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BAKALÁŘSKÁ PRÁCE

Multikulturalismus v Kanadě a Velké Británii: porovnání dvou anglicky mluvících zemí

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Multikulturalismus v Kanadě a Velké Británii: porovnání dvou anglicky mluvících zemí

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INTRODUCTION

Multiculturalism is a general word that describes a society consisting of different cultures which are trying to coexist in a particular country.

Canada and the UK belong to the world's most multicultural countries. Furthermore, they are both one of the most tolerant to the racial, ethnic and religious diversity. But has the integration of the immigrants to Canada and the UK always been effortless? Being able to integrate newcomers and their families, it is important to ensure social inclusion and equality of opportunities.

Have the newcomers always been accepted by the indigenous people, and what relations have they built between themselves? When European settlers and colonists arrived to Canada, large numbers of Aboriginals died of European diseases to which they lacked immunity. However, Aboriginals and Europeans formed strong economic, religious and military bonds in the first 200 years of coexistence which laid the foundations of Canada.

Although, the history of immigration to these two countries differs cardinally, the British people occur in both: being the indigenous inhabitants of Great Britain and a colonizing nation in Canada.

This paper presents a probe into how multiculturalism has been developing in these two countries. On the basis of this research, there were a few chapters written, each of them corresponding with the separate and deeper parts of this thesis in order to analyse the history of the immigration to Canada and the United Kingdom, and to compare the conditions of integration into these countries, that immigrants have today.

Looking back at the past, taking into account a present situation and predicting the future consequences, it is possible to say that there were most steps taking in order to reach an equality, but religious and racial discrimination remain an issue.

Chapter 1 provides an overview of the immigration to the UK, starting from the second half of the twentieth century, the descriptions of policies applied by British government and consequences that they brought.

Afterwards, the postwar wave of immigration to Canada and the development of multiculturalism, including the adoption of Immigration acts, regulations and policies are described in Chapter 2.

Chapter 3 is related to the development of the immigration policy in the UK from the 1990s acts until a current version.

Similarly, in Chapter 4 it is possible to find information about the changes in the Canadian immigration policy introduced in 1995-2010.

Chapter 5 includes some statistics showing an ethnic diversity of both countries and a general attitude towards immigrants.

In addition, there were the interviews conducted with a British- and Canadianborn people, in order to get the information about what they think of the immigration, whether they do or do not consider it an issue, and how they feel about immigrants.

1.GREAT BRITAIN

The fact, that the Great Britain has been a major imperial power for 290 years and still has had a good relationship with its ex-colonial territories, notably impacted its politics of race.

The restrictions on entry into the UK for people from the Indian subcontinent, Africa and the Caribbean were a mirroring of the general assumptions about the undesirability of settlement of the groups, whose physical and cultural features were different from the local people. During the first post-war period, informal and basically unnoticeable regulatory methods almost undeniably had a significant influence on immigration and settlement.

At the beginning of the century, people born within the British Empire (United Kingdom, and the Colonies: Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the Union of South Africa, Newfoundland, India, Pakistan, Southern Rhodesia and Ceylon) had full nationality rights in Britain. The British Nationality Act of 1948 conferred the status of British citizen on all Commonwealth subjects and allowed them to work and settle in the UK. Also, they could bring their families with them.¹

On 22 June 1948, The *SS Empire Windrush* liner with 500 settlers from Jamaica arrived to London. They were invited by British government due to the employment shortages in state-run services as the NHS and London Transport.

http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/pathways/citizenship/brave_new_world/citizenship4.html, accessed at 17 Nov. 2020.

¹ The National Archives. Available at:

Their arrival was the first wave of post-war mass migration to Britain from the Commonwealth, especially the Caribbean, and later India.²

Hampshir (2005, p. 10) says: "In 1948 there were just a few thousand non-white people living in the country, mostly concentrated in sea ports, but by 1968 there were over a million. Today's ethnic minority communities, which make up around 8 per cent of the total population, are largely the descendants of these immigrants".

Although at the beginning of the 1960's the population of Asian and black people represented 0.25 per cent, after the Commonwealth Immigrants Bill became law and was published in 1962 their population doubled and was increasing. The growth of Asian and black communities in Britain happened immediately before and after the Act. Before the Bill, the size of the Asian and black population was very little and its presence was considered by many as temporary. After the 1962 Act their population was growing fast and their communities started to consider themselves and be considered by others as permanent. At the end of the 1960s, for the first time in British history, non-white communities of a significant size could be found in many of big cities in the north and Midlands. During the next two decades, these played a huge role in local politics and economies, and significantly influenced on the formation of national culture (Spencer, 1997).

Spencer (1997, p.14) mentions: "Two of the groups whose roots in Britain were greatly strengthened during the Second World War—Muslim lascars from Punjab and Kashmir in the west and those from Sylhet in the east—had been recruited for many decades to crew vessels sailing from Bombay and Calcutta. Protective Government of India latitude restrictions and employer/union

² BBC©2014. Available at:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/timeline/present_timeline_noflash.shtml, 17 Nov. 2020.

agreements generally prevented the engagement of lascars on routes from Britain other than those to and from Indian ports".

Bangladeshi and Pakistani communities grew up in the 1950s and 1960s thanks to their relatives who arrived earlier. One such non-white member was also Farrokh Bulsara, later to be known as Freddie Mercury. Migrants would have been helped financially by their cousins, and vice versa more successful immigrant would have provided his/her help his/her relatives with work positions and accommodation if they are willing to join him/her.

It is not hard to assume that even though those people who came to Britain during the war were expected to return home, they decided to prolong their stay when the war was over and settle in Britain. "Only a third of the 1,000 civilian recruits agreed to accept the government's repatriation terms; most of the rest stayed on in Britain" (Spencer, 1997).

Commonwealth migrants who came to the UK without any inviting employee/employer settled in areas where there were jobs and housing, particularly London, the West Midlands and the North West (Bloch, 2002).

Despite the fact that the war force was welcomed, after the war the officials were trying to prevent immigrants' permanent settlement in Britain. For the Mirpuri and Bangladeshi communities it was not easy to acquire travel documents and cover the costs of the journey, so their growth was not extreme. Although their presence was expected to be temporal, wartime pioneers' families were joining them and were settling on a permanent basis. British government has never been welcoming Asian and black communities of a permanent settlement. Their population in Britain did not succeed to grow seriously between the wars, first of all, because of depressed economic conditions, secondly, because of the various administrative measures applied by

both the British and Indian governments. These were immigration policies focused on the restriction of non-white settlement.

Spencer (1997, p.19) writes: "After the First World War the enthusiasm for repatriation and the application of orders to restrict permanent settlement in Britain to 'coloured' seamen who were British are evidence that wartime contributions were considered insufficient to modify the official determination to prevent the development of Asian and black communities in Britain. After the Second World War a similar pattern was repeated".

In 1958, urban uprisings in Nottingham and Notting Hill consisting attacks on blacks by whites were used as an opportunity to highlight problems associated with black immigration and provided the justification for the introduction of new legislation (Bloch, 2002).

Administrative measures were applied in a period of full employment when labour force was coming from Ireland and Europe. After discussions between 1948 and 1961 at Cabinet, the officials tried to limit Asian and black settlement in Britain, creating the Commonwealth Immigrants Bill (1962) (Spencer, 1997).

Although during this first post-war decade people from all parts of the Empire/Commonwealth could freely enter the United Kingdom as and when they wanted, in practice, through the British immigration policy, which was rather a racially discriminatory immigration policy, the government was trying to make it difficult for Asian and black British immigrants to settle in the United Kingdom (Spencer, 1997).

The significance of the Commonwealth Immigrants Act of 1962 lies in the fact that it was the core for the restrictions that set limitations on the rate of growth of immigrants joining Asian and black communities in Britain. For the first time in law, there was introduced a distinction between the rights of British subjects

born in Britain and holding British-issued passports and British subjects who held passports issued by other Commonwealth governments (Spencer, 1997).

The period between 1962 and 1988 was important because, first of all, it brought to a close virtually all labour migration, through the introduction of legislation, secondly, it saw the arrival of refugees and asylum seekers, in Britain, from all over the world. Up until the 1970s, the majority of refugees in Europe was from European countries, but the 1970s saw the emergence of refugees arriving to Europe in increasing numbers from crisis areas in Africa, Asia and Latin America. The end of colonization contributed, in part, to the change in refugee-producing nations (Loescher, 1993).

Under the Act, only those immigrants, whose parents or grandparents (who had been born, naturalized or adopted in the UK) could enter the UK.

Bloch (2002, p.35) says: "Many Asians could not establish such links and they were admitted at the discretion of the State who set a quota of 1,500 per annum".

During this period the question of immigration occurred in the electoral arena as a mean to gain votes. In 1965, Smethwick, the town north-west of Birmingham was certainly the most colour-conscious, perhaps the most racist, place in Britain. Its Conservative MP, Peter Griffiths, had been elected in the previous year's general election on the slogan "If you want a nigger for a neighbour, vote Labour".

The slogan helped buck national voting trends in 1964. Griffiths refused to disown it: "I would not condemn any man who said that," he told the Times

during his election campaign. "I regard it as a manifestation of popular feeling".3

When a Labour party won the elections in 1964, new measures to control immigration were soon introduced. The White Paper Immigration from the Commonwealth (1965) included the abolishment of the work category that included semi-skilled and unskilled workers and the reduction of the numbers who could come into Britain under the other two categories: people with jobs and people with skills that were in demand. Although primary labour migration decreased, more and more people were joining their relatives, who had already been living in Britain (Booth, 1992).

In 1965, the Government introduced Race Relations Act to address the prohibition of racial discrimination in public places and followed previously unsuccessful bills. The following Race Relations Act 1968 included the banning of discrimination within employment, housing and advertising.⁴

The Commonwealth Immigrants Advisory Council (CIAC) was appointed in July 1962 and the National Committee for Commonwealth Immigrants (NCCI) appointed in September 1965 with the purpose to control the numbers of immigrants therefore the affluence of arriving people does not distress the social, economic and cultural balance of the receiving society (Hampshir, 2005).

Bloch (2002, p.35) notes that "like earlier legislation the 1968 Act also coincided directly with a period of economic decline and most significantly in terms of the employment of people from minority ethnic groups, the onset of de-

³ © 2020 Guardian News & Media. Available at: https://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/oct/15/britains-most-racist-election-smethwick-50-years-on, accessed at 18 Nov. 2020.

⁴ © UK Parliament 2020. Available at: https://www.parliament.uk/about/living-heritage/transformingsociety/private-lives/relationships/collections1/race-relations-act-1965/race-relations-act-1965/, 18 Nov. 2020.

industrialization".

In the 1970 election campaign, voters considered immigration one of the most important issues. However, a major part of Conservatives and almost all Labor candidates did not mention it directly while giving their election speeches. Conservative promises to put an end to future sweeping immigration significantly helped the party to achieve the success, especially in the West Midlands (Spencer, 1997).

The Immigration Act of 1971 (which became law in 1973) was to finally cease new permanent primary migration from the Indian sub-continent, the Caribbean and Africa to the United Kingdom. While the rights of dependants, achieved with the Acts of 1962 and 1968, were kept, the Act of 1971 guaranteed that a major Asian and black immigration, especially the rebuilding of South Asian families, would suffer (Spencer, 1997).

The Act created an exceptional detail to British citizenship based on the concept of patrials and non-patrials (Goulbourne, 1998). Commonwealth citizens whose fathers were born in the UK were allowed to entry; it extended this provision to include any citizen of a Commonwealth nation whose grandparents were born in Britain. This was the so-called "patrial" definition. (It also includes a person born in the UK, a naturalised citizen and former Commonwealth citizens).

The Act restricted the entrance to Britain for "non-patrials", including UK passport holders, who were subject to very tough rules and examinations before they get into the country, and same strict conditions once they get in. ⁵

According to Bloch (2002, p. 37): "The patriality clause created racially defined categories that excluded almost all non-white Commonwealth citizens

⁵ © 2020 Guardian News & Media. Available at: https://www.theguardian.com/politics/1971/feb/24/past.fromthearchive, accessed at 25 Nov. 2020.

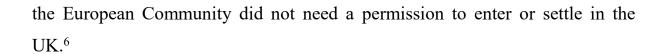
from entry. In addition, the Act also changed the status of employment vouchers to work permits that did not carry rights for permanent residency or entry for dependants. Layton-Henry".

With the adoption of the 1981 British Nationality Act the rights to citizenship were reduced even more. There were created three categories of United Kingdom and Commonwealth citizenship: British citizens, British Dependent Territories citizens and British Overseas citizens. People in the first category had all the rights of settlement in the UK. Under the Act, British Oversea citizens, of mostly Asian origin, were excluded from living in Britain and the immediate rights to citizenship, to those born in the UK, terminated, thus the Act was condemned for enhancing racial discrimination (Layton-Henry, 1992).

Hampshir states (2005, p. 43): "The 1981 British Nationality Act (BNA 1981) repealed BNA 1948 and established a new citizenship schema. It created three main categories of citizenship: British citizenship; British Dependent Territories Citizenship (BDTC); and British Overseas Citizenship (BOC). The concept of British as opposed to UK citizenship was wholly new, and was defined to the exclusion of the colonies and Commonwealth countries. The shift in nomenclature from CUKC to British citizenship reflected the fact that this legal category was now founded upon membership of the national community".

The Immigration Act of 1988 contained changes intended, on the one hand, to restrict the right of entry of Commonwealth citizens' (those, who came before 1973) dependants and on the other hand, to simplify the process of solving with overstayers and illegal immigrants (Spencer, 1997).

This act ensured that only one wife or widow of a polygamous marriage had a right to enter the country. It also ensured people with freedom of movement in



⁶ © 2020 BBC. Available at: https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-24463873, accessed at 25 Nov. 2020.

2. CURRENT UK POLICY

At the end of the twentieth century Britain was an ethnically diverse country.

Between 1995 and 2000 the newest problem the Immigration Service faced was the growth of asylum seekers.

When the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996 came into force, it set out the law on the prevention of illegal working. It made it a criminal offence for employer's to employ someone aged 16 or over, who has no right to work in the United Kingdom, or no right to do the work we are offering (Section 8).

In 1997 the Labour Government came to power and a more active reconsidering of the ideas of citizenship and belonging, and their interconnection, was processed. In the 1998 White Paper (titled *Fairer*, *faster and firmer - a modern approach to immigration and asylum*) the Government states that "the Government believes that more should be done to promote citizenship positively amongst the immigrant population, reflecting the multi-cultural and multi-racial society which we have become" with some low-key propositions to quicken the process of applying for citizenship.

The Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 removed benefits from asylum seekers and created the National Asylum Service to house them, taking pressure off local authorities. Its aim was to consider the conditions that will be applied to people prior to their arrival in the United Kingdom; to affect the way in which people are coped with at ports upon arrival in the United Kingdom; to affect how they are dealt with once they are here; to fight against illegal entry and reinforce powers to deal with other people not authorized to enter or stay in the country; to support asylum seekers in need. Among the 1999 Act provisions

⁷ East Dunbartonshire Council. Available at: https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/asylum-and-immigration-act-1996—summary-information, accessed at 15 Dec. 2020.

there are: a reform on asylum process to ensure that most cases will be decided within six months; a new legal framework for detention of asylum seekers and the restriction on marriage for immigration purposes.⁸

Only in the 2002 White Paper, the implications of diversity for citizenship were elaborated. The White Paper clearly includes various forms of membership in the political community. "Common citizenship is not about cultural uniformity, nor is it born out of some narrow and out-dated view of what it means to be "British" "Comparing to earlier government statements on such issues, this indicates a renewed and progressive attitude towards the relationship between political membership and national identity.

Asylum and Immigration Act 2004 introduced a single form of appeal that remains to this day and made it a criminal offence to destroy travel documents. It limited access to support for those told to leave the UK.⁹

The Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006 replaced Section 8 of the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996 in respect of employment. Under the 2006 Act, "employers have a duty to prevent illegal working in the UK by carrying out prescribed document checks on people before employing them to ensure they are lawfully allowed to work. These checks should be repeated in respect of those who have time-limited permission to work in the UK". 10

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⁸ © 2020 Guardian News & Media. Available at: https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/libertycentral/2009/jan/13/immigr ation-asylum-act, accessed at 15 Dec. 2020.

⁹© 2020 BBC. Available at: https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-24463873, accessed at 15 Dec. 2020.

¹⁰ An employer's guide to right to work checks. Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/att achment_data/file/571001/Employer_s_guide_to_right_to_work_checks.pdf, accessed at 15 Dec. 2020.

A five-tier points system for entry visas granting was created. Cerna (2016, p. 164) explains: "Each tier would require the immigrant to score a certain number of points to gain entry clearance or leave to remain (permanent residence) in the UK. In all tiers, points would be awarded for criteria which indicated that the individual was likely to comply with immigration requirements. In Tiers 1 and 2, applicants would receive points for criteria such as age, previous salary or prospective salary and qualifications-a system similar to the existing HSMP. Tier 2 incorporated the main body of the work permit system, with advice on shortage occupations given by a new body-the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC). This body was meant to provide independent, evidence-based labour market advice to the Home Office and would bring together existing labour market intelligence from the Skills for Business network and add some capacity (Home Office 2006). The government then expanded the scope of the MAC, asking it, for example, to determine which jobs should be on the Tier 2 shortage occupation list or recalibrate the points for Tier 1 high-skilled immigrants".

The UK Borders Act 2007 accorded extensive powers to the Borders and Immigration Agency (now known as the UK Border Agency), which is responsible for securing borders of the United Kingdom and controlling migration, including visa, citizenship and asylum applications. It gave immigration officers like powers that police officers have, such as increased custody and a search-and-entry roles. Under this Act biometric identity documents for non-EU immigrants became compulsory, there was permitted an automatic deportation of some foreign residents (in two cases: if they are imprisoned for specific offences or they are imprisoned for more than one year), additional reporting and residency conditions were imposed on immigrants granted limited leave to remain.

The Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Act 2009 is the latest to attempt to modify the law on immigration, asylum and nationality. It includes the citizenship and child protection aspects of the Partial Immigration and Citizenship Bill which was published for consultation in July 2008. It implemented the modifications of the rules on naturalisation (residents in the UK need to have a certain residential status for eight years before being eligible for naturalisation and five years if the reason of naturalisation is marriage), the registration as British citizens of foreign born children to British mothers and children born in the UK whose parent is a foreign or commonwealth member of the British armed forces; powers to take fingerprints; an allowance to customs officials and immigration officers to share information. There was created a new category of temporary leave to remain, entitled "probationary citizenship leave".

When the bill was first published, the Liberal Democrat shadow home secretary, Chris Huhne, was disappointed and said: "This is the eighth immigration bill since 1997, but the government is no nearer to solving the key problems. Instead of making legal migrants jump through hoops for citizenship, the priority should be the immediate reintroduction of exit checks and proper border controls". ¹²

The Immigration Act 2014 introduced changes to the removals and appeals system, it made it easier and quicker to emigrate those who have no right to be in the UK, ended the mistreat of the right "to respect for family and private life

¹¹ © UK Parliament 2020. Available at:https://services.parliament.uk/bills/2008-09/borderscitizenshipandimmigrationhl.html, accessed at 20 Dec. 2020.

¹² © 2020 Guardian News & Media. Available at: https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/libertycentral/2009/feb/13/civil-liberties-immigration, accessed at 20 Dec. 2020.

and prevented illegal immigrants accessing and abusing public services or the labour market" (Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights). ¹³

The Immigration Act 2014 established many effective measures meant to reduce illegal immigration and to make it more difficult for illegal migrants to live and work in the UK.

On 12 May 2016, the Immigration Act 2016 came into force, making it officially UK law. Under this Act employers who hire illegal migrants and those employees themselves face criminal sanctions; migrants who do not have permission to be in the UK can have certain privileges revoked (e.g. freezing of the bank account and seizing of driver's license). Measures in the act make the UK a less attractive place for illegal migrants and those who try to make use of them. According to the Bill there was a new tax on the professional activities of enterprises that import migrant workers into the country introduced, in order to decrease a dependence on imported labour and to enhance the skills of young people in the UK. ¹⁴

In his speech on immigration the Prime Minister, David Cameron, said: "We reduce the demand for skilled migrant labour and crack down on the exploitation of low-skilled workers". 15

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immigration-bill, accessed at 27 Dec. 2020.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-bill-2015-overarching-documents/immigration-bill-201516-overview-factsheet, accessed at 27 Dec. 2020.

https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-speech-on-immigration, accessed at 27 Dec. 2020.

¹³ © Crown copyright. Available at:

¹⁴© Crown copyright. Available at:

¹⁵ © Crown copyright. Available at:

3. CANADA

Canada is a country where Aboriginal People are mixed with the two founding nations (French and British) and with the flows of other peoples.

With a comparative decline in immigration from Europe, since it started to prosper, "white only" Canada, whose restrictions on non-whites lasted from 1867 till 1965, started to change in the 1960s and welcomed the world. Present Canadian diversity— over 200 ethnic origins — praises its openness, while Aboriginal people accounted only 4.9% of the country's total population in 2016 (Griffith, 2015).

Canada has been involved in four major wars. Namely, the War of 1812 (as a British colony), the First World War, the Second World War, and the Korean War. Canadian troops made major contributions and were awarded signatory status at the Treaty of Versailles in 1919. This country lost many brave soldiers and a great number of others were wounded.

Richmond (1969, p.9) indicates: "Since the end of World War II approximately three million immigrants have come to Canada and probably over two million have settled permanently. Two thirds of the post-war immigrants were not of British origin. A quater were of Western or Northern European origin, 21% of Southern European origin and 12% of Eastern European origin".

In 1947 when The Canadian Citizenship Act was adopted, the residents of Canada could get citizenship regardless of their country of origin, yet Canadian born people and naturalized immigrants were classified as British subjects.

As soon as the Canadian Citizenship Act of 1947 was passed, Canadians stopped being considered British subjects (Guo, 2015).

The Immigration Act of 1952 was the first new immigration act since 1910. Actually, it did not bring any big changes since the previous legislation, since it

mostly set out existing practices and strengthened the powers of the governor-in-council (i.e. federal cabinet).

Since the end of the Second World War to the early 1960s, the regulation of immigration to Canada was based on the immigrant's country of origin. The Immigration terms for those who come from England, France, United-States, and some other were eased to a minimum. The others had to go through more complex procedures, depending whether their professional skills were or not in demand those years in Canada (Hampshir, 2005).

Historically, Canada had depended on the Western Europe, in particular Great Britain, as the prime supplier of immigrants to Canada. After World War II, all immigrants from the United States, United Kingdom and other European countries were welcomed in Canada. Nevertheless, in the 1960s, the Canadian immigration policy changed putting more emphasis on educational and occupational skills as criteria for selecting immigrants. Financed immigrants coming for the reason of family unification and refugee settlement constituted a big part of immigration.¹⁶

In the time of a significant unemployment, as was the case in 1955-1961, the immigration authorities reduced the number of immigrant visas granted, therethrough placed a serious control on the immigrants flow. However, when workers were on demand, the authorities rapidly removed many restriction that were temporary. Rawlyk (1962, p. 287) remarks: "These years, the absence of restrictions made one member of Parliament remark, "If you put pants on a penguin, it could be admitted to this country".

In 1960, Mrs. Ellen Fairclough, the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration (the first woman Cabinet Minister), proposed a policy that was different from

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¹⁶ Canada.ca. Available at: https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/csj-sjc/jsp-sjp/rp02 8-dr02 8/p3.html, accessed at 3 Jan. 2020.

the Liberal policies, implied earlier, only in one important part - a new selection criterion, based primarily upon the immigrant skills (Corbett, 1963).

The new regulations have not been accepted with much excitement. Most observers did not want to judge until they see the Department of Citizenship and Immigration's the new policy in practice. However, it was one step forward in the new Canada's immigration policy. With the changes in the Canadian immigration policies in the 1960s, race-based practices switched to a merit-based point system (Rawlyk, 1962).

In 1967, under the Liberals, Canada became the first country in the world to adopt a "points" system for immigrants. Under new regulations introduced during Canada's centennial year (a year-long celebration held in 1967 when Canada celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Canadian Confederation), Canadian immigration offices could no longer discriminate on the basis of race.

Griffith (2015, p.61) writes: "In many ways, like other policies and programs in the 1960s, this change reflected a conscious and bipartisan choice that Canada should become a more open and inclusive society. The shared assumption was that immigrants would arrive, integrate, become citizens and participate in Canadian society".

The White Paper on Immigration was a policy document with suggestions that Canada should focus on recruiting qualified immigrants and intensify the control on sponsored immigration in order to avoid a flow of unskilled workers, in other words it restricted the practice of sponsorship for non-citizens. Regardless of the fact that the suggestion was openly criticized, the White paper provided the foundation for new immigration regulations in 1967.

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¹⁷ Library of Congress. Available at: https://www.loc.gov/law/help/points-based-immigration/canada.php, accessed at 3 Jan. 2020.

The immigration regulations, enforced in 1967, introduced new criteria for evaluating future immigrants. So that the admissions procedures were objective, independent immigrants were evaluated in the following categories: education, occupational skills, employment prospects, age, knowledge of English and French, personal character and other merits. Immigrants who received 50 points or more out of a possible 100 were allowed to entrer, despite their race, ethnicity or national origin.¹⁸

"Between 1941 and 1961, the proportion of Canadians originally from Europe, other than British and French, further increased; in 1941, they made up 17.8 percent of the total Canadian population, by 1961, they rose to 22.6 percent. In contrast, those of British origin declined in relative terms from 49.7 percent in 1941 to 43.8 percent in 1961. Thus, the expansion in ethnic diversity between 1941 to 1961 was also in the direction of increasing the proportion of Canadians of European origin other than British and French, and decreasing the proportion of Canadians of British origin". 19

The Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism in Canada (B and B Commission) was established by Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson in 1963. Laurendeau and A. Davidson Dunton, a prominent educator and journalist, were appointed co-chairmen of the commission, so it is also known as the Laurendeau-Dunton Commission. As one of the most influential commissions in Canadian history, it was a response to the growing unrest among French Canadians in Quebec, who called for the protection of their language and culture, and opportunities to participate fully in political and economic decision

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¹⁸ Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21

^{© 2020.} Available at: https://pier21.ca/research/immigration-history/white-paper-on-immigration-1966, accessed at 17 Jan. 2020.

¹⁹ Canada.ca. Available at: https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/csj-sjc/jsp-sjp/rp02 8-dr02 8/p2.html, accessed at 17 Jan. 2020.

making. The commission's findings led to the creation of the Official Languages Act.

Chairmen of the commission were asked to examine the growing disturbance of French Canadians. By the time the commission has been called, Quebec had begun its quiet revolution. It was a period characterized by the rise of francophone nationalism, fast modernization, extensive secularization, and an opposition to the dominance of anglophones in political and economic domains.

In 1965, the Commission presented a Preliminary Report that contained a belief in a national crisis.

The commission had three main goals: it intended to evaluate the level of bilingualism of the federal government, to survey the role of organization in establishing better French-English relations and to estimate the opportunities for Canadians to become bilingual in both: French and English. In other words, its goal was to reduce inequalities towards French Canadians.

In 1969, the Official Languages Act was passed, making institutional bilingualism at the federal level in fact, although during to hearing of Laurendeau-Dunton Commission all across Canada, many non-British and non-French disproved the concept of bicultural Canada, arguing that there were more than just French and English cultures.

This argument was accepted by the B and B Commission, but they researched it further. As a result, six books were published between 1965 and 1970, and one of them was entitled *The Cultural Contribution of the Other Ethnic Groups* (1969). ²⁰

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²⁰ The Canadian Encyclopedia © 2020. Available at: https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/royal-commission-on-bilingualism-and-biculturalism, accessed at 15 Feb. 2020.

In the Report the two terms assimilation and integration started to be distinguished. Integration meant accepting immigrants with their cultural, language and history diversity, without denying these identity features. It admits that most minority groups prefer integration, keeping culture and language of their origin, to assimilation and losing these major characteristics of their identity.

In 1971, Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau created Canada's multiculturalism policy, which was built upon the B&B Commission's work. This policy had identified the following programs: Multicultural Grants, Culture Development, Ethnic Histories, Canadian Ethnic Studies, Teaching of Official Languages, and Federal Cultural Agencies, and fourteen recommendations (e.g., the teaching of languages other than English and French and cultural programs in public elementary schools). In fact, it was planned to prevent the rising of French-Canadian nationalism, to promote exchanges amongst cultural groups and to assist immigrants to learn an official language (Griffith, 2015).

Canada was the first country in the world to adopt multiculturalism policy. Through multiculturalism, Canada acknowledges the potential of all Canadians (either born or naturalized), encourages them to integrate into Canadian society and participate in its social, cultural, economic and political events. The 1971 Multiculturalism Policy of Canada confirmed the rights of Aboriginal peoples and the status of Canada's two official languages.²¹

Guo (2015, p.2) writes: "Subsequently, Canada's official multiculturalism policy was written into Canada's constitution in 1983 and then in 1988 when Canada's first Multiculturalism Act was passed in parliament led by then Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. The provinces followed suit with some form of

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²¹ The Canadian Encyclopedia © 2020. Available at: https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/multiculturalism, accessed at 4 Mar. 2020.

multiculturalism policy or enacted legislation. Saskatchewan was the first in 1974, followed by Ontario in 1977, then Alberta, Manitoba, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and P.E.I. in the 1980s, B.C. in 1993 and finally Newfoundland in 2008".

During the 1970s Canada was receiving a decent number of refugees, thus in response to these and other worries the Immigration Act of 1976 was implemented.

The Immigration Act of 1976 was a significant shift in Canadian immigration legislation, as there were included future plans of Canadian immigration policy, refugees were classified as an evident class of immigrants and laid the cornerstone for discussions on immigration planning and management with other levels of government with obligation to the federal government. Under this Act there were recognized three categories of immigrants: family, refugee and independent. The Act was widely supported by social and political sides received as it was considered as a positive piece of legislation (Gosh&Pyrce, 1999).

By the 1980s, the "Third Force" Canadians (a term that refers to Canadians of other than British and French origin) became more ethnically diverse, thus the idea of the multiculturalism policy has appeared as a way to preserve a cultural multiplicity, though many members of the visible minority faced racism and discrimination in Canadian society. ²²

When the UK Parliament passed the Canada Act (a landmark document in Canadian history) in 1982 Canada obtained full independence. The act granted full sovereignty to Canada and a possibility to change its Constitution without approval from Britain. Finally after the passing of the

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²² Canada.ca. Available at: https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/csj-sjc/jsp-sjp/rp02 8-dr02 8/p5.html, accessed at 12 Mar. 2020.

British North America Act (on July 1, 1867), when the Dominion of Canada was officially established as a self-governing entity within the British Empire, and the passing of The Statute of Westminster by the UK Parliament in 1931, acknowledging Canada as co-equal with the United Kingdom within the British Commonwealth, Canada achieved its true independence. The Canada Act (1982) also enshrined *the Charter of Rights and Freedoms* in Canada's Constitution, the highest law of the land.²³

Although many of the documents in Canada's Constitution do not have an official French-language version (the Constitution Act, 1867 has no official French-language version, as it was enacted by the United Kingdom Parliament), in the Sections 55–57 of the Constitution Act 1982 this situation was changed. Section 55 required French versions of all parts of the Constitution that exist only in English. Section 56 validated an equal authority of both: English-language and French-language version.²⁴

Li (2000, p.5) writes: "In 1986, members of visible minorities made up 6.3 percent of Canada's population; by 1991, they climbed to 9.4 percent; and by 1996, 11.2 percent (Statistics Canada, 1998). Among the 3.2 million people who identified themselves as members of a visible minority in 1996, Chinese origin accounted for 27 percent, South Asian origin, 21 percent, and Black, 18 percent (Statistics Canada, 1998)".

The 1988 Canadian Multiculturalism Act essentially codified the 1971 policy statement by recognizing all Canadians, "whether by birth or by choice, equal,

²⁴ Final Report of the French Constitutional Drafting Committee. Available at: https://web.archive.org/web/20030923020754/http://www.justice.gc.ca/en/ps/const/loireg/intro.html, accessed at 15 Mar. 2020.

²³ The Canadian Encyclopedia © 2020. Available at: https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/constitution-act-1982, accessed at 15 Mar. 2020.

entitling to the same rights, powers and privileges and making them subject to the same obligations, duties and liabilities". ²⁵

Canada was the first country in the world to pass a national multiculturalism law. Still today, the Act serves as the legal framework for Canada's multiculturalism policy. The Act recognizes multiculturalism as a fundamental element of Canadian society with an essential role in the decision-making process of the federal government. Focused on the strengthening of multiculturalism in Canada, the Act aims to promote the preservation of culture and language, reduce discrimination, raise awareness and understanding of cultures, as well as promote cultural changes at the federal level.

The Act enhances the recognition of diversity, as well as the achievement of equality as its main objectives. Although the Policy and the Act were mainly formulated at the time when religious diversity was not very significant, and accommodation issues less widespread, the concepts of recognition and equality applies to both religious and non-religious diversity. ²⁶

Since the second half of the 1980s, Canada has been accepting from 225,000 to 275,000 immigrants every year. Canada also has one of the world's highest naturalization rates compared to other countries. About 85% of newcomers become citizens.

In the late 1980s, concerns about Canada's unity reappeared. Some opponents of multiculturalism believed that ethnic minorities' reluctance to abandon the cultures of their countries of origin could threaten Canadian identity. According to them, multiculturalism encouraged the separation of double and multiple

²⁵ Government of Canada. Available at: https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/c-18.7/page-1.html, accessed at 5 Apr. 2020.

²⁶ © Library of Parliament. Available at: https://lop.parl.ca/sites/PublicWebsite/default/en_CA/ResearchPublications/200 920E, accessed at 7 Apr. 2020.

identities and, thus, did not allow citizens to simply call themselves Canadians.²⁷

Li (2000, p.6) says: "In total, for the 28-year period from 1968 to 1995, Canada admitted 4.4 million immigrants, of which 39.5 percent came from Asia, 5.1 percent from Africa, and 7.1 from the Caribbean".

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²⁷ The Canadian Encyclopedia © 2020. Available at: https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/multiculturalism, accessed at 7 Apr. 2020.

4. CURRENT POLICY IN CANADA

In the 1990s, federal multiculturalism policies and programs focused more on removing barriers of the economic and social engagement of immigrants and certain minorities. In 1995, the federal government adopted the Employment Justice Act, which required the collection of information to determine the degree of underrepresentation of individuals in certain groups, in particular in the country's visible minorities. Since 1996, the census has been collecting information on visible minorities in Canada and multiculturalism focused on eliminating racism and discrimination, helping institutions to respond more sensitively to Canada's diversity.²⁸

Between 1990 and 2002, 49 percent of immigrants to Canada were from the economic class, 34 percent were from the family reunification category and 13 percent were humanitarian cases.²⁹

Griffith (2015, p. 64) affirms: "Since Canada is a country of immigrants, many of whom have been here for generations, it is not surprising that a large number of Canadians report multiple ethnic origins — about 42 percent overall. The rate varies by community, however. European communities have the highest level of multiple-origin members (around 80 percent), and Asian communities have the least (less than 10 percent)".

In 1991-2000 the naturalization rate was over 90%, yet it declined to 77% in 2001-2005 and to 38% in 2006-2007. Today, over 20% of Canada's 35 million

²⁸ The Canadian Encyclopedia © 2020. Available at: https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/multiculturalism, accessed at 15 Apr. 2020.

²⁹ ©2020 Council on Foreign Relations. Available at: https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/canadas-immigration-policy, accessed at 15 Apr. 2020.

people are foreign born, originating for the most part in Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America.³⁰

Although challenges remain regarding the status of indigenous peoples, over the past 60 years, an esteem for diversity has become a basic national value and a root of common civic identity.

After the Quiet Revolution and the Quebec sovereignty movement, the Quebec government began to play a much more active role in immigration policy. Immigration to the province started to be regarded as a way to strengthen the francophone part of Quebec society. In 1968, Quebec established its own immigration department.

Quebec's control over immigration issues that relate exclusively to Quebec was secured in the 1990s, when the Canada-Quebec According Relating to Immigration and Temporary Admission of Aliens was signed. The arrangement and the following renegotiations with the federal government gave Quebec control over developing its own annual immigration plan, and the exclusive responsibility of choosing immigrants who wish to settle in the province (excepted of refugees and family reunification classes). New immigrants of the province are provided with settlement and integration support, with partial federal funding support.³¹

The 1976 act, which gave priority to family reunification and humanitarian affaires, than economic interests, was replaced in 2001 with the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act, a policy that highlights education, language, and adaptability.

³⁰ © 2020 Global Centre for Pluralism. Available at: https://www.pluralism.ca/canada/, accessed at 17 Apr. 2020.

³¹ MarpleLeafWeb. Available at: https://www.mapleleafweb.com/features/immigration-policy-canada-history-administration-and-debates.html, accessed at 17 Apr. 2020.

When the Immigration and Refugee Act of 2001 was introduced, there were new classes and procedures created: Federal Skilled Worker Program (makes up around 81% of all economic immigrant admissions; they are assessed using other points-system criteria — education, age, proficiency in English or French, and adaptability), Temporary Worker Program (initially made for skilled labour shortages essentially in the Alberta oil patch; in 2002 hospitality, food, construction, and manufacturing were added to this program); Arranged Employer Opinion, Provincial Nominee Program.

The expansion of economic migration programs has resulted in a change of the types of immigrants entering Canada. In the mid 1980s, approximately 50 percent of immigrants were admitted based on family preferences, 30 percent were economic migrants, and 18 percent were refugees. By 2009, 38.1 percent of all temporary and permanent admissions were in the family reunification class, 46.9 percent were in the economic class, 8.6 percent were refugees, and just over 6 percent were classified as "other", a class including those admitted on humanitarian or compassionate grounds and provincial/territorial nominees.

In the last ten years, Canada has become one of the leading refugee resettlement countries in the world. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees estimates that there are currently 230,604 refugees and asylum-seekers present in Canada. In 2010, Canada admitted 7,265 government-sponsored and 4,833 private-sponsored refugees, representing a 63 percent increase over 2005; combined with those protected persons already in Canada, a total of approximately 23,000 refugees were admitted that year. As of December 31, 2010, there were 51,000 pending asylum claims.

Over the past 15 years, the percentage of refugees coming from Europe has continuously decreased, but in the meantime the percentage of refugees from the Middle East, Africa, and Asia has increased. In 2006 it was estimated that the majority of the refugees settling in Canada were from Afghanistan,

Colombia, Ethiopia, Burma, and Sudan. In 2009, 13 percent of refugees originated in the Asia/Pacific region, and another 13 percent in Central and South America.

One of the most striking reflections of change in recent years has been the origin of Canadian immigrants. A country, that was first dominated by migrants from the UK and Europe, lately has been accepting migrants from the whole world, mainly from South and East Asia.³²

In 2010, the federal government announced reforms to the system for refugee class immigrants. Under the Balanced Refugee Reform Act (Bill C-11), the number of new refugees accepted to the country was increased. They are also provided with more funding as a support in their integration into Canadian society.

The new system classifies refugee applicants into two groups: those from "safe" democratic countries and those from "dangerous" countries. Applicants from safe countries will be fast-tracked under the new system. The legislation aims to limit the number of illegal applications by immigrants looking for easier access to Canada by applying for refugee status.³³

There are many programs available for individuals who wish to enter Canada today, they depend on the purpose of entry and the applicant's circumstances. There are three categories of applications for a permanent residency: family reunification, economic immigration, and refugees. If an individual applies for a

³² © 2001-2020 Migration Policy Institute. Available at: https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/canadas-immigration-policy-focus-human-capital, accessed at 24 Apr. 2020.

³³ © 2010 Canadian Bar Association. Available at: https://www.ourcommons.ca/Content/Committee/403/CIMM/WebDoc/WD456 4195/403BriefsStudyBillC11_PDF/Cdn%20Bar%20Assoc%20E.pdf, accessed at 24 Apr. 2020.

visa based on a family reunification, both -the eligibility of the foreign-born applicant and the eligibility of the family member (who is a Canadian citizen or permanent resident, also known as a sponsor) are examined. The eligibility of the applicant depends on his/her relationship to his/her sponsor. The eligibility of the sponsor, who wishes to bring his/her family member to Canada, depends on factors like: age, residence, enthusiasm and ability to support the applicant.

If the purpose of the application is an economic immigration, a main factor to be qualified if an ability to become economically established in Canada. The goal is to meet Canada's economic and social needs for Canada's benefit. Generally, the applicant is evaluated relying on his/her professional background, education, and an impact on Canada's economic and social needs.

And finally, a foreign national may apply for permanent residency on the basis of his/her personal circumstances- as a refugee. To qualify for this category, the government will review humanitarian grounds as one of the factors.³⁴

³⁴ © Legal Resource Centre of Alberta. Available at: https://www.lawnow.org/a-brief-overview-of-canadian-immigration-law/, accessed at 24 Apr. 2020.

5. THE COMPARISON OF BRITISH AND CANADIAN MULTICULTURALISM

It was estimated that in 2019, approximately 612 thousand people immigrated to the United Kingdom, whereas around 313 thousand people choose Canada as a destination for immigration. It is evident that the UK welcomed almost twice more people than Canada.

Polish people living in the United Kingdom are considered the highest non-British population, followed by Romanians and Indians (Table 4). Most foreign-born individuals in Canada came from India. Second most common country of origin for immigrants in Canada is China, the third one - the Philippines. The United States are on the fifth place.³⁵

Concerning the reason for migration to the UK, the most common one is work. Less foreign-born individuals come to the UK to study and to reunite with their family (Table 3). Asylum is the smallest of the four main categories. The number of non-EU immigrants applying for a residency on the basis of a student is higher than those applying for a residence permit for the purpose of employment (Table 1). ³⁶

The economic immigration class is the leading group of permanent resident newcomers to Canada. The number of family reunification admissions takes the second position. Although, asylum is not the most common reason to immigrate

³⁵ Statista. Available at: https://www.statista.com/statistics/283599/immigration-to-the-united-kingdom-y-on-y/, accessed at 25 Apr. 2020.

³⁶ Statista. Available at: https://migrationobservatory.ox.ac.uk/resources/briefings/immigration-by-category-workers-students-family-members-asylum-applicants/, accessed at 25 Apr. 2020.

to Canada, the proportion of refugees settled in Canada is one of the highest in the world (Table 2).³⁷

The trend from the European Social Survey, which asked a rather different question about whether people of a different race should be allowed to come and live in Britain. This series provides corroborating evidence for a recent softening of attitudes. While the level allowing only 'a few' or 'none' was consistently hovering at around 50% between 2002 and 2012, it had dropped to 43% in 2014, to 32% in 2016, and further to 26% in 2018. ³⁸

In 2015 (the year before the EU referendum), immigration was named as the major issue facing the country. However, after the EU referendum in June 2016, the percentage of people, thinking of immigration as a national issue, decreased from 48% in 2016 to 13% in 2019.

British people have clear preferences regarding immigrants' country of origin. Generally, they are the most tolerant to those who are white, English-speaking, Europeans and Christian. Statistics show that British people would more likely be welcoming immigrants from Australia and France than from Poland and Romania (regardless that it is a European and Christian country). Immigrants from Pakistan and Nigeria would be greeted the least. However, British people see high importance in skills, but lower importance in skin colour and religion (Interview 1).

³⁷ Canada.ca. 2019. Available at: https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/corporate/publications-manuals/annual-report-parliament-immigration-2019.html#s5, accessed at 25 Apr. 2020.

³⁸ © 2020 The Migration Observatory. Available at: https://migrationobservatory.ox.ac.uk/resources/briefings/uk-public-opinion-toward-immigration-overall-attitudes-and-level-of-concern/, accessed at 25 Apr. 2020.

Canadians are generally positive about immigrants. Statistics show that Canadians are much more supportive of immigration than citizens of any of the countries in the world. In recent years, Canada has a selective immigration policy by which people are admitted as permanent residents, only if they meet certain criteria, therefore they can and they do contribute to the country. As the package of policies around immigrant integration is quite supportive and encouraging, the immigrants feel welcomed in the Canadian society.

Canadians perceive their diversity as what makes their community strong and the essence of their values, they are proud of sharing the same home-country with people of different backgrounds, as it is proved in the interview with a Canadian (Interview 2).

Professor Will Kymlicka, one of the leading experts in multiculturalism, says: "Statistics show that Canada is much more supportive of immigration than citizens of any of the countries in the world. Canada has a selective immigration policy, by which people are admitted as permanent residents, only if they meet certain criteria, therefore they can and they do contribute to the country".³⁹

³⁹ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFCpOtKEMNE, accessed at 27 Apr. 2020.

5.1. Interview 1

An interview with a British-born woman concerning the immigration

Are you originally from the UK? Do you have any foreign-born relatives?

- I am originally from the UK with no foreign-born relatives.

Do you think the number of immigrants coming to the UK today should be increased, reduced or it should be the same? Why?

- I think it should be monitored to ensure that services such as the NHS (National Health Service), schools and housing/general infrastructure can cope with an influx of people from abroad as well as the UK citizen population. I think the number of immigrants coming in should reflect the UK's capacity primarily, as well as the availability of jobs (considering UK employment rate and how many people are required to fill jobs where there are knowledge gaps, such as medics).

What are the negative and positive aspects of immigration to the UK?

- Positive - new culture, traditions and festivals; encourages young people to learn about integration and different societies; fill skills gaps; better quality of life for some immigrants (such as asylum seekers)

Negative - in some cases immigrants are poorly received and victim to racism; UK services such as schools/NHS already at/above capacity; growing population size requiring building in green belt areas thus removing countryside spaces and natural beauty of the UK

Do you get to meet many immigrants in your everyday life? If yes, where do they usually come from/ have roots from?

- Yes, I live in Manchester which is a very multi-cultural city. I also studied here, and a large proportion of my degree cohort were Asian and here to study.

In your opinion, what is the most common reason for immigrants to come to the UK? (asylum seekers, to work, marriage, to study, other)

- My perception is that there is a mixture of reasons. I have met some Asylum Seekers from Syria, and as mentioned above many young people come here to study at our universities. I imagine the most prominent reason is to work as wages are relatively high in the UK compared with many European nations.

Do you think that immigration is good for the economy? Does it help businesses to fill gaps in the workforce?

- In many cases yes. Where there are skills gaps, such as in medicine or for example fruit picking farms are known to have a migrant workforce as the work is seasonal and the wages relatively low, thus being unattractive to permanent UK citizens.

Many British people are concerned that immigrants take jobs that would otherwise go to British people. Some of the immigrants come from poorer countries and are willing to work for a lower wage, which may be the reason for the wages reduction. Do you share this opinion?

I don't believe that immigrants come here and take jobs from UK citizens. As mentioned above, many immigrants take jobs that aren't attractive to UK citizens. And, where immigrants are in highly regarded jobs, this is due to merit (ie. well-deserved) or a skills shortage amongst UK citizens.

Do you feel socially insecure or uncomfortable around some particular ethnic groups?

- I sometimes feel uncomfortable if I am the only white person in an area, but I believe this to be a natural feeling of unease as I stand out. I don't feel insecure nor fear being around people of different ethnic groups. In contrast, I actually enjoy the opportunity to mix with people of different backgrounds to learn about culture and festivals/food/traditions.

Do you think that only high-skilled workers should be allowed to stay in the UK?

- I think that the UK could benefit from a more rigorous system of allowing immigrants into the country. For example, those who are skilled in areas that the

UK faces a skills shortage. Or, those who have confirmed employment and will pay taxes and contribute to the economy. A system that is more similar to Australia may be beneficial to control the growth of the population.

If we talk about immigrants coming to Britain to study, do you think that after graduation they should go back to their country or they can stay, because they can contribute to your country?

- I think that the graduates should be given a reasonable period of time in the UK after completing their degree as a part of a study visa. This would allow time for them to look for a job should they want to stay. However, to be consistent with the answer above, if their knowledge/skills aren't put to good use within this time, I think it is only fair that they aren't granted further time in the country.

5.2. Interview 2

An interview with a Canadian-born man concerning the immigration

Were you and your family born in Canada?

- My mother was born in England, father born in Canada, and I was born in Canada.

Do you have any friends that have immigrated to Canada from other countries?

- Yes, my best friend at my school was born in Germany and has come to Canada for university. In addition, I have several other good friends at school that come from other countries.

Do you think that immigrants are taking jobs from Canadian people or do you believe that when they come, it is more likely that they will start new businesses and create new jobs?

- I do not believe that immigrants are taking jobs from Canadians; we have a relatively low natural population growth and need immigration to sustain our economy and fill many of the jobs that don't get done by Canadians alone. Certainly, I think many immigrants bring tremendous value to the country with the skills and ideas that they bring.

In your opinion, are Canadians welcoming and tolerant towards immigrants and the rate of racism in Canada is low?

- I don't know how well I can comment on this because I'm not an immigrant and do not often experience racism myself. I would imagine that racism is certainly common for many immigrants, but that the overall rate of racism is below / better than most other countries (eg: Canadians are generally tolerant towards immigrants)

Would you want the number of immigrants coming to Canada to be limited?

- I don't think there should be completely open borders. However, I don't believe in a hard "limit" or quota on the number of immigrants.

Should those immigrants be highly skilled so that can contribute to your country or it is not necessary?

- I think skilled immigrants are generally the most valuable to the economy, so the government should place effort on recruiting these types of individuals to come to Canada. However, I do not believe this should come at the expense of less skilled immigrants since they often contribute to the country in valuable but less quantifiable ways.

Do you meet many immigrants in your city? What job positions do they usually occupy?

- Both my hometown and university town are small cities and are not very multicultural (mainly white, middle class Canadians). However, I have worked for two summers in Toronto which is the most multicultural city in Canada and I often meet people of many different backgrounds. There are many non-Canadians in high-skill professions such as law, medicine, business, etc, but given that I am not yet very exposed to these industries in my daily life, I most commonly see immigrants in lower skill, lower paying jobs such as restaurants, transit, and other personal services.

Do you think that there are too many immigrants in Canada?

- No.

If you could choose, would you want any of the ethnic groups to stop immigrating to Canada or do you feel tolerant to everybody?

- I feel tolerant to everybody.

Are you proud of Canada being multicultural?

- Yes absolutely – here, almost everybody comes from a family of Canadian immigrants at some point. I believe diversity is a strength, and I believe Canada is generally a welcoming place which I am proud to call home.

CONCLUSION

The history of the integration of immigrants to the United Kingdom and Canada is full of restrictions and regulations, regardless which many people, who have migrated and settled either in the first or in the second aforementioned country, could start a new life. For some of them, though, it was a life filled with discrimination, for others- a life filled with opportunities.

The adoption of the British Nationality Act of 1948 meant that the citizens of the former colonies were given the right to live and work in the UK. Therefore hundreds of millions of people from around the world were eligible to migrate to the UK. Many acts were passed in the following decades, restricting that right. Nowadays, the requirements for immigrating to the UK are now far stricter than 50 years ago.

Canada is one of a few countries where immigration has traditionally been a significant shaping factor in society and culture. In the early twentieth century, Canada started to adopt policies that excluded applicants whose ethnic origins were not European in order to control the flow of immigrants. However, in 1976 ethnic criteria were removed, and so Canada became a destination for immigrants from many countries, which it is still today. The points-based immigration system, that Canada has had since 1967, helps to make the country stronger, and thus embrace the multiculturalism. The package of policies around immigrant integration in Canada is rather supportive and encouraging. Consequently, the immigrants feel welcomed in the Canadian society.

Both, the UK and Canada, are multicultural. Canadians tend to be more tolerant towards immigrants, whereas foreign-born individuals of different race, settling in the UK, are more likely to become victims to the racism. The debate over integration and immigration is related to the problem of national identity.

In the time when Canada was adopting the first multicultural policy, by which it encouraged immigrants to integrate into Canadian society in a way that a cultural multiplicity was preserved, the United Kingdom was trying to make the conditions of immigration for other ethnic groups, especially of people of different races, more and more complex.

Although there are people, whose racist attitude towards immigrants make others feel ashamed of, Canadians, in general, embrace the multiculturalism and they are proud of how Canada is diverse.

Meanwhile, the UK has only recently started to understand that not all immigrants constitute a threat for a British society, and it does not depend on the country of their origin. By accepting immigrants with a tolerance, the they are given a chance to prove themselves among British people, which, consequently, could be beneficial for culture, economics and politics of the country. Canada has already proved that it is possible.

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RESUMÉ

Práce shrnuje informace o procesu imigrace do Velké Británie a Kanady. První část práce je věnována přehledu imigrační politiky přijaté ve Velké Británii na konci druhé světové války. Zahrnuje také informace o tom, jaké byly uloženy podmínky pro přistěhovalectví občanům Společenství, i ostatním, kteří se tam byli ochotni přistěhovat.

Druhá část práce obsahuje seznam imigračních politik, které byly implementovány v Kanadě v období od druhé poloviny dvacátého století až po současnost. Zahrnuje to důvody pro imigraci lidí, kteří se stěhovali do Kanady; vývoj, který vedl k vytvoření první multikulturní politiky na světě.

Součástí práce je popis procesu integrace přistěhovalců do britské a kanadské společnosti pomocí demografie spojené s různými národy, které se přestěhovaly do Kanady a Velké Británie. Byly provedeny dva rozhovory s lidmi narozenými v Británii a Kanadě, aby bylo možné posoudit úroveň rasismu v obou zemích a postoj místních obyvatel k přistěhovalcům.

The thesis summarizes information about the process of immigration to the Great Britain and Canada. The first part of the paper is devoted to an overview of the immigration policies adopted in the Great Britain since the end of the World War II. It also includes an information about what conditions for the immigration were imposed on Commonwealth citizens and other people willing to immigrate.

The second part of the paper contains a list of immigration policies that were implemented in Canada in the period from the second half of the twenties century to the present. It involves the purposes for the immigration that people, who were moving to Canada, had; the development that led to the creation of the first multicultural policy in the world.

The paper covers the process of immigrants integration into British and Canadian society, using the demographics associated with the various nations that have moved to Canada and the United Kingdom There were two interviews conducted with British- and Canadian-born people that it would be possible to assess the level of racism in both countries and the attitude of local people towards immigrants.

ATTACHMENTS

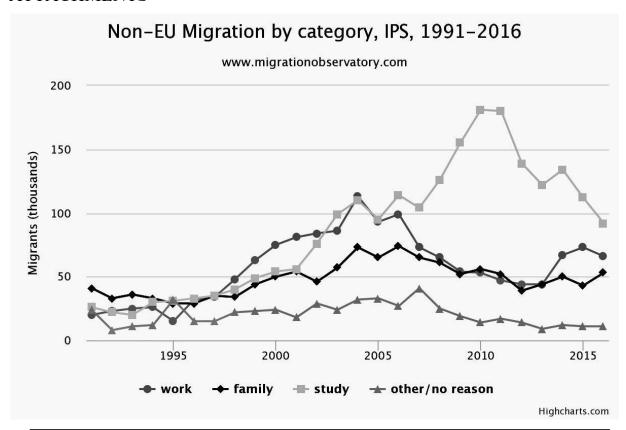


Table 1. Non-EU Migration to the UK by category, 1991-2016. Source: ©2020 The Migration Observatory.

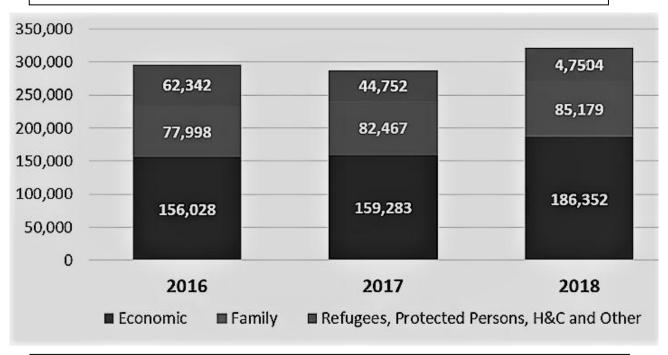


Table 2. Number of permanent resident immigrants in Canada in 2016-2018, by entry category. Source: Canada.ca.

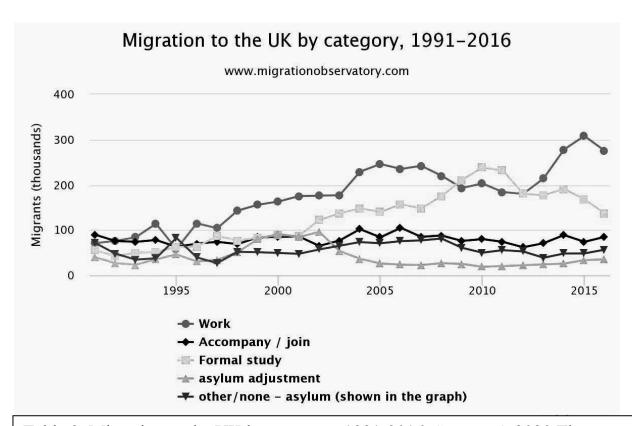


Table 3. Migration to the UK by category, 1991-2016. Source: © 2020 The Migration Observatory.

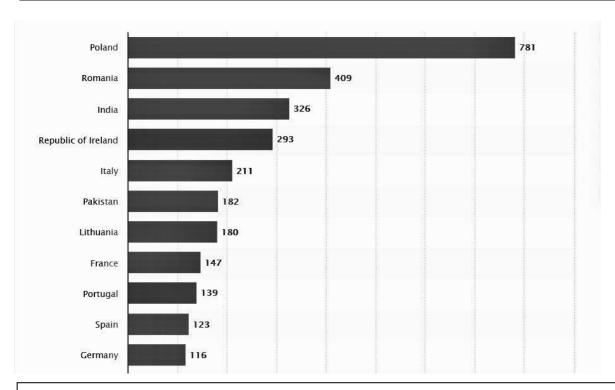


Table 4. Non-British population in United Kingdom (UK) in 2018/19, by leading nationalities. Source: © Statista 2020.