

## **Immigration-Refugee Crisis and New Types of Immigrant-Refugees in Europe**

**Vlachadi Maria**, PhD, Lecturer, Dep.of Political Science, Univ.of Crete, [blachadim@uoc.gr](mailto:blachadim@uoc.gr) ,  
[mvlahadi@yahoo.gr](mailto:mvlahadi@yahoo.gr)

**Kyriakos Koutsautakis**, MSc, Police Lieutenant Colonel, [kyriakoskoutsautakis@gmail.com](mailto:kyriakoskoutsautakis@gmail.com)

### **ABSTRACT**

This study is a product of both a systematic review on population movements (maps, statistical data), new types of migrants and refugees, and a survey, by using a questionnaire, regarding the opinion of police officers on these issues. The aim of this study is to highlight both the significant conditions that affect immigration and refugee, as well as to capture the current situation regarding the movement of people and how to be controlled. Finally, the research shows that illegal immigration can significantly affect the work of Greek Police. For this reason, it is considered particularly important to adopt and implement policies-strategies for the effective management of the immigration-refugee crisis both at the national and European level.

**Key words:** immigration-refugee crisis, new types of immigrants-refugees, conducting research

### **INTRODUCTION**

The phenomenon of immigration is a reality that has deep roots in history, as man began in tribes, whose needs forced them to constantly move for their survival. Migration is a shocking change in a person's life, they leave behind their ways of life, home environments, loved ones, habits and occupations. They carry with them images and experiences that include painful events and the personal experience of a particularly risky journey. The mobility of a set of integrated two types of movement of people autonomously from the period and reasons constitutes the migration of refugees, displaced persons, economic migrants and people moving for other purposes. Europe (Vlachadi M., 2009) has a long tradition of welcoming immigrants. The member states of the Union are affected both individually and as a whole by the mass migration flows and are called upon to integrate various national and cultural characteristics into their national core. The evolution of this phenomenon and the dimensions it has taken, are now a challenge for the European family, which has set as its strategic priority, the promotion of common migration policy measures, knowing that this targeting can act as a development factor both for itself as well as for the third countries involved.

Migration is a complex phenomenon, as it is an instinctive feeling of human evolution where it is influenced by various fields such as politics, economy, society, culture and psychology. Migration is associated with the mobility of individuals and/or large population groups either abroad or within a country, due to crises in both the economic and political sectors, social changes, asymmetric distribution of global wealth, disorganization of the labor market as well as climatic and environmental changes. According to the time period in which the migration takes place, it is distinguished into: Traditional, perceived before World War I and migration was across the Atlantic, Modern, it was perceived in the industrial age for economic reasons, Newer, it concerns modern immigration for socio-economic reasons. In the past, it was observed that the most important reasons for migration were the desire for a better quality of life, family unity and escape for reasons that endanger the life of an individual or a group

such as war zones. As well as the parameters that distinguished migration if it was permanent or temporary in relation to the time of stay and movement, if it was characterized as voluntary or involuntary based on the choice of free will or not, if it was individual or group based on the size of the population, whether it was characterized as legal or irregular by whether the movement is entered in the records of the receiving state and finally whether it was internal or external migration related to the internal or external borders of a country. However, in recent decades, due to Globalization, new reasons and parameters have been created that differentiate the migration phenomenon: 1. migration for the purposes of learning and specialization, 2. the repatriation of the population, 3. circular immigration, is the seasonal commercial activity, 4. social immigration is related to family unity, 5. immigration for environmental reasons, 6. the immigration of highly skilled workers (senior executives, technicians, and scientists) who move within the context of multinational companies, international organizations and international NGOs.

## **RESEARCH PART**

### **PURPOSE OF THE INVESTIGATION**

This research work aims to study, analyze and present population movements as well as new types of immigrants and refugees. In particular, the opinions of police officers were studied regarding population movements and how they affect the state in general and the Greek Police in particular. Their views regarding new types of immigrants and refugees were also studied. The conduct of this work is considered important as the study of population movements as well as the knowledge regarding the new types of immigrants and refugees will strengthen. Investigating and recording opinions about population movements. Investigating and documenting opinions about new types of immigrants and refugees. The most effective management of these phenomena.

