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**Five myths about the refugee crisis – Daniel TRILLING**

This article deconstructs 5 myths about the refugee crisis that 'started' in 2015

***Myth 1 : 'The crisis is over'***

- The refugee crisis was extremely mediatized between 2015 and 2016, as an unusually high amount of people (3 million) claim asylum in Europe

- European immigration handling is chaotic : Dublin treaty, opened borders, budgets...

- Nothing changed in Europe since the crisis : wars are continuing and no sustainable policy for immigration was decided

***Myth 2 : We can separate 'refugees' from 'economic migrants'***

- ‘economic migrant’ tends to have a negative meaning (insinuating that’s they are 'fake' migrants, who wants to abuse western systems)

- proportion of migrant (relative to world population) has remained stable since 1960.

- However, the origin and direction of migration have changed.

- The term ‘refugee’ has a specific definition, set during the 1951 refugee convention

- International law aims to protect refugees, but states wants control of their border

***Myth 3 : Telling ‘human stories’ is enough to change people’s minds***

***-*** media may use “human stories”, and focus on the experiences of a refugee to create sympathy from the audience, and to keep their attention.

- empathy shouldn’t be a necessary condition for refugees to claim for their rights

***Myth 4 : The crisis is a threat to European values***

- Some demagogues used this crisis to position themselves as the “Christian European civilisation” protectors

- On the other hand, some politicians claimed Europe as a land of freedom and democracy, despite the fact that it has been imperialistic during colonisation, and ignoring refugee’s tragedy for the last two decades

***Myth 5 : History is repeating and there’s nothing we can do about it***

- not respecting refugees’ rights often lead to create conditions for dictatorship

- many European countries extended police powers instead of resolving the problems for the source

- criminalisation of European citizens who helps refugees

- refugees leave their countries to improve their life quality (fleeing from wars)

=> European countries would be better finding a way towards peace

- climate change may lead to another refugee crisis