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## Securitization of Immigration and Refugee Policy in Contemporary Islamic Politics and International Law

Abstract: The increasing number of migrants has strengthened the configuration of international relations and legal frameworks in contemporary Islamic politics. However, the concept of an Islamic political system remains ambiguous-whether it refers to countries that implement Islamic law, policies of Muslim-majority states, or the broader discourse on Islamic politics. This study explores the securitization of immigration and refugee policies in Muslimmajority countries by highlighting the connection between international refugee law and contemporary Islamic political principles. The analysis is conducted within a broader framework, examining the development of international refugee law and contemporary Islamic political responses to migration and refugee crises, particularly in Syria, Afghanistan, and Myanmar. Through doctrinal legal analysis and empirical case studies from Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and the United Arab Emirates, this research finds that many Muslim-majority countries have tightened border controls, restricting migrant and refugee access without adequate asylum mechanisms. Additionally, there has been an increase in asylum externalization policies, where responsibility for refugee protection is transferred to third countries, reducing the accountability of primary host nations. Detention policies are also becoming more common, with a growing number of detention centres and deportation practices that often violate contemporary Islamic political principles and international human rights commitments. Furthermore, findings indicate that in many cases, these securitization policies contradict Islamic values of protection and solidarity, which emphasize the rights of refugees and fair treatment for those seeking asylum. This study significantly contributes to evaluating the legal gaps between national policies, contemporary Islamic political principles, and international refugee law while offering policy recommendations that balance security concerns with human rights protection.

**Keywords**: International Law, Islamic Politics, Migration Securitization, Refugee Policy, Human Rights.



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### INTRODUCTION

Geopolitical conflicts, economic differences, and environmental factors have dramatically affected international migration. These changes are altering population compositions and adding new challenges to governance structures at both the national and international levels.<sup>1</sup> In response, many governments have increasingly turned to securitization, framing migration as a security issue to justify strict immigration policies. Although this trend is not limited to global South countries, the effects of Securitized Migration Policies manifest distinctly within Islamic political ideologies framed by religious, cultural, and geopolitical perspectives.<sup>2</sup>

In security studies, securitization refers to the discursive and policy-based process of making migration a security risk. In migration discourse, this manifests in detention policies, border militarization, asylum restrictions, and externalization of refugee management. This process is not merely theoretical; it carries legal and political implications concerning states' dealings with migrants and international legal standards. In the case of states with a Muslim majority, securitization is often intersected with religious doctrines, national identity discourses, and geopolitical alliances. This framing of migration in the context of security threats is not uniform and varies across state policies, transnational Islamic organizations, and global security narratives.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> N. Kuznetsova, "International Migration in the World: Current Development Trends and the Global Problems Management," *Modern Economics* 26 (2021), https://doi.org/10.31521/modecon.v26(2021)-10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "Muslim world and modern political asylum law, a study," *Journal of Women University Mardan: FAHM-IJSLAM 5*, no. 1 (2022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> N. Hitoshi, "Part I International Law and Global Security, Ch.2 The Global Security Agenda: Securitization of Everything?," *The Oxford Handbook of the International Law of Global Security* (2021), https://doi.org/10.1093/LAW/9780198827276.003.0003.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Özgür Balkılıç and Fatma Arma**ğ**an Teke Lloyd, "Does Islamic inclusion of Syrians represent a real challenge to Europe's security approach?: Dilemmas of the AKP's Syrian refugee discourse," *Turkish Studies* 22 (2020), https://doi.org/10.1080/14683849.2020.1774372. .

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Ahmad Ash Shiddieqy, Padlan Padil Simamora, dan Dinda Difia Madina, "Contemporary Islamic Politics in Tunisia: The Journey of Islamic Democracy Post-Arab Spring," *MILRev*: *Metro Islamic Law Review* 3, no. 1 (11 April 2024): 119–40, https://doi.org/10.32332/milrev.v3i1.8976.



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A significant gap in existing literature is the absence of an explicit definition of securitization in Islamic political settings. This article provided more insights into the concept of securitization in the Islamic context by identifying three different forms of migration security: the discursive aspects of making migration a security issue, state-led efforts to practice securitizations of migration, as well as the interface of Islamic law and international law (with regard to refugees). In addition to that, the article theorizes Islamic politics in the context of migration securitization by delineating the approaches of Muslimmajority states, such as Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and the UAE. The actions of transnational Islamic organizations such as the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and ideological Islamic discourses shape the security perceptions of migration that guarantee a highly contextual analytical structure rather than trends.

Although securitization theory has been widely applied to international relations research, it is yet to be widely adipose on Islamic migration governance. In particular, this study further solidifies its theoretical underpinning with the integration of the Copenhagen School's securitization theory that positions the process of migration being redefined as a security matter through a variety of speech acts, institutionalization, and material security enforcement. It further explores the institutional mechanisms whereby migration security policies are developed and implemented in countries with a sizable Muslim population, including border controls, detention centres, and visa restrictions. The study also engages the material dimensions of securitization in terms of the growing reliance on militarized border control and the strategies of externalization of Islamic political contexts. In order to strengthen the empirical body of the work, case studies are employed from Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and the UAE, providing evidence of how Islamic states securitize migration through geopolitical and legal-maximalist lenses.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Thomas Ambrosio, Carson Schram, and Preston Heopfner, "The American securitization of China and Russia: U.S. geopolitical culture and declining unipolarity," *Eurasian Geography and Economics* 61, no. 2 (2020/03/03 2020), https://doi.org/10.1080/15387216.2019.1702566.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Ahmed Abou-El-Wafa, "The Right to Asylum between Islamic Shari'ah and International Refugee Law: Consequences for the Present Refugee Crisis," (2016), https://doi.org/10.1163/18757413-00190011.



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Historical and geopolitical causes have contributed to the securitization of migration in Muslim-majority states. This study draws on the colonial legacies to explain the past colonial migration policies and their outcome over the contemporary border controls (6). Moreover, how proxy wars and regional conflicts, including the Syrian civil war, Afghan displacement crises, and Libyan instability, impact migration policies in Islamic states. The global aspect of migration governance and its other relationship with the geopolitical context is explored, for instance, how ties between Muslim-majority countries and Western neo-liberal powers have dictated security-focused migration governance. 9

This study's core consideration is the legal interaction between Islamic law and international migration governance. International refugee law — first through the 1951 Refugee Convention and the 1967 Protocol — creates global standards against which protections for asylum seekers can be measured; however, in Muslim-majority states, the regulation of refugees is shaped according to the Islamic legal values of *hijrah* (migration) and *aman* (protection). This article critically examines the ways in which Islamic legal traditions reveal intersecting with, complementing, or diverging from international refugee law.

Prevailing research on securitization has been excessively state-centric, overlooking non-state actors' role in migration governance. In addition, the study examines the formation of migration discourse by transnational Islamic institutions such as OIC Al-Azhar, the influence of extremist groups on the framing of refugees as a security threat, and the role of media in Muslim-majority states that amplifies migration securitization

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> O. Potyomkina, "Foreign Terrorist Fighters as a Factor of Securitization of the EU Migration Policy," *World Economy and International Relations* (2021), https://doi.org/10.20542/0131-2227-2021-65-11-106-114.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Cathryn Costello and Itamar Mann, "Border Justice: Migration and Accountability for Human Rights Violations," *German Law Journal* 21, no. 3 (2020), https://doi.org/10.1017/glj.2020.27.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Olga R. Gulina, "Migration and Hybrid Political Regimes: Navigating the Legal Landscape in Russia," *Slavic Review* 81, no. 3 (2022), https://doi.org/10.1017/slr.2022.236.



