

# **An Analysis On The Impact Of The Syrian Refugees On Turkey's Security With The Main Subjects Of Migration And Criminal Acts**

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## **Abstract**

Migration, with its basic expression, is the act of people to move from their locations to another location due to economic, social, political and cultural motives. It is possible to describe the act of more than two million Syrian migrants to leave their country and come to Turkey as a forced migration due to political motives in time of civil war. The needs of Syrian refugees such as shelter, health, education, feeding are met in line with the universal refugee rights. Many studies dealing with the impact of Syrian migrants on the economic, political, cultural and social lives of Turkey have been conducted. However, scientific studies on whether Syrian refugees have the potential to pose a threat to Turkey's security are quite limited. *In a country which shelters more than two million migrants, it is highly important to understand the impact of these people on the country's security and to take measures against possible threats to the security (if any).*

*The aim of the study is to reflect the impact of Syrian migrants on Turkey's security.* For this reason, at first the phenomenon of migration was discussed in detail and the relationship between migration and crime (if any) was discussed. Then, the legal status of Syrian refugees and their impact on Turkey's security were discussed in detail. The study is limited to *the impact of Syrian refugees on internal security* and the matters of domestic migration and external security lie beyond the scope of this study. Literature survey was used as the method in the study. It is possible to point out *the potential of the study to contribute in the literature and the field.*

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**Keywords:** Migration, Refugee, Security, Crime, Police

## **Introduction:**

Migration is a natural phenomenon as old as the history of humanity. With no doubt, just as in the past, people nowadays migrate from one region to another, from one city to another or from one population centre to another

due to various reasons. No country in the world can claim that they always existed in the region where they are right now. For example, the roots of the current European countries date back to the people who moved to Europe after the Migration Period which occurred in the Middle East. The Ottoman Empire contained in itself the arrival story of Turkish states which moved to various regions within Asia to the present day Anatolian territory (IOM: International Organization of Migration).

It is seen that most of the mass migrations in the history are forced displacements due to economic, political, geographic reasons and conflicts-wars. When events of mass migration in history are looked into, first the movements of societies who wished be freed of China towards the West in the 4th century, the drifting of mass number of people beyond the ocean in the 16th century after the discovery of America continent, the migration of millions of people from Africa to America to be slaves in 16th - 18th centuries and the abandonment of countries by millions of people after two big wars in 20th century come to minds. Whether voluntary or involuntary, short-term or long-term and with whatever reason, migration significantly affects the lives of people both in the receiving country and from the country of origin in terms of social, economic and cultural aspects (Aksoy, 2012: 293-294).

Migration is dealt according to the time to be spent in the receiving region and as to whether it is internal migration or international migration. Although it is argued that the time to be spent both in the country and outside the country to be accepted as migration, the generally accepted time period is one year. A movement from one place to another within a country is called internal migration and a movement from one country to another is called international migration (King, Skeldon and Vullnetari, 2008; King, 2012:7).

Migration can occur legally or illegally. It is possible to define the movement of a person or people from the country of origin to receiving country or transit country with illegal methods or with the aim of committing crimes as illegal migration or migration non-compliant with international conventions. The act of a person to legally enter a country but not to leave the country despite the time given to him/her is up or the act of a person to enter a country with false documents are deemed as illegal migration (IOM, 2004). With no doubt, the act of Syrian migrants to take shelter in Turkey since the beginning of 2011 in order to save their lives which have been under serious danger due to the civil war/disorder/conflict in their country complies with all international conventions. In other words, it is a totally legal act of migration. Within this context, it would be appropriate to evaluate the status of Syrian migrants within the scope of the forced migration definition of International Organization of Migration (IOM, 2016) "the act of people to leave their country because they are deeply worried

about their lives due to civil war".

Since the matters in question are the act of more than two million Syrians to, involuntarily and in masses, migrate to Turkey with main emphasis on phenomenon of international migration and the impact of these people on Turkey's internal security, internal migration and other aspects of the phenomenon of migration will not necessarily be touched on. The phenomena of migration and crime will be discussed in the study and the relationship between these two concepts (if any) will be examined within the scope of leading theories in the literature. Then, the legal status of Syrian migrants will be evaluated and the impact of Syrian migrants on country security will be discussed.

