



UNIVERSITY OF PIRAEUS

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS, BUSINESS AND INTERNATIONAL
STUDIES

MASTER IN LAW AND ECONOMICS

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LAW AND ECONOMICS OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

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PIRAEUS 2018

Παράρτημα Β: Βεβαίωση Εκπόνησης Διπλωματικής Εργασίας



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΠΕΙΡΑΙΩΣ
ΣΧΟΛΗ ΟΙΚΟΝΟΜΙΚΩΝ ΕΠΙΧΕΙΡΗΜΑΤΙΚΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΔΙΕΘΝΩΝ ΣΠΟΥΔΩΝ
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«ΔΙΚΑΙΟ ΚΑΙ ΟΙΚΟΝΟΜΙΑ»

ΒΕΒΑΙΩΣΗ ΕΚΠΟΝΗΣΗΣ ΔΙΠΛΩΜΑΤΙΚΗΣ ΕΡΓΑΣΙΑΣ

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Υπογραφή Μεταπτυχιακής Φοιτήτριας


Όνοματεπώνυμο : Καπετάνου Χριστίνα

Ημερομηνία 28/09/2018

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to thank my supervising professor, Aristides Hatzis, for the valuable contribution and guidance he provided me during the preparation of my thesis.

I am also grateful to all those who have supported me at every step of my life and who, with their knowledge, have been helping me with this effort. In particular, I would like to thank my parents for encouraging me and having taken me all the way through my studies.

Last but not least, I would like to thank the most important person in my life, Pano, who has supported me throughout entire process, both by keeping me harmonious and helping me putting pieces together. This accomplishment would not have been possible without you. I will always be grateful for your love.

Thank you.
Christina Kapetanou

SUMMARY

The intensity of migratory flows is an indisputable reality in global level. Many countries around the world have become recipients of migrant population. The incentives for the movement of these populations are abundant: economic inequalities, social-political turmoil and others environmental disasters. Our country, like other European countries, has not stayed intact from this dynamic migratory landscape. The purpose of this work is to analyze and present the phenomenon of irregular immigration and to document the existing situation concerning the numbers, the legal status, the working status and activities of the illegal immigrants.

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

A	Article
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
EU	European Union
FRONTEX	(From French: Frontières extérieures for “external borders”) European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of the Member States of European Union
ie	id est (Latin abbreviation meaning: that is)
etc	et cetera (Latin abbreviation meaning: and so on)

INTRODUCTION

Immigration is defined as the permanent or temporary change of the place of establishment of a person or a social entity. It is a global phenomenon connected with the human evaluation, which has evolved from antiquity to this day and is one of the oldest manifestations in the history of humanity. Whole cultures have been created due to this phenomenon. During history, the population movements took place mainly due to the fact that the economic situation in the host countries was much better, than that prevailing in the countries of origin. This means that these people could seek out and secure a better living level and a better quality of life.

As a continuous flow of people to and from a region, immigration is one of the three basic demographic processes. By the term immigration we mean the change in a person's place of residence., whether it is permanent or temporary. By illegal immigration we mean entering a foreign country illegally, either by using illegal documents or with no documents, or legally entered at first and then remaining illegally. Furthermore, there is another case of irregular immigrants, which concerns immigrants who have applied for asylum in the host country, their application was rejected and they still live in the country. In modern times, immigration and illegal immigration are a single phenomenon. In particular, illegal immigration could be considered the "nocturnal" child of immigration, since in essence it appears where immigrant "host" countries exhaust somehow their ability to accept legal migrants.

Every year, thousands of people leave their homes and search for a better quality of life. This is due to many factors including results of war, hunger, drought and epidemics as well as the increasing economic gap between rich and poor countries. The movements of individuals or groups of people have become particularly intense in recent years, causing reactions from a part of society of the countries to which these migrants are directed. The financial and social problems faced by some countries can cause sharper reactions to immigrants and as a result xenophobia and racism are intensively observed.

Over the next decades, international immigration is likely to change its characteristics, mainly due to: the effects of the global economic crisis - which seems to slow down migration in many places of the world, although it does not appear to actually stimulate immigration return - demographic change, climate change, policy instability, warfare, and new international policies; economic dynamics in general.

This thesis, entitled "Law and Economics of Illegal Immigration", has as main objective the examination and presentation of the phenomenon of illegal immigration in our country, with particular emphasis, firstly on the economic dimensions of this phenomenon and secondly on its impact on the disruption of the legal order and the lawfulness in our country in general.

Regarding the structure of this master thesis, in the first chapter is studied the profile of illegal immigrants. In this chapter we will analyse the profile of illegal immigrants and we will deal with the socio-political dimensions of illegal immigration. More specifically, we will examine their social profile, their social integration level and we will look at the impact of the presence of illegal immigrants on local communities in our country. Furthermore, considering the political dimension of the phenomenon, the abstaining of illegal immigrants from the political scene of our country on the one hand and the emergence of extreme right ideologies against illegal immigrants on the other, are the issues that will concern us in a second place.

In the second chapter, which is the main chapter of the present study, the economic dimensions of this phenomenon will be discussed. Based on the available data and through a thorough review of international and Greek literature, there will be made an attempt to assess the impact of irregular immigration on the Greek economy and how the presence and participation of irregular migrants has affected the economic life of our country. In this chapter, the second topic that we will investigate is the characteristics of the Greek labor market, in terms of employment and unemployment figures as well as its problematic aspects (such as low productivity, fragmentation, undeclared work), that interfere with its proper functioning and to what extent this is affected by the presence of illegal immigrants. The implications of the integration of immigrants into the workforce are being investigated through the findings of available scientific research on various parameters including wages, unemployment, GDP and shadow economy.

In the third chapter we will deal with the criminality of illegal immigrants in comparison with that of the Greeks. We will try to analyze the phenomenon of crime as exhaustively as possible so as to form a comprehensive picture. The factors which consult in illegal immigrants; criminality and the crimes that they usually commit, are the two main topics which will be discussed in this chapter. Furthermore, we will analyze the impact of illegal immigration on the national security and we will discuss about the threat to public order and national security and the development of xenophobic and racist behaviors. Last but not least, the confrontation of illegal immigrants by the prosecution authorities and the formal system of criminal justice is a matter which will be discussed.

Concluding and having formed an integrated picture of the extent and dimensions of the illegal immigration phenomenon in Greece, we will be able to draw conclusions and suggest the best possible treatment.

CHAPTER 1. The profile of illegal immigrants

Historically, "illegal immigration", as a social phenomenon, coincides with the emergence of the legal status of the "state" and the related concepts of the sovereignty of citizens' borders, which have restricted and placed under the control of state power. Regarding illegal immigrants, these are foreigners who have either entered the country from the outset without legal travel documents, so that they are classified as "illegal immigrants" or entered lawfully in a certain capacity (tourism, studies, legal work, etc.) but then remain unlawfully in the country, as illegal immigrants (Karydis 1996). Concerning the profile of illegal immigrants, we identify as illegal immigrants those who are "unsecured", meaning those who are not eligible for registration in and benefits from the social security system.

Societally, illegal immigration is an unlawful form of so-called "external" migration, ie the movement of individuals or groups from their country of origin to another country-state with an ethnical entity, social structure and same culture. The main cause of the phenomenon of immigration and consequently of illegal immigration has always been the search for better "living conditions", which creates a strong "dynamic" movement of people or groups from under development countries into economically, socially and politically advanced countries.

The growing ethnic and racial diversity observed in modern times societies is an inevitable consequence of immigration. The increasing immigration means that an increasing number of countries are confronted with the challenge of providing hospitality to people from different cultures, religion and language. Xenophobia and racism have become apparent in some societies that have received a large number of immigrants, as workers or applicants' asylum. In those countries, immigrants have become targets in the internal disagreements about national identity. Illegal entry, residence and work of immigrants makes the situation even more difficult, as it creates a number of undesirable situations at economic, social and political levels. The challenges faced by the host countries are complex and make it imperative to adopt political solutions (Cavounides 2004).

Regarding the illegal immigration phenomenon in Greece, apart from the sudden transformation of Greece into a host country of immigrants, whose mass entrance to the country was unprepared for the state - Greek citizens and Greek society in general- Greece and other immigrant countries have not managed to fully integrate migrants into the legal labour market, resulting in a significant number of illegal immigrants. These weaknesses in the implementation of immigration policy, combined with the absence of a harmonized European immigration policy,

hamper the full achievement of its necessary objectives. As a result, instead of immigration being viewed as a "positive challenge", it is considered as "a negative threat" to seek to overcome politically, with xenophobic and racist syndromes, thus detracting from the gravity and significance of a European issue, with humanitarian, political, socio-economic and cultural dimensions (Moisides & Papadopoulou 2011). Of course, it would be misleading to ignore that since 2009, Greece turned point in its history as it signed a lasting period of recession, which pushed large groups of society into uncertainty and poverty. Within this context, a representation of immigration as a threat was dominant in the public dialogue (Figgou 2014). Extreme anti-immigration rhetoric characterized the political agenda of all right parties of the Greek Parliament. The most important consequence of the fact that the majority of Greeks share the same view against immigrants, was that the neo-Nazi party named "Golden Dawn", managed to win important electoral rates in the period of crisis (Figgou et al. 2013).

1.1 Social Situation

Social inclusion is defined as a situation where different ethnic groups maintain their uniqueness and the boundaries of the group to which they belong but at the same time, they participate equally with natives in basic production processes, distribution of goods and services and administration. Immigrants who enter a society, have already been incorporated and socialized into another society, that of their origin. They have already suffered a first socialization as opposed to the society of natives who have not known the process of de-socialization and re-socialization. The immigrant, in order to be able to participate in the receiving society, should abandon part of the values and habits of the old society and adopt part of the new values of the receiving society. The more successful this process is, the more successful it is to integrate (Moisides & Papadopoulou 2011).

The socio-cultural dimension, namely the adoption of cultural standards in the host country and the dissemination of corresponding cultural elements of third-country nationals in the country that they have been installed, as well as the acceptance of the value system of the host society complement the charter of criteria for the social integration of third-country nationals in our country. Essentially, these are two approaches. On one hand, the third- country nationals must be forced to adopt the value system of the host country and on the other hand, it is emphasized the importance of their particular characteristics and the need of an existing system of values in the host country that favors preserving some of the third- country's unique cultural elements.

