

Esbjerg / Marly Le Roi

Echange Scolaire
et Culturel

School Exchange

Décembre 2023 Avril 2024



Why this magazine?

Contributeurs

La classe de français première et deuxième année de Mme Amalie Boe du lycée d'Esbjerg ainsi que la classe de première euro de Mme Fernandes accompagnée de Mme Martin ont contribué à ce magazine.



Le projet

The goal of this magazine is to present the place we live in, to show different aspects of our lives in Marly le Roi and in Esbjerg.

The students had to do research on specific topics and then they had to write their articles and add pictures to illustrate before publishing it online.

English and French are used to enable everyone to practice at some point a foreign language.

Vous allez découvrir Marly le Roi à travers son histoire, ses activités, sa culture et ses habitants.

Marly's history

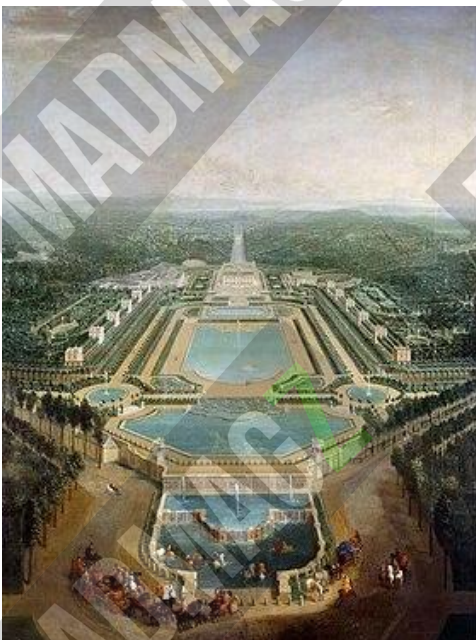
In 1676, Louis XIV bought the Montmorency's fiefdoms of Marly-le-Chastel and Marly-le-Bourg. Then, they were known as Marly-le-Roi. In 1679, His Majesty decided to build a royal residence there named the Château de Marly because he wanted to escape from the formal rigors of Versailles. The Château de Marly was a collaboration between the architect Jules Hardouin Mansart and the "premier peintre" Charles Le Brun who were already working together at Versailles. The king liked Marly-le Roi a lot because, without the court's worries, it was a place of festivities and pleasure. Being invited was a great honour even for the princes of the blood. His Majesty king Louis XIV needed a large water supply for his fountains at Versailles. So, the construction of the Marly Machine began in 1681 and the entire project was completed in 1688.

The total cost of the project was more than today's 100 million euros... Marly Machine's construction is considered as a miracle of modern hydraulic engineering but, most of the water pumped by the Marly Machine ended up being used to develop a new garden at the Château de Marly because it was still not enough for Versailles despite the fourteen gigantic water wheels of the Marly Machine. The church Saint-Vigor was built in 1689 by Jules Mansart as a present from His Majesty king Louis XIV to the inhabitants of Marly-le-Roi. After the reign of Louis XIV, their Majesties Louis XV and Louis XVI still highly enjoyed spending time there.



Daniel

La ville de Marly-le-Roi a une histoire riche qui est particulièrement liée au règne de Louis XIV. Les premières sources qui mentionnent le nom de Marly datent du septième siècle après Jésus-Christ.



In 1789, the castle of Marly was looted by the revolutionaries, and then abandoned. During the French revolution, the municipality temporarily bore the name of Marly-la-Machine; the horses are today exposed at the Musée du Louvre,

In 1799, an industrialist bought the abandoned castle and set up spinning workshops in the outbuildings. Bankrupt, unable to sell the castle, he dismantled it and sold the stones as building blocks. In 1806, the estate passed into the hands of the Water and Forest administration.

The impressionist period saw the village, like those of Bougival or Louveciennes, attract painters like Sisley and Pissaro, as well as poets, writers, and sculptors.

The Marly trough was the only element of the Marly estate classified as historic monuments in 1812. The entire Marly estate was not classified until 2009. At this date, the estate was still a residence of the Presidents of the Republic. It's today managed by "L'Etablissement Public de Versailles".

During the 1950s-1960s, the city saw its urban development accelerate to the south of the town with the construction of the Grandes Terres district.

Emilio

THE CHURCHES

Il y a deux églises catholiques à Marly-le Roi, nommées Saint-Vigor et Saint-Thibault. L'une d'elle est plus vieille que l'autre et est située en haut d'une très longue montée (you might want to stay away from it if you don't want to suffer). L'autre s'appelle Saint-Thibault et est beaucoup plus accessible à pied. Elle a été construite à côté d'une des plus grandes résidences de Marly le Roi, les Grandes Terres, car ses habitants ne pouvaient pas aller jusqu'à St-Vigor (the issue of the long walk).

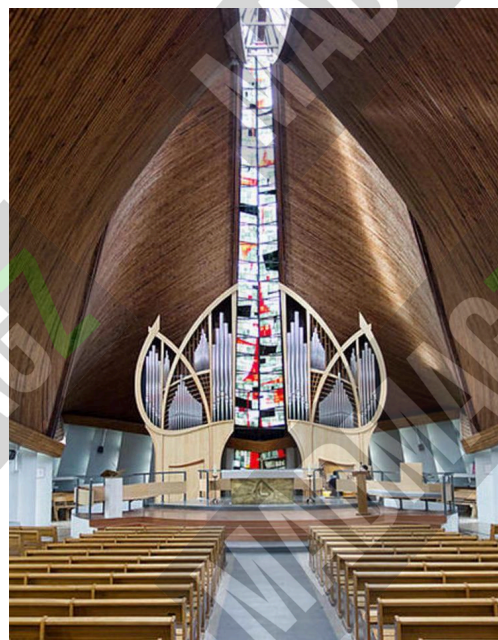


▼ The first one, Eglise Saint Vigor

Saint-Vigor, was a present from King Louis XIV, to the inhabitants of the city, around the end of the 17th century. During the French Revolution in 1789, the « Marlychois » (the inhabitants of Marly-le-Roi) took all the furniture out from the church and melted it in order to create cannons. Seule église rurale construite par Mansart, le projet marlychois est un mélange d'éléments architecturaux traditionnels et modernes. Il s'inspire d'une de ses dernières réalisations : l'église Notre-Dame à Versailles.

▲ Second, Eglise Saint Thibault

Saint-Thibault was built between 1962 and 1964 so it is its sixtieth anniversary this year. This church is a part of the municipality of LePecq but it is part of the parish of Marly le Roi because the other church (Saint Vigor) was too far away for the Grandes Terres' inhabitants. The Grandes Terres is a residency in Marly le Roi, which is really big. Cette église est d'un style très moderne. Elle est construite de bois et de béton et a un toit en forme d'hyperbole ($f(x)=x^2$). Au fond de l'église des vitraux se déploient jusqu'au sommet de celle-ci, parés de formes géométriques rouges et noires (don't worry they don't mean anything). L'orgue est spectaculaire. L'ensemble est très géométrique et moderne.



Schools in Marly-le-Roi

Marly le Roi offers a great access to education. Indeed, there are 1 high school, 1 middle school, 5 elementary schools and 5 kindergartens. In this article, we're going to focus on four of them :



▶ Louis De Broglie High School. Located next to Marly's largest park, the building has the capacity of around 1000 students and is directed by Mr. Bonnet. It is named after Louis de Broglie, a French physicist. Students are involved in several projects such as « plastique à la loupe » (a project against plastic pollution). The school has got several clubs such as the reading club or the science club.



▶ Then, Louis Lumière Middle School. Located next to the lycée. The building has the capacity of around 990 students and is headed by Mrs. Gagne.

It is named after Louis Lumiere, a famous engineer who played a really important role in photography and cinema. The school has the sport section and also a boarding school where some students have classes on specific days.



▶ Ensuite, l'école élémentaire du Champ des Oiseaux, située au 44 rue du Champ des Oiseaux.

La directrice est Valérie Marchand, et cette école comprend 6 classes pour une capacité de 138 élèves.

Pour finir, nous parlerons de l'école maternelle Schweitzer qui se trouve 5 rue de Port Marly.

Elle est nommée d'après un célèbre médecin, Albert Schweitzer et elle est dirigée par Marianne Marchand.



Musée du domaine royal de Marly-le-Roi



infos pratiques

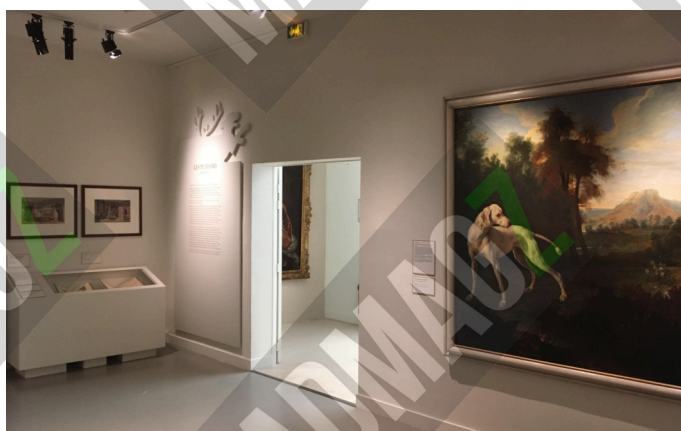
Le musée varie ses expositions tout au long de l'année, la dernière exposition en date portait sur l'art de paraître et les accessoires royaux aux XVII et XVIII siècles. Le musée est ouvert du mercredi au dimanche, entre novembre et mars, de 14h à 17h et entre avril et octobre de 14h à 18h. Le musée est gratuit pour les moins de 12 ans, le tarif réduit est de 5 euros et le tarif plein est de 7 euros. Durant les vacances scolaires, il propose des activités pour les enfants et des conférences.



