



DEMONSTRATION
SUNDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER
14.00 H. DAM AMSTERDAM

WELCOME
REFUGEES

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A new coalition of organizations and individuals has taken the initiative for a demonstration in Amsterdam on Sunday, 13 September, under the banner "Welcome Refugees".

Millions of people around the world are driven to leave their homes. Most remain in neighboring countries, trying to access support and safety, while a smaller number of refugees attempts to flee to Europe, often with devastating consequences. In 2015 alone, more than 2500 refugees have died outside the walls of 'Fort Europe'. Most people flee because of war, poverty and climate change, social disasters in which European countries have played a major role. We are ashamed of the treatment of refugees in the Netherlands. They are at constant risk of being deported to their country of origin, or to the first European country entered. Many of those who are turned away cannot return and end up on the street or in jail.

This has to stop. We demand humane shelter and support for everyone! Recently we have seen many heartwarming private initiatives to support refugees. However, governments must also take responsibility. On 14 September, the EU ministers will gather in Luxembourg to discuss the refugee situation. This weekend, people throughout Europe will take to the streets to demand a more humane refugee policy. We call on the Dutch government to invest in affordable housing and healthcare for all refugees coming to, and already present in, the Netherlands. Our country has the means to do this.

We call on the Dutch government to accept more refugees in the Netherlands, and together with other EU countries, to provide safe routes of passage for those fleeing to Europe.

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