

# STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION IN EUROPE AND ITS LINKAGES TO ECONOMIC INDICATORS

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## **Abstract:**

In this paper, main stages of international migration in Europe and its substantial causes were identified. International migration is a very important part of the dynamics of the population of Western Europe. Three major overlapping stages of migration in Europe were identified: labour migration, family and post-industrial mobility. Stages of migration in Europe have different causes. Among the motivating factors of migration economic, political, social, ethnic, cultural, religious factors can be found. Also wars, geographic factors, environmental change, and natural disasters played its role. Economic factors affecting international migration are mostly related to labour migration. However, other types of migration are also partly determined by economic factors. Theoretical explanations for the different types of international migration are complex since the factors that affect the migration also largely affect each other.

## **Key words:**

international migration, migration stages, economics, Europe, correlation analysis

**JEL Classification:** F22, J61, O15

## **1 Introduction**

Labour shortages in Western Europe largely influenced international migration patterns in Europe in the second half of the 20th century. Economic growth has led to a high demand for labour, a demand which cannot be met with the domestic labour force. Among the various motives that form the basis of international migration, we can mention work, family, return migration or asylum. We can also distinguish study, retirement or healthcare migration. Retirement migration occurs only in relatively small scale, study and health migration are usually shorter in duration. The most significant is therefore labour migration, which can be further divided into low-skilled and high-skilled. Family migration can be divided into family reunification and starting a family. Family reunification is migration of a family member of a former migrant whose family ties with this former migrant existed prior to migration. Starting a family is migration for the purpose of marriage or cohabitation, such as with former migrants or their offspring (Sprangers, 1995). In addition to this, it is possible to distinguish between legal and illegal migration. By far the largest part of illegal migration refers to illegal labour migration. The demand for illegal labour

which is determined by the size of the informal economy is probably the most important factor in this type of migration. Analyses in the field of illegal migration are problematic due almost complete absence of data on this type of migration and its potential determining factors, so it is not dealt here separately.

## 2 Objective and Methods

The aim of this paper is to identify main migration stages in Europe and its motivating factors. Relationships of immigration and selected economic indicators will be evaluated using statistical methods including testing the statistical significance. The data for following analysis come from the source of Statistical Office of the European Union (EUROSTAT, 2017). After obtaining information on the character of data a decision followed concerning the use of methods suitable for the evaluation of relationships between immigration and unemployment.

The hypotheses describe the effects of unemployment and gross domestic product for immigration in a sample country (Germany): There is a statistically significant relationship between the development of unemployment, gross domestic product and immigration. Higher unemployment rates result in lower immigration. Thus, in the relationship between unemployment and immigration a negative sign can be expected. Higher gross domestic product growth rates result in higher immigration. Thus, in the relationship between gross domestic product growth and immigration a positive sign can be expected. The evaluation of relationship between immigration, unemployment and gross domestic product can be carried out using methods of regression and correlation analysis including testing the statistical significance.

The use of statistical methods was described by Aczel (2015) or Mason, Lind (2015). The factual data processing comes from the methodology published by Hindls et al. (2012), Dirschedl, Ostermann (2011) and Palát (2013). The statistical dependence of two characteristics (numeric figures) can be expressed as their functional relation by a formula, table or graph. We recognize these types of statistical dependence: fix, functional alias deterministic dependence and free, statistic alias stochastic dependence. The stochastic dependence makes itself felt like more or less significant repeatable tendency, which realizes in different form on different place and in different time. It is characteristic for its variability of individual causes and makes itself felt under a row of noteless, variously reacting factors. The stochastic dependence is referred to as a correlation dependency. For this dependency, we distinguish from dependent and independent variable. The correlation analysis of two variables is called pair or simple analysis.

The main graphical data presentation tool for examining the dependence between two variables is a point diagram, where we mark particular cases as points in a reference frame with coordinates, which are the values of particular dependent and independent variables.

The equation for a linear model is:  $y' = b_0 + b_1x$

The equation for a quadratic model is:  $y' = b_0 + b_1x + b_2x^2$

The equation for a cubic model is:  $y' = b_0 + b_1x + b_2x^2 + b_3x^3$

The equations for a bisector or second-degree parabola are the same as trend determination in temporal series. In this paper, particular characteristics of tightness of the dependency of variables are calculated. Conjugate regression lines show the same values of the tightness dependency characteristics, the correlation coefficient  $r_{yx} = r_{xy}$ , determination coefficient  $r_{yx}^2 = r_{xy}^2$  (at the first place in this index is stated variable thought to be dependent). The correlation index  $I_{yx}$  is a dependency tightness characteristics for any type of regression function (for simple as well as multiple dependencies of variables). Its second power is determination index  $I_{yx}^2$ . Determination index multiplied by 100 presents the explanation percentage of the calculated regression function - how the changes of dependent variable Y are explained by the changes of independent variable(s). Statistical software Unistat 5.11 for Windows has been used for the calculation of following results.

