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<p><b>Afghanistan</b> Afghanistan had a communist government for 20 years until the early 90s when even the Russian support of that government could not keep it in power and the Islamic State of Afghanistan was created. At the time the United States of America supported religious leaders in their fight against Russia, the USA even supported the Taliban at some time. The Taliban eventually came to power and ruled with Islamic law and – for example- did not allow women and girls to go to school or even go out of the house alone. After 9-11, when planes flown by al-Qaeda pilots, crashed into the New York twin towers, the United States of America began an invasion of Afghanistan. The situation in Afghanistan is very complex because many interests of neighbouring countries are involved and many different religious groups fight against each other.</p>	<p><b>Ukraine</b> Ukraine is almost as big as France and has a population of about 42.5 million. It became independent from the USSR in 1991, when the cold war ended. In 2014 the then Ukrainian president Yanukovich refused to sign an agreement with the European Union which led to demonstrations and unrests that finally removed Yanukovich from power. Since then parts of Ukraine have fought against the new government and they have been supported by Russia. Russia invaded the Crimea region – a region of 2.3 Mio people - and fights erupted in regions closer to Russia. The conflicting parties in the Donbass region use heavy artillery and even fighter planes with a result of about 1.5 Mio people fleeing the area either into Russia or towards Western Europe.</p>	<p><b>Syria</b> More than 250,000 Syrians have lost their lives in four-and-a-half years of armed conflict, which began with anti-government protests before turning into a full-scale civil war. More than 11 million others have been forced from their homes as forces loyal to President Bashar al-Assad and those opposed to his rule fight against each other - as well as Jihadist militants from so-called Islamic State. Pro-democracy protests erupted in March 2011 in the southern city of Deraa after the arrest and torture of some teenagers who painted revolutionary slogans on a school wall. The unrest triggered nationwide protests demanding President Assad's resignation. By July 2011, hundreds of thousands were taking to the streets across the country. Opposition supporters eventually began to take up arms, first to defend themselves and later to fight against security forces. Violence increased and the country slid into civil war as rebel brigades were formed to battle government forces for control of cities, towns and the countryside.</p>
<p><b>Iraq</b> The war / invasion against Iraq in 2003 – led by the United States and England- ended with the death of Saddam Hussein, the then dictator of Iraq. The official reason for the invasion was that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction (atomic, biologic) that it was about to use against Israel and other Western countries. During the invasion it became clear that this was not the case, there were no weapons of mass destruction For some years the coalition army stayed in Iraq and kept conflicting interest under control but when the American Army left Iraq in 2012 the unrests developed to the scale of a civil war and parts of the old political parties united to form the Islamic state and other Islamic terror groups. Only in recent months has the Islamic state been driven out of major cities in Iraq but left hundred thousands of civilians dead and large areas totally destroyed.</p>	<p><b>South Sudan</b> The South Sudan became independent in 2011 but soon after that a civil war broke out , which began in December 2013, continued in 2016 with serious abuses against civilians by both government forces and opposition fighters - despite a peace agreement signed in August 2015. Government soldiers killed, raped, and tortured civilians as well as destroying civilian property in the southern and western parts of the country, and both sides committed abuses against civilians in and around Juba and other areas. An additional 200,000 people were forced to flee their homes, bringing the total displaced people to 2.4 million. The conflict began in December 2013 when soldiers loyal to President Salva Kiir, a Dinka, and those loyal to former Vice President Riek Machar, a Nuer, fought in the capital following months of growing political tensions. In December 2015, A UN Special Advisor said the ongoing violence had transformed the conflict into an "ethnic war" and warned of a "potential for genocide."</p>	<p><b>Libya</b> Libya is a large state along the Mediterranean coast. It was long governed by the dictator Gadhafi but when he was ousted from power and later killed in 2011, the country became very instable and fighting broke out between two major Libyan parties and several smaller ones. It is now considered a lost state because no overall accepted government is in existence and individual warlords fight for their own small territories. It is the main transit area for migrants from Africa to Europe across the Mediterranean sea. Many migrants are held in detention camps under inhuman conditions and the European union is heavily criticised for supporting such camps "By training and providing the Libyan coastguard with ships to transport migrants back to the country, European leaders are contributing to unspeakable suffering" says Amnesty International.</p>

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<p><b>Germany</b> In 2015, accepted more than 1 Mio refugees that came along the Balkan route. It started when thousands were stuck between Hungary and Austria and the German Chancellor Angela Merkel decided that the borders to Germany were opened. The other European countries accepted very few. In the following months and years strong criticism about this uncontrolled influx of refugees into Germany has grown and the right wing political party AFD became the 3rd strongest political party in the national elections 2017.</p>	<p><b>Sweden</b> The Government's objective is to ensure a sustainable migration policy that safeguards the right to asylum and, within the framework of managed immigration, facilitates mobility across borders, promotes needs-based labor migration, controls the effects of migration on development and deepens European and international cooperation. The government has taken measures to reduce the numbers of asylum seekers, to reduce the strain on the Swedish society. It has strengthened its policy on returning people who have not been granted asylum to their countries of origin.</p>	<p><b>France</b> France has difficulties with the rush of immigrants -many do not get a roof over their top because the asylum centers are overcrowded. But compared with Germany and Sweden far fewer refugees seeks asylum in France, partially because of the unemployment and the lower financial support for asylum seekers. France has refused to accept an official quota system for asylum seekers in Europe. It is, however, a strong transit country, as many refugees try to get into England, crossing the English channel.</p>
<p><b>Spain</b> After centuries of net emigration, Spain experienced large-scale immigration for the first time in modern history. In 1998, immigrants accounted for 3 per cent of the population. By 2008, the share had jumped to 13 per cent — one of the highest in Europe. The two largest groups were Romanians and Moroccans, with a combined 1.4 m migrants that is almost a third of the foreign population. In 2014 and 2015 only few refugees applied for asylum in Spain but in 2016 Close to 16.000 people sought asylum in Spain.</p>		<p><b>Great Britain</b> The refugee crisis of 2015 had an impact on the referendum about the Brexit, in which many voted for a Brexit because they felt that the European laws allowed too many foreigners into their country – not only refugees but also Poles, Bulgarians, etc. from other European countries In the last 2 decades the percentage of foreign born individuals in the UK had already almost doubled to about 14% of the population. Great Britain refuses a quota system.</p>