The European Union: Sanctuary or fortress for refugees?
What are the implications for international refugee law of the EU’s use of non-entry policy?
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1. In response to the refugee crisis, the EU has...

- Stressed its commitment to offering protection to people fleeing war and persecution
- Developed partnerships with non-European countries = non-entry policy
- The EU is asking non-European countries to prevent refugees from crossing the sea
- Refugees cannot reach the European territory
- So, they cannot ask for protection from the EU

2. So far, the research on non-entry

- Focuses on the compliance of non-entry policy with existing laws
- Focuses on practical aspects of refugee flows and emergency solution
- Offers no real alternative to the system of non-entry

3. My thesis aims at...

understanding why the EU keeps stressing its commitment to international refugee law although, in practice, it does not respect it

4. In my thesis, I argue that the attitude of the EU towards refugees is...

- Based on the conception of refugees as “threat”
  - Thus, justifying to distance them from the EU

- Reproducing a colonial structure
  - By imposing the burden of dealing with refugees to poor non-European countries

- Reproducing a “civilising mission”
  - By imposing reforms of border management on other countries

References: