

Building Unity: Social Integration and National Identity in Migration

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Abstract

In the context of migration, this essay explores the critical role of social integration in shaping national identity. Social integration fosters connections among individuals from diverse cultural backgrounds, promoting societal harmony and mutual respect. This process is vital for reinforcing a shared national identity, especially in light of increasing international migration, where the interaction between host societies and refugees plays a crucial role in forming a collective identity.

Such interactions facilitate cultural exchange, enhance social cohesion, and foster mutual understanding, all of which contribute to societal stability and a unified sense of national identity. Social integration plays a pivotal role in fostering a shared national identity that encompasses political, cultural, and economic inclusion. Active participation across diverse sectors promotes unity and mutual support, thereby strengthening social cohesion and contributing to the nation's long-term prosperity and stability. Furthermore, this integration fosters a sense of dignity and inclusivity among all members of society.

This essay examines how effective integration policies can strengthen cultural ties, promote social cohesion, and pave the way for a more tolerant and united future. Ultimately, it posits that the successful integration of both host nations and immigrant populations is essential for mutual growth and development.

Keywords

Immigration policies, Social integration, Policy frameworks, Socio-economic impact, Integration programs

Introduction

Any policies that a country enforces to govern human movement in this instance, permanent or temporary stayers are called immigration policies. (Joppke et al.,1998). Even earlier models for such policy include the regulations controlling free traders' right of residency in the Middle Ages and those defining citizenship (O'leary et al.,1997). This paper investigates the intricate relationships between immigration policy and the outcomes of social integration, emphasizing the challenges and opportunities these interrelations present. It begins by examining the divergent policy frameworks surrounding immigration, which encompass family reunification, refugee resettlement, and selective immigration. The analysis focuses on how these varying frameworks influence assimilation processes.

The paper elucidates the dual nature of immigration laws, which can be both inclusive and exclusive, and assesses the extent to which immigrants have access to essential services such as employment, healthcare, and education. Access to these services is fundamental for fostering a sense of belonging and facilitating social integration. From this standpoint, the study explores the role of support and social networks in enhancing integration efforts within immigrant communities, highlighting local government and community-driven initiatives that can either promote or hinder these processes.

Furthermore, the research delves into the sociological impacts of immigration policies on both migrants and host communities. Through critical case studies, we demonstrate how well-designed policies can generate economic benefits for immigrants, enhance cultural pluralism, and strengthen social cohesion. Conversely, poorly conceived policies can lead to social fragmentation, prejudice, and marginalization, ultimately undermining social stability.

The paper posits that immigration policies significantly shape integration outcomes, particularly concerning the survival of various policy frameworks, including family reunification, selective immigration, and refugee resettlement, and their effects on immigrants' access to jobs, education, and other fundamental needs. We discuss the potential roles of local governments and community-based initiatives in supporting integration and the socio-economic implications of such policies for both host and immigrant communities. Our findings illustrate that nations with open immigration policies tend to

successfully integrate and assimilate immigrants, while those with marginalizing policies contribute to fragmentation and marginalization within host communities (Brubaker, 1992). The paper categorizes immigration laws into four distinct types, including

the laws that permit entrance only upon employment release to the immigrants, issues on humanitarian grounds such as political asylum and family reunion, and those governing the acquisition of naturalization to become a citizen. Analytically, there can be two ways of classifying the immigration laws-restrictive or "controlling" and those which aim to integrate immigrants within host countries as entrance and habitation). However, these policies are likely to determine or at least affect the migration trends together with many other measures in the social, educational, and labor market. Government policy is perhaps the most significant tool through which nation-states try to control immigration. (Joppke et al., 1998) To control and direct the influx of immigrants through their borders, most nations maintain some form of immigration policy. Since many governments- France and China are illustration- have employed policies to restrict their subjects from leaving and emigrating out of the country, therefore not allowing them human capital. The core issues of policy today are controlling flows of immigration and deliberately denying some, but opening one's country to and embracing others. (Shachar et al., 2019). In terms of immigration policy, various countries adopt different stances. Some are considered as immigration platforms with an overall proimmigration and pro-immigrant attitude, and the benefits that flow there from. Such countries include Australia, New Zealand, the United States, and Canada. In contrast, other states, such as the UK, and until very recently, Japan, are much more hostile towards immigration and focus on expelling rather than attracting immigrants. (Høydalsvik et al., 2019). Most states lie somewhere along this continuum of the above three categories. (Foner et al., 2005). The legal freedom of a state to refuse or eject non-citizens is technically a component of sovereignty in international law. (Spiro et al., 2011). If it were not for immigration, then there would be no immigration, or at least illegal immigration. (Johnson et al., 2006). The globally propagated perception that immigration policy is fundamentally a matter of "national interest," as advanced by states, serves to reinforce the primacy of sovereignty while potentially constraining broader humanitarian or transnational considerations.