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discourse.<sup>11</sup> Such a broad sense is necessary to understand migration securitization better and not be limited to just state policies.

This study places the securitization of migration into broader trends on a global scale. The phenomenon of nationalism and xenophobia in Western states has directly affected paradigms of migration securitization in Islamic contexts. Likewise, the spectre of transnational terrorism has raised the salience of migration security in Muslim-majority states. Moreover, it has strengthened the securitized methods of migration governance in Islamic countries, a direct outcome of the EU's externalization policies and US border militarization strategies. Through mapping the migration security models of the West and Islam, this study underlines cross-regional policy dynamics and specifies varieties of convergence and separation.

In order to secure a sound empirical basis, this study employs comparative case studies and legal doctrinal analysis. Informed by case studies of migration policies from several Islamic nations such as Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and UAE, this study explores European, American, and Islamic approaches to migration securitization policy, highlighting differences and similarities. The study also uses doctrinal legal research to evaluate whether Islamic migration ethics is compatible with international refugee protections. These methodological adjustments increase the empirical strength of the study and allow for a more optimal blend of theory and data.

The article contributes to a growing body of literature on migration, security, and Islamic politics. Despite literature analyzing the impact of securitization on human rights

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Aylin Ünver NOİ, "ISLAMIC STATE RECRUITMENT AND ITS IMPACTS ON THE RE-SECURITIZATION OF MIGRATION IN EUROPE," Marmara Üniversitesi Avrupa Topluluğu Enstitüsü Avrupa Araştırmaları Dergisi (2015), https://doi.org/10.29228/mjes.408. .

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> A. Bilgiç, Gasper, D., & Wilcock, C., "A human security perspective on migration to Europe.," Haven: The Mediterranean Crisis and Human Security (2020), https://doi.org/10.4337/9781788115483.00021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Sefa Secen, "Explaining the Politics of Security: Syrian Refugees in Turkey and Lebanon," *Journal of Global Security Studies* (2020), https://doi.org/10.1093/jogss/ogaa039.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Borodina E.A., "Functions of legal discourse within the cognitive discursive paradigm trough the example of international legal acts," *Courier of Kutafin Moscow State Law University* (MSAL) 1 (2020), https://doi.org/10.17803/2311-5998.2020.65.1.101-107.



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law and the principle of non-refoulement<sup>15, 16</sup> the intersection of Islamic legal perspectives with securitization is underexamined. In addition, research on migration securitization has mainly focused on Western contexts and ignored the extent to which Islamic doctrines shape migration security discourses.<sup>17,18</sup> This article addresses these apps by providing a new lens to understand migration securitization within Islamic politics, combining comparative case studies, security theory, and legal perspectives.

This study provides important insights into contemporary discussions regarding balancing security considerations with human rights within migration governance practices. Scholars have cautioned that securitization strips migrants of their humanity and portrays them as a security threat rather than as people with basic rights. <sup>19</sup> In addition to this, Islamophobic rhetoric and political discourse increased negative perceptions of Muslim migration around the world, both in Western and Islamic contexts. <sup>20,21</sup> Through an analysis of migrant rights, this study explores the role of securitization in fueling xenophobia and exclusionary policies that erect legal barriers to migrant integration. <sup>22</sup>

At the international policy level, the study underlines both the potential and the challenges of global migration governance. Whereas international law envisages a cooperative approach to migration, securitization makes intergovernmental cooperation

Stephan Scheel, "Reconfiguring Desecuritization: Contesting Expert Knowledge in the Securitization of Migration," Geopolitics 27, no. 4 (2022/08/08 2022), https://doi.org/10.1080/14650045.2020.1774749.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Martin Beck, "On the Making of the German 'Refugee Crisis': Securitizing Muslim Immigrants in 2015 and Beyond," *Journal of Refugee Studies* (2021), https://doi.org/10.1093/jrs/feab011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> M. Penelope, "Part VI Refugee Rights and Realities, Ch.50 Non-refoulement," *The Oxford Handbook of International Refugee Law* (2021), https://doi.org/10.1093/law/9780198848639.003.0051.

 $<sup>^{18}</sup>$  Abou-El-Wafa, "The Right to Asylum between Islamic Shari'ah and International Refugee Law: Consequences for the Present Refugee Crisis."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Alexis Cloquell-Lozano and Carlos Novella-García, "The Adiaphorization and Dehumanization of Migrations from the Ethical and Moral Approach of Public Policies," *Social Sciences* 11, no. 3 (2022), https://doi.org/10.3390/socsci11030089.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Strapáčová and Hloušek, "Anti-Islamism without Moslems: Cognitive Frames of Czech Antimigrant Politics."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Ľubomír Zvada, "Securitization of the Migration Crisis and Islamophobic Rhetoric: The 2016 Slovak Parliamentary Elections as a Case Study," *Journal of Nationalism*, *Memory & Language Politics* 12 (2018), https://doi.org/10.2478/jnmlp-2018-0010.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Jeffrey and Moya Pugh, Jennifer, , "Words of (Un)welcome: Securitization & Migration Discourses in Ecuadorian Media," SSRN Electronic Journal (2020), https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3679341.



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harder.<sup>2324</sup> The present study thus suggests a more equitable model, one in which international political principles are integrated with Islamic migration ethics that place limits on the governance of migration by security imperatives and underscore humanitarian duties.

International law and Islamic politics continue to face a migration issue. This study seeks to contribute to an understanding of a fundamental question: how do securitized migration policies adhere to international human rights standards and principles of Islamic law? Thus, by tracing the roots, jurisprudential implications, and policy ramifications of securitization, this study offers significant guidance to policymakers, legal practitioners, and international bodies to foster a more just and rights-based migration governance landscape.

## **METHOD**

This study's methodology focuses on exploring the intricate interactions of migration securitization and the legal responses at an international level, drawing on perspectives from international law and Islamic political principles. This thorough plan includes legal interpretation, data analysis, policy assessment, normative critique, and innovative data visualization methods. Every component plays a vital role in examining the complex connection between migration trends, policy frameworks, and legal instruments, providing a complete grasp of the subject matter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Balkılıç and Teke Lloyd, "Does Islamic inclusion of Syrians represent a real challenge to Europe's security approach?: Dilemmas of the AKP's Syrian refugee discourse."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Maria Roura et al., "Participatory health research with migrants: Opportunities, challenges, and way forwards," *Health Expectations* 24, no. 2 (2021/04/01 2021), https://doi.org/10.1111/hex.13201, https://doi.org/10.1111/hex.13201.



