NEAR EAST UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS PROGRAM

THE IMPACT OF IRREGULAR MIGRATION OF AFRICANS TO EROUPE: A CASE STUDY OF THE GAMBIA

OMAR FOFANA

MASTER'S THESIS

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ABSTRACT

THE IMPACT OF IRREGULAR MIGRATION OF AFRICANS TO EUROPE: A CASE STUDY OF THE GAMBIA

Recently the international community has been disturbed by many challenges that have threatened or shook global security, stability and peace. One of such challenges is the irregular migration of Africans to Europe. This issue has become a hot boiling topic in today's world, a dangerous journey and scary. One commonly called (The backway Syndrome in Gambia) is believed to be motivated or driven by a number of factors mainly economic, political and socio-cultural and this movement has led to losses of lives and resources.

This research focused on the impact of this phenomenon on the economic and political development of The Gambia. Taking into considerations what are the driving factors or causes of this irregular migration of Gambians; what challenges did they encounter on the journey, this study used descriptive and qualitative strategy of inquiry and based its research on interviews. A questionnaire was used for data collection through interviews conducted with Gambian migrants in Europe through WhatsApp. In this way, the study aimed to contribute to the literature and the existing knowledge sources that is used to support this study. The researcher concludes that the unfavorable harsh economic, political and socio-cultural factors are the main driving forces of Gambian irregular migration to Europe. Again, the researcher concludes that, Gambia government must create jobs in terms of factories and industries, protect girls' child right, good salary scale and upholding of democracy which are essential to curbing irregular migration of Gambians to Europe.

ÖZ

AFRİKALILARIN ABRUPA'YA DÜZENSİZ GÖÇÜNÜN ETKİSİ: GAMBİYA VAKA ANALİZİ

Son dönemde uluslararası toplum küresel güvenlik, istikrar ve barışı sarsan ve tehdit eden birçok sorunla karşılaşmıştır. Bu sorunlardan biri Afrikalıların Avrupa'ya düzensiz göçü olarak görülmektedir. Konu günümüzün en sıcak konularından biri olarak görülmektedir. Tehlikeli ve korkutucu bir seyahat. Gambiya'da (Arka yol Sendromu) olarak tanımlanan göçün temel tetikleyici unsurları ekonomik, siyasi ve sosyo-kültürel unsurlar olarak tanımlanmakta ve birçok insanın hayatına ve kaynağa mal olmaktadır.

Bu tez çalışması, göç olgusunun Gambiya'nın ekonomik ve siyasi kalkınmasına etkisine odaklanmaktadır. Çalışma, Gambiyalıların düzensiz göçüne neden olan temel faktörlere ve bu göçmenlerin yolculuk sırasında karşılaştıkları sorunları betimleyici, nitel bir sorgulama yöntemi ile ve göçmenlerle yapılan mülakatlarla destekleyerek irdelemeye çalışmıştır. Avrupa'daki Gambiyalı göçmenlerle Whatsapp aracılığı ile yapılan görüşmelerle anket formu ile veri toplanmıştır. Bu şekilde çalışma, bu çalışmaya temel oluşturan ve desteklemede kullanılan var olan literatüre ve bilgi birikimine katkı koymayı amaçlamıştır. Çalışma, Avrupa'da bulunan Gambiyalı düzensiz göçmenlerin zorlu ve olumsuz ekonomik, siyasi ve sosyo-kültürel temel nedenlerle göçe yöneldiğini teyit etmektedir. Aynı şekilde, Gambiyalıların Avrupa'ya düzensiz göçünü sınırlamak için Gambiya hükümetinin sanayiyi destekleyerek iş imkanları yaratması gerektiği, kız çocuklarının haklarının korunması, maaş dengesi kurulması gibi adımları desteklemesi, demokrasiyi güçlendirecek adımlar atması gerektiği görülmektedir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Düzensiz göç, Avrupa Birliği, Afrika, Gambia, Sınır dışı

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ABBREVATIONS

AU	AFRICAN UNION
ECOWAS	ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATE
IOM	INTERNATIONAL ORGANSIATION FOR MIGRATION
UN	UNITED NATIONS
EU	EUROPEAN UNION
MOTIE	MINISTRY OF TRADE, INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION GAMBIA
GBOS	GAMBIA BUREAU OF STATISTICS
EUFF	EUROPEAN UNION TRUST FUND
GLFS	GAMBIA LABOUR FORCE SURVEY
ICC	INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT
OAU	ORGANISATION OF AFRICAN UNION
UNICEF	UNITED NATIONAS INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S EMERGENCY FUND
UNHCR	UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES
OECD	ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Migration in International World

Humanity has invariably been on the shift. All through history, people have migrated in search of completely new possibilities and to break free of poverty, conflict, and persecution. Movements of individuals occur around the planet. But although migration is an international phenomenon, there's nonetheless absolutely no worldwide comprehension on exactly how to deal with it.

Nowadays individuals are transferring much more than ever. You will find currently around 258 million international migrants (United Nations Department of Social and Economic Affairs, 2017). According to a public specific carried through by UN. The figure continues to grow swiftly after the turn of millennium, when there are 173 million based on the United Nations (United Nations Department of Social and economic Affairs, 2017). Along with the rising amount, research is discovering varying demographics, improving technological advances, changing desires of labor market segments as well as ongoing issues presented by wars, shortages, human rights violations and also weather change. Specific places as energy sources of others and migrants as recipients are recognized by the thesis. But many nations nowadays encounter migration via almost all 3 perspectives - as places of origins, destination and transit.

Unlawful migration is a visible and global trend within the start of 21st century. In many nations, it had been predicted that in between 10 % as well as 15 % of the planet's migrants resided within an abnormal circumstance within 2004, that requires somewhere between twenty and also thirty million men and women (The UN Migration Agency, 2018). Unlawful migration has turned into a problem for the different actors of the state as well as non-government. This involves governments which usually are interested to control migration, human rights activists and also campaigning groups that will concentrate on the absence of

rights of unlawful migrants, business employers that are interested in accessibility to' cheap' and' compliant' perform, traveling organizations as well as businesses that are problem by the possibility of sanctions for moving people who have an inappropriate or maybe absolutely no documentation in addition to unlawful migrants themselves whom attempt to make it through regardless of the situation of theirs of vulnerability.

Nevertheless, within the international context, irregular migration under international migration, has grown to be probably the most talked concern or perhaps challenge confronting the global realm because of globalization. It has made migration less difficult and easy when you are using the appropriate systems and channels set within place. But on the opposite hands, it's resulted in men and women making use of routes that are not recognized through the migration policies triggering the issue of it as we struggling with it throughout the globe.

Africa and Migration

In recent times, unlawful migration continues to be increasing. Unlawful migration is generally burning up by pull components. The flow of unlawful migrants is frequently from poorer nations to richer nations. Individuals interested often might not be the poorest in their home countries. They have a tendency to be people who have a lot of data, knowledge, motivation and ambition, which in turn normally powers their wish to migrate for better way of life. Usually, most people migrate to host places as an outcome of war, economic reasons and political persecution. Youthful African women and men risk almost everything, such as their lives, to undertake the perilous journey throughout a large number of borders and also consequently the treacherous waves on the Mediterranean Sea in deep explore of a very powerful living. Some die across the ways, a few are turned back as well as all those UN organizations end the journey know that living may not be simpler throughout the frontiers. However, with jobs that are few as well as dim prospects at home,

millions of young adults and youths in Africa however choose to migrate, frequently clandestinely. Yet another aspect which tends to make these types of a major type to hunt to depart continent is the fact that the narration about the provision of job opportunities abroad. Exactly what the adventurists do not understand is the fact that their square measure documents required for work procedural, that they distinctly do not have. When it comes to the majority of scenarios, work opportunities are usually not sufficient for all the indigents, not to speak undocumented immigrants.

Africa is considered one of the continents with the finest different migrants. This is as a result of the degree of poverty, political issues, ethnic conflicts as well as action of terrorism. Unlawful migration continues to be a problem that is found in the continent, a major reason behind drain. It has robbed Africa of capabilities, thus encouraging lack of workforce in completely a variety of sectors. The youths who actually increase the much larger proportion of the migrants actually leave the continent in order to explore as well as display their skills for' befitting' treat. When abilities leave, factors start to be challenging within the sectors which require them and this also cripples the overall economy.

Within the situation of Europe, the population of sub-Saharan migrants continues to be increased by the inflow of almost one thousand asylum applicants (970,000) between 2010 and 2017, based on a Pew middle evaluation of info from Eurostat, Europe's statistical bureau (Pew Research Center, 2018). Inside the U.S., all those fleeing struggle additionally make several of the very 4 100 1000, sub-Saharan migrants UN agency towards the States between 2010 and 2016. Based on information from U.S. Division of homeland Security, 110,000 people coming from sub-Saharan countries have been moved as refugees within this particular seven-year quantity. An additional body 100 90 1000, ended up being given lawful permanent residence by virtue of household ties; almost 110,000 a lot more got into the U.S. with the diversity visa application.

Gambia and Illegal Migration

Unlawful migration is hot topic and burning in a lot of developing nations such as the Gambia. Insufficient prospects along with employment chances is definitely the primary driver pushing a number of youth in deep hunt of greener pastures within the west by means of aggressive weather and also throughout the Mediterranean as outlined by The Point Newspaper Gambia (On Illegal Migration, 2018)

The Gambia is a country situated in West Africa. It is the country in West Africa having a population of nearly 2 million. The main source of its revenue is Tourism and Agriculture. It's a young man Unemployment rate of over 40 % based on International Organization of Migration. (IOM, 2017)

In recent years, the country has been faced with lot crisis ranging from bad governance, corruption, human right violations, Unemployment, low salary scale and many other issues just to mention a few. These problems or issues makes standard of living expensive and hard for majority of the population leading to citizens migrating mostly to America and Europe for better life conditions.

There is a common term or name for it in The Gambia called 'THE BACK WAY' that is traveling through the Mediterranean Sea to cross to Europe illegally. Many of my country citizens who embarked on this journey lost their lives, some injured badly and others trapped in Libya and going through a lot of tortures, pain, and hardship. Those who managed to reach Europe and got the papers are also doing well by contributing to development of their country by sending back remittances to their families. These remittances averaged 181million US Dollar a year during 2013-2015, equivalent to around 20% of GDP (International Fund for Agricultural Development, 2017). In addition, on the other hand we have others who succeeded in reaching Europe but no document making it worse for them there.

Illegal migration is one of the main problems we facing as a country, we have lost eligible youth force with skills and talents, hardworking husbands who left their wives and families behind may be at great risk of discrimination, poverty, gender-based violence and vulnerability from conflict and for the past 2 years' single ladies have also started to embark on this route to Europe which is very devastating. With these problems, I deem it important to research into this to come out with findings and the way forward for the betterment of the Gambia and Africa as a whole. People need to know the story and reasons behind this movement and understanding the dangers, difficulties and struggle concern with it. This is because traveling through the Mediterranean Sea as claimed many young youthful lives and resulted in health issues with others, therefore this research is important and fundamental for an area to be looked at.

A Quick Note: From this study, the following terms Irregular Migration, Illegal Migration and Unlawful Migration means same in meaning and context in this thesis. World leaders and scholars decided to change the name to a standard and well recognized name which is now the Irregular Migration.

i. Statement of Problem

For ages now, Europe and America is faced with the problem of migration from Africa with huge rise in numbers of migrants. The Gambia is one of Africa's smallest nations, with a population of just under two million. And yet its citizens have consistently ranked among the top five nationalities taking the Central Mediterranean route from Libya to Italy and other European destinations. One would think live should be perfect and good in this country due to its population size and the size of the country itself. When properly governed with respect to rule of law and basic provision of needs of the citizenry, it could have been a different scenario.

As indicated by UNICEF, which regularly examined Italian immigration data, approximately 0.5 % of the Gambia's population migrates each year, the

greatest number found in Africa. The Gambia additionally ranks top amongst sub-Saharan African region in terms of the statistics of its migrants that are unaccompanied minors. For 2016, 13 % of unaccompanied children showing up inside Italy happened to be Gambian, as stated by UNICEF. In full, almost 12,000 Gambians showed up within Italy through the Mediterranean during 2016, a 36 % expansion from 2015 (European Union, 2017)

So therefore, the statement problem of this research or study is to identified the factors that have led to the high rate of irregular migration from The Gambia to Europe by the able talented and vibrant youth force and to know the difficulties they tackle or go through on the way and finally its impact on the political and economic development of Gambia.

ii. Objective of the Study

The researcher's main argument as the objective of the study is to assess the impact of irregular migration on the political and economic development of The Gambia. This is to know if the impact is positive or negative or both in the development of Gambia. The thesis would also assess the factors driven Gambians to migrate to Europe and the challenges they went through during the journey.

iii. Research Questions

The main research question for this thesis is to know the impact of irregular migration on the political and economic development of the Gambia.

