



Migrants and terrorism: A link or misconception

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Abstract

Aim: The research paper's overarching goal is to dispel the widespread belief that "every immigrant is a terrorist" by showing that the vast majority of terrorists are actually citizens of the countries where they commit their atrocities.

Method: Documentary research was used extensively from 2013 to 2016 to mine secondary sources for relevant information.

Findings: The paper concludes by discussing the new trend toward the securitization of migration and its analysis of the connection between terrorism and migration. Based on the findings, it appears that after September 11th, migration shifted from being an economic phenomenon to one related to security and that politicians and the media painted a negative picture as a result. We cannot rule out the possibility that migration is connected to terrorism, perhaps not directly as depicted in the media but rather through a deliberate process led by terrorist organizations, even though much has changed since the earliest days of migration.

Implications/Novel Contribution: The empirical impact on real life and how migrants will be perceived in real life is the practical significance of this paper. Terrorist attacks have increased in frequency and concern throughout the West, but there is a lack of literature addressing this topic.

Keywords: Terrorism, Migration, Securitization of Migration.

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INTRODUCTION

This article's intriguing title, "Migrants and terrorism: A link or misconception," prompts the reader to wonder about the connection between the two and to form a presumption about which of the two possibilities is more likely. There is probably a connection between the two, but the data I've gathered on migrants and terrorism point towards a statistical probability that stands in stark contrast to what has been discussed in the media and by the general public. The study's theoretical significance has also demonstrated its great significance and importance for understanding migration and terrorism. The empirical impact of this paper on real life and how migrants will be perceived is its practical significance. Terrorist attacks have become more frequent and a concern of the West in recent years, but there is a lack of literature addressing this topic.

METHODOLOGY

This paper will analyze and discuss a couple of questions: What is migration and what is the leading cause of migration? What is terrorism and how it influences migration? Is there a link between terrorism and migration? Is there a new trend for securitization of migration? And what are the policies and legislative measures taken by the EU and the USA? Therefore, the purpose of this paper is to bring to attention the fact that not all the migrants in the world are terrorists but there is a link between the two and that link will be discussed further on in the paper.

Furthermore, in order to prove my purpose statement, I conducted a documentary analysis by obtaining data from existing documents and used secondary data analysis mostly from the period of 2013 till 2016. Although to support some statements I used data from the period from 1980 till 2016 in order to show an increase or decrease in terrorist activities. While gathering the statistical data there were no limitations since this is an up to date topic but there are not many documents covering this specific issue. There are many authors covering either migration or terrorism but few who covered the link between the two. Furthermore, the data were collected to be consistent with

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the field of the study of terrorism and migration and the link between the two. The research design of the study is between basic and applied research since I try to describe and explain the phenomenon of terrorism and how it is linked to migration but it is also an applied research since I am trying to provide information that can be used and applied to help other researchers and readers to understand the relationship between terrorism and migrants and how the link between them is misunderstood. The results of my research are gathered from the secondary data analysis. First there are a statistical data of the number of migrants and its rise in the period from 2013 to 2015. Furthermore, there is the analysis of the terrorist attacks in the world from 2014 to 2017 based on the, statistical data on the perpetrator groups with the most attacks. All these data were shown in order to present the link between migration and terrorism and to prove that the link between the two is low which is shown in the low percentage and these are all presented in the discussion section. And the statistics showed that terrorists had the citizenship status. Therefore, they were not migrants a conclusion to my hypothesis.

As a researcher, I was intrigued by how complex the subject of terrorism and migration is and how it is influenced by the media and the political views. In the beginning of the research the connection between terrorism and migration was very strong and the purpose statement was already finalized that terrorism is linked to migration, but after gathering all the secondary data and the documentary analysis I concluded my findings that there is indeed a link between the two but that link does not place all the migrants in the category of terrorists. Instead it places them in a category of victims. The findings in this paper will help other researchers or policymakers to expand the research or investigate the policy ideas before they are brought into force since there is so much misleading information about migrants. There should be other study implications on this subject since it is very sensitive and important to the world. How to view the problem? How can it be solved? Do the policymakers need first to view the statistical and research analysis before initiating a policy? The research analysis of these kind of studies is crucial for theory and policy development and improvement of the practice and views of the problems of this issue in the world.

MIGRATION AS A CONSEQUENCE OF UNSTABLE COUNTRIES

Migration is an economic phenomenon that in the past occurred due to a voluntary movement of people from poor countries to countries with economic prosperity (Koslowski, 2012; Ramanauškaite & Vaisnys, 2017). Migration in the past was needed because of the cheap workforce and also for investing in the economic perspectives of that country but today this is not the case.

