



# Deciding Slowly

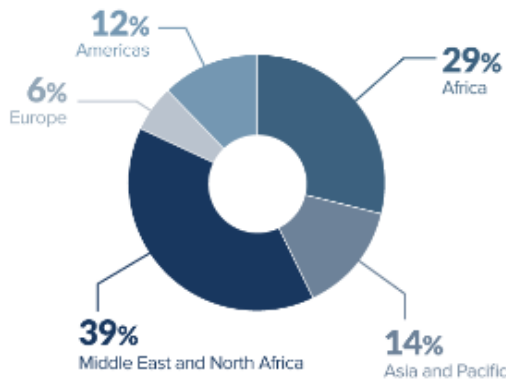
## Asylum seeking in Ireland

Gerry Callaghan  
Heidar Al Hashami  
New Horizon Refugee Support Group

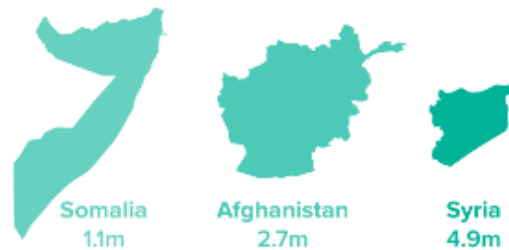


# Almost all UNHCR 'People of Concern' are in developing countries

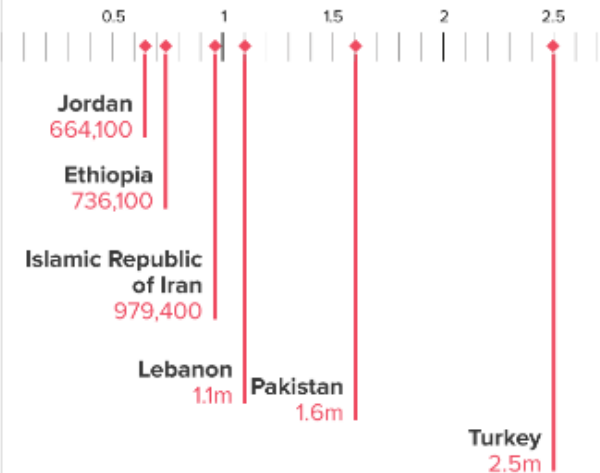
## Where the world's displaced people are being hosted



**54%** of refugees worldwide came from three countries



## Top hosting countries



**33,972** people  
a day forced to flee their homes  
because of conflict and persecution

**9,700** staff  
UNHCR employs 9,700 staff  
(figures from December 2015)

**126** countries  
We work in 126 countries

We are funded almost entirely by  
voluntary contributions, with 86 per  
cent from governments and the  
European Union.

6% in Europe  
12% in Americas

18% in developed world

39% in Middle East and North Africa  
29% in Africa  
14% in Asia and Pacific

82% in 'developing' world

Source: UNHCR / 20 June 2016

# Yet expenditure is almost totally reversed

- Developing world, 82% of refugees, 20% of expenditure
- Developed world, 18% of refugees, 80% of expenditure

Almost all  
of the developed  
world expenditure  
is made on deciding if  
the refugees can stay