(Freeman et al., 1998). (see US Commission on Immigration Reform 1997, p. 1). The challenge lies in the fact that "national interest," particularly within liberal governments, is often a shifting construct— frequently subordinated to the priorities of other groups and rarely articulated with consistent organizational clarity. (Hart et al., 2004). In his seminal work, Gary Freeman (1995) provided a rational choice explanation of why "special" as opposed to "national" interests influence the progressive states' immigration laws. (Freeman et al., 2008) Laws often limit trans-border human movement, while sometimes laws may limit mobility within a country. (Glick et al., 2013) Models of the cost of migration directly apply to policy on immigration itself: tighter controls attach higher costs to particular types of immigrants, based on their level of skill and/or country of origin. The cost of migration would increase as the immigration policy becomes stricter for an individual coming from area I with skill j. This would correspondingly decrease the rate of migration by that group of individuals. This aligns with the works of [references], for example, who outline how immigration costs vary with the level of skill and the policy applied in the immigrating country. (Hainmueller et al., 2016). Other techniques by which immigration can be incorporated into the model are: policy with an indicator of the probability that a given immigrant from region B would be allowed to live in region A. Cohen et al., 2008. In such a scenario, there is a quota of immigration set in the destination region; once such a quota is reached, no more immigrants are allowed into region A and those already there may be expelled. The legal and administrative context is different for the classification of immigration policy by each country. Diverse historical paths with numerous configurations and types have shaped and regulated immigration policies through various acts by different countries today. Within this context, some factors include the

date of establishment, the relationship to the extension of political and social rights aligned with citizenship, as well as socio-economic and geopolitical changes that resulted in mass migration flows. (Mitchell et al., 2012) However, in the post-WWII era, some of these trends such as globalization As human rights treaties and processes of European integration, immigration policies are broadly categorized based on whether they pertain to mobilization of labor (work-based immigration), granting full rights of citizenship to that individual in the host country or humanitarian rights such as political asylum or family life. Other typical uses of these categories are exemplified in the calculation of the number of immigrants. While the labor recruitment programs have formed the major stimuli behind most of the initial migration, historical shifts (below) have led to that while family reunification is the main cause of immigration for most of the developed industrialized countries, labor-based migration has become the leading cause of immigration for only a few OECD countries and asylum-based migration is slowly being brought under increasingly tight controls. Besides that, mass immigration is the result of free movement in the region. Another type of immigration by enlargement is mass immigration for that reason (Kahanec et al., 2009). Immigration policy is inherently a function of state sovereignty, which is recognized in international law. Without sovereignty, there would be no immigration, or at least no concept of 'illegal' immigration. The admission or denial of non-citizens by a state, within the bounds of due process, is a key aspect of this. One prominent example of the intersection of immigration policy and sovereignty is the invocation of 'national interest' by governments worldwide. However, the concept of 'national interest' in liberal governments is notoriously vague, lacking a clear organizational framework and often overriding group interests. Gary Freeman's (1995) groundbreaking article, now regarded as one of the most seminal political science works on immigration policy, offers a path breaking solution to this issue. (Freeman et al.,2011) It described in terms like Reasonable decision-making explains why liberal states' immigration laws are shaped by "special" rather than "national" interests. Freeman argues that while immigration has a dispersed cost across society, its advantages are concentrated (for employers and co ethnics). (Bean et al.,1999) The collective action theory demands the diffused bearers of costs to be subordinated to the recipients of concentrated benefits, a condition which Freeman described as "clientelist politics" (Froemming et al.,1999). Clearly, the proper interplay of immigration law is the most fundamental requirement in building a more inclusive society. Enriching laws, particularly on immigration in respect to work, healthcare, and education, will lead towards the highest maximization of social and economic advantages reaped from immigration. Our research finds that inclusionary frameworks have a salutary impact on both the immigrant and host communities, as they facilitate easier social integration and cohesion, while promoting cultural diversity. In contrast, exclusionary laws contribute to social exclusion, alienation, and reduce social integration. Evidence-based policy-making approaches must be adopted and realized as the appropriate approach that recognizes the existence of immigrants and their roles within the social tapestry through which we are moving forward and the issues we deal with on global migration issues..

