

## **The first anniversary of the European borders closure**

*Introduction – text on black screen*

In March 2016 some European countries shut borders in order to stop migration. One year later 62.000 people are still trapped in Greece. Less than 10.000 have been relocated so far.

*00:27 – 01:47 Joseph – Kurd from Syria*

We celebrated Newroz (New Year's Eve) in a happy way. We believed that we can be happy and that we will reach our destination. Everybody had plans. After a year I am still in Greece. My relocation was rejected by Lithuania. It has been a very hard year. I don't know what to do anymore. I became like a bird with broken wings that doesn't know how to fly. The girl I love, and who loves me, is gone. It's been six months since we are away from each other. It became harder when she left. When all your friends leave you, when you are alone, it's just very hard.

*01:50 – 02:46 David – aid worker*

One of the common threats that we see running through refugees experience here in Greece is uncertainty. Which country they're going to be relocated to... or if they will be accepted into the relocation programme. Whether they will be granted official asylum status here. Many here have to wait extended periods of time, many months, just to get to interviews. In the early stages of this crisis the dominant challenges were of course saving lives and to provide for the basic needs of the refugees coming this way as they headed to other places in Europe. But now there's the additional challenge of helping to integrate them into Greek society. To help integrate those who claim asylum here in Greece to become part of the communities that they are now living in.

*03:08 – 03:39 Joseph – Kurd from Syria*

We have organized a team of refugees in the camp, which was called HOPE REFUGEE FOOTBALL CLUB. Together with other friends, who are also waiting here, we meet and train 4 days a week. It helps to forget our misery. We played with Greek teams few times and when we were playing, we could forget our suffering a little bit.

*03:57 – 04:25 David – aid worker*

For the tens of thousands refugees that remain here things are more certainly not easy. Meeting the needs of these refugees continues to be a major challenge for the humanitarian community, for volunteers, aid workers and government alike. The international media may have shifted its attention to other subject but the severity of this crisis has no diminished. This crisis does not look like it's going to live us any time soon.

*04:27 – 04:59 Joseph singing Kurdish Lullaby*

Hush hush hushaby  
You are the patience and calmness of my life  
You're growing weaker by the minute  
And I can't do anything about it