



PRESENTATION OF THE MIGRATION & ASYLUM AWARENESS SOCIETY

As the newly, yet not that new, society dedicated to *migration and asylum* in the College of Europe, we feel we had some duty to present you our ambitions and our first steps. As many of you have contributed, our first visible action was to sell candles made by refugees hosted in "The Refuge" in Bruges. This *Christmas sale* will be followed by an *interview* of the place to understand how this works concretely.

We come yet to the main message we want to pass: *awareness*, as included in our society's name, and information. We try and aim at informing you as much as possible on what is going on in terms of migration in Europe. The challenge is that we receive many and sometimes contradictory information on what was or what it is still a crisis. Calais, the agreement with Turkey, the new partnership with African states, the quotas of refugees... *What's really the point and the coherence in all of that?* When it is sure that no clear answer would ever be provided and the question 'is migration a good thing' will never be answered as it a highly normative problem yet a historical, political and geographical phenomenon, we search for one thing: **the duty to inform**.

CONCRETELY...

Articles

Throughout this second semester, our team will aim at writing articles on the migration and asylum topic, from different angles: economic, legal, political, reflecting the programs of the College. Some of those articles might also appear in La Voix du College, otherwise on our Facebook page, so stay informed!

Newsletter

Following the examples from our colleagues from Natolin, we'll collect the most relevant *articles* on migration once a month, along the new *initiatives* launched by associations, *documentaries or movies* that we judge relevant and the *programs or measures* taken by the EU in this field. They will also be posted on our Facebook page. The first newsletter will also be communicated by the College of Europe's website.

Interviews

During the first semester, we already had the chance to meet two people, from very different background (one from a humanitarian organization and one from DG Home) with their *own experience and knowledge on migration*. From those interviews will be released two résumés reflecting the most important aspects of their carriers.

Experiences

Eventually, what really matters to us is to *share our experience*, because we realized many of us had already significant and interesting ones. In a first time, our team will individually release their experiences, briefly, about what was their interest in working or volunteering in this field and what was the main thing they learnt from it.

If you're willing, we would love to hear your experience as well!

Best wishes for this new year from your 'Migration and Asylum Awareness Society' team!