Illegal immigrants intentionally keep themselves at a distance from all public authorities. They are mobilized through the existing informal social networks and ethnic associations, as well

as non-governmental organizations that operate as mediators between authorities and immigrants. (Kanellopoulos et al. 2006). Furthermore, they are not entitled to any social services with the exception of emergency and child medical treatment. In terms of educational facilities, the children of illegal immigrants are entitled to free education, since no formal documents are needed for their enrollment (Papasiopi-Pasia, 2007).

The social integration of third-country nationals is largely the responsibility of the host country which sets out the institutional framework for migration flows and develops strategies and policies that lead to their placement in the society. Of course, the policies and strategies of the host country that lead to the social integration of third-country nationals is a function of social and political organization level, the system of social values, cultural values models and ideological concepts for their place in the world system.

Regardless of these social, political and cultural levels of host countries, the process of social inclusion has varying dimensions dominating the integration of a structural form that refers to access to basic institutions of the country in which immigrants are installed, such as the education system, the labor market, or the political system. The three axes of work, education and identity construction in relation to the migratory phenomenon constitutes a comprehensive and multilevel picture of the social integration of illegal immigrants in Greek society. The involvement of migrants in national social institutions is the responsibility of all of us, both the formal policy and the everyday informal activity of every citizen. In the years to come and under the weight of a devastating economic crisis, we must find those mechanisms that will allow some forms of integration to become reality in Greek society (Moisides & Papadopoulou 2011).

1.2 Economic Situation

Definitely, the immigrant's integration into the market of the host country is the main factor of social inclusion and as defined by the European Commission "integration into society is identical to integration into work" and here refers to paid work because work itself is a necessary passport for almost all forms social participation (European Commission, 1994).

Immigration in Greece, as relevant statistics which are available indicate, has strong working dimensions. The plurality of immigrants is receiving the decision to move and settle in Greece with the aim of finding work. This fact refers to the coexistence of a domestic and an alien labour force under the same labour market, resulting in quantitative and the qualitative rebalancing of labour supply with the demand side remaining unchanged. It is, therefore, the

reflection of how it translates into the coexistence of native and foreign potential workers. Are pressures practicing bidirectionally, or this is about a smooth integration of immigrants into the domestic market work?

The overwhelming majority of migrants are young adults and in particular, men rather than women, are the ones who are the majority among Albanians and other migrants. Unauthorised migrants generally come as individual workers, whereas families are more frequent among refugees and ethnic Greeks. However, as immigrants become more settled, the number of families increases, even among the unauthorised population (Reyneri 2001).

Circular migration across the land border between Greece and Albania was, for many years, one of the most significant irregular migratory flows across the EU's external borders. While in the last four years the number detections settled slightly below 9.000, between 2008 and 2010 it stood at 35.300-42.000, which accounted for more than a third of all detections at the EU level. Since being granted visa-free travel to the EU in late 2010, Albanian nationals have been detected crossing the border illegally in much lower numbers, with only slightly more than 5 000 detections in 2011 and 2012.

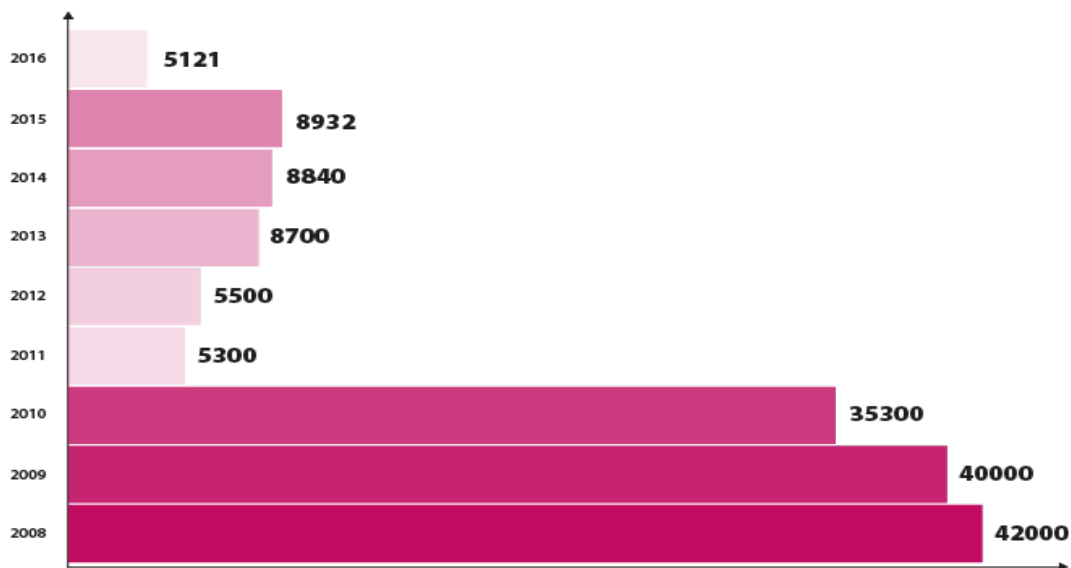


Chart 1.

Illegal border crossings on the circular migration route between Greece and Albania in numbers.

Source: Frontex

Data presented refer to the number of detections of illegal border-crossing at the external borders of the European Union. Illegal border-crossings at the external borders may be attempted several times by the same person.

<http://frontex.europa.eu/trends-and-routes/circular-route-from-albania-to-greece/>

It is important to note that upon detection, Albanian nationals crossing the border illegally were immediately returned to Albania, but quickly attempted re-entry to Greece, which means that the number of detections was higher than the actual number of migrants attempting to cross the border.

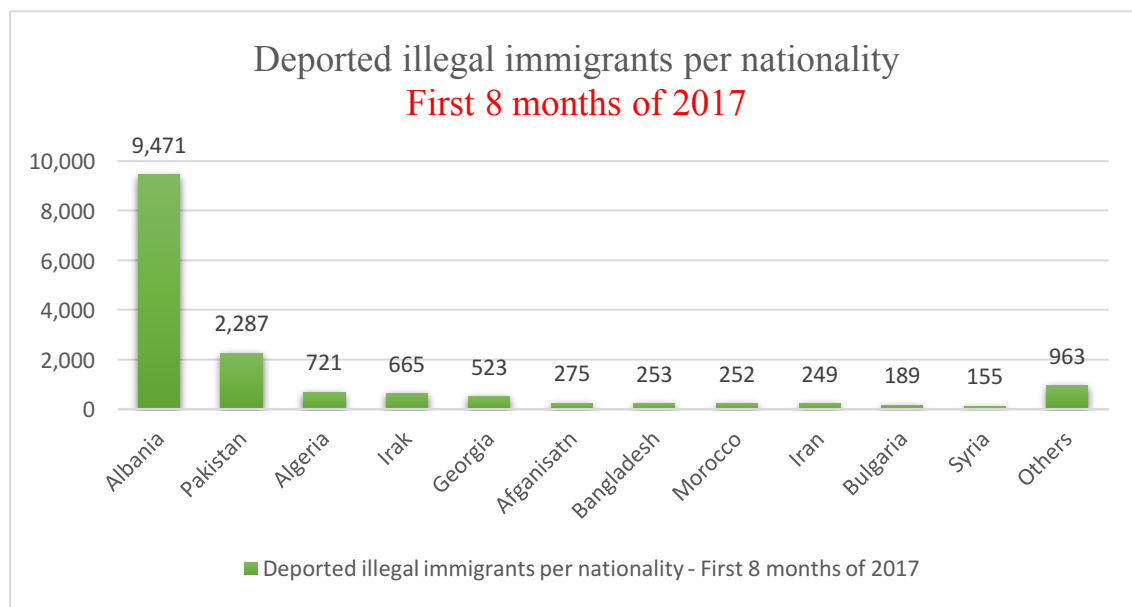


Chart 2. Deported illegal immigrants per nationality - First 8 months of 2017

Source: Hellenic Police

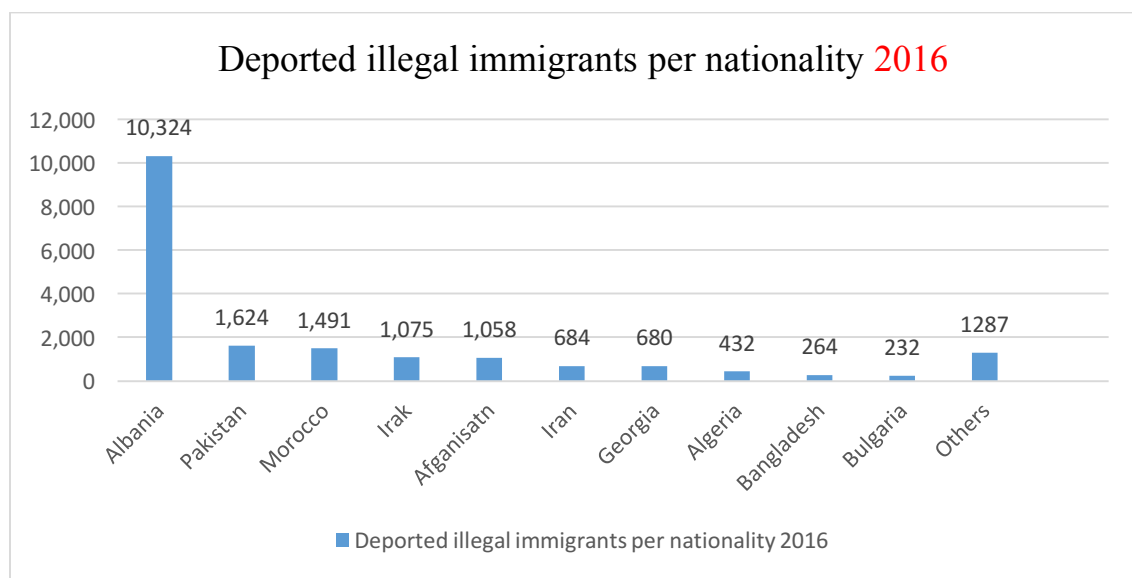


Chart 3. Deported illegal immigrants per nationality - First 8 months of 2017

Source: Hellenic Police

According to the most recent available data from Hellenic Police, the total amount of illegal immigrants deported from our country in the year 2016 was 19,151. They mainly came from 10 different nationalities, most of them coming from countries of the East. The same situation was noticed in the first 8 months of 2017 as well, when the total number of deported illegal immigrants amounted to 16,003, while irregular immigration from Syria was also observed.

