

Impacts of Syrian Asylum Seekers on Turkey And The Problem of Legality

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Abstract: Since 2011, Syrian asylum seekers had become an internal part of Turkish society; while they were accepted as “guests” at first. Now, there are many Syrians who were born or grown up in Turkey. In addition the possible end of the internal war in Syria is not seen in near future. Therefore Turkey should prepare the legal structure of the Syrians to adopt them to the society; including achieving health and education facilities, entering the job market, housing, and so on. Both advantages and disadvantages of the asylum seekers for the Turkish economy and society should be analyzed in detailed; and Turkey as a hosting migrant country should arrange the society both legally and culturally for the new members of the society. This article tries to draw the current picture of the Syrian asylum seekers in Turkey including the legal difficulties and socio-economic problems.

Keywords: Asylum Seeker, Refugee, Migration, Syrian, Legality

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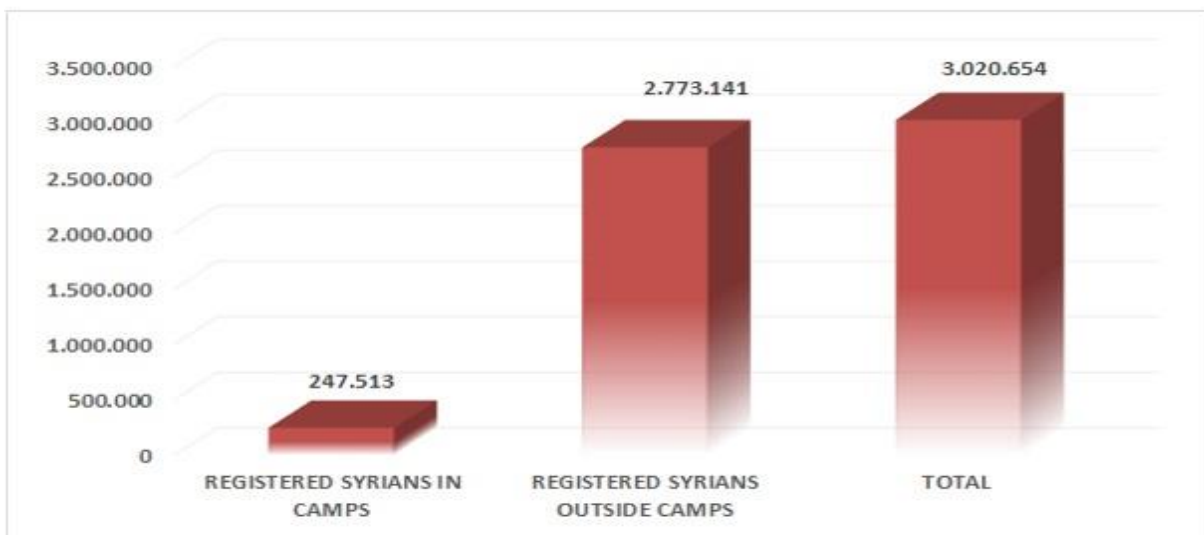
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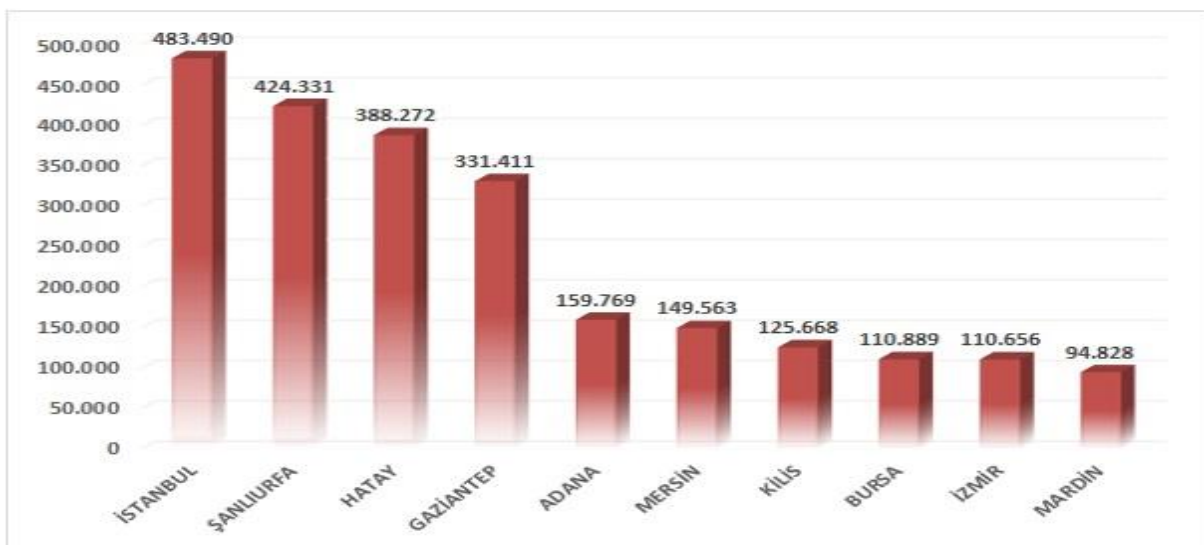
Introduction: The Current Situation

