



BORDERS AND ASYLUM IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD

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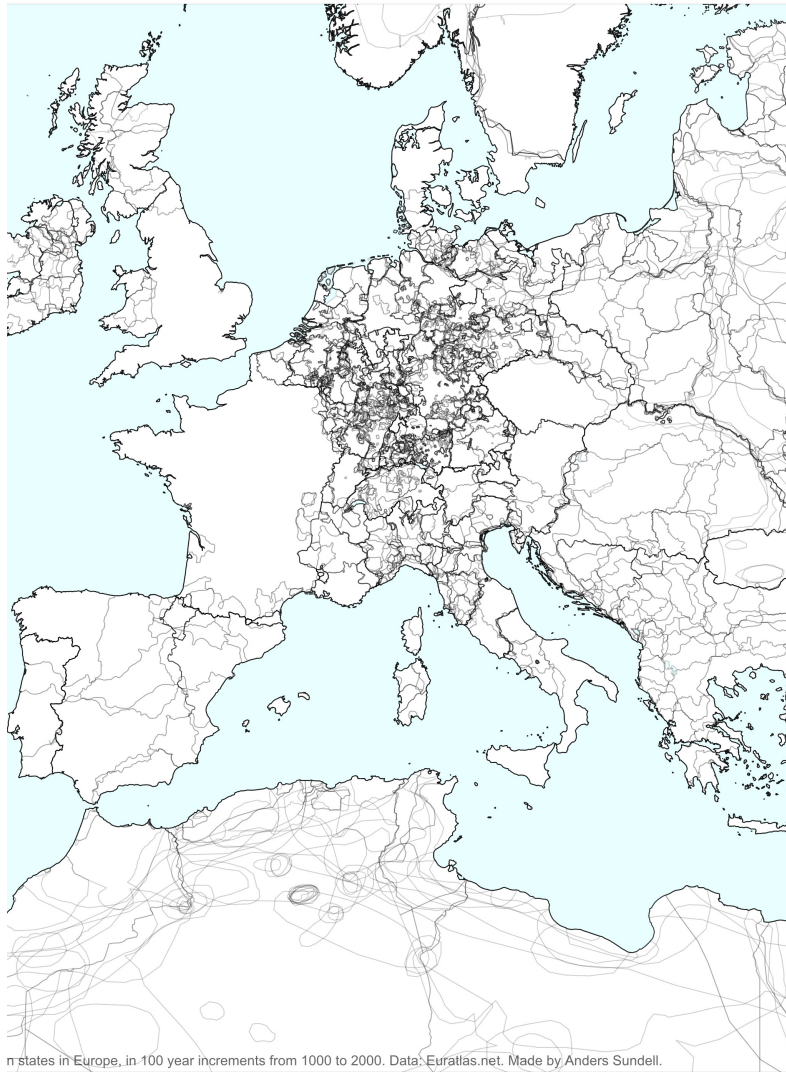
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OUTLINE

- What do borders do?
- Evolution of borders
- Borders in crisis
- Borders in a globalizing world
- Borders and asylum

WHAT DO BORDERS 'DO'?

- Define territory – symbolic marker
- Enable sovereign authority – create and differentiate space
- Control movement – sort and filter
- Reproduce division – In/Visible Spectacle





