

**LEVEL OF FOOD SECURITY OF SYRIAN  
REFUGEES IN TURKEY**

Bachelor thesis

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## **Abstract**

The bachelor thesis deals with the proposal of change of policy of international actors in providing food security. In order to achieve it there is used the analysis of current level of food security and nutritional intake of Syrian refugees in Turkey since year 2011 when armed conflict in Syria has started.

The bachelor thesis is divided into three parts. Theoretical part deals with theory of migration, legal definitions of status of refugees and demographic processes, analyzes a method of food consumption score on the background of the theory of nutritional intake. The second part focuses on the analysis of migration waves on Turkish territory including demographic situation, level of food security, role of active organizations and financing management. Finally, recommendations how to provide sufficient food security and improve the situation are proposed.

### **Key words**

Food security, refugee, Turkey, UNHCR, migration crisis

## **Abstrakt**

Bakalářská práce se zabývá návrhnutím změny politiky mezinárodních subjektů při zajišťování potravinové bezpečnosti. K dosažení cíle je použita analýza současné úrovně potravinové bezpečnosti syrských uprchlíků v Turecku od roku 2011, kdy začal ozbrojený konflikt v Sýrii.

Práce je rozdělena na tři části. Teoretická část se zabývá migrací, právní definicí uprchlíka a demografickými procesy, analyzuje také metodu food consumption score na pozadí teorie nutričního příjmu. Druhá část se zabývá analýzou migračních vln na území Turecka, zahrnuje také demografickou situaci, míru potravinové bezpečnosti, roli působících organizací a finanční řízení. Závěrem jsou navržena doporučení, jak je možné zajistit dostatečnou potravinovou bezpečnost a zlepšit situaci.

### **Klíčová slova**

Potravinová bezpečnost, uprchlík, Turecko, UNHCR, migrační krize

## **List of abbreviations**

AFAD	Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency
CSI	Coping Strategy Index
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FCS	Food Consumption Score
GDMM	General Directorate for Migration Management
IOM	International Organization for Migration
NAFTA	North American Free Trade Agreement
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OPEC	Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries
OSN	United Nations
TRC	Turkish Red Crescent
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
USA	United States of America
USD	American dollar
WFP	United Nations World Food Programme

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## **Introduction**

Migration is typical for mankind since the beginning of history. Four basic types of migration are classified- permanent migration, labour migration, movements of refugees and illegal migration (undocumented). Migration influenced lives of people during history from Migration of Nations to migration during World Wars. The issue of refugees was often relegated to the background because there were more important issues to be solved in international field. The largest number of refugees comes from developing countries. Refugees are often perceived as a threat to regional and international security and refugee camps are sometimes considered as places without the rule of law, creating a favourable environment for fundamentalist, nationalist or terrorist organizations.

Armed conflict in Syria started in year 2011. The beginning of the conflict is associated with so-called Arab spring when dissatisfaction of inhabitants with regime, religion tension and other problems occurred. This conflict had many influences on situation in Syria and whole Middle East region. There is fear among the inhabitants of this area and they run away and search security in various states.

In bachelor thesis I will focus on situation in Turkey because nowadays this country hosts the most refugees in the world. Mass refugee influx brings a lot of problems in various fields. Ensuring the food security and adequate humanitarian assistance for refugees is very important, especially when the number of refugees still increases. Most of refugees are dependent on humanitarian assistance and effective cooperation among different organizations and agencies plays crucial role. Sufficient access to nutritionally rich food is one of the basic conditions for survival and health of people. Therefore, ensuring food security is considered to be one of cornerstones to keep situation under the control.

## **Aim of thesis**

The aim is to propose a change of policy of international actors in providing food security. In order to achieve it there will be used the analysis of current level of food security and nutritional intake of Syrian refugees in Turkey since year 2011 when armed conflict in Syria has started.

Bachelor thesis is divided into three parts. Theoretical part deals with theory of migration, legal definitions of status of refugees and demographic processes. This part also analyzes a method of food consumption score on the background of the theory of nutritional intake. Also terms connected with humanitarian assistance, distribution of humanitarian aid and management of refugee camps are included.

The second part, practical part, focuses on the analysis of refugee waves on Turkish territory including demographic situation which helps to analyze level of food security and nutritional intake of refugees. Comparison of food security in camps and out of camps is also included. Simultaneously active organizations and financing management in food security sector and changing policy of host country to refugee issue are mentioned.

The last part, recommendations, is an outcome from practical part. Ways how to provide sufficient food security and improve the situation are proposed.

## **Methodology**

In theoretical part scientific method of literature review is used. This method can be described as gathering, processing and sorting of data and information. Data and information are mainly used from scientific books, publications and online resources. In examining various resources I will use induction, deduction, synthesis and also comparison of resources.

Main sources for practical part are online resources, information from media and annual reports that provide organizations dealing with refugee issue which still lasts nowadays. Most of sources are in English language. There are also limiting factors which influence accuracy of examined data- for example unstable situation in the region in some period.

## **1. THEORETICAL PART**

Theoretical part deals with theory of migration, general trends of contemporary migration, legal definitions of status of refugees and demographic processes. This part also analyzes food security and method of food consumption score on the background of the theory of nutritional intake. Also terms connected with humanitarian assistance, distribution of humanitarian aid, building and management of refugee camps are included.

### **1.1 Theory of migration**

Issue of migration is currently one of the most debated topics in domestic and also in international negotiations. Definition of migration is not completely clear. Migration is a typical example of the interdisciplinary phenomenon which has occurred during long human history. The end of the 20<sup>th</sup> and the beginning of 21<sup>st</sup> century can be called as The Age of Migration. Over time, the causes of migration have changed considerably. Until the 90's of the 20<sup>th</sup> century war, religious, racial or political and economic reasons influence migration trends but in the end of 20<sup>th</sup> economic factors completely dominate over the other factors. Generally the most important economic factor of migration is the effort to achieve higher real income standard and the higher standard of living (Castles et al., 2014).

Migration is defined as: *“The movement of a person or a group of persons, either across an international border, or within a state. It is a population movement, encompassing any kind of movement of people, whatever its length, composition and causes; it includes migration of refugees, displaced persons, economic migrants, and persons moving for other purposes, including family reunification”* (International Organization for Migration, 2011).

Migration together with the fertility rate and the mortality rate are key elements in the process of population development and greatly affects the social and cultural changes of population at all levels. The intensity of migration increases with economic development (Ministry of the interior of the Czech Republic, 2015).

### **1.1.1 General trends of contemporary migration**

Worldwide long-lasting migratory patterns are remaining in new forms. Although there is great diversity in many areas Castles et al. (2014) mention that it is possible to generate general trends of contemporary migration. First trend is *the globalization of migration* because more states are influenced by international migration and migrants are from wide spectrum of social, economic and cultural backgrounds. Second trend is that *dominant migration flows change direction* and there were big changes after World War II because Europe became a major migration destination. Another typical feature of contemporary migration is *the differentiation of migration*. There is not usually one dominated type of migration in country but whole range of types (labor migration, refugee movement, permanent settlement...) which simultaneously occur. Sometimes traditionally emigration country changes to land of immigration. It is so-called *the proliferation of migration* transition. In past males dominated in labour migration but since 1960 women started to have more important role in labour migration and this trend is called *the feminization of labour migration*. The last trend of contemporary migration is *the growing politicization of migration*. Political situation and security of countries are more and more affected by international migration and therefore this topic is currently often discussed in global policy negotiations.

### **1.1.2 Refugees and their legal status**

Universal Declaration of Human Rights clearly sets out some basic principles of freedom of movement and residence of people. In article 13 and 14 of Universal Declaration of Human Rights there is defined: “*Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country. Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution*” (United Nations, 2015).

Legal definition of refugee can be found in the preamble of the *Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees* from year 1951 which was signed in Geneva. After World War II there was need to resolve the situation of war refugees in Europe. This Convention was

modified by the *Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees* in year 1967. The Protocol abolished the geographical and time limitations and made Convention universally valid. The term refugee refers to any person who: “*have well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it*” (UNHCR, article 1,1951).

The basic principle of refugee law is so-called *Non-refoulement* which is defined in article 33 of *Convention Relating to the Status of Refugee*: “*No Contracting State shall expel or return (“refouler”) a refugee in any manner whatsoever to the frontiers of territories where his life or freedom would be threatened on account of his race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion*” (UNHCR, article 33, 1951).

### **1.1.3 Definition of other statuses within migration**

***Asylum-seeker-*** this term can be confused with the term refugee. Asylum-seeker is a person who departs from their own country due to imminent danger but there is still not decided whether person meets all the precise criteria laid down by the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees. The status of this person is determined by local refugee agencies. If person is found that meets the definition of a refugee he or she will get this status. Thus, person gets even such international protection. It is very important to have effective asylum system but during mass movements of refugees there is not possibility to have capacity to provide asylum to all people who cross the borders (UNHCR, 2015a).

***Internally displaced person-*** this term relates to person who has been forced to leave their home or residence place but does not exceed the internationally recognized border of their home country. People escape from their homes because of armed conflicts and their consequences, situations involving violence, human rights abuses or natural

disasters. Internally displaced people are legally under the protection of government of their home country (UNHCR, 2015b).

**Migrant** is a person who temporarily or permanently live in a country where was not born and gained certain ties to this country. In other words migrant is a person who has left own country to settled down in the second country, often due to improvement and higher living standards. In comparison with refugee migrant has choice about where to go or when to leave (UNESCO, 2015).

It is possible to categorize international migrants according to different aspects. First group includes *temporary labour migrants* who migrate for a limited period of time with the purpose of getting employment and send earned money home. Second category is *highly skilled and business migrants*. This group refers to people with qualification who move within the internal labour markets of international organisations and corporations. These migrants are usually welcome in country because they provide development of country. More problematic group is connected with *irregular/ illegal migrants*. Person who enters a country without required permits and documents is illegal migrant. Group of *forced migrants* refers to refugees, asylum seekers and also people who are forced to move due to external factors like natural disasters or development projects. Some people with family ties can join their relatives in the immigration country and then we speak about so-called *family reunification migrants*. Some countries do not recognize the right to family reunion. The last category of international migrants is *return migrants* who come back to own home country after a certain time in another country (UNESCO, 2015).

### 1.1.4 Push and pull migration model

Theory of push-pull model is part of functionalist theories about migration. Push-pull model sets economic, environmental and demographic factors which push people away from their places of origin and pull them into different destinations.

