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### Reality, objectives and limits of the power of european cities

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### **CITIES OR JUST A FANTASY?**

### **STRASBOURG 3.EUROPEAN CITIES: A REAL EMPOWERMENT OF**

### I.EUROPEAN LAW ON REFUGEES AND I CITIES

## **1.EUROPEAN LAW ON REFUGEES AND THE POWER OF**



### 2. WELCOMING REFUGEES : FOCUS ON THE CITY OF

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### Introduction

- "[...] well-founded fear of being persecuted for
- reasons of race, religion,
- nationality, membership of a particular social
- group or political
  - opinion, is outside the country of his
    - nationality and is unable or,
- owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of
- that country; or who, not having a nationality
- and being outside the
- country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is
- unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it".



### Geneva **Convention 1951**

Article 1(A)(2):

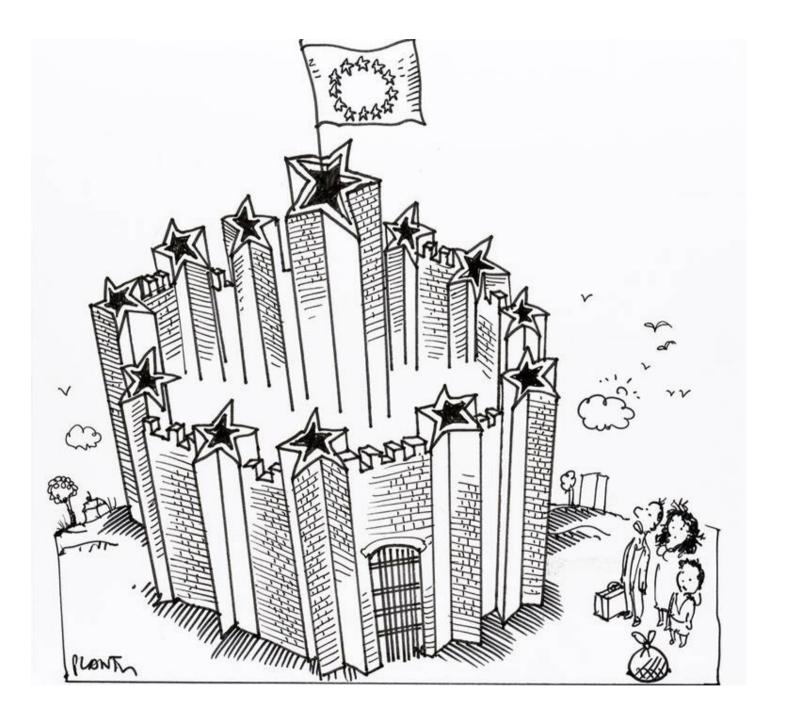
#### **1. European Law on Refugees and the power of cities**

• The Principle of Free Movement

• The Convention of Dublin

• The solidarity crisis

• The redefinition of borders : "The Fortress Europe"





### **1. European Law on Refugees and the power of cities**

Le niveau de confiance dans les personnalités politiques selon les fonctions (2/2) Q14 : Avez-vous très confiance, plutôt confiance, plutôt pas confiance ou pas confiance du tout dans... Réponse 'Très confiance' + 'Plutôt confiance' 70% 65% 60% 55% **54%** 53% 50% 45% Votre conseiller généra Vos conseillers régionaux 40% Votre député 25% Vos députés européen Décembre Décembre Décembre Décembre Décembre Décembre Décembre Février Vaque 6b, réalisée suite au attentats de janvier 2015 opinionway pour Baromètre de la confiance politique / Vaque 10 – Janvier 2019

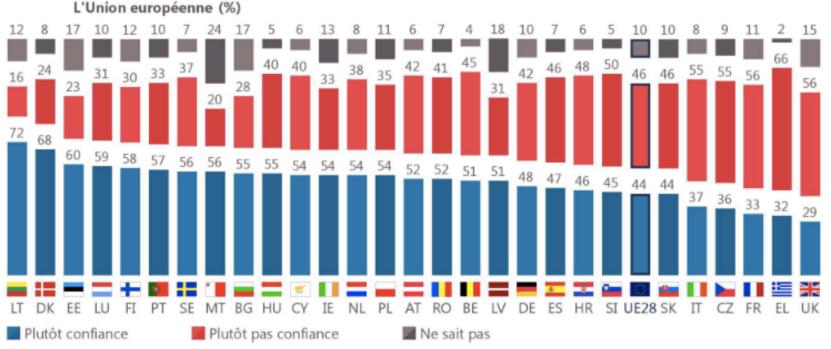
• Mobilizing cities against the European democratic deficit?

• Welcoming de facto refugees

• A strong capacity of raising awareness on the situation of refugees

 A pro-active Mayor: an additional pressure

QA6a.10 Je voudrais maintenant vous poser une question à propos de la confiance que vous inspirent certains médias et certaines institutions. Pour chacun des médias suivants et chacune des institutions suivantes, pourriez-vous me dire si vous avez plutôt confiance ou plutôt pas confiance en lui/elle.



