

1990

Soviet Union leader **Mikhail Gorbachev** is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to lessen Cold War tensions and open up his nation.



1997

The Cassini probe launches from **Cape Canaveral** on its way to Saturn.

2001

NASA's **Galileo spacecraft** passes within 112 miles of Jupiter's moon Io.

2003

China launches **Shenzhou 5**, its first manned space mission.



TOP
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TWEETS

01



Fact: Top 1% of triathletes qualify for the world championship, 1 gold medal per age group & category. After 4 years of competing, not only did HH Sh. Nasser complete his first ever world's; but brought home the Gold as promised! Let's all stop & take in this historic moment #Bahrain

@AbdullaRAK

02



Tump is golfing today, per pool report. Really am a bit surprised by this. He's petrified of getting tarred as uncaring about a Hurricane. And yet has spent the past few days at campaign rallies, with Kanye, and now this.

@samstein

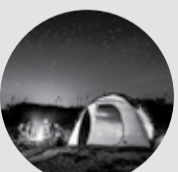
03



History can teach the world that Saudi Arabia doesn't tilt its head when a someone sends a threat. We face it and we beat it. Through history all who threatened us vanished and Saudi Arabia still here strong, soild, and steady

@Ilmlialla

04



#Saudi has more opportunities than the Americans think. It can make new deals with other countries with the same strength the US has, such as China or Russia. In the other side if Saudi stopped producing oil the world won't be able to afford it from others

@AlenziJehad

Disclaimer: (Views expressed by columnists are personal and need not necessarily reflect our editorial stances)

Sweden, a blessed land for migrants

Swedes must remember our own history and stand up against a party fuelling anti-immigrant sentiment



MAUD CORDENIUS

I was nursing my daughter in our home here when I learned that the nationalist Sweden Democrats captured 17.5 per cent of the vote in parliamentary elections last month. Since neither the traditional left or right blocs won a majority, the Sweden Democrats, with roots in the neo-Nazi movement, hold the balance of power.

In the days leading up to the election I received racist propaganda in my mailbox from a more extreme right party that said of immigrants, "Time to go home."

It made me reflect on the women in my family and our own history of migration.

In the early 1900s, Sweden was a country you migrated from, not to. My great-grandmother on my father's side, Agnes Ester, was among the million Swedes who set sail for the United States in that era. She left the family farm for Ellis Island to meet up with her older brothers. But she didn't stay for long. Her lungs couldn't take New York's heat waves and she longed to marry a redheaded boy she had met back home.

Nearly 50 years later, my maternal grandmother, Isabella, was 18 years old and preparing to leave her hometown in Sardinia with her two young children. They were to join my grandfather, who was working in the coal mines in Alsace-Lorraine in northeastern France. It was a dangerous job, but better than the alternative many Sardinians were facing. After World War II, Isabella and her family were so poor that some days, while nursing her youngest child, she had only bread and fried onions to eat.

She boarded a ferry with my 2-year-old mother and her baby brother and crossed the Mediterranean Sea in hope of a better future — just as many people are doing at this very moment,



A demonstration in Stockholm welcoming the refugees.

but under much more dire circumstances. The family later resettled in Paris, where she eventually opened a restaurant. Bit by bit, they built a better life for themselves.

My mother is an immigrant, too. One hot summer night in 1974, the 19-year-old Maura Isabelle met my Swedish father, who was traveling by Interrail through Europe, at a Parisian cafe. Within a year they married in Paris, but decided their home base would be Goteborg, Sweden.

When my mother first came here, an official at the government job agency told her it wouldn't matter what education she had, as a foreigner she would only ever clean houses. Undeterred, she soon became fluent in Swedish and got a job on her own. She still works as a librarian.

But no matter how well-integrated you are, in homogeneous Sweden you could be labeled an immigrant your whole life. A customer at the library once yelled "go home" at my mother, who has dark hair and brown eyes. If this happened to her, I shudder to think what people

Sweden has historically had a generous policy for refugees seeking asylum and their families. During the European migrant crisis, Sweden was among the biggest share of refugees fleeing war and terrorism.

from more marginalized minority groups experience.

The Sweden Democrats want to "offer" foreign-born residents help to return to their country of origin, to "go home." Their party leader claimed in a televised debate that some immigrants are failing to find jobs because "they are not Swedes — they don't fit in."

Sweden has historically had a generous policy for refugees seeking asylum and their families. During the European migrant crisis, Sweden was among the countries that accepted the

biggest share of refugees fleeing war and terrorism in Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq. Buckling under the strain to process asylum applications, house and integrate these newcomers, Parliament passed a temporary law that limits the number of people granted permanent residency and restricts immigration by relatives of refugees settled here. What will happen next year when the temporary law expires will be up to the new government. As I write this, Ulf Kristersson, who leads the Moderate Party and the center-right alliance, has been given the task of forming a new government. He might now turn to the Sweden Democrats for support.

In a small country of 10 million people, the cost of immigration is often debated. But already, nearly one-fifth of the population is foreign-born. Lost in a conversation where people are reduced to numbers is how much immigrants potentially contribute in tax revenue over time. And with an aging population, there will be a shortage of workers in many different fields. How can we tackle that

demand, if not by welcoming immigrants and letting them stay?

My mother became a Swedish citizen in the mid-1980s after my brother and I were born, during the twilight of the Cold War, when the Berlin Wall was still intact. She felt it could be risky to have a different citizenship from her children. I hope we never have to find out if that was a legitimate concern.

As I think about my daughters, Agnes and baby Ester, I hope that they will be able to follow in the tradition of the women in our family, and have the right to travel freely across borders. That they can fall in love with whomever they want, and that person would feel welcome in Swedish society. That we are still a liberal democracy that stands up for the right to asylum, in a unified Europe. That we reject these illusory ideas about irreconcilable differences between cultures and put the dignity and equal worth of all people as the highest value.

(Maud Cordenius is a journalist and columnist.)

CIVILIAN'S TRIBUNE

Bitcoin – a historical change

Many of us are familiar with stock markets, trading process, its different terms etc, but not much is intimate with the term or currency "Bitcoin". In the world stock exchange market now it is one of a ruling party. Bitcoin is a cryptocurrency, a form of electronic cash. It is a decentralised digital currency without a central bank or a single administrator. Bitcoin was invented by an unknown person or

group of people using the name Satoshi Nakamoto, the domain "Bitcoin.org" was registered on 18 August 2009 and released as open source software in 2009. They can be exchanged for other currencies, products, services. Analyses prove that in 2017, there were 2.9 to 5.8 million unique users using a cryptocurrency wallet, most of them using bitcoin. As of the current status, 1 Bitcoin is equal to 2400 Bahrain



Dinars (estimated, as it is flexible for everyday changes).

Transactions are verified by network nodes and recorded in a public distributed system

called a blockchain. In the blockchain, bitcoins are registered to bitcoin addresses. Creating a bitcoin address is nothing more than picking a random valid private key and computing the corresponding bitcoin address, in such way bitcoins are advantageous. And to estimation in February 2018, the circulation supply of the coins has reached up to 16,858,762 Bitcoins and the supply limit is 21, 00,000 Bitcoins.

As it has much positiveness, it has also got disadvantages as well. Bitcoin has been criticized for its use in illegal transactions, its high electricity consumption, price volatility. They are vulnerable to theft through phishing, scamming, and hacking. As of December 2017, around 980,000 bitcoins have been stolen from cryptocurrency exchanges.

Naseeh Yousaf