Unregulated Migration and Nigeria-EU Relations

Kingsley Emeka Ezemenaka

This article presents the social and political causes of Nigeria-EU migration issues concerning unregulated migration that has been affecting the EU. This was done through qualitative and quantitative methodology, which includes interviews, data gathering and documentary analysis. From the findings and discussion, the article submits that the main problems frustrating the effort of the EU interventions on migration is the political situation of Nigeria. If the political sphere in Nigeria is not addressed in a proper way by eradicating numerous vices that undermine the economy and security through corruption, granting and assisting funds by the EU will be a superficial solution. It also presents the unconventional neo-vectors of migration and concludes that, since migration is a part of the human right through freedom of movement, which is also enshrined in human security, migration issues therefore cannot be exterminated through the building of migration centres. However, they can be reduced, if there are effective collaborative efforts by the Nigeria-EU relations in conjunction with other African states through strong border controls and enabling development as a precursor to addressing migration problems.

Keywords: migration, Nigeria, EU, Africa, population, human security.

Introduction

Migration is a continuous process that has been the subject of political debate worldwide. ¹ Over the past decade, concerns have been raised regarding the huge influx of migrants from Africa to Europe, which in-



Kingsley Emeka Ezemenaka. Unregulated Migration and Nigeria-EU Relations. *Central European Journal of International and Security Studies* 13, no. 3: 64-87.

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cludes staggering numbers of Nigerians arriving via the central Mediterranean Sea that connects Libya to Italy; and on arrival, Italy becomes a conduit for dispersal into other European countries. Italy is not the only point of entry to Europe, but it also serves as an entry point for thousands of migrants.² The issue of migration is a worldwide phenomenon, as evidenced in Latin America, where it has resulted in an outburst from the United States President, Donald Trump, who has committed to building walls to keep migrants out of the United States of America³ and in Britain, where it was also purportedly a cause of Brexit.⁴

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Regulated migration is by no other means a system created by a state in order to monitor the flow of people's movements in and out of a state. This is done through immigration channels. With this, proper documentation and information is available for the state in decision making concerning security and economy. While unregulated migration in simple terms are undocumented or illegal movement of people to a desired country or region, which is triggered by so many factors. For instance, the waves of migrant flow which is presented as a response to persecution, war⁵, and economic migration are caused by exponential population growth6, which has led to spiralling competition for resources and employment in African states, where there is little chance of gaining employment that will allow one to live a normal life in such situations. Also, the 'reasons why Nigerian nationals choose to leave their country of origin are complex and cannot be generalised... because the causes of migration are not specific, for migrants cannot name one specific trigger, but it seems there is an overlap between forces and economic reasons, especially since drivers also changed along the routes'.7

Furthermore, Shimeles explains that cross-border movements are motivated by common *inter alia* colonial ties, linguistic and historical roots, which explains why migrants tend to go to European countries where they have relatives or friends.⁸ Additionally, the social capital garnered from migrant networks can reduce the psychological and financial costs of migration, offering access to social and professional communities. Therefore, this study sets out to analyse and discuss unregulated migration, which can affect or is already affecting relations between Nigeria and the European Union (EU).

To achieve this, the paper aims at answering the research questions presented for discussion in this study, which are as follows: what are

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the challenges related to rural-urban and urban-rural flows in Nigeria? What are the new vectors/factors causing Nigerians to migrate to Europe? What are the consequences of unregulated migration flows at the national and transnational level and between the Nigerian government and the EU? And what are the best solutions for checks and balances of unregulated migration flows to EU countries? Although Afolayan expounds extensively on the routes for international migration and also highlights internal migration absorbing zones⁹, this work is distinctive in that it shows the pattern and causes of migration using population growth to explain unregulated migration and how it places a strain on the EU's relations with Nigeria when it comes to migration flow.

Methodology

Central to this study is the issue of population and migration flows. In exploring the research question, this study adopts a qualitative and a quantitative method approach. The population of study comprises the working class, tertiary institution students and unemployed youth as these three categories are inclined to migration issues, and 2 private Czech attorneys were also interviewed. In total, a mix of unstructured and structured 43 interviews were conducted through purposeful random selection, 30 respondents were interviewed in Nigeria, 11 Nigerians living in the Czech Republic. 5 among those living in the Czech Republic were married to Czechs, and they were chosen to also get an insight of how and what life looks like through a mixed marriage of an Africana and a European in the Czech Republic, which can also be an extended case for other EU countries. The structured interviews were used for the 2 Czech attorneys, because foreigners often consult them when there is an issue with their stay in the Czech Republic.