### 3 Results and Discussion

Migration stages in the last and the present century in Europe had various causes. Among the motivating factors of international migration economic, political, social, ethnic, cultural, religious factors can be found. They may also include military conflicts, geographical proximity, environmental change, natural disasters, etc. Political factors can be divided on the political situation in the countries of origin of migrants and migration policies in the receiving countries. Examples of social determinants are the attitude of the population towards foreigners, the degree of inequality in society or ethnic composition of the population. In addition to the geographical distance, we can also consider the spatial determinants, such as frequent or cheap air travel between countries. The cultural distance between two countries is smaller, for example, if both countries use the same language, which may originate for instance from a common previous colonial development. The spatial and cultural factors can be summarized as linkages between countries. Although migration patterns in Europe in this period may seem to be infinitely diverse, it is possible to distinguish a number of common causes and motives described by Massey et al. (1998), Massey (2005) or Brettell (2016).

Economic factors affecting international migration are mostly related to labour migration. However, other types of migration are also partly determined by economic factors. The dominant type of international migration in Europe in the 60's and early 70's (until the economic recession in 1973–1974) was labour migration. From the mid-twentieth century migration policies in many countries of Western Europe gradually became very tolerant as a result of labour shortages after achieving full employment. In Mediterranean countries (Italy, Portugal, Spain) economic emigration mainly to Western Europe occurred since the early sixties of the twentieth century. Many Southern European workers migrated to Western Europe (King, 2003, King and Rybaczuk, 2013). Other immigration flows led from Malta to the United States and Canada, especially after that this small Mediterranean country gained independence from Great Britain in 1970. When unemployment started to rise from 1970, previous very liberal approaches to migration in Europe were becoming increasingly restrictive.

From the 80's, economic factors started to play a slightly smaller role in explaining migration flows in Europe. For example, the consequences of opening the borders within the European Union for the former intra-European labour migration appeared to be relatively small. At the same time, however, economic indicators remained an important factor for intercontinental migration flows to Europe and immigration from the post-communist countries of Eastern Europe into the European Union or to member states of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA). Although the geographic characteristics of migration in Europe have changed, many of the theoretical rationale for migration remained unchanged. The theoretical explanation for different types of international migration is relatively complicated and complex because the factors that affect the migration may also greatly influence each other. For instance, the socio-economic situation in the receiving country is often a very important determinant of country's migration policy.

#### 3.1 Stages of the development of international migration in Europe

It is necessary to identify the stages of the development of migration in Europe in each period. Since the end of World War II, we can identify three major overlapping waves of migration in the non-communist Europe (White, 2003): labour migration (for addressing labour shortages in Western and Northern Europe), family migration (family reunification and formation) and post-industrial mobility (including also highly skilled labour, illegal migration or asylum migration). In addition to these three migratory waves, also post-colonial migration flows have to be taken into account. Again, we can distinguish three different waves in this type of migration (Van de Kaa, 1996). The first consisted of returning settlers, civil servants and military personnel, the second migration flows represent the local population of the former colonies, and the third was a chain migration. International migration is a very important part of the dynamics of the population of Western Europe. In general we can state that the proportion of non-natural population growth in the second half of the twentieth century increased due to

increasing migration and declining fertility. The influx of immigrants has a large impact on population growth in Western Europe but net emigration also has a significant impact on the size of the population in some traditional European emigration countries. In particular, Portugal in the second half of the twentieth century has lost many of its inhabitants due to emigration.

On the other hand, the figures of international migration in communist countries were at that time traditionally low. Despite these low numbers, international labour migration also existed in communist Europe but well below the level of non-communist countries. The former Czechoslovakia, for example, imported labour from Vietnam, Angola, Mongolia and Poland. However, the predominant migration in the communist era was a long-term migration of certain ethnic groups (mainly Germans and Jews) or political opponents of the communist regime. Most Eastern European countries in the period 1960–1988 showed a very low net emigration, although with some exceptions: East Germany experienced mass emigration before building of the Berlin Wall (1961) and many Czechoslovaks left their country in the years around the Prague Spring (1967–1968). The collapse of the Communist bloc in Central and Eastern Europe had a significant impact on further migration flows. Since 1989 the transition started. As a result of the collapse of the communist system some countries gained independence (Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro, Macedonia, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Slovakia and (unified) Germany). On the other hand, other countries have ceased to exist (the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, East and West Germany). After 1988 the figures on migration in the former communist countries (transition countries) significantly increased (Okolski, 1998) and the role of international migration in population dynamics of former communist countries has increased significantly.

