REACT

ONLINE HATE SPEECH: REASONS & REMEDIES

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70.8 million people were displaced

- 3.5 million asylum-seekers
- 25.9 million refugees
- 41.3 million internally displaced people
- Every 1 minute = 25 people were forced to flee
- Every second refugee = a child
- Most (over two thirds) of the world's refugees come from: Syria, Afghanistan, South Sudan
- 80% of refugees live in countries neighbouring their countries of origin.
- Data on some 3.9 million stateless persons are captured in the Global Trends report, but the true global figure is estimated to be significantly higher.



Challenge Opportunity

Forced Displacement

All time high



- Join forces with like-minded actors and mobilize action
- Promote rights and manageability



EUROPE 2019

Total arrivals: 84,996

- sea: 69,962

- land: 15,034

- lives lost & missing: 1,071

Most common nationalities of Mediterranean sea and land arrivals:

- Afghanistan

- Syria





EUROPE

Year

• 2018

	3.771	
• 2015		1,032,408
	5,096	
• 2016		373,652
2017	3,139	100,109
• 2017	,	185,139
	2,277	

Arrivals

Lives Lost/Missing

141,472

Challenge

Political Climate

- Negative politicization of refugee and migrant issues
- Refugees often the scapegoats for economic, cultural and security fears
- Restrictive responses and fewer solutions

Opportunity

 Demonstrate solutions, manageability and benefits of refugee inclusion





Challenge

Opportunity

Public Attitudes:

- Distorted political narratives = growing number of people believe refugees and migrants are to blame for issues not of their making.
- While some people are overwhelmingly hostile and others welcoming, most = "conflicted middle."
- Sympathetic to the plight of refugees while but feel anxious about e.g. issues related to employment, social benefits, security and cultural change.
- 25% 50% 25%

- Show commonality and challenge "us vs them" narrative
- Amplify individual refugee voices to show the humanity behind the statistics
- Know the facts
- Harness trends and voices



Challenge

'Media' coverage

- Traditional media: "compassion fatigue"/editorial fatigue
- Social media: distorted news about refugees, feeding fears and reaffirming prejudices.

Opportunity

- Invest in inspiring stories about refugees and welcomers
- Make greater use of soft media to be heard beyond breaking news
- Give a platform to influencers who appeal to different audiences.



The Dream Diaries

https://www.facebook.com/UNHCR/videos/10157706207963438/

See for yourselves in 60 seconds



- The Dream Diaries is a multimedia series by UNHCR and social media influencers Humans of Amsterdam and Fetching Tigerss.
- The series visualizes the hopes and dreams of refugee and asylumseeking children who have found safety in Europe.
- Austria, Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland.
- It aims to reach new audiences, and show we are all the same, with hopes and dreams no matter where we are from.
- It uses photos, images, stories and video, and supports UNHCR's #WithRefugees campaign.



Positive feedback & engagement

The series worked particularly on Instagram.

earthyflo I loved this whole series! I think it's so lovely how you worked with these children and made their dreams come true!

cynthia.chr this is such an amazing and inspiring project → * thank you so much for doing such great work & sharing it with us Annegien ♥

scarlett.bearman I loved this whole project



Roussel, 10 years old from Syria.

Now in Geneva. She loves to dance!

'When we are grumpy or sad we dance. It lifts our spirits'











Why did it work?

- 1) Facts fade but stories stick
- 2) Positive human stories with refugee voices
- 3) Commonality and solution focussed
- 4) We need to be bold and brave
- 5) Network based (influencers, internal, external) to move beyond echo chamber
- 6) Local and language oriented
- 7) Action-oriented



Resources

Facts & Figures

www.unhcr.org/globaltrends2018/

data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/Mediterranean

https://www.unhcr.org/news/latest/2016/7/55df0e556/unhcr-viewpoint-refugee-migrant-right.html

Policy

www.unhcr.org/europeanelections/ www.unhcr.org/news-and-stories.html

Media resources

https://media.unhcr.org/

https://www.cartadiroma.org/chi-siamo/

Teaching tools

https://www.unhcr.org/teaching-about-refugees.html

Get involved

www.unhcr.org/get-involved.html