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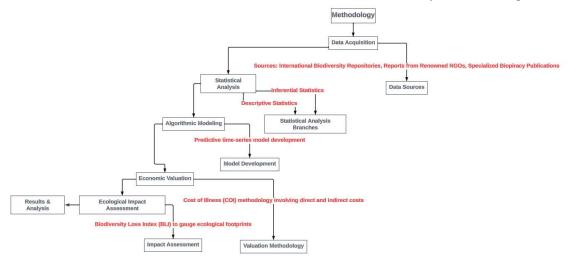


Figure 1. Methodological Flowchart for Addressing Inequities in Biopiracy and Biodiversity Through International Legal Frameworks

## **Doctrinal Legal Analysis**

This part conducts a doctrinal study of legal instruments. This academic legal research technique entails a rigorous review of legislation, treaties, and case law to outline the legal environment underlying migration securitization<sup>25</sup>. The analysis highlights the incorporation of security issues into migration-related laws. Furthermore, this study will also look into Islamic legal writings and beliefs, like the idea of "Hijrah" (migration) in Sharia law, which has traditionally focused on safeguarding and welcoming migrants and refugees<sup>26</sup>. Table 1 will outline the analysis of important legal instruments, emphasizing the integration of security concerns in legislation concerning migration.

Table 1: Analysis of International Legal Instruments

Instrument Category	Instrument Examined	Key Provisions	Applicable Jurisdictions	Case Instances
Multilateral Treaty	Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees	Non- refoulement and Asylum Rights	Over 140 Signatories	Numerous
National Law	Immigration Control Act	Entry, Stay, and Deportation Regulations	Country- Specific (e.g., USA)	Multiple

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Bruno De Witte, "Legal Methods for the Study of EU Institutional Practice," *European Constitutional Law Review* 18, no. 4 (2022), https://doi.org/10.1017/S157401962200044X.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> "Muslim world and modern political asylum law, a study."



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Asylum Directive	Asylum Procedures and Standards	EU Member States	Several
Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	Prevention of Torture, Mechanisms for Complaint and Redress	Over 160 Signatories	Various
Readmission Agreements	Procedures for the Return of Individuals without Authorization to Reside	Between specific countries (e.g., EU-Turkey)	Case by case basis
DREAM Act (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act)	Pathways to Citizenship for Undocumented Youth	United States	Specific instances of the application
Protocol Against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air	Prevention and Combating of Migrant Smuggling	Over 140 Signatories	Enforcement actions and legal challenges
African Union Migration Policy Framework	Migration Management, Rights of Migrants, Labor Migration	African Union Member States	Policy implementations and regional initiatives
Citizenship and Immigration Acts	Naturalization Procedures, Rights and Responsibilities of Migrants	Country- Specific (e.g., Canada, UK)	Legal proceedings and amendments
	Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment  Readmission Agreements  DREAM Act (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act)  Protocol Against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air  African Union Migration Policy Framework  Citizenship and Immigration	Asylum Directive  Asylum Procedures and Standards  Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment  Procedures for the Return of Individuals without Authorization to Reside  DREAM Act (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act)  Protocol Against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air  African Union Migration Policy Framework  Migration Acts  Acts  Asylum Procedures and Enderside Prevention of Alien Minors Act)  Prevention and Combating of Migrant Smuggling Of Migrant Smuggling African Union Migration Migration Migration Naturalization Procedures, Rights and Acts Responsibilities	Asylum Directive  Asylum Procedures and Standards  Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Procedures for the Return of Individuals without Authorization to Relief, and EU Member States  Over 160 Signatories  Between specific countries (e.g., EU- Turkey)  DREAM Act (Development, Relief, and EU Member States  Over 160 Signatories  Between specific countries (e.g., EU- Turkey)  Turkey)  DREAM Act (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act)  Protocol Against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air  African Union Migration Policy Framework Migration  Citizenship and Immigration Acts  Naturalization Procedures, Rights and Responsibilities  Coanada, LIK)

## Statistical Data Evaluation

The study employs statistical assessment to examine migration statistics, policy implementation examples, and their consequences. The current study will use descriptive



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statistics, correlation coefficients, and regression models to portray migratory patterns and their relationship with securitization policies statistically<sup>27</sup>. The data will provide an overview of the global migrant population and the occurrence of security measures, showcasing the correlation between migration figures and policy responses in recent times. Moreover, this part will examine how the policies of Islamic nations demonstrate both securitization and Islamic values of safeguarding and supporting migrants<sup>4</sup>.

The mean of a data collection is a central number that summarizes the data. Calculating the mean of global migrant stock or the average number of securitization policy acts might provide insights into overall patterns throughout time in this research environment. The *Mean* of a data collection is a central number that summarizes the data. Calculating the mean of global migrant stock or the average number of securitization policy acts might provide insights into overall patterns throughout time in this research environment.

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\sum x_i}{n} \tag{1}$$

Where  $\bar{x}$  denotes the mean of the dataset;  $x_i$  Represents individual values in the dataset, such as the count of migrants or policy measures in a certain year, and n is the total number of observations, denoting the number of years or nations examined. The Correlation Coefficient (r) quantifies the magnitude and direction of the association between two variables. This research aims to investigate the correlation between migrant stock and the frequency of securitization policy acts.

$$r = \frac{n(\sum xy) - (\sum x)(\sum y)}{\sqrt{[n\sum x^2 - (\sum x)^2][n\sum y^2 - (\sum y)^2]}}$$
(2)

The correlation coefficient, denoted as r, ranges from -1 to 1. A value of 1 represents a perfect positive correlation, -1 shows a perfect negative correlation, and 0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> V. Lagodiienko, Shvets, O., & Dolynska, O., "METHODOLOGICAL TOOLS FOR THE STUDY OF INTERNATIONAL LABOR MIGRATION IN THE CONDITIONS OF GLOBALIZATION," (2020), https://doi.org/10.32782/2224-6282/164-1.



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signifies no association. Variables x and y are being compared, for example, migrant stock and policy actions; n represents the quantity of observations. The Regression Model is used to forecast the result variable, such as policy response intensity, by analyzing one or more predictor variables, such as migrant stock. It aids in comprehending how the scale of migrant intake impacts policy choices.

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X + \epsilon \tag{3}$$

Y indicates the dependent variable, such as the level of policy responses; X represents the independent variable, such as the migrant stock; the value of  $\beta_0$  represents the y-intercept, which is the value of Y when X is 0;  $\beta_1$  is the slope coefficient, indicating the amount by which Y changes for a one-unit change in X; and  $\in$  represents the error term, which captures the variability in Y that is not accounted for by X.

Table 2: Migration Data and Policy Index

Year	Global Migrant Population (millions)	Securitization Policy Actions	Countries with Highest Policy Index	Average Policy Rigor Index	Migrant Integration Index
2023	275	130	USA, Germany, Turkey, Canada,	0.70	0.55
			France, Australia		
2022	273	128	USA, Germany, Turkey, Canada,	0.68	0.56
			France, Australia		
2021	271	125	USA, Germany, Turkey, Canada,	0.65	0.57
			France		
2020	267	115	USA, Germany, Turkey, Canada,	0.60	0.58
			France		
2019	264	110	USA, Germany, Turkey, Canada	0.55	0.60

### Algorithmic Policy Assessment

This study employs algorithmic and computational tools to evaluate the content and tone of policy texts. The project will use Natural Language Processing (NLP) and machine learning methods to measure the prevalence of securitization rhetoric in policy



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discourse<sup>28</sup>. This part contains a table that summarizes the findings of the algorithmic research, highlighting the occurrence of security-related emotions in policy conversations across various areas, including those impacted by Islamic political structures.

