

Forced to flee... and then what?

- The first thing people want after they're forced to flee their homeland is safety, peace, and shelter.
- After that, they want to feel human again; to feel like they belong and to participate in society.
- They may also want to go back to school or work on their careers.
- But this is extremely difficult without a network, financial security, or an understanding of the education system.
- UAF helps refugees take control of their own futures.



Basic principles

- Refugees are responsible for their own integration in the Netherlands.
- Individual pathways are possible, depending on age, discipline and the labour market.
- A collective approach is taken wherever possible, with a focus on sharing experiences.
- Close collaboration with language providers, educational institutes, municipalities and employers.

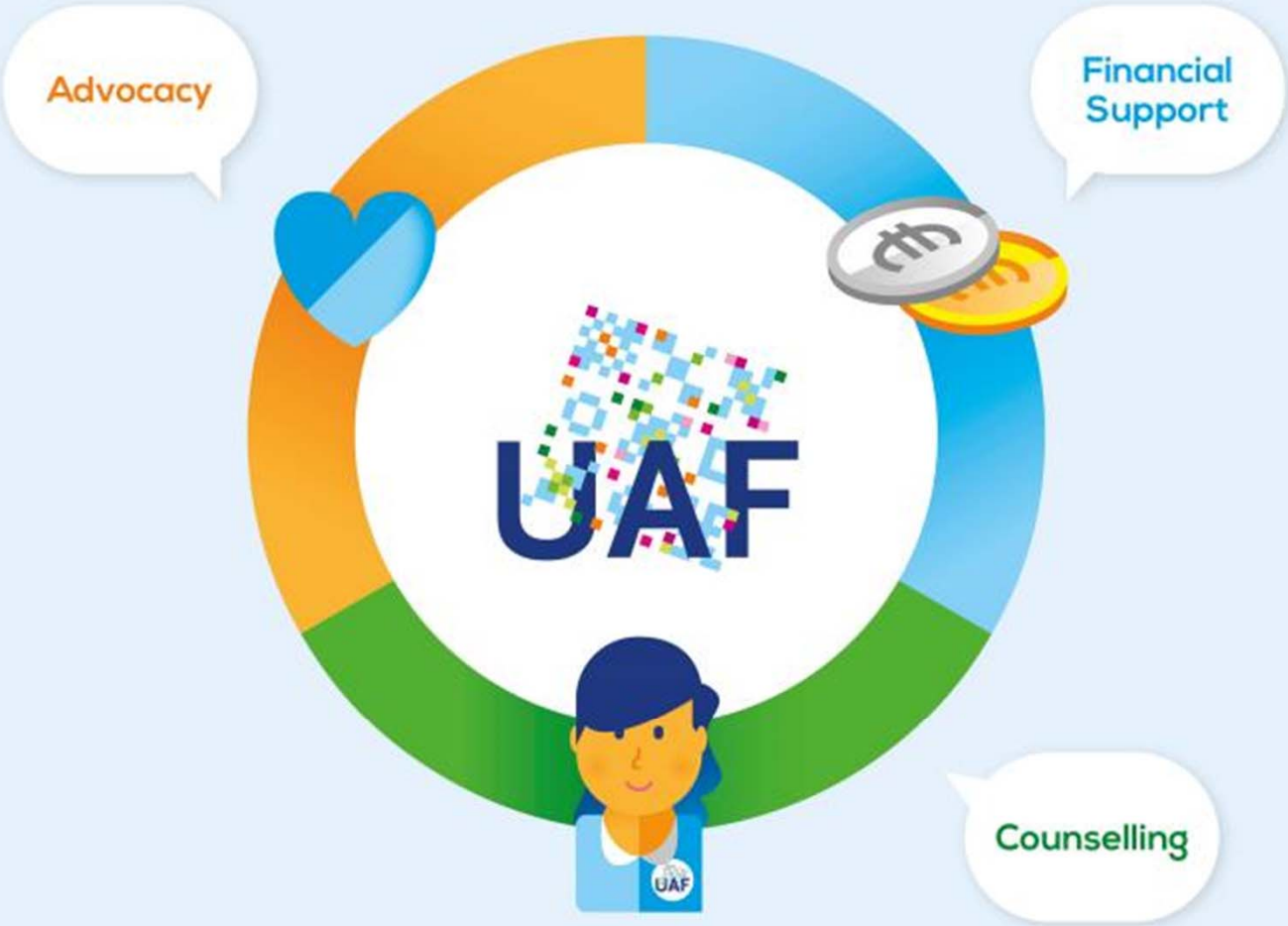


In 2017, 216 refugees graduated with the support of UAF



Stichting voor Vluchteling-Studenten UAF

Since 1948 the Foundation for Refugee Students (UAF) supports and counsels refugees in the Netherlands.





Financial Support

- Gifts and loans for higher education
- The money is intended for:
 - Tuition fees
 - Language courses
 - Books
 - Computers
 - Travel expenses
 - Other study-related costs





Counselling

- Advice on study direction
- Study support and job application coaching
- Language and study skills
- Training sessions and networking meetings

