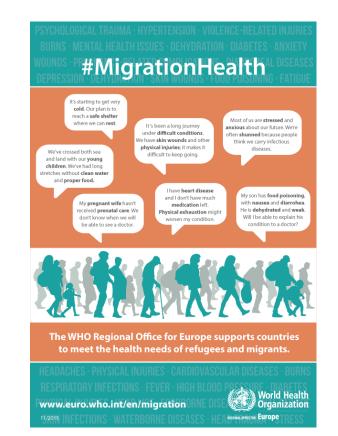
# Are emigrants health problems threats?



Irina Dumitru Ovidius University of Constanta

## Who is a migrants?

- A person who moves from one place to another in order to find work or better living conditions.
- One in every 35 people live outside the country of their birth
- Migration health:
  - A specialized field of health sciences, characterized by its focus on the wellbeing of migrants and communities in countries and regions of origin, transit, destination, and return.
  - It has a dual focus, addressing individual migrants' needs as well as the public health of host communities.



## Who is a refugee?

- According to the 1951 United Nations Refugee Convention, a refugee is defined as someone who
  - "owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion,
  - is outside the country of his nationality, and
  - is unable to or, owing to such fear,
  - is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country..."



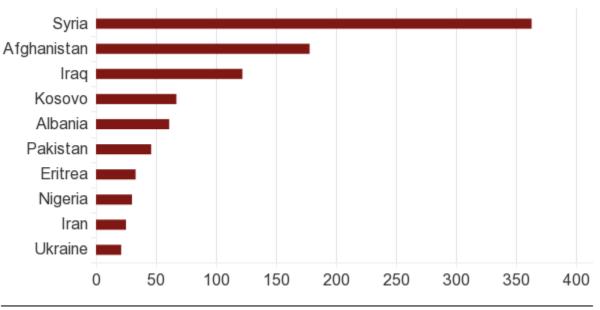
The top ten countries of refugee origin are: Afghanistan, Iraq, Somali, Congo, Myanmar, Colombia, Sudan,

Vietnam, Eritrea, and China.

- Today as many as 190 million people are thought to cross borders every year, and
- migration has become an integral and inevitable part of global social and economic development

### Top 10 origins of people applying for asylum in the EU

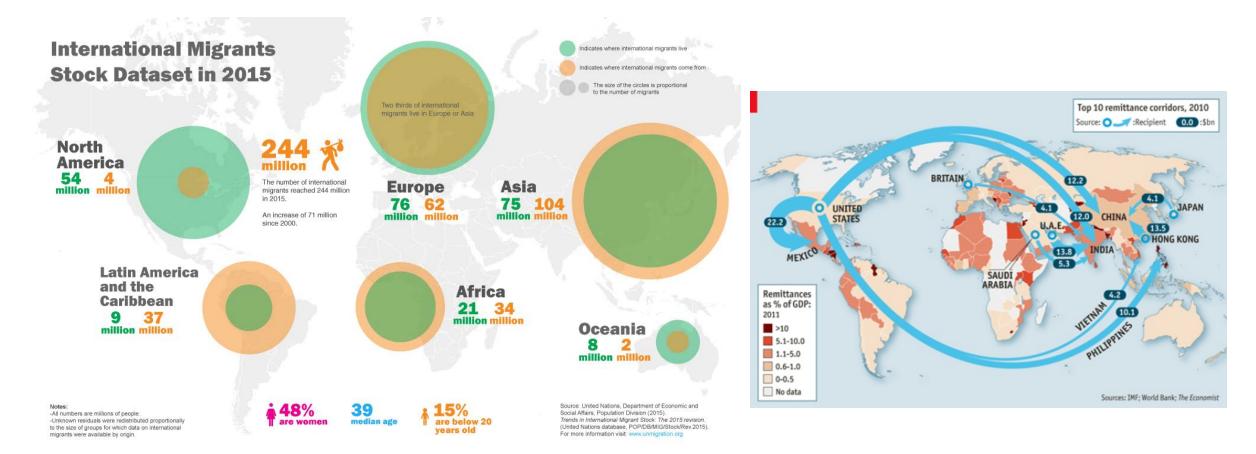
First-time applications in 2015, in thousands



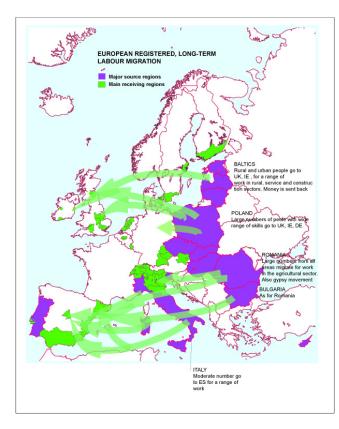
Source: Eurostat

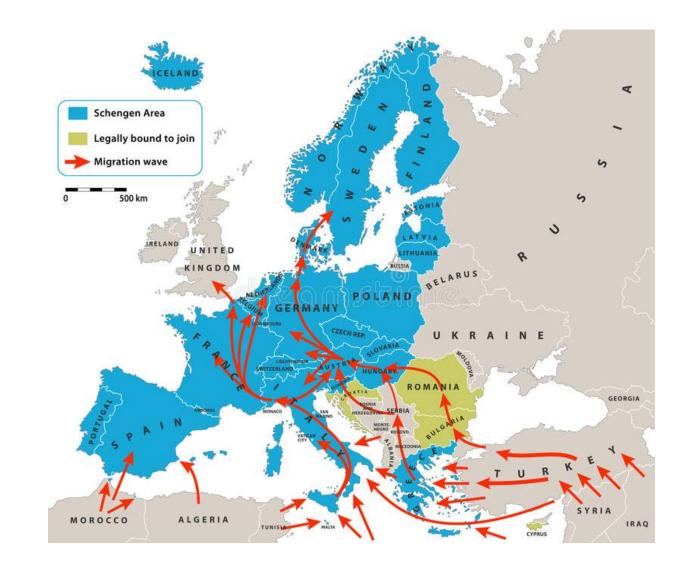
## Global Migration and refugees

- Globally 244m international migrants (UNDP)
- Most common destinations Europe and Asia (151m)



- There are about 75 million migrants and refugees in the WHO European Region.
- This number represents 8.4 % of the total population and 39% of all migrants worldwide.





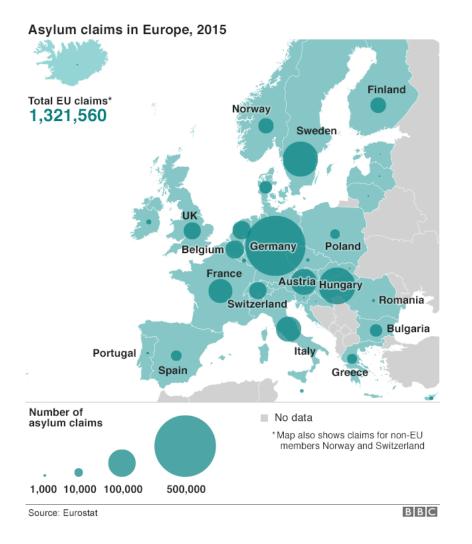
## 2015 Refugees crisis

- More than 1 million migrants and refugees crossed into Europe in 2015, sparking a crisis as countries struggled to cope with the influx, and creating division in the EU over how best to deal with resettling people.
- The vast majority arrived by sea but some migrants have made their way over land, principally via Turkey and Albania.

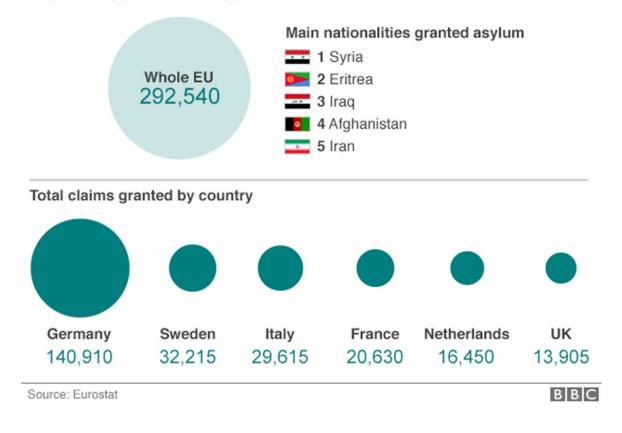


## Where are migrants going?

## How many asylum claims are approved?



#### Asylum applications approved 2015



http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-34131911

- Despite the magnitude of the migration process now underway, many European countries have been relatively unprepared to deal with it, and few have formulated policies needed to make immigration a healthy and socially productive process.
- Health indicators suggest that migrants in Europe are at
  - considerably higher risk for contracting a number of diseases than nonmigrant populations in the same countries.