Effective immigration integration necessitates coordinated multi-level governance structures encompassing federal, regional, and municipal authorities alongside civil society organizations and community stakeholders. Contemporary evidence suggests that immigration policy frameworks designed with integration as a foundational objective—rather than merely regulatory control—yield superior long-term outcomes for both immigrant populations and receiving communities.

The implementation of integration-oriented immigration law requires adherence to principles of inclusivity and reciprocal benefit structures. Such approaches facilitate comprehensive community integration through enhanced mobility provisions that enable meaningful participation in social, economic, and civic spheres. This paradigm shift from unidirectional assimilation models toward bidirectional integration processes recognizes the mutual advantages generated through cultural exchange, economic contribution, and social capital development.

Statistical evidence demonstrates that accessible integration support systems, when designed for diverse demographic cohorts, produce measurable improvements in settlement outcomes including employment rates, educational attainment, and social cohesion indicators. However, successful implementation depends critically on institutional coordination mechanisms, adequate resource allocation, and policy coherence across jurisdictional boundaries.

The sustainability of such integration frameworks relies fundamentally on collaborative governance structures that align stakeholder incentives while maintaining procedural equity. This necessitates both policy innovation in immigration law design and institutional capacity building to support comprehensive integration programming at scale.

This framework represents a significant departure from traditional immigration policy approaches, emphasizing systemic integration support over ad hoc settlement assistance.#.

Immigration policies

Executive orders, AAO rulings, relevant court orders, settlement agreements, manuals and practice manuals, legislation, rules, policies, other authorities, USCIS instructional materials and notices, the DOJ Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA), and other DHS immigration-related components are all covered. Links to out-of-class USCIS materials on representation before and obtaining counsel before DHS and DOJ's Executive Office for Immigration Review are also included in the chapter.

The U.S. economy, its foreign relations, and national security are all at risk due to the ongoing failure to develop and execute a practical and practicable immigration policy, according to the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR). Former Florida Governor Jeb Bush and former White House Chief of Staff Thomas "Mack" McLarty, who will also serve as co-chairs, lead a new independent study committee that the CFR formed last month. According to the magazine, 'the stakes are too high to fail.'

'If the United States continues to mismanage its immigration policy, it will damage one of the vital pillars of American prosperity and security and could condemn the country to a long, slow decline in its status in the world,' the paper states. Consequently, it argues that 'the United States needs a fundamental overhaul of its immigration laws.' The United States has greatly profited from its immigration policy, which welcomes qualified professionals, immigrants, students, and others who may be in the country temporarily. However, it is cautioned that 'these gains could be undermined by the United States' ongoing failure to create and implement a practical system of immigration law.'

Task Force Independent on U.S. Immigration Policy, under the direction of Senior Fellow Edward Alden and the CFR, is the primary source of guidance on immigration policy. In the fields of immigration policy, homeland security, education, labor, business, academia, and human rights, there is a consensus group of outstanding professionals that is interdisciplinary and nonpartisan. According to the report, the huge number of illegal immigrants in this nation is harming US national interests.

'it undermines respect for the law, poses potential security risks, undermines labor rights, strains US relations with its Mexican neighbor, and places an unfair burden on public education and social services in many states,' it argues. Yet it continues to argue that 'no law enforcement effort will succeed unless legal channels to enter the United States are made to work better.' In order to ensure that all laws approved by Congress are properly and fully enforced, the US government must invest in the establishment of an effective immigration system that removes lengthy and ineffectual backlogs and delays. According to Wang et al. (2025) digitalization reduces time required for management and control with minimization of energy demands in this process.

