

**1st INTERNATIONAL KAHRAMANMARAŞ MANAGEMENT, ECONOMY AND POLITICS CONGRESS
FINAL DECLARATION**

The protests, which are generally called “Arab Spring,” that people in the Arab countries did in the name of “democracy and freedom” first started in Tunisia in the year 2010 and spread to other countries. Those protests that ended peacefully in Tunisia, caused bloody civil wars and changes in governments in some countries. On the other hand, protests in Syria, due to heavy violence toward protesters by the regime, evolved into a civil war, and the problem became highly complicated once the blocks led by the U.S. and Russia started engaging in proxy battles. More than half of the Syrian population became migrants during this civil war which has been continuing for 6 years and cannot be guessed when it would end.

The migration phenomena which is defined as that people changing location depending on various reasons is as old as the history of humankind. With its strategic location between European countries and the countries with most problematic otocratic regimes, Turkey has been the center of migration in every period of history. The democracy tradition, economic development during the last years and humanitarian policies made Turkey a center of attraction. Turkey applied an open door policy without any discrimination toward migrants due to its responsibility that stems from historical and religious values.

At this stage in which important developments occur, to investigate developments experienced so far scientifically and make analyses of current situation for the purpose of forecasting the future and making suggestions, the decision to organize “International Kahramanmaraş Management, Economy and Politics Congress” (KAYES) with the theme of “Socio-economic and Political Effects of Migration Movements” had been made and 1st KAYES Congress was held between October 12-14, 2017. The Congress started with the Police Academy faculty member Prof. Dr. Mehmet Şahin’s opening lecture. 122 papers were presented by academicians who are experts in their fields and 4 special panels were held, among whose participants were NGO representatives and burocrats from abroad and Turkey. Migration phenomena has been discussed from legal, political, economic and social dimensions in these papers and on special panels.

At the Congress;

1. THAT the events that started in Turkey’s neighbours and cultural geography at a period called Arab Spring and the civil war in Syria are not expected to end in the near future and transition to democratic governance is not expected in this region, the clashes in the region may continue increasingly, international organizations and global powers are reluctant and inadequate to end these clashes, new clashes may cause further migration movements and it is imperative that Turkey must prepare for this situation;
2. THAT Turkey hosts large number of migrants, of whom 3.2 million are Syrians, from various countries, Syrian migrants are not considered refugees legally in Turkey but “Foreigner Under Temporary Protection,” temporary protection regime in Turkey provides important opportunities, including the right of work for Syrians, even the war in Syria had ended, considering the probability that most of the Syrians in Turkey are not expected to go back to their country, rather than providing their daily needs, entegration policies should be prioritized, the concentration on the entegration in the studies to be done by academicians becomes important;
3. THAT the Western Countries that is the target and maybe the cause of the migration accepted much fewer migrants than the number their economic powers could support and stayed as onlookers to human dramas, which shall not be lost in memories, has not fulfilled their promised humanitarian aids, on the other hand, Turkey spent resources worth 30 billion U.S. Dollars, and the money spent by Turkey cannot be considered a loss from the

perspective of economy science, spending of this amount in the domestic market will generate economic buoyancy through multiplier effect, also migrants contribute to production by meeting labor demand for some sectors, what should be done in the next phase is planning the labor market;

4. THAT Turkey provides important services to Syrians in the country through its public services, private sector and NGOs to meet their needs such as shelter, education, health care, etc; it has not been nearly possible for the Western Countries to meet most of those services provided by Turkey, the services provided to migrants by other countries hosting most refugees (Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq) cannot be even compared with Turkey's, although these countries are culturally closer to Syrian migrants, the satisfaction level of Syrian migrants living in Turkey far exceeds those of living in these countries, Turkey's practices should be shown as a model in this field by the United Nations to those countries hosting migrants;
5. THAT it is difficult to bring the conflicts at large in the region and specifically in Syria to a solution by only Turkey's efforts, in this regard, international community and global organizations led by the United Nations should take an active role in solving the problem; The League of Arab States (also known as The Arab League) and The Organization of Islamic Cooperation do not spend great effort toward the solution of the problem and do not take action jointly, it is imperative to restructure these institutions in a way to play an important role toward the solution of regional problems, peace will not be possible in this region unless those Muslim countries whose problems are common solve their problems by themselves;
6. THAT the possibility of disappearance of the territorial integrity of the countries neighbouring Turkey is in question, terrorist elements may fill the place of the population who moved out of the region that is right along the Turkey's border, and this threatens Turkey's national security, a solution cannot be reached with the security measures taken within the country, it is imperative to eliminate threats out of the borders of the country;
7. THAT a large number of migrants, based on providence population ratio, live in some Turkish providences, additional resources should be allocated to these providences to be able to keep providing with public services such as education, health care, shelter and local services to migrants, it is imperative to increase the amount of international aid to those countries such as Jordan and Lebanon which are in the same situation;
8. THAT civil commotions in Syria, initially, targeted the regime with the demand for freedom by the support of all parts the society, without any ethnic and denominational discrimination, however, over time, the opposition was split by the Assad regime and its supporters, deliberately, by forming factionalism within the opposition, this situation weakened the opposition against the regime, the possibility of achieving success against the regime is low without forming unity among opposition;

Have been voiced by the Turkish and foreign bureaucrats, NGO representatives and academicians.

Respectfully announced to the public.

Congress Organizing Committee