

## Analysis of Securitization In EU-Policy on the 2015-2018 Immigrant Crisis

Aurumma Azachwa <sup>a,1,\*</sup>, Halifa Haqqi <sup>b,2</sup>, Hasna Wijayati <sup>c,3</sup>

<sup>a,b,c</sup> Slamet Riyadi University, Sumpah Pemuda St. No. 18<sup>th</sup>, Banjarsari, Surakarta - 57136, Indonesia

<sup>1</sup> azachwa911@gmail.com; <sup>2</sup> halifa.haqqi@unisri.ac.id; <sup>3</sup> hasna.wijayati@unisri.ac.id

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### Abstract

*Europe experienced an immigrant crisis in 2015 which made the European Union to respond to the immigrant crisis. This research analyzes the policy of the European Union on the 2015-2018 immigrant crisis in the theory of securitization. The purpose of this research is to find out how the analysis of the theory of securitization in the European Union's policy towards immigrants in 2015. This research uses a qualitative research method with the collection of data used is the Library Research method. This research uses the theory of securitization and regionalism which is used to explain the position of the European Union as a supranational body that regulates or has responsibility for its member countries. The result of this research is that in the process of securitization it is seen that there are some right-wing figures from the member states of the European Union who strongly oppose the entry of Immigrants into European territory. In addition, there is the role of the media and social organizations that are anti-immigrant and have influenced the European Union in taking policies to deal with the immigrant crisis. This proves that securitization has a strong influence in changing the point of view of an event. So, securitization can also be implemented not only for refugee problems but for other problems.*

*Keywords: European Union, Immigrant Crisis, Regionalism, Securitization*

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### A. Introduction

The refugee crisis has become a major issue experienced by European countries in 2015. The large-scale influx of immigrants has never happened in European history (Avisia, 2017). The refugee crisis comes as more refugees enter the EU via the Mediterranean and Balkansea routes. The refugee problem is further complicated when the European Union detects an influx of illegal immigrants. The cause of this refugee crisis occurs due to several factors such as the occurrence of conflicts and repressive measures that cause discomfort that creates instability for civilians to live in several countries such as Syria, Afghanistan, Eritrea and Iraq (Human Rights Watch, 2015). According to European statistics office Eurostat, the number of asylum applications in EU countries grew by 44 percent at the beginning of 2015 to around 662,165 people and 1,014,375 people at the end of 2016. (Eurostat, 2017).

The EU has previously had policies in place to deal with illegal migration and handling such as the Common European Assylum Seeker (CEAS) launched in 1999. The policy is considered inappropriate and inadequate to cope with the large volume of immigrants (European Union, 2015). This immigration and asylum seeker problem has developed into a security problem in several European Union member states such as France, Italy, and Hungary (F. Trauner, 2016). This is due to a series of terror cases in Europe such as the attacks in Paris in 2015. The terrorist threat has made EU members to carry out internal border control measures in anticipation of terrorism (Mortera-Martinez, 2016).

Related to this problem, finally the European Union formed several policies including the relocation of migrants and refugees (2015), the EU-Turkey Statement (2016), and the strengthening of external and internal borders of immigrants (2018). If the immigrant crisis is viewed through the lens of securitization theory, it reflects that the policy is an answer from the European Union in responding to the Immigrant Crisis. Securitization Theory The process by

which the state turns a problem into a security issue. It is an extreme form of politicization that legitimizes all security measures. The issue of securitization is not always what will determine the survival of the country. However, securitized issues are precisely those when one is able to turn an issue into an existential one. In practice this is what turns a problem into a security problem, which is caused not by a real problem, but by emphasizing the problem presented as a threat. Finally, priority actions are taken because if left continuously it will have a bad impact (Buzan & Wilde, 1998).

The migrant crisis has been seen by EU member states and elites as a threat. Especially politicians from right-wing parties in EU member states such as France and Hungary have expressed many arguments against the entry of immigrants. This is the emphasis on the European Union to take a stand, one of which is by issuing policies to deal with the migrant crisis (Roynanda, 2019).

