

Brazil!

- Brazil has made progress in accepting refugees from the Middle East, particularly Syrians. However, in terms of the ratio of resettled refugees to its population size, Brazil is in last place behind countries ranked by UNHCR. However, Brazil has issued 8,450 temporary visas to refugees from Syria since the war there erupted. More than 2,000 have made their way to Brazil so far.
- The government has prioritized helping Syrian refugees, especially as internal political problems have dominated the national conversation. Brazil has also not made any significant actions to help combat the food crisis in Yemen.
- The Brazilian economy has slowed down its growth, and many citizens argue that receiving a large influx of refugees will worsen the economic crisis. In general, immigrants tend to integrate quickly in Brazilian society and many originally foreign traditions are now deeply ingrained in Brazilian culture.

Canada

- In 2014, the Harper government sold \$15-billion worth of weapons vehicles to Saudi Arabia despite criticism from governments and NGOs noting human rights abuses in the country, and that the weapons could be used to help the war in Yemen
- Canada has provided more than \$34-million to Yemen for humanitarian assistance, mainly those affected by starvation and the cholera outbreak
- Prime Minister Trudeau recently added Yemen to the list of countries that are fast-tracked for asylum status.

China

People's Republic of

- Although China ratified the UN's Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees in 1982, the country still lacks related national institutions.
- According to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Beijing, by the end of August 2015, there were 795 UN-registered displaced people, mainly from Somalia, Nigeria, Iraq, and Liberia living in China temporarily while waiting to be transferred.
- China has traditionally stayed out of Middle East politics, but still has a major economic presence both in business relationships and oil imports from the region. However, in July 2017, China delivered a humanitarian assistance package with \$22.5 million in relief supplies to combat the food crisis. China is interested in ending the crisis, but has focused on financial support rather than supporting through taking in refugees.

France

- France has had an influx of refugees from all over the world, with 85,244 asylum applications, or people who have applied for legal asylum status, in 2016 alone. Terrorist attacks in the last few years have also led to tighter borders and public backlash against refugees.
- France urges that refugees must be more fairly allocated among Member States of the United Nations. France also believes in a separation of religion and public life, which encourages migrants to assimilate into French culture rather than maintain their native country's identity.
- Only 70 asylum claims have been submitted by asylum seekers from Yemen, but France has donated over \$2 million to fight the cholera outbreak in Yemen. The French government has endorsed finding a political solution to the crisis.

Germany

- Germany received the largest number of asylum applications in Europe in 2017; more than one million refugees have entered Germany this year alone. The German government has also supported refugee job and training programs.
- Other European countries have expressed concern about the security of the continent, which they see that could be affected by the large number of refugees received by Germany.
- Germany has pledged \$55 million to the UN to prevent the food crisis in Yemen getting worse. German Chancellor Angela Merkel has also urged that leaders in the Middle East take in more refugees and provide humanitarian relief, especially in Yemen.

Greece

- Due to its geographical location, Greece is one of the main points of entry for refugees to enter Europe from the Middle East. In addition, Greece has suffered a debt crisis where the European Union (EU) has loaned the government €323 billion.
- Greece has established refugee shelters, camp administration, border policing and given asylum status to some refugees, especially those from countries in conflict.
- Greece agreed to a deal between the EU and Turkey in 2016 which said that refugees who reach Greek soil and who come from countries that are not in conflict would have to return to their home country. However, Yemenis are excluded from this agreement, and are turned away if they make it to Greece.

Jordan

The Hashemite Kingdom of

- Due to its location, Jordan is strategically significant to many conflicts and issues in the Middle East and surrounding area
- Also part of the Saudi Arabia led coalition, Jordan supports the legitimate government in Yemen and wants to work towards a secure and stable country
- Jordan and Yemen are interested in hosting meetings to discuss further cooperation between the two countries
- The Red Sea port of Hodeida in Yemen, where a lot of food aid is being delivered to the country, is controlled by Houthi forces. Jordan has expressed necessity to gain control of this port to help relieve the food crisis and deliver humanitarian aid to the country.

Iran

Islamic Republic of

- Iran has a negative history of human rights violations. UN organizations have accused the regime's actions target its own citizens in addition to those who flee to Iran to seek asylum.
- Iran is one of the biggest recipients and host country for refugees from Afghanistan for over the past 10 years.
- Iran has played a role in the Yemen Civil War for the last few years by allegedly supporting the Houthi rebels, but government officials have called for an end to the violence. Although Iran has not accepted Yemeni refugees or provided humanitarian support, the government is concerned with the stability and security of the Middle East.

