

**Forum:** 6<sup>th</sup> Committee – Legal

**Issue:** Integration and expulsion of immigrants

**Main-Chair:** Alexandru Adochitei

**Co-Chair:** Sara Villadsen



## Description of issue:

More people are on the move now than ever. The number of international migrants—persons living in a country other than where they were born—reached 258 million in 2017, an increase of 85 million, or 49 per cent, compared to 2000. This increase resulted primarily from the rapid growth in the number of migrants originating from countries of the global South.

Economic and social factors are the main reasons why people migrate. In addition, global migration trends are also influenced by political instability and conflict. Today, the number of persons forcibly displaced globally is the highest since the aftermath of World War II, with the number of refugees and asylum seekers reaching nearly 26 million.

At the global level, the majority of Governments (61%) have a policy to maintain current levels of immigration. Among the remaining Governments with available data, 13% have policies to lower the level of documented immigration into their country, 12% have policies to raise it, and 14% have either no official policy or do not seek to influence levels of immigration.

Among all regions, Europe has the highest proportion of countries seeking to raise immigration levels (32%), followed by Asia (10%). Asia has the highest share of countries seeking to reduce current levels of immigration (23%), followed by Africa (13%).

Many Governments, especially from less developed regions, have instituted policies or programmes to encourage the return of their citizens.

Globally, 72% of Governments have policies to encourage the return of their citizens. The share of Governments seeking to encourage the return of their citizens is highest in Latin America and the Caribbean (88%), followed by Africa (78%).

## Background information:

The U.N. defines a migrant as being a person who lacks the citizenship in his or her country. Migration has been on the rise in the latest years and with events like the Taliban takeover has driven a wave of Afghans to escape their country in search of a better life.

Different countries have implemented different immigration and expulsion policies. These countries adopt a comprehensive approach to integration. Equal rights, security and opportunities for immigrants and citizens. Policies encourages the public to see immigrants as equals and potential citizens. Some of these countries are:

- Canada, Australia, USA, New Zealand.

Other countries, only go halfway to granting immigrants with basic rights and equal opportunity. They do not secure a future in their country. These countries encourage the public to see immigrants as foreigners and not fully as equals.

- Denmark, Austria, Switzerland.

These countries are categorised as “Immigration without Integration” because their policies deny that the country has become a destination country. Immigrants may find ways to settle long-term, but are not supported with basic rights or equal opportunities to participate in society. Policies may encourage the public to see immigrants as subordinates and as strangers.

- China, India, Russia

## Definition of key terms:

*Immigration:* the action of coming to live permanently in a foreign country.

*Expulsion:* the act of forcing someone to leave a place (such as a country or a school) : the act of expelling someone.

*Integration:* Integration is the process by which immigrants become accepted into society, both as individuals and as groups.

*Migration:* the movement of a group of persons from one place to another the intention of establishing themselves temporarily or permanently. Migration can be external (to other countries) or internal (within the country) and can be of several types (individual or mass).

## Main countries involved:

- Canada – often held up as a model for how something close to the ideal immigration policy can be implemented as it is one of the most welcoming countries in the world in terms of immigration.

- Australia – less tolerant and open to immigrants but it still is one of the countries with the most welcoming reputation in the world
- The United States of America – One of the most involved in immigrants since the majority of the population comes from different backgrounds.
- New Zealand – Top country for immigration especially because it is linked to Australia, therefore immigrants to Australia have access to New Zealand and vice versa.
- Denmark – One of the most accepting countries in Europe in terms of Immigration in Europe.
- Austria – Country that secures equal opportunities to immigrants similar to Denmark.
- Switzerland – Has long been an expat hotspot, with a high quality of life and good integration system.
- People’s Republic of China
- India
- Russia

### Questions for delegates:

- What is your country’s opinion on this issue?
- What are some actions the UN should take regarding this issue?
- What approach does your country take to immigration?

### Useful resources for the delegates:

- [Article: Building a Mosaic: The Evolution of Canad.. | migrationpolicy.org](https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/building-a-mosaic-the-evolution-of-canada)
- [New to Denmark \(nyidanmark.dk\)](https://nyidanmark.dk)
- [| EU Immigration Portal \(europa.eu\)](https://europa.eu)