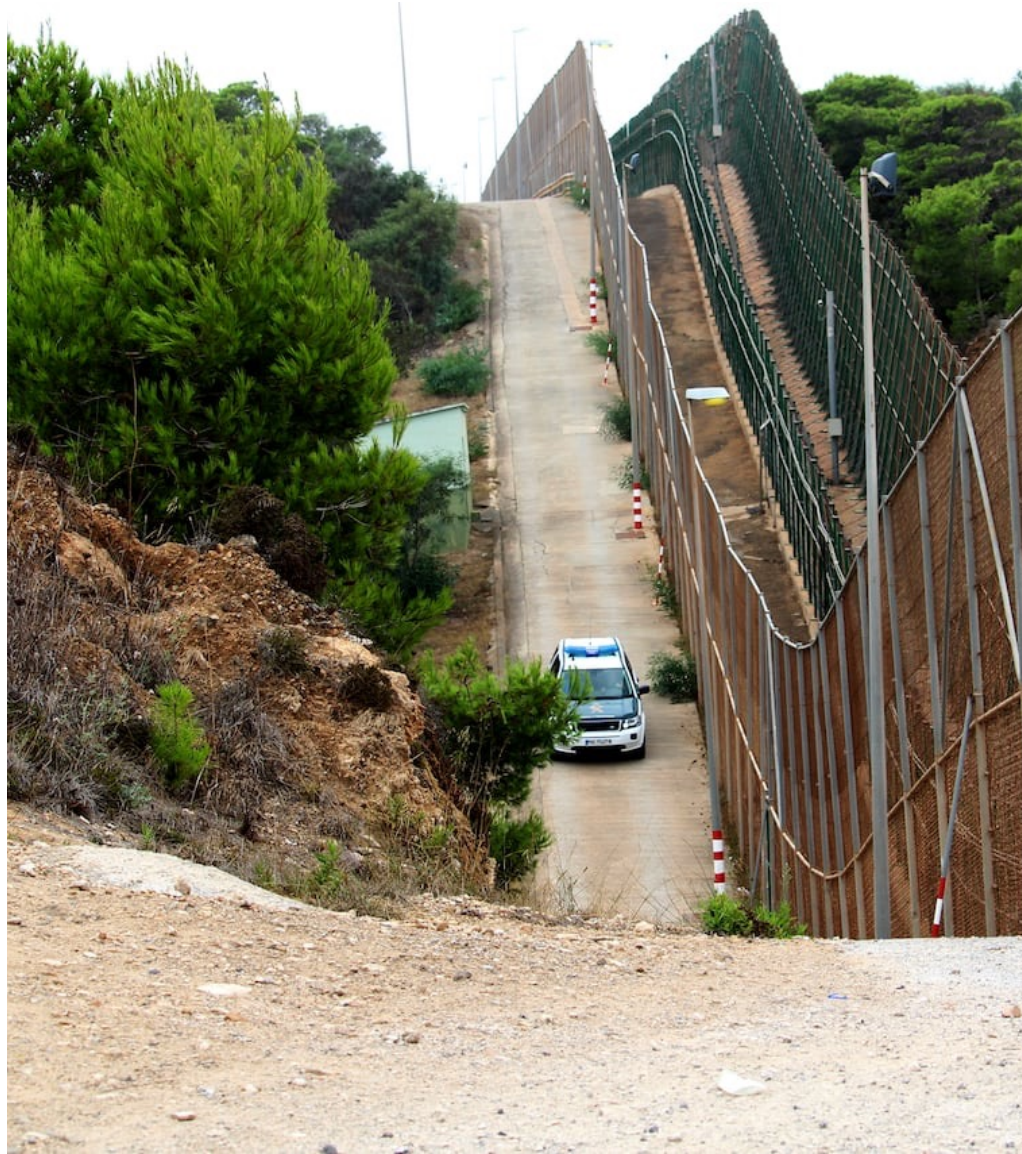
WHY SHOULD WE CARE ABOUT BORDERS?

- Important point of political analysis
- Seeing 'the state'
- Making power visible
- Central feature of globalization
- Site of contestation and resistance



BORDERS AS BUSINESS

- Border Industry
 - Illegality Inc. (Andersson, 2014)
- Dealing with Dictators
- Expanding Industry, Expanding Reach



THE PROBLEM WITH BORDERS

- Borders Move
 - Follow the migrant
- Borders are Violent
 - Borders producing the violence that surrounds
- Borders reproduce division
 - Global Apartheid (Richmond, 1994; De Genova 2013; Sharma; Besteman, 2019)

WHERE DO MODERN BORDERS COME FROM?

- Treaty of Westphalia – 1648
- Colonial Bordering
 - Berlin Conference – 1884-85
 - Paris Peace Conference – 1919
- Modern border evolutions
 - Schengen Agreement – 1985



