

MASTER'S DEGREE
FINAL DISSERTATION

**Integration of Refugees through Sports -
A community centre in Germany**

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Castellón, October, 2016

Acknowledgements

In erster Linie möchte ich meiner Familie danken. Ich bedanke mich bei allen Menschen, die mir auf diesem Wege Liebe und Unterstützung zuteil werden haben lassen.

I want to further need to thank Numa Bellasario, Patxi Guerrero and Maribel Miñarro without whom I would not have done and complete this Master.

Quiero agradecer a mi tutor Alberto Cabedo Mas por su esfuerzo y apoyo constante como su valioso feedback.

I express my gratitude to Natascha Pieper and the “AK-Asyl PrO” in Preußisch Oldendorf who openly welcomed me, let me participate in their reunions and got me in touch with refugees and politicians. I also thank Mr. Mohr (BAMF), Mr. Gündel (Landessportbund Niedersachsen) and Mr. Richter (Sozialamt Osterode) for the time they took to answer my questions concerning the respective institutions.

Key words: Refugees – Integration through Sports – Peace culture

Abstract: Over the course of the last years, migration to Europe appears to have increased. Especially Germany had a high influx of refugees in 2015. Receiving so many refugees at the same time puts the whole society to the test. It forces the host society to react and develop plans to integrate the new arriving and not repeating mistakes done in the past. This work offers one possible way to tackle the issue: Integration through Sports.

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1 Introduction

In 2015, Germany registered 1,091,894 refugees and 476,000 asylum requests (BMI 2016 (1)).

This massive migratory movement towards Germany was partly triggered by the German chancellor Angela Merkel's statement, that refugees would be welcomed and received in Germany (Sydow 2015). This promise was very controversial in Germany, as it needs to be emphasized, that Germany was not prepared to receive that high amounts of refugees. This claim provoked a strong flow of refugees trying to make their way to Germany. Neighbouring countries like Austria reacted and closed their border when Germany was forced to partly close its border, as it could not provide any more shelter to the new arriving. Despite the so-called "one-for-one" EU-Turkey deal, which likewise provoked strong controversy, it is not clear how the government will deal with the refugees who are already in Germany. Some may have to return to their country of origin after the war ends, some may be sent back and some may leave voluntarily, but what about the ones staying in Germany? It is strongly necessary to find adequate shelter for this people and facilitate their integration.

The aim of this work is to explain the situation and conditions refugees do face in Germany and how a project using sports as tool for integration could be implemented. Therefore, this work divides in three parts. The first chapter provides an overview about the migration to Germany since World War II until 2015. This review is crucial in order to understand the present constellation of population in Germany and the tensions within society. The second chapter is dedicated to the "refugee crisis". After a short review of the "crisis" in Europe, I will focus on the German "refugee crisis". The analysis of the incoming refugee statistics as well as their perspective to stay is a key element for this work. This will be the group "targeted" in the project. However, successful refugee integration does not only depend on the new arriving, but also from on the readiness and willingness of the host community to

integrate them. As a result, I will analyse in more depth the causes of the German “refugee crisis”, because the on-going debate in the German (and European) society cannot be missed out. All integration efforts are for vain if the host community receives the migrants and refugees with prejudices, and in the worst-case racism. Hence a closer look is taken to the representation of refugees and violent incidents that seem to appear with more frequency in East Germany. In the third chapter, I would like to offer practical suggestions for the refugee shelter. This includes a justification of such a project from a peace studies’ perspectives such as a potential house and possible activities.

2 The Modern Multicultural Germany

Before analysing the topic, we need to differentiate between the different terms “migrant” and “refugee” that are frequently used synonymously in the debate but do not have the same meaning in juridical terms.

The term “migrant” refers in a first instance to people who migrate (lat. migrare – move) from one country to another. More specifically, Millbank refers to migrant as: “a person who moves to another country, having met work or business or family reunion criteria, and having been issued with a visa or residence permit which entitles them to reside in that country” (2000: 1).

An “illegal immigrant” in contrast, is a person who moves to another country not having met work, business or family criteria and is not in possession of a visa or residence permit or uses fraudulent documentation.

Basically, refugees are migrants or could even be considered illegal immigrants as in general the conditions and circumstances in their home countries do not enable them to undertake the visa or residence permit procedure. Many of them have to flee immediate danger. After having experiences massive refugee movements in World War II (WWII), the

United Nations (UN) adopted the 1951 Refugee Convention/Geneva Convention. In this convention, the term “refugee” is defined in the article 1 as followed:

As a result of events occurring before 1 January 1951 and owing to 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 or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it (1954: 1).

The Convention was signed by 144 state parties who ensured to provide the legal protection and other assistance established in the Convention to the refugees. Further, the state parties guarantee to protect and respect the social rights of the refugees. Initially, the Convention was about protecting mostly European refugees but reacting to world events and rising numbers of refugees, it was enhanced by its 1967 Protocol to all refugees.

The 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol are closely interconnected with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The articles 1 to 3 refer to the right to live a dignified life in security, free from discrimination. But specifically the Articles 13 and 14 establish the freedom of movement and the right to seek asylum from persecution (UN 1948).

Before obtaining the status of a refugee, people who enter Germany and file an asylum request are considered “asylum seekers”. The asylum request is a demand for the right to be recognized as refugee and to receive material assistance and legal protection. Asylum seekers have to demonstrate that the fear of persecution in his/her home country is well founded.

(UNHCR 2016)

The goal of this work is to achieve the integration of the new arriving. The BAMF defines integration as a long-lasting process with the objective to facilitate the permanent and

emancipated participation of the migrants in all aspects of society. In return, they need to learn German and respect the German Laws.¹

2.1 Migration to Germany after World War II

To begin with, I would like to present and briefly analyse the migration to Germany after the World War II and show how the population living in Germany is structured nowadays as I consider this crucial for understanding the German society and the actual debates about the refugees. I will do this before presenting and analysing the number of refugees coming to Germany and the asylum requests.

The first migrants, who came to Germany after World War II, were mainly refugees, so called *Rückkehrer* (returner) and people banished living on former German territory as for example eastern territories (Seifert 2012).

The second migratory movement started in the late 50's. Germany was lacking workforce after the war. The destroyed West Germany could benefit from the US investments and "Marshall-plan" and built up a strong industry that required more and more workforce. As a result, a first recruitment agreement was signed with Italy in 1955. It was followed by similar agreements with Spain and Greece (1960), Turkey (1961), Morocco (1963), Portugal (1964), Tunisia (1965) and Yugoslavia (1967) (Seifert 2012).

In the beginning, there was little migration of foreign workforce because workforce coming from German Democratic Republic (GDR) covered main part of the demand. When the Wall was built in 1961, this radically changed; after only three years Germany welcomed the one-millionth *Gastarbeiter*². When the recruitment ban was imposed during the oil crisis in 1973, approximately 4 million foreign workmen had come to Germany (Seifert 2012).

¹ Retrieved from the BAMF webpage:

<https://www.bamf.de/DE/Service/Left/Glossary/function/glossar.html?lv3=1504494> seen: 10.10.2016

² „Gastarbeiter“ is a term used to describe foreign workforce.

2.2 Asylum requests Germany in Germany from 1953 – 2016

As we have seen in the section before, there were migratory movements to Germany after the World War II. The following chart shows the evolution of asylum request from 1953 until June 2016.

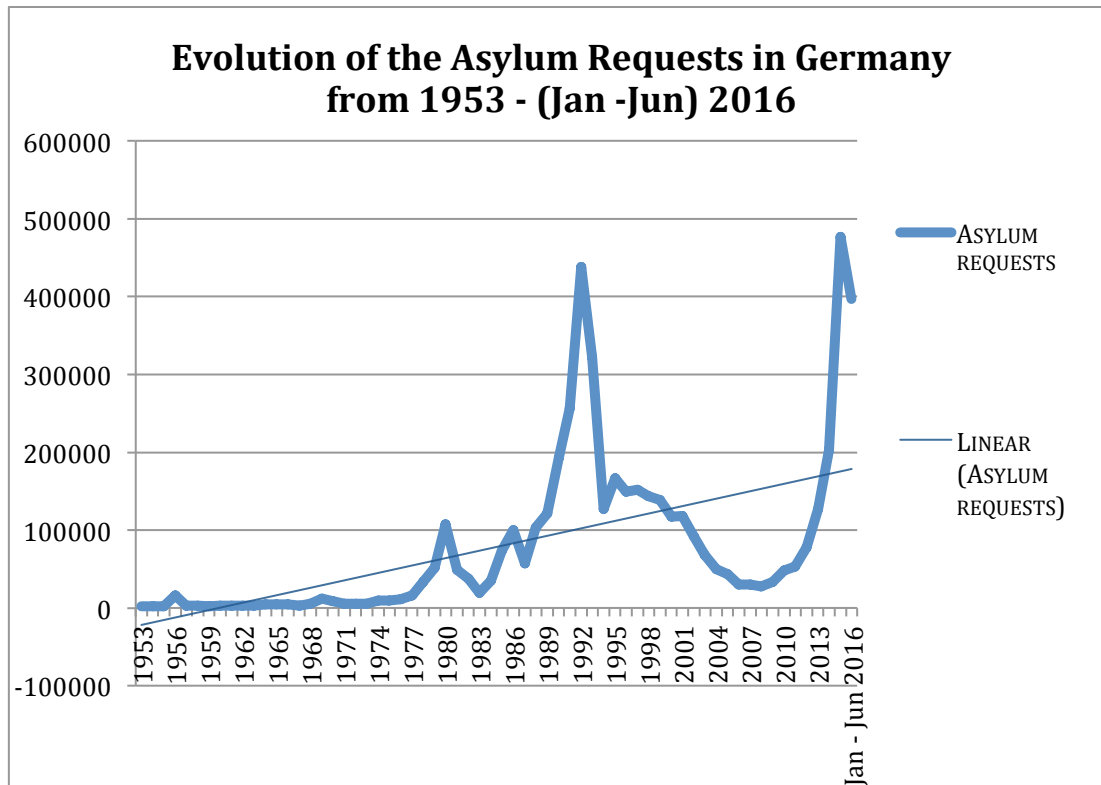


Figure 1 - Evolution of the Asylum Requests in Germany from 1953 - (Jan-Jun) 2016³

In total, Germany received 4,6 million asylum requests since 1953. As we can see, there was no significant amount of asylum request in the 50's, 60's, 70' and 80's. It is remarkable that the asylum requests until 1989 only represent 20.3% of all requests. Since 1990, Germany registered 3.7 million asylum requests, representing 79.7% of all requests. This is reflected by the graphic, we can observe a strong raise when the wall of Berlin fell and the Soviet Union broke down in 1990. Until 1976, the asylum request stayed around 10 000 per year. Then the number of requests started growing until reaching 107 818 in 1980. In 1988, the requests raised above 100 000 and stayed that high until 2001. The requests then

³ This figure is generated from (BAMF)(1)

kept declining reaching 28 018 in 2008, the lowest value in 25 years. From this point of time, asylum requests in Germany have been growing at an impressive rate. Since 2010, the numbers have nearly duplicated by 10 in 2015. The numbers for the period from January until June 2016 are constantly high: 396 947 requests have already been registered, more than in whole 2014. The linear trendline confirms the overall impression; numbers have been constantly increasing. Especially strong growth could be observed since 2012. Finally, 2015 registered more than the double amount (+134%) of the 2014 requests.

