



# CHILD REFUGEE IN TURKEY

&

# Turkish National Pediatric Society Experience



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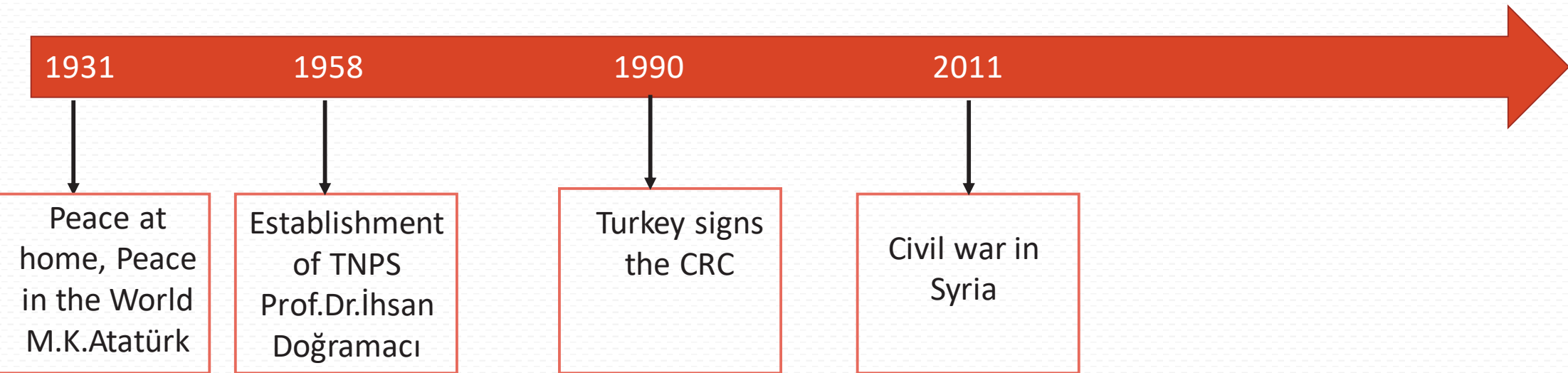
# Armed Conflict All Over The World Continues To Attack Children

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- **244 million** refugee struggle to survive
- **31 million** refugee children most under the age of 15



