endangers national security'

The hardline immigration official, whose role has not been confirmed by

the president-elect's transition team but who is thought to be a favourite for the role of Attorney General, said

the immigration group had discussed drafting executive orders for the president-elect's review "so that Trump and the Department of Homeland Security hit the ground running."

The Muslim registration scheme, which would reportedly see Muslims given a form of identification that notes their religion,reflects policies Mr Trump put forward during his campaign to introduce "extreme vetting" of Muslims through tougher security measures.

Such a program would echo a registration system created under Mr Bush's presidency, which Mr Kobach helped design, and which required thousands of Arab and Muslim visitors and temporary US residents to register with the state, but was abandoned in 2011 after it was criticised

for unfairly targeting immigrants from Muslim-majority nations.

Created in 2002 following the 9/11

attacks,

the National Security Entry-Exit Registration System (NSEER)required Muslims from countries where extremist organisationswere active to provide information about themselves, undergo interviews with officials and periodically notify the government of their whereabouts.

The registration program, which focusedon visitors and non-citizen men over the age of 16 from more than 24 specially designated countries, sparked wide controversy and was deemed redundant in 2011 following complaints from civil libertarians.

In the interview, Mr Kobach saidimmigration advisers were also looking at how the Homeland Security Department could move rapidly on Mr Trump's plans to build a wall between the US and Mexico without approval from Congress, acknowledging that "future fiscal years will require additional appropriations."

Mr Trump presented a hardline stance on Muslims in the US during his election campaign, making a call to temporarily ban all Muslims from entering the country and proposing the introduction of special ID cards for American Muslims during a debate over ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** entering the country.

While the billionaireappeared to pull back on the anti-Muslim rhetoric immediately after he was elected, Mr Trump has since indicated he still plans to follow through on his plans.

In an interview on Sunday the billionaire businessmantold CBS'60 Minutes showhe would deport two to three million undocumented immigrants "immediately" upon taking office, and confirmed he still plannedto "build a wall", although he addedthat some parts of the barrier would in fact be a fence.

The President-elect is also reportedly considering appointing as his deputy security advisor the vice-president of a think-tank that has said Muslims are infiltrating the American government.

Mr

Kobachreportedly said in the interview that he believed that illegal immigrants in some cases should be deported before a conviction if they have been charged with a violent crime, echoing Mr Trump's recent pledge to remove immigrants with criminal records who are in the country illegally.

The immigration hardlineralso said the president-elect's immigration advisors had discussed ways of overturning President Barack Obama's 2012 executive action that has granted temporary deportation relief and work permits to more than 700,000 undocumented people who came to the United States as children of illegal immigrants.

**Load-Date:** November 16, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump Muslim immigration ban: US border patrol 'checking people's Facebook for political views'; Refugees and green card holders detained and interrogated despite legal right to come to the US*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MRK-HCS1-F021-603D-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 28, 2017 Saturday 7:10 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 637 words

**Byline:** Caroline Mortimer

**Body**

US border agents are checking people's Facebook pages for their political views before allowing them into the country, an immigration lawyer has claimed.

Houston-based lawyer Mana Yegani said several green card holders, who have the right to live and work in the US, were detained by border agents at Americanairports hours after President Donald Trump signed an executive order banning immigration from seven countriesin the Middle East and Africa.

The banaffect travellers with passports from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen and alsoextends to green card holders who are granted authorisation to live and work in the United States, according to a Department of Homeland Security spokeswoman.

Ms Yegani, who works with the American Immigration Lawyers Association (Alia), said she and her fellow lawyers had worked through the night fielding calls from people with legitimate visa being detained before entering the US or ordered back on flights to the Muslim-majority countries on the list.

Read more

Green card holders barred from entering US, officials confirm

US airports already refusing people entry after Trump immigration ban

Muslim-majority countries targeted in Donald Trump immigration ban

In one alleged incident a Sudanese PhD student at Stanford University in California, who has lived in the US for 22 years, was held for five hours in New York and in another a dual Iranian-Canadian citizen was not allowed to board a flight in Ottawa.

The Alia said border agents were checking the social media accounts of those detained and were interrogating them about their political beliefs before allowing them into the US.

She said:"These are people that are coming in legally. They have jobs here and they have vehicles here.

"Just because Trump signed something at 6pm yesterday, things are coming to a crashing halt. It's scary."

A spokesman for the Alia told

The Independent

that they had heardwere anecdotal reports of people's social media accounts being targeted -this tactic had been used by border agents for several years despite doubts overwhether it is constitutional.

It comes as several immigration organisations and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLA) launched a lawsuit in New York on behalf of two Iraqi men, one a former US government worker and the other the husband of a former US security contractor.

It said theyhadbeen given visas to enter the US but were detained at JFK airport hours after Mr Trump issued the executive order.

Meanwhile in Cairo, five Iraqis and one Yemeni passenger were barred from boarding aconnecting EgyptAir flight to New York and were redirected to flights back to their home countries, despite holding valid visas.

Dutch airline KLM said it had similarly refused carriage to seven passengers from Muslim countries because there was "no point taking them to the US".

Read more

Iran's Oscar-nominated director barred from awards due to Trump's ban

The order, signed on Holocaust Memorial Day, means ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** have been banned from entering the country indefinitely - though the White House has said it will consider admitting Syrian Christians - and the entire US refugee programme has been suspended for 120 days.

Nationals from the six other countries on the list have been banned from entering the US for 90 days.

The move has been condemned by the UN's refugee agency (UNHCR) and the International Organisation for Migration who said: "The needs of refugees and migrants worldwide have never been greater and the US resettlement program is one of the most important in the world,"

"The longstanding US policy of welcoming refugees has created a win-win situation: it has saved the lives of some of the most vulnerable people in the world who have in turn enriched and strengthened their new societies."

Additional reporting by Reuters

**Load-Date:** January 28, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Syrian army say they have retaken Aleppo; At least 34,000 people, both civilians and opposition fighters, have been evacuated from east Aleppo in a week-long operation*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MFP-S1R1-JCJY-G43N-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 22, 2016 Thursday 6:53 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 639 words

**Byline:** Samuel Osborne

**Body**

The Syrian armed forces say they have returned the city of Aleppo to government control, ending a four-year rebel hold over parts of the city.

The last rebel fighters were said to have been evacuated from the city on Thursday, handing President Bashar al-Assad his biggest victory of the war.

The army said it had brought "security and safety" to Aleppo, ending four years of rebel resistance in parts of the northern Syrian city.

Read more

Israel is taking in injured ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from Aleppo

The last group of rebels and their families holed up in a small eastern enclave were evacuated on Thursday, under a deal that gives the army and its allies full control of the city after years of fighting, Syrian state television said.

At least 34,000 people, both civilians and fighters, have been evacuated from east Aleppo in a week-long operation hampered by severe winter weather, the latest UNfigures show. But the United Nations estimates that thousands more remain.

"The process for evacuation was traumatic, with crowding, and vulnerable people waiting for hours and exposed to sub-zero temperatures," U.N. spokesman Farhan Haq told reporters in New York.

The last evacuees left a tiny pocket that was all that remained of a rebel sector that covered nearly half of Aleppo before being besieged in the summer and hit by intense air strikes that reduced swathes of it to rubble. As the months of bombardment wore on, rescue and health services collapsed.

The re-taking of the city came as the UN special envoy warned on Thursday that cessation of hostilities across Syria is vital to avoid another battle like the bloody fight forAleppo,

Steffan de Mistura said thousands of people evacuated from rebel-held areas of Aleppo after a crushing government offensive could suffer a similar fate in their new refuge outside the city.

"Many of them have gone to Idlib, which could be in theory the next Aleppo," Mr de Mistura warned in Geneva.

Syrian President Bashar al-Assad has declared that the war is far from over and said his armed forces would march on other rebel-held areas.

Evacuees from Aleppo had expressed concerns about being taken to Idlib and a senior European diplomat said earlier this month that this would suit Russia, the Assad regime's main military backer, as it would put "all their rotten eggs in one basket".

Related video: Drone footage of fleeing civilians reveals scale of devastation in Aleppo

The last group of civilians and rebels holed up in a small enclave of Aleppo was expected to leave in the next 24 hours, with the Syrian army and its allies seizing all of the city, delivering the biggest prize yet of the nearly six-year war to Mr Assad.

In comments after meeting a senior Iranian delegation, Mr Assad said his battlefield successes were a "basic step on the road to ending terrorism in the whole of Syria and creating the right circumstances for a solution to end the war".

Russia's air force conducted hundreds of raids that pulverised rebel-held parts of Aleppo, while Iran-backed militias, led by the Lebanese group Hezbollah, poured thousands of fighters into the city to fight the rebels.

The foreign and defence ministers of Russia, Iran and Turkey met in Moscow on Tuesday and agreed to help broker a new peace deal for Syria.

Russia is not discussing the future of Mr Assad in its talks with Iran and Turkey, Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said.

Mr de

Mistura

said that a cessation of hostilities across Syria was a "priority" and having "regional players like Turkey, Russia and Iran talk to each other is a good thing".

Quoting Russian President Vladimir Putin, Mr de Mistura said talks expected to be held in Kazakhstan were "not considered a competition, it is complementary and a support to the preparation of the UN role [in Syrian peace talks] on 8 February."

Agencies contributed to this report.

**Load-Date:** December 22, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Syrian army says it has retaken Aleppo; At least 34,000 people, both civilians and opposition fighters, have been evacuated from east Aleppo in a week-long operation*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MFP-S1R1-JCJY-G452-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 22, 2016 Thursday 6:53 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 639 words

**Byline:** Samuel Osborne

**Body**

The Syrian armed forces say they have returned the city of Aleppo to government control, ending a four-year rebel hold over parts of the city.

The last rebel fighters were said to have been evacuated from the city on Thursday, handing President Bashar al-Assad his biggest victory of the war.

The army said it had brought "security and safety" to Aleppo, ending four years of rebel resistance in parts of the northern Syrian city.

Read more

Israel is taking in injured ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from Aleppo

The last group of rebels and their families holed up in a small eastern enclave were evacuated on Thursday, under a deal that gives the army and its allies full control of the city after years of fighting, Syrian state television said.

At least 34,000 people, both civilians and fighters, have been evacuated from east Aleppo in a week-long operation hampered by severe winter weather, the latest UNfigures show. But the United Nations estimates that thousands more remain.

"The process for evacuation was traumatic, with crowding, and vulnerable people waiting for hours and exposed to sub-zero temperatures," U.N. spokesman Farhan Haq told reporters in New York.

The last evacuees left a tiny pocket that was all that remained of a rebel sector that covered nearly half of Aleppo before being besieged in the summer and hit by intense air strikes that reduced swathes of it to rubble. As the months of bombardment wore on, rescue and health services collapsed.

The re-taking of the city came as the UN special envoy warned on Thursday that cessation of hostilities across Syria is vital to avoid another battle like the bloody fight forAleppo,

Steffan de Mistura said thousands of people evacuated from rebel-held areas of Aleppo after a crushing government offensive could suffer a similar fate in their new refuge outside the city.

"Many of them have gone to Idlib, which could be in theory the next Aleppo," Mr de Mistura warned in Geneva.

Syrian President Bashar al-Assad has declared that the war is far from over and said his armed forces would march on other rebel-held areas.

Evacuees from Aleppo had expressed concerns about being taken to Idlib and a senior European diplomat said earlier this month that this would suit Russia, the Assad regime's main military backer, as it would put "all their rotten eggs in one basket".

Related video: Drone footage of fleeing civilians reveals scale of devastation in Aleppo

The last group of civilians and rebels holed up in a small enclave of Aleppo was expected to leave in the next 24 hours, with the Syrian army and its allies seizing all of the city, delivering the biggest prize yet of the nearly six-year war to Mr Assad.

In comments after meeting a senior Iranian delegation, Mr Assad said his battlefield successes were a "basic step on the road to ending terrorism in the whole of Syria and creating the right circumstances for a solution to end the war".

Russia's air force conducted hundreds of raids that pulverised rebel-held parts of Aleppo, while Iran-backed militias, led by the Lebanese group Hezbollah, poured thousands of fighters into the city to fight the rebels.

The foreign and defence ministers of Russia, Iran and Turkey met in Moscow on Tuesday and agreed to help broker a new peace deal for Syria.

Russia is not discussing the future of Mr Assad in its talks with Iran and Turkey, Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said.

Mr de

Mistura

said that a cessation of hostilities across Syria was a "priority" and having "regional players like Turkey, Russia and Iran talk to each other is a good thing".

Quoting Russian President Vladimir Putin, Mr de Mistura said talks expected to be held in Kazakhstan were "not considered a competition, it is complementary and a support to the preparation of the UN role [in Syrian peace talks] on 8 February."

Agencies contributed to this report.

**Load-Date:** December 22, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Ex-Tea Party star is Trump's first female appointment; South Carolina governor Nikki Haley will soon take on the role of US ambassador to the UN, while Mr Trump's second female appointment,Betsy DeVos,is to be the Secretary of Education*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M7M-S3Y1-JCS0-D200-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

November 24, 2016 Thursday

Second Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 26

**Length:** 608 words

**Byline:** MAYA OPPENHEIM

**Body**

The US President-elect Donald Trump yesterday appointed two women to his cabinet-in-waiting - Nikki Haley, the Governor of South Carolina, is to become ambassador to the United Nations, while Betsy DeVos is to be the Secretary of Education.

Both appointments are controversial - Ms DeVos is a charter school advocate and billionaire Republican donor, while Ms Haley supported his Mr Trump's rival Marco Rubio in the primaries and has had a number of disagreements with the President-elect.

Ms Haley, who won the election to the governor's post as part of the Tea Party surge in 2010, previously urged the party to reject the "angriest voices". It was a statement widely perceived as being directed at the controversial property magnate.

Mr Trump has also made his feelings about her known, once tweeting: "The people of South Carolina are embarrassed by Nikki Haley!" She responded to his tweet and a number of his other attacks with the quintessentially Southern American response: "Bless your heart".

Ms Haley once claimed she "sharpens" her high-heeled shoes for the "blood sport" of South Carolina politics and has even been compared to Margaret Thatcher. Born Nimrata Nikki Randhawa in South Carolina in 1972, she was brought up in an Indian Sikh family. Her parents are immigrants from Punjab and she was nicknamed Nikki which means "little one" by her family members.

Like Margaret Thatcher, she was also a shopkeeper's daughter and The Economist believes this similarity holds some significance, saying it has instilled in her an aversion to the hand of state intervention.

Back in 2015, she was one of a number of governors who asked the State Department not to resettle ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in their states because of security concerns. She suggested there was a "lack of historical and verifiable intelligence" on their identities.

Nevertheless, governors do not hold the legislative power to prevent the resettlement and South Carolina is currently home to several dozen refugees from Syria. She was also against President Barack Obama's signature healthcare law Obama-care.

Ms Haley was not always so sure about Mr Trump. In the past she condemned his rhetoric, saying: "Mr Trump has definitely contributed to what I think is just irresponsible talk."

He responded by dubbing her "weak" on immigration. "She's very, very weak on illegal immigration," he said at the time. "She's very, very weak on illegal immigration. You can't have that."

A month later, she rebuked him for not condemning white supremacist groups like the Ku Klux Klan. "The KKK came to South Carolina from out of state to protest on our Statehouse grounds," she said at a rally in Georgia. "I will not stop until we fight a man that chooses not to disavow the KKK. That is not a part of our party. That is not who we are."

She was critical of his proposal for a temporary ban on Muslims coming into America entering the United States, which she called "un-American" and "unconstitutional". However, the pair both appear to have somewhat changed their tune, as the appointment demonstrates. Last week she met with him and heralded their friendship to reporters afterwards.

The President-elect's second female cabinet pick has a different background to Ms Haley: 58-year-old Michigan philanthropist Ms DeVos chairs education campaign group the American Federation for Children (AFC) although Ms DeVos has never worked in public education and sent her own children to private Christian schools. Yesterday she wrote on Twitter that she was "honoured" to work with Mr Trump "on his vision to make American education great again," adding: "The status quo in [education] is not acceptable."

**Load-Date:** November 23, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump's administration has seven people who have expressed Islamophobic sentiment; One person would be too many*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MBY-02V1-F021-64G5-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 9, 2016 Friday 7:54 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 699 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz

**Body**

"There is a war on. And the war is against all of western civilisation...If we do not destroy the scourge of radical Islam, it will ultimately destroy Western civilization."

KT McFarland, the Fox News analyst and Donald Trump's incoming deputy national security adviser, is just one of six people who have been appointed to run the government come January 2017 - excluding the president-elect himself - who have openly expressed prejudiced views about Muslims.

Political correctness, Ms McFarland added, of not discriminating against Muslims "is getting us killed".

Read more

Muslim-owned restaurant hands out free meals to the homeless

The Council on American-Islamic Relations has compiled a list of racist quotations expressed by everyone from the incoming head of the justice department, Jeff Sessions, to the new national security advisor Michael Flynn.

"It's not in their [Muslims'] conscience, life like we understand life. It just isn't," insisted Mr Flynn.

The confusion between the peaceful religion of Islam, versus radical religious extremism which is present for a minority of people in every religion, has led to a major spike in racially motivated hate crimes.

Hate crimes against American Muslims have soared to their highest levels since the 9/11 attacks.

Donald Trump's controversial cabinet

In Oklahoma City, the FBI was called upon to investigate the dumping of a pig carcass outside an Islamic center in Lawton. Muslims are prohibited from eating pork products. The driver of the truck backed up to the centre, as shown in CCTV footage, the carcass fell off the tailgate, and the owner drove away.

Muslims have been beaten up and killed. Mosques have been frequent targets, and women have had their hijabs ripped off their heads in the street.

Ben Carson, the new US housing and urban development secretary, said he believes that there is a Muslim plot to take over America, called "civilizational jihad".

He compared ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** to rabid dogs and said: "Bringing in people from the Middle East right now carries extra danger and we cannot put our people at risk because we are trying to be politically correct."

Graphiq

Kansas congressman Mike Pompeo, who will serve as the head of the CIA, defended a staffer who posted a link to a blog on his social media accounts that used the racial slur "turban topper"and called president Barack Obama an "evil Muslim communist USURPER".

"I am convinced there is no malice in his actions,"he said in 2010 when he was running for office. He also blamed Muslim leaders for their "silence" and "complicity"after the 2013 Boston Marathon attacks.

Stephen Bannon, Mr Trump's senior counsel and the founder of white supremacist platform Breitbart, compared Shariah to "Nazism, racism and communism". He also falsely accused Virginia democratic senator Tim Kaine as being affiliated with the Muslim Brotherhood.

He said Richard Spencer, a white supremacist, was "one of the top two or three experts in the world on this great war we are fighting against fundamental Islam."

Read more

Utah lawyers pledge to defend Muslim refugees against Trump for free

Barack Obama could thwart Donald Trump's Muslim registry plan

Muslim woman says she was called a terrorist on New York Subway

Potential appointees to the administration include 12 more people who have openly made anti-Muslim statements, including New Jersey governor Chris Christie who said Shariah law was "crap" and he was fed up of "dealing with the crazies", and former speaker of the house Newt Gingrich, who advocated making all Muslims take a religious "test".

"We should, frankly, test every person here who is of a Muslim background and if they believe in Sharia, they should be deported,"said Mr Gingrich.

Mr Trump first proposed a temporary ban of all Muslims entering the US in November 2015, shortly after the terrorist attacks in Paris. He also lied that he had seen Muslims clapping and cheering as the Twin Towers came down on 9/11.

A 2016 study from the University of Minnesota found that disapproval of Muslims in the US had almost doubled from 26 per cent a decade ago to 45.5 per cent in 2016, making Muslims the most disliked group in the country.

**Load-Date:** December 9, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Trump's team sets to work on 'Muslim registry system'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M64-YV91-F072-400Y-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

November 17, 2016 Thursday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 30

**Length:** 691 words

**Byline:** MAY BULMAN

**Body**

Donald Trump's policy advisers are discussing plans to establish a registry for Muslim immigrants in the US, a man believed to be a key member of the President-elect's transition team has revealed.

Kris Kobach, the secretary of state for Kansas, said the President-elect's advisers were looking at how to implement a proposal suggested by the billionaire businessman that would force immigrants from Muslim countries to register on a database.

Mr Kobach, who helped devise tough immigration laws in a number of US states and claims to have participated in regular conference calls with Mr Trump's immigration advisers, also said the Trump administration could push ahead rapidly on construction of a US-Mexico border wall without seeking immediate congressional approval.

The hardline immigration official, whose role has not been confirmed by the President-elect's transition team but who is thought to be a favourite for the role of Attorney General, said the immigration group had discussed drafting executive orders for the President-elect's review "so that Trump and the Department of Homeland Security hit the ground running".

The Muslim registration scheme, which would reportedly see Muslims given a form of identification that notes their religion, reflects policies Mr Trump put forward during his campaign to introduce "extreme vetting" of Muslims through tougher security measures.

Such a programme would echo a registration system created under Mr Bush's presidency, which Mr Kobach also helped design, and which required thousands of Arab and Muslim visitors and temporary US residents to register with the state, but was abandoned in 2011 after it was criticised for unfairly targeting immigrants from Muslim-majority nations.

Created in 2002 following the 9/11 attacks, the National Security Entry-Exit Registration System (NSEER) required Muslims from countries where extremist organisations were active to provide information about themselves, undergo interviews with officials and periodically notify the government of their whereabouts.

The registration programme, which focused on visitors and non-citizen men over the age of 16 from more than 24 designated countries, caused widespread controversy and was deemed redundant in 2011, following complaints from civil libertarians.

In the interview, Mr Kobach said immigration advisers were also looking at how the Homeland Security Department could move rapidly on Mr Trump's plans to build a wall between the US and Mexico without approval from Congress, acknowledging that "future fiscal years will require additional appropriations".

Mr Trump presented a hardline stance on Muslims in the US during his election campaign, making a call to temporarily ban all Muslims from entering the country and proposing the introduction of special identity cards for American Muslims during a debate over ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** entering the country.

While Mr Trump appeared to have pulled back on the anti-Muslim rhetoric immediately after he was elected, he has since indicated he still plans to follow through on his plans.

In an interview on Sunday Mr Trump told CBS's 60 Minutes show he would deport two to three million undocumented immigrants "immediately" upon taking office, and confirmed he still planned to "build a wall", although he added that some parts of the barrier would in fact be a fence.

The President-elect is also reportedly considering appointing as his deputy security advisor the vice-president of a think-tank that has said Muslims are infiltrating the American government.

Mr Kobach reportedly said in the interview that he believed that illegal immigrants in some cases should be deported before a conviction if they have been charged with a violent crime, echoing Mr Trump's recent pledge to remove immigrants with criminal records who are in the country illegally.

The immigration hardliner also said the President-elect's immigration advisers had discussed ways of overturning President Barack Obama's 2012 executive action that has granted temporary deportation relief and work permits to more than 700,000 undocumented people who came to the US as children of illegal immigrants.

**Load-Date:** November 16, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump's team 'discussing plans for Muslim registration system'; Immigration hardlinersays plans underway for programme to force Muslimsregister ondatabase*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M61-4NY1-F021-60SJ-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

November 16, 2016 Wednesday 11:47 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 746 words

**Byline:** May Bulman

**Body**

Donald Trump's policy advisers are discussingplans to establish a registry for Muslim

immigrants

in the US, a man believed to be akey member of the President-elect's transitionteam has revealed.

Kris Kobach, the s

ecretary of s

tate for Kansas, said

the President-elect'sadvisers were looking at how to implement a proposal suggested by

the billionaire businessman

that would

force immigrants

from

Muslim countries to register on a database

.

Mr Kobach, whohelped devisetough immigration laws in a number of US states and claims to have participated in regular conference calls with Mr Trump's immigration advisers, also said the Trump administration could push ahead rapidly on construction of a US-Mexico border wallwithout seeking immediate congressional approval.

Trump: We're going to deport millions

Read more

Trump's plans for Muslim 'register' compared to Nazi treatment of Jews

Trump already breaking campaign promise to 'drain the swamp'

John Kerry says Trump's Muslim ban 'endangers national security'

The hardline immigration official, whose role has not been confirmed by

the President-elect's transition team but who is thought to be a favourite for the role of Attorney General, said

the immigration group had discussed drafting executive orders for the President-elect's review "so that Trump and the Department of Homeland Security hit the ground running".

The Muslim registration scheme, which would reportedly see Muslims given a form of identification that notes their religion,reflects policies Mr Trump put forward during his campaign to introduce "extreme vetting" of Muslims through tougher security measures.

Such a programme would echo a registration system created under Mr Bush's presidency, which Mr Kobach also helped design, and which required thousands of Arab and Muslim visitors and temporary US residents to register with the state, but was abandoned in 2011 after it was criticised

for unfairly targeting immigrants from Muslim-majority nations.

Created in 2002 following the 9/11

attacks,

the National Security Entry-Exit Registration System (NSEER)required Muslims from countries where extremist organisationswere active to provide information about themselves, undergo interviews with officials and periodically notify the government of their whereabouts.

The registration programme, which focusedon visitors and non-citizen men over the age of 16 from more than 24 designated countries, caused widespread controversy and was deemed redundant in 2011, following complaints from civil libertarians.

In the interview, Mr Kobach saidimmigration advisers were also looking at how the Homeland Security Department could move rapidly on Mr Trump's plans to build a wall between the US and Mexico without approval from Congress, acknowledging that "future fiscal years will require additional appropriations".

Mr Trump presented a hardline stance on Muslims in the US during his election campaign, making a call to temporarily ban all Muslims from entering the country and proposing the introduction of special identity

cards for American Muslims during a debate over ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** entering the country.

While Mr Trump appeared to have pulled back on the anti-Muslim rhetoric immediately after he was elected, hehas since indicated he still plans to follow through on his plans.

In an interview on Sunday Mr Trump told CBS's

60 Minutes

showhe would deport two to three million undocumented immigrants "immediately" upon taking office, and confirmed he still plannedto "build a wall", although he addedthat some parts of the barrier would in fact be a fence.

The President-elect is also reportedly considering appointing as his deputy security advisor the vice-president of a think-tank that has said Muslims are infiltrating the American government.

Mr

Kobachreportedly said in the interview that he believed that illegal immigrants in some cases should be deported before a conviction if they have been charged with a violent crime, echoing Mr Trump's recent pledge to remove immigrants with criminal records who are in the country illegally.

The immigration hardlineralso said the President-elect's immigration advisers had discussed ways of overturning President Barack Obama's 2012 executive action that has granted temporary deportation relief and work permits to more than 700,000 undocumented people who came to the US as children of illegal immigrants.

**Load-Date:** November 16, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump's team 'discussing plans for Muslim registration system'; Immigration hardlinersays plans underway for programme to force Muslimsregister ondatabase*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M61-4NY1-F021-60SK-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

November 16, 2016 Wednesday 11:47 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 756 words

**Byline:** May Bulman

**Body**

Donald Trump's policy advisers are discussingplans to establish a registry for Muslim

immigrants

in the US, a man believed to be akey member of the President-elect's transitionteam has revealed.

Kris Kobach, the s

ecretary of s

tate for Kansas, said

the President-elect'sadvisers were looking at how to implement a proposal suggested by

the billionaire businessman

that would

force immigrants

from

Muslim countries to register on a database

.

Mr Kobach, whohelped devisetough immigration laws in a number of US states and claims to have participated in regular conference calls with Mr Trump's immigration advisers, also said the Trump administration could push ahead rapidly on construction of a US-Mexico border wallwithout seeking immediate congressional approval.

Trump: We're going to deport millions

Read more

Trump's plans for Muslim 'register' compared to Nazi treatment of Jews

Trump already breaking campaign promise to 'drain the swamp'

John Kerry says Trump's Muslim ban 'endangers national security'

The hardline immigration official, whose role has not been confirmed by

the President-elect's transition team but who is thought to be a favourite for the role of Attorney General, said

the immigration group had discussed drafting executive orders for the President-elect's review "so that Trump and the Department of Homeland Security hit the ground running".

The Muslim registration scheme, which would reportedly see Muslims given a form of identification that notes their religion,reflects policies Mr Trump put forward during his campaign to introduce "extreme vetting" of Muslims through tougher security measures.

Such a programme would echo a registration system created under Mr Bush's presidency, which Mr Kobach also helped design, and which required thousands of Arab and Muslim visitors and temporary US residents to register with the state, but was abandoned in 2011 after it was criticised

for unfairly targeting immigrants from Muslim-majority nations.

Created in 2002 following the 9/11

attacks,

the National Security Entry-Exit Registration System (NSEER)required Muslims from countries where extremist organisationswere active to provide information about themselves, undergo interviews with officials and periodically notify the government of their whereabouts.

The registration programme, which focusedon visitors and non-citizen men over the age of 16 from more than 24 designated countries, caused widespread controversy and was deemed redundant in 2011, following complaints from civil libertarians.

In the interview, Mr Kobach saidimmigration advisers were also looking at how the Homeland Security Department could move rapidly on Mr Trump's plans to build a wall between the US and Mexico without approval from Congress, acknowledging that "future fiscal years will require additional appropriations".

Mr Trump presented a hardline stance on Muslims in the US during his election campaign, making a call to temporarily ban all Muslims from entering the country and proposing the introduction of special identity

cards for American Muslims during a debate over ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** entering the country.

While Mr Trump appeared to have pulled back on the anti-Muslim rhetoric immediately after he was elected, hehas since indicated he still plans to follow through on his plans.

FindTheData | Graphiq

In an interview on Sunday Mr Trump told CBS's

60 Minutes

showhe would deport two to three million undocumented immigrants "immediately" upon taking office, and confirmed he still plannedto "build a wall", although he addedthat some parts of the barrier would in fact be a fence.

The President-elect is also reportedly considering appointing as his deputy security advisor the vice-president of a think-tank that has said Muslims are infiltrating the American government.

Mr

Kobachreportedly said in the interview that he believed that illegal immigrants in some cases should be deported before a conviction if they have been charged with a violent crime, echoing Mr Trump's recent pledge to remove immigrants with criminal records who are in the country illegally.

The immigration hardlineralso said the President-elect's immigration advisers had discussed ways of overturning President Barack Obama's 2012 executive action that has granted temporary deportation relief and work permits to more than 700,000 undocumented people who came to the US as children of illegal immigrants.

**Load-Date:** November 16, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump's team 'discussing plans for Muslim registration system'; Immigration hardlinersays plans underway for programme to force Muslimsregister ondatabase*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M60-MSS1-JCJY-G3WJ-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

November 16, 2016 Wednesday 11:47 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 750 words

**Byline:** May Bulman

**Body**

Donald Trump's policy advisors are discussingplans to establish a registry for Muslim

immigrants

in the US, a man believed to be akey member of the President-elect's transitionteam has revealed.

Kris Kobach, the s

ecretary of s

tate for Kansas, said

the President-elect'sadvisors were looking at how to implement a proposal suggested by

the billionaire businessman

that would

force immigrants

from

Muslim countries to register on a database

.

Mr Kobach, whohelped devisetough immigration laws in a number of US states and claims to have participated in regular conference calls with Mr Trump's immigration advisers, also said the Trump administration could push ahead rapidly on construction of a US-Mexico border wallwithout seeking immediate congressional approval.

Trump: We're going to deport millions

Read more

Trump's plans for Muslim 'register' compared to Nazi treatment of Jews

Trump already breaking campaign promise to 'drain the swamp'

John Kerry says Trump's Muslim ban 'endangers national security'

The hardline immigration official, whose role has not been confirmed by

the president-elect's transition team but who is thought to be a favourite for the role of Attorney General, said

the immigration group had discussed drafting executive orders for the president-elect's review "so that Trump and the Department of Homeland Security hit the ground running."

The Muslim registration scheme, which would reportedly see Muslims given a form of identification that notes their religion,reflects policies Mr Trump put forward during his campaign to introduce "extreme vetting" of Muslims through tougher security measures.

Such a program would echo a registration system created under Mr Bush's presidency, which Mr Kobach helped design, and which required thousands of Arab and Muslim visitors and temporary US residents to register with the state, but was abandoned in 2011 after it was criticised

for unfairly targeting immigrants from Muslim-majority nations.

Created in 2002 following the 9/11

attacks,

the National Security Entry-Exit Registration System (NSEER)required Muslims from countries where extremist organisationswere active to provide information about themselves, undergo interviews with officials and periodically notify the government of their whereabouts.

The registration program, which focusedon visitors and non-citizen men over the age of 16 from more than 24 specially designated countries, sparked wide controversy and was deemed redundant in 2011 following complaints from civil libertarians.

In the interview, Mr Kobach saidimmigration advisers were also looking at how the Homeland Security Department could move rapidly on Mr Trump's plans to build a wall between the US and Mexico without approval from Congress, acknowledging that "future fiscal years will require additional appropriations."

Mr Trump presented a hardline stance on Muslims in the US during his election campaign, making a call to temporarily ban all Muslims from entering the country and proposing the introduction of special ID cards for American Muslims during a debate over ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** entering the country.

While the billionaireappeared to pull back on the anti-Muslim rhetoric immediately after he was elected, Mr Trump has since indicated he still plans to follow through on his plans.

In an interview on Sunday the billionaire businessmantold CBS'60 Minutes showhe would deport two to three million undocumented immigrants "immediately" upon taking office, and confirmed he still plannedto "build a wall", although he addedthat some parts of the barrier would in fact be a fence.

The President-elect is also reportedly considering appointing as his deputy security advisor the vice-president of a think-tank that has said Muslims are infiltrating the American government.

Mr

Kobachreportedly said in the interview that he believed that illegal immigrants in some cases should be deported before a conviction if they have been charged with a violent crime, echoing Mr Trump's recent pledge to remove immigrants with criminal records who are in the country illegally.

The immigration hardlineralso said the president-elect's immigration advisors had discussed ways of overturning President Barack Obama's 2012 executive action that has granted temporary deportation relief and work permits to more than 700,000 undocumented people who came to the United States as children of illegal immigrants.

**Load-Date:** November 16, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Assad: US air strikes on Syrian army base were 'definitely intentional'; Syrian President Bashar al-Assad also rejected US claims that Syrian or Russian planes struck an aid convoy and that his government is stopping food reaching besieged east Aleppo*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KS8-7SD1-JCJY-G3HH-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 22, 2016 Thursday 1:46 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 637 words

**Byline:** Bethan McKernan

**Body**

The President of Syria has said he believes a US air strike on a Syrian army position which killed 63 soldiers was carried out deliberately.

The attack last Saturday in the east of the countryaccidentally hit a regime base rather than intended Isis territory nearby, the US State Department said.

In an interview with the AP on Wednesday conducted in the presidential palace in Damascus, Bashar al-Assad dismissed the US' expression of regret for the loss of life, going on to blame American officials for the collapse of the recent ceasefire for "not having the will" to combat terrorists and militants in the war-ravaged country.

Read more

Syria crisis: Read John Kerry's comments to the UN Security Council in full

UN to resume aid convoys to Syria after attack that killed more than 20 people

Syria air raid 'kills five medical workers near Aleppo'

Syria conflict: All sides seek to blame each other for breakdown of ceasefire

It is terrorists who are to blame for the attack and subsequent blaze that hit an aid convoy and warehouse near Aleppo on Monday, he added. The US has insisted that the Syrian and allied Russian governments are to blame for the deaths of21 people and destruction ofaid destined for 78,000 civilians.

The Russian Defence Ministry has released drone footage from the incident which it says shows a militant pick up truck travelling next to the convoy carrying a heavy mortar, which they say caused the tragedy.

Eyewitness accounts reported that the attack came from the air and involved barrel bombs, unguided crude bombs used by the Syrian regime.

Mr Assad called it a convenient "coincidence" that eyewitnesses "only appear when there's an accusation against the Syrian Army or the Russian,"pointing out it was not strategicto alienate his citizens by bombing an aid convoy and he is "morally committed" to their interests.

Syria: UN aid convoy hit by airstrikes in Aleppo

"I wouldn't say that we don't have mistakes," he went on, referring to accusations of human rights abuses and civilian deaths perpetrated by his forces. "But there's a difference between a mistake or even a crime that's been committed by an individual, and between a policy of crime that's been implemented or adopted by a government. We don't have such a policy."

Mr Assad said that it is only his enemies who are to blame for almost six years of war in Syria which the UN sayshasleft400,000 people dead and forced four million to flee the country.

He also claimed repeatedly that his government has not blocked food and aid from reaching rebel-held east Aleppo, denying that a siege is in place altogether.

"If there's really a siege around the city of Aleppo, people would have been dead by now," he said. "How could they be starving while at the same time they can have armaments? How can we prevent the food and the medical aid from reaching that area and we cannot stop the armaments from reaching that area, which is not logical?"

Intense regime bombing campaigns have resumed in Aleppo since the breakdown of a seven day ceasefire over the weekend. Activists on the groud described shells falling "like rain."

While the destruction is "painful", the president insisted that his country will one day be rebuilt, and ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** who have fled six years of war would be allowed to return very quickly if foreign powers stopped backing rebel groups.

Read more

No strategy, no plan and only 'phantom' allies: UK's Syria flaws laid

He expressed fears that the war will "drag on" because of continued international interference from the US, Turkey, and Gulf states, adding that the West's hands are "stained with blood."

World leaders are due to meet in New York later today for ongoing discussions of the International Syria Support Group on how to save the recent ceasefire deal and plota path topeace in Syria's multi-sided conflict.

**Load-Date:** September 22, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: Sea Cemetery pays poignant tribute to the Syrians who drowned trying to reach Europe; A floating cemetery has been created in memory of thousands of Syrian refugees that have drowned on their perilous journey across the Mediterranean Sea*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JV7-MJS1-JCJY-G3KD-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

May 23, 2016 Monday 11:57 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** WORLD

**Length:** 150 words

**Byline:** Ryan Ramgobin

**Body**

The conflict in Syria has displaced millions of people, creating the largest refugee crisis to grip Europe since World War II.

In an increasingly desperate situation, the final option has become to cross the Mediterranean Sea by any means necessary. This dangerous route has seen over 4,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, including many children, lose their lives at sea.

Many cannot be identified nor found and in tribute to these people, aid agency Support to Life has collaborated on a campaign called The Sea Cemetery - a floating memorial to those who died at sea.

In their campaign announcement, they said: "The more people respond to our campaign, the less this sea cemetery will grow. And, even if it's just a drop in the ocean, it's a support to life."

Worldwide, the number of internally displaced refugees now stands at a record 40.8m people - a combined population of New York City, London, Paris and Cairo.

**Load-Date:** May 23, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Assassination may do more harm to Turkey's relations with US than with Russia*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MFD-0M51-JCS0-D1DW-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

December 21, 2016 Wednesday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** COMMENT; Pg. 35

**Length:** 668 words

**Byline:** ISABEL HUNTER

**Body**

The assassination of Russia's Turkish ambassador won't be the grand diplomatic fallout you'd expect - this is no Franz Ferdinand moment. Far from driving a wedge between Russia and Turkey, this assassination will bind them closer together and the embarrassment of such a security lapse in Ankara can only serve Putin's game plan in Syria.

"A crime has been committed and it was without doubt a provocation aimed at spoiling the normalisation of Russo-Turkish relations and spoiling the Syrian peace process which is being actively pushed by Russia, Turkey, Iran and others," President Putin said in a televised address. "There can only be one response - stepping up the fight against terrorism. The bandits will feel this happening," he added.

The gunman, revealed as Mevlut Mert Altintas, a 22-year-old off-duty police officer who used his badge to gain entry to the Ankara art gallery where he fired eight shots into Russian Ambassador Andrei Karlov.

"We die in Aleppo, you die here??? Don't forget about Syria, don't forget about Aleppo," Altintas screamed after he murdered Mr Karlov - chillingly captured on camera.

His identity, his motivations and connections, if any, will predictably be the source of countless conspiracy theories. But embarrassing questions as to how either a jihadi or a Gulenist gunman managed to evade intelligence forces and gain such close proximity to the Russian Ambassador will leave Turkey on the back foot.

Since June, President Erdogan has sought to make nice with Putin, finally issuing an apology for the shooting down of Russian aircraft over Syria - blaming it on internal "Gulenist terrorists" in an attempt to absolve the Turkish state.

The Turkish pro-government press were quick to decry the assassin part of the Fetullah Terrorist Organisation (Feto), the movement led by US-based cleric Fetullah Gulen, who Ankara also blames for the 15 July attempted coup.

"Great Sabotage" read the front page of pro-government newspaper Yeni Safak, which proclaimed the assassination a CIA and Feto plot aimed at bringing down Russian-Turkish relations - the immediate narrative also pursued by President Putin. Ironically, it could be US relations that suffer as it refuses to deport Gulen from his Pennsylvania home despite repeated requests from Turkey to do so.

Turkish politicians took to Twitter to blame the murder on "dark forces", also calling it a "provocation" meant to destabilise Turkish-Russian relations. It is neither in Russia nor Turkey's interest to elevate this assassination - Russia immediately confirmed that yesterday's planned talks on Syria would go ahead. Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlüt ??avu??o??lu, Russian FM Sergei Lavrov and his Iranian counterpart Javad Zarif met to discuss Aleppo and the wider Syrian crisis at the Kremlin's invitation.

Since the summer rapprochement between Turkey and Russia, the Kurdish issue is clearly marked at the top of Ankara's Syrian plan, and it appears to be happier to leave some of the anti-Assad rebels in the cold. For while Turkish-backed rebel groups are bringing the fight to Isis as part of Operation Euphrates Shield and have made significant gains in the last few months, Turkey's first priority is claiming the ground before the Syrian Kurdish forces - inextricably linked to the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK), against whom Turkey is fighting a bloody war in the southeast.

The Turkish buffer zone is extending further south, with rebels on the outskirts of Al-Bab, an Isis-controlled town north of now Syrian government-controlled Aleppo. Already thousands of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** have returned to Jarabulus, a border town Turkish-backed rebels took back from Isis in August, and one that now boasts fully Turkish-funded hospitals, bakeries and aid delivery.

With the border firmly closed to more refugees coming from Aleppo, Turkey could seek to formalise the buffer zone with Russian, Iranian and by proxy Syrian government blessing. After last night's murder, however, President Putin has a stronger hand to play.

**Load-Date:** December 20, 2016

**End of Document**



[*EU says member states can start deporting refugees and migrants back to Greece from March; Returning immigrants'will provide further disincentives against irregular entry,' claims commission's deputyleader*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MBP-11X1-JCJY-G30X-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 8, 2016 Thursday 11:10 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 623 words

**Byline:** Harriet Agerholm, Agencies

**Body**

Countries in the EU will be able to return migrants to Greece from mid-March, the European Commisssion has announced.

Brussels hopes the move will help to restore the bloc's migration policies, which collapsed under a mass influx in 2015.

Under EU rules, the first country of entry is responsible for handling an asylum claim, but that system broke down last year in Greece, the main gateway to Europe for more than a million refugees and migrants.

Read more

Turkey 'to send 3,000 refugees to Greece every day'

Woman and child killed in fire at refugee detention camp

Far-right mob attacks refugee camp on Greek island

Unable to cope, Greece let many of them pass through on their own to Germany and other wealthy EU states in defiance of the bloc's rules. That led countries along the route gradually to close their borders, stranding many in Greece, which struggled to offer them proper shelter.

The decision is likely to increase the pressure on Greece to speed up returns to Turkey and clamp down on asylum seekers moving north.

The European Commission on Thursday said Greece has improved in hosting and registering arriving asylum-seekers.

It recommended that EU states be allowed to send back to Greece asylum-seekers who enter the bloc that way and make it deeper into Europe from mid-March onwards. The recommendation does not apply to those who have already made that journey.

"This will provide further disincentives against irregular entry and secondary movements, and is an important step for the return to a normally functioning ... system," said the Commission's deputy head, Frans Timmermans.

As many as 13,000 people who registered in Greece's refugee camps have now gone missing and many are thought to have made the journey into Europe.

The bloc's asylum policy and its zone of internal free travel both collapsed last year as an uncontrolled flow of migrants and refugees triggered bitter disputes between EU states on how to handle them.

These disputes remain unresolved and more than 62,000 people are still in Greece, even though an EU agreement with Turkey in March reduced the arrivals to a trickle.

The failure is in large part due to reluctance by EU states to take in people from Greece and Italy to help process their asylum requests and ease the burden on the two frontline states.

So far, fewer than 8,200 people have been moved from these two Mediterranean countries to other EU states under a plan that was supposed to cover 160,000 people and which expires next September. The Commission called on EU states to step up.

"Our aim is to relocate all those in Italy and Greece who are eligible for relocation within the next year," said the bloc's migration chief, Dimitris Avramopoulos.

He also said: "Asylum seekers need to know they can't relocate themselves and that if they do so they will be sent back."

Brussels put additional conditions on returning people beyond March, saying Greece should give individual assurances of fair treatment for any returnees and that unaccompanied children not be sent back at all.

Obligatory quotas on refugees are now the focus of a tug of war between EU states seeking to reform their troubled common asylum rules.

The Commission said arrivals from Turkey to Greece stood at an average of 92 people a day since March, compared to thousands that were making at times making it in a single day before the deal with Ankara. It said 1,187 people have been deported from Greece to Turkey since March 2016.

Under the deal with Turkey, which looks fragile now due to a breakdown in ties following Ankara's crackdown in the wake of a botched military coup in July, Brussels also said it had spent 677 million euros of the 3 billion promised to help ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** living on Turkish soil.

Reuters

**Load-Date:** December 8, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Theresa May urged to rethink Britain's refugee policy by 200 religious leaders; 'How can a civilised country allow this to continue?'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KP3-J0H1-JCJY-G008-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 12, 2016 Monday 7:09 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HOME NEWS

**Length:** 678 words

**Byline:** ARJ SINGH

**Body**

A former Archbishop of Canterbury will join more than 200 religious leaders to call on Prime Minister Theresa May to do more to help refugees fleeing Syria, Iraq and other warzones.

Lord Dr Rowan Williams will deliver a keynote speech on Monday as leaders of Britain's major faiths criticise the Government's response to the refugee crisis as "too slow, too low and too narrow".

Last week, the Government announced it had secured enough local authority places to meet its pledge to resettle 20,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** over the next four years.

And in a major U-turn earlier this year former PM David Cameron committed to accepting 3,000 unaccompanied children registered in France, Italy and Greece.

Read more

Katie Hopkins 'caught in tear gas attack' while filming at Calais

But the Christian, Muslim and Jewish clerics, alongside lead representatives of other faiths, signed an open letter urging Mrs May to unblock rules preventing refugee families being reunited in the UK.

Their letter follows similar calls from around 300 top former judges and lawyers, approximately 120 of the world's senior economists, and 27 charities and NGOs.

Signatories to the letter include bishops and members of the House of Lords, including Baroness Rabbi Julia Neuberger, secretary general of the Muslim Council of Britain Harun Rashid Khan, as well as senior rabbis, imams and senior figures from other faiths.

The letter said: "Under the present immigration rules, a British doctor of Syrian origin could not bring her parents from a refugee camp in Lebanon - even though they were refugees and she could support and house them.

Read more

Inside the incredible school teaching refugee children on the Greek island of Chios

Plan for £1.9m 'Great Wall of Calais' condemned as cruel and dangerous by refugee groups

Camerawoman filmed 'tripping up and kicking refugees' faces jail after being charged with breach of the peace

Austria to take Hungary to court if it refuses to take back refugees who cross shared border

"A Syrian child who arrived alone in the UK could not bring his parents from a refugee camp in Jordan - even if the child were recognised a refugee and even though his parents were themselves refugees.

"Families in these situations can currently be reunited only by resorting to desperately unsafe irregular journeys, sometimes ending in avoidable tragedies."

One of the signatories, Bishop of Barking Rt Rev Peter Hill, criticised delays faced by children in Calais who are waiting to be reunited with their parents.

"The system is broken and The Home Office must establish a functional system which delivers now, without bureaucratic delays," he said.

"At the current rate of reunification it will take a year before all the children in Calais are reunited with their families.

"This is forcing children to take matters into their own hands on rail tracks, stowing away in lorries and putting themselves into the hands of unscrupulous people traffickers. How can a civilised country allow this to continue?"

Another, Rabbi Herschel Gluck said: "Being the son of refugees from Hitler, who lost over 100 of their close family members because of the lack of compassion and vision with regard to family reunification by the authorities at that time, I feel especially obliged to help ensure that we don't repeat those mistakes."

The Bishop of Edinburgh, Rt Rev Dr John Armes, said: "In the wake of a referendum campaign that divided our nation and stirred up feeling against immigrants, now is the time to reclaim our reputation as a place of welcome and hospitality to the stranger."

Qari Muhammad Asim, chief imam, Makkah Masjid said: "Many refugees with close family members in the UK are risking their lives trying to escape deplorable conditions in camps and reunite with their families. Many lives could be saved if safe legal routes were secured by the Government."

Lord Singh of Wimbledon, director, Network of Sikh Organisations UK, said: "We all have a responsibility to help those forced to make perilous journeys fleeing horrendous conflict, and reunite families tragically torn apart."

**Load-Date:** September 12, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Refugees Welcome Here protest: Thousands march on Downing Street calling on UK to resettle more migrants; Protest comes days before world leaders meet to discuss crisis at UN General Assembly*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KR6-CWT1-JCJY-G3RT-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 17, 2016 Saturday 2:19 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HOME NEWS

**Length:** 698 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Thousands of protesters are marching on Downing Street to demand the British Government takes in more refugees as thousands of men, women and children continue to drown in desperate attempts to reach Europe.

Demonstrators were working their way from Park Lane to Parliament Square in London on Saturday afternoon, demanding action as a crucial United Nations summit on the crisis approaches.

Marchers chanted "refugees are welcome here" while waving banners reading "no-one is illegal" and "let's help people".

A march calling for the British Government to resettle more refugees in central London on September 17, 2016. (AFP/Getty Images)

Amnesty International said actors Juliet Stevenson, Vanessa Redgrave and George MacKay and the Kaiser Chiefs' Simon Rix would be among demonstrators.

Read more

Refugee crisis: Fences failing to stop asylum seekers arriving in Europe as migrants take covert routes

Record number of refugees would make 21st biggest country in the world with population bigger than the UK

World leaders urged to address growing education crisis among refugees

Lord Alf Dubs, Green Party MP Caroline Lucas and Baroness Sheehan were also due to address a rally in Parliament Square.

It comes a year after around 100,000 protesters took to London's streets calling on the UK to resettle more asylum seekers amid the international outcry over the death of Alan Kurdi, a three-year-old Syrian boy who drowned trying to reach Greece.

The Solidarity With Refugees group said Saturday's protest aimed to "show our Government and the world that Britain is ready to welcome more refugees".

"The UK should be leading the way and working with other states to give refugees safe, legal routes to asylum, ending the trade in people smuggling," a spokesperson said.

"Since the referendum campaign and vote, divisive rhetoric has been ever more prevalent from a small but vocal minority. In the light of this, the need to come together in a spirit of welcome has become even more acute."

The march was supported by charities and groups including the Red Cross, Asylum Aid, Save the Children, Hope Not Hate, Oxfam and the UN Refugee Agency.

Kate Allen, Director of Amnesty International UK, described the Government's contribution to tackling the refugee crisis as "shocking" but praised local communities and volunteers for "taking matters into their own hands" to support migrants.

"This march is to show that actually ordinary people in Britain care deeply about refugees," she said.

"Many of those seeking sanctuary have seen their families torn apart and homes destroyed. As one of the richest countries in the world, our government can and must do more to help."

Mr Rix, the Kaiser Chiefs' bassist, described the refugee crisis as a "global disaster" while Ms Stevenson called on world leaders to share responsibility, adding: "I hope Theresa May is listening."

The show of solidarity comes as world leaders prepare for the United Nations General Assembly in New York next week.

A UN Summit on Refugees and Migrants on Monday will be followed by a separate summit on the issue hosted by Barack Obama the following day.

More than 3,200 refugees and asylum seekers have drowned attempting to reach Europe so far this year, with almost 300,000 completing the journey.

But thousands remain trapped in Greece after being automatically detained under the controversial EU-Turkey deal, under threat of deportation if their asylum applications fail.

Those granted protection face an increasingly difficult task reaching other parts of Europe as countries increase border controls and build fences to stop the flow of migrants.

Oxfam has warned that millions of refugees are being forced to flee from one warzone into another, while a report released this week found that attempted crackdowns in Europe were failing to significantly reduce refugee numbers and instead forcing migrants on hidden and dangerous routes.

In the wake of Alan's death, David Cameron pledged to resettle 20,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in the UK over the coming five years but there have been additional calls to re-home those who have already reached Europe, as well as asylum seekers coming from other conflict zones such as Iraq and Afghanistan.

**Load-Date:** September 17, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Syria crisis: Secretary of State John Kerry says Russia and US are 'in a parallel universe' over ceasefire; The US Secretary of State said he could not reconcile what his Russian counterpart had said with the reality*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KS3-4DR1-JCJY-G2MJ-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 21, 2016 Wednesday 4:17 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 627 words

**Byline:** Andrew Buncombe

**Body**

The gaping rift between the US and Russia over the war in Syria has been publicly exposed as the two countries accused the other of allowing a scrappy, days-old ceasefire to fall apart.

At an event that was supposed to enshrine the truce between various factions that was agreed on September 9, US Secretary of State John Kerry and Russian foreign minister Sergey Lavrov, exchanged barbs and heated words at the UN Security Council on Wednesday morning. Mr Kerry suggested Mr Lavrov was living in a "parallel universe".

The testy exchange, that took place as the world watched, came after two attacks on medical convoys. In one, on Monday, 20 civilians were killed when the Syrian Red Crescent convoy was struck. On Tuesday,an airstrike in northern Syria killed five members of mobile medical emergency unit.

Sergey Lavrov leaves the chamber after listening to John Kerry's comments (Reuters)

"Supposedly we all want the same goal. I've heard that again and again," Mr Kerry told the council, according to the

Associated Press

. "But we are proving woefully inadequate in making that happen."

He then outlined a series of US complaints Syrian President Bashar Assad's government and its chief backer, Russia. He recited Moscow's changing narrative over this week's attack on an aid convoy that has included everything from claims of a justifiable counterterror strike to vehicles spontaneously combusting.

"This is not a joke," said Mr Kerry, criticising those who engaged in word games to dodge responsibility over questions of "war and peace, life and death".

Mr Kerry added: "To restore credibility, we must immediately ground all aircraft flying in those key areas in order to de-escalate the situation and give a chance for humanitarian assistance to flow unimpeded."

Kerry at UNSC: Listening to my colleague from Russia I felt like I was in a parallel universe.

- Julian Borger (@julianborger) September 21, 2016

The top American diplomat spoke just after Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov delivered his own set of barbs, underscoring the breakdown in trust in the 12 days since he and Mr Kerry clinched a cease-fire agreement and a potential US-Russian military partnership against Isis and Al-Qaeda.

Unlike Mr Kerry, who stressed the importance of Mr Assad's government ending military operations against rebels and allowing in unfettered aid, Mr Lavrov said the US had the biggest responsibility.

"The key priority is to separate the opposition forces from the terrorists," Mr Lavrov said.

Source: Graphiq

Responding to the wide criticism of the convoy airstrike, which American officials are blaming on Russia, Mr Lavrov cited various possible explanations.

At one point, Mr Kerry said listening to his Russian counterpart was like hearing about a "parallel universe".

On Tuesday, the two diplomats had met with more than a dozen Arab and European foreign ministers, hoping to hold onto what might be salvageable from a week of relative calm in Syria. No one spoke of any progress, beyond a decision to hold follow-up discussions later this week.

Read more

Amnesty International sets up replica of Syrian home with TV screens showing bombings to highlight plight of refugees

Amal Clooney calls on UK to take more ***Syrian*** ***refugees***: 'There has been one Yazidi family that gained asylum in UK'

BBC journalist in emotional reunion with family she met in Syria while reporting on picnic for refugees in Toronto

"We are at a make or break moment," said UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said, as he opened the session.

His peace envoy to Syria, Staffan de Mistura, described his long-delayed plans for a multi-step Syrian peace process and transition that appeared, even by his own admission, untethered to reality on the ground. "I know, it looks like a dream," Mr de Mistura said.

**Load-Date:** September 21, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Thousands march to Downing Street in 'refugees welcome here' protest*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KRB-J1H1-JCS0-D4GP-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

September 18, 2016 Sunday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 9

**Length:** 704 words

**Byline:** LIZZIE DEARDEN

**Body**

Thousands of protesters are marching on Downing Street to demand the British Government takes in more refugees as thousands of men, women and children continue to drown in desperate attempts to reach Europe.

Demonstrators were working their way from Park Lane to Parliament Square in London yesterday afternoon, demanding action as a crucial United Nations summit on the crisis approaches. Marchers chanted "refugees are welcome here" while waving banners reading "no-one is illegal" and "let's help people".

Amnesty International said actors Juliet Stevenson, Vanessa Redgrave and George MacKay as well as the Kaiser Chiefs's Simon Rix would be among demonstrators. Lord Alf Dubs, Green Party MP Caroline Lucas and Baroness Sheehan were also due to address a rally in Parliament Square.

Brendan Cox, the husband of killed Labour MP Jo Cox, said she had planned to join the protest before her death in June. Writing on Twitter, he said he and their children Cuillin and Lejla "marched in her stead today imagining her by our side".

It comes a year after around 100,000 protesters took to London's streets calling on the UK to resettle more asylum seekers amid the international outcry over the death of Alan Kurdi, a three-year-old Syrian boy who drowned trying to reach Greece.

The Solidarity With Refugees group said yesterday's protest aimed to "show our Government and the world that Britain is ready to welcome more refugees".

"The UK should be leading the way and working with other states to give refugees safe, legal routes to asylum, ending the trade in people smuggling," a spokesperson said.

"Since the referendum campaign and vote, divisive rhetoric has been ever more prevalent from a small but vocal minority. In the light of this, the need to come together in a spirit of welcome has become even more acute."

The march was supported by charities and groups including the Red Cross, Asylum Aid, Save the Children, Hope Not Hate, Oxfam and the UN Refugee Agency. Kate Allen, Director of Amnesty International UK, described the Government's contribution to tackling the refugee crisis as "shocking" but praised local communities and volunteers for "taking matters into their own hands" to support migrants.

"This march is to show that ordinary people in Britain actually care deeply about refugees," she said.

"Many of those seeking sanctuary have seen their families torn apart and homes destroyed. As one of the richest countries in the world, our government can and must do more to help."

Mr Rix, the Kaiser Chiefs's bassist, described the refugee crisis as a "global disaster" while Ms Stevenson called on world leaders to share responsibility, adding: "I hope Theresa May is listening."

The show of solidarity comes as world leaders prepare for the United Nations General Assembly in New York next week. A UN Summit on Refugees and Migrants on Monday will be followed by a separate summit on the issue hosted by Barack Obama the following day.

More than 3,200 refugees and asylum seekers have drowned attempting to reach Europe so far this year, with almost 300,000 completing the journey. But thousands remain trapped in Greece after being automatically detained under the controversial EU-Turkey deal, under threat of deportation if their asylum applications fail. Those granted protection face an increasingly difficult task reaching other parts of Europe as countries increase border controls and build fences to stop the flow of migrants.

Oxfam has warned that millions of refugees are being forced to flee from one warzone into another, while a report released this week found that attempted crackdowns in Europe were failing to significantly reduce refugee numbers and instead forcing migrants on hidden and dangerous routes.

In the wake of Alan's death, David Cameron pledged to resettle 20,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in the UK over the coming five years but there have been additional calls to re-home those who have already reached Europe, as well as asylum seekers coming from other conflict zones such as Iraq and Afghanistan.

Thousands of migrants hoping to travel to Britain remain in the Jungle migrant camp in Calais, where the government is planning to fund a controversial barrier to stop attempts to board lorries.

**Load-Date:** September 17, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Child refugees 'sexually abused by Italian men' after being picked up while sleeping homeless in parks; Charities warn that countless child asylum seekersare being abused and exploited*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KH7-2961-JCJY-G54P-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

August 20, 2016 Saturday 12:32 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 655 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Child refugees are being sexually abused and extorted in Italy as the proportion of unaccompanied minors arriving on Europe's shores reaches record highs.

Charities have long warned of smugglers abusing children, frequently forcing girls into prostitution to repay their "debts", but teenage asylum seekers in Sicily say they have been targeted by local men.

Ermias Haile, a 16-year-old boy from Eritrea, has been sleeping on a building site with his friends since they arrived on the island after making the treacherous voyage from Libya.

Like many others, they left an official reception centre for young refugees in the belief they would be forced to remain in Italy after applying from asylum, leaving them alone and unprotected.

More than 10,000 child refugees disappear in Europe

Ermias and friends told

Sky News

an Italian man had sexually abused them after buying them drinks and offering them shelter.

Read more

British authorities visit Calais refugee camp to discuss care of unaccompanied refugee children

Children as young as seven 'sexually assaulted' in Greek refugee camps

Refugee crisis: 2016 on course to be deadliest year on record as thousands of asylum seekers drown in Mediterranean

"He find us in a place like this [park] and he invite us to a bar and he let us drink beer and then he take us to his home and there he give us beer," he said.

"We start drinking and then he start touching us on our body. After we leave the house, he calls us and he gives us money."

Almost 102,000 asylum seekers have arrived by sea in Italy so far this year - 15 per cent of them unaccompanied minors.

Most, like Ermias, are picked up by rescue boats in the Mediterranean and taken to Sicily, where they are sent to local reception centres.

But many leave the comparative safety of the accommodation, travelling to other European cities and often ending up homeless or trapped at borders like in "The Jungle" camp in Calais, where several rapes have been reported.

Save the Children said the number of unaccompanied children has doubled in the past year, seeing vulnerable boys and girls thrown into "cycles of abuse".

Traffickers saddle girls and young women with to (EURO)50,000 (£43,000) in "debt" for the cost of their journeys across the Mediterranean before forcing them into prostitution and hard labour to pay it off.

Boys are forced into similar schemes, subjected to child labour and criminal activity including theft and drug dealing by gangs.

Children are also at risk at overcrowded detention camps on Greek islands, where all migrants are now held until their asylum applications are decided as part of a deal between the EU and Turkish government.

Aid agencies say families are "living in fear" after fleeing violence and persecution in their home countries, with many afraid to let their children out of their sight amid rising tensions, protests and fights.

Tanya Steele, Save the Children's interim CEO, said: "It's shocking that in this day and age, so many vulnerable children are being subjected to this kind of violence, manipulation, and exploitation.

"They make the dangerous journey to Europe on their own seeking safety and a better life, but instead find themselves trapped in a cycle of abuse."

David Cameron responded to growing calls to house unaccompanied minors by pledging to resettle some of the "most vulnerable" refugee children from within Europe in May, but none are believed to have arrived.

The Home Affairs Select Committee has warned that the UK is on course to fall short of its pledge to house 20,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** by 2020, highlighting a huge backlog of asylum cases and decisions where refugees had been wrongly returned to violence and persecution.

The British Government previously restricted its scheme to asylum seekers in UN camps in the Middle East and North Africa, arguing that it did not want to encourage them to make the "lethal" sea voyage to Europe.

**Load-Date:** August 20, 2016

**End of Document**



[*British teenagers caught up in deadly gun battle involving notorious gang leader at Bulgarian beach bar; The friends told The Independent : 'People came running out of the restaurant area with prams and stuff screaming'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K04-4JW1-F021-6251-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 10, 2016 Friday 6:54 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HOME NEWS

**Length:** 620 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Five British teenagers have been caught up in a gang-related shooting at a beachside bar in Bulgaria while on holiday to celebrate the end of secondary school.

Ross Warbeck, Nathan Smith, Joel Ewart, Jack Adams and Craig Pool were drinking at the 4 You restaurant in Sunny Beach, Burgas, when a gun battle broke out on Wednesday evening.

Ross, 17, told

The Independent

the group had been enticed into the bar with the promise of free beers, describing it as "really nice" with good music and friendly staff.

"After about 15 minutes Nathan noticed about five men in masks running into the bar in a line and then people started shooting," he said.

The teenagers, seen around a table in the centre of the image, were photographed by staff at the 4 You restaurant shortly before the shooting on 8 June (Facebook)

"At first we all thought plates had been dropped but then people came running out of the restaurant area with prams and stuff screaming.

Read more

David Cameron accused of condoning abuse against ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** as he praises Bulgaria for its strong border control

Bomb scare sparks evacuation at Sofia Airport in Bulgaria

Bulgaria builds final part of razor wire fence to keep out refugees

"We all ran out of the bar by jumping over the low wall surrounding the pub.

"When we looked back we could see that about 10 more unmasked men outside shooting into the bar, and a gunfight happened for about a minute before they all ran off in different directions - the whole thing seemed well planned out."

The shooting left a notorious drug lord known as "Mityo the Eyes"in a critical condition with bullet wounds, while a 21-year-old man believed to be one of his bodyguards was killed.

The shocked teenagers, who were celebrating leaving the Langholm Academy in Dumfries and Galloway, were uninjured in the incident and decided to continue their holiday in the resort, which is the largest and most popular on Bulgaria's Black Sea coastline.

The 4 You restaurant has a five-star rating on a popular reviews website and photos posted on its Facebook page shortly before the shooting showed the restaurant almost full of customers listening to live music.

One image showed the Scottish friends sat at a table in the centre of the outdoor terrace, smiling and chatting surrounded by other diners.

Ross said the photo was taken "minutes before the carnage ensured", adding: "Up until that point everything has been completely five stars."

Bulgarian police said the battle was between a gang led by notorious drug lord Dimitar Zhelyazkov, known as Mityo Ochite ("Mityo the Eyes"), and a rival group.

He entered the restaurant with a gang of 30 men,

Balkan Insight

reported, being welcomed by shots fired by around 10 gunmen.

The chief secretary of the interior ministry, Georgi Kostov, said the gun fight was provoked by a personal dispute, while local reports claimed Zhelyazkov was attempting to extort money.

In 2008 he was convicted of leading a gang involved in drug trafficking and prostitution but received a prison sentence of just four years.

At least 19 people have been arrested in connection with the shooting so far and police are continuing to appeal for information.

It has provoked a political row in Bulgaria, with Prime Minister Boyko Borissov criticising police for failing to prevent the shooting and letting gang members block the area around Burgas hospital and allegedly harass journalists.

The interior minister, who was summoned to parliament for questioning, said plans were being made for increased security measures and more "stringent controls" in the resort.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office said it was aware of the incident but had not been asked to provide assistance.

**Load-Date:** June 10, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Child refugees 'sexually abused by Italian men' after being picked up while sleeping homeless in parks; Charities warn that countless child asylum seekersare being abused and exploited*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KH7-2961-JCJY-G54R-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

August 20, 2016 Saturday 12:32 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 655 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Child refugees are being sexually abused and extorted in Italy as the proportion of unaccompanied minors arriving on Europe's shores reaches record highs.

Charities have long warned of smugglers abusing children, frequently forcing girls into prostitution to repay their "debts", but teenage asylum seekers in Sicily say they have been targeted by local men.

Ermias Haile, a 16-year-old from Eritrea, has been sleeping on a building site with his friends since they arrived on the island after making the treacherous voyage from Libya.

Like many others, they left an official reception centre for young refugees in the belief they would be forced to remain in Italy after applying from asylum, leaving them alone and unprotected.

More than 10,000 child refugees disappear in Europe

Ermias and friends told

Sky News

an Italian man had sexually abused them after buying them drinks and offering them shelter.

Read more

British authorities visit Calais refugee camp to discuss care of unaccompanied refugee children

Children as young as seven 'sexually assaulted' in Greek refugee camps

Refugee crisis: 2016 on course to be deadliest year on record as thousands of asylum seekers drown in Mediterranean

"He find us in a place like this [park] and he invite us to a bar and he let us drink beer and then he take us to his home and there he give us beer," he said.

"We start drinking and then he start touching us on our body. After we leave the house, he calls us and he gives us money."

Almost 102,000 asylum seekers have arrived by sea in Italy so far this year - 15 per cent of them unaccompanied minors.

Most, such asErmias, are picked up by rescue boats in the Mediterranean and taken to Sicily, where they are sent to local reception centres.

But many leave the comparative safety of the accommodation, travelling to other European cities and often ending up homeless or trapped at borders such as inThe Junglecamp in Calais, where several rapes have been reported.

Save the Children said the number of unaccompanied children has doubled in the past year, seeing vulnerable boys and girls thrown into "cycles of abuse".

Traffickers saddle girls and young women with up to (EURO)50,000 (£43,000) in "debt" for the cost of their journeys across the Mediterranean before forcing them into prostitution and hard labour to pay it off.

Boys are forced into similar schemes, subjected to child labour and criminal activity including theft and drug dealing by gangs.

Children are also at risk at overcrowded detention camps on Greek islands, where all migrants are now held until their asylum applications are decided as part of a deal between the EU and Turkish government.

Aid agencies say families are "living in fear" after fleeing violence and persecution in their home countries, with many afraid to let their children out of their sight amid rising tensions, protests and fights.

Tanya Steele, Save the Children's interim CEO, said: "It's shocking that in this day and ageso many vulnerable children are being subjected to this kind of violence, manipulationand exploitation.

"They make the dangerous journey to Europe on their own seeking safety and a better life, but instead find themselves trapped in a cycle of abuse."

Former Prime MinisterDavid Cameron responded to growing calls to house unaccompanied minors by pledging to resettle some of the "most vulnerable" refugee children in May, but none are believed to have arrived.

The Home Affairs Select Committee has warned that the UK is on course to fall short of its pledge to house 20,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** by 2020, highlighting a huge backlog of asylum cases and decisions where refugees had been wrongly returned to violence and persecution.

The British Government previously restricted its scheme to asylum seekers in UN camps in the Middle East and North Africa, arguing that it did not want to encourage them to make the "lethal" sea voyage to Europe.

**Load-Date:** August 20, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Assad: US air strikes on Syrian army base were 'definitely intentional'; Syrian President Bashar al-Assad also rejected US claims that Syrian or Russian planes struck an aid convoy and that his government is stopping food reaching besieged east Aleppo*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KS8-39V1-F021-63RD-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 22, 2016 Thursday 1:46 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 641 words

**Byline:** Bethan McKernan

**Body**

The President of Syria has said he believes a US air strike on a Syrian army position which killed 63 soldiers was carried out deliberately.

The attack last Saturday in east Syria accidentally hit a regime base rather than intended Isis territory nearby, the US State Department said.

In an interview with the AP on Wednesday conducted in the presidential palace in Damascus, Bashar al-Assad dismissed the US' expression of regret for the loss of life, going on to blame American officials for the collapse of the recent ceasefire for "not having the will" to combat terrorists and militants in the war-ravaged country.

Read more

Syria crisis: Read John Kerry's comments to the UN Security Council in full

UN to resume aid convoys to Syria after attack that killed more than 20 people

Syria air raid 'kills five medical workers near Aleppo'

Syria conflict: All sides seek to blame each other for breakdown of ceasefire

It is terrorists who are to blame for the attack and subsequent blaze that hit an aid convoy and warehouse near Aleppo on Monday, he added. The US has insisted that the Syrian and allied Russian governments are to blame for the attack, which killed 21 people and destroyed aid destined for thousands of people.

The Russian Defence Ministry has released drone footage from the incident which it says shows a militant pick up truck travelling next to the convoy carrying a heavy mortar, which they say caused the tragedy.

Eyewitness accounts say the attack came from the air, lasting more than two hours, and involved barrel bombs, unguided crude bombs used by the Syrian regime.

Mr Assad called it a convenient "coincidence" that eyewitnesses "only appear when there's an accusation against the Syrian Army or the Russian", pointing out it was not in his interests to alienate his citizens by bombing an aid convoy and he is "morally committed" to their interests.

Syria: UN aid convoy hit by airstrikes in Aleppo

"I wouldn't say that we don't have mistakes," he went on, referring to accusations of human rights abuses and civilian deaths perpetrated by his forces. "But there's a difference between a mistake or even a crime that's been committed by an individual, and between a policy of crime that's been implemented or adopted by a government. We don't have such a policy."

Mr Assad said that it is only his enemies who are to blame for almost six years of war in Syria which has killed more than 400,000 people and forced four million to flee the country.

He also denied repeated questions about why his government has blocked food and aid from reaching rebel-held east Aleppo, denying that a siege is in place altogether.

"If there's really a siege around the city of Aleppo, people would have been dead by now," he said. "How could they be starving while at the same time they can have armaments? How can we prevent the food and the medical aid from reaching that area and we cannot stop the armaments from reaching that area, which is not logical?"

Intense bombing campaigns have resumed in Aleppo since the breakdown of a seven day ceasefire over the weekend. Activists on the groud described shells falling "like rain".

While the destruction is "painful", the president insisted that his country will one day be rebuilt, and ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** who have fled six years of war would be allowed to return very quickly if foreign powers stopped backing rebel groups.

Read more

No strategy, no plan and only 'phantom' allies: UK's Syria flaws laid

He expressed fears that the war will "drag on" because of continued international interference from the US, Turkey, and Gulf states, adding that the West's hands are "stained with blood."

World leaders are due to meet in New York later today for ongoing discussions of the International Syria Support Group on how to save the recent ceasefire deal and plota path topeace in Syria's multi-sided conflict.

**Load-Date:** September 22, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Jo Cox death: Alleged killer Tommy Mair 'bought gun-making manual from far-right neo-Nazi group'; Documents suggest Mair had recorded links to National Alliance*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K1R-CJ81-F021-64MD-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 18, 2016 Saturday 2:47 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 631 words

**Byline:** Jon Stone

**Body**

The alleged killer of Labour MP Jo Cox purchased a gun-makingmanual and Nazi literature froma far-right neo-Nazi group, new documents suggest.

52-year-old Thomas Mair was detained by police after the multiple shooting and stabbing of the MP in Birstall, West Yorkshire, on Thursday.

Ms Cox, a former aid worker, campaigned tirelessly for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and was a vocal supporter of the European Union and the benefits of multicultural immigration.

Read more

Man arrested over Labour MP killing named locally

The Southern Poverty Law Centre, an established US civil rights group, has produced receipts and invoices bearing Mr Mair's name that it says are from the neo-Nazi National Alliance group.

The receipts suggest Mr Mair bought $670 USD in printed material from the white supremacist group, which was until 2013 was one of the largest neo-Nazi organisations in the US.

He appears to have purchased a handbook on building improvised weapons, explosives, and incendiaries, according to the records.

In addition, the receipts suggest the purchase ofIch Kampfe, a handbook written by Adolf Hitlerformerly given to all Nazi Party members.

(Southern Poverty Law Centre)

The text of that book was drawn up by leaders ofparamilitary organisations within the Nazi machine - including the infamousSS and SA -and describes their actions and methods.

The receiptdocuments, which date from between 1999 and 2003 show Mr Mair's name and an address in Batley, in Ms Cox's constituency.

The cover of Ich Kampfe, the Nazi paramilitary handbook listed in the invoices

The Independent

reported yesterday that Mr Mair may have also had links to the "Springbok Club", an organisation which has defended the white supremacist apartheid regime in South Africa.

That group, which says it is "pro-free market capitalism and patriotism and anti-political correctness", has also campaigned against the European Union.The group has condemned Ms Cox's killing.

Jo Cox in the Commons, June 2015

Speculation has raged about the motive for the attack after a number of separate eyewitnesses said Ms Cox's attacker shouted "Britain first" - a longstanding far-right slogan - during the assault.

"Britain First" is also the name of a far-right organisation in Britain which recently publicly advocated "direct action" against Muslim elected officials. The group says it condemns Ms Cox's killing.

(Southern Poverty Law Centre)

The attacker was also said by eyewitnesses to have used a gun of antique appearance.

Eyewitnesses say Ms Cox was shot either two or three times outside her constituency advice surgery in Birstall Library. She was left lying in a pool of blood and then taken by air ambulance to Leeds General Infirmary, where she died.

Eyewitness accounts from the scene paint a confused picture of events, with some reports suggesting Ms Cox intervened in a fight between two men. Others say she was directly targeted by her attacker.There has been speculation over whether Mr Mair had a history of mental health problems.

Read more

Jo Cox in pictures: Remembering the 'bright star' of Westminster

Jo Cox dead: Read husband Brendan Cox's statement in full

Political friends and supporters of Ms Cox gathered in parliament square on Thursday evening for an impromptu vigil.

Stood amongst tearful colleagues, Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn said in an opening address that Ms Cox was an "exemplary MP, a real servant of democracy in every way".

Cox murder suspect arrest

A second vigil will be held on Friday night, with others also set to take place across the country.

West Yorkshire police said on Thursday that the incident was "localised" and that they were seeking nobody else either than Mr Mair in relation to the killing.

Campaigning during the European Union referendum has ceased until this weekend as a mark of respect to Ms Cox.

**Load-Date:** June 18, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Vigilantes drag mentally ill Iraqi refugee out of supermarket and tie him to a tree in Germany; Footage of the incident showed the men dragging the asylum seeker out of a supermarket*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JXC-B9G1-JCJY-G079-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 2, 2016 Thursday 1:01 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 653 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

A group of suspected vigilantes have beaten mentally ill Iraqi refugee, dragged him out of a supermarket and tied him to a tree in a in Germany.

Police said the 21-year-old man had visited the Netto branch in Arnsdorf to complain about a top-up card he bought for his mobile phone.

A video of the incident posted online showed the man holding a bottle of wine behind his back as the dispute continued with staff.

As he stood talking with cashiers, four men appeared and surrounded him, pushing him towards the doors.

Footage showed the Iraqi asylum seeker being beaten and dragged out of a supermarket in Arnsdorf by suspected vigilantes on 21 May (YouTube)

As the asylum seeker tried to escape, they pinned him to a table and started punching and beating him, before dragging him out the door.

Read more

Anti-immigrant AfD says Muslims are not welcome in Germany

Crowd 'cheers' as fire breaks out at home for refugees in Germany

Refugees weep as they are welcomed in Germany by mob shouting 'go home'

As the video ends, a woman behind the camera can beheard calmly saying: "Isn't it a shame that we need a citizen's defence group."

Police in Saxony said the men then dragged the man outside and tied him to a tree in the supermarket car park.

Officers called to the dispute found the gang awaiting their arrival and demanding to have the asylum seeker arrested after claiming they had "prevented him from escaping".

Police told the men to leave as paramedics helped the refugee - without questioning them further or asking for identification - and found no evidence of theft or vandalism.

More than a million refugees arrived in Germany last year(Getty)

The Iraqi man is a patient in Arnsdorf's psychiatric hospital and had already visited the supermarket to complain about the phone card twice earlier in the day, being returned to the hospital by police after staff called the emergency services.

Read more

Refugee crisis sparks record year for political violence in Germany

Employees said they had been threatened by the man after the store manager found the balance on the phone card had already been used up.

The suspected vigilantes, including three men wearing black shirts, were not identified until footage of the incident started to spread on social media.

Three of the suspects were identified on Monday as men aged 29, 49 and 54 from the Arnsdorf area but have not yet been caught, while officers are investigating "numerous clues" on other suspects.

The 49-year-old suspect called the emergency services around an hour after the attack claiming the asylum seeker had stolen from the supermarket but police said "no shoplifting had occurred".

"We are investigating the events, as well as the actions of patrol officers at the scene," police commissioner Conny Stiehl said.

In a statement posted on Facebook, Netto said it was taking the incident "very seriously", adding that employees' actions violated company guidelines but that staff did not call the vigilantes.

Police are investigating the men on allegations of false imprisonment and the Iraqi man for alleged threats made to staff.

The incident has provoked intense discussion in Saxony, where refugee accommodation has been set on fire and a group of asylum seekers were greeted by a mob chanting "go home" earlier this year.

Since the attacks on hundreds of women on New Year's Eve in Cologne, numerous vigilante groups known as the "Bürgerwehr" have sprung up across Germany, gathering widespread local support,

The Local

reported.

The groups have been vocally supported by anti-immigration and neo-Nazi groups and Germany's interior ministry has reportedly identified at least seven Bürgerwehrs with "evidence of an extremist right-wing orientation".

More than a million asylum seekers arrived in the country last year, sparking criticism of Angela Merkel's decision to open its borders to ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** arriving on Europe's shores.

