

Global Context of Migration: The Case of Malta
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Ms Marcelle Bugre (B.A. Soc.Pol.; M.A. Conf.Res.)

Project Development Manager, Foundation for Shelter and Support to Migrants (FSM)
Strategic Coordinator, Third Country National Support Network Malta (TSN Malta)
Ambassador to the European platform for Adult Learning and Education (EPALE)
Board member, National Platform for Development NGOs (SKOP)

"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

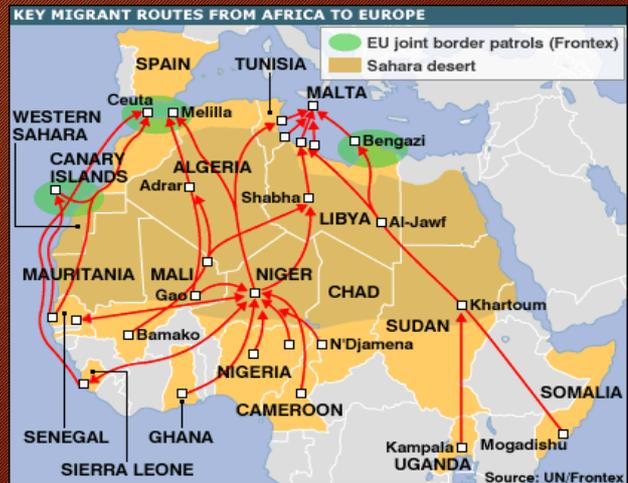


The Case of Malta

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

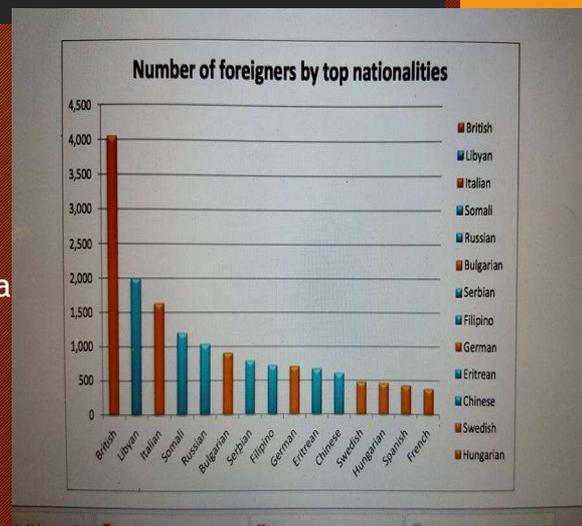
Strengths

- 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

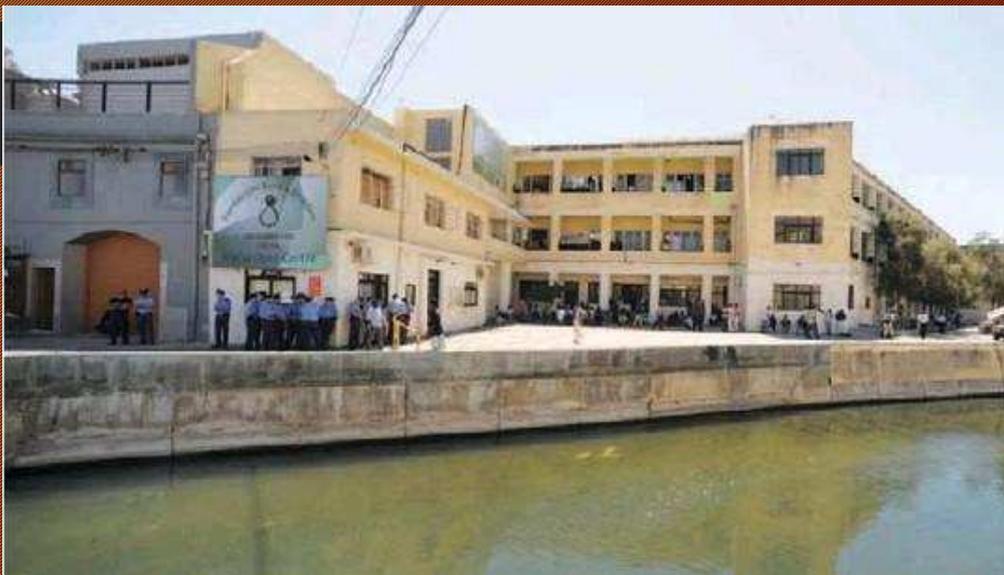
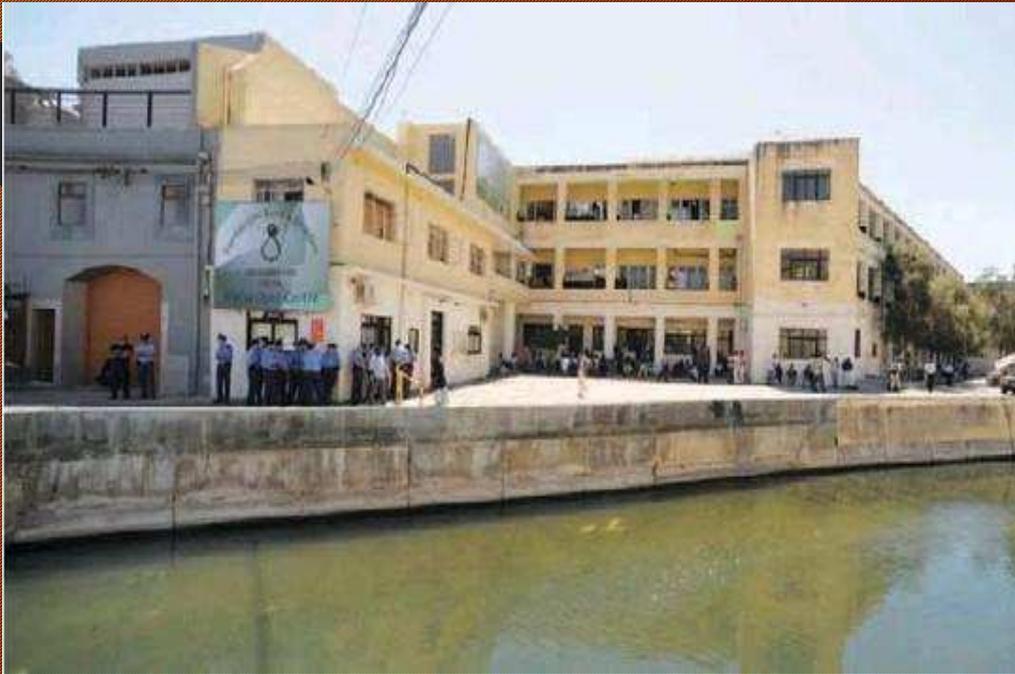
- 6 centres run by AWAS, national agency
- 2 centres run by NGOs
- AIDA report deems differences between centres in quality standards
- Most overcrowded
- Staff numbers too low
- Low hygiene
- Lack of physical security
- Lack of activity
- Go as you please!
- Isolated location
- Poor material structure
- 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!

Marcelle Bugre
mb@fsmmalta.org

Foundation for Shelter and Support to Migrants
www.fsmmalta.org

Third country National Malta
www.tsnmalta.org

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