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# CONCEPTUAL PRINCIPLES OF RESEARCH OF THE PROBLEMS OF ADAPTATION AND INTEGRATION OF MUSLIM FEMALE REFUGEES IN GERMANY

The article is devoted to the processes of Muslim women fleeing to Germany. In the article, the authors consider the Muslim women fleeing to Germany in conditions of increased conflict in their countries of origin as a separate type of refugees. An attempt has been made to characterize the psycho-social condition of refugee women who arrived in Germany and to determine their qualitative and quantitative characteristics. The authors paid attention to what factors affect their involvement in society. Our study has proved that refugees are a separate component of German society because they directly affect the demographic and socio-economic situation in Germany. Ensuring the stable and effective socio-economic development of Germany with the involvement of all categories of the population is directly related to the implementation of public policy. The study of the gender aspects of refugees may help to identify key issues, the solution of which will facilitate the rapid adaptation and integration of Muslim refugees in German society, and, in prospect, to actively involve them in the development of German society.

The results of the study helped in the analysis of the integration and adaptation processes of Muslim refugees as a separate part of refugees. Women refugees are a more vulnerable category of refugees, so they can be easily manipulated and abused. Identifying problems during integration may help to improve mechanisms for the protection of refugees and asylum seekers.

In this article, the authors focused on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the reception and adaptation of refugees, as well as the establishment of new rules to meet the basic needs of refugees in shelters, the lack of which is unsanitary norms and the impossibility of distancing. The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the decision-making process and refugee reception procedures, so the analysis of the challenges points to weaknesses in human rights mechanisms for refugees.

*Key words:* adaptation; asylum; gender inequality; Germany; integration; Muslim female refugees; pandemic; refugee women.

#### Introduction

The active participation of women in refugee processes caused by high levels of conflict in the Middle East and Africa indicates a lack of gender approach in refugee policy development, which directly affects the activities of refugees in the host society, as well as their adaptation and integration. Germany is one of the world leaders in the number of migrants and refugees, which indicates that globalization, new trends in international relations are reviving the process of displacement. Thus, in 2019, more than 142 thousand applications for refugee status were approved, of which 30% were men and 20% women, but due to the restrictions caused by COVID-19, their number has decreased significantly over the past nine month and was about 122 thousand in 2020<sup>1</sup>.

ISSN 1728-9343 (Print) ISSN 2411-3093 (Online) In this article we are interested in the features of adaptation and integration of Muslim refugees as individual participants in migration processes, considering current trends and the influence of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In view of the above, the purpose of this study is to identify the main trends and features of integration and adaptation processes of Muslim refugees in Germany.

The purpose of the article provides the following tasks:

- to analyze the challenges and problems faced by refugee women during the adjustment to a new society;

- to describe the involvement of the German government in the integration of refugees into German society;

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Aktuelle Zahlen. *Bundesamt fur Migration und Flüchtlinge*. 2020.

https://www.bamf.de/SharedDocs/Anlagen/DE/Statistik/AsylinZa hlen/aktuelle-zahlen-dezember-2020.pdf

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- to study the process of adaptation of refugees and their families and to assess the influence of German society on this process.

Among a scientific community, the issue of refugees including the general concepts of refugee policy have been studied by local (*Pylypchuk, 2017*) and foreign scientists (*Boswell, Geddes, 2011*). The analysis of recent research by Ukrainian publishers suggests that they mainly focus on the general concept of the refugee problem in the world, as well as the refugee crisis in Europe.

The issue of illegal migration to EU caused by the influx of refugees is studied among local researchers (*Chuienko, 2016*). A. Solodko (*2015*), L. Petryk (*2017*) note that this problem is associated with a number of important aspects of life of states, namely the internal situation of a number of world powers, the effectiveness of their governing bodies, the functioning of international organizations.

Publications by foreign authors make clear the importance and significance of the refugee problem for the world community. These authors describe the relationship between migration, the refugee crisis in Europe and their impact on the labor market, and as a result, general trends in the European Union (*Bertran, 2014; Castles, 2011; Menz, 2006; Messina, 2007; Wike, Strokes, Simmons 2016*).

### **Research methods**

Research methods are determined by the topic, purpose and objectives of the work. Such approaches as general scientific, statistical and political are used. The study considers international relations to be real and their driving forces to be independent of man, so the study is based on the principle of objectivism, which characterizes interactions in the international arena as an objective reality.