It is to mention that a decline is to expect because of the actual EU-turkey deal⁴ and the closing of the Balkan-route. This does not mean that a decline is to expect on the long-term as refugees start to reuse more frequently the dangerous Mediterranean route and will surely find others as long as the roots of the conflicts and problems will not be addressed. To discuss the foreign policy, interventions and distribution of wealth problems caused by colonialism and globalisation would go beyond the scope of this work. Either will the analysis of the Syrian Civil war, the Afghanistan and Iraq war.

2.3 German Society From 1961 – 2015

The migration, be it as refugees searching asylum, as Gastarbeiter or simply in the hope of a well-paid job and better future resulted in the following evolution of the German Society:

⁴ For more information: Collett, E. (2016). The paradox of the EU-Turkey refugee deal. *Migration Policy Institute*. <http://www.migrationpolicy.org/news/paradox-eu-turkey-refugee-deal>

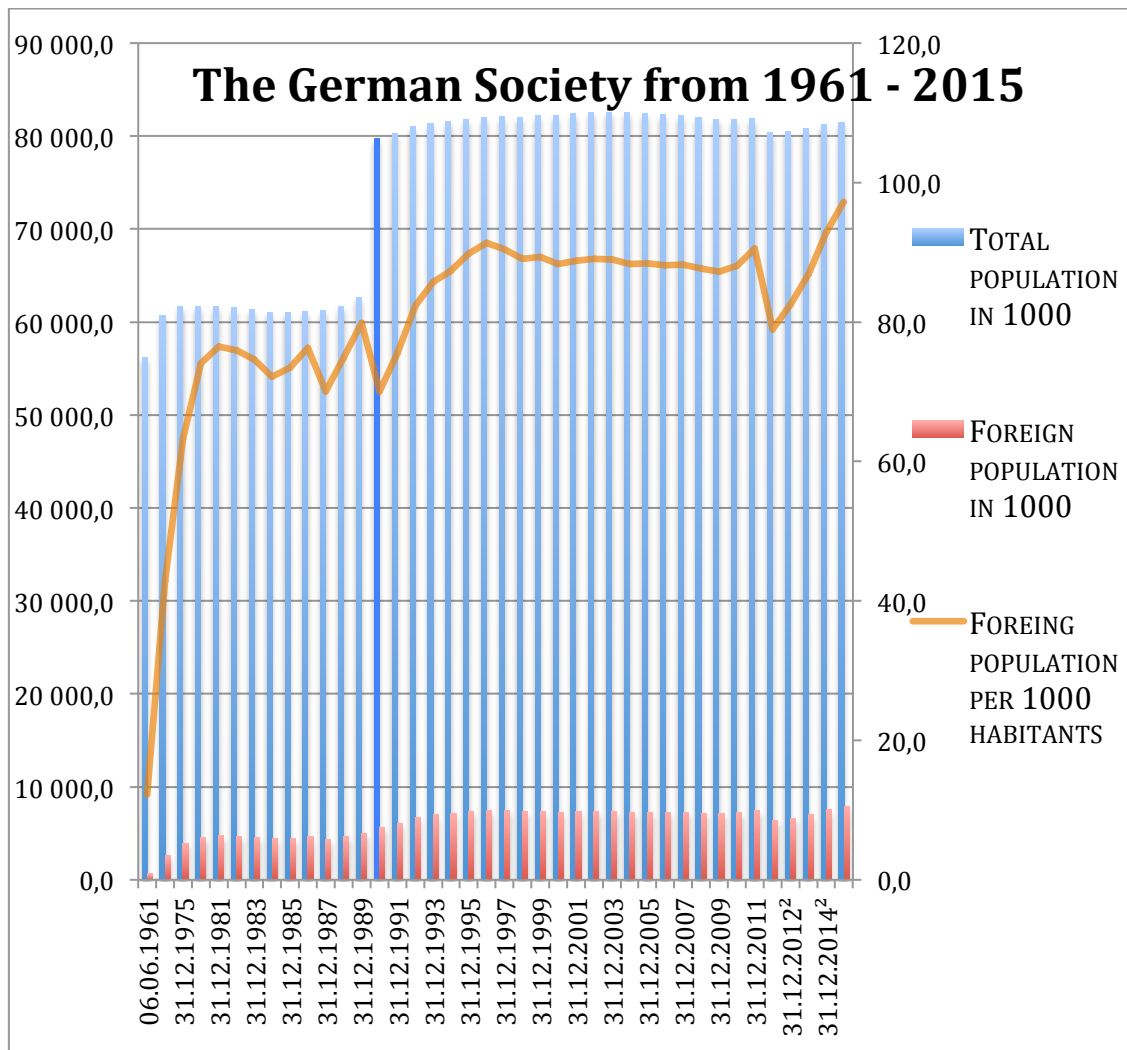


Figure 2 - The German Society from 1961 - 2015⁶

We can see that the population in 1961 of 56 million people had a low percentage of foreigners (see Figure 2). Since then, numbers have been constantly growing. In 1981, 76,5 foreigners per 1000 habitants reach the first high. This goes in line with the numbers of asylum requests in 1980, when Germany registered 107 818 requests. Until 1990, the total population shifted around 60 million people and foreigners per 1000 inhabitants shifted around 75. In 1990, the German population rose up to 80 million people due to the Wiedervereinigung. Due to this raise of population, the share of foreigners dropped but

⁶ This figure was generated from Statistisches Bundesamt (2016)

started growing again the subsequent year. The share of foreign population grew up to 91,3 per 1000 in 1996 and kept around little under 90 until 2011 where it drops to 79 per 1000. This is due to a change in the methods of calculation. Still, it rises again in the following years to reach an all-time high in 2015 of 97,2 per 1000 inhabitants.

2.4 German society 2015

After analysing the history of migration to Germany, I will go into further detail about the structure of the German society in 2015.

The following chart is the result of all migration to Germany, it includes the past by registering people with “migration background”, second or third-generation migrants as well as new arriving migrants be it refugees or migrants. It further depicts changes in German society, as the German society gets older (not having same birth-rate) and the relation between German population and foreign population

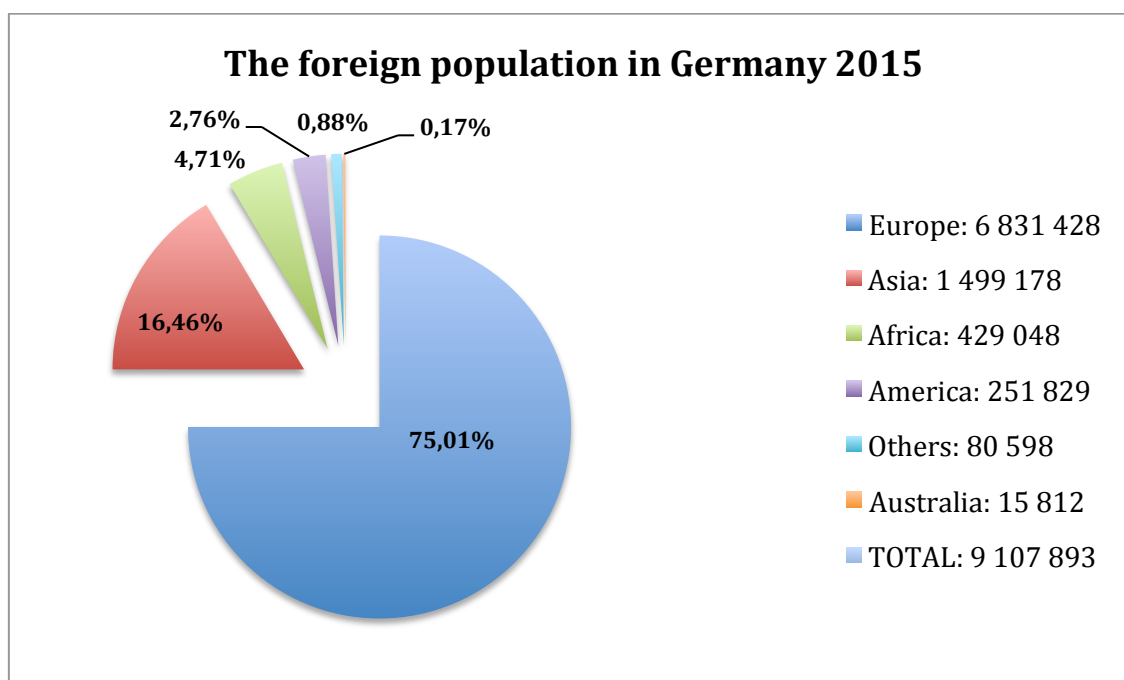


Figure 3 - The foreign population in Germany 2015⁷

The European migrants/foreigners clearly take the biggest part of 75% with more than 6 million people. (which countries - top 3 find in chart in appendix)

⁷ This figure was generated with Statistisches Bundesamt (2016)

The second largest group are the Asian migrants and their descendants with 16,46% and nearly 1,5 million people. The nearly 430 000 African migrants represent 4,71% of the foreign population in Germany. The 251 828 Americans represent 2,75% of the foreign population. The “others” regroup people who were found stateless, whose status is unclear or were coming from British overseas territories.

The following table exposes the structure of the foreign groups living in Germany in 2015 in greater detail:

Table 1 - Foreign population in Germany 2015 (ranked by absolute numbers)⁸

| Foreign population in Germany 2015 ranked by absolute numbers | | | |
|--|---------|---------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Country of origin</i> | 2008 | 2015 | Growth rate from 2008 to 2015 |
| 1. Turkey | 1688370 | 1506113 | -10,79% |
| 2. Poland | 393848 | 740962 | 88,13% |
| 3. ex-Soviet Union | 497751 | 613033 | 23,16% |
| 4. Italy | 523162 | 596127 | 13,95% |
| 5. former Serbia | 352045 | 491598 | 39,64% |
| 6. Romania | 94326 | 452718 | 379,95% |
| 7. Syria | 28459 | 366556 | 1188,01% |
| 8. Greece | 287187 | 339931 | 18,37% |
| 9. Croatia | 223056 | 297895 | 33,55% |
| 10. Russian Federation | 188253 | 230994 | 22,70% |

The ranking above is done by absolute values and is helpful to determine the actual German society’s structure. The analysis of the growth rates of migrant groups in provides differing insights and a less static but more dynamic perspective. This is helpful when we aim at recognizing trends and searching for their causes and potential problems that might need to be addressed. As the growth was constant since 2009, I would like to start with the values of 2008. As I thought that the growth rates could be interesting to look at, I already included them in the ranking by absolute numbers. It is to see that the Turkish group still is the biggest group by absolute numbers but the number has decreased since 2008.

⁸ This figure was generated with Statistisches Bundesamt (2016)

Table 2 - Foreign population in Germany 2015 ranked by growth⁹

| Foreign population in Germany 2015 ranked by growth | | | |
|--|-------|--------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Country of origin</i> | 2008 | 2015 | Growth rate from 2008 to 2015 |
| 1. Syria | 28459 | 366556 | 1188,01% |
| 2. Albania | 9971 | 69532 | 597,34% |
| 3. Kosovo | 32183 | 208613 | 548,21% |
| 4. Romania | 94326 | 452718 | 379,95% |
| 5. Bulgaria | 53984 | 226926 | 320,36% |
| 6. Montenegro | 6380 | 22773 | 256,94% |
| 7. Latvia | 9980 | 30157 | 202,17% |
| 8. Hungary | 60024 | 178221 | 196,92% |
| 9. Afghanistan | 48437 | 131454 | 171,39% |
| 10. Cyprus | 864 | 1998 | 131,25% |

The trends that become visible here differ clearly from the former chart. Only two nations of the first chart are represented here: Syria and Romania. Syria is by far the group with the biggest growth. In 2015, more than 350 000 Syrians were registered, more than ten times as much as in 2008.

