

Contemporary Issues in Comparative Politics

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Last Week

- Race
- Ethnicity
- Gender
- Ideology
- Religion
- Islam



WEEK 9 - Globalization

- Comparative politics vs. international relations
- Major issues in the twenty-first century international arena, such as globalization, efforts at integration, and various forms of transnational phenomena.
- Get introduced to the major theories of international relations, including Realism, Liberalism, Constructivism, and Marxism.

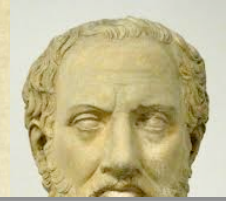
Introduction

- Comparative politics is *within nation-states*
- International relations is *between nation-states*
 - Transnational: *Issues or institutions that cross international borders*
- Comparative politics and international relations affect one another
 - In previous weeks we have shown international system affects domestic politics. Examples?
 - Cold War on Democracy, Foreign Crisis and Revolutions
 - Domestic politics also affects international relations. Examples?
 - Trump and international treaties

THE MAIN THEORIES IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS?

1. Realism
 2. Liberalism
 3. Constructivism
 4. Marxism
- These are theories of international relations that seek to explain why conflict and/or cooperation occur?

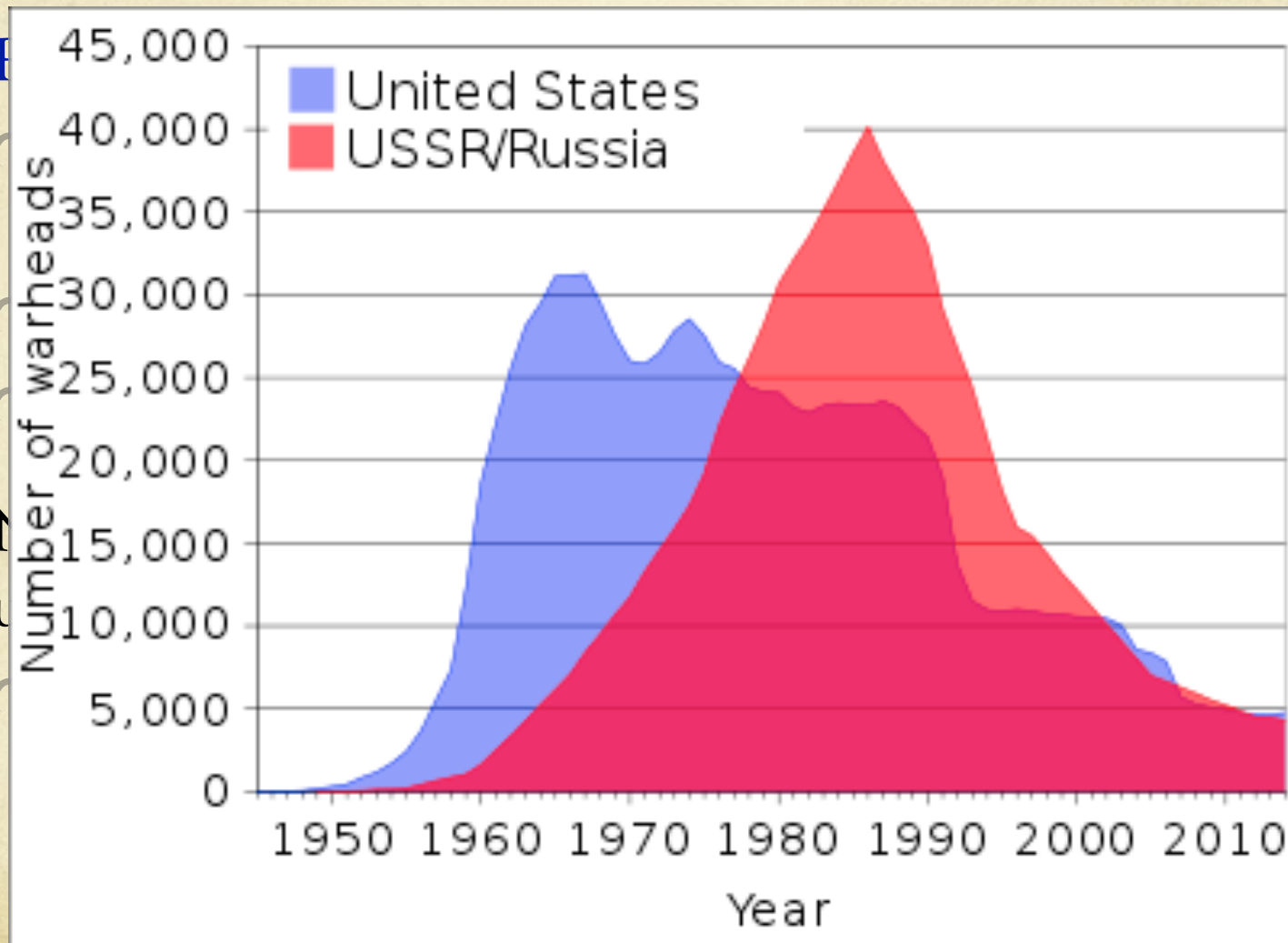
Classical Realism



Neo-Realism

- Anarchy is basic feature of system – Kenneth Waltz
 - No sovereign power governs states in the international system
- Distributions of power affect chance of conflict
 - Bipolar: two great powers
 - Multipolar: multiple great powers
 - Unipolar: one dominant state (often called hegemon)
 - What kind of a system do we live in now?
- Balance of power
 - States will often find common cause to counterbalance the emergence of other great powers

Realism



Realism: The Prisoner's Dilemma

		Prisoner 1	
		Cooperate ("Don't tell")	Defect ("Rat out")
Prisoner 2	Cooperate ("Don't tell")	P1 gets 1 year P2 gets 1 year	P1 goes free P2 gets 10 years
	Defect ("Rat out")	P1 gets 10 years P2 goes free	P1 gets 5 years P2 gets 5 years

Note: Both prisoners have a dominant strategy to "rat out" the other prisoner. P2 is better off ratting out P1, no matter what P1 does, and vice versa.