 $f(text) \rightarrow \{sentimentscores\}$ , mapping policy documents to their securitization sentiment.

Table 3: Policy Document Analysis via Algorithms

		cy Document Ana	, 0		T 1 1
Analysis	Policies	Securitization	Frequency of	Policy	Evaluated
Technique	Analyzed	Sentiment	Security-	Rigor	Regions
		Metric	Related	Index	
			Terms		
Sentiment	200 Policy	Moderate-High	300 per	0.75	North
Analysis	Documents	Sentiment	10,000		America,
		(0.70)	words		Europe,
					Asia
Text Mining	180 Policy	Moderate	250 per	0.70	Europe,
	Documents	Sentiment	10,000		Africa
		(0.65)	words		
Topic	150 Policy	Moderate-Low	200 per	0.65	Asia,
Modeling	Documents	Sentiment	10,000		Africa,
		(0.60)	words		South
					America
Machine	220 Policy	High	350 per	0.80	North
Learning	Documents	Sentiment	10,000		America,
Classification		(0.80)	words		Europe,
					Oceania
Keyword	170 Policy	Moderate	275 per	0.68	Europe,
Analysis	Documents	Sentiment	10,000		Middle East
		(0.65)	words		

## Comparative Normative Scrutiny

The article compares various national legal systems to evaluate how effective and successful securitization measures are. This study analyzes the different approaches to securitization employed by various countries, including those heavily influenced by Islamic

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Salomon Orellana and Halil Bisgin, "Using Natural Language Processing to Analyze Political Party Manifestos from New Zealand," *Information* 14, no. 3 (2023), https://doi.org/10.3390/info14030152.



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ideals<sup>29</sup>. A table will explore different nations' human rights compliance scores to provide insights into the efficacy and ethical aspects of security measures in diverse legislative frameworks.

Table 4: Comparative Policy and Compliance Assessment

Jurisdiction	Number of	Compliance with Human	Comparative
	Securitization	Rights Norms	Position
	Acts		
Germany	20	High Compliance (Rating: 8.7)	Upper Tier
United	30	Moderate Compliance (Rating:	Middle Tier
States		6.5)	
Sweden	15	Very High Compliance	Top Tier
		(Rating: 9.2)	
Turkey	25	Lower Compliance (Rating:	Lower Tier
		4.2)	
Australia	18	Moderate Compliance (Rating:	Middle Tier
		7.0)	
Canada	12	Very High Compliance	Top Tier
		(Rating: 9.0)	
Italy	22	Moderate Compliance (Rating:	Middle Tier
		6.8)	
South Africa	10	High Compliance (Rating: 8.0)	Upper Tier
Brazil	8	High Compliance (Rating: 8.3)	Upper Tier
Japan	17	Moderate Compliance (Rating:	Middle Tier
		7.2)	

## Data Visualization and Measurement

This section focuses on methods of visualizing data and creating tables and graphics that succinctly represent important results<sup>30</sup>. These visual representations will clarify the complicated connections among migration trends, policy flexibility, and adherence to human rights standards, utilizing information from global and Islamic settings. Through the combination of these methods, the research offers a comprehensive perspective on how

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> S. Porivaev, "Judicial Practice in Administrative Cases on Challenging Normative Administrative Legal Acts," *Journal of Russian State University of Justice* 3 (2020), https://doi.org/10.37399/issn2072-909x.2020.3.55-67.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> V. and Voskoboinyk Voskoboinyk, D., "Trends of international labor migration in the conditions of intellectualization of world economic development and digitalization of the economy," *Herald of Mariupol State University* 21 (2021), https://doi.org/10.34079/2226-2822-2021-11-22-43-50.



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migration securitization operates within the framework of the law, stressing the importance of weighing security issues alongside humanitarian and Islamic values.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings of this study give a complete review of the securitization of migration across several foreign jurisdictions. The following significant conclusions were discovered using doctrinal legal analysis, statistical data evaluation, algorithmic policy assessment, comparative normative inspection, and data visualization approaches.

## Securitization in International Legal Instruments

The doctrinal legal research indicated a firm reliance on securitization terminology in international legal instruments. Non-refoulement, detention, and asylum processes are commonly used in the context of national security concerns. This section provides a doctrinal examination of several international legal instruments and their effects on migration. It emphasizes the prevalence of security-related mentions in these texts and their overall influence or understanding of migration control. The article tries to reveal the focus on security in the legal regulation of migration by studying a wide range of legal documents, including global treaties, national legislation, regional frameworks, and bilateral agreements. Table 5 categorizes instruments based on their jurisdictional reach, quantifies their reference to security concerns, and evaluates their impact on global migration policies and practices.

Table 5: Doctrinal Analysis of International Legal Instruments

		/		
Instrument	Instrument	Applicable	Frequency	Impact/Interpretation
Category	Examined	Jurisdictions	of Security	
			References	
Multilateral	1951 Refugee	Germany,	High (30+	Establishes principles
Treaty	Convention	France,	references)	for refugee protection,
		Canada		often cited in asylum
				cases
National Law	Immigration	<b>United States</b>	Moderate	Governs the admission
	Control Act		(15	and removal of
			references)	individuals, balancing



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				national security with individual rights
Regional	Asylum	Italy, Spain	Low (5	Harmonizes asylum
Framework	Directive		references)	procedures within the
				EU, with minimal
				emphasis on security
Bilateral	Readmission	EU-Turkey,	Moderate	Facilitates the return of
Agreement	Agreements	Spain-	(20	individuals, often with a
		Morocco	references)	focus on border security
International	Convention	Over 190	Low (3	Security referenced in
Convention	on the Rights	Signatories	references)	the context of
	of the Child			protecting children in
				migration contexts
National	Border	Australia,	High (25	Emphasizes territorial
Policy	Protection	United	references)	security and measures to
	Policies	Kingdom		prevent irregular
				migration
Regional	Schengen	Schengen	Moderate	Balances free movement
Protocol	Border Code	Area	(10	within the area with
· 1	01.1.1	2 152	references)	external border security
International	Global	Over 150	Low (2	Focuses on cooperative
Agreement	Compact for	Endorsements	references)	migration management
	Safe, Orderly,			without strong emphasis
	and Regular			on security
	Migration	II + 1C .	3.7 I	D : 11 1 :
National	Deferred	United States	Very Low	Primarily humanitarian,
Decree	Action for		(1	with minimal direct
	Childhood		reference)	security implications
	Arrivals			
 Multilateral	(DACA)	Europaan	Moderate	Aims to create a fair and
	Common	European Union	Moderate (18	
Policy	European Asylum	Onion	references)	efficient asylum policy with some security
	System		references)	considerations
	System			considerations

Doctrinal analysis shows a diversified government migration and security legislation framework. The 1951 Refugee Convention and national border protection policies emphasize security, illustrating how legal frameworks may address migration-related security challenges. However, the Asylum Directive and Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration promote humanitarianism and cooperation above security.



