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Some Key Issues of Migrant Integration in Europe

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European migration 1950s-80s

1945-73: Labour recruitment

- 'Guestworkers' (Germany, Switzerland, Netherlands)
 - Economic motivation: no family reunion or settlement
 - 'differential exclusion'
- Colonial workers (UK, F, NL)
 - Economic and political motivations
 - Citizenship: right to stay
 - 'Assimilation' strategy
- Mixed models: Sweden, Belgium, etc.

1973 'Oil Crisis'

- Capital export instead of labour import
- Migrants failed to leave: family reunion and community formation
- Demographic normalisation in 1970s and 1980s
- INTEGRATION becomes issue: need for schools, housing, social services

European migration 1990s-2008

- End of Cold War: 'asylum crisis' of early 1990s
 - European cooperation on border control
- Globalisation of labour migration
 - Migrants from all over the world
 - Massive growth in migration
 - Growing cultural and religious diversity
- Global competition for skills
- Need for low-skilled workers
 - Conflict between economic and political objectives
 - Growth of irregular migration and employment

Europe's immigration dilemma

Key Trends

- Demographic: low fertility, *ageing* population, high *age dependency* ratios
- Economic: future demand for both *highly-skilled* and *lower-skilled* workers
- Social: young Europeans less willing to take low-skilled jobs

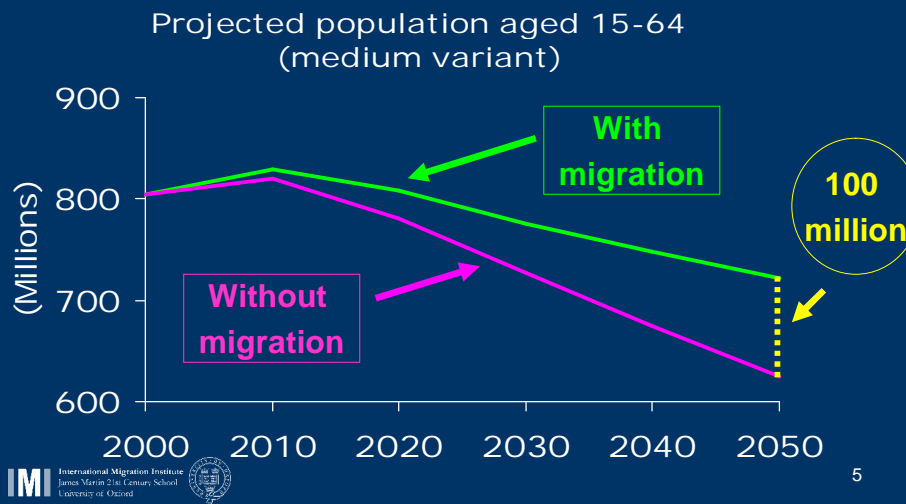
RESULT: STRONG DEMAND FOR MIGRANT WORKERS

BUT migration is seen as a *problem*

- Migrants and minorities: seen as threat to security
- Diasporas and transnationalism thought to undermine nation-state

European countries want *workers* but not *people*

Labour force projection for developed countries with and without migration



The economic importance of migration

- Migrants filled 1/3 to 2/3 of new jobs in European OECD countries from 1995-2005
- Most migrants enter and work legally
- Migrants bring human capital:
 - New migrants with tertiary education 1995-2005:
 - Over 40 % in Belgium, Luxemburg, Sweden and Denmark
 - 35% in France
 - 30 % in Netherlands
 - In many countries, migrant workers have higher qualification profiles than local-born workers

Ethno-cultural diversity in Europe

European Union (27 countries) in 2006:

- Population: 491 million
- Foreign-born: 40.6 million (8.3 per cent)
 - From EU countries: 13.2 million (2.7 per cent)
 - From non-EU countries: 27.3 million (5.6 per cent)

Western and Southern European countries:

- 5 – 15 per cent people of immigrant origin
- People from many cultural and religious backgrounds

Responses to ethnic diversity

- UK:** - Immigration control plus Race Relations Acts
 - Recognition of 'ethnic minorities': multiculturalism
- Germany:** - 'Not a country of immigration'
 - Temporary migration principle – until 1998
 - Integration and citizenship principle – since 2000
- Sweden:** Incorporating 'denizens' through welfare policy
 - Equality plus 'freedom of choice', voting rights for
- Netherlands:** from 'minorities policy' to 'integration policy'
 - the end of 'Dutch tolerance'?
- France:** 'Republican model' - citizenship and equality
 - No recognition of ethnic communities

The 'Integration Crisis'