The first Syrian asylum seeker family entered Turkey on 29 April 2011. Two years after this date, the number of asylum-seekers reached 21. But due to the inadequacy of the camps, asylum seekers were scattered all over Turkey. They try to keep up their lives with their own means. Although the number is not fully known, it is understood that the Syrians totaled over 3 million. Less than 10% of this population is registered in the camps. Most Syrian live in Istanbul and the number has exceeded 480. More than 420 Syrians live in Şanlıurfa, 380 thousand Syrians live in Hatay and 330 thousand Syrians live in Gaziantep.¹

SYRIANS UNDER TEMPORARY PROTECTION STAYING IN AND OUTSIDE OF ACCOMMODATION CENTERS



SYRIANS UNDER TEMPORARY PROTECTION (TOP 10 PROVINCES)



¹Republic of Turkey-Ministry of Interior, Directorate General of Migration Management http://www.goc.gov.tr/icerik6/temporary-protection_915_1024_4748_icerik, date: 02. June2017.

The economic effects created by the Syrians on Turkey are stated more negatively. In the cities where they arrive, the increase in the prices of consumer goods, especially home prices, creates inflationary effects. Moreover, the preference of the Syrians as cheap and precarious workforce increases the risk of unemployment. Taking the national income share without being under tax liability leads to uneasiness among the Turks. Xenophobia has also started to be seen in Turkey. The physical assaults on the Syrians and violence have begun to appear.

However, it should be noted that there is also an economic benefit stemming from the capital flowing into the border regions. For example, in the border cities like Gaziantep, Mersin and Hatay, the Syrians opened 122 companies in the first 7 months of 2013 and 106 companies in Istanbul and Bursa. It is estimated that the total capital invested in Turkey from Syria is around TL 39 million. This economic benefit stemming from the Syrian influx also includes an increase in demand for goods and services, which stimulates trade in the region.²

The Effects of Syrian Asylum Seekers in Turkey

While the Syrians in Turkey first reside only in the border states, over time they have been scattered over much of the country. According to the statements of the Ministry of Interior, Syria lives only 8 in Turkey. However, a significant part of asylum seekers, if some major cities are ignored, are concentrated in the border provinces. Therefore, the population of about 10 million living in the border provinces has to host a population approaching 1.2 million. It is inevitable that this situation will have effects in Turkey, especially the border lines. These effects can be categorized as social, economic, political, security and basic services.

a) Social Impacts

The issue of Syrians in Turkey is, first and foremost, a matter of social cohesion. Problems arising from different languages, cultures and lifestyles between asylum seekers and local people are the most important cause of the local reaction. Besides, the emergence of polygamy, the increase of divorce, the incidence of women and child abuse, the fraying or creation of ethnic and sectarian polarization in some cities, and the distorted restoration can be considered as social effects. A generally conservative culture is dominant in Turkey's border provinces. The local people are responding to the developments that shake it. The most important development in this direction is the marriage of old or young single or married Turkish men to young Syrians. This situation is mostly experienced in Kilis, Şanlıurfa and Hatay and causes a reaction among the local people especially women. Divorces have increased on all three sides because of the Syrian bridal issue. Although the marriage to the Syrians does not seem high in official records, the actual figure is much higher. Because the marriages to the Syrians are usually realized through religious marriage. In Kilis, for example, it is stated that about 20% of the divorces are due to Syrians. Women express the fear of losing their husbands over them and accuse their husbands of thinking of cheating.³

² Collinsworth Didem, "Hatay: The Syrian Crisis and a Case of Turkish Economic Resilience," Turkish Policy Quarterly, Bahar 2013, Cilt. 12, No. 1, s. 119-124

³ ORSAM Rapor No, 195, Ocak 2015, Suriyeli Sığınmacıların Türkiye'ye Etkileri, Ankara: ORSAM-TESEV.

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The worst evolved into an instrument of providing financial benefit to the Syrians. Men who want to get married apply for brokerage and are paid an intermediary fee. The marriage is paid to the Syrian family for the title. It is seen as a means of earning money and saving the lives of their daughters in terms of Syrian families. This situation is especially intense in Şanlıurfa and Kilis. Another dimension of this issue is the abuse of young girls. Among the militarized Syrians are also children. Syrian people living in city centers prefer edge neighborhoods to pay low rents. A couple of families can stay together in houses which are already in negative conditions. This, above all, encourages skewed buildup and slippery. Local people are building illicit, unhealthy and irregular structures on their homes, with their income expectation. This deepens the already problematic urbanization problem. Another social effect in connection with this situation is the preparation of the conditions available to the Syrians in terms of infecting all kinds of illegal work. Women are also exposed to prostitution danger while Syrian young men are exploited in terms of drug use and sales. Another social problem created by asylum seekers is child labor. A small proportion of Syrian children living outside the camp can receive training. The first reason is that the state or non-governmental organizations can not present this opportunity sufficiently. Another factor that is as effective as this is that Syrian families are encouraging their children to work harder than training.⁴

Because of the need for money, children are employed on every field. Children who sell different products in the streets are the faces that appear. In addition, Syrian children are employed as cheaper labor force in factories that manufacture apprentices and produce in various shops. Another concern in some border states is the experience of demographic change and the feeling of insecurity that it creates. Although this effect is not everywhere, Kilis and Hatay, especially in Şanlıurfa and Gaziantep, are mentioned. Kilis is a very striking example in this respect. In Kilis, which is a very large Turkoman city, local people have the feeling that they are in a minority situation in their cities. Although some of the Syrians are Turkmen, the vast majority are Arabic. In Hatay, it is possible to say that the Arab Alawi population is concerned. The great majority of the Syrians are Sunni, changing the delicate demographics in the city, creating a sense of insecurity among Arab Alevis.⁵

b) Economic Impacts

When we look at the economic effects of the Syrians in general, there is a picture of the risks and opportunities involved. It can be said that the Syrians generally contribute to the Turkish economy and the local economy in particular. The common effect that asylum seekers create in all cities economically is the increase in rents. While this creates opportunity for the homeowners, it creates distress for the tenants. In connection with the increase in rents, it has become extremely difficult to find rental houses in the border provinces. Hosts want to give their homes to Syria. It has been stated that many of the old tenants staying at home were removed and homes were rented at higher prices to Syria. It seems that the demand for houses

⁴ Ibid

⁵ Ibid, Emin, Müberra Nur, Şubat 2016, Türkiye’de Suriyeli Çocukların Eğitimi, Ankara: SETA Analiz Raporu.

