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Europe divided

● Political leaders paralysed by crisis over migrant quotas ● Bodies of infants washed up on beaches

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The harrowing image of a little boy lying lifeless in a policeman's arms dramatically illustrated the human cost of Europe's greatest postwar migration yesterday as paralysed political leaders drifted further from a solution to the crisis.

Aylan Kurdi, three, died with his brother, Galip, and their mother while trying to cross a few short miles of the Mediterranean to reach Greece. His body was found on a Turkish beach. As the terrible pictures emerged, eastern European nations defied calls led by Germany to share the huge numbers of migrants, many fleeing the war in Syria.

Viktor Orban, Hungary's conservative prime minister, will head to Brussels today to make clear that he is not prepared to accept Muslim refugees amid EU threats to withdraw voting rights from member states guilty of discrimination.

The move follows a similar demand from Slovakia and unease in half a dozen former Communist countries at being made to accept quotas of migrants under a scheme to be announced by the European Commission.

David Cameron also gave his clearest indication that he would not cave in to demands from Berlin for Britain to accept more asylum seekers, warning that the crisis could not be solved "simply by taking more and more refugees".

As the political response across Europe was mired in recriminations, thousands more migrants were on the move, with Germany saying that 100 people were crossing its border illegally every hour. British police intercepted a lorry on Tyneside last night, carrying 20 migrants from Albania and Syria. It had come from the Netherlands.

Thousands more hit an unexpected blockade in Budapest, where the Hungarian authorities changed policy and prevented any migrants from boarding trains to the West. The decision came after complaints from Berlin that Hungary was failing to follow EU rules to register asylum seekers and was simply waving them through.

The European system for asylum appeared increasingly in tatters after Czech police said that they would not prevent migrants registered in Hungary from travelling to Germany.

Frans Timmermans, vice-president of the European Commission, said that Brussels was ready to punish countries



The body of Aylan Kurdi, three, was found on a Turkish beach yesterday after his family perished while trying to reach Europe

NILUFER DEMIR / REUTERS

in eastern Europe with the loss of EU voting rights and funding if they failed to implement rules on asylum.

He warned that the crisis was undermining international rules on asylum for refugees, highlighting a "worrying rise in anti-Muslim hatred" and signalling his readiness to take on "highly sensitive challenges to the rule of law".

The Dutch commissioner said: "The forces of bigotry and populism, of racism and xenophobia are on the rise, and we simply cannot let them gain ground." He was prepared to use an article of the EU treaty that can lead to the suspension of a member state's rights, including voting rights.

The measure, with which Hungary was threatened this year, allows the EU to bar a country from voting on legislation or Brussels spending. The EU can also suspend national vetos and freeze all funding.

Mr Orban has already been upbraided over a call for internment camps for immigrants before backtracking over the summer, but he has continued to warn that migration threatens "European values and the European nations".

Mr Cameron hardened his stance amid calls from within his own party for Britain to take in more refugees. "We have taken a number of genuine asylum seekers from Syrian refugee camps and we keep that under review, but we think the most important thing is to try to bring peace and stability to that part of the world," he said. "I do not think there is an answer that can be achieved simply by taking more and more refugees."

Sir Mick Davis, a former chief executive of the mining company Xstrata and a Tory donor, told *The Times* that Britain had a proud history of having welcomed Jews fleeing the Nazis and must not shut itself off from modern crises.

Johnny Mercer, the Tory MP for Plymouth Moor View, said that he would like to see Britain do more in taking in refugees. "We have always led the world in looking after people who can't look after themselves," he said.

On the eve of talks in Brussels, Mr Orban's government signalled support for Slovakia's refusal to accept Muslim refugees. "We are concerned about the capacity of Hungarian society, which contrary to Germany is not used to having foreign religions or a strong Muslim presence," Gergely Prohle, a Hungarian minister state, said. "Entry to a country cannot be determined centrally by Brussels."

Next week Jean-Claude Juncker, the
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Patients will have access to their GP records on their smartphones within a year, Jeremy Hunt said. They will be able to update their data from wearable monitors. **Page 2**

Charity's wasted cash

The Halo Trust, the landmine charity backed by Diana, Princess of Wales, spent almost £270,000 on a promotional film that was never shown. **Page 4**

Corbyn 'abuse failure'

Jeremy Corbyn might have failed to speak out more over one of Britain's worst abuse scandals because the children were the "wrong sort", a lawyer claimed yesterday. **Page 19**

Kremlin backs Syria

Russian forces are fighting alongside President Assad's forces, according to footage on Syrian state television in which the most advanced vehicle in Russia's army appeared. **Page 30**

Treasury accused

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'Crazy' transfer fee

Anthony Martial, Manchester United's new £58.8 million signing, said it was "quite crazy" that he was now the most expensive teenager in world football. **Page 72**