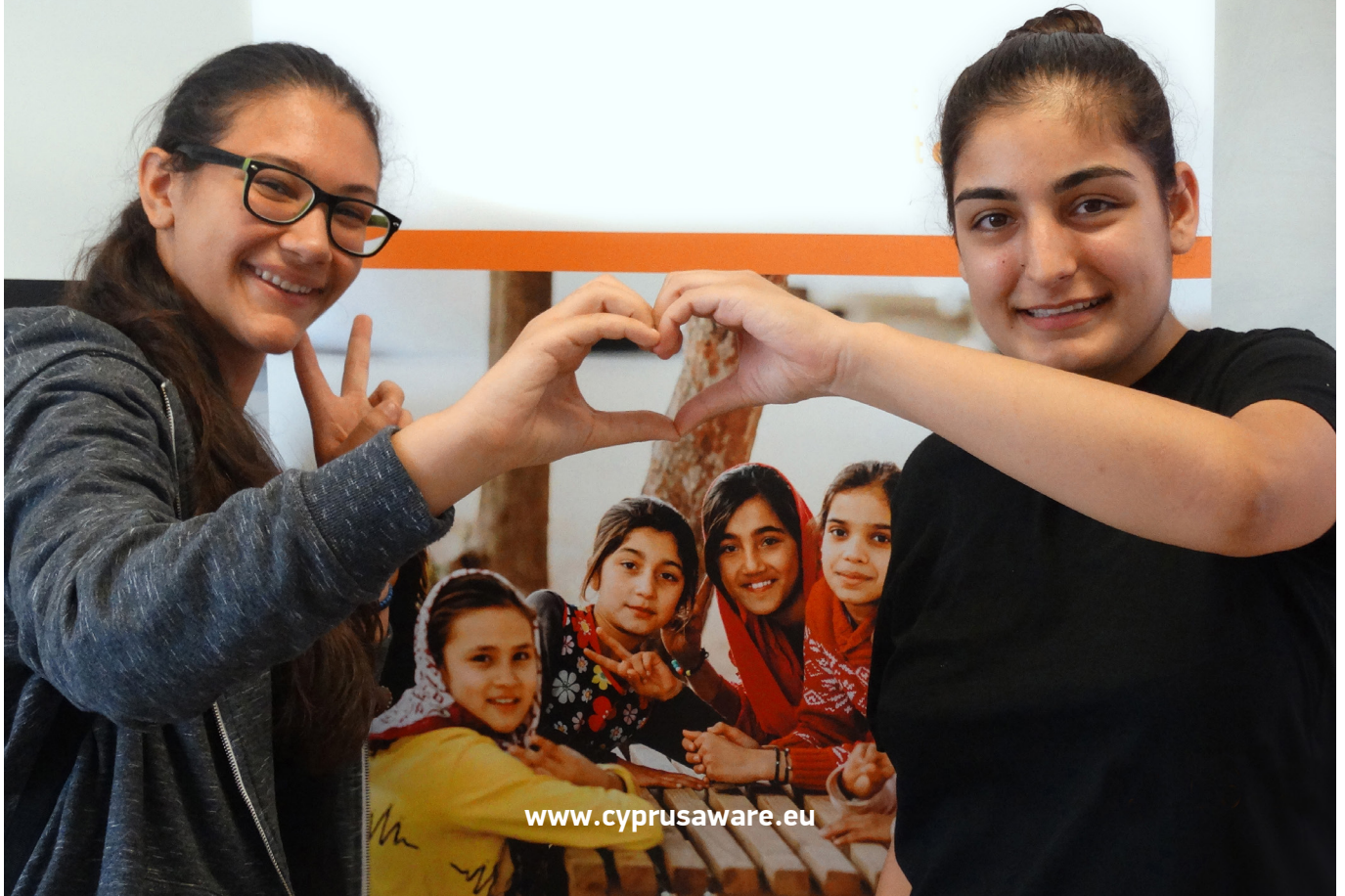


BE AWARE

Get involved



www.cyprusaware.eu

I'm aware, I'm involved

BUILDING AN OPEN SOCIETY

Multiculturalism is one of the predominant elements in every modern society. People nowadays, more than ever before, move along the globe looking for a better future for themselves and their families. Some people move because of economic, family or other reasons, and others because they are forced out.

Host societies have a duty to deal with such people with respect, dignity and understanding. Cypriot society has a responsibility to combat all forms of discrimination and promoting their integration.

It is in our interest as Cypriot society to bring down walls of separation, stereotypes and xenophobic perceptions. The smooth integration of refugees, asylum seekers and migrants creates the conditions for their greater contribution to economic development and social cohesion.

GLOSSARY

Displaced person: the person who leaves home usually due to war, internal conflict or natural disaster.

Refugee: the person who flees their country of origin and seek asylum, i.e. protection in another country, because of reasonable fear for their life.