**Load-Date:** June 2, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Eid marks a new beginning for British Muslims - we need this now more than ever after Brexit; This Ramadan has been particularly challenging for British Muslims, not physically but mentally and spiritually due to the divisive EU referendum*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K5M-C271-F021-64C3-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

July 6, 2016 Wednesday 12:24 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 632 words

**Byline:** Qari Muhammad Asim

**Body**

Eidmarks the end of Ramadan and a new beginning for Muslims - a reason to celebrate and be determined to carry through the spiritual experience, discipline and renewed community spirit that Muslims foster during the month.

This Ramadan has been particularly challenging for British Muslims, not physically but mentally and spiritually due to the divisive EU Referendum campaign. Leading up to Brexit, the tone, rhetoric and campaigning material of some members of the Leave campaign continued to single out the Muslim community and ethnic minorities. The far right movements used this divisive and toxic campaign to focus on the perceived "Muslim invasion" of Britain and our supposed burden on the economy.

The truth could not be further from this. Muslims do not wish to "invade" Britain; rather they fought in their hundreds and thousands for the British Empire during the World Wars, and then came to rebuild post-war Britain. The three million Muslims contribute significantly to the British economy with Muslim consumers in the UK spending an estimated £20.5 billion a year - £100 million of that is spent in the month of Ramadan alone. In addition, Muslims are reported to be top charity givers in Britain.

Ramadan 2016 - All you need to know

We saw the consequence of intolerance and hatred when the life of Jo Cox MP was taken away from us by an individual who is alleged to have had links with far right and neo-nazi movements. Jo Cox was a humanitarian who had helped refugees and had been liaising with the Islamophobia watchdog Tell Mama regarding rise in anti-Muslim attacks, in particular against women. In the words of Jo Cox, "We are far more united and have far more in common with each other than things that divide us." I hope that as British citizens with shared values we can all realise how much we have in common with each other and how critical harmony, friendship and active giving to our local communities is.

This year, there have been many powerful events throughout Ramadan. Community Iftar events were held, across the country, connecting those of different cultures and backgrounds, giving people an opportunity to make new friendships and experience the feeling of community and generosity. At Lambeth Palace, the Archbishop of Canterbury hosted an Iftar event, which brought together people of different faiths, including Chief Rabbi and the Mayor of London.

Read more

Should Tony Blair really have told the spies he didn't believe them?

Whilst we celebrate Eid in Britain and hope to overcome our own divisions, we remember the millions of Muslims that have been displaced, or are without food, drink and shelter around the world due to conflict, violence or natural disasters. Muslims, like previous years, have been extremely generous this year; they have collected donations for charities that help the homeless, provided food parcels to those in need, raised funds for ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, and built wells in parts of Africa and Asia, where access to clean water is limited.

We will also remember hundreds of Muslims that have been brutally slaughtered, in the last couple of weeks, around the world due to terrorism - including in Iraq, Bangladesh, Turkey and Pakistan. Given that these attacks have targeted Muslims in the month of Ramadan - which is a month of mercy - proves, once again, that terrorists have no regard for any religion or for humanity. The 200 victims of the attack on Baghdad included children who were shopping with their families in commercial centres, preparing for Eid. Our prayers and thoughts are with the victims and their families.

We stand in solidarity with the 1.8 billion Muslims who will be praying during Eid for the peace, security, stability, and prosperity of all human beings, in the UK and across the world.

**Load-Date:** July 6, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Jo Cox death: Alleged killer Tommy Mair 'bought gun-making manual from far-right neo-Nazi group'; Documents suggest Mair had recorded links to National Alliance*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K1J-XM71-JCJY-G144-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 17, 2016 Friday 11:45 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 656 words

**Byline:** Jon Stone

**Body**

The alleged killer of Labour MP Jo Cox purchased a gun-makingmanual and Nazi literature froma far-right neo-Nazi group, new documents suggest.

52-year-old Thomas Mair was detained by police after the multiple shooting and stabbing of the MP in Birstall, West Yorkshire, on Thursday.

Ms Cox, a former aid worker, campaigned tirelessly for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and was a vocal supporter of the European Union and the benefits of multicultural immigration.

Read more

Man arrested over Labour MP killing named locally

The Southern Poverty Law Centre, an established US civil rights group, has produced receipts and invoices bearing Mr Mair's name that it says are from the neo-Nazi National Alliance group.

The receipts suggest Mr Mair bought $670 USD in printed material from the white supremacist group, which was until 2013 was one of the largest neo-Nazi organisations in the US.

He appears to have purchased a handbook on building improvised weapons, explosives, and incendiaries, according to the records.

In addition, the receipts suggest the purchase ofIch Kampfe, a handbook written by Adolf Hitlerformerly given to all Nazi Party members.

(Southern Poverty Law Centre)

The text of that book was drawn up by leaders ofparamilitary organisations within the Nazi machine - including the infamousSS and SA -and describes their actions and methods.

The receiptdocuments, which date from between 1999 and 2003 show Mr Mair's name and an address in Batley, in Ms Cox's constituency.

The cover of Ich Kampfe, the Nazi paramilitary handbook listed in the invoices

The Independent

reported yesterday that Mr Mair may have also had links to the "Springbok Club", an organisation which has defended the white supremacist apartheid regime in South Africa.

That group, which says it is "pro-free market capitalism and patriotism and anti-political correctness", has also campaigned against the European Union.The group has condemned Ms Cox's killing.

Jo Cox in the Commons, June 2015

Speculation has raged about the motive for the attack after a number of separate eyewitnesses said Ms Cox's attacker shouted "Britain first" - a longstanding far-right slogan - during the assault.

"Britain First" is also the name of a far-right organisation in Britain which recently publicly advocated "direct action" against Muslim elected officials. The group says it condemns Ms Cox's killing.

(Southern Poverty Law Centre)

The attacker was also said by eyewitnesses to have used a gun of antique appearance.

Eyewitnesses say Ms Cox was shot either two or three times outside her constituency advice surgery in Birstall Library. She was left lying in a pool of blood and then taken by air ambulance to Leeds General Infirmary, where she died.

Eyewitness accounts from the scene paint a confused picture of events, with some reports suggesting Ms Cox intervened in a fight between two men. Others say she was directly targeted by her attacker.There has been speculation over whether Mr Mair had a history of mental health problems.

Read more

Jo Cox in pictures: Remembering the 'bright star' of Westminster

Jo Cox dead: Suspect linked to hard-right group that has campaigned against the EU

Jo Cox death: Detained man described by neighbours as a 'loner'

Jo Cox dead: Read husband Brendan Cox's statement in full

Political friends and supporters of Ms Cox gathered in parliament square on Thursday evening for an impromptu vigil.

Stood amongst tearful colleagues, Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn said in an opening address that Ms Cox was an "exemplary MP, a real servant of democracy in every way".

A second vigil will be held on Friday night, with others also set to take place across the country.

West Yorkshire police said on Thursday that the incident was "localised" and that they were seeking nobody else either than Mr Mair in relation to the killing.

Cox murder suspect arrest

Campaigning during the European Union referendum has ceased until this weekend as a mark of respect to Ms Cox.

**Load-Date:** June 17, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Angelina Jolie Pitt appointment as London School of Economics professor divides opinion; One student against the decision says LSE serves to undermine the university,students, staffand, ultimately, 'our meritocratic society'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JVN-7NG1-F021-63M8-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

May 25, 2016 Wednesday 8:17 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS

**Length:** 702 words

**Byline:** Aftab Ali

**Body**

The news that Angelina Jolie Pitt - Oscar-winning actress and political campaigner - will be joining the academic team at the UK's prestigious London School of Economics (LSE) has been encouraging debate and splitting opinion online and among the student body most of Tuesday.

Along with former foreign secretary, William Hague, Jolie Pitt will be joining other LSE fellows, scholars, and activists to help promote gender equality and enhance women's economic, social, and political prospects among Master's students.

Read more

Outrage over Angelina Jolie's lecturing job is just snobbery

Professor Christine Chinkin, director of the Centre for Women, Peace and Security at the university, naturally praised the selection, deeming it "essential" in advancing knowledge and influencing global and local policy-making, with Jolie Pitt urging other academic institutions to follow suit.

Though, despite what the university and Jolie Pitt, herself, have both said, the appointment of one of the world's most famous women has split opinion.

The

Independent

has spoken to two LSE students - one who supports the announcement, and one who opposes - about what they think of Jolie Pitt teaching at their university:

Read more

LSE postpones Adam Perkins talk on welfare system after 'online left-wing disruption threats'

LSE Students' Union fails to pass motion condemning Paris terror attacks

Angelina Jolie calls for nations to pull together to tackle refugee crisis

Angelina Jolie says the plight of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** is 'shameful' and 'tragic'

Joel Pearce, 19

Second-year BSc Government student

"

People have criticised Angelina Jolie's appointment for being a 'cynical move' to attract students and publicity to the university, but I think that's missing the point.

"

As both an ambassador and special envoy for the UN, she has years of experience of activism, research in the field, and has played a big role in drawing attention to the issue of sexual violence in conflict. I think

she's

exactly the kind of person LSE students should be learning from.

"

Appointments like this are the antidote to detached and elitist academia - not because she's won an Oscar, but because she has an insight into the issues that can

'

t be found in textbooks.

"

Universities have a long history of appointing visiting professors who have experience in areas like politics and journalism. Angelina Jolie is no different - even if she is a bigger name.

"

Anonymous, 20

First-year BSc International Relations and History student

"

Angelina Jolie's new role as 'visiting professor in practice' at LSEisout of her realm.

"

In recent years, Jolie hasused her status for worthy causes and has given an insight into the the topic of women in conflict, but, to teach Master's students at one of Britain's most prestigious universities, and tojoin the ranks of elitist professors who have reached the top of theirfields,requires more than a surfaced insight into a topic.

Angelina Jolie slams UN on Syria crisis

"

Unfortunately, LSE's track record doesn't help its case; in 2008, the institution granted a PhD degree to Saif al-Islam Gaddafi - former Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi's son - after large donations from the Gaddafi Foundation were pledged to the university [LSE director later said the university acted in the best interests of the school, adding its training of Libyan professionals was "of merit"]. Although the two cases may seem very different, they

're

similarin that they bothundermine our supposedly meritocratic society, where merit and achievement are meant to be the only factors that distinguish someone in their academic or occupational careers.

"

It also tarnishes the hard work students have put in to gain a place at LSE. How can someone who hasworked through the education process, obtained a bachelor degree,andfinallylanded a place for a Master's at the university be taught by someone who - with respect - has a limited amount of experience and no qualifications to their name?

"

Although it would be an honour to meet Jolie for all the admirable humanitarian work she has immersed herself in, appointing her as a visiting professor at LSE only serves to undermine the university, its students and professors and, ultimately, our meritocratic society.

"

**Load-Date:** May 25, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Vigilantes drag mentally ill Iraqi refugee out of supermarket and tie him to a tree in Germany; Footage of the incident showed the men dragging the asylum seeker out of a supermarket*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JXC-B9G1-JCJY-G07B-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 2, 2016 Thursday 1:12 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 651 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

A group of suspected vigilantes beat amentally ill Iraqi refugee, dragged him out of a supermarket and tied him to a treein Germany.

Police said the 21-year-old man had visited the Netto branch in Arnsdorf to complain about a top-up card he bought for his mobile phone.

A video of the incident posted online showed the man holding a bottle of wine behind his back as the dispute continued with staff.

As he stood talking with cashiers, four men appeared and surrounded him, pushing him towards the doors.

Footage showed the Iraqi asylum seeker being beaten and dragged out of a supermarket in Arnsdorf by suspected vigilantes on 21 May (YouTube)

As the asylum seeker tried to escape, they pinned him to a table and started punching and beating him, before dragging him out the door.

Read more

Anti-immigrant AfD says Muslims are not welcome in Germany

Crowd 'cheers' as fire breaks out at home for refugees in Germany

Refugees weep as they are welcomed in Germany by mob shouting 'go home'

As the video ends, a woman behind the camera can beheard calmly saying: "Isn't it a shame that we need a citizen's defence group."

Police in Saxony said the men then dragged the man outside and tied him to a tree in the supermarket car park.

Officers called to the dispute found the gang awaiting their arrival and demanding to have the asylum seeker arrested after claiming they had "prevented him from escaping".

Police told the men to leave as paramedics helped the refugee - without questioning them further or asking for identification - and found no evidence of theft or vandalism.

More than a million refugees arrived in Germany last year(Getty)

The Iraqi man is a patient in Arnsdorf's psychiatric hospital and had already visited the supermarket to complain about the phone card twice earlier in the day, being returned to the hospital by police after staff called the emergency services.

Read more

Refugee crisis sparks record year for political violence in Germany

Employees said they had been threatened by the man after the store manager found the balance on the phone card had already been used up.

The suspected vigilantes, including three men wearing black shirts, were not identified until footage of the incident started to spread on social media.

Three of the suspects were identified on Monday as men aged 29, 49 and 54 from the Arnsdorf area but have not yet been caught, while officers are investigating "numerous clues" on other suspects.

The 49-year-old suspect called the emergency services around an hour after the attack claiming the asylum seeker had stolen from the supermarket but police said "no shoplifting had occurred".

"We are investigating the events, as well as the actions of patrol officers at the scene," police commissioner Conny Stiehl said.

In a statement posted on Facebook, Netto said it was taking the incident "very seriously", adding that employees' actions violated company guidelines but that staff did not call the vigilantes.

Police are investigating the men on allegations of false imprisonment and the Iraqi man for alleged threats made to staff.

The incident has provoked intense discussion in Saxony, where refugee accommodation has been set on fire and a group of asylum seekers were greeted by a mob chanting "go home" earlier this year.

Since the attacks on hundreds of women on New Year's Eve in Cologne, numerous vigilante groups known as the "Bürgerwehr" have sprung up across Germany, gathering widespread local support,

The Local

reported.

The groups have been vocally supported by anti-immigration and neo-Nazi groups and Germany's interior ministry has reportedly identified at least seven Bürgerwehrs with "evidence of an extremist right-wing orientation".

More than a million asylum seekers arrived in the country last year, sparking criticism of Angela Merkel's decision to open its borders to ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** arriving on Europe's shores.

**Load-Date:** June 2, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Jo Cox death: Alleged killer Tommy Mair 'bought gun-making manual from far-right neo-Nazi group'; Documents suggest Mair had recorded links to National Alliance*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K1J-JWS1-F021-64FR-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 17, 2016 Friday 10:45 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 639 words

**Byline:** Jon Stone

**Body**

The alleged killer of Labour MP Jo Cox purchased a gun-makingmanual and Nazi literature froma far-right neo-Nazi group, new documents suggest.

52-year-old Thomas Mair was detained by police after the multiple shooting and stabbing of the MP in Birstall, West Yorkshire, on Thursday.

Ms Cox, a former aid worker, campaigned tirelessly for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and was a vocal supporter of the European Union and the benefits of multicultural immigration.

Cox murder suspect arrest

Read more

Man arrested over Labour MP killing named locally

The Southern Poverty Law Centre, an established US civil rights group, has produced receipts and invoices bearing Mr Mair's name that it says are from the neo-Nazi National Alliance group.

The receipts suggest Mr Mair bought $670 USD in printed material from the white supremacist group, which was until 2013 was one of the largest neo-Nazi organisations in the US.

He appears to have purchased a handbook on building improvised weapons, explosives, and incendiaries, according to the records.

In addition, the receipts suggest the purchase ofIch Kampfe, a handbook written by Adolf Hitlerformerly given to all Nazi Party members.

(Southern Poverty Law Centre)

The text of that book was drawn up by leaders ofparamilitary organisations within the Nazi machine - including the infamousSS and SA -and describes their actions and methods.

The receiptdocuments, which date from between 1999 and 2003 show Mr Mair's name and an address in Batley, in Ms Cox's constituency.

The cover of Ich Kampfe, the Nazi paramilitary handbook listed in the invoices

The Independent

reported yesterday that Mr Mair may have also had links to the "Springbok Club", an organisation which has defended the white supremacist apartheid regime in South Africa.

That group, which says it is "pro-free market capitalism and patriotism and anti-political correctness", has also campaigned against the European Union.The group has condemned Ms Cox's killing.

Jo Cox in the Commons, June 2015

Speculation has raged about the motive for the attack after a number of separate eyewitnesses said Ms Cox's attacker shouted "Britain first" - a longstanding far-right slogan - during the assault.

"Britain First" is also the name of a far-right organisation in Britain which recently publicly advocated "direct action" against Muslim elected officials. The group says it condemns Ms Cox's killing.

(Southern Poverty Law Centre)

The attacker was also said by eyewitnesses to have used a gun of antique appearance.

Eyewitnesses say Ms Cox was shot either two or three times outside her constituency advice surgery in Birstall Library. She was left lying in a pool of blood and then taken by air ambulance to Leeds General Infirmary, where she died.

Eyewitness accounts from the scene paint a confused picture of events, with some reports suggesting Ms Cox intervened in a fight between two men. Others say she was directly targeted by her attacker.There has been speculation over whether Mr Mair had a history of mental health problems.

Read more

Jo Cox in pictures: Remembering the 'bright star' of Westminster

Jo Cox dead: Suspect linked to hard-right group that has campaigned against the EU

Jo Cox death: Detained man described by neighbours as a 'loner'

Jo Cox dead: Read husband Brendan Cox's statement in full

Political friends and supporters of Ms Cox gathered in parliament square on Thursday evening for an impromptu vigil.

Stood amongst tearful colleagues, Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn said in an opening address that Ms Cox was an "exemplary MP, a real servant of democracy in every way".

West Yorkshire police said on Thursday that the incident was "localised" and that they were seeking nobody else either than Mr Mair in relation to the killing.

Campaigning during the European Union referendum has ceased until this weekend as a mark of respect to Ms Cox.

**Load-Date:** June 17, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Hundreds of mothers and children to be deported from US*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JS8-7S91-F072-41X6-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

May 14, 2016 Saturday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 25

**Length:** 655 words

**Byline:** ANDREW BUNCOMBE NEW YORK

**Body**

The Obama administration is planning a new range of raids to deport hundreds of undocumented Central American mothers and children - many of whom fled to the US to escape violence and killing.

Earlier this year, President Barack Obama, who has deported more people than any other US president, sparked anger among rights activists when he ordered officials to begin detaining and forcibly deporting hundreds of illegal immigrant families. Most of the raids focused on Georgia, Texas and North Carolina and resulted in the detention of 121 people.

Now it has been reported that immigration officials are planning a month-long series of raids in May and June. Reuters said the sweep would be the largest operation to deport immigrants since January.

Documents seen by the news agency suggest officers from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) have told field offices to launch a 30-day surge of arrests focused on mothers and children who have already been told to leave the United States. The operation would also cover minors who have entered the country without a guardian and have since turned 18 years of age.

The exact dates of the latest series of raids were not known and the details of the operation could change. The operation in January marked a departure for ICE, part of the Department of Homeland Security, from one-off deportations to high-profile raids meant to deter migrants from coming to the United States. Many of those entering the US are fleeing violence in countries such as Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala.

The issue of immigration to the US has become increasingly sensitive as a result of the rhetoric of many of the leading Republican candidates for president. Presumptive candidate Donald Trump called Mexican immigrants "rapists and murderers" and has vowed to build a wall along the USMexican border if he is elected.

The issue has not just focussed on migrants or refugees from Central America. More than 30 US states have said they will do everything they can to block to settlement of the 10,000 or so ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** the US plans to accommodate.

Yet campaigners point out that for all the noise from Republicans, it is the administration of Mr Obama that has deported more immigrants than any previous In 2014, it is estimated that more than 200,000 Central Americans tried to emigrate to the United States without documentation. Since coming to office in 2009, Mr Obama's government has deported more than 2.5 million people, up 23 per cent from the administration of George Bush years. He is set to have deported more people than all the presidents who governed between 1892-2000 combined.

Activists have sought different ways to try and help those without documents.

Hundreds of churches across America have defied the US government and offered support and sanctuary to immigrants who face deportation.

Both Democratic presidential candidates, looking to appeal to Hispanic voters, have expressed opposition to the planned raids, with front-runner Hillary Clinton saying they are "not productive and do not reflect who we are as a country".

"Families fleeing violence in Central America must be given a full opportunity to seek relief," she said. "And we need to take special care of children."

Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders issued a statement calling the raids "painful and inhumane" while asking Mr Obama to give Central American families temporary protective status through an executive order. "Sending these people back into harm's way is wrong," he said.

Jennifer Elzea, a spokeswoman for US Immigration and Customs Enforcement told The Independent that the operations were not "raids" and said they were targeted arrests.

She added: "We stress that these operations are limited to those who were apprehended at the border after January 1 2014, have been ordered removed by an immigration court, and have no pending appeal or pending claim for asylum or other humanitarian relief under our laws."

**Load-Date:** May 13, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Refugee children stranded in Greece are so unschooled they 'cannot even hold a pencil'; More than 20per cent of refugee children in Greece have never been to school*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JV6-4PW1-JCJY-G1BD-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

May 23, 2016 Monday 12:35 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 632 words

**Byline:** May Bulman

**Body**

More than one in five

school-aged refugee childrenin Greece have never been to school

, a study has revealed.

Child refugees stranded in Greece have been out of school for on average 1.5 years, and

many of them "cannot even hold a pencil",according to new researchby aid agency Save the Children.

Syrian child refugees have been away from the classroom for the longest - withan average of over two years (25.8 months) out of the classroom.

Afghan child refugeeshave been out of schoolfor

an average of 10.7 months

.

Read more

Greek court blocks EU plan to send ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** back to Turkey

Some teachers in the camps have set up make-shift classrooms, but they say the children are already lagging far behind the schooling levels they should be attaining.

Sacha Myers, Save the Children's communications manager, said: "Several refugee teachers have started their own initiatives with the small amount of materials they have.

"One primary school teacher from Syria who is now living in Nea Kavala has cleared a space in her tent and has 25 children attending Arabic and maths classes. She told our staff the children have not learnt anything for three or four years.

"Many don't even know how to hold a pencil or sit and listen in class."

The study, conducted in northern Greece, collected information on around 130 children between the ages of 6 to 17 years old.

Rowan,12, whose name had been changed to protect her identity,was among the children interviewed. She fled from Syria with her family four years ago when she was in the equivalent of Year 3 and has not been to school since.

Until a few months ago, herfamily had beenstayingin Turkey, but they did not have the money to send her to school there.

She said: "Now I should be in middle school. I feel like I missed so many things. We used to do theatre with the other children. I wish to go to school again.

"My family has tried to teach me some things since I left school. In Syria I was good and I enjoyed meeting the other children every day, playing together and learning.

"It is different when you have to do it all by yourself. The only thing that I used to do in school that I still do is drawing."

Helle Thorning-Schmidt, CEO of Save the Children International, said: "Children who have risked everything to reach Europe are now wasting the best years of their lives, in refugee camps, in detention centres, and behind border fences and walls.

"Many know nothing more than conflict, violence, forced displacement, and their current deplorable conditions which offer little hope for their futures."

More than three quarters of the refugee children interviewed said going to school was one of their top priorities. Ninety-nine

percent of children and parents surveyed said war and displacement were the main barriers to accessing education.

Read more

Isis threatens attacks in India and urges Muslims to travel to the 'Caliphate'

In Putin's Russia schoolchildren as young as 10 could be taught to fight

After the recent battles in Syria and Iraq, how close is Isis to losing the war?

In Syria, one in five schools have been damaged, destroyed or occupied. Around 2.8 million Syrian children are currently out of school.

Once displaced for six months a refugee is likely to remain displaced for at least three years, with the average length of displacement now estimated at 17 years - almost an entire childhood.

Save the Children is currently scaling up its education activities in Greece to provide child refugees with access to basic education through temporary classrooms.

The agency has been providing non-formal lessons - including English and Greek classes - through its child friendly spaces for refugees in Greece.

Refugees and migrants from Afghanistan make up 25 per cent of Mediterranean sea arrivals in Greece, with 49 per cent coming from Syria.

**Load-Date:** May 23, 2016

**End of Document**



[*'A dark day for Europe': EU reaches agreement to send refugees back to Turkey despite legal concerns; The deal has been heavily criticised by human rights organisations*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JB6-CWV1-F021-643R-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

March 18, 2016 Friday 5:39 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 687 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Human rights organisations have hailed a "dark day for Europe" afteracontroversial deal between Turkey and the European Union aiming to stem the number of refugees fleeing across the Aegean Sea was reached in Brussels.

Donald Tusk, President of the European Council, confirmed the agreement was made unanimously on Friday afternoon.

After less than an hour of discussions, the prime ministers of Finland and the Czech Republic tweeted from inside the European Council negotiations to announce that the 28 leaders had given their approval to the arrangement, which must be signed off by the Turkish Prime Minister before being implemented.

UN says EU-Turkey refugee deal would violate law

Authorities reported a surge in boats being sent towards the island of Lesbos as talks entered their final stages as smuggling traffic appeared to spike ahead of the expected crackdown.

Mustafa Nazmi Sezgin, the governor of Dikili district, told Reuters he knew of around 300 people who had been detained in his district alone and officials in Ankara said the total number detained was around 3,000.

Under the scheme drawn up by Mr Tusk and Ahmet Davutoglu, the Turkish Prime Minister, any migrant arriving in Greece after 20 March would be given a swift individual interview to determine whether they will be allowed to remain or sent back to Turkey.

Responding to heavy criticism from international humanitarian organisations, a spokesperson for European Council President Donald Tusk said that the agreement ensured that any removals would have to be "in full compliance with international and EU law" and that there would be no "collective expulsions".

The EU has agreed to safely resettle one Syrian refugee from camps in Turkey for each irregular migrant returned to the country, in a move aimed to discourage asylum seekers from paying huge sums to smugglers for treacherous sea crossings.

Turkey will also be sent billions of euros and is pushing for visa liberalisation for its 75 million citizens visiting Europe, as the EU "re-energises" accession talks.

Human Rights Watch condemned the situation as a "new low" and said the proposed conditions put the "very principle of international protection for those fleeing war and persecution at stake".

The plan has also been heavily criticised for singling out ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, who make up roughly 40 per cent of arrivals in Europe, over Iraqis, Afghans and other groups needing protection.

Save the Children said that almost 90 per cent of Syrians and 80 per centof Iraqis have theirasylum application granted, making any division on the basis of nationality "arbitrary and illegal".

The UN raised similar concerns, saying "blanket returns" would not be consistent with international or European law.

Amnesty International's UK director, Kate Allen, said: "This is a dark day for the Refugee Convention, a dark day for Europe and a dark day for humanity.

Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel, Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron and France's President Francois Hollande attend a meeting during a European Union leaders summit on migration in Brussels, Belgium

"It's absolutely shameful to see leaders seeking to abandon their legal obligations. Forcing refugees back into the hands of the very smugglers they just came from so they can have another go at exploiting them is obviously madness.

"There's no way anyone should herald this as a solution."

The Overseas Development Institute, which has conducted research on why refugees choose to migrate, warned that the deal is "unlikely to work" to stop the crisis.

Marta Foresti, the think-tank's Director of Governance and Security, said: "Our research shows refugees and migrants do not make the decision to leave their home lightly, are willing to take significant risks and will not be deterred by the policies and restrictions of EU countries.

"Those excluded from the deal will continue to try different, more dangerous routes if the border between Turkey and Greece is shut to them.

"The EU has failed to provide a humane or pragmatic response to the crisis, what is now needed is leadership at the global level."

Additional reporting by agencies

**Load-Date:** March 18, 2016

**End of Document**



[*UK to take in up to 3,000 vulnerable child refugees, Home Office announces; Children who have already reached Europe are excluded from the scheme, which targets refugee camps in the Middle East and North Africa*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JKD-JYV1-F021-60WG-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

April 21, 2016 Thursday 12:46 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HOME NEWS

**Length:** 643 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

The UK is to take in up to 3,000 more child refugees after months of calls to help the youngest and most vulnerable migrants risking their lives to reach safety.

The Government hailed the programme, which will come on top of a previous pledge to welcome 20,000 Syrians, as one of the world's largest resettlement programme for childrenon Thursday.

A spokesperson for the Home Office said the new scheme would see "at risk" children from the Middle East and North Africa selected based on advice from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Refugee crisis: Unaccompanied minors vulnerable in Greece

Several hundred children are due to be resettled over the next year, with the upper threshold of 3,000 due to be reached by the next general election in 2020.

Read more

Syrian refugee 'dies after being hit by police van' in Greece

Norway's immigration minister jumps in the Aegean Sea for 'very special' recreation of refugee rescue

'Up to 500 dead' in refugee boat sinking, survivors tell UN investigators

Refugee supporters take out online ads that force right-wing extremists to listen to migrants

Unaccompanied children are expected to be targeted but thefigure includes adult relatives of someaccompanied minors, who the Home Office said would be chosen in cases "where the UNHCR deems resettlement is in the best interests of the child".

"On the UNHCR's recommendation, the scheme will not solely target unaccompanied children, but will also extend to vulnerable 'children at risk', such as those threatened with child labour, child marriage and other forms of abuse or exploitation," a spokesperson said.

Unlike previous British and European initiatives, the scheme is open to refugees of all nationalities, but it excludes those who have already reached Europe.

The caveat will come as a disappointmentto charities and MPs who have been campaigning for months for the UK to take in children who have already risked their lives in boat crossings to reach the continent.

MPs on the International Development Committee (IDC)approved the move earlier this yearfollowing warnings from humanitarian organisations that thousands of unaccompanied children were left vulnerable to exploitation and violence while living in appalling conditions.

Save the Children said 3,000 unaccompanied minors would represent Britain's "fair share" of more than 26,000 estimated to have entered Europe.

James Brokenshire, the immigration minister, said the Government was committed to helping vulnerable children who had been "unjustly impacted" by the humanitarian crisis.

"We have always been clear that the vast majority of vulnerable children are better off remaining in host countries in the region so they can be reunited with surviving family members," he added.

"However, there are exceptional circumstances in which it is in a child's best interests to be resettled in the UK.

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** ask for water in Akcakale at the Turkish border near the Syrian town of Tal Abyad

"We have engaged with a number of NGOs, including the UNHCR on the best way to provide protection to refugee children and ensure their welfare and safety remain at the heart of every decision made."

The inclusion of refugee camps in North Africa is notable, as the region is the departure point for refugees fleeing war and persecution in Nigeria, Gambia, Senegal, Mali and other African nations who have been excluded by previous schemes.

Gonzalo Vargas Llosa, the UNHCR's representative to the UK, welcomed the programme, which comes as refugees continue to be detained and deported from Greece, where the British Government is supporting the controversial EU-Turkey migration agreement.

The UK is offering an extra 75 staff to help with processing and administration in detention centres and has also launched a £10 million Refugee Children Fund to support the UN and humanitarian organisations.

**Load-Date:** April 21, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Canada wildfire to 'double in size' as blaze creates own weather and smoke is detected in Florida; At least 80,000 people have been evacuated from their homes*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JPW-RKH1-JCJY-G3NS-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

May 7, 2016 Saturday 8:17 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 668 words

**Byline:** Will Worley

**Body**

A huge wildfire which has engulfed parts of Alberta province in central Canada may double in size, officials have warned.

The blaze, described by some residents as "hell on earth", had grown to around 386 square miles by Friday, according to the Alberta provincial government. Smoke from the fire has been detected as far away as the southern US state of Florida.

So far, there have been no deaths reported, but around 80,000 people have been forced to leave their homes. The communities of Fort McMurray, Anzac,Gregoire Lake Estates andFort McMurray First Nation are all subject to evacuation orders.

Read more

The climate change connection to the Fort McMurray 'firestorm'

In Fort McMurray,some 1,600buildings have been burned to the ground.

Rachel Notley, Premier of Alberta, wrote on Twitter:"Fort McMurray is not safe to return to and this will be true for a significant period of time."

Alberta's manager of wildfire prevention, Chad Morrison, said there was a "high potential that the fire could double in size" by the end of Saturday. He expected the fire to expand into a more remote forested area northeast and away from Fort McMurray.

Residents escape the flames engulfing Fort McMurray (EPA)

According to Mr Morrison, no amount of resources would put the fire out, and what was needed was rain.

"We have not seen rain in this area for the last two months of significance," he said. "This fire will continue to burn for a very long time until we see some significant rain."

Fanned by high winds, scorching heat and low humidity, the fire grew fast. On Tuesday, it was around 29 square miles and reached 39 square miles by Wednesday. However, on Thursday it was almost nine times that -- 330 square miles -- roughly the size of Calgary, the largest city in Alberta province.

The fire is now so large that it has been creating its own weather conditions, causing "pyrocumulus clouds intense enough to cause lightning",according to meteorologist Eric Holthaus.

Read more

Video shows family driving through raging California wildfires

More extremely dry conditions and temperatures of 27 Celsius wereexpected for Saturday along with strong winds, wildfire chief Mr Morrison said -perfect conditions to exacerbate the blaze.

"It's going to be a very extreme fire hazard kind of day," Matthew Anderson, an Alberta wildfireinformation officer, told CBC News, adding"today will certainly be a very, very challenging day and the (fire's) growth potential is quite large."

However, cooler conditions are expected on Sunday and Monday.

Residents forced to fleeFort McMurray, in the heart of Canada's oil sands, we

re staying in accommodation intended for oil workers, while others headed south toEdmonton.

The military hasbeen overseeing the mandatory evacuation of residents from the area threatened by the fire, with at least 8,000 people airlifted out and around 4,000 more expected to be evacuated on Saturday.

Others escaped in convoys, escorted by the police. About 1,200 vehicles had passed through Fort McMurray by late Friday afternoon, despite a one-hour interruption due to heavy smoke, authorities said.

Read more

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** help victims of Canada wildfires in show of solidarity

Fort McMurray wildfires: State of emergency declared in Alberta as out of control wildfire threatens to destroy city

Fort McMurray wildfires: Entire population of city evacuated after being engulfed in fire

"It was shocking to see the damaged cars all burned on the side of the road. It made you feel lucky to get out of there," said Jim Dunstan, who was in the convoy with his family.

The government has promised to give out money to displaced persons, in the form of debit cards pre-loaded with funds. Adults will receive $1,250 and $500 per dependent, which likely to be given out in several days.

The mass evacuation also forced as much as a quarter of Canada's oil output offline and was expected to impact the country's economy, which has already been hitby a dramatic fall in the price of oil.

Associated Press contributed to this report

**Load-Date:** May 7, 2016

**End of Document**



[*British teenagers caught up in deadly gun battle involving notorious gang leader at Bulgarian beach bar; The friends told The Independent they were unharmed in the incident and decided to continue their holiday*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K03-SSF1-JCJY-G19R-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 10, 2016 Friday 5:22 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HOME NEWS

**Length:** 620 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Five British teenagers have been caught up in a gang-related shooting at a beachside bar in Bulgaria while on holiday to celebrate the end of secondary school.

Ross Warbeck, Nathan Smith, Joel Ewart, Jack Adams and Craig Pool were drinking at the 4 You restaurant in Sunny Beach, Burgas, when a gun battle broke out on Wednesday evening.

Ross, 17, told

The Independent

the group had been enticed into the bar with the promise of free beers, describing it as "really nice" with good music and friendly staff.

"After about 15 minutes Nathan noticed about five men in masks running into the bar in a line and then people started shooting," he said.

The teenagers, seen around a table in the centre of the image, were photographed by staff at the 4 You restaurant shortly before the shooting on 8 June (Facebook)

"At first we all thought plates had been dropped but then people came running out of the restaurant area with prams and stuff screaming.

Read more

David Cameron accused of condoning abuse against ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** as he praises Bulgaria for its strong border control

Bomb scare sparks evacuation at Sofia Airport in Bulgaria

Bulgaria builds final part of razor wire fence to keep out refugees

"We all ran out of the bar by jumping over the low wall surrounding the pub.

"When we looked back we could see that about 10 more unmasked men outside shooting into the bar, and a gunfight happened for about a minute before they all ran off in different directions - the whole thing seemed well planned out."

The shooting left a notorious drug lord known as "Mityo the Eyes"in a critical condition with bullet wounds, while a 21-year-old man believed to be one of his bodyguards was killed.

The shocked teenagers, who were celebrating leaving the Langholm Academy in Dumfries and Galloway, were uninjured in the incident and decided to continue their holiday in the resort, which is the largest and most popular on Bulgaria's Black Sea coastline.

The 4 You restaurant has a five-star rating on a popular reviews website and photos posted on its Facebook page shortly before the shooting showed the restaurant almost full of customers listening to live music.

One image showed the Scottish friends sat at a table in the centre of the outdoor terrace, smiling and chatting surrounded by other diners.

Ross said the photo was taken "minutes before the carnage ensured", adding: "Up until that point everything has been completely five stars."

Bulgarian police said the battle was between a gang led by notorious drug lord Dimitar Zhelyazkov, known as Mityo Ochite ("Mityo the Eyes"), and a rival group.

He entered the restaurant with a gang of 30 men,

Balkan Insight

reported, being welcomed by shots fired by around 10 gunmen.

The chief secretary of the interior ministry, Georgi Kostov, said the gun fight was provoked by a personal dispute, while local reports claimed Zhelyazkov was attempting to extort money.

In 2008 he was convicted of leading a gang involved in drug trafficking and prostitution but received a prison sentence of just four years.

At least 19 people have been arrested in connection with the shooting so far and police are continuing to appeal for information.

It has provoked a political row in Bulgaria, with Prime Minister Boyko Borissov criticising police for failing to prevent the shooting and letting gang members block the area around Burgas hospital and allegedly harass journalists.

The interior minister, who was summoned to parliament for questioning, said plans were being made for increased security measures and more "stringent controls" in the resort.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office said it was aware of the incident but had not been asked to provide assistance.

**Load-Date:** June 10, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: EU-Turkey deal could be contributing to falling deaths in migrant boat disasters but arrivals rising in Italy; Deaths have fallen in the Aegean Sea but crossings over the Central Mediterranean continue*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JVG-4BJ1-F021-63V8-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

May 24, 2016 Tuesday 4:06 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 656 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

The controversial EU refugee deal with Turkey could be helping reduce deaths at sea by preventing treacherous journeys across the Aegean.

New figures by the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) showed that no asylum seekers were reported drowned so far this month in the passage between Turkey and Greece.

Crossings in flimsy smugglers' dinghys have seen countless disasters, including one that claimed the lives of three-year-old Alan Kurdi, his mother and brother.

The refugee route between Greece and Turkey has effectively been closed(Getty Images)

But despite fears that the closure of the route, now patrolled by Nato ships, would force refugees on longer and more dangerous routes, casualties appear to be falling.

Read more

Idomeni: Riot police deployed in bid to evacuate Greek refugee camp

Refugee children stranded in Greece are so unschooled they 'cannot even hold a pencil'

EU plan to send ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** back to Turkey jeopardised by Greek court

According to IOM figures, at least 1,370 migrants have died at sea so far this year - 25 per cent lower than the same period in 2016.

Of the 13 recorded in three incidents up to 21 May, none were on the route over the Aegean Sea.

"We attribute this drop in fatalities to the extremely sharp drop in arrivals from Turkey in Greece," IOM spokesperson Joel Millman said.

"Obviously as the Turkish-Greece route appears suspended, we hope this is the beginning of a soundmanagement policy of refugees and migrants who wish to make the crossing and don't take these enormous risks.

"It is possible, I want to stress possible, that the period of stark fatality since 2013 may have run its course by now, maybe we'll see a safer summer."

A group of 10 people are believed to have drowned off Sardinia on Saturday, part of a voyage IOM believes left from Algeria, while two bodies were recovered this month off Egypt and one body was found off Spain's North African enclave of Ceuta.

An estimated 191,134 migrants and refugees have reached Europe by sea so far this year, arriving in Italy, Greece, Cyprus and Spain.

The number of refugees arriving in Italy, dominantly crossing the Mediterranean Sea from Libya, remains high.

An estimated 2,700 migrants have been rescued at sea over the past 24 hours and another 850 were turned back after being intercepted by the Libyan authorities.

Giovanna di Benedetto, from Save the Children Italy, told

The Independent

the number of refugees arriving in the country was rising, with another four landings due on Tuesday.

According to the charity's figures, 33,200 asylum seekers had arrived by sea between 1 January and 22 May this year, including 5,400 unaccompanied minors.

In the first four months of last year, 26,000 migrants including 1,700 unaccompanied minors had made the journey.

Libya coastguard braces for fresh refugee wave

Ms di Benedetto said that humanitarian workers did not believe the increase was directly related to efforts to close the people smuggling route across the Aegean.

"At the start of last year we saw a lot of Syrian families arriving in Italy but they don't come any more," she added.

"It is a completely different group of people that arrive in Italy - mostly from sub-Saharan countries and East Africa."

The largest grouparriving in Italy are from Nigeria, at 15 per cent, followed by Gambia, Somalia, the Ivory Coast, Eritrea, Guinea and Senegal.

Italy is not subject to the terms of the EU deal with Turkey, which sees any refugees arriving clandestinely in Greece detained and deported back across the Aegean if their asylum applications fail.

Border closures through the Western Balkans route formerly used by migrants journeying into Europe have left thousands stranded across the continent.

Greek authorities were evicting refugees from the Idomeni camp, at the Macedonian border, on Tuesday, while a survey of the Calais "Jungle" has shown that the majority of its 6,000 residents are still determined to reach the UK.

**Load-Date:** May 24, 2016

**End of Document**



[*The chart that shows just how generous the UK's offer to take 3,000 refugee children really is; The government's callsit 'the largest resettlement programme for refugee children' - but how does it really compare?*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JM8-FJD1-F021-6039-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

April 25, 2016 Monday 1:19 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HOME NEWS

**Length:** 648 words

**Byline:** Nando Sigona

**Body**

The UK government has offered to take 3,000 extra lone refugee children in its existing resettlement scheme for ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. But the offer has two caveats: it is only for refugee minors currently living outside the European Union and it is spread over five years, meaning there will be an average of 600 per year.

The government's press release called it "The largest resettlement programme for refugee children." But others, including the Labour peer Alf Dubs have called it "a deliberate ploy to muddy the debate".

The government's announcement came ahead of a vote in the House of Commons on an amendment to the Immigration Bill proposed by Dubs to let 3,000 unaccompanied refugee children who have reached the EU come to Britain. The amendment has cross-party support and may be successful in overturning the Conservatives' slim majority of 12 in the House of Commons.

The Liberal Democrat leader Tim Farron said the announcement was: "A blatant attempt to buy off compassionate Tory MPs in a desperate last-ditch effort to avoid a government defeat."

Fair share?

Record numbers (over 90,000) of unaccompanied asylum seeking children have reached the EU in 2015 and the trend continues this year. But many are left vulnerable to exploitation and violence while living in appalling conditions in makeshift encampments across Europe.

The UK share of unaccompanied asylum seeking children in the EU has significantly decreased during the refugee crisis - from 36% in 2008 to 3% in 2015, as the graph below shows.

Becoming Adult

,

Author provided

In 2015, the UK received around 3,000 lone refugee children, certainly an increase from 1,945 the previous year - but this is nothing like what other EU countries have experienced in 2015. According to EUROSTAT, Norway saw an increase of applications from unaccompanied minors from 940 in 2014 to 5,050 in 2015; the Netherlands went from 960 to 3,800, and Germany from 4,400 to 14,400. Sweden alone received in 2015 over 35,000 unaccompanied asylum seeking children: this is more than the whole EU in 2014 and significantly more than the 23,000 that the UK received overall between 2006 and 2015.

The government's claim of having proposed "the largest resettlement programme for refugee children" may actually be factually untrue. Canada has resettled 25,000 refugees since December 2015, although it is unclear how many are unaccompanied children.

So let's keep the "generous" government offer in perspective: much more must and can be done. The Labour amendment to the Immigration Bill that the government is trying to block is a positive step in the right direction: one of solidarity with fellow EU member states that recognises the crisis is now and young refugees need help urgently rather than in 2020.

If successful, the Dubs amendment would increase the UK share of unaccompanied minors seeking asylum in the EU to around 6% - still well below previous years.

Britain has coped before

In the mid-2000s, when there was no refugee crisis on the scale that the EU is experiencing today, the UK was receiving on average 3,000 unaccompanied minors per year, just like now.

Applications have been higher in the past.

Data: Home Office/EUROSTAT

But now we hear from the government that local authorities are unable to cope with current numbers. This may be true, but not because of the refugee minors per se.

As emerging findings from our research project Becoming Adult show, the challenges local authorities are facing with current arrivals are far more about draconian budget cuts imposed by the UK government than about the number of unaccompanied minors, which is at a level they were able to cope with in the recent past.

Nando Sigona, Senior Lecturer and Deputy Director of the Institute for Research into Superdiversity, University of Birmingham

This article was originally published on The Conversation. Read the original article.

**Load-Date:** April 25, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Increasing humanitarian aid to Syria will stop refugees travelling to Europe, David Cameron says; The UK says it is more than doubling its aid commitment to the region*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J10-MTR1-JCJY-G2J5-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

February 4, 2016 Thursday 11:01 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 662 words

**Byline:** Jon Stone

**Body**

Increasing the amount of aid given to Syrian refugee camps will reduce the number of refugees from the region travelling to Europe, David Cameron has said.

The Prime Minister is hosting an aid summit in London today with leaders and diplomats from 70 countries to help raise billion in aid for the war-torn country.

Britain is set to double its own contribution of aid to £2.3 billion, ministers say. Mr Cameron said the aid would be well-spent and have an impact on Europe's refugee crisis.

Read more

Most Britons support Denmark-style law taking valuables from refugees

"Using fundraising to build stability, create jobs and provide education can have a transformational effect in the region - and create a future model for humanitarian relief," he said.

"We can provide the sense of hope needed to stop people thinking they have no option but to risk their lives on a dangerous journey to Europe."

Around 4.6 million Syrians have been displaced from their homes and are living in neighboring countries but aid from the developed world has been far from free-flowing.

A summit held last year in Kuwait raised only half of its intended target, leading to cuts to food aid for refugees in neighbouring countries.

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon also warned on Wednesday that fewer than five per cent of Syrians living in some conflict areas subject to sieges had been given food aid.

David Cameron is hoping to raise aid contributions from other countries

International Development Secretary Justine Greening told BBC News that failing to provide the aid had knock-on consequences for the West.

"If we look at what all of this means for us in Britain and, of course, more broadly in Europe, we've seen over the past summer the consequences of not providing the kind of support these people desperately need in their own home region," she said.

"So to those people who say 'hang on, what's our response to the refugees flowing to Europe?', well, our response has to be, actually, to meet their first choice which is to provide better support, more opportunity, more hope for them and their children in the region that's fundamentally their home."

She also confirmed the extra Syrian aid spend would count towards the UK's commitment to spend 0.7 per cent of its GDP on aid - meaning the money had already been earmarked.

The vast majority of refugees from Syria are in countries adjacent to the conflict zone but overcrowding means many are making the journey to Europe.

The UK has refused to take ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** who arrive in Europe under their own steam, however.

Despite UK aid for refugee camps near Syria, Mr Cameron has so far declined to visit the one on Britain's doorstep in Calais. No refugees are being admitted from that area.

Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn has however called for the Home Office to be "reasonable" about the situation and consider admitting people with connections to the UK.

Read more

Germany agrees new measures aimed at reducing refugee numbers

Two babies among nine refugees drowned off Turkish coast

Cameron's refugee response 'morally unacceptable', say economists

Toddlers and children among dead in latest refugee boat disaster

Almost half of Germans want Angela Merkel to quit over refugee crisis

The small British programme to take 4,000 refugees a year has instead drawn its targets directly from camps adjacent to the conflict zone.

Ministers have previously voiced fears that assisting refugees who make the journey to Europe would encourage more to travel.

Other European countries have been significantly more generous in accepting people who have arrived on their shores, however. Germany expects to take a million refugees this year.

In contrast to its record with accepting refugees, theUK is one of the biggest donors of aid to the Syrian conflict region.

**Load-Date:** February 4, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Theresa May ducks key debate on new immigration rule that will see teachers, charity workers and NHS staff deported; Exclusive:Despite being named personally in a petition signed by more than 100,000 people, Home Secretary sends in a junior minister to defend her 'destructive and discriminatory'policy*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J7V-23S1-F021-635H-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

March 7, 2016 Monday 12:26 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 652 words

**Byline:** Adam Withnall

**Body**

Theresa May will not attend a debate in Parliament on Monday afternoon designed to scrutinise one of her most controversial changes to immigration rules,

The Independent

can reveal.

The Home Secretary has been urged to rethink a £35,000 pay threshold for skilled migrant workers that could see tens of thousands of teachers, charity workers, NHS staff and tech entrepreneurs deported from Britain if they fail to make enough money.

The debate is being held in Westminster Hall after more than 100,000 people signed an online petition expressing anger at the measure, which Labour has called "ill-considered, destructive and discriminatory".

Read more

Meet the skilled workers Theresa May wants kicked out of Britain

Yet despite being named personally in the petition, Ms May will not attend the debate.

The Independent

understands she will be sending junior minister Richard Harrington in to bat for her instead, with James Brokenshire busy with another engagement.

A source admitted it might "seem strange" Ms May was sending Mr Harrington in her stead - given his unrelated portfolio as the minister for ***Syrian*** ***refugees***.

But when asked why the Home Secretary was unable to attend in person, a Home Office spokesman said: "We don't comment on what she is or isn't doing at any given time."

Monday's debate represents the first time MPs have been given the chance to scrutinise the £35,000 threshold for non-EU workers, which was pushed through without a Commons vote as part of a raft of changes to immigration rules in 2012.

If uncontested, it will come into effect next month - and campaigners say it could cost the Treasury more than £500 million in lost economic contributions.

Labour's immigration spokesman Keir Starmer, who will be attending the debate, has previously said his party has "real concerns" over how key industries would be affected by the threshold.

Read more

'Swathes' of the UK refusing asylum seekers

Meet the skilled workers Theresa May wants kicked out of Britain

MPs to debate controversial £35k migrant pay threshold

May urged to rethink £35,000 salary threshold for migrants

Under the news rules, overseas workers who have lived in the UK for five years will have to prove they will be paid the new minimum threshold in order to stay in the country.

Those who fail to demonstrate earnings of more than £35,000 will be denied settlement in the UK and willface deportation.

The Stop35k campaign, whose members set up the original petition on the Government website, says it understands the desire to reduce migration - but argues that a £35,000 minimum salary across all industries is far too high.

Shannon Harmon, a spokeswoman for the group, said it was "troubling" that Ms May was refusing to engage with the debate.

The £35k threshold is not fair, esp out of London. Earnings by UK region [*https://t.co/HUTZQLYOX0#wales#scotlandpic.twitter.com/polGzvD4bH*](https://t.co/HUTZQLYOX0#scotlandpic.twitter.com/polGzvD4bH)

- Stop35k (@stop35k) March 7, 2016

She told

The Independent

: "'It is unfortunate that Theresa May will not attend in person after so many thousands of people have spoken out against one of the Government's most uneconomic policies.

"Richard Harrington is a fantastic public servant as minister for the Syrian immigration crisis, but his choice as the Minister to respond to this debate illustrates a distinct lack of understanding by the Government of the issue."

She said: "This policy will cost the UK hundreds of millions of pounds the Government keeps telling us they can't afford. It will displace valuable workers, and the fact that Theresa May is not willing to engage is extremely concerning."

For more information on the people who face deportation if the £35,000 threshold is introduced, click here. The debate is being streamed on the Parliament website here.

**Load-Date:** March 7, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Valentine's Day: A couple together for 83 years to share the lessons they have learned; The couple are to spread their wisdom on Twitter*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J28-TBD1-JCJY-G0MR-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

February 10, 2016 Wednesday 12:31 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** LOVE & SEX

**Length:** 621 words

**Byline:** Colby Itkowitz

**Body**

He was peddling produce along coastal towns in Connecticut when he fell in love with the neighbor girl, Annie. She was a few years younger and still in high school. She'd walk with her friends in the morning, and he'd drive by in his 1932 Ford Roadster and give them a lift.

The country was still in the throes of the Great Depression, and Annie's father wanted her to marry a man 20 years her senior. But she too had fallen in love, with the charming John Betar. So at just 17, she followed her heart, and they ran away together, eloping in nearby Harrison, N.Y.

Read more

The biggest relationship deal breakers that could ruin your love life

Love Actually makes women more likely to accept the 'stalker myth'

New study finds 'key to great sex in long-term relationships'

Three compatibilities you need to have a successful marriage

That was more than 83 years ago.

Eight decades later, with 14 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren, they've seen the world change immeasurably over their lifetimes together. Now, at 104 and 100 years old, respectively, John and Ann Betar will tackle a whole new frontier this Valentine's Day: Twitter.

Named the "longest married couple in America," according to an analysis by the Worldwide Marriage Encounter, a Christian organization, the two will dispense marital and life advice online. It was organized by Handy, an on-demand home services company that will be collecting the questions and tweeting the Betars' answers.

They have few expectations for their social media experiment, but they are accustomed to people asking how they've stayed content together for so long, and what they eat and do to keep busy.

A lot, as it turns out. Ann Betar still cooks, cleans, reads, makes the bed, waters the plants and hosts family gatherings, her husband boasted. And he still drives, cuts grocery coupons and handles the finances, she said.

Read more

Syrian doctor escaped torture to be reunited with fiancée in London

"We're just lucky to be together. So fortunate," he said, in an email exchange. The best part of their long life? "Just simply being together," he said.

John Betar is a Syrian refugee, whose family escaped during World War I. He was only 10 then, and he bounced between refugee camps for several years. His father had already made it to America. His mother got a foot infection during their escape and died in 1919, leaving him and his brother to fend for themselves until their father sent for them in 1921.

He said they send donations to support ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** now.

"I always feel the doors [to the West] should be open. They were open to me. Gee, imagine if they weren't ...," he said.

There wouldn't have been Annie.

One lesson they've taken away from their longest marriage is to be happy with the life you have.

"Live day to day within your means. Be content with what you have," he said. "Don't spend more than you have. Respect each other."

[Understanding which 'love language' my husband speaks changed our relationship]

Betar said dependence on technology has been the greatest change he's witnessed in his century-long life. He has a cellphone, but not an iPhone. "You guys live by the phone," he said. "Rely on the phone so much."

Still, he's very aware of the dating world realities today. Asked how he'd court Annie in 2016, he said he'd probably, "Google her," and then "text or call to ask her out."

At least he didn't say, swipe right.

To ask the Betars your love and life questions, tweet @Handy with the hashtag #longestlove. The company will be making a charitable contribution to an organization of Betars choosing.

**Load-Date:** February 10, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Turkey has been put out in the cold by the US and Russia; Despite Erdogan's attemps to castrate the growing political influence of the Kurds, his blundering diplomacy is having the opposite effect*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J2H-FDY1-JCJY-G13B-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

February 11, 2016 Thursday 5:08 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 657 words

**Byline:** Robert Ellis

**Body**

The underlying tensions between the US and its supposed ally Turkey have once again surfaced after a visit by President Obama's special envoy, Brett McGurk, to the Kurdish PYD (Democratic Union Party) in Kobane in northern Syria.

It was the heroic defence of Kobane by the PYD's military wing,the YPG (People's DefenceUnits),against Isis which won international admiration.

However, Turkey put a different gloss on the visit, and as President Erdogan angrily remarked: "Are you on our side or on the side of the terrorist organisations?" Turkey has branded the PYD a terrorist organisation together with its sister organisation, the PKK (Kurdistan Workers' Party), which is outlawed in Turkey. While agreeing with Turkey on the status of the PKK, the US clearly differs when it comes to the PYD, as it considers Kurdish fighters to have been some of the most successful in going after Isis inside Syria.

Read more

Clinton is yesterday's woman, though the race is far from run

Now that Erdogan has reignited the war against the PKK in Turkey as a means of gaining popular support, he is clearly afraid that growing international support for Syria's Kurds, for example, from the US and Russia will reinforce the demands of Turkey's Kurds for regional autonomy.

The PYD has wrested control of much of northern Syria along the Turkish border from Isis and has established three autonomous cantons between the Tigris, bordering on Iraq, and the Euphrates.

Although Erdogan has declared crossing to the west of the Euphrates to be "a red line" for Turkey, the YPG has already done so, and threatens to close the 98-kilometer gap along the Turkish border to be able to link up with Afrin, a fourth Kurdish canton in northwest Syria.

This gap is of strategic importance for Turkey, because it is, as President Obama said at a news conference at the OECD's headquarters in Paris in December, "98 kilometers that are still used as a transit point for foreign fighters, ISIL shipping out fuel for sale that helps finance their terrorist activities."

The US has called on Turkey to close the border but it has refused, so now Syria's Kurds are going to do the job. Turkey has since 2012 tried to lure the US into supporting its plans to replace Assad with the siren call of establishing a safe zone for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** together with a no-fly zone in the same area. This would, in effect, block the attempts by the PYD to establish a Kurdish corridor along the Turkish border, which has been Turkey's main intention.

Seen in this context, Turkey's shooting down a Russian Su-24 bomber on November24 was a strategic blunder.The Russian response included the deployment to Syria of the advanced S-400 air defence missile system, and after a second alleged violation of Turkey's airspace at the end of January

Erdogan

warned Russia of "consequences". Russia's response has been to send four Su-35S fighter aircraft to the Khmeimim airbase in Latakia province.

Last September General Philip Breedlove, NATO's supreme allied commander for Europe, observed that the military infrastructure Russia had already installed in Syria was a de facto no-fly zone.

President

Erdogan's

plans to marginalize the Kurds' political influence both in Turkey and Syria seem set to backfire, and the Syrian Kurds have just opened their first foreign representation in Moscow. Russia is also seeking to include them when the stalled peace talks begin in Geneva.

Read more

Imposing a junior doctor contract means a mass medical exodus

Erdogan has now declared Turkey's patience to be soon exhausted and that it could be forced to intervene in Syria.

Russian foreign minister Sergei Lavrov believes that the US-led coalition will prevent Turkey from realizing "such crazy plans", but both Russia and the US are dealing with a leader whose behaviour, like that of Muammar Gaddafi, is becoming increasingly erratic.

Robert Ellis is a commentator on Turkish affairs in the Danish and international press.

**Load-Date:** February 11, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Aleppo siege: 20,000 Syrians gather at Turkey's border as Europe urges leaders to use (EURO)3 billion to offer asylum; Most families are sleeping without shelter, she said, despite night-time temperatures plunging close to zero*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J1F-D4X1-JCJY-G229-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

February 6, 2016 Saturday 4:39 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 679 words

**Byline:** Laura Pitel

**Body**

Europe isurging Turkey to open its border to tens of thousands of Syrians who have fled a regime offensive backed by Russian bombardment in the northern province of Aleppo.

Aid agencies warned that an estimated 20,000 people are waiting at the Bab al-Salam border crossing near the Turkish town of Kilis, many of them sleeping in the open. Tens of thousands more are said to be on the move elsewhere in the province after being forced from their homes.

The European Union's foreign policy chief, Federica Mogherini, called on Turkey to open the crossing. She said that a

(EURO)

3 billion(£2.3bn) deal with Ankara to stem the flow of refugees to Europe was "aimed exactly" at making sure that Turkey could provide safe asylum for Syrians.

Read more

Battle for Aleppo: Who's fighting who and why could it be decisive?

Turkey is already home to more than 2 million ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. It has faced huge pressure from the EU and the United States to close its border to prevent the transit of Isis jihadists. In recent months, only limited numbers of Syrians have been allowed to cross.

Dalia al-Awqati, director of the northern Syria programme at the charity Mercy Corps, warned that conditions for those waiting at or near the border are highly challenging. Most families are sleeping without shelter, she said, despite night-time temperatures plunging close to zero.

Thousands are struggling for food and shelter at the border

"Humanitarian agencies are having a difficult time reaching everyone," she said. "Because the situation is so fluid it is very difficult. We have seen tens of thousands on the move in the last few days."

She warned that the situation continued to deteriorate in Syria, with the upshot that ever-more civilians were being forced to flee. "In the past year we have seen an intensification of the fighting and a shrinking of humanitarian spaces that can be considered safe," she said. "They are between a rock and a hard place. Between hell and high water."

Forces loyal to President Assad have made a series of important gains in Aleppo province over the past week. On Wednesday, they succeeded in severing the main supply route into the eastern, rebel-held part of Aleppo, Syria's second city.

Heavy fighting continued in the area to the north of the city today. Analysts said that, thanks to help from Russia and Iran, Syrian government forces were within a few miles of totally encircling the city.

Read more

After entering Aleppo, the Syrian army may set its sights on Raqqa

Russia and Assad regime accused of 'starving' Syrian city of Aleppo

Syrian peace talks halted as Assad forces advance on Aleppo

An estimated 400,000 people live in the half of the city controlled by various rebel factions that include the al-Qaeda affiliate Jabhat al-Nusra. They fear that they will soon become the latest place to be subjected to siege warfare that offers the choice of either surrendering or being starved into submission.

Mahmoud Hassan, a human rights and civil society activist from Aleppo, said that prices in the city had risen dramatically in recent days in anticipation of a siege.

Thousands flee Syria amid Russian-backed offensive on Aleppo

Speaking via Facebook from the al-Sakhour district in eastern Aleppo, he said that the area was being subjected to "relentless" bombardment. He said: "We are being bombed by planes, by rocket launchers and by artillery. Of course people are very frightened. Some have already left, others are planning to do so."

The conditions at the border are squalid

Regaining control of the whole of Aleppo, an opposition stronghold since 2012, would be a hugely victory for Damascus both strategically and symbolically. Both supporters and opponents of President Assad believe that it could herald the beginning of the end of the five-year uprising against him. Mr Hassan offered a gloomy prediction for those still hoping to topple the Syrian president: "If Aleppo is lost the revolution will be completely extinguished."

**Load-Date:** February 6, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Prominent Danish activist and author prosecuted for 'people trafficking' after giving Syrian refugee family a lift; Lisbeth Zornig and her husband Mikael Lindholm were eachfined 22,500 krone*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J8P-FPP1-JCJY-G0SR-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

March 11, 2016 Friday 3:45 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 678 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

A prominent Danish rights activist and author has been fined £2,300 for "people trafficking" after giving a ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** a lift.

Lisbeth Zornig and her husband Mikael Lindholm were handed a combined fine of 45,000 krone (£4,700) by judges in the city of Nykøbing Falster today.

Ms Zornig was prosecuted for picking up a Syrian family of four adults and two children in southern Denmark and driving them to Copenhagen on 7 September last year.

September 2015:Denmark blocks rail and road links with Germany to stop refugee flow

After giving them coffee and biscuits, her husband later drove them to the capital's railway station and bought them tickets onwards to Sweden, the

Guardian

reported.

The couple, who pleaded not guilty, said they were unaware that they were breaking the law, believing that only crossing borders or taking money for the ride would be illegal.

The family they helped were among a large group of refugees attempting to cross Denmark on foot after their train from Germany was stopped in the town of Rødby.

Footage broadcast by TV2 showed scenes of confusion and panic as asylum seekers fled police on the station platform, running across disused train tracks into the surrounding fields to start their long walk to Sweden.

Migrants, mainly from Syria, walk on the highway 12km north of Rodby, Denmark moving to the north on September 7, 2015.

Ms Zornig told the

Berlingske

newspaper she saw the family walking along the roadside and was seized by an urge to help.

"It was a very surreal experience," she said. "Everyone had a feeling that what we were used to seeing on the television what happening right in front of us."

She and Mr Lindholm are just two of several hundred people charged with contravening the Danish Aliens Act in recent months, which makes it illegal to transport anyone without residence permits.

Supporters hailed their action as part of a "small miracle" on Lolland island as Danes grouped together to help the arriving refugees.

Ms Zornig was one of several Danes to pick up refugees as they walked along the motorway from Rodby on 7 September

"It is not a criminal offence to help fellow human beings fleeing from war," a statement on Facebook said. "There are many of us who believe that those who are accused of trafficking acted with humanity.

"Let us show that decency and sense of duty still exists in Denmark...civil society showed courage and stepped in where politicians failed."

Ms Zorning, the former head of Denmark's National Council for Children, said Friday's verdict sent a "clear political signal" as the country's government continues efforts to stem the flow of refugees.

She became known through a documentary on her abusive childhood andan ensuing autobiography, and has gone on to campaign for abuse victims and vulnerable groups.

Denmark'scontroversial law allowing authorities to seize asylum seekers' cash and valuables to "pay for their stay" sparked international condemnation earlier this year but several other countries have introduced similar measures as Europe's attitude towards asylum seekers hardens.

Volunteers across Denmark have continued to help migrants on their journeys but could be discouraged by a mounting wave of prosecutions, which reportedly saw a 70-year-old pensioner fined earlier this week.

Critics have called the laws "outdated and inhumane" but campaigns to change it seem unlikely to see success as Scandinavian nations continue to tighten border controls.

A 2002 directive from the Council of the European Union stipulates that anyone who intentionally assists foreigners to "enter ortransit across" a country in breach of national law can be prosecuted - particularly those take payment to do so.

It says that sanctions can be lifted in cases where "the aim of the behaviour is to provide humanitarian assistance", but the waiver is optional.

A United Nations protocol on migrant smuggling, however, defines the act exclusively motivated by a "financial or other material benefit".

**Load-Date:** March 11, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Anne Frank's step-sister says Donald Trump is 'acting like Hitler'; A win for the Republican frontrunner in the presidential elections would be a 'complete disaster',Eva Schloss says*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HYG-VGG1-F021-63XM-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 28, 2016 Thursday 10:55 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 705 words

**Byline:** Charlotte Beale

**Body**

Anne Frank's step-sister has said Donald Trump is "acting like another Hitler by inciting racism".

EvaSchloss -whose mother married the father of the German born diarist who became one of the most well known Jewish victims of the Nazi regime -spoke out aboutthe would-be Republican presidential candidate

in an interview to mark

Holocaust Memorial Day

.

"If Donald Trump became the next president of the USit would be a complete disaster,"Ms Schloss told

Newsweek

,

Read more

Trump calls Fox News anchor a 'bimbo' amid debate boycott

We thought Trump was the comic relief. Who's laughing now?

Trump heckles protester wearing a turban

Four genocides we should also remember on Holocaust Memorial Day

I've spent 25 years speaking to young people about surviving Auschwitz

Criticising the current British, American and Canadian refugee policies, Ms Schlosssaid: "Fewer people would have died in the Holocaust if the world had accepted more Jewish refugees."

It is "even harder for today's ***Syrian*** ***refugees***," MsSchloss said, because they have "a very different culture".

As "assimilated" European Jews, Schloss' family was still "treated as if we had come from the moon" when they arrived inthe Netherlands in 1938,she said.

"I was shocked that I wasn't accepted like an ordinary person," she said.

Anne Frank writing in her diary in the

1940s

Her family fled Austria in 1938 after it was annexed by Nazi Germany, settling in Amsterdam where they knew the Franks.

Both families went into hiding in 1942, but were betrayed and taken to concentration camps two years later. While Ms Schloss was liberated from Auschwitz in 1945, Anne Frank died of typhoid weeks before her camp, Bergen-Belsen, was reached by Allied troops.

Anne Frank's father, Otto, married MsSchloss' mother, Fritzi, after the war.

Ms Schlosspraised modern Germany's acceptance of over a million refugees, and its government's organised response.

"The country has not gone under", she said.

Read more

Cameron's migrant comments spark outrage on Holocaust Memorial Day

Anne Frank and her family

would have lived

, Ms Schloss suggested, had the US accepted Otto Frank's visa applications in 1940.

"He tried everything to save his family from the Holocaust...but his request was rejected," she said.

"America didn't want to take any more refugees.

"The situation today is worse than it was under Hitler because at that time all the Allies -the US, Russia and Britain -worked together to combat the terrible threat of Nazism.If we don't work together, the world will never be able to resolve the threats it faces today."

'Don't Stand By' is the theme of this year's

Holocaust Memorial Day,but"more people than ever are being bystanders", said Ms Schloss.

"We haven't really learnt anything-I'm depressed by the current situation."

She is not the first to compare Donald Trump to Hitler.

Followingthe presidential nominee's

December call

for a ban on Muslims entering the US,Philadelphia MayorMichael Nutter

accused Mr Trump

of taking "a page from the play book of Hitler", saying his

comments

"engender

a level of fear mongering that we have not seen literally since the 1930s and 1940s".

Former New Jersey Republican Governor Christine Todd Whitman also told CNN that Mr Trump's remarks were

"the kind of rhetoric that allowed Hitler to move forward."

"You have people who were scared the economy was bad -they want someone to blame," she said.

The Philadelphia Daily News responded to MrTrump's call for a ban with a cover thatpunned on Führer, the German word for 'leader' andHitler'stitle.

Remind you of someone? Trump wants to ban Muslims from entering U.S. @StuBykofsky@joeberkery@PhillyDailyNews Tues. pic.twitter.com/lVc9jjTm2S

- David Lee Preston (@DavidLeePreston) December 8, 2015

In November, fellow presidential nominee Jeb Bush's advisor Max Boot also called Mr Trump "a fascist" on Twitter.

**Load-Date:** January 28, 2016

**End of Document**



[*The big political failure I've witnessed is neglect of our institutions*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J0H-CG21-F072-44H8-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

February 2, 2016 Tuesday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** COMMENT; Pg. 28

**Length:** 686 words

**Byline:** Shirley Williams

**Body**

Summarising the lessons of 40 years in Parliament, both in the Commons and the Lords, in my valedictory speech, was not easy to do in six minutes - and that is how long I had last Friday during an important debate on education.

The United Kingdom is a lucky country. That statement inspires scepticism in millions of my fellow citizens who are struggling with illness or trying to pay for somewhere to live, but we are blessed in many ways. Shakespeare, our greatest poet, put it best in his play Richard II, where John of Gaunt describes us as: "This fortress built by Nature for herself, against infection and the hand of war."

We are blessed by our geography - the main reason we have not been defeated, occupied, laid waste, or invaded for more than 1,000 years. Instead, we have gradually evolved into a kingdom united by common values and institutions, and by a shared history. That kingdom could, of course, be wrecked if we leave the EU, with Scotland departing and a new border cutting across an Ireland, North and South, living in peace, one with the other.

A lucky country, if it is to remain so, needs good government. Our governments, regardless of party, have made serious blunders and continue to do so. Great Britain has been admired and respected throughout the world for its long tradition of dedicated and honourable public service. But if we look at recent decisions, we can only conclude that we are failing to sustain it. Britain has been remarkable in creating and developing some of the finest public institutions there are, yet these very institutions are now under threat.

The BBC is probably the finest public service broadcaster in the world, admired for its role in supporting free speech and individual liberty. But it has been exploited by self-serving celebrities, and also by government. Making the BBC pay from its limited budget for free television licences for the over-75s is a vote-seeking government policy; it is not a BBC one. But the right answer is to make government either pay or abandon the policy.

Short-sighted cuts to public health, which could prevent thousands contracting diabetes or becoming obese, are another government blunder. Our most cherished public service, the NHS, is on the brink of breakdown as huge numbers of GPs and junior doctors threaten to leave. The public finance initiative of John Major's government, extended by Tony Blair, loaded millions of pounds of debt on to NHS Trusts - debts they are still struggling to repay. Politicians of all parties have not yet constructed a consensus to insist on adequate and sustainable funding for the NHS, choosing instead the adversarial politics that have for so long characterised our islands, rather than trying to agree on answers.

And now the United Kingdom approaches the toughest of choices: whether or not to leave the European Union. Institutional memory can be short, and we have forgotten the staggering achievements of the EU. The last great European war ended 70 years ago. The last European dictatorships outside the Soviet bloc - Spain, Portugal, Greece - collapsed more than 30 years ago. Central and Eastern Europe joined the EU 20 years ago, in favour of democracy, the rule of law and a common market.

I commend the Prime Minister on attempting to negotiate changes in the EU, but believe he would do better to frame them in the context of what is in the interests of a wider Europe rather than only the UK. I wish he would address some of the toughest issues, following the lead of our Immigration Tribunal by admitting ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** with family members living and working in this country and proposing that other EU members do the same. He should raise with Russia whether intense bombing of Syrian civilians spurs yet more terrified people to join the torrent of refugees rather than defeating Isis. These are issues of the first importance.

It is better together to foster peace treaties, to oppose nuclear proliferation, to counter terrorism, to protect and help the wretched of the earth.

That is Europe's mission, and it is essential that the United Kingdom plays a leading part in it.

**Load-Date:** February 1, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Paris attacks: Eight terror suspects named so far are not refugees and have EU passports; Several of thesuspects lived in the Brussels neighbourhood ofMolenbeek*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HDJ-WK01-JCJY-G4D2-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 19, 2015 Thursday 8:52 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 745 words

**Byline:** Victoria Richards

**Body**

Claims thata surge in the number of refugees entering Europefrom Syria has allowed jihadists to sneak into France, Germany and Belgium unchecked and unnoticedhave propagated in the days since Friday's Paris terrorattacks, in which 129 people were killed and hundreds more werewounded.

A passport found near the remains of a suicide bomber at the Stade de Francepurporting to belong toaSyrian refugee namedAhmed Almuhamed, 25, gave rise to 'scare'headlines such as 'Paris attacks terrorist suspect rescued near Greece after his refugee boat sunk'and 'Jihadissneaked into Europe as fake ***Syrian*** ***refugees***'.

Read more

Abdelhamid Abaaoud: What we know about the Paris attacks 'mastermind'

Spike in Islamophobic hate crime in UK following Paris terror attacks

Saint-Denis raid videos show dramatic police shoot-out with suspects

According to theGreek government, the passport wasused by someone who landed in the Greek islands in early October, before being used again to cross the southern border into Serbia.The French prosecutor's office saidthe fingerprints of the dead man matched a print of a person registered under the samename in Greece in October 2015.

But there were claims that the documentwas stolen or a fake, made in Turkey, andFrench investigators saidit may even have been 'planted' at the scene of the bombings at the Stade de France as part of a sophisticated propaganda plan by Isis to infiltrate and exploitthe refugee crisis.

Nevertheless, following its discovery Polandrescinded its offer to take in thousands of Syrians, previously agreed under a new EU refugee quota system, withminister for European affairsKonrad Szymanskisaying Poland "must retain full control over its borders, asylum and immigration".

Abdelhamid Abaaoud has been named by officials as the "presumed" mastermind of the attacks

Furthermore, since the attacks, more than 420,000 people have signed a petition calling on the UKto 'close its borders',despite pleasfor people not to blamerefugees for the attacks in Paris, and warnings from theUNthat refugees should not be used as 'scapegoats'.

To people blaming refugees for attacks in Paris tonight. Do you not realise these are the people the refugees are trying to run away from..?

- Dan Holloway (@RFCdan) November 13, 2015

So what is thetruth behind the identities of the known terror suspects?

The informationmay throwamorecautionary light on our reactions to refugees - for contrary to rumour, none of the named suspectsrecently arrived in Europe from Syria or elsewhere, and most had been born - or grew up-in France and Belgium.

The identities of the eight people directly involved can be broken down as follows:

Bilal Hadfi, 20 - French(living in Belgium)

Ismaël Omar Mostefaï, 29 - French

Samy Amimour, 28 - French

Ibrahim Abdeslam, 31 - French(living in Belgium)

Salah Abdeslam, 26 -French(living in Belgium)

Hamza Attou, 21 - Belgian

Mohamed Amri, 27 - Belgian (born inMorocco)

\*Eighth suspect (unidentified) carrying stolen passport in name of 'Ahmad al-Mohammad', 25 - from Idlib, Syria

The alleged mastermind isAbdelhamid Abaaoud, 27, from Belgium.

All of them are EU passport holders, and while some were born in Morocco, others were born and raised in France and Belgium before being radicalised.

Abdelhamid Abaaoud's father Omar said his son, who has been described as the 'mastermind' of the attacks,had turned his back on a "fantastic" life, and reportedly joined Isis in Syria in 2013.

The Telegraph also reported that as few as one in 100 wanted terrorists carrying European passports were being checked against theEU's anti-terrorism watchlist in some countries.

Just 10-20 per cent of EU citizenshave their passports checked against a database designed to catch foreign fighters returning from Syria and Iraq, the paper claimed.

This meansthat 'home-grownjihadists'are able to travel freely from Syria to Europe.

Salah Abdeslam, the 26-year-old who is wanted for his part in Friday's killings

Melissa Fleming, a UNHCR spokesperson, told apress briefingin Geneva on Tuesday that the organisation was "deeply disturbed by language that demonizes refugees as a group".

"This is dangerous as it will contribute to xenophobia and fear," she warned, adding: "The security problems Europe faces are highly complex.

"Refugees should not be turned into scapegoats and must not become the secondary victims of these most tragic events."

**Load-Date:** November 19, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Syria refugee summit: World leaders hail landmark aid package to help Syrians displaced by conflict; Close to $11bn (£7.5bn) in aid was pledged by donors at an international conference in London*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J12-1FM1-JCJY-G11R-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

February 4, 2016 Thursday 7:39 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HOME NEWS

**Length:** 693 words

**Byline:** Charlie Cooper

**Body**

World leaders have hailed a landmark package of aid and economic support for Middle Eastern countries overwhelmed by refugees fleeing the devastating conflict in Syria.

Close to $11bn (£7.5bn) in aid was pledged by donors at an international conference in London on 4 February, along with around $40bn (£27bn) in loans to support the creation of jobs and stimulate the economies of Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan, who between them have taken in more than three million refugees.

Read more

Video shows thousands of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** living in Jordanian desert

David Cameron, who hosted the conference along with the leaders of Kuwait, Norway Germany, and the United Nations, said the sum was "the largest amount of money ever raised in one day in response to a humanitarian crisis".

Up to $6bn has been pledged for 2016, and a further $5bn in pledged support up to 2020. The figure for 2016 is still well short of the target for $9bn set by the UN and the countries most affected by the refugee crisis. Aid organisations including Oxfam and Save the Children welcomed the new pledges but said humanitarian organisations would still be short of what was "urgently needed".

In previous years, international humanitarian efforts to protect people in Syria and refugees in neighbouring have been woefully underfunded. Mr Cameron said the new pledges would help address the shortfall, "bolster stability in the region" and also help to stem the flow of refugees to Europe.

He said that funding would see 1 million children currently not in school gaining access to education, while one million jobs could be created by economic stimulus packages. The bold promises came after former Prime Minister Gordon Brown said that only "an initiative as ambitious as the postwarMarshall plan" would be enough to address a crisis that has seen 12m people displaced.

The new measures also indicate growing recognition within the international community that the devastation of Syrian society, and the bleak prospects for peace and reconstruction, mean refugees require long-term opportunities for education and work in their host countries, as well short-term aid.

The leaders of Jordan, Turkey and Lebanon all warned of the extreme pressures that the refugee crisis had placed upon their economies and societies. Lebanese Prime Minister Tammam Salam praised the aid pledges but emphasised the importance of the international community delivering on its promises. He warned his country, which has a population of less than 6m but has taken more than 1m refugees, would no longer be able to contain "an eruption" of refugees from its borders "that could involve further migration to distant shores, destabilisation and...security threats."

Read more

Syrian refugee girl urges world leaders to educate 'lost generation'

Moment Syrian child rescued from bombed school rubble caught on video

Increase aid to Syria to stem flow of refugees, says David Cameron

3 charts that show whatever is pledged in London won't be enough

King Abdullah of Jordan, which has taken in more than 600,000 refugees, said the country had "reached its limit".

The conference was also overshadowed by the suspension of peace talks aimed at finding a political solution to Syria's civil war, and by a steep escalation in hostilities around the northern city of Aleppo.

The $11bn pledged includes a new £1.2bn package of support from the UK. German Chancellor Angela Merkel announced that Germany would contribute 2.3bn euros (£1.75bn) up to 2018, including 570m euros (£440m) for the World Food Programme - enough to provide half of its needs for Syria this year.

The USA pledged $925m (£635m) for 2016, while EU Council president Donald Tusk committed EU member states to a total of 3bn euros (£2.3bn) in 2016. He also set out plans for the EU investment bank to lend 12.5bn euros (£9.6bn) to Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon and Egypt over next five years, in a programme which he said could be increased up to 23bn euros (£17.7bn) to the whole of Middle East and North Africa.

**Load-Date:** February 4, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Paris attacks: Comedian Adam Hills hits back at those who criticised him for defending muslims; "It seemed to me that a good way of combatting this would be 1) be nice to non-ISIS related Muslims (ie the vast majority of Muslims) and 2) make ISIS look like idiots."*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HDD-DG91-JCJY-G4SV-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 18, 2015 Wednesday 8:41 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 657 words

**Byline:** Kashmira Gander

**Body**

Comedian Adam Hills has hit back at those who have criticised him for defending Muslim peoplefollowing the dealy terror attacks in Paris which killed 129 people, which werecarried out by extremists linked to Isis.

The Australian presenter of Channel 4's

The Last Leg

said in a Facebook post that while he was an "unfunny leftie wanker" he was "not traitor" to his country, and stood by his support for Muslims around the world.

Mr Hill was initially criticised for his response to a tweet by Australian MP Pauline Hanson in which she argued that "not every Muslim is a terrorist, but every terrorist is a Muslim".

Read more

Support slumps for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Britain after Paris attacks

President Francois Hollande welcomes 30,000 refugees in next two years

Anonymous 'Operation Isis' accused of wrongly naming innocent people

Terrorists in Paris targeted the young and diverse, not old and rich

Eight Paris terror attack suspects named so far all have EU passports

The comedian jokingly tweeted that: "Australia would send a better message to the world if we just hung Pauline Hanson from the Sydney Harbour Bridge."

The message sparked outrage as some Twitter users misunderstood the comedian, and thought he meant that Ms Hanson should be "hanged" - the correct word to describe the form of execution - instead of "hung" in a comical manner with a harness device.

"So here is what I do not think: I do not think Pauline Hanson, or anyone, should be executed, and hanged from any Australian icon, let alone the Sydney Harbour Bridge. I do not condone violence against women. I do not support the s\*\*\*heads that call themselves ISIS," wrote Mr Hill.

He went on to argue that Ms Hanson's statement was "divisive, ill-advised, and simply not true."

"If I plead guilty to anything yesterday, it is of making a clumsy joke," he said.

Yesterday I had a lovely game of golf. As I walked up the first fairway, I saw a Kookaburra to the left of me and four...

Posted by Adam Hills Official Page onSunday, 15 November 2015

The post on Mr Hills official Facebook page was shared more than 23,000 times, however a later post urging people to ridicule Isis garnered over 50,000 shares.

I've been called a lot of things in the past few days, many of them deserved. "Leftie wanker". "Islam apologist". "...

Posted by Adam Hills Official Page onWednesday, 18 November 2015

Recalling how politicians at an Australian High Commission drinks function in London had explained to him that Isis relies on non-Muslims turning against Muslims in order to push vulnerable young people into their hands, he said it was at that point he decided to publiclyridicule the group.

"It seemed to me that a good way of combatting this [Isis] would be 1) be nice to non-ISIS related Muslims (ie the vast majority of Muslims) and 2) make ISIS look like idiots," he wrote.

Mr Hills went on to defend why he has renamed Isis "Cystitis" on his

The Last Leg

programme and has chosen to defend Muslim people.

"We played Cystisis training videos with the Benny Hill music over the top. We celebrated the young girls who defrauded them out of thousands of dollars. We made our own ads for the caliphate, in which we clearly mocked them."

"In amongst all this, I did my best to remind our viewers that Cystisis are interpreting the Islamic faith in a highly extreme, and self-serving way, and that the vast, vast, vast majority of Muslims - around 99.997 per cent - disapprove of them."

"I did all this, not because I am a hippy dippy idealist who believes that fairy wings and puppy dog farts can change the world. I did this because I was advised by representatives of my government who are way smarter than I am, that it was the right thing to do.

"I might be an unfunny leftie wanker, but I'm no traitor."

**Load-Date:** November 18, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Paris attacks: The eight terror suspects named so far are not refugees and all have EU passports; Several of thesuspects lived in the Brussels neighbourhood ofMolenbeek*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HDC-7S41-F021-61XJ-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 18, 2015 Wednesday 12:27 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 714 words

**Byline:** Victoria Richards

**Body**

Claims thata surge in the number of refugees entering Europefrom Syria has allowed jihadists to sneak into France, Germany and Belgium unchecked and unnoticedhave propagated in the days since Friday's Paris terrorattacks, in which 129 people were killed and hundreds more werewounded.

A passport found near the remains of a suicide bomber at the Stade de Francepurporting to belong toaSyrian refugee namedAhmed Almuhamed, 25, gave rise to 'scare'headlines such as 'Paris attacks terrorist suspect rescued near Greece after his refugee boat sunk'and 'Jihadissneaked into Europe as fake ***Syrian*** ***refugees***'.

Read more

Abdelhamid Abaaoud: What we know about the Paris attacks 'mastermind'

Spike in Islamophobic hate crime in UK following Paris terror attacks

Saint-Denis raid videos show dramatic police shoot-out with suspects

According to theGreek government, the passport wasused by someone who landed in the Greek islands in early October, before being used again to cross the southern border into Serbia.

But there were claims that the documentwas stolen or a fake, made in Turkey, andFrench investigators saidit may even have been 'planted' at the scene of the bombings at the Stade de France as part of a sophisticated propaganda plan by Isis to infiltrate and exploitthe refugee crisis.

Nevertheless, following its discovery Polandrescinded its offer to take in thousands of Syrians, previously agreed under a new EU refugee quota system, withminister for European affairsKonrad Szymanskisaying Poland "must retain full control over its borders, asylum and immigration".

Abdelhamid Abaaoud has been named by officials as the "presumed" mastermind of the attacks

Furthermore, since the attacks, more than 420,000 people have signed a petition calling on the UKto 'close its borders',despite pleasfor people not to blamerefugees for the attacks in Paris, and warnings from theUNthat refugees should not be used as 'scapegoats'.

To people blaming refugees for attacks in Paris tonight. Do you not realise these are the people the refugees are trying to run away from..?

- Dan Holloway (@RFCdan) November 13, 2015

So what is thetruth behind the identities of the known terror suspects?

The informationmay throwamorecautionary light on our reactions to refugees - for contrary to rumour, none of the named suspectsrecently arrived in Europe from Syria or elsewhere, and most had been born - or grew up-in France and Belgium.

The identities of the eight people named so far can be broken down as follows:

Abdelhamid Abaaoud, 27 - Belgian

Bilal Hadfi, 20 - French(living in Belgium)

Ismaël Omar Mostefaï, 29 - French

Samy Amimour, 28 - French

Ibrahim Abdeslam, 31 - French(living in Belgium)

Salah Abdeslam, 26 -French(living in Belgium)

Hamza Attou, 21 - Belgian

Mohamed Amri, 27 - Belgian (born inMorocco)

\*Ninth suspect (unidentified) carrying stolen passport in name of 'Ahmad al-Mohammad', 25 - from Idlib, Syria

All of them are EU passport holders, and while some were born in Morocco, others were born and raised in France and Belgium before being radicalised.

Abdelhamid Abaaoud's father Omar said his son, who has been described as the 'mastermind' of the attacks,had turned his back on a "fantastic" life, and reportedly joined Isis in Syria in 2013.

The Telegraph also reported that as few as one in 100 wanted terrorists carrying European passports were being checked against theEU's anti-terrorism watchlist in some countries.

Just 10-20 per cent of EU citizenshave their passports checked against a database designed to catch foreign fighters returning from Syria and Iraq, the paper claimed.

This meansthat 'home-grownjihadists'are able to travel freely from Syria to Europe.

Salah Abdeslam, the 26-year-old who is wanted for his part in Friday's killings

Melissa Fleming, a UNHCR spokesperson, told apress briefingin Geneva on Tuesday that the organisation was "deeply disturbed by language that demonizes refugees as a group".

"This is dangerous as it will contribute to xenophobia and fear," she warned, adding: "The security problems Europe faces are highly complex.

"Refugees should not be turned into scapegoats and must not become the secondary victims of these most tragic events."

**Load-Date:** November 18, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Jeremy Corbyn defends waiting five days to visit floods: 'I didn't want to get in the way'; Labour leader met angry flood victims in York, telling them they have 'every right to be angry' at the Government's record on flood defence spending*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HRJ-GCP1-JCJY-G166-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

December 31, 2015 Thursday 4:33 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 647 words

**Byline:** Matt Dathan

**Body**

Jeremy Corbyn has defended his decision to wait five days to visit flood-hit areas of northern England, saying he "didn't want to get in the way" at a "critical time" for the emergency services.

The Labour leader was pursued by a large entourage of photographers and reporters as he met angry flood victims in York, who told him they felt "abandoned" by the Government, environmental authorities and local council.

He told a crowd of local residents hit by the floods that they had "every right to be angry" but praised Environment Agency staff for their "superhuman efforts" to protect homes and businesses from the floods.

Read more

George Osborne accused of increasing 'human misery' caused by floods

Instead he turned his ire on the Government, telling them to look again at the cuts it has imposed on the agency and called on David Cameron to increase spending on flood defences.

Ministers have faced criticism for failing to properly fund flood defences in cities that were hit by Storm Frank over the Christmas period and earlier in the day Oxford professor Simon Wren-Lewis accused the Prime Minister and the Chancellor of increasing the "damage and human misery" caused by the floods.

Figures released by the House of Commons library earlier this week showed that the Government had decreased spending on flood defences by 20 per cent since Mr Cameron came to power in 2010, while local authorities in York came under fire after it emerged that the River Foss flood barrier was left open.

Read more

Environment chief promised to 'turn up in Wellingtons' during a crisis

Bikers protect Yorkshire homes from looting amid floods

Environment Agency chief defends 'effective' response after holiday

Fears of new flooding could pose 'danger to life'

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** build flood defences near Manchester 'to give back'

Asked why he had only decided to visit on Thursday - five days after the city was first hit by the extreme weather, Mr Corbyn replied: "I didn't want to get in the way of people doing an emergency job at a highly critical time.

"I think to turn up in the midst of all that is distracting engineers."

He was also asked what role Labour would play in combatting future flooding events. He replied saying they will pressurise the Government to fully fund the Environment Agency rather than cutting its budget to ensure adequate funding for flood defences.

Mr Corbyn raised eyebrows for breaking yet another tradition when he arrived in York wearing a pair of brown leather loafers - ignoring the customary wellies usually chosen by politicians visiting flood-hit areas.

Jeremy Corbyn decided against the traditional footwear of wellies that are usually worn by politicians visiting flood-hit areas and instead wore his brown leather loafers

He was praised by locals for visiting a council estate, rather than the "posh" streets where they said Mr Cameron had opted for when he visited on Monday.

Lee Moran, a 44-year-old local man who had been made homeless by the floods, told Mr Corbyn: "You are the first person to come up here. Mr (David) Cameron has been, he went to all the posh estates, he didn't come to see the council estates."

The Labour leader was also told by flood victim Azia Carlyle that one of her friends wanted to marry him, to which he replied: "Marry me? I'm already spoken for, I'm really sorry about that."

17-year-old Azia Carlyle told Corbyn that one of her friends wanted to marry him

Mr Corbyn refused to criticise the Environment Agency chairman Sir Philip Dilley, who was in Barbados during the floods. The Labour leader defended his decision not to end his holiday early, saying it was the engineers on teh ground who were the ones dealing with the situation.

**Load-Date:** December 31, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: Two babies among nine refugees drowned after boat capsizes trying to reach Greek islands; It came after more than 360 refugees and asylum seekers died attempting sea crossings last month*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J0K-HSD1-JCJY-G436-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

February 2, 2016 Tuesday 3:49 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 674 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Two babies were among nine refugees who drowned trying to cross from Turkey to Greece after their boat capsized, Turkish authorities have said.

A spokesperson for the national coast guard said it has launched search and rescue missions for more possible victims following the disaster on Tuesday.

The small fibreglass boat was just 25 metres from the Turkish coastline near the town of Doganbey when it partially capsized.

They were believed to be attempting to reach the Greek island of Samos

Two refugees were rescued alive but nine, including two babies were found dead, and more are feared to be missing.

Around 11members of the group made it to the beach safely after swimming back to shore.

Read more

Cameron's refugee response 'morally unacceptable', say economists

Toddlers and children among dead in latest refugee boat disaster

'Hundreds' of masked men beat refugee children in Stockholm

Hand grenade thrown at refugee shelter in Germany in latest attack

Doganbey lies near a narrow channel separating the Turkish mainland from Samos, one of the many Greek islands in the Aegean Sea where hundreds of thousands of asylum seekers have arrived on smugglers' boats over the past year.

Disasters have become more frequent in rough conditions caused by the worsening winter weather and at least 37 drowned, including several toddlers and children, off the coastline north of Doganbey on Saturday.

The International Organisation for Migration (IOM) says more than 270 refugees died attempting to cross the Aegean Sea in January, including around 60 children.

At least 96 more asylum seekers drowned in the central Mediterranean in the same month, on another smuggling route from Libya to Italy.

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** struggle to enter Macedonia at the country's border with Greece

The toll is almost triple that from this time in 2015, when the refugee crisis saw more than a million asylum seekers arrive in Europe.

Around 67,000 migrants are believed to have arrived in Europe by sea so far this year - mostly Syrians, Afghans and Iraqis landing on Greek islands.

Last year saw 3,400 deaths, peaking in April when 1,100 people died in a week in successive sinkings off the coast of Libya.

Individual disasters in the Aegean Sea have previously had a lower death toll than those in the central Mediterranean because of the small inflatable boats used by smugglers - but there are fears numbers could rise if larger boats continue to be used in rough conditions and by inexperienced skippers navigating rocky shoals.

Dozens of people are packed on to the overcrowded dinghys, which frequently sink or capsize in tragedies like the one that killed Alan Kurdi, his mother, brother and other passengers in September.

Images of the three-year-old boy lying dead on the beach sparked international calls for Europe to prevent avoidable deaths at sea and give refugees a safe home, forcing David Cameron to increase the number of Syrians being taken in by the UK.

But less than five months on, the political mood towards asylum seekers has reversed as countries across Europe seek to restrict the number of arrivals and implement controversial proposals to make them "pay for their stay".

Hundreds of migrants blocked the main road leading to the Greek-Macedonian border today in protest against rules restricting the asylum seekers allowed to pass through to specific countries.

Taxi-drivers on the Macedonian side had blocked the railway line between the two countries, protesting over the priority given to trains and buses to take the migrants north to Serbia, while on the Greek side, farmers had parked dozens of tractors to demonstrate against planned pension reforms.

Thousands of migrants continue to attempt the treacherous sea journeys every day, fleeing war and persecution in Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Eritrea and across Africa and the Middle East.

Additional reporting by AP and Reuters

**Load-Date:** February 2, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Thanksgiving: A guide to getting through the awkward family dinner; You need to start with the common ground and build slowly from there*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HG3-5Y71-JCJY-G463-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 26, 2015 Thursday 2:24 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** LIFESTYLE

**Length:** 631 words

**Byline:** Alexander Petri

**Body**

Conventional wisdom states that there are only two ways to get through Thanksgiving: with your politeness intact, or with your integrity intact. (The third way is not to go to your family Thanksgiving at all.)

But there's another way.

Read more

How to survive your family's Thanksgiving dinner

I have found one foolproof strategy that will get you through Thanksgiving, Christmas, and beyond. (PLUG: I discuss this in my book, which you can buy right here if you are strapped for holiday gifts!) It is simple: any time you are faced with a conversation-dominating person whose political opinions you do not share, you find the one thing you agree with in what the person has just said to you, and you

keep repeating it until the interaction is over

.

Let me illustrate. Let us say that you have a Loud Uncle Dave. Dave has quietly enjoyed an entire bottle of red wine before coming to the dinner table, and now he is wearing his MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN hat rakishly tilted over one eye. You only see Dave at holidays, where he starts every sentence with, "You know what Rush [Limbaugh, but they are on a first-name basis somehow] says about this?"

Uncle Dave: "I like that Trump. He's not fake, like those other politicians. He's honest. He'll say what people are really thinking. He says things that those other candidates are too afraid to say! Trump'll say it. I like that."

You: "Trump really does say things that other candidates would be terrified to say. Or that many people would be terrified to say!"

Another technique is to use the same tone they were using but say something totally different and hope that they do not notice the substitution. This works better with Cousin Sue, who spends her vacation time tending to sheep on a commune.

Cousin Sue: "I think we should socialize America!"

You: "I love to socialize!"

Increasingly on Facebook, that haven for People Who Agree With You, I have seen friends suggesting that this is the year to really let Uncle Dave have it. You have sat there biting your lip over the mashed potatoes long enough. You thought Uncle Dave realized that you were just letting this slide because you loved him and your mouth was full of turkey. But if he actually believes what he is saying, you need to stop him before he goes out into the world.

But the Thanksgiving battle is difficult to wage. So many arguments that could be won on principle are lost on tone. Uncle Dave may not remember that you pointed out that all his statistics came from white supremacist MySpace pages. He will just remember that you gestured so wildly that you knocked a candle over and set the tablecloth on fire.

That's why you need to start with the common ground and build slowly from there.

Uncle Dave: "See where they're trying to ban guns? What's next, cars?"

Read more

Obama urges Americans to show generosity to ***Syrian*** ***refugees***

Thanksgiving is the latest US tradition to take root in the UK

Alternative Thanksgiving recipes, from turkey-free to vegan

You: "At a minimum they should have some kind of test that everyone takes and they should make you carry around a card proving you're fit to drive."

A last technique that used to be a favorite of mine was to just agree with the person so much that you force them to talk you back down, but that is much harder to do this primary season and I no longer advise it. All the ideas you thought were so far beyond the pale as to be obviously absurd ("let's waterboard, just for the fun of it!") are now Trump talking points.

Just remember: keep your cool. Being the Only Person At Thanksgiving Who Actually Is Right is the oldest Thanksgiving tradition there is. Pace yourself. It's a long way to dessert.

Washington Post

**Load-Date:** November 26, 2015

**End of Document**



[*What Americans thought about Jewish refugees on the eve of World War II; In July 1938 fewer than 5%of Americanssurveyed believed the United States should raise its immigration quotas*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HD6-B291-F021-6118-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 17, 2015 Tuesday 6:32 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 743 words

**Byline:** Ishaan Tharoor

**Body**

The results of the poll illustratedbelow bythe useful Twitter account@HistOpinionwere published inthe pages of Fortune magazinein July 1938. Fewer than 5percent of Americanssurveyedat the timebelieved that the United States should raise its immigration quotas or encourage political refugees fleeing fascist statesin Europe - the vast majority of whom were Jewish - tovoyage across the Atlantic. Two-thirds of the respondents agreed with the proposition that "we should try to keep them out."

US Jul '38: What's your attitude towards allowing German, Austrian & other political refugees to come into the US? pic.twitter.com/7hMfLbXWFE

- Historical Opinion (@HistOpinion) November 16, 2015

To be sure, the United States was emerging from the Great Depression, hardly a climate in which ordinary folks would welcome immigrants and economic competition. Theevents of Kristallnacht- a wave of anti-Jewish pogroms in areas controlled by the Nazis - had yet to take place. And the poll's use of the term "political refugees" could have conjured in the minds of the American public images ofcommunists, anarchists and other perceived ideological threats.

But look at the next chart, also tweeted by @HistOpinion. Two-thirds of Americans polled in January 1939 - well after the events of Kristallnacht - said they would not take in 10,000 German Jewish refugee children.

US Jan 20 '39: Should the US government permit 10,000 mostly Jewish refugee children to come in from Germany? pic.twitter.com/5cFs5RabQn

- Historical Opinion (@HistOpinion) November 17, 2015

AsWorldViews detailedearlier this year, most Western countries regarded the plight of Jewish refugees with skepticism or unveiled bigotry (and sympathy followedonly wider knowledge of the monstrous slaughters of the Holocaust):

Read more

How a Jewish woman gave birth in a WWII Nazi concentration camp

No matter the alarming rhetoric of [Adolf] Hitler's fascist state - and the growing acts of violence against Jews and others - popular sentiment in Western Europe and the United States was largely indifferent to the plight of German Jews.

"Of all the groups in the 20th century," write the authors of the 1999 book, "Refugees in the Age of Genocide," "refugees from Nazism are now widely and popularly perceived as 'genuine', but at the time German, Austrian and Czechoslovakian Jews were treated with ambivalence and outright hostility as well as sympathy."

Europe marks 70 years since end of World War II

It's worth remembering this mood when thinking aboutthe current moment, in which the United States is once more in the throes of a debate over letting in refugees. Ever sinceFriday's terror attacks in Paris, the Republicans, led by their presidential candidates, havesounded the alarmover the threat of jihadistinfiltration from Syria - even though it nowappearsthat every single identified assailant in the Paris siege was a European national.

A group of 7,000 Jewish people expelled from Germany by the German Nazi authorities and living in Zbaszyn on the Polish-German border, 3rd November 1938

The Republicans havesignaled their intentto stop Syrian refugee arrivals, or at leastaccept only non-Muslim Syrians.

Read more

Hitler secretly made the weapons of the future during the Second World War

China closes factories for victory parade

Nazi 'gold train': Treasure could be claimed by Russia as compensation

Hiroshima anniversary: How the map of the world changed during WW2

GOP presidential candidate Chris Christie of New Jersey was one of the many governors who on Monday said they would oppose settling ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in their states; Christieinsistedthathe would not permiteven "3-year-old orphans" entry.

Today's 3-year-old Syrian orphan, it seems, is 1939's German Jewish child.

Of course, there arehuge historical and contextual differencesbetween then and now. But, as Post columnist Dana Milbank notes, it's hard to ignore the echoes of the past when faced with the"xenophobic bidding war" of the present:

"This growing cry to turn away people fleeing for their lives brings to mind the SS St.Louis, the ship of Jewish refugees turned away from Florida in 1939," Milbank writes. "It's perhaps the ugliest moment in a primary fight that has been sullied by bigotry from the start. It's no exaggeration to call this un-American."

©

Washington Post

**Load-Date:** November 17, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: Europe reflects on year of refugees as number of arrivals reaches one million; As 2015draws to a close, there is little sign the continent is gettingnearer to resolving the year's defining issue*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HNT-CY41-F021-61MC-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

December 23, 2015 Wednesday 7:53 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 1086 words

**Byline:** Peter Popham

**Body**

More than one million people have arrived in Europe by irregular means this year, the International Organisation for Migration announced, in the biggest wave of mass migration in Europe since the aftermath of the Second World War.

Reporting a total of 1,005,504 arrivals by 21 December, the IOM said that the great majority - more than 800,000 - entered by sea into Greece.

It is the issue that has defined 2015 more than any other. And as the year draws to a close, there is little sign that Europe is getting nearer to resolving it in a decent manner. The moments of unanimity and accord have been rare.

The ***Syrian*** ***refugee crisis*** in numbers

Yet Europe cannot say it was not warned: the refugee crisis has been under way for decades. Every year, many hundreds have died trying to reach the European Union from the north coast of Africa. Europe turned to look, uttered words of concern, and went back to business.

Refugees on a dinghy arrive at the southeastern island of Kos, Greece, after crossing from Turkey

Then the Syrian civil war broke out and, as it grew more and more destructive, refugees fled in their millions to Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. Some reached the North African coast: Muammar Gaddafi, who had cynically turned the refugee tap on and off to suit his own purposes, was gone, and the pitiful boats tossed on the waves of the Strait of Sicily multiplied. But this was a problem for the bereaved, the Sicilian coast guard, the people of Lampedusa or the Italian government, because the Dublin Regulation stated that where an asylum-seeker first made landfall, there he or she must seek asylum.

It was not a problem for the rest of Europe - not one that demanded action. Then on 28 April something changed. On the island of Lesbos, Dimitrios Vatis and his staff were opening their seafront hotel for the season when they received their first visitors: not through the front door but on the beach.

Read more

How a London teenager was inspired to raise $100,000 for refugees

"This was a small boat, with just 15 people on board," said Mr Vatis's daughter, Aphrodite. "There were kids on the boat, they handed them over to us. They were all wet and cold, so we opened rooms in the hotel for them and made them comfortable.

"I went home and got some of my children's clothes, and we dried them and dressed them and soon they were running around. It's hard to see these children in your own clothes - it's a strange feeling."

Refugees swim to the shores of the island of Lesbos after their boat stalled in the Aegean sea

The Libyan coast is 180 miles of rough, open sea from Lampedusa. The crossing, in a leaky, overcrowded hulk, is mortally risky. Turkey, bycontrast, is only five miles from the north coast of Lesbos. From the island's tourist town of Molyvos, the Turkish shore is plainly visible. Boats with refugees have always come across, says Eric Kempson, an Englishman who has lived there for 16 years. "In the past there would be one or two boats a week," he says.

But suddenly the numbers exploded. By September, 3,000 people were arriving every day. The population of the "nation of the displaced" - the world's refugees - surged by many millions in 2014, and now, thanks to this quick and relatively easy passage, a fair fraction were heading our way. The IOM reports that Lesbos is now Europe's principal informal gateway.

Germany: Merkel defends stance on refugees, urges moral action from EU

Europe found itself woefully unprepared for what its leaders euphemistically called "the challenge of the migrant influx". The Dublin Regulation ensured that frontline states bore the brunt of arrivals. That bred complacency in the rest of the union. Europe's maritime borders were essentially undefended, the responsibility of an EU agency called Frontex, which had neither the budget nor capacity to fulfil its role: nothing impeded the people-smugglers. A continent without borders was part of EU holy writ. So Europe woke up to find tens, then hundreds of thousands spilling across the continent towards the affluent parts - Germany and Scandinavia - believed most likely to make them welcome.

Politically speaking, a refugee crisis is a dead loss. The only parties to benefit are jingoists who exploit it to whip up popular paranoia. Leaders who want to do the right thing are hamstrung by the fact that it can only leave them less popular than before. That may explain why Europe has been so apathetic.

Read more

Number of refugees reaching Europe passes 1 million for first time

But then on 2 September a three-year-old boy called Aylan Kurdi slipped from his father's arms as the rubber boat in which they were crossing from Turkey capsized. Later his lifeless body, face down in the sand, was photographed: the image went around the world, and that single picture transformed the way the crisis was understood. Suddenly the "barbarian armies" became what they actually were - a flock of desperate people who had lost their homes and now risked losing their lives.

The reaction was instantaneous. German Chancellor Angela Merkel declared the Dublin Regulation suspended, which meant that those landing in Lesbos could now legitimately dream of Berlin; she confirmed this by saying she expected Germany to take 800,000 refugees. And the rest of Europe echoed her compassion. "Refugees welcome" placards were everywhere. Even David Cameron, safely outside the Schengen zone, declared himself "deeply shocked" by Aylan's pitiful image and Britain agreed to admit 20,000, spread over five years. The crisis briefly became a feel-good story.

Read more

Refugee swam for 7 hours to start new life in Europe

Today, that period looks like a delusive blip. What happened next was that Europe discovered it was not one, but two: the eastern parts, including Hungary, Serbia and Croatia, remembered their centuries under the Ottoman boot, the escape from which defined their modern identities. As Ms Merkel was promising to redeem German's modern history by welcoming all comers, the continent's eastern marches were haunted by older ghosts, bolstering chauvinists such as Hungary's Prime Minister, Viktor Orban. Suddenly Europe's dreams of abolishing borders evaporated as fences and walls were rushed up.

Large though Europe's inflows are, they are dwarfed by the grand total of the displaced worldwide: 13.9 million in 2014, according to the United Nations High Commissioner For Refugees, the vast number accommodated - with little fuss - by countries far poorer than any in the EU. That's the measure of Europe's shame.

**Load-Date:** December 23, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Putin has come out smelling of roses in the eyes of Washington; Paris terror attacks France is flexing its muscles. Russia and the West are talking again. Iran is joining the anti-Isis coalition - much to Saudi Arabia's annoyance. Over the next four pages, 'Independent' writers explain the impact of Black Friday The new diplomatic order: how Paris has changed the world America*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HD9-KKG1-F072-401T-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

November 18, 2015 Wednesday

First Edition

Copyright 2015 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 14

**Length:** 592 words

**Byline:** RUPERT CORNWELL IN WASHINGTON

**Body**

Despite growing pressure from foreign policy hawks, President Obama is as reluctant as ever to send large numbers of ground troops to fight Islamic State in Syria.

But the Paris terrorist attacks may lead to stepped-up US air strikes, a boost in the number of special forces working with Kurdish and other anti-Isis fighters - and, however warily, stepped up co-operation with Russia.

Gone is the criticism voiced in Washington when Russia began its own air strikes in Syria on 30 September, seen then by the US as a cynical ploy by Moscow, aimed less at hitting Isis than opponents of the regime of the beleaguered President Assad, Russia's ally.

A thaw was also evident in the body language on display at the G-20 summit in Turkey, when Mr Obama chatted aimiably with President Vladimir Putin, so different from the same gathering in 2014, when the Russian leader was treated as a pariah because of the Ukraine crisis.

President Hollande of France has called on the US and Russia to join forces to defeat the "Islamic State", and events are propelling them in that direction: above all Moscow's acknowledgement that - as the US and Britain said early on - a bomb destroyed the Russian civilian jet over Sinai on 31 October.

As a result Moscow's sights are now set on Isis. In return the US seems ready to soften its previous insistence that Mr Assad step down to clear the way for a Syrian peace deal, bringing its position closer to that of Moscow.

But a massive injection of US "boots on the ground" in Syria is unlikely. Probably rightly, Mr Obama calculates that despite the danger of a possible repeat of the Paris attacks on American soil, US public opinion remains opposed to a new Iraq-scale mission - as are many of his Republican critics too, for all their complaints the President has been weak and half-hearted in his approach to the Middle East turmoil. But analysts point out there is a middle way: stepped up air strikes and the deployment of substantially more US special forces to augment the "less than 50" whose despatch to Kurdish-controlled areas in northern Syria, was announced by the White House on 30 October. Both these steps however would almost certainly require closer working with the Russians.

At least as contentious are the domestic repercussions of the events in Paris, with presidential primaries now less than three months off. The first to suffer may be the 10,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** that Mr Obama has promised to take in, as fears grow that this number could include Isis inflitrators.

"Slamming the door in their faces would be a betrayal of our values," he declared in Turkey. But some Republican candidates now demand no Muslims from Syria be granted asylum, while 27 of 50 governors, all but one of them Republicans, have vowed not to allow refugees from Syria to settle in their states (even though they probably don't have the power to enforce such an edict).

Paul Ryan, the new House Speaker, meanwhile has urged a "pause" in the Syrian programme, although, he was quick to add, "not for foreign policy reasons, but for reasons of security".

The carnage in Paris, and Isis latest threats of a repeat in Washington DC have also upended the debate over domestic surveillance by US spy agencies. After Edward Snowden's revelations, the pendulum had swung sharply in favour of privacy. Now it's moving in the other direction. Scorning the "handwringing" over government electronic eavesdropping, John Brennan, the CIA director, said on Monday such leaks had made it harder to track down the "murderous sociopaths" of Isis.

**Load-Date:** November 17, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Paris attacks: Comedian Adam Hills hits back at those who criticsed him for defending muslims; "It seemed to me that a good way of combatting this would be 1) be nice to non-ISIS related Muslims (ie the vast majority of Muslims) and 2) make ISIS look like idiots."*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HDD-91R1-JCJY-G49B-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 18, 2015 Wednesday 6:12 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 657 words

**Byline:** Kashmira Gander

**Body**

Comedian Adam Hills has hit back at those who have criticised him for defending Muslim peoplefollowing the dealy terror attacks in Paris which killed 129 people, which werecarried out by extremists linked to Isis.

The Australian presenter of Channel 4's

The Last Leg

said in a Facebook post that while he was an "unfunny leftie wanker" he was "not traitor" to his country, and stood by his support for Muslims around the world.

Mr Hill was initially criticised for his response to a tweet by Australian MP Pauline Hanson in which she argued that "not every Muslim is a terrorist, but every terrorist is a Muslim".

Read more

Support slumps for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Britain after Paris attacks

President Francois Hollande welcomes 30,000 refugees in next two years

Anonymous 'Operation Isis' accused of wrongly naming innocent people

Terrorists in Paris targeted the young and diverse, not old and rich

Eight Paris terror attack suspects named so far all have EU passports

The comedian jokingly tweeted that: "Australia would send a better message to the world if we just hung Pauline Hanson from the Sydney Harbour Bridge."

The message sparked outrage as some Twitter users misunderstood the comedian, and thought he meant that Ms Hanson should be "hanged" - the correct word to describe the form of execution - instead of "hung" in a comical manner with a harness device.

"So here is what I do not think: I do not think Pauline Hanson, or anyone, should be executed, and hanged from any Australian icon, let alone the Sydney Harbour Bridge. I do not condone violence against women. I do not support the s\*\*\*heads that call themselves ISIS," wrote Mr Hill.

He went on to argue that Ms Hanson's statement was "divisive, ill-advised, and simply not true."

"If I plead guilty to anything yesterday, it is of making a clumsy joke," he said.

Yesterday I had a lovely game of golf. As I walked up the first fairway, I saw a Kookaburra to the left of me and four...

Posted by Adam Hills Official Page onSunday, 15 November 2015

The post on Mr Hills official Facebook page was shared more than 23,000 times, however a later post urging people to ridicule Isis garnered over 50,000 shares.

I've been called a lot of things in the past few days, many of them deserved. "Leftie wanker". "Islam apologist". "...

Posted by Adam Hills Official Page onWednesday, 18 November 2015

Recalling how politicians at an Australian High Commission drinks function in London had explained to him that Isis relies on non-Muslims turning against Muslims in order to push vulnerable young people into their hands, he said it was at that point he decided to publiclyridicule the group.

"It seemed to me that a good way of combatting this [Isis] would be 1) be nice to non-ISIS related Muslims (ie the vast majority of Muslims) and 2) make ISIS look like idiots," he wrote.

Mr Hills went on to defend why he has renamed Isis "Cystitis" on his

The Last Leg

programme and has chosen to defend Muslim people.

"We played Cystisis training videos with the Benny Hill music over the top. We celebrated the young girls who defrauded them out of thousands of dollars. We made our own ads for the caliphate, in which we clearly mocked them."

"In amongst all this, I did my best to remind our viewers that Cystisis are interpreting the Islamic faith in a highly extreme, and self-serving way, and that the vast, vast, vast majority of Muslims - around 99.997 per cent - disapprove of them."

"I did all this, not because I am a hippy dippy idealist who believes that fairy wings and puppy dog farts can change the world. I did this because I was advised by representatives of my government who are way smarter than I am, that it was the right thing to do.

"I might be an unfunny leftie wanker, but I'm no traitor."

**Load-Date:** November 18, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Justin Trudeau: The rise of the feminist and pro-choice Canadian Prime Minister who wants to legalise marijuana 'right away'; Trudeau's Liberal party won the election on Monday*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H66-DVS1-JCJY-G10V-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

October 20, 2015 Tuesday 4:12 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 655 words

**Byline:** Heather Saul

**Body**

Justin Trudeau is about to become the Prime Minister of Canada after the Liberal party stormed to victory in the federal election on Monday.

The son of the late former prime minister Pierre Trudeau, he was born during his father's first term in office, prompting the "born to lead" headlines dominating the news agenda on Tuesday.

At 43, he is the second youngest prime minister to serve Canada and considerably younger than the leaders of opposing parties. He is the first son or daughter of a prime minister to follow their parent back into office.

His life before politics

After growing up in the public eye, Trudeau retreated from politics as a young adult and studied English and French literature at McGill University in Montreal. He went on to become a teacher in Vancouver and acted in the CBC mini-series

The Great War,

playing the protaganist,Talbot Mercer Papineau.

The death of his brother Michel in 1998 and the moving eulogy he gave at his father's funeral in 2000 brought him back into the spotlight. Trudeaubegan taking steps towards a political career after this andwas elected as an MP for Papineau in 2008. Hebecame the leader of the Liberal party in 2013.

His political trajectory was reportedly predicted by the US President Richard Nixon, who told a gala dinner in Ottawa in 1972: "Tonight we'll dispense with the formalities. I'd like to toast the future prime minister of Canada: to Justin Pierre Trudeau."

On being the son of a prime minister

"Dealing with being my father's son isn't something that I suddenly had to get my mind around as I showed up in this place as an MP [...]it's been something that's been with me all my life," he told

Reuters

in January. "It's what I put out there that actually matters."

Liberal leader Justin Trudeau shakes hands while watching a Montreal

Canadiens

hockey game at a bar in Montreal, Quebec,

Personal life

Trudeau is married to Sophie Grégoire, a former TV host, and has three young children. He repeatedly decided against running for leadership until 2012, often saying he wanted to focus on his wife and children. When he did eventually run, heput family at the centre of his campaign and regularly shared pictures of Ms Grégoire and their children in the weeks leading upto the election.

Ready. #elxn42pic.twitter.com/UahlMLArNH

- Justin Trudeau (@JustinTrudeau) October 20, 2015

Feminism

Unlike a number of actors, singers, politicians and high profile figures lately, Trudeau has not shied away from associating himself with the term 'feminist'.

I am a feminist. I'm proud to be a feminist. #upfordebate

- Justin Trudeau (@JustinTrudeau) September 21, 2015

"My mom raised me to be a feminist. My father raised me, he was a different generation but he raised me to respect and defend everyone's rights, and I deeply grounded my own identity in that, and I am proud to say that I am a feminist," he said during the

Up for Debate

event in September.

"The things we see online, whether it is issues like gamergate or video games misogyny in popular culture, it is something that we need to stand clearly against."

Marijuana

One of the first things Mr Trudeau has pledged to do is take steps "right away"towards legalising marijuana under a similar system to the one deployed in Colorado.

Refugees

Trudeau has promised to accept up to 25,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** - 15,000 more than the target put forward by the Conservatives.

Abortion

Trudeau is pro-choice and his party's stance on this issue saw him targeted in an anti-abortion group's flyer campaign, who said a vote for Trudeau was a "vote for this" above a picture of an aborted foetus.

He was unfazed by the flyers, telling reporters in May: "I am perfectly comfortable with Canadians knowing that the Liberal Party is unequivocal in its defence of women's rights. We are the party of the Charter. We are the party that stands up for people's rights. We will continue to do so."

**Load-Date:** October 20, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: At least eleven drown after boats capsize near Lesbos; Greek authorities rescue 242 people but further casualties feared after 'day of death'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H81-JF01-F021-63VD-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

October 28, 2015 Wednesday 11:01 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 689 words

**Byline:** Ian Johnston

**Body**

At least 11 people, including several children, have drowned after a large refugee boat capsized and several smaller boats were swamped, as the worsening weather made the sea crossing from Turkey to Greece more perilous than ever.

On what one volunteer described as a "day of death", there were fears that dozens more people may have lost their lives in the sinking of a wooden boat in rough waters near the island of Lesbos.

Read more

Last influx of refugees crosses Austrian border before route closes

It was unclear how many people had been on board, but the International Organisation for Migration said it had received reports that there could have been as many as 300. The Greek coastguard said it had rescued 242 people but confirmed that at least three had drowned.

"We do not have a picture of how many people may be missing yet," a coastguard spokeswoman said.

In another sinking off Lesbos, a seven-year-old boy drowned and a 12-month-old girl was in a critical condition in hospital. Two children and a man also died off the island of Samos, while 51 people on the same boat were rescued. In another incident off Samos, a five-year-old girl was drowned.

Read more

The two ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** who died trying to swim from Calais to UK

One map showing how Europe is becoming a fortress to keep refugees out

Drone video shows thousands of refugees walking towards Slovenia

Refugees could freeze to death as leaders warn EU risks falling apart

Warning EU faces 'total collapse' if refugee crisis is not solved

Lesbos mayor on coping with up to 7,000 new refugees each day

Germany to fast track deportations so it can accept more refugees

The

Associated Press

said the total death toll was at least 11 after five separate sinkings in the eastern Aegean Sea. Trace Myers, a volunteer in Lesbos with the charity Refugees Start, wrote on Facebook: "Today is a day of death. Members of this team have worked relentlessly to give CPR, support grieving people and have watched life pass from children's eyes.

"A woman lost her baby and her husband, another woman saw her three- or four-year-old child die and her other child rushed to hospital." She said there had been a massive queue of rescued people - "everyone soaked, freezing and traumatised. There are hundreds of people currently in the sea.

"Swimmers and the coastguard are out. These people need help, Greece needs help and we need volunteers now."

She said it was an "outrage" that nation states were not doing more to help the refugees, saying it was "beyond comprehension" that governments would allow such suffering.

What we don't need in the wake of this tragedy is another 'extraordinary' meeting that leads to a dead end

Gauri van Gulik, Amnesty International's deputy director for Europe

"They are responsible as long as safe routes of travel are denied," Ms Myers wrote. "We have to take responsibility to hold them to account."

Lesbos, which lies less than six miles from the Turkish coast in the north Aegean Sea, has been a primary gateway for thousands of refugees and migrants entering the European Union's outermost border this year.

Well over half a million refugees, fleeing war, violence and extreme poverty, have arrived in Greece so far this year in what has become the biggest humanitarian crisis on the continent in decades.

At a summit last Sunday, EU leaders agreed to co-operate further in handling the crisis and to provide United Nations-aided housing for 100,000 people, half of them in Greece.

Aid organisations said that barely addressed the problem of ensuring safe and legal routes for people to seek refuge.

"What we don't need in the wake of this tragedy is another 'extraordinary' meeting that leads to a dead end. What would be truly out of the ordinary - but completely necessary - is real and concerted action," said Gauri van Gulik, Amnesty International's deputy director for Europe.

**Load-Date:** October 28, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Paris attacks: The eight terror suspects named so far all have EU passports; Several of thesuspects lived in the Brussels neighbourhood ofMolenbeek*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HDC-7S41-F021-61XH-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 18, 2015 Wednesday 11:53 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 714 words

**Byline:** Victoria Richards

**Body**

Claims thata surge in the number of refugees entering Europefrom Syria has allowed jihadists to sneak into France, Germany and Belgium unchecked and unnoticedhave propagated in the days since Friday's Paris terrorattacks, in which 129 people were killed and hundreds more werewounded.

A passport found near the remains of a suicide bomber at the Stade de Francepurporting to belong toaSyrian refugee namedAhmed Almuhamed, 25, gave rise to 'scare'headlines such as 'Paris attacks terrorist suspect rescued near Greece after his refugee boat sunk'and 'Jihadissneaked into Europe as fake ***Syrian*** ***refugees***'.

Read more

Abdelhamid Abaaoud: What we know about the Paris attacks 'mastermind'

Spike in Islamophobic hate crime in UK following Paris terror attacks

Saint-Denis raid videos show dramatic police shoot-out with suspects

According to theGreek government, the passport wasused by someone who landed in the Greek islands in early October, before being used again to cross the southern border into Serbia.

But there were claims that the documentwas stolen or a fake, made in Turkey, andFrench investigators saidit may even have been 'planted' at the scene of the bombings at the Stade de France as part of a sophisticated propaganda plan by Isis to infiltrate and exploitthe refugee crisis.

Nevertheless, following its discovery Polandrescinded its offer to take in thousands of Syrians, previously agreed under a new EU refugee quota system, withminister for European affairsKonrad Szymanskisaying Poland "must retain full control over its borders, asylum and immigration".

Abdelhamid Abaaoud has been named by officials as the "presumed" mastermind of the attacks

Furthermore, since the attacks, more than 420,000 people have signed a petition calling on the UKto 'close its borders',despite pleasfor people not to blamerefugees for the attacks in Paris, and warnings from theUNthat refugees should not be used as 'scapegoats'.

To people blaming refugees for attacks in Paris tonight. Do you not realise these are the people the refugees are trying to run away from..?

- Dan Holloway (@RFCdan) November 13, 2015

So what is thetruth behind the identities of the known terror suspects?

The informationmay throwamorecautionary light on our reactions to refugees - for contrary to rumour, none of the named suspectsrecently arrived in Europe from Syria or elsewhere, and most had been born - or grew up-in France and Belgium.

The identities of the eight people named so far can be broken down as follows:

Abdelhamid Abaaoud, 27 - Belgian

Bilal Hadfi, 20 - French(living in Belgium)

Ismaël Omar Mostefaï, 29 - French

Samy Amimour, 28 - French

Ibrahim Abdeslam, 31 - French(living in Belgium)

Salah Abdeslam, 26 -French(living in Belgium)

Hamza Attou, 21 - Belgian

Mohamed Amri, 27 - Belgian (born inMorocco)

\*Ninth suspect (unidentified) carrying stolen passport in name of 'Ahmad al-Mohammad', 25 - from Idlib, Syria

All of them are EU passport holders, and while some were born in Morocco, others were born and raised in France and Belgium before being radicalised.

Abdelhamid Abaaoud's father Omar said his son, who has been described as the 'mastermind' of the attacks,had turned his back on a "fantastic" life, and reportedly joined Isis in Syria in 2013.

The Telegraph also reported that as few as one in 100 wanted terrorists carrying European passports were being checked against theEU's anti-terrorism watchlist in some countries.

Just 10-20 per cent of EU citizenshave their passports checked against a database designed to catch foreign fighters returning from Syria and Iraq, the paper claimed.

This meansthat 'home-grownjihadists'are able to travel freely from Syria to Europe.

Salah Abdeslam, the 26-year-old who is wanted for his part in Friday's killings

Melissa Fleming, a UNHCR spokesperson, told apress briefingin Geneva on Tuesday that the organisation was "deeply disturbed by language that demonizes refugees as a group".

"This is dangerous as it will contribute to xenophobia and fear," she warned, adding: "The security problems Europe faces are highly complex.

"Refugees should not be turned into scapegoats and must not become the secondary victims of these most tragic events."

**Load-Date:** November 18, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Obama set to come out firing in his final State of Union speech*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HV2-1131-F072-409P-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

January 12, 2016 Tuesday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 24

**Length:** 655 words

**Byline:** DAVID USBORNE IN NEW YORK

**Body**

The nation has its woes and when President Barack Obama steps before Congress tonight for his eighth and last State of the Union address, he will surely acknowledge them, from gun violence to rifts on immigration. But he will also say something else. As in: "Come on now, things aren't that bad."

What he will not do, the White House has signalled, is offer the usual wish list of actions Congress should take in the year ahead. With Republicans in control of both its houses, it would probably be an exercise in pointlessness. Mr Obama will instead attempt something more thematic, aides say, highlighting the progress he believes has been made under his watch, not least on jobs and the economy.

Battling the lame-duck stigma that any President faces in the twilight of their time in office, Mr Obama will view tonight's address with particular urgency. It will be the last time he gets a big stage on national television before the country turns its full attention to the campaign to replace him. It is about his legacy, which has sprung some leaks. And about helping whomever emerges as the 2016 Democrat nominee.

That means countering the narrative of the Republicans now vying to replace him, who are "seeming to run down America", Denis McDonough, his chief of staff, lamented on NBC at the weekend. "I don't really get it. What I see is an America that's surging. We feel very optimistic about the future. That's a big difference between us and what's going on in this public debate right now."

It will be partly personal. For weeks, those Republican voices, more shrill by the day, have been striving to cast Mr Obama as a venal and incompetent bumbler and America as a country in some kind of death spiral. A "feckless weakling", Chris Christie, the New Jersey Governor, recently called him.

But never mind the ad hominem attacks. It's the attack on his record that matters because if Hillary Clinton, as most still expect, is to emerge as his party's flagbearer, she will be running partly on what he has achieved. Donald Trump's catastrophe siren must be muffled. "The state of our union is a mess," Mr Trump said on Sunday, for example. "We can't beat Isis. Our military is falling back. It's not being properly taken care of. Our vets aren't being properly taken care of. Obamacare, as you know, is going to fail very soon and, probably in '17, our healthcare. We don't have borders. We don't have anything."

Democrats believe that, in rushing to the fringes, Republicans are putting themselves on the wrong side of history, common sense and decency. Mr Obama will surely refer to the divisive campaign language on immigration and - Mr Trump again - on the place of Muslims in society. He, and many of the Democrats who will listen, have invited Muslim Americans to attend as guests.

Among invitees of Michelle Obama will be Refaai Hamo, a Syrian scientist stricken with cancer who arrived at Detroit airport as a refugee in December with three daughters and a son. He fled Syria after his wife and another daughter were killed by a missile strike on their home. Mr Obama has pledged to take in 10,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** this year. Most of the Republican candidates have vowed to oppose it.

On Syria, Mr Obama will try again to clarify his strategy on defeating Isis, an area of genuine anxiety for many Americans, exacerbated by December's mass shooting in San Bernardino, which will also lead him to defend his recent executive action on gun control. More broadly, he will need to offer some reassurance on America's role in Syria and in containing growing turmoil in the Middle East. "The whole Middle East is in terrible shape" under Mr Obama, Senator Mitch McConnell, the Republican majority leader, told ABC News.

More poignant than any words Mr Obama may conjure on the plague of guns will be the one seat in the guest section that will remain empty tonight, to honour all those killed by bullets in America in the past year.

**Load-Date:** January 11, 2016

**End of Document**



[*'Heart-wrenching' scenes a reminder of 'duty to help'; Refugee crisis*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GV3-N481-F072-402Y-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

September 3, 2015 Thursday

First Edition

Copyright 2015 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 6

**Length:** 664 words

**Byline:** OLIVER WRIGHT, JAMIE MERRILL AND MATT DATHAN

**Body**

David Cameron faced public and political condemnation last night for refusing to open Britain's doors to thousands of desperate refugees fleeing war and persecution.

The leaders of every political party apart from Ukip urged the Prime Minister to reverse his hard-line stance and let the UK accept its "fair share" of refugees. Meanwhile, a grassroots campaign has sprung up to organise protests and petitions calling on ministers to accept Britain's obligation to tackle the largest exodus of people since the Second World War.

Mr Cameron is also facing diplomatic pressure to change his stance. Yesterday, the German ambassador to the UK, Peter Ammon, was authorised to make a rare public intervention calling for Britain to do more. "Britain has taken in refugees for centuries," said Mr Ammon. "With the humanitarian tradition that you have, we should be able to find a solution here."

Yvette Cooper led the calls from all the Labour leadership candidates for Mr Cameron to alter his position. "When mothers are desperately trying to stop their babies from drowning when their boat has capsized, when people are being left to suffocate in the backs of lorries by evil gangs of traffickers and when children's bodies are being washed to shore, Britain needs to act," she said. "It is heartbreaking. We cannot keep turning our backs on this."

The Liberal Democrat leader, Tim Farron, said: "Enough is enough. These pictures are beyond horrific. They are the wake-up call David Cameron needs. There is a humanitarian crisis on our doorstep, but the Government appears disengaged, cold and irrelevant. We must take our fair share of refugees."

The Scottish First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon, said: "I think most people want to see the UK play its part in a humanitarian response. Scotland will play a full part."

Her comments were backed by Leanne Wood, the leader of Plaid Cymru in Wales, and the Green Party MP Caroline Lucas, who said: "The heart-wrenching scenes we're seeing - of children being washed up dead on beaches, of people being detained en masse on trains, of thousands upon thousands risking their lives to come to Europe - serve as a reminder of our duty to help those in peril. Britain can and must do more - it's time for the Government to wake up to the cruelty of its stance and give many more refugees the chance to settle here."

They were responding to comments earlier in the day by Mr Cameron, who reiterated his position that the UK was already doing enough.

"I don't think there is an answer that can be achieved simply by taking more and more refugees," he said.

But his remarks led to a backlash on social media, with thousands of people signing petitions condemning the Government's stance. Avaaz, a global activist organisation, teamed up with the charity Citizens UK to call for a "safe haven for ***Syrian*** ***refugees***". So far, more than 1,300 people have pledged to volunteer to help integrate refugees into the British community, many offering accommodation in their own homes.

A petition calling for the Government to provide medical care to migrants in Calais was nearing its goal of 75,000 signatures last night, while demonstrations are planned in central London, Dover and Oxford at the weekend.

The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Vincent Nichols, said he had received numerous letters from the public telling him it was a "disgrace" that the UK was letting people die. He told ITV News that Britons would not stand for the fact that they were "seeing dead bodies on the beaches". He added: "It's no longer an abstract problem of people who are on the scrounge, it's not??? What is screaming out is the human tragedy of this problem."

The Independent launched its own petition last night calling for Britain to "accept its fair share of refugees". Politicians also posed with placards stating: "Refugees welcome."

Matthew Bolton, of Citizens UK, said: "The groundswell is there, but sadly we've not seen a commitment from Government to match it yet."

**Load-Date:** September 2, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Justin Trudeau: The rise of the feminist and pro-choice Canadian Prime Minister who wants to legalise marijuana 'right away'; Trudeau's Liberal party won the election on Monday*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H65-KSK1-JCJY-G23T-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

October 20, 2015 Tuesday 11:03 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 648 words

**Byline:** Heather Saul

**Body**

Justin Trudeau is about to become the Prime Minister of Canada after the Liberal party stormed to victory in the federal election on Monday.

The son of the late former prime minister Pierre Trudeau, he was born during his father's first term in office, propmting a number of outlets to quip thathe was born to lead Canada.

At 43, he is the second youngest prime minister to serve Canada and considerably younger than the leaders of opposing parties. He is the first son or daughter of a Prime Minister to follow their parent back into office.

His life before politics

After growing up in the public eye, Trudeau retreated from politics as a young adult and studied English and French literature at McGill University in Montreal. He went on to become a teacher in Vancouver and acted in the CBC mini-series

The Great War,

playing the protaganist,Talbot Mercer Papineau.

The death of his brother Michel in 1998 and the moving eulogy he gave at his father's funeral in 2000 brought him back into the spotlight. Trudeaubegan taking steps towards a political career after this andwas elected as an MP for Papineau in 2008. Hebecame the leader of the Liberal party in 2013. His political trajectory was reportedly predicted by the US President Richard Nixon, who told a gala dinner in Ottawa in 1972: "Tonight we'll dispense with the formalities. I'd like to toast the future prime minister of Canada: to Justin Pierre Trudeau."

On being the son of a Prime Minister

"Dealing with being my father's son isn't something that I suddenly had to get my mind around as I showed up in this place as an MP [...]it's been something that's been with me all my life," he told

Reuters

in January. "It's what I put out there that actually matters."

Liberal leader Justin Trudeau shakes hands while watching a Montreal Canadiens hockey game at a bar in Montreal, Quebec,

Personal life

Trudeau is married to Sophie Grégoire, a former TV host, and has three young children. He repeatedly decided against running for leadership until 2012, often saying he wanted to focus on his wife and children. He put family at the centre of his campaign and regularly shared pictures of Ms Grégoire and their children in the run-up to the election.

Ready. #elxn42pic.twitter.com/UahlMLArNH

- Justin Trudeau (@JustinTrudeau) October 20, 2015

Feminism

Unlike a number of actors, singers, politicians and high profile figures lately, Trudeau has not shied away from associating himself with the term 'feminist'.

I am a feminist. I'm proud to be a feminist. #upfordebate

- Justin Trudeau (@JustinTrudeau) September 21, 2015

"My mom raised me to be a feminist. My father raised me, he was a different generation but he raised me to respect and defend everyone's rights, and I deeply grounded my own identity in that, and I am proud to say that I am a feminist," he said during the

Up for Debate

event in September.

"The things we see online, whether it is issues like gamergate or video games misogyny in popular culture, it is something that we need to stand clearly against."

Marijuana

One of the first things Mr Trudeau has pledged to do is take steps "right away"towards legalising marijuana under a similar system to the one deployed in Colorado.

Refugees

Trudeau has promised to accept up to 25,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** - 15,000 more than the target put forward by the Conservatives.

Abortion

Trudeau is pro-choice and his party's stance on this issue saw him targeted in an anti-abortion group's flyer campaign, who said a vote for Trudeau was a "vote for this" above a picture of an aborted foetus.

He was unfazed by the flyers, telling reporters in May: "I am perfectly comfortable with Canadians knowing that the Liberal Party is unequivocal in its defence of women's rights. We are the party of the Charter. We are the party that stands up for people's rights. We will continue to do so."

**Load-Date:** October 20, 2015

**End of Document**



[*700 child refugees a day now claiming asylum; EXCLUSIVE 'We will look back with shame if we allow more to die needlessly'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H94-1Y71-JCS0-D3KH-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

November 3, 2015 Tuesday

First Edition

Copyright 2015 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 4

**Length:** 659 words

**Byline:** JAMIE MERRILL

**Body**

Up to 700 children a day are now claiming asylum on European soil, as new figures reveal that twice as many child refugees are arriving this year compared with 2014.

Unicef is calling on the UK to act over the crisis as pressure mounts on David Cameron to do more to help the most vulnerable refugees before the arrival of winter.There are calls to prioritise protecting children from violence in advance of the first world humanitarian summit next year.

In a new report, seen exclusively by The Independent, Unicef UK reveals that between January and September this year, more than 190,000 children sought asylum in Britain, compared to 98,000 in the same period last year. The charity says conflict across the Middle East is forcing families to make the increasingly perilous journey to Greece and across Europe.

One in 10 of the world's children are now growing up in a conflict zone - some 230 million children, while in Syria one in five children are forced to cross a conflict line to take exams or get to school, according to the report.

In Yemen, 573 children have been killed since fighting escalated in March, while child labour has been recorded among ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. There have also been widespread reports of sexual violence against girls.

The charity, which said it helped protect more than three million children last year, placing 33,000 unaccompanied children in places of safety, is asking people to call on the Prime Minister to protect children from violence.

"Children have been killed while studying in the classroom, recovering in hospital or sleeping in their beds. Many have been orphaned, forced to become soldiers, kidnapped, raped and traumatised," said Unicef's UK deputy executive director Lily Caprani.

"Protecting children from violence is life-saving, just as much as water, shelter and medicine, yet it isn't prioritised in the same way. This has to change."

Yvette Cooper, the chair of Labour's refugee taskforce, who recently visited the Greek island of Lesbos to witness the 7,000 refugees who arrive on the island on a daily basis, said: "Children are suffering most in this refugee crisis - and it is getting worse not better... too many of them are enduring things that no child should ever have to go through.

"For Britain to take just 4,000 refugees this year is not enough... We will look back with shame if we allow more children to die needlessly because of our inaction."

The Unicef figures have also prompted renewed concern over the safety of unaccompanied children arriving in Europe, after a refugee boy was allegedly kidnapped from a refugee centre, abused and killed. Germany's federal commissioner for child sexual abuse warned that there was a risk of sex offenders gaining access to refugee camps.

Johannes-Wilhelm Roerig said there was a "scandalous" lack of control at asylum centres as overburdened authorities struggle to cope with thousands of refugees arriving in Europe daily.

According to Save the Children, more than 13,000 unaccompanied children arrived in Italy alone last year, which at the time was the major route into Europe.

The charity said that it expects that figure to double this year as more unaccompanied children arrive through Greece and the Balkans.

Gemma Parkin, a spokeswoman for Save the Children, said: "Action is not going in the right direction. Unaccompanied children remain the most vulnerable, at risk of the gravest form of exploitation and trafficking.

"Save the Children is calling for the UK government to offer to relocate up to 3,000 unaccompanied children, in order to do our fair share."

There are also concerns among aid workers in the Balkans that winter weather and prolonged periods outside will lead to fatalities among young children travelling across Europe, not just on the shores of Greek islands.

Gorana Dojcinovic, a Unicef co-ordinator in Croatia, said that the charity was already concerned at the number of cases of nappy rash and diarrhoea among young children.

**Load-Date:** November 2, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Justin Trudeau: The rise of the feminist and pro-choice Canadian Prime Minister who wants to legalise marijuana 'right away'; Trudeau's Liberal party won the election on Monday*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H65-KSK1-JCJY-G23V-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

October 20, 2015 Tuesday 11:14 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 648 words

**Byline:** Heather Saul

**Body**

Justin Trudeau is about to become the Prime Minister of Canada after the Liberal party stormed to victory in the federal election on Monday.

The son of the late former prime minister Pierre Trudeau, he was born during his father's first term in office, propmting a number of outlets to quip thathe was born to lead Canada.

At 43, he is the second youngest prime minister to serve Canada and considerably younger than the leaders of opposing parties. He is the first son or daughter of a Prime Minister to follow their parent back into office.

His life before politics

After growing up in the public eye, Trudeau retreated from politics as a young adult and studied English and French literature at McGill University in Montreal. He went on to become a teacher in Vancouver and acted in the CBC mini-series

The Great War,

playing the protaganist,Talbot Mercer Papineau.

The death of his brother Michel in 1998 and the moving eulogy he gave at his father's funeral in 2000 brought him back into the spotlight. Trudeaubegan taking steps towards a political career after this andwas elected as an MP for Papineau in 2008. Hebecame the leader of the Liberal party in 2013. His political trajectory was reportedly predicted by the US President Richard Nixon, who told a gala dinner in Ottawa in 1972: "Tonight we'll dispense with the formalities. I'd like to toast the future prime minister of Canada: to Justin Pierre Trudeau."

On being the son of a Prime Minister

"Dealing with being my father's son isn't something that I suddenly had to get my mind around as I showed up in this place as an MP [...]it's been something that's been with me all my life," he told

Reuters

in January. "It's what I put out there that actually matters."

Liberal leader Justin Trudeau shakes hands while watching a Montreal Canadiens hockey game at a bar in Montreal, Quebec,

Personal life

Trudeau is married to Sophie Grégoire, a former TV host, and has three young children. He repeatedly decided against running for leadership until 2012, often saying he wanted to focus on his wife and children. He put family at the centre of his campaign and regularly shared pictures of Ms Grégoire and their children in the run-up to the election.

Ready. #elxn42pic.twitter.com/UahlMLArNH

- Justin Trudeau (@JustinTrudeau) October 20, 2015

Feminism

Unlike a number of actors, singers, politicians and high profile figures lately, Trudeau has not shied away from associating himself with the term 'feminist'.

I am a feminist. I'm proud to be a feminist. #upfordebate

- Justin Trudeau (@JustinTrudeau) September 21, 2015

"My mom raised me to be a feminist. My father raised me, he was a different generation but he raised me to respect and defend everyone's rights, and I deeply grounded my own identity in that, and I am proud to say that I am a feminist," he said during the

Up for Debate

event in September.

"The things we see online, whether it is issues like gamergate or video games misogyny in popular culture, it is something that we need to stand clearly against."

Marijuana

One of the first things Mr Trudeau has pledged to do is take steps "right away"towards legalising marijuana under a similar system to the one deployed in Colorado.

Refugees

Trudeau has promised to accept up to 25,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** - 15,000 more than the target put forward by the Conservatives.

Abortion

Trudeau is pro-choice and his party's stance on this issue saw him targeted in an anti-abortion group's flyer campaign, who said a vote for Trudeau was a "vote for this" above a picture of an aborted foetus.

He was unfazed by the flyers, telling reporters in May: "I am perfectly comfortable with Canadians knowing that the Liberal Party is unequivocal in its defence of women's rights. We are the party of the Charter. We are the party that stands up for people's rights. We will continue to do so."

**Load-Date:** October 20, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: At least eleven drown after boats capsize near Lesbos; Greek authorities rescue 242 people but further casualties feared after 'day of death'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H81-JF01-F021-63VF-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

October 28, 2015 Wednesday 11:12 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 708 words

**Byline:** Ian Johnston

**Body**

At least 11 people, including several children, have drowned after a large refugee boat capsized and several smaller boats were swamped, as the worsening weather made the sea crossing from Turkey to Greece more perilous than ever.

On what one volunteer described as a "day of death", there were fears that dozens more people may have lost their lives in the sinking of a wooden boat in rough waters near the island of Lesbos.

Read more

Last influx of refugees crosses Austrian border before route closes

It was unclear how many people had been on board, but the International Organisation for Migration said it had received reports that there could have been as many as 300. The Greek coastguard said it had rescued 242 people but confirmed that at least three had drowned.

"We do not have a picture of how many people may be missing yet," a coastguard spokeswoman said.

In another sinking off Lesbos, a seven-year-old boy drowned and a 12-month-old girl was in a critical condition in hospital. Two children and a man also died off the island of Samos, while 51 people on the same boat were rescued. In another incident off Samos, a five-year-old girl was drowned.

Read more

The two ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** who died trying to swim from Calais to UK

One map showing how Europe is becoming a fortress to keep refugees out

Drone video shows thousands of refugees walking towards Slovenia

Refugees could freeze to death as leaders warn EU risks falling apart

Warning EU faces 'total collapse' if refugee crisis is not solved

Lesbos mayor on coping with up to 7,000 new refugees each day

Germany to fast track deportations so it can accept more refugees

The

Associated Press

said the total death toll was at least 11 after five separate sinkings in the eastern Aegean Sea. Trace Myers, a volunteer in Lesbos with the charity Refugees Start, wrote on Facebook: "Today is a day of death. Members of this team have worked relentlessly to give CPR, support grieving people and have watched life pass from children's eyes.

"A woman lost her baby and her husband, another woman saw her three- or four-year-old child die and her other child rushed to hospital."

Ms Myers, who is also working with Starfish, a group set up by a Lesbos restaurant owner to help refugees, said there had been a massive queue of rescued people - "everyone soaked, freezing and traumatised".

And she added: "There are hundreds of people currently in the sea. Swimmers and the coastguard are out. These people need help, Greece needs help and we need volunteers now."

She said it was an "outrage" that nation states were not doing more to help the refugees, saying it was "beyond comprehension" that governments would allow such suffering.

"They are responsible as long as safe routes of travel are denied," Ms Myers wrote. "We have to take responsibility to hold them to account."

What we don't need in the wake of this tragedy is another 'extraordinary' meeting that leads to a dead end

Gauri van Gulik, Amnesty International's deputy director for Europe

Lesbos, which lies less than six miles from the Turkish coast in the north Aegean Sea, has been a primary gateway for thousands of refugees and migrants entering the European Union's outermost border this year.

Well over half a million refugees, fleeing war, violence and extreme poverty, have arrived in Greece so far this year in what has become the biggest humanitarian crisis on the continent in decades.

At a summit last Sunday, EU leaders agreed to co-operate further in handling the crisis and to provide United Nations-aided housing for 100,000 people, half of them in Greece.

Aid organisations said that barely addressed the problem of ensuring safe and legal routes for people to seek refuge.

"What we don't need in the wake of this tragedy is another 'extraordinary' meeting that leads to a dead end. What would be truly out of the ordinary - but completely necessary - is real and concerted action," said Gauri van Gulik, Amnesty International's deputy director for Europe.

**Load-Date:** October 28, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: Greece finds a legacy for its Olympics by housing refugees in empty stadiums; World View:Residents on Lesbos say the first Syriza government, which took power in January, did nothing about the refugees flooding through*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H2C-KYS1-JCJY-G0TH-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

October 2, 2015 Friday 7:10 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 653 words

**Byline:** PETER POPHAM

**Body**

They have been squatting in Victoria Square, in the heart of Athens, for months: a fraction of the tens of thousands of refugees flooding into Greece from Turkey, hoping to move on to Austria and Germany but blocked here.

But now the Greek government's immigration minister has hit on a solution that, with hindsight, looks obvious. He has opened up one of the many stadiums on which Greece lavished vast sums for the 2004 Olympics and which - with the exception of the striking football stadium, refashioned for the Games by Sergio Calatrava - have been quietly rusting away unused ever since.

Read more

Greek islanders help hundreds of refugees a day on their own

They have been glaring symbols of the reckless extravagance of those pre-bust years, but also of the inertia and rigidity of successive governments in failing to put them to any profitable purpose.

In recent days, some 400 to 500 refugees were ferried by bus to the Galatis indoor Olympic hall in the city, used for table tennis and gymnastics in 2004, while hundreds more were transferred to the former Olympic hockey stadium.

Yiannis Mouzalas, junior interior minister in charge of immigration in the new Syriza-led coalition government, told reporters in Victoria Square, "I ask residents to be patient... Victoria Square will be cleared. We are trying to reduce the pressure on the population so that it will maintain the stance of solidarity it has shown until now. We do not want them to become susceptible to far-right, racist and xenophobic views..."

An Afghan refugee holds some blankets as refugees wait to be transferred from Victoria Square to one the stadiums in Athens

Residents on the island of Lesbos told me during a recent visit that the first Syriza government, which took power in January, had done nothing about the refugees flooding through. But when Alexis Tsipras's government resigned in August, the immigration minister of the caretaker administration that replaced it - the same Mr Mouzalas - had visited the island and taken some crucial steps. They were relieved to learn that Mr Tsipras has decided to keep this effective minister in place after returning to power last month. This week Mr Mouzalas again showed his worth.

Read more

Britain still needs to do more to help ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, says Corbyn

Why the world's refugees should be given international passports

Katie Hopkins calls for boats carrying refugees to be sent back

Given the scale of the influx, other venues may also be opened up and dusted down for the new arrivals. One contender is the Olympic village, 12 miles north-west of the city, a large grid of neat cement homes, designed to house 10,000. It's another symbol of how thoroughly Greece's brave new aspirations curdled after the crash. Once the games were over, thousands of Greeks entered a lottery to win the right to buy a home in the village at a bargain price. Some of those who won the lottery are still there. But the utopian hopes for the place quickly crumbled as businesses left due to lack of demand, and planned schools and nurseries were never completed.

At the village's only café, a rudimentary place, old geezers kill time gossiping. My arrival enlivened their morning a little. They explained how they were expected to pay back their mortgages in the normal way, but after the crash, a few of them stopped paying, and when the banks took no action the rest also stopped. Now they are squatting in their own homes. Most of them had planned to vote for Syriza, in the belief that, even though Mr Tsipras had signed up to the harsh bailout terms imposed by Brussels, he didn't mean to follow through.

That may or may not turn out to be the case. But in the meantime, if Mr Mouzalas casts his eye in their direction, they may find their village enlivened in ways they did not expect.

**Load-Date:** October 2, 2015

**End of Document**



[*We must destroy Isis but not play into their hands - the wrong response would create countless new recruits; Hollande says our response to Isis must be "merciless" - and I agree - but it must also be strategic so we don't fall into their trap*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HCH-C2D1-F021-60RW-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 14, 2015 Saturday 12:52 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** COMMENT

**Length:** 623 words

**Byline:** Sunny Hundal

**Body**

The worst response to a tragic and horrific attack like that on Paris last night would be one that strengthens Isis. When President FrancoisHollande said we are at war with Isis today, he was right. But it is a war we can only win if we don't get provoked into the response they want from us. The response they expect.

Parisians are sadly becoming all too used to this kind of violence. It was only in January this year when the attack on Charlie Hebdo left most of its staff dead or maimed. And now this, an attack so ferocious and brutal that Paris may take years to recover. Seven years ago, to this very month, gunmen also ran amok in Mumbai and unleashed terror that was to last four days and claim 164 lives. This is global war, and and it could be very well be a generational war.

Read more

Man posts live updates from inside Bataclan venue during siege

Comment: The beginning of our fight back - or descent into hell?

Francois Hollande vows merciless response to Isis 'barbarity'

As I watched the horror unfold on TV last night, I was asked: "why are they doing this?" - which seems like a naive question but is actually an excellent place to start from. If Isis were indeed behind this (they have now claimed responsibility) - why would they do this?

Isis are doing this to provoke us. They want us to attack them on their soil: in Iraq and Syria. They want to see western troops back in those lands because the chaos and backlash that would create would play directly into their hands. It would create countless new recruits for them.

Isis are also doing this to create division and exploit tension in our modern multi-racial societies. They want western Muslims to feel unwanted in their homes in Europe, and to instead join them in Syria. They want western Muslims to feel that they can only truly be at home at the Isis Caliphate.

And Isis want to see western countries become closed, authoritarian societies where we live in fear of them and their capabilities. They hate what we stand for and they want to provoke us into changing that.

Isis are doing this to provoke us. They want us to attack them on their soil: in Iraq and Syria

The temptation to react to Isis in the way they want will be strong in the aftermath of Paris. Francois Hollande says our response to Isis must be "merciless" - and I agree - but it must also be strategic so we don't fall into their trap.

We must stand for our values: liberalism, secularism, openness, free speech and equality: those are the values we swear by and those are the values we must now strain every sinew to live by.

When Chancellor Angela Merkel said Germany would offer shelter to ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** earlier this year, Isis released a dozen videos in panic, encouraging Syrians to come back. But the damage was done. Syrians saw that Europe was more willing to offer them refuge and dignity than many Muslim states. That they were not heading to the Isis Caliphate was a slap in the face.

The attacks in Beirut and Paris is their response. They want us to brush away humanity and compassion with suspicion and division. By following that script we do exactly what Isis want us to do. The destruction of the Isis Caliphate must happen, but it must come from a Muslim-led force. After all, ordinary Muslims have been its biggest victims.

That isn't to say we must do nothing. We have to challenge Islamism and its sympathisers in the west, and we have to stand for our values. There's also no doubt we must win the war against Isis. But we cannot win it if we're provoked into the response they want. We cannot win with a response that strengthens them rather than weakens them.

**Load-Date:** November 14, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Hundreds of migrants stranded in Budapest after police stop trains departing for Germany; All westbound departures from Keleti station were stopped earlier today*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GTR-5D51-JCJY-G0TC-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 1, 2015 Tuesday 2:07 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 726 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Hundreds of migrants are stranded in Budapest after Hungarian police stopped trains leaving for Austria and Germany in a bid to stop them travelling onwards.

Authorities reportedly halted westbound departures from Keleti station for more than an hour this morning, with an announcement over its loudspeakers saying that the measure would be in effect for an undetermined period of time.

Hundreds of migrants and asylum seekers were ordered to leave the building, including many who had spent hundreds of euros on tickets.

Chanting "Germany Germany" at budapest Keleti train station pic.twitter.com/Okm5XqUkA2- gultuysuz (@gultuysuz) September 1, 2015

Photos showed men and women, some with young children, waving their tickets in the air outside the station as they chanted "Germany, Germany".

Although the station was later reopened, migrants were not permitted to enter according to national news agency MTI.

Read more: Icelanders offer to house Syrian refugeesArrests in Hungary after 71 migrants found dead in lorryThe walls Europe is building to keep people out

The stoppage came after scuffles broke out between passengers pushing towards platform gates where a train was scheduled to leave for Vienna and Munich, and the police blocking them.

Hungary, which has drawn international criticism for the 100 mile-long barbed wire fence it is erecting along its border with Serbia, is the main gateway to the EU for asylum seekers from countries including Syria and Afghanistan crossing by land through the Balkans.

William Lacy Swing, director general of the International Organisation for Migration, said in an interview with The Associated Press that countries blocking migrants from boarding trains drive them to dangerous options.

"If you - as they have just done in Hungary - if you deny them, although they have a paid ticket and you don't let them to get on board, you push them right into the hands of smugglers," he said.

"So they get into vans and into trucks, and they die." In pictures: Hundreds of migrants stranded in Budapest

Zoltan Kovacs, a spokesperson for the Hungarian government, said it was trying to enforce EU laws requiring anyone who wishes to travel within Europe to hold a valid passport and a Schengen visa.

"If we do not succeed in restoring order and legality here, illegal migration - including that of refugees, who are truly in need of protection - will become completely unmanageable," he added.

Marah, a 20-year-old woman from Aleppo, Syria, said her family had bought six tickets for a RailJet train that was scheduled to leave for Vienna at 9am today.

"They should find a solution," she told Reuters. "We are thousands here, where should we go?"

The decision to bar the migrants from westbound trains was a U-turn from the previous day, when Hungary and Austria let thousands of undocumented people leave for Germany in a violation of EU rules that requires migrants to stay in their country of arrival until they are granted asylum.

Around 3,650 migrants arrived from Hungary at Vienna's Westbahnhof station on Monday, the city's police said, adding that most continued to neighbouring Germany.

Austrian security forces stopped two trains near the Hungarian border on the same day, with police checking their immigration papers and returning anyone who had not been processed to Budapest, AFP reported.

Hungary's government has previously claimed Germany's "more flexible attitude" towards ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** is encouraging immigration but Angela Merkel said her country's policies were not to blame.

The Chancellor said today that Syrians do have a high chance of being granted asylum but "that should be no surprise...and should actually be similar in every European country."

She said current rules were not being adhered to and a new common European asylum policy must be introduced to bring a "fair distribution" of refugees across EU states.

Under current regulations, known as the Dublin provision, asylum seekers must remain in the first European country they enter until their application is processed and face deportation from other member states if they are found to violate entry requirements.

The EU's Schengen agreement normally allows unrestricted travel between member states but countries can reintroduce border controls under exceptional circumstances.

Additional reporting by agencies

**Load-Date:** September 1, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: Europe reflects on the year of refugees as number of arrivals reaches one million; As 2015draws to a close, there is little sign the continent is gettingnearer to resolving the year's defining issue*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HNN-TRP1-JCJY-G4XT-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

December 22, 2015 Tuesday 9:40 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 1086 words

**Byline:** Peter Popham

**Body**

More than one million people have arrived in Europe by irregular means this year, the International Organisation for Migration announced, in the biggest wave of mass migration in Europe since the aftermath of the Second World War.

Reporting a total of 1,005,504 arrivals by 21 December, the IOM said that the great majority - more than 800,000 - entered by sea into Greece.

It is the issue that has defined 2015 more than any other. And as the year draws to a close, there is little sign that Europe is getting nearer to resolving it in a decent manner. The moments of unanimity and accord have been rare.

The ***Syrian*** ***refugee crisis*** in numbers

Yet Europe cannot say it was not warned: the refugee crisis has been under way for decades. Every year, many hundreds have died trying to reach the European Union from the north coast of Africa. Europe turned to look, uttered words of concern, and went back to business.

Refugees on a dinghy arrive at the southeastern island of Kos, Greece, after crossing from Turkey

Then the Syrian civil war broke out and, as it grew more and more destructive, refugees fled in their millions to Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. Some reached the North African coast: Muammar Gaddafi, who had cynically turned the refugee tap on and off to suit his own purposes, was gone, and the pitiful boats tossed on the waves of the Strait of Sicily multiplied. But this was a problem for the bereaved, the Sicilian coast guard, the people of Lampedusa or the Italian government, because the Dublin Regulation stated that where an asylum-seeker first made landfall, there he or she must seek asylum.

It was not a problem for the rest of Europe - not one that demanded action. Then on 28 April something changed. On the island of Lesbos, Dimitrios Vatis and his staff were opening their seafront hotel for the season when they received their first visitors: not through the front door but on the beach.

Read more

How a London teenager was inspired to raise $100,000 for refugees

"This was a small boat, with just 15 people on board," said Mr Vatis's daughter, Aphrodite. "There were kids on the boat, they handed them over to us. They were all wet and cold, so we opened rooms in the hotel for them and made them comfortable.

"I went home and got some of my children's clothes, and we dried them and dressed them and soon they were running around. It's hard to see these children in your own clothes - it's a strange feeling."

Refugees swim to the shores of the island of Lesbos after their boat stalled in the Aegean sea

The Libyan coast is 180 miles of rough, open sea from Lampedusa. The crossing, in a leaky, overcrowded hulk, is mortally risky. Turkey, bycontrast, is only five miles from the north coast of Lesbos. From the island's tourist town of Molyvos, the Turkish shore is plainly visible. Boats with refugees have always come across, says Eric Kempson, an Englishman who has lived there for 16 years. "In the past there would be one or two boats a week," he says.

But suddenly the numbers exploded. By September, 3,000 people were arriving every day. The population of the "nation of the displaced" - the world's refugees - surged by many millions in 2014, and now, thanks to this quick and relatively easy passage, a fair fraction were heading our way. The IOM reports that Lesbos is now Europe's principal informal gateway.

Germany: Merkel defends stance on refugees, urges moral action from EU

Europe found itself woefully unprepared for what its leaders euphemistically called "the challenge of the migrant influx". The Dublin Regulation ensured that frontline states bore the brunt of arrivals. That bred complacency in the rest of the union. Europe's maritime borders were essentially undefended, the responsibility of an EU agency called Frontex, which had neither the budget nor capacity to fulfil its role: nothing impeded the people-smugglers. A continent without borders was part of EU holy writ. So Europe woke up to find tens, then hundreds of thousands spilling across the continent towards the affluent parts - Germany and Scandinavia - believed most likely to make them welcome.

Politically speaking, a refugee crisis is a dead loss. The only parties to benefit are jingoists who exploit it to whip up popular paranoia. Leaders who want to do the right thing are hamstrung by the fact that it can only leave them less popular than before. That may explain why Europe has been so apathetic.