# Governments create the great migrant sorting machine



Good Refugees

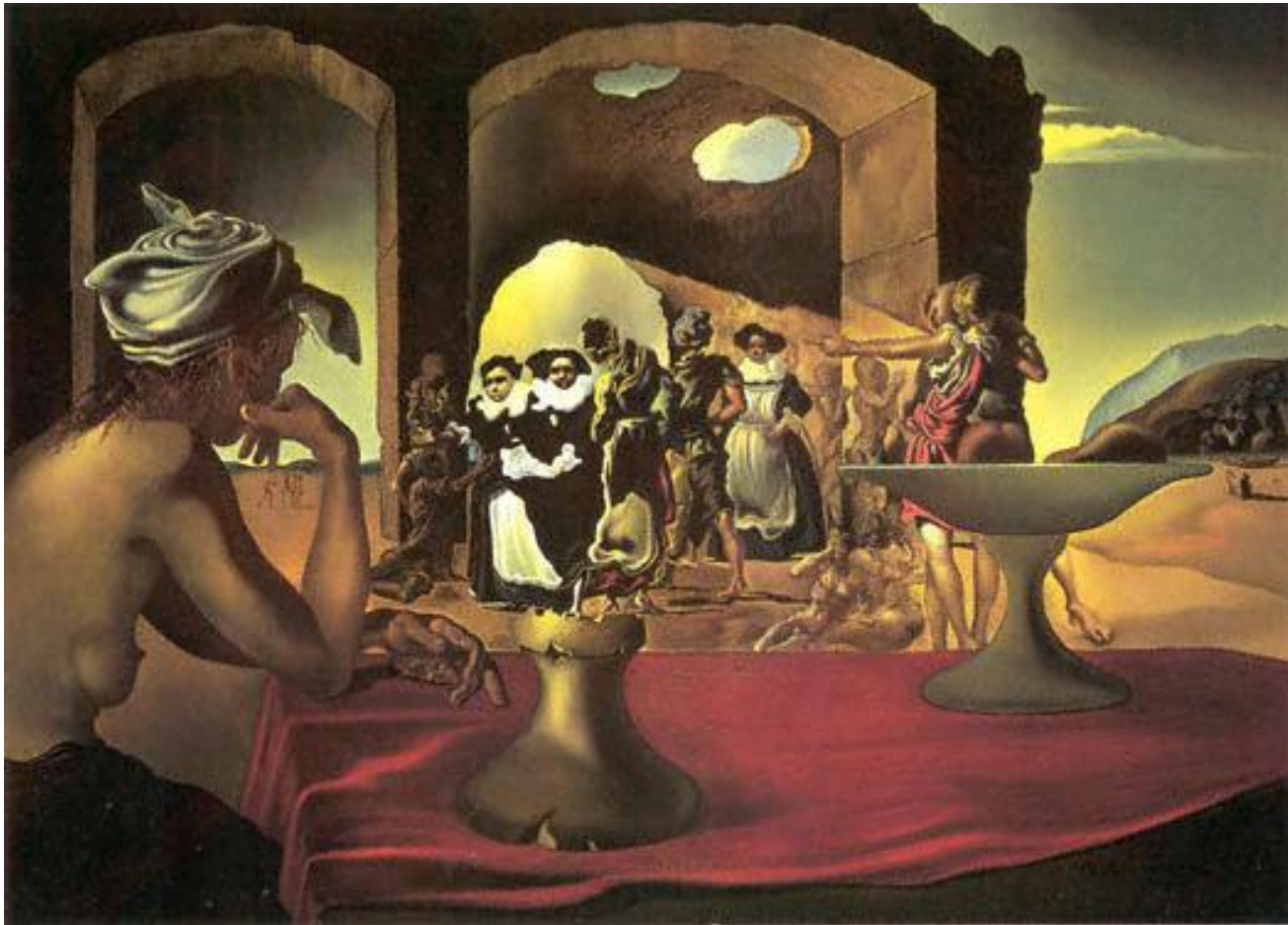


Bad economic migrants



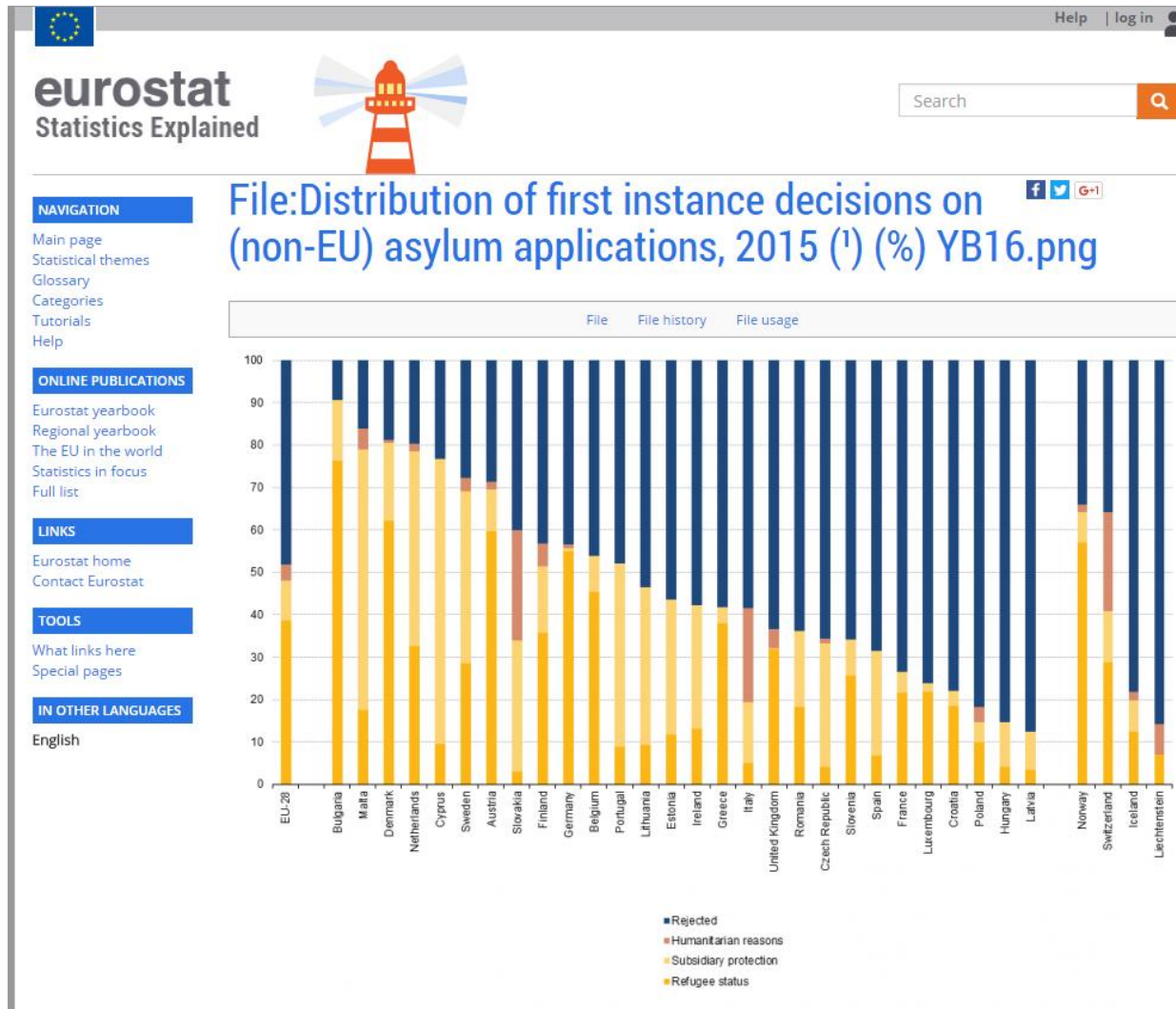


But what you see is what you expect to  
see...



*Slave Market with the Disappearing Bust of Voltaire* - Salvador Dali 1940

# No consistency whatever between schemes



# The Irish version of the great migrant sorting machine

Governed by:

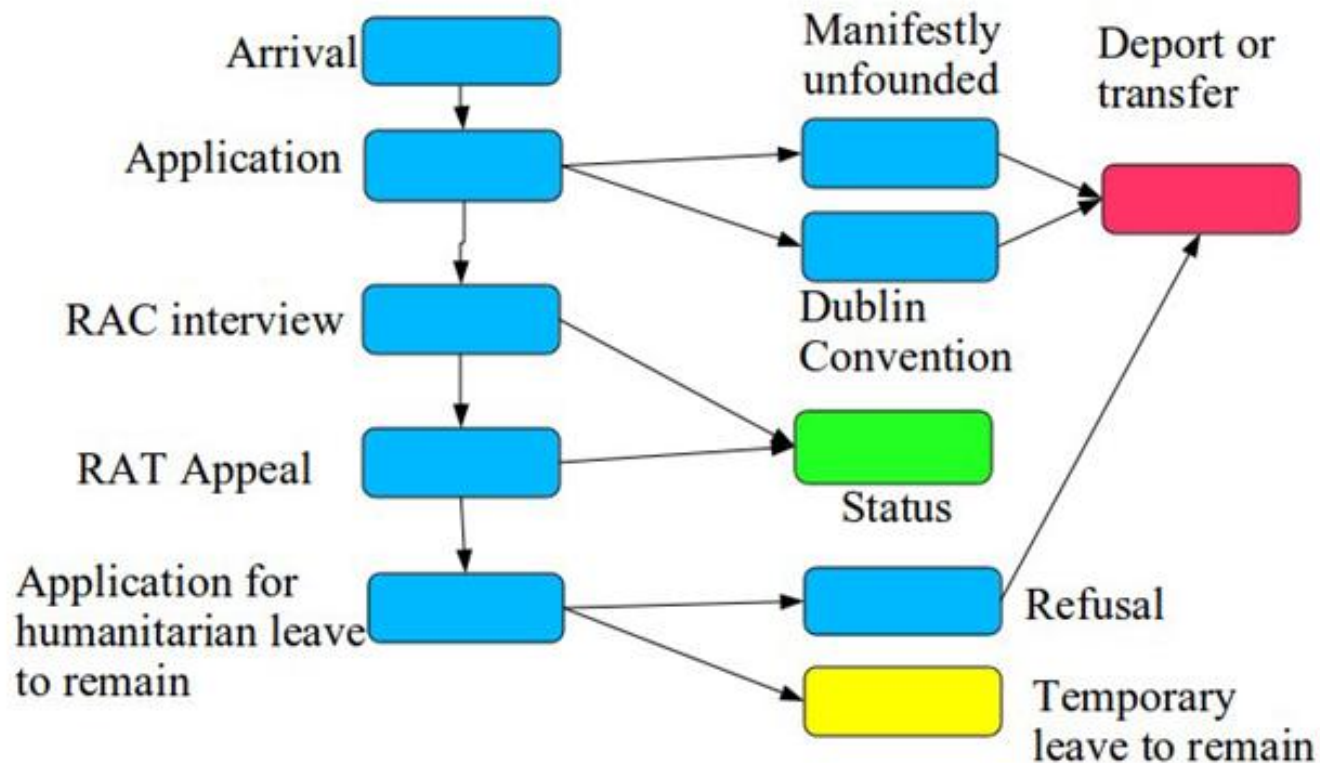
- Illegal Immigrant (Trafficking) Act (2000)
- Immigration Act (2003).
- International Protection Act (2015)



# Irish migrant sorting machine

## Flowchart

### The Asylum Process





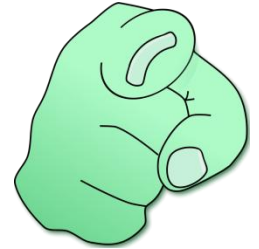
# Issues that cause particular suffering

- Dublin convention – which state deals with the case
- Carrier liability – prevents refugees accessing the state
- Habitual residence clause – bans access to any form of social welfare benefits for newcomers, including EU citizens
- Slow processing – years rather than months



# Features of the Irish system

- As an asylum seeker you must:
  - not leave or attempt to leave the State
  - Not seek or enter employment or carry on any business, trade or profession
  - Report at specified intervals to an Immigration Officer
  - Reside or remain at the accommodation centre allocated to you
  - Only move from this accommodation with permission



# Direct Provision