## **1. THE PHENOMENA OF MIGRATION AND CRIME**

A migrant leaves their social life and environment and begins to live in a different social environment. Most of the time, especially after involuntary migrations, migrants cannot find what they are looking for in their new social environment. Migrants who cannot find what they are looking for in the receiving country in terms of social and economic aspects can display different deviant behaviours while continuing their lives deprived of what they had in the country of origin. One of these deviant behaviours can be crime. Surely education, values, culture and character is highly important in a migrant's display of deviant behaviours (Delice and Yaşar, 2014). This does not only apply to migrants but also every individual living in a country.

The ethnic, religious and identity-related demands of migrants lie behind the security problem voiced by the receiving country officials related to the migrants. The main problems of migrants are in fact poverty, social exclusion, feeling of dissimilarity and alienation. Even assimilated migrants who have become faithful citizens of the country they live in are seen as potential threats to the country security. In especially Western countries, it is an undeniable fact that perceptions to the degree of paranoia are influential in the making of security laws. Racist and religion-related opinions lie behind problems such as illegal trafficking of narcotics, terrorism and human trafficking which are deemed connected to migration (Sayın, 2013: 104-105).

To enter a country without its permission or not to leave that country when the given time is up is a binding crime in laws of all the states. The states see this act of unwanted migration as a disobedience to their authorities and as a threat to public order. The fact that some migrants traffic drugs, commit thefts, display aggressive behaviours and even carry out terrorist actions increase the prejudice related to them. After September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in America, especially the Muslim migrants are seen as potential criminals. Again after September 11 terrorist attacks, European

countries see migrants as potential terrorists - without even checking the criminal history and obedience of Muslims to laws. It is known that officers of intelligence units interrogate Muslim migrants about connections to Taliban and Bin Laden in England. Another similar situation was also experienced in Germany against Turkish migrants. The crimes committed by Turkish people in Germany were exaggerated. The crimes committed by Turkish people in Germany are the types of passport, work permit, visa duration-related crimes that are for a single reason; to live and work in Germany and types of crimes related to work permit which can be defined as administrative but not judicial. These crimes which are administrative and which require fines are exaggerated and the crime rates of Turkish people are reflected as if they were higher than that of German citizens. In fact, it is not even possible for German citizens to commit these crimes (Göksu, 2003: 263-264).

It is possible to evaluate a migrant who is alienated in a country in which he/she lives for various reasons, who is not given job opportunities, who is forced to stay in a closed or restricted area or who is seen as a potential criminal according to the *labelling theory*. According to this theory, it gets easier for a person who is alienated in the society and *labelled* as a potential criminal to join criminal groups (Güllü, 2014: 105).

## 2. LEGAL STATUS OF SYRIAN MIGRANTS

Besides being a conscientious and moral obligation, it is a legal obligation to nationally and internationally protect people who have to leave their countries involuntarily due to cruelty and pressure, who face human rights violations where they arrive or who have the possibility to face these violations (Ergüven and Özturanlı, 2013: 1010).

*Turkey which gives "temporary protection status" to each Syrian who enters the country in the border with its "open border" policy spent nearly 5 billion dollars for the refugee crisis as of November 2014.* The probability of Syrians in Turkey to go back to their country gets even lower as the civil war gets more violent every day. It would be useful to multidimensionally evaluate Syrian refugees who will stay in Turkey for longer in terms of humanitarian, legal, political, security and financial aspects (Kap, 2014: 30).

The legal status of Syrian refugees who take shelter in Turkey is a controversial and important issue. *The 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees* forms the basis of refugee legislation in Turkey. Turkey which is a party to this convention with a "geographic limitation" gives refugee status to people who come to Turkey from Europe. People who come from outside of Europe can take temporary shelter in Turkey and are given "asylum-seeker" status. For this reason, Syrians who flee to Turkey are not in "refugee" status but in "asylum-seeker" status. Since the "asylum-seeker"

status did not contain some natural rights arising from being a refugee, Turkey put into effect some special practices in favour of Syrians by making regulations (Deniz, 2014; Kaptı, 2014: 31-32).