created by the Syrians have been used as opportunities. Another economic effect in the border is the emergence of life cost. As demand has increased, basic foodstuffs and home prices have risen. For these reasons, the inflation rate in Gaziantep and Kilis is higher than the average of Turkey. The second complaint, most often expressed on the economic scene, is that the Syrians are employed as cheap labor on illegal routes in industry, agriculture and small-scale businesses. According to the findings of the survey, which examines the economic effect of the Syrians on Turkey based on ORSAM's survey study, 40% to 100% of those who lost their jobs in the border provinces believe that "Syrians have lost their jobs with the cause". This causes a reaction to the fact that the local people are getting their hands on the business opportunities. Looking at the real situation, it seems that both the positive and negative effects of asylum seekers entering the labor market are seen. The companies in the border want the Syrians to enter the labor market, but they think that a legal framework should be reached. For businessmen are concerned about the problems that will arise in the event of work accidents, the increasing reaction of local people to their jobs, and the risk of social explosion. In addition to this, unfair competition exists between firms that employ and do not have informal workers, and that there is a risk that the labor market will deteriorate in the long run. On the other hand, especially in Gaziantep and Kahramanmaras, the entry of new labor force is in serious need. Two different views have been witnessed that local people were taken away from business opportunities. In interviews with the business world, it was stated that the local people did not want to work as workers in the agricultural sector or factories, and there was a great need for labor in this area. Therefore, the Syrians do not take the job opportunities of the local people, but rather close the gap in the business sectors that require unskilled labor. However, when the people and workers were interviewed, the local people were removed from the work and the reaction of the Syrians was expressed. Even if local workers lose their jobs for different reasons, it has the perception that it is due to asylum seekers. Therefore, the issue of the people being taken from the business opportunities is the share of reality and the dimension of perception. One of the most important problems caused by the illegal operation of the Syrians is that they should be run at low wages and this is a likely effect on the labor market in the long run.⁶

In spite of all these, it can be said that the Syrians contributed to the economy from different angles. The vast majority of the humanitarian aid that Turkey has made to Syria and Syria living in the camps is provided through local firms. The aid materials from all over the world to Syria are also covered by the companies in the border provinces. This has created opportunities especially for companies operating in textile and food fields. Apart from this, aid materials going to Syria from all over the world are being provided by the companies in the border provinces. This leads to both an increase in production and a recovery in exports, which are suffering along with civil war. For example, Gaziantep's exports to Syria in 2011 were \$ 133 million, compared to \$ 278 million in 2013.⁷

⁶ Ibid

⁷ Ibid

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Even if the majority of the Syrians constitute the rural and sub-income segments, it is seen that investors and traders, especially from Aleppo, have also settled in Turkey. Mersin stands out in this respect. Syrian people belonging to the upper income group prefer Mersin because of the commercial connections that existed in the past and the commercial opportunities offered by the port. In addition to this, the harbor offers the opportunity to trade in rich Syrians Mersin. Another province that stands out in this regard is Gaziantep. The number of Syrian firms registered in Gaziantep Chamber of Commerce has increased significantly after 2011. Despite the increase in capital flows from Syria, there is an opinion that the Syrians have missed more opportunities to invest in Turkey. According to Gaziantep Chamber of Industry, about 25 billion dollars from Syria went to Europe through the Greek Cypriot banks. The size of the investment of the Syrians in Turkey by 2014 is not at a critical level, but there is a serious potential in this issue. Another contribution provided by the Syrians is the trade of the Halepli merchants who have very good connections with the countries of the Middle East. Traders bring Turkish goods to the Middle East market through their business connections. Lastly, it is the Syrians who make a positive contribution to the investment environment in the border provinces. At the beginning of the factors attracted by the investor is the potential of labor force. In this direction, the increase of the labor force with the Syrians may contribute to the investments in the border provinces. Although asylum seekers are small in size, they have begun to participate in production. The economies contributed by the Syrians to the shops, ovens and footwear manufacturing enterprises. This kind of small-scale enterprises usually make shopping for Syrians, which is understandable considering that the Syrians prefer shops selling items in their familiar style. However, another finding of these businesses is that a lot of people are illegal. This situation is creating a reaction due to the unfair competition environment among the local tradesmen. For this reason, there has been a lot of controversy between Syrian artisans and local artisans in the border provinces. Smuggling in the border is a situation that exists before the civil war. However, with the crisis, the size of smuggling has increased. In addition, a limited number of families started to smuggle from the smuggling that a large section previously benefited. This is especially true for Kilis. Before the crisis in Syria, smuggling was regarded as a "smoke-free factory" in terms of Kilis economy. The families of Kilis with vehicles, they were going to fill Turkey with warehouses filled with gasoline from Syria. They were earning a level of income to make their living that way. After the civil war, this opportunity has been lifted because of the security problem. But the border villages have started to smuggle a great deal. Thus, the smuggling that a large portion comes in at a low amount has a large amount of income from a limited segment.⁸

