

**CHAPTER IV**  
**SOCIOECONOMIC CHANGES**  
**AND GOVERNMENT'S RESPOND DURING THE**  
**SHIFT OF IMMIGRATION POLICY**

**A. SOCIOECONOMIC CHANGES**

**1. Socioeconomic Condition in Brazil before 2015**

Socioeconomic, in general, is a term used to describe the social condition, whenever it is changing, would affect the economic condition of a region or state. The definition can also be reversed, as the economic condition would also affect the social health of an area, both in a long or short term. Thus, these matters would determine the stability of a region.

Brazil in a shell is a vast and diverse country, endowed with diverse economy and population. While the majority of the people are mostly Hispanic Catholic, the recent trend of immigration helps to advance the diversity in Brazil, though not on par with the United States or Indonesia. Socially, the Brazilians are very accepting towards refugees, immigrants, and foreigners in general. Brazilians have a distinct culture of laid back. They are very considerate and flexible on many things, including on their social interaction. They have less to no personal boundaries against each other, even for an individual that they know less about (advameg inc., n.d.).

This social culture transcends to the foreigners and newcomers in the country. Brazilians greet and treat the foreigners, immigrants, and refugees like they treat the locals. While to many, it may seem absurd and unusual, it is very effective for the immigrants and refugees to merge within the society. Before the inflow of immigration rate in Brazil increasing rapidly, there was little to no case of socioeconomic ostracizing in Brazil regarding the refugees. There were two cases of the good socioeconomic condition in Brazil, even after

refugees came, which are Haitian refugees and early Syrian refugees.

### **a. The Arrival of Early Haitian Refugees**

The Haiti earthquake in 2010 left many devastated, as the earthquake destroyed major area in Haiti, refugee naturally started spreading out of the country. Brazil itself had been active in receiving refugee from around 2010 up until the end of 2015. Haitians chose Brazil as an ideal place to settle due to economic boom happened in Brazil during that year around, thus, increasing their chance of obtaining a good and sufficient life. According to Brazil's official report, approximately 4000 Haitian refugees settle in Brazil on 2012 (Philips, 2012). These numbers would then increase rapidly until 2015, hitting 43.000 refugees. Brazil's government also announced that they would grant permission for those refugees. Thus, Brazil accepted them (Telesur Team, 2015).

43000 refugees for five years is not little, in fact, it is quite surprising, considering that Brazil is still a developing country with many issues. However, the economic boom was a great incentive for those refugees. During those five years, there was little to no case of social alienation between the refugee and locals. In fact, they welcomed the refugees warmly and proceeded to do their activities as usual. Thus, the merging process of Haitian refugee in Brazil came out well. In 2012, they granted health care services for the refugees, and that did not affect the locals' opinion about refugees. However, it would not take long until problem start rises within the society.

### **b. The Arrival of Early Syrian Refugees**

In 2013, Brazil offered Germany and European Union a trade-off, Brazil would take 100.000 Syrian refugees in exchange for the assistance for the transportation cost to move the refugees Brazil. While it was indeed a tempting offer, and Brazil itself seemed sure about it, the plan of accepting one hundred thousand refugees fell flat.

However, the rate of immigration in Brazil skyrocketed during five years of 2010 to 2015. The asylum application from Middle East countries, such as Lebanon, Iraq, Pakistan, Syria and also from few African countries, such as Liberia and Congo rose from 966 in 2010 to 28.670 in 2015 (Peduzzi, 2016). However, the majority of the accepted applicants were from Syria, raked 2300 applicants. Thus, in late 2015, Syrian dominated the rates of Brazil's refugees.

While majority of the local in Brazil is Catholics, and Brazilian is a religious country in general, there were not any troublesome issues regarding the Syrian Muslim. At first, which was during 2013-2015, there was no sign of violence against Muslim. Rather than the locals, the troublesome bureaucracy was the one that holds the refugees to live in Brazil easily.

This acceptance might be linked with no economy problem within the country. The locals treated Muslim refugees in Rio de Janeiro with warmth. Thus, it helped them cooperate in daily task. The Muslim refugees were also allowed to join carnival and such, while it is quite normal, such thing would be harder in the future years because of issues.