Population flows were mapped based on local government area (LGA) and at the ward level and were used to explain migration at the national level, linking the national to the transnational vectors of migration. Using population as an explanatory variable is important as it reveals socio-cultural and economic demographics in the country. It is also a useful variable to explore the past and suggest actions that need to be taken in the future.

For the qualitative method, youth were randomly selected for interview from the south-west, south-east and middle belt (Edo state), based on the fact that I) younger people are highly associated with migration flow and 2) in Nigeria, the south-west, south-east, and middle belt (Edo state) specifically, as noted by the United States Department of State, appear to be the regions of the country that have high records of migration, both nationally and transnationally 10. This is why the focus is on the south-west (Yorubas), the south-east (Igbos) and the middle belt region (Edos).

For the quantitative method, data were collected in Nigeria regarding population growth, which reveals the flow of rural-urban or urban-rural movement patterns, for the presentation of analysis and discussion in the study. (For the interviews, the perceptions of respondents were analysed in comparison with the information gathered through quantitative data during this study).

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Situating the push-pull theory

According to Haas, there is no central body of conceptual frameworks or theories on migration that can direct and be knowledgeable through empirical work. This is why, the use of theories has remained, unsurpassed, and an ad-hoc. The push-pull theory is important in explaining the causes of unregulated migration in Nigeria because, the distinctive feature of the push and pull factor theory is the variation of social conditions; it is assumed that the social conditions in the pull factor countries are more favourable than in the push factor countries. They are also related to the economic, political, and conflict conditions of the countries of origin and destination. In support of this, Stanojoska and Petrevski noted that

...globalisation has changed the way many people see the world. As people become more aware of living standards and lifestyles in other parts of the world, for instance through television or the stories (and sometimes wealth) of returning expatriates, their understanding of their 'relative' poverty has increased, and their expectations have changed. This motivates people to migrate to secure greater income. There is also evidence that young people in particular consider migration because they want to escape the drudgery of subsistence living.¹⁴

Therefore, delineating from the many causes for the lack of progress in generalized understanding of migration and considering the present situation in Nigeria with the new vectors of migration to European countries, the push-pull factor theory is valid in that it points out the social conditions and the inherent motives for migration on both the national and international levels.

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The advantage of the push-pull theory is that it helps to explain many of the reasons for transnational migrations. On a level-based analysis, the push-pull factors help explain the micro-level decisions from an individual perspective¹⁵, which is utilized in this study as a guide for inquiry during interviews in this study, and on the discipline-based analysis the theory is situated in the social sciences, where the inquiry of this study stems from. However, the theory fails to explain the 'biased views of receiving country' - at best, the theory can help to explain a positional view of a receiving country on the need for working class migrants to assist in building their economy through immigration programs. Hence, there are other concepts and factors that are covered by different theories.

Situations in Nigeria Challenges of internal migration flow in Nigeria

The flow of people's movement within Nigeria is mixed, due to different motivations such as economic reasons, persecution, and violent conflict, amongst many others. In terms of economic reasons, there has been a mass movement of people from rural locations to the urban centres in the country, with the youth especially moving in search of jobs. ¹⁶ This movement has led to a decline in development and attraction in the rural areas of the country, while the urban areas have become condensed with huge populations. Describing a similar situation of rural-urban movement in Europe, Farwick used the education variable to explain the migration pattern in Germany, highlighting the unattractive and undifferentiated range of educational facilities, and work-related movement that is promoted by a decline in old industrial regions and limited opportunities for workers in contrast to those in the urban centres¹⁷

Aside from economic reasons, the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre¹⁸ noted that many people have been displaced in Nigeria due to violent activities, for instance, in the south-south region people have been displaced due to militant activities in the Niger Delta regions, over competition for land, political power, and oil wealth.¹⁹ In the northern part of Nigeria, displacement has occurred due to ethnoreligious in Plateau and Boko Haram's religiously-justified violence,

known as *takfir* (a concept based on denouncing of the other as infidels, due to their rejection of the Quran and Sunnah), to justify the killing of any individual who did not accept Boko Haram's leadership.²⁰ Furthermore, Buchanan-Clarke and Knoope pointed out that 'the chaos and trauma created by the Boko Haram insurgency has seen an increase in inter-communal violence, banditry, and a general breakdown in social cohesion, in north-eastern Nigeria. It is estimated that the 2 million IDPs in the region impact 10 million people, as 80% of them live among host communities. This rapid internal migration puts acute strain on traditional economic, social, and justice systems'.²¹

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Arango stated that formulating a theory that can explain different aspects of migration is the goal of migration theorising. This is challenging because, as Kurekova pointed out, the research field of migration is multifaceted and offers multiple levels of analysis. Taking a cue from the basic economic models of migration by Hicks²⁴, Lewis, Harris and Todaro²⁶, who theorised that migration is engineered due to wage differentials across markets or countries emerging from varying factors, such as geographic differences and labour market tightness, is still very much tenable and valid in the case of Nigerian migration flow.

