

# GLOBAL REFUGEES WELCOME INDEX 2016

The 2016 Refugees Welcome Index, the first ever such index, showed several variances. Refugees Welcome Index measured levels of acceptance for refugees for the very first time. The index was based on a global survey commissioned by Amnesty International carried out by strategy consultancy firm, GlobeScan.

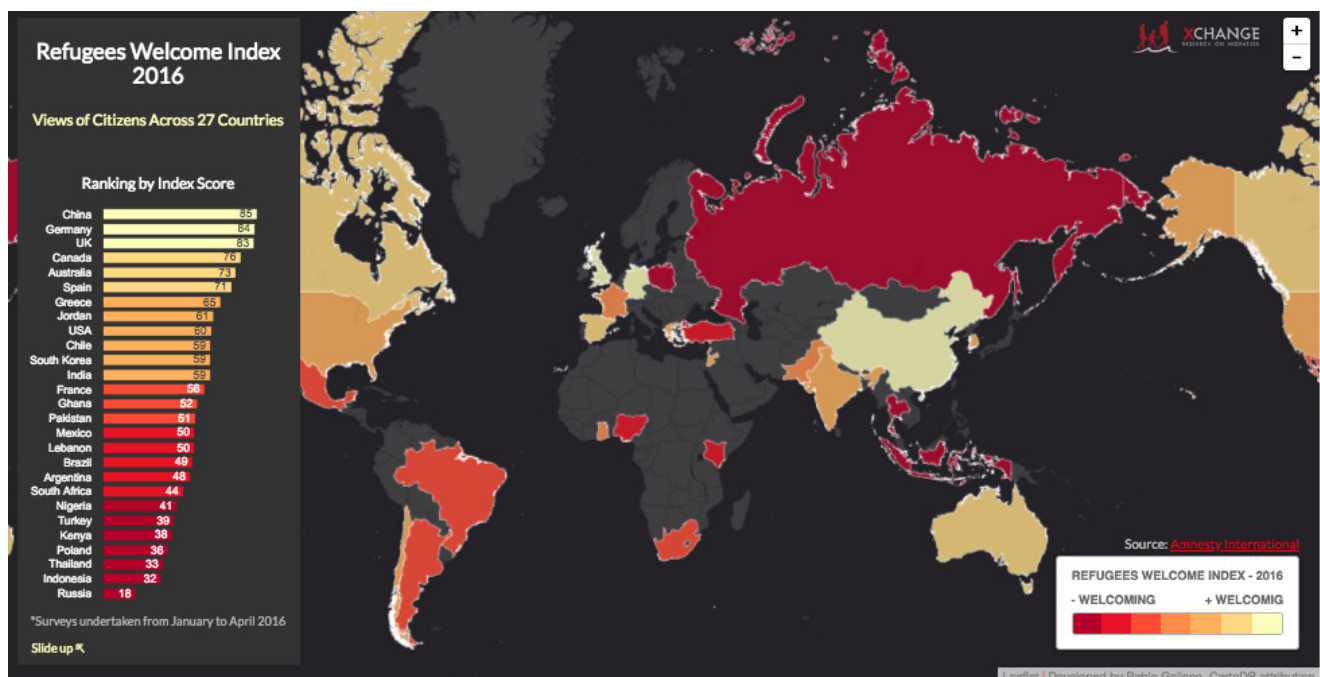
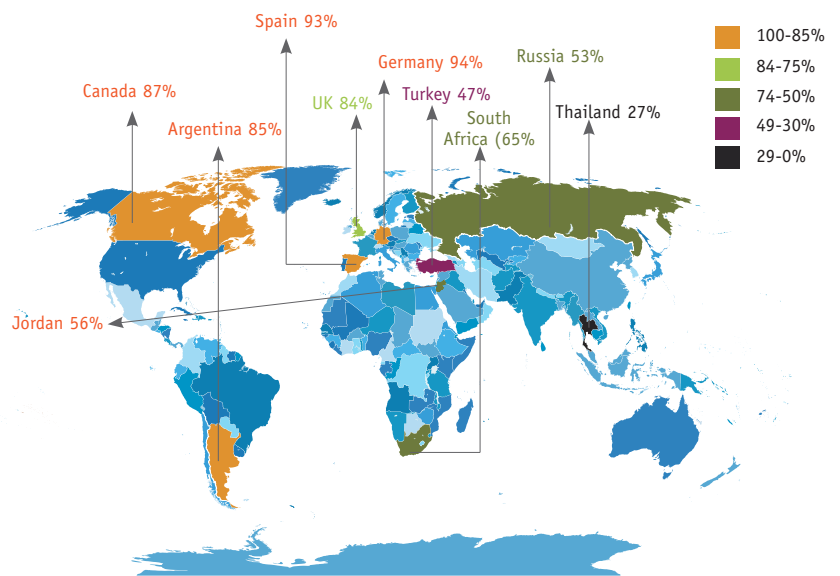
The Refugees Welcome Index ranks countries on a scale of 0 to 100, where 0 = all respondents would refuse refugees' entry to the country and 100 = all respondents would accept refugees into their neighbourhood or home.

The Refugees Welcome Index was prepared by asking 27,000 people in 27 countries three questions:

Should people be able to take refuge in other countries to escape from war or persecution? This sought to get people's views on access to asylum.

Seventy-three per cent of people agreed that people fleeing war or persecution should be able to take refuge in other countries while 25% disagreed. Support

## SUPPORT FOR ACCESS TO ASYLUM



for access to asylum was particularly strong in Germany (94%), Spain (93%), Canada (87%), Argentina (85%) and the UK (84%), and lowest in Thailand (27%), Turkey (47%), Russia (53%), Jordan (56%) and South Africa (65%). Overall, slightly more women than men (74% vs 72%) agreed that people should be able to take refuge in other countries to escape from war or persecution.

How closely would you personally accept people fleeing war or persecution (refugees) in your home, neighbourhood, city/town/village or country, or would you refuse them entry to the country altogether?

The vast majority of people (80%) would welcome refugees with open arms, with many even prepared to take them into their own homes. China (85), Germany (84), UK (83), Canada (76) and Australia (73%) topped the index while Russia (18), Indonesia (32), Thailand (33), Poland (36%) and Kenya (38%) scored lowest.

### Top 5 most and least welcoming countries

	WELCOME IN THE HOME	WELCOME IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD	WELCOME IN THE CITY/TOWN	WELCOME IN THE COUNTRY	NOT WELCOME	I DON'T KNOW
CHINA	46%	28%	14%	6%	6%	1%
UK	29%	47%	6%	5%	11%	2%
GERMANY	10%	57%	21%	9%	3%	1%
RUSSIA	1%	3%	9%	19%	61%	6%

### Global outlook

	WELCOME IN THE HOME	WELCOME IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD	WELCOME IN THE CITY/TOWN	WELCOME IN THE COUNTRY	NOT WELCOME
GLOBAL	10%	22%	15%	33%	17%

Overall, under-35s are more welcoming of refugees in their country. Over-65s express greater acceptance of refugees in their household or neighbourhood, compared with other age groups. The higher the education and income levels, the greater the level of acceptance of refugees. City-dwellers are more accepting of refugees generally than those living in villages.

### Should your government do more to help refugees fleeing war or persecution?

Across the globe, 66% say their governments should do more to help refugees. Agreement is highest in China (86%), Nigeria (85%) and Jordan (84%) and Germany (76%) – two of the countries that already welcomed huge numbers of refugees – but is particularly low in Russia (26%) and Thailand (29%).

Agreement with increased government action increases with education (68% for those with a high level of education vs 63% for those with a low level of education).

Agreement also increases with income (64% amongst lower-income respondents vs 70% for those with a very high income).

Those living in cities have the highest level of agreement (69%) while those living in towns have the lowest (59%). Men are slightly more likely than women (31% vs 29%) to disagree that their government should do more to help refugees fleeing war or persecution.

