



Political Science, International Relations and Regional Studies

Ali Esmaeili Ardakani

Rank: Commendable in the Young Section

Degree: PhD

Research Title: The Dialectic of Concept and Reality: The issue of immigration and the evolution of its concept in the European Union 2008-2016

Kind of Research Work: Doctoral Dissertation



About Researcher

Ali Esmaeili Ardakani was born in March 1987 in Ardakan, Fars Province and followed his educational steps in Shiraz. He received his Bachelor of Political Science from the Islamic Azad University of Shiraz and his Master in International Relations degree Allameh Tabataba'i University. He defended his PhD dissertation at Allameh Tabataba'i University in 2018 entitled "The Dialectic of Concept and Reality: The issue of immigration and the evolution of its concept in the European Union 2008-2016". Esmaeili Ardakani is currently a faculty member at the Allameh Tabataba'i University and the deputy director of research at Tehran International Studies and Research Institute (TISRRI). His field of study includes political philosophy and the philosophy of science in international relations, security and strategic issues, European issues, and transatlantic relations. His works include Unilateralism and International Law (Academic Editor), Iran's Nuclear Diplomacy (Academic Editor), The Issue of Immigration to the EU 2008-2016, German Foreign Policy on Immigration, Asylum and Brexit, Justice and National Security in International Relations, An Introduction to the Methodology of Islamic Theory in International Relations with Emphasis on the Lakatosian Methodology, The Internal logic of Critical Theory and Emancipatory Epistemology, Impact of the Emancipatory Epistemology of the Frankfurt School on the Theories of International Relations, State Alternatives in Western Islamic and Critical Discourse.

Abstract

Understanding and recognizing the dynamics of international phenomena require simultaneous attention to the cognitive and non-cognitive, or transcendental dimensions of concepts. As concepts are alive and interconnected, denying their dynamics in the humanities and considering them merely as tools with a cognitive function for understanding the actual world regardless of their other aspects can prevent researchers in international relations from gaining an accurate understanding of international relations and analyzing its dynamics. The topic gathers importance when we realize that concepts such as immigration, borders, nation-state, nationality, and identity, which play a key role in this research, refer to one or more major issues in international relations. Issues which, in addition to their cognitive aspects, also impact the other dimensions of this field of study such as policy-making and

decision-making about human beings. Examining the various aspects of how concepts affect cognition, decision-making, and policy-making on human issues and human phenomena in international relations can provide a theoretical basis for focus on how international phenomena and events are conceptualized. The issue of migration has created challenges in explaining, understanding, and analyzing existing approaches and theories in international relations so that changes in the nature of these issues and emerging situations both clarify the explanatory-analytical limitations of existing theories in this field and make it inevitable to use new theoretical and conceptual approaches to understand and explain them. Therefore, the theoretical purpose of this research is to formulate a kind of Critical conceptualization in international relations.