In Nigeria, economic migration explains and accounts for a large proportion of rural-urban migration, with the exception of the issue of violence, which causes internal displacement. For instance, during the interviews for this study, some of the youths who participated in this study explained that 'their migration to states like Lagos, Rivers, and Abuja, amongst others, was to find good jobs in order to meet up with the demands of high prices for services and products in the country through high income/wages as compared to the lower wages in the state that they left'.²⁷ They also explained that 'as a result of earning higher wages, they were able to save and build or make small investments in the location they had moved away from'.²⁸ This is also applicable to outflow migration, where Africans move to the EU for economic reasons.

Violence is another major factor that causes internal displacement and refugees. One of the consequences of violent conflict has been noted by Ladbury et al., who explain that 'without support from a significant portion of the civilian population, any new state risks losing its population to mass out-migration, or risks expending valuable military assets on policing possible migrants'. Additionally, 'with a high volume of migrants arriving in cities, city leaders are faced with the challenge

of providing vital urban infrastructure and services to meet the needs of the migrant population. This includes affordable and social housing, quality education and health services, simple access to basic utilities (water, power, etc.), robust and congestion-free roads and transportation infrastructure as well as, finally, ensuring integration and social cohesion for the increased diversity.²⁹

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The world is increasingly competitive, and the global economy of past decades cannot be compared with the current global economy, due to population growth. In other words, there is a strain in terms of maintaining order while trying to meet high demand. This was observed and reported by the respondents in this study. Respondents revealed 'that another effect of internal migration (rural-urban) at the national level in Nigeria was on housing and the prices of goods and services in general'30, an effect which is applicable almost everywhere in the world. However, the distinctive feature of the Nigerian case is that when normalcy returns following hikes in prices of all commodities and services (which are triggered by domestic and international issues), the prices remain the same and do not return to their previous levels. Consequently, these prices become serious challenges for workers who are paid wages that are not commensurate to what is obtainable from the market and services provided; this leads to a spiralling situation in which workers associations are in conflict with the federal and state government in attempts to increase their salary. For instance, the business personnel respondents interviewed in this study reported that, 'due to high population demand in the urban cities, the market has increased and there is more competition coupled with an increase in disposal income as the middle class expands'31. Supporting this, research by Kelley and Schmidt revealed that the 1980 population growth acted as a brake on economic growth, an effect measured by growth rate per capita gross domestic product.³² However, the effect of the larger population on diluting resources per capita, and thus lowering income per capita, as per the Malthusian mechanism, was counteracted by technological progress which allowed income to continue rising;³³ however, the counteraction of Malthus is significant in developed nations not in developing nations, such as Nigeria.

New vectors and future migrations

Apart from the conventional explanations of migration, such as conflict and violence, war, natural disasters, climate change, social in-

equality, ethnic cleansing, and so on, this study has gathered information from respondents, who revealed that 'Nigerians are now relaxing their strong stand on ethnicity inclination.'34 This is unlike previous belief, when marrying a foreigner such as Caucasian (a notion of race believed by most people) was frowned upon. Physical categories of race have been debunked by science and moral grounds in that there are no biological races in humans, but adaptive traits and cultural category as expressed by Templeton³⁵, Liberman, Kirk, and Corcoran³⁶ Wade 2004³⁷. Yet, most of the respondents engaged during this study do not know about this. Even with the available information one of the respondents, a 'half-cast' or 'mulatto', as they are widely called, stated 'that one of the challenges of being a mixed-race child is that in some social situations they face discrimination and are not regarded as fully Czech and that they are constantly reminded of a mixed-race situation'.38 This attunes with what a senior Russian lawmaker, Tamara Pletnyova, cautioned Russians at the FIFA World Cup in 2018, where she warned them not to have sex with non-white/different race people because these relationships often end badly, which may lead to women becoming single mothers if they become pregnant, and many of the children conceived through such a union may face discrimination, being known as 'children of the Olympics', a term popularly used in the Soviet Union following the Moscow games in 1980, a time when contraception was not widely available.³⁹ Though this type of neo-migration vector is not highly significant, it accounts for the channels associated with migration because at the point of having a family, most Europeans like to raise one in their countries due to security and economic stability, which warrants the spouse to join her.