### **SAMPLE OF THE RESEARCH**

The survey was addressed to police officers and constables of all ranks and different areas. This research was carried out between 1/12/2021 and 28/12/2021. The sampling method used was the simple random sampling method. The simple random sampling method assumes that each member of the population has the same probability of being selected as any other member of the population.

### **RESEARCH TOOL**

The research approach of the subject was done with quantitative research. For this purpose, questionnaires were created via Google Forms and distributed via e-mail. Before distributing the questionnaires, their validity and reliability were checked. Regarding reliability, it is useful because it checks the extent to which the questionnaire is free from measurement errors due to lack of time or the influence of social or other conditions (Zafeiropoulos, 2015). The questionnaires contained information regarding the research, its purpose and the importance of respondents' participation in it. At the same time, in order to ensure greater participation of respondents, the complete anonymity and confidentiality of the data that would be recorded was emphasized, as well as the use of these exclusively for statistical analysis and drawing conclusions. The purpose of the research was also briefly mentioned. There were also clear instructions on how to complete the questionnaire while it was considered appropriate to avoid vague questions, to place difficult questions at the end, to number all questions and generally to have a logical order. Before the final distribution of the questionnaires, a test survey was carried out on a small sample of people and similar conditions to the real survey in order to identify any errors and omissions and complete the final corrections, according to the methodological approach process. The questionnaire used was structured and based on the

use of various types of questions based on what has been described in the existing literature and articles. It contains closed-ended questions with a single answer, for the convenience of respondents, some open-ended questions as well as respondent agreement questions (Zafeiropoulos, 2015). The Likert scale (Strongly Disagree to Strongly Agree) was used for these questions. The scale used was from 1 to 5, through which they expressed the degree to which they agreed or disagreed and took the values Strongly Disagree, where it corresponded to 1, Disagree, which corresponded to 2, Neither Agree nor Disagree, which corresponded to 3, Agree, corresponded to 4 and Strongly agree, where it corresponded to 5, or took the values Not at all, where it corresponded to 1, A little, corresponded to 2, Moderately, corresponded to 3, Very much, corresponded to 4, and Very much, where it corresponded to 5. For questions of this type, the Cronbach's alpha reliability coefficient was used to check internal consistency reliability. This coefficient measures the degree to which the questions, which measure the same characteristic, show a high coherence or correlation, both among themselves and with the specific characteristic. That is, it expresses the average of the correlation coefficients between the questionnaire questions that contain a scale. When the values of the specific index are greater than 0.7 or 0.8 they are considered satisfactory (Markos, 2012). To better manage the questionnaire, the questions were organized into groups of the same topic. The first questions were about the profile of the respondents regarding their gender, age, marital status, school of graduation and whether additional studies have been carried out, the degree they hold as well as years of service and place of service. The first questions are there to better familiarize the respondent with the questionnaire and to provide information that is solid evidence for the respondent himself. The next questions were more general and related to population movements and new types of immigrants. To carry out the statistical analysis of the questionnaire, the statistical program IBM SPSS 27 was used. First, the appropriate variables were defined and then the data were entered appropriately. To facilitate the analysis, the data were parameterized, where this was deemed necessary. Appropriate statistical analysis was then performed. Highlights of this analysis are shown below.

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

For the purposes of the specific research, descriptive statistics was initially applied in order to summarize the data of the statistical research as well as to display them graphically. Then, inductive statistics was applied to draw conclusions regarding the research questions posed. More specifically, a  $\chi^2$  test was applied to check the existence of a relationship between the variables, a mean difference test, t-test and ANOVA, to check the existence of differences between the variables as well as a check for the existence of linear correlations between the variables.