The history of the museum

Le Musée du domaine royal de Marly se situe dans le parc de Marly au 1 Grille royale-Parc de Marly. Il a ouvert ses portes en 1982. On y trouve une dizaine de salles dans le musée.

The exhibition at Marly-le-Roi Museum is divided into 4 parts. First, there is a presentation of the architecture of Marly-le-Roi as well as its royal gardens. Second, we are told the secrets of the Marly Machine called the « eighth wonder of the world » which is a large mechanism whose construction required the layout of the Seine. Then, we learn more about the intimate atmosphere of Marly, its entertainment of the time as well as the lifestyles of the courtiers, the singularity of the customs, the historical figures like Madame de Maintenon, the Dauphin or even of Duke of Orleans and Princess Palatine, who all lived between the 16th and 17th centuries. The sovereign surrounded himself for a few days with distinguished guests to whom he offered a multitude of entertainments. Finally, the history of Marly Castle, one of the main residences of Louis XIV, and the reasons for its disappearance are revealed.



parc de Marly

Le parc de Marly contient des copies et des moulages des sculptures qui étaient présentes au temps de Louis XIV qui sont aujourd'hui conservés au Musée du Louvre à Paris. Il couvre une superficie de 53 hectares. Le parc ouvre de 8h à 17h30 entre novembre et avril, le reste de l'année, il est ouvert de 7h30 à 19h30. Les Chevaux de Marly sont des statues qui ornent l'abreuvoir commandées par Louis XV à Guillaume Coustou entre le XVIème et le XVIIème siècles.



ECONOMIE POLITICS

Economie :

Marly-le-Roi est une ville économiquement prospère, les habitants ont un haut niveau de vie et de bons revenus. Ville commerçante située dans le département des Yvelines, elle offre un cadre de vie de qualité et des emplois variés. De plus, elle possède un marché ouvert les mardis, vendredis et dimanches matins de 8h à 13h, de nombreux restaurants, un centre commercial " Les grandes terres"

et des commerces locaux, qui permettent l'échange entre les habitants et participent au développement économique de la ville. Cette commune dispose d'établissements éducatifs (un collège, 5 écoles maternelles, 4 écoles élémentaires et un lycée) qui attirent des résidents et créent des emplois. Elle dispose également, d'une grande accessibilité notamment grâce à sa proximité à Paris et de divers transports en commun.



Le marché de Marly-le-Roi

Quelques données :

Revenu moyen mensuel par habitant :
3 654€

Taux de chômage :
3,9%

Pourcentage de salariés :
88,4%

Nombre d'entreprises :
plus de 1300

Curine et Manolie



Politics :

Everywhere in France, we vote to elect our representatives in municipal elections every 6 years. Since 2001 the mayor of Marly-le-Roi is Jean Yves Perrot, it's his fourth term in office. Jean Yves Perrot has been a member of the political party "Choisir Marly Ensemble", he is right-winged. Municipal councilors make decisions on local affairs, adopt budgets, and participate in the democratic life of the town. The 3 political parties in Marly-le-Roi are :

- Choisir Marly Ensemble
- Oxygène, du souffle pour Marly
- Ensemble pour Marly-le-Roi

Cyrine and Manolie

Sustainable Development

The town takes the global warming very seriously and that's why the town council has created a commission dedicated to sustainable development and committed a deputy mayor on the ecological transition of the city. This commission has set up many projects inside the town:

- The implementation of self-service charging stations for electric vehicles in the car parks of the town hall, the market and the swimming pool.
- The development of cycle paths and repair terminals throughout the city to make bicycling easier, at the request of the Municipal Youth Council.
- Partially heating the swimming pool's water with a thermal system installed on the roof of the building.
- The installation of shared garden.

Le plus important de tous ces projets fut l'installation de jardins partagés dans le quartier des Coteaux. Ces jardins familiaux furent inaugurés en juin 2016 en présence des habitants du quartier et des jardiniers bénéficiaires. La Ville a travaillé, dans la phase de projet, en collaboration avec la Fédération Nationale des Jardins Familiaux et Collectifs (FNJFC). Cet aménagement offre la possibilité aux Marlychois ne disposant pas de jardins, de cultiver et de récolter les produits potagers issus des parcelles et s'inscrit donc dans une démarche de développement durable. Ses utilisateurs ont été tirés au sort à partir d'une liste de plus de 80 candidats habitant à Marly-le-Roi et ne possédant pas de jardin. Une attention particulière a été portée sur la représentativité des différents quartiers de la ville...



Cyril Jarnet

Maire-adjoint du Cadre de vie et de la Transition écologique

Marly-le-Roi committed for sustainable development



Shared gardens

... De plus, les jardiniers amateurs doivent payer un loyer annuel et s'engagent à entretenir les parcelles en respectant des règles fixées pour protéger la nature : respect du cycle des saisons et des plantations, culture sans produits nocifs pour l'environnement, économies d'eau, recours au compost des déchets végétaux, tri des déchets, etc.

Cooperatives : AMAP ...

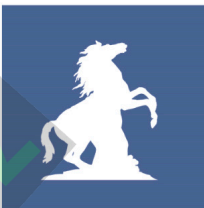
Une AMAP est une Association pour le Maintien d'une Agriculture Paysanne, c'est un partenariat entre des citoyens de Marly et un.e paysan.ne. Elle permet une vente directe, avec zéro intermédiaire entre producteurs et consommateurs. Les citoyens participent à l'association car ils veulent manger mieux, retrouver un contact avec ceux qui les nourrissent et payer un juste prix pour leur nourriture. Ils s'engagent à financer la part de récolte qu'ils reçoivent pendant toute l'année, venir toutes les semaines à la distribution chercher ses légumes et rendre visite au/à la paysan.ne.



... and Pop la Coop



Pop la Coop is a collaborative and participative market located 46-48 chemin de Montval à la Montagne and founded in 2017. Its goal is to sell short cycle high quality organic products. This is a non-lucrative association which means that the consumers have to work at least three hours a month at the market to have the possibility to buy there. Consequently, the association is completely composed of volunteers. They have to pay 100 euros to be part of it but, in counterpart, they can participate in the development of the market through the general assemblies and working committees.



Sports in Marly



Les sports prennent une place importante dans la culture française. En tant que future hôte des Jeux olympiques de 2024, la France prend la pratique sportive et son aspect compétitif avec sérieux et passion. En France, 70% des plus de 15 ans déclarent pratiquer une activité sportive régulière ou ponctuelle.



Theatre In Marly-Le-Roi



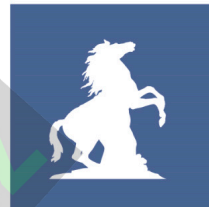
▼ Jean Vilar (1912-1971)

He was a theatre and cinema actor, producer, director and author. He founded the Avignon Festival which is a famous place where theatre troupes come to play every year. He also created The French National Popular Theatre. Jean Vilar played during his whole career in more than 56 plays and he even has an association with his name. There are many places like theatres and schools named after him in France.

▲ Main Programmation in Marly Theatre in 2023:

- TOUTES LES CHOSES GENIALES played by Compagnie Caravane (comical play)
- MELKONI PROJECT by Louise Perret and Gwen Cahue (concert)
- LES FOURBERIES DE SCAPIN played by Compagnie Viva (classic play from Molière)
- GUTEN TAG, MADAME MERKEL played by Compagnie les oiseaux de Minerve (humorous play)





Les élèves peuvent aussi pratiquer des activités sportives en dehors des heures de cours prévues à cet effet. Ils ont la possibilité, tout comme les adultes, de s'inscrire dans des clubs de sport privés présents de en nombre à Marly.

Ils proposent un large panel de pratiques sportives allant des sports collectifs comme le football, le basket-ball ou encore le volley-ball, aux sports individuels comme le tennis, l'équitation ou la musculation et offrent la possibilité à leurs adhérents de pratiquer des activités sportives, tout au long de la semaine et ainsi maintenir une bonne condition physique.

But to be able to practice all these sports, infrastructures are needed.



Marly-le-Roi est une ville charmante et agréable située au cœur de la France, à seulement quelques kilomètres de Paris.

Cette ville, qui abrite le Domaine national de Marly-le-Roi et fait partie de la Forêt domaniale de Marly, est connue pour sa riche histoire, ses magnifiques parcs mais avant tout pour sa culture sportive dynamique. Que vous soyez un passionné de sport ou que vous cherchiez à découvrir de nouvelles activités, Marly-le-Roi a forcément quelque chose pour vous.

The sporting practice, essential to a good lifestyle, is taken seriously from an early age. As soon as they start school at the age of 3 years old until the end of the school years, all French students practice sports at school.

Marly-le-Roi takes great pride in providing students with a well-rounded education, including a focus on physical fitness and sports. Students practice a wide range of sports for 2 hours minimum each week, including football, athletics, swimming, basketball, badminton, volleyball, and many more.

Schools in Marly-le-Roi have well-equipped sports complexes where students can participate in both various indoor and outdoor sports.

The AS, for sports association, is a real multi-sports club operating within the middle school or high school and supervised by the school's teachers.

The sports association will enable volunteer pupils to take part in physical and sporting activities in addition to the obligatory hours of sport included in the timetable, they can discover new ones, improve their skills in their chosen activities and finally learn about community life by exercising responsibility. It also offers students a range of sports activities such as team sports, strength training and individual sports. The activities generally take place in the same premises as those used for school sports sessions.

The Marlychois have, to meet their needs for sports, two stadiums, near our lycée, where we go to our PE lessons weekly. It is used as well for after-school purposes, where the football team trains and sometimes plays matches; it is also open to the public for a few hours on weekends.

The other stadium, farther in Marly's Forest, is composed of a football court and 10 tennis courts. If you want to play tennis, you know where to go.

