

In the first quarter of 2015, the UNHCR estimated that 26'165 migrants had reached Europe – mostly Lampedusa in Italy - from North Africa and Turkey, killing more than 1'500 migrants, a tenfold increase relative to 2014. According to Italian estimates, some 500'000 to one million migrants are waiting in Libya alone for a passage to the EU. The reasons that motivate these young men and women to risk their life for a costly journey with no promise of a happy end are known: oppression, civil war and more often than not poverty.

States that cause massive emigration must be held responsible or, in extreme cases, placed under UN custodianship. While people are responsible for fleeing, criminal gangs that treat migrants like cattle while facilitating immigration, whether controlled or not by Islamist groups, must be stopped swiftly.

Since the conditions for immigration to the EU are set legally, it must be handled according to that law. This is all the more important, that illegal immigration can bolster terrorist activity through the infiltration of 'sleeping cells' in the EU, significantly increase social expenditures and cause cultural gaps that threaten the gains made on civil rights. All in all, uncontrolled immigration can pose a threat to stability and security within the union.

To handle immigration, Jerry Lee proposes the following measures:

1. Criminal bands in North Africa and Eastern Europe that promote and profit from human trafficking must be arrested immediately.
2. States that serve as transit countries and not willing to cooperate with the EU to stop the flows of migrants must be sanctioned severely.
3. War-torn countries or states that are so badly managed that they cause flows of emigration must be placed partially or fully under UN custodianship temporarily to help create no-violence and/or development zones.
4. All migrants caught on land and sea on their way to the EU must be brought on land or within EU borders, and screened immediately to determine the origin and reason for migrating to Europe.
5. Refugees fleeing war and/or oppression must be sheltered until the situation stabilizes in the country of origin.
6. Economic migrants must be given financial incentives to reintegrate in their country.
7. The EU must create deeper industrial ties with third-world countries to allow migrants to find work, or create work, while contributing to social development in these countries.
8. Economic development in third-world countries must be tied to birth-control measures.

As a last note, immigration authorities must have a zero-tolerance policy as regards violence. Migrants who are not willing to integrate or who defy the law must be sent home no matter what. See also gw's [policy on Immigration](#).

Jerry Lee
May 2015

Corrected September 2015

Source: www.globwatch.com