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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 regulation demonstrated itself to be chaotic (Dublin treaty, opened borders, budgets...)

Finally, 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'***

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

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

Proportion of migrant (relative to world population) has remained stable since 1960, however, the origin and direction of migration have changed.

International law faces a dilemma : protect refugees versus allowing states to protect their borders,

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

Medias 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 protectors of the “Christian European civilisation”.

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

For instance, many European countries extended police powers instead of resolving the problems for the source. There is also a *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

Moreover, climate change may lead to another unheard-of refugee crisis in the future.