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Concerning population, the Nigerian population is growing and putting pressure on the available resources for the country. The inability of the average man to make a good living with the struggle for available state resources leads to outflow and migration to Europe, a place seen as a 'greener pasture'. Also, the Nigerian borders are weak as discussed by Gabriel and Fayemi⁴⁰; Achumba, Ighomereho, and Akpor-Robaro,⁴¹ and Osimehin et al.,⁴² and the land-based migration route shows that:

Internal major migrant route activities take place from Edo, Kano, Kaduna, Calabar and Lagos serving as the borders to and from ECOWAS borders, the routes are Benin, Cameroon, Ga*CEJISS* 3/2018

bon, Niger, Chad, Burkina Faso and Mali. Also, irregular immigrants could use either the Lagos or the Calabar exit axis, travelling by boat or any other vehicular means, either to enter or leave the country for varied purposes (trade/business, pilgrimage, sexual exploitation, domestic work/urban informal sector, begging). Those who use the northern land routes, via the porous borders of the States of Sokoto, Kebbi, Katsina, Kano, Jigawa, Yobe and Borno, are overwhelmingly male traders and farmers, who perceive the border as an imaginary line.⁴³

At the international level, sadly, the Nigerian border is also seen as an imaginary line which does so little in regulating the inflow and outflow of people, and the Nigerian government has not provided any solid barrier that keeps people or out of the state. The borders are porous and can be easily crossed. 44 For instance, the only constraint or demarcation signifying the Nigerian state and that of the Benin Republic are just fickle log of woods that barricades the highway and can be easily crossed by pedestrians avoiding the highways. With this in mind, it does not deter migrants and they don't take the Nigerian borders seriously, which serves as a route to Europe and other destinations. Also, the fact that the Nigerian state does not have a complete database documenting its citizens, coupled with an unregulated population and porous borders, poses serious challenges in regulating outflow migration by land to Europe. In addition, controlling and containing overpopulation is challenging, due to the religious practices, culture and traditions in Nigeria that do not limit child-bearing, and an economy that does not permit people to have many children, due to a lack of available resources; nevertheless, this does not deter people from having as many children as they wish.

Migration flows from Nigeria to the EU

Migration flow is not a problem itself, because there are varying degrees to which migration takes place, which has been explained previously in the article. The consequences of transnational flow of unregulated migrants are the pressure on the carrying capacity of European countries. For instance, Embling noted that more than 1.8 million migrants have travelled to Europe since 2014, with approximately a third of those going to Italy.⁴⁵ This huge influx has led to implementation of strict and tighter polices that may affect state-state relations. This is already be-

ing reflected in support for the anti-immigrant party in Italy, Brexit in the UK, and in Germany it was reported that the German government is set to deport almost 30,000 Nigerians seeking asylum there. ⁴⁶ Contrastingly, among the countries that saw a spike in migration in the EU, it is the war-torn countries such as Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan that are seen as asylum seekers in the EU. ⁴⁷ The tighter security policies are not only directed towards Nigerians but on migration issues in general, Nadeu, Vonberg and Mezzofiore, noted that, since the height of the deadly crisis in 2015 of migrants crossing through sea, governments across Europe have sought to fortify their borders. ⁴⁸ This shows that population in fact is a problem for host countries in Europe as well. Before the massive influx of migrants to Europe, the EU managed the unregulated migrants in EU due to the lesser influx compared to the huge numbers in recent years.

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Another case of increase in the migrant population was revealed in February 2017, when EU leaders outlined plans to stem the flow of migrants travelling across the Mediterranean from Libya to Italy and to boost the ability of the EU to send people back. A recent challenge is one faced by Aquarius, a rescue team jointly operated by SOS Mediterranee and Doctors Beyond Borders (known by its French acronym, MSF), who were not able to dock migrants easily, after Italy and Malta rejected and closed their borders having taken too many migrants. Apart from population as a major consequence of unregulated migration that leads to national and transnational migration, terrorism and violence are also important issues. Since the al Qaeda attacks of September II, 2001 in the United States, immigrants have been increasingly blamed for increasing crime in many societies. Although the link between migration and crime and terrorism is often exaggerated for political purposes, it is still a reality that increasing international migration and mobility has enabled the expansion of transnational organised crime.49

Another consequence of international migration is the blame game, in that when crimes are committed by citizens of the host country, the positional or reported view to the public in most cases is that the criminal acted as a result of a mental disorder, and the word 'terrorist' is sparingly used, but when it is committed by a non-citizen, all avenues are explored in order to link the crime to terrorist activities. The consequences for the *bona fide* migrant are that when there is a terrorist attack, they are often the victims or targets of hate speech and

condemned as the causes of all the crimes committed and problems in society, whereas the *mala fide* terrorist, as mentioned by Schmid, continues their activities under the migration umbrella.⁵⁰ In other words, people categorise both *bona fide* migrants and *male fide* terrorists as the same, and the cause of problems in the host country.