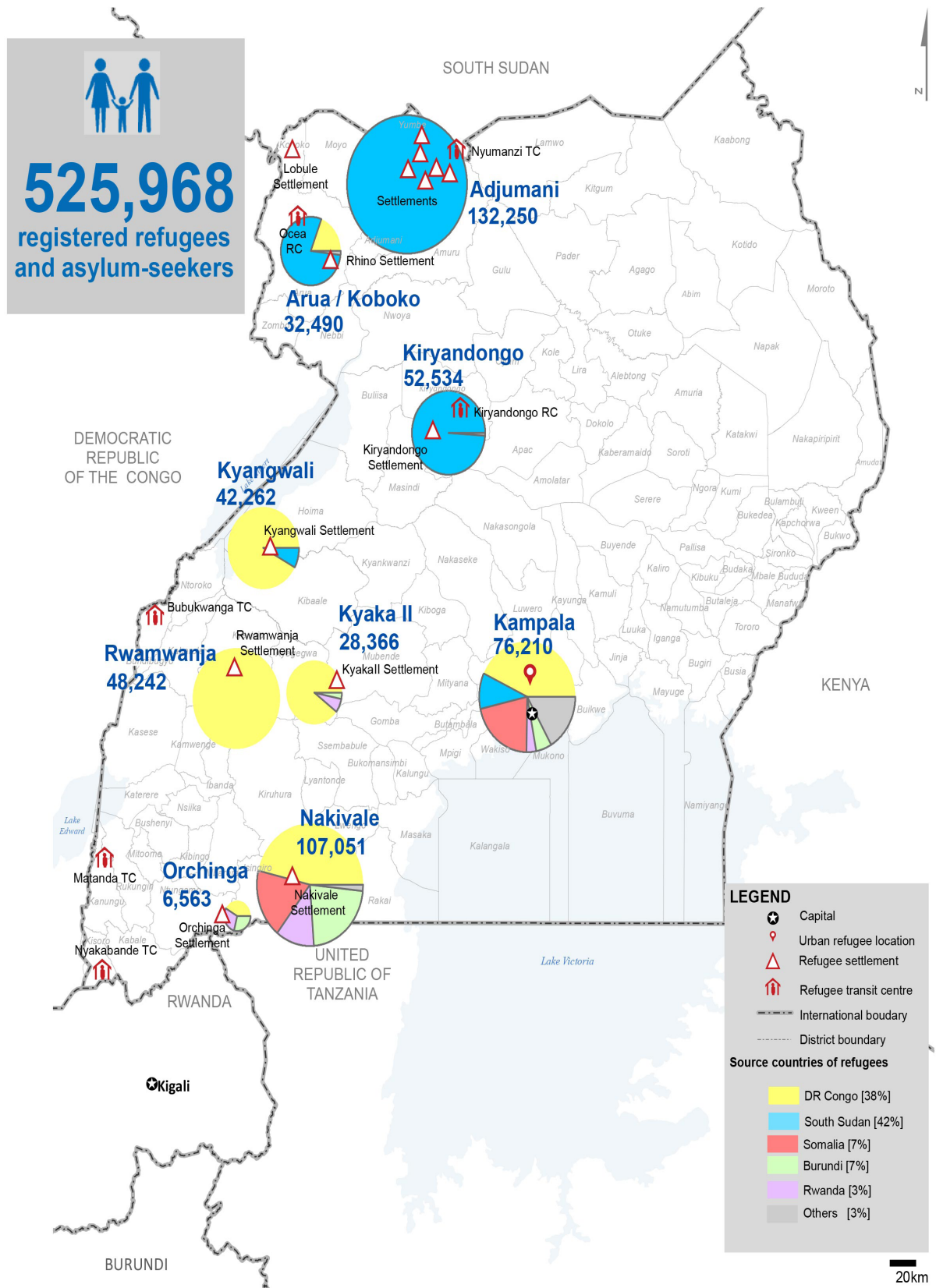
### The results of the research pleasantly surprised key stakeholders as seen from the following comments

“We did not expect to see such strong levels of solidarity with refugees, but the results reflect the inspiring human compassion people feel to those fleeing war,” said Amnesty International Secretary General, Salil Shetty. “They want to do what they can to help, not turn their backs. People seem to be more committed to principles set down in international law than many of their governments, who are increasingly tearing up or ignoring commitments that have stood for 65 years.”

“We designed the survey and index to reflect the complexity of the refugee issue. People are grappling with multiple political and emotional arguments and we wanted to get their views as humans responding to a humanitarian crisis,” said Caroline Holme, Director at GlobeScan.



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Source: Uganda Government, Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), Refugee Information Management System (RIMS).  
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