But stadiums are made mainly for outdoor activities, what about indoors sportsmen and women?

Well there is nothing to worry about, our 5 sport-halls spread out between the different elementary schools across town.

Marly-le-Roi offers a diverse range of sports activities, whether you're looking to join a club or just want to enjoy recreational sports. We hope you have a fantastic time exploring the town and its sporting opportunities during your visit!



Passez un agréable séjour à Marly-le-Roi !



Le théâtre Jean Vilar a été inauguré le 18 novembre 1972 sous le nom de « Maison des Jeunes et de la Culture ». Sa création a été décidée par la municipalité de Marly-le-Roi. Sa direction est aujourd'hui assurée par Sophie Lorotte. Il se situe dans le parc Jean Witold, au 44 Allée des Épinés à Marly-le-Roi. Ce théâtre comprend 250 sièges dans une seule salle sur une pente très inclinée pour la « proximité avec les acteurs ».

L'architecture est particulière car elle est formée de deux pyramides : une pour la structure générale du bâtiment et une autre pyramide renversée pour la salle, avec la scène au milieu, qui est elle-même en dessous des loges. Elle a été imaginée par Robert Benoît, le bâtiment est majoritairement construit en bois. Le bassin central contribue à l'humidité et la verrière à la luminosité du lieu, qui est aussi desservi par un réseau d'escaliers et d'ascenseurs.

The castle of Monte Cristo



Castle's events

The castle of Monte Cristo offers a wide range of visits and events throughout the year. The castle is open all year round: you can visit it freely and admire the architecture of the building and the period rooms, as well as the splendid garden of several hectares, with its wealth of flowers and landscapes, or you can take part in the group tours, which take place at certain times of the year and allow you to feel like you were living at this period.



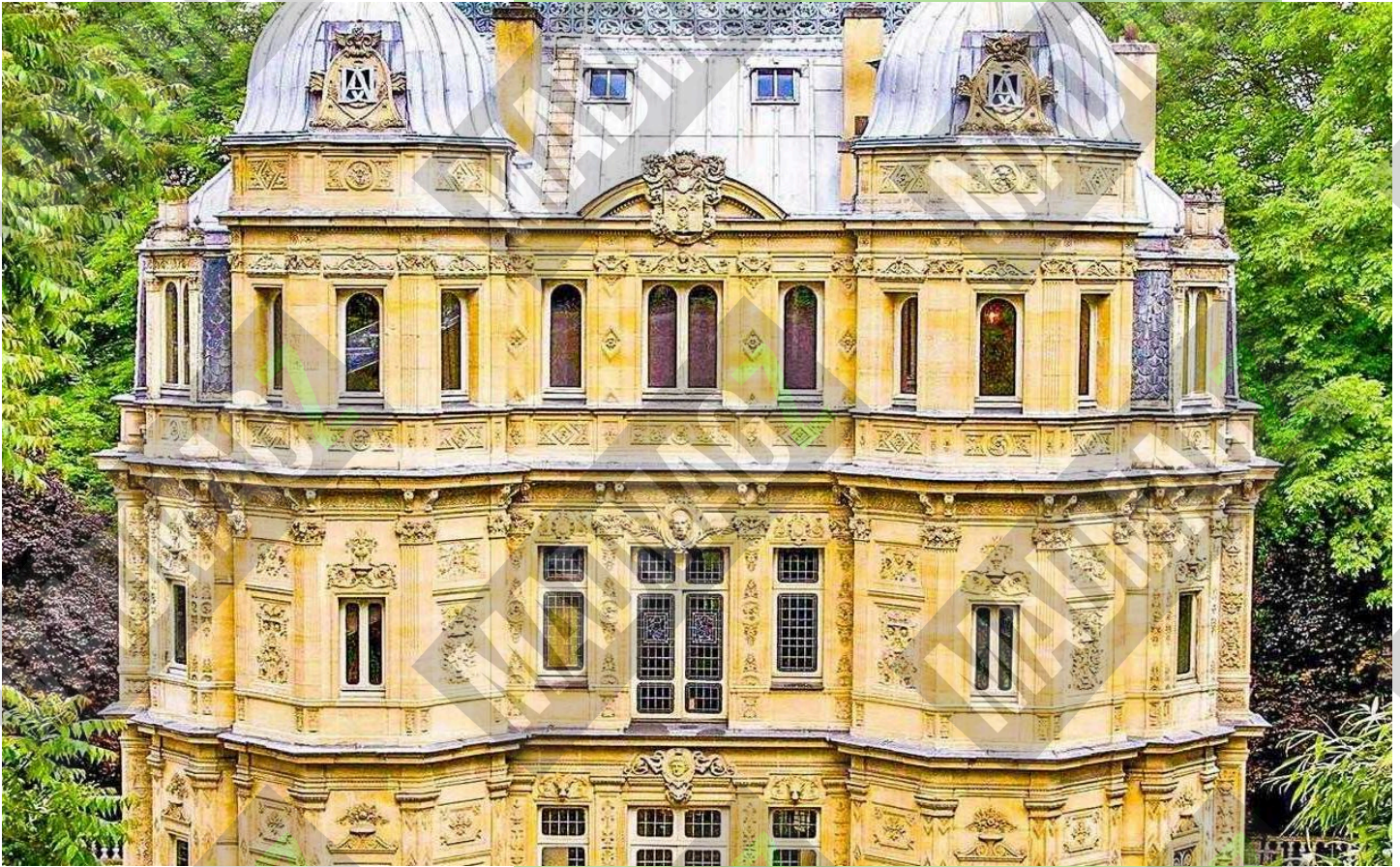
Salon du livre jeunesse

In addition, a series of events are ritually organized in the castle every year. There are numerous events, most of them for children, or for those who are still children, such as themed escape Liars, treasure hunts, theme days where you can dress up, and best of all, the Salon du Livre Jeunesse (Children's Book Fair), which over a weekend inspires visitors to dream in a theme-based atmosphere, such as comics, monsters, pirates and many more, with the aim of inspiring children to want to read through activities of all kinds and meetings with authors, some of them very well-known.



Art exhibition

The castle also hosts temporary exhibitions on various themes, including contemporary art.



The construction of the castle was commissioned by Alexandre Dumas in 1846, who was a famous author in France. The castle was completed in 1848 and was decorated with luxurious furnishings, antiques, and beautiful gardens.

Lorsqu'Alexandre Dumas habitait le château, il travaillait sur son célèbre roman, *Le Comte de Monte-Cristo*. L'histoire est celle d'un homme nommé Edmond Dantès qui a été emprisonné pour un crime qu'il n'a pas commis, puis s'est évadé de prison, est devenu riche et a cherché à se venger de ceux qui lui avaient fait du tort. Le roman a été publié en 1845-1846 et a connu un énorme succès. Il a été adapté en films, séries télévisées et pièces de théâtre, et il est considéré comme l'une des plus grandes œuvres de la littérature française.

Chateau de Monte Cristo

Famous People in Marly-le-Roi



Hugues Aufray

Hugues Aufray est un auteur-compositeur-interprète français né en 1929. Cela signifie qu'il peut écrire, composer et chanter ses chansons. Il joue aussi de la guitare. Il comptabilise près de 300 chansons à lui tout seul ! Il se fait connaître dans les années soixante pour avoir repris des titres du fameux Bob Dylan dont il est très proche. On retrouve parmi ses titres les plus connus « Santiano » que vous pouvez écouter : https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8YbrOcUrt_4. Il est aujourd'hui âgé de 94 ans et s'est récemment marié à la mairie de Marly-le-Roi où il habite depuis de nombreuses années. Vous pouvez trouver un article sur cet heureux évènement avec le lien suivant : <https://www.ouest-france.fr/culture/people/a-94-ans-lechanteur-hugues-aufray-sest-marie-pour-laseconde-fois-7e121be0-4b06-11ee-ae86-ae60aff6047a>

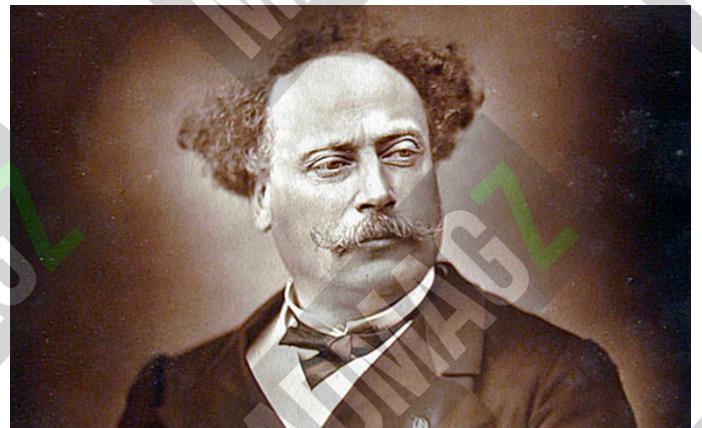


Louis De Broglie

Louis de Broglie was a physician; he was born in 1892 and died in Louveciennes near Marly in 1987. He never lived in Marly, but it's the name of our high school so we ought to talk about him. First, his surname doesn't pronounce "de Broglie" but "de Breuil". He worked a lot on electrons and made a huge discovery about « la nature ondulatoire de l'électron » or « the waving nature of electrons » in English; he even had the Nobel prize for it in 1929 at only 37. His discovery is a bit hard to explain, but you have to know that he was a member of the French Academy of science (Académie française des sciences). It's a renowned school where some of the best physicians or mathematicians have been since 17th century. You can find more information about his life : <https://www.cnrs.fr/fr/personne/louis-de-broglie-o>

