



JUNE 2019

Monthly Report About the Far-Right in Europe



Report about the Far-Right in Europe in June 2019

Introduction

As part of the continuation of the strict and opportunistic approach adopted by the European Union's anti-immigrant governments, including Italy, Hungary and Austria, France has recently adopted their approach regarding the freedom of clothing, whereas France's government considers the dress of women covering face and body as a reason to subject women to strict laws, however, it contradicts the concept of secularism developed by the States of European Union.

With regard to migration to Europe, the number of displaced people around the world reached 70.8 million, according to the UNHCR, while the number of migrants, who crossed the sea in 2018 risking their lives, to Europe reached 82,201. The number of arrivals to Europe by Greece, Italy and Spain declined by 41% compared to 2017. Although the new measures aimed at mixed movements in the Mediterranean, which caused a decline in the number of arrivals to Italy significantly, there is an increase in the number of arrivals to Spain by 130%.

On the other hand, the phenomenon of Islamophobia, which controls the actions of the far-right in Europe, is the main reason behind the anti-immigrant policies, especially the Muslims. This has led to an increase in violence against migrants in some European countries, which will be highlighted in the report that shows the rise of violence and even murder as happened in Germany. Official statements of German politicians defending the rights of migrants are exploited, contradicting all international conventions, treaties and human rights mechanisms. The report attempts to clarify the most prominent events in Europe during June 2019, with an analytical explanation of these events and their impact on the future of immigration and refugees in Europe.

The Most Prominent Incidents Related to the Far-Right During June 2019

This month saw many events and activities related to the far-right amounted to carrying out many terrorist attacks in several countries. In contrast, there were some restrictive measures in other European countries, which are still afraid of their political situation in the European arena.

The results of the European elections did not come as the right-wing populism craves as a result of the sudden rise of the Greens in Europe. However, the phenomenon merits study, since the extreme right has imposed itself as a political force in Europe; and even rule some countries such as Italy and Austria. It is rising strongly in France, along with the recent increase in criminal activities in Germany.

As for France, 11 incidents related to the far-right were recorded in France alone, which gained the support of these movements. While Germany and Italy came in second place, 3 incidents in each of them, whether directly supported by the Italian government or anti-migrant movements as in Germany. The most prominent incident of this month was the assassination of Walter Luebcke, a well-known German politician and member in Merkel's party and a proponent of migrants and refugees. The far-right has compiled a list called, by some politicians in German, Death List. That list carries the names of the most prominent politicians supporting the issue of refugees and migrants.

As for Italy, the activities this month were different because the far-right there is directly supported by the Italian government, led by Salvini, the most radical extremist in Europe, who uses strict legislative mechanisms against refugees and immigrants.

Britain came in the fourth place, which is among the countries led by the far-right to effective steps such as those related to the exit from the European Union. Despite the steps taken by the British government to restrict the activity of the far-right, its popularity has become the fuel of such activity. In the Netherlands, it continues to seek the presidency of the European Commission, as revealed by Frans Timmermans, the leader of the Socialists

and one of the most prominent politicians there. He stressed that there is a real competition by the far-right for the presidency of the European Commission.

The Most Extreme activities of the Far-Right During the First Half of June

The first half of June witnessed a new rise of the far-right in France, despite France's government's response to the far-right leader and President of the National Rally party Marine Le Pen; and referring her by the judicial authority in France to the Criminal Court under the provisions of the French Penal Code. In particular those on punishing everyone who publishes violent messages that can be seen by minors, which is true for the incident, committed by Le Pen in 2015, of publishing a series of propaganda images of the ISIL that show brutal executions. The same charge was directed also to Gilbert Collard, a member of her party.

