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Understanding and Tackling the Migration Challenge:
Mapping Options for a Resilient Approach

Coordinators:
Silviu Nate, Annett Arntzen

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Policy Recommendation Paper

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Methodology

36 experts from different countries and different fields were asked to respond to a 12 items survey. The availability of their feedback became relevant for organizing of the workshop of discussions and debates for drafting an analysis report on migration, transposed into the following policy recommendation paper at the level of both partner countries (Romania and Norway) and at the level of European Union. The workshop focused also on designing an academic course generally entitled: "Migration Challenges and Possible Approaches". The participants embraced the mission to create an authentic platform to share knowledge, generate better understanding and improved vision in approaching migration challenges.
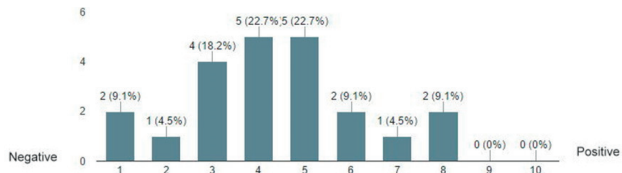
Sibiu, January 2017

List of participants in alphabetical order:

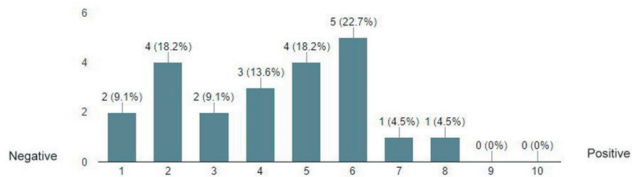|	
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Victor NICOLĂESCU	Prof. Ph.D., "Petre Andrei" University of Iași
Youssef AL AWWAD	Syrian MA student at Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu

General perception of participants regarding the evolution of the immigration process in Europe

1. How would you rate the impact of the last 2 years of immigration process and massive refugees presence regarding Europe's development?

2. How do you predict the next 2 years immigration process and massive refugees presence will affect further developments in Europe?

Strengthening European Capabilities

Common European heritage should be preserved and augmented

Main pillars that will contribute to tackle the migration challenge:

a. **Promote the values of solidarity and diversity among states and citizens**

Due to its shown history, Europe demonstrated a remarkable ability to rise; Europe has been through two world wars, and has rebuilt itself. EU and European countries have practical expertise in tackling public cultural norms. The principles of solidarity and diversity should be transmitted to younger generations. Tolerance, cultural awareness and respecting the human rights are key drivers of the European soft-power policy.

b. **Engage societal actors for increasing the level of resilience and effective understanding of refugees**
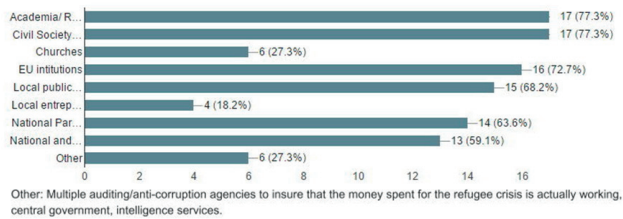
Support the European civil society in its effort to engage in social problems, be pro-active and influent in combating hate speech, xenophobia and radicalisation. Identify and involve societal interdependent actors that support European states' bureaucratic capabilities for managing immigrants, based on the promotion of tolerance and understanding of the European democratic environment and values. Psychological help provided for refugees, especially for victims of human trafficking, children and men previously involved in illegal activities.

Develop migration management programs that would take cultural factors into consideration and would allow refugees to participate in the culture-building process. Create links for humanitarian assistance with countries exposed to conflicts, that host massive number of refugees or which are neighboured to affected countries; to regional pillar states and immigration transit areas (e.g.: Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon, Iran, Egypt,

Syria, etc.). Where possible, address areas where people are under stress and attempt to help solve the problem at the source or help refugees to stay closer with their countries of origin and cultures by limiting incentives to move and provide incentives to stay (e.g.: safety, improving living standard, invest in education; clear demands related to work and family reunions).

Societal actors and schools should be motivated and supported to develop educational programmes that would facilitate (1) the spread of relevant knowledge about the European Islam, (2) understanding of the differences between Islam and radical Islam, (3) reduce general xenophobia, and (4) avoid collective anxiety, by promoting the values of European multiculturalism. Some of the Christian churches might be helpful and tolerant with Muslims, but others view Islam as a threat and a plague, an element that Europe should get rid of.

6. Who should be the main actors for understanding and handling an coherent intercultural approach with the refugee groups? (multiple choices available)

Academia/ R...	17 (77.3%)
Civil Society...	17 (77.3%)
Churches	6 (27.3%)
EU intitutions	16 (72.7%)
Local public...	15 (68.2%)
Local entrep...	4 (18.2%)
National Par...	14 (63.6%)
National and...	13 (59.1%)
Other	6 (27.3%)

Other: Multiple auditing/anti-corruption agencies to insure that the money spent for the refugee crisis is actually working, central government, intelligence services.

c. Reinforce local administrative capability

A big challenge for local authorities is to avoid affecting the daily life of local people, promote best practice development programmes as source of ability for local policing and security.

European states must build a coherent strategy on the exchange of good practices among different actors, both international as well as local level. Train experts; develop a better coordination and proper procedures for refugees' management.

Create a coherent debate on the Dublin Agreement improvement and find the proper balance between refugees' distribution among EU countries and impaired labour market belonging to other European states.

Advance social programmes for language, cultural integration an inclusion(e.g.: when you receive more than 10.000 unaccompanied minors,

which they do not understand the language but they have to go to school and accommodated, the burden can be considerable).

d.   **Refugees' hosts and displacement/asylum centres**

Practitioners in the field often highlight a major European weakness for managing high-mass waves of refugees: inappropriate facilities to manage migrants, limitation of the migration policies, slow relocation process from Greece and Italy. Therefore, is important to enable the reform of the current asylum policy within Europe, even though reaching consensus can be a difficult process, especially on this matter. The European countries have to share responsibilities fairly, in order to formulate a stronger and coordinated response.

In few European countries, preoccupations might be focused to prevent the proliferation of particular negative sentiments about refugees that creates an increased burden for other states hosting refugees; to provide additional shelters for refugees on the Balkan route and transit zones; to offer language and cultural training, being instructed about the host country's regulations and cultural norms; social services involvement in processing the asylum requests; better functioning registration process, with more translators and no admission hours; develop structures for basic survival (food, housing, health care); deliver education and school programs for refugees (e.g.: you are not necessary born European, but you can become European through proper education); close monitoring of unregistered refugees and migrants.

Migration is a crucial issue for public health, and mental illness is increasing worldwide and dominate the global health pictures. Health authorities must therefore invest more and be more aware of the migrants' mental health. And, it's important that health service to paperless migrants not come in conflict with fundamental ethical principles or be dependent on the goodwill from the individual doctor when health care is needed.

To prevent the migration crisis, European countries are encouraged to involve the third countries for finding the appropriate solutions, the Arab League and the Islamic Conference, UNESCO, FAO, OSCE and the World Health Organization.

Best practice exchange between refugee centres represents a valuable option to increase the effectiveness of migration process.

e.   **Use new technology to facilitate migration management**

The current focus on migration is caused by the large number of refugees from Afghanistan, Syria and Africa. But migration is more: people seeking better opportunities in another country. Migration may be positive; migration is moving labour from countries with over-working capacity to countries with under-working capacity and compensates for reduced birth rates. The problem may be represented by the uncontrolled migration caused by conflicts and natural disasters. Correct geographical distribution is necessary in order to avoid concentrations; profession and skills profiling is a key issue to be resolved in order to integrate the new labour force. Fresh and attractive mobile applications could help refugees and immigrants learn and master new languages; quizzes also facilitate children to get in touch with European culture and customs. Therefore, combined with the access to integration technologies and tools, it would be recommended to (1) establish fast track minimum language training; (2) to offer incentives for language learning; (3) develop platforms to facilitate remote tests and job applications; (4) give incentives to employers that provide job training; (5) implement a mandatory employment system for those who are able to work. The use of new technology is aimed to transfer the level of threat into an area of opportunity, but the question remaining is: How can we make differences between the labour market and irregular migrants?

f.   **Forecast, predict and get an interdisciplinary approach**

Engage and support academia, think-tanks and expertise centres to get better understanding of Europe's needs and develop the ability to forecast, at least several months in advance, the major migration waves, so that the response can be planned and not reactionary. This may be obtained through constant assessment of political and economic instability and risk, biological (plague/epidemic/pandemic) risk, as well as natural disasters that may represent the catalyst for mass migration. This can range from humanitarian relief, medical aid, diplomacy and expertise, as well as, very rarely, military invention. Understand and suggest European mechanisms

for developing non-kinetic capabilities and *soft* approaches to counter-radicalisation.

In order to be more effective in migration management, it might be useful to bring up in the team that encounters irregular migration, experts belonging to more areas of expertise, all of them connected with both controlled migration and uncontrolled migration.

Academia and think-tanks should be stimulated to generate a unified methodology for studying a state's ability to cope with wide-scale migration and bring a new approach for operational improvement of SOCINT, HUMAN TERRAIN and FUSION INTELLIGENCE concepts. Top-important research topics for understanding and mapping the migration challenge are considered: collecting, analysing and disseminating the best practices regarding social economic integration of migrants; refining, collection and analysis of migration indicators; improving the collaboration with civil sector organisations and the private sectors; analyse the increased threat of home-grown terrorists due to augmented radicalization of the Muslim youth and the presence of ISIL returnees in Europe; the rise of populist and far-right extremist political parties in host societies; cultural shock vs. islamophobia; conflicts imported by immigrant groups, leading to violence in the host country; potential for spread of disease depending on (dependent of) the conditions from which the people are fleeing; screening levels, methodologies and statistics cared for upon arrival of refugees in Europe; develop special academic programs designated for the migration complex management; new educational programs and centres for teaching the host country's language.

g. **Support infrastructure development for cooperation and diplomacy**

Irregular migration is a global challenge and that implies multinational arrangement solutions. The fluxes of today refugee waves would be considered as a mass movement against dictatorship. To prevent unpredictable demographic actions, it is vital to integrate and develop SOCINT (Social Cultural Intelligence) tools and Human Terrain concept. EU still has to consolidate the borders' integrated coordination management; Schengen Information System (SIS); to enforce FRONTEX, EU-NATO maritime cooperation and data exchange. One of the most

difficult aspects encountered are the security breaches, the open sea borders are the most difficult to secure and they can be tress-passed by people who eventually pose security threats, not to mention it is costly to ensure rescue operations at sea in the case of accidents. Current situation presents the need to materialize of an intelligence mission focused on addressing migration, and consider the entire segment "from the origin to the ultimate destination". The initiative/ the mission should be addressed to the EU intelligence system.

European countries might strengthen their diplomatic tools available for finding solutions to the open conflicts the Middle East, North Africa and Sahel (regions most likely to generate migration flows to Europe), restoring infrastructure investment by Western and Arab countries, re-enforcing and implementing the EU-Turkey agreement of March 2016; understanding the terrorist mind-set, and the youngsters' self-radicalization process. A real concern is the lack of control over the new established refugees' communities; therefore, it is imperative to prevent the risk of receiving refugees that could help ISIS infiltration in the EU.

The West and especially the EU should be more concerned in developing North-African and middle-east countries. Most of those countries are failed states at the moment. For local population, migration is the only option, while the EU is a very attractive destination. Human security in Northern Africa is the key of EU's security, as it regards migration. Consequently, a major focus for European countries would consist in reshaping the understanding efforts for effective intelligence gathering and sharing.

h. **Improve European Policy**

Working to change both first and second generation immigrant population, in order not to be ghettoised and working to prevent radicalisation is paramount. Changing the nature of policing of immigrants from an adversarial relationship to a community based supportive role, where the police are accepted within the community, will increase effectiveness to catch violent extremists and also prevent some from viewing the system as acting against them.

Smugglers and traffickers act today in a sort of very specialized migrants' industry context, offering: full- package services for migrants from the

origin countries to last destination, using their networks in the transit countries and pay to go services, that means "you are going to be helped for travelling a distance depending on how much you have already paid".

EU has to resolve new dilemmas among old concepts: status of guest; asylum seekers' status; high risks and low return; the border guards are not equipped to deal with large migration flows; among all the types of border control systems, the sea border subsystem represents the biggest challenge.

European countries require acknowledging training, education and management as a strategic necessity, not as an after-thought. Educate the public through a PR campaign to humanise perceptions of immigrants so that, when inevitable negative events occur, there is already good-will in the general community. Have a parallel system of training and public relations to increase awareness of immigrants to cultural beauties and differences in the host country, to avoid conflicts and misunderstandings. Utilise academia and practitioners, but also recent and long term refugees, who have already experienced the challenges of integration. Without new policies, migration processes will represent a real potential instability in Europe.

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Proposals for a new curriculum

Migration Challenges and Possible Approaches

Learning objectives:

- ➤ historical insight concerning migration, including the refugee question
- ➤ understanding the causes of migration
- ➤ making pluralism work
- ➤ understanding the migration phenomenon
- ➤ acknowledge how to create efficient integration/manage full cycle of migration
- ➤ utility understanding of strategic intelligence benefit in migration management
- ➤ adapting strategic and operational intelligence for irregular migration
- ➤ addressing the migration challenge at the EU Eastern border
- ➤ acknowledge the most important models of majority - minority relationship

Topics:

1. History and Migration: what can we learn from the past in field of migration?
2. Cultural Anthropology: what makes out personal and collective identity and how this identity/identities influence our multiple approach;
3. Geopolitics of migration and mobility;

❹ Legal definitions, European framework for migration and national practices in the field of migration;

❺ Human Rights and refugees. The role of humanitarian aid in the conflict areas - new challenges;

❻ Democratic values vs. xenophobia. Stereotype, prejudice, discrimination and radicalization;

❼ Conceptual maps of security issues related to migration;

❽ Managing the situation of the incoming migrants. Solutions and Perspectives for accommodating the migrant population. European policies in the field of migration;

❾ Forecast refugee crises proactively, initial triage, safely transport, isolate from general population until after screening (medical and security risk), house and feed, education (language, culture and possibly job skills or higher education), integrate and continue to track for security risks, path to citizenship).

❿ Labour migration: speeding up access to labour-market and engaging refugees in voluntary work;

⓫ Religion and societal security in Europe;

⓬ Tackling migration and organized crime at the EU Eastern border. Assessing the migrant smugglers networks;

⓭ Positive practices/case studies recorded by different Member States in the process of integration of new non-EU migrants;

⓮ Operational improvement for human terrain and intelligence concepts fusion.

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