Chapter 28

Migration Policy of the European Union From the Perspectives of Turks in the EU Countries and Syrian Immigrants in Turkey

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ABSTRACT

This chapter deals with the adventure of Turkish workers’ upcoming 60th year in the Europe and EU’s cooperation with Turkey at the wave of immigration based on civil war in Syria to Europe, in accordance with the immigration policy of the European Union. In this context, the question of how the European Union’s human rights and freedoms-based rhetoric and its practices on the basis of protectionist border policy are conforming will be answered. In this study, literature review and resource collection are used by evaluating the available resources. As a result, the European Union’s human rights and freedom-based rhetoric against the threat of disrupting its own order and welfare is only consistent with the integration of qualified migrants who will provide the workforce that is compatible and in need. However, a rising, prejudiced phenomenon reaching Islamophobia and xenophobia emerged at the social and political framework that is against the immigrants who cannot achieve cultural integration.

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INTRODUCTION

With the development of the European Union, the phenomenon of migration has become an unchangeable fact in the history of the EU. As the EU grew, it became the center of attraction for immigrants.

The changes in European Union (EU) migration policies are evaluated in three periods. The first period migration policy is a form of worker acceptance to rebuild the destruction of Europe after World War II. The second period of migration policy is aimed at combining the families of guest workers at a period reducing the need for workers by technological developments. The latest immigration policy period is when the citizens of the Eastern Bloc began to migrate freely after the end of the Cold War and the Union start to be more cautious against the migration, with the idea that migration was a security problem (Uzun and Özer, 2016:79). However, policy on border security and the cooperation with the third countries after the so-called Arab Spring that caused the wave of migration from North Africa to Europe should be considered as a fourth period.

In this period, the EU, which puts its values support in its founding philosophy in to the second place with its security concerns, has taken all the measures to prevent the entry of immigrants in its borders, as well as trying to include the candidate countries in this policy (Uzun and Özer, 2016: 83). In order to legitimize its own security policies, the EU put forward that after illegal migratory mobility, organized crime such as human and drug trafficking, trafficking in human beings, and terrorism increased (Sever and Sever, 2013:94-95).

At the beginning of the second millennium, the issue of irregular and illegal immigration to EU borders and the issue of refugees were considered not as a humanitarian dimension but as a political argument by the parties in terms of socioeconomic problems and unsuccessful integration discourses. With the added perception of security, the idea of the Europe of the Protected Castle in the sense of defending the Union as a fortress was started to be expressed (Sever and Sever, 2013:91).

On the other hand, EU, Turkey and the concept of migration is seen that the two periods as the busiest intersection in historical perspective. The first of these periods is Turks becoming a fact of Europe era after going as labor for rebuilding Europe after the Second World War and their family reunion, the second is that as a country cooperates against the influx of refugees to Europe after the Arab Spring. Handling of immigration on these two periods in Turkey and the EU’s policy axis is important in the case of Turkey’s membership towards EU. In this study, these two terms in the context of migration in Turkey and the EU tried to reveal how the relationship will be formed. In this study, it is going to be held the question of whether the European Union’s immigration policies is compatible with the human rights principles of it, by analyzing the researches and official data in the literature.

THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

Before addressing the issue, it is necessary to be informed about the development process of the European Union’s migration policies from a historical perspective and with this process the view of the Europeans towards immigrants.
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