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Hungarian refugees in Austria who wish to settle in a member country of the Council of Europe

Report¹

Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population

Rapporteur: Mr Ernst PAUL, Germany

1. 1958 - 10th Session - Third part



A. Draft Recommendation

The Assembly,

Considering that there were still 15,700 Hungarian refugees, including 5,700 living in camps, in Austria on 15th October 1958 ;

Being informed that, according to an inquiry carried out by the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration, about 1,000 of these refugees have expressed the wish to settle in a member country of the Council of Europe,

Recommends that the Committee of Ministers should invite Member Governments to offer Hungarian refugees in Austria without delay, through the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, opportunities for resettlement, taking into consideration, as far as possible, the preferences expressed by these refugees with regard to their emigration.

B. Explanatory Memorandum**1.**

On 15th October 1958 there were still 15,700 Hungarian refugees in Austria, 5,700 of them in camps. According to a survey made by the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration, some 7,000 of these refugees have expressed a wish to be resettled outside Austria, over 1,000 of them in the following countries, Members of the Council of Europe.

COUNTRY OF PREFERENCE	REFUGEES	OF WHOM DIFFICULT CASES
Belgium	133	—
Denmark	21	3
France	33	—
Germany, Federal Republic of	555	14
Greece	1	—
Italy	6	1
Netherlands	35	1
Norway	11	—
Sweden	203	3
United Kingdom	54	7
TOTAL.	1,052	29

However, a difficulty arising from such a survey is that refugees will frequently take advantage of schemes as they arise, rather than wait to go to the country of their first preference. Luxembourg is not included in the above list, yet over 200 Hungarians have just come forward now that resettlement possibilities have been offered by that country. The list may therefore be considered as indicating minimum figures.