Today migration does not happen because of the economic problems in the home country it happens due to political problems, civil uprisings and many other factors. There are almost one million migrants in the world. From this number 740 million are domestic migrants (meaning they move inside their country) and 215 million are international migrants. In 2015, only in the European Union, there were 1.9 million asylum seekers and they all came from Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, and Pakistan all four countries that are leaders in disturbance, chaos, violence, civil wars, and terrorism. "Migration and terrorism are potential drivers of international conflict" (Schmid, 2016). In 2013, 435.000 people applied as refugees, the next year in 2014, 626.000 people applied as refugees and comparing these numbers with the two million migrants in 2015 that is an enormous increase in migrant population. The instability and the civil wars in the Middle East with the Arab spring forced thousands of people to leave their homes and go to Europe, the US and other countries. But these movements are not new, they have been existing since 1988. Schmid (2016) Most of the migrants by the middle of 2015 came from Syria 4.194554, from Afghanistan 2.632.534 migrants, from Somalia, and South Sudan. Schmid (2016) Migration existed always but the way it is viewed today it changed after the terrorist attacks on 9/11.

TERRORISM

"Terrorism refers to a political communication strategy for psychological mass manipulation whereby unarmed civilians (and non-combatants such as prisoners) are deliberately victimized in order to impress third parties (e.g. intimidate, coerce or otherwise influence a government or a section of society or international public opinion), with the help of portrayals of demonstrative violence in front of audiences and/or for coverage in mass or social media. Terrorism from non-state actors is often a strategy of provocation aiming at societal polarization and conflict escalation while state or regime terrorism serve the purpose of repression and social control. Terrorism as

psychological warfare is also an irregular and illegal tactic in armed conflict where it can be used by one or both sides" (Schmid, 2016).

Therefore, terrorism is a violent act (with calamitous effects) that is conducted by uncompromising, leftist and radical people who have radical ideologies, doctrines, policies with the sole purpose of spreading them deep in the roots of one society, and thriving chaos, fear, and horror.

Furthermore, International Terrorism is defined by the following characteristics:

- Involves violent acts or acts dangerous to human life that violate federal or state law.
- Appear to be intended (i) to intimidate or coerce a civilian population; (ii) to influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; or (iii) to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping.
- Occur primarily outside the territorial jurisdiction of the US, or transcend national boundaries in terms of the means by which they are accomplished, the persons they appear intended to intimidate or coerce, or the locale in which their perpetrators operate or seek asylum (Federal Board of Investigation, 2017).

There are many definitions and explanations for terrorism and most of them if not all of them are summarizing the same concept, Bruce Hofman's definition is:

"Terrorism is the deliberate creation and exploitation of fear through violence or the threat of violence in the pursuit of political change. All terrorist acts involve violence or the threat of violence. Terrorism is specifically designed to have far-reaching psychological effects beyond the immediate victims or object of the terrorist attack. It is meant to instill fear within, and thereby intimidate, a wider "target audience" that might include a rival ethnic or religious group, an entire country, a national government or political party, or public opinion in general" (Roser & Nagdy, 2013; Saahar, Sualman, Hashim, & Mohamed, 2017).

Furthermore, terrorist groups have a certain goal in order to achieve that goal they use couple of steps: first they sustain the group, this is done by financial support, secondly finding a way to attract the media, and thirdly using all kind of means to threaten the peace. This is done by provoking the government and the outcome goal of these processes are their political ends that they will achieve further on, for example, the Kurdish homeland (Abrahms, 2012; Azhar, 2015).

"The globalization of violent conflicts has led to unprecedented levels of human suffering. Terrorism has constituted a necessary component in such conflicts. While the migration of dreams stems from cultural and technological globalization, a different process called the migration of nightmares is a direct result of global violence and terrorism. As history has shown, the terrorism of empires, as well as regional powers, has been the main force driving the phenomenon (Schmid, 2016)."

Therefore, we can conclude that terrorism is gaining its power and influence in the world. Its strength comes from the fear, torture, and suffering that it builds up. People are afraid for their lives, for the lives of their children and they are seeking a way out, a way to normal life with no fear for their lives and their families and that is the reason why we see a rise in migration.

