GLOBAL IMMIGRATION POLICY AND THE IMPACT ON COMMUNITIES ON THE MOVE ACROSS THE GLOBE

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THEORETICAL/STRUCTURAL FRAMEWORK FOR MIGRATION

Intergroup threat theory (Stephan et al., 2016)

- <u>Realistic Threat</u>
 Competition for resources (housing, employment, etc)
- Symbolic Threat Fear that one's group will diminish or cease to exist Changes in values Changes in way of life
- -there are other factors (Rami, 2018) that shape attitudes towards refugees (shared history, ethnic and religious background, shared refugee history, poverty, etc) though it is complex

THEORETICAL/STRUCTURAL FRAMEWORK FOR MIGRATION

Integration Framework (Ager & Strang, 2008)

Policy, resettlement, and migration

 Achievement and access in four key sectors (employment, housing, education, and health)

Assumptions and Practice

Citizenship and rights

Social connection (between and within groups)
Structural barriers (Language, cultural, local environment)

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CURRENT EU POLICIES AND HISTORY

- Europe fourth refugee crisis starting around 2011 due to several failed states and increasing in 2014-2015 and war in Syria
- EU policies and risky Mediterranean journeys to Europe increasing since 2015 (ex. from Turkey to Greece in past, now to Spain) – Oliveira Martins & Strange, 2019)
- approximately 18,000 lost lives in four years (IOM, 2019)
- 133,489 migrants and refugees arrived in Europe between January and November 2018, 81% crossed the Mediterranean Sea (108,246), mainly using the Western Mediterranean route, most to Spain - 59,747 new arrivals registered (January-November 2018 (IOM, 2018)
- Western Mediterranean route replaced other routes to enter the EU due to EU Policies:
- agreement with Turkey adopted in March 2016 new irregular migrants from Turkey into Greek islands would be returned to Turkey; claiming Turkey is first country of asylum
- Turkey offered future opportunity to enter the EU if they assisted with this (hosts the most Syrian refugees); EU would take in thousands of Syrian refugees, visa free travel, and provide Turkey with money (Coskun & Togaris, 2016) –deported refugees were Afghan and Pakistani, aimed to close down the main Mediterranean route to Europe

EU'S MIGRATION MANAGEMENT

- EU managed migration by having policies that externalized migration to the South and East starting in 2000 and outside of it's territories to the South and East
- Current European "refugee crisis" resulting in externalization of migration and borders despite the fact that many of Europe and North American decisions have caused massive refugee influx after World War II such as: reassigning state borders in Africa, Asia and the Middle East, post colonialism era, and dissolution of the former Soviet Union
- EU controls its border through regulatory migration policies through Libya, Niger and Turkey resulting in dangerous Mediterranean routes and risk to migrants
- This has repercussions and direct links to the thousands of lives lost through taking risky journeys through the Mediterranean
- Securitization of its border through high tech borders in these regions: EU-Africa, EU-Balkan, EU-Turkey – use of technology to monitor border movements through surveillance and control

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EU'S MIGRATION POLICIES AND ANTI IMMIGRANT SENTIMENT

- EU member states have been unable or unwilling to coordinate or manage those crossing its borders since 2015 – only half of 28 member states (number may be different now) support resettlement programs (ICMC, 2013)
- Enforcement of Dublin Regulation calling for refugees to stay in first country in Europe (ex Turkey/Greece/Italy) – assumes these countries will keep refugees in their borders and file asylum there; causes unequal burden sharing in EU countries
- Criteria for EU membership is to accept x amount of migrants and many countries refused to do so (ex Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, Poland, etc) due to the ethnic backgrounds of refugees
- New anti-migration policies over past four years and gross violations of Schengen agreement and human rights (border free movement to countries part of the area and agreement without checks)
- Increased far right government elected resulting in more anti-migrant policies

EU POLICIES AND KEY EVENTS

- · EU Membership criteria migration
- · Changing policies (Brexit, Muslim ban (Trump), Resettlement quotas, EU-Turkey agreement, Schengen, Dublin) etc

Brexit (MPI, 2017) – related to resistance in accepting immigrants and refugees

Muslim Ban (Reinl, 2017) - Trump

EU-Turkey agreement

Schengen open borders and territories free movement for EU citizens across its borders

European Union Dublin Regulations

Development of the Common European Asylum System (CEAS) to track asylum applications across the EU; Joint EU Resettlement program in 2012 and European Resettlement Network (partnership and collaboration between ICMC, UNHCR, and IOM)

- Resettlement in Europe is new phenomenon and not consistent or codified prior to 2012 according to UNHCR Resettlement Handbook
- Low resettlement numbers: even though Germany accepted many refugees prior it was resistant to having a permanent resettlement program prior to 2012 (Tometten, 2017) ex. 2012-2014 (300 per year) and 2015 (500) (ICMC, 2013), and according to EU council decision only agreed to resettle a total of 1.600 between 2016-2017 despite it and Sweden accepting majority of asylum applications from Syrian refugees (

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ATTITUDES TOWARDS IMMIGRATION AND POLICIES

- Hungary increased anti migrant policies and legislation since 2015 (part of EU) which has put unaccompanied minors at risk by calling for protection of Hungarian culture, ethnic values and boundaries from migrants
- · Has built fences, had border hunters for irregular migrants
- Differences in attitudes in various regions (ex protests at city, train stations, burning camps, etc)

ATTITUDES TOWARDS IMMIGRATION AND POLICIES: CONNECTION BETWEEN MEDIA, POLITICS, POLICIES AND PERCEPTIONS

- · Government Policies and Immigration Attitudes
- · Host country citizen attitudes towards immigrants and policies are connected

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CURRENT EVENTS

- Perception and reception of Ukranian refugees (The New Humanitarian, 2022)
- · Impact of media and how this shapes perception and reception of refugees
- Poland's discrimination and reception of non-European/white refugees and response:
- Refusal to accept Syrian refugees (experience from Forced migration conference in Poznan, Poland, 2016)
- > Polish-Ukranian border (accepting Ukranian refugees and being praised for that)
- Polish-Belarus border (pushing back into the forest refugees from Iraq and other places and engaging in human rights violations); fines and detention for volunteers accepting refugees in these dangerous regions
- Germany rescued and hosted 35000 Afghan refugees at Ramstein Airforce base but transferred to the United States
- Germany is moving out Afghan refugees from their accommodation centres for Ukrainians and within 24 hours notice, no prior notice was given; some living there for years; and will only be admitting 5000 Afghans per year
- More than 18000 came to Germany after the Afghan Taliban and 10000 remain, numbers have fallen in other EU countries as well (https://www.schengenvisainfo.com/news/germany-to-evict-existing-afghanrefugees-for-clearing-out-accommodation-centres-for-arriving-ukrainians/)

CURRENT EVENTS

- Treatment of Afghan unaccompanied minors versus other minors (ex Central American unaccompanied minors etc)
- Experience at emergency intake shelter towards unaccompanied Afghan minors
- President Biden recommendation of sponsorship of Ukranian refugees

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WORK EXPERIENCE

- Criminalization of imMigrants at detention centers
- Private detention centers and profit to incarcerate immigration
- Lived experiences of Syrian refugees in Europe
- · Ramstein Air Base
- Unaccompanied Afghan minors versus Central Americans

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