## **2. High Immigration Inflow & Economy Recession 2015-2017**

### **a. High Inflow of Venezuelan Refugee to Brazil**

Venezuela is currently in the state of chaotic economy crisis, an economic crisis that up until early 2018 has yet to be resolved. During the five years of continuing crisis, Venezuela keeps plunging into poverty. Under President Maduro, riots happened from time to time, the citizen demands stability and prosperity, since Venezuela's currency plunged and inflation soars tremendously, which is already out of control since 2016. In 2016, the inflation rose to 303%, which already burdened people, since the price of all items soared. In 2017, the inflation rate rose higher, topped 2400% in late 2017 report. IMF predicts that the country will suffer 13000% inflation rate in late 2018,

therefore, making it difficult for Venezuela to recover (Biller, 2018).

In this dismal state, the verge of collapsing is not impossible for Venezuela. Daily supplies, such as food, medicine, and water become scarce in Venezuela. This terrible situation leads many to immigrate to another country, or rather, be taken as a refugee. Their destinations are mostly to another Spanish or Portuguese-speaking countries. Thus, Mexico and Brazil become the main target of their immigration, because both countries are quite wealthy, compared to other countries in Latin America. Brazil itself had been targeted by the Venezuelan since 2016 as many Venezuelan crossed the border to receive food and medicine, due to lack of such things in their country (Human Rights Watch Team, 2017).

This immediate surge of refugees from Venezuela in 2016 up until now left Brazil handful for a period of time, handling them during a political crisis was troublesome to Brazil. However, the government accepted around 12000 refugees since 2014. The refugees mostly seek for food and healthcare just to survive the crisis (Human Rights Watch Team, 2017).

### **b. Brazil's Economy Recession**

Brazil's economy had been great during 2010 to early 2014. The peak of this decade growth was in mid-2013 when the GDP peaked 4% (see figure 1), the GDP had been stable, and it snatched the title of emerging market, which is promising for a country to develop its technology, labor, and investment in general. This might further lead Brazil gleefully accepted the proposal of hosting Olympic 2016.

However, due to series of bad economy decision and investment by the government, the economic recession started from mid-2014. The GDP of Brazil then succumbed further during two years, even into the point of -6% GDP loss in mid-2016, the worst economic recession in history (see figure 2.1). Brazil's inflation rate also rose 10% in early 2016 (Inflation.eu Team). Thus, Brazil struggled during the Olympic, an event that should be profitable and beneficial for further promotion and

investment. Riots happened in many regions, especially in Rio de Janeiro (Watts, 2016). Furthermore, due to the political disturbance in Brazil and the case of corruption by the government, it demoralized citizen, thus, leaving them distasteful for any new economic policy proposed by the government.

Even up until late 2017, Brazil is still recovering from a huge loss in this decade. However, it is predicted that Brazil will recover in 2018 and next year, due to stability and the new government's quick reaction regarding the economy and political matter (Latif, 2018).

### **3. Brazil's Socioeconomic Changes**

Sudden Surge of immigration inflow in Brazil, while the country is in a grave situation, leads to conflict. Issues regarding the immigration and socioeconomic instability in the country start emerging. One account told that the country would not be able to control the surge of immigration inflow. Meanwhile, the locals are not as kind and openhearted as before.

This social change is due to difficult economic condition happened in Brazil during 2015 to 2017 period. As mentioned before, Brazil had an economic recession in 2016, and its effect still lingers even until early 2018. This economic recession and political instability already angered Brazil's locals. Their socioeconomic condition started shifting and going backward.

On the economy side, Brazil's economic recession hit locals the hardest. The inflation and decrease of consumer price index slowed down the economy. Thus, the locals could tell its effect. Local companies and small business shorten the amount of production due to rising price of materials needed. The poverty rates of Brazil increased immediately in 2016 and 2017, contrasting the surprisingly low poverty rate in 2015 below. The poverty rate increased from around 3.4% in 2015 to 9.8% in 2017. The World Bank reported that around 3.7 million people in Brazil would likely fall into poverty line in 2017 (Skoufias, 2017).

