International Migration Challenges and Governance From the Perspective of Non-traditional Security

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Abstract

Non-traditional security issues arising from international migration, especially informal migration, include threats of international migration and terrorism, migration and ecological environment security, migration and public health security, migration and international organized crime, migration, and economic security threats. Compared with traditional security, non-traditional security is a new field. Non-traditional security places greater emphasis on the role of non-state actors in security exchanges between states and internal security, and at the same time poses challenges to the development of human society. From the perspective of non-traditional security, international migration management should establish a standardized system and coordination mechanism, jointly formulate bilateral agreements on illegal immigration, and solve the problem of illegal immigration through multi-level consultation. From the perspective of international strategic cooperation, regional consultation mechanisms should be planned as a whole, and migration policies should be improved. To ensure safe, standardized, orderly, and circular international migration flows.

Keywords

Non-traditional security, International migration, Global Migration Governance.

1. Introduction

The all-around development of human beings is the basic driving force for the development of human society. Population mobility is an important factor in promoting sustainable development (Ban Ki-moon, 2019). International migration is an important symbol of interaction and communication in today's world, highlighting the development and progress of human society. At present, the issue of migration has become human rights and development issue at the national, regional, and international levels, and has risen to the highest geopolitical issues. "Dealing with migration is one of the most urgent and far-reaching challenges in the world today," said UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres (UN Chinese website, 2019).

2. International migration and Non-traditional security

In the post-Cold War period, the Copenhagen School put forward the theory of "social security" in Europe, and immigration is one of the main issues. According to the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the number of international migrants worldwide in 2019: As of 2019, the number of international migrants in the world had reached 272 million, or 3.5% of the world's population. The Chinese mainland was the world's third-largest source of migrants, with 1,073.2,300 (World Migration Report, 2020). By the end of 2018, the number of people worldwide forced to migrate due to persecution, conflict, violence, and human rights violations reached a new peak, according to the UNHCR report. At present, the number of international migrants is increasing day by day. Its economic characteristics are as follows: the number of international forced migrants flows from countries with a lower level of economic development to countries with a higher level, while the number of international forced migrants continues

to rise and grow faster than voluntary migrants. The current situation of international migration poses a severe challenge to international security (especially non-traditional security).

Non-traditional security is a relatively new issue. In December 2018, the 73rd session of the United Nations adopted the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration. International migration is an important force for world economic development and cultural exchange, but it faces great challenges in the management of illegal immigration.

3. Challenges of international migration from the perspective of non-traditional security

Compared with traditional security, non-traditional security is a new field. Non-traditional security puts more emphasis on the role of non-state actors in security exchanges between states and internal security, and at the same time poses challenges to the development of human society.

3.1. International migration and the threat of terrorism

Since the 1980s, the international community began to pay attention to the relationship between migration and national security. For example, the Schengen Agreement, Dublin Convention, and so on, immigration and international crime, border control, and other issues are closely linked. Terrorist groups have repeatedly exploited loopholes in the country's immigration system. "Controlling immigration is a good way to control terrorism," said Alex Schmid. But this is bigger harm to real migrants and legal foreigners than to real terrorists. Immigration controls on terrorists can also be applied to controls on citizens (Alex P. Schmid, 2016).

3.2. International migration and transnational Organized crime

The elements of transnational organized crime mainly include: first, it involves more than three countries; Second, it has a strict organizational structure; Third, it is transnational in nature. The main manifestations of international migration and transnational organized crime are "smuggling illegal immigrants" and "human trafficking". Migrant smuggling is a lucrative criminal activity that involves providing and charging fees for illegal border crossings for people who are desperate to leave their country but have no legal means to do so. These people may be fleeing natural disasters, conflict or persecution, or seeking employment, education and family reunification. According to a report published by UNODC on 29 September 2021, organized smugglers or other perpetrators punish, intimidate or coerce smugglers with violence and often commit atrocities without justification (UNODC, 2018).