From macroeconomic point of view, it is seen that the Syrians have an effect on the general budget and unemployment figures. The money spent for the Syrians from the Turkish budget was \$ 4.5 billion. In addition, unemployment rate reached double digits with 10.1 in

⁸ Ibid,

November 2014 figures. This rise is likely to be the effect of the Syrian's entry into the labor market.⁹

c) Political and Security Effects

The political influence of the Syrians in Turkey can be approached from two different perspectives. The first is the political influence of the Syrians in Turkey. These effects include the emergence of a conflict with the local population, increased security concerns among the local population and political polarization. On the other hand, the political environment in Turkey is one of the factors determining the view towards the Syrians. Political preferences sometimes provide a more tolerable approach to the Syrians. On the contrary, there can be a reaction between the people who do not directly deal with the Syrians because of political preference. From this point of view, it is also possible to say that the Syrian question is an element that fosters political polarization in the country. The most serious security risk likely to be caused by asylum seekers is the transformation of the response that exists among the local population into a violent mass reaction as a result of provocation. Minor examples of this are happening in almost every border area. The most dangerous consequence of the response from the local people is that the Syrians feel the need to organize themselves to ensure their own justice and security. Recently, the issue of collective action and organizing has begun to be discussed among the Syrians in order to protect themselves. This causes the judicial events to be transformed into massive debates in small scale. The organization of the Syrians, on the other hand, increases the reaction of even the savvy, and causes the two communities to become increasingly polarized. This creates difficulty in terms of integration.¹⁰

One of the greatest fears of local people is that they feel vulnerable to terrorist attacks. The Syrians have settled the idea that there might be people who would want to provoke or punish Turkey. Among the Syrians, the people who belong to Assad easily, the fear of the IŞİD members or the PKK is prevalent. This situation is more prevalent especially in the border towns and near the border such as Kilis, Şanlıurfa. The forensic cases involving asylum seekers or terrorist acts can critically change the outlook for all of Syria. This has the benefit of being carefully monitored as it may introduce greater security risks. Asylum-seekers living in cities continue their lives together in the suburbs. This, above all, makes the integration process difficult and prepares the ground for the emergence of security problems in the medium and long term. Besides, they are living in difficult conditions and they offer favorable conditions in terms of the birth and development of all types of crime and violence. It can be said that young people who have not been educated, have a low income level and who are experiencing an identity crisis in the sense of being exiled will create many crime sources in the future. If no precaution is taken, these lost generations will soon form the source of the

⁹ Ibid, Demir, Oğuzhan Ömer, Nisan 2015, Göç Politikaları, Toplumsal Kaygılar ve Suriyeli Mülteciler, Ankara: Global Politika ve Strateji- Göç Çalışmaları Merkezi.

¹⁰ Ibid

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mafia and vileness. This means that a new security risk will arise in a not too long period of time, though it is not felt at the moment.¹¹