Alexandre Dumas fils

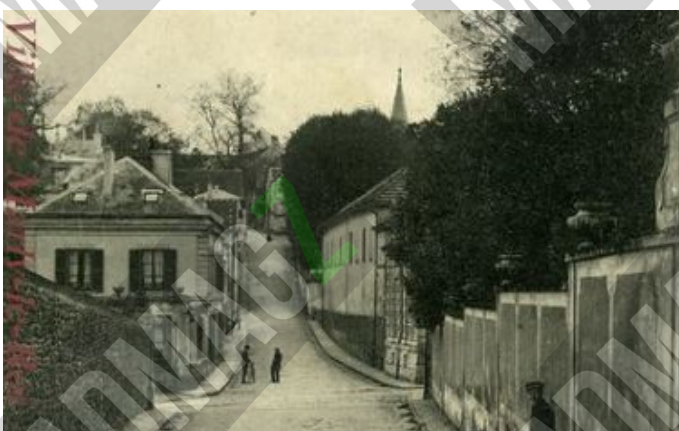
Alexandre Dumas fils was Alexandre Dumas' son (they had the same name); he was a novelist with a realistic style and a playwright (as his father). He was born in Paris in 1824 and died in Marly-le-Roi in 1895. We can still see his house in the "old neighborhood". The most famous book he wrote is named "La Dame aux Camélias", there's even an opera of this book, it's called "La Traviata". He also wrote some plays like "Le Demi-Monde". He even denounced some social injustices in this one "Un père prodige". His work sometimes had a message that he cared about, he had a difficult childhood; living alone with his mother because his father didn't want him, he wanted to denounce social injustice. Alexandre Dumas fils is still popular in France, students know about him; we all read his famous book this year. Moreover, he was elected to the French Academy (Académie Française) in 1874. You can find more information about him : [https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexandre_Dumas_\(fils\)](https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexandre_Dumas_(fils))





Jean Witold

Jean Witold est né en 1913. Il était pianiste, compositeur et chef d'orchestre. En 1936, il a combattu dans la guerre civile en Espagne, puis a été capturé pendant la seconde guerre mondiale. Il a animé une émission de radio, « Découverte de la musique », qui présentait et expliquait des œuvres musicales et des grands compositeurs. Il vint habiter à Marly le Roi en 1957, et créa l'Association des Concerts de Marly. Il fut aussi le chef d'orchestre de l'Orchestre de Marly le Roi. Jean Witold est mort en 1966 à Marly le Roi. Il a aujourd'hui un parc à son nom. Pour en apprendre plus : <http://www.orchestredemarly.com/witold.htm>



Vipulan Puvaneruaran

Vipulan Puvaneruaran is an ecologist campaigner and activist. He was born in Marly le Roi in 2003. He studied in Louis Lumière Middle School. He is actually a student in Science for a Sustainable World in Paris. He is member of several ecologist associations. He acted in a documentary on climate change and animal protection in 2021 called « Animal ». He also published a book in 2023 : *Autonomies animales*, talking about animals' protection and the link between humans and animals. Last but not least, he often participates in debates about ecology. To have more information : https://www.lemonde.fr/campus/article/2022/03/02/vipulan-puvaneswaran-militant-etudiant-acteur-un-transclasse-chez-les-ecolos_6115836_4401467.html



André Theuriet

André Theuriet était un auteur français né à Marly le Roi en 1833. Il a écrit des romans, des poèmes et des pièces de théâtre. Il a écrit en tout plus de 80 romans et 286 contes et nouvelles. André Theuriet a aussi été membre de l'Académie Française. C'est une académie qui regroupe les plus grands intellectuels de France. Il a beaucoup écrit sur les campagnes, les forêts et les petites villes, car il a longtemps vécu à la campagne en Lorraine et en Franche Comté. Il est mort en 1907. If you want to learn more : <https://www.academie-francaise.fr/les-immortels/andre-theuriet>

Timothée et Estelle

Marly's Forest



Marly's forest is a dominial forest which is located in the Yvelines (it's a large French department next to Paris). Initially, the forest was a private hunting ground for the French king Louis XIV in the 17th century. It's one of the biggest forests in the county, behind Rambouillet's forest and Saint Germain's forest. This forest is linked to Versailles Castle by its history and its location. Marly is located halfway between Versailles's castle and Saint Germain's castle, so it's closely linked with French history. There are also hydraulic machines to quickly supply water to Versailles's castle. Like the Marly's horses located in the park near the forest, we can find many other sculptures, for example the mysterious rock mushroom : we don't really know what it is but we can make hypotheses. It could be a picnic table or a covered well but you can make your own idea.

A côté de la gare de Saint Nom la Bretèche, dans la forêt, il y a une grande maison abandonnée. A l'intérieur de celle-ci il y a une machine à coudre. Une histoire urbaine dit qu'un garde forestier de l'époque de Louis XIV serait mort en cousant sur cette vieille machine à coudre. On a mené nos recherches et pris quelques photos pour vous illustrer les propos que nous tenons. Cette maison était devenue un site historique au XXe siècle mais elle fut rapidement délaissée.

There are many activities that you can do in the forest, like riding a bike, walking with your dog, running, hunting or having a picnic. For the bikers, there are many roads with lots of bumps and a big downhill of 5,27 meters (207.48031496063 inches) to fully enjoy your experience. For the cowboys and for the cowgirls there is a horse riding center.



ESBJERG

55°27'42.3"N 8°26'06.6"E



ESBJERG

La cinquième grande ville du Danemark !

Les attractions touristiques d'Esbjerg

Esbjerg est une ville du Danemark.
À Esbjerg nous avons 115 932 (2017) mille habitants.

La tour d'eau de la ville. (vandtårnet)
Le palais de la Musique. (musikhuset)
L'Homme rencontre la Mer (de fire hvide mænd)

Les endroits importants à Esbjerg

Esbjerg a une équipe qui joue au hockey sur glace et qui s'appelle Esbjerg Energy.

Esbjerg a un centre commercial où on peut faire du shopping (Broen)

Esbjerg dispose d'une piscine, c'est la plus grande du Danemark !

Esbjerg a un port. C'est le plus grand port du Danemark.

Esbjerg a deux lycées ; le meilleur lycée est le lycée d'Esbjerg

Esbjerg a un musée maritime, c'est Fiskeri og søfartsmuseet.

La statue célèbre sur la grande place d' Esbjerg est le roi Christian le 9 sur un cheval. C'est sous le règne de Christian le 9 que le port a été construit, ce qui a fait grandir la ville. La statue montre la gratitude des habitants d'Esbjerg envers leur roi.





Quelques informations sur la ville d'Esbjerg

Esbjerg a la plus longue rue piétonne du Danemark.

Les sites touristiques incontournables sont :
« L'homme rencontre la mer », « Le palais de la Musique » et « Le château d'eau »

« L'homme rencontre la mer » C'est le nom de la sculpture à Hjerting. La sculpture consiste en quatre personnes de béton, hautes de 9 m.

« Le palais de la Musique » est un palais pour la musique et le théâtre construit par les architectes danois célèbres Jørn Utzon et son fils Jan Utzon en 1997.

« Le château d'eau » est un bâtiment haut, qui a été utilisé pour un grand réservoir d'eau pour les habitants d'Esbjerg. C'est un vieux bâtiment qui offre une belle vue sur la ville.

A Esbjerg on a aussi de l'Energie verte. Il y a les éoliennes.





"Flee" is an animated documentary released in 2021 in which a man called Amin tells his story of immigrating to Denmark because of the war in Afghanistan, as well as his experience as a homosexual. Jonas Poher Rasmussen, the director, had known Amin since he was a teenager and collected his testimony. The movie is mainly in Danish, and has parts in English, Dari, Russian and Swedish too.

The movie made 700,000 dollars at the box office for a budget of 3,400,000 dollars.

The movie has an average rating of 7.9 out of 10 on IMDb, 98% on Rotten Tomatoes.

The topic of immigration has been dealt with a lot in the last decade in cinema and literature, for example the movie « Greenborder » and the comic « L'Odyssée d'Hakim », both talking about the journeys of Syrian immigrants.

"Being gay in Afghanistan is like being a refugee in Denmark"

Class's critics

-> The different languages spoken and alternating drawings and real images make the movie and the story more realistic - Malo

-> The good point in this story is that it mixes different issues, such as the treatment of homosexuality and immigration around the world, which are still current. - Adam

-> The drawings bring a better understanding of the movie, with different color codes to express the feelings of the characters, and that touched a lot - Estelle

-> The movie shows the real life and journey of the migrants who want to reach Europe, hoping for a better life than the one in the country that they escaped - Malo

-> We realize how much we are lucky to be born in a country like France, we have a stable political situation and not so many problems that would push us out of our country, we are all together with our families and it's not the case for a lot of migrants - Adam

-> I found the art direction very interesting, the use of drawing can, to some extent, soften the horror of war and the dangerous journey they faced, the goal is not to shock but to learn and to know about this topic. - Malo



Oscar poster

"Flee" has received numerous awards, including the Grand Jury Prize and Audience Award at the Sundance Film Festival, the Cannes Critics' Week Grand Prize, and recognition from prestigious organizations such as the New York Film Critics Circle, Los Angeles Film Critics Association, National Board of Review, Gotham Awards, European Film Awards, and a nomination for Best Documentary Feature at the Academy Awards.

"A Groundbreaking Cinematic Achievement"The New York Times

Analysis of Animation Style:

One of the most striking aspects of "Flee" is its innovative use of animation to bring Amin's story to life. Rasmussen and his team opted for a blend of traditional hand-drawn animation and rotoscoping techniques, which involves tracing over live-action footage frame by frame. This approach lends a sense of realism to the characters and their experiences while also allowing for artistic expression and visual symbolism.

The animation in "Flee" serves as more than just a stylistic choice; it is an integral part of the storytelling process. By seamlessly blending animation with archival footage and interviews, the film creates a powerful juxtaposition between the past and the present, the personal and the political.

