HISTORICAL RETROSPECTIVE AND PREVENTION FROM MIGRATION FLOWS IN EUROPE

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Abstract: Migration is a global phenomenon. One of the major migrations was the Great Atlantic Movement (1820-1980) in which peoples moved from Europe to North America.

Migration in the new era began with the revolutions known as the "Arab Spring" of 2011 and the Middle East wars in Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria. Among the most important migration routes were the Middle East-Asian route transiting through Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Turkey, Greece, Macedonia, Serbia, Hungary, Croatia and other European Union countries. The second is the South African migrant route through Nigeria, Kenya, Sudan, Somalia, Libya, Egypt, Tunisia, Mediterranean, Italy, France, Spain and other Western European countries.

In our paper we provide a detailed number of migrants who have transited through Europe (2014-2020). Conducting preventive measures for controlling the migration waves from the European countries will be determined with the main hypothesis: *Did the European countries have taken effective measures for controlling migrant waves which transited through Europe?*

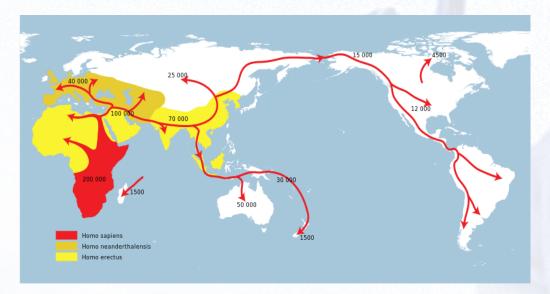
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INTRODUCTION

The migration of people has taken root from the earliest history. Migrations for people began long time ago, after moving from Africa to Asia and Australia, reaching all continents and places. The "Great Movement of Peoples" took place from the 3rd to the 7th century, covering the transition from the Late Antiquity to the Early Middle Ages as: Goths, Vandals, English, Saxons Lombardy, Frieze, Franks and other Germanic tribes, Huns, Avari, Slavs; Bulgarians and others (*Guy, 2008: 10-15*). After the great displacement of the peoples there were other major movements such as the Vikings, Normans, Hungarians, Mongols and Ottomans. All of these movements have given people a new demographic picture of Europe. What could be mentioned as a negative example is that these voluntary migrations are started to force migrations of African population for economic reasons. This movement, combined with the formation of colonial states and political, economic and cultural ties, will have far-reaching consequences which will result in new people moving into more recent history (Benjamin, 1978: 17-20).

Like the most of Europe's population which moved to the New World, the Jews and Moors, under pressure from the Inquisition, they left Spain in 1950 and moved to the Ottoman Empire. The Spanish Empire colonized the South Atlantic Island, Mexico and Caribbean from 1519 to 1821. The first Spanish settlements were in Florida, followed by the settlements in other Spanish colonies now known as New Mexico, California, Arizona, Texas and Louisiana. Between 1620 and 1640, a wave of over 50,000 British immigrants arrived in America. This wave later resulted in the formation of the first 13 colonies in Britain.



Picture 1: Map of early human migrations²

The largest colonizers of the 19th century are Spain, Portugal, France and the United Kingdom and in the late 19th and early 20th centuries this group became larger with Russia, Belgium, Germany, Italy, the United States and Japan. Apart from colonial empires, great emigration also occurs from other European countries and motives for such emigration are often economic as pursuit for better life, as well as the pursuit of personal security and well-being. One of the greatest migrations in human history is the Great Atlantic Movement from 1820 to 1980, when they moved from Europe to North America or more precisely to the United States, where about 37 million people moved. Initially, they were the residents of Ireland, the Netherlands and Germany. Across the Atlantic, there was also a large migra-



tion which includes the slaves from Africa during the 16th to 19th century, with an estimated 12 million slaves from Africa. Californian "Gold Fever" is a period from 1848 to 1855 (Witschi, 2002: 20-22). This period began when James Marshall found gold in California and when the people from nearby areas heard about it, mass arrivals began from Asia, Australia and Europe. One of the biggest migrations in the 20th century came after the British gained India's independence and divided India into two parts, one representing Hindu and Sikhs and one remaining in India, while the other part was in Pakistan represented by the Muslims, this migration is estimated at about 14.5 million people (Roman, 2015: 313-315).

