

Political Science

Name

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Which world views are presented in this argument? Identify and define three major concepts and/or theories and demonstrate how they are used in the article.

The article by Erlanger and Kanter (2015) can be said to be an ideal example of the various dilemma that different world leaders of different countries encounter at the time when they are leading their respective countries. As discussed by Viotti and Kauppi (2012), it is usual for leaders to experience differences with other leaders who might have different views and opinions on issues that are national and international concern.

In the article by Erlanger and Kanter (2015), the subject of integration in the European Union and the issue of refugees and how it has elicited different reactions from the leaders of the region are prevalent. As far as the issue of integration is concerned, the article is very clear that even though integration is meant to make it easy for member states to have good relationships, that is not the case since there are some member states that take advantage of others. For example, while there is a quota that has been passed by the member states regarding the number of refugees that each country should accept, some countries have not complied with that directive while other countries have exceeded the quota.

On the other hand, the subject of criticism or opposition of leaders is evident in the article. For instance, the German chancellor has been explained as having faced stiff opposition from the opposition after she adopted an open policy where she initially opened the German borders to the refugees who were coming from Syria.

Finally, the other concept that is evident in the article is the concept of realist which entails the views that the actor exists above states, capable of regulating their interactions; states must arrive at relations with other states on their own, rather than it being dictated to them by some higher controlling entity. Indeed, in the article, it is clear that despite there been EU, the member states at times neglect the policies that are enacted by the EU as they have to first consider their interests.

Overall, does the article reflect a realist, liberal or constructivist position on the questions of the EU's response to the refugee crisis, how can you tell?

The position on questions of the EU's response to the refugee crisis that the article reflects can be said to be a realist position. As explained by Viotti and Kauppi (2012) realists tend to be of the opinion that humankind is not fundamentally compassionate but instead self-centered and competitive. In that view, it can thus be noted that the subject of the EU member states reaction to the issue of refugees is a clear example of a realist concept being adopted since even with the EU passing policies that are supposed to determine the number of refugees that are supposed to be admitted by each member country, the member countries still admit the numbers that they believe are best for them. In short, the realists are of the view that there are no universal principles with which all countries may guide their actions. Rather, a country has to always be conscious of the actions of the other nations and have to use a practical approach to address problems that might emerge.

References

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