3.3. International migration and economic security

International migration is a prominent international and national policy issue (Sarah Collinson, 1993). According to the Cambridge Dictionary, an economic field is a field related to trade, industry, or finance. Special People: How Migration Shapes Our World and Defines Our Future, by Goldin, Cameron, and Balarajan, notes that there is a broad consensus among economists that migration is a catalyst for overall economic growth and can produce economic benefits for destination countries. International Migration: Recent Trends, Economic Implications, and Policy Implications, published by the International Monetary Fund, concludes that the economic impact of migration varies from country to country and that while migration poses challenges, it also brings benefits to countries of origin and destination.

3.4.   International migration and public health security

The WHO's regional office for Europe said in a report that migration is a major social, political, and public health problem (Hannah Bradby et al., 2015). According to Chinese customs data, more than 27,000 infectious diseases were detected in 2018. As noted in 2018 WHO Regional Report on the Health of Refugees and Migrants in Europe, lack of access to health care, disruption of care, and difficult living conditions during the migration process increase the risk of infectious diseases for refugees and migrants (WHO, 2018). The relationship between migration and health is not just a crisis, but a very complex one.

4. International migration Governance from the perspective of non-traditional security

The issue of international migration, especially illegal immigration, is becoming more and more prominent, and the non-traditional security issues caused by it have attracted increasing attention from the international community. The issue of international migration is transnational and trans-regional. It should be addressed at the national, regional, and international levels, and all parties should make full use of their roles and work together. From the perspective of non-traditional security, international migration management should be centered on each country, establish norms and coordination mechanisms, and conclude bilateral agreements to deal with illegal immigration issues. From the perspective of international strategic cooperation, it should coordinate international consultation mechanisms on international migration issues, constantly improve migration policies, and ensure a safe international migration order.

4.1.   Establishing a consultation mechanism between illegal immigrants

In 2017, the Department of Homeland Security issued two documents, "Implementing the President's Policies for Border Security and Enhanced Immigration Enforcement" and "Enforcing Immigration Laws to Serve the National Interest." The memorandums are intended to "prevent illegal entry and assist in the identification, apprehension, detention, and removal of aliens who enter the United States without proper cause." In the process of globalization, the coexistence between countries will become closer, and the number of transnational illegal immigrant workers will also increase. Therefore, the control work will also encounter great challenges. To this end, it is necessary to establish a bilateral consultation mechanism on cross-border illegal immigration within the framework of the international strategy, to enhance its ordinariness and reduce the terrorist activities caused by the problems of the immigration management system.

4.2.   Help illegal immigration governance capacity building

International cooperation takes many forms, such as multilateral cooperation, unilateral cooperation, law enforcement cooperation, and strategic cooperation. The main ways to promote the target country's illegal immigration governance capacity are as follows: building an information exchange platform, and establishing coordination, communication, and information interconnection. Establishing liaison mechanisms in various fields to ensure smooth information communication among countries. From the perspective of "big data", illegal immigration management should make full use of big data, artificial intelligence, blockchain, and other technologies to achieve the interactive exchange of illegal immigration data. Big data technology helps improve data capture, artificial intelligence technology helps improve data analysis, and blockchain technology helps enhance data security and protection. By establishing an immigration data system and integrating effective immigration information, we can develop a regular mechanism for interactive exchange of immigration information.

4.3. Help fight transnational crime

In 2000, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime enacted laws to combat illegal immigration and human trafficking. Under the multilateral framework of the United Nations, an international legal system has been established to deal with transnational crimes such as illegal immigration, laying a foundation for international judicial cooperation. Assisting in combating transnational crimes, providing human rights protection for victims of illegal immigration, reducing human trafficking, and combating transnational terrorist crimes. Immigration information should be made public and transparent to provide legal immigrants with access to information.

5. Conclusion

International migration is not only a problem of cross-border population flow, but also an international political issue, which concerns national security and development, the establishment of nations, national identity, brain drain and attraction from poor countries, capital and knowledge flow, and relations between countries. The management of international migration is related to the legal rights of immigrants, the security and development of immigrant countries, and the cooperation among international organizations, to provide a stable development environment for immigrants and achieve a win-win situation.

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