

FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION & ASYLUM IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

A Statistical Overview

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Statistical Evidence



Where do girls and women from FGM-practising countries seek asylum in the EU?



Which FGM-practising countries do these girls and women come from?



Where do these women and girls settle in the EU?



What is the prevalence of FGM amongst female asylum-seekers in the EU?



Where do girls under 14 from FGM-practising countries of origin settle?



How many asylum claims raise issues relating to FGM?

FGM-practising Countries of Origin



- Benin
- Burkina Faso
- Cameroon
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Congo*
- Cote d'Ivoire
- Djibouti
- Egypt



- Eritrea
- Ethiopia
- Gambia
- Ghana
- Guinea
- Guinea-Bissau
- Kenya
- Liberia
- Mali
- Mauritania



- Niger
- Nigeria
- Senegal
- Sierra Leone
- Somalia
- Sudan
- Tanzania
- Togo
- Uganda
- Yemen

- Iraq

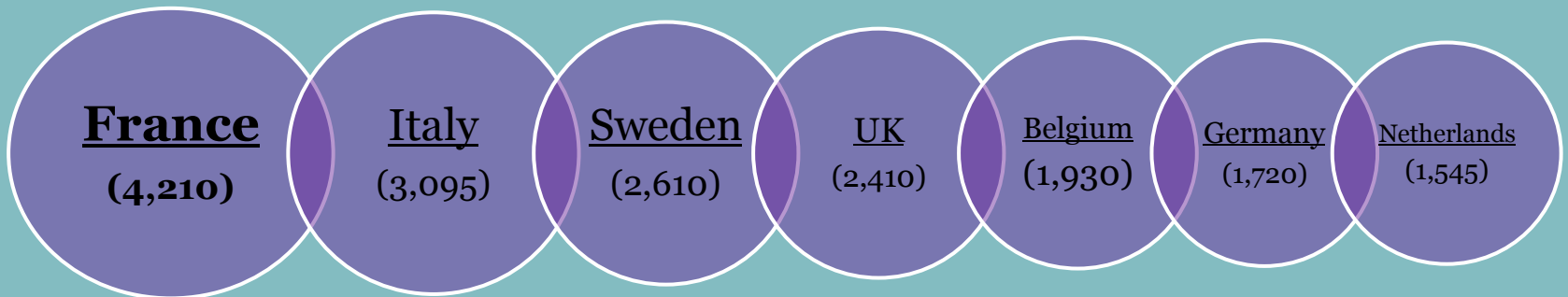
This national survey data is part of the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) published by Macro, or the Multiple Cluster Indicator Surveys (MICS), published by UNICEF available at: <http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/topics/fgm/prevalence/en/index.html>.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) notes that there are only anecdotal reports on FGM in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and that the figure of 5% mentioned in a WHO publication in 1997 was a questionable estimate (available at: <http://goo.gl/uSln2>).

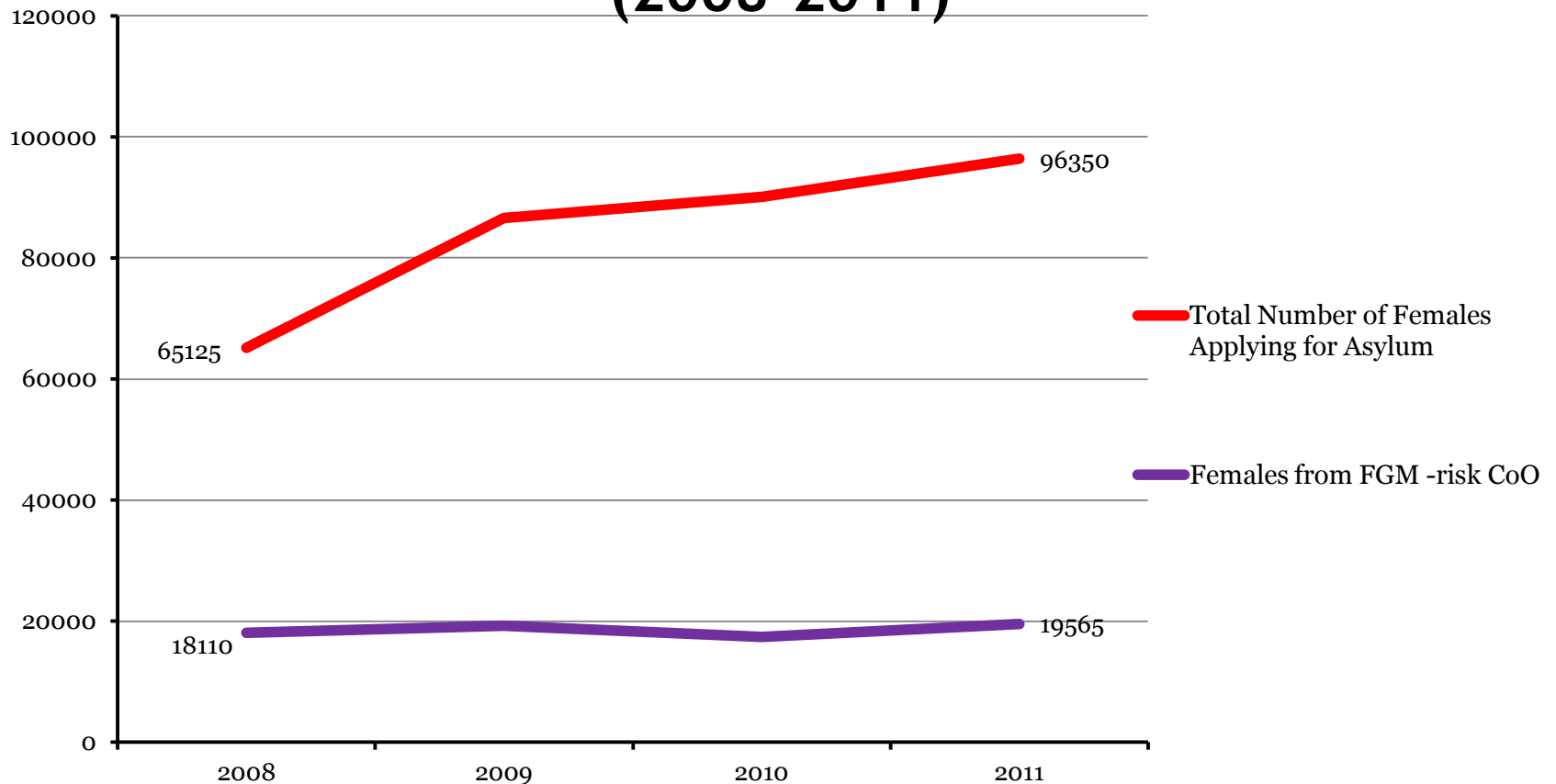
1 Where do girls and women from FGM-practising countries seek asylum in the EU?

□ Approx. **20,000** women and girls from FGM-practising countries of origin seek asylum in the EU every year

□ In 2011, the main countries of asylum for these females were:

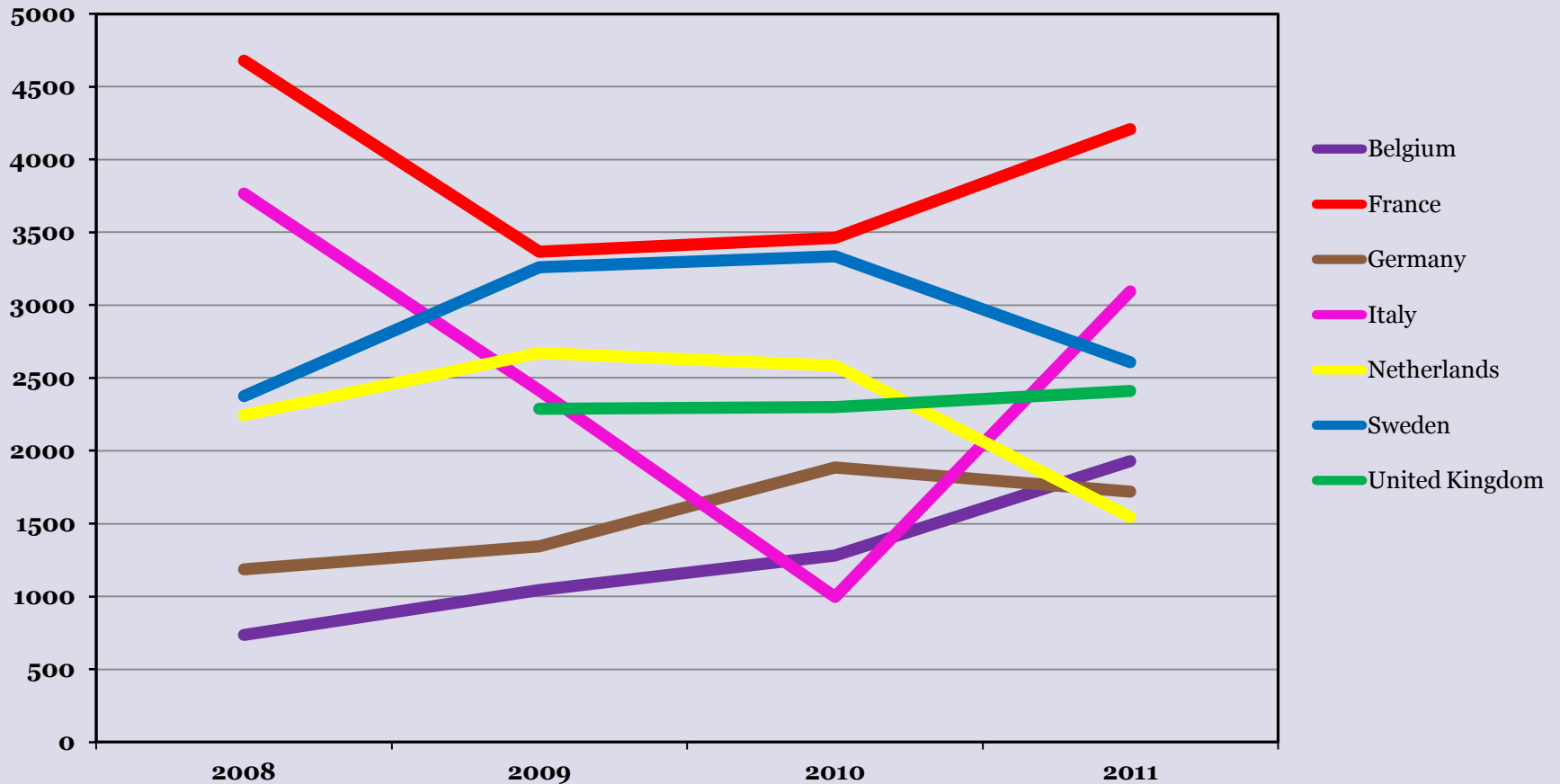


Female Applicants to EU 27 Member States (2008-2011)



Whilst the number of female asylum applicants from FGM-practising countries remained relatively **constant** from 2008-2011, the total number of female applicants to EU 27 **increased**.

Number of Female Applicants from FGM-risk Countries of Origin (2008-2011)



All countries have experienced an increase in applications since 2009, except **Sweden** and the **Netherlands**

% of female applicants from FGM-practising countries out of total female applicants (2008-2011)

Over
10%

- Belgium
- Germany

Over
20%

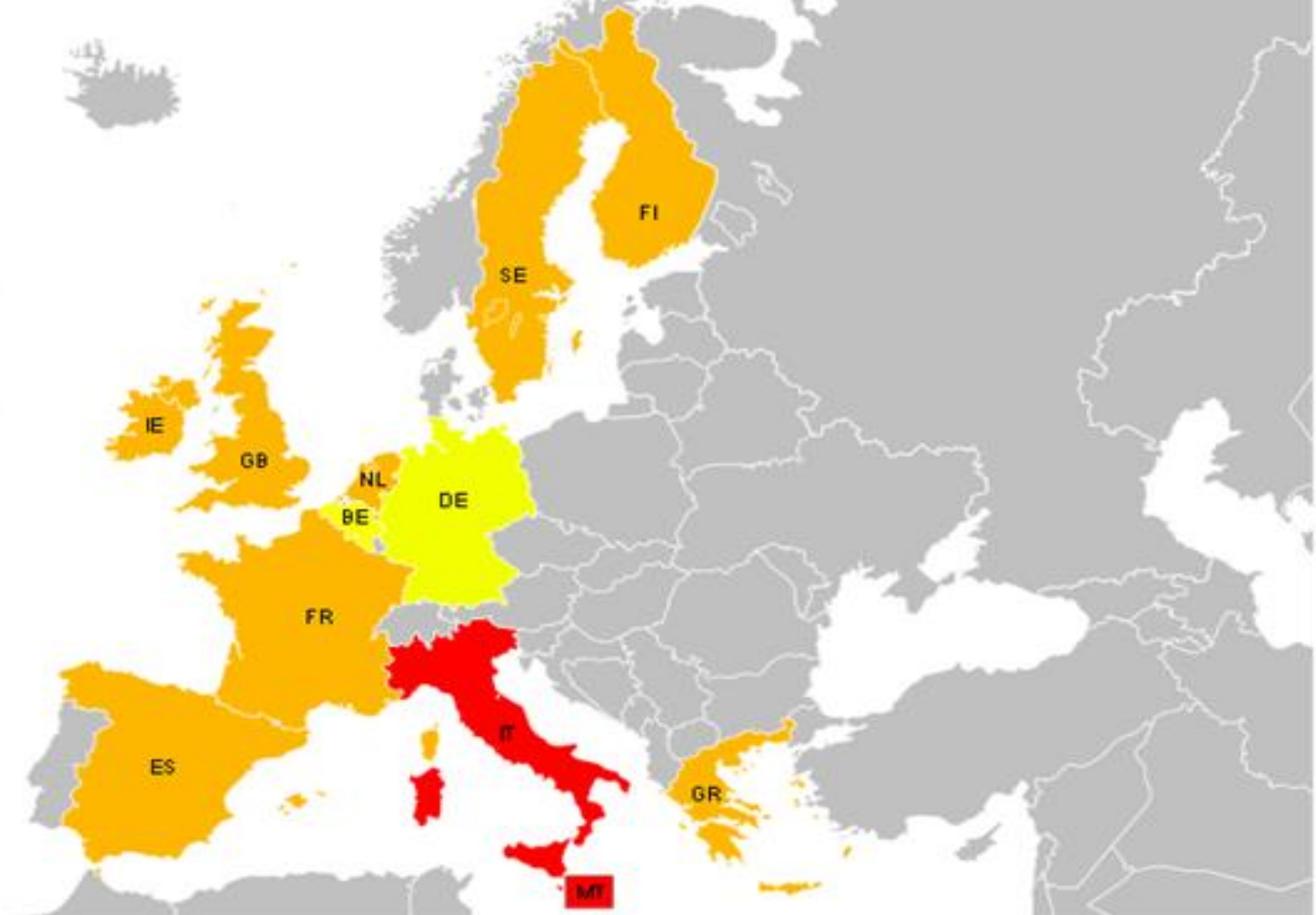
- France
- Finland
- Greece
- Ireland
- Netherlands
- Spain
- Sweden
- UK

Over
60%

- Italy
- **Malta** (>90%)



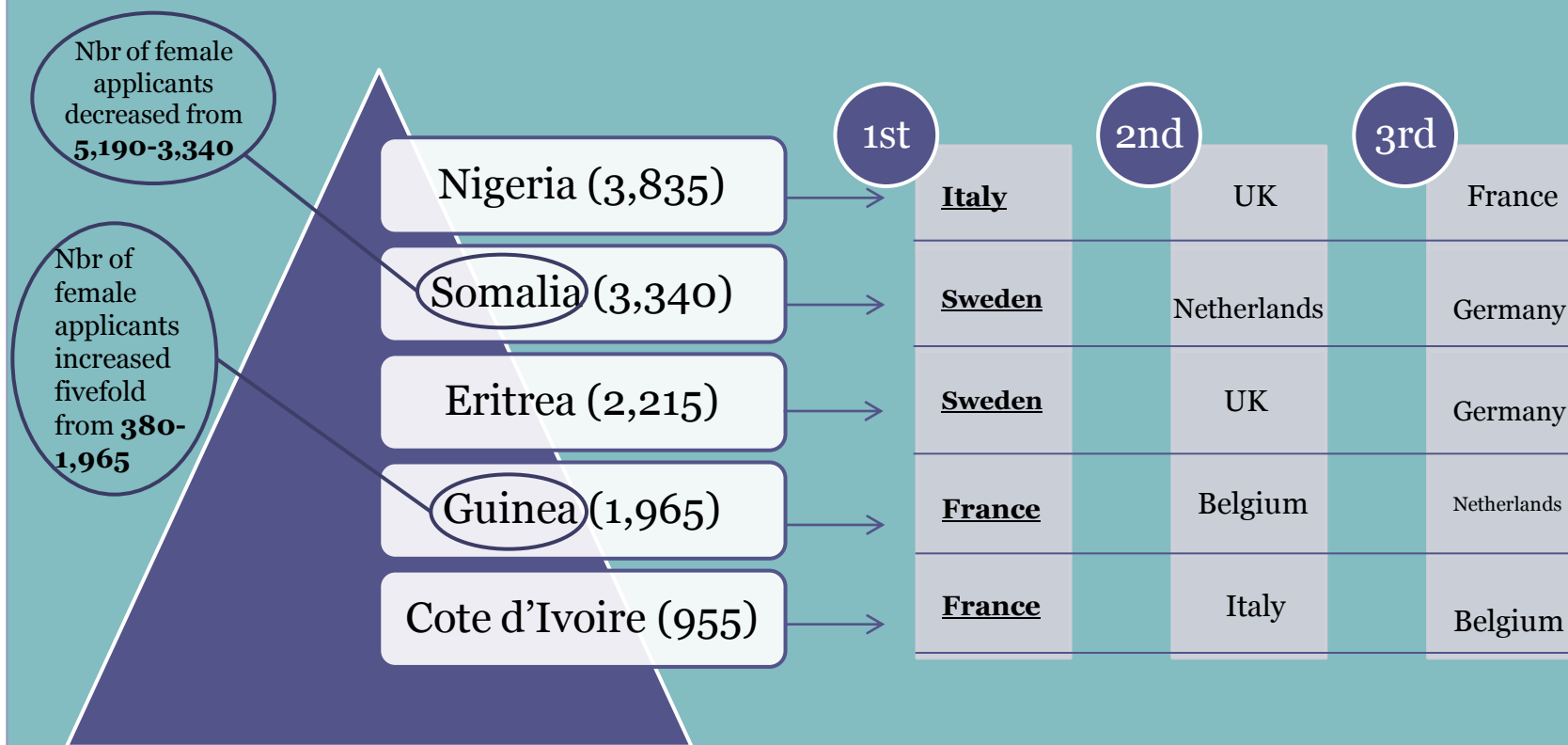
Female applicants from FGM-practising countries of origin in EU 27



2

Which FGM-practising countries do these girls and women come from and where do they go?

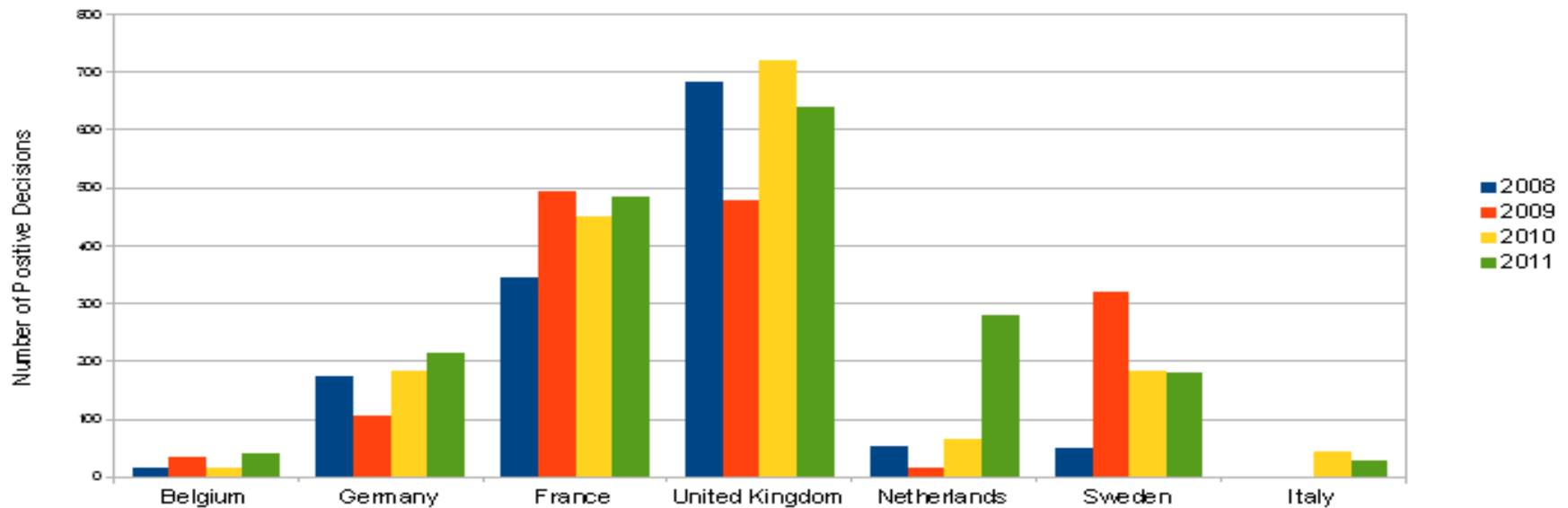
- In 2011, women and girl asylum-seekers from FGM-risk countries of origin mainly came from:



3

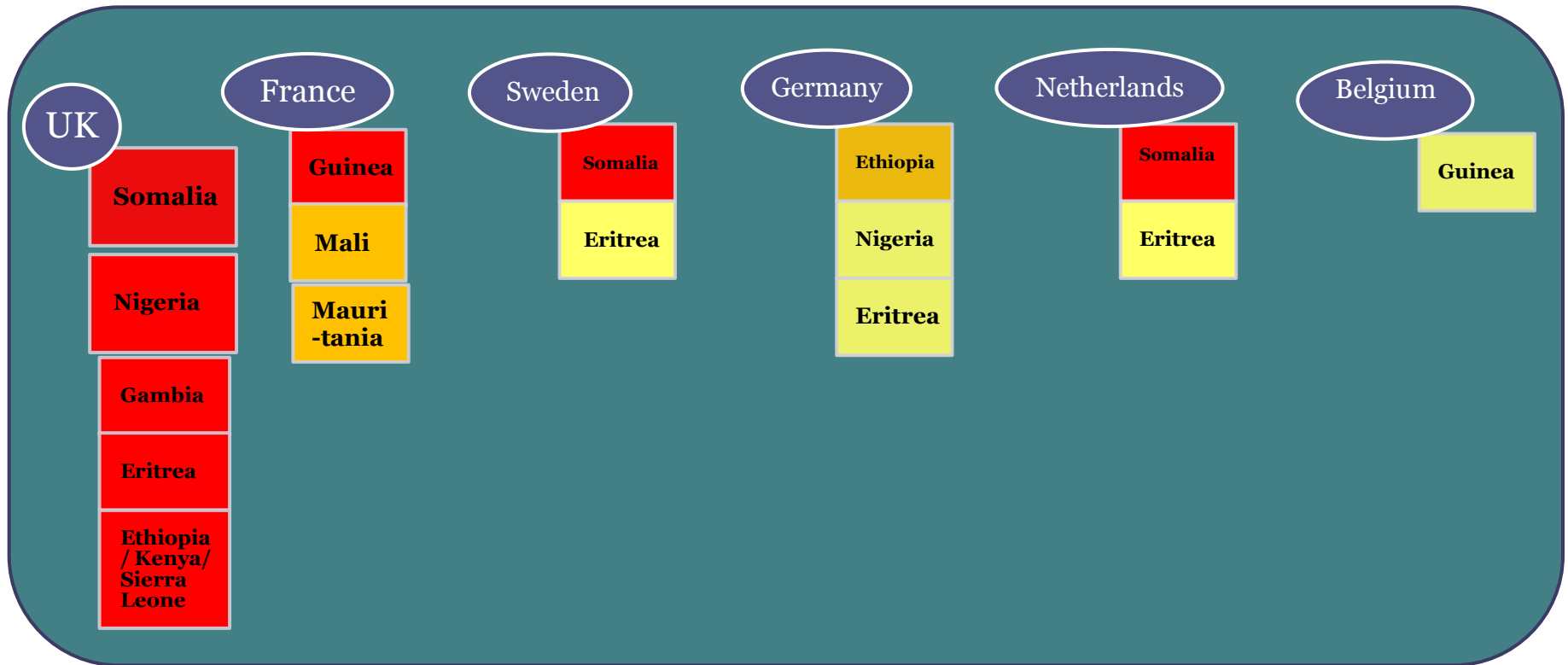
Where do these women and girls settle in the EU?

Recognition Rate for Females from FGM-risk Countries in Top EU 7 MS



Settling in - refugee girls and women

EU Member States where refugee girls and women from FGM-practising countries settle



4

What is the prevalence of FGM among female asylum-seekers in the EU?

8,809 female asylum applicants to the EU aged 14-64 were potentially affected by FGM in 2011 (**61%**)

majority aged **18-34**

Somali, Eritrean and Guinean female asylum-seekers in the main

9.1% of total female applicants

Top 5 asylum countries with highest number of females likely to be affected by FGM

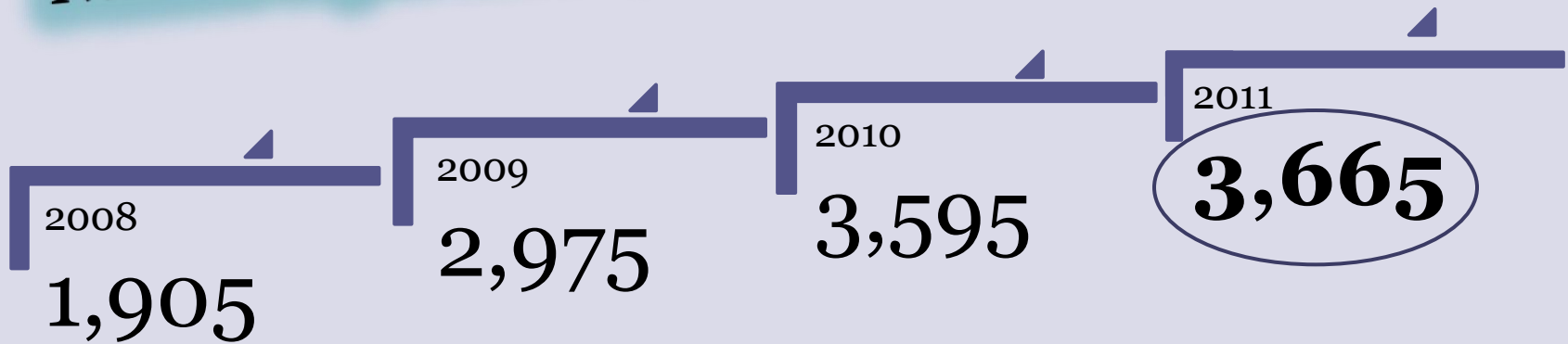


Over **60%** of all female applicants from FGM-risk countries in Sweden, Netherlands, Austria, Malta, Belgium were potentially affected by FGM

85.4% of total female applicants are potentially affected, mainly from **Somalia**

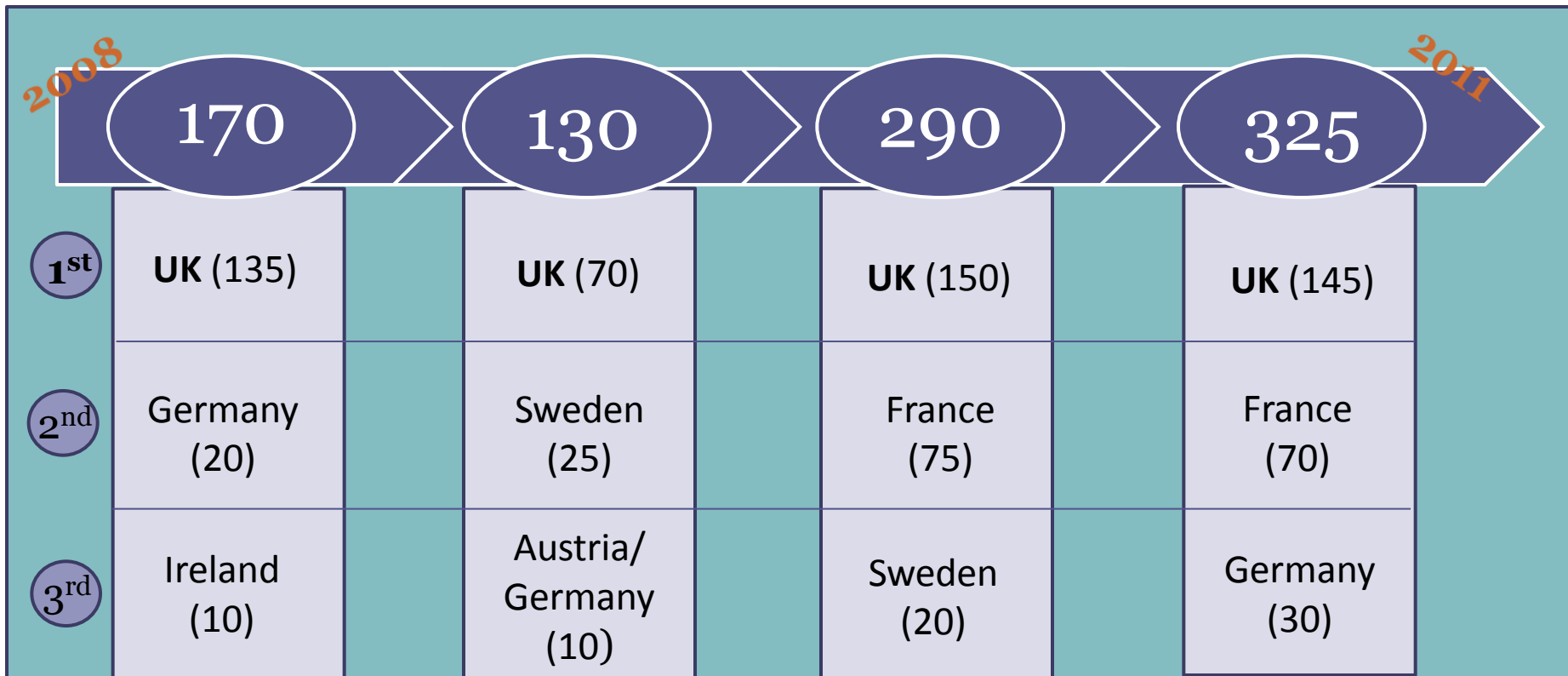
5 Where do refugee girls under 14 from FGM-practising countries of origin settle in the EU?

Number of girls under 14 seeking asylum in EU 27 from FGM-risk countries



France received the most applications, followed by the **Netherlands** and **Sweden**

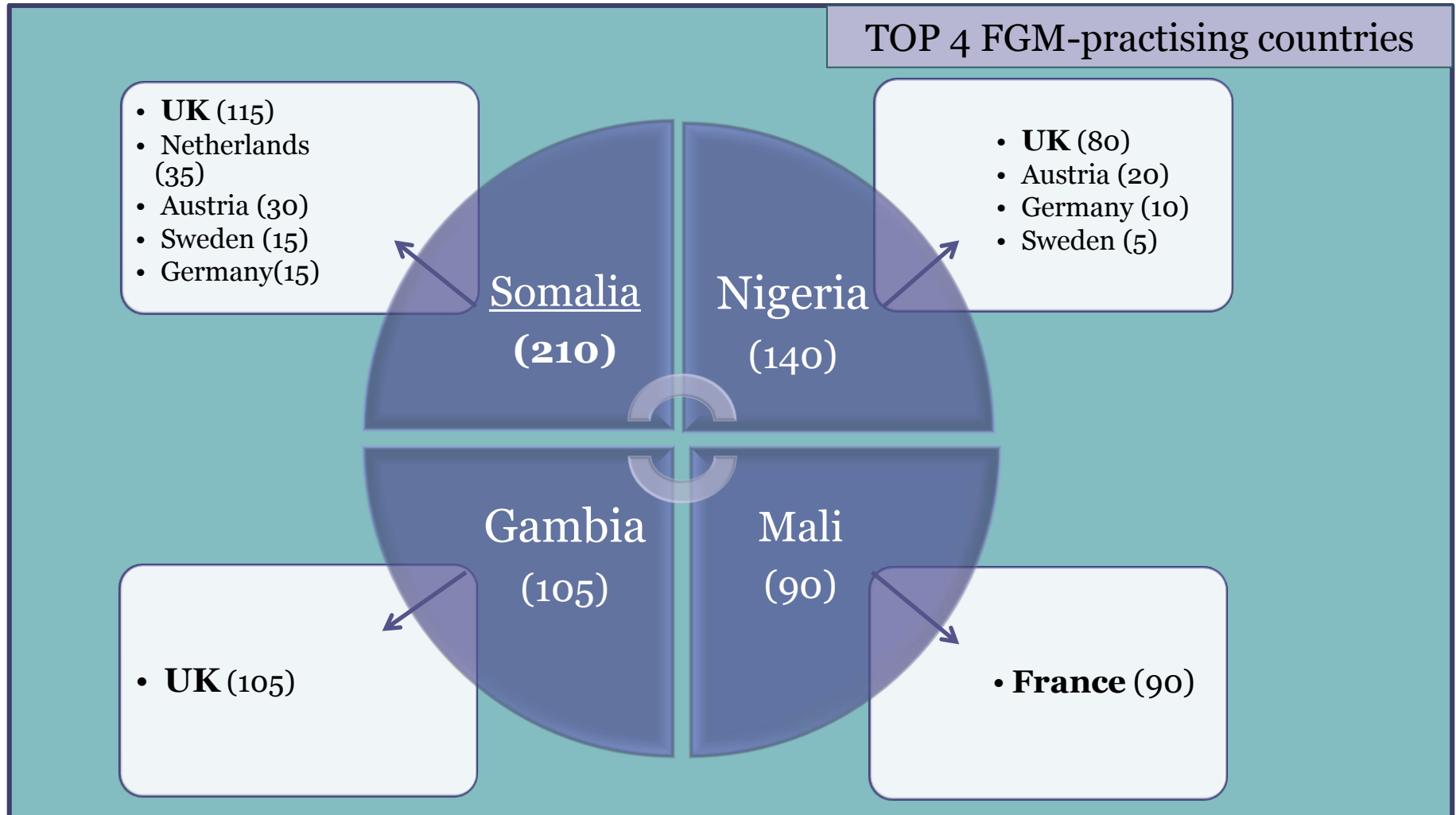
Number of girls granted international protection



Only **10** EU MS granted international protection to girls under-14 from FGM-risk countries during this period

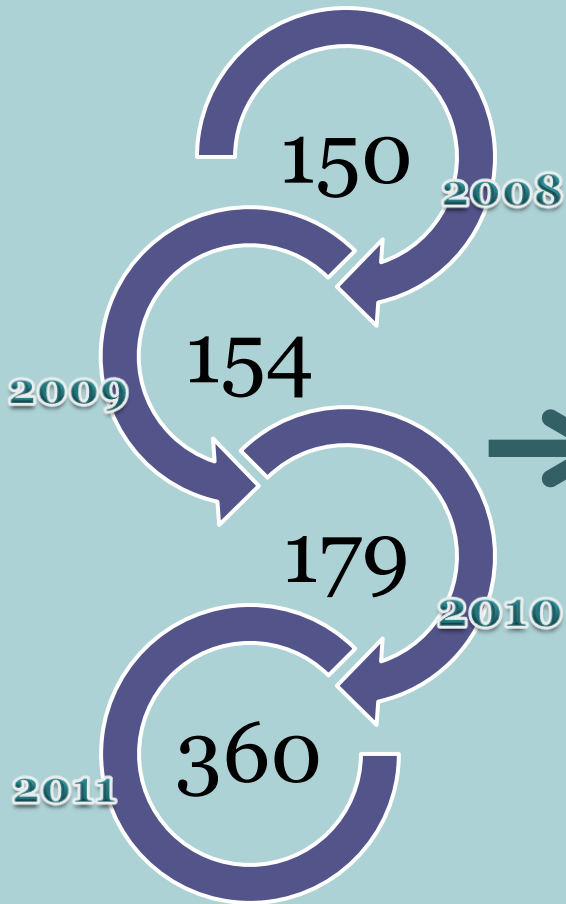
The UK granted protection to 500 girls out of total 915

Which countries of origin did the girls come from?



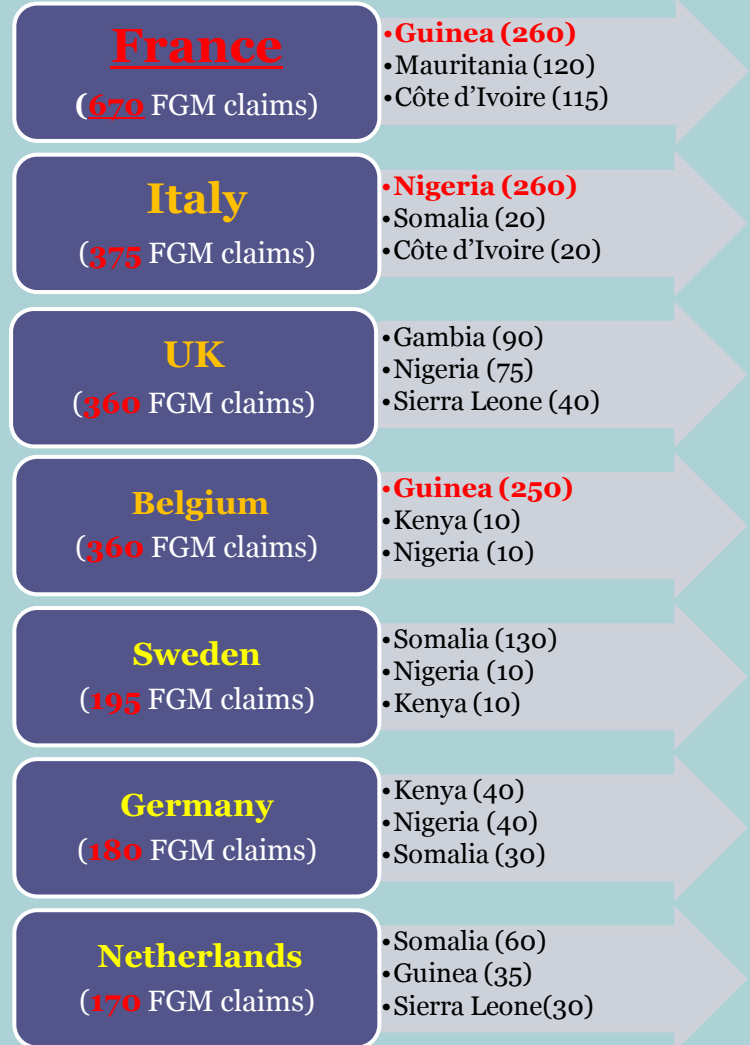
6 How many asylum claims relate to FGM?

Number of FGM-based decisions for females in **Belgium**

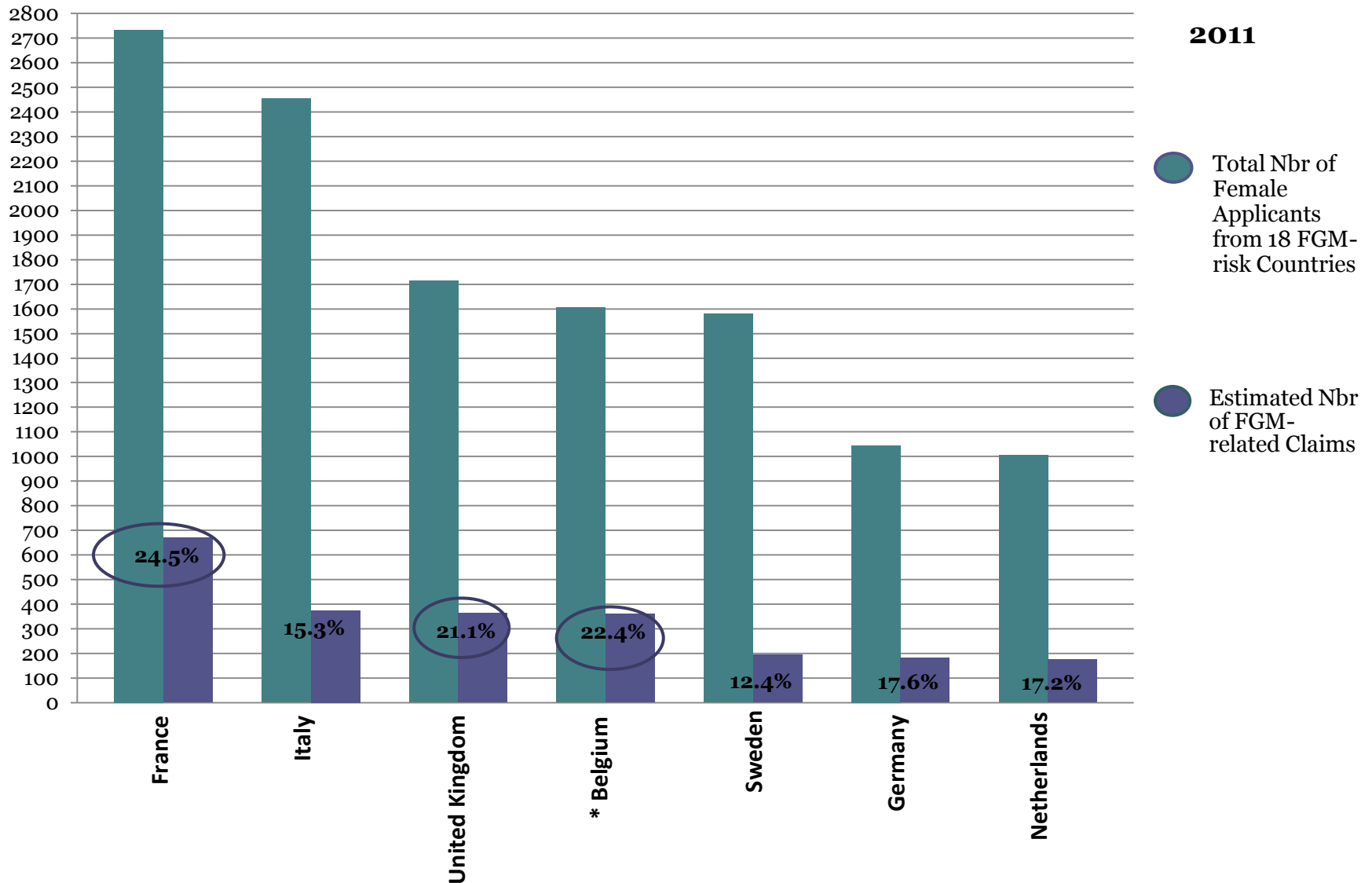


of total number of female applicants from each FGM-risk country

Estimated number of FGM-based claims in top 7 EU MS



% of FGM claims out of total number of female applicants from 18 FGM-risk countries



* Figures for Belgium are not estimates; they have been provided by the Commissariat général aux réfugiés et aux apatrides

Recommendations

- Need for country- and community-tailored strategies to address FGM
- Need for EU and national policies to address specific vulnerabilities of:
 - women and girl asylum-seekers with FGM in reception centres and in communities
 - refugee girls and women with FGM integrating in EU
 - refugee girls potentially intact in communities (prevention and protection)
- Need for enhanced gender-sensitivity and capacity in asylum system:
 - Developing training material (EAC) to support adjudication of asylum claims on grounds of FGM + gender-sensitive COI
 - Enhancing gender-sensitive asylum procedure
 - Procedural and substantive Guidelines on FGM
 - Enhancing skills of health practitioners in reception centres and communities
- Gathering enhanced statistical data

“Too Much Pain”

FGM & Asylum - A Statistical Overview

<http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/docid/512c72ec2.html>

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