

Mobility 2:
De facto: regional focus on
social integration concepts
of local authorities and
integration programs in our
schools

Mobility 3:
Private integration
initiatives and
NGO's: Hanover,
Montpellier, Modica

Mobility 1:
De jure: the EU coping with
integration – law and politics

Refugee Crisis:

New Ideas, New Concepts, New Changes

Mobility 4:
Labor market
integration and
access to
vocational training



***How does the EU and its
member states deal with the
challenges of the current
refugee crisis?***

France

Italy

Germany

-
- **2014-2016: Government of Renzi**
 - **2016-2018: Government of Gentiloni**
 - **March 2018: Lega-5 Stella Government, Salvini Decree**
- > open borders
- > reform of asylum and citizenship rights

Long
History of
Immigration

Asylum
Process

Italy has been a boarding land for centuries.

Reasons:

- war
- self-improvement
- religious persecution
- subsidiary protection



**Convention of Ginevra:
It's a law that proclaims
human rights to political
refugees. (issued in 1949)**

The first organization of reception started in 2015.

- 1. CPSA/Hot Spot ---> First Aid Centers**
- 2. CARA/CAS ---> Reception for Asylum Centers**
- 3. S.P.R.A.R. ---> Protection Center for Asylum
Seekers and Refugees**

-WWI->France appealed to foreign labor because of their languid demography

-France is part of the EU->all institutions have to follow European rulings and regulations

2008 - economic crisis influenced views towards migrants

2014 - 6 millions immigrants out of 65.8 million people living in France

2014 - 2.3 million have acquired French nationality

2017 - 100.000 asylum applications in France

**population
and politics**

French population

-think that the amount of migrants in their country should decrease or stay the same

-overview of people wanting the number of migrants to increase:

USA->24%

Germany->14,4%

France->6,6%

French politics

-consideration period for an application for asylum should be reduced to 6 months->human right activists say that asylum seekers will have it more difficult in France

-OFPRA missions->provide assistance to transit states

- amount of applications rapidly increased since 2014
- peak of applications in 2016: around 745.00
- amount of applications in 2017 less than in 2015



The real crisis started when Germany opened the boarder for refugees from Hungary. (Nov. 2015, around 6874 refugees per day)

--> european countries started working together

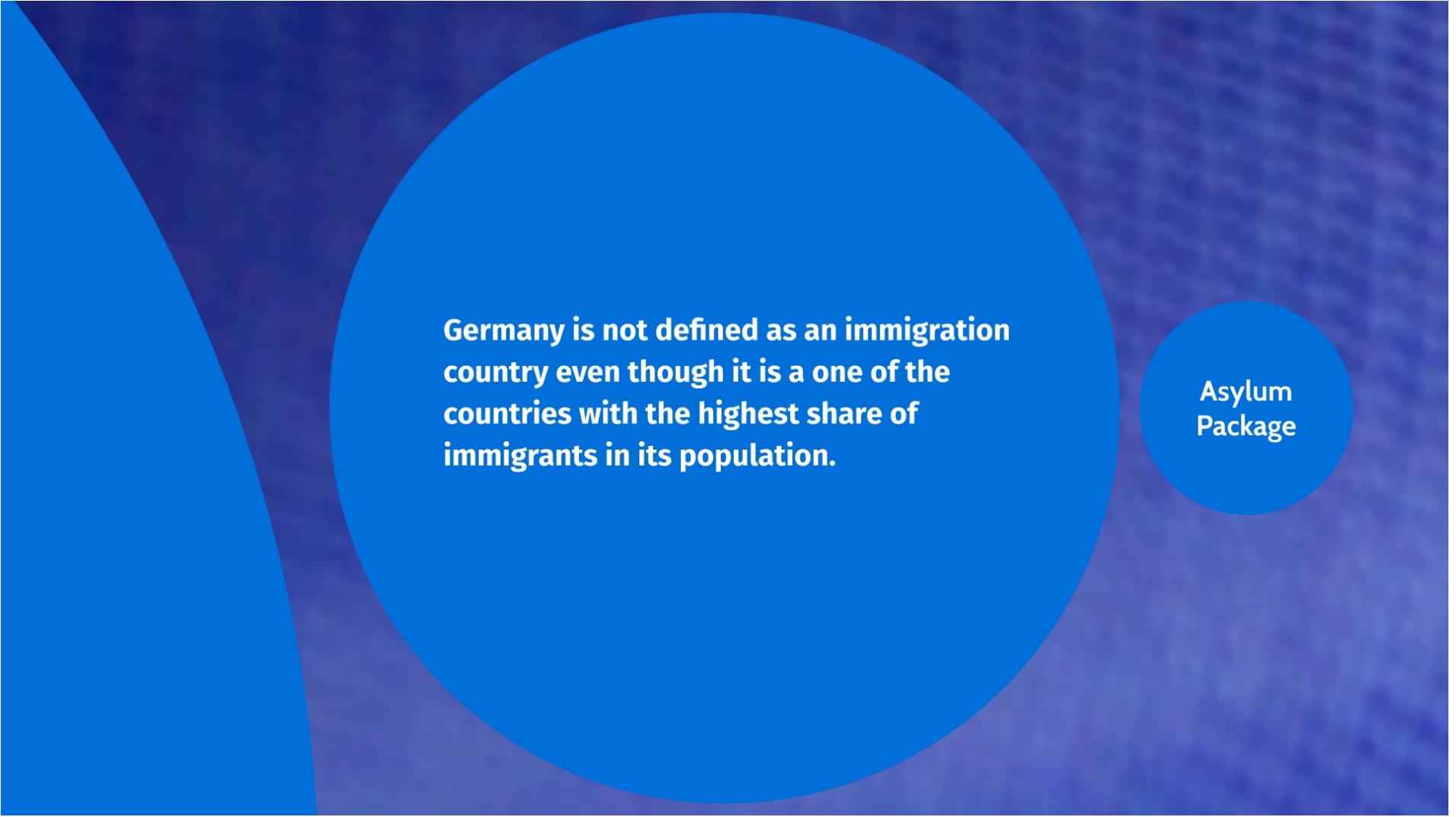


Germany was not ready for such a big amount of refugees

- accommodations were missing
- overwork in the department for migration

Definition as
an
Immigration
Country

Asylum
Process



Germany is not defined as an immigration country even though it is a one of the countries with the highest share of immigrants in its population.

**Asylum
Package**

- **established by the government in 2015**

- people from save countries of origin (Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro) have no real chance to get asylum
- easier and faster deportations of people with no chances to get asylum --> without announcement
- easier integration of people with good chances to get asylum
 - in the first months more non-cash benefits, after three months possibility to work
- communities are supported with 670 Euro per months per refugee
 - should be used for accommodations, teachers and food

The asylum process has many steps and takes normally around six to twelve months.


Arrival and
Registration

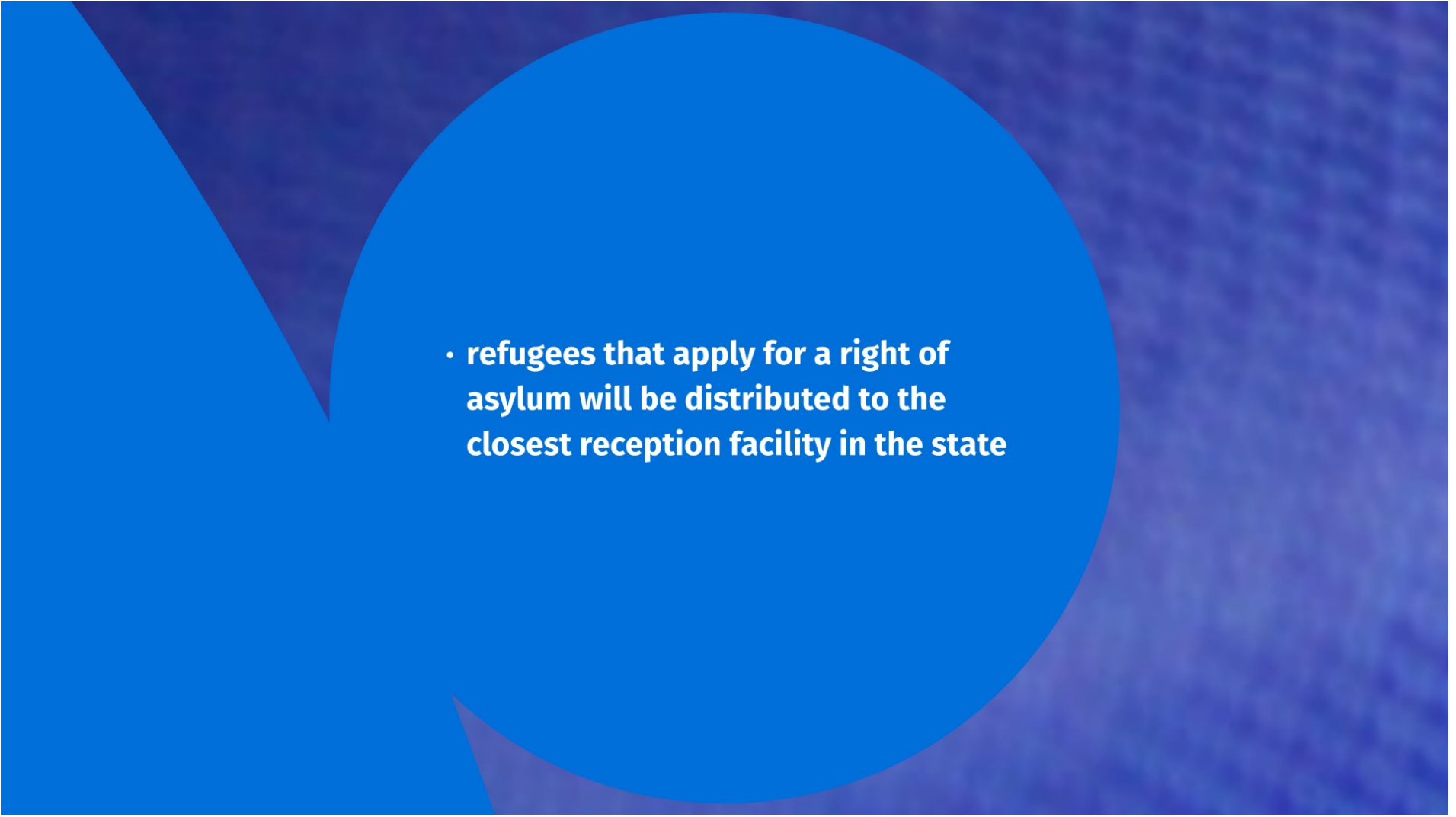
Initial
distribution
of Asylum
Seekers

Personal
Asylum
Application

Personal
Interview

Working

- 
- **refugees need to report themselves at the department of migration**
 - **they will get a temporary ID**