d) Effects on Core Services

The Syrians living in the camps do not suffer from basic services such as health and education. Outside the camp, Syrians benefit from state hospitals free of charge if they register. State hospitals in the border provinces serve the Syrians between 30% and 40% of the total service. For this reason, there is a capacity problem in state hospitals in the border provinces. Here, not only the asylum seekers in Turkey, but also people living in Syria and injured by conflicts are being treated. For this reason, there is a capacity problem in terms of both physical conditions and healthcare workers. The local people who think they cannot get services also develop reactions. Another impact related to health services is the negative impact of community health. Even some diseases and vaccinations that are not seen in Turkey have become visible in the children's philosophical frontiers. In this context, children in 0-5 age group in the border provinces were given child policewoman's grape. In addition, measles and dengue disease have begun to recur. Gaziantep province was the province with the most measles disease in 2013. From an educational point of view, only those who enter the country with a passport or those who have a residence permit can be trained in public schools. There is a language problem in terms of education in public schools. Apart from that, education opportunities are offered to Turkey, limited to the initiatives of non-governmental organizations and Syrians. AFAD has only begun to build schools for the Syrians to receive education. However, this is still in its infancy. Therefore, about 10% of the Syrians in the education age who live in cities are educated. In this respect, there is no serious burden on the education system. However, the lack of education of asylum seekers poses a risk for the social effects that will arise in the long run. Another effect that the Syrians have created on cities is the issue of municipal services. Along with the Syrians, extra burdens such as garbage collection, public transportation, traffic, water supply and distribution, municipal cleaning, municipal services, construction control, cultural activities have emerged under the responsibility of the municipalities.¹²

The municipalities are burdened in two respects. First, municipalities receive a budget in the province or county population. However, with the asylum seekers, the municipalities have had to offer the same services to a much larger number of people with the same amount of budget. Secondly, the existing infrastructures in the cities (road, network, sewer system, etc.) were built according to pre-migration population. However, the current capacity of the cities that have more than twice the population, especially the Kilis, has experienced difficulty in meeting the need.¹³

The Problem of Legal Status

¹¹ Ibid

¹² Ibid

¹³ Ibid

Turkey called the ones from Syria the "guest" in the beginning. However, as the number of arrivals increased day by day, the 2001 European Temporary Protection Directive was applied and as of October 2011, temporary protection status was granted to Syria.¹⁴ Among the Turkish authorities, there are considerable conceptual chaos and different practices as "refugees," "temporary protected individuals" or "guests" at the point where the Syrians are named. At the same time, there is a confusion about the legal meanings of these terms and the responsibilities they place on the state. This confusion on the subject of terminology, even if it does not harm the quality of the non-refoulement of Syrian asylum seekers and the quality of the protection, This is not a sign of providing consistency within the state apparatus.

Because of this confusion on the status quo, it is becoming more complicated by expanding the residence permit given to the asylum seekers who came with the Syrian passports valid in Turkey. Expanding the scope of the permit not only opens the way for access to health and education services in Turkey, but also provides access to the labor market, at least theoretically. On the other hand, camped asylum seekers who do not have a passport and are not enrolled cannot take advantage of these opportunities. This inevitably creates a double-standard system in which a group of asylum seekers can benefit from broader rights and others cannot. Moreover, when it is noticed that the Syrian's passports with their passports in their hands are full of passports and cannot be renewed, this situation is probably even more complicated.

Syrians entering the country at official border gates and those with passports can apply for a residence permit and get a work permit afterwards. In practice, this is not a case in which Syrian asylum seekers were allowed to work while we were working a long and burdensome job and field. That is to say, the Syrians are vulnerable to abuse and exploitation when they find jobs in the informal economy. Few can earn enough money to make a living for their parents, and very few have a regular holiday. In some cases, Syrian children find jobs easier than they know they will be paid less. In general, the economic situation of Syrian asylum seekers is deteriorating. At the same time, Syrian asylum seekers, who have to work off the record, are also reducing the salaries of local people and increasing the inconvenience among local workers.

The "Foreigners and International Protection Law", which was prepared by the Ministry of Interior, was approved by the Parliamentary General Assembly on 04.04.2013 and sent to the Presidency. The Foreigners and International Protection Law No. 6458 (YUKK) was approved by the president on 10.04.2013 and published in the Official Gazette dated 11.04.2013 and numbered 28615. In view of the fact that the new law was adopted in the midst of a major refugee crisis, it can be said that this law was a great success when the highly

¹⁴ L 212/12 Council Directive 2001/55/EC of 20 July 2001, Official Journal of the European Communities, http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/justice_freedom_security/free_movement_of_persons_asylum_immigration/l33124_en.htm.