# Timeline

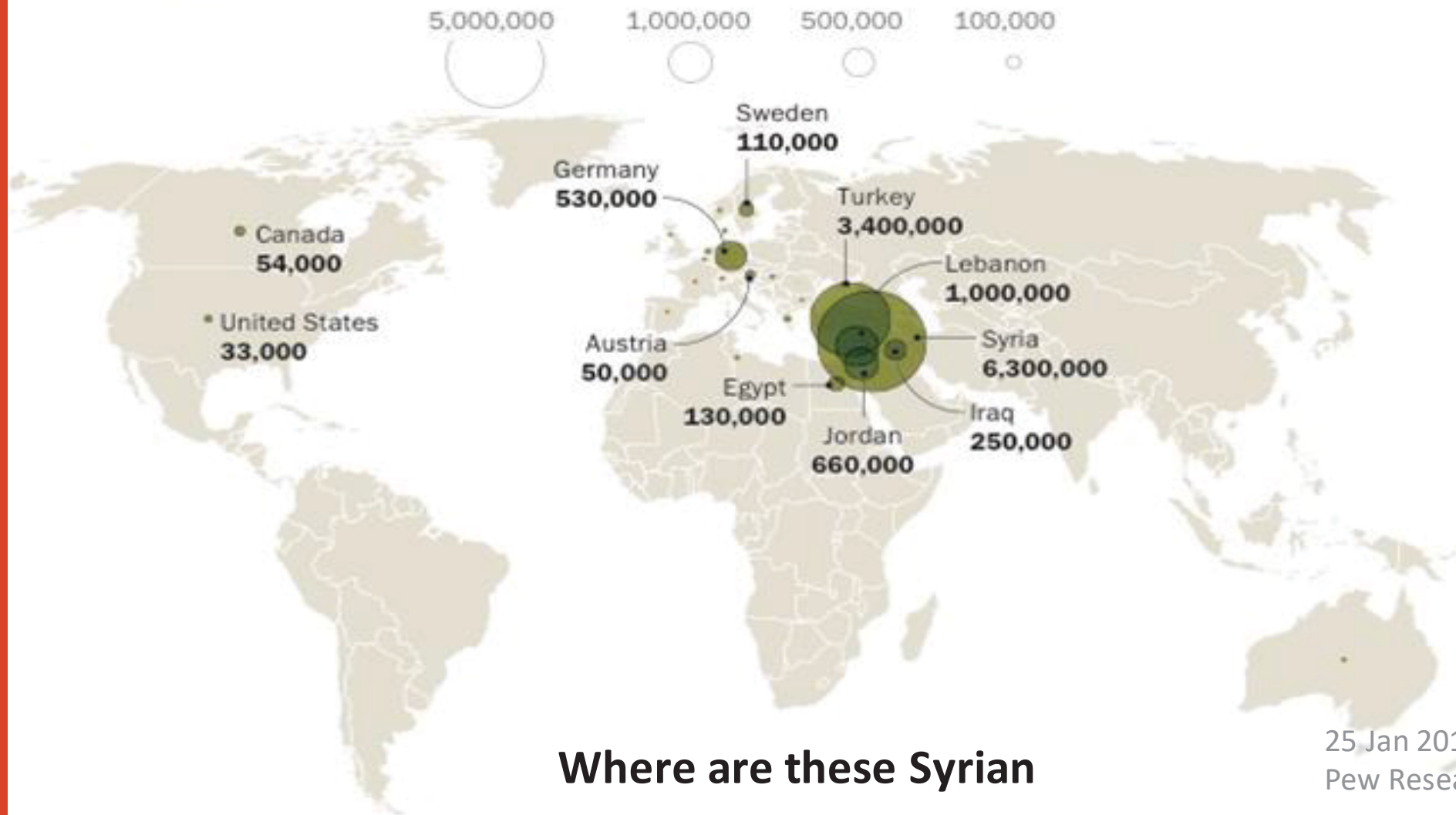


# Current Situation In Syria

Estimated Affected Population	
Total people in Need	13,500,000
Children in Need (<18)	5,800,000
Total Displaced Population	6,283,675
Children Displaced	2,808,803
People in Hard to Reach Areas	4,000,000
Children in Hard to Reach Areas	1,700,000
People in Beseiged Areas	540,000
Children in Besieged Areas	232,000

