

MIGRATION CRISIS IN EUROPEAN UNION: A CASE STUDY

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Migration is based on necessity. Many times it is need of the person who looking for migration or many times it is the need of the country in order to receive technological, economical, social and political advancement. Therefore, migration attracts a lot of attention at research and policy levels because it has far-reaching social, political and economic implications and contributes to economic development in both the sending and host country. Hence, the present study analyzes the migration crisis situation in European Union (EU) and the involvement of the international bodies in solving the issue. The present study used case study approach to understand the situation by referring various news channel and reports published by the international agencies. Finally the study provided the policy suggestion to solve the crisis situation in European Union.

INTRODUCTION

Over the years, international migration has grown in scale, complexity and impact. Population shifts are present at the dawn of human history – the phenomena of hunting and gathering, transhumance and nomadism being as old as human social organization itself. Flights from natural disasters, adverse climatic changes, famine and territorial aggression by other communities or other species are also common occurrences. Further, people often think of it as a recent phenomenon. However, migration has been a feature of human existence for centuries. Since about 3000 BC, various clearly identifiable groups of people have moved from area to area of the globe. The historian Robin Cohen (1995) has identified some distinct migration periods or events that have taken place over the last four centuries. Migration within Europe, Africa and Asia (17th-18th centuries), Permanent settlement in the colonies (1500s to mid 19th century), Slavery (1550 to the end of the 18th century), Indentured labour (1834-1917), Migration to the New World (1800s-1930), Post second world war migration (late 1940s to 1960s), Post 1970s migration. As the twenty-first century approaches, migration flows are becoming more global in scope and more complex and diverse in character. For example, the post-cold war period triggered movements of displaced peoples and refugees on a scale not seen since the chaos immediately following the end of the Second World War. This complexity will be analyzed how regional migration histories on the one hand remain distinctive or, on the other hand, relate to emerging global patterns.

REASONS FOR MIGRATION

The practice of moving away from home in search of a better place is becoming common. The ease of global mobility allows people to migrate to distant places

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around the world. The rate of human migration has increased recently due to many factors.

1. **Social Aspects:** Human migration is due to social factors such as, racism, sexism and religion. The pushing factor from the social perspective is that people are being discriminated in their homeland. People in these countries are treated unfairly because of their difference and that they are small in numbers. Religious issues that can stir up controversies will lead people that want to avoid getting involved in religious conflicts to migrate to a safer place.
2. **Political Aspects:** The people migrate from their homeland as political issues arise. This factor can take several forms like from local conflicts between power holders and the opposition or between majorities and minorities, to the general oppression of the population and nationwide human rights abuses. The main reason behind their action of migrating is because they do not agree on the government's rule. Government instability, war and oppression contribute to the pushing factors of migration. Wars will cause death of the innocent, and most people will try their best to escape from war, Oppression from the government, such as not recognizing the rights of people will also cause people to migrate away.
3. **Economic Aspects:** The most important impetus for migration processes are economic factors. In a microeconomic view, migration flows are influenced by-atleast in the context of the western European receiving societies – short-term cyclical economic conditions, middle-term changes of the production organization and basic structural settings of the national economics.

LAWS AND GOVERNMENT POLICIES ON MIGRATION

Universal declaration of Human rights, 1948 and both the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights 1966 as well as International Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural rights 1966 apply to migrants.

Similarly the convention on the elimination of All forms of discrimination against women, International Convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination, The convention on the rights of child are also applicable to migrants. But depending upon the types of migration certain conventions are specific to the migrant issues like for migrant labourers the ILO Conventions No. 97 (Migration for employment) and 143 (Migrations in Abusive conditions and promotion of equality of opportunity and treatment of migrant workers) and UN Convention on the right of All migrant workers on members of their family Migrant Workers Convention (MWC) (1990). On the other hand for the protection of forced migrants

like refugees and Internally Displaced People the UN convention relating to the Status of Refugees, 1951 is there.

CONFLICTS ARISING OUT OF MIGRATION

- Immigrants can be exploited for their cheap labor;
- Developing countries may suffer “brain drain” as the limited resources they spend in educating their students amount to very little if that talent is enticed to another country. (The UK for example is often accused of actively hiring medical staff from developing countries. The previous link details this issue further.)
- Immigration can also attract criminal elements, from trafficking in drugs and people to other forms of crime and corruption;
- Immigration can become a social/political issue, where racism can be used to exploit feelings or as an excuse for current woes of local population;
- Where there is a perception that immigrants and refugees appear to get more benefits than local poor people, tensions and hostilities can also rise;
- Concerns about illegal immigration can spill over to ill-feelings towards the majority of immigrants who are law-abiding and contributing to the economy;
- Many die trying to flee their predicament, and this can often make sensational headlines giving the appearance that immigration is largely illegal and “out of control.”

