THIS IS NOT A GAME: 
The Life and Death 
Obstacle Course to Europe

Syria has been consumed by war since 2011. At more than 4 million, Syrians today are the world’s second largest refugee community. To escape death, detention, and misery, they have to risk their lives on a long and dangerous path to safety. Millions make the journey for safety every day.

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MSF runs medical activities in Syria, its neighbor Lebanon, and into countries neighboring Syria, and the borders of Tunisia, Italy, Greece, Serbia, and others. MSF-operated search and rescue boats in the Mediterranean and Aegean seas have rescued more than 20,000 people. Thousands more make the journey for safety every day.

Despite the risks, MSF and other aid organizations are providing medical assistance and rescue services to migrants and refugees. With ways to start new lives in a new place, sometimes they charge fees to migrants and refugees. They are being exploited and forced to return. They may be demanding money and land, commonly defended by smugglers, bandits, and other NGO operations. Some demand money and other support to allow the boats to continue, even if they have already arrived.

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Detention. This is not a game. This is not a game. This is not a game. 

Fake documents. 

War. Air strikes, barrel bombs, or napalm, Car bombs, chemical attacks, shelling.

Drowning. Thousands of people have drowned in the Mediterranean and Aegean seas as they attempt to reach Europe. The boats are overcrowded and often full. They are risking their lives to escape war and detention.

Transportation. Planes, trains, buses, car, boats, and feet can all be used to escape the war

Refugee camps. Located in refugee camps in Europe, and other parts of the world, migrants and refugees are provided shelter and services.

Closed border. *Any acts of violence are not real. They are thoughts.*

Refugee camp. Located in refugee camps in Europe, and the borders of Tunisia, Italy, Greece, Serbia, and others. MSF is providing medical assistance and rescue services to migrants and refugees. With ways to start new lives in a new place, sometimes they charge fees to migrants and refugees. They are being exploited and forced to return. They may be demanding money and land, commonly defended by smugglers, bandits, and other NGO operations. Some demand money and other support to allow the boats to continue, even if they have already arrived.

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