## Most displaced Syrians are in the Middle East, with about a million in Europe

Estimated number of displaced Syrians, 2017



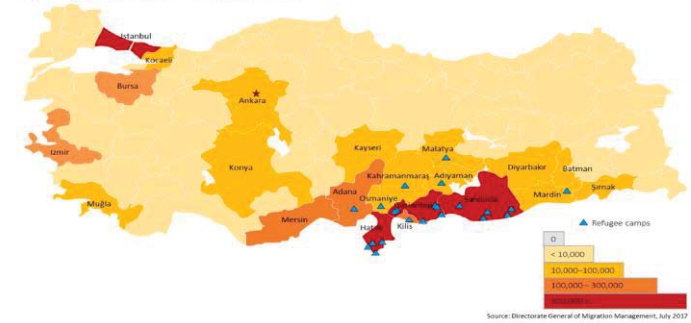
Where are these Syrian

25 Jan 2018  
Pew Research Cent

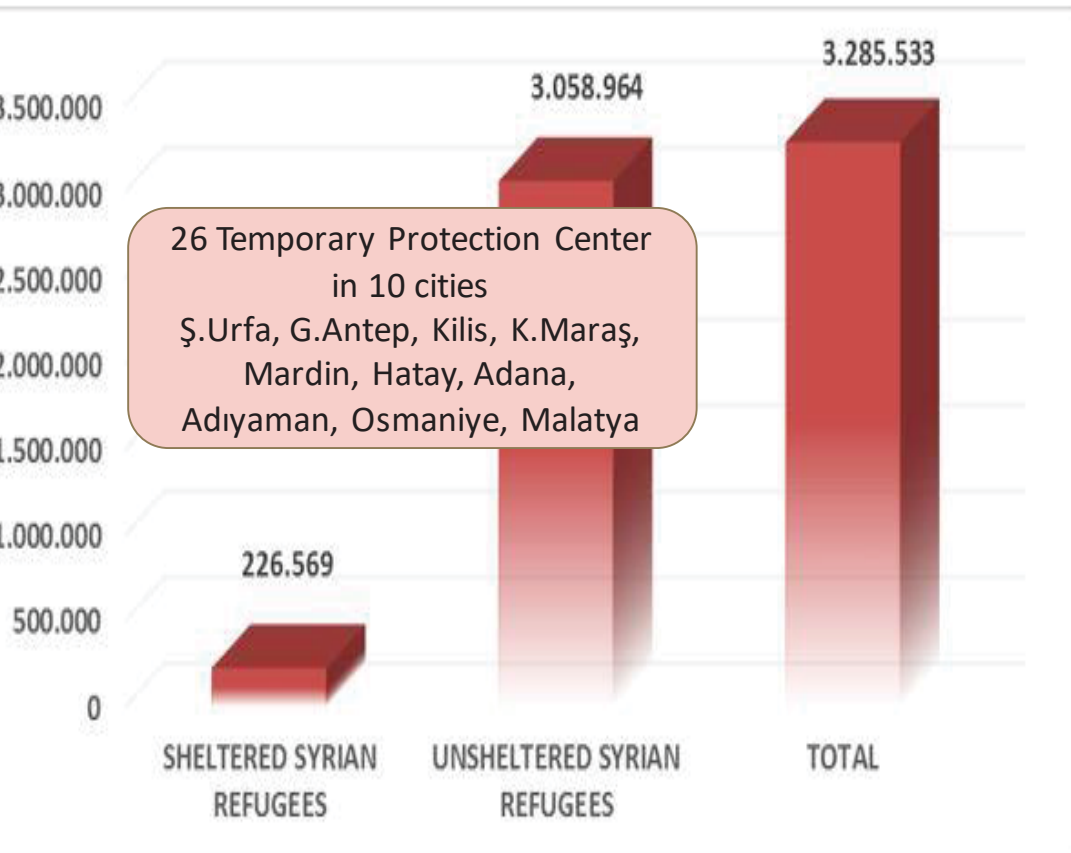
Note: These are stock estimates from the start of the Syrian conflict in 2011. Estimates of displaced Syrians are rounded and include the



