

# The Implementation of Immigration Policy in the Reign of Prime Minister David Cameron towards European Union

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**Abstract-** This paper would be focused on analyzing the new immigration policy of the UK under the government of Prime Minister David Cameron. This particular issue is frequently discussed by the European Union society as well as international community as a whole. The aim of the research is to identifying the background, mechanism of the policy and the impacts that might be appeared because of that policy. The method used in this research is qualitative namely library research or literature review. United Kingdom is included as one of founder of EU as well as a superpower country in that region. Therefore, as the founding principles of the EU, article I-4 of the Constitution that guarantees the free movement of persons, goods, services and capital within the Union, the UK is complying and adopting those principles in its domestic politics. However, the Prime Minister David Cameron initiates a new policy regarding to immigration which contavene the free movement principle of EU. Therefore, in order to gain the accurate information regarding to this policy, we are looking forward for the oppurtunity to actualize this research in the United Kingdom.

*Key Words:* The New Immigration, United Kingdom, the Constitution

## I. Introduction

Immigration is one of political issue that is growing and is being faced by the European Union and other regions all over the world. The existence of immigrants brought an opportunity and benefit for the European Union in social and economic aspects. On the other hand, the presence of immigrants also brought problems and matters to the European Union. Therefore, a series of policies have been announced and implemented, either by the European Union as a regional organization in Europe, as well as by member countries that are members of the European Union.

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Tracing back the history of immigration in the European Union, it will be found that this phenomenon evolved dramatically after the end of World War II. Awareness of the negative impact of the war in the past led the Western European countries bloc established the Council of Europe in 1949. Distracted experience during the war sparked Western European countries to make efforts in terms of rescuing Europe from possible wars in the future.

In the development of the European Union, the countries of the pioneers, also known as the inner six frequently arrange meetings to discuss and drafting treaties that generate a lot of new agreements. The most incredible thing about its development is the increasing number of countries that joined the inner six countries and forming a unity which is now known as the European Union.

The establishment of the European Union in its early progress was very good and significant. The most striking thing is the increasing number of countries which joined the European Union six forming inner unity which is now known as the European Union.

The Probation to unite and inegrate the European countries have begun before the formation of modern states. Due to the collection of European languages and culture, unification attempt usually involve the occupation of countries that are not willing to create instability. After World War I and World War II, the desire to establish the European Union is raising, driven by the desire to rebuild Europe and eliminate the possibility of another war. Therefore, the European Coal and Steel Community is formed by Germany, France, Italy, and the Benelux countries. This occurs by the treaty of Paris (1951), signed in April 1951 and began in July 1952.

Subsequently, European Economic Community was also formed and established by the treaty of Rome in 1957 and implemented on 1 January 1958. Afterwards the community is transformed into the European Community which is the first pillar of the European Union. The European Union has evolved from a trade body into an economic and political cooperation.<sup>1</sup>

Each of European Union member states has different interests and urges related to immigration problems. France, Germany, Britain, the Benelux countries, Austria, Switzerland, Sweden, and Denmark, began to be visited by a wave of immigration in 1960s.

This migration phenomenon causes changes in each of European countries. One of important factor that has been changed was the policy. On one hand, the

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<sup>1</sup>Wahjudi Djaja, *European History*, Penerbit Ombak, Yogyakarta, 2012, page. 223.

provision of legal migration programs of governments in hosting countries is very limited. European countries now also perform a special selection to filter the migrants, in terms of considering their skills and abilities. The existence of the screening program indicates a problematic situation regarding short-term workers and discrepancies between supply and demand in many European countries.<sup>2</sup>

A lack of migration program operation led to a snowball effect, where the trend ensues is an irregularity of immigrants who entered particular country, shelter and protection issues, and provision of jobs. Moreover, restrictions on the access of asylum seekers induce the appearance of certain migration routes. Thus, the refugees tend to move on irregular migration. This matter became more protracted considering that the 27 member countries of European Union has a different interest in dealing with migration issue.

All of the member state of European Union are bound by series of treaties which has been signed and ratified along with its development. All of the treaties must be agreed upon by each member state, ratified by national parliaments or by referendum. Some qualification such as having a stable democracy, guarantee the law supremacy, human rights and protection of minorities. Moreover, sufficiency in economic and market management as well as qualified public administration should be applied along with the provision of european Union.

Nevertheless, the European Union is not a federal state or an international organization in the traditional definition, but an autonomous regional body. In the legal scope, the term used for this organization is "supranational organizations". Each of member countries remains to be a sovereign and independent state. However, in order to obtain the collective power and influence, the member countries agreed to mitigate its sovereignty and cooperate each other.