The principal reason of this flow is mainly economic, with most immigrants taking up seasonal jobs in agriculture and the construction business. The fact that Albanian migrants could easily, cheaply and repeatedly attempt to illegally cross the border with Greece, and that Greek businesses which illegally employed Albanians were rarely prosecuted, combined to form strong pull factors.

The participation of third-country nationals in the labor market of the country it is a function of many factors such as: what immigration policy is followed by the country in which the immigrant is settled, the individual's characteristics (education, specializations, marital status, age, gender, knowledge of the language of the host country) and the entrance to the host country (legal or illegal). Therefore, the conditions that grew up and play a role are, first of all, the level of the immigrant's socialization in the sending country and eventually his personality but also the conditions prevailing in the labor market in the host country and the immigration strategies that the host country has adopted.

Illegal immigrants are generally employed in sectors displaying informal activity and unskilled labor-intensity: construction, small-scale or "informal" factories (garment), house maintenance and repairs, agriculture, housekeeping and family care, tourism, catering and street-selling. Many illegal immigrants work as day laborers and frequently they change employers and manual occupations. Due to their illegal status, they are prepared to accept any job they are being offered. They usually hold dirty, dangerous and servile jobs, although many of them have either technical training or a formal education beyond primary school (Reyneri 2001).

An important aspect of employment in Greece is the fact that the employment of illegal immigrants in the underground economy has been accompanied by a major shift from family labor to wage-labor. Various economic activities previously carried out by family labor are now carried out by hired wage-labor (Cavounides 2002). The availability of cheap migrant labor has facilitated the transfer of this type of work to be paid sector. The substitution of migrant labor for family labor has occurred mostly in agriculture. The large supply of migrant labor willing to work at rates below the minimum daily wage made the hiring of wage-labor possible at a time when

family labor was increasingly difficult to draw on, since Greek youths shun agriculture and aspire to urban jobs. The substitution of migrant wage-labor for family labor has occurred, as well as in non-agricultural family enterprises, that is in small enterprises in the manufacturing sector. (Kanellopoulos et al. 2006)

1.3 Political Participation

Participation in the political life of a place includes both rights and issues of representation. Integration and participation of immigrants at different levels of social and political life are directly linked to the political and regulatory policies of the two sides, ie immigrants and the society that welcomes them, as well as the obligations arising therefrom.

With regard to formal political participation, voting and standing for elections is still completely restricted to Greek citizens. EE citizens can participate in the local and European Parliament elections (on the basis of Directive 94/80 EC). There are no formal institutions or mechanisms (such as advisory committees at municipal council level or voting rights in local elections) for the participation of third-country nationals in political life. Participation in the political sphere requires the acquisition of nationality.

If a person wishes to participate in the political system of the place of residence, then his first step should be to obtain citizenship and to learn and understand the political culture of the host country. Thus, when that person officially becomes a member of the group then will automatically obtain political rights. From this point of view, interest and willingness to participate in the political process can serve as a driver for naturalization and essentially complete the process of integration (Triandafyllidou & Maroukis 2010).

Most illegal immigrants are too concerned with making ends meet, as well as not being arrested by the Police, so it is difficult for them to find the time and energy to organize in their respective ethnic associations (Gropas & Triandafyllidou, 2005) However, due to complications, restrictions, and bureaucracy in the regularization processes, achieving legal status becomes the main concern for many illegal immigrants in Greece. In effect, most illegal immigrants tend to turn to their community for support and information regarding the regularization process. Social and cultural activities are of a secondary priority.

Immigration is a constituent and structural element of American civil society but not of the European at the same degree. The factor of the time is needed to mature Greek society and to

abolish the wrong stereotypes and the rough policies, so as to open the way for the substantial participation of immigrants in Greek society in all its institutions.

CHAPTER 2. Fiscal effects of illegal immigration

Political changes in the former socialist countries, wretched social and economic conditions, rapid industrial restructuring of formerly centrally planned economies coupled with low incomes, high unemployment and escalating violent political conflicts have created new migratory flows to European countries. The main reason of the migratory flows to the European Union since the early 1990s has been either job search in case of unregulated and unplanned migratory flows or the coverage of specific jobs in case of organized travel based on formal judicial agreements.

It is a recognizable fact that immigrants contribute both to social and cultural enrichment of the host country as well as to entrepreneurship by influencing the respective indicators, as they increase the supply of labor and help to remedy the shortcomings. In many European countries, the influx of immigrants has been a “stimulus injection” to the shrinking workforce. These are fears from the time that the existence of a large number of foreigners in the labor market, deprives the locals of the possibility of employment. This is probably due to the following reasons:

- The lack of infrastructure on the part of the state for the first-stage reception and the residence of immigrants as well as the lack of a wider immigration policy intensify the problem and worsen it.
- The lack of education, as children reproduce xenophobic and racist views from adults because there is no way of educating themselves with special courses in schools to deal with this multicultural and multicultural society in the first place.

Surveys about the economic impact of illegal immigrants in Greece are much less than in the other European countries, and even more comparatively with those in US, both in size and in depth. This is mainly due to the lack of statistical information, which is the consequence of the illegality of a large and significant proportion of immigrants. Evidence from studies in many countries has shown that the arrival of a large number of immigrants in a particular country, including a large proportion of illegal workers, has significant implications on the total production (GDP), the size of the undeveloped economy, the wage rates of both locals and immigrants, the indigenous unemployment, the income distribution, the technological development and last but

not least the social security and health systems. The studies referring to Greece do not indicate any difference or any exception to this rule.

The dominant issue in the immigration field is probably the "xenophobia" that has been strongly developed, but on the other hand it solves a major problem that has been observed in Western societies in the last few years: the aging of the population and furthermore regarding our place in particular contributes to the revitalization of the province and especially the small villages. Nationally the less educated tend to be the most opposed to immigration, with their opposition being stronger in countries with larger immigrant populations. Taxpayers in high-immigration countries have also been vocal opponents of illegal immigration. Governments, in contrast, appears to enjoy a net fiscal surplus from illegal immigration (Hanson 2007).

In the not so stable financial situation of Greek citizens, rising unemployment and falling living standards have the effect of confronting immigrants as competitors in the same society, which is why they also consider it a direct risk. On the contrary, the effects of immigration are often described as very positive for the country's economy. The low payment of illegal or not foreign workers, which sometimes reaches 50-60% of a normal wage, contributes positively to the Greek economy, both in product and employment growth. With the employment of illegal immigrants, we have a reduction in production costs, resulting in a more economical final product and a stronger entrepreneurship, as well as with the increase of the population due to immigration, we also have a corresponding increase in consumption, which positively closes the cycle of production- disposal - consumption. Illegal immigrants are also an important part of the labor market, mainly in jobs that are either unable or uninterested in the work of Greek workers due to the substantial absorption of Greek society into the Western way of life.

2.1 Effects on public finances

Establishing the fiscal impact of illegal immigration is a challenge both in theory and in practice. Not everyone agrees on how to calculate it, which makes it difficult to make strong claims about the exact size of the fiscal impact of illegal immigration. In particular, assumptions need to be made about:

- How illegal immigration affects the costs of providing public services.
- Conceptual matters include things like what costs to attribute to illegal immigrants, such as the costs of educating the Greece-born children of immigrants, or the cost of things

like defence spending that do not necessarily depend on the size of the immigrant population.

- Practical matters include things like data limitations – for example estimates of taxes paid depend on earnings- but there are no statistics on what illegal immigrants as they are either self-employed, or they are illegally employed.
- Whether to take a snapshot of the fiscal impact in a given year or period based on historical data (the "static approach"), or attempt to consider impacts over immigrants' entire lifetimes (the "dynamic" approach). <https://fullfact.org/immigration/how-immigrants-affect-public-finances/>

The net fiscal impact of immigration is the difference between the contributions immigrants make to public finances, and the costs of the benefits and public services they receive. There is no single "correct" estimate of this impact. Results of existing studies all depend on the methodology and the assumptions researchers must make.

Ian Preston in his paper "The Effect of Immigration on Public Finances" mentions this: "A full understanding of the exchequer consequences of immigration is unavoidably dynamic but before advancing to a treatment which recognises these aspects, we need first of all to think through the nature of effects in a static atemporal setting. Consider a country with a population of P individuals, composed of N natives and M immigrants. Immigration policy is taken to determine the rate of immigration $\mu = M/N$ so that overall population size can be written $P = N(1 + \mu)$. Immigration, because it changes the composition and size of the population alters the public budget constraint, both bringing in new sources of revenue and new sources of demands on services, but possibly also affecting the revenue-contributing capacity of existing resources and the cost of delivery of existing demands. To keep things simple, we can let both total revenue collected $R(P, \mu)$ and total spending $S(P, \mu)$ depend on size P and the ratio of immigrants to natives μ . Government budget balance requires $R(P, \mu) = S(P, \mu)$ and immigration eases public finances if the difference between revenue gained and spending incurred as a consequence of expanding numbers $\partial(R - S)/\partial P$ outweighs any net revenue loss due to compositional change $1/N \partial(R - S)/\partial \mu$." (Preston 2014).

However, illegal immigration has a clear economic logic: It provides business with types of workers they want, when they want them and where they want them. As workers and consumers, immigrants are generators of revenue for public budgets. Illegal immigrants contribute with their work to the increase of the national income and hence to the increase of the GDP. This means that we have extra work and additional work creates additional income. Another important influence is the decline in the consumer price index (inflation). This is because

immigrants create increase in production, that is, more goods. They consume some of them, but a portion of their income goes into remittances in the country they come from. Consequently, the total consumption of immigrants is not equal with the income they generate and that is why we have a small drop in prices.