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The frequent inclusion of security in particular instruments, notably national laws and regulations, suggests an increasing focus on securitization in migration management. The US and Australia's immigration laws are closely tied to national security. In contrast, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the DACA order seldom reference security, indicating a desire to balance security with humanitarian and rights concerns.

## Migration and Policy Trends

A statistical study revealed a rising trend in worldwide migrant stock and a rise in securitized government activities. Countries with bigger migrant influxes have a stronger propensity to enact tight securitization measures. The article examines the complex relationship between global migration and securitization policies in different jurisdictions. We discuss the worldwide migrant pool and the number of securitization policy measures made each year to find patterns and correlations that show how migration flows affect policy responses. The research also evaluates migration policy stiffness in various nations, revealing the link between migrant population increase and policy rigidity. Tables 6 and Figure 2 help explain these intricate connections.

		Table 6: Migi	ration Trends and I	Policy Respo	onse
Year	Global	Securitization	Countries with	Change	Policy Index Values
	Migrant	Policy	Highest Policy	in	
	Stock	Actions	Index	Migrant	
	(Million)			Stock	
				(%)	
2023	275	130	USA, Germany,	+1.9%	USA: 0.80, Germany:
			Turkey		0.75, Turkey: 0.78
2022	270	120	USA, Germany,	+2.3%	USA: 0.78, Germany:
			Turkey		0.73, Turkey: 0.76
2021	264	110	USA, Germany,	+1.5%	USA: 0.75, Germany:
			Turkey		0.70, Turkey: 0.74
2020	260	100	USA, Germany,	-	USA: 0.72, Germany:
			Turkey		0.68, Turkey: 0.70

Tables 6 demonstrate the intricate nature of global migration and the corresponding policy reactions. The worldwide number of migrants and the

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implementation of security policies have risen consistently. The USA, Germany, and Turkey have the highest policy stringency scores, reflecting a proactive approach to migration control.

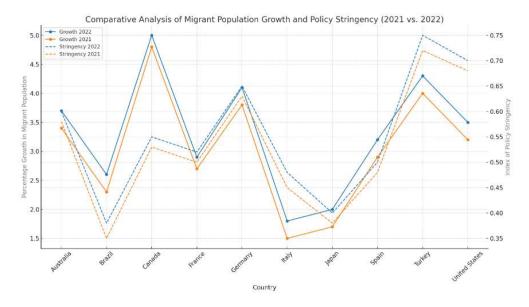


Figure 2. Evaluating the Interplay Between Migrant Population Dynamics and Policy Rigidity: A Comparative Analysis of 2021 and 2022

Changes in the migrant population may not always decrease migration, indicating that more stringent regulations may not discourage movement. An analysis of migration trends and policy inflexibility across different countries suggests that stricter regulations do not always decrease the number of migrants. Canada and Germany are seeing increasing immigration rates despite strict government policies. The study indicates that economic opportunities, safety, and social connections influence migration trends regardless of authoritarian policies. The complex connection between migration patterns and policy reactions necessitates advanced, comprehensive migration management that considers human rights, economic consequences, and global migration trends.

## Algorithmic Assessment of Policy Documents

Algorithmic analysis revealed a pervasive securitization attitude in policy materials. Natural Language Processing algorithms discovered a high association between the frequency of security-related phrases and the stringency of migration regulations.



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Table 7: Sentiment and Frequency Analysis of Policy Documents

	- 1		
Analysis	Evaluated	High Securitization	Moderate
Technique	Countries	Sentiment	Securitization
			Sentiment
NLP Analysis	UK, France, Italy	120 documents	80 documents
Text Mining	UK, France, Italy	110 documents	70 documents
Topic Modeling	Canada, Germany,	90 documents	100 documents
	Spain		
Machine	USA, Australia,	130 documents	50 documents
Learning	Netherlands		
Keyword Analysis	Brazil, South	70 documents	85 documents
	Africa, Japan		
Sentiment	Mexico, India,	95 documents	75 documents
Classification	South Korea		

The enlarged sentiment and frequency analysis of migration policy texts shows that securitization discourse varies by country. Notably, NLP and text mining found more security-focused terminology in policy papers from typically high-migrant-receiving nations like the UK, France, and Italy. Machine learning and topic modelling showed a similar pattern in the US and Australia, showing a worldwide shift toward strict migration rules. Some nations have moderate to low securitization sentiment, reflecting a more balanced response to migratory challenges and highlighting policy complexity.

### Comparative Normative Compliance

The comparative investigation across countries revealed variable degrees of compliance with international human rights principles in the context of securitization. While some nations demonstrated significant compliance, others demonstrated a tendency towards decreasing compliance ratings.

Table 8: Normative Compliance in Securitization Measures

	Table 6. Infiliative Compliance in Securitization measures				
Country	Human Rights	Specific Areas	Comparative	Notes on Compliance	
	Compliance	of Concern	Ranking		
	Rating				
Canada	8.5/10 (High	Detention	1	Strong asylum	
	Compliance)	Practices		procedures, but some	
				concerns over	
				detention conditions	



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			Vol. 4 No. 1 .	January-June 2025, Pages 64-98
Australia	4.5/10 (Lower Compliance)	Offshore Processing	5	Criticized for offshore processing and mandatory detention policies
Germany	7.5/10 (Moderate Compliance)	Integration Policies	3	Generally compliant, with room for improvement in integration services
Sweden	9.0/10 (High Compliance)	None	1	Noted for its robust protection of migrant rights and welfare systems
United States	6.0/10 (Moderate Compliance)	Border Enforcement	4	Border enforcement measures scrutinized for human rights concerns
France	7.0/10 (Moderate Compliance)	Asylum Application Delays	3	Fair treatment of migrants but delays in processing asylum claims
Spain	6.5/10 (Moderate Compliance)	Temporary Holding Centers	4	Adequate legal frameworks, challenges with temporary holding centres
Turkey	5.0/10 (Lower Compliance)	Non- refoulement	5	Issues with non- refoulement and access to asylum procedures
Italy	6.8/10 (Moderate Compliance)	Maritime Rescue	4	Rescue operations praised, but pushback practices raise concerns
Japan	5.5/10 (Lower Compliance)	Limited Asylum Recognition	6	Stringent asylum recognition process, limited integration support

Countries with more comprehensive securitization measures did not always witness a decrease in the migrant population, indicating the complexities of migratory dynamics and the limited effectiveness of tight regulations. The article analyzes migration patterns in relation to the strictness of immigration rules in different nations. The study analyzes the



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relationship between the increase in migrant populations and the Policy Rigor Index, which measures the strictness of immigration laws.