The British government did not join the European Community until 1973. They paid attention to some of foundations of the European Coal and Steel in 1951 and did not take part in the negotiations substantive that generated the Treaty of Rome and the European Economic Community. The urgency of European problem in British politics emerged in 1960 and brought a controversy and debate between the political stakeholders.

In 1992 the Conservative leader, John Major signed and ratified the European Union Maastricht treaty. When the European Union formed a single currency system "euro" in 1999 and distributed in 2002, the United Kingdom did not participate and rejected to apply that determination in its internal country. Yet United kingdom still remains to use and still has its own currency, the pound.<sup>3</sup>

However, the relationship and cooperation among EU states matters and still important for the United Kingdom. It is a priority for the United Kingdom considering its stability in the European region as well as maintaining prosperity in Europe. The issue of the UK to join the Euro zone is still being debated in the UK. Regarding the European Constitution, the British decided to postpone the implementation of the referendum on the European Constitution in an undetermined time. This is caused by the doubts of British society to join the European Constitution and the results of ballot by France and the Netherlands to reject the European Constitution in 2004.

There are key principles that bind the European Union countries, for instance the principle of the European Community (European Community), security cooperation under EUROPOL, until juridical cooperation between EU countries. In this regard, the EU countries have the authority to conduct unhindered and non barrier economic cooperation between EU countries, as well as their single currency into Euros, as well as the commitment of free movement and migration rules which are no longer negotiable.

Countries in Europe such as France, Germany, Britain, the Benelux countries, Austria, Switzerland, Sweden and Denmark are facing a decrease in migration after immigration continuing. Most of immigration occurs in the form of family reunion, refugee flows and labor migration. Some of countries experienced particularly high levels of immigration since 1990. Austria, France, Germany, Netherlands, Switzerland, UK and the Nordic countries are examples of this trend. Countries in Europe have faced the raise of migration since 1990, with streams of new migrants into Ireland, Italy and Portugal are very prominent.

## II. Problems

This research will be focused on the significance of the policy in limiting immigrants by the UK during the reign of Prime Minister Cameron Davin and how does it affect the British relations with the EU and the countries that joined in it. In addition, this study will also analyze what effects that currently arised as a result of the presence of the policy, both to the internal condition of the United Kingdom, as well as other European Union countries.

The impacts of the policy are certainly influence and trigger several parties and actors to respond to the policy. This paper is also expected to analyze the response and the controversial feedback to the new policy by the British to restrict the access of immigrants from other European Union countries.

With this framework, the problems and questions that are addressed in this research are:

1. What is the impact of immigration restriction policy in the reign of Prime Minister David Cameron for the United Kingdom-European Union relations?

<sup>2</sup> Lalu Abdul Fatah, *Immigration Policy In European Union*, retrieved from [https://www.academia.edu/4656067/Paper\\_UAS\\_-\\_Kebijakan\\_Imigrasi\\_di\\_Uni\\_Eropa](https://www.academia.edu/4656067/Paper_UAS_-_Kebijakan_Imigrasi_di_Uni_Eropa) on oktober 31st 2015 at 11.30

<sup>3</sup> putri perwira, *European Politics and cultural society*, retrieved from [http://putrinyaperwira-fisip09.web.unair.ac.id/artikel\\_detail-64815-Masyarakat%20Budaya%20dan%20Politik%20Eropa-Inggris.html](http://putrinyaperwira-fisip09.web.unair.ac.id/artikel_detail-64815-Masyarakat%20Budaya%20dan%20Politik%20Eropa-Inggris.html) on Oktober 31st 2015 at 10.47

2. How is the European Union's response to the impact of immigration restriction policy by the Prime Minister David Cameron?

### **III. Aim of research**

The purpose and function of this research are as follows:

#### **1. Research Purpose**

- a. To identify and explain the impact of immigration policy in the government of Prime Minister David Cameron of the UK-EU relations
- b. To understand and analyze the European Union's response to the impact of immigration restriction policy in the government of Prime Minister David Cameron.

Through these research goals, this research is expected to be useful as:

- a. It is expected that this article could describe an idea of the immigrant restriction policy by the UK during the reign of Prime Minister David Cameron as well as to analyze the relationship and its consequences are correlative with the European Union; and can become as reading material for researchers that have a similar focus to this research.
- b. We hope this research can be one of the reference materials for the governments or related institutions in knowing and responding to the immigrants restriction policy by the UK as well as the consequences of the UK-EU relationship.

### **IV. Conceptual Framework and Analysis**

After the schengen agreement, all of the member countries of EU are free to travel among the countries in that region. The residents of EU and their family absolutely have a right to live and work in everywhere in that region. This right is exclusive for the resident of European Union countries where they have European Union long term residence permission or a member of family who is EU's resident.

