

# THE REFUGEE CRISIS IN EUROPE—CAUSES, CHALLENGES, AND OPPORTUNITIES



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HIS EXCELLENCY  
**Josip Joško Paro**

CROATIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S.

Some European countries are being inundated with refugees. Is their plight any better in refugee camps? How will countries assimilate the refugees?

His Excellency Josip Joško Paro, Croatian ambassador to the U.S. in Washington, D.C., was previously the foreign policy advisor to the Croatian president. During his career in the Foreign Service, Paro served at The Hague as Croatian ambassador in the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Croatian permanent representative at OPCW (2009); as ambassador to the United King-

dom (2003–09); and as assistant minister of foreign affairs, with responsibility for relations with neighboring and European countries, the U.S., Russia, Canada, and Israel (1997–2002), where as an experienced negotiator, he played a prominent role in post-conflict normalization of relations with neighboring countries. He also was head of the Political Analysis Department and the foreign minister's speech writer (1996) and served as deputy chief of mission at the Croatian Embassy in Madrid (1993–96). Paro and his wife Jasna, a journalist for HTV, are the parents of two children.