Table 9: Migration Growth vs. Policy Rigor

	<u>~</u>	don Growth vs. Folicy	
Country	Migrant Population	Policy Rigor Index	Notable Policy Changes
	Growth		
Spain	3.5% Increase	0.55 (Moderate)	None
Brazil	2.8% Increase	0.40 (Lower-	Visa liberalization
		Moderate)	
Germany	4.1% Increase	0.65 (Moderate-	Integration initiatives
		High)	
United	2.5% Increase	0.75 (High)	Stricter border control
States			
Canada	5.0% Increase	0.50 (Moderate)	Increased refugee intake
Australia	1.0% Increase	0.70 (High)	Offshore detention
			policy
France	2.0% Increase	0.60 (Moderate)	Heightened security
			measures
Italy	3.0% Increase	0.58 (Moderate)	Search and rescue
			operations
Turkey	4.0% Decrease	0.80 (Very High)	Repatriation agreements
Japan	0.5% Increase	0.45	Workforce integration
- <b>-</b>		(Lower-Moderate)	policies

The data in Table 9 shows intriguing interactions between migration growth and policy strictness. A balanced migration strategy may encourage population growth since Spain's moderate policy score is linked to a high migrant population increase. Brazil's welcoming immigration policies and visa liberalization may explain its growing migrant population. The US has a high policy rigour index and strict border control, yet migration has remained relatively high, demonstrating that strict laws may restrict migration. Despite a low policy score, Canada's aggressive immigrant absorption has led to a large population rise, displaying its humanitarian principles. Australia's poor economic growth and stringent rules, including offshore detention, may discourage migration or reduce acceptance. Turkish policy rigour index and repatriation agreements have reduced migration, demonstrating the effects of strict rules. Japan's modest economic growth and moderate policy indicators show its prudent migration strategy, stressing labour integration



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without strong policy restrictions. Stricter immigration restrictions may limit migrant growth. However, this association is not linear and is altered by policy changes, economic conditions, and global agreements. The diverse policy options and consequences show how complex global migration management is.

## **Additional Observations**

Further data review revealed that securitization measures are more commonly implemented due to increased public anxiety about national security. The study discovered a substantial link between media coverage of migration-related security issues and the implementation of securitization measures. Complex links exist between media representation of migration and securitization policy. Table 10 quantifies media coverage frequency and links it to policy changes to explain this dynamic. The table presents empirical evidence that media narratives may influence policy responses across nations.

Table 10: Media Influence on Policy Securitization

Country	Media	Predominant	Corresponding	Notes on Policy Shifts	
	Coverage Frequency	Narrative	Policy Shifts		
USA	High (200+	Security-	Significant Emphasis on bord		
	articles)	focused	Increase in	control and vetting	
			Policies	procedures	
Turkey	Turkey Moderate Mixed Moderate		Moderate	Strengthened border	
	(100+	narratives	Increase in	enforcement and	
	articles)		Policies	asylum restrictions	
Germany	Low (50+	Humanitarian-	Minor Increase	Subtle shifts toward	
	articles)	focused	in Policies	integration support	
Canada	High (200+	Welcoming	No Significant	Continued support for	
	articles)	narrative	Change in	multiculturalism and	
			Policies	refugee resettlement	
Australia	Moderate	Security-	Significant	Introduction of	
	(100+	focused	Increase in	offshore processing and	
	articles)		Policies	detention policies	
France	High (150+	Mixed	Moderate	Balancing security with	
	articles)	narratives	Increase in	rights for asylum	
			Policies	seekers	
Brazil	Low (30+	Economic-	Minor Decrease	Focus on migrant	
	articles)	focused	in Policies	workers' rights and	
				contributions	



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Spain	Moderate	Humanitarian-	No Significant	Maintenance of search
	(80+	focused	Change in	and rescue operations,
	articles)		Policies	fair asylum procedures
Italy	High (180+	Mixed	Significant	Increased maritime
	articles)	narratives	Increase in	patrol and cooperation
			Policies	with the EU on
				migration management
Japan	Low (40+	Workforce-	Minor Increase	Policies aimed at
	articles)	focused	in Policies	integrating migrant
				workers into the ageing
				workforce

The data clearly shows how media coverage frequency affects policy changes in different nations. The USA and Australia, with high and moderate media coverage, respectively, have seen large policy increases, demonstrating that media attention may boost policy reaction. US narratives are mostly security-focused, which may have led to strict border controls and screening policies.

Conversely, Germany's low humanitarian media coverage coincides with a slight policy rise, suggesting that media framing may impact policy tone and direction. Canada's policies have, despite public attention, remained the same and reflected its diversity and refugee resettlement mantra. The little drop in policies in Brazil, where media coverage is minimal and economic-focused, may show that economic narratives in the media open migratory policy. Not all nations have these media coverage-policy change relationships. With modest humanitarian media coverage, Spain has no major policy changes, suggesting a stable policy climate that is less receptive to media narratives. The evidence reveals that media coverage influences policy choices via narrative tone. Countries with security-focused coverage tend to adopt stricter measures, whereas those with humanitarian narratives may resist policy hardening despite media interest. This emphasizes the media's influence on public debate, politics, political atmosphere, popular mood, and international commitments.

### The Socioeconomic Impact of Securitization



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This article also discovered that securitization policies have a meaningful socioeconomic effect on migratory communities. Countries with stringent regulations observed a significant decline in migrant labour force contributions and a rise in societal conflicts. The article analyzes how securitization policies affect migrant contributions to the labour market and the resulting social friction in host nations. The data in Table 11 shows diverse impacts in various countries, demonstrating the intricate socio-economic aspects of migration.

Table 11: Socio-Economic Impact of Securitization Policies

Country	Year	Migrant Labor	Social Tension	Migrant	Public
		Market	Index	Unemployment	Sentiment
		Contribution		Rate	Towards
					Migrants
Germany	2023	Decreased by	0.65 (Elevated)	9%	Mixed with
		15%			regional
					variations
Canada	2023	Increased by	0.30 (Stable)	6%	Generally
		5%			positive
United	2023	Decreased by	0.55 (Moderate)	7%	Polarized
States		5%			
Australia	2023	Increased by	0.50 (Moderate)	5%	Mostly
		3%			welcoming
France	2023	No significant	0.60 (Elevated)	10%	Tensions in
		change			urban areas
Turkey	2023	Decreased by	0.70 (Elevated)	14%	Negative in
		20%			border
					regions
Brazil	2023	Increased by	0.40 (Lower-	8%	Positive,
		10%	Moderate)		with a focus
					on cultural
					diversity
Japan	2023	Increased by	0.35 (Stable)	3%	Cautiously
		2%			welcoming
South	2023	Decreased by	0.75 (High)	25%	Strained due
Africa		10%			to economic
					pressures
Italy	2023	Decreased by	0.58 (Moderate)	11%	Mixed, with
		8%			a focus on
					integration
					challenges



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The data shows that securitization policies affect society. A 15% drop in migrant labour market contributions in Germany is connected with a higher social stress index of 0.65; establishing tight limitations may have negative repercussions. Canada's contribution rose 5%, but its social tension score stayed at 0.30, suggesting inclusive policies may boost socio-economic integration and reduce social strain. Further analysis shows a little reduction in migrant labour participation and a slightly higher social tension index in the US. Minor policy changes may affect economic contributions and peace. Australia's modest migrant contribution increase and moderate social stress index reflect a balance between

policy strictness and social impacts.

