

**Forum:** 4<sup>th</sup> committee (Political)

**Issue:** The problem of growing far-right ideology in refugee-hosting countries

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## **Introduction**

Nowadays right-wing ideologies are not just a national phenomenon. Following the 1929 Great Depression, the 2008 economic crisis, the refugee wave and the extremist actions, the far-right movements have been on the rise. Term “far right-wing” refers to political parties that advocate traditional politics and the superiority of certain groups of people. As a result of refugee crisis the ideas of xenophobia, racial discrimination, prejudices, and intolerance are becoming more and more popular in refugee-hosting countries. As a result the far-right parties, which support an anti-immigrant and nationalistic policy, started to gain supporters. These groups may favor one racial group above others and, as a result, cause inequality in the society and the intensification of social conflicts.

## **Definition of key terms**

### Ideology

A set of doctrines or beliefs that are shared by the members of a social group or that form the basis of a political, economic, or other system.

### Far-right ideology

The 'far-right' or 'extreme right' is a *political* label used to identify parties and movements based on *fascist*, *racist* and/or extremely *reactionary* ideologies.

### Refugee-hosting countries

Refugee-hosting countries are the countries that refugees migrate to, seeking for a better future. These countries are mainly the most developed European countries, and they play a significant role in dealing with the refugee crisis.

## **Background information**

The history of the far-right ideologies is the key point in understanding their rise. It is not the first time when far-right parties are gaining support; the same reinforcement of their influence already happened in the 20th century.

There are three historical phases in the development of far-right parties in Western Europe after World War II.

From 1945 to the mid-1950s, far-right parties were marginalised, and their ideologies were discredited due to the recent existence and the following defeat of Nazism. Thus in

the years immediately following World War II, the main objective of far-right parties was survival; the achievement of any political impact was almost not expected at all.

From the mid-1950s to the 1970s, the so-called "populist protest phase" emerged with sporadic electoral success. During this period the far-right parties put forward numerous charismatic leaders whose profound mistrust of the political establishment led to an "us-versus-them" mind set: "us" being the nation's citizenry, "them," the politicians and bureaucrats currently in-office; beginning in the 1980s, electoral success of far-right political candidates made it possible to revitalize anti-immigration as a mainstream issue.

### **Major countries and organizations involved**

The most involved countries are the refugee-hosting countries such as Germany, France, Hungary, or Italy.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), also known as the UN Refugee Agency, can be involved into solving this issue.

### **Relevant treaties and UN resolutions**

#### The 1951 Refugee convention

The 1951 Refugee convention is the key legal document on refugee policy. Ratified by 145 State parties, it defines the term "refugee" and outlines the rights of the displaced, as well as the legal obligations of States to protect them.

#### The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD)

The convention was adopted and opened for signature by the United Nations General Assembly on 21 December 1965, and came into force on 4 January 1969. As of October 2015, it has 88 signatories and 177 parties. By the Convention, State parties condemn racial discrimination and undertake to pursue the articles of the Convention by all appropriate means with the aim to combat all forms of racial discrimination.

#### The International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

is an United Nations multilateral treaty governing the protection of migrant workers and their families. Signed on 18 December 1990, it entered into force on 1 July 2003 after the threshold of 20 ratifying States was reached in March 2003. The primary objective of the Convention is to foster respect for migrants' human rights. Migrants are not only workers, they are also human beings. The Convention does not create new rights for migrants but aims at guaranteeing equality of treatment, and the same working conditions for migrants and nationals.

The Declaration on the Human Rights of Individuals Who are not Nationals of the Country in which They Live was adopted by the General Assembly on 13 December 1985, to which the Declaration is annexed. The Declaration recognizes that the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms provided for in international instruments should also be ensured for individuals who are not nationals of the country in which they live.

### **Previous attempts to solve the issue**

The growth of far-right ideologies is becoming more and more noticeable all over the world, but due to the complexity of the issue, the UN or the EU have not taken any decisive measures yet. However, elector has a right to vote for the party that he/she trusts and supports. Only in cases of right wing extremism, where criminal actions are involved, international community should take resolute actions.

### **Possible solutions**

Finding solution to this problem is significant for reaching stability and peace in the world. A key solution is education. Lectures and educational events should be held in order to inform people about human rights, the meaning of racial discrimination and racism and importance of its elimination. As it has already been mentioned there are some factors that favored the rise of far-right parties (economic crisis, terrorist attacks, refugee crisis etc.). In order to prevent the growth of far right ideologies solutions to those problems should be found. Finally, NGOs and other organizations should check the preservation of human rights in refugee hosting countries and report their results.