

EU

European Union

STOP ALA ALDI
IMMIGRATION



Committee: European Union

Topic: Navigating Challenges and Opportunities in EU Migration Policies

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Hello, and welcome dear delegates to this new installment of SPIS Model United Nations, we are so pleased to have you participate this year with us. In these sessions, you'll be discussing the EU's migration policies, their challenges, as well as the opportunities. We wish for nothing but the best for you, do your best, and most importantly have fun. Your chairs are Diego Palomo as your Moderator, Sebastián Salinas as your Director, and Catalina Villaseñor Leal as your secretary, they are pleased to have you on the committee and willing to answer any questions you may have.

We look forward to your delegation's proposals and possible solutions to this global problem.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at:

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Sincerely, Damian Jasso

I. COMMITTEE BACKGROUND

The European Union is an economic and political organization based on 27 European countries in total as of 2022. The European Union was established in 1958 after several treaties were signed in the aftermath of the Second World War. Originally the EU served the following countries, France, Germany, Belgium,



Luxemburg, Italy, and the Netherlands. These countries would cooperate financially with the objective of interdependency with each other. This makes it unlikely for the countries involved to go into conflict.; After several years, the EU changed from being a sole economic union and expanded its realm of work into the political aspects, such as climate, justice, migration, and environmental health to external relations and security.

Today, the European Union has various goals and aims in mind, such as promoting peace and its values, establishing an internal market, protecting the environment and improving its quality, contributing to peace and security in the world, observing international law, and so on.

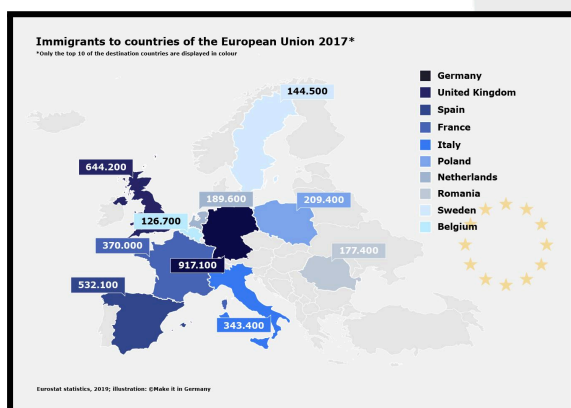
II. HISTORY OF TOPIC

Immigration has always been an important issue to address in Model UN, especially in the committee of EU. There have been, historically, many sides to the debate, however, there isn't a consensus yet made.

Immigration has always been at the top of the list of debates for the EU, it is a very controversial, topic amongst public participants, who have very different points of view on this subject, on one hand, we have the pro-immigrant side, most of them argue that immigrants can benefit the economic growth, saying that immigrants could potentially slow aging of the European population and thus slowing tensions down on the pension systems, they can also contribute to technological progress due to already having experience, aiding in the human capital development of receiving countries; they also argue that migrants are important to stabilize areas in Europe that lack labor due to the low geographical mobility within a lot of workers in EU territory.

On the other hand, we have the opposing side, in a European Social Survey made in 2005, a lot of countries turned against immigration, with the country with the most votes against immigration being Greece (86.1%), some Europeans argue that immigrants could reduce public resources due to the organization's efforts to reduce social exclusion with social transferring, due to this factor, many countries are tightening their

migration policies and cutting welfare access for immigrants. There is a reason a lot of people are so against immigrants and have a high demand for tighter immigration policies, they think and fear that immigrants will impact their wages and job



employment, which in consequence implies a redistribution of money and wealth across different groups and subgroups of the population, natives also fear that migration could potentially affect their culture, values, and norms in their respective host country.

During these last few years, the EU has been making efforts to make a safe, humanitarian, and effective migration policy. The EU council has established lines of action that help to negotiate with other countries who are not involved with the EU and have built up for the past few years a good response to migratory pressure.

III. CURRENT ISSUES

A recent issue that has been going on in the past couple of years is the war between Russia and Ukraine, which started back in 2014 in 2022 was when Russia started a full-scale invasion of Ukraine that made it to the news worldwide and it has affected many parts of People's lives, and one of its consequences was mass migration to EU countries.



After the invasion launched by Russia on Ukraine, millions of Ukrainians decided to leave their war-torn country in search of a better place to live now if they stayed they would always be in danger, so these people decided to flee to their western borders with EU countries, and so, the EU countries decided to take action, they decided to make legal pathways for their neighbor country citizens to come through and take refugee in their home countries.

