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Migration and the Crisis of the Modern Nation State?

SERIES IN POLITICS

About the editor

Dr. Frank Jacob is Assistant Professor of World History at Queensborough Community College (CUNY). He has authored and edited more than 40 books and his research foci include Japanese History, Military History and the History of the Transatlantic Left.

Dr. Adam Luedtke is Assistant Professor of Political Science at Queensborough Community College (CUNY). His research focuses on migration and reactions to it, with a special focus on Europe.

Summary

The anthology explores the interrelationship between migration and a supposedly existent crisis of the modern nation state. The argument of such a crisis is mainly used by the New Right to stimulate nationalist feelings and provoke hate and aggression. We, in contrast to this perception, argue that from a historical and current perspective, migration is not endangering the nation state, but rather changing the idea of a nation itself by redefining it. In historical as well as current case studies, the authors determine the political dangers of right wing demagogues, while emphasizing the chances, immigration is offering the progress of the nation state.

While it will be discussed how nationalism is impacting on the perception of migration, we also want to emphasize how it is perceived by the people in the specific regions, which are either confronted with migration or those which are not. The authors for the volume come from different fields, namely history and political sciences, and are consequently able to offer the reader a broad insight into the historical roots and the current consequences nationalism had or has on the perception and the local as well as global policies towards migration. The analysis of particular immigrant groups (e.g. North Koreans in post-war Korea, South Asians in the Emirates, Middle Eastern refugees in Europe, Hispanics in the United States) as well as a close reading of crisis related media (newspapers and other media in Europe and the US) will, all in all, establish a broad perspective, due to which the reader will be able to compare and connect the national events to a larger global picture.

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 VERNON PRESS
VERNON SERIES IN POLITICS

January 2018 | Hardback 236x160mm | 284 Pages | ISBN: 978-1-62273-292-0
Also in Paperback (\$55/€47/£41) | ISBN: 978-1-62273-468-9

SUBJECTS Political Science, Contemporary Social Issues

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