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Critical Review of Asylum Seeking Policy in Austria

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The developed European Democratic State has an obligation to support those who are seeking safety as a result of war conflicts or persecution on the different grounds. In addition, it is understood that for the hosting country they share a heavy economic burden. The number of asylum seekers is rising in Austria: In 2013-17,500 and for 2014 the prognosis is that 26,000 asylum seekers will seek refuge in Austria. The annual cost is approximately 7,500 Euros per adult person. This comprises of accommodation conjointly with a subsistence allowance.

In view of our experience the average waiting period for a decision is three years. Asylum seekers de-jure cannot apply to the labor force market, which in turn causes a negative attitude and intolerance among the Austrian population.

The asylum policy varies from country to country: e.g. an 'asylum clock" in the USA. After 150 days an application has been accepted, an asylum seeker has a right to apply for an employment authorization document (EAD).

The aim of this paper is to examine thoroughly the economic impact of the asylum rules and conditions of employment. By analyzing relevant statistical resources, reports of specialized world-wide organizations the authors will propose a complex review of forced migration. In order to meet the commitments of the asylum seekers/population and to facilitate the integration process, in this paper will be explained why the current governmental policy should be reviewed. The conclusion will be representative of the authors' ideas about optimizing the conditions within the asylum sphere.