Although all this might seem like a good action on the part of the EU, they used the war between Ukraine and Russia, they used it as an excuse to raise the amount of money spent on weapons worldwide, nowhere more so than in Europe, where within months of the full-scale invasion, an additional €200 billion in military spending was announced. EU members have increased their defense expenditures and restocked while simultaneously sending Ukraine significant supplies of weapons and ammunition. The argument that considerable spending is required to dissuade Russia is implausible considering that, before the conflict, the combined 30 NATO members were already spending 17 times as much on their armed forces as Russia; this did not prevent it from invading. This militarization will increase anxiety and stress, create unrest and insecurity, lead to and exacerbate armed conflict, and feed both ongoing and upcoming conflicts.



Additionally to the militarization of their borders, they also decided to double down on their border controls, In response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the EU established the Support Hub for Internal Security and Border Management in Moldova in July 2022. To "support the reception of refugees from Ukraine," Frontex signed an agreement that saw the deployment of police and the provision of border security equipment to Moldova. Frontex plays a significant role in this situation. Even if the war in Ukraine is still ongoing, the EU's border policies have shifted their attention to securitization strategies, seemingly forgetting the initial goal of the newly increased border cooperation. Frontex, meantime, has expanded its working area outside of the borders of the EU by using the conflict. To "assist national authorities with border surveillance, border checks, but also with gathering information on people smuggling networks and identifying vulnerable groups," "Joint Operation

Moldova 2023" was initiated at the end of January 2023. In addition to the Moldovan operation, Frontex and the State Border Guard of Ukraine signed a grant agreement in January 2023 for the purchase of equipment, including patrol vehicles and uniforms. The award amount was €12 million.

IV. UN ACTION AND RESOLUTION

First things first, migration isn't a problem that needs any type of solution, it is mostly a good thing that can potentially benefit the country like what was stated before including investment, cultural diversity, strengthening the force of labor, and also skills. But even though migration can be a benefit to the country, it can at times come with challenges, such as when there is a massive rate of migration, but if it's well managed, it can turn into a source of growth for newcomers and also locals.



Migration is caused by many factors such as searching for better economic and educational opportunities, environmental factors such as climate change, disasters, family reunion, and many more, however, at times there are instances that migration

isn't safe which can cause a lot of negative outcomes, such as the loss or disappearance of people trying to migrate through dangerous routes, or illegal activities such as smuggling illegal products or substances to another country and even human trafficking. A solution many countries have come up with to address these problems is border control, which is an effective part of trying to prevent these instances, but it's not the only part. The United Nations committee, the IOM, has proposed a couple of recommendations for countries to manage migration more effectively:

- Countries around the world should promote education, stability and economic opportunities, reduce forced migration by reducing what drives people to said action, and promote resilience, this will further enable the individual to choose if they should stay or migrate somewhere else
- Collect, analyze, and use credible data on informational formats such as demographics, cross-border movements, internal displacement, and labor markets, among other things, health and education is a very essential part on creating policies based on credible facts which in turn will weigh the benefits and also risks of migrations
- Cooperation between different regions could help in minimizing the negative effects and consequences of migration and also preserve integrity, this can also help with regional and even global development goals through improving human capital with sustainable developments which will ensure long-term economic growth.

V. ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- Why do people consider migrating to EU countries?
- Which countries are the most emigrated to?
- What challenges do immigrants face?
- Which countries are the most in need of migration benefits?
- What are the present EU migration policies?
- What is the general thinking about migration in EU countries?

VI. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, immigration in EU countries has always been a divided issue that has been discussed over the years. On one hand, we have pro-immigration, with arguments such as slowing down aging, contributing to technological progress, stabilizing areas with a lack of labor due to low geographical mobility, etc. But there also exists the opposite side of the spectrum, the ones against it, they argue that immigrants may impact their wages and employment, affect their culture, values, and norms, reduce public resources, etc.

A recent problem the EU has been facing recently has to do with the Russian-Ukrainian war. Since the war started many Ukrainian citizens sought a new place to live, and many people decided to ask for refugees in neighboring EU countries in response, the EU made legal pathways for Ukrainian citizens to refugees, but this was one of the few good deeds the EU did in response to the war. They decided to use the war to implement more militarization of their border security and tighten their border control using new equipment and patrols with public funds which in turn fuels the war more and leads people to think if the EU should've invested their funds in supporting communities and local networks to aid further those fleeing the war

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