

Starbucks plans to employ 10,000 refugees

Easier

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Starbucks boss Howard Schulz has said his company would employ 10,000 refugees over the next five years. Mr Schulz is the CEO of the international coffee shop chain. He is very unhappy with President Donald Trump's new ban on the citizens of seven Middle Eastern and North African countries. Schulz said his promise was, "a concerted effort to welcome and seek opportunities for those fleeing war, violence, persecution and discrimination". He added: "There are more than 65 million citizens of the world recognized as refugees by the United Nations, and we are developing plans to hire 10,000 of them over five years in the 75 countries around the world where Starbucks does business."

Many people are angry at Mr. Schultz's plans. Trump supporters have asked people to boycott Starbucks coffee shops. They say that Mr. Schultz should be doing more to help the 40,000 unemployed military veterans in the USA instead of refugees. Starbucks said it has already hired 8,800 of the 10,000 veterans it promised to hire in 2013 by 2018. Trump supporters have also asked consumers to quit doing business with other companies who are critical of the President, like Macy's and Amazon. On the opposite side, opponents of Mr. Trump have started the hash tag #GrabYourWallet. This encourages consumers to avoid doing business with companies that have supported Mr. Trump or have business links to him.

Sources: CBSnews.com / BBC.com / businessinsider.com



Discussion Questions

1. What do you think of the call to boycott Starbucks?
2. Why are so many war veterans unemployed?
3. What should governments do to help war veterans?
4. Will boycotts of U.S. companies hurt jobs and the economy?
5. Why do people want to avoid businesses linked to President Trump?

SPEAK YOUR MIND

PROBLEMS

Rank these with your teacher.

Put the biggest problems for refugees at the top.

- no food
- bad people
- no hope
- trafficking
- stress
- lack of money
- nowhere to go
- illness