The use of animation also enables the filmmakers to navigate sensitive subject matters with sensitivity and nuance, allowing viewers to empathize with Amin's journey on a visceral level.

Director's Filmography:

Prior to "Flee," Rasmussen gained acclaim for his documentary feature "Searching for Bill," which delved into the enigmatic life of a Danish filmmaker. His other notable works include the animated short film "Træf mig i morgen" (Meet me Tomorrow), which explores themes of love and loss through a poignant narrative and stunning visuals.



Questions to the director or to Amin by our classmates:

- > Is Amin helping people from/in Afghanistan now ?
- > Does Amin want to get together with his family ?
- > Why choosing drawing to make this movie ?
- > How did Amin get such a successful education ?

Afghanistan : Geography and Chronology

Afghanistan is an Arabic country located in Asia. It's a very mountainous country because it's situated in the Himalayan range with plains situated in the North West side and a vast desert. The Hindu Kush mountain range dominates most of the landscape, with peaks exceeding 7,000 meters (23,000 feet). Afghanistan has a continental climate in the center with very high temperatures in summer and very low temperatures in winter. In the south and east there is a dry desert climate while in the mountainous region there is snow in winter. Kabul is the capital city of Afghanistan and the largest urban center of the country.

The national official languages are the Dari and the Pashto with various dialects spoken throughout the country. Afghanistan's IDH is 180 out of 191, so one of the lowest in the world. Afghanistan's GDP in 2021 was 14,79 billions of dollars. In the same year, there were 40 millions of people living there. Afghanistan is part of the LDC (*not the Ligue Des Champions*), and they use the Afghani as their national money. Their GDP by inhabitant was 365 US dollars in 2021. There are 20 million people suffering from starvation nowadays. The life expectancy is approximately 62 years old.

Here is a short sentence in Pashto: زه یو ګان، ولیس کارتوس لرم wich means "I love the French croissant".



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Afghanistan was colonized by Great Britain in 1839, then got its independence in 1919. On 6/09/1926, the Emirate of Afghanistan became the Kingdom of Afghanistan with Amanullah Khan as their Shah until 1929, and he made a lot of changes on the political and social aspects. On 14/01/1929, the traditional Muslims took the power, it was an anarchic situation. And on 17/07/1973, Afghanistan became a republic thanks to Mohammad (*not me*) Daoud Khan's rebellion. He was the first president of Afghanistan and he governed until his assassination in 1978.

After that, on 30, April 1978, the country became the democratic republic of Afghanistan led by Babrak Karmal. Afghanistan was invaded by the Soviet Union in 1979, leading to a decade-long conflict known as the Soviet-Afghan War. The Soviet withdrawal in 1989 led to a power vacuum and ultimately a civil war between various factions. Following the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the United States launched a military intervention in Afghanistan to dismantle the Taliban regime and hunt down Al-Qaeda leaders.



Wars in Afghanistan

It's been fifty years that the Wars in Afghanistan have been lasting and some Afghan people have only known war for their entire lives. We can therefore wonder what happened in this country that led to such a disastrous political context.

The Soviet Afghan War (1979-1989)

In 1979, the Afghan government was pro-communist. However, it was threatened by the Mujahideen, a Muslim group that was against this established authority and that was financially supported by the United States. Thus, the USSR invaded the country in order to shore up the newly established pro-Soviet regime in Kabul, during the operation Storm 333. Obviously, this happened in the context of the Cold War between the USSR and the USA. The Soviets occupied major cities and the main ways of communication and were attacking villages without considering if the victims were civilians or not. At the same time, the Mujahideen were launching assaults and using guerilla warfare. Yet, the war was costing a lot to the USSR, probably contributing to its dissolution. Therefore, the reformist Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, announced that the Soviet troops would withdraw from Afghanistan. On 15, February 1989, the last Soviet troops were retreating. In the end, this war caused the death of one million civilians as well as 90,000 Mujahideen fighters, 18,000 Afghan troops, and 14,500 Soviet soldiers. In addition, six million Afghans fled from the country as refugees. Although this departure was a relief, it didn't stop war in Afghanistan.

Afghan civil war (1989-1992)

After the Soviets left Afghanistan, the Mujahideens brought down the communist government which was no longer militarily supported by the USSR. This led to chaotic times, during which the Afghan power was successively taken by different groups, until 1992. Nevertheless, in the end, the Mujahideen won against the communist government, and they set up the Interim Afghan Government. This second war caused approximately 50,000 deaths.

Afghan Civil War (1996–2001)

The Taliban is a Sunni Islamic fundamentalist and predominantly Pashtun movement. It seized control of Kabul and imposed a hardline version of Islam overturning the Interim Afghan Government of the Mujahideen. They controlled most of Afghanistan from 1996 to 2001, establishing the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan on 27, September 1996. However, in 2001, The United States, following September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center decided to intervene militarily with help from NATO and other allies. Indeed, the United States intervened because the Taliban had provided support to Al-Qaeda. As a consequence, they were ousted from Kabul and Hamid Karzai became head of an interim power-

sharing government. The war was the United States' longest military engagement as the Taliban regrouped and regained control of large areas of the country.

Nevertheless, in 2021, the United States retreated from Afghanistan, leaving the power to the Taliban. To conclude, this country has been in a context of war for the past fifty years, so much time that some generations have only known war for their entire lives, which may be the reason why they can't manage to develop. Those wars have therefore led to the immigration of more than two million Afghans.



sources : Wikipedia, Britannica, The Atlantic, BBC news, DBpedia, The New York Times



THE TALIBAN'S ISLAMIST IDEOLOGY SINCE 1996

The Taliban is a fundamentalist Islamist group that originated in Afghanistan in the early 1990s. The word "Taliban" itself is derived from the Pashto language, where it means "students" or "seekers." This name reflects the group's origins as predominantly young Afghan students who had been educated in Islamic schools, known as madrasas, often in Pakistan.

Initially, the Taliban emerged during the chaos of the Afghan Civil War that followed the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan in 1989. They gained prominence in the mid-1990s when they captured Kabul, the capital city, and established a strict interpretation of Islamic law, or Sharia, over much of Afghanistan.

The group's ideology is rooted in a particularly conservative interpretation of Sunni Islam, emphasizing a strict adherence to the Quran and Hadith (sayings and practices of the Prophet Muhammad). They advocate for a society governed by their interpretation of Islamic law, which includes stringent regulations on behavior, dress, and social interactions. This includes restrictions on women's rights, banning activities such as music and television, and imposing severe punishments for violations of their laws.





Chronology :

Rise to Power (1994-1996): The Taliban emerged during Afghanistan's tumultuous period following the Soviet withdrawal. Initially comprised mainly of Pashtun students from Pakistani madrasas, they garnered support from rural communities disillusioned by the corruption and lawlessness of Mujahideen factions.

Establishment of Islamic Emirate (1996): Seizing Kabul in September 1996, the Taliban eliminated former communist president Mohammad Najibullah and established the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan. Their rule was characterized by an uncompromising interpretation of Islamic law, featuring severe punishments and restrictions, particularly targeting women and religious minorities.

International Notoriety (1998): The Taliban's refusal to extradite Osama bin Laden following the 1998 U.S. embassy bombings in East Africa heightened international tensions. This defiance led to retaliatory strikes by the United States and its allies, escalating the Taliban's notoriety on the global stage.

September 11th Attacks (2001): The pivotal moment for the Taliban came with the September 11th, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States. Their sheltering of Osama bin Laden prompted the U.S.-led invasion aimed at dismantling al-Qaeda and toppling the Taliban regime.

Overthrow and Insurgency (2001-2004): The swift overthrow of the Taliban regime led to their retreat into hiding or exile. However, they regrouped, launching an insurgency against the new Afghan government and international forces, particularly gaining ground in rural areas where they enjoyed local support.

Transition Period (2005-2014): Marked by a blend of military operations, political maneuvers, and sporadic peace negotiations. The Taliban waged a persistent guerrilla campaign against the Karzai regime and international forces, despite efforts by the Afghan government and its allies to expand governance and counter the insurgency.

Transition of Security Responsibilities (2014): With the formal end of the U.S. and NATO combat mission, Afghan security forces assumed primary responsibility for maintaining security, marking a significant shift in the conflict's dynamics.

Resurgence and Peace Efforts (2015-2021): Despite intermittent peace talks, the Taliban made notable territorial gains, particularly in rural areas, while the Afghan government grappled with internal divisions and rampant corruption.

Return to Power (2021): Exploiting the vacuum left by the withdrawal of U.S. and allied forces, the Taliban launched a series of offensives culminating in the rapid seizure of Kabul in August 2021, leading to the reinstatement of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan.

Challenges of Governance and International Recognition (2021-2024): Since reclaiming power, the Taliban have confronted numerous challenges, including governance, security, economic stability, and humanitarian crises. Despite seeking international recognition and assistance, their controversial policies and actions, particularly regarding human rights, have drawn widespread condemnation.

Islamist ideology is a political and social movement that seeks to establish Islamic law, or Sharia, as the basis of governance and society. It differs from traditional interpretations of Islam in that it often advocates the implementation of a strict, conservative interpretation of Sharia law in both public and private life.

Islamist ideology encompasses several key principles. Firstly, it advocates for the implementation of Sharia law, derived from the Koran, Hadiths, and Islamic jurisprudence, to govern all facets of life, from politics to personal conduct. Secondly, Islamists envision Islam not just as a religion but as a comprehensive system of global governance, aiming to establish Islamic states where religious authorities wield significant influence over laws and policies. Thirdly, Islamist movements often emerge in response to perceived threats to Islamic identity, aiming to revive Islamic practices and institutions by returning to the pure teachings of Islam. Finally, Jihad holds a central position in Islamist ideology, understood as both a personal spiritual struggle and a collective duty to defend Islam and Muslims, including through armed resistance against perceived adversaries.