- 
- The background of the slide is a deep blue color. It features a large, solid blue circle on the left side. To the right of this circle, there is a darker blue, textured area that resembles a fine grid or a woven fabric. The overall design is modern and minimalist.
- **refugees that apply for a right of asylum will be distributed to the closest reception facility in the state**

- 
- refugees that are looking for asylum have the right for an interpreter
 - they will get informed about their rights and duties

- **most important appointment within the asylum process**



- **object of the interview:**
 - the flight
 - individual reasons
 - their route
 - what would expect them if they would go back?

Within the asylum process the refugees are limited allowed to work.

1-3 months in Germany: not allowed to work



4-5 months in Germany: allowed to apply for job and allowed to work if no european citizens are applying for the job too



after 15 months in Germany: allowed to apply for every job

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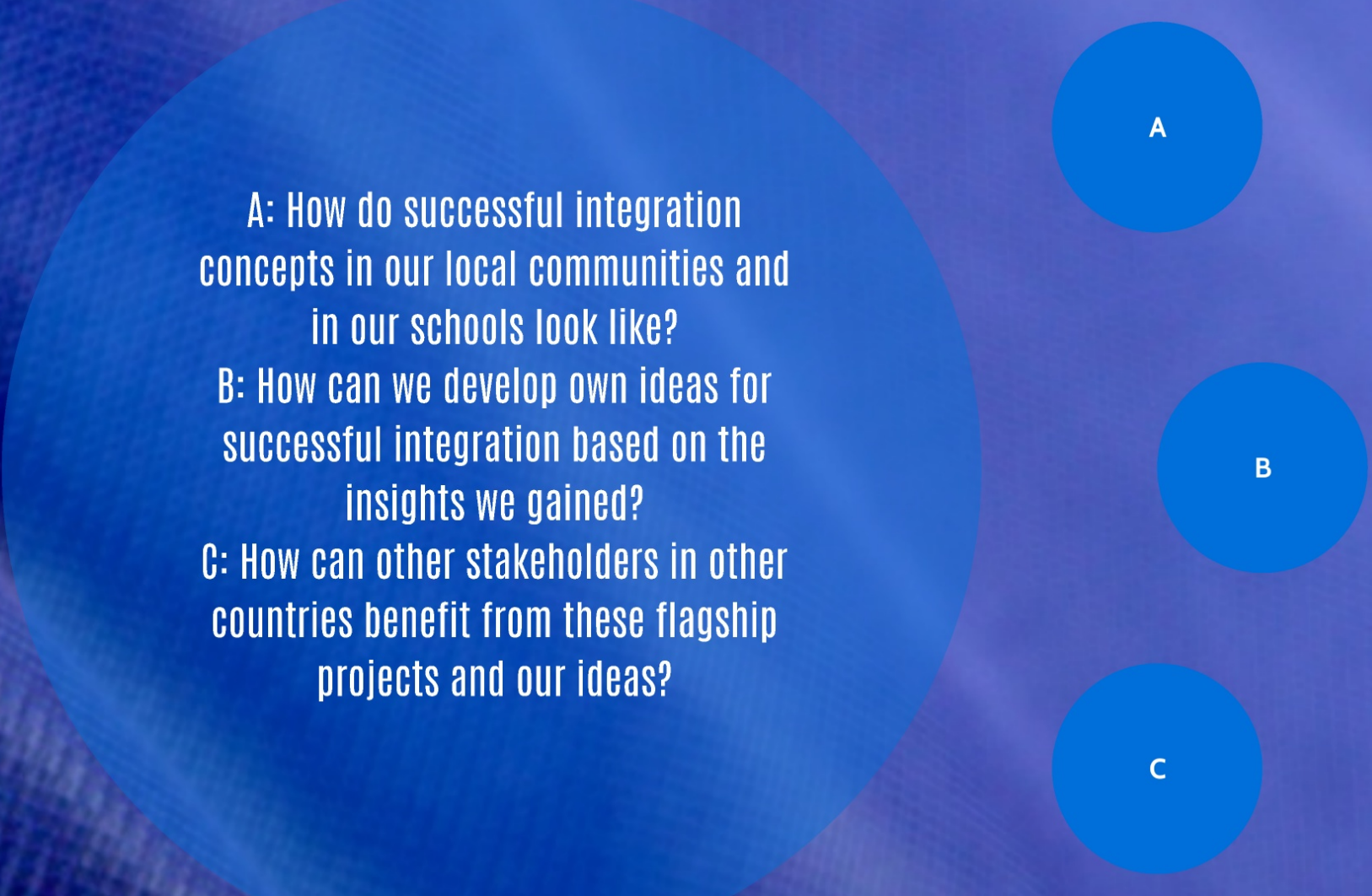
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A: How do successful integration concepts in our local communities and in our schools look like?

B: How can we develop own ideas for successful integration based on the insights we gained?

C: How can other stakeholders in other countries benefit from these flagship projects and our ideas?

A

B

C

PROJECTS WE VISITED

- VW (integration projects) within the RefugeeAid and the network "wir zusammen"
- in our school SLK
- Vielfalt-Innerste

Volkswagen
refugee aid

SLK

Vielfalt-
Innerste

general information

- started in 2015
- they founded an extra group for the coordination of refugee projects
- they build a network with other companies active in integration
- focus on education and job

Education

Integration

Education

- school education and learning german
- 150 students get the chance to study for Kiron
- -> german classes and internships in Hanover

Integration

- about 700 internships for refugees
- language level test
- projects for getting workers of VW and refugees in touch
-

example

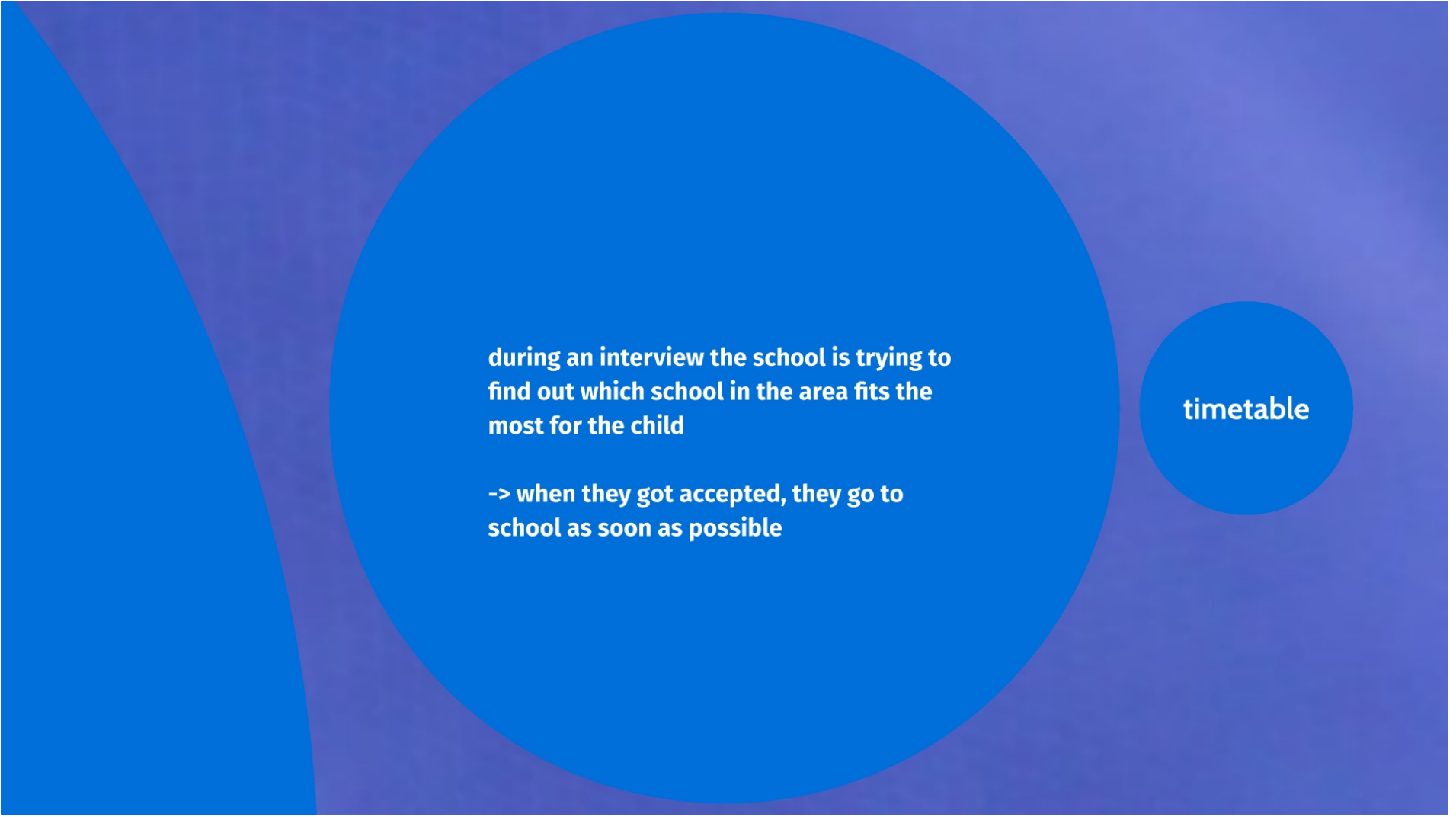
example

a two month intensive german course is
followed by an internship of two months
for learning the basics of working
-> after that they have the opportunity to make
an 6 months internship in a local company
=> afterwards they can often do an
apprenticeship in that company

language learning class

- integrate refugees in the german school system
- SLK was created during the consequences of the refugee crisis

and after that?