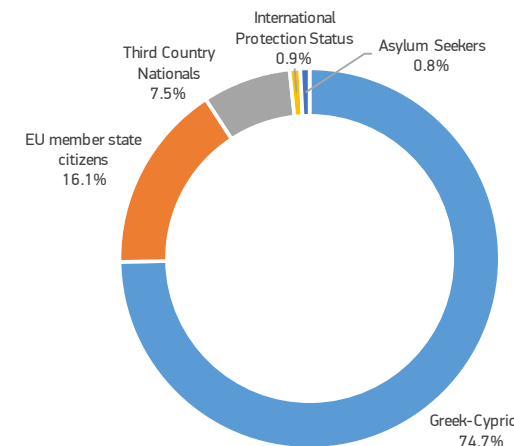
Immigrant: the person who leaves their country voluntarily for economic or family reasons.

Asylum seeker: the person who has applied for asylum in a country as a refugee and awaits for a decision on their application. While their application is being examined, deportation is not allowed. If their application is accepted, the person is granted a status either as a recognised refugee or a person under international protection.

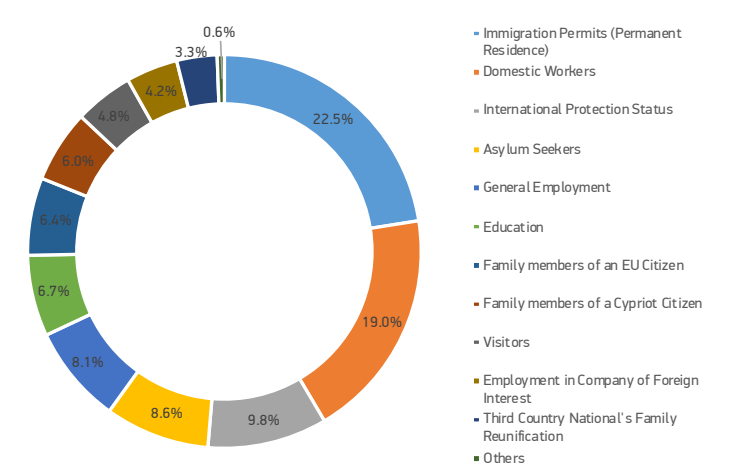
Let's talk about immigration



Population of Cyprus 2018
(areas controlled by the Republic of Cyprus)



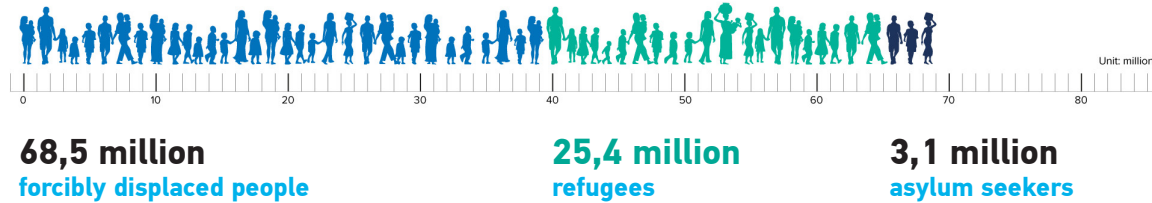
Third Country Nationals in Cyprus



In Cyprus, Third Country Nationals amount to approximately 100,000, including 8,500 asylum seekers and 9,800 beneficiaries of international protection, compared with 810,000 Greek Cypriots and 175,000 citizens from other European Union countries.

[Investigate the migration streams](#) | [Listen to the story of the immigrants](#)

Let's talk about refugees



10 million of stateless people | **52%** are minors | **44 thousand** forcibly displaced every day

Forced Displacement global trends

For 2017

Source: UNHCR

173.800 UNACCOMPANIED OR SEPERATED MINORS

Unaccompanied or separated children have fled to more than 60 countries seeking for asylum. Most of them come from countries like Gambia, Nigeria and Bangladesh.

1,7 million NEW ASYLUM CLAIMS

The number of asylum applications worldwide amounted to 1,7 million. The countries which received most applications were the US (332 thousands), Germany (198 thousands), Italy (127 thousands) and Turkey (126 thousands).

16,2 million NEWLY DISPLACED

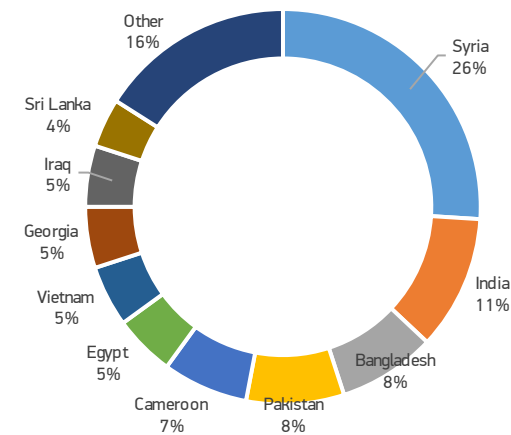
Due to conflicts or persecutions, 16,2 million people were displaced from their homes. 73% of them remain displaced in their own homeland and 27% of them have been seeking asylum in a foreign country.

