

“Two movements of immigrants”

This presentation will examine the political impact of each country based on the policies on immigration. Additionally, I will talk about the activities of each organization that supports immigration. After classifying immigration in Europe, we will discuss two movements that are against immigration. The first being the, the movement to expand the rights of immigrants, and then the movement being the exclusion of foreigners. Furthermore, immigration in Europe is a large topic that can be divided into five parts. These five parts are as follows: immigrants that are of European origin, African origin, Middle Eastern origin, and Asian origin. We will then analyze the immigration framework in three countries, those being Italy, Sweden, and Spain. This time especially focus on Sweden. Immigration began occurring in Europe after World War II, but the role of immigration differs from region to region. We will look at the history of immigration to the present day in those three countries, and how they were used as a transit point.

First of all, I will explain the definition of immigration. Within immigration, refugees can also be considered a group of immigrants if they move out of the country and live in a place for a certain period of time or permanently. They also share experiences in different languages and environments. Therefore, immigration is defined in a broad sense that includes refugees.

2-1 Until Sweden develops its current immigration policy

Sweden dealt with immigration during World War II. The reason for this was that Sweden was a neutral country and did not participate in the war. Hence, they accepted immigrants mainly from Northern Europe during that time. In 1954, Sweden created a common labor market with other Scandinavian countries (Norway, Finland, Denmark). Contrary to what you may think, the reason for the formation was not because Sweden was experiencing high economic growth at that time. According to Takezaki (1994), the reason also was not because of the need for a labor force for reconstruction, but the reason was because of the commonization of the social security system promoted in the 1930s. After that, economic growth continued until the 1960s, when many immigrants came from Northern Europe, especially from Finland. The reason for this is was because of the high unemployment rate in Finland. Most immigrants from Europe other than the Scandinavian countries at that time entered the country with the purpose of working. After high economic growth and a recession, Sweden introduced new immigration rules in 1967 to restrict labor immigration from countries other than North America. In the 1970s, refugees and families accounted for about the same percentage of immigrants. Examples of this include the Middle East and Somali.

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From this point onwards, we will discuss the political form and opportunities for political participation. It is necessary to consider the political implications. We will examine the electoral system, activities, and organizational framework of each country. Beginning with the electoral system and the influence of immigration on political participation,

Italy has a polarized a multiparty system. Non-EU nationals will not be given any suffrage. Therefore, it is difficult for those who do not have a nationality to participate in politics, and they do not have an impact. An assimilation policy is adopted when a person becomes a citizen. However, for those who are not citizens, they can receive integrated support from religious groups and NGOs. In addition, other organizations help illegal

immigrants, if believed to have 500,000 people. Since the ruling party is currently taking a hard line toward refugees, it has great political influence. Furthermore, there are anti-immigrant groups approved by local governments that can control illegal immigration by patrolling when approved by local governments.

Spain adopts a federal system where immigrants have the right to vote in local elections. They also have the right to run for election in provinces. Local governments try to adapt to immigration faster than the national government. The national government is directly influenced by the local government. Corporateism also acts as a strong influence. Labor unions established rules for active involvement in immigrant labor in Spain. Although there are no prominent anti-immigrant groups, the government began to limit the number of migrants who could bring their families in the 2000s. Furthermore, they decide whether or not to issue working visas based on nationality.

Sweden, like Spain, gives immigrants the right to vote in local elections and to run for election. Sweden can influence politics directly and indirectly through new immigration parties and trade unions. This is a characteristic of corporateism. In Sweden, there are parties with close ties to immigration, such as those with immigrant backgrounds who are actively created by such parties. On the other hand, those who advocate for anti-immigration can influence politics. There is no need for organizations that deviate from the norm to resort to military force.

Elites who actually participate in politics influence political decisions. The ties depend on specific legal and institutional aspects of society that promote cooperation between activists and the political elite.

As a structural system, the EU is present among the three countries. Spain and Sweden have common corporate structures. Therefore, those two countries in particular can exert their influence. Since Italy is a multi-party country, it has little influence unless it is incorporated into the mainstream. It has a limited influence that cannot make an impact without the involvement of the EU and the United Nations. It can be said that Spain has a political influence in the region because it has a movement to adapt to immigration that started in rural areas. Sweden has the strongest political influence among the three countries. This is because it is possible to approach the interest groups in the upper part of politics to refine a better policy for immigrants. With this, they can approach not only countries but also super organizations such as the EU and the United Nations.

3-1 Politics and institutions

Moving on, we will discuss immigration and policies in each country.

The murder of an immigrant man in 1989 has raised demands in Italy to increase the status of migrants. This led to Italy's enactment of a law on immigration, named the Martelli Act. In addition to the establishment of penalties for non-regular residents, including deportation, the government has planned to accept immigrants by reviewing the number of country-specific permits issued each year. This was opposite of demands, but we can feel the limitations on the government's immigration response.

In Spain, immigration voting conditions were not particularly high for local elections. In terms of their immigration policy, it acts as an organization that draws on its experience as a country to have immigrants. It can be said that it has successfully applied to the existing organization, a trade union. In order to integrate immigrants, trade unions had knowledge of accepting immigrants due to their history of sending out migrant workers. Illegal immigration, which is common in this country, became a problem. Religious NGOs, trade unions, and immigration organizations worked hard to provide information, resulting in significant results in 2005. However, hearing this, the number of people who came as immigrants increased, but the country failed them.

Swedish immigrants are not allowed to participate in national elections. However, Swedish immigrants can exert political influence and join political parties by contacting established parties and corporate influencers. Swedish Social Democratic Labor Party (SAP), has maintained itself as a leading party for more than 100 years (said in an interview with Apichai). Within 15% of the party members, 20% come from immigrant backgrounds. In 2006, the Liberal People's Party won a victory to attract immigrants. This indicated the influence of immigrants. Since then, they have begun to take a tough stance on immigration. People in jobs with a high risk of unemployment are raising their premiums. In 2008, a new immigration law was adopted, that extended the number of years of working as an immigrant. The new law concerns the dilution of rights to protection. The following two examples are given as exceptions. The first is a strong pressure group. They can deliver their claims not only to governments, but also to large supranational organizations and NGOs. The second is the EU's presence. Since 1995, the European Convention on the Protection of Human Rights has been established within the EU. When law is decided upon, it becomes legally binding and is dealt with in EU courts. In response to the decision, powerful immigration groups asked the court to check EU domestic law.

4. Movement to Repel Immigrants

Now, we will discuss Sweden's activities and political parties, which are considered characteristic organizations. In Sweden, if a person discriminates against ethnic groups, they are put on a police list. Therefore, organizations are nonviolent about their stance on immigration. They only focus on spreading leaflets and propaganda.

In terms of political parties, the Swedish Democratic Party is currently experiencing rapid growth. They believe that it is necessary to exclude immigrants in order to maintain Swedish values and lifestyles. In conclusion, by looking at the efforts of the national government, local governments, and NGOs, we were able to explore the ideal form of immigration from these actors.

<Reference list>

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