*According to some experts, a mass movement of people need to fulfil two conditions to be defined as "involuntary migration": (1) at least 1 percent of the total population of the country needs to be in danger and (2) at least 100.000 people must have left where they live involuntarily or due to the conditions (USAK - International Strategic Research Organization). It would be appropriate to use the term involuntary migration for Syrian migrants.*

When the matter of Syrian refugees is evaluated in the humanitarian aspect besides its political, economic, security, legal and social aspects, asylum requests of millions of displaced Syrians are based on a fundamental human right given to them by the international law (Kaptı, 2014: 35). When the legal status of Syrian migrants was to be evaluated; the scope, whether "Refugee", "Asylum-Seeker", "Forced Migrant" or "Displaced Person", within which they would be evaluated was still uncertain until the laws of Foreigners and International Protection Law (YUKK) and "Temporary Protection Regulation" were passed in 2013 and 2014, respectively.

*Temporary Protection* is the emergency policy which is followed in mass and sudden movements of a population towards borders. All needs of migrants who are given a temporary protection status such as health, food and shelter etc. are met by the receiving country, namely Turkey. Temporary protection is provided after an unexpected mass movement of people and temporary protection in the Turkish law was regulated on a legal level for the first time with the "*Foreigners and International Protection Law*" (YUKK). 91st article of YUKK provides the opportunity to receive temporary protection for the foreigners who were forced to leave their countries, who cannot go back to their countries and who come to the borders in masses in order to have urgent and temporary protection. Despite it seems like temporary protection was based on laws with this article, it was estimated to make a regulation for detailed arrangement and implementation. Another regulation was put into effect on October 22th, 2014 named "Temporary Protection Regulation". Both the law and the regulation have made the legal status of those who were forced to migrate from Syria clear (SETA, 2015).

When international literature is examined, people who are classified as migrants are evaluated as "foreigners" both in Europe and Turkey. In Turkish law, a "migrant" is someone who is of Turkish origin and is tied to the Turkish culture and who comes to Turkey with the aim of settling (Çiçekli, 2013: 2289).

### **3. THE IMPACT OF SYRIAN MIGRANTS ON COUNTRY SECURITY**

Anatolian grounds hosted the forced mass migration of different peoples in different periods and important population movements due to its geographical position (Uzun, 2015: 108). Anatolia opened its doors for; nearly a hundred thousand Jews who came from Spain in 1492, Polish people in 1848-49, a million and a half people with the same religion or origin who came from the Balkans in 1962, four million Crimean and Caucasian people with the same religion or origin between 1859 - 1922, a hundred thousand German Jews who fled from the Nazi oppression, sixty thousand Iraqi Kurds in 1988, nearly three hundred ten thousand Bulgarian Turks in 1989, five hundred thousand Iraqis in 1991 and nearly a million Iranians in 1980s and 90s (Göksu, 2003: 274). In other words, Turkey has never closed its doors for mass numbers of people in times needs because of civil wars, conflicts, regime oppressions who came to its doors due to political, economic, regional, social reasons or religion and race-related reasons throughout history. In this context, Syrian migrants are not the first migrants for whom Turkey opened its doors and will probably not be the last migrants because of the problems seen in the region. Before discussing the impact of Syrian migrants on the country security, it would be useful to determine whether there is a significant relationship between migration and crimes (if any).

On the contrary to the existent perceptions in societies, the crimes committed by the migrants are not more widely seen than the crimes committed by the citizens of a receiving country (Mariani, 2010: 1). As a result of empirical studies, it was clearly determined that there was no significant relationship between migration and crimes (Bell and Machin, 2011: 5-6). Bianchi and Buonanno (2008) claim that migration does not increase other crimes except for the thefts which are deemed as minor offences and that theft crimes are directly proportional with poverty in societies. Ousey and Kubrin (2009) claim that statements such as that the migrants commit more crimes than the citizens of a receiving country or that there is a relationship between migration and crimes are not true. According to Ousey and Kubrin, the popular misconception among people that there is a connection between crimes and migration is an injustice towards migrants.