The second biggest growth group are the Albanians. In 2015, their number had nearly increased sevenfold. Albania is a candidate for the European Union since 2014 and we can find this strong growth reflected in increased asylum request numbers, as we will see in the next chapter.

These two charts resume the before mentioned facts. In the first one, we can see the big part that the Turkish, Polish, Italian and Greece take in German society due to recruitment agreement and the group from “ex-Soviet” territory reflects the returning Germans/refugees. A forecast on the latest trends is the apparition of the Syrians in the first table. In the second table we see the latest trends and see the strong migratory flow from Syria, Afghanistan and the Balkan countries.

⁹ This figure was generated with Statistisches Bundesamt (2016)

These charts can help to recognize future trends and needs. The overwhelming number of Syrian refugees is a result of the Syrian Civil War. To explain the roots of this war and the different parties involved would go beyond the scope of this work. Same applies for the Iraqi refugees fleeing ISIS and a destroyed country like the Afghans.

Striking is furthermore the high representation of Southeast European¹⁰ countries, namely: former Serbia, Croatia, Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro, Greece and Romania. The causes of the migration here might not be refugees fleeing war; still the consequences of the Balkan war and structural poverty as well as the resulting lack of opportunities could be identified as key drivers. Again, analysing the causes of this migratory movement in depth would go beyond the scope of this work. Nevertheless, this trend must be kept in mind for the alignment and concepts of the refugee shelter. The different causes for leaving the country (war, violence, structural poverty) require different treatment and responses. As the shelter needs to adapt to new challenges and changing circumstances, such as changing migratory flows, a continuous influx from the Balkan countries would require adaptations, such as language competencies, and trainings about cultural differences for staff members.

3 “The Refugee-crisis”

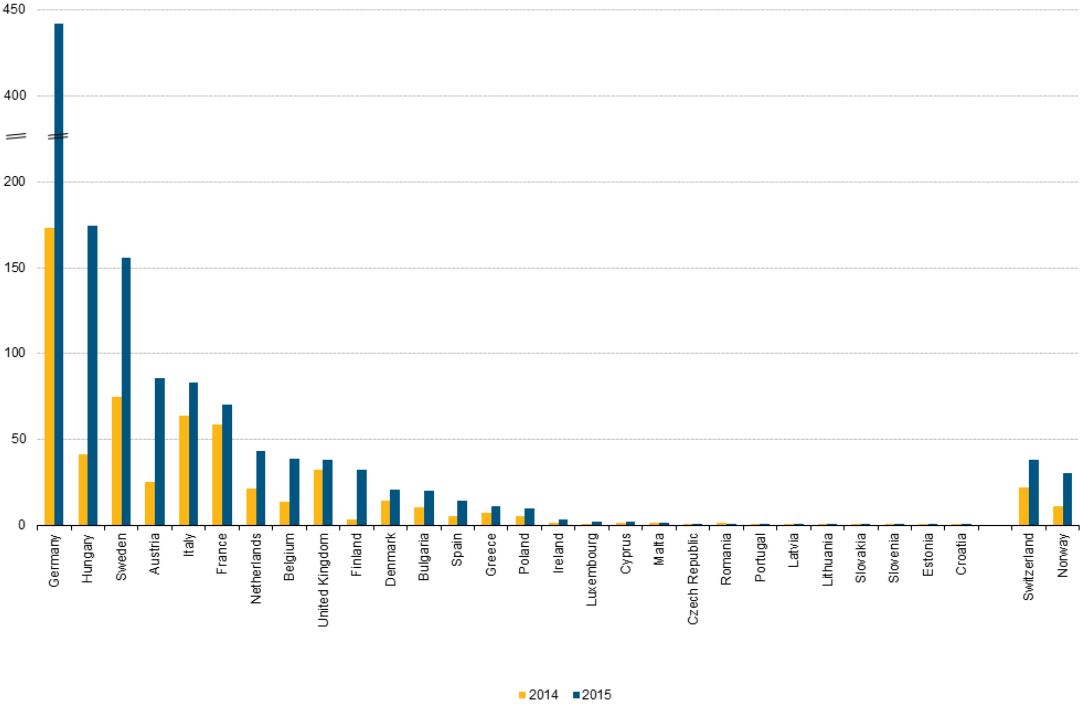
3.1 The European “Refugee Crisis”

To provide a better understanding of the “refugee crisis” a short analysis is provided about the magnitude of the influx at an overall European level. The “refugee-crisis” challenges the whole continent and puts the ideals of European solidarity to the test. Greece, Italy and Hungary struggle with massive refugee influx while other countries constantly deny the acceptance of refugees. However, the migration towards Europe did not begin with the Syrian Civil War and the crisis requires the united vigour of all European Union member states. A total of nearly 1,3 million asylum seekers were registered in 2015 in Europe. The statistics

¹⁰ Southeastern Peninsula of the European Continent Europe when applying the „trieste-Odessa“-line.

show that the vast majority (83%) of the asylum seekers in the EU-28 were less than 35 years old while the more than half (53%) would be 18-34 years old.

Most of the asylum seekers (first time applicants) are men (55%). Especially in the younger groups (14–34 years old) this trend is extreme (around 80% men). We will see that these trends are confirmed in the German asylum requests. The following graphic shows the unequal distribution of asylum seekers in the EU:



Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_asyappctza)

Figure 4 - Number of (non-EU) asylum seekers in the EU and EFTA Member States, 2014 and 2015 (thousands of first time applicants)¹¹

Clearly Germany had to deal with the biggest share (35%) of all refugees. It is followed by Hungary and Sweden. Interestingly, France and Italy’s share of the EU-28 total dropped. The highest increase from 2014 to 2015 is registered in Finland (over nine times as high). There is an obvious problem of equal distribution of the refugees. Equal does not refer to the same absolute numbers but in relation to own population and economical power.

¹¹ Eurostat online: [http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/File:Number_of_\(non-EU\)_asylum_seekers_in_the_EU_and_EFTA_Member_States,_2014_and_2015_\(thousands_of_first_time_applicants\)_YB16.png](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/File:Number_of_(non-EU)_asylum_seekers_in_the_EU_and_EFTA_Member_States,_2014_and_2015_(thousands_of_first_time_applicants)_YB16.png) seen: 10.10.2016

Eastern Europe countries that decline the acceptance refugees damage the European ideals of solidarity. It can be observed that rising nationalist movements, the right wing and their parties are gaining strength. As this represents a potential threat for integration, I will discuss this topic in my analysis of the German “refugee-crisis”.

On a political level, also the Dublin-procedure¹² has to be reviewed because it causes too much strain on the countries on the European border such as especially Hungary, Greece and Italy.

It is to emphasize the need of common European efforts and a solution, because the controversial deal with the Turkey cannot be satisfactory, it is more an evidence of the incapacity of the Union to take responsibility.

3.2 The “German Refugee-crisis”

In this part, I would like to analyse in depth the asylum seekers coming to Germany in 2015. As this project is thought to provide shelter and first orientation such as assistance for the integration, it is crucial to know who is to be expected. This refers to the cultural background, ethnic group, religion, sex and age. These characteristics will determine programs and needs, but also requirements for possible staff members.

A clear overview is provided once more by the migration report “Bundesamt in Zahlen 2015” BAMF (2016):

Table 3 - Asylum requests (First requests) in Germany 2015¹³

| Countries of origin - Ranking | Asylum requests (First requests) | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|------------------|-------------------|
| | Total | Male applicants | Female applicants |
| Syria | 158,657 | 117.130 73,8% | 41.527 26,2% |
| Albania | 53,805 | 32.466 | 21.339 |

¹² The Dublin-procedure refers to the question of responsibility. A country will be responsible for a refugee when the country is the first (in the EU) to register him. For more information: http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/asylum/examination-of-applicants/index_en.htm

¹³ This table was generated with BAMF (2016)

| | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | 60,3% | 39,7% |
| Kosovo | 33,427 | 21.528 64,4% | 11.899 35,6% |
| Afghanistan | 31,382 | 22.923 73,0% | 8.459 27,0% |
| Iraq | 29,784 | 21.109 70,9% | 8.675 29,1% |
| Serbia | 16,7 | 8.512 51,0% | 8.188 49,0% |
| Unknown | 11,721 | 8.145 69,5% | 3.576 30,5% |
| Eritrea | 10,876 | 8.227 75,6% | 2.649 24,4% |
| Macedonia | 9,083 | 4.723 52,0% | 4.360 48,0% |
| Pakistan | 8,199 | 7.597 92,7% | 602 7,3% |
| Sum Top-Ten-Countries | 363,634 | 252.360 69,4% | 111.274 30,6% |
| Others | 78,265 | 53.224 68,0% | 25.041 32,0% |
| Sum all countries | 441,899 | 305.584 69,2% | 136.315 30,8% |

I decide to use the statistics of first requests, as those represent the new arriving. This chart provides valuable information. We can see the top ten countries of origin that are responsible for 82,29% of all first requests. Furthermore, we can see that the majority of asylum seekers are men. This backs up the theory that the crossing is very expensive so family can in general only afford to pay for one person. As the journey is full of dangers, men travel alone in the hope to get asylum in the country of destination so that the family can possibly get visa and follow by plane. These phenomena can be observed in an extreme extent in the Pakistanis' requests—more than 90% of the asylum seekers are men.

As already observed in the first chapter, the overwhelming growth of the Syrian group finds its cause in the high influx of the year. Male Syrians are responsible for 26,5% of all requests. This is by far the biggest group, nearly four times more than the second, the Albanian men.

The following chart shows the distribution of age groups:

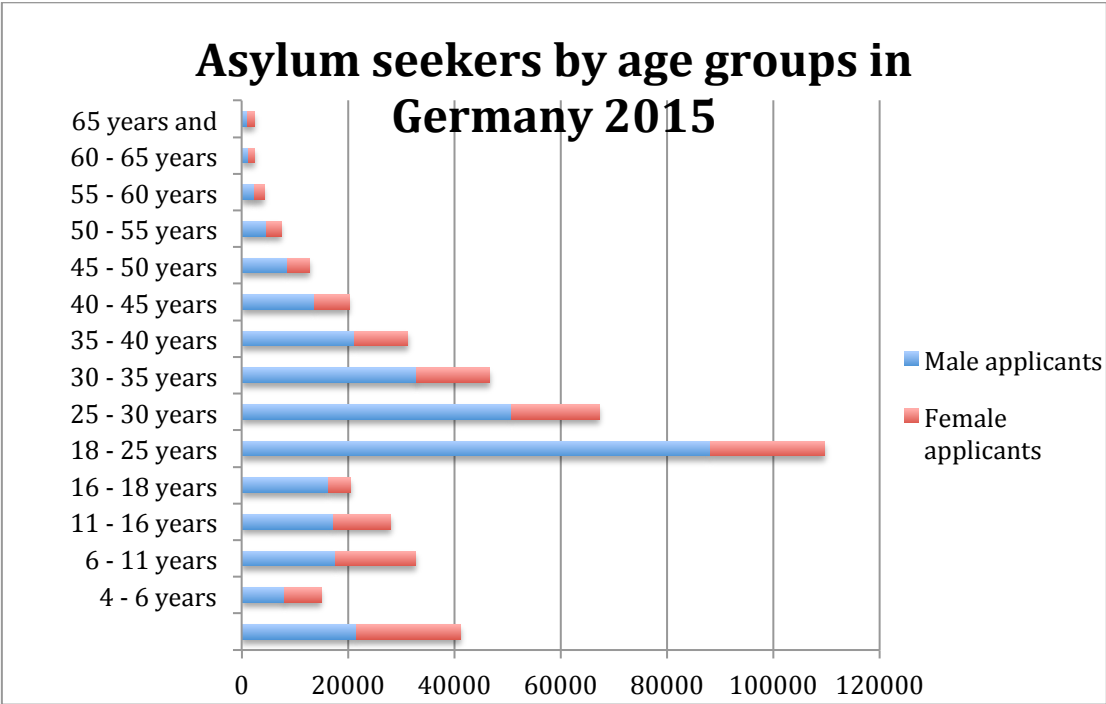


Figure 5 - Asylum seekers by age groups in Germany 2015¹⁴

As can be observed in the chart, the biggest group are young adults from 18-25 years that represent 24,8% of all asylum requests. The male applicants of this group represent 19,94%, meaning that nearly one out of five applicants was a male applicant between 18 and 25 years old. 40% of the asylum seekers are between 18 – 35 years old, indicating that the majority of them are young adults. Still we can also see that the group of new-born up to 11 years represent 20% and the kids and teenagers from 11 – 18 years another 10%. This leads to the assumption that the asylum seekers mainly consist of single men and young families. This is important to differentiate as the different groups have variant needs.