The Task Force proposes a series of precise and workable legislative and administrative reform suggestions that would be a component of an immigration policy that better serves the interests of the United States of America. Complete immigration reform, Congress and the Obama administration should move swiftly to begin the process of passing a comprehensive immigration reform package.

Therefore, it is obvious that luring skilled immigrants should be a top priority for US immigration policy, which directly tackles the problem. In this context, the paper advocates for the complete elimination of strict nationality quotas, their replacement by a strict system of work-skilled and employment-based immigration visas, and the creation of additional post-graduation options for international students with advanced degrees.

In order to strengthen US military power, the administration should remove obstacles that prevent the US military from making greater efforts to recruit recent immigrants who are not yet citizens or green card holders. This task committee concludes that the United States' long-term security will depend on its continued leadership position in the world regarding research and technology, and it suggests that it remove the restrictions on visas for scientific work that impede scientific cooperation (Rinne et al., 2013)

Social integration

Social integration into the social framework of the host community, which is newly arrived or a minority, is basically defined as such. Social, economic and identity integration are considered to be three key aspects of experiences of newcomers in the host society. These diversified ethnic groups, despite language, caste, faith, etcetera, are united through the mode of more limited social distance and beliefs and practices, which are homogeneous. In this sense, it negates the theory of segregation so that the outsider is able to be a part of everything that occurs in communal life. Social integration, thus, from a broader view, would evoke the process entirely which is arranged yet active in character where all actors are brought together in communication to manufacture and sustain amicable social relationships. Forced assimilation falls outside the scope of social integration. Social integration postulates that development must be toward a By addressing the causes of social conflict, disintegration, exclusion, fragmentation, polarization, and exclusion, and through strengthening and developing the factors of social integration toward conducive living, collaboration, and cohesion, we will achieve a safe, stable, and fair society. Social integration theory was first applied by Valle and Burgess in 1921 to research integration. They defined it as "a process of interpenetration and fusion in which people and groups acquire the memories, feelings, and attitudes of other people and groups and, by sharing their experience and history, become incorporated with them into a common cultural life." Other scholars have forwarded an assimilation thesis, which posits that immigrants will ultimately be assimilated into the host society at all levels—economic, social, and cultural. In contrast, the multiculturalism theory argues that in the process of integration, immigrants will preserve their ethnic identities, thereby bequeathing a diverse cultural heritage to the host community.. A third strand of scholars extended assimilation theory by formulating a segmented assimilation theory, emphasizing that depending on individual, contextual, and structural factors, different cohorts of migrants may pursue various trajectories toward upward or downward mobility in multiple directions.. Social integration fundamentally addresses the question of to what extent immigrants internalize prevailing norms, social environment and routine activities of the host society. Language, marriages and social ties are quite often the tools of quantitative measurement. Indeed, the most cited indicator of integration for immigrants in literature is social network that "comprises the migrant's contacts with members of the host population at work, at school or in any other place of activity, in leisure activities, in political, religious, union or other organizations.". Although some researchers use the number of friends among migrants as an absolute figure, others interpret it as an activity involving contacting friends. The most recent studies have started to differentiate between local and immigrant friends, with the latter being considered less important for the success of migrants' integration processes compared to the formed. New research conducted and published in 2020 defines social integration as access to social activities to join, for example, in order to join a local sports team. Equitable estimates are available for 23 European

countries.(Seeman et al.,1996). Garcia & Garcia 2025 investigating latin communities of San Francisco, the relevant is implemented by societies' development of pan-ethnic solidarity.

