



RESOURCE 12

Excerpts from European newspapers

Excerpt from '*Le Figaro*', France (2014)

Calais' harbour in a state of siege in face of migrants

Since the summer, harbour authorities have been faced with the massive intrusion of hundreds of illegal migrants. Police forces estimate their numbers at 3 000, coming mainly from Eritrea.

The 'Far West'. A situation that is 'out of control'. An 'area of lawlessness'. In Calais, the harbour and town are 'under a state of siege', to the despair of authorities and inhabitants who see the situation steadily deteriorating, as the number of clandestines soars and their determination to reach the English 'El Dorado' continues to grow. Despite the recent agreement between France and the UK providing for cooperation between the two governments in order to improve the management of cross-channel migratory pressure, new levels of aggressiveness and unprecedented types of behaviour are appearing on the ground, where incidents and outbursts are multiplying.

Source: [Le Figaro](#)

Excerpt from '*Proto Thema*', Greece (2014)

Over 300 000 illegal immigrants will try to reach Greece

The country is well prepared to deal with the consequences of developments in Syria and the waves of immigrants that will try to illegally enter our country via the sea channel. The Minister of Shipping, Miltiades Varvitsiotis, has expressed his fear that the number of Syrian immigrants who enter Greece will increase dramatically, due to the recent events in Syria. When informing the parliamentary Committee on Production and Trade about the reform of the Ministry of Shipping, Mr Varvitsiotis estimated that the number of immigrants that will try to cross the country's sea borders will be over 300 000. He also emphasised that Greece was ready to tackle the consequences of the recent dramatic events in Syria. The Ministry of Shipping, he stressed, is working closely with other ministries and committees responsible to take all the necessary measures and step up control in order to deal with the huge pressure that will be caused by the influx of immigrants trying to enter the country illegally.

Source: [PROTO THEMA](#)

Excerpt from '*Mail Online*' UK (2006)

Secret report warns of migration meltdown in Britain

A massive rise in immigration next year could trigger a devastating crisis in Britain's schools, housing and welfare services, according to a secret Government report leaked to The Mail on Sunday. The document reveals that every Government department has been ordered to draw up multi-million-pound emergency plans after being told public services face catastrophe as a result of the hundreds of thousands of Eastern Europeans pouring into Britain. It also warns that a 'step change' in the level of immigration next year could make things even worse, triggering an angry backlash across the country. The disclosure comes as The Mail on Sunday reveals that the new wave of immigration is causing as much social strife in Eastern Europe as it is in Britain. Our investigation found Poles are dumping children in local care homes so they can travel to Britain. Some reportedly killed themselves after being left behind. The leaked document, written by Home Office Minister Joan Ryan, is entitled 'Migration from Eastern Europe: Impact on Public Services and Community Cohesion'.

Source: [Daily Mail](#)



HOUSE OF EUROPEAN HISTORY

- What are the dominant attitudes to migrants and migration in these articles?
- What words or phrases do the writers use to heighten emotional impact?
Circle/underline these words or phrases.
- What impressions might these articles make on public opinion?