The following apple-pie diagram will show the distribution of religious confessions:

¹⁴ This figure was generated with BAMF (2016)

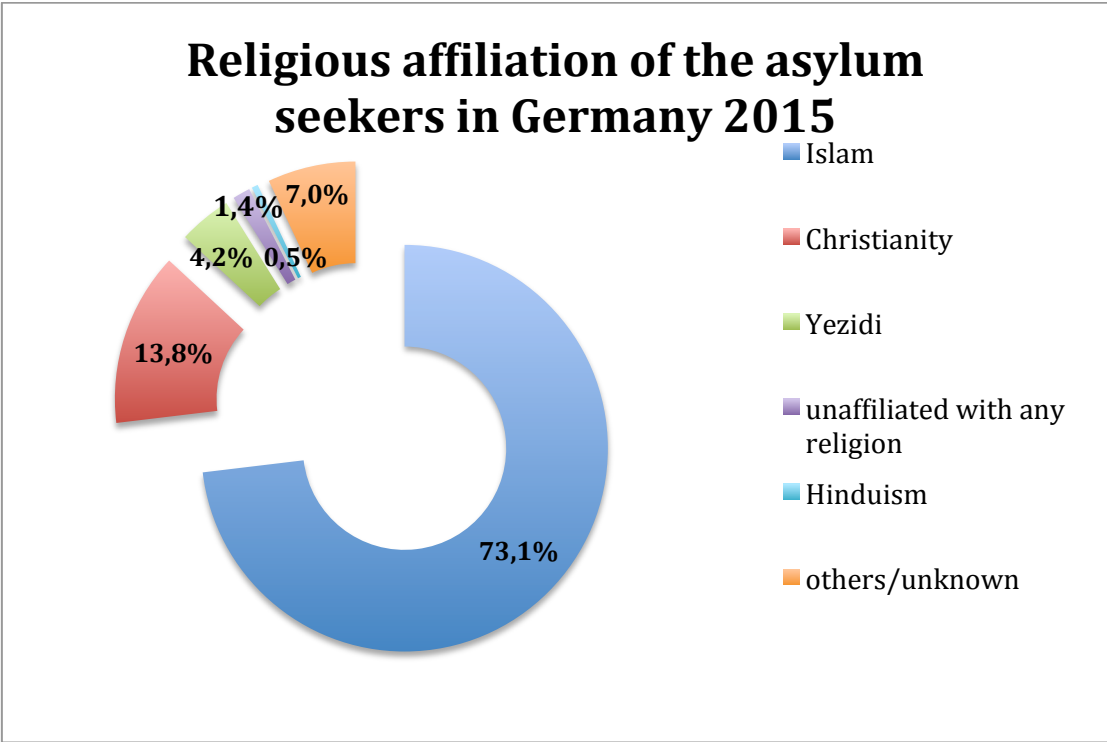


Figure 6 - Religious affiliation of the asylum seekers in Germany 2015¹⁵

As can be seen, the vast majority (73,1%) of asylum seekers are affiliated to the Islam which could be a potential source of conflicts because of the negative perception of this religion in Germany and Europe. Becker and El-Menouar (2012) offer interesting insights about the representation of Islam in the media in Germany and the resulting influence on the perception of the society. It seems like many people would link Islam to fundamentalism, the oppression of women and a higher propensity to violence (Bielefeldt, 2008).

The following chart shows the how the asylum seekers are distributed in Germany:

Table 4 - Distribution of the asylum seekers on the Bundesländer¹⁶

| "Bundesländer" | Asylum requests | | Quota following the "Königsteiner Schlüssel " |
|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|---|
| | absolute value | percentage share | |
| Baden- Württemberg | 57,578 | 13,03% | 12,97% |
| Bayern | 67,639 | 15,31% | 15,33% |
| Berlin | 33,281 | 7,53% | 5,05% |
| Brandenburg | 18,661 | 4,22% | 3,08% |

¹⁵ This figure was generated with BAMF (2016)

¹⁶ This table was generated with BAMF (2016)

| | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Bremen | 4,689 | 1,06% | 0,94% |
| Hamburg | 12,437 | 2,81% | 2,53% |
| Hessen | 27,239 | 6,16% | 7,32% |
| Mecklenburg- Vorpommern | 18,851 | 4,27% | 2,04% |
| Niedersachsen | 34,248 | 7,75% | 9,36% |
| Nordrhein- Westfalen | 66,758 | 15,11% | 21,24% |
| Rheinland- Pfalz | 17,625 | 3,99% | 4,83% |
| Saarland | 10,089 | 2,28% | 1,22% |
| Sachsen | 27,18 | 6,15% | 5,10% |
| Sachsen- Anhalt | 16,41 | 3,71% | 2,86% |
| Schleswig- Holstein | 15,572 | 3,52% | 3,39% |
| Thüringen | 13,455 | 3,04% | 2,75% |
| Unknown | 187 | 0,04% | |
| Total | 441,899 | 100,00% | 100,00% |

As before mentioned, there still are problems in registration and the monitoring of the asylum seekers. This becomes visible in the part of the chart that shows the category “Unknown”. It furthers shows differences in theoretical distribution and the actual distribution. This fact will be topic of discussion in the next chapter when analysing local problems.

3.2.1 Tensions in German society

The massive migration to Germany could not stay without consequences. The German media refer to the actual situation as “Flüchtlingskrise”-“refugee crisis. This chapter has crucial importance, as the goal of successfully integrating people in German society cannot succeed if the German society is not willing to let the new arrival integrate or to at least encounter them with a minimum of respect and acceptance.

Before analysing the actual “refugee-crisis” and the recent headlines and those who had a strong impact on the debate, I would like to direct the attention first to former debates of this kind. The debate about the (non-) integration of foreigners has been a big issue for years now.

3.2.2 The “IntegrationCrisis”

In 2010, the politician Thilo Sarrazin (2010) triggered a heated debate publishing his book “Deutschland schafft sich ab” (Germany abolishes itself¹⁷). He spoke about the Turkish migrants’ lack of willingness to adapt and integrate in Germany. He argued that the Turkish migrants would less frequently reach the high school degree compared to for example the Vietnamese. He provoked with hypothesis like the members of the Muslim community to be more frequently jobless and depending on state-welfare, having worse grades in schools and in a result a lower degree of education. He claimed further that Turkish and Arab people would be more criminal than other groups and that Muslims would isolate themselves, provoking the emergence of ghettos. All these facts were backed up by his research, but “Mediendienst Integration”(2014) refuted his allegations.

Another politician who massively criticized the (failed) integration politics is the former mayor Buschkowsky. In his book “Neukölln ist überall” (2012) he described his experiences working in Berlin district “Neukölln”, famous for a high number of migrants and frequently referred to as deprived area. These two authors were controversially discussed in Germany and reveal the problems with integration that existed before the massive influx of refugees.

3.2.3 A “Refugee-Crisis” in East Germany ?

It is remarkable that East Germany repeatedly appears in news media coverage reporting about (violent) incidents with refugees. In February, a mob chanted at a bus carrying refugees in Clausnitz. The chanted “We are the people” and “go home” (Oltermann 2016(1)). The city of Bautzen appeared already twice in the news this year. In February a hotel that was being converted into a shelter for asylum seekers was burned down and an “anti-migrant mob cheered” when they saw the house burning. (Rothwell 2016) In September, residents battled

¹⁷ Own loose translation.

asylum seekers and chased them to their hostel where they had to be taken under police guard (BBC 2016). The map provided by the “Amadeu-Antonio-Stiftung” confirms this impression. It registers arson attacks against refugee shelters and assaults against refugees since January 2015 (See Appendices).

Considering the results in the latest elections, it seems to be a strong support of the right-wing party “Alternative für Deutschland” (AFD) in former East Germany as the results achieved are surprising for such a young political party. In Sachsen-Anhalt and Mecklenburg-Vorpommern the AFD is second strongest party. Still, it is not to neglect that the party is the third strongest in Rheinland-Pfalz and Baden-Württemberg (West Germany) and has a strong intake (see Appendices).

The strong results in East Germany appear surprising if we compare those to repartition of refugees in Germany. These Länder are the ones with the lowest percentage of refugees coming and the smallest absolute numbers of foreigners.

Table 5 - Foreigners per 1000 inhabitants in the Bundesländer¹⁸

| "Bundesland" | Foreigners per 1000 inhabitants | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| | 2008 | 2015 |
| Berlin | 140,0 | 146,9 |
| Hamburg | 138,4 | 141,3 |
| Bremen | 126,2 | 139,9 |
| Hessen | 111,2 | 134,6 |
| Baden-Württemberg | 117,8 | 131,0 |
| Nordrhein-Westfalen | 105,2 | 108,7 |
| Bayern | 93,8 | 107,6 |
| Deutschland | 87,6 | 97,2 |
| Rheinland-Pfalz | 76,5 | 86,5 |
| Saarland | 83,3 | 82,7 |
| Niedersachsen | 65,9 | 72,3 |
| Schleswig-Holstein | 51,9 | 57,1 |
| Sachsen | 27,5 | 31,6 |
| Sachsen-Anhalt | 18,0 | 29,6 |
| Mecklenburg-Vorpommern | 23,6 | 29,2 |
| Brandenburg | 25,7 | 29,0 |

¹⁸ This table was generated with Statistisches Bundesamt (2016)

| | | |
|-----------|------|------|
| Thüringen | 20,8 | 28,3 |
|-----------|------|------|

We can see that the new “Bundesländer” have the lowest quota of foreigners per 1000 inhabitants, from 31,6 down to 28,3. Compared to Berlin, Hamburg and Bremen, which rank from 139,9 up to 146,9. This appears to be very little. Even if we leave out the three cities as agglomerations, these Bundesländer have three times less foreigners than the German average of 97,2 foreigners per 100 inhabitants.

