

Migration and Human Security

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Abstracts

This study examined the topic; migration and human security; the study is with the primary objective of assessing the impact of migration on human security with focus on pull and push factors of migration, economic effect of migration and the human security. In the review, the study pressed home that one of the main challenges of the 21st century is the establishment of migration policies and systems that are respectful of the human rights of migrants. Globally, migration is a powerful driver of economic development, inextricably linked to other forms of economic development like technological change and educational advancement. But for any given person or even any given country, such effects are far from automatic. The study is purely qualitative in approach. One of the major findings of the study is that maximizing migration benefits and sensibly sharing them require proper regulation as no sizeable country has developed without a large shift of population from farms to cities. But migration can bring numerous offsetting social ills and insecurity, if it is not properly managed with barriers or neglect. Based on the findings of this study, the conclusion and recommendation is that international migration, when regulatory frameworks are inadequate can be the setting for large black markets that undermine labour standards, strained social services, and national security threats. But safe, orderly, and regular migration is an engine of global economic development.

Keywords: Migration, Human Security

1.1 Introduction

In the world over, migration has become a perennial human phenomenon; it was not systematically and globally brought to the front burner until the twentieth century. Past era was characterized by decolonization and the creation of scores of formally and often arbitrarily bounded nation-states; global wars and mass movements of displaced persons; the formation of the United Nations and its allied.

Globally migration is a phenomenon caused not only by economic factors, but also by political, social, environmental, cultural, health, education and transportation factors as well as security. The world is dynamic and always on the move. Currently, an estimated number of 244 million people live outside their country of origin. Some have migrated in search of better opportunities. Others flee from crises imposed by conflict or disasters, or from abject poverty. For many, leaving one country for another is a complex process fraught with risks and insecurities. While migration is not a new phenomenon, the sheer scale of forced and irregular migration in recent years has called attention to the need for stronger international cooperation

to better address the root causes of displacement and to promote durable solutions towards safe, orderly and regular migration.

There are recognitions that multiple factors can give rise to migratory flows from conflict, to disasters, deprivation and human security though usually effort aimed to proactively and comprehensively address these conditions before they reach a crisis level and result in large-scale movements of people have yielded low result. As such, a focus on human security draws attention to the importance of early warning and early action, and emphasizes inclusive and sustainable development to create conditions in which migration is a choice rather than a necessity.

It commonly takes place because of the push factors of fewer opportunities in the socio-economic situation and also because of pull factors that exist in more developed areas. As people move across borders, the result is that transnational criminal organizations are profiting from a billion-dollar human smuggling industry that treats people like a disposable commodity. This is seen every day on the border and at ports of entry, people being smuggled in tractor-trailers, and bodies found in the desert and on our riverbeds are all terrible symptoms of the same complicated problem. It is clear that there are challenges across border and continents across the world.

2.1 Global - African Migration and Security

People are increasingly on the move for economic, political, humanitarian and other reasons. Migration is not a new phenomenon, but in the era of globalization has reached a new proportion. The number of people on the move has dramatically increased in the past few years. The human rights causes and implications of migration are manifold. Migrants, especially irregular migrants, are particularly vulnerable to human rights violations and abuses.

Most immigrants around the world flew halfway to Brazil, then made the dangerous journey north through the Darien Gap a remote, road less swathe of jungle before traversing Central America into Mexico in the hope of finally reaching the United States to claim asylum. On reaching Tapachula, they found themselves corralled into a detention centre and told they couldn't progress further without a permit that protects them for deportation and allows them to stay legally permits that are harder to come by since Mexico agreed in June to help the United States limit the number of migrants crossing the US-Mexico border.

Fearing deportation or that the permits will never come, a frustrated group of migrants including hundreds of Africans set off north this week only to be stopped shortly afterwards by Mexican national guard and police and returned to a holding facility. Even if the Africans were to reach the US border and get to the front of the long queue, a recent policy pushed by President Donald Trump and known as "Remain in Mexico" means migrants hoping to seek asylum in the United States must await their fate in Mexico.

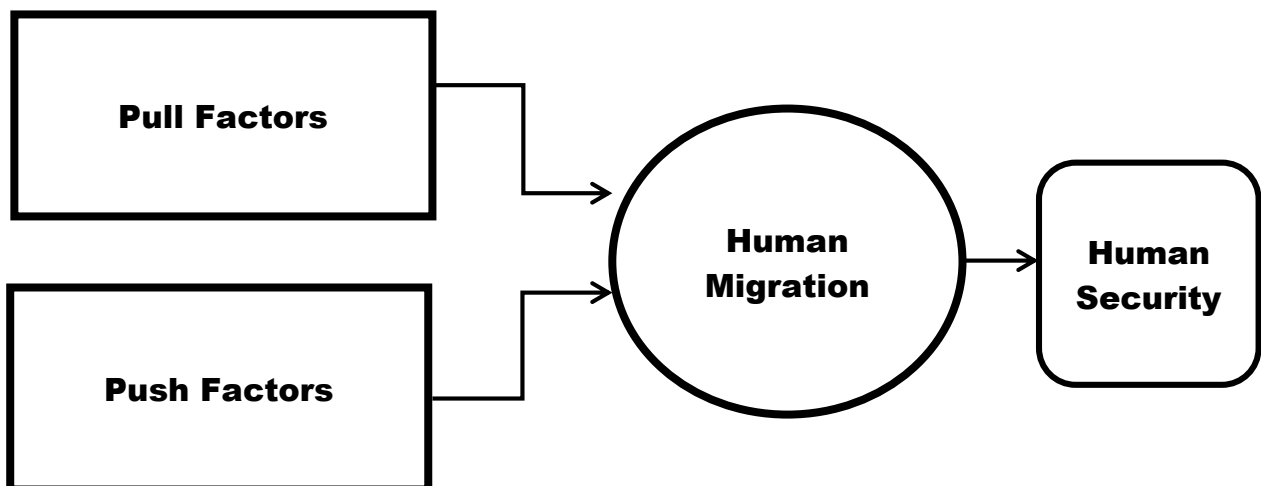
The US administration is also set to enforce a series of bilateral agreements that will bar people from applying if they don't first apply for asylum in the Central American countries they travelled through: Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala. The asylum seekers could be deported back to the so-called "safe third country", which critics say are not safe at all and would put many at renewed risk. Pressure is growing on many of the Africans to claim asylum in Mexico, but several told The New Humanitarian they didn't want to because of the lack of economic opportunities and a perception they could struggle with racist attitudes.

3.1 Push and Pull Factors of Migration

Push and Pull factors are forces that can either induce people to move to a new location or oblige them to leave old residences; they can be economic, political, cultural, and

environmentally based. Push factors are conditions that can drive people to leave their homes, they are forceful, and relate to the country from which a person migrates. A few example of push factors are: not enough jobs in the country; few opportunities; "Primitive" conditions; desertification; famine/drought ; political fear/persecution ; poor medical care; loss of wealth; and natural Disasters. Pull factors are exactly the opposite of push factors; they are factors that attract people to a certain location. Examples of these push factors are job opportunities; better living conditions; political and/or religious freedom; enjoyment; education; better medical care; and security. To migrate, people place so attractive that they feel pulled toward it.

Push and pull factors are those factors which either forcefully push people into migration or attract them. A push factor is forceful, and a factor which relates to the country from which a person migrates. It is generally some problem which results in people wanting to migrate. Different types of push factors can be seen further below. A push factor is a flaw or distress that drives a person away from a certain place. A pull factor is something concerning the country to which a person migrates. It is generally a benefit that attracts people to a certain place. Push and pull factors are usually considered as north and south poles on a magnet.



Framework on the study

3.1.1 Push Factors

We are all living in a world on the move. Today, roughly 244 million people live outside their country of origin. Some have migrated in search of better opportunities. Others flee from crises imposed by conflict or disasters, or from abject poverty. For many, leaving one country for another is a complex process fraught with risks and insecurities. While migration is not a new phenomenon, the sheer scale of forced and irregular migration in recent years has called attention to the need for stronger international cooperation to better address the root causes of displacement and to promote durable solutions towards safe, orderly and regular migration.

Recognizing that multiple factors can give rise to migratory flows from conflict, to disasters and deprivation human security aims to proactively and comprehensively address these conditions before they reach a crisis level and result in large-scale movements of people. As such, a focus on human security draws attention to the importance of early warning and early action, and emphasizes inclusive and sustainable development to create conditions in which migration is a choice rather than a necessity. The elements of push factors encourage

people to leave where they are; not enough jobs, few opportunities, poor medical care, not being able to practice religion, loss of wealth, natural disasters, threats to self or family, pollution, poor housing, landlords, bullying, political fear, poor chances of finding a partner.

3.1.2 The Pull factors

Pull factors are those factors in the destination country that attract the individual or group to leave their home. Those factors are known as place utility, which is the desirability of a place that attracts people. Better economic opportunities, more jobs, and the promise of a better life often pull people into new locations. Sometimes individuals have ideas and perceptions about places that are not necessarily correct, but are strong pull factors for that individual. As people grow older and retire, many look for places with warm weather, peaceful and comfortable locations to spend their retirement after a lifetime of hard work and savings. Such ideal places are pull factors too.

Very often, people consider and prefer opportunities closer to their location than similar opportunities farther away. In the same vein, people often like to move to places with better cultural, political, climatic and general terrain in closer locations than locations farther away. It is rare to find people move over very long distances to settle in places that they have little knowledge of.

The element of pull factors (encourage people to go to a certain place); job opportunities, better living conditions, political and/or religious freedom, enjoyment, education, better medical care, security, family links and better chances of finding a partner

3.1.3 Force Migration in Focus

Globally some 214 million people lived as international migrant persons who have changed their country of usual residence in 2001. About 3.1 percent of the world's population or one of every thirty-two persons. Geographic spread of these migrants is wider than at any prior historical time and the value of their remittances has increased exponentially over the past few decades. A range of new and old factors shape the movement patterns of today's international migrants: geographic proximity, concerns for safety, historic economic relationships, state policies, political and economic conditions, family re-unification, natural disasters, war, social networks.

Arab world also stands out in the world of migration because it is the home to the largest number of forced migrants in the world, including both refugee and internally displaced people. Nearly one quarter of the world's refugees lived in "the Middle East region in 2008. While 7.6 percent of all migrants globally are refugees, they are seventy-seven percent of the (8.7 million) migrants living in the Mashriq. Sudan had the largest number internally displaced persons, with 4.9 million in 2010, despite a drop of 1.1 million persons, and Iraq had the third largest (Columbia), with 2.76 million.

There are also an estimated 160,000 internally displaced Palestinians, and some 60,000 to 90,000 currently at risk of displacement. It is indeed sobering for those who study the peoples of the Arab world to recognize that they constitute the largest number of refugees and displaced people in the world today. Majority live in places where blocked aspirations, political voicelessness and challenges to human dignity are daily and salient. It is incumbent upon us to address how these challenges are similar to and different from the challenges of being an Arab world migrant in Europe, the United States, Canada, Australia, Malaysia, or Latin America.

3.1.4 Economic Effects of Migration

Economic effects of migration vary widely. Sending countries may experience both gains and losses in the short term but may stand to gain over the longer term. For receiving countries temporary worker programs help to address skills shortages but may decrease domestic wages and add to public welfare burden. The economic effects of migration for both sending and receiving countries may also vary depending on who is moving, specifically with respect to migrant workers' skill levels. A Swedish Professor notes, "the problem is not immigration; it is integration, especially in the labour market. If there are no jobs, the consequences are segregation, housing problems and divided cities.

For sending countries, the short-term economic benefit of emigration is found in remittances. Remittances are funds that emigrants earn abroad and send back to their home countries, mainly in order to support families left behind. According to the World Bank, remittances totaled \$529 billion worldwide in 2012, with \$401 billion of that money flowing into developing nations. Significantly, these figures only account for funds sent through formal channels, so the amount of remittances is likely much larger than these numbers suggest. The World Bank notes that remittances sent through informal channels could add at least 50 percent to the globally recorded flows.

These massive global economic benefits are unevenly shared between migrant origin countries and migrant destination countries. But destination countries do not gain, on average, at the expense of harm to origin countries. Migration typically brings large, indirect, long-term benefits to origin countries as well. It builds networks that bring new technologies, skills, trade, investment, and modern social norms to countries of migrant origin. For example, when there is a 10 percent increase in the number of emigrants from a migrant-origin country to a migrant-destination country that produces and exports a given product, there is a 1.6 percent greater likelihood that the migrant-origin country will start producing and exporting that product from scratch during the following ten years. Migrants create human networks that give life to new kinds of business. Migration of people between countries is part and parcel of the complexification of their economies, without which economic development does not occur.⁹

Although the impact of remittances on developing countries is difficult to measure, one World Bank study has concluded that a one per cent increase in the share of remittances in a country's GDP leads to a 0.4 per cent decline in poverty. At the same time, developing countries can suffer from "brain drain"—the loss of trained and educated individuals to emigration. For example, there are currently more African scientists and engineers working in the U.S. than there are in all of Africa, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

In Zambia, emigration has reduced the number of practicing doctors from 1,600 a few years ago, to a mere 400 today. The IOM estimates Africa's brain drain has cost nearly \$9 billion in lost human capital and growth potential since 1997. According to the United Nations Population Fund, 2006 State of the World Population report, Africa only retains 1.3 percent of the world's health care practitioners. Thus, despite having over a quarter of the world's tuberculosis cases and 64 percent of the total numbers of people infected with HIV, Africa only has, on average, a mere one nurse per 1,000 people.

In recent years, Kenya has been working hard to combat this trend. The Kenyan government, in partnership with international aid organizations, created the Emergency Hiring Plan to increase nursing staff in public health facilities. International donors helped cover the cost of workforce recruitment, employment contracts, salary subsidies and staff deployment.

Recent strikes by Kenyan doctors and nurses show that the country still has a long way to go to improving pay and other incentives that encourage health practitioners to stay and work

in the country. Because of severe shortages, Kenyan doctors, who work for little to no pay and have limited experience, are often performing the same amount of surgical procedures that doctors in developed nations perform in one year, in just two months.

Meanwhile, for developed countries, which are often on the receiving end of migration streams, the positive economic gains from immigration are largely the result of the infusion of inexpensive and eager labourers into the economy. In the U.S. and Canada, for example, migrant workers often fill low-wage jobs for which there is not enough local supply of labor, such as in the agricultural and service sectors. Just as cheap imports of industrial goods benefit the American economy, so too does the import of low-cost labor. Economists who support the notion of these positive gains claim that immigration has little impact on wages or job availability for domestic workers and that there is no correlation between immigration and U.S. income distribution and unemployment rates. However, the effects of immigration have also been the cause for much debate especially in the U.S. and not all people believe that high levels of immigration are economically beneficial.

4.1 Human Security

Security is fundamental to meeting people's developmental aspirations. Where there is safety, development process becomes easy and citizen's wellbeing is automatically experienced. In a related submission, a writer argues that, the security challenge of the 21st century in Nigeria has become almost intractable, especially given the onslaught of racism, a crime hitherto alien to the nations and world security architecture. It is on record that migrant had witnessed a drastic and frantic various insecurity challenges in the last few years of moving from one country to the others or from one continent to the other.

The concept of security is meaningless without a critical discourse of something pertinent to secure. Indeed, security could best be understood when situated within the context of a referent object. Security means the absence of threats. Emancipation of people (as individuals and groups) from those human and physical constraints from carrying out what they would freely choose to do. The security of state and humans is affected by the following factors: first is the economy as the sub-structure which determines other factors in the society. Second is politics or governance which is mainly the allocation of resources. Third is the security personnel that is constitutionally vested with coercive powers to maintain physical security in any given society. Forth is the environmental factor, this can be natural or caused by man in the process of invention.

Therefore, security is when individuals, group of individuals and a sovereign state are free from any kind of constraint which might restrain them from carrying out what they would freely choose to do from their free will, provided such act is not infringing on other peoples' fundamental human rights.

Nigeria is a nation state with multiple security challenges just like some other African countries or other countries in the world. The most worrisome fact is that this incessant violence apart from killing and maiming innocent souls has imprinted agony, tension and aggression in the minds of Nigerians. Therefore, state is a geographical entity with internationally recognized boundary, population, constitution, government and sovereignty with a set of interconnected and coordinated institutions that are concerned with the organization and enforcement of power; formulation and implementation of the constitution, and formulation and implementation of public policy for coordination and ordering of society.

Security as an essential concept is commonly associated with the alleviation of threats to cherished values, especially the survival of individuals, groups or objects in the near future. Thus, security as the name implies, involves the ability to pursue cherished political and social ambitions. According Palm, “there is a correlation between security and survival”. Whereas survival is an essential condition, security is viewed as safety, confidence, free from danger, fear, doubt, among others. Therefore, security is survival-plus' and the word 'plus' could be understood from the standpoint of being able to enjoy some freedom from life-determining threats and some life choices.

Security is defined “as a reasonable level of predictability at different levels of the social system, from local communities to the global level” The understanding here is that at the global level. There is a presence of an order which is predicated upon the predictability of the behavior of other members within the system. At local level, security thus includes the ability of the state to predict the likely implication of any particular condition on its citizens. The recognition lies squarely not on the state’s ability to enforce law and order, though that may be important, but in creating the necessary socio-economic conditions that guarantee fair amount of predictability on the behavior of its citizens.

Security is conceived as a state of reduced or contained threats and tension in which the stability of a state is not in an imminent danger of disruption from within and without. Stability is here viewed as the order, regularity and pattern, which characterized the state’s condition over an extended period.

Nwanegbo and Odigbo argued that the concept of ‘security’ is a crosscutting, and multi-dimensional concept which has, over the last century, been the subject of great debate. However, long before that, the history of mankind was interspersed by the frenzied search for the best way of ensuring the security of the people, their properties, territories, states and institutions among others. In all places and countries, security has been considered as a “first order value” worth preserving. The aforementioned notwithstanding, there is no consensus on the definition of security. This is not surprising because as a social phenomenon, it is often approached from different perspectives. Above all, the concept of security has been seen as a situation where a person or thing is not exposed to any form of danger or risk of physical or moral aggression, accident, theft or deterioration. While some security experts argued that the concept of security has always been associated with the safety and survival of the state and its citizens from harm or destruction or from dangerous threats.

5.1 Social Exchange Theory

The major idea in social exchange theory is that parties enter into and maintain exchange relationships with others with the expectation that doing so will be rewarding (Blau, 1968; Gouldner, 1960; Homans, 1958). The theory is limited to examining actions that are contingent on rewarding reactions from others (Blau, 1964), and examines two-sided, mutually contingent, and mutually rewarding processes called “transactions” and relationships called “exchanges” (Emerson, 1976). The theory assumes that self-interested parties transact or exchange with self -interested others in order to accomplish outcomes that neither could achieve on his or her own (Lawler & Thye, 1999), and that these exchanges would cease as soon as they are not perceived to be mutually rewarding by both parties (Blau, 1994). Homans (1961) wrote that the exchange of benefits, or giving something to a recipient that is more valuable to the recipient than it is to the giver, is the underlying basis for human behavior.

According to the theory, each party has something of value that the other wants. The two parties decide what to exchange and in what quantities. The resources exchanged can be economic or social or both. Economic resources include tangible items, such as goods, money,

assets, information, advice, or services. Social resources include intangible items, such as social amenities, friendship, and prestige. The value of outcomes received during a social exchange is in the eye of the beholder. However, according to Blau (1968), the most rewarding outcomes in social exchange relationships (for example, social approval and respect) do not have any material value for which a price could be determined.

6.1 Conclusion and Recommendations

Migration does not stand apart from the development process. Migration is one *aspect* of development. Domestically, the physical movement of people has been an inseparable aspect of historical development from the United States and Europe to China and Africa, as those countries have grown from isolated and primarily rural economies to interconnected, primarily urban ones. Within countries, the physical movement of people has been a tremendous engine of trade, entrepreneurship, education, and the spread of ideas one that performs poorly with poor regulation, and performs well with adequate regulation. The major concern is the issue of human security of the immigrants. The recommendations are;

- a) **Sensitization of Citizens Against Illegal Migration:** there is a need to continually sensitize people or citizens of various countries around the world especially developing countries like African continent on the danger of embarking on illegal migration and the insecurity that are associated with it, as immigrants may be working into slavery and labour abuse in a strange land as we have it in the case of some Nigerians in Libya of recent.
- b) **Government Integration of immigrants to the Host Communities:** with the current on-going debate, integration has become the concern of every immigrants within the host countries, initiation of policies frame work as well the expansion of the debate within the immigrant communities will surely contribute to the elimination of the impediments on the way to integration and achieving diverse, open and democratic societies, rising on the principles of human rights.
- c) **Institutionalization of Good Governance:** All countries across continents of the world especially developing countries spread around Africa, Asia, South America and others should develop a robust humane/citizens oriented programme that will engendered democracy, foster human rights, citizens inclusiveness, economic development based programmes, sound diplomatic relations that will enhance wellbeing of the citizens both at home and abroad, therefore discouraging push and pull factors of migration, force movement of migrants and other associated ill relocations.

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