Illegal Immigration And Its Effects On Sustainable Development And Citizenship Values

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Abstract:

Illegal immigration has become globalized and crossed borders and this is due to many reasons and motives that have resulted in dangerous and destructive repercussions with horrific human tragedies, and for this it has become imperative to activate and push more with concerted steps and efforts to combat a social, economic, political phenomenon of[1] individual or minority groups into a crime threatening international peace and security And it became necessary to establish the countries of origin, which are backward countries and most of them are in Africa, and some are in Central and Latin America, and Asia. With development reforms that adopt effective economic plans, human and sustainable development, and support social peace, away from populist policies, but rather in social liberal states, in addition to democratic transformation in parallel with high-capacity and effective political development.

Keywords*: illegal immigration, social phenomenon, crime, countries of origin, development, sustainable.*

Introduction

Illegal immigration has become one of the most pressing challenges facing the international community, as evidenced by the human tragedies we witness through media coverage, shaking global public opinion. Illegal immigration has also become closely linked to numerous crimes, the most notable of which include human trafficking, transcontinental organized crime by various international gangs, and money laundering. Additionally, it is associated with horrific crimes that are both humanly and financially costly, such as civil and inter-communal wars. Moreover, illegal immigration intersects with international terrorism practiced by numerous national and international groups and organizations, resulting in severe repercussions for international peace and security.

However, before delving into the definition of illegal immigration, it is crucial to explore the reasons and motivations that have led to its emergence as a social phenomenon and its transformation into an international crime.

What is the concept of sustainable development? What are the key committees and international conferences that have been held to advance sustainable development? What

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are its objectives? And why is it essential to link it to the promotion of citizenship values, particularly its associated rights and obligations?

1. Concept of Illegal Immigration

This study addresses the phenomenon of illegal immigration, a new criminal trend that has seen increased flows in recent times due to the failure of most origin countries to implement preventive and criminalization measures. This issue has cast a shadow over international relations between origin and destination countries(...). While illegal immigration is a social phenomenon prevalent in many parts of the world, the study has revealed a new branch of public international law. (Hassan,2014,24)

2. Types of Immigration

1. Elites of intellectuals and experts

2. Seasonal laborers who, in most cases, perform seasonal work under severely limited rights, poor working conditions, and frequently face unemployment and substandard living conditions.

3. Migrant workers needed by the labor market, but who are politically treated as an illegal group, thereby deprived of any rights. (Kadi,2017,61)

Migration often reflects the aspirations and determination of Algerian youth to leave. A survey conducted by the National Center for Studies and Analysis for Planning highlighted this desire, showing that 23% of young people are inclined towards migration. This figure carries profound significance, reflecting the willingness of youth to migrate, showcasing it as both a social condition and a behavioral practice among them. (Kim,2010,26)

Causes of Illegal Immigration

After investigating the causes of illegal immigration, we found the following:

1. Political Reasons

Without prioritizing the protection of migrants and the life-threatening risks they face, illegal immigration exposes them to dangers and creates damages for both origin and destination countries. This illicit activity undermines the territorial sovereignty of destination and transit countries. Origin countries cannot be seen as active participants in or silent bystanders to such crimes. Instead, they must protect their borders to a degree that does not harm other nations. (Hassan,2014,24)

2. Economic Reasons

A 15-year-old said, "I want to leave. What do you expect me to do in this country, where I'm exploited even as a trained worker—a mechanic, carpenter, or agricultural laborer? I work all week for a small amount. Can you imagine how I can live and support my family? My mind is clear: I must leave."

According to Sjaastad, migration is a form of investment in human capital, involving certain costs to achieve better employment opportunities. However, the skills of job seekers do not always align with market demands, creating a mismatch between supply and demand. (Kim,2010,31)

Illegal immigration is a global phenomenon, particularly prevalent in developed nations. While the reasons behind it are diverse, economic motivations are the most prominent. This is evident in the stark economic disparities between origin and destination countries. Origin countries often suffer from a lack of development, limited job

opportunities, low wages, and poor living standards, whereas destination countries offer higher wages, better living conditions, and a demand for labor. (Kadi,2017,63)

3. Social and Cultural Reasons

- Cultural and Civilizational Advancement

Opportunities for education at all levels and across various fields attract individuals seeking to settle in socially advanced communities.

