This work outlines issues related to migratory policy in the European Union. The aim of the work is to determine whether or not the European Union has been successful in reducing the push factors that lead to migratory flows. This work outline the historical situation of migration in Europe from early post war migrations of guest workers to the imposition of restrictive policies intended to reduce migratory flows. General theories related to migration are discussed as are some of the problems associated with migration policy formation. The complexity of policy formation is exhibited by the variety of restrictive policies implemented in differing member states due to voter opinion and economic factors. Restrictive policies imposed on third country nationals are shown to be ineffectual in reducing migratory flows. The paper ends with suggestions on how the European Union can become more effective in reducing the push factors leading to migration.

Key words: Migration, Migration Policy, European Union, Remittances