

UNDERGRADUATE THESIS

**THE POLICY OF ERITREAN GOVERNMENT TO REDUCE THE
MASSIVE YOUTH MIGRATION AFTER THE ERITREA-ETHIOPIA
WAR**

Presented to fulfill the requirements for achieving the bachelor degree of
Department of International Relations, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences,
Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta



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INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

FACULTY SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES

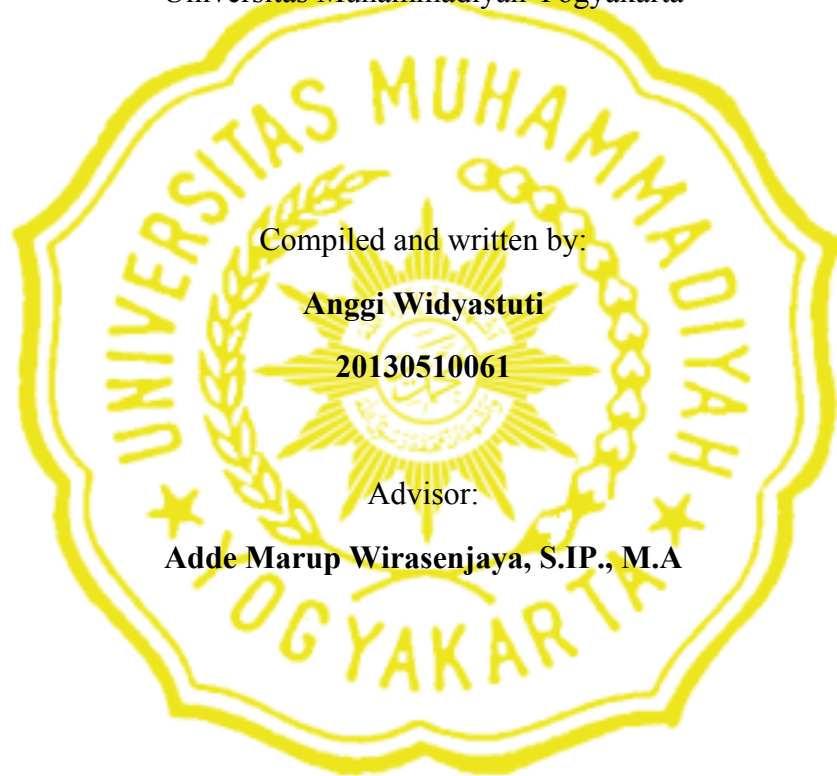
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2017

ENDORSEMENT PAGE

This Undergraduate Thesis is Entitled:

THE POLICY OF ERITREAN GOVERNMENT TO REDUCE THE MASSIVE YOUTH MIGRATION AFTER THE ERITREA-ETHIOPIA WAR

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STATE OF ORIGINALITY

I hereby certify that my undergraduate thesis is original and has not been asked to get a bachelor degree at Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta and/or in other universities.

In this undergraduate thesis, there is no work or opinions that have been written or published by others except in writing clearly listed as a reference in the script with the name mentioned and listed in the references.

I made this statement in real and if in future there is a mistake in this statement, then I am willing to accept academic sanction in accordance with the applicable rules at Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta.

Yogyakarta, August 22 2017

Writer,

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“Dear My Loathsome Past, I offer this poem of farewell. I have cast away the remains of these days that can't get any worse, these most terrible dreams, even if it kills me.”

- Amazarashi

“Now, wipe your tears. Let's laugh off our past.”

- Amazarashi

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Alhamdulillahirabbil ‘Alamin, all gratitude are praised to Allah SWT for all the ease, grace, and His blessing, this undergraduate thesis with the title “The Policy of Eritrean Government to Reduce the Massive Youth Migration After the Eritrean-Ethiopia War” can be safely finished in time.

This undergraduate thesis is submitted as partial fulfilment of the requirements for the attainment of the degree of *Sarjana Ilmu Politik* (S.IP) in the International Relations Department, Social and Political Science Faculty, Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta. The writer fully realize that without the help, guidance, and support from various people, this undergraduate thesis would not be finished properly on time. Thus, the writer would like to thanks:

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The writer realizes that there are still rooms for improvement for this undergraduate thesis. The writer hopes that this undergraduate thesis could be useful for international relations study.

Wassalamu'alaikum, Wr, Wb.

Yogyakarta, 22 August 2017

Anggi Widyastuti

Abstract

As Eritrea was never absent from conflict, the government in 1991 decided to implement national service for its citizen. National service in Eritrean sense is compulsory military training and civil services for all Eritreans between the age of 18 to 50 for the maximum of 18 months. But since 1998 when the war broke out between Eritrea and Ethiopian, the government extended the timeline of national service indefinitely. The indefinite national service later became the main reason of many young citizen of Eritrea fleeing the country, as in the conscription they are forced to work on things they do not chose or like, paid with a very low monthly salary, and have no rights to oppose the government.

