Migration and Asylum Policy
How to End the Current Crisis

Introduction and Dilemmas
The Perspective of the Hungarian Government
The Perspective of the European Union

a presentation by Akos Baumgartner
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Source of the high-definition picture: Comisión Española de Ayuda al Refugiado (CEAR) - cear.es

Thank you for your kind attention!
Introduction and Dilemmas

Migration: "to move from one country, place, or locality to another" - Merriam-Webster Dictionary

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Historical and Global Background

Historical Approach

2-4% migrants of global population

244 million = 3.3% (2015)

bigger absolute values
more people on the road
more challenges

Global Approach

Global phenomenon
not only European problem

Former trends:
Non-developed countries
Developed countries

Nowadays:
Non-developed countries
Non-developed countries
Question of Technology

until 1830:
Speed of Transportation = Speed of Information

after 1830:
Speed of Transportation < Speed of Information

"Parallel Societies"
no/less need of integration
being involved deeper in the original community
lack of language knowledge, rights

Questions to be answered:
• Do they exist?
• Is it reality or just the term of politicians and journalists?
The Perspective of the Hungarian Government

Péter Szijjártó, minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade: "Hungary has been saying for the past two years that the mandatory resettlement quota is dangerous, impossible to enforce, and contrary to common sense" - 13th September, Financial Times

10-point action plan
Migration and the public opinion
Summary clarification
Hungary's 10-point action plan for the management of the migration crisis

1. Borders
2. Identification
3. Corrections
4. Outside
5. Agreements
6. Return
7. Conditionality
8. Assistance
9. Safe countries
10. Voluntary

The border barrier at the Serbo-Hungarian border
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-Viktor Orbán, PM of Hungary;
“Schengen 2.0” plan
meeting of the Centrist Democrat International (CDI), Lisbon;
April 2016
Question of terrorism

Two Points of View

“While there is no evidence that migration leads to increased terrorist activity, migration policies that are restrictive or that violate human rights may in fact create conditions conducive to terrorism. Overly-restrictive migration policies introduced because of terrorism concerns are not justified and may in fact be damaging to state security.” - Ben Emmerson, UN Investigator

“Migration and terrorism go hand in hand; since the beginning of this mass migration influx, more than three hundred people have died in terrorist attacks in Europe”. - Károly Kontrát, Parliamentary State Secretary at the Ministry of Interior
Migration and the public opinion

Divides the society:
- Threat to culture, society, national identity, national security
- Fake problem, gaining political benefit

New words in everyday usage:
- 'migráns', 'bevándorló', 'gazdasági bevándorló'

'Migration is one of the greatest challenges of the EU'
- 7% - 2013
- 68% - 2015
- Standard Eurobarometer

Stronger populism
- huge intolerance toward minorities
- xenophobia
- stronger prejudice
- public service media appearance

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Source: 24.hu
**Summary clarification**

Hungary is involved and affected

But the situation is not the worst

**Question of Xenophobia**

Scholarships for foreigner students
More than 28,000 students

Tourism
Sziget Festival
Budapest

No crime because of Xenophobia
The Perspective of the European Union

Economic-political entity with strong values
Value based but pragmatic solution
Protect the four freedoms

One of the greatest challenges
European Union, the Promised Land?
division between EU Member States

Questions to be answered:
- Are we capable of integrating the refugees/migrants?
- Can we create cohesion between the states to find a solution that is acceptable for everyone?
- Can the EU balance between the human rights, (supra)national purposes and the fact that the protection of the borders and its inhabitants is one of the EU's responsibilities?
Possible Solutions

Purposes: save the lives of the migrants, keep the immigration under control, be able to make a step further, eliminate the market of migrant smugglers

Protection of the external borders
- Schengen Agreement has to be maintained
- Stronger external border protection

Policy-making with neighbour countries
- North-African countries
- Countries of the Middle-East

Action-plan
- European investment
  - Keeping the labour on the spot
- Education
  - European scholarships
  - Youth-unemployment centres
  - International research centres
  - Scientific freedom

Negotiation with third countries
- Setting up reception centres
- Visa zones
- Visa/Asylum application possibilities on the spot
- Immigration point system
- Canadian/Australian example
- Selection factors - equal different points
- Humane, safe, controlled, successful immigration into the EU without migrant smuggling
Thank you for your kind attention!

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