



Migration: An opportunity or a Problem? Why and how is Europe Dealing with Migration?!

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Abstract

This paper's main aim is to outline recent migration and integration patterns, together with changing attitudes and policies toward them. It summarizes the main trends, policies, reasons, effects and other important issues related to migration in Europe. Since the end of 2014, an unprecedented number of people coming from different countries, most of them facing war, poverty and persecution, have been crossing borders into Europe. The current increase in migration to Europe is rapidly becoming the largest and most complex facing Europe since World War II. Today, we can say that migration will shape the future of Europe. With more than 1.2 million people applying for asylum only in 2015, the EU needs to deal with this situation with responsibility. What is evident is the fact that mass migration will be a permanent challenge not only, but especially in Europe. This current flow of humans escaping their countries is not just a passing crisis or a temporary solution. In order to build “a strong Europe upon the foundations of respect, tolerance and solidarity” states of Europe need to have a clear idea of a democratic value and human rights-respecting policy towards migration. Closing borders will not be a solution, same as opening them and not offering the asylum seekers a dignified life opportunity won't solve the problem. At the end of the day, we all need to be ready to accept migration, mobility and diversity as the new norm and tailor our policies accordingly.

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Introduction

It was 2 September 2015. The picture of a three-year-old boy went viral. He was found near a beach in Turkey after he drowned in the Mediterranean Sea. Not alive. He and his family were escaping the Syrian war. Trying to escape through a boat, the dangerous circumstances under that boat travel capsized immediately, resulting in the death of all of them. Alan, the three old boy also. He became a symbol of the current migration crisis. But, was this painful picture needed for Europe to awake? It was only in May 2015 when Europe launched its Agenda on Migration.¹

The unprecedented inflow of migrants into Europe, especially in 2015, put migration to the very top policy agenda worldwide and will remain so for a long time to come. Europe did not predict the current migration crisis. It misunderstood first symptoms of what was about to become a “high intensity” crisis and was not prepared to deal and manage it. Solutions that European countries implemented so far are a result of some emergent steps that were needed to be taken so the situation will get back under control, especially on the migration route through and from Western Balkans which had become the main pathway for migrants into Europe.

After Agenda on Migration, especially in the end of 2015 and 2016, Europe worked in some strict policies that somehow showed the world a picture of very well managed 2015 migration crises through comprehensive package between European governments. Exalted by this “success” Europe believes that found its recipe to deal with any migration crisis that the future may bring. Yet one may still wonder if this feeling of satisfaction is mistaken! The real question is why this massive inflow of migration happened? How did Europe really manage it? Is the crisis still there? Of-course, what were the consequences and are they still present?!

In this paper, I argue firstly general information on migration, regarding migrants coming to Europe. It includes also migration trends and stats in various countries of Europe especially since the last migration crisis, the main reasons of last migration crisis and the outcomes it had. It will also summarize policies and agendas regarding to migrants elementary rights in their road to citizenship. Finally this paper will try to shape a better idea of social and economic effect as result of increased migration, especially for host economies with a specific interest in labor market. In conclusion I will present an overview of entire paper, enforcing my ideas for a solution in the area of migration.

Migration Trends in Europe – Historical Review

Europe shows a long and varied history of migration that was mostly treaded as is treated nowadays. Actually history of Europe for a long period didn't include migration history. Looking this way, migration history might be considered a relatively young field, that has been

¹ “European Agenda on Migration”, European Commission. Online available at: http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration/index_en.htm.

valued recently only as an important characteristic of social, political and economic history. To better understand migration as a part of European history comes naturally for migrations up to the early 20th century. After that, a European approach reveals as full of issues and problems. What actually was important to highlight from migration trends in 20th century were motives of migrants. Can they be referred as regional or political? It mostly was a movement of choice, and some of them for political reasons. Only few of them migrate due to religious discriminations (this until the end of the century). In the first half of the 20th Century, the world wars unleash a surge of migrations between European countries. This ended with shift of Europe borders that left behind a really tragic and painful memory for the victims and their familiars.

Very different from this is the summit of 1990s as a first immigration and home affairs program which especially forms the progressive agenda on migration held on “The Tampere summit”. To put it into simple words, European leaders bound themselves to an ambitious goal: they would, as far as possible extend to third countries to more respectful economic and political rights to enjoy for migrants that came to Europe to live and work, as an EU fundamental movement right referred as “European citizen”.