There are particular migration pattern, with geography, language and culture that occur in the European Union. For instance, there are a big amount of Poland that move to the UK and Ireland, while Rumanian has chosen to move to Italy and Spain. Moreover, recently before the extension of EU region, even if most of countries are free to travel and freely move to another, but the UK rejected to receive 700.000-800.000 Poland residents and another nationalities of new member of EU.

Thus, it is not just about free movement but the fact that every European Union resident are free to study, work, and enjoy the public facility in the UK. Including gain and get the social facility and a place to live. Those advantages lead to the public protest and social gap, where the massive amount of original resident in the UK

do not approve if the migrants be treated equally with them as well as enjoying the public facilities in the UK.

There is a demand in the UK society regarding to over immigration to distinct the local resident with the migrants in terms of its facilities provision. One of appropriate way is to creating sort of qualification that shall be obeyed by the migrants as long as they want to study, work or live in the UK. Thus, the UK would not provide the public facility for them unless they have stayed in the UK for four years. The UK also encourage the European Union to initiate the proper immigration policy and regulation. The regulation that would not disadvantage any part of member state of the EU. In other word, the UK expect the EU to draft the regulation which would not harming the public interest of particular country.

The prime minister David Cameron state that the European Union shall revise the agreement regarding to the migration. In this case, the jobless imigrant and illegal migrant that perpetrate crime should be abolished.

The Prime Minister promised to his society to negotiate the migration policy with the EU and attempt to proritize prosperity in the society. As the time goes, the Prime Minister failed to decrease the number of migrants in the UK which approximately under 100.000 per year. In june 2014, the immigration number in the UK reach 260.000 individuals.

The observer claims that the immigration problem is one of the indicator of the UK to exit from European Union. In fact, a study shows that immigrants from non-EU countries is a major contributor to the welfare system in the UK. Meanwhile, the French President Francois Hollande called on his subjects to embrace immigrants, which this year reached 230 thousand people, as part of their cultural and economic improvement. Hollande rejected the assumption that the identity of the secular French lost due to the spread of Islam in the country.

Hollande states that immigrants in France, most of whom are asylum seekers, as well as spouse and child of a French citizen offspring with foreign countries, the right to remain French.

While in the middle of the demonstration against immigrants in Germany, German Chancellor Angela Merkel rejected the racism and stressed that Germany needs immigrants to help overcome the native population that has begun to decrease.

Prime minister David Cameron is a figure that launched a new immigration policy that could potentially lead to conflict with members of the European Union. Immigrant flow restriction policy is driven by the public pressure of a British citizen who began to fret the presence of immigrants that are increasing. This policy stipulates that immigrants from Europe had to leave the UK if they do not find a job after living there for six months. Moreover, under the government of Prime Minister David Cameron, the UK will provide numerous benefits to immigrants and their families after they settled for four years.

Ahead of the British election in 2015, political tension in the country is increasing. The immigration issue tends to be a weapon to attack the government opposition

Cameron. That is because British immigration policies are not popular. United Kingdom Independence Party even suggested that the government abandoned its membership in the European Union. EU immigration deal makes Britain uncomfortable.



The author of this paper will explain using one of rational grand theory of international relations, namely realism. This concept illustrates the background of the formation of new policies in the UK that oppose the fundamental principles of the EU. In other words, behind the ideas and values of liberalism that were always adopted and inspired by the UK, for certain conditions can be ruled out by a reason that is called national interest.

National interest in the perspective of realism is the interests of the state as defined by policy makers or decision. This is in line with the statement expressed by Donnelly that, in international relations perspective of realism is a tradition of thought that emphasizes the state command to pursue political power and national interests. State and national interest are the two things that most emphasized by scholars of realism and therefore these two things often considered as a fundamental element.

The three main principles of Realism is statism, which holds that the state is the main actor in the international system, and that the state is the legitimate representative of the people who are in it. Both survival, which means that the country has always sought to maintain its presence in the international system in a way to defend themselves from the threat of other countries, and self-help, which means that the state can only rely on itself to sustain its presence in the international system, namely by building a military capability to be able to defend itself from the aggression of other countries and to expand his power.

Although EU has affected the world, it is still a regional organization. Regional organizations have activities in a particular regional territory, and membership is only granted to countries in that particular area only. The role played by regional organizations is very differently depending on the characteristics of the organization. This characteristic is influenced by geographical factors, availability of resources and organizational structure. Differences in these characters also will affect the conflict resolution mechanisms and procedures adopted to resolve disputes between members of a Regional Organization.

Therefore, the next concept that will be used by the author to analyze the issue is the theory of regionalism. This theory has always been a part of international relations. There are several objectives when regionalism was formed. It can be said that regionalism is a process towards a global regularity. In the globalization era, more actors are increasingly appeared. Those actors has realized the importance of economy and free trade, which causes them to form trading blocs to ensure the sustainability of their transactions.