Read more

Number of refugees reaching Europe passes 1 million for first time

But then on 2 September a three-year-old boy called Aylan Kurdi slipped from his father's arms as the rubber boat in which they were crossing from Turkey capsized. Later his lifeless body, face down in the sand, was photographed: the image went around the world, and that single picture transformed the way the crisis was understood. Suddenly the "barbarian armies" became what they actually were - a flock of desperate people who had lost their homes and now risked losing their lives.

The reaction was instantaneous. German Chancellor Angela Merkel declared the Dublin Regulation suspended, which meant that those landing in Lesbos could now legitimately dream of Berlin; she confirmed this by saying she expected Germany to take 800,000 refugees. And the rest of Europe echoed her compassion. "Refugees welcome" placards were everywhere. Even David Cameron, safely outside the Schengen zone, declared himself "deeply shocked" by Aylan's pitiful image and Britain agreed to admit 20,000, spread over five years. The crisis briefly became a feel-good story.

Read more

Refugee swam for 7 hours to start new life in Europe

Today, that period looks like a delusive blip. What happened next was that Europe discovered it was not one, but two: the eastern parts, including Hungary, Serbia and Croatia, remembered their centuries under the Ottoman boot, the escape from which defined their modern identities. As Ms Merkel was promising to redeem German's modern history by welcoming all comers, the continent's eastern marches were haunted by older ghosts, bolstering chauvinists such as Hungary's Prime Minister, Viktor Orban. Suddenly Europe's dreams of abolishing borders evaporated as fences and walls were rushed up.

Large though Europe's inflows are, they are dwarfed by the grand total of the displaced worldwide: 13.9 million in 2014, according to the United Nations High Commissioner For Refugees, the vast number accommodated - with little fuss - by countries far poorer than any in the EU. That's the measure of Europe's shame.

**Load-Date:** December 22, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Justin Trudeau: The rise of the feminist and pro-choice Canadian Prime Minister who wants to legalise marijuana 'right away'; Trudeau's Liberal party won the election on Monday*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H66-KBW1-F021-60MW-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

October 20, 2015 Tuesday 5:09 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 663 words

**Byline:** Heather Saul

**Body**

Justin Trudeau is about to become the Prime Minister of Canada after the Liberal party stormed to victory in the federal election on Monday.

The son of the late former prime minister Pierre Trudeau, he was born during his father's first term in office, prompting the "born to lead" headlines dominating the news agenda on Tuesday.

At 43, he is the second youngest prime minister to serve Canada and considerably younger than the leaders of opposing parties. He is the first son or daughter of a prime minister to follow their parent back into office.

His life before politics

After growing up in the public eye, Trudeau retreated from politics as a young adult and studied English and French literature at McGill University in Montreal. He went on to become a teacher in Vancouver and acted in the CBC mini-series

The Great War,

playing the protaganist,Talbot Mercer Papineau.

The death of his brother Michel in 1998 and the moving eulogy he gave at his father's funeral in 2000 brought him back into the spotlight. Trudeaubegan taking steps towards a political career after this andwas elected as an MP for Papineau in 2008. Hebecame the leader of the Liberal party in 2013.

Liberals unseat Conservatives in Canada election

His political trajectory was reportedly predicted by the US President Richard Nixon, who told a gala dinner in Ottawa in 1972: "Tonight we'll dispense with the formalities. I'd like to toast the future prime minister of Canada: to Justin Pierre Trudeau."

On being the son of a prime minister

"Dealing with being my father's son isn't something that I suddenly had to get my mind around as I showed up in this place as an MP [...]it's been something that's been with me all my life," he told

Reuters

in January. "It's what I put out there that actually matters."

Liberal leader Justin Trudeau shakes hands while watching a Montreal Canadiens hockey game at a bar in Montreal, Quebec,

Personal life

Trudeau is married to Sophie Grégoire, a former TV host, and has three young children. He repeatedly decided against running for leadership until 2012, often saying he wanted to focus on his wife and children. When he did eventually run, heput family at the centre of his campaign and regularly shared pictures of Ms Grégoire and their children in the weeks leading upto the election.

Ready. #elxn42pic.twitter.com/UahlMLArNH

- Justin Trudeau (@JustinTrudeau) October 20, 2015

Feminism

Unlike a number of actors, singers, politicians and high profile figures lately, Trudeau has not shied away from associating himself with the term 'feminist'.

I am a feminist. I'm proud to be a feminist. #upfordebate

- Justin Trudeau (@JustinTrudeau) September 21, 2015

"My mom raised me to be a feminist. My father raised me, he was a different generation but he raised me to respect and defend everyone's rights, and I deeply grounded my own identity in that, and I am proud to say that I am a feminist," he said during the

Up for Debate

event in September.

"The things we see online, whether it is issues like gamergate or video games misogyny in popular culture, it is something that we need to stand clearly against."

Marijuana

One of the first things Mr Trudeau has pledged to do is take steps "right away"towards legalising marijuana under a similar system to the one deployed in Colorado.

Refugees

Trudeau has promised to accept up to 25,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** - 15,000 more than the target put forward by the Conservatives.

Abortion

Trudeau is pro-choice and his party's stance on this issue saw him targeted in an anti-abortion group's flyer campaign, who said a vote for Trudeau was a "vote for this" above a picture of an aborted foetus.

He was unfazed by the flyers, telling reporters in May: "I am perfectly comfortable with Canadians knowing that the Liberal Party is unequivocal in its defence of women's rights. We are the party of the Charter. We are the party that stands up for people's rights. We will continue to do so."

**Load-Date:** October 20, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Get real, Mr Burnham: Labour may want to reclaim ground from Ukip on immigration but should avoid simplifying the issue*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H1Y-NJB1-JCJY-G121-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 30, 2015 Wednesday 8:09 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EDITORIALS

**Length:** 639 words

**Byline:** Editorial

**Body**

Andy Burnham, the shadow Home Secretary and distant runner-up in the Labour leadership election, has the toughest job in British politics: winning the argument on immigration for Labour. Losing it, as happened at the last election, was one of the main causes of May's disastrous defeat. In particular, Ukip benefited greatly from Labour's weaknesses, polling an uncomfortably large vote in Labour's heartlands, along a long stretch of the east coast of England and extending across the northern counties. It is not a battleground where Labour can afford to surrender any more territory.

In his speech Mr Burnham displayed a willingness to respond to concerns: he would be foolish if he did not. Respectable economic analysis backs him up, at least to an extent. As Mr Burnham suggests, in some places and in some trades, the scale of immigration, particularly from Eastern Europe, may well have depressed wages (nothing in economics is ever quite certain). Mr Burnham probably overstated his case that such pressures have "widened inequality" at the national level. His argument that private companies have felt the benefit of lower wages "more than people and communities" is also odd, given that those companies, presumably, pass some of the benefit on in the form of lower charges for everything from minicabs to plumbing services to cleaning contracts in the NHS.

Read more

Labour calls for EU to pay to compensate areas with high immigration

Corbyn says immigration isn't a problem

Burnham: Cameron is doing nowhere near enough to help ***Syrian*** ***refugees***

His assertion that public services can be placed under extra strain by immigration was a similarly artful half-truth; many public services would collapse without immigrant labour and skills, and the answer to inadequate public services is to reform them or to spend more on them - or both.

What was badly missing from Mr Burnham's message was much sense of the good things that immigration brings in its train, and the huge benefits it has bestowed on Britain. As he looked out on the sea of faces in the conference hall, and as an MP in the North-west, he will have seen people with a different skin colour and from different parts of the world who have helped to build this country, the NHS and his party, too. As a former Health Secretary, and to an audience also packed with Unison and other NHS union activists, Mr Burnham should have told his party that the NHS would simply not function without recruitment from overseas, from surgeons to healthcare assistants. The cultural and personal enrichment that has come from the movement of people into these islands was also a gaping hole in the speech. Mr Burnham could and should have said much more about that to balance his revisionism.

And what of Mr Burnham's solution? So far as can be discerned this amounts to a Europe-wide minimum wage rate and the prescription of a "going rate" for certain skilled jobs. This, Mr Burnham suggested, is the essence of the "social Europe" he and Jeremy Corbyn wish to build. Yet it is difficult to see how a minimum wage applicable in the UK would make much sense in, say, Bulgaria, where living costs as well as productivity are vastly lower. Nor is a "going rate" for skilled work a practical proposition in a dynamic market economy. It should be sufficient to increase and then enforce effectively the existing minimum wage regime to protect workers' living standards in Britain. Perhaps Mr Burnham believes such a policy would not be enforceable in practice; in which case his Europe-wide wage rules would be still more difficult to make a reality. If he wants to win the argument on immigration, and to do so honourably, he will need a more realistic policy than that.

**Load-Date:** September 30, 2015

**End of Document**



[*EU leaders struggle to agree on 1,500-strong border force to manage refugee crisis; The proposed rapid action force could potentially override national governments*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HMK-F131-JCJY-G4XX-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

December 17, 2015 Thursday 7:26 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 678 words

**Byline:** Leo Cendrowicz

**Body**

European Union leaders meeting in Brussels have struggled to agree controversial plans to create a new 1,500-strong rapid reaction force aimed at protecting borders and controlling migration.

The proposed border guard would be sent to countries unable to secure their frontiers, potentially overriding national governments, but they have met fierce resistance from key EU leaders.

Hundreds of thousands of refugees have arrived unchecked on Greek and Italian shores this year, triggering a crisis across the EU, and threatening the passport-free Schengen zone. While leaders insist that asylum seekers should be registered and fingerprinted, they have baulked at the European Commission's suggestions that a special EU guard should take up the task.

Read more

Denmark wants to seize jewellery and cash from refugees

Dutch meeting on building asylum seeker centre abandoned amid rioting

Europe's leaders urged to open their hearts to ***Syrian*** ***refugees***

European Council President Donald Tusk, chairing the two-day summit in Brussels, admitted that the plan is a "most controversial idea" but insisted that the 26-member Schengen area needed to strengthen its outside perimeter. "Border protection is and should be in the first place the domain of national states," he said. "But Europe cannot remain vulnerable when Schengen states are not able to effectively protect their borders. If we reject the Commission's proposal, we will have to find another, but I'm afraid, an equally painful solution."

The plans for a European Border and Coast Guard would nearly treble EU spending on frontier defence, and replace Frontex, the EU agency with limited powers to intervene in crises. Although the plan is backed by France and Germany, the two countries that usually drive initiatives through the EU, Italy, Greece, Poland and Croatia say they would infringe their constitutional rights to their own security. German Chancellor Angela Merkel said she didn't expect a decision during the Brussels meeting, but she hoped the leaders would edge closer to backing the border agency.

Mrs Merkel was also optimistic that Turkey would play its part in helping to stem the number of illegal migrants entering the EU in the wake of the (EURO)3 billion October deal to prevent Turkish-based refugees from heading to Europe. Speaking after a meeting with Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu and nine other EU leaders just before the summit, she said that talks with Ankara would focus on how to "strongly and significantly reduce" illegal migration as well as a mechanism for legal migration through voluntary quotas.

The leaders are meeting just one month after the Paris attacks that left 130 people dead, with some of those involved known to have travelled back from Syria, amongst refugees. The summit also takes place amid a surge in political populism that has linked the migration crisis to terrorism, suggesting that the Schengen passport-free system has jeopardised European security.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) says more than 920,000 people have entered the EU so far this year, many escaping the war in Syria. Some 770,000 migrants have landed in Greece alone, most of them arriving from Turkey.

Jacob Kirkegaard, a senior fellow at the Peterson Institute in Washington, said a European border control agency was urgently needed, but he doubted it would ever have the manpower, equipment, or institutional capacity to secure external EU frontiers. "Imagining the EBCG as some sort of invading army that swoops in to take over Europe's border control is a recipe for failure," he said.

Planned Refugee Center in Flames After Suspected Arson Attack

Amnesty international, meanwhile, has warned that the protection of the EU's external borders must not come at the expense of refugees' rights. "Ensuring access to asylum is an obligation, not an option." said Iverna McGowan, Acting Director of Amnesty International's European Institutions Office.

**Load-Date:** December 17, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Paris attacks reactions: Madonna, John Oliver and more send powerful responses; Public figures have paid tribute to the 129 victims of Friday's attacks*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HD0-0511-F021-64MW-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 16, 2015 Monday 5:21 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** PEOPLE

**Length:** 677 words

**Byline:** Olivia Blair

**Body**

A number of public figures have made powerful statements in the wake of the terrorist attacks in Paris which killed 129 people.

Five co-ordinated gun and bomb attacks were carried out in the French capital on Friday night. Theextremist terror group Isis has claimed responsibility.

While landmarks turned red, white and blue and a minute'ssilence was marked today around the world, some of those in the public eye have used their platform to spread positive and powerful messages.

Waleed Aly

The presenterof the Australian current affairs programme

The Project

delivered a powerful message on why Isisare not actually as powerful as they want us to think they are.

During the four-minute segment he says the group are "weak" and often "appear bigger and tougher than they actually are."

He urged viewers to "come together" and not turn on each other as doing so will "help" Isis.

ISIL is Weak

Waleed talks about how we can stop ISIL #TheProjectTVWritten by Waleed and Tom Whitty (@twhittyer)

Posted by The Project on Monday, 16 November 2015

Stephen King

The author responded on Twitter to the many Islamophobic comments circulating which blamedMuslims for the Paris attacks.

He compared "hating all Muslims for what happened in Paris" to "hating all Christians because of the gay-hating Westboro Baptist Church" and affirmed that the "majority of muslims despise Isis".

Hating all Muslims for what happened in Paris is like hating all Christians because of the gay-hating Westboro Baptist Church.

- Stephen King (@StephenKing) November 14, 2015

George Takei

The Star Trek actor said "there will be those who look upon immigrants and refugees as the enemy as a result of these attacks because the look like those who perpetrated [them] just as peaceful Japanese Americans were viewed as the enemy after Pearl Harbour."

He urged his followers on Facebook to "resist the urge to categorise and dehumanise, for it is that very impulse that fuelled the insanity and violence perpetrated this evening."

I'm writing this backstage at Allegiance, my heart heavy with the news from Paris, aching for the victims and their...

Posted by George Takei onFriday, 13 November 2015

John Oliver

Warning that he was going to embark ona "moment of cable profanity", the British chat show host told his audience on

HBO's

Last Week Tonight

that the attacks were carried out by "gigantic f\*\*\*ing assholes".

He continued: "F\*\*k these assholes. F\*\*k them, ifI may say, sideways." He also said it is important to remember"nothing about what these assholes are trying to do is going to work... If you are in a war of culture and lifestyle with France, good f\*\*\*king luck."

Madonna

The performer broke down in tears during a concert in Stockholm, Sweden after pausing her performance to pay tributes to victims.

She said: "In many ways I feel torn, because it's like 'Why am I up here dancing and having fun when people are crying over the loss of their loved ones?' However that is exactly what these people want to do. They want to shut us up. They want to silence us, and we won't let them. We will never let them."

Saturday Night Live

The American flagship comedy sketch show paused from regular proceedings to pay tribute to the victims of the terrorist attack, one day after it happened.

Replacing the opening monologue, which is traditionally filled with jokes by whoever is the host that particular week, cast member Cecily Strong addressedthe audience in English and French, saying: "Our love and support is with everyone there tonight, we stand with you."

James O'Brien

The

LBC

radio host debated the attacks on his show and shared his opinion on Twitter, urging followers not to make "terrorists' dreams come true by visiting more hatred and division upon innocent people". He also reminded people that "Paris perhaps provides a clearer picture of what ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** are running from".

Mourn the dead; despise the culprits. Don't make terrorists' dreams come true by visiting more hatred and division upon innocent people.

- James O'Brien (@mrjamesob) November 14, 2015

**Load-Date:** November 16, 2015

**End of Document**



[*The refugee crisis is actually having 'sizable' economic benefits in European countries, EU says; Britain is missing out on the economic boost, however*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H9K-MC61-JCJY-G3K0-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 5, 2015 Thursday 1:23 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 724 words

**Byline:** Jon Stone

**Body**

The refugee crisis is actually having a "sizeable" positive economic impact on some EU countries, European Commission figures suggest.

Economists at the EU's executive agency say the large influx of people to the bloc from Syria and other conflict zones is likely having a positive effect on growth, employment rates, and long-term public finances in the most affected countries.

The Commission's autumn economic forecasts 2015 calculate that the expected three million refugee arrivals by the end of 2016 will produce increases in annual GDP growth ranging from 0.2 to 0.5 per cent in EU countries affected by the crisis.

Read more

700 child refugees a day now claiming asylum on European soil

But Britain's limited contribution for 4,000 refugees a year means it is unlikely to benefit.

So-called "transit" countries like Hungary and Slovenia - where refugees are moving through - will see small growth gains because of the stimulus effect of increased state spending.

Others, like Sweden and Germany where the highest proportion refugees are settling, will likely benefit the most.

"For the EU as a whole, the growth impact is small, but it can be more sizeable in some Member States," the Commission states.

"For the most affected transit countries, the currently-estimated effect on the headline balance amounts to a maximum of 0.2 per cent of GDP in 2015, broadly stabilising in 2016.

"For destination countries, the impact amounts to a maximum of 0.2 per cent of GDP in 2015, with a small further increase in some countries in 2016.

"In Sweden, which has among the highest share of refugees as a percentage of the population in the EU, the impact on the headline balance is expected to be closer to 0.5 per cent of GDP this year."

0.5 per cent is broadly equivalent to gaining a quarter's moderate GDP growth in a developed EU economy.

As well as a GDP boost due to increased government activity, host countries are likely to see lower budget deficits in the long term because of migrants' contributions, meaning more spare cash will be available to spend on public services.

"In the medium to long run, budgetary positions can improve [due to refugee influxes]. Research indicates that non EU migrants typically receive less in individual benefits than they contribute in taxes and social contributions," the Commission says.

Read more

Alex Tsipras receives angry reception at Lesbos refugee camp

EU expects another 3 million refugees to arrive before end of 2016

Show of support for Briton who tried to smuggle refugee to UK

'Airbnb for refugeees' started by German couple spreads around world

German village with 100 residents must accommodate 750 refugees

Four babies among 11 refugees drowned near Greece

The expected influx is also likely to "translate into additional employment, once refugees with a sufficient degree of skills enter the labour market and participate in economic activity.

The Commission however warned that while overall wage effects could be positive from the influx, some lower paid workers could lose out in the short term due to competition.

The findings by the Commission concur with an earlier study by Oxford Economics that found a positive effect on growth was likely in Germany - which is set to take around a million refugees this year.

The rate of people arriving in Europe increased part-way through this year, with most coming from conflict zones like Syria through the Western Balkans and the Central and Eastern Mediterranean Sea, according to the EU's border agency Frontex.

Ministers are refusing to disclose how many migrants the UK has actually taken so far out of its 4,000 annual commitment, saying it would be wrong to give a "running commentary". Figures will be released quarterly according to the Government's own schedule.

"Since 2011, we have taken more than 5,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and asylum seekers. And last week, the Prime Minister announced that we will resettle 20,000 Syrians in need of protection over the course of this Parliament. I can tell the House that plans to welcome those refugees are progressing at pace," the Home Secretary Theresa May said in September.

**Load-Date:** November 5, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Ankara Q&A: Why would the Kurds be targeted? Do previous attacks point to a perpetrator?; The blasts outside the capital's main railway station killed scores of pro-Kurdish activists and left-wing union members*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H49-NDF1-F021-62KY-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

October 11, 2015 Sunday 9:10 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 650 words

**Byline:** staff

**Body**

Q | Who was targeted in Ankara?

A |

The twin blasts outside the capital's main railway station killed scores of pro-Kurdish activists and left-wing union members. The head of pro-Kurdish party the HDP said the blasts specifically targeted its supporters.

Q | Why would the Kurds be targeted?

A |

Kurds constitute about a fifth of the population of Turkey but the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) has fought a decades-long war against the state for independence. A de facto ceasefire agreed in 2012 broke down in July after Turkey began a "synchronised war on terror" against Isis in Syria and the PKK in southern Turkey and northern Iraq.

Read more

Ankara explosions: Turkish police fire tear gas at mourners

Police say Ankara attacker could be missing brother of Suruc bomber

Ankara explosions: Mourners chant anti-government slogans

Turkish President calls for unity after at least 86 die in Ankara

Turkey censors media coverage of bombing as Twitter 'blocked'

Q | Has anyone claimed responsibility for the blasts?

A |

No. But the various elements in Turkish politics have been quick to point fingers. The ruling AK party, led by President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, says that it believes either Isis, "extremist" left-wing activists or Kurdish rebels were responsible. Some of those opposed to the AK party have claimed security services were behind the bombings. However, others say the fact that it was a suicide bombing suggests it was an Isis attack.

People march to protest the double suicide bombing in Ankara that killed up to 128 people in Diyarbakir, eastern Turkey

Q | Do previous attacks point to a perpetrator?

A |

Turkey has been hit by several blasts this year. Before Saturday the worst was in July at a peace rally in Suruc near the Syrian border, which killed 32 youth activists. The state blamed Seyh Abdurrahman Alagoz, a 20-year-old man of Kurdish origin, who was believed to have travelled to Isis-controlled territory in the months before. Opposition figures claimed it was the work of the "deep state" controlled by Mr Erdogan, a claim the government denies.

Q | Turkey has often been lauded as a progressive, moderate Muslim nation. How has its politics polarised so quickly?

A |

The resumption of hostilities with the Kurds has driven a wedge through politics and the war in Syria has placed huge strain on a country currently hosting two million refugees. President Erdogan has been in power for more than a decade, initially as Prime Minister. His mildly Islamist AK party has rankled with liberals and those who are fiercely protective of Turkey's secular constitution. He has also followed a no-nonsense path against the Kurds, which opponents say whips up an anti-Kurdish frenzy. There's a heated, volatile political climate, where divisions are pronounced and prospects for reconciliation dim.

Q | With such division, can the AK party hold on to power?

A |

The AK relied for years on Sunni Muslim voters outside the main urban centres but it lost its parliamentary majority in elections in June, while the pro-Kurdish HDP scored a stunning victory, winning a bloc of seats in parliament and leaving Mr Erdogan without a legislative majority for the first time since 2002. He desperately wants to win that back in polls next month, but there is little prospect the AK party will do so.

Q | What do the bombings in Ankara mean for Turkish politics?

A |

Further polarisation. Everyone is blaming everyone else and there is no sign Mr Erdogan's call for unity in the face of terror is being heeded. The West's vital ally in the Middle East is facing a perfect storm: political polarisation, a resumption of violence with the PKK, the threat from Isis, and two million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and counting.

**Load-Date:** October 18, 2015

**End of Document**



[*If these extraordinarily powerful images of a dead Syrian child washed up on a beach don't change Europe's attitude to refugees, what will?; The boy was part of a group of 11 Syrians who drowned off the coastal town of Bodrum in Turkey after an apparent failed attempt to flee the war ravaged country*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GTY-B5M1-F021-60J9-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 3, 2015 Thursday 1:37 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 655 words

**Byline:** Adam Withnall

**Body**

The pictures show a small boy lying face down in the sand on a Turkish beach as an official stands over him.

The child, who is thought to be Syrian, has drowned in an apparent attempt to flee the war ravaging his country.

Follow the latest updates in our live blog here

They are extraordinary images and serve as a stark reminder that, as European leaders increasingly try to prevent refugees from settling in the continent, more and more refugees are dying in their desperation to flee persecution and reach safety.

The Independent has taken the decision to publish these images because, among the often glib words about the "ongoing migrant crisis", it is all too easy to forget the reality of the desperate situation facing many refugees.

The boy, pictured below being carried by the official, is one of 12 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** feared dead after they drowned trying to cross the Mediterranean on two boats bound for the Greek island of Kos.

One of the boats was carrying six Syrians when it sank after leaving Akyarlar, in a desperate attempt to cross the 5km Aegean straight to Kos that represented their best chance of entering the EU.

According to Turkey's Dogan news agency, three children and a woman from the small boat drowned. Two people survived after swimming back to shore in life jackets.

In Britain, David Cameron and Philip Hammond have been criticised for the "dehumanising" language they use to describe refugees.

The Prime Minister described refugees coming to the UK as a "swarm", and later said he would not "allow people to break into our country".

Hammond, the Foreign Secretary, said refugees were "marauding" around Calais. Amnesty International called his comments "shameful".

The pictures, and the tragedy they convey, are hard to ignore, and now senior politicians are calling on Cameron to do more to tackle the crisis.

Labour leadership front-runner Jeremy Corbyn told The Independent: "Nobody could fail to be moved by this harrowing and heartbreaking image.

"It should remind us of the situation facing millions of people desperately fleeing a terrible civil war.

"The government's response to the refugee crisis has been wholly inadequate, and we are being shamed by our European neighbours."

Tim Farron, the Liberal Democrat leader, told The Independent: "Enough is enough. These pictures are beyond horrific. They are the wake-up call David Cameron needs."

He was joined by Yvette Cooper, another contender for the Labour leader post, who told The Independent: "It is heartbreaking what is happening on our continent. We cannot keep turning our backs on this. We can - and must - do more."

Along with Afghan citizens, Syrians make up the bulk of the people fleeing conflict in their homeland to seek a safer home in Europe.

Read more: The two charts which shame BritainSyrian refugees Britain has taken would fit on Tube trainSix charts that show where refugees are coming from

But while images of desperate refugees emerge almost every day, the attitude of Europe's policymakers and much of the public have continued to harden.

The refugee crisis - in pictures

Read more: This is how desperate refugees are to enter the EUGermans stage pro-refugee rally with 'refugees welcome' bannersMay says migrants should be banned from entering the UK

Hungary has continued to build its razor-wire fence blocking off the 170km length of its border with Serbia, and on Wednesday police in Budapest blocked refugees from boarding trains to Germany for a second day running.

In the Czech Republic, some 200 refugees with valid train tickets were hauled off a train bound for Germany and given registration numbers, in permanent marker, written on their arms.

In the Netherlands, the government has announced a toughening of its rules that would see failed asylum-seekers cut off from food and shelter within "a few weeks" of being handed a decision.

Click here to sign The Independent's petition

**Load-Date:** September 3, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Isis says Aylan Kurdi's parents and other refugees are 'sacrificing' their own children; An article in the group's propaganda magazine claimed that it is a 'grave sin' for Muslims to flee the so-called Islamic State to reach European countries*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GWM-S6X1-F021-61B7-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 10, 2015 Thursday 11:28 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 660 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Isis has used the death of Aylan Kurdi to declare that refugees fleeing its territories are "sacrificing" their own children and committing a "dangerous sin" against Islam.

In the latest issue of the extremist group's propaganda magazine Dabiq, an article entitled "The Danger of Abandoning Darul-Islam (the 'Islamic State)" appears with a picture of Aylan's body.

The three-year-old Syrian boy drowned alongside his mother and brother when their boat capsized as they tried to reach Greek islands last week.

His family was fleeing to Europe from Kobani, which was occupied by Isis earlier this year and has seen devastating battles between jihadist militant, Kurds and Coalition forces.

"Isis and criminal gangs killed that boy," George Osborne said last week as the British government vowed to house thousands more ***Syrian*** ***refugees***.

Read more: Dabiq magazine shows destruction of templeGeorge Osborne blames Isis for death of refugee childVoices: 'Heartlessness towards refugees is Isis' lifeblood'

In Dabiq, refugees themselves are blamed for causing their own deaths by migrating from the "land of Islam" to the "land of disbelievers".

"Sadly, some Syrians and Libyans are willing to risk the lives and souls of those whom they are responsible to raise upon the Sharia - their children - sacrificing many of them during the dangerous trip to the lands of the warwaging crusaders ruled by laws of atheism and indecency," the article said.

"It should be known that voluntarily leaving Darul-Islam (the Islamic State) for darul-kufr (Western countries) is a dangerous major sin, as it is a passage towards kufr (disbelief) and a gate towards one's children and grandchildren abandoning Islam for Christianity, atheism, or liberalism.

"If one's children and grandchildren don't fall into kufr (disbelief), they are under the constant threat of fornication, sodomy, drugs, and alcohol."

The article mentioned tragedies in Turkey, Libya, Italy and Austria, claiming that the repeated losses should "awaken the heart" to drive followers to start a religious migration.

According to Isis' ideology, the world's Muslims are obligated to travel to their self-declared Caliphate across Syria and Iraq in a "hijrah".

Anyone going in the opposite direction, to Christian countries, will only "find refuge in Hell", the Dabiq article claims.

Territories and nations ruled by other factions of Islam including Shias and Alawites, as well as Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states allied with the international coalition of "crusaders and apostates" fighting Isis is also condemned.

Refugees moving to non-Islamic nations and accepting the culture of their new homeland could be classed as apostates, Isis claims, and have committed a "major sin".

Charlie Winter, a Middle East researcher London-based counter extremism think tank the Quilliam Foundation, said that jihadists often attract supporters by relying on a "victimhood narrative" asserting that the West either does not care about Muslims, or is part of an international conspiracy against them. Timeline: The emergence of Isis

But the migration of hundreds of thousands of refugees to Europe, where countries including Germany and Sweden are welcoming them with open arms, has forced a different response.

"Taking in a load of refugees isn't going to solve the problem but if it's a long-term strategy, it will be a trust-building exercise," Mr Winter told The Independent.

"It is one of the things that will contribute to undercutting the jihadist narrative of a conspiracy against Islam."

Even as some Western politicians were claiming that Isis militants are reaching Europe disguised as asylum seekers, Mr Winter said the group's supporters have been posting pictures online claiming people were seeking refuge in their self-declared Caliphate.

He was unsurprised that Isis had sought to use Aylan's death for its own aims.

"The group will go for whatever line suits it at any one time," Mr Winter added. "This is a very deliberate ploy."

**Load-Date:** September 10, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Paris attacks prompt a wary truce between Washington and Vladimir Putin; Barack Obama chatted amiably with Mr Putin at the G-20 summit, in stark contrast to the same gathering in 2014*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HD6-SDV1-F021-6270-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 17, 2015 Tuesday 10:46 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** COMMENT

**Length:** 680 words

**Byline:** Rupert Cornwell

**Body**

Despite growing pressure from foreign policy hawks, President Obama is as reluctant as ever to send large numbers of ground troops to fight Islamic State in Syria.

But the Paris terrorist attacks may lead to stepped-up US air strikes, a boost in the number of special forces working with Kurdish and other anti-Isis fighters - and, however warily, stepped up co-operation with Russia.

Gone is the criticism voiced in Washington when Russia began its own air strikes in Syria on 30 September, seen then by the US as a cynical ploy by Moscow, aimed less at hitting Isis than opponents of the regime of the beleaguered President Assad, Russia's ally.

Read more

Putin: Paris attacks have triggered a 'revival' in Russia-UK relations

A thaw was also evident in the body language on display at the G-20 summit in Turkey, when Mr Obama chatted aimiably with President Vladimir Putin, so different from the same gathering in 2014, when the Russian leader was treated as a pariah because of the Ukraine crisis.

President Hollande of France has called on the US and Russia to join forces to defeat the "Islamic State", and events are propelling them in that direction: above all Moscow's acknowledgement that - as the US and Britain said early on - a bomb destroyed the Russian civilian jet over Sinai on 31 October.

Obama and Putin Meet One-on-One on G20 Sidelines

As a result Moscow's sights are now set on Isis. In return the US seems ready to soften its previous insistence that Mr Assad step down to clear the way for a Syrian peace deal, bringing its position closer to that of Moscow.

But a massive injection of US "boots on the ground" in Syria is unlikely. Probably rightly, Mr Obama calculates that despite the danger of a possible repeat of the Paris attacks on American soil, US public opinion remains opposed to a new Iraq-scale mission - as are many of his Republican critics too, for all their complaints the President has been weak and half-hearted in his approach to the Middle East turmoil. But analysts point out there is a middle way: stepped up air strikes and the deployment of substantially more US special forces to augment the "less than 50" whose despatch to Kurdish-controlled areas in northern Syria, was announced by the White House on 30 October. Both these steps however would almost certainly require closer working with the Russians.

Read more

How Hollande's hard-line speech scattered his right-wing critics

Francois Hollande's declaration of 'war' disrupts travel in France

Why has Russia now confirmed the plane was bombed?

Russia confirms plane which crashed over Sinai was bombed

At least as contentious are the domestic repercussions of the events in Paris, with presidential primaries now less than three months off. The first to suffer may be the 10,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** that Mr Obama has promised to take in, as fears grow that this number could include Isis inflitrators.

"Slamming the door in their faces would be a betrayal of our values," he declared in Turkey. But some Republican candidates now demand no Muslims from Syria be granted asylum, while 27 of 50 governors, all but one of them Republicans, have vowed not to allow refugees from Syria to settle in their states (even though they probably don't have the power to enforce such an edict).

Paul Ryan, the new House Speaker, meanwhile has urged a "pause" in the Syrian programme, although, he was quick to add, "not for foreign policy reasons, but for reasons of security".

The carnage in Paris, and Isis latest threats of a repeat in Washington DC have also upended the debate over domestic surveillance by US spy agencies. After Edward Snowden's revelations, the pendulum had swung sharply in favour of privacy. Now it's moving in the other direction. Scorning the "handwringing" over government electronic eavesdropping, John Brennan, the CIA director, said on Monday such leaks had made it harder to track down the "murderous sociopaths" of Isis.

**Load-Date:** November 17, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Mary Creagh: Cameron made a U-turn this week. We have a moral duty to ensure he keeps his promise; Aylan Kurdi was not the first child to escape Assad and Isis, only to meet his tragic death at the hands of the Mediterranean traffickers*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GVC-XYX1-F021-634C-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 4, 2015 Friday 5:25 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 645 words

**Byline:** Mary Creagh

**Body**

Over the last 20 years, cities like Wakefield rose to the challenge of becoming cities of sanctuary. I had the privilege of presenting UK citizenship certificates to a Kosovan family at Wakefield Town Hall in 2010. They were accompanied by their support worker, now a family friend, who wept tears of joy for them. She knew just how much they had suffered and lost to reach this milestone.

This has been the week when the people of the United Kingdom, prompted by tragic image of little Aylan Kurdi, and the Independent's #refugeeswelcome campaign, showed that we stand ready to play our part, and forced David Cameron to U-turn.

READ MORE:Jeremy Corbyn: We have been shamed by our European neighboursIf refugees make it alive to Britain, they are loathed

UK taxpayers have generously given £900 million in humanitarian support for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** displaced in Syria and neighbouring countries. But the UK's excellent humanitarian response does not absolve us of our responsibility to welcome refugees.  Which is why, in June's Queen's Speech debate, I challenged the Government to accept more refugees through the UN programme.

The UK has a proud tradition of offering sanctuary to people fleeing war and persecution.  We sheltered 2,500 Bosnians and 4,000 Kosovan Albanians in the 1990s. But, until the heartbreaking photo of Aylan Kurdi's body on the beach at Bodrum on Wednesday, we have not shown the same solidarity to Syrians fleeing conflict today. Our response to the Syrian war should not be either aid or sanctuary. We must offer both.

Many of our EU neighbours are spending untold millions dealing with refugees on their soil. The UK has been shirking its responsibilities. The Government has repeatedly refused to take part in UN and EU schemes to relocate refugees. Instead it established a separate "vulnerable persons relocation scheme" which has taken just 216 refugees since it began in January 2014.

Compare this to our European neighbours.

Close to 350,000 applications for asylum from Syrians have been made across Europe since April 2011. According to the UNHCR, Britain has had just 7000 of these applications. Germany and Sweden have received nearly half, with 100,000 and 64,000 asylum applications respectively. On Monday, Germany announced they were expecting to receive at least 800,000 asylum applications, from all countries.

Europe's problem is dwarfed by the refugee burden for Syria's immediate neighbours. According to the UNHCR, Lebanon, which I am visiting next week with UK charity Islamic Relief, has more than 1.1m registered refugees, and many more unregistered, for its population of just 4.5 million people. That is almost one refugee for every 4 people, the equivalent of the UK accepting more than 15 million refugees.

Turkey has accepted over 1.9 million refugees from Syria. Jordan has over 628,000 refugees in camps, for its population of 6.5m. Last summer, Lebanon was receiving 10,000 refugees a week and closed its borders to all but extreme humanitarian cases.  If we do not wish that to happen, we have to step up to the plate and act in solidarity.

Of course, the ultimate goal must be an end to war in Syria. I have written elsewhere of the strategic missteps of Obama, Cameron and Ed Miliband after Assad's chemical weapons attacks in 2013. But in the meantime, the UK must take more refugees directly from countries around Syria. We need to work across Government and with local councils to offer not just shelter, but a proper British welcome.

Aylan Kurdi was not the first child to escape Assad and Isis, only to meet his tragic death at the hands of the Mediterranean traffickers. But if we are to honour his short life, and the unknown thousands who have died alongside him, we have a moral duty to ensure David Cameron keeps the promises he made this week.

Refugees Welcome: Supporters back The Independent's campaign

**Load-Date:** September 4, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Labour MP tells Diane Abbott to stop acting like an 'internet troll'; The Twitter argument underlines continuing tensions among Labour MPs surrounding the prospect of military intervention in Syria*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H48-V9V1-JCJY-G225-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

October 11, 2015 Sunday 4:10 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 647 words

**Byline:** Samuel Osborne

**Body**

DianeAbbott, the shadow international development secretary, has been told by a Labour MP to stop acting like an "internet troll" after she accused fellow MPs of wanting to side with David Cameron and bomb Syria.

Ms Abbott, one of Jeremy Corbyn's most vocal supporters,responded toanin

The Observer

suggesting

a military component is needed alongside humanitarian aid and intensive diplomacy to protect Syrian civilians.

In the article,Labour MP Jo Cox and former Conservative Cabinet minister Andrew Mitchell argue "only radical action can bring an end to the world's greatest humanitarian crisis" in Syria.

She tweeted:

"Sad that Labour MPs want to support Cameron in his long held desire to bomb Syria."

Responding to Ms Abbot's tweet,John Woodcock, Labour MP and chairman of the New Labour pressure group Progress, said: "Plight of refugees more important than Westminster bubble. You're shadow int development sec not an internet troll."

Sad that Labour MPs want to support Cameron in his long held desire to bomb Syria @jo\_cox1@JWoodcockMP[*http://t.co/Vk7oU9HDwV*](http://t.co/Vk7oU9HDwV)

- Diane Abbott MP (@HackneyAbbott) October 11, 2015

Plight of refugees more important than Westminster bubble. You're shadow int development sec not an internet troll.. [*https://t.co/j3WDmCB1Bq*](https://t.co/j3WDmCB1Bq)

- John Woodcock (@JWoodcockMP) October 11, 2015

One of the article's authors,Jo Cox, later replied to Ms Abbott to say: "This is an unfair misrepresentation of my position. Let's focus on Syria not party pols."

Jess Phillips, Labour MP for Birmingham Yardley also joined the debate: "Good to see I'm not the only new MP whose opinion (which takes bravery to speak up) is being silenced by Diana. WTF," she tweeted.

"Abbott should put her case not slag off others for doing that. This is so hard, I have Syrian constituents begging for help."

@HackneyAbbott @JWoodcockMP again with respect Diane. This is an unfair misrepresentation of my position. Lets focus on Syria not party pols

- Jo Cox MP (@Jo\_Cox1) October 11, 2015

Good to see I'm not the only new MP who's opinion(which takes bravery to speak up) is being silenced by Diane. WTF [*https://t.co/T6fvjGqiqA*](https://t.co/T6fvjGqiqA)

- Jess Phillips MP (@jessphillips) October 11, 2015

@rozakthegoon abbot should put her case not slag off others for doing that. This is so hard, I have Syrian constituents begging for help

- Jess Phillips MP (@jessphillips) October 11, 2015

The Twitter argument underlines continuing tensions among Labour MPs surrounding military intervention in Syria.

Strong opposition from Labour and dissent from Tory backbenchers saw the House of Commons reject proposed air strikes in Syria two years ago.

David Cameron has indicated he wants to hold a fresh Commons vote on Britain's role in Syria.

Read more

Russian air strikes hit Syrian 60 rebel targets as campaign continues

8 graphs that challenge what you think you know about ***Syrian*** ***refugees***

Nato reads the riot act to Russia over its actions in Syria conflict

Russian cruise missiles crash in Iran

Syrian army general says ground offensive will 'eliminate terrorists'

David Cameron has insisted thatPresident Bashar al-Assad has no future in a post-civil war Syria.

"He can have no part in the future of Syria. I'm very clear: we haven't even started discussions - we need to start discussions about how you bring a transition about," he told BBC Radio 4's Today programme on Tuesday.

"It's not just my view that you can't end up with Assad having a role in Syria: the Syrian people wouldn't accept it.

"What you need to do is find a government that can appeal to Alawites, Kurds, Sunnis and Christians and if you don't have someone who can do that you won't have a Syria that works."

**Load-Date:** October 18, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Why Jeremy Corbyn's Labour leadership won't pave the way for a Liberal Democrat resurrection; As a long-time member of the Lib Dems myself, I see others predicting that Corbyn will drive centrist voters to us. But history teaches us this doesn't happen*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GXH-4V01-JCJY-G1VG-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 14, 2015 Monday 3:09 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 638 words

**Byline:** Mark Argent

**Body**

Over the summer, I was been struck by the gap between Jeremy Corbyn's actual words and how they were being widely reported, as if there was a fear of what he might do. At the very least, this means it's wise not to make too many assumptions about how Labour - or politics as a whole - will look under his leadership. As an approved candidate and long-time member of the Liberal Democrats, there are a few assumptions I feel I have to challenge.

One assumption to question is that Corbyn's victory creates a space in the centre where the Liberal Democrats can resurrect. On the contrary, the lesson of the last half-century is that Liberal Democrats do best when Labour are credible and people are not frightened into voting Conservative: the time when the number of Liberal Democrat MPs doubled was not when Michael Foot became Labour leader, but when Tony Blair's government was elected. Those who confidently assert that centre-left voters will desert Labour in favour of the Lib Dems are woefully misguided.

READ MORE:5 reasons to be happy with Jeremy Corbyn's victoryJeremy Corbyn and the trouble with democracy

Another assumption to question is that Corbyn will steer Labour a long way to the left. In actuality, he's spoken of less use of whips and more debate on policy - both of which limit his ability to push his party. He's also spoken of allowing other MPs to occasionally take his place at Prime Minister's Questions.

That change signals a major shift from Labour's centralising, spin-laden way of being. It might well be unsettling senior Labour figures, but that is not a bad thing.  It also sounds very similar to the way in which Liberal Democrats formulate policy, which raises interesting possibilities for co-operation. There are points where we disagree, for sure, but examples of common ground include Tim Farron and Jeremy Corbyn both appearing at the rally in support of ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, and both Paddy Ashdown and Jeremy Corbyn condemning the assassination of Osama bin Laden - arguing that he should have been tried instead.

British politics is heading into uncharted territory. The Corbyn effect has re-drawn Labour. Even if he is deposed soon, they are heading into a period of significant upheaval. The Conservatives are hardly in a better place. It's only a matter of time before their own right-wing party becomes just as disrupted as it was when John Major had only a small majority, with deep divisions over the European Union soon to be laid bare by the referendum. Interestingly, Corbyn's lukewarm position on Europe means that the Liberal Democrats are the only UK-wide party which will be fully behind the "yes" campaign - a reflection of the party's internationalist instincts.

Labour Shadow Cabinet: The key figures

Core Liberal Democrat values are not about fitting into a camp that stands vaguely between Labour and Conservative values. The libertarian language of freedom from enslavement by poverty, ignorance or dull conformity leads to a better way to address inequality than socialism.  Nick Clegg's resignation speech was a powerful reminder of how widespread liberalism is and points to real potential.

There is an opportunity for the Liberal Democrats to push forward on a libertarian agenda, but it would be naïve to say that Jeremy Corbyn becoming Labour leader is the reason. Instead, it's far more likely that people will be galvanised to vote by seeing the evidence of what a Conservative government does on its own, unhampered by the moderating influence of Lib Dems in coalition. Liberal Democrats hoping to gain from Corbyn's victory would do well to take a proper look at recent history, and to realise that the return of substance-over-spin politics in Labour makes it easier to articulate our position and allows the possibility of us building a progressive alliance in future.

**Load-Date:** September 14, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Migrant crisis: Humanitarian groups urge leaders to put human lives ahead of politics instead of locking down 'Fortress Europe'; The deaths of around 800 migrants in April prompted soul-searching in the EU*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5G92-HYN1-F021-625C-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

June 24, 2015 Wednesday 8:00 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 670 words

**Byline:** Charlotte McDonald-Gibson

**Body**

European leaders debating migration in Brussels today must put human lives before short-term political goals, politicians and humanitarian groups have urged, cautioning against simply reinforcing borders and freezing out the world's most needy refugees.

The deaths of around 800 men, women and children in a migrant boat wreck in the Mediterranean in April prompted soul-searching among European Union leaders, and promises of action were followed by European Commission proposals to resettle 40,000 refugees across the continent.

But an EU official conceded that the idea of mandatory quotas "will never gather support from member states" and would be watered down to a voluntary pledge with further details about who will accept new refugees postponed until next month.

The EU instead appears to be shifting the focus to locking down the borders of "Fortress Europe". An early draft of the conclusions from the EU leaders' summit published by the civil liberties group Statewatch includes a pledge to set up centres to fingerprint and register migrants, with more powers to the EU border agency Frontex to deport people.

Hungarian Foreign Minister, Peter Szijjarto, said they would be speeding up work on a fence along the border with Serbia, where more than 61,000 migrants have crossed this year.

"Nothing is more symbolic of Fortress Europe than building a fence," Iverna McGowan, acting director of Amnesty International's European Institutions Office, said. "Having a security based approach is absolutely not the solution. It is not going to change the reality of four million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in camps. We need a more responsible human approach."

Martin Xuereb, director of the Migrant Offshore Aid Station, which assists migrants at sea, said the focus must be on bolstering search and rescue in the Mediterranean. "All those who feel compelled to make this crossing should not be left to die at sea and ministers must retain this at the top of their agenda," he said.

Read more: Migrant crisis: EU leaders to discuss migrant quotaCalais migrant crisis 'totally unacceptable', says CameronFive hospitalised after police find 27 suspected illegal immigrants

The ongoing civil war in Syria has pushed the number of refugees in the world to the highest level since the end of the Second World War, and the political vacuum in Libya has created a thriving trade in smugglers willing to pile desperate people on unseaworthy crafts and launch them into the Mediterranean.

At least 60,000 people have arrived in Italy this year and more than 2,000 people have died attempting the crossing. Amnesty estimates that at least 61,474 refugees have also arrived on the Greek islands so far this year - up from 43,500 in the whole of 2014.

World News in Pictures

Nations on the front-line of the refugee crisis have been calling for more solidarity from the other EU nations, but countries including Britain, France and Spain are opposed to any binding quotas for redistributing the refugees. Instead governments guard their right to decide exactly who crosses their borders, wary of the influence of anti-immigration parties.

"National selfishness still prevails over solidarity," said Gianni Pittella, the President of the Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament. "And this national selfishness threatens to prevail in the conclusions of the next [leaders' summit]."

In a comment piece in The Guardian Italian Prime Minister, Matteo Renzi urged Europe not to forget history.

"We want to fight for a set of values, for civility and peace," he wrote. "This is why the European Union was founded - not for bond spreads and stability pacts, but for these values. If we ignore them now, while the Mediterranean seethes, and children drown, it is Europe itself that we lose."

Mr Renzi took a more strident tone, telling his Senate that the centre-left "should not be afraid of repatriation". He added that the Dublin agreement - under which asylum seekers are the responsibility of the country in which they land - was "deeply wrong."

**Load-Date:** June 24, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Students killed in suspected Isis suicide bombing at rally in Turkey; Suruc attack marks dramatic escalation of terror group's campaign over the Syrian border*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GGP-Y3N1-F072-422R-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

July 21, 2015 Tuesday

First Edition

Copyright 2015 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 22

**Length:** 662 words

**Byline:** ISABEL HUNTER AND SEYHMUS CAKAN IN SURUC

**Body**

A suspected Isis suicide bombing at a gathering of young students planning the reconstruction of the Syrian town of Kobani killed at least 30 across the border in Turkey yesterday.

In a dramatic escalation of Isis' terror campaign inside Turkey, the blast tore through a group of university students from an activist group as they gathered to make a statement to the local press about a trip they were planning to help rebuild Kobani.

The blast was in Suruc, Turkey, just six miles from the town of Kobani where Kurdish fighters have been battling Isis in Syria. Reports suggested the attacker was an 18-year- old woman, although that was later disputed. At least 30 people were killed with dozens more seriously wounded.

"We were planning to go to Kobani to make a park for children and build a hospital and school," said Turgut, 22, an economics student from Istanbul. He was on the other side of the Amara Cultural Centre when he heard the explosion, and at first dismissed it as not serious. Then he heard the screams. "We heard the noise, the bomb??? then we heard their voices and we went to find them - there was blood and people were injured and people were dead. We just had to leave," he told The Independent. Bodies were seen lying beneath trees outside the cultural centre in the mostly Kurdish town.

The 300-strong group from the Federation of Socialist Youth Associations were mostly students. Fears of a second Suruc attack soon spread, which has a large refugee population from Kobani as well as long historical links to both the outlawed Kurdish groups, the PKK and its Syrian branch, the YPG.

"Everyone is staying in doors and are scared of a second attack - people aren't walking in the streets and especially not gathering in large groups," local writer and activist Omer Baran said. The 26-year-old had a lucky escape as he was due to attend the meeting, but was delayed. "People were panicked and I didn't understand what was happening when I arrived - everyone was crying and screaming," he said.

"Our initial evidence shows that this was a suicide attack by Islamic State [Isis]," one senior official in Ankara told Reuters. A second official also said Isis appeared to have been responsible and that the attack was a "retaliation for the Turkish government's efforts to fight terrorism".

The blast came after a series of attacks on the Kurdish HDP party in the run-up to elections on 7 June, including two small bombings at a political rally in the city of Diyarbakir, which the party blamed on Isis sympathisers. "What concerns gives us about this attack is that while the others were haphazard... the size of this explosion suggests something more sophisticated," said Aaron Stein, an Atlantic Council fellow who specialises in Turkey and Syria.

Sevda Celik Ozbingol, co-chair of the pro-Kurdish HDP branch for Sanliurfa region, which includes Suruc, told The Independent that police have arrested a man who was reportedly wearing a suicide vest to perform a second attack in the hospital, immediately after the bombing at the cultural centre.

Bodies of the dead were taken to neighbouring cities of Gaziantep and Sanliurfa for formal identification. The student group had travelled from Istanbul to Suruc and the vast majority were not Kurdish, but were simply there to give the Kurds in Kobani "a hand", said Turgut, the student from Istanbul. As dusk fell last night, protestors in Suruc began to clash with the Turkish police as youths blamed the Turkish Government, and especially President Tayyip Erdogan, for failing to defeat Isis.

Turkey's Nato allies have been seeking tighter controls on a porous border with Syria that serves as a frontline in the battle against the jihadsits. But monitoring is difficult with 1.8 million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** now settled on the Turkish side. Turkey's leaders have said they do not plan any unilateral military incursion into Syria but have also said they will do whatever is necessary to defend the country's borders.

**Load-Date:** July 20, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Call to segregate rival refugee groups after clashes at German asylum centres; Angela Merkel's open-door migrant policy and her calls for a "culture of welcome" are facing a growing backlash from within her party*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H1H-CX61-F021-62F2-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 28, 2015 Monday 6:09 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 664 words

**Byline:** tony paterson

**Body**

Germany's police said accommodation for refugees should be divided along religious and ethnic lines after violent clashes between refugee groups at asylum centres in recent days.

The latest violence occurred on Sunday night at a "tent city" housing 1,500 migrants in the town of Calden, north of Frankfurt. Police said rival groups of Pakistani and Albanian refugees attacked each other with clubs.

Read more

These are the steps Europe must take to solve the refugee crisis

Fourteen people were injured in the clashes, which were broken up by police using teargas and pepper spray. "Between 60 and 70 people were involved. They attacked each other with clubs and threw things at each other," a police spokesman said.

The incident followed similar violence on Friday at an asylum centre near Leipzig, where 200 Syrian and Afghan migrants attacked each other with table legs, bed frames and sticks after a dispute about who should be allowed to use one of the few lavatories provided in the accommodation first.

"The police have reached the absolute limit of what they can take," complained the deputy head of Germany's police trade union, Jörg Radek. " We must do everything we can to prevent further outbreaks of violence." He said segregation of refugees along religious and ethnic lines was essential.

No formal segregation has been introduced so far, although in the states of Thuringia and Bavaria refugees from similar ethnic backgrounds tend to be housed together.

"We take into account the religious and ethnic differences when providing accommodation for asylum seekers," said Emilia Müller, Bavarian's minister for social affairs.

The German government has set aside (EURO)6bn (£4.4bn) to fund accommodation and an extra 3,000 police to cope with the estimated one million refugees the country is expected to take in this year. But with training for police taking around three years, Germany's 16 federal states are currently forced to rely largely on private security firms to meet the shortfall.

Read more

Germany has hired US consultants to help with the refugee crisis

Refugee crisis: Saudi Arabia's offer to build 200 mosques in Germany for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** branded 'cynical'

Germany's economy will grow faster because of the million refugees it

Refugee crisis: Germany is preparing for 40,000 new refugees

The clashes among refugees in Germany's overcrowded asylum accommodation have followed more than 200 attacks on refugee centres by suspected far-right activists this year alone. In the east German town of Heidenau, the scene of earlier racist anti-immigrant attacks, a refugee was attacked and injured by a man armed with a beer bottle as he walked to his accommodation at the weekend. Chancellor Angela Merkel's coalition has offered Syrian war refugees the prospect of immediate asylum in Germany for the next three years. However, her open-door migrant policy and her calls for a "culture of welcome" are facing a growing backlash from within her own conservative Christian Democratic Party.

brightcove.createExperiences();

Steffen Kampeter, a veteran Christian Democrat MP, insisted in an interview with Die Welt newspaper at the weekend: "We need to send more signals showing that not everyone can come to us...We must act thoroughly otherwise we will not be able to stop things going wrong."

Erika Steinbach, another veteran conservative, said: "Life has not become easier as a result of the chancellor's comments. I don't know anyone who believes we can really bring the arrival of so many refugees under control - the people want a further influx stopped," she insisted.

President Joachim Gauck also took a more cautious tone than Ms Merkel over the weekend, saying there are limits to how many refugees the country can take.

"We want to help. We have a big heart. However, there is a limit to what we can do," he said.

**Load-Date:** September 28, 2015

**End of Document**



[*The News Matrix: Wednesday 7 January 2015*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5F15-PG11-JCJY-G3X1-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 7, 2015 Wednesday 12:00 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MATRIX

**Length:** 755 words

**Body**

Murphy's nurses plan angers London MPs

The new leader of the Scottish Labour Party came under fire yesterday from party MPs in London for boasting that the capital's householders would fund an extra 1,000 nurses in Scotland under the proposed mansion tax. Jim Murphy was blasted for trying to "bribe" Scottish voters.

Cutting deficit will be 'testing', MPs warn

The Government's plans to further cut the deficit are "very challenging" and the scale of the task should "not be underestimated", MPs have warned. The Commons Public Accounts Committee said making further cuts in areas that were not protected would be "very testing".

More funds for case of missing toddler

The Home Office has agreed to give South Yorkshire Police £700,000 to continue investigating the disappearance of a Sheffield toddler who went missing in 1991. Ben Needham was 21 months old when he vanished during a family holiday on the Greek island of Kos.

Councillor punished for Nazi poster gaffe

A Labour councillor has been suspended for sharing on social media a parody of a Tory election poster doctored to include an image of a Nazi death camp. Rosemary Healy apologised, insisting she had not noticed what the picture showed when she forwarded it.

Raising a glass to the regional stereotype

People in central Scotland and England's North-west and North-east consume the most alcohol in the UK and have higher than average alcohol-related death rates, a study has shown. Researchers analysed alcohol sales figures across the UK, along with regional data for alcohol-related deaths, to show the relationship between heavy drinking and early mortality.

Shell pays £55m for Nigeria oil disasters

Shell has agreed to compensate thousands of Nigerians hit by devastating oil spills. The Anglo-Dutch oil giant reached a £55m settlement with the Bodo community of fishermen and farmers in the Niger Delta following two spills in 2008.

Lebanon refugee camps hit by snow

A powerful winter storm hit the Middle East yesterday, bringing bitter cold and snow to ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in camps in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, and peppering Cairo and parts of Egypt with a sandstorm.

Driver killed after collision with boar

Police are appealing for witnesses after a driver aged 47 died in a collision with a wild boar. He was driving on the M4 between Chippenham and Swindon on Monday night when his Seat Ibiza collided with the animal before being hit by an articulated lorry.

£3m lottery winnings yet to be claimed

The search is on to find a mystery ticket-holder who has not yet claimed their lottery winnings of more than £3m. The prize belongs to a ticket bought in the Stirling area for a draw last month. The winner matched five numbers and the bonus ball in the draw on Wednesday 17 December.

McDonald's has had its chips... for a while

More than 100 McDonald's restaurants have run out of chips and are serving deep-fried arepa flatbreads or yuca, a starchy staple of Venezuelan cooking. McDonald's franchisees blame a row with dock workers for halting imports of frozen fries.

Scientists discover 'eight more Earths'

Eight more planets have been discovered that could possess watery oceans and life, including two of the most Earth-like yet found. The new worlds double the number of planets believed to be circling their stars in the "habitable zone" - the narrow region in which temperatures are mild enough to allow liquid surface water.

Did Ukip website forget to pay bill?

The UK Independence Party blamed a technical problem for the disappearance of its website yesterday. Visitors to ukip.org were greeted with a holding page of the service provider, leading to speculation on social media that the party had not paid the bill for its domain name.

Captain Sting goes down with his Ship

Rock god Sting has been unable to save his struggling Broadway musical The Last Ship, about life in the shipyards of Tyneside. The show will close when he leaves the show on 24 January. The star, who wrote the songs, was parachuted into the production in December to replace Jimmy Nail, who played a shipyard foreman.

**Load-Date:** January 7, 2015

**End of Document**



[*For Turkey's aid workers, these cruel videos are part of the daily round*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5D94-VJJ1-JCJY-G3RG-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

October 5, 2014 Sunday 12:00 AM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** COMMENT

**Length:** 654 words

**Byline:** Isabel Hunter

**Body**

As each gruesome video is aired, the news filters through Turkey's southern city of Gaziantep to numb silence. The industrial city is a base for a international aid workers and ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, and word travels fast there.

One aid worker told me: "These aren't just names: [they're] our friends, friends of friends, lovers, family - and they're just lined up in front of us. It's revolting."

Sleep comes late, if at all, on the evenings videos are released. Many of the workers are now questioning why these deaths are attracting so much attention when the killings and disappearances of thousands of Syrians go unreported. At first, the videos were talked about in the few bars around town; now there's nothing to say.

Aid workers in Turkey commonly split their time between Gaziantep and the border town of Kilis, near to where Steven Sotloff was taken; or between the equivalent crossing near Antakya and its border town of Reyhanli, near to where David Haines and Alan Henning were seized in Syria.

Since the spate of kidnappings in 2013, most international aid workers have stopped crossing the border, relying on local staff to run essential support programmes. Most NGOs moved from Antakya to Gaziantep at the behest of the Turkish government, which was uncomfortable with the anti-Syrian sentiment growing in the wake of the Reyhanli car bombing that left at least 50 people dead.

Gaziantep, 40 miles from the Syrian border, is regarded as the safest border city for NGOs and has become the centre of humanitarian work in northern Syria. Peter Kassig and his medical NGO start-up, Special Emergency Response and Assistance (Sera), were based there in the summer of 2013.

The former US soldier was shown at the end of the latest video message from Islamic State, or Isis, after the beheading of the British taxi driver and humanitarian Alan Henning. Like the families of most of the hostages, Mr Kassig's family, friends and colleagues have remained silent during their negotiations to free him after he was snatched during a trip to Deir Ezzor on 1 October 2013.

Despite knowing the risks, he had travelled to the isolated eastern town to deliver medical supplies. The town was under seige from the regime and receiving little aid. Now it is in the hands of Islamic State.

Mr Kassig founded Sera in Beirut in 2012 to provide first aid training and supplies to Syrians. Since his kidnapping, the organisation continued, until recently, to hold training workshops and deliver urgently needed supplies.

Emily Dakin, who co-ordinates NGOs working in northern Syria, said yesterday: "The NGO community is saddened and concerned by the kidnapping of humanitarian workers, especially in light of the critical aid that is being delivered by NGOs in northern Syria. We hope this trend does not continue. The ability to deliver aid to people who are most in need inside Syria must be respected."

In the past few days, as regime forces have closed in on Aleppo, NGOs are drawing up emergency plans to cope with a seige. Clashes between the Syrian Arab Army and pro-Assad militias - including Hezbollah, which is battling Syrian rebels for control of the strategic supply town of Handarat - threaten the route for the few hundred thousand civilians still inside the part of the city controlled by the opposition.

But while the violence continues south of the border, the streets of Gaziantep feel as safe as ever, despite reports that 19 militants were arrested in the province at the beginning of September.

The world's media is focused on Islamic State's march on the Kurdish city of Kobani, also known as Ayn Al-Arab, but IS has been in control of Jarablus and Tel Abyad - two other towns along the Turkish border - for around a year.

As the threat increases, foreigners are being warned to take extra precautions while travelling near border towns such as Kilis or Reyhanli, to guard against being snatched and smuggled across the border.

**Load-Date:** October 5, 2014

**End of Document**



[*Erdogan warns Kobani is 'about to fall to Isis' as militants advance on Syria-Turkey border town; Militants fighting Kurdish defenders have taken control of three districts*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5D9M-GK71-F021-61PF-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

October 7, 2014 Tuesday 3:03 PM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 628 words

**Byline:** Heather Saul

**Body**

The Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has warned Kobani is about to fall to Isis, hours after militants backed by tanks and artillery pushed into the Syrian border town with Turkey.

Kurdish forces are struggling to repel the extremists after Isis (also known as Islamic State) militants raised two of the group's black flags on the outskirts of Kobani and crossed into a southern district of the town.

"They're fighting inside the city. Hundreds of civilians have left," said Rami Abdurrahman, the director of the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. "The Islamic State controls three neighbourhoods on the eastern side of Kobani. They are trying to enter the town from the south west as well."

Mr Erdogan said the Western coalition air campaign will not be enough to halt the advance and called for greater cooperation with the Syrian opposition.

"Kobani is about to fall," he told ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in the Turkish town of Gaziantep, near the border.

"We asked for three things: one, for a no-fly zone to be created; two, for a secure zone parallel to the region to be declared; and for the moderate opposition in Syria and Iraq to be trained and equipped."

Read more: Isis on the verge of victory in Kobani KURDISH FEMALE SUICIDE BOMBER ATTACKS ISISTURKEY ACCUSED OF HANDING 'BRITISH JIHADISTS' BACK TO ISISIsis raises the black flag

Since it began its offensive in mid-September, Isis has advanced through one Kurdish village after another as it closed in on its main target, Kobani, also known as Ayn Arab. The assault has forced about 160,000 Syrians to flee and placed a severe strain on Kurdish forces.

Turkish tanks and other ground forces have been stationed along the border within a few hundred meters of the fighting in Kobani, also known as Ayn Arab, but have not yet intervened.

Capturing Kobani would give Isis, which already rules a huge stretch of territory spanning the Syria-Iraq border, a direct link between its positions in the Syrian province of Aleppo and its stronghold of Raqqa to the east.

After initially setting up positions to the east, south and west of the town, Isis shelled Kobani for days to try to loosen up the defences.

Isis fighters in Kobani: Civilians flee as militants enter Syria-Turkey border town

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said about 20 Isis fighters managed to sneak into the eastern part of Kobani overnight, but were ambushed and killed by Kurdish militiamen.

Syrian Kurdish forces have long been among the most effective adversaries of Isis, keeping the extremists out of the Kurdish enclave in north-eastern Syria even as the militants routed the armed forces of both Syria and neighbouring Iraq. But in recent weeks the overstretched Kurds have struggled to counter the increasingly well-armed militants, who have been strengthened by heavy weapons looted from captured Syrian and Iraqi military bases.

As fighting raged within sight of the Turkish border, the country's defence minister Ismet Yilmaz said the Nato alliance had drawn up a strategy to defend Turkey, a Nato member, if it is attacked along its frontier with Syria. The move came at Turkey's request.

Yesterday's heavy clashes followed a particularly bloody Sunday, when more than 45 fighters on both sides were killed, according to the observatory and the Kurdish force known as the People's Protection Units, or YPG.

The dead included a Kurdish female fighter who blew herself up, killing 10 jihadists. A YPG statement identified her as Deilar Kanj Khamis, better known by her military name, Arin Mirkan.

She was a member of the Women's Protection Units, a branch of the main Kurdish militia. The force has more than 10,000 female fighters who have played a major role in the battles against Isis.

Additional reporting by Reuters and Associated Press

**Load-Date:** October 7, 2014

**End of Document**



[*The Geneva talks are the only hope for Syria - and Iran should have been part of them; The UN's view has been that Tehran should have a place at the table*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5BBB-B781-DXDT-603D-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 21, 2014 Tuesday 2:12 AM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 629 words

**Byline:** Kim Sengupta

**Body**

There was absolutely no chance of the Geneva II talks on Syria taking place without last-minute dramas and this has, inevitably, happened. Some of it is expected posturing, but the latest act, Ban Ki-moon's decision to rescind the invitation to Iran to attend, is of great significance.

Tehran's participation was needed for a future peace deal. But the UN Secretary-General withdrew the invitation on the same day it was unexpectedly issued, following the threat of a boycott from the Syrian opposition and pressure from the United States.

There were expressions of surprise in Western capitals at the initial invitation. The point is that the 30 international participants (in Montreux on the first day because a watch conference has grabbed all the facilities in Geneva) all agreed at the first set of Syria talks, Geneva I, that the discussions will be for a transitional administration without Bashar al-Assad: Iran has not signed up to that.

The UN's view, however, had been that Tehran should have a place at the table. There were talks between American and UN officials over the weekend on the issue. Mr Ban was convinced by the Foreign Minister Javad Zarif that Iran has privately agreed to the tenets of Geneva. But until Iran agrees publicly, the West's official position is that Iran cannot attend.

There has been acknowledgement for a while in the Western states backing the Syrian opposition that Tehran's influence was necessary to bring the violence to an end. At the weekend the Foreign Minister of a major European power stressed at a gathering that Iran will play a part in the Syria talks, if not in the basis of the Geneva I declaration then in other ways.

A senior British diplomat pointed out that although Russia was the key in organising the talks, Iran has been playing a constructive role since President Rouhani came to power.

Syria's Opposition Coalition had stated that it would withdraw from the negotiations unless the Iranian invitation was retracted. Many of its members in Istanbul yesterday indicated privately they were more likely to turn up than not, but the public stance had to be different.

For those of us reporting from northern Syria's killing fields, the need for talks was not a surprise. There was no other way for the main protagonists, the regime and the official opposition. Neither can hope for a military victory. The only winning side, despite a few recent reverses, has been al-Qa'ida-linked groups, in particular the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Isis).

A lot has been taking place behind the scenes. Western intelligence agencies have been to Damascus to liaise with the regime about prisoners it is holding as well as the overall jihadist threats. At the same time regime officials have met those from the West in neutral venues to discuss life after Mr Assad; there is anxiety to avoid what happened in Iraq after the invasion, when security forces were disbanded.

Western backers of the official opposition are not without means of contact with Islamist rebels inside Syria - this is being done with Jabhat al-Nusra and the Islamic Front through their sponsors, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the UAE.

The Geneva II talks  have the framework for deals eventually bringing the terrible bloodshed  to an end.

Even if this is now delayed, a long-term peace deal will have to take place, and it will take place with Iranian involvement. It appears that on this occasion Mr Ban made a call to Tehran just a bit too soon.

Read more:Moment of truth for Syria, but Iran left in the cold by UN - and now Assad says he may stand in this year's presidential electionSyria photos may prove claims of torture by Assad regimeMPs revolt over failure to admit ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** as Yvette Cooper condemns minister's dismissal of 'token' impact

**Load-Date:** January 21, 2014

**End of Document**



[*Syria peace talks: Geneva II is the only hope for Syria - and Iran should have been part of it; The UN's view has been that Tehran should have a place at the table*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5BBC-07J1-DXDT-610S-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 21, 2014 Tuesday 6:40 AM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 628 words

**Byline:** Kim Sengupta

**Body**

There was absolutely no chance of the Geneva II talks on Syria taking place without last-minute dramas and this has, inevitably, happened. Some of it is expected posturing, but the latest act, Ban Ki-moon's decision to rescind the invitation to Iran to attend, is of great significance.

Tehran's participation was needed for a future peace deal. But the UN Secretary-General withdrew the invitation on the same day it was unexpectedly issued, following the threat of a boycott from the Syrian opposition and pressure from the United States.

There were expressions of surprise in Western capitals at the initial invitation. The point is that the 30 international participants (in Montreux on the first day because a watch conference has grabbed all the facilities in Geneva) all agreed at the first set of Syria talks, Geneva I, that the discussions will be for a transitional administration without Bashar al-Assad: Iran has not signed up to that.

The UN's view, however, had been that Tehran should have a place at the table. There were talks between American and UN officials over the weekend on the issue. Mr Ban was convinced by the Foreign Minister Javad Zarif that Iran has privately agreed to the tenets of Geneva. But until Iran agrees publicly, the West's official position is that Iran cannot attend.

There has been acknowledgement for a while in the Western states backing the Syrian opposition that Tehran's influence was necessary to bring the violence to an end. At the weekend the Foreign Minister of a major European power stressed at a gathering that Iran will play a part in the Syria talks, if not in the basis of the Geneva I declaration then in other ways.

A senior British diplomat pointed out that although Russia was the key in organising the talks, Iran has been playing a constructive role since President Rouhani came to power.

Syria's Opposition Coalition had stated that it would withdraw from the negotiations unless the Iranian invitation was retracted. Many of its members in Istanbul yesterday indicated privately they were more likely to turn up than not, but the public stance had to be different.

For those of us reporting from northern Syria's killing fields, the need for talks was not a surprise. There was no other way for the main protagonists, the regime and the official opposition. Neither can hope for a military victory. The only winning side, despite a few recent reverses, has been al-Qa'ida-linked groups, in particular the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Isis).

A lot has been taking place behind the scenes. Western intelligence agencies have been to Damascus to liaise with the regime about prisoners it is holding as well as the overall jihadist threats. At the same time regime officials have met those from the West in neutral venues to discuss life after Mr Assad; there is anxiety to avoid what happened in Iraq after the invasion, when security forces were disbanded.

Western backers of the official opposition are not without means of contact with Islamist rebels inside Syria - this is being done with Jabhat al-Nusra and the Islamic Front through their sponsors, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the UAE.

The Geneva II talks  have the framework for deals eventually bringing the terrible bloodshed  to an end.

Even if this is now delayed, a long-term peace deal will have to take place, and it will take place with Iranian involvement. It appears that on this occasion Mr Ban made a call to Tehran just a bit too soon.

Read more:Moment of truth for Syria, but Iran left in the cold by UN - and now Assad says he may stand in this year's presidential electionSyria photos may prove claims of torture by Assad regimeMPs revolt over failure to admit ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** as Yvette Cooper condemns minister's dismissal of 'token' impact

**Load-Date:** January 21, 2014

**End of Document**



[*Gordon Brown may have been a poor PM, but he still deserves respect; It is as if Westminster has become collectively deaf out of sheer loathing*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5BJP-MS51-J9YR-G16T-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

February 19, 2014 Wednesday 8:04 PM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 628 words

**Byline:** Jane Merrick

**Body**

The words of a Syrian girl as she explained, in a letter to Gordon Brown, how her family has been forced to leave Homs were desperate. "Everything is lost. I feel like I should show you so you will believe me," she wrote of her school bombed and her hopes of the world coming to her rescue abandoned. This teenager had written to the former Prime Minister in his role as UN envoy for global education, and Mr Brown read out the letter to the House of Commons. The girl was a chess champion, a youth-group leader and a singer in her church choir. Hers is poignant individual story illustrating one of the planet's most pressing problems. Except that nobody was listening.

The chamber was nearly empty when the MP for Kirkcaldy and Cowdenbeath rose to his feet last Thursday. And there was barely a mention of the content of his moving speech in the next day's newspapers, and no coverage on TV. Instead, Mr Brown's appearance triggered a round of sneering on Twitter, in the papers and even an item on the BBC's Daily Politics asking whether he should just give up as an MP, given that he hardly ever appears in Parliament.

MPs, journalists and bloggers piled in, ridiculing the former PM for speaking to an empty chamber - look how hated he is, they all effectively said, nobody wants to hear what he has to say. At one point during Mr Brown's speech, the Tory whip, Greg Hands, even interrupted him to call for the House to be adjourned. It was as if the entire Westminster establishment had become collectively deaf to what Mr Brown was saying out of sheer loathing for the man himself.

What have we come to when a former Prime Minister is treated in this way? Where is the respect for a holder of that office? It is true that Mr Brown was often accused of being a bully - as Chancellor and Prime Minister he was obsessive, demanding and he shouted at his staff. But, as he was then, in his post-Downing Street life he is passionate about education and social justice. He has made it his mission to fight for funding for the education of ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. Another battle he has joined is the one to keep Scotland in the UK - his latest speech was on the subject this week, warning that Scottish pensioners would lose out under independence.

On these issues, Brown's is an authentic voice. Mr Brown is more respected and admired in Scotland than David Cameron, George Osborne and arguably even Alistair Darling. A poll yesterday showed that 59 per cent of people believe that he is a help, rather than a hindrance, to the "Better Together" campaign. Those who jeer at Mr Brown for not making many appearances in Parliament are the same people who would like Scotland to remain in the UK. Surely it doesn't take much to work out that Mr Brown remaining an MP gives him a platform to fight for this cause?

In any case, Mr Brown has not been entirely absent from Parliament. He has asked 24 Parliamentary Questions in the past year and has spoken in the chamber repeatedly on the issue of radiation in Dalgety Bay, which affects his constituents. Yes, he does not turn up every week to PMQs, but then why would he? John Major carried on as an MP for a whole Parliament after losing office, while Margaret Thatcher did two more years - and neither made regular appearances in the House. Then there are his children, the younger of whom, seven-year-old Fraser, has cystic fibrosis. As someone who had a relative with this disease, I know how draining this is on a family, with visits to hospital and daily physiotherapy.

Mr Brown's decision to remain an MP is presumably driven by the belief that it brings him influence on his various missions. He should continue, if only for the sake of one Syrian girl.

Tempting us is one thing, outright force quite another.

Twitter: @janemerrick23

**Load-Date:** February 20, 2014

**End of Document**



[*It's the norm to denigrate Gordon Brown. But the former PM doesn't deserve it; It is as if Westminster has become collectively deaf out of sheer loathing*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5BJP-MS51-J9YR-G16V-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

February 19, 2014 Wednesday 8:47 PM GMT

Copyright 2014 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 619 words

**Byline:** Jane Merrick

**Body**

The words of a Syrian girl as she explained, in a letter to Gordon Brown, how her family has been forced to leave Homs were desperate. "Everything is lost. I feel like I should show you so you will believe me," she wrote of her school bombed and her hopes of the world coming to her rescue abandoned. This teenager had written to the former Prime Minister in his role as UN envoy for global education, and Mr Brown read out the letter to the House of Commons. The girl was a chess champion, a youth-group leader and a singer in her church choir. Hers is poignant individual story illustrating one of the planet's most pressing problems. Except that nobody was listening.

The chamber was nearly empty when the MP for Kirkcaldy and Cowdenbeath rose to his feet last Thursday. And there was barely a mention of the content of his moving speech in the next day's newspapers, and no coverage on TV. Instead, Mr Brown's appearance triggered a round of sneering on Twitter, in the papers and even an item on the BBC's Daily Politics asking whether he should just give up as an MP, given that he hardly ever appears in Parliament.

MPs, journalists and bloggers piled in, ridiculing the former PM for speaking to an empty chamber - look how hated he is, they all effectively said, nobody wants to hear what he has to say. At one point during Mr Brown's speech, the Tory whip, Greg Hands, even interrupted him to call for the House to be adjourned. It was as if the entire Westminster establishment had become collectively deaf to what Mr Brown was saying out of sheer loathing for the man himself.

What have we come to when a former Prime Minister is treated in this way? Where is the respect for a holder of that office? It is true that Mr Brown was often accused of being a bully - as Chancellor and Prime Minister he was obsessive, demanding and he shouted at his staff. But, as he was then, in his post-Downing Street life he is passionate about education and social justice. He has made it his mission to fight for funding for the education of ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. Another battle he has joined is the one to keep Scotland in the UK - his latest speech was on the subject this week, warning that Scottish pensioners would lose out under independence.

On these issues, Brown's is an authentic voice. Mr Brown is more respected and admired in Scotland than David Cameron, George Osborne and arguably even Alistair Darling. A poll yesterday showed that 59 per cent of people believe that he is a help, rather than a hindrance, to the "Better Together" campaign. Those who jeer at Mr Brown for not making many appearances in Parliament are the same people who would like Scotland to remain in the UK. Surely it doesn't take much to work out that Mr Brown remaining an MP gives him a platform to fight for this cause?

In any case, Mr Brown has not been entirely absent from Parliament. He has asked 24 Parliamentary Questions in the past year and has spoken in the chamber repeatedly on the issue of radiation in Dalgety Bay, which affects his constituents. Yes, he does not turn up every week to PMQs, but then why would he? John Major carried on as an MP for a whole Parliament after losing office, while Margaret Thatcher did two more years - and neither made regular appearances in the House. Then there are his children, the younger of whom, seven-year-old Fraser, has cystic fibrosis. As someone who had a relative with this disease, I know how draining this is on a family, with visits to hospital and daily physiotherapy.

Mr Brown's decision to remain an MP is presumably driven by the belief that it brings him influence on his various missions. He should continue, if only for the sake of one Syrian girl.

Twitter: @janemerrick23

**Load-Date:** February 20, 2014

**End of Document**



[*What it's like living in one of the largest Syrian refugee camps in the world; The highly anticipated documentary After Spring debuted at this year's Tribeca Film Festival.*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JMY-F8D1-F021-6093-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

April 28, 2016 Thursday 6:23 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FILMS

**Length:** 1518 words

**Byline:** Justin Carissimo

**Body**

The Syrian Civil War has killed over450,000 andforced more than 10million people to flee their homes in search of safe, stable living conditions, which has resultedin one of the largest humanitarian crises of our time.Housing the largest population of displaced families in the Middle East, the Zataari Refugee Campis home to nearly80,000 Syrians,

and is considered the fourth-largest city in Jordan.

Zataari, where more than half of camp's residents are under 18-years-old, is the prime setting of Ellen Martinez and Stephanie Ching's directorial debut,

After Spring

, an intimate portrait of two Syrian families struggling to make peace with uncertain futures. With severlylimited options for food, medical resources andeducational opportunities,the heads of each household must decide whether to spend years, maybe even decades, living in the underfunded camp or risk safety to return back home to their war-torn country.

The documentary explores one of the camp's only positive outlets for children, the Zaatari Taekwondo Academy, where Korean martial arts instructor and school founder Charles Lee teacheshis students the art of discipline andfocus after experiencingtraumatic events before escaping the civil war.

The Independent

caught up with Martinez and Ching during the second-week of this year's Tribeca Film Festival, where their film debuted worldwide.

The Independent: What drew the two of you two to the project, I understand you both have personal connections to Syria and therefugee crisis?

Ellen Martinez:

We both have different reasons for why we wanted to make the movie:I lived in Damascus, Syria for four years and spent eight years in the Middle East, total. I was reading a lot about refugee camps and [Steph] and I have been friends for awhile, and we've always wanted to make a movie together.

Stephanie Ching:

It took me a longer period of time before I had this revelation why I was personally connected to it. I was always drawn to these humanitarian stories and a lot of my work has always been in that world. It wasn't until we actually went to the camp and started talking to the people that I understood why that connection was there

-

my grandmother is a refugee at the end of World War II. This was something that was obviously a part of our history but it was not something that she labeled herself as. We had grown up with these stories of her talking about crossing the border and how she had to board a boat.

