

Philip Hammond On The Migrant Crisis



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By Alexander Baron



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At last, a mainstream politician has commented intelligently on the migrant crisis, and predictably the measured remarks of Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond have drawn outrage from the usual suspects, including Amnesty International.

Although Mr Hammond spoke only about Europe maintaining its (relatively) high standard of living in the face of this enormous influx, he might have added our identity is under threat, but that would have been a bit too honest. So what did he say?

Simply that because of the **substantially lower standard of living** of Africans in general, there will always be those who seek a higher one by emigration. The population of Africa is now well over one billion, and clearly any mass migration will impact drastically on the lifestyles and standard of living of Europeans.

He might have added that anti-Imperialist propaganda to the contrary, black Africa especially has been a constant drain on Europe for the entire Twentieth Century and still is today. Back in the 1980s a group of idealistic musicians came together to form Band Aid which aimed not only to relieve the rampant famine of the time but to raise awareness of the problems faced by the Dark Continent. And what has been the result? The bottom line is that the saintly behaviour of Bob Geldorf in particular has drawn as much contempt as admiration by African commentators, and the starving babies are still there.

Europe must close its doors and button down its hatches, even if this seems ruthless at the time. The alternative is to allow in not only millions but tens of millions of economic migrants disguised as asylum seekers, which would kill the goose that laid the golden egg. Anyone who thinks otherwise should remember what Sophie Morgan saw in Ghana, people who may be physically in the Twenty-First Century but are still living in a Mediaeval world in many ways.

There remains though the plight of those in war torn regions, especially Syria. While we should continue to provide humanitarian aid for genuine victims of war, we should make it clear that this aid is not a right, and just as importantly the West will not fight their battles for them. At the end of the day there has to be some sort of accommodation between the warring factions. We should cut off all military aid and allow Africans, Arabs, Moslems and others to sort out their own problems, and to sink or swim of their own accord.

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