EUROPEAN UNION (EU) MIGRATION CRISIS

In 2015, over one million migrants and asylum seekers reached the EU via the Mediterranean. More than 3,700 people died or went missing in the same period while making the journey. Over 130,000 have made the crossing since the start of 2016, while more than 410 have lost their lives in the attempt (BBC News,). Arrivals to Greece via Turkey across the Aegean Sea now far outstrip crossings via Libya to Italy. From Greece, a debt-stricken country unable to cope with the influx, many travel overland through the Western Balkans to reach other EU countries. The land route contains its own perils, including blocked border crossings, summary expulsions and police abuse.

- (i) It's due to a combination of factors. The developing countries who are currently hosting the vast majority of refugees from Syria are reaching breaking point. Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey, sheltering 3.6 million Syrian refugees between them, are overwhelmed, and international humanitarian funding is falling far short of the need. Many would rather attempt the dangerous journey to Europe than subsist in impoverished, overcrowded refugee camps.

- (ii) The increased numbers have also been encouraged by German Chancellor Angela Merkel's pledge to Syrians that if they could manage to reach Germany, they could apply for asylum there – effectively suspending an E.U. law that requires the first country an asylum seeker arrives in to be responsible for documenting and processing his or her application, and resettling them. The rule has placed a disproportionate burden on the southern countries of Italy, Greece and Malta, who see the most arrivals from the Mediterranean.
- (iii) There's also a self-perpetuating element to the crisis; people who reach Europe successfully encourage friends and families to join them, and several Facebook pages in Arabic provide information for people making the same desperate bids to reach the continent. Increased international media coverage may also be playing a part in the surge of migrants as rumors of impending caps on refugee numbers, or brief gaps in border control along various frontiers encourages people to try to cross while they can.
- (iv) But along with the waves of Syrian refugees are many people fleeing turmoil or poverty in sub-Saharan Africa. Lots of them would have previously found safety or jobs in Libya but that country's worsening instability has propelled even more people to try their chances on the Mediterranean. This movement of people is unlikely to slow until winter arrives, making that journey even more difficult and dangerous than it already is.

CONTROVERSIES AND CHALLENGES IN RELATION TO MIGRATION

International migration, the movement of people across international boundaries, continues to be one of the most important issues of the global policy agenda for it generates enormous economic, social, and cultural implications in both sending and receiving countries.

- (a) Economic burden on the shelter state
- (b) Discrimination in the workplace,
- (c) Unemployment may rise if there are unrestricted numbers of incomers
- (d) Subjugation to racism and xenophobia
- (e) Problems with integration
- (f) Ease of movement may facilitate organised crime and people trafficking.
- (g) Irregular or undocumented status
- (h) More susceptible to health risks, but also less likely to have access to adequate medical attention.
- (i) Law and maintenance order problem.
- (j) Overburden on the resources of the country providing shelter to the migrant.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION WORKING FOR SOLVING THE CRISIS

- (a) **International Organization for Migration (IOM)**. IOM works in the four broad areas of migration management: Migration and Development, Facilitating migration (including migrant integration), Regulating migration, Forced Migration.
- (b) United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UNFPA facilitates regional policy dialogues by supporting the inter-agency International Migration Policy Programme (IMP)
- (c) United Nations Human Rights Commission
- (d) United Nations High Commission for Refugees
- (e) In addition to this various international social and non-governmental organization is working for it.

Migration is based on necessity. Many times it is need of the person who looking for migration or many times it is the need of the country in order to receive technological, economical, social and political advancement. Therefore, migration holds an important place in the international law.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Indeed migration is subjective need therefore a diversified dynamic international treaty is required to be entered. Presently, there is no uniform international treaty that governs the affair all kinds of migrants on contrary migration is more based on bilateral arrangement. The problem which EU is facing presently can only be addressed when world community as a whole open their door to those who are looking for a asylum or looking shelter for themselves. Therefore, it is suggestible that an international treaty covering different kinds of migration, validating the solution of different problems of relating to migration is required to be endorsed.

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