Terrorism is reaching its momentum and this is presented in the following figures. In the period from 1980 to 2005, in the US most terrorist attacks were done by 42% Latino, 5% Communist, and 6% Islamic Extremist, 7% Jewish extremists, 24% extreme left-wing groups, and 16% belongs to the category of others. Furthermore, in the period from 1970 to 2011, 32% of the terrorists were motivated by nationalist and separatist goals. 28% of the motivation was personal and 7% were guided by religious beliefs (Global Research, 2013).

In 2014 there were more than 16.800 terrorist attacks in the world, from which 43.500 people were dead and 40.900 people were injured and more than 11.800 people were taken as hostages. Each month the total attacks ranged from min 1137 attacks in December 2014 to a max of 1729 in July 2014. The terrorist attacks took place in 99 countries, 47% of the attacks took place in Iraq, Pakistan and Afghanistan (Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, 2014).

The number of terrorist attacks in 2014 increased to 35% and the number of total fatalities increased to 81% compared to 2013 with the attacks in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Nigeria. The five perpetrator groups with most attacks in the world for 2014 are the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) with 1083 attacks, 6286 fatalities,

5808 injuries, 3158 hostages and the number of countries that were attacked was 5, Taliban had 894 attacks with 3492 fatalities, 3312 injuries, 649 hostages and two countries were under attack. Al-Shabaab had 497 attacks, 1022 fatalities, 850 injuries, 579 hostages, and four countries were under attack and suffered these horrible losses. Boko Haram had 453 attacks, 6644 fatalities, 1742 injuries, 1217 hostages, and three countries were under attack and Maoists/Communist Party of India-Maoist had 305 attacks, 188 fatalities, 165 injuries, 160 hostages, and one country was under attack ([US Department of State, 2014](#)).

The five perpetrator groups with most attacks in the world for 2015 are the Taliban with 1093 attacks, which resulted in 4512 deaths, 4746 injured, and 954 kidnapped. The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) had 931 attacks, which resulted in 6050 fatalities, 6010 injuries, 4759 hostages, and all of the attacks were done in five countries. Boko Haram had 491 attacks, which resulted in 5450 deaths, 3318 injuries, 1549 hostages and Maoists/ Communist Party of India-Maoist had 343 attacks, which resulted in 176 fatalities, 163 injuries and 707 hostages. Kurdistan Workers Party had 238 attacks, 287 deaths, 580 injured and 136 kidnapped ([Annex of Statistical Information, 2015](#)).

In 2015 the total number of attacks decreased by 13%, of the 28.328 people killed in terrorist attacks, 6924 were perpetrators of the terrorist attack. More than 55% of the attacks took place in Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, and Nigeria. The targets usually were citizens and property, but in 58 countries 63% of the targets were police, and non-diplomatic governments were targets in 50 countries. [Jones \(2015\)](#) All these figures give the perception that the terrorists in order to achieve their goals will, first of all, sacrifice their own people "for the greater good" and secondly to achieve the goal of fear, destruction, and chaos they attack mostly civilians, and urban places in order directly to destabilize the country and the political system. Because if the government can't protect its people then all is in vain. The government will become weak and fragile, which will lead to destabilization, chaos and the rule of law will disappear.

TERRORIST INFLUENCE ON MIGRANTS

In the movement of so many people, there is always a possibility of a terrorist being among the refugees, and the link between the two is very peculiar and sensitive. The conflict in one country usually has a spillover effect on the other neighboring countries meaning the people are moving from the conflicting place but also spreading the uncertainty and instability in the other countries. In these surroundings, the terrorist can operate more easily because usually in unstable environments the rule of law is weak. The terrorist easily can recruit people from the refugee camps. Why the refugee camps, don't they apply as safe? In the refugee camps are situated not only families but there are also children whose parents could not afford to pay for their "road of terror". So they gave a chance to their children who are by no means supervised and are minors. Therefore, young people (boys) with low economic opportunities, are more prone to the negative influence from the conflicts because there are no costs for joining the terrorist groups, young people as vulnerable as they are, find a sense in the bad opportunity and leave the camps and become part of an armed group ([Choi & Salehyan, 2013](#)).

Furthermore, policies and actors can spread and influence actors in other states or be influenced by them. These policies can also be influenced by terrorism and migration, ideologies, behavior, and terrorism. [Bove and Böhmelt \(2016\)](#) Immigration and terrorism are linked with one another not because all immigrants are terrorist but because all the terrorists in the West have been immigrants. Also, those who were not part of the terrorist process and were attracted to it, are mostly because of the social affiliation, intensification of beliefs and faith and acceptance of the jihad. Terrorists are formed by clusters, friends or worshipers, this improves social cohesion, common views and loyalties, and a strong sense of community. [Bove and Böhmelt \(2016\)](#) Being part of something, belonging to a group, being accepted sharing common views, ideas and beliefs all these are weaknesses of the people who go to a different country and have the sense they don't belong there which is true because that is not their home, people speak different language, different culture and tradition and so the migrants will be more attracted to groups that will help them feel that they are being accepted in the new surroundings. The terrorist groups/cells are aware of that weakness and that is how they attract the newcomers.

Migrants should not be associated with terrorist since they are usually the victims of terrorism, but as I mentioned above they can become terrorists. For example in 2014 the Caliphate was proclaimed and the Islamic State leader Abu-Bakr al-Baghdadi reminded Muslims that the Prophet had migrated from Mecca to Medina

because of his faith. The new Caliph proposed that it is the duty of all Muslims to migrate to the Caliphate and help the Islamic State. His preaching was so powerful that people moved back to Syria and Iraq. In 2015 people moved back to their homes of origin or to the IS to fight for the IS goals. From the freedom fighters, 1700 were from France, 820 from Germany, 760 were from the United Kingdom, 146 were from Macedonia, 70 from Serbia, 30 from Ireland and so on. A total of 6155 fighters left from 20 European countries. Schmid (2016) Foreign fighters are returning migrants who have been radicalized from the jihad. Furthermore, the Islamic State is also kidnaping economic migrants from Sudan, Eritrea and takes them to training camps to teach them to fight. The migrants are usually seduced by the terrorist organizations because they are not integrated into the new surroundings and their children turn against that society. That is why most of the foreign fighters from Europe were sons of immigrants (Schmid, 2016).

A LINK BETWEEN TERRORISM AND MIGRANTS

Terrorists have great influence on migrants because they are aware of their weaknesses and they used these weaknesses to control them or to attract them. But this 1 percentage of migrants that are seduced by the terrorist ideas, is not very high which means that we cannot place all the migrants in one category.

In the period from 2001 to 2016, the US accepted 800.000 refugees. From these numbers only 5 have been arrested on terrorism charges. In 2015, 600.000 Syrians and Iraqis came in Germany and only 17 were linked to terrorism (Schmid, 2016). From 1975 through 2015, 154 foreign-born terrorists murdered 3024 people in the US. Below are presented the "chances" of being murdered by a terrorist:

- The chance of an American being murdered by a foreign-born terrorist was 1 in 3.609.707 a year.
- The chance of an American being killed in a terrorist attack committed by a refugee was 1 in 3.64 billion a year.
- The annual chance of being murdered by somebody other than a foreign-born terrorist was 252.9 times greater than the chance of dying in a terrorist attack committed by a foreign-born terrorist (Nowrasteh, 2016).

Therefore it is obvious that the chances of being killed by a person on the street who is not a terrorist are greater than being killed by a terrorist.

Although, there are good reasons to link migrants to terrorism, as they were mentioned above, after 9/11 the association of migration with crime and terrorism started as a very controversial thought (Koslowski, 2012). Because not all migrants are terrorists, the connection between the immigrants and terrorism is weak because the hijackers in the 9/11 were not immigrants to the US, they were tourists or students. There were 19 hijackers, 17 entered on tourist visas, one on a business and one on a student visa. Also, the attempted attack on 25 December 2009 in Detroit was by a tourist from Nigeria. Migration is not a security threat but it is a global mobility which means that people move from one country to another for any reason and in a different period (Koslowski, 2012). In the US in 2015, almost all the terrorist suspects had a citizenship status. In San Bernardino California on Dec 2, Syed Rizwan Farook and his wife Tashfeen Malik both permanent residents killed 14 people, it was the deadliest terrorist attack. Farook parents emigrated from Pakistan and his wife came from Saudi Arabia in 2014. The Brothers Tsarnaev the assailants in the Boston Marathon detonated two explosive devices on April 2013 killing 3 spectators and injuring more than 260 people. The brothers immigrated to the US as children from Chechnya. Army Major Nidal Malik Hasan a psychiatrist shot and killed 13 people on Nov. 5, 2009, at a military site in Fort Hood, Texas. He said the shooting was justified because the soldiers were against the Islamic Empire. Before the attack, he contacted the Cleric who was a leader for al-Qaida he was a Palestinian but born in Virginia (Sherman, 2015).

Therefore it can be concluded, that the link between terrorism and migration does exist. The terrorists are not refugees they are usually citizens of the host country who have migrated two-three generations earlier and did not adopt the system. So they are prone to the beliefs and ideas of the groups that accept them usually the Jihadist groups and fallen under their influence they become terrorist.

SECURITIZATION OF MIGRATION

What is securitization "it is a theoretical tool through which various aspects of international security are examined and analyzed." [Temistocleous \(2013\)](#) It is the process where a political issue is modified to the conformity of the policymaker and from that created a security threat a process constructed of three phases: the securitization of the actor, referring to the object and its acceptance by the audience. It begins with a statement referred towards a specific actor as a potential threat. And then that threat is specified as a real threat where contra measures should be taken and those contra measures are accepted. A securitization actor can be an individual, group, political, social and economic elite, political parties, governments, etc ([Temistocleous, 2013](#)). The securitization of immigration is fueled by politicians in order to gain control and power in the territory. Therefore, migrants are out thrown as a consequence of their inability to cope and have influence in these situations. [Messina \(2014\)](#) the controversy of the whole issue is that politicians have exploited 9/11 and other terrorist events deliberately. In the securitization, process migrants are seen as cultural, criminal, and terrorist threat and a threat to economic stability. Therefore the government's securitization policies have legitimized Stricter policies on asylum and migrants rights ([Messina, 2014](#)).

Migration became a security issue due to all the terrorist attacks in the world but due to these consequences, it cannot be claimed that a national or ethnic community from one nation is superior or inferior to another one meaning that positioning migration as a security issue will bring forward racism. Racism focuses on the natural and unavoidable fact of cultural difference. [Ibrahim \(2005\)](#) the negative view of migration is racism. A discrimination towards someone based on the social background is racism, this is because of the race and cultural difference and difference is set as a threat. [Ibrahim \(2005\)](#) With the end of the Cold War, the security has changed and migration is seen as a threat. [Ibrahim \(2005\)](#) the securitization of migration is led by the fear that migrants may be supporters of insurgencies, uprisings, and terrorism. [Ibrahim \(2005\)](#) due to 9/11 the Somalis who were without a status of citizenship, an idea was imposed that they might be connected to the al-Ittihad, the Islamic group in Somalia that is linked to al-Qaeda and due to that belief they were deported. The ethnic profiling and deportation from the RAND (a US organization) it is reaching a climax and it is reasserting cultural racism ([Ibrahim, 2005](#)) to treat someone with disrespect and discriminate just because he/she is from another culture, religion or different background should not be by any means tolerated in a world that stands for the rule of law and human rights. Migrants should not be placed in the basket of terrorists because they are not.

Securitization of Migration has become the main point after 9/11. The security issue of migration conceals the fact that ethnic and religious identity claims of migrants and their integration is a result of existing structural problems of poverty, unemployment, discrimination, xenophobia, heterophobia, nationalism and racism. States tend to deploy securitization as a political issue and migration as an internal or external enemy that is linked to drug trafficking, human trafficking, criminality, and terrorism. [Kaya \(2007\)](#) the securitization of the migration may create a paradox, a state of insecurity ([Cinoglu, 2013](#)).

These pictures that are set for the migrants are usually made worse by the politicians, media and security agencies, there are arguments that are set around four main axes of this issue:

- A socioeconomic axis, where migration is associated with unemployment, the rise of informal economy, the crisis of the welfare state, and urban environment deterioration.
- A securitarian axis, where migration is linked to the loss of a control narrative that associates the issue of sovereignty, borders and both internal and external security.
- An identitarian axis, where migrants are considered as being a threat to the host societies national identity and demographic equilibrium.
- A political axis, where anti-immigrant, racist, and xenophobic discourses are often expected to facilitate the obtaining of political benefits ([Ceyhan & Tsoukala, 2002](#)).

All these axes present the case of how horrible migration is, how it will affect the society, economically, politically and even on a security base.

The migrant theory that puts all the migrants in the same category as terrorists, relies on statistical data and common sense arguments and it is supported and promoted by the politicians and the media. [Ceyhan and Tsoukala \(2002\)](#) the identity check relies more on appearances, the securitarian policy is essential to fight illegal immigration

but it also jeopardizes the civil rights of all migrants. [Ceyhan and Tsoukala \(2002\)](#) because migrants are human beings too and the human and civil rights apply to all the people no matter the race, color, belief, all the people are equal.

POLICIES AND LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Terrorism has been linked to migration, therefore, border control and security, migration policies, illegal migration, asylum, integration of foreigners and immigrants, and inter-ethnicity are used for combating terrorism and managing international migration. The migration control policies focus on intelligence, gathering data, identity checks, data exchange, and interagency state cooperation. Before entering a state, the migration control, border and security control, and internal migration control are the main instruments taken to fight international terrorism ([Cinoglu, 2013](#)).

Because of the terrorist attacks in US, Spain, the UK and the other countries in the world, there have been created laws and policies to combat terrorism. But depending on how terrorism is defined in one country that is how it influences the new policies and laws and of course these represent a threat to the protection of refugees and the asylum seekers. The US policy band, the US Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) points out that an alien who has engaged in a terrorist activity will never be admitted to the US. Terrorism activity includes hijacking or sabotage, assassinations, use of nuclear or chemical weapons, engaging in such activities like planning, funding and solicitation will remove the alien. The USA Patriot Act after 9/11 expanded the definition of terrorist activity "to include persons who have used positions of prominence within any country" ([Schoenholtz & Hojaiban, 2008](#)). The Patriot Act allows the government to go inside the privacy of its citizens meaning from what they buy to what they write in the e-mails. These provisions disturb the freedom and privacy of the person. "The Patriot Act also erodes the strict legal separation between violence and mere advocacy of violence, which has previously been protected under the First Amendment if the advocacy was abstract and the violence itself not an imminent consequence of it (curtailing the right to free speech)" ([Haubrich, 2006](#)). Therefore the problem of preventing terrorism is very difficult because by trying to succeed in one issue it opens a problem in another one. Therefore the new measures should be changed because they are suspending and disrespecting the primary civil rights, and the right of privacy as one of them.

Since 2001 the European policies viewed asylum as an only chance in the fight against terrorism. The problem is that terrorism is defined so vaguely. The article 1F of the 1951 UN Convention refuses the protection of individuals who have committed a crime against peace or a war crime. The terrorist acts in London and Madrid are considered as crimes covered by the Convention. Article 3 of the Council Framework Decision on terrorism defines the offenses as extortion, theft, and robbery damage to public transport all these are very vague also supporting a terrorist group if it is done on purpose and if its aim is of intimidating and destroying political, economic and social structures of a country. But these do not constitute a war crime or a crime against humanity. The European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE) raised the problem of the vague definition of terrorism and it raised a concern over the application of the refugee suspension in the counter-terrorism and it tried to bring to attention the offenses that an individual might have committed. Therefore the concern in Europe is the same as in the US. [Schoenholtz and Hojaiban \(2008\)](#) furthermore, as it was specified all the policies so far are very vague but the Dublin Convention (III) sets more precise and stricter criteria like the place of application, the family links, it is set to improve the asylum-seekers situation. It sets an easier procedure to deal with the application. But the Convention is over-determined with a policy to reduce the number of applications. [Huysmans \(2000\)](#) to conclude, the policies should be made stricter and concise but also respectful of the human and civil rights of all people and not to be activated as measures to restrict migration.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

To conclude, the paper analyzed and discussed the link between terrorism and migration and the new trend for securitization of migration. The implications of the research are that migration used to be an economic phenomenon but after 9/11 it became a security phenomenon and the bad image was painted by politicians and the media. Although things have changed since the first beginnings of migration, we cannot exclude the fact that migration is linked to terrorism, maybe not directly as presented in the media but through a well-thought process led by

the terrorist organizations. Terrorist organizations are aware of the weakness of the refugees and the migrants so they used this weakness to their advantage. Firstly, terrorist recruit young people either in the refugee camps or in the new community, this is done by spreading the idea of acceptance, of being wanted and being part of the society in the new community. Also, many migrants are recruited to fight back as foreign fighters in the IS with the idea that they are fighting for the Prophet Mohammed. Furthermore, migrants are linked to terrorism but this link does not place them all in the same category. Therefore the securitization process should be stopped because it is crossing the border to racism, and the policies and laws that are taken by the US, the EU, and other states should be restrictive but not to the point of disrespecting the Convention of refugees and their civil rights more precisely their human rights. There were a lot of limitations in writing this paper since the topic is very sensitive, specific and complex. But researchers and authors should be encouraged to discuss, research and write more on this topic in order for all the questions and hypothesis to be answered.

Limitations and Future Research Directions

There were many limitations in writing this paper since the topic is very sensitive, specific and complex. Researchers and authors should be encouraged to discuss, research, and write more on this topic to answer all the questions and hypotheses.

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