It wasn't until we were talking to Ibrahim and Mohammed about their journey and hearing these stories that were so similar to my grandma's story, you know, 70 years ago. And it sort of solidified for me, and for our film, this is something that happens with every generation. Everyone has some connection to that whether it's you, your parents, or somebody ten generations ago that's lived through it.

What led you to the Zaatari Refugee Camp, when did you begin filming and how long did you end up staying?

EM:

Right now, it's the largest camp for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and we knew we wanted to do something with the neighboring countries because that's where everything is going on right now, the numbers are between anywhere between 600,000 to 1 million Syrians in Jordan, over one million in Lebanon and over two million in Turkey, we really wanted to go somewhere nearby.

SC:

The whole process of our movie took about three years. We spent about three months total filmingat the camp, spreadthroughoutthe year.We went for one month, came back for six, then went back again for another two months in 2014.

What was your vetting process like while seeking out subjects for your film, what were you looking for, and how did the two families fulfill those roles?

EM:

We initially found them through the

Zaatari Taekwondo Academy

with Charles Lee. We weren't going in to specifically find anyone, we were more curious as to who we would meet, and these two families were really open to sharing their stories with us. They were really kind and generous throughout the whole filmmaking process.

Mohammed

even donated his wedding video,one of the only things he brought with him from Syria, and he wanted us to use it in the film.

We also gave them small portable cameras, leftand came back two weeks later, and Mohammed had filmed everything going on with his family, likehis kids going to school. We really wanted to help them tell their own story.

After Spring Film

What was the biggest challenge you faced while making the film?

SC:

The biggest challenge from the start to finish was the language barrier, which was mostly in Arabic and Korean, two languages that neither of us speak. From pre-production to final cut, we had about 24 translators in the movie. We were really lucky that we had an amazing fixer and an amazing associate field producer who spoke Arabic and really helped us build relationships.

How did you two link up with Jon Stewart? How much was he involved in the filmmaking process?

EM:

We knew that Jon visited Zaatari while he was filming

Rosewater

in Jordan, and our main fixer was also his driver during

Rosewater

. So, we went on our first trip and we shot enough to make a trailer, then we came back to the states, and we reached out to see if he was interested in supporting the project in any way. He liked it and he joined on as the executive producer and he was really supportive. Him and his company watched a few cuts throughout post-production.

Were you surprised that some familieswould rather go back to Syria than stay in the camps?

SC:

At first, I was surprised but then I thought about what I would do in that situation, and I would obviously want to go back-that would be my first thought.

EM:

At the time, hundreds of families were going back each day.

"The most important part of my life is my children" Mohammed and his son Osama watch a soccer game from their caravan window. Happy Father's Day to all the dads out there, near and far! #fathersday

A photo posted by After Spring (@afterspringfilm) on

Jun 21, 2015 at 10:07am PDT

What do you think about the anti-refugee rhetoric coming from the states, and are the folks living in camps aware of the negative voices in the US?

EM:

I think they're definitely aware of it. They watch the news everyday and most of the families have a TV or a phone with connection to the Internet so they're staying updated with the situation in their country as well as the news from the global crisis.

It's very disappointing that's happening right now, and I mean, one thing that you want to do is help raise awareness to show that these are just normal, regular people with normal lives back in Syria who were forced to leave. The dangers that the refugees are leaving, are the same things people in the United Stateswould be afraid of.

SC:

That's one thing we do want to keep reminding people is that countries like ours, that are made up of immigrants, have the resources and ability to help people and it's sort of hypocritical for us to say "no, we don't want you," even though this is what we are.

Is there anything you wish could be added to the film, that didn't make the screening?

SC:

One of the people that we met, that was so impressive, that we couldn't really fit into the movie, is this girl named [

Mazoun Almellehan]. She just turned 18.At the time she was 16, and she lived at Zataari before being moved to the other camp. She kind of became this pioneer for girls education in general, which is one of the biggest issues of the camp, that education is so limited and there aren't enough resources, the classrooms are overcrowded and thereare short hours. She would hold study groupsand recruit her friends to recruit others to go to school, and she's been called the "Malala Yousafzai of Syria." She's really a symbol of this next generation of people who do have highhopes for the future.

EM:

She's recently moved to the UK where she's working with Malala to provide ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** access to education.

What projects arenext for the two of you, and how can people learn about your outreach campaign?

EM:

We do want to keep making documentaries, but for now, we're still seeking distribution for

After Spring

. We also have an outreach campaign, and we're hoping that in the next few months, we're going to partner with several organizations related to resettlement, one that provides access to education and hopefully we can work with them to direct viewers to ways they can help.

SC:

That's really important to us, we didn't just make this movie, to make a movie. We want the conversation to continue afterwards. The response has been really great and our audiences have been coming up to us after every screening asking how they can help. I know it's always frustrating for me, when I watch something that was so moving and there's no way to direct my energy, that's something we want to do -direct others to ways they can help.

To learn more about the film, visit AfterSpringFilm.com. You can watch the film'strailer in full below:

After Spring Trailer from After Spring on Vimeo.

View more of

The Independent

's Tribeca Film Festival 2016 coveragehere.

**Load-Date:** April 28, 2016

**End of Document**



[*What it's like living in one of the largest Syrian refugee camps in the world; The highly anticipated documentary After Spring debuted at this year's Tribeca Film Festival.*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JMY-2361-JCJY-G33N-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

April 28, 2016 Thursday 5:44 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FILMS

**Length:** 1498 words

**Byline:** Justin Carissimo

**Body**

The Syrian Civil War has killed over450,000 andforced more than 10million people to flee their homes in search of safe, stable living conditions, which has resultedin one of the largest humanitarian crises of our time.Housing the largest population of displaced families in the Middle East, the Zataari Refugee Campis home to nearly80,000 Syrians,

and is considered the fourth-largest city in Jordan.

Zataari, where more than half of camp's residents are under 18-years-old, is the prime setting of Ellen Martinez and Stephanie Ching's directorial debut,

After Spring

, an intimate portrait of two Syrian families struggling to make peace with uncertain futures. With severlylimited options for food, medical resources andeducational opportunities,the heads of each household must decide whether to spend years, maybe even decades, living in the underfunded camp or risk safety to return back home to their war-torn country.

The documentary explores one of the camp's only positive outlets for children, the Zaatari Taekwondo Academy, where Korean martial arts instructor and school founder Charles Lee teacheshis students the art of discipline andfocus after experiencingtraumatic events before escaping the civil war.

The Independent

caught up with Martinez and Ching during the second-week of this year's Tribeca Film Festival, where their film debuted worldwide.

The Independent: What drew the two of you two to the project, I understand you both have personal connections to Syria and therefugee crisis?

Ellen Martinez:

We both have different reasons for why we wanted to make the movie:I lived in Damascus, Syria for four years and spent eight years in the Middle East, total. I was reading a lot about refugee camps and [Steph] and I have been friends for awhile, and we've always wanted to make a movie together.

Stephanie Ching:

It took me a longer period of time before I had this revelation why I was personally connected to it. I was always drawn to these humanitarian stories and a lot of my work has always been in that world. It wasn't until we actually went to the camp and started talking to the people that I understood why that connection was there

-

my grandmother is a refugee at the end of World War II. This was something that was obviously a part of our history but it was not something that she labeled herself as. We had grown up with these stories of her talking about crossing the border and how she had to board a boat.

It wasn't until we were talking to Ibrahim and Mohammed about their journey and hearing these stories that were so similar to my grandma's story, you know, 70 years ago. And it sort of solidified for me, and for our film, this is something that happens with every generation. Everyone has some connection to that whether it's you, your parents, or somebody ten generations ago that's lived through it.

What led you to the Zaatari Refugee Camp, when did you begin filming and how long did you end up staying?

EM:

Right now, it's the largest camp for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and we knew we wanted to do something with the neighboring countries because that's where everything is going on right now, the numbers are between anywhere between 600,000 to 1 million Syrians in Jordan, over one million in Lebanon and over two million in Turkey, we really wanted to go somewhere nearby.

SC:

The whole process of our movie took about three years. We spent about three months total filmingat the camp, spreadthroughoutthe year.We went for one month, came back for six, then went back again for another two months in 2014.

What was your vetting process like while seeking out subjects for your film, what were you looking for, and how did the two families fulfill those roles?

EM:

We initially found them through the

Zaatari Taekwondo Academy

with Charles Lee. We weren't going in to specifically find anyone, we were more curious as to who we would meet, and these two families were really open to sharing their stories with us. They were really kind and generous throughout the whole filmmaking process.

Mohammed

donated his home videowedding videos is one of the only things he brought with him from Syria.

We also gave them small portable cameras, and when we left and came back Mohammed had filmed everything. We really wanted to help them tell their own story.

After Spring Film

What was the biggest challenge you faced while making the film?

SC:

The biggest challenge from the start to finish was the language barrier, which was mostly in Arabic and Korean, two languages that neither of us speak. From pre-production to final cut, we had about 24 translators in the movie. We were really lucky that we had an amazing fixer and an amazing associate field producer who spoke Arabic and really helped us build relationships.

How did you two link up with Jon Stewart? How much was he involved in the filmmaking process?

EM:

We knew that Jon filmed Rosewater in Zaatari, and our main fixer was also his driver during Rosewater. So, we went on our first trip and we shot enough to make a trailer, then we came back to the states, and we reached out to see if he was interested in supporting the project in any way. He liked it and he joined on as the executive producer and he was really supportive. Him and his company watched a few cuts throughout post-production.

Were you surprised that some familieswould rather go back to Syria than stay in the camps?

SC:

At first, I was surprised but then I thought about what I would do in that situation, and I would obviously want to go back-that would be my first thought.

EM:

At the time, hundreds of families were going back each day.

"The most important part of my life is my children" Mohammed and his son Osama watch a soccer game from their caravan window. Happy Father's Day to all the dads out there, near and far! #fathersday

A photo posted by After Spring (@afterspringfilm) on

Jun 21, 2015 at 10:07am PDT

What do you think about the anti-refugee rhetoric coming from the states, and are the folks living in camps aware of the negative voices in the US?

EM:

I think they're definitely aware of it. They watch the news everyday and most of the families have a TV or a phone with connection to the Internet so they're staying updated with the situation in their country as well as the news from the global crisis.

It's very disappointing that's happening right now, and I mean, one thing that you want to do is help raise awareness to show that these are just normal, regular people with normal lives back in Syria who were forced to leave. The dangers that the refugees are leaving, are the same things people in the United Stateswould be afraid of.

SC:

That's one thing we do want to keep reminding people is that countries like ours, that are made up of immigrants, have the resources and ability to help people and it's sort of hypocritical for us to say "no, we don't want you," even though this is what we are.

Is there anything you wish could be added to the film, that didn't make the screening?

SC:

One of the people that we met, that was so impressive, that we couldn't really fit into the movie, is this girl named [

Mazoun Almellehan]. She just turned 18.At the time she was 16, and she lived at Zataari before being moved to the other camp. She kind of became this pioneer for girls education in general, which is one of the biggest issues of the camp, that education is so limited and there aren't enough resources, the classrooms are overcrowded and thereare short hours. She would hold study groupsand recruit her friends to recruit others to go to school, and she's been called the "Malala Yousafzai of Syria." She's really a symbol of this next generation of people who do have highhopes for the future.

EM:

She's recently moved to the UK where she's working with Malala to provide ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** access to education.

What projects arenext for the two of you, and how can people learn about your outreach campaign?

EM:

We do want to keep making documentaries, but for now, we're still seeking distribution for

After Spring

. We also have an outreach campaign, and we're hoping that in the next few months, we're going to partner with several organizations related to resettlement, one that provides access to education and hopefully we can work with them to direct viewers to ways they can help.

SC:

That's really important to us, we didn't just make this movie, to make a movie. We want the conversation to continue afterwards. The response has been really great and our audiences have been coming up to us after every screening asking how they can help. I know it's always frustrating for me, when I watch something that was so moving and there's no way to direct my energy, that's something we want to do -direct others to ways they can help.

To learn more about the film, visit AfterSpringFilm.com. You can watch the film'strailer in full below:

After Spring Trailer from After Spring on Vimeo.

View more of

The Independent

's Tribeca Film Festival 2016 coveragehere.

**Load-Date:** April 28, 2016

**End of Document**



[*What it's like living in one of the largest Syrian refugee camps in the world; The highly anticipated documentary After Spring debuted at this year's Tribeca Film Festival.*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JMY-F8D1-F021-6092-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

April 28, 2016 Thursday 6:02 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FILMS

**Length:** 1514 words

**Byline:** Justin Carissimo

**Body**

The Syrian Civil War has killed over450,000 andforced more than 10million people to flee their homes in search of safe, stable living conditions, which has resultedin one of the largest humanitarian crises of our time.Housing the largest population of displaced families in the Middle East, the Zataari Refugee Campis home to nearly80,000 Syrians,

and is considered the fourth-largest city in Jordan.

Zataari, where more than half of camp's residents are under 18-years-old, is the prime setting of Ellen Martinez and Stephanie Ching's directorial debut,

After Spring

, an intimate portrait of two Syrian families struggling to make peace with uncertain futures. With severlylimited options for food, medical resources andeducational opportunities,the heads of each household must decide whether to spend years, maybe even decades, living in the underfunded camp or risk safety to return back home to their war-torn country.

The documentary explores one of the camp's only positive outlets for children, the Zaatari Taekwondo Academy, where Korean martial arts instructor and school founder Charles Lee teacheshis students the art of discipline andfocus after experiencingtraumatic events before escaping the civil war.

The Independent

caught up with Martinez and Ching during the second-week of this year's Tribeca Film Festival, where their film debuted worldwide.

The Independent: What drew the two of you two to the project, I understand you both have personal connections to Syria and therefugee crisis?

Ellen Martinez:

We both have different reasons for why we wanted to make the movie:I lived in Damascus, Syria for four years and spent eight years in the Middle East, total. I was reading a lot about refugee camps and [Steph] and I have been friends for awhile, and we've always wanted to make a movie together.

Stephanie Ching:

It took me a longer period of time before I had this revelation why I was personally connected to it. I was always drawn to these humanitarian stories and a lot of my work has always been in that world. It wasn't until we actually went to the camp and started talking to the people that I understood why that connection was there

-

my grandmother is a refugee at the end of World War II. This was something that was obviously a part of our history but it was not something that she labeled herself as. We had grown up with these stories of her talking about crossing the border and how she had to board a boat.

It wasn't until we were talking to Ibrahim and Mohammed about their journey and hearing these stories that were so similar to my grandma's story, you know, 70 years ago. And it sort of solidified for me, and for our film, this is something that happens with every generation. Everyone has some connection to that whether it's you, your parents, or somebody ten generations ago that's lived through it.

What led you to the Zaatari Refugee Camp, when did you begin filming and how long did you end up staying?

EM:

Right now, it's the largest camp for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and we knew we wanted to do something with the neighboring countries because that's where everything is going on right now, the numbers are between anywhere between 600,000 to 1 million Syrians in Jordan, over one million in Lebanon and over two million in Turkey, we really wanted to go somewhere nearby.

SC:

The whole process of our movie took about three years. We spent about three months total filmingat the camp, spreadthroughoutthe year.We went for one month, came back for six, then went back again for another two months in 2014.

What was your vetting process like while seeking out subjects for your film, what were you looking for, and how did the two families fulfill those roles?

EM:

We initially found them through the

Zaatari Taekwondo Academy

with Charles Lee. We weren't going in to specifically find anyone, we were more curious as to who we would meet, and these two families were really open to sharing their stories with us. They were really kind and generous throughout the whole filmmaking process.

Mohammed

even donated his wedding video,one of the only things he brought with him from Syria, and he wanted us to use it in the film.

We also gave them small portable cameras, leftand came back two weeks later, and Mohammed had filmed everything going on with his family, likehis kids going to school. We really wanted to help them tell their own story.

After Spring Film

What was the biggest challenge you faced while making the film?

SC:

The biggest challenge from the start to finish was the language barrier, which was mostly in Arabic and Korean, two languages that neither of us speak. From pre-production to final cut, we had about 24 translators in the movie. We were really lucky that we had an amazing fixer and an amazing associate field producer who spoke Arabic and really helped us build relationships.

How did you two link up with Jon Stewart? How much was he involved in the filmmaking process?

EM:

We knew that Jon filmed Rosewater in Zaatari, and our main fixer was also his driver during Rosewater. So, we went on our first trip and we shot enough to make a trailer, then we came back to the states, and we reached out to see if he was interested in supporting the project in any way. He liked it and he joined on as the executive producer and he was really supportive. Him and his company watched a few cuts throughout post-production.

Were you surprised that some familieswould rather go back to Syria than stay in the camps?

SC:

At first, I was surprised but then I thought about what I would do in that situation, and I would obviously want to go back-that would be my first thought.

EM:

At the time, hundreds of families were going back each day.

"The most important part of my life is my children" Mohammed and his son Osama watch a soccer game from their caravan window. Happy Father's Day to all the dads out there, near and far! #fathersday

A photo posted by After Spring (@afterspringfilm) on

Jun 21, 2015 at 10:07am PDT

What do you think about the anti-refugee rhetoric coming from the states, and are the folks living in camps aware of the negative voices in the US?

EM:

I think they're definitely aware of it. They watch the news everyday and most of the families have a TV or a phone with connection to the Internet so they're staying updated with the situation in their country as well as the news from the global crisis.

It's very disappointing that's happening right now, and I mean, one thing that you want to do is help raise awareness to show that these are just normal, regular people with normal lives back in Syria who were forced to leave. The dangers that the refugees are leaving, are the same things people in the United Stateswould be afraid of.

SC:

That's one thing we do want to keep reminding people is that countries like ours, that are made up of immigrants, have the resources and ability to help people and it's sort of hypocritical for us to say "no, we don't want you," even though this is what we are.

Is there anything you wish could be added to the film, that didn't make the screening?

SC:

One of the people that we met, that was so impressive, that we couldn't really fit into the movie, is this girl named [

Mazoun Almellehan]. She just turned 18.At the time she was 16, and she lived at Zataari before being moved to the other camp. She kind of became this pioneer for girls education in general, which is one of the biggest issues of the camp, that education is so limited and there aren't enough resources, the classrooms are overcrowded and thereare short hours. She would hold study groupsand recruit her friends to recruit others to go to school, and she's been called the "Malala Yousafzai of Syria." She's really a symbol of this next generation of people who do have highhopes for the future.

EM:

She's recently moved to the UK where she's working with Malala to provide ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** access to education.

What projects arenext for the two of you, and how can people learn about your outreach campaign?

EM:

We do want to keep making documentaries, but for now, we're still seeking distribution for

After Spring

. We also have an outreach campaign, and we're hoping that in the next few months, we're going to partner with several organizations related to resettlement, one that provides access to education and hopefully we can work with them to direct viewers to ways they can help.

SC:

That's really important to us, we didn't just make this movie, to make a movie. We want the conversation to continue afterwards. The response has been really great and our audiences have been coming up to us after every screening asking how they can help. I know it's always frustrating for me, when I watch something that was so moving and there's no way to direct my energy, that's something we want to do -direct others to ways they can help.

To learn more about the film, visit AfterSpringFilm.com. You can watch the film'strailer in full below:

After Spring Trailer from After Spring on Vimeo.

View more of

The Independent

's Tribeca Film Festival 2016 coveragehere.

**Load-Date:** April 28, 2016

**End of Document**



[*The martial art of survival in the world's largest refugee camp; Justin Carissimo hears the remarkable story of the Zaatari Taekwondo Academy*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JN8-NGM1-JCS0-D08W-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

April 30, 2016 Saturday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 28

**Length:** 1411 words

**Byline:** Justin Carissimo

**Body**

The Syrian Civil War has killed more than 450,000 and forced millions to flee their homes in search of safe, stable living conditions, which has resulted in one of the largest humanitarian crises of our time. Housing the largest population of displaced families in the Middle East, the Zaatari Refugee Camp is home to nearly 80,000 Syrians, and is considered the fourth-largest city in Jordan.

Zaatari, where more than half of camp''s residents are under 18-years-old, is the prime setting of Ellen Martinez and Steph Ching's directorial debut, an intimate portrait of two Syrian families struggling to make peace with uncertain futures. With severely limited options for food, medical resources and educational opportunities, the heads of each household must decide whether to spend years, maybe even decades, living in the underfunded camp or risk safety to return back home to their war-torn country.

The documentary, After Spring, explores one of the camp''s only positive outlets for children, the Zaatari Taekwondo Academy, where Korean martial arts instructor and school founder Charles Lee teaches his students the art of discipline and focus after experiencing traumatic events before escaping the civil war. The film debuted during the second-week of this year's Tribeca Film Festival.

What drew the two of you two to the project? I understand you both have personal connections to Syria and the refugee crisis.

Ellen Martinez: We both have different reasons for why we wanted to make the movie: I lived in Damascus, Syria for four years and spent eight years in the Middle East, total. I was reading a lot about refugee camps and [Steph] and I have been friends for a while, and we've always wanted to make a movie together.

Steph Ching: It took me a longer period of time before I had the revelation of why I was personally connected to it. I was always drawn to these humanitarian stories and a lot of my work has always been in that world. It wasn't until we actually went to the camp and started talking to the people that I understood why that connection was there - my grandmother was a refugee at the end of World War Two. This was something that was obviously a part of our history but it was not something that she labelled herself as. We grew up with stories about her crossing the border and boarding a boat.

It wasn't until we were talking to Ibrahim and Mohammed about their journey and hearing these stories that were so similar to my grandma's story, you know, 70 years ago. And it sort of solidified for me, and for our film, this is something that happens with every generation. Everyone has some connection to that whether it's you, your parents, or somebody ten generations ago that's lived through it.

What led you to the Zaatari Refugee Camp, when did you begin filming and how long did you end up staying?

EM: Right now, it's the largest camp for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and we knew we wanted to do something with the neighbouring countries because that's where everything is going on right now, the numbers are anywhere between 600,000 to 1 million Syrians in Jordan, over one million in Lebanon and over two million in Turkey, we really wanted to go somewhere nearby.

SC: The whole process of our movie took about three years. We spent about three months total filming at the camp, spread throughout the year. We went for one month, came back for six, then went back again for another two months in 2014.

What was your vetting process like while seeking out subjects for your film, what were you looking for, and how did the two families fulfil those roles?

EM: We initially found them through the Zaatari Taekwondo Academy with Charles Lee. We weren''t going in to specifically find anyone, we were more curious as to whom we would meet, and these two families were really open to sharing their stories with us. They were really kind and generous throughout the whole filmmaking process. Mohammed even donated his wedding video, one of the only things he brought with him from Syria, and he wanted us to use it in the film.

We also gave them small portable cameras, left and came back two weeks later, and Mohammed had filmed everything going on with his family, like his kids going to school. We really wanted to help them tell their own story.

What was the biggest challenge you faced while making the film?

SC: The biggest challenge from the start to finish was the language barrier, which was mostly in Arabic and Korean, two languages that neither of us speaks. From pre-production to final cut, we had about 24 translators in the movie. We were really lucky that we had an amazing fixer and an amazing associate field producer who spoke Arabic and really helped us build relationships.

How did you two link up with Jon Stewart? How much was he involved in the filmmaking process?

EM: We knew that Jon visited Zaatari while he was filming Rosewater in Jordan, and our main fixer was also his driver during Rosewater. So we went on our first trip and we shot enough to make a trailer, then we came back to the states, and we reached out to see if he was interested in supporting the project in any way. He liked it and he joined on as the executive producer and he was really supportive. His company and he watched a few cuts throughout post-production.

Were you surprised that some families would rather go back to Syria than stay in the camps?

SC: At first, I was surprised but then I thought about what I would do in that situation, and I would obviously want to go back - that would be my first thought.

EM: At the time, hundreds of families were going back each day

What do you think about the anti-refugee rhetoric coming from the states, and are the folks living in camps aware of the negative voices in the US?

EM: I think they're definitely aware of it. They watch the news every day and most of the families have a TV or a phone with connection to the Internet. they're staying updated with the situation in their country as well as the news from the global crisis.

It's very disappointing that's happening right now, and I mean, one thing that you want to do is help raise awareness to show that these are just normal, regular people with normal lives back in Syria who were forced to leave. The dangers that the refugees are leaving, are the same things people in the United States would be afraid of.

SC: That''s one thing, we do want to keep reminding people is that countries like ours, that are made up of immigrants, have the resources and ability to help people and it''s sort of hypocritical for us to say no, we don''t want you.

Is there anything you wish could be added to the film, that didn''t make the screening?

SC: One of the people that we met, that was so impressive, that we couldn''t really fit into the movie, is this girl named [Mazoun Almellehan]. She just turned 18. At the time she was 16, and she lived at Zataari before being moved to the other camp. She kind of became this pioneer for girls' education in general, which is one of the biggest issues of the camp, that education is so limited. There aren''t enough resources, the classrooms are overcrowded and there are short hours.

She would hold study groups and recruit her friends to recruit others to go to school, and she''s been called the Malala Yousafzai of Syria. She''s really a symbol of this next generation of people who do have high hopes for the future.

EM: She''s recently moved to the UK where she''s working with Malala to provide ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** access to education.

What projects are next for the two of you, and how can people learn about your outreach campaign?

EM: We do want to keep making documentaries, but for now, we''re still seeking distribution for After Spring. We also have an outreach campaign, and we''re hoping that in the next few months, we''re going to partner with several organizations related to resettlement, one that provides access to education and hopefully we can work with them to direct viewers to ways they can help.

SC: That''s really important to us; we didn''t just make this movie, to make a movie. We want the conversation to continue afterwards. The response has been really great and our audiences have been coming up to us after every screening asking how they can help. I know it''s always frustrating for me, when I watch something that was so moving and there''s no way to direct my energy, that''s something we want to do - direct others to ways they can help.

To learn more about the film, visit AfterSpringFilm.com

**Load-Date:** May 5, 2016

**End of Document**



[*What it's like living in one of the largest Syrian refugee camps in the world; The highly anticipated documentary After Spring debuted at this year's Tribeca Film Festival.*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JMY-F8D1-F021-6094-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

April 28, 2016 Thursday 6:46 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FEATURES

**Length:** 1517 words

**Byline:** Justin Carissimo

**Body**

The Syrian Civil War has killed over450,000 andforced more than 10million people to flee their homes in search of safe, stable living conditions, which has resultedin one of the largest humanitarian crises of our time.Housing the largest population of displaced families in the Middle East, the Zataari Refugee Campis home to nearly80,000 Syrians,

and is considered the fourth-largest city in Jordan.

Zataari, where more than half of camp's residents are under 18-years-old, is the prime setting of Ellen Martinez and StephChing's directorial debut,

After Spring

, an intimate portrait of two Syrian families struggling to make peace with uncertain futures. With severlylimited options for food, medical resources andeducational opportunities,the heads of each household must decide whether to spend years, maybe even decades, living in the underfunded camp or risk safety to return back home to their war-torn country.

The documentary explores one of the camp's only positive outlets for children, the Zaatari Taekwondo Academy, where Korean martial arts instructor and school founder Charles Lee teacheshis students the art of discipline andfocus after experiencingtraumatic events before escaping the civil war.

The Independent

caught up with Martinez and Ching during the second-week of this year's Tribeca Film Festival, where their film debuted worldwide.

The Independent: What drew the two of you two to the project, I understand you both have personal connections to Syria and therefugee crisis?

Ellen Martinez:

We both have different reasons for why we wanted to make the movie:I lived in Damascus, Syria for four years and spent eight years in the Middle East, total. I was reading a lot about refugee camps and [Steph] and I have been friends for awhile, and we've always wanted to make a movie together.

StephChing:

It took me a longer period of time before I had this revelation why I was personally connected to it. I was always drawn to these humanitarian stories and a lot of my work has always been in that world. It wasn't until we actually went to the camp and started talking to the people that I understood why that connection was there

-

my grandmother is a refugee at the end of World War II. This was something that was obviously a part of our history but it was not something that she labeled herself as. We had grown up with these stories of her talking about crossing the border and how she had to board a boat.

It wasn't until we were talking to Ibrahim and Mohammed about their journey and hearing these stories that were so similar to my grandma's story, you know, 70 years ago. And it sort of solidified for me, and for our film, this is something that happens with every generation. Everyone has some connection to that whether it's you, your parents, or somebody ten generations ago that's lived through it.

What led you to the Zaatari Refugee Camp, when did you begin filming and how long did you end up staying?

EM:

Right now, it's the largest camp for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and we knew we wanted to do something with the neighboring countries because that's where everything is going on right now, the numbers are between anywhere between 600,000 to 1 million Syrians in Jordan, over one million in Lebanon and over two million in Turkey, we really wanted to go somewhere nearby.

SC:

The whole process of our movie took about three years. We spent about three months total filmingat the camp, spreadthroughoutthe year.We went for one month, came back for six, then went back again for another two months in 2014.

What was your vetting process like while seeking out subjects for your film, what were you looking for, and how did the two families fulfill those roles?

EM:

We initially found them through the

Zaatari Taekwondo Academy

with Charles Lee. We weren't going in to specifically find anyone, we were more curious as to who we would meet, and these two families were really open to sharing their stories with us. They were really kind and generous throughout the whole filmmaking process.

Mohammed

even donated his wedding video,one of the only things he brought with him from Syria, and he wanted us to use it in the film.

We also gave them small portable cameras, leftand came back two weeks later, and Mohammed had filmed everything going on with his family, likehis kids going to school. We really wanted to help them tell their own story.

After Spring Film

What was the biggest challenge you faced while making the film?

SC:

The biggest challenge from the start to finish was the language barrier, which was mostly in Arabic and Korean, two languages that neither of us speak. From pre-production to final cut, we had about 24 translators in the movie. We were really lucky that we had an amazing fixer and an amazing associate field producer who spoke Arabic and really helped us build relationships.

How did you two link up with Jon Stewart? How much was he involved in the filmmaking process?

EM:

We knew that Jon visited Zaatari while he was filming

Rosewater

in Jordan, and our main fixer was also his driver during

Rosewater

. So, we went on our first trip and we shot enough to make a trailer, then we came back to the states, and we reached out to see if he was interested in supporting the project in any way. He liked it and he joined on as the executive producer and he was really supportive. Him and his company watched a few cuts throughout post-production.

Were you surprised that some familieswould rather go back to Syria than stay in the camps?

SC:

At first, I was surprised but then I thought about what I would do in that situation, and I would obviously want to go back-that would be my first thought.

EM:

At the time, hundreds of families were going back each day.

"The most important part of my life is my children" Mohammed and his son Osama watch a soccer game from their caravan window. Happy Father's Day to all the dads out there, near and far! #fathersday

A photo posted by After Spring (@afterspringfilm) on

Jun 21, 2015 at 10:07am PDT

What do you think about the anti-refugee rhetoric coming from the states, and are the folks living in camps aware of the negative voices in the US?

EM:

I think they're definitely aware of it. They watch the news everyday and most of the families have a TV or a phone with connection to the Internet so they're staying updated with the situation in their country as well as the news from the global crisis.

It's very disappointing that's happening right now, and I mean, one thing that you want to do is help raise awareness to show that these are just normal, regular people with normal lives back in Syria who were forced to leave. The dangers that the refugees are leaving, are the same things people in the United Stateswould be afraid of.

SC:

That's one thing we do want to keep reminding people is that countries like ours, that are made up of immigrants, have the resources and ability to help people and it's sort of hypocritical for us to say "no, we don't want you," even though this is what we are.

Is there anything you wish could be added to the film, that didn't make the screening?

SC:

One of the people that we met, that was so impressive, that we couldn't really fit into the movie, is this girl named [

Mazoun Almellehan]. She just turned 18.At the time she was 16, and she lived at Zataari before being moved to the other camp. She kind of became this pioneer for girls education in general, which is one of the biggest issues of the camp, that education is so limited and there aren't enough resources, the classrooms are overcrowded and thereare short hours. She would hold study groupsand recruit her friends to recruit others to go to school, and she's been called the "Malala Yousafzai of Syria." She's really a symbol of this next generation of people who do have highhopes for the future.

EM:

She's recently moved to the UK where she's working with Malala to provide ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** access to education.

What projects arenext for the two of you, and how can people learn about your outreach campaign?

EM:

We do want to keep making documentaries, but for now, we're still seeking distribution for

After Spring

. We also have an outreach campaign, and we're hoping that in the next few months, we're going to partner with several organizations related to resettlement, one that provides access to education and hopefully we can work with them to direct viewers to ways they can help.

SC:

That's really important to us, we didn't just make this movie, to make a movie. We want the conversation to continue afterwards. The response has been really great and our audiences have been coming up to us after every screening asking how they can help. I know it's always frustrating for me, when I watch something that was so moving and there's no way to direct my energy, that's something we want to do -direct others to ways they can help.

To learn more about the film, visit AfterSpringFilm.com. You can watch the film'strailer in full below:

After Spring Trailer from After Spring on Vimeo.

View more of

The Independent

's Tribeca Film Festival 2016 coveragehere.

**Load-Date:** April 28, 2016

**End of Document**



[*The Arab Spring, five years on: A season that began in hope, but ended in desolation; Five years ago, waves of popular protestbegan to spread, thrillingly, across theArab world. Is anyone better off as aresult? Patrick Cockburn reflects*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HT8-TW81-F021-627J-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 8, 2016 Friday 7:45 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 1607 words

**Byline:** Patrick Cockburn

**Body**

Arab Spring was always a misleading phrase, suggesting that what we were seeing was a peaceful transition from authoritarianism to democracy similar to that from communism in Eastern Europe. The misnomer implied an over-simplified view of the political ingredients that produced the protests and uprisings of 2011 and over-optimistic expectations about their outcome.

Five years later it is clear that the result of the uprisings has been calamitous, leading to wars or increased repression in all but one of the six countries where the Arab Spring principally took place. Syria, Libya and Yemen are being torn apart by civil wars that show no sign of ending. In Egypt and Bahrain autocracy is far greater and civil liberties far less than they were prior to 2011. Only in Tunisia, which started off the surge towards radical change, do people have greater rights than they did before.

What went so disastrously wrong? Some failed because the other side was too strong, as in Bahrain where demands for democratic rights by the Shia majority were crushed by the Sunni monarchy. Saudi Arabia sent in troops and Western protests at the repression were feeble. This was in sharp contrast to vocal Western denunciations of Bashar al-Assad's brutal suppression of the uprising by the Sunni Arab majority in Syria. The Syrian war had social, political and sectarian roots but it was the sectarian element that predominated.

Read more

Why stoking sectarian fires could be the Saudi rulers' biggest mistake

Why did intolerant and extreme Islam trump secular democracy? It did so because nationalism and socialism were discredited as the slogans of the old regimes, often military regimes that had transmuted into police states controlled by a single ruling family. Islamic movements were the main channel for dissent and opposition to the status quo, but they had little idea how to replace it. This became evident in Egypt where the protesters never succeeded in taking over the state and the Muslim Brotherhood found that winning elections did not bring real power.

Demonstrators gather in Tahrir Square on May 27, 2011 in Cairo during The Arab Spring

The protest movements at the beginning of 2011 presented themselves as progressive in terms of political and civil liberty and this belief was genuine. But there had been a real change in the balance of power in the Arab world over the previous 30 years with Saudi Arabia and the Gulf monarchies taking over leadership from secular nationalist states. It was one of the paradoxes of the Arab Spring that rebels supposedly seeking to end dictatorship in Syria and Libya were supported by absolute monarchies from the Gulf.

The West played a role in supporting uprisings against leaders they wanted to see displaced such as Muammar Gaddafi and Assad. But they gave extraordinarily little thought to what would replace these regimes. They did not see that the civil war in Syria was bound to destabilise Iraq and lead to a resumption of the Sunni-Shia war there.

An even grosser miscalculation was not to see that the armed opposition in Syria and Iraq was becoming dominated by extreme jihadis. Washington and its allies long claimed that there was a moderate non-sectarian armed opposition in Syria though this was largely mythical. In areas where Isis and non-Isis rebels ruled they were as brutal as the government in Damascus. The non-sectarian opposition fled abroad, fell silent or was killed and it was the most militarised and fanatical Islamic movements that flourished in conditions of permanent violence.

Country-by-country

1. MOROCCO

Concessions by King Mohammed VI, including a referendum in July 2011 that led to changes in the constitution, helped ensure that protests fizzled out by end of 2012.

2. ALGERIA

Barely affected after an initial year-long state of emergency; some terrorist activity, including 2013 gas plant attack in which dozens of foreign hostages were killed.

3. TUNISIA

The birthplace of the Arab Spring is also its one success story. There were free elections in 2011 and 2013, and the country is largely peaceful - although up to 300 people died in the unrest that overthrew President Ben Ali in 2011. Terrorist attacks in 2015 have cast a shadow, and threaten to cause a disastrous fall in tourism.

4. LIBYA

Hopes raised by Nato-aided overthrow of Colonel Muammar Gaddafi in August 2011 were bitterly disappointed. An elected parliament, the General National Congress, took power in August 2012 but was forced to withdraw to Tobruk as a rival government seized Tripoli. Much of the country is now under control of neither, with Isis established in some parts.

5. EGYPT

Up to 900 people were killed in protests that led to fall of President Hosni Mubarak in 2011. His successor, Mohamed Morsi of the Muslim Brotherhood, was ousted by the army in July 2013. Nearly 1,000 people were killed in the protests that followed. A new President, General Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, was elected in 2014; hundreds of Muslim Brotherhood members have since been sentenced to death.

6. LEBANON

The country has taken in more than a million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** as a result of the Spring. Also at risk of violence spilling over from Syria. Sectarian violence in some cities, notably Tripoli.

7. JORDAN

Moderate protests led to modest reforms, and a few changes of government, by King Abdullah II. The main effect of the Spring has been the arrival of a least 600,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** (and a similar number of Syrians who are not classified as refugees).

8. SYRIA

A few weeks of hope in 2011. Since then, endless catastrophe, defined as a civil war by the UN since mid-2012. Up to 350,000 people have died, 4.4 million are refugees, swathes of the country are controlled by Isis, moderate rebels have been massacred, the Assad regime remains (partly) in place, and intervention by foreign powers - including Russia, Iran, the US, France and the UK - has not slowed the slaughter.

9. IRAQ

Minor protests in 2011 and major ones in 2012-13, aimed at corruption and anti-Shia discrimination. The electoral defeat of Nouri al-Maliki as Prime Minister in 2014 came too late to disperse the resentment; by then, Isis was running amok. Despite recent gains by the Iraqi army, large regions are under Isis control.

10. SAUDI ARABIA

Kept a lid on domestic discontent through a mix of authoritarianism and state largesse. Helped crush protest in Bahrain. Military intervention in Yemen has been bloody and inconclusive. Plummeting oil prices and a change of monarch have destabilised the regime.

11. KUWAIT

Protests in 2011-12 fizzled out after fall of one government. The Al-Sabah family continues to rule.

12. BAHRAIN

Around 30 people died when protests against the ruling Khalifa family were suppressed, with Saudi help, in early 2011. Thousands have since been jailed in the crackdown by the Sunni regime on its majority Shia population.

13. QATAR

Largely unaffected by domestic protests, but involved in upheavals elsewhere, notably by joining the Nato-led campaign that overthrew Colonel Gaddafi in Libya.

14. UAE

Calls for greater democracy fizzled out. Remains stable and, for now, prosperous.

15. OMAN

Protests in 2011 led to the creation of a Public Authority for Consumer Protection.

16. YEMEN

President Ali Abdullah Saleh was forced out of the country and office in, respectively, 2011 and 2012. An uprising by Shia rebels led by Abdul-Malik al-Houthi, which began in 2014, led to the flight of Saleh's successor, Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi, in 2015. The Iran-aligned Houthis now control the capital but are under attack from a Saudi-led Sunni coalition.

Timeline

2011

14 Jan:

after several weeks of protests in Tunisia, President Ben Ali resigns.

25 Jan-25 Feb: protests in Egypt and Lebanon (25 Jan); Yemen (3 Feb); Bahrain and Jordan (14th); Libya (15th); Morocco and Iraq (20th); Algeria (22nd); Jordan (25th.)

11 Feb:

Hosni Mubarak resigns as President of Egypt.

6 Mar:

unrest in Deraa, Syria.

14-15 Mar:

Bahrain unrest crushed with Saudi help.

19 Mar:

Nato intervenes to support Libyan rebels.

3 June:

President Ali Abdullah Saleh flees Yemen.

July:

Syrian defectors form the Free Syrian Army.

20-22 Aug:

Libyan rebels take Tripoli.

20 Oct:

Muammar Gaddafi killed in Sirte.

23 Oct:

Islamist Ennahda party wins elections in Tunisia.

2012

27 Feb:

Abd Rabbo Mansour Hadi elected Yemen's President.

24-30 Jun:

Mohamed Morsi is elected President of Egypt.

7 July:

elections in Libya.

11 Sep:

Islamists attack USdiplomatic compound, Benghazi.

2013

9 May:

Isis formed.

3 July:

Morsi ousted as Egypt's elected President.

21 Aug:

chemical attack in Damascus; US and UK vow "serious response".

29 Aug:

Commons votes against anti-Assad action.

2014

4 Jan:

Isis takes Fallujah, Iraq.

14 Jan:

Isis takes Raqqa, Syria.

28 May:

Abdel Fattah al-Sisi elected Egypt's President.

29 Jun:

Isis declares "caliphate".

8 Aug:

US-led coalition starts air strikes against Isis in Iraq.

19 Aug:

Isis beheads its first Western hostage, James Foley.

22 Sep:

US-led coalition starts air strikes against Isis in Syria.

21 Dec:

Beji Caid Essebsi wins Tunisia's presidential election.

2015

7 Jan:

Charlie Hebdo terror attacks in France; 12 die.

26 Jan:

Saudi-led air strikes on Yemen's Houthi rebels.

1 Apr:

Isis takes Palmyra.

26 Jun:

38 killed in beach attack in Sousse, Tunisia.

14 July:

Iranian nuclear deal.

21 Oct:

Russian airliner brought down in Sinai; 224 killed.

30 Sep:

Russia starts strikes against Syrian rebels.

12 Nov:

Mohammed Emwazi ("Jihadi John") killed.

13 Nov:

Paris terror attacks.

20 Nov:

UN backs anti-Isis action; UK follows suit (2 Dec).

28 Dec:

Iraq retakes Ramadi.

2016

3 Jan:

Saudi Arabia executes 47 alleged "terrorists".

6 Jan:

images of starving people emerge from Madaya, Syria.

**Load-Date:** January 8, 2016

**End of Document**



[*A spring that began in hope, but ended in desolation; The Arab Spring: Five years on Five years ago, waves of popular protest began to spread, thrillingly, across the Arab world. Is anyone better off as a result? PATRICK COCKBURN reflects*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HTD-3JX1-JCS0-D0PM-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

January 9, 2016 Saturday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 30

**Length:** 1584 words

**Byline:** PATRICK COCKBURN

**Body**

Arab Spring was always a misleading phrase, suggesting that what we were seeing was a peaceful transition from authoritarianism to democracy similar to that from communism in Eastern Europe. The misnomer implied an over-simplified view of the political ingredients that produced the protests and uprisings of 2011 and over-optimistic expectations about their outcome.

Five years later it is clear that the result of the uprisings has been calamitous, leading to wars or increased repression in all but one of the six countries where the Arab Spring principally took place. Syria, Libya and Yemen are being torn apart by civil wars that show no sign of ending. In Egypt and Bahrain autocracy is far greater and civil liberties far less than they were prior to 2011. Only in Tunisia, which started off the surge towards radical change, do people have greater rights than they did before.

What went so disastrously wrong? Some failed because the other side was too strong, as in Bahrain where demands for democratic rights by the Shia majority were crushed by the Sunni monarchy. Saudi Arabia sent in troops and Western protests at the repression were feeble. This was in sharp contrast to vocal Western denunciations of Bashar al-Assad's brutal suppression of the uprising by the Sunni Arab majority in Syria. The Syrian war had social, political and sectarian roots but it was the sectarian element that predominated.

Why did intolerant and extreme Islam trump secular democracy? It did so because nationalism and socialism were discredited as the slogans of the old regimes, often military regimes that had transmuted into police states controlled by a single ruling family. Islamic movements were the main channel for dissent and opposition to the status quo, but they had little idea how to replace it. This became evident in Egypt where the protesters never succeeded in taking over the state and the Muslim Brotherhood found that winning elections did not bring real power.

The protest movements at the beginning of 2011 presented themselves as progressive in terms of political and civil liberty and this belief was genuine. But there had been a real change in the balance of power in the Arab world over the previous 30 years with Saudi Arabia and the Gulf monarchies taking over leadership from secular nationalist states. It was one of the paradoxes of the Arab Spring that rebels supposedly seeking to end dictatorship in Syria and Libya were supported by absolute monarchies from the Gulf.

The West played a role in supporting uprisings against leaders they wanted to see displaced such as Muammar Gaddafi and Assad. But they gave extraordinarily little thought to what would replace these regimes. They did not see that the civil war in Syria was bound to destabilise Iraq and lead to a resumption of the Sunni-Shia war there.

An even grosser miscalculation was not to see that the armed opposition in Syria and Iraq was becoming dominated by extreme jihadis. Washington and its allies long claimed that there was a moderate non-sectarian armed opposition in Syria though this was largely mythical. In areas where Isis and non-Isis rebels ruled they were as brutal as the government in Damascus. The non-sectarian opposition fled abroad, fell silent or was killed and it was the most militarised and fanatical Islamic movements that flourished in conditions of permanent violence.

**AFTER THE SPRING**

**THE NEW MAP OF THE ARAB WORLD**

1. MOROCCO

Concessions by King Mohammed VI, including a referendum in July 2011 that led to changes in the constitution, helped ensure that protests fizzled out by end of 2012.

2. ALGERIA

Barely affected after an initial year-long state of emergency; some terrorist activity, including 2013 gas plant attack in which dozens of foreign hostages were killed.

3. TUNISIA

The birthplace of the Arab Spring is also its one success story. There were free elections in 2011 and 2013, and the country is largely peaceful - although up to 300 people died in the unrest that overthrew President Ben Ali in 2011. Terrorist attacks in 2015 have cast a shadow, and threaten to cause a disastrous fall in tourism.

4. LIBYA

Hopes raised by Nato-aided overthrow of Colonel Muammar Gaddafi in August 2011 were bitterly disappointed. An elected parliament, the General National Congress, took power in August 2012 but was forced to withdraw to Tobruk as a rival government seized Tripoli. Much of the country is now under control of neither, with Isis established in some parts.

5. EGYPT

Up to 900 people were killed in protests that led to fall of President Hosni Mubarak in 2011. His successor, Mohamed Morsi of the Muslim Brotherhood, was ousted by the army in July 2013. Nearly 1,000 people were killed in the protests that followed. A new President, General Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, was elected in 2014; hundreds of Muslim Brotherhood members have since been sentenced to death.

6. JORDAN

Moderate protests led to modest reforms, and a few changes of government, by King Abdullah II. The main effect of the Spring has been the arrival of a least 600,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** (and a similar number of Syrians who are not classified as refugees).

7. LEBANON

The country has taken in more than a million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** as a result of the Spring. Also at risk of violence spilling over from Syria. Sectarian violence in some cities, notably Tripoli.

8. SYRIA

A few weeks of hope in 2011. Since then, endless catastrophe, defined as a civil war by the UN since mid-2012. Up to 350,000 people have died, 4.4 million are refugees, swathes of the country are controlled by Isis, moderate rebels have been massacred, the Assad regime remains (partly) in place, and intervention by foreign powers - including Russia, Iran, the US, France and the UK - has not slowed the slaughter.

9. IRAQ

Minor protests in 2011 and major ones in 2012-13, aimed at corruption and anti-Shia discrimination. The electoral defeat of Nouri al-Maliki as Prime Minister in 2014 came too late to disperse the resentment; by then, Isis was running amok. Despite recent gains by the Iraqi army, large regions are under Isis control.

10. SAUDI ARABIA

Kept a lid on domestic discontent through a mix of authoritarianism and state largesse. Helped crush protest in Bahrain. Military intervention in Yemen has been bloody and inconclusive. Plummeting oil prices and a change of monarch have destabilised the regime.

11. KUWAIT

Protests in 2011-12 fizzled out after fall of one government. The Al-Sabah family continues to rule.

12. BAHRAIN

Around 30 people died when protests against the ruling Khalifa family were suppressed, with Saudi help, in early 2011. Thousands have since been jailed in the crackdown by the Sunni regime on its majority Shia population.

13. QATAR

Largely unaffected by domestic protests, but involved in upheavals elsewhere, notably by joining the Nato-led campaign that overthrew Colonel Gaddafi in Libya.

14. UAE

Calls for greater democracy fizzled out. Remains stable and, for now, prosperous.

15. OMAN

Protests in 2011 led to the creation of a Public Authority for Consumer Protection.

16. YEMEN

President Ali Abdullah Saleh was forced out of the country and office in, respectively, 2011 and 2012. An uprising by Shia rebels led by Abdul-Malik al-Houthi, which began in 2014, led to the flight of Saleh's successor, Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi, in 2015. The Iran-aligned Houthis now control the capital but are under attack from a Saudi-led Sunni coalition.

**TIMELINE**

2011

14 Jan: after several weeks of protests in Tunisia, President Ben Ali resigns.

25 Jan-25 Feb: protests in Egypt and Lebanon (25 Jan); Yemen (3 Feb); Bahrain and Jordan (14th); Libya (15th); Morocco and Iraq (20th); Algeria (22nd); Jordan (25th.)

11 Feb: Hosni Mubarak resigns as President of Egypt.

6 Mar: unrest in Deraa, Syria.

14-15 Mar: Bahrain unrest crushed with Saudi help.

19 Mar: Nato intervenes to support Libyan rebels.

3 June: President Ali Abdullah Saleh flees Yemen.

July: Syrian defectors form the Free Syrian Army.

20-22 Aug: Libyan rebels take Tripoli.

20 Oct: Muammar Gaddafi killed in Sirte.

23 Oct: Islamist Ennahda party wins elections in Tunisia.

2012

27 Feb: Abd Rabbo Mansour Hadi elected Yemen's President.

24-30 Jun: Mohamed Morsi is elected President of Egypt.

7 July: elections in Libya.

11 Sep: Islamists attack US diplomatic compound, Benghazi.

2013

9 May: Isis formed.

3 July: Morsi ousted as Egypt's elected President.

21 Aug: chemical attack in Damascus; US and UK vow "serious response".

29 Aug: Commons votes against anti-Assad action.

2014

4 Jan: Isis takes Fallujah, Iraq.

14 Jan: Isis takes Raqqa, Syria.

28 May: Abdel Fattah al-Sisi elected Egypt's President.

29 Jun: Isis declares "caliphate".

8 Aug: US-led coalition starts air strikes against Isis in Iraq.

19 Aug: Isis beheads its first Western hostage, James Foley.

22 Sep: US-led coalition starts air strikes against Isis in Syria.

21 Dec: Beji Caid Essebsi wins Tunisia's presidential election.

2015

7 Jan: Charlie Hebdo terror attacks in France; 12 die.

26 Jan: Saudi-led air strikes on Yemen's Houthi rebels.

1 Apr: Isis takes Palmyra.

26 Jun: 38 killed in beach attack in Sousse, Tunisia.

14 July: Iranian nuclear deal.

21 Oct: Russian airliner brought down in Sinai; 224 killed.

30 Sep: Russia starts strikes against Syrian rebels.

12 Nov: Mohammed Emwazi ("Jihadi John") killed.

13 Nov: Paris terror attacks.

20 Nov: UN backs anti-Isis action; UK follows suit (2 Dec).

28 Dec: Iraq retakes Ramadi.

2016

3 Jan: Saudi Arabia executes 47 alleged "terrorists".

6 Jan: images of starving people emerge from Madaya, Syria.

**Load-Date:** January 8, 2016

**End of Document**



[*The US are giving rise to Isis by ending their support to Syrian rebel forces; During the US presidential campaign Trump declared he wanted to work with Russia in Jordan. After getting to the White House he stated that support for the rebels would be ended. But then hebombed President Assad's forces, giving hope to the Rebels*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5P2N-SY01-JCJY-G14C-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

July 21, 2017 Friday 4:32 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES; Version:2

**Length:** 696 words

**Byline:** Kim Sengupta

**Body**

As the net continues to tighten around Raqqa, the capital of Isis'"caliphate",thousands of people have been heading for Jordan:refugees desperate to get away from the fighting aretrying to join the 1.3 million Syrians already across the border, in afamiliar tale of thesavage civil war.

But the Jordanian government has now come to the conclusion that the flow of the dispossessed has been sent in their direction by Isis with the aim of hiding fighters in their midst. There was one deadly attack in the area, at a popular tourist attraction at the end of the year, killing ten people, and there have been repeated recent signs of attempted infiltration by gunmen across the frontier.

If the movement of the refugees was truly spontaneous and undirected, say the Jordanians, it would be more logical for them to head towards the border with Turkey. Isis, they believe, could be trying to set up a new secret base in and around the Hashemite Kingdom. The US administration, meanwhile, has announced that it is ending a CIA programme for training and arming Syrian rebels which has been taking place in Jordan.

Jordan's ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** scrape by a living

This has been presented as another sign of Donald Trump's attempts to please the Russians and final abandonment of any ambition to remove President Basharal-Assad by force. But the soon to be disbanded fighters were not set up to fight the regime, but Isis. It is a role theycould have fulfilled in the current situation with the jihadists gathered at the border, something the Jordanian forces cannot do with King Abdullah's government havingdecided a long while ago not to have boots on the ground inside Syria.

There has been plenty of criticism of the CIA programme. It was slow, the fighters it trained were few in numbers and accused of not being particularly effective on the ground. Some had even joined extremist groups with their US supplied weapons in the early days. There was also general suspicion of such clandestine missions with echoes of what took place going back to Vietnam and the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba.

Read more

Jordan's refugee camp becomes first to run entirely on solar energy

But the ending of the scheme also smacks of the confusion and contradictions which have markedAmerican policy in Syria.During the US presidential campaign Trump declared he wanted to work with Russia in the country. After getting to the White House he stated that support for the rebels would be ended. But then the new president became the first Western leader to bomb President Assad's forces, giving a surge of hope to the same rebels.

Meanwhile as one "southern front" is being ended a separate operation is continuing full-throated in the east against Isis with the Kurds and Arab groups deemed as moderate beneficiaries. It is precisely because Isis is getting squeezed in that direction that the displacement is taking place towards the Jordanian border.

They are heading into an area where a fragile ceasefire - brokered by America, Russia and Jordan - appears to be holding between the regime and rebel groups. The arrival of Isis is bound to have an impact on this delicately balanced scenario with rebel groups unsure about what happens next.One of the commanders, Hassan Hamadeh of Division 101, said about the decision to abandon the CIA scheme : "We are surprised by the news, until now, nothing is confirmed. There have been no changes on the ground, coordination is ongoing, and everything has been happening normally."

Others are worried that the American withdrawal will lead to disillusioned fighters gravitating to the extremists. Adnan Mustapha Mero, of the Omari Brigade, pointed out: "We have had this pattern before. The Western countries encourage people to rise up and fight, then they leave, people are left angry and they are recruited by Daesh (Isis) and [Jabhat] al-Nusra. The Americans don't seem to learn from this pattern."

The CIA programme may have run its day. But there is a need for another plan to be put in place, working with the Russians if necessary. Otherwise there is the possibility that the West will end up giving Isis, or rather whatever replaces it, a helping hand yet again.

**Load-Date:** July 21, 2017

**End of Document**



[*The fake refugee images that are being used to distort public opinion on asylum seekers; The outpouring of public support for refugees in the wake of the death of Aylan Kurdi has sparked an online backlash*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GXY-DP01-F021-64BR-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 16, 2015 Wednesday 6:06 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FRONTPAGE

**Length:** 1511 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

As debate about how to solve Europe's refugee crisis continues, right-wing groups and commentators are using photos and memes to demonise the desperate people risking their lives to reach the continent.

But many of the photos are being faked, twisted, edited or taken out of context in an effort to support the following myths and arguments.

Read more: Tory MP brands refugees a 'tsunami'No, this is not a picture of 'Isis refugees' attacking policeUN slams claims one in 50 refugees are extremists'Isis jihadists are using the crisis to infiltrate Europe'

Several photos have surfaced online claiming to show Isis militants arriving in Europe, comparing images of men in battle dress and pictures of people arriving on the continent.

But even in cases where the photos do appear to be of the same person, claims that they are members of the so-called Islamic State have been wrong.

A widely shared picture claiming to be of refugees attacking police with an Isis flag actually showed a protest in Germany in 2012 - before the rise of the so-called Islamic State.

Several other images claiming to show refugees fighting for Isis wearing assault rifles and fatigues have also been debunked, with at least two of the men shown actually being part of groups fighting the jihadist group, including Kurdish forces and the Free Syrian Army.

Another meme shared by an anti-immigration group in Croatia claims to show another "Islamist" arriving in Europe. But online analysts said his uniform and equipment identified him as an anti-Isis fighter.

Ovo nije izbjeglicka kriza, ovo je premjestanje trupa, dijelite...⬇⬇⬇⬇⬇Islamist refugees are NOT welcome in CroatiaPosted by PRIZNAJEM! HRVAT SAM on Tuesday, 8 September 2015

While there is a strong possibility that some of the people migrating to Europe may have been involved in armed conflict or linked with extremist groups, the UN has repeatedly dismissed claims that "thousands" of jihadists are arriving.

Following a Lebanese government minister's assertion that one in 50 Syrians entering Europe could be Isis members, a  spokesperson for refugee agency the UNHCR said: "This kind of statement is extremely unhelpful.

"A refugee has a genuine fear of persecution, if you have any military connection at all then you lose your status as a refugee. There are over a million Syrians in Lebanon there is no legitimate way of providing figures like that."

'Refugees are healthy/rich and don't need our help'

Pegida UK, a branch of the German group known for its huge "anti-Islamism" protests, has been sharing numerous photos claiming to show "fake" or undeserving refugees.

Many of the assertions are based on the fact people in the pictures appear not to be malnourished.

In one post spotted by news website France 24, photos of a muscular man are sarcastically labelled: "Please help feed and house this poor, defenceless refugee...'I heard we can get free steroids in England - don't be racist and let me in!'"

." Please help these defenceless women and children"!Posted by Pegida UK /Reclaim Britain/Save England Now on Monday, 7 September 2015

But the photos were actually taken in 2013 on Christmas Island in Australia.

In other images taken at the same time, the border police's blue uniforms can clearly be seen with "Australian Customs and Border Protection" written on them.

These poor refugees have gone nearly 10 hours without a protein shake.Posted by (EDL) English Defence League on Wednesday, 9 September 2015

Numerous images of mainly ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** carrying smartphones have also been shared by right-wing blogs and commentators on social media arguing they do not need Europe's help.

But as James O'Malley wrote in a comment piece for The Independent, possessing a phone is no indicator of how deserving an asylum seeker is of refuge, and middle-income countries like Syria are clearly just as susceptible to conflict as anywhere else.

"The answer to how surprised should we be that many of the ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** have smartphones is a resounding 'not very'," he said.

"The world isn't a binary split between 'rich' and 'poor' - and we should adjust our assumptions about the countries in the middle accordingly."

'Aylan Kurdi's dead body was staged to sway opinion'

In one of the most heartless conspiracy theories circulating online, people are claiming that the body of three-year-old Aylan Kurdi was "staged" on a Turkish beach as part of a political plot to garner global sympathy.

So the staged photo of poor little Aylan worked then? 20,000 Syrian. Not so much outcry if they used the original. pic.twitter.com/pLiBfZQIRc- Lurkio (@alrightlandlord) September 7, 2015

People have seized on an image of a Turkish police officer picking up a child's body on a markedly different section of beach to argue that the child's body was moved for a photo opportunity.

"Little Aylan Kurdi, if he is dead, did not drown. He was killed. And the picture is a set-up fake. His body has been arranged in position," one person wrote on Twitter.

@TheSun Aylan picture is a fake!!!!!!!!!!! pic.twitter.com/x28DcrL33V- Karen Pinto (@KSLPinto) September 9, 2015

Knights Templar International wrote: "Goulish (sic) propagandists moved and used the dead body of the little boy drowned on a Turkish beach to get pictures that would 'best' manipulate public opinion."

"The media, who buy in to the UN's politics, can not only advance its ideological aim, they can also financially benefit from twisting the true facts of the death of poor little Aylan Shenu," a conspiracy blog added.

"And if there ever was a doubt about this being anything else, please, consider this, most telling fact:  before the most heart-wrenching photos of little Aylan were taken, his body was specifically and intentionally posed!"

But the photo used as "evidence" of the alleged forgery is actually of Aylan's older brother, five-year-old Galip, who also drowned alongside his mother as they tried to cross the Aegean Sea.

His body, washed up on a different stretch of beach nearby, is visibly larger and dressed in different clothing and shoes.

And far from it being a "staged" shot, the photographer who took the now iconic image of Aylan has told how she was in Bodrum to await refugee arrivals and noticed "lifeless bodies" on the beach by chance.

'Europe is being invaded by swarms of refugees'

Although the number of refugees and migrants arriving in Europe is undeniably huge - with estimates for this year so far hitting 500,000 people - many of the alarmist photos being circulated are fake.

quand des responsables soufflent sur les braises dans un jeu politicien écoeurant, CA SUFFIT !!! cc @OChastelpic.twitter.com/yM5Y7fkSkN- Zakia Khattabi (@ZakiaKhattabi) September 1, 2015

Belgian television station RTBF revealed that this image, claiming to show the "invasion of Italy" by "illegal immigrants" actually dates from 1991 and showed "La Vlora" bringing 20,000 migrants to the Italian port of Bari.

Zakia Khattabi, co-president of the country's Ecolo party, reposted the photo on Twitter, writing that she'd had "enough" of the "disgusting political game" being played in Europe.

Another image of La Vlora, showing desperate Albanians climbing ion to the ship before it set off, was shared by Pegida UK on its Facebook page in a post that garnered comments calling for it to be "torpedoed".

Posted by Pegida UK /Reclaim Britain/Save England Now on Sunday, 6 September 2015'If refugees needed protection, they would bring their wives and children'

A much-shared meme posted on Facebook by far-right group the English Defence League (EDL) contrasts photos of British soldiers and male refugees arriving in Germany.

Posted by (EDL) English Defence League on Monday, 7 September 2015

Above the soldiers, the caption reads: "Go to warzone. Leave women and children in safe country." By the refugees, the writing says: "Go to safe country. Leave women and children in warzone."

The image, which has been "liked" more than 2,200 times, summed up widely circulating claims that many of the people arriving are male "economic migrants" rather than asylum seekers.

But as Vice pointed out, it appears to have been taken from Reuters footage that shows dozens of women and children of all ages arriving on the same train.

Where are the women and children? Why aren't gulf nations accepting refugees? Don't be fools! #NeverForget911pic.twitter.com/nNkwsmLksv- Feisty☀️Floridian (@peddoc63) September 11, 2015

The argument has been made by politicians across the world, including David Davies, the Conservative MP for Monmouth, who told BBC Radio Wales that refugees attempting to reach the UK were "mostly young men, mostly with mobile phones, chancing their luck".

According to UNHCR figures, around 72 per cent of refugees and migrants arriving in Europe across the Mediterranean are men, with 13 per cent women and 15 per cent children. The refugee crisis - in pictures

Some aid workers have suggested the demographics may be caused by the danger of the journey, causing men to go ahead of their families in attempt to secure refuge in Europe and a home before more vulnerable relatives set off.

**Load-Date:** September 16, 2015

**End of Document**



[*British MPs should be ashamed of the four years they've wasted over Syria*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5N8D-NDP1-F072-451G-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

April 8, 2017 Saturday

First Edition

Copyright 2017 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 8

**Length:** 701 words

**Byline:** ANDREW GRICE

**Body**

Donald Trump's intervention in Syria turns the spotlight back to the West's failure to act against Bashar al-Assad when he used chemical weapons against his own people in 2013. British MPs played a critical role in that fateful decision.

David Cameron proposed limited air strikes and told the Commons that the aim was not regime change in Syria but to respond to a war crime. He worked hard to get Ed Miliband, the opposition leader, onside and thought he had done so. But Miliband had doubts, not least because he wanted to learn lessons from Tony Blair's disastrous intervention in Iraq. He also wanted to keep Labour united; a sizeable number of his MPs would have voted against action, though the Government would have got its way with the Opposition's backing.

So Miliband pulled the plug on Cameron and the Prime Minister suffered a humiliating defeat as the Commons voted against action by 13 votes. Thirty Tories also opposed intervention. They did not know it at the time, but the MPs' vote would have profound consequences. Barack Obama, who had said Assad using chemical weapons would be a "red line", intended to launch a similar one-off attack with cruise missiles fired from US Navy destroyers in the eastern Mediterranean, just as Trump has now done.

But the Commons vote caused Obama to pause. He then got cold feet amid doubts in Congress and nothing happened. Some people think those doubts might have stopped him going ahead anyway. But Obama was furious with Cameron and it is clear that the Commons played a big part in letting Assad off the hook.

The wheel came full circle this week with the horrific gas attack in the rebel-held Idlib province, probably the same deadly nerve agent unleashed in an opposition-held area outside Damascus in 2013.

I don't pretend to know what would have happened if the US and UK had intervened in 2013. Perhaps Assad would have survived a proportionate one-off attack by the West. But the Syrian opposition was much stronger then than now and might have moved against Assad. And Russia was not propping up the Syrian President and telling him: "We will not let you lose", as Vladimir Putin has promised since.

So we have had four wasted years, and the growth of Isis, a terrorist state which exports jihadis to Europe. The death toll of the civil war has risen to an estimated 470,000, with 11 per cent of Syria's population killed or injured. Some 6.3 million Syrians have been displaced internally and 4.8 million have fled the country. The refugee crisis has transformed neighbouring countries and politics in Europe, helping the rise of anti-immigration populists and probably contributing to the Brexit vote. Remember Nigel Farage's infamous poster headed "Breaking Point: The EU has failed us all", which showed ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** crossing from Croatia into Slovenia but had nothing to do with Britain's borders.

The MPs who voted against air strikes in 2013 should take a look in the mirror. As George Osborne, the former Chancellor, told an emergency debate on the crisis in Aleppo last December: "We are deceiving ourselves in this Parliament if we believe that we have no responsibility for what has happened in Syria. The tragedy in Aleppo did not come out of a vacuum; it was created by a vacuum - a vacuum of Western leadership, including American and British leadership. I take responsibility, as someone who sat on the National Security Council throughout those years, and Parliament should also take its responsibility because of what it prevented being done."

The MPs' decision in 2013 shows that the pendulum swung too far against military intervention after the UK's chastening experiences in Iraq and Afghanistan. Labour were not the only ones to make mistakes. Cameron still blames Miliband for blocking action against Assad and the wounds will doubtless be reopened by the gruesome pictures on our television screens this week. But Cameron's ill-fated action in Libya is hardly a good advert for intervention either.

Perhaps current events in Syria will lead to a reappraisal and the pendulum will stop where it should be - bang in the middle, judging each case on its merits. The lesson from 2013 is that inaction can also carry a heavy price.

**Load-Date:** April 7, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump's budget proposal slashes Middle Eastern aid funding by 80% while he visits the region; Despite paying lip service to building ties with Muslim nations, the new administration is seeking to cut £656 billion of current assistance to Middle Eastern and North African countries*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5NM9-GFF1-JCJY-G00J-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

May 24, 2017 Wednesday 4:00 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST; Version:1

**Length:** 732 words

**Byline:** Bethan McKernan

**Body**

Donald Trump was the guest of honour at a summit in the Saudi Arabian capital of Riyadh last week attended by the kings, clerics and other representativesof 50 Muslim nations.

While the US president delivered what he said was a "message of friendship and hope and love" to the Arab world, it appears Mr Trump is not willing to put his money where his mouth is: on Tuesday his administration moved to slash its Middle East and North Africa aid budget by up to 80 per cent.

Mr Trump reiterated his desire to build a safer and more prosperous world, and strike the "ultimate deal" of Arab-Israeli peace during his four-day stint in Saudi Arabia, Israel and the West Bank, during which he paid his respects at Jerusalem's holy sites.

Trump brands terrorists 'evil losers' after Manchester attack

But as he and wife Melania boarded Air Force One on the fourth and final day of the Middle East leg of his maiden trip abroad as president, back in Washington DC, 2018 fiscal year proposals released by the White House unveiled proposed drastic cuts to the US' diplomacy and foreign aid budgets.

The plans, first announced in March, aim to reduce spending on the State Department and USAID by 28 per cent, while increasing funds for military programmes.

Under the budget proposals the Palestinian Territories would receive a 4.6 per cent rise for both the West Bank and Gaza - a total of $215m (£168m) for fiscal year 2018 - and Israel's current $3.1bn (£2.4bn) security aid package preserved.

Syria, Iraq and Libya would also receive increased aid spending, the 400-page proposal says, as the administration seeks to more closely link aid with the US' national security objectives.

Overall, though, Middle East and North African countries would see their assistance slashed by $850 million (£656 million), estimates from thinktank the Project on Middle East Democracy said.

The planned budget "acknowledges that US diplomacy engagement and aid programmes must be more efficient and more effective, and that advancing our national security, our economic interests, and our values will remain our primary mission," Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said in a statement.

Almost half of the money currently earmarked for economic development would be axed, while anti-terrorism and military training resources would be kept.

While Jordan's King Abdullah is the only Middle Eastern leader to have been invited to meet the president in DC twice so far, Jordan - which hosts more than 1.4 million ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** - would have its aid slashed by 21.7 per cent.

Read more

Trump has just met with the new leader of the secular world - the Pope

Trump says 'we can use peace' after Pope gifts him symbolic olive tree

Donald Trump's 'balanced' budget relies on mystery money

Huge contrast between Obama and Trump's Holocaust memorial visits

Senate committee issues two new subpoenas related to Michael Flynn

Lebanon, where one in four of the population is now Syrian, would have its budget cut by 22.7 per cent, and Yemen - currently embroiled in a two-year-long civil war, and where the UN estimates more than half of the 27million strong population is food insecure - would see its aid reduced by 16.8 per cent.

Morocco would also be badly affected by a security assistance drop by 65 per cent and economic assistance cut by one third, as would Bahrain, which would see an 86 per cent drop in security assistance.

Other swingeing cuts target health programmes worldwide, which face a 25 per cent decrease in funding, as well as food security institutions, women's issues programmes and climate change initiatives.

Some of the savings will go towards a new $200 million (£154 million) global military financial assistance budget to give the State Department the flexibility to shore up security where it sees fit, rather than tying the budget to loans and grants for specific countries.

Donald Trump becomes first sitting US President to visit Western Wall

Earlier this year more than 120 retired US generals and admirals wrote to Congress urging the body to fully fund diplomacy and foreign aid, arguing the functions were "critical to keeping America safe."

Congress is highly unlikely to approve the Trump administration's proposals in their current form.

The budget plans have already faced bipartisan opposition among politicians. Republican Senator Lindsey Graham called the leaked documents "dead on arrival".

**Load-Date:** May 24, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Mick Mulvaney's confirmation as Donald Trump's budget director adds to anti-Muslim and anti-media cabinet; New director of the Office of Management and Budget is confirmed by the Senate*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MWM-FXF1-JCJY-G3X4-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 16, 2017 Thursday 4:34 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS; Version:1

**Length:** 714 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz

**Body**

The Senate has confirmed fiscal hawk Mick Mulvaney as the new director of the Office of Management and Budget, adding to Donald Trump's cabinet picks who distrust the media and have expressed anti-Muslim views.

The South Carolina Republican was voted in 51 to 49, escaping opposition from Democrats and Republican Arizona Senator John McCain, who accused Mr Mulvaney of being anti-military for proposing spending limits on the Defense Department.

He has suggested that welfare programmes like Medicaid should be reviewed, which would target many people who rely on such aid and who also voted for Mr Trump.

Read more

Trump's budget director pick did not pay $15,000 taxes for babysitter

As director of the Office of Management and Budget, he will oversee the creation of Mr Trum's federal budget plan and he will also be in charge of efforts to improve government management.

He last tweeted in September after watching a debate between Mr Trump and Hillary Clinton, questioning if anyone "trusted the media".

"One key takeaway...NBC's Lester Holt gave us a birther question, a Trump tax return question, only 20 seconds on Hillary's emails and nothing on immigration. Is it any wonder nobody trusts the media anymore?"

He has also expressed anti-Muslim views, supports school choice, which could divert federal funds from free schools, and has questioned laws that target voter suppression.

But I fail to see how asking someone to show a photo ID when he/she votes makes it harder for him/her to vote.

- Rep. Mick Mulvaney (@RepMickMulvaney) January 13, 2016

Do you think he even sees any parallel between what he wants for Muslims and how he is actually treating Christians? #justsaying

- Rep. Mick Mulvaney (@RepMickMulvaney) January 13, 2016

He tells Christians that they have to abandon their principles in order to be right-thinking Americans. Is that right? Is it fair?

- Rep. Mick Mulvaney (@RepMickMulvaney) January 13, 2016

A sub-committee in his state Senate passed a bill last month where ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** would have to register with the state, and their contact information would be posted online for the public to see.

"If you let in the wrong Irishman-I'm fourth generation- if you let in the wrong Irishman the downside is really not that serious, okay," he said. "You let in the wrong Syrian refugee, one, then people can die as a result."

Not one Syrian refugee has been charged with even the intent of carrying out a terrorist attack on US soil for more than four decades, according to a Cato Institute report.

The new cabinet member'sviews will feed into an anti-Muslim and anti-refugeeinner circle. Mr Trump has called the media "dishonest" for months, accusing CNN and

Buzzfeed

, the

New York Times

and the

Washington Post

of spreading fake news.

His chief strategist and founder of Breitbart, Steve Bannon, said the mainstream media was now the "opposition" to the government. House Speaker Paul Ryan has advocated government efforts to "investigate" intelligence agency leaks to the media, citing national security concerns.

Donald Trump's controversial cabinet

Mr Mulvaney was confirmed on Thursday despite failing to pay $15,000 in payroll taxes for the babysitter he employed after he and his wife had triplets in 2000. He made the admission to the Senate Budget Committee, and said he would pay any penalties or interest to make up the loss.

Similar gaffes have derailed nominees, but Mr Mulvaney has sailed through the confirmation process relative to obstacles faced by the likes of education secretary Betsy DeVos.

Read more

Trump's presidency will end in tears

Gaffes and cabinet battles - politics as normal under Trump

Trump Cabinet pick paid by 'cult-like' Iranian exile group

Democrat Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer responded: "When other previous Cabinet nominees failed to pay their fair share in taxes, Senate Republicans forced those nominees to withdraw from consideration."

Last month Mr Mulvaney diverged from the White House stance, however, by admitting that Mr Trump's crowd size did appear smaller than that of Barack Obama in 2009.

"I'm not really sure how this ties to OMB," Mr Mulvaney said. He added that "from that picture, it does appear that the crowd on the left-hand side [for Mr Obama's 2009 inauguration] is bigger than the crowd on the right-hand side."

**Load-Date:** February 16, 2017

**End of Document**



[*The idiot economics of Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban' will hit his own people in the wallet; The fact that those who had been granted green cards (permanent residence) were initially included in the ban will have sent a chill through any non-American worker, regardless of nationality or religion*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MSD-WXS1-JCJY-G00P-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 1, 2017 Wednesday 3:14 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 658 words

**Byline:** Ben Chu

**Body**

A moral disgrace. An act of wanton cruelty. A legal outrage. An unconstitutional power grab. A work of gross administrative incompetence. A self-inflicted security wound. But economic idiocy too?

It seems almost otiose to mention money in the context of Trump's arbitrary executive order barring ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from America, capping the overall refugee intake for 2017 at 50,000 and stopping all entry to nationals from seven countries from the Muslim world.

But it's true. Trump's order not only defiles America's founding principles, sullies its global reputation and gives comfort to autocrats the world over, but it will, in all likelihood, ultimately lead to the diminishment of the vigour of the world's dominant economy too.

One doesn't need to look far in America for examples of refugees and their families who have made a stunning contribution to the country's prosperity. Steve Jobs, the founder of Apple, was the son of a man who fled violence in Syria. Sergey Brin, the Google co-founder, was a refugee from the Soviet Union.

Donald Trump announces a ban on refugees and all visitors from Muslim-majority countries

But the economic case for being open to refugees does not merely rest on a handful of entrepreneurial superstars. The idea that these people seeking sanctuary in other states represent an endless burden on taxpayers - something we've heard so often in Europe in recent years - is nonsense.

Data from Europe shows that, over time, the employment rate of refugees rises from 25 per cent to more than 60 per cent. In Sweden asylum seekers have shown a bigger increase in employment rates than any other migrant group.

Trump's apologists stress that the ban is only temporary. Otherspoint out that America in the Obama years only admitted an average of 70,000 refugees a year. It's certainly true that America has not been pulling its weight when it comes to responding to the global refugee emergency.

But this is really to miss the point.

The economic damage from Trump's order goes far wider than its direct impact. The bulk of the harm is in the message it sends. The barely disguised discrimination against Muslims tells 1.6 billion followers of that faith that "America does not want you". And the fact that those who had been granted green cards (permanent residence) were initially included in the ban will have sent a chill through any non-American citizenworker, regardless of nationality or religion. The message here is: you can no longer rely on the US government to respect your status, to treat you fairly.Their incentive to stay - or the incentivefor others with skills and talentsto come to America - has taken a terrible blow.

Many informed observers suspect this anti-immigrant signal is the real goal. And listening to the views of Steve Bannon, Trump's "chief strategist" and reportedly the driving force behind the executive order, this seems all too plausible. Bannon has ranted in the past about US engineering schools being "full of people from South Asia and East Asia" and objected to the number of Asian Silicon Valley chief executives. "Twenty per cent of this country is immigrants. Is that not the beating heart of this problem?" he once asked.

This is no finessing this. What we have here from the mouth of Trump's right hand man is the raw voice of nativist bigotry.

It is also the voice of economic folly. America is a country settled by immigrants and whose spectacular economic success is built upon successive waves of mass immigration from people from all over the world of all faiths and ethnic backgrounds. It has prospered enormouslyon the back of immigrants' inventive talents and hard work.

This noxious executive order is likely to be just the beginning. It sets the ugly and profoundly un-American tone. The longer Trump and Bannon control immigration policy in the US, the greater the damage that we can expect to be inflicted on the most productive national economy the planet has ever seen.

**Load-Date:** February 1, 2017

**End of Document**



[*The Berliner building bridges by hosting refugee dinners in her home; Desperate to help Syrians fleeing war in some small way, a cook and writer has encouragedBerliners and refugees to break bread*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MM5-0WN1-JCJY-G489-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 10, 2017 Tuesday 9:38 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FOOD AND DRINK

**Length:** 692 words

**Byline:** Kashmira Gander

**Body**

Ashamed by the government's response to the refugee crisis in her native countryHungaryand desperate to help the situation in some small way, Berlin-based writer and semi-professional cook Anna Gyulai Gaal looked to food as a starting point. To build bridges between locals and newcomers in the German capital, she decided to invite refugees to host dinners in her home.

"I know how it feels to be a newcomer somewhere, not knowing the language, not having a grasp of the culture," the 30-year-old who also runs a Hungarian kitchen told

The Independent

. Estimates suggest that since the war began in 2011, at least 200,000 Syrians have entered Germany.

While reporting on refugee camps, Gyulai Gaal learned that most forms of emergency accommodation in Germany do not have kitchens. She found this heartbreaking.

"Food is such an easy and great way to connect, why not to open up our home?" she thought.

Twice a month, ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** cook for and dine with guests who pay (EURO)38 (£33) per head. After Gyulai Gaal has paid for ingredients and taxes, the rest of the money goes to the chefs.

The exchange enables the cooks, all of whom have been women so far, to indulge in a taste of home while Berliners learn about their city's new residents and encounter new flavours. Since the first dinner a year ago, about seven women have formed the core group of cooks.