during an interview the school is trying to
find out which school in the area fits the
most for the child

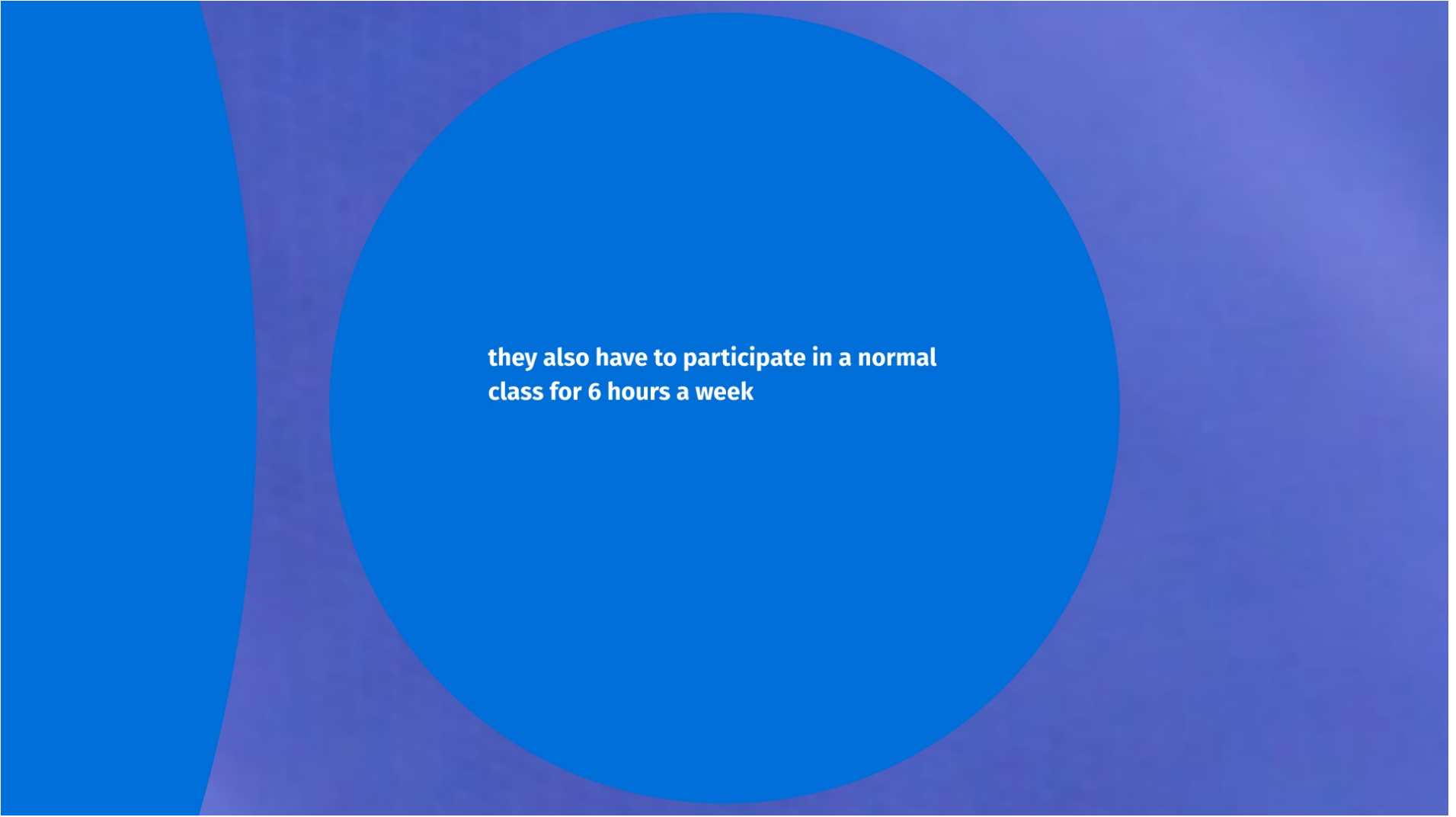
-> when they got accepted, they go to
school as soon as possible

timetable

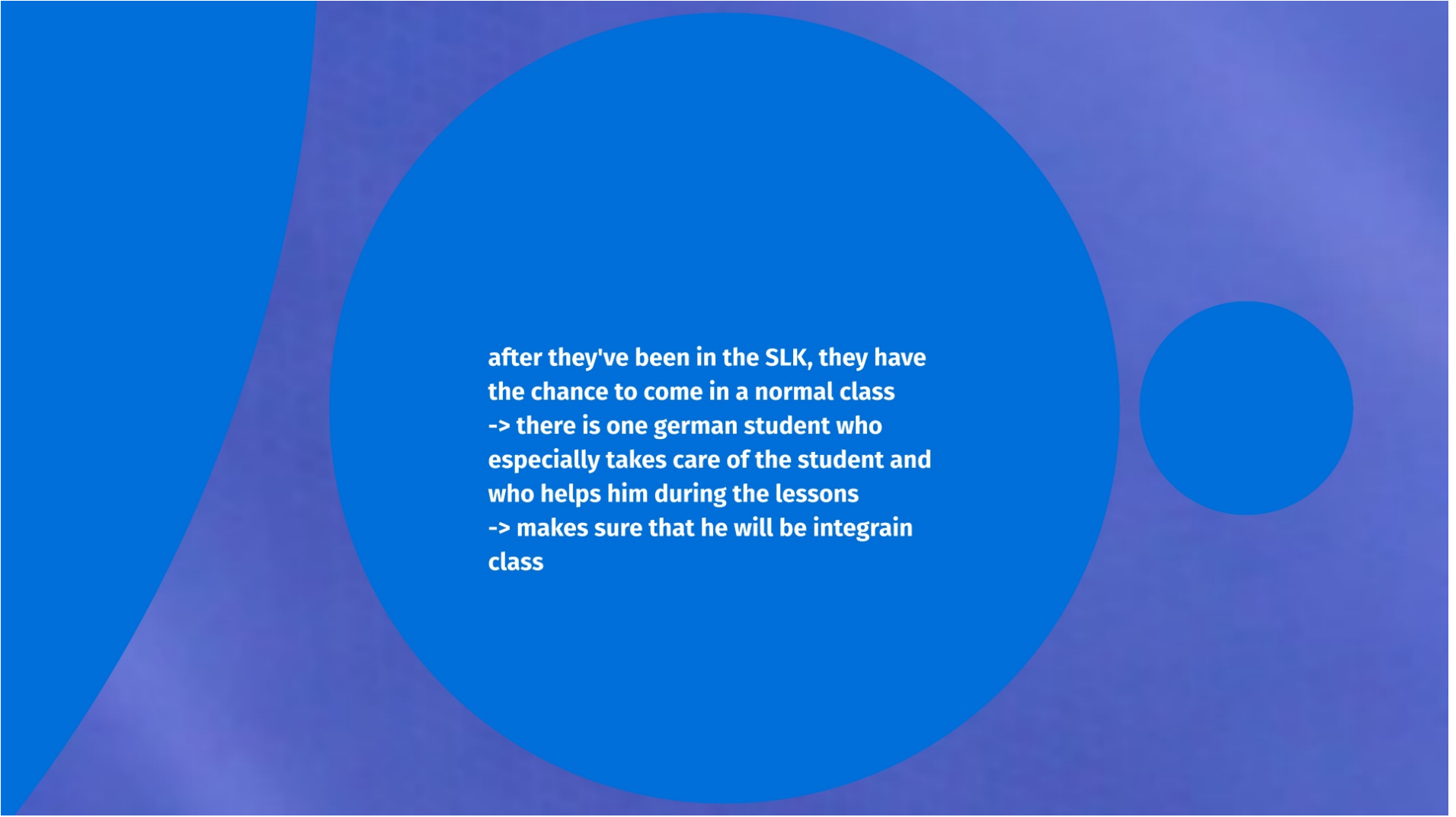
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they have to participate in...