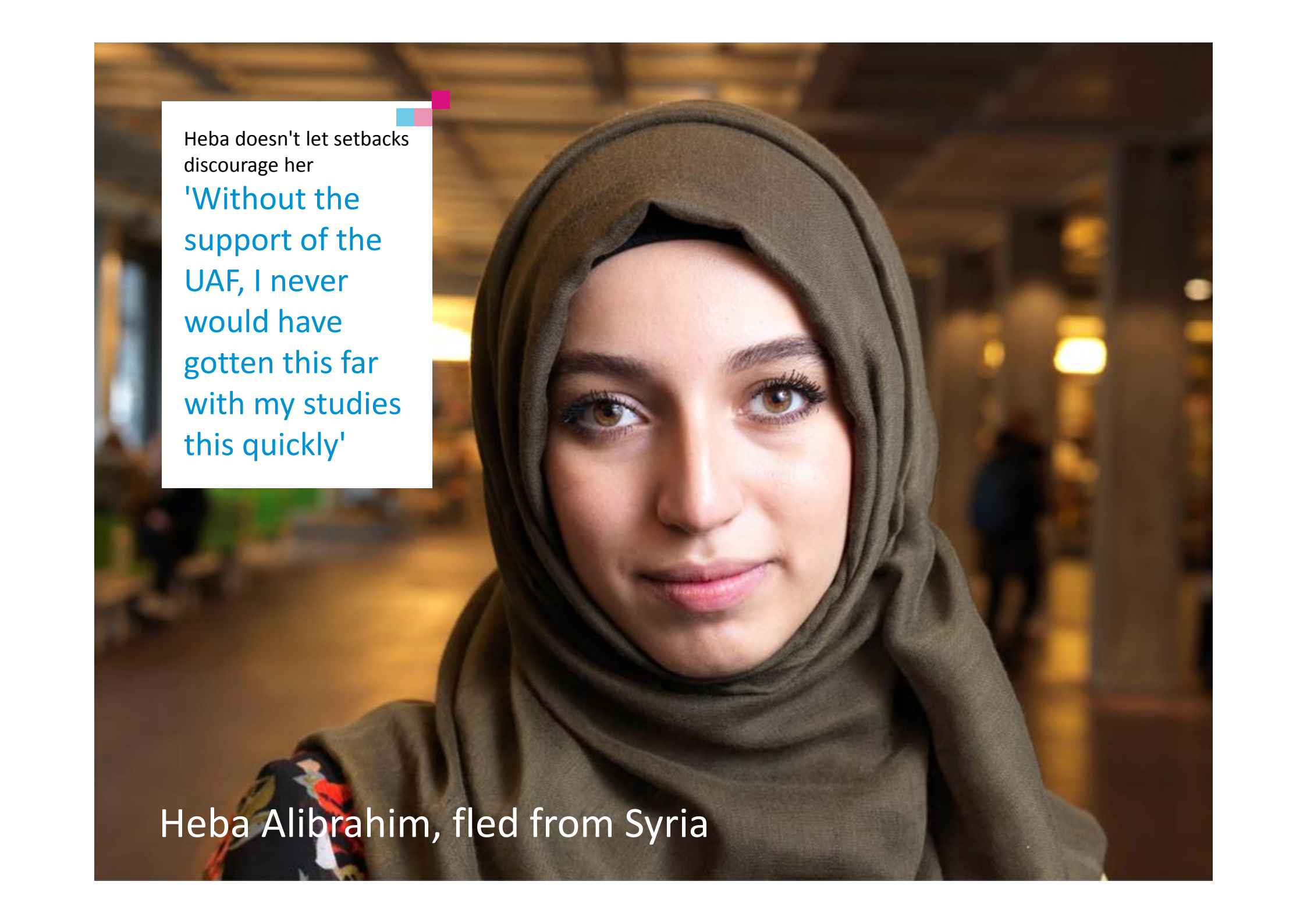




Advocacy

- Advocate of highly educated asylum seekers and refugees
- Policy advocacy at municipalities, provinces and national government agencies
- Social debate