In the social part of Brazil's environment, the majority of locals started treating the immigrants, refugees, or foreigners who looked like a refugee differently. While at first, Brazilian was open-minded and tolerant to those who come from another country, the change of majority's affection towards the immigrants shifted to be more defensive, and they started planting prejudice on them, such thing was reported by the immigrants themselves.

Racism becomes prevalent, as much as social alienation happened in Brazil. Muslim refugee from Middle East's region was the main victim of this social alienation. The locals alienated them and even forbade them to sell anything or to occupy a part of the street to work as a street vendor (Garcia, 2017). Right-wing group that does not like such diversity and presence of Muslim in their country starts being more active within the country, doing protests and riots. They also often assault or insult the Muslims (Telesur Team, 2017). However, few refugees and immigrants also commit crimes on a daily basis, bringing the impression of environmental insecurity and the image of dangerous immigrants to the locals due to the lack of enforcement by the government.

Racism and social alienation is also affected other refugees and immigrants. Haitians that came in late 2015 or so reportedly had experienced racism in Brazil. Brazilian looks down at them due to their black skin tone and the fact that they came from the poorer country (Bazzo, 2016). The image of the warm welcome from Brazil that was experienced by their colleagues in 2010 to 2013 wore out, replaced by cold stares.

In socioeconomic perspective, the problem of economy and social correlates each other. As stated above, the problem with high immigration inflow is because the surge happened during the worst time of the year. Economically, Brazil is severely suffering from economy recess that leads to the drop of CPI and rise of inflation. They need to survive and cut short their expenses, in other hands, the high immigration inflow forced the government to watch and spend some of the already limited expenses for the refugees and immigrants. Thus, locals

started questioning the act of spending money on the refugee and giving them better treatment than its civilians, which will not provide any benefits in a short run. They are also afraid of the refugees and immigrants easily having a better job than them due to the treatment received by the government.

It is natural for the citizen to act defensively and start prejudicing on the immigrants alike. Because in a harsh situation, people would preserve anything they need and ditch any hindrances until they start recovering. Thus, Brazilian sees the presence of immigrants and refugees that leech on their government as a hindrance. Furthermore, the majority of the locals would perceive this harsh treatment as normal, due to the similar experience regarding their economic condition and immigration problems. Although, in the long run, this treatment will subside eventually, right now, the majority of locals still treat the immigrants harshly.

## **B. GOVERNMENT'S RESPOND DURING THE SHIFT OF IMMIGRATION POLICY**

### **1. The Government's Initial Immigration Plan**

First and foremost, before the shift of immigration policy, which happened between 2015 and 2017, Brazil's government had already made several steps regarding the issue of the old foreigner statute. Even before the start of the new immigration law proposal in 2013, Brazil had been active and concerned about the immigration hindrance within its country.

While it is not entirely visible and transparent, we could see the movement and action of one government by analyzing the policy that was released. The said action would also be used to analyze government's reaction and respond to any issues, regarding the thesis' specified topic, immigration. The first visible action that Brazil government took was when they first announce Brazil allegiance to UN Refugee Agency or UNHCR.

The declaration happened during Cartagena +30 in Rio de Janeiro, with Brazil as the host country in 2014. The declaration focuses on dealing with refugees, stateless persons

and alike. Until the next discussion, which will be held in 2024, the countries participate ought to aid stateless persons throughout the ten years before it. This declaration's primary focus of the area is around Latin America and Caribbean (UNHCR, 2014). Since Brazil is one of the leading actors of this declaration, and as a role model for other Latin America countries, it is effectively thrown Brazil into the active role of dealing with refugees alike. Thus, we can see from here, Brazil, around 2010 to 2014 had an enthusiastic attitude regarding immigrants, stateless persons, and refugees. It even acted as the host and main role model for Latin America.

Brazil also took action on the same year by updating the foreigner statute law with quicker bureaucracy regarding tourist, after the law was published in 2014, tourist that came to Brazil would be able to apply for an online visa, which was new in Brazil. The law also lets the procedure to be simplified when the circumstances call the government official to quicken one process within their power (Casa Civil do Brazil, 2014). While this was a small step, it indicates the intention of Brazil government, to increase immigration inflow, tourism inflow, and all that is to gain revenue and promotion.