After the colonization, the First and the Second World Wars were singled out as the biggest triggers of large waves of migration. From 1944 to 1948 more than 12 million Germans were expelled from Eastern Europe. In the Far East, the displacement of larger groups of people during this period was initiated by the events such as the Korean War (1950-1953) and the Vietnam War (1954-1975) and on the American continent with the Cuban crisis (Fargues, Fandrich, 2012: 5-9). The Soviet Union's occupation of Afghanistan in 1979 and the intensification of hostilities with Islamist rebel groups created a large number of refugees who fled to Pakistan and Iran. This figure peaked in the mid-1980s and amounts to about six million refugees. It represented 30% of Afghanistan's total population in this period.

Migration	Period	Period Number		
African Slave Trade	18th and 19th Century 12 million		From Africa to Americas	
The Great Atlantic Migration	1820-1980 37 million		From Europe to the United States	
US Great Migration	1910-1930s	6 million	From American South to Northern cities	
Post-World War II resettlements	1945	20 million	Movement from German occupied areas	
Partition of India	ion of India 1949 12 to 14 mil		Movement between Pakistan and India	
Chinese Urbanization	1978-Ongoing	200-500 million	China's rural population moves to cities	

Table 1: Migration waves from 18th to the end of 19th century

MIGRATION AFTER THE ARAB SPRING

The migrant crisis is a consequence of many years of transition processes in the Middle East and North Africa within the so-called Arab Spring. These processes in Syria and Libya resulted in a civil war, but also caused instability and a humanitarian crisis in the neighbouring countries, especially in Turkey and Libya, where the largest migrant centres are (Bonine, Amanat, Gasper, 2012: 342). As a result of these conflicts, the number of people who left the region for economic reasons is negligible in terms of the number of people who escaped from war, destruction, repression, persecution, terror and other violations of human rights (Kamrava, 2013: 572). From the many crises and conflicts in the Middle East that have resulted in the emergence of large groups of migrants and internally displaced persons in the last few decades, the crises and wars of the territories of Iraq, Afghanistan and Syria can be singled out as the most critical. During the war in Iraq there are no precise data on the number of migrants, but it is estimated that about 2 million Iraqis fled to the neighbouring countries and about 2.5 million remained in Iraq as internally displaced persons. Of those who fled to the neighbouring countries,



about 1 million people went to Syria and about 500,000 to Jordan. The rest went to Lebanon, Egypt, Iran, Turkey and other Gulf countries. In this refugee crisis, around 137,000 people left for Europe from March 2008. The inflow of 2 million Iraqi migrants created socio-economic pressure in Syria and Jordan resulting in public discontent and demographic changes that could impair the security of these countries over a longer period of time (Wehrey, Kaye, Watkins, Martini, Guffey, 2010: 95-97). Prior to the war in Syria, the migrant crisis in the Middle East characterized the poor socio-economic conditions of parts of the population and the great instability of the region (Blanchard, 2009: 2-6).

Such a complex security situation in the Middle East is getting further complicated during 2011, when a series of anti-government protests, uprisings and armed rebellions emerged and spread not only in the Middle East but also in North Africa. Such events are known as the Arab Spring (Gelvin, 2012: 5-10). The violence in these events caused the occurrence of casualties and the displacement of a larger number of people and they felt in a growing number of countries such as Tunisia, Egypt, Algeria, Yemen, Jordan, Mauritania, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Sudan, Syria, Libya and Morocco (Fargues, Fandrich, 2012: 22).

The overthrow or weakening of the existing, mostly totalitarian regimes on the one hand, and the weak security systems of newly-formed governments, on the other hand, led to the conditions for the expansion of terrorist and radical militant Islamic groups in most of the region (The global refugee crisis, 2015: 20-22).

Syrian President Basher al-Assad made only some formal changes in order to win the favour of the Kurdish population and the moderate Islamists in Syria, but did not accept any essential demands of the protesters and responded with massive operations, torture and murders of those who did not agree with him (Haas, Lesch, 2012: 85-90). This situation made the protesters form groups and start arming with the goal of overthrowing the regime with armed rebellion (Gelvin, 2012: 95-100). In a short time, a full civil war broke out with the participation of thousands of rebel groups with different agendas (Adams, 2015: 20-24).