"Some of the dishes they cook were entirely new to me. The stuffed mini-courgettes and aubergines, called Mehshi, or the Kebbah, the deep fried bulgur balls, filled with minced lamb and walnuts came as a surprise with their rich flavours. Or my personal favourite, the south Syrian chicken-onion pie, the Rgaga."

Read more

Refugee wrongly accused of Berlin attack fears for his life

Hundreds of refugees return to 'secret camps' near Calais

The single mother who opened her home to refugees

Gyulai Gaal admits that, at first, there were some awkward moments between the cooks and the guests, but that she has worked to iron these out. Over time, relationships have flourished.

"Some of them spoke good English when we met, some nothing but Arabic. As their German is developing, totally new aspects of their personalities are opening up. It's amazing. Eventually we learn that we not all that different.

"We've had many special moments in the past 12 months. Sometimes it can be emotional, sometimes rather cheerful, it depends on the guests too and on the chemistry between all of us.

"One those moments was the visit of a Greek lady and her daughter who actually helped the arriving boats to shore in Greece a couple of months earlier.

Read more

A Hackney restaurant is tackling prejudice against refugees

"It was a very touching moment. The daughter, living in Berlin, has come to most of the dinners ever since. She is a new friend to all of us.

"If the women feel comfortable enough, we will talk about the terrifying events of their lives. What they had to leave behind, how worried are they for their loved ones that are still in Syria, how uncertain their life was a year ago. They often show photos of their family members. Some are dead, some are still alive in the middle of the war, and about some they have no information. They just have hope."

But Gyulai Gaal is careful to ensure that hardship isn't the only topic of conversation, to save the dinners from becoming crisis porn.

"I am always trying to lead conversations into directions other than just "How did you get to Europe? Was it scary?' because these women have so much to offer and their journey is just a little part of it. I'm trying to avoid the 'disaster tourism' at our dinners."

Yet, Gyulai Gaal doesn't underplay the significance of her small effort in the face of an overwhelming crisis. "These dinners are more than just a meal for everyone involved. I think both parties have an image of each other and these dinners help to understand that these images are often false.

"I do believe that by offering my home and my time and a little bit of money two Saturdays a month, I make life a tiny bit better, a tiny bit more cheerful and purposeful. Not only for the lives of the cooks but my own and often some of the guests, too."

**Load-Date:** January 12, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump calls judge's suspension of immigration ban 'ridiculous' and says it will be overturned; President says block onexecutive order, enacted by federal judge, could lead to 'big trouble'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MT3-TKX1-JCJY-G287-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 4, 2017 Saturday 1:01 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 747 words

**Byline:** Katie Forster, Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Donald Trump has reacted angrily to the legal block of his ban on refugees and immigrants from seven majority-Muslim countries entering the US.

The President said the temporary suspension of his executive order, enacted by a federal judge in Seattle, could lead to "big trouble".

He branded James Robart, who issued the restraining order against the immigration restrictions, a "so-called judge" and promised the ruling would be overturned, claiming it "takes law enforcement away from our country".

Read more

Trump curbs Wall Street regulations so his friends can borrow money

Thousands march across UK after global protests against US travel ban

Tillerson could be the moderate voice in the Trump administration

Hours later, Mr Trump claimed the ruling would mean people "with bad intentions" could enter the US.

"What is our country coming to when a judge can halt a Homeland Security travel ban and anyone, even with bad intentions, can come into US?" he tweeted.

Critics swiftly replied that checks and balances on presidential power were part of America's constitution, and that extensive vetting procedures were already in place for visitors, immigrants and refugees.

Exactly an hour later, the President tweeted: "Because the ban was lifted by a judge, many very bad and dangerous people may be pouring into our country. A terrible decision."

Mr Trump's order, signed last week, suspended the US refugee programme for 120 days and banned ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** indefinitely.

London protests against US President Donald Trump's travel ban

It also barred citizens of seven Muslim-majority "countries of concern" - Iraq, Syria, Iran, Sudan, Libya, Somalia and Yemen - from entering the US for 90 days.

The President the measures would "keep radical Islamic terrorists out of the US" but the excluded countries did not include Saudi Arabia and other nations from which attackers in the US have hailed.

Read more

Iranian baby allowed to enter US after Trump's travel ban

It has sparked widespread chaos at airports and mass protests. The states of Washington and Minnesota sued the federal government over the travel ban, which Washington State Attorney General Bob Ferguson said significantly harms residents and mandates discrimination.

Judge Robart ruled yesterday to immediately stop the ban nationwide after he found "no support" for government lawyers' claims the ban protects the US.

Within hours, government officials had told airlines to begin allowing previously barred passengers to fly, although confusion still reigned among many authorities, embassies and airlines.

"Judge Robart's decision, effective immediately...puts a halt to President Trump's unconstitutional and unlawful executive order," said Mr Ferguson. "No one is above the law - not even the President."

The Justice Department said it would ask for an emergency stay to honour the President's executive order, initially describing the ruling as "outrageous" before omitting the word from a later statement.

"When a country is no longer able to say who can, and who cannot, come in and out, especially for reasons of safety and security - big trouble!" Mr Trumpwrote on Twitter.

He then added: "The opinion of this so-called judge, which essentially takes law enforcement away from our country, is ridiculous and will be overturned!"

Former President George W Bush appointed Judge Robart in 2004 and he was confirmed to the Senate with 99 votes to none.

An internal email circulated among Homeland Security officials told employees to immediately comply with the judge's ruling. However, the US embassy in Baghdad said it was still awaiting guidance on what to tell Iraqis eager to see if their visa restrictions had changed.

"We don't know what the effect will be, but we're working to get more information," the embassy told Associated Press.

Judge Robart's ruling could be appealed the 9th US Circuit Court of Appeals.

Federal attorneys had argued that Congress gave the President authority to make decisions on national security and immigrant entry.

But in his written order, Judge Robart said it's not the court's job to "create policy or judge the wisdom of any particular policy promoted by the other two branches," but rather, to make sure that actions taken by the executive or legislative branches "comports with our country's laws".

Court challenges of the ban have been filed nationwide from states and advocacy groups. Washington Solicitor General Noah Purcell said his state's focus is the way the President's order targets Islam.

**Load-Date:** February 4, 2017

**End of Document**



[*President Donald Trump is bombing four of the seven countries from where he's restricting immigration; Plans for new executive orders are latest in string of the decrees*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MPY-4P81-JCJY-G10V-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 25, 2017 Wednesday 3:09 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 744 words

**Byline:** Jon Sharman

**Body**

President Donald Trump is expected to restrict the issuing of visas to people from seven Middle East and north African countries-of which his military is currently bombing four.

Mr Trump tweeted he was planning a "big day" on national security matters on Wednesday and is also thought to be preparing to ban ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from entering the US, until the State and Homeland Security departments finalise a new, stricter vetting process.

Countries subject to the temporary visa restrictions are said to be Iraq, Syria, Libya, Yemen, Iran, Sudan and Somalia. The US military is fighting Isis terrorists in the first four states, and carried out an airstrike in Somalia as recently as September last year.

Read more

Trump signs order to speed up review of infrastructure projects

Nihad Awad, the national executive director at the Council on American-Islamic Relations, condemned the initial media reports of President Trump's immigration orders.

"These [executive orders] will not make our nation safer," he tweeted on Tuesday night, "rather they will make it more fearful and less welcoming."

Stephen Legomsky, who was chief counsel at US Citizenship and Immigration Services in the Obama administration, told Reuters the president had the authority to limit refugee admissions and the issuance of visas to specific countries if the administration determined it was in the public's interest.

He said: "It would be exactly within his legal rights. But from a policy standpoint, it would be terrible idea because there is such an urgent humanitarian need right now for refugees."

The countries on which visa restrictions could be enforced

Iraq

The US is currently trying to retake the city of Mosul from Isis. Iraqi troops, Kurdish forces and Shia militias have advanced through much of the city's east, regaining control of key local government buildings and the city's university on Friday, but areas to the west of the river Tigris remains under Isis control.

About 1.5 million civilians were living in the city when the operation to retake it began in October, according to UN figures, and 400,000 have now been freed.

Syria

More than 100 Islamist fighters were killed by US air strikes on a training camp inSyriaas American forces expanded their assault beyond Isis on Thursday.

The Department of Defence said warplanes and drones were involved the operation on the Shaykh Sulayman camp in northern Syria, on the last day of Barack Obama's presidency.

Tens of thousands of people have been killed in the Syrian civil war and millions more have fled the country or been displaced internally amid the destruction of major cities.

Where do immigrants to the US arrive from?

Libya

US stealth bombers recently carried out strikes against Isis fighters who had fled their former stronghold of Sirte, and who officials said were plotting terror attacks against Europe.

Ashton Carter, the outgoing US defence secretary, said initial estimates suggested more than 80 fighters were killed.

Isis expanded into Libya in the chaos that followed the ouster and assassination of former dictator Muammar Gadaffi.

Yemen

The US has carried out drone strikes in the nation, aimed at al-Qaeda militants

The latest of these strikes werecarried outon Friday, Saturday and Sunday, killing a handful of al Qaeda militants, according tothe Pentagon.

The strikes were aimed at al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), and were the first such strikes to take place under President Donald Trump.

The strikes, which were later confirmed by the Pentagon, did not require Trump to sign off on them. Under then-President Barack Obama, the authority to order such strikes in Yemen was devolved to the four-star commander of US Central Command, Gen. Joseph Votel.

The strikes killed five al-Qaeda operatives and took place in the town of al Bayda, according to Pentagon spokesman US Navy Capt. Jeff Davis.

Outside of US activity, the United Nations has said the civilian death toll inYemen's

nearly two-year conflict has reached 10,000, with 40,000 others wounded.

The conflict pitsShiite Houthi rebelsand allied forces against aSaudi-led coalition of nations. The coalition began an air campaign in March 2015 to restore the internationally recognised government that fled the country after Houthis seized the capital.

Preparations for Mr Trump's promised border wall are also expected to get under way on Wednesday. He tweeted: "Big day planned on NATIONAL SECURITY tomorrow. Among many other things, we will build the wall!"

**Load-Date:** January 25, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Trudeau's charm offensive on the White House*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MW4-DVM1-F072-44FN-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

February 14, 2017 Tuesday

First Edition

Copyright 2017 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 19

**Length:** 760 words

**Byline:** RACHAEL REVESZ IN NEW YORK

**Body**

Justin Trudeau was all smiles, handshakes and encouraging words at the White House during his first meeting with Donald Trump yesterday, despite a slightly frosty start for the US-Canada relationship.

The leaders posed for a photo in the Oval Office in reported near silence as the cameras clicked. "I think they want a handshake," Mr Trump said.

Later in the Cabinet Room, Mr Trudeau pulled out a chair for the President's eldest daughter, Ivanka Trump, and thanked her for organising the roundtable of women executives to discuss how to "create paths" for entrepreneurial success.

The Canadian leader's visit to Washington, including a lunch and meetings with House Speaker Paul Ryan and Senate majority leader Mitch McConnell, will be viewed as critical for strengthening relations and maintaining daily, cross-border trade of around $2bn.

Behind the smiles and formalities, the liberal Canadian leader and the conservative American populist were set to discuss two polarising issues: refugees and workplace gender equality.

Mr Trudeau warned Canada would "not agree on everything", referring to Mr Trump's executive order to ban people from seven Muslim-majority countries.

The ban, which was signed on 27 January, confused Canadians and those with dual nationalities, as well as visa and green card holders.

Mr Trudeau posted a photo on the day of the ban, kneeling beside a child refugee - one of 40,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** last year - with the caption "Welcome to Canada". The US has taken in 12,500.

While Mr Trudeau said that he would continue to welcome refugees without compromising national security, Mr Trump insisted that he wanted to "keep out the very bad dudes".

Mr Trudeau added that while the two nations had "fought and died together", there "have been times where we have differed in our approaches and that's always been done firmly and respectfully".

He added: "The last thing Canadians expect is for me to come down and lecture another country on how they choose to govern themselves. My role and responsibility is to continue to govern in such a way that reflects Canadians' approach and be a positive example in the world."

The leaders' also announced a joint initiative, the Canada-United States Council for Advancement of Women Entrepreneurs and Business Leader, but their stances on womens' rights could also be seen as polar opposites.

While Mr Trudeau created a gender-balanced cabinet in 2015 and has often declared himself a feminist, Mr Trump has not been so warmly regarded by proponents of gender equality.

Alongside multiple accusations of sexual assault, which Mr Trump has strongly denied, the President also admitted that he regretted hiring his first wife, Ivana Trump, and bragged that he had never changed a diaper.

"We need to make it easier for women to manage the demands of having a job and a family," Mr Trump told the roundtable.

One of his first acts as President was to reinstate the Mexico City Policy, which bans US aid for any foreign organisation that even talks about abortion. He is pro-life and critics fear he will roll back women's reproductive rights, preventing them from being able to contribute fully to the workforce if they cannot make decisions about their own bodies.

The White House gathering was expected to discuss maternity leave. Under a proposal crafted by his daughter, Mr Trump promised to provide six weeks of paid maternity leave if a woman's company did not offer any form of cover, and the government would pay for the multi-billion dollar bill by targeting workplace insurance fraud.

"We need to think about how we level the playing field for this generation and the next," said Ivanka Trump at the meeting.

In Washington yesterday, Mr Trudeau was accompanied by several key Canadian ministers, but not his wife, Sophie Gregoire Trudeau. Around 6pm, he was scheduled to fly back to Ottawa.

Mr Trump had insisted that their conversation was "very, very productive".

Mr Trudeau can only hope he struck the right note with his neigbour after a fair share of controversy in recent months - Mr Trump was widely criticised for not making a public statement about the Quebec Mosque shooting, which was carried out by a white man against Muslims, killing six. Mr Trump did call Mr Trudeau on 30 January to offer his condolences.

Mr Trump has also recently met Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who he referred to as "Prime Minister Shinzo" on twitter, and UK Prime Minister Theresa May. He grabbed her hand as they headed along a White House corridor together, which some pundits said was due to his fear of slopes.

**Load-Date:** February 13, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump's immigration ban hits Muslim-majority countries (except those linked to his business); President mulling 'extreme vetting'process for some migrants*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MRC-2XP1-JCJY-G1R3-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 27, 2017 Friday 2:04 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 720 words

**Byline:** Jon Sharman

**Body**

President Donald Trump is expected to sign an executive order suspending entry to the US for immigrants from seven Muslim-majority countries. But others where he appears to have conducted business or pursued business interests appear to have escaped censure.

The US leader has caused outrage with recent with the proposals to indefinitely block ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from entering the US and bar all refugees from the rest of the world for at least 120 days. Immigration from Syria and six other predominantly Muslim countries -Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen -would also be suspended for at least 30days.

Mr Trump and Senator Jeff Sessions, his nominee for Attorney General, have said they wanted to focus restrictions on countries whose migrants pose a threat.

"Our country has enough problems without allowing people to come in who, in many cases or in some cases, are looking to do tremendous destruction," the new US leader told

ABC News

in his first presidential interview.

Read more

US suspends refugee interviews ahead of pending Trump policy shakeup

As a result, the new administration is working on an "extreme vetting"scheme for countries where Mr Trump believes checks are not stringent enough. Iran, Sudan and Syria are all on the State Department's list of terrorism sponsors.

Countries in the same region not subject to the impending crackdown include Saudi Arabia, where Mr Trump had declared he registered a number of companies including THC Jeddah Hotel and DT Jeddah Technical Services, in the kingdom's second city, Jeddah - some of which have since been closed. Trump Organisation lawyer Alan Garten said in December 2016: "There is no deal in Saudi Arabia."

In January 2016, a few months after the companies were created, Mr Trump told Fox News that he "would want to protect Saudi Arabia" from a potential Iranian threat.

But he added that the Arab kingdom was "going to have to help us economically" and referenced the billions of dollars the country has made from the oil trade.

Saudi Arabia has previously been associated with terrorism and religious extremism, and has been linked with the largest terror attack on US soil.

Of the 19 hijackers involved in the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Centre in New York, 15 were Saudi Arabian citizens.

The independent American commission that investigated the attacks found no evidence that the Saudi government or senior Saudi officials financed the terrorists. Saudi Arabia has strenuously denied any involvement in the attacks.

READ MORE

Corbyn accuses May as she labels Iraq War a 'failed policy'

But US diplomatic cables released by whistleblowing websiteWikileaks, revealed that private individuals in Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states friendly to the United States are the chief source of funding for al-Qaeda, the Taliban and other terrorist groups.

Despite extensive efforts to limit the distribution of funds to extremists from the Middle East, the documents showed deep frustration in Washington with the level of cooperation from governments in the region.

"It has been an ongoing challenge to persuade Saudi officials to treat terrorist financing emanating from Saudi Arabia as a strategic priority," read a cable from Hillary Clinton, then US Secretary of State, dated 30 December, 2009.

"Donors in Saudi Arabia constitute the most significant source of funding to Sunni terrorist groups worldwide," added the document.

Migration freeze countries in red, and, in yellow, countries where Donald Trump has done business or pursued potential deals (

Bloomberg

)

Saudi officials also recently admitted to misleading the US on funding extremism, according to the Politico website.

In Turkey, Mr Trump's company has been paid up to $10m(£8m) since 2014by the developers of the luxury Trump Towers Istanbul to affix his name to the complex. The building's owner, one of Turkey's biggest oil and media conglomerates, has become an influential voice for the country's increasingly repressive regime.

In Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates, the Trump International Golf Club"features a 30,000 square foot state-of-the-art clubhouse" and is due to open this year.

A licensing deal linked to Trump Tower in Baku, Azerbaijan, was ended in the same bout of "housekeeping" as the Saudi companies, Mr Garten said in December. It had netted Mr Trump nearly $3msince mid-2014.

**Load-Date:** January 27, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump immigration ban: More than 100,000 visas revoked after travel restrictions imposed on seven Muslim-majority countries; Number emerges during hearing for lawsuit filed by two Yemeni brothers affected by controversial policy*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MSW-1M31-JCJY-G0NH-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 3, 2017 Friday 4:55 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 701 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz, Tom Batchelor

**Body**

More than 100,000 visas have been revoked from travellers heading to the US under Donald Trump's travel ban, according to court documents.

The

Washington Post

reported the figure, citing a government attorney at a federal court hearing in Virginia.

The number was revealed during a hearing for a lawsuit filed by two Yemeni brothers who flew in to Dulles International Airport on Friday and were put on a return flight to Ethiopia.

Read more

US federal judge blocks Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban' in Michigan

NBC News' Washington affiliate also reported the same number from the hearing.

"The number 100,000 sucked the air out of my lungs," Simon Sandoval-Moshenberg of the Legal Aid Justice Center, who represents the brothers, told the

Post.

It is not yet clear who has been affected or what countries they came from.

The judge reportedly asked a lawyer how many people had been affected by the ban, which prompted the response of 100,000 people.

Erez Reuveni of the Office of Immigration Litigation at the Civil Division of the Justice Department also said no returning legal permanent residents have been denied entry, according to CNN.

The executive order, signed by President Trump last Friday, indefinitely suspended ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, and barred nearly all travellers from seven Muslim-majority countries - Iran, Syria, Yemen, Iraq, Somalia, Libya and Sudan - for 90 days and blocked refugees for 120 days.

Within hours of the order being signed, there was widespread confusion around the country, including in neighbouring countries such as Canada and Mexico.

Hundreds of people who had flown to the US from the seven nations while the order was being signed were detained and placed in handcuffs at airports, questioned for hours, and many of them sent back on a return flight. No clear guidance had been sent to airports or airlines; there were also questions of dual citizenship and no exceptions laid out for people who lived and worked in the US or who were travelling to receive emergency medical treatment.

The ban also entangled US university students from abroad, and tore families apart who, within hours, became standed by the signing of Mr Trump's pen.

Thanks to massive protests at airports around the country like at John F Kennedy Airport in New York, several detainees were freed, including an Iraqi man who had worked as a translator for many years for the US military and whose family lived in the US.

Civil rights groups such as the American Civil Liberties Union and the Council on American-Islamic Relations were outraged at the order, which they deemed unconstitutional and targeting the most vulnerable sectors of society.

To all our new members who proudly joined the resistance: Thank you. We will not let you down. pic.twitter.com/XbsWntdX2v

- ACLU National (@ACLU) February 3, 2017

At least four states filed lawsuits to challenge the constitutionality of the executive order. In California and Michigan, federal judges ordered the order could not ban lawful, permanent US residents or green card holders who had also been caught up in the ban.

Steve Bannon, Mr Trump's chief strategist, was said to be behind the green card mandate, and he had overruled the Department of Homeland Security. The unelected adviser is now a permanent member of the National Security Council.

Once the refugee resettlement programme is resumed, the US has vowed to only take in 50,000 people in one fiscal year.

Mr Trump has consistently defended the ban, saying it would prevent "bad people" with "bad intent" from coming to the US.

Everybody is arguing whether or not it is a BAN. Call it what you want, it is about keeping bad people (with bad intentions) out of country!

- Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) February 1, 2017

House Speaker Paul Ryan also defended the ban, saying it made sense for the US to take a pause and review its vetting procedures, but said the roll-out of the order was done poorly and the confusion it caused was "regrettable".

A report from the Cato Institute found that there had been no Syrian-related terrorist event in more than four decades on US soil, and countries that had carried out larger attacks in the US, such as Saudi Arabia or Egypt, were not featured on Mr Trump's hit list.

**Load-Date:** February 3, 2017

**End of Document**



[*UN condemns Trump bar on asylum and entry from Muslim-majority countries*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MRP-W8F1-JCS0-D235-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

January 29, 2017 Sunday

First Edition

Copyright 2017 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 22

**Length:** 813 words

**Byline:** LIZZIE DEARDEN

**Body**

The United Nations has condemned Donald Trump's ban on refugees and order to stop Syrians and travellers from six other Muslim-majority countries entering the US amid mounting international anger.

The UN refugee agency (UNHCR) and International Organisation for Migration called on the new President's administration to continue offering asylum to people fleeing war and persecution, a right protected by international law.

"The needs of refugees and migrants worldwide have never been greater and the US resettlement program is one of the most important in the world," the two agencies said in a joint statement. "The longstanding US policy of welcoming refugees has created a win-win situation: it has saved the lives of some of the most vulnerable people in the world who have in turn enriched and strengthened their new societies."

The UN also cautioned Mr Trump against any move to give preferential status to particular nationalities or religions after his executive order called for minority religious groups to be fast-tracked. He announced his support for the prospect of Syrian Christians being given priority for asylum in an interview with the Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN).

When asked if Christians would be given special status, he replied "yes", adding: "They've been horribly treated??? everybody was persecuted in all fairness, but they were chopping off the heads of everybody but more so the Christians. And I thought it was very, very unfair. So we are going to help them."

The UNHCR and IOM urged the new administration to continue its work with the UN and other agencies to ensure "vital" resettlement programmes for people fleeing conflict and persecution, whatever their background. "We strongly believe that refugees should receive equal treatment for protection and assistance, and opportunities for resettlement, regardless of their religion, nationality or race," a spokesperson said. "We will continue to engage actively and constructively with the US Government, as we have done for decades, to protect those who need it most."

Mr Trump has suspended all refugee admissions for 120 days as part of measures he claimed would "keep radical Islamic terrorists out of the US". His order additionally banned ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** indefinitely until "significant changes" are made, and halved the annual cap on refugees to 50,000.

The President also signed an executive order on Friday that will suspend travel visas for anyone from seven predominantly Muslim countries from entering the US for at least 90 days. He claimed his administration needed time to develop more stringent screening processes for refugees, immigrants and visitors.

The order will affect people from "countries of particular concern", expected to include Syria, Iraq, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen. It provoked outcry from NGOs working to stem the worst ever global refugee crisis, with more than 65 million people forced to flee their homes.

Amnesty International warned the move could have "catastrophic consequences", saying some of the worst fears about a Trump presidency were already being realised. Salil Shetty, the group's secretary general, said: "These men, women and children are the victims of the same terror President Trump claims he wants to fight against. The irony beggars belief."

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) said Mr Trump's "harmful and hasty" decision would impact thousands of innocent people, mostly women and children, awaiting resettlement to the US. "In truth, refugees are fleeing terror - they are not terrorists," said IRC president and CEO David Miliband.

Help Refugees, a British charity working across camps in northern France, Greece and the Middle East, said news of Mr Trump's order was "devastating". "Refugees are, by definition, people seeking sanctuary from some of the most horrific circumstances and it is the duty of compassionate and progressive nations to accept their fair share," a spokesperson said. "Banning refugees on the basis of their religious beliefs is abhorrent."

It came months after global outcry over the Republican's campaign pledge to implement a "total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States". Around 25,000 refugees were resettled in the US between October and the end of 2016 under the UNHCR's programme for the most vulnerable, the agency said.

According to the Pew Research Centre, the numbers of Muslim and Christian refugees from all countries entering the US were around the same last year: 37,521 Christian refugees entered the US during 2016, with 38,901 Muslim refugees entering in the same period.

Before being approved for resettlement by American authorities, refugees undergo an in-depth process that includes up to 36 months of vetting - including biometric screening - by 12 to 15 government agencies including the Department of Homeland Security and intelligence services.

**Load-Date:** January 28, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Germany plans to electronically tag suspected terrorists amid concern over security failures after Berlin attack; Government stepping up security reforms following failures leading up to Berlin attack*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MSM-WF71-F021-61V8-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 2, 2017 Thursday 3:00 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 734 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

The German government is planning to electronically tag jihadis amid outrage over revelations another suspected Isis supporter was set free by authorities.

More than a thousand police officers raidedhomes, mosques and businesses in the state of Hesse but the huge operation resulted in the arrest of only16 suspects, including a man who had been on security services' radar for years.

The 36-year-old Tunisian, Haikel S, is a suspected Isis recruiter and smuggler linked with at least two terror attacks in his home country, as well as leadinga German extremist network planning an attack.

German police officers stand guard in front of a mosque during a terror raid in Frankfurt, Germany, on 1 February (AP)

Police hailed his arrest on Wednesday but there was a swift backlash over revelations that like the Berlin Christmas market attacker, he was known to authorities and an attempt to deport him had failed, forcing him to be released from detention.

Read more

Mass terror raids thwart 'planned Isis attack' in Germany

Germany reacts to Donald Trump's Muslim immigration ban

Germany warns of 'trouble times ahead'

Germany's cabinet has addressed proposals to better keep track of potential extremists, approving a law allowing the "fundamental modernisation of police IT systems" to improve information sharing.

The measures include the use of ankle bracelets to monitor anyone deemed to be a security threat who has been put under restrictions by the Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA).

Thomas de Maiziere, the interior minister, said the electronic tags would help "control their compliance".

"Ankle bracelets are an important instrument to facilitate the surveillance of dangerous people," he added.

German security services have a list of more than 550 Islamists considered "threats to public security" who have lived or currently reside in Germany.

Angela

Merkel

reacts to shooting of Berlin market attack suspect

Johannes Dimroth, a spokesperson for the interior ministry, declined to speculate how many suspects might now face electronic monitoring.

"How many of them could in the future be affected by such a measure is a purely hypothetical question," he told reporters in Berlin.

The proposal still has to be approved by the German parliament, where there could be resistance from MPs opposing the tracking of people who have not been convicted of a crime.

Germany's government is following up on promises of reform following a litany of security failures exposed in the wake of the Berlin Christmas market attack.

Anis Amri, a failed Tunisian asylum seeker, killed 12 people months after a delay receiving paperwork from his home government ended Germany's attempt to deport him.

He had been put under surveillance over a separate alleged terror plot but monitoring was stopped in September after officials uncovered drug dealing and minor crime but failed to reveal evidence of extremism.

Amri managed to flee through European countries including the Netherlands, Belgium and France amid an international manhunt following his attack, before being shot dead when he opened fire on policein Italy.

Investigations continue into his possible associates in Germany, with three terror suspects accused of planning to join Isis in Syria or Iraq arrested at his former mosque in Berlin on Tuesday.

Amri's attack sparked a 10-point plan by the government to tackle terror, including the tightening of residence requirements for migrants who give false identities, fast-tracked deportations and the detention of rejected asylum seekers who are deemed a threat.

Other measures include increased surveillance, the recording of air traffic data to track movement within the EU and improved information sharing.

They come after a string of Isis-inspired terror attacks in Germany that started with a teenage girl's stabbing of a police officer at Hanover railway station in February last year.

It was followed by the Würzburg train attack, asuicide bombing in Ansbach and the Berlin Christmas market attack, which were all claimed by Isis.

Anti-immigration groups have seized on the atrocities to criticise Angela Merkel's decision to open Germany's border to ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** during the height of the refugee crisis in 2015.

The Chancellor is battling to be re-elected for a fourth term amid opposition from the right-wing populist Alternative for Germany (AfD) party, which has enjoyed unprecedented success in local elections.

**Load-Date:** February 2, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Germany plans to electronically tag suspected terrorists amid concern over security failures after Berlin attack; Government stepping up security reforms following failures leading up to Berlin attack*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MSM-WF71-F021-61V9-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 2, 2017 Thursday 3:00 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 730 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

The Germangovernment is planning to electronically tag jihadis amid outrage over revelations another suspected Isissupporter was set free by authorities.

More than a thousand police officers raided homes, mosques and businesses in the state of Hesse, but the huge operation resulted in the arrest of only 16 suspects, including a man who had been on security services' radar for years.

The 36-year-old Tunisian, Haikel S, is a suspected Isis recruiter and smuggler linked to at least two terror attacks in his home country, as well as leading a German extremist network planning an attack.

German police officers stand guard in front of a mosque during a terror raid in Frankfurt on 1 February (AP)

Police hailed his arrest on Wednesday but there was a swift backlash over revelations thatlike the Berlin Christmas market attacker, he was known to authorities and an attempt to deport him had failed, forcing him to be released from detention.

Read more

Mass terror raids thwart 'planned Isis attack' in Germany

Germany reacts to Donald Trump's Muslim immigration ban

Germany warns of 'trouble times ahead'

Germany's cabinet has addressed proposals to better keep track of potential extremists, approving a law allowing the "fundamental modernisation of police IT systems" to improve information sharing.

The measures include the use of ankle bracelets to monitor anyone deemed to be a security threat who has been put under restrictions by the Federal Criminal Police Office.

Thomas de Maizière, the interior minister, said the electronic tags would help "control their compliance".

"Ankle bracelets are an important instrument to facilitate the surveillance of dangerous people," he added.

German security services have a list of more than 550 Islamists considered "threats to public security" who have lived or currently reside in Germany.

Angela

Merkel

reacts to shooting of Berlin market attack suspect

Johannes Dimroth, a spokesperson for the interior ministry, declined to speculate how many suspects might now face electronic monitoring.

"How many of them could in the future be affected by such a measure is a purely hypothetical question," he told reporters in Berlin.

The proposal still has to be approved by the German parliament, where there could be resistance from MPs opposing the tracking of people who have not been convicted of a crime.

Germany's government is following up on promises of reform following a litany of security failures exposed in the wake of the Berlin Christmas market attack.

Anis Amri, a failed Tunisian asylum seeker, killed 12 people months after a delay receiving paperwork from his home government ended Germany's attempt to deport him.

He had been put under surveillance over a separate alleged terror plot but monitoring was stopped in September after officials uncovered drug dealing and minor crime but failed to reveal evidence of extremism.

Amri managed to flee through European countries including the Netherlands, Belgium and France amid an international manhunt following his attack, before being shot dead when he opened fire on police in Italy.

Investigations continue into his possible associates in Germany, with three terror suspects accused of planning to join Isis in Syria or Iraq arrested at his former mosque in Berlin on Tuesday.

Amri's attack sparked a 10-point plan by the government to tackle terror, including the tightening of residence requirements for migrants who give false identities, fast-tracked deportations and the detention of rejected asylum seekers who are deemed a threat.

Other measures include increased surveillance, the recording of air traffic data to track movement within the EU and improved information sharing.

They come after a string of Isis-inspired terror attacks in Germany that started with a teenage girl's stabbing of a police officer at Hanover railway station in February last year.

It was followed by the Würzburgtrain attack, a suicide bombing in Ansbach and the Berlin Christmas market attack, which were all claimed by Isis.

Anti-immigration groups have seized on the atrocities to criticise Angela Merkel's decision to open Germany's border to ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** during the height of the refugee crisis in 2015.

The Chancellor is battling to be re-elected for a fourth termamid opposition from the right-wing populist Alternative for Germanyparty, which has enjoyed unprecedented success in local elections.

**Load-Date:** February 2, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Germany's constitutional court rejects ban on 'neo-Nazi' NPD party; Court finds 'lack of evidence' the NPD violates Germany's consitution*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MN6-H321-JCJY-G124-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 17, 2017 Tuesday 9:17 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 734 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Germany's supreme constitutional court has rejected a proposed ban on a far-right party accused of neo-Nazi links.

The Federal Constitutional Court rejected a historic attempt by all of Germany's 16 states to outlaw the National Democratic Party (NPD), which has been described by intelligence services as racist and anti-Semitic.

The ban, which was applied for in 2013, would have been the first of its kind since 1956.

It was the second attempt to prohibit the NPD, which officials say violates the constitution of the state that funds it.

Supporters of anti-immigration right-wing movement PEGIDA (hold up a banner with the logo of the far-right National Democratic Party (NPD) (Reuters)

It states: "Parties that, by reason of their aims or the behaviour of their adherents, seek to undermine or abolish the free democratic basic order or to endanger the existence of the Federal Republic of Germany shall be unconstitutional."

The NPD, founded in 1964, calls itself a "patriotic organisation" and openly lists British fascist leader Sir Oswald Mosley among its former supporters.

Read more

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** rescue neo-Nazi German politician after car crash

Far-right groups make huge gains in local German elections

Far-right party mocked for poster 'to deport German people first'

Its policy opposes "the rising flood of migrants", the "devastating consequences of globalisation" and multiculturalism and calls integration "genocide", writing in its manifesto that "Germany must remain the country of Germans".

The NPD cites both "Americanisation and Islamisation" as risks to national identity and calls for Germany's exit from both the EU and Nato, while opposing same-sex marriage, equality laws and calling for the castration of convicted paedophiles.

Some of its members have been convicted of Holocaust denial or incitement but the party denies any involvement in violence.

The NPD is highly visible in Germany due to its frequent political rallies, where Nazi symbols and gestures have been reported, but has little official influence.

1.3% of voters chose the NPD in 2013 (Reuters)

The party holds a single seat in the European Parliament but is not represented in the German Bundestag and won just 1.3 per cent of the vote in the last national election in 2013.

Its fortunes have declined further since then, losing its last seats in state legislatures in September.

The chance discovery of the National Socialist Underground (NSU) in 2011, blamed for killing nine immigrants and a police officer between 2000 and 2007, prompted politicians to explore a legal ban. The first public hearing took place in March 2016.

Only two parties have been outlawed in West Germany and reunited Germany - the neo-Nazi Socialist Reich Party in 1952 and the German Communist Party in 1956.

Germany's domestic intelligence agency says the NPD, established in 1964, has about 5,000 members, in a country of 82 million, and links to some violent neo-Nazis. Several senior

Heiko Maas, the justice minister, said the verdict would not "take the confrontation with right-wing extremism off our hands".

"Even if the NPD were banned, that unfortunately does not mean there are no right-wing extremists in Germany," he told Die Welt.

Some experts argued that allowing the fringe NPD to exist would legitimise it and send a signal that its right-wing views are acceptable, while others warned a ban could be counterproductive and push its members underground.

The first attempted to ban the NPD came in 2003, when the bid was rejected because paid government informants within the party were partially responsible for evidence against it. Officials say there was no evidence from informants this time around.

There are fears over rising support for right-wing groups in Germany, amid tensions over the refugee crisis and a series of terror attacks, as well as mass sexual assaults in Cologne.

The nationalist Alternative for Germany party, which has chipped away the NPD's support while attacking Angela Merkel opening Germany's borer to refugees in 2015, has enjoyed unprecedented success in local elections.

Protest movements like the anti-Islam Pegida have drawn thousands of supporters at marches, while asylum centres and mosques have been attacked.

A homemade bomb emblazoned with a swastika was found in the latest plot uncovered, which had links to the neo-Nazi "Oldschool Society" (OSS).

Additional reporting by agencies

**Load-Date:** January 17, 2017

**End of Document**



[*The Berliner building bridges by hosting refugee dinners in her home; Desperate to help Syrians fleeing war in some small way, a cook and writer has encouragedBerliners and refugees to break bread*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MM5-0WN1-JCJY-G48B-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 10, 2017 Tuesday 9:38 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FOOD AND DRINK

**Length:** 692 words

**Byline:** Kashmira Gander

**Body**

Ashamed by the government's response to the refugee crisis in her native countryHungaryand desperate to help the situation in some small way, Berlin-based writer and semi-professional cook Anna Gyulai Gaal looked to food as a starting point. To build bridges between locals and newcomers in the German capital, she decided to invite refugees to host dinners in her home.

"I know how it feels to be a newcomer somewhere, not knowing the language, not having a grasp of the culture," the 30-year-old who also runs a Hungarian kitchen told

The Independent

. Estimates suggest that since the war began in 2011, at least 200,000 Syrians have entered Germany.

While reporting on refugee camps, Gyulai Gaal learned that most forms of emergency accommodation in Germany do not have kitchens. She found this heartbreaking.

"Food is such an easy and great way to connect, why not to open up our home?" she thought.

Twice a month, ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** cook for and dine with guests who pay (EURO)38 (£33) per head. After Gyulai Gaal has paid for ingredients and taxes, the rest of the money goes to the chefs.

The exchange enables the cooks, all of whom have been women so far, to indulge in a taste of home while Berliners learn about their city's new residents and encounter new flavours. Since the first dinner a year ago, about seven women have formed the core group of cooks.

"Some of the dishes they cook were entirely new to me. The stuffed mini-courgettes and aubergines, called Mehshi, or the Kebbah, the deep fried bulgur balls, filled with minced lamb and walnuts came as a surprise with their rich flavours. Or my personal favourite, the south Syrian chicken-onion pie, the Rgaga."

Read more

Refugee wrongly accused of Berlin attack fears for his life

Hundreds of refugees return to 'secret camps' near Calais

The single mother who opened her home to refugees

Gyulai Gaal admits that, at first, there were some awkward moments between the cooks and the guests, but that she has worked to iron these out. Over time, relationships have flourished.

"Some of them spoke good English when we met, some nothing but Arabic. As their German is developing, totally new aspects of their personalities are opening up. It's amazing. Eventually we learn that we not all that different.

"We've had many special moments in the past 12 months. Sometimes it can be emotional, sometimes rather cheerful, it depends on the guests too and on the chemistry between all of us.

"One those moments was the visit of a Greek lady and her daughter who actually helped the arriving boats to shore in Greece a couple of months earlier.

Read more

A Hackney restaurant is tackling prejudice against refugees

"It was a very touching moment. The daughter, living in Berlin, has come to most of the dinners ever since. She is a new friend to all of us.

"If the women feel comfortable enough, we will talk about the terrifying events of their lives. What they had to leave behind, how worried are they for their loved ones that are still in Syria, how uncertain their life was a year ago. They often show photos of their family members. Some are dead, some are still alive in the middle of the war, and about some they have no information. They just have hope."

But Gyulai Gaal is careful to ensure that hardship isn't the only topic of conversation, to save the dinners from becoming crisis porn.

"I am always trying to lead conversations into directions other than just "How did you get to Europe? Was it scary?' because these women have so much to offer and their journey is just a little part of it. I'm trying to avoid the 'disaster tourism' at our dinners."

Yet, Gyulai Gaal doesn't underplay the significance of her small effort in the face of an overwhelming crisis. "These dinners are more than just a meal for everyone involved. I think both parties have an image of each other and these dinners help to understand that these images are often false.

"I do believe that by offering my home and my time and a little bit of money two Saturdays a month, I make life a tiny bit better, a tiny bit more cheerful and purposeful. Not only for the lives of the cooks but my own and often some of the guests, too."

**Load-Date:** January 12, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Strangely enough, it's US relations with Turkey that could suffer most after the assassination of the Russian ambassador; It is neither in Russia nor Turkey's interest to elevate this assassination - Russia immediately confirmed that the planned talks on Syria, set for today, will go ahead*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MF8-9NS1-JCJY-G1TP-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 20, 2016 Tuesday 10:19 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 686 words

**Byline:** Isabel Hunter

**Body**

The assassination of Russia's Turkish ambassador won't be the grand diplomatic fallout you'd expect - this is no Franz Ferdinand moment.

Far from driving a wedge between Russia and Turkey, this assassination will bind them closer together and the embarrassment of such a security lapse in Ankara can only serve Putin's game plan in Syria.

"A crime has been committed and it was without doubt a provocation aimed at spoiling the normalisation of Russo-Turkish relations and spoiling the Syrian peace process which is being actively pushed by Russia, Turkey, Iran and others," President Putin said in a televised address.

"There can only be one response - stepping up the fight against terrorism. The bandits will feel this happening," he added.

The gunman, revealed as Mevlut Mert Altintas, a 22-year-old off-duty police officer who used his badge to gain entry to the Ankara art gallery where he fired eight shots into Russian Ambassador Andrei Karlov.

Russian ambassador to Turkey fatally shot at exhibition

"We die in Aleppo, you die here... Don't forget about Syria, don't forget about Aleppo," Altintas screamed after he murdered Mr Karlov - chillingly captured on camera.

His identity, his motivations and connections,if any,will predictably be the source of countless conspiracy theories.

But embarrassing questions as to how either a jihadi or a Gulenist gunman managed to evade intelligence forces and gain such close proximity to the Russian Ambassador will leave Turkey on the backfoot.

Since June, President Erdogan has sought to make nice with Putin,finally issuing an apology for the shooting down of Russian aircraft over Syria - blaming it on internal "Gulenist terrorists" in an attempt to absolve the Turkish state.

The Turkish pro-government press were quick to decry the assassin part of the Fetullah Terrorist Organisation (Feto),the movement led by US-based cleric Fetullah Gulen,who Ankara also blames for the 15Julyattempted coup.

"Great Sabotage" reads the front page of pro-government newspaper

Yeni Safak

, which proclaimed the assassination a CIA and Feto plot aimed at bringing down Russian-Turkish relations - the immediate narrative also pursued by President Putin.

Ironically, it could be US relations that suffer as it refuses to deport Gulen from his Pennsylvania home despite repeated requests from Turkey to do so.

Turkish politicians took to Twitter to blame the murder on "dark forces", also calling it a "provocation" meant to destabilise Turkish-Russian relations.

It is neither in Russia nor Turkey's interest to elevate this assassination - Russia immediately confirmed that the planned talks on Syria, set for today, will go ahead.

Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlüt Çavusoglu,RussianFM Sergei Lavrov and his Iranian counterpart Javad Zarif are due to discuss Aleppo and the wider Syrian crisis at the Kremlin's invitation.

Read more

US Embassy in Ankara 'closed' after 'shooting incident'

Since the summer rapprochement between Turkey and Russia, the Kurdish issue is clearly marked at the top of Ankara's Syrian plan, and it appears to be happier to leave some of the anti-Assad rebels in the cold.

For while Turkish-backed rebel groups are bringing the fight to Isis as part of Operation Euphrates Shield and have made significant gains in the last few months, Turkey's first priority is claiming the ground before the Syrian Kurdish forces - inextricably linked to the Kurdish Workers'Party (PKK), against whom Turkey is fighting a bloody war in the southeast.

The Turkish buffer zone is extending further south, with rebels on the outskirts of Al-Bab, an Isis-controlled town north of now Syrian government-controlled Aleppo.

Already thousands of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** have returned to Jarabulus, a border town Turkish-backed rebels took back from Isis in August, and one that now boasts fully Turkish-funded hospitals, bakeries and aid delivery.

With the border firmly closed to more refugees coming from Aleppo, Turkey could seek to formalise the buffer zone with Russian, Iranian and by proxy Syrian government blessing.

After last night's murder, however, President Putin has a stronger hand to play.

**Load-Date:** December 20, 2016

**End of Document**



[*The idiot economics of Donald Trump's 'Muslim ban' will hit his own people in the wallet; The fact that those who had been granted green cards (permanent residence) were initially included in the ban will have sent a chill through any non-American worker in the US, regardless of nationality or religion*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MSF-2XS1-F021-6046-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 1, 2017 Wednesday 3:14 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 658 words

**Byline:** Ben Chu

**Body**

A moral disgrace. An act of wanton cruelty. A legal outrage. An unconstitutional power grab. A work of gross administrative incompetence. A self-inflicted security wound. But economic idiocy too?

It seems almost otiose to mention money in the context of Trump's arbitrary executive order barring ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from America, capping the overall refugee intake for 2017 at 50,000 and stopping all entry to nationals from seven countries from the Muslim world.

But it's true. Trump's order not only defiles America's founding principles, sullies its global reputation and gives comfort to autocrats the world over, but it will, in all likelihood, ultimately lead to the diminishment of the vigour of the world's dominant economy too.

One doesn't need to look far in America for examples of refugees and their families who have made a stunning contribution to the country's prosperity. Steve Jobs, the founder of Apple, was the son of a man who fled violence in Syria. Sergey Brin, the Google co-founder, was a refugee from the Soviet Union.

Donald Trump announces a ban on refugees and all visitors from Muslim-majority countries

But the economic case for being open to refugees does not merely rest on a handful of entrepreneurial superstars. The idea that these people seeking sanctuary in other states represent an endless burden on taxpayers - something we've heard so often in Europe in recent years - is nonsense.

Data from Europe shows that, over time, the employment rate of refugees rises from 25 per cent to more than 60 per cent. In Sweden asylum seekers have shown a bigger increase in employment rates than any other migrant group.

Trump's apologists stress that the ban is only temporary. Otherspoint out that America in the Obama years only admitted an average of 70,000 refugees a year. It's certainly true that America has not been pulling its weight when it comes to responding to the global refugee emergency.

But this is really to miss the point.

The economic damage from Trump's order goes far wider than its direct impact. The bulk of the harm is in the message it sends. The barely disguised discrimination against Muslims tells 1.6 billion followers of that faith that "America does not want you". And the fact that those who had been granted green cards (permanent residence) were initially included in the ban will have sent a chill through any non-American citizenworker, regardless of nationality or religion. The message here is: you can no longer rely on the US government to respect your status, to treat you fairly.Their incentive to stay - or the incentivefor others with skills and talentsto come to America - has taken a terrible blow.

Many informed observers suspect this anti-immigrant signal is the real goal. And listening to the views of Steve Bannon, Trump's "chief strategist" and reportedly the driving force behind the executive order, this seems all too plausible. Bannon has ranted in the past about US engineering schools being "full of people from South Asia and East Asia" and objected to the number of Asian Silicon Valley chief executives. "Twenty per cent of this country is immigrants. Is that not the beating heart of this problem?" he once asked.

This is no finessing this. What we have here from the mouth of Trump's right hand man is the raw voice of nativist bigotry.

It is also the voice of economic folly. America is a country settled by immigrants and whose spectacular economic success is built upon successive waves of mass immigration from people from all over the world of all faiths and ethnic backgrounds. It has prospered enormouslyon the back of immigrants' inventive talents and hard work.

This noxious executive order is likely to be just the beginning. It sets the ugly and profoundly un-American tone. The longer Trump and Bannon control immigration policy in the US, the greater the damage that we can expect to be inflicted on the most productive national economy the planet has ever seen.

**Load-Date:** February 1, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Theresa May accused of 'grovelling' to Donald Trump amid torture row; 'As you renew your nation, just as we renew ours', the Prime Minister will say - sparking strong criticism*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MR5-3DV1-F021-625H-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 26, 2017 Thursday 2:15 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 692 words

**Byline:** Rob Merrick

**Body**

Theresa May has been accused of grovelling to Donald Trump as MPs and campaigners urge her to challenge the President over his widely condemned comments about tortureafter hailing his potential to "renew" the United States.

The Prime Minister ran into a storm of criticism after making warm comments about the President, even before landing in the US for her landmark visit.

Before she left London, No.10 set out how Ms May will heap praise on the President when she speaks to Republicans at a Congressional 'retreat' in Philadelphia saying Brexit will give Britain the opportunity to "build relationships with old friends and new allies alike".

Read more

May refuses to rule out private US firms taking over NHS services

They were issued as Mr Trump backed waterboarding,widely recognised as a form of torture, moved to ban ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and vowed to make Mexico pay for a border wall.

Mr Trump was asked by ABC News about his campaign trail promises to bring back waterboarding "and tougher" methods of interrogation in the battle to defeat Isis. Mr Trump cited the group's atrocities against Christians and said "we have to fight fire with fire".

"When they're shooting, when they're chopping off the heads of our people and other people, when they're chopping off the heads of people because they happen to be a Christian in the Middle East, when Isis is doing things that nobody has ever heard of since Medieval times, would I feel strongly about waterboarding?" he said.

"I have spoken with people at the highest level of intelligence and I asked them the question 'Does it work? Does torture work?' and the answer was 'Yes, absolutely'.

"They chop them off and they put them on camera and send them all over the world. So we have that and we're not allowed to do anything?" he added.

The Prime Minister's warmwords about Mr Trumpsparked an immediate backlash from MPs.

Andrew Tyrie, the Conservative MP who challenged the Prime Minister in the Commons yesterday over torture, said Mr Trump's fresh comments made her approach in the US even more important.

He told The Independent: "We can lead together on many, perhaps most, things, but we certainly can't lead together on torture.

"I have asked the Prime Minister to raise this with the President. His recent statement makes doing so even more important."

Senior Conservative SarahWollaston tweeted her criticism:

You cannot lead on a global stage by advocating torture, disgusting racial stereotyping & turning back the clock on women's rights worldwide [*https://t.co/LqNQ08Lgbu*](https://t.co/LqNQ08Lgbu)

- Sarah Wollaston MP (@sarahwollaston) January 25, 2017

Yvette Cooper, the former Labour leadership contender, tweeted: "Please don't do this Theresa. UK can work with US without praising him. Really hoping you are better than this."

And Vince Cable, the former Liberal Democrat Cabinet minister, accused the Prime Minister of "grovelling":

Appalling error by May to grovel to #Trump for trade deal. He wants to destroy #freetrade

- Vince Cable (@vincecable) January 25, 2017

Nick Clegg, the former Lib Dem leader, pointed to Ms May declining to speak to the Irish Parliament on a visit next month, apparently because of a lack of time.

He tweeted: "So, PM rushes to be photographed with Trump and Erdogan but won't find time to speak to Irish Dail. Has No.10 completely lost the plot?"

Read more

Trump vows to cancel meeting with Mexico if they don't pay for wall

Republicans 'openly considering Donald Trump's emotional stability'

Scientists to oppose Donald Trump in huge 'March for Science'

As May goes to visit Trump, she should remember Merkel's words

Meanwhile, an eight-page draft executive order emerged paving the way for Mr Trump to suspend the Syrian refugee programme and stop issuing visas for countries deemed to pose a threat to the US.

The President also said construction would start immediately on a wall which Mexico willbe forced to pay for.

Mrs May's speech is designed to underline herdetermination to re-forge the "special relationship" between the two countries.

It will be delivered ahead of her visit to the White House on Friday, when she will become the first foreign leader to meet Mr Trump since his inauguration.

**Load-Date:** January 26, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump's administration has seven people who have expressed Islamophobic sentiment; One person would be too many*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MBY-4TB1-F021-6084-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 9, 2016 Friday 7:54 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 715 words

**Byline:** Rachael Revesz

**Body**

"There is a war on. And the war is against all of western civilisation...If we do not destroy the scourge of radical Islam, it will ultimately destroy Western civilization."

KT McFarland, the Fox News analyst and Donald Trump's incoming deputy national security adviser, is just one of six people who have been appointed to run the government come January 2017 - excluding the president-elect himself - who have openly expressed prejudiced views about Muslims.

Political correctness, Ms McFarland added, of not discriminating against Muslims "is getting us killed".

Read more

Muslim-owned restaurant hands out free meals to the homeless

The Council on American-Islamic Relations has compiled a list of racist quotations expressed by everyone from the incoming head of the justice department, Jeff Sessions, to the new national security advisor Michael Flynn.

"It's not in their [Muslims'] conscience, life like we understand life. It just isn't," insisted Mr Flynn.

The confusion between the peaceful religion of Islam, versus radical religious extremism which is present for a minority of people in every religion, has led to a major spike in racially motivated hate crimes.

Hate crimes against American Muslims have soared to their highest levels since the 9/11 attacks.

Donald Trump's controversial cabinet

In Oklahoma City, the FBI was called upon to investigate the dumping of a pig carcass outside an Islamic center in Lawton. Muslims are prohibited from eating pork products. The driver of the truck backed up to the centre, as shown in CCTV footage, the carcass fell off the tailgate, and the owner drove away.

Muslims have been beaten up and killed. Mosques have been frequent targets, and women have had their hijabs ripped off their heads in the street.

Ben Carson, the new US housing and urban development secretary, said he believes that there is a Muslim plot to take over America, called "civilizational jihad".

Out of a total population of 318 million peoplein the US, there are only about 3.3 million Muslims.

He compared ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** to rabid dogs and said: "Bringing in people from the Middle East right now carries extra danger and we cannot put our people at risk because we are trying to be politically correct."

Graphiq

Kansas congressman Mike Pompeo, who will serve as the head of the CIA, defended a staffer who posted a link to a blog on his social media accounts that used the racial slur "turban topper"and called president Barack Obama an "evil Muslim communist USURPER".

"I am convinced there is no malice in his actions,"he said in 2010 when he was running for office. He also blamed Muslim leaders for their "silence" and "complicity"after the 2013 Boston Marathon attacks.

Stephen Bannon, Mr Trump's senior counsel and the founder of white supremacist platform Breitbart, compared Shariah to "Nazism, racism and communism". He also falsely accused Virginia democratic senator Tim Kaine as being affiliated with the Muslim Brotherhood.

He said Richard Spencer, a white supremacist, was "one of the top two or three experts in the world on this great war we are fighting against fundamental Islam."

Read more

Utah lawyers pledge to defend Muslim refugees against Trump for free

Barack Obama could thwart Donald Trump's Muslim registry plan

Muslim woman says she was called a terrorist on New York Subway

Potential appointees to the administration include 12 more people who have openly made anti-Muslim statements, including New Jersey governor Chris Christie who said Shariah law was "crap" and he was fed up of "dealing with the crazies", and former speaker of the house Newt Gingrich, who advocated making all Muslims take a religious "test".

"We should, frankly, test every person here who is of a Muslim background and if they believe in Sharia, they should be deported,"said Mr Gingrich.

Mr Trump first proposed a temporary ban of all Muslims entering the US in November 2015, shortly after the terrorist attacks in Paris. He also lied that he had seen Muslims clapping and cheering as the Twin Towers came down on 9/11.

A 2016 study from the University of Minnesota found that disapproval of Muslims in the US had almost doubled from 26 per cent a decade ago to 45.5 per cent in 2016, making Muslims the most disliked group in the country.

**Load-Date:** December 9, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump's travel ban on Muslim countries is not the same as their bans on Israelis, says expert; 'But we are not talking about thesesmall warring states, we are talking about the leader of the free world, the defender of human rights'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MS7-MGF1-F021-652C-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 31, 2017 Tuesday 8:16 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 683 words

**Byline:** Lucy Pasha-Robinson

**Body**

Citizens from Syria, Sudan, Iran, Iraq, Yemen, Somalia and Libya have been barred from the US for 90 days under controversial security measures implemented by Donald Trump.

However,six of the seven banned states also bar citizens by nationality, an argument often cited by Mr Trump's supporters in an attempt to normalise the unprecedented steps.

According to the International Air Transport Association(IATA), the banned countries of Syria, Sudan, Iran, Iraq, Yemen and Libya all block Israeli citizens from entering their own countries, and the measures are also enforced in Algeria, Bangladesh, Brunei, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Oman, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Read more

Over 4m people sign global open letter to Trump following 'Muslim ban'

Amber Rudd warns Trump travel ban is Isis 'propaganda opportunity'

Donald Trump increasing risk of conflict between US and China

MPs to debate cancelling Donald Trump state visit on February 20

However, international politics professor Fawaz Gerges at London School of Economics said comparisons between America and Arab-Israeli relations "fly in the face of reality".

"Trump's ban is a Muslim ban, based on religious discrimination and racial discrimination. The relationship between Israel and its Arab neighbours is one of war since 1947 - for the last 70 years. By trying to force comparison, it just flies in the face of reality, it's apples and oranges, sky and sea," he told

The Independent

.

"The boycott of Israel by Arab nations is a completely different thing. The Arab world offered Israel a kind of a deal - a Palestinian state in return for normalised political relations. But we are not talking about these small warring states, we are talking about the leader of the free world, the defender of human rights. What Trump has done has undermined America as a moral voice in the world."

Read more

The biggest danger to America is Donald Trump, not refugees

"We are talking about blocking poor countries, that are war torn, they don't have the means and the ability to retaliate - what kind of options do they have against the US? That's why Trump has chosen these states - Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Afghanistan aren't on the list because they have options."

The US citizen also discredited claims Barack Obama took a similar approach in 2011 when he temporarily increased vetting measures of Iraqi citizens travelling to the US.

"What we need to understand is there a qualitative difference between the measures put in place between the Obama administration and the blanket ban put in place by Trump," he said.

"Obama's measures were to protect the US against potential threats based on specific information gathered by national security forces in 2011 and 2015."

Dr Gerges, who is a leading expert on Isis and Al Qaeda, said Mr Trump's ban was ultimately counter intuitive as it would play into the hands of terrorist recruiters.

"It serves as massive propaganda for Al-Qaeda and ISIS, it shifts the debate between being a war within islam to being a war between the West and Islam," he said.

He also accused Mr Trump of executing a "political, ideological decision" in order to play to his core base of alt-right supporters and tea party republicans.

"All the evidence we have is most of the attacks that take place on American soil are carried out by American citizens or residents," he said.

"This is a political decision, an ideological decision, playing to his alt-right base and this is the beginning."

Read more

Donald Trump is not an inexperienced politician, he's a racist bigot

Green card and visa holders were being blocked from boarding US-bound flights within hours of Mr Trump issuing the new order.

Refugee admissions to the country have also been suspended for 120 days as part of measures the Republican leader claimed would "keep radical Islamic terrorists out of the US".

The executive order, titled "Protecting the Nation From Foreign Terrorist Entry Into The United States", also bars ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** indefinitely until "significant changes" are made, and halved the annual cap on refugees to 50,000.

**Load-Date:** January 31, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Theresa May accused of 'grovelling' to Donald Trump amid torture row; 'As you renew your nation, just as we renew ours', the Prime Minister will say - sparking strong criticism*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MR5-3DV1-F021-625G-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 26, 2017 Thursday 2:15 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 691 words

**Byline:** Rob Merrick

**Body**

Theresa May has been accused of grovelling to Donald Trump as MPs and campaigners urge her to challenge the President over his widely condemned comments about , after hailing his potential to "renew" the United States.

The Prime Minister ran into a storm of criticism after making warm comments about the President, even before landing in the US for her landmark visit.

Before she left London, No.10 set out how Ms May will heap praise on the President when she speaks to Republicans at a Congressional 'retreat' in Philadelphia saying Brexit will give Britain the opportunity to "build relationships with old friends and new allies alike".

Read more

May refuses to rule out private US firms taking over NHS services

They were issued as Mr Trump backed 'waterboarding' - widely recognised as a form of torture - moved to ban ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and vowed to make Mexico pay for a border wall.

Mr Trump was asked by ABC News about his campaign trail promises to bring back waterboarding "and tougher" in the battle to defeat Isis. Mr Trump cited the group's atrocities against Christians and said "we have to fight fire with fire".

"When they're shooting, when they're chopping off the heads of our people and other people, when they're chopping off the heads of people because they happen to be a Christian in the Middle East, when Isis is doing things that nobody has ever heard of since Medieval times, would I feel strongly about waterboarding?" he said.

"I have spoken with people at the highest level of intelligence and I asked them the question 'Does it work? Does torture work?' and the answer was 'Yes, absolutely'.

"They chop them off and they put them on camera and send them all over the world. So we have that and we're not allowed to do anything?" he added.

The Prime Minister's words sparked an immediate backlash from MPs from all parties, including senior Conservative Sarah Wollaston.

Andrew Tyrie, the Conservative MP who challenged the Prime Minister in the Commons yesterday over torture, said Mr Trump's fresh comments made her approach in the US even more important.

He told The Independent: "We can lead together on many, perhaps most, things, but we certainly can't lead together on torture.

"I have asked the Prime Minister to raise this with the President. His recent statement makes doing so even more important."

Ms Wollaston tweeted: "You cannot lead on a global stage by advocating torture, disgusting racial stereotyping & turning back the clock on women's rights worldwide."

Yvette Cooper, the former Labour leadership contender, tweeted: "Please don't do this Theresa. UK can work with US without praising him. Really hoping you are better than this."

And Vince Cable, the former Liberal Democrat Cabinet minister, tweeted: "Appalling error by May to grovel to #Trump for trade deal. He wants to destroy #freetrade"

Nick Clegg, the former Lib Dem leader, pointed to Ms May declining to speak to the Irish Parliament on a visit next month, apparently because of a lack of time.

He tweeted: "So, PM rushes to be photographed with Trump and Erdogan but won't find time to speak to Irish Dail. Has No.10 completely lost the plot?"

Read more

Trump vows to cancel meeting with Mexico if they don't pay for wall

Republicans 'openly considering Donald Trump's emotional stability'

Scientists to oppose Donald Trump in huge 'March for Science'

As May goes to visit Trump, she should remember Merkel's words

Ms May's speech was released as Mr Trump, last night, said he believed waterboarding works, stating "we have to fight fire with fire".

Meanwhile, an eight-page draft executive order emerged paving the way for him to suspend the Syrian refugee programme and stop issuing visas for countries deemed to pose a threat to the US.

And the President said construction would start immediately on a wall which Mexico will, somehow, later be forced to pay for.

The speech is designed to underline Ms May's determination to reforge the "special relationship" between the two countries.

It will be delivered ahead of the Prime Minister's visit to the White House on Friday, when she will become the first foreign leader to meet Mr Trump since his inauguration.

**Load-Date:** January 26, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Strangely enough, it's US relations with Turkey that could suffer most after the assassination of the Russian ambassador; It is neither in Russia nor Turkey's interest to elevate this assassination - Russia immediately confirmed that the planned talks on Syria, set for today, will go ahead*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MF8-9NS1-JCJY-G1TR-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 20, 2016 Tuesday 10:19 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 686 words

**Byline:** Isabel Hunter

**Body**

The assassination of Russia's Turkish ambassador won't be the grand diplomatic fallout you'd expect - this is no Franz Ferdinand moment.

Far from driving a wedge between Russia and Turkey, this assassination will bind them closer together and the embarrassment of such a security lapse in Ankara can only serve Putin's game plan in Syria.

"A crime has been committed and it was without doubt a provocation aimed at spoiling the normalisation of Russo-Turkish relations and spoiling the Syrian peace process which is being actively pushed by Russia, Turkey, Iran and others," President Putin said in a televised address.

"There can only be one response - stepping up the fight against terrorism. The bandits will feel this happening,"he added.

The gunman, revealed as Mevlut Mert Altintas, a 22-year-old off-duty police officer who used his badge to gain entry to the Ankara art gallery where he fired eight shots into Russian Ambassador Andrei Karlov.

Russian ambassador to Turkey fatally shot at exhibition

"We die in Aleppo, you die here... Don't forget about Syria, don't forget about Aleppo," Altintas screamed after he murdered Mr Karlov - chillingly captured on camera.

His identity, his motivations and connections,if any,will predictably be the source of countless conspiracy theories.

But embarrassing questions as to how either a jihadi or a Gulenist gunman managed to evade intelligence forces and gain such close proximity to the Russian Ambassador will leave Turkey on the backfoot.

Since June, President Erdogan has sought to make nice with Putin,finally issuing an apology for the shooting down of Russian aircraft over Syria - blaming it on internal "Gulenist terrorists" in an attempt to absolve the Turkish state.

The Turkish pro-government press were quick to decry the assassin part of the Fetullah Terrorist Organisation (Feto),the movement led by US-based cleric Fetullah Gulen,who Ankara also blames for the 15Julyattempted coup.

"Great Sabotage" reads the front page of pro-government newspaper

Yeni Safak

, which proclaimed the assassination a CIA and Feto plot aimed at bringing down Russian-Turkish relations - the immediate narrative also pursued by President Putin.

Ironically, it could be US relations that suffer as it refuses to deport Gulen from his Pennsylvania home despite repeated requests from Turkey to do so.

Turkish politicians took to Twitter to blame the murder on "dark forces", also calling it a "provocation" meant to destabilise Turkish-Russian relations.

It is neither in Russia nor Turkey's interest to elevate this assassination - Russia immediately confirmed that the planned talks on Syria, set for today, will go ahead.

Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlüt Çavusoglu,RussianFM Sergei Lavrov and his Iranian counterpart Javad Zarif are due to discuss Aleppo and the wider Syrian crisis at the Kremlin's invitation.

Read more

US Embassy in Ankara 'closed' after 'shooting incident'

Since the summer rapprochement between Turkey and Russia, the Kurdish issue is clearly marked at the top of Ankara's Syrian plan, and it appears to be happier to leave some of the anti-Assad rebels in the cold.

For while Turkish-backed rebel groups are bringing the fight to Isis as part of Operation Euphrates Shield and have made significant gains in the last few months, Turkey's first priority is claiming the ground before the Syrian Kurdish forces - inextricably linked to the Kurdish Workers'Party (PKK), against whom Turkey is fighting a bloody war in the southeast.

The Turkish buffer zone is extending further south, with rebels on the outskirts of Al-Bab, an Isis-controlled town north of now Syrian government-controlled Aleppo.

Already thousands of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** have returned to Jarabulus, a border town Turkish-backed rebels took back from Isis in August, and one that now boasts fully Turkish-funded hospitals, bakeries and aid delivery.

With the border firmly closed to more refugees coming from Aleppo, Turkey could seek to formalise the buffer zone with Russian, Iranian and by proxy Syrian government blessing.

After last night's murder, however, President Putin has a stronger hand to play.

**Load-Date:** December 20, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Aleppo: Syrian army resumes bombardment of city as fragile ceasefire crumbles; Airstrikesresumein embattled Syrian city and promised evacuations put on hold as short-lived hopes of trapped civilians dashed*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MCY-TX71-F021-616J-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 14, 2016 Wednesday 8:57 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 727 words

**Byline:** Bethan McKernan

**Body**

Air strikes have resumed in theSyriancity of Aleppo after what the Russian Defence Ministry said was a dawnrebel infringementof the fragile ceasefire.

Rebel officials and a souce close the regime told AFP on Wednesday that the deal was on hold after government shelling hit a rebel neighbourhood, dashing the hopes of trapped civilians for a truce.

Syrian state TV reported six deaths in the recently recapturedarea of Bustan al-Quassr after rebel shelling.

A Turkey and Russia brokered

ceasefire dea

l to bring peace to what a UN representative described as a "meltdown of humanity" had gone into effect on Tuesday evening. It was supposed to include the evacuation of up to 5,000 people to neighbouring rebel-held Idlib province.

Read more

How the West must share the blame for Aleppo's day of brutality

The images that show just how much has been destroyed in Aleppo

Handful of Government MPs turn up for 'urgent' debate on Aleppo

No, ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** cannot return to Aleppo

The rebels of Aleppo will fight on, but Assad has taken their power

We said 'never again': the tragedy of Aleppo could have been avoided

Five things you can do to help Aleppo

Boris Johnson rules out British aid drops over Aleppo

However, Lebanese al-Manar TV broadcast footage showing the Syrian government's green buses leaving the agreed checkpoint without any passengers, indicating the evacuations will be futher delayed and the short-lived promise of a ceasefire is over.

Many in east Aleppo didn't sleep last nightawaiting the start of the arranged passage out of the city to neighbouring rebel-held Idlib province. Monitors reported that rebel fighters had prevented civilians who wanted to leave from doing so.

Activists sent audio recordings of planes overhead and explosions as the news broke on Wednesdaythat the ceasefire had completely failed. "We want to leave... we don't want more massacres, let us leave, what is happening," one said in a Whatsapp message.

Russia's Interfax news agency said thatpro-government forces would continue the operation to quash resistance in the last opposition neighbourhoods.

Syria conflict: Aleppo civilians post 'goodbye' videos

Between 50,000 - 100,000 people are thought to still be trapped in the last slivers of rebel territory in east Aleppo after the Syrian army and Iran-backed militas captured all but a few remaining neighbourhoods in the divided city on Monday.

Reports of the executions of 82 civilians by pro-government militias, including women and children, have alarmed rights groups and the international community, as has the destruction and death caused by incessant bombing and a collapse of medical aid.

The ceasefire agreement - which did not include the Syrian government or UN in consultations - reportedly ran into trouble after Shia militias added fresh demands to the deal,such as the evacuation of injuredpro-government forces from other areas.

Fighting may not continue much longer, however. Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's forces have all but retaken the city, which after four years of fierce fighting has become the epicentre of Syria's bloody civil war.

Rebel supply lines were cut off in July, and an intense Russian-backed bombing campaign since September has killed hundreds, decimated medical infrastructure, and bought the last urban rebel stronghold in Syria to its knees.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said that he expected all rebel resistance to crumble within the next two to three days.

Residents and activists in the rebel-controlled parts of the city have expressed fears that they will be detained, tortured and killed for resistance to the regime - including humanitarian workers, doctors and teachers.

"Anyone who knows anything about the Assad regime should know what to expect. Death will be a wish for those captured and deemed [to be] opposition, weather [sic] military or civil," one wrote in a Whatsapp message to journalists.

Recapturing Aleppo will be Mr Assad's biggest victory yet in the six-year-old war - but with two thirds of Syria still controlled by the US-backed Free Syrian Army umbrella of rebel factions, extremist groups and the Kurds in the north, the complex conflict is far from over.

To date more than 400,000 people have lost their lives and half of Syria's population displaced from their homes by fighting, the UN says.

**Load-Date:** December 14, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump's team 'discussing plans for Muslim registration system'; Immigration hardlinersays plans underway for programme to force Muslimsregister ondatabase*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M66-8H01-F021-61MC-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

November 16, 2016 Wednesday 11:47 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 793 words

**Byline:** May Bulman

**Body**

Donald Trump's policy advisers are discussingplans to establish a registry for Muslim

immigrants

in the US, a man believed to be akey member of the President-elect's transitionteam has revealed.

Kris Kobach, the s

ecretary of s

tate for Kansas, said

the President-elect'sadvisers were looking at how to implement a proposal suggested by

the billionaire businessman

that would

force immigrants

from

Muslim countries to register on a database

.

Mr Kobach, whohelped devisetough immigration laws in a number of US states and claims to have participated in regular conference calls with Mr Trump's immigration advisers, also said the Trump administration could push ahead rapidly on construction of a US-Mexico border wallwithout seeking immediate congressional approval.

Trump: We're going to deport millions

Read more

Trump's plans for Muslim 'register' compared to Nazi treatment of Jews

Trump already breaking campaign promise to 'drain the swamp'

John Kerry says Trump's Muslim ban 'endangers national security'

The hardline immigration official, whose role has not been confirmed by

the President-elect's transition team but who is thought to be a favourite for the role of Attorney General, said

the immigration group had discussed drafting executive orders for the President-elect's review "so that Trump and the Department of Homeland Security hit the ground running".

The Muslim registration scheme, which would reportedly see Muslims given a form of identification that notes their religion,reflects policies Mr Trump put forward during his campaign to introduce "extreme vetting" of Muslims through tougher security measures.

Such a programme would echo a registration system created under Mr Bush's presidency, which Mr Kobach also helped design, and which required thousands of Arab and Muslim visitors and temporary US residents to register with the state, but was abandoned in 2011 after it was criticised

for unfairly targeting immigrants from Muslim-majority nations.

Created in 2002 following the 9/11

attacks,

the National Security Entry-Exit Registration System (NSEER)required Muslims from countries where extremist organisationswere active to provide information about themselves, undergo interviews with officials and periodically notify the government of their whereabouts.

The registration programme, which focusedon visitors and non-citizen men over the age of 16 from more than 24 designated countries, caused widespread controversy and was deemed redundant in 2011, following complaints from civil libertarians.

FindTheData | Graphiq

In the interview, Mr Kobach saidimmigration advisers were also looking at how the Homeland Security Department could move rapidly on Mr Trump's plans to build a wall between the US and Mexico without approval from Congress, acknowledging that "future fiscal years will require additional appropriations".

Mr Trump presented a hardline stance on Muslims in the US during his election campaign, making a call to temporarily ban all Muslims from entering the country and proposing the introduction of special identity

cards for American Muslims during a debate over ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** entering the country.

Demonstrators hold signs during a protest against President-elect Donald Trump and in support of Muslims residents in downtown Hamtramck, Michigan, U.S. (Reuters)

While Mr Trump appeared to have pulled back on the anti-Muslim rhetoric immediately after he was elected, hehas since indicated he still plans to follow through on his plans.

FindTheData | Graphiq

In an interview on Sunday Mr Trump told CBS's

60 Minutes

showhe would deport two to three million undocumented immigrants "immediately" upon taking office, and confirmed he still plannedto "build a wall", although he addedthat some parts of the barrier would in fact be a fence.

The President-elect is also reportedly considering appointing as his deputy security advisor the vice-president of a think-tank that has said Muslims are infiltrating the American government.

Mr

Kobachreportedly said in the interview that he believed that illegal immigrants in some cases should be deported before a conviction if they have been charged with a violent crime, echoing Mr Trump's recent pledge to remove immigrants with criminal records who are in the country illegally.

The immigration hardlineralso said the President-elect's immigration advisers had discussed ways of overturning President Barack Obama's 2012 executive action that has granted temporary deportation relief and work permits to more than 700,000 undocumented people who came to the US as children of illegal immigrants.

**Load-Date:** November 17, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Strangely enough, it's US relations with Turkey that could suffer most after the assassination of the Russian ambassador; It is neither in Russia nor Turkey's interest to elevate this assassination - Russia immediately confirmed that the planned talks on Syria - set for today - will go ahead*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MF7-9J81-F021-626K-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 20, 2016 Tuesday 10:19 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 690 words

**Byline:** Isabel Hunter

**Body**

The assassination of Russia's Turkish ambassador won't be the grand diplomatic fallout you'd expect - this is no Franz Ferdinand moment.

Far from driving a wedge between Russia and Turkey, this assassination will bind them closer together and the embarrassment of such a security lapse in Ankara can only serve Putin's game plan in Syria.

"A crime has been committed and it was without doubt a provocation aimed at spoiling the normalisation of Russo-Turkish relations and spoiling the Syrian peace process which is being actively pushed by Russia, Turkey, Iran and others," President Putin said in a televised address.

"There can only be one response - stepping up the fight against terrorism. The bandits will feel this happening," he added.

The gunman, revealed as Mevlut Mert Altintas, a 22-year-old off-duty police officer who used his badge to gain entry to the Ankara art gallery where he fired eight shots into Russian Ambassador Andrei Karlov.

Russian ambassador to Turkey fatally shot at exhibition

"We die in Aleppo, you die here... Don't forget about Syria, don't forget about Aleppo," Altintas screamed after he murdered Mr Karlov - chillingly captured on camera.

His identity, his motivations and connections - if any - will predictably be the source of countless conspiracy theories.

But embarrassing questions as to how either a jihadi or a Gulenist gunman managed to evade intelligence forces and gain such close proximity to the Russian Ambassador will leave Turkey on the backfoot.

Since June, President Erdogan has sought to make nice with Putin - finally issuing an apology for the shooting down of Russian aircraft over Syria - blaming it on internal "Gulenist terrorists" in an attempt to absolve the Turkish state.

The Turkish pro-government press were quick to decry the assassin part of the Fetullah Terrorist Organisation (FETO) - the movement led by US-based cleric Fetullah Gulen - who Ankara also blames for the July 15 attempted coup.

"Great Sabotage" reads the front page of pro-government newspaper Yeni Safak - who proclaimed the assassination a CIA and FETO plot aimed at bringing down Russian-Turkish relations - the immediate narrative also pursued by President Putin.

Ironically, it could be US relations that suffer as it refuses to deport Gulen from his Pennsylvania home despite repeated requests from Turkey to do so.

Turkish politicians took to Twitter to blame the murder on "dark forces", also calling it a "provocation" meant to destabilise Turkish-Russian relations.

It is neither in Russia nor Turkey's interest to elevate this assassination - Russia immediately confirmed that the planned talks on Syria - set for today - will go ahead.

Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlüt Çavusoglu,RussianFM Sergei Lavrov and his Iranian counterpart Javad Zarif are due to discuss Aleppo and the wider Syrian Crisis at the Kremlin's invitation.

Read more

US Embassy in Ankara 'closed' after 'shooting incident'

Since the summer rapprochement between Turkey and Russia, the Kurdish issue is clearly marked as firmly at the top of Ankara's Syrian plan, and appears to be happier to leave some of the anti-Assad rebels in the cold.

For while Turkish-backed rebel groups are bringing the fight to Isis as part of Operation Euphrates Shield and have made significant gains in the last few months, Turkey's first priority is claiming the ground before the Syrian Kurdish forces - inextricably linked to the Kurdish Worker's Party (PKK), against whom Turkey is fighting a bloody war in the southeast.

The Turkish buffer zone is extending further south - with rebels on the outskirts of Al-Bab, an Isis-controlled town north of now Syrian government-controlled Aleppo.

Already thousands of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** have returned to Jarabulus - a border town Turkish-backed rebels took back from Isis in August - and one that now boasts fully Turkish-funded hospitals, bakeries and aid delivery.

With the border firmly closed to more refugees coming from Aleppo, Turkey could seek to formalise the buffer zone with Russian, Iranian and by proxy Syrian Government blessing.

After last night's murder however, President Putin has a stronger hand to play.

**Load-Date:** December 20, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Everything we know about Donald Trump's 'Muslim travel ban'; What the new US President ordered and what the globalreaction has been*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MS0-4B01-F021-6159-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 30, 2017 Monday 11:11 AM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 789 words

**Byline:** Alicia A. Caldwell, Jill Colvin

**Body**

President Donald Trump signed an executive order Friday that makes major changes to America's immigration system.

The move has subsequently sparkedconfusion at airports, protests across the country and denunciations from leaders around the world.

A look at what Trump ordered and the reaction:

No entry

Trump's executive order temporarily suspends all immigration for citizens of seven majority Muslim countries for 90 days. They are: Iraq, Syria, Iran, Sudan, Libya, Somalia and Yemen. The order also calls for Homeland Security and State department officials, along with the director of national intelligence, to review what information the government needs to fully vet would-be visitors and come up with a list of countries that don't provide it. The order says the government will give countries 60 days to start providing the information or citizens from those countries will be barred from travelling to the United States.

Read more

Trump asked how to 'legally' create 'Muslim ban', claims Giuliani

Green card holders and dual citizens

Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly issued a statement Sunday declaring that, absent information indicating a serious threat to public safety and welfare, residency would be a "dispositive factor in our case-by-case determination." That means citizens of the seven target countries who hold permanent US residency "green cards" will not be barred from re-entering the US, as officials had previously said.

Officials also clarified Sunday that dual citizens who are nationals of one of the seven target countries and a country that's not on the list will be subject to additional security screenings, but will likely be allowed through.

Refugees

Trump ordered a four-month suspension of America's refugee program. The suspension is intended to provide time to review how refugees are vetted before they are allowed to resettle in the United States.

Trump's order also cuts the number of refugees the United States plans to accept this budget year by more than half, to 50,000 people from around the world.

During the last budget year the US accepted 84,995 refugees, including 12,587 people from Syria. President Barack Obama had set the current refugee limit at 110,000.

The temporary halt to refugee admissions does include exceptions for people claiming religious persecution, so long as their religion is a minority faith in their country.

Syria

Trump's order directs the State Department to stop issuing visas to Syrian nationals and halts the processing of ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. That will remain in effect until Trump determines that enough security changes have been made to ensure that would-be terrorists can't exploit weaknesses in the current vetting system.