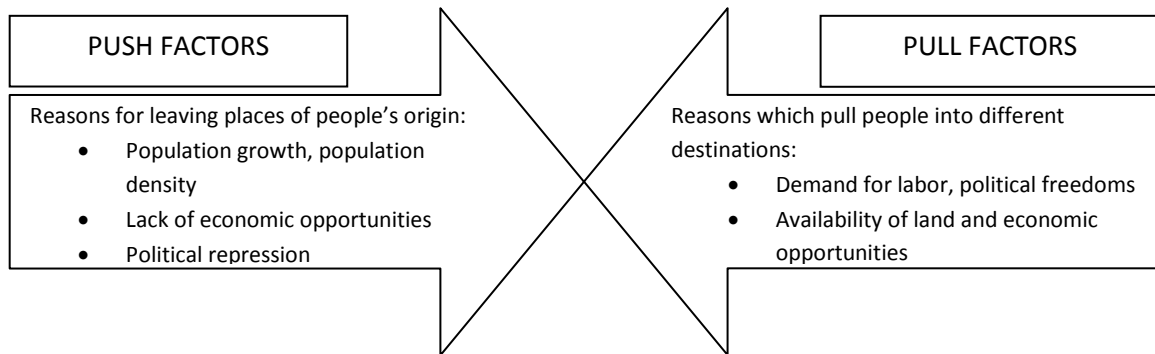


Figure 1: Push-pull model, own work based on source: Castels et al., 2014

## 1.2 Demography

Demography as a science discipline was founded in 17<sup>th</sup> century but the name demography was established in the middle of last century by Achille Guillard. Demography is also sometimes called Population science. The subject of this science is demographic phenomena and processes, which are connected with reproduction of human populations. The science studies also regularities by which phenomena and processes are governed. Population reproduction can be seen in two ways. First is so-called natural reproduction which means an exchange of death generations and newborn generations. Second is overall reproduction which is perceived in the wider sense. There is not only natural reproduction but also influence of migration of population (Roubíček, 1997).

### 1.2.1 Demographic processes

Demographic processes are collective biosocial phenomena which characterize reproduction of population in total. The aim of demographic investigation is to describe the situation in a specific population but also deduce a general relationships and regularities of demographic phenomena and processes (Roubíček, 1997). Demographic

events are births, deaths and abortion but reproduction is also influenced by events such as marriage, divorce, widowhood, illness and others. Demographic analysis is very important because it examines regularity, variability in time and characteristics of development in collective processes as for example mortality or fertility (demografie.info, 2014).

### **1.2.2 Demographic structure**

The most basic and also most important sorting within demography is sorting of population by age and sex. Dimension, intensity and structure of basic demographic processes are dependent on the structure of population by age and sex. Sorting by age and sex has also practical importance in predestination of development of education, health, social care or employment. Structure of population according to sex can be heavily disrupted, especially in cases of wars or mass migration of men. In these situations men are usually more affected than women. Further division based on age is divided into three biological generations. First is generation of children (0-14 years), second is generation of parents sometimes also called reproductive generation (15-49 years) and the last is generation of grandparents sometimes also called post reproductive generation (50+). Beside biological generations can be defined economic generations which are also divided into three generations. First economic generation is pre-productive generation (0-14 years), second is productive generation (15-64 years) and the last economic generation is post-productive generation (65+). Other important criterions that belong to population structure can be marital status, citizenship, nationality, education or for example religion (Roubíček, 1997).

### **1.2.3 Age pyramid**

Age pyramid graphically illustrates changes in structure of population. In fact age pyramid shows the number of men and women in certain age at given moment in the defined area. Age pyramid consists of two histograms- left side of the graph shows men and right side is for women. Males and females are divided into 5-year age groups. By using polygon of frequency we get the result of investigation in form of age picture diagram (figure 2). Structure of the population by sex and age is the result of demographic processes in the past and it is also possible to largely determine future



population development. Three types of age pyramids are distinguished according to presence of child and post-reproductive generation in total population. First is *progressive type* when child generation significantly predominates above post-reproductive generation in total population. This age structure is characterized by high levels of fertility but also by a considerable mortality. Progressive type is usually typical for developing countries. Second type of age pyramid is *stationary type* when children and post-reproductive generations are almost in balance. Population remains constant in the long term. The last type is *regressive type*. Typical is that post-reproduction generation predominates above child generation and total population decreases in the long term (demografie.info, 2014).

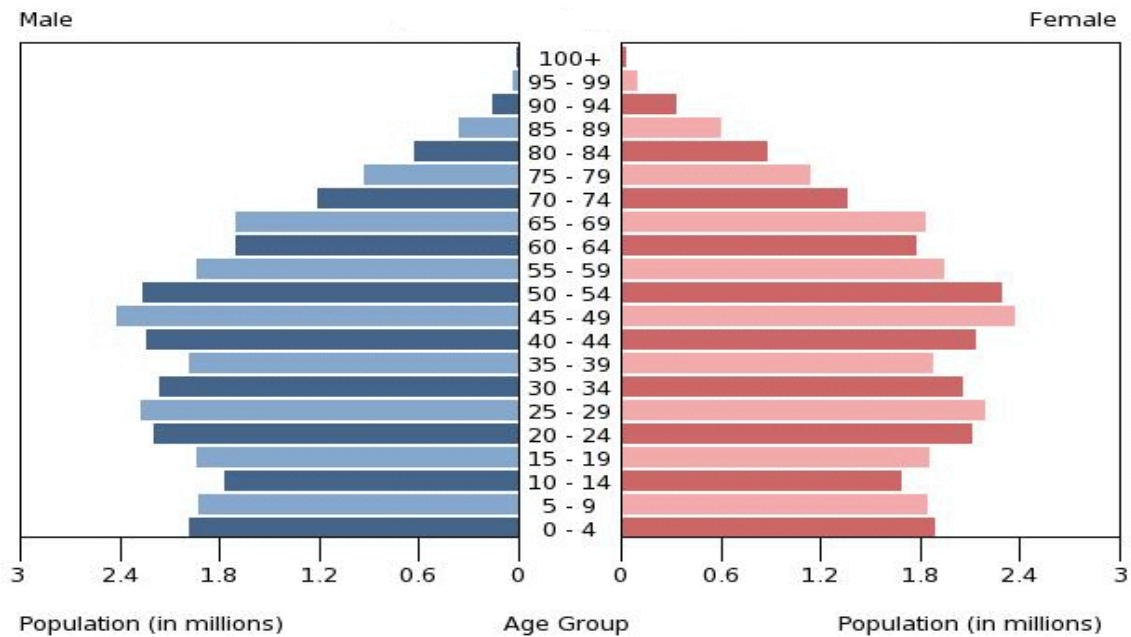


Figure 2: Structure of age picture diagram. Source: IndexMundi, 2015

### 1.3 Theory of food security

Security as one of the highest value in life of mankind is much discussed topic in contemporary society and attracting more and more attention. Security is one of main functions of the state and also criterion for survival of the state. The state must guarantee the safety of its citizens and also build and maintain functional mechanism to ensure existence of the state in very competitive environment of international relations.

The authors provide a number of different views of security and there is not universally accepted definition or a conceptual framework for security research. Problem with definition and concept of security is one of main long-term challenges for security studies.

Security is a condition in which individuals, groups and nations do not feel threatened by serious threats or they consider to be effectively protected from threats and they have opportunity to create their future according to their wishes. The level of safety or level of threat depends largely on subjective feelings, historical experience and relationship to surrounding environment (Buchbender et al.,1992).

According to Robejšek (1998) maintaining security is endless process. In abundant societies there should be possible to record less existential worries and therefore also less interest in security issues. But generally it is possible to see the exact opposite in society. Modern society is characterized by mainly following factors: developed societies reflect higher sensitivity to risks, reduction of potential risks leads to greater willingness to risky behaviour and developed societies are characterized by production of a lot of own risks.

Security is also defined as a fleeting term which is hardly measurable and its contents cannot be exactly quantified. At the most general level security is defined in two ways- negatively and positively. Negative definition of security regards the absence of constraints or the absence of conflict or serious barriers to the movement. In general it is a lack or absence of any threat and security is opposite of a state of emergency. Positive definition of security is always related to a specific subject. Safe subject is not in danger of direct and urgent threat and this subject is reliably protected against possible threats and has opportunities for further development. Positive security can be consolidating through measures which eliminate or at least minimize threat (Eichler, 2006).

Ministry of the interior of the Czech Republic defines two types of security- external security and internal security of the state. External security is a situation in which threats from the outside are eliminated to the lowest possible level and state is effectively equipped and willing to eliminate existing and potential external threats. Internal security of the state is a situation in which internal threats are eliminated to the lowest possible level and state is effectively equipped and willing to eliminate existing and potential internal threats. It is also a summary of the internal security conditions and

legislative norms and measures by which state ensures democracy, economic prosperity and security of the citizens (Ministry of the interior of the Czech Republic, 2015).

Creation of Security Dimensions was the breakthrough in safety analysis which significantly influenced safety research. According to this theory there are two Security Dimensions. First is military (state-centric) security which is based on measures which are accepted by states and coalitions to insure against specific current and future security threats. Second is non-military security (soft security) which is more important in modern societies. Soft security includes *political security*. Primary purpose of political security is to ensure the sovereignty of states and their internal and external legitimacy. The main reference object is the territorial state and actors of security policy are especially governments. Second type of non-military security is *economic security*. Reference objects are the economic interests of states and international economic and business clusters (EU, NAFTA, OPEC, OECD and others). Due to increasing interdependence of the world economy, economic security is not limited to internal or external security but occurs in both dimensions. The most important attributes are monetary stability, economic growth, low unemployment, competitiveness, determining the pace of development and application of new technologies. *Social security* concerns mainly migration of the population which is usually not associated with intention to harm anyone. The last type of soft security, beside the food security which will be described in next chapter, is *environmental security*. Reference object is environment in individual regions and actors of environmental security are environmental organizations with their main attention on regional approaches and activities. Recently the effort to create a functional global system of environmental management is also very important step (Eichler, 2006).

