BEING IMMIGRANT IN THE WORLD

EXPERIENCES, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Editor: Osman Akgül



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Experiences, Challenges and Opportunities

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Preface

Temporary or permanent displacement of population from the area they continuously live or settle towards another region or country as independent from causes is being defined as migration. This displacement is arising at any scale or direction as cross-continental, transnational, cross-domain, from rural to city, or from city to rural as in nowadays. It is possible to encounter many examples of migration in history depending on various reasons. The phenomenon of migration, being identical with the history of humanity, is versatile due to having demographical, geographical, political, psychological, anthropological, and sociological contents. This characteristic of migration had necessitated domestic approaches and examinations as well as a universal view.

In different literatures, the phenomenon of migration is classified as forced, optional, continuous, seasonal, domestic migration, emigration, international migration, life style migration by criteria such as cause, distance, period, and crossing the political borders or not. In each period, globalization

is making itself felt by gradually extending its effect compared to the previous period, and it is directly or indirectly affecting many countries and regions, and this effect is also shaping the process of migration. Within this scope, by affecting the migration process, it is increasing the number of places of emigration (source country), and places receiving migration (target country), and the volume of migration movement. While the phenomenon of migration is being anticipated as the movement of people to places where the individuals could derive high profit as per their profit/cost calculation according to the micro theory of neoclassic economy, and it is based on the geographical difference of balance of supply and demand regarding labor according to macro theory. In this sense, the flow of migration is being actualized from underdeveloped areas to relatively more developed areas, and it is showing an increase in parallel to the difference of development. The phenomenon of migration, along with increasing the number of opportunities that the people may encounter in their lives, ensures social and professional mobility for people. In this respect, displacement of individuals in space affects the social system in terms of both producer and consumer roles.

Even if various factors play a role in the migration decision of immigrants, in the light of the data obtained from the field study made, it is standing out that the most important factor, among the ones being effective in the decision of immigrants for migration, is the desire to increase the life standards depending on the low income level. Migrations actualized for building better living conditions may be considered as the significant cause of migrations being widespread in the world. In the light of all these assessments, facilitating factors such as the developments in communication and transportation systems, easy access to information, and being

aware of the presence of new work areas are forming the new dynamics of migration, and determining its direction.

In the first article of this book, Mehmet Anık examines the basis of migration and anti-immigration emerging in Europe. He was focused their attitudes which emerged as anti-immigration and tried to be based on rational reasons, are actually fed from an irrational, emotional and reactive perspective and are mostly output of political opportunism.

In his article, Akgül examined the causes of emigration, labor emigration and the reasons that caused it. Turkey's migration experience quite different from other countries. The migrations in first period were mainly due to reasons such as politics and war. And after 1950s, the phenomenon of migration has started to exhibit itself by a different manner. Akgül has specifically addressed the causes of labor migration in Turkey, he mentioned the results of foreign migration.

Muhammad Moiz in the paper 'Recent Migrations to Uganda: Challenges and Steps Towards Integration' focused on the migrations to Uganda from South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya and Rwanda. He analyzed how Uganda continues to welcome refugees and has been a model for well-executed integration practices. Moiz argued that Uganda has been focused on the social and economic integration of refugees by providing them the right to movement, work, providing land for farming, and social services that include health and education. He evaluated that Uganda's policies towards refugees have been appreciated by organizations around the globe.

Muhammad Salah Uddin and Syed Muhammad Usman Masood in the article on 'Issues Faced by Palestinian Refugees in Jordan' analysed how Jordan has become the highest migrant hosted country in the world. They focused on the

main problems faced by Palestinian refugees in Jordan. They argued that, even though the Jordan government has generally been facilitative, the life of the Palestinian Refugees has come with the challenges of having to live as a 'refugee'. The researchers even demonstrated the differences in the life experiences of Palestinians living in camps and outside. They argued that the poorer Palestinians, living in camps, have larger family sizes, miserable living conditions, lower levels of education, and poorer health levels than the refugees living outside of the camp.

Muhammad Moiz and Syed Muhammad Usman Masood discussed the Syrian refugees in Turkey and its impact in the paper 'Syrian Refugees: Integration and Challenges in Turkey'. They have shown how Turkey became the world's largest migrants hosting country and managed Syrians for a long time. They argued that initially, Turkey did not expect the Syrian conflict to continue for so long and did not have a long-term policy towards Syrian refugees. But later Turkey has taken different steps to help and integrate the Syrian people in Turkey. Especially Turkey initiated fee education for Syrian students and open free health service for all Syrians. The researchers also specified some barriers facing by the Syrians in Turkey like understanding Turkish language, society and culture.

Merve İstil analyzed the migration history of Turkey from the Ottoman time to the present. In her paper 'Migration of Cradle of Turkey', she focused that, Turkey's geopolitical and geostrategic location is the main cause of the migration from different parts of Asia, Africa and Balkans. The paper discussed the new immigration policies of Turkey which facilitated quality migration and encouraged international students for higher education in Turkey. The researchers shown the documented immigrants in Turkey as well as discussed

how Turkey is using as a transit by illegal migrants. Merve especially analyzed the opportunities and challenges of international students in Edirne and highlighted the international students in Turkey.

Syed Muhammad Usman Masood and Muhammad Salah Uddin focused on the Rohingya ethnic crisis in Myanmar in the article 'International Response to Humanitarian Crisis: A Study of Rohingya Issue'. The Muslim Rohingya ethnic group living in the Rakhine province of Myanmar has been persecuted since 1948. Myanmar government denied their nationality and all the other humanitarian rights and forced to migrate them to Bangladesh. The researchers discussed the nature of violence and persecution by the Myanmar government agencies and waves of migration in 1978, 1991-92, 2012, and 2016-2017 to Bangladesh. This paper has shown how Bangladesh supporting stateless Rohingya peoples for years by providing shelter, education and health services. Along with this, the paper examined the role of Turkey and evaluate the role of international agencies towards Rohingya people.

Zobayer Ahmed and S.M. Toki Ullah Emtiaz analysed the impact of the Rohingya crisis in the paper 'Major Socio-economic Externalities of Rohingya Crisis in South-East Asia'. They have briefly discussed the history of the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar which has been forced more than 1.5 million people fled to Bangladesh. Researchers mainly analysed the economic, social, cultural, geopolitical, religious, environmental and humanitarian implications of the Rohingya crisis on Bangladesh and the region. This paper has shown that the Rohingya crisis has of late become a matter of security concern to the government and the people of Bangladesh. They found that the socio-economic externalities caused by

the crisis over the entire South-east Asian region are significantly multidimensional.

Bükey analyzed international labor migrations on the basis of Theory of Pushing and Pulling in the paper "Analysis of the Attractive Elements of Labor Migration in European Union Countries" on the case of European Union. Accordingly, it examined the attractive factors of migration in the reference period of 2012-2018 in terms of economy, health and education indicators (in full logarithmic form). As per the empiric findings of the study, 1% increase in economic factor (GDP) is increasing the labour force migrations by about 0.13%, 1% increase in education factor (expected schooling year) is increasing the labour force migrations by about 0.19% and 1% increase in health factor (health expenditure /GDP) is increasing the labour force migrations by about 0.04%. Thus, the factor of education had come to the front as the most attractive factor in labour force migrations received by European Union states and than the factors of economy and factor of health had followed it.

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Osman Akgül
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