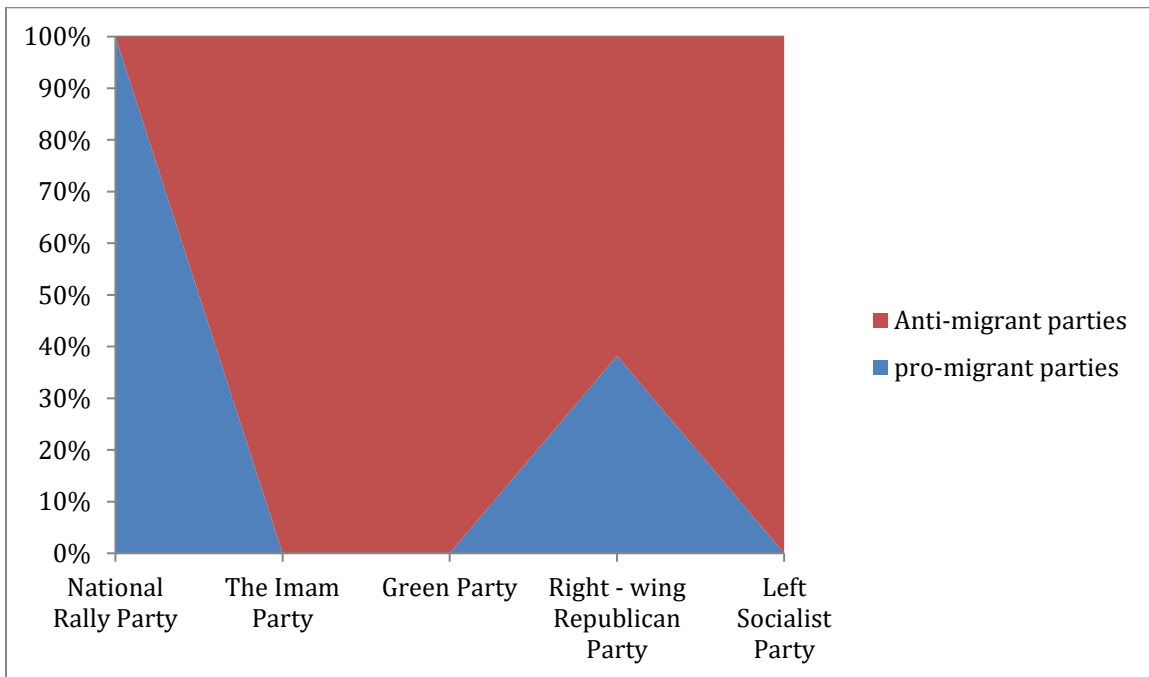
Le Pen and her party's hatred and hostility towards the religious factions, especially the Muslims, have grown as a result of Le Pen's political and religious intolerance. It was revealed by the French judiciary that Le Pen is posing a threat to refugees, immigrants and the Islamic communities in France; and considered the far-right parties calls for extremism.

The French government has faced a number of radical schemes supported by the far-right. The French authorities revealed that they had arrested a Nazis cell planning to attack Jewish and Muslim worship sites. The judiciary has also charged five members of the extremist cell who belong to the far-right.

Le Pen is keen to join the Salvini alliance in Italy to ensure a seat in the European Parliament. She also cooperates with other alliances in different European countries to combat refugees and ensure the largest number of seats for the far-right in the European Commission.

