



FAIRFIELD METHODIST SCHOOL (SECONDARY)
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2024
SECONDARY 4 EXPRESS

Living in a Diverse Society

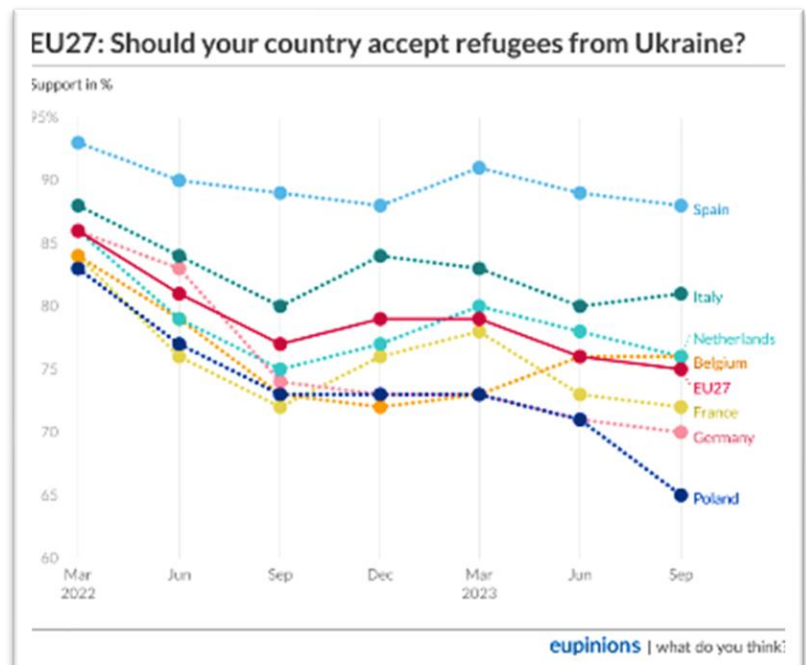
ISSUE: How has the European governments responded to the Ukrainian refugee crisis?

1 Study Source A.

What does the source tell you about the attitude of the European nations towards Ukrainian refugees? Explain your answer. [5]

NOTE:

- **2 PEEL Paragraphs**
- **As the source is a chart, one needs to use the %(numbers) as evidence in the PEEL and describe the trends (upward or downward in the explaining the chart/data)**



ANSWER:

The source tells me that European nations' attitude towards Ukrainian refugees is increasingly unwelcoming. This is because **even though the majority of European countries welcome Ukrainian refugees, the number of people has declined in the past year.** This can be seen from the source which shows that the percentage of people who answered yes to the question "Should your country accept refugees from Ukraine?" has reduced in numbers from 2022 to 2023, the chart shows a downward trend.

In addition, some countries like Poland might experience a bigger drop in accepting refugees from Ukraine than other countries due to Poland being closer to Ukraine and hence have more refugees coming to them. Poland shows the greatest percentage drop from mid-80% to mid-60% as shown in the chart.

- 2 Study Source B and Source C.
How are Sources B and C similar? Explain your answer.

[6]

ANSWER:

NOTE:

- 2 Paragraphs with BOC statements as the start
- Both BOC are on similarity of message
- There is no clear difference between the sources on message.
- It is hard to detect a contrast of purpose in the sources. Hence, there is NO higher level after similarity in messages.

Both sources are similar in showing that the European governments are helping Ukrainian refugees. I can infer from Source B that the government is providing programs and classes for Ukrainian immigrants to find work in Germany. This can be seen from Source B which states "We have offered them integration and German classes". Similarly, Source C tells me that the government is helping to provide Ukrainian refugees with temporary housing. This can be seen from the source which states "Faced with high rents in the western Polish town of Zgorzelec, in December she moved across the border to Goerlitz in eastern Germany, where the government will pay for accommodation until she finishes a German language course and can find a job."

Both sources are similar in showing that the recognition of educational qualifications is a major challenge for Ukrainians seeking employment in their host country. This can be seen from Source B which states "Professionals have to obtain equivalent qualifications in Germany to be allowed to practice, and applications have to be made for degrees to be approved and recognised by authorities." Similarly, Source C states that "Reluctance to recognise academic and vocational qualifications of Ukrainians has left vacancies unfilled and new arrivals frustrated."

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- 3 Study Source D.

Why did the author publish this cartoon? Explain your answer.

[7]

ANSWER:

Note: Use the PACMI approach with need to identify the context from which the source originates (i.e. Europe in 2022)

The author published this cartoon because the author wanted to take advantage of the **refugee crisis in Ukraine beginning 2022 [Context]** to highlight the inconsistency of treatment towards refugees of different countries **[Message]** so that more can be done to help refugees from all countries. This can be seen from the source which shows how the man, who represents European nations, is seen welcoming refugees from Ukraine while he stops refugees from Africa and the Middle East. Since the world was giving its attention to help the refugees in Ukraine, the author wanted to use the opportunity to speak up for refugees **(PURPOSE)** who have felt discriminated due to their nationality in hopes that equal treatment can be given to all refugees regardless of their nationality. **[Developed explanation of context]. The possible outcome of the cartoon is for Europeans to accept migrants from Africa and Middle East as the organisation is a humanitarian organisation. (Audience and Intended Outcome)**

4 Study Source E and Source F.

Having read Source E, do you trust Source F? Explain your answer. [7]

NOTE:

The main (target) source is Source F.

Hence, one need to cross check Source F to Source E

Due to the word 'trust' in the question, explaining the purpose of Source F and its credibility should be a way to undermine the trustworthiness of Source F.

ANSWER:

Having read Source E, I trust Source F as they are similar in telling me that **Europeans are less willing to help Ukrainian refugees.** I can infer from Source E that European governments are not willing to help Ukrainian refugees because of the rising energy cost. This can be seen from Source E which states *"Some EU citizens hosting Ukrainian refugees in their homes are beginning to ask how much longer their assistance will be required. As energy prices skyrocket and inflation soars throughout the European Union"* Similarly, **I can infer from Source F**, European governments such as Germany are not willing to help Ukrainian refugees because of how the Ukrainians are taking advantage of the welfare benefits. This can be seen from Source F *"We are now experiencing social tourism among these refugees to Germany, back to Ukraine, to Germany, back to Ukraine, and a larger number of them are now taking advantage of this system. A 'large number' of the more than 1.1 million Ukrainian refugees registered in Germany are milking the state."* This tells me that the Germans feel that the Ukrainians who are receiving social benefits in Germany are using it inappropriately. **Since Source E supports what is mentioned in Source F, I can trust Source F.**

Source E is an article taken from the Atlantic Council. It describes what is happening to Ukrainian refugees in a factual manner. Moreover, it is written with a measured tone which makes the source reliable. Source E states *"As energy prices skyrocket and inflation soars throughout the European Union, Ukrainians may find current programs under threat due to potential public frustration."* **The words "may find" suggests that the author takes a cautionary approach in making such statements which makes me trust Source E.**

Source F is not reliable because of the critical tone of the source towards the German government. The author describes how Ukrainians are living off German social benefits and uses words such as "are milking the state" and "government has turned a deaf ear." **The critical tone of the source suggests that the author is biased against the government. The purpose of Source F might be political as it was by German opposition leader who was using the harsh language to challenge the German government and sway the support away from the German government. The tone and motive made Source F dubious.** Therefore, having read Source E, I do not trust Source F.

5 'Europeans have been welcoming towards Ukrainian refugees in their country.'

Using sources in this case study, explain how far you would agree with this statement. [10]

NOTE:

- Use only 4 sources. The art is in explaining the quotes in the source on 'welcoming' or 'not welcoming'

Yes (Sources A, B, D)

Sources	Inference	Evidence
B	Germany has made efforts to help Ukrainian refugees integrate into German society	"We have offered them integration and German classes."
C	Germany's government is helping to provide Ukrainian refugees with housing until they find employment.	"Faced with high rents in the western Polish town of Zgorzelec, in December she moved across the border to Goerlitz in eastern Germany, where the government will pay for accommodation until she finishes a German language course and can find a job."
D	Ukrainian refugees are welcomed into European borders	Cartoon frame on the left shows a man wearing a tunic with stars which symbolises European Union welcoming people from Ukraine. He says "Look what Russians are doing! Refugees are welcome!"

No, disagree. (Sources E and F)

Sources	Inference	Evidence
E	Governments have removed assistance towards Ukrainian refugees.	"There are already some indications of wavering support toward Ukrainian refugees. In summer 2022, Bulgaria suspended its housing accommodation program."
F	Germans are questioning the level of support they should be giving refugees from Ukraine.	"It is "unfair" for the state to pay to heat the homes of refugees and German welfare recipients at a time when many working-class Germans can't afford their energy bills."