Extreme vetting

Trump's order did not spell out specifically what additional steps he wants to see the Homeland Security and State departments add to the country's vetting system for refugees. Instead he directed officials to the review the refugee application and approval process to find any other security measures that can be added to prevent people who pose a threat from using the refugee program.

During the Obama administration, vetting for refugees included in-person interviews overseas, where they provided biographical details about themselves, including their families, friendships, social or political activities, employment, phone numbers, email accounts and more. They also provided biometric information, including fingerprints. Syrians were subject to additional, classified controls that administration officials at the time declined to describe, and processing for that group routinely took years to complete.

The response at home

Trump's order sparked an immediate backlash and sowed chaos and outrage, with

travel

lers

getting detained at airports, panicked families searching for relatives and protesters marching against the sweeping measure - parts of which were blocked by several federal courts.

Protests were held across the country, including in sight of the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island in New York City and at international airports where travellers were temporarily detained.

The response abroad

Leaders of Britain and Germany joined other American allies in criticising Trump's entry ban, voicing anger and dismay, even as some far-right politicians expressed hope the move would inspire similar measures in Europe. The far-right National Democratic Party in Germany, for instance, celebrated "the massive restriction on the entry of pseudo-refugees and Muslims to the USA."

A petition on the British Parliament's website, meanwhile, attracted hundreds of thousands of signatures backing its call for Trump, who has been invited to meet Queen Elizabeth II, to be barred on the basis of misogyny and vulgarity.

AP

**Load-Date:** January 30, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump calls judge's suspension of immigration ban 'ridiculous' and says it will be overturned; President says block onexecutive order, enacted by federal judge, could lead to 'big trouble'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MT3-TKX1-JCJY-G286-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

February 4, 2017 Saturday 1:01 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 718 words

**Byline:** Katie Forster, Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Donald Trump has reacted angrily to the legal block of his ban on refugees and immigrants from seven majority-Muslim countries entering the US.

The President said the temporary suspension of his executive order, enacted by a federal judge in Seattle, could lead to "big trouble".

He branded James Robart, who issued the restraining order against the immigration restrictions, a "so-called judge" and promised the ruling would be overturned, claiming it "takes law enforcement away from our country".

Read more

Trump curbs Wall Street regulations so his friends can borrow money

Thousands march across UK after global protests against US travel ban

Tillerson could be the moderate voice in the Trump administration

Hours later, Mr Trump claimed the ruling would mean people "with bad intentions" could enter the US.

"What is our country coming to when a judge can halt a Homeland Security travel ban and anyone, even with bad intentions, can come into US?" he tweeted.

Critics swiftly replied that checks and balances on presidential power were part of America's constitution, and that extensive vetting procedures were already in place for visitors, immigrants and refugees.

Mr Trump's order, signed last week, suspended the US refugee programme for 120 days and banned ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** indefinitely.

It also barred citizens of seven Muslim-majority "countries of concern" - Iraq, Syria, Iran, Sudan, Libya, Somalia and Yemen - from entering the US for 90 days.

The President the measures would "keep radical Islamic terrorists out of the US" but the excluded countries did not include Saudi Arabia and other nations from which attackers in the US have hailed.

London protests against US President Donald Trump's travel ban

It has sparked widespread chaos at airports and mass protests. The states of Washington and Minnesota sued the federal government over the travel ban, which Washington State Attorney General Bob Ferguson said significantly harms residents and mandates discrimination.

Judge Robart ruled yesterday to immediately stop the ban nationwide after he found "no support" for government lawyers' claims the ban protects the US.

Read more

Iranian baby allowed to enter US after Trump's travel ban

Within hours, government officials had told airlines to begin allowing previously barred passengers to fly, although confusion still reigned among many authorities, embassies and airlines.

"Judge Robart's decision, effective immediately...puts a halt to President Trump's unconstitutional and unlawful executive order," said Mr Ferguson. "No one is above the law - not even the President."

The Justice Department said it would ask for an emergency stay to honour the President's executive order, initially describing the ruling as "outrageous" before omitting the word from a later statement.

"When a country is no longer able to say who can, and who cannot, come in and out, especially for reasons of safety and security - big trouble!" Mr Trumpwrote on Twitter.

He then added: "The opinion of this so-called judge, which essentially takes law enforcement away from our country, is ridiculous and will be overturned!"

Former President George W Bush appointed Judge Robart in 2004 and he was confirmed to the Senate with 99 votes to none.

An internal email circulated among Homeland Security officials told employees to immediately comply with the judge's ruling. However, the US embassy in Baghdad said it was still awaiting guidance on what to tell Iraqis eager to see if their visa restrictions had changed.

"We don't know what the effect will be, but we're working to get more information," the embassy told Associated Press.

Judge Robart's ruling could be appealed the 9th US Circuit Court of Appeals.

Federal attorneys had argued that Congress gave the President authority to make decisions on national security and immigrant entry.

But in his written order, Judge Robart said it's not the court's job to "create policy or judge the wisdom of any particular policy promoted by the other two branches," but rather, to make sure that actions taken by the executive or legislative branches "comports with our country's laws".

Court challenges of the ban have been filed nationwide from states and advocacy groups. Washington Solicitor General Noah Purcell said his state's focus is the way the President's order targets Islam.

**Load-Date:** February 4, 2017

**End of Document**



[*TV preview: Sherlock, BBC1 Sunday 1 January; No Offence; Unforgotten; Silent Witness; Death in Paradise; Gerard Gilbert takes us through the TV detectives who aren't Benedict Cumberbatch onscreen during the New Year week*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MH6-24W1-F021-632C-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 29, 2016 Thursday 2:05 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** REVIEWS

**Length:** 658 words

**Byline:** Gerard Gilbert

**Body**

What can I possibly say about the new

Sherlock

episode on New Year's Day? Very little beyond its title, which you know already (The Six Thatchers), and that John and Mary Watson (Martin Freeman and Amanda Abbington) welcome their new baby daughter into the world, just as real-life partners Freeman and Abbington have let slip the news of their separation. Otherwise it's mum's the word, but Steven Moffat and Mark Gatiss's juggernaut Conan Doyle reboot isn't the only crime drama returning this coming week. Here, in descending order, are the TV detectives who aren't Benedict Cumberbatch.

No Offence

, created and written (this opening episode at least) by Shameless's Paul Abbott, is almost as quip-heavy as

Sherlock

, although sadly it's difficult to see the fabulous Joanna Scanlan inspiring the sort of besotted fan-worship that follows Cumberbatch around like a cloud of pheromones. And the rest of the cast has Happy New Year written all over it - with Elaine Cassidy, Alexandra Roach, Will Mellor, Paul Ritter and, now, Sarah Solemani, all well up to the demands of Abbott's blackly humorous script.

But it's Scanlan who reigns supreme as DI Vivienne Deering, the sort of lady cop who, on emerging from a shower, is quite happy to towel her lady parts while continuing a conversation with a superior officer. That commanding officer is played by Solemani - the 'her' in Him & Her - who has been introduced as a stern, by-the-book foil to Deering, as the Manchester coppers investigate a bombing at a crematorium that unearths body parts and inspires the line (from Ritter's forensics technician), that it's "an Hieronymous Bosch job". Better than Moffat that, I'd say.

Unforgotten

sees the re-teaming of Nicola Walker (

Last Tango in Halifax

) and Sanjeev Bhaskar (

Goodness Gracious Me

) as cold-case detectives DCI Cassie Stuart and DS Sunil "Sunny" Khan, the sort of inspired pairing that says this particular casting director deserved his or her fee. Chris Lang's creation is

Waking the Dead

meets

Broadchurch

, with one whodunnit spread over six episodes, as the perfectly preserved remains of a middle-aged man are fished out of the River Lee in Essex - while, as with the first series, the investigation links various suspects who would appear to have nothing in common. Once again the support cast is a cut or two above average, including Mark Bonar, Rosie Cavaliero, Douglas Hodge and Wendy Craig. Yes, Wendy Craig. As the least likely killer, my money is on her.

Silent Witness

returns with a two-part storyline that is bang up to date, featuring ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and people traffickers in Calais, but which I found a little hard to follow. If Emilia Fox's Dr Nikki Alexander barely ever cracks a smile, then that's perfectly understandable given that she spends her life poking around in chest cavities - but she could do with a bit more of Vivienne Deering's black humour. Peoplewhose jobs mean spending a lot of time with dead people tend to be on the earthy side.

If you are one of thosewho prefer to combine murder with sunny escapism, then

Death in Paradise

also returns with yet another guest cast full of actors who must have looked at the rain splattering their kitchen window, peered at the shooting schedule and thought,"A few weeks in the Caribbean, flights and accommodation paid... why not?"

Death in Paradise

is a joint Anglo-French production which is why, I suppose, Kris Marshall's DI Humphrey Goodman is the sort of Englishman you might find in Midsomer Norton (the French adore

Midsomer Murders

) - a bit woolly, a bit posh and a bit sexless. The plot involves a seismologist who dies halfway up a volcano, but I wouldn't worry yourself too much about that. Just feel the tropical breeze and dream of escape.

Sherlock, BBC1 Sunday 1 January 8.30pm; No Offence, Channel 4 Wednesday 4 January 9pm; Unforgotten, ITV Thursday 5 January 9pm; Silent Witness, BBC1 Monday 2 January 9pm; Death in Paradise, BBC1 Thursday 5 January 9pm.

**Load-Date:** December 29, 2016

**End of Document**



[*EU says Turkey loses way on road to membership since failed coup; Turkey challenges EU to finally decide whether the country can join the bloc*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M4H-XMC1-F021-636W-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

November 9, 2016 Wednesday 3:54 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 716 words

**Byline:** Suzan Fraser

**Body**

In the face of increasing criticism and worsening relations, the European Union and Turkey challenged each other on Wednesday to come out and say whether they want Ankara's bid to join the EU to continue.

In a high-stakes game of political chicken, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said the EU wouldn't be able to reach the "final point" and end its ties with Turkey forfearof jeopardising a deal to curb the flow of migrants from Africa and the Middle East to Europe.

Hours later, in Brussels, EU enlargement commissioner Johannes Hahn bluntly said that "it is time Ankara tells us what they really want," in the wake of a report assessing Turkey's status as a candidate for membership in the bloc. The report highlighted what the EU saw as backsliding on essential human rights and rule of law standards.

Read more

Erdogan attacks US plans to work with Kurds fighting Isis in Raqqa

Turkey's Erdogan says 'I don't care if they call me a dictator'

Iraq 'ready for war' with Turkey over who should control Mosul

The report, issued Wednesday, came after Turkey's recent clampdown on media freedoms and the arrests of 10 pro-Kurdish legislators.

"These various actions, including considerations of reintroducing the death penalty, seem to be increasingly incompatible with Turkey's official desire to become a member of the European Union," Mr Hahn said.

"In its own interest, Turkey urgently needs to stop moving away from the EU," Mr Hahn said.

In the escalating standoff on Turkey's protracted membership bid, Mr Erdogan rose to the challenge.

"They say unabashedly and shamelessly that the EU should review its negotiations with Turkey," Mr Erdogan told a business group in Istanbul. "You are late, go and review them as soon as you can. But don't just review them -go and make your final decision."

The Turkish leader added: "You know those threemillion refugees in Turkey? They say there is a problem. What if the negotiations end and they open the gates, where would we put those threemillion refugees? That is their worry. That is why they cannot come to the end point."

Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said the EU had to stop its "threatening" attitude.

"Make a decision, brother," Mr Cavusoglu said. "If you want the negotiations to stop, then stop them. If you want them to continue we are ready. But you have to treat us as equal partners. We cannot advance as long as you see us as second-rate country."

Omer Celik, the minister in charge of Turkey's EU negotiations, criticised the union's report. He called it "far from being constructive or providing guidance" and said EU leaders lacked "vision and the ability to produce projects."

On the visa-free travel deal, Mr Celik said Turkey was determined not to alter its anti-terrorism laws. He said EU VicePresident Frans Timmermans would arrive in Turkey for discussions on the issue.

"If we can reach progress during talks with Timmermans, this will be recorded. If we cannot, then this process will have died toward the end of the year," Mr Celik said.

In March, Turkey and the EU reached an agreement in which Turkey would stem the flow of refugees and migrants to Greece in return for incentives including fast-tracked membership talks, billions of euros in aid for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Turkey and visa-free travel for Turkish citizens.

The deal has hit a hurdle over Turkey's reluctance to change its anti-terrorism laws -one of the conditions for the lifting of visa restrictions on Turkish citizens traveling to Europe.

On Tuesday, Jean-Claude Juncker, the president of the European Commission, warned Turkey that its crackdown on political opponents and the media goes against EU values.

Mr Juncker also called on Mr Erdogan to immediately say "whether Turkey really wants to be -yes or no -a member of the European Union." He added that the Turkish leader would only have himself to blame if the EU does not grant visa-free travel in Europe to Turkish citizens soon.

Turkey has been in talks to join the European Union since October 2005, but progress has been held up, often by political opposition and particularly due to resistance from Cyprus, an EU member. The Mediterranean island has been divided since 1974, when Turkish troops occupied its northern third following a coup by supporters of a union with Greece.

Associated Press

**Load-Date:** November 9, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Aleppo: Syrian army resumes bombardment of city as fragile ceasefire crumbles; Both sides accuse other of breaking fragileRussiaand Turkey brokered ceasefire as air strikesresumein embattled Syrian city and promised evacuations put on hold*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MCY-GCT1-F021-626H-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

December 14, 2016 Wednesday 8:57 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 727 words

**Byline:** Bethan McKernan

**Body**

Air strikes have resumed in theSyriancity of Aleppo after what the Russian Defence Ministry said was a dawnrebel infringementof the fragile ceasefire.

Rebel officials and a souce close the regime told AFP on Wednesday that the deal was on hold after government shelling hit a rebel neighbourhood, dashing the hopes of trapped civilians for a truce.

Syrian state TV reported six deaths in the recently recapturedarea of Bustan al-Quassr after rebel shelling.

A Turkey and Russia brokered

ceasefire dea

l to bring peace to what a UN representative described as a "meltdown of humanity" had gone into effect on Tuesday evening. It was supposed to include the evacuation of up to 5,000 people to neighbouring rebel-held Idlib province.

Read more

How the West must share the blame for Aleppo's day of brutality

The images that show just how much has been destroyed in Aleppo

Handful of Government MPs turn up for 'urgent' debate on Aleppo

No, ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** cannot return to Aleppo

The rebels of Aleppo will fight on, but Assad has taken their power

We said 'never again': the tragedy of Aleppo could have been avoided

Five things you can do to help Aleppo

Boris Johnson rules out British aid drops over Aleppo

However, Lebanese al-Manar TV broadcast footage showing the Syrian government's green buses leaving the agreed checkpoint without any passengers, indicating the evacuations will be futher delayed and the short-lived promise of a ceasefire is over.

Many in east Aleppo didn't sleep last nightawaiting the start of the arranged passage out of the city to neighbouring rebel-held Idlib province. Monitors reported that rebel fighters had prevented civilians who wanted to leave from doing so.

Activists sent audio recordings of planes overhead and explosions as the news broke on Wednesdaythat the ceasefire had completely failed. "We want to leave... we don't want more massacres, let us leave, what is happening," one said in a Whatsapp message.

Russia's Interfax news agency said thatpro-government forces would continue the operation to quash resistance in the last opposition neighbourhoods.

Syria conflict: Aleppo civilians post 'goodbye' videos

Between 50,000 - 100,000 people are thought to still be trapped in the last slivers of rebel territory in east Aleppo after the Syrian army and Iran-backed militas captured all but a few remaining neighbourhoods in the divided city on Monday.

Reports of the executions of 82 civilians by pro-government militias, including women and children, have alarmed rights groups and the international community, as has the destruction and death caused by incessant bombing and a collapse of medical aid.

The ceasefire agreement - which did not include the Syrian government or UN in consultations - reportedly ran into trouble after Shia militias added fresh demands to the deal,such as the evacuation of injuredpro-government forces from other areas.

Fighting may not continue much longer, however. Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's forces have all but retaken the city, which after four years of fierce fighting has become the epicentre of Syria's bloody civil war.

Rebel supply lines were cut off in July, and an intense Russian-backed bombing campaign since September has killed hundreds, decimated medical infrastructure, and bought the last urban rebel stronghold in Syria to its knees.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said that he expected all rebel resistance to crumble within the next two to three days.

Residents and activists in the rebel-controlled parts of the city have expressed fears that they will be detained, tortured and killed for resistance to the regime - including humanitarian workers, doctors and teachers.

"Anyone who knows anything about the Assad regime should know what to expect. Death will be a wish for those captured and deemed [to be] opposition, weather [sic] military or civil," one wrote in a Whatsapp message to journalists.

Recapturing Aleppo will be Mr Assad's biggest victory yet in the six-year-old war - but with two thirds of Syria still controlled by the US-backed Free Syrian Army umbrella of rebel factions, extremist groups and the Kurds in the north, the complex conflict is far from over.

To date more than 400,000 people have lost their lives and half of Syria's population displaced from their homes by fighting, the UN says.

**Load-Date:** December 14, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Muslim-majority countries not included in Donald Trump immigration ban; President mulling 'extreme vetting' process for some migrants*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MRB-R261-F021-63MN-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 27, 2017 Friday 2:04 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 736 words

**Byline:** Jon Sharman

**Body**

President Donald Trump is expected to sign an executive order suspending entry to the US for immigrants from seven Muslim-majority countries. But others where he appears to have conducted business or pursued business interests appear to have escaped censure.

The US leader has caused outrage with recent with the proposals to indefinitely block ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from entering the US and bar all refugees from the rest of the world for at least 120 days. Immigration from Syria and six other predominantly Muslim countries, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen, would also be suspended for at least 30-days.

Mr Trump and Senator Jeff Sessions, his nominee for Attorney General, have said they wanted to focus restrictions on countries whose migrants pose a threat.

"Our country has enough problems without allowing people to come in who, in many cases or in some cases, are looking to do tremendous destruction," the new US leader told

ABC News

in his first presidential interview.

Read more

US suspends refugee interviews ahead of pending Trump policy shakeup

As a result, the new administration is working on an "extreme vetting" scheme for countries where Mr Trump believes checks are not stringent enough. Iran, Sudan and Syria are all on the State Department's list of terrorism sponsors.

Countries in the same region not subject to the impending crackdown include Saudi Arabia, where Mr Trump had declared he registered a number of companies including THC Jeddah Hotel and DT Jeddah Technical Services, in the kingdom's second city, Jeddah - some of which have since been closed. Trump Organisation lawyer Alan Garten said in December 2016: "There is no deal in Saudi Arabia."

In January 2016, a few months after the companies were created, Mr Trump told

Fox News

that he "would want to protect Saudi Arabia" from a potential Iranian threat.

But he added that the Arab kingdom was "going to have to help us economically" and referenced the billions of dollars the country has made from the oil trade.

Saudi Arabia has previously been associated with terrorism and religious extremism, and has been linked with the largest terror attack on US soil.

Of the 19 hijackers involved in the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center in New York, 15 were Saudi Arabian citizens.

The independent American commission that investigated the attacks found no evidence that the Saudi government or senior Saudi officials financed the terrorists. Saudi Arabia has strenuously denied any involvement in the attacks.

READ MORE

Corbyn accuses May as she labels Iraq War a 'failed policy'

But US diplomatic cables released by whistleblowing website,

Wikileaks

, revealed that private individuals in Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states friendly to the United States are the chief source of funding for al Qaeda, the Taliban and other terrorist groups.

Despite extensive efforts to limit the distribution of funds to extremists from the Middle East, the documents showed deep frustration in Washington with the level of co-operation from governments in the region.

"It has been an ongoing challenge to persuade Saudi officials to treat terrorist financing emanating from Saudi Arabia as a strategic priority," read a cable from Hillary Clinton, then US Secretary of State, dated December 30, 2009.

"Donors in Saudi Arabia constitute the most significant source of funding to Sunni terrorist groups worldwide," added the document.

Migration freeze countries in red, and, in yellow, countries where Donald Trump has done business or pursued potential deals (Bloomberg)

Saudi officials also recently admitted to misleading the US on funding extremism, according to the

Politico

website.

In Turkey, Mr Trump's company has been paid up to $10 million (£8 million) since 2014by the developers of the luxury Trump Towers Istanbul to affix his name to the complex. The building's owner, one of Turkey's biggest oil and media conglomerates, has become an influential voice for the country's increasingly repressive regime.

In Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates, is the Trump International Golf Club, which "features a 30,000 square foot state-of-the-art clubhouse" and is due to open this year.

A licensing deal linked to Trump Tower in Baku, Azerbaijan, was ended in the same bout of "housekeeping" as the Saudi companies, Mr Garten said in December. It had netted Mr Trump nearly $3 million (£2.4 million) since mid-2014.

**Load-Date:** January 27, 2017

**End of Document**



[*BREAKING BREAD; Desperate to help Syrians fleeing war, a cook and writer tells Kashmira Gander how opening her Berlin home for refugee dinners made her realise we are not all that different*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MMH-9CJ1-JCS0-D2C9-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

January 14, 2017 Saturday

First Edition

Copyright 2017 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** FEATURES; Pg. 71

**Length:** 653 words

**Byline:** KASHMIRA GANDER

**Body**

Ashamed by the government's response to the refugee crisis in her native country Hungary and desperate to help the situation in some small way, Berlin-based writer and semi-professional cook Anna Gyulai Gaal looked to food as a starting point. To build bridges between locals and newcomers in the German capital, she decided to invite refugees to host dinners in her home. "I know how it feels to be a newcomer somewhere, not knowing the language, not having a grasp of the culture," the 30-year-old who also runs a Hungarian kitchen told The Independent. Estimates suggest that since the war began in 2011, at least 200,000 Syrians have entered Germany.

While reporting on refugee camps, Gyulai Gaal learned that most forms of emergency accommodation in Germany do not have kitchens. She found this heartbreaking. "Food is such an easy and great way to connect, why not to open up our home?" she thought. Twice a month, ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** cook for and dine with guests who pay Euro 38 (£33) per head. After Gyulai Gaal has paid for ingredients and taxes, the rest of the money goes to the chefs. The exchange enables the cooks, all of whom have been women so far, to indulge in a taste of home while Berliners learn about their city's new residents and encounter new flavours. Since the first dinner a year ago, about seven women have formed the core group of cooks. "Some of the dishes they cook were entirely new to me. The stuffed mini-courgettes and aubergines, called Mehshi, or the Kebbah, the deep fried bulgur balls, filled with minced lamb and walnuts came as a surprise with their rich flavours. Or my personal favourite, the south Syrian chicken-onion pie, the Rgaga."

Gyulai Gaal admits that, at first, there were some awkward moments between the cooks and the guests, but that she has worked to iron these out. Over time, relationships have flourished. "Some of them spoke good English when we met, some nothing but Arabic. As their German is developing, totally new aspects of their personalities are opening up. It's amazing. Eventually we learn that we not all that different. We've had many special moments in the past 12 months. Sometimes it can be emotional, sometimes rather cheerful, it depends on the guests too and on the chemistry between all of us. One those moments was the visit of a Greek lady and her daughter who actually helped the arriving boats to shore in Greece a couple of months earlier. It was a very touching moment. The daughter, living in Berlin, has come to most of the dinners ever since. She is a new friend to all of us. If the women feel comfortable enough, we will talk about the terrifying events of their lives. What they had to leave behind, how worried are they for their loved ones that are still in Syria, how uncertain their life was a year ago. They often show photos of their family members. Some are dead, some are still alive in the middle of the war, and about some they have no information. They just have hope."

But Gyulai Gaal is careful to ensure that hardship isn't the only topic of conversation, to save the dinners from becoming crisis porn. "I am always trying to lead conversations into directions other than just "How did you get to Europe? Was it scary?' because these women have so much to offer and their journey is just a little part of it. I'm trying to avoid the 'disaster tourism' at our dinners."

Yet, Gyulai Gaal doesn't underplay the significance of her small effort in the face of an overwhelming crisis. "These dinners are more than just a meal for everyone involved. I think both parties have an image of each other and these dinners help to understand that these images are often false. I do believe that by offering my home and my time and a little bit of money two Saturdays a month, I make life a tiny bit better, a tiny bit more cheerful and purposeful. Not only for the lives of the cooks but my own and often some of the guests, too."

**Load-Date:** January 13, 2017

**End of Document**



[*EU says Turkey loses way on road to membership since failed coup; Turkey challenges EU to finally decide whether the country can join the bloc*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M4H-XMC1-F021-636V-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

November 9, 2016 Wednesday 3:54 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 716 words

**Byline:** Suzan Fraser

**Body**

In the face of increasing criticism and worsening relations, the European Union and Turkey challenged each other on Wednesday to come out and say whether they want Ankara's bid to join the EU to continue.

In a high-stakes game of political chicken, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said the EU wouldn't be able to reach the "final point" and end its ties with Turkey forfearof jeopardising a deal to curb the flow of migrants from Africa and the Middle East to Europe.

Hours later, in Brussels, EU enlargement commissioner Johannes Hahn bluntly said that "it is time Ankara tells us what they really want," in the wake of a report assessing Turkey's status as a candidate for membership in the bloc. The report highlighted what the EU saw as backsliding on essential human rights and rule of law standards.

Read more

Erdogan attacks US plans to work with Kurds fighting Isis in Raqqa

Turkey's Erdogan says 'I don't care if they call me a dictator'

Iraq 'ready for war' with Turkey over who should control Mosul

The report, issued Wednesday, came after Turkey's recent clampdown on media freedoms and the arrests of 10 pro-Kurdish legislators.

"These various actions, including considerations of reintroducing the death penalty, seem to be increasingly incompatible with Turkey's official desire to become a member of the European Union," Mr Hahn said.

"In its own interest, Turkey urgently needs to stop moving away from the EU," Mr Hahn said.

In the escalating standoff on Turkey's protracted membership bid, Mr Erdogan rose to the challenge.

"They say unabashedly and shamelessly that the EU should review its negotiations with Turkey," Mr Erdogan told a business group in Istanbul. "You are late, go and review them as soon as you can. But don't just review them -go and make your final decision."

The Turkish leader added: "You know those threemillion refugees in Turkey? They say there is a problem. What if the negotiations end and they open the gates, where would we put those threemillion refugees? That is their worry. That is why they cannot come to the end point."

Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said the EU had to stop its "threatening" attitude.

"Make a decision, brother," Mr Cavusoglu said. "If you want the negotiations to stop, then stop them. If you want them to continue we are ready. But you have to treat us as equal partners. We cannot advance as long as you see us as second-rate country."

Omer Celik, the minister in charge of Turkey's EU negotiations, criticised the union's report. He called it "far from being constructive or providing guidance" and said EU leaders lacked "vision and the ability to produce projects."

On the visa-free travel deal, Mr Celik said Turkey was determined not to alter its anti-terrorism laws. He said EU VicePresident Frans Timmermans would arrive in Turkey for discussions on the issue.

"If we can reach progress during talks with Timmermans, this will be recorded. If we cannot, then this process will have died toward the end of the year," Mr Celik said.

In March, Turkey and the EU reached an agreement in which Turkey would stem the flow of refugees and migrants to Greece in return for incentives including fast-tracked membership talks, billions of euros in aid for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Turkey and visa-free travel for Turkish citizens.

The deal has hit a hurdle over Turkey's reluctance to change its anti-terrorism laws -one of the conditions for the lifting of visa restrictions on Turkish citizens traveling to Europe.

On Tuesday, Jean-Claude Juncker, the president of the European Commission, warned Turkey that its crackdown on political opponents and the media goes against EU values.

Mr Juncker also called on Mr Erdogan to immediately say "whether Turkey really wants to be -yes or no -a member of the European Union." He added that the Turkish leader would only have himself to blame if the EU does not grant visa-free travel in Europe to Turkish citizens soon.

Turkey has been in talks to join the European Union since October 2005, but progress has been held up, often by political opposition and particularly due to resistance from Cyprus, an EU member. The Mediterranean island has been divided since 1974, when Turkish troops occupied its northern third following a coup by supporters of a union with Greece.

Associated Press

**Load-Date:** November 9, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Trump calls vote 'once in alifetime chance' in final week of campaigns*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M3T-8XN1-F072-41WN-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

November 6, 2016 Sunday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 4

**Length:** 692 words

**Byline:** RACHAEL REVESZ AND HARRIET AGERHOLM IN NEW YORK

**Body**

Donald Trump said voting for him is a "once-in-a-lifetime chance to take the government back" from powerful campaign donors and return power to the American people. During his first Republican party response to the president's weekly radio address, Mr Trump claimed that he and the Republican candidates for congress would bring badly needed change to government. He promised to create 25 million jobs and cut taxes for the middle class by 35 per cent.

"I'm asking for your vote and your help in electing a Republican majority in congress, so that we can finally change this broken system and make America great again," he said. "And when I say great, I mean great for everyone."

???Mr Trump was sticking to familiar campaign themes by pledging to fix what he calls "terrible trade deals", end illegal immigration and suspend the admission of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** to the country. Without offering specifics, Mr Trump said he would rebuild the military and "take care of our great, great veterans." He is spending the final days of the election charging across the country in the hope of winning over undecided voters; starting from a rally in Florida at 10am yesterday, Mr Trump will fly to events in North Carolina and Nevada before ending his day at a rally in Colorado at 9.30pm.

Opinion polls have grown increasingly close in the final week of the election, after the FBI announced it was once again investigating emails relating to Hillary Clinton's misuse of her personal email server when she was secretary of state. Since the fresh investigation into the Democratic nominee was announced last Friday, her lead shrank dramatically to within most polls' margin of error.

Ms Clinton has only a single point lead in the latest head-to-head Fox News poll, although her lead extends to two points when third party candidates are included. In state polls, which can be more accurate in the closing days of an election, she is also shown to be neck-and-neck with the property tycoon.

The rivals are tied in New Hampshire and Ms Clinton's lead has dropped to three points in Pennsylvania, which are both states that the Democrat needs to win. Nationally, however, Ms Clinton leads Mr Trump by five percentage points, according to a Reuters/Ipsos tracking poll released on Friday, maintaining her advantage in the national survey even as the race tightens in several crucial swing states. Furthermore, FiveThirtyEight still shows Ms Clinton to be way out ahead, with a 54.6 per cent chance of winning the White House, compared to Mr Trump's 35.5 per cent. But how people actually vote on the day could still change.

Concerns have been raised that Democrats could be put off voting after a huge rise in the numbers of Republicans who have signed up to monitor the polls. Two key court rulings on Friday forced North Carolina to restore thousands of names on the rolls after they had been removed close to election day, while a judge in Ohio warned the Trump campaign not to "intimidate" voters with harassment and carrying out so-called "exit polls" at the voting booths.

While Ms Clinton has been surrounded by high-profile allies and celebrities like Beyonce and Jay Z, Mr Trump has cut a rather lonely figure at recent events, only gathering an eclectic group of ex-politicians like Rudy Giuliani and former New Hampshire governor John Sununu who cracked a lewd joke at a rally about Ms Clinton's sex life. At a rally on Friday night, Mr Trump pointed out the size of the crowds but spoke defiantly of the rather bare speaker line-up: "By the way, I didn't have to bring J Lo or Jay Z - the only way she gets anybody," he said. "I am here all by myself. Just me - no guitar, no piano, no nothing."

Trump advisers are still confident their candidate can win the three states of Nevada, New Mexico and Michigan, even if the most well-known Republicans in those states have shunned him. House speaker Paul Ryan told a Wisconsin radio host that it was essential for Republican voters to "come home", although he barely mentioned Mr Trump. Since the 2005 video showing Mr Trump bragging about sexual assault was leaked, Mr Ryan said he would no longer defend the nominee.

**Load-Date:** November 6, 2016

**End of Document**



[*New York boy asks Barack Obama to send 5-year-old Syrian refugee to his house so he can be part of family; Mr Obama called Alex a 'child who has not learned to be cynical or suspicious or fearful of other people because of where they come from, how they look, or how they pray'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KS8-39V1-F021-63R2-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 22, 2016 Thursday 12:35 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 656 words

**Byline:** Alexandra Sims

**Body**

A six-year-old boy has been praised by Barack Obama after asking the President to help him offer a Syrian refugee a home with his family.

Last month, pictures of a young Syrian boy covered in dust and blood from a devastating air strike became a symbol of the suffering endured by civilians living under relentless bombardment in the country's brutal civil war.

Harrowing images of five-year-old Omran Daqneesh sitting dazed and silent in an ambulance after he was pulled from a destroyed family home hit by bombing in a rebel-held area of Aleppo provoked outrage across the world and intensified calls for an immediate ceasefire.

The picture struck a chord with six-year-old Alex from New York who wrote a letter to President Obama asking him bring Omran to his home saying, "We will give him a family and he will be our brother."

Mr Obama shared Alex's letter on Facebook, calling him a "child who has not learned to be cynical or suspicious or fearful of other people because of where they come from, how they look, or how they pray", in a post that has garnered more than 121,000 likes.

"Dear President Obama, Remember the boy who was picked up by the ambulance in Syria? Can you please go get him and bring him to [my home]?", Alex's letter, which has been published by the White House reads.

Read more

Meet the Syrian rescue team that saved five-year-old boy Omran Daqneesh from rubble in Aleppo

Omran Daqneesh: China state media calls harrowing images of injured Syrian boy 'part of Western propaganda war'

Brother of Omran Daqneesh 'dies of injuries in hospital' three days after Aleppo air strike

Barack Obama says 50 countries will take in 360,000 refugees this year in UN address

"Park in the driveway or on the street and we will be waiting for you guys with flags, flowers, and balloons. We will give him a family and he will be our brother. Catherine, my little sister, will be collecting butterflies and fireflies for him. In my school, I have a friend from Syria, Omar, and I will introduce him to Omar. We can all play together. We can invite him to birthday parties and he will teach us another language. We can teach him English too, just like my friend Aoto from Japan.

"Please tell him that his brother will be Alex who is a very kind boy, just like him. Since he won't bring toys and doesn't have toys Catherine will share her big blue stripy white bunny. And I will share my bike and I will teach him how to ride it. I will teach him additions and subtractions in math. And he [can] smell Catherine's lip gloss penguin which is green. She doesn't let anyone touch it. "

A section of Alex's letter (The White House)

Alex has also been praised by the public. Commenting on Mr Obama's post, Amanda Keller called Alex: "A six year old who has more humanity, love, and understanding than most adults." While Pamela Moore O'Loughlin said: "Neither of these sweet little boys, someone's sons, are Skittles," referring to a tweet by Donald Trump Jr likening ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** to poisoned skittles.

The President quoted the letter to world leaders gathered at this week's United Nations Summit on Refugees, saying: "We should all be more like Alex. Imagine what the world would look like if we were. Imagine the suffering we could ease and the lives we could save."

Wednesday's summit hosted by Mr Obama garnered pledges from dozens of countries to resettle or allow the lawful admission of some 360,000 refugees, doubling the number of slots that were available last year, the US envoy to the United Nations said.

More than 50 countries and international organizations that participated in the summit had collectively increased their contributions to humanitarian groups and UN appeals this year by some $4.5 billion (£3.5 billion), Mr Obama said.

However, the number is "still only a fraction" of what is needed Ambassador Samantha Power said after the UN refugee agency (UNHCR) assessed that some 1.2 million refugees need to be resettled.

**Load-Date:** September 22, 2016

**End of Document**



[*New York boy asks Barack Obama to send 5-year-old Syrian refugee to his house so he can be part of family; Mr Obama called Alex a 'child who has not learned to be cynical or suspicious or fearful of other people because of where they come from, how they look, or how they pray'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KS8-39V1-F021-63R3-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 22, 2016 Thursday 12:35 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 656 words

**Byline:** Alexandra Sims

**Body**

A six-year-old boy has been praised by Barack Obama after asking the President to help him offer a Syrian refugee a home with his family.

Last month, pictures of a young Syrian boy covered in dust and blood from a devastating air strike became a symbol of the suffering endured by civilians living under relentless bombardment in the country's brutal civil war.

Harrowing images of five-year-old Omran Daqneesh sitting dazed and silent in an ambulance after he was pulled from a destroyed family home hit by bombing in a rebel-held area of Aleppo provoked outrage across the world and intensified calls for an immediate ceasefire.

The picture struck a chord with six-year-old Alex from New York who wrote a letter to President Obama asking him bring Omran to his home saying, "We will give him a family and he will be our brother."

Mr Obama shared Alex's letter on Facebook, calling him a "child who has not learned to be cynical or suspicious or fearful of other people because of where they come from, how they look, or how they pray", in a post that has garnered more than 121,000 likes.

"Dear President Obama, Remember the boy who was picked up by the ambulance in Syria? Can you please go get him and bring him to [my home]?", Alex's letter, which has been published by the White House reads.

Read more

Meet the Syrian rescue team that saved five-year-old boy Omran Daqneesh from rubble in Aleppo

Omran Daqneesh: China state media calls harrowing images of injured Syrian boy 'part of Western propaganda war'

Brother of Omran Daqneesh 'dies of injuries in hospital' three days after Aleppo air strike

Barack Obama says 50 countries will take in 360,000 refugees this year in UN address

"Park in the driveway or on the street and we will be waiting for you guys with flags, flowers, and balloons. We will give him a family and he will be our brother. Catherine, my little sister, will be collecting butterflies and fireflies for him. In my school, I have a friend from Syria, Omar, and I will introduce him to Omar. We can all play together. We can invite him to birthday parties and he will teach us another language. We can teach him English too, just like my friend Aoto from Japan.

"Please tell him that his brother will be Alex who is a very kind boy, just like him. Since he won't bring toys and doesn't have toys Catherine will share her big blue stripy white bunny. And I will share my bike and I will teach him how to ride it. I will teach him additions and subtractions in math. And he [can] smell Catherine's lip gloss penguin which is green. She doesn't let anyone touch it. "

A section of Alex's letter (The White House)

Alex has also been praised by the public. Commenting on Mr Obama's post, Amanda Keller called Alex: "A six year old who has more humanity, love, and understanding than most adults." While Pamela Moore O'Loughlin said: "Neither of these sweet little boys, someone's sons, are Skittles," referring to a tweet by Donald Trump Jr likening ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** to poisoned skittles.

The President quoted the letter to world leaders gathered at this week's United Nations Summit on Refugees, saying: "We should all be more like Alex. Imagine what the world would look like if we were. Imagine the suffering we could ease and the lives we could save."

Wednesday's summit hosted by Mr Obama garnered pledges from dozens of countries to resettle or allow the lawful admission of some 360,000 refugees, doubling the number of slots that were available last year, the US envoy to the United Nations said.

More than 50 countries and international organizations that participated in the summit had collectively increased their contributions to humanitarian groups and UN appeals this year by some $4.5 billion (£3.5 billion), Mr Obama said.

However, the number is "still only a fraction" of what is needed Ambassador Samantha Power said after the UN refugee agency (UNHCR) assessed that some 1.2 million refugees need to be resettled.

**Load-Date:** September 22, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Trump calls vote 'once in alifetime chance' in final week of campaigns*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M3T-8XN1-F072-4202-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

November 6, 2016 Sunday

Second Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 4

**Length:** 692 words

**Byline:** RACHAEL REVESZ AND HARRIET AGERHOLM IN NEW YORK

**Body**

Donald Trump said voting for him is a "once-in-a-lifetime chance to take the government back" from powerful campaign donors and return power to the American people. During his first Republican party response to the president's weekly radio address, Mr Trump claimed that he and the Republican candidates for congress would bring badly needed change to government. He promised to create 25 million jobs and cut taxes for the middle class by 35 per cent.

"I'm asking for your vote and your help in electing a Republican majority in congress, so that we can finally change this broken system and make America great again," he said. "And when I say great, I mean great for everyone."

???Mr Trump was sticking to familiar campaign themes by pledging to fix what he calls "terrible trade deals", end illegal immigration and suspend the admission of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** to the country. Without offering specifics, Mr Trump said he would rebuild the military and "take care of our great, great veterans." He is spending the final days of the election charging across the country in the hope of winning over undecided voters; starting from a rally in Florida at 10am yesterday, Mr Trump will fly to events in North Carolina and Nevada before ending his day at a rally in Colorado at 9.30pm.

Opinion polls have grown increasingly close in the final week of the election, after the FBI announced it was once again investigating emails relating to Hillary Clinton's misuse of her personal email server when she was secretary of state. Since the fresh investigation into the Democratic nominee was announced last Friday, her lead shrank dramatically to within most polls' margin of error.

Ms Clinton has only a single point lead in the latest head-to-head Fox News poll, although her lead extends to two points when third party candidates are included. In state polls, which can be more accurate in the closing days of an election, she is also shown to be neck-and-neck with the property tycoon.

The rivals are tied in New Hampshire and Ms Clinton's lead has dropped to three points in Pennsylvania, which are both states that the Democrat needs to win. Nationally, however, Ms Clinton leads Mr Trump by five percentage points, according to a Reuters/Ipsos tracking poll released on Friday, maintaining her advantage in the national survey even as the race tightens in several crucial swing states. Furthermore, FiveThirtyEight still shows Ms Clinton to be way out ahead, with a 54.6 per cent chance of winning the White House, compared to Mr Trump's 35.5 per cent. But how people actually vote on the day could still change.

Concerns have been raised that Democrats could be put off voting after a huge rise in the numbers of Republicans who have signed up to monitor the polls. Two key court rulings on Friday forced North Carolina to restore thousands of names on the rolls after they had been removed close to election day, while a judge in Ohio warned the Trump campaign not to "intimidate" voters with harassment and carrying out so-called "exit polls" at the voting booths.

While Ms Clinton has been surrounded by high-profile allies and celebrities like Beyonce and Jay Z, Mr Trump has cut a rather lonely figure at recent events, only gathering an eclectic group of ex-politicians like Rudy Giuliani and former New Hampshire governor John Sununu who cracked a lewd joke at a rally about Ms Clinton's sex life. At a rally on Friday night, Mr Trump pointed out the size of the crowds but spoke defiantly of the rather bare speaker line-up: "By the way, I didn't have to bring J Lo or Jay Z - the only way she gets anybody," he said. "I am here all by myself. Just me - no guitar, no piano, no nothing."

Trump advisers are still confident their candidate can win the three states of Nevada, New Mexico and Michigan, even if the most well-known Republicans in those states have shunned him. House speaker Paul Ryan told a Wisconsin radio host that it was essential for Republican voters to "come home", although he barely mentioned Mr Trump. Since the 2005 video showing Mr Trump bragging about sexual assault was leaked, Mr Ryan said he would no longer defend the nominee.

**Load-Date:** November 6, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump's team 'discussing plans for Muslim registration system'; Immigration hardlinersays plans underway for programme to force Muslimsregister ondatabase*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M66-8H01-F021-61MB-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

November 16, 2016 Wednesday 11:47 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 792 words

**Byline:** May Bulman

**Body**

Donald Trump's policy advisers are discussingplans to establish a registry for Muslim

immigrants

in the US, a man believed to be akey member of the President-elect's transitionteam has revealed.

Kris Kobach, the s

ecretary of s

tate for Kansas, said

the President-elect'sadvisers were looking at how to implement a proposal suggested by

the billionaire businessman

that would

force immigrants

from

Muslim countries to register on a database

.

Mr Kobach, whohelped devisetough immigration laws in a number of US states and claims to have participated in regular conference calls with Mr Trump's immigration advisers, also said the Trump administration could push ahead rapidly on construction of a US-Mexico border wallwithout seeking immediate congressional approval.

Trump: We're going to deport millions

Read more

Trump's plans for Muslim 'register' compared to Nazi treatment of Jews

Trump already breaking campaign promise to 'drain the swamp'

John Kerry says Trump's Muslim ban 'endangers national security'

The hardline immigration official, whose role has not been confirmed by

the President-elect's transition team but who is thought to be a favourite for the role of Attorney General, said

the immigration group had discussed drafting executive orders for the President-elect's review "so that Trump and the Department of Homeland Security hit the ground running".

Demonstrators hold signs during a protest against President-elect Donald Trump and in support of Muslims residents in downtown Hamtramck, Michigan (Reuters)

The Muslim registration scheme, which would reportedly see Muslims given a form of identification that notes their religion,reflects policies Mr Trump put forward during his campaign to introduce "extreme vetting" of Muslims through tougher security measures.

Such a programme would echo a registration system created under Mr Bush's presidency, which Mr Kobach also helped design, and which required thousands of Arab and Muslim visitors and temporary US residents to register with the state, but was abandoned in 2011 after it was criticised

for unfairly targeting immigrants from Muslim-majority nations.

Created in 2002 following the 9/11

attacks,

the National Security Entry-Exit Registration System (NSEER)required Muslims from countries where extremist organisationswere active to provide information about themselves, undergo interviews with officials and periodically notify the government of their whereabouts.

The registration programme, which focusedon visitors and non-citizen men over the age of 16 from more than 24 designated countries, caused widespread controversy and was deemed redundant in 2011, following complaints from civil libertarians.

FindTheData | Graphiq

In the interview, Mr Kobach saidimmigration advisers were also looking at how the Homeland Security Department could move rapidly on Mr Trump's plans to build a wall between the US and Mexico without approval from Congress, acknowledging that "future fiscal years will require additional appropriations".

Mr Trump presented a hardline stance on Muslims in the US during his election campaign, making a call to temporarily ban all Muslims from entering the country and proposing the introduction of special identity

cards for American Muslims during a debate over ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** entering the country.

While Mr Trump appeared to have pulled back on the anti-Muslim rhetoric immediately after he was elected, hehas since indicated he still plans to follow through on his plans.

FindTheData | Graphiq

In an interview on Sunday Mr Trump told CBS's

60 Minutes

showhe would deport two to three million undocumented immigrants "immediately" upon taking office, and confirmed he still plannedto "build a wall", although he addedthat some parts of the barrier would in fact be a fence.

The President-elect is also reportedly considering appointing as his deputy security advisor the vice-president of a think-tank that has said Muslims are infiltrating the American government.

Mr

Kobachreportedly said in the interview that he believed that illegal immigrants in some cases should be deported before a conviction if they have been charged with a violent crime, echoing Mr Trump's recent pledge to remove immigrants with criminal records who are in the country illegally.

The immigration hardlineralso said the President-elect's immigration advisers had discussed ways of overturning President Barack Obama's 2012 executive action that has granted temporary deportation relief and work permits to more than 700,000 undocumented people who came to the US as children of illegal immigrants.

**Load-Date:** November 17, 2016

**End of Document**



[*EU says Turkey loses way on road to membership since failed coup; Turkey challenges EU to finally decide whether the country can join the bloc*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M4H-RDH1-JCJY-G4H8-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

November 9, 2016 Wednesday 3:54 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 717 words

**Byline:** Suzan Fraser

**Body**

In the face of increasing criticism and worsening relations, the European Union and Turkey challenged each other Wednesday to come out and say whether they want Ankara's bid to join the EU to continue.

In a high-stakes game of political chicken, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said the EU wouldn't be able to reach the "final point" and end its ties with Turkey out of fears of jeopardizing a deal to curb the flow of migrants from Africa and the Middle East to Europe.

Hours later, in Brussels, EU Enlargement Commissioner Johannes Hahn bluntly said that "it is time Ankara tells us what they really want," in the wake of a report assessing Turkey's status as a candidate for membership in the bloc. The report highlighted what the EU saw as backsliding on essential human rights and rule of law standards.

Read more

Erdogan attacks US plans to work with Kurds fighting Isis in Raqqa

Turkey's Erdogan says 'I don't care if they call me a dictator'

Iraq 'ready for war' with Turkey over who should control Mosul

The report, issued Wednesday, came after Turkey's recent clampdown on media freedoms and the arrests of 10 pro-Kurdish legislators.

"These various actions, including considerations of reintroducing the death penalty, seem to be increasingly incompatible with Turkey's official desire to become a member of the European Union," Mr Hahn said.

"In its own interest, Turkey urgently needs to stop moving away from the EU," Mr Hahn said.

In the escalating standoff on Turkey's protracted membership bid, Mr Erdogan rose to the challenge.

"They say unabashedly and shamelessly that the EU should review its negotiations with Turkey," Mr Erdogan told a business group in Istanbul. "You are late, go and review them as soon as you can. But don't just review them - go and make your final decision."

The Turkish leader added: "You know those threemillion refugees in Turkey? They say there is a problem. What if the negotiations end and they open the gates, where would we put those threemillion refugees? That is their worry. That is why they cannot come to the end point."

Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said the EU had to stop its "threatening" attitude.

"Make a decision, brother!" Mr Cavusoglu said. "If you want the negotiations to stop, then stop them. If you want them to continue we are ready. But you have to treat us as equal partners. We cannot advance as long as you see us as second-rate country."

Omer Celik, the minister in charge of Turkey's EU negotiations, criticised the union's report. He called it "far from being constructive or providing guidance" and said EU leaders lacked "vision and the ability to produce projects."

On the visa-free travel deal, Mr Celik said Turkey was determined not to alter its anti-terrorism laws. He said EU Vice-President Frans Timmermans would arrive in Turkey for discussions on the issue.

"If we can reach progress during talks with Timmermans, this will be recorded. If we cannot, then this process will have died toward the end of the year," Mr Celik said.

In March, Turkey and the EU reached an agreement in which Turkey would stem the flow of refugees and migrants to Greece in return for incentives including fast-tracked membership talks, billions of euros in aid for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Turkey and visa-free travel for Turkish citizens.

The deal has hit a hurdle over Turkey's reluctance to change its anti-terrorism laws - one of the conditions for the lifting of visa restrictions on Turkish citizens traveling to Europe.

On Tuesday, Jean-Claude Juncker, the president of the European Commission, warned Turkey that its crackdown on political opponents and the media goes against EU values.

Mr Juncker also called on Erdogan to immediately say "whether Turkey really wants to be - yes or no - a member of the European Union." He added that the Turkish leader would only have himself to blame if the EU does not grant visa-free travel in Europe to Turkish citizens soon.

Turkey has been in talks to join the European Union since October 2005, but progress has been held up, often by political opposition and particularly due to resistance from Cyprus, an EU member. The Mediterranean island has been divided since 1974, when Turkish troops occupied its northern third following a coup by supporters of a union with Greece.

Associated Press

**Load-Date:** November 9, 2016

**End of Document**



[*EU says Turkey is losing its way on road to membership*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M4N-5D31-F072-44G7-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

November 10, 2016 Thursday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 39

**Length:** 682 words

**Byline:** SUZAN FRASER IN ANKARA

**Body**

In the face of increasing criticism and worsening relations, the European Union and Turkey challenged each other yesterday to come out and say whether they want Ankara's bid to join the EU to continue. In a high-stakes game of political chicken, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said the EU wouldn't be able to reach the "final point" and end its ties with Turkey for fear of jeopardising a deal to curb the flow of migrants from Africa and the Middle East to Europe.

Hours later, in Brussels, EU enlargement commissioner Johannes Hahn bluntly said that "it is time Ankara tells us what they really want," in the wake of a report assessing Turkey's status as a candidate for membership in the bloc. The report highlighted what the EU saw as backsliding on essential human rights and rule of law standards.

The report, issued yesterday, came after Turkey's recent clampdown on media freedoms and the arrests of 10 pro-Kurdish legislators. "These various actions, including considerations of reintroducing the death penalty, seem to be increasingly incompatible with Turkey's official desire to become a member of the European Union," Mr Hahn said. "In its own interest, Turkey urgently needs to stop moving away from the EU," Mr Hahn said.

In the escalating standoff on Turkey's protracted membership bid, Mr Erdogan rose to the challenge. "They say unabashedly and shamelessly that the EU should review its negotiations with Turkey," Mr Erdogan told a business group in Istanbul. "You are late, go and review them as soon as you can. But don't just review them - go and make your final decision." The Turkish leader added: "You know those three million refugees in Turkey? They say there is a problem. What if the negotiations end and they open the gates, where would we put those three million refugees? That is their worry. That is why they cannot come to the end point."

Turkey foreign minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said the EU had to stop its "threatening" attitude. "Make a decision, brother," Mr Cavusoglu said. "If you want the negotiations to stop, then stop them. If you want them to continue we are ready. But you have to treat us as equal partners. We cannot advance as long as you see us as second-rate country."

Omer Celik, the minister in charge of Turkey's EU negotiations, criticised the union's report. He called it "far from being constructive or providing guidance" and said EU leaders lacked "vision and the ability to produce projects." On the visa-free travel deal, Mr Celik said Turkey was determined not to alter its anti-terrorism laws. He said EU Vice President Frans Timmermans would arrive in Turkey for discussions on the issue. "If we can reach progress during talks with Timmermans, this will be recorded. If we cannot, then this process will have died toward the end of the year," Mr Celik said.

In March, Turkey and the EU reached an agreement in which Turkey would stem the flow of refugees and migrants to Greece in return for incentives including fast-tracked membership talks, billions of euros in aid for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in Turkey and visa-free travel for Turkish citizens. The deal has hit a hurdle over Turkey's reluctance to change its anti-terrorism laws - one of the conditions for the lifting of visa restrictions on Turkish citizens traveling to Europe.

On Tuesday, Jean-Claude Juncker, the president of the European Commission, warned Turkey that its crackdown on political opponents and the media goes against EU values. Mr Juncker also called on Mr Erdogan to immediately say "whether Turkey really wants to be - yes or no - a member of the European Union." He added that the Turkish leader would only have himself to blame if the EU does not grant visa-free travel in Europe to Turkish citizens soon.

Turkey has been in talks to join the European Union since October 2005, but progress has been held up, often by political opposition and particularly due to resistance from Cyprus, an EU member. The Mediterranean island has been divided since 1974, when Turkish troops occupied its northern third following a coup by supporters of a union with Greece.

**Load-Date:** November 9, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Donald Trump team 'discussing plans for Muslim registration system'; Immigration hardlinersays plans underway for programme to force Muslimsregister ondatabase*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5M66-KYB1-F021-604J-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

November 16, 2016 Wednesday 11:47 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 793 words

**Byline:** May Bulman

**Body**

Donald Trump's policy advisers are discussingplans to establish a registry for Muslim

immigrants

in the US, a man believed to be akey member of the President-elect's transitionteam has revealed.

Kris Kobach, the s

ecretary of s

tate for Kansas, said

the President-elect'sadvisers were looking at how to implement a proposal suggested by

the billionaire businessman

that would

force immigrants

from

Muslim countries to register on a database

.

Mr Kobach, whohelped devisetough immigration laws in a number of US states and claims to have participated in regular conference calls with Mr Trump's immigration advisers, also said the Trump administration could push ahead rapidly on construction of a US-Mexico border wallwithout seeking immediate congressional approval.

Trump: We're going to deport millions

Read more

Trump's plans for Muslim 'register' compared to Nazi treatment of Jews

Trump already breaking campaign promise to 'drain the swamp'

John Kerry says Trump's Muslim ban 'endangers national security'

The hardline immigration official, whose role has not been confirmed by

the President-elect's transition team but who is thought to be a favourite for the role of Attorney General, said

the immigration group had discussed drafting executive orders for the President-elect's review "so that Trump and the Department of Homeland Security hit the ground running".

The Muslim registration scheme, which would reportedly see Muslims given a form of identification that notes their religion,reflects policies Mr Trump put forward during his campaign to introduce "extreme vetting" of Muslims through tougher security measures.

Such a programme would echo a registration system created under Mr Bush's presidency, which Mr Kobach also helped design, and which required thousands of Arab and Muslim visitors and temporary US residents to register with the state, but was abandoned in 2011 after it was criticised

for unfairly targeting immigrants from Muslim-majority nations.

Created in 2002 following the 9/11

attacks,

the National Security Entry-Exit Registration System (NSEER)required Muslims from countries where extremist organisationswere active to provide information about themselves, undergo interviews with officials and periodically notify the government of their whereabouts.

The registration programme, which focusedon visitors and non-citizen men over the age of 16 from more than 24 designated countries, caused widespread controversy and was deemed redundant in 2011, following complaints from civil libertarians.

FindTheData | Graphiq

In the interview, Mr Kobach saidimmigration advisers were also looking at how the Homeland Security Department could move rapidly on Mr Trump's plans to build a wall between the US and Mexico without approval from Congress, acknowledging that "future fiscal years will require additional appropriations".

Mr Trump presented a hardline stance on Muslims in the US during his election campaign, making a call to temporarily ban all Muslims from entering the country and proposing the introduction of special identity

cards for American Muslims during a debate over ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** entering the country.

Demonstrators hold signs during a protest against President-elect Donald Trump and in support of Muslims residents in downtown Hamtramck, Michigan, U.S. (Reuters)

While Mr Trump appeared to have pulled back on the anti-Muslim rhetoric immediately after he was elected, hehas since indicated he still plans to follow through on his plans.

FindTheData | Graphiq

In an interview on Sunday Mr Trump told CBS's

60 Minutes

showhe would deport two to three million undocumented immigrants "immediately" upon taking office, and confirmed he still plannedto "build a wall", although he addedthat some parts of the barrier would in fact be a fence.

The President-elect is also reportedly considering appointing as his deputy security advisor the vice-president of a think-tank that has said Muslims are infiltrating the American government.

Mr

Kobachreportedly said in the interview that he believed that illegal immigrants in some cases should be deported before a conviction if they have been charged with a violent crime, echoing Mr Trump's recent pledge to remove immigrants with criminal records who are in the country illegally.

The immigration hardlineralso said the President-elect's immigration advisers had discussed ways of overturning President Barack Obama's 2012 executive action that has granted temporary deportation relief and work permits to more than 700,000 undocumented people who came to the US as children of illegal immigrants.

**Load-Date:** November 17, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Trump's Mexican wall plans caused outrage - now we're building one of our own*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KN6-V721-F072-40W5-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

September 8, 2016 Thursday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** COMMENT; Pg. 36

**Length:** 720 words

**Byline:** CAROLINE LUCAS

**Body**

When Donald Trump said he would build a wall between the United States and Mexico, most of us recoiled. How had politics in the "land of the free" descended so low, so fast?

Trumpism has now landed in Britain. The Government has just announced plans for a 13ft tall, £2m concrete barrier in Calais, designed to keep migrants away. The immigration minister, Robert Goodwill, appeared to have been tuning in to Trump's speeches for inspiration when he said yesterday, "We are going to start building this big new wall very soon. We've done the fence, now we are doing a wall."

It seems that the building of the wall is largely symbolic. Not only has the Road Haulage Association criticised it as a bad use of taxpayers' money, but experts from refugee organisations have warned that building ever bigger physical barriers actually plays into the hands of people smugglers. The Government knows exactly what message they're sending out with this monstrosity - a country once known for its commitment to helping people escape harm is using half a mile of concrete to signal that we're pulling up the drawbridge.

If ministers were serious about addressing the situation in Calais, rather than focusing on putting up barriers and tearing down cafes, they would act to a give people safe, legal access to the UK - particularly people living in the camps who have the right to be reunited with their families here. They might also seriously explore the possibility of a 'hotspot' in Calais, allowing refugees to have claims for asylum in Britain processed on French soil. Such a proposal could stem the flow of people risking their lives on boats or in lorries, and allow them to go through the correct legal processes. It would also minimise disruption to locals and lorry drivers. But the Government simply doesn't seem interested.

The timing of the announcement for this wall is telling. It comes exactly one year after David Cameron declared Britain must "live up to its moral responsibility" by welcoming 20,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. That commitment, issued grudgingly after weeks of campaigning from The Independent and others, amounted to the equivalent of just 12 refugees per day over the course of this Parliament. So news this week that only 2,646 have been settled as part of the scheme is utterly damning on the Government's record.

At the time, Cameron said the number of new arrivals would depend on councils' abilities to provide housing. Yet local authorities aren't the problem. Instead, as the head of housing at Liverpool council said, it is the Government's "tragic bureaucratic failure". Liverpool, for instance, has offered to house 100 refugees, yet just one has arrived.

Syria remains in utter turmoil, with 6.6 million people internally displaced and almost one million applying for asylum in Europe. Contrast those numbers with the fewer than 3,000 who've been able to come here under the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme, and the stark reality of this Government's approach to the refugee crisis is laid bare.

Both the wall at Calais and the failure to resettle enough refugees reveal an attitude running deep in this Government: a clear disregard for those seeking sanctuary on our island.

Those seeking refuge in the UK are not desperate to come here. They are simply desperate. Today should have been an opportunity to mark modern Britain as a country leading international efforts to welcome Syrians fleeing the devastation of civil war. Instead we see the language of division cast in concrete. Who would have thought Britain would be realising Trump's dream?

We are a welcoming country. I've seen first-hand amazing work done by volunteers in Calais, and I know of many homes in my own City, Brighton and Hove, that have been opened to refugees. But the Government is letting us down. Theresa May still has time to save her reputation. By scrapping plans to build this wall, redoubling diplomatic efforts in Syria and seriously expanding efforts to offer sanctuary in Britain to those for whom, in the words of Warsan Shire, a 27-year-old Kenyan-born Somali woman now based in London, "Home is the barrel of the gun", she could demonstrate she genuinely cares about those escaping violence and persecution rather than allowing Britain to follow Trump's lead.

Caroline Lucas MP is co-leader of the Green Party

**Load-Date:** September 7, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Refugees Welcome Here protest: Thousands march on Downing Street calling on UK to resettle more migrants; Protest comes days before world leaders meet to discuss crisis at UN General Assembly*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KR6-CWT1-JCJY-G3RV-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 17, 2016 Saturday 2:19 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HOME NEWS

**Length:** 736 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Thousands of protesters are marching on Downing Street to demand the British Government takes in more refugees as thousands of men, women and children continue to drown in desperate attempts to reach Europe.

Demonstrators were working their way from Park Lane to Parliament Square in London on Saturday afternoon, demanding action as a crucial United Nations summit on the crisis approaches.

Marchers chanted "refugees are welcome here" while waving banners reading "no-one is illegal" and "let's help people".

A march calling for the British Government to resettle more refugees in central London on September 17, 2016. (AFP/Getty Images)

Amnesty International said actors Juliet Stevenson, Vanessa Redgrave and George MacKay and the Kaiser Chiefs' Simon Rix would be among demonstrators.

Read more

Refugee crisis: Fences failing to stop asylum seekers arriving in Europe as migrants take covert routes

Record number of refugees would make 21st biggest country in the world with population bigger than the UK

World leaders urged to address growing education crisis among refugees

Lord Alf Dubs, Green Party MP Caroline Lucas and Baroness Sheehan were also due to address a rally in Parliament Square.

It comes a year after around 100,000 protesters took to London's streets calling on the UK to resettle more asylum seekers amid the international outcry over the death of Alan Kurdi, a three-year-old Syrian boy who drowned trying to reach Greece.

The Solidarity With Refugees group said Saturday's protest aimed to "show our Government and the world that Britain is ready to welcome more refugees".

"The UK should be leading the way and working with other states to give refugees safe, legal routes to asylum, ending the trade in people smuggling," a spokesperson said.

"Since the referendum campaign and vote, divisive rhetoric has been ever more prevalent from a small but vocal minority. In the light of this, the need to come together in a spirit of welcome has become even more acute."

Refugee crisis tops agenda at EU summit

The march was supported by charities and groups including the Red Cross, Asylum Aid, Save the Children, Hope Not Hate, Oxfam and the UN Refugee Agency.

Kate Allen, Director of Amnesty International UK, described the Government's contribution to tackling the refugee crisis as "shocking" but praised local communities and volunteers for "taking matters into their own hands" to support migrants.

"This march is to show that actually ordinary people in Britain care deeply about refugees," she said.

"Many of those seeking sanctuary have seen their families torn apart and homes destroyed. As one of the richest countries in the world, our government can and must do more to help."

Mr Rix, the Kaiser Chiefs' bassist, described the refugee crisis as a "global disaster" while Ms Stevenson called on world leaders to share responsibility, adding: "I hope Theresa May is listening."

The show of solidarity comes as world leaders prepare for the United Nations General Assembly in New York next week.

A UN Summit on Refugees and Migrants on Monday will be followed by a separate summit on the issue hosted by Barack Obama the following day.

More than 3,200 refugees and asylum seekers have drowned attempting to reach Europe so far this year, with almost 300,000 completing the journey.

But thousands remain trapped in Greece after being automatically detained under the controversial EU-Turkey deal, under threat of deportation if their asylum applications fail.

Those granted protection face an increasingly difficult task reaching other parts of Europe as countries increase border controls and build fences to stop the flow of migrants.

Oxfam has warned that millions of refugees are being forced to flee from one warzone into another, while a report released this week found that attempted crackdowns in Europe were failing to significantly reduce refugee numbers and instead forcing migrants on hidden and dangerous routes.

In the wake of Alan's death, David Cameron pledged to resettle 20,000 ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** in the UK over the coming five years but there have been additional calls to re-home those who have already reached Europe, as well as asylum seekers coming from other conflict zones such as Iraq and Afghanistan.

Thousands of migrants hoping to travel to Britain remain in the "Jungle" camp in Calais, where the government is planning to fund a controversial barrier to stop attempts to board lorries.

**Load-Date:** September 17, 2016

**End of Document**



[*There's no excuse for giving sexist and anti-immigrant Owen Smith your vote*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KN0-W0D1-F072-44V7-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

September 7, 2016 Wednesday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** Pg. 37

**Length:** 695 words

**Byline:** LIAM YOUNG

**Body**

Jeremy Corbyn has inspired many people across the country, including me, by saying what he means and meaning what he says. Owen Smith sometimes also says what he means and means what he says - and that's when the problems arise. Or perhaps it's all just "banter". Most people would be entirely willing to forgive a single gaffe or an honest mistake. But Owen Smith's gaffes don't seem like gaffes anymore. There's only so many times that a mistake can be made before it goes from being a mistake to symptomatic of a long-held belief.

In the past, Smith has opposed all-women shortlists and has made an inappropriate domestic violence analogy about the coalition government. He's told one party leader that she's only offered time on TV because she's a woman. He's threatened to "smash Theresa May back on her heels" and implied that misogyny has only been a problem since Jeremy Corbyn became leader - as if Labour women hadn't experienced structural barriers or abuse prior to September 2015. He also told Leanne Wood that she probably only got invited on TV because of her "gender".

And this week, Smith shared a photo of a gobstopper saying he'd found the "perfect present" for Nicola Sturgeon. When people criticised him for his "Calm down, dear" stance on women being vocal in politics, he then retorted that it was "just banter", because apparently he's applying for a job at the Lad Bible rather than attempting to leader a political party into a general election. He added that he couldn't possibly be accused of sexism given that there were women working on his campaign - we're yet to hear whether he also can't be sexist because his mum is a woman and he loves his mum.

Smith seems to be acting more like the candidate for leadership of a university rugby club, rather than the leadership of our party and our country. And he's as ignorant on issues of race as he is on gender. He has said that there are too many immigrants in parts of Britain, and that ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** were putting pressure on local schools in Wales. But in Smith's area, just 2.1 per cent of locals were born outside of the UK and only 16 refugees - yes, 16 - have settled there in the last few months. The numbers don't exactly back him up.

Smith promises investment and support for the controversial Prevent strategy, while utterly ignoring the concerns of minorities, senior police officers and academics about its fitness for purpose. The policy has seen a Muslim student arrested for reading a book about terrorism for his studies, an eight-year-old referred over a T-shirt wrongly assumed to be "extremist", and countless other examples of racial profiling which have alienated minority communities.

We know all too well what happens when Labour takes its eye off the ball on these issues: in 2011 the former Labour immigration minister was rightly barred from office over a campaign apparently aimed at "getting the white vote angry" at the "mad Muslims", while in the early days of New Labour leaflets read: "Labour are on your side, the Lib Dems are on the side of failed asylum seekers." We can't afford to slip backwards under Owen Smith; we have to move on from this painful past.

The sponsored silence undertaken by Labour MPs about Smith's sexist and racist words has spoken volumes. Those supporting Smith's campaign have had very little to say. It is a shame to see that MPs previously committed to standing up for equality have now become far more committed to breaking Jeremy Corbyn and the movement around him.

Meanwhile, in Corbyn we have a candidate who has built his political life around fighting for justice and equality, whether as a trade union officer fighting for equal pay for women or an MP arrested for protesting against apartheid. This election campaign has seen him transform his passion for equality into a bold and credible set of policies.

This election has become a choice between the negative, damaging campaign being offered by Owen Smith that seeks to drag Labour back to the past and a positive project that looks to transform and rebuild Labour's future being offered by Jeremy Corbyn. Smith's rhetoric on women and minorities has no place in that future.

**Load-Date:** September 6, 2016

**End of Document**



[*World leaders urged to address growing education crisis among refugees; Global governments must commit to providing a fulleducation to one million refugee children by the end of the school year, anti-poverty campaigners urge*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5KPB-BVJ1-JCJY-G2R5-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

September 13, 2016 Tuesday 10:50 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EDUCATION NEWS

**Length:** 690 words

**Byline:** Rachael Pells

**Body**

Human rights campaigners have called on world leaders to urgently address a growing education crisis among refugees, as government officials gather for the first ever global summit for refugees and migrants this month.

More than half of the refugee population last year were children, Unesco figures show, with some 3.57 million missing out completely on school or any other formal education.

Nobel Peace Prize laureate Malala Yousafzai has also spoken out about the issue, calling on world leaders to guarantee all refugee children access to a full education in order to avoid a "lost generation" of displaced young people.

Read more

UK 'must resettle ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** faster to meet 20,000 target'

Highlighting that more children than ever before are spending their school years as refugees, she said: "It's not just giving attendance, a bit of food that will protect these families in the future, it is also education".

"You give education to the children of these families and you guide them and you make their future."

Refugee children are five times more likely to be out of school, despite many coming from highly skilled, supportive families in what were once developed and safe countries.

Only half of these children are in primary school, yet just 2 per cent of all emergency funding is earmarked for education, prompting concerns that not enough is being done to address the problem.

In order to highlight the need to put education at the forefront of discussions at United Nations summits in New York this month, anti-poverty group the ONE campaign have launched a petition urging leaders to commit to providing one million refugee children with an education by the end of the school year.

Roxane Philson, a spokesperson for ONE said: "The world is experiencing the biggest displacement emergency since the Second World War."

"Meanwhile, the resources provided by wealthier governments to support those who have fled their countries and the developing states that house the majority of the world's refugees are just not sufficient."

"A comprehensive approach to this crisis is vital, and part of this is ensuring that children who have already lost their homes are not at risk of losing their future, merely because they lack basic literacy and numeracy skills."

"We're asking governments to provide the financing and implement the polices necessary to ensure that every refugee child gets a quality education as soon as possible."

An accompanying video shows volunteers being hypnotised into temporary illiteracy, then asked ot perform basic tasks such as reciting the alphabet, telling the time or writing their own name.

"No one can reach their full potential without an education," said Ms Philson."We wanted to make that point in the most visceral way possible".

In making the film, she said volunteers "got a small glimpse of how different their lives would be if they couldn't read or write".

"But for the millions of refugee children who won't get an education it's not just a scary few moments - it's a lifetime of missed opportunities. This can and must change."

The average amount of time a refugee spends in exile is now nearly 20 years - more than double what it was 30 years ago - leading to a situation where almost 80 per cent of teenage refugees are out of school.

Read more

Hungary is 'not far from shooting refugees' and should be excluded from EU, says Luxembourg foreign minister

Malala Yousafzai demands world leaders to guarantee schooling for all refugee children

Austrian far-right leader concedes plan for refugee island 'went too far'

Katie Hopkins 'tear gassed' while filming at Calais Jungle refugee camp

The issue is of particular concern for refugee women and girls, who are 2.5 times more likely to drop out of school than their male peers.

"Education is crucial," said Ms Yousafzai, "I understand that, you understand that, people understand that but when it comes to world leaders' decision making, they completely ignore it, as if they have no knowledge and are completely ignorant".

"They should understand this because they want their own children to go to universities and get a quality education."

**Load-Date:** September 13, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Jo Cox death: Twitter lights up with messages of parliamentary praise with #ThankYourMP; British actor Hugh Laurie has tweeted in support*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K1K-XX01-F021-627N-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 17, 2016 Friday 6:51 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK

**Length:** 761 words

**Byline:** Jess Staufenberg

**Body**

People are putting aside theirpolitical differences to show gratitude for the work of their MPs in reaction to the deathof Labour's rising star Jo Cox.

Social media was flooded with the hashtag "#ThankYourMP" in response to the tragic death ofMs Cox, killedafter leaving a constituency meeting in Yorkshire.

The public service performed by members of Parliament ‒ and the relentless barrage of criticism often faced by them ‒ was lauded in a rare moment of gratitude for politicians by Twitter users.

Tributes paid to Jo Cox

The move was picked up by British actor Hugh Laurie, who tweeted the hashtag to his 1.24 million followers.

#ThankYourMP

- Hugh Laurie (@hughlaurie) June 17, 2016

One user, Maurice Morgan, wrote to her MP in Wakefield in west Yorkshire: "Thank you Mary Creagh for all the hard work you do in my area. You make a difference. You are appreciated."

Read more

Jo Cox death live: Calls for politicians' security to be increased after Labour MP shot dead in Birstall- latest updates

Politician 'calls woman whore and threatens to strip her' during women's rights debate

Another thankedshadow defence secretaryEmily Thornberry for once helping him with a litter of kittens, while others thanked Jeremy Corbyn and David Lammy for their "clear love" of the area they represented.

Numerous people also crossed political party allegiances to show their appreciationfor MPs they did not necessarily vote for.

Although not my party, thanks @gregclarkmp for what you do for my home community #ThankYourMP#JoCox

- Lizzy Woodfield (@Lizzyswoodfield) June 16, 2016

Not why any of us do this job but the #ThankYourMP tweets mean a lot - and much more so when done by non supporters [*https://t.co/dCEiP5EY4E*](https://t.co/dCEiP5EY4E)

- Guy Opperman MP (@GuyOpperman) June 17, 2016

.@AlanMakMP I may not vote for you, but I enormously respect the job you do for all your constituents as our elected MP #ThankYourMP#JoCox

- Chris Ash (@ChrisAshl78) June 16, 2016

@JacobReesMogg our politics could not be more different. Yet you have listened, and helped our autistic boys more than once #thankyourMP

- Ian French (@Retiredgoth) June 17, 2016

In addition, the thankless nature of representing a constituency, attending Parliament, influencing policy asa backbencher, givingmedia interviews, leading a team and ‒ often ‒ raisinga family, was also recognised by many ofthe British public.

One user, Stephen Drew, said: "Our democracy is precious and those who lead it for us deserve our thanks."

British actor Hugh Laurie also gave his support from across the Atlantic, tweeting simply:#ThankYourMP

Another tweet, from David Williams, called the role a "mortifyingly hard job", while Andrew Puddephatt said the UK should realise that "the vast majority of MPs on all sides are decent people doing their best."

Great to see #ThankYourMP is trending. These public servants work harder than most people know. It's now time to appreciate their service.

- Isaac (@IASDef) June 16, 2016

Today a reminder that many MPs are not like us. Many are better than us. Many are people we should aspire to be. Treasure them. #ThankYourMP

- (((Rob Ford))) (@robfordmancs) June 16, 2016

An MP's basic annual salary is £74,962, and the role involves on average between 40 and69 hours of work a week, with noted impacts on private and family life.

Not everyone was convinced of the move, however.

@hughlaurie I only ever hear from my MP at elections but he's an inoffensive, scandal-free backbencher so that's something, I suppose.

- (Jo(hn (Ru)ss)ell) (@offthebellcurve) June 17, 2016

The comments in support of MPs came in the wake of the first killing of an MP for a quarter of a century.

Ms Cox's death, which is under investigation, has led to politicians from all parties expressing their shock and condolences, and led todivisions overthe EU referendum to be temporarily suspended out of respect for her and her family.

Ms Cox came from a working-class background andstudied social and political sciences at Cambridge University, was a "tireless campaigner" for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and had two children aged three and five.

Thank you @stellacreasy@LouHaigh@ChiOnwurah@heidi\_mp for being talented, dedicated & bold women in democracy to look up to. #ThankYourMP

- Amanda (@ayymanduh) June 16, 2016

Reports have emerged that an attacker at the scene of her death shouted "Britain first", which are now being investigated by police.

Social media users also urged others to thank local councillors, who decide on housing, utilities, education and social care in an area.

**Load-Date:** June 17, 2016

**End of Document**



[*George Osborne accused of 'shameful, disgusting' response to 7-year-old boy who faces deportation from Scotland; Mr Osborne seemed to know nothing about the case, the SNP's Westminster leader Angus Robertson said, despite it receiving 'wall-to-wall'coverage in Scotland*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JVP-36X1-JCJY-G10Y-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

May 25, 2016 Wednesday 4:48 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 709 words

**Byline:** Adam Withnall

**Body**

George Osborne has been accused of giving a "shameful" response to the situation of a seven-year-old boy who faces being deported from the Highlands with his family.

The Chancellor was confronted with the case of Gaelic-speaker Lachlan Brain, who came to Scotland with his Australian family as part of a government scheme yet is set to be thrown out of the country next week.

Stepping in for David Cameron at Prime Minister's Questions, the Chancellor appeared to dismiss the Brain family's situation and instead suggested the SNP should do more themselves to create "an entrepreneurial Scotland where people want to move to from the rest of the United Kingdom".

Read more

Home Office's treatment of international students need 'needs inquiry'

Mr Osborne seemed to know nothing about the case, the SNP's Westminster leader Angus Robertson said, despite it receiving "wall-to-wall" coverage in Scotland.

And a spokesperson for the SNP told

The Independent

it was "dire" for the Prime Minister's stand-in to wash his hands of the situation by raising Scotland's fiscal autonomy.

Carol Monaghan, the SNP member for Glasgow North West, accused the Home Secretary Theresa May of "smirking away" as the Brain family case was raised, describing what she saw in the Commons as "disgusting".

Been following story of Lachlan Brain & his family - it'd be a disgrace if the UK deported them @JournoStephen#PMQs[*https://t.co/JgBtJylHtF*](https://t.co/JgBtJylHtF)

- Joe Rich (@joerichlaw) May 25, 2016

Mr Osborne said Ms May would write to the SNP "on the specific case", saying simply: "But as I understand it the family doesn't meet the immigration criteria."

He added: "Can I make a suggestion to the Scottish Nationalist Party?

"They now have very substantial tax and enterprise powers, and if they want to attract people to the Highlands, why don't they create an entrepreneurial Scotland where people want to move to from the rest of the United Kingdom where they can grow their business and have a successful life?"

Mr Robertson said the response was "shameful and frankly not good enough".

Read more

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** send message to Theresa May: 'We need our children, we miss them so much'

Theresa May 'can't force Scotland to ditch Human Rights Act,' says Ruth Davidson

Theresa May faces huge backlash over call to leave European human rights convention

Theresa May barred from deporting six men to Algeria over torture concerns

Lachlan Brain attends the Gaelic-medium primary school in Dingwall, Mr Robertson said, and faces deportation "despite his family arriving as part of a Scottish Government initiative, backed by the Home Office, to attract people to live and work in the region".

His family came to the Highlands in 2011, but were told they could not stay after Lachlan's mother Kathryn completed a four-year degree in Scottish history and archaeology.

"Cases like this... make it extremely difficult for Scotland to remain an attractive destination for the brightest and best from around the world," he said.

"Appeals have been made to the Home Secretary to allow the Brain family to stay. There have been interventions by the First Minister, by the local MP, by the local MSP, by community members.

Just arrived at PMQs to see the Home Secretary smirking away whilst @AngusRobertson raises case of the Brain family in Dingwall. #disgusting

- Carol Monaghan MP (@CMonaghanMP) May 25, 2016

Awful answer from George Osborne on deportation of Brain family - evasive, uninformed and lacking compassion #PMQs

- Dan Paris (@\_DanParis) May 25, 2016

At #PMQs the rarely angry @AngusRobertson raises disgraceful upcoming deportation of seven year Lachlan Brain from his Highland home.

- JOHN NICOLSON M.P. (@MrJohnNicolson) May 25, 2016

Whole of Scotland outraged at treatment of Brain family @GradySNP#PMQs

- PARLY (@ParlyApp) May 25, 2016

"The problem of the Highlands has not been unwanted immigration it has been emigration. Even at this late stage will the Chancellor, the Home Secretary and Government look again at this case and let the Brain family stay in the Highlands?"