### **1.3.1 Food security**

Topic as food security gains more increasingly importance, especially at the beginning of new millennium when Millennium Development Goals were announced. The ensuring of food security is one of the most discussed problems of contemporary world. In fact this problem represents a very large complex of economic, social, demographic, technological and political aspects of production, distribution, exchange and

consumption of food. Problem with lack of food is a source of tension and poses a big threat for the present and future society in the world (Jeníček, Foltýn, 2010).

It is possible to find roots of interest about food security in The Universal Declaration of Human Rights in year 1948. Nowadays The Universal Declaration of Human Rights declares: *“Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control”* (United Nations, 2015).

Based on World Food Summit held in 1996 definition of food security was adopted:

Food security is guaranteed under circumstances when all people have economic, social, and physical access to sufficient amount of safe and nutritious food sufficient to meet their nutritional needs and food preferences so that they could have an active and healthy life (Prášková, 2011).

According to Stachowiak (2003) food security can be described as a creation of economic, environmental, medical, social and political conditions for the population in order to gain aim of ensuring basic needs- satisfaction of hunger in relation to the general security of the world. Ensuring food security is a natural need of human as an individual and mankind as a whole on the level of satisfaction of nutritional needs and the way of nutrition.

### **1.3.2 Pillars of food security**

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) identifies four pillars of food security:

***Food availability***- food is available to people in sufficient quality and quantity and there are not significant fluctuations. The food is supplied by domestic production or by import including also food aid.

***Food access***- it means access of individuals to adequate resources which provide them appropriate food for nutritious diet.

***Food utilization***- it means that people have sufficient knowledge and skills to properly dispose with food- for example hygiene, storage of food, clean water, and health care. This pillar also mentions the increasing importance of non- food inputs in food security.

*Stability of access*- generally it means stability of preceding three pillars in all times. People have access to food without the risk of losing food. Household is in a state of food security when its members are not starving and they have not fear of hunger (FAO, 2006).

### **1.3.3 Threats to food security**

Food security can be threatened by more factors. Events which are not predictable- for example natural disasters negatively influence the level of food security. In these situations immediate food assistance is very important. Other factors are poor harvests caused by weather or recurring poor harvests caused due to adverse weather in combination with structural conditions of country. In both cases immediate food assistance is necessary. In long term perspective reorganization of food economy is needed. Danger caused by human is also threat for food security- for example wars or coups. In medium term perspective there is need of food assistance to the population threatened by hunger and malnutrition and in long-term perspective reconstruction of the food economy is needed. Global food crisis endanger food security too. These crises lead to a sudden shortage of food and rising of prices of food as a result of poor harvests, weather or structural causes. There are also included food crisis which are caused by the economic unavailability of food due to the economic recession and increasing indebtedness and these crisis occur under normal harvests and weather (Stachowiak, 2003).

## **1.4 Theory of nutritional intake**

Nutrition is one of the main interests of mankind for a long time because significantly affect the health of people. Term nutrition means assurance of nutrients which are necessary to sustain life activities, health and growth. Generally it is possible to perceive nutrition as a satisfaction of material needs of the organism. There are include various processes for example supplying of energy and substances which are important for recovery of organism, building of tissues, production of heat and protection of organism from unfavourable environment (Pánek, 2002).

Nutrition is very closely related to food security. Term food security means ideal situation which should be possible to achieve for all people. For achieving this ideal situation it is necessary to supply 2100 kilocalories per day. When daily intake of food contains less than 1800 kilocalories food security is seriously disturbed (Klápová et al., 2012).

Adequate food intake is very important but also composition of the diet play crucial role. People who suffer from lack of food have lower work productivity; they are prone to various diseases and their life expectancy is lower. Malnutrition is not only humanitarian issue but it has also economic impact. FAO nutrition strategy provides guidance and support for increasing proper nutrition education and the aim of the organization is to increase consumer awareness at local and national levels (FAO, 2015).

#### **1.4.1 Scarcity of food**

Mass migration crisis is associated with a lack of food. Most refugee camps are dependent on the assistance of humanitarian organizations which have gradually less money for maintaining the necessary nutrition and health standards. The World Food Programme is important agency in fight against global hunger. Group including women and children is most at risk of hunger which can be defined in two ways:

- Starvation- it is an acute hunger caused by quantitative and qualitative food shortages
- Malnutrition- it is chronic hunger caused by long-term quantitative and qualitative food shortages (Klápová et al., 2012).

The World Food Programme (WFP) works closely with UNHCR from March 1997 when so- called *Memorandum of Understanding* was adopted. They together support food related activities focused on building refugee independence. Their aim is to develop food production in which people will be self-reliance. They also cooperate together in distribution of food rations and planning details relating to numbers of beneficiaries. In emergency it is important timely provision of the right quantity and right quality of food. They try to ensure maintaining of health diet by balanced and culturally acceptable food basket (UNHCR, 2015c).

In some situations like emergency or migration crisis it is possible that people are totally dependent on World Food Programme and food from them.

The main components of WFP food basket are:

- staple- wheat flour or rice
- lentils, chickpeas or other pulses
- vegetable oil (fortified with vitamin A and D)
- sugar
- iodised salt
- special blended foods (for example corn soya blend) which are enriched with important micronutrients (WFP, 2015)

#### **1.4.2 Food Consumption Score**

*"The Food Consumption score (FCS) is a composite score based on dietary diversity, food frequency, and relative nutritional importance of different food groups" (WFP, 2008).*

The food items are divided into eight standard food groups and every food group has assigned certain weight which corresponds to the content of nutrients. The value of weight is in the range from 0, 5 to 4 (table 1).

Table 1 : Food groups and weights

GROUP NUMBER	FOOD GROUPS	FOOD ITEMS	WEIGHT
1	Main staples	Maize , maize porridge, rice, sorghum, millet pasta, bread and other cereals, cassava, potatoes and sweet potatoes	2
2	Pulses	Beans, peas, groundnuts and cashew nuts	3
3	Vegetables	Vegetables and leaves	1
4	Fruit	Fruits	1
5	Meat and fish	Beef, goat, poultry, pork, eggs and fish	4
6	Milk	Milk yoghurt and other diary	4
7	Sugar	Sugar and sugar products	0,5
8	Oil	Oils, fats and butter	0,5

Own work based on source: WFP, 2008

Food consumption score is calculated from frequency of consumption for the period of seven days. The consumption frequency of certain food group is multiplied by assigned weight. Then the result of FCS is the sum of all multiples.

The formula for the calculating of FCS:

$$\begin{aligned}
 FCS = & a_{staple} x_{staple} + a_{pulse} x_{pulse} + a_{vegetable} x_{vegetable} \\
 & + a_{fruit} x_{fruit} + a_{animal} x_{animal} + a_{sugar} x_{sugar} \\
 & + a_{dairy} x_{dairy} + a_{oil} x_{oil}
 \end{aligned}$$

Where:  $x$  are frequencies of food consumption, it means number of days for which every food group was consumed in period of past 7 days,  $a$  is weight of certain group.



According to value of result of FCS three groups of food consumption are defined:

Table 2: Values of results of FCS

Limit values	Food consumption groups
0-21	Poor food consumption
21,5-35	Borderline food consumption
>35	Acceptable food consumption

Own work based on source: WFP, 2008

## 1.5 Humanitarian assistance and its principles

Humanitarian assistance generally means aid and actions which are created for saving lives, reducing suffering, maintaining and protecting human dignity in the time of man-made crises and natural disasters. Humanitarian assistance also seeks to improve and strengthen preparedness in these situations. Humanitarian assistance differs from other forms of aid and foreign assistance by actions based on four basic principles. First is principle of *humanity* which refers to saving lives of people and eliminating of suffering. Second is *impartiality* and it means that humanitarian assistance acts where help is needed without any kind of discrimination (race, religion, nationality). Another important principle is *neutrality*. During situation of armed conflict or other dispute humanitarian assistance should not prefer any side and interests. The last principle of humanitarian assistance is *independence* which in this context means autonomy of assistance from economic, politic or military aims (Global Humanitarian Assistance, 2015).

### 1.5.1 Forms of humanitarian assistance

Humanitarian assistance can be usually provided in three basic forms. Each form is typical for certain situation. First is *financial support* which includes cash donations of international and non-governmental organizations and others institutions. Financial

support is very important in all phases of humanitarian assistance. Second is *material support* which plays crucial role usually in the context of immediate assistance. It means for example supplies of food and drinking water or basic needs for life. The last is *expert support*. This type is also connected with immediate assistance and includes actions of rescue worker, medics and other professionals. On the other hand expert assistance is also important in the longer term for strengthening resilience and disaster prevention (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, 2015a).

### **1.5.2 Building of refugee camp**

According to Crisp and Jacobsen (1998) building of refugee camps is complex process which usually creates some problems for refugees and also for host country. They pointed out that the most important is to find out the best possible living conditions in refugee camps. Refugee camps are difficult to implement for a lot of various reasons.

*Environmental constraints* are frequent obstacles. Nature is key element in building of refugee camps and must be taken into account. Refugee camps cannot be created in areas where inconvenient natural conditions are. Another problem is that land is usually scarce and controlled by local population or private landowners. Movement of refugees is not random and therefore *social constraints* occur. They usually settle in places where they have ethnic and cultural ties with local population. They also usually settle close to borders of their home country to have connection and to keep in touch with country of their origin. Building of refugee camp is sometimes also problematic from political point of view. *Political constrain* associates with the fact that host governments are main decision makers in building of refugee camps. Political aspects of host country have usually higher influence than international conventions and recommendations.

As an obstacle can be perceive *logistical and financial constraints*. During huge cross-borders movements it is very important to take decisions by humanitarian organization very quickly. In these situations logistical and financial considerations must precede over the others (Crisp, Jacobsen, 1998).

### **1.5.3 Management of camp**

Effective camp management is very important and the main goal of camp management is to know that services and protection which camp provide are in accordance with

international and national laws and standards. There are more types of settlement where people can find temporary assistance and support. The feature of these settlements is continually changing. Life cycle of camp is described in three phases: set-up, care and maintenance and closure. The Camp Management Agency is responsible for correct functioning of camp in all its phases and plays really crucial role in overall management of the camp. The Camp Management Agency should build partnership with all stakeholders in the camp because transparency is one of the most important tools for building trust and legitimacy (Norwegian Refugee Council, 2016).

