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# The Intersection of Immigration Policies and Human Rights Demtillah Wanjiru

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#### **Abstract**

In an era marked by unprecedented global migration, understanding the intricate interplay between immigration policies and human rights has become an imperative task, demanding a comprehensive exploration of the multifaceted challenges and opportunities at the crossroads of legal frameworks and fundamental rights. The main purpose of the study was to explore the intersection of immigration policies and human rights. The study was anchored on the Social Contract Theory. The study conducted a comprehensive examination and synthesis of existing scholarly works related to the intersection of immigration policies and human rights. This multifaceted process entailed reviewing a diverse range of academic sources, including books, journal articles, and other relevant publications, to acquire a thorough understanding of the current state of knowledge within the field. Through a systematic exploration of the literature, researchers gain insights into key theories, methodologies, findings, and gaps in the existing body of knowledge, which subsequently informs the development of the research framework and questions. This study, spanning North America, Europe, and Africa, uncovered nuanced findings that underscore the intricate relationship between immigration policies and the safeguarding of human rights. The research illuminated disparities in the treatment of migrants across diverse geographical contexts, revealing variations in the alignment of legal frameworks with international human rights standards. Notably, gender-specific challenges, detention practices, and economic rights emerged as crucial factors influencing the human rights landscape for migrants, prompting calls for reforms. The study emphasized the pivotal role of non-governmental organizations in filling gaps where national policies fell short and highlighted the significance of informed public discourse for supporting rights-based immigration policies. The findings emphasize the importance of aligning immigration policies with international human rights standards and advocate for context-specific policy interventions. Beyond academia, the study has implications for policymakers, advocacy groups, and the broader public, urging a rights-based approach in crafting and implementing immigration policies. The call for collaboration between governments, NGOs, and civil society resonates as a central theme, emphasizing the collective responsibility to address identified gaps and fortify protective mechanisms for migrants. The study contributes significantly to theoretical frameworks by enriching the understanding of the relationship between immigration policies and human rights through the lens of Social Contract Theory. It provides practical insights by identifying challenges within immigration policies, offering evidence-based recommendations for policymakers, and bridging the gap between theory and policy. Ultimately, the research advocates for recalibrating immigration policies to prioritize human rights, fostering a more just and equitable global landscape for migrants.

**Keywords:** *Immigration Policies, Human Rights, Social Contract Theory, Migrant Rights, International Collaboration* 



#### INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background of the Study

Human rights are fundamental entitlements inherent to all individuals by virtue of their humanity, transcending national boundaries and legal jurisdictions (United Nations, 1948). In the United States, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights outline key civil liberties, serving as a cornerstone for human rights protection (Smith, 2018). Canada, similarly, emphasizes human rights through the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, affirming principles like equality and freedom of expression (Hogg, 2007). European nations, bound by the European Convention on Human Rights, establish a regional framework ensuring human rights across diverse cultures (Donnelly, 2013). In Africa, the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights articulates a commitment to safeguarding human dignity and promoting socio-economic rights (Murray, 2012).

The United States, while safeguarding civil liberties, grapples with challenges like racial disparities and immigration policies affecting human rights (Alexander, 2010). Instances like the Black Lives Matter movement underscore the ongoing struggle for racial justice and equality (Crenshaw, 2018). In Canada, Indigenous rights represent a pivotal aspect of human rights discussions, with efforts to address historical injustices and promote reconciliation (Anaya, 2017). Europe faces debates on privacy rights and surveillance, with the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) addressing concerns related to digital rights (van der Sloot, 2019). African countries contend with issues such as political instability impacting human rights, necessitating regional collaborations (Kamga, 2015).

Freedom of expression stands as a cornerstone of human rights globally, with diverse manifestations across continents. In the U.S., the First Amendment protects free speech, but debates persist on the balance between security and individual liberties (Sunstein, 2017). Canada's Charter similarly enshrines freedom of expression, with legal considerations evolving in the face of hate speech and online content challenges (Moon, 2012). European countries grapple with defamation laws and restrictions on hate speech, navigating the delicate balance between protecting individuals and preserving public order (Lidskog, 2015). In Africa, the tension between freedom of expression and political stability has been a focal point, with countries adopting varied approaches (Tibaijuka, 2018).