The report prepared collectively by ORSAV (Middle East Strategic Research Centre) and TESEV (Turkish Economic and Social Studies Foundation) focus on the impact of Syrians in Turkey related to social, economic, political and security-related aspects.

According to the security-related analysis of the report (ORSAM, 2015: 8-9);

- There is a discourse among local people that the Syrians disturb the peace. However, it is seen that this is not always true. The rates of the judicial incidents which involve asylum-seekers are too low and in most of them, they are the claimant party.
- The most serious security risk is the possibility that the reaction of the local people can turn into a mass reaction which involves violence because of a provocation.
- One of the biggest concerns of local population living in residential areas closer to the border is that they feel open to terrorist attacks.
- The fact that Syrians live altogether in suburbs makes the adaptation process even harder and in the long term, it establishes a ground which can lead to security problems.

It was emphasized in the report that the rates of judicial crimes committed by the Syrians are low and in most cases, they are even in the position of victims. However, there is a groundless fear that local people can attempt mass actions which involve violence after possible provocations. Just like in almost all countries of the world, Turkish people also have the concern that migrants have the potential to commit a crime. However, judicial statistics clearly show that this concern is groundless.

Especially the concern related to terrorist actions felt by the local people who live in the border provinces is a reasonable concern. As a matter of fact, the possibility of a terrorist action which can be carried out by PKK terrorist organization that is in Syria, IS terrorist organization or a group affiliated with Assad should not be ignored. The report explains this reasonable concern of the local people as follows:

*"One of the biggest concerns of local population is that they feel open to terrorist attacks. The thought that there may be some people among Syrians who may want to cause provocation or to punish Turkey is prevalent. The fear that there may be people among Syrians who are attached to Assad, who may be IS members or PKK members is widespread. This is especially common in border towns and in provinces like Kilis and Şanlıurfa which are closer to the border. The occurrence of judicial events or terrorist actions which involve the asylum-seekers could critically change the perception towards all Syrians. Since this can pose bigger security risks, it would be appropriate to follow this with carefully".*

It is the state what can eliminate the concerns of the local people that they are defenceless against possible terrorist actions. The state must strictly check all the asylum-seekers who enter the country and must take all

necessary measures (police, military and others) in order to prevent possible actions. In addition, Syrians who come to Turkey fleeing the war/conflict will get hurt by the possible terrorist actions at least as much as the local people. The innocent Syrians who flee the civil war are not responsible for possible terrorist actions.

The report explains the potential of poverty to create crimes as follows:

*In addition to this, the fact that they live under harsh conditions create circumstances under which all kinds of crimes and violence can emerge. It can be said that the young who are not educated, who have low incomes and who are feeling alienated and who experience an identity crisis will form the source of many crimes in the future. If no measures are taken as local people demands, these lost generations will form the source of the mafia and the thefts in the future. Despite it is not felt right now, in a term which is not too long, there will be new security risks.*

The relationship between poverty and crime is an issue discussed in social sciences. Cömertler and Kar (2007) claim that poverty, social level, the rate of urbanization, security measures and education can affect crime rates in a country. Bharadjaw (2014) states that it would not be correct to only take the poverty and economic indicators into account when analysing crimes and that urbanization, legal system, unemployment and other factors also play an important role in determining the crime rates in a country.

