

Analysis of the current situation of migration and refugees: causes and consequences

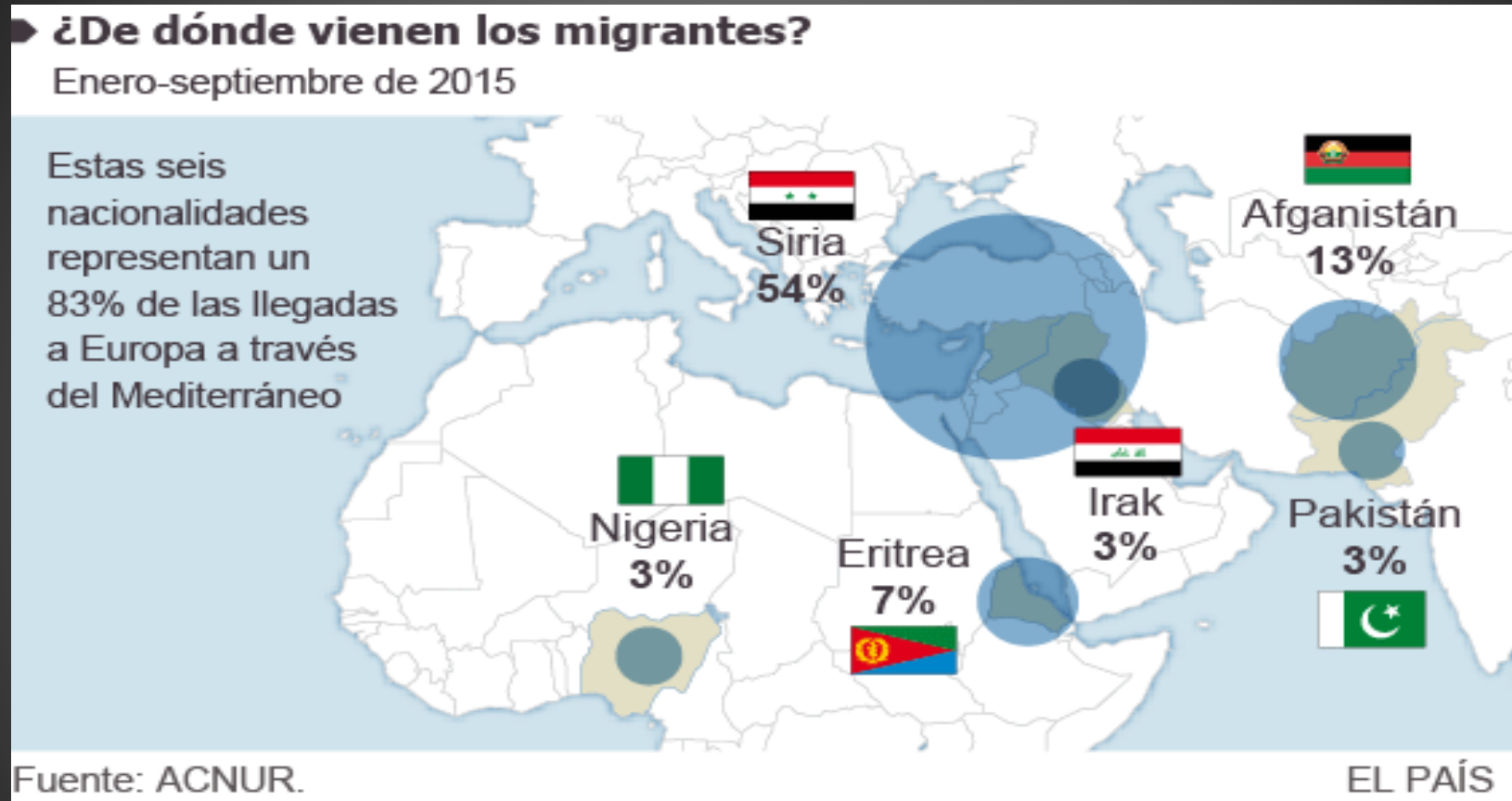


Introduction: Refugees and Migration



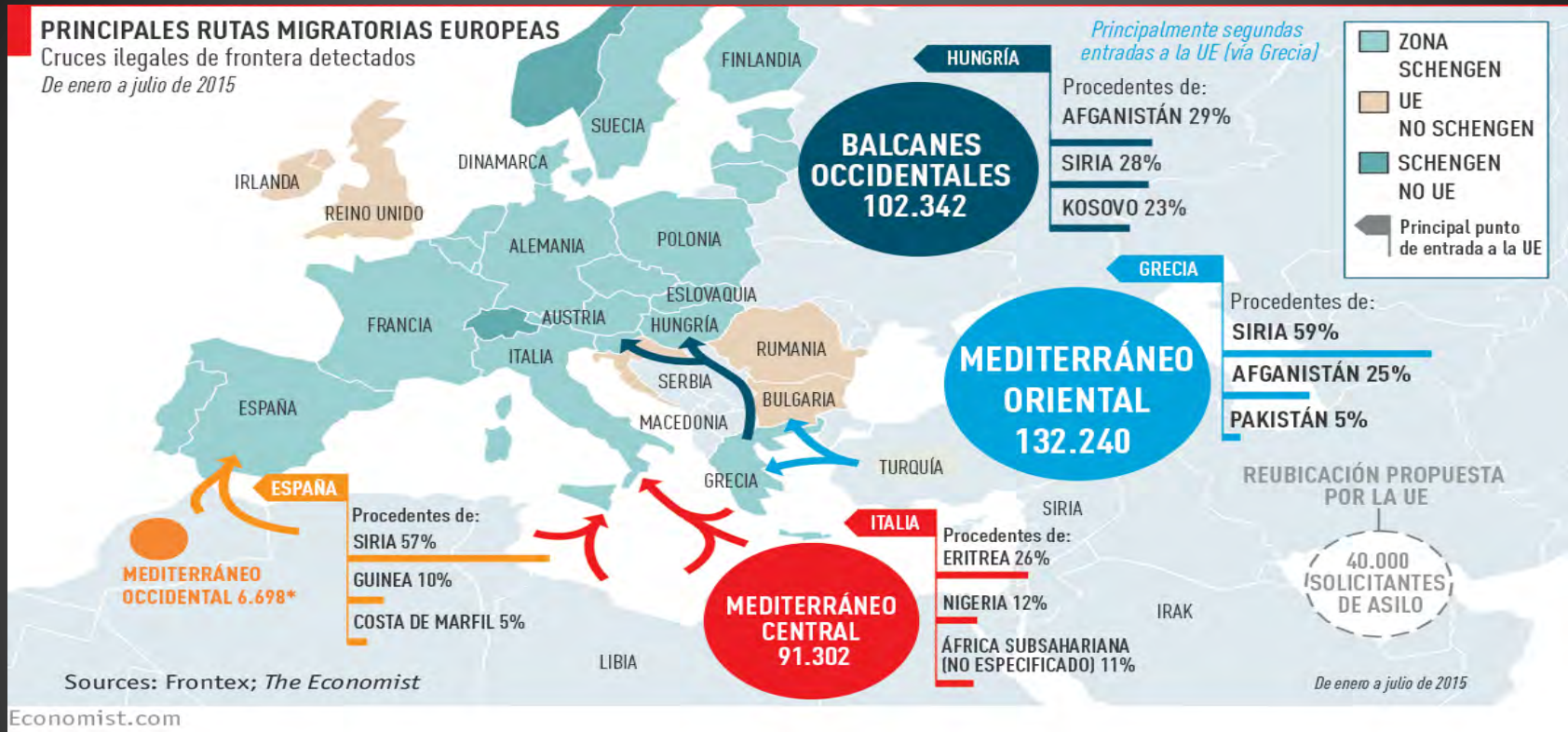
- According to the United Nations, a refugee is a person who flees their home country due to a “well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion”. Although refugees have been a constant and accepted part of human migration for centuries, the development of the nation-state and fixed borders in the 19th century caused countries to reject refugees and made them international pariahs.

