

East-West Migration in Europe

Course: World Geography (CGU4U)

Briefing:

The European integration process has facilitated the movement of people within Europe. With the collapse of communist governments in Central and Eastern Europe, many people from Central and Eastern Europe have taken the opportunity to explore their employment and business options in Western Europe. This raises some concerns in the EU. Can the economies of Western European countries handle the influx of immigrants from Central and Eastern Europe?

Some questions related to this issue:

- What are the main socio-economic characteristics of migrants from Eastern Europe? Some important factors to consider are: age, sex, income, occupation, and family status
- What are the push and pull factors for this migration?
- Where do migrants tend to settle in Western Europe? In large cities? In towns? In the countryside?
- What sort of occupations do they take up once in their new countries?
- Do they frequently visit their home countries?
- What are the main concerns related to migration for countries that receive immigrants?

Links:

Web sites:

- European Commission, information about [free movement of workers](#)
- Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) - [Migration, Trade and Development](#)
- [EU Enlargement and Migration](#), Migration News
- European Commission - DG Internal Market, [Free Movement of Services](#)
- European Commission - Freedom, Security and Justice, [Movement and Residence](#)
- European Commission - Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, [Enlargement](#)

Articles:

- Barysch, Katinka. ["East versus West? The EU economy after enlargement."](#) Centre for European Reform.
- ["The Coming Hordes."](#) Economist 15 Jan 2004.
- ["EU Countries fear mass migration from the East."](#) DW-World 5 Feb 2004.
- Straubhaar, Thomas. ["East-West Migration: Will it be a Problem?"](#) Intereconomics (July-August 2001).
- ["Moments before the Union. 'Old' Europe Gets Cold Feet."](#) Yale Global Online.
- Grabbe, Heather. ["The Sharp Edges of Europe: Security Implications of Extending EU Borders Policies Eastwards."](#) Institute for Security Studies.

Reports:

- [Potential Migration from Central and Eastern Europe into the EU-15](#): a European Commission Report