Human rights encompass economic and social dimensions, with housing, healthcare, and education constituting key components. In the U.S., debates on healthcare access and affordability persist, showcasing the intersection of socio-economic factors and human rights (Jacobs, 2017). Canada's commitment to universal healthcare exemplifies efforts to ensure equitable access (Marchildon, 2013). European nations, through the European Social Charter, prioritize social and economic rights, emphasizing labor rights and social security (Hertogh, 2014). In Africa, economic rights feature prominently, with initiatives addressing poverty, education, and healthcare disparities (Mutua, 2016).

While democracies champion human rights, challenges arise in the context of counter-terrorism measures. In the U.S., post-9/11 security measures sparked debates on the balance between national security and individual rights (Cole, 2003). Canada, too, faced challenges in reconciling security imperatives with human rights, particularly concerning surveillance and anti-terrorism legislation (Forcese, 2015). European nations have grappled with similar dilemmas, evident in the tensions between security measures and civil liberties (Golder, 2019). African countries, facing security threats, seek to strike a balance that ensures safety without compromising human rights principles (Mutua, 2012).

Gender equality is integral to human rights, with strides and challenges evident globally. In the U.S., ongoing efforts address gender-based violence and workplace discrimination, reflecting the broader struggle for gender equality (Friedman, 2019). Canada's commitment to gender mainstreaming is



exemplified through policies promoting equal representation and combating violence against women (Ogrodnik, 2015). Europe, while making progress, faces persistent gender gaps, prompting continued advocacy and legal reforms (Fraser, 2018). In Africa, initiatives like the Maputo Protocol emphasize women's rights, yet gender-based challenges persist, demanding multifaceted interventions (Diallo, 2017).

LGBTQ+ rights form a crucial aspect of human rights, with evolving dynamics globally. In the U.S., strides in LGBTQ+ rights have been witnessed, notably through the legalization of same-sex marriage (Eskridge, 2016). Canada embraces LGBTQ+ rights through legal protections and inclusivity efforts, although challenges persist (Waite, 2018). Europe showcases a diverse landscape, with some countries pioneering LGBTQ+ rights while others grapple with social and legal hurdles (Johnson, 2014). In Africa, the discourse on LGBTQ+ rights is complex, reflecting diverse cultural attitudes and legal frameworks (Wafula, 2019).

Immigrant rights, a critical dimension of human rights, draw attention to the challenges faced by migrants worldwide. In the U.S., debates on immigration policies, border control, and the treatment of asylum-seekers underscore the intersection of immigration and human rights (Hernández, 2019). Canada's approach to immigration emphasizes humanitarian values, yet concerns arise over detention practices and access to legal representation (Bauder, 2017). Europe grapples with the refugee crisis, revealing the complexities of balancing security concerns with upholding human rights principles (Guild, 2018). In Africa, intra-continental migration raises questions about regional cooperation and the protection of migrant rights (Adepoju, 2016).

The judicial role in safeguarding human rights is pivotal across regions. In the U.S., landmark decisions by the Supreme Court, such as Brown v. Board of Education, have shaped civil rights and equality (Goldstone, 2015). Canada's judiciary plays a crucial role in interpreting the Charter and adjudicating cases that impact human rights (Sharpe, 2015). Europe benefits from the European Court of Human Rights, ensuring a supranational mechanism for redress and accountability (Greer, 2019). In Africa, the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights contributes to adjudicating human rights disputes, yet challenges persist in implementation (Mbazira, 2014).

The U.S., Canada, Europe, and African nations actively participate in international human rights mechanisms, signaling a commitment to shared values and principles. Treaties such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights provide a universal framework for human rights (Simma, 2012). Ongoing dialogues and collaborations foster a collective effort to address global challenges and promote a more inclusive, rights-based world.

Immigration policies, as established by nations, play a critical role in shaping the experiences of migrants and refugees. These policies define the legal frameworks surrounding entry, residency, and citizenship, influencing the human rights of individuals seeking a new home (Spiro, 2019). The core principles of human rights, including the right to seek asylum and protection from discrimination, are inherently linked to how nations formulate and implement their immigration policies (International Organization for Migration [IOM], 2006). The right to seek asylum is a fundamental aspect of human rights that intersects with immigration policies. Nations like the United States, Canada, and European countries often grapple with balancing national security concerns with the imperative to provide refuge for those fleeing persecution (Gibney, 2004). Striking this balance requires a nuanced understanding of the human rights principles enshrined in international agreements such as the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol (UNHCR, 2011).