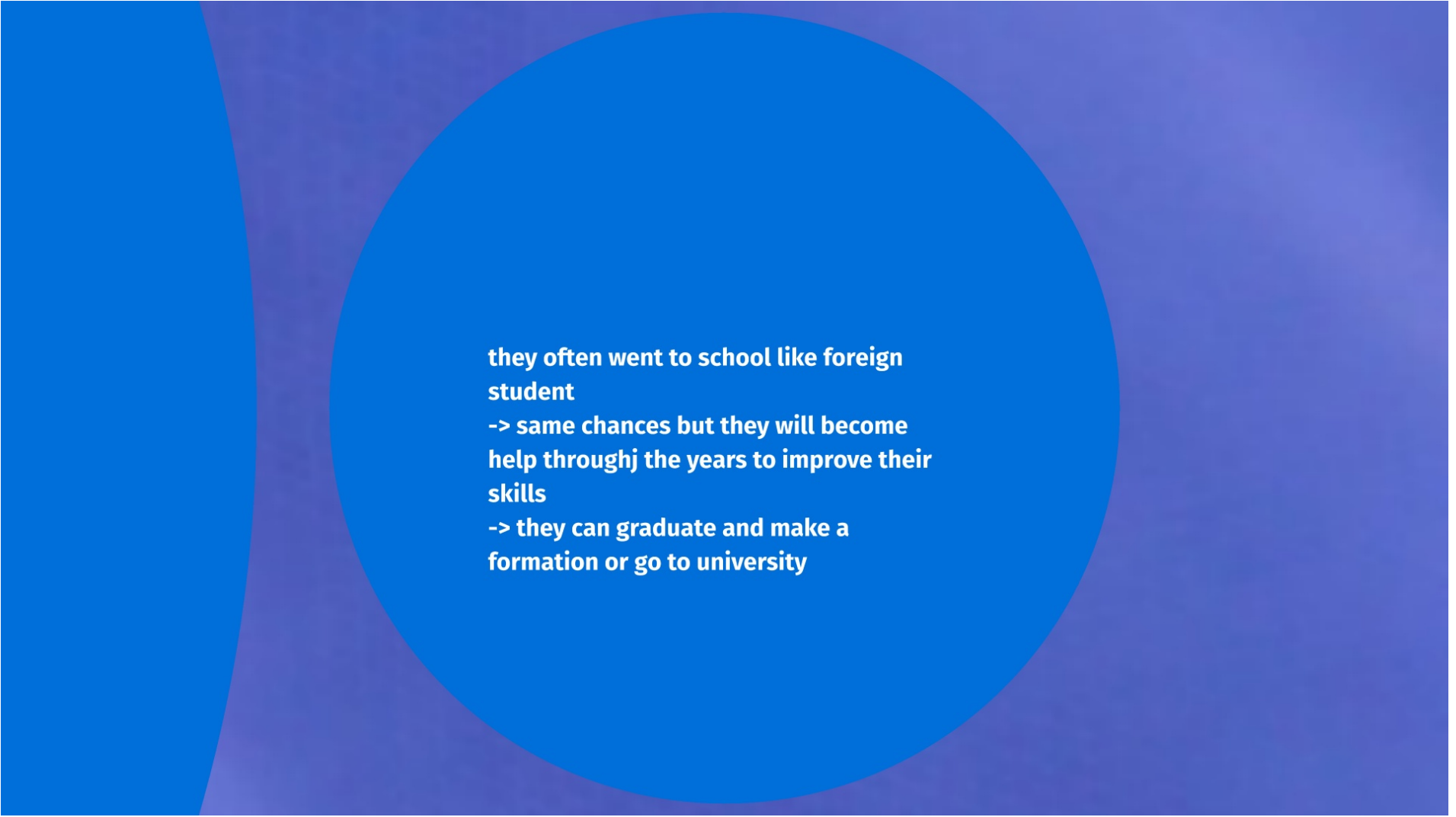
- math
 - sport
 - drama
 - english
 - and at least german
- > which takes a big part of their
timetable



**they also have to participate in a normal
class for 6 hours a week**



after they've been in the SLK, they have
the chance to come in a normal class
-> there is one german student who
especially takes care of the student and
who helps him during the lessons
-> makes sure that he will be integrain
class



they often went to school like foreign student

- > same chances but they will become help throughj the years to improve their skills
- > they can graduate and make a formation or go to university