## **RESEARCH RESULTS**

### **Part A. Respondent Profiles**

The largest percentage of respondents, 83.3% (100 people), are men, while the remaining 16.7% (20 people) are women. The age group 25-34 has the largest percentage with 36.7% (44), with a percentage of 25.8% (31) is the age group 35-44, followed by a percentage of 16.7% (20) are the age groups below from 25 years old and 45-54 respectively while with a rate of 4.2% (5) the respondents are over 55 years old. The marital status is as follows: the largest percentage, 60% (72), is presented as single, while the remaining 40% (48) are married. Of the respondents, the largest percentage, 80.8% (97), graduated from the police school, while 19.2% (23) graduated from the officers' school. In the question that referred to additional studies, the largest percentage, 89.2% (107), stated that they have a second degree. 10% (12) of the respondents stated that they hold a Master's Degree, while only 0.8% (1) hold

a Doctoral Degree. Among the subjects of the second degree were law, international law, mathematics, physics, chemistry, economics, accounting, social work, pedagogy, IT and foreign languages. The years of previous service, including the years of study, are as follows: the largest percentage, 42.5% (51), have 10-19 years, followed by 26.7% (32) 20-30 years, with 15 % (18) less than 5 years, 10.8% (13) 5-9 years and finally with 5% (6) more than 30 years. The place of service with the largest percentage, 89.2% (107), is declared to be in Mainland Greece, while 10.8% (13) is in Insular Greece.

### **Part B. Results for the set of questions**

In terms of whether Greece is considered a multi-cultural society, the largest percentage, 33.3% (40), stated that they agree, 27.5% (33) neither agree nor disagree, 24.2% (29) completely agree, 12.5% (15) disagree while 2.5% (3) strongly disagree. The opinion of Greeks towards immigrants is formed as follows: the largest percentage, 46.7% (56), has a moderate opinion, 21.7% (26) has a negative opinion, 13.3% (16) has very negative, 10.8% (13) have a positive opinion, while 7.5% (9) have a very positive opinion. In the question regarding Internal Migration in Greece, the largest percentage, 34.2% (41), considers that it exists to a small degree, 27.5% (33) considers that it exists to a moderate degree, in a percentage of 22.5 % (27) consider that it exists to a fairly large extent, in 10.8% (13) that it exists to a very large extent, while in 5% (6) that it does not exist at all. Regarding External Migration in Greece, the largest percentage of respondents, 36.7% (44), consider that it exists to a fairly high degree, 30.8% (37) that it exists to a moderate degree, 17.5 % (21) that it exists to a very large extent, in 13.3% (16) that it exists to a small extent while in 1.7% (2) that it does not exist at all. In the question regarding the degree to which Primary Migration occurs in Greece, the largest percentage of respondents, 47.5% (57), consider it to exist to a moderate degree, while 30% (36) consider it to exist to a small degree, with a percentage 18.3% (22) that it exists quite a bit, with a percentage of 2.5% (3) that it exists to a very large extent while with a percentage of 1.7% (2) that it does not exist at all. It is believed that Secondary Migration in Greece exists, with the largest percentage of 43.3% (52), considering that it occurs to a moderate degree, with a percentage of 33.3% (40) that there is a little, with a percentage of 17.5% (21) that it exists to a fairly large extent, with a percentage of 3.3% (4) that it does not exist at all while with a percentage of 2.5% (3) that it appears very strongly. With regard to Voluntary Migration in Greece, the largest percentage, 34.2% (41), considers that it exists to a moderate degree, with a percentage of 25.8% (31) considering that it exists quite or a little respectively, while with a percentage of 14.2% (17) that there is too much. Regarding Involuntary Migration in Greece, the respondents stated that it exists to a moderate extent in 37.5% (45), a little in 28.3% (34), quite a lot in 17.5% (21), not at all in rate of 11.7% (14) while too much at a rate of 5% (6). In the question regarding the degree of occurrence of Short-term Migration in Greece, the largest percentage of respondents, 41.7% (50), consider that it exists to a moderate degree, 30.8% (37) that it exists to a small degree, 15% (18) that it exists to a fairly large extent, 6.7% (8) that it exists to a very large extent and 5.8% (7) that it does not exist at all. With regard to Long-Term Migration in Greece, the largest percentage of respondents, 32.5% (39), consider that it exists to a moderate degree or to a fairly large extent respectively, in a percentage of 20.8% (25) that it exists to a small degree, in a percentage of 12.5% (15) that it exists to a very large extent while in a percentage of 1.7% (2) that it does not exist at all. In the question regarding the degree of existence of Continental Migration in Greece, the largest percentage of respondents, 40.8% (49), consider that there is moderate, in percentage 28.3% (34) that there is enough, in percentage 21.7 % (26) that there is a little, in 6.7% (8) that there is too much while in 2.5% (3) that there is none at all. Regarding Overseas Migration in Greece, the largest percentage, 40.8% (49), considers that there is a moderate amount, 30.8% (37) that there is a little, 15% (18) that there is a lot and in percentage of 6.7%(8) that there is too much or none respectively. Additionally,

regarding Invisible Migration in Greece and its degree of existence, the largest percentage, 33.3% (40), considers that it exists to a moderate degree, 25.8% (31) that it exists a little, 17%, 5% (21) that it exists quite a bit, 13.3% (16) that it does not exist at all while 10% (12) that it exists to a very large extent. The respondents claimed that the concepts "Immigrants" and "Refugees" do not coincide with each other, at a percentage of 35.8% (43), that they coincide a little at a percentage of 21.7% (26), that they coincide quite a bit at a percentage of 20.8% (25), that they coincide moderately at a rate of 13.3% (16) and that they coincide very much at a rate of 8.3% (10). Regarding whether migrants want to repatriate, respondents stated that they are not at all likely to ask for it at a rate of 25.8% (31), that they might ask for it a little at a rate of 25% (30), that they might ask for it to a large extent at a rate of 24.2% (29), that they might ask for it at a rate of 20.8% (25), while that they might ask for it to a very large extent at a rate of 4.2% (5). Regarding population movements, the largest percentage, 49.2% (59) consider that they have increased too much in recent years, 40.8% (49) consider that they have increased enough, 7.5% (9) that there is a moderate increase, 1.7% (2) that there is a little increase while 0.8% (1) that there is no increase at all in recent years. Population movements affect the constitution of each state according to 78.4% (94) of respondents. 18.3% (22) of the respondents consider that it probably does not affect it, while 3.4% (4) of the respondents consider that the constitution of each state is not affected by population movements. Population movements may improve the standard of living of the state in which they settle according to 28.3% (34). 25.8% (31) consider that they cannot improve the standard of living of the country of establishment, 19.2% (23) state that they can improve it. 15.8% (19) completely disagree with this opinion, while 10.8% (13) completely agree with the opinion that population movements can bring about an improvement in the standard of living of the country of settlement. The entry of immigrants can affect the demographic (social) composition of Greece, according to the largest percentage of respondents, 75% (90), who state that they agree and completely agree with this point of view. 20% (24) of the respondents neither agree nor disagree while the remaining 5% (6) disagree and strongly disagree with this opinion. In the question regarding whether immigrants can be integrated into the respective state, 33.3% (40) believe this can be done to a moderate or small extent respectively, 14.2% (17) that it can happen in quite a large extent, 12.5% (15) that it cannot happen while 6.7% (8) that it can happen to a strong degree. Immigration can affect the respective state in the field of Medical Care, with the largest percentage, 65% (78), arguing that this can happen quite strongly, 25.8% (31) that Medical Care is moderately affected by immigrants, 5% (6) that it is affected a little, while 4.2% (5) consider that it is not affected at all. Immigration can affect the respective state quite a bit or too much in the field of Education - Training, according to the largest percentage of respondents, 50% (60). 27.5% (33) consider that it can affect it moderately while the remaining 22.5% (27) consider that the education sector can be affected little or not at all by immigrants. Immigration can affect the respective state in the field of Economy, according to the largest percentage of respondents, 64.1% (77). 27.5% (33) of the respondents consider that it can moderately affect the economy while 8.3% (10) of the respondents consider that it can be affected from a little to not at all by the immigrants. Immigration can moderately affect the respective state in the field of Psychology, according to the largest percentage of respondents, 31.7% (38). 54.2% (65) consider that immigrants can influence the respective state in the field of psychology to a large or very large extent, while 14.1% (17) consider that they can influence it from a little to not at all. Immigration can affect the respective state from a little to a lot in terms of its Cultural Identity, according to the largest percentage of respondents, 59.1% (71). 25.8% (31) consider that it can influence it moderately, while the remaining 15% (18) consider that the cultural identity of the respective state can be influenced from a little to not at all. Among the respondents, it is considered that immigrants and refugees will seek rights from the respective state in which they settle, fairly to very much

