



RESOLUTION ON THE REFUGEES SITUATION IN EUROPE

(draft: 27 October 2015)

The UBC observes with great concern the current movements of refugees from regions of war and crisis, mainly from Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria as well as from North and East Africa. Humans flee from lethal danger, hunger and/or lack of perspectives. At the moment already several tenth of thousands of them have arrived in the Baltic Sea region.

The UBC member Cities feel committed to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol.

During only a few weeks almost all UBC member cities have adopted families and single persons to give them shelter or to help them to continue their route. Without time to prepare themselves for that task, the cities are making extreme efforts to help. We state that the population of the cities, circles of helpers, associations, organizations etc., with a strong feeling of compassion and solidarity, as well as the city administrations, are doing their very best to avoid that the refugees starve, freeze, or fall into misery. Persons who stay, should be settled, given the opportunity to earn their living, and their children should get access to school.

UBC welcomes all current activities of the representatives of the national and European level fighting the cause of escape in the territories of refugees' origin in order to save lifes, existences, homes and homelands for millions of people.

UBC emphasizes that the local authorities, in their efforts to help arriving masses of refugees, need the resolute support of the national and European levels.

UBC wishes to be a platform to help cities to cooperate in mastering the refugees' streams. Many of the cities are part of the route the main streams of refugees are following.

UBC welcomes all active aid in relieving the refugees situation.

The wars are about to empty the countries of their most important asset, their people. This has led to massive refugee flows and human disasters. Now we are in a situation where we all must help each other and work together. Both the EU and the major powers must work together to put an end to the war.