

## **BOOK REVIEW**

Ayselin Gzde YILDIZ, *The European Union's Immigration Policy: Managing Migration in Turkey and Morocco* (London, Palgrave Macmillan, 2016)

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# The European Union's Immigration Policy: Managing Migration in Turkey and Morocco

**Ayselin Gözde YILDIZ**

*London, Palgrave Macmillan, 2016, 213 pages.*

**Gül ORAL**

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Migration has been an important reason for externalization of the EU's policies towards non-member third countries. Throughout the 2000s, the European Union has advanced its efforts for externalization of its immigration policies with the aim of providing security, stability, and prosperity in the neighborhood due to emerging demographic, economic and security problems.

The book aims to conceptualize the external dimension of the EU's immigration policy and its implications for non-member third countries by carrying out a comparative case study for assessing to what extent the EU has achieved to externalize its immigration policy. Accordingly, the author examines why the EU has been forming an external dimension to its immigration policy and how it aspires to impress the immigration policies of non-member countries beyond its borders (p.2). While evaluating the external dimension of the EU's policy and its implication for transit countries, Yıldız takes into consideration security and development aspects of migration and discusses which of those aspects have become more influential for forming the EU's external actions and practices.

The second chapter introduces the definitions of main concepts applied in the analysis which ensure the reader to comprehend the external dimension of EU's immigration policy within a theoretical and conceptual framework. In this chapter, the author presents "remote control" and "root cause" approaches on the basis of security and development aspects of migration. In addition to this conceptual framework, this chapter provides a significant insight into the theoretical foundation of externalization by offering "external governance" and "Europeanization beyond Europe" approaches. Although these two approaches are mentioned as complementary, Yıldız acknowledges "Europeanization beyond Europe" as more notable for analyzing the EU's immigration policies towards the non-member third countries (p.19). As mentioned, this approach provides a significant insight into the EU's impacts on both candidate countries and non-member third countries within different frameworks of the enlargement and the European Neighborhood Policy (ENP). In this way, though the EU cooperates with candidate countries and non-member countries in the Southern Neighborhood on the basis of different frameworks, as in the example of Turkey and Morocco, these institutional frameworks have had profound impacts

on the formation and development of cooperation mechanisms on various issues, especially on migration beyond the EU's borders.

The third chapter broadly offers a review of the formation, institutionalization, and evolution of policy externalization of the EU on the basis of such policy areas as border management, mobility partnerships, visa policy, readmission agreements, and asylum policy. After presenting these policy areas, the author examines Turkey and Morocco as two case studies and the implications of the external dimension of the EU's immigration policy for these two countries in details on the following two chapters.

Yıldız states that these two countries are selected due to their geographical proximity to the West which transforms these countries into attractive destinations for asylum-seekers and irregular migrants and also their common purposes of preserving their political and economic stability as well as their experience in policies of migration management since Moroccans and Turks have become the two of the largest immigrant groups in Europe (p.4). Especially in the post-Arab Spring period, these two countries have turned into significant transit countries for immigrants and asylum-seekers moving towards Europe, which has shifted the EU's attention to these countries for developing further cooperation (p.60). While assessing their significance as transit countries, the author also explores their transformation into transit and destination countries from emigration countries and the implications of the EU's policy within different frameworks of the enlargement process and the ENP while offering some insight about their similarities as well as differences.

The author implies a theoretical perspective and carefully argues the differentiation between rhetoric and practice whilst evaluating these two case studies. Thus, she claims that the EU's immigration policy is mostly Eurocentric as the security-oriented understanding is more prominent over development aspect in practice (p. 196). In this regard, the comparative analysis of Turkey and Morocco not only included these two transit countries into the discussion but also offered a more extensive insight while examining the external dimension of immigration policy towards non-member countries.

The diversity of methodologies forms the strongest side of the book as the author has acquired to imply different methodologies throughout the analysis as she uses qualitative and descriptive analysis for conceptualizing the external dimension of the EU's policy and carries out a comparative case study of Turkey and Morocco in order to discuss how the externalization of the EU's immigration policy impresses migration policies and patterns in Turkey and Morocco.

The author also pays attention to the historical context for evaluating the externalization of the EU's immigration policy with regards to three developments such as the terrorist attacks of 9/11, the Eastern Enlargement, and the Arab Spring and the civil war in Syria, which is significant for comprehending continuity as well as change as a result of regional and global developments. However, in order to display the growing significance of Turkey and Morocco for the EU regarding their transformation into transit and even destination countries, more statistical data about these two countries and the EU could be presented throughout the 2000s highlighting the influence of regional and global developments, especially the Arab Spring and the civil war in Syria.

The book offers a significant contribution on analysis of external dimension of the EU's

immigration policy in terms of both the theoretical and conceptual framework. The theoretical and conceptual framework presented in the book could be implied to different countries such as Tunisia and Libya while assessing the externalization of the EU's immigration policies towards non-member transit states in the Southern Neighborhood as well as in the Balkans. In addition to presentation of the conceptual and theoretical framework, classification of policy areas is also substantial for simplifying the complex nature of immigration policies and explaining them in a more comprehensible manner while applying this classification to a case study.