

In 2015, events in the Middle East, Africa, and Europe led to population movements that have been described as the largest refugee crisis since WW II. This certainly demands a response. Asking how this crisis is defined, mediated, and understood is central to the responses of different contributors to this mini-archive.

The archive, as a part of "What is a Refugee Crisis" workshop (March II, 2016), is an attempt to extend the temporal and spatial, epistemological and political dimensions of this inquiry. How do media forms yield or impede certain knowledges of "crises," as the media define or rank crises and associate or dissociate instances from one another? How has this operated in different historical moments with different media flows and formations? How do media reports drive, obscure, and/or enable the movements of peoples? How is territory depicted—legally, culturally, discursively, visually—as background to demographic shifts and relocations?

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