Policy frameworks

An organization's setting of values, policies, and standards can guide the actions and behavior of its staff. This can be achieved through supporting documentation in the form of policies and procedures. A policy framework provides a broad framework guiding the development, approval, implementation, and review of policies and processes. This policy framework explicitly outlines the procedures that must be followed at each step in the lifecycle of the policy. An organization's culture will benefit from a clear formal approach to the development and review of a policy. This clear formal approach also lessens the chances of misbehavior, corruption, or poor management. Procedures that everyone should follow at each step of the lifecycle of the policy must be clearly outlined to ensure better effectiveness and a correspondingly reduced chance of non-compliance. In this context, when employees trust that the policies in place have been developed through procedures authorized and approved by the Executive, they are less likely to engage in actions that violate established norms and values. Such adherence to working practices is more likely to occur when policies and procedures are clearly defined and consistently enforced across the organization. Without clear guidelines outlining employee responsibilities and obligations, there is an increased risk that actions may deviate from legally mandated requirements or widely accepted standards.

A policy statement may be updated to reflect decisions made by a university body, necessitate a name change, or comply with new statutes. An editorial update refers to modifications that do not alter the actual text of a policy, such as correcting outdated terminology, spelling, grammar, punctuation, or style. In contrast, an amendment involves changes that affect the intent or wording of the original policy document without altering its core content. A major amendment significantly modifies the content of a policy document, such as changes to procedures, strategic direction, or the designation of delegates.

Within this Policy Framework, the committee or position with the authority—or delegated authority—to approve a policy statement is referred to as the Approving Authority. The designated official is the senior individual responsible for implementing the policy.

The Responsible Executive Member delegates the preparation and implementation of a policy document to the Designated Official. Detailed procedural tasks are outlined in the *Policy Framework – Procedures*, which provide operational guidance and support the implementation process. The *Local Document* contains operational procedures and policy texts specific to the University.

A policy is a formally adopted statement of principle or position that guides decision-making and action. Any formally approved document may be considered a policy document, and in certain cases, exemptions may be granted through an explicit exception to the policy text. Procedures define the sequential steps by which a policy is operationalised.

The Accountable Executive Member bears ultimate responsibility for a policy and its associated procedures, ensuring that all actions align with established rules. Duties are categorized and detailed within the *Policy Framework – Procedures*.

Under the *University of the Sunshine Coast Act 1998* (Queensland), the Council and Executive Committee hold statutory authority to govern University operations. The *Governance Framework – Governance Policy* sets the guiding principles of the Policy Framework, which combines high-level policy statements with comprehensive processes and recommendations for the development, management, and integration of policy documentation within broader governance structures.

. Policy papers must be relevant, clearly articulated in their meaning and purpose, and developed only after extensive consultation with relevant stakeholders and the university community. They should meet all requirements outlined in the Policy Framework.

The procedures followed by the University in developing, approving, implementing, and reviewing the Policy Framework include summarizing the texts of policies. The number of policy documents to be reviewed is limited to avoid overwhelming stakeholders; authorized copies of each policy will be properly maintained in the Policy Repository and made publicly accessible at all times in the Policy Library on the University's website. Policy materials are sourced from the Policy Repository for university-owned documents.

Policy texts are reviewed at least once every five years, with more frequent reviews conducted as necessary (Audretsch et al., 2012). The article "Entrepreneurship and innovation: Public policy frameworks," by Audretsch and Link (2012), examines the different viewpoints on innovation in economics and relates them to different public policy strategies. The authors contend that various economic theories, especially those emphasizing the importance of innovation and entrepreneurship, have a big impact on how people view these ideas and how policy discussions play out. They demonstrate how challenging it is to quantify and evaluate the vast range of values and beliefs connected to innovative business practices. The study emphasizes the importance of understanding these fundamental frameworks to create public policies that effectively encourage innovation and entrepreneurship.

Socio-economic impact

Although the socio-economic impact of drought is relatively lesser in magnitude compared to its ecological impact, which has not yet been well quantified in terms of water resources and agriculture, as well as recreation, more is known about the socio-economic impact of drought (Lake, 2011). Drought is, generally a "ramp" type of disturbance that quickens and increases in extent as habitat is being lost. As flow declines, the continuity of the longitudinal connection is disrupted, resulting in a streambed characterized by mosaic drips, residual pools, and wet patches. This alteration leads to a loss of free water, severing vertical connectivity and exacerbating evaporation rates. Even ponds may experience complete desiccation during extreme droughts, and when the hyporheic zone does exist, it too can dry out entirely. Consequently, water quality deteriorates due to increased dryness, which typically results in elevated conductivity and temperature, reduced dissolved oxygen levels, and the accumulation of organic particles.