Given the tumultuous history of Eastern Europe, the potential number of migrants from Eastern Europe (Western Europe) was very high (Van de Kaa, 1996). After the fall of communism, some ethnic minorities in Eastern Europe became able or forced to migrate to their countries of origin and ethnic migration regained importance. International migration has had a huge impact on population change in the former Soviet Union and former Yugoslavia. Russian Federation showed a surplus of immigration about 3.9 million in the period 1991–1999 (Council of Europe, 2017). The vast majority of immigrants to Russia in this period were repatriated Russians from other former Soviet republics. The opposite of the Russian surplus was large non-natural population decline in non-Slavic former Soviet Union States. International migration in Europe was therefore greatly affected by revolutionary historical events of the late 20th century. The effects of labour migration on economic development during economic downturn and recovery were described by Palát (2012) or Palát (2014). The impact of immigration on the labour market has been dealt by Borjas (2012).

### 3.2 Linkages between migration and other economic indicators

The economics of immigration in theory and policy was dealt by Bodvarsson, Van den Berg (2009). The very highest number of migrants can be logically found in economically highly developed largest European economies (Germany, France and the United Kingdom). However, also less economically developed countries were facing considerable (and rapidly growing) immigration. For instance, the number of migrants in Spain between 2000 and 2010 grew 3.7 times and the number of immigrants in Italy more than doubled over the same period (EUROSTAT, 2017). Austria, Germany, Sweden and some other European countries have a very high proportion of migrants in their total population.

Labour markets in many European countries are highly dependent on migrant workers. Germany has the highest share of migrants in the European Union. Let's have a brief look at linkages between immigration and some economic indicators in this country. From the variety of economic indicators, two indicators were selected: namely gross domestic product and unemployment. The hypotheses describe the effects of unemployment and gross domestic product for immigration in Germany: There is a statistically significant relationship between the development of unemployment, gross domestic product and immigration. Higher unemployment rates result in lower immigration. Thus, in the

relationship between unemployment and immigration a negative sign can be expected. Higher gross domestic product growth rates result in higher immigration. Thus, in the relationship between gross domestic product growth and immigration a positive sign can be expected. The evaluation of relationship between immigration, unemployment and gross domestic product is carried out using methods of regression and correlation analysis including testing the statistical significance.

So we expect positive relationship of immigration with gross domestic product and negative relationship of immigration and unemployment which is shown in Tab. I. But the factual results of these correlations are unconvincing and statistically non-significant on the level  $\alpha = 0,05$ . Thus, it is not possible to confirm the above mentioned hypotheses. This indicates that there are also other factors that stand behind international migration patterns. For more on linkages between economic indicators or causes and consequences of international migration see Palát, (2010), Palát (2011) or Palát, Palátová (2016). A model using multivariate regression analysis of immigration and selected economic indicators in Germany is shown in Tab. II and Tab. III. Economic indicators included in the model are: gross domestic product, unemployment and net earnings.

The equation for this model is as follows:  $IM = -8883.3267^* U + 1348.5472^* G + 0.32041821^* NE$ .

**Tab. I: Correlation of immigration and selected economic indicators in Germany**

	IM	G	U	NE
IM	X	0,2390	0,2856	-0,8227++
G		X	-0,0013	0,0702
U			X	-0,1395
NE				X

Source: Own calculations based on Eurostat data (2017)

Note: IM - immigration, G - gross domestic product,

U – unemployment, NE – net earnings;

level of significance: +  $\alpha = 0,05$ ; ++  $\alpha = 0,01$

**Tab. II: Model using multivariate regression analysis of immigration and selected economic indicators in Germany: Part 1**

	Coefficient	Std. Error	t- Statistic	Significance
U	-8.8833267e+003	3.5018874e+003	-2.4873202e+000	0.0331
G	1.3485472e+003	4.4184113e+002	2.6947897e+000	0.0231
NE	3.2041821e-001	1.8288587e-001	1.6991899e+000	0.1081

Note: U – unemployment, G - gross domestic product, NE – net earnings

Source: Own calculations based on Eurostat data (2017)

**Tab. III: Model using multivariate regression analysis of immigration and selected economic indicators in Germany: Part 2**

Residual Sum of Squares	2.5917454e+009	Adjusted R-squared	9.0972516e-001
Standard Error	1.6242459e+004	F (2.10)	3.9849434e+001
Mean of Y	4.5866678e+004	Significance of F	0.0000
Stand Dev of Y	2.8976822e+004	Durbin-Watson Statistic	8.7399548e-001
R-squared	9.1949314e-001	log of likelihood	1.2982476e+002

Source: Own calculations based on Eurostat data (2017)

Let's mention also the geographical relevance of migration. Geographically, Luxembourg can be used as an example. This small country is located in the vicinity of France, Germany and Belgium, which it influences in many ways. Luxembourg has the highest share of foreign workers in the European Union, who make up two thirds of the total workforce and the proportion of foreigners in the total population of the country is also very high and moving around 40 percent. Growing illegal immigration in the Mediterranean and the new eastern external border of the European Union after its big-bang enlargement in 2004 and 2007 is often seen as a geographical problem that raises significant concerns of many affected countries. New trends in population mobility were also analysed by Palát (2015) or Abramuszková Pavlíková (2011).

