

## Young Refugees a Challenge for Europe

Youth Care Platform  
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Georg Horcher  
German Institute for Social Economy  
Chairman

## European Refugee Policy

1. The European refugee policy failed. Europe is fighting against the refugees not against the flight reasons.
2. Approximately 65 Mio. are fleeing world wide, 6% - 7% are on the way to or arrived Europe.
3. The refugee movement is not a short term problem, it's a challenge for minimum one generation.
4. Refugees are not a danger for Europe, but they are in danger particularly children and youth.
5. It's wrong to take care only for the unaccompanied minor refugees, all young refugees needs care also those, who came with their families.

## Statistics

Refugees worldwide (UNHCR 06/ 2016)

total (2015)	65,3 Mio
internally in the home country	40,8 Mio
abroad	21,3 Mio
asylum seekers of them	3,2 Mio
children	1,5 Mio
UAM	98.400

## Unaccompanied Minors in Germany

- in 2015: 400.000 refugee children  
of them: 67.000 UAM under care of the youth administration and guardians (16,75 %)
- 7.000 – 10.000 of the refugee children are missed; it seems that most of them are not registered, some lost their family and came with other families or adult singles and some are possibly victims of trafficking
- Only 50% of all refugee children are going to school

- the living conditions for UAM are ordinarily much more better than for the refugee children living with their families
- the child protection for UAM is much more better than for those children, who are living in camps and collective accommodations
- the accommodations and living conditions for most of the refugee children contravene against the UN Convention on The Rights of the Child and against the national child and youth welfare act

➔ in Germany we can see a big government and youth administration failure

## Current State of Research – What we (not) Know about Refugees

We don't have a reliable complete overview about the living and integration situation

What we know (from different, most quality researches):

1. **Labor market integration:** low employment rate; employment in low-wage sector; long-term unemployment leads to de-qualification
2. **Education and vocational training:** access difficult by legal regulations affects structural, cultural and social integration negative
3. **Social and health security benefits:** poverty risk, social segregation, reduced access to health services affects the self-esteem and own ability to act negative

5. **Acomodation:** negative effects of long residence in collective accomodations with often building defects, bad located with poor accessibility, many people with different national, ethnical and religious backgrounds living close together conflicts

6. **Social and cultural integration:** development of social contacts and friendships depend on individual self-initiative and opportunity-structures; refugees with unsafe residence status and small money feel their freetime waste; the feeling of belonging to the homeland and Germany is ambivalent

7. **Educational and professional achievement:** formal and non-formal skills are only difficult usable; multilingualism is widely a not used capability

8. **Expectations and aspirations:** Germany is from interest as destination because origin communities, positive image (constitutional democracy with religious freedom, economic strength); the positive image often clash with before unkown asylums' and foreigners' law

9. **Prevailing living conditions:** legal, structural and institutional conditions make integration difficult; accomodation and care situation have a segregating impact; discrimination and refusal in the society

10. **Health:** frequent symptoms and complaints – headache and other pain, cold, psychosomatic complaints, fear, nervousness, depressions, suicidal tendency; the communication between refugees and health care institutions is often disturbed for language difficulties, intercultural barriers, anxieties or specific expectations of the refugees; 40% - 60% have traumatic strain, 20% - 30% of them need a therapy

**Conclusion:** despite 60 years experience with in-migration and 35 years experiences with refugees in-migration we know very less about the living and intergration situations

### Child Protection

Child protection isn't assured for those

- who are living in collective acomodations
- who are shift back to their homeland, this concerns to Romani people from Albania, Kosovo, Serbia, Macedonia etc.
- who are afflicted with posttraumatic stress disorder

For young adult refugees the access to after care is difficult, particularly for those with an unsafe residence status.

Concerning human rights, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the national Constitution and the Child and Youth Welfare Act the situation is unsatisfying not to say a scandal!

**The humanitarian imperative must also go for refugees!**

Remark: Unicef criticizes the situation for refugee children in Germany in a new report (06/2016): the rights for protection, participation, health care and education are restricted or neglect over month





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Thank you for your  
attention!!!