It is important to note that Islamist ideology covers a wide range of beliefs and practices, from moderate and reformist to extremist and militant. While some Islamist groups participate peacefully in political processes and advocate democratic reforms within existing systems, others resort to violence and terrorism to achieve their goals, such as the Taliban.

Taliban rule has brought about a regime of extreme repression, where strict adherence to their interpretation of Sharia law is enforced through draconian measures to maintain control and impose their ideology on the populace. This translated into severe restrictions on individual freedoms, particularly for women. Since their resurgence in 2021, women have seen their rights drastically curtailed, including being barred from education and compelled to wear the niqab or burka, effectively erasing their visibility in public spaces. Alongside restrictions on women's rights, other freedoms have been severely curtailed. For instance, music, movies, and other forms of entertainment deemed "un-Islamic" have been banned. Harsh penalties, including public executions and amputations, are imposed for violations of their laws, such as theft or adultery. Additionally, dissent and criticism of the regime are met with swift and severe punishment, often through public executions or brutal beatings. These draconian measures have left little room for dissent or deviation from Taliban dictates, instilling fear and subjugation among the Afghan population.

Living conditions under the Taliban regime are harsh, especially for those who don't comply with their strict rules. Basic freedoms are severely limited, stifling personal expression. Poverty and unemployment are widespread due to economic collapse. Healthcare and education access, especially for women and girls, is restricted. Fear of violence and punishment looms large, creating an oppressive atmosphere. The Taliban's control fosters despair, making a better future seem out of reach for many Afghans.

Moreover, the imposition of Western sanctions against Afghanistan, ostensibly aimed at crippling the Taliban, has instead exacerbated the suffering of the population, leading to widespread poverty, food shortages, and economic collapse, as the most vulnerable bear the brunt of the consequences while the Taliban leadership often remains insulated from the effects.



The Taliban's trajectory in Afghanistan since 1996 reflects a complex blend of ideology, power struggles, and external influences. Emerging from the chaos of the Afghan civil war, they swiftly established control over much of the country, implementing a strict interpretation of Islamist ideology that severely restricted personal freedoms, particularly for women.

Looking beyond Afghanistan, one can find parallels in other extremist ideological regimes. For instance, the Orthodox Jewish Haredim in Israel, particularly factions involved in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, espouse a rigid interpretation of religious law and advocate for the expansion of Jewish settlements in the West Bank, often clashing with Palestinian communities. Like the Taliban, they prioritize their ideological agenda over international norms and engage in practices that provoke controversy and condemnation.

In both cases, the intersection of ideology, politics, and power dynamics complicates efforts to address the underlying issues and achieve lasting peace. While each context is unique, understanding the similarities and differences between such extremist regimes can inform strategies for engagement and intervention, emphasizing the importance of promoting dialogue, respect for human rights, and inclusive governance to counter the influence of radical ideologies.

GENEVA CONVENTION 1951

What is it about?

Refugees are among the most vulnerable people in the world. The 1951 Refugee Convention, supplemented by its 1967 Protocol, helps protect them. The core principle of the 1951 Convention is non-expulsion, which asserts that a refugee should not be returned to a country where they face serious threats to their life or freedom. The 1951 Geneva Convention relates to the status of refugees and is officially known as the "Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees." It was adopted on July 28, 1951, in Geneva, Switzerland, and came into force on April 22, 1954. The 1951 Geneva Convention was initially focused on addressing the refugee situation in the aftermath of World War II, but its principles and protections have since become fundamental to the international legal framework for refugee protection.

What was the historical context in 1951 ?

Following WW2, the states wanted to stop war. So they signed on the 26th of June of 1945 in San Francisco The United Nations Charter which founded the United Nations to gather all countries in order to maintain international peace, protect human rights, deliver humanitarian aid, support sustainable development and climate action, and uphold international laws. Meanwhile, on the 12th of March of 1947 the Cold War started between the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union which could may lead to nuclear attacks. So, the Geneva Convention in 1951 could ensure the peace for refugees.





Who made and signed it? Why?

The Convention was adopted by the United Nations Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Status of Refugees and Stateless Persons, held at Geneva from 2 to 28 July 1951. 19 countries signed it and a lot more ratified it later (since 1951 until nowadays). Important non-signatory states in South and Southeast Asia include India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Malaysia and Indonesia. In other regions of the world, non-signatory states include Eritrea, Libya, Mongolia and Cuba.

Is the 1951 Refugee Convention still relevant today?

The importance of the Geneva Convention is more and more important nowadays because there are more and more refugees fleeing their countries. That's why this Convention is so essential because the states have to manage all those people. The Refugee Convention is respected by every country which signed it, but actually, some are trying to dodge the rules and either they reject the refugees or they do not welcome them correctly.

THE HIGH CONTRACTING PARTIES,

CONSIDERING that the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights approved on 10 December 1948 by the General Assembly have affirmed the principle that human beings shall enjoy fundamental rights and freedoms without discrimination,

CONSIDERING that the United Nations has, on various occasions, manifested its profound concern for refugees and endeavoured to assure refugees the widest possible exercise of these fundamental rights and freedoms,

CONSIDERING that it is desirable to revise and consolidate previous international agreements relating to the status of refugees and to extend the scope of and protection accorded by such instruments by means of a new agreement,

CONSIDERING that the grant of asylum may place unduly heavy burdens on certain countries, and that a satisfactory solution of a problem of which the



Afghan Refugees in Europe :

A

fghan refugees are one of the most important groups of refugees in the world. Indeed, they represent 16% of the refugees on the international scale right after the Syrians who are 6.5 million and the Ukrainians (5,7 million).

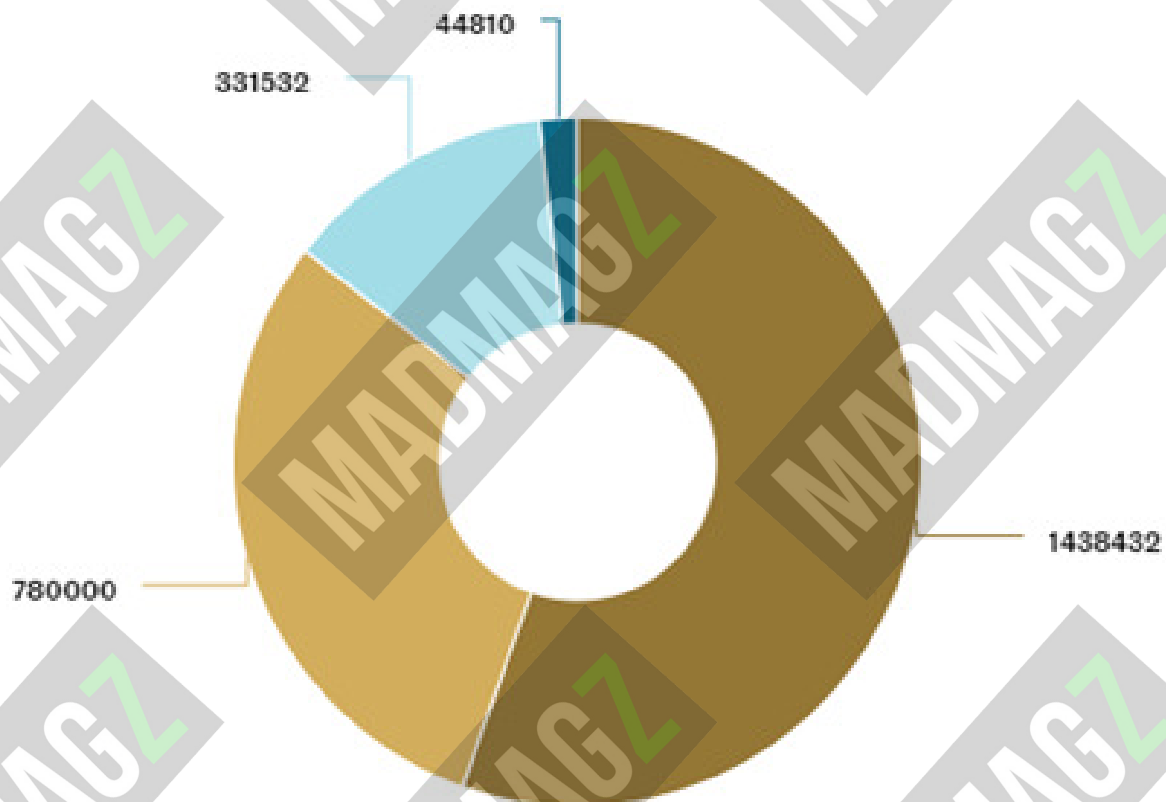
Moreover, in France, they represent the first community with almost 41,000 persons. This escape movement can be explained by the political situation of Afghanistan which is very chaotic.

Indeed, before 2001, Afghanistan faced a lot of wars until the Taliban control which started in 1996. Consequently, this hold generated a huge movement of escape, for example, in 2008, 12,600 asylum applications were asked for in the European Union states, including a various rate of success (from 3% in Latvia to 20% in Denmark). The Afghan population, fleeing war, with almost 2,6 million refugees, divided in the world in 2020. Besides, as it is generally the case when a population is running away from its country, the countries which host the most are generally the neighbour countries, which are, for Afghanistan, Pakistan, that hosted 55,4% in 2020 (almost 1,4 million persons) and Iran, with 30,1% of the Afghan population (780,000 persons).

Nevertheless, Europe is also trying to help those refugees hosting some of them. Indeed, in 2020, Europe hosted 12,5% of the Afghan refugees, whereas the United States hosted 0,1% of them. Germany is the first receiving country in Europe, with almost 148,000 persons on their territory, which is 5 times bigger than the French rate (31,546 refugees). But, sometimes, European countries can also reject refugees as the G5 countries (Germany, France, the United Kingdom, Italy and Spain) did in 2005 when they sent back to Afghanistan 40 refugees.