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developed country took effective measures, including physical barriers such as walls and fences, to prevent refugees from entering the country.¹⁵

Although the Settlement Law No. 5543 defines various types of immigrants such as immigrants, immigrants, immigrants, individual immigrants and mass migrants, it also envisages a limited structure with cognate-oriented arrangements. Therefore, the restrictive approach to the definition of immigrants is far from the concept of migration, which includes regular, irregular migrations and international protection areas in today's conditions. The works and transactions relating to foreigners not covered by the Settlement Law are carried out in accordance with the Passport Law No. 5682 issued in 1950 and the Law No. 5683 on Foreigners' Residence and Travel in Turkey. When we look at the international protection (asylum) field, the first regulatory document in our domestic law will be applied to the foreigners and the possible population movements that are bounded by the 1994 Regulation called for collective refuge with individual expatriates demanding residence in Turkey or refuge to another country Procedures and Principles ".¹⁸ This Regulation provides provisions for the determination of the procedures and principles to be applied to foreigners coming to Turkey individually and collectively for asylum and the determination of the authorized institutions. In addition to these arrangements, there are provisions regarding the immigration area, which is regulated partly and sporadically in different laws, but the lack of legislation at the law level felt in this area has mostly been tried to be eliminated with administrative regulations.¹⁶

Transparent and participatory legal reform studies were carried out in order to better manage the immigration area, taking into consideration the country's host country position in the immigration movements of our country. Considering the inevitability of migration, efforts have been made to adopt a human-focused approach that respects the rights of all migrants, especially in vulnerable groups. As a result of these efforts, the Foreigners and International Protection Law No. 6458 (Foreigners and International Protection Law), which constitutes the foundation of an immigration management structure with a holistic perspective in Turkey, has been accepted.

There are specific issues that constitute grounds for the preparation of the Law, particularly the acceleration of the capacity of Turkey to meet its present needs and the acceleration of the harmonization process with the European Union acquis, of the legal, physical and institutional infrastructure regulating the field of migration and international protection.

Law No. 5682, which regulates the legal status of foreigners and two basic laws on this field, and Law No. 5683 on Foreigners' Residence and Travel in Turkey, entered into force on 1950. However, the major international and regional arrangements for which our country is a party are the accepted texts after the date of enactment of these two laws., such as The Geneva Convention 1951, on the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (European

¹⁵ <http://www.mevzuat.gov.tr/MevzuatMetin/1.5.6458.pdf>.

¹⁶ Uzun, Aytül, 2015, Günümüz Sosyal ve Ekonomik Sorunu Olan Suriyelilerin Mülteci ve Ekonomi Hukuku Bakımından Değerlendirilmesi, Ankara Barosu, 2015(1), 107-120.

Convention on Human Rights), 1953. Another point is that in accordance with Article 16 of our Constitution, the fundamental rights and freedoms of foreigners must be restricted by law in accordance with international law. The absence of a comprehensive law regulating foreigners and international protection in every way has made it more difficult for us to fully fulfill our constitutional and international obligations. This has resulted in the elimination of the gaps in the required areas through administrative regulations. In addition, the lack of a comprehensive regulation at the level of the law and the increase in violation decisions brought against Turkey by the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) in the field of international protection (asylum), especially with regard to extreme and administrative surveillance, made compulsory legislative work compulsory.¹⁷

The Institutional Development: The General Directorate of Migration Management

With the law, the implementation of policies and strategies in the field of migration, the coordination between relevant institutions and organizations, foreigners' entry into Turkey and their stay in Turkey, their exits from Turkey and their deportation, international protection, temporary protection and protection of trafficking victims The General Directorate of Immigration Administration affiliated to the Ministry of Interior was established to carry out the works and transactions. In accordance with the examples in the world, the foundations are laid down in the effective management of migration, which establishes the General Directorate of Immigration Administration, which is a civic institutional structure based on human rights, in which migration and asylum strategies are identified and which enables effective cooperation between institutions based on a holistic approach.¹⁸