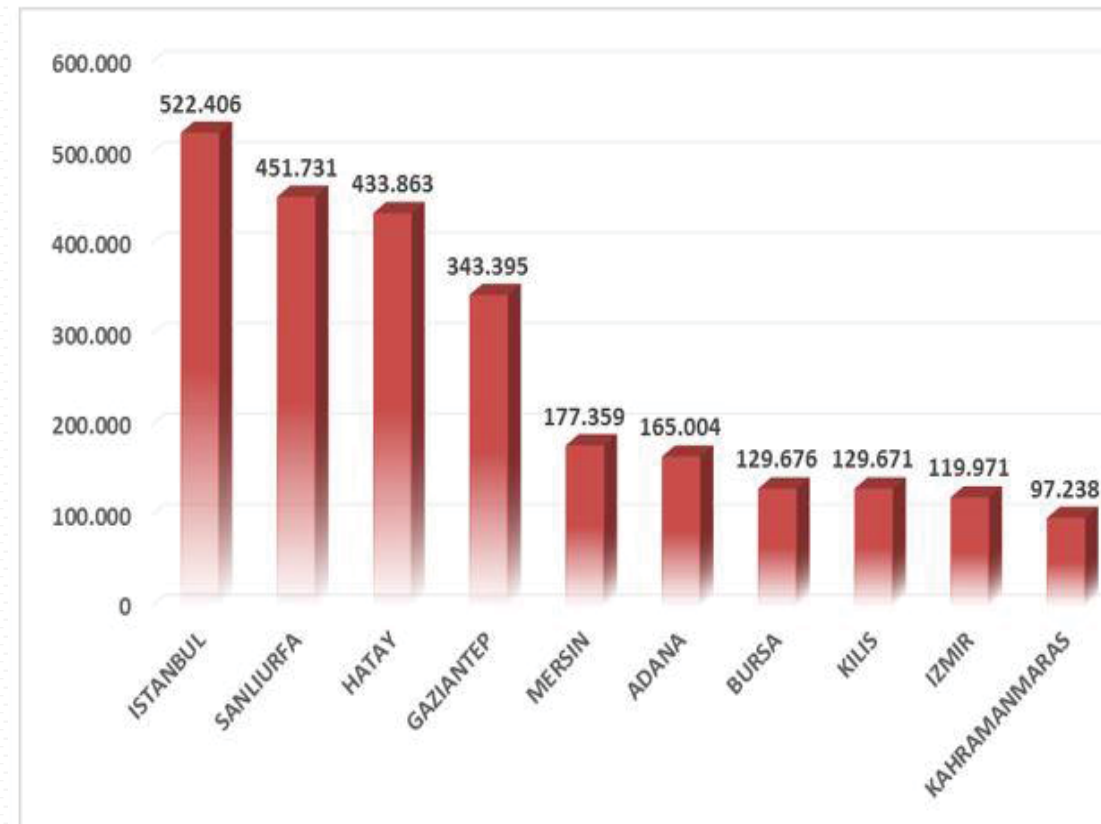
# Where Are They In Turkey



## SHELTERED AND UNSHELTERED SYRIAN REFUGEES BY TEMPORARY SHELTER CENTERS



## DISTRIBUTION OF SYRIAN REFUGEES IN THE SCOPE OF TEMPORARY PROTECTION BY TOP TEN PROVINCE



# Legal Status of Syrian in Turkey

## Temporary protection status

- Open door policy
- Provisional identity card with a registration procedure
- Gain access to public
  - health
  - education
  - social and legal assistance services

# Humanitarian Needs

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- Water, sanitation, hygiene
- Health and nutrition
- Education
- Child protection, social protection
- Adolescent development and participation
- External communication and advocacy

Turkey has spent more than **\$ 30 billion** for the humanitarian aid for Syrians  
Awaiting 3 billion Euros from EU

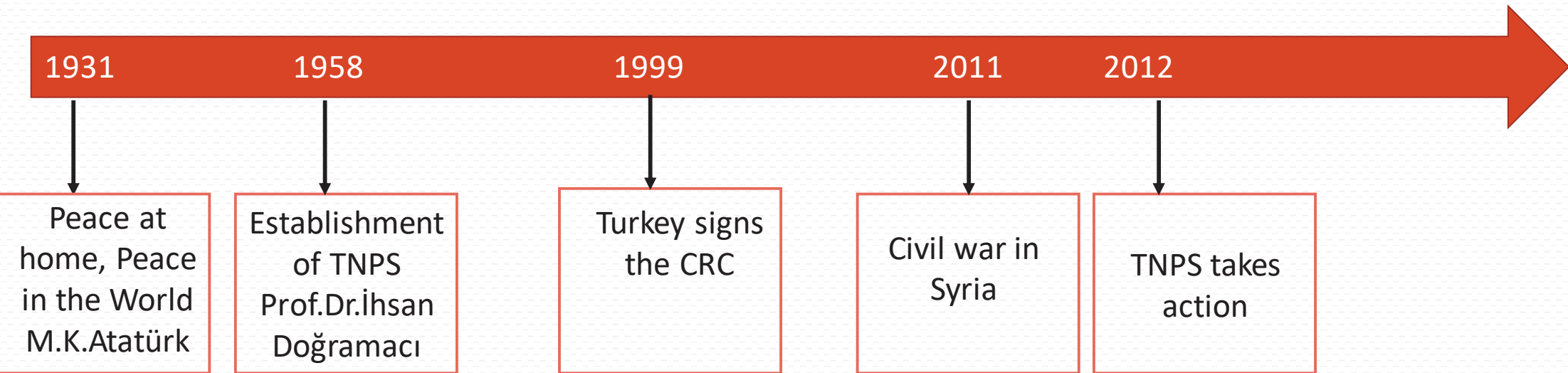


# Health Problems

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- Infection
  - Injury
- Malnutrition
- Reproductive and newborn health
  - Chronic diseases
  - Mental health