At first sight the absolute numbers might appear surprising. A possible answer could be found in the growth rates from 2008 to 2015:

Table 6 - Evolution of the foreigners per 1000 inhabitants value from 2008 - 2015¹⁹

| Growth rate of the foreigners per 1000 inhabitants from 2008-2015 | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Bundesland | 2008 | 2015 | Growth rate |
| Sachsen-Anhalt* | 18,0 | 29,6 | 165% |
| Thüringen* | 20,8 | 28,3 | 136% |
| Mecklenburg-Vorpommern* | 23,6 | 29,2 | 124% |
| Hessen | 111,2 | 134,6 | 121% |
| Sachsen* | 27,5 | 31,6 | 115% |
| Bayern | 93,8 | 107,6 | 115% |
| Rheinland-Pfalz | 76,5 | 86,5 | 113% |
| Brandenburg* | 25,7 | 29,0 | 113% |
| Baden-Württemberg | 117,8 | 131,0 | 111% |
| Germany | 87,6 | 97,2 | 111% |
| Bremen | 126,2 | 139,9 | 111% |
| Schleswig-Holstein | 51,9 | 57,1 | 110% |
| Niedersachsen | 65,9 | 72,3 | 110% |
| Berlin | 140,0 | 146,9 | 105% |
| Nordrhein-Westfalen | 105,2 | 108,7 | 103% |
| Hamburg | 138,4 | 141,3 | 102% |
| Saarland | 83,3 | 82,7 | 99% |

While the average growth rate in Germany was of 111% for the observed period, we can constant a surpassing growth in the Eastern “Bundesländer”(*). This could indicate a too

¹⁹ This table was generated with Statistisches Bundesamt (2016)

radical change of their societies in a comparatively short period of time and therefor confirm the assumption of the crucial need to prepare the host communities.

It is also remarkable that all the new “Bundesländer” further received more refugees that actually thought by the “Königssteiner Schlüssel”/ quota system mentioned before (BAMF 2016).

These insights are valuable for various reasons. It shows the need to prepare well the host communities and could be helpful when determining needs when founding a shelter in a specific region (special needs like security). It further reveals the need to face up to racism and prejudices and how they possibly could be deconstructed.

Still, we should be very careful with the generalization of such insights, many people in East Germany do help refugees. The success of the AFD is probably not so easily explained with the party’s idea of foreign policies and treatment of migrants but also possibly reflects the frustration of the voters due to dissatisfaction with the actual government, closing of schools, lack of jobs and perspectives.

3.2.4 Integration and the influence of media coverage

It is to see, that some events had a negative effect on the debate about refugees. The importance and the influence of the representation of refugees in the media and debates in politics are further discussed in Hemmelmann (2016). The terror attacks in in Paris (on “Charly Hebdo”²⁰ and in November 2015²¹ and Nice (in July 2016)²² clearly had a negative impact on the discussion.

Germany did not suffer from attacks of comparable magnitude, still it had to deal with its own incidents. On the New Year’s Eve 2015, a group of men, alleged to be from North African or Arab descent, sexually harassed and/or robbed estimated 1000 women. This

²⁰ For more information: BBC – online <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-30708237>

²¹ For more information: CNN – online <http://edition.cnn.com/2015/12/08/europe/2015-paris-terror-attacks-fast-facts/>

²² For more information: New York Times – Online http://www.nytimes.com/2016/07/16/world/europe/attack-nice-bastille-day.html?_r=0

“fuelled the debate about Germany’s willingness to accept a record number of refugees and migrants last year” (Konolly 2016).

This year two attacks took place in Germany (Oltermann and Rawlinson (2016), Schmidt (2016)) and one was possibly prevented in August (Eddy 2016).

These negative headlines contribute to a climate of fear and distrust and can partly be held responsible for the result of the survey of the Deutsches Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung DIW (DIW 2016) that shows that 55% of the sampled population would pledge for the refugees to return to their country of origin as soon as the situation allows it. These events again stress the importance of dialogue between the different groups: refugees, host communities and institutions. This will be important to deconstruct possible prejudices and enable mutual acceptance if not friendships.

It would not do justice to the situation if only negative headlines would be presented, as they do not holistically reflect the situation in Germany. DIW (2016) also reveals that 80% of the sampled population agreed to concede protection to refugees.

Sachverständigenrat deutscher Stiftungen für Integration und Migration (SVR) (2016) counterbalances the impression given by the negative headlines. It measures the “integration climate” in central elements such as: vicinity, labour market, social relations and education and concludes that all respondents perceived the “integration climate” to be “good” in Germany.

I consider it further important to also examine the refugees’ perspective and attitudes. “Flüchtlinge 2016” (Refugees 2016) (HMKW 2016) unveils that the majority of refugees feel welcome in Germany. It shows that 86% of the sampled people felt that Germans would be kind to refugees and 89% stated that they would want to help them. Religious fanaticism is not as prevalent as the media coverage could possibly suggest and refugees prove to democratic values and gender equality. Still some diverging perceptions can be seen as

potential roots of conflicts. Nearly half of the sampled people (48%) strongly agreed that intercourse before marriage is a sin and 43% would not feel comfortable to have a homosexual couple as neighbours. Nonetheless, the overwhelming majority of the refugees (91,9%) consider it very important to learn German and 97% would be interested in taking a German course.

3.2.5 The Overload of German Institutions

It has to be stated that German institutions had serious difficulties in satisfying the refugees' needs for service and shelter.

One of the most salient problems was and partly still is the management of the refugees' data. Some refugees have been registered multiple times while the whereabouts of others are unclear, some might have left Germany or disappeared. Due to the relatively low asylum requests in the early 2000's, reception facilities were close contributing to the intensification of the emergency situation.

Another weak point was/is the processing of the asylum requests. In August 2016, still a total of 567 479 asylum requests remained without any decision yet (BMI 2016). The BAMF did not have sufficient human resources and the politics should have reacted earlier and hire the necessary amount of administrators in order to assure a fast processing. This in return would have helped on all levels to clarify the rights of the asylum seekers. Asylum seekers described this incertitude to me as very burdensome and frustrating because everything depends on the decision about the status in Germany.

After the formal registering in the EASY-system on their arrival to Germany and the application for asylum, the applicants are invited to an interview. In this interview, the applicant needs to explain in a credible manner his personal situation and show that he fulfils the criteria to be accepted as a "refugee". In Germany, asylum seekers can be granted the

status of a “refugee” in line with the Convention of Geneva or the German Constitution.²³ If this is not the case, “subsidiary protection” can be granted which implies a shorter period of stay and a different legal situation. If the asylum seeker is declined those statuses, the last possibility to stay in Germany and not be deported is the “deportation prohibition” which applies when a person is ill or faces death in his home country. An overview about the decisions taken in 2015 and the percentile share of the different statuses is provided (see Appendices). For the ten main countries of provenance, the highest admission rate as “refugee” can be found in the Syrian group (95,8%) followed by Eritrea (88,3%) and Iraq (86,4%). The highest “denial”-rates are found in the southeast European countries: Kosovo (87,7%), Albania (87,2%) and Macedonia (67,7%).

Whether due to the overload in the past year or to the debate in society (or a combination of both) the new laws concerning asylum and integration appear to worsen the situation. ProAsyl (2016) strongly criticizes the new integration law (“Integrationsgesetz”) of 2016. Among others, social welfare would be cut in case the asylum seeker would refuse the participation to the obligatory integration classes offered by the state. The absurdity is that apparently the demand for these classes would exceed the availability. The intent to speed up decisions with the new set of laws (“Asylpaket II”) is also controversially discussed. Some countries like the North African states could then be declared “secure countries of origin” which would allow to send back the asylum seekers. Pelzer and Pichl (2016) highlight problems with European and International Law.

4 A community centre for Integration

4.1 Sports as a tool for Integration

This chapter will elucidate why I chose Sports as a vehicle for integration. It describes the potential impact sports can have on societies and how it can contribute to reach the

²³ The procedure is described in great detail on the Webpage of BAMF:
<http://www.bamf.de/DE/Fluechtlingsschutz/AblaufAsylv/ablauf-des-asylverfahrens-node.html> seen: 10.10.2016

millennium goals MDG. I would like to focus on “Sport for Development and Peace” (SDP) and use the working definition provided by the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on SDP referring to Sports as “*all forms of physical activity that contribute to physical fitness, mental well-being and social interaction, such as play, recreation, organized or competitive sport, and indigenous sports and games.*” (SDP IWG 2008: 5) The “Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group” (SDP IWG) offers valuable advice in their publication “*Harnessing the Power of Sport for Development and Peace: Recommendations to Governments*”(2008) in terms of using SDP for peace-building and achieving millennium goals.

IWG (2008) states that even though SDP appears to be an emerging field in the area of development, “sport has historically played an important and diverse role in virtually every society” (p.3). The Olympic Truce, which implied temporary peace and allowed competition between athletes of warring states, is used as an example for the historical role sports have played.

It has to be emphasized that “Sport alone cannot prevent conflict or build peace” (IWG 2008, p. 206). Sugden (2006) states that Sport can be seen as a social construct and as such, would not be intrinsically good or bad. Its effect simply would be depending on the way it is used. Outcomes of negative use could be the promotion of nationalism or acts of racism (IWP 2008).

Still the potential of peace building is given through the universality of sports. In respect to this project, the biggest potential to me is the “relationship-building capacity” (also seen by Lederach (1997) as central component in peace-building). In comparison to the German government, I do not perceive the integration to the Labour market and the learning of German as the first priority but as a way of building relationships to the host communities.

Sport in this context helps facilitating the learning of German through contacts and friendship that may also end up in offer for jobs through networking.

The next important aspect is the power to connect individuals to communities as “community sport programs can provide shared experiences between people the “re-humanize” opposing groups” (SDP IWP 2008, p.207), This “re-humanization” is one key objective because the perception of refugees in Germany is divided as explained in Chapter 3 and the acceptance of the host society is crucial to integration objectives. This is one major asset of this project: the ability/potential to tackle racism. These “shared experiences” that could be for example a bodyweight routine or a sparring in combat sports could force participants to review their prejudices about each other. The common effort should at least foster a climate of mutual respect, which would be great to achieve.

In the same line of argumentation, sports can also contribute to the promotion of gender equality, the third Millennium Development Goal. It works in two ways, it can provoke and force men to rethink their perception of the “weak women” by creating the before mentioned, “shared experiences”. Additionally, it can empower the women practising sports and make them benefit in a result of its positive effects on a personal level I will describe in the following.

On a personal level, sport can be used to raise self-esteem and self-control of all participants. The challenges/ A routine in sports demand discipline and perseverance which are rewarded with better mental and physical health It can help to develop individual empathy, cooperation, teamwork and tolerance (Amara et al. 2005). Moreover, Amara et al. (2005) states that sports can reduce anxiety, stress and depression this point seems to be very important to me, as the asylum seekers often have to deal with emotional stress, be it from the war and escape-related traumata, the incertitude about their status and progress in life and the resulting frustration or depression. The effects of exercise on health are presented in depth in

Bouchard et al. (2012), while Biddle et al. (2003) focuses on mental health and psychological issues. Amara et al. (2005) adds to the enhancing life quality effect also societal benefits like the reduction of crime and delinquency. Values like solidarity and fair play are taught but especially important is the promotion of democratic values and citizenship and the participation in public life.

