



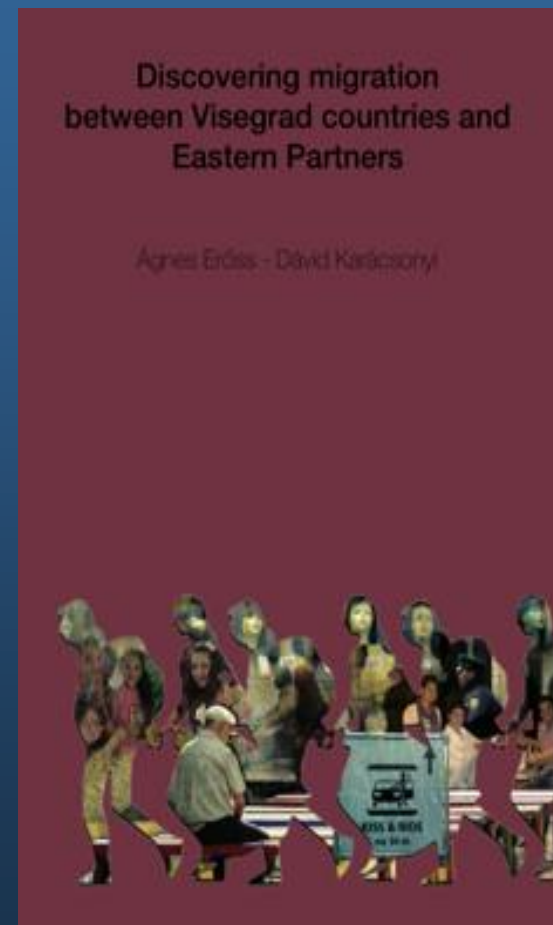
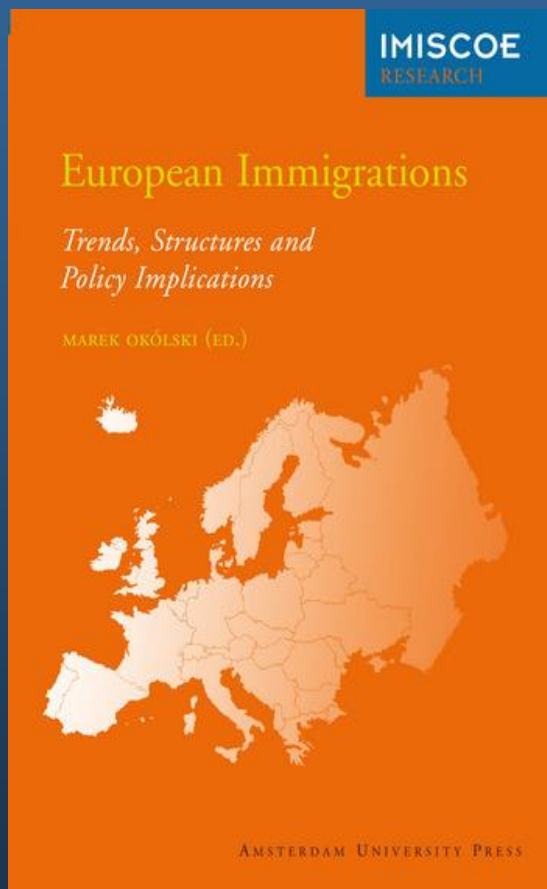
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Migration trends and immigration policies in Visegrad countries

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Important sources:





Presentation outline

- 1) History and related migratory patterns
- 2) New and old migratory challenges in Europe
- 3) CEEc – migratory trends and patterns
- 4) Determinants of migration
- 5) Migration policies
- 6) Migration impacts





Historical experience

- ▶ **Austro-Hungarian Monarchy**
- ▶ **Since 1918 the three countries as sovereign political entities**
- ▶ **ethnically homogeneous country by the time**
- ▶ **development from emigration to immigration countries**



Migration patterns up to 1990s

A) Up to 1939

- **Mostly emigration to Northern America, Western Europe (France, Germany), other parts of the monarchy (Vienna)**

B) After WW II to 1989

- **Large movements of people in the aftermath of the WW II**
- **Very restrictive migration regime**
- **Immigration of refugees**



