

Thesis Proposal

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Topic: The establishment and development of refugee policies in the V4 countries

Research Question: How did the V4 countries establish and develop their asylum policies during the first decades of transition, and what role did EU accession play in this process?

Hypothesis: The V4 countries established incomplete, but fairly liberal refugee policies in the early 1990s. Policies had turned more restrictive by the end of the 1990s, due to an increase in asylum applicants and readmission agreements with West European countries. EU accession finally resulted in more complete and comprehensive policies towards refugees, but the V4 countries maintained rather strict interpretations of the Common European Asylum System.

Outline:

Introduction

Terminology

State of Art and Theoretical Framework

The early establishment and development of refugee policies (1990-1997)

The development of refugee policies during EU accession negotiations (1997-2003)

The development of asylum policies after EU accession (2004-2010)

Post-2010 developments and a brief outlook

Literature Review:

Shevel, Oxana. *Migration, refugee policy, and state building in postcommunist Europe*. Cambridge University Press, 2011.

Lavenex, Sandra. "EU enlargement and the challenge of policy transfer: the case of refugee policy." *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 28.4 (2002): 701-721.

Stola, Dariusz, and Claire Wallace, eds. *Patterns of migration in Central Europe*. Palgrave, 2001.

Fullerton, Maryellen. "Hungary, Refugees, and the Law of Return." *International Journal of Refugee Law* 8.4 (1996): 499-531.

Byrne, Rosemary, Gregor Noll, and Jens Vedsted-Hansen. "New asylum countries? Migration control and refugee protection in an enlarged European Union." *Refugee Survey Quarterly* 21.3 (2002).