



Insecurity and Diplomatic issues in the Phobia for Immigrants and Unrest in Europe

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Abstract

The history of migration in Europe spans in decades and characterised by vast differences in its cultures, languages, and geographical features. While the majority of European countries are attempting to balance their conflicting economic objectives and sociocultural values, the continent has a more debated and developed approach to migration. It is against this background that the study examined insecurity in the phobia for immigrants and unrest in Europe to examine multiple causes and diplomatic issues of insecurity in Phobia for Immigrants and Unrest in Europe. Premised on push and pull theory of migrations which suggests that migration is driven by both push and pull factors of environment, economic, or political pressures that make it difficult for individuals to stay in their home country in order attract opportunities or conditions that draw them to another location , the study adopted a case and desk study design on existing sources such as academic journals, books, conference proceedings, government reports, and other secondary materials. Experiences of immigrants and natives in seventeen (17) purposively selected European Union member states: Germany, Greece, Hungary, France, Sweden, Poland, Czech Republic, Italy, Spain, Netherlands, Norway, Denmark, Belgium, Austria, Switzerland, Portugal, and Ireland were investigated while ten(10) states were excluded: Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia. The textual materials used narrative analysis of accounts, actions, and events. The insecurity of Europeans has become the source of multiple concerns, including crime, terrorism, economic competition, cultural homogenization, and the idea of the immigrant other. Such diplomatic issues stemming from hysteria for immigrants in Europe enable nations to struggle with border controls, the management of migration, the refugee crisis, differences concerning the Schengen Area, the distribution of asylum seekers, the integration issue, and xenophobia itself. Therefore, European states must promote cultural turbulence, the refugee crisis, Schengen Area disagreements, asylum seeker distribution crisis, integration challenges, and xenophobia. Hence, European states should foster cultural understanding, tolerance, and acceptance of immigrants through education, awareness programs, engagement, and government policies to tackle xenophobia and anti-immigrant sentiment.

Keywords: *Conflict Dynamics, Europe, Immigrants, Phobia, Xenophobia*

Introduction

Europe, with a population of 744,989,946, is the third-largest region in the world, covering 22,134,900 Km² and having a urban population of 563,417,440 (OECD,2022). The continent has a diverse geographical, linguistic, and cultural composition, with major mountain ranges like the Alps, Carpathian Mountains, and Pyrenees, coastlines including the Mediterranean, Atlantic,

and Baltic Seas, and major rivers like the Danube, Rhine, and Elbe shaping its landscape (Encyclopedia Britannica. 2022).. European languages include official languages like English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, regional languages like Dutch, Norwegian, Swedish, and Catalan, and minority languages like Romani, Welsh, and Breton. Christianity has had a major influence on European culture,



spanning Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox faiths. The country's vast cultural heritage includes ancient societies such as the Greeks and Romans, as well as medieval and Renaissance practices (European Commission., 2022). The ethnic composition includes indigenous peoples, immigrant groups, the Roma population and minority communities such as Jews, Muslims and other religious and ethnic minorities. The European Union currently comprises 27 Member States, with its diverse geographical features, linguistic variations, rich cultural traditions and multiracial demographics.

The history of the migration in Europe is about 40,000 years ago, thousands of years of the old stone. As time passed, people migrated from Asia to the Bering Strait, followed by the hunting and collecting society of the middle stone potential, followed by groups such as Bronze Age and Phoenicians (Rudd, 2011). The ancient Greeks and Romans brought their language, culture and customs to Europe, while during the Middle Ages European Christians and Muslims migrated from North Africa and the Middle East. The Industrial Revolution in Europe led to rapid urbanization and economic growth, creating new opportunities for migration. Massive migration from Europe to North America occurred during this period, particularly from Eastern Europe. The late 19th and early 20th centuries saw significant migration flows from Europe to other parts of the world. After World War II (1945-1989), European countries experienced significant migration flows from their colonies in Africa and Asia. The 1960s and 1970s saw an influx of migrant workers from Eastern Europe to Western Europe (Borkert & Oso, 2015).

In the modern migration (still in the 1990s), communism collapsed in East Europe, a significant immigration from East Europe to West Europe. The Balkan War in the 1990s brought a large -scale movement from Bosnia - Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, and Serbia. After World War II, many European countries entered into bilateral migration agreements for migrant workers, making the period from the 1950s to the 1980s an important period in the status of

European immigration. In the 1990s, southern European countries became increasingly popular destinations for migrants due to push and pull factors in migration. Countries with the highest economic status and stability have a towing effect, but countries that do not have the highest economic and living conditions have advanced effects. This phenomenon was also observed in the European Union. The European Union is divided into four major categories: migration of labor, family reunion, humanitarian protection, and irregular migration. (Bagnall, 2007).

The increase in immigration in Europe is driven by a number of factors, including open border policies, historical immigration waves and economic opportunities. The Schengen Agreement plays a key role in promoting passport-free travel within the EU and increasing mobility for migrants seeking a better life (Rudd, 2011).. Conflicts and instability in regions such as the Middle East and Africa have led more and more people to migrate to Europe for security and stability. Countries such as Germany have attracted a large number of immigrants because they have strong financial conditions and demand in the labor market and have become the preferred destination for people looking for job opportunities. Striking a balance between economic needs and social cohesion remains a challenge for European countries. Europe faces major economic challenges caused by an aging population and labor shortages, which are fueling complex debates about whether immigration is necessary to stabilize the economy. Clashes among European leaders complicate a true understanding of the economic impact of immigration. Unlike Canada, Australia and New Zealand, Europe faces significant challenges in accepting immigrants. Many European societies are hesitant to welcome immigrants, especially those from non-OECD countries with different cultural and ethnic backgrounds. Anti-immigrant sentiment is evident in public support for restrictive immigration and asylum policies, negative press reporting, discrimination against ethnic minority groups, and racist harassment and violence (European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, 2018).



Literature has shown that there is a prevalence of insecurity between natives and immigrants in Europe. Similarly, migration is a complex phenomenon that involves multiple factors, including economic, social, cultural, political and methodological considerations. The migration literature has emphasized the importance of considering both push and pull factors in understanding migration flows. Ravenstein proposed the Push-Pull Theory in 1889, pioneering migration studies (Ravenstein, 1889). E.G. Lee's 1966 paper on the topic is often credited with modern formulation. Push factors include poverty, conflict, persecution, and environmental degradation in countries of origin, while pull factors include economic opportunities, education, healthcare, and family reunification in countries of destination (Mourji, 2015). . Push-pull theory can be applied to conflicts between European emigrants and natives, emphasizing the complex factors that lead to pressures. The driving factors are profitable and social differences, artistic differences, trouble perception and lack of integration. seductive factors include profitable openings, exile protection, family ties, and artistic exchange (Aleinikoff & Klusmeyer 2002).

Methodology

This paper is a case and desk study design. It relies on existing sources such as academic journals, books, conference proceedings, government reports, and other secondary materials. The main focus is on immigrant and natives in seventeen (17) purposively selected members states of European Union: Germany, Greece, Hungary, France, Sweden, Poland, Czech Republic, Italy, Spain, Netherlands, Norway, Denmark, Belgium, Austria, Switzerland, Portugal and Ireland. While ten (10) European Union members Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia were excluded in this study. Narrative analysis was used to analyze and interpret the stories, accounts, and events that were embedded in texts, such as articles, books, and other written materials.

Findings and Discussions

Issues of Insecurity in the Phobia for Immigrants and Unrest in Europe Migrants' fears of insecurity in Europe are a complex issue influenced by many factors. Key concerns include the possible increase in crime and criminal activity, such as drug and human trafficking, through migration, and the rise of right-wing extremism.

The 2015 Paris attacks highlighted the terrorist threat posed by immigrant communities. The rise of anti-immigration parties in Europe such as the Alternative for Germany (AfD) and the Freedom Party of Austria (FPÖ) has increased unrest and uncertainty among some Europeans. Immigration and insecurity in Europe raise many concerns, including crime, terrorism, economic competition, cultural homogeneity, and the perception of immigrants as "others." The 2015 Islamic State attacks in Paris, some of the attackers having grown up in France but with family ties to Morocco and other North African countries, highlighted the terrorism risk posed by immigrant communities in Europe. In 2016, a terrorist attack by ISIS sympathizers occurred in Brussels, Belgium, which is believed to have radicalized immigrants in the city.

Right-wing extremism is also evident in Germany, where the alternative party Dürer Deutschland promotes anti-immigrant policies, and the Austrian Freedom Party has links to neo-Nazi organizations. Another problem is economic rivalry: several Greeks believe that immigrants take jobs and increase wages, especially in the construction and restaurant sectors.

In Italy, there are concerns about immigration to public services, such as healthcare and education that are difficult to maintain from budget restrictions. If many Danes and French believe that immigrants from non-west countries believe that the inflow of immigrants threatens the traditional Denmark values and culture, cultural homogenization is another issue. The perception of immigrants as "others" is also a concern in Hungary, where many Hungarians and Poles believe that immigrants from non-



European countries are culturally incompatible with their society and bring crime and social problems. Fear of insecurity among European immigrants is a major issue in the 1920s.

The yellow vest protests in France in January 2021 were driven by economic inequality and taxes and also included concerns about immigration, with some protesters calling for tougher border controls. In February 2021, the AfD launched an anti-immigration campaign in Germany, arguing that immigrants threaten Germany's power structures and cultural identity. In March 2021, the British "Patriotic Alternative" campaign was also launched, arguing that immigrants threatened the British power structure and cultural identity.

In January 2022, Italy "Lega Nord" against an immigrant -does not marry and claims that immigrants are responsible for the reduction of Italian society. The Spanish Vox movement also began in February 2022, claiming that immigrants threaten the structure of Spanish power and cultural identity. In March 2022, Austria's Freedom Party continued to express anti-immigration views, claiming that immigrants are responsible for the decline of Austrian society.

Diplomatic Issues from Insecurity in the Phobia for Immigrants and Unrest in Europe Immigration in Europe is a longstanding issue, with many countries facing a number of controversies and problems (Wagner & Reiter, 2021). From border management and migration policies to the refugee crisis, the open border disputes in Schengen Area, the distribution of asylum seekers, assimilation and integration, discrimination and xenophobia, the EU's relations with Turkey, migration deals with non-EU states, security challenges, and financial responsibilities, all are serious diplomatic consideration to note. Division over the allocation of asylum seekers has been fraught, with some EU member states turning down their 'property' portion of refugees. In 2015 alone Germany admitted more than 1 million asylum seekers, while other European Union countries accepted far less. The situation

aggravated fears between Germany and other E.U. members, some of whom accused Germany of failing to do enough to ease the refugee crisis. Bigotry and prejudice continue to grow in Europe alongside the fear of foreigners, and many believe that if such conditions are left unchecked, it will have even more dire effects on the immigrant population- which will then create even greater measures needed to prevent repeat events. Genuine, respectful partnership empowered by mutual obligation and shared responsibility in general form the triangle where human rights violations and democratic shortcomings provide such triangle over human rights violations and democratic shortcomings. Diplomatic challenges to immigration in Europe: European institutions parlaying Mediterranean states have found themselves, through out immigration, European institutions parlaying Mediterranean states have restrained domestic ones, within Europe, influenced by human rights violations and democratic shortcomings in Turkey, dialogue on some of they are noted in the general discourse where some note deadlocked legal interpretation over Saviour and Secretary of state being guided to account compassows, mutual consideration will get one friovar significant conversation into Asia, and into the EU.

The 2016 deal between the EU and Turkey and the border wall built by Hungary in 2015 has been denounced by human rights organizations and led to tensions between the EU and Turkey. Despite this, human rights groups say the deal, designed to keep migrants from reaching Italy, is ineffective and has its own pitfalls that have been condemned by rights groups. Italy in 2018 saw an influx of migrants from Syria and other countries, leading to a diplomatic row between Greece and Macedonia, and giving the Greek-Macedonian name even more resonance. Germany and France instated tougher border controls in the writhing migrant crisis, in the wake of criticism from its fellow EU member countries. The Brexit talks between the U.K. and the European Union from 2016 to 2019 led to diplomatic clashes over issues like immigration, border controls and trade. Border controls between Sweden and Denmark



were criticized by other EU member states; border controls between Austria and Hungary in 2015 were criticized by Hungary and other EU member states. Poland and the Czech Republic also strengthened border controls, prompting a diplomatic spat between the two countries. Others EU member states condemned the 2016 Greek-Italian migration deal resulting to a diplomatic spat between Greece and Italy.. These diplomatic lines stress the complex issues Europe faces as it deals with the refugee crisis, immigration restrictions and measures that control the borders.

Human rights groups also condemned the deal the EU and Afghanistan made in 2021 to stem the flow of migrants from Afghanistan to Europe. Balkan countries such as Slovenia, Croatia and Serbia have tightened border controls as they receive waves of migrants from the Middle East and Africa. A migration deal between the UK and France in April 2021 sought to boost collaboration on border controls and immigration policy, though the agreement drew criticism from human rights groups as well. The EU and Morocco, which signed an agreement in January 2022 to curtail the flow of immigrants from Morocco to Europe, faced widespread international criticism because of the deal, as By: sauce.google.com Italy also drew criticism from human rights groups by agreeing with Libya to restrict immigration to Italy. Greece and Turkey signed an accord aimed at stem the flow of migrants from Turkey to Greece, but it, too, was blasted by human rights groups.

France and Germany have stepped up border controls against an influx of migrants from the Middle East and Africa that has also drawn criticism from human rights groups. After decades of membership, differences over immigration policy have emerged as a top sticking point as Britain and the EU continue working to negotiate the terms of its exit from the bloc, a process that stretches into April 2023. Negotiations between the EU and Turkey about migration issues started again in January 2024, although disagreements over border controls continued to be a primary obstacle. Greece and

Cyprus signed a pact intended to stem the flow of migrants from Turkey to Greece, but human rights groups condemned the deal. And finally, Italy and France signed a deal to boost cooperation on border control and migration policy.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Immigration and insecurity in Europe are influenced by factors such as crime, terrorism, economic competition, cultural homogeneity, and the perception of immigrants as "others." The 2015 Paris and 2016 Brussels terrorist attacks highlighted the terrorism risk posed by immigrant communities. Right-wing extremism in Germany and Greece is evident in Dürer Deutschland, while budget restrictions in Italy make it difficult to maintain immigration to public services. Cultural homogenization is another issue, with many believing immigrants from non-European countries are culturally incompatible with their society. Fear of insecurity among European immigrants has been a major issue since the 1920s.

Immigration in Europe has been a contentious issue, with numerous countries involved in debates and disputes. Key diplomatic issues include border management, migration policies, the refugee crisis, disputes within the Schengen Area, distribution of asylum seekers, assimilation and integration, discrimination, xenophobia, relations between the EU and Turkey, agreements on migration with non-EU states, security concerns, and financial burdens. The EU's internal borders are divided, with some advocating for tougher border control measures and others for more open and humanitarian policies.

In order to combat insecurity and diplomatic issues in the phobia for immigrants, the European Union needs to engendered policies, that will be bolstering counterterrorism efforts,

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