1. What factors account for illegal migration by Gambians to Europe?
2. What challenges do the migrants face during the journey?
3. Which gender embarks more on this journey?

iv. Significance of the Research

The foremost purpose of research is in line with the academic requirements of my school as a final year student doing my master's program international relations. It is also a building stone for me in the academic sphere.

Again, it will provide knowledge to individuals who are interested in doing further research in this area of interest. It will also serve as a more gearing area to open for discussion and research interest in migration and related areas.

It will also help the government, non-governmental organizations and the community at large in solving the recurrent problems related to irregular migration and to recommend possible strategies for better nation building.

v. Scope and Limitation

Studying irregular migration to Europe from Africa as a whole would be difficult and demanding and will be difficult to finish the research on time. So therefore, the study is limited on The Gambia as the case study and Gambian migrants were the focus point and the government of Gambia.

In terms of limitation, interviewing migrants or getting Gambian migrants to take part in the research was difficult. Most of them thought it has something to do with deportation. Some migrants also had understanding problems of the questionnaires which made the researcher to translate some such questions into the local dialect for them to understand what is been asked.

On the side of the government institutions, timing was a great factor due to protocol procedures which delayed the researcher in certain instances.

vi. Methodology

Research Design

This refers to the specific tools that a person makes use of to perform research. This can be qualitative, quantitative or mixed.

This research focused on qualitative design; this is to be able to give in depth description and explanations of the research questions to be answered.

The thesis covered three categories of people in gathering data to be able to answer the research objectives. This is an important segment of the research, the categories of people administered the interview questionnaires are the migrants that is the Gambians who utilized the Mediterranean Sea to go to Europe as well as three government institutions that were helpful in given information regarding the stand of the government with irregular migration as a problem.

The migrant category is divided into three sub-units of namely: youths embarking on the journey, the working class group who left their jobs home and embarked on this journey and lastly women who also used this route to go to Europe. The reason for choosing these categories of people is that, The Gambia as a case study; these are the group of people from the country embarking on this deadly journey.

The government institutions that took part in this research are; Ministry of Trade, Industry, Employment and Regional integration, Gambia Bureau of Statistics and an International body called International Organization of Migration (IOM).

vii. Sampling Technique and Sample
Purposive Sampling: it's as well called judgmental, subjective or selective sampling. Is actually a sampling approach by which researcher depends on his or her own personal judgment when picking people in population to take part in the research (Research methodology.net). With this particular strategy selection about the people to get incorporated as part of the sample had been primarily used by the researcher, based on an assortment of conditions. Within the number of the migrants for the research individuals are going to be selected on

the key elements given below. Specialist knowledge of the research issue or capacity and willingness of the affected people to participate in the research.

- Migrants who used the Mediterranean Sea to reach Europe

The sample size for this research is 50 questionnaires. The questionnaires were given to migrants from Gambia of all class both the male and female migrants. This too provided adequate and reliable information for analysis.

Materials

Primary data is the main material for this research from questionnaires and interview questions. Also, other materials from international organizations, articles, journals and previous studies by scholars were used.

viii. Data Collection Procedure

Data collection is considered one of the core areas of the research tasks. The entire study program depends upon accurate and valid information and data, which might be gathered by authors out of distinct means. Therefore, the entire information compilation procedure needs to be meticulously designed as well as executed (Chisnall 1997). There are 2 major kinds of market researching information: primary and secondary data. According to Michael and Hutt (2001, 150) primary data of study are usually gathered to examine client purchasing behavior, attitude, and intention. Primary data need to be collected for the very first time by possibly just one or perhaps fusion of: Observation, Interviews and Questionnaires.

The sources of information collection are through interviews and questionnaires. The questionnaires are for migrants and interview questions were answered by the government institutions to be able to answer the statement problem of the study. And for the administering of the interview questionnaires, the researcher used social media Apps like WhatsApp to reach out to migrants to be

interviewed. And for the government institutions the services of email were used and skype to reach out to the institutions to know the role played by the government in irregular migration of its citizens. This because the researcher believes most Gambian migrants are fun of the social media so it was much easier to reach out to them from that end and for the government institutions they are more active on emails.

ix. Data Analysis Technique

The data analysis technique used for the qualitative aspect is basic SPSS, to run the data collected through questionnaires which gave us our results. These results were represented using basic statistics such as pie chart, bar chart, frequency distribution tables.

x. Structure of the Thesis

The researcher will structure the thesis in four chapters. The introduction: the chapter consists of the background of the study and methodology. In addition, the chapter one is on the conceptual and theoretical framework of the study, which discussed major key concepts and the literature review. The chapter two is historical background of migration. Chapter three is on the findings about Gambia and analysis of data collected and lastly, chapter four is the recommendation and conclusion.

CHAPTER 1
CONCEPTUAL AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The conceptual framework of this research elaborated on irregular migration and other concepts important to the study.

Migration is a phenomenon that is as old as humanity and has contributed much in shaping the history of the modern world. Human beings have continuously engaged in it for survival and other purposes. As outlined by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Migration could be described as the movement of a group or a person of people, possibly across a major international border, or within a state. It's a population movement, surrounding any sort of movement of individuals no matter what its causes, composition, and length. It includes the migration of refugees, displaced persons, economic migrants and person's reunification International migration can be broadly divided into two, namely: Voluntary and Involuntary migration. Voluntary migration involves all journeys made voluntarily either within states or across international borders. It includes migration for economic purposes, educational purposes, for Business, tourism and for family reunification. Involuntary or forced Migration occurs due to wars and conflicts, disasters and political repression, which induce people to leave their homes/states and migrate to other places/states as refugees, displaced persons and asylum seekers, etc.

On the other hand, the term migration connotes an individual or individuals who move from one place to another with various motivations, which include economic migrants, refugee asylum seekers and displaced persons. Migration can be legal or regular when the migrant fulfils the necessary immigration

regulations or has the authorization required to enter, stay or work in a country. It can also be illegal or irregular. The IOM describes irregular migration as the movement which happens outside the regulatory norms of the sending transit and receiving countries (IOM, 2011).

Furthermore, (Haas, 2008) describes irregular migration as the "International movement or residency that is in conflict with migration laws". (Bill Jordan, 2002) defined it as the crossing of borders without proper authority or the violation of conditions for entering another country". In addition to this, the United States of America Immigration services describes unlawful immigration as immigration throughout national borders in a way which violates the immigration law on the location country. An unlawful immigrant is a foreigner who's got illegally crossed an international political border or a foreigner that has moved into a country legally however overstays his/her visa (Salaheddine, 2010). (Haas, 2008) further argues that a substantial proportion today were irregular migrants at some stage of their residency before they regularized their stay.

From the above discussion, we can deduce that irregular migration includes all journeys made by migrants from their countries to other countries without proper authorization or without fulfilling the immigration requirements of the transit or destination countries. Concerning Africa, it involves Africans leaving their own countries and crossing borders of other countries without proper authorization in order to enter Europe. We can also deduce that regular and irregular migration is closely related and that the terms regular and irregular have almost the same connotation, and are used interchangeably by scholars who have researched on this phenomenon. Migrants from Africa especially those from sub Saharan Africa, have used the North African countries as transit routes to Europe. Some have also crossed the Spanish enclaves to enter Europe.

1. 1 Definition of the Main Concepts

1.1.1 Migrant

IOM defines a migrant as any individual who is moving or alternatively has relocated across an international border or inside a State from his/her usual site of residence, irrespective of (1) the individual's authorized status; (2) regardless of whether the action is voluntary or involuntary; (3) exactly what the motives for the movement are; or even (four) what the duration of the stay is. Simply put, as far as one is not in his/her origin of destination, they become migrant reasons been anything.

1.1.2 Refugee

Based on the refugee description in the 1951 Refugee Convention, Art. 1(2), 1969 Organization of African Unity (OAU) Convention defines' a refugee as anybody forced to abandon his or her country owing to exterior aggression, job, foreign domination or events seriously frustrating public order at either portion or the entire of his origin or country or even nationality'. Similarly, the 1984 Cartagena Declaration states that refugees also include persons who flee their country "because their lives, security or freedom have been threatened by generalized violence, foreign aggression, internal conflicts, massive violations of human rights or other circumstances which have seriously disturbed public order."

1.1.3 Asylum Seeker

According to the IOM, Asylum seeker -' A individual who seeks protection from persecution or perhaps serious harm in a country aside from his or her personal as well as awaits a choice on the application for refugee state subjected to appropriate international and national instruments'. Just in case associated with a bad choice, the individual must certainly depart the land and might be expelled, as could any non-national in an unlawful or irregular problem, unless authorization to remain is offered on humanitarian or any other relevant grounds.

1.1.4 Country of Origin

'The country that's a supply of migratory flows (regular or irregular)' (IOM).

1.1.5 Receiving Country

'Country of desired destination or even a third country'. In the situation of return or repatriation, additionally the country of origins. Country which has recognized to receive a particular number of migrants and refugees upon an annual time frame by presidential, parliamentary or ministerial choice.

1.1.6 Remittances

'Monies attained or acquired by non-nationals that're transferred back to their country of origin' (IOM).

1.1.7 Deportation

According Duhaime Dictionary, deportation is definitely the elimination of a different natural under immigration laws and regulations for factors including unlawful entry as well as conduct risky towards the public welfare.

1.2 Literature Review

This section would be divided into two broad areas, the theoretical and empirical. Under the theoretical, various theories would be highlighted and reviewed in relations to the research. Under the empirical, other peoples work related to this would be reviewed in relation to the study.

1.2.1 Theoretical Review

The theoretical framework to be used here is developed by Douglas S. Massey, who wrote an article with fellow scholars called 'theories of international migration' which comprises of different key theories regarding international migration which are essential for this research work. These scholars made a review and appraisal of all the major international theories to migration, which is discussed below in details according to them.

1.2.2 The Neo-Classical Theory of Migration

According to the article, this particular principle may be the dominant and first concept employed to explain the causes of migration. This unique concept assumes that migration is stimulated mainly by rational economic factors to consider of relative costs and benefits, mainly fiscal and also emotional (Todaro, 2011). The Scholars that originally developed this theory used it to explain migration within the approach of economic development.

From the works of scholars such (Lewis, 1954), it is revealed that migration occurs as a result of wage differentials throughout markets or countries which usually arises using various levels of labour sector rigidity. Again the theory stated that, migration is driven by geographical differences in labour between labour- rich and capital- rich countries. This theory also assumes that labour tends to flow from areas of low wage to areas of high wages. In other words, there is a linear relationship between wages differentials and migration flows.

One clearer example cited here is the explanation of one causes of the irregular migration of Africa's economic migrants to Europe especially with regard to the wage differentials between poor African countries and the wealthy European countries. Africa is endowed with abundant unutilized and underutilized labour while there is scarcity of labour in some European countries. Therefore, this factor encourages Africans to migrate to Europe in order to find better- remunerated employment opportunities. Notwithstanding desperate the fact that Europe is in dire need of both skilled and unskilled labour, a number of the European receiving countries are currently suffering from stagnant economies and Unemployment, particularly youth unemployment.

Again, this theory is inadequate to account for all the reasons behind the irregular or illegal migration of Africans to Europe since it offers only one of the reasons. Whilst there are other reasons, motives or factors which can also lead to this journey. To continue with, the ability to migrate is not solely dependent on

wage differentials, but also linked with costs. Therefore, it is not only the poorest people who migrate or poorest countries.

Simply put, been one of the oldest migration theories, which concentrated on more of the wage difference as the key driving factor of Africans to migrant due to high wage differences or a more attracted one elsewhere compare to home country. A typical example is from the interview conducted in this research where most of the people who were working in home country Gambia like teachers left due low wages or poor salary scale of teachers within the country, had triggered many of them to migrate to Europe irregularly were they believe to have good salary and good standard of living.

1.2.3 Human Capital Theory

This is a theory developed by Larry, (1962). It is considered another variant of the neo-classical economic theory of migration when analyzed at the unit level of individual preference. According to the article, this theory incorporates the socio-demographic characteristics of the individual as an important determinant of migration at the micro level (Lucia, 2011). According to this theory, it is rationale individuals who move with the aim of utilizing their chances and outcomes. Furthermore, this theory suggests that human capital endowments such as skill, age, marital status, gender, occupation and labour market status as well as preferences and expectations strongly affect who migrates or who does not. The theory also stated that the zeal or enthusiasm to migrate reduces with age and becomes high with educational level. This may also be used to explain the reason why African youths are in the majority of those who embark these irregular or illegal journeys. Although middle-age Africans are involved in this phenomenon, the youths are the majority (Thomas, 1999).

