

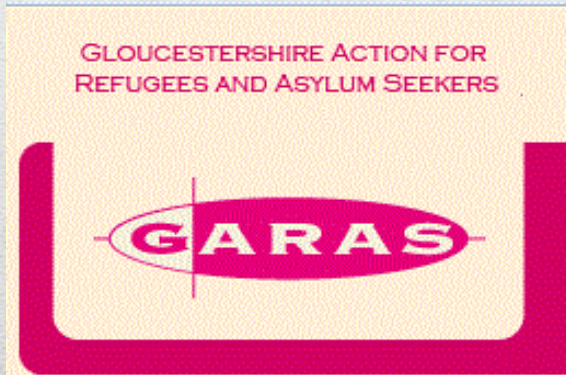


# **Our Response to the Refugee Crisis**

**Tim Davy, Redcliffe College**

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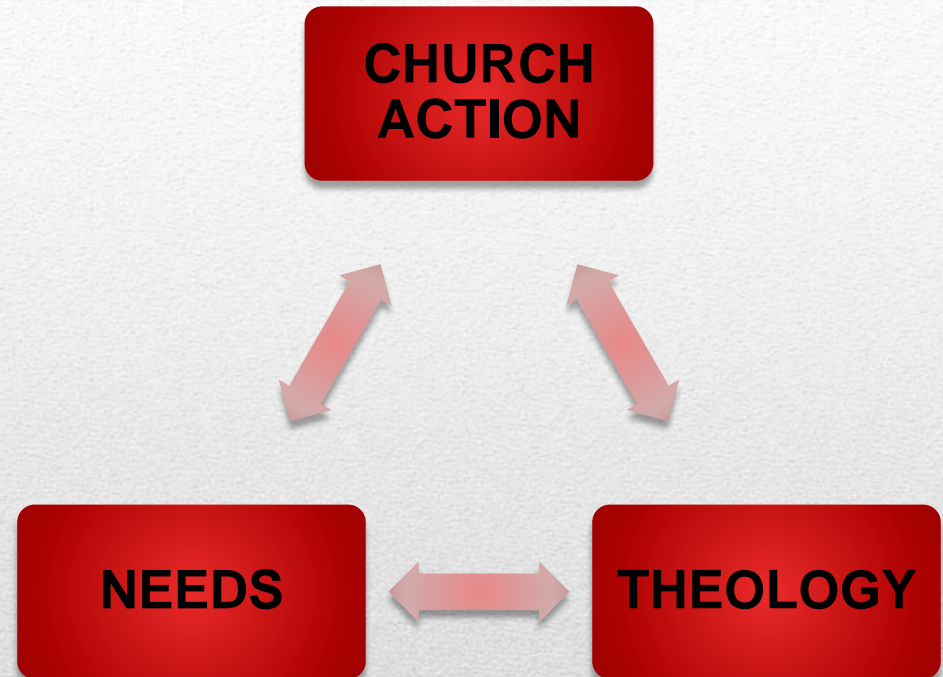
- Refugee Worker Training Day: 27 March
- MA in Contemporary Missiology (Justice, Advocacy and Reconciliation)
- Working with others...



**Redcliffe and refugee ministry**

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*'Meeting the Needs of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children in Gloucestershire: Enhancing the Response of the Local Church'*



**a research project**

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What are we responding to?

What does the Bible say?

What could a response look like?

