

# Turkey Dumping Refugees It Was Bribed to Accept

By [Stephen Lendman](#)

Global Research, December 18, 2015

Region: [Europe](#), [Middle East & North Africa](#)

Theme: [Police State & Civil Rights](#)

*Turkey is a valued NATO member, a close US ally. Last month, the EU bribed Turkey with 3 billion euros and promised help to join the bloc in return for accepting refugees from Syria and other war-torn countries its member states don't want.*

EU leaders called the deal a key way to stem the tide of asylum-seekers. Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu said it marked a new beginning in Ankara/Brussels relations.

Given Turkey's horrific human rights record and unsavory history, especially under Erdogan, distrust remains high.

Agreement terms call for Ankara to increase Aegean Sea patrols in areas bordering Greece and Bulgaria, crack down on human smuggling gangs, and accept refugees turned away by EU countries.

European Council President Donald Tusk said EU officials will closely monitor Turkey's implementation of terms reached. Davutoglu wouldn't guarantee a slowdown in the human flood seeking safe havens in Europe, Germany the most favored destination.

Turkey is the main crossing point for Syrian and other regional refugees. It's a short distance by sea to Greece. This year, well over 700,000 asylum seekers arrived in EU countries from Turkey, according to the International Organization of Migration.

A new [Amnesty International \(AI\) report](#) titled "Europe's Gatekeeper" accuses Turkey of arresting, beating, painfully shackling and otherwise abusing refugees in isolated detention centers, many then deported back to war-torn Iraq, Syria, and elsewhere, their homeland countries.

AI said EU nations are "in danger of being complicit in serious human rights violations against refugees and asylum-seekers."

They're rounded up in large numbers, bused over 1,000km to desolate locations best described as concentration camps, grossly mistreated and held incommunicado - many then forcibly deported back from where they came.

According to AI's Europe and Central Asia director John Dalhuisen:

"(w)e have documented the arbitrary detention of some of the most vulnerable people on Turkish soil."

"Pressuring refugees and asylum-seekers to return to countries like Syria and

Iraq is not only unconscionable, but it's also in direct breach of international law."

"By engaging Turkey as a gatekeeper for Europe in the refugee crisis, the EU is in danger of ignoring and now encouraging serious human rights violations. EU-Turkey migration-related cooperation should cease until such violations are investigated and ended."

Turkey hosts the world's largest refugee population, including about 2.2 million Syrians and 230,000 desperate people from other regional countries.

Until last September, treatment didn't include brutalizing lawless detentions and forced deportations. Terms of the EU deal require Turkey to treat refugees humanely.

Instead, its funds are used to brutalize and expel vulnerable people deserving much better. All refugees AI representatives interviewed said they were forcibly detained, taken to Turkey's western provinces, including Edirne and Mugla, before transported to desolate southern or eastern outposts.

They're forcibly detained for weeks and denied outside contacts, including with lawyers and family members. Their only means of communication is through concealed cell phones.

Cases of horrific treatment included a 40-year-old Syrian man, isolated for seven days, his hands and feet painfully shackled.

"When they put a chain over your hands and legs, you feel like a slave, like you are not a human being," he said.

For many, this type horrific treatment is followed by pressure to sign a document in Turkish refugees don't understand, then forced deportation.

Detainees said the only way they can leave detention is agreeing to return home. A three-year-old child's fingerprints were used as evidence of his consent.

AI said it's unknown how many refugees are being forcibly deported, but it believes it's many, including to Afghanistan.

According to Dalhuisen, "(t)here is a total lack of transparency surrounding these cases and the real number of arbitrary detentions and unlawful deportations carried out by the Turkish authorities is unknown."

"This new practice must be investigated immediately to protect all refugees and asylum-seekers in Turkey."

So far, EU officials have done nothing to intervene responsibly. They're complicit with Turkey and Washington - their wars causing the human flood in the first place.

*Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at [lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net).*

*His new book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III."*

<http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html>

Visit his blog site at [sjlendman.blogspot.com](http://sjlendman.blogspot.com).

Listen to cutting-edge discussions with distinguished guests on the Progressive Radio News Hour on the Progressive Radio Network.

It airs three times weekly: live on Sundays at 1PM Central time plus two prerecorded archived programs.

The original source of this article is Global Research  
Copyright © [Stephen Lendman](#), Global Research, 2015

---

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Stephen Lendman](#)

#### About the author:

Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at [lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net). His new book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III."

<http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html> Visit his blog site at [sjlendman.blogspot.com](http://sjlendman.blogspot.com). Listen to cutting-edge discussions with distinguished guests on the Progressive Radio News Hour on the Progressive Radio Network. It airs three times weekly: live on Sundays at 1PM Central time plus two prerecorded archived programs.

**Disclaimer:** The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)  
[www.globalresearch.ca](http://www.globalresearch.ca) contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: [publications@globalresearch.ca](mailto:publications@globalresearch.ca)