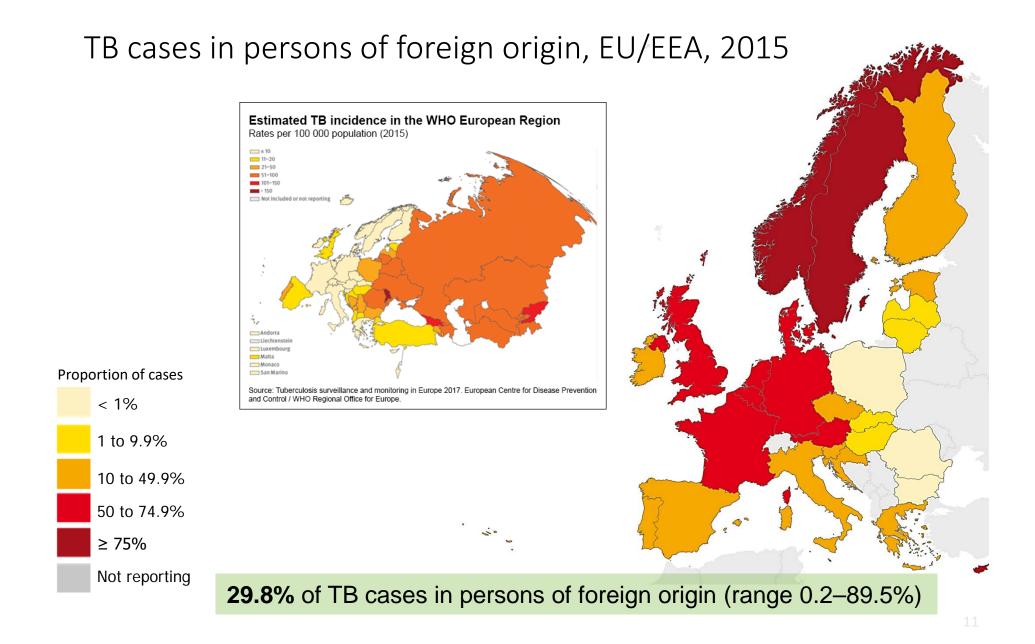
F Seedat. Engaging New Migrants in Infectious Disease Screening: A Qualitative Semi-Structured Interview Study of UK Migrant Community Health-Care Leads. PLoS One. 2014; 9(10)

- Migrants and refugees have increased vulnerability to infectious diseases:
  - 70% of TB cases and 60% HIV cases
  - HVB. HCV, HAV
- A recent press release from the European Society for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) observed that
  - TB represents an emerging epidemic in many large European cities (Spain and Greece) as it is strongly related to increasing migration from Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Promoting a Rights Approach to Migral and HIV and AIDS: Alignments for Artice

- Portugal (migrants from Latin America and Africa have comparatively high rates of HIV and TB),
- Hungary (HIV as a problem for migrants from neighbouring countries),
- Greece (migrants from East Africa bear a substantial proportion of the HIV burden) and
- France (migrants with TB)
- One quarter of those diagnosed with HIV in the EU were non-EU citizens (mostly from sub-Saharan Africa) and most of them are believed to have been infected in their country of origin14

ESCMID press release 31 March 2007 www.escmid.org/sites/index\_f.aspx?par=3.6.



# Strong evidence that migrants are particularly affected by HIV in EU/EFTA countries



76% of countries identify migrants as an important subpopulation in their HIV response







ECDC . Monitoring implementation of the Dublin Declaration on Partnership to Fight HIV/AIDS in Europe and Central Asia: 2012 Progress Report. Stockholm: ECDC; 2013.

### Availability of ART for undocumented migrants, 2016





Source: ECDC. HIV and migrants. Monitoring implementation of the Bublin Declaration on Partnership to Fight HIV/AIDS in Europe and Central Asia: 2017 progress report Stockholm: ECDC; 2017.

Many of the migrants develop the infection in consequence of their socioeconomic status in the host countries.

> Risk of infectious diseases each continent

	Europe	Asia	America	Africa
Meningococcal meningitis	-	+	+	+
Cholera	-	+	+	+
Hemorrhagic viral fever	-	+	+	+
Leprosy	-	+	+	+
Tuberculosis	+	++	++	++
Viral Hepatitis	+	++	+	++
STD	+	+	+	++
HIV	-	+	+	++
Intestinal parasites	-	+	+	++
Schistosomiasis	0	+	_	+
Strongyloidiasis	0	+	+	+
Lymphatic filariasis	0	+	_	++
Cutaneus filariasis	0	-	_	++
Malaria	0	+	+	++
Cysticercosis	+	+	++	+
Leishmaniasis	+	+	+	+
Chagas diseases	0	0	+	0

- ESCMID noted the vulnerability of the EU to:
  - the reintroduction of malaria during migration because of recolonization by *Anopheles* mosquitoes of their previous habitats in the Balkans
  - potential health issues related to migration from Latin America, for example Dengue fever in Spain.