according to 86.7% (104) of the respondents, moderately according to 11.7% (14) of respondents while 1.7% (2) of respondents believe that refugees and immigrants are less likely to seek rights. On the question of whether immigration flows should be suppressed, the majority of respondents, 75% (90), agree and strongly agree, 19.2% (23) neither agree nor disagree, while the remaining 5.8% (7) disagree completely and totally disagrees. On the question of whether the current measures to suppress migration flows are sufficient, 29.2% (35) consider them to be somewhat sufficient, followed by 25% (30) who consider them to be quite sufficient, 23.3% (28) moderately adequate, 13.3% (16) very adequate while 9.2% (11) not at all adequate. On the question of whether the distribution of immigrants between EU countries can be political management of the migration crisis, the largest percentage of respondents, 66.7% (80), stated that they agree and completely agree, 20.8% (25) stated that they neither agree nor disagree while the remaining 12.5% (15) disagree and strongly disagree with this view. With reference to the work of the Greek Police and whether it is inflated by illegal immigration, 86.6% (104) agree and completely agree with this point of view, 7.6% (9) neither agree nor disagree while 5.9% (7) of respondents disagree. In the question regarding the extent to which immigration has affected the Greek Police in terms of Human Resources, the largest percentage of respondents, 36.7% (44), stated quite a lot, 35.8% (43) stated too much, the 19.2% (23) stated moderately, 5.8% (7) stated a little while 2.5% (3) stated not at all. In the question regarding whether immigration has affected the Greek Police in terms of Working Hours, the largest percentage of respondents, 35% (42), stated that it affects quite a bit, 31.7% (38) stated too much, 25.8% (31) said it was moderately affected, while 7.5% (9) said it was a little affected. In the question regarding whether immigration has affected the Greek Police in terms of Working Conditions, the largest percentage of respondents, 38.3% (46), stated that it affects a lot, 35.8% (43) stated that it affects enough, 21.7% (26) said it affects them moderately, 2.5% (3) said it affects them a little while 1.7% (2) of respondents said it does not affect them at all. In the question regarding whether immigration has affected the Greek Police in terms of Psychology, the largest percentage of respondents, 33.3% (40), stated that it has affected them a lot, 32.5% (39) stated that has affected her quite a bit, 25% (30) said moderately, 6.7% (8) said a little while 2.5% (3) said it has not affected her at all. The present work could be extended, forming a basis for further research, to another type of environmental migration, as climate changes are rapid. Digital nomads, who are a source of income for both businesses and states while tending to shape new management and employment conditions, can be a future research.

## **DISPUTE CONTROL**

The t-test was carried out in order to study the existence of a difference between a qualitative two-valued variable and the questions concerning population movements as well as new types of refugees and immigrants. The following results were observed from this control: A statistically significant relationship was observed between the school of education and to the question "Do you think that the concepts Immigrants and Refugees coincide?" ( $p = 0.028 < 0.05$ ), to the question "Do you think that population movements have increased in recent years?" ( $p = 0.012 < 0.05$ ), to the question "Do you think that illegal immigration increases the work of the police?" ( $p = 0.040 < 0.05$ ). A statistically significant relationship was also presented by the place of service and the question "Do you think that Greece today is a multicultural society" ( $p = 0.016 < 0.05$ ), the question "What do you think is the opinion of Greeks towards immigrants" ( $p = 0.049 < 0.05$ ), the question "To what extent do you consider that the following types of migration exist in Greece - External Migration" ( $p = 0.019 < 0.05$ ), the question "To what extent do you think that the following types of migration exist in Greece - Invisible Migration" ( $p = 0.05 < 0.05$ ), the question "Do you think that the concepts Immigrants and Refugees coincide" ( $p < 0.001$ ), the question "To what extent do you think that immigration can affect the respective state in Education - Training" ( $p = 0.028 < 0.05$ ),

