

and the rise of radicalism, there are efforts to reincarnate God for the defense of Western civilization. These two ideas, both accepting and denying the death of God as a metaphor, seem contradictory. Also, even if the book starts with the claim of that westerners have long been living in a faithless world now threatened by religious fundamentalism, there is a little place to focus on this conundrum. Furthermore, Eagleton discusses the issue of God by reference to Christianity and says almost nothing in regard to the rise of Islamic fundamentalism. In the last part of the book, while Eagleton criticizes all of the

phenomena thought to be replacements for God, he does not make any critique of religion and God. If religion itself was problematic and could not light the way of our lives anymore, would God fill this gap anymore? To find an answer to these questions, it might be better to read Eagleton's other work such as *Reason, Faith, and Revolution: Reflections on the God Debate* (2009) and *Culture* (2016) together to make a substantial contribution to understanding of the issue. Overall, this book is a great source especially for the ones who want to understand debates on God from the Enlightenment to the present.

## Fortress Europe: Inside the War Against Immigration

By Matthew Carr

London: Hurst & Company, 2012, 313 pages, £9.99 ISBN: 9781849046275

Reviewed by Sabbir Hasan, Turkish National Police Academy

*Fortress Europe: Inside the War Against Immigration* is a powerful report from the fortress's front lines. Mathew Carr portrays the barbarian repression being enacted by developed countries, which is marketed as the 'Common European Asylum Policy.'

Carr segments the book into 12 chapters in two parts; he points out the irony between theoretical liberalization and the practical hardening of border policy, which has increased human trafficking, abuse, assaults and organized crime. Carr also paints a realistic view of European media, politicians, and writers who have strongly criticized the war on immigration, which they liken to the war on terror.

### Fortress Europe

Inside the War  
Against Immigration  
Matthew Carr



As a professional journalist, Mathew Carr travels to most of the fortress borders, including the Schengen borderlines, and remote detention centers such as the Spanish-Morocco border and Abuja in Nigeria. He bases his analysis of the hardening of Europe's borders on a series of journeys he took to these areas. He describes

the physical and political as well as the bureaucratic problems rampant in undocumented immigration, including the misuse of laws, and the abuse of geographical position. His objective, as stated in an introductory chapter, is to expose the discrepancies in the immigration policies of Europe and other countries.

Carr describes the actions of signatory countries that aspire to join the EU; these countries

have implemented a rigorous plan to deter immigrants before reaching the mainland. Though Turkey is also interested to join EU, the author didn't mention about the country's migration policies. For example, Carr mentions a Turkish detention center in Istanbul where security guards are afraid of the media and observers who might make a report against Turkey. Author intended to visit several countries' detention center. And he was barred from visiting those detention centers by the authorities of those countries. Though he only mentioned about the prohibition to enter into Istanbul detention center, Turkey only. Carr might forget to mention that the EU has been irregular in its reimbursement of promised funding for signatory countries; he omits to mention the financial reimbursement of signatory countries where these countries are accepting regular immigrants.

Carr describes the Schengen agreements, which are structured to make a continent without internal borders; despite the long-term fickleness of those borders, these agreements indicate that people such as the elite classes could have loyalties to their neighboring countries while retaining an independent identity. This, he suggests, is the way forward, not the "fortress Europe" of his title, which is in danger of "falling into something that may not be fascism but may not be far removed from it." Such rhetoric may sound hyperbolic until one considers the governments of, say, Poland and Hungary, with their hardline stance on immigrants.

Carr portrays Greece, Lampedusa, and Italy as the murky moat of fortress Europe. He presents the situation of Greece in detail, describing it as the country most affected by the Dublin Convention. The Dublin Convention is the first international structural institute for the settlement of migrants in Europe. The

Dublin Convention came into force on September 1, 1997, for the twelve initial signatory states. Austria and Sweden came to implement the Dublin Convention on October 1, 1997. The Dublin Convention is structured such that every asylum application should be processed by one Member-State. Greece and Italy are the first countries on the mainland to face the immigrant stream from the Mediterranean. For this reason, the remaining northern European countries benefit asymmetrically from the Dublin Convention; any immigrant that makes their fingerprint in Greece cannot move to other countries. If they do, the north countries return them as stipulated in Article 4 of the Dublin convention. Moreover, some countries use Article 4 of the Dublin Convention for their own benefit. Carr notes that Germany implemented a policy to deny accommodation and medical treatment to "Dublin Refugees" and "Dublin Transfers."

Carr describes Islamophobia similarly to Samuel Huntington, who identified Islam as one of the most powerful religions poised to start a clash of civilizations. Carr portrayed that despite their high level of education, many high ranked European personnel's marked immigrants as "a potential Islamic invasion perpetrated by very well trained young men who could strike Europe, beginning a war here" (p. 98). Actually, this form of Islamophobia is nothing but an absurd issue raised by European writers and the media. In some cases, Carr describes clear instances of racism, for example in Greece, where citizens have raised alarms that undocumented immigrants are insulting Greeks, the Christian religion, and civilization itself. This statement clarifies the extent of the sacrifices being performed by signatory countries such as Jordan and Turkey, and their abjuration of racism. Europe works hard to hide its secret policy of accepting asylum seekers from among

non-Christian countries, when the seekers are skilled workers. In this sense, European Union signed an agreement that they would accept undocumented migrants, whereas in practice they only accept undocumented migrants if they are skilled workers and EU are in need of those. Carr quotes actual scenarios drawn from articles arguing that nowadays Europe is facing a lack of skilled workers to continue their advancement; if Europe doesn't accept immigrants they will lose their global trading position.

Police and border guard brutality figures prominently in different chapters of *Fortress Europe*. Police and guards are among the main actors making borders violent; at times they even directly or indirectly support human traffickers. Carr also mentioned that in normal situation border guards do not allow undocumented migrants to enter, while the government is also spending a big portion of

their budget to prevent migrants by building wire fence in border. In spite of this situation, Carr does not mention the Re-admission signatory countries' contribution in providing residence for the undocumented immigrants in their countries.

With that verse, every coin has two sides, history of Europe shows that the some noble person sacrificed their job, belongings, social status and also entitled as Traitor by their own society just to provide shelter to migrants and refugees. Although they are not large in numbers, their presence shows that Europe has something to teach the rest of the world in terms of humanity. Last but not least, Carr laudably critiques the fate of undocumented immigrants stuck in remote detention centers or living on city streets for years. *Fortress Europe* deserves praise for its call for a more humanitarian approach to the problem of undocumented immigrants.

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## Arab Nationalism in the Twentieth Century: From Triumph to Despair

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By Adeed Dawisha

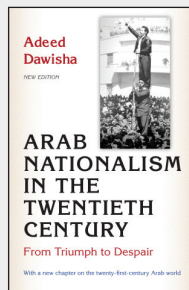
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Reviewed by Mohamed El-Moursi, Ibn Haldun University

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Through meticulous research, Adeed Dawisha traces Arab nationalism chronologically from its rise to its fall. The book offers a historical description of Arab nationalism as an artificial construct, starting from its origins in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and considering different regions, events, advocates of the ideology such as Sati' al-Husri and Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir, and end-



ing with its total absence from the current struggle in the Arab world. Based on both primary and secondary sources, Dawisha successfully provides one of the most comprehensive studies of Arab nationalism to date. His book combines both political science and historical approaches in order to paint a detailed and nuanced portrait of Arab nationalist ideology.