1.2.4 Push and Pull Theory of Migration

Nonetheless, another theory which also emphasizes the economic context of migration is the Push and Pull theory. According to this theory, the push factors

are those factors which compel individuals to leave their countries to other places while the pull factors are the factors that attract individuals to the destination countries. These factors can be political, economic or socio-cultural. This theory can also be used in analyzing the causes of illegal migration from African to Europe. The push factors include the violent conflicts, wars and political instability which have engulfed most African countries such as Eritrea, South Sudan, Somalia, Libya and Egypt (Gide, 2005).

From the analysis of the findings on Gambia, the push and pull theory of migration contributed as a factor in the migration of Gambians to Europe irregularly. From the questionnaires answered, migrants gave factors like economic, political and socio-cultural as the reasons or factors responsible for their decision to embark on the journey. They named torture, poverty, political repression and gross human rights violations, population pressure, under-development, poverty, unemployment and lack of economic opportunities.
This therefore, makes it essential to the research due to it factors contributing to most of the motives behind the illegal migration of Africans to Europe from past studies and that of Gambia.

1.2.5 The New Economic Theory of Migration
The new economic theory of migration also offers an explanation on other economic determinants of migration. This theory offers a new level of analysis and a different native of migration determinant. The theory argues that migration decisions are not made by isolated individual actors but typically by families or household (Lucia, 2011). In addition to this, the choices made by migrants are affected by a wide range of factors which are shaped by conditions in the home nation, and these choices are not affiliated to wage differentials or the rational choice of individual migrants but can also include a set of other variables related to relative deprivation.

The theory of relative deprivation argues that any household that performs relatively worse than other households will be readier to send a member abroad who will help in risk aversion and risks minimization of the household income. This theory analysis migration at the household level, migration is seen as a form of social insurance (Douglas, 1998).

This theory basically analysis migration at the household level. The theory suggests that it is not only economic reasons or factors or wage differences that push people to migrate, but the Household as a level too also contributes in the sense that in a community of family A and B, and it happens that family B is doing well economically, family A forces to send one of its members as a way to uplift their economic standard. It is seen as a societal change to bring riches and development to the family. A typical example from the Gambia migrants who said he travel to Europe to work and being able to move the family from poverty. The idea was supported by the parents and even initiated by them and sponsored the journey by selling their valuable properties to raise the amount needed for the journey.

1.2.6 The Network Theory of Migration

Lastly, the network theory of migration also throws more light on the reasons behind the risky journeys made by Africans to Europe. This theory explains what makes migration persistent in time and space even when wage differentials or recruitment policies cease to exist (Massey Douglas, 1993). The scholars contend that the existence of migration networks or a diaspora is likely to influence the decisions of migrants when they choose their migration destination and also argues that the role played by the migration networks is another important factor that has stimulated illegal migration. He expresses the view that migration would generally be too expensive and risky without the information, assistance and opportunities provided by friends, relatives, human traffickers and other resources available to the illegal migrants through these networks (Mckeown, 2004).

This theory also played a major role in today's migration of Gambians and Africa at large. This is because most of the migrants embarked on this risky journey to Europe due to high expectations which they have about succeeding in Europe and the tight migration policies of the European countries which has made it difficult for them to migrate legally to Europe. This theory also explains why migration patterns are not evenly distributed across countries.

With all the theories discussed above in giving us the theoretical assumptions and factors responsible for illegal migration across the globe, it gives us an insight of contributing factors the research would come out with as to see the theories defined in the findings.

1.3 Empirical Review

Ogu (2017), she published a short article on' Africa's Irregular Migration to Europe: A Reenactment on the Transatlantic Slave Trade. In accordance with the writer, the international community or society has been confronted by a number of obstacles which have jeopardized security, stability, and global peace. Among such obstacles is the irregular migration coming from Africa to Europe. This desperate but deadly journey (commonly referred to as Backway syndrome) is believed to have been driven by several factors, primarily economic, political as well as such and socio-cultural as resulted in innumerable losses of lives and resources and also the number of men and women that have died in the process reminds us of the transatlantic slave swap of 16th century. Once again, the writer explored the sources as well as effects of the occurrence and also juxtapose it together with the transatlantic servant industry. It argues that Africa's abnormal migration to Europe through this 21st century is a re-enactment of outdated transatlantic servant swap.

The writer ideas with problem the harmful online business does to Africa's human and economic capital improvement with desperation for ultimate strategy

to conclude it for good. The research adopted a qualitative and descriptive approach of inquiry and data collection methods that concentrate on personal interviews and group discussion coming from arbitrarily pulled individuals and groups coming from West Africa.

To conclude, the writer mentioned that the strong socio economic and also political problems in Africa, the fantastic anticipations that African youth have around Europe and also the worldwide variables are probably the main elements which have pushed them out of Africa to Europe. Patricia concludes that, not before Africa is created favorable to the people of it's, will this particular unsightly occurrence be effectively curbed (Ogu, 2017).

Jose & Walle (2017) published an eBook called' Trends in African Migration to Europe: Drives Beyond Economic Motivations. According to this particular study, the current migration and refugee crisis in Europe demand a comprehension of various migration derives be yond the widely recognized economic determinants. Once again, the writers viewed migration from a wider human safety perspectives and evaluate the determinants of irregular and regular migration flows from Africa to Europe for the time 1990- 2014, the findings of theirs reveal that, aside from that to financial determinants a mix of push as well as pull factors affect the migration choices of people. Particularly, increasing political persecution, cultural cleaning, rights that are human violations, civil conflicts and political instability to come down with African supply lands are substantially linked to improved migration moves straight into European destination nations to collaborate together with the resource nations not just in conditions of supporting economic advancement within the source nations, but additionally to promote man protection like man rights, democracy, social stability and peace.

Hassene, (2014) in accordance with the writer, this review explores illegal migration routes as well as groups of people across North Africa to Europe. The

content discussed sub-Saharan and cross Mediterranean routes and also how they evolved during the years. An analytical framework for the key elements for the migration, out of regional to regulatory and international context were proposed by the content. The researcher discussed Sea-migrants' nationalities as well as demographics and socio-economic attributes, from research undertook in Morocco and Tunisia. While boat migration presents just a tiny proportion of illegal migration to Europe, it increases humanitarian in addition to ethical problems for European as well as North African countries like a non-negligible amount of them find themselves in demise tolls of shipwrecks within the Mediterranean Sea. Furthermore, the author thought that the pre-existing figures prove that illegal trans-Mediterranean migration is increasing exponentially. Within the future, constant crises in Africa and also the center East tend to be more likely to encourage much bigger outflows of refugees. In addition, they recommended that, North African countries need to discuss in close proximity public policy issues with European countries to have the ability to deal with the problem.

CHAPTER 2
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF MIGRATION (AFRICA)

Migration in the African continent itself has been going on for ages. Movement of people & items from West to North Africa among others. West Africa happens to be deemed the most mobile region of Africa. This is because true for inter-regional mobility of ECOWAS which created it easy and reliable for members to move without restraint within member nations. In line with statement released through the United Nations High Commissioner for refugees (UN HCR) in 2015, over 487,000 migrants as well as refugees arrived into Europe crossing the Mediterranean and also 362,753 in the year 2016 (UNHCR, 2015).

Additionally, trans-continental emigration from Africa appears to be high and intense more in West Africa in comparison to anywhere else across the Continent with exception of North Africa. To end up being in a position to know the recent rise in unlawful migration to North Africa and Europe, lets analyze the colonial along with post-colonial migration historical past of West Africa under this section. The reason this section is concentrating on West Africa region is because the case study of the research The Gambia, is part of West Africa and currently they are dominating the illegal migration routes to Europe.

2.1 Evolution of West African Migration Patterns

As it is well known within other regions of Africa, there are evidences of solid level of pre-colonial mobility within West Africa, which in turn is exemplified through the dispersion of Fulani communicating individuals through regions on the Sahel zone as well as the seasonal wanderings of transhumant herders

(Arthur, 1991). religious education and The Hajj to Mecca had been related to significant mobility and quite often settlement of West Africans all over West, north and East Africa.

The trans-Saharan trade linked North and West Africa politically, religiously, economically and socially (OCED & Lydon, 2006b; 2000). This means that they been connected in terms of trade and businesses, governance, beliefs and traditions of how to live and accept each other's norms and values. Next within the twentieth century, the slave trade constituted an essential phase of pressured migration throughout the Sahara. Especially oases happen to be migratory and commercial junctions and also formed a' global spot during the pre-modern era' (Miller and Lightfoot, 1996). The incredibly diverse cultural compositions of Maghrebi oases - with their combination of sub-Saharan, Berber, Jewish and Arab influences - testifies to this particular extended heritage of intense Population mobility (De Haas, 2003).

During the late nineteenth century, thus the very first one half of twentieth century, the colonization of north and West Africa by mostly the French and additionally the English resulted in major alterations within intra-regional migration patterns. Aside from the drop of trans-Saharan trade, pre-modern migration within West Africa progressively gained the character of wage labor migration. The development of cocoa, palm oil as well as groundnut farms (generally inside much more seaside zones of West Africa, including southern Cote d 'Ivoire and also Ghana, Senegal and the Gambia), mines, other infrastructure and road construction functions along with the development of urban areas like Accra, Lagos, Kano, Abidjan, Lome, Banjul and Dakar brought on serious rural-rural migration of rural-urban migration and farm workers of unskilled and skilled laborers, students and traders. Apart raising labour desire on smallholders' farms (Hill, 1957), for infrastructural works and in colonial urbanized facilities, the creation of taxes (Arthur, 1991) and also structured labour recruitment (Bump, 2006) are stated as additional factors which

stimulated migration from non-wage, outlying subsistence economies on to the rural and urban wages sectors. The expropriation of farming ground for plantations has equally been quite limited and many rural-rural labour migration was focused at smallholders' farms quite compared to substantial plantation (Van Hear, 1998).

Ever since the era of colonization, intra-regional mobility within West Africa continues to be usually dominated by a predominantly North-South drive coming from landlocked places of Sahel West Africa (Mali, Burkina Faso, Chad and Niger) to the better prosperous plantations, cities and mines of coastal West Africa (predominantly Cote d 'Ivoire, Liberia, Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal and also the Gambia) (Arthur, & Kress, Findley, 1991; 2004; 2006). There had been likewise significant transversal migration in the coastal zone of mainly seasonal laborers in the very prosperous economies of Cote d' Ivoire, Ghana, (before the 1970s) and Nigeria (since the 1970s). because of the fairly modest scale of virtually all West African nations and also the reality which arbitrary colonial borders usually separated people from the very same cultural groups, this kind of migration usually acquired a global dimension.

Regardless of considerable emigration of Ghanaian traders, fishermen and others to remaining areas of West Africa, like Nigeria, Liberia as well as Sierra Leone, Ghana continued to be principally an immigration land until the late 1960s. Furthermore, the suffered economic drop in the 1970s driven increasingly more Ghanaian to emigrate. There was an approximated number of 2 million Ghanaian workers exactly who left Ghana between 1974 and 1981; their primary destinations happened to be Cote d 'Ivoire and the booming oil economic climate of Nigeria (Van Hear 1998: seventy-four). Little but many competent Ghanaian workers including medical doctors, teachers and administrators relocated or migrated to destinations including Botswana, Uganda, Zambia, and Nigeria (Anarfi, Peil, & Van Hear, 2003; 1995; 1998).

As migration to Cote d 'Ivoire went on, the wealthy oil nation Nigeria took over Ghana' place as West Africa's next migration pole in the 1970s. In line with Libya and also the Gulf nations, the 1973 Oil Crisis made oil-rich Nigeria, which had been as an outcome of improvement coming from the 1967 1970 Nigerian Civil War in Biafra, that typically evolved into a significant migration desired destination. A rise in in-comes of metropolitan middle group, mass public investments and fast rapid industrialization grabbed focus of large range of West African labour migrants (Van Hear, 1998). Nonetheless, misguided economic policies, endemic crisis and a significant drop of oil production and the post 1981 decline in oil prices would herald a lengthy time period of economic downturn alongside continual political (Van and Arthur Hear, 1991; 1998).