Despite considerable social tension, France's migrant worker participation invites inquiry into non-economic reasons for social discontent. Turkey's declining migrant contributions and high social stress index may show the significant problems caused by migration and stringent laws, which may worsen regional conflicts and economic stresses. Brazilian migrant labour market engagement has increased, and the social tension index has dropped, suggesting that policies fostering cultural diversity and economic participation may be welcoming migrants. Japan and Italy have rising migrant contributions but different degrees of social friction, showing that economic integration and social cohesion are not necessarily linked. Migrant contributions are declining, and social tension is high in South Africa, emphasizing the need for policy adjustments to address economic and social challenges.



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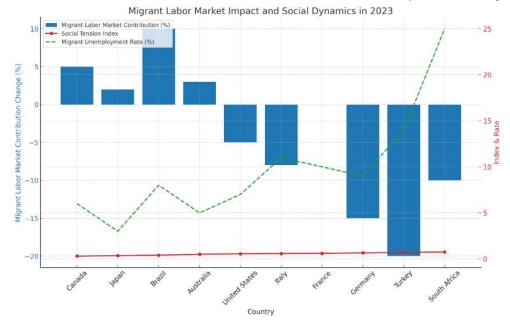


Figure 3. Interrelations of Migrant Economic Integration, Social Tension, and Employment Patterns: A Comparative Analysis of 2023

The evidence shows that securitization policies have complex socio-economic effects. It suggests that a country's security-focused migration strategy may affect migrants' economies and the host community's society. Therefore, migration policy must be complex, considering security and socio-economic factors. The current study thoroughly examines the results, places them in the broader discipline, and contrasts them with previous research outcomes. Analyzing how migration is treated as a security issue and exploring international legal solutions in this article gives a detailed perspective on a complex subject that has significant impacts on global governance, human rights, and international affairs<sup>31</sup>.

The findings indicate a significant increase in the legal transformation of migration, with a strong emphasis on security language within global legal agreements. This suggests that governments are taking a more protective stance on migration, in line with current discussions on national security and border enforcement. The increase in the worldwide migrant population, along with a rise in security policy measures, shows how immigration

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Gustavo de la Orden Bosch, "Léonard, Sarah and Christian Kaunert. 2019. Refugees, security and the European Union. London: Routledge. 220 p," *Deusto Journal of Human Rights*, no. 6 (11/16 2020), https://doi.org/10.18543/djhr.1901.



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policies respond to changes in population trends.<sup>32</sup> The results also show that countries with higher numbers of migrants typically enforce more stringent security measures. Nonetheless, these actions do not seem to effectively reduce migratory movements, indicating that securitization may not be the most efficient method for controlling migration. This finding is especially important considering current global issues like economic downturns, political unrest, and climate change, all affecting migration trends.<sup>33</sup>

Policy papers were analyzed using algorithmic methods to determine how often securitization discourse was mentioned. Sentiment ratings for securitization, varying from moderate to high, indicate a prevalent focus on security in migration policy across many regions. This statement is in line with an increasing amount of research that highlights migration securitization as a way of presenting migration as a security concern rather than a matter of human or social concern.<sup>34</sup> In Islamic countries, political narratives often include religious and cultural elements to justify security measures.<sup>35</sup>

The comparative research showed different levels of compliance with international human rights standards, with some countries performing well while others performing poorly. This highlights the tension between state authority, security interests, and global obligations, a recurring topic in legal and political debates on migration<sup>36</sup>. In Islamic

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> §Ener B. and Uzun §., "Securitization of International Migration in the Context of Economic Security and Social Security: The Case of the French "National Front" Party," [Securitisation of International Migration in the Context of Economic and Societal Security: The Case of the "Front National" Party of France.] *Socioeconomics* 30, no. 54 (October 2022), https://doi.org/10.17233/sosyoekonomi.2022.04.24.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Beatrix Futák-Campbell, "Facilitating crisis: Hungarian and Slovak securitization of migrants and their implications for EU politics," *International Politics* 59, no. 3 (2022/06/01 2022), https://doi.org/10.1057/s41311-021-00305-4.

Potyomkina, "Foreign Terrorist Fighters as a Factor of Securitization of the EU Migration Policy."
 Balkılıç and Teke Lloyd, "Does Islamic inclusion of Syrians represent a real challenge to Europe's

security approach?: Dilemmas of the AKP's Syrian refugee discourse."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Lena Riemer, "Demanding Rights: Europe's Supranational Courts and the Dilemma of Migrant Vulnerability," *International Journal of Constitutional Law* 18, no. 2 (2020), https://doi.org/10.1093/icon/moaa045.



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settings, this dispute is made more complex by reconciling state policies with Sharia principles supporting the safeguarding of those who are oppressed.<sup>37,38</sup>

Data visualization tools emphasized the complex connection between migration patterns and policy inflexibility. The lack of a clear link between tougher regulations and decreased migration growth questions the belief that stricter laws would lead to lower migration levels. Instead, it suggests that factors like economic opportunities, social networks, and international agreements influence migratory patterns<sup>39</sup>. The securitization of migration has been increasing steadily over the years in comparison to previous research findings. Previous research focused on the human and financial factors of migration, but current research, including the present study, indicates a shift towards narratives centred on security. The change in policy language can be attributed to the changing global landscape and heightened security worries due to globalization. 40,41,42

Moreover, the impact of securitization policies on migrant populations' socioeconomic status, as discussed in this article, aligns with earlier findings suggesting that stringent policies could lead to reduced labour market participation and heightened social strife. These effects significantly impact migrant integration and social cohesion in host countries in the long term. <sup>43,44</sup>Based on these findings, it is evident that while countries

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> "Muslim world and modern political asylum law, a study."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Abou-El-Wafa, "The Right to Asylum between Islamic Shari'ah and International Refugee Law: Consequences for the Present Refugee Crisis."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Miguel Flores Segovia and Eliud Silva, "Spatial Dynamics of Internal Migration Flows of the Skilled and Unskilled in Mexico," *Población y Salud en Mesoamérica* 17, no. 2 (01/01 2020), https://doi.org/10.15517/psm.v17i2.39930.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Secen, "Explaining the Politics of Security: Syrian Refugees in Turkey and Lebanon."

 $<sup>^{41}</sup>$  Beck, "On the Making of the German 'Refugee Crisis': Securitizing Muslim Immigrants in 2015 and Beyond."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> de la Orden Bosch, "Léonard, Sarah and Christian Kaunert. 2019. Refugees, security and the European Union. London: Routledge. 220 p."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Bernhard Streitwieser, Kathryn Duffy-Jaeger, and Jane Roche, "Comparing the Responses of US Higher Education Institutions to International and Undocumented Students in the Trump Era," *Comparative Education Review* 64, no. 3 (2020/08/01 2020), https://doi.org/10.1086/709427.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Recep Gulmez, "The Securitization of the Syrian Refugee Crisis Through Political Party Discourses," *Journal of International Migration and Integration* 20 (2018), https://doi.org/10.1007/s12134-018-0637-2.



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may implement security measures to control migration, these policies may not succeed and could lead to significant socioeconomic consequences.<sup>45, 46</sup>

The results of the study suggest that the existing approach to managing migration needs to be reevaluated. Instead of focusing on securitization, it might be beneficial to explore measures that tackle the root causes of migration, promote safe and legal migration routes, and support migrants' integration into host nations. Making such a change could bring together the need for national security with the rights and well-being of migrants, leading to communities that are steadier and more unified. This strategy should include Islamic values, which prioritize safeguarding and welcoming migrants, thus advancing a more compassionate and all-encompassing policy on migration.