Origin of Immigrants



The increase in arrivals has resulted in an increase in asylum applications. Germany, which, along with Sweden, has, for long, been a long-time refugee host for the Syrians, is the country that has received the most requests so far this year. But Hungary, Sweden and Austria are, nevertheless, the ones with the most requests for every 100,000 inhabitants.

Illegal Immigration Routes



Europe is plunged into the worst immigration chaos since World War II.

- Strait of Gibraltar: In the early stages, across the Strait, young men, mainly from Morocco, came.
- Sicily and South of Italy: The proximity of the Italian island of Lampedusa (the closest to Africa and only 10 kilometers long) or Sicily facilitates the transit.
- Egean Sea: For example more than 400 illegal Kurdish immigrants from Iraq were landed on the southeastern coasts of the island of Euboea near Athens.

Illegal immigration in Spain



Only in the year 2003, in Spain, 19.595 immigrants were interned in 10 Centers of Internament of Immigrants, in different places, with a total capacity of 2.105 people. In 2005, Spain expelled 11.002 immigrants and repatriated 121.062. Most of them had been in an Center of Immigrant waiting to be expelled or in some other places waiting to be returned or relocated.

Illegal Immigration: Emergency measures



The International Movement that was born to alleviate suffering on the battlefields soon became committed to preventing and alleviating suffering at all times and in all places. This has led to an evolution in the way they help, which can be divided into three stages:

- Humanitarian action towards victims of war conflicts.
- International humanitarian law and mediation.
- Assistance to prisoners and refugees.

Causes of Immigration: Escape due to armed conflicts



At present, armed conflicts are characterized by the assaults against civilians. In the current conflicts, it is indispensable to establish a structured dialogue with the armed groups, not only to promote the respect of humanitarian rights and of international human rights, but also to guarantee protection and humanitarian assistance to the vulnerable populations.

Causes of Immigration: Natural Disasters



Heavy rain and consequent floods that destroy the few properties that people own, is one more reason for outmigration. Earthquakes and collapses, among other disasters, cause great pain to marginal and poor populations.

Causes of Immigration: The Flight from Poverty



Political conflicts aggravate poverty. Many people, because of armed conflicts, must leave their homes and live as refugees elsewhere, sometimes in different countries where they do not have the protection of legal residents.

Consequences: Deportations



In the last 6 years, EU member states have expelled thousands of people in an irregular situation. The EU has spent € 58 millions to deport 18,000 immigrants since 2009.

Consequences: “Flights of Shame”



The "cleanliness" was silent, with the curtain running, without blushing.... In fact, a good number of these flights are planned at dawn. Despite the continuing allegations of humanitarian organizations, the so-called "flights of shame" have increased in recent times.

Consequences: The fear of terrorism



Many are the voices that are raised these days evoking the risk that the infiltration of terrorists, taking advantage of the situation. This can generate fear, rejection or violence by some sectors of the host communities. The growing influx of refugees faces legitimate social insecurity.

Consequences: The Xenophobia



Xenophobia has been elevated to patriotism and racial prejudice has increased progressively. Concern about immigration and terrorist attacks are the main circumstances to which this increase is attributed. As an example, we can cite the current activity of the extreme right-winged parties in Europe. The economic crisis and, to a greater degree, the jihadist attacks, offer coverage to his speech against immigrants and Muslims.





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IES JOAQUIN TURINA
SECONDARY SCHOOL
SPAIN



Jorneys of hopes

This is a work made by the students

GONZÁLEZ GARCÍA, ESTRELLA
LÓPEZ BORRÁS, SAMUEL LEANDRO
GARCÍA GARRIDO, ELENA
LORENZO MONTES, FELICIA
MORENO BARBERO, ALICIA
MARTÍNEZ CASTELLANO, LUCÍA
PÉREZ BARRIONUEVO, MARTA
GUTIÉRREZ ESTÉVEZ, PABLO