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In the Czech Republic, five Nigerian respondents married to Czechs gave detailed accounts of how they have suffered psychologically and threatened with expulsion from the Czech Republic with an exit visa when they go to the foreign police to renew their documents, even when they met all of the necessary requirements to live in the country. The other six Nigerian respondents interviewed stated that it is not always the case, because if an individual lives in the Czech Republic legally and meets the requirements to live in the Czech Republic then they will not have problems, and suggested that the issues some Nigerians have with foreign police are special cases where an individual is already experiencing problems with documentation. In a follow up investigation on Czech foreign policies towards Nigerians concerning their renewal of residence in the Czech Republic, two private lawyers who agreed to participate in this study anonymously explained that it is true that there have been some instances where foreign police staff have abused the powers of their office by issuing exit visas when there is no need for it; this is when the lawyers step in to assist individuals in need of legal support.

Notably, the respondents highlighted that issues concerning Nigerians and foreign police in the Czech Republic would not exist if the Nigerian government and economy was strong, which would reduce Nigerians' interest in living not only in the Czech Republic, but in the EU generally. They explained that no citizen of a strong country, such as the USA, Canada or Norway, would be treated unjustly if they decided to migrate to and live in another country.

Other effects of transnational migration are that it shapes globalisation, culture, and foreign policy debate. Concerning foreign policy towards sub-Saharan Africa, it was noted that Czech foreign development aid goes back to the period of the communist regime in former Czechoslovakia and recently, the amount of development aid flowing to individual sub-Saharan countries in Africa depends on historical factors, while factors such as good governance and division of labour among donors are not significant. This means that the relations among individual sub-Saharan countries determines the disparities on how

foreigners are treated in the Czech Republic.⁵¹ For instance, the taxes imposed on sub-Saharan Africans who are engaged in shooting movies varies and examples of these agencies are Extrafilms, Castingplus and Pro3 among many others.

Globalisation bridges the gap in cultural differences through migration and reshapes cultural norms and values. Some Europeans do not want migrant cultures to be integrated into the EU system because with the future increase of migrants comes a demand for rights that conflicts with and affects the cultural norms of EU society. In terms of policy, a typical instance of the effects of migration is the ongoing crisis in future migration policy debate, which has split the EU on unilateral decisions. The over one million migrants that have entered Germany within the last three years has driven an increase in the support for the far-right Alternative for Germany (AFD).⁵²

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Relevant EU policies in Nigeria

For the Nigerian State and its citizens, the EU has assisted and influenced some significant policies in strengthening the Nigerian state. For instance, from the 11th European Development Fund, the EU Commission adopted the National Indicative Program for the Federal Republic of Nigeria between 2014-2010 that cost EUR 26,500,000 (European Commission 2017). The focus was on the Nigerian health sector in strengthening the Nigerian health system through improved primary healthcare delivery in Northern Nigeria. This decision and the objective of the 11th European Development Fund, which highlights provisions of good governance, rule of law and democratic consolidation, helps to reduce political and social conflicts, a precursor to internal displacement of people and migration.

On issues concerning rehabilitation and development and promoting the stability and safety of communities in displacement in North East Nigeria, with the objective of greater economic impact and employment opportunities and strengthening resilience, the EU has committed a total amount of EUR 11.623 million, which were direct grants to NGOs in addressing basic social services, food security, conflict prevention and resolution, reconstruction, relief and rehabilitation.⁵³ Regarding the energy sector, the EU has contributed and supported the African Investment Facility with EUR 33,000,000 from the European Development Funds contribution. On energy programs in Nigeria at the federal and state levels, it prioritizes contributing to improving ac-

cess to the sustainable supply of electricity, especially for the poorest and in the least developed states, in Northern Nigeria.

CEJISS 3/2018 Most importantly, regarding the issue presented in this article, the EU has provided EUR 15,500,000 for strengthening Migration Governance in Nigeria and Sustainable Reintegration of Returning Migrants with the objective in preventing irregular migration and forced displacement and facilitating better migration management. Nonetheless even with these interventions, migration issues are still pressing challenges for Nigeria and the EU. One of the main problems frustrating the effort of the EU interventions on migration is the political situations of Nigeria and for most African states. If the political sphere in Nigeria is not addressed in a proper way in eradicating issues that undermine the economy and security, granting and assisting funds by the EU will be a superficial solution.