Regarding the situation in Greece, the fiscal impact overall depends on the characteristics of individual immigrants and what they do in Greece. The Greek economy is split into three areas: the public sector, the regular private one and the irregular private one, which is probably the most important. This is the outcome of the widespread persistence of family-based production: self-employed and family workers account for nearly half of those employed (Cavounides 1998). Illegal immigrants who are young, skilled and working in highly-paid jobs are likely to make a more positive net fiscal contribution than those working in low-wage jobs with large families.

In theory, reducing undocumented immigrants' eligibility for public services—particularly the right to work authorization—eliminates the 'magnet' that leads them to immigrate in the first place. However, the migratory flows towards our country are more intense and the levels of illegal immigration are constantly rising. The laws that deny work authorization to the undocumented or prohibit unauthorized entry, can appear to violate what some would deem to be legitimate social practices. The legitimacy of residence is not only a guarantee for the acquisition of certain fundamental social rights by illegal immigrants but at the same time it offers the possibility of claiming wider human rights. Furthermore, recognition and above all, the enjoyment of basic social rights entails in practice an increase in direct and indirect labor costs of the employers' side. As a result, the non legalization of illegal immigrants and undeclared work essentially serves the need to secure a low-cost foreign resource tanker with reduced or zero rights, within the context of a developmental logic based on considering work, solely as a cost which it should at all costs be reduced to low levels (Kapsalis 2011).

The majority of illegal immigrant workers entering Greece find a huge, firmly rooted and flourishing underground economy, which offers them a wide range of jobs without demanding any documents, either for working or for staying (Reyneri 2001). The underground economy in Greece cuts across the entire social and economic structure. It has been estimated that as many as 16-20% of wage earners are not registered (Fakiolas 1998). Moreover, a large proportion of self-employment is not under any control whatsoever and moonlighting is common among public employees, who are the largest group of regular wage earners. The sectors most likely to be uncontrolled are tourism, agriculture, construction, housekeeping and the retail trade, but small manufacturing firms (especially textile and clothing) are also concerned.

In terms of the area of the black economy, where the largest number of illegal immigrants is common, the view that the black economy is preserved because immigrant workers is mistaken, firstly, because immigrants are not the majority, and secondly, because immigrants find work due to the existence of black economy and not the opposite. Moreover, the black economy is related to the development of capitalism, especially in times of economic crisis. Many Greek businesses, particularly small-scale companies, where underground economy activity is encouraged, are making use of the cheap and flexible labor force to reduce their operating costs and maintain the viability of their activities, which need modernization (Linardos Rylmon 2003). Such activities coexist with illegal employment, which illegal immigrants offer to a large extent due to the fact that it is a cheap, unskilled and labor-intensive labor force, with the result that there is a feedback relationship between the black economy and the illegal immigrants (Karasavoglou 1998). In addition, the black economy is widespread among powerful social groups, too, such as lawyers and doctors. As it allows whole sectors of the economy to survive, everyone, including public bodies, avoids the issue of irregular employment, particularly of foreign workers. Since 1988, the government has tried to combat tax evasion, hoping to limit the underground economy, but with poor results (Reyneri 2001).

2.2 Labor market effects

Migrant behaviour in the labor market is different from that of Greek workers. The reasons are obvious: First and foremost, the decision on immigration and the implementation of this decision means that immigrants generally have the intention to work and therefore their participation in the workforce will be great. Of course, there are always people, among immigrants, who will not seek work or will work occasionally, as for example mothers and children. In general, however, the percentage of immigrants in the workforce is expected to be higher than that of Greeks. Secondly, immigrants generally do not have the financial support of their family, state or friends to resist leaving the labor market. Thirdly, many immigrants, perhaps most, aim to return home in the shortest possible time with the highest possible amount of savings. As a result, it is possible not only to participate in the workforce but also to work longer hours and more days if there is work (Lianos 2003).

The participation of foreigners in production generates their income, part of which will take the form of remittances in the country of origin and which may be part of the host country's demand for products from the country of origin of the aliens, while the rest, which is the most, will be consumed within the host country for the purchase of consumer goods (food, clothing, housing, etc.). At the same time, this income strengthens the total demand and production, while

the increase in production also leads to an increase in employment, both for Greeks and immigrants (Katsoridas 2006).

In Southern Europe more people work in sectors where it is easier to ignore administrative rules: agriculture, building, small manufacturing firms and services or self-employment. Furthermore, state regulation of economic activities is traditionally strict, but enforcement is slack and free rider behaviour is not firmly condemned by public opinion. The informal labour market, though, has some characteristics specific to the various countries (Reyneri 2001).

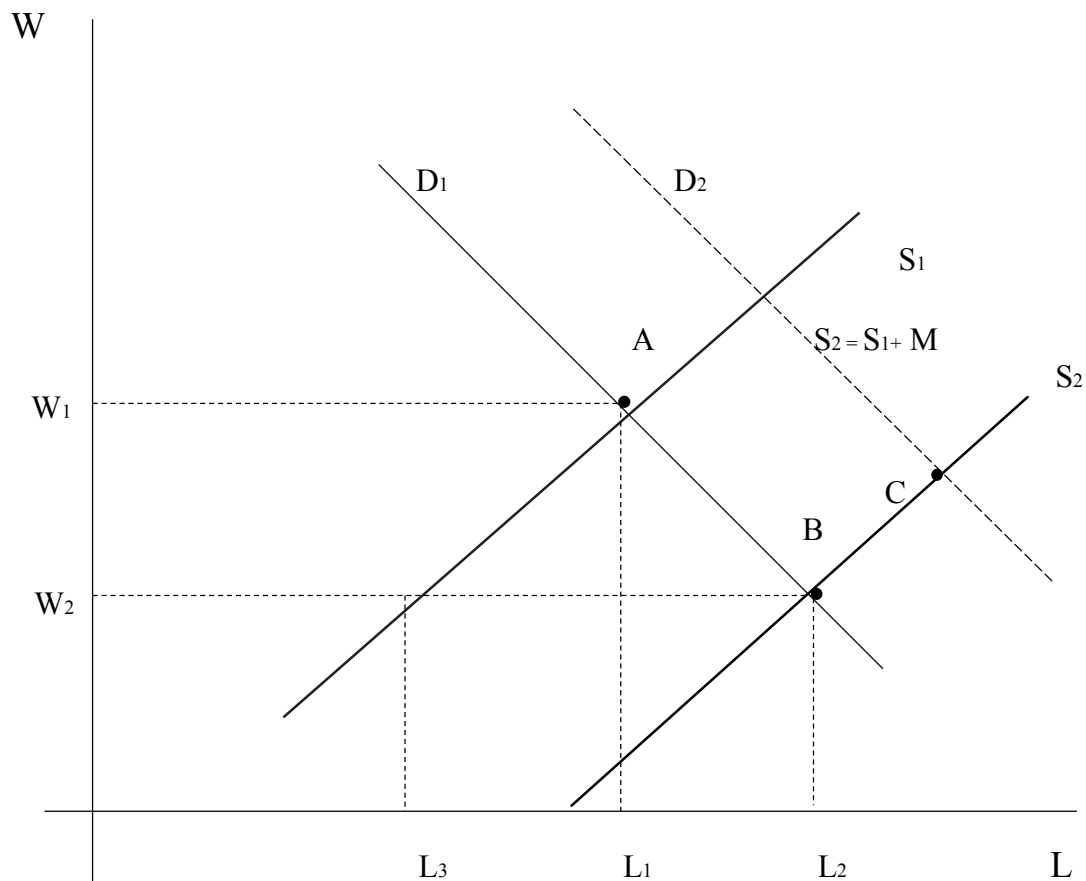
With regard to migrant perception, the most important motive to become part of the Greek labor force is the demand for working hands - especially in jobs for which Greeks do not show interest - and, more generally, the need for a continuous supply of labor on a long-term basis economic development. However, a major problem that illegal immigrants face in Greece is the fact that they are often victims of exploitation as cheap labor hands. It is quite common for foreign workers to be exploited by their employers. Many times, the wages are not paid to illegal immigrants, by employers who threaten them to surrender them to the Police for deportation. Moreover, immigrants' illegal status as well as the prospect of short-term residence in Greece make it difficult for them to be employed in large enterprises. Since they cannot enter the market and the formal economy, they create incentives for employment in small businesses or in large-scale businesses in the field of the black economy.

Immigration is a positive factor in the country's development process due to the fact that it contributes to increased production and employment, while offering an opportunity to increase the composition of the population and the labor force of a country. In many sectors of the economy, immigrants meet the real needs of production, because Greek workers do not even work on jobs that are considered unhealthy, manual, dangerous or badly paid. Therefore, even if the substitution of local workers by foreigners is to a large extent, it is offset by the new jobs created by the contribution of immigrants to the increase in production volume and GDP growth.

2.3 The impact of illegal immigrants on native earnings and employment

It is believed that immigrants, especially the illegal immigrants, are responsible for the existence of low wages, as they exert pressure in order the wages to be reduced as well as for the preservation of the underground economy as well, since they are mainly employed in the second labor market. Thus, they argue that if immigrants leave or if there is a controlled influx of the phenomenon (which will direct immigrants according to the needs of the economy), jobs will not

be filled by immigrants but instead by local workers. At the same time, they say that wages will remain high and unemployment will fall (Katsoridas 2006).



The basic model of labor supply and demand has often been used as a guide to the analysis of the impact of migration. According to Lianos (2003), the basic idea of Johnson (1980), who was one the first who elaborated a study of this content, immigration is a shifting of the labor supply curve and the end result of this shift depends on the supply and demand elasticity in the area of the equilibrium point. The equilibrium point before migration, corresponds to the A with salary W_1 and employment of domestic workers L_1 . Migration shifts labor supply to S_2 , which results from the horizontal sum of the quantities of S_1 and a given amount of labor for migrants. Under normal assumptions, the new equilibrium point is B, resulting in a drop in wage to W_2 and the increase in total employment (domestic and immigrants) in L_2 . In this model, all immigrants are employed because they are offered to work at any salary level, but domestic employment is

reduced from L1 to L3. The workers represented by the distance between L3 and L1, leave the labor force and are not considered unemployed because according to neoclassical theory they choose to leave the labor market at the lowest salary W2. Summarizing, immigration in this model increases employment overall but reduces the employment of domestic workers with whom immigrants compete. Furthermore, the level of wages is reduced as well.