Since mid-2012, the Syrian refugee crisis has steadily increased, rising 10 times in the next 12 months. According to the UN estimates by October 2012, around 30,000 people were killed; nearly 400,000 Syrians fled to the neighbouring countries and had about 1.2 million internally displaced people (Popp, 2012: 2-4). According to the UNHCR estimates given in early September 2013, about one million refugees left Syria during the first two years of the crisis, and another one million left the country in the last six months (Ferris, Kirisci, Shaikh, 2013: 65-70). Military actions destroyed the economy and ravaged the basic living conditions, so the demand for the basic living and the living conditions became one of the reasons for population displacement (Gucturk, 2015: 25-27). On the road to the EU, the most important route for their movement is the so-called Balkan Route. The large number of people who are moving, fleeing and migrating for any reason poses a threat to the security of the countries in which they transit and the countries that represent their final destination. This type of threat should be understood as a broader framework that can include humanitarian disasters, economic challenges, phenomena of resource and energy shortages, social and cultural misunderstandings and other problems (Collett, Le Coz, 2018: 5-7).

In 2015 and in the first months of 2016, a large number of migrants transited through Europe on the way to the northern and western European countries (Smilevska, 2015: 3-5).

From the viewpoint of national security, it was necessary to establish control over the entry and exit points of migrants (mainly entering and leaving the territory outside the legal international border crossing points) by applying the appropriate registration procedures. The effects of the migrant's crisis



in Europe are statistically processed in the Operational UN portal, where we gave the exact number of total transit number of migrant trough the territory of Europe from 2014 to February 18, 2020.

Table 2: Total number of migrants which transited to
European countries from 2014 till February 18, 2020 ³

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Migration per year	225 455	1032 408	373 652	185 139	141 472	123 663	11 753
Total							2093542

Table 2, shows the total number of migrants who have transited through European countries from 2014 to February 18, 2020. The number of migrants transiting through European countries during 2014 was 225 455 persons, 1032 408 persons in 2015 year, 373 652 persons in 2016 year, 185 139 persons in 2017 year, 123 663 persons in 2019 year and 11753 persons until February 18, 2020. The total number of migrants who have transited through European countries since 2014 year until February 18, 2020 is 2093 542 persons.

Table 3: Country of origin of the migrants who transited in Europe from 2018 till February 18, 2020⁴

State	2018	2019	2020	Total
Afghanistan	71 868	62 820	5971	140 659
Syria	29 426	25 722	5 722 2445	
Congo	8488	7420	705	16 613
Iraq	4952	4328	411	9691
Iran	2829	2473	235	5537
Palestine	4810	4205	400	9415
Others	19 099	16 695	1586	37 380
Total	141 472	123 663	11753	276 888

In our paper we have recapitulated the number of migrants who have transited through European countries in the last three years or more detailed from 2018 to February 18, 2020, according to their country of origin. About 50.8% of the total number of migrants was originally from Afghanistan or chronologically by years: in 2018 there were 71 868 persons transiting from Afghanistan, 62 820 persons in 2019 and 5971 persons until February 18, 2020.

In the period from 2018 until February 18, 2020, the total number of migrants from Afghanistan who have transited through European countries is 140 659 persons. In order not to explain in detail Table 3, which provides the similar data, the numbers of migrants transiting through European countries from 2018 to February 18, 2020, by country of origin are from: Syria, Congo, Iraq, Iran, Palestine and other states. From the total number given for 2018 to February 18, 2020 around 20.8% of the migrants' country of origin includes Syria, Congo 6%, Iraq 3.5%, Palestine 3.4%, Iran 2% and other countries over 13%.

The migrant crisis is a threat for many aspects of social life in European countries and already has an impact on economic and social security, as well as internal security in the countries through which migrants transit or remain, including the SEE countries on the Balkan route through which they used to arrive in the Schengen zone, especially in Germany, Sweden and other Western and Nordic states (Bloom, Canning, Fink, 2011: 12-17). All European countries have ratified many international conventions and instruments such as the 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees (1951) and its Protocol (1967) in January 1994. An important legal document is the Law on the Asylum and Temporary Protection that guarantees the right to social protection of migrants, as well as the conditions and procedures according to which a foreigner in European countries has the right to apply for asylum. Furthermore, before the final decision is made in the procedure for recognition of their legal status, asylum seekers have access to "free legal aid, accommodation, residence, basic health care in accordance with the health insurance regulation, the right to social protection under the Law on Social Protection, the right to education according to national legislation for primary and secondary education".