Additionally, a huge number of migrants (in specific Bennis and Ghanaians) appear to have remained or even returned to Nigeria (Van Hear, 1998), the expulsions have played a key and fundamental purpose with the modeling of considerable Ghanaian diaspora for Africa, Europe and North America. Though the massive number return of Ghanaian workers has possibly improved the country 's economic recovery and growth in the 2nd half of 1980s, the expulsion has risen the' Diasporisation' of countless Ghanaians in the long run (Van Hear, 1998). By in some way loosing above a major location of the Ghanaians migrants, the expulsions and also the lower financial drop of a lot of Ghanaians were driven by Nigeria to test or even investigate options elsewhere (Van Hear, 1998). in addition, the majority of Ghanaian migrants carried on to exist inside the West African area, especially found Cote d'Ivoire, within the late 1980s increasingly more Ghanaians migrants began to explore fresh destinations, not merely simply inside Africa, (ranging by using south Africa to Libya) but a big boosting quantity to European destinations including Germany, the UK, the Italy and Netherlands, typically by asylum path (Van Hear, 1998). Just like we are going to see it inside the subsequent category, where the issues having an effect on Cote d 'Ivoire over the 1990s, combined with a turnaround in Libyan foreign as well as immigration policies, might have several very similar

consequences, for even further stimulating West Africans to migrate to North Africa and, from there, progressively to Europe as their new destination.

2.2 Trans-Saharan Migration to Libya and North Africa

Since Nigeria's economic bad growth and decline in the 1980s, Cote d 'Ivoire continued to be the sole migration pole having a quarter of its population comprising of immigrants as well as their descendants. Nonetheless, the year right after 1993, an economic and political turmoil tempted political figures to engage in the nationalistic (Ivorian) card. Mainly as soon as the military coups of 1990 as well as 2002 together with the civil war outbreak within the year 2002, and also the fast growing xenophobia caused hundreds of thousands of migrants, predominantly Burkinabe, to flee the land (Kress and Drumtra, 2006).

To some extent caused by an absence of alternate migration destinations in West Africa, West Africans have begun to expand their geographical view. Despite the fact that many migrate nevertheless in the region, raising numbers of migrants began to take a look at newer migration destinations in Europe, North America and even the two extremes of Africa. It collided with the growth of two unique migration destinations in the north and south hemisphere of Africa. (Adepoju, 2000).

This prior movement to the North hemisphere likewise established the phase for more trans-Saharan migration transpiring after 1990. Typically, a place for North Africa (Tunisian and Egyptian mainly) migrants, Libya usually evolved into the main desired destination for sub-Saharan migrants (Boubakri, 2006). During the 1990, the majority of migrants originated from Libya's neignbours Sudan, Niger and Chad, and subsequently grew to be transit locations for migrants coming from a much array of sub-Saharan region (Pliez and Bredeloup, 2005). Even though the majority of migrants do not have some formal rights, and although there were frequent expulsions, their presence was commonly accepted. During 1998, Libya had a crucial part in establishing the community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN SAD), which presently twenty-three African nations, whose goal or

aim is to create single regional bloc, boosting the totally free movement of people, capital and goods (Hammond, 2006). Apart from Libya's Pan-African politics, rising sub-Saharan immigration had also been a part of a more common pattern because of a restructuration and also segmentation on the Libyan labour market. Like improvements in the Gulf States, the economic downturn via dropping oil prices and the sanctions resulted in calls to indigenize the Libyan workforce as of early 1980s. However, the economy and public service of Libya had previously turned out to be heavily and strongly influenced by the effectiveness as well as efficiency of migrant work. Additionally, Egyptians predominance in agriculture and teaching jobs (Pliez, 2004), particularly its unskilled and manual tasks have increasingly been full of African migrants coming from sub Saharan.

2.3 From Trans-Saharan to Trans-Mediterranean Migration

Until eventually the 1980s, merely a small number of men and women from West Africa whom were students and also highly competent laborers moved to western lands, as a result of the Francophone-Anglophone colonial-linguistic differences. This kind of emigration was really small in comparability to large-scale labour migration of unskilled labourers in the Maghreb lands to Europe.

However, since the year 1990, there has been a tremendous increment in the number of people migrating to Europe and North America, particularly from Nigeria, Ghana, Senegal and The Gambia, next, many West Africans changed the trans-Saharan crossing to be able to work in Libya. As early as the 1990s. Nevertheless, a major change transpired when sub Saharan migrants to be a part of the flow of migrants that already begun crossing the Mediterranean illegally by fisher boats since Spain and Italy created introduction of visa requirements as well as policies for North African workers in the early 1990s. The boost was strong that after 2000 sub-Saharan Africans have taken over from North Africans as the biggest group intercepted by European border guards. With this regards, the sub-Saharan migrants forged an essential link

between the resurgent trans-Saharan in addition to the established Euro-Mediterranean migration methods.

During the year 2000 September, brutal clashes had taken site between Libyans and African workers which in turn resulted in the deaths of 130 sub-Saharan migrants, however the Libyan officials claim just 6 died (Pliez, 2004a). The Libyan authorities, in an obvious attempt to react to raising well-known resentment against immigrants, whom were held responsible for increasing criminal offense, illness (HIV AIDS) and social tensions, instituted a number of repressive actions. These integrated more restricted immigration regulation, long and arbitrary detention of immigrants in un-healthy and poor conditions in camps and prisons, physical abuse, and also the voluntary pressured repatriation of tens of thousands of immigrants which includes asylum seekers, the majority of them to Niger, Chad, Sudan, Ghana and Nigeria (Schuster, 2005). Expulsion would proceed in subsequent years. Somewhere between 2003 and 2005, the Libyan authorities would have deported approximately 145,000 irregular migrants, mainly to sub-Saharan nations (HRW, 2006).

On the other hand, it is vital to highlight that Libyan migration policies have usually been extremely erratic, with mass expulsions of migrant workers and this happens on a regular basis, such type of risks of expulsions are typically witnessed as the vicissitudes of Libya's diplomatic relations (Pliez, 2004a). In contrast, this crackdown had a particularly powerful racist dimension and looked mainly a response of public authorities to solid public resentment against the presence of Black coloured African workers, while former expulsions primarily serviced Libyan international policy objectives. Then again the Libyan state would instrumentalize this particular for foreign policy objectives by showing it as their contribution in' fighting against unlawful migration'.

2.4 The Migration Process: Routes, Methods
Trans-Saharan and Maritime Routes

African migrants have been using distinct routes including land, sea and that of air to reach their ideal destinations in North Africa and Europe. On the contrary, there has been restrictive immigration policies and powerful migration controls which have resulted in a growing reliance on overland routes and for the migrants that can afford the path by aircraft is generally to North Africa. An emerging body of empirical scientific studies highly that the trans-Saharan path is frequently done in many phases as well as usually takes anything between just one month and also couple of years. Along the trip, the migrants and refugees frequently remains temporarily in towns situated on the migration hubs. This is to work and also help save money that is enough for their onward journey, generally in trucks or pick-ups (Colleyer, 2005)

Countries like Cameroon, Nigeria, Mauritania, Libya and Algeria normally happens to be the primary places for stop-overs by migrants in which it is a lot easier to get menial work, like bricklayers, tailors, shoemakers, merchants, security guards, domestic workers and cleaners. In addition, certain migrants find themselves settling in these kinds of areas as fixed workers, smugglers or entrepreneurs (Escoffier, 2002).

As indicated by Repubblica, (2007), in 2006, there was huge rise in boat migration to the Canary Islands. Whereas during 2007 the number of arrivals on the Canary Islands seem to have decreased in line to 2006 levels which will be due to the growing variety of ocean patrolling. There has also been an increase in boats leaving the coastline of Algeria as well as arriving along the Italian island of Sardinia. On the other side, crossing with fishing canoes to the Canary Islands is a new trend, the unpredictable immigration by much larger vessels is a more established process. Scholars additionally reported is unfamiliar but certain of a distinctive sizable number of West African migrants normally venture illegally on bigger (often cargo) ships proceeding directly to the Canary Islands or perhaps the European mainland (Oumar Ba, Choplin, & Pastore et al, 2005; 2004).

2.5 The European Union and the Securitization of Migration

Why the securitization of migration in Europe?

As stated by the majority of scholars, thou it challenging to generalize around diverse countries and policies it can also be argued that in the 1950s, as well as 1960s, immigrants happened to be mainly an additional workforce in most Western European nations. The economic condition as well as the labour market required a flexible and cheap workforce which did not occur in the domestic market. Countries France, Germany and the Netherlands made use of a permissive or perhaps eve a promotional migration policy driven by the demand for extra labour. Then again, in relation to the existing whereby the issue of illegal migration immigration justifies to a significant level the development of a lot more restrictive migration policies, the authorized states of the immediate post-war immigrants were not politically sensitive. In the late 1960s and also the 1970s immigration was progressively more an issue of public matter. There seemed to be a shift from a permissive immigration policy to a control restrictive policy (Fielding, 2000). The modification to a restrictive plan as well as the reassertion of State control in the 1970s, did not radically replace the understanding of immigrants itself, however. The restrictive have been encouraged by a wish to defend the economic and social rights of home-based workforce (Blotevegel, & Wood, Mullerter Jung, 2000).

Political rhetoric, nonetheless, a lot more and more linked migration on the destabilization of public (Ugur and Doty, 1996, 1995). Regardless of the actions to halt labour immigration, the immigrant population persisted to grow due to authorization to immigrate around the basis of family reunion. As a result, public consciousness of immigrant population extended (King, 1993b). The transient visitor workers increased to be excess and much more everlasting settlers that could not easily claim that they had been in no way likely to go back home. Within an experience they became permanent visitors (Sayad, 1999).

Throughout this particular time period, migration policy used to be not an essential difficulty for the European Communities (Korella, 1995, & Kosloweski, Twomey, 1998). Among the major choices of this time period once was Council Regulation 1612/68 which unusual in between the appropriate of free movements of nationals of member States and the right of totally free movement of nationals coming from third countries (Ugur, 1995). Ugur argues that this specific selection laid the basic foundation for' fortress Europe' within the vicinity of immigration. The Council resolution created clear the free movements of individuals within the internal market will be considered a prerogative for nationals of Member States (Verchueren, 1991).

The notion which citizens of Member States could gain from special rights was established in the Paris summit of 1973. Generally, there it was once also decided that the Community should make regular legislation for foreigners (H, 1995). A very first critical phase within the development of regular opportunities on migration within the European Communities was the adoption on the movement program in favor of migrant employees and also their families in 1974.In the Community migration was once commonly seen as part of the context of social and financial rights and the construction associated with an integrated labour market in which individuals ought to freely go be-tween Member States. Nevertheless, on account that the mid 1980s, the point of interest has changed. Immigration was more and even more politicized thru the query of asylum, or even a lot more precisely through the (con)fusion of asylum and immigration.

2.6 The Securitization of Migration

Common guidelines on migration in western Europe have emphasized the need for restrictions of populace flows (Kostakopoulou, 2000, Ugur, 1995; Miles and Thränhardt, 1995; Alaux, 1991; Soulier, 1989). For instance, the Dublin Convention restricts the possibility of states to avoid the buck with the situation of application for asylum. It sets away criteria - for instance, place of application

as well as household links - finding out the kingdom which should procedure the asylum application. Within a better way the meeting enhances the state of affairs for the asylum-seeker. It seeks an extra and quicker determinate technique to cope with the petition of asylum, as a consequence decreasing enough time an asylum-seeker needs to spend within detention Centre's, for instance. But this specific interpretation neglects the reality that the Dublin meeting is intensely over determined by means of a policy aimed at lowering the number of applications. Which makes it extremely hard to submit functions for asylum within particular Member States minimizes the probabilities of getting recognized, and definitely will discourage several refugees by looking for asylum within western Europe (Bolten, 1991). The restrictive and control-oriented groundwork around the Dublin Convention is additionally highlighted via the improvement of Eurodac. There are numerous extra examples on the restricted as well as control-oriented vital which propels European migration policy. Of all the majority seen are the control of visa policy in the Union and the co-ordination as well as facilitation of so-called readmission agreements. The latter are agreements with neignbouring international areas concerning the readmission of unlawful immigrants located on the territory of an EU Member State (Lavenex, 1998).

In a nutshell, the securitization of migration by European Union was due to the fear they had it will bring or cause Europe. Most migrants were causing problems for the indigenous citizens due to the competition they are facing from the emigrants in terms of internal security, so they decided to increase and strengthens border policies and measures to control the inflow of illegal migrants and refugee situations so as to prevent breach to internal security of European countries. Also this policy made is possible for them the European member countries to move in and trade within themselves without any control and this made the policy stronger.

Furthermore, unemployment and distribution of social goods such as housing, health care, unemployment benefits, jobs and different social services has turn

out to be more competitive for the citizens due to the pressure they are encountering with the migrants and the asylum seekers in their respective countries. This is because the services enjoyed by the citizens are now scarce as a result of foreigners taking their homes increasing competition in the labour market and distribution of social goods.

2.7 European Approaches to Irregular Migration

In accordance with Gleeson, with regard to April 2015, adhering to a number of tragedies within the Mediterranean, a special conference of the European Council known as an international summit to talk about migration problems together with the main African nations involved. During the Valletta Summit on migration in Malta on 11 and 12 November 2015, European and African Heads of States along with governing administration arrived collectively in an attempt to enhance collaboration, as well as deal with the present challenges and opportunities of migration between their two regions. European and African leaders implemented a political declaration capturing the shared concern of theirs for that sharp rise in flows of refugees, irregular migrants and asylum seekers coming from Africa to Europe.

The political declaration was accompanied by a Joint Action Plan; approximately 5 top priority domains:

- Addressing the root causes of irregular migration and forced displacements
- Promoting legal channels for migration between African and European countries,
- Reinforcing the protections of refugees and other displaced persons.
- Preventing and Fighting irregular migration, migrant smuggling and Trafficking in human beings and,
- Addressing the return, readmission and sustainable reintegration of irregular migrants not in need of international protection.

To be able to help support the implementation of Joint Action Plan, an emergency Trust Fund for Stability along with handling root causes of irregular migration and also displaced people in Africa was established. The Trust Fund is designed to help instill balance and add to better migration management. More precisely it is designed to manage the root causes of destabilization, forced irregular migration and dis-placement, by encouraging equal and economic opportunity, development and security.

In addition, the European nations came together to tackle smuggling along with trafficking of individuals into the region by ocean (both across the Mediterranean from Libya. European actions to stop smuggling connections was through defined militarization, having focus on intelligence gathering as well as focusing on structured criminal groups. NATO war ships plus fighter jets joined the effort to aid the refugee and migrant issues within the Aegean Sea in early 2016, and in mid-2016. NATO announced the launch of Operation Sea Guardian, to operate along with functioning Sophia. Operation Sea Guardian is focused on capacity building of Libya coastguard and also navy along with providing additional intelligence, surveillance, resources and reconnaissance to the EU mission. (Gleeson, 2017).

The European Union is also in collaboration with Morocco and Libya in tackling the Western and Central Mediterranean routes of irregular migration. With Spain as the Primary point of entry for irregular crossing, measures to address migration along the western Mediterranean route has become a top priority for the EU. The EU has laid the foundation for close partnership with Morocco. In the later year 2018, it approved a 140 million euros in support in border management and budget support. Morocco, on the other hand, has been working to strengthen control of its border and has prevented a large number of departures recently. The EU's measures are supporting this process. The EU also complemented the implementation of 36 million euros in emergency

assistance in 2018 to help Spain on its Southern Border Operation Indalo and financial and technical support it needs to manage the arrivals.

Furthermore, the EU is doing its best by curbing the motivators of irregular movement through forming cooperation with other partners to have joined-up approach rooted in multilateralism, bilateral and regional fora. Also addressing the root causes of migration of Africans to Europe, it established an EU Trust Fund for Africa which has been effective in facilitating political dialogue with partner countries, applies innovative approaches and procedures concrete results by pooling funding and expertise from a variety of stakeholders and in particular the EU member states with over 188 programmes agreed upon in various African countries ranging from finance for micro small and medium enterprises, energy and connectivity, agriculture and many others. The EU is sponsoring these sectors to help curb irregular migration.

In addition, the EU is combating smuggling networks as another important area in the eradication of irregular migration. In October 2018, the European Council decided to put measures which were adopted in December 2018 to enhance law enforcement. This is a key component of their work with African country partners. Awareness campaigns on the risks of irregular migration have been initiated in some countries of Africa. Border management is another key area the EU considers key component in ending irregular migration.

2.8 The Deportation of Gambians from Europe

Within the past months, returning of Gambians from Europe back to the Gambia has been on the rise especially from Germany. It is speculated by citizens and the deportees that the new government signed an agreement with the European Union to return Gambians home, again on the other hand, the government said they did not sign any document or agreement with the European Union but failed to elaborate more.

On February 28th, 2019, as reported by the European Ambassador and the head of European Mission to the Gambia, Atila Lajo did admit that's accurate that there are thousands of Gambian migrants that are presently residing in European shore and are on the verge of being deported. Nevertheless, he made it very clear that the repatriation will be the migrants who have exhausted all of the means to be legally staying in specific European countries which the EU being an entity has no power of. I quote while he mentioned it' Those that exhausted the legal possibilities of theirs for wanting asylum or even legalizing the status of theirs contained part condition; and also in case they exhausted all of the options these migrants are likely to be returned'. This particular he stated based on the Point newspaper Gambia.

Atila also said, it is a matter of principle, this is a part of respect for the rule of law no country wishes to have illegal migrants on its territory, these are also international obligations. Moreover, he said the EU and Gambia are discussing on the modalities to better manage the migration issue as well as return and reintegration efforts. Speaking to journalists at EU's annual meeting with journalists, the EU head of mission to the Gambia insisted that European Union has not signed any deal with the government of The Gambia to repatriate Gambia migrants. It is widely speculated that government of the Gambia and its partners the EU included have signed agreements to have Gambian migrants repatriated home. But again, the EU Ambassador refuted claims that such a deal ever took place between the two parties.

"The funding sources of the overall development assistance are more targeted to other fields than migration itself. The condition is that Gambia remains on the democratic path, should the Gambia divert from the democratic path, which I don't think is going to be the case because Gambia has decided should that happens fair to be speaking yes trust me EU funding will dry out as like it did under Jammeh's time the formal regime". This he made clear the EU Ambassador Atila Lajo.

2.8.1 Germany and Deportation of Gambian Migrants

According to the Punch news, the German presidents himself Frank-Walter Steinmeier confirmed a total of 1,500 Gambians who are in Germany without documentation and made it clear that the people will be deported. He made this statement during an official visit to the West African mainland.

According to the German president "there are over 35,000 Gambian migrants in Germany out of whom 1,500 are undocumented and awaiting deportations" this he said at a press conference with Gambian president Adama Barrow in Banjul The Gambia. Steinmeier said the two countries will work together to bring technical experts to work on the problem, also they will provide skill training to Gambians.

He also made a clear statement saying that "Europeans do not have answers to Africa's problems, the problems need African solutions".

2.8.2 Conservative German Politicians Call for More Deportations

According to DW news, Thomas Strobl, the interior minister of Germany's southern state of Baden-Wuertteinberg told the German media before Gambia election which took place in 2016 that "We have quite a lot of refugees from Gambia in our state and plenty of problems with". According to the authorities, they claimed that 8 percent of Gambians in Baden-Wuertteinberg are suspected to be drug traffickers and peddlers. Also, sources stated that this State host majority of the Gambian refugees in Germany estimated to be 14,500. Gambians make up the third largest group of African refugees in the country. But then the refugee activists claim that many are forced into the trade without a refugee status, they do not have the right to work legally in Germany and many of these migrants struggle to support their families back home and pay off the debts they incurred on the journey to Europe.

In the recent past months' deportation has been on an alarming rate. Gambian migrants in Germany are being deported back home. And the German officials said every month a number of Gambians will be deported till they are all back home. So far they deported two badges the first badge arrived in January 2019 which consisted of 20 Gambians and in February again a second badge arrived which consisted of 15 Gambians. Another badge was to come in March but then the Gambia government spoke with the German government and after that meeting the deportation is on hold for now but nobody knows what was discussed and what was agreed on by the two parties.

The deportation created tension among the migrants in Europe and those deported. The ones deported are so angry to the extent that they threatened to burn down the Airport on arrival and other ways of causing destruction. Some few weeks back, the deportees and some activists organized a free and nonviolent protest towards the capital city in Gambia to say no to deportation and that the government should do something about the situation. The other citizens of the country are now leaving in fear because, they think that with the anger the deportees are having and no jobs or financial support for them to start something on their own, people fear crime rates and robbery might increase and that would make living conditions difficult for people in the country. The ordinary citizens are seeing the deportees as a risk to security if government do no come to their aid.

Most of the deportees are sad disturbed because of the monies they incurred to embark on the journey and being sent back after the struggle in Libya, the Mediterranean and in Europe empty handed and starting at zero again is so frustrating and unreasonable to them. As at now deportation is the hot topic in illegal migration because EU has decided to deport whoever does not have papers. They see the migrants as threat to security and other social vices and unacceptable acts drug dealings and others.

CHAPTER 3

DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSIONS OF FINDINGS

This chapter discusses the findings conducted on the research topic in relation to the set research objectives and research questions. The analysis is done in the context of other empirical research reviewed in the literature. Also, in necessary instances, an extended analysis is given to further the discussion.

3.1 Classification of Respondents Based on Demographics

The classification of the respondents is based on their gender and age. Cambridge Dictionary defined demographics as the "statistical data relating to the population and particular groups within it". The various findings relating to the respondents' demographics are presented in graphs.

3.1.1 Gender of Respondents

Findings relating to the gender of the respondents is presented in the figure below. According to the findings, 43 (86%) represent the male population whereas 7 (14%) also represent the female population who took part in this study.
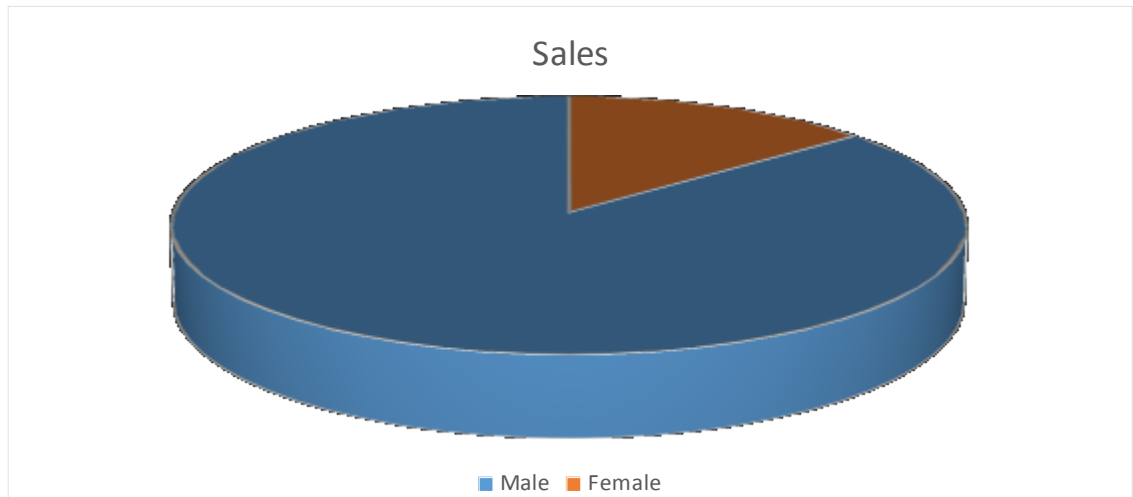
Figure 1. The number of male and female participants in the research.

Source: Field data (2019)

3.1.3 Age of Respondents

The figure below shows the age of the respondents in the research study. From the figure it can be said that, 35 (70%) represents the age group between 15 - 25, 15 (30%) represents 26 - 45, none of the respondents were aged above 46.
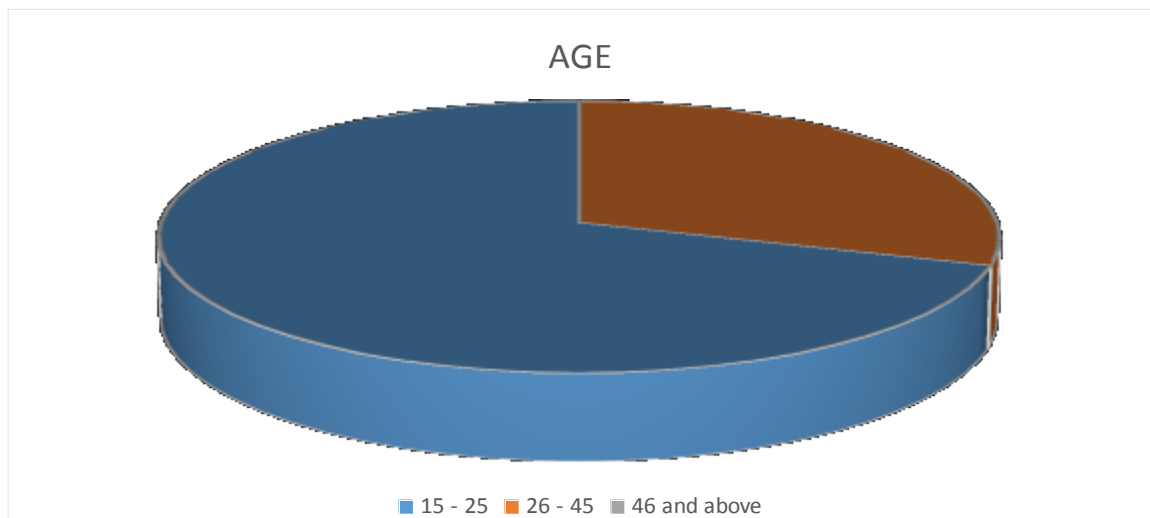
Figure 2. The percentages of the different age groups in the study.