The goal of initiating a regional body is to enhancing cooperation among its members as well as avoiding the possibility of conflict and dispute. Those cooperation could be in the form of economic, political, military and defense, and other scopes. All of this efforts are made to achieving mutual benefit and cooperation. With the existence of the agreement, it will facilitate them in meeting the needs of their interests.

Policy is an action that leads to a particular purpose. It is performed by certain actor in tackling an issue. The policy is made by listing the existing problems and find a possible solution for that. This theory is very in line with the research where the immigration restriction policy is made by an actor. The figure of David Cameron is very essential in determining and listing the factors to draft a policy.

Therefore, the next concept to be used by the author is the theory of decision-making. There are several theories which are most often used in making policy, namely:

#### 1. Theory of Rational Comprehensive

This theory is the most useful theory and very acceptable in the society.

a. Decision-making faced with a particular problem that can be distinguished from other problems or at least considered as problems that can be compared with each other. In another word, it can be sorted according to priority scale.

b. Goals, values or objectives are the factors that guide decision-makers. Those factors should be very clear and can be sorted by priority / importance.

c. An assortment of alternatives to solve the problem thoroughly investigated.

d. The principle of cost, benefit or causation is used to determine the priority.

e. Each of the alternatives and the implications is used to compare with other alternatives.

f. The decision-maker will select the best alternative to achieve the goals, values, and objectives.

#### 2. Incremental Theory

This theory describes that in making decisions we tend to avoid a lot of problems to be considered which often taken by government officials in making decision. This theory has the basic thoughts as follows:

a. Selection of goals or objectives and analysis of empirical measures that necessary to be achieved is interrelated.

a. Decision makers tend to only consider some alternatives that directly related to the subject or problem, and these alternatives only seen different incrementally or marginally.

- b. Each alternative is only a small fraction and were evaluated by identifying the cause and effect.
- c. The problems faced by decision makers is defined regularly and provide the possibility to consider and adjust the ends and means so that the impact of the problem can be tackled.
- d. No decisions or ways of solving the problem is right for every problem. So a good decision lies in the various analyzes of the underlying agreement to take a decision.
- e. This incremental decision-making nature is to improve or complement the decisions that have been made previously to obtain improvement. Because it was taken by a variety of analysis and it is very appropriate to be applied to countries that have multiple structures. And the policy is taken on the basis of mutual trust among the various parties so politically safer.

3. Observation Theory Integrated (Mixed Scanning Theory)  
Some disadvantages are the basis of a new concept as it is proposed by sociologist Etzioni Aitai organization that is integrated observation (Mixed scanning) as an approach to take a decision either fundamental or incremental. Decisions of incremental provide basic direction and paved the way for fundamental decisions after the decisions were reached. Integrated observation models according to Etzioni will enable decision-makers to use a comprehensive rational theory and incremental theory in different situations. This integrated model of observation was in essence a compromise approach that combines rational model of comprehensive utilization and incremental model in the decision making process.

## v. Methods

### 1. Type of Research

The author in this research use descriptive research method. This method is used by describing and outlining the impact of immigration restriction policy by the UK and the consequences of its relationship with the EU. Descriptive method is intended for exploration and clarification concerning a phenomenon or social reality, by way of describing a number of variables regarding the problem and the unit is being investigated.

### 2. Data Collection Techniques

Data collection techniques used by the authors is a review of the literature (library research). Author collects various data from the literature such as books, journals, articles and other academic writings. News and information from electronic and printed media related issues are taken into account to serve as a reference.

The data is obtained from the literature are used as materials to help the analysis to the phenomena discussed in the study. Data gathering places that can be reached by the author, among others is the Central

Library Hasanuddin University in Makassar and some literature from the author's personal library.

### 3. Data Type

Based on the discussions that have been determined, the type of data used in this research is a theoretical data related written research. This data was obtained from the literature and produced from a variety of relevant sources. Theoretical data is then analyzed to answer the problem specified. In addition, some of the statistical data will also be attached by the author to support these theories.

### 4. Data Analysis Techniques

Data analysis techniques used in this paper is qualitative data analysis techniques. With this technique, the analysis focused on qualitative data analysis. It will be directed to the non-mathematical data. However, to complement the data, also included quantitative data in the form of statistical figures and illustrations help through curves and graphs that have relevance to the object of the research, the emphasis is still directed to the interpretation and analysis of quantitative data.

### 5. Method of Writing

The method used in this study is the deductive method. Writing begins by describing the problem in general. Then, based on the theories and data that has been obtained the description will be more concluded and specific.

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