Another action of Brazil government that indicates the plan of increasing revenue through immigration is the statement that was delivered by Brazil former minister of justice, Alexandre de Moraes. Brazil would like to accept 100.000 Syrian refugees with one condition, Germany and EU should fund the transportation from the Middle East to Brazil of those refugees. However, Germany has yet to respond the cooperation, possibly due to the hesitation of Brazil's capability. But it is admittedly a bold statement by a Brazil official.

The second action is similar to the first, which is accepting Haitians refugees after the earthquake hit Haiti, Brazil has been receiving them since 2010 up to the current year, 2018. Brazil also took considerable fund, prepared explicitly to aid the refugees during the span of 2010-2014. In the year of 2012, Brazil spent over \$750.000 to grant health care service for those Haitian refugees (Radu, 2012).



Those two actions above regarding accepting refugees are the steps Brazil took to brace themselves for the new immigration law they proposed in 2013, which is senator bill 288/2013. Thus, by accepting refugees, Brazil would make a positive image of the country towards incoming refugees and immigrants alike.

The senator bill 288/2013 is the last visible attempt of Brazil for their embrace of immigration inflow. As the proposal of new immigration law, senator bill 288/2013 is the epitome of embracing immigration and open hand policy. The bill has many controversial articles that were revised during two years before ratification, but still maintaining its original purpose of delivering fast bureaucracy and leeway for immigrants to be active in Brazil. Just like what mentioned in chapter 3, senator bill has many controversial articles, such as the admittance of refugees and granting them permanent visa when the asylum issued their entrance (BRAZIL O CONGRESSO NACIONAL, 2013).

It is possible to conclude the intention of Brazil from their released policies during the year of 2010-2015. Brazil was enthusiastic about the immigration program they planned to boost their economy. Also, the agenda of increasing the immigration inflow seems to be running just well. Nothing had exceeded Brazil expectation regarding the immigration rate, from the arrival of Haitian refugees, senator 288/2013 as Brazil new immigration law, declaration of UNHCR, and the arrival of early Syrian refugees. Thus, Brazil expected economy development after Olympic 2016 finished and the new immigration law ratified in 2017.

Thus, Brazil's action during the whole five years of maintaining, developing, and promoting its state as an immigrant and refugee-friendly country with plenty of privileges for those who seek to settle within the state was an extraordinarily bold move by Brazil. Due to the high probability of exploitation, mishandling of the refugees and immigrants alike, political and economic instability, and the most severe

effect that will come years later after that unexpectedly big immigration inflow.

However, at that time, Brazil seemed to pull the all-out action by investing and bidding at everything, including security, stability, economy. All that was for the hope of economy development. Brazil needs economic development as an emerging market. Thus, even though it was a precarious and dangerous move, the government did not falter after the risk. They instead, took it as a prospect to hit enormous success in 2016 and years to come.

## **2. Events during The Shift of Immigration Policy 2015-2017**

### **a. Brazil Political Scandal**

Corruption scandal struck Brazil's highest governmental institute in 2016. The widely known Judge Sergio Moro is the prominent figure who accuse the government. The scheme was done by former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva when he was a president, and then the plot continued by the next president, Dilma Rousseff. The scheme is about corruption and bribery with one major state oil company that monopolize the oil industry in Brazil, Petrobras (Reuters Team, 2017).

Under President Lula da Silva, many of the high ranking officials were linked with this scheme. The scheme was called the lava jato or operation car wash scandal. The scandal revolves around the bribery done by the director of Petrobras, Paulo Roberto Costa, who was in charge of bribing many high ranked officials of Brazil's government institute to make profitable or lucrative deals with the government. In a way, Petrobras paid a higher amount of the settled payment to the government regarding any business deals in Brazil, including drilling, exploration, refineries, and others. The act of corruption is giving the government officials secret slash fund for themselves (Watts, 2017).