The analysis is based on dialectical materialism and organically related general scientific research methods, such as inductive method, which was used in the research as a judgment about the general features of the reception of refugees, based on knowledge of individual elements. The analytical method was used in the process of establishing the correlation of events before the arrival on the European continent and the adaptation process of Muslim refugee women. The generalizing method was used to create a final picture of the situation of refugee women in German society. The method of content analysis was used to analyze the presentation of refugee issues in the media, as well as the other methods including sociological, historical, structural-functional analysis, system analysis and synthesis, dialectical-logical, formallogical and other methods.

#### **Results and Discussion**

Mass migration to the EU began to peak in 2015, due to socio-political developments in the Middle East and North Africa: the military conflict in Syria, the war in Afghanistan, the situation in Sudan, Yemen, Lebanon, the conflict in the Niger Delta, as well as the war in eastern Ukraine. The low level of control at the EU's borders has made it easy for refugees to cross it and enter the territory of the Member States. In subsequent years, Europe has received and continues to receive large numbers of refugees and asylum seekers fleeing war, conflict and persecution in their countries of origin.

According to UNHCR, Germany is one of the five countries receiving the largest number of refugees in Europe (1.1 million)<sup>2</sup>. More than two-thirds (68%) of all refugees and displaced persons come from only five countries: the Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela, Afghanistan, South Sudan, and Myanmar. Women make up about 50% of all refugees<sup>1</sup>, as they are often the first to respond to and be affected by crises. In addition to poverty and other problems that all refugees may face, refugees are even more oppressed by gender discrimination, so there is a need for prompt and concrete intervention to support them. This is a good reason to further develop and implement measures and policies aimed at protecting and empowering refugee and asylumseeking women to enable them to become active participants in the host society.

Refugee migration is the result of a previous intolerable situation, which makes it unplanned, disorganized or forced, unlike other types of migration. Women and children are the most vulnerable groups of refugees, as they suffer the worst consequences of wars and conflicts at home, namely physical, mental and social change. The loss of family members in the war becomes an irreplaceable loss for them and forces them to look for new ways to live saving their own lives.

The integration of women refugees and asylumseeking women into the host society is not the same as that of immigrant women, as the former are those fleeing persecution and war in their country and usually do not have enough time to plan their travel to the host country. They are severely interrupted by family relationships and social ties, and suffer trauma and psychological disorders due to their sudden escape (Sansonetti, 2016).

The adaptation process of migrants is influenced by many factors, the most important of which can be divided into two categories: "external", relating to the region of stay, and "internal", which characterize the internal state of migrants directly. Unlike other types of immigrants who have voluntarily left their countries in search of better economic opportunities or family reunification, forced migrants or refugees who have fled their countries because of fear of political, religious or ethnic persecution are a special group that faces specific and, generally, greater difficulties in adapting to the host country (*Hahn*, *Richter, Schupp, Back, 2019*).

In order to determine the main characteristics of the adaptation and integration processes of Muslim refugee women to German society, it is necessary to analyze the challenges and problems they had to face before moving. One of the most common problems is sexual and gender-based violence (Women refugees and migrants, 2020). The society in which Muslim women live is patriarchal, which significantly reduces a woman's role in it and her ability to assert her rights. According to the United Nations, one in five refugees is sexually abused. This factor greatly influences the behavior of refugees in a new society, distinguished by its democratic and liberal values, mentality and cultural traditions, as well as shapes the perception of reality around them.

Refugee women and asylum seekers are abused not only in their country of origin but throughout the relocation experience: while traveling (women who pay smugglers who may be trafficked, especially if they are traveling

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Figures at a Glance. *UNHCR*, 2020. https://www.unhcr.-org/figures-at-a-glance.html

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alone); in places of detention or reception; and in the host country due to changing family relationships, lack of basic services and medical care, economic dependence and limited access to work<sup>3</sup>. Potential aggressors are both asylum seekers and asylum workers. Most "crimes against sexual autonomy" are committed by men against women. According to the Federal Criminal Police Agency, 98.7% of all migrants, refugees and asylum seekers suspected of sexual harassment and violence in 2018 were men.

