

Global Context of Migration: The Case of Malta
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"migration is life" ... marcelle





The Case of Malta

- The most densely populated country in the EU
- 10th most densely populated country in the world
- 1,265 inhabitants per square km (Latvia, 32)
- Island, 36 km by 16 km
- Religion is Roman Catholic, law guarantees freedom of religion
- Occupied by the Phoenicians, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, Normans, Spanish, French and British empires
- Independence in 1964; Republic in 1974
- Official languages: Maltese and English

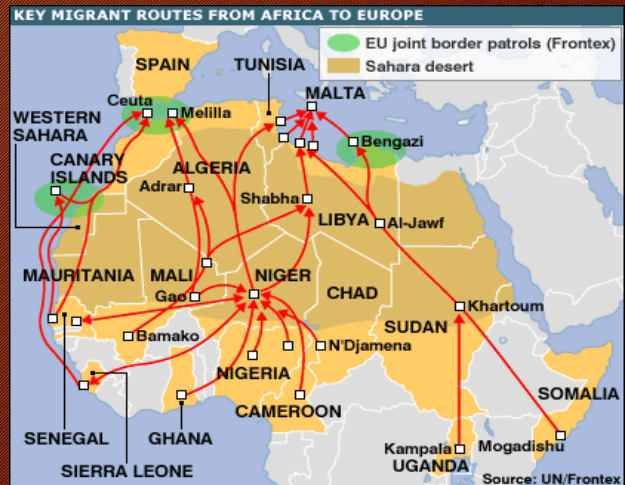


The Case of Malta

- Highly industrialised service based economy
- Advanced economy, IMF
- High income country, World Bank
- Unemployment 5.2 %

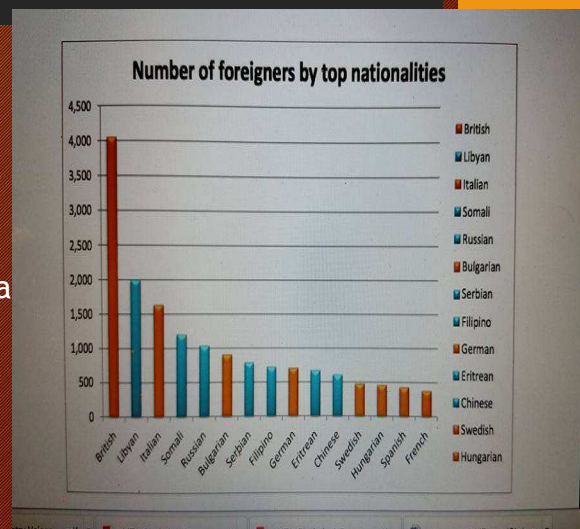
Strengths

- Strategic location
- Open market economy
- Multilingual population
- Productive labour force
- Free education
- Low corporate tax
- Strong financial, tourism, manufacturing and ICT sector
- 15th most democratic country (Democracy index)
- 1.7 million tourists in 2014



The Case of Malta

- 2005 census: non-Maltese 12,112 (3% of p.)
- 2011: non-Maltese 20,086 (4.8% of p.)
- In 2013, 23,643 foreign nationals living in Malta from 150 different countries
- 11,565 TCNs and 12,078 EU nationals
- In 2013: 15, 095 foreigners working in Malta
- 9,670 EU nationals and 5,424 TCNs
- Since 2001 Malta became a transit country for migrants arriving from Libya





The Case of Malta- Detention

- Detention in army barracks
- Reception conditions gradually improved
- Detention of children
- Access to clean water and electricity
- Safety
- Access to health
- Personnel
- Absence of social workers
- Mental health conditions
- Abuse
- Myths
- Pregnancy
- HIV
- Gender challenges
- Delay of integration