Source: Field data (2019).

3.2. Factors Influencing Migration to Europe
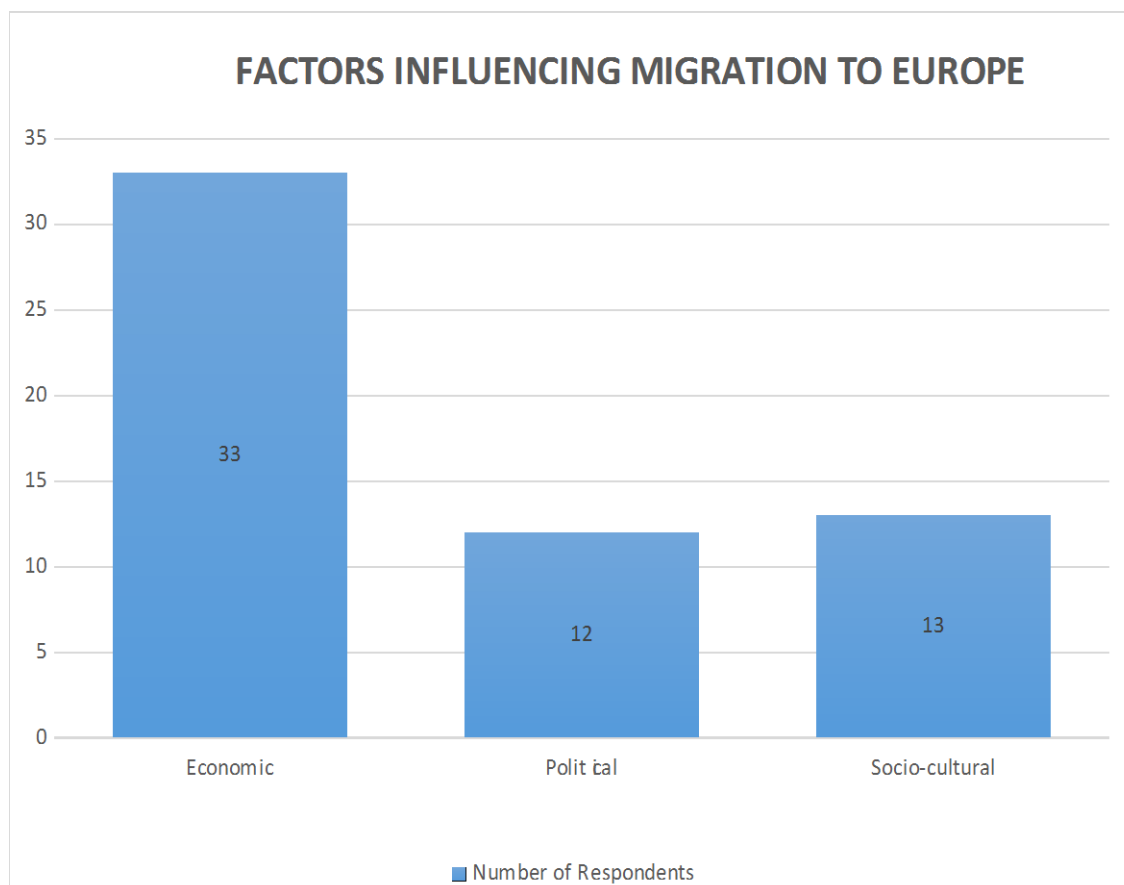
Figure 3. Factors influencing migration and the number of participants.
Source: Field Data (2019).

Economic factors, political factors and socio-cultural factors such education, family pressure and forced marriage are the major factors influencing migration to Europe. Most of the respondents had more than one factor influencing their journey to Europe.

The underlining factor for most of the illegal migration was due to socio-economic issues in the country as presented by most of the respondents. These respondents represent 66% (33) of the total respondents who left the country due to these socio-economic problems. These problems as mentioned by some of the respondent are unavailability of jobs, low salary or wages, poverty, health sector in ruins, farce educational sector, unsuitable working conditions and high

cost of living. Even though the country has seen some improvement in some sectors, other sectors still hold a major challenge to overcome. The financial, health and education sectors are example of such factors that still pose a challenge to the people of the Gambia which forces people to migrate out of the country.

Another major factor that has caused people to migrate is the political factor. The political environment in the Gambia has seen instability and persecution of citizens in the country. In recent times, the then President Yahaya Jammeh, who became a president by successfully carrying out a coup d'état in July 1994, had refused to step down following the 1st December 2016 elections, which also sparked fear and created problems for citizens. This also forced some to consider traveling out to new destinations the elections. Situations like these are major reason why some respondents had left the country for Europe. Also, according to the respondents, there are instances where citizens of the country have had their basic human rights, such as freedom of speech violated. During the 22 years' rule of Yahaya Jammeh, he used security forces to make arbitrary arrests, torture, and extrajudicial killings to suppress dissent and independent media for political reasons, including those perceived to support the opposition, who criticize the president or who highlight the current administration's policy failures, and those implicated in coup attempts. 12 (24%) of the respondents mentioned political factor or instability as a factor for their migration to Europe. The situation in the country has since changed due to the swearing in of the new president, Adama Barrow. The new government under Adama Barrow promised to make Gambia the "human rights capital of Africa," released scores of political prisoners, and began to strengthen the judiciary and reform the security services. It also reversed Jammeh's planned withdrawal from the International Criminal Court (ICC) (Human Rights Watch, 2018).

Socio cultural issues such as early and forced marriages, family pressure and education is another factor influencing migration to Europe. Another major factor

that influence the decision of the female respondents to migrate is the issue of forced marriage. Almost all the females involved in this research study sighted a case in which they were forced into early marriages. 6 (12%) of the female respondents sighted forced marriage as the reason for their migration to Europe. In a part of the world where young girls are forced into marriages, issues such as this is not surprising enough. According to an article by girlsnotbride.org, 30% of girls in The Gambia are married before the age of 18 and 9% are married before their 15th birthday (Girls not Brides, 2016). Another 7 (14%) of the respondents mentioned pressure from family members as a reason for their migration. Family pressure could come in the form of constant need from the immediate family, also the pressure to get something doing among others. Two of the respondents mentioned education as the reason for their relocation to Europe. As the educational system in the Gambia is farce, there are many others who have left the country in search of better programs and facilities which better suits their choice of study.

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3.3 Challenges Faced By Migrants during the Journey

CHALLENGES FACED BY MIGRANTS DURING THE JOURNEY

A bar chart titled "Challenges Faced By Migrants During The Journey" showing the number of people experiencing each challenge: Torture 33, Kidnapping 21, Imprisonment 17, Slavery 7, Robbery 30, Sexual Abuse 6, Health Issues 15. The y-axis ranges from 0 to 35. Legend: Number of People.
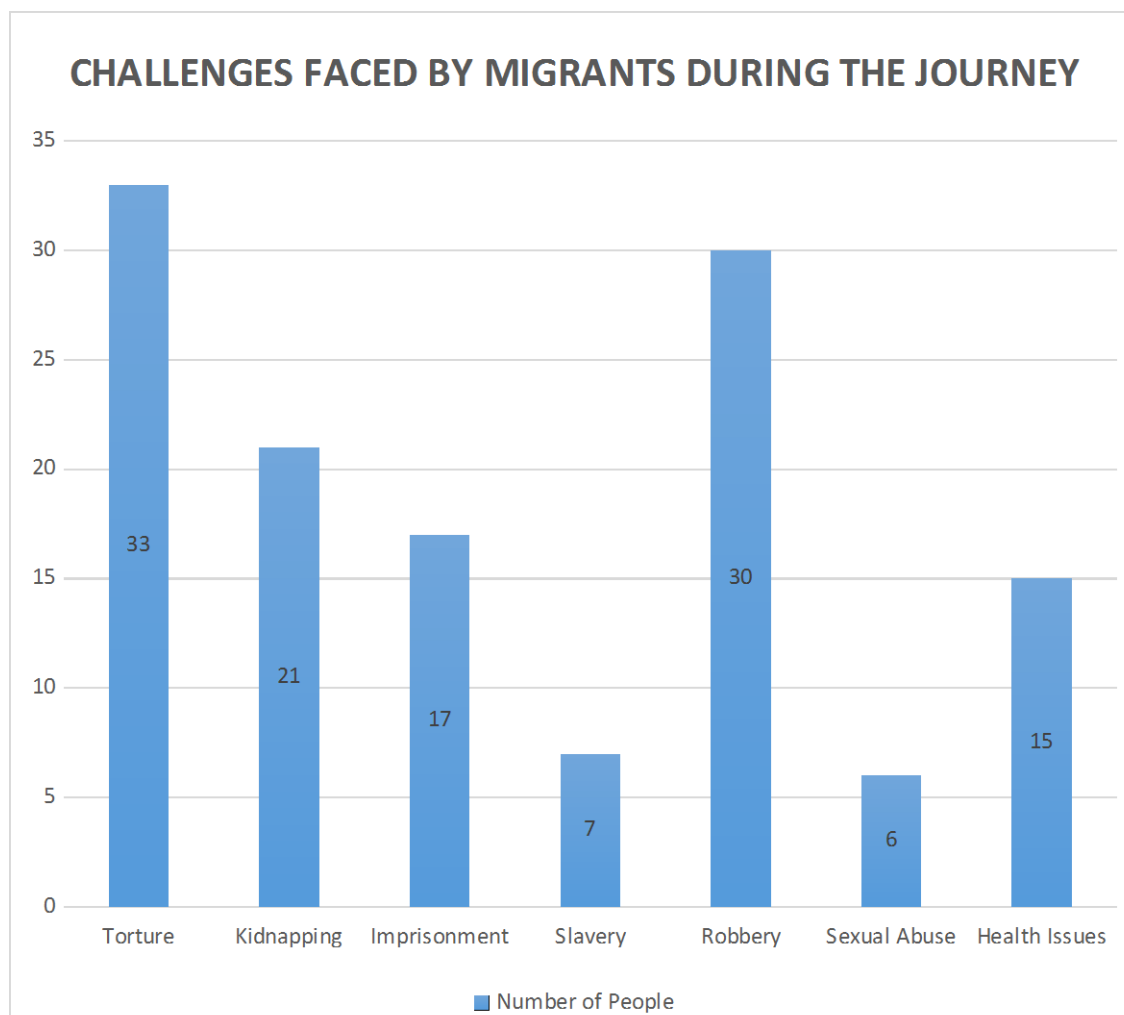
Figure 4. The number of people, the respective challenges they went through.
Source: Field Data (2019).

Travelling to Europe through the Mediterranean route is known in history to be one of the deadliest routes in human existence. The central Mediterranean route, from Sub-Saharan Africa to Italy, is one of the most active and dangerous, currently accounting for the largest number of people crossing to Europe by sea. Libya remains the main point of departure for the majority of refugees and migrants from Africa seeking to reach Europe. These mixed movements include people fleeing persecution, conflict and violence as well as those looking for better economic and social opportunities, including means to support family members at home (UNHCR, 2018).

These migrants face a lot of challenges in their quest for political and economic freedom. According to the migrants, they face issues such as torture, kidnapping, imprisonment, racism, robbery and health concerns and rape which is common among female migrants. There are instances some of the female respondents were used as sex object or prostitutes for their captors. Those who refused to be used as such were killed right in front of their counterparts so as to instill fear and compliance. Also, through their journey 20 (40%) out of the 50 migrants interviewed spoke about being kidnapped and asked to pay ransom right after being robbed. In cases like this, the families of the migrants back home were asked to pay the ransom for the release of their member. One of the respondents recounts his tragic encounter with the Navy, according to him, he was arrested and imprisoned for six months for trying to cross the Mediterranean Sea.

