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Anna Shkodych

Vasyl' Stus Donetsk National University

Vinnitsia

Research Supervisor: M.M. Frotveit, Doctor of Political Science, Prof.

Language Advisor: V.I. Kalinichenko, PhD in Philology, Senior Lecturer

CURRENT TRENDS IN THE PROCESSES OF ADAPTATION AND INTEGRATION OF MUSLIM REFUGEE WOMEN TO GERMANY

Introduction. Over the last 20 years the number of migrants has increased significantly. Germany is one of the five world leaders in the number of migrants. This pattern points out that globalization and new trends in international relations are reviving the process of displacement. The problem of the refugees influx into Europe

from the war-torn countries of Africa and the Middle East remains relevant, taking the level of conflict in the regions into account.

Female refugees represent a separate part of German society because of their direct effect on the demographic and socio-economic situation in Germany. Women are a more vulnerable category of refugees, so they are easily manipulated and abused. Identifying problems during the integration process will help to improve mechanisms for the protection of female refugees and asylum seekers.

Review of recent publications. Among a scientific community, the issue of refugees including the general concepts of refugee policy have been studied by such local and foreign scholars as K.Pylypchuk [1], A.Solodko [2], R. Boswell [6], E.Geddesa [6], T. Esha [9] and others.

Objective of the paper. The purpose of this research is to determine the main tendencies and characteristics of integration and adaptation processes involving Muslim female refugees in Germany.

Results of the research. Muslim refugee women make up a significant part of all refugees arriving in Germany. Even though their number is smaller compared to men, they should be considered as a significant part of society [3]. Compared to previous years, when the refugee crisis was only beginning to worsen, the number of refugees, both men and women, was many times greater. The vast majority of refugees come from countries suffering from war, such as Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Eritrea and Iran. As Germany has welcomed refugees and asylum seekers for the past six years, Muslim refugee women choose it as a destination country where they can obtain an adequate level of security and open up new opportunities for their own development [5].

The reasons for women to flee are mainly the result of wars, economic crisis, political instability, threats to life and lack of prospects for development. Gender inequality and specific attitudes towards women in Muslim cultures are also quite often the reason for their displacement [8]. The Middle East and Africa have been covered with hostilities for many years, some refugee families may have previously been forced to migrate to Germany. For this reason, there is another reason of fleeing, such as the reunification with the rest of the minorities. As it is known, Germany has launched an “open door policy” which makes the country one of the most attractive host countries. Refugee women are safer here and have the anticipation of the beginning of a “new life”.

Due to the fact that refugees have different experiences, social status, it should be noted that it is quite difficult to generalize about the “typical image of a Muslim refugee women”. However, the presence of certain patterns helped us to identify common characteristics of them. Considering the gender role they played in their homeland, they are much less involved in integration processes compared to men. Moreover, refugee women still remain a vulnerable part of the society because it is difficult for them to defend their own interests and rights. In addition, due to limited education in the homeland, ignorance of the language, they are much less likely to get a well-paid job. As a result of integration programs, refugees are able to gradually enter German society [13].

With the onset of the global COVID-19 pandemic, the influx of migrants has declined significantly, as many countries around the world have been forced to close the borders and restrict the freedom of movement. The globalization processes were not stopped due to the pandemic, although it a little slowed down the processes of migration and the influx of refugees [3]. The COVID-19 crisis has exacerbated the vulnerabilities of the most vulnerable groups. Decisions that are often made hastily, albeit deliberately, can have unintended consequences. Governments' responses must be in line with pandemic trends in order to maintain the trust that must exist between people and their governments, especially in times of crisis, and to promote respect for human rights.

The worldwide pandemic of 2020 was one of the factors that forced the German establishment to respond quickly to the new challenges and threats posed by the spread of the virus, especially in places with limited access to basic amenities and high crowds of shelters [14]. Although the government has taken certain restrictive measures, Germany is aware of the need to help the most vulnerable, so it is developing certain social programs. The German government has developed a number of integration systems for its new refugee population. All the parties involved, such as federal, provincial, city and local governments, civil society and, of course, the refugees themselves, are making significant efforts.

German asylum legislation has not yet been revised to recognize gender-based persecution. Although the issue of gender-based persecution has long been on the political agenda, there is no consensus on the law should be reformed to adequately address the specific situation of refugee women [4]. Women have more difficulty obtaining asylum status because their applications are considered less credible, so asylum procedures need to become more gender-based [11]. Admission requirements must consider gender in particular. More attention and protection should be given to women and girls, to ensure their safety. In this way, sexual and gender-based violence can be prevented. Girls should have access to education, and women and girls should have adequate medical care.

The adaptation process of Muslim refugee women is directly related to the cultural and religious characteristics of the Middle East. Considering their entrenched values and basic principles of functioning in society, women often face problems of racism, violence and Islamophobia [10]. Their unwillingness to give up their own cultural identity complicates their adaptation processes [7]. In our opinion, it is necessary to improve the system of promoting the adaptation and integration of refugees into society as they affect the socio-economic situation in the country.

As female refugees are mostly young, up to the age of 35, their activation in society will not only contribute to the demographic situation in Germany, but will also improve the level of the economy. Since the process of adaptation is directly related to socialization processes, the factor of interacting Muslim refugee women with native Germans is an important element of entering a new culture. German society is aware of the consequences of the influx and reception of large numbers of refugees, but most continue to support the government's decision to grant asylum and protection to refugees [12]. Such attitudes are very conducive to entering a new

cultural environment, because in this way new cultural principles and values are adopted faster. However, an important factor is the insecurity and, to some extent, the lack of education of Muslim refugees to stand up for their rights.

Conclusion. At present, a number of crises continue on the European continent due to economic and institutional organization. Nevertheless, EU Member States continue to attract professionals from abroad. The COVID-19 pandemic has also adjusted the integration processes of refugees, so legislation and integration programs need to be improved to consider crises and the gender component. Our study proves that Muslim refugee women are one of the most vulnerable categories of migrants. This is caused by a vast number of reasons (the lifechanging events and the experience of moving to the territory of the host country, as well as the results of gender inequality and violence, not only among refugees but also with civil servants, asylum workers) that significantly affect the process of women's adaptation to the new society.

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Daria Rybak

*Vasyl' Stus Donetsk National University
Vinnytsia*

*Research Supervisor: I.H. Panina, PhD in History, Senior Lecturer
Language Advisor: V.I. Kalinichenko, PhD in Philology, Senior Lecturer*

PUBLIC DIPLOMACY AS A COMMUNICATION CHANNEL OF THE NATIONAL BRAND OF UKRAINE

Introduction. The brand of the country is an important tool for its influence on the international arena in the conditions of globalization and innovative progress. It is vital for every country to have a positive international image, but it needs tireless efforts to build it. Pronounced features of the state and its identity form the basis of