However, the results change significantly if the shape of the supply curve changes, for example in the extreme cases where labor supply is totally inelastic and when it is completely elastic due to minimum wages. Therefore, the effects of migration on employment depend on the situation that prevails in the labor market.

Nevertheless, in this analysis we did not take into consideration the demand side. The presence of immigrants in an economy, it is obvious that affects not only the labor supply but also the labor demand. This is due to the fact that they increase the overall demand as consumers as well as the share of profits, possibly resulting in higher investment and productive activity in general. Consequently, the initial negative effects on employment and wages can be offset to a small or large extent. In the diagram above, the dotted demand curve D2 intersects the supply curve in that point (C point) where the level of wages and employment of domestic workers remain constant. In this case, immigration has led to an increase in employment equal to the increase in labor supply.

The overall conclusion of this analysis is that the effects of immigration on the employment of the domestic workforce and the level of wages depend on the supply and demand of labor and also on the possible shifting of the labor demand curve. Immigration has a weak effect on the employment of natives. Specific labour markets confirm the finding that immigration seems to have little impact even when the market receives very large immigrant flows. Similar conclusions also arise with regard to the negative impact of immigrant labor on the wages of native workers due to the acceptance by foreign onerous pay terms of lower rates - in some cases - even the legal minimums.

Individuals who are especially likely to see immigrants as competing with members of the host society for jobs and material resources—in other words, individuals who are especially likely to see the relation between immigrants and non-immigrants as zero-sum—are particularly likely to hold negative attitudes toward immigrants and immigration (Esses, Hodson & Dovidio 2003).

The employment of illegal immigrants has multiplier effects on the incomes and employment of Greeks. If we take into account the fact that many small and medium-sized businesses survive competition due to the cheap labor of foreign workers, through which they are even able to keep their products at low prices for the benefit of small producers and consumers, which in turn has a downward impact on the inflation. Furthermore, if we also take into consideration that employers and the state have the advantage that they have not paid for the cost of developing and educating foreign workers who entered the decade since 1990, since the cost of producing them has been covered by the societies of the countries that come from, then the overall impact of immigration on employment is positive.

2.3.1 Skilled and unskilled immigrants

Apart from the general contribution of illegal immigrants to the country's economic development, the economic situation of some groups of the population is burdensome. Countries which have skill filters “attract” a relatively more skilled immigrant flow and it is clear from all the relevant surveys that illegal immigrants, by offering low-cost, incompetent work, contribute positively to increased economic efficiency and anchor, but worsen the economic distribution of income to the unskilled.

In particular, unskilled workers, as well as workers in the agricultural sector, are more affected by the influx of illegal immigrants and this is due to the fact that illegal immigrants appear to have the lowest education levels and to be the most concentrated in low-wage occupations, such as construction, food preparation, cleaning services and agriculture. As a result, rural households benefit while households with unskilled laborers have a decline in their real disposable income. On the contrary, households with a head of a skilled worker seem to be benefiting from illegal immigration.

Due to steady increases in high school completion rates, native-born workers with low schooling levels are increasingly hard to find. Yet these workers are an important part of the domestic economy (Hanson 2007). Illegal immigrants with relatively fewer skills are mainly active in the primary sector and construction, while those with relatively more skills, as identified by their educational level, show an appreciable shareholding apart from construction and the tertiary sector of services, and in particular in the trade, hotels and restaurants as well as other business activities and health care.

By accelerating the recognition of their degrees, the good knowledge of the Greek language, the acquisition of expertise and the gradual taking of responsibilities, skilled illegal immigrants could move to better positions. This would help to increase the supply of skilled labor and, due to the greater mobility they display, in their better spatial distribution (Labrianidis & Lumperaki 2001). But most are considered incompetent to take the most responsible positions. Almost all the older illegal immigrants in Greece, irrespective of their origin, have been employed for many years in unskilled and generally unrelated work and are logically not aware of the technological development in it. Nor have they attended training seminars, like many Greeks, with the passing of their stay and their mobility is diminishing because they create their own household. From the outset, when there was a linguistic impediment, the possibilities of using their specialties were limited. Meanwhile, with the gradual expansion of the education system, the supply from Greek graduates is sufficient. Most of the skilled illegal immigrant workers who have settled in Greece recently are occupied in unskilled jobs, and therefore their studies are almost similar to those in the Western world. For these reasons, however, it does not seem necessary to take advantage of their specialties. Generally, about half of the illegal immigrants in Greece are over-educated in the profession they exercise and the majority of them are women (Fakiolas 2008)

2.3.2 Unemployment of natives

There is often a view - not necessarily of conservative or xenophobic movements, but also of a small share of the scientific community – that illegal immigrants are responsible for the unemployment of Greek workers. This view is not just wrong, but it also lacks any documentation. While there is a fact that in some jobs there is a displacement of Greeks from foreigners (eg construction), however, this view in its entirety has not been proved so far by numbers. On the contrary, the evidence shows that the substitution of the domestic labor force by illegal immigrants is low.

Concerning the issue of job cuts by local workers, relevant studies in countries with a tradition of receiving aliens, such as America, have failed to prove the negative relationship between the two factors of illegal immigration and unemployment (Katsoridas 2006). The estimated correlations between native wages and the immigrant share in local labour markets do not support the hypothesis that the employment opportunities of native born workers are strongly and adversely affected by immigration (Borjas 1994).

Excessive unemployment emerges as a product of capitalist restructuring and its consequences, such as the introduction of new technologies in the production process, the level

of profits of entrepreneurs, and the liquidation of insufficiently capitalized capital in order to achieve profitability growth. The labor market depends directly on the country's development strategy, which is why it is a mistake to look at it individually. This means that the number of jobs is not determined by the Greek economy in general, but in contrast it depends to economic policy, i.e. political power (Katsoridas 2006)

There are factors favouring the recruitment of illegal immigrants, such as the willingness to accept a lower salary, but there are also factors that make it difficult to recruit them, such as the lack of appropriate skills, the difficulty of moving or the possible discrimination against them. It would be expected the unemployment rate to be lower for immigrants, given that they would be willing to accept a salary cut or ignore difficult working conditions or to take up jobs below their qualifications or temporary and occasional jobs without insurance etc. Of course, employment is not only a matter of immigrant supply, but also of employers' demand (Lianos 2003).

Table 1. Activity and unemployment rates of Greeks and foreigners during 2016

Nationality and gender	Activity rate				Unemployment rate			
	1st Quarter 2016	2nd Quarter 2016	3rd Quarter 2016	4th Quarter 2016	1st Quarter 2016	2nd Quarter 2016	3rd Quarter 2016	4th Quarter 2016
Total	52,0	52,2	52,4	51,9	24,9	23,1	22,6	23,6
Greek Nationality	51,0	51,1	51,5	51,0	24,2	22,7	22,4	23,1
Foreign Nationality	72,2	72,7	72,3	68,6	34,1	28,2	25,8	30,2
MALES	59,7	59,9	60,1	59,6	21,2	19,4	18,9	19,9
Greek Nationality	58,3	58,5	58,8	58,5	20,6	19,0	18,6	19,3
Foreign Nationality	84,6	85,5	84,9	82,9	29,3	24,9	23,4	27,4
FEMALES	44,9	45,1	45,3	44,7	29,5	27,6	27,2	28,1
Greek Nationality	44,1	44,3	44,6	44,1	28,7	27,2	27,1	27,8
Foreign Nationality	60,5	60,3	59,8	55,2	40,4	32,7	29,2	34,1

Source: Hellenic Statistical Authority (EL.STAT.), Labour Force Survey

Table 2. Activity and unemployment rates of Greeks and foreigners during the three first quarters of 2017

Nationality and gender	Activity rate				Unemployment rate			
	1st Quarter 2017	2nd Quarter 2017	3rd Quarter 2017	4th Quarter 2017	1st Quarter 2017	2nd Quarter 2017	3rd Quarter 2017	4th Quarter 2017
Total	51,9	52,4	52,3		23,3	21,1	20,2	
Greek Nationality	51,1	51,5	51,4		22,8	20,8	19,9	
Foreign Nationality	68,6	70,9	71,2		32,1	25,7	24,6	
MALES	59,8	60,0	60,3		19,8	17,7	16,5	
Greek Nationality	58,6	58,9	59,2		19,2	17,3	16,2	
Foreign Nationality	83,0	83,4	83,9		28,1	22,7	21,5	
FEMALES	44,7	45,2	44,8		27,8	25,4	24,9	
Greek Nationality	44,1	44,5	44,0		27,2	25,2	24,7	
Foreign Nationality	55,2	59,4	59,5		37,7	29,4	28,5	

Source: Hellenic Statistical Authority (EL.STAT.), Labour Force Survey

From Table 1 it is clear that immigrants (in general) show greater labor force participation than Greeks. More specifically, during the first quarter of 2016, the activity rate of immigrants accounts for 72,2 % of the total 52%, while Greeks' activity rate equals to 51%, a rate much lower than that of the immigrants. Over the next quarters of 2016, it is apparent that there no significant differences. Furthermore, regarding the unemployment rates, data from Table 1 illustrate that the unemployment rates of foreigners are also much higher than these of Greeks throughout 2016. More specifically, the percentage of unemployment of natives in 2016 ranges between 22% and 24%. On the other hand, the lowest percentage of unemployment of foreigners is approximately 26% during the third quarter of 2016 and in the first quarter of 2016 shows its highest rate, nearly 34%. Moreover, as indicated by Table 2, during the three first quarters of 2017 the rates are very similar to those of 2016 with negligible increases and decreases. Summarizing, the unemployment

rates of immigrants are higher of those of natives and so are the activity rates as well, both in 2016 and 2017.

The figures in Tables 1 & 2 give the impression that in years 2016 and 2017 took place the substitution of Greeks with immigrants. However, such a conclusion is premature and unsubstantiated. It is likely that labor supply by immigrants has reduced the employment of Greek workers but it is also likely that the withdrawal or abstinence of Greek workers would have created vacancies in which immigrants were employed. In addition, the increase in the employment of immigrants may appear in specialties and professions in which the Greeks are not employed or do not want to be employed. In other words, the increase in the activity rates of immigrants is not necessarily and directly linked to the decrease in the employment of Greeks.

