

**LESSON 3. IMMIGRATION.**

**1. Introduction**

The purpose of this lesson is the study of immigration through a specific case, the Finnish case.

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**2. Background**

Immigration was strictly controlled in Finland from the year 1970 to 1984. Most people would give credit to one single person, Ms. Eila Kännö. Ms Kännö worked as the chief of Police Department's Foreign Office under Interior Ministry. She became the embodiment of the Finnish immigration policy because up until the beginning of 1980's Finland lacked laws concerning migration. The only decree stated that one cannot file a complaint of any decision made by the Foreign Office. Ms. Kännö was a Master in Law with court training, and earned the nickname Mrs. Interpol for her liaison with foreign police forces.

Times changed. From rather conservative politics, the country moved to more liberal politics when in 1982 the long-term nationalist President Urho Kekkonen made way to a new president, social-democratic Mauno Koivisto.

When the Soviet Union collapsed, Koivisto turned his eyes to joining the European Union. The terms of membership were finalised on the last day of Koivisto's presidency, in the year 1992. Koivisto was succeeded as president by Martti Ahtisaari, who was a strong supporter of EU membership and a social-democrat like Koivisto. Finland joined the EU in January 1995. Later Ahtisaari stated that had Finland not decided to join the EU, he would have resigned.

Before the referendum, Finnish mainstream media was harnessed to publish only pro-EU articles, according to Pekka Karhuvaara, a long-term influential media figure, who later regretted being a willing part of the pro-EU agenda.

Finland was tricked into the European Monetary Union (EMU) that uses Euro as its currency. When the Finnish people voted in a referendum of EU membership, the Government emphasised that the referendum had nothing to do with EMU. But all of a sudden, in 2002, Finnish Markka was replaced by Euro, without proper financial analyses of the effect, and without the consent of the Finnish people. Finland's public debt started increasing strongly after 2008, when the globalists of the Coalition Party gained a stronger position in the Government. After yet another social-democratic President, Tarja Halonen - with globalists still strongly present in the Government - the globalists won the presidential election twice. Sauli Niinistö from the Coalition Party is now the President of Finland, and the country is ruled by globalists who are very pro-EU whereas the Finnish people are strongly divided in their views towards EU, Euro, globalism and especially immigration.

### 3. Immigration

Contrary to the public knowledge, the mass immigration from third countries into Europe was not uncontrolled or unplanned. As early as February 2013 the authorities in Finland commenced a project called MAVA2. The project was charting Finland's capacity concerning mass immigration that started in 2015. The project was partly funded by the European Refugee Fund.

MAVA2 was led by the Finnish Red Cross under the Interior Ministry. Members of the project represented authorities from a wide spectrum. The project ended in January 2015, in the year that mass immigration from Africa and Middle East started. Municipalities were asked to inform between May and August 2015 the local Centres for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment (ELY) of their capacity to house refugees. The goal was to find accommodation for up to 80 000 refugees. 32 150 came to Finland to seek asylum during the year 2015, most of them men.

At the end of 2018 there were still 49 refugee centres in Finland. The Finnish Immigration Service working under the Interior Ministry has launched a new survey to find accommodation all around the country for refugees. This has raised speculation of a possible new wave of refugee migrants in the near future, especially after most EU countries signed the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) of the United Nations in December 2018.

### 4. Crime

Statistics show that crime rates have gone up since the mass immigration of 2015. This is especially visible in rape cases. Rapes conducted by several people, that is, gang rapes, were rare before the mass immigration, now they are standard tabloid newspaper heading material.

Finland received refugees mainly through the Swedish border crossing point in the north of Finland, Tornio. It was later documented that these refugees were offered free transportation from Sweden's capital Stockholm to Finland by rail, when "Sweden became saturated" with the asylum seekers.

Finland had thus far been considered a safe country. This changed in 2015. The Finnish Prime Minister Juha Sipilä, from the Centre Party, promised in media his house in Kempele for refugees in the autumn of 2015. By the New Year he took back his promise and sold part of the house to his family members stating that the house was not suitable for refugees according to safety authorities. Nonetheless, thousands of refugees had read his statement and came to Finland, "the promised land of free housing".

This is an extract from a The Guardian newspaper after Sipilä retracted his offer:

*Finland's prime minister, Juha Sipilä, has said he will not be able fulfil a promise to put up a family of asylum seekers.*

*Sipilä, a former telecoms executive, prompted controversy in September by saying he would open his second home in northern Finland to refugees.[...]*

*But on Sunday he told public YLE radio that he had had to put the plan on hold because of security concerns, though he would support a refugee family in other ways until the situation changed.*

*- I asked security experts to evaluate whether it would be safe for a family with children to move in, he said.*

*- Due to the heavy publicity, the situation is such that it would not be reasonable right now.*

After Juha Sipilä offered his home to refugees, a 14-year-old girl was raped by two asylum seekers in his home municipality, Kempele, which caused turmoil within the community. The locals organised a demonstration against Sipilä in Kempele. The picture below is taken by a demonstrator.

Finland experienced a sharp rise in rape incidents after the refugee influx. In the year 2016 police registered over 11 per cent rise in rape crimes as compared to the previous year. The number of all sexual crimes rose almost 13 per cent. The number of rapes carried out by foreign citizens rose by 41.9 per cent in just one year.

In the northern city of Oulu several incidents took place at the end of 2018 involving grooming and raping. All girls involved were minors, the youngest 10 years old. The girl was sexually exploited by eight suspects. All offenders had come to Finland as refugees. Local people in Oulu held a demonstration in front of the city hall against rapes. The police have issued a warning for parents to follow the activities of their children and who they spend time with. Parents have become increasingly alarmed and afraid.

There has been a number of severe incidents since the refugee wave commenced, including murders, manslaughters, terror attacks, rapes, robberies and various other forms of violence. One of the most touching story is of a man born 1964 who was battered, kicked and knifed to death by two asylum seekers in Otanmäki, Kajaani. The man had been spending the evening at a local pub and when he left home, he was attacked by two migrants who robbed and tortured him for almost an hour. Only a few months before, Arto Mikkonen had become a grandfather. Again, a demonstration was held at the refugee centre by local people to protest against violence.

Lately, law-abiding foreigners have expressed their fears in the growing tensions.

## 5. Limitations to freedom of speech and expression

Mainstream media took the stance early on to avoid informing the background of foreign criminals. People learnt a new way of reading: “between the lines”. If it was openly informed that the offender was Finnish, he or she most often was. If there was no description, assumably the offender was not a native Finn.

There was a gap between reality and what the Finnish mainstream media chose to inform. To fill in the gap, a number of alternative media emerged. Their operators dug up court rulings and published offenders' backgrounds. The most well-known alternative medium is MV-lehti that has been published on Internet since August 2014. It became so popular that “the powers to be” wanted to shut it down by any means possible. This included Helsinki police inviting citizens to file charges against the magazine if they had any doubt of legal offence. The Council for Mass Media of Finland asked its members to make complaints of MV-lehti and promised their lawyer services free of charge.

Mr Ilja Janitskin, the founder of MV-lehti, was the main target. He published the magazine from Barcelona, Spain, following the Spanish laws. The Spanish police arrested him in Barcelona in October 2015, and, after a few days, he was released in Madrid. The court burst into a laugh when Mr Janitskin was asked if he has family in Spain. Mr Janitskin replied that indeed he does: a dog, a rabbit and a guinea pig.

Because there were no travel restrictions, Mr Janitskin moved to Andorra, to be arrested again, this time by the Spanish police authorised by Interpol based on exaggerated claims of crimes equal to genocide and terrorism, by the Interior ministry of Finland. Mr Janitskin's so-called crime was to write of crooked politics and politicians on Internet, as well as the unwanted “side effects” of immigration. Mr Janitskin was later flown to Finland and kept in prison until the court proceedings finished, about two years after the initial manhunt begun.

Mr Janitskin continues to publish [MV-lehti](#). He has already served his sentence while being kept in detention in Spain, Andorra and Finland, for almost two years. During this ordeal he went through a demanding treatment of level IV cancer that quite often is terminal, leading to death. Ms Janitskin took his verdict of June 2018 to be re-processed at the second level of the tree-tier court system of Finland.

Oppression has continued also on other fronts. The Nordic Resistance Movement was banned in Finland in November 2017. At the same time Pohjoisen Perinne, 'heritage of the north' in Finnish, was banned from publishing their online and paper magazine Magneettimedia for “racist transfer of information”. Many Finns would agree that Pohjoisen Perinne does publish information that is racist in the sense that ethnicity is emphasised in a negative sense, but would disagree about banning it in the country that boasts about having the most free press in the world. The Nordic Resistance Movement has also taken their case to the second tier of the Finnish tree-tier judicial system. The Nordic Resistance movement, led from Sweden, has been operating in Finland for 10 years now.

While the presence and visibility of the police has diminished in the streets of Finland, other operators have become active. One of these organisations is Soldiers of Odin, an organisation originally set up in Kemi, Northern Finland. It has branches all around Scandinavia, North America and even Australia. The members simply patrol the streets to see that people are safe. They do not discriminate by background or ethnicity, they tackle any threatening or violent act that they encounter. Still, they are considered a threat by authorities who think public safety is their domain, and theirs alone.

## 6. Final words

The situation in Finland has become polarised. On the one hand, the influx of third-world country citizens with various cultural backgrounds has created friction between the Finns and the newcomers. People, especially elderly and women, are afraid to go out in the dark. And in Finland, there is plenty of darkness half of the year.

The people opposing the development of a “fear culture” are now organising themselves into societies and even new parties. EU is a civilisation, where democracy is generally highly valued. Now the people in the EU as well as in Finland are becoming ever more divided because democracy seems to be failing. Decision making has been taken too far from the people's daily life.

Finland currently has about 1 million poor people of the about 5,5 million inhabitants, according to EU's standards of living and income. Thousands of Finns are queueing for food every week to survive. As long as the asylum seekers get 4 to 5 free meals a day, free accommodation, free health care, and money for their personal needs, the gap between the people of Finland and the newcomers will widen, albeit that it is not the refugees that make the rules, but politicians in Finland and in the EU.

The Yellow Vests in France are now showing what the French people think about EU's constrictions in their lives. If the EU does not take heed and start developing a new future EU, the result is anybody's guess.

## ADDITIONAL CONTENTS

### Websites:

- [UN. Refugees and Migrants.](#)
- [Finland's Council of State.](#)
- [EU Inmigration Portal.](#)
- [Commision Department of Migration and Home Affairs.](#)
- European Commision: [Migration and asylum.](#)
- [European Migration Forum.](#)
- [Youth and migrants.](#)

### References:

- Mrs. [Eila Kännö.](#)
- Mr. [Urho Kekkonen](#)
- Mr. [Mauno Koivisto](#)
- [Republic of Finland monthly debt time series](#)
- [The messages of Kainuu](#)
- [Simon Elo Twitter](#)
- Wikipedia: [European migrant crisis](#)
- The Guardian: [Finnish PM drops promise to let refugees use his home](#)
- The Sun: [VILE ATTACK. Girl, 10, repeatedly raped by 'migrant grooming gang' in Finland as cops warn parents to watch out for 'foreign men' contacting underage kids](#)
- [Finnish Police: Investigation of crimes of sexual abuse.](#)
- MV Lethi: [The Extradiction Trial of Ilja Janitskin in Andorra on Thursday](#)

### Additional documentation:

- [Immigration policy.](#)
- Fact Sheet of the European Parliament: [Immigration policy](#)
- [European Agenda on Migration 2015.](#)
- [A European Agenda on Migration.](#)