This study aims to examine how securitization analysis in EU policy on the 2015-2018 migrant crisis. The year 2015-2018 is the limit of the year chosen by the author in conducting this study because in that year the European Union issued several policies in dealing with the immigrant crisis.

## **B. Research Methods**

In this study the authors used qualitative research methods when writing their findings in explaining how the analysis of securitization theory in EU policy on the 2015-2018 migrant crisis. The study was conducted for reasons of the 2015 immigrant crisis. This has been going on for quite a long time with the rejection of immigrants from European society. So a securitization study is needed to see how the EU behaves in taking policies to deal with the flow of immigrants entering Europe. In this study, the data collection method used is the Library Research method obtained from the help of various documents and official sources in the form of books, e-books, print media, mass media, national and international journals (Leedy & Ormord, 2015). In this study, the data analysis approach uses analytical techniques from Miles and Huberman, which are divided into three stages, namely (1) Data reduction stage (2) Data presentation stage to examine a set of information needed in drawing conclusions. (3) Verification stage / drawing provisional conclusions (Miles & A. Huberman, 1994).

## **C. Results and Discussion**

### **1.1 Immigrant Crisis 2015**

The European Union faces a migrant problem that has actually been going on for a long time in its history. The issue of immigration became a hot topic, the Second World War had a negative impact on several countries in the world, especially countries in the European region. Poverty engulfed European countries and the resulting political tensions created the largest immigration problem in Europe, with millions of Germans leaving Germany, as well as ethnic Germans fleeing the Soviet Union due to conflicts under Joseph Stalin's rule (Dhiba & Son, 2021).

A massive immigrant crisis is back in Europe with a peak in 2015. Hundreds of thousands of migrants cross the Mediterranean Sea as they flee countries such as Syria, Afghanistan, Eritrea and Iraq. The largest immigrants came from Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq. The influx of immigrants entering the European region disturbs peace and receives complaints from European Union member states. The member called on the European Union to decisively

resolve the issue of immigration, which ultimately worries EU member states, especially Eastern Europe. The large number of immigrants seeking a better livelihood in Europe requires European countries to become transit routes for every immigrant arriving in Europe, such as Greece and Hungary, which ultimately requires special attention from the European Union to overcome the immigration crisis. occurs in Europe (Roynanda, 2019).

One of the causes of the crisis in Europe is due to the conflict between radical groups such as the Taliban, Abu Sayyaf, Al-Qaeda, Boko Haram and Al-Nusra. The group committed numerous crimes against humanity, killing millions of people and displacing many residents in countries where they committed crimes and were forced to flee their homes (Karjaya et al., 2018). Ongoing conflict leads to refugees from conflict countries. More than half of refugees worldwide come from three countries notorious for international crime. 2.7 million people in Afghanistan, 4.9 million people in Syria and 1.1 million people in Somalia. The level of crimes caused by crimes against humanity always affects the internal security situation of the country (Simanjuntak, 2020).

In addition to the prolonged war conflict, the 2015 migrant crisis in Europe was also caused by economic problems. Countries from Africa as well as Balkan countries such as Albania, Serbia and Kosovo left their countries and went to Europe due to their country's difficult economic situation. Lack of work and poverty hit her country and she wanted to make a better life by moving to Europe hoping to have a better life when she arrived in the destination country (Hutasoit et al., 2021). Economic migrants are those who move to Europe in the hope of earning a decent life. However, economic migrants also make up half of all immigrants coming to Europe (Faisal, 2018). So if action is not taken as soon as possible to stem the flow of migrants entering Europe, it is feared that there will be friction between local European communities and immigrants.

## 1.2 European Union Immigrant Policy

In making policies to deal with the immigrant crisis is in accordance with the concept of supranational theory where in decision making through intermediaries, in other words the transfer of decision-making authority that was previously a state to a centralized institution. The European Union as a supranational organization gave birth to several policies regarding immigrants entering Europe in response to the many denials of entry of immigrants into Europe from several parties such as right-wing politicians and anti-immigrant groups (Hutasoit et al., 2021). If this system is implemented, supranational institutions will definitely act as one voice. Therefore, the decision-making process must use a collective procedure, where all parts of the institution must agree on the same decision (Puspasari, 2020). This agreement will later be formulated into an agreement that will be used as a guide before action is taken on problems inside and outside the EU territory. From this it can be seen that supranational institutions are institutions that have characteristics similar to states. (Luneto, 2021).

