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GERMAN AND FRENCH POLICIES IN SOLVING MIGRATION PROBLEMS IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

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ABSTRACT

This article examines migration problems in the European Union, the programs and strategies adopted to solve them, a comparative analysis of the migration policy of Germany and France, and the approach of Germany and France in the process of securitization of migration.

KEYWORDS

Migration, EU, Germany, France, securitization.

INTRODUCTION

The countries of the European Union (EU) are in a paradoxical situation in solving migration problems. On the one hand, immigration is being securitized, and on the other hand, democratic principles for solving immigration problems are being developed. At this point, it should be said that while the securitization of immigration has the goals of ensuring a safe society and stability, the democratization of migration has the goals of ensuring and protecting human rights.

The paradox is that human rights, on the one hand, and security, on the other hand, are creating serious problems in immigration policy. What happens in the

process of securitization is to open up the space to act in favor of control and security interests at the expense of rights. An overestimation of national security aspects in migration policy, i.e. policies towards the “others” - immigrants, asylum seekers and refugees - can easily lead to the restriction of the rights of these others. Because decision-making rests with a nationally limited majority, outsiders are excluded. This is where the “democratic dilemma” emerges: on the one hand, human rights or the status of refugees, and on the other, the factor of state and community security [1].

EU migration strategy

Studies show that the European countries that initially attracted the labor force did not take measures to integrate the arriving immigrants at that time. Because there was an assumption that this labor migration is temporary and that the migrants will return to their homeland after their economic role ends. However, the economic downturn and the oil crisis of the early 1970s were turning points in the history of migration processes in Europe, and most of the migrants who arrived chose to stay permanently instead of returning to their homeland. Also, as the number of immigrants in Europe increases with the number of immigrants who plan to stay permanently offering their families for reunification and the number of political asylum seekers, the migration policy of European governments is not only a process that covers the entry and exit of immigrants, but also the long-term consequences of the settlement of foreigners. , that is, a set of rules that adapt to ensure their integration [2]. Later, with the increasing number of illegal migration and refugees, European countries were encouraged to develop seriously considered migration policies and strategies.

EU countries have 3 strategies in the processes of democratization of external migration: a) adaptation and integration of immigrants from third countries into society; b) strengthening cooperation with regions and countries neighboring the EU to prevent uncontrolled and illegal migration; c) protection and promotion of democracy and human rights in third countries where migrants arrive [2].

In general, the EU's migration reforms and adopted strategies have been guaranteed by several regional agreements. These contracts included:

- 1) Schengen agreement (1985) – the principle of free movement
- 2) Dublin Convention (1990) – Status of Refugees
- 3) Maastricht Treaty (1993) – Refugee and migration policy
- 4) Treaty of Amsterdam (1997) – Regulation of migration policy
- 5) Tampere Summit (1999) – Managing the flow of immigrants
- 6) Charter of Fundamental Rights (2000, 2009) - Ensuring civil, political, economic and social rights
- 7) Seville summit (2002) – expansion of EU migration policy to source and transit countries
- 8) Treaty of Nice (2003) – Introduction of majority vote in decision-making on migration
- 9) Treaty on the Constitution of Europe (2004) - Establishing a common migration policy (this treaty rejected the decision to adopt a single European Constitution)
- 10) European Convention on Migration and Asylum (2008) – Common Migration Policy for Europe
- 11) The Hague and Stockholm Program (2004, 2009) – Future steps on migration
- 12) Treaty of Lisbon (2009) – External border control, asylum, immigration, crime prevention, free movement, providing an area of freedom and security without internal borders
- 13) European Parliament Assembly Resolution No. 2043 (2015) - Development of Democratic Participation of Migrant Diasporas

14) Preventing or reducing the flow of external migration (2019)

These agreements and regulations have become important in ensuring the gradual integration of immigrants in the EU on democratic principles, and on the other hand, controlling their activities and actions.

A comparative analysis of German and French immigration policies

It is known that Germany and France are the main center states in the EU and play an important role in determining the internal and external policy of the EU. Also, migration and immigration policies are mainly formed by the initiative of these two countries. At the same time, all countries in the EU have developed migration policies in different ways, and they have similarities and difference.

If we analyze the immigration policies of Germany and France, the immigration policies of the two countries differ in several aspects:

According to the composition of the immigrants, France mainly consisted of immigrants from colonial countries, while Germany was initially composed of immigrants from southern European countries and Turkey, later from Eastern Europe and Russia [3].

According to the classification of work, immigration in France is decentralized, since immigrants work mainly in the private sector and in seasonal jobs, while in Germany, immigrants work in large companies, and it has a centralized system[4].

In terms of citizenship (naturalization), Germany still had a consanguineous (ie one of the parents must be German or a German citizen) citizenship system until 2000, while France still had a naturalization system. provides citizenship depending on the status[5].

At the same time, there are some similarities in the immigration policies of Germany and France:

1) both countries are considered welfare states and have a standardized wage distribution, which attracts more people in need of social protection, primarily asylum seekers and refugees, rather than highly qualified professionals [6].

2) Both countries take part in active immigration policy within the EU and play a major role in its formation and implementation [7].

3) both countries still have very restrictive immigration policies and procedures, in other words, obtaining residence and work visas is very complicated in both countries.

4) both countries have a policy of assimilation and integration of immigrants on a large scale [8].

Thus, the migration policy of these two countries in the EU, Germany and France, plays a major role in shaping views on migration issues and problems. This is certainly the case with the securitization of migration. It should be said that the securitization of migration consists of four specific axes:

Socio-economic – due to unemployment, the growth of the informal economy, the crisis of the welfare state and the deterioration of the urban environment;

Security – Narratives about the weakening or loss of sovereignty, borders, and the control system that links internal and external security;

Identitarian - the perception of migrants as a threat to national identity and the demographic balance of host societies; and

Political – anti-immigration, racist and xenophobic speeches and actions[9].

In Germany, migration has been widely studied as part of national security and defense strategies. Especially after the migration crisis of 2015, while migration has become a priority in Germany's domestic and foreign policy, France's national security and defense strategies have not given any place to migration issues. This leads to the conclusion that migration may be safer (in the non-dangerous category) in France [10], however, the events of 9/11 and the 2015 Charlie Hebdo attacks [11], The emergence of separate communes where immigrants live and frequent conflicts with the local population have ensured that migration has become a security factor in France as well. This is evident on April 21, 2021, when Valeurs actuelles published an open letter from twenty retired French generals to the French president and the French government. In the letter, the generals call for the protection of the country, which is at risk of "disintegration" and "civil war" due to fundamentalism, Islamism, communitarianism, separatism [12].

CONCLUSION

Studies based on the methods of comparative analysis show that within the framework of the European Union, efforts have been made to fight against illegal migration, to ensure cooperation on immigration, to find democratic solutions to the problem of migration, and to ensure the integration of immigrants. At the same time, specific practices of migration policy have been formed at the national level. In the case of Germany and France, according to the results of the comparative analysis, we can note that the immigration policy of the two countries differs and is similar in several aspects. While right-wing radicals in Germany and France are trying to tighten immigration and refugee policies, close borders and "end mass immigration", left-wing representatives in Germany

and France, especially the Greens, in turn, promote universal equality and solidarity in migration issues. They say that integration requires a special social infrastructure aimed at achieving the public interest rather than private interests. In addition, they believe that it is necessary to fight the causes of migration, that is, to stop the export of weapons, to find acceptable solutions to military and economic conflicts.

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