

## **Youth Contribution To Global Peace**

The G20 Summits have always addressed a variety of socio-economic problems in a wider context, however, the issue of migration and refugees, which has dire consequences especially for the youth, is yet to be touched upon. Especially for the youngsters who find themselves entrapped within a refugee or migration circumstance are in dire need of responsible international actors who will reach out a helping hand. The flaws in the current international system, however, remains as the main impediment for resolving such issues based on equality and justice. Within this framework, the G20 bears an important responsibility as a global institution. . To bring the global audience's attention to this issue and to remind the youth of their responsibility of promoting global peace, two paramount issues will be addressed under the titles "War and Youth" and "Y20 and Dialogue with Least Developed Countries."

According to the UN 2013 World Youth Report, out of the 232 million international immigrants, 45.6 percent of this population consists of youth and children under the age of 29. The problem that arises from these numbers is the lack of proper education, health security and employment opportunities, which leave a large number of youth, deprived of these basic rights.

According to UN records, 1.2 billion still remain under extreme poverty<sup>1</sup> The previous G20 summits declared commitment to eradicate poverty and hunger in LDCs and developing countries Under Australia's leadership of G20 in 2014, a framework which was set to resolve food security and problems of nutrition. As it was in prior summits, confronting poverty and nourishment issues were undertaken as significant goals. However, alongside these problems education and employment are also of utmost importance needed in this conversation. Hereby, the initiatives to be put forth by the Y20 together with LDC members will be directly geared towards giving wide opportunities to youth members to take leadership in constructing concrete solutions to education and unemployment issues.

### **War and Youth**

Due to the global and local terror, war and conflict situations the problem of forced immigration and refugee crisis have exacerbated into a chronic issue affecting 250 million immigrants, and 50 million refugees.

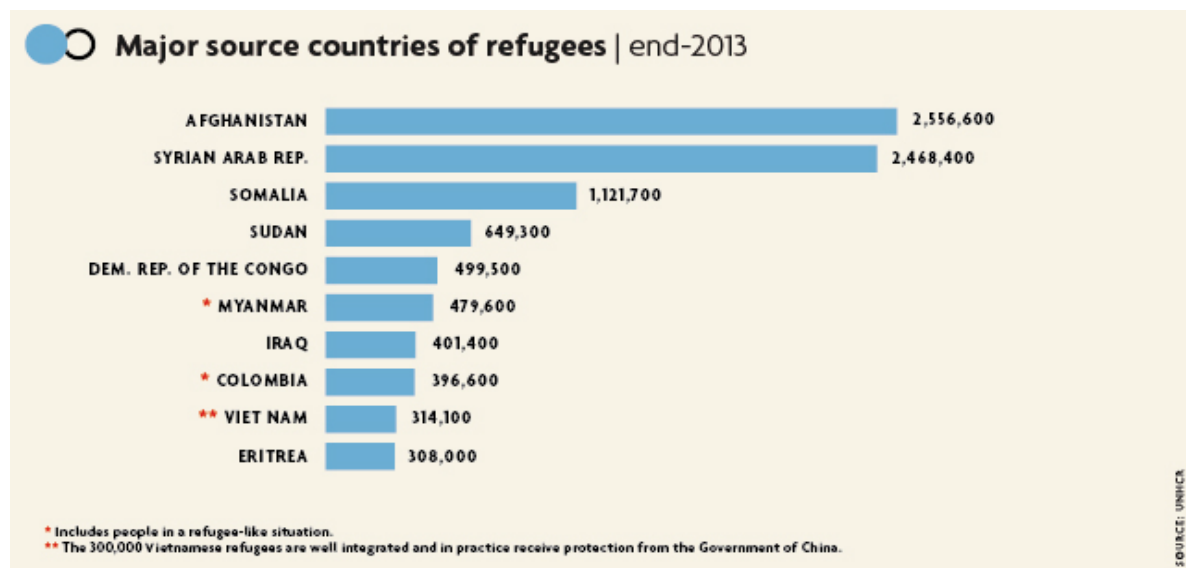
The refugee numbers that arise from different parts of the world are at an alarming rise. The most prominent case where the issue of refugees manifests itself as a chronic reality is the situation of Palestinian refugees. With the conflict reaching its 50<sup>th</sup> year, there are about 5 million Palestinians living under the status of refugee. With the onset of the Arab Awakening, more than 7 million Syrians have been displaced due to civil war. For those who share a similar fate are the Afghans who are numbered to be around 2,556,600, Somalis around 1,121,700, Sudanese number 446,300 and Colombians around 396,000, and the Rohingyas whose number is steadily increasing over 476,000 as a result of terror, civil war and local conflicts. (Graph 1)

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/poverty.shtml>

A substantial part of the problem for refugees and immigrants occurs as they leave for other countries. In April 2015, the global community witnessed how the refugee ship carrying 700 refugees sank in the Mediterranean and 8,000 Rohingya refugees who were stuck on boats for days at sea.

The youth who are immigrants or refugees face grave consequences in nutrition, health, education, unemployment, lack of confidence, psychological trauma, human trafficking and security issues. With particular focus on education, the lack of proper institutional premises and the problem of providing equivalency for the education the refugees receive should be particularly addressed. . This is a major concern not just for the youth but the whole global community. While the G20 drew attention to various humanitarian issues, the crisis of immigrant and refugees have yet to be discussed as a main issue, therefore, from the youth’s perspective, the 2015 Y20 Summit will focus on the refugee crisis with regards to the dire consequences the youth faces, and will urge the youth community to gather and put forth precise solutions to the mentioned problems.



Graph: Number of refugees by country

In light of this data, Y20 finds the refugee and immigration as pressing issues that need to be included in the agenda of the G20 leaders who will be called upon to produce viable policies since the situation directly affects the future of youth around the globe.

A very recent and prominent refugee issue is the one faced by Turkey, which generously has welcomed millions of Syrian refugees and has so far spent about \$5,6 billion with great responsibility, providing not only security and shelter, but also education and training opportunities especially for the youth so that they can provide themselves with a sustained living. It is a part of the 2015 Y20 goals to integrate the immigrant and refugee youth to the society by promoting the principles that do not allow for discrimination or xenophobic treatment of others. Furthermore, refugee and immigrant youth issues should also be addressed in relation to the essential areas of education and unemployment. The G20 youth

will therefore come to the table to discuss and suggest concrete solutions to contribute to global peace.

### **Increasing Relations between Y20 countries and Least Developed Countries**

One of the major global issues we are facing today is income inequality and the problems that it brings with it. Since the current international system has failed to bring about solutions to this problem, the unequivocal support of the G20 to the Least Developed Countries (LDC) is of unparalleled importance. In the 2014 Australia G20 Summit, food security and malnutrition were an important part of the agenda. In 2013, the initiative G20 took with regards to LDCs was an inclusive message that read “Development for All.” In 2011, the United Nations organized the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (UN LDC-IV) hosted by Turkey in Istanbul and referred to the weak and insufficient infrastructure of these countries in numerous areas as the main barrier against solid development processes. Epidemic outbreaks affecting large numbers of the population due to malnutrition and hunger problems should also be included in the agenda. Altogether, taking these issues under examination are listed on top of 2015 Y20’s agenda.

With regards to the above-mentioned problems, the 2015 Y20 can carry out a dynamic and consensus-based relation with the LDC. Taking precise steps towards resolving these issues include improvement of education, engagement of civil society, and widening employment opportunities as critical parts of a healthy infrastructure in any given country.

Bununla birlikte G20 ile en az gelişmiş ülkelerdeki sivil toplum örgütleri arasında işbirliği mekanizmalarının oluşturulması için Y20’nin inisiyatifiyle G20’den az gelişmiş ülkelere verilmek üzere hibe desteği sağlanabilir. Bu hibe desteğinin en az gelişmiş ülkelerdeki üniversitelerin G20 ülkelerindeki öğrenci değişim programlarını da kapsayacak şekilde sınırları genişletilebilir. Buna göre zikredilen hibe bütçelerinde en az gelişmiş ülkelere G20 ülkelerine gelen öğrencilere karşılıksız eğitim bursları sağlanabilir. Bu konularda yapılacak işbirliğinin kurumsallaşması için G20 ile en az gelişmiş **ülkelerin Gençlik ve Spor Bakanlıkları arasında işbirliği mekanizmalarının oluşturulması da sağlanabilir.** Y20’nin daha önceki G20 zirvelerindeki tecrübelerden de hareketle inisiyatif alabileceği bir diğer alan en az gelişmiş ülkelerde gençlere yönelik özel teşebbüsün teşviki ve en az gelişmiş ülkelere yönelik yapılacak karşılıksız altyapı desteğidir. Özellikle karşılıksız altyapı desteği yukarıda zikredilen birçok alandaki işbirliğin neredeyse zeminini oluşturduğu için en önemli konulardan biri olarak görülebilir.