Results and discussion

It has been argued by Balatsky, Balatsky and Borysov,⁵⁴ Bremner et. al.,⁵⁵ Bendick⁵⁶ and Harris⁵⁷ that a large population puts a strain on state resources. This has also been argued in relation to the Nigerian case in terms of the causes of internal and transnational migration flows. It is true that the available resources are not sufficient enough to address the needs of the country coupled with the huge population growth in Nigeria. However, it appears to be worsening even with current technological advancement, research, and regime changes from military to democracy.

Of the 30 respondents interviewed in the south-west and south-east, 15 gave a unified response, revealing that internal migration and transnational migration is directly linked to searching for opportunities for employment to improve their standard of life and also to support dependent family members. They explained that if their regions were adequately catered for by the government through the provision of a reliable and sustainable livelihood, then there would be no need to move to more populated regions and big cities in search of opportunities aside from tourism and leisure purposes.

Also, II Nigerian respondents living in the Czech Republic were asked about their reasons for migrating to European Union countries and gave a similar account of economic migration; in response to a question about education and tourism, the responses given did not reveal the main causal factor for migrating to the EU. However,

respondents pointed out that the Czech Republic was not a top choice destination for migration purposes due to the language barrier, and that their stay in the Czech Republic was temporary. The respondents who indicated that they would like to stay in the Czech Republic already had children with Czech citizens; some were married and did not want to leave their children to grow up with a single parent. Even so, among the married interviewees, some indicated that if they had the means, they would still prefer to leave the Czech Republic with their families and children to live in a country with higher incomes.

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Regarding the mode of entry to the Czech Republic, some of the respondents who were students revealed that they migrated directly from Nigeria for education purposes, and while some migrated from countries such as Italy, Germany, the Netherlands, and Sweden, amongst others, due to the high cost of living and high tuition fees for study, those who made a living from the 'street' revealed that there were tight rules implemented by security operatives, such as the police, and too much competition in other high-income European countries.

In addition to the population growth models, which indicate that any change in the number of individuals within a specified population comes about either as a result of birth, death, immigration or emigration, which in simple form can be expressed as: population change = Birth + Immigration - (Deaths + Emigration), BIDE and the logistic growth model of Verhulst a Belgian mathematician as explained by Vogels, Zoeckler, Stasiw and Cerny⁵⁸, as well as the Malthusian exponential model of population have been found to be credible and employed in identifying and discussing the Nigerian context of migration flows.

Population data for Ibadan and Lagos was purposively collected to study internal migration flow in the years 2006, 2012, and 2018, based on the fact that Ibadan and Lagos are in close proximity and Lagos has major pull factors attracting migrants and increasing the Lagos population, such as its cosmopolitan nature and historical significance. Also, it serves as a major route for international travellers and a supposedly advantageous base for people to realise their dreams of working and earning the money required for transnational migration of any kind. Therefore, in studying the population data of Ibadan and Lagos, the exponential model was employed, which is given as:

Where is the initial population at time, r is the growth rate, sometimes known as the Malthusian parameter, and is the population size at time t. The results are presented in tables.

From the table above, it can be seen that 2006 was the only year for which population census data could be obtained from the archive of the National Population Commission, from which data for subsequent

Table 1: Ibadan population

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Table I: Ibadan popul		T	
LGA	2006	2012	2018
AFIJO	132,184	162,096	198,778
AKINYELE	211,811	259,743	318,522
ATIBA	168,246	206,321	253,012
ATISBO	109,965	134,851	165,369
EGBEDA	283,643	347,832	426,548
IBADAN NORTH	308,119	470,315	717,893
IBADAN NORTH- EAST	331,444	326,536	321,702
IBADAN NORTH- WEST	154,029	188,884	231,627
IBADAN SOUTH- EAST	266,457	326,755	400,697
IBADAN SOUTH- WEST	283,098	347,162	425,722
IBARAPA CEN- TRAL	103,243	126,608	155,260
IBARAPA EAST	117,182	143,702	176,223
IBARAPA NORTH	100,293	122,989	150,820
IDO	104,087	127,641	156,526
IREPO	121,240	148,676	182,321
ISEYIN	255,619	313,466	384,404
ITESIWAJU	127,391	156,220	191,572
IWAJOWA	102,847	126,122	154,663
KAJOLA	200,528	245,906	301,554
LAGELU	148,133	181,654	222,760
OGBOMOSHO NORTH	198,859	243,861	299,047
OGBOMOSHO SOUTH	100,379	123,094	150,949

