

CONSTANÇA URBANO DE SOUSA

*How to break the security-migration
nexus and ensure a human rights-based
management of international migration?*

1. Introduction

Never as in the present time international migration has been the issue of such a heated and emotional political debate. What has changed to the point that in many European countries there is a perception that it is a recent, massive and “dangerous” phenomenon, even though it is as old as humankind?

In the era of globalization, it has become more complex, diversified and intense, affecting all continents and specifically Europe, which became a major migration destination with an increasingly “non-European” pattern¹. In some European countries, the resulting ethnic, racial and religious diversity has generated tensions that feed the perception that it could also be a threat to national identity².

In the “Digital” age, it has become more visible, especially the irregular flows associated with growing humanitarian tragedies. This, amplified by the media’s attention, contributes to feed the perception of “invasion

¹ See, among others, CASTLES, Stephen, HAAS, Hein De, and MILLER, Mark J., *The Age of Migration – International Population Movements in the Modern World*. 5th ed., New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2014, p. 16; RODRIGUES, Teresa Ferreira, and FERREIRA, Susana de Sousa, “Portugal e a globalização das migrações. Desafios de segurança”. *População e Sociedade*, Vol. 22, 2014, p. 143; CZAİKA, Mathias, and HAAS, Hein de, “The Globalization of Migration: Has the World Become More Migratory?”, *International Migration Review (IMR)*. Vol. 48, no. 2, 2015, pp. 283-323.

² See CASTLES, Stephen, HAAS, Hein De, and MILLER, Mark J., *op. cit.*, pp. 18 ff.