

Concurrent 6: Strategic Update: Europe

**APR@30: Cooperation and Contestation in a Changing
Regional Landscape**

Tuesday, 31 May 2016, 1600 - 1730

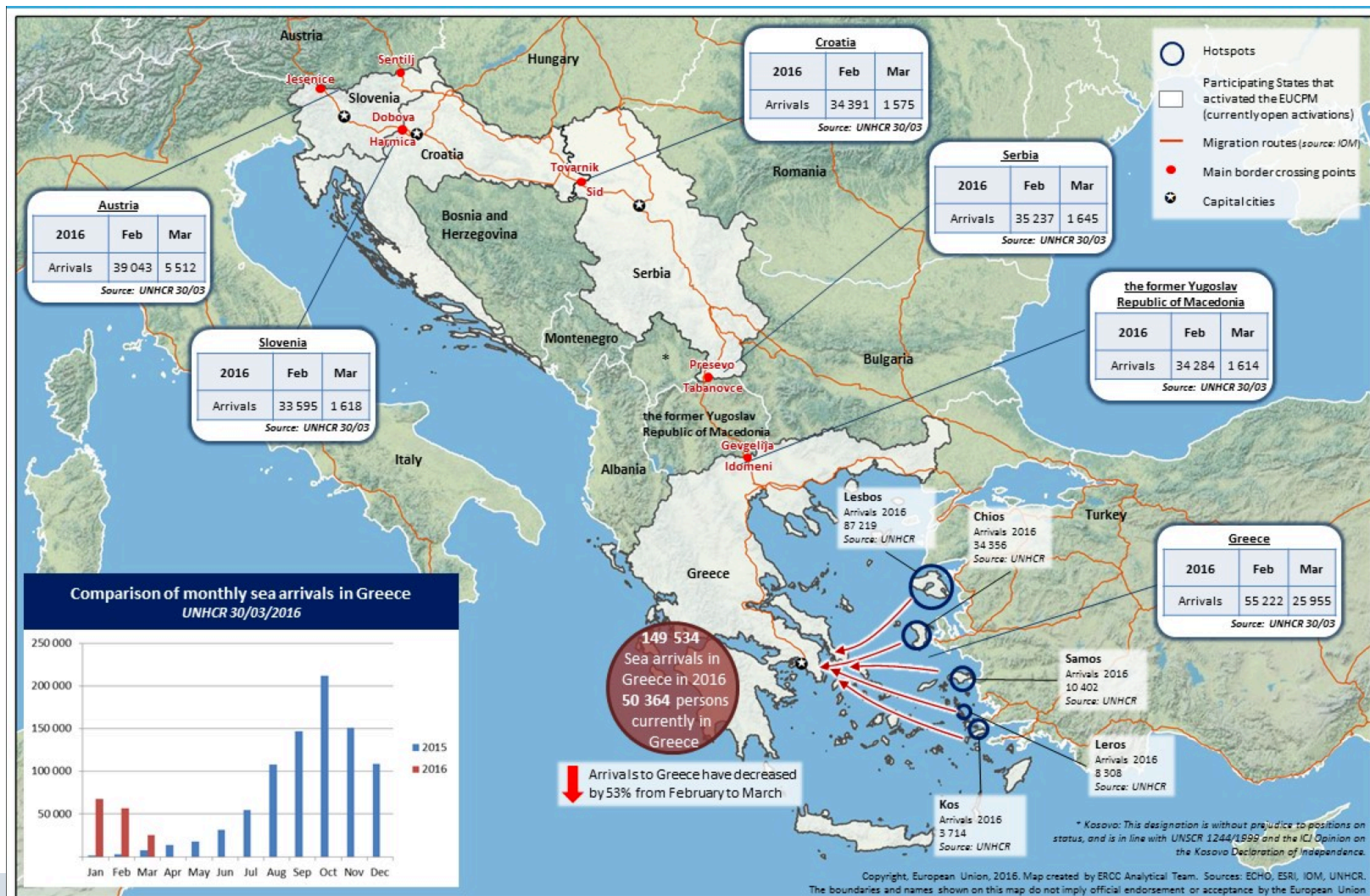
Overview

- Core Arguments
- External Challenges: Refugees crisis, Middle East/ ISIS, Ukraine crisis
- Internal challenges: Brexit, populism, terrorism, EU cohesion
- Outlook: EU as global actor / EU Asia

