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Reaction to EU Migration Summit

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As European leaders meet in Brussels to reach agreement over how to deal with thousands of refugees crossing into Europe, The Syria Campaign believes that the politicians are failing to deal with the root cause of the crisis.

James Sadri of TSC said:

“World leaders have done nothing to stop the killing machine in Syria. Most Syrian refugees in Europe are fleeing from the bombs and brutality of the Assad regime, not from Isis or other extremist groups.

“European politicians should be rolling out the red carpet to these vulnerable people, instead they’re rolling out the barbed wire.

“It’s a deep source of shame that Europe can mobilise military ships to block those who are fleeing war and poverty, but can’t lift a finger to stop the Assad regime’s violence that is the leading cause of this exodus.

“If European leaders want to resolve the Syrian refugee crisis they must work seriously to find a solution to the root cause.

“If the fragile Syrian ceasefire collapses, Europe must lead the effort to establish genuine safe zones in Syria.”

Notes for Editors

- In a survey of nearly 900 Syrian refugees in Europe 70 per cent were fleeing from the Syrian regime and its allies compared to 32% who were running from Isis. Over 90 per cent of refugees wanted to return to Syria, and a majority said that Bashar al Asaad would need to leave power before they would return home <https://diary.thesyriacampaign.org/what-refugees-think/>
- The Syria Campaign was established in 2014 as an independent advocacy group to focus on the protection of civilians in Syria. To maintain its impartiality, The Syria Campaign accepts no funding from governments or any of the groups involved in the conflict <https://thesyriacampaign.org>