Country: The Republic of Austria

Committee: SOCHUM

Agenda Items: Protecting the rights and freedoms of refugees in wars. Tackling refugee trafficking

The Republic of Austria is a country located in the southern part of Central Europe. Austria has nine states and one of them is the capital Vienna, the largest city and state by population. Austria engendered from the ruins of the Eastern and Hungarian March at the end of the 10th century. Austria became an independent sovereign state in 1955. Austria has been a member of the United Nations(UN) and the European Union(EU) since 1955. The currency of Austria is the Euro. Official language of Austria is German(Austrian German). Population of Austria is approximately 8.9 million and around 56.9% of this population is Roman Catholic. The president of austria is Alexander Van der Bellen since 2017. The area of Austria is 83.871 km2.

Refugee trafficking and protecting refugee rights is one of the biggest problems in the 21st century. Human Trafficking is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of people through force, fraud or deception, with the aim of exploiting them for profit and most of the victims of this crime are refugees. Human trafficking is a essential threat to all humanity and specially for refugees. There are estimated 25 million victims of human trafficking. According to UNHCR the number of people displaced by force is 84 million, and over 26.6 million refugees. Main countrys of origin for refugees are Syria, Venezuela, Afghanistan, South Sudan and Myanmar, Iran, Pakistan, Lebanon…

There are over 146.000 refugees in Austria. Most of these refuees are from Afghanistan (around 41,000) and Syria(close to 58,000). Austria is a welcoming country for refugees and is happy to help them. People entitled to asylum will be provided with basic care for the first four months after their application for asylum is approved. Asylum seekers will be interviewed by an officer of the BFA about their personal circumstances, their journey to Austria and the reasons why they fled their country of origin.