However, the implementation of immigration policies can sometimes result in challenges to human rights, particularly concerning detention practices and the treatment of migrants. In the United States,



for instance, the conditions in immigration detention centers have raised concerns about the right to humane treatment and due process for detainees (Human Rights Watch, 2018). Similar issues have been documented in European countries and Canada, highlighting the need for a comprehensive human rights approach to immigration enforcement (Amnesty International, 2020). The concept of family reunification is another crucial dimension linking immigration policies to human rights. Many countries prioritize family reunification as a guiding principle in their immigration frameworks, recognizing the importance of preserving family unity as a fundamental human right (Zolberg, 2006). However, challenges arise when policies create barriers to family reunification, impacting the right to family life as recognized in international human rights instruments (United Nations, 1966).

In addressing immigration policies through a human rights lens, it is essential to consider issues of discrimination and equality. Discriminatory immigration policies can disproportionately affect certain groups based on race, ethnicity, or nationality, contravening the principles of non-discrimination outlined in human rights treaties (Hathaway, 2017). Striving for equality in immigration policies is an integral part of upholding human rights standards. The evolving landscape of immigration policies also intersects with economic and social rights. Access to education, healthcare, and employment are integral components of human rights that can be directly impacted by immigration policies (Gibney & Hansen, 2003). Nations must consider the socio-economic rights of migrants to ensure their integration and well-being while navigating immigration policy decisions.

Legal frameworks that criminalize migration or impose harsh penalties on undocumented individuals raise significant human rights concerns. In the United States, for example, the criminalization of undocumented migrants intersects with concerns related to due process, arbitrary detention, and the right to a fair trial (American Civil Liberties Union [ACLU], 2019). Similar challenges arise in other jurisdictions, necessitating a careful examination of the human rights implications of punitive immigration measures. Striking a balance between national interests and the protection of human rights is an ongoing challenge for policymakers worldwide. A rights-based approach to immigration policies requires a commitment to upholding the dignity and well-being of migrants, ensuring that nations adhere to international human rights standards in shaping and implementing their immigration laws (Frelick, Kysel & Podkul, 2020).

# 1.2 Objective of the Study

The main purpose of the study was to explore the intersection of immigration policies and human rights.

#### 1.3 Statement of the Problem

According to the Migration Policy Institute (MPI), as of 2020, there were approximately 272 million international migrants globally, with the United States, Canada, Europe, and African countries hosting significant portions of this migrant population (MPI, 2020). The intersection of immigration policies and human rights presents a critical challenge in today's globalized world. While the statistical fact highlights the magnitude of international migration, there exists a significant gap in our understanding of how immigration policies impact the human rights of migrants across diverse regions. Despite the growing attention to this intersection, there is a paucity of comprehensive research that systematically analyzes the intricate relationships between immigration policies and human rights, particularly in the context of the United States, Canada, Europe, and African countries.

Existing studies often focus on isolated aspects of immigration policies or specific regions, lacking a holistic examination of the multifaceted connections between these policies and the human rights of migrants. Limited attention has been given to comparative analyses across regions, hindering our ability to identify common patterns, differences, and best practices. Furthermore, there is a dearth of research that synthesizes the experiences of migrants, the legal frameworks in place, and the actual



implementation of policies, leaving a critical gap in our understanding of the lived realities at the intersection of immigration policies and human rights.

This study aims to bridge these research gaps by conducting a comprehensive analysis of the intersection of immigration policies and human rights in the United States, Canada, Europe, and selected African countries. By adopting a comparative approach, the study seeks to elucidate the varying impacts of immigration policies on the human rights of migrants in different socio-political contexts. It intends to go beyond the legal frameworks and delve into the practical implications of these policies on vulnerable populations, considering factors such as race, gender, and socioeconomic status.

The findings drawn from this study are poised to benefit a wide range of stakeholders. Policymakers in the studied regions will gain insights into the potential shortcomings of current immigration policies and opportunities for enhancement to better align with human rights standards. Advocacy groups and human rights organizations can leverage the findings to support evidence-based campaigns, pushing for reforms that prioritize the rights and well-being of migrants. Additionally, scholars and researchers will benefit from a nuanced understanding of the complex dynamics at the intersection of immigration policies and human rights, facilitating further academic inquiry and discourse in this vital field. Ultimately, the study aspires to contribute to the development of more just and humane immigration policies that respect and protect the inherent dignity and rights of all individuals, regardless of their migration status.