# Timeline



# Turkish National Pediatric Society Action for Syrian Refugee Children

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## **Pediatrician**

- Training
- Research
- Advocacy

## **Family, Child & Adolescent**

- Training
- Health screening
- Referral
- Advocacy (Social inclusion)

# TNPS Action

- Training courses for pediatricians working in regions with a high population of refugee (12 courses, Hatay, Gaziantep, Urfa)
  - New, emergent, common infections
  - Malnutrition
  - Psychosocial issues
- Branches in Hatay, Urfa and Gaziantep organized activities in camps for psychosocial support of children





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# TNPS –IPAF Project (2015)

Needs assessment visit several interviews with the camp managers, mother and children as well as with the physicians, nurses, midwives working in the health center in the camp.

It was determined that the mothers in the camp should be supported for baby and child care practices as well as the adolescence for self care and coping strategies





# Health Education for Mothers in Osmaniye TPC (26-27 May 2016)

- Newborn care
- Breast feeding and nutrition
- Vitamin mineral supplementation
- Growth and development
- Prevention of common infectious diseases
- Vaccination
- Puberty and common pubertal health problems
- Anxiety and PTSD in adolescents



# Health Education for Mothers in Osmaniye TPC

- Problems in newborn care
  - Salting of baby
- High will for breast feeding, better now a days
- High acceptance of vaccination
- Vitamin D and iron supplementation needs improvement



# Adolescents Psychosocial Support in Osmaniye TPC

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3 adolescents, 16-20 years

Brief Symptom Inventory

Hostility and somatization scores were significantly higher in the group that had been at the camp for >4 years.

The somatization score was also significantly higher in adolescents, who had lost a first degree relative.





# Research

The scores for hostility and somatization were highest in the group who had been in the camp for more than 4 years

## RESEARCH ARTICLE

### The Rise of a Hostile Adolescent Population; The Syrian Refugee Problem

Orhan Derman<sup>1</sup>, Sinem Akgül<sup>1,\*</sup>, Ece Ataman<sup>1</sup>, Muhammed Ceren<sup>2</sup>, Elif Özmert<sup>1</sup>, Aysun Bideci<sup>3</sup>, Nurullah Okumuş<sup>2</sup> and Enver Hasanoğlu<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Pediatrics, Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey; <sup>2</sup>Ministry of Health of Turkey, Ankara, Turkey; <sup>3</sup>Department of Pediatrics, Gazi University, Ankara, Turkey; <sup>4</sup>Turkish National Pediatric Society

**Abstract: Objective:** The aim of the study was to determine the psychiatric symptoms of Syrian adolescents living in temporary protection centers who sought asylum in Turkey.

**Method:** Seventy-three Syrian adolescents aged between 16 and 20 years were included in this study. All participants included in the study were given the Brief Symptom Inventory (BSI), which measures the psychiatric symptoms under the categories of anxiety, depression, negative self-concept, somatization, and hostility.

**Results:** Anxiety, depression, negative self-concept, hostility, and Global Severity Index scores were significantly higher in the refugee group compared to the cut-off points for pathology. The scores for hostility and somatization were highest in the group that had been at the camp for longer than 4 years.

**Conclusion:** The findings of our study suggest that mental health has been compromised among Syrian adolescent refugees in Turkey and the longer the stay the worse is the outcome. With the crisis stretching, the long term psychological problems of these adolescents have been overlooked. Urgent measures should be taken to develop alternative care models for these adolescents.

