

POPULISM AND ANTI-ISLAM

Anti-Muslim populist parties and movement in Europe

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(Abstract)

In the estimation of ENSZ the number of immigrants reached to 214 million people in 2010. The migration primarily is towards the groups of the highly developed countries, within especially Western and Northern Europe. While formerly Europe had sent out the population towards the rest of the World, after 1945 Europe became the target continent for immigrants from the Third World, as a consequence of the labour demand of European welfare state model. In 1970s decade, as referred to the crisis symptoms, the extreme right became strong, and this extreme right condemned the immigrants who often struggle with problems in the sphere of integration. Nowadays, lot of new parties made the most of the fear of Islam in Europe/the West. Either the term of extreme right, either the term of populism have been employed to describe groups, however, lot of parties are rather liberal or libertarian than extreme right, for instance the Dutch Freedom Party, the Danish People's Party and the Norwegian Progress Party.

In my study I try to explain, why and how the Anti-Muslim feeling – in the opinion of Étienne Dinet French orientalist, painter and Sliman Ben Ibrahim: Islamophobia – became the topic and cementing force for European populist movements. I will show the conceptual framework of populism. Then, I will examine that why the concept of populism is linked to anti-immigration feelings and policies in many times, practically from the first form of populism, the US party, the People's Party (also known as, Populist Party). I will use the modern concepts of populism and „the world as conspiracy” of Miklós Szabó, Hungarian historian (died in 2000). Finally, I will analyze the causes of Anti-Muslim populism, and I will show the Dutch Freedom Party, representing this new party group.

Key words: populism, extreme right, Islam, migration, integration, welfare state

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