Liberalism

- Cooperation can occur (more than Realism says)
 - Commercial liberalism: economic interactions between states leads to greater peace
 - Liberal institutionalism: international institutions mitigate anarchy and lead to cooperation
- States that hold liberal values of democracy and free market commerce differ systematically from those that do not

Liberalism and International Institutions

- Intergovernmental organizations (IGOs)
 - *International organizations that push for cooperation between countries and the prevention or mitigation of international conflict*
 - United Nations (UN) agencies
 - International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank
 - World Trade Organization (WTO)

Democratic Peace Theory

- Democratic Peace

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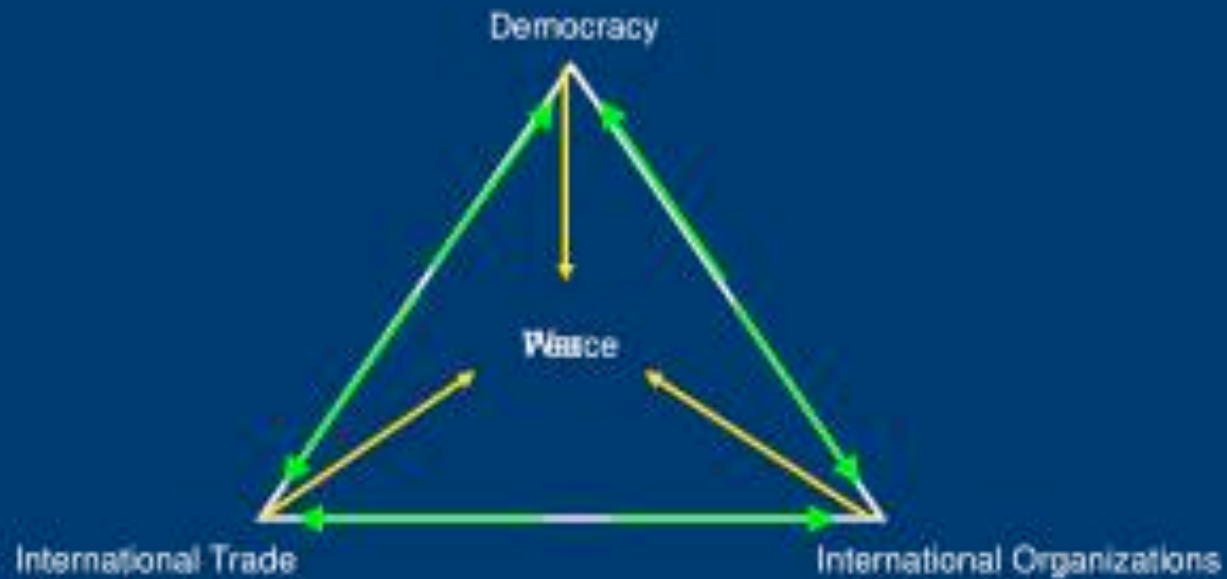
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The Democratic Peace



Liberalism and Integration

- *Process by which countries agree to collaborate economically or politically, to make some decisions collectively and to shape common strategies*
- Leading example is the European Union (EU)
 - political & economic union of many European states
 - 28 nation-states as of 2015
 - 19 members of common currency (Euro) in 2015



What is the EU?

Why is it interesting to study?

- Most significant international organization in history.
- Its members have delegated more sovereignty than in any organization ever before.
- Neither an international organization nor a state. A hybrid between these two models.
- Has a common legislature, a common executive, and a common judiciary.



How does it work?

- The EU and the member states share decision-making power in different policy areas.
 - Exclusive competence of the EU – customs union, monetary policy, trade policy
 - Exclusive competence of the member states – culture, tourism, taxation
 - Shared competence – agriculture, energy, aid, public health, transport
- There has been a gradual increase in the Union's powers.

European Union – Explained by Yes Minister

○ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rvYuoWyk8iU>

What has the ECHR ever done for us?

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ptfmAY6M6aA>

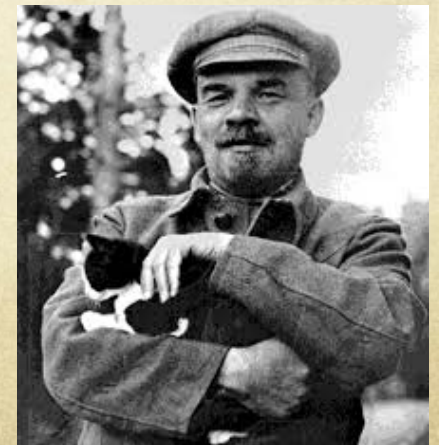
Constructivism



- States are not only aggressive
- States may be competitive, cooperative, etc.
- Anarchy is what states make of it – Alexander Wendt
- Behavior is shaped by norms and values as well as narrowly defined interests
- Countries with basis for trust may cooperate (US vs Israel and US vs North Korea)
- *Theory*: decisions made by states need to be understood in the context of social and political interactions

Marxism

- Theory: *social classes play predominant role in shaping politics*
 - Highlights role of capitalist accumulation as a prime driver in international affairs
 - Imperialism, exploitation of poor countries by rich - Lenin
 - As we have seen in previous weeks, Marxist theory has informed many theories in comparative politics
- Major alternative to Realism and Liberalism before emergence of constructivism
 - Less Influential in the US especially since end of Cold War.



Issues

1. Globalization
2. Nation-State
3. Immigration

Globalization

Global Government?



Global Production?



Global Culture?



Globalisation: What is it? Why now?

- Globalisation is the increasing interconnectedness of societies, economies, and cultures (Rosenmann et al. 2016)
 - Political
 - Economic
 - Social/Cultural
- What drives globalisation?
 - Declining barriers to trade and investment
 - Technological innovation

ARGUMENTS

For

- Economic growth, jobs, low prices
- Helps poor countries
- Fast travel, easy access to information and mass communication.
- Advances cross-cultural understanding