Current migration patterns

- ▶ **Poor quality of migration flow data (namely emigration data)**
- ▶ **Differences in volumes – positive net migration in Czechia, whilst Poland remains a net-emigration country**
- ▶ **Apparent growth of the mobility after 2004 (EU accession)**



Migrant stocks

Czechia: **440,000** legally staying immigrants (2013), **about 4.2%** of the population (**net migration per 1,000 inhabitants: 0.1, 2013**)

Hungary: **205,000** foreigners (2012), some **2.2%** of the population versus 141,000 (1.4%) in 2013 (Moreh 2015) **plus 209,728 resident foreigners have acquired Hungarian citizenship since 1990 ... (net migration: 0.6)**

Poland: some **100,000** foreigners, out of them about **one half settled, less than 1%** of the population (**net migration: -0.7**)

Slovakia: **70,727** foreigners (2011), **1,3%** of the total population



Emigration, temporary migrants, circular migrants

- ▶ Today **about 2 mil.** Polish citizens live temporarily abroad (peak was in 2007 – 2.3 mil.)
- ▶ There have been around **266,000** Hungarian nationals living in the EU15 countries (2013 – Moreh 2015)
- ▶ Currently, it is estimated that **between 100,000 and 200,000** Czechs live abroad (mostly in old EU member states)





Asylum seekers

- ▶ Until the current asylum seekers' wave inflow of asylum seekers has been rather small during the 2000s
- ▶ A strong connection between asylum seeking and irregular labour migration (political refugees – often masked economic migrants)
- ▶ Nowadays – changing patterns: Asylum seekers in 2014 –
Hungary **42,775**; Poland **8,020**; Czechia **1,145** (EUROSTAT)



Characteristics of migrant population

Labour migration

(from CEE countries, Post-Soviet countries, Vietnam, China)

- **Important differences:**

In terms of length of stay (Czechia and Hungary vs Poland)

Ethnic migration characteristic of Hungarian migration patterns (ethnic Hungarians from Romania)





Irregular migrant stock

- ▶ There is sizeable irregular migration of foreigners based on labour motivation in CEE countries
- ▶
- ▶ The estimated numbers of irregular migrant population vary significantly ...

