



THE NEED FOR A **COMMON EUROPEAN APPROACH** IN TIMES OF MIGRATION CRISIS

The protection of **Sexual and Reproductive Health** and the
fight against **Sexual and Gender-based Violence**

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SRH AND THE FIGHT AGAINST SGBV IN TIMES OF **MIGRATION CRISIS**

1. Historical context
2. Women and girls at risk
3. Prioritize funding for their health needs and assistance at receiving points and refugee camps
4. Underreporting of SGBV incidents and psychological counselling
5. Priorities
6. Istanbul Convention

1. HISTORICAL CONTEXT



1974

Population Change

Compared to previous year.

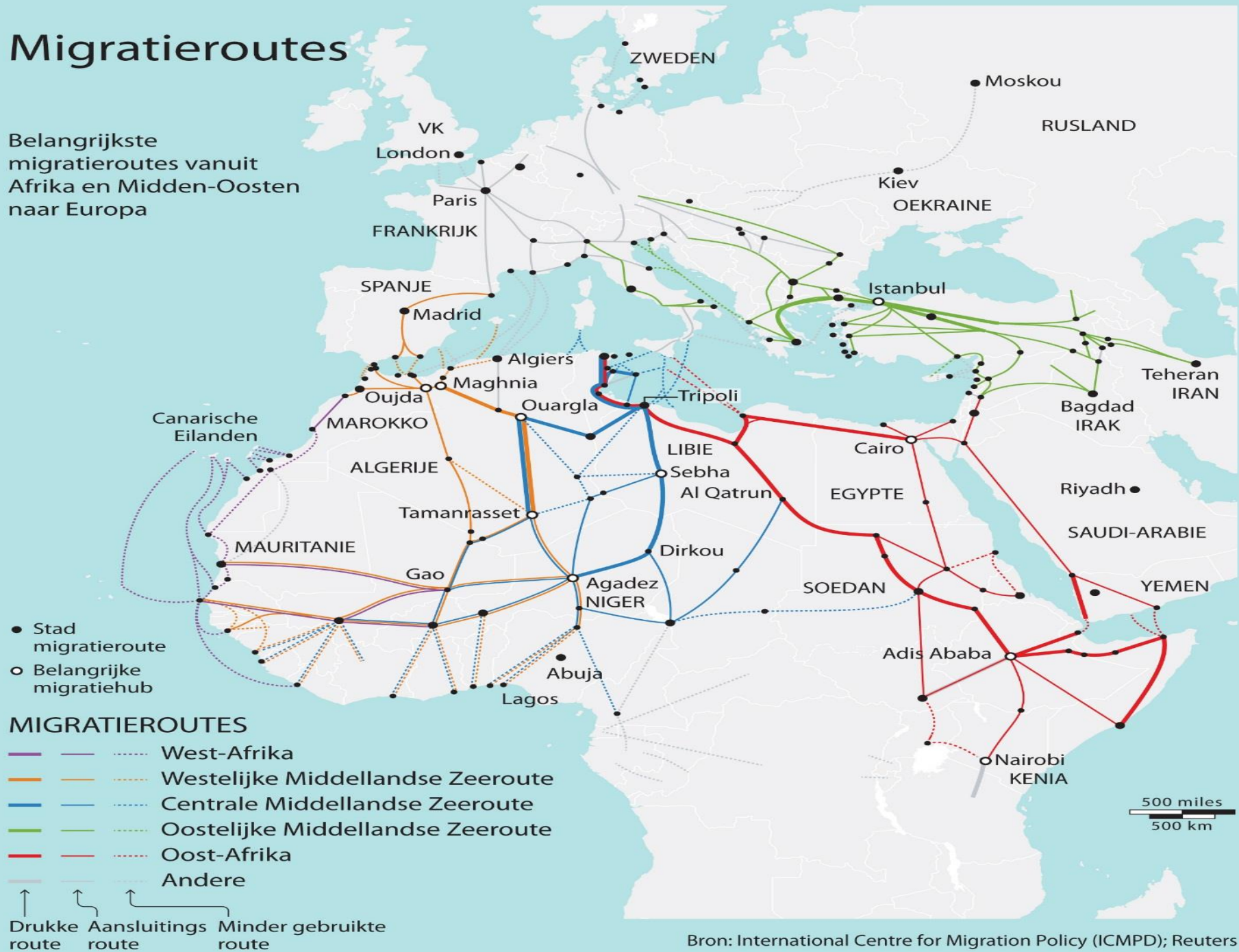
Increase

Decrease



Migratieroutes

