

**Understanding European identity through Institutional embeddedness theory:  
the case of the migrants crisis**

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**Abstract:**

As the European Union is encountering many identity crisis, that has been reflected in economic, political and social views, the last three consequences (Ukrainian, Grexit, migrants crisis), issued from a neglected attention, are now jeopardizing the identity of "Union-European" community, despite numerous efforts and processes (multiculturalism, etc.) made to pool a "one-way thought about a unified Europe". One in particular, shackled the whole foundation of the European dream as the migrants' crisis is slowly questioning the idea a community where free movement, cultural diversity, democracy has been propelled. It is still being one of major issues that might bring Europe to its knees, when it comes to identity : Should it mean that there is a virtual absence of European institutions as "values and symbols distributors". Therefore, by using the institutional embeddedness theory to understand how far the European identity is already embedded in its members' mind, and such, since the formation of this continental project, and with the help of empirical data (journal articles, survey reports, press releases) we will discuss on this theoretical paper, the role of these values conductors in the management of the crisis.

**Keywords :**

European Union – identity – institutions – migrants' crisis