Another important issue affecting the adaptation process of Muslim female refugees is forced marriages at an early age. During wars and relocations, girls are more vulnerable to gender-based violence, including early and forced marriages: about 20% of women report being sexually abused as children, and more than 60 million "brides-girls" are forced to marry before the age of 18<sup>4</sup>. Refugees are at increased risk for a variety of mental disorders, such as post-traumatic stress disorder, chronic pain, and depression, which are largely related to their exposure to violence, forced migration, and uncertainty in the host country (*Fazel, Wheeler, Danesh, 2005*).

This and other examples of violations of women's rights force women to flee and seek protection abroad. A number of psychological traumas they experience during self-formation, stress and vulnerability to shocks emphasize the need to take gender into account when concidering migration and refugee protection policy-making.

The German government has developed a number of systems to integrate the new refugee population, and all parties involved are making significant efforts: federal, provincial, local authorities, civil society and, of course, the refugees themselves. The active participation of refugees in integration is reduced to the expectations of the host state and compliance with official steps developed by laws, rules and other regulations. At the social level, the definition of integration and expectations of host communities may differ from each other, based on the characteristics of local communities (*Hynie, 2018*).

When women-asylum seekers first come to Germany, they should use the only procedures that identify vulnerable people and provide them with specific protection, housing and support. Adapting to life in Germany is often even more difficult for them – OECD research (The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) shows that refugee women have difficulty entering the labor market than their male counterparts, and they also communicate less with locals. In community shelters, women, especially if they are there alone or with their children, often find it harder to feel safe and comfortable<sup>5</sup>.

German asylum legislation has not yet been revised to recognize gender-based persecution. Although the issue of gender persecution has long been on the political agenda, there is no consensus on how the law should be

fluechtlingsfrauen-schlechter-integriert-a-1225726.html.

reformed to adequately address the specific situation of refugee women (*Ankenbrand, 2002*). It is women and refugee girls who point to gaps in the legislation and do not receive the necessary and desired assistance. At present, Germany does not have a standardized process in place to guarantee the identification and support of women who have experienced gender-based violence.

Obtaining refugee status is fundamental for further entry into the culture in a new, legal status. When women flee the same political and religious persecution in the Middle East as men, they often do not meet the German government's identity standards. Studies of such refugees have shown that women face greater difficulties in obtaining asylum status in Germany, as their applications are considered less credible on the basis of religious, political and gender persecution or violence<sup>6</sup>.

At the state, regional and municipal levels, there is a "rapid integrationism" involving integration programs and policies that directly affect refugee women. There are integration and language programs for them, but these women should also be taught "gender principles", as they are considered to be a traditional element of German culture. Under the guise of "integration", refugee women are invited to attend language courses, leave their children with strangers, and, if possible, immediately integrate into the labor market, while ensuring the integration of all other members of their own families (Elle, Hees, 2018). Access to national integration courses is open to all persons who have the right to attend regardless of gender (Goethe training, Institute). However, refugee women attend nationwide integration courses less frequently and with greater delays after arriving in Germany, although they focus directly on their needs. This is directly related to their mentality and the role of women in Muslim society, as well as their limited ability to use language in practice. In 2019, the majority of refugees (58%) who attended integration courses did so, as opposed to 42% who expressed a desire to join the educational program'.

Considering the following factor influencing the adaptation of refugee women, it should be noted that the German labor market is complex and bureaucratic, barriers to the recognition of foreign creating qualifications and those who do not speak German (Keita S., 2020). Refugees and asylum seekers enter the labor market as a rather complex process. In addition, women have worse prospects, especially those who have young children. The main question here is about learning and validating existing knowledge and skills. Many women refugees report experience in the labor market in their country of origin, but they do not have enough certificates or documentation to confirm this. The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees offers courses for women about employment opportunities, as well as German for vocational training to adapt more quickly to the work

economy/2019/05/03/ 4bafa36e-6b60-11e9-bbe7-1c798fb8-0536\_story.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Integration of migrant women A key challenge with limited policy resources. *European Commission*. 2018. https://ec.europa.eu/migrant-integration/feature/integration-of-migrant-women.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Gender-based Violence Programme Overview. *UNICEF*. 2019. https://www.unicef.org/eca/media/9776/file.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Flüchtlingsfrauen sind schlechter integriert. *Spiegel.* 2018. https://www.spiegel.de/politik/deutschland/studie-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Angela Merkel welcomed refugees to Germany. They're starting to help the economy. *The Washington Post.* 2019. https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/angela-merkel-welcomed-refugees-to-germany-theyre-starting-to-help-the-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Number of new participants in integration courses in Germany from 2005 to 2019. *Statista*, 2021. https://www.statista.com/statistics/917157/new-participants-integration-coursesgermany/

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environment or to master it first. Due to the situation at home, shrouded in war, economic crisis and political instability, women and girls often have incomplete levels of education, which becomes an obstacle to qualifying employment. However, a recent study by the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees found that almost 35% of refugees who arrived in Germany in 2015 had a job until October 2018, compared to 20% the previous year. Researchers also found that many refugees were able to find work despite language difficulties and a lack of formal professional qualifications, which are vital to employment in Germany<sup>8</sup>.