When Iron Curtain collapsed, borders of Europe were open for migrants. Cold War, former Yugoslavia wars led to a new flow of migration in Western Europe. For a period of 3 years, before the 1992, asylum applications increased from 320,000 to 695,000, to decline to 455,000 by the end of the decade.² Migration in this phase of European history was in increasing numbers not only with migrants coming to Europe, but also Europeans migrating within Europe. First decade of 21st century came with a large number of asylum applications and a lot of violent conflicts. In the period 2002 to 2006, asylum application in the 15 states member of EU decreased from 393,000 to 180,000³. From 2006 onwards, however, asylum applications rose due to the conflicts in Afghanistan, Iraq, and more recently, the Arab Spring. By 2010, the EU-25 plus Norway and Switzerland had received 254,180 applications, and humanitarian migration accounted for 6 % of newcomers to the EU. Most applications were made in France (47,800), Germany (41,300), Sweden (31,800), the UK (22,100), and Belgium (19,900).⁴

Countries where migrants where migrating at as well as their motives in nowadays became really diverse, actually until late 2012 it was also European countries that stepped up attempting to attract highly skilled or educated migrants. Even in 2018 this trend continuous, there are various EU state members that have different schemes that allow migrants to come and work in e legal way, or educational scheme, since educational migration is increased a lot. Apart from this, European migration policy still has some regimes of mobility. In this regime a large effect was caused by global economic crisis. In the last few years’ reasons of migration started to changes.

² Hatton, T. J. and J. G. Williamson (1998), *The Age of Mass Migration – Causes and Economic Impact*, New York: Oxford University Press.

³ Ibid.

⁴ “International migration outlook”, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development- OECD, Paris 2011. Online available at: <https://www.oecd.org/migration/48342373.pdf>

Beside social and economic reasons, people in search of a better life and especially refugees are the main migrant in the European countries till 2017.

Migration in Europe

Today Europe is facing one of most migration (refugee) crisis since World War II. This large number of migration into Europe is stretching economy, forcing politics and changing totally the dynamics of how states use to work. Only in the last year over a million migrants came into Europe, and this number is growing daily. EU is trying to create a common response; national states are taking it into their hands.

In the summer of 2015 the situation became really critical. Member countries tried to find a really suitable solution for every member. It was Germany that was dealing mostly with migrants coming into Europe from all over the world, especially with Syrian refugees. But what was to understand at the time was that, migration was not only Germany's problem. It became problem of entire continent. It was obvious that no country could shoulder the burden of the migrants alone. Beside controlling border and protecting nation's interest, EU members had to also show that they are serious about supporting refugees (migrants) when needed. It would replace a humanitarian disaster with an orderly process. Most of the migrants entering Europe are made up of mostly young and middle-aged men and women who have the means to fund their journey. The truly poor and needy are left behind. As a result of conflicts happening now in the world there is a need to give help to this coming migrants. As the decade is coming to an end, the refugee crisis has led to a reduction of immigration into Europe while, at the same time, increasing intra-European migration from the worst hits countries with what they are being feared of.

With this serious refugee crisis to the South and East Europe, Europe needs to go further in its program. Europe can't think clearly without answering to a crucial question: what exactly is the situation Europe is facing, why is it happening and how can it be managed. Since the 2015, migration ranks as a source of high state tension, a huge dimension of cooperation on policy making. As this decade is coming to an end, migration to Europe is really increased same as the policies and EU member states agendas that are changing and adapting to the massive number of migrants.

Policies Regulating Migration

Since the beginning of human history, people have migrated from one place to another trying to find new ways and opportunities for various reasons. Certainly, they tried to find legal ways but when it did not work, they also attempted through illegal routes, risking not only their lives but also their families. In 2015 and 2016 the EU experienced an unprecedented influx of refugees

and migrants. More than 1 million people arrived in the European Union, most of them fleeing from war and terror in Syria and other countries.⁵

In the last 20 years the EU has tried to regulate most of the asylum standards. Since 2015, the policies on migration have advanced especially since the "European Agenda on Migration" that was implemented in May 2015.

