

Social inclusion of refugees and immigrants in Swedish Rural areas.

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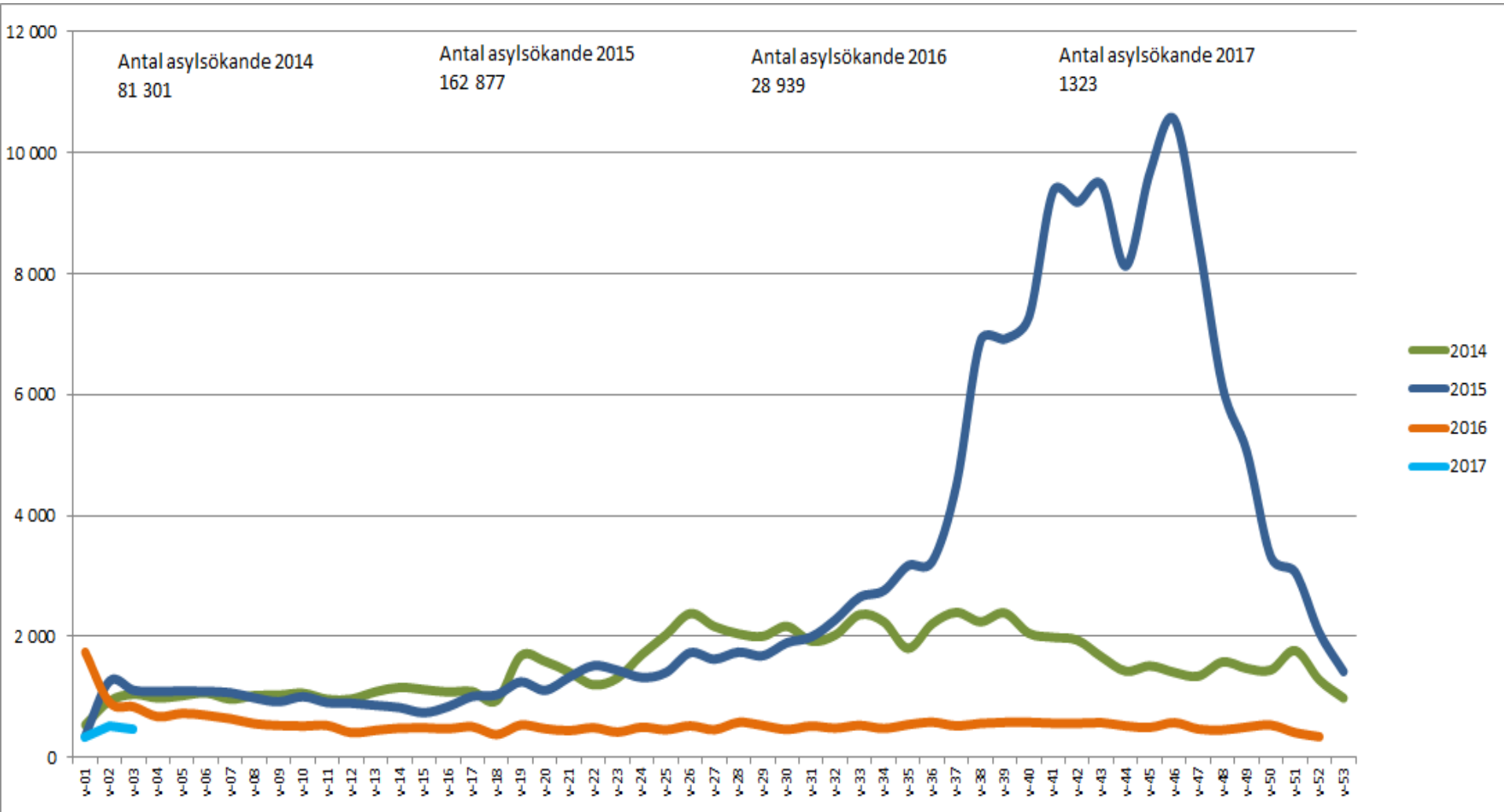
We need everyone that want - to stay in rural areas

- To meet the challenge with decreasing population
- To keep local schools, shops, health care and other services
- To meet the problems with labour shortage in different sectors