Dönmezer claims that poverty has direct and indirect impacts on crime rates. According to Dönmezer, economic conditions of the society, social class structure and other relations and phenomena also have an effect in the analysis of crimes in Marxist approach. In a study conducted on the economic status of convicts who were jailed for various crimes, it was seen that most of the convicts were poor people with poor economic statuses. However, it would not be correct to base these crimes on only economic reasons. The poverty which is caused by unemployment can cause economic crimes. Besides this, the economic status of white-collar criminals who professionally commit crimes using their educational advantage and who are not included in the statistics is quite well. In this sense, it is not correct to base the highness of crime rates on only poverty. Poverty causes *mental depressions, abnormal mental crises and instabilities and it can thus be effective on crimes* (Dönmezer, 1984: 366-370).

The right to receive humanitarian-standard aids, the right to receive healthcare services and the right to travel provided to Syrians in Turkey within the scope of universal refugee rights are not provided because these are their rights but are provided as opportunities. The Syrians can go wherever they want in the country and they can go on their lives where they



want. They get legal guarantee with the temporary protection status that they cannot be forcibly sent to their countries or to another country. They have the opportunity to receive education. They also received their rights to work with a newly-passed regulation. (Tunç, 2015: 41).

We need to distinguish the circumstances of Syrian migrants from the mass migration movements occurring in Africa due to the fact that the people in Africa do not receive universal refugee rights such as receiving shelter, food, healthcare service or travel right as necessary. Syrian refugees can benefit from almost all universal refugee rights. The possibility of Syrian migrants whose basic needs are provided, who get more adapted to social life day by day, who have the opportunity to work, who began learning Turkish and who get even more integrated into Turkey and Turkish society and who adopts life in Turkey and who get married to get involved in crimes is quite low.

As a matter of fact, according to the information received from the General Directorate of Security, Department of Public Order, Syrians were involved in 5.727 incident out of 1.340.573 incidents in Turkey in 2013. The rate of Syrians to get involved in judicial incidents is 0.43% (43 in 10000) for the year 2013. Of the incidents in which Syrians were involved, 61% is forgery of documents, 21% is lacerating, 12% is thefts, 3% is working without permit, 2.4% is sexual harassment incidents and 0.6% is incident involving killings. It is possible to say that the said rates are not enough to threaten the public order. In the conclusion report of Syrians meeting organized on August 23rd under the coordination of AFAD (Disaster and Emergency Management Authority), it was stated that "on the contrary to the popular misconception, the rate of Syrians to get involved in judicial incidents and crime rates are low". It also contained the statement: "However, any incident creates a tremendous impact on the public due to the effect of the discriminatory point of view" (aa.com.tr-19.09.2014). Gaziantep Governorate stated in its explanation that the rumours that Syrians caused a serious public order problem, that they did not abide by traffic rules and that the social aids for the public were being distributed to the asylum-seekers were just "urban legends" (Milliyet Newspaper, 22.06.2014).

There is a perception among local people that young Syrian women prostitute because of poverty. As a result of the study conducted by Erdoğan and the talks with relevant institutions, it was concluded that the claims were mostly "gossips" and they were exaggerated on the grapevine. Two prostitutes who were interviewed in İstanbul within the framework of the study conducted by Erdoğan stated that they also did prostituting in Syria and that they continued it in Turkey and that after they came to Turkey, they had not seen anyone to start prostituting (Erdoğan, 2014). Erdoğan (Habertürk, 30.11.2014): *"The claim that the crime rates increased after*

*Syrians came is wrong. Despite the fact that the number of Syrians is more than the number of Turkish people in Kilis, only 12% of the crimes were committed by the Syrians. Furthermore, most of these are fights among each other".*

Some important data was obtained in the interviews conducted with 1501 people over 18 in 18 provinces on 3-12 October 2014 in the field study conducted with the title "Public Opinion Poll related to Syrian Asylum-Seekers" by Erdoğan. When the answers given to the question "Syrian asylum-seekers disturb the social morality and peace where they live by getting involved in crimes such as violence, theft, smuggling and prostitution" were analysed in the study, the following findings were concluded: *It was seen that 62.3% of the Turkish society supported the claim. The rate of those who did not support the claim was 23.1%. Those who supported this claim were nearly two times more in the regional provinces. As the age increases, the rate of those who supported the claim also increases (Erdoğan, 2014: 35).*

*"The opinion that the number of minor or major incidents which disturb the public order, thefts, fights increase is the leading subject in terms of complaints in various provinces. Since the asylum-seekers are foreigners and because they are outside of certain internal and external control mechanisms as opposed to the local people, they are seen as primary suspects in public order disturbances. According to official data, the crime rates of Syrian are around 2.5% in Turkey. This shows that there was no dramatic increase in the crime rates in the country after the Syrians came. (İHH, 2014: 14)*

The results of the study conducted by İHH (Humanitarian Relief Foundation) shows that the Syrian migrants do not have a significant impact on the country security.

It is possible to say that Syrian migrants do not pose a threat to internal security in Turkey. Both crime statistics and the statements of authorities clearly show that Syrian migrants do not get involved in crimes as to the degree to pose a threat. Despite this, the studies show that the Turkish public have a concern that "Syrian migrants have the potential to commit crimes and they get involved in various crimes". It would not be wrong to state that this concern is somehow exaggerated. In addition to this, the opinion that the migrants commit crimes on a high level is also prevalent in Western countries.

It is possible to explain this situation as a *fear of crime*, namely the sentimental reaction of concern. There are some theories related to the fear of crimes with multidimensional and various reasons. Some of these are; the perspective of crime victimization, perspective of weakness, perspective of

social control and the perspective of social problems. These theories, in summary, refer to the exposure of a person to a crime before, the weak characteristic of a person to resist crimes, the harsh, disrespectful and disturbing behaviours of individuals towards one another with the fear that the social solidarity will be broken and the way the people perceive the incidents due to the effect of the media. *The fear of crimes* is a phenomenon which occurs as a result of concerns which are often not based on material facts, which are invisible and generally not based on real reasons and is a phenomenon which does not immediately go away when the crime rates decrease (Dolu and Uludağ, 2013: 22-30).

#### 4. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

There are different theories related to crimes. Some of these are; the biological crime theory of Lombroso who claims that people are innate criminals, Ferri's law of birth goal, the theory of Taft et al. which explains crime with culture, the theory of classicists which assumes that all people are potential criminals and the labelling theory which excludes people from the society (Dönmezer, 1984; Dolu, 2009: 100). There are no theories that claim that the migration is related to the crimes. Studies show that there is no direct relationship between migration and crimes. It is possible to say that there is an indirect connection between migration and crimes. A person *-whether a migrant or a citizen of a receiving country-* whose basic needs such as food, shelter, healthcare, security are not met, who is not given a job, who is alienated, who is seen as a potential criminal, who is not given the opportunity to receive education always has the potential to commit a crime. As a matter of fact, crime theories claim that factors such as exclusion from the society, the lack of meeting basic needs, being labelled, ghettoization together with social, economic, political and environmental reasons pave the way for crimes.

The following results were concluded in the study:

- It was determined in the field study that the *social acceptance* level of Turkish public related to the Syrians was quite high (Erdoğan, 2014: 27).
- The studies show that social acceptance level towards Syrians in Turkey is high but there are some concerns. Of these concerns, some of the leading ones are given below (Tunç, 2015: 58-59).
  - The disruption in the basic public services (healthcare, municipality, etc.)
  - Economic concerns (losing jobs, income loss, increase of the rents etc.)
  - Security concerns (public order, suspicion, uneasiness, stress etc.)

- Concerns related to fundamental rights (work permit, residence permit, citizenship etc.)
- These four fundamental concerns were in fact eliminated to a large extent with regulations. It would be easier for Syrian migrants who are working and earning enough money to go on living, who have the opportunity to be cured when they are ill, who benefit from municipal services, who are integrated into the society, who have the opportunity to live their cultures, who are adopted by Turkish people to a large extent to get along with Turkish people. As a result of this, the crime rate which is already not high enough to pose threats will go down and the concerns of Turkish people that Syrian migrants commit crimes and that they are potential criminal will fade away.
- The media approaches the asylum-seekers as lonely, miserable, powerless, problematic, needy and poor people on the one side and as criminals, thieves, rebels, rapists, potentially criminal, and as people who cause economic burden and problem on the other side and the perception of the public takes shape in this way. In this sense, while reporting news related to the Syrians, the written and visual media should avoid news which can create an atmosphere in which Syrians will be alienated and will be seen like potential criminals just because of simple crimes committed by few Syrians.
- Especially the Turkish people who live in the border provinces complain that after the Syrians came, they cannot leave their houses at night because they have concerns that they may be victims of crimes and that they were able to wander the streets even at night before the Syrians came. It is quite common to associate Syrians with theft, prostitution, usurpation, damaging public property on a local level. In fact, all studies show that the crime rates of Syrians are much lower than that of local people. In order to get rid of the groundless fear of the public towards Syrians, governmental institutions need to prepare projects to integrate the two societies. One of these could be that police who are on duty in the border regions can speed up the integration of the two societies by explaining that the incriminations against Syrians are lies and baseless by putting forward statistical numbers in their community policing duties.
- The government should encourage and appreciate the efforts spent devotedly by public workers and especially security officers who serve in the border regions and different motivational tools should be used to ensure the continuation of their attitudes.
- The issue of "Syrian beggars" is one of the most disturbing issues for the Syrians and the Turkish people. The Syrians claim that these are

people who were already panhandling when they were in Syria and that these kinds of people can be seen in every part of the world. The request for strictly implementing serious measures related to the beggary which also triggers alienation, contempt, hate and hostility is quite common (Erdoğan, 2014). Therefore, the state officials must explain through media to Turkish people that they should not give money to those who beg for money in the streets. In fact, what encourages the beggar is the money given to them.

- "In every part of the world, the leading factor which causes people to be disturbed and even be hostile towards migrants in mass migration event is the "job loss" or "reduction of the income". The policy-makers should take measures to prevent the negative feelings of local people who are concerned that they will lose their jobs because of migrants.
- The living conditions of the Syrians should be improved for the better with international contributions. It is highly unlikely for migrants who are in a good economic and social condition to commit crimes. The fact that Syrians live in certain districts altogether has the potential to create security problems in the long term.
- When the matter of Syrian refugees is evaluated in the humanitarian aspect besides its political, economic, security, legal and social aspects, it should not be forgotten that asylum requests of millions of displaced Syrians are based on a fundamental human right given to them by the international law (Kaptı, 2014: 35).

### **As a result, in summary:**

It is predicted that the civil war in Syria will continue for a long time. However, Western countries do not seem eager to share the social, economic and political problems created by the Syrian refugees in Turkey. A solution can be reached for the refugee problem which gets even bigger every day if international community does what it needs to do because of the international law and their responsibility related to the refugee rights. In this sense, the international actors need to put forward solution-oriented, reconciling solution offers which will disarm everyone in order to end the ongoing civil war and the terrorist actions in Syria and they need to begin their attempts immediately. It should be clearly explained to the public that the crime rates of Syrians is quite low. The potential of the terrorist actions to be carried out by Syrian persons affiliated with terrorist organizations to create xenophobia should not be forgotten. We should not forget: a terrorist is a terrorist and the race, religion and the religious sect of a terrorist do not matter. Universities, governmental institutions and nongovernmental organizations should work together in order to prevent the incrimination of

all Syrians due to possible terrorist actions or judicial crimes. It is important to create communication and solidarity channels in order to prevent the xenophobia and to strengthen the relationships between Turkish people and the Syrian asylum-seekers. The manipulative dissemination of circumstances through media such as beggary, theft and polygamy which are not seen in the Turkish society and thus aggravation of xenophobia should be prevented. In addition, there are various security risks which can be caused in the future by young asylum-seekers who feel alienated, who have low incomes and who are uneducated and are having an identity crisis. The impact of the Syrians on Turkey's security is a subject which should be discussed in its entirety with its social behaviours aspect. **Finally, to summarize in one sentence;** The Syrian migrants are not a threat to the societal security of Turkish people or to the internal security of Turkey.

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