According to Lianos (2003), illegal immigrants working in Greece do not affect and have no impact on the unemployment rate. This is due to their participation in the country's production process, where they increase the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and the demand for labor. The consequence of the participation in GDP and the production process, is the increase of the activities of various branches, where without the participation of foreigners many of these branches would be in financial difficulty.

As a result, immigrants in general and more specifically illegal immigrants are not the cause of unemployment, because they are not the ones coming and stealing the Greek's opportunities to work. It is the workforce needs of the host country, especially the needs of the second labor market (obscure economy) that attracts them to come and determines the importance of migratory flows. Therefore, immigration should be explained not as a conjectural call for production but must be understood as being determined by the internal logic of the expansion of the capitalist mode of production, ie the general interests of capitalism, which is in need of immigrants workers (Katsoridas 2006).

Though immigration, including undocumented immigration, may be viewed by some as threatening jobs and local economies, Western nations are increasingly dependent on this immigration for needed labor, and to restrict it may do more harm than good. Thus, if we are to work toward combating anti-immigrant sentiment and promoting a society in which all members are valued, irrespective of their national status, a first step may be to recognize the mutual dependency between immigrants and members of host societies (Esses 2012).

CHAPTER 3. Criminality of Illegal Immigrants

It is well known that our country is today the main gateway to entry and transit the European Union for thousands of immigrants entering the EU illegally. Up to 300 people a day enter through the northern border with Turkey, most hoping to continue their journey into Europe. Thousands of illegal immigrants have crossed and re-crossed the undermanned and unprotected border, with the majority of them having a final destination in other EU countries, but instead of that they are the ones who fail to leave our country and as a result they are trapped therein. They end up in Greece and stuck in a country in the throes of a depression, where the economy is shrinking by 7% annually and in combination with the very little support that they have from the Greek government, they are increasingly hungry and desperate.

Greece has never been a colonial power neither has asked for more working force. However, it received an uncontrollable number of illegal immigrants in a short period of time. The enhanced employment opportunities with a wage level much higher than those in the respective countries of origin are among the domestic factors which contribute to the rise of illegal immigration in Greece (Kanellopoulos et al. 2006).

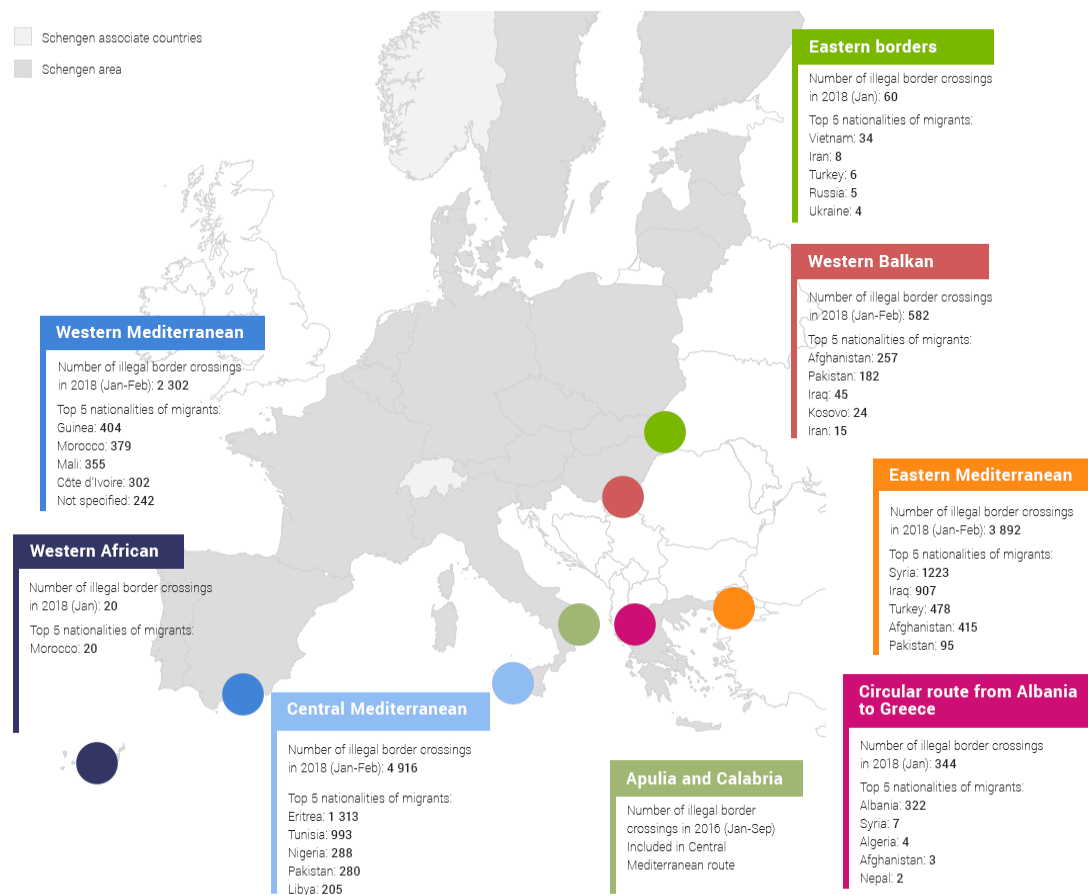
The vast majority of these immigrants is very difficult to be absorbed by Greek society due to ethnic, cultural and religious reasons. Greek governments have to understand that the time in which the issue of illegal immigration could be “solved” by arid discussions and confrontations between politicians has long passed by. The intensity of the phenomenon is “ante portas” if we judge from the over- population of many Asian and African countries along with the current global financial crisis. This situation described above is creating an even greater tension in the Greek borders. Greece has to declare to the European Union and the International Community that it can no longer be the ideal geographical area from which illegal immigrants are seeking to pass by in order to reach other more attractive destinations.

A large number of immigrants entering Greece illegally end up in the center of Athens, where there is a lack of infrastructure and care by the Greek state for these people. Limited margins for their integration into Greek society (both legislative and practical), worsen the problem and create a good ground for exploitation, trafficking in human beings and crime networks to act. This fact in combination with the great economic crisis, that our country is currently experiencing, is contributing to an increase in marginalization and misery phenomena of a large number of illegal immigrants, creates tensions within society while creating the right

ground for the development of violence by extremist groups and extreme racist attitudes to grow and as well.

Historically, society believes that immigration causes crime. Although official statistics show that immigrants are responsible for about half of the criminal activity in the country, a perceived link between immigration and crime still exists. Citizens believe that immigration creates crime and fear that as the immigrant population grows, their safety is jeopardized. They think that immigrants commit more crimes because the media often pay more attention to isolated crimes of immigrants. Our country does not show any difference, as many Greeks blame foreigners for the spike in crime.

Image 1.



Source: FRONTEX

FRAN and JORA data as of 5 March 2018. The data presented refer to detections of illegal border-crossing rather than the number of persons, as the same person may cross the external border several times. However, there is currently no EU system in place capable of tracing each person's movements following an illegal border-crossing. Therefore, it is not possible to establish the precise number of persons who have illegally crossed the external border.

The majority of illegal immigrants in Greece today are illegal people, terrified, often without their real name and homeless, impoverished, alienated. In such circumstances, the risk of losing their own self-esteem is too great. The wretched material living conditions and full social exclusion as well as the feeling that their human rights are being violated, are likely to influence crime indicators for committing survival or even violent crime (Nikolakopoulou-Stefanou 2008).

3.1 Factors consulting in illegal immigrants' criminality

One of the factors that play an important role in the crime of illegal immigrants is the degree of their integration into the host country. Aliens belong to a population class that reflects not only the clash of cultures between the country of origin and the host country, but also their different treatment by Administration and Justice, precisely because of their origin.

Apart from the degree of integration of illegal immigrants in the host country, another factor related to their crime is the labor market, as many immigrants become victims of exploitation of an illegal work network. Prohibiting unauthorized immigration can make undocumented immigrants' labor more valuable, as workers who lack legal status may be subject to greater exploitation by their employers. Because illegal immigration benefits certain industries, some degree of unauthorized movement may be unofficially tolerated, particularly when it contributes to the development of Greece economy.

In connection with the above, an important factor associated with the crime of immigrants is the economic one. Many migrants commit theft, which usually belongs to the category of crimes of poverty, if not survival.

Since the opportunities for work in Western European countries have offered, in addition to increasing opportunities for immigration and opportunities for illegal entry and work for immigrants in the host countries, international traffickers and organized crime networks have developed activities aimed at exploiting people's poverty and inexperience by introducing them into host countries. The effect of trafficking is to accept the migrant to work under inhuman and degrading conditions, but also to commit various crimes in order to be able to pay the trafficker the price of his transfer. The most common crime is drug trafficking.

More specifically the factors which consult in illegal immigrants' high criminality rates are:

- ❖ Most of the illegal immigrants gather the demographic and social characteristics that are conducive to the perpetrators of pancretic acts. This means that they are people of low social and economic class, who come in an environment with low demand for labor and are forced to live in deprived areas, resulting in being victims of a problematic situation. They also belong to an age group with the highest participation in delinquency, since they are mainly young men unaccompanied by their families.
- ❖ The delinquency of illegal immigrants is greatly increased due to the different origin of the perpetrators and their illegal residence in the country.
- ❖ The illegal residence of immigrants in the country and the fact that they work illegally leads to increased crime as these two are offenses.
- ❖ Another factor is the predisposition of nationals to denounce the offenses of immigrants, while the opposite is the case of illegal immigrants who have the fear of reporting offenses against them either by their own nationals or by Greeks. This means that there is a significant number of missing offenses that undoubtedly affect the accuracy of statistics.
- ❖ Also, the fact that there is strong police surveillance in the areas where immigrants are mainly resident leads to the disclosure of more illegal acts of immigrants, which in turn leads to the creation of stereotypes and prejudices.
- ❖ Finally, the prejudices of judges, the absence of serious legal representation and other weaknesses, such as the misapplication of language that facilitates the conviction of immigrants, should also be mentioned. (Καρύδης, 2004)

Consequently, we conclude that the difficult position illegal immigrants have, since they have illegally entered the country, do not have a residence permit and work illegally, favor the increase of the crime, along with the fact that they are victims of organized crime groups that make the situation of a great difficulty.