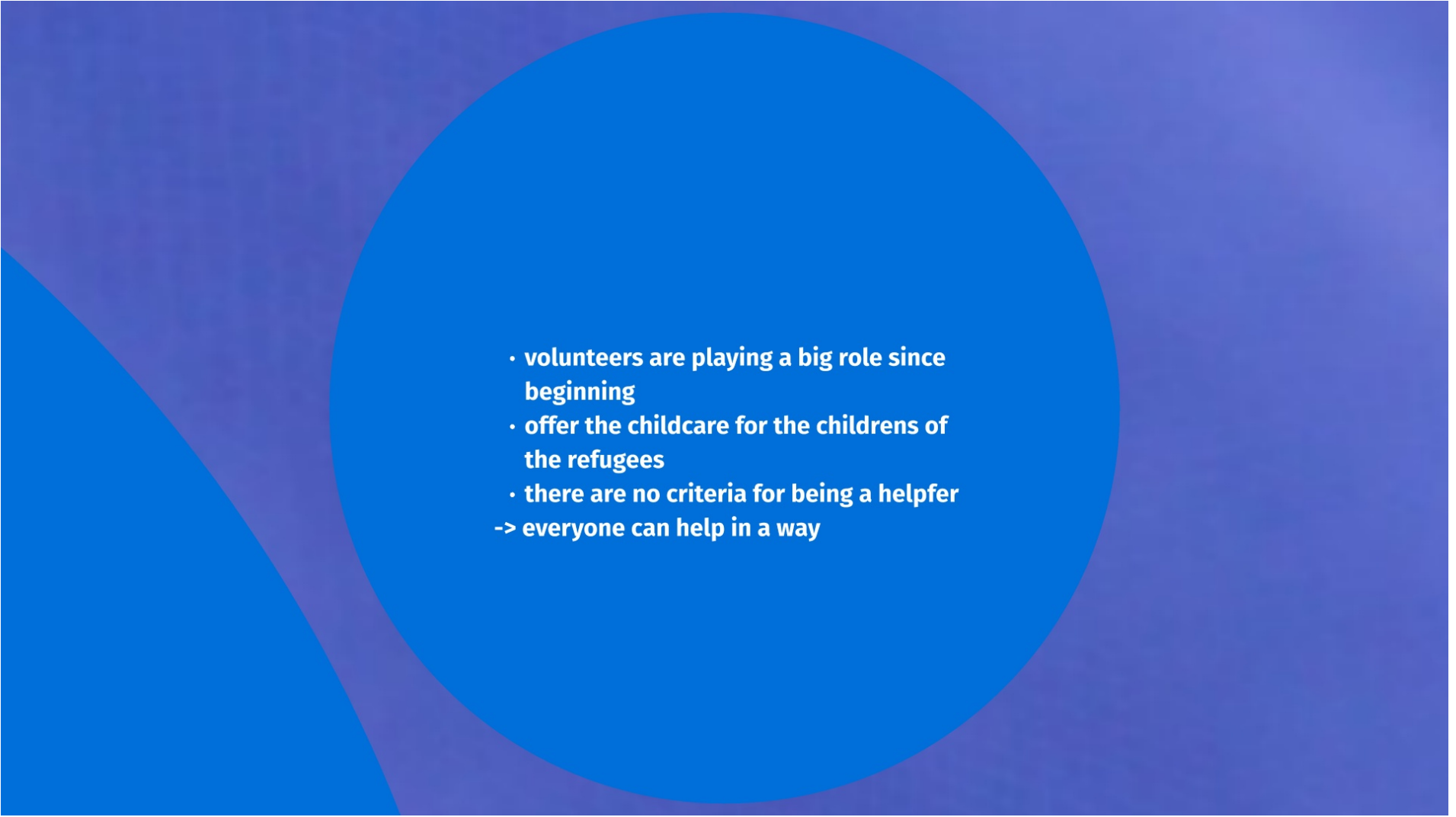
general information

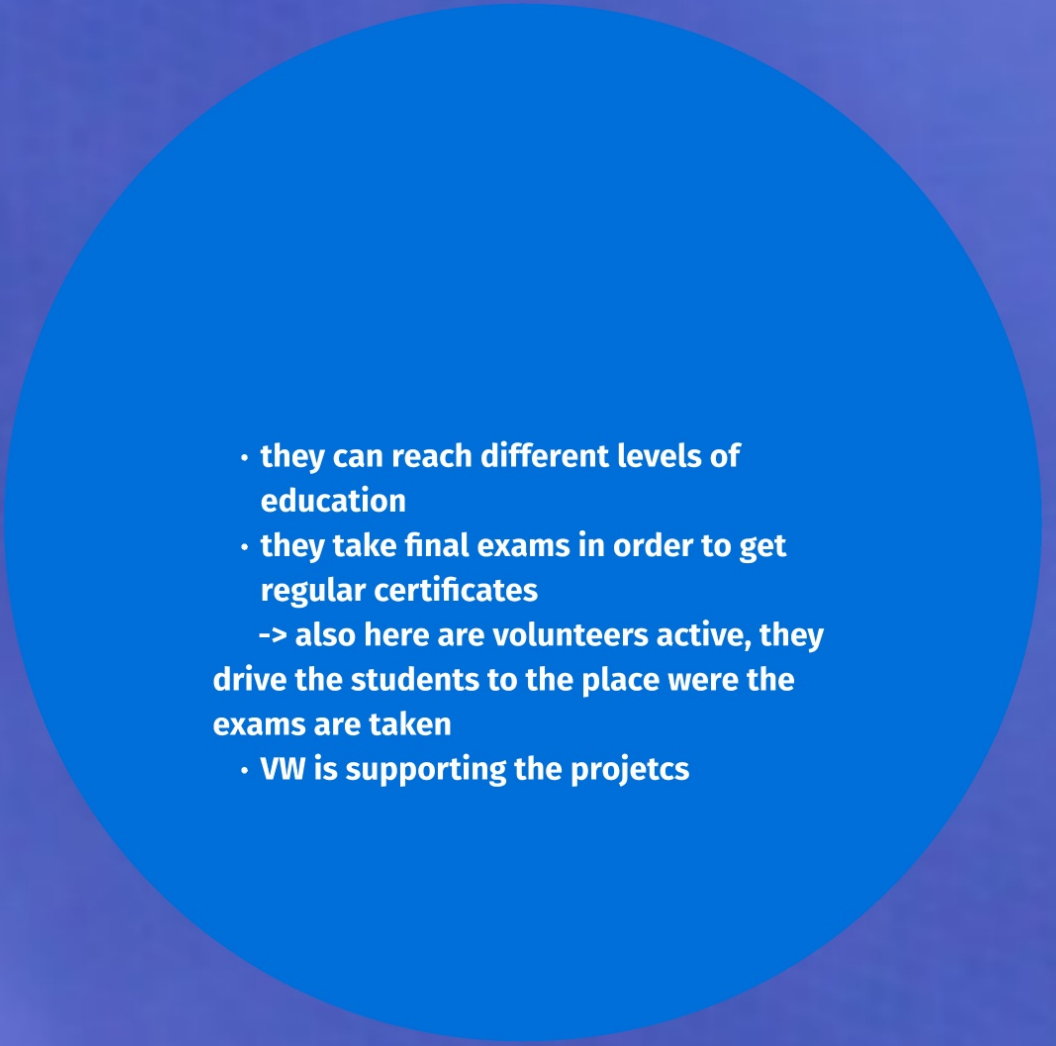
- was created in 2016
- has about 30 voluntary helpers
- they're taught in a school buildings
- they have rooms for childcare
- challenging to finance everything
- many organisations are working together

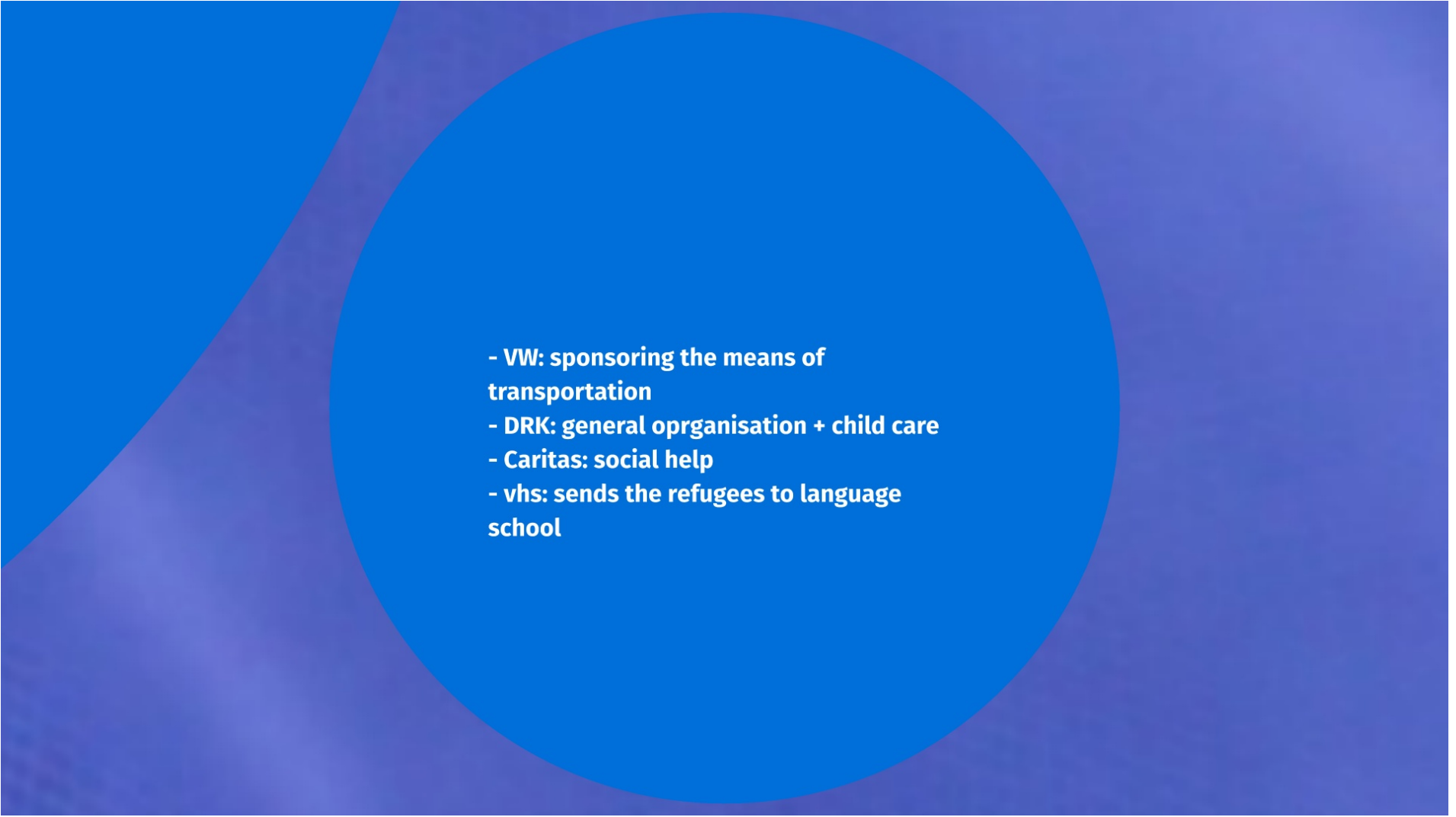
volunteers

education

cooperate
with..

- 
- volunteers are playing a big role since beginning
 - offer the childcare for the childrens of the refugees
 - there are no criteria for being a helper
- > everyone can help in a way

- 
- they can reach different levels of education
 - they take final exams in order to get regular certificates
 - > also here are volunteers active, they drive the students to the place where the exams are taken
 - VW is supporting the projects

- 
- VW: sponsoring the means of transportation
 - DRK: general organisation + child care
 - Caritas: social help
 - vhs: sends the refugees to language school

Three important steps

1. realize
you have to know what is the actual problem
2. analyze
how can I help the people with their problems
3. act
do something to solve the problems

Unterstützerkreis
Flüchtlingsunterkünfte
Hannover e.V.

Unterstützerkreis Flüchtlingsunterkünfte Hannover e.V.

They follow the steps to create neighborhood communitys. Volunteers offer language classes, career orientation and also help organize school material etc. for younger refugees.

Language skills are key to a successful integration because without communication, it's nearly impossible to integrate oneself.



Unterstützerkreis
Flüchtlingsunterkünfte Hannover e.V.

Transfer

stakeholders in other countries could use projects we have in Germany as an inspiration

"Volkswagen
Refugee Aid"

SLK

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graph TD; A[stakeholders in other countries could use projects we have in Germany as an inspiration] --> B["Volkswagen Refugee Aid"]; B --> C[SLK];
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What are
NGO's?

How are they
organized?

Why do they
need to exist?

A: How do successful private
integration initiatives and NGO's work?

B: In how far can private initiatives
provide additional support where
local authorities can't?

C: How can we inspire students to take
responsibility and remain committed
to integration projects?

D: How can we publicly promote
private initiatives which could be
perfect role models for others?

NGO: SINGA
("connection")

NGO: Médecins
Sans Frontières

C: How to inspire
students to take
responsibility and
remain committed
to integration
projects?

D: How can we
publicly promote
private initiatives
which could be
perfect role
models for others?

What are NGO's?

NGO's (Non-governmental organizations) are non-profit organizations, which are independent of the government and trace social or political aims for other people. They are founded by citizens and are active in various fields e.g. humanitarian care, health care, public policy, social and human rights and many other topics
NGO's give the society the chance to take part in problems of politics and in general you can say, that their goal is to make the world a better place for the people

How are they organized?

NGO's can be organized as associations, initiatives or foundations on a local, national or international level. They have to work transparent and employ a lot of volunteer workers and only a few permanent employees. They are organized private and don't get any aid of the union. NGO's are only fund due to private donations, membership dues and grants.

Why do they need to exist?

NGO's are very important for all countries because they engage, on a regional level, in problems and issues that seem not so important for the politics frequently or aren't noticed enough. But also on an international level the politics either don't execute enough help/time or don't occupy themselves enough with the problems and issues which have to get solved. In that case NGO's plead for other people and try to help and solve problems.

NGO's also often have new ideas to solve several problems which is very useful for politics as well as for citizens because NGO's help the people to shape their own opinion. These organizations facilitate as well the interaction between society and government, which weren't existing without NGO's.

SINGA

Vision:

SINGA strives for an inclusive society that embraces diversity, and for an innovative economy that allows everyone, regardless of their background, to realize their professional and social potential.

Mission:

Our mission is to bring locals and newcomers together to engage collaboratively in social, professional and entrepreneurial projects.

The first SINGA organization was founded **2012 in Paris**. Since then SINGA France has successfully established an international network of engaged people.

Today local SINGA organizations can be found in France, Germany, Belgium, Italy, Great Britain, Canada and Switzerland.

All local organizations share common values but are tailoring their work according to local needs.

SINGA
Berlin

SINGA
Montpellier

Berlin

Focus on entrepreneurship

Berlin
Focus on socializing



SINGA Business Lab: A support program for newcomer entrepreneurs to help them developing and elaborate their ideas to build a Start-Up. The aim is to unlock the innovative potential that refugees bring with them by enabling their access to the entrepreneurial ecosystem.



Professional Mentoring: SINGA offers a professional mentoring program where they connect locals and newcomers of similar professional background. During a mentoring phase lasting a few months the tandems work on goals that they have defined themselves. They get prepared for this phase through training and team-building.

Berlin

Focus on socializing



Sprachcafé: The SINGA Sprachcafé (language café) offers the opportunity to get to know new people outside of the teacher/student context and to apply the new language skills in informal, relaxed conversation groups. The Café provides the weekly framework for newcomers and locals to meet and to have conversations in German.



Living Room Events: SINGA's Living Room Events foster social connections among newcomers and locals differently. People in the community were invited to offer their living room as a place for newcomers and locals to meet and share stories around common themes and memories. The goal is to create a relaxed and more personal atmosphere and make it easier for people to meet as equals.

leading projects



CALM: The project, called CALM, connects refugees who are looking for a accommodation with locals who have a room to accommodate them for a period of 3 to 12 months.



SINGA supports refugee and local **entrepreneurs** with social projects in the field of inclusion and living together, with the aim to support innovation resulting from migration and support the cooperation between newcomers and the locals.



SINGA gives refugees the opportunity to take part in several cultural activities, like singing classes, cooking classes, hiking tours etc.

"Buddies": SINGA brings Newcomers and Locals who are sharing the same passion together to socialize with and spend 2 hours per week together.



Médecins Sans Frontières

(Doctors without borders)

Vision:
MSF believes that all people should have access to healthcare regardless of gender, race, religion, creed or political affiliation, and that people's medical needs outweigh respect for national boundaries

Mission:
provide medical humanitarian assistance to save lives and ease the suffering of people in crisis situations

MSF was founded 1971 in Paris by a group of journalist and doctors. It is the biggest independent medical humanitarian organization and they provide medical assistance to people affected by conflict, epidemics, disasters, or exclusion from healthcare. Up to tens of thousands of health professionals, logistic and administrative staff and doctors work for them. Today, there is a worldwide movement of nearly 65,000 people.

- They work in more than 70 countries



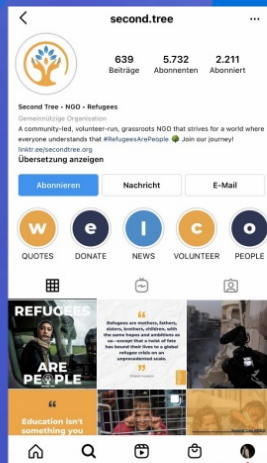
How can we inspire students to take responsibility and remain committed to integration projects?

Host projects where students have the possibility to meet refugees, but also get in touch with initiatives that support them -> for example NGO's, school projects like Erasmus+ etc.



How can we publicly promote private initiatives which could be perfect role models for others?

The NGO 'second tree' offers the possibility to students and people on helping refugees through English-lessons and providing food for them ->the people that help, get certificates and extra credits points on their studies,
The NGO also communicates with Universities to have a further reach or use social media like Instagram to reach more people



GENERAL VOLUNTEER

We are looking for volunteers with adaptable profiles who have the enthusiasm and energy we need to provide support in various areas across the organisation.

YOUTH PROGRAM VOLUNTEER

We are looking for volunteers who can support the implementation of our youth well-being program.

QUALIFIED ENGLISH TEACHER

We are looking for volunteer teachers to deliver English classes to refugees and asylum seekers in Ioannina and the Epirus region.

YOUTH PROGRAM COORDINATOR

We are looking for a coordinator for our Scouts Program based in Ioannina.

ADULT EDUCATION COORDINATOR

We are looking for a coordinator for our Adult Education Program based in Ioannina.

FUNDRAISING OFFICER

Our fundraising mission aims to inspire people to support our quest for change. As Fundraising Officer your role will be to develop and implement fundraising initiatives.

SOCIAL MEDIA SPECIALIST

We are looking for a Social Media Specialist who can strategically identify, and post, engaging content for our social media feeds, which will inspire people to support our work with refugees and asylum seekers in Epirus.

INTERNSHIPS

Do you want to credit your volunteering period at Second Tree as an internship?

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Challenges and Chances



Challenges for private companies

- > *What are the challenges and chances newly arrived immigrants face in terms of a desired labor market integration?*
- > *What are the challenges and requirements private companies face when trying to hire immigrants/ refugees?*
- > *What has been done in the country's by the legislation to react to the crisis?*

Political Measures in different countries

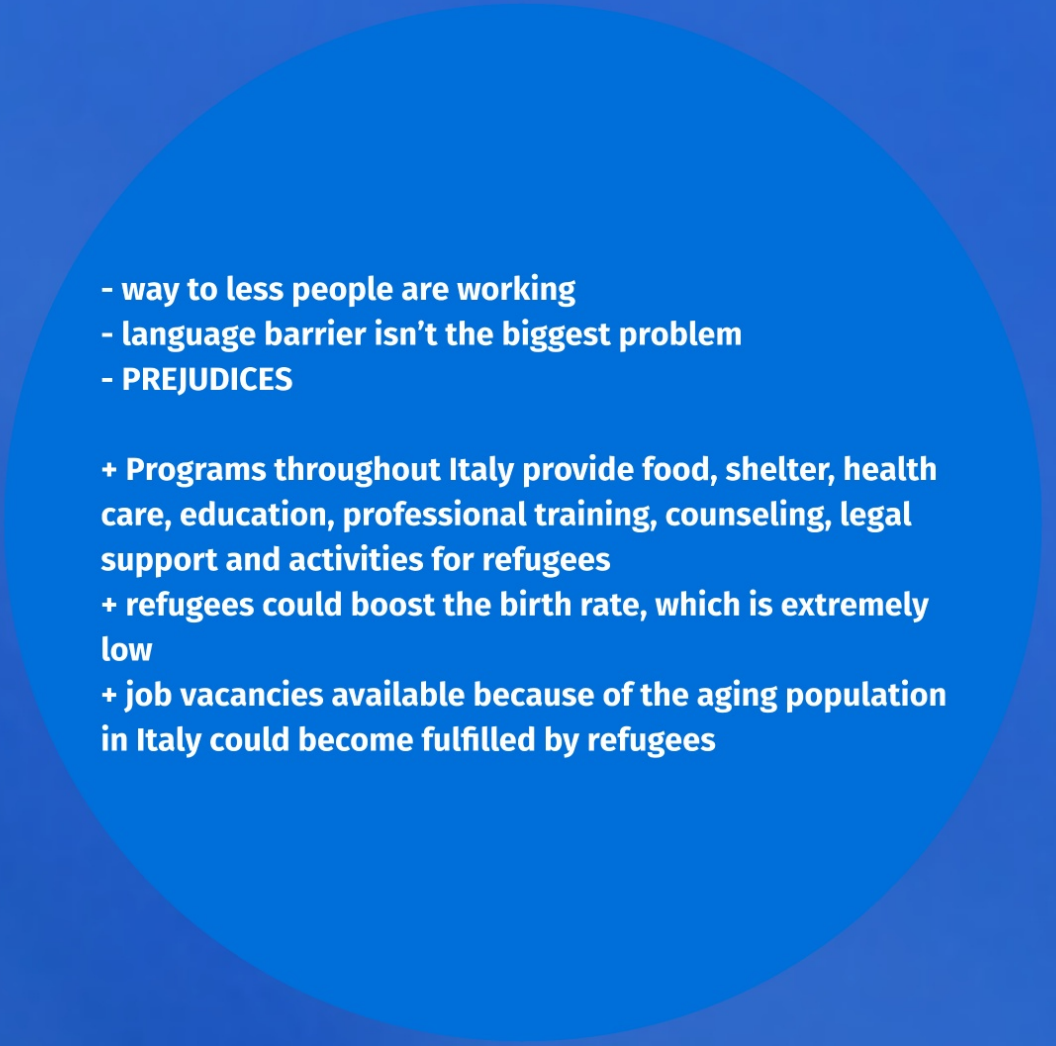
France

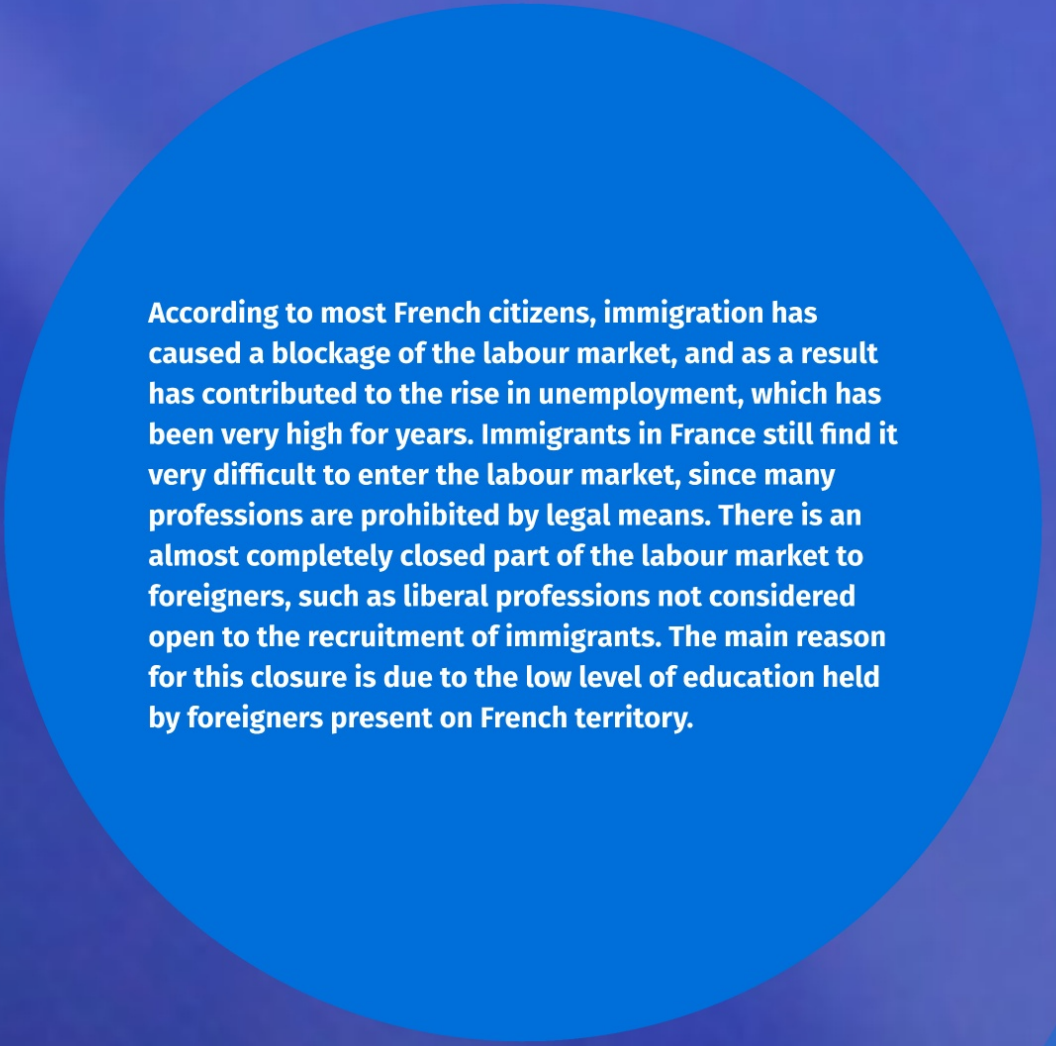
Italy



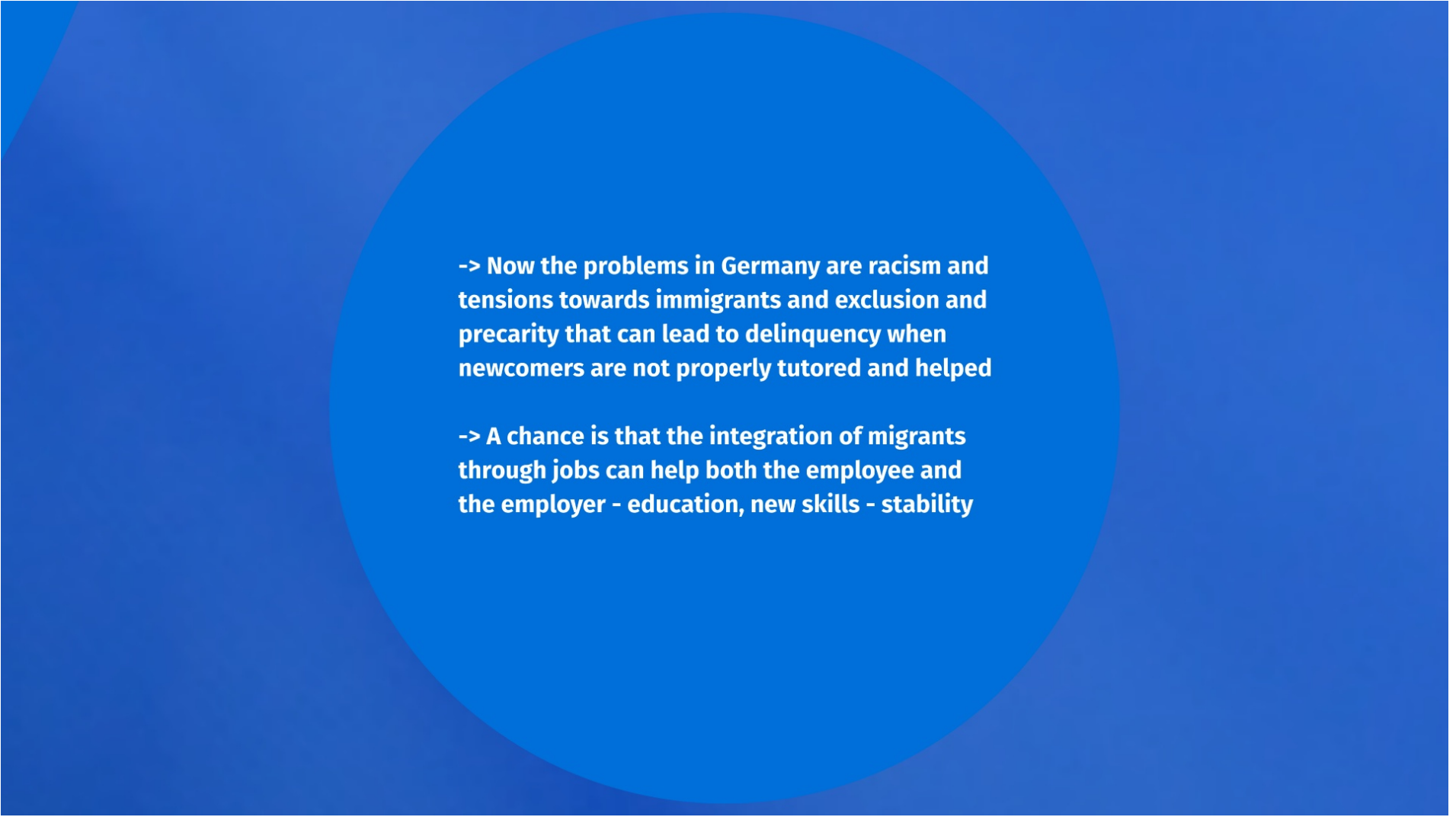
Challenges and Chances

Germany

- 
- way to less people are working
 - language barrier isn't the biggest problem
 - PREJUDICES
-
- + Programs throughout Italy provide food, shelter, health care, education, professional training, counseling, legal support and activities for refugees
 - + refugees could boost the birth rate, which is extremely low
 - + job vacancies available because of the aging population in Italy could become fulfilled by refugees

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According to most French citizens, immigration has caused a blockage of the labour market, and as a result has contributed to the rise in unemployment, which has been very high for years. Immigrants in France still find it very difficult to enter the labour market, since many professions are prohibited by legal means. There is an almost completely closed part of the labour market to foreigners, such as liberal professions not considered open to the recruitment of immigrants. The main reason for this closure is due to the low level of education held by foreigners present on French territory.



-> Now the problems in Germany are racism and tensions towards immigrants and exclusion and precarity that can lead to delinquency when newcomers are not properly tutored and helped

-> A chance is that the integration of migrants through jobs can help both the employee and the employer - education, new skills - stability

Challenges for private companies

Private companies are the fundamental economic actors on which the free market is based. Thus, it is in their interest to overcome the challenges that the refugees crisis has created and turn them into opportunities.

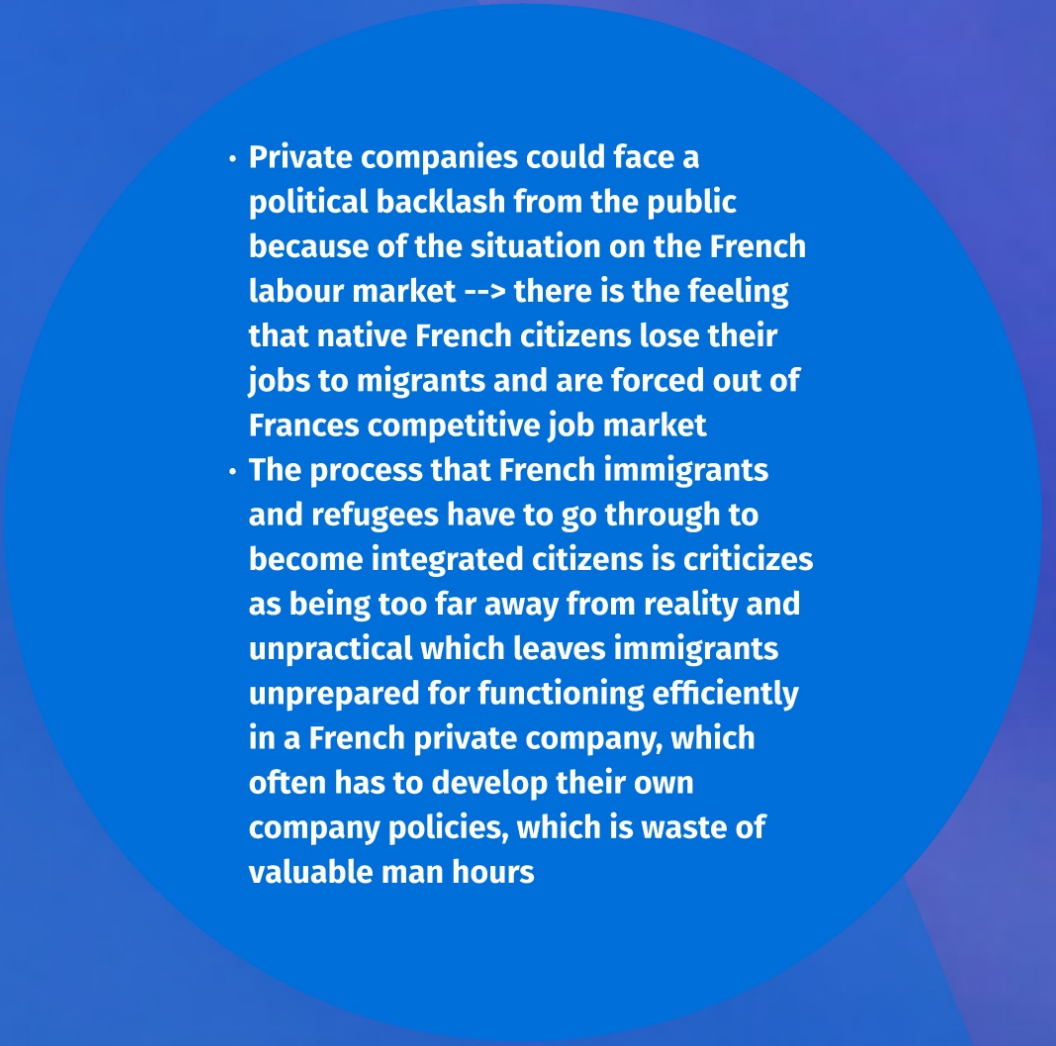
Germany

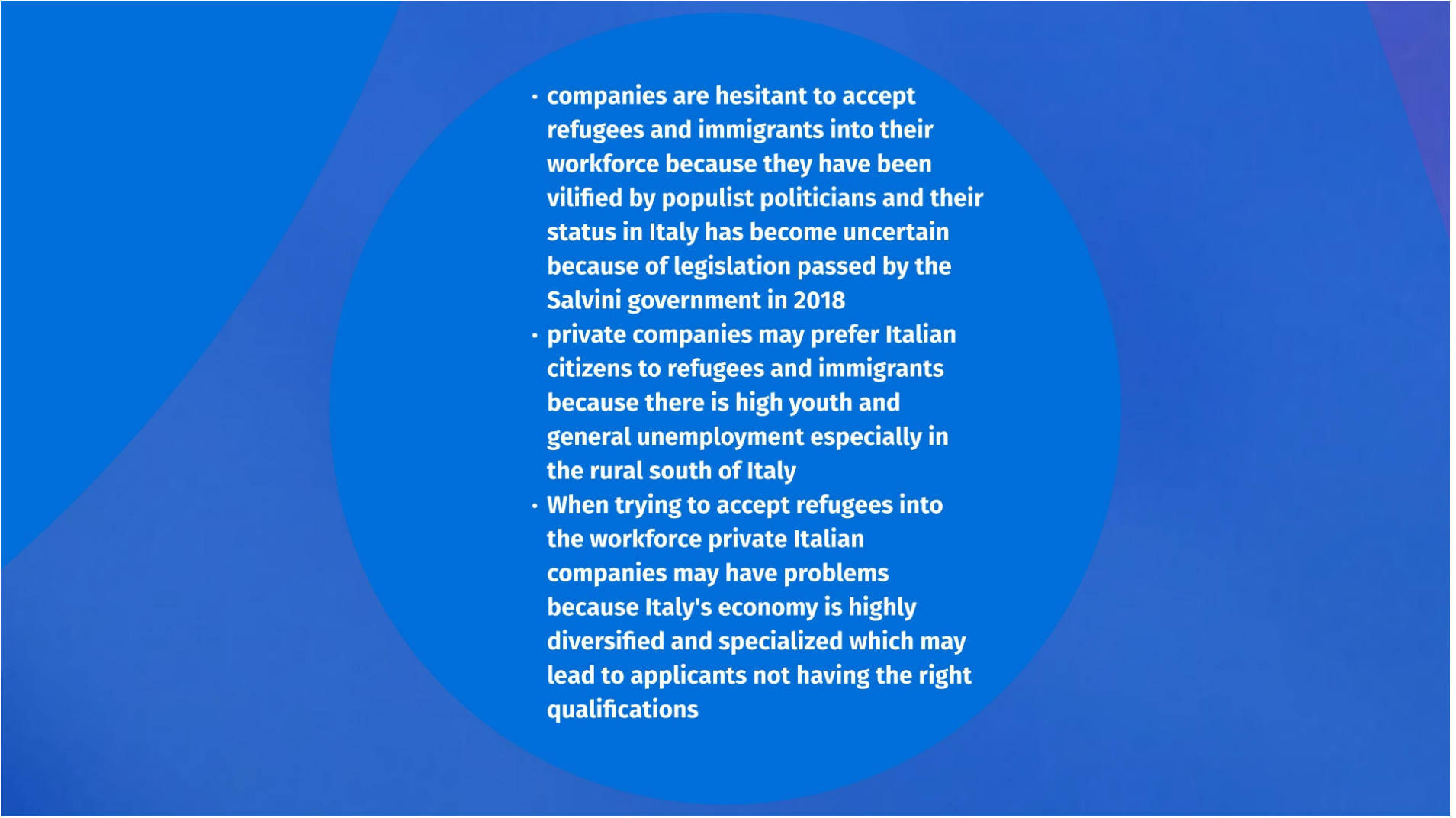
France

Italy

Challenges that could arise for private companies

- **The language-barrier is a huge problem for the refugees, but also for the employees that are already working for the company**
- **The refugees that have been hired by a private company could be excluded and socially isolated by their coworkers due to cultural differences**
- **Germany's dedicated and focussed immigration and integration policies are only a product of recent developments. Private companies have to be pioneers in hiring refugees because there has not been a similar situation in the Federal Republic of Germany before**

- 
- Private companies could face a political backlash from the public because of the situation on the French labour market --> there is the feeling that native French citizens lose their jobs to migrants and are forced out of France's competitive job market
 - The process that French immigrants and refugees have to go through to become integrated citizens is criticized as being too far away from reality and impractical which leaves immigrants unprepared for functioning efficiently in a French private company, which often has to develop their own company policies, which is a waste of valuable man hours

- 
- companies are hesitant to accept refugees and immigrants into their workforce because they have been vilified by populist politicians and their status in Italy has become uncertain because of legislation passed by the Salvini government in 2018
 - private companies may prefer Italian citizens to refugees and immigrants because there is high youth and general unemployment especially in the rural south of Italy
 - When trying to accept refugees into the workforce private Italian companies may have problems because Italy's economy is highly diversified and specialized which may lead to applicants not having the right qualifications



Political Measures in different countries

France

Germany

Italy

Measures taken by the federal government of Germany:

Recognition Act
[2012]

Welcome pilots
[Spring 2016]

Integration Act
[2016]

Law on tolerated
persons in training
and employment
[since 01.01.2020]



Recognition Act [2012]

-> The Federal Recognition Act gives skilled workers from abroad the right to have their professional qualifications checked for equivalence with the German reference profession.

-> The law thus improves the chances for people who have acquired their professional qualifications abroad to work in Germany in their learned profession and thus enables better labor market integration.

Integration Act [2016]

Motto: Promote and demand

Goal: New funding opportunities and restrictions.

Innovations:

- Asylum seekers allowed to work as temporary workers without waiting period
- Faster and better access to integration courses
- Introduction to the German labor market
- Possibility of permanent residence status during training
 - o Two-year security after training
- If need to leave the country, there is no loophole through training
 - o Effective only for refugees with a good prospect of remaining in the country
- Residence assignment:
 - o Decision of the federal states (prevention of ghettoization).

Law on tolerated persons in training and employment [since 01.01.2020].

-> The law contains regulations so that well-integrated tolerated persons can obtain a reliable status.

-> With the newly introduced employment toleration, clear criteria are defined for a reliable status of tolerated persons who secure their livelihood themselves through gainful employment and who are well integrated.

-> This law grants foreigners and their spouses or partners a toleration period of 30 months and thus also a secure residence status if the following requirements are met:

- Entry into the federal territory before the cut-off date of August 1, 2018.
- Identity clarified
- Possession of a tolerated stay for at least 12 months
- Employment subject to social insurance contributions for at least 35 hours per week (single parents: 20 hours per week) for at least 18 months
- Independent means of subsistence
- Sufficient oral proficiency in the German language
- No conviction for a crime committed intentionally in the Federal Republic of Germany (with the exception of crimes that can only be committed by foreigners under the Residence Act or the Asylum Act)
- No links to extremist or terrorist organizations
- In principle, successful completion of an integration course if attendance is compulsory
- Actual school attendance of school-age children

-> The law contains regulations so that well-integrated tolerated persons can obtain a reliable status. In addition, there is provision for the uniform application of the educational toleration.

-> Asylum and employment migration remain separate

Welcome pilots [Spring 2016]

-> There are currently 120 welcome pilots in operation nationwide. Since September 28, 2017, large companies have also been able to take advantage of their support.

-> In 2019, the "Willkommenslotsen" succeeded in filling around 2,300 training positions. In addition, the work of the Welcome Pilots in 2019 resulted in more than 2,600 internships and entry-level qualification positions as preparation for an apprenticeship.

-> The Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology funds the Welcome Guides as part of the measures to integrate refugees into work and training, which will be continued under the umbrella of the new Alliance for Initial and Continuing Training. The total annual expenditure of the program is around 7.3 million euros. Of this, 5.1 million euros is financed from federal funds. The remaining 2.2 million euros are provided by industry.



-> An attempt to integrate and support immigrants was made by LMR, Aurélien Taché, on 19 February 2018 when he presented his "72 proposals for an ambitious policy integration of foreigners arriving in France"

Measures taken by the italian government:

Asylum seekers are allowed to work in Italy for 60 days from the day of their application.

If the corresponding examination procedure has not been completed yet and the delay was not caused by the application, the applicant can enter into a dependent employment relationship after these 2 months.

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