



بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

**The Evolution and Analysis
Of Immigration from South Mediterranean
to European Union**

Master's Degree in Euro Mediterranean Studies

By: Sally Mohsen Mohamed

Under the supervision of

**Dr. Nourhan El Sheikh
Assistant Professor of Political Science**

**Faculty of Economics & Political Science
Cairo University**

2008 -2009

Dedication

I dedicate this thesis to my lovely daughter Jana, which was born while I was working on this degree program, her presence in my life motivated me to finish my studies. I hope that someday, if she read this, she knows how precious she is to me.

In addition, this thesis is dedicated to my husband who has been a great source of motivation and encouragement.

In addition, I dedicate this thesis to my lovely mother and father; I hope I succeed to achieve their dreams.

Acknowledgement

First, I would like to thank Allah who gave me all the facilities to complete the thesis in your hands. Thanks Allah I graduated from such a reputable university. Thanks Allah I had these wonderful professors who did not only teach me political science but also taught me how to give without waiting for return.

Thanks Allah for this honorable MA thesis examination committee whose members are Dr. Kamal El Menoufy & Dr. Abd El khabeer Aata. Their presence is a considerable value for this thesis and to me as well and I would like to thank them for donating part of their valuable time for this discussion.

Thanks Allah I worked under the supervision of Dr. Nourhan El Sheikh who gave me so much effort and time to assist my research, who helped to improve my research skills as well as my academic writing which enabled me to complete this study .

Table of Content	Pages
Dedication	2
Acknowledgement	3
Preface	7
Introduction	8 -15
I- Research Problem	8
II- Research Importance	10
III- Research Question	11
V –Survey of Literatures	12
VI- Research Methodology	14
VII- Scope of the Research	15
Chapter 1 The Theoretical Framework for Immigration	16 – 37
1.1 Definition of Immigration	17 – 21
1.2 Types of Immigration	22 -24
1.3 Theories of Immigration	25 -30
1.4 General Tendencies for Immigration	30
1.5 Different Opinion on Immigration	31 -33
1.6 Challenges and Opportunities for Immigration	34 -37

Chapter 2 Determinants for Immigration	38 – 57
2.1 Introduction	39 -40
2.2 Pull and Push Factors of Immigration	41 – 54
2.3 Pull & Push Factors change after the Attack of 11 September 2001	55 – 56
2.4 Conclusion	57
Chapter 3 Consequence of Immigration	58 – 88
3.1 Factors That Influence Consequence of Immigration	59 – 61
3.2 Consequences of Immigration	62 – 81
3.3 The Rights of Immigrants	81– 86
3.4 Conclusions	86-87
Chapter 4 The Evolution of EU immigration Policy and Its Implications	88– 101
4.1 Impact of Existing Immigration Policies	89 – 90
4.2 Developing A New Approach to Immigration	90– 92
4.3 Framework of European Union Immigration Policy	92– 99
4.4 Conclusion	100 – 101

Conclusion &policy Recommendation	102– 105
Conclusion	102– 103
Recommendations	104– 105
Appendix	105- 107
Bibliography	108– 116

List of Charts

Chart 1 Net Migration in European Union 1960 – 2000	19
Chart 2 Arab Countries: Population Age Structure is Changing Dramatically (1980– 2050)	35
Chart 3 Arab Countries: Declining Dependency Ratio Intercepts The Increased Working-Age Population	37

List of Tables

Table 1 Factor Influencing the Decision to Migrate	42
Table 2 the Population of South Mediterranean Countries and European Union Aged (20- 29).	51
Table 3 Unemployment Rate in Algeria	52
Table 4 Balance sheet” of economic effects of migration on countries of origin	66

Preface

Immigration has emerged as one of the most contested issues on the European agenda occupying significant portion of media attention, public discourse and political measures in recent years. It obtained a particular significance for me,

Therefore, this thesis tries to avoid the trap of arriving at iron cast conclusions or concocting grand design solutions. Its main aim, instead, is to look at different aspects from various angles, involving the counterbalancing of conflicting arguments and the consideration of divergent perspectives.

I believe that thesis is pertinent for the provision of better understanding of various factors involved in the relationship between the European Union and migration. Importantly, thinking on the subject stimulates further questions and illustrates the incompleteness of partisan one-sided approaches. Thus, the accumulation of certain facts, background information, opinions and theoretical models into a single text could potentially transcend bias and precocious assumptions .Thus leading to a more fair assessment of the challenges and opportunities faced by Europe.

Introduction

I. Research Problem:

Over the past 15 years, the number of people crossing borders in search of a better life has been rising steadily. The current global estimate of international migrants is 175 million, 3% of the world population, and the number is increasing. “At the start of the 21st Century, one in every 35 people is an international migrant. If they all lived in the same place, it would be the world's fifth-largest country”.

As the global debate surrounding migration issues grows, it ought to be reminded that from the stone age onwards, people have migrated all over the world. Mobility of persons occurs through choice or necessity. People migrate, temporarily or permanently, to receive education and training, to perform services, to find employment, to flee life-threatening situations or to provide themselves and their children with hope and opportunity. People have always fled from hunger, war and persecution. They have also been driven away, captured and shipped against their will. Many more, however, have moved simply because they thought and hoped that life would be a little bit better elsewhere.

Whether in search of land, peace, prosperity, easier farming or just to see what is over the next hill, movement of people is a simple fact of human history. Global migration nowadays affects every country – they are all places of origin, transit or destination for migrants. The movement of people across borders is essential in today's globalized world. International business depends heavily on an international labour force, and the ability of people to move around the world with ease. Most developed countries face declining birth rates and ageing populations, which can be mitigated by migration. Remittances earned abroad are the principal support to the economies of many developing countries.

However, much of migration today is unregulated. There are not enough legal channels open for those who want to migrate and whose labour may be needed. Criminal smuggling and trafficking networks are matching up the supply of labour with the demand, mostly in the informal economy. As a result, border controls are evaded, with exploitation and security risks for the individuals and societies involved.

There is no easy solution to these sensitive problems. The issue of migration is high on the political agenda for European governments and has already become the issue of various political speculations. Many European countries find themselves under pressure to restrict the entry of migrants. “But now migration experts are warning that Europe is missing the point - with the reality of the continent's migrant needs clouded by misinformation and fear.”

Yet, it has been historically proved that when managed effectively migration holds great potential for migrants and for host communities. The ultimate goal is not to obstruct or prevent mobility but to better manage it for the benefit of all.

Immigration is a hotly debated issue in Europe. It is a well-known fact that when a hot debate is underway some essential facts could be lost under a wave of misinformation. Mass media often distracts us from the key points of certain issues. Catchy headlines and figures that turn out to be so elusive and misleading shape our opinion. In order not to be easily manipulated into someone's political game one should try to separate myth from reality.

The south-west migration flows had become overwhelming by the last decade of the twentieth century. At least half a million people are believed to enter the European Union illegally every year. There are no clear figures. Illegal immigration can hardly be controlled because of the European Union's extensive borders and coastline.

It was Tony Blair who pointed out that Europe is to tackle at present what is considered to be "one of the most pressing issues of our time, which is the issue of immigration and asylum" as it was mentioned on BBC .com. More than ever before, people are crossing borders and embarking on what are sometimes long and dangerous journeys in search of a better life. Asia, Africa and finally Europe - these are stepping-stones to a better life, landmarks along the journey of any migrant family. On their way to Europe, each of them has their own share of perils and joys that go on with economic migration.

The European Union countries have been trying to curb the demographic wave coming to Europe from the South Mediterranean and other regions with the use of traditional methods: restrictive immigration policies and providing for strengthening of economic and political reforms in the South Mediterranean countries to improve living standards, to decrease unemployment and thus lessen the push factors. First, turn out to be inefficient from the very beginning. The results of the second one (at least in a short-time perspective) are no more encouraging.

Speaking about economic migration one has to keep in mind that this process is unstoppable. "The movement of people from poor and failing states to rich and stable ones is as inevitable as water running downhill." The sad truth about illegal immigration is whatever European Union actions are taken to stop the process; however sophisticated are the border controls or coast guard systems nothing can hamper the desire of people to flee from hunger, misery and despair. Moreover, the more barriers are put on the way of illegal immigration the illegal gaps are found in the "fortress" Europe. As practice proves it, a ban alone can turn out to be counterproductive.

In this respect, the situation in the Mediterranean region provides a kind of a graphic example. This region is responsible for a considerable proportion of the European community's immigrants. The differences between the north and the south banks of the Mediterranean are increasing, creating potential serious regional instabilities. "With a high population growth (more than 2% per annum, which implies a doubling over around 30 years) it was calculated that the countries of the region may have a population over 400 million by 2035, and that the wealth gap would undoubtedly grow, meaning that migratory flows are not about to dry up."

Here this thesis is an attempt to describe and explain contemporary migration to European Union, to show the enormous complexity of the phenomenon, to communicate both the variations and the common factors in international populations as they affect more and more parts of the world and also to improve our understanding of the direct and indirect causes and mechanisms of international migration to the European Union from an internationally comparative perspective. The results are intended to serve as a basis for the development of policy instruments and to provide tools for estimating future migration.

Finally, the purpose of this paper is to see whether immigration from the South Mediterranean countries presents a real threat to the European societies. Whether the alarmist tendency that tends to prevail in public mind as far as this issue is concerned is adequate to the challenge Europe faces nowadays? Whether unregulated movement of people presents a challenge at all? There are no easy answers to these questions as well as no hasty decisions could be taken to handle the situation.

II- Research Importance:

Here we have to distinguish between the importance of immigration as subject and the practical importance of immigration:

The importance of immigration as subject:

Immigration is a natural phenomenon among all of the phenomena of movement between the countries, this global human phenomenon does not limit itself to one region above all others and calls for a global solution that takes in account the particular sensitivity and importance of the subject.

The practical importance of immigration:

Immigration has emerged as one of the most contested issues on the European agenda occupying significant portion of media attention, public discourse and political measures in recent year. Increasing social tensions are leading to political pressure to limit a further influx of foreign-born persons because the absorption capacity of host countries has been exceeded and social cohesion threatened.

There is also in public discourse a common perception of immigration resulting in economic costs, particularly with respect to wages and employment opportunities of the native born. International migration is likely to increase in the 21st century. There are as many reasons for migration as there are migrants, but most individuals who cross national borders do so for economic or non-economic reasons.

The factors that lead individuals to migrate, in turn, are motivated and sustained by three major types of influences—demand-pull factors in the destination area, supply-push factors in the origin area, and network factors that link origin and destination.

V - Research Questions:

The research is trying to analyze the immigration of south Mediterranean to European Union by illustrating the push and pull factors of this immigration, and how these immigrants affect the host countries economically, socially and politically, then how the European immigration policy is trying to manage this immigration as it is a phenomenon of growing significance in many countries .

Main research question is **Why immigration?**

Sub – Research Questions:

- 1- What economic, social, demographic, environmental and political huge changes made people feel a need to leave their area of origin?
- 2- What factors provide opportunities for migrants in the destination area?
- 3- What is the effect of settlement on the social, economic and political structures and culture and national identity of receiving societies?
- 4- What legal, political, economic and social structures and practices exist or emerge to regulate migration and settlement?

VI - Survey of Literatures:

Before we start our research about the south Mediterranean immigration to European Union, we tried to study the previous researches tackling the same question in order to get benefit of their approaches, in order to know how the previous studies dealt with this topic. We can distinguish between different benefits and different criticisms.

List of benefits:

- 1- Crowell Collier and Macmillan, Inc US, **International Encyclopedia of Social Science** "David Lisills (Ed.), New York: Macmillan, 1968.
- 2- Stephen Castles and Mark J. Miller, **The Age of Migration, Second Edition: International Population Movements in the Modern World**, New York: Guilford Press, 1993.

Both literatures dealt with Immigration on theoretical way by identifying the definitions of Immigration and the theories of immigration.

- 3- Hearing, L. & R. van der Erf, why do people migrate?, **Statistics in focus: Population and Social Conditions**, No. 1, (2001).
- 4-Philippe Fargues (2005), Temporary Migration: Matching Demand in the EU with Supply from the MENA, pg. 5, a paper from European University Institute, [http://www.carim.org/Publications/ CARIM-AS05_11-Fargues.pdf](http://www.carim.org/Publications/CARIM-AS05_11-Fargues.pdf), 2005.

Both literatures are interested to tackle immigration by mentioning pull and push factors of immigration and how these factors affect the immigration process.

- 5- Samir Radwan, **The Euro Mediterranean Partnership 10 Years After Barcelona Achievements And Perspective**, Jean Lowis Reiffers (Ed.), Giza: Cairo University, Faculty of Economics and Political Science, The Center for European Studies, 2005.
- 6- Dr. Norhan El Sheikh, **Evolution And Analysis Of The European Society Policy In The Mediterranean Region "A View From South "**, Giza: Cairo University, Faculty of Economics and Political Science, The Center for European Studies, March 2005.
- 7- Hani Habeed, **The Euro Mediterranean Partnership Pros and Cons "An Arab View "** "Universal Publishers, 2002, P.129 – 136".

These literatures represent the south point of view, addressed immigration as element of partnership in social, cultural and human affairs; the participants apparently perceive immigration as a negative element as they agree to strengthen their cooperation to reduce immigration.

List of criticisms:

Evelien Brouwer, Immigration, Asylum And Terrorism: A changing Dynamic Legal And Practical Developments In The EU Response To The Terrorist Attack Of 11 Sept, Martinusz Nijhoff Publishers, **European Journal Migration and Law**, V4, no. (4), 2002, PP. 399- 424.

This literature focuses on immigration as a common societal threat to European Union as the result of the 11 September attack, also we can say that Europe considered the politics of immigration to become increasingly associated with other issues, such as national security, terrorism, and in Western Europe especially, with the presence of Islam as a new major religion.

They fear new events such as the 2005 civil unrest in France. An example of the value conflicts arising from immigration of Muslims in Western Europe. Because of all these associations, immigration has become an emotional political issue in many European countries.

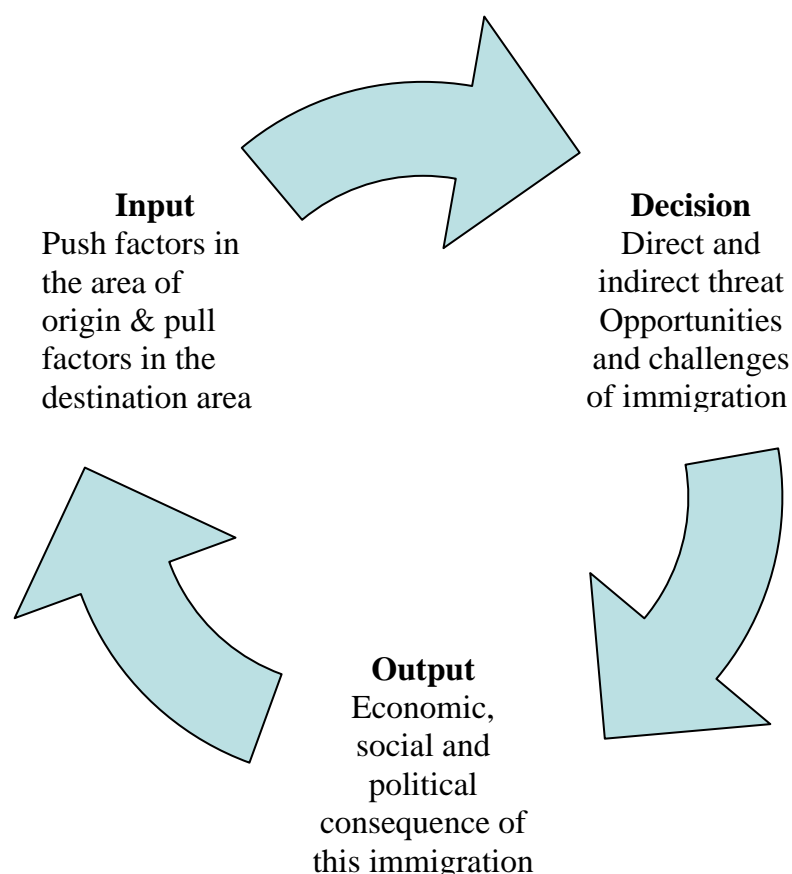
Therefore, the research gathers these categories, trying to benefit from previous studies as we can illustrate from these previous studies that immigration is an important topic needed to be studied and analyzed.

VII - Research Methodology:

This study is based on **Decision making** approach. This approach is based on an outcome of mental processes" cognitive process "leading to the selection of a course of actions among several alternatives. Every decision-making process produces a final choice .The output can be an action or an opinion of choice.

Human performance in decision-making terms has been the subject of active research from several perspectives. From a psychological perspective, it is necessary to examine individual decisions in the context of a set of needs, preferences an individual has and values they seek. From a cognitive perspective, the decision making process must be regarded as a continuous process integrated in the interaction with the environment. From a normative perspective, the analysis of individual decisions is concerned with the logic of decision making and rationality and the invariant choice it leads to. This method of decision-making was chosen because it was thought to offer a suitable way of trying to reach conclusions.

Here we have "input" pull and push factors of immigration, then " immigrants " people chose whether to migrate or not, then "decision " people can choose after their interaction with the environment, finally "output "impact of this decision on both home and host countries.



VIII- Scope of the Research:

Here we have to mention two scopes:

➤ **Time Scope :** 1995 -2008

Here we started with 1995 as this year present great importance as The Barcelona process, launched by Euro-Mediterranean Foreign Ministers in November 1995, formed an innovative alliance based on the principles of joint ownership, dialogue and co-operation. It brings together the 27 members of the European Union and 12 Southern Mediterranean states.

The 1995 Barcelona Declaration addresses the issue of migration as an element of the partnership in social, cultural and human affairs. The participants apparently perceive migration as a negative element as they agree to strengthen their co-operation to reduce migratory pressures.

Given the importance of the issue of migration for Euro-Mediterranean relations, Meetings will be encouraged in order to make proposals concerning migration flows. In addition, pressures. These meetings will take account of experience acquired; inter alia, Under the MED-Migration programmed, particularly as regards improving the living Conditions of migrants legally established in the union.

➤ **Place Scope:** South Mediterranean

As the South Mediterranean provides a kind of a graphic example. This region is responsible for a considerable proportion of the European Community's immigrants. The differences between the north and the south banks of the Mediterranean are increasing, creating potential serious regional instabilities. "with a high population growth (more than 2% per annum, which implies a doubling over around 30 years) It was calculated that the countries of the region may have a population over 400 million by 2035, and that the wealth gap would undoubtedly grow, meaning that migratory flows are not about to dry up .

The South-West migration flows had become overwhelming by the last decade of the twentieth century. At least half a million people are believed to enter the European Union illegally every year. There are no clear figures. Illegal immigration can be hardly controlled because of the European Union's extensive borders and coastline.

Finally the focus here in this thesis on South Mediterranean immigration to European Union starting from 1995, I stopped on 2008 but I think that there are a lot events will be happen in the future .