It grants special privileges to supranational institutions, especially the EU. According to Langenhove and Messi (2012), the support of EU citizens who are members of the European

Parliament has an important role, especially in influencing authority at the global level. At the same time, it may hinder the willingness of EU member states to devote their resources to responding to global problems (Puspasari, 2020). This allows the EU, as a supranational institution operating mainly at the regional level, to spread its wings internationally. Supported by resources provided by EU Member States, as requested by the community represented by the European Parliament, the process of solving global problems will certainly be more effective (Sugiono, 2020).

In such a system, society ultimately considers that supranational institutions can be instruments of the future, altruistic and capable of overcoming unresolved problems. On that basis, the EU as a supranational institution has obligations not only to its territorial sphere, but also to the international community. This then forces the EU to act on international issues. In addition, due to its economic and political power, the EU can include established countries in Europe. Therefore, the EU is considered capable of bringing changes and solutions, especially when Europe was tested by the immigration crisis of 2015 (Setiabudi, 2021). This is in line with Taylor's theory of regionalism regarding supranationalism, theoretically explaining the power and authority of a supranational institution that simultaneously mellows the functions of the state. However, both still agree on the contestation of state sovereignty due to the same authority possessed by supranational organizations (Barbieri, 2019).

Here are some policies taken by the European Union in dealing with this crisis such as:

a. Relocation of Migrants and Refugees (2015)

The European Union acted with Council Decision (EU) 2015/1523 to share the burden of immigration equally among all EU member states. The level of immigration is regulated in each country according to its economic situation and prosperity. Implementing this policy requires cooperation with UNHCR, the global organization that deals with refugees and asylum seekers. In addition, the European Union will give sanctions to countries that refuse to implement the decision. The form of punishment is a fine of 250,000 Euros for each country that rejects immigrants. (European Union, 2015). EU policy on the distribution of immigration quotas contained in Council Decision (EU) 2015/1523 resulted in two camps of acceptance and rejection. Some member states that have traditionally had a say in EU asylum policy, such as Germany, Austria, and Sweden, are absorbing large numbers of immigrants and prompting the European Union to demand joint responsibility with other member states. However, the governments of member countries with relatively few asylum claims (including Eastern European governments) have vocally refused to reduce the allocation of asylum claims (Niemann & Zaun, 2018).

This migrant relocation policy was also rejected by the Visegrad Group. The Visegrad Group is an alliance of four countries including Hungary, the Czech Republic, Poland, and Slovakia that aims to promote the integration of the four countries into Europe, firmly opposing the policies of the European Union. This is due to the large number of immigrants accepted in his country, which can trigger a wave of illegal immigrants in other Member States. Added to the trauma of terrorist attacks in Paris and

riots in Cologne, Germany, which involved some local residents and some asylum seekers (Sunardi, 2020). The Visegrád Group's negative policy regarding the distribution of migrant quotas continued until the end of the decision in September 2017. Based on the European Union's eleventh Commission report, he again mentioned that Hungary and Poland did not act to fulfill the provisions of the migrant quota. The Czech Republic only fulfills 1% and Slovakia 2% of the migrant resettlement obligation (Rachmat, 2021).

b. *UE-Turkey Statement (2016)*

On March 18, 2016, the Council of Europe and Turkey reached an agreement with the aim of stopping the flow of illegal migration through Turkey to Europe. According to an EU-Turkey statement, all illegal migrants and asylum seekers who have recently arrived on Greek islands from Turkey, whose asylum applications have been declared unchecked, should be sent back to Turkey. Deepen relations between Turkey and the EU and strengthen their cooperation in the migration crisis. in particular the EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan launched on 29 November 2015 and 7 March 2016. EU-Turkey statement. Also on December 15, 2015, the Commission proposed a voluntary humanitarian reception scheme for Syrian Refugees in Turkey (Sholihin &; Alfian, 2021).