In 2021, the Taliban took Kabul again. Around 600,000 people fled to Pakistan. 122,000 other Afghans or Europeans living in Afghanistan flew to Europe. For example, the French army allowed the evacuation of 2,600 people. Many Afghans live nowadays in Europe.

● Pakistan ● Iran ● Europe ● Reste du monde



In 2019, 300,000 people of Afghan origins lived in Europe; this number has been multiplied by 5 in 10 years. Germany is the country with the most important number of Afghan Refugees, far ahead the United Kingdom, Sweden, Austria, Netherlands and France. Sweden and Austria are the countries with the highest percentage of Afghan refugees in their population, with one person above 200. Most of them have the refugee status, but it depends on the country. For example, in Italy, 93 % of the Afghans had this status, but only 40 % in Sweden. Thousands of migrants are also living in camps at the European borders. But most of them are still in the neighbour countries : 85 % of them are in Iran or Pakistan.

Refugees in France

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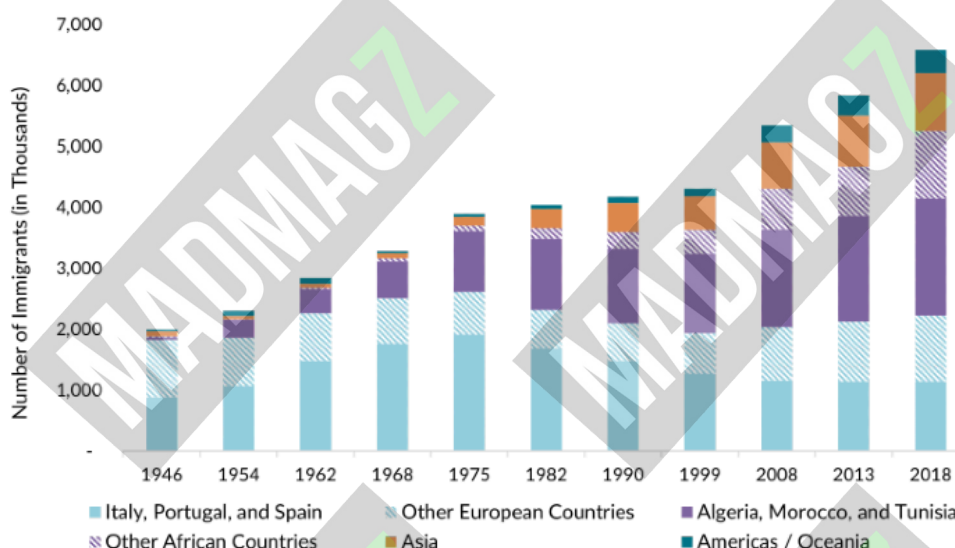
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EU rules

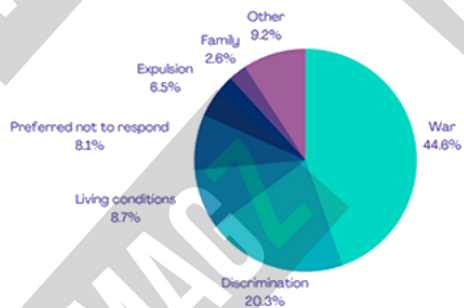
The laws governing the Common European Asylum System (CEAS) ensure fair treatment of asylum seekers across EU countries. Key directives include rules for asylum decision-making, standards for asylum seekers' reception, and clarifications on who qualifies for protection. The Dublin Regulation determines which country handles asylum applications, aided by the EURODAC Regulation. The European Union Agency for Asylum provides support. Recent reforms aim to improve efficiency, fairness, and solidarity, including plans for a stronger EU Asylum Agency and better migration management under the Pact on Migration and Asylum.



Origins

Here, we can easily see the evolution of the refugees' origins in France, that switched from a majority of Europeans and near neighbors between 1940's and 1970's to a majority of African countries nowadays with an increasing presence of Asian origins.

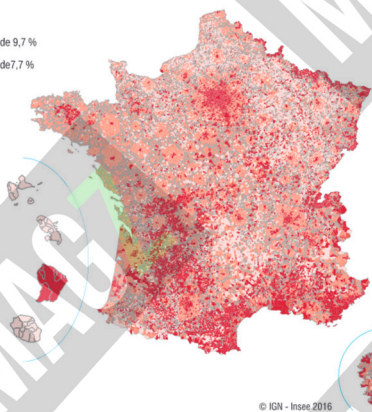
Refugees in france



Actual living conditions

With the complexity of the asylum system and long processing times, asylum seekers have no choice but to survive while awaiting a decision from the OFPRA. Access to housing is a significant issue, with many ending up on the streets due to a saturated emergency housing system and administrative obstacles. This exposes them to violence and theft. However, grouping together for safety attracts the police's attention, leading to further displacement which exhausts even more the refugees. Financial insecurity compounds their difficulties, with many lacking any income or access to assistance. This leads to food insecurity for the majority, impacting their health severely. The extreme precariousness also has important consequences on their mental well-being, exacerbating existing traumas and leaving them vulnerable to various psychological risks.

■ 9,7 % ou plus
■ De 7,7 % à moins de 9,7 %
■ De 5,0 % à moins de 7,7 %
■ Intérieur à 5,0 %



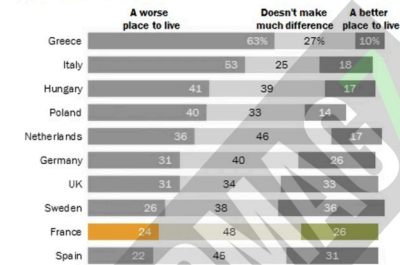
Reasons for fleeing and expectations

The reason for fleeing their country is mostly the presence of war in their native territory. There are several other reasons, including discrimination, expulsion, family reasons, and we can notice that around 10% of refugees are leaving their countries to find better living conditions in France. It makes us come to our next point.

Refugees coming to France generally expect safety, legal protection, access to basic needs, support for integration, assistance with family reunification, respect, and opportunities for a better future. These expectations may vary based on individual circumstances, but they collectively reflect hopes for security, dignity, and a chance to rebuild their lives in a new country. Nevertheless, these expectations are often not met, as we will see in the next point.

Few Europeans say growing diversity makes their country a better place to live

Overall, do you think having an increasing number of people of many different races, ethnic groups and nationalities in our country makes this country a better place to live, a worse place to live or doesn't make much difference either way?



Source: Spring 2016 Global Attitudes Survey
PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Place of living and imbalance

We can see a consequent imbalance in the repartition of the refugees in France with a majority of them going to Ile-de-France or to the south and very few in the rest of the territory. There is also a massive amount of refugees going to French Guyana, mostly coming from Suriname and Laos.



Refugees In

On the 3rd of June 2021, Denmark wrote an anti-refugee law. Today we're going to present you everything you have to know on the topic of immigration in Denmark: their life in Denmark and their origins, their reasons for coming and how they are received by the Danes.

Nowadays, there are a lot of refugees in Denmark. Almost 114,000 refugees are living in Denmark thanks to asylum. There are 614,000 foreigners and refugees living in Denmark.. There are a lot of different people from different origins, such as people from Afghanistan, Syria, Eritrea, Hungary, Vietnam, Chile, Sri Lanka, Iran, Bosnia and since 2022, Ukraine.

Before, Denmark was the country that was the most opened on the topic of refugees. The European commission is not sure about the compatibility of the law with the compromises Denmark signed. The law wasn't well received, in fact, people were demonstrating in the streets to protest against this new law that they found really cruel. Only 600 asylum applications were approved out of 1,500 and the number of demands is constantly growing. The asylum seekers often come from Afghanistan, Syria or even Ukraine and Bosnia, to find a democratic country and a land where they can be free. Denmark also wants to « send back » refugees to Rwanda or to their country of origin, which is a very difficult obstacle for refugees who had experienced a really horrible trip to get to Denmark.