Conclusion – Possible using Balanced Conclusion

While some sources show that European nations have been welcoming towards refugees from Ukraine, the reality is that there are flaws within government systems that makes it challenging for Ukrainian refugees to find employment. Moreover, the economic cost involved in welcoming Ukrainian refugees is taking a toll on European nations. More effort needs to be taken to ensure that the policies are welcoming towards Ukrainian refugees and also economically sustainable for the host country.

Section B (Structured-Response Question)

Exploring Citizenship and Governance

Study the extracts carefully and then answer the questions.

Extract 1

"Today, we are an aged society; soon, we will be a 'super-aged' society. This has massive social and economic implications. We have much to do to help our seniors age well."

Prime Minister Lee Hsieng Loong, 2023

Extract 2

Community groups can play an active role from the ground up in strengthening the sense of belonging of fellow citizens by building their attachment to a place.

Extract 3

The government can provide every citizen with a stake in the country's affair and funding to strengthen citizens' sense of belonging.

6 Extract 1 shows how inflation is taking a toll on Singaporeans. In your opinion, how can we help the **elderly in Singapore age well**? Explain your answers using two strategies. [7]

NOTE:

2 x PEEL Paragraphs with focus on ageing well.

- ❖ **What do seniors need to age well? – social(friends), mobility (exercise), mentally alert (conversations and games), Skills (online / using smartphones)**

One strategy is to **non-government organisations(NGOs)** to teach the elderly about technological advancements so that they will be able to keep up with them. As Singapore becomes a smart nation, e-payment is on the rise. Hence, we can teach our grandparents and other elderly how to use cashless payment methods such as PayLah! and Paynow by scanning QR codes. **NGOs such as Methodist Welfare Homes and Chen Su Lan Care centers can run programme to teach elderly to use phone based app like online payment and booking for taxi using Apps.** By helping the elderly keep up with the latest technological advancements, the elderly will not feel out of place or socially isolated. Despite their age, they would feel like they can continue keeping up with these current trends. It would also allow them to be independent and feel confident in going about their daily lives, helping them age well. **Hence, this strategy would allow them to age well in society**

Another strategy is for **community clubs** to run community programmes for seniors to participate in. This may include group activities such as community gardening, cooking classes or even tai-chi classes in the nearby neighbourhood parks. For example, **Active Ageing Centres in Community Clubs can conduct hands-n activities and exercise game sessions with the help of volunteers every week.** This would allow the elderly to pass their time, especially if they are lonely during the day. Joining these activities would help them form social connections. Moreover, these activities would engage them keeping their minds active as well. Hence, this strategy would allow them to age well by building their social networks.

- 7 Extracts 2 and 3 show the role that community groups and the government play in strengthening citizens' sense of belonging in Singapore. Do you think **community groups** have a more important role to play than **government** in working to **strengthen citizens' sense of belonging**? Explain your answer. [8]

ANSWER:

NOTE - REQUIRE TEXTBOOK CONTENT FOR THIS QUESTION

Community groups come together to preserve memories of a place and render assistance to those affected by the relocation. These groups usually have a clear objective or a location they are working on, though they may informally work with a few individuals coming together to run them. For example, in line with the demolition of Dakota Crescent, two community groups, namely Dakota Adventures and Run and Gun Media came together to form Between Two Homes. This group created a multimedia website to document the rich heritage and community of Dakota Crescent and showed the impact of relocation. They also conducted workshops in schools to discuss the plans for redevelopment. **Documenting such memories of Dakota Crescent allows the residents and other Singaporeans to preserve the experiences and memories that they had there. Seeing their memories being preserved, allows the residents of Dakota Crescent to feel that they have a place in society and strengthen their sense of attachment towards Singapore.**

The government creates opportunities for citizens to come together and participate in surveys, focus group discussions and workshops to contribute ideas for the design of neighbourhood spaces. They may also provide funding required to support ground-up projects that build the national identity. For example, the Our Singapore Fund was launched in 2016 by the Singapore government, giving successful applicants funding of up to 80% of their project, to a maximum of \$20 000 per project. As of 2020, the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth has disbursed \$4.3 million to support ground-up projects like Between Two Homes. **This funding provided by the government allowed Between Two Homes to care for residents who were relocating and even conduct potluck parties in Cassia Crescent, where they had relocated to. This contributes to building a sense of belonging as common memories are shared by the new residents, allowing them to develop a sense of attachment and feel comfortable in their new homes.**

In conclusion, the **government's role is a more important one as the funding** they provide is crucial to sustain the projects that are introduced to strengthen the citizen's sense of belonging in the long term. Community groups may also not have sufficient resources and legitimacy to execute the plans in Singapore.