To break the business model of migrant smuggling as an alternative to risking their lives, the EU and Turkey decided in March 2016 to work together to end irregular migration from Turkey to the EU. To that end, the EU and Turkey agree that (European Council, 2016),

- 1) All new illegal migrants entering the Greek islands from Turkey from March 20, 2016 will be sent back to Turkey;
- 2) For every Syrian who returns to Turkey from the Greek islands, another Syrian will be returned to the EU.
- 3) Turkey takes necessary measures to prevent the opening of new sea or land lanes for illegal migration from Turkey to the EU
- 4) When illegal crossings between Turkey and the EU have ended or are significantly reduced, a system of voluntary reception of humanitarian aid will be implemented.
- 5) The implementation of the Visa Freedom Roadmap will be accelerated to eliminate visa requirements for Turkish citizens by the end of June 2016. Turkey will take all necessary measures to meet the remaining conditions.
- 6) The EU will, in close cooperation with Turkey, further accelerate the disbursement of the €3 billion originally allocated under the Facility for Refugees in Turkey. Once these resources are to be fully utilised, the EU will mobilise additional funds for the Facility up to an additional €3 billion by the end of 2018;
- 7) The EU and Turkey welcome the ongoing work in upgrading the Customs Union which is an agreement between two or more neighbouring countries



to remove trade barriers between them and to set uniform tariffs with non-member countries.

- 8) The accession process will be revived, with Chapter 33 containing financial and budgetary provisions discussed at the twelfth meeting of the accession conference held in Brussels, opened during the Dutch Presidency of the Council of the European Union and preparatory work on the opening of another chapter to proceed on an accelerated basis;
- 9) The EU and Turkey will work to improve humanitarian conditions inside Syria.

Turkey further agreed to accept the speedy return of all migrants who do not need international protection who crossed from Turkey into Greece, and to accept back all illegal migrants intercepted in Turkish waters. Turkey and the European Union decided to continue to step up measures against migrant smugglers and welcomed the establishment of NATO activities in the Aegean Sea (Ayu et al., 2022). In addition, the European Union has started disbursing Facilities for Refugees in Turkey worth 3 billion Euros for concrete projects; Work has also advanced in visa liberalization and in accession talks, including the opening on December 17, 2015. In September 2016, the European Commission announced the establishment of an 'Emergency Social Safety Net' of €348 million from October 2016. Up to one million of the most vulnerable refugees will be able to meet their basic needs by receiving monthly cash transfers via electronic cards (Yilmaz, 2019).

- 1) In the evaluation of the 2015 Report on Turkey, the European Parliament paid special attention to EU-Turkey migration cooperation. He welcomed the statement, but reminded that outsourcing is not a credible long-term solution and called on EU Member States for more solidarity in welcoming refugees. It is also emphasized that (Huda, 2020): The EUR 3 billion fund of the 'Refugee Facility for Refugees in Turkey' should be used to relieve refugees and the Commission should ensure the funds are used properly and report regularly to the EP on this issue.
- 2) Special attention should be paid to vulnerable groups such as women and children, in particular orphans, and religious minorities such as Christians and Yazidis; stressing the urgent need to address gender-related violence and harassment against women and girls on migrant routes crossing Turkey.
- 3) The European Commission must ensure that non-refoulement rules are duly respected. Strengthening of External Borders and Control of Internal Borders of Immigrants (2018)

European Union (EU) leaders reached an agreement to limit immigration and strengthen immigration policy after a high-level meeting Thursday evening, June 28,

2018. The President of the Council of the European Union, Donald Tusk, announced that the leaders of the 28 EU countries signed an agreement on a new policy, which focuses on strengthening external and internal border controls for immigrants. French President Emmanuel Macron praised the "collaboration" that has allowed him to bring together the different perspectives of each EU country. Thus, many felt that Italy was the party that benefited the most from the concessions, and in addition, the country's delegation proved very resistant before and during the night of negotiations, especially on immigration and immigration issues. The permit eradicates people smuggling and people smuggling from Africa and other regions to Europe, especially Italy, the first port of call for immigrants. (Hutasoit et al., 2021).