The participation of refugee women in employment in Germany is much lower compared to the participation of male refugees and other groups. At the same time, the size of part-time employment is higher; however, this is not a specific characteristic of this group of women. Employment is clearly concentrated in certain sectors, including cleaning and tourism, hotel and restaurant business. Women without educational qualifications have gained experience in formal labor markets in unskilled jobs (in factories or plants) as well as in informal labor markets (in household services, temporary work and in the context of domestic work)<sup>9</sup>.

Identity, previous professional achievements and loss of social status create an environment that requires powerful coping mechanisms. Refugees become more stable after relocating to their host country, but most problems remain and they realize that most of the previous living conditions can never be restored.

A direct obstacle to rapid adaptation and integration into German society is the preservation of their own cultural identity and belonging to a particular community, which in the process of acculturation is erased and intertwined with assimilation into the host society. According to the analyzed interviews, it can be concluded that the life of Muslim women refugees is divided into two parts: "at home" and "in society" (Dawa, 2017). Because the set of cultural and moral principles differs significantly from the culture of the countries of origin of refugees, they often have to choose between the two. The new culture to which one should adapt opens up new opportunities and prospects for refugees, but due to the unwillingness to completely abandon one's own culture, the process of adaptation may slow down, and in some cases not even be completed. As in other European countries, the Muslim hijab is a flashpoint for women, as Germans and Muslim refugees acknowledge that women who refuse to wear the hijab are often seen by Germans as reluctant to accept their new home and will be severely limited in their employment opportunities.

As for preserving their own culture, the attitude of German citizens towards refugees, in particular women, is one of the important factors influencing their further adaptation to society, because the social environment in which they are constantly at work or school, forms manners of behavior, changes previously arranged values. The vast majority of Germans believe that countries, including their own, are obliged to accept refugees. However, there is also

fortschritte-sprache-beschaeftigung.pdf?\_\_blob=publicationFile. <sup>9</sup> The Institute for Employment Research. *Official Site*. https://www.iab.de/en/publikationen.aspx. growing concern about the cultural impact that migration may have in the long run.

The newcomers were partially greeted with open arms, but also with suspicion. According to opinion polls, most Germans believe that as the number of refugees increases, so does the likelihood of terrorist attacks (*Wike, Strokes, Simmons, 2016*). There are several theoretical arguments as to why the reception of refugees may pose a threat to security: refugees' previous experiences of violence may increase their likelihood of future violence; relative social and economic deprivation can increase the propensity for criminal activity (*Depetris-Chauvin, Santos, 2018*).

According to a new poll conducted by the Civey election campaign on public opinion on Angela Merkel's 2015 statement "Wir schaffen das!" (We can do that), the Germans are still divided over the Chancellor's optimism about the arrival of hundreds of thousands of refugees and asylum seekers. However, support for its positive position has grown significantly. Respondents answered the question of whether Germany could really cope with the arrival of hundreds of thousands of migrants from the conflict and poverty zones of Africa and the Middle East. Public opinion has become more supportive of the Chancellor's position since 2017, when the same question was asked. Then 60% of respondents considered the quote quite or very inaccurate compared to only 34% who considered it quite or very accurate. In the last survey, this number increased to 44%

The image created by some media outlets about Muslim refugees often has a negative effect on public attitudes towards their participation, due to their countries of origin and their propensity to commit terrorist acts. Due to their cultural peculiarities and differences, the behavior of refugees differs significantly from European norms of behavior and moral values, and their experiences, psychological traumas and shocks are considered threatening.

German citizens support refugees and contribute to their adaptation to society. They showed a sense of solidarity and organized various volunteer events, such as language courses, collecting clothes and food, and providing advice to support integration into the labor market. Although these voluntary actions were accepted very positively, some citizens argued that the organization of these voluntary events is in itself a new challenge for society and requires new mechanisms of organization.