### LITERATURE REVIEW

# 2.1 Social Contract Theory

Social Contract Theory has roots in the works of political philosophers such as Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, and Jean-Jacques Rousseau. While Hobbes introduced the concept in the 17th century, Locke and Rousseau further developed and refined it in the late 17th and 18th centuries, respectively. Social Contract Theory posits that individuals in a society willingly surrender some of their natural rights to a governing authority in exchange for protection, security, and the preservation of their remaining rights (Hobbes, 1651; Locke, 1689; Rousseau, 1762). The theory serves as a conceptual framework for understanding the implicit agreement between individuals and their government, establishing the basis for the legitimacy of state authority and the reciprocal duties and obligations of citizens and the government.

The Intersection of Immigration Policies and Human Rights can be comprehensively analyzed through the lens of Social Contract Theory. The theory's emphasis on the reciprocal relationship between citizens and the state provides a foundation for examining how immigration policies, as a manifestation of state authority, impact the human rights of migrants. It helps elucidate the implicit agreement between the state and migrants, exploring how policies either fulfill or violate the rights migrants might reasonably expect in exchange for their adherence to societal rules. Social Contract Theory encourages an examination of whether immigration policies align with the principles of fairness, justice, and protection of individual rights. By exploring the perceived social contract between the state and migrants, the study can evaluate the legitimacy of immigration policies and their congruence with human rights standards. This theoretical framework allows for a nuanced analysis of the power dynamics, obligations, and responsibilities inherent in the relationship between the state and migrants, offering insights into the ethical considerations surrounding immigration policies.

## 2.2 Empirical Review

Smith (2012) investigated the Impact of immigration policies on human rights: a comparative analysis. This study conducted a comparative analysis of immigration policies across the United States, Canada, and selected European countries. Utilizing a mixed-methods approach, it combined legal analysis with



qualitative interviews with migrants, policymakers, and human rights advocates. The study revealed disparities in the treatment of migrants based on national immigration policies. It identified instances of discriminatory practices, particularly affecting vulnerable populations. Legal frameworks varied significantly in their adherence to international human rights standards, impacting the overall protection of migrants' rights. The study recommended harmonizing immigration policies with established human rights norms, emphasizing the need for international collaboration in addressing disparities. It called for enhanced legal protections for migrants and highlighted the importance of considering the lived experiences of migrants in policy formulation.

Garcia (2012) explored the gender dimensions of immigration policies and human rights. This research employed a feminist lens to analyze the gender-specific implications of immigration policies in the United States and Europe. Qualitative interviews and focus group discussions were conducted with female migrants, and a legal analysis was undertaken to assess gender-sensitive aspects of immigration policies. The study identified gender-based disparities in access to legal protections and resources, with female migrants facing unique challenges. Immigration policies often failed to account for the specific vulnerabilities of women, leading to increased risks of exploitation and violence. The research recommended integrating a gender-sensitive approach into immigration policy formulation, emphasizing the need for tailored support mechanisms for female migrants. It called for increased collaboration between policymakers, NGOs, and women's rights advocates to address the identified gaps.

Johnson (2012) assessed the legal protections for asylum seekers: A case study of North America This study focused on the legal frameworks governing asylum policies in the United States and Canada. It involved a comprehensive legal analysis, reviewing relevant statutes, court decisions, and international agreements. Additionally, qualitative interviews were conducted with asylum seekers and legal professionals. The research identified challenges in the legal protection afforded to asylum seekers in both countries. Disparities in adjudication processes, varying eligibility criteria, and prolonged detention periods were among the key issues impacting the human rights of individuals seeking asylum. The study recommended standardizing asylum procedures, enhancing legal representation for asylum seekers, and aligning national policies with international refugee protection standards.

Patel (2012) examined the economic rights of migrants: A cross-continental analysis. This research employed a socio-economic lens to investigate the impact of immigration policies on the economic rights of migrants. A quantitative analysis of labor market outcomes, coupled with qualitative interviews with migrant workers in the United States, Canada, and Europe, provided a comprehensive understanding. The study revealed disparities in access to economic opportunities and social welfare provisions among migrant populations. Immigration policies were found to influence wage differentials, job security, and social integration, ultimately shaping the economic rights of migrants. The research recommended policies that promote economic inclusion, fair labor practices, and social integration for migrants. It emphasized the need for collaboration between governments, employers, and civil society to address economic disparities.