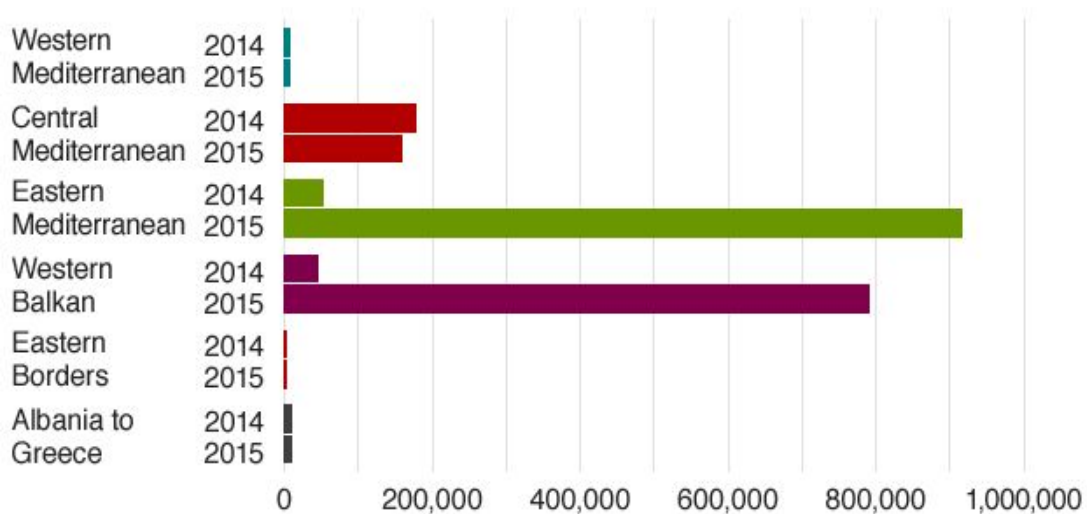
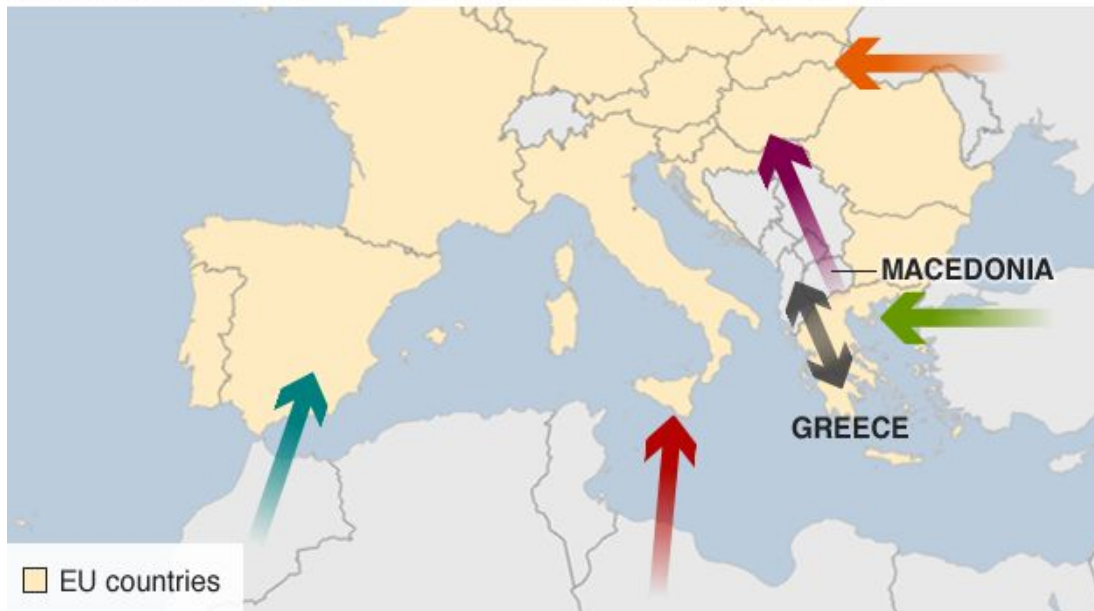
3.2 National Security and public order issues

Illegal migration is a multifaceted phenomenon, which requires a special study and careful treatment. This is because, apart from the humanitarian side of the problem, illegal

immigration, as well as organized crime, especially when incited by terrorist organizations and facilitated by neighbour countries, may pose an asymmetrical threat to the country.

Image 2.

Migrants detected entering the EU illegally, 2014-2015



Source: Frontex



Source: BBC <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-24583286>

Greece has a great length of land and sea borders, which are all along the external borders of the European Union. It would not be an exaggeration to say that our country is obliged to protect more than 30% of the EU's external borders. In addition, we can call them "special" borders in terms of increased risks of irregular immigration and organized cross-border crime, because of the neighbouring countries, which are countries with increased economic, social and

political problems. The enormous extent and the variety of the borders makes them really hard to protect them from the risk of entry of illegal immigrants. All countries in Europe are strongly addressing the need to preserve their borders from increased immigration flows from the countries of Asia and North Africa. Greece is receiving migratory pressures along its land and sea borders which creates a crucial issue for the country.

The illegal immigrants' entry leads to housing problems in densely populated settlements, resulting in their living conditions being problematic and creating problems of hygiene, communicable disease risks and general public health problems. This population density in places that were not expected to accommodate such a large number of people, coupled with their social problems, because of their acceptance problems by the new society as a whole, and their attempt to survive in an initially hostile to bourgeois environments, leads to an increase in the incidence of violence and crime

Summarising, the uncontrolled flow of illegal immigrants has multiple dangers for Greek national security because:

- i) it can destabilize social cohesion through demographic denaturation.
- ii) it encourages the spread of organized crime and terrorist networks.
- iii) it consists a threat for public health the import of new or unknown diseases or the reappearance of diseases that had long time ago eclipsed from Greece.
- iv) there is a huge economic burden for the social services in the Greek state.

3.2.1 The dimension of national identity

The greatest danger posed by the entry and stay of illegal immigrants in our country is undoubtedly the alteration of our ethnological and demographic character through the creation of minorities, demographic movements and associations and possible distortions in language, culture, religion, customs etc.

The problem becomes particularly serious if combined with:

- a) The national claims and irredentist aspirations that have historically been projected by neighboring states.

- b) The existing Muslim minorities in Thrace.
- c) The "religious" Muslim character beyond the ethnological of a large part of the illegal immigrants in Greece (Pakistani, Turkish, Egyptians, Africans, etc.).
- d) The demographic trends of the illegal immigrants' nationalities as regards the high rates of population growth relative to the reverse trends of Greek society. Illegal immigrants create "closed societies" of homogenous and coreligionists who begin to operate with "social autonomy." The presence of the family becomes apparent in these societies, either by accompanying the illegal immigrant or moving later on or as a result of marriages among young people which are the largest percentage of illegal immigrants.

As a result of the high birth rates of the people of these societies in relation to the corresponding birth deficit of the Greek society, in the medium and long term, if no such measures are taken, it is possible to:

- a) Create autonomous organized societies with clear minority characteristics by changing the demographic image of the country locally and in general regarding our country's national identity.
- b) Create conditions to support the unjustified claims of neighboring states where "social enclaves" are created in border areas.
- c) Influencing populations by creating distortions in language, customs and traditions.

3.2.2 Threat to National Cohesion

The threat to social cohesion consists of:

- a. Corruption of State Institutions.

The trafficking of illegal immigrants and all related illegal activities create a new cause for corruption of the organs of the Greek Police, such as facilitation of illegal entry and trafficking of illegal immigrants, exploitation of women, liberation of detainees, extortion, abuse of power etc.

In the countries of origin of illegal immigrants, the networks that transmit them have organised "mechanisms of conscription" of the potential illegal immigrants. Illegal immigrants can enter Greece using forged documents, either by cheating the authorities or with the support of networks linked to the border Police, etc. In Albania, people used to pay in the Greek

Consulates' corridors for a visa that is not forged, but not fully authentic, so that it could pass a cursory inspection, but not a stricter one. Through purchasing false identity papers, incoming immigrants manage to secure the right of entry and stay a false "ethnic Greek" identity, or even Greek identity, or acquire Greek citizenship, the so-called "Hellenisations" (Papantoniou et al. 1998 in Kanellopoulos et al. 2006).