In 2015 United Nation High Commission on Refugee (UNHCR) recorded that there were 5000 Eritrean fled the country every month.. The massive youth migration caused the country to gain international attention, especially European Union (EU) as they received most asylum application from the Eritrean migrants. United Kingdom (UK) even said that they could not afford to accept anymore of Eritrean and that national service is no longer a legal grounds for asylum. Cornered by international sanctions by the UN and the decline of Eritrea economy, Eritrea government decided to changes its policy to reduce the massive youth migration.

As the findings, this research proves that the Eritrean government has done the best they can do to stop, or at least prevent the massive youth migration in the future and through their newest policies regarding national service, economy and its foreign policy.

Keywords:

*Migration, national service, asylum, sanction, push and pull factor, political system,
Eritrea, European Union*

Table of Contents

TITLE PAGE	ii
ENDORSEMENT PAGE	iii
STATE OF ORIGINALITY	iv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	vi
ABSTRACT	vii
LIST OF PICTURES	xi
LIST OF GRAPHS	xii
LIST OF TABLES	xiii
CHAPTER I	1
INTRODUCTION	1
A. Background.....	1
B. Research Question.....	5
C. Purpose of Research.....	5
D. Theoretical Framework.....	6
1. Push and Pull of Migration Model.....	6
2. Political System Theory (Input-Output).....	9
E. Hypothesis.....	14
F. Methodology of Research.....	14
G. Research Scope.....	15
H. The Writing System.....	16
CHAPTER II	17
THE EMERGE OF ERITREA NATIONAL SERVICE	17
A. Eritrean National Service Before The Eritrea-Ethiopia War 1998-2002.....	17
B. Eritrea National Service In and After The Eritrea-Ethiopia War 1998-2002.....	20
C. The Aims of Eritrean National Service.....	26
CHAPTER III	30
ERITREA MASSIVE YOUTH MIGRATION	30
A. Eritrean Youth on Indefinite National Service.....	30

B. The Migration Routes.....	36
C. The Migration Tragedy.....	43
D. European Union and UK Policy on Eritrea Massive Youth Migration.....	46
1. The Khartoum Process.....	46
2. EU-Turkey Migration Deal.....	47
3. UK New Guidelines on Eritrea Massive Youth Migration.....	48
CHAPTER IV.....	49
ERITREAN GOVERNMENT POLICY FACING THE MASSIVE YOUTH MIGRATION ISSUES.....	49
A. Eritrea Government Changes Its Foreign Policy.....	49
1. International Sanctions on Eritrea.....	49
a. UN Resolution 1907.....	50
b. EU Council Decision 2010/127/CFSP and Council Regulation No. 667/2010.....	51
c. EU Council Decision 2012/632/CFSP and Council Regulation No. 942/2012.....	52
d. UNHRC Resolution on Eritrea A/HRC/32/L.5/Rev.1.....	53
2. Eritrea Starts ‘Opening Up’.....	56
B. Eritrea Government Reforms the National Service Policy.....	59
1. The Two Percent Tax.....	60
2. The Decreasing of Valuable Workers.....	62
3. Human Rights Issues in the National Service.....	63
C. Eritrea Government Investing on Mining Sector to Create Jobs.....	69
D. Eritrea Government Issuing New Nakfa Currency Notes	74
CHAPTER V.....	76
CONCLUSION.....	76
References.....	80

LIST OF PICTURES

i.	Picture 1.1 Origin and Destination Factors and Intervening Obstacles in Migration.....	7
ii.	Picture 1. 2 Political System Theory.....	12
iii.	Picture 2.1 Sawa Training Center from Satellite.....	19
iv.	Picture 3.1 Eritrean Migration Route.....	41
v.	Picture 3.2 Unseaworthy Vessel of Migrants in Mediterranean.....	44
vi.	Picture 4.1 Bisha Mine 2014 Operational Highlights.....	72

LIST OF GRAPHS

i.	Graph 3.1 Top 10 Nationalities of Sea Arrivals to Italy by Gender and Age.....	38
ii.	Graph 3.2 Eritrean Arrival in Italy by Gender and Age.....	40
iii.	Graph 4.1 Eritrea Exports, Imports, and Trade Balance.....	70

LIST OF TABLES

i.	Table 2.1 Distributions of Resources for DDR.....	22
ii.	Table 3.1 Eritrean Arrivals in Italy by Sea.....	39
iii.	Table 4.1 Number of Eritrean Emigrants.....	62