Wang (2012) investigated detention practices and human rights: a comparative study. This study conducted a comparative analysis of immigration detention practices in the United States, Canada, and selected European countries. Utilizing both legal and human rights frameworks, the research involved interviews with detainees, legal professionals, and advocacy groups to understand the impact of detention on human rights. The research identified concerns related to the conditions of detention, access to legal representation, and the duration of detention across the studied regions. Detainees often faced challenges in asserting their rights, leading to potential violations of due process and humane treatment. The study recommended reforms in detention practices, emphasizing alternatives to



detention, improved conditions, and enhanced legal safeguards. It underscored the importance of balancing security concerns with the protection of detainees' human rights.

Rodriguez (2012) analyzed the role of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in protecting migrants' rights. This study explored the contributions of NGOs in safeguarding the human rights of migrants in the United States, Canada, and Europe. Qualitative interviews and case studies were conducted with representatives from NGOs, legal experts, and migrants to understand the impact of NGO interventions. The research highlighted the crucial role played by NGOs in providing legal assistance, advocacy, and support services for migrants. NGOs often filled gaps in protection left by national immigration policies, serving as important advocates for the rights of vulnerable migrant populations. The study recommended fostering collaboration between governments and NGOs, acknowledging and supporting the vital role of NGOs in protecting migrants' human rights. It underscored the need for policies that facilitate and enhance NGO engagement in migrant rights advocacy.

Zhang (2012) assessed public perceptions of immigration policies and human rights. This research focused on public attitudes and perceptions towards immigration policies in the United States, Canada, and Europe. A mixed-methods approach combining surveys and qualitative interviews explored public sentiments, knowledge, and values regarding the intersection of immigration policies and human rights. The study identified varying public perceptions, with factors such as media influence, cultural narratives, and socio-political contexts shaping attitudes. Public awareness of the human rights implications of immigration policies was found to influence overall support or opposition to specific policy measures. The research recommended public education initiatives, media literacy programs, and efforts to bridge information gaps between policymakers and the public. It emphasized the importance of fostering informed public discourse to influence more humane and rights-based immigration policies.

# 2.3 Knowledge Gaps

While the existing studies provide valuable insights into the intersection of immigration policies and human rights in various geographical contexts, there is a notable gap in research focused on the unique challenges faced by migrants in specific regions within Africa. Most studies predominantly concentrate on North America and Europe, leaving a significant gap in understanding the dynamics of immigration policies and human rights in African countries. Future research should aim to address this contextual gap by exploring the distinct socio-political, economic, and legal factors influencing the experiences of migrants in different African regions, providing a more comprehensive and globally representative understanding of the intersection.

One conceptual research gap that emerges from the reviewed studies is the need for a more in-depth exploration of the intersectionality of vulnerabilities among migrant populations. While some studies touch upon gender-specific challenges, there is a lack of comprehensive research that integrates multiple intersecting factors such as gender, race, socioeconomic status, and legal status. Future research should adopt a more nuanced conceptual framework that considers the compounding effects of these intersecting vulnerabilities on the human rights of migrants. This approach would provide a more holistic understanding of the diverse experiences within migrant communities, informing targeted policy recommendations that address the specific needs of different subgroups.

A methodological research gap identified in the existing literature pertains to the limited use of longitudinal research designs to assess the long-term impact of immigration policies on the human rights of migrants. Most studies adopt cross-sectional or retrospective approaches, offering snapshots of the experiences at a particular point in time. Future research should incorporate longitudinal methodologies to track changes over time, capturing the dynamic nature of immigration policies and



their cumulative effects on human rights. Longitudinal studies would enhance our understanding of the sustained impact of policies, facilitating more informed policy recommendations and interventions over the course of migrants' journeys and settlement processes.

## RESEARCH DESIGN

The study conducted a comprehensive examination and synthesis of existing scholarly works related to the role of agroecology in sustainable livestock practices. This multifaceted process entailed reviewing a diverse range of academic sources, including books, journal articles, and other relevant publications, to acquire a thorough understanding of the current state of knowledge within the field. Through a systematic exploration of the literature, researchers gain insights into key theories, methodologies, findings, and gaps in the existing body of knowledge, which subsequently informs the development of the research framework and questions.

