

SAMEVATTING

ONWETTIGE VREEMDELINGE AS INTERNASIONALE VRAAGSTUK, MET SPESIFIEKE VERWYSING NA DIE REPUBLIEK VAN SUID-AFRIKA

deur

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Die verskynsel van onwettige migrasie is slegs een van verskeie internasionale vraagstukke en kan om verskeie redes as 'n internasionale vraagstuk beskou word. Een hiervan is die globale toename in onwettige migrasie. Konstante veranderinge in globale ekonomiese markte en die gevolglike ekonomiese ontwikkeling binne bepaalde streke en ekonomiese onstabiliteit in ander streke, is een van die primêre faktore wat aanleiding gee tot die toename in die verskynsel van internasionale migrasie, insluitende onwettige migrasie. Hierdie toenemende migrasie van groot getalle onwettige vreemdelinge is dikwels onbeheerbaar en in baie gevalle ongewens. Boonop blyk dit dat 'n duidelike onderskeid tussen onwettige vreemdelinge en vlugtelingproblematies bly, ten spyte van 'n toenemende, globale bewuswording van onwettige vreemdelinge. Alhoewel die werklike implikasies van die teenwoordigheid van onwettige vreemdelinge op state se onderskeie terreine moeilik bepaalbaar is, het die toenemende getalle van dié individue in meeste streke van die wêreld veroorsaak dat die houdings en sienings van state oor migrasie; die gebruik van migrante arbeid; en die dikwels gepaardgaande onwettige migrasie, toenemend negatief begin word het.

Regerings beskou grensbeheer as 'n noodsaaklike steunpilaar van nasionale veiligheid. Indien 'n bepaalde staat nie effektiewe kontrole oor grense kan toepas nie, of indien die getalle onwettige vreemdelinge wat oor grense beweeg, nie beheer kan word nie, word dit as 'n direkte bedreiging vir nasionale veiligheid beskou. Strenger maatreëls is gedurende die afgelope paar jaar deur vele state geformuleer en geïmplementeer om die onwettige vreemdelingprobleem die hoof te bied.

Wat suidelike Afrika betref, het verandering in intra-regionale migrasiepatrone in dië streek gedurende die 1980's en die 1990's die aard van migrasie binne die streek beïnvloed. Alhoewel onwettige vreemdelinge as gevolg van verskeie redes hul tuisstate verlaat en onwettig na 'n ander staat migreer, blyk dit dat die ekonomiese ideaal om meer in 'n ander staat te verdien, so 'n individu se besluit deurslaggewend beïnvloed. Op grond hiervan, het potensiële onwettige vreemdelinge in suidelike Afrika 'n voorkeur vir Suid-Afrika.

Alhoewel verskillende beramings 'n aanduiding van getalle onwettige vreemdelinge binne Suid-Afrika gee, kan die werklike invloed van onwettige vreemdelinge op maatskaplike dienste, misdaad, verkiesings en die ekonomie, slegs ten volle begryp word indien, onder andere, meer inligting oor die werklike getal onwettige vreemdelinge bekend sou wees. Die gevolgtrekking is gemaak dat die teenwoordigheid van onwettige vreemdelinge tot 'n mindere of meerdere mate, 'n negatiewe invloed op verskeie terreine van die Suid-Afrikaanse samelewing het en dat 'n groot gedeelte van die Suid-Afrikaanse publiek negatief is oor die teenwoordigheid van groot getalle onwettige vreemdelinge in Suid-Afrika.

Verskeie beheermaatreëls is in Suid-Afrika geïmplementeer om die onwettige vreemdelingprobleem aan te spreek en indiensneming van onwettige vreemdelinge te stuit, maar solank as wat sommige state in die streek onder politieke onstabiliteit, ekonomiese agteruitgang en

omgewingsdegradasie gebuk gaan, sal Suid-Afrika 'n gewilde bestemming vir individue op soek na 'n beter lewe en werksomstandighede, bly.

SUMMARY

ILLEGAL MIGRANTS AS AN INTERNATIONAL ISSUE, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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The phenomenon of illegal migration is only one of many international issues. There are various reasons for classifying illegal migration as an international issue, notably its world-wide increase. One of the primary factors contributing to the increase in international migration, including illegal migration, is continuous change in global economic markets and the resulting economic development of some regions as opposed to economic instability in other regions. The increasing migration of large numbers of illegal migrants is often impossible to control, and is, in many cases, undesirable. In addition, it seems that it is often difficult to distinguish between illegal migrants and refugees, in spite of increasing global awareness of the issue of illegal migration. It is difficult to determine the true implications of the presence of illegal migrants for the economic, political and social spheres of individual states, but increasing numbers of such individuals in most regions in the world have had a negative effect on the attitudes of many states towards migration, the use of migrant labour, and accompanying illegal migration.

Governments regard border control as essential for national security. If a particular state cannot ensure effective control of its borders, or if the numbers of illegal migrants that

cross the country's borders cannot be controlled, this must be regarded as a direct threat to national security. More stringent measures have been drafted and implemented by many states over the past few years to address the problem of illegal migration.

In the southern African region, the changing intra-regional migration patterns during the 1980s and 1990s have influenced the nature of migration. Illegal migrants leave their homes to migrate to other states for various reasons, but it seems that the economic ideal of earning more money in another state may be a deciding factor for these individuals. It is for this reason that potential illegal migrants in southern Africa appear to favour South Africa as their destination.

There are various estimates of the numbers of illegal migrants in South Africa, but the actual effects of illegal migrants on social services, crime, elections and the economy can only be fully understood if more information about the number of illegal migrants is available. The study concludes that the presence of illegal migrants has a negative effect, to a greater or lesser degree, on several spheres of South African society and that a large section of the South African public feels negative about the presence of large numbers of illegal migrants in South Africa.

Various control measures have been implemented in South Africa to address the illegal migration problem and to reduce the employment of illegal migrants, but as long as some states in the southern African region suffer from political instability, economic decline and environmental degradation, South Africa will remain a popular destination for individuals who desire a better life and better working conditions.

Sleutelsterme en sleutelwoorde:

Beheermaatreëls
Beleid
Deportasie
Ekonomiese ontwikkeling
Grensbeheer
Internasionale vraagstuk
Onwettige migrasie
Onwettige vreemdeling
Konflik
Vlugteling
Vrystelling
Xenofobie

Keyterms:

Asylum
Border control
Conflict
Control measures
Deportation
Economic development
Illegal migrants
Illegal migration
International issue
Policy
Refugee
Xenophobia