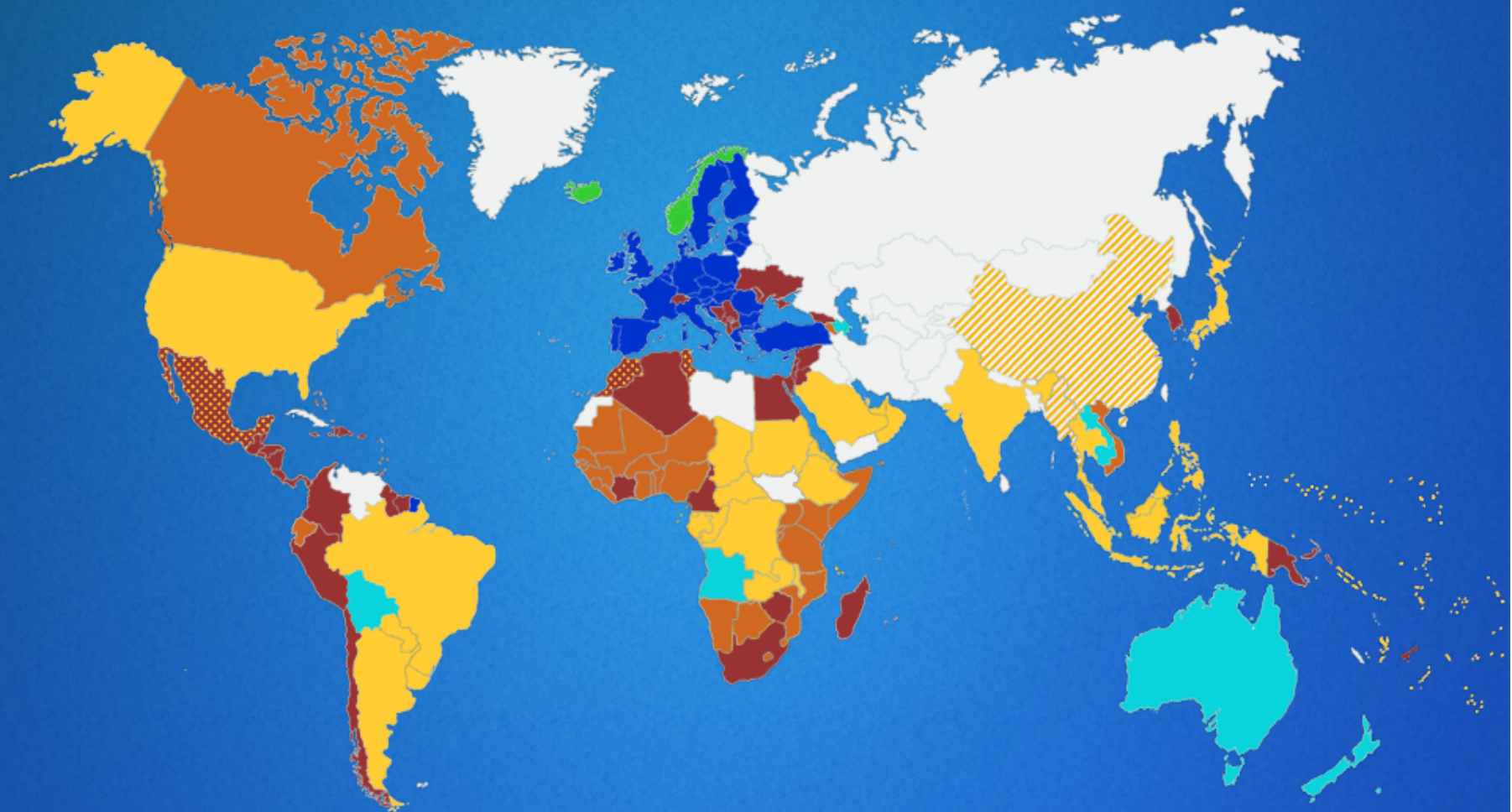
Against

- Creates inequality
- Loss of jobs
- A race to the bottom
- Americanisation
- Undermines democracy



THE STATE OF EU TRADE

SEPTEMBER 2016



● EU & Customs union (Andorra, Monaco, San Marino, Turkey) ● Preferential trade agreement being negotiated
● European Economic Area (Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein) ● Potential for free trade partnership

@Trade EU

Globalization and Trade

- Countries do not always gain from all trade
- Free trade does not rule around the world
- Protectionism
 - *The practice of a country protecting or giving favor to its own domestic producers*
 - This can be due to politics: domestic producers seek protection
 - Can also be a development strategy
- Example Trump kills Trans-Pacific Partnership, questions NAFTA.



Globalization and the nation-state

There are three positions in the debate:

- **Retreat of the state position:** States are losing power and influence.
- **The state-centric position:** States have even managed to expand their capacities for regulation and control.
- **Pragmatic position:** Process of state transformation. States are “winning” and “losing” at the same time.



Globalization and the nation-state

Let's see how globalization affects the state:

Modern states are based on:

- National economy: Removal of local barriers to trade and the building of a nation-wide infrastructure.
- National government: A centralized system of democratic rules and strong political-administrative capacities within a precisely defined territory.
- Nation: People who build a community of sentiment and a community of citizens.
- Sovereignty: No final political authority outside or above the state.

Globalization and the nation-state

How do these characteristics transform into the context of globalization?

- (1) The economy is increasingly embedded in cross-border networks. “Shallow integration” (international trade) is replaced by a “deep integration” (global production chains).
- (2) National government is replaced by multi-level governance of which the most far reaching form is the supra-national governance (e.g. WTO dispute settlement system).

Globalization and the nation-state

(3) Nation:

Community of sentiment:

- Globalization reinforces collective identities “above” and “below” the nation. There is evidence of an emerging “western civic identity” but also of “resistant identities”.

Community of citizenship:

- Civil rights are no longer granted solely by the sovereign state
- A set of universal human rights is defined at a global level