#### ARTICLE HISTORY

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DOI:

10.2174/2210676617696670628121322

**Keywords:** Syria, refugee, adolescent, psychiatric symptoms.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Since March 2011, the political crisis in Syria and resulting instability have resulted in Syrians fleeing to neighboring countries. Millions of refugees have fled to Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt and North Africa (Ferris, Kirisci & Shaki, 2013).

In order to shelter these displaced people, temporary protection centers (TPCs) have been established in Turkey, especially near the Syrian border. The population of Syrian refugees in 26 of the government-run TPC's is estimated to be around

257,713 people. There are a total of 2,481,618 registered Syrian refugees living in Turkey in 2016, 1.5 million of them are living in camps outside the camps and many more who are registered (Gökalp-Aras & Şahin-Mencütek, 2016). The majority of refugees are below the age of 18 (Özden, 2013). The demographic characteristics of Syrian refugees living in Turkey are shown in Table 1.

In the context of conflict in their home countries, refugees are both weak and vulnerable, and as the crisis continues in Syria, most refugees do not return home and therefore their medical needs are likely to require assistance in the refugee camps. Although medical care is provided free of charge by the Ministry of Health in Turkey, the medical care provided generally prioritizes

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- Social awareness raising, social support for Syrian refugees

# “Everything Starts With Love”

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- A campaign to increase social awareness for the protection and inclusion needs of refugee children.
- Famous artists and football players shared the tagline “Everything starts with love” for Syrian refugee children







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- **International Refugee Mental Health Workshop**

# TNPS-IPA Refugee Mental Health Workshop

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- A precongress workshop on “Refugee Mental Health” was organized on 15 November 2017 in collaboration with IPA and IPA-F
- More than 200 participants from Turkey, USA, Jordan, Iraq and Kosova
- Besides TNPS, IPA and IPA-F, “Save the Children” and “International Association for Adolescent Health” representatives were among speakers.
- The whole workshop report can be reached from [millipediatri.org](http://millipediatri.org)

## 61. TURKISH NATIONAL PEDIATRIC CONGRESS - SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

REFUGEE MENTAL HEALTH WORKSHOP:  
CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENT PERSPECTIVE  
TURKISH NATIONAL PEDIATRIC SOCIETY IN COLLABORATION WITH IPA