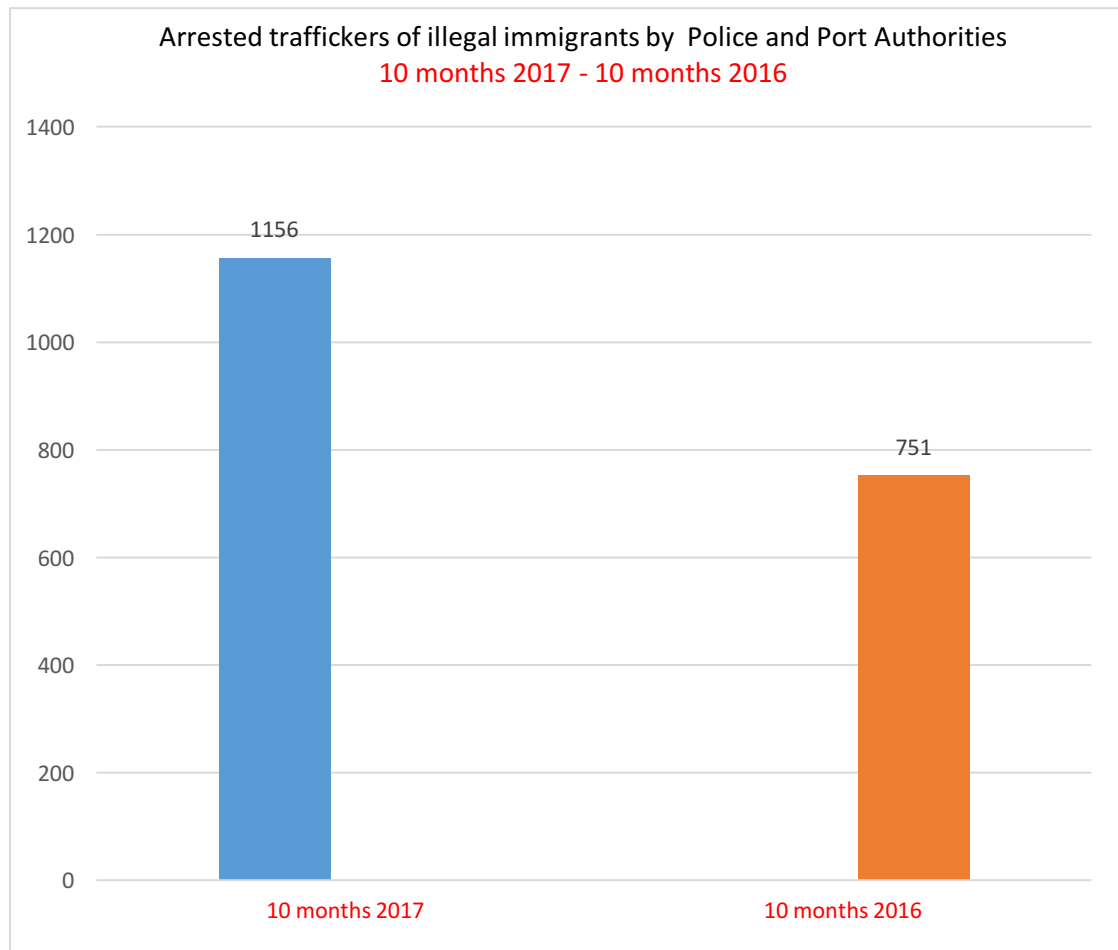


Chart 4. Arrested traffickers of illegal immigrants by Police and Port Authorities 10 months 2017 - 10 months 2016

Source: Hellenic Police

Greek legislation provides a detailed set of penalties for a series of public and private persons who facilitate either the entry or residence of illegal immigrants, with special attention paid to the cases of victims of trafficking and especially prostitution networks (Kanellopoulos et al. 2006). The last two years, there were arrests made by the Greek Police of traffickers which were transferring illegal immigrants either from coastal areas to the Greek islands or from Greece's northern borders.

b. Xenophobia – Racist Phenomena

The more general adverse effects of the entry of illegal immigrants in our country and especially their criminal activity created a climate of xenophobia with simultaneous demonstration of isolated racist phenomena. The ultra-nationalist Golden Dawn party now has 16 seats in Hellenic parliament - evidence of significant support for a party openly hostile to illegal immigrants.

3.2.3 The dimension of public order and security

The problems that are caused to the Greek society by the illegal and criminal action of illegal immigrants are a common and everyday finding. However, the threat to the cohesion of Greek society is the risk of changing social behavior from the appearance of unprecedented social reactions (racism, self-justice, etc.), corruption and new forms of illegality (trafficking in illegal immigrants, arms, organized crime, etc.).

In the field of public order and security, criminality of aliens occurred in 1991 with all sorts of crimes has been on the rise to modern times, with a particular exacerbation of certain offenses such as drug trafficking, theft, robbery and homicide. The association of illegal immigrants with crime, coupled with the growing difficulty of the economic crisis, seems to be undermining an anti-immigration climate in our country as well as a public concern about the threat of national security. The formation of closed social groups with different attitudes and perceptions opposites to those of Greeks, the creation of large religious communities and ghettos in particular areas raise suspicions of the creation of minority situations and territorial claims.

3.3 Crimes of illegal immigrants

Apart from the fact that illegal immigration is already a crime, as it means that aliens are living in Greece without authorization from the government, illegal immigrants are many times related to a variety of crimes committed in Greek society. As already mentioned, disadvantage groups, such as illegal immigrants, may face fewer opportunities to achieve economic success. These groups may then turn to illegitimate means in order to achieve economic success, which may include violence, property crimes or other types of criminal involvement. (Tonry 1995). As a result, illegal immigration has created social problems such as unauthorized employment and crimes such as thefts, robberies and prostitution. (Wang 2001). Illegal aliens are more likely to be arrested for property crimes and less likely for violent crimes.

Table 3 - Statistical table of Greek and foreign prisoners per offense with the available data of 7 September 2016

	Prisoners		
	Greeks	Foreigners	Total
Drug Offences	778	1146	1924
Homicide	456	336	792
Human Trafficking	102	1057	1159
Homicide Attempt	131	101	232
Distinguished Theft	536	427	963
Fraud	113	36	149
Larceny - Theft	321	161	482
Rape	104	77	181
Illegal Entry	37	368	405
Criminal Organisation	23	32	55
Robbery	678	635	1313
Other	434	253	687
Weapons	21	19	40
Embezzlement	1	1	2
Arson	2		2
Pimping	18	45	63
Assault	24	12	36
Seduction of Minors	116	26	142
Kidnapping	24	113	137
Criminal Organisation	292	343	635
Terrorist Organisation	21	5	26
Smuggling	12	28	40
Seduction of Minors	2		2
Totals	4246	5221	9467

ΠΗΓΗ : <http://www.efsyn.gr/arthro/adikimata-ellinon-kai-allodapon>

From the data provided by the Minister for Justice in the Parliament House regarding the number of prisoners, some conclusions can be drawn. In September 2016, 9,467 detainees remained in Greek prisons, with slightly more foreigners. In fact, 4,246 Greeks and 5,221 foreigners, with about 400 of the latter being banned for illegal entry into Greece. There are some differences regarding the offenses that predominantly burden the two populations (Greek-foreigners), although to a large extent one might say that they are predictable.

Nearly similar percentages appear in the offense of participating in criminal organizations ("internationalism" in these organizations is also known by various mass arrests). Most offenses involving foreigners (except for illegal entry) are related to drugs (use and trafficking), human trafficking (rape, pimping) and smuggling. Regarding the offense of human trafficking, this is often associated with illegal immigration (Stoica 2011). Human trafficking is considered a serious crime and a violation of human rights. Basically, women are illegally trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation.

Moreover, illegal immigration allows the opportunity for terrorists and other criminals to come to the country. For example, as an illegal immigrant, a high-level operative of Al-Qaeda passed the Greek borders and was arrested by the Greek authorities since he tried with forged documents to receive political asylum (Nomikos 2009). Recently, the U.S. State Department published a report for human rights and terrorism which is referring to Greece as the first entrance point of the Schengen zone from its south and east borders (which are at the same time borders of the European Union) and that because of the extended coast yard, there is danger that terrorists will pass by its borders.

On the contrary, Greek prisoners "prevail" mainly in rape and seduction of minors, fraud, theft and participation in terrorist organizations (Special Law 187A). The numbers can not in any case be the basis for conclusions, since any leniency, conditional release and benevolent provisions are rarely applicable to aliens (who usually have the maximum limit of sentences), while the possibility of their access to judicial assistance is also reduced. It should be noted here that foreign prisoners, especially these who are drug-addicted, it is very difficult for them to make use of the beneficial measures concerning addicted prisoners (release on terms and participation in drug rehabilitation programs, etc.), mainly because of language and legal treatment.

Illegal immigration is a serious issue and no solution has been found yet to solve the perceived crisis it presents. Illegal immigration cannot be encouraged as it causes substantial harm to Greek political, cultural, social, economic and criminal justice system. The Greek government

makes certain rules and creates agencies to solve or at least to curb the problem it poses. However, this problem continues to increase daily. If it is not addressed properly, it may create an even greater impact in the economic, social and political arenas.

CONCLUSION

During the past years, Greece received a great number of illegal immigrants mainly from Balkan and East countries. Unfortunately, Greece was not ready at all to receive such a big and uncontrollable number of immigrants. Combating illegal immigration in Greece as well as in other EU member-states is a matter of social cohesion, employment and national security.

The social dimensions of illegal immigration were examined at two levels concerning how the immigrants themselves are affected and the effect of their presence on the local communities of the country. Regarding the illegal immigrants' aspect, exploitation at workplace, no accessibility to certain services and discriminatory justice are some of the challenges that illegal immigrants have to face. On the other hand, their presence has created problems for Greek society. These problems are related to social cohesion. These issues create insecurity for citizens and contribute to xenophobia and the adoption of racist behaviours. There have been significant changes in the political landscape in recent years with parties of the extreme right gaining more and more ground by increasing their popularity.

In addition, the impact of irregular immigration on the Greek economy is a complex and unclear issue, with both positive and negative consequences. While the contribution of illegal immigration to our country's economic growth was positive, employment and the social system in Greece are also being affected negatively from the number of illegal immigrants and along with the global financial crisis many small and medium enterprises are firing employees and the Greek government faces a rapid increase of unemployment rate. Greeks lost their jobs and their wages were decreased in some sectors of the economy, affecting mainly the lower strata. However, the immigrant workforce has covered a large gap in the Greek labor market and Greeks with higher educational level and more skills do not have to cover this gap but, on the other hand they go after positions worthy of their qualifications.

Last but not least, the levels of criminality have increased in recent years regarding both Greeks and illegal immigrants. From one hand, this is because illegal immigrants commit crimes inside Greek territory, but on the other hand another factor consulting in high criminality levels

is the fact that their presence favours the ground for the development of various types of crime related to illegal immigrants but committed by natives (such as human trafficking). The presence of illegal immigrants has created and continues to create frictions and tensions in Greek society. This is mainly due to the increased criminality part of which is due to illegal immigrants. Threats of public order and security and even national security threats have arisen which create insecurity and anxiety in various social strata and contribute to xenophobia and racist attitudes.

In conclusion, the existence of illegal immigrants in one country affects greatly the economic and social structure of the country. Illegal immigration is undoubtedly an extraordinary, complicated problem which the Greek state must be aware of and develop a long term, inspired immigration policy after having fully understood the mechanisms that are fuelling the phenomenon of illegal immigration. This immigration Policy should be applied not only in Greece but at a European level as well. The analysis of the illegal immigration issue, regarding its economic repercussions for Greek society (public finances, unemployment, wages level, black economy) as well as its impact in Greece's criminality and national security matters, these are presenting the immediate priorities of a modern policy for the substantial confrontation of illegal immigration in Greece. Proper management of the migratory phenomenon can boost the Greek and European economy. Illegal immigrants can and should be turned into a positive force of Greek society and a lever of growth.

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