This scandal is also one of the main reasons behind Brazil economy recession in 2016. The corruption and political crisis forced President Dilma Rousseff to step down, replaced by President Michel Temer. The new president has different

views on policies in Brazil. Thus, many protests happen during the shift of power. Investors are put down by the scandal, feared that the investment they planted in Brazil might fail due to this corruption scandal and pull off their investments from Brazil. Not to mention the scandal also severely affected Petrobras as a state oil company.

#### **b. Olympic 2016**

The Olympic 2016 was an enormous deal to Brazil. Naturally, Olympic is an international sports competition, participated by nearly all countries in the world. Olympic 2016 was hugely anticipated by Brazilian because it would be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Whether it was because they are sports enthusiast or because of the large profit that could be obtained in every Olympic event throughout the years. This mindset of profit and promotion was planted inside Brazil's government.

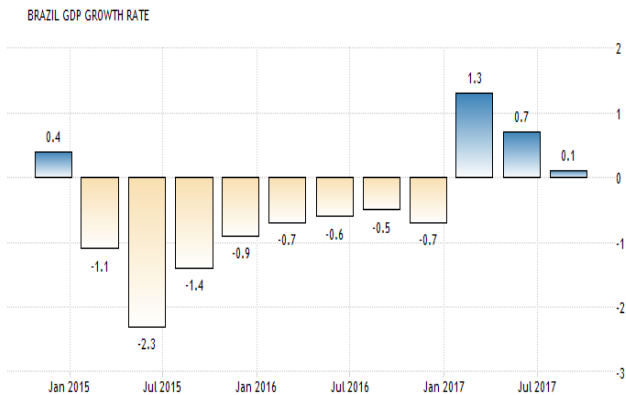
The Olympic is a world-class event. When a country holds Olympic, it guarantees worldwide attention. Billions of people would watch the Olympic through any media, to see their respective countries competing in world competition. Also, people from other countries usually come to visit the country that host the Olympic to watch their nations competing. The event would also guarantee economy profit and huge promotion for the host, which is the main vision of Brazil as a host. The government expected economy profit and huge promotion leading to the next economic boom in Brazil.

However, Olympic is costly, and Brazil had spent a great deal amount of money to prepare for Olympic 2016. According to the data released by the federal agency of Olympic legacy, Brazil had spent around 43.3 billion reais or \$13.2 billion estimated. The spending has exceeded the original plan by 51% deficit. (Homewood, 2017). The estimated revenue from Olympic 2016 was \$9 billion, which was not enough to close the deficit in the country. Overall, the Olympic 2016 was not as successful as expected by the government. This Olympic is also the reason of economic recession in Brazil.

The economic recession caused by a chain of events, leading to the fall of Brazil's economy. Brazil was experiencing

the worst recession in history, and even after three years since the recession, Brazil is still recovering. The figure below shows the GDP in 2015-2017.

Figure ၁.၁  
Brazil GDP Growth Rate 2015-2017



Source: Trading Economics. (n.d.). *Brazil GDP Growth Rate*. Retrieved 25 February 2018 from <https://tradingeconomics.com/brazil/gdp-growth>.

As described in the figure, Brazil had already experiencing GDP drop started from early 2015. Then, in mid-2015, the GDP was spiraling down to the point of -2.3% of GDP fall. The GDP kept fall until early 2017, where the GDP recovered slightly to +1.3%. However, it decreased again in mid-2017 and so on. This figure shows a severe economic recession and also economic instability in Brazil. Although the figure that describes the current GDP is not present yet, it is estimated by many experts that Brazil will slowly recover from this recession.

### **c. The Burden of High Immigration Inflow**

While it has been mentioned in chapter three regarding the rise of immigration inflow rate in Brazil (see figure 3.1) and also a steady growth of refugees around the world to Brazil, which keeps raising after 2013 (see figure 3.2). While it was the real plan of Brazil before the year of 2015-2016 hit them, the rise of immigration had also put them at a disadvantage.