Globalization and the nation-state

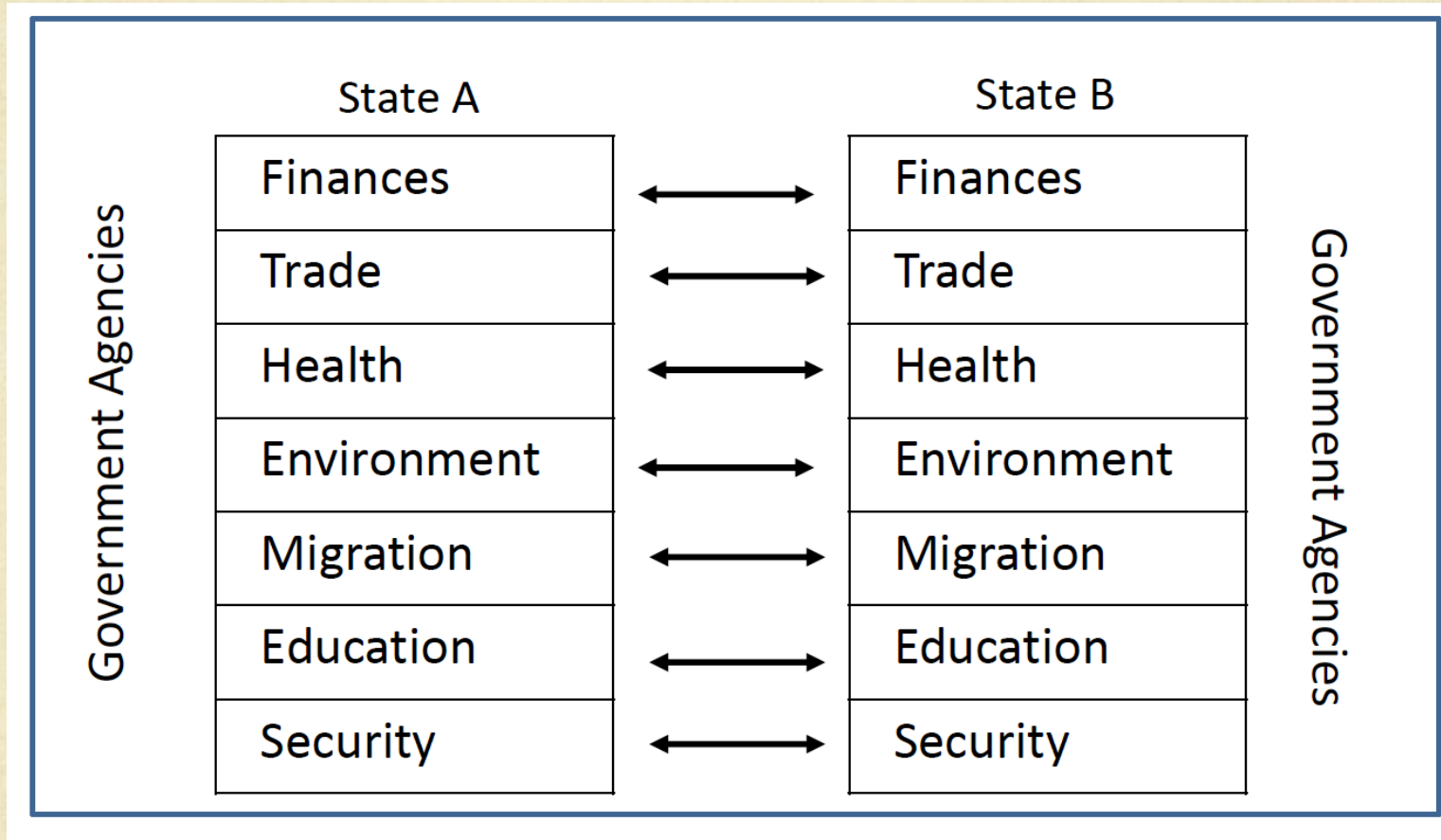
(4) Sovereignty:

- The most important feature of sovereignty - the rule of non-intervention - is challenged in a world of multi-level governance.
- But it is still the states who do consent to comply with supra-national regulation.

Comparative Politics in a new setting

- States continue to be utterly significant for any kind of political or social analysis. But states are constantly in a process of change.
- The changing modalities of statehood places the discipline of CP in a new setting. Today, the “international” and “domestic” spheres are intimately connected.

The disaggregated state



The challenge for Comparative Politics

“The once bright line between domestic and foreign policy is blurring. If I could do anything to change the speech patterns of those of us in public life, I would almost like to stop hearing people talk about foreign policy and domestic policy and, instead, start discussing economic policy, security policy, environmental policy—you name it.”

(Bill Clinton, 1995)

What follows next?

- Making globalisation work (Stiglitz)
 - Focusing on employment and income
 - Addressing inequality
 - Protecting the environment
- Is the world flat (Friedman)?



Global Government?



Global Production?



Global Culture?



Immigration and Refugees



Immigration

- *The movement of people to foreign countries*
- *Often an inter-cultural and political issue*
- *Potential Consequences:*
 - *Assimilation*
 - *Practice of being integrated into another culture*
 - *Nativism*
 - *Political attitude that seeks to protect the interests of established groups of residents against interests of more recent immigrants*

Immigration

- Immigration also has economic consequences
- Trade involves flows of goods and capital, immigration involves flows of labor. Incoming labor force is important for industrialized countries, but it also has an impact on home countries.
- Brain drain
 - *Departure or emigration of skilled and educated people*
 - Often affects developing countries
- Remittances
 - *Cash or resources sent to a home country, often to family and friends, by emigrants*

Immigration and Far-right

- For the host countries, unwanted immigration is often seen the key factor in the rise of far-right.
 - Alternative fur Deutschland
 - Front National
 - UKIP
 - Freedom Party (Geert Wilders)
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y5EoMdwkpgY>
 - Donald Trump recent anti-Muslim retweets