15 November 2017, Wednesday



HALL M

13.30 - 13.45

### Opening Remarks

**Enver Hasanoğlu** (*Turkish National Pediatric Society (TNPS) Secretary General*)

**Errol Alden** (*International Pediatric Association (IPA) President Elect, IPAF President*)

**Kerem Hasanoğlu** (*TNPS General Coordinator*)

13.45 - 15.00

### Current Status of Refugee Children

**Moderators: Koray Boduroğlu  
William J. Keenan**

> *Role of IPA in Disasters*

**Errol Alden**

> *Child Refugee in Turkey and TNPS Experience*

**Elif Özmert**

> *Adolescent Refugee in Turkey and TNPS Experience*

**Orhan Derman**

15.00 - 15.30

### Coffee Break

15.30 - 17.00

### Mental Health Issues in Refugees: Risk, Resilience, Prevention and Challenges

**Moderators: Elif Özmert  
Orhan Derman**

> *Refugee Mental Health in Early Childhood*

**Ilgi Ertem**

> *Refugee Mental Health in School Age Children*

**Marianne O'Grady** (*Save Children*)

> *Refugee Mental Health in Adolescents*

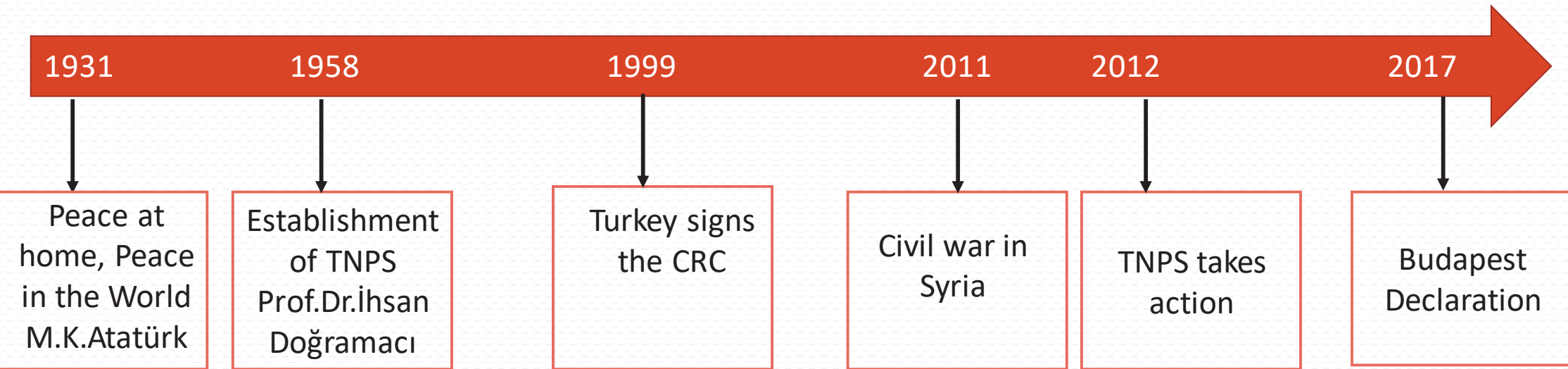
**Helena Fonseca** (*International Association for Adolescent Health*)

17.00 - 18.00

### Round Table Discussion



# Timeline





Budapest Declaration  
On the Rights, Health and Well-being of  
Children and Youth on the Move

International Society for Social Pediatrics and Child Health (ISSOP)  
Budapest, October 2017

# Budapest Declaration

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*Being;*

*Aware , Cognizant , Realizing , Knowing , Committed, Mindful* of the critical role of paediatricians

*Representing* a global perspective, *Conscious* of the needs, *Acknowledging* the challenges of service delivery systems, *Embracing* the WHO definition of health, as a “state of complete physical, mental, and social wellbeing, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity,”



# Budapest Declaration

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- *The CRC entitles all children without discrimination (Article 2) to optimal survival and development (Article 6), to a voice and the right to participate in decisions that affect them (Article 12) and to optimal health and health care (Article 24).*
- *Children and youth on the move have particular physical and mental health risks and needs*
- *The care of children and youth on the move requires skills in cultural and linguistic competency and providing trauma informed care across cultural and language barriers.*
- *Paediatricians, child health providers and organizations have a leadership role to play in fulfilling the rights of children and youth on the move to optimal health and health care.*



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- IPA visit to Gaziantep Nizip Temporary Protection Center

# IPA Visit to Gaziantep/Nizip Turkey







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- School health screening

# Health Screening in School

- In a Syrian refugee entegration school 177 school aged children were screened for hearing and growth as well as a complete physical examination.

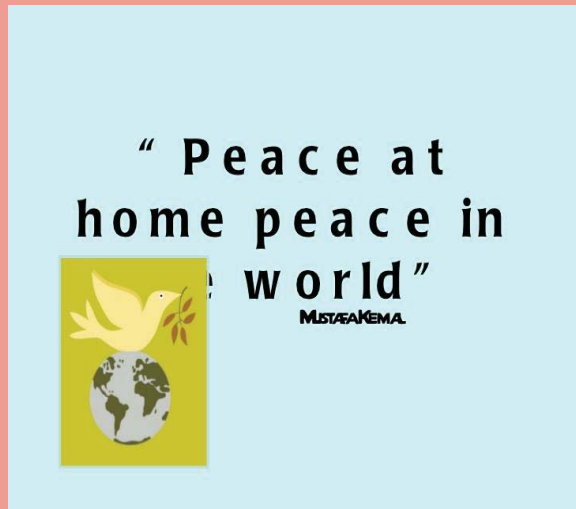


TNPS has acted to participate and play a leadership role in  
advancing the rights, health and well-being of  
*children and youth on the move*

Budapest Declaration



# For our children



# For our future