- Publicity



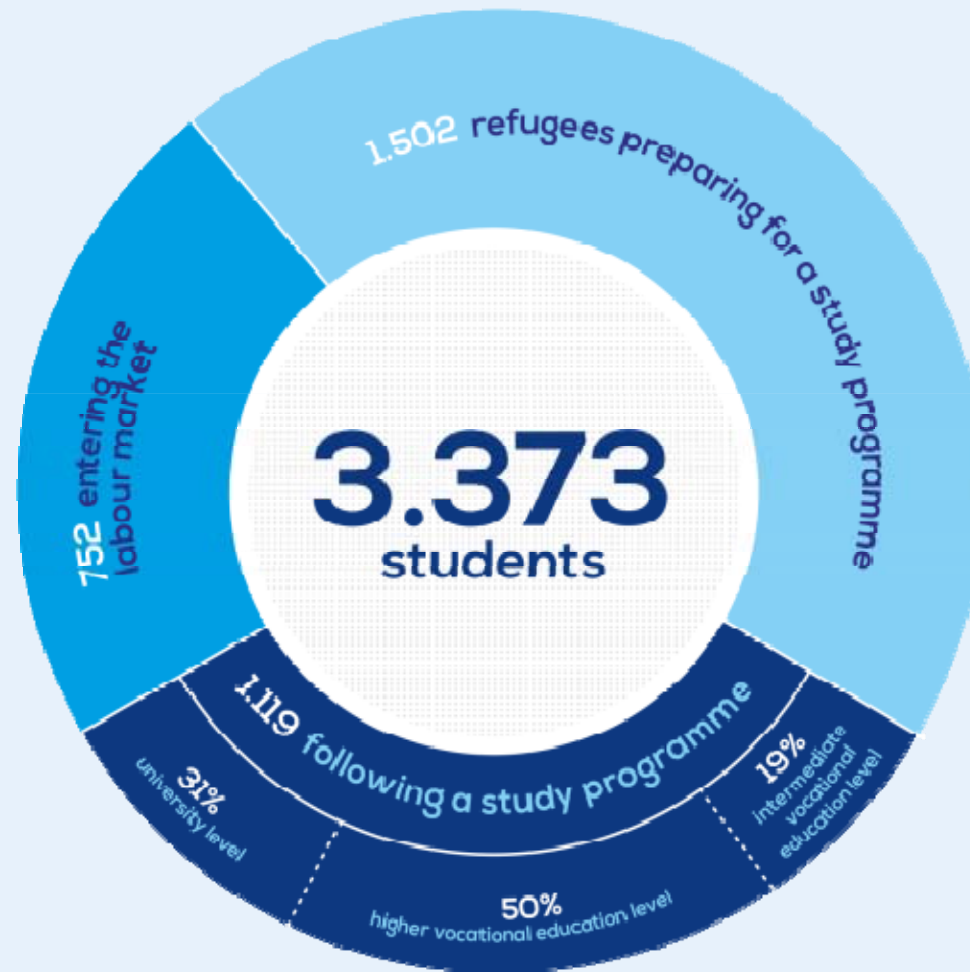


Heba doesn't let setbacks
discourage her

'Without the
support of the
UAF, I never
would have
gotten this far
with my studies
this quickly'