Slavery has been an uprising issue in Libya recently. 7 (14%) of the migrants voiced out their situation relating to slavery. They said they were captured by men in Libya and locked up in dungeons. They recount being sold off. According to them, they were made to work very hard and with little or no food and water for long. They were made to work on farm, in mines and factories. In situation such as this, you either work out all your energy repaying your 'master' to buy out your freedom or you either escape, which can be so deadly if you are caught. Torture and robbery were the most common challenge faced by most of the immigrants.

According to 33 (66%) of the migrants, they were tortured by the Libyans during their stay in Libya. Their response when asked for what reason they were tortured was either for no reason or for having a 'black' skin.

The migrants also spoke about the challenges they face whiles on the Mediterranean Sea. They spoke about being stuffed in a boat. They recount on

instances where other boat capsized killing all those on board. In a report by UNHCR (2018), it was reported that, 2873 people were reported to have been missing or dead in the Central Mediterranean Sea in 2017. It is estimated that many more have died on their way crossing the desert and before attempting to cross the Mediterranean Sea, due to the many dangers faced along the routes and in Libya.

3.4 Effects of Migration on Political and Economic State of the Gambia

Migration has had a major effect on the Gambia as a nation. Over 8,498 Gambians arrived in Europe in 2017, with many others in Africa along the Central Mediterranean Route now opting for voluntary return (IOM, 2017). The economy of Gambia has seen about 20% of its GDP coming from remittances from the over 90000 Gambians living in abroad. The issue of migration has somehow boosted the country's economic sector.

In most of the migrants' view on how their migration has impacted the Gambia, they believed in respect to economy it has been both positive and negative. Positive such that, according to IOM (2017), the country received remittances of USD 215.7 million dollars from its citizens living outside the country. Negatively, migration has deprived the country of its youthful vibrant labour force. In figure 3.2.2.1, it can be seen that, the majority of the age groups that engaged in the migration are between 15 – 25 which represents 86% of the sample size. This goes further to establish the fact that, migration deprives the country of its youthful vibrant force. And as it is known, a country's success depends muchly on the youth available to work in the country. The country has also lost a lot of life to the Mediterranean Sea.

Also, with regards to the political state of the country, the stories of migrants about the state of affairs in Gambia, motivated a lot of other Gambians abroad to speak up their minds and the political parties forming a coalition which was funded fully by some migrants and Gambian nationals legally in other parts of

Europe to contest the formal regime in the 2016 election which marked the new turning point and the new Gambia. It helped to bring back democracy to the nation. Also, migrants helped in exposing the corrupt practices and human right abuses that some of them faced whiles they were in the Gambia of the formal regime to international bodies and media houses whiles also engaging people in the Gambia on various social media and starting trends so as to empower them to be vocal about improper situations happening in the Gambia

3.5 How the Government Can Help Stop Illegal Migration and Also Make Use of Its Youthful Labour

A further investigation was conducted so as to know what the government of Gambia could do so at to help curb the issue of illegal migration and migration as a whole. Among the issue s that were raised, majority of the respondents which represents about 86% of the respondents suggested the government should create jobs. Job creation in the Gambia has seen some improvement in recent times as the government of Gambia with financial support from the government of Japan started a job creation project titled "Employment creation for youth to build sustainable peace in The Gambia" in April 2018 for promoting the growth of the New Gambia, which succeeded in a democratic political transition in 2017. This initiative is to help young people, in particular women, the youth with limited educational background, the youth with disabilities, as well as returnees to abate the trends of irregular migration from The Gambia.

Another issue that was raised was the protection of the girls' right. The issue of the girl's right is seen as a major challenge in the West Africa. This issue was raised mostly by the female respondents involve in the research work as most of them were fleeing from arranged marriages and what not. In July, 2016, an amendment was made to the Children's Act 2005 under the Ex-President Yahaya Jammeh, which makes the marriage of any child below the age of 18 years illegal in the country with a penalty of up to 20-year imprisonment for both the parents and husband of the child. Even though such a step was taken, there

is still a large amount of work and the government should put in measures so as to ensure the issue is fully dealt with.

The health, education among other sectors seemed to be a worry to most of the migrants. With regards to education and skill and talent development, the migrants suggested that the government should put in measures so as to gain all the benefits these sectors have. Education as it is drives the country in the right direction. They also encouraged the development of the health sector of the country as it is in shambles and not working at full effect.

The migrants also suggested to the government to develop a good salary system and also to deal with the high cost of living in the country. Also, the respondents suggested that youth empowerment could go a long way in stopping illegal migration in the Gambia.

3.6 Additional Information on Issues Relating To Illegal Migration to Europe

Further investigation not relating to the research objectives was carried out to learn more about the situation. These investigations revealed that, it cost about $2000 to $3000 per individual to use the Mediterranean route as per the migrants. Also, it revealed that, most of the migrants had tried getting in Europe through the right means thus by getting visas from the embassies but were denied by embassies because of not meeting the requirement for entry. Another interesting finding that was made was the fact that 16 (32%) of the migrants interviewed were working whiles in the Gambia. Among them were, five (5) teachers, a painter, a soldier, an electrician, a photographer, a messenger at the ministry, a tailor, a receptionist, a welder, a footballer and two (2) other farmers. The rest of the 34 (68%) were unemployed. As it is already known, they all agreed to have entered Europe illegally.

The respondents also revealed the fact that, there were difficult moments when they first arrived in Europe. 76% of the respondents when asked about how quickly or not they were employed when they first got to Europe. They said, it took almost a year before they were employed due to lack of their proper documentation. All the migrants when asked again if they would advise any of their fellow countrymen to take such journey said no to that. Per information gathered, the migrants are currently working jobs such as, laundry men, security, teachers, footballers, nurses, caterers among others, whereas some of them are still unemployed. Most of the respondents also are still unemployed despite their enthusiasm.

3.7 Findings and Analysis of Interviews Conducted on Institutions in Gambia, Representing The Gambia Government on Migration

The institutions representing the government of the Gambia in this research are the Ministry of Trade, Industry, Regional Integration and Employment, (MOTIE), International Organisation for Migration, and Gambia Bureau of Statistics (Gbos). These are the institutions interviewed on behalf of the government. The Director for Employment represented MOTIE, the Communication Officer represented the IOM and for Gbos the Senior Statistician. The following questions were asked during the interview;

What is the rate of irregular migration?

According to the Director of Employment (MOTIE) and the Communication Officer for IOM, they cannot tell the rate of people leaving, but they believed it has dropped within the past two years compare to five years back. They speculated this to be due to policies and tight border controls implemented by European countries on their borders and other areas.

Is there any policy on migration?

In regards to whether there is a policy on migration in the Gambia, according to Mr. Miko, Communication Officer of IOM, they do not make policies what they do

is to provide specific interventions like offering training programs for migrants who returned home and those in Libya who wants to come back home. Offering capacity building of national and local stakeholders to ensure sustainable reintegration where necessary, also to create awareness through information and sensitization activities targeting the general public on risks of and alternatives to irregular migration and finally collection and analysis of data on migration flows. Then, the Director of Employment MOTIE, made it clear that as at now, The Gambia does not have a policy on migration, but however, the policy is in process of development and such its effect in terms of implementation is yet to be evaluated. MOTIE is the government institution entitled with the duty to develop policies for the country and the IOM is offering support and assistance where necessary.

What are the challenges to Irregular migration?

Also, the institutions were asked what they considered the key challenges to irregular migration in Gambia and they gave the following reasons;

- Inadequate institutional capacity to handle irregular movement of the people across the boundaries of the country. That is, the country lacks the infrastructure and expertise. The few ones available too, do not have the necessary capacity to be able to handle the situation.

- Again, according to the institutions, national borders are porous and as such the exist and entry are normally not detected by the border patrol guards efficiently because the country's borders have weak systems, policies and structures in the place which makes the job of the border patrol guards difficult, hard and time consuming to be able to trace out those embarking on the irregular migration. This leads to inefficiency and escalation of irregular migration of Gambians.

- Another factor considered a key challenge to irregular migration, is the role of peer and family pressure. This is considered a major

challenge which fuel irregular migration in The Gambia. Most often peer influence, brainwashing friends and false dreams of making it quick in Europe contribute significantly to many young people embarking on the dangerous journey to Europe. Family members also force their children due to seeing a friend's child who is in Europe sending remittances home every month motivates them to also send their children on this journey to get to Europe believing they will make it there easy and quick than in Gambia. They do this without knowing the risks involved in irregular migration because they are not being told about the risks and the hardship involved in crossing the Mediterranean Sea. Also the hardships and torture experienced in Libya during the journey.

- Economic factor is a challenging factor according the institutions, most Gambians who embarked on this journey left due to lack of employment opportunities in the country and drive away a lot of potential and capable youths. According to them, youths felt they have been neglected and forgotten as the future leaders of tomorrow and for that matter, they must be empowered at all levels.

- Lastly, the institutions identified lack of safe migration channels, which also contributed to Gambians embarking on the irregular routes. Internationally, is one's right to move freely but through the right channels but then these channels are complicated difficult which most youths cannot be patience for and giving them no other option but to embark on the inappropriate means such as the irregular means to reach their destinations.

How could the factors be stopped or mitigated?

From the perspective of IOM Communication Officer, Mr. Miko, suggested that, as an Institution, they believe that the risks of irregular migration should be addressed through Campaigns and also sharing of testimonies by migrants who

returned home as a way to discourage and stop others from embarking on it. Campaigning and testimony sharing are very important tools society and institutions can use to communicate to the people through all forms of language in the country for everyone to be able to understand and know what people go through on this deadly journey. If this done properly, it will reduce irregular migration in Gambia.

Also, he emphasized on government to promote youth employment because the country depends on it youth force for everything. Therefore, government must create more jobs for the youths of the country this will help to minimize irregular migration. Government must help those with business ideas to start small scale enterprises, and other sectors.

Mr. Miko further suggested that, the government with international bodies should also open safe migration. He gave an example of ECOWAS with its free movement of goods and people among member countries but in real practical life, is not happening, because people still go through problems and difficulties within member states. Unless we change all that and make sure whatever is developed is implemented and enforced because with safe channels of migration, irregular migration would reduce.

For MOTIE, Director of Employment believes there is hope for the country as the government is doing all possible to curb irregular migration. But they still have more to do starting by;

Strengthen institutions through capacity building provisions of state of the art equipment to curb irregular migration. This will provide solid ground to be able to stop irregular migration in all forms. He also added that, border patrol could be enforced to ensure that people with valid travel document are allow to existing and entering national borders. The need to improve border patrol by providing the required materials and equipment to comb our national borders as most of

the borders are porous. Support from external stakeholders/partners in developing approaches to Migration

According to the Director for Employment MOTIE, the Gambia receives support from IOM through the European Union Trust Fund (EUTF), Italian for Development Cooperation, The Japanese Government, The American Embassy, and The British High commissioner.

Financial/Technical Support given by External Stakeholders
The financial support given by external stakeholders includes funding of project activities to curb irregular migration through economic empowerment of the youth. Example is the Youth Empowerment Project (YEP) funded by the European Union Trust Fund and implemented by the International Trade Centre. The project addresses the economic root causes of irregular migration by supporting youth employment and entrepreneurship. The project takes a market-led approach to improving the skills and employability of potential and returning migrants according to demands of the job market. The projects focus on vocational training, and support for Micro and small-sized enterprises and create new jobs in selected sectors through value addition and internationalization.

In terms of technical support, the support from external stakeholders includes technical support in the development of National Migration Policy and also capacity building training for the key stakeholders in the migration domain. The IOM also named Italian for Development Cooperation, The Japanese Government, The American Embassy and The British High Commissioner all provide support to The Gambia on migration. He also made it clear that most of technical support and capacity building of migrants who returned home are done by the IOM.

Again, the IOM, in 2019, provided reintegration assistance to 2,563 returnees and assisted 2,419 with Microbusiness. In the area of Microbusiness, 2,300

returnees went into retail (931), construction (751), Transport (334), Workshop (245), and animal breeding (103).

The Effects (positive and negative) of Migration on The Gambia

Below are some of the effects MOTIE and IOM said irregular migration is having on The Gambia in terms of economic and political development from the interview conducted.

Negative Impact on the Irregular Migration

- With the larger number of young guys leaving the country, The Gambia's labour force has become inactive, therefore leading to low productivity in the areas like Agriculture which is the backbone of the country's economy.