The severity of these conditions can parallel other significant natural disasters, such as landslides, which may have far-reaching impacts on global socio-economic regions. Presently, the geomorphological processes at play can significantly influence the long-term rate of forestation in mountainous areas. Understanding the kinematics and mechanisms behind the motion of various types of landslides necessitates the integration of spatial and temporal data regarding their frequency, distribution, contributing factors, and triggering events. This comprehensive approach is essential for mitigating the risks associated with landslide phenomena.

Given the inaccessibility of mountainous regions and the limited opportunities for in situ observations using technologies such as DGPS, extensometers, or monitoring of ice and rock glaciers, landslides provide a valuable means of sampling and understanding these complex environments

. Airborne SAR interferometry suffers from errors due to superposition, foreshortening, and phase unwinding, making shadowing particularly difficult and problematic in areas where geographical and temporal displacement rates differ. Despite these challenges, much landslide research relies on this method. Although it is still applied much less commonly to landslides than to glacial flow or coseismic displacement, optical imaging DIC has now become an important technique for measuring the horizontal components of landslide motion, in light of noted limitations of other techniques and growing availability of VHSR optical imaging. Practical and pragmatic considerations have always entered into choices of regions to be protected, which could both be positive and negative socio-economic impacts, and are located near existing sites of terrestrial conservation. OSPAR 2003, as

amended, establishes criteria that are considered realistic: the potential for restoration, the degree of stakeholder acceptance of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), the effectiveness of potential management measures, and the likelihood of future human activity causing harm to the area. Scientific value refers to the importance of any entity for observation or study. It is essential for stakeholders to have a voice in the decision-making and design processes, as some, such as naturalists and fishermen, may possess greater knowledge than scientists and policy advisors regarding what is at risk and where. However, a significant dilemma emerged during the Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) initiative. If stakeholders are not consulted from the beginning, they may feel marginalized and claim that their input is being disregarded. Scientists and policy advisors may find themselves unprepared for evaluations and hindered in their progress if they cannot reach decisions early on before engaging with stakeholders. For science to be effectively utilized in the selection process, it must be proactive and well-prepared before the involvement of commercial stakeholders.

In highly socioeconomically impacted urban regions, landslides pose increasing risks to populations in landslide-prone areas, primarily due to the growing demand for land resources for urban development. A clear example of this is seen in Spain, which has experienced several notable landslide events in newly developed metropolitan areas. We outline the methods and tools employed, ideally supported by remote sensing and numerical modeling, to characterize and monitor landslide occurrences. Through our analysis of three case studies in Spain, we conclude that inadequate building regulations and insufficient prior site research investigations are fundamental causes of landslide damage.

Li et al. (2025) demonstrate that strategic integration of migrant populations into renewable energy initiatives represents a dual-benefit approach to both immigration policy and environmental governance. Their analysis indicates that environmental policy frameworks incorporating migrant workforce participation enhance both integration outcomes and sustainability target achievement, particularly within European Union climate objectives.

This convergence of migration and environmental policy creates synergistic effects wherein migrant communities gain access to emerging green economy sectors while simultaneously contributing specialized skills and labor capacity to renewable energy infrastructure development. The authors' findings suggest that such integration mechanisms address critical workforce shortages in sustainability sectors while providing structured pathways for economic integration and skill development among immigrant populations.

The environmental governance implications extend beyond immediate project implementation to encompass broader systemic capacity building for climate transition initiatives. By embedding migrant participation within renewable energy programming, policy frameworks can simultaneously address integration challenges and accelerate progress toward carbon neutrality targets established under European Green Deal provisions.

Li et al. 2025's research indicates that migrant engagement in environmental projects generates measurable improvements in both settlement outcomes and project efficiency metrics. This approach leverages diverse skill sets and cultural perspectives while creating shared investment in sustainability outcomes across demographic groups.