Get to know the refugees

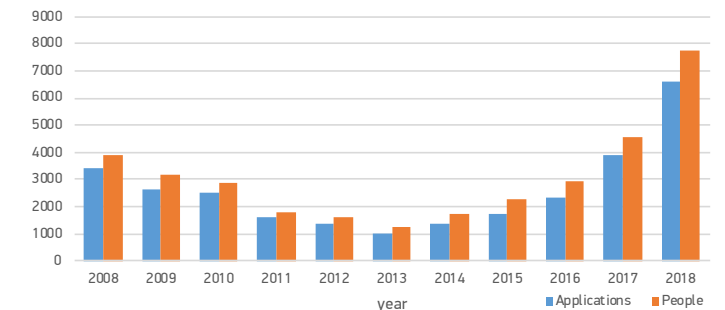
One of the biggest challenges the European Union had to face, especially in countries of the European South, such as Greece, Cyprus and Italy, was the massive refugee flows from Middle Eastern conflict zones. The ongoing crisis in Syria resulted in the uprooting of 12,6 million people without any end in sight. Cyprus granted international protection (asylum) to a few thousand refugees who have arrived on our island. Most people came from Middle Eastern countries such as Syria, Iraq and Palestine whilst others from African countries. International protection includes the recognized refugee and subsidiary

protection statuses. Those who live in Cyprus today under the international protection status amount to approximately 9.800 people (2018 Statistics- Civil Registry and Migration Department). The number of asylum seekers in Cyprus amounts to 8.500 people (2018 Statistics- Asylum Service). In 2018 in particular, 191 were granted the recognized refugee status while 1.011 were granted subsidiary protection status. In 2018, around 6.600 asylum applications were filed to the Asylum Service, covering more than 7.700 people, almost twice as high as those of the previous year.

Number of applications for 2018



Asylum applications 2008-2018 in Cyprus



Live their experiences | Learn about the cause of the refugee phenomenon

Reception, Accommodation, Integration

The management of the migration streams from the host country, as Cyprus currently is, as an EU Member State who has signed international treaties for refugees and immigrants, includes three stages:

Reception of irregular migrants, recording and examining a request for asylum, if they so request, in a fair and effective way

Accommodation for asylum seekers, by providing the means to have decent living conditions until their application is considered

Integration into the host society by taking measures against all forms of discrimination that will enable them to engage with the local population, work and participate actively in economic and social life.

Refugees, asylum seekers and migrants are people with dignity and courage. They have knowledge and skills and can make a lot of contribution to the host society.

Accommodation, living, employment

Refugees, asylum seekers and immigrants reside in Cyprus legally. They have the right to access healthcare and their children have the right to go to school on equal terms, as is for all citizens.

Asylum seekers receive the minimum housing and subsistence allowance. After one month, they have limited access to employment, only in pre-defined work areas.

Beneficiaries of international protection (recognized refugees and subsidiary protection) have the right to access the labour market as all citizens

of the RoC. Those who are destitute have a right to Minimum Guaranteed Income, just like all citizens. Recognized refugees have the right to reunification with their families.

In 2018, around 1.160 families of asylum seekers received material assistance from the Social Welfare Services: allowance for food and clothing vouchers, rent allowance and allowance for electricity, water, etc. allocated according to the number of family members.

A state without discrimination

A family of refugees may live next to us. They were forced to leave their homeland under the fear of war and persecution. They have the right to a new chance in life, to a new homeland.

We often associate with immigrants in our everyday lives. Many of them come from poor third countries. They work in houses and in the fields, they look after families and work in jobs that local people don't do anymore. Some others may be wealthy businessmen or poor workers who perform handy jobs.

Refugees and migrants live among us.

Their origin, colour, religion, economic status do not matter.

Their integration without segregation and discrimination is value for our society.

Get involved!

Build a world of mutual respect. Their world can also be ours!

Support the effort that immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers make to overcome the adaptation difficulties and start their life again.

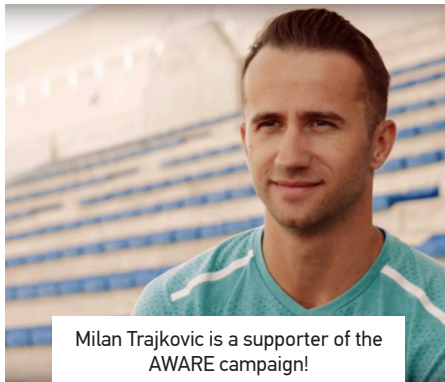
They can become equal members of our society, having the same rights and responsibilities that each member of our state has.

The “Aware” Campaign

- Information and awareness through mass media and social media
- Organizing seminars, experiential workshops, meetings, conferences
- Projection of documentaries and short films
- Organizing events with info points and radio live links
- Creation of a cooperation network with journalists and stakeholders

The “Aware” Campaign goals

- To shed some light into the life of refugees, asylum seekers and immigrants
- Promote a culture of knowledge, information, acquaintance and interaction with them
- The support of the effort for smooth integration into the local society.



Milan Trajkovic is a supporter of the AWARE campaign!



Photos courtesy of AWARE Campaign - Cyprus



EUROPEAN UNION

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REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS