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RISING NATIONALISM IN EUROPE, XENOPHOBIA AND ISLAMOPHOBIA

Literally, Islamophobia means to fear from Islam. It is used to describe the fear and hate for Muslims and Islam Religion. Islamophobia was first used in year 1991 and came to the agenda again in the eleventh of September.

After the attack made to the World Trade Center in 11th of September, USA occupied Afghanistan, which housed the Al-Qaeda Terrorist Organization who took the attack upon itself. And with the occupation of Iran in 2003, the fuse to the migration wave to the European Continent has been lit. The Arab Spring movement started in the Middle East, and the internal disturbances in Syria that comes after, was the main reason for people to migrate.

Migrations to Europe started based especially on the civil war started in Syria and the internal disturbances experienced in the Middle East. As a result of these migrations, with reasons such as cultural conflicts, social conflicts, economic anxiety, the concern that the level of welfare will decrease, prejudice against refugees and defectors have been formed and the subjects of xenophobia and anti-Islam started come to the agenda. The people of Europe see themselves superior to Muslims and there is the sense of racism on the basis for Islamophobia.

There are many reasons for the spreading of Islamophobia in European societies. Generally, it is suggested that these reasons originated from Islam and its followers. It is accepted that the Muslims in Europe paved the way for Islamophobia with their ideas that show incompatibility with the modern social order and their lifestyles.

Especially the events of terrorism are the most obvious evidence displayed.

Xenophobia exists one way or another in every country that let in immigrants. This situation has been deepening in Europe especially for the last 10 years. This intolerance to foreigners arises within the context of political moves and ideologies. European Islamophobia Report was published by the Foundation for Political, Economic and Social Research (SETA). In this report, it is stated that, with the rise of the right, a serious increase in cases of islamophobia was observed and this situation not only poses danger for Muslims, but also for the safety and stability of Europe. Not only the remarks, but also the attacks of Racists, who use the westward migration wave as an excuse, toughened. Muslims became a target in especially developed countries, and oppression and violence against the blacks is still going. Racist groups believe in the superiority of the white and they took it in their stride to resort to violence for especially the immigrant Muslims.