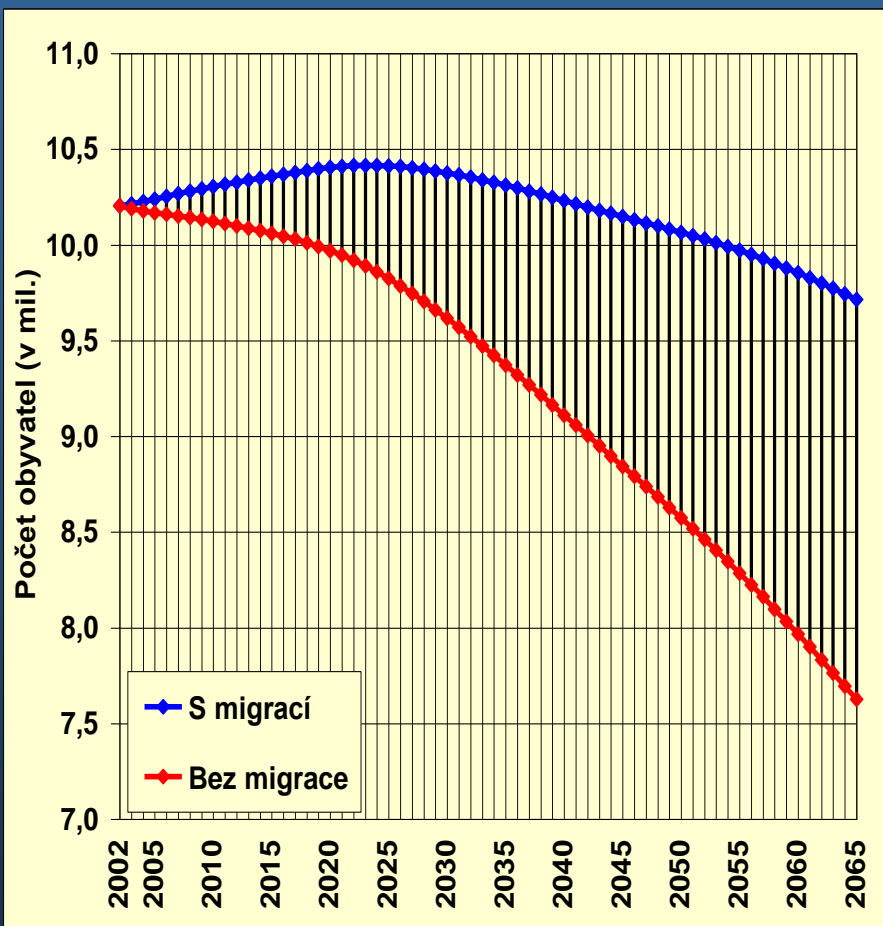




Determinants of migration

- ▶ So-called „migration drivers“
Selection based on the analysis of „old immigration“ countries
 - A) Structural factors – economic, demographic, geopolitical
 - B) Contextual factors – historical experience, migrant social networks, migration policies, attitudes of the public towards immigrants

- ▶ Factors - interdependent and interacting



- Immigrants and their contribution to the population development of Czechia



Development of migration policies

- No experience with migration policies

Migration policy formation since 1989 had four distinctive stages:

- 1) 1989 – early 1990s – institutionalization – birth of the legal system**
- 2) Late 1990s – 2004 – stabilization and harmonization to EU standards**
- 3) 2004 – 2008 consolidation of the migration regime**
- 4) Since 2009 – combatting the crisis**



Migration policies – distinctive country features

- Distinctive patterns of migration policy making system have been created:
- Czechia is the most „mature“ case in migration policy development
 - more systematic and more goal-oriented approaches (specifically in the field of integration policy and admitting foreigners into the labour market)
 - supporting long-term and permanent immigration and immigrants inclusion into society (while applying the “civic integration” model)
 - internal impulses for migration policy making
- Hungary and Poland
 - rather oriented towards short-term immigrants from neighboring countries
 - supporting co-ethnics above all
 - both have applied small-scale regularization programs towards selected groups of irregular migrants
 - migration policy developed as a response to external pressures (EU harmonization)





Migration policies

– similar and different features

- Czechia - “The Selection of Qualified Foreign Workers”, “Green card” programme – no real impact
- Czechia - the migration policy has recently been even more restrictive (the country hit by the crisis)
- Czechia – no regularization programmes at all
- Poland – “Simplified scheme for short-term work for EPC”, “Card of Pole” – successful programmes
- Poland – gradual liberalization of the migration policy (no impact of the crisis)
- Poland, Hungary – several regularization programmes

Similar
highly centralized (key role of the Ministry of Interior)



Migration impacts

Economic

(high economic activity rates together with low unemployment, low-paid and unattractive jobs)

The dominant role of capital cities

(with their neighbourhoods) – motors of the economic development - as immigration hubs

- Impact of Polish emigration – a pull factor for further labour immigration of foreigners to Poland

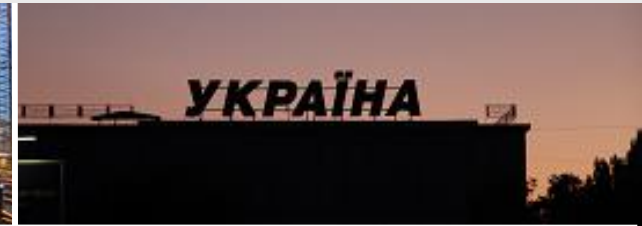


Conclusions

- ▶ **Czechia is the most attractive migration destination country within the CEE context with high immigration and low emigration of natives.**
- ▶ **Hungary experiences positive net migration, although with a low intensity and low ethnic diversification**
- ▶ **Slovakia is at the turning point**
- ▶ **Poland represents an important exception, having very high emigration of natives and rather low long-term immigration**



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Thank you!

www.geomigrace.cz

Actual situation in Czechia

458 229 foreigners in 2015 (Ukr 104 438, Slov. 98 969, Viet. 56 623, Rus 34 869)

The number of applicants for international protection is till August (2015) 990, 1156 (2014) and 707 (2013)

Subsidiary protection granted (308) and asylum granted (37) in 2015

Public opinions (Sweden vs. Czechia)

Migration and communication strategy (approved by the Government on 29.7.2015)