- Bomb attacks, London, July 2005
- France 2005 and 2007
 - Riots with wrecked public buildings and hundreds of burnt cars
- Netherlands 2004
 - Murder of film maker Theo Van Gogh
- All European immigration countries:
 - Trends to residential segregation
 - Educational and labour market disadvantage of some immigrant groups
 - Increasing Muslim population
 - Fear of 'parallel lives'

Policy responses to 'integration crisis'

- UK: from multiculturalism to 'social cohesion' and 'social capital' → citizenship tests
- Germany: from German-foreigner division to class- and ethnicity based differentiation → integration tests
- Sweden: new integration policy
- Netherlands: from 'minorities policy' to 'integration policy' (1994) → integration tests before entry
- France: Loi Sarkozy (2006): restrictive immigration policy, integration contracts, 'co-development' (linking migration, return and development)
- Italy: strong anti-immigrant policies – despite economic need for migrants.

Key problems of integration

1. Racism and xenophobia resulting from histories of colonialism
2. Persistent disadvantage for some ethnic groups in education and labour market
3. 'Racialisation' of poverty

Result:

'Dual crisis' of national identity and the welfare state in Europe

Global financial crisis and migration - 1

Short-term

- **Return migration** of some groups
 - e.g. Poles from UK and Ireland
- **Reduced migration** from South to North
 - Fewer Filipinos applying to migrate
- **Declines in irregular migration** (e.g. Mexico-USA)
- **Reduced remittances** to home countries
- **Increased hostility to migrants** in some host countries
 - E.g. UK: Strikes against foreign workers
- **Reduced recruitment** of foreign workers
 - E.g. South Korea: official stop to recruitment

Global financial crisis and migration - 2

Long-term

- Conditions may get even worse in origin countries, increasing pressure to migrate
- Migrants may remain due to social relationships and welfare entitlements – even if unemployed
- Remittances remain resilient, due to family obligations

Global financial crisis and migration - 3

Economic crises as migration turning points

- World Economic Crisis of 1930s:
 - Sharp decline in migration
 - Considerable return migration - often forced (USA, France)
 - But many migrants stayed and settled permanently
- Oil crisis 1973
 - Many migrants failed to leave – despite unemployment
 - Turning point from labour migration to permanent settlement
 - New industrial areas and new forms of migration
- Asian Financial Crisis 1997-99
 - Few long-term effects on migration

KEY ISSUE: does crisis lead to fundamental change in global economic strategy?

Likely future trends

- Next 20-40 years: economic and social change in origin countries will increase emigration
- After about 2040: demographic transition in South will reduce availability of migrants
- Developed countries and new industrial countries will need more migrants for:
 - Demographic reasons
 - For labour market reasons
- Growth of new types of mobility?
 - Retirement migration
 - Migration for family formation
 - Circular and repeated migration

Migration issues by 2050?

- Severe shortages of workers in old industrial countries?
- Shortages of labour market entrants in many of today's less-developed countries?
- Serious gender imbalances in China, India?
- More diverse societies?
- Growth of transnationalism?
- Towards global governance of migration?

Future migration issues for Japan

- Demographic and economic need for labour
- Demand for labour at all skill levels:
 - Highly-skilled for technological innovation
 - Medium-skilled to manage services and production
 - Lower-skilled for construction, services, aged care
- Employers need stable, reliable, trained labour
 - Shift to longer stay
 - Need to recognise equal rights at workplace
 - Welfare rights essential for social cohesion
 - Secure residence for migrants and their families
- Equal rights essential to avoid divided society

Future integration issues for Japan

- Need to recognise **diversity**:
 - Different values, customs and religions
 - Cultural freedom within the law
- State must work for **equal rights for all**:
 - Access to government services
 - Equal opportunities in education and work
 - Laws against discrimination and racism
- Essential to offer **citizenship** to immigrants
- **Successful societies in the 21st century will be OPEN SOCIETIES**

THE END

Thank you for your attention

Migration and the Europe Union (EU)

- 1957 Treaty of Rome: freedom of movement for member state citizens only
- 1992: European Citizenship
- 1997 Treaty of Amsterdam, common policies on:
 - Management of migration flows, asylum, integration, cooperation with origin countries
- 2004 and 2007 extension of EU: 12 new member states in Eastern and Central Europe:
 - Supply of lower-skilled labour: but only temporary
 - No demographic reserves in Eastern Europe
- 2005 Policy Plan on legal migration
 - Emphasis on skilled migration
 - No joint system for low-skilled labour

Figure 5.2: Unemployment rates, UK:1 by ethnic group and age, 2001-02. Per cent.