To sum up, I am convinced that sport is a great tool to reach for “holistic peace” which divides up in an internal and external peace, as described by Fernandez Herreria (2004). The positive effects on the personal level (mental and physical health as well as the values and virtues transmitted by sports) foster the inner personal peace. Following Amara et al. (2005) this would represent an augmentation/ improvement of the personal human capital. The contribution to the external peace would consist in the relationship-building, or in line with Amara et al. 2005 the development of social capital: creation of a sense of local identity, sense of solidarity and community networks. Amara et al. (2005) argues that the lack of social and personal human capital is directly linked to social exclusion. As ambitious goal, it could contribute to the external peace at the macro level by provoking the rethinking of perceptions (in racism and gender issues) by seeding positive experiences and let people spread them.

As Obregon et al. shows, the internal peace affects the external and vice versa. The advantage of the use sports in this project is to potentially affect both in positively and simultaneously.

4.2 The Community Center

The aim of this work is to create a refugee shelter, but with a different from the ones I have seen in Germany so far. My experience was the refugee shelter in most cases would just be a place to stay and sleep. The people I have talked to (be it volunteers, refugees or employees of different institutions) confirm this impression. I would like to offer a different

approach by creating a shelter, which would be more similar to a community centre. The service offered in this project is to provide accommodation to refugees and offering a sports training for locals, tourists and the refugees with the aim to increase social cohesion and overall physical wellbeing. Other workshops will be offered to foster a culture of peace.

The presented house is a former train station building in “Bad Sachsa”. The owner of this house runs three shelters in the child and youth services with educators and psychologists.

I worked for her for a year when I did my social service as childcare worker and still visit as often as I can. The first two floors of the house would be rented to me/the association I will have to found. The third floor will probably be used as holiday flats, which would contribute to the economic viability of the project. The first floor will be turned into living quarters for refugees. The hosting of refugees will represent a stable source of income for the viability and the payments of rent. The ground floor will be constituted of a place to practise sports and a “community room” where people can gather together.

At a later point of time, this could also be used as a small café in order to provide small jobs to the asylum seekers (who are allowed to work) and generate further income. In the basement there is sufficient space for a room that can be used for workshops or seminars about the subjects the participants want to talk. As I do not want to impose the practice of sports to every asylum seeker coming, I would like to offer different activities and workshops detailed later. If financing is possible, I would like to offer German-classes in addition to the other activities, as the provided classes might not be sufficient. Given the space, a classroom would easily fit in the basement. In the following I will explain the concept of the activities in greater detail after presenting the house and its regional context.

4.2.1 Location and House



Figure 7 - Backside of the house (private archive)

As can be seen on the photos (see Appendices), the house is a former train station and therefore provides a huge amount of square meters: the basement has 128 m², the ground floor has 233 m², the first floor 214m² and the second floor 103m² – summing up to a total of 685m².

The small town “Bad Sachsa” is located in the Harz-mountains. The Harz has a unique mountainscape and flora and fauna and is in consequence popular for hiking and family trips. The small town has 8 335 inhabitants²⁴ and the administrative district “Osterode am Harz” 74 367 (in 2013)²⁵. The region has to struggle with the demographical change and the loss of workforce and inhabitants (Piegsa and Reyhn 2013). The whole region strongly depends on tourism and counted more than 6,3 million overnight stays in 2015. In the “Landkreis

²⁴ Information retrieved online from the webpage of Bad Sachsa: <http://www.bad-sachsa.com/staticsite/staticsite.php?menuid=26&topmenu=26>

²⁵ Information retrieved online from the webpage of Osterode am Harz: : <http://www.landkreis-osterode.de/index.phtml?NavID=103.28>

Osterode” the numbers have been growing constantly over the last years reaching 912 035 overnight stays in 2015.

The tourism office clearly targets the “traditional-conservative” visitors (“the classical senior”) and the “bourgeoisie”. These groups have middle to high income and further tend to defend traditions and to hold on what is known. As a rural region, a weak point of this region is the local public transport that has been reduced due to the decline in population. An advantage on the other hand is that I could not find any direct competitors offering this kind of training in the region, which would potentially attract more people.

4.2.2 Activities

Before starting this project, it will be key to inform and involve the local community. As analysed in the last chapter, Germany faces a strong debate about integration and the dealing with refugees. Racism and negative prejudices are important threats to this project and I am convinced that the host community needs to be prepared and in the ideal case given the opportunity to contribute with own ideas or wished to the design. This would assure the involvement and commitment on the long run and contribute to the sustainability of the project.

As next step, the social welfare department would need to be informed about the capacities to receive refugees. The department would come to inspect the location and decide whether it meets the requirements or not. The next step would be to clarify the exact amount of money paid for the refugees (families for example receive different funding than single men) and negotiate about details of the funding such as the payment of staff that could be necessary like cleaning or security staff.

As for the promotion of the project, flyers will be hand out to hotels and hostels such as poster advert at strategically important spots in the city (Supermarket, Town hall, etc...) in order to attract tourist. Further the usage of Online-Marketing tools is planned.

As I took a licence in “Functional Fitness, High Intensity Interval Training (HIIT) and Crosstraining”, I would like to share the benefits of it and as a result this will represent the main activity. The concept is to offer a well-balanced training to the asylum seekers and the potential customers/clients. The advantage of functional fitness and Crosstraining is the variety and quantity of muscles implied. Crosstraining combines elements of weightlifting, gymnastics, and athletics. The participant benefits from exercises that involve the whole body. In functional fitness, instable elements can be added to help develop a better sense of balance and mobility. This in return fosters a better proprioception and motoric control. If we add time limitations to reach a higher intensity (HIIT), we can achieve improvements in endurance such as benefits to the cardio-vascular system. It is adaptable to the desires and needs of the participant: for example a runner and a swimmer will have different focuses. This training method is very useful as most movements are transferable to the everyday life and challenges. There is no limitation in ages or physical constitution nor gender as the workload can be individually adjusted. The training in small groups creates the mentioned “shared experiences”. From my experience, mutual respect and motivation is generally the result of these trainings.

At a later point of time, I would like to add Martial arts training. I did practice Karate as a child, some Muay Thai and currently practice Capoeira. I am convinced of the positive effects these sports can have on the practitioners (provided that they are taught by a responsible teacher).

The sessions will consist of a warm up, technical exercises and the actual training. In between little challenges and games fostering different skills (agility, balance, reaction, endurance) will be played to create team spirit. Depending on the wishes of the participants, small (or bigger) events can be organized monthly to compete (weightlifting, football, overall fitness as examples) in order to strengthen the sense of group affiliation and solidarity.

I could also imagine creating a YouTube channel with the refugees, giving especially the less sportive and motivated refugees a medium to share content that might appear important to them. This can be their daily life and challenges they have to face such as the presentation of their culture. This would be a great tool, as the potential audience is everyone with access to YouTube, meaning that this could help to improve the perception of refugees all over Germany. It could help promote the project, may be used for crowd funding or donations and could, depending on the subscribers, likes and views represent a source of income.

The evaluation of these activities will be based on a mix of representative and qualitative tools. As seen in the Logframe-matrix (see Appendices) the most used tools will be surveys and interviews. Surveys allow capturing the atmosphere in general, while the interviews are representing a source of valuable information about how the activities are perceived and if they do work the intended way. This will be done shortly before the project starts and monitored through the whole process. Additionally, research on the long time effect is planned so surveys and interviews could be done years after finish the project in order to see the sustainability of the achieved results.

4.2.3 Target group

As described in detail the first part, mostly young men were arriving to Germany and searching asylum. The responsible of the concerned social welfare department explained me that one could possibly give preferences concerning the refugees who will be hosted (for example focussing on a group like young Syrians from 18- 25) but these preferences would most likely not be met. The state organizes the distribution of the refugees to the “Länder” who then distribute the refugees to the different “Landkreise”. The ones I would get assigned would be those they would have received by the Land administration. This is why I analysed the statistics in depth so I could see which refugees would be the most likely assigned to my project. As young minors have to stay in separate institutions, I assume most of the refugees

coming will be in the age group of 18 to 35. This should be a group that is motivated for the sports program. I would wish to have an equal distribution in gender but given the statistics I do not expect it. I will most likely have to prepare for Syrian asylum seekers, and probably Afghans and Iraqi refugees.

The other target groups will be the local community as well as the tourists.

4.2.4 Costs and Funding

This chapter is only thought to provide an overview about potential costs and funding as details such as duration and conditions of funding and results of negotiations for final prices of necessary equipment cannot be known at this point of time.

Costs

Center: In order to simplify the calculations, I will assume that the owner will be in charge to deliver the house ready for occupation. The costs for the rent of the shelter, utilities and provisioning should be covered by state welfare following the “Asylbewerber-gesetz”.

The main costs will be provoked in the first year by the investment into equipment and staff. During the following years, the main cost factor will be the salaries of staff. A budget must also be planned for maintenance of the installations.

Costs for the Sports equipment:

Nicolas Vogel, the CEO of “SUPRFIT”²⁶, states that a small box would need 15 000€ for the basic material plus 10 000€ for the special floor²⁷. Given the tools I image, I would budget 30 000€ for the gym.

Costs for Community room / Café:

The costs here strongly depend on the final use of the Café/ community room. If it is supposed to be a place where people just would like to sit, chat and have a coffee, furniture

²⁶ Webpage: <http://www.suprfit.de>

²⁷ Interview: Online - <http://www.tagesspiegel.de/wirtschaft/fitness-trend-crossfit-ein-wirklich-hartes-geschaef/9838378.html>

and drinks could be donations or financed by (local) sponsors. If there is the potential of a more commercial use of this Café, involving higher costs of material and furniture, the “GWR-GmbH”²⁸ could possibly help funding as they financially support initiatives of job creations.

Costs for Class room/Seminar room:

The costs for the seminar room can vary strongly. If I assume basic facilities then I would budget:

Chair: 45€ (40x45=1800€), Table: 100€ (20x100= 2000€), Whiteboard: 300€, Electronics (Beamer (650€), Laptop (700€) and Speakers(150€))²⁹: 1500€. In total this would sum up to 5600€.

Costs for staff:

This will definitely be the most cost intensive factor. As support in terms of administration, assistance to the refugees and training, I think I would surely need at least a team of 3 people including myself. Assuming that we would earn 30 000€ annually this would represent at least 90 000€ for wages. Then a budget for the workshops and possible other services (interpreters, security, cleaning...) must be calculated. Not knowing the future need and conditions of working contracts, I will budget 10 000€ in order to have a small bolster.

In total the project would at least require 135 600€ in the first year, not taking into account the costs of the Café and with the need to probably spend more on staff expenses. In the following years, the running costs will be smaller and could (partially) be covered by revenues generated with the gym, café and holiday flats.

Funding

I found different possibilities to finance this project. A funding mixing state/federal money and foundations will be the most likely solution. Still, the funding I would prefer would be the

²⁸ Webpage: <http://wrg-goettingen.de/index.htm>

²⁹ Prices for classroom furniture retrieved from „Betzold“ – online: <https://www.betzold.de/cat/3533393/> and for electronics from „Amazon“ – online: <https://www.amazon.de>

“model-project” funding of the BAMF because this would cover all the expenses of this project for a period that would be determined beforehand. The responsible at the BAMF told me that model projects would exclude sports projects but if I could find an innovative approach, funding might be possible. Sports projects are excluded because the potential impact of sports is already recognized in Germany for the same reasons detailed before. This resulted in programs on different institutional levels. The Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit GIZ (association for international cooperation) and the BAMF both have programs that are based on sports as a tool for achieving integration and development goals. In international cooperation, the GIZ runs the program “Sport für Entwicklung” (Sports for development) and funds projects worldwide. In Germany, the BAMF created the “Integration durch Sport”. This program would be the right institution in charge. The Landesverband (translation) Niedersachsen finances permanent projects up to three years. As a requirement to receive funding I will need to found an association or cooperate with an existing one. A potential partner for cooperation could be the “Turn- und Sportverein Bad Sachsa e.V.”³⁰

There is no limitation in respect to the total amount of funding but the Landesverband finances “only” 80% of all expenses. This makes additional funding necessary. The missing 20% of funding could be provided by the “Niedersächsische Lotto-Sport-Stiftung”³¹ who also runs “Integration through sports” projects. Another potential shareholder could be the “Klosterkammer Hannover”³² finances social and integration projects up to 50% of the costs. Depending on the project, funding can be guaranteed for various years.