The Refugee Crisis

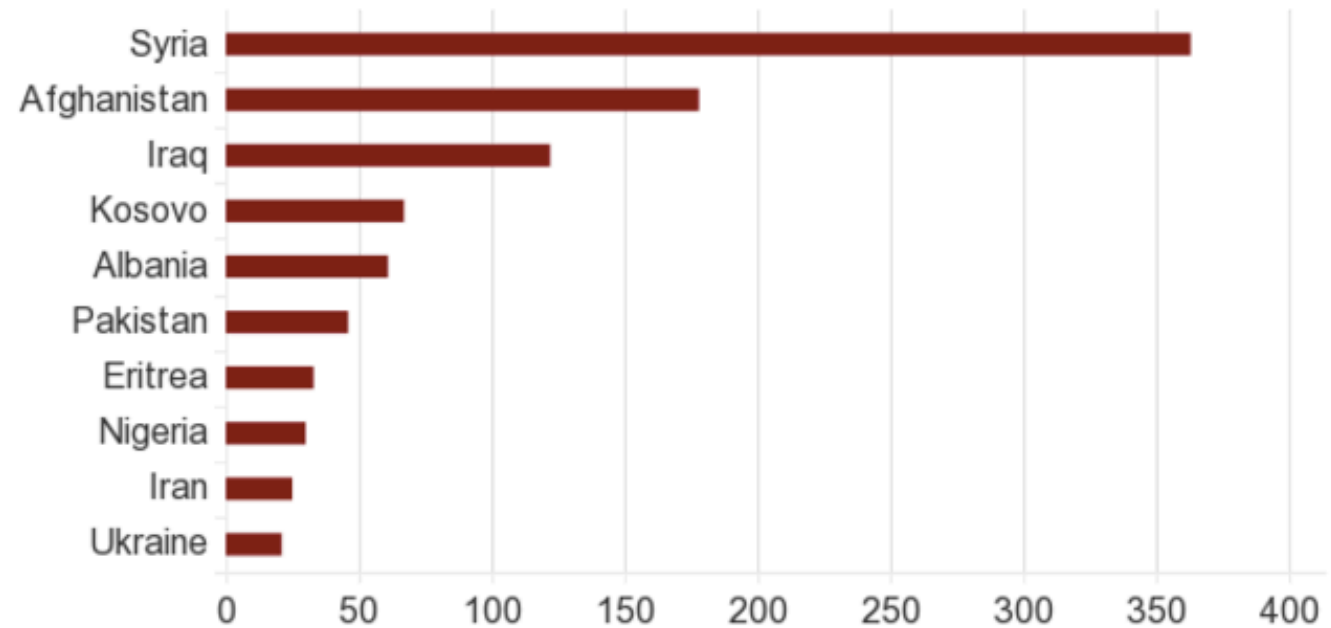


The Refugee Crisis

**Where do
they come from?**

Top 10 origins of people applying for asylum in the EU

First-time applications in 2015, in thousands

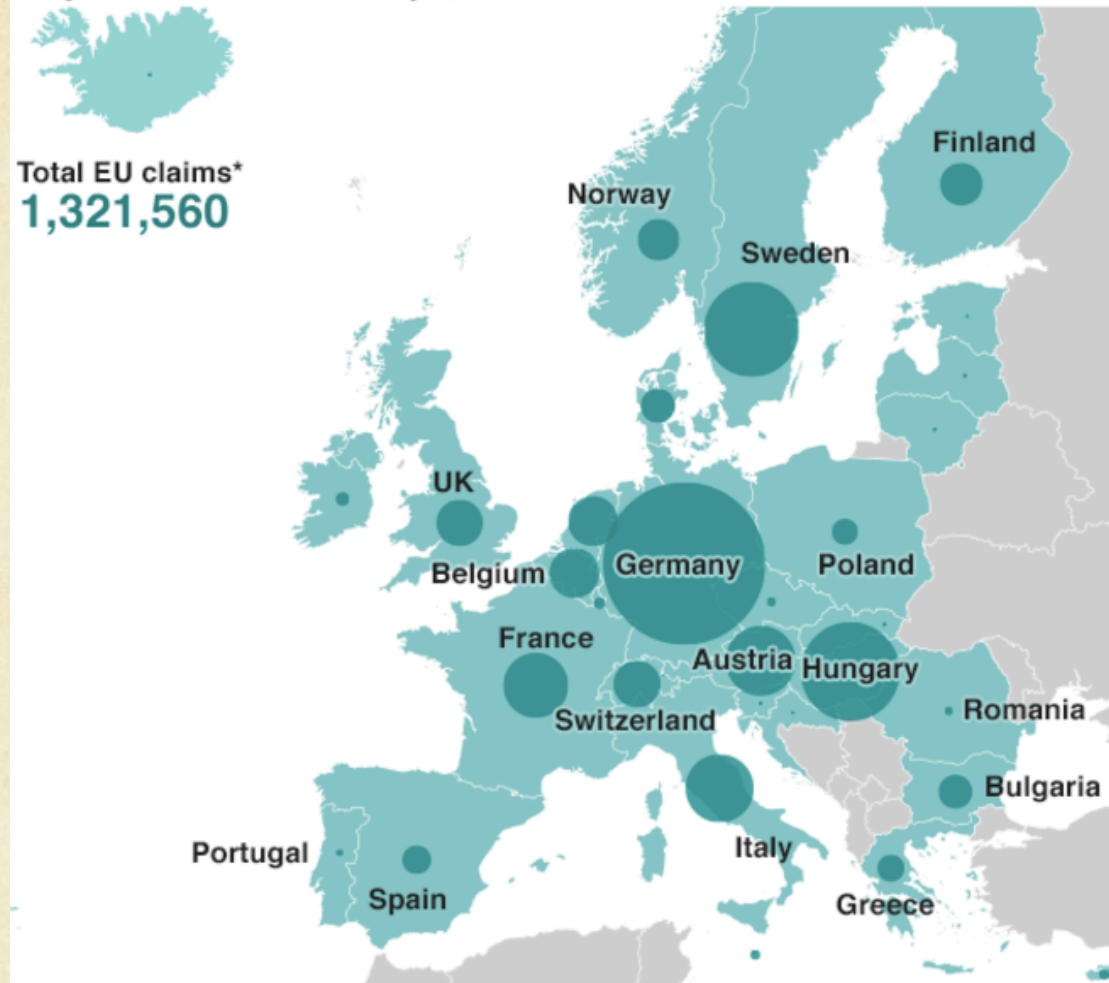


Source: Eurostat

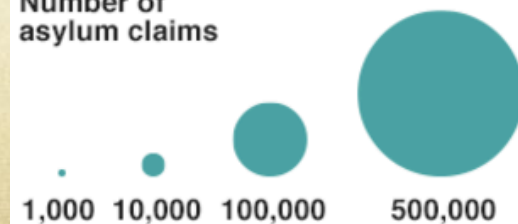
Where are
they going?