Responding to the exchanges in the Commons, a spokesperson for the SNP said: "George Osborne saying 'Scotland has say over some of its taxes' is a dire response to the UK Home Office deporting a seven-year-old child."

**Load-Date:** May 25, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Boost for Assad as Turkish PM offers olive branch to Syria*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K78-FX11-JCS0-D002-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent - Daily Edition

July 14, 2016 Thursday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 24

**Length:** 769 words

**Byline:** CHRIS STEVENSON

**Body**

Turkey has signalled it wants to improve relations with Syria, an apparent major shift in policy from a country that has been one of the staunchest opponents of its neighbour's President Bashar al-Assad.

The five-year civil war in Syria has increasingly threatened Turkey's borders and has pushed millions of refugees into the country - with Turkish officials long claiming that the only way to bring stability to Syria was the removal of Mr Assad.

"It is our greatest and irrevocable goal: developing good relations with Syria and Iraq, and all our neighbours that surround the Mediterranean and the Black Sea," Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim said, in comments broadcast live on television. "We normalised relations with Russia and Israel. I'm sure we will normalise relations with Syria as well. For the fight against terrorism to succeed stability needs to return to Syria and Iraq," he said.

Since taking office in May, Mr Yildirim has repeatedly said that Turkey needs to "increase its friends and decrease its enemies" - an apparent tacit admission that past policies have left Ankara sidelined.

The country has backed a number of groups fighting against Mr Assad's government, while the country has served as a base for political representatives of the Syrian opposition. Turkish officials have repeatedly called for the Syrian President to go since the conflict started in 2011. That stance has set it at odds with Mr Assad's ally Russia, while there has also been distance between Turkey and the US-led coalition that has become more focused on trying to remove the Isis jihadist group from Syria.

The remarks by Mr Yildirim yesterday also appear to suggest that what Turkey sees as the threat of Kurdish expansionism in northern Syria has become a greater priority for officials. Officials in Turkey have often voiced frustration at the US-led coalition's cooperation with Kurdish militias in the fight against Isis, fearing that autonomy for Syrian Kurds may aggravate its own conflict with the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), a militant group that has fought a long-running insurgency in southeast Turkey aimed at Kurdish autonomy.

Mr Yildirim made clear yesterday that good relations with both Syria and Iraq were needed for counterterrorism efforts to succeed - with other officials insisting that the remarks do not mean a shift in policy towards Mr Assad.

"There is currently no change in Turkey's Syria policy. Turkey does not want to have problems with any countries in the region and emphasises the importance of ending terrorism as well as engaging in close cooperation for regional stability," one official told Reuters after Mr Yildirim's comments. "Of course Turkey wants to normalise ties with Syria, but there is no change in Turkey's policy regarding Syria with Assad."

In recent weeks Turkey has normalised relations with Israel, ending a six-year rift over the killing by Israeli troops of a number of Turkish activists on a ship carrying aid for the Gaza Strip. The country has also sought to mend ties with Russia - with Turkey's president Recep Tayyip Erdogan apologising for his country shooting down a Russian warplane on the Turkish-Syrian border in November 2015.

To that end, Turkish and Russian officials from several ministries will meet today in Moscow to discuss the restarting of charter flights between the two countries and tourism security. Officials from foreign, tourism, transportation, communication and interior affairs ministries will attend the meeting.

The search for stability with its neighbours has become an important issue for Turkey with the country having suffered a number of terror attacks in the last year. This included the recent bombing of Ataturk airport which was blamed on Isis. Kurdish separatists have also claimed several attacks against Turkish security forces.

Turkey is home to about 2.75 million ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. Last week, Mr Erdogan announced that the path to Turkish citizenship would be open to Syrians who meet several criteria including having no links to terror groups.

In a separate development, France has cancelled Bastille Day celebrations at receptions in Turkey and temporarily closed down diplomatic missions for security reasons.

The French Consul in Istanbul, Muriel Domenach, said on Twitter that there would be no 14 July Bastille Day celebrations at French diplomatic missions in the cities of Istanbul, Ankara and Izmir. She did not specify the nature of the threat but said officials were in contact with the Turkish authorities.

The consulate, meanwhile, said the three diplomatic missions would be closed until further notice.

**Load-Date:** July 13, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Refugees hospitalised after huge fire and clashes at Lesbos detention centre amid warnings over more violence; Humanitarian agencies warned that 'deplorable' conditions in detention centres in Greece were heightening tensions*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JXD-12V1-JCJY-G05J-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 2, 2016 Thursday 4:59 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 713 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

More than 70 refugees have been injured and hundreds left without shelter after a huge fire and clashes broke out at a detention centre in Greece.

Six people were hospitalised following the violence on the island of Lesbos at a former refugee camp where thousands of asylum seekers are now imprisoned as part of the controversial EU-Turkey deal.

Local reports said fighting started between Afghan and Pakistani residents late on Wednesday night in Moria, when afire swept through the camp, destroying tents and shelters.

An injured man receives first aid after clashes at Moria detention centre in Lesbos, Greece, on 2 June 2016. (EPA)

At least 70 people were injured according to an account by Save the Children, with photos showing bleeding migrants being treated by paramedics as others were evacuated from the compound.

Read more

Jordan's Queen Rania visits child refugees in Lesbos and calls for 'exceptional response'

Pope Francis takes three families of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** on plane back to Rome from Greek island of Lesbos

A tale of two refugee camps on Lesbos as thousands await fate of being sent back to Turkey

Refugee crisis: Children make up more than a third of arrivals and more than ever are making deadly crossings alone

Sacha Myers, a spokesperson for the charity, said around 300 people had been left without a place to sleep after the destruction.

"Save the Children has talked to families who are extremely afraid and won't leave their tents because they're worried about getting caught up in the violence," she added.

"Some mothers have told us their children cry every night in their tents. Save the Children calls on authorities to ensure children and families in Moria detention centre are provided with the safety and protection they desperately need."

A migrant family receives medical assistance, after overnight clashes at the Moria detention camp on the island of Lesbos (AFP/Getty Images)

Residents were seen picking through the charred remains of belongings and supplies on Thursday morning, while those who had lost their shelters tried to rest in the open on blankets.

It was the latest violence at the camp, where more than 2,500 migrants arein detention following the March agreement to hold migrants while their asylum applications are considered and deport them to Turkey if they fail.

The process has been held up by delays in the asylum screening process, triggering frequent unrest at camps on Lesbos and the nearby island of Chios.

Save the Children said protests were happening on an almost daily basis across Greece, where some migrants have been stranded for up to three months in conditions described as "deplorable".

A boy stands among the wreck of a torched tent in the Moria detention camp on the Greek island of Lesbos, on June 2, 2016 (AFP/Getty Images)

"They also have very little information about their future and how long they will be in Greece and this is contributing to the increase in tensions," Ms Myers added.

Human Rights Watch issued a warning last month that police were failing to protect refugees during frequent rounds of violence at detention centres.

It said Moria and other "hotspots" it visited on the islands of Samos and Chios did not separate single women from unrelated adult men, and kept migrants in unsanitary and severely overcrowded conditions in a "chaotic and volatile" atmosphere.

A fight involving around 200 men raged for several hours on the Vathi hotspot in Samos on 13 May, while police used tear gas against refugees including children during a protest as ministers visited Moria in April.

It came just days after the Pope had called for European authorities to treat refugees with kindness in a visit to the detention centre.

Human Rights Watch warned that unaccompanied children and families were living in common areas of Moria because designated spaces were full, while women reported sexual harassment.

Residents also told staff that police guarding the camp had not been intervening in fights.

"In Europe's version of refugee camps, women and children who fled war face daily violence and live in fear," said Bill Frelick, the group's refugee rights director. "Lack of police protection, overcrowding, and unsanitary conditions create an atmosphere of chaos and insecurity in Greece's razor wire-fenced island camps."

**Load-Date:** June 2, 2016

**End of Document**



[*This country is no longer safe for immigrants; With the 2015 Immigration Act, forsaken EU directives to take in more refugees, Prevent and restrictions on spousal visas it is hard to see how the UK government could make things any worse*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K38-S5Y1-F021-62CF-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 25, 2016 Saturday 12:27 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** VOICES

**Length:** 690 words

**Byline:** Rebecca Omonira Oyekanmi

**Body**

Much of liberal Britain woke up this morning (or went to bed) believing they'd encountered a different side to the country. That 17 million odd people voted to leave the EU was an indication of racism and xenophobia, it was immediately decided that this was anti-migrant vote. The shock and surprise was palpable. There's a petition circulating on social media calling for a second referendum and jokes about London leaving the UK.

Yet this collective howl has been a long time coming. Data published by the Guardian newspaper from a British Social Attitudes survey in 2014 found that increasing numbers of Brits admitted racial prejudice. These attitudes haven't developed in a vacuum. Media reporting on migration has barely developed from bogus asylum seekers in the 90s. Instead, thanks to politicians and journalists, migrant has become a catch-all term for 'other'. It might mean refugees, Muslims, Eastern Europeans or Black Africans in Calais, depending on the day. Nigel Farage's "Breaking Point" poster is a case in point. He used an image of bedraggled ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** to illustrate an argument about the cons of free movement for EU migrant workers. In reality, Brexit will mean very little for the refugees dying in the Mediterranean. Britain already opted out of various EU directives which would force it to take part in responding to the refugee crisis or taking in people in need.

Scotland, London and teenagers speak out against Brexit

This mess of myths and misinformation has been packaged in a way that both dehumanises the vulnerable migrants and prevents solidarity from working class Brits screwed over by the same unequal distribution of global wealth that drives much migration. I regularly interview people from both groups and their oppression is the same. I met both Diego and Simon\* when reporting on the housing crisis in London. Both faced imminent eviction from their homes and struggled to eke out a living the city.

Diego is Spanish and works as a cleaner for multinational finance companies. He loved London but increasingly felt unwelcome in the city; most of his colleagues could barely afford to travel to work. Watching the city glistening from afar, the packed bars and restaurants, he knew London was not for him. "I think London is becoming a city for rich people."

And Simon said pretty much the same thing. A white working class unemployed builder being booted out of the council flat in Notting Hill that has been in his family since the 60s. An identical property down the road sold for £730k. The council couldn't offer Simon alternative housing and he'd spent most of his savings and was now reliant on benefits. Incidentally, Simon mentioned migrants, a vague comment about foreigners able to access social welfare more easily than someone like him.

It is difficult to predict the impact of Brexit on migration policy in future simply because it's already pretty dire. The Immigration Act of 2014 and 2016and its various amendments has kick started the process of criminalising movement and policing people who appear 'other'. The heavy handed policing of young black and brown youth across the country has been empowered by the Prevent agenda. British people earning below a certain income already face restrictions on who bringing foreign spouses to live with them here in the UK. Not to talk of destitution and incarceration of hundreds of refused asylum seekers and migrants. And even before Brexit, social welfare lawyers report a rising number of destitute Eastern Europeans with various restrictions on their access to benefits and housing.

I don't think people who voted Brexit are racist, but what's the motivation of the rich elite that spearheaded the leave campaign from the right? The same survey I mentioned earlier quotes work by Dr Grace Lordan, an LSE academic, looking at social attitudes since 1983. On rising racial prejudice she reported "that the group that recorded the biggest rise was white, professional men between the ages of 35 and 64, highly educated and earning a lot of money. Their attitudes may directly affect others as many will have managerial responsibilities."

**Load-Date:** June 25, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Angelina Jolie Pitt appointment as London School of Economics professor divides opinion; One student against the decision says LSE serves to undermine the university,students, staffand, ultimately, 'our meritocratic society'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JVH-4CC1-F021-60XN-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

May 24, 2016 Tuesday 9:53 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS

**Length:** 709 words

**Byline:** Aftab Ali

**Body**

The news that Angelina Jolie Pitt - Oscar-winning actress and political campaigner - will be joining the academic team at the UK's prestigious London School of Economics (LSE) has been encouraging debate and splitting opinion online and among the student body most of Tuesday.

Along with former foreign secretary, William Hague, Jolie Pitt will be joining other LSE fellows, scholars, and activists to help promote gender equality and enhance women's economic, social, and political prospects among Master's students.

Read more

Outrage over Angelina Jolie's lecturing job is just snobbery

Professor Christine Chinkin, director of the Centre for Women, Peace and Security at the university, naturally praised the selection, deeming it "essential" in advancing knowledge and influencing global and local policy-making, with Jolie Pitt urging other academic institutions to follow suit.

Though, despite what the university and Jolie Pitt, herself, have both said, the appointment of one of the world's most famous women has split opinion.

The

Independent

has spoken to two LSE students - one who supports the announcement, and one who opposes - about what they think of Jolie Pitt teaching at their university:

Joel Pearce, 19

Second-year BSc Government student

"

People have criticised Angelina Jolie's appointment for being a 'cynical move' to attract students and publicity to the university, but I think that's missing the point.

Read more

LSE postpones Adam Perkins talk on welfare system after 'online left-wing disruption threats'

LSE Students' Union fails to pass motion condemning Paris terror attacks

Angelina Jolie calls for nations to pull together to tackle refugee crisis

Angelina Jolie says the plight of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** is 'shameful' and 'tragic'

"

As both an ambassador and special envoy for the UN, she has years of experience of activism, research in the field, and has played a big role in drawing attention to the issue of sexual violence in conflict. I think

she's

exactly the kind of person LSE students should be learning from.

"

Appointments like this are the antidote to detached and elitist academia - not because she's won an Oscar, but because she has an insight into the issues that can

'

t be found in textbooks.

"

Universities have a long history of appointing visiting professors who have experience in areas like politics and journalism. Angelina Jolie is no different - even if she is a bigger name.

"

Fathima Abdur-Rahman, 20

First-year BSc International Relations and History student

"

Angelina Jolie's new role as 'visiting professor in practice' at LSEis arguably out of her realm.

"

In recent years, Jolie hasused her status for worthy causes and has given an insight into the the topic of women in conflict. However, to teach Master's students at one of Britain's most prestigious universities, and tojoin the ranks of elitist professors who have reached the top of theirfields,requires more than a surfaced insight into a topic.

Angelina Jolie slams UN on Syria crisis

"

Unfortunately, LSE's track record doesn't help its case; in 2008, the institution granted a PhD degree to Saif al-Islam Gaddafi - former Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi's son - after large donations from the Gaddafi Foundation were pledged to the university [LSE director later said the university acted in the best interests of the school, adding its training of Libyan professionals was "of merit"]. Although the two cases may seem very different, they are alikein that they both serve to undermine our supposedly meritocratic society, where merit and achievement are meant to be the only determinants that distinguish someone in their academic or occupational careers.

"

It also tarnishes the hard work students have put in to gain a place at LSE. How can someone who hasworked through the education process, obtained a bachelor degree,andfinallylanded a place for a Master's at the university be taught by someone who - with respect - has a limited amount of experience and no qualifications to their name?

"

Although it would be an honour to meet Jolie for all the admirable humanitarian work she has immersed herself in, appointing her as a visiting professor at LSE only serves to undermine the university, its students and professors and, ultimately, our meritocratic society.

"

**Load-Date:** May 24, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Syrian refugees walk through the night trying to reach Budapest; Hundreds of refugees determined to reach the Hungarian capital continued their journey in darkness*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GW7-51K1-F021-6527-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

September 8, 2015 Tuesday 11:53 AM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEW ARTICLES

**Length:** 186 words

**Byline:** Charlie Atkin

**Body**

Hundreds of refugees have continued their journey through the night in order to reach the Hungarian capital.

Watch the footage here.

The travellers had broken through a police cordon yesterday and began walking along the M5 motorway that connects Belgrade, the capital of Serbia, and Budapest.

The Hungarian authorities continued to provide an escort for the group, which included women and children, who had reportedly walked over six miles.

Despite Britain, France and Germany announcing they will accommodate thousands of refugees, the Hungarian government continues to oppose migration on a grand scale.

The decision to close Budapest's main train station, Keleti, was reversed after a temporary camp of 3,000 refugees was created in the capital, while on Friday, Hungary closed its border with Serbia.

Crossing it without documentation has been made an offence, with punishments stretching to three years imprisonment.

Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban has previously blamed Germany for the crisis, claiming that the idea Europe can accommodate more refugees as "misleading".

**Load-Date:** September 8, 2015

**End of Document**



[*Britain First: Who are the far-right group whose name was allegedly shouted by Jo Cox's 'killer'?; Some fear that the group and its poisonous right-wing ideology may have influenced Ms Cox's killer*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K1D-0101-F021-650R-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 16, 2016 Thursday 7:42 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** CRIME

**Length:** 748 words

**Byline:** Oliver Wright, Harry Cockburn

**Body**

The ultra-right nationalist group Britain First has claimed it would "absolutely not condone" the attack on Jo Cox.

Her attacker reportedly shouted "Britain First" as he stabbed and shot her to death. And, though thereis nothing to suggest any direct link with the group, the attackhas shone a spotlight on the political party that has courted controversy.

The BNP off-shoot, founded just five years ago, hasacquired a paramilitary style image: with countryside training camps for members and pledges to take "direct action" against "global Islamic jihad".

Britain First protest outside East London Mosque

It has appealed to former soldiers to join up - with images of guns and skulls on its website and the slogan "Isis hunting club"emblazoned on its merchandise.

On the day of Ms Cox's death, the front of its site showed pictures from the group's recent "Activist Training Camp, where members practised fighting techniques and posed in camouflage clothing.

The site is also littered with anti-immigrant and negative stories about Muslims. Examples include:

The Britain First website carries news headlines which paint Muslims in a bad light

The group has tried to take advantage of the refugee crisis

Headlines under the site's 'News' section include:

Stories also attack the "Muslim London Mayor" Sadiq Khan

The group asks for donations from the public to 'get our country back'

Some fear that the group and its poisonous right-wing ideology may have influenced Ms Cox's killer.

The group's leader,Paul Golding, has claimed that the attacker could have shouted 'You need to put Britain first'.

Over the last year she has been at the forefront of the campaign to help ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and pressurise the Government into accept Britain's "fair share"of asylum seekers.

Activists at a 2016 training camp in Snowdonia (Britain First)

Founded just five years ago - by two former BNP members - Britain First has been highly adept at appealing to the most extreme elements of Britain's right wing.

The group even has a wing called the "Britain First Defence Force", which has attracted widespread condemnation for staging marches the group calls "Christian Patrols" in which members in green uniforms carry white crosses, while shouting anti-Islamic slogans.

Britain First leader Paul Golding, centre, seen here at a training camp in Wales. He was previously the BNP's communications officer.(Britain First)

They have also been involved in Mosque "invasions" and have staged protests outside the homes of alleged Islamists.

At one stage its members - complete in military style uniforms - offered to provide personal protection to the Ukip leader Nigel Farage. The offer was ingored by Farage who has no connection to the group, and has actively sought to distance himself and Ukip from it.

But the group has also had some success nationally, andgarnered a large online following. On Facebook the group's page has 1.4 million likes, meaning the far-right group has more followers on the social network than any political party in the UK. The Conservatives currently have the second largest following with 550,000 followers, while Labour has 480,000.

During a 2016 March through Luton, on one of the group's 'Christian Patrols', the group walked through the town centre with white crosses. Leader, Paul Golding, and Deputy, Jayda Fransen were subsequently arrested and banned from Luton. (Britain First/YouTube)

The group boasted of reaching 1 million supporters on its website, claiming the milestone indicated "genuine popular support of its ideals, policies and views". However, this has been largely attributed to the frequent populist and sentimental posts on the page, many of which have little to do with the group's core message.

At the 2014 European elections, founder members Dowson and Golding stood as Britain First candidates in Wales and Scotland. The group urged voters in England to vote for UKIP.

Read more

Jo Cox dead: MP's husband Brendan Cox says wife was killed by 'hate'

Jo Cox obituary: The Labour MP who campaigned tirelessly for refugees

Jo Cox dead: Tributes pour in from politicians after Labour MP dies after being shot and stabbed

During the campaign in Wales, the group used images of murdered soldier Lee Rigby in their campaign, using the phrase "remember Lee Rigby" on ballot papers. The electoral commission subsequently apologised to the dead soldier's family.

Speaking about the group, Lee Rigby's mother said: "Their views are not what Lee believed in and has no support from the family."

**Load-Date:** June 16, 2016

**End of Document**



[*George Osborne accused of 'shameful, disgusting' response to 7-year-old boy facing deportation from Scotland; Mr Osborne seemed to know nothing about the case, the SNP's Westminster leader Angus Robertson said, despite it receiving 'wall-to-wall'coverage in Scotland*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JVP-36X1-JCJY-G10X-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

May 25, 2016 Wednesday 3:13 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 705 words

**Byline:** Adam Withnall

**Body**

George Osborne has been accused of giving a "shameful" response to the situation of a seven-year-old boy who faces being deported from the Highlands with his family.

The Chancellor was confronted with the case of Gaelic-speaker Lachlan Brain, who came to Scotland with his Australian family as part of a government scheme yet is set to be thrown out of the country next week.

Stepping in for David Cameron at Prime Minister's Questions, the Chancellor appeared to dismiss the Brain family's situation and instead suggested the SNP should do more themselves to create "an entrepreneurial Scotland where people want to move to from the rest of the United Kingdom".

Read more

Home Office's treatment of international students need 'needs inquiry'

Mr Osborne seemed to know nothing about the case, the SNP's Westminster leader Angus Robertson said, despite it receiving "wall-to-wall" coverage in Scotland.

And a spokesperson for the SNP told

The Independent

it was "dire" for the Prime Minister's stand-in to wash his hands of the situation by raising Scotland's fiscal autonomy.

Carol Monaghan, the SNP member for Glasgow North West, accused the Home Secretary Theresa May of "smirking away" as the Brain family case was raised, describing what she saw in the Commons as "disgusting".

Been following story of Lachlan Brain & his family - it'd be a disgrace if the UK deported them @JournoStephen#PMQs[*https://t.co/JgBtJylHtF*](https://t.co/JgBtJylHtF)

- Joe Rich (@joerichlaw) May 25, 2016

Mr Osborne said Ms May would write to the SNP "on the specific case", saying simply: "But as I understand it the family doesn't meet the immigration criteria."

He added: "Can I make a suggestion to the Scottish Nationalist Party?

"They now have very substantial tax and enterprise powers, and if they want to attract people to the Highlands, why don't they create an entrepreneurial Scotland where people want to move to from the rest of the United Kingdom where they can grow their business and have a successful life?"

Mr Robertson said the response was "shameful and frankly not good enough".

Read more

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** send message to Theresa May: 'We need our children, we miss them so much'

Theresa May 'can't force Scotland to ditch Human Rights Act,' says Ruth Davidson

Theresa May faces huge backlash over call to leave European human rights convention

Theresa May barred from deporting six men to Algeria over torture concerns

Lachlan Brain attends the Gaelic-medium primary school in Dingwall, Mr Robertson said, and faces deportation "despite his family arriving as part of a Scottish Government initiative, backed by the Home Office, to attract people to live and work in the region".

His family came to the Highlands in 2011, but were told they could not stay after Lachlan's mother Kathryn completed a four-year degree in Scottish history and archaeology.

"Cases like this... make it extremely difficult for Scotland to remain an attractive destination for the brightest and best from around the world," he said.

"Appeals have been made to the Home Secretary to allow the Brain family to stay. There have been interventions by the First Minister, by the local MP, by the local MSP, by community members.

Just arrived at PMQs to see the Home Secretary smirking away whilst @AngusRobertson raises case of the Brain family in Dingwall. #disgusting

- Carol Monaghan MP (@CMonaghanMP) May 25, 2016

Awful answer from George Osborne on deportation of Brain family - evasive, uninformed and lacking compassion #PMQs

- Dan Paris (@\_DanParis) May 25, 2016

At #PMQs the rarely angry @AngusRobertson raises disgraceful upcoming deportation of seven year Lachlan Brain from his Highland home.

- JOHN NICOLSON M.P. (@MrJohnNicolson) May 25, 2016

Whole of Scotland outraged at treatment of Brain family @GradySNP#PMQs

- PARLY (@ParlyApp) May 25, 2016

"The problem of the Highlands has not been unwanted immigration it has been emigration. Even at this late stage will the Chancellor, the Home Secretary and Government look again at this case and let the Brain family stay in the Highlands?"

Responding to the exchanges in the Commons, a spokesperson for the SNP said: "George Osborne saying 'Scotland has say over some of its taxes' is a dire response to the UK Home Office deporting a seven-year-old child."

**Load-Date:** May 25, 2016

**End of Document**



[*George Osborne accused of 'shameful, disgusting' response to 7-year-old boy facing deportation from Scotland; Mr Osborne seemed to know nothing about the case, the SNP's Westminster leader Angus Robertson said, despite it receiving 'wall-to-wall'coverage in Scotland*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JVN-RS91-JCJY-G11R-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

May 25, 2016 Wednesday 2:34 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 705 words

**Byline:** Adam Withnall

**Body**

George Osborne has been accused of giving a "shameful" response to the situation of a seven-year-old boy who faces being deported from the Highlands with his family.

The Chancellor was confronted with the case of Gaelic-speaker Lachlan Brain, who came to Scotland with his Australian family as part of a government scheme yet is set to be thrown out of the country next week.

Stepping in for David Cameron at Prime Minister's Questions, the Chancellor appeared to dismiss the Brain family's situation and instead suggested the SNP should do more themselves to create "an entrepreneurial Scotland where people want to move to from the rest of the United Kingdom".

Read more

Home Office's treatment of international students need 'needs inquiry'

Mr Osborne seemed to know nothing about the case, the SNP's Westminster leader Angus Robertson said, despite it receiving "wall-to-wall" coverage in Scotland.

And a spokesperson for the SNP told

The Independent

it was "dire" for the Prime Minister's stand-in to wash his hands of the situation by raising Scotland's fiscal autonomy.

Carol Monaghan, the SNP member for Glasgow North West, accused the Home Secretary Theresa May of "smirking away" as the Brain family case was raised, describing what she saw in the Commons as "disgusting".

Been following story of Lachlan Brain & his family - it'd be a disgrace if the UK deported them @JournoStephen#PMQs[*https://t.co/JgBtJylHtF*](https://t.co/JgBtJylHtF)

- Joe Rich (@joerichlaw) May 25, 2016

Mr Osborne said Ms May would write to the SNP "on the specific case", saying simply: "But as I understand it the family doesn't meet the immigration criteria."

He added: "Can I make a suggestion to the Scottish Nationalist Party?

"They now have very substantial tax and enterprise powers, and if they want to attract people to the Highlands, why don't they create an entrepreneurial Scotland where people want to move to from the rest of the United Kingdom where they can grow their business and have a successful life?"

Mr Robertson said the response was "shameful and frankly not good enough".

Read more

***Syrian*** ***refugees*** send message to Theresa May: 'We need our children, we miss them so much'

Theresa May 'can't force Scotland to ditch Human Rights Act,' says Ruth Davidson

Theresa May faces huge backlash over call to leave European human rights convention

Theresa May barred from deporting six men to Algeria over torture concerns

Lachlan Brain attends the Gaelic-medium Primary School in Dingwall, Mr Robertson said, and faces deportation "despite his family arriving as part of a Scottish Government initiative, backed by the Home Office, to attract people to live and work in the region".

His family came to the Highlands in 2011, but were told they could not stay after Lachlan's mother Kathryn completed a four-year degree in Scottish history and archaeology.

"Cases like this... make it extremely difficult for Scotland to remain an attractive destination for the brightest and best from around the world," he said.

"Appeals have been made to the Home Secretary to allow the Brain family to stay. There have been interventions by the First Minister, by the local MP, by the local MSP, by community members.

Just arrived at PMQs to see the Home Secretary smirking away whilst @AngusRobertson raises case of the Brain family in Dingwall. #disgusting

- Carol Monaghan MP (@CMonaghanMP) May 25, 2016

Awful answer from George Osborne on deportation of Brain family - evasive, uninformed and lacking compassion #PMQs

- Dan Paris (@\_DanParis) May 25, 2016

At #PMQs the rarely angry @AngusRobertson raises disgraceful upcoming deportation of seven year Lachlan Brain from his Highland home.

- JOHN NICOLSON M.P. (@MrJohnNicolson) May 25, 2016

Whole of Scotland outraged at treatment of Brain family @GradySNP#PMQs

- PARLY (@ParlyApp) May 25, 2016

"The problem of the Highlands has not been unwanted immigration it has been emigration. Even at this late stage will the Chancellor, the Home Secretary and Government look again at this case and let the Brain family stay in the Highlands?"

Responding to the exchanges in the Commons, a spokesperson for the SNP said: "George Osborne saying 'Scotland has say over some of its taxes' is a dire response to the UK Home Office deporting a 7 year old child."

**Load-Date:** May 25, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Jo Cox death: Twitter lights up with messages of parliamentary praise with #ThankYourMP; British actor Hugh Laurie has tweeted in support*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K1J-XM71-JCJY-G15W-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 17, 2016 Friday 11:52 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK

**Length:** 757 words

**Byline:** Jess Staufenberg

**Body**

People are putting aside theirpolitical differences to show gratitude for the work of their MPs in reaction to the deathof Labour's rising star Jo Cox.

Social media was flooded with the hashtag "#ThankYourMP" in response to the tragic death ofMs Cox, killedafter leaving a constituency meeting in Yorkshire.

The public service performed by members of Parliament ‒ and the relentless barrage of criticism often faced by them ‒ was lauded in a rare moment of gratitude for politicians by Twitter users.

The move was picked up by British actor Hugh Laurie, who tweeted the hashtag to his 1.24 million followers.

#ThankYourMP

- Hugh Laurie (@hughlaurie) June 17, 2016

One user, Maurice Morgan, wrote to her MP in Wakefield in west Yorkshire: "Thank you Mary Creagh for all the hard work you do in my area. You make a difference. You are appreciated."

Read more

Jo Cox death live: Calls for politicians' security to be increased after Labour MP shot dead in Birstall- latest updates

Politician 'calls woman whore and threatens to strip her' during women's rights debate

Another thankedshadow defence secretaryEmily Thornberry for once helping him with a litter of kittens, while others thanked Jeremy Corbyn and David Lammy for their "clear love" of the area they represented.

Numerous people also crossed political party allegiances to show their appreciationfor MPs they did not necessarily vote for.

Although not my party, thanks @gregclarkmp for what you do for my home community #ThankYourMP#JoCox

- Lizzy Woodfield (@Lizzyswoodfield) June 16, 2016

Not why any of us do this job but the #ThankYourMP tweets mean a lot - and much more so when done by non supporters [*https://t.co/dCEiP5EY4E*](https://t.co/dCEiP5EY4E)

- Guy Opperman MP (@GuyOpperman) June 17, 2016

.@AlanMakMP I may not vote for you, but I enormously respect the job you do for all your constituents as our elected MP #ThankYourMP#JoCox

- Chris Ash (@ChrisAshl78) June 16, 2016

@JacobReesMogg our politics could not be more different. Yet you have listened, and helped our autistic boys more than once #thankyourMP

- Ian French (@Retiredgoth) June 17, 2016

In addition, the thankless nature of representing a constituency, attending Parliament, influencing policy asa backbencher, givingmedia interviews, leading a team and ‒ often ‒ raisinga family, was also recognised by many ofthe British public.

One user, Stephen Drew, said: "Our democracy is precious and those who lead it for us deserve our thanks."

British actor Hugh Laurie also gave his support from across the Atlantic, tweeting simply:#ThankYourMP

Another tweet, from David Williams, called the role a "mortifyingly hard job", while Andrew Puddephatt said the UK should realise that "the vast majority of MPs on all sides are decent people doing their best."

Great to see #ThankYourMP is trending. These public servants work harder than most people know. It's now time to appreciate their service.

- Isaac (@IASDef) June 16, 2016

Today a reminder that many MPs are not like us. Many are better than us. Many are people we should aspire to be. Treasure them. #ThankYourMP

- (((Rob Ford))) (@robfordmancs) June 16, 2016

An MP's basic annual salary is £74,962, and the role involves on average between 40 and69 hours of work a week, with noted impacts on private and family life.

Not everyone was convinced of the move, however.

@hughlaurie I only ever hear from my MP at elections but he's an inoffensive, scandal-free backbencher so that's something, I suppose.

- (Jo(hn (Ru)ss)ell) (@offthebellcurve) June 17, 2016

The comments in support of MPs came in the wake of the first killing of an MP for a quarter of a century.

Ms Cox's death, which is under investigation, has led to politicians from all parties expressing their shock and condolences, and led todivisions overthe EU referendum to be temporarily suspended out of respect for her and her family.

Ms Cox came from a working-class background andstudied social and political sciences at Cambridge University, was a "tireless campaigner" for ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** and had two children aged three and five.

Thank you @stellacreasy@LouHaigh@ChiOnwurah@heidi\_mp for being talented, dedicated & bold women in democracy to look up to. #ThankYourMP

- Amanda (@ayymanduh) June 16, 2016

Reports have emerged that an attacker at the scene of her death shouted "Britain first", which are now being investigated by police.

Social media users also urged others to thank local councillors, who decide on housing, utilities, education and social care in an area.

**Load-Date:** June 17, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Obama to deport hundreds of mothers and children fleeing violence in Central America; Immigration agents are reportedly set to carry out raids in May and June*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JS4-3CC1-JCJY-G2JM-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

May 13, 2016 Friday 2:42 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 719 words

**Byline:** Andrew Buncombe

**Body**

The Obama administration is planning a new range of raids to deport hundreds of undocumented Central American mothers and children - many of whom fled to the US to escape violence and killing.

Earlier this year, Barack Obama, who has deported more people than any other US president, sparked anger among rights activists when he ordered officials to begin detaining and forcibly deporting hundreds of illegal immigrant families. Most of the raids focused on Georgia, Texas and North Carolina and resulted in the detention of 121 people.

Now it has been reported that immigration officials are planning a month-long series of raids in May and June.

Reuters

said the sweep would be the largest operation to deport immigrants since January.

The rhetoric about immigrants has increased during the election campaign(AP)

Documents seen by the news agency suggest officers fromImmigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) have told field offices to launch a 30-day surge of arrests focused on mothers and children who have already been told to leave the United States. The operation would also cover minors who have entered the country without a guardian and since turned 18 years of age.

The exact dates of the latest series of raids were not known and the details of the operation could change.

The operation in January marked a departure for ICE, part of the Department of Homeland Security, from one-off deportations to high-profile raids meant to deter migrants from coming to the United States. Many of those entering the US are fleeing violence in countries such as Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala.

The issue of immigration to the US has become increasingly sensitive as a result of the rhetoric of many of the leading Republican candidates for president. Presumptive candidate Donald Trump called Mexican immigrants "rapists and murderers" and has vowed to build a wall along the US-Mexican border if he is elected.

The issue has not just focussed on migrants or refugees from central America. More than 30 US states have said they will do everything they can to block to settlement of the 10,000 or so ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** the US plans to accommodate.

Farage on immigration

Yet campaigners point out that for all the noise from Republicans, it is the administration of Mr Obama that has deported more immigrants than any previous

In 2014, it is estimated that more than 200,000 Central Americans tried to emigrate to the United States without documentation. Since coming to office in 2009, Mr Obama's government has deported more than 2.5m people, up 23 per cent from the administration of George Bush years. He is set to have deported more people than all the presidents who governed between now 1892-2000.

Activists have sought different ways to try and help those without documents.

Hundreds of churches across America have defied the US government and offered support and sanctuary to immigrants who face deportation. Some of them have literally offered a resting space to people, aware that federal agents are unlikely to carry out arrests inside their premises.

Both Democratic presidential candidates, looking to appeal to Hispanic voters, have expressed opposition to the planned raids, with front-runner Hillary Clinton saying they are "not productive and do not reflect who we are as a country".

Read more

Theresa May faces huge backlash over call to leave European human rights convention

Theresa May says UK should leave European human rights convention

"Families fleeing violence in Central America must be given a full opportunity to seek relief," she said. "And we need to take special care of children."

Vermont Senator. Bernie Sanders issued a statement calling the raids "painful and inhumane" while asking Mr Obama to give Central American families temporary protective status through an executive order."Sending these people back into harm's way is wrong," he said.

Jennifer Elzea, a spokeswoman for US Immigration Immigration and Customs Enforcement told

The Independent

that theoperations were not "raids" and said they were targeted arrests.

She added: "We stress that these operations are limited to those who were apprehended at the border after January 1 2014, have been ordered removed by an immigration court, and have no pending appeal or pending claim for asylum or other humanitarian relief under our laws."

**Load-Date:** May 13, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Angelina Jolie Pitt appointment as London School of Economics professor divides opinion; One student against the decision says LSE serves to undermine the university,students, staffand, ultimately, 'our meritocratic society'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JVG-MHP1-F021-64Y1-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

May 24, 2016 Tuesday 6:48 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** NEWS

**Length:** 735 words

**Byline:** Aftab Ali

**Body**

The news that Angelina Jolie Pitt - Oscar-winning actress and political campaigner - will be joining the academic team at the UK's prestigious London School of Economics (LSE) has been encouraging debate and splitting opinion online and among the student body most of Tuesday.

Along with former foreign secretary, William Hague, Jolie Pitt will be joining other LSE fellows, scholars, and activists to help promote gender equality and enhance women's economic, social, and political prospects among Master's students.

Read more

Outrage over Angelina Jolie's lecturing job is just snobbery

Professor Christine Chinkin, director of the Centre for Women, Peace and Security at the university, naturally praised the selection, deeming it "essential" in advancing knowledge and influencing global and local policy-making, with Jolie Pitt urging other academic institutions to follow suit.

Though, despite what the university and Jolie Pitt, herself, have both said, the appointment of one of the world's most famous women has split opinion.

The

Independent

has spoken to two LSE students - one who supports the announcement, and one who opposes - about what they think of Jolie Pitt teaching at their university:

Joel Pearce, 19

Second-year BSc Government student

"

People have criticised Angelina Jolie's appointment for being a 'cynical move' to attract students and publicity to the university, but I think that's missing the point.

Read more

LSE postpones Adam Perkins talk on welfare system after 'online left-wing disruption threats'

LSE Students' Union fails to pass motion condemning Paris terror attacks

Angelina Jolie calls for nations to pull together to tackle refugee crisis

Angelina Jolie says the plight of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** is 'shameful' and 'tragic'

"

As both an ambassador and special envoy for the UN, she has years of experience of activism, research in the field, and has played a big role in drawing attention to the issue of sexual violence in conflict. I think she is exactly the kind of person LSE students should be learning from.

"

Appointments like this are the antidote to detached and elitist academia - not because she's won an Oscar, but because she has an insight into the issues that cannot be found in textbooks.

"

Universities have a long history of appointing visiting professors who have experience in areas like politics and journalism. Angelina Jolie is no different - even if she is a bigger name.

"

Fathima Abdur-Rahman, 20

First-year BSc International Relations and History student

"

Angelina Jolie's new role as 'visiting professor in practice' at LSE - whereby she is to contribute to lectures, events, and workshops given to students - is arguably out of her realm.

"

Indeed, in recent years, Jolie has avidly used her status for worthy causes and has given an insight into the the topic of women in conflict. However, to teach Master's students at one of Britain's most prestigious universities, and to subsequently join the ranks of elitist professors who have reached the top of their respective fields, seemingly requires more than a surfaced insight into a topic.

Angelina Jolie slams UN on Syria crisis

"

Unfortunately, LSE's track record doesn't help its case; in 2008, the institution granted a PhD degree to Saif al-Islam Gaddafi - former Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi's son - after large donations from the Gaddafi Foundation were pledged to the university [LSE director later said the university acted in the best interests of the school, adding its training of Libyan professionals was "of merit"]. Although the two cases may seem very different, they are akin in that they both serve to undermine our supposedly meritocratic society, where merit and achievement are meant to be the only determinants that distinguish someone in their academic or occupational careers.

"

It also tarnishes the hard work students have put in to gain a place at LSE. How can someone who has diligently worked through the education process, obtained a bachelor degree and, finally, landed a place for a Master's at the university be taught by someone who - with respect - has a limited amount of experience and no qualifications to their name?

"

Although it would be an honour to meet Jolie for all the admirable humanitarian work she has immersed herself in, appointing her as a visiting professor at LSE only serves to undermine the university, its students and professors and, ultimately, our meritocratic society.

"

**Load-Date:** May 24, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Obama to deport hundreds of mothers and children fleeing violence in Central America; Immigration agents are reportedly set to carry out raids in May and June*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JS4-XXY1-F021-64F4-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

May 13, 2016 Friday 7:29 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 755 words

**Byline:** Andrew Buncombe

**Body**

The Obama administration is planning a new range of raids to deport hundreds of undocumented Central American mothers and children - many of whom fled to the US to escape violence and killing.

Earlier this year, Barack Obama, who has deported more people than any other US president, sparked anger among rights activists when he ordered officials to begin detaining and forcibly deporting hundreds of illegal immigrant families. Most of the raids focused on Georgia, Texas and North Carolina and resulted in the detention of 121 people.

Now it has been reported that immigration officials are planning a month-long series of raids in May and June.

Reuters

said the sweep would be the largest operation to deport immigrants since January.

The rhetoric about immigrants has increased during the election campaign(AP)

Documents seen by the news agency suggest officers fromImmigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) have told field offices to launch a 30-day surge of arrests focused on mothers and children who have already been told to leave the United States. The operation would also cover minors who have entered the country without a guardian and since turned 18 years of age.

The exact dates of the latest series of raids were not known and the details of the operation could change.

The operation in January marked a departure for ICE, part of the Department of Homeland Security, from one-off deportations to high-profile raids meant to deter migrants from coming to the United States. Many of those entering the US are fleeing violence in countries such as Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala.

The issue of immigration to the US has become increasingly sensitive as a result of the rhetoric of many of the leading Republican candidates for president. Presumptive candidate Donald Trump called Mexican immigrants "rapists and murderers" and has vowed to build a wall along the US-Mexican border if he is elected.

The issue has not just focussed on migrants or refugees from central America. More than 30 US states have said they will do everything they can to block to settlement of the 10,000 or so ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** the US plans to accommodate.

Farage on immigration

Yet campaigners point out that for all the noise from Republicans, it is the administration of Mr Obama that has deported more immigrants than any previous

In 2014, it is estimated that more than 200,000 Central Americans tried to emigrate to the United States without documentation. Since coming to office in 2009, Mr Obama's government has deported more than 2.5m people, up 23 per cent from the administration of George Bush years. He is set to have deported more people than all the presidents who governed between now 1892-2000.

Activists have sought different ways to try and help those without documents.

Hundreds of churches across America have defied the US government and offered support and sanctuary to immigrants who face deportation. Some of them have literally offered a resting space to people, aware that federal agents are unlikely to carry out arrests inside their premises.

Both Democratic presidential candidates, looking to appeal to Hispanic voters, have expressed opposition to the planned raids, with front-runner Hillary Clinton saying they are "not productive and do not reflect who we are as a country".

Read more

Theresa May faces huge backlash over call to leave European human rights convention

Theresa May says UK should leave European human rights convention

"Families fleeing violence in Central America must be given a full opportunity to seek relief," she said. "And we need to take special care of children."

Vermont Senator. Bernie Sanders issued a statement calling the raids "painful and inhumane" while asking Mr Obama to give Central American families temporary protective status through an executive order."Sending these people back into harm's way is wrong," he said.

Jennifer Elzea, a spokeswoman for US Immigration Immigration and Customs Enforcement told

The Independent

that theoperations were not "raids" and said they were targeted arrests.

She added: "We stress that these operations are limited to those who were apprehended at the border after January 1 2014, have been ordered removed by an immigration court, and have no pending appeal or pending claim for asylum or other humanitarian relief under our laws."

Gren Chen, director of advocacy for the

American Immigration Lawyers Association, said the actions of the US government were "shameful". "It's closing asylum doors to people who have escapted terrible violence," he said.

**Load-Date:** May 13, 2016

**End of Document**



[*UK government running 'covert' propaganda campaign to stop Muslims joining Isis; Unit uses local community groups to spread its anti-extremism message - without revealing its government links*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JP0-R101-F021-63Y8-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

May 3, 2016 Tuesday 4:24 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 758 words

**Byline:** Caroline Mortimer

**Body**

The UK government has launched a secret propaganda campaign to stop young British Muslims from joining extremist groups, it has been revealed.

A Home Office unit has been set up called the Research, Information and Communications Unit (Ricu) which uses local community groups to spread counter-extremist messages to vulnerable young people who are at risk of being seduced by the slick online propaganda of Isis.

The programme,which was set up in 2007,has focused on Isis for the past two years following the group's declaration of a "caliphate" in its territories in Syria and Iraq. The programme is inspired by a similar scheme set up to fight Communism during the Cold War.

The messages are overwhelmingly targeted at Muslims, particularly males, between the ages of 15 and39.

Read more

Nearly 4,000 people referred to Government's anti-extremism scheme last year

Government's Prevent strategy means pupils 'too scared to talk in case they're branded radical'

Home Office deports three times more teenagers to war-torn countries than previously admitted

But some Muslims have expressed dismay over its techniques, which they say riskundermining the existing Prevent counter-radicalisation programme and alienating some groups.

Insiders

told the

Guardian

Ricu is working at an "industrial pace and scale" to combat the active propaganda machine run by Isis, and rarely uses governmentbranding.

One initiative, called Help for Syria, advertises itself as a campaign providing advice on how to help raise money for ***Syrian*** ***refugees***. It attends university freshers' fairs to talk to hundreds of students face-to-face.

It also delivered leaflets to 760,000 UK homes using the same campaign.

The scheme has focused on tackling the slick propaganda released by Isis

Much of its work is outsourced to a London communications company called Breakthrough Media Network which has produced dozens of websites, leaflets, videos and social media campaigns with titles such as The Truth About Isis and Help for Syria.

Breakthrough organises events at schools and universities and works with a number of Muslim organisations to help spread its message.

Ricu has also set up a PR company to sell stories to national newspapers.

The community groups have said they use Ricu to help them get their message to a wider audience and retain editorial control over what they disseminate, but documents seen by the Guardian show that the programme privately says it has ultimate control over the projects.

The Home Office acknowledged there was a propaganda programme but defended its conduct saying: "All we're trying to do is stop people becoming suicide bombers."

Westminster's intelligence and security committee, which oversees the government's counter-terrorism work, has said it supports the Ricu initiative.

Read more

Guantanamo inmate says Cameron's anti-extremism strategy 'has failed'

One former minister

told the

Guardian

it was "naive" to assume the Government could openly release counter-extremist propaganda but another said although the supported the project overall hiding the source of the messages could damage trust between the Muslim community and the Government.

Human rights lawyer Imran Khan said:"If the government wants its Muslim citizens to listen to it, it needs to be trusted. And to be trusted, it needs to be honest. What is happening here is not honest, it's deeply deceptive.

"Furthermore, this government needs to stop thinking of young British Muslims as some sort of fifth column that it needs to deal with."

Breakthrough says their relationship with Ricu is not covert and it is up to the individual community groups to decide if they want to disclose the government's support.

A Home Office spokesperson said:"The battle against terrorism and extremism must be fought on several fronts including countering its twisted narrative online and in our communities. The need for this work is recognised at a national and international level.

"This work can involve sensitive issues, vulnerable communities and hard to reach audiences and it has been important to build relationships out of the media glare. We respect the bravery of individuals and organisations who choose to speak out against violence and extremism and it is right that we support, empower and protect them.

"Our guiding principle has to be whether or not any organisation we work with is itself happy to talk publicly about what they do. At the same time we are as open as possible about RICU's operating model, and have referenced the role of RICU in a number of publications and in Parliament."

**Load-Date:** May 3, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Turkey confronts the enemy within; As the Prime Minister blames female PKK fighter for car bombing that killed 37 people in Ankara, his nation wrestles with the problem that a modern, tolerant society will always be open to attack. LAURA PITEL reports DNA tests on remains of suspected bomber, as 11 people held*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J9G-5891-F072-4354-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (London)

March 15, 2016 Tuesday

First Edition

Copyright 2016 Independent Print Ltd All Rights Reserved



**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 19

**Length:** 667 words

**Byline:** LAURA PITEL

**Body**

The huge car bomb that tore through the Turkish capital was likely to have been the work of a female member of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), authorities have said.

There was no claim of responsibility for the Ankara attack but the Turkish Prime Minister, Ahmet Davutoglu, said that there were "strong indications" that the Kurdish militant faction was responsible for the attack that claimed the lives of 37 people. The group has previously focused on attacking military targets.

The suicide bombing on Sunday night targeted a row of bus stops in a busy shopping district, killing students, young couples and families on their way home. One victim, Ozan Akkus, a 19-year-old engineering student, lost a close friend just five months previously in a double-bombing in Ankara blamed on members of the jihadist group Isis.

The latest attack underlines the multiple threats facing Turkey, a country once seen as a haven of stability that has been increasingly rocked by the war in Syria.

A Nato member home to an estimated 2.7 million ***Syrian*** ***refugees***, Turkey is not only battling several groups engaged in the Syrian conflict, it is also fighting an internal conflict in the south-East after the collapse of a two-year peace process with the PKK. Turkey blamed the militant group for the breakdown, saying that it was emboldened by the success of Kurdish militias in neighbouring Syria. The PKK blamed Turkey for failing to deliver on promises to give greater rights to Kurdish citizens. Unlike previous flare-ups, much of the fighting this time has taken place in urban centres, causing large numbers of causalities and trapping civilians in the middle. Turkey responded to Sunday's attack by pounding PKK targets in northern Iraq and rounding up fighters. Plans for large-scale operations against fighters in towns in the south-east were already underway yesterday, and are expected to be scaled up in response to the latest attack.

Mr Davutoglu said that the authorities had detained 11 people directly connected to the bombing and that DNA tests were underway on the remains of the suspected culprit, whom the deputy prime minister said was "definitely" female. She was reportedly born in 1992 and was from the eastern city of Kars near the Armenian border, and had joined the militant group in 2013.

Tests will also take place on another body belonging to someone believed to have assisted her.

However, the Turkish government has been quick to apportion blame after other bombings, not always correctly. After an attack on a military convoy in Ankara that killed 29 people last month, the government mistakenly said that it was the work of a Syrian member of the YPG, a Kurdish militia fighting in Syria. It later said that it was the work of the Kurdistan Freedom Hawks (TAK), a splinter group of the PKK.

Analysts said that it would be highly significant if the latest attack was proven to be the work of the PKK. Howard Eissenstat, a Turkey expert at St Lawrence University in New York State, said that he believed that the attack was "much more likely" to be the work of a splinter group. He said: "Such direct involvement would mean that the PKK is no longer aiming at a negotiated settlement and that it is no longer interested in international legitimacy. This possibility strikes me as extremely unlikely. It is much more likely that a claim will come from a splinter group like TAK, which does have a history of attacking purely civilian targets. Even so, this attack suggests a worrying escalation of scale."

Earlier, President Erdogan launched a scathing attack on the wider Kurdish movement. He said: "There is no difference between a terrorist with a gun in his hand and someone who uses his position and pen at a point that supports terror. The fact that a person is a terrorist does not change if his position is an MP, a journalist or the director of an NGO. The person who pulls the trigger may be a terrorist, but these are the people who ensure that the terrorist achieves his goals."

**Load-Date:** March 15, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Iraqi refugee targeted for helping US military detained at JFK airport due to Donald Trump immigration ban; Under the order Syrian refugees are banned from entry until further notice*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5MRJ-NYR1-JCJY-G3WH-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

January 28, 2017 Saturday 2:42 PM GMT

Copyright 2017 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 116 words

**Byline:** Andrew Buncombe

**Body**

Two Iraqi refugees who were detained at New York's JFK Airport, had spent the last decade working to help America in Iraq.

As news emerged that the nation was closing its border to immigrants from seven countries following an executive order signed by Donald Trump, the

New York Times

said two Iraqi refugees were stopped at New York.

One of the men, Hameed Khalid Darweesh, had worked on behalf of the US government in Iraq for 10 years. The other man, Haider Sameer Abdulkhaleq Alshawi, had flown to the US to join his wife, who had worked for a US contractor. After they were detained, lawyers for the men filed a suit in the early hours of Saturday morning, seeking their release.

More follows...

**Load-Date:** January 28, 2017

**End of Document**



[*Refugees hospitalised after huge fire and clashes at Lesbos detention centre amid warnings over more violence; Humanitarian agencies warned that 'deplorable' conditions in detention centres in Greece were heightening tensions*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JXC-V811-JCJY-G565-00000-00&context=1519360)

The Independent (United Kingdom)

June 2, 2016 Thursday 4:55 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 713 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

More than 70 refugees have been injured and hundreds left without shelter after a huge fire and clashes broke out at a detention centre in Greece.

Six people were hospitalised following the violence on the island of Lesbos at a former refugee camp where thousands of asylum seekers are now imprisoned as part of the controversial EU-Turkey deal.

Local reports said fighting started between Afghan and Pakistani residents late on Wednesday night in Moria, when afire swept through the camp, destroying tents and shelters.

An injured man receives first aid after clashes at Moria detention centre in Lesbos, Greece, on 2 June 2016. (EPA)

At least 70 people were injured according to an account by Save the Children, with photos showing bleeding migrants being treated by paramedics as others were evacuated from the compound.

Read more

Jordan's Queen Rania visits child refugees in Lesbos and calls for 'exceptional response'

Pope Francis takes three families of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** on plane back to Rome from Greek island of Lesbos

A tale of two refugee camps on Lesbos as thousands await fate of being sent back to Turkey

Refugee crisis: Children make up more than a third of arrivals and more than ever are making deadly crossings alone

Sacha Myers, a spokesperson for the charity, said around 300 people had been left without a place to sleep after the destruction.

"Save the Children has talked to families who are extremely afraid and won't leave their tents because they're worried about getting caught up in the violence," she added.

"Some mothers have told us their children cry every night in their tents. Save the Children calls on authorities to ensure children and families in Moria detention centre are provided with the safety and protection they desperately need."

A migrant family receives medical assistance, after overnight clashes at the Moria detention camp on the island of Lesbos (AFP/Getty Images)

Residents were seen picking through the charred remains of belongings and supplies on Thursday morning, while those who had lost their shelters tried to rest in the open on blankets.

It was the latest violence at the camp, where more than 2,500 migrants arein detention following the March agreement to hold migrants while their asylum applications are considered and deport them to Turkey if they fail.

The process has been held up by delays in the asylum screening process, triggering frequent unrest at camps on Lesbos and the nearby island of Chios.

Save the Children said protests were happening on an almost daily basis across Greece, where some migrants have been stranded for up to three months in conditions described as "deplorable".

A boy stands among the wreck of a torched tent in the Moria detention camp on the Greek island of Lesbos, on June 2, 2016 (AFP/Getty Images)

"They also have very little information about their future and how long they will be in Greece and this is contributing to the increase in tensions," Ms Myers added.

Human Rights Watch issued a warning last month that police were failing to protect refugees during frequent rounds of violence at detention centres.

It said Moria and other "hotspots" it visited on the islands of Samos and Chios did not separate single women from unrelated adult men, and kept migrants in unsanitary and severely overcrowded conditions in a "chaotic and volatile" atmosphere.

A fight involving around 200 men raged for several hours on the Vathi hotspot in Samos on 13 May, while police used tear gas against refugees including children during a protest as ministers visited Moria in April.

It came just days after the Pope had called for European authorities to treat refugees with kindness in a visit to the detention centre.

Human Rights Watch warned that unaccompanied children and families were living in common areas of Moria because designated spaces were full, while women reported sexual harassment.

Residents also told staff that police guarding the camp had not been intervening in fights.

"In Europe's version of refugee camps, women and children who fled war face daily violence and live in fear," said Bill Frelick, the group's refugee rights director. "Lack of police protection, overcrowding, and unsanitary conditions create an atmosphere of chaos and insecurity in Greece's razor wire-fenced island camps."

**Load-Date:** June 2, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Refugee crisis: More than 3,500 migrants held in 'wholly unacceptable' conditions after crossing English Channel to UK; New report criticises conditions at short-term immigration centres in Kent as lacking in human decency*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J80-HFN1-JCJY-G07H-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

March 8, 2016 Tuesday 12:07 AM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** HOME NEWS

**Length:** 723 words

**Byline:** Paul Gallagher, Leo Cendrowicz

**Body**

More than 3,500 migrants were detained in "wholly unacceptable" conditions lacking in human decency after crossing the English Channel at the height of last summer's crisis, a new reportsays.

Inspectors criticised conditions at short-term immigration holding centres in Kent used to confine those who attempt to gain entry into the country without being detected.

The figures emerged as European Union leaders wereset to cave in to fresh demands from Turkey for an extra (EURO)3bn in aid - double their previous agreed figure - in exchange for help preventing ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from leaving Turkish soil.

Read more

Migrants with legal right to be in UK 'face exclusion and hostility'

The last-minute demands came while they met at a summit in Brussels as leaders tried to agree measures to halt the flow of migrants crossing the Aegean Sea from Turkey to Greece.

Last year's refugee crisis led to a 126 per cent increase in detentions at the UK's main holding facility at Dover Seaport last year, the report by HM Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP) says. In the first nine months of 2014, there were 2,118 detentions, while in 2015 the figure had increased to 4,785.

In the three months to the end of September alone, there had been 2,781 detentions. In addition, 822 men were held at an overflow facility in Folkestone called Frontier House. The combined total is equivalent to 40 people being stopped every day.

David Cameron refers to Calais as 'bunch of migrants'

Throughout the summer migrants massed in Calais made thousands of attempts to reach Britain, with a number dying as they tried to make the journey. The crisis was said to have cost the economy millions of pounds as hauliers were forced to dispose of contaminated goods and wait in lengthy queues on the M20 in Kent.

HMIP described the response to high numbers of migrants arriving through the Channel Tunnel as "inadequate", saying the basic physical needs of detainees were not met and conditions lacked decency. Their report said the Dover Seaport facility was "crowded, poorly ventilated and smelled badly".

A child stands among razor-wire fencing on the Greek-Macedonian border near the Greek village of Idomeni (AFP)

It was not designed to hold people for more than a few hours but over the summer detainees were held for an average of 18 hours. The holding room had religious books and a prayer mat, but no compass to indicate the direction of Mecca.

Conditions were equally poor at Frontier House where there was nowhere suitable to rest, no shower facilities and no windows at while the pay phone did not work.

Read more

EU delays decision on Turkey deal until summit in 10 days' time

Turkey's argument on refugees is about pride - not just money

Fears of violence in refugee camps if 'Balkan route' is closed

The one chart that shows the refugee crisis isn't about jobs

Royal Navy ship dispatched to Aegean Sea to turn back migrants

Chief Inspector Peter Clarke said: "There is no doubt that the increases in migration initially overwhelmed the existing facilities and an emergency response was required.

"This inspection took place some months after that emergency response was initiated and it was unacceptable that arrangements were still not in place to process detainees quickly, efficiently and decently, while ensuring that the most vulnerable, such as children, were safe and that the basic physical needs of all detainees for food, rest and clothing were met.

"The events of the summer and early autumn of 2015, in terms of the numbers of migrants arriving through the Channel Tunnel were indeed unprecedented, but in light of the build-up of activity over several months they were not unpredictable."

The HMIP report said Dover Seaport and Frontier House are contracted out to the private security firm Tascor.

A spokesman for the company said: "Despite the unprecedented influx of migrants in the Dover area, Tascor worked with the Home Office in order to ensure detainee welfare was not compromised. This included providing additional staff to support the increased demand, in line with the Home Office requirement and ensuring employees received training around trafficking issues."

**Load-Date:** March 8, 2016

**End of Document**



[*David Cameron's 'bunch of migrants' comments spark 'hypocrisy' claims on international Holocaust Memorial Day; 'Were Jewish people fleeing the Nazis in the 1930s "a bunch of migrants"?' one person asked on Twitter*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HY9-6TJ1-F021-650R-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 27, 2016 Wednesday 1:48 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 752 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

David Cameron's comments on a "bunch of migrants" in Calais have been condemned as "vile" and "hypocritical" coming on Holocaust Memorial Day.

The Prime Minister had paid tribute to the millions of Jews and other targeted groups killed by the Nazi regime minutes before making his controversial aside while attacking Labour.

Yvette Cooper, the former shadow Foreign Secretary, later raised a point of order to call on Mr Cameron to withdraw his comment.

David Cameron refers to Calais as 'bunch of migrants'

"In the light and spirit (of Holocaust Memorial Day) doesn't the Speaker think it was inappropriate for the Prime Minister to use language referring to the refugee crisis in Europe to talk about a 'bunch of migrants'?" she asked.

Read more

Graham Linehan's apt response to Cameron 'bunch of migrants' comment

Cameron sparks outrage with 'bunch of migrants' comments on Calais

PMQs live: Cameron faces grilling as Tory bedroom tax ruled 'unlawful'

Ms Cooper requested that the House of Commons demanded the comments be withdrawn but the Speaker, John Bercow, declined and said it was up to Mr Cameron to comment on it if he chose to.

On Twitter, shadow Home Secretary Andy Burnham, said the moment showed the Conservative leader's "mask slipping".

"He just dismissed desperate people fleeing conflict as a "bunch of migrants" - on Holocaust Memorial Day," he added.

Scores of critics were noting the timing of the comment, which sparked a storm of criticism as people highlighted the persecution faced by many of therefugees fleeing to Europe.

Here are some of the responses on Twitter:

The hypocrisy of Cameron commenting on the holocaust when moments earlier, he referred to refugees as "a bunch of migrants" #pmqs

- Babs (@BabsSheKing) January 27, 2016

I suppose Cameron will open the holocaust memorial. Do you think he will invite 'a bunch of migrants'? #pmqs

- June Hall (@afclhoratio) January 27, 2016

#PMQs Cameron is now talking about Holocaust survivors. Or a 'bunch of immigrants' as he would have called them in the 1940s. #bbcdp

- Ian Young (@youngian67) January 27, 2016

"Bunch of migrants". On Holocaust memorial day. Good to see that the lessons are being learned, Prime Minister. @David\_Cameron

- Dismal Chips (@DismalChips) January 27, 2016

Oh dear Cameron, mentions holocaust memorial day and then calls refugees "a bunch of migrants". Weren't jews in 30s called the same? #pmqs

- DavidShelton (@DavidSheltonGLS) January 27, 2016

Would @David\_Cameron have called children arriving on the Kindertransport "a bunch of migrants"? Shame on him, on Holocaust Memorial Day

- Alan Burkitt-Gray (@alanburkittgray) January 27, 2016

Holocaust Memorial Day and Cameron calls refugees fleeing unspeakable horrors as "a bunch of migrants". What a vile individual he is #PMQs

- Gerry Loughery (@GerryLoughery) January 27, 2016

Nice to know that on Holocaust day, our PM @David\_Cameron refers to a group of people fleeing conflict as "a bunch of migrants" #pmqs

- Alan Newman (@Alan\_Newm) January 27, 2016

David Cameron announces Holocaust monument to be erected in the memory to a "Bunch of Jews" #PMQS#bunchofmigrants

- KING OF JOCKISTAN (@KINGofJOCKISTAN) January 27, 2016

.@David\_Cameron Were Jewish people fleeing the Nazis in the 1930s "a bunch of migrants"? Shocking to hear on Holocaust Memorial Day #PMQs

- itwas (@rfktruth) January 27, 2016

Families with emaciated children and torture victims were among the refugees met by Jeremy Corbyn at squalid camps in Calais and Dunkirk earlier this week.

Responding to a question on corporate tax from the Labour leader during Prime Minister's Questions, Mr Cameron called his stance "laughable".

"Look at the record over the last week, they met with the unions and gave them flying pickets," he said.

"They met with the Argentinians and they gave them the Falkland Islands.

"They met with a bunch of migrants in Calais they said they could all come to Britain.

"The only people they never stand up for are the British people and hard-working tax-payers."

He later claimed that "no country in Europe has been more generous than Britain in funding refugee camps" in Syria, Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan.

The Government has previously been criticised for agreeing to take only ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from camps in Turkey and the Middle East, rather than from migration "hotspots" across Europe that are the subject of EU resettlement schemes.

**Load-Date:** January 27, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Cologne attacks: Police use water cannon and pepper spray on anti-immigration Pegida protesters; Witnesses said some protesters were aiming fireworks, rocks and even flower pots at police*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HTG-S221-JCJY-G156-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 9, 2016 Saturday 4:48 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** EUROPE

**Length:** 793 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

Water cannons and pepper spray have been used to push back more than a thousand anti-immigration protesters in Cologne as anger mounted in a demonstration following attacks on New Year's Eve.

Pegida (Patriotic Europeans Against the Islamisation of the West) called a rally demanding Germany closes its border for refugees for "protection" after women were assaulted by crowds of men including asylum seekers.

But they were met by a huge counter-demonstration against end of sexual violence, racism and Islamophobia, while defending the right for refugees to seek safety.

Growing fury in Germany over New Year's Eve assaults on women in Cologne

Pegida's rally was due to start at 2pm on Saturday in a city square and less than two hours later riot police had been sent in to clear the area using a water cannon and pepper spray.

Read more

Merkel begins immigration policy U-turn after Cologne attacks

Cologne police chief suspended over New Year's Eve attacks

Cologne sex attacks: Two men 'of an immigrant background' arrested

Leaked police report reveals 'chaos beyond description' in Cologne

Some anti-immigration demonstrators were seen setting off fireworks and launching bottles, metal barricades, rocks and even flower pots at police, the

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

reported, saying officers were trying to bring the "hooligans" under control.

The group had previously put out an appeal for supporters to act as stewards to monitor the march and be able to de-escalate any situation calmly and "without violence", asking them to wear colourful clothes "so as not to seem threatening".

Supporters were seen waving banners reading "refugees NOT welcome", accusing migrants of being rapists and calling on Angela Merkel to resign for her pledge to welcome Syrians earlier this year.

Supporters of anti-immigration right-wing movement Pegida in Cologne, Germany, January 9, 2016.

Several hundred metres away, the counter-demonstrators were kept behind police lines as they waved signs saying "against racism, against sexism", "no to fascism" and "never again", referring to the Nazis.

On its Facebook page, Pegida claimed that more than 3,000 people had attended its protest, called "Pegida protects!".

But police put the number at around 1,700, estimating the counter-demonstration at 1,300.

Four people had been arrested by early afternoon but there were no immediate reports of injuries.

Counter demonstrators hold up a sign reading "Against sexism, against racism" as they protest against a demonstration of the islamophobic movement PEGIDA at the train station in Cologne, Germany, on January 9, 2016.

A police spokesperson said the two demonstrations had been separated in Breslauer Platz and described an "emotionally-charged atmosphere", saying 1,700 officers had been deployed to keep the peace.

Earlier on Saturday, around a thousand women had protested outside Cologne's famous cathedral to call for a stop to all sexual violence, including that seen on New Year's Eve.

"No means no. Keep away from our bodies," read one sign held by a demonstrator.

Alleged sexual assaults currently make up 40 per cent of 379 complaints from the night being investigated by police.

A demonstrator holds a sign in German that reads 'No violence against women' during a demonstration in the wake of the sexual assaults on New Year's Eve, outside the cathedeal in Cologne, Germany, 09 January 2016.

A leaked report written by a senior officer described "chaos beyond description" as hundreds of men, believed to be mainly migrants of North African or Arab origin, let of fireworks and attacked and robbed people in the square between Cologne's cathedral and railway station.

Claims that some of the attackers claimed to be asylum seekers and included ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** have been seized on by far-right groups to call for an immediate stop to immigration.

The German federal police said that out of 32 people identified as sexual abuse suspects so far, 22 were in the process of seeking asylum in Germany.

Supporters of anti-immigration right-wing movement Pegida in Cologne on 9 January, 2016.

Angela Merkel, the German Chancellor, pledged today to tighten current rules that mean asylum seekers are generally only deported if they are sentenced to three years or more in prison.

"The right to asylum can be lost if someone is convicted on probation or jailed," Ms Merkel said after a meeting with the leadership of her Christian Democrats (CDU) party.

"Serial offenders who repeatedly rob or repeatedly affront women must feel the full force of the law."

Additional reporting by Reuters

**Load-Date:** January 9, 2016

**End of Document**



[*David Cameron's 'bunch of migrants' comments spark 'hypocrisy' claims on international Holocaust Memorial Day; 'Were Jewish people fleeing the Nazis in the 1930s "a bunch of migrants"?' one person asked on Twitter*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HY9-6TJ1-F021-650S-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

January 27, 2016 Wednesday 1:49 PM GMT

Copyright 2016 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** UK POLITICS

**Length:** 753 words

**Byline:** Lizzie Dearden

**Body**

David Cameron's comments dismissing refugees in Calais as a"bunch of migrants" have been condemned as "vile" and "hypocritical" coming on Holocaust Memorial Day.

The Prime Minister had paid tribute to the millions of Jews and other targeted groups killed by the Nazi regime minutes before making his controversial aside while attacking Labour.

Yvette Cooper, the former shadow Foreign Secretary, later raised a point of order to call on Mr Cameron to withdraw his comment.

David Cameron refers to Calais as 'bunch of migrants'

"In the light and spirit (of Holocaust Memorial Day) doesn't the Speaker think it was inappropriate for the Prime Minister to use language referring to the refugee crisis in Europe to talk about a 'bunch of migrants'?" she asked.

Read more

Graham Linehan's apt response to Cameron 'bunch of migrants' comment

Cameron sparks outrage with 'bunch of migrants' comments on Calais

PMQs live: Cameron faces grilling as Tory bedroom tax ruled 'unlawful'

Ms Cooper requested that the House of Commons demandthe comments be withdrawn but the Speaker, John Bercow, declined and said it was up to Mr Cameron to commentif he chose to.

On Twitter, shadow Home Secretary Andy Burnhamsaid the moment showed the Conservative leader's "mask slipping".

"He just dismissed desperate people fleeing conflict as a "bunch of migrants" - on Holocaust Memorial Day," he added.

Scores of critics were noting the timing of the comment, which sparked a storm of criticism as people highlighted the persecution faced by many of therefugees fleeing to Europe.

Here are some of the responses on Twitter:

The hypocrisy of Cameron commenting on the holocaust when moments earlier, he referred to refugees as "a bunch of migrants" #pmqs

- Babs (@BabsSheKing) January 27, 2016

I suppose Cameron will open the holocaust memorial. Do you think he will invite 'a bunch of migrants'? #pmqs

- June Hall (@afclhoratio) January 27, 2016

#PMQs Cameron is now talking about Holocaust survivors. Or a 'bunch of immigrants' as he would have called them in the 1940s. #bbcdp

- Ian Young (@youngian67) January 27, 2016

"Bunch of migrants". On Holocaust memorial day. Good to see that the lessons are being learned, Prime Minister. @David\_Cameron

- Dismal Chips (@DismalChips) January 27, 2016

Oh dear Cameron, mentions holocaust memorial day and then calls refugees "a bunch of migrants". Weren't jews in 30s called the same? #pmqs

- DavidShelton (@DavidSheltonGLS) January 27, 2016

Would @David\_Cameron have called children arriving on the Kindertransport "a bunch of migrants"? Shame on him, on Holocaust Memorial Day

- Alan Burkitt-Gray (@alanburkittgray) January 27, 2016

Holocaust Memorial Day and Cameron calls refugees fleeing unspeakable horrors as "a bunch of migrants". What a vile individual he is #PMQs

- Gerry Loughery (@GerryLoughery) January 27, 2016

Nice to know that on Holocaust day, our PM @David\_Cameron refers to a group of people fleeing conflict as "a bunch of migrants" #pmqs

- Alan Newman (@Alan\_Newm) January 27, 2016

David Cameron announces Holocaust monument to be erected in the memory to a "Bunch of Jews" #PMQS#bunchofmigrants

- KING OF JOCKISTAN (@KINGofJOCKISTAN) January 27, 2016

.@David\_Cameron Were Jewish people fleeing the Nazis in the 1930s "a bunch of migrants"? Shocking to hear on Holocaust Memorial Day #PMQs

- itwas (@rfktruth) January 27, 2016

Families with emaciated children and torture victims were among the refugees met by Jeremy Corbyn at squalid camps in Calais and Dunkirk earlier this week.

Responding to a question on corporate tax from the Labour leader during Prime Minister's Questions, Mr Cameron called his stance "laughable".

"Look at the record over the last week, they met with the unions and gave them flying pickets," he said.

"They met with the Argentinians and they gave them the Falkland Islands.

"They met with a bunch of migrants in Calais they said they could all come to Britain.

"The only people they never stand up for are the British people and hard-working tax-payers."

He later claimed that "no country in Europe has been more generous than Britain in funding refugee camps" in Syria, Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan.

The Government has previously been criticised for agreeing to take only ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** from camps in Turkey and the Middle East, rather than from migration "hotspots" across Europe that are the subject of EU resettlement schemes.

**Load-Date:** January 27, 2016

**End of Document**



[*Five things Republican hopefuls hope will happen at tonight's GOP debate; Presidential candidates trying to prove once they are the real thing*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HM8-5C01-JCJY-G4BG-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

December 15, 2015 Tuesday 11:30 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** AMERICAS

**Length:** 702 words

**Byline:** Tim Walker

**Body**

If you thought the Republican presidential race couldn't get more gaudy and preposterous, think again: tonight's GOP debate - the last of 2015 - is being held in Las Vegas. As the candidates take the stage at the Venetian, an ersatz Italian hotel-casino at the heart of the Vegas Strip, they will all be trying to prove once again that they are the real thing.

Serious People

Whether they want a no-fly zone in Syria (Jeb Bush), or to ban all Muslims from entering the US (Donald Trump), this is the first debate since the recent terror attacks in Paris and San Bernardino, and most candidates will come hoping to dominate a serious, substantive discussion about national security. While his rivals have called Trump's suggestion "outrageous" (John Kasich) and "a violation of our Constitution" (Carly Fiorina), an ABC News/Washington Post poll found 59 per cent of Republican voters support the "Ban Muslims" strategy. Meanwhile Senator Marco Rubio was among the candidates who this week rolled out videos touting their tough attitude to foreign policy. Rubio described the conflict with Isis as a "clash of civilisations", adding: "Either they win or we win."

Read more

British man 'wins' the latest Republican debate

Cruz control

Texas Senator Ted Cruz, who supports a moratorium on ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** entering the US, instead chose to preview his debate performance with a Star Wars-themed video, featuring voiceover narration from The Force Awakens, over images of Cruz on the campaign trail. He could be forgiven for feeling light-hearted, after surging to second place in national polls and first place in the crucial primary state of Iowa. At this debate, Cruz will be hoping to cement his status as the sensible, anti-establishment alternative to Trump, who remains the frontrunner.

Toppling Trump

it's fair to say that the establishment does despise Ted Cruz, whom most Washington Republicans consider extremist, obstructionist and, frankly, a little obnoxious. But if he's the one to finally topple Trump, then they may have to learn to love him. Trump's reckless pronouncements scare the party leadership, as do his supporters, one of whom yelled "Seig Heil" at a Black Lives Matter protester who was being removed from a Trump rally this week. Top GOP officials recently met to discuss the possibility of a brokered party convention in 2016, which some observers saw as a strategy to prevent Trump winning the nomination. The party surely hopes to see the reality TV real estate mogul torn down on the debate stage instead. But Vegas is home turf for The Donald, whose own 64-storey hotel is less than half a mile from the Venetian, with his name in gold at the top.

Donald Trump questions Hilary Clinton's record

Establishment ties

Trump's rise has been most dismaying for the old-fashioned candidates who probably expected to be duking it out for the lead by now: men like Jeb Bush, John Kasich and Chris Christie. So far, however, none of them has managed to impose themselves on the race, despite Bush's massive war-chest, Kasich's chunky resume and Christie's punchy debate performances. But if they can't put a serious dent in Trump tonight, there may be another way. Rubio, whom pundits have now picked as the most plausible flag-bearer for the establishment, has proved decidedly lax at campaigning in early primary states such as New Hampshire, where Christie in particular appears to be gaining ground in the polls. A strong showing in the Granite State in February could put any of these candidates back in the game, and they'll be hoping a strong showing tonight might just impress a few crucial New Hampshire voters.

An underdog victory

Although one more debate remains before the first primaries in February, for several candidates in this crowded Republican field, Las Vegas is surely the final roll of the dice. Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal has exited the race since the last debate, leaving room for Mike Huckabee to drop down onto the undercard alongside Lindsey Graham, Rick Santorum and George Pataki. While Graham in particular has been spirited in previous so-called "kids' table" debates, these men are only kidding themselves. They can hope all they want to, but they haven't a hope in hell.

**Load-Date:** December 15, 2015

**End of Document**



[*US and France to expand military operations in Syria and Iraq to push back Isis; The two leaders met in Washington after more than 130 people were killed in Paris*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HFP-4B11-JCJY-G0XC-00000-00&context=1519360)

Independent.co.uk

November 24, 2015 Tuesday 6:36 PM GMT

Copyright 2015 Independent Digital News and Media Limited All Rights Reserved



**Section:** MIDDLE EAST

**Length:** 656 words

**Byline:** Andrew Buncombe

**Body**

France and the US have agreed to expand their military operations in Syria and Iraq in an effort to reclaim territory currently in the hands of Isis, though the two countries claim they do not intend to put troops on the ground.

Speaking at the White House, President Francois Hollande and Barack Obama said the two countries would also increase their intelligence sharing in an effort to push back Isis from key strategic locations. They said they were committed to closing the flow of fighters into Syria across the Syrian border.

"As Americans, we stand by our friends in good times and in bad, no matter what," said Mr Obama. "We cannot give terrorists the victory of changing how we go about living our lives."

"Each of us, all of us, must show that America is strengthened by people of every faith and background." -@POTUS[*https://t.co/zQnflSy4C8*](https://t.co/zQnflSy4C8)

- The White House (@WhiteHouse) November 24, 2015

Speaking 11 days after Isis fighters killed more than 130 people in a series of coordinated attacks, the two leaders also called on Russia to aid the fight against Isis, and put an an end to operations that were targeting forces opposed to Syrian president Bashar Al-Assad.

They spoke on a day when the already complex situation in Syria and the region, was made more chaotic by the shooting down by Turkey - a member of NATO - of a Russian war plane.

Mr Obama has been repeatedly criticised by Republicans for failing to do more to halt the expansion or Isis in both Iraq and Syria, and instead relying on air strikes and the arming of local forces, such as the Kurdish peshmerga.

He claimed that the actions of a US-led coalition had already taken thousands of Isis fighters off the battlefield and supported efforts against the Islamic extremists by the Iraqi government.

But he said even before the attacks on Paris, he had said down with his military commanders to review how to "accelerate" such efforts.

Mr Hollande has been trying to rally a broader coalition to take on Isis and French diplomats were the centre of recent efforts at the UN to secure a resolution by the Security Council for all members to "redouble and coordinate their efforts" against Isis and to eradicate its safe havens.

On Thursday, Mr Hollande, will travel to Moscow and make his case directly to President Vladimir Putin. The French leader said planned to tell Mr Putin that France can work with Russia if it concentrates its military action in Syria on fighting Isis. France, the US and the UK have claimed that many of the Russian strikes in Syria have targeted so-called moderate rebels opposed to Mr Assad that are being armed and financed by the West.

"We do not want to exclude anyone," said Mr Hollande.

Mr Hollande's mission to Moscow will not have been made easier by the downing of a Russian war plane by Turkey, the first time in more than 50 years that a NATO member has carried out such an act.

Mr Putin called Turkey's action a "stab in the back by the terrorists' accomplices" and warned of "significant consequences". Mr Obama said that while the precise facts of the incident were still being gathered, he believed Turkey had the right to protect itself.

Amid a heated controversy within the US about the admission of ***Syrian*** ***refugees*** - Mr Obama has said the US will accept 10,000 of the next 12 months - the US leader said that France was accepting 30,000 Syrians, despite the recent attack.

In a message aimed at Republicans such as Donald Trump who have opposed the admission of such refugees and even suggested placing US Muslims under surveillance, Mr Obama said arrivals underwent 18 months of screening.

He urged Americans not to give into fear and said "everything was being done to keep the US safe".

"US assistance has supported recent French strikes in Syria and we're going to keep stepping up that coordination," Mr Obama said.

"We will continue to do everything in our power to defend our nation. We will win and groups like ISIL will lose."

**Load-Date:** November 24, 2015

**End of Document**