a) Immigration Policy Board

By law, to determine the migration policies and strategies of Turkey and to follow the implementation of these strategies; Preparing strategy documents and program and application documents in the field of migration; Principles and procedures for foreigners to be admitted to Turkey in bulk, foreign labor force needed for Turkey and future foreigners for seasonal work, conditions for long-term residence permit for foreigners, effective business association with foreign countries and international organizations in the field of migration, The Migration Policy Board has been established to determine the framework of the work in this area and to make decisions for coordination between public institutions and organizations in the field of migration. The council will be convened under the chairmanship of the Minister of the Interior, the Undersecretaries of the Ministries of the Family and Social Policies, the European Union, Labor and Social Security, Foreign Affairs, Interior Affairs, Culture and Tourism, Finance, National Education, Health and Transport, Maritime and Communication and the Head of Foreign Turks and Relatives Communities General Manager of the Administration. Depending on the agenda, representatives of the relevant ministry, national or

¹⁷ http://www.goc.gov.tr/files/files/goc_tasar%C4%B1m_icler.pdf.

¹⁸ Ibid

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international other institutions and non-governmental organizations may be invited to the meeting.¹⁹

b) General Directorate of Immigration

General Directorate of Migration Administration consists of Headquarters, Provincial and Abroad Organizations. The Central Office of the Directorate has the following service units:

- Department of Foreign Affairs, responsible for regular and irregular migrations,
- International Protection in charge of work and transactions related to international protection and temporary protection

Department,

- The Directorate for the Protection of Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings, which is responsible for the fight against human trafficking and the protection of victims,
- Studies for determining policies and strategies in the field of migration, Presidency of Migration Policy and Projects Department responsible for related works and transactions,
- Head of the Compliance and Communications Department, responsible for the work and transactions related to the harmonization of foreigners with the society,
- Communication with the governments and international organizations related to the task of the General Directorate, cooperation, coordination and other external affairs department.²⁰

Conclusion: Lack of Sufficient International Support

This big problem facing Turkey has not received enough support from the international mosque. Less than half of the aid demanded by Turkey has been met. On the contrary, only a small part of the total expenditures made by Turkey for Syrian asylum seekers has been met with international donations. While the Turkish government claims to be alone in the international arena about Syrian asylum seekers, international non-governmental organizations claim that the Turkish government does not allow them. They state that they cannot operate in Turkey because of the long bureaucratic processes in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and many applications are rejected.²¹

It is a special situation for Turkey to be in international aid requests and on the other hand to look suspiciously for future aid. The problematic country is a country that is bordered by Turkey. Prior to that, Syria is the land of Turkey. It is still wise for Syria to show Hatay province within its borders, and to support the PKK, a sensitive issue for Turkey. In addition, many family members living in Syria have relatives in Turkey. In fact, some villagers and the

¹⁹ Ibid

²⁰ Ibid

²¹ Dinçer, Osman Bahadır vd. Kasım 2013, Suriyeli Mülteciler Krizi ve Türkiye-Snu Gelmeyen Misafirlik, USAK&Brookings Entitüsü, Ankara. 37-38.

provinces cross the border between Turkey and Syria. The possibility of autonomy or independence of the Kurdish population living in Syria will directly affect Turkey. Such situations lead Turkey to react sensitively by showing a nation state reaction to international aid.

Turkey must be forced to accelerate the registration process of international NGOs that can not complete their aid programs through their resources and expertise. On the other hand, NGOs must respect the laws of the Republic of Turkey and the security concerns of the state, including the obligation of the state to monitor civil society activities.

The government should also consider offering international financial support requests not only as support for existing government programs, but also as partnership, cooperation and joint ventures. This discourse may also be useful if it is formulated in the context of the preparation for the post-conflict transition process, the construction of the future of Syria, and the effect of ensuring the continuity of Syrian culture. International donors must be forced to give financial support to Turkey in order to fulfill their financial promises and to cope with the increasing burden due to the long-term nature of the crisis.

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- 8) L 212/12 Council Directive 2001/55/EC of 20 July 2001, Official Journal of the European Communities.
- 9) http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/justice_freedom_security/free_movement_of_persons_asylum_immigration/l33124_en.htm.
- 10) <http://www.mevzuat.gov.tr/MevzuatMetin/1.5.6458.pdf>
- 11) http://www.goc.gov.tr/files/files/goc_tasar%C4%B1m_icler.pdf.