Lebanon

- Lebanon has been overwhelmed by the Syrian refugee crisis. Because Lebanon shares most of its borders with Syria, the country is currently hosting 170,000 Syrian refugees escaping the violence. The country has declared its priority to Syrian refugees, and that it needs more help from surrounding countries to help it.
- Lebanon also is preoccupied with the terrorist organization Hezbollah, who have reportedly armed and trained the Houthis. Hezbollah is responsible for planning and carrying out attacks outside of Lebanon, primarily targeting Israelis and Americans.
- Like Yemen, Lebanon has been caught in the conflicts between Saudi Arabia and Iran, who have ideological and religious differences. The Lebanese government is divided on supporting the Yemeni government, and advocated for help within its borders rather than outside of them.

Nigeria

- Nigeria has the presence of a domestic terrorist group called Boko Haram, besides other cells that find themselves present for years now. After nearly a decade of violence, Nigeria's government still does not have an effective strategy for controlling the terrorist attacks and threats posed by Boko Haram.
- Nigeria, like Yemen, is at risk for millions of its people starving because of food insecurity. In addition, UNHCR estimates that there are 1.88 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Nigeria.

Russian Federation

- Russia has shown minimal commitment to assisting refugees once they have been displaced, although the government is heavily involved politically in the Syrian civil war as a supporter of Bashar al-Assad, the current leader of Syria.
- Since 2011, Russia has not offered resettlement place for any refugees, and Russian officials have claimed the question of receiving refugees in Russia is “not on the agenda.”
- Russia’s role in the Yemen crisis has been largely as a mediator to find a political solution to end the violence, in addition to providing some humanitarian support.

Saudi Arabia

The Kingdom of

- Saudi Arabia has donated \$67 million to tackle the cholera epidemic in Yemen, in addition to over \$260 million allocated to King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (KS Relief) in Yemen, which is responsible for distributing food and humanitarian aid.
- As of December 2016, more than 30,000 Yemenis fled to Saudi Arabia.
- Although not a signatory to the 1951 Refugee Convention, Saudi Arabia has claimed that it is acting responsibly with regards to people seeking refuge in the Kingdom.

Sweden

- In 2015, at the height of the refugee crisis, Sweden took in more migrants per capita than any other European country. However, the surge has caused anti-immigrant backlash, and the government has adopted more restrictive asylum laws.
- Sweden has programs to make refugees resettle in their territory and understand cultural differences and language barriers.
- While only 60 Yemenis have applied for asylum in 2017, Sweden has led the effort to raise money for humanitarian efforts and supports finding a peaceful agreement to end the violence.

Turkey

- Turkey has pursued an open-door policy in relations to refugees, despite the economic, social and political burden.
- The overwhelming number of Syrian refugees in Turkey have dominated the government's focus. Turkey, instead of working to support Yemeni refugees, has insisted on the importance of finding a political solution to resolve the conflict in Yemen.
- Turkey agreed to a deal with the European Union in 2016 that said refugees who reach Greek soil and who come from countries that are not in conflict would have to return to their home country. However, Yemenis are excluded from this agreement, and are stranded in Turkey or forced to return to Yemen.

United States of America

- The United States is the largest provider of humanitarian assistance to displaced persons and refugees around the world, including the Syria crisis.
- Domestic political disagreements have affected how to manage the refugee crisis and what specific regulations need to be created to receive the refugees to the United States. As a result, as of January 2017, only 67 Yemenis have been granted asylum, compared to 974 Syrians.
- The number of refugees admitted to the US has fallen by nearly half under President Donald Trump when compared with the final months of former President Barack Obama's presidency.

Yemen

- Yemen has more than 3 million internally displaced persons, with 80% of the population in need of some type of humanitarian assistance, adding up to 14 million people food insecure in the country.
- As of January 2017, more than 2 million remained displaced - more than six times the number recorded at the end of 2014 - and one million had returned to their homes. An additional 180,000 have fled the country.
- The government says there are also between 1.7 and two million refugees, asylum seekers and migrants in Yemen, 460,000 of whom need humanitarian assistance.