The policy implications suggest that environmental governance frameworks incorporating deliberate migrant inclusion strategies may represent optimal pathways for achieving concurrent integration and sustainability objectives, thereby maximizing policy effectiveness across multiple governmental priorities while contributing to long-term social cohesion through shared environmental stewardship initiatives.

Integration programs

The integration process is inherently slow and complex, shaped by intertwined socioeconomic, legal, and cultural factors. Effective integration programs must therefore be coordinated, collaborative, and supported by secure resources. There is no universal formula for success; initiatives must adapt to address gaps revealed in practice and to meet changing demographics and service demands. States must commit the necessary resources to fund their resettlement efforts. Successful resettlement is only possible when at least the most basic integration programs are in place—programs that are adequately financed and guided by clearly defined roles and responsibilities among all partners. Definitions will clearly state who delivers them, how they will be paid for, and how refugees will get access to them. Upon arrival, refugees require a full range of services, but they can also contribute to sustaining and developing activities well beyond their integration. Successful delivery of these services depends on genuine interdependence among governments, local authorities, NGOs, volunteers, businesses, host communities, and refugees themselves—working in a truly participatory partnership with constant communication.

An effective institutional framework must be both responsive and inclusive, with robust decision-making procedures, clearly defined roles, careful resource planning, and the active involvement of key partners in knowledge sharing, training, and assessment. Services and outcomes improve when all stakeholders pool their expertise. Integration support can be strengthened through partnerships with civil society, industry, academia, and the media. Municipalities should be prepared to receive and assist newly resettled refugees.

Involving refugees in the design, development, and monitoring of integration programs ensures that emerging challenges are identified and addressed. While budget cuts or changes in service delivery partners may occur, mainstream services must adapt to the evolving needs of resettled refugees. Refugees should have the freedom to choose and shape their integration pathways, recognizing that host states play a decisive role in shaping an environment that fosters positive outcomes. Sharing best practices among all resettlement partners and states enhances service delivery and improves integration results. There are resettled refugees who are very actively involved with a variety of feedback and consultation systems designed to point out areas where there are shortages of service and access impediments, the accessibility of current programmatic services and infrastructure to enable integration; the level of active integration being pursued by grassroots groups, particularly the diaspora origin; the level of political will and economic capacity to pursue integration; the level to which non-governmental organizations and civil society are participating in service delivery and planning; the mechanisms and structures of governance affecting how different levels of government interact. Community sponsorship programs another area of integration that is being suggested is community sponsorship. The vast majority of community sponsorship programs were established over the last ten years. Three streams are being followed in the development of state practice: Assisting sponsored resettlement is the concept of using sponsorship to settle in and assist refugees to the new communities once a sponsor is located by the UNHCR. (Carrera et al., 2006)

Conclusion

The cultivation of cohesive national identity within diverse societies requires strategic social integration mechanisms that engage both established populations and newcomer communities in collective civic participation. This bidirectional integration process fundamentally reconceptualizes national belonging from exclusionary to inclusive paradigms, wherein cultural diversity becomes a constitutive element of national character rather than a challenge to social unity.

Empirical research demonstrates that effective integration policies that prioritize mutual respect and cultural recognition generate enhanced social capital across demographic boundaries while simultaneously strengthening national solidarity. Such approaches operationalize integration through

institutional frameworks that valorize cultural pluralism as a strategic asset for national development, thereby transforming potential social fragmentation into sources of collective strength.

The preservation of long-term social harmony within multicultural contexts depends critically on policy architectures that facilitate meaningful intergroup contact while maintaining space for cultural expression and identity preservation. These frameworks must balance unity-building initiatives with recognition of diverse cultural contributions, creating what scholars term "differentiated citizenship" that accommodates multiple belonging patterns within overarching national frameworks.

Contemporary integration policies that successfully maintain national cohesion while celebrating cultural diversity typically incorporate deliberate mechanisms for cross-community dialogue, shared civic participation opportunities, and institutional recognition of diverse cultural contributions to national development. This approach generates sustainable social harmony by establishing common civic values while respecting particularistic cultural practices.

The resultant unified national identity emerges not through cultural homogenization but through shared commitment to inclusive democratic participation and mutual recognition of diverse contributions to collective prosperity.

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