- According to them, irregular migration resulted in the untimely deaths of many during the journey rendering families childless, and those married the women no husbands and children growing without knowing their fathers and this leads to economic crisis and making life hard for the families left home.

- Loss of valuable properties of the family members as many sold their properties to finance trips for their love ones which in the long run affects their living standards if the one on the journey did not reach destination or is being deported takes the family to square zero again.

- The Director of Employment for MOTIE and Communication Officer of IOM stated that, returnees find it difficult to integrate effectively in the society as they are often seen as failures to their societies and families.

- Politically, Mr. Miko of IOM said irregular migration has developed into a political issue between EU and Gambia due to the deportation of Gambians home from Germany. The deportees, believed the Gambia Government should have done something to stop the deportation and this raised tension between the deportees and Gambia government to the extent of where the returnees made threats to burn down government

institutions and the Gambia international Airport due to being angry and furious. This also led to the deportees forming an association in the country and embarking on street demonstrations to show their dissatisfaction with the government.

- He further added that, these deportees have become a threat to security in the country due to no jobs for them and with the stigma of being deported with nothing on them, has led to some indulging in crimes like robbery of banks and individuals and illegal business deals like selling of marijuana and many others.

- In terms of positive effect, the two institutions agreed that one way or the other migrants who have settled in Europe and are working, usually sends home remittances which contributes a lot to the growth of the GDP of the country. These remittances a lot to families' instances like payment of school fees, feeding of their families, establishment of houses and businesses and some also come together to form an association and through this association they embark on developmental projects for their communities and the society as a whole. Such projects are electrifying communities, building roads, opening schools and providing portable water for communities that do not have. These things all put together, contributes immensely to the economic development of the country.

According to the Gambia Bureau of Statistics Gbos, in 2018, they institution carried out a Labour Force Survey called The Gambia Labour Force Survey (GLFS). From the report, 61,515 persons migrated out of Gambia through the irregular migration in the last five years. Among the irregular migrants, those from the Urban areas were (15,643) more than those from the rural areas (7,381). The survey also tests gender gap which was more evident in the Urban areas (22,461 males against 15,453 females) compared to the rural area (486 males against 91 females). This shows that more people in the urban areas indulge in irregular migration than those in the rural areas.

Migration and level of Education

Gbos also looked into the number of migrants who are educated, who are not. And the finding shows that irregular migration is among the population with upper secondary that is those who completed High school (13,478) those with no formal education (10,147). However, the least number was reported for those with higher/tertiary education (273). Again there was huge difference between the sex disparity for those who went through the irregular migration. The number was higher for males than females. Also in their survey carried, more than one-third (21,294) of those who left the country for last two years through irregular means of migration were unemployed, followed by those in elementary occupations (8,487) and services and sales workers (2,108).

Reasons for Migration

According to Gbos, the survey also asked the people to know their reasons for migrating outside Gambia during the last five years. The results show that majority of the people who migrated outside the country by both regular (21.6%) and irregular (59.6%) means left the country due to lack of work. This is followed by those who left the country to pursue education.

CHAPTER 4

CONCLUSION

This chapter makes the conclusion of the thesis and the findings and recommendations suggested by the researcher that would help in the irregular migration of Gambia.

4.1 Conclusion

Africa's irregular migration has developed into a major challenge confronting the EU, the AU, and the international community as a whole. It has become a hot topic at the Centre of decision in today's international politics.

This research has explored and elaborated the concept and theoretical arguments and factors surrounding the causes of this migration and The Gambia as the case study because, the researcher believes a country like Gambia, with a sizeable population, her citizens embark on the journey in their large numbers which is not rational so therefore, it is deemed necessary a study. In the introductory chapter, key things were discussed like the back ground study on migration from perspectives of international level, Africa, and Gambia. The statement problem and research objectives and questions are also discussed here. The research used qualitative method and data collected is primary and this was achieved through questionnaires which were answered by Gambian Migrants themselves through an interview on WhatsApp which is a social media App. The government institutions namely MOTIE, IOM, and Gbos were also interviewed through Skype and Email. The significance of the study is

to create awareness about the dangers of irregular migration and to expand and encourage more research in the area of migration.

In chapter 1, the historical background of migration in Africa was discussed, that is traditional migration which was movement of goods and people mainly from West to North Africa and others. Also, migration to Libya and North Africa as a whole was discussed due to the collapse of strong economic powers in West Africa and wars, people migrated to the North were labour was on high demand especially in Libya. Again, as time goes on, North Africa became a problem and not conducive for most West Africans and others which led to the discovery of new routes and new markets of Europe through crossing the deadly Mediterranean Sea. This journey claimed a lot of young lives. This chapter also discussed the migration process that is the routes and methods. The research also discussed the European Union and Securitization of migration. Factors or reasons were discovered has been the drivers for European Union to securitize migration in Europe. Their approaches to irregular migration are discussed in this chapter. Deportation which is a current issue or an ongoing issue between Europe and Africa is also discussed in this chapter.

In chapter 3, which talks about the findings and analysis on Gambia, as the case study for the research? Main research questions in line with the statement problem were achieved. From the findings, factors driven Gambian irregular migration were economic, political and socio-cultural according migrants who took part in the interview. In relation to challenges they encountered on the journey, they stated torture, kidnappings, demand for ransom and many others as difficulties they had to undergo. In regard to what they suggest government should do, migrants interviewed gave answers ranging from the government using its youthful labour, protection of girls' child rights, improvement in the educational and health sector and other vital sectors.

On the side of the government, the institutions representing government also gave interesting points as what government is doing to eradicate irregular migration. Such as developing a policy on migration and working with external bodies like EU, Japan and the IOM by providing technical and financial support in areas of reintegration of returnees and training them in areas of microbusinesses and more other areas.

4.2 Recommendations

In chapter 4, the researcher makes the concluding aspect of the thesis. This chapter deals with recommendations for the findings carried out on the research case of The Gambia, with the root causes of Gambia irregular migration, government must invest in its youth for a fruitful future and better Gambia tomorrow. This is because any country in the world that want a good tomorrow must empower the youths at all levels to maximize satisfaction and efficiency. Most African states or countries neglects her youths who in the long run gets frustrated and feels not important. The Gambia government can achieve this by creating jobs for the youths through industrialization and building up of factories in areas like fishery, fruits and expanding the tourism sector and increasing production in Agriculture by making it lucrative, providing incentives and free taxes on major raw materials to encourage more youths in the sector. The Gambia lacks factories in these sectors named above which if considered will create abundance of jobs in the country. Gambia has a lot of different types of fisheries where it can have sardine factories and in the area of fruits most fruits like mango, orange and others are plentiful in their season in Gambia but most of them gets rotten and spoilt. But with factories to produce fruit juice that problem would be solved and again creating these factories, is creating jobs for the youths across all levels, the skilled, non-skilled and educated because the factories will have departments ranging from production, marketing, top management or executive. So, jobs would be created for all and when that happens, irregular migration would reduce.

Furthermore, government must involve the entertainment sector in part of their dealings. This sector has been ignored for so long and is full of young people. Especially the sports and music areas, the help from the government and cooperate bodies to these two sectors are low and mostly not even giving and these sectors are equally important as any other sector. A lot of Gambian youths are talented in football, basketball and in music and dance. They want to make it a standard of living but they cannot because there is no support or funding from government or the cooperate bodies to boost these sectors and standardize it as a source of income just like it is happening in other countries. This triggered a lot of Gambian youths to embark on the irregular routes to get to Europe to play football or become musicians. So, the government must support these sectors to help the young ones utilize the opportunity home and make is a living.

Moreover, the researcher recommends the government to work with stakeholders and international bodies to strengthen border patrol controls and equip them with the latest state of art technology to make their jobs easy and transparent. Joint task forces should be formed to fish out smugglers and traffickers and that of middlemen who does the underground jobs for migrants providing them with information which in the long run ruins lives of most these people. This is essential and vital in tackling irregular migration.

Again, The Gambia has a very poor salary scale, which has discouraged workers in Gambia and to embark on this deadly journey, with the likes of Teachers who complained about their pay scale has been the poorest in the sub region to the extent one can finish his salary within a day and they are not able to save anything and dependency ratio is also high when you the only one working in the family. In relation to standard of living, prices of goods and other things keeps on increasing every year but salaries are still same. The government must also make it a point every year to make a certain percentage increment in all sectors to boost motivation and as a way to discourage irregular migration.

Another recommendation the researcher agrees with is maintenance of democracy and respect for rule of law. From the interview of migrants, some gave political factors as the reason for their migration because of the formal regime. The formal regime under ex-president Jammeh of the Gambia, there was a lot of human right violations, torture, unnecessary disappearances of people who criticize the then regime. But with the new regime under Adama who won election through a coalition in 2016, with his cabinet has being able to restore the country's lost democracy and freedom of expression which if maintained and allowed forever, irregular migration from that direction will stop because people want freedom and to be able to say speak their mind on issues of social and national matters so feeling that part of belong and importance makes you patriotic.

Lastly, protection of girls right must be tackled by the government with full force especially in the rural areas. Strict rules, regulations and policies must be developed and implemented by the government and there should be special bodies to enforce this policies and laws to protect girl child right against outmoded socio-cultural acts like forced marriages, early marriages, female genital mutilation, and many others. These practices have been banned by the formal regime but still in the rural areas they are practiced due to failure in the enforcement of policies and laws put in place to curb them. The government should revisit this and strengthen the enforcement part so that communities and societies will desist from the practices and rights of girl child will be safe and protected.

Recommendation for further studies and more research on migration should be done academically by fellow researchers to enlighten the world more about irregular migration. Universities should also include it in school curriculums as a subject of discussion. This in the researcher's thinking would go a long way to

provide more understanding on the dangers of this journey and more ways of tackling it.

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APPENDIX

Sample Questionnaire

1. What is your gender?

- Male

- Female

2. How old are you?

- 15-25

- 26-45

- 46 or above

3. Which route did you follow to travel to Europe?

4. Is it expensive to travel through this route?

a) Yes   b) No

5. How much money does it cost?

6. Did you enter with papers or without papers? (MC)

7. What factor (s) accounted for your traveling to Europe?

8. Were you working in The Gambia before embarking on this journey?
a) Yes   b) NO

9. If yes What was your job?

10. Why did you then leave your job to embark on this journey?

11. Have you been employed since you first arrived in Europe?

12. What did you do?

13. What is your current job?

14. How do you evaluate your decision to migrate to Europe? Was it the right choice?

15. Would you advise fellow Gambians to embark on such a journey?
a) Yes   b) No

16. If yes, Why?

17. Did you go through any challenges or difficulties on migration experience?
a) Yes   b) No

18. Can you share with us some of these problems or challenges you went through?

19. What could the Government of The Gambia do differently to stop you from leaving The Gambia?

20. What do you think the Government of The Gambia can do to end migration?

21. What effects (positive and negative) do you think illegal migration is having on The Gambia in terms of political and economic development?

Interview Questions for the Government Institutions Chosen for The Research

1) What is the name of your institution?

2) What is your position in the institution?

3) What is the rate of illegal migration of Gambians within the past ten years?

4) Is there a specific policy on migration?

5) If yes, is it effective?

6) What do you consider the key challenges to illegal migration in The Gambia?

7) How do you think these challenges or factors could be stopped or mitigated?

8) Does The Gambia receive any support from external stakeholders/partners in developing policy approaches to migration?

9) Can you name institutions and organizations that provide support to The Gambia on migration?

10) Can you specify financial/technical or any other form of support given by external stakeholders on migration?

11) What effects (positive and negative) do you think illegal migration is having on The Gambia in terms of political and economic development?

PLAGIARISM REPORT

Omar Fofana - THE IMPACT OF IRREGULAR MIGRATION OF AFRICANS TO EROUPE: A CASE STUDY OF THE GAMBIA

ORIGINALITY REPORT

19%	15%	5%	11%
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ETHICS COMMITEE APPROVAL

YAKIN DOĞU ÜNİVERSİTESİ

BİLİMSEL ARAŞTIRMALAR   **ETİK KURULU**

22.04.2019

Dear Omar Fofana

Your application titled **"The Impact of Illegal Migration of Africans to Europe. A Case Study of The Gambia"** with the application number YDÜ/SB/2019/425 has been evaluated by the Scientific Research Ethics Committee and granted approval. You can start your research on the condition that you will abide by the information provided in your application form.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Direnç Kanol
Rapporteur of the Scientific Research Ethics Committee

Direnç Kanol

Note: If you need to provide an official letter to an institution with the signature of the Head of NEU Scientific Research Ethics Committee, please apply to the secretariat of the ethics committee by showing this document.