Also, on a national level the protection of migrants is guaranteed by the Family Law and the Law on Social Protection and other relevant regulations and legal documents. After the large number of refugees who have passed through Europe since 2015, most of the European countries' national governments have brought new legislation in response to the migrant crisis (Kerbage, Haddad, 2014: 12-15). According to the World Health Organization (WHO), a lot of migration had diseases which were spread from Pakistan, one of the three countries in the world where it was endemic. They also warn that Syrian epidemics can become a threat to millions of children in the Middle East (European Parliament, 2016: 5-8).

RESPONSE OF EUROPEAN COUNTRIES TO MIGRANT CRISIS

In coordination with the national bodies, International and national Red Cross, UNHCR and other numerous organizations, the European countries within their capacities provide a humane treatment for migrants. They implemented the amendments to the Law on the Asylum and Temporary Protection, enabling migrants to decide whether to apply for asylum or leave the territory in the period of 72 hours.

Apart from the legal changes, most of the European countries have adopted policy measures provided for by the existing legislation, mainly in the context of the crisis management mechanisms. In accordance with this decision, the Crisis Management Centre activated its headquarters and adopted an Action Plan for Prevention and Management of the Entry and Transit of Migrants across the territory.

Moreover, this decision enabled the European armies to provide adequate assistance to the European police forces in their efforts to secure the borders and control the entry of migrants on the territory. To ensure effective management of migrant crisis from 2015/2016, the European countries have established close cooperation with the so-called Balkan Route (Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia) and the Visegrad Group countries (Hungary, Slovakia, the Czech Republic and Poland) as well as with the EU External Border Management Agency (FRONTEX) (Frontex at Glance, 2015: 10-15).

The most important aspect of this cooperation was the close cooperation between the police forces of these countries, which included not only sharing information regarding the transit of refugees and migrants, but also providing assistance from the police force of most of these countries to the national police. The police assistance included technical assistance (including various donations of necessary equipment) and staff assistance (providing personnel for the establishment of joint patrols). Most of



the European countries have adopted the Strategy for the Integration of Migrants and Foreigners from 2018 to 2028 year.

This strategy also takes into account global migration trends and their impact on possible needs and expectations regarding local integration capacity. The comprehensive policy for integration into the strategy is formulated in a way to act at the entry point, at the very beginning of the asylum procedure, without delay and without wasting valuable time, which can be better invested in the preparation for integration. The initial phase for the development of individual integration plans is already in the reception centre for asylum, where early integration measures should be implemented.

Local integration is one of the three possible "lasting solutions" for migrants envisaged in the new strategy. Other lasting solutions include voluntary return to the country of origin and resettlement in a third country. Local integration is important for people who cannot return to the country of origin in the foreseeable future. It is based on the assumption that refugees will remain in the country of asylum and will find a lasting solution to their situation in that country. It is a way to enable migrants to restore their lives, their staying to become self-sustaining and creating a new life as the members contributing to the host society (UNHCR) (Achiron, 2005: 17-24).

It is important to realize that integration requires a long-term commitment, both by the refugees and by the host society. The strategy is aimed at the integration of persons who, in accordance with the Law on the Asylum and Temporary Protection, have the status of belonging to any of the following groups:

- Persons with the acknowledged refugee status;
- Persons under subsidiary protection;
- Asylum seekers, as beneficiaries of early integration measures, and
- Foreigners with regulated residence in some of the European countries.

The strategy takes into account that the time before the end of the asylum procedure can be used as a productive time when, at this early stage, the asylum seeker can participate in certain educational and professional training programs that will assist him/her in the later stages of the integration process. The new strategy builds on the results achieved by 2016, where important lessons have been learned about providing support to migrants in order to become independent members of society. In order to further improve the integration system and address the remaining strategic shortcomings, the new ten-year strategy focuses on following objectives:

- 1. Strengthening the integration system through capacity-building measures and partnerships that encourage local participation and interactive communication;
- 2. Development of sustainable early integration measures;
- 3. Realizing sustainable and long-term housing solutions that promote integration into society;
- 4. Achieving educational goals in order to strengthen integration in the society and promote sustainable employment;
- 5. Providing employment opportunities for the purpose of strengthening the independence of the target group and avoiding its dependence on social protection;
- 6. Achieving optimum results by linking integration measures and acquiring citizenship;
- 7. Introduce innovative models for optimizing the results of local integration in all sectors.

In order to develop the measures and steps for the implementation of the strategy for integration of migrants in some of the European countries, the key issues of integration are:



- · Early integration,
- Housing and accommodation,
- · Education,
- Employment and training on vocational skills,
- Prospects for naturalization and integration (obtaining citizenship, family reunification).