TREATY OF WESTPHALIA - 1648



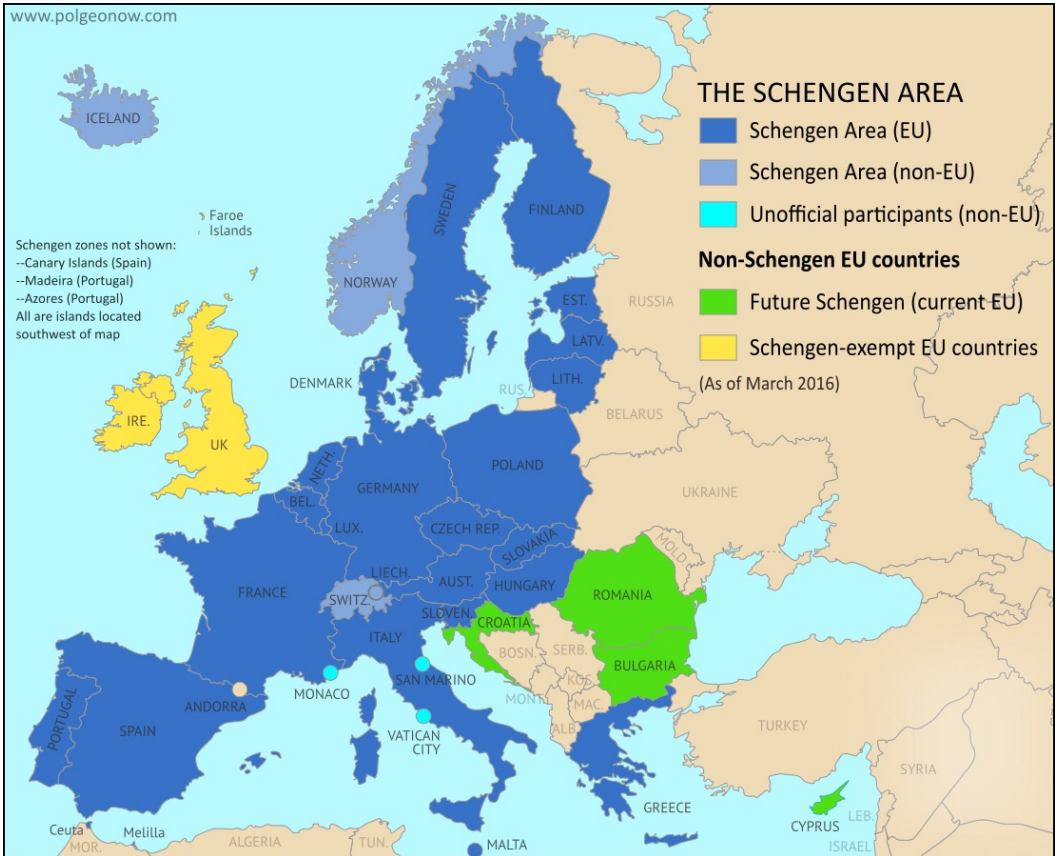
COLONIAL BORDERING: BERLIN CONFERENCE 1884-85



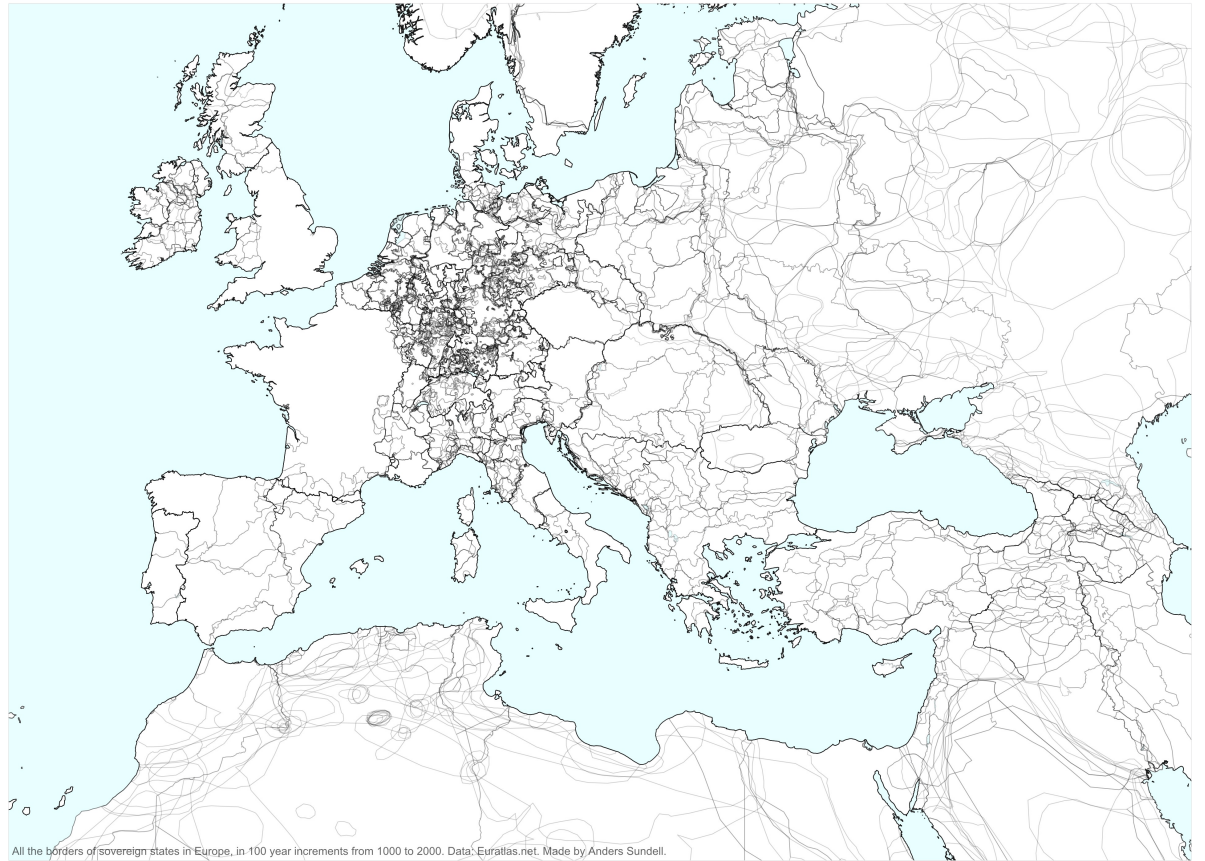
PARIS PEACE CONFERENCE - 1919



MODERN BORDER
EVOLUTIONS:
SCHENGEN
AGREEMENT 1985



BORDER EVOLUTION IN EUROPE



WHAT IS WITH ALL THIS TALK OF A 'BORDER CRISIS'?

- Invoking Crisis and Illegality
- Crisis for whom?





BORDERS IN 'CRISIS'?

- Crisis as:
 - Performance (Butler 1990; 1993)
 - Exception (Agamben 2005)
 - Spectacle (De Genova 2013)



CRISIS ENABLING BORDERS

- Militarizing borders
- Legitimizing practice
- Enabling material expressions



BORDERS IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD

- Is a globalized world a borderless world?
- Are we in a Post-Westphalian international system?



(RE)PRODUCING (IN)EQUALITY

- Global South v. Global North mobility
- Economic asymmetry
- Lack of pathways

BORDER CONTRADICTIONS

- Economic opportunity and exploitation
- Fluidity and barriers
- Inequality



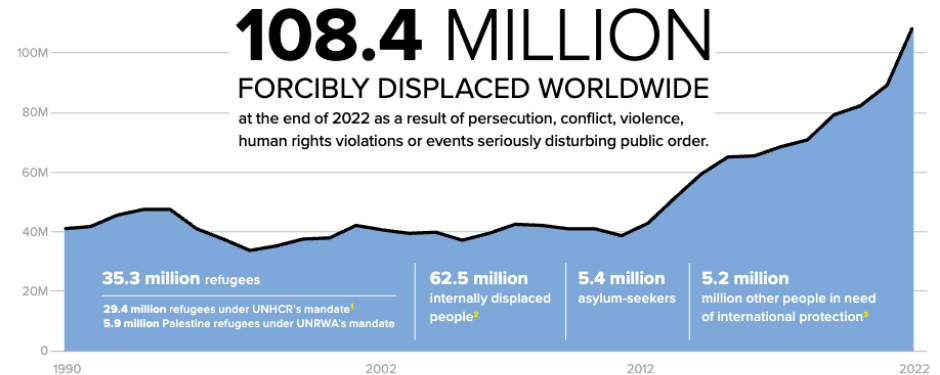
BORDERS AND ASYLUM

Quick Facts on Asylum

- 108.4 million people have been forcibly displaced due to conflict, persecution or natural disasters
- 35.3 million refugees globally
- 56,771 people have died while migrating between countries since 2014
- 24% of refugees are hosted by high-income countries

(Source: IOM; UNHCR)

Trends at a Glance



76%
HOSTED IN LOW-
AND MIDDLE-INCOME
COUNTRIES

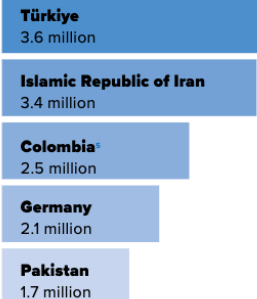
Low- and middle-income countries hosted 76 per cent of the world's refugees and other people in need of international protection.⁴ The Least Developed Countries provided asylum to 20 per cent of the total.

70%
HOSTED IN
NEIGHBOURING
COUNTRIES

70 per cent of refugees and other people in need of international protection lived in countries neighbouring their countries of origin.

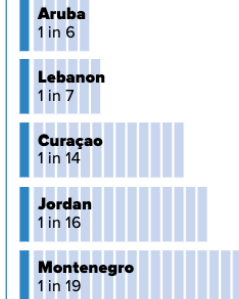
3.6 MILLION
REFUGEES HOSTED
IN TÜRKIYE

Türkiye hosted nearly 3.6 million refugees, the largest population worldwide, followed by the Islamic Republic of Iran with 3.4 million.



1 IN 6
ARE DISPLACED

Relative to their national populations,⁶ the island of Aruba (1 in 6) and Lebanon (1 in 7) hosted the largest number of refugees and other people in need of international protection, followed by Curaçao (1 in 14), Jordan (1 in 16) and Montenegro (1 in 19).⁷



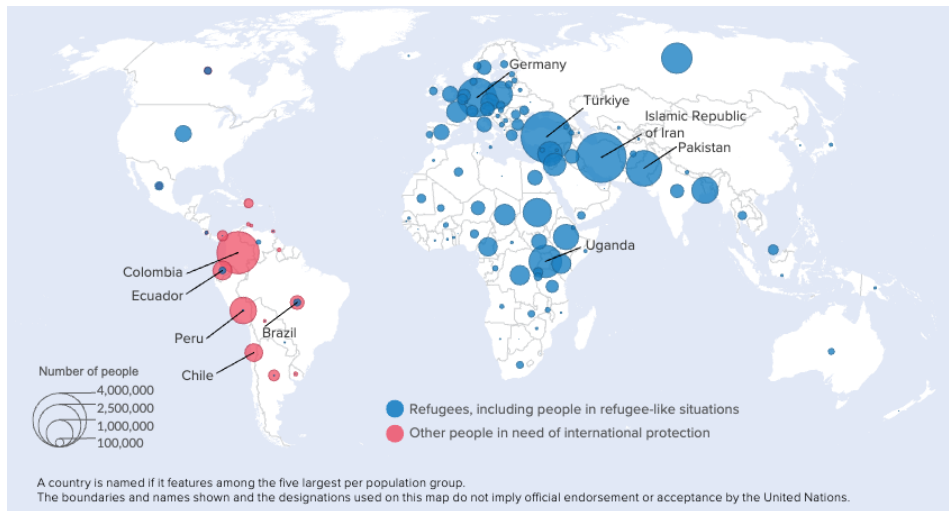
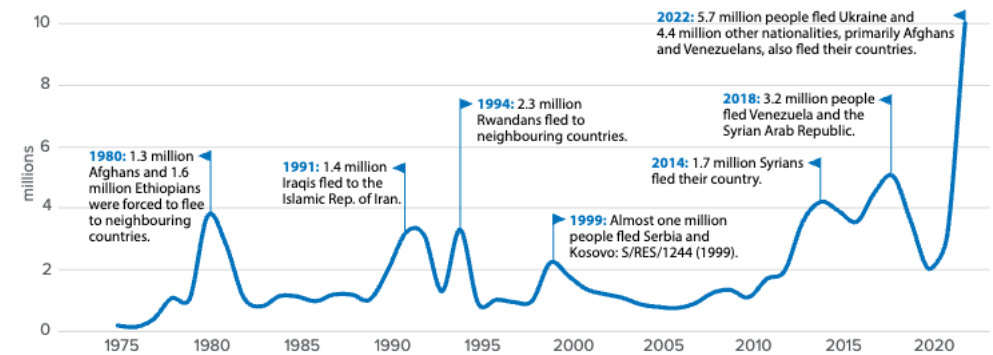


Figure 11 | Refugees, asylum-seekers and other people in need of international protection displaced during each year¹⁵ | 1975 – 2022





DEFINITIONS

- Refugees
- Asylum Seeker
- Migrant
- Internally Displaced Persons (IDP)

LEGAL MECHANISMS

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 14)
- 1951 UN Refugee Convention (and its 1967 Protocol)
- Regional Refugee law instruments (including 1969 OAU Convention, 1984 Cartagena Declaration, Common European Asylum System and Dublin Regulation)



WHO QUALIFIES FOR ASYLUM?

- Race or nationality
- Religion
- Member of a particular social group
- Political opinion
- Risk to your life or cruel and inhuman treatment
- Risk of torture



PROTECTIONS UNDER UN REFUGEE CONVENTION

- Key - non-refoulement (Article 33)
- Not to be expelled, except under certain, strictly defined conditions (Article 32)
- Not to be punished for irregular entry into the territory of a contracting State (Article 31)
- Non-discrimination (Articles 3 and 5)
- Decent work (Articles 17 to 19 and 24)
- Housing, land and property, including intellectual property (Articles 13, 14 & 21)
- Education (Article 22)
- Freedom of religion (Article 4)
- Access to justice (Article 16)
- Freedom of movement within the territory (Article 26 and Article 31 (2))
- Civil, identity and travel documents (Articles 12, 27 and 28)
- Social protection (Articles 23 and 24 (2-4)).



BARRIERS TO PROTECTION



- Claiming rights protections
- Documentation challenges
- Safe Third Country Agreements
- Limits on protection

CONCLUSIONS

- Rethinking borders
- Implications
- Practice and performance
- Situate in historical context
- Blur binaries

THANK YOU!

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