The agreement also includes a commitment from the European Union to increase support for authorities in Africa and southern Europe dealing with migrant migration, as well as funding for affected communities. That could include aid money for Italy's outer islands, such as Sicily and Lampedusa, which have been the main destinations for many migrants arriving in Europe (Arifin, 2019).

Meanwhile, as quoted by Deutsche-Wellen (DW), the agreement also contains (Anandita et al., 2019):

- 1) Regulations regarding closed immigrant reception centers in the EU bloc. EU countries willing to set up immigrant reception centres will process immigrants and asylum seekers on their territory.
- 2) The treaty also proposes checking the eligibility of immigrants to find out if they have the right to apply for asylum before they arrive in the EU. The EU offers financial assistance to countries in North Africa and the Middle East. Instead, these countries should set up checkpoints called "regional exit platforms".
- 3) Chancellor Angela Merkel said leaders also agreed on tighter internal controls to prevent asylum seekers from freely choosing an EU country to apply for asylum.
- 4) EU leaders agreed to pay Turkey an additional €3 billion to help Ankara's efforts to keep migrants out of Europe.

### **Securitization Analysis**

Securitization explains that security is a practice of self-referential. In the securitization process, this same practice turns ordinary problems into security issues, caused not by the presence of real threats, but by accentuating the problems presented as threats. During 2015, the issue of the refugee crisis was considered a threat by both the political elites of member states and the European Union (Heisbourg, 2015). Some politicians in member states, especially right-wing parties, put forward various arguments against the arrival of immigrants and refugees (Börzel, 2021). In this issue, the European Union is a major security player, turning a problem that was previously only a humanitarian and non-threatening problem into a threat.

To broaden the definition of securitization, the political stance of EU member states formed a speech act that emphasizes the urgency of immigration as a security issue. Some politicians in Member States, especially right-wing parties, put forward different arguments against the arrival of immigrants and refugees (Heisbourg, 2015). This claim appears in the form of threats, such as Wilders' sentence in the form of

*“We have to close our borders, reinstate border controls, get rid of political correctness, introduce administrative detention, and stop immigration from Islamic countries,”* (McDonald-Gibson, 2015).

Saying "immigration from Islamic countries", Wilders, who is a member of the Dutch parliament and founder of the Party for Freedom (Partij voor de Vrijheid), pointed out that the Charlie Hebdo shooters were carried out by immigrants from Muslim countries. In his statement, the words "we" and "our" meant that Wilders called on all member states and the European Union to close and control borders, impose administrative detentions, and stop immigration from Muslim countries. The response addressed by Wilders is a form of securitization in which he as a securitization actor gives a statement to immigrants which is part of the speech act in the securitization process which confirms that the immigrant problem is not only a humanitarian problem but has become a security problem. In the end, the EU issued a policy in line with Wilders' statement with interior ministers of EU member states agreeing to relocate 120,000 refugees and migrants across the continent. This is in accordance with the theory of securitization which considers immigrant relocation policies to be considered commonplace to be carried out to immigrants (Roynanda, 2019).

In addition, former Prime Minister of Hungary, Viktor Orban reconstructed the identity of these immigrants as terrorists and then reconstructed the identity of these immigrants

*“Ofcourse it's not accepted, but the factual point is that all the terrorists are basically migrants... overwhelming logical connection between terrorism and the movement of Muslims into Europe is an obvious fact whether you like it or not”*

The mention of "all the terrorists are basically migrants" shows how Orbán as Prime Minister of Hungary tried to generalize whether the terrorist perpetrators were exclusive immigrants. In the next sentence, Orbán's statement then refers more specifically to what immigrants mean by Muslims going to Europe. The Orbán language concluded that all terrorists in Europe were Muslim immigrants. As if that weren't enough, Orbán explains how Muslim immigrants are classified as terrorists. Orbán also spoke about Schengen as something to be protected and how to protect it from terrorist threats in case of a refugee crisis. In line with the EU's response to the EU-Turkey statement on measures to restrict immigration from the Middle East. This is the EU's response to Orbán's assertion that terrorists are essentially Muslim immigrants. So it makes sense, so that it does not raise questions or concerns about terrorist attacks among Europeans (Borum, 2015).