Heba Alibrahim, fled from Syria

In 2017, the UAF assisted 3.373 refugees



Key figures in 2017

1.506

accepted refugees preparing for a study programme

640

students started a study programme

210

graduates

271

jobs

3

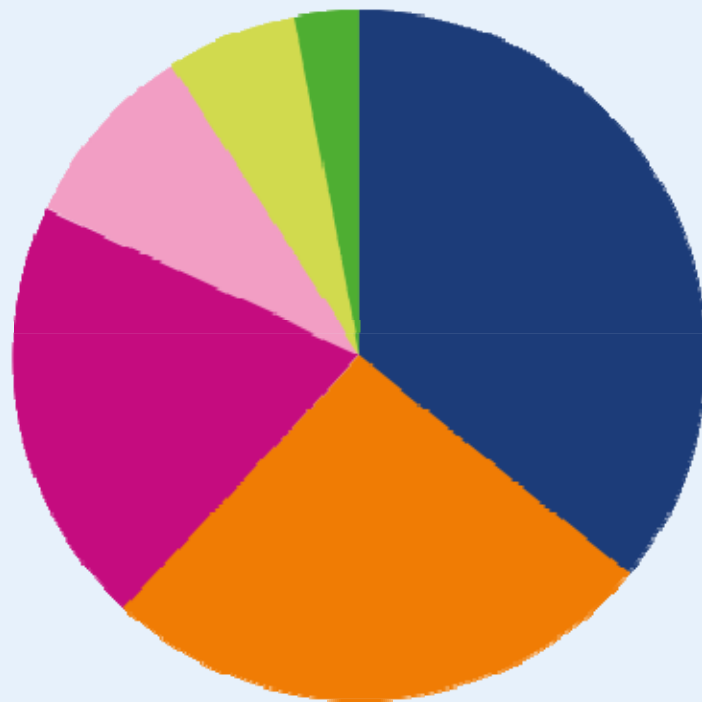
entrepreneurs

37

jobs for scholars at risk




Fields of study



- 36% Computer science, technology & exact sciences
- 26% Health care and wellbeing
- 20% Economics
- 9% Art & culture
- 6% Law
- 3% Other