European countries are under way to change the strategy for integration of migrants and foreigners and it is necessary for them to adopt it in the European parliament.

CONCLUSION

In the current migrant crisis, the responsibilities according to UN's 1951 Refugee Convention and the subsequent 1967 Protocol are the principles which guaranteed the safeguard humanitarian assistance to those most in need (Grandi - (UN) High Commissioner for Refugees, 2016: 29-31).

One of the most pressing issues might be how to integrate the newcomers. These are also reflected in the four-pillar European Agenda on Migration from 2015 on which consists of:

- Reducing the number of irregular migrants,
- Border management,
- Common asylum policy,
- Legal migration, including integration and development in the countries of origin.

The aim of this study has not been to present an exhaustive account of every single communication, Green Paper, memo, etc. which the European Union institutions have released relating to migration and asylum policy (Seilonen, 2016: 79-81).

From the beginning of the crisis, the EU and the European countries have not demonstrated a quick, clear and efficient response. On the contrary, they have mainly based on the national activities and the measures of the Member States that run from open door policy (German Chancellor Angela Merkel's approach), to closing of borders and building wire fences for their protection (the approach of Hungary, which is then applied from most of the SEE countries). The listed approaches could not totally eliminate the crisis. In March 2016, the EU presented a concrete and more dimensional response (Iliev, Grizev, Stojkoski, 2016: 695-697).

The effects of wire fences were seen after their installation. So, if we compare the statistical numerical indicators for the number of migrants who transited through the European countries, we get this result: in 2016 the number of migrants which got through Europe was 390 456 persons, in 2017 was 188 372, in 2018 was 147 683, in 2019 it was 128 536 and until now in 2020 year 11 753 persons. 6

The numerical indicators have given this results: the number of migrants in 2016 in relation with 2017 decreased by **2.07** times, in 2017 compared to 2018 by **1.28** times, in 2016 compared to 2018 by **2.64**

⁶ Operational portal refugees situation, https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/mediterranean, accessed on February 20, 2020.



⁵ Migrants flow monitoring Europe, https://migration.iom.int/europe?type=arrivals, accessed on February 20, 2020.

times and comparing 2016 with 2019 the number of migrants which have transited through Europe decreased by 3.04 times.

With this we can absolutely confirm the hypothesis of this paper that the wire fences and mutual support of European countries in resolving crises in the Middle East are the key dependent variables and indicators for overcoming the migrant crisis and creating a possibility for the returning of migrants in their countries of origin.

Turkey was the main transit base for the largest number of migrants, whose implementation should ensure the effective resolution of the crisis. The agreement is important from several aspects: the determination of the EU to provide adequate protection in accordance with the international legal norms of refugees; making a distinction between people with refugee status and migrant status; the determination of simultaneous action in the direction of closing migrant routes, the integration of the refugees arriving, the return of those who are not subject to protection in accordance with the refugee and migrant status principles or who pose a security risk; the dislocation of refugees and migrants from Greece to Turkey and the prevention of a new wave of migrants. Parallel to this, in order to eliminate causes of the crisis, the EU and Turkey have committed themselves to a common approach to security stabilization and post-conflict peace-building in Syria. In this way, the EU manifested its determination for seriously responding to the most serious crisis which they faced in almost three decades (Iliev, Glavinov, Iliev, 2019: 329-330).

A few years ago the vulnerability assessment methodology was established from FRONTEX in coordination with the European commission and has four basic principles. This vulnerability assessment methodology is structured around one single overall process resulting in annual baseline assessments. These assessments are complemented with specific assessments stimulated by the identification of upcoming challenges, monitoring of situation along the external borders and assessment of the Member States' contributions to rapid reaction pool.⁷

Migration coordination for the EU countries includes:

- Specialist expertise in response to migration policy (border control/asylum status)
- More effective coordinated early-warning system for rapid needs for action
- Responsibility for overall implementation of the EU initiative and recommendations for migrant crisis challenges
- Better coordination among the International agency for migration and the EU national governments for migrant crisis issues
- Action plans implementation from the EU national governments for improving logistic resources of migrant and transit camps (Collet, Le Coz, 2018: 49-50). Trade liberalization between the EU and migrant countries of origin (ECOWAS in Africa) need a closer bilateral cooperation for management of migrant flows (Vision Europe Summit, 2016: 89-91).

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