- Availability of Employment Opportunities

The economic prosperity of countries with abundant natural resources fosters the growth and development of industries. These countries experience a continuous demand for labor and specialized skills, making them appealing destinations. Migration typically begins with young individuals and gradually expands to include families and relatives.

Foundations of Citizenship

Concepts of Citizenship

According to the Encyclopedia Britannica , citizenship is defined as "a relationship between an individual and a state as determined by the laws of that state, encompassing the rights and duties of the individual and the state." The encyclopedia highlights that "citizenship implies a level of freedom accompanied by responsibilities." While citizenship is often synonymous with nationality, it includes additional privileges, such as protection abroad. The encyclopedia concludes by stating that, in general, citizenship grants the individual political rights. (Al-Kuwari,2001,264)

Values of Citizenship

1. Equality

This includes equal opportunities in education, employment, nationality, and equal treatment under the law.

2. Freedom

Encompasses freedom of belief and practicing religious rituals, freedom of movement within the country, and the right to express opinions peacefully.

3. Participation

Includes the right to organize peaceful advocacy campaigns targeting government policies, the right to peaceful protest, the right to strike, and the right to vote in general elections.

4. Social Responsibility

Encompasses various duties, such as paying taxes, performing military service for the country, respecting the law, and upholding individual freedoms and privacy.

Rights of Citizenship

1. Political Rights of Citizenship

  - The right to vote and be elected. (Al-Kuwari,2001,264)

  - The right to hold political office.

  - The right to self-determination.

  - Freedom to express political opinions and positions.

2. Economic Rights of Citizenship

- The right to own property.

- The right to dispose of private possessions.

3. Environmental Rights of Citizenship

- The right to a clean environment.

In promoting the principles of citizenship, there are clear standards that encompass political and administrative rights and freedoms: (Ben Hamouda,2006,116)

- Equality among citizens in rights and duties.

- Equality between men and women under the law. However, even in the 21st century, discrimination persists, such as wage disparities, even in Western democracies, despite protests by human rights organizations.

- The right to reside anywhere within the national territory, provided urban planning laws are respected, particularly when constructing new housing.

- Sanctity of homes and private communications (written or telephonic). Violations of these rights are often reported in the media, even in democratic countries, undermining human dignity.

- Freedom of movement within and beyond national borders.

- Freedom of conscience and opinion. (Ben Hamouda,2006,119)

Duties of Citizenship

Attempts to classify the duties and responsibilities of citizenship have resulted in several approaches. However, the simplest and most common classification divides these responsibilities into mandatory obligations imposed by the state and voluntary responsibilities undertaken by citizens: (Ansar,2012,11)

- Mandatory Responsibilities

- Paying taxes.

- Performing military service.

- Complying with state laws enacted by representatives of the people in parliament.

- Voluntary Responsibilities

- Participating in political and civic life.

- Contributing to the building of democracy.

- Providing constructive criticism of political life.

1. The establishment of state institutions and social institutions as separate entities, symbolizing the historical process of societal awareness unique to a particular stage in societal evolution.

2. Differentiating between the mechanisms of state operations and economic functions, leading to the formation of distinct political and economic fields. This condition emerged historically with the Industrial Revolution and the rise of the bourgeoisie in Western Europe.

3. The emergence of the concept of citizenship tied to civil and political rights, recognizing the individual as a rights-bearing entity within the state, irrespective of ethnic, religious, or cultural affiliations.

4. The differentiation between societal rights mechanisms, leading to distinctions in the operations of economic institutions and social institutions based on their differing objectives and functions.