Even though, Brazil should be grateful, due to the plan they worked early on started showing some effect. However, the purpose of the plan changes after chain of events took toll on Brazil's economy and human resources. While the Haitians and early Syrian refugees who came before 2015 were experiencing a pleasant welcome from Brazil and its citizen, The next wave of immigrants from the same countries, plus Venezuela as the main exporter of refugees and immigrants were not experiencing the same pleasant greetings. Just like what mentioned before, the locals become hostile to the refugees and immigrants, due to them granted healthcare services and leeching on the government, while the citizen were surviving the dire situation in mid 2015 to 2017. Due to the reasons mentioned above, Brazil's political, economy and social instability from 2015 to 2017 demonstration are happening everywhere now and then (The Guardian Team, 2017)

Due to economy recession, Brazil is in a condition of lacking fund and stability to control and is unable to keep up with the demand of tending the refugees and immigrants who come to Brazil. Especially the one comes from Venezuela, who floods the hospital and other services, demanding food, healthcare, and shelter (Human Rights Watch Team , 2017). Thus, it is said that their central plan of taking high-quality immigrants to help the boosting Brazil's economy backfires to Brazil itself. The prospect of economy boost that was very promising for Brazil's development ended up hurting their economy and security stability severely. Therefore, the government needs to take priority and scraps many unneeded

projects that may danger the country, including the plans of accepting many high quality immigrants and refugees.

### **3. Factors Behind the Overhaul before the Ratification of New Immigration law 2017**

It has been mentioned in the chapter three about the overhauls of *lei de migracao* or the new immigration law 2017. It is still a surprising act conducted by President Michel Temer on behalf of the executive body of Brazil's government. He vetoed thirty articles and/or items regarding the freedom of immigrants alike and also articles that might be flawed, which may lead to exploitation by the immigrants and officer in charge, from the total of thirty vetoed articles, sixteen articles was refuted during the release of new immigration law. However, the most controversial veto was the article about amnesty. Since he completely vetoed the article, deleted it from the official release of new immigration law (Alves, 2017).

This veto sparked controversy in Brazil and many other countries. Especially for immigrants and refugees that expected the new immigration law to help them later on. However, the government does not seem to waver from the protests. Many critics commented that this act of veto was a step back from the accelerating progress years before. This act is also conflicting the initial purpose of the new immigration law, which is to promote Brazil as an open country (Garcia, 2017). In these subchapters, I would like to explain the factor behind the overhaul of new immigration policy before its ratification in 2017.

#### **a. Political Stability**

After the chain of events that lead to economy recession, political and social instability and riots happened in Brazil, the first action that the government would do is stabilizing the country. Since its independence, Brazil had gone through many dangerous situations from decades ago, but this crisis is indeed severe. Normally, before recovering from a crisis, a country would want to stabilize itself. Thus, it would subdue the next riot that might be happening sometime after the

crisis happened. The stabilization would also help the country to fortify itself from foreign intervention.

Brazil itself was hit by a political scandal that involves many high ranked governmental figures and two of its former president, President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, and President Dilma Rousseff. Both presidents were involved in money laundering, bribery, and corruption on a huge scale. It is even called as the biggest corruption in Latin America (Watts, 2017). The former president, Dilma Rousseff was evicted and then replaced by Michel Temer as the new president. Although, the scandal also affected Michel Temer, as he is accused on racketeering or doing fraudulent business deals, not like Lula da Silva and Dilma Rousseff whose crimes was clear, thus, they could be evicted and prosecuted. Michel Temer is still under questioning.

The accusation about President Michel Temer also affected its popularity in Brazil. He is considered as an unpopular, according to the survey on mid-2017 in Brazil, President Michel Temer only raked 3% of the total vote. He also hits zero percent among the audience of under 24-years-old (Philips D., 2017). This is also one of the reasons on the protests and riots in Brazil because it angered the civilian when they knew that their country is plagued with the biggest corruption in Latin America and the fact that Michel Temer was chosen as the new president. Many did not like his austere upbringing.

Before the government proceeds to recover from the crisis, the government needs to stabilize the political crisis. Due to the hostile civilian, any controversial policies released by the government would likely bring more hostility to the civilian, creating more mess and hindering Brazil's recovery. Since there are many rallies of protests by civilians, rejecting any new immigrants to come to Brazil, especially the right-wing civils, the government would likely to release policies that suited the civilians' demands.