## **2. ANALYTICAL PART**

The roots of the current situation in Syria and actually in the entire Middle East region can be found in the historical development of this region. More specifically roots of problems already occurred in times of government of former president Háfiz al-Assad. He created system in which all major positions were concentrated in the hands of representatives of the Baath Party which members were usually in Alewite sect although the majority religion in Syria is Sunni branch of Islam. Due to that the crisis is also a religious issue, not just a political (syorskarevoluce.cz, 2014).

In 2000 referendum elected Bashar al-Assad as president. At the beginning he promised a lot of reforms for example modernising of economy, political openness, freedom of speech and press. This period is sometimes called Damascus spring that did not last long. Dissatisfaction of inhabitants escalated due to authoritarian regime of the ruling family and generally unequal society in the country (BBC, 2015).

The beginning of the conflict is linked with so-called Arab spring when waves of anti-government unrest started to expand into whole Middle East region. Violent repression by the regime and security forces led to the formation of opposition and resistance groups of which aim was to achieve the resignation of the president. In year 2012 conflict escalated to civil war and generally it is possible to say that this conflict is really very confusing also because of involvement of international interest of many states. A regional rivalry is typical for Turkey and Iran because they want to achieve balance of forces of Kurds and they have fear of rise of Sunni extremism in the region. The involvement and influence of so-called Islamic State in the situation complicates the whole course of the Civil War. Situation escalated into an absurd armed conflict with massive activity of inhabitants and thousands of victims. A lot of people are affected and they are forced to leave the country. Due to that mass migration waves complicate and influence situation in many states (Čejka, 2014).

## 2.1 Migration

### 2.1.1 Refugees in numbers

Nowadays it is possible to perceive situation in Syria as largest displacement crisis in a global scale. United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (2016) mentions in the report that about 4.6 million people from Syria have been forced to leave the country and 6.6 million are internally displaced. More than 250,000 people have been killed and over one million people have been injured. According to the latest reports from February 2016 about 13.5 million people are still in need of humanitarian assistance. The most affected are children. Development of Syria is totally in collapse and it is possible to see negative changes in all Millennium Development Goal indicators. Since the beginning of crisis in 2011 life expectancy decreased by almost 13 years and school attendance is lower by more than 50 per cent. People are often not able to find safety, international protection or humanitarian aid because there are many obstacles and difficulties. Most refugees from Syria settled in Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, Egypt and North Africa. Table 3 contains mentioned receiving countries and number of registered refugees in these countries in year 2016.

*Table 3: Registered refugees in receiving countries in year 2016*

<b>Receiving country</b>	<b>Number of registered refugees (2016)</b>
Turkey	2715789
Lebanon	1067785
Jordan	639704
Iraq	245543
Egypt	118512
North Africa	28027

*Own work based on source: UNHCR, 2016a*

### 2.1.2 Syrian refugees in Turkey

Syrian refugee crisis has the biggest impact on neighbouring countries. Nowadays Turkey hosts the most refugees in the world and the majority of refugees in Turkey come from region in Syria close to Syrian- Turkish borders. Other refugees on the territory of Turkey come from Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq and Somalia. However, their number is very low in comparison with Syrian refugees. The most common reason for choosing Turkey instead of another country is ease of transportation, better conditions, trust toward Turkey and religion reasons. The number of refugees in Turkey is still expected to rise (table 4). More than half of Syrian refugees in Turkey are children (AFAD, 2013).

Table 4: Registered Syrian refugees in Turkey

<b>Date</b>	<b>Number of registered Syrian refugees in Turkey</b>
December 2011	8000
December 2012	152981
December 2013	587389
December 2014	1552839
December 2015	2503459
March 2016	2715789

*Own work based on source: UNHCR, 2016b*

Refugee camps are mostly situated near the Syrian- Turkish border (attachment 1) and about 30% of refugees live in 22 camps (attachment 2) which are managed by government of Turkey. Most of Syrian refugees (about 70%) are situated out of camps (3RP, 2015). Syrian refugees are mainly in camps in provinces of Hatay, Gaziantep, Kilis and Urfa. Turkish government has to solve regional tension, especially in the province of Hatay where majority of population is Alevies. Alevies have huge prejudices against Syrian refugees because most of them are Sunnites. This religious tension complicates the situation in the region and the Turkish government must suppress these riots (Kawakibi, 2013).

## 2.2 Demography

Currently on the territory of Turkey live about 79,452,257 of people. This number is equal to 1.07% of total world population. The annual growth rate is around 1.22% and the average age is 30,7years. Majority of population in Turkey (about 72%) lives in urban areas and density of population is 104 people per km<sup>2</sup> (worldometers, 2016).

The proportion of males in the total population is 50.2% and the proportion of women in the total population is 49.8%. Age pyramid of Turkey is rather stationary type so it means that child generation becomes gradually equal to reproductive generation. Total population in long term is rather constant (figure 3). The unemployment rate in Turkey in January 2015 represented 11.3%. From ethnic point of view majority of people are Turks (70-75%), Kurds constitute about 18%, remaining 7-12% are national minorities. The vast majority of inhabitants (99, 8%) are Muslims (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, 2015b).

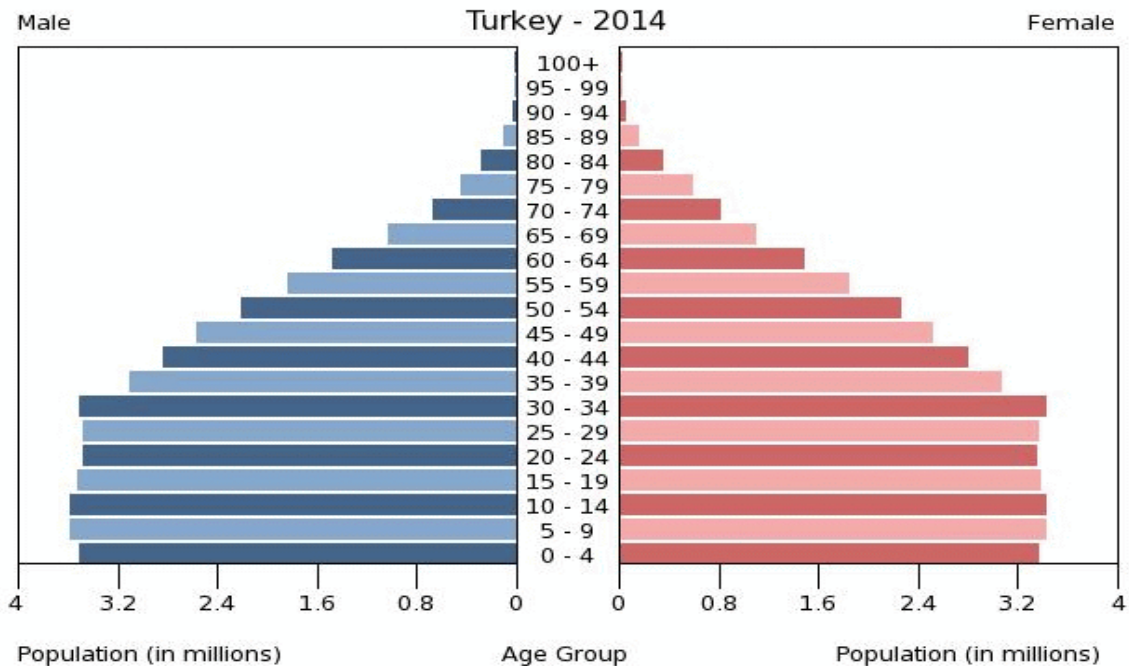


Figure 3: Age pyramid of Turkey in 2014, source: IndexMundi, 2015b

### **2.2.1 Demographic analysis of Syrian refugees in Turkey**

The uncontrolled flow of refugees is causing many problems in Turkey. There is higher risk of violence, unrest and crime, as well as social problems. Refugees and migrants are seen by local population as potential competitors in the labour market and in social services. Increasing population also causes demographic changes in the country. Migration can bring some positive changes but in the case of Turkey uncontrolled migration is causing a lot of pressure in all spheres and it is possible to say that nowadays represents one of the most critical global problems.

#### **Gender structure**

Gender structure of refugees situated in camps and out of camps is almost the same. Percentage of males in camps and out of camps is 50, 8% and percentage of females in camps and out of camps is 49, 2% (UNHCR, 2016b). Representation of men and women is almost equal but generally there are slightly less women than men (figure 4). Gender structure of refugees gradually changed. Initially prevailed middle age men but in the next wave of migration number of women gradually increased and therefore the ratio between men and women is almost equal. Number of children is increasing and women often give birth on the way to the camp or in the camp. More than half of Syrian refugees in Turkey are children and just children are the most vulnerable group in many ways.

About 75% of Syrian refugees in Turkey are women and children and this group has to face a lot of problems associated with gender perspective. Women often suffer from exploitation and violence. Unregistered marriages are also very frequent but problem is that second marriage is illegal in Turkey and women in such marriage do not have legal rights. These marriages are in most cases based on sexual industry and women are often forced into such marriage due to miserable situation in which they are. Child marriage is also common phenomenon and sexual abuse causes strong psychological and emotional pressure for young girls. Poverty and financial needs of families are reasons for increasing of child labour which has also negative impact on children (CTDC, 2015).



## Age structure

According to available data can be determined that the largest age group among the Syrian refugees in Turkey is the age group 18-59 years and this group is sometimes also called as working age population. It means that a lot of Syrian refugees in Turkey are in productive age. The proportion of children between 0-18 years is almost 54%. The proportion of 60 years old and older is very small- about 4% (UNHCR, 2016b).