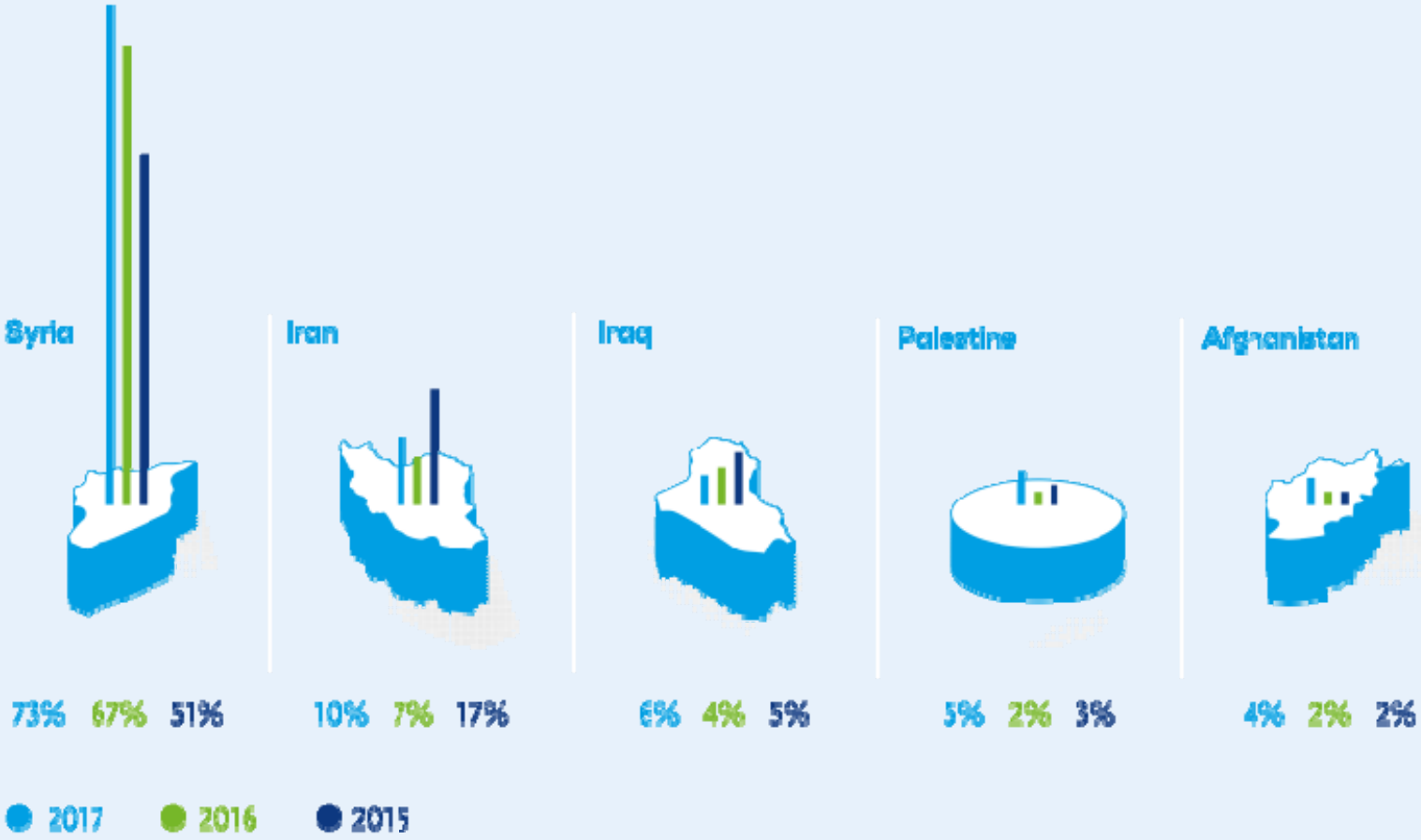



A portrait of Márcia Ventura Tiago, a young Black woman with her hair styled in braids, wearing a dark blue blazer. She is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is an outdoor setting with a metal railing and a building.

Márcia wants to start her own law firm
'The door is always open
at the UAF, which I find
extremely useful'

Márcia Ventura Tiago, fled from Angola

The main countries of origin for new refugee students



A young man with dark hair and a beard, wearing a grey button-down shirt, stands in a laboratory. He is looking directly at the camera. In the foreground, there is a microscope on the left and a white pipette tip box in the center. The background shows laboratory benches with various equipment, including a red pipette tip box and a yellow biohazard bin.

Mohammed studies medicine and
hopes to find work as soon as
possible

'Thanks to the UAF
I never gave up hope'

Mohamad Baghdadi, fled from Syria

SCHOLARS AT RISK

N E T W O R K

International SAR network: UAF activities in the Netherlands and Belgium (since 2009)

Provide support for higher education institutions to cooperate in the protection of academic freedom and university values worldwide, including by hosting threatened and refugee scholars.



Our work is made possible by:

The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, participants in the National Postcode Lottery, donors, institutes of higher education, foundations and companies.



- UAF has benefited from the Lottery since 2001



- UAF- SAR has benefited from Dioraphte since 2016