The Case of Malta

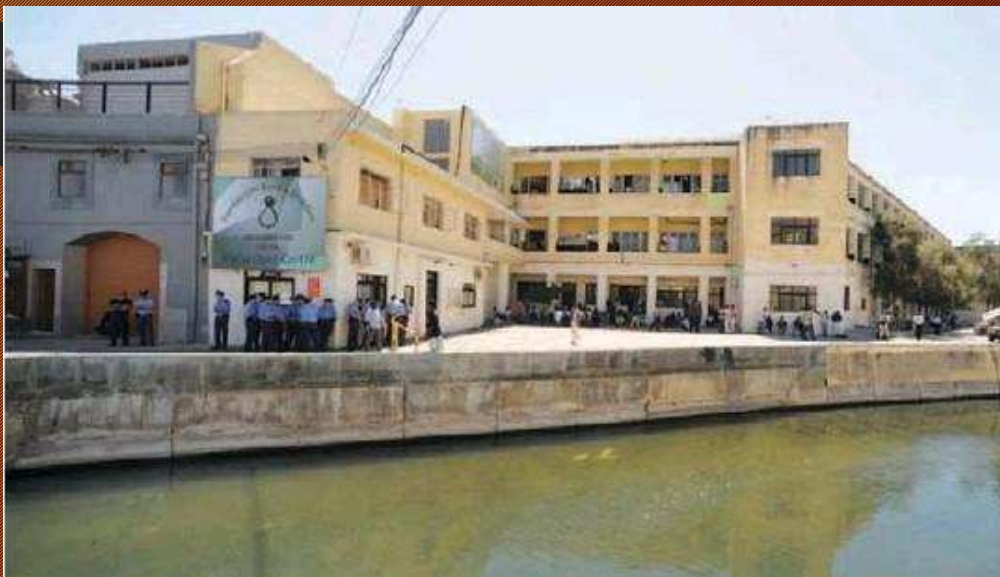
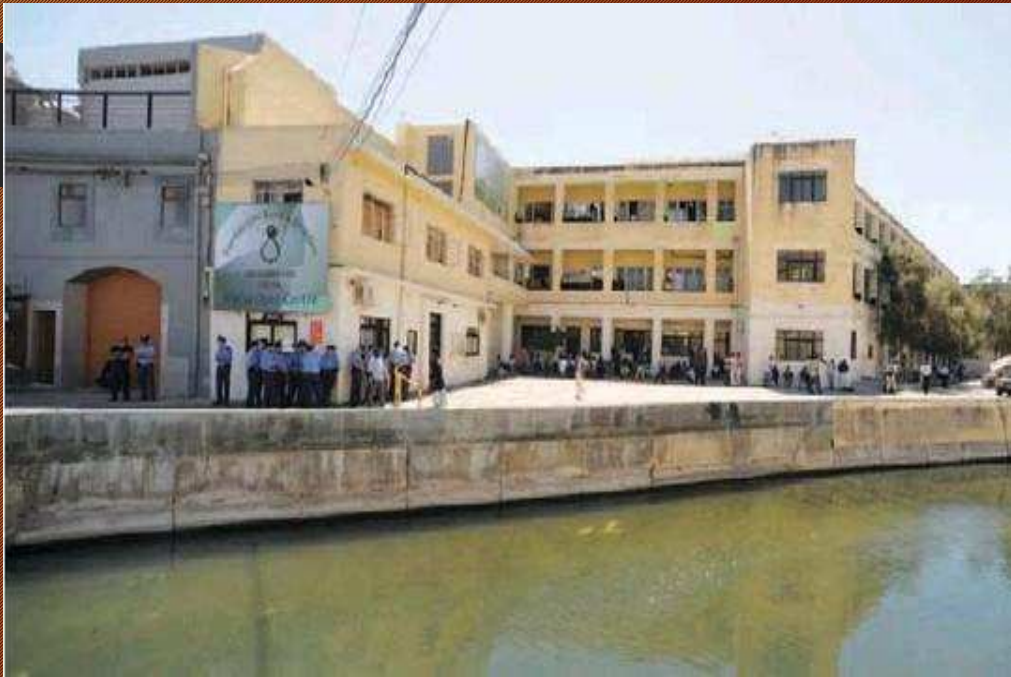
- 6 centres run by AWAS, national agency
- 2 centres run by NGOs
- AIDA report deems differences between centres in quality standards
- Most overcrowded
- Staff numbers too low
- Low hygiene
- Lack of physical security
- Lack of activity
- Go as you please!
- Isolated location
- Poor material structure
- Occasional infestation of rats
- Small food and transport allowance
- Free access to health services
- Free access to education for children



The Case of Malta - Marsa Open Centre

- Marsa Open Centre
- Abandoned school
- Asbestos
- Flooding
- Sewage
- Overcrowding
- Infestation
- Discrimination
- Prejudice
- Mafia
- Crime
- Poor infrastructure
- No funding





- <http://fsmmalta.org/marsa-open-centre-the-past/>

Transformation of Marsa Open Centre

- Vision built on recognition and acknowledgement of needs
- Empathy and awareness of facts
- Knowledge of cultural background and causes of migration in countries of origin
- Knowledge and awareness of migration journey
- Open approach to learn
- Understanding of the separation and overlapping of 'vulnerability' and 'migration' issues - not every migrant is as vulnerable as another
- Appreciation and understanding of resilience
- Awareness of cultural norms and resistance to certain practices and systems (ex. health)

Transformation of Marsa Open Centre

- Gates, databases and Identity cards
- Cameras
- Apply for Emergency funds and ERF (European Refugee funds)
- New toilets, dorms and kitchen area
- Recreation and music
- Serious Pest control
- Cultural events
- Chance to cook
- Employ security, social workers, care workers, managers, maintenance workers
- Develop 2 education centres
- Involve, train and employ the residents
- Doctor volunteers x3 a week





Addressing vulnerability: Teamwork

- Social workers work closely with all the team
- Monitoring critical
- Training of security and careworkers
- Focus on information sharing
- Focus on employment : advocacy and promotion
- Work with teachers for improving job skills
- Attract volunteers and social work students
- Address mental health challenges
- Address alcoholism
- Volunteer doctor important
- Advocate with health systems
- Refer to education and training institutes
- Reduce segregation between professions
- Reduce hierarchical structures
- Focus on accountability and advocacy





Education at the Marsa Open Centre

- Education holistic - basic skills important
- Personal development and self responsibility important
- Empathy towards others important
- Responsibility for cleaning and room contract
- Penalty for not taking responsibilities without good reason
- Accommodation policy reduced to one year
- Rules about bringing in stuff to the centre
- No eating in rooms
- Education compulsory

Continuous empowerment for integration

- Follow up on leaving the centre
- Special attention to persons with mental health difficulties
- Monitoring of medicine take up
- Assistance to find accommodation
- Migrant leadership (TSN Malta)
- Empower solidarity between migrants
- Cultural events
- Relocation
- AVR

Visits by VIPs



Visits by VIPs

- <http://www.timesofmalta.com/articles/view/20140905/local/updated-3-i-came-here-as-a-friend-of-your-country-cecilia-malmstrom.534479>



Thank You!

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www.fsmmalta.org

Third country National Malta
www.tsnmalta.org

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