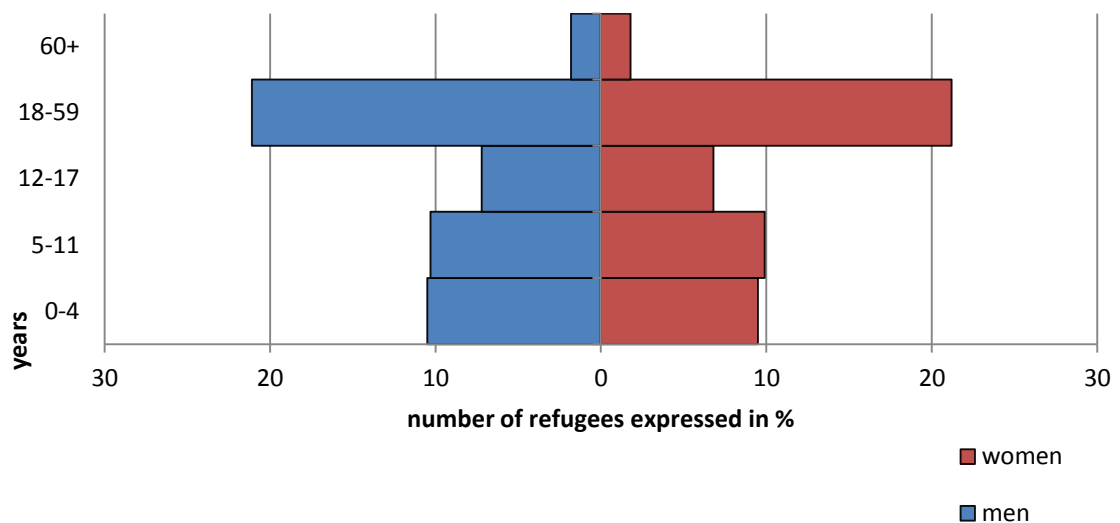


Figure 4: Age structure of Syrian refugees in Turkey, own work based on source: UNHCR, 2016b

Age structure of Syrian refugees in Turkey is very similar with age structure of population of Syria. Age pyramid of Syria is progressive type so it means that there is high proportion of young generation and very small proportion of old generation. This type of age pyramid is typical for developing countries and countries with high proportion of young generation need to invest more in education sector and also there should be emphasis on creating new jobs opportunities for the growing number of people in productive age (IndexMundi, 2015a).

### 2.2.2 Level of education

There is pressure to build new educational facilities with arrival of huge mass of people with high proportion of children and young people on the territory of Turkey. Language barrier which Syrian refugees have to face in Turkey also complicates them access to education. According to available data it is possible to say that generally young refugees

in camps have better education than young refugees living out of camps. In camps about 12% of refugees are illiterate whereas out of camps there are almost 20% of refugees who are illiterate (figure 5).

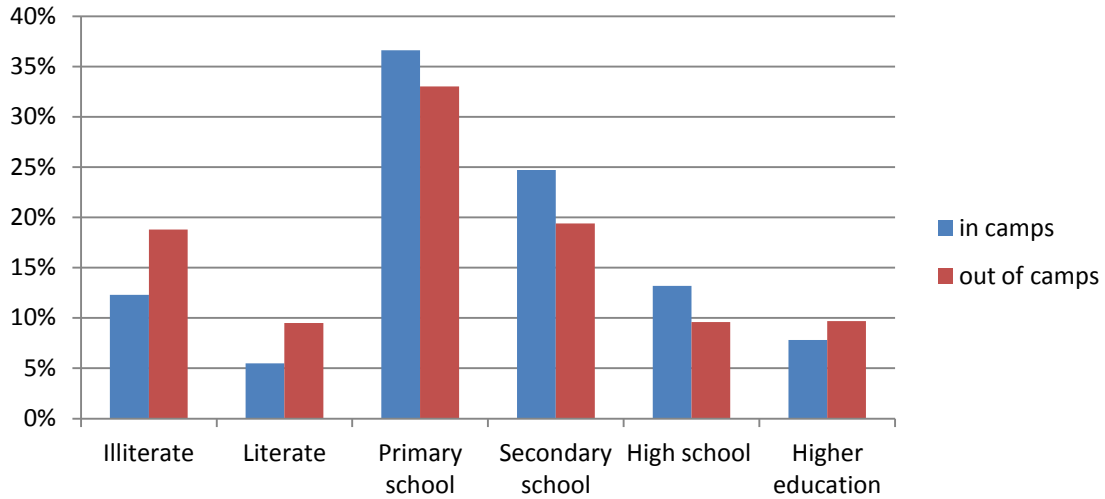


Figure 5: Levels of education attained by Syrian refugees in Turkey who are older than 6 years, own work based on source: AFAD, 2013

Group of literate refugees refers to refugees who are able to read and write but who did not graduate from any type of school. From primary school graduated about 37% of refugees in camps and 33% of refugees out of camps, from secondary school graduated about 25% of refugees in camps and about 20% of refugees out of camps. Generally more than half of all Syrian refugees in Turkey have only primary education or less but on the other hand there are also about 20% of all refugees who attained high education or more (AFAD,2013).

### 2.3 Security in Turkey

Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency AFAD (2013) published in own survey that the overwhelming majority of Syrian refugees left Syria due to security reasons. Turkish government has to face strong pressure in balancing of the issue of refugees in many ways- for example in labour or social sector, in infrastructure, in security, in providing medical, nutritional, schooling or psychological needs for refugees. Arrival of more than two million refugees increases social tension and high unemployment is also big problem because majority of refugees living out of camps are

looking for a job. The ability to have access to the labour market is a crucial factor for Syrian refugees because it will enable them to earn income and on the other hand they will also contribute to host environment.

### **2.3.1 Areas of higher security risks**

The border between Syria and Turkey is a place of intensive conflict and also majority of camps are located there. Only small percent of Syrian refugees cross the borders with their passports and it is possible to cross the borders from an official or an unofficial crossing points. Majority of refugees Turkey are situated out of camps and they usually prefer life in towns which are called refugee urban locations. OSN appeals to the importance of urban solution and perceives smaller towns more suitable for presence of refugees because bigger cities are more exposed to crime and criminality. Refugees in big cities have no option and they are forced to settle in dangerous areas where people live on the margin of society. Due to that society often perceives refugees as a source of increased crime. Rather than conviction there should be more effort on integration of refugees into the society (Menšíková, 2015).

### **2.3.2 Law on Foreigners and International Protection**

Turkey is one of original states which signed the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees from year 1951 but Turkey keeps certain geographical limitations. Status of refugee belongs only to people from Europe and people from non-European countries should be resettled to some different place or they should go back to their country of origin. Policy of migration has been also shaped by potential entry of Turkey into the European Union and the pressure of the European Commission. Migration identity of Turkey has changed very much from being mainly emigration and transit country to becoming immigration country which is receiving huge number of refugees. Due to that migration system and asylum policy of Turkey had to be modified to become more suitable for new circumstances and to solve longer-term future for a lot of refugees who cannot return home and who are unlikely to obtain third-country resettlement (Kilberg, 2014).

In April 2013 *Law No. 6458 Law on Foreigners and International Protection* was adopted by Turkish government. The law is considered as very important step in

dealing with migration in Turkey and the very objective of this law is defined in article1: *“The purpose of this Law is to regulate the principles and procedures with regard to foreigners’ entry into, stay in and exit from Turkey, and the scope and implementation of the protection to be provided for foreigners who seek protection from Turkey, and the establishment, duties, mandate and responsibilities of the Directorate General of Migration Management under the Ministry of Interior“* (refworld,2013).

This law is considered as the first Turkish law about complex migration management. The main change is creation of centralized migration policy and new General Directorate for Migration Management (GDMM) which include a lot of migration experts. GDMM is responsible for a lot of tasks which are connected with migration issue like creation of new legislation and strategies. But the biggest attention is dedicated to irregular and humanitarian migration which is nowadays the most discussed topic in the international and state level. GDMM has also right to refuse entry to foreigners who can endanger public order, security, or health. The law includes how to behave to unauthorized migrants and other removable noncitizen and also defines penalties for illegal entrance. Turkish police and military have still responsibility for borders of the country. The law still defines status of refugee in the same way but there is generally higher level of protection and there is new division of qualifying foreigners into three different categories:

- *refugees*
- *conditional refugees*- refugees in this category should be resettled to third country
- *individuals under subsidiary protection*- in this category there are individuals who are not refugees or conditional refugees but they are also in risk and danger in their origin country (in past individuals in this category were named only like quests)

The law also defines specific non-refoulement provision which means that refugees will not be forced to go back to country where risk and danger is. The law also deals with immigrant integration policies and residence permits.

Nowadays it is possible to get six types of residence permits in Turkey:

- short-term
- long-term
- family
- student
- humanitarian
- victims of human trafficking

Generally Law on Foreigners and International Protection is considered as positive step in dealing with migration management and protection in Turkey but there must be higher effort in effectiveness of coordination between different agencies and ministries. Problem is also with geographical limitations which remain in definition of status of refugee. Refugees can feel insecurity because government policy in issue of migration is still in some cases unclear and incomplete (Kilberg, 2014).

Turkey also suggested new requirements during EU summit in March 2016. Turkey suggested that they will take back illegal Syrian migrants from the Greek islands if the EU relocates from Turkey the same number of Syrian refugees with the right of asylum to EU territory. Turkey also requests financial support for help to Syrian refugees in Turkey, simplifying visa requirements for Turks and opening new negotiations for Turkey's entry into the EU. This proposal is still being discussed. There are doubts that it is on the edge of international law and countries are still considering possible consequences (BBC, 2016).

## **2.4 Analyses of food security**

The aim of this chapter is to analyze food security of refugees in camps but also outside camps where situation is different. Majority of refugees are dependent on provision of food help and due to that it is not possible to describe food security in all four pillars. Individual pillars are largely influenced by the situation in the country which must be taken into account.

For measuring level of food security are used different indicators for example method of food consumption score. Food security is also influenced by many other factors like

climatic conditions, government regulations or the level of infrastructure in a given location. In Turkey majority of Syrian refugees are situated out of camps where situation is more complicated than in camps. Because of it comparison between food security of refugees in camps and out of camps will be examined.

#### **2.4.1 Active subjects of United Nations**

##### **World Food Programme (WFP)**

Food security sector in Turkey is managed by several organizations. The main and also leading agency is World Food Programme (WFP) which cooperates with other partners as International Organization for Migration (IOM), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and also four NGO partners are part of providing of food security in Turkey. Their activities are based on ensuring four pillars of food security as much as possible. Therefore their main goals include encouraging of stable access to food especially for people suffering due to Syrian crisis, support food availability, sustainable production and utilisation of food. They also want to provide food assistance in more effective and coordinated way. Very important step in 2012 was also creation of electronic voucher system. This system was established by WFP with cooperation of Turkish Red Crescent (TRC) and Prime Ministry Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD). Turkish government considers this voucher system as the most beneficial contribution in food security assistance to Syrian refugees in Turkey (3RP, 2015).