Given a number of factors influencing the adaptation of Muslim women refugees, it should be noted that NGOs also play a central role in promoting the integration of refugee and asylum-seeking women, especially at present, which is characterized by the refusal of states to provide social security and privatization, public services and restrictive immigration policies and control of refugee flows. Some NGOs report that they identify vulnerabilities on their own and aid only on the basis of subjective assessments by volunteers, and not on the basis of standardized practice among all those who interact with

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Fortschritte sprache beschaeftigung. BAMF, 2019. https://www.bamf.de/SharedDocs/-

Anlagen/EN/Publikationen/Kurzanalysen/kurzanalyse1-2019-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Half of Germans still skeptical about Merkel's migrant stance: poll. *Deutsche Welle*, 2020. https://www.dw.com/en/half-ofgermans-still-skeptical-about-merkels-migrant-stance-poll/a-54751678.

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refugees<sup>11</sup>. For example, Soroptimist International helps refugee girls learn the language and seek opportunities for self-realization in the new society. Aurelius provides humanitarian support to victims of conflicts in the homeland (Syria) and promotes the adaptation of girls in schools. In general, NGOs in Germany advocate that the German government pass laws that will encourage refugees to enter society and that they can legally become an active part of society.

It is now thought that in the near future refugees will contribute to the development of Germany more than the state will spend on their maintenance and assistance, filling the labor shortage, paying taxes and helping the economy (*Mosel, etc., 2019*). Although 59% of Germans are concerned about the negative externalities of immigration, they are still open to its potential economic benefits and uphold the moral obligation to protect refugees.

The COVID-19 crisis has increased the vulnerability of the most unsafe sections of society and has affected mobility, as well as the living and working conditions of refugees and migrants, according to a new WHO study. According to WHO Director-General Tedros Adhan Gebreesus, refugees and migrants have limited access to adequate health care, housing, water, sanitation and other services, so host countries should reduce barriers to accessing refugees and migrants. health care, and include them in national health policy<sup>12</sup>.

The pandemic also affected the number of refugees, both men and women: in the period from January to December 2020, 145,071 decisions were made on applications for asylum. The Federal Office received a total of 122,170 asylum applications in 2020, which is 26.4% less than in 2019 (165,938 asylum applications). During the same period last year, 183,954 decisions were made, which means a decrease of 21.1%. The total protection quota for all nationalities (legal status of a refugee under the Geneva Refugee Convention, additional protection under paragraph 4 of paragraph 4 of AsylG and the ban on deportation under paragraph 5 of paragraph 5 or 7 of the AufenthG) was 43.1% (62,470 positive Decisions of the total 145,071). Compared to the previous year (38.2%), the overall level of protection increased by 4.9%<sup>13</sup>

COVID-19 has exacerbated a number of challenges facing refugee women in the integration process. In Berlin, in addition to more asylum seekers battling coronavirus infections during a pandemic, many remain cut off from the world in asylum centers without finding work. Merkel reported that several training and language courses for immigrants had been canceled due to COVID-19. Refugees tend to work in low-paid areas affected by the pandemic. As a result, they have the highest increase in unemployment compared to other migrants and German locals. Suspension of learning and social interaction is particularly harmful, meaning that refugees receive less support. These challenges were acknowledged by German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who held a national integration summit in 2020. It was decided that services such as German language courses, counseling and job support should be provided digitally to improve access during and after pandemic (The opportunities of diversity – opportunities for our country).

In March 2020, the German government promised that no one seeking asylum in Germany would be denied during a pandemic. Some branches of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees, which have received asylum applications only in writing to avoid personal contact, have started counseling and accept applications in person, but this requires consultation with the Immigration Bureau<sup>14</sup>.

As the search for refugees became a much more difficult process in the pandemic, many of them were unable to provide for themselves and their families, which is why Federal Finance Minister Olaf Scholz and Economy Minister Peter Altmeier presented a comprehensive package to mitigate the effects of coronavirus. which is stated on the IOM website and, accordingly, on the official website of the Federal Ministry of Finance (Protective shield for employees and companies).

The pandemic has shown that in times of crisis, it is necessary to react quickly to situations that prevent fatal consequences. The German government, like other countries, has been forced to develop new mechanisms to work with all the rules of social distancing to ensure the implementation of processes related to the protection of refugees and their basic needs.