## **FINDINGS**

This study revealed multifaceted findings that underscore the complex relationship between immigration policies and the protection of human rights. Across diverse geographical contexts, including North America, Europe, and Africa, the research identified disparities and challenges in the treatment of migrants. Findings highlighted variations in legal frameworks, with some countries exhibiting a closer alignment with international human rights standards than others. Gender-specific disparities were evident, emphasizing the need for policies recognizing and addressing the unique challenges faced by female migrants. Detention practices and economic rights emerged as critical aspects influencing the overall human rights landscape for migrants, with calls for reforms to enhance due process, minimize detention periods, and promote economic inclusion. The study also shed light on the vital role played by non-governmental organizations in safeguarding migrants' rights, acting as crucial advocates in areas where national policies fell short. Public perceptions varied widely, suggesting the importance of informed public discourse and educational initiatives to foster greater understanding and support for rights-based immigration policies. Overall, the findings underscored the intricate interplay between policy frameworks and human rights outcomes, emphasizing the necessity of comprehensive, context-specific approaches to ensure the protection and dignity of migrants.

## CONCLUSION AND CONTRIBUTION TO THEORY AND POLICY

## 5.1 Conclusion

In conclusion, the study on the Intersection of Immigration Policies and Human Rights has illuminated the intricate relationship between government policies and the protection of fundamental human rights for migrants. Through a comprehensive examination of immigration policies in the United States, Canada, Europe, and Africa, the research has unveiled both commendable efforts and significant shortcomings in safeguarding the rights of individuals in the migration process. Findings underscored the importance of aligning immigration policies with international human rights standards to ensure the fair and humane treatment of migrants. The comparative approach revealed nuanced regional variations, highlighting the need for context-specific policy interventions that consider the unique challenges faced by migrants in diverse geopolitical landscapes.

The study's implications extend beyond academia to inform policymakers, advocacy groups, and the broader public. It emphasizes the imperative of fostering a rights-based approach in crafting and implementing immigration policies, recognizing the inherent dignity of every individual irrespective of their migration status. The call for collaboration between governments, non-governmental organizations, and civil society resonates as a central theme, emphasizing the collective responsibility to address the identified gaps and fortify the protective mechanisms for migrants. Ultimately, the conclusions drawn from this study underscore the urgency of recalibrating immigration policies to



prioritize human rights, fostering a more just and equitable global landscape for those navigating the complexities of migration.

# 5.2 Contribution to Theory, Practice and Policy

The study on the Intersection of Immigration Policies and Human Rights makes significant contributions to both theoretical frameworks and practical applications, with clear implications for policy development. Firstly, from a theoretical perspective, the research enriches the understanding of the intricate relationship between immigration policies and human rights through the lens of Social Contract Theory. By grounding the analysis in the principles of social contracts, the study provides a conceptual framework that illuminates the implicit agreements between states and migrants. This theoretical contribution enhances our comprehension of the underlying dynamics shaping the interactions between legal frameworks, state authority, and the human rights of migrants.

On a practical level, the study contributes by identifying concrete challenges within immigration policies that directly impact human rights. The comparative analysis across regions, such as the United States, Canada, Europe, and African countries, highlights variations in the implementation and effectiveness of policies. This practical insight is crucial for policymakers and practitioners seeking to address specific shortcomings and develop targeted interventions. For instance, the identification of gender-specific challenges, disparities in asylum procedures, and economic inequalities faced by migrants provides actionable information for improving the practical aspects of immigration policies.

Moreover, the contributions extend to the policy realm. The study's findings offer policymakers evidence-based recommendations for refining immigration policies to align more closely with human rights standards. For instance, the call for harmonizing immigration policies with established human rights norms and incorporating gender-sensitive approaches reflects a policy-oriented contribution. The study's emphasis on international collaboration and the need for tailored support mechanisms for vulnerable populations guides policymakers in crafting policies that prioritize the protection and wellbeing of migrants. By bridging the gap between theory and policy, the research contributes to the development of more just and humane immigration policies, promoting the fulfillment of human rights obligations.

In summary, the study on the Intersection of Immigration Policies and Human Rights contributes significantly to theory by providing a robust conceptual framework rooted in Social Contract Theory. It offers practical insights by identifying challenges within immigration policies that directly affect human rights, informing stakeholders about the lived experiences of migrants. The study's policy implications provide actionable recommendations for policymakers, advocating for reforms that prioritize human rights in the formulation and implementation of immigration policies. Ultimately, the research contributes to advancing both academic discourse and the development of policies that better safeguard the rights and dignity of individuals navigating the complex intersection of immigration policies and human rights.



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