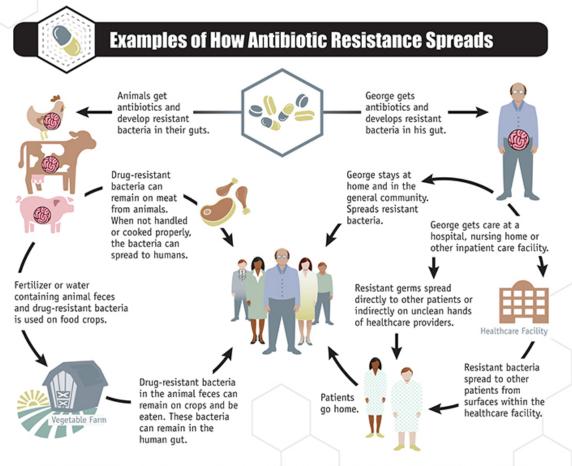


- Health Problem
  - increasing problem of Taenia solium, neurocysticercosis occurring in the USA,
  - Entamoeba histolytica amoebiasis has established autochtony (cycles of transmission) in some European countries
  - leishmaniasis is increasing in prevalence in the more northern regions of Europe.

ESCMID press release 31 March 2007, www.escmid.org/sites/index\_f.aspx?par=3.6.

## Antimicrobial resistance

- Antimicrobial resistant microorganisms are not only a local problem: they can spread rapidly throughout the world in
  - humans, animals, vectors and food.
- it is expected that levels of resistance will change according to the pattern of migration and other movement.



Simply using antibiotics creates resistance. These drugs should only be used to treat infections.

## Non-infectious diseases

Journal of Travel Medicine, 2017, Vol. 24, No. 4

- Alcohol abuse among male Indian immigrants, especially Sikhs, is increasing and reflected in higher mortality rates associated with cirrhosis of the liver, which are twice as high as they are for men born in England.
- Drug abuse also may be an emerging problem among immigrants
  - In Amsterdam, about half of people using methadone bus outreach programs are non-Dutch,
  - quarter of all young women who leave drug Youth Advice Centers prematurely are from other countries;
  - 45% of detainees in youth penitentiaries are migrant children.

Table 1. Health status of newly arrived migrants

	Study reference <sup>15</sup>		Study reference <sup>10</sup>	
Diagnosis	Number	%	Number	%
Respiratory tract infection	744	23	22	6.7
Rheumatological	591	18	1	0.3
Headache/neurological	325	10	13	4.0
Epigastric pain	297	9		
Dermatological conditions	261	8	7	2.1
Allergic reactions or skin erythema	248	8		
Psychiatric conditions	177	5	7	2.1
Injuries	175	5	66	20.3
Dental problems	99	3		
Cardiac disease	92	3	10	3.1
Gastroenteritis	51	2	34	10.4
Gynaecological/obstetric	43	10	48	14.7
Fever	35	1		
Diabetes mellitus/metabolic	27	1	9	2.8
Genitourinary disease	13	0	4	1.2
Frostbite	5	0		21.9
Unknown			34	10.4
Total	3280	100	326	100

## Migranti in Constanta

- 25 cetateni sirieni
  - 21 adulti, 4 copii
  - 7-50 ani
- 157 cetateni din Iran si Irak
  - 101 adulti, 57 copii (1 copil 6 luni)
- 66 cetateni din Irak, Pakistan si Afganistan
  - 42 adulti, 24 copii



## UKRAINA

- COVID-19
  - Rata de vaccinare scazuta (COVID, alte vaccinuri)
    - 33% of the adult population of Ukraine had been vaccinated against COVID-19
- Gripa
- HIV Ucraina are a doua cea mai mare epidemie de HIV din Europa de Est și Asia Centrală
- TB
  - Incidenta crescuta de TB
    - 42.2 cases per 100 000 people in 2020
    - Drug-resistant TB (DR-TB) remains a public health threat in the country
- HVB, HCV
- Difterie
- Polio

- COVID-19
  - Tratament, Vaccinare
- Gripa
  - Tratament, Vaccinare
- HIV Ucraina are a doua cea mai mare epidemie de HIV din Europa de Est și Asia Centrală
  - Tratament gratuit
- TB
  - Incidenta crescuta de TB
    - 42.2 cases per 100 000 people in 2020
    - Drug-resistant TB (DR-TB) remains a public health threat in the country
  - Depistare active, Tratament
- HVB, HCV
  - Depistare active, Tratament
- Difterie
  - Alerta , vaccinarea populatiei vulnerabile cu varsta >50 ani
- Polio
  - Alerta , vaccinarea populatiei vulnerabile cu varsta >50 ani

## Conclusions

- The range of health issues that can be associated with migration is inevitably broad.
- It includes communicable and noncommunicable diseases, injuries associated with work environments, and psychological problems.
- The health of migrants thus has social and economic consequences for host countries as well as for migrants and their families.
- The process of migration within and into the EU includes changing and emerging trends in health.



## Va multumesc pentru atentie!