³⁰ Webpage: <http://tsv-bad-sachsa.de/index.html>

³¹ Webpage: <http://lotto-sport-stiftung.de>

³² Webpage: <http://www.klosterkammer.de>

4.2.5 Outlook and sustainability

The project can be extended in various forms. First, I would like to present a list of potential workshops depending on the needs and demands of the participants drawing on my personal network and including the UJI Peace Master fellow students:

Martial Arts and Sports:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Capoeira: | Simon Pascual Cerisuelo |
| 2. Kungfu: | Nacho Martin Galan |
| 3. Muay Thai/ French Box: | Emeric Frèrejean |
| 4. Judo: | Bart Hurne |
| 5. Taekwondo: | Irene Escudero Martinez |
| 6. Olympic Weightlifting: | Bart Hurne |
| 7. Yoga: | Lisa Hörtz |
| 8. Volleyball: | Kanami Kotami |
| 9. Athletics: | Mathilde L'Hôte |
| 10. Calisthenics and gymnastics: | Juanjo Ibáñez |
| 11. Mobility: | José Gipolles Pi |

Workshops in Peace Culture:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 16. Filming and Editing: | Morgan Curtis |
| 17. Journalism: | Carles Jorda |
| 18. Sustainable travelling: | Cristian Alfonso Gomez |
| 19. Gender: | Maria Gomez, Sheila Sheron |
| 20. Gender (2): | Laura Castillo, Gaby Bonbon Alvarez |
| 21. Acting, Theatre: | Edgard Vega Vagas, Rebeca Castro |
| 22. Acting, Theatre (2): | Enrique Sanchez, Jennifer Homand |
| 23. Music: | Antonio Garcia |
| 24. Music (2): | Juan Ignacio Martin, Pablo, Angela |
| 25. Introduction to African Culture: | Joel Onimo, Kiprono, |
| 26. Education for peace: | Joana Cobo |
| 27. Art - Painting: | Pierre de Bel-Air |
| 28. Conflict transformation: | Lina Westermann |

Later I would include professionally taught German classes. The volunteer work in respect to teaching German is great, but has its limitations. Further, I would like to add a little permanent technical workshop in order to facilitate the repair and reuse of all kind of items. Here possibly retired Mechanics could provide assistance to the refugees and other interested people and foster stronger intergenerational bonds. This would promote a better relationship with the environment and a more responsible use of resources.

Other potential workshops would be organisation of an “employment day” where the refugees could be put into contact with local companies and politicians in order to discover their potentials. An (inter-)national volunteer/intern program could be developed for people who would like to support the project in administration or a specific mean.

As for the financial sustainability It is hardly possible to this point to ascertain the financial sustainability of the project after the termination of the funding by the Landessportbund in 3 years. Many factors contribute to this uncertainty. First, funding details will only be clarified after handing in official demands of funding and negotiations about duration and extend of funding. Second, it is not possible to know how much revenue the Café or the holiday apartments will generate. Additionally, it is not clear how long the need for such a project will exist as the project is more thought to give an initial help to arriving people and not becoming a becoming a permanent project in a first place. It is evident, that it is desirable that the refugees and local community keeps practicing sports together but under then hopefully different conditions as fully accepted and integrated member of society.

Still, assuming that the house already would be ready to move in, the biggest investment in the first year will clearly be the set up of the Gym equipment. The funding by the Landessportbund Niedersachsen lasts 3 years but includes the equipment and staff expenses (for the sports project). The advantage is that later, these installations tend to be long lasting and not high maintenance like the machines in a “conventional” gym. As the life expenses and the rent of the refugees are assured by the state welfare, the running costs would consist of the salary of staff (coaches/caretaker/workshop presenters/administration) and what is needed to maintain the gym and house. These expenses could possibly be covered by the revenues of the Gym (members and daily pass sales) and of the Café. If this should prove to not be sufficient, I could resort to tools like crowd funding or funding for social start-ups.

4.2.6 SWAT-Analysis

Strengths:

- ❖ Uniqueness of combination,
- ❖ Holistic peace approach,
- ❖ No need of transport for refugees to take part in activities (problem in rural regions),
- ❖ Tourists might come to train – spread ideas and experiences nationwide,
- ❖ Staff and network: House owner assured that her staff can be consulted in case of need, especially for initial examination by psychologist and pedagogues for potentially traumatized refugees.
- ❖ Contact to DAF-teacher through my work with the Goethe-Institute and received positive feedback
- ❖ Attraction of people through sports model: no competitors offering this training,
- ❖ Applicable to all, men/women, old/young

Weaknesses:

- ❖ No experience with such projects,
- ❖ Rural region can be weakness
- ❖ Limitations of sports

Opportunities:

- ❖ New impulse into region,,: reanimation of social life,
- ❖ Establish contact between seniors and refugees
- ❖ Lack of workforce in the region, few foreigners (language skills)
- ❖ Few foreigner probably results in learning German faster

Threats:

- ❖ Local population rejects project,
- ❖ Lack of interest in sports by refugees

- ❖ Problems with local communities and institutions as the target tourists (traditional and established) might not be in favour of such a project, especially given the importance of tourism in region,
- ❖ Change in political landscape (raise of the right-wing movement) and possibly resulting budget cuts for integration project
- ❖ (and as detailed in Logframe-Matrix)

5 Conclusion

The project in my opinion could work, but it is imperative that the government augments the funding of integration projects if integration should be a success. I am aware that this project suggestion does not provide a detailed plan of action and costs. This is due to the difficulties I met when designing this project. The first one is that I could not find a project that already exists that would offer the same approach. The one that would come closest is a project planned in Göttingen where an athletic field will be built next to a refugee shelter.³³

The next difficulty is the uncertainty about different variables. If a shelter is created and offered as such to the local agencies, there is no “choosing” of who will be assigned to this house, which makes it difficult to determine a specific target group. It is further impossible to determine the evolution of future refugee numbers as new conflicts might emerge or stronger border controls can be implemented.

The funding and cost could hardly be more specified without handing in requests and calls for offer for real and further marketing research: the pricing for training, café, demographics of the region, etc. As I did not have the intention to implement this project straight away, I did not want to make people lose time.

³³ For more information: „Göttinger Tageblatt“ – online: <http://www.goettinger-tageblatt.de/Goettingen/Uebersicht/Sportfeld-fuer-Fluechtlinge-in-Goettingen-geplant>

Considering the overload of the German institutions (agencies and ministries) and the feeling that the institutions themselves would be in search of an adequate answer to the “crisis”, I decided to not offer a purely desk-designed approach that could easily be perceived as escapist. So I started to get in touch with different actors on the field and had the opportunity to talk to refugees, volunteers, politicians and institutions. This also drew me back to the question of how integration was handled before the “crisis”. I felt the strong need for this project to provide an understanding of the actual German society which is the result from all post-war migration.

With all I have learned during the elaboration of this project, I would possibly choose a slightly different design. I would offer the same kind of sports-community centre but in a city with more inhabitants (which also implies more refugees). In consequence, the refugees interested in participation could self-select and the idea to offer accommodation to those who would like to live in this centre would not necessarily need to be abandoned. Altogether, I understand this work more as a blueprint. It offers a base framework that can be used for a project of this type that waits to be implemented.

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7 Appendices

Table 7 - Evolution of the foreigners per 1000 inhabitants value from 2011 - 2015³⁴

| Growth rate of the foreigners per 1000 inhabitants from 2011-2015 | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Bundesland | 2011 | 2015 | Growth rate |
| Thüringen* | 16,0 | 28,3 | 177% |
| Mecklenburg-Vorpommern* | 17,7 | 29,2 | 165% |
| Sachsen-Anhalt* | 18,7 | 29,6 | 158% |
| Sachsen* | 20,2 | 31,6 | 157% |
| Brandenburg* | 18,6 | 29,0 | 156% |
| Schleswig-Holstein | 43,0 | 57,1 | 133% |
| Niedersachsen | 55,4 | 72,3 | 130% |
| Bayern | 85,0 | 107,6 | 127% |
| Rheinland-Pfalz | 69,7 | 86,5 | 124% |
| Berlin | 118,9 | 146,9 | 124% |
| Bremen | 113,3 | 139,9 | 123% |
| Deutschland | 79,0 | 97,2 | 123% |
| Saarland | 68,9 | 82,7 | 120% |
| Baden-Württemberg | 109,8 | 131,0 | 119% |
| Hessen | 114,0 | 134,6 | 118% |
| Nordrhein-Westfalen | 92,8 | 108,7 | 117% |
| Hamburg | 127,3 | 141,3 | 111% |

Table 8 - Results of the elections for the AfD³⁵

| Election | Date | Share of the votes |
|--------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| Bundestag | 22.09.13 | 4,70% |
| Hessen | 22.09.13 | 4,10% |
| European Parlament | 25.05.14 | 7,10% |
| Sachsen* | 31.08.14 | 9,70% |
| Brandenburg* | 14.09.14 | 12,20% |
| Thüringen* | 14.09.14 | 10,60% |
| Hamburg | 15.02.15 | 6,10% |
| Bremen | 10.05.15 | 5,50% |
| Baden-Württemberg | 13.03.16 | 15,10% |
| Sachsen-Anhalt* | 13.03.16 | 24,30% |
| Rheinland-Pfalz | 13.03.16 | 12,60% |

³⁴ This table was generated with Statistisches Bundesamt (2016)

³⁵ This table was generated with BpD (2016)