Asylum seekers in Sweden

per month 2014 – jan 2017



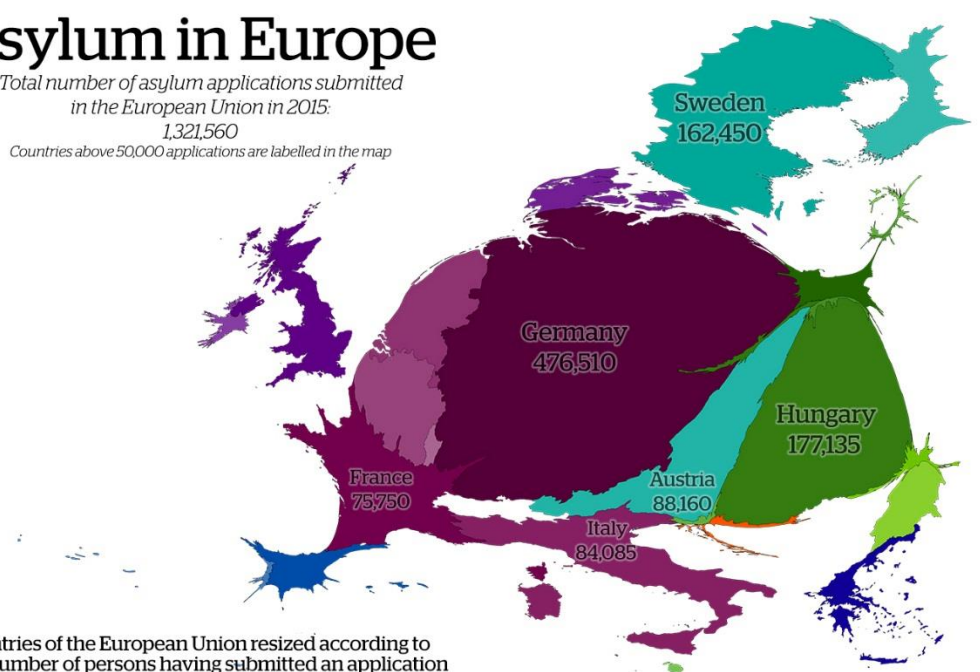
Asylum seekers in EU 2015

Asylum in Europe

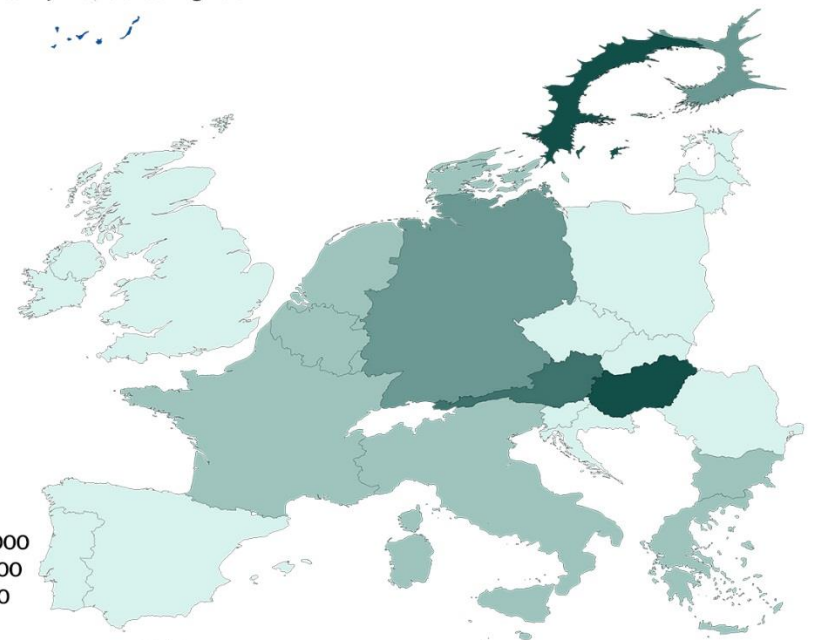
Total number of asylum applications submitted in the European Union in 2015:

1,321,560

Countries above 50,000 applications are labelled in the map



Countries of the European Union resized according to the number of persons having submitted an application for international protection or having been included in such application as a family member during 2015



Asylum Applicants per 1 million population

- 15,000 and above
- 10,000 to below 15,000
- 5,000 to below 10,000
- 1,000 to below 5,000
- below 1,000

Countries of the European Union resized according to their total population; The colours indicate the proportion of asylum applications per population