A forward-looking and comprehensive European immigration policy, based on solidarity, is a key objective for the European Union. Immigration policy is intended to establish a balanced approach to dealing with both regular and irregular immigration. These policies are adopted under the Articles 79 and 80 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.⁶

Firstly the Lisbon Treaty introduced a majority of regulations on immigration offering a new legal base and developed measures. In the following years a lot of development on migration policies was made. In 2011 the Commission of the EU adopts "The Global Approach to Migration and Mobility" which sets out the main framework for the EU's relations with third countries regarding the area of migration.

Three years later, in 2014, after the expiration of the Tampere Summit and The Hague Summit⁷, Commission of EU published a new agenda on migration, entitled "An open and secure Europe: making it happen"⁸ which was set under the article 68 of Treaty of Lisbon(TFEU).⁹

It was the year 2015 when migration became a priority on European government's agendas. On May 13th 2015 the Commission published the "European Agenda on Migration"¹⁰. This agenda proposes emergent measures to deal with the crisis especially in Mediterranean and measures that should be taken to more effectively manage every possible migration flow in the following years. The Commission also proposes guidelines in four policy areas: reducing incentives for irregular immigration; border management – saving lives and securing external borders; developing a stronger common asylum policy; and establishing a new policy on regular immigration, modernizing and revising the 'blue card' system, setting fresh priorities for integration policies, and optimizing the benefits of migration policy for the individuals concerned and for countries of origin.¹¹ Based on this agenda, the Commission put a lot of

⁵ "The EU and the Migration Crisis", European Commission of EU, July, 2017. Online available at <http://publications.europa.eu/webpub/com/factsheets/migration-crisis/en/>

⁶ "Fact Sheets on the European Union, Immigration Policy", Rosa Rafaelli, European Parliament, March 2018. Online available at: http://www.europarl.europa.eu/atyourservice/en/displayFtu.html?ftuId=FTU_4.2.3.html

⁷ "Fact Sheets on the European Union, An area of Freedom and Justice: general aspects", Sy Sarah, European Parliament, March 2018. Online available at: http://www.europarl.europa.eu/aboutparliament/en/displayFtu.html?ftuId=FTU_4.2.1.html

⁸ "An open and secure Europe: making it happen" Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, The Council, The European Economic and Social Committee and The Committee of The Regions Strasbourg, 2014. Online available at: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52014DC0154&from=EN>

⁹ Treaty of Lisbon is also known as Treaty Functioning European Union (TFEU). Online available at: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:l2007L/TXT>

¹⁰ "A European Agenda on Migration" European Commission, Brussels 2015. Online available at: https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/sites/homeaffairs/files/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration/background-information/docs/communication_on_the_european_agenda_on_migration_en.pdf

¹¹ Ibid.

guidelines on irregular immigration regulations as well as refugees migration as a form of it in 2016. In 2017 also on the basis of this Agenda, the Commission also published some progress and implements that should be made in the up-coming months.

Of course, the issue of such a crisis of migration had a lot of difficulties and mostly in the social and economic life spheres. EU adapted a numerous of regulations and directives in order to deal with the massive refugee crisis of 2015.

Directive 2009/50/EC on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purposes of highly qualified employment created the 'EU blue card', a fast-track procedure for issuing a special residence and work permit, on more attractive terms, to enable third-country workers to take up highly qualified employment in the Member States. The first report on the implementation of this directive was published in May 2014 and identified several shortcomings. In June 2016, the Commission proposed a revision of the system; work on this revision is ongoing in Parliament and the Council.¹²

The Single Permit Directive (2011/98/EU) sets out a common, simplified procedure for third-country nationals applying for a residence and work permit in a Member State, as well as a common set of rights to be granted to regular immigrants. The first report on its implementation was due by December 2016.¹³

Directive 2014/36/EU, adopted in February 2014, regulates the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purpose of employment as seasonal workers. Migrant seasonal workers are allowed to stay legally and temporarily in the EU for a maximum period of between five and nine months (depending on the Member State) to carry out an activity dependent on the passing of seasons, while retaining their principal place of residence in a third country. The directive also clarifies the set of rights to which such migrant workers are entitled.¹⁴

Directive 2014/66/EU on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals in the framework of an intra-corporate transfer was adopted on 15 May 2014. The directive makes it easier for businesses and multinational corporations to temporarily relocate their managers, specialists and trainee employees to their branches or subsidiaries located in the European Union.¹⁵

¹² Council Directive 2009/50/EC of 25 May 2009 on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purposes of highly qualified employment. Online available at: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32009L0050>

¹³ Directive 2011/98/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on a single application procedure for a single permit for third-country nationals to reside and work in the territory of a Member State and on a common set of rights for third-country workers legally residing in a Member State. Online available at: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32011L0098>

¹⁴ Directive 2014/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on the conditions of entry and stay of third-country nationals for the purpose of employment as seasonal workers. Online available at: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=celex%3A32014L0036>

¹⁵ Directive 2014/66/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals in the framework of an intra-corporate transfer. Online available at: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=celex%3A32014L0066>

Directive (EU) 2016/801 on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purposes of research, studies, training, voluntary service, and pupil exchange schemes or educational projects and au pairing was adopted on 11 May 2016, and is to be transposed by 23 May 2018. It replaces the previous instruments covering students and researchers, broadening their scope and simplifying their application.¹⁶

Also Europe has taken some serious measures on irregular migration as well. It is continuously cooperating with countries of origin and host countries with a view towards returning of irregular migrants. Here to be mentioned are: “Directive 2004/81/EC”, “Directive 2008/115/EC” also known as The Return Directive and “Directive 2009/2/EC”.

Europe should work more intensively to strike the right balance and show a clear message that Europeans want and can manage the migration crisis better when together.

Access to Citizenship

Europe knows some ways of gaining citizenship. *Ius sanguinis* citizenship is available in fairly inclusive ways in each of the countries in our sample and remains the primary channel for the acquisition of citizenship in Europe. In contrast, *ius soli* citizenship (entitlement to citizenship by birth in the territory) varies considerably across Europe. There is a clear a distinction in *ius soli* trends between EU-15 and EU-12 countries.¹⁷

Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain all provide for *ius soli* citizenship either at birth or after birth for children born in the country (contingent upon residence requirements for the individual and/or the individual’s parents). At the other end of the scale, a number of countries have no *ius soli* provisions apart from those for foundlings and stateless children.¹⁸ Anyhow nations by their positive laws regulate the laws governing citizenship at birth. *Jus soli* evolved during time, especially over the years of 1948, 1975 and 2001. Policies regulating citizenship evolved in other dimensions as well. Countries made efforts to better link the applications for residence and work permits in order to make it easy for migrants in labor market. Even EU has adopted some regulations and directives, which started being discussed in the EU institutions in the late 90s of last century over family reunification. Of course there are some requirements that countries have towards migrants who are applying for their citizenship status, as language knowledge and general knowledge.

¹⁶ Directive (EU) 2016/801 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 May 2016 on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purposes of research, studies, training, voluntary service, pupil exchange schemes or educational projects and au pairing. Online available at: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:JOL_2016_132_R_0002

¹⁷ “Access to Citizenship and its Impact on Immigrant Integration”, Rainer Bauböck, Iseult Honohan, Thomas Huddleston, Derek Hutcheson, Jo Shaw and Maarten Peter Vink. Online available at: <http://cadmus.eui.eu/bitstream/handle/1814/29828/AccessToCitizenshipanditsImpactonImmigrantIntegration.pdf?sequence=1>

¹⁸ Bertocni, G and G. Srozz (2010). The evolution of Citizenship: Economic and Institutional Determinant, *Journal of Law on Economics*, pp 95-136.

Regarding loss of citizenship, every European country studied allows for the voluntary renunciation of citizenship and, apart from Lithuania, all require in this case the possession or imminent acquisition of another citizenship. Every country except Poland provides for the involuntary loss of citizenship in certain cases. These are also the rules that apply when migrants whose documents are totally in accordance with the requirement of host country and they gain the right of citizenship.

Legal status, Rights and Political Participation

The legal framework in Europe that governs the status of foreign nationals has gone under some radical changes in the last decades. Maastricht Treaty somehow developed the common status regarding legal and civil rights of foreign nationals and their families.¹⁹ However, a close up look development that is actual is more complex and contradictory that it was. In these dynamic changes we are facing different legal categories of migrants. The fact that both migration and integration have become multilevel issues presents both opportunities and challenges. Immigration policymaking has been characterized by a constant struggle between national governments and the EU about the amount of discretion states have in interpreting EU directives. Reflecting the expansion of EU's role in migration policy, there is still a lot of variation or even divergences between EU states regarding legal issues. Nevertheless EU is making a considerable effort to harmonize this status between member states. A turn here marks the local policies in migrant integration, especially in the last decade. As stated above, there is not a common policy regulating migrant integration. This gap reflects in the connection between migrants and national states. To be mentioned here are some directives by EU that were part of several steps that EU took towards regulating migration policies. A crucial role played the Directive on the Status of Non-EU Nationals Who Are Long-Term Residents, which provides a framework for policies toward third-country nationals in the EU, and the Directive on the Right to Family Reunification, which provides a framework for admittance of family migrants to the EU. This evolving EU policy framework reflects the EU's distinctive internal organizational setting for integration policies. Migration control policies and reforms of the legal status are more focused on long-term foreign nationals, but governments are not working that much towards expansion of legal rights. Most models on which states of EU treat migrant legal framework is drawn by models of Western Europe known as liberal model of migration control. There are several paradoxical rules regulating the status of migrants, especially irregular ones when they present themselves to authorities to claim asylum. A huge number of asylum seekers are rejected due to lack of documents or for any other reason the authorities take into consideration. As for civil migration right, there are a lot of consequences because of different legal statuses for the social non-nationals, for their mobility and their vulnerability to discrimination. An important role here, of course plays the international human rights norms. How these norms treaded this matter in the past and how is treating now makes a huge difference, however, is much more difficult and neglected regarding this field. As for civil rights of migrants, in fact migration laws themselves lead to social and economic inequalities, and this way constitute sources of discrimination.

¹⁹ The Treaty on European Union (Maastricht Treaty 7 February 1992), Chapter Three, Community Policies. Online available at https://europa.eu/european-union/sites/europa.eu/files/docs/body/treaty_on_european_union_en.pdf

Socio-Economic Consequences of Migration

As mentioned, the reasons of migration changed through different times. They are now different than 10 years ago, and they are really diverse. The number of migrant has grown rapidly and no doubt that this change of population has its own consequences. Receiving countries in Europe are looking for people who are ready to join the work-force. But, the tendency to recruit young people has consequences for sending countries' economies, because receiving countries require mostly young single people. While migration has economic, social, and cultural implications for the sending and host societies, remittances the migrants send home are perhaps the most tangible and least controversial link between migration and development²⁰. It is clear that sending countries from migrants (diaspora) benefit an economic blooming (this varies on the number of migrants working in other states) through remittances. I will mention here Republic of Kosovo that gets from Diasporas migrants remittances an amount of 700 million euros per year²¹.

Beside this, the refugee crisis in Europe also had a huge impact on social and economic life of the states.

At its best, migration can be a rewarding experience that is made in the interest of the household welfare, but in most cases moving to another country and being separated from one's immediate family takes place at considerable emotional cost²². Temporary migration risk families to breakdown, especially those who can't afford migration for all family members. This becomes even more problematic when children are included, because separation from parents might have a long term consequences in every aspect of children's life. Apart from the increased competition at the labor markets, increasing inflows of migrants impose an integration challenge in all areas of social life. Developing countries policies are lacking to control the flow of migrants due to weak capacities and poor borders. But migrants are mostly focused in developed countries of Europe (ex. Germany, France etc.).

Labor Market Effects

Migrants in labor market are a widely studied topic especially when it comes to earnings and employment gaps. Early studies show that immigration on the labor market outcomes of native is small²³. Researchers suggest that even though migration doesn't affect that much existing worker but it has more significant effects low-wage workers. But it is seen as a huge problem to

²⁰ Ratta, Annu, Draft report on Optimizing development benefits from international labour migration in Tuvalu: Current status and recommended actions, prepared for PREM Sector, Pacific Islands, The World Bank, Sydney

²¹ "Study on Remittance in Kosovo", Kosovo Agency of Statistics. Online available at: <http://ask.rks-gov.net/media/1712/remittance-2013.pdf>

²² D'Emilio, A.L., B. Cordero, B. Bainvel, C. Skoog, C., D. Comini, J. Gough, M. Dias, R. Saab, & T. Kilbane. 2007. The Impact of International Migration: Children Left Behind in Selected Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. Division of Policy and Planning, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), New York.

²³ Borjas 2017, "How much do immigration and trade affect labor market outcomes?" Brookings papers on economic activity, 1997(1), 1–90.

measure the effects of immigration on jobs. Impact of immigration on the labor market depends on the skills of migrants, skills of existing workers and the host economy. Therefore, the effects on workers with specific wage or occupation are more evident. Another problem is that international immigration into a certain area may cause some workers to leave that area and migrate to other parts of the country or abroad. Whenever this happens, the labor market effects in a certain area are dissipated across the country which makes correct measurement through local labor market analysis more difficult.²⁴

Gaps in Employment

When migrants and employment gaps are mentioned in one sentence what firstly comes to your mind is: Do migrants take the job of native workers? A lot of researches are done regarding this matter since effects in a direct way the economy of host country and life of its people. But researches show that migrant rarely take native workers jobs, and they boost employment effects in the long term. In the past decade some countries of Europe faced a gap in economy. For example: UK, Italy, Spain and Sweden. This gap tends to be even larger in non-EU countries. Focused here is that the gaps were also evident in gender employment. Female job applications have been mostly declined.

Wages

Fear of immigration is once again manifesting itself strongly in Europe and other developed regions of the world. Most of existing studies relate unemployment and wages with migrant. Migration increase competition in the labor market, and affect wage cuts. As a consequence (after the first world), laws were adopted for the definition of immigration with a view to keeping the labor supply at a low level.

The Conventions envisage a set of conditions related to employment-related treatment, for example equal treatment with the citizen in respect of minimum wage and other form of payment, working conditions, occupational safety, accountability, social security, health and safety, the right to participate in trade unions, freedom of movement and the opportunity to appear in court etc. Of great interest are conventions that treat the payment of workers, as one of the essential elements of the employment contract. That's because many of them the problems most faced by migrants relate to non-payment in time, with low salaries, often even with salary retention²⁵.

A lot more of course that should be done to regulate not only status of migrants in employment and wages but of native workers as well. In this form the discrimination will slowly start to fade.

Return Migrants. What Next?

²⁴ Dustmann, C. and T. Frattini, "Can a Framework for the Economic Cost-benefit Analysis of Various Immigration Policies be developed to Inform Decision-making and, if so, What Data are required?"

²⁵ See Convention C095 - Protection of Wages Convention, 1949, article 5 and 9. Online available at: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO::P12100_INSTRUMENT_ID:312240

Temporary migration and links that exist between migration on return and development do not represent a new phenomenon. De Haas and Fokkema cite the case of "Guests" or friendly workers who were recruited from the relatively poorer countries of the Mediterranean such as Turkey, Morocco and Tunisia to work in the countries of the North-West Europe that were undergoing an economic boom²⁶. Temporary labor migration scheme is used by Western European countries as an instrument to model illegal migration that is coming back in an increasingly important problem in the '90s and '50s. I will now discuss the example of return migrants in Albania during the past century.

The first signs of migration in return to Albania emerged shortly after the first wave of Migration during the years 1993-96. After the first reforms in the early 90s it seemed the country was making economic progress, so it was also noted the return of some emigrants who started to invest in their home country. Nonetheless, despite the stabilization of the economy, it was able to provide enough jobs for the entire active population, especially for the 70,000 young people entering the labor market each year. Therefore even these cases of return were slim and sporadic. Migrants coming home as a more massive phenomenon is relatively young. According to an ETF study, the main reasons for the return, according to their percentage, rank as they are follows: First as a result of forced return by the authorities of the host country (24%), secondly because migrants have failed in their bid to integrate into the labor market in destination countries (10%), thirdly, others are home or family reason (1/3). In this group of reasons, return of migrants motivated by the obligation also enters to care for elderly or sick parents. Fourth, successful migrants have returned since they have implemented the beginning plan to "open a business" or "have saved enough money".

Returning of migrants is a process that has been associated with the creation of enterprises small and medium sized family, mainly in the service sector. In this success of they have helped not only the financial capital they have created through their savings but both social and human capital. Returning migrants have many relatives and friends who are outdoors or have friends and colleagues in the host countries. This form of social capital helps to returnees to develop or maintain trade and economic relations with their countries previous reception. The experience and experience gained is also a strong weapon that it gives advantage in competing with other services of the same kind. In this way, turning on employers, they contribute positively to the economy of the region. Also, there is a larger category of which has even worse financial and social status than before migrating and being returned.

²⁶ The governments of both countries, sending and receiving, initially considered this temporary migration and was expected broadly that the workers played a positive role in the economic development of the country of origin through investment there savings after their return. The governments of France, Germany and the Netherlands tried to encourage this migration in return. However, although there was a significant return migration, many guest workers ended up with the final placement in the destination country, which was largely due to family reunification migration in the 1970s and 1980s. De Haas H, Fokkema T (2011). The effects of integration and transnational ties on International Return Migration Intentions, Demographic Research, Vol. 25, Art. 24, p. 756.

Other Socio-Economic Outcomes

In a larger concept there are several outcomes and effects caused by migration. While economic issues are a topic that concern most of the states and a lot of research is done, the social ones need a little bit more of attention. For example, migration has effects on climate change, but those effects are rarely mentioned and less understood. Studies show that short term migrants don't really make investment in maintaining the ecological stability. Europe has been recently faced with a refugee crisis that happened because of conflicts or by natural disasters the displaced people might use unsustainable activities in absence of right ones, and this of course expands the environmental problems and produces new ones. Issues of migrants with irregular status also present a major challenge. Here is raised the issue of human security and human elementary rights. A huge number of these irregular migrants are faced with trafficking and smuggling. Studies show that most of the victims are women and children. This has some related specific risks such as HIV and Hepatitis A, B, C or any other epidemic condition.

Migration has an important implication for domestic institutions and politics. For developed countries it might be easier to deal with a huge flow of immigrants but developing countries might lose governance capacities. This because institutions are weak.

A nation's values tradition and attitudes is an asset that no country wants to lose. It is something that differs them. Migration somehow risks those values and diverse their tradition.²⁷ Although most remittances sent by migrants are legitimate transfers, the continued existence and use of informal channels has raised concerns of money laundering, terrorist financing and financial crimes leading to heavy regulation of providers of remittance services²⁸.

Conclusion

It's time to face the truth. We cannot and will never be able to stop migration. The refugee crisis in Europe may be subsiding, but migration globally will not stop. Refugees are reasonable people in desperate circumstances.

This paper has reviewed the migration trends in Europe, economic issues and benefits and social effects. We started by providing a historical review and migration trends to continue o current characteristics of migration in various important but also developing countries in Europe. We then discuss key policy issues in the European context, focusing on access to citizenship, asylum seeking, civil right enforcement, amnesties and policies to attract working migrants. For all the above discussed reasons, EU migration policy is still very much unfinished business. To overcome these contradictions, Europe needs to act more collectively, which means that it needs solidarity. But such solidarity has to be flexible. Flexible solidarity represents the most realistic

²⁷ Danso, R. & D. McDonald. 2001. —Writing Xenophobia: Immigration and the Print Media in Post-Apartheid South Africa. | *Africa Today*, Vol. 48, No. 3, pp. 115-137.

²⁸ Shehu, A. Y. 2004. —The Asian Alternative Remittance Systems and Money Laundering. | *Journal of Money Laundering Control*, Vol. 7, Issue 2, pp. 175-185.

way to bring together the many threads of a European migration policy that is deeply needed. A European problem demands a common, coherent EU policy. Let refugees in, but regulate the flow.

Sociological and anthropological studies have shown that cultures have not developed in void. There have always been interactions and influences. Immigration is not the only context where people and cultures mix; independent of immigration, there have been flow of political ideas, scientific and business innovations, and cultural practices. Muslim immigrants are equally exposed to and engaged in these societal debates, routines of everyday life, imaginations of better futures for themselves and their families in the countries they live in, as well as global flows of culture. In this rapidly changing and multi-vocal world, it is not plausible to expect magic formulas and quick solutions to complex problems. It is important to keep in mind that migration when not controlled is an issue for hosting countries. Not just economies of hosting countries but also social gaps will be visible. Also for migrants there will be not enough to cover their needs and human rights. But migration is an opportunity as well, especially regular migration for work, studies or better life opportunity. I want to end this paper quoting "François Crepeau, Professor of international Law that said: *"Migration is a dignity seeking journey"*.

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