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The Opinion Pages | LETTER

# Germany's Moral Example

SEPT. 11, 2015

## To the Editor:

Re "A Test of Conscience for Europe" (editorial, Sept. 11):

I am an educator who works with German students on the issues of the legacy of the Holocaust and moral responsibility toward the present and future. I applaud Germany's recent decision to allow thousands of refugees entry into their country and the opportunity to apply for asylum.

Despite the great challenges of assimilation and potential for further backlash by right-wing extremists, Germany continues to demonstrate moral leadership. The vivid images of thousands seeking safety in Germany is in sharp contrast to the brutal reality of a former regime that sent millions to their deaths some 70 years ago.

This is not the first time that Germany has taken responsible steps in addressing its egregious past, but perhaps the most courageous. We can only hope that this generation of Germans embraces these humane, forward-looking actions by their leaders rather than being haunted by the past.

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*The writer is director of the Holocaust Reconciliation Project.*

A version of this letter appears in print on September 12, 2015, on page A22 of the New York edition with the headline: Germany's Moral Example.

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