Asylum claims in Europe, 2015

Total EU claims*
1,321,560



Number of
asylum claims

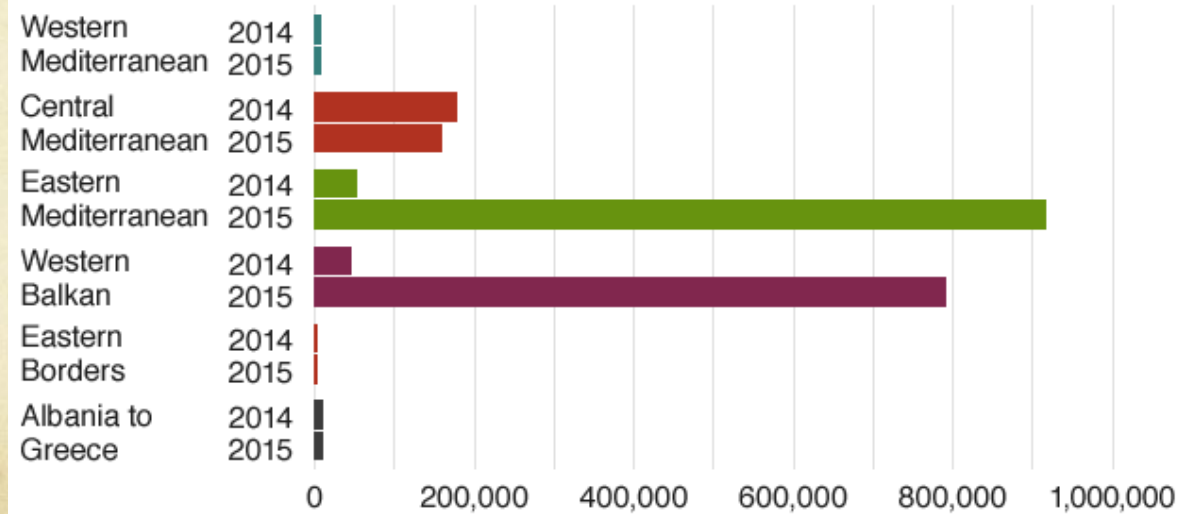
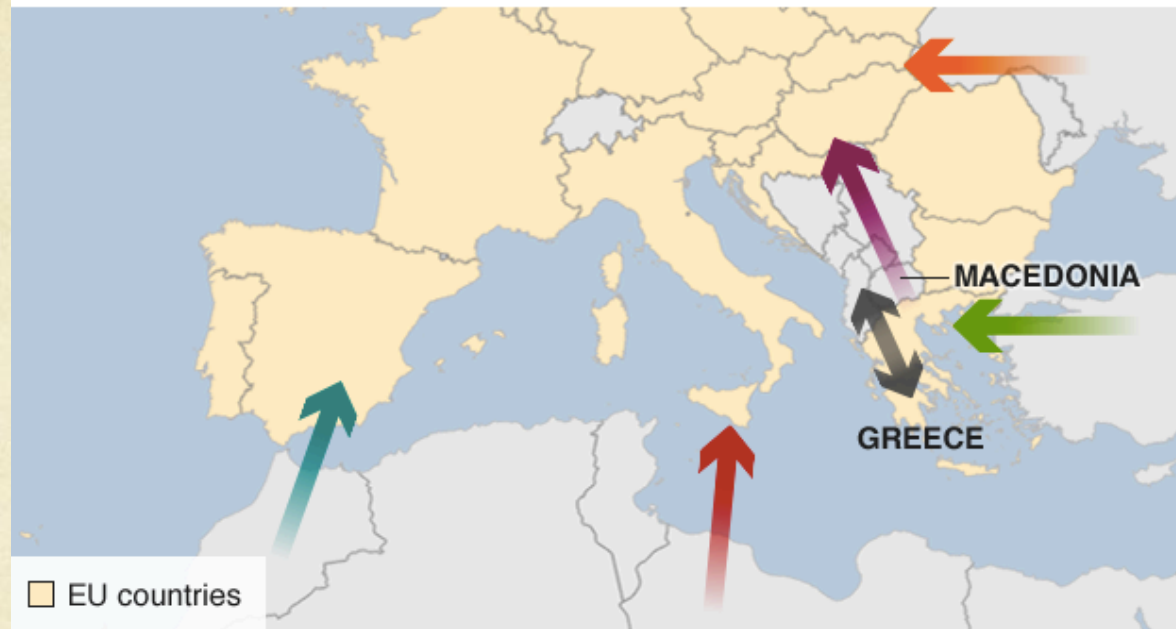


■ No data

* Map also shows claims for non-EU
members Norway and Switzerland

How do they
get to Europe?