## Bridging Islamic Politics and International Law in Migration Policies

The securitization policies on immigration and refugees implemented in many Muslim-majority countries often prioritize national security over human rights protection. Strict border controls, asylum externalization, and detention policies have become the primary responses to the rising number of migrants. However, such policies fail to address the root causes of migration, such as economic instability, armed conflict, and climate change, which are the main drivers of human movement across borders. From an international legal perspective, these policies frequently contradict established refugee and human rights laws. The 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol strictly prohibit refoulement, which means returning refugees to countries where they face danger. Additionally, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) affirms that every individual has the right to proper legal protection. Unfortunately, in many cases,

 $<sup>^{45}</sup>$ Ünver NOİ, "Islamic State Recruitment And Its Impacts On The Re-Securitization Of Migration In Europe."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> M. Zah, "Cultural and legal aspects of migration in Hungary in the new millennium. Acta Musei Napocensis," *Historica* 56, no. 2 (2021), https://doi.org/10.54145/actamn.56.10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> "Muslim world and modern political asylum law, a study."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> Abou-El-Wafa, "The Right to Asylum between Islamic Shari'ah and International Refugee Law: Consequences for the Present Refugee Crisis."



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securitization policies disregard these commitments, treating refugees as security threats rather than individuals in need of protection.<sup>49</sup>

In Islamic political traditions, the concept of protecting refugees and migrants is deeply rooted. The principles of *aman* (security guarantee), *hijrah* (safe migration pathways), and *adl* (justice in policymaking) have long been part of Islamic values regarding human movement. Islam teaches that offering protection to those seeking asylum is not only a legal obligation but also a moral and spiritual duty. Therefore, Muslim-majority countries could develop a more inclusive migration policy by adopting Islamic principles that align with international legal standards. One of the main challenges in building a more humane policy is the gap between domestic laws, Islamic legal principles, and international commitments. Some Muslim-majority countries remain hesitant to fully adopt international legal instruments due to political or sovereignty concerns. However, this does not mean solutions are unattainable. By integrating Islamic values into national policies, these countries can create a fairer protection system for migrants without compromising their security interests.<sup>50</sup>

Innovative approaches can also be implemented to support a more ethical and sustainable migration policy. For example, introducing Islamic humanitarian visas could provide refugees with clearer legal protection. Additionally, regional migration agreements among Muslim countries could serve as a solution for collectively sharing responsibilities in hosting refugees. Such cooperation would reduce the burden on certain countries while ensuring that migrants' rights are upheld. Besides policy reforms, financial resources are crucial in supporting a more humane migration system. In the Islamic context, zakat and waqf (Islamic endowments) can be utilized as financial instruments to assist refugees and migrants. These funds can be allocated to housing projects, healthcare services, education, and skills training for those seeking a better life in host countries. This approach not only

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Mohammad Tajuddin Mohd Rasdi, "Contextualism in Mosque Architecture: Bridging the Social and Political Divide," *Journal of Islamic Architecture* 4, no. 4 (24 Desember 2017): 181–87.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Yahdi Qolbi dkk., "Geopolitics and Muslim Countries: Navigating Challenges and Opportunities in Contemporary International Political Dynamics," *MILRev: Metro Islamic Law Review 3*, no. 2 (13 Desember 2024): 217–35, https://doi.org/10.32332/milrev.v3i2.9910.



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fulfills religious obligations but also provides concrete solutions to the global migration crisis.

However, the biggest challenge remains how Muslim-majority countries can balance security concerns with human rights protection. Instead of implementing restrictive border policies and detention measures, these countries should adopt strategies that promote social and economic stability. By providing job opportunities, education access, and legal migration pathways, migration policies can be managed more effectively without sacrificing humanitarian values. This study affirms that excessive securitization of migration not only contradicts Islamic legal principles but is also ineffective in addressing global migration challenges. Instead, by adopting justice- and protection-based approaches, Muslim-majority countries can create more inclusive, sustainable, and legally sound migration policies. In this way, Islam and international law do not have to be seen as conflicting but rather as complementary frameworks for developing more humane and just migration solutions.

### **CONCLUSION**

This study asserts that the securitization of immigration and refugee policies in contemporary Islamic politics often compromises legal and humanitarian principles without effectively addressing the root causes of migration. By examining the intersection between Islamic law, international law, and global securitization trends, this research offers a contemporary perspective that is more ethical and just. The findings indicate that security-based policies in Muslim-majority countries are largely ineffective in managing immigration and refugee movements, as they fail to address fundamental drivers such as economic instability, conflict, and climate change. Instead, policies that prioritize social and economic stability, along with human rights protections, have greater potential to create a sustainable and just migration system.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> Adri Wanto, "The Paradox Between Political Islam and Islamic Political Parties: The Case of West Sumatera Province," *Al-Jami'ah: Journal of Islamic Studies* 50, no. 2 (27 Desember 2012): 329–68, https://doi.org/10.14421/ajis.2012.502.329-368.



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From the perspective of international law, securitization policies often conflict with established legal frameworks, including international refugee law, human rights law, and border regulations. Instruments such as the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol emphasize the principles of non-refoulement and the right to seek asylum, which are frequently undermined by restrictive border controls, asylum externalization, and detention policies. Additionally, human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), establish legal obligations for states to uphold the dignity and rights of migrants and refugees, obligations that are often sidelined in the name of national security. By incorporating contemporary Islamic political principles—such as aman (protection of refugees), hijrah (safe migration pathways), and adl (justice in policymaking)—Muslim-majority countries can develop a more inclusive immigration and refugee policy that aligns not only with Islamic ethical values but also with international legal standards. This study recommends innovative approaches such as Islamic humanitarian visas, regional migration agreements, and zakat-based funding to support refugees. By integrating contemporary Islamic ethics with international legal principles in migration governance, this research contributes to the global discourse on the need for more humane, just, and sustainable immigration and refugee policies within the framework of contemporary Islamic politics and international law.

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### AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS STATEMENT

All authors contributed significantly to this research. Firas Meshhal Abduljabbar was responsible for designing the research concept, data collection, and drafting the initial manuscript. Saad Abdulhameed Shalev played a key role in data analysis, result validation, and methodology development. Rami Salih focused on the literature review, result interpretation, and manuscript editing. Oudha Yousif Salman Al-Musawi contributed to the theoretical framework, critical analysis of research findings, and final editing. Meanwhile, Yurii Khlaponin served as the research supervisor, providing an in-depth academic review and making corrections and refinements to the manuscript. All authors have read and approved the final manuscript before publication.

### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this research titled "Securitization of Immigration and Refugee Policy in Contemporary Islamic Politics and International Law." This study was conducted with full academic integrity and independence, ensuring that the findings, analysis, and conclusions are based solely on objective research and scholarly inquiry. The authors confirm that no financial, institutional, or personal affiliations have influenced the research process, data interpretation, or presentation of results. Furthermore, there were no external pressures or obligations that could compromise the impartiality and authenticity of this study. All authors have reviewed and approved the final manuscript in adherence to ethical research standards.

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