### 2. Welcoming refugees: a focus on the city of Strasbourg

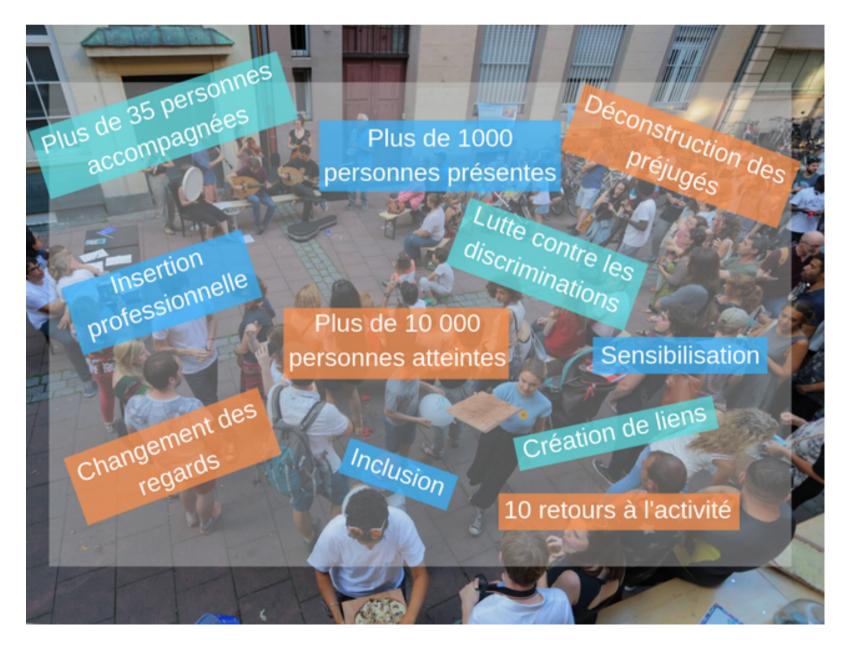
- Increasing presence of mayors in the political debate
- "Reception and Orientation Centers"
- City actors directly face emergency issues
- No single model for cities in terms of reception
- Ex: Grande-Synthe's "actionresearch" project and emergency camp





### 2. Welcoming refugees: a focus on the city of Strasbourg





- insufficient means
- national association

• Strasbourg: "Hospitable city"

• Emergency response: security, relocation, guidance... but

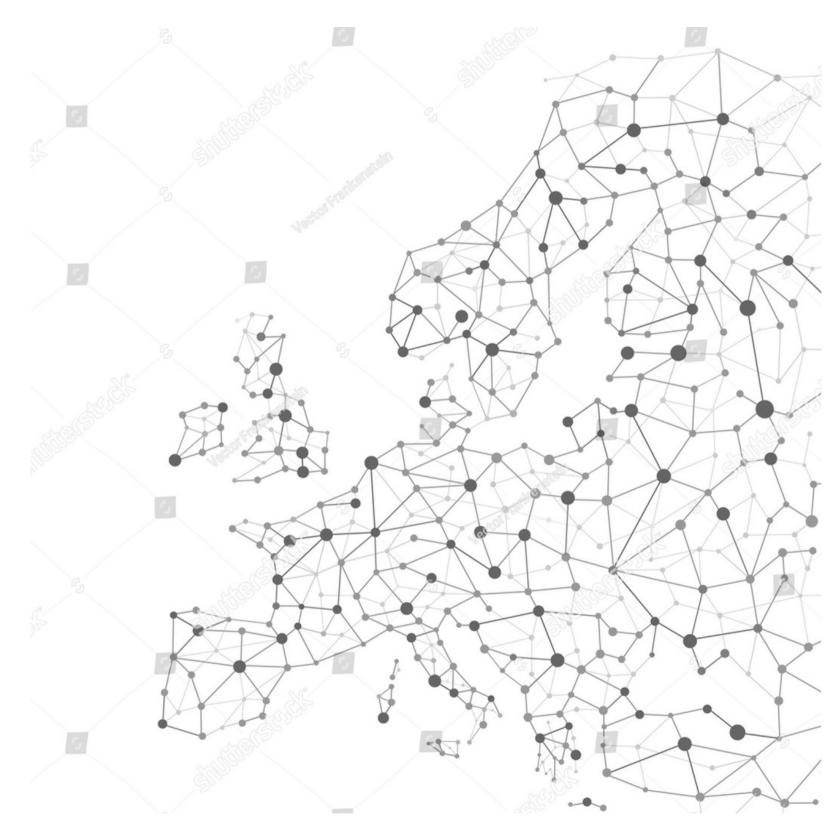
• Raising awareness and drawing the attention of the state

• Welcoming cities and territories

• Comprehensive approach: from emergency needs to integration

#### **3. European cities: a real empowerment or just a fantasy?**

- Subsidiarity
- Encouraging examples of national networks of cities; the French example of Normandie / The German example of Berlin (or Hamburg)
- Supporting the mayors who want to resist and prove their solidarity towards refugees against national states?





### **3. European cities: a real empowerment or just a fantasy?**

- Founded by the mayors of 6 greats european cities (Barcelona, Birmingham, Frankfurt, Lyon, Milan and Rotterdamn) in 1986.
- 140 european cities in 39 countries.
- From academic research to lobbying.
- The imperative of international outreach (benchmarking, management etc.)