Belangrijkste migratieroutes vanuit Afrika en Midden-Oosten naar Europa



2. WOMEN AND GIRLS AT RISK



UNICEF Press Office @UNICEFmedia · Jan 25

New report shows more than 1 Billion children 2 to 17 experienced violence in the past year @CDCgov cbsn.ws/1JxjMNx via @CBSNews



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More than half of refugees, internally displaced persons and asylum seekers **are women and young girls.**

Constant **threat** of (sexual) violence and exploitation.

Survivors must have **access to health services** to overcome trauma, malnutrition and diseases.

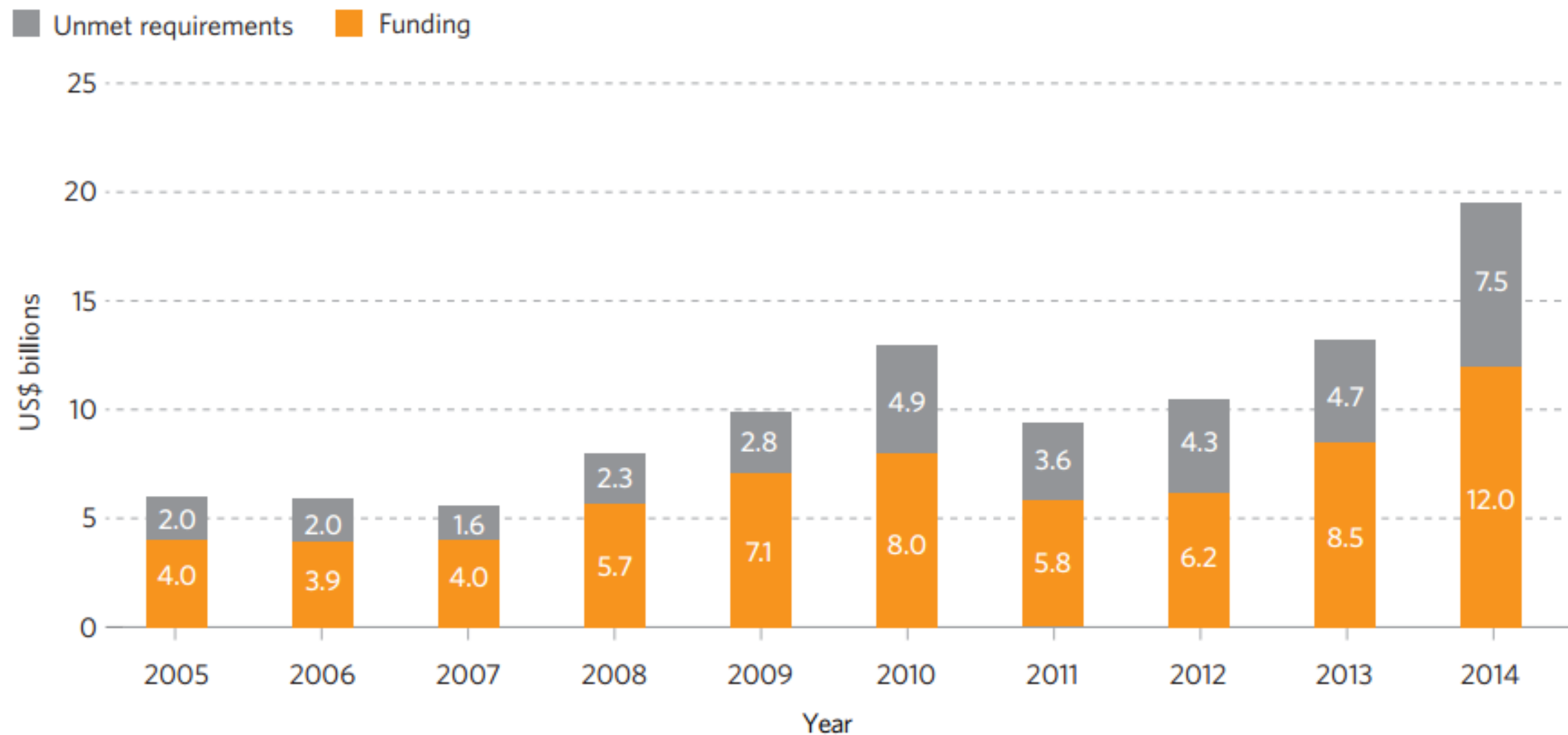
Reproductive health is essential for them to maintain their **dignity** and **rebuild** their lives.



18. The roles of **men and boys** often change in displacement. This can create protection risks that need to be detected and addressed. **Boys, in particular, can be at high risk of trafficking, forced recruitment and sexual and other forms of violence and abuse in situations of displacement.**

Promoting and supporting the positive engagement of men and boys in the many issues related to their community, including in the prevention and response to the scourge of SGBV, is a fundamental step towards ensuring access to protection and equality for all.

FUNDING AND UNMET REQUIREMENTS, UNITED NATIONS-COORDINATED APPEALS 2005 TO 2014



3. PRIORITISE FUNDING & ASSISTANCE

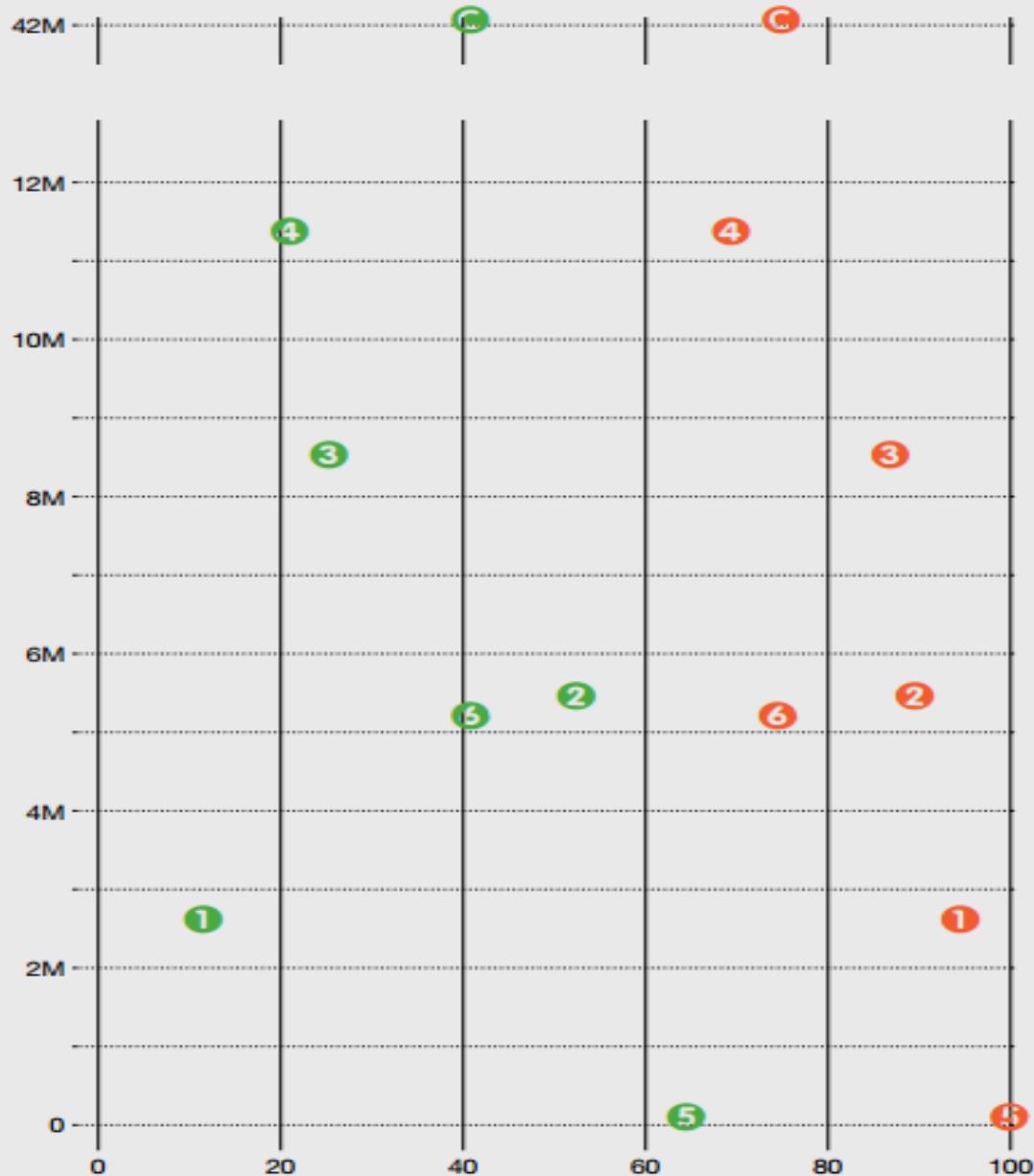
We call on Council of Europe member States especially the countries with most arrivals: Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, France (Calais), Greece, Hungary, Italy, Malta, Serbia, Spain, “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”, Turkey as well as UN agencies and the civil society to:

- Respond to the disproportionate impact of the refugee crisis on women and children and to **prioritise funding for their health needs**,
- At the **receiving points and refugee camps** to urgently provide better **hygiene, medical assistance** and offer women and girls **protection** from gender based violence and rape.

4. REPORTING & COUNSELING

- emergency **contraception**
- postexposure prophylaxis to **prevent HIV** infection
- **psychological** counseling to rape and other SGBV victims
- **dialogue** with refugee leaders and groups of refugees
- **explaining** the laws and available services
- showing that by **reporting** these issues they can be addressed

ACHIEVEMENTS: Performance Targets & Impact Standards



of reported SGBV incidents
for which survivors:

3.774

received material assistance

2.001

are provided with a safe space

3.036

received legal assistance

10.146

received psychosocial
counselling

5. PRIORITIES

SGBV

- 1** Protecting children of concern against SGBV
- 2** Addressing survival sex as a coping mechanism in situations of displacement
- 3** Engaging men and boys
- 4** Providing safe environment and safe access to domestic energy and natural resources
- 5** Protecting LGBTI Persons of Concern against SGBV
- 6** Protecting persons of concern with disabilities against SGBV

6. ISTANBUL CONVENTION

Since August 2011, until August 2014, it has been ratified by 20 states, but there are **still 19 countries that have signed it, but not ratified it** (Belgium is one of them)

SAFE
FROM FEAR

SAFE
FROM
VIOLENCE

Council of Europe Convention
on preventing and combating
violence against women
and domestic violence CETS No. 210



The refugee definition (Article 1A of the 1951 Geneva Convention)

A refugee is a person who is outside his/her country of origin /habitual residence and has a well-founded fear of persecution based on one or more of the five 1951 Convention grounds: race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion. This person shall be unable or unwilling to avail himself/herself of the protection of that country, or to return there, for reasons of fear of persecution.

Gender-based asylum claims (Article 60 of the Istanbul Convention)

1. Parties shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that gender-based violence against women may be recognised as a form of persecution within the meaning of Article 1, A (2), of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and as a form of serious harm giving rise to complementary/subsidiary protection.
2. Parties shall ensure that a gender-sensitive interpretation is given to each of the Convention grounds and that where it is established that the persecution feared is for one or more of these grounds, applicants shall be granted refugee status according to the applicable relevant instruments.
3. Parties shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to develop gender-sensitive reception procedures and support services for asylum seekers as well as gender guidelines and gender-sensitive asylum procedures, including refugee status determination and application for international protection.



THANK YOU

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