Various efforts to secure the refugee crisis have not escaped actors in member states. The political elite of EU institutions is also beginning to build an existential threat. This is evident in the form of Tusk's statement in the form of



*“...we should seriously address containing the uncontrolled migration by strengthening the borders and getting the keys to our continent back from the hands of smugglers and murderers”*

In the above statement, Tusk detailed the importance of EU efforts to strengthen borders. From his statement, it is clear how Tusk is trying to protect the territory of the European Union from the threat of uncontrolled migration flows by using the phrase "our continent". With border protection measures, Tusk ensures that these efforts are free from smugglers and "murderers". The word "murderer" itself can also be interpreted as a terrorist threat due to incidents within the European Union. The EU's response to immigrants, as Tusk puts it, is to strengthen the external and internal borders of immigrants. Tusk announced that 28 EU leaders had signed an agreement that includes new measures to strengthen external borders and control internal borders for migrants. Tusk announced that 28 EU leaders had signed a pact containing new policies focused on strengthening external borders and internal border controls of immigrants. This policy is a form of illustration of how Tusk played his role well as President of the European Council in influencing the 28 leaders of EU member states to respond to the migrant problem. Securitization theory sees that what Tusk did is a reasonable act considering in his statement he wants to protect the European Union from immigrant theorists as Tusk alleges (Roynanda, 2019).

Based on these statements, the existential threat built through the speech is European regional security as indicated by several terror incidents of the Paris shootings and the Charlie Hebdo tragedy. The tragedy panicked the European community. In addition, Orban's statement generalizes that all acts of terror in Europe come from migrants (Pratiwi, 2018).

The above threats justify causing protests among the public. PEGIDA anti-Islam demonstrations in 2016. PEGIDA, short for European Patriots Against the Islamization of the West, began its work in the German city of Dresden. This activity they have carried out since 2014 under the pretext of opposing Islamization in Germany. Similar actions also occurred in several countries in Europe, such as France, Czechia, Poland and Ireland (Welas, 2019).

The European Union wants its securitization to be heard and understood by the European community and the global community (Audience) as a preventive measure. The European Union does not want to be responsible for immigrants, but has its own views in dealing with immigrants so as not to cause conflict with European society in the future. European leaders have agreed to spend an additional 1 billion euros to help UN agencies deal with Syrian refugees in the Middle East. This is part of a new effort to deal with the refugee crisis in the European Union. Additional aid will flow to Syria's neighboring countries, which have displaced millions of Syrians since violence erupted in 2011 (L. A. Pertiwi, 2016).

The next securitization process is the existence of functional actors who influence securitization actors to realize immigration policy in the European Union. Some of the functional actors that have a role are the media and social organizations. The 2015 Paris terrorist attacks in the media boosted European sentiment towards Muslims. The media directs public opinion towards Muslims and is influenced by stereotypes that Muslims are terrorists. According to the

survey, citizens of several major European countries want travel bans for citizens of Muslim-majority countries, such as those imposed by President Donald Trump in the United States. According to a Chatham House survey, 55 percent of respondents from 10 European countries want to end all immigration from Muslim-majority countries. At the same time, 20 percent of those surveyed oppose discrimination laws and 25 percent voted silent. About 10,000 people from 10 European countries such as Austria, Belgium, Hungary, Italy, Great Britain, Germany, France, Poland, Spain and Greece participated in the survey (Léonard & Kaunert, 2022).