Thus, during this transitional time, the government decided to vetoed many articles and items in senator bill 288/2013 as an attempt to calm the civilians and retaining their

trust again. Because Brazil's civilians had been protesting about the immigration inflow of immigrants to Brazil, but the immigrants and refugees bring nothing but socioeconomic disadvantages on Brazil's already severe socioeconomic condition. Thus, when the government listened to the majority demands, their trust in the government will be recovered, the government would be able to recover from economic loss easier. It is also a way for subduing social tension inside the society, albeit, not significant, the government need to cover up the conflict.

### **b. Securing Assets**

Similar to other countries, economy is one of the main points of Brazil's development. Thus, due to its nature of importance, an economic loss would hugely impact the country progress. Just like what mentioned, Brazil had an extreme amount of economic loss in 2016, even calling it as the worst recession in Brazil's history, and its economy is still not stable up until late 2017. While Brazil is in the process of recovering and rebuilding its economy, the recession effect will still linger for years to come. Therefore, it is natural for the government to take action regarding the economic loss, which is steadily preserving and recovering the economy.

The government would likely to eliminate any dangers that might slow down the economy. Conflict and any sources of economic loss that has low to no usability would be reduced. Thus, Brazil's government sees the high inflow of immigration rate in a dire situation is a bad investment, due to the nature of its uncertainty in the long term. While the immigrants and refugees might be the high qualified immigrants, they need time to merge with Brazil society. Thus, the government needs to support their welfare until they are ready to be a part of Brazil society. The data also not include the illegal immigrants that crossed the border, demanding to be treated as legal immigrants. Even in 2008, Brazil had 600 thousand illegal immigrants, and at that time, Brazil had yet to accept immigrants freely like it is now (BBC Team, 2008).



Brazil government took the road of socioeconomic security. Thus, limiting the freedom of new and recurring immigrants and refugees. Therefore, it would serve as deter effect for those who refuge in Brazil solely for its security, freedom, and rights. Because Brazil is currently dealing with unconscionable amount of refugees and immigrants every day, the overhaul of new immigration law is served to limit the high immigration inflow to Brazil, at least for the current 2018. It will also limit any possible exploitation regarding flawed articles that might be exploited by both government official or the refugee itself.

### **c. Assuring Future Prospect of Brazil**

When talking about the prospect of a country, it is essential to secure the future of a country. Socioeconomic stabilization, economic advantage and development, and long-term investment are the criteria of secured future. The act of overhauling the new immigration law, in the end, is to ensure Brazil's future as a country. Two reasons above are the requirement for it. By securing loss, both in socioeconomic and security is most needed in dire situation that Brazil is facing right now. Likewise, by gaining the civilian's trust, it will bring political stability to the country. Thus, the government will be able to enforce a new law securely. The veto or overhaul is needed to stabilize the country. The government will also be able to decrease the immigrants threat tremendously and giving them better control of immigrants and refugees.

While the overhaul is indeed limiting many possibilities that the immigrants and refugees could do, it is not entirely disadvantaging for them, and even the official stated that it would integrate the immigrants fully while giving adequate protection (Alves, 2017). Although President Michel Temer emphasizes that the purpose of new immigration law is for Brazil national security (Melito, 2017), the government does not entirely replace the new immigration law with another stricter law or turning back to the old foreigner statute. This is due to the shift of preference that the government experienced.

Brazil's national interest is still economy development. While currently, Brazil is experiencing economy recession, socioeconomic and political instability. The high inflow of immigration rate will still be beneficial in the long run, even the low qualified refugees and immigrants will be beneficial for cheap labor worker. Indeed, this high inflow of immigration rate is concurrently a problem that stacked and affected other crisis in Brazil. However, when Brazil is finally recovered from the crisis, the original plan of accepting high qualified immigrants and refugees will aid the development in high certainty. Thus, instead of scrapping the new immigration law as an open immigration policy that has been planned since 2013, the government preferred to limit its openness, but would likely update it in the future run. The government will observe Brazil's capability of developing after its recovery. When Brazil is ready in the future, it might be possible that the government will update the law in an attempt of increasing its immigration rate once more.