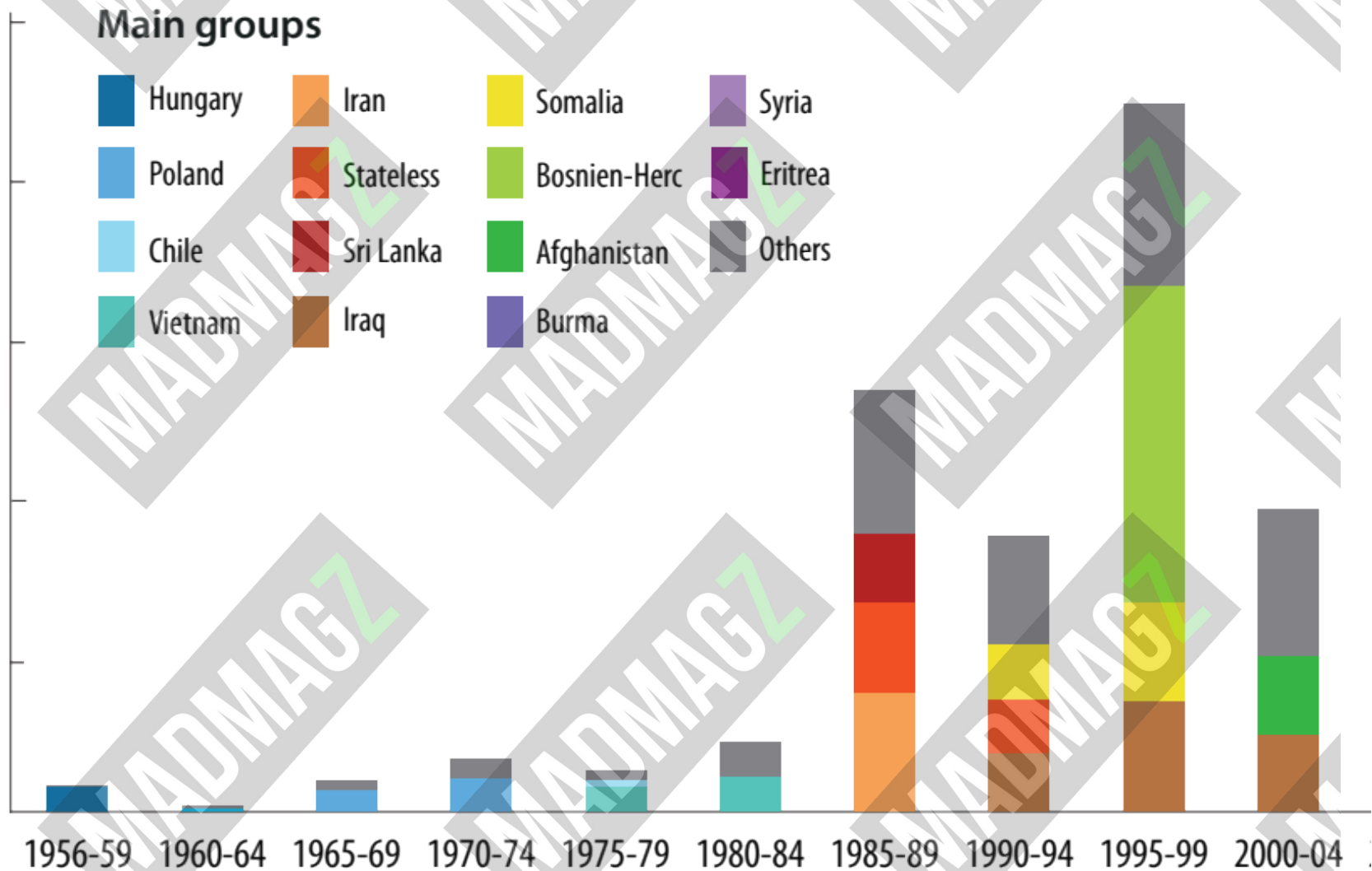


Sources :

Wikipedia
BBC.com
Euronews
Refugees.dk
Franceinfo
Le figaro
Dadosmundiais.com



Refugees granted asylum in Denmark



Graphics: REFUGEES.DK. Sources: Danish Immigration Service and Danish Refugee Council

If a refugee can't find a job immediately, or a job with a salary, they will be sent off to do an internship, in other words, an unpaid work experience in a company, often combined with language school. An internship usually lasts 3 months but can be extended. During the process, they will only receive self-sufficiency and return benefit, and it will be reduced if they don't show up every day. Refugees' life in Denmark is not as easy as expected, we can also see it with the fact that their real estate is often seized, that they don't have the right to go back to their countries for holidays and struggle to earn their allowances.

To conclude, Denmark has become an uncompromising country for refugees and immigrants in general, maybe because of the influence of the very conservative party currently ruling in Denmark.



European Borders, walls to prevent migrants from entering the continent

To face massive immigration since 2011 different governments in the European Union have tried many means to try to control it. Many of them came to the conclusion that they needed to reinforce their borders by building walls to prevent migrants from entering the continent, to prevent what they call “irregular migrations” and for them to “fight terrorism”.

All over the European Union, walls have been erected for this very objective. Slovenia, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Spain, or France for example have built walls at their borders. In 2022, in Europe, there were more than 2,048 km of border walls or fences, when there were only about 315 km in 2014. We also counted 15 walls in the European Union in 2017, and other fences. Border walls can have specific guarding systems and other things to repel migrants from crossing them, or just be high fences with or without barbed wire.



The Belarusian-Polish Border, has a typical type of wall. A 180km long barbed wire fence which is 4.9 meters tall.

- Refugee crisis 2015-2017
- Tensions in the East From 2018



However, border walls are not always effective and many migrants still find ways to cross the borders by the sea for example and berthing on beaches.

Among all the border walls in Europe, the wall at the Greek-Turkish border stands apart.

This wall has stood since 2012, and is 40 km long, it is meant to be extended. The wall in itself is 5 meters tall, and is highly militarized. Ursula von der Leyen nicknamed Greece “Europe’s shield” in 2020 because of its situation with Turkey and their border (guards fight off people with teargas on their border). There are regular (militarized) guard patrols, sound cannons which are very loud sounds, compared to shotguns that blast to people trying to pass the border. Also, requests to visit the wall are denied, and unauthorised observers are arrested, leading to an effective blackout zone.

Migrants

Actions & Sentences against smuggling



▲ Making money on others

Indeed, smugglers are still making money on people, by taking between **6,000 €** and **12,000 €** per migrant, to cross the **Mediterranean** sea, making it one of the most expensive routes to the EU. Thus, the smugglers' incomes are big, they represented in 2018 a total of over **24 million euros**. Besides, smugglers use pressure to **keep control** on migrants and to ensure the payment of fees.

▼ Direction taken by European Union

The European government doesn't want to penalize migrants anymore. They want to take actions **against** the true responsible parties of this human traffic : the **smugglers**. According to the European Commission's Vice President **Margaritis Schinas**, Europe will, in the next few years, be chasing the smugglers, not the smuggled. Nowadays, migrants risk a lot, **Margaritis Schinas** said "[migrants are] **risking** long periods of arbitrary **detention** as well as exclusion from accessing asylum and other regularization procedures". To this end, we can say that migrants are taking a **big risk**, whereas smugglers are becoming **rich**.



Migrants



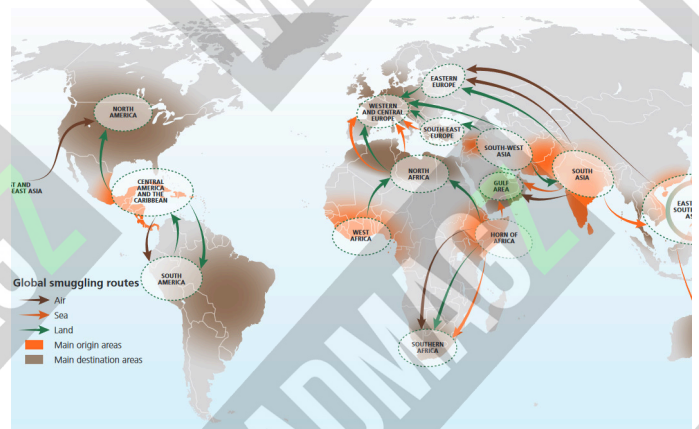
Are we creating a hostile environment?

Meanwhile, those sanctions and policies can **create a hostile environment**, and **break up the solidarity** between activists and migrants. Between January 2021 and March 2022, at least **89** people were criminalized in the EU for helping migrants. European Union agencies **continue to investigate smugglers' networks**, and continue to **rescue** migrants from shipwrecks. The European Union is still working hard to create **new laws** that could **less criminalize migrants and activists**, to penalize smugglers, who make money on this traffic.



Huge organization

Furthermore, smugglers are **well-organized**; they get used to this human traffic. Some groups are even walking around borders to **easily find migrants**. They use **any** way possible to pass migrants, as **trains, planes or boats**. Migrants often hide in containers, that way, many suffer from **assault, rape, extortion** and a range of other abuses. Sanctions against smugglers are rising, they risk **15 years of prison** if a migrant dies, instead of 8 in 2018.



You can find more information on the following links

www.frontex.europa.eu

www.consilium.europa.eu

<https://sherloc.unodc.org/cd/en/education/tertiary/tip-and-som/module-5/key-issues/profile-of-smugglers.html>



DACAAR

Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees

Non-Governmental Organizations helping refugees

Non-governmental organizations may play an important role in making sure refugees enjoy the rights they are entitled to as well as in delivering assistance. They are in a privileged position to help refugees and to provide them with justice and access to medical care. The purpose of NGOs is to focus on all topics relating to human rights, social and environmental issues and advocacy. These organizations play a specific part in developing society, improving communities and promoting citizen participation. It is important to understand that refugees continue to benefit from a range of entitlements despite not being nationals or citizens in the countries where they are living.

Since 1984, DACAAR, or Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees has been a permanent and a significant name in the humanitarian and developing sectors in Afghanistan. It works to improve the lives of the Afghan people by addressing the acute needs of the most vulnerable. It helps support early recovery and sustainable development for all. Its emergency response interventions aim at life-saving in early stages of a crisis targeting displaced people, returning refugees, and communities affected by conflicts and natural disasters. Approximately 12 million Afghans across Afghanistan's 34 provinces have benefited from DACAAR's humanitarian activities since the group was established in 1984. More than 1,000 people help this organization.



These organizations are non-profit and do not function as a business or corporation designed to make money. According to the United State Nations' Development Program, there are around 40,000 non-governmental organizations in the world.

Sources:

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/compass/human-rights-activism-and-the-role-of-ngos>

<https://www.sosmediterranee.org/>

francetvinfo

<https://dacaar.org/>

SOS Méditerranée is a French non-governmental organization, its goal is to help refugees in distress and treat them with dignity. It is an international maritime and humanitarian organization created in May 2015 by European citizens in response to the crisis in the Central Mediterranean. It is a European network operating with teams located in Germany, Italy, Switzerland and France. This NGO is financing and operating missions with rescue ships such as the Ocean Viking. They help all people in distress at sea without bias or discrimination. Their financing is based on campaigns of crowdfunding. SOS Méditerranée saved more than 30,000 people between February 2016 and December 2019 in Mediterranean. Since 2022, 79 regional governments have supported this NGO.



**Souvenirs from
Esbjerg**

**Sunset on the
beach**

**With the penpals
in the gym**

**We stayed in Denmark for 5
days.**

**So much fun and great
memories!**