OGO OLUWA	65,198	79,953	98,048
OLORUNSOGO	81,339	99,744	122,314
OLUYOLE	203,461	249,505	305,970
ONA-ARA	265,571	325,669	399,368
ORELOPE	104,004	127,539	156,400
ORIRE	149,408	183,218	224,680
OYO EAST	124,095	152,178	186,615
OYO WEST	136,457	167,338	205,206
SAKI EAST	108,957	133,614	163,852
SAKI WEST	273,268	335,109	410,946
SURULERE	140,339	172,097	211,043
TOTAL	3,614,996	4,433,065	5,436,263

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years was retrieved using the exponential projection model. The total population in the year 2006 was **3,614,996** people in all the local government areas (LGAs) of Ibadan, with the highest number of people located in north-east Ibadan and the lowest population in Ogo Oluwa LGA, with 65,198 people.

The growth rate of each LGA was calculated using the growth rate formula, which is given as: (C/B) ^ (I/y)-I), where C is the initial population value, B is the final value, and y is the number of years involved. Each LGA had a different growth rate, which was used to calculate the projected values for the population within each area.

In the year 2012 the projected population for all LGAs was calculated to be **4,433,065**, and for the year 2018 it was calculated to be **5,436,263**. It can be observed that the difference in the population size from 2006, to 2012, and 2018 was 818,069 and 1,003,198, respectively. Ibadan North had the highest population in both the years 2012 and 2018; this occurred as a result of migration from one LGA to another reflecting internal migration.

Table 2 shows the values for the census data obtained from the National Population Commission, and projected data for 2006, 2012, and 2018, respectively. Alimosho, Ajeromi and Kosofe LGAs had the highest number of people. The lowest population was in the Ibeju and Lekki LGA in 2006, 2012, and 2018. The total population of the state of Lagos, as counted by the National Population Commission, was 9,113,605; the projected population sizes for 2012 and 2018 were 11,042,680 and

Table 2: Lagos population

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LGA	2006	2012	2018
Agege	461,743	559,481	677,908
Ajeromi/Ifelodun	687,316	832,799	1,009,077
Alimosho	1,319,571	1,598,887	1,937,325
Amuwo Odofin	328,975	398,610	482,985
Apapa	222,986	270,187	327,379
Badagry	237,731	288,051	349,022
Epe	181,734	220,201	266,810
Eti Osa	283,791	343,860	416,643
Ibeju Lekki	117,793	142,726	172,935
Ifako/ljaye	427,737	518,276	627,979
Ikeja	317,614	384,844	466,305
Ikorodu	527,917	639,660	775,056
Kosofe	682,772	827,295	1,002,408
Lagos Island	212,700	257,723	312,276
Lagos Mainland	326,700	395,851	479,640
Mushin	631,857	765,603	927,658
Ojo	609,173	738,118	894,357
Oshodi/Isolo	629,061	762,214	923,552
Shomolu	403,569	488,993	592,499
Surulere	502,865	609,301	738,266
Total	9,113,605	11,042,680	13,380,080

13,380,080, respectively. It was observed that more people came to Lagos; in 2018, over 2 million were projected to be added to the population for 2012. The Lagos state was once the administrative capital of the nation, which attracted more people (for trade that involves economic and political administration etc).

The data above did not reveal individual-level information regarding the causes of internal migration in Ibadan, but the respondents who participated in this study reported that people tend to migrate to the northern part of Ibadan because it is believed to be more secure, due to the army barracks situated in Ojoo, and the relative peace there. Another factor explaining this migration is the affordable land available for residential settlements for the working class in the state. Lagos

already has several pull factors, as mentioned earlier, and it happens to be a confluence centre for people migrating from different parts of the country.

Comparing the result from Ibadan and Lagos to the causes of migration to the EU, it shows the general trend of movement of people within the country based on human needs and security, which are major causes of migration flow. In the absence of the provision of the necessary services such as employment and security for an individual with the country, they tend to look outside the country for greener pastures where they felt they can survive and obtain the necessary needs and wants they desire, similar to Syrian refugee migration to the EU. Invariably, the EU becomes a pull factor region for individuals in countries that do not meet their human rights and security requirements among many others.