Migrants detected entering the EU illegally, 2014-2015

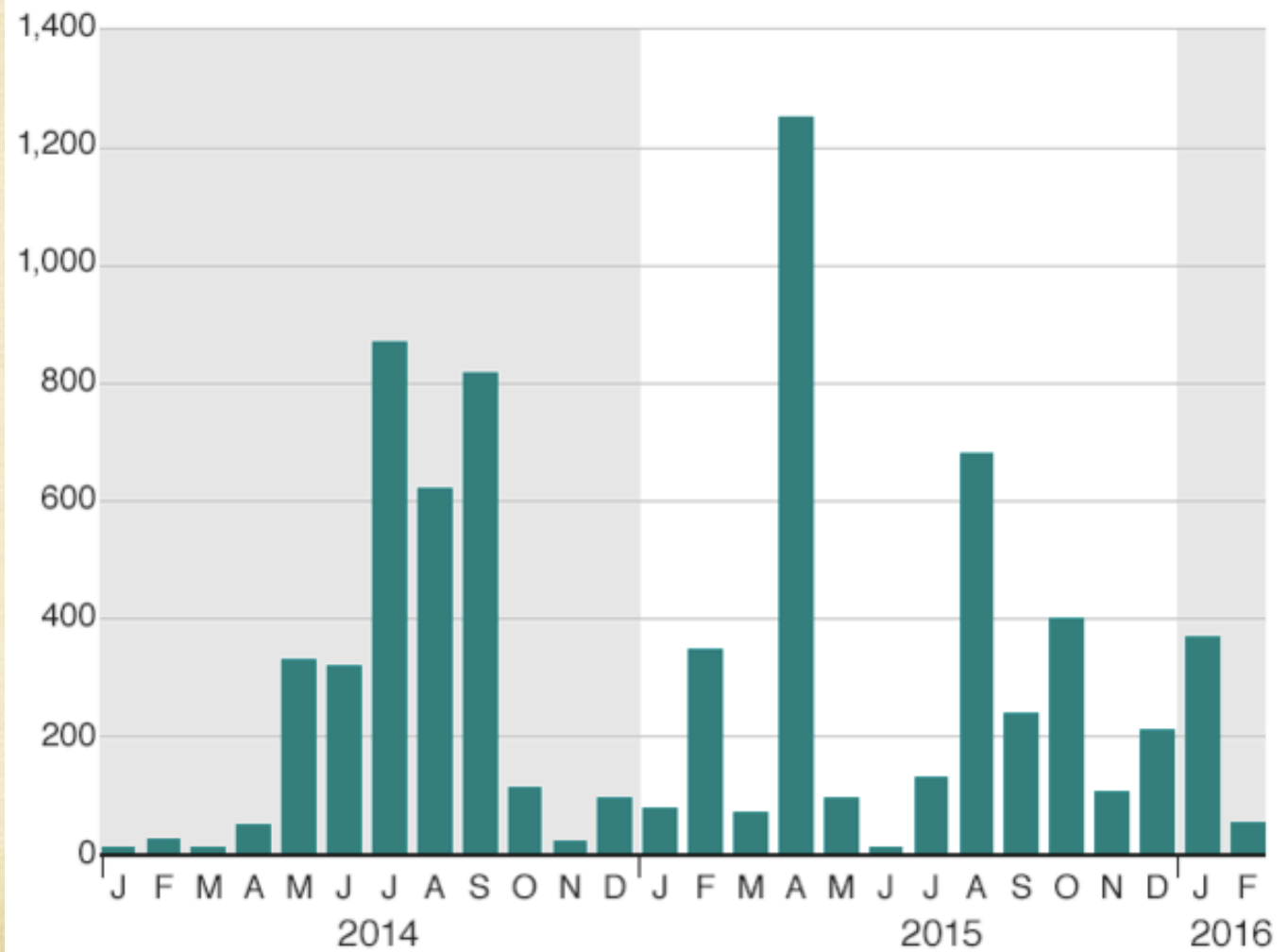


Source: Frontex

BBC

**How dangerous
is the journey?**

Migrant deaths in the Mediterranean by month

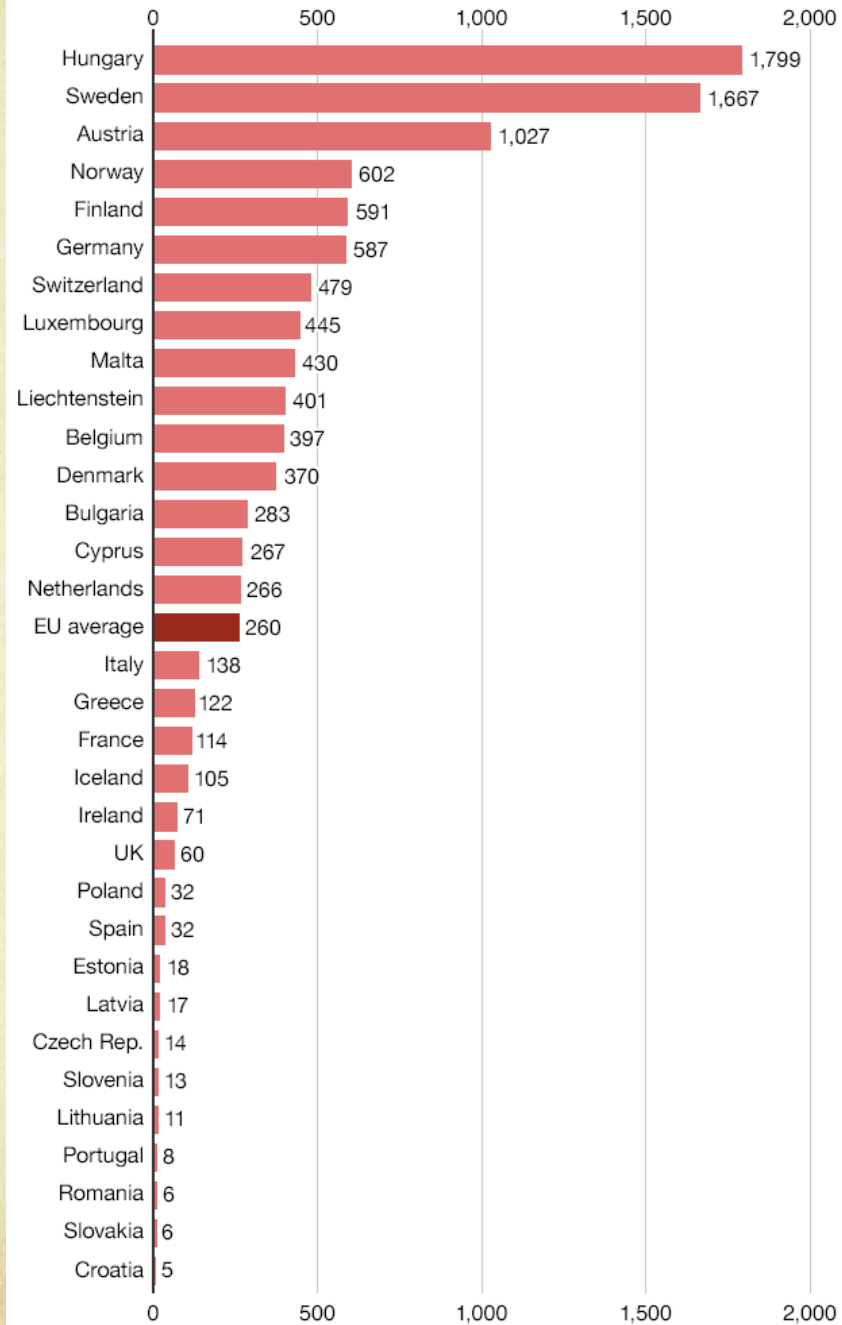


Source: IOM

BBC

**Which countries
are most affected?**

Asylum applications per 100,000 local population, 2015



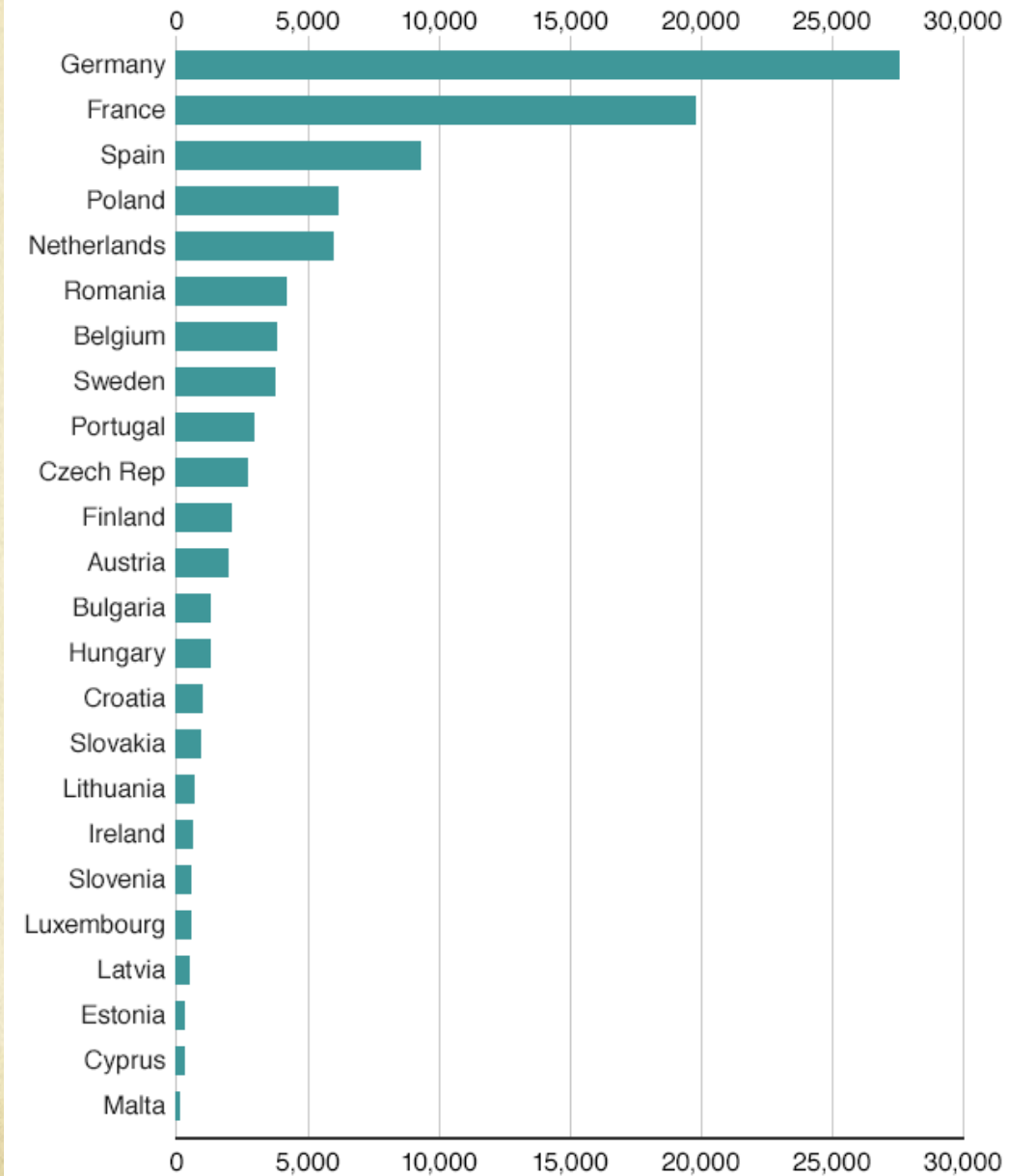
Source: Eurostat

BBC

How has Europe responded?

EU member state migrant quotas

Number of people countries have agreed to relocate from Greece and Italy



Note: the UK and Denmark are not taking part in the relocation scheme

Source: European Commission