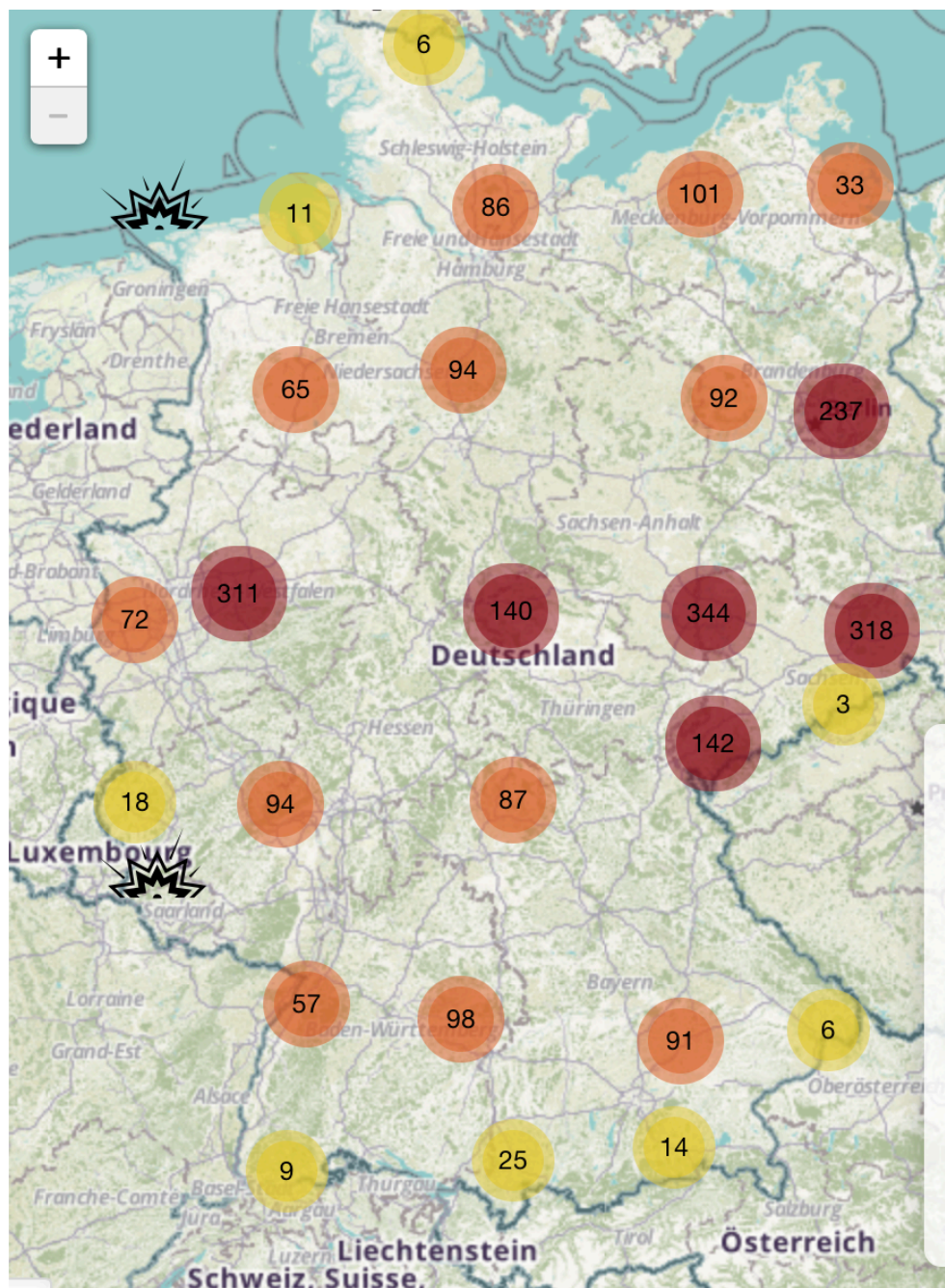


Figure 8 - Violence against Refugees in Germany since January 2015³⁶

Table 9 - Decisions taken over asylum requests in Germany 2015³⁷

| Asylum requests - Decisions 2015 | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Category | |
| accepted as refugee | 137166 (48,5%) |

³⁶ This screenshot is retrieved from „Mut gegen rechte Gewalt“ online: <https://www.mut-gegen-rechte-gewalt.de/chronik-karte> seen: 10.10.2016

³⁷ This table was generated with BAMF (2016)

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| granted "subsidiary protection" | 1707 (0,6%) |
| "deportation prohibition" | 2072 (0,7%) |
| Denials | 91514 (32,4%) |
| "Formal decisions" | 50297 (17,8%) |
| Total | 282726 |

Formal decisions refer to cases in which the Dublin-procedure is applied and in a result another member state of the EU is responsible or in case the applicant withdrew the request.



Figure 9 - Frontside of the house (private archive)



Figure 10 - Location of the house and surroundings (screenshot retrieved from Google Maps)

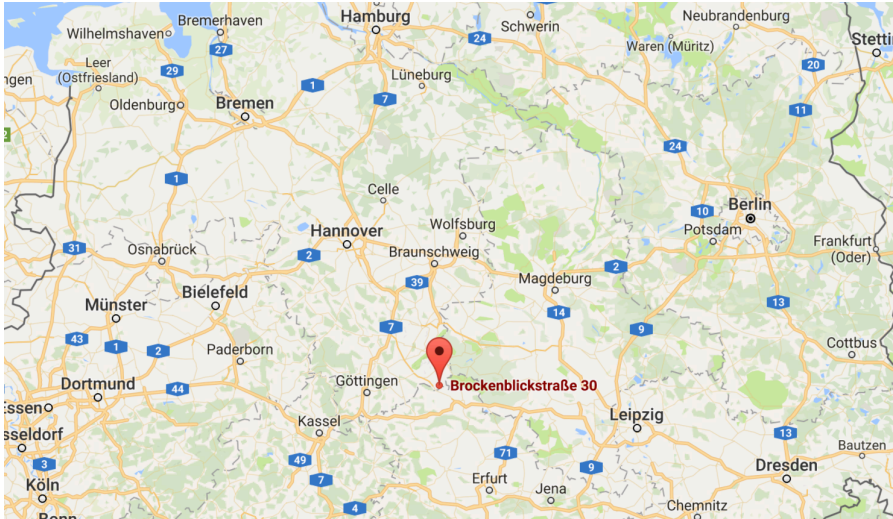


Figure 11 - Location of the house (Screenshot retrieved from Google Maps)

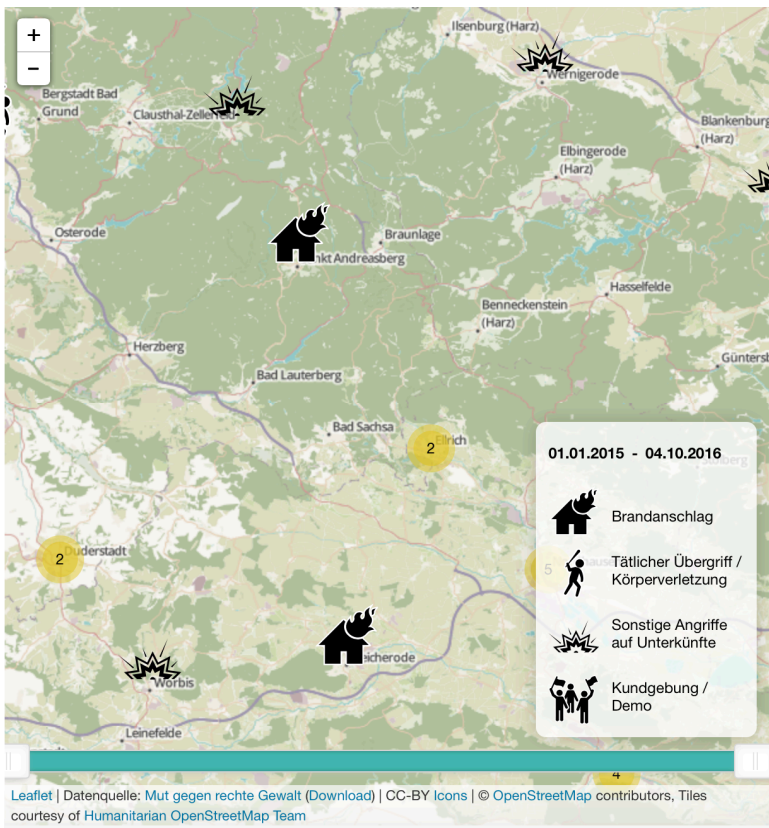


Figure 12 - Violent incidences in the region of "Osterode am Harz" since January 2015³⁸³⁹

³⁸ The burning houses represent arson attacks against (future) shelter for refugees while the starlike symbol represents „other attacks“ against shelter.

| LOGFRAME MATRIX | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| Intervention Logic | Objectively Verifiable Indicators | Sources of Verification | Risks and Assumptions |
| Main Objective | | | |
| Foster a culture of peace and improve the social cohesion through Sports | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Augment the well-being and health of the participants - Augment health of target population - Augment interaction between the different participants and contribute to the deconstruction of prejudices | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Interviews and surveys -Health indicators and medical reports -Local press articles and comments (related to those topics) - participation rate (project) measuring the success of project | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of will to participate by the different implied groups: local population and refugees - In the worst case offensive boycott or erupting violence - Hindering of the development of the project by local authorities - potential problem with the touristic office as mentioned in the "threats" - risk and potential of the rural region |
| Outcomes | | | |
| 1. Fostering a culture of peace and better social cohesion through Sports | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve the social-economical dynamism of the region | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - interviews and survey - employment rates - inscriptions in association, - police reports over violence | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of willingness to participate by the different stakeholders - Refusal of the offered approach -Refusal on the institutional level |

³⁹ This screenshot is retrieved from „Mut gegen rechte Gewalt“ online: <https://www.mut-gegen-rechte-gewalt.de/chronik-karte> seen: 10.10.2016

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p>2. Improve the health and well-being of the targeted population through Sports</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduce the illnesses linked to overweight (diabetes for example) - Possibly develop an indicator to measure happiness or use existing one and improve the overall happiness of participants | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - interviews and surveys - medical report - monitoring of participants while training (seeing improvements) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of motivation to engage in sports by the refugees and local community (Especially critical: not sports affine target group) - not implementing the given advice about training and nutrition by target group |
| Outputs | | | |
| <p>1.1 Increased the number of people educated in peace culture through sports and workshops</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase the number of participants in Peace culture workshops - Increase of public life activities and involvement in public life | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interviews and surveys - Number of participants - Apparition on news paper - Facebook visit on homepage - Number of cultural events in the region and participation in those - Participation in local politics, debates and discussions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Denial of the target groups to the peace culture approach - Lack of resources to pay for the different workshops |
| <p>1.2 Increased the interaction between the refugees and local community through sport</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Observe an augmentation of interaction between the participants, before/after and while training, for example meetings in free time (play football on weekend) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interviews and surveys - Photos - Group discussions - Possibly Facebook friendships as source of verification | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Denial of the target groups to the peace culture approach - Lack of resources to pay for the different workshops |

| | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| 2.1. Decreased of illnesses linked to overweight and lack of physical activity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase the number of the people in the community doing sports -Improvement of health conditions of target population | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interviews and surveys - Medical reports - Subscription to sports classes (in Gym and competitors) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not implementing the given advice concerning training and nutrition potentially resulting in injuries and missing the personal goals set beforehand - Risk of too high competition between the groups |
| Activities | | | |
| 1.1.1. Implementation of Workshops fostering peace culture | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of workshops hold -Variety of workshops (as holistic as possible) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation lists - Feedback of participants - Interviews and survey | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of resources - Lack of participation due to missing motivation motivation or curiosity |
| 1.1.2. Implementation of functional training classes in which the target groups practise sports together resulting in stronger social cohesion and relationship building | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promotion of new interaction in groups and discussion groups after the training -Practice of small games that require cooperation and teamwork of the participants | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In-depth interviews with participants - Photos - Parties celebrated - Reports in local press | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Missing commitment of target groups - Risks of injuries |
| 1.1.3 Creation of a YouTube channel in order to promote the values of a peace culture and the contents the refugees would like to share | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In a period of one year achieve 10 000 subscribers and a total of 50 000 views | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - YouTube: number of published videos; subscribers, views and likes - Analysis of comments for feedback | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of interest by the YouTube community - Hateful, offensive comments |

| | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| <p>2.1.1 Creation of a place where people can train together in order to increase the personal wellbeing and health</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase level of physical activity by 40% in the target population, get 50 permanent members in the first year and achieve 300 sales of daily passes reduction of overweight and diabetes by 10% | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Members and visitors - Participation rate of refugees - Monitoring of the activity - Interviews with participants about their state and wellbeing - Medical reports | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Risk of injuries - Lack of motivation - Lack of will to train together - Not liking the concept of functional training |
|---|--|---|---|