5. The differentiation between voluntary social organizations (e.g., professional associations, sports clubs, unions) formed by free citizens and solidaristic organizations (e.g., family, clan, tribe) that individuals join by birth.

6. Distinctions between representative democracy in liberal states and direct democracy in voluntary organizations and modern institutions within society.(Mokimeh,2020,33)

Definition of Sustainable Development

1.First Definition:

"Sustainable development involves utilizing renewable natural resources in ways that prevent their depletion, degradation, or diminished utility for future generations, while maintaining a consistent and effective reserve of resources like aquifers, biomass, and other renewable assets."

2. Second Definition

"Sustainable development refers to the means and methods to create economic growth that preserves the environment and reduces poverty levels, without depleting natural resources or compromising their long-term capacity for development." .(Latrash,2016,176)

Dr. Abdullah bin Jumaan Al-Ghamdi, in an online article titled Sustainable Development: Balancing the Right to Exploit Natural Resources and the Responsibility to Protect the Environment, highlighted a significant global initiative aimed at curbing unsustainable exploitation of environmental resources. His article emphasized that:

- From the mid-1980s, the international community began recognizing the need for a mix of political and scientific efforts to address environmental issues.

- The concept of sustainable development gained prominence as a global paradigm, replacing earlier approaches like the "Development Without Destruction" program introduced by UNEP in the 1970s and the "Ecodevelopment" approach of the 1980s.

- This global focus reached its peak at the 1992 *Earth Summit* in Rio de Janeiro, where sustainable development was officially adopted as a global priority.

The 1995 UNDP Human Development Report reinforced the concept by stressing sustainability as a cornerstone of human development. It highlighted the importance of preserving resources for future generations by:

- Avoiding the depletion of natural resources and pollution.

- Addressing the burden of public debt that may fall on future generations.

- Ensuring the development of human resources to prevent future societal difficulties arising from current choices. (Gharbi,2014,131)

Goals of Sustainable Development

The emerging concept of sustainable development, which continues to evolve, relies on institutional frameworks to define intervention areas for achieving three primary goals:

1. Economic Development

2. Social Justice

3. Environmental Caution

The intervention areas for achieving these goals are specified as follows:

1. Controlling the use of resources.

2. Employing clean technologies that manage waste production and pollutant usage.

3. Rationally locating economic activities.

4. Adapting consumption patterns to environmental and social constraints, prioritizing essential needs over excessive demand.

5. Understanding sustainability as a continuous effort to preserve and maintain the environment. Scientifically, sustainable development is a multifaceted term that is often determined by specific time periods, such as years or centuries.

Conclusion

Illegal immigration has become a globalized issue transcending borders, driven by numerous causes and motives that have led to severe and devastating consequences, including tragic human suffering. Addressing this challenge necessitates coordinated efforts and decisive actions to combat a phenomenon that has evolved from a social, economic, or political act by individuals or minority groups into an international crime threatening global security and peace.

Recommended Measures:

1. Role of Source Countries

- Underdeveloped nations, predominantly in Africa, parts of Central and Latin America, and Asia, must implement developmental reforms.

- These reforms should focus on crafting effective economic plans, fostering sustainable human development, and ensuring social peace.

- Moving away from populist policies towards liberal-social states and initiating democratic transitions parallel to robust political development are essential.

2. Crackdown on Organized Crime

- Strict punitive measures should target criminal groups and organizations involved in human trafficking, drug smuggling, terrorism, money laundering, and civil wars.

3. International Cooperation

- Eradicating illegal immigration requires intensive and effective cooperation between nations in political, security, and economic domains.

4. Socio-Economic Development

- Addressing root causes such as unemployment, poverty, despair, and frustration, particularly among youth, is crucial.

- Real and tangible economic development must include creating jobs and fostering hope and empowerment across all social strata.

By adopting these measures, countries can work together to mitigate the root causes of illegal immigration and reduce its adverse impacts on global security and human dignity

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