

Migration and Integration

- **What is migration?**

Migration is a movement of people to a new area or country in order to find work or better living conditions. The European Union is currently confronted with the gravest migratory crisis since the Second World War. The migratory crisis in Europe is the increase, in the 2010s, of the number of migrants who arrive in the European Union by the Mediterranean Sea and the Balkans. Most of the migrants come from Syria (they escape the war) and of Afghanistan (they flee from the Taliban).

- **The reasons of the migration**

The war in Syria shows no signs of ending. People continue to flee in neighbouring countries (Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq) and refugees are now losing hope that they can return in Syria. Living as a refugee in neighbouring countries is untenable for many refugees, who are not permitted to work and are sliding deeper into poverty. The refugees mechanically decided to try to live somewhere else.

The portrayal of a welcoming Europe on television and social media urged the refugees to ask for the asylum within the European Union. In 2015 and 2016, more than 2,5 million people asked for the asylum in the European Union.

The refugees have to cross the borders (most of the time illegally), by means of smugglers. The Mediterranean Sea is the most borrowed migratory road. Since the beginning of year 2016, more than 10 000 people died in the crossing.

- **Why is migration a global issue?**

For decades *Europe* has been a dream destination for many immigrants looking for a better life. Europe is a symbol of democracy, stability and opportunities. The current geopolitical situation in several regions bordering Europe has increased the immigration flow, which led to new debates concerning immigration policy and regulations as well as to an intensification of nationalist and right-wing movements in many European countries.

Demographic forces, globalization and environmental degradation

mean that migration pressures across borders will likely increase in the coming decades. And cross-border challenges demand cross-border solutions.

How can we welcome migrants? Does immigration provide more opportunities and a boost to the economy, or is it a drain on budgets and the welfare system? Should we protect the borders of "fortress Europe", or should we open its gates? These are the main questions that Europe is struggling with.

Group 1 :

- **The debate:**

The debate was a big part of our program. It was an opportunity to express ourselves and share our own opinions on a topic that each and every one of us had an interest in, with people that valued what we had to say. This debate started at around 2 'O clock in the afternoon after we'd had our lunch. The entirety of the Euroscola "migration and integration" groups were led to a chamber considerably smaller than the one we'd been in prior, and as we found our seats, a woman introduced herself as well as explained the idea behind the debate.

At around quarter past two we were given the opportunity to nominate two public speakers, who at the end would present the outcome of the debate in front of the whole of the Euroscola participants. There were a considerable number of candidates, between 15 and 20, a young man from Holland and a young woman from Cyprus winning the vote.

After this we all had to split up and merge with different groups, to share our ideas with people we had never met, and talk about issues concerning the whole of Europe. This discussion went on for about an hour before the two elected presidents were to sit at the front of the chamber and listen to our views. There were an immense variety of different opinions, but it appeared to be that the most shared view was that even though we should control our borders, and those who are allowed to enter the country in question, we should also accommodate those suffering from the presence of war in their own countries and provide them protection, shelter and somewhere sanitary to live. We also agreed that immigrant children should be offered an education like everybody else and should not be separated into different classes or have to attend different schools.

The debate ended on this argument, an argument who many deemed to be the most important, and we all fled back to the main hall.

- **The organization of the day**

After the lunch time, we went to the commission room with all the pupils who had the same theme. Our topic was “migration & integration” and most of them had a solution and was very informed about our topic. It was really interested to debate with different person.

We were separated in several groups of approximately 10 persons of different origins. Since we were separated, the outcome from both groups were different and our vision as well.

At the end of the discussion between all the groups, we have find a solution who was built by all the group's work idea.

- **The solution**

We noticed that through the European countries, the populations are not inclined to receive people stemming from migration. The European Union will put in place an agreement between all the country to receive a precise number of migrant.

We have said that certain countries will set up a referendum to have the opinion of the people and avoid at the most the problems. We can't force somebody to receive migrants in their countries.

After the referendum, if the population agree, the country will put in place sanitary materials like toilets, shower. The migrants will live for few time in camp. It's not an amazing place to live but they are many and we don't have the place to host each one in comfortable family because in the country some family who have the nationality don't live in a comfortable place.

Even if the country does not agree, it has to help other because it's our duty.

Group 2 :

Dowling Téa, Garnier Emma, Jones Daniel, Maingam Agathe