Core Arguments

- External challenges will persist, with Europe surrounded by a ring of fire
- Internal challenges will severely test the EU's crisis capabilities and lead to a stronger EU eventually
- EU-Asia ambitions remain, yet with ever scarcer resources
- Outlook: EU as a global actor with new instruments will become more realistic and pragmatic

Refugees Crisis & the Ring of Fire (MENA)



ISIS, terrorism in Europe & foreign fighters



Ukraine – NATO back at the EU's Eastern front

- EU sanctions in response to annexation of Crimea / suspension talks (EU/NATO/RUS)
- Minsk I & II / intensified military manoeuvres & encounters
- NATO Readiness Action Plan
- NATO-Russia Council talks resumed, deviating views persist

Internal Challenges

- Brexit referendum on June 23 / Greece
- Rising populism:
 - Austrian President election, Germany's state elections, Le Pen...
 - Hungary, Poland → right wing shift
- EU cohesion: non-cooperation/non-implementation re refugee challenge
- Terrorism: Paris/Brussels attacks

EU-Asia relations

- Ambitions remain
 - new strategies on China, Myanmar..
 - New grants/tenders on more EU in multilateral fora in Asia, on EU-Asia policy, on Asia Pacific as strategic region
- Focus:
 - ASEAN and China, also Strategic Partners Japan, Korea, India
 - Trade, non-traditional challenges (HADR/crisis management)
- Resources (financial & attention) under fierce competition with crises closer & urgent

Outlook: EU strong leadership in global affairs

Desirability?	Responses from:	Very desirable	Somewhat desirable	Neither/nor	Somewhat undesirable	Very undesirable	n/a	Total (N)
	all 10 SP	18,9%	34,9%	27,2%	7,1%	4,1%	7,8%	11621
	USA	23,9%	28,8%	24,3%	4,0%	2,9%	16,2%	1007
	Japan	5,9%	31,4%	37,9%	6,7%	2,8%	15,2%	1024
	China	9,6%	46,1%	35,6%	5,0%	0,6%	3,0%	1410
	S. Korea	9,8%	38,8%	37,5%	6,3%	1,5%	6,1%	1238
	India	29,5%	37,5%	23,0%	2,6%	1,7%	5,7%	1056

Likelihood in 5 years?	Responses from:	Very likely	Rather likely	Neither/nor	Rather unlikely	Very unlikely	n/a	Total (N)
	All 10 SP	22,7%	36,7%	24,2%	6,2%	2,2%	8,0%	11621
	USA	20,8%	29,4%	24,5%	4,6%	3,6%	17,2%	1007
	Japan	8,4%	30,9%	35,3%	7,7%	3,4%	14,2%	1024
	China	17,2%	50,8%	25,9%	3,1%	0,3%	2,6%	1410
	S. Korea	12,7%	40,8%	34,8%	5,9%	0,7%	5,1%	1238
August 2015	India	31,2%	37,8%	21,5%	3,1%	0,9%	5,6%	1056

Outlook: EU as a global actor / instruments

- EU Global Strategy: 5 key priorities / June 2016
 - A stronger union (cohesion, capabilities..)
 - Resilience of states and societies (country-by-country)
 - Integrated approach to crises (preventive approach..)
 - Strengthen regional orders (network of regional ORG)
 - Better global governance (from Iran to COP21..)
- EU Public Diplomacy / Reform of EEAS
- ..get it as good as it gets...

Conclusion

- External challenges will persist, with Europe surrounded by a ring of fire
- Internal challenges will severely test the EU's crisis capabilities and lead to a stronger EU eventually
- EU-Asia ambitions remain, yet with ever scarcer resources
- Outlook: EU as a global actor with new instruments will become more realistic and pragmatic

Thank you very much for your attention.

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