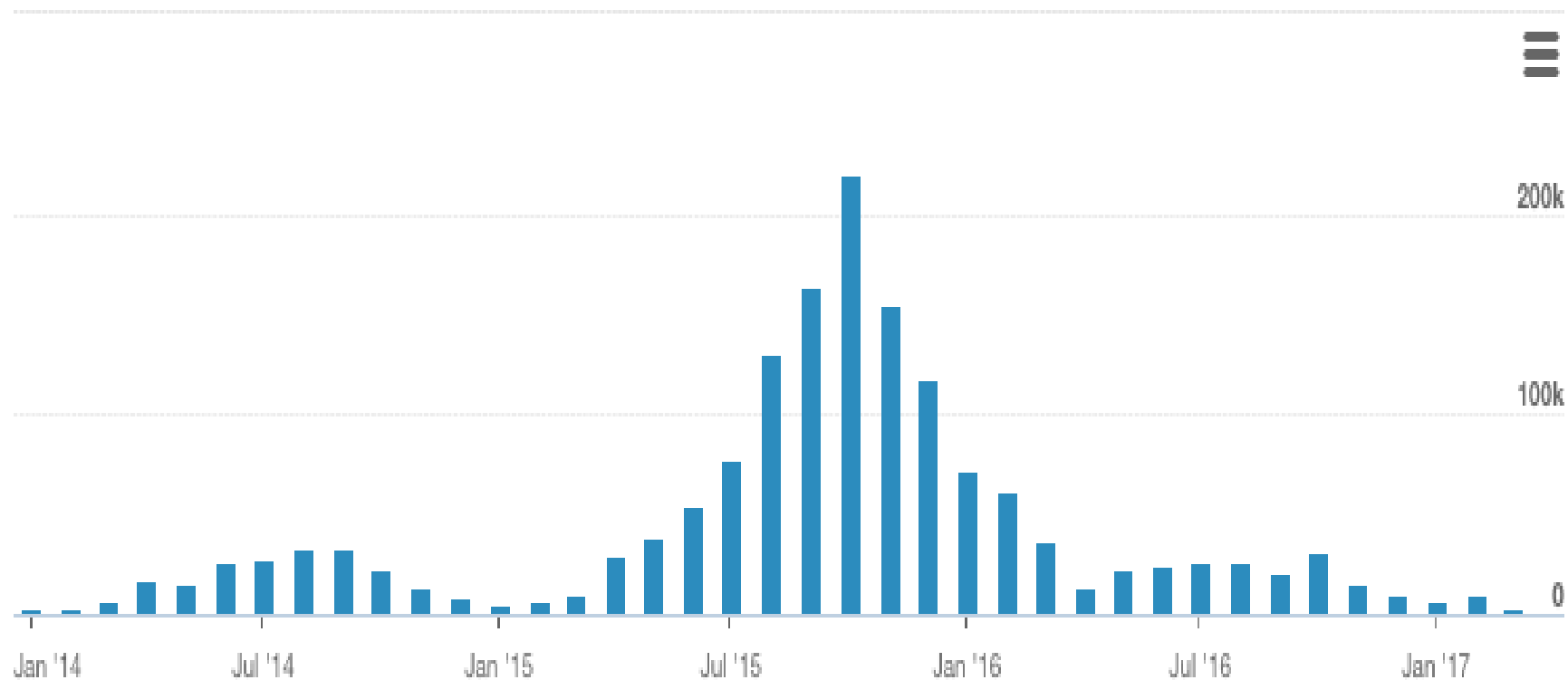
**our journey this evening**

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## Sea arrivals monthly

JSON



# 1. what are we responding to?

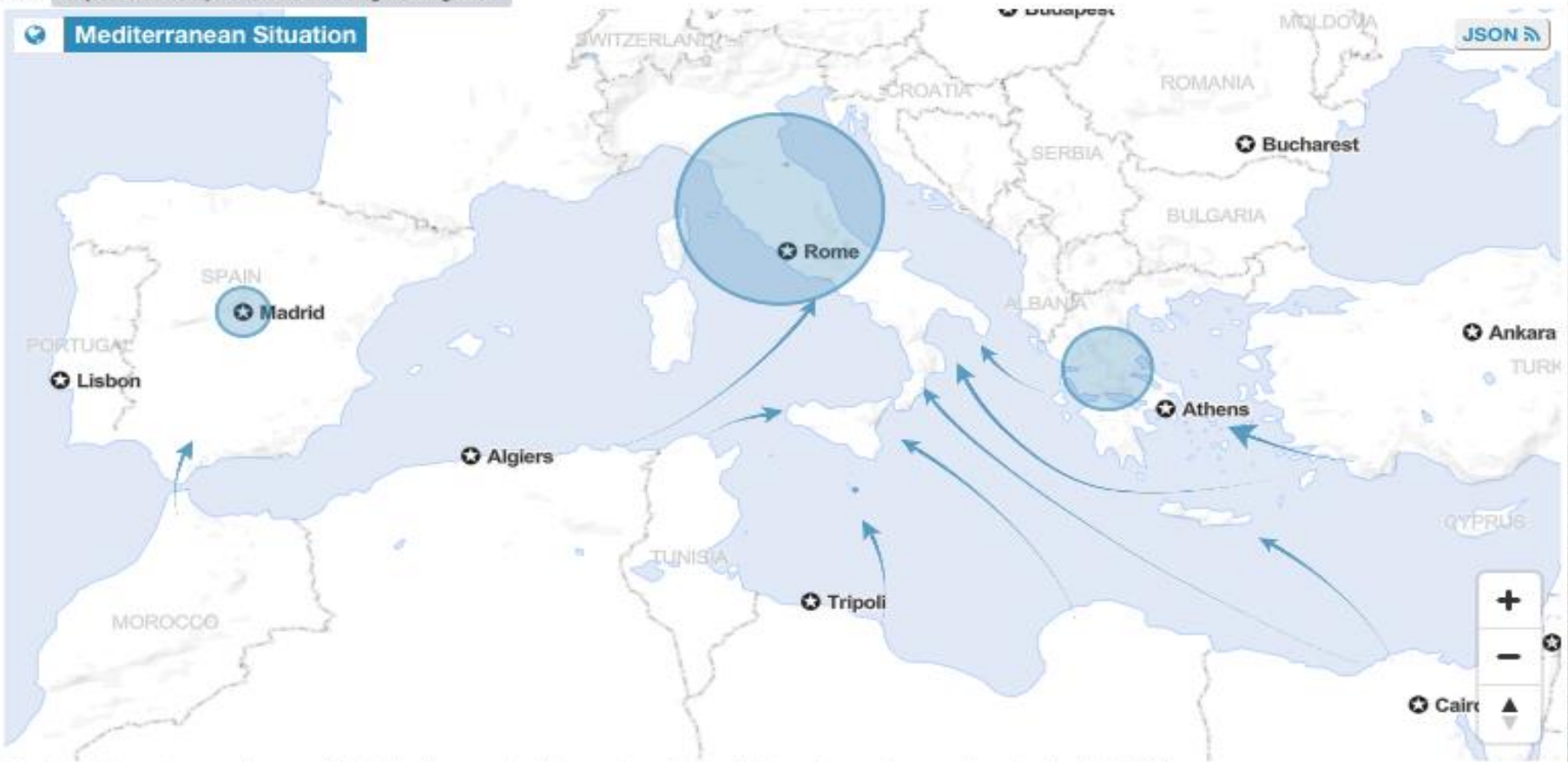
Image from <http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/mediterranean>

