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## **Resolution: More money for United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)**

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While the world faces the largest refugee crisis since World War II, we need to both increase the funding for refugee aid, and renew the working process of UNHCR. UNHCR should be directly funded by the UN and their resources should not be marked for specific operations or projects, but rather be distributed to the crises areas that are in the biggest need of help at the moment.

### **Noting that:**

- Today, the world faces the largest refugee crisis since World War II. Over 60 million people have been forced to flee their homes because of insecure situations such as armed conflicts, persecution and sexual violence.
- Of these 19.5 million are refugees, 38.2 million have been relocated within their country and 1.8 million are asylum seekers. 14.4 million of the 19.5 million refugees are under UNHCR's mandate while about 5.1 million are under the mandate of UNRWA\* (2014).
- Over half of all refugees are from only three countries; Syria, Afghanistan and Somalia.

### **Considering that:**

- The aid for refugees is currently not funded directly by the UN. UNHCR calls out for grants from to the Member States and private actors to raise funds for different UNHCR operations.
- Member states are currently funding over 83% of the total amount , but it is not enough; Food rations in refugee camps are cut in half, health care is inadequate and children are left without education. The financial structure is not flexible and it takes too long to get additional resources if needed.

### **Concludes:**

- Finland with the other Nordic countries have for a long time been a contributor to the UNHCR, which the organization can count on.
- All countries should become part of this crowd. We want to see all countries than could increase their share do so.



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**IFLRY calls for:**

- UNHCR to be funded directly by the United Nations, so that the funding would be more predictable and the member countries would all take evenly part of the funding.
- Stop the earmarking of funds for specific operations or projects to allow the UNHCR judge where the money is needed the most.
- Urge Member Organisations and Individual Members to lobby on national level for the European countries to increase their aid to UNHCR.

*Explanatory note:*

\*The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East