### Conclusions

Thus, integration is a dynamic and multifaceted process that requires a strong commitment to both refugees, who must be prepared to adapt to the host society without abandoning their culture of origin, and the host country, which must be ready to accept refugees and meet their needs. The issue of integration must be carefully considered, as a failed reception and integration policy may exacerbate or even complicate the consequences of the traumatic episodes that most refugees, especially refugee women, have experienced in their lifetime.

For refugee women, adaptation is a rather personal and personalized process. Muslim female refugees face a number of challenges before entering the new culture, including gender discrimination, violence and human rights restrictions. Refugee women, as part of a large number of refugees, have a number of adapting problems, but they are more related to interpersonal changes, adaptation to a new culture, reassessment of values, possible changes in priorities and views on their own lives. Difficulties in employment, the conflict of one's own cultural values and the values of the German environment are quite common challenges in adapting to new conditions, but by recognizing them, the government will be able to improve the system of integration of this group of refugees.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Falling Through the Cracks: Refugee Women and Girls in Germany and Sweden. *Women's Refugee Commission*. 2016. https://www.refworld.org/docid/56ef98954.html.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Migrants and refugees say COVID-19 has dramatically worsened their lives. *World Health Organisation*. 2020. https://www.who.int/news-room/feature-stories/detail/migrants-and-refugees-say-covid-19-has-dramatically-worsened-their-lives

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Aktuelle Zahlen. Bundesamt fur Migration und Flüchtlinge. 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> COVID-19 information for migrants and refugees in Germany. *INFOMigrants*. 2020.

https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/28605/covid-19-information-for-migrants-and-refugees-in-germany

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Our research shows that the application of a gender approach in policy-making, particularly in the field of refugees, is becoming an important and integral criterion for states concerned with gender equality. Current trends in the involvement of women in migration processes prove the need to involve a broader approach to decisionmaking processes considering gender aspects. Outlining the conceptual framework for the adaptation and integration of Muslim refugee women into German society provides a basic understanding of the origins of these processes, considering global trends, in particular in the context of the global COVID-19 pandemic, and related challenges.

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### КОНЦЕПТУАЛЬНІ ЗАСАДИ ДОСЛІДЖЕННЯ ПРОБЛЕМ АДАПТАЦІЇ ТА ІНТЕГРАЦІЇ БІЖЕНОК-МУСУЛЬМАНОК У НІМЕЧЧИНІ

Стаття присвячена дослідженню проблем біженок-мусульманок до Німеччини. Автори розглядають процес біженства мусульманських жінок до Німеччини в умовах підвищеного рівня конфліктності в державах їх походження як окремий вид біженства. Зроблена спроба охарактеризувати психосоціальний стан жінок-біженок, які прибули до Німеччини, та визначити їх якісні та кількісні характеристики. Акцен-

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товано увагу на факторах, які впливають на участь мусульманських жінок-біженок у суспільному житті. Наше дослідження доводить, що біженці є окремою складовою німецького суспільства, оскільки вони безпосередньо впливають на демографічну та соціально-економічну ситуацію в Німеччині. Забезпечення стабільного та ефективного соціально-економічного розвитку Німеччини із залученням усіх категорій населення безпосередньо пов'язано з реалізацією державної політики. Дослідження гендерних аспектів біженства допоможе визначити ключові проблеми, вирішення яких сприятиме швидкій адаптації та інтеграції мусульманських біженок до німецького суспільства, а в перспективі – активно залучати їх до розвитку німецького суспільства.

Результати дослідження допомогли в аналізі процесів інтеграції та адаптації мусульманських біженців як окремої частини біженців. Біженки є найбільш вразливою категорією біженців, тому ними легко маніпулювати та зловживати їх довірою. Виявлення проблем під час інтеграції допоможе вдосконалити механізми захисту біженців та шукачів притулку. Окремо автори зосередились на впливі пандемії COVID-19 на прийом та адаптацію біженок, а також на встановленні нових правил для задоволення основних потреб біженців у притулках, проблемою яких є антисанітарія та неможливість соціального дистанціювання. Пандемія COVID-19 змінила процес прийняття рішень та процедури прийому біженців, тому аналіз викликів вказує на слабкі місця в механізмах прав біженців.

**Ключові слова:** адаптація; біженки-мусульманки; гендерна нерівність; жінки-біженки; інтеграція; Німеччина; пандемія; притулок.

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