## Mediterranean Situation

Select location

AGS Population Group - / Various - Refugees/Migrants

### Mediterranean Situation













The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations

# what are we responding to?

Image from <http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/mediterranean>

## Most common nationalities of Mediterranean sea arrivals from January 2016

[JSON](#)

Country of origin	Source	Data date		Population	
Syrian Arab Rep.	UNHCR	28 Feb 2017		21.7%	82,899
Afghanistan	UNHCR	28 Feb 2017		11.0%	41,953
Nigeria	UNHCR	28 Feb 2017		10.3%	39,275
Iraq	UNHCR	28 Feb 2017		7.4%	28,081
Eritrea	UNHCR	28 Feb 2017		5.4%	20,765
Guinea	UNHCR	28 Feb 2017		4.3%	16,280
Côte d'Ivoire	UNHCR	28 Feb 2017		4.1%	15,588
Others	UNHCR	1 Dec 2016		3.7%	14,094
Gambia	UNHCR	28 Feb 2017		3.7%	14,036
Pakistan	UNHCR	28 Feb 2017		3.1%	11,954

# what are we responding to?

Image from <http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/mediterranean>

What kind of scale?

Why leave?

Why Europe?


What are they experiencing?



**unaccompanied minors**

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*Displacement and Vulnerability  
are woven into the DNA of the  
Bible's big story*

**2. what does the Bible say?**

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A command of love (Deut. 10)


A song of complaint (Psalm 10)

A story of hope (2 Kgs. 5)

The flight of a family (Matt. 2)

**four texts to shape a response**






17 For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. 18 He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing. 19 And you are to love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt.

**a command of love (Deut. 10:17-19, NIV)**





1 Why, Lord, do you stand far off?

Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?


2 In his arrogance the wicked man hunts down the weak,

who are caught in the schemes he devises.

**a song of complaint (Psalm 10)**

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8 He lies in wait near the villages;  
from ambush he murders the innocent.

His eyes watch in secret for his victims;

9 like a lion in cover he lies in wait.

He lies in wait to catch the helpless;

he catches the helpless and drags them off  
in his net.

**a song of complaint (Psalm 10)**

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12 Arise, Lord! Lift up your hand, O God.

Do not forget the helpless....

14 But you, God, see the trouble of the afflicted...

The victims commit themselves to you;  
you are the helper of the fatherless.

15 Break the arm of the wicked man...

16 The Lord is King for ever and ever...


17 You, Lord, hear the desire of the afflicted...

18 defending the fatherless and the oppressed,  
so that mere earthly mortals  
will never again strike terror.

**a song of complaint (Psalm 10)**

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2 Now bands of raiders from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. 3 She said to her mistress, 'If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.'

4 Naaman went to his master and told him what the girl from Israel had said.

**a story of hope (2 Kgs. 5:1-4)**

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13 Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” 14 And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt 15 and remained there until the death of Herod...

**the flight of a family (Matt. 2:13-15)**

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A call to reckon

A call to speak

A call to create

**3. what could a response look like?**



‘What if we the Church could be known as the people who truly care about the pain and problems of children who have no other family to turn to and whom, it seems, nobody wants? What if the Church was known as the most compassionate and hospitable family in the country?’ (Krish Kandiah)

**what if...**

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*From Home for Good: Making a Difference for Vulnerable Children*