

# MIGRATION IN GREECE



## What is happening in the world?

The last couple of decades the world is experiencing an increase in migration, mainly due to economical factors, as well as most importantly wars.

Specifically wars in the eastern part of the world, such as the Syrian Civil War, Iraqi Civil War and the Yemen Civil War, have caused a vast amount of civilians to migrate due to chronic poverty and conflict, for a better and more sustainable future.

**Statistics** show that, a total of 2.6 million refugees globally were from Afghanistan. An estimated 2.1 - 2.25 million undocumented Afghans and 780,000 Afghans holding refugee cards resided in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Today migration exist in many forms namely labor, social and environmental migration. Yet forced migration due to war takes up 1/3 of international migration.

## "impeccable ... no comparison to what we had in the past."

*-PM MITSOTAKIS ON THE NEW MIGRANTS CAMP ON SAMOS*

## What is the situation in Greece?

The last two decades Greece has been the crossroad for most refugees, coming from countries like Iraq and Afghanistan, that had reached Turkey. As their main goal is to reach central Europe countries like Germany, France etc.

This direct current of migrants trying to cross the borders from Turkey to Greece, in combination with the Turkish government impulsing migrants to cross the borders, have put Greece in a difficult position.

## Greece's position.

Recently in a press conference that took place in Athens, Greece, PM Mitsotakis received a question from a Dutch journalist.

*"PRIME MINISTER MITSOTAKIS, WHEN, AT LAST, WILL YOU STOP LYING. LYING ABOUT PUSHBACKS, LYING ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING WITH THE REFUGEES IN GREECE?"*

The journalist was referring to allegations by rights groups, that Greece is pushing asylum seekers back to Turkey on its land and sea borders, an accusation that Greece denies.

Greece's PM defending his position, mentioned that Greece is one of the few countries in Europe that is fully involved and effected by this situation. He also stated that they "intercepting" boats at sea in accordance with European Union regulations and had granted asylum to 50,000 people, including

*"TENS OF THOUSANDS OF AFGHANS."*

Mitsotakis added,

*"THIS IS OUR POLICY, WE WILL STAND BY IT AND I WILL NOT ACCEPT ANYONE POINTING THE FINGER TO THIS GOVERNMENT AND ACCUSING IT OF INHUMANE BEHAVIOUR."*