In addition, PEGIDA or Patriotic Europeans Against the Islamization of the West is a patriotic group of Europeans who oppose Islamization in the West. Mobs from the Pegida group staged a series of demonstrations to spread anti-asylum seeker and anti-Muslim sentiment. As an action group of Europe's far-right movement, it became a reservoir of sorts for radical nationalist groups' efforts and unrest against the wave of Muslim immigrants arriving in Germany. As a result, the influence of Islam in European countries is increasing and it is feared that it will damage local cultural identity (Ningrum, 2016). In England, the group is similar to the English Defence League (EDL). Like the EDL, PEGIDA claims that the EDL is used against Islamization and Islamic extremism, not against Muslims as a whole. However, observers say the group incites racism (Rasyidin & Nasution, 2018).

PEGIDA has a 19-point manifesto, including calls for stricter immigration and protection of "Judeo-Christian culture" in Western countries. The economic crisis is blamed on immigrants. Groups like PEGIDA then rode on the issue to begin operations. German politicians, including Merkel, criticized PEGIDA for using the issue to attack Islam (Welas, 2019).

With the continued processing of the issues of the 2015 migrant crisis by Europe's right-wing elites and the many media reporting things that overgeneralize immigrants as a source of problems, European society is against the presence of immigrants in Europe. This makes the situation of European society more wary of the presence of foreigners around it which raises xenophobic attitudes (Noviana, 2018). The emergence of xenophobia or fear of foreigners becomes inevitable in Europe and is a matter of individual interest, which is then increasingly supported by the role of bureaucratic actors who promote the safeguarding of immigration issues in Europe (E. A. Pertiwi, 2018). The issue of immigration is a key issue that can facilitate linkages between practical measures to improve security. As for how humanism should follow normatively, the question remains how to respond to this migration. Their presence can transform some questions about culture and rational identity and even into meta-questions; It can therefore also represent: (1) the challenge of political decisions only if migrants can obtain their political rights within a few years; (2) government welfare challenges, whether they are met; and also (3) the legitimacy of a political order that is afraid of being changed by accepting immigrants (Nizmi, 2016).

Prolonged conflicts and economic crises in Syria, Afghanistan, Eritrea and Iraq have caused huge waves of refugees to sweep across the European region. So, this crisis is seen by some Europeans, especially from right-wing politicians, not only as a humanitarian problem but also a security problem. Various acts of terror such as the Paris attacks and the Charlie Hebdo incident have been used as tools by anti-immigrants to lead public opinion that all forms of problems that occur in Europe such as acts of terror are caused by immigrants. This is what makes the European

Union take action on securitization in dealing with the immigrant crisis. In the end, the European Union issued various policies to stem the flow of immigrants such as the relocation of migrants and refugees (2015), the EU-Turkey Statement (2016), and the strengthening of external and internal borders of immigrants (2018). This is intended as an answer and solution that the European Union as a supranational organization does to those who are anti-immigrant in solving this immigrant crisis. So, it is hoped that policies can stem immigrants from entering Europe

#### D. Conclusion

Securitization that occurs in Europe makes immigrants limited in their space. The rejection and negative news about immigrants makes them refugees suffer even more. There is a speech act carried out by Europe's right-wing elites who generalize and issue negative narratives against immigrants. In addition, the immigrant crisis is considered an existential threat because of security issues and the assumption of immigrants as a source of terror which led to protests against the entry of immigrants to Europe. In addition, the European Union has its own views in handling this crisis as a form of preventive action that is expected to be understood by the European and global community (Audience). The anti-Islam organization PEGIDA and the media are becoming functional actors that increasingly emphasize the rejection of immigrants in Europe. The negative view of immigrants carried out by interested groups eventually led to the growth of xenophobia among Europeans. So it can be concluded that securitization can have a great influence in responding to various events. As explained above, securitization affects the European community and the European Union as supranational bodies in determining measures to address the 2015 migrant crisis.

This research has covered how the securitization process carried out by the European Union in dealing with the 2015 migrant crisis. In addition, this study found that securitization is a tool to influence the views of the community or an organization in responding to various things. However, this study also has the disadvantage that it only covers the years 2015-2018. It is hoped that this research can be developed or continued to obtain the latest data on the EU securitization process to the 2015 migrant crisis both in terms of policy implementation and in terms of the welfare of refugees.

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