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Discussion and recommendation both for Nigeria and EU policies

In Nigeria, a 2015 national policy aimed at strengthening the structures that protect the human, civil and economic rights of its domestic and international citizens as well as aliens residing in Nigeria was set forth with about 14 objectives⁵⁹. Yet since 2015, little has been done. In the set objective of the national policy, accountable documentation regarding Nigerians should be prioritized; this will enable and add meaning to the policy in addressing the issue of population. What the Nigerian government has regarding population are estimates. There is the need to upgrade the documentation of Nigerian citizens as a basic prerequisite to addressing migration issues. The government should also start thinking of curbing overpopulation if they do not have the capacity to utilise the resources, they have in providing adequately for the Nigerian citizens.

Ostensibly, it was reported that the EU is making plans to resolve the issues related to unregulated migration, which was revealed in leaked draft documents, as seen and reported by Rankin and Henley, which stated that 'the EU wants to look at the feasibility of setting up migration centres in North Africa, where most migrant journeys to Europe begin. With the aim to provide rapid processing to distinguish between economic migrants and those in need of international protection and reduce the incentive to embark on perilous journeys'. This is supported by the United Nations plan for Mediterranean migrant

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centres for the EU.⁶¹ However, what the EU need to understand is that those who embark on a mission to travel to the EU by unregulated means, via the sea and across borders, have made up their minds and signed a non-legally binding death warrant, where they either reach their destination or die trying. Though, the EU is at the forefront in supporting Nigeria towards development and migration issues that affect both Nigeria and the EU, there is the need to look beyond creating or making plans to create migration centres in Africa.

The first point of call in terms of a solution to the issue of migration is that Nigeria and the EU will have to work together to strengthen the Nigerian politics in eradicating corruption and insecurity. Also, they will have to go beyond the old traditional approaches they have been adopting in terms of research, funding and implementation of programs in addressing migration issues, and efforts should consist of a grassroots and intergovernmental approach.

An important grassroots approach is for Nigeria and the EU to revisit history and find reasons beyond the positional view on why the EU is facing wave of migrants. A high number of these problems have been argued to be due to colonial conquest and extractions in Africa, which have caused problems for African states, leading them to remain undeveloped, underdeveloped, 62 and dependent on the EU.63 Though this argument may not be tenable for most scholars, as the problems of Africans have been caused by Africans post-independence, it should be borne in mind that the institutions that govern the African states are those of the West, institutions that were imposed and inherited, obsolete but yet operational. For instance, France still receives taxes from its colonies, when these colonies should be free from such taxes and able to channel these funds to developing their state.

While the bulk of the blame seems to fall on the EU as the primary cause of unregulated migration flow from Nigeria and Africa to the EU, Nigeria needs to re-evaluate and revamp its policies for state development. Many scholars such as Olure-Bank,⁶⁴ Uzonwanne,⁶⁵ and Adams⁶⁶ have written on diversification in terms of development and state-building. Therefore, this study aligns with the view that Nigeria should diversify in terms of its dependency on resources for the state. After all, the world is moving away from consumption and usage of fossil fuels to green, safe and renewable energy in the fight against climate change and to protect the ecosystem; the EU has already shown support through significant project funding on energy as discussed in

the earlier part of this article. With these will come job creation and exploration of other regions for development, and migration to Europe for economic purposes will hopefully decrease. After all, if Nigeria was a European country rich in resources, it would be amongst the world powers.

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Conclusion

This article has brought to the forefront the undeniable facts and neo-vectors related to the causes of unregulated migration trends in Nigeria and the EU and the starting points in how to address and solve these issues. Effort was made to elucidate perceptions of the respondents in this study to clarify the present situation. Although the focus was on Nigeria, the fact still remains that migration issues in the EU cut across most states in Africa, especially states that are fragile, weak, failing, or have failed as a result of war, unemployment, and human rights abuses, among other causes. Addressing the issue of migration is a Herculean task and the proposed building of migration centres will not deter individuals from embarking on unregulated migration journeys. The proposed building of migration centres is a superficial solution; the root causes, as highlighted earlier, need to be addressed. Regarding Nigerian and African relations with the EU, there are better ways to make both countries work effectively and to support state development beyond the superficial relations that are solely governed by the West. Also, African states will do well by strengthening and improving their border controls which will eliminate the readily available migration route for migrants to the EU.

Ultimately, migration cannot be avoided entirely because freedom of movement is enshrined in human rights and human security, which emphasises freedom from want and fear; indeed, even if a state chose to be left alone, the 'outer world' would not necessarily choose to leave it alone, which has been evident since humans first learnt to conquer and conquest.



KINGSLEY EMEKA EZEMENAKA is a Ph.D. candidate at the Department of Political Science, African studies, Philosophical Faculty at University of Hradec Králové, Czech Republic. Can be reached at: kingsley.ezemena-ka@uhk.cz or emefido85@hotmail.com.

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