

PREFACE

While we are preparing for our second issue, we have started to witness new cases of forced and irregular migration, which have emerged as a result of many factors such as war, invasion and military withdrawal, which unfortunately surround the whole world. In addition, it is worried us that countries did not show the necessary reactions to this forced human mobility due to local or national interests. Trying to continue the double standard policies of Western countries and their organizations established for security purposes has also been a source of rebellion for us.

The most important migration-based people movement we experienced last year was the policy of withdrawing American troops first from Syria and then Afghanistan, implemented by President Biden under the Democrats' rule in the United States. In August 2021, we witnessed Afghan soldiers, especially accused of collaborating with the United States, flocking from Turkey's ripped borders through Iran out of fear of the Taliban. At first, we could not understand who these many male immigrants were, dressed in uniforms, in regular army organization, and whose numbers were not officially announced. Afterwards, we started to watch where they resided only as much as it was partially reflected in the media. As the *International Journal of Human Mobility*, we are content to state that we are eager to publish researches in this field, as there has not been any systematic research on these forced immigrants, which is very different from the Afghan immigrant identity in the form of traditional shepherds.

While preparing our journal, we unfortunately witnessed the Russian invasion of Ukraine, which was at high risk of causing the Third World War. We learn that nearly four million Ukrainian women, men, children, elderly and disabled civilians migrated to Poland, Romania and Moldova and this number is increasing. We follow from the media that the number of Turkish students and those working in various sectors, are also trying to return to Turkey. The Ukrainian support, which can no longer be concealed, by the countries, most of which are members of the North Atlantic Pact (NATO), who did not react at all when the Russian Federation invaded Crimea, unfortunately, is an important indicator that both the loss of life and the migration will gradually increase.

The energy dependence of Europe, especially Germany, is evident due to the Nord Stream Natural Gas Pipeline from Russia. There is a United States of America that does not tolerate the alliance of Russia and China and tries to maintain its own unipolar policy. It is observed that Ukraine, which wants to become a member of the European Union, even if it gives up on joining NATO, will not come to an agreement with Russia in a short time. Therefore, it is not necessary to be a prophet to predict that intense waves of migration will expand to include Turkey. Many social studies have been conducted on the employment of a large number of voluntary immigrants from the dispersed Soviet Union countries

in Turkey, especially in elderly care and home services. However, the study of the new forced population movements that will be experienced due to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia, which started in February 2022 and expanded, will inevitably form the research topics of the future. However, we want to continue to say "Peace at home, peace in the world" like our founding leader Mustafa Kemal Atatürk.

There is no doubt that "climate refugees" will be the most important issue that arises due to global warming, climate and environmental changes, as another factor that plays an important role in population movements, perhaps more as political and economic factors in the near future. Since climate refugees are not mentioned within the scope of the 1951 Geneva Convention, which Turkey is also a party to, legal people have difficulties in solving the problems. Contributing to the concepts to be developed with new approaches is undoubtedly the primary agenda item for us social scientists. I would like to state with pleasure that we are engaged in activities such as various publications and meetings as both the Center and the Journal.

We, as Başkent University Migration Research Center, held the "Migration and Literature Meetings" moderated by Dr. Leyla Burcu Dündar between 13-18 December 2021 on the occasion of "18 December World Migrants Day". I am happy to present to our readers the article titled "The Endless Odise" by eminent author Yüksel Pazarkaya, who attended our meeting and is known for his work on migration.

I would like to express my gratitude to the Founder of Başkent University and President of the Executive Supreme Board, distinguished scientist Dr. Mehmet Haberal, for whom we have always received great support, and I wish his multifaceted contributions to guide us continue.

I would also like to thank the owner of our journal, our Rector, Dr. Ali Haberal, and our Vice Rector, Dr. Mehmet Abdulkadir Varoglu, for all their valuable contributions, especially the autonomous working environment they have provided us.

Finally, I would like to thank the authors, reviewers, assistant editors and all our team who provided technical support for their devoted contributions.

Aytül Kasapoglu
April 2022