Small rural villages receive many



| | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Undrom, Sollefteå: | 85 inhabitants. | 200 refugees. |
| Trensum, Karlshamn: | 106 inhabitants. | 300 refugees. |
| Långträsk, Piteå: | 109 inhabitants. | 52 refugees. |
| Byxelkrok, Borgholm: | 129 inhabitants. | 133 refugees. |
| Dalskog, Mellerud: | 133 inhabitants. | 124 refugees. |
| Blackstad, Västervik: | 145 inhabitants. | 120 refugees. |
| Gysinge, Sandviken: | 149 inhabitants. | 200 refugees. |
| Virestad, Älmhult: | 155 inhabitants. | 81 refugees. |
| Trehörningsjö, Örnsköldsvik: | 160 inhabitants. | 50 refugees. |
| Rätan, Berg: | 195 inhabitants. | 84 refugees. |
| Stavsjö, Nyköping: | 212 inhabitants. | 150 refugees. |
| Liden, Sundsvall: | 254 inhabitants. | 110 refugees. |
| Ramsberg, Lindesberg: | 257 inhabitants. | 55 refugees. |
| Hällnäs, Vindeln: | 259 inhabitants. | 500 refugees. |
| Åsarna, Berg: | 268 inhabitants. | 148 refugees. |



Social inclusion in rural areas-how?

- Today less than 10 of 100 stay in rural areas
- With early social inclusion 20-30 of 100 want to stay
- We need commitment, involvement and engagement of:
 - Inhabitants - becoming friends, local anchorage
 - NGO:s - social life, training etc
 - Business sector - internship, job, matching
 - Municipalities - education, health care, schools
housing, service/infrastructure
(buses)

And also counter prejudices!



Impressive efforts by local actors

Results from a survey undertaken by the Rural Network working group on social inclusion of refugees and immigrants

- Volunteer language introduction
- Internship and job matching
- Volunteer transportation
- Finding and matching houses for them who want to stay
- Society guidance and help with other contacts with authorities
- Include refugees in ordinary recreational activities, such as sport and cultural activities
- Special events to promote meetings between locals and refugees
- Take refugees on study trips
- Teach about the local landscape and nature
- Collect clothes, etc to supply the refugees



Swedish NRN Thematic Working Group

Social Inclusion of Refugees and Immigrants

- The Agriculture and Rural Economy Society
- The Swedish Football Association
- The County Administration Board
- The Swedish Village Action Movement
- Private Expert with own experience
- The Federation of Swedish Farmers
- The Swedish Board of Agriculture
- LEADER
- SIOS, The Cooperation Group for Ethnic Associations in Sweden
- The Swedish public employment service
- The Migration Agency
- The Federation of Business Owners,



Thematic group activities

Supporting local civil society, LAGs and NGOs for social inclusion

- Mapping for finding good examples
- Handbook, checklists, web
- Disseminating best practices
- Seminars for Leader
- Models for inventorying rural housing
- Supporting agricultural schools
- Assisting ethnic associations in rural areas
- Meeting decision makers, on all levels



The NRN thematic group collects and disseminates good examples through articles and short films.



In Sollerön nine different nationalities play in the soccer team – it brings people together

To start a company, promote local food products and promote integration. That's the objectives for the Project International food Orust.



NRN cluster/ exchange platform - integration of migrants & refugees.

- The objective has been to **exchange ideas and methods** around how NRN can work with social inclusion of migrants and refugees
- Started at 4th NRNs' meeting in March 2016
- The group has had 3 telephone conferences in June, Oct. and Dec.
- Participants in the telephone meetings came from Austria, Germany, Finland, Sweden and from ENRD Contact Point.
- Meetings include:
 - General overview of migrants situation in rural areas in each country
 - Exchange of information on NRN activities
 - Information re TNC projects
 - Joint actions within the ENRD



Future steps...

- More NRNs take part in NRN cluster/ exchange platform
- Regular short telephone meetings between NRNs and ENRD CP (as in 2016)
- Exchange of best practices on for example:
 - EAFRD projects (especially Leader but also other funds
 - How to find housing, internships, jobs, etc. for newly arrived
 - Local involvement and social inclusion in general.
- Promoting and supporting TNC projects on social inclusion of refugees and migrants.
- Topic at ENRD workshop and meetings/ publish good practices
- Meeting & exchange from local, regional level from various MS
- Increase involvement of migrants/ refugees in discussion



Next steps/ action points:

- Identify areas of **possible future joint work/ cooperation** (if any)
- Identify **what the ENRD could do** to advance these points

Recommendations:

- Any specific recommendations to advance the theme further
- Identify ways in which the **RDP** could be improved