Illegal uncontrollable immigration flows to Europe after the political unrest in North Africa in 2011 represented in the first place significant logistical problems for neighbouring countries, as regards the registration of migrants, providing shelter, food and other activities which are generally very expensive. In addition, Spain and Italy which were the main destination countries had a difficult task to provide social support to immigrants according to European social standards. Haišman (2011), however, points to serious deficiencies in countries of Southern Europe (especially Greece) in actions against the organizers of illegal migration in the Mediterranean. A fundamental problem can be seen especially in the absence of infrastructure, money and staff. It was therefore a permanent situation and crisis situations that occurred in years 2011–2013 only revealed them.

Many other issues are also connected to safety but that would have exceeded the scope of this paper. Jurčík (2007) argues that EU public procurement has a significant influence on the business environment. As for new jobs, in the pre-crisis period migrants in the European Union filled up 30–70 percent of newly created jobs. The contribution of migrants to employment in this respect was over 40 percent in Denmark, Austria and Italy, and over 70 percent in the United Kingdom (OECD, 2008). Fryštenská (2010) states that the multicultural working environment is a challenge for lawmakers to investigate the extent to which existing legislation helps to solve the coexistence between members of different groups. Sustainable economic growth and preservation of the European social model is partly dependent on future immigration flows.

#### 4 Conclusions

The paper identified main stages of international migration in Europe and substantial economic consequences. Important factors influencing the development of international migration, the main stages of migration in Europe and substantial economic context were assessed. International migration is a very important part of the dynamics of the population of Western Europe. In Europe, we can identify three major overlapping waves of migration in the non-communist Europe: labour migration, family migration and post-industrial mobility. In addition to these three migratory waves, also post-colonial migration flows have to be taken into account. In general we can state that the proportion of non-natural population growth in the second half of the twentieth century increased due to increasing migration and declining fertility.

Migration stages in the last and the present century in Europe had various causes. Among the motivating factors of international migration economic, political, social, ethnic, cultural, religious factors can be found. They may also include military conflicts, geographical proximity, environmental change, natural disasters, etc. Political factors can be divided on the political situation in the countries of origin of migrants and migration policies in the receiving countries. Examples of social determinants are the attitude of the population towards foreigners, the degree of inequality in society or ethnic composition of the population. In addition to the geographical distance, we can also consider the spatial determinants, such as frequent or cheap air travel between countries. The cultural distance between two countries is smaller, for example, if both countries use the same language, which may originate for instance from a common previous colonial development. The spatial and cultural factors can be summarized as linkages between countries. Although migration patterns in Europe in this period may seem to be infinitely diverse, it is possible to distinguish a number of common causes and motives.

Let's have a brief look at the results of linkages between immigration and economic indicators in a sample country. Two hypotheses describing the effects of unemployment and gross domestic product for immigration in Germany have been set in the paper. The evaluation of the relationship between immigration, unemployment and gross domestic product has been carried out using methods of regression and correlation analysis including testing the statistical significance. We expected positive correlation of immigration with gross domestic product and negative correlation of immigration and unemployment. But the factual results of these correlations are statistically non-significant. Thus, it is not possible to confirm the above mentioned hypotheses for this case. This indicates that there are many other factors that stand behind international migration patterns.

Economic factors affecting international migration are mostly related to labour migration. Other types of migration are also partly determined by economic factors. The dominant type of international migration in Europe in the 60's and early 70's (until the economic recession in 1973–1974) was labour migration. From the mid-twentieth century migration policies in many countries of Western Europe gradually became very tolerant as a result of labour shortages after achieving full employment. When unemployment started to rise from 1970, previous very liberal approaches to migration in Europe were becoming increasingly restrictive. From the 80's, economic factors started to play a slightly smaller role in explaining migration flows in Europe. For example, the consequences of opening the borders within the European Union for the former intra-European labour migration appeared to be relatively small. At the same time, however, economic indicators remained an important factor for intercontinental migration flows to Europe and immigration from the post-communist countries of Eastern Europe into the European Union. Although the geographic characteristics of migration in Europe have changed, many of the theoretical rationale for migration remained unchanged. The theoretical explanation for different types of international migration is relatively complicated and complex because the factors that affect the migration may also greatly influence each other.

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