Editorial Introduction: “Migration”

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By determining the focus of the present issue of MSFAU Journal of Social Sciences as “Migration”, we had the opportunity to examine various articles focusing on the situations caused or provided by migration, written from the perspectives of different disciplines, helped us both to make sense of the impact of the migration at a micro level in regards of ethnicity, gender or individuals as well as on urbanization, culture and politics in the long term at a macro level. In this respect, we believe that the cumulative effect of the articles that make up the file will open up various areas of awareness on the topic.

In the articles “The Role and Impact of International Organization for Migration (IOM) on Migration Governance in Turkey” and “Refugee Status in Turkey After the End of World War II, as Reported by the International Rescue and Relief Committee (IRRC)”, which scrutinize the organizations established for the regular and humane conduct of forced migration, which is a global issue, how these organizations work and position themselves are examined. Discussing immigration policies in the context of human rights “Securitizing Migration in the Context of Human Rights” and “Conceptualizing the ‘Other’ in the Context of Identity and Security: Immigration and Europeanness” discussing the same subject in the context of the relationship between identity and security, present a perspective on the securitization of migration.

Migration is examined within the framework of intercultural approach in the article entitled “Migrant Councils as a Reflection of the Intercultural Approach to Social Integration”, which studies the migration councils that aim to discover the ways to eliminate the possible negative effects of migration at the local level. In addition to that, the article “Far-Right Parties in Europe and Their Attitudes Toward Immigrants; Selected Cases”, which deals with migration-immigrant phenomena in the context of ideologies, present an assessment within the European framework.

Regardless of the status of the immigration, it involves difficulties to overcome as it brings social and cultural isolation for the immigrants. On the other hand, it can be argued that situations such as old age, established gender acceptances or being a part of one of the minorities in the society cause the formation of vulnerable groups. In our issue, among the articles which analyse such situations in the context of migration, the article named “Comparison of the Pandemic Experiences of British and Syrian Old Women Living Alone in Turkey” focuses on the pandemic experiences of elderly immigrants, while “‘The Other’ Asylum-Seekers of Syria: The Experiences of The Dom” focuses on the immigration experiences of a group that experiences life as a minority.

While the “Citizenship Perception of 1989 Bulgarian Immigrants Living in Turkey” article, which is about the long-term effects of migration, aims to reveal the citizenship perception of immigrants able to remember their lives in Bulgaria through their experiences in Turkey; the aim of “Encounters at The Border: Discourse Analysis On Migrants Being As I And Other” is to examine the standpoint of immigrants from different nationalities towards one another. The migration policies and border practices of the countries during the Covid 19 epidemic are discussed in the

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article entitled “Biopolitics During COVID-19 Pandemic: Migration Movements and Border Practices in Europe”.

It is obvious that the forced migration, which is profoundly experienced nowadays, has economic, political and socio-cultural impact to the host country as well as its effects on immigrants. In the study entitled “Reading the Social Distance for Syrian Migrants through the Academia: The Case of Turkey”, the perspectives of academics as host country individuals are discussed. “Investigating the Religion-Based Solidarity Shown by the Turkish Community to the Syrian Forced Immigrants During the COVID-19 Pandemic”, examines the perspectives of the host country individuals towards immigrants by addressing the issue on the basis of religion.

The study entitled “Overview of Graduate Theses Focused on Refugee Women: A Bibliometric Analysis” examines the field studies on women immigrants and reveals the research tendency on this subject.

It is very important to be able to identify the problems experienced by children who have experienced migration in various ways in their education process, both in the integration process of immigrant children as students and in determining the steps to be taken in the context of education policies. The studies entitled “Opinions of Music Teachers on Music Education of Students in Temporary Protection Status”, “Syrian Students’ Perception of School: Experiences in the Process and the Changes over Time”, and “The perceptions of Syrian Students in Türkiye on Turkish and Their Native Language Skills and Language Preferences in Daily Life” reveal the impact of migration on education from different perspectives. In another similar study entitled “Analysis of Picture Books About Those Who Were Exposed to War by Visual Semiotic Method: Ferris Wheel Example”, the support given by picture books to the child’s perception of the situation in which he/she found him/herself has been examined with the emphasis that stories are an important tool in the development of children in terms of describing the child’s environment and situation.

In addition to that, in the study entitled “The Emotional Power of Visual: On the Representation of Migrants, Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Global Visual Politics” the impact of reflecting the migration outputs through visuals both on the immigrants’, refugees’, or asylum seekers’ perspective and on policies has been discussed. The study entitled “Who Deserves to be Refugee?: The Instrumentalization of Art and Culture in the Solidarity Discourse of Ukrainian Refugees in Social Media” discusses the concept of migration in terms of social media and also reveals how the sense of belonging is carried out through the distinctive terms of “us” and “them” and the way users express their online posts through art, artistic practices, and cultural activities.

At the same time, in the study entitled “Analysis of Internal Migration and Labor Relations with Panel Data Method (2008-2019)”, the relevance of immigration/emigration in Turkey explained with statistical data and it has been revealed that the migration movements cause geographical redistribution in terms of space, and the need for a new division of labor and human resources to be concentrated in certain centers.

The article entitled “The Effects of Migration Mobility, which has Shaped the Settlement Policies of Lüleburgaz from Past to Present, on Rural and Intangible Cultural Heritage” enables the effects of migration on the intangible cultural heritage to be read through the rural.

The phenomenon of migration, which has individual and social outputs, has also been the subject of literature, thus many works have been produced in the context of testimony and fiction. In the article entitled “An Analysis of Milan Kundera’s Ignorance and Dubravka Ugrešić’s Ministry of Pain in the Context of Trauma, Grief, and Nostalgia Processes Associated with Immigration”, the phenomenon of immigration-immigrant is examined through literary works. One of
the important emphases on migration is examined in the article entitled “Migration and Language” through the immigration profile in Turkey based on sociolinguistic studies and the immigration profile in Turkey and Contemporary Language Diversity in Istanbul.

We would like to thank our authors, reviewers, and everyone else who contributed to our issue with the theme of “Migration” by approaching the subject from the perspective of different disciplines’.