

Abstract

This thesis focuses on the New Pact on Migration and Asylum (the Pact), which was issued by the European Commission in the autumn of 2020. It includes a set of nine legislative and non-legislative proposals that aimed at reforming EU migration and asylum policy. Specifically, the thesis deals with the process of adopting the proposals in the context of the approach of three selected countries (Greece, Hungary and Sweden) to migration issues. The first part of the thesis defines the method of discursive analysis and the concept of legitimation and then it describes the legislative process within the EU and presents all the proposals that are part of the Pact. The second part, the practical part, contains case studies of selected countries. Through a discursive analysis using the concept of legitimation, the thesis analyses statements of political representatives of the states or EU representatives, based on media statements, EU documents or interviews. Subsequently, their legitimation moves explaining their approach to migration and the Pact are analysed. The main objective is to identify the most relevant factors that play key role for the states and that most significantly influence the decision-making regarding the adoption of each proposal. Together with EU institutions, also Member States are involved in their adoption through the Council of the EU, where they are represented. This influence is essential during the drafting and finalisation of proposals, as the diversity of EU members often makes it difficult and time-consuming to find a consensus or at least a compromise. Influencing factors may include, for example, geographical location, the current political situation or the history and development of migration in countries. In the conclusion, these aspects are described more in detail and placed in the context of selected countries. In addition, the thesis also charts the gradual development of each proposal and the results already achieved.