Cultural identity ( $p = 0.044 < 0.05$ ), the question "To what extent do you think that immigration has affected the Greek Police in terms of Human Resources ( $p = 0.015 < 0.05$ ), Working Hours ( $p = 0.03 < 0.05$ ), Psychology ( $p = 0.03 < 0.05$ ). An ANOVA test was then carried out in order to study the existence of differences between qualitative variables with more than two values and the questions related to population movements and new types of immigrants and refugees. The relationships that emerged as statistically significant are the following: Age and the question "To what extent do you think that the following types of immigration exist in Greece - Primary Migration" ( $p = 0.010 < 0.05$ ), the question "To what extent do you consider that the following types of migration exist in Greece (Short-term Migration) ( $p = 0.047 < 0.05$ ), the question "To what extent do you consider that the following types of migration exist in Greece (Overseas Migration) ( $p = 0.008 < 0.05$ ), the question "Do you think that the concepts Immigrants and Refugees coincide?" ( $p < 0.001$ ), the question "Do you think that population movements can improve the standard of living of the state in which they settle?" ( $p = 0.031 < 0.05$ ), the question "To what extent do you think that immigrants can integrate - be integrated into the respective state?" ( $p = 0.011 < 0.05$ ), the question "To what extent do you think that immigration can affect the respective state in the field of Care" ( $p = 0.014 < 0.05$ ), the question "To what extent do you think that immigration can affect the individual in Education - Training" ( $p = 0.034 < 0.05$ ), the question "To what extent do you consider the current measures to suppress migration flows to be sufficient ( $p = 0.002 < 0.05$ ), the question "To what extent do you think that immigration has affected the Greek Police in terms of Human Resources ( $p = 0.002 < 0.05$ ), the question "To what extent do you think that immigration has affected the Greek Police in terms of Working Hours" ( $p = 0.019 < 0.05$ ).

## RELATIONSHIPS

Pearson's  $r$  correlation coefficient was used to find the existence of linear correlations between the variables. The values of this coefficient range from -1 to 1. Negative values indicate the existence of a negative relationship between the two variables. This means that as the value of one variable increases, the value of the other variable decreases. Conversely, positive values indicate a positive correlation. In other words, when the value of one variable increases, so does the value of the other variable. The zero value indicates that there is no linear relationship between the two variables (Zafeiropoulos, 2015). The results from the statistically significant correlations are presented below: A positive correlation was observed between age and the question of whether respondents consider Greece to be a multicultural society ( $p < 0.01$ ,  $r = 0.321$ ). A positive correlation was also shown between the school of education and the questions "Do you think that the concepts Immigrants and appeals coincide" ( $p = 0.007 < 0.05$ ,  $r = 0.245$ ). The school of education also showed a negative correlation with the questions "Do you think that population movements have increased in recent years ( $p = 0.012 < 0.05$ ,  $r = -0.229$ ) and "Do you think that illegal immigration increases the work of the Greek Police ( $p = 0.020 < 0.05$ ,  $r = -0.213$ ).

## CONCLUSIONS-SUGGESTIONS

Some key conclusions about immigrants and refugees emerged from the research carried out. According to the majority of respondents, Greece, today, is a multicultural society, which has a rather neutral attitude towards immigrants. This is a direct consequence of the ever-increasing movement of populations in recent years. These movements affect the constitution of the state and the democratic composition of the country of settlement, such as Greece. Nevertheless, immigrants are not always easy to integrate or even join this state. Among the types of migration, external and long-term migration are the most common. Immigrants greatly affect various sectors of society, such as medical care and the economy. For this

reason, the interviewed police officers expressed the opinion that there should be suppression of migration flows while the suppression measures so far are not satisfactory. One measure, which is considered satisfactory, is the correct distribution of immigrants among the countries of the European Union. Regarding the work of the Greek Police and how it is affected by the existence of refugees and immigrants, the respondents stated that illegal immigration definitely increases their work while it has affected them to a very large extent in terms of human resources, hours and conditions work as well as their own psychology. The present work could be extended, forming a basis for further research, to another type of environmental migration, as climate changes are rapid. Digital nomads, who are a source of income for both businesses and states while tending to shape new management and employment conditions, can also be a future research.

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