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Regional Security Governance for Migration: Impact on European Foreign Policy

The objective of the research is to analyse European security governance through the investigation of the migration policy as envisioned and undertaken by the European Union. Migration as a subject matter is of particular relevance to-date: on the top agenda of most of the states' concerns, migration stands at the forefront of the European political debate.

The research aims to contribute to the literature on 'non-traditional' risks by investigating a policy field only recently considered one of security; while at the same time analyzing the specific policy performance of the EU in the field, with a particular attention to its coordination with other international actors. The project will also permit to advance research in the field of regionalism, as the EU will be analysed as a region dealing with other regions, with global institutions or other actors.

The first step will be to classify migration within the new threats by underlining the way in which the issue has been 'securitized' through time. The time-frame that will be considered goes therefore from the Shengen Agreements on (14 June 1985). The European Union has strived to develop a common migration policy (Lisbon 1992). Later on, the passage of the issue from the third to the first pillar through the Amsterdam Treaty of 1997 testified to the willingness to speed up a communitarian approach: from this moment the European Community became fully competent for the elaboration of policies and normative regarding migration and asylum. Tampere (15-16 October 1999), linked in a consistent way the necessity of a European approach toward migration with the importance of a fair treatment of Third World countries citizens, setting the basis for a common foreign and security policy on migration. Not to forget is that migration impacts on and is linked to the issue of human rights violations: the 11th September attacks on the twin towers did downscale what proposed in Tampere: in the following Councils -Laeken (2001), Seville (2002), Salonika (2003) and Brussels (2004)- illegal migration and terrorism became strongly entrenched.

Aims:

- To evaluate EU migration policy particularly as far as its coordination with other international actors at the regional and global level is concerned.
- to evaluate the extent to which regional and global governance interact
- to draw some conclusions on the relationship between regionalism and multilateralism

Key questions to which this project aims at giving an answer:

- Does the EU deal with migration as a security problem? In which terms?
- How and to what extent does the EU coordinate its efforts with those of other neighbouring regions and state-actors?
- How and to what extent does the EU coordinate its efforts with those of global international organizations?

By considering the real meaning and working of security governance, and its application on migration issue, the research will touch upon all the three themes GARNET is organized in: Regionalism and Regionalisation- considering the plausibility of Europe as a security regional actor for migration policy-; The Regulatory Frameworks of Global Governance –considering coordination and management practices and the actors involved in the security governance; and Key Policy Issues in Global Governance –focussing on the turning of migration towards a new and complex security issue