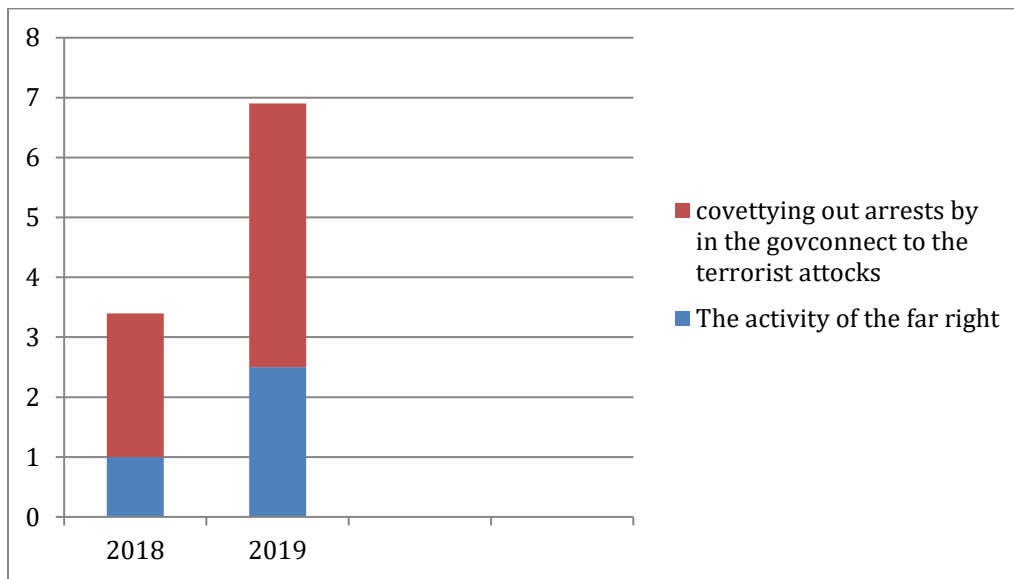
France faces many challenges, whether to confront hate speech or to counter extremist practices against freedom of belief. All crimes associated with encroachment on places of worship or broadcast of hate speech are a clear assault on the liberalism advocated by France.

The figure below shows that the highest representation of pro-immigrant parties is 60%, compared to 40% for anti-immigrant and refugee parties represented by the far-right party. The main aim of the pro-immigrant parties is to counter the extreme of the far-right in France, not to believe in the humanitarian issue facing the refugees or immigrants, this is for the ruling party. The rise of the Greens has become an obstacle to Le Pen in achieving her objectives within both France or any of the EU countries.



Britain, also, is one of the European countries that address the far-right with decisions aimed primarily at countering terrorist attacks carried out by the far-right in the United Kingdom. The British authorities have proved that the highest portion of the terrorist acts in Britain was by the far-right. The British authorities have carried out the largest number of arrests in connection to terrorist acts 15 years ago, according to the latest statistics issued by the British government through the Ministry of the Interior, which revealed that 41% of the people arrested were carrying out the orders planned by the far-right in Britain. The suspects and those directed by the far-right in the UK

account for about 11.9% of the number of detainees, which is higher than the last year percentage 9.9%.



On the other hand, Italy, which was in the first half of June different from the countries that took a stand against the far-right such as Britain and France. Italy was one of the countries that directly attacked refugees and immigrants. In the first half of June it celebrated winning seats in the European Parliament by its alliance with France, which was followed by an urgent meeting between Salvini and his allies. He announced that the Brexit party has joined the alliance, which reflects the ongoing cooperation between the right-wing parties in order to ensure a strong presence within the European Parliament, resulting in negative repercussions that increase extremism.

The Most Extreme Activities of the far-Right During the Second Half of June

As Europe's policy is linked to religion, which was explained during the first half of June, and the measures taken by France's government to counter the far-right, the situation was different during the second half of the same month. In some European countries like Austria, the far-right took some measures against the state's policies aimed at countering it. For instance, Heinz Christian Strache, the leader of the Austrian far-right, filed an "insulting honor" lawsuit against one of the voters in the last parliamentary elections in Austria, simply for the expression of this voter about the corruption of a

candidate of the far-right party in Austria. Strache has presented reports and other papers that prove insulting this candidate.

In Germany, the confrontation was more intense where attacks were carried out against prominent political figures who advocate the issue of refugees and emigration, such as the assassination of Walter Lübcke, a case that initially aroused serious concern in Germany's government as he was a prominent political figure in Merkel's party. Germany's government has issued a preliminary report on the assassination detailing that he was shot in the head at his home near the German city of Kassel.

The government has explained that this incident is not the only one, referring to the far-right's targeting in Germany, and issued a report on the targeting of refugees' homes, planting bombs and preparing lists of all prominent politicians supporting the issue of immigrants to threaten them of targeting in case they continue their support. Germany is currently in a state of security alert because of those lists used by the far-right, which were leaked through the Ministry of the Interior.

The latest activities of the far-right were attacks on a mosque in Brest, which caused two people seriously injured. The French police confirmed that the perpetrators belong to the far-right. In addition, two swimming pools were closed in Ghaznobel after a controversy over the wearing of swimsuits known as Burkini. There is disagreement over the Muslim clothing covering the face and body, which many consider to be a subjugating woman in a country with strict secular laws, however, France has the largest number of Muslims in Europe and the first European country to ban the full hijab in public places. More seriously, the European Court of Human Rights upheld the banning of the full hijab in public places in 2014, rejecting the legal arguments enshrined in the European Convention on Human Rights such as the freedom of thought and religion and the freedom of clothing.

Along with all these decisions, which clearly violate the rights of Muslim women in Europe, fashion companies followed the same phase, preventing the sale of the modest sportswear for women who wear hijab after being criticized.

The far-right politicians opposed Burkini, announcing their stance on social media. For instance, a prominent politician in the far-right party said that "Burkini has no place in France, where we have equality between men and women, and any alliances are formed on the French territory is only a violation of France's freedom."

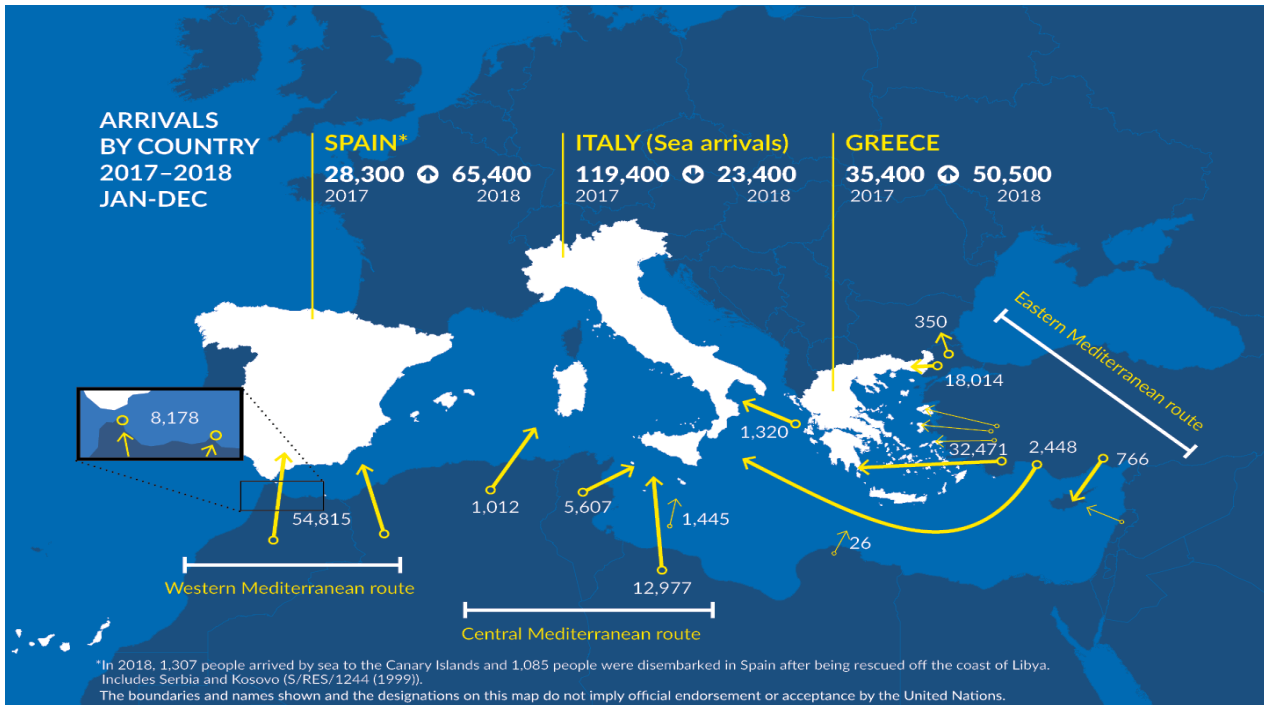
Italy begun implementing its legislation that attacks migrants and refugees. Salvini expressed his hatred of refugees by imposing fines on refugees and preventing them from entering the Italian territory, however, there are requests to the European Commission by the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees, which call for the entry of critical cases to the Italian territory.

Conclusion

June witnessed activities of the far-right more than months of April and May, whereas it included actions taken to target refugees and migrants and other terrorist operations in violation of the legal rules and conventions that European countries have recognized to protect human rights in Europe. According to the monitoring of June, France and Germany were the most European countries that restrict the role of the far-right in their own countries, while Italy was completely under the control of Salvini's decisions.

The policies of the far-right are not temporary policies that can be measured in months, but they are permanent and continuous policies for several reasons, including economic reasons, considering immigration and asylum are an economic threat to Europe. These policies are not limited to Arabs and Muslims, whereas the far-right attacks other groups, including Jews.

According to the UNHCR's official figures, the number of displaced persons reached 70.8 million displaced persons, while the number of migrants, who crossed the sea risking their lives, to Europe reached 82,201. The UNHCR has reported that the Mediterranean Sea countries: Greece, Italy and Spain receive the biggest portion of refugees, most of them are Syrians.



The UNHCR continued appeals to allow critical cases of refugees to pass through some European territory are the clearest evidence of the suffering of these organizations in their humanitarian role towards the refugees.

There is a need for further measures to be taken by the European States to enhance refugee access and protection in Europe; to facilitate asylum procedures, including the use of expedited procedures; to improve the quality of reception conditions for those arriving in Europe; to strengthen the response to persons with special needs, in particular unaccompanied and separated children who travel to and across Europe. In addition to following a constant approach to ensure sea rescue and landing at Mediterranean ports; to promote access to safe and legal routes as alternatives to dangerous voyages to those in need of international protection; and to facilitate the timely and safe return of those found to be no longer in need of international protection or who have no urgent humanitarian needs after a fair and effective procedure.

what is happening in Europe is a differentiation in the enjoyment of rights and freedoms enshrined in the European constitutions and conventions ratified by the European countries. All the hostile acts practiced continuously in Europe are under hate speech.

It is expected that the activities of the far-right in some European anti-migrant countries will continue and may even increase significantly, unlike countries that restrict the activities of the far-right. Therefore, several recommendations are made to address these anti-migrant threats:

Ensuring access to safety for persons seeking international protection; applying border protection practices that enable border staff to identify persons with international protection needs; and providing access to rapid and effective registration and recourse procedures, including the use of expedited procedures in the countries of the Mediterranean basin.

Developing a regional and cooperative approach to make rescuing people at sea more predictable, manageable and safe in accordance with the joint proposal of UNHCR and IOM.

Strengthening protection mechanisms for children by integrating unaccompanied and separated asylum-seeking children into national child protection systems, ensuring that children are not detained on the ground of migration; and promoting access to psychosocial support.

Promoting access to safe and legal routes for persons in need of international protection through increasing resettlement commitments and solving obstacles to family reunification

Improving the quality and conditions of reception facilities; ensuring fair and effective asylum procedures; promoting referral and access to support services for people with special needs; facilitating the timely and safe return of those found to be no longer in need of international protection or who have no urgent humanitarian needs after fair and effective procedures; and providing a more effective protection in countries of asylum and transit countries.

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