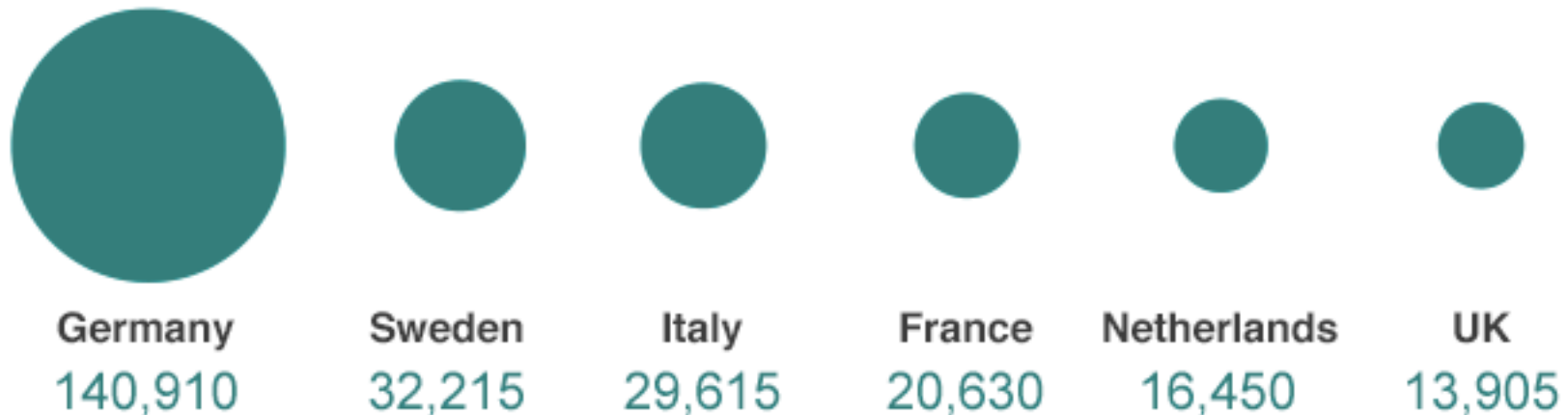
Asylum applications approved 2015



Main nationalities granted asylum

-  1 Syria
-  2 Eritrea
-  3 Iraq
-  4 Afghanistan
-  5 Iran

Total claims granted by country



Source: Eurostat

BBC

The Refugee Crisis

- Push factors?
- Pull factors?
- Challenges for the politics of receiving countries
 - Economic performance
 - Terrorist attacks
 - Rise of radical right in the West



Discussion

- What will be the outcome of globalization? Think about the long term trajectory of political, economic, and cultural globalization and provide three potential scenarios (optimistic, realistic, and pessimistic)