Syrian crisis lasts almost six years and activities of WFP changed during this time. At the beginning WFP activities were rather based on monitoring outputs. It means that they defined and counted their activities and they also examined how many people benefited from it. After certain time the main focus was put on monitoring of the quality of activities provided. WFP also created centres for feedback in forms of surveys or for example help desks which also help to work more effective and coordinated. Measuring of outcomes is very important for examining which programs are most useful in the long run and also for prediction of future development of situation. In last years of crisis WFP observed that key factor in food security is associated with sectors like education,

livelihoods, and protection. Inter-sector assistance is therefore really very important for favourable development (WFP, 2016d).

### **Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)**

UNHCR is sometimes also called UN Refugee Agency. UNHCR closely cooperates with government of Turkey in protection of refugees on Turkish territory. UNHCR encourages creating of new capacity for asylum institutions in the country and also creates system for acceptance which is based on rights. They support the promotion of international agreements on refugees and provide them food and medical care. They also support economic and social well-being of refugees. UNHCR has operates in Turkey since the beginning of Syrian crisis and they provide monitoring and technical support. Their strategic goal is finding of durable solutions which will help to solve situation. The biggest issue is still the size of the refugee population and the geographical area they are situated. UNHCR closely cooperates with Turkish civil society, international NGOs and government agencies. Budget of UNHCR dramatically increased from USD 17.7 million in year 2010 to USD 320.16 million in 2015. This rapid increase is caused by mass influx of refugees and the need to ensure basic conditions for their lives. The expansion of budget of UNHCR to refugee programme in Turkey from year 2010 to year 2015 is shown in the table 5 (UNHCR, 2015d).

*Table 5: UNHCR to refugee programme in Turkey during year 2010-2015*

<b>Year</b>	<b>Millions USD</b>
2010	17,7
2011	20,3
2012	65
2013	225
2014	306,5
2015	320,16

*Own work based on source: UNHCR, 2015d*

### 2.4.2 Food access and Food consumption score (FCS) of refugees in camps

According to research of WFP 90% of refugees in camps which are supported by WFP and the TRC have adequate diet and acceptable FCS. Majority of refugees in these camps rely just on support of WFP in food assistance which provides them almost all their dietary needs (WFP, 2013).

For adequate control of food consumption in WFP camps there was determined so-called standard Food Consumption Score (FCS) which comprises quantity and diversity of the diet of refugees. Value of FCS is not dependent on gender and therefore there is no difference in this indicator between men and women in camps. Level of poor consumption is really very low in camps supported by WFP- the highest percentage of households with poor consumption was only 2%. Available data really show that WFP is able to ensure adequate dietary needs for Syrian refugees in camps in Turkey. Poor or borderline food consumption is rare in these camps and majority of refugees has acceptable food consumption (WFP, 2013).

Graph shows selected refugee camps in Turkey and proportion of three groups of FCS (poor, borderline, acceptable) in each of them in year 2013 (figure 6).

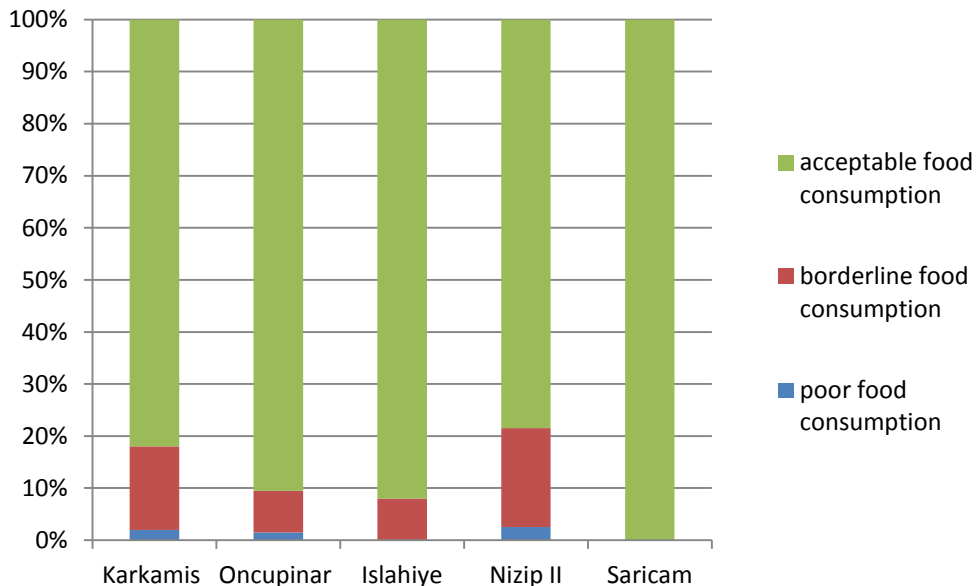


Figure 6: Selected camps and proportion of three groups of FCS, own work based on source: WFP, 2013



In survey which was conducted by AFAD (2013) experts collected data about conditions and quality of services in examined camps in Turkey. Refugees had to evaluate quality of food services in camp. The total number of respondents in this survey was 1295. The results are displayed in the graph (figure 7).

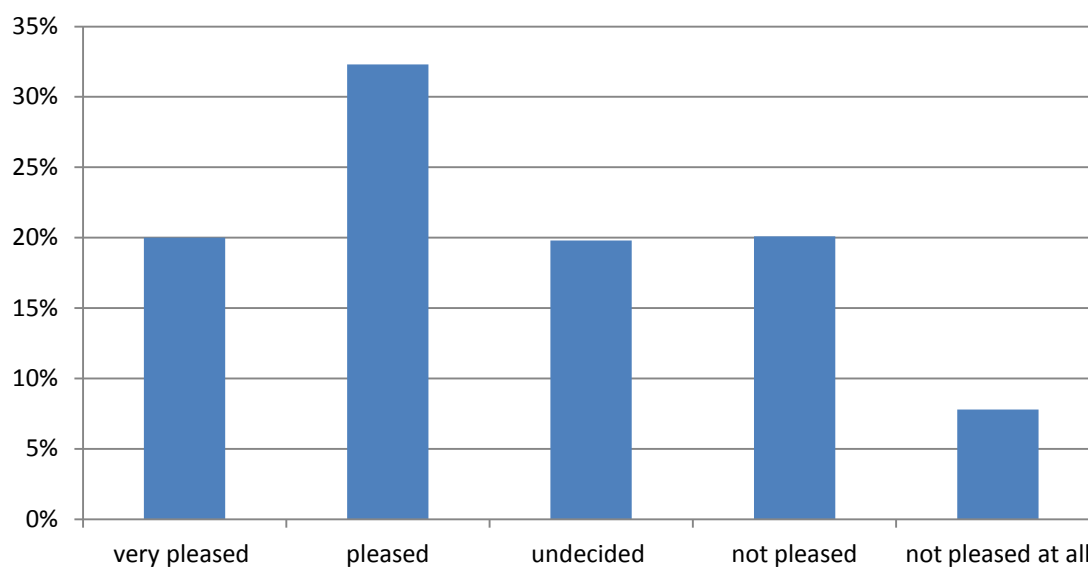


Figure 7: Assessment of quality of food service in camp, own work based on source: AFAD, 2013

More than 52% of respondents are pleased or very pleased with quality of food service in camp. About 20% of refugees are undecided and there are not able to assess food service in camp and about 20% of refugees are not pleased and only 7, 8% are not pleased at all. Results from this survey correspond with research of WFP. More than half of refugees in camps are satisfied with quality of food service provided and majority of refugees has acceptable food consumption which covers the required daily intake of nutrients.

The initial influx of refugees brought huge burden to Turkish economy, resource management and delivering services. Despite the difficult situation Turkey was able to achieve target of halving the number of undernourished people and children under 5 years of age in population of the country. More nutrients in diet of refugees and also introduction of Electronic Food Card Programme helped to ensure food security in good way. WFP activities in Turkey are typical by large-scale food procurements which help in whole world. In 2014 Turkey was even the biggest WFP's supplier of food commodities in the world (WFP, 2016a).

### 2.4.3 Food access and Food consumption score (FCS) of off-camp refugees

Most of Syrian refugees in Turkey are off-camp refugees. Ensuring food security for refugees out of camps has been one of the biggest issues of WFP since 2015. Food security analysis of WFP collected data from June to December 2015. They examined 1562 random off-camp refugees from provinces Gaziantep, Hatay, Kilis and Sanliurfa. They wanted to obtain awareness about level of food security of refugees out of camps (WFP, 2016b).

Research showed that 93% of households are poor- live under the poverty line. Food consumption score of 71% of interviewed households is acceptable. Borderline food consumption is typical for 23% of households and by poor food consumption suffer 6% of households. It means that in total 29% of households are not able to meet their food needs. Composition of daily intake is inadequate and data show that these households eat oil, cereals and sugar almost every day, dairy products and vegetable roughly every second day and pulses twice a week. Protein deficiency is common because meat and eggs are consumed only sporadically. Diversity of food consumed by three food consumption groups of off-camp refugees is described below (figure 8).

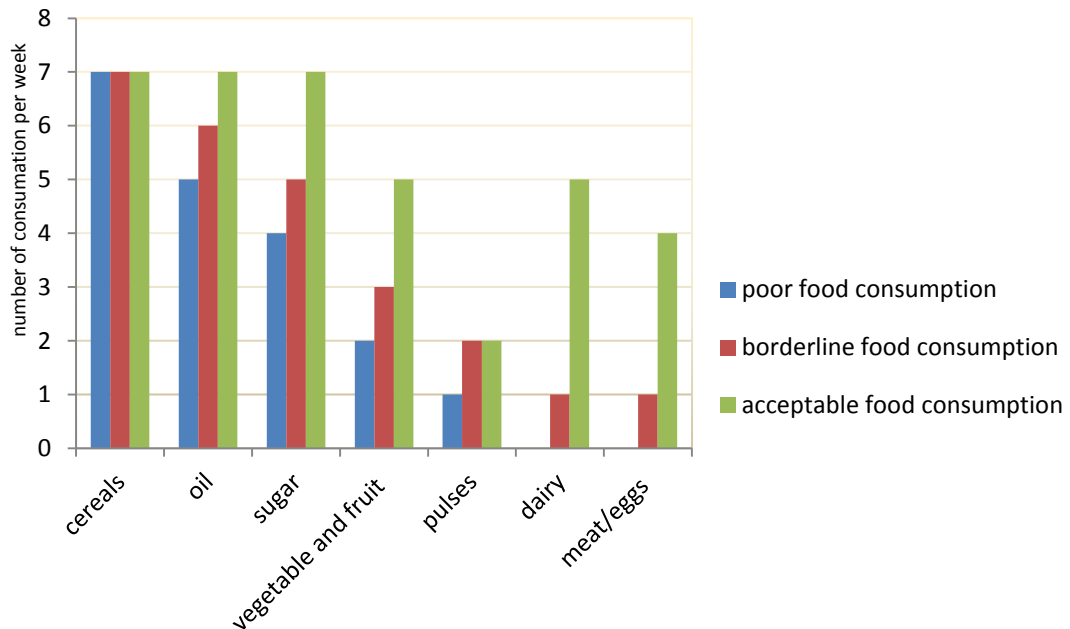


Figure 8: Diversity and number of consumption of food per week in three food consumption groups, own work based on source: WFP, 2016b

#### **2.4.4 WFP's Electronic Food Card Programme**

In 2012 Government of Turkey asked WFP for help in food assistance due to mass influx of refugees to Turkish territory. WFP together with the support of Government of Turkey, TRC and AFAD introduced Electronic Food Card Programme in October 2012. Overall WFP has transferred more than USD 155 million in the E-card Food Programme. Refugees can use their E-cards for nutritious food at contracted shops. The first camp where E-cards were used was in Kilis with 12000 refugees assisted. Nowadays E-card Food Programme helps to 150000 of refugees in camps and to 82122 of refugees out of camps. In near future WFP wants to support about 735000 of refugees together and also develop more sophisticated off-camp programme. More than 90% of refugees using E-card have acceptable FCS which is proof of functionality of this Programme. Generally E-card Food Programme is big success because it is beneficial to both sides. Beneficiaries are satisfied because they can buy nutritious and diverse food items according to their choice. It is also good for Turkey economy because limited resources are used effectively; system provides high return on investment and also supports local retailers. The main challenge for the future is to maintain E-card Food Programme during continuous flows of refugees and also put more focus on population outside camps (WFP, 2016c).

#### **2.4.5 Coping strategies**

Beside the FCS there is also used The Coping Strategy Index (CSI) which evaluates level of food security according to frequency and severity of coping strategies of households which deal with lack of food. High value of CSI means that households use negative coping strategies often and their food security is threatened. This method is quite quick and easy way in finding how affected people are coping with unfavorable conditions and lack of food and therefore using of this method is ideal in emergency situations (reliefweb, 2014).

It is possible to distinguish certain types of livelihood coping strategies. Typical activities for stress coping strategy are spending savings, buying on credit or households sell their goods to get money. Emergency and crisis livelihood coping includes activities such as forcing children to work or begging of adults. Threats for future productivity are

typical for these activities because ability to cope is reduced significantly. According to available data only small percentage (about 15%) of Syrian refugees in camps in Turkey assisted by WFP are using some coping strategy. Coping livelihood strategies are more typical for off-camp households. Food security analyses of WFP examined 1562 off-camp refugees in Turkey. About 30 % of respondents do not use any livelihood coping strategy, 33% use stress coping strategies, about 22% use crisis coping and about 15% use emergency coping strategy (WFP, 2016b).

As regards the purely food security households are using consumption based coping. About 90% of examined households use some type of consumption based coping over the past seven days. Types of consumption based coping in food insecure off-camp households and average number of days applied these strategies are shown in the graph (figure 9).

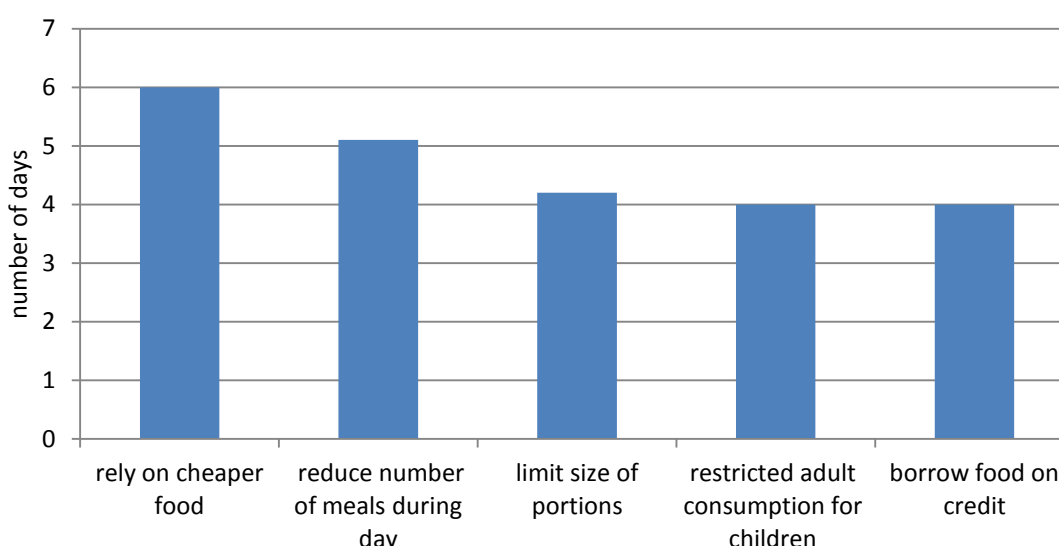


Figure 9: Average number of days when food insecure off-camp households use consumption based coping, own work based on source: WFP, 2016b

#### 2.4.6 3 RP Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan in food security

The 3RP Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan is a tool for realization of future challenges in many fields. There are gradually more actors involved in current migration crisis in Turkey and it is really very important to build integrated strategies for near future. In the field of food security there is plan to continue with food assistance and develop more sophisticated food security strategy. Refugee camps in

Turkey are already able to provide food security to vast majority of refugees who have access to nutritious food in a sufficient extent and quality. On the other hand refugees living out of camps are more vulnerable to suffer from food insecurity. The 3RP Plan refers to the importance in cooperation at national and local level with the aim to improve food security of this group in near future. Data from September 2015 show that food security sector was able to create effective food security programme which cooperate with Turkish authorities. E-food card system helps local economy in form of cash support. From 2012 to 2015 E-food card system brought approximately USD 136, 5 million (3RP, 2015).

Leading agency WFP cooperates with FAO, IOM and NGO partners. They together set objectives which want to achieve in food security in near future. These objectives are described in the 3RP Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan 2016-2017. It is also very important to predict required budget for these activities to be able effectively and responsibly manage cooperation in order to meet set objectives and requirements.

In food security sector there are described objectives which should be implemented in near future. Objectives are divided into two components. First is refugee component which includes objectives: support stable access to food for people affected by Syrian crisis, encourage food availability and sustainable production of food, be able to ensure diversified and quality food, better and effective coordination in food security response. Second is resilience component which includes objectives: support small scale family production, use agriculture programmes which are smart to climate, improve awareness of right nutritional practices, strengthen food safety policy, promote food security strategy on national level and be able to implement these strategies in good way. Required budget for these activities and organizations which will cooperate together in food security sector for year 2016 are shown in the table 6 (3RP, 2015).

Table 6: Required budget for food security sector in 2016

<b>Organization/ agency</b>	<b>Required budget for refugee component (in USD)</b>	<b>Required budget for resilience component (in USD)</b>	<b>Total budget requirements for year 2016 (in USD)</b>
<b>WFP</b>	212,739,868	704,132	213,444,000
<b>FAO</b>	400,000	600,000	1,000,000
<b>IOM</b>	5,500,000	600,000	6,100,000
<b>NGO partners</b>	19,851,000	-	19,851,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>238,490,868</b>	<b>1,904,132</b>	<b>240,395,000</b>

*Own work based on source: 3RP, 2015*

Food security sector needs really huge amount of financial support. Budget is not intended only for direct food distribution and improvement of production but also for more sophisticated monitoring system of food security because it is very important to be able to get actual data. In some cases limiting availability of data is barrier for improvement of food security sector. In Turkey problem with availability of data usually occurs in food security of off-camp refugees. It is more difficult to monitor situation here. Also cooperation between organizations and agencies plays crucial role in better and more effective management of food security sector.

### **3. PROPOSALS**

From the conducted analysis it is possible to say that food security in Turkey is not sufficient for all refugees. At the beginning of this part prediction of probable future of situation of refugees will be included. In this part there will be proposed possible steps which could improve the situation in food security sector and which could make provision of food security more effective in the future. In the field of food security in Turkey are involved international actors. Some of them will be chosen and proposals how they should change their policy to improve the situation will be described.

#### **3.1 Prediction of future development**

Turkey has been receiving refugees from Syria for five years and the number of refugees is still expecting to rise in the future. They become part of everyday life and their integration is often very difficult. According to research from AFAD (2013) more than half of Syrian refugees in Turkey plan to go back to Syria when war ends and only small percentage of refugees never plan to return to Syria.

More than half of Syrian refugees are children and just child refugees are a very important factor in future development of the situation. Many children are born on their way to camps or directly in the camps and therefore they actually do not know different conditions. Migration crisis still lasts and it is very hard to predict future development. Even when the conflict ends recovery will take a long time and return to Syria will be very problematic. It is also possible that refugees will find a new home in other countries. In any case Turkey should put more effort on deepening plans for integration of refugees with emphasis on education, health care and concrete planning of the future for refugees.

#### **3.2 Inter-sector assistance**

Possible solution and help for improving the situation of food security in Turkey can be better inter-sector assistance. Key factor of improvements in food security is associated also with sectors like education, livelihoods and protection. Supporting programs that

provide access to education and transfer of skills among the youth in order to avoid the creation of so-called lost generation are very good solutions with perspective for the future. Before the start of the conflict in Syria majority of Syrian children- about 99% attended primary schools. Nowadays situation is completely different. Children in camps usually attend school but these children represent only about 13% of all Syrian children refugees (Human Rights Watch, 2015). Most of children living out of camps do not attend school. Therefore building and strengthening of new educational units outside camps play crucial role for future recovery and Turkey should be able to provide free primary education for these children. Common obstacles for getting education are language barrier, lack of financial resources in families or inability to be part of new society which has different features and habits. Also obtaining of information about education possibilities and ways how to register to schools should be more accessible. It is essential to make education more adaptable for their needs and cooperate with organizations dealing with refugee issue in order to provide access to education for Syrian refugees in Turkish territory and prepare them for the future. They should be able to recover Syrian society in the future therefore quality education is necessary.

As regards the livelihood sector changes are also very important for more favourable future. Integration of refugees into the society and give them opportunity to be part of productive market is very important for their welfare. It will contribute to the economy of the country and also social tension will be reduced. Acquiring new skills in livelihood sector is beneficial for refugees and more specialized agencies and centres should be involved in improvement of this issue. Providing broader access to work permits for refugees would bring help to number of households which are often forced to use child labor for obtaining finances. Forced child labor is usually obstacle for attending schools therefore improvement in livelihood sector closely related to positive change in education sector.

In summary cooperation between these sectors and concentrated efforts to achieve a common goal play crucial role in improvement of food security sector and also help to get situation in Turkey under the control.



### **3.3 Proposals of change of policy of international actors**

In the issue of ensuring food security of Syrian refugees in Turkey are involved a lot of international actors. Each of them has certain role and also responsibility which is associated with their actions. In this chapter suggestions how to improve the situation in sector of food security depending on the influence of various international subjects will be described.

#### **3.3.1 World Food Programme**

World Food Programme is leading agency in food security sector in Turkey. From the analysis is evident that requirement for budget of WFP for food security sector is very high because budget should cover not only direct food distribution but there should also be enough money for quality monitoring system. In some cases limiting availability of data in food security sector is barrier for possible improvement of situation. Due to that better system of monitoring and more money for it should improve the level of food security of Syrian refugees in Turkey.

In sector of food security in Turkey operates WFP with FAO, IOM and NGO partners. In cooperation of more actors is very important to have uniform exploration system in obtaining data. Monitoring should find out where are situated and actually who are beneficiaries and what are their needs. This step should help to improve provision of food security and to get complete picture about situation in the country.

Very important step was creation of electronic voucher system which is considered as the most beneficial contribution in food security assistance to Syrian refugees in Turkey. Maintaining of E-card programme during continuous flows of refugees is one of the biggest challenges in food security in near future. Majority of Syrian refugees in Turkey live out of camps and they are more vulnerable to suffer from food insecurity. Often use of coping strategies especially crisis and emergency coping is an evidence that immediate help is needed. It is necessary to increase their daily food intake and improve diversity of food consumed. Especially protein-rich food like meat or eggs should be more frequent. It would definitely improve their daily intake of nutrients. The introduction of e-vouchers for more non-food items and in other sectors would support ability of refugees to meet their own need and on the other hand it would make higher

financial injections to economy of Turkey. Analysis showed that food security in camps is generally satisfactory therefore it is important to create more opportunities for exploitation of E-card programme for population of refugees out of camps and focus more on improvement of food security among them.

### **3.3.2 Government of Turkey**

There are two possible plans for future of Syrian refugees in Turkey. First plan considers gradual integration of refugees into Turkish society and second plan deals with the possibility of returning to their country of origin-to Syria or to some other country. Rapid and massive influx of refugees causes high pressure on many sectors in Turkey. Nowadays it is not possible to return Syrian refugees to their country of origin because Syria is still not able to provide them safe conditions for life.

The fundamental problem is that government of Turkey does not have some concrete plan for integration of refugees into the society. Creation of steady and long-term plan for integration of refugees should improve situation in the country. Providing of education or vocational education courses for refugees would lead to better integration into the labour market and refugees would be able to get finances for their basic needs. Absence of such a plan for refugees in Turkey can be a reason why they are fleeing to Europe. Planning of life in Turkey is not possible for them and they probably see more planned future in Europe. Generally creation of the plan for integration of refugees and also better communication between refugees and the government of Turkey would improve the situation.

Prejudices of the local population towards refugees are also frequent phenomenon which makes integration into new society more problematic. Legal framework of refugee issue is problematic as well. Geographical limitations which remain in definition of status of refugee cause feelings of insecurity and government policy should put more effort to make definitions more clear and complete. This would also lead to easier integration of refugees into society.

Refugees situated out of camps usually live in urban areas where are more exposed to crime and criminality. Smaller towns would be more suitable for refugees and there would be better background for integration to society. Generally the government and

also organizations focus rather on medium-term strategy but it is more important to plan in long-term to obtain the best permanent results.

### **3.3.3 European Union**

Nowadays overall solution of the refugee crisis and also the situation in Turkey is one of the most discussed issues in international policy and security. Negotiations between European Union and Turkey are achieving certain progress but for maintaining it is necessary to be patient and persistent and provide other resources allowing the systematic and logistically coherent repatriation and resettlement of people. Implementation of the Agreement must be in accordance with international law and requires a huge effort from all involved actors. Generally the main priority of European Union in these days is to make better cooperation with Turkey in the refugee and migrant issue.

On the other hand cooperation is quite difficult due to great differences between countries of EU and Turkey. It is always problem when two diverse subjects which are based on own basis have to make a deal, especially when EU itself is composed of quite diverse states. Security of EU cannot be at risk and therefore Turkey has to fulfil the requirements to prevent corruption, standards concerning security must be in accordance with European standards and the involvement of all members of the EU is also essential. Some of European leaders see an agreement with Turkey as a new mechanism which would completely change the current solution of migration crisis. If refugees flee due to war their only route to Europe would lead through a refugee camp in Turkey. This method could also help in the detection of economic migrants. However requirements of Turkey are more complicated and their acceptance must be carefully discussed. Some of them are considered as dangerous for EU and problem is that prediction of future consequences is very hard because of rapidly changing circumstances.

Turkey and EU should focus on solution of cause of the problem-situation in Syria. Cooperation among them is important especially in improvement of humanitarian conditions in Syria. Providing of effective humanitarian aid to population in Syria would bring them possibility to live in the country and they would not be forced to leave the country.

Europe should also present concrete conditions for refugees. European society is facing concerns about the influx of refugees. Some of them are justified but many of them are only prejudices. Europe should be careful not to cause displacement of refugees on the margins of society like in Turkey. Conversely Europe should make maximal effort to try to integrate them properly. Participation of countries which have adequate possibilities to help resolve the situation in an effective way is also very important.

Migration crisis is a complex issue which is impossible to solve completely if there will persist the main cause- the civil war in Syria. On the other hand there are a lot of steps which can be implemented to get the situation under the control. But this is a very ambitious objective which European leaders can't solve by themselves. Problem in Syria is conflict in which are involved many international actors and due to that effective cooperation among them plays crucial role.

## **CONCLUSION**

The bachelor thesis analyzed level of food security of Syrian refugees in Turkey. Armed conflict in Syria started in year 2011 and influenced Turkey by mass influx of refugees into territory of the country. Gradually pressure to ensure food security and adequate humanitarian assistance increased, especially when the number of refugees constantly increased too. Sufficient access to nutritionally rich food is one of the basic conditions for survival and health of people. Therefore, ensuring food security was considered to be one of the cornerstones to keep the situation under control.

Nowadays Turkey hosts the most refugees in the world and so huge influx caused a lot of problems. Refugee camps gradually lost the ability to provide assistance to all refugees and therefore majority of Syrian refugees in Turkey is situated out of camps. Government of Turkey also had to solve prejudices of local population against Syrian refugees which caused religious tension and riots. Ensuring food security was problematic due to that but WFP with cooperation of other organizations was able to provide adequate diet for refugees in camps. Majority of them have acceptable FCS. But generally despite the effort food security in Turkey is still not sufficient, especially out of camps. The analysis shows that nutritional intake is not sufficient and refugees are often forced to use negative coping strategies. Organizations must cover the enormous financial needs to maintain food security and it is very difficult to sustain it in the future with the growing number of refugees. Lack of money for quality monitoring system is also barrier for availability of data in food security sector and for possible improvement of the situation.

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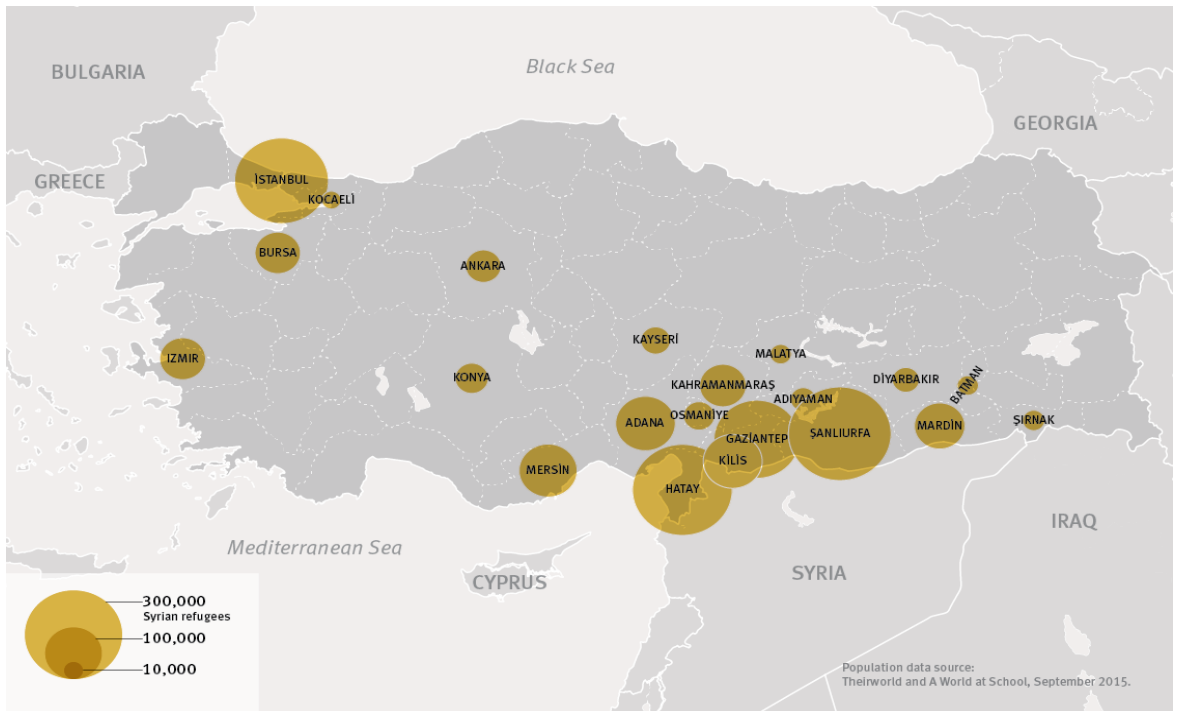
# Attachments

Attachment 1: Location of refugee camps in Turkey



Source: Fedasil, 2014

Attachment 2: Number of refugees in camps in Turkey



Source: Human Rights Watch, 2015