

Humanitarian Aid in Turkey: Instability of the Human Environment

Mgr. Bilgesu Şatır (Ph.D. Candidate)*

ABSTRACT

Within the four quarters of the past year, 2015; more than one million asylum requests were registered in OECD's reports. Such huge entries to Europe and to Turkey surely had vital, enormous economic effects, both on public finances and on labour market. Monthly allowances provided to asylum seekers in Europe differ substantially between countries and according to housing conditions. It can go approx from €10 for single adults housed in reception centers to more than €300 for those without accommodation. Likewise, frequently, the total cost for arranging and processing asylum seekers can be from €8 000 and €12 0000 per application for the first year, eventhough the figure could be much lower for fast track processing. When it comes to Turkey, there are 1.8 million Syrian refugees in Turkey, of which 221,000 are inside 22 camps situated close to border with Syrian border. The remaining refugees have spread all around Turkey and they are having problems mostly with facing widespread poverty as a consequence of having no legal access to work. So mainly, this forces them to work irregularly and unrecorded black market, feeding more the subterranean economy which leaves those Syrian refugees vulnerable to unfortunate exploitation from their employers. Many reports showed that ensued Syrians working in the agricultural sector for as little as 15-20 TL (under £5-7) per day. However, the Syrian people who are staying at the refugee camps in Turkey, receiving a special card, under the title of an AFAD card by the government, which guarentees for them a free health care and education for their children. Such support has even caused to some Ezidi refugees who were escaping from the atrocities of ISIS in Iraq and trying to register as 'Syrian' with such benefits as those were not given to themselves.

Key words: refugee, Turkish government, Syria, war, isis, subterranean economy

Abbreviations:

ACU	Assitance Coordination Unit
AFAD	Turkish Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency
AI	Amnesty International
EYDAS	Electronic Aid Distribution System
FSA	Free Syrian Army
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IGOs	Intergovernmental Organizations
IHH	Foundation for Human Rights, Freedoms and Humanitarian Relief
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization

J-RANS	Joint Rapid Assessment of Northern Syria
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
PYD	Partiya Yekîtiya Demokrat
SNAP	Syria Needs Analysis Project
SNC	